

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

A History of Minnesota, vol. 4. By WILLIAM WATTS FOLWELL.
(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1930. xiii, 575 p.
Illustrations, maps. \$5.00.)

For fully sixty years Dr. Folwell was an integral part of Minnesota's developing course, as president of the university, as professor of political science, as university librarian, and finally as the self-appointed historian of his adopted state. In 1921 the first of his four volumes on Minnesota was published under the modest title *A History of Minnesota*. After nearly ten years his fourth and last volume is before us, completing a work of such singular quality as to merit its designation as the official history of Minnesota. The last volume is not strictly a continuation of its predecessor. In fact the entire work deviates with commendable audacity from the conventional regulations sometimes imposed by chronology. The first volume places in orderly array the scanty gleanings of two centuries' history; the second centers about the brief eight-year period during which the state's self-consciousness was developed by admission into the Union, the grim struggle of the Civil War, and the horrors of the Sioux Outbreak; the third stretches through regular procession to the year 1925; the fourth in six great essays overlaps in some degree the time-span of all the other volumes.

The chapters on "The Minnesota Iron Mines" and "Chippewa Indian Problems" are treated with such thoroughness that they offer a complete survey and may be used as the starting point for special studies. So interestingly are the accounts written that the reader can but wish that additional facts might have been drawn from the copious annotations to further enliven the pages. "Public Education" is treated rather sketchily, and the chapter on "The University of Minnesota" is intended only to supplement the volume edited by E. Bird Johnson entitled *Forty Years of the University of Minnesota*.

"The Will of the People," a theme dear to the author's heart as a student and teacher of political science, is a subject so intricate as at times to defy a satisfactory conclusion. Although the materials treated in this chapter are concrete, there is sometimes vagueness as to the purpose of the description. To the author it was "not pleasant to record that in the Christian republic of Minnesota it was deemed necessary to secure these ends [*unimpeachable elections*] by denouncing severe penalties" (p. 374). Incidentally it is interesting to note that the word "denouncing" is here used in the archaic sense of "proclaiming officially." The discussion continues through a welter of offenses, penalties, and interpretations, but concludes with the judgment that even the over-severe "corrupt practices" legislation was beneficial. Was the author indulging in good-natured irony or was he convinced that such detailed legislation was improper — or both? One conclusion is hardly mistakable. "The difficulties and evils attending elections in a democracy might probably be mitigated by a restriction of the suffrage. . . . The modern drift toward the widest possible extension of the elective franchise does not promise any such solution" (p. 384).

No one would dispute Dr. Folwell's right to select the twelve men who have merited having their deeds recorded in "The Acts of the Apostles." He was long associated with Minnesota's most worthy citizens. That he judged them on the basis of their relation to public welfare was but natural. No "captain of industry" is recognized as such in this list; these men were apostles sent forth by a sense of responsibility on a public mission.

It is, of course, impossible for all the important topics in Minnesota's recent history to be treated in a single volume. An economist might wish for a chapter on lumbering instead of a list of scattered page references in the consolidated index; one interested in a denominational college misses the pleasant references he would like to see about his favored institution; another might like to see traced the various lines of cultural advancement. Upon reflection, however, it is evident that the basis of selection has been general public interest, and the range of criticism therefore narrows down to personal preference.

Viewed in any light this work challenges Minnesota's younger historians to carry on a task that even a most generous providence finally withdrew from the author. In the gift days of his later life Dr. Folwell paid but scant attention to time's fast diminishing store. To his younger contemporaries he seemed like a tireless courier speeding on to reach a far distant goal. The art of learning he continually renewed until his work revealed that delightful combination of a beginner's enthusiasm and a master's skill. Those who henceforth read his books and aspire to write of Minnesota's history will understand Ben Jonson's tribute to his own beloved master:

Thou . . . art alive still while thy book doth live
And we have wits to read and praise to give.

CHARLES J. RITCHEY

America Moves West. By ROBERT E. RIEGEL, Dartmouth College.
(New York, Henry Holt and Company, [1930]. x, 595 p.
\$3.75.)

Books which synthesize the story of America's transcontinental move are more than welcome. Paxson's scholarly *History of the American Frontier* has been a solitary landmark in this field of literature. Now comes Riegel's volume followed closely by Branch's brilliantly written *Westward*. Mr. Riegel has chosen to present facts rather than to interpret. He has taken a stirring title and has written in an easy and readable style a book that can be used either as a text or as a survey for the general reader. In scope he follows Paxson, who begins with the close of the French and Indian War, rather than Branch, who includes the entire colonial advance; but he gives less adequate attention to the eighteenth century than Paxson, eighty pages sufficing for the story of this period.

The strong tendency of the writer is toward descriptive presentation. Chapters on "The Great Revival," "The National Road," "The Coming of the Steamboat," "Internal Improvements," "The West of the '30s," and "The Cattle Country" are filled with engaging accounts of the perfervid religious experiences of

the frontiersmen, methods of travel by land and water, and the routine of daily life on the farms of the Mississippi Valley in the days of Jackson and on the plains a generation later. They contain a wealth of detailed and colorful facts interspersed with long stanzas of the songs of miners, steamboat hands, and cowboys. Chapters on such essential topics as the fur trade, Texas, Oregon, the Mormons, and California are well organized and clearly written.

Perhaps it is natural, considering the field of Mr. Riegel's earlier writings, that the latter part of the book is better than the first. The author seems less at home in discussing exploration and early settlement than in dealing with such matters as public land, frontier finance, and the building of railroads. The chapters on the growth of the railroad network are a real contribution. In the reviewer's opinion the book's greatest weakness lies in the inadequate treatment of expansion in the eighteenth century and of certain large questions of the early national period. The advance from the Atlantic to the Alleghenies is essentially a part of the larger movement, but it is omitted from the story. Foreign affairs with relation to the Trans-Allegheny region after the Revolution receive little attention. One looks in vain for a discussion of the political success of Jefferson in 1800 or of Jackson in 1828, and for a satisfactory consideration of the relation of slavery to the western advance.

Geography proves a stumbling block for most writers who have to cover a large area. It is unfortunate that the reader is informed that the Holston flows into the Cumberland River (p. 17), that Kaskaskia and Cahokia are "both on the Kaskaskia River" (p. 27), that Limestone was "just below the falls" of the Ohio (p. 76), that the Texas outpost of Nacogdoches was on the Red River (p. 291), and to find, on pages 345, 359, and 360, a somewhat hopeless confusion as to trails overland to California.

Among the rather too numerous errors of fact, two may be noted. On page 10, in connection with the series of four colonial wars between England and France, occurs the statement: "The American portions of this world-wide struggle for colonial domination were King Philip's War, Queen Anne's War and the French

and Indian War." On page 100 the author says: "Immediately after the purchase of Louisiana Jefferson asked and received permission from Congress to organize an expedition for the exploration of the region west of the Mississippi."

Mistakes are inevitable, however, and matters of emphasis and proportion are largely dependent upon point of view. Mr. Riegel has produced a useful and very readable survey. Aside from their general interest in the westward movement, Minnesotans will find special interest in those chapters dealing with the organization of middle western governments, the development of railroads, and the wars with the Sioux.

JOHN C. PARISH

Henry Villard and the Railways of the Northwest. By JAMES BLAINE HEDGES, professor of American history in Clark University. (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1930. 224 p. Maps. \$3.00.)

In the preface to this volume, Dr. Hedges tells the reader that his aim is not "to write a biography of Henry Villard . . . nor . . . a history of railway transportation in the Pacific Northwest," but rather, "by placing Villard in the proper setting to make clear the factors which so largely shaped and conditioned the course of railroad development in the Oregon country." The book is essentially a study in railroad strategy with Villard as the central figure.

In the first half of the book the author gives an excellent statement of the railway problem as it existed in the Northwest with an examination of the various physiographic and economic factors involved. This is followed by an account of the emergence of Villard as the dominant figure. The anxiety of a group of German investors sent Villard to Oregon in 1874. The necessity of protecting their investments forced him to get control of that tangle of competing transportation systems therein which conflicting local interests had created. Succeeding in this, Villard found himself in a position to determine the conditions under which that great area would be linked up with the East by a transcontinental railroad, for the companies which he controlled were "a part of a

potential transcontinental, intended by Villard to be the Pacific coast outlet of all roads from the East to the Oregon country" (p. 81). He was now ready to sit in at "a game in which the pawns were topographical features of rare importance or territorial units the size of New England states, and the stakes, the commercial monopoly of the entire Northwest" (p. 61).

From this point on the story is an account of Villard's efforts to bring about some sort of stabilization. In the opinion of the author, the struggle between the Northern Pacific and Villard, which ended in the "Blind Pool," was not so much a clash of interests each seeking to concentrate the trade of the northwest coast at Portland, as earlier students have asserted, but rather "another phase of the long-standing rivalry between the Columbian gateway and Puget Sound" (p. 81). A single chapter on the land settlement policy of the Northern Pacific during Villard's presidency of that road is inserted at this point. Although the chapter is valuable to every student of Northwest history, it does not appear to the reviewer as a part of the story which the author set about to tell.

The remainder of the book describes the struggle between the Northern Pacific and the Union Pacific for the control of the Columbia gateway after Villard's resignation from the presidency of the former road. An account of his subsequent efforts to bring about a compromise follows. But geography was against such a statesmanlike measure and Villard was destined to see the old bitter rivalries renewed. Only the collapse of two great railroad systems could bring peace—the peace of exhaustion.

Great facility has been displayed by the author in dealing with an extremely complex problem and his power of organizing a great mass of material is clearly demonstrated. The book is a scholarly and sound piece of research and throws much new light on a very important chapter in the history of American railroads.

ERNEST S. OSGOOD

The Growth of the American Republic. By SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON, professor of history in Harvard University, and HENRY STEELE COMMAGER, associate professor of history, New York University. (New York, Oxford University Press, 1930. vii, 956 p. Maps. \$6.00.)

The authors of this work have produced something refreshingly new in the line of textbooks in American history. This is due, perhaps, to their initial assumption that "the American college student should be addressed as a man rather than a boy: that the history of his country should be told to him with complete candor, without *suppressio veri* or *suggestio falsi*." The result is a clear analysis of the period from 1763 to 1917, containing the most modern interpretations of events and the results of the most recent research in many fields. The style throughout is delightful and a high degree of literary excellence is maintained. The touches of humor, or dry wit, are most enjoyable and provocative of thought on the part of the reader. There are occasional reminders of the fact that one of the authors wrote *The Oxford History of the United States*, but the collaboration of New Englander and Middle Westerner has been most successful.

There is a rather unusual and interesting allotment of space and attention to various periods and topics. The period from 1763 to 1789 is admirably treated and at considerable length. Nearly two-thirds of the 859 pages are devoted to the pre-Civil War years and another 150 to the Civil War and the reconstruction era in the South, leaving but some 200 pages for all the complexity of development since the Civil War. This later section is treated topically in a dozen brief chapters, bringing the book to an end with the entry of the United States into the World War in 1917. Quite naturally relations between the United States and England are especially well handled—the Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War. Social and economic interpretations are stressed rather less than by the Beards or Professor West, but the development of political parties and the evaluations of American leaders are most excellent.

It is most refreshing to find a textbook that is so stimulating and so readable. The authors have indeed lived up to their desire

to combine the scientific spirit with the "literary charm of the classic writers of American history." One can but hope to use the text with students whose ability is commensurate with the merits of the book.

ALICE F. TYLER

The Mound-builders: A Reconstruction of the Life of a Prehistoric American Race, through Exploration and Interpretation of Their Earth Mounds, Their Burials, and Their Cultural Remains. By HENRY CLYDE SHETRONE, director and archæologist, the Ohio State archæological and Historical Society. (New York and London, D. Appleton and Company, 1930. 508 p. Illustrations, charts. \$7.50.)

This volume, as its author states in his preface, is intended less for the scientist than for the average person who wants to obtain a comprehensive idea of mounds and their builders without having to digest a mass of scientific literature upon the problem. The digesting Dr. Shetrone has accomplished in a remarkably successful fashion.

In successive chapters dealing with "Early Theories as to Origin and Identity," "Distribution and Classification of the Mounds," "Architecture and Engineering," "Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry," and similar subjects, the author builds up a composite picture of the life and culture of the mound builders as revealed by scientific excavation and study of their remains. If the author draws too heavily upon the relatively high culture of the Ohio "Hopewell" people for his portrayal, it is no doubt because he is so thoroughly familiar with the cultural features of that area.

A discussion of various mound-building areas follows the general account, and the last chapter is devoted to the writer's "Summary and Conclusions." The reviewer found this final chapter the least satisfactory in the work, perhaps because of the extreme difficulty of the task here undertaken by the author. The answer to the question "Who were the Mound-builders?" as summarized on page 479, is stated in such a vague and complex fashion as to be almost worse than no answer. The reviewer has

read this particular paragraph with its final sentence, "The Mound-builders were Indians to exactly the same extent that the Indians were mound-builders," time after time, but is still in the dark as to the author's meaning.

Minnesota readers will find the chapter dealing with "The Upper Mississippi Area" of particular interest because of the way in which the archeology of their state is correlated with the mound cultures of the area.

The volume has a beautiful format and is supplied with some three hundred useful and attractive illustrations and text figures, a bibliography of major anthropological and archeological works, and an adequate index. Dr. Shetrone is to be congratulated upon his success in coping with the tremendous difficulties of his task and producing a work that will be of service to general reader and scientist alike.

WILLOUGHBY M. BABCOCK

Antique Dubuque, 1673-1833. By M. M. HOFFMANN. (Dubuque, Iowa, Telegraph-Herald Press, 1930. x, 218 p. Illustrations, maps.)

This book is concerned with the lead region about Dubuque and embraces the period from the discovery to the settlement of Iowa. The far-flung voyages of Jolliet and Marquette, Hennepin, Lahontan, Le Sueur, and Perrot are dealt with to illustrate the search for the western sea, the conversion of the savages, the establishment of early military posts, and the unquenchable desire of the French for furs and precious metals. A résumé of the history of the Sauk and Fox Indians from the time of their first quarrel with the French until 1830 is followed by a valuable and extremely interesting account of Jean Marie Cardinal, who settled in Prairie du Chien long before the outbreak of the American Revolution. Cardinal ascended the Mississippi as far as Cannon River. Later he killed Abraham Lansing and his son in a quarrel over peltries and was forced to flee to the Illinois country. He was among those slain repulsing the British attack on St. Louis in 1780.

The crux of the narrative centers about the life of Julien

Dubuque, who received permission from the Fox Indians to work the lead mines about Catfish Creek in 1788. Eight years later Dubuque humbly petitioned the Spanish governor for the peaceable possession of the "Mines of Spain." He was granted a princely tract stretching twenty-one miles along the Mississippi and extending nine miles inland. After falling heavily into debt, Dubuque had, by 1804, transferred half this tract to Auguste Chouteau of St. Louis. He died in 1810 after a residence of twenty-two years in Iowa and was buried on a bluff at the mouth of Catfish Creek. Chouteau and his nephew attempted to gain complete possession of the mines, but were ultimately driven off by the Indians. Their claim to the land was denied by the United States Supreme Court in 1853.

Although the author asserts that the story of *Antique Dubuque* is quite "independent of that of the history of Iowa and the other states contiguous to it" he himself demonstrates that the lead region was but a segment in the story of the exploration and settlement of New France. The exploits of Radisson and Groseilliers, less remote to the mining region than the "momentous" Kensington rune stone and more generally accepted among scholars, are merely mentioned. Michael Accault finds no place beside the boastful Hennepin. The six steamboats said to have arrived at the lead mines in 1822 actually reached there in 1827. No steamboats are known to have preceded the "Virginia" on the upper Mississippi. It was Schoolcraft and not Pike who discovered Lake Itasca. The presence of settlers in the half-breed tract by 1830 should have been noted.

The format of the book is good, the illustrations excellent. But carelessness in quotations (p. 21) and inconsistency in footnotes mar its mechanics. One single source, for example, is referred to in a score of different ways. Moreover, volume and page numbers are sometimes incorrectly cited or even omitted. The book has an adequate index.

Despite these criticisms, an immense amount of work and an insatiable enthusiasm are represented in *Antique Dubuque* and it should prove a welcome addition to the literature of the upper Mississippi Valley as well as to that of Iowa.

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Since the superintendent's report, published in the present number of the magazine, surveys the activities of the society in 1930, including the last quarter of the year, only a few supplementary items need to be mentioned in the present section.

The index and table of contents to volume 11 of MINNESOTA HISTORY have been published and will be sent upon request to anyone receiving the magazine. Bound copies of the volume, including the index, are available at a cost of fifty cents to anyone who will send in the four separate numbers comprising the volume.

Sixty-six additions to the active membership of the society were made during the quarter ending December 31. The names of the new members, grouped by counties, follow:

ANOKA: Dr. Elmer V. Larson and Clayton B. Thurston of Anoka.

BELTRAMI: Mrs. J. F. Essler of Bemidji and Iver J. Hauge of Blackduck.

BROWN: Ferdinand Ochs of New Ulm.

CASS: C. D. Bacon of Walker.

DAKOTA: James M. Millet of Hastings.

FILLMORE: John A. Johnson of Preston.

HENNEPIN: Emil Anderson, Charles N. Buckingham, Charles H. Carpenter, Edwin G. Chapman, Robert D. Cone, Frank G. Cramer, Harvey G. Cross, Dr. John F. Curtin, Lewis F. Daniel, Henry Dittes, Dr. Claude J. Ehrenberg, Dr. Erwin W. Exley, Mrs. Luther Ford, Mary B. Towler, Elizabeth Jackson, Paul C. Jespersen, Robert T. Jones, Clyde R. Joslyn, Theodore A. Kenning, Dr. Angus W. Morrison, Leslie R. Olsen, Tracy J. Peycke, Alan A. Phillips, Mrs. Carrie B. Sheldon, Dr. Eugene S. Strout, Dr. Joseph H. Taylor, Dr. Gilbert J. Thomas, Charles S. Whitaker, and Mrs. David H. Willson, all of Minneapolis.

ITASCA: Lawrence A. Rossman of Grand Rapids.

LE SUEUR: William K. Wilcox of Elysian.

LYON: Dr. Harper M. Workman of Tracy.

RAMSEY: William T. Bell, Dr. Rolland A. Bock, Mrs. Benjamin G. Hall, Arthur J. Larsen, Ingerval M. Olsen, J. Albin Paulson, Merle Potter, George E. Scotton, George T. Snider, J. Russel Wiggins, and Wade H. Yardley, all of St. Paul.

ST. LOUIS: Albert C. Armstrong, Albert C. Gillette, Richard L. Griggs, John MacDonald, John W. Marvin, and Louis A. Thompson of Duluth, and Walter E. Englund of Ely.

SCOTT: Win V. Working of Blakeley.

WABASHA: R. E. Jones of Wabasha.

WRIGHT: Mrs. Martin F. Lowe of Buffalo and Mrs. Viola L. Ridgway of Annandale.

NONRESIDENT: H. H. Larned of Lansing, Michigan; the Reverend Walter H. Stowe of New Brunswick, New Jersey; Dr. John F. Fulton of New Haven, Connecticut; and Sigvald J. Clauson of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The Brown and Nicollet county historical societies and the Minnesota society, Daughters of the American Colonists, have become institutional members of the society.

The public school libraries of Boyd, Eagle Bend, Hibbing, Houston, and St. Cloud, and the Carnegie Public Library of Thief River Falls have recently become subscribers to the society's publications.

The society lost four active members by death during the last quarter of 1930: Carlos Avery of New York, October 5; the Most Reverend Austin Dowling of St. Paul, November 29; William B. Mitchell of St. Cloud, December 5; and Dr. Frederick A. Dunsmoor of Minneapolis, December 6. The deaths of A. O. Olson of New Ulm on May 27 and of John K. West of Detroit Lakes on July 21, both of whom were active members, have not previously been reported in the magazine. News has been received of the deaths of three corresponding members: Crawford Lindsay of Quebec, May 28, 1928; John T. Keagy of

National Military Home, Kansas, September 11, 1929; and Justin H. Smith of New York, March 21, 1930.

In response to the recent invitation to members to coöperate in the work of extending the society's membership, one member turned in five applications, another two, and a considerable number one each.

Dr. Paul R. Fossum's article on "Early Milling in the Cannon River Valley," published in the September number of this magazine, is reprinted in the *Northwestern Miller* for October 29. To it is appended an interesting comment by Mr. William C. Edgar questioning some of Dr. Fossum's statements and conclusions but agreeing with the general claim "that the purifier was first introduced in the Faribault mills by La Croix and that the method of 'high grinding' by millstones originated in this district of Minnesota."

Articles published in MINNESOTA HISTORY are regularly summarized in *Social Science Abstracts*.

A high school teacher reports that she has used the article on "Posts in the Minnesota Fur-trading Area, 1660-1855" by Grace Lee Nute, published in the December number of MINNESOTA HISTORY, as the starting point for a "class project."

The superintendent gave an illustrated talk on Father Hennepin at the meeting held in the Minneapolis Auditorium on October 12 in commemoration of the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of Hennepin's discovery of the Falls of St. Anthony; he spoke in Minneapolis on December 14 to a group of Veterans of Foreign Wars on the society and its work; and both he and the curator of the museum were among the speakers at the exercises held on November 20 near Lake Calhoun in connection with a memorial tablet erected by the Minnesota society of the Daughters of the American Colonists. The curator of the museum also spoke, on October 15, to a group of Minneapolis high school students on "Early Minneapolis"; and, on October 27, to a class of students in the Mechanic Arts High School of St. Paul on "Minnesota's

Part in the Winning of the West." The assistant superintendent gave an illustrated talk before the Edina Country Club on November 11, taking as his subject "Minnesota in the Fifties"; and on November 17 he spoke at a meeting in Faribault of the Rice County Historical Society on "Glimpsing Minnesota History through the Eyes of Contemporaries." The curator of manuscripts addressed the Virginia Study Club, at Virginia, on November 3, on the subject of Minnesota pioneer women; and she talked on "Minnesota Fur-trade Days" at a meeting on December 5 of the Colonial chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Minneapolis.

The superintendent attended the meeting of the American Historical Association in Boston from December 29 to 31 and participated in two of the conferences held in connection therewith. At the conference of archivists he spoke on "The Need of a Survey of the Archival Situation in the United States," and at the conference of historical societies he led a discussion on "Coöperation between Historical Societies and Universities and Colleges."

A full page in the editorial section of the *Minneapolis Journal* for December 7 is devoted to an account of "Minnesota's Twelve Apostles" based upon a section of the recently published fourth volume of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota*. Portraits of Dr. Folwell and of the twelve "apostles" accompany the article. The volume is also the subject of an illustrated article by Roy W. Swanson in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for November 30. Touching on the selection of the "apostles," Mr. Swanson asserts that had their names been chosen by someone other than Dr. Folwell, there is no doubt that he himself would have been included.

A report for 1930 on "The Swedish Historical Society Library" by Gertrude Krausnick, librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society, appears in the December issue of the *Swedish-American Historical Bulletin*.

ACCESSIONS

An agreement of La Vérendrye with Dominique Godé and Alexis L. Monière concerning the trade of the region around Basswood Lake, the Lake of the Woods, and Lake Winnipeg, dated at Quebec, October 22, 1748, and signed by the explorer has been reproduced for the society by the photostatic process through the courtesy of Mr. Edward C. Gale of Minneapolis, who owns the document.

A photostatic copy of a map of the region to the north and west of the Minnesota River made by St. John de Crèvecoeur for La Rochefoucauld Liancourt from an original map presented to Congress by Peter Pond in 1785 has been secured from the Library of Congress. From the same source have come photostatic copies of a number of rough sketch maps prepared by Zebulon M. Pike during his journey to the headwaters of the Mississippi River in 1805, and a carefully drawn map of the "Mississippi From the Town of St Louis to its source in Upper Red Cedar Lake" prepared by Anthony Nau and based on Pike's notes and sketches.

Transcripts of nearly a hundred letters of Bishop Plessis and Lord Selkirk and of Fathers Provencher, Crevier, Tabeau, Belcourt, and other priests have been made for the society from the originals in the archives of the diocese of Quebec. They relate to the Red River, Fort William, and Rainy Lake missions.

Photostatic copies of a letter, with inclosures, sent by John Jacob Astor to James Monroe, the secretary of state, on December 30, 1816, have been obtained from the archives of the state department. These documents relate to the clash between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Southwest Fur Company that occurred in 1816 in the Minnesota region west of Lake Superior. An article based upon these and other sources is discussed *post*, p. 91.

A list of "Names of Church members and Baptised children at Lacquiparle" mission in the thirties and forties and a list of subscribers at Judson for a key bugle purchased for Company

D, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in April, 1863, are two interesting manuscripts recently received from Miss Dorothy H. Huggins of Berkeley, California, through the courtesy of Miss Callie M. Kerlinger. Miss Huggins also has presented an account book relating for the most part to the mission station at Traverse des Sioux, and typewritten copies of three letters written by Alexander Huggins, the missionary, and members of his family and telling of conditions at the Lac qui Parle and Traverse des Sioux missions.

The Woods-Pope expedition to the Red River Valley in 1849, the proposed publication in 1844 of the papers of Joseph N. Nicollet, territorial roads in Minnesota, and the upper Mississippi River survey of the middle sixties are among the topics noted on calendar cards for the letter books of the chief of the bureau of topographical engineers from 1844 to 1866, recently received from Dr. Newton D. Mereness, the archival agent at Washington of a group of historical agencies. Calendar cards for the letter books of the bureau of Indian affairs for the years 1800 to 1823 also have been prepared recently by Dr. Mereness.

Conditions among the Chippewa of the Lake Superior region in 1845 as observed by Professor J. T. Ducatel, and the missionary labors of Fathers Francis Pierz, George A. Belcourt, and Augustin Ravoux are among the subjects of photostats made from a manuscript and some rare Catholic publications and secured recently through the courtesy of the Reverend Peter Leo Johnson of St. Francis Seminary, St. Francis, Wisconsin. Copies of those portions of the *Catholic Almanac* from 1850 to 1865 that relate to Minnesota are included in this acquisition.

Lists of the Winnebago Indians who received money at the payments of May and June, 1851, signed by Alpheus G. Fuller and Abram M. Fridley, the Indian agent, and a number of papers relating to land transfers in St. Paul in the fifties have been added to the Fuller Papers by Miss Abby A. Fuller of St. Paul.

A contract for building a road between Mendota and Red Wing, dated May 25, 1855, has been turned over to the society by Mr.

Charles M. Babcock, state commissioner of highways, who received it from Miss Anna Hartin of Hastings.

A letter written by Levi W. Stratton in 1856, bearing on the letterhead an excellent representation of the Falls of St. Anthony, has been added to the Stratton Papers (see *ante*, 5: 504).

Eighteen letters of pioneers of St. Cloud and of Sherburne County, describing conditions in these districts in 1856 and 1857, were presented by William B. Mitchell of St. Cloud just before his death in December. Some of them were written by his father, Henry Z. Mitchell, and others relate to the family of his aunt, Mrs. Jane Grey Swishhelm.

Photostatic copies of articles relating to the missions at Rabbit Lake and Crow Wing, published in the *Evangelisch-Lutherisches Missionsblatt* (Leipzig) between 1857 and 1868, have been made for the society through the courtesy of Professor George J. Fritschel of Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa.

A copy of the first issue of the *Opera Companion*, published in St. Paul on April 16, 1860, has been presented by Mrs. A. A. Milne of St. Paul. From its contents it appears that St. Paul had supported an opera company during the previous winter; and it includes the program for a performance of Rossini's "Cinderella," presented on the day of publication. Mrs. Milne has also presented the license issued in Indiana on August 30, 1849, to her father, William Pitt Murray, to practice law.

An article dealing with the long mooted question of who was in command of the white forces at the battle of Birch Cooley has been presented by the author, Mr. Robert K. Boyd of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, who himself took part in the engagement.

Seven filing boxes of records relating to Minnesota units in the Civil War, received from the adjutant general's office, have been added to the state archives in the custody of the society.

A volume containing copies of letters received by Edwin Clark while he was agent for the Chippewa at Crow Wing in 1865 and 1866 has been received from his daughter, Mrs. Dawes How of

St. Paul, through the courtesy of Mrs. Merle Potter. The difficulties resulting from the Sioux War are touched upon in many of the letters. Mrs. How has also presented an account book for the years 1857 to 1859 of the firm of Croffut and Clark, newspaper publishers of St. Anthony, whose "Mail Book" was turned over to the society earlier (see *ante*, 11:444). A number of other items from Clark's papers, some of which relate to his interest in the town site of Melrose, have been received from his son, Mr. Everett Clark of Sleepy Eye.

Transcripts of two letters of Nathaniel P. Langford, dated 1867 and 1905, made from the originals in the possession of the Historical Society of Montana, have been presented by Dr. John F. Fulton of Yale University.

A large number of letters and the first draft of an autobiography of James K. Hosmer have been added to his papers (see *ante*, 10:447) by his daughters, Miss Millicent Hosmer and Mrs. H. Willett Ankeny of Minneapolis and Mrs. A. C. Eddy of Vancouver. Among Hosmer's correspondents were Edward Everett Hale, Charles Francis Adams, James Bryce, Henry Adams, G. Stanley Hall, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and William Dean Howells.

A brief manuscript history of the Ramsey County juvenile court has been presented by the author, the Honorable Grier M. Orr of St. Paul, formerly judge of this court. Judge Orr has also given a petition, which bears many signatures of prominent people, for the appointment of Alfred S. Hall as clerk of the St. Paul municipal court in 1894.

A manuscript "History of the First Issue of Minnesota Trunk Highway Bonds," by the Honorable Julius A. Schmahl, has been presented by the author.

Copies of two unpublished master's theses, "The History of the Norwegian-Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America" by Bernhardt Kleven and "Pioneer Norwegian Settlement in Minnesota (to 1876)" by Carlton C. Qualey have recently been received from the history department of the University of Minnesota.

Brief genealogical records of the Bailly de Messein family have been presented by a descendant of the Minnesota branch, Mr. Edward C. Bailly of New York, a grandson of the pioneer, Alexis Bailly.

An interesting recent library accession is a volume entitled *De första Nybyggarna i Nordamerikanska Vestern*, ("The First Settlers in the North American West"), published at Örebro, Sweden, in 1857. It is a Swedish translation of Frans Kottenkamp's *Die ersten Amerikaner im Westen*, which was brought out at Stuttgart in 1855. The book is in two parts, the first dealing with Daniel Boone and Kentucky, the second with Tecumseh.

A plaster cast of an interesting figure of a lumberjack, the original of which was carved in wood by Mr. Oscar Sjogren, has been presented by Mr. Ben Stockman of Duluth through the courtesy of Mr. Fred Johnson of New Ulm.

Among the objects recently added to the society's Indian collection are a model of a grand medicine society lodge and a frame and appurtenances of a sweat lodge from Grand Portage, presented by Mrs. Harry Palmer of St. Paul; a full-sized bark tepee and a dog sledge of the Grand Portage Chippewa, received from Mrs. Effie M. McLean of Grand Portage; a birch-bark basket made by the Wisconsin Winnebago and given by the Misses Margaret and Frances Densmore of Red Wing; and a heavily beaded dress of a Sioux woman of the Standing Rock Reservation, received from Mr. Eugene Burdick of Minneapolis.

Recent museum accessions illustrative of pioneer conditions include two ox shoes, one hand-forged and one machine-made, given by Mr. Charles Nelson through the courtesy of Mr. Frank W. Hanson, both of Rush City; a model of a lumberjack's canthook presented by Mr. George Dixon of Cook; and a wash bench some twenty inches wide, made from a single slab of wood, given by Mrs. Thomas G. Jones of Hastings.

Costumes and articles illustrative of domestic life recently received include dresses, hats, toys, and other items used by the pioneer Red Wing families of Orrin and Benjamin Densmore,

from the Misses Frances and Margaret Densmore; needle work, fans, laces, and china, from Miss Helen G. Cotton of St. Paul; and a black silk bonnet worn by Mrs. Anne C. Evans when she traveled from Wales to St. Anthony in 1853, from Mrs. David W. Jones of Ottawa.

A peasant's festival costume from Flesberg, Numedal, Norway is the gift of Ole K. Bergan of Sacred Heart.

Additions to the portrait collection of more than usual interest are pictures of a number of former justices of the Minnesota Supreme Court, received from the court through Chief Justice Samuel B. Wilson, and a photographic copy of Niccolas Maes's painting of Henri de Tonti, presented by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts through the courtesy of its director, Mr. Russell A. Plimpton. Other recently acquired pictures include a number of early views of St. Paul from Mrs. Harold P. Bend of St. Paul; a collection of early pictures of Minneapolis from President Lotus D. Coffman of the University of Minnesota; about fifteen pictures of the Chippewa of the north shore of Lake Superior taken by Miss Frances Densmore shortly after 1900, from Mrs. Effie M. McLean of Grand Portage; a photograph of the statue of Father Hennepin dedicated in Minneapolis on October 12, 1930, from the Reverend J. M. Reardon of Minneapolis; and pictures taken during the dedication of the Hennepin statue presented by two Minneapolis newspapers.

NEWS AND COMMENT

That "most of the significant aspects of our institutional development are to be interpreted adequately only in terms of the evolution of Western civilization" is the thesis of an article on "American Democracy and the Frontier" by Benjamin F. Wright, Jr., published in the winter number of the *Yale Review*. Contending that the Turner theory that "American democracy is fundamentally the outcome of the experiences of the American people in dealing with the west" is misleading, Mr. Wright asserts that "the frontier was never the only element in the process, and it was rarely more than a minor part of the total force which produced the degree of democracy attained in this country." It is possible that Mr. Wright does not take sufficiently into account the chronological and geographical scope of the frontier movement, which began in the seventeenth century with the Atlantic seaboard as a base. The Turner theory, it may be added, is much broader than an explanation of the origins of American democracy, for it is concerned generally with frontier influences on American life and thought.

That "life lived on the margins of civilization tends to bring about an equality of which the political expression is democracy" is maintained in an article on "The Origins of Democracy in Canada" by A. R. M. Lower, published in the *Annual Report* of the Canadian Historical Association for 1930. He considers American democracy "forest-born," but he doubts "whether social equality could work out into political democracy unless the society possessing it had not possessed certain theoretical positions as to its nature before it was projected into its frontier surroundings." He draws a comparison, in this connection, between the French-Canadians and the Americans, asserting that among the latter, but not among the former, "when pioneer conditions had passed, the attitude toward life which they had induced remained as a conscious philosophy or creed, something to be fought for."

His general conclusion on the central theme of his paper is that the Canadian "pioneering era plus the influence of American pioneer life brought about political democracy in Canada." Mr. Lower takes into account the headway made by democracy after 1867 in Great Britain, but declares that "it is impossible to believe that British political practice had any important influence on Canadian" in this respect. The author makes an interesting reference to the Loyalists, who when they went to Canada were aristocrats, bitter over their experience with popular action. The fact that their settlements fifty years later were centers for an agitation for responsible government is explained in terms of the work of the frontier, though Mr. Lower is careful to distinguish between responsible government and democratic government.

"Nations rise and fall, civilizations wax and wane, but families and communities go on forever just as if these larger organizations were comparatively incidental," writes D. C. Harvey in an article on "Canadian Historians and Present Tendencies in Historical Writing," published in the *Annual Report* of the Canadian Historical Association for 1930. "Thus," he continues, "it may be that the true interpretation of man's purpose and destiny may be found by studying the individual and the community rather than in the hasty and inadequate generalizations of world history." Local history, however, in Mr. Harvey's opinion, must not be written in a local spirit. The true local historian must have a fundamental interest in world history.

An important article not previously noted in this magazine is one entitled "The Mauve Decade of the Flour Trade," by Charles B. Kuhlmann, which appeared in the *Northwestern Miller* for July 31, 1929. It is a study of the period from 1875 to 1885, when the flour trade was in transition from the old methods of distribution to the new. "The manufacturer," writes Dr. Kuhlmann, "found that he could no longer remain passive in the matter of distribution, but must seek new methods and avenues, and push the sale of his products in all possible ways." In illustrating the prevalent trends Dr. Kuhlmann exploits materials that he found in the papers of Major William D. Hale, in the possession of the

Minnesota Historical Society. Hale was the head of the Washburn Mill Company and owned the Palisade Mill of Minneapolis and the Lincoln Mill of Anoka in the years from 1879 to 1889. "To one who has even a slight acquaintance with the changes that were taking place in methods of distribution during this crucial period," Dr. Kuhlmann concludes, "the correspondence included in the Hale Papers is both interesting and valuable. As the industry becomes more conscious of its dignity and importance, it is to be hoped that more such records will be made available for the studies of research students in the field of economic history."

A Bibliography of the History of Agriculture in the United States by Everett E. Edwards of the division of statistical and historical research in the bureau of agricultural economics has been brought out by the United States department of agriculture as number 84 of its *Miscellaneous Publications* (November, 1930. 307 p.). It is extraordinarily comprehensive, containing thousands of carefully classified items. As a general rule they are accompanied by brief comments explaining their scope and value. The compilation should prove of much value to students not only of American agricultural history but also of the westward movement, of special sections and states, and of American history in general. Among the topics under which Mr. Edwards has arranged his materials may be mentioned: geographic factors in American history; Indian contributions to American agriculture; colonization and settlement; land policies and the public domain; agriculture in various periods, by regions, and in the separate states; the agricultural coöperative movement; transportation and markets; agencies promoting agriculture; agricultural leaders; and farmers and political activity since the American Revolution. There is an admirable special section on Minnesota and scores of items of special Minnesota interest are listed under other topical headings. The work is one of the most valuable aids to students of American history published in recent years. It may be purchased from the superintendent of documents, Washington, D. C., for forty-five cents.

The first volume of a *Systematic Source Book in Rural Sociology*, edited by Pitirim A. Sorokin, Carle C. Zimmerman, and

Charles J. Galpin, and issued by the University of Minnesota Press (Minneapolis, 1930. 645 p.) contains an amazing fund of knowledge culled, in the form of excerpts, from the writings of people of different ages and races bearing upon the place of agriculture in human affairs. The book enables one to view a world-wide setting, stretching into the dim past, for current and local problems.

Writing of Radisson in an article entitled "The First Complete Exploration of Hudson's Bay," published in the *Cambridge Historical Journal*, vol. 3, no. 1 (1929), Irene Harper declares that he was "a man whose unobtrusive greatness has been studiously overlooked, nay, whose achievements have been obscured, whose importance has been falsified by the countries making parallel claims to Hudson Bay and the great North-West of Canada." Among other things the author contends emphatically that Radisson and Groseilliers were the discoverers of the Mississippi. She states that she is bringing out a new edition of Radisson's journals. In the footnotes to her article one misses references to Dr. Kellogg's *French Régime in Wisconsin and the Northwest*.

The story of how the Northwest Company exploited the China trade is told in a fascinating article on "The Maritime Activities of the North West Company, 1813-1821," by Marion O'Neil, published in the *Washington Historical Quarterly* for October.

A new chapter in the fur-trade history of northern Minnesota is opened up in an important article entitled "John Jacob Astor and Lord Selkirk," by Kenneth W. Porter, published in the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* for October. Mr. Porter brings out the interesting fact that the Southwest Fur Company, a combination of John Jacob Astor and certain Canadian trading groups, including agents of the Northwest Company, was, by agreement with the latter concern, exploiting the fur trade of the northern Minnesota country after 1815. In 1816 the Earl of Selkirk and the Hudson's Bay Company were in control of Fort William and were engaged in a sharp combat with the Northwest Company. Lord Selkirk's agents proceeded to arrest on American soil, near Leech Lake, James Grant, then in charge of the Fond

du Lac department, and to confiscate his supplies, which were the property of the Southwest Company. About the same time William Morrison, the clerk in charge at Sandy Lake, also was arrested. Taking advantage of the forced elimination of the Southwest Company from the region, Lord Selkirk sent forty Hudson's Bay Company men to the Fond du Lac department. Their nine canoes, among other things, carried fifty kegs of rum for use in trading. That John Jacob Astor took grave offense at Lord Selkirk's action was natural. The arrests occurred on American soil; and Selkirk's agents were not licensed to trade in the region. Astor promptly appealed to James Monroe, the American secretary of state, to dispatch a government expedition into the area to seize whatever property Selkirk had sent into American territory and to reestablish the agents of the Southwest Company. This request was not met, but time gradually healed the difficulties. An American act of 1816 made it illegal for foreigners to engage in the fur trade in American territory. After Selkirk's death the Hudson's Bay Company and the Northwest Company joined forces. Astor withdrew from the Southwest Company, which seems to have terminated its activities about 1818; and with the development of the American policy of setting up military posts in the Indian country the hold of Americans upon the fur trade south of the international boundary was greatly strengthened. One curious item remains to be noted: in 1818 Lord Selkirk happened to visit Detroit and while there he was arrested on a warrant sworn out by James Grant. Because the arrest had been executed on a Sunday, however, he was promptly released.

The life story of "Captain Daniel Smith Harris," one of the most noted figures in the history of pioneer steamboating on the upper Mississippi, is told by William J. Petersen in an article published in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for October. To Harris "more than to any other single pioneer captain," writes Mr. Petersen, "was due the startling growth in the use of steamboats on the Upper Mississippi, the rapid expansion of their use to the tributary streams, and the constant development in speed, comfort, and efficiency, so necessary for the quick

transportation of the vast waves of immigrants moving northward."

A careful study of *Marias Pass: Its Part in the History and Development of the Northwest* by Genevieve Murray has been published as number 12 of the *Studies in Northwest History* issued by the State University of Montana (47 p.).

The Great Western Stage-Coach Routes is the title under which Archer B. Hulbert is editing series 5 of the *Crown Collection of American Maps*. In volume 1 of this series, entitled *The Deadwood Trails*, three routes—the Pierre-Deadwood trail, the Cheyenne-Fort Laramie-Deadwood trail, and the Sidney-Deadwood trail—are traced on some sixty blue-print reproductions of manuscript maps prepared by the Stewart Commission on Western History of Colorado College. The basis for presentation is the township, on a scale of one-half inch to the mile. Streams, ranches, stage stations, and the principal topographic features along each route are shown. Descriptions of the trails accompany the maps and an attempt is made to identify them with present highways.

An important article entitled "The Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad: Recent History of the Last Transcontinental," by Arthur M. Borak, appears in the *Journal of Economic and Business History* for November. Mr. Borak traces the ups and downs of the railroad from 1900 to the present.

Speeches given at the annual meeting of the Swedish Historical Society of America, held in Minneapolis on December 5, included one on "The Use of Historical Study," by Professor David Swenson of the University of Minnesota. "By interest in the past we express our human dignity," said Professor Swenson. "By history we are enabled to understand ourselves better and to turn our potentialities into realities." An abstract of the address is presented in the December issue of the *Swedish-American Historical Bulletin*.

For a five-year program of research under the auspices of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania the Buhl Foundation has given a grant of seventy thousand dollars, to which the his-

torical society has added ten thousand and the University of Pittsburgh twenty-five thousand. The plan involves the writing of the history of "the Pittsburgh district" at three levels: the research level, the public or popular level, and the public school level.

Of almost as much Minnesota as Wisconsin interest is an account of "Early Times in St. Croix County," Wisconsin, by James A. Andrews, published in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for December. Among the incidents related is the following: "During the summer of 1857, while court was in session in Prescott, Bayard Taylor was advertised to lecture in Stillwater, so court adjourned and a party of excursionists took the small steamer *Equator* in the afternoon." They never reached Stillwater, however, as the boat was wrecked by a tornado on the Wisconsin shore before it reached its destination.

Dr. Louise Phelps Kellogg of the Wisconsin Historical Society has edited a new edition of Mrs. John H. Kinzie's classic *Wau-Bun: The Early Days in the Northwest* (Menasha, Wisconsin, 1930. 390 p.), which appeared originally in 1856 and is especially noted for its sparkling descriptions of conditions in Wisconsin in the early thirties. Dr. Kellogg has supplied an informing introduction and numerous useful explanatory notes.

In a volume entitled *Badger Politics, 1836-1930* (Manitowoc, Wisconsin, 1930. 239 p.), Mr. Ralph G. Plumb presents a brief but well-proportioned survey of the politics of Wisconsin from territorial days to the present. He deals with the story as one of struggle and evolution out of which has come the "Wisconsin idea," which, he contends, "is none other than the application of the principles of justice to human relations." The book naturally throws light upon the emergence of the La Follette dynasty.

In an article on "Iowa City: A Miniature Frontier of the Forties," published in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for January, Dr. Louis Pelzer presents an interesting picture of a pioneer community of the Middle West, with special emphasis upon social and economic conditions.

A directory of "Abandoned Towns, Villages and Post Offices of Iowa," prepared by David C. Mott, is appearing in the *Annals of Iowa*, beginning with the issue of October.

Professor John P. Pritchett of the University of North Dakota, who some years ago was on the faculty of Macalester College and who has contributed two articles and a number of reviews to MINNESOTA HISTORY, took up his duties as assistant editor of the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* with its issue for October. To that number he contributes, with introduction and notes, a hitherto unpublished letter by William B. O'Donoghue, the leader of the so-called Fenian raid on Manitoba in 1871.

A valuable study in the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* for October is an article on "Pioneer Norwegian Settlement in North Dakota," by Carlton C. Qualey, a graduate student in the University of Minnesota. "The Norwegian penetration of North Dakota," writes Mr. Qualey, "was essentially part of an inter-state migration." The Minnesota connections were many and important and receive careful consideration by the author.

The St. Lawrence Waterway Project by George W. Stephens (Montreal, 1930. 460 p.) is a treatise, in large part historical, dealing with the St. Lawrence "as an international highway for water-borne commerce." It is supplied with useful maps and illustrations, an extensive bibliography, and a comprehensive index.

In an article entitled "An Early Norwegian Settlement in Canada" by Theodore C. Blegen, published in the 1930 *Annual Report* of the Canadian Historical Association, an account is given of a settlement project at Gaspé in eastern Canada in the early sixties. Minnesota and Wisconsin were then the Mecca for Norwegian immigrants, most of whom arrived via Quebec. The Gaspé colony, it was hoped, would attract settlers who found it difficult to pay for transportation to the American lands beyond the Great Lakes. It did indeed attract not a few, but the affairs of the settlement were mismanaged; the immigrants found it difficult to get work; the climate seemed to them unduly severe; and after a year or two the colony broke up, most of its members removing to the West.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

One of the central features of the three-day celebration marking the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of Father Hennepin's discovery of the Falls of St. Anthony was the unveiling of a statue of Hennepin adjacent to the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis on Sunday morning, October 12. On the base of the statue, which was erected by the Minnesota council of the Knights of Columbus, appears the following inscription: "Dedicated to Father Louis Hennepin, Missionary, Explorer, Historian, on the 250th Anniversary of his Discovery of the Falls of St. Anthony, Beside Whose Fecund Waters Clustered the Pioneers of the City of Minneapolis." A message of congratulation from Pope Pius XI was read at a high mass in the basilica preceding the dedicatory exercises. The unveiling of the statue was performed by a robed friar of the same order to which Hennepin himself belonged, the Reverend Cyrinus Scheider of St. Paul, and the monument was blessed by Archbishop Alfred Sinnott of Winnipeg. The principal address was delivered by Judge Thomas D. O'Brien of St. Paul.

In the afternoon a Hennepin program was presented in the Minneapolis Auditorium. The general arrangements were in charge of a committee headed by Mr. Edward C. Gale of Minneapolis, who, it will be recalled, contributed to the March, 1930, number of this magazine an article entitled "On the Hennepin Trail." The program, which attracted a very large audience, opened with an exhibition of slides relating to Hennepin and his journey to Minnesota, presented by Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society. Mr. Gale then introduced Mayor W. F. Kunze of Minneapolis, who expressed the gratitude of the people of Minneapolis for the Hennepin statue. Mr. Walter H. Newton, secretary to President Hoover, then read a letter of congratulation from the President. Governor Theodore Christianson spoke for the state, after which he introduced Mr. J. Earl Lawler, state deputy for the Knights of Columbus, and Mr. George P. Borglum, the consular agent of France, both of whom spoke briefly. The principal address of the afternoon was to have been delivered by Prince Albert de

Ligne, the Belgian ambassador to the United States. He was unable to be present, but he was represented by the first secretary of the Belgian legation, the Viscount de Lantsheere, who read the ambassador's urbane and charming paper "Father Hennepin, Belgian," which was published in full in the December number of this magazine. The program was brought to a close by an informing address on "The Indian Historical Record of the Visit of Father Hennepin" by the noted Indian author, Dr. Charles Eastman. An interesting article by H. M. Hitchcock telling of the career of Dr. Eastman appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for September 28 under the title "An Indian Returns Home." The *Journal*, it may also be noted, published "Father Hennepin's Own Story" in its issue for October 12, drawing its material from Hennepin's *Description of Louisiana*. Among numerous printed items occasioned by the celebration were editorials in both the *Minneapolis Journal* and the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* attempting to appraise Hennepin's importance in the light of the historical criticism that has centered about his writings.

The initial number of a new historical quarterly, the *Southern Minnesotan*, a magazine "dedicated to the preservation of the interesting history of southern Minnesota," appeared in December. The editor is Mr. Win V. Working of Blakeley, whose long experience in newspaper work and in gathering local history materials makes him peculiarly fitted for the task of publishing this quarterly. A variety of subjects are dealt with in the first issue. The fact that the "city of Gaylord passes its fiftieth milestone" is noted in the heading of an article about the history of the county seat of Sibley County. A famous Nicollet County murder case, that of John Wellner in 1898, is reviewed; an account by Mrs. Helen Carrothers McNanney of her experiences in the Sioux War is reprinted from a St. Paul newspaper of 1894; Glencoe's position as an "important stage route hub" of pioneer days is made known; the history of the Faribault house at Shakopee is related; and the experiences of a pioneer Le Sueur family, that of Mortimer Tousley, are described. An editorial contains the following interesting statement: "We will welcome the cooperation of all historical societies in Southern Minnesota,

and will be glad to offer special departments herein where the activities of the societies can be portrayed each quarter."

A mass of useful information on such important topics as state, county, city, and village government in Minnesota; taxation and finance; public utilities; fire insurance rates; and election processes appears in the *Minnesota Year Book* for 1930, issued by the League of Minnesota Municipalities (Minneapolis, 1930. 326 p.). The sections devoted to analyses of the work of the various state departments are models of concise, well-arranged tabulations of data. The volume includes a "Calendar of Minnesota Government" covering the period from June 1, 1930, to July 1, 1931, and lists of civic and commerce associations in Minnesota and of state and national associations that serve municipalities. In an introductory note the League indicates that eventually there may be brought out "a more complete work giving to our officials and citizens a greater fund of information to interpret governmental trends and conditions."

A pictorial historical map of Minnesota is being prepared by the Minneapolis College Women's Club.

A map of Minnesota in 1849, displayed at the Itasca County fair in August, 1930, is the subject of an article in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for November 19. The map was found among the papers of John F. Aiton, the missionary, some of whose pioneer adventures in Minnesota are described in the article.

A brief description of "Early Minnesota Imprints" by L. Nelson Nichols, published in the *American Printer* for July, 1929, is an article of considerable interest that has not heretofore been noted in this magazine. Reproductions of title pages of a number of books and pamphlets issued in the fifties illustrate the article.

"To perpetuate the memory of the Sioux or Dakota Indians who occupied this region for more than two centuries prior to the treaties of 1851" reads the inscription on a bronze tablet placed on the site of Cloudman's village on Lake Calhoun by the Minnesota society, Daughters of the American Colonists. The marker, which also contains in relief a copy of a map of the vicinity of the

village drawn by the missionary, Samuel Pond, was dedicated on November 20. Among the speakers were Mayor W. F. Kunze of Minneapolis and Dr. Solon J. Buck and Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock of the Minnesota Historical Society.

In an illustrated feature article on the "Abbey of St. John's" at Collegeville, published in the magazine section of the *Minneapolis Journal* for October 5, Florence Lehmann presents some information about the beginnings of the Benedictine order in Minnesota and the development of its community and school at Collegeville.

In the 1929 and 1930 *Year Books* of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor the story of that organization, which has been appearing in these annuals for a number of years, is continued with chapters 17 and 18 of its "Legislative History." The two installments deal in considerable detail with the period from 1907 to 1911.

The acquisition of the papers of Cadwallader C. Washburn of Mineral Point, Wisconsin, by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin will interest Minnesotans, for the collection contains a number of important letters by W. D. Washburn relating to Minneapolis and the milling business.

"The Vanishing Lumberjacks" are the subject of two articles by E. H. Pelton in the *Daily Times and Daily Journal-Press* of St. Cloud for November 8 and 16, in which the writer deals with the life and work of the old-time hero of the north woods.

Two Minnesota men, Clarence H. Eckles and Theophilus L. Haecker, are included among *The Ten Master Minds of Dairying* whose achievements form the subject matter of a pamphlet with that title published at Des Moines in 1930 by the magazine *Successful Farming*. The account of Professor Eckles is by E. M. Harmon and that of Professor Haecker by W. A. Gordon. The other eight "master minds" are Stephen M. Babcock, William D. Hoard, Carl G. P. De Laval, Elmer V. McCollum, Louis Pasteur, Gail Borden, William A. Henry, and Otto F. Hunziker.

Discussing the *Sources of Power on Minnesota Farms*, Mr. W. L. Cavert, in number 262 of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station's *Bulletins* issued in February, 1930, shows how the horse has gradually lost his old supremacy on the farm. A statistical analysis, based upon 541 farms, indicates that 31 per cent of the power now used is furnished by automobiles, 30 by horses, 23 by tractors, 7 by trucks, 6 by stationary gas engines, and 3 by steam engines and electric motors.

The portion of the diary of Captain Thomas P. Gere that relates to his experiences at Fort Ridgely during the Sioux War of 1862 is published in the *Chatfield News-Democrat* for November 6, 13, and 20. The original diary is in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society.

The Spanish-American War services of Herbert L. Keeler of St. Paul are described as "A Forgotten Heroism" by Robert Cary in an article contributed to the December issue of the *Saint Paul Magazine*. Quotations from the diary and correspondence of the soldier, who served in the Philippines, are included.

Several related Norwegian-American families named Harstad, which were well represented in southern Minnesota pioneering, are dealt with in a genealogical work entitled *A Short Record of Some Families from Saetersdal, Norway*, by Bjug A. Harstad (Parkland, Washington, 1930. 64 p.).

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

A pageant reviewing the history of the First Presbyterian Church of Mankato was presented on October 4 in connection with the celebration of its seventy-fifth anniversary.

A drawing of the first schoolhouse in Sleepy Eye—a log structure erected in 1857—appears, with a brief explanatory sketch, in the *Minnesota Journal of Education* for September, 1930.

A school annual of unusual interest is the *Purple and Gold* for 1930, issued by the senior class of the Montevideo High School.

It includes a series of drawings, accompanied by brief historical notes, illustrating scenes of Indian life, the coming of the *voyageurs*, the staking out of land by settlers, the raising of the log cabin, the plowing of the first furrow, and the beginnings of a log-cabin school in the county. A picture of Montevideo in the seventies adds to the interest of the volume.

Attention is called to the passing of half a century since the Moorhead fire department was organized in a group of articles dealing with its history and published in the *Moorhead Daily News* for December 27. Some early pictures of this organization also appear in the issue.

A dinner and a program of reminiscent talks were the features of a joint meeting of the historical society and the old settlers' association of Cottonwood County held at Windom on November 7. In the name of the county fair board the society was offered "land in the Fair Grounds for the erection of a Historical Building to house records and heirlooms of the former days."

Mr. D. R. Savage contributes his recollections of the October blizzard of 1880 at Windom to the *Cottonwood County Citizen* of Windom for October 22; and the entries in the diary of M. N. Cadwell for October 15, 16, and 17, 1880, giving a contemporary account of the blizzard, are printed in the issue for October 29.

The history of the public schools of Mountain Lake is traced from 1902 to the present by Mary Borgen in the *Mountain Lake Observer* for December 11. The records of the board of education seem to have been used in the preparation of the article.

The site of Fort Ripley is included in a purchase of ground for a National Guard encampment to be known as Camp Ripley. Here the remains of the old fort will be preserved, according to an announcement published in the *Brainerd Daily Dispatch* for October 8.

Some recollections of Mr. Edward Crust, who has been a member of the Brainerd fire department since 1883, are included in a survey of the history of that organization published in the *Brainerd*

Daily Dispatch for December 31. Mr. Crust recalls that in Brainerd's pioneer days there was "quite a rivalry among the various companies when a general alarm was sounded. Each would attempt to reach the fire first." A picture of the pioneer fire fighters of 1883 appears with the article.

The story of the Faribault County homestead on which William Stauffer settled in 1856 and of the spacious home that he built there is recorded by Lily B. Derby in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for December 29.

The program presented for the annual meeting of the Goodhue County Historical Society at Red Wing on November 24 included a paper by Mr. C. A. Rasmussen on "Old Indian Trails," a talk by Miss Margaret Densmore on the society's plan for marking historic sites in the county, and an account by Miss A. E. Willard of the organization's visit to the Minnesota Historical Building in St. Paul in June. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Mr. Rasmussen, president; Miss Frances Densmore, first vice president; Judge Charles P. Hall, second vice president; Miss Rosalie Youngdahl, secretary; and Mrs. J. E. Enz, treasurer.

The letters written during the Sioux War by Adam Hair, a member of Company D, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, to his wife at Chatfield are quoted in an article by Kathryn F. Gorman in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for November 9. Hair was killed by the Indians while stationed at Pomme de Terre in May, 1863. His letters are now in the possession of Mrs. O. H. Turner of St. Paul, a daughter of Mrs. Hair. According to this account the graves of Hair and two soldiers who were killed with him are to be marked by the American Legion of Elbow Lake.

A brief "History of the Village of Houston" prepared by a local high school student, Eunice Bersell, appears in the *Houston Signal* for October 23. Some of the writer's information was derived from an interview with a pioneer woman.

The beginnings of the Catholic colony at Minneota are recalled in an article by the Reverend J. P. O'Donnell dealing with the

history of St. Edward's Church, in the *Minneota Mascot* for October 10. The church was founded in 1880, when a parish was organized by English and Irish immigrants who had been induced to join the Minneota colony as a result of the activities of Archbishop Ireland. The fiftieth anniversary of the church was celebrated on October 13 with special services. At that time the history of the church was reviewed by Father W. J. Stewart, who served the congregation as pastor from 1905 to 1925.

The history of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Balaton in Lyon County is related in a mimeographed pamphlet entitled *Fifty Years for Christ* (Balaton, 1930. 32 p.).

A valuable and detailed contribution to the history of Martin County is a "History of Jay Township," by Anna J. Larsen, the first installment of which appears in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for December 6. Other installments of the narrative, which was "compiled for the Martin County Historical Society," appear in the issues for December 20, 22, and 24. One of the interesting features of the history is an account of the "Green Bay colony" composed of Belgian immigrants and located on Ten Mile Creek.

The matter of building "an addition to the St. Peter public library to house a county historical museum" was discussed at a meeting of the executive board of the Nicollet County Historical Society held at St. Peter on October 18. A committee consisting of Judge Henry Moll, Mrs. H. L. Stark, and Miss Laura Lauman was appointed to determine the expense of such a project and to devise means for raising funds. In the meantime the society's collections will be housed in one of the buildings of Gustavus Adolphus College.

Perhaps the most interesting feature of the celebration on October 2 of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of St. Peter was the publication, as a supplement to the *St. Peter Herald* for October 1, of a history of the community (104 p.). The editors look upon this as a sequel to Hughes and Brown's *Old Traverse des Sioux* (reviewed *ante*, 11:87-89), and they have placed copies in every school library in Nicollet County. The

volume opens with a general account of the founding of St. Peter in 1853 and of early years there; this is followed by a sketch of the St. Peter Company, which originally promoted the town site; a brief biography of William B. Dodd, the first settler; and sketches of some of the city's "notables." The history of Gustavus Adolphus College is presented in some detail by Dr. Conrad Peterson; churches and local organizations are described individually; and a number of local industries are discussed. Among the subjects of other articles are "Judge Moll's Recollections," St. Peter physicians, the post office, the public library, "Court House Lore," newspapers, the sawmill established at Kasota by Joseph W. Babcock, the public schools, and the state hospital. Numerous excellent illustrations appear throughout the volume, but one, a portrait of Captain and Mrs. Dodd which appears on the cover, is especially noteworthy.

The diamond jubilee celebration was a marked success and was attended by about ten thousand people. An historical program was presented at Gorman Park in the afternoon, when the speakers included Judge Henry Moll, Governor Christianson, Congressman August H. Andreson, and Attorney-general H. N. Benson. A loan exhibition of objects of historic interest was arranged in connection with the celebration and was kept on display for several days thereafter. The *Herald* for October 3 contains the suggestion that some of the articles shown at this time should be made the "basis of a permanent grouping of local relics to be housed for display at some suitable point in St. Peter, under the auspices of the Nicollet County Historical society."

A special edition of the *Stewartville Star*, issued on November 20 to mark the dedication of an addition to the high school, contains a number of articles about the history of the school. These include an account of the high school commencement in 1902 and sketches of the community's various school buildings. A list of more than four hundred students who have been graduated from the high school also appears in the issue.

At a meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society held at Fergus Falls on October 20, Mr. Charles J. Sawbridge

presented a paper entitled "The Formative Years" in which he told of pioneer days in Fergus Falls; Dr. Phillip Cowing of Evansville spoke on some pioneer doctors of Otter Tail County; the Reverend O. A. Norman recalled his pioneer experiences as a combined clergyman and physician; and Mr. Olaf Pary of New York Mills described early days in that community.

A sketch of the life and work of Mrs. Phoebe Lyon Welch, by Mrs. Charles N. Akers of St. Paul, presented at the 1930 convention of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs at Albert Lea, is printed in the *St. Cloud Daily Times* for October 7. Mrs. Welch, who was the wife of Dr. George Welch, the superintendent for many years of the Fergus Falls state hospital, is described as the "founder of occupational therapy among the insane of Minnesota."

The history of the House of Hope Church of St. Paul, which was founded three-quarters of a century ago by the Reverend Edward D. Neill, is reviewed in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for December 23.

The passing of Christ Episcopal Church of St. Paul, which was built in 1867 and is being demolished to make way for an addition to the St. Paul Auditorium, is the occasion for the publication of a history of the church in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for December 26.

A history of the First Lutheran Church of Hector by Ernest A. Palm appears in the *Hector Mirror* for December 4. The writer opens his story with the late eighties, when visiting pastors from near-by communities preached at Hector. Sketches of pastors and prominent members of the congregation, descriptions of the church buildings, and accounts of religious education and organizations connected with the church are included in the article.

The annual meeting of the Rice County Historical Society, which took place at Faribault on November 17, marked the formal opening of its room in the Buckham Memorial Library. Inspection of the exhibits in this room preceded the meeting. The speaker was Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, who took as his subject "Glimpsing

Minnesota History Through the Eyes of Contemporaries." The following officers were elected: Dr. F. F. Kramer, president; W. W. Pye, vice president; A. R. Leach, treasurer; Mrs. C. A. Bierman, corresponding secretary; and Herbert L. Buck, recording secretary.

The Methodist church at Little Prairie in Rice County, which traces its history from 1855, is the subject of an article by the Reverend W. E. Thompson, its present pastor, in the *Faribault Daily News* for November 15.

The Rock County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held at Luverne on October 4. A constitution, modeled after that of the Olmsted County Historical Society, was adopted and the following officers were elected: E. H. Canfield, president; J. N. Jacobson, vice president; H. D. Skovgaard, secretary; and F. A. Leicher, treasurer. Plans were made for the first regular meeting on November 11. This was attended by about fifty people, and a program of informal talks was presented.

Letters of Dr. Newton Southworth and his wife written in the fifties and sixties from their farm near Belle Plaine have been used effectively by Win V. Working in a number of articles published recently in his series of local history sketches in the *Belle Plaine Herald*. Farming conditions, crops, the weather, prospects for a railroad, and other matters are noted in letters quoted in the articles for November 20 and 27. In the letter printed on December 18 the doctor touches upon his medical practice; he tells of caring for a case of typhus and notes that "I have frequent calls to go 10 to 20 miles but am not able to at the present time."

At a meeting of the Sherburne County Historical Society at Clear Lake on October 10 the following officers were elected: L. A. Dare, president; Fred Williams, vice president; Mrs. Martha Scherfenberg, secretary; and A. C. Bailey, treasurer.

The laying of the corner stone of the new St. Mary's Catholic Church of St. Cloud is the occasion for the publication of a history of the parish in the *St. Cloud Daily Times* for November

15. The story covers the period from the early fifties to the present and includes accounts of the coming of the German Catholic immigrants; of the work of the missionary, Father Francis Pierz, among them; of the organization of the parish in 1856; of the building of the first church; and of the various pastors.

The history of the Baptist denomination in St. Cloud is reviewed in the *St. Cloud Daily Times* for December 27 in an article calling attention to the seventy-fifth anniversary of the First Baptist Church, which was celebrated by members of the congregation on December 27 and 28.

The organization of the Steele County Historical Society was completed with the adoption of a constitution at a meeting held at Owatonna on November 13. Seven township secretaries who are to aid in gathering material for the organization were appointed at another meeting on December 1, when a history of the Owatonna Congregational Church was read by Mrs. E. H. Naylor.

A special exhibit of thirty-two paintings and pastels of views around Duluth and of Indian life in the Lake Superior region by Eastman Johnson, who visited the vicinity shortly before the Civil War, was arranged in the rooms of the St. Louis County Historical Society in the courthouse at Duluth early in October. The pictures were presented to the city of Duluth by Richard T. Crane in 1908.

Numerous brief items about the history of Duluth and its vicinity are included in a section entitled "1930 Review of Progress" in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for September 28. The census of 1860; Edmund F. Ely, the missionary, and his diary; the origin of the city's name; the Lake Vermilion gold rush; the wooden elevator built on the lake front in 1870 which marked the beginning of the city's "huge grain trade"; the first post office, built in 1857; and the first orchestra, organized in 1873, are among the subjects touched upon. An account of French explorers and traders in northeastern Minnesota is contributed by Ray L. Sicard. The illustrations include pictures of Duluth's first large hotel, the Clark House; of "masted grain ships" at the Duluth docks; and of Superior Street in the sixties and seventies.

Much biographical material about a prominent Norwegian-American clergyman is included in a memorial volume entitled *Mindeblade om Pastor L. P. Thorkveen*, edited by T. P. Laingen and J. O. Hall (Chicago, n.d. 192 p.). Thorkveen served as pastor for five Lutheran congregations in the vicinity of St. James from 1888 to 1923. He was a leader in the *bygdelag* movement and was noted as a writer. The volume contains numerous sketches, poems, and sermons by Thorkveen in addition to accounts of his activities.

Two sections made up of sixty-four pages and consisting for the most part of profusely illustrated historical articles appear with the "75th Anniversary Edition" of the *Winona Republican-Herald*, issued on November 20. Herein the editors attempt to "show the development of the city and the parallel progress made by The Republican-Herald since its inception 75 years ago." The history of the city is first presented. Long extracts from the diary of Elder Edward Ely, an early Winonan, telling of conditions in the new settlement in the early fifties are printed. The city's transportation development is pictured in articles about the growth and decline of river traffic and about railroads; commercial life is represented in accounts of the lumber industry and of the city as a wheat market; and something about its cultural development is given in articles on its schools, colleges, and churches. The settlement established at Minnesota City in 1852 by a group of colonists from New York state is the subject of an article. Almost an entire section is devoted to the newspaper history of Winona. Stories of the founding of the *Republican* in 1855, of the city's first daily—the *Review*—in 1859, and of the *Herald* in 1869 are presented; and the merging of the *Republican* and the *Herald* in 1901 is described. Orrin F. Smith contributes his reminiscences of "Winona Daily Republican Men That I Have Known"; Frederick Kroeger tells of "Early Newspaper Days"; Charles G. Hart of Pipestone gives his "Memories" of experiences with a Winona newspaper; and Thomas B. Hill of Seattle, Washington, presents "Reminiscences of My Experiences on the Republican and Republican-Herald between 1896 and 1908." The many unusual and excellent illustrations that appear in this edition of the *Republican-Herald* are worthy of special note.



Copyright of **Minnesota History** is the property of the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, or email articles, however, for individual use.

To request permission for educational or commercial use, [contact us](#).