

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Catholic Missionary Activities in the Northwest, 1818-1864. By
SISTER MARY AQUINAS NORTON, M.A. (Washington, D. C.,
The Catholic University of America, 1930. 154 p.)

This doctoral dissertation by one of the Sisters of St. Francis at Rochester, Minnesota, distinctly reinforces the accounts of missionary activity in Minnesota and adjacent territory. Though the title is broader than the scope of the work, Sister Aquinas limits the field by her introduction: "By the Northwest is here meant that section of the United States which is now incorporated into the states of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. This monograph is confined to missionary activities carried on among the Indians and half-breeds with the exception of the Pembina mission where the narrative of the events of the mission includes, at all times, white settlers, half-breeds and Indians."

Six chapters and a brief conclusion constitute the volume. Chapter 1 provides the background of Jesuit enterprise and Indian policy; chapters 2 and 5 take up the Pembina mission; chapters 3 and 6 deal with work among the Chippewa of Minnesota and Lake Superior; and chapter 4 gives an account of activities among the Sioux and Winnebago of the Minnesota and eastern Dakota areas.

The thoroughness with which the author has investigated the field is evidenced by her annotations. Manuscripts from an imposing number of depositories are cited, as well as files of rare and obscure pamphlets and periodicals. Most of this material is in foreign languages and hence has been hitherto inaccessible to the ordinary reader. The translations show an accurate scholarship in almost all instances.

Out of the minutiae of frequent and detailed letters and reports Sister Aquinas has evolved a straightforward narrative, simply told. Chronology apparently has been her guiding principle, and by the aid of this little book one can tell at a glance when and

where these missions were established, who the missionaries were, and something of their careers. Of the larger aspects of their work, of its place in the great mission movement of the nineteenth century, of its relation to the Indian policies of Canada and the United States, and of its meaning for the subsequent history of the region there is disappointingly little. Interpretation has been used sparingly, and relationships, even between adjacent missions, have not been pointed out sufficiently. One misses that rich background of appreciation for the significance of events that would have pointed out, for example, in this volume the almost superhuman vision of that great bishop of Canada, Plessis, in using the Red River mission as a means toward one of his chief aims — the establishment of a Catholic hierarchy in Canada and the occupation of western Canada and Oregon for Catholicism. One misses also an understanding of the work that Protestant missionaries were carrying on in most of this area contemporaneously with the Catholic missionaries. The author's selection of material is sometimes open to question. For example, why should Pembina have been included when the missions at Rainy Lake and Wabassimong are scarcely mentioned? And surely Bishop Dubourg's plan for an Indian mission at St. Peter's in 1823 and the work of Tabeau and Crevier at Fort William, Grand Portage, and Rainy Lake should have been included.

It is gratifying at last to know the story of the Jesuit mission on the Pigeon River and of Father Skolla's activities on Lake Superior. Great credit is due Sister Aquinas for locating new manuscript data on the first of these enterprises and an extremely rare Italian publication for the second. Little has been known of them until this time.

The chief fault of the volume is its bibliography, especially the portion dealing with manuscripts. At first glance one is led to believe that the author personally consulted all the papers listed in their several depositories. It is only as one reads the text and its annotation that doubts arise. Thus she cites the archives of the archdiocese of Quebec in Quebec, but her annotations make it clear that most of the papers from this source were consulted in the form of transcripts in the manuscript division of

the Minnesota Historical Society. So also with the papers of the American Fur Company, which she lists as though she had consulted them in New York. Only the citation numbers, which are those used in a calendar of these papers in the same historical society, lead one to suspect that she did not consult the originals, but copies. One has suspicions also in the cases of several other groups of manuscripts, copies of which are among the large body of mission manuscripts in process of being edited by the Minnesota Historical Society.

In general the author would have done well to describe her manuscript sources, and even some of her printed sources. Thus she cites the transcripts of Selkirk Papers in Ottawa without indicating that they are atrocious copies, especially the French letters; nor does she intimate anywhere that originals or copies of much of Selkirk's correspondence that relates to the Red River mission may be found in Bishop Plessis' letter books or in files of his papers in the archiepiscopal archives. It would also have been worth while to point out that most of Provencher's letters in those archives have been published in one of the bulletins of the St. Boniface Historical Society, which, to be sure, she includes in a general citation.

Few actual mistakes occur. The first governor of the Red River colony spelled his name Macdonell and not with two *w*'s as this work has it. Riggs' first name was Stephen and not Samuel. Edmund Franklin Ely, the Protestant missionary at Fond du Lac, was not entitled to "reverend" before his name, nor is it correct to use this title without the article. *St. Siège* is French for Holy See and not the name of a saint. These are some of the rather insignificant slips that have been detected.

GRACE LEE NUTE

Manitoba Milestones. By MARGARET McWILLIAMS. (Toronto and London, J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd., [1928]. xiii, 249 p. Illustrations, maps.)

Many of the connecting links in the stories of Minnesota and Manitoba are brought out in this interesting volume. In the opening chapter on exploration such familiar figures as Radisson and

La Vérendrye appear; Grand Portage plays an important part in the second chapter on the fur-traders; and in the third, which deals with settlement, the Selkirk colonists make their bow. Another chapter is devoted to the Red River colony during the period between 1826 and 1860, when it "remained an island of settlement in the great North-west" and when it grew "by the addition of the men of the Company, who found it a haven wherein to make homes for themselves and their families, often of half Indian blood." This is the period of the great Red River hunts, of the development of the cart trade with St. Paul, of the beginnings of steamboat traffic on the Red River. The author implies that the cart trade did not begin until 1859, when, in fact, it was well developed by the middle forties; and she shows only one Red River trail on her map of a region that boasted at least three such trails (p. 82). An early contact with Fort Ripley on the upper Mississippi is revealed: in 1853, after a United States post office had been established at this point, "the people at Red River organized a monthly mail service to and from the fort and so for the first time came into what was, for them, frequent touch with the world outside." Transportation development brings additional connections with Minnesota — the building of the "Anson Northup," the first Red River steamboat; James J. Hill's steamboat "Selkirk," which in the summer of 1872 began to make regular trips between Moorhead and Winnipeg; the establishment of a daily stage line between Winnipeg and Fort Abercrombie; and finally the building of the first railroad. "It was not until Donald A. Smith and George Stephen," writes Mrs. McWilliams, "with their American allies, James J. Hill and Norman W. Kittson, took hold of the project that the road in both countries was pushed to completion," making it possible for the first train to run into St. Boniface on December 9, 1878.

The illustrations and the maps are useful and attractive to an unusual degree. Among those of special interest to Minnesotans are portraits of Selkirk and of Father Lacombe; pictures of a Red River cart train in St. Paul, a portage crossing, a sod house, and the "Anson Northup"; and a map showing the Selkirk grant and the "route travelled by the early settlers from Hudson

Bay to Red River and Fort Daer," near the present site of Pembina.

B. L. H.

Stagecoach and Tavern Tales of the Old Northwest. By HARRY ELLSWORTH COLE, late president of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Edited by LOUISE PHELPS KELLOGG. (Cleveland, The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1930. 376 p. Illustrations, maps. \$6.00.)

In the preface of this volume Dr. Kellogg remarks that "Since the advent of the automobile into American life and a renewal of travel by road instead of railroad, interest has been reawakened to a remarkable degree in methods of early travel. . . . Tavern and coach filled an important function in the growing communities that peopled the Old Northwest in the decades before the coming of the Civil war." Something of the glamour and romance of these days has been imparted to the pages of this volume by a lover of the open road who devoted many years to collecting photographs of and narratives about stagecoaches, drivers, taverns, and tavern-keepers, and gathering little incidents which, occurring in the everyday life of the frontier, served to make it more endurable and enjoyable.

The work is divided into two main sections. The first is devoted to roads and the early freight and stage lines of the Old Northwest, but the subject is treated in a cursory manner. In the later pages of the book, much additional material is brought out which logically should have been incorporated in the first section. The author shows greater mastery of his subject in the discussion of the frontier tavern. It is evident that his greatest interest lay in this direction. Numerous photographs are used throughout, those of taverns of the early period being especially good.

The author's intention is only to portray life at the frontier taverns, but he succeeds in presenting an interesting picture of the social life of people on the frontier in the middle nineteenth century. Two maps are included in the volume. Although both are labeled as maps of stagecoach routes in the region of the

Old Northwest, the captions perhaps ought to have been qualified by the addition of the word "some," for not a few routes are omitted. The volume, it may be added, is fragmentary rather than comprehensive in treatment and is not a final study of its subject.

Of special interest to students of Minnesota history is the mention of travel routes between Lake Michigan and Minnesota (p. 173, 217); and the account of some of the Wisconsin echoes of the Sioux Outbreak of 1862 (p. 250-252).

ARTHUR J. LARSEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Senator Victor E. Lawson of Willmar, editor of the *Willmar Tribune*, writes in a private letter "I find MINNESOTA HISTORY, with its copious and very complete index, very helpful in our everyday newspaper work for verifying names and places as well as for its record of events and reviews, and believe that newspaper men generally might make more use of this series than they are doing if the idea occurred to them."

The farmer in Minnesota history will furnish the unifying theme for the society's annual exhibit at the state fair in September. Special attention will be given to illustrating the work of the society in preserving historical material throwing light on the state's agricultural history.

Thirty-one additions to the active membership of the society have been made during the quarter ending June 30, 1930. The names of the new members, grouped by counties, follow:

BROWN: Willibald Eibner of New Ulm.

CARLTON: Maurice H. Nordstrom of Carlton.

CLAY: James M. Witherow of Moorhead.

DAKOTA: Gertrude W. Ackermann of South St. Paul.

FARIBAULT: John W. Kamrar and David L. Morse of Blue Earth.

FREEBORN: Mrs. Edna H. Bowers, William W. Bowers, Dr. William L. Palmer, Erwin H. Ruhsam, and Lesley S. Whitcomb, all of Albert Lea.

HENNEPIN: Frederick Beygeh, George C. Carlson, Mrs. Elbridge C. Cooke, Lee H. Fletcher, Alfred W. Kayser, Mrs. Arthur L. Sholly, and Dr. S. Marx White, all of Minneapolis.

MEEKER: Mrs. Peter Rodange of Litchfield.

OLMSTED: Oscar C. Ronken and Ernest H. Schlitgus of Rochester; and John R. Beach of Stewartville.

POLK: Dr. J. F. Norman of Crookston.

POPE: C. E. Williams of Mora.

RAMSEY: Alfred F. Hughes of St. Paul.

STEELE: Fred C. Johnson of Owatonna.

WASECA: Mrs. Anna E. Wilson of Janesville.

NONRESIDENT: Mrs. E. C. Dean of Scranton, Pennsylvania; J. M. Klovstad of Port Wing, Wisconsin; Thor O. Omejer of Oslo, Norway; and Augustus H. Shearer of Buffalo, New York.

The public schools of Bloomington and Virginia have recently become subscribers to the current publications of the society.

The society lost eleven active members by death during the three months ending June 30, 1930: Portius C. Deming of Minneapolis, April 1; Rush B. Wheeler of St. Paul, April 2; John S. Pardee of Duluth, April 10; Edwin H. Brown of Minneapolis, April 21; Silas H. Towler of Minneapolis, April 23; J. Arthur Harris of St. Paul, April 24; Frank H. Juergens of Jordan, April 25; Mrs. Louise R. Phelps of Minneapolis, May 10; Edwin J. Jones of Morris, June 3; Frantz G. Nellerroe of St. Paul, June 7; and John R. Swann of Madison, June 16. The death of William A. Miller of Bald Eagle on January 20 has not previously been noted in this magazine.

"The Problem of Adequate Historical Collections" is the title of an essay by the superintendent which has been included in a volume entitled the *Trans-Mississippi West*, published by the University of Colorado. It has also been issued as a separate (8 p.).

An interesting development in county historical work was the pilgrimage on June 19 of about fifteen members of the Goodhue County Historical Society from Red Wing to St. Paul to visit the Minnesota Historical Building. Special exhibits of manuscripts, newspapers, rare pamphlets and books, and other materials in the state society's collections relating to Red Wing and Goodhue County were prepared for the visitors.

"The Challenge to American Democracy" was the subject chosen by the superintendent for high school commencement addresses at Eden Valley and Kimball on May 28 and 29. He spoke also on the work of the society at a meeting of the St. Paul Kiwanis Club on June 19. The assistant superintendent spoke on "Minnesota Pioneer Life" before the North Star chapter of the Daughters

of the American Revolution at St. Paul on April 19; and he gave the high school commencement address at Eagle Bend on "Making the Past Serve the Present" on May 27. He also addressed a meeting of Washington County citizens at Stillwater on April 30 on the subject of organizing local history work. "Pioneer Women of Minnesota" was the subject of talks presented by the curator of manuscripts before the College Women's Club of Minneapolis on April 14 and the St. Paul chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on April 17. The curator of the museum gave an illustrated talk on "Pioneer Life in Minnesota" before the members of a history class from Augsburg College of Minneapolis in the society's auditorium on May 14.

Mr. Babcock attended the meeting of the Midwest Museums Conference at Madison on April 11 and 12 and was elected its president. At one session of the conference he spoke on "A Wing Screen Method of Coin Display." He also attended at Milwaukee on May 9 and 10 a meeting of the central section of the American Anthropological Association and presented a paper entitled "A Midewiwin Cache from Northern Minnesota." He was elected a member of the executive committee of the section.

An unusually large number of public and high school classes — eighty-one — brought a total of more than two thousand pupils to the society's museum during the months of April, May, and June.

The coöperative project of the society and the state highway department for the erection of markers for historic sites along the state highways of Minnesota is making notable progress. As reported in a previous number of the magazine (*ante*, p. 202) the society supplies the inscriptions and the highway department prepares and erects the markers. Before July 1 not less than twenty-five inscriptions had been supplied and about twenty markers were in place. Originally it was planned to use wooden markers, but these have now given way to steel plates upon which the inscriptions appear in black letters against a white background. Sixteen counties were represented among the first twenty inscriptions prepared.

The following editorial, bearing the title "Storied Spots All Around Us," was published by the *Minneapolis Journal* on July 6:

A New York college professor has been out in Kansas City telling the people there they have right amongst them storied spots as rich in history and appealing to the imagination as any foreign land affords the eye of the tourist. In the region about him, he pointed out, some of the most stirring events in history have taken place. Why, he asks, be ignorant of them, yet turn to lands afar for gratification of the desire for lore and thrills?

Why, indeed? Up here in Minnesota there are historic spots as significant in the peopling of this empire of the Northwest as is the region where began the great covered wagon migration on the Oregon trail. Traverse des Sioux, Grand Portage, Mendota; the region of Mille Lacs, which Radisson knew; St. Anthony Falls, where Hennepin contemplated the scene; the Red River Trail of the ox carts; the spots that marked the advance of the white man westward and northward, all over Minnesota—these are marked, for the seeing. And they are as full of our own romance, to captivate anyone who will but yield his imagination to the spell of history, as foreign lands can offer. It requires a better eye for one's own history, that is all.

The Minnesota Historical Society and other groups are quickening interest in our own annals, as anyone may testify who has shared in the Historical Society's annual tours. But all may have their own tours, all may read the history of the explorers and the voyageurs and the pioneers, if they will focus their view upon the Northwest's own wealth of storied spots.

THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SURVEY

A survey of historic sites, markers, and monuments in Minnesota was authorized by the society's executive council at a stated meeting on April 14 after a plan for it had been presented by Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum. The primary aim will be to secure a thorough and accurate report for each county of historic markers and monuments that have been erected and of sites that might appropriately be marked. Records of the wording of all inscriptions and of the agencies that have concerned themselves with marking projects will be included among the data gathered. A comprehensive report for the state at large, it is expected, will eventuate. The information assembled will undoubtedly be of great aid to the society in connection with

its advisory services to the state, to general organizations, and to local communities that are launching marking projects — services that have been constantly increasing in recent years. The survey itself may be expected to stimulate interest not only in specific marking possibilities but also in the entire field of local history in Minnesota; and such stimulation of interest may conceivably be reflected in the further organization of local history work, the collection and preservation of historical records, and in other desirable activities. The president of the society, Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, has appointed an executive committee of seven members charged with the supervision of the survey, the active director of which is Mr. Babcock. The committee consists of William E. Culkin of Duluth, chairman; Judge L. B. Kinder of Brainerd; Jefferson Jones of Minneapolis; J. M. McConnell, commissioner of education; Julius A. Schmahl, state treasurer; Mrs. Charles E. Furness of St. Paul; and Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the society. A state-wide advisory committee of seventy members will be appointed in the near future to coöperate with the director and the executive committee. It is anticipated that county historical societies and local civic organizations will give hearty aid in promoting the survey, the prospect of which has been greeted with cordial approval by the press and by many interested individuals throughout the state.

ACCESSIONS

The Society of Colonial Dames in Minnesota has undertaken to collect family papers from its members with the object of depositing them permanently with the Minnesota Historical Society and the initial results of this project have recently been deposited by Mrs. George P. Douglas of Minneapolis, chairman of the organization's committee on historical activities. They consist of a collection of papers of the late Curtis H. Pettit of Minneapolis, contributed by his daughter, Mrs. Douglas; an account by Miss Minnesota Neill of Minneapolis of the early experiences in St. Paul of her father and mother, Dr. and Mrs. Edward D. Neill; and a copy of the *Minnesota Republican* for January 31, 1856, from Miss Mary Williams of Minneapolis. The Pettit

Papers include a variety of interesting material. Typed extracts from Pettit's diary for the years 1855 and 1856 tell of this pioneer business man's journey from Ohio to Minnesota, his start in business in Minneapolis, land speculation at Glencoe and other towns, and other matters. There is a cash book kept in 1878 by the trustees of the Mill Disaster Relief Fund of Minneapolis, of which Pettit was secretary; and there are numerous deeds, commissions, land patents, and receipts. A small group of letters written from the East in 1863 by William Pettit, also included in the collection, contains many references to economic matters, politics, and the Civil War. The Society of Colonial Dames in Minnesota is to be congratulated upon the enterprise that it has displayed in relation to the problem of preserving historical records. The first installment of documents obviously is one of much interest and value; and the plan that has been launched gives promise of the assembling and preservation of additional collections.

Transcripts of letters of John F. Aiton, John W. Hancock, Moses N. Adams, H. D. Cunningham, and Robert Hopkins, missionaries among the Sioux at Red Wing, Lac qui Parle, and Traverse des Sioux, have been made recently for the society from originals in the archives of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions at Boston.

A copy of the autobiography of Dr. Frederic Andros, which was dictated in the autumn of 1894, is the gift of Mr. Paul A. Brooks of Minneapolis. It is an interesting record of the career of a physician who moved west with the frontier — from Massachusetts, where he was born in 1802, to western New York, upper Canada, Detroit, Iowa, and Minnesota. Dr. Andros went from Iowa to Minnesota as physician for the Winnebago when they were settled on the Long Prairie reservation in 1848; he was elected a state representative in 1854; and he helped in the removal of the Indians from Long Prairie to their southern Minnesota reservation in 1855. Later he returned to Iowa, where he became interested in railroad promotion.

Transcripts of thirteen letters of Father Francis Pierz relating to his missionary and immigration activities in the Northwest and

published in a German Catholic weekly magazine, *Wahrheits-Freund* of Cincinnati, during the period from 1854 to 1865, have been secured from St. Francis Seminary, Milwaukee, through the courtesy of the Reverend Peter L. Johnson of that institution. Photostatic reproductions of numerous other articles in this magazine secured recently are noted *ante*, p. 205.

Mr. W. E. Perkins of Los Angeles has presented a patent to land in Stillwater in 1855 and a letter of January 21, 1862, by Edward R. Perkins of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, reporting the battle of Mills Springs.

A photostatic copy of the schedules for the census of Rice County in 1857, consisting of 165 sheets, has been secured from the census bureau at Washington, D. C.

An unusually valuable collection of material on the Sioux War of 1862 and the work of the missionaries and native preachers among the Indian prisoners and their families and friends during the years that followed is contained in the papers of the Reverend Stephen R. Riggs, the well-known missionary among the Sioux, recently presented by his granddaughter, Miss Marjorie F. Warner of Washington, D. C. They consist of about five hundred letters written chiefly during the years from 1863 to 1866 by Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, John P. Williamson, native preachers, half-breeds, and others who were interested in the welfare of the Indians. Many of the letters are in the Sioux language and thus are of interest to philologists as well as to historians.

Mrs. Lucy Thomas of Morton has presented a copy of a printed document signed by Henry H. Sibley and dated at Camp Release, October 4, 1862, in which Taope, or Wounded Man, a Sioux Indian, is declared deserving of the "gratitude of the American people for having been principally instrumental in saving the lives of white women and children during the late Indian war."

The library of the University of Minnesota has presented a typed copy of a letter written by a soldier, N. C. Johnson, from Camp Lincoln near Mankato during the Indian troubles of 1862. The original was found in a book purchased by the library.

Some forty letters and other manuscripts have been added to the Edward D. Neill Papers by his daughter, Miss Minnesota Neill of Minneapolis. A number of these relate to his college and seminary training and to the beginning of his work in Minnesota. A letter of March 14, 1862, from Abraham Limburger to Lincoln, incloses the president's "likeness" in silk.

A copy of a long and interesting letter written by George G. Barnum from Burkesville Junction, Virginia, on April 19, 1865, is the gift of Mr. J. Carver Richards of Virginia, Minnesota. It describes the last events of the Civil War in Virginia and Lee's surrender. It may be noted that the writer of the letter is still living, a resident of Duluth, and that Barnum Township in Carlton County is named in his honor.

A letter written on May 23, 1867, by William D. Washburn to Hollis R. Murdock, stating that a new paper, the *Minneapolis Daily Tribune*, is about to be started and asking Murdock to be its Stillwater correspondent, is the gift of Miss Alice Murdock of Stillwater.

Mrs. Edward C. Dougan of St. Paul has added to the papers collected by her father, Charles E. Mayo, in the possession of the society about a hundred letters of well-known persons, such as Alexander A. Stephens, Louis Agassiz, Edward Everett Hale, Cushman K. Davis, and William L. Marcy.

A brief biographical sketch of the late William A. Miller, a well-known St. Paul banker, is the gift of his son, Mr. William H. Miller of St. Paul.

Miss Esther Jerabek of the staff of the society has presented twenty-five items from the papers of her grandfather, John J. Jerabek of Silver Lake. Most of them relate to his leadership of a group of Czechs to the United States in 1874; and they include letters from steamship companies, passports, and an account of the journey.

An interesting broadside advertising the beauties of Frontenac on Lake Pepin, presumably issued about 1875, is the gift of Miss Celestine M. Schaller of Frontenac.

A small group of papers recently received from Mr. Julius Heilbron of St. Paul includes two letters from the late Maurice Auerbach of St. Paul, written in 1879 and 1880, that reveal the writer's influence in inducing Mr. Heilbron as a youth of nineteen to leave his native Germany to settle in Minnesota. The travel diary of the younger man is also included, as well as his contract with a steamship company. On the last pages of the diary are many entries giving the dates and the amounts of remuneration received for concerts given by a band with which Mr. Heilbron was affiliated in St. Paul.

An interesting sidelight on the state's reaction to Coxey's army of 1894 is afforded by a telegram, presented by Mr. J. S. Billings of Fergus Falls, which he received as sheriff of Otter Tail County. It was sent by Governor Knute Nelson, and it ordered the sheriff to disperse fifty of the "Commonwealers" when they should arrive at Fergus Falls in a freight train of which they were reported to have taken forcible possession.

The Reverend Francis L. Palmer of Faribault has added twenty-seven items, mostly letters of Minnesota bishops, to the diocesan records of the Protestant Episcopal church in the custody of the society.

Among recent additions to the governors' archives in the custody of the society are thirty-one boxes of letters written to Governors Van Sant and Johnson, and fifty-nine volumes of letterpress copies of the letters of Governors Johnson, Eberhart, and Hammond and of the board of pardons for the decade from 1905 to 1915.

A box of the records of the Wartburg Federation of the Northwest from 1907 to date has been presented by the recording secretary, Miss Gertrude W. Ackermann of South St. Paul. This society of young people has been known by two other names, the Luther League of the Northwest, and the German Luther League of the Northwest.

The papers of the late Professor Clarence W. Alvord of the history department of the University of Minnesota have been

presented by Mrs. Alvord of Minneapolis. They include personal letters, a number of papers on historical subjects prepared by his students in the universities of Illinois and Minnesota, notes for courses that he presented in these institutions, some valuable notes by Benjamin Sulte, and transcripts of numerous documents relating to the French and British régimes in the Illinois country, mainly from the Draper manuscripts in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and from the Colonial Office records in London.

A copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Minnesota State Advisory Council on Indian Affairs held at the Minnesota Capitol on November 26, 1929, has been presented to the society by the state board of health. The impoverished condition of the Chippewa of northern Minnesota is the subject of the record. With the minutes was received a report submitted to the council by Senator Peter Sharpe and Representative Harriet H. Weeks on conditions among the Indians of Mahnomen County.

A brief manuscript historical sketch of the Catholic Church of St. Stephen in Minneapolis has been presented by the author, Mrs. H. B. Sweetser of Minneapolis.

A typed copy of the Minnesota portion of a forthcoming history of road-building in the United States has been presented by its author, Mr. H. E. Samuelson of the state highway department. It is a brief and clear account of the development of good roads in Minnesota and of the legislation that has affected this development.

Mr. Frank Morris of Minneapolis has presented the society with the manuscript of a brief historical sketch of one of Minnesota's "lost" towns, Arcadia, in Watonwan County.

A master's thesis entitled the "Formation of the Iowa Synod and the Development of Its Peculiar Tendencies, 1854 to 1867" by Werner Fritschel has been received from the history department of the University of Minnesota; and term papers on the life of Joseph Renville by Gertrude W. Ackermann, on the "Influence of Railroads on the Settlement of North Dakota" by Bern-

hardt J. Kleven, and on "Pioneer Norwegian Settlement in North Dakota to 1900" by Carlton C. Qualey have been presented by the authors, all students in the university. A copy of a paper on "Methodist Missions in Minnesota from 1837 to 1845," prepared by Margaret Lowe at Hamline University, is the gift of the author.

Judge Walter B. Beals of Olympia, Washington, has donated a typed copy of a genealogy of the McMillan family. With it is a genealogical record of his mother, Mrs. Katherine McMillan Beals of St. Paul.

A portable desk dating from 1831, medical scales, a mortar and pestle, and other articles used by Ingabret Larson, an early Norwegian immigrant, have been received from his grandson, Mr. Walter I. Larson of Ivanhoe.

A valuable collection of costumes and articles illustrative of domestic life, including a green pompadour silk ball gown of 1830, basques, veils, parasols, combs, shoes, and lace undersleeves, has been presented by Mrs. A. P. Moss of St. Paul. A black silk dress worn by Mrs. H. M. Cooley when she was married in October, 1864, and several other articles of dress have been presented by her daughter, Mrs. John F. Hall of Burtrum.

A hair wreath has been received from the estate of the late Mrs. Eliza Batty of Minneapolis through the courtesy of Miss Helen B. Haines of that city. A peacock feather duster dating from the middle of the last century is the gift of Mrs. Allison H. Rogers of St. Paul.

A Colt's revolver and holster, a bowie knife in its sheath, powder flasks, cartridge boxes, cartridges and bullets, a tin plate and cup, and many other articles collected during the Civil War by Dr. G. L. Gates of Company A, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, have been presented by his niece, Mrs. Nettie C. Harman of St. Paul. From Acker post, Grand Army of the Republic, through the courtesy of Mrs. W. S. Whitman of St. Paul, a silk flag of the post and a special pottery canteen bearing the emblem of the Grand Army of the Republic have been received.

A handsome gold watch that once belonged to the Reverend Edward D. Neill has been presented by his son, Mr. Henry Neill of Lewiston, Montana, through the courtesy of Miss Minnesota Neill of Minneapolis.

Recent additions to the portrait collection include daguerreotypes of the Reverend Edward D. Neill made in the forties, from Miss Minnesota Neill of Minneapolis; and photographs of Mr. and Mrs. John W. North, the pioneer settlers of Northfield, from Mr. C. L. Weicht of Northfield; of Mr. James Johnson of Minneapolis, from his son, Mr. Olian Johnson of the same city; of Mrs. Margaret Ramsay Crooks, the mother of Ramsay Crooks, the fur-trader, from Miss Margaret Plunkett of Boston; and of A. L. Larpenteur, the St. Paul pioneer, from Mrs. Everett Konantz of St. Paul. Pictures of the steamship "Tuscania," which carried many Minnesota soldiers to their deaths when it was torpedoed in 1918, and of the burial ceremonies that followed at Islay, Scotland, are the gift of Mr. George Volz of St. Paul, one of the survivors.

NEWS AND COMMENT

Discussing a project for a monumental coöperative history of New York state, Dr. Dixon Ryan Fox, in the April number of the *Quarterly Journal* of the New York State Historical Association, refers to Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* as an excellent one. He declares, however, that "the annals of Minnesota are short and simple compared with those of New York" and adds, "We might wait a very long time for a just and inclusive history of this state from one pen."

The beavers are the subject of an article entitled "America's First Lumberjacks" by Arthur G. Torgerson in the *Wisconsin Magazine* for May.

An interesting contribution to American social history is made in a volume entitled *A History of American Magazines, 1741-1850* by Frank L. Mott (New York, 1930).

"The History of American Wheat Improvement" is reviewed by Carleton R. Ball in the April issue of *Agricultural History*.

Life aboard the Mississippi River packets of the past century is vividly portrayed by Irvin Anthony in his elaborately illustrated volume entitled *Paddle Wheels and Pistols* (Philadelphia, 1929). For the most part the book deals with the river traffic of the South, but a Minnesota incident that is described in some detail is the race of the "Grey Eagle" and the "Itasca" in 1856 (p. 225-233).

A study of "The Indian Reservation System of the Dakotas to 1889," by Charles L. Green, published in volume 14 of the *South Dakota Historical Collections* (Pierre, 1928), includes two chapters of special interest to Minnesotans — one entitled "Placing the Mississippi Sioux on Reservations," and dealing chiefly with the removals of 1851 and 1863, and another reviewing the "Progress of the Mississippi Sioux on Their Reservations." Much

Minnesota material also is to be found in a collection of "Tales of the Dakota: One Hundred Anecdotes Illustrative of Sioux Life and Thinking," by Doane Robinson. Among the other articles in this volume of the *Collections* are an account of "Ranching and Stock Raising in the Territory of Dakota," by Harold E. Briggs; an explanation of "How South Dakota Became a State," by Marie L. Lotze; and a study of the "Danes in South Dakota," by Thomas P. Christensen, whose account of "Danish Settlement in Minnesota" appears *ante*, 8: 363-385. Three rare pamphlets dealing with the history and resources of Dakota Territory, by M. K. Armstrong, James S. Foster, and George A. Batchelder, originally published in 1866 and 1870 and recently reprinted by the South Dakota State Department of History as separates (see *ante*, 9: 415), are again reprinted in this volume of its *Collections*.

The story of the death of Sitting Bull during the Sioux disturbance of 1890 is told by Edmond L. DeLestry, who was employed in newspaper work at Aberdeen, South Dakota, at the time, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for April 13.

Students of Minnesota history will be interested in two pamphlets by John O. Bowers on *Dream Cities of the Calumet* (Gary, Indiana, 1929) and *The Old Bailly Homestead* (1922), for they throw considerable light upon the antecedents of a noted Minnesota fur-trader, Alexis Bailly. The homestead in question, on the Little Calumet River in what is now Porter County, Indiana, was established in 1822 by the father of Alexis, Joseph Bailly, who was himself a fur-trader of importance. In the first-mentioned of the two pamphlets is printed a letter of Alexis and Mary Bailly relating to their duties as administrators of the will of the elder Bailly. It is dated August 25, 1836.

A letter written by Father Joseph Cretin in 1846, four years before he became bishop of St. Paul, is translated and edited by M. M. Hoffmann and published in the first issue of a new historical magazine, the *Iowa Catholic Historical Review* for January. The letter was written on board ship at Boston just as Cretin was about to set sail for Europe, where he was being sent by Bishop Loras of

Dubuque "to secure French, German and Irish priests to care for the ever increasing number of immigrants pouring into the West." Cretin, who had already spent several years as a missionary in Iowa and Wisconsin, describes his journey from Dubuque to Boston and gives some interesting comments on the Winnebago Indians and on American life and conditions.

Covered Wagon Days: A Journey Across the Plains in the Sixties, and Pioneer Days in the Northwest; from the Private Journals of Albert Jerome Dickson, edited by Arthur J. Dickson, is a narrative of travel from La Crosse, Wisconsin, across the plains by ox team to the Gallatin Valley and back on a Missouri River steamboat (Cleveland, 1929. 287 p.). The opening chapters tell of the journey across southern Minnesota by way of La Crescent, Chatfield, Albert Lea, and Blue Earth City, to Estherville, Iowa, where the trail followed by Dickson's party swung off to the southwest. The volume is well illustrated and it includes a map of the better-known overland routes.

An interesting addition to the literature on Jonathan Carver is an article entitled "John Coakley Lettsom and His Relations with Jonathan Carver, Explorer of the Middle West," by Victor C. Jacobsen, in the *Annals of Medical History* (New York) for March. Dr. Lettsom cared for the explorer in London during his last illness, and later "for the benefit of Carver's family . . . issued the third edition of the 'Travels' . . . with the introductory life of the explorer." The author quotes some passages from Dr. Lettsom's *Life of John Fothergill* (1786) in which the physician predicts that Carver's book "will prove a more durable monument than stone."

The "Letters of an Early Emigrant Agent in the Scandinavian Countries," edited by A. A. Stomberg, are included in the June number of the *Swedish-American Historical Bulletin*. These documents were for the most part written in 1861 by Oscar Malmberg, a representative in Norway and Sweden of the Illinois Central Railway Company, in the archives of which at Chicago the originals are preserved. The materials, presented with a minimum of editorial explanation, are interesting for the light

that they shed on the promotion of immigration to the Middle West by railroads.

"The Iowa Homestead" by C. R. F. Smith, "Wallace's Farmer" by Arthur T. Thompson, and "The Meredith Publications" by Peter Ainsworth are three articles in the June *Palimpsest*, which is devoted to the subject of Iowa agricultural periodicals and their editors. "For more than a quarter of a century," writes the editor, "Des Moines has been the agricultural publishing center of the United States." "A Unique Survey" by Charles R. Keyes, in the May issue, is a briefer version, with emphasis on Iowa events, of the same writer's account of the "Hill-Lewis Archeological Survey," published in MINNESOTA HISTORY for June, 1928 (*ante*, 9:96-108).

Mr. William W. Bartlett tells how he identified the site of the "government Indian post" where Lyman Warren served as sub-agent just north of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, in an article in the *Chippewa Herald-Telegram* of Chippewa Falls for June 28. Considerable information about the Warren, Cadotte, and Erma-tinger families, all prominent in the Minnesota as well as the Wisconsin fur trade, is included in the article.

The story of *The Attainment of Statehood* by Wisconsin is revealed in a valuable compilation of documents and selections from contemporary newspapers edited by Milo M. Quaife and published by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin as volume 29 of its *Collections* and volume 4 of its *Constitutional Series* (1928. 965 p.). It includes the "Proceedings of Territorial Governor and Legislature" relating to the movement for statehood; a section of "Popular Discussion" gleaned from newspaper files; the Congressional proceedings that contributed to Wisconsin's statehood; the journal and debates and the "Record of Votes on Roll Call" of the constitutional convention of 1847-48; and biographical sketches of the members of the convention.

"Green Bay Plays Important Part in Early Newspaper History" is the title of an article by Abigail B. Robinson in the *Green Bay Historical Bulletin* for January, February, and March.

According to the author the *Green Bay Intelligencer*, the first issue of which appeared on December 11, 1833, was not only the first Wisconsin newspaper, but the "first newspaper published between Lake Michigan and the Pacific Ocean."

An account by E. Z. Massicotte of the Beaver Club, an organization of wealthy fur-traders or *bourgeois* established at Montreal in 1785, is published in the June issue of *Le bulletin des recherches historiques*, the official organ of the archives bureau of the Province of Quebec. The author notes that each member of the Beaver Club had to have at least one winter in the West to his credit; he names some of the prominent members of the club; and he describes one of its meetings. Though the club is generally supposed to have ceased to exist in 1817, Mr. Massicotte presents evidence that it held meetings until 1824; and he brings out the fact that as late as 1827 an attempt was made to revive it.

A study of *Assisted Emigration and Land Settlement with Special Reference to Western Canada* by John T. Culliton has been published by McGill University of Montreal as number 9 of its *Economic Studies* (1928). Mr. Culliton points out that "The immigrant wishing to proceed to the [Canadian] Northwest had a choice of two routes, both long and arduous, and the Canadian one was the least inviting of the two. Those who desired to take the American route could either go by rail to Chicago and St. Paul or by water to Duluth, thence by rail to the Red River, and from there by boat or stage to Fort Garry. During this journey, immigrants were constantly subject to American immigration propaganda, and many never completed their trip." The final chapter of the work deals with the "Immigration and Land Policy of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company."

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

Readers of Mr. Hubert H. Hoeltje's study of "Emerson in Minnesota" in the June issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY will be interested in an article by Ralph L. Henry about the visit to the state of another nineteenth-century literary genius — Henry David Thoreau — in the *Minneapolis Journal* for May 4. It is based

for the most part on the letters that Thoreau wrote from Minnesota and the journal that he kept when he went there in a vain search for health in 1861, and long extracts illustrating the naturalist's interest in the Indians and the settlements along the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers as well as in the flora and fauna of the region are quoted. "With the eyes of a trained observer," writes Mr. Henry, "he saw and set down an accurate cross-section of Minnesota frontier life in the early sixties."

Of special interest to Minnesotans are the following sketches in volume 5 of the *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York, 1930), edited by Allen Johnson and Dumas Malone for the American Council of Learned Societies: Theodor H. Dahl, a prominent Norwegian Lutheran clergyman, by J. Magnus Rohne; General Napoleon J. T. Dana, who helped to establish Fort Ridgely in 1853 and later became a banker in St. Paul, by Thomas M. Spaulding; Cushman K. Davis, governor and senator, by Lester B. Shippee; Robert Dickson, the fur-trader, by Grace L. Nute; Ignatius Donnelly, the third-party leader, by John D. Hicks; Daniel Greysolon DuLuth, the French explorer, by Louise P. Kellogg; and William H. Dunwoody, the miller and financier, by Carl W. Mitman.

An important addition to Minnesota fiction is *The Red Mesabi* by George R. Bailey (Boston, 1930), a novel having its setting in the iron country in northeastern Minnesota.

A letter dated May 9, 1857, to Charles D. Gilfillan of St. Paul is included in a volume of *New Letters and Papers of Lincoln* compiled by Paul M. Angle (Boston, 1930). The original of the Gilfillan letter, which relates to the Minnesota political campaign of 1857, is owned by Mrs. Edward C. Dougan of St. Paul.

"My Sixty Years in Minnesota" is the title of an interesting reminiscent account by Matilda C. Wilkin, published in the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly* for May 10, 17, and 24. For thirty-eight years Mrs. Wilkin was connected with the University of Minnesota, which she entered as a student in 1873, was graduated from in 1877, and later served as a teacher. Much of her account naturally relates to university affairs.

A brief account of "The Memorials on the Campus" of the University of Minnesota appears in the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly* for June 7.

"The Rise and Progress of the College of Education in the University of Minnesota" is the theme of a concise article by Dr. Hugh Graham in *School and Society* for April 12.

Shattuck Military Academy of Faribault, which celebrated its seventieth anniversary during the week of June 1, is the subject of an interesting article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 1. According to this account the school "was founded by Rev. James Lloyd Breck in 1858 as a mission school for white and Indian children," and, in combination with a divinity school, was known as Seabury University. "By 1860 the Grammar School, out of which the present Shattuck developed, was large enough to be separated from the Divinity School and it was called Shattuck Grammar School." The latter event is commemorated in the celebration of 1930.

Martin McLeod and Edward D. Neill play the leading rôles in an account of "Pioneering in Minnesota Education" by Jean H. Alexander, in the *Minnesota Journal of Education* for April. The writer points out that "these two men were leaders in securing educational legislation and in developing the school system," and she describes in some detail their activities in these fields. "A Memorial to Dr. Folwell" also appears in this issue of the *Journal*.

"The Birth of a Brand" — Gold Medal Flour — is described by William C. Edgar in an article which calls attention to the fiftieth anniversary of the event that gave the famous Minneapolis flour its name, in the *Northwestern Miller* for June 4. This was the awarding on June 8, 1880, of gold, silver, and bronze medals to Washburn, Crosby and Company of Minneapolis for the three best brands of flour shown at the First Grand Millers' International Exhibition in Cincinnati. The exhibition, as Mr. Edgar points out, "was in fact the first, last and only one of its kind, the result of peculiar conditions in the milling industry which have never recurred" — conditions brought about by the introduc-

tion of the middlings purifier and of iron rollers in place of stones. The author describes in some detail the events connected with the exhibition, names prominent foreign and American millers who attended it, and explains that the award to the Minneapolis company "expressed the judgment of millers themselves." Pictures of the exhibit hall at Cincinnati, of the Washburn A mill built in 1880 to replace that destroyed in the explosion of 1878, and of the famous gold medal illustrate the article. Another shorter account of the "golden jubilee of Gold Medal flour" appears in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for June 8.

A tablet bearing the names of twenty-six soldiers who died at Fort St. Anthony, later named Fort Snelling, during the winter of 1819-20 was dedicated at the Fort Snelling Round Tower on June 3 by members of the Old Trails chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Minneapolis. The speakers included Mrs. James T. Morris, who located the list of names in the government archives at Washington; ex-Governor Samuel R. Van Sant; and the Reverend E. Phillips Osgood of Minneapolis.

"The First Minnesota" is the title of a radio drama by Thomas D. Rishworth which was broadcast from the Chicago studios of the National Broadcasting Company on May 14. It presents the story of Governor Ramsey's tender of troops for the Civil War and of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry at Gettysburg.

An account of experiences with the Sibley expedition of 1863 by Paul C. Biersach of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a member of Company E, Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, has been printed under the title *When We Soldiers Froze to Death—Almost* (1927).

Letters among the papers of Lewis Harrington, a Hutchinson pioneer, written in the fifties, and now in the possession of Mr. H. L. Merrill of Hutchinson, have been effectively used by Mr. Win V. Working as the basis for a number of recent articles in the local history series that he contributes to several Minnesota Valley newspapers. Extracts from a letter written to Harrington by John H. Stevens at St. Anthony on October 23, 1857, published

in the *Belle Plaine Herald* for June 26, tell of Stevens' attempts to secure support for a road between St. Anthony and Hutchinson and of a trip that he made into the Minnesota Valley for that purpose. In the *Le Sueur News-Herald* of June 25 a letter from A. J. Bell to friends at Hutchinson dated July 19, 1856, is quoted. He describes Le Sueur as a "busy river port" and makes the following interesting comment about the activities of Joseph R. Brown: "Brown is busy at Henderson and is not the dreamer, I think, that some say. Some of us dream and do less than Brown." The political situation in McLeod County in the fall of 1857 is the subject of a letter from a group of "Republicans in Private Caucus Assembled" to Harrington, dated October 2, 1857, and quoted in the *Silver Lake Leader* for June 28. Speculation in town lots at Shakopee is described by George Mead in a letter of May 19, 1856, to William R. Stevens of Glencoe, printed in the *Shakopee Argus-Tribune* for June 26. "I bought three lots from [Thomas A.] Holmes in his townsite, paid \$30," writes Mead. Later he adds, however, "If I get an offer of \$60 I shall sell, I think. There is too much uncertainty with new towns springing up everywhere."

"Hunter's Isle! Is it Canada or Minnesota?" is the question that a writer of a feature article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for April 13 attempts to answer. The article is occasioned by a resolution recently introduced in Congress by Senator Schall "questioning Canada's right to the ownership" of this large section to the north of the international boundary. The writer reviews the history of the boundary, touching upon the various treaties involved, and concludes that the line of "water communication" — the phrase goes back to the treaty of 1783 — as used by early explorers was along the south edge of Hunter's Island, where the boundary is located.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

An interesting addition to the printed histories of Minnesota communities is *The Ponsfordian, 1880-1930: A Collection of Historical Data Dealing Especially with Pioneer Days of Pons-*

ford, Becker County, Minnesota, compiled by the Reverend Benno Watrin (58 p. Park Rapids, 1930). The booklet consists of a series of sketches prepared by various authors. It opens with a sketch of Orville D. Ponsford, for whom the village was named, contributed by his brother, J. J. Ponsford. Other accounts deal with early white settlers and traders in the neighborhood, postal service, the logging industry, missions and churches, roads, doctors, and similar matters. As Ponsford is on the edge of the White Earth Indian Reservation, its history is closely identified with that of the reserve, and the pamphlet contains some valuable material on the community's red neighbors. For example, it includes a letter of the Reverend J. A. Gilfillan, the Episcopal missionary, in which the writer outlines the story of the origin and growth of the Pine Point mission school. There is also an account of the "Round Lake Uprising" of 1901, described as the "last uprising of the Chippewas in the state." Some notes on the "Origin of Names" in the vicinity and on the history of Becker County also are included in the pamphlet.

A recent addition to Minnesota's local historical societies is the Brown County Historical Society, which was organized at New Ulm on June 5. A constitution was adopted and the following officers were elected: Mr. Fred W. Johnson of New Ulm, president; Mr. August Hummel of New Ulm, vice president; Mr. Louis G. Vogel of New Ulm, secretary; Mr. William Brust of Sleepy Eye, treasurer; and a board of directors consisting of Mr. J. N. Johnson of Hanska, Mr. Carl F. Stone of Lake Hanska Township, Mr. Robert Runick of Milford Township, Mr. A. C. Ochs of Springfield, and Mr. W. R. Hodges of Sleepy Eye.

The history of the Guardian Angels Catholic Church of Hastings, which celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on June 29, is reviewed in a feature article by Fred Heaberlin in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 1. He tells of the first little wooden structure built in 1855, of the substantial stone structure erected ten years later and still in use, of the successive pastors who have served the church, and of the changes in the congregation.

Scenes from the history of Fillmore County were depicted in a pageant presented at Preston on June 26, 27, and 28.

An interesting private marking project is that undertaken by Mr. George A. Haven of Chatfield, whose garden wall runs along the road built in the fifties between Winona and Carimona. In the wall he has placed a marble slab bearing the following inscription: "Up this road June 22, 1861, marched Company A of the 2d Minnesota Volunteer Infantry to serve in defense of the Union." In a letter of May 6, Mr. Haven tells of his plans for placing another tablet in the wall "bearing some mention of the history of the road that passes by it."

Governor Christianson was the principal speaker at the celebration on June 22 of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Vasa Lutheran Church. The history of the church is briefly outlined in the *Minneapolis Journal* for June 22.

The passing of sixty years since the first number of the *Jackson Republic* was printed is commemorated in the issue of that paper for April 4 by the publication of several items of historical interest, including some reprinted from the first volume of the paper. Among the latter is a list of the buildings erected in Jackson in 1870 with their value and an account of a trip that the editor made to Graham Lake in the autumn of the same year. A review of the election of 1870 in Jackson, gleaned from contemporary issues of the *Republic*, also is printed. Another item of interest is an interview with Mr. Marshall B. Dunn, who with his parents removed from the present site of South St. Paul to Jackson in 1867, making the trip in a covered wagon.

Three days of festivity, arranged by the Hutchinson Historical Society and the Hutchinson Union Club, marked the celebration on July 2, 3, and 4 of "Hutchinson's Diamond Jubilee." A pageant depicting the founding of the town by the "singing" Hutchinson brothers and nine other hardy pioneers in 1855, the trying days of the Sioux War, and the later development and growth of the Minnesota River town, and including a concert of old songs made famous by the Hutchinsons was presented

each evening during the celebration. The feature of "Historical Day," July 3, was a program of addresses on the following subjects: "Pioneering on the Prairies," by Judge M. C. Tifft; "Pioneer Journalism," by Harry B. Wakefield; "Early Days in Hutchinson," by Mrs. Sophie White; and "The Covered Wagon," by Carlos Avery. Preceding the celebration the history of Hutchinson was given considerable attention in Minnesota newspapers; and the local paper, the *Hutchinson Leader*, issued a valuable "75th Anniversary Edition" on June 27. The material on Hutchinson, as printed in this issue, includes a copy of the articles of incorporation of the town-site company drawn up by the founders at Glencoe on November 21, 1855. A number of valuable documents and letters are published here. Extracts from the Sioux War diary of Thomas Scantlebury of New Auburn are printed from a manuscript copy in the possession of Mrs. E. D. Allen of New Auburn. It may be noted here that the original Scantlebury diary is owned by the Minnesota Historical Society. Some Civil War letters of T. H. Pendergast and an interesting letter of E. E. Johnson, one of the founders of the town and the "advance agent for the Hutchinson brothers" on their concert tours, written to friends at Hutchinson from Painsville, Ohio, on February 2, 1856, also are published. Johnson relates that the brothers "sang in Cincinnati last night. Tonight they sing in Dayton. Will sing here on Saturday night, Feb. 16." His letter is a mass of inquiries concerning the condition and progress of the town site. Other items of special interest in this issue of the *Leader* are an interview with Mrs. Sophia Pollard of Brownton concerning her Sioux War experiences, reported by Win V. Working; a history of the Pendergast Academy; an account by A. H. DeLong of the part that he played in the Indian outbreak; the story of the attack on the Hutchinson stockade in 1862, as related by W. W. Pendergast; a list of Hutchinson "firsts"; sketches of the beginnings of German, Danish, and Bohemian settlement in McLeod County; and an account of the five Fallon brothers, who were the "first to cast Democratic votes" at Hutchinson. Among the many illustrations in the issue is a diagram of "Hutchinson in the early fall and winter of 1862" from a pencil

sketch by E. D. Krist, a soldier quartered at the stockade. Another excellent historical sketch of Hutchinson is that by Harry B. Wakefield, published in the *Minneapolis Journal* for June 29. It is accompanied by interesting portraits of the three Hutchinson brothers and of the family of Asa Hutchinson in 1862.

The Meeker County Old Settlers' Association is attempting to raise a fund of a thousand dollars for the erection of monuments on a number of sites made notable by events in the Sioux War of 1862, according to an announcement in the *Meeker County News* of Litchfield for May 15. The site of the Forest City stockade, the "only stockade built in Meeker County for the protection of the pioneer families" during the outbreak, is among those that the association intends to mark.

An "Old Indian Settlement Located Near Milaca" at a point known as Big Eddy is the subject of a brief sketch in the *Mille Lacs County Times* for June 19. In the same issue is an article dealing with the origins of the names of Mille Lacs and of the Rum River.

Government documents and contemporary newspapers as well as Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* have been used by the writer of an annotated article on "Grasshopper Days a Half Century Ago" in Murray County, published in the *Fulda Free Press* for May 29. The article is accompanied by a statistical table showing the number of acres planted, and the number of bushels of grain destroyed by grasshoppers, in Murray County for several years during the seventies.

"This Tablet is Dedicated to the Memory of the Pioneers of Nobles County. Placed by Okabena Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution of Worthington, Minnesota, 1930," reads the inscription on a boulder placed on the courthouse lawn at Worthington and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on June 14.

The issue of the *Norman County Index* of Ada for May 22 is a fiftieth anniversary edition containing a wealth of local historical material. An historical sketch of the *Index*, which had its origin

in 1880 as the *Ada Alert*, appears on the opening page. The issue includes also several accounts of pioneer business concerns and the story of the local creamery as gleaned from the files of the *Index*. The boom of the middle eighties, when Norman County was producing bumper wheat crops, is the subject of another article; the activities of the county board during the early eighties are recounted; and the county's earliest schools are described. Among the reminiscent accounts of pioneer days in the county are those by D. E. Fulton, Peter Sharpe, Herman Sprung, and A. O. Rolfe. There is also a long interview with Mrs. Ingeborg Rogen of Twin Valley, a story of emigration from Norway to Dane County, Wisconsin, and thence by slow stages by way of Iowa and Rice County, Minnesota, to Norman County, which Mrs. Rogen reached with a covered wagon train transporting eight families in 1873. Some excellent illustrations, including views of the local band in front of the village hall, a settler's log house with a sod roof, a pioneer rural school, a Fourth of July celebration of 1885, and Main Street during the flood of 1897, appear in the issue.

The summer meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society was held at Parker's Prairie on June 29 and was attended by a throng of about five thousand people. The program included an address of welcome by Dr. O. N. Nelson of Battle Lake, president of the society; a paper on the history of the village of Parker's Prairie by R. S. Myers, a local resident; and the dedication of a marker placed by the society in the village park. The marker bears the following inscription: "This Tablet Marks the Terminus of the First Trail into Southeastern Otter Tail County and the Parkers Prairie Settlement, and the Arrival of the First Squatters on June 2, 1868. Dedicated by the Otter Tail County Historical Society, June 29, 1930." Another interesting feature of the meeting was the presentation to the society by Mrs. C. W. Kaddatz of Fergus Falls of a flag made by pioneer women of Parker's Prairie in 1870 for use in the Fourth of July celebration of that year. Mrs. Kaddatz is the author of a sketch of her father, Henry Asseln, the pioneer merchant of Parker's Prairie, which

is published in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* of June 28 and the *Fergus Falls Tribune* of July 3.

The story of an immigrant's journey from Sweden to St. Paul in 1870 and his later removal to Amor Township, Otter Tail County, with recollections of pioneer life in that section, by F. J. A. Larson, is published in three installments in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for May 20, 24, and 31.

The presentation of an historic pageant at Glenwood, the exhibition of objects of historical interest in the store windows of ten Pope County cities and villages, and the publication of a history of the county were among features of a celebration on June 20, 21, and 22, that accompanied the dedication of the new Pope County courthouse at Glenwood. A special "Court House Edition" of the *Pope County Tribune*, issued on June 12, includes a number of items of historical interest. For example, there are sketches of the history of the villages of Villard, Terrace, and Lowry; accounts of "Life Among Early Glenwood People" by Mrs. J. M. Aal; of "Skiing in Pope County" by C. C. Torguson, and of the "Sawyer Ranch," a huge pioneer estate near Glenwood, by J. L. McLaury; and pictures of the Pope County courthouses that preceded the present structure. The *Tribune* includes a brief note suggesting the organization of a Pope County historical society.

At a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society held at Northfield on May 5 the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of that city was commemorated. Following a dinner attended by about a hundred and fifty people, Dr. C. A. Duniway spoke on the historical backgrounds of southern Minnesota and Rice County, Miss Frances Bishop presented a chronological outline of Northfield history, and Mr. W. W. Pye gave an informal talk on early Northfield personalities. These addresses are published in the *Northfield News* of May 9, which also includes an interesting sketch of Judge John W. North, who founded the city in 1855, accompanied by his portrait and that of his wife; and a letter from his daughter, Mrs. Mary North Shepard of Alhambra, California,

telling of early experiences in Northfield and of Judge North's character.

The civic celebration of Northfield's diamond jubilee took place on June 12 and was marked by an historical parade and pageant. An illustrated feature article about the founding and the early history of Northfield by C. L. Weicht appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for June 1, and another, by Charles W. Moore, is printed in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 8.

About three hundred and fifty people attended a meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society held at Hibbing under the auspices of the First Settlers Association of Hibbing on April 24. The program included papers on "Forests and Logging in the Early Days around Hibbing," by R. L. Giffon; "The Present State and Future of Iron Mining Development," by W. L. Taylor; and "Treaties That Made Hibbing Dry Before the Amendment," by William E. Culkin; and reminiscent talks by Morris Mulvahill and J. Fred Twitchell.

The services of the Reverend George C. Tanner as rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Owatonna are emphasized in a sketch of his career published with his portrait in the *Daily People's Press* of Owatonna for April 25.

The Swift County Historical Society was one of the organizations sponsoring a celebration at Benson on June 8, 9, and 10 in commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the city and the completion of the Great Northern Railroad to that point. A collection of historical objects assembled by the society was placed on display in the First National Bank Building during the celebration. The "William Crooks," Minnesota's pioneer locomotive, was taken to Benson for the event. The local newspapers gave the celebration considerable publicity and published a number of articles of historic interest. In the *Swift County Monitor* for June 6 the history of the Seventh Congressional District, in which Benson is located, is outlined and geographic names in the various counties are explained; the history of the West Central School of Agriculture at Morris is reviewed; and the

story of the building of the "William Crooks" and of its early use is told. Among the illustrations is a picture of the "Railroad's Arrival in Benson in 1870." A history of Swift County and of Benson, by Dr. C. L. Scofield, president of the local historical society, and an autobiographical sketch by Einar Hoidale, telling of pioneer days in western Minnesota, appear in the *Swift County News* for June 10.

A brief sketch of "Lake City on Lake Pepin," including some historical details, by E. L. DeLestry, appears in the *Northwest Magazine* for May.

A series of articles entitled "Highlights from Stillwater History," published in the *Trade News* of Stillwater and Bayport, includes sketches on the following subjects: the city's first mill, March 21; its first hotel, March 28; the "First Minnesota Courts," April 11; the original plat of the city, April 18; "The Wisconsin Boundary," May 2; "No Man's Land," the portion of Wisconsin Territory that was left without government when Wisconsin became a state, May 9; the organization of Minnesota territory, May 16; the state prison, May 30; "Making a State," June 6; early schools and teachers, June 13; and "Pine Logs," or life in the pioneer lumber camps, June 27.

The Hennepin County Historical Committee announces in the Minneapolis Public Library's *Community Book Shelf* for May its plan for local history collecting: "The Committee will collect not only old books and files of newspapers and magazines, but also old maps, atlases, diaries, and Civil War or World War letters. It will cherish particularly photographs of old residents, or pictures of old houses and scenes. Significant sermons and addresses will be welcome, and so will old household account books of early days. Church records, or hotel registers, or minutes of fraternal lodges, even old valentines and posters and handbills will be preserved."

"To understand better some of the current problems of the city and state . . . we have decided to indicate the beginnings or background by an historical issue," writes the editor in an intro-

ductory statement to the May issue of *Minneapolis*, the quarterly magazine published by the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association. Special attention is drawn in the number to the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the Falls of St. Anthony — in a brief statement on “Our 250th Birthday” by Edward C. Gale, in an article entitled “Hennepin Discovers St. Anthony Falls” by Solon J. Buck, and in an account of “A Pilgrimage to Ath,” based on Mr. Gale’s article in the March issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY (see *ante*, p. 3-10). The industrial importance of the falls is touched upon in an article entitled “When the First Wheels Turned,” and their “threatened destruction” in 1869 is the subject of another sketch. How “proud packets brought the first tourists to Minneapolis, summer Mecca of Southerners,” is described in an account of “Steamin’ up the Mississippi”; the development of the city’s nearest summer resort is reviewed under the heading “By the Waters of Minnetonka”; and “Famous Hostelries of the ’50’s,” built to accommodate tourists, are described. Muriel Steward is the author of an account of some of the explorers and travelers who visited the site of Minneapolis and later the city itself. The city’s theaters and conventions to which it has played host are the subjects of other sketches. Excellent illustrations, many of which are reproduced from pictures and books in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society, appear throughout the issue.

A radio program dealing with the history of Minneapolis was broadcast from New York on April 21 as one of the Great Northern Railway’s “Empire Builders” programs.

The history of Christ Episcopal Church of St. Paul is briefly recalled and some information about the Episcopal church in Minnesota is given in an article in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for June 24, which announces that the old church edifice, erected more than sixty years ago, may be removed to a new location. A picture of the church accompanies the article.



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