

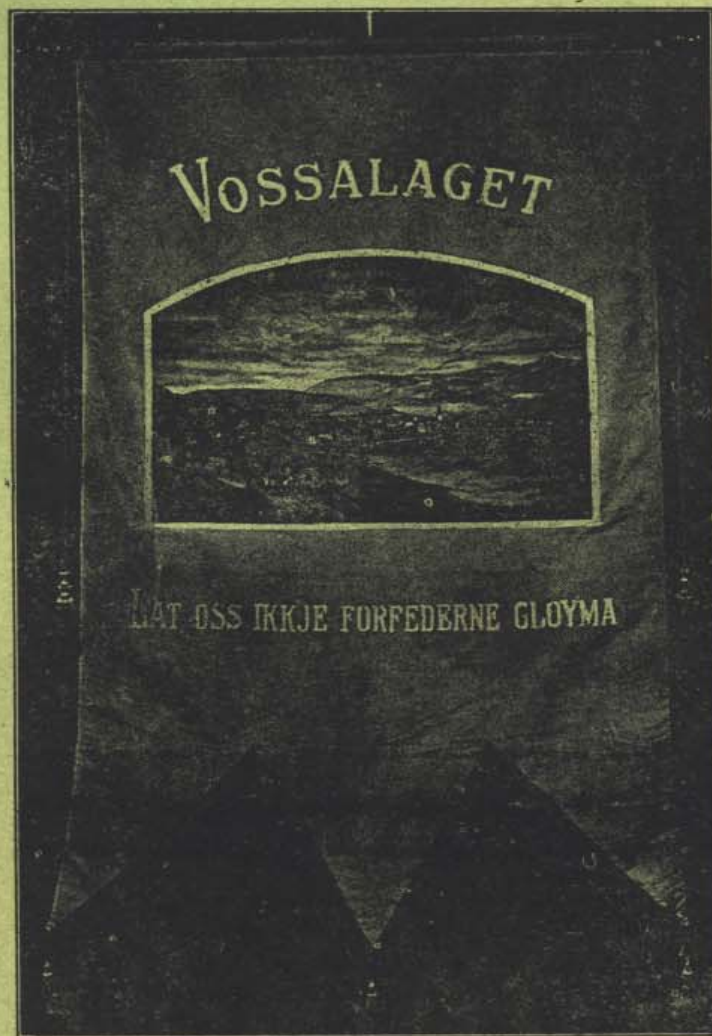
No. 4.

6te Aarg.

VOSSINGEN

ORGAN FOR VOSSELAGET.

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



MADISON, WISCONSIN, 1924.

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K. A. RENE, Redaktør.

Nr. 4. | Madison, Wis., December 1924 | 6te aarg.

Vossingerne og Mindefesten.

Hundredaarsmindet om den norske udvandring til Amerika skal feires paa udstillingsgrunden i St. Paul, Minn., den 6te, 7de, 8de og 9de juni 1925. Det er da en selvfølge, at vossingerne deltager deri, saa godt de kan. Vosselaget har inkorporeret med andre lag og laant fællesraadet de nødvendige 200 dollars, hvilke nogle interesserede medlemmer, som før meddelt, fik samlet det meste af ved sammenskud paa sidste møde. Det er da interesseret i festens held saavel i pengeveien som anderledes.

Feiringen af hundredaarsmindet gjælder i første række skibet Restaurationens færd til Amerika i 1825 med et antal af 52 immigranter ombord. Paa denne færd var der vel ingen vossinger med: men vi kan komme ihu, at dens betydning egentlig beroede paa, hvad der kom efter, og i denne henseende kan der peges paa mange vossefærder, uden hvilke færden i 1825 kanske havde faaet svært liden betydning i forhold til, hvad den fik, og den norske udvandrer-saga vilde have seet ganske anderledes ud.

TRÆK AF VOSSINGERNES UDVANDRINGSSAGA.

Vi vil tage en liden oversigt over udvandringen fra Voss. Det var omtrent 10 aar efter Restaurationens reise, at den aarvise udvandring fra Voss begyndte. De første Vossingers komme til Amerika er ikke mærket ved nogen særlig opsig. Ubemærket af andre end sine nærmeste steg et par stykker af dem iland som forløbere for de talrige flokke af deres bygdefolk, som kom efter. Det antages i almindelighed, at Nils Knutson Røte og hustru, Torbjør, som kom i 1836, var de første; men det

VOSSINGEN

ORGAN FOR VOSSSELAGET

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

K. A. RENE, Editor.

No. 2-3 | Madison, Wis., July-October. 1924 | 6th year

Vossings and the Celebration

The One hundred year anniversary of the Norwegian immigration to America shall be celebrated in St. Paul, MN, the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th of June 1925. Naturally, the vossings will be participants, as good as they can. The Vosselag has incorporated with other lags and lent the Fællesråd the necessary \$200, which some interested members, as shared with you earlier, had collected most of at the last meeting. It shows interest in the celebration financially as otherwise.

The celebrating of the hundred-year anniversary is counted from the time when the ship Restauration made its voyage to America in 1825 with 52 immigrants aboard. There weren't any vossings along on this trip, but we should remember what meaning it had on what came later, and in this regard we can point out many Voss journeys without which the voyage in 1825 perhaps wouldn't have the meaning it got, and the Norwegian immigrant-saga would appeared completely differently.

VOSSINGS DURING THE IMMIGRATION SAGA.

We will take an overview over the emigration from Voss. It was about ten years after the Restauration's voyage that the annual immigration began. The first arrival of vossings to America was not marked by any particular attention. Unremarked by others than their nearest acquaintances, a couple landed as the vanguard of the countless mass of their townspeople that came after. It is most likely, simply, that Nils Knutson Røte and his wife, Torbjør,

er mulig, at en anden var kommen tidligere. Her skal vi dog ikke gaa nærmere ind paa dette.

Det første, som mærker vossingens nærværelse i Amerika, er, at forholdsvis mange af dem allerede i 1837 bosatte sig i den vordende verdensby Chicago. Dette var betegnende. Chicago var Porten til Nordvesten og blev det egentlige fordelingspunkt, hvorfra de ankomne drog til forskellige kanter. Derfra kunde man bedst holde forbindelsen med de forskellige strøg her i Amerika og tillige med hjembygden. Chicago-vossingerne kom da ogsaa især til at indvirke paa udvandringen. Blandt de første var flere, som var godt skrivedygtige, og med nye flokke kom andre brevskrivere, af hvilke enkelte, som vi skal se, tog sig fore at gjendrive misvisende etterretninger om Amerika.

Vossinger var der ogsaa med i forsøget paa at danne det saakaldte Beaver Creek settlement, sydøst for Chicago, og de fik sin del af ulykken, som herjede dette sted. Den gamle veteran fra krigen med Sverige, Halle E. Væte og hustru døde der efterladende 5 endnu smaa børn. En voksen datter døde ogsaa. Alligevel holdt vossingerne ud at være der, og det skulde ikke undre os om nogen af efterkommerne er der endnu.

I 1838 var et par vossinger med Kleng Peerson til Missouri, medens etpar andre blev igjen i Ohio, hvorfra de aaret efter reiste til Mississippi. Det ser ud til, at Kleng Peerson ledede folk til at gaa over elven efter vand, medens vossingerne ikke var rædde for et stykke vei og var heller ikke stedbundne.

Et særligt mærkeaar i udvandringen fra Voss var 1839. Mange drog da afsted til Amerika og blandt dem flere, som blev adskilligt bekendte. De fulgte med et skib, som gik direkte fra Bergen. Lars D. Rekve, som var med, skulde have fortalt, at det var det første skib, som gik derfra med emigranter. Han mente naturligvis det første, som fragtedes af udvandrere fra Voss. Omtrent halvdelen af disse udvandrere tog for det første ophold i Chicago efter ankomsten dertil. De øvrige drog til Fox River kolonien. Derhen drog ogsaa en, som kom paa et andet skib lidt senere samme aar, nemlig Elling Øielson Sundve.

Elling Sundves komme til Amerika er et mærkepunkt for sig selv. Et andet er det, at han formentlig samme høst satte op det første hus, som var bestemt for norsk gudstjeneste i Amerika. Endnu en vigtig omstændighed, som vi nærmere skal omtale, knytter sig til vossingerne i 1839, nemlig Koshkonongs opdagelse.

who came in 1836, but it is possible, that others had come earlier. We won't go into detail about this.

The first noteworthy indication of the vossing presence in America was relatively many of them had, already by 1837, settled in the future major city, Chicago. This indicated that Chicago was the "Gate to the Northwest" and was the actual dividing point from which the arrivals went to various areas. Therefore, here was the best place to maintain a relationship with the different settlements and also with the hometown. The Chicago vossings had an especial effect on the immigration. Among the first, there were several who were literate, and with each new group came other letter writers, of whom a few, as we shall see, attempted to promulgate misinformation about America.

The vossings were active in helping to start a settlement at Beaver Creek, southeast of Chicago, and they were victims of the misfortunes that played havoc with that place. The old veteran of the war with Sweden, Halle E. Væte and his wife both died leaving five small children. A grown daughter died also. Nevertheless, the vossings persisted there and it wouldn't be surprising if there weren't still descendants there.

A couple vossings went to Missouri with Kleng Peerson in 1838, while a couple others stayed behind in Ohio, from where they went to Mississippi the next year. It appears that Kleng Peerson guided people over the river or lakes but the vossing weren't hesitant to travel cross-country and were certainly not placebound.

An especial year in immigration from Voss was 1839. Many left then, for America, and among them were a good deal of acquaintances. They went on a vessel that went directly from Bergen. Lars D. Rekve, who was along, supposedly said that it was the first vessel to leave from there with immigrants. He meant, of course, the first that directly carried immigrants from Voss. Approximately half of these immigrants stayed in Chicago after their arrival. The rest went to the Fox River colony. There also, went one who arrived on a different ship a little later that same year, namely Elling Øielson Sundve.

Elling Sundve's arrival in America is a marking point of itself. Another is that he allegedly built the first building intended for church service in America. Still another important circumstance, which we will discuss in more detail ties to the vossings in 1839, namely the discovery of Koshkonong.

EN BETYDNINGSFULD FÆRD.

Det var vossingerne, som først bosatte sig paa Koshkonong — det største og rigeste norske settlement i Amerika; og paa sin første færd derhen gjorde de sandsynligvis ogsaa andre opdagelser, som kom de norske tilgode.

Nils A. Lee skrev i 1894 efter opfordring af guvernør Knute Nelson en beretning om vossingerne i Amerika, og deri findes følgende om Koshkonongs opdagelse. "I 1839 var endnu Nils S. Gilderhus, Nils L. Bolstad og Magne B. Bystøl i Fox River settlementet i Illinois. Disse leiede i forening Odd J. Himle ti at gaa med sig som tolk til Wisconsin, hvor de vilde se sig om efter land. Magne blev dog ikke med paa turen. De tre andre drog først til Milwaukee og derfra vestover til Koshkonong. Her vankede de omkring i 2 dage, og saa fandt de endelig land, som de likte og udsaa sig hver sit stykke i den trakt, hvor G. Thompson nu bor. Disse var de første nordmænd, som satte sin fod paa Koshkonongs grund. Dette er aldeles paalideligt; thi jeg har det fra Odd Himle selv. Her er ogsaa at mærke sig, at der ingen andre er, som gjør fordring paa at være komne til Koshkonong før 1840. Efter at have udseet sig land, drog de tre mænd tilbage til Milwaukee og købte 120 (160 ?) acres, hvoraf 40 skulde tilhøre Magne Bystøl, og saa drog de atter tilbage til Fox River. Om vaaren 1840 flyttede Nils Gilderhus, Nils Bolstad, Magne Bystøl og Anders Fenno op til Koshkonong og byggede paa Bystøls land en kjælder, som de skulde benytte sammen. Dette var det første hus, som blev bygget paa Koshkonong eller i town of Christiana af nordmænd."

Her er da greie ord om opdagelsen af Koshkonong og de første bosiddere der. Men det var en lang reise de tre mænd havde gjort om høsten 1839. De maa have seet paa land ogsaa andre steder, hvor norske folk kom til at bosætte sig, og var formodentlig aarsag i, at saa skede. Vi kan saaledes ikke tænke os andet, end at de paa veien fra Fox River settlementet til Milwaukee havde seet trakterne ved Wind Lake eller hvad der blev townet Norway i Racine County, og at de ved tilbagekomsten til Fox River har fortalt ogsaa om dette skogland med elve og vande. Tillige har de hørt om det saakaldte Luraasparti, som allerede da var bosat ved Muskego Lake i Waukesha county. Dette har da bragt Johannes Johannesen og Søren Bakke fra Drammen som ogsaa var ved Fox River, til at drage derhen, da det netop var land, som de ønskede at bebo, og Elling Sundve har da fulgt med, som man ved, han gjorde, helst for at besøge Luraaskolonien. Indirekte har da Gilderhus, Bolstad og Himle vist veien til Muskego.

De maa ogsaa om høsten 1839 have lagt veien om Jefferson prærie og saaledes bragt en forbindelse istand

AN IMPORTANT TREK

It was vossings who first settled at Koshkonong — the biggest and richest Norwegian settlement in America; and on their first there, the probably made other discoveries that were good for the Norwegians.

Nils A. Lee, in 1894, upon request of Governor Knute Nelson, wrote a description about the vossings in America and in it can be found the following about the discovery of Koshkonong. "In 1839, Nils S. Gilderhus, Nils L. Bolstad and Magne B. Bystøl were still in the Fox River settlement in Illinois. They hired Odd J. Himle to go with them to Wisconsin, as an interpreter, where they wanted to look around for land. Magne, however, didn't go with them on this trip. The three others first went to Milwaukee and from there westward to Koshkonong. They roamed around for about two days, and then finally found land they liked and chose a piece for each of them in the area where G. Thompson now lives. These were the first Norwegians to set foot on Koshkonong's ground. It is completely possible, since I had it from Odd Himle himself. Here it should also be noted, that there aren't any others, who claim that they came to Koshkonong before 1840. After they had chosen land, the three men went back to Milwaukee and bought 120 (160?) acres of which 40 would belong to Magne Bystøl, and the returned to Fox River. In the spring of 1840, Nils Gilderhus, Nils Bolstad, Magne Bystøl and Anders Fenno moved up to Koshkonong and built a cellar on Bystøl's land, which they all used. This was the first building built on Koshkonong or in the Town of Christiana by Norwegians.

Here then is the word on the discovery of Koshkonong and the first settlers there. It was a long trip the three men made in the fall of 1839. They must have looked at land other places also, where Norwegians settled, and probably were the cause of this happening. We can hardly think other than that on the way from the Fox River settlement to Milwaukee, they had studied the tracts at Wind Lake or what became the town of Norway in Racine County, and that on their return to Fox River had told about this forestland with rivers and lakes. Additionally, they had heard about the so-called Luraas party, which already had settled at Muskego Lake in Waukesha County. This then brought Johannes Johannesen and Søren Bakke from Drammen, who also were at Fox River, to come thither, since there was land on which they wanted to inhabit, and Elling Sundve then followed along, as you know he did, mainly to visit the Luraas colony. So, indirectly, had Gilderhus, Bolstad and Himle shown the way to Muskego.

In the fall of 1839, they must have used the route via Jefferson Prairie and in that manner created a con-

mellem de forskjellige strøg. Dette fremgaar dog ikke af Nils Lees beretning; men det kan forstaaes af en anden.

Numedølen Ansten Nattestad, som var kommen til Jefferson Prærie om sommeren 1839 berettede nemlig, at vossingerne kom ogsaa der om høsten samme aar. Efter alt hvad vi har kunnet finde ud, var der neppe nogen andre vossinger der den høst. Hvis nogen havde bosat sig der da, saa vilde Anders Mage sikkert have omtalt dem i det brev han skrev i 1840, i hvilket han vistnok nævner alle ankomne vossinger. Ellers kjendes der til de første bosiddere paa Jefferson Prærie. Der er da grund til at tro, at Gilderhus, Bolstad og Himle ogsaa har været aarsag til, at mænd derfra som Gunnul Vindeg, og mulig andre, drog til Koshkonong om vaaren ligesom de var aarsag til, at flere drog derhen fra Fox River kolonien og fra Chicago.

SKRIDT TIL UDVANDRINGENS GJENNEMBRUD.

Ingen har vel gjort mere til udvandringens fremme end vossingerne. De var skrivegytge, sendte breve til hjembygden og svar paa misvisende beretninger om Amerika; de gjorde tidlig ture til hjembygden igjen, og bragte med sig flokke tilbage; de dannede foreninger, ikke alene for at give oplysninger om Amerika men ogsaa for at hjælpe ubemidlede sambygninger med penge til reisen. Alt dette trængtes; thi der gjordes ihærdige bestræbelser i Norge paa at faa udvandringen standset, og var dette lykket mere end som tilfældet, saa havde nok mange herlige trakter i Nordvesten ikke været beboet af nordmænd som nu.

I 1840 var det nær kommet til en stands. Den stærke udvandringsstrøm, som tog til i 1836, kom allerede da til et hastigt vendepunkt. Den vakte opmærksomhed hos geistlige og værdslige myndigheder, og en agitation imod den begyndte. Biskop Newman i Bergen sendte i 1837 ud sit hyrdebrev. Amtmanden der tog ogsaa fat. Prester og de nylig oprettede herredsstyrelser har da faaet sit at gjøre i sagen.

Det virksomste middel mod udvandringen blev dog de hjemsendte Amerikabreve fra saadanne som var uheldige eller skuffet i sine forventninger og ikke saa udover øieblikkets rækkevidde. Nogle af brevene blev trykte i de norske blade, andre udgaves i bogform, og enkelte afskrifter blev ogsaa taget. Et skrift af en misfornøjet Amerikafarer ved navn Tesman blev i 1839 udgivet i Stavanger. Om vinteren 1840 indtoges i de norske blade et brev fra Sjur Jørgenson Lokrheim, der var udvandret fra Haaheim i Ulvik og var bosat i Fox River settlementet. Han var førstedags fra Valders, og vossingerne kaldte ham tildels ret og slet Sjur Valders. Dette brev tilligemed

nection between the various areas. We didn't learn this from Nils Lee's narrative: but it can be understood from another.

The Numdaling, Ansten Nattestad, who had arrived at Jefferson Prairie in the summer of 1839 described namely that vossings had also come there in the fall of that same year. From all that we have been able to learn, there weren't hardly any vossings that came that fall. If any did settle there then surely Anders Mage would have discussed them in the letter in 1840, in which he evidently listed all immigrated vossings. Otherwise, we know of the settlers at Jefferson Prairie. We have reason to believe that Gilderhus, Bolstad and Himle also caused men to move from there, like Gunnul Vindeg and possibly others, to Koshkonong in the spring just like they were the reason several others moved there from Fox River colony and from Chicago.

STEPS TO IMMIGRATION'S BREAKOUT.

Nobody did anything more than the vossings to promote immigration. They were literate, sent letters home and responded to the misinformation about America; they made early return trips home again and brought groups back; they started organizations, not only to give explanations about America but also to fellow vossings without means with money for the trip. All this was needed, because energetic efforts were being made in Norway to get immigration stopped, and if this had been more successful than was the case, then many grand tracts in the Northwest wouldn't have been inhabited by Norwegians as they are now.

It had come to a standstill by 1840. The big immigration stream that had started in 1836 came to a hasty turning point. It awakened attention among the spiritual and government authorities, and agitation against it started. Bishop Newman in Bergen send out his pastoral letter in 1837. The county prefect also got involved. Ministers and the newly created position of town president got their assignments in the matter.

The strongest force against immigration was the home-sent America letters from those who were unfortunate or disappointed in their expectations and couldn't see beyond the moment. Some of the letters were printed in the Norwegian newspapers, others were published as books and single copies were made. A copy of from a displeased American by the name of Tesman was published in Stavanger in 1839. in the winter of 1840, Norwegian newspapers contained a letter from Sjur Jørgenson Lokrheim, who had emigrated from Haaheim in Ulvik and had settled in the Fox River settlement. He was originally from Valders, and the vossings outright called him Sjur

fra John Aga, som var udvandret fra Ullensvang, Hardanger, blev især kjendte i Bergens stift og havde stor virkning. Lars Nelson Nesheim tog en afskrift af Lokrheims brev, og af denne haves nogle rester, hvoraf det fremgaar, at der var megen sygdom blandt de norske, og at mange var døde. Han regner op nogle fra Hardanger, af hvilke der i afskriften kun er levnet navnet til en Buen samt Østen Bakke og hustru der efterlod sig 6 børn. Mange kan han ikke opregne for rummets skyld, siger han. Selv havde han ligget syg i 6 uger og var da saapas, at han paa en ussel maade kunde skrive brevet. Blev han frisk, skulde de om faa aar se ham i Norge igjen.

Første del af brevet var dateret den 23de Oktober 1839; men senere har han sat en lang efterskrift til, i hvilken han siger med hensyn til, at enkelte havde berettet om, at de var komne til rigdom og velstand, at han ikke vil hykle eller dølge, at dersom den største del af folket var tilbage i Norge, saa vilde de prise sig langt lykkeligere end i det rige Amerika. Om daglønnen var høi saa var alting saa dyrt, at der blev lidet om noget igjen. Klæderne var dyre og lidet varige; men værst var dog sygdommen, som var saa haard og nedtrykkende. Han nævnte nogen, som praalede af den velstand, de var komne i; men det var daarskab at tro dem. Det var dog ikke at undres over den store urolighed, som var kommen over det norske folk, naar saadanne skjønne løgnere skrev det ene brev herligere end det andet om de var færdige til at gaa med betlerstaven. Han skrev sig Sjur Jørgensen Lokrheim i Valders eller Haaheim i Ulvik.

Vi har ikke seet noget af John Agas brev; men ifølge Anders Plage maa det have gaaet i samme dur. Foruden at være trykte i bladene, har brevene været bekjendtgjort i Hardanger af stedlige embedsmænd. — Saaledes af Provst N. Herzberg, der meddelte oplysninger om udvandrerne, men var kommen til, at der ikke var bare herlighed og glæde i Amerika. Virkningen i Hardanger syntes da ogsaa at have været afgjørende. O. Olafson fortæller, at der i kirkebøgerne for Ulviks og Granvins vedkommende ikke findes anført om nogen, som udvandrede i aarene fra 1839 til 1847 i Ulvik og fra 1839 til 1850 i Granvin. Forud var mange udvandrede fra begge disse herreder. Lignende har det antagelig været i det øvrige Hardanger og tillige i Søndhordland og Rogaland hvor Tesmans skrift ogsaa kan formodes at være bekjendtgjort.

Om virkningen paa Voss haves direkte vidnesbyrd. Arne A. Vinje, som kom til Amerika i 1840, har berettet følgende: "Om vinteren 1840 reiste mange fra Voss til Bergen for at skrive sig ind med et skib, som skulde gaa til Amerika; men om vaaren kom der et brev fra en Sjur Valders i Fox River settlementet der, som gav saa ugunstig beretning om forholdene, at mange opgav reisen og skibsføreren i

Valders. This letter and another from John Aga, who had emigrated from Ullensvang, Hardanger, became especially well known in the diocese of Bergen and had a big effect. Lars Nelson Nesheim copied Lokrheim's letter, and there are some remnants from which it can be concluded there was much sickness among the Norwegians, and many died. He lists some from Hardanger, which in the copy only leaves the names of a Buen and Østen Bakke and his wife who left six children. He didn't list more because of space, he said. He, himself had lain sick for six weeks and was barely able write the letter. If he recovered, they would see him in Norway again.

The first part of the letter was dated October 23, 1839; but later he added a long postscript in which he said; in regards to some who have reported that they come to riches and affluence, that he didn't want to play the hypocrite or deny them, but most of the people back in Norway would find themselves far more fortunate than in the rich America. Even if day salaries were high, everything was so expensive that there was little left over. Clothing was expensive and short-lasting; but the worst was the sickness, which was so relentless and discouraging. He mentioned someone, who had boasted about the prosperity he had come into, but it was folly to believe him. It isn't any wonder that a discontent overtakes the Norwegian people when such big liars write one letter grander than the next, when they were, in fact, ready to go panhandling.

We haven't seen John Aga's letter; but according to Anders Plage, it must have been of the same tone. In addition to being printed in the papers, the letters were announced in Hardanger by local officials. — Such as Dean N. Herzberg, who shared information about the emigrants who had discovered that it wasn't just splendor and happiness in America. The effect in Hardanger seems to also been decisive. O. Olafson tells that in the church registers concerning Ulvik and Granvin, nothing had been entered about anyone who had emigrated in the years from 1839 until 1847 in Ulvik and from 1839 until 1850 in Granvin. Otherwise, there were many who emigrated from these towns. Likewise, it probably affected the rest of Hardanger and also Søndhordland and Rogaland where Tesman's letter can be presumed to have been publicized,

We have direct evidence of its effect in Voss. Arne A. Vinje, who came to America in 1840, has described the following: "During the winter of 1840, several from Voss went to Bergen in order to sign up on a ship that was to go to America, but in the spring a letter came from Sjur Valders in the Fox River settlement there that gave such an unfavorable report about the conditions many gave up the trip as

Bergen ligesaa, da der var saa faa, som vilde reise fra Voss".

Det ser ud til efter Vinjes beretning, at vossingerne havde fragtet skibet for reisen, saa antallet af dem, som stod reiseferdige, maatte være stort. Af disse reiste der 20 voksne personer, der tog til Gøteborg, Sverige, for at faa skibsleilighed. Der kom de sammen med Even Heg og hans følge fra Drammens omegn, saa de ialt blev 90 udvandrere — vistnok alle, som tog ud det aar fra Norge, og saavidt vi har kunnet udfinde, blev det færre næste aar. Den første udfærdsfeber havde lagt sig, og udenom Voss og tildels i Telemarken tog det flere aar før udvandringen greb videre om sig igjen.

VOSSINGERNE I CHICAGO GRIBER IND.

Ovennævnte breve kom snart til vossingernes kundskab i Amerika; Lars Nesheim og Steffa Sonve havde sendt besked; og det var disse breve som bragte Anders Flage til at skrive sit uforlignelige brev til Voss om høsten 1840 som indlæg fra alle vossinger i Chicago og med underskriften af tre af dem. *) Flage betegner meget af brevenes indhold som aabenbar løgn og kan ikke billige deres skrivemaade. Istedetfor 14—15, som skulde være døde af de i 1839 udvandrede vossinger, var der bare 6, hvilke han nævner — tre var børn og tre voksne. Han forklarer saa om sygdommen, om sine egne erfaringer, som nok havde været tunge, men som han da fandt betydelig lettere; nævnte om prisen paa land. —• Det kan mærkes, hvad han siger om landet, at "vel er det bedste land nu optaget i Illinois, men de som ønsker sig land, reiser nu til en stat kaldet Wisconsin, der ligger nordvestlig for Illinois. Det siges, at der er bedre land end i Illinois og billigere pris paa det." I brevet findes det, at Nils Gilderhus fra Koshkonong netop havde været i Chicago og ligeledes havde Elling Sundve været der efter sin Wisconsin tur. Flage nævner saa om arbejdsforhold og lønninger, om hvad man bør tage med sig til Amerika og ikke. Saa giver han besked om næsten alle udvandrede vossinger og om mange andre ting. Brevet er et historisk dokument af største værd. Dets greie udredning blev et vægtigt modtræk mod hine mindre forstaaelsesfulde skrivelser af Sjur Valders og John Agas skrivelser, og følgen var mærkbar. Meningen var, at brevet ogsaa skulde trykkes i de norske blade, men vi kan forstaa, at det var vanskeligt at faa det gjort, da bladene helst ikke vilde tage ind noget, som kunde vække lyst til udvandring.

Vi kan omtrent se den første virkning af Anders Flages brev paa Voss. Fra Flages gamle grænd, hvortil brevet var adresseret, findes nævnt blandt udvandrerne i 1841, Kolbein Vestrheim, Gudve

*) Se "Vossingen" nr. 3, 4de aarg.

did the captain of the ship in Bergen too, because there were few from Voss who wanted to travel".

It appears from Vinje's narrative that the vossings had loaded the ship for the trip, so the number of them ready for the trip must have been many. Twenty adults from this group went to Gothenburg, Sweden, to get passage. There they met Even Heg and his group from the Drammen area, so that in all there were 90 emigrants — evidently everyone who left from Norway that year, and as far as we could learn, there were fewer the next year. The first emigration fever had abated outside of Voss and to a certain extent Telemark; it took several years before the immigration started again.

THE VOSSINGS IN CHICAGO REACT.

The above named letters soon came to the attention of the vossings in America. Lars Nesheim and Steffa Sonve had sent messages and it was these letters that caused Anders Flage to write his incomparable letter in the fall of 1840 as contribution of all the vossings in Chicago and with the signatures of three of them. *) Flage characterizes much of the content of the letters as outright lies and could not approve of their style of writing. Instead of 14-15, that were to have died of the 1839 emigrant vossings there were only six, that he could list — three children and three adults. He, then, explained about the illnesses, of his own experiences, which had been, admittedly, difficult, but which he found significantly easier; he discussed the land prices. — we should note what he says about the land, that "the best land is already taken in Illinois, but those that want land, could now go to a state called Wisconsin, that lies northwest of Illinois. It is said that it is better land than Illinois and carries a cheaper price." In the letter, it is found that Nils Gilderhus from Koshkonong had just been in Chicago and likewise Elling Sundve had been there after his trip to Wisconsin. Flage talks about the working conditions and salaries and about what one should take along to America or not. Then he gives a message about other emigrated vossings and about many other things. The letter is an historic document of the greatest value. Its excellent clarification became an important countermove to the lesser understood writings of Sjur Valder's and John Aga's letters. It was intended to print the letter in the Norwegian papers, but we can understand that this was difficult to do, since the papers would rather not accept any thing that would stimulate desire for emigration.

We can almost see the first effect of Anders Flage's letter at Voss. From Flage's old neighborhood, to which the letter was addressed, we find listed among the emigrants in 1841, Kolbein Vestrheim, Gudve Gilderhus and her sister, Gunvor

*) See "Vossingen" nr. 3, 4th year.

Gilderhus og dennes søster Gunvor med mand Anders N. Lee. — I Flages brev stod en hilsing fra Nils Gilderhus til hans søstermand Anders Lee, at det var bedst, han kom til Amerika jo før jo heller, om han havde lyst dertil, og Anders gjorde sig straks færdig. En lignende hilsning sendtes fra Kjel V. Gjødsten til Brødrene Lars og Ole, og fra Peder I. Unde fra Vik i Sogn til hans Broder Ole. Han kom med tre andre familier i 1843 og Ole V. Gjøsten kom i 1845.

Men flere reiste i 1841. Lars N. Nesheim paa Lemme tog afskrift af brevet og har især gjort det bekjendt i sin kreds. Derfra reiste Lars J. Moen som da boede paa Graudo samt Ole, Rasmus og Sjur Graudo med familier, Guri Graudo, Knut L. Bøe, Anna Selheim og Nils S. Vike. Ankomne til New York sendte Lars Møen, Nils Vike og Kolbein Vestrheim breve hjem igjen.*) Alle undtagen Knut Bøe bosatte sig først i Wisconsin. Herfra skrev Lars Møen straks efter nytaar 1842 et andet mærkeligt indvandrer-brev til Voss.***) Hvad virkning dette havde i det hele, skal vi ikke sige; men en vigtig følge deraf synes klar. Det maatte være hans breve, som gjorde at hans høit anseede nabo, Anders A. Kløve tog afsted i 1843 med sin store familie.

Det havde selvfølgelig sin store betydning hvem der skrev brevene og hvem som reiste. Lars Møen hørte til en af bygdens bedst kjendte familier, og var en mand med indsigt og dygtighed. Man kunde trygt stole paa, hvad han skrev. Det samme var i videre udstrækning tilfældet med Anders Kløve. Han var en af bygdens fornemste tillidsmænd, før han reiste. Fem gange havde hans sambygdinge sendt ham til valgmandsforsamlingerne i Amtet som en af de første repræsentanter, og hans navn var kjendt langtudenfor bygdens grænser. I et brev fra Muskego, fortæller han straks efter ankomsten dertil, at Even Heg fra Drammens-kanten havde hørt om ham før sin reise til Amerika i 1840. Nogen hver maatte da skjønne, at der maatte være noget at reise til Amerika for, naar en saadan mand tog afsted. Vi finder da ogsaa i henhold til Knut Langelands "Nordmændene i Amerika", at der i 1843 afgik fra Bergen 2 skibe med emigranter næsten udelukkende fra Voss.

Den store udvandring det aar havde vel ogsaa sin grund i andre breve, som forud var sendt til Voss. Vi vil nævne et af Mons Larson Skutle, dateret 22de juni 1841.***)) Dette var ogsaa et udmærket indlæg mod forannævnte Sjur Lokrheims skrivelse og kom til Voss netop i rette tid til at medvirke en ny beretning om Amerika af ham i den forrige aand. Sjur Lokrheim reiste nemlig tilbage til Norge i 1841,

*) Se pg. 16.

**)) Se "Vossingen" nr. 4, 4de aarg.

***)) Se "Vossingen" nr. 3, 4de aarg.

and her husband, Anders N. Lee. — In Flage's letter there were greetings from Nils Gilderhus to his sister's husband, Anders Lee that if he had any desire for going, that it would be better to come to America earlier than later and Anders soon got ready. Kjel V. Gjødsten sent a similar greeting to his brothers Lars and Ole, and from Peder I. Unde from Vik i Sogn to his brother Ole. He came with three other families in 1843 and Ole V. Gjøstein came in 1845.

Several left in 1841. Lars N. Nesheim on Lemme made a copy of the letter and circulated it in his district. From there left Lars J. Moen who then lived at Graudo as well as Ole, Rasmus and Sjur Graudo with families, Guri Graudo, Knut L. Bøe, Anna Selheim and Nils S. Vike. When they arrived in New York, Lars Møen, Nils Vike and Kolbein Vestrheim sent letters home.*) Everyone except Knut Bøe settled first in Wisconsin. Soon after New Year of 1842, Lars Møen wrote another outstanding immigrant letter to Voss.***) We can't say what effect this had in the greater picture but an important result seems clear. It must have been because of his letter that his highly esteemed neighbor, Anders A. Kløve, left in 1843 with his big family.

Of course, who wrote the letters and who went was meaningful. Lars Møen belonged to one of the most well known families in the area, and was a man of insight and competence. One could surely count on whatever he wrote. The same was true even more so with Anders Kløve. He was one of the district's foremost public figures, before he left. The fellow citizens of his constituency had elected him five times to go the Electoral Committee in the county as one of the first representatives, and his name was known far beyond the borders of the town. In a letter from Muskego, soon after his arrival, he tells that Even Heg from the Drammen area had heard of him before his departure for America in 1840. People realized, there must be a reason to go to America, if such men left. We find by referring to Knut Langeland's "Norwegians in America", that in 1843 there departed two ships of emigrants almost exclusively from Voss.

Other letters beside those sent to Voss probably caused the big emigration that year. We will mention one by Mons Larson Skutle, dated June 22, 1841.***)) this was also an outstanding contribution against forenamed Sjur Lokrheim's letter and came to Voss at the appropriate time to initiate a new description of America in he who had the previous understanding. Sjur Lokrheim went back to Norway

*) See pg. 16.

**)) See "Vossingen" nr. 4, 4th year.

***)) See "Vossingen" nr. 3, 4th year.

og der blev hans beretning samme aar trykt og udgivet i bogformat. Paa Voss fik denne ingen virkning, som den store udvandring i 1843 viser, og mange var ogsaa udvandret i 1842. Mons Skutle, som paa den tid boede ved Fox River, skrev nemlig blandt andet, at "det er ikke sandt, at det er saa ondt i Amerika, som den Sjur fra Valders skrev hjem til Norge," og saa fortæller han hvilken urolig og mindre agtværdig person han var. Om sig selv skrev Skutle, at han fandt sig vel fornøjet i Amerika og havde aldrig havt saa gode dage. Det samme sagde hans hustru, fortalte han. Han gav ogsaa ellers et godt indblik i forholdene i Amerika. I 1842 udvandrede flere fra Fenne og Bryn, som maatte kjenda Mons Skutle og rimeligvis fik se hans brev da modtageren boede paa samme bygdevei som de. Det blev ogsaa afskrevet af Lars Nesheim og sandsynligvis bekendtgjort især af ham. Mons Skutle sendte ogsaa et brev af almen interesse i 1842 med Knut Aslagson fra Telemarken, som i det aar besøgte Norge.

Udvandringen fra Voss var i 1843 kommen til et punkt, da den ikke længer var til at stanse, og i grunden havde den taget en uforholdsmæssig fart. Den var derfor ogsaa blit landskjendt. Sprogforskeren Ivar Aasen, som var til Voss i 1843, skriver derom; "Under mit ophold paa Voss var udvandringen derfra i fuld gang; og mange familier var i disse dage ifærd med at afhænde sine eiendomme og gjøre sig færdige til reisen. Jeg havde forhen hørt ymte om, at aarsagen til de hyppige udvandring herfra skulde være vedkommendes misfornøielse med sin stilling, ja endog med rigets forfatning i det hele. Dette er, som man kan slutte, bare sladder. Aarsagen til udvandringen er, saavidt jeg kunde erfare, dels den medfødte lyst til at reise og til urolighed, dels og fornemmelig haabet om at komme i besiddelse af store og letvundne eiendomme, et haab, som ved adskillige breve fra forhenudvandrede var i høi grad næret og beskyttet."

Ivar Aasen nævner ikke, saavidt vi ved, om udvandringen fra andre steder i amtet, og han for vide omkring.

Hvad han havde hørt ymte om angaaende vossingernes misnøie var vel ikke aldeles grundløst, som man vil se af digtet fra 1844 paa et andet sted i dette skrift. Det almene folk var vækket op og begyndte at hævde sin stilling ovenfor embedsstanden. Det viste sig ved valgene og paa anden maade. Enkelte embedsmænd synes endog at have paadraget sig sterk uvilje. Saaledes ser vi, at Sjur Bakketun, som havde været paa landbrugsskolen og kommet i berørelse med folk, som hævdede "bondebatnen", var uforsonlig. Det samme kommer senere frem i skrivelser fra vossinger i Chicago. Det blev ialfald en medvirkende aarsag.

Fra Voss forplantede udvandringen sig til Sogn.

namely in 1841 and that year his description was printed in book format. It didn't have much effect in Voss, as the large immigration in 1843 shows, and many emigrated in 1842. Mons Skutle, who lived at Fox River, at that time, wrote among else "it isn't true, that it is so bad in America as that Sjur from Valders wrote home to Norway," and then he describes what a dissatisfied and little respected person he was. Skutle wrote about himself that he was quite satisfied with America and he had never had it so good. His wife said the same, he said. Otherwise, he gave good insight into the conditions in America. In 1842, several emigrated from Fenne and Bryn, who must have known Mons Skutle and possibly saw his letter since the receiver lived on the same country road as they. They also were copied by Lars Nesheim and most likely were announced by him. Mons Skutle also sent of general interest in 1842 along with Knut Aslagson from Telemark, who was visiting Norway that year.

The emigration from Voss by 1843, had reached a point where it couldn't be stopped and basically it had an unreasonable rate. It was, therefore, nationally known. The linguist, Ivar Aasen, who was in Voss in 1843, wrote about it; "During my stay at Voss, emigration was in full force; many families in those days were in the process of disposing of their property and getting ready to travel. I had heard rumors that the emigrants frequently were experiencing dissatisfaction with their situation, yes, and with the government condition altogether. This is, as you can see, only gossip. The cause of the emigration is, as far as I could see, partly the natural desire to travel and agitation, partly the principle hope of coming into possession of big and easily acquired property, a hope that from various letters from prior emigration was protected and nourished to a great degree".

Ivar Aasen doesn't mention, as far as we know, anything about emigration from other places in the county, and he traveled widely.

What he had heard rumored regarding the vossing's dissatisfaction wasn't completely without basis, as one can see from the poem from 1844 elsewhere in this publication. The common people had been awakened and had started rise up in their situation regarding authority. It showed in the elections and in other ways. Certain public officials seemed to have taken a strong stance. And we see that Sjur Bakketun, who had been to Agriculture School and came in contact with people, who raised "the peasant benefit", was implacable. The same comes out later in letters from vossings in Chicago. In any case, it became a contributory cause.

From Voss, the emigration implanted itself in Sogn.

Peder Ivarson Unde fra Vik i Sogn var gift med en søster af Peder Skjervheim og til Sjur Ulvunds hustru, og var vistnok paa deres opfordring kommen til Amerika i 1839. Som nævnt sendte han ved Anders Flage hilsning til sin broder Ole, at han ønskede at se ham i Amerika. I 1843 tog saa baade Ole og broderen Erik Unde afsted tilligemed Erik Ingebrigtsen Hove, Ole Anderson og Sjur Tollefson Bruavold, Ole Guldteigen, Hans Dalen og Brita Tisdal. Dette var begyndelsen til den senere store udvandring fra Sogn.

DE FØRSTE AMERIKABESØG I HJEMBYGDEN.

Man skulde vel have troet, efterat de to skibe i 1843 var af-gaaede med udvandrere fra det forholdsvis ikke store bygdelaag Voss, at der vilde hengaa en tiaars tid, før noget lignende vilde hænde igjen, ligesom tilfældet var paa Stavangerkanten; men saadan blev det nok ikke. Tvertimod. Det største udvandrerantal i dette tidsrum drog afsted aaret efter. Dette havde dog sin specielle bevæggrund. To ungarle, som havde været i Amerika et par aar, fandt for godt i 1843 at aflægge fødebygden et besøg. Disse var Knut J. Hylle og Lars T. Røte. De havde for det meste opholdt sig i Chicago, men havde ogsaa besøgt nogen af settlementerne. Knut Hylle havde saaledes allerede ved sin ankomst i 1840 reist til Koshkonong og kjøbt sig land. Om vinteren 1841 var han i Muskego, medens Lars Røte da besøgte Koshkonong. Røte havde ogsaa reist som sjømand paa Michigansjøen. De havde saaledes seet noget af Amerika, og deres fortællinger derom maa have været bedaarende. Om vaaren den 8de mai 1844 førte de hver sin brud til alteret i Vossevangens gamle kirke og med disse og flokke af sine sambygdinger drog de straks efter tilbage til Amerika. De fleste med Hylle og Røte reiste til Koshkonong; og i det aar blev alt det bedste land optaget der. Andre reiste til Jefferson Prærie, som ogsaa blev godt bebygget.

Samme aar drog Aad J. Himle paa besøg i hjembygden og fulgte Hylles og Røtes eksempel. Om vaaren 1845 indgik han i ægteskab med Martha Larsdatter Gjerme og drog ligeledes straks efter tilbage med mange udvandrere hvoriblandt svigerforældrene med familie til Amerika. To skibe med udvandrere reiste ogsaa da; men muligens ikke fra Bergen.

Odd Himle med det meste af udvandrerne i 1845 drog til Spring Prærie, Wisconsin, der høsten forud var opdaget af Knut Langeland fra Samnanger. De blev saaledes de egentlige grundlæggere af dette store settlement.

Udvandringen fra Voss fortsatte ogsaa i de efterfølgende aar — dog i lidt mindre skala op til 1850. Men det aar overgik alle tidligere i udvandrerantal, da det i henhold til Nils Lee beløb sig

Peder Ivarson Unde from Vik i Sogn was married to a sister of Skjervheim and to Sjur Ulvunds wife, and had come to America in 1839 on their recommendation. As mentioned, he sent a message with Anders Flage to his brother Ole that he wished to see him in America. In 1843, both Ole and his brother Erik Unde took off along with Erik Ingebrigtsen Hove, Ole Anderson and Sjur Tollefson Bruavold, Ole Guldteigen, Hans Dalen and Brita Tisdal

THE FIRST AMERICANS VISIT HOME.

One would have thought that after two shiploads of vossings in 1843 left with emigrants from the relatively not very big Voss, that there might pass a decade before anything similar would happen, like was the case in the Stavanger area but it didn't happen. Contrariwise. The largest number of emigrants in this period left the next year. This had a special basis. Two young bachelors, who had been in America a couple years, in 1843 got the idea to visit their native district. These were Knut J. Hylle and Lars T. Røte. They had spent most of their time in Chicago, but had also visited some of the settlements. At his arrival in 1840, Knut Hylle went to Koshkonong and purchased land. During the winter of 1841, he went to Muskego, while Lars Røte then visited Koshkonong. Røte had also spent time as a sailor on Lake Michigan. Thus, they had seen a bit of America, and their descriptions must have been fascinating. In the spring, on May 8, 1844, they each led a bride to the altar of Vossevangen's old church and with these and a group of their fellow vossings; they soon thereafter left for America. Most of those with Hylle and Røte went to Koshkonong; and that year all the best land was taken there. Others went to Jefferson Prairie, which also was quite built up.

That same year, Aad J. Himle was on a visit home and he followed Hylle and Røte's example. He married Martha Larsdatter Gjerme in the spring of 1845 and likewise came back to America with many other emigrants among whom were his parents-in-law and their families. Two ships of emigrants went then, but possibly not from Bergen.

Odd Himle took most of the emigrants in 1845 to Spring Prairie, Wisconsin, which had been discovered the previous autumn by Knut Langeland from Samnanger. Thus, they became the actual founders of this big settlement.

The emigration from Voss continued in the succeeding years — admittedly on a lesser scale up until 1850. That year exceeded all previous years in emigration numbers, which according to Nils Lee

til ikke mindre end 800. Dette havde, som vi skal komme til ogsaa sin specielle aarsag.

DEN FØRSTE BYGDELAGSFORENING I AMERIKA.

Udvandringen var efter 1845 ogsaa begyndt at øges paa Østlandet og det sydlige Norge — især i Telemarken. Det lod da til at regjeringen i Norge ønskede at faa greie paa, hvordan det gik med disse folk; og det var vel aarsag til, at Adam Løvenskjold, som var de forenede rigers diplomatiske udsending til Amerika i 1847, gjorde en tur til de norske settlementer i Nordvesten. Han tog iland i Milwaukee og besøgte væsentlig settlementerne i Wisconsin. Det ser ikke ud til, at han var til Chicago. Da han kom tilbage til New York skrev han en indberetning til den norske regjering om turen. Denne var i det store og hele et indlæg mod udvandringen og ikke helt paalidelig.

Vossingerne i Chicago, som fik se indberetningen, efterat den var trykt i de norske blade, kom i harnisk; og følgen var, at i 1848 dannedes den første bygdelagsforening i Amerika med det specielle formaal ved systematisk oplysning, som det sagdes, at rette paa de feilagtige anskuelser, som eksisterede i fedrelandet, angaaende de politiske og religiøse forhold, samt om de hertil emigrerede norske. De kaldte foreningen et Corresponding selskab, Chicago, Illinois. En skrivelse skulde sendes til Voss hver maaned og de skulde søgeat faa svar derfra. Skrivelserne skulde godkjendes af bestyrelsen før den sendtes. Ivar Larson Boe var formand og Endre Tesdal sekretær. Der kjendes til 8 lange artikler, som sendtes. Enkelte er svært radikale. Det ser dog ud til, at de ikke fik noget svar fra Voss og dette var antagelig aarsag til, at tre medlemmer af selskabet, nemlig Steffen Larson Bøe, Knut Ivarson Glimme og Claus Knutson Skjeldal, som skulde skrive eller skrev den niende Artikel, reiste til Voss om høsten 1849. Der har de saa i Vinterens løb nyttet tiden godt med at udbrede sine anskuelser og lovprist Amerika med den følge, som nævnt, at 800 personer fulgte med til Amerika i 1850. Dermed har vel ogsaa korresponderingsselskabet gjort sin nytte foreløbig, og blev kanske opløst. Udvandringen havde nu spredt sig til de omliggende bygder i Hardanger, Sogn, Valdres og rimeligvis Hallingdal.

DET VOSSISKE EMIGRATIONSSKAB.

Om vaaren 1856 drog de to mest velstaaende vossinger i Amerika nemlig Ivar Larson Bøe og Anders Nelson Brække, paa besøg til sin fødebygd fra Chicago. De havde raad til at vise, hvad man kunde drive det til i Amerika, og gjorde sit bedste. Sandsynligvis fandt de snart ud, at der var mange som gjerne vilde til Amerika; men havde ikke reise-

consisted of no less than 800. This had a special reason, as we shall come to.

THE FIRST BYGDELAG ORGANIZATION IN AMERICA.

The emigration started to increase in east and southern Norway after 1845 — especially in Telemark. The government in Norway wanted to find out how these people were faring; this was the reason that Adam Løvenskjold, who was the United Kingdom's ambassador to America in 1847, made a trip to the Norwegian settlements in the Northwest. He landed in Milwaukee and visited the principal settlements in Wisconsin. It doesn't appear that he went to Chicago. When he got back to New York, he wrote a report to the Norwegian government about the trip. This was largely a contribution against emigration and not completely dependable.

The vossings in Chicago, who got to see the report, because it was printed in the Norwegian newspapers, were infuriated; the result was, that in 1848, they formed the first Bygdelag society whose special objective was a systematic explanation, as is said, to correct the inaccurate opinions extant in the fatherland, regarding the political and religious conditions, as well as the already emigrated Norwegians. They named the organization A Corresponding Society, Chicago, Illinois. A newsletter was to be sent to Voss each month and they would try to get answers in return. The newsletters were to be approved by the management prior to sending. Ivar Larson Boe was president and Endre Tesdal secretary. Eight long articles that were sent are known. Some are quite radical. It appeared that they didn't get any answers from Voss and this was perhaps the reason that three members of the society, namely Steffen Larson Bøe, Knut Ivarson Glimme and Claus Knutson Skjeldal, who were to compose the ninth article, went to Voss in the fall of 1849. In the course of the winter, they well utilized the time to disseminate their opinions and praised America with the result that 800 people followed to America in 1850. With this, the Correspondence Society had achieved its objective and was probably dissolved. The emigration had spread to the surrounding districts in Hardanger, Sogn, Valdres and possibly Hallingdal.

THE VOSS EMIGRATION SOCIETY.

In the spring of 1856, the two most prosperous vossings in America, namely Ivar Larson Bøe and Anders Nelson Brække, made a visit to their native district, from Chicago. They had been instructed to show what people could accomplish in America, and tried their hardest. Possibly, they soon learned that there were many people who wanted to go to America; but lacked travel money. After they returned

penge. Efter deres tilbagekomst om høsten blev der i Chicago dannet en forening med det fonnaal at indsamle penge i Amerika for at hjælpe værdige sambygdinger til at udvandre fra Voss. Denne forening blev stiftet den 23de Oktober 1856. Dens konstitution vedtoges paa møde den 13de Nov. Foreningens Navn skulde være Det Vossiske Emigrationsselskab. En tredjedel af de indsamlede penge skulde sendes til Voss; resten skulde sættes ud paa renter. Den 17de november blev følgende embedsmænd valgte: Ivar Larson Bøe, Ordfører; Anders B. Johnson (Lasse-haug) viseordf.; Anders Larson Hage, Skatmester; Endre Nilson Tesdal, sekretær. Desuden valgtes en eksekutiv og bestyrende komite, bestaaende af Anders Nilson Brække, John Amundson Hefte og Rognald Haldorson Løne.

Et langt opraab, dateret den 18de dec. og underskrevet af Ivar Bøe og Endre Tesdal udsendes samme aar. Det ser ud til at selskabet har udfoldet adskillig virksomhed og forsøgt endog at stifte underafdelinger. En saadan blev dannet paa Jefferson Prærie. I 1858 sendte denne ind til hovedlaget 106 dollars, som var samlet der. I de efterfølgende aar udvandrede der ganske mange fra Voss, og sandsynligvis har da flere familier været hjulpe med reisepenge.

BLADET "WOSSINGEN" UDGIVES.

I december maaned 1857 udkom første numer af Wossingen. Det var et bygdelagsorgan, som navnet antyder, udsendt omkring 50 aar før nogen af vore moderne bygdelagskrifter udkom. Det var beregnet paa at give oplysninger om vossingerne baade paa Voss og i Amerika. Det gjordes tildels ved brevvekslinger mellem slegt og venner, men oftest ved indberetninger fra bladets agenter i de forskellige settlementer og paa Voss. I sin første redaktionsartikel siger redaktøren "Tillige indser vi, at dette vilde blive et organ hvorigjennem, der kunde gives en mere udbredt oplysning om det Vossiske Emigrationsselskabet, der for omtrent et aar siden dannedes i Chicago og maaske blive et middel til mere almindelig deltagelse."

Det i aaret forud udsendte opraab blev da indtaget igjen i bladet og senere andre artikler. Bladet giver oplysning om, hvem som udvandrede i 1857, '58 og '59 med meget andet og er af stor værdi. Sidste numer udkom i febr. 1860.

MED ERHVERVELSE FØLGER FORPLIGTELSE

Det lakkede saa op til borgerkrigen, som bragte forandrede forholde.

I 50-aarene havde vossingerne spredt sig udover Staterne og dannet flere settlementeer. Først drog

that fall, there was created in Chicago, an association with the objective of collecting money in America to help these deserving fellow vossings to emigrate. This association was founded on October 23, 1856. Its constitution was adopted at a meeting November 13. The association's name would be The Vossing Emigration Society. A third of the collected money should be sent to Voss; the remainder placed out at interest. On November 17, the following officers were elected: Ivar Larson Bøe, chairman; Anders B. Johnson (Lasse-haug) vice-chairman.; Anders Larson Hage, treasurer; Endre Nilson Tesdal, secretary. In addition, an executive and steering committee was elected, consisting of Anders Nilson Brække, John Amundson Hefte and Rognald Haldorson Løne.

A long appeal dated December 18, 1856 and signed by Ivar Bøe and Endre Tesdal was sent out that same year. It appears that the society had put forth a good deal of work and still tried to create subsidiary organizations. Such a one was founded at Jefferson Prairie. They remitted \$106.00 to the head society, which they had raised there. In the following years, quite a few families emigrated from Voss, and very likely several families were assisted with travel money.

THE PAPER "WOSSINGEN" IS PUBLISHED.

The first issue of the "Wossingen" was published in December 1857. It was a bygdela newspaper, as the name indicates, published about 50 years before any of our modern bygdela newsletters came out. It was intended to give information about vossings in both Voss and America. This was done partly by the exchange of letters between relatives and friends, but most often by reports from the paper's agents in the various settlements and at Voss. In his first editorial, the editor said, "Also we realize that this will be a vehicle by means a wider explanation of The Vossing Emigration Society, which was created about a year ago in Chicago and can be a medium for more general participation".

In the succeeding year, dispatched appeals were included in the paper and later in other articles. The paper gave information about the emigrations in 1857, '58 and '59 with lots more and it is valuable. The last issue was published in February 1860.

WITH ACQUISITION COMES COMMITMENT.

The Civil War slowly approached, and brought changing circumstances.

In the fifties, the vossings had spread out over the states and founded several settlements. First, a

en del til Big Canoe, Iowa. Saa til Trempealeau County, Wis., og derpaa til Olmstead og Dodge co., Minnesota. I 1858 gjorde Bottolf Lunde og broderen Christen Jordalen en tur til nordrekanten af Nebraska og saa over Missouri-floden til de deilige græsgange paa Dakota-siden. Saa reiste de tilbage til Koshkonong og fik en flok landsøgere med sig derfra, og en anden fulgte med, da de drog over Iowa. Disse følger, af hvilke de fleste var vossinger gjorde saa sit indtog i Dakotaerne.

Vossingerne havde erhvervet sig store eiendomme i det nye land og gjorde det godt. De vidste da ogsaa, hvad det gjaldt, naar borgerkrigen kom, og handlede derefter. Vi kjender navnene paa omkring 150, som meldte sig til krigstjeneste; men der var vistnok adskillig flere. Kompani H af det 15de Wisconsin regiment kaldtes Vossekompaniet, men der var vossinger ogsaa i andre kompanier og afdelinger i andre stater. Mange blev igjen paa slagmarkerne.

Dette er da noget af vossingernes udvandringssaga, som maa falde os i tankerne ved hundredaarsmindet.

K. A. Rene.

TANKER VED PLOGEN.

Fra aaret 1844.

Mel.: *Den fineste kone paa stranden.*

Blandt nordmanden var det en hæder
at gjæste i fremmede land;
staaiklædningen var deres glæder,
de indtog dale og strand.
Nu søges vel fremmede lande,
men ikke paa gammelnorsk vis;
nu fredens stav tages ihænde,
før — sverdet erhvervet dem pris.

Af bygdetyranner har landet,
som driver en mængde herfra.
Før vil vi begraves i vandet,
før vi vil udpantninger ha.
Ove Jer, I sorte munkhuer,
I adskilt har mangan god ven.

number of them went to Big Canoe, Iowa, then to Trempealeau County, Wis., and after that to Olmstead and Dodge Counties, Minnesota. Bottolf Lunde and his brother Christen Jordalen made a trek to northern Nebraska then crossed the Missouri River to the beautiful grassy plains on the Dakota side. Then they went back to Koshkonong and got a group of land seekers to follow along when they crossed over Iowa. These wagon trains, of which the majority was vossing, had their influence on the Dakotas.

The vossings had acquired large properties in the new country and were doing well. They also knew what it meant, when the Civil War came, and the business following. We know the names of about 150, who volunteered for military service; but evidently, there were considerably more. Company H of the 15th Wisconsin Regiment was named the Voss Company, but there were vossings in other companies and divisions in other states. Many remained on the battlefield.

This is part of the saga of the emigration of the vossings, which comes to our minds at this centennial.

K. A. Rene.

THOUGHTS BY THE PLOW.

From the year 1844.

Mel.: *The nicest wife in the Strand.*

Among the Norwegians, it was an honor
to dine in strange countries;
Steel clothing was their delight,
they captured the valleys and beaches.
Now they seek strange lands,
But not in the Old Norwegian manner
Now the staff of freedom is in hand.
Before —, the sword earned them praise.

The countryside has despots,
Which drive many away?
Before we are buried in the water,
before we will have foreclosure.
Masters, in black monk's hoods,
in isolation we have many good friends.

Med paven rescripter I truer;
Tenk, engang i lønnes igjen! *)

Kan aager, det uhyre hemmes,
bortjages fra land og fra strand?
bankørers procenter lidt tæmmes,
der skrækker den tænkende mand.
Det bygselgods hædrer ei landet, **)
gjør odelsmand mager og bleg. —
Den nidingsdaad være forbandet:
"at vi aldrig vove en præk!"

Kan freden vedvare i norden,
og friheden her holde hus?
Med flid vil vi dyrke paa jorden,
kun trætte udtømme vort krus.
Torvmosen og frugtbar kan blive
ved brænding, ved kalk og ved sand.
Tørbakken vi bedre og trive
ved paafør af muld og af vand.

En ting vil jeg presten advare:
Hold aldrig selskab for stor.
Vor Christendom staar da i fare.
— Pantet husmand ser da hen paa dit bord.
Der ligger min sau nu smørbræ'et,
min gryta staar koka paa sous,
mens jeg gnaver barken af træet,
og bodna mi ganga klædlaus.

Tidt sættes den firkantet flaske
paa prestens velsignede bord.
Den lokke skal korn i aske
fra bondens høist sparsomme jord.

*) Ved at læse den hellige skrift, finder du ikke, at kristendommens store stifter, evighedens store konge, befalede apostlene at holde udpantning hos dem, der nyde understøttelse af fattigvæsenet, eller hos oldinge, der ei formaa at bære deres egen burde. (Forf. anm.)

**) Hvor findes mere udpinte gaarde og mere forsultede bønder end paa den benificerede gods? Den gamle odel maatte gaa i caution for den elendige ny med den store jordeafgift, samt tage del i dens byrder. Og endnu skal den hæderllge gamle odel hæves, og agtværdige bondefamilier forvandles til betlerhorder!

But the pope's proscriptions threaten;
think, to be in debt again! *)

Can usury, the enormous inhibition,
Be chased from the land and from shore?
The bankers' percents can be controlled a little,
there where a thinking man complains.
The lease property is scoffed at in this country,**)
making the heir shriveled and pale.—
The dastardly deed be accursed:
"that we never meander a sermon!"

Can peace persist in the north,
and freedom live here?
With diligence, we will till the soil,
only fatigue can empty our reserve.
Mossy sod and productivity we achieve
with burning, with lime and with sand.
The drying slope we improve and thrive
caused by mold and by water.

One thing I want to caution the minister:
Don't have your parties too big.
Our Christianity is in danger.
— mortgaged tenant look at your table.
There lies my sheep, now a sandwich,
My kettle stands cooking sauce,
While I gnaw the bark of trees
And my children are without clothes.

Often is set the four cornered flask
on the minister's blessed table.
It attracts grain in the ashes
from the farmer's scantiest soil.

*) By reading the holy scripture, you will not find that Christianity's main founders, the kings of eternity, commanded the Apostles to foreclose on them, who needed support from Welfare, or on the elderly, who are barely capable of carrying their own share.

(Anon.)

**) Where can be found tattered farms and farmers that are more famished then on beneficert property (farms whose income goes to the church)? The old primogeniture law had to go in bond for the miserable new with its large tax, as well as taking its burden. And now, the mocked old practice is discarded, and legal farm families are turned into beggars.

Men kommer en bonde og siger:
"Jeg betaler retfærdigt og sandt;"
da venligt han kaldes en gni'er,
en usling, en skurk og en fant.

Her sirup ei tappes af træer,
men birken giver god saft;
Ei sukkerrør gror paa prærier;
dyrk havre! den giver dig kraft.
Naar jordmonet først er godt blandet, —
ved brækningen frelst fra ukrud,
og grøfter befrier det fra vandet,
besaa det med hvede og rug.

Uagtet vel ingen kan sige:
Mit jordmon har været mig god;
norsk mod bør dog aldrig svige;
men sten maa borttrykkes for fod
og jorden planeres og pløies,
sat grøftningsmaskiner istand;
ved myr da vort øie fornøies,
der forhen stod sort udaf vand.

Nu, skal Norges odels bortkastes
og alting blive skalløst,
og kongernes love høit lastes;
lovtrækkere være vor trøst?
Nu er det paa tiden at vaagne
for fribaaren odelsmands søn,
lidt dæmpe høitsportlede løgne, —
frit valg, og hver embedsmands løn!

* * *

Se Englands stormagt er vorden
ved Cromwells navnkundige lov:
"Mit folk maa ei seile rundt jorden
i udenlands byggede skrov.
Hver sømand bør kjende sin seiler,
hvorpaa han vil vove sit liv,
hver jordbruger kjende sin ager
og soldaten prøve sin kniv!"

I Østen Czar Peter regjerte,
godt styrte det russiske folk;
Arbejdsomhed laa ham paa hjerte,

But if a farmer comes and says:
"I pay justly and true";
then jocularly he is called a tightwad,
a scoundrel, a villain and a tramp.

Here sap is tapped from trees,
But the birch gives good juice:
A sugar pipe grows on the prairies:
raise oats! It gives you strength.
When the soil's strength is mixed, —
With the tilling, it saves from weeds,
And ditches get rid of the water,
Sow with wheat and with rye.

Although no one can say:
The soil's strength has been good to me;
Norwegian courage must then never weaken;
But stones must be cleared from our footing
And the soil leveled and plowed
The ditching machine was ready;
By the marshland pleases our eye,
where earlier the black came out of water.

Now, should Norway's heritage be discarded
and everything be released,
and the king's law be loudly loaded;
chicanery be our comfort?
Now is the time to venture
For freeborn primogeniture's son,
Some damping of the loud lies, —
free choice, and each official's pay.

* * *

See England's might has become
With Cromwell's renowned law:
"My people have sailed round the world
in foreign built carcass.
each sailor must know his own sail.
Upon which to risk his life
Each farmer knows his fields
And the soldier tests his blade!"

In the east Czar Peter reigned,
leading the Russian people;
work lay near to his heart,

dovne munke fik duelig svolk.
 Han dannede dem til soldater,
 saa maatte de tjene sit brød;
 men helsløse gamle krabater
 fik ophold og led ingen nød.

Gamle Bonde han mødte paa tinge
 bevæbnet og valgte sin drot.
 Da var nordmandskraft ikke ringe;
 han værnede øerne godt.
 Saa kom de forfinede sæder;
 — nu bonde, du taler ei høit. —
 Vi sank, og forfedrenes hæder
 sank under, som guld i en pøit.

Ugjerne jeg vilde bebreide,
 at nordmand nu har ikke mod.
 Vi tør ei se tyskerne vrede,
 langt mindre se voldsmandens blod.
 Nu maa vore danske fostbrødre
 selv kjæmpe i tynde gelede.
 I enighed stod vore fædre,
 paa Lyrskog slog venderne ned.

Rust aldrig i krig vore vaaben,
 eiheller i freden vor plog!
 Kong David var salvet fra oven,
 dog kjækt han sin fiende slog.
 Sit odels og frihedens rige
 forsvarte han altid som mand;
 hans lovsang lød høit udi krige;
 Gud selv stod som skjold for hans land.

Det tror jeg: Elsk bonde dit Norge;
 arbeid paa din odal med flid;
 grav grøfter, ryd urer, byg borge,
 saa lever du vel al din tid.
 Saa ædelt du lande da vinder,
 som de gamle ved sværdet vandt land;
 sterke muskler i armen du finder
 og lever en hundredaars mand.

S. M. Bakketun.

Lazy monks got goodly thrashings.
 He turned them into soldiers,
 then they had to earn their keep;
 but unhealthy old rascals
 got support and suffered no need.

The old farmer met at the court
 Armed and chose his king.
 Then northman's power wasn't feeble;
 He guarded his islands well.
 Then came the delicate offspring;
 — now farmer, you talk of ambition. —
 We sank, and the honor of our progenitors
 Sank under, like gold in a puddle.

Reluctantly would I blame,
 that Norwegians didn't have courage.
 We dared to see the Germans turn,
 much less than see the assailant's blood
 Now must our Danish foster brothers
 themselves fighting in thin ranks.
 Our forefathers stood united,
 At Lyrskog, they slew the turncoats.

Don't let our weapons rust in war
 Nor in peace, our plows!
 King David was saved from the furnace,
 But slew his enemies courageously.
 His heritage and his freedom kingdom
 Were defended always to a man;
 His anthem sounded loud in the battle;
 God himself was a shield for his country.

I believe: farmers, love your Norway;
 Work on your property with diligence;
 dig ditches, clear skrees, build strongholds,
 then you will live well all your time.
 So honor the land you have won,
 as they with swords won the country,
 you'll find strong muscles in your arms
 and you'll be man of the century.

S. M. Bakketun.

EN AMERIKAREISE I 1841.

Brev fraktureret af Lars N. Nesheim.

Til kjære forældre og søskende og slegtninger og gode venner!

N.B. Hvor der staar nævnt grader i brevet, da er det saaledes fra Bergen i Norge til Boston i Amerika 44 grader, og hver grad indeholder 15 geografiske mil eller 10 norske mil.

Efter løfte tager vi os den frihed at skrive Eder til, om hvorledes det har gaaet os, siden vi forlod Bergen. Vi gik ud ifra Bergen den 8de august dette aar og havde god vind i 8 dage og seilede nord imellem Skotland og Færøerne. Siden blæste en storm ifra vest, som vedvarede uafsladelig i 3—4 dage. Da drev vi tilbage 5—6 grader. Under samme stormvind bræktes løs en tyk jernlæk, hvori bogsprædet var fæstet til galionen og skuden fik læk paa sig, saaat mange maatte staa ved pumpen næsten bestandig for at holde skuden læns. Da hviskede en mig i ørene under 4 øine. Hvis ikke stormen snart gav sig, da nødes vi til at kaste endel af jernlasten for at frelse livet. Den ote morgen blev vinden saa meget stil, at man fik opdrage seil og sætte dem nogenlunde istand igjen. Siden kjæmpede vi det meste med liden vind — tildels storm, og tildels god vind. En nat bræktes ind noget af skanseklædningen paa styrbord siden og brækte af en tyk jernkrog i en kabel. — Da raabte kapteinen med en forvirret rask stemme: "Åa hjælp os til at hugge riggen af skuden." Riggen fik vi snart af uden at skade skuden. To ankere med jernkjættinger og en med Kabellinen blev straks udkastede. Under samme arbeide faldt Colbein Vestreims gode hugøx i søen. Da vandet der var saa lavt overalt, og det brækkede mere end paa dybet, saa laa vi der ganske sikker under haabets anker. Fredags morgen den Ste oktober kom en grønmalet fiskeslup til os, som trak os 1 norsk mil ind paa en havn, hvor vi maatte lægge os til anker paa 3½ favn dybt vand — en halv mil fra en liden fiskeby, som heder Velflit; og da havde vi 10 norske mil til Boston. Da skikkede kapteinen styrmanden til Boston for at faa en dampbaad til at trække os ind til Boston, men kom igjen uden dampbaad, fordi de store dampbaade, der var, havde sine visse ture at gaa, og kunde derfor ikke faa tid at hente os. De andre var saa smaa, at de ikke kunde vove sig til at trække saa stort og tungt fartøi saa langt ud af havet. Derfor maatte kapteinen begynde at klarke op igjen saameget master, at han kunde bjerge sig ind til Boston med føielig vind. Medens vi laa i bemeldte havn, fik vi anledning til at ro iland og kjøbte os poteter, melk, æbler og tobak, alt fik vi for taalelig pris, undtagen poteterne. De var dyre og ikke gode; men melken var overmaade gode og

AN AMERICA TRIP IN 1841.

Letter copied in Gothic script by Lars N. Nesheim.

To my dear parents, sibilings, relatives and good friends!

N. B. where the term degree is used in the letter, then you must understand that it is 44 degrees from Bergen in Norway to Boston in America, and each degree contains 15 geographic miles or 10 Norwegian miles.

According to our promise, we are taking the peace of writing you, how we are doing since we left Bergen. We left from Bergen on August 8 this year and had good wind for 8 days and sailed north between Scotland and the Faroes. Since, there has been a gale from the west incessantly for 3-4 days. We went backwards 5-6 degrees. During the stormy gale, a thick iron link broke loose, from where the bowsprit was fastened to the keel and the vessel developed a leak, so that many had to man the pumps almost continually to keep the vessel running downwind. Then one whispered to me privately; if the storm didn't ease off soon, we would have to throw the load of scrap iron in order to save our lives. On the eighth morning, the wind quieted so the crew could raise sails and get them reasonably fitted again. Subsequently, we struggled with little wind — sometimes storm, sometimes good wind. One night some of the quarterdeck on the starboard side collapsed and broke a thick iron hook on a cable. Then the captain yelled with a quick, confused voice, "Oh, help us chop the rigging off the vessel". We soon got the rigging off without damage to the ship. During this work, Colbein Vestreim's good timber ax fell in the ocean. Since the water was so shallow everywhere, and the waves were bigger than in the depths, we lay quite secure at anchor and hoped. Friday morning, the 8th of October, a green painted fishing sloop approached us and hauled us one Norwegian mile into a harbor where we lay at anchor at 3½ fathoms depth — a half mile from a little fishing village named Velflit; and we were 10 Norwegian miles from Boston. The captain sent the mate to Boston to get a steamboat to pull us in to Boston, but he came back without one because the big steamboats that were there had their tours to sail and couldn't find time to fetch us. The others were too small that they could not risk pulling so large a vessel so far out in the ocean. Therefore, the captain had to start jurying up enough mast and spars so he could save the vessel with a favorable wind. While we lay in the described haven, we had a chance to row to land and buy ourselves potatoes, milk, apples and tobacco, all for reasonable prices, except the potatoes. They were expensive and not good, but the milk was

æbler. Kagetobakken var uden stilk og smagte som honning imod, som det var, det som vi købte i Bergen.

Landet der var bedækket med stor og overmaade prægtig skov af alle sorter, som er i Norge, samt indianerkorn, som saa ud som erter.

Medens vi laa i bemeldte havn, kom en orlogsmand som stedse krydsede langs Kysten ved Boston for at holde rent for røvere seilende til os, og fortæller os, at han havde fundet imellem 80 og 90 fartøier drevne paa land og imellem 70 og 80 mennesker (døde?) ved strandbredden, hvoriblandt var et fruentimmer og et barn ved samme kyst. Tre mænd havde han fundet paa vrage, som blev frelste. Alt var i den bemeldte orkan. Man sagde, at der ikke havde været saadan storm paa 20 aar, ja, ikke i mands minde.

Vi ligger her ved Velflit havn. Nu ville vi føre til noget om madvarerne og søsygen, fordi vi kan ikke slutte brevet, før vi kommer til Boston. I henseende til søsygen, da havde vi alle lidt noget deraf; men det var ingen farlig eller streng sygdom. Den var efter-som vinden blæste, mer eller mindre. Da vi forlod kysten ved Norge og skuden begyndte at hæve sig paa bølgerne, begyndte det at hæve sig i livet, og straks maatte man brække op, undtagen Knut Bøe, Niels Viche og Gudvæ Gilderhus. Det var ligesom man har drukket sig et rus paa, at saasart man havde kastet op, faldt man i afmagt; og inden en god slummer saa følte man vel ikke nogen smerte, saalænge man laa fast i sengen. Men saasart man stod paa fod og vinden blæste meget, maatte man brække sig igjen. Endel slap at brække sig mere end en gang. Andre maatte brække sig flere gange, naar vinden blæste sterkt snart til den ene, snart til den anden side, og helst naar den hævede sig op og ned paa de store bølger. Søen gaar ligesom fjeldklipper. Men naar vinden var føielig, var alle paa fod og spiste sine fulde maaltider. Børn følte mindst til søsygen.

Den mad der smagte bedst under søsygen, var saadan mad, som holdt livet aabent; tørre rugkavringer med lidt smør og sirup var gode, og øl med lidt sirup i; god spegesild og poteter; godt spegekjød med grynveling til, og melk-ost, lidt Hofmandsdraaber og noget engelsk salt. Forstoppelse af fed og sød mad gjorde mere ondt end godt og smagte bittert under søsygen.

De madvarer man maa tage med sig, og som staar sig bedst paa søen, er til hver voksen person omtrent et pund smør, 8 lemmer godt faarekjød, et pund godt flesk af et laar, og nogen maar-pølse. Alt maa I forvare vel og være godt indtørrede. Bygmel i en god hid, 200 leiver dygtigt stegt fladbrød af bygmel med lidt rugmel i. For nogle skilling i tørre rugkavringer, nogen god gammel-ost. Madvarerne forvaredes i tørre, gode kar, saa at søtrækken ikke faar virke paa

exceptionally good. The "cake" tobacco was stemmed and tasted like honey, as compared with what we bought in Bergen.

The country is covered with big and extremely grand forest with all types of trees, like in Norway, and Indian corn that look like peas.

While we lay at the aforesaid harbor, a naval man who continually patrolled the coast by Boston to keep it free of pirates, came sailing up to us, and told us that he had found between 80 and 90 vessels that had been driven to and between 70 and 80 people (dead?) along the shore, among whom was a female and a child by the same coast. He had found three men on a wreck, who were saved. All had been in the aforesaid hurricane. They said that there hadn't been such a storm for 20 years, yes, not in memory.

We are lying here at Velflit harbor. Now we would like to get something for food and for the seasickness, so we can't quit this letter before we get to Boston, anyway. Regarding the seasickness, which we all have had little of; it isn't a severe or dangerous sickness. It happened after the wind blew, more or less. When we left the coast of Norway and the vessel started to heave itself on the waves, it started to raise at the waist, and soon a person would throw up, except Knut Bøe, Niels Viche and Gudvæ Gilderhus. It was as if one got drunk, and soon one threw up, then became very weak and after a good nap one would feel OK, not any pain, as long as one stayed in bed. But if one got up and the wind blew a lot one would vomit again. Several didn't vomit more than one time. Others vomited several times when the wind blew to one side, then the other and particularly when the ship went up and down on the big waves. The sea looks like mountain ranges. But when the wind is favorable, everyone got up and ate full meals. Children felt seasickness the least.

The food that tasted best during seasickness, was such food as would keep the belly open; dry rye crisp with a little butter and syrup was good, and beer with syrup added, good smoked herring and potatoes, good dried meat with rice-milk soup, and cottage cheese, some Hoffman drops and some English salt. Ingestion of fat or sweet food did more harm than good and tasted bitter during seasickness.

The foodstuff one should take along and that serve best at sea are, for every grown person, about a pound of butter, 8 lems of good mutton, a pound of side pork and some marrow sausage. You must prepare everything in advance and it must be well-dried. Oat flour is good here, 200 leaves of nicely cooked flatbrød of barley flour with a little rye flour in them. Get a few shillings worth of dry rye crisp, some good gammelost (goatcheese). The foodstuffs must be preserved in good, dry containers so the sea

den; saa staar den sig godt, men faar søtrækken virke paa den, bliver de slimagtige, og som de skulde have været gennemtrængte med tran. Et anker friskt, surt og froset brim. Det staar sig godt, naar det bliver flittigt oprørt daglig; og noget melk fri for vand, staar sig længe; lidt god spegesild, 3 asker poteter, noget tørfisk eller kværker, et anker godt humlet øl — vel tilproppet paa godt kar, en potte vinædik til at forfriske vandet med til drikke, og 2 pæler sirup, noget tørt salt til at gjøre lage paa smørret. Man maa forsyne sig med gode presenninger over tøiet, at det ikke kommer vand paa (det paa) skibet; fordi ellers trækker fugtigheden i madvarerne, og da ville de snart blive udskjemte. Man maa være forsynet med sække til at tage sit tøj i, naar man stiger iland i Amerika, og afsende alle skrabejører for at spare paa skydsudgifterne op igjennem landet. De kan have med sig de fornødne klædeskister, som maa være haandtlig, tynd og godt malet; samt forsyne sig med gode vinterklæder, gode støvler og træsko paa søen, fordi søen skyller ofte paa dækket. Emigranterne maa se nøie til at følge paa et sterkt, godt og ei forlastet skib; duelig og praktiseret kaptein til følgesmand og —

* * *

Ovenfor gjengivne brev har mistet slutningen tilligemed underskriften, saa vi kan kun gjøre os en formodning om resten og hvem forfatteren er; men vi tager dog neppe fejl ved at antage, at det er skrevet af Lars J. Møen, som var med paa skibet og hvis stil det ligner.

Paa samme skib var ogsaa Anders N. Lie med hustru og søn Nils, som da ikke var aars gammel. Anders Lie har fortalt, at de fulgte med et gammelt skib, lastet med jern fra Sverige. Før det kom til Bergen fik det skade og laa der i 13 uger under reparation. Til Amerika var der med 17 passagerer. Det gik bra indtil de havde været paa søen i 8 uger og troede at skimte den yderste fyr udenfor Boston, da den svære storm røg op og varede til mandags morgen. Der var ingen anden redning end at afhugge master og taugværk, som med alt ovenpaa dækket gik paa søen. Saa laa de udfør Boston i 3 Uger, før de kom iland. — Se forøvrigt Lars J. Møens brev i "Vossingen" no. 4, 4de aarg. —Ed.

— Bryngel K. Rokne, Wallingford, Ia., som vil blive 92 aar den 15de april førstk. skriver, at han undres paa idet præsident-valget nu er over, hvormange vusser har stemt paa 18 præsident kandidater som han. Da det republikanske parti dannedes i 1856 stemte han paa general Fremont og siden paa de andre republikanske kandidater, sidst med de saakaldte progressive. Han er vel alene om det.

currents won't affect them, then you will be all right, but if the sea currents affect them, they will get slimy, and like they have been soaked in cod liver oil. One misses fresh, sour and frozen brim. It is real good when it is mixed up daily; with some milk, free of water, satisfies; some good smoked herring, 3 bowls of potatoes, some dried fish, and one misses good hops beer — well sealed in a good container, a pot of wine vinegar to freshen up the drinking water, and a pint of syrup, some dry salt to make layer on the butter. One must provide himself with good tarpaulins over the clothes, so there doesn't get water on them on the ship; otherwise, moisture will get in the foodstuffs and then they will soon spoil. One must be satisfied to carry one's clothes in bags, when one disembarks in America, and ship all lesser items, in order to save on travel costs up through the country. You may have with you the required clothing chests, which must be hand carried, solid and weighed; and provide yourself with good winter clothes, good boots and wooden shoes at sea, because the sea often washes across the deck. The emigrants must be careful to travel on a strong, good and well loaded ship; a capable and experienced captain as a leader and —

* * *

The above-reproduced letter has lost its ending along with the signature, so we can only presume the remainder or who the author may be; but we most likely aren't wrong when we assume it to be written by Lars J. Møen, who was on the trip and whose style it resembles

Anders N. Lie with his wife and son Nils, who wasn't a year old, were on the same vessel. Anders Lie has told that they sailed on an old ship, loaded with iron from Sweden. Before it got to Bergen, it was damaged and it lay there 13 weeks for repairs. Seventeen passengers sailed for America. It went fine until they had been at sea 8 weeks and thought they could dimly see the outermost lighthouse light outside Boston, when the big hurricane raged until Monday morning. To save themselves, they had to chop off the masts and the rigging, which went into the sea along with everything else on deck. They lay outside Boston for 3 weeks before they landed. — See above Lars J. Møen's letter in "Vossingen" no. 4, 4th year. —Ed.

— Bryngel K. Rokne, Wallingford, IA, who will become 92 years April 15, writes that he wonders, now that the election is over, how many vossings have voted for 18 presidential candidates like he has. When the Republican Party was founded in 1856, he voted for General Fremont and since for the other republican candidates, except the last when he voted with the so-called Progressives. He is most likely alone in this.

EN TAKKESANG TIL MOR
NORGE.

Mel.: *Blandt alle lande i øst og vest.*

Kom lad os synge en liden sang,
Den handle vil om vort fædreland;
Den gamle lære: vi mor skal ære,
Det er vor trang.

Modtag vor tak da du gamle mor;
Vi bør ei takke med bare ord
for silkefanen — den gave kjære,
som er saa stor.

Den fødebygd i det fjerne nord.
Det gi vet har vore fædre jord,
vor barnelære og alt det kjære,
vi fik af mor.

Vi længes hjem til din kjære strand
at nynne der paa vor lille sang—
de barneminder, som ei forsvinder
den tiden lang.

Afskedsstunden var meget tung
for alle gamle saavel som ung.
De glade dage, vi lod tilbage
hos gamle mor.

Kom lad os ære vor gamle mor.
Den arv hun gav os, ja den var stor.
Den gode lære: Vi tro skal være,
var hendes ord.

Vort bygdelag med sit norske flag
vil glæde os paa en junidag,
og minde mane, som vor egen fane:
Holdt frem vort lag!

Styrke A. Kvitne.

SONG OF THANKS FOR MOTHER
NORWAY.

Mel.: *Among All Lands in East and West.*

Come; let us sing a little song.
That deals with our fatherland:
The old learning: we must honor mother,
That is our want.

Receive our thanks then, old mother
we thank simply with words
for the silk banner — that dear gift,
that is so important.

The place of our birth in the far north.
That we know is our fatherland,
childhood rearing and all that's dear,
We got from mother.

We are homesick for your dear shore
To hum our little song there—
childhood memories, as they are lost
in the long time.

Departure time was mighty heavy
for the old as well as the young.
Those happy days, we were fond of
back with old mother.

Come let us honor our old mother
The heritage she gave us, yes, it was big.
The good teaching: we believe
to have been, her word.

Our lag with its Norwegian flag
will gladden us one June day,
and urge memories, as our banner:
carry forth our lag!

Styrke A. Kvitne.

AFSKRIFT AF ET BREVSOM VAR INDFØRT I
MORGENBLADENE 1842

Efter et i Tiden indført brev fra New York af 14de september 1842, meddeles følgende beretning om nogle udvandrede, som afgik fra ladepladsen Langesund, beliggende 2½ mil fra staden Skien, Bamble Prestegjeld i Norge. De udgik derfra den 18de juni d. a. mod en fragt af 6 spesidaler for hver voksen person; ukomformerede det halve, og diebørn frit; ankom til staden Havre i Frankrog den 12te juli, og blev akkorderet med kaptein Spense, førende skibet "Tyskine", hjemmehørende i New York, om at betale 40 franc eller 7 dollars fra Havre til New York for hver person, diebørn frit, og fri for landgangspenger. De forlod Havre den 28de samme m. med god vind og ankom friske og vel fornøiede til New York den 5te september, hvor de henvendte sig til styrmand Peder Christensen og Christian Vold, begge fra Drammen, ved hvis velvillige medvirkning, de blev akkorderede om at betale 8 dollars for hver voksen person, ukonfirmerede det halve og diebørn samt tøj frit, for at gaa med dampbaad fra New York til Milwaukee i Wisconsin. Dette er den billigste fragt man har hørt. Brevskriveren tilraader derfor, at de af deres landsmænd, der ville reise til Amerika, at gaa over til Havre, og der gjøre akkord om reisen til New York, saasom derfra næsten daglig afgaar skibe, som høre hjemme i New York, og er gode og hurtig-seilende, ligesom kapteinerne er billige og besætningen gode og tjenstvillige mennesker. Endvidere bemærkes, at man ved ankomsten til kwarantæne pladsen i New York ikke maa gjøre nogensomhelst akkord ombord i de skibe man er komne med; men straks gaa iland for selv at efterhøre priserne, der er meget forskjellige, saasom der findes mange bedragere, endog blandt vore derværende landsmænd. De anbefales i denne henseende at henvende sig til de ovennævnte personer, styrmand Peder Christen og Christian Vold, der begge nu er bosatte i New York, og hvis uinteresserede opførsel, de ikke noksom kunne rose. Derimod omtales Kaptein Smith Overveien og Kaptein Ankerson mindre fordelagtigt, idet disse i mere og mindre grad beskyldes for at have lukreret paa deres passagerers bekostning, saavel ved at tage høiere fragt af dem, som ved mindre samvittighedsfuldt at have sørget for deres videre befordring op i landet.

* * *

Disse aviser, som jeg har taget afskrift af, var mig tilsendte fra Ulvik, fra Klokker Arne Bryngelson Leqve.

Fragturet af Lars Nielson Nesheim.

COPY OF A LETTER THAT WAS MADE
KNOWN IN THE MORGENBLAD IN 1842.

From the Times, the introduced letter from New York of the 14th of September 1842 is shared with the following account of some emigrants that departed from the port of Langesund, located 2 ½ miles from the city of Skien, Bamble Parish in Norway. They left from there on June 18 the same year, for a cost of 6 Speciedalers for each adult, unconfirmed, half, and unweaned babies, free; arriving at the city of Havre in France the 12th of July, and reached an agreement with Captain Spense, commanding the ship "Tyskine", out of New York, to pay 49 francs or 7 dollars from Havre to New York for each person, unweaned babies, free, and no disembarking charge. They left Havre on July 28, with a good wind and arrived healthy and satisfied in New York September 5, where they approached Mates Peder Christensen and Christian Vold, both from Drammen, with whose friendly cooperation they agreed to pay 8 dollars for each adult person, unconfirmed, half and unweaned babies and baggage free, to travel by steamboat from New York to Milwaukee in Wisconsin. This is the cheapest fare we have heard of. The letter writer, therefore recommends that those of their countrymen who wish to travel to America, to go to Havre, and there to bargain for a trip to New York, since there are ships leaving almost daily, that have New York as their home port, and are good and fast sailing, like their captains, they are inexpensive and the crew is of good and brisk people. He further notes that when one has arrived at the quarantine place in New York, not to make any agreement on board the ship you have come with; but disembark soon to study the prices, which are variable. Many swindlers are there, even among the countrymen there. You are commended to seek Mates Peder Christensen and Christian Vold, both of whom are now living in New York, and of whose unbiased behavior couldn't be praised enough. Contrariwise, he describes Captain Smith Overveien and Captain Ankerson as less dependable, in that they are more or less guilty of profiting at their passenger's expense in that they took higher freight costs from them and with less conscience would have arranged their further transportation up the country.

* * *

These papers, from which I have taken transcripts, were sent to me from Ulvik, from Precentor Arne Bryngelson Leqve.

Copied by Lars Nielson Nesheim.

DØDSFALD I AMERIKA.

Mrs. Carrie Lewis, hvis vossenavn var Kari Hjembære, enke efter Martin Lewis (Kolve), døde den 29de jan. 1924 i The White Hospital, Los Angeles, Californien, og blev begravet i Primrose, Wis., den 6te febr. Hun var født paa Hjembære, Voss, den 26de dec. 1850, kom i ung alder til Amerika, blev i 1880 gift med Martin Larson Kolve af Primrose, Wis. Drev som jordbrugerfolk i Primrose til 1904, da de flyttede til Mt. Horeb, Wis. Martin døde i 1906. I 1922 reiste hun til sin datter Mrs. C. H. Schroeder i Los Angeles. Hun havde 5 børn, af hvilke tre døde i barnealderen. En datter Dina (Mrs. Henry Peterson) døde 1918. Foruden datteren, Mrs. Schroeder, overlever hun af 2 søstre i Amerika, nemlig Mrs. Knut Murkve af Madison, Wis. og Mrs. Charley Johnson, Buxton, N". Dak. samt 3 brødre, Endre, Asle og Anders paa Voss. Hun overlever ogsaa af 5 børnebørn.

* * *

Ole J. Harvey, Sr., født i Evanger, Norge, den 25de april 1847, udvandrede i ti-aarsalderen med sine forældre Jacob og Brita (f. Børgo) Horveid; bosatte sig paa Spring Prærie i Leeds township, Columbia, co., Wis., hvor hans forældre i 1860 købte sig et jordbrug; forblev hos forældrene til 1870, da han indgik i ægteskab med Caroline Kvatum og bosatte sig paa en 120 acres farm, som han købte, og som laa ved siden af faderens. Han havde der sit hjem til sin død, der indtraf efter et par aars sygelighed den 25de mai 1924. I sit ægteskab med Caroline Kvatum havde han 4 børn, af hvilke to lever, nemlig Ole og Jacob som bor i Hampton township samme county. Carolina døde i 1876, og i 1881 indgik han i ægteskab med Ranvei Lee. De fik 8 børn af hvilke tre lever, nemlig Anna (Mrs. Andrew Meyer af Leeds.) Bennie og Mathilda. Ranvei døde i 1903.

Ole Harvey, Sr., stedtes til hvile paa Spring Prærie kirkegaard. Han tilhørte Spring Prærie lutherske kirke fra han kom til Amerika til sin død og var en agtet og afholdt mand saavel i menigheden som i sin nabokreds. Tre søstre og en bror overlever ham ogsaa, nemlig: Mrs. Lars Harvey og Mrs. Ole Herfindahl af Benson, Minn., samt Mrs. Knut Anfinson og Ole Harvey, Jr., af Spring Prærie.

* * *

Mrs. Amund O. Selje, f. Johnson (Gnolden) af Morrisonville. Wis., som var en datterdatter af Ole K. Rongo, nybygger paa Spring Prærie, afgik ved døden den 12te oktober sidstleden. Hun var født paa Spring Prærie, blev i 1892 gift med Amund Selje,

DEATHS IN AMERICA.

Mrs. Carrie Lewis, whose Voss name was Kari Hjembære, widow of Martin Lewis (Kolve), died January 29, 1924 in The White Hospital, Los Angeles, California, and was buried at Primrose, WI, the 6th of February. She was born at Hjembære, Voss, December 26, 1850, came at a young age to America, was married in 1880 to Martin Larson Kolve of Primrose, WI. They farmed at Primrose until 1904, when they moved de to Mt. Horeb, WI. Martin died in 1906. In 1922, she moved to her daughter Mrs. C. H. Schroeder in Los Angeles. She had 5 children, of whom three died as children. One daughter Dina (Mrs. Henry Peterson) died in 1918. Besides her daughter, Mrs. Schroeder is survived by 2 sisters in Amerika, namely Mrs. Knut Murkve of Madison, WI and Mrs. Charley Johnson, Buxton, ND as well as 3 brothers, Endre, Asle and Anders at Voss. She is survived also by five grandchildren.

* * *

Ole J. Harvey, Sr., born in Evanger, Norway, April 25, 1847, emigrated at age ten with his parents, Jacob and Brita (née Børgo) Horveid; they settled at Spring Prairie in Leeds Township, Columbia Co. WI, where his parents bought a farm in 1860; he remained with his parents until 1870 when he entered matrimony with Caroline Kvatum and settled on a 120 acre farm he bought which lay alongside his father's. He had his home there until his death which occurred after an illness of a couple years on May 25, 1924. In his marriage with Caroline Kvatum, they had four children, of whom two live, namely Ole and Jacob, who live in Hampton Township, same county. Carolina died in 1876, and in 1881, he married Ranvei Lee. They had eight children of whom three live, namely Anna (Mrs. Andrew Meyer of Leeds), Bennie and Mathilda. Ranvei died in 1903.

Ole Harvey, Sr., was laid to rest in Spring Prairie Cemetery. He belonged to the Spring Prairie Lutheran Church from the time he came to America until his death and was a respected and sober man in his congregation as well as in his neighborhood. He is survived by three sisters and a brother, namely: Mrs. Lars Harvey and Mrs. Ole Herfindahl of Benson, Minn., as well as Mrs. Knut Anfinson and Ole Harvey, Jr., of Spring Prairie

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Mrs. Amund O. Selje, née Johnson (Gnolden) of Morrisonville. WI, who was a daughter's daughter of Ole K. Rongo, pioneer at Spring Prairie, died October 12, last. She was born at Spring Prairie, was in 1892 married with Amund Selje, vossestranding,

vossestrænding, og har været bosat paa et jordbrug ved Morrisonville. Hun overlever af sin mand og flere børn.

* * *

Siver Peter Egdtvedt, en af de gamle nybyggere ved Stoughton, Wis., er afgaaet ved døden i Seattle, Wash., hvor han har boet siden 1911. Han var født paa Vossestranden i 1839 og var søn af Peder og Ingerid Egdtvedt, der kom til Amerika med familie i 1844 og bosatte sig ved Stoughton, Wis., hvor sønnen voksede op og senere var bosat. Han efterlader sig hustru Marie og 6 børn: Mrs. Jennie Hale, Milwaukee, Wis., Mrs. Louise Bentley, Seattle, Samuel Egdtvedt, Janesville, Wis., Mrs. Myrtle Cunningham, Seattle, og Clare Egdtvedt, Seattle, samt en bror, Charles Egdtvedt, Racine, Wis.

* * *

John S. Prescott, Deerfield, Wis., afgik ved døden den 21de dec. sidstleden. Han var født i Deerfield township den 5te dec. 1859 og var søn af Anders Anfinson Prestegaard, som kom til Amerika i 1845 og var en af nybyggerne i Deerfield. John Prescott overtog i 90-aarene faderens gamle hjemsted og drev gaarden til sin død. I 1901 indgik han i ægteskab med Martha Anfinsdatter Rekve, der kom til Amerika i 1899. Hans hustru og flere børn overlever ham tilligemed flere søskende.

* * *

John J. Fosse, Fertile, Minn., afgik ved døden sidste november. Han var født i Evanger sogn, Voss, den 5te aug. 1853 og var søn af John Torkelson Fosse (Eksingedalen), der boede paa pladsen Kvashaugen under Langeland i Teigdalen, hvor John voksede op. Atten aar gammel drog han i 1871 til Amerika, hvor han først tog ophold i Dodge Co., Minn., og begyndte som farmarbejder, har siden drevet som farmer. En tid var han i Nord Dakota; men i 1891 bosatte han sig paa en farm ved Fertile, Polk County, hvor han siden forblev. Han har været constable og justice of peace; var i 12 aar assessor i Garfield township og ligeledes i 12 aar eller mere medlem af skolestyret. I 1879 indgik han i ægteskab med Brita Sjursdatter Brækhus. De har havt 12 børn af hvilke 4 er døde, Hans hustru er ogsaa død for flere aar siden. Hans brødre er Nils Fosse ved Enderlin, N. Dak., og Johannes Fosse ved Wallace, S. Dak. Fem søskende er døde tidligere.

* * *

Overlæge E. O. Giere ved St. Paul Hospital havde den store sorg at miste sin hustru, der døde den 17de nov. efterladende 8 børn foruden ham selv. Doktorens bror Pastor Nils Giere samt Pastor S. T. Reque og formand Stub var tilstede ved begravelsen.

and has lived on a farm at Morrisonville. She is survived by her husband and several children.

* * *

Siver Peter Egdtvedt, one of the old pioneers at Stoughton, WI died in Seattle, WA, where he has lived since 1911. He was born at Vossestrand in 1839 and was a son of Peder and Ingerid Egdtvedt, who came to America with their family in 1844 and settled at Stoughton, WI, where the son grew up and later lived. He leaves his wife Marie and 6 children: : Mrs. Jennie Hale, Milwaukee, WI, Mrs. Louise Bentley, Seattle, Samuel Egdtvedt, Janesville, WI., Mrs. Myrtle Cunningham, Seattle, and Clare Egdtvedt, Seattle, as well as a brother, Charles Egdtvedt, Racine, WI.

* * *

John S. Prescott, Deerfield, WI died December 21 recently. He was born in the Township of Deerfield on December 5, 1859 and was a son of Anders Anfinson Prestegaard, who came to America in 1845 and was one of the pioneers in Deerfield. John Prescott took over the father's old homestead in the 90's and operated the farm until his death. In 1901, he entered matrimony with Martha Anfinsdatter Rekve, who had come to America in 1899. His wife and several children survive him as well as several siblings.

* * *

John J. Fosse, Fertile, MN, died last November. He was born in Evanger Parish, August 5, 1853 and was a son of John Torkelson Fosse (Eksingedalen), who lived on Kvashaugen under Langeland in Teigdalen, where he grew up. At age eighteen, he left for America, where he first set up in Dodge Co., MN, and started as a farm laborer, later operating a farm. One time, he was in North Dakota, but in 1891, he settled on a farm at Fertile, Polk County, where he has since stayed. He has been constable and justice of peace; he was assessor in Garfield Township and also a member of the school board for more than 12 years. In 1879, he entered matrimony with Brita Sjursdatter Brækhus. They have had 12 children of which four are dead. His wife also died several years ago. His brothers are Nils Fosse at Enderlin, ND, and Johannes Fosse at Wallace, SD. Five siblings died earlier.

* * *

Chief staff physician E. O. Giere at the St. Paul Hospital had the great sorrow of losing his wife, who died November 17, leaving 8 children besides he himself. The doctor's brother Pastor Nils Giere as well as Pastor S. T. Reque and President Stub were present at the funeral.

Mrs. Sarah Reque, Minneapolis, enke efter Pastor Peter S. Reque døde den 28de nov. 76 aar gammel. Hun var født i Suldal, Rogaland, og ikke af vosseslegt; blev gift med Pastor Reque i 1870.

* * *

Martin Peterson, Fertile, Minn., som i 1879 blev gift med Ingeborg Sjursdr. Bakketun, døde den 7de dec. sidstleden. Han var født paa havet af forældre fra Hadeland, Norge. Han har været county-kasserer i Polk county. I 1892 tog han og hustru en tur til Norge og besøgte da Voss. Hans hustru overlever ham.

PAA REISER.

Styrk A. Reque og hustru, Madison, Wis., gjorde forleden sommer en tur til Minnesota, hvor de opholdt sig en 3 maaneders tid og besøgte herunder flere steder i staten; men var det meste af tiden i Minneapolis. En tid var de i det gamle vossesetlement i Olmstead og Dodge countier, hvor Mrs. Reque, som er en datter af Nils A. Lee, har flere slegtninger af Lee og Gilderhusfamilierne. Ogsaa i Austin var de nogle dage. Der traf de postassistent Clarence Reque — en af dem ukjendt person med Requenavn, fortæller Mrs. Reque. Han var søn af Claus Rekve, som var kommen fra Voss, men var død for en tid siden i en alder af 68 aar. Clarence havde en onkel, Mr. Rokne, som ogsaa boede i Austin.

Paa tilbageveien til Madison standsede de nogle dage i Spring Valley, Wisconsin. Der hørte de om en ærværdig gammel vossekone, Karoline Rokne, som boede straks udenfor landsbyen hos sin datter Mrs. Anna Dalen, og som Mrs. Reque aflagde et besøg. Karoline Rokne var 89 aar gammel den 30te oktober sidstleden. Hun læser uden briller og strikker næsten uafladelig, beretter Mrs. Reque; men hun hører mindre godt. Hun var enke efter Lars K. Store-Rokne og kom til Amerika først i 1908. To sønner foruden datteren, Mrs. Dalen, er i Amerika. Tillige har hun to brødre her, nemlig Ole og Knut Mickelson soni bor i Clay Center, Kansas. Hun er datter efter Mikkell Seim (Guldfj.) ogsaa kaldt Vangsstølen. Forældrene boede en tid i Bergen, hvor hun var født. De var ialt 17 søskende.

— Pastor A. Oefstedal ved det Lutherske hospital og bestyrer af diakonissehjemmet i Chicago var i Madison den 4de oktober paa gennemreise til Perry, Wis., hvor han skulde prædike ved missionsfesten næste dag.

— Pastor Th. Himle talte ved en kirkeindvielse ved North Havre, Montana, den 26de oktober. Han er reisesekretær i den norsk-lutherske kirke.

Mrs. Sarah Reque, Minneapolis, widow of Pastor Peter S. Reque died November 28, 76 years old. She was born in Suldal, Rogaland, and wasn't vossing; married Pastor Reque in 1870.

* * *

Martin Peterson, Fertile, MN, who in 1879 was married with Ingeborg Sjursdr. Bakketun, died last December 7. He was born at sea of parents from Hadeland, Norway. He had been county treasurer in Polk County. In 1892, he and his wife took a trip to Norway and visited Voss. His wife survives him.

ON TRIPS.

Styrk A. Reque and his wife, Madison, WI, last summer, made a trip to Minnesota, where they stayed for 3 months while there visited several places in the state but spent most of the time in Minneapolis. For a time, they were in the old vossing settlement in Olmstead and Dodge Counties, where Mrs. Reque, who is a daughter of Nils A. Lee, has several relatives in the Lee and Gilderhus families. They also were in Austin for a few days. They met a postal assistant, Clarence Reque, one of the unknown people with a Reque name, says Mrs. Reque. He was the son of Claus Rekve, who had come from Voss, but died a while ago at age 68. Clarence had an uncle, Mr. Rokne, who lived in Austin.

On their return to Madison, they stopped for some days at Spring Valley, Wisconsin. There they heard of an venerable old vossing lady, Karoline Rokne, who lived just outside of town with her daughter, Mrs. Anna Dalen, and whom Mrs. Reque wanted to visit. Karoline Rokne was 89 years old on last October 30. She reads without glasses and knits almost constantly, describes Mrs. Reque, but she doesn't hear very well. She is the widow of Lars K. Store-Rokne and came to America in 1908. Two sons, beside her daughter, Mrs. Dalen, are in America. In addition, she has two brothers here, namely Ole and Knut Mickelson, who live at Clay Center, Kansas. She is a daughter of Mikkell Seim (Guldfj.), also called Vangsstølen. Her parents lived in Bergen for a while, where she was born. Altogether, there were 17 siblings.

— Pastor A. Oefstedal with the Lutheran Hospital and director of the Deaconess Home in Chicago was in Madison, October 4, on his way to Perry, WI, where he was to preach at a mission festival the next day.

— Pastor Th. Himle preached at the consecration of a church in North Havre, Montana, October 26. he is the traveling secretary of the Norwegian Lutheran Church

— Rektor L. W. Boe af St. Olavs college reiste den 1ste november til Europa for sammen med Dr. Morehead, New York, at repræsentere Amerika paa et møde af exekutivkomiteen i Lutheranernes Verdensraad den 16de nov. i Gøteborg. Han ventedes tilbage til jul.

— Pastor Svend Tverberg, som har været missionsprest paa Madagaskar men nu har havt et aars ferie og opholdt sig i Amerika, reiste den 20de september fra Minneapolis med sin familie tilbage til Madagaskar.

— Edlend P. Sime og hustru, som døde børneløs i september 1922 i Madison, Wis., testamenterede hele sin eiendom paa henimod 10,000 dollars værdi til veldædige øiemed — mest til den Norsk Lutherske kirke. Homme barnehjem fik sig oversendt \$465,71 af boet forleden november. Det takker.

— Tre personer ankom fra Voss til Madison i forløbne aar nemlig, Johannes O. Grimestad, der kom i august, Mons Olson Eimstad kom i november. Han havde dog været i Amerika før, men tilbragte et aars tid paa Voss. Brita Haug ankom straks før jul til sin tante, Mrs. G. Væle Nyborg. Klara Jørnevik kom ogsaa til Amerika dette aar.

KNUTE ROCKNE "KING OF FOOTBALL COACHES".

Der har vel ikke været konger af vosseslegt siden Olav Trygvasons dage saavidt vi ved; men nu har Notre Dames berømte fodbold instruktør Knute Rockne erholdt kongenavn og minder os meget om hin sagahelt. Med en trop irske studenter som fodboldspillere, drog han fra det ene universitet til det andet i forskjellige stater og slog det ene modspillerparti efter det andet. Den 8de november var han i Madison og paa den gamle leirplads, Camp Randall, hvor kaptein Knut Seim i 1861 mønstrede med sit vossekompani, slog Knut Rokne Wisconsin-spillerne sønder nu i 1924. Men disse havde jo heller ingen vosseknuter med. Næste lørdag den 15de nov. gik det ligedan med Nebraskaspillerne, der betragtedes som nogen af staternes bedste. Saa kom turen den 30te nov. til the Carnegie Teck. ved Pittsburg, Pa., med hvem det ikke gik stort bedre, og Knute Rokne blev Amerikas største helteskikkelse. Adskillige tusinder betragter ham som en større mand en Coolidge siger bladet "Reform". Han er kjendt idag som "the king of football coaches" siger storbladene i Amerika. I 7 aar har Rokne havt ledelsen ved Notre Dame og har taget del i 64 lege. Af disse har han tabt bare 4, — noget som ingen har gjort ham efter siden 1906, siger The State Journals korrespondent.

— President L. W. Boe of St. Olav College left for Europe November 1 together with Dr. Morehead of New York, to represent America at a meeting of the executive committee of the Lutheran World Council November 16 in Gothenburg. He is expected to return by Christmas.

— Pastor Svend Tverberg, who has been a missionary minister in Madagascar, but has had a year vacation and stay in America, on September 20. left Minneapolis with his family to return to Madagascar.

— Edlend P. Sime and his wife, who died without issue, in Madison, WI. in 1922. bequeathed all of their estate of approximately \$10,000 value to charitable causes — most to the Norwegian Lutheran Church. Homme Orphanage received \$465.71 of the estate last November. They are thanked.

— Three people arrived from Voss to Madison in the past year namely, Johannes O. Grimestad, who came in August, Mons Olson Eimstad came in November. He had been in America before, but spent a year at Voss. Brita Haug came just before Christmas at her aunt's, Mrs. G. Væle Nyborg. Klara Jørnevik also came to America this year.

KNUTE ROCKNE "KING OF FOOTBALL COACHES".

There, of course, haven't been any kings of Voss origin since Olav Trygvesson's days, as far as we know; but now Notre Dame's famous football coach Knute Rockne gotten a king's name and is reminiscent of a saga hero. With a troop in Irish students as football players, he went from the one university to the other in various states and beat one team after the other. On November 8, he was in Madison at the old campground, Camp Randall, where Captain Knut Seim mobilized his Voss Company, Knute Rockne beat the Wisconsin team now in 1924. But these didn't have any vosseknuts with them. The next Saturday, November 15, it went likewise with the Nebraska team, who were considered one of the best teams in the states. Then came the trip to Pittsburg, PA and the game with Carnegie Tech, with whom it couldn't have gone better, and Knute Rokne became America's biggest sports figure. Many thousand regard him as a bigger man than Coolidge says the newspaper "Reform". He is known today as "the king of football coaches" say the most important papers in America. For seven years, Rokne has lead Notre Dame and taken part in 64 games. Of these, he has lost only 6 — something no one has done since 1906, says the The State Journal's correspondent.

STORESMEDEN.

Knut Rocknes oldefar var storsmeden, Knut Larson Rokne, der var den første, som gjorde af de gamle stolkjærrer paa Voss. Han var født paa gaarden Bryn 1787, var 6 aar i smedelære i Bergen, blev 1813 udkommanderet til krigstjeneste i krigen med Sverige; indgik i 1817 i ægteskab med Kristi Olavsdaughter Saude (Bordstranden). Kjøbte saa gaard paa Rokne og boede der til sin død 1873.

Dette er i korthed storesmedens livssaga; men dertil vil vi føie et par smaa historier, som kanske lidt mere viser malmen og personlighierlen i ham. Og kanske draget ogsaa kan gjenkjendes i sønnesøns-sønnen vor Amerika-Knute "the king of football coaches".

Storsmeden forarbejdede skruesteder, ambolter, stolkjærrer og forskjellig andet. Bedstefar havde en skruested og en ambolt, som var forarbejdet af ham. De var de gildet i Kvitlen. Naar nogen kom i smedjen hos os og mærkede sig dette, fik man gjerne en fortelling om storesmeden. Det skulde ogsaa noget til for af kakles storesmed paa Voss, hvor der var mange dygtige smede.

Som man kan tenke sig, maatte storesmeden ofte sveise store jernstykker sammen. Ved slige anledninger gjaldt det om at være rap i vendingen; og til at sveise var Knut Rokne især en mester. Han havde det ogsaa som et mærke paa en dygtig smed, om vedkommende satte lidt extra fart paa, naar han skulde sveise. Var der nogen i hans nærværelse, som fortalte om en smeds dygtighed, saa kunde han spørge: "Æ da noku ruff* i han, naor han ska te aa sveisa." Var dette tilfælde, saa var nok smeden bra nok.

Rokne maatte til tider have forskjellige hjælpesmænd; men ikke alle havde det "ruff" i sig som trængtes. Kom der noget iveien med hjælpesmanden, saa var han ikke grei. Engang han fik en af nabolagets smede til at hjælpe sig med slæggen, gik det galt. De skulde sveise sammen en stor aksling. Storsmeden lagde det sprutende jern tilrette paa ambolten, og den andre skulde slaa til med slæggen. Men hvorledes det gik til eller ei, saa for slæggen af hænderne paa hjælpesmanden og ud gjennem smedjedøren. Da fik han en ordentlig en under øret, og dermed maatte han reise hjem igjen. Næste dag fik Knut Rokne en anden hjælpesmand. Ogsaa da skulde de sveise. Det gik da bra forsaavidt, at hjælpesmanden med første slag af slæggen traf det tilrettelagde jern paa ambolten, gaa sveisen fæstnede, men idet han skulde slaa til igjen, for slæggen af skافتet og i smedjevæggen, saa det sang efter. "Du æ dao f— te kar du; du træfte dao

*) Fart, ihærdighed.

THE BIG BLACKSMITH.

Knut Rockne's great-grandfather was the "big blacksmith" Knut Larson Rokne, who was the first to make the old chair two-wheeled carts at Voss. He was born on the Bryn farm in 1787, and went to Bergen for six years as a blacksmith apprentice. In 1813, he was drafted to serve in war against Sweden; in 1817, he entered holy matrimony with Kristi Olavsdaughter Saude (Borstranden). He then bought the Rokne farm and stayed there the rest of his life.

This, in short, is the saga of "The Big Blacksmith"; but we would like to add a couple of anecdotes that perhaps will show a little more of his fiber and the personality tendencies in him. And perhaps they will be recognized in the great-grandson, our America-Knut, "the king of football coaches".

The Big Smith made vises, anvils, chair carts and various other things. Grandfather had a vise and an anvil that were made by him. They were the nicest in Kvitlen. Whenever anyone came into our smithy and noticed them, they wanted to hear a story about The Big Smith. It had to be really something to crow about The Big Smith at Voss, where there were many talented blacksmiths.

As one can imagine, The Big Smith often had to weld together big pieces of iron. At such occasions it was important to be nimble in the turning, and in welding, Knute Rokne was an especial master. He had, as an indicator of a capable blacksmith, whether the person in question put on a little extra speed when he was going to weld. If there were anyone in his presence who talked of a blacksmith's prowess, then he would ask: "Is there any speed in him, when he is going to weld". If this were the case, then he was a passable blacksmith.

From time to time, Rokne hired various helpers, but they all didn't have the "speed" that was needed. If there was something wrong with the helper, then he wasn't pleased. One time, when he got one of the neighborhood smiths to help him with the hammering, it went bad. They were planning to weld a big axle together. The Big Blacksmith lay the spraying irons in place on the anvil and the other was to pound with the sledge. But whether it worked or not, the sledge slipped out of the hands of the helper and flew out the smithy door. Then he got his ears boxed and he had to leave for home. The next day, Knut got another helper. They were also going to weld. It seemed to go alright at first, because the helper pounded the properly placed irons on the anvil, so that the weld held, but when he was going to strike again, the head of the sledge flew off the shaft and against the wall of the shop with a loud bang. "You are a devilish fellow, you,

*) Speed, tenacity.

smedjo. Eg hadde ein igjaor, han træfte 'kje smedjo heldu han", sa storesmeden.

Naar det stundom var meget sveising at gjøre, og det rigtig gjaldt om at rappe sig, havde storesmeden gjerne en flaske med sig i smedjen. I de dage var jo ikke det noget af veien. Men fik præsten greie paa saadant saa maatte han jo paatale det. Engang skulde storsmeden gjøre noget smideri i Præstegaarden og det var en travel dag, saa flasken ogsaa var ved haanden. Saa kom præsten pludselig i smedjedøren. Han fik da øie paa flasken. "Nei, hvad bruger du det, som er paa flasken til da, min gode Knut", sagde præsten. "Aa detta bruka eg, naor og sveisa la", sagde Knut. "Ja, hjælper det noget da", sagde præsten. "Ja, bia elte, so ska du fao sjao", svarede Knut og stak et par jernstykker i aylen. Om lidt havde han det sprutende jern tilrettelagt paa ambolten, og saa hældte han noget af flaskens indhold over og slog saa til med hammeren. Det gik udmærket og præsten var vel fornøiet. Det blev endog sagt, at storesmeden fik en extra flaske fra præstens eget skab for at sveisingen skulde gaa desto bedre.

Storesmeden syntes nok ikke noget om, at sønnen satte sig til som vognfabrikant paa Vangen. "Han vil værta storkar han," hermede man efter ham. Saadant laa ikke for ham. Han befandt sig bedst, naar ambolten sang lystigt paa Rokne, og naar han havde nogen med sig, "so da va litevetta ruff i, naar dei skulde te aa sveisa." Det er vel og en vigtig egenskab, naar de spiller fodbold i Amerika, og saaledes noget som "the king of football coaches" Knute Rockne har i tankerne i valget af sine fægtemestre.

EN HARING OM VOSSINGERNE.

Et par af vore bedste Vosselags-medlemmer er Haringer. De var rigtignok saa heldige at faa sig hustruer af vosseslegt, og det siger da meget. Vi har leilighedsvis nævnt tidligere om Hans L. Hanson, (Hamre) Vermillion, S. D., som kjender vossingerne i sin stat bedre end nogen. I Iowa er Johs. Jøssendal, som i en menneskealder har været skolelærer og kirkesanger i Big Canoe, Winne-shiek county, og ligeledes kjender vossingerne der saa godt som nogen. Ved Big Canoe kirke menigheds 70 aars jubilæum i 1923 udgav han et lidet festskrift, og et exemplar af dette har han for-æret "Vossingens" redaktør. Det er et forvitneligt lidet skrift, som er al ære vær d. Vi skal ikke gjengive noget af skriftet nu, men lidt af følgeskrivelsen, i hvilken han blandt andet siger:

at least you hit the smithy. I had a guy yesterday, that didn't even hit the shop ", said The Big Blacksmith.

Occasionally, there was a lot of welding to do, and it was important to be quick about it. The Big Blacksmith liked to have a bottle along in the smithy. It wasn't anything out of the ordinary in those days. But if the minister learned of such goings on, then he would protest. One time, the blacksmith was going to do some smithing at Prestegård (minister's farm) and it was a busy day, so the bottle also was handy. Suddenly, the minister came in the door of the smithy. He saw the bottle. "Nay, what do you use that for, whatever is in the bottle, my good Knut?", said the minister. "Å, that I use when I weld", said Knut. "Does it help?" said the minister. "Ja, just wait awhile, then you'll see", answered Knut and put two pieces of iron in the coals of the forge. Shortly, he pulled out the glittering irons and positioned them on the anvil. Then he poured some of the contents of the flask over them, and then pounded with his hammer. It went wonderfully and the minister was quite pleased. It was said that The Big Smith got an extra bottle from the minister's own cabinet so that the welding should go that much better.

The Big Blacksmith didn't think too much of the idea of his son starting a cart factory at Vangen. "He wants to be a big shot, he does", people imitated him. Such wasn't for him. He was most happy when the anvil sang lustily at Rokne, and when he had companionship, "There is no time to be fooling around, when you are going to weld". That is also an important characteristic for when one is playing football in America, and something that "the king of football coaches" Knute Rockne has in his thoughts when he chooses his stars.

A HARING ABOUT VOSSINGS.

A couple of our best members of Vosselag members are Harings (from Hardanger). They surely were lucky enough to get wives that are vossing, and that says a lot. We have occasionally mentioned Hans L. Hanson (Hamre), Vermillion, SD, who knows the vossings in his state better than anyone does. In Iowa is Johs. Jøssendal, who for a generation was schoolteacher and precentor in Big Canoe, Winneshiek County, and knows the vossings there as good as anyone. At Big Canoe church congregation's 70-year jubilee in 1923, he published a small celebratory brochure and he has honored "Vossingen's" editor with a copy of this interesting little publication, which deserves all admiration. We won't reproduce any of the brochure now, except the little writing that follows in which he says, among other things:

"De udtaler den formodning, at kanske størstedelen af menighedens medlemmer var vossinger, og denne formodning er fuldstændig rigtig. Mens pionererne var komne fra mange bygdelag, var vosseelementet saa aldeles dominerende, at det med fuld ret kan siges, at en hel vossebygd havde dannet sig her." Senere siger han:

"Tilslut vil jeg dra frem et minde fra de gamle dage. Tidlig i syttiaarene traf jeg sammen med Justitiarius Aad. Vinje. Han var en kort tid her hos slegtninger af Nordheimsslegten. Den tid var han juridisk student og læste en af handling for mig, som bebudet, at han vilde bringe det til at bli fremragende som jurist. Fra den tid fulgte jeg paa af stand sterkt interesseret hans stadige avancement, indtil han naadde toppen, nemlig, det at bli justitiarius i Wisconsin Høiesteret og dermed stillet i klasse med de aller ypperste jurister i dette land som Taft og Root.

Knute Nelson, Aad Vinje og Rognald Nestos er et merkeligt trekløver. De har alle tre gjort en rent vidunderlig og næsten eventyrlig karriere. De kom her som "obscure immigrants" og har naad frem til de aller høieste og mest hædrede stillinger, som nogen af landets borgere kan naa op til med undtagelse af presidentværdigheden, som bare indfødte kan opnaa. De har kastet glans og hæder over sit fædreland og sin hjembygd og gjort en overmaade betydningsfuld indsats i sit adoptivlands historie.

Det er forresten min mening, at her i Big Canoe havde vi to unge mænd, som havde de personlige betingelser for at naa opimod lige langt frem, nemlig Ole Nelson (Væle) og Knut Bergh (Berge). Den første gav store løfter om at bringe det til noget fremragende; men han døde 24 aar gammel. Knut Bergh havde store evner, særlig besad han veltalenhedens gave i rigt maal. Han blev uddannet som jurist, og store muligheder laa ham aabne, men han forsagede den juridiske og politiske bane og valgte at vie sit liv som lærer ved Luther College."

Johs. Jøssendal.

Indsamling af penge til en statue af Knute Nelson paagaar. Guvernør Preus af Minnesota udsendte et opraab i november. Der tænkes samlet \$50,000. Statuen skal staa udenfor capitoliet i St. Paul ved siden af John A. Johnsons statue. Pengene sendes til The Knute Nelson Memorial Headquarters, 232 Federal Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.

"They expressed the conjecture that maybe most of the congregation's members were vossings, and this supposition is completely correct. Though the pioneers had come from many different bygdelags, the Voss element was so completely dominant, that with every right it can be said that an entire Voss community was created here".

Later, he says:

"In conclusion, I want to bring forth a recollection from the old days. Early in the seventies, I met Judge Aad Vinje. For a short time, he stayed here with relatives in the Nordheim family. At that time, he was a law student and read about a case for me, which proclaimed that he wanted to become prominent as a lawyer. From that time, I followed, with great interest, his steady advancement, until he reached the top, namely when he became a judge in the Wisconsin Supreme Court and thereby was placed in a class with the best lawyers in the country like Taft and Root.

Knute Nelson, Aad Vinje and Rognald Nestos are a remarkable cloverleaf. All three of them had amazing and almost fabulous careers. They came here as "obscure immigrants" and reached the most high and honorable positions that any of our country's citizens can reach except the presidency, which only native-born can attain. They have cast a sparkle and honor over the land of their birth and their hometown and had a meaningful contribution to the history of their adopted country.

Anyway, it is my meaning that. Here in Big Canoe, we had two young men, who had the personal conditions to attain just as far forward, namely Ole Nelson (Væle) and Knut Bergh (Berge). The first gave much promise of becoming someone prominent, but he died barely 24 years old. Knut Bergh had great abilities, especially he possessed the gift of oratory in the right language, he was educated as a lawyer, and vast possibilities were open to him, but he forsook the juridicial and political pathway and chose to consecrate his life as a teacher at Luther College".

Johs. Jøssendal.

The solicitation of money for a statue of Knute Nelson continues. Governor Preus of Minnesota sent out an appeal in November. It is thought to collect \$50,000. The statue shall stand outside the capitol in St. Paul beside John A. Johnson's statue. Money should be sent to The Knute Nelson Memorial Headquarters, 232 Federal Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.

PAA VOSS.

Voss Veksel og Landmandsbank feirede sit 25 aars-jubilæum den 15de september med en festlig tilstelning paa Fleischer Hotel. Banken udgav for anledningen et vakkert trykt hefte med billeder og korte oplysninger om bygdens fremskridt i disse aar. Banken begyndte i 1899 med en aktiekapital af 100,000 kroner, der i 1918 forhøiedes til 500,000. I de sidste aar har den havt en forvaltningskapital paa over 8 millioner kroner. Af sit overskud gav banken iaar kr. 5,000 til Voss Gamlehjem.

Lars N. Lie, Nyre, som har været en af Vosses mest benyttede mænd i bygdestyret, fyldte 80 aar den 13de sept. sidstleden. Netop forud, den 8te sept., tildelte det norske statsraad ham borgerdaads-medaljen i sølv for lang og fortjenstfuldt arbejde i bygden. Den overrakte paa fødselsdagen ved hvilken leilighed formandskabet med mange andre af bygdens fremstaende mænd mødte i hans hjem. Ordfører N. Pinne og stortingsmand O. Bjørgum talte anerkjendende om hans virke og frembar herredets tak. Han er født paa Lie, Kvitlen den 13de sept. 1844, søn af Nils Johannesen Lie f. Møen og Sunva Lie. Fra 1862 til 1867 var han skolelærer i Tykkebygden, fra 1880 til 1902 medlem af herredsstyret og fra 1887 til 1895 medlem af skolestyret. I over 36 aar har han været forligelseskommissær. I 50 aar var han revisor i sparebanken og har været med paa alslags takst- og skyldssætningsforretninger. For-øvrigt har han været gaardbruger. Et par aar boede han paa Rene, saa kjøbte han gaard paa Nyre, hvor han siden har levet. Han var gift med Anguna Davidsdtr. Kløve som er død for mange aar siden.

— Forleden sommer var der stor turist trafik paa Voss — den største siden krigen brød ud. Engelskmænd og Amerikanere er de fleste reisende, men ogsaa svenske, danske og tyske turister har besøgt bygden.

— Et stykke fra husene paa Gjerstad i Dyrvedalen er der en jordfast sten, som kaldes Krosstenen, da der i samme er indhugget en hel del kors, bogstaver og tal. Denne vakte forleden sommer adskillig opmærksomhed. O. Olafson mener, at den har havt religiøs betydning og maaske skriver sig fra Hellig Olavs færd til Voss i 1023, idet den gamle vei, som kong Olav reiste, laa forbi stenen. Endel kors skriver sig dog fra en senere tid som Olafson mener er fra 1621. Andre mener, at korsene betyder stjerner med forbogstaven af navnet paa den, som huggede den, og at de ældste af dem skriver sig fra 1732. Ingen er dog sikker i sagen og ønsker at vide, om nogen kan fortælle mere om den interessante sten.

— Idrætsmesteren Martin Mølster er optagen som elev paa krigsskolen kl. 1, øverste afdeling.

AT VOSS.

Voss Veksel and Landmandsbank (Exchange Bank) celebrated their 25th anniversary September 15 with a gala occasion at the Fleischer Hotel. The bank, for the occasion published a handsome booklet with pictures and a short history of the district's progress in these years. The bank started in 1899 with a stock capital of 100,000 kroner, by 1918 had increased to 500,000. In the last years, it has had an administrative capital of over 8 million kroner. The bank gave 5000 NKR of its profit to the Voss Old People's Home.

Lars N. Lie, Nyre, who has been one of Voss most utilized men in the Town Council reached 80 years last September 13. Just before, on September 8, he was awarded the Silver Citizen's Medal by the Norwegian Cabinet for long and serviceable work in the district. It was presented to him on his birthday at which occasion the Town Council and many other of the district's most prominent men met at his home. Attorney N. Pinne and Stortings representative O. Bjørgum spoke remembering his service and brought the county's gratitude. He was born at Lie, Kvitlen September 13, 1844, a son of Nils Johannesen Lie neé Møen and Sunva Lie. From 1862 to 1867, he was a schoolteacher in Tykkebygden; from 1880 to 1902, he was a member of the County Board and from 1887 to 1895 a member of the school board. For over 36 he has been the assessment commissioner. For 50 years, he has been an auditor at the savings bank and he has been involved in all kinds of tax and assessment business. Additionally, he has operated a farm. For a couple years, he lived at Rene, and then he bought a farm at Nyre, where he has lived since. He is married to Anguna Davidsdatter Kløve who has been dead for many years.

—Last summer, there was lots of tourist traffic at Voss —Americans are the commonest travelers, but also Swedish, Danish and German tourists have visited the district.

—A short distance from the buildings at Gjerstad in Dyrvedal is a buried stone, called the Cross Stone, since it is engraved with lot of crosses, letters and numerals on it. This awakened great interest this past summer. O. Olafson thinks it may have a religious meaning and was probably written from King Olav's expedition to Voss in 1023, because the old route that King Olav traveled went by the stone. Several crosses were written at a later time that Olafson considers from 1621. Others are of the opinion that they may be blazes with the initials of the carvers who cut them, and that the oldest are from 1732. Nobody is sure about the matter and wish to know if anyone can tell more about the curious stone.

—Sports champion Martin Mølster is accepted as a student at the military academy, 1st class, upper division.

—Lærer Anders Bergo, et søskendebarn af sen. Knute Nelson, fyldte 60 aar den 27de sept. Han blev lærer i Evanger i 1887. I 1891 blev han lærer i Vestbygden, i 1896 paa Askøen. Siden i Bergen. Han har skrevet en hel del baade i digt og paa prosa.

—En gut, Endre Tesdal, blev ihøst borte paa Bordalsfjeldene og blev ikke funden igjen trods eftersøgelser af flere hundrede mennesker.

—Voss Folkemuseum fik ihøst skjøde paa husene paa Mølster med tufter, tun og jordbelte omkring husene. Til vaaren skal saa museet begynde at indsætte sager i 2 af husene, og der søges nu at faa fat paa passende sager dertil.

—Forhenværende lensmand i Evanger, Bryngel Nilson Mugaas, fyldte 90 aar den 17de dec. Han var født paa Mugaas den 17de dec. 1834. Atten aar gammel begyndte han i 1852 som dreng hos lensmand Hovda og maatte samtidig overtage ættegaarden. En stor del af gaardsarbeidet maatte gøres ved leiet hjælp, da lensmands tjenesten tog meget af hans tid. Lensmandsombudet rak dengang helt udenom Stamnes, og drengen maatte som oftest reise til de længst bortliggende steder. I 1878 blev han autoriseret lensmand og i 1890 fast ansat efter Hovda. Han tog afsked i 1918 over 83 aar gammel. Ved siden af lensmandsbestillingen og gaardsdriften var han i lang tid med i herredsstyret og var i 3 aar forligskommissær. Med som skjønsmænd i takst- og skyldsaætningsforretninger var han ofte. Han var en af grundlæggerne af Evanger sparebank og af Forbrugsforeningen. Da han fraaadt som lensmand i 1918 fik han borgerdaadsmedaljen i sølv. Endnu er han af god helbred og følger med i alt.

—Ifølge tinglæste Skjøder har følgende gaardssalg fundetsted: I Voss herred: Ingeborg Johannesdr. Een har overladtgaarden til sønnen Olav Bryngelson; Ingeborg Kjelsdr. Mosefin til sønnen Lars Halleon Mosefin; Torsten Larson Lofthus til sønnen Lars Torstenson Lofthus; Nels Olson Kvale til datteren Martha Nilsdr.; Johannes Larson Heglesteigen til Andreas S. Horvei; Ole G. Lie, Kvitlen, til sønnen Joseph Olson. Bottolf Mølster og Arnfin Ringheim til Voss Folkemuseum; Ivar Heg en part af Lundheim til Brita Brunborg. I Evanger: Martha Helgesdr. To til sønnen Lars Anderson; Olav Rongen og opsidderne paa Horvei har leiet ud fiskeretten i Bolstadelven paa 10 aar til engelskmanden Mr. H. Charrington. Vossestranden: Ingerid Vinje til sønnen Sigurd Vinje parterne Tveit og Molund i Vinje; Ivar Guleikson Bidne har kjøbt en part i Mæland; Maria Kolbeinsdr. Sausjerd har solgt til Bryngel Olson Herheim. En part i Armot er af M. G. Dukstad og arvingerne efter Hans Y. Hirth solgt til Lars L.

—Teacher Anders Bergo, a cousin of Sen. Knute Nelson, completed 60 years on September 27. he became a teacher in Evanger in 1887. he started teaching in Vestbygden in 1891, in 1896 at Askøen. later in Bergen. He has written considerably, in both prose and poetry.

—A boy, Endre Tesdal, was lost in the Bordal Mountains this fall and was not found in spite of search by several hundred people.

—Voss Folkemuseum got the deed for the buildings at Mølster with the lot, yard and area around the buildings. In the spring, the museum will start installing objects in two of the buildings, and they are now trying to obtain proper artifacts.

—Former sheriff in Evanger, Bryngel Nilson Mugaas, reached 90 years December 17. He was born at Mugaas December 17, 1834. At age eighteen, he started as an apprentice with Sheriff Hovda in 1852 and at the same time, he had to take over the family farm. A large share of the farm work had to be done by hired help, since his sheriffing duties took so much of his time. The sheriff's area, at that time, reached beyond Stamnes, and the apprentice often had to go to the most outlying places. In 1878, he became the authorized sheriff and in 1890, he was employed at Hovda. He retired in 1918, already over 83 years. Besides his sheriff position and farming, he was on the County Board a long time and for three years, he was ombudsman. But, he was often the appraiser in appraisal and tax business. He was one of the founders of Evanger Savings Bank and of the Consumer Association. When he retired from the sheriff position in 1918, he was awarded the Silver Citizen's Service Medal. He is yet in good health and follows along with everything.

—According to court records, the following real estate transfers have occurred: In Voss Township: Ingeborg Johannesdr. Een has turned over to her son Olav Bryngelson; Ingeborg Kjelsdr. Mosefin to her son Lars Halleon Mosefin; Torsten Larson Lofthus to his son Lars Torstenson Lofthus; Nels Olson Kvale to his daughter Martha Nilsdr.; Johannes Larson Heglesteigen to Andreas S. Horvei; Ole G. Lie, Kvitlen, to his son Joseph Olson. Bottolf Mølster and Arnfin Ringheim to Voss Folkemuseum; Ivar Heg a part of Lundheim to Brita Brunborg. In Evanger: Martha Helgesdr. To to her son Lars Anderson; Olav Rongen and the occupants at Horvei have leased the fishing rights in the Bolstad River for 10 years to the Englishman, Mr. H. Charrington. Vossestranden: Ingerid Vinje to her son Sigurd Vinje parts of Tveit and Molund in Vinje; Ivar Gulleikson Bidne has bought a part of Mæland; Maria Kolbeinsdr. Sausjerd has sold to Bryngel Olson Herheim. A part in Armot is by M. G. Dukstad and heirs of Hans Y. Hirth sold to Lars

Bystølen; Ingebjørg Humlebrække til søsteren Inger Humlebrække; Lars Knutsen Hegland til sønnerne Knut og Lars.

— Olav Endreson Skjervheim, 20 aar gammel, fik sig tilkjendt 1000 kroner af Carnegies heltefond straks før jul for at have bjerget 3 gutter, som under skøiteskridning var faldt gennem isen. En 12 aarig gut Ola Rasmussen Bauge forsøgte først at redde dem; men han faldt selv i vandet og druknede. BergsHans forældre fik 800 kroner.

KAPEL I BERGSDALEN.

Bergsdølerne stræver med at samle midler til at faa opført et kapel i Bergsdalen; og det er vist og sikkert noget som trænges. De har havt en lang og besværlig kirkevei over fjeldet til Evanger. Om vintrene har der næsten været ufremkommeligt. Nu er der gjort en god kjørevei fra Dale i Bruvik opover lige til Hamlagrøvandet, og de vil dermed have en kortere og bedre vei til kirken paa Dale, hvortil man nu hellere gaar end til Evanger. Men der er endda lang vei, og dalen vil bli adskilt fra sin gamle kirkeforbindelse med Evanger, hvad man ikke ønsker.

Sogneprest K. O. Eliassen i Evanger har nu efter bergsdølernes ønske sendt en anmodning til bergsdøler i Amerika om at komme dem tilhjælp. Han haaber at en god bergsdøl vil hjelpe til med dette, ligesom en god eksingedøl gjorde det, da de byggede kapellet paa Næsheim i Eksingedalen. De har udseet en fin byggetomt paa Lie, tvers over veien fra begravelsespladsen. Man har faaet istand smaa tilstelninger til indtægt for sagen, men det kan ikke forslaa meget. Der er bare 170 mennesker i dalen fordelt paa lidt over 20 gaardsbrug. Man har nu 2 skolehuse i dalen — et paa Øye og et paa Hatlestad, og disse bruges nu til forsamlingshus; men barnedaab og konfirmation skal forrettes i lokale som er indviet til kirkeligt brug, siger pastoren.

Vi faar da henstille til de gode folk, som slægter fra gaardene Fosse, Øye, Brække, Lid, Solberg, Berge, Hatlestad, Kaldestad, Smaabrække og Røidland i Bergsdalen at gjøre hvad de kan i sagen.

DØDSFALD PAA VOSS.

Voss herred: Lars A. Skjelde, 67 aar; Nils O. Kvale, 73; Begga Helgesdr. Opheim, 71; Olav O. Haga, 20; Brita A. Gjerdaker, 68; Viking B. Dymbe, 84; Ragnhild K. Graue f. Ygre, 69; Knut Davidsen Rene, 86; Brita H. Lunde f. Mosefin, 38; Sunva I. Gilderhus, 63; Hm. Gerdt N. Jæger, 62; Peder Nilson Dymbe, 91; Anders D. Prestegaard, 56; Anders N. Hegle, f. Fitje, 91; Olav N. Møen, 78.

L. Bystølen; Ingebjørg Humlebrække to her sister Inger Humlebrække, Lars Knutsen Hegland to his sons Knut and Lars.

— Olav Endreson Skjervheim, 20 years old, was presented 1000 NKR by Carnegie's hero fund shortly before Christmas because he saved 3 boys, who while skating had fallen through the ice. A 12-year-old boy Ola Rasmussen Bauge first tried to save them; but he fell in the water himself and drowned. His parents received 800 NKR.

CHAPEL IN BERGSDALEN.

The people of Bergsdalen have been struggling to collect means to construct a chapel in Bergsdalen, and it is something that is certainly needed. They have had long difficult route over the mountains to church in Evanger. It has been nearly impassable during the winter. Now there is a good driving road from Dale in Bruvik up all the way to Lake Hamlegrø, and they thereby have a shorter and better road to church at Dale, to which people can go, rather than Evanger. However, it is still a long distance and the valley will be divided from their old church connection with Evanger

Parish minister K. O. Eliassen in Evanger, following the wishes of the people from Bergsdal, sent a request to America to come to their aid. He hopes that a generous person from Bergsdal will help, just as a man from Eksingedal did, when they built the chapel at Næsheim in Eksingedalen. They have earmarked a fine building lot at Lie, across the road from the cemetery. People have arranged various entertainments in order to raise money for the cause, but it is inadequate. There are only 170 people divided over 20 farms. There are two schoolhouses in the valley — one at Øye and one at Hatlestad, and they are used as meetinghouses; but baptisms and confirmation should be officiated in a locale that has been consecrated for religious use, says the pastor.

We request the good people, who originated from the Fosse, Øye, Brække, Lid, Solberg, Berge, Hatlestad, Kaldestad, Smaabrække and Røidland farms in Bergsdalen to do whatever they can in the matter.

DEATHS AT VOSS

Voss Township: Lars A. Skjelde, 67 years; Nils O. Kvale, 73; Begga Helgesdr. Opheim, 71; Olav O. Haga, 20; Brita A. Gjerdaker, 68; Viking B. Dymbe, 84; Ragnhild K. Graue neé Ygre, 69; Knut Davidsen Rene, 86; Brita H. Lunde neè Mosefin, 38; Sunva I. Gilderhus, 63; Hm. Gerdt N. Jæger, 62; Peder Nilson Dymbe, 91; Anders D. Prestegaard, 56; Anders N. Hegle, neé Fitje, 91; Olav N. Møen, 78.

Evanger herred: Synva K. Bolstad, f. Furnes, 91; Henrik Nilson Mykkeltvedt, 92; Raneform. Nils Vasenden, 63; Helge Jacob-son Bolstad, 88; Anna Nilsdtr. Bjørge, 74

Vossestrand: Johannes L. Tveito, f. Aarhus, 79.

SJUR HELGELAND.

Voss's bekjendte spillemand, Sjur Helgeland, sædvanlig kaldt Brita-Lars-Sjur, døde den 12te april 1924. I den anledning hid-sættes følgende fra bladet "Hordaland": Fela hans Sjur Helgeland er tagna, denne trollfela, som tolka so mykje vakkert i norsk natur og folkeliv. Det er berre nokre vikor, sidan han spela ved elev-stemna paa Voss Folkehøgskule. Han stogga, paa Vangen eit par dagar daa, og i eit privat lag ein af kveldane spela han so kunnige folk vart reint i undring. Det var som kraft og reinleik fraa hans hedste aar kom fram i spelet. Ingen tænkte daa, at det var spelemandskjæmpa si sidste store stund, at det var sidste gongen han spela,

Komen heimatt, kjende han seg sjuk, og onsdag i vika som var, maatte doktoren bodsendast. Det var ein magesjukdom som plaga lian, og nat te laurdag sovna han stillt og roleg inn.

Sjur Larson Helgeland var født paa Helgeland i Myrkdalen (Vossestranden) 21de august 1858. Han var soleis ikkje fullt 66 aar gamal. Um han kan ein trykt seia, att han var fødd til aa ver-ta meistar-spear. Far hans spela og fela, og Sjur'n var ikkje stor karen fyrr han tok etter. I 13—14 aars alderen fekk han eigi fela, og daa, var han alt so langt komen att han spela i brudlaup ikkje længje etter. Der var givnad i dan unge guten, so eldre spelemenn sette stora voner til han. Dette slo og til. Endaa Sjur Helgeland ikkje var av dei, som for so vida, heimkjær, so han var, gjekk gjetordet um han, og dei som vilde ha eit retteleg brudlaup, maatte faa Helgeland'n som speleman. Det var særleg paa Voss, Vossastrondi og i Sogn han spela i brudlaupslag. Kor mangje lag han var i, vidste han ikkje eingong sjølv.

Men der kom andre tider for hardangfela og folkemusikken. Det var lyft meir fram i dagen, og fleire av dei store tonekunstnarane tok til aa høira etter det. Og millom dei, som daa maatte fram, var Sjur Helgeland. Han spela for Edvard Grieg, og han spela ved Vestmannalaget sine kapleikar i Bergen og tok fleire 1ste premiar. I mange aar var Sjur Helgeland Vestmanna laget sin visse spelemann 17. mai, og meir enn ei gong sat byfolk og landsfolk tryllte av dan sylvreine tonestraumen fraa fela hans

Evanger Township: Synva K. Bolstad, neè Furnes 91; Henrik Nilson Mykkeltvedt, 92; Raneform. Nils Vasenden, 63; Helge Jacobson Bolstad, 88; Anna Nilsdtr. Bjørge, 74

Vossestrand: Johannes L. Tveito, neè Aarhus, 79.

SJUR HELGELAND

Voss' famous fiddler, Sjur Helgeland, usually called Brita-Lars-Sjur, died April 12, 1924. We include from the "Hordaland" the following: "Sjur Helgeland's fiddle is silent, this troll fiddle, that translated so much beauty from Norwegian nature and folk life. It was only some weeks since he played at a student assembly at Voss High School. He meandered on Vangen a couple days and in a private recital one night he played so that knowledgeable people were filled with wonder. It was as if then power and purity from his best years came forth in his playing. No one thought then that it was the fiddle playing giant's last great hour that this was the last time he would play".

When he came home again, he felt sick, and on Wednesday of that week, the doctor was called. It was a stomach problem that bothered him, and the night before Saturday, he slept quietly and peacefully away.

Sjur Larson Helgeland was born at Helgeland, Myrkdalen (Vossestranden) on August 21, 1858. He was just barely 66 years old. One can definitely say about him, that he was born to be a master fiddler. His father also played the fiddle, and Sjur'n wasn't a very big fellow before he took after him. At age 13-14, he got his own fiddle and had progressed far enough to play at a wedding not long after. There was talent in this young boy, so older fiddlers expected a lot of him. These expectations were fulfilled. Though Sjur Helgeland wasn't one of those that traveled widely; home-loving as he was, rumors about him spread, and if they wanted a proper wedding, then they had to get Helgeland'n as their fiddler. He especially played for wedding celebrations at Voss, Vossestrand and in Sogn. He didn't know himself, how many weddings he had played.

There were changing times for the Hardanger fiddle and folk music. There was spirit in those days, and many of the great tone artists were like that. Among those, who progressed was Sjur Helgeland. He played for Edvard Grieg, and he played the Vestmannalag's competition in Bergen and won First Prize. For many years, he was Vestmannalag's definite fiddler on the 17th of May, and on more than one occasion both city and townspeople sat bewitched by the silver-clear melodies from his fiddle.

Det var i Bergen Helgeland'n vann sine fleste store singlar. Berre ei gong, so vidt me veit, spela han i Oslo. Det var 7. juni 1910, daa Voss Spellag syntte fram "Bjørnefjell" paa Fahlstrøms teater. Ogso her tok han lyden med storm. Han fekk ei fagning som aldri fyrr og hendene fulle med bloniar daa han slutta.

Sjur Helgeland likte betre aa spela lydarslaattar enn danse-slaattar. Der var alltid ein sermerkt venleiksdaam yver spelet hans. Fleire af dei gamle slaattene fyltde han ut og gjorde dei rikare. Og han laga mangje slaattar og tonestykkje sjølv. Dei mest kjende af desse er "Budeiona paa Vikafjell" og "Sivlefossen", den sidste til minne um trimeningen sin, Per Sivle.

Jamvel no paa sine gamle daga kunde han laga dei meisterlege. Me viser i so maate til det Magne Dagestad skreiv i Hordl. 5. april um dei sidste slaattane hans. Det er vel diverre ikkje nokon som fekk læra dei so dei gjekk nok burt med ham sjølv. Men der er og mykje att etter han som dei yngre spelemenn har lært. Ved sida af Myllarguten og Ola Mosafinn vil Sjur Helgeland vera millom dei tre storkultane, som naadde længst paa hardingfela.

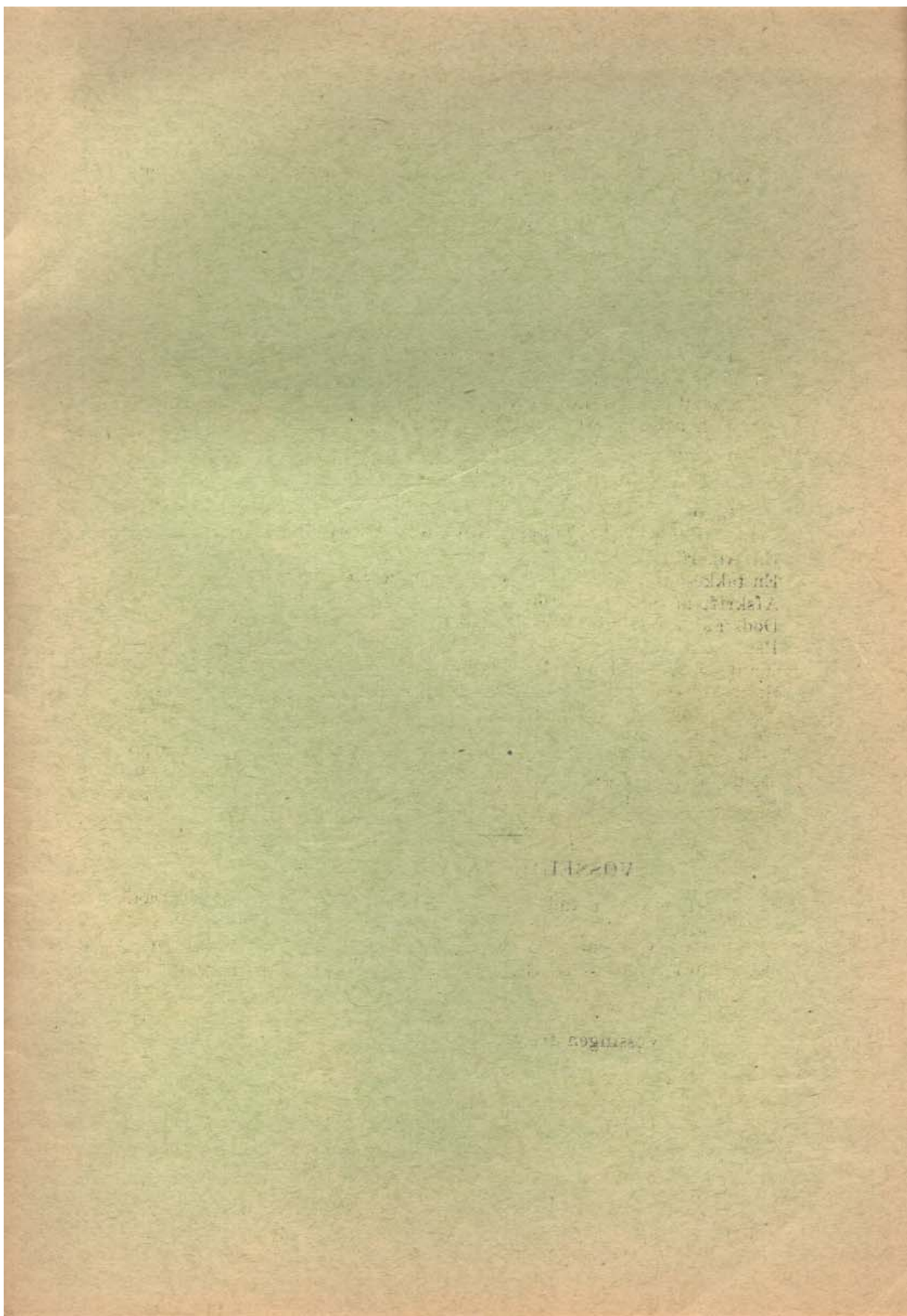
Magnus Dagestad fortalte om Helgeland, at han det sidste aaret havde lavet nogle toneslaatter, som var saa merkelige, at han bare en gang før havde hørt folkemusik, som havde forundret ham saameget, og det var da Helgeland selv spillede "Bygdatraaen" til ham for første gang. — "Bygdatraaen" er en huldreslaat, lavet af en ligesaa merkelig spillemand, som levede omkring 1840 aarene i Mørkdalen paa Vossestranden. Dagestad vidste ikke om nogen slaat, som han syntes var saa dybtgaaende som denne. Men det som Helgeland havde lavet i det sidste var ligesaa merkeligt. Et af stykkerne kaldte han "Trolldans i Bygdagjelen". Motivet i dette var taget fra sagnet om trolde i gjelet paa gaarden Bygd, som ikke vilde lade folk faa male. Et andet stykke kaldte han "Heimlengt". Det var nok noget han selv havde følt ofte; thi Sjur var ikke svært længe hjemmefra, før han lengtede hjem igjen. Et tredje stykke kaldte han "Stølsheg". Disse stykker spilledes paa en egen fele-stilling, som virkede dulgt og mygt, siger Dagestad

It was in Bergen that Helgeland'n won most of his acclaim. He only played in Oslo one time, as far as we know. It was on June 7, 1910, when the Voss Spellag presented "Bjørnefjell" (Bear Mountain) at Fahlstrøm's Theater. Here, too, he took the audience by storm. He received applause as never before and his arms were full of flowers when he finished.

Sjur Helgeland preferred playing country melodies over dance tunes. There was always a special quality to his playing. He improved many of the old tunes and made them richer. He composed many melodies and pieces of music. The best known of these were "Budeiona på Vikafjell" (Hut-owner on Vik Mountain) and "Sivlefossen" (Sivle's Falls), the last in memory of his second cousin, Per Sivle.

He certainly could make them masterfully in his old days. We quote from what Magne Dagestad wrote in Hordaland April 5 about his last melodies. "Unfortunately, nobody learned them so they disappeared with him. But a lot, that the younger fiddlers have learned remains after him. Along side of Myllarguten and Ola Mosafinn, will Sjur Helgeland be among the three biggest stars who were the greatest on the Hardanger fiddle".

Magnus Dagestad told about Helgeland, that he in the latter years had created some melodies that were so remarkable that he had heard only one time such folk music that had impressed him so much, and that was when Helgeland himself played "Bygdatraaen" (Desire for Home) for him the first time. — "Bygdatraaen" is a siren's melody, made by an exceptional fiddler who lived during the 1840's, in Mørkdalen at Vossestranden. Dagestad knew of no melody that he thought was so deeply affective as this one but those that Helgeland had composed in his later years were equally impressive one of his pieces he called the "Troll dance at Bygdagjelen" (district ravine). The motif was taken from a folk tale about the trolls in the ravine at the Bygd farm who wouldn't let the people grind flour. Another piece is called "Heimlengt" ("Homesick"). This was something he experienced himself because wasn't far from home before he became homesick. A third piece, he named "Sæter-weekend". This number was played at its own fiddle position, so it sounded gentle and soft, says Dagestad.



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