

## BIOGRAPHY OF PETER BERKMAN

State senator and representative  
Marshall county  
Home in section 8, Weston township  
South Dakota

Son of Andrew Nicholson Berkman, also native of Sweden, born in 1806. The father was a farmer and stock dealer in the old country and was one of the representatives of the community in which he lived and conducted a large business. Died in land of his nativity in 1869. Married to Nellie Arvetson who was born in Sweden in 1821 and died in 1887. They were the parents of a family of four children, 2 sons and 2 daughters, the latter of whom are now dead.

Peter Berkman born in Sweden April 1854. At age 17 went to Denmark and worked on one of the numerous estates of that country. In 1872 sailed to U.S. and settled in Nicollet County, Minnesota. Worked on a farm, then in state insane hospital where he became proficient in the baker's trade which he followed till 1882. Moved to Brown County, Dakota and filed a claim of 120 acres of land near village of Columbia. Dissatisfied with the surroundings and moved to Marshall County and by means of a homestead and tree claim rights, secured his present farm, the west half of section 8, Weston township.

Married in Nicollet County, Minnesota, August 21, 1880 to Christine Larson who was also born in Sweden August 3, 1854. They had 4 children: Carl Emil born Minnesota and died in Marshall Country, South Dakota. The second, given the same name, born in Minnesota while Mrs. Berkman there on a visit. Nellie M. and William born in Marshall County.

Politically, Mr. Berkman is a Republican, although not in accord with the party on the financial question, as he thinks we should have bimetalism and that the single gold standard will bring only disaster to our agricultural and commercial interests. He has been a member of the township board, school clerk, treasurer and is now township treasurer. He was a member of the state legislature, and in 1893 was elected State Senator. Since retired and devoted his time to his private business. He conducts a very large farm and is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of the County. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Amberst and also of the A.O.U.W. fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America.

From Biography that Bill has.