

THOMAS JENSEN, 1913

One can never tell what a hero may look like nor when he will appear, but when the right sequence of circumstances occurs, the stage is then set, and behold, there is your hero. In 1913 Thomas Jensen was a young farmer living with his parents on Sodom Street. On the 10th of July in that year he chanced to be in Westfield. Suddenly a horse drawing a vehicle containing a woman and two children came madly dashing down the street, a runaway. Every one and every thing was giving it a wide berth. The wagon was swaying from side to side threatening to spill, and probably kill, the frightened occupants. Tom saw it. Something must be done, and that quickly. There was no time to consider, if they were to be saved. He stepped out into the street, seized hold of the wagon as it passed him, swung himself up into it, stopped the runaway horse and saved the woman and children. In so doing, however, he slipped and one leg was caught in one of the wheels. He was so seriously injured that he died three days later. True, one cannot tell what a hero may look like—till afterwards. The following January Thomas Jensen was cited as a hero by the Carnegie Hero Fund Committee and his parents were granted a pension of \$30.00 a month. The people living on the everlasting hills of Granville have not degenerated. There are just as many heroes now as there ever were. All it needs to make them appear is the right combination of circumstances.

From "History of Granville" by Albion B. Wilson, 1954