

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS

*With Pen and Pencil on the Frontier in 1851: The Diary and Sketches of Frank Blackwell Mayer* (*Narratives and Documents*, vol. 1). Edited with an introduction and notes by BERTHA L. HEILBRON, assistant editor, Minnesota Historical Society. (St. Paul, The Minnesota Historical Society, 1932. xii, 214 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

Many of us have wished that we might, by some necromancy, look in upon the Minnesota of territorial days, when canoes could still be glimpsed upon our rivers and tepees on our prairies, when the sashes of voyageurs brightened the streets of a young St. Paul and creaking carts made their way along the Red River trail.

This wish can never, of course, be gratified. But a delightful illusion of the desired experience may be achieved by looking over *With Pen and Pencil on the Frontier in 1851*. This is the volume with which the Minnesota Historical Society inaugurates its *Narratives and Documents* series, and it is a felicitous choice. Admirably annotated by Bertha L. Heilbron, with a preface by Theodore C. Blegen and a fine selection from Mayer's sketches, the travel diary of the Maryland artist is a treat for all lovers of the past.

Mayer went at his own expense from his native Baltimore to Traverse des Sioux to witness the ceremonies attendant upon the treaty-making. He thought, quite rightly, that an artist who desired to paint American subjects could not afford to miss so picturesque an event. He journeyed by stagecoach and steamboat, via Cincinnati and St. Louis, to the newly formed Minnesota Territory, and all of his pilgrimage is of interest; but his sojourns in Kaposia, Little Crow's village, and at the Traverse make it of real importance.

Not that, as a writer, Mayer is especially gifted. Here is no Featherstonhaugh to make us smell the very smoke of his camp fires. But he sees with an artist's observant eye, and his notes are made while his impressions are still fresh; therefore they are of value. His great contribution is made in his sketches, which definitely enlarge our knowledge of frontier life.

Especially gratifying to one who seeks to recreate the past is his choice of subjects. He is drawn by simple, homely things. Such plain pieces as the "Trader's Cabin at Traverse des Sioux" may be studied with the keenest attention. The sketches made at Kaposia of a "Sioux Summer Lodge," a "Sioux Winter Lodge," and "Sioux Children" tell volumes about how our Indians looked and lived. He shows us Sibley's tent at the Traverse; and James M. Goodhue caught in a pose which the editor little expected would be delivered to posterity. He shows us the Indian ball-players, the dancers who made the treaty summer gay. All that has been written of that Nancy McClure whose wedding was a feature of the encampment is less eloquent of her beauty than is Mayer's picture of her.

Not long ago, in doing research work for *The Charming Sally*, I visited the Maryland state house and saw Mayer's epic painting of "The Burning of the Peggy Stewart." I was not aware, at the time, that the great desire of the artist's life had been to paint for Minnesota the treaty of Traverse des Sioux. What a pity that this desire could not have been fulfilled! But what a joy that his oil sketch of the treaty was at least preserved, by the ever-watchful Minnesota Historical Society, and that it was later used as the basis for Millet's painting of the scene. It is pleasant to know that the society has carried out another cherished plan of Mayer's in printing this fresh and vigorous journal of his boyhood journey to the frontier.

MAUD HART LOVELACE

*Joint Report upon the Survey and Demarcation of the Boundary Between the United States and Canada from the Northwesternmost Point of Lake of the Woods to Lake Superior.* By the INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION. (Washington, United States Government Printing Office, 1931. xiv, 620 p. Illustrations, maps.)

No historian will regret that the report of the International Boundary Commission covering the reestablishment of the international boundary from the Lake of the Woods to Lake Superior bears the date of the two-hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the French explorer, La Vérendrye, at Grand Portage. The monumental work now issued deals with practically the same course as that

followed by the Frenchman in his exploration of the border lakes; but, between the original birch-bark map drawn by the Indian, Ochagach, and the thirty-six modern topographic sheets here published, what a gap in conception and methods! What the Indian map expressed in terms of human effort, this latest product of the cartographer's art reduces to the literal exactitude of white man's geodesy. No mean memorial, this, and yet none too worthy, that the governments of the United States and Canada, all unwittingly, have erected permanently to the gallant explorer and his sons, who knew no rewards during their lives!

The report has been nearly a quarter of a century in the making. The field work alone extended over a period of eighteen years. An entire topographic survey of the boundary and adjacent shores had to be made, since the only guides were the crude charts drawn by Barclay and Foster in the years 1822-24. The Minnesota-Ontario boundary, as finally defined, consists of 1,796 straight line courses, joining consecutively numbered "turning points." The report fills nearly 650 quarto pages — 145 devoted to text and the rest to tables, giving a summary of the personnel engaged in the work and the location and descriptions of the "turning points," of 1,373 boundary reference monuments, and of thousands of triangulation stations. No detail of importance for future reference has been omitted.

The report settles the nationality of certain disputed islands and rectifies, in favor of Canada, a discrepancy of two and a half acres at the Northwest Angle. In view of the opinion expressed that "the permanency of the position of the line is henceforth assured," it is worth recalling that as late as 1930 a resolution was introduced in the United States Senate seeking the relocation of the boundary for the purpose of including some half a million acres in Hunter's Island as a part of Minnesota. It is well known, of course, that the boundary at several points fails to follow the continuous watercourse from North Lake to the Lake of the Woods as contemplated in the original treaties. The present boundary, however, has long been peacefully ratified and fortunately so for Americans, since the Hunter's Island section, included as it is in Quetico Provincial Park, is better preserved than any portion of our own borderland.

The boundary as defined is almost continuously of water, one of

the exceptions being "Swamp Portage," the very one which makes an isthmus of Hunter's Island and which gave rise to the Senate resolution just mentioned. The commissioners mention three such exceptions, totalling .78 of a mile out of the entire line of 425.79 miles. Curiously, however, they omit entirely the portage of an eighth of a mile known as "Beatty's Portage," which connects Lac la Croix and Loon Lake. This oversight, as it appears to be, is difficult to account for.

The report contains much of interest to historians — the boundary treaties, accounts of early explorations, and many glimpses of the life of the past. Sir Alexander Mackenzie's detailed description of the border waters is appropriately quoted in full. The Mitchell map of 1755, which in spite of La Vérendrye's explorations shows the Lake of the Woods watershed flowing eastward to Lake Superior, is also reproduced. Conditions under which some of the early surveys were made are described from the unpublished journals of David Thompson, surveyor and astronomer for the British government, who by his patriotism and accurate knowledge is probably more responsible than any other man for the boundary as it is. The daily ration for his men, which he considered liberal, consisted, we are told, of a pound of salt pork or beef, a pound of biscuit, and half a pint of corn. Thus we see how great was the difference between those days and these not only in maps but in map-makers!

ERNEST C. OBERHOLTZER

*Hudson's Bay Company.* By ROBERT E. PINKERTON. Introduction by STEWART EDWARD WHITE. (New York, Henry Holt and Company, 1931. viii, 357 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

A great deal has been written about the Hudson's Bay Company and its activities. In fact ever since its incorporation in 1670 men have been writing about it. It was not, however, until 1899 that the first "complete history" of the company was published — Beckles Willson's *The Great Company*. The next year there appeared *The Remarkable History of the Hudson's Bay Company* by George Bryce and eight years later Agnes Laut wrote *The Conquest of the Great Northwest*. Under the direction of the Hudson's Bay Company itself, Sir William Schooling brought out in 1920 *The Governor and*

*Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay.* And the last "complete history" of the company has been prepared by Mr. Pinkerton.

Though much has been written about the Hudson's Bay Company very little of it is of a scholarly nature. Especially is this true of all the so-called "complete accounts." Willson's *Great Company* is ill-balanced, prejudiced, and in many instances decidedly misleading; Dr. Bryce writes with a perspicuous bias and a good deal of imagination; *The Conquest of the Great Northwest* has been well characterized as "a fine bit of historical fiction"; Sir William's *Governor and Company* is little more than a rambling sketch; and Mr. Pinkerton's *Hudson's Bay Company* is subject to nearly all these criticisms in one form or another. The book is decidedly biased, despite the constant avowals of the writer to the contrary; it is loosely written; and the reviewer has the feeling, also, that too much historical imagination has been allowed to creep in.

"In this volume," writes the author, "an attempt has been made . . . to get a true perspective of a series of events which, in the past, have been the subject of astonishing bias, misconception and bitterness. Legends and myths have clouded the story, and it is the hope of the writer that some of these have been dispelled." It is undoubtedly true that much has been written about the company that is fanciful and erroneous. After a careful reading of Mr. Pinkerton's probings and corrections, the reviewer, however, is of the opinion that the writer has not wholly succeeded in his endeavors. It would have been well had he cited specific authorities for many of his *exposés*. The bibliography at the end of the volume is quite inadequate, only a few of the better-known items relating to the subject being listed.

That a worth-while contribution to the rapidly increasing Hudson's Bay Company literature has been made through the publication of this volume is extremely dubious. Too many similar works have already appeared.

JOHN PERRY PRITCHETT

*The Founding of Churchill: Being the Journal of Captain James Knight, Governor-in-Chief in Hudson Bay, from the 14th of July to the 13th of September, 1717.* Edited by JAMES F. KENNEY, M.A., Ph.D., R.R.Hist.S., director of historical research and publicity in the Public Archives of Canada. (Toronto, J. M. Dent and Sons Ltd., 1932. x, 213 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

In recent years there have been few original source publications that have had so much to offer on the early fur-trade history of Hudson Bay as this *Journal* of Captain James Knight, governor-in-chief in Hudson Bay from July 14 to September 13, 1717. The only item that compares with it at all is the *Kelsey Papers* (Ottawa, 1929), edited by Arthur C. Doughty and Chester Martin. The *Journal* describes lucidly the building of the Hudson's Bay Company's second trading-post on the Churchill River, trading activities with the Indians, the weather in the bay region, and life in general in those northern confines. It gives much valuable information and many interesting pictures.

The editing of the *Journal* is exceptionally well done. The footnotes and bibliography clearly indicate painstaking research. In the footnotes there is compiled much valuable data pertaining to the Hudson Bay trade which may be used without question, for Dr. Kenney is a most careful and reliable scholar.

Students interested in the early history of the Hudson's Bay Company will find the editor's introduction a valuable contribution. It contains much new and suggestive information. Dr. Kenney has succeeded well in the introduction in giving the *Journal* its proper setting in history and has indicated sufficiently its importance as source material. The biographical sketch of Captain James Knight is not only the most complete account of that remarkable English adventurer that has yet been written, but it goes far in evaluating his services in Hudson Bay history.

The reviewer can offer no adverse criticism to the work done in the editing of this *Journal*. It is to be hoped that Dr. Kenney will discover and edit more Hudson Bay journals.

JOHN PERRY PRITCHETT

*Seth Eastman: The Master Painter of the North American Indian* (Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, vol. 87, no. 3). By DAVID I. BUSHNELL, JR. (Washington, The Smithsonian Institution, 1932. 18 p. Illustrations.)

In this interesting and valuable little pamphlet Mr. Bushnell sketches the career of an important figure in the frontier history of Minnesota and the Northwest, especially as it is reflected in the field of artistic endeavor. In concise fashion the writer describes Eastman's years of military service at Fort Crawford, Fort Snelling, in Florida, and in Texas, and in each case he presents reproductions of the drawings or paintings made by the artist as a record of his immediate environment. Of the eighteen pictures reproduced and described in the pamphlet, fourteen relate to the upper Mississippi region.

The years from 1841 to 1848, with the exception of a brief period in 1846, Eastman spent at Fort Snelling as an officer of the First United States Infantry. It was during this period of his career that he made the drawings upon which in the following decade he based many of the illustrations for Henry R. Schoolcraft's monumental *History of the Indian Tribes of the United States*. The year 1848, the last that the artist spent at Fort Snelling, "may be regarded as the most interesting period of Eastman's career as an artist," according to Mr. Bushnell. "Possibly he anticipated his early removal from the post and departure from the upper Mississippi, and therefore made many sketches in the vicinity of Fort Snelling which served him in the following years." He is known to have visited Kaposia, Little Crow's village near the site of South St. Paul; Shakopee's village on the Minnesota River; and Wabasha's Prairie, the site of Winona. His military duties doubtless took him to some of these places, but he made use of his opportunities to record his impressions in pictorial form.

In addition to using his sketches in preparing the illustrations for Schoolcraft's work, Eastman based numerous paintings on them. Fifteen of these paintings were sold during the years from 1848 to 1850 to the American Art Union, an organization that purchased and distributed to its members the works of American artists; a number of others were prepared in the late sixties for the room of the

House committee on Indian affairs in the Capitol at Washington. "Could the 15 paintings of Indian subjects which were acquired by the Art Union . . . be assembled," writes Mr. Bushnell, "they would form a collection of the greatest interest and importance, one not surpassed by the works of any other artist." Of even greater value as a first-hand record of frontier life on the upper Mississippi, would be the original pencil drawings executed by Eastman while in that region. Some of these are mentioned by the writer, and three or four are reproduced, but unfortunately the majority seem to have disappeared. A contemporary artist, Frank B. Mayer, after seeing Eastman's sketches remarked that they "are beautifully drawn and surpass his finished pictures."

B. L. H.

*The Overlanders of '62* (Archives of British Columbia, *Memoir* no. IX). By MARK SWEETEN WADE. Edited by JOHN HOSIE, provincial librarian and archivist. (Victoria, B. C., 1931. xiii, 174 p. Illustrations. \$4.00.)

This volume portrays the journey of a party of gold-seekers from Ontario and Quebec across the Canadian plains to the rich gold fields in the Cariboo region of British Columbia during the summer of 1862. Communication between the eastern provinces and Fort Garry was extremely inadequate, so the gold-seekers crossed into the United States and proceeded as far as St. Paul, where the first steps were taken toward outfitting the men for the long overland trek from Fort Garry to the mines. These Argonauts then proceeded by way of the Red River to Fort Garry, where the final organization of the party was effected. Three groups were formed, two of which proceeded directly to the mines, while the third dallied along the way prospecting for gold. From Fort Garry the route extended northwestward to Fort Carlton at the junction of the two forks of the Saskatchewan River, thence westward to the headwaters of the Fraser River via Edmonton and the Tête Jaune pass through the mountains. The gold-seekers navigated the Fraser River in rafts and dugouts and reached the mining communities below Quesnel in an exhausted condition. They endured incredible hardships, a number of them lost their lives, and only a few found wealth in the mines. Most



of them drifted into other occupations or trades and some of them returned to eastern Canada or removed south into the United States.

The story is based chiefly on five diaries kept by members of the expedition. Their observations made while crossing American soil are of interest to the student of American history. As the train bearing one of these parties neared Chicago, it passed "8 tier of Corn Cribs one Mile & a half long each crib being 12 feet wide & 12 feet high & filled to the top with corn on the cob" (p. 18). When the gold-seekers arrived at St. Paul, they found "the Western town was flooded some 6 or 8 feet deep with water & every person had deserted the place. The East town is upon a bank some 80 or 90 feet above the level of the river" (p. 19). St. Cloud was termed "the jumping-off place of civilization" (p. 21); and, as for Georgetown, one diarist referred to it as follows: "Georgetown is one of the Sea Port town, of olden times, it is composed of one Store, at which you can buy nothing, one Hotel at which we could buy neither grog nor Victuals, one Barricks & some three or four Indian wigwams & one dwelling House" (p. 26). The Red River colony was described as a settlement containing some ten thousand inhabitants, most of whom were half-breeds. They were reported to be greatly dissatisfied with their condition, and one diarist reported that "it is very evident that, unless something be done to change their circumstances, they will seek other national relationship" (p. 32). The remainder of the trip was through wilderness and across vast prairies to the mines. The journals describe minutely <sup>the</sup> route followed and the incidents of travel until the mines were reached in the fall. The last entry in any of the five diaries is dated December 9, 1862.

This is a very creditable account of one of the groups that crossed the Canadian plains in search of gold. It adds materially to the available information about the great gold strikes of the middle nineteenth century, which played an important part in opening the West for settlement. The work might have been made still more valuable if the chapter dealing with the organization of the party in eastern Canada had been expanded to show more clearly the genesis of the movement. If, instead of this volume, the diaries themselves had been published, the work might conceivably have been of greater value to the historian and of equal interest to the reader.

A conscientious and largely successful attempt has been made to identify the members of the expedition.

The book consists of twenty-three chapters and is illustrated with twenty-three photographs of members of the expedition and scenes along its westward route. The volume is sparsely annotated, but the nature of the source materials renders few annotations necessary, and an appendix contains biographical notes and other relevant material. The absence of an index is to be regretted. Curiously enough, Longfellow is made to immortalize the Falls of St. Anthony in his "Hiawatha" (p. 21) instead of Minnehaha Falls.

ARTHUR J. LARSEN

*The Religious Aspects of Swedish Immigration: A Study of Immigrant Churches.* By GEORGE M. STEPHENSON, associate professor of history, University of Minnesota. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1932. viii, 542 p. Illustrations. \$4.50.)

A recent development of some interest in American historiography has centered about the theme of immigration. There has been a revolt against that kind of study which, interested only in current immigration problems, has employed mainly the statistical method and has been propelled in one direction or another by emotional fervor. The new school of research in the field of American immigration is attempting to trace the ramifications of the subject both in Europe and in America. Its point of view is historical. Its purpose is to get underneath the surface of things, to ascertain the causes of an international movement, to portray the realities of immigrant life and adjustment, to throw light upon the interplay of background and tradition with frontier and opportunity, to view immigration in its relations to other forces that have played parts in the epic of America. Its method is characterized by the use of a wide variety of sources and by the search for material on both sides of the Atlantic.

If one takes up Dr. Stephenson's new book with high anticipations, it is because the author is himself a leader in this school of immigration research, has devoted many years to the study of Swedish immigration, including one in Sweden as a Guggenheim fellow, and has published preliminary studies in the field that bear witness to a solid

scholarship. One's anticipations are not disappointed. The volume is more than a notable contribution to American historical scholarship; it is a book of singular interest, worth reading by all who desire to understand the flow of characteristic currents under the surface of the stream of American life.

Mr. Stephenson's publishers rightly insist that the book is broader in scope than its title indicates. It comes close, in fact, to being a study of the social aspects of Swedish immigration. The author opens with a series of ten chapters dealing, for the most part, with the Swedish religious background, though in several of these, notably those on Eric Jansonism and on the Mormons, he promptly carries his story to the New World. He gives a compact analysis of the church of Sweden; deals in detail with the rise and significance of the pietists; has separate chapters on the Baptists, the Mission Friends, and the Methodists, with some notable material on the play of American influence in Sweden; and concludes these background studies by tracing recent movements in Sweden and by summarizing the struggle for religious freedom in that country. Then, shifting the scene to America, he tells first of Lars P. Esbjörn and the founding of the Swedish Lutheran Church in America, discusses Esbjörn's co-laborers, and gives an account of the Swedish-Lutheran Church in the Synod of Northern Illinois. After a chapter on early proselyting among the Swedes he proceeds to deal with the Episcopalians, the Augustana Synod and Sweden, the Baptists, the Methodists, the beginnings of the Mission Friends, and the Mission Covenant.

The setting for the concluding section of the book is furnished by a chapter on "The Swarming of the Swedes," an analysis of the course of Swedish immigration after the Civil War. Three chapters present the story of the Augustana Synod since 1860, and the author concludes with a series of essays on such topics as life on the campus of a Swedish-American college, community life, the process of Americanization, and the language problem. These topics make it plain that Mr. Stephenson has a broad conception of the implications of his subject, but they fail to do full justice to the breadth of his treatment, for the reader will find unheralded discussions of Swedish-American journalism, politics, cultural tendencies, and other topics. If, notwithstanding all this, the volume leaves one with a tantalizing sense of incompleteness, it is because, after all, it falls

short of being a history of Swedish immigration fully integrating religious, economic, political, and other factors. This can be said, of course, only as an expression of mild regret, not as a criticism, for the author has been more than generous in carrying out the promise of his title.

Certain impressions stand out conspicuously after a careful reading of Mr. Stephenson's book. One is the parallel, to which the author himself draws attention, between the English Puritans of the seventeenth century and the Swedish pietists of the nineteenth. The Swedish state church had become "a body of frigid mechanical forms and ceremonies, which quenched the spirit and gave to the people only the dry husks of formalism." Neology turned the church into a "magnificent ice palace." The pietistic reformation came, not from above, but from below; it was connected not only with the movement for democracy but also with emigration; and Mr. Stephenson's account of the pietistic movement enables the reader to understand something of that mid-western Scandinavian spirit that so much resembled the puritanism of colonial America. The beliefs and practices of the Puritan immigrants of the nineteenth century, who envisaged America as the new land of Canaan, fully merit the close study that the author accords them.

A second impression is that the transition of the individual immigrants is matched by the adaptation of institutions among the Swedes. That the Swedish Lutherans were "independent and self-reliant and their church adaptable to American conditions" the author attributes to the indifference and hostility of Swedish ecclesiastical authorities. The reviewer believes that distance and the freedom of the frontier played their part, but in any event the adaptation followed. The Augustana Synod, starting as a Swedish church, has been transformed into "an American organization in polity, spirit, and outlook."

Mr. Stephenson has a gift for succinct characterization, and there is no lack of human interest in this "study of immigrant churches." Esbjörn, the founder of the Swedish Lutheran church in the United States, was a man "buffeted by discouragements and misfortunes, foiled by fate at critical moments, tossed hither and yon by winds of doctrine, veered to this opinion and that by change of environment, shunted from liberalism to orthodoxy, alternately the defender

and the opponent of religious freedom." Upon Tuve N. Hasselquist the "free religious atmosphere of America worked like an elixir"; he "knew the inmost thoughts of his people as perhaps few churchmen have known them." Eric Janson's name "is associated with demagogism, fraud, deception, divided families, tragic leave-takings, disappointment, intense suffering, litigation, murder, and other tragedies." The man was upright, but "ignorance and an overweening self-confidence, combined with stupid persecution, drove him to absurd extremes." Unonius found that "a frontier environment was not fruitful soil for planting stiff, formal, liturgical churches." Norelius was "a man of thought rather than of action, lacking the finesse of the expert church politician, and vacillating at times," but he was sincere, devoted, democratic, and had an "inoffensive sense of humor." E. August Skogsbergh, who built a mammoth tabernacle in Minneapolis, was the Swedish Moody. Olof Olson was too generous-hearted to be a "hammerer of heretics." The home of Erland Carlsson was a "miniature Castle Garden." There is a pungency about these leaders that reminds one of some of those seventeenth-century men, as described by Mr. Samuel E. Morison in his *Builders of the Bay Colony*, who were driven by "a dynamic force called puritanism."

Mr. Stephenson writes with vigor and clarity. In his preface he states that despite certain "subconscious but formative memories" that may have affected him, he has "clung as best he could to the historian's standards of dispassionate exposition." In the judgment of the reviewer the book is scholarly throughout, written with honesty, good judgment, and courage. Grappling with problems that heretofore have had little objective treatment, he sets forth the truth without fear or favor. The fact that the text is spiced here and there with crisp irony can hardly be said to lessen its value and certainly adds to its interest. Every page bears evidence of fresh research, and this evidence is fully confirmed by the classified bibliography which, with the index, concludes the book. The volume is very handsomely printed and bound. It lacks maps but contains three illustrations, the most interesting of which is a reproduction of a portrait in oils of E. August Skogsbergh by the talented Minnesota artist, Dewey Albinson.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN

*T. N. Hasselquist: The Career and Influence of a Swedish-American Clergyman, Journalist and Educator (Augustana Library Publications, no. 14).* By OSCAR FRITIOF ANDER. (Rock Island, Illinois, The Augustana Library, 1931. x, 260 p. Portraits.)  
*Emigranterna och kyrkan. Brev från och till svenskar i Amerika 1849-1892. Med inledning och register försedda och utgivna.* By GUNNAR WESTIN. (Stockholm, Svenska Kyrkans Diakonistyrelsens Bokförlag, 1932. 612 p.)

Dr. Ander's biographical study of Hasselquist is a doctoral dissertation presented at the University of Illinois and published under the auspices of the Augustana Historical Society and the board of directors of Augustana College and Theological Seminary. It is eminently fitting that the initial publication of the Augustana Historical Society, which was organized in June, 1930, is a volume setting forth the career of the most distinguished leader in the Augustana Synod and that the author is associate professor of history in Augustana College, over whose destinies Hasselquist presided for more than twenty-five years.

Few biographers of churchmen have the opportunity of exploring such a rich collection of manuscript material as that pertaining to Hasselquist. For years this mine remained almost unknown except to an occasional researcher. In the aggregate the printed material on Hasselquist bulks large, but most of it is uncritical and superficial. In 1900 Erik Norelius published his biographical sketch; but he wrote as a partisan of Esbjörn, Hasselquist's rival for leadership in Swedish-American Lutheranism, and was able neither to sympathize with, nor to understand, the versatile and energetic churchman who grew up in a doctrinal environment in southern Sweden quite different from that of northern Sweden, from which both Esbjörn and Norelius came. When Hasselquist's powers were waning and death claimed him after almost forty years of activity in Swedish-America, there arose leaders "who knew not Joseph," and Hasselquist's fame went into a partial eclipse. The tendency was to exalt Esbjörn, in a sense the first Swedish Lutheran pastor in America, as the founder of the Augustana Synod and to slight the more important achievements of the man who supplanted him. Ander's task was to disrobe the more or less mythical and legendary Hasselquist and to present the man in the garments he wore. The

portrait is reconstructed from Hasselquist's voluminous personal correspondence, from his long and frequent editorials and articles in the press, and from the official proceedings of the synod and its conferences.

Ander's story is that of a man of liberal—even radical—ideas, who emigrated at the age of thirty-six to minister to his countrymen in the Mississippi Valley. After eight years of remarkable activity, including the establishment of the first religious paper in Swedish-America, he became the first president of the Augustana Synod upon its organization in 1860, a position he held for ten years. For thirty years he wielded an influence in this church body such as is given to few men. He placed his stamp on the Augustana Synod, its congregations, educational institutions, publications, and polity, so securely that it has never been effaced. Vastly superior in education and native ability to his colleagues, he experienced the triumphs and defeats that fall to the lot of men in similar situations. There is no mistaking the despair that overtook him on several occasions and his impatience with intrigues and pettiness; but he was convinced of the mission of the Augustana Synod and the part God had called him to play. Under the constant hammering of proselyters in other churches and the attacks of enemies outside the portals of the church, he became more conservative and "churchly." He kept the synod on an even keel. He fought the good fight for "pure doctrine" and a rigid moral code. He made but one visit to his native land, in the interest of better understanding between his church and the church of Sweden; but he could never bring himself to indorse the principle of a state church. Norelius and Sjöblom, who represented the decentralizing influences of the Minnesota Conference, had to be on their guard lest the relentless Hasselquist expose their designs, which he usually did. Chapter 8 is recommended to the novice in church history as a "close-up" that will reveal to him ecclesiastics walking the stage with feet of clay.

All in all, Ander's Hasselquist is very human—a man who could be as harmless as a dove when the wisdom of the serpent dictated. He knew what was going on in the farthest corners of the synod. He took the measure of his contemporaries, Lutherans in the several American synods and in Sweden and non-Lutherans. Time has largely vindicated his judgment with reference to problems of jour-

nalism, education, church polity, intersynodical coöperation, and the transition from Swedish to English, the last of which Dr. Ander has not set forth with sufficient emphasis.

Dr. Westin's compilation of letters is one of the fruits of this Swedish scholar's year of research in America in quest of material for a study of the free-church movements in Sweden, so auspiciously inaugurated by his brilliant study of George Scott, the progenitor of the free-church movement in Sweden, published in 1929. Dr. Ander's knowledge of the manuscript material in the Augustana College library was of valuable assistance to Dr. Westin. For those familiar with the Swedish language Westin's volume will supply the European background, which is perhaps the weakest part of Ander's dissertation. The reviewer has read many of the letters pertaining to the subject in the collections in Rock Island, in the Wieselgren Collection in Gothenburg, and in the Bethel Seminary in Stockholm, and he can testify to the judiciousness of the selection made by the compiler.

Dr. Westin's introduction is brief and there are no footnote references appended to the letters, an editorial policy justified by the fact that the significance of the letters is clear to the scholar acquainted with religious conditions in Sweden and in Swedish-America. The selection was made with the purpose of throwing light on the interrelation between the two countries. Most of the letters that crossed the Atlantic were written by or addressed to Hasselquist. It is significant that Hasselquist's correspondents were definitely allied with the pietistic and evangelical movements in the old country. Of special importance is the constant effort of Hasselquist to arouse his friends to the urgent need of ministers among the immigrants. One letter, dated May 15, 1882, addressed to Hasselquist contains reference to an incident that occurred during his visit to Sweden in 1870 and reveals as almost nothing else can the wide gulf between the Swedish-American clergyman and the pastor in the church of Sweden. The writer of the letter held in grateful memory the reply Hasselquist made to the *skål* of the bishop in Hasselquist's honor. "It was not difficult to detect on the faces of those present that they understood that your words were from another world, from another ecclesiastical system than that in whose forms we are steadily becoming more securely enmeshed." Imagine the bishop of London drink-



ing a toast to Bishop Cannon and you sense the incongruity of the Swedish bishop's toast to Hasselquist, who was a sworn enemy of liquor and tobacco. More's the pity that Hasselquist's words of reproof were not recorded.

Dr. Westin's volume was compiled primarily for readers in Sweden, which accounts for the fact that the letters are not published in translation. A companion volume containing such translations is recommended for consideration to the board of the Augustana Historical Society.

GEORGE M. STEPHENSON

"Meeker and Polk Counties, Minnesota: Warranty Deeds, Land Patents, Quit Claim Deeds, 1856-1875." (Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution, 1931. n.p.)

"Bible Records, Family Records, Register of Births and Deaths of Nobles County, 1872-1875. Register of Deeds of Nobles County, 1872-1875." (Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution, 1932. 171 p.)

"Parish Register of All Saints Episcopal Church, Northfield, Minnesota, 1856-1888." Compiled by JOSIAH EDSON CHAPTER OF THE MINNESOTA DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. (1932. 227 p.)

An organized search for personal and genealogical records from Minnesota county archives down to 1875, and their preservation in typewritten form, constitutes the ambitious program that is being undertaken by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution under the direction of Mrs. Percy J. Laurence, state chairman of genealogical research. The three volumes of records that already have appeared represent a substantial beginning. Of the two copies of each volume that have been prepared one has been deposited at the national headquarters in Continental Hall, Washington, D. C., and the other has been turned over to the Minnesota Historical Society.

The records for Meeker and Polk counties include warranty deeds, land patents, and quitclaim deeds. A uniform plan for the presentation of this material would have added considerably to the value of the volume. In the Meeker County records about half of the entries give the name of each purchaser of land, together with

the location of the land and the page on which it is recorded in the county records; while the remainder record only the name of the purchaser and the volume and page of entry in the county records. The volume contains, however, a valuable series of complete indexes.

The material presented in the volume containing Bible and family records might very properly have been the subject of several volumes. These records, which have been gathered from a variety of sources, chiefly from Minnesota, but also from other points in the United States, might have formed a separate volume. The same is true of the records of births, deaths, and deeds for Nobles County and of the certificates of marriage for Rice County from 1856 to 1931. The latter group of material is not noted in the title, but the completeness of the index prevents confusion.

The volume that presents the parish records of All Saints Episcopal Church at Northfield includes a brief historical sketch taken from the parish register and presents the records of baptisms, confirmations, communicants, marriages, and burials. The consistent use of the tabular form for the presentation of the material, with the consequent elimination of repetitious phrases, makes this volume the easiest of the three to handle.

The program of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution for utilizing county records is of inestimable value to the historian, particularly to the genealogist. If it is found possible to make future volumes available in printed form—by utilizing, for example, such a device as the offset process—their use will be greatly extended.

DONALD E. VAN KOUGHNET

*The Basilica of St. Mary of Minneapolis: A Historical and Descriptive Sketch.* By REVEREND JAMES M. REARDON. ([Minneapolis, 1932.] 144 p. Illustrations.)

Chroniclers of church history, on the whole, have been content to write in a purely ecclesiastical setting. Only occasionally have they set themselves to the larger task of casting their material in the perspective of the social history of which it is a part. Father Reardon's "story of the Parish of the Immaculate Conception of Minneapolis from shed-church to Basilica" clearly lies within the latter category. In addition to depicting the Basilica of St. Mary as mark-

ing the climax of Catholic planning and enterprise through a long period of time, the author has woven his account into the general fabric of Minneapolis and Northwest history.

Outstanding in the sketch of the pioneer period are such leaders as Father Hennepin; Father Lucian Galtier, the first resident pastor of the Catholic church in Minnesota; and Father Augustine Ravoux, who laid the foundations for "the nascent church in the Northwest." The main portion of the volume begins with an account of the pastorate of Father James McGolrick, who was the first pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, and who was responsible for the construction of the "shed-church." The subsequent history of the parish of the Immaculate Conception is grouped under the pastorates of Father McGolrick's successors. During the pastorates of Fathers Cullen and Reardon a new church edifice, the present Basilica of St. Mary, was begun and carried to completion. The cornerstone was laid on May 31, 1907, but not until the end of 1924 were the final touches put upon the elaborate interior. Archbishop Ireland "apostrophized" the new church under the title of "Pro-Cathedral of St. Mary" in November, 1913; and on February 1, 1926, Pope Pius XI raised it to the rank of a "Minor Basilica," the first to be created in the United States.

After presenting an account of the schools of the parish, which were instituted in 1853 at St. Anthony and in 1866 at Minneapolis, Father Reardon devotes a section to a description of the ecclesiastical status of the Basilica of St. Mary and to an explanation of the origin and significance of basilicas. Copies of the papal documents conferring the rank of basilica are included. The last section of the book comprises a description of the basilica structure. The detailed bibliography that brings the account to a conclusion is evidence of the extensive use that the author has made of manuscript, archival, and other sources. Father Reardon has made a valuable contribution to a salient chapter in Minnesota church history.

D. E. V. K.

## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Late in June the society published the first volume of a series of *Narratives and Documents*—the book entitled *With Pen and Pencil on the Frontier: The Diary and Sketches of Frank Blackwell Mayer*, edited by Bertha L. Heilbron, assistant editor of MINNESOTA HISTORY (xii, 214 p.). The volume, which is reviewed in the present number of the magazine by Maud Hart Lovelace, the well-known author of *Early Candlelight* and other historical novels, has attracted considerable attention since it appeared. The *New York Times* for July 17 devotes a thoughtful review to the book, which, it declares, has been edited “very skillfully and carefully by Miss Heilbron” and has “notable value and interest.” Mayer, according to the *Times*, “follows close behind” Catlin in the value of his sketches and diary “as a presentation and artistic interpretation of the red-man.” Radio station WSMK at Dayton, Ohio, made the Mayer volume the subject of a “book chat” on August 21 that concluded with the statement: “The average thoughtful reader will be fascinated by this diary of Frank B. Mayer and the student of Americana will read it with keen pleasure.” The *Minneapolis Journal* in its issue for June 26 has a feature article by Jay Edgerton describing Mayer’s Minnesota visit, his activities as an artist and traveler, and the society’s publication of the diary and sketches; and in a review in the same newspaper for July 24 Mr. Merle Potter pronounces the volume “an invaluable contribution to the literature of Minnesota.” “It is the intimate descriptions of the customs and habits of the Indians that give the book its charm,” according to the *Minneapolis Tidende* of July 28. Mr. James Gray, literary critic of the *St. Paul Dispatch*, devotes a column on July 18 to the Mayer book, and though he roundly condemns Mayer as an “uncompromisingly nice young man,” he maintains that the Baltimore artist and diarist “was far from being insensitive,” that he did not “subscribe to the conventional attitudes,” and that in a moment of inspiration he satirizes with gaiety.

It is apparent that the society’s services to the public, far from decreasing in a period of depression, have steadily increased. The

number of readers using books in the library during the quarter ending June 30 was 1,288, an increase of twenty-six per cent over the number for the corresponding quarter a year ago; and the number of books served was 8,251, a twenty per cent increase. In the newspaper department the number of readers in the last quarter—524—represented an increase of eighty-five per cent over the number for the corresponding quarter in 1931. These readers used 1,372 bound newspaper volumes and 10,900 current issues, as compared with 863 bound volumes and 7,643 current issues used a year ago.

“We had occasion, the other day, to call at the newspaper department of the Historical Society Library and were astonished to find that the state is in possession of newspaper files dating back to the territorial days,” wrote the editor of the *Taylors Falls Journal* after a visit to the society’s building. He informed the people of his community that he found there “volumes of newspapers published in Taylors Falls before the days of the Civil war, and for the turbulent years during that war,” and he explained “that an authentic history of every bit of community progress may be found in these files preserved by the state, safe from the ravages of time and the danger of destruction by fire, to be handed down to posterity.”

An interesting example of the value of the newspaper files in the possession of the society is afforded by an article entitled “Et Intervju med Henrik Ibsen Mars 1890,” published in the first issue for 1932 of a learned European periodical, *Nordisk Tidskrift*, by Professor Didrik Arup Seip of the University of Oslo, who spent a part of last year lecturing at the University of Minnesota. While in the Twin Cities Professor Seip visited the society’s building and examined, among other things, a file of *The North*, a newspaper devoted to Scandinavian interests, published at Minneapolis from 1889 to 1894. In this paper for April 9, 1890, Professor Seip discovered a detailed report of an interview with the dramatist Henrik Ibsen. The interview in question was secured at Munich in the spring of 1890 by J. J. Skordalsvold, a Minneapolis man then studying in Germany. Recorded interviews with Ibsen are very rare; only seven are reported in his *Collected Works*; and this one, full of interesting detail, is not among them. Professor Seip makes it

the subject of an important article in which, incidentally, he states that the Minnesota Historical Society is the only institution in which he has found a complete file of *The North*.

"The reading room and the museum of the Minnesota State Historical Society are oases of quiet in a world of noise," writes Charles M. Flandrau in an essay entitled "Melodeons and Hoop Skirts," published in his volume of *Loquacities* (New York, 1931). The St. Paul author asserts that the society's building "is a disastrous place to visit in a hurry, for over the perfect St. Paulite . . . it exercises an inescapable spell"; there, he declares, "one bygone event lures you irresistibly on to another." Most of the "bygone events" that fascinated Mr. Flandrau had to do with the social life of the fifties and sixties, and he found material about them in pioneer newspapers, early pictures, and quaint old programs. One choice bit that he discovered in a newspaper is worth quoting: the visitors to a fair held during the Civil War in St. Paul were advised "to patronize as far as possible the Fourth Street entrance to Mackubin's Block as 'the stairway being very broad, this is the best adapted for crinoline.'"

Nineteen additions were made to the active membership of the society during the quarter ending June 30. The names of the new members, grouped by counties, follow:

HENNEPIN: Kern Bayliss, Mrs. William G. Crocker, Noel Holm, Dr. Jay A. Myers, and Walter L. Nixon, all of Minneapolis.

ISANTI: Guy L. Runyan of Cambridge.

LE SUEUR: John M. Kaisersatt, Jr., of Montgomery.

OLMSTED: Agnes M. Larson and Arthur E. Reiter of Rochester.

RAMSEY: William J. Joseph, Mrs. Helen Thane Katz, and Vernon W. O'Connor, all of St. Paul.

RICE: Paul R. Fossum of Northfield.

ST. LOUIS: Dr. Joseph Christopherson of Virginia and Dr. Edward H. Nelson of Chisholm.

STEARNS: Dudley A. Brainard and Peter J. Seberger of St. Cloud.

TODD: Lloyd V. Engle of Long Prairie.

NONRESIDENT: Mrs. Elizabeth K. Dwinelle of Libby, Montana.

The North Star chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of St. Paul has become an annual institutional member of the society.

The society lost five active members by death during the three months ending June 30: Clair A. Chapman of Rochester, April 21; Dr. Hastings H. Hart of New York City, May 9; Mrs. Mary E. McGill of St. Paul, May 10; John Seliskar of St. Paul, June 8; and the Honorable R. A. Wilkinson of St. Paul, June 29. Professor John Bach McMaster of Philadelphia, an honorary member, died on May 24.

A group of students enrolled in the library school of the University of Minnesota visited the society on April 6. One of these students, Miss Pearl Hove, did practice work in various divisions of the society during March and April.

A brief article about the historic markers that are being erected along Minnesota highways by the Minnesota Historical Society in coöperation with the state highway department is contributed to the *Minnesota Club Woman* for March-April by Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, the curator of the society's museum.

The superintendent has been appointed a member of the Clarence Walworth Alvord Memorial Commission of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association.

The address on "Leaders in American Immigration" presented by Dr. Blegen at the annual meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society in 1931, has been published in the society's *Transactions* for 1931 and has also been issued as an offprint (14 p.).

An exhibit of early Minnesota imprints in the society's library was arranged in the superintendent's office on May 6 for a Minneapolis book club the members of which are interested in rare editions and fine printing.

The superintendent gave talks on Minnesota history before the St. Paul chapter of the American Interprofessional Institute, April 7; the St. Cloud Reading Room Society, April 14; the North Star chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in St. Paul, April 16; the St. Paul Association of Office Men, May 10; and the Blue Earth County Historical Society, May 11. He also spoke on "Making the Past Serve the Present" at high school commencements in North Branch, Murdock, and Kerkhoven, on May 30,

and June 2 and 3; and attended, on June 2, a meeting of the directors of the Swift County Historical Society at Benson. The curator of the museum gave Minnesota history addresses before the St. Paul Rotary Club, May 17; the St. Paul Transportation Club, May 24; the South St. Paul Kiwanis Club, June 2; and the Moorhead Kiwanis Club, June 16; and on June 18 and 19 he participated in the La Vérendrye celebration at Warroad, speaking at the dedication of the American Fur Company post marker erected by the Roseau County Historical Society and on "The Fur-Trader as an Aid to Settlement" at the special La Vérendrye program. The curator of manuscripts addressed the Friday Study Club of St. Paul on May 27 on the subject of "Pioneer Women."

#### A GREAT CIVIL WAR COLLECTION

It is now possible to present a fuller account of the monumental collection of the late Judge Ell Torrance of Minneapolis, which the Torrance family, including Mrs. Torrance, her four children,—Mr. Ell Torrance, Jr., of Minneapolis, Judge Graham M. Torrance of Bemidji, Mrs. George F. Orde of Minneapolis, and Mrs. Hester H. Stuart of Pasadena, California,—and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Bertha R. Torrance of Hanover, Germany, the widow of Dr. Charles M. Torrance, have presented to the society (see *ante*, p. 198). The chief feature of the gift is the Civil War collection, which represents the judge's life-long interest in the history of the great sectional conflict. Containing about three thousand pamphlets and nearly two thousand bound volumes, it constitutes one of the most comprehensive collections in this field in existence.

The pamphlets include a large amount of Lincoln material, which will greatly augment this part of the society's Civil War collection. A notable feature of the bound material is a large group of histories of the Civil War as a whole, many of which deal with particular localities and treat of such specific subjects as Negro problems, secret service work, religious backgrounds, naval history, and individual campaigns and battles. Official records are well represented and include a handsomely bound set of the official records of the Union and Confederate armies. The emphasis that is placed upon the history of the Confederacy in this group of material is preserved in



varying degree throughout the collection and is an expression of Judge Torrance's desire to forward conciliation and mutual understanding between the people of the North and the South.

The largest group of bound volumes comprises regimental and state histories of the Civil War, dealing chiefly with the participation of Illinois, Indiana, New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania in the conflict. Another important category is the extensive collection of the publications of Civil War veterans' associations. This includes records of the state and national divisions of such associations as the Grand Army of the Republic, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the United Confederate Veterans. Many of these records are in pamphlet form. In contrast to the formal sources of the Civil War period, is an imposing section of biographical works, which includes some fiction. In the main this section falls into two groups: first, biographies of such military leaders as Grant, Sherman, Davis, Jackson, and Lee; and second, letters, diaries, and reminiscences. The latter group deals with many branches of service and contains a number of volumes describing the condition of prisoners of war held by Confederate authorities.

In addition to the voluminous sources for a study of the Civil War the collection contains other important categories of material. Chief among these is an extensive group of manuscripts and other records that relate largely to Judge Torrance's career as a Minneapolis lawyer, business man, and zealous officer in the Grand Army of the Republic, and which also reflect his interest in educational and religious matters. Another group consists of a number of general United States histories, including some naval and military histories, together with a few volumes on the Spanish and World wars. Among the miscellaneous items of the collection are 136 photographs, most of them of eminent Civil War leaders.

In general, the collection constitutes one of the most interesting and important gifts that the society has received. Through its preservation and use for American historical research, it will serve as a permanent memorial to the broad interests and the unflagging enthusiasm of Judge Torrance. A special bookplate will be employed for the Torrance Collection and a complete list of all the items comprising it will be available to users. The heirs of the collector, in pre-

senting this magnificent gift to the society, richly deserve the thanks and appreciation not only of the society but also of the people of Minnesota for their public spirit.

#### ACCESSIONS

A photostatic copy of a letter by Jonathan Carver, which was written from Charlestown, New Hampshire, on November 15, 1759, while the explorer was on the expedition against Crown Point, is the gift of Mr. Edward C. Caldwell of New York. The letter, the original of which is in the Library of Congress, relates to supplies and the condition of the provincial troops.

Seven little notebooks comprising a manuscript record kept by Dr. Douglass Houghton as physician and naturalist with the Schoolcraft expedition to Lake Itasca in 1832, have been borrowed for examination and copying from the Michigan Historical Commission at Lansing. The account of the expedition's westward journey opens at Fond du Lac; that of the return trip is concluded at Sault Ste. Marie. Of special value are Dr. Houghton's records of Indians that he vaccinated, his lists of plants that the Indians used for medicinal purposes, and his notes on the geology of the Great Lakes region.

Photostatic copies of two letters written by William T. Boutwell in 1833 have been made for the society through the courtesy of his granddaughter, Mrs. Austin Kilgore of Minneapolis, who discovered them recently among her family papers. They are written in the vivid style that enlivens all Boutwell's writings. In one letter he characterizes the Leech Lake Indians thus: "Never have I seen pride stalk the streets of Boston or N. York, as I have seen it here lift the head set with feathers & compassed with a strip of scarlet."

An expense book and a scrapbook kept by James W. Mandigo at White Pigeon, Michigan, between 1834 and 1891 and a flute that he played in 1835 have been presented by his son, Mr. William R. Mandigo of St. Paul.

Photostatic copies of two letters written at Red Wing and Long Prairie in 1849 by Mrs. Maria H. Hancock, the wife of the missionary, Joseph W. Hancock, have been made for the society from the originals in the possession of Mr. Ernest Reiff of North St. Paul.

Hancock worked both among the Sioux at Red Wing and among the Winnebago at Long Prairie. Mrs. Hancock's letters contain information on travel methods, the Indians, the inefficiency of the Winnebago agent, the Long Prairie school, and the Hancock family.

Transcripts of more than sixty letters of missionaries among the Sioux and of replies from their superiors in Boston have been received recently from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in Boston. They relate to such subjects as the so-called "Education Fund," which caused trouble for years among the lower Sioux; the treaty of 1851; the degree of guilt of the Sioux in the outbreak of 1862; and the prospects for work among the Winnebago. A document partly in the handwriting of Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, written on May 20, 1852, contains the following statement about Samuel W. Pond, which seems to settle the question of how that missionary first had his attention directed to the Minnesota field: "At Galena he first heard of the Dakotas . . . by some emigrants from Lord Selkirk's colony."

Much valuable material on Mississippi River steamboating, the real estate business in St. Paul, railroads, banking, the St. Paul Opera House, insurance, and general business methods during the period between 1854 and 1897 is included in a collection, which fills about twenty filing boxes, of the papers of Commodore William F. Davidson, presented by his granddaughter, Miss Sarah A. Davidson of St. Paul. Since wheat constituted a large part of the freight carried by Davidson's steamboats, the papers also include information on crops, elevators, shippers, and markets.

The diary kept by Samuel M. Putnam in 1856 while he was employed in laying out a road between Little Falls, Long Prairie, and Otter Tail Lake and in the spring of 1857, when he went to the Red River with a party that established a town site near Graham's Point, has been received from Mrs. Beulah Green of Edna, Texas. From her also have been obtained issues of three newspapers published at Wellesboro, Pennsylvania—the *Tioga Eagle* for December 21, 1854, the *Tioga Democrat* for February 12, 1857, and the *Agi-tator* for January 21, 1858—and of the *Namasket Gazette* of Middleborough, Massachusetts, for March 7, 1856, all of which contain letters and other contributions prepared by Putnam relating to his

Minnesota experiences. Three issues of the rare *Northern Herald* of Little Falls, dated January 14, 21, and August 19, 1857, which had been preserved by Putnam, also have been received from Mrs. Green. A fourth issue of the latter paper, dated October 28, 1857, has been obtained from Miss Frances Gayle of Edna, Texas. No other copies of this early Minnesota newspaper are known to be in existence.

A little leather-bound notebook that was used in 1859 as an account book by Captain William B. Dodd of St. Peter, who was one of the founders of that city and who laid out the Dodd Road, and as a diary by his wife in 1862 and 1863 has been received from their granddaughter, Mrs. Harriet L. Jensen of Minneapolis. The diary entries made by Mrs. Dodd during the Sioux War of 1862, in which her husband lost his life, are of special interest. She tells of his departure to march to the defense of New Ulm, of the panic caused at St. Peter by the outbreak, and of the rumor that reached her on August 25 that Dodd had been killed. Two days later she records: "Dr. Daniel came and brought me his *last* words." Mrs. Jensen also has presented some daguerreotype portraits of Captain and Mrs. Dodd, a bit of old candle wick, a little writing desk, and several early miniature books. Among the latter are *The Christian Minister's Affectionate Advice to a Married Couple* by the Reverend James Bean (New York, n. d.), and *True Politeness: A Hand-book of Etiquette for Ladies* by "an American lady" (Philadelphia, 1850).

Mrs. Rachel A. Linn of Kimball has presented her recollections of the building of the blockhouse at Maine Prairie during the Sioux War of 1862.

Photostatic or typewritten copies of nine items from the papers of Captain James L. Fisk have been made from the originals in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. Delle F. Staus of Hartland, Wisconsin, through the courtesy of Professor Charles J. Ritchey of St. Paul. The papers relate to the overland expeditions to the western gold mines led by Fisk in the sixties.

A study of "The Maine Law in Minnesota," prepared by Miss Agnes Ellingsen for a history course at the University of Minnesota, has been presented by the author.

A copy of the articles of incorporation of the Socialist Publishing Association organized at Minneapolis in 1898 and the certificate of organization in the same city in 1900 of the Russian Orthodox Cemetery Association have been presented by Mr. Amos Deinard of Minneapolis.

A volume containing the minutes of meetings of the Independent Order of B'rith Abram of St. Paul, Northwestern Lodge number 74, from 1906 to 1924, is the gift of Mr. John M. Samson of St. Paul.

Five volumes of records of the Church of the Ascension of St. Paul, covering the period from 1886 to 1931, have been presented by the Reverend A. G. Pinkham of Lakewood, formerly the rector of the church. They contain records of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials, and minutes of the meetings of wardens and vestry members.

A brief sketch of the late Reverend Frank E. Higgins, a missionary to the lumberjacks of the Minnesota logging camps in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, has been received from Mr. Hansen Evesmith of Fargo, North Dakota.

Thirty-five letters and other items written by Charles A. Lindbergh, Sr., between September, 1921, and May, 1923, have been obtained by the society. Most of the letters relate to the publication of his book, *The Economic Pinch*, and are addressed to his publishers, Dorrance and Company of Philadelphia. In many of them Lindbergh expresses his views on special privilege, banks, and various political and economic phases of American life during the first quarter of the present century.

About a score of items relating to the Current Events Club of Crookston have been presented by Mrs. William Watts of Crookston. Another women's organization, the Schubert Club of St. Paul, has added the thirty-eighth volume of its records to the file of its archives already in the possession of the society (see *ante*, 4:173). This volume covers the years 1929 and 1930.

A collection of typewritten copies of songs and poems of Minnesota and the Northwest by various authors has been assembled in a volume and presented by Mr. Frank Morris of Minneapolis.

Biographical sketches of Charles Bechhoefer, James Cormican, Charles W. Farnham, William O. Hillman, James Manahan, Frank O. Osborne, and Howard Wheeler, deceased members of the Ramsey County Bar Association, have been received from that organization.

The society has recently acquired a collection of twenty-two Danish and Norwegian books and pamphlets comprising fiction, travel and description, and biography, all in relation to American and Scandinavian-American subjects. *Nordvestens Nybyggere* ("The Settlers of the Northwest") by "C. O." is a handbook of information about the Northwest, arranged in the form of questions and answers (Chicago, 1887. 29 p.). *Sigmund Framnæs* and *Sigmund Framnæs i Amerika* are two novels by Embret Martinson, published at Tacoma in 1895, in which an immigrant's story is carried from Norway to the west coast. *Paa Prærien i Nybyggertiden* ("On the Prairie in Pioneer Times") is an autobiographical account by K. C. Bodholdt, a Danish minister who arrived in America in 1882 (Cedar Falls, Iowa, 1916). *Dr. John Nathan Kildahl: En Mindebok* (Minneapolis, 1921) is a memorial volume edited by R. Malmin in honor of a noted Norwegian-American who served as president of St. Olaf College for fifteen years. It includes an account by O. E. Rølvaag of "Kildahl at St. Olaf College." *Blandt Vestens Vikinger* ("Among the Vikings of the West") is a series of Norwegian-American sketches by Knut M. Teigen (Minneapolis, 1907). *Fra Min Ungdoms Nabolag* ("From the Neighborhood of My Boyhood") by O. A. Buslett (Eau Claire, Wisconsin, 1918) is a spirited Norwegian-American tale. Two volumes of stories by Waldemar Ager, the author of *I Sit Alone*, are included: *Fortællinger for Eyvind* ("Stories for Eyvind") and *Paa Drikkeondets Konto* ("To the Debit of the Liquor Evil"). Several volumes by R. Andersen, a Danish minister in New York, are included, among them *Banebrydere for Kirken i Amerika* ("Trail Blazers for the Church in America") and *Pastor N. M. Hansen* (Minneapolis, 1930), the latter a biography of a pioneer Danish minister in Canada. *Dalboerne* by Kristian Østergaard (Copenhagen, 1913) is a novel of Danish-American life.

A collection of twenty-five birch-bark transparencies made by the Chippewa women through a process of folding and biting and twenty-

five birch-bark patterns have been presented by the Misses Frances and Margaret Densmore of Red Wing.

Among the items recently added to the domestic life collection are a damask linen towel with a woven inscription, presented by Mrs. A. R. Walbridge of Hastings; a brown linen traveling case dating from the eighties, received from Miss Margaret Aiton of Minneapolis; a buffalo robe, given by Mrs. Mary J. Holmes of Minneapolis; a yard of coarse hand-woven linen made in 1882, received from Mr. John Fenna of Hillman; and a chair frame made with a jackknife about 1858, presented by Miss M. L. Hills of St. Paul.

A breech-loading smooth-bore shotgun dating from 1870 has been presented by Mr. Herman Tideman of Red Wing through the courtesy of Mr. Warren Moore of St. Paul.

A number of beautiful gowns dating from the late nineties, from Mr. Charles M. Flandrau of St. Paul; a cape, neck piece, and muff made of black silk and trimmed with swan's down, dating from 1825, from Mrs. Flora B. Nye of St. Paul; some white shirt waists worn about 1900, from Mrs. William E. Brooke of Minneapolis; an evening coat of 1908, from Miss Mabel Gardner of Minneapolis; and three men's white pique vests of an early date, from Miss Alice LeDuc of Minneapolis have been added to the costume collection.

Among the pictures recently received by the society are seven views of early Rice County mills, from Mr. Paul R. Fossum of Northfield; twenty-six pictures made at Fergus Falls after the cyclone of 1919, from Mrs. Marie Booth of St. Paul; a collection of World War pictures, from Mr. Raymon Bowers of Gladstone; 267 views of Alaska, from the estate of Newton H. Winchell of Minneapolis; and portraits of two early Episcopal bishops of Minnesota, James D. Morrison of Duluth and Mahlon N. Gilbert of St. Paul, from Miss Alice F. Millard of St. Paul.

## NEWS AND COMMENT

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association was held, from April 28 to 30, at Lincoln, Nebraska, where a quarter of a century ago the organization was founded.<sup>1</sup> One of its most delightful sessions was an anniversary dinner at which Benjamin F. Shambaugh described the "Beginnings" of the association; Mrs. Clarence S. Paine, the secretary, traced its "Progress"; Arthur C. Cole discussed the work of its quarterly, of which he is the editor; and Edward E. Dale of the University of Oklahoma, with a plainsman's skill in scanning far horizons, analyzed the association's "Prospects." A tribute to Frederick J. Turner as historian, teacher, and man was paid by Joseph Schafer, and a greeting penned by the master of western history shortly before his death was read.

The presidential address was given by Beverley W. Bond, Jr., of the University of Cincinnati upon the subject "American Civilization Comes to the Old Northwest." This is published in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for June. At the annual business meeting John D. Hicks of the University of Nebraska was chosen president. Among the many hospitalities of the occasion were a dinner tendered by the University of Nebraska and receptions by the governor of Nebraska and the chancellor of the university.

The meeting opened with a session on the Mississippi River, with papers by James A. James of Northwestern University on Oliver Pollock, "A New Orleans Trader and the Free Navigation of the Mississippi River," and by William J. Petersen of the State Historical Society of Iowa on "Steamboating in the Upper Mississippi Fur Trade." Speaking at a luncheon conference on "Washington and the West," Louise Phelps Kellogg of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin developed the theory that Washington's contacts with French officers in the West laid the basis for his military efficiency and for his broad international policies. An interesting session of the second day was that devoted to social history, with papers by

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<sup>1</sup> This note, written by Mr. Blegen, is reprinted by permission from the *American Historical Review* for July.



Edgar B. Wesley of the University of Minnesota on "Life at a Frontier Post, Fort Atkinson, 1823-26"; by Robert E. Riegel of Dartmouth College on "Medical Novelties of a Century Ago," including phrenology and hypnotism; and by William W. Sweet of the University of Chicago on "The Churches as Moral Courts of the Frontier." At a luncheon conference Frank H. Hodder of the University of Kansas presented the "inside history" of "The Compromise of 1850." Both the basis and the plan of the compromise proposed by Clay, he said, were rejected, whereas the important bills were drawn by Douglas and passed in the Senate under his leadership after Clay's withdrawal. Western problems, with emphasis upon finance, were discussed in another session, with papers by Henrietta M. Larson of the Harvard graduate school of business administration on "Some Aspects of Private Banking in the Mississippi Valley before 1873"; and by George F. Howe of the University of Cincinnati on "The Star Route Frauds." At the teachers' section A. C. Krey of the University of Minnesota reported on the American Historical Association's investigation of the social studies and Professor Hodder spoke on the need of "Modernizing American History"—that is, of making American history textbooks reflect the advance of American historical research. Elmer Ellis of the University of Missouri and Mrs. Grace G. Hyatt of Lincoln participated in the discussion. The usual conference of directors of state historical societies was held. At the final luncheon Isaac J. Cox of Northwestern University discussed the efforts of Europeans—"On the Way to the Indies"—to surmount the barrier of a continent.

Perhaps the most distinctive feature of the program was the attention given, in two sessions, to the Great Plains and their historical problems. The first of these sessions opened with a paper by Carl C. Rister of the University of Oklahoma on "Outlaws and Vigilantes of the Southern Plains,"—a region that was threatened with outlaw control, but "lifted itself by its own boot-straps from the quagmire of lawlessness." Earle D. Ross of Iowa State College, discussing "Horace Greeley and the West," declared that any special regard that the noted editor had for the West sprang from "his realization of its peculiar relation to the nation's destiny." Walter P. Webb of the University of Texas then introduced a discussion of "The Nature of the Historical Problems of the Plains." He as-

serted that the historian employs, in such terms as the "frontier," the "West," and the "western frontier," a misleading terminology, for the frontier moved into the plains region—the "surviving fragment of a primitive land"—from three directions. There is a sound basis, he concluded, for "defining the West as a homogeneous section, a cultural, social, and economic unit," drawing a line between humid and arid land, "separating the East from the West in our books as they are in reality now separated in culture and in institutions," and recognizing that we have had a woodlands frontier and a plains frontier. Ernest S. Osgood of the University of Minnesota, in the discussion that followed, pointed out that the first clash on the plains was not between agriculturist and cattleman, but between the little cattleman—emerging from the humid lands—and the big cattleman of the plains. At the second Plains session Stanley Vestal (Professor W. S. Campbell) of the University of Oklahoma gave a highly interesting and original address entitled "Through Indian Eyes—the White Man in War and Peace as Seen by the Plains Indian, 1850–1876."

"The method of applying North American, that is, continental, contours to the histories of Canada and the United States is very useful" writes J. Bartlet Brebner in an article on "Canadian and North American History," which appears in the *Report* of the Canadian Historical Association for 1931. Mr. Brebner makes a plea for a broader viewpoint in studying the histories of the United States and Canada. In the same *Report* Professor A. L. Burt presents "A New Approach to the Problem of the Western Posts."

An interesting and important new historical periodical is the *Pacific Historical Review*, the first number of which appeared in March under the editorship of John C. Parish. This magazine, issued by the Pacific coast branch of the American Historical Association, will give special attention to the history of the western states and to the countries touching the Pacific. "The Atlantic brought an old world in touch with a new," writes the editor. "The Pacific brought a new world in touch with an old. California and China, Oregon and Hawaii, Mexico and the Philippines, Peru and Australia made each other's acquaintance. They came to see that instead of a dividing factor, a river or an ocean is bound

to become a unifying force. The Basin of the Pacific was an entity. Its history was a unity. A community of interest and experience bound together the peoples that looked out upon the great ocean."

*An Index* to the first fifteen volumes of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, covering the years 1914 to 1929, has been issued by that magazine (1932. 137 p.). Since the indexes to the individual volumes of the *Review* have been very brief, students of American history will welcome the appearance of this detailed, analytical index.

Since "the history of each individual community is interwoven with that of the state and nation, the history of the country as taught in the elementary and high schools should take cognizance of that fact," writes Asa E. Martin in a study of "Research in State History: Its Problems and Opportunities," which appears in the *Ohio Archæological and Historical Quarterly* for October, 1931. The writer points out that a "knowledge of local history will inevitably instil into us all a greater degree of loyalty to our respective communities and a more genuine devotion to their best interests than can be otherwise obtained."

Dartmouth College has inaugurated a new manuscript series by publishing the *Letters of Eleazar Wheelock's Indians*, ably edited from the originals by James B. McCallum (Hanover, 1932. 327 p.). The documents enable the reader to form "an idea of the processes of the aboriginal mind when brought into close contact with the Puritan civilization of the eighteenth century."

"The Government Factory System Among the Indians, 1795-1822" is discussed by Edgar B. Wesley in the *Journal of Economic and Business History* for May. The writer points out that the system, which included a total of twenty-eight stores, "exerted a great influence upon the Indians, frontier defense, the fur trade, and international relations on the frontier." It had many opponents, however, particularly among those interested in the fur trade; and financially the system was not a success. Mr. Wesley quotes a Congressional committee report of 1819 as follows: "Although these establishments have been a pecuniary loss to the United States . . . they have been of great advantage, not only on the score of humanity

to the Indian tribes, but also in preserving the lives and property of our frontier inhabitants." In the same issue of the *Journal* is an article by Henrietta M. Larson on "E. W. Clark & Co., 1837-1857: The Beginning of an American Private Bank." It includes brief accounts of branches established in the Middle West at St. Louis, Burlington, Iowa, and Springfield, Illinois, by this great Philadelphia banking firm in the forties and fifties.

The United States department of agriculture has issued as number 23 in its *Bibliographical Contributions* a valuable classified bibliography relating to the *Agriculture of the American Indians* (Washington, D. C., 1932. 89 p.). The compiler, Mr. Everett E. Edwards, prefaces the volume with a very concise discussion of the contributions made by the Indians to present-day civilization. The bibliography opens with general historical references; the second section relates to the agriculture of particular regions and tribes; the third has to do with specific crops: corn, cotton, maple sugar, potatoes, tobacco, and wild rice; the fourth is miscellaneous, with subsections on bees, dogs, horses, and wild turkeys; the fifth deals with agriculture on Indian reservations in the United States; and the last is on uncultivated plants used by the American Indians for food, industrial, and medicinal purposes. Analytical comments and a full index add greatly to the value of the bibliography.

The relations between "Indians and Steamboats on the Upper Mississippi" are set forth in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for April by William J. Petersen, whose study of "Steamboating in the Upper Mississippi Fur Trade" appears in the present issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY. The article opens with a detailed account of the northward journey of the "Virginia" to Fort Snelling in May, 1823, and describes the fear with which the Indians around the mouth of the Minnesota viewed the first craft to reach that point. The writer relates that thereafter "Steamboats played an important part in the relations of the whites and the Indians for almost half a century, and the red men soon became accustomed to the puffing, panting craft as they went up and down the Mississippi."

The *Life of Black Hawk* "dictated by himself, turned into English by the Indian interpreter Antoine LeClaire, and committed to paper by J. B. Patterson," which was originally published at Boston

in 1834, has been issued in an attractive reprint by the State Historical Society of Iowa (1932. 155 p.). A note is supplied by Dr. Benjamin F. Shambaugh, in which he explains that the edition has been published to commemorate the one-hundredth anniversary of the treaty of 1832 "by which a considerable tract of land west of the Mississippi River was ceded to the United States."

A second volume of *Chippewa Tales* has been issued by Mrs. Jeanne L. Cappel, whose Indian name is "Wa-be-no O-pee-chee" (Los Angeles, 1931). An earlier volume of tales was published by the same author in 1928 (see *ante*, 10:83).

The paper entitled "A Footnote to the Quebec Act" which Dr. Louise Phelps Kellogg read at the mid-winter meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association in Minneapolis last December appears in the *Canadian Historical Review* for June.

The story of *Charley Reynolds: Soldier, Hunter, Scout and Guide*, as set forth by John E. and George J. Remsburg in a series of articles published in the *Potter* [Kansas] *Kansan* in 1914 and 1915, has been recently reprinted in an attractive little volume (Kansas City, 1931. 88 p.). The writers evidently did not know of the existence of Reynold's diary of the Custer campaign of 1876, in which the scout lost his life. At the time when the articles were written the diary was owned by the late Olin D. Wheeler of St. Paul, who in 1920 presented it to the Minnesota Historical Society (see *ante*, 3:524).

The Princeton University Press is publishing a series of *Narratives of the Trans-Mississippi Frontier*, with Carl L. Cannon as the general editor. Among the four volumes thus far issued is Henry Villard's *The Past and Present of the Pike's Peak Gold Regions*, reprinted from the edition of 1860, with editorial notes by Le Roy R. Hafen. Another interesting volume is Joseph E. Ware's *The Emigrants' Guide to California*, reprinted from the 1849 edition of that work.

*Westward to the Pacific* by Marion G. Clark is an attempt to picture for students in the grade schools the broad sweep of the westward movement (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1932. 498 p.). In a section devoted to "Early Towns in the Louisiana Ter-

ritory," Minneapolis is included with the following curious comment: "When, in 1823, steamboats reached Fort Snelling, far up the Mississippi, a town grew up around the fort. Minneapolis, they called it from the Indian words meaning the water city." It should be pointed out that Minneapolis had its origin long after 1823 some distance from Fort Snelling, and that its name is a compound of Sioux and Greek words.

"The Agricultural Surplus: A Problem in History," an address given at a joint meeting of the Agricultural History Society and the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Minneapolis on December 28, 1931, by Frederic L. Paxson, is published in the April issue of *Agricultural History*.

Of special interest to students of transportation history are three *Publications* issued in 1931 and 1932 by the American Association for Railroad and Locomotive History (Auburn, Indiana). According to its by-laws, the association has for its object the "increase, diffusion and perpetuation of knowledge of locomotive and early railroad history and data and to assist and mutually benefit collectors of locomotive photographs and early railroad data." It has undertaken to carry out its purpose through the publication of these profusely illustrated pamphlets. They include long lists of locomotives used by various early railroads, with pictures and individual descriptions of many of the engines. Many of the railroads described had lines in Minnesota and the Northwest.

The spectacular ceremony that marked the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad between St. Paul and the Pacific coast is described in a pamphlet entitled *Driving the Golden Spike* by George N. Hillman of St. Paul (32 p.). In 1883 the writer accompanied Henry Villard, president of the newly completed railroad, in the capacity of shorthand reporter on the journey from St. Paul to the coast; he is therefore particularly well qualified to review the story of the "triumphal trip" to the West.

That the hearth stone used at the old Lac qui Parle mission is preserved at the Indian mission school at Santee, Nebraska, is revealed in an article published in the *Western Guard* of Madison for April 15. According to this account, the stone was taken to Santee

by the Reverend Alfred L. Riggs, a son of Stephen R. Riggs, the Minnesota missionary.

A number of articles about the life and work of Bishop Frederic Baraga appear in the *Koledar Ave Maria*, an almanac issued by the Slovenian Franciscans of Lemont, Illinois, for 1930 and 1931. One of these in the issue for 1931, by Albina J. Wahcic, calls attention to the centenary of Bishop Baraga's arrival in America and describes the celebration held at Eveleth on June 29, 1931, in commemoration of this anniversary.

Considerable information about Catholic colonization in Minnesota is included in a book on *Catholic Charities in the United States* by John O'Grady (Washington, 1930. 475 p.). "Archbishop Ireland's work in Catholic colonization," writes the author, "will ever be regarded as one of the finest contributions that has ever been made to immigrants' welfare and hence to the building of the Catholic church in the United States."

A large number of important letters relating to national as well as local political situations during the past two decades are published in a volume entitled *The Philosophy of a Politician: An Epistolary Biography of Edward E. Smith* of Minneapolis, edited and privately printed by his son, Rollin L. Smith (Minneapolis, 1932. 403 p.). In 1928 the elder Smith was described as "practically the last of his kind, the last of the old-school politicians . . . a sort of boss emeritus." His son has drawn on his letters and other writings and on the letters that he received from scores of well-known people to present a picture of his political influence; the editor is correct in believing that the volume "will prove a mine of information, historical and political." A number of portraits of Smith appear in the volume.

Much valuable statistical material about northern Minnesota is included in a pamphlet entitled *Economic Aspects of Land Settlement in the Cut-over Region of the Great Lakes States* by W. A. Hartman and John D. Black, which has been published by the United States department of agriculture as number 160 of its *Circulars*.

In *A Paul Bunyan Geography*, Charles J. Finger traces the adventures of the gigantic hero of the lumberjacks from Maine west-

ward to the Pacific (York, Pennsylvania, 1931. 39 p.). The author retells the Paul Bunyan legends in such a way as to show that through his efforts "many Notable Things were done to change the face of these United States."

*The Life of a Lumberman* by John E. Nelligan, as told to Charles M. Sheridan, which appeared in installments in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* (see *ante*, 11:105), has been published in book form (1929. 202 p.). Among the subjects covered in individual chapters are "The Great Lakes Pineries," "Jams and Washouts," "Cruising in Minnesota," and "Logging Methods and Camp Life."

*The Wisconsin Lead Region* is the subject chosen by Joseph Schaffer for volume 3 of the *General Studies* of the *Wisconsin Domesday Book* issued by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (Madison, 1932. 341 p.). The volume includes chapters on the "Beginnings of Lead Mining," "The Lead Miners," "Land Selection," "Type Landholders," "The Agricultural Transition," "Towns and Villages," and "Population Changes."

The control of the fur trade during the decade from 1815 to 1825 is described as a "matter of national importance" by Edgar B. Wesley in an article on "Some Official Aspects of the Fur Trade in the Northwest," which appears in the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* for April. Dr. Wesley reviews in his discussion the efforts of the government to protect the rights of the Indians, to regulate the operations of traders and trappers, to license traders, to restrict the powers of Indian agents, to regulate the liquor traffic, and to exclude foreigners from engaging in the fur trade within the area of the United States. He estimates the responsibility of the traders for the border troubles that later raged on the frontier, stating that the "fur trade was the first step in the development of a frontier and was largely responsible for creating a condition which made defense necessary." In the same issue of the *Quarterly* is published an unusually interesting journal kept by Ensign J. Harman Bond of the Royal Canadian Rifles during a journey from Kingston, Ontario, to Fort Garry in July, 1860. This narrative, the original of which is in the Public Archives of Canada, has been edited by Arthur H. Moehlman. As it includes accounts of a journey by stage from St. Paul via St. Cloud to Georgetown and of a trip from that point



on the "Anson Northup" by way of the Red River to Fort Garry, the journal is of great value to the student of transportation in pioneer Minnesota. A review of "Pioneer Printing in North Dakota" is contributed by Douglas C. McMurtrie to this number of the *Quarterly*, and an account of the "Advent of the American Indian into North Dakota" is supplied by J. M. Gillette.

Of more than ordinary interest for Minnesota readers are five letters written from points in Minnesota and Iowa by Dr. Isaac H. Harriott, one of the founders of a settlement at Spirit Lake in north-western Iowa in 1856 and a victim of the Spirit Lake massacre in the following year, which are published in full in connection with a sketch of the writer's career, by Professor F. I. Herriott, in the *Annals of Iowa* for April. Dr. Harriott was one of the incorporators of a company organized at Red Wing in 1856 for the purpose of establishing a settlement on Lake Okoboji; he describes the project, in which Senator Henry M. Rice also was interested, in a letter written at Sioux City on July 2, 1856. In an earlier letter, dated at St. Paul, July 15, 1855, he gives a detailed account of his journey up the Mississippi from St. Louis and presents a picture of the growing communities that he found at the head of navigation. "I am some what disappointed in my expectations of this place," he writes of St. Paul; "the Location is not as good as I expected. . . . the business is done mostly on one street, and that is two miles in length and built up almost solid." After seeing St. Anthony and Minneapolis he predicted that "those two places are destined to be large Cities from the fact that they possess superior advantages for manufacturing." In the dead of winter Harriott made a trip to Lake Superior, which he describes in a letter written from Red Wing on February 23, 1856. He settled at the latter place for a time and engaged in the drug business there. The longest letter was written from Spirit Lake on December 11, 1856, and contains a detailed account of the location of the town site. The letters were discovered by Professor Herriott in the hands of members of Harriott's family in Illinois; they have now been turned over to the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.

In order to furnish teachers, clubs, and individuals "who wish to make a systematic study of Iowa history" with a "more or less

classified list of references" relating to the subject, the State Historical Society of Iowa has published as number 15 of its *Bulletin of Information Series* a compilation of *Two Hundred Topics in Iowa History* by William J. Petersen (1932. 96 p.). The general arrangement is chronological, and among the subject headings are "The Indians of Iowa," "Discovery and Exploration," "Territorial and Local Government," "Pioneer Life," "The Constitutions of Iowa," "Schools and Education," "Group Settlements in Iowa," "Transportation and Travel," and "Recreation and Amusements." No attempt has been made to "present an exhaustive bibliography for research scholars," but the references given are for the most part to materials that are "available and accessible to general readers of Iowa history."

*My Progress Book in Iowa History* by Myrtle A. Nicklin consists of a series of stories, exercises, and references, prepared for the use of teachers and pupils in the intermediate grades (1931. 72 p.).

An interesting chapter in transportation history is presented in the *Palimpsest* for April, which is devoted to the "Narrow Gauge" in Iowa. Mr. Ben Hur Wilson, the author, points out that the narrow gauge railroads were built in response to a popular demand "for a cheaper type of railroad, which would also be more economical in its operation and up-keep."

Mr. Douglas C. McMurtrie has added to his studies of the beginnings of printing in the various states an account of "Pioneer Printing in Georgia," which appears in the *Georgia Historical Quarterly* for June, and a survey of "The Pioneer Press in Montana," which is published in the *Journalism Quarterly* for June. Both are illustrated with facsimile reproductions of pages from early imprints.

A brief "History of the Oklahoma Historical Society" by Thomas H. Doyle is published in the *Chronicles of Oklahoma* for June. It is accompanied by a picture of the building recently erected "for the safekeeping of the collections" of the society.

Under the title "A Fur Trader's Bride," an extract from the diary for 1859 of Robert Campbell, chief factor for the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Chipewyan, appears in the *Beaver* for June. He describes the journey from Scotland to the far Northwest of his

bride, Elleonora C. Stirling, and her sister. The young women went to Montreal and then journeyed "west by rail, steamers and stage coaches to St. Paul, Minnesota, the then terminus of any road going west." From there they traveled by stage and flat boat to Fort Garry, and thence to Norway House, where they met Campbell. It is interesting to note that one of their companions on the northward trip from St. Paul was "that genial gentleman, Consul Taylor, on his first trip north." Eleven years later James Wickes Taylor of St. Paul was appointed United States consul at Winnipeg, a position that he held until his death in 1893.

Dr. Charles N. Bell has drawn upon many manuscript and pictorial sources in his possession in the preparation of an article on the history of Fort Douglas, "the headquarters of the original Selkirk settlers," which appears in the *Winnipeg Free Press* for May 7. He carries the story from the arrival of the Selkirk settlers on the Red River to the destruction of Fort Douglas in the flood of 1826.

A feature of the annual meeting of the Thunder Bay Historical Society, which was held at Fort William on June 14, was a joint conference with the Cook County Historical Society. The hope that such a conference will be made an annual event is expressed in the *Cook County News-Herald* of Grand Marais for June 16. Among the speakers at this meeting was Dr. G. E. Eakins of Port Arthur, who read a paper on the history of the Thunder Bay district.

#### GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

As one of a series of radio programs entitled "The Parade of the States," the General Motors Corporation presented on June 27 a program devoted to Minnesota which included the following "Tribute to Minnesota" by Bruce Barton:

A tired plane and a tired young man dropped gently out of the darkness above Le Bourget in France. A prayer of thanksgiving echoed around the world. And nations rose as one to honor a new hero, Charles A. Lindbergh. Fitting enough this lone scout of the air should have been reared in Minnesota, ever a land of pioneers. Before Columbus was born, the hardy Norsemen may have found Minnesota. Centuries later came a new race of men—French trappers, traders, explorers. They exchanged the white man's trinkets for the Indians' store of pelts. But it remained for the Puritans of

two continents, from New England and Scandinavia, to clear and plow and occupy the land. Sternly they labored. Royally the land repaid them. Today skyscrapers cut the air where cabins clustered about a trading post less than a century ago. Today automobiles stream down broad highways where yesterday the red man stalked the wary deer. Today Minnesota goes to market with bumper crops of wheat and corn and rye, with oats and flax and potatoes. It is our biggest bread basket, our richest butter churn. Ore from its wide-spread iron mines feeds the steel mills of the nation. Its forests yield lumber for the houses we build, the chairs we sit on, the books we read. It boasts our largest inland port. The vast streams of power of Minnesota's miles of rushing waterways quicken great and worthy industries in the "Twin Cities"—Minneapolis and Saint Paul—in Duluth and Faribault, in a score of prospering cities. And Minnesota's children have done her signal honor. Sinclair Lewis has brought to America a coveted Nobel prize. The stirring harmonies of St. Olaf's Choir have roused the music lovers of two continents. The nation's critics pay tribute to Minneapolis' Symphony Orchestra. Two young surgeons, the dauntless brothers Mayo, pitched their practice in Minnesota, and the world has made a beaten track to their door. And nowhere in America is there more natural beauty than in this Land of the Sky Blue Water. Here are ten thousand lakes, great sheets of water plowed by seagoing boats, quiet pools where the brown bear brings her cubs to drink. Here are miles of rolling, dipping, curving prairie. Here are tumbled hills, unbroken woodlands, the falls of Minnehaha, laughing maiden of the forest. Come to Minnesota, of the sky-tinted waters. Come in the springtime to pluck pink moccasin, that rare and lovely orchid Minnesota calls her own. Come in the summer to match your wits in combat with a wise old trout. Come in the autumn when the deer is fleet, in the winter with your skis and snowshoes. Here you can trace the mighty Mississippi to the pool of its birth, here follow the course of rivers that flow east into the Atlantic, south to the Gulf, north into Hudson Bay. Minnesota, star of past performance, Minnesota, star of future promise, General Motors salutes you, Star of the North!

Two recently published textbooks to be used in teaching Minnesota history in the lower grades are *Adventures in Minnesota History* by Robert J. Mayo (1931. 277 p.) and *Gopher Tales* by Antoinette E. Ford (1932. 192 p.). The first is accompanied by a series of *Study Directions and Comprehension Tests* (66 p.); with the second is a pamphlet entitled *Work and Play with Gopher Tales* (32 p.). Reviews of these volumes will appear in an early number of MINNESOTA HISTORY.

"The Early History of Sandy Lake" is outlined by Irving H. Hart in a series of articles, the first of which appears in the *McGregor Pilot Review* for June 9. The writer points out the importance of Sandy Lake during the period of the fur trade as a "link in the shortest and most practicable route of transportation" between the Great Lakes and the upper Mississippi; he describes the Savanna Portage near the lake and gives examples of its use by traders; and he tells of the Chippewa Indians of the region. It will be recalled that Mr. Hart has contributed a number of articles on the history of the Sandy Lake district to MINNESOTA HISTORY (see *ante*, 7: 311-325, 8: 117-139, 9: 319-330).

The history of the "First Sioux Mission," that established by Fathers Michel Guignas and Nicholas de Gonnor at Fort Beauharnois on Lake Pepin in 1727, is reviewed by Nancy Ring in the April number of *Mid-America*. The writer quotes numerous documents relating to the history of the mission and the adventures of the missionaries, among them part of the letter of Father Guignas which is published in translation, *ante*, 6: 364-369. Attention is called to the erection by the Goodhue County Historical Society of a bronze marker at Frontenac near the site of the post and the mission on the two-hundredth anniversary of their founding.

The story of a little-known Catholic mission in Minnesota is related by Sister Grace McDonald in an article about "Canon Vivaldi's Missionary Activities," which appears in the April issue of the *Iowa Catholic Historical Review*. She tells of the work among the Winnebago at Long Prairie in the early fifties of an Italian priest who was induced to enter the mission field by Bishop Joseph Cretin of St. Paul. Considerable attention also is given to the school established at his suggestion among the Winnebago at Long Prairie by the sisters of St. Joseph. Passages from a number of letters written by Vivaldi during his residence in Minnesota are quoted; of special interest is one written in 1852 and published in the *Annalen der Verbreitung des Glaubens*. In this he describes the "small wooden hut" that he built and used for a church, and he relates that "During the first four months I baptized more than fifty small children who were brought to me by their pagan parents. Somewhat later I admitted the young boys and girls of mixed Indian and French blood."

A picture of a marker recently placed by the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota highway department on a highway near the Sherburne County farm of Oliver H. Kelley, the founder of the Grange, appears in the *National Grange Monthly* for April. The marker bears the following inscription: "Oliver H. Kelley Home: Kelley's idea of a national society for the social and economic betterment of the farmer led to the founding of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry at Washington, December 4, 1867. As first secretary of the National Grange, Kelley maintained the headquarters of the order on this farm until 1870." In the June issue of the *Monthly*, under the title "Turning Back the Pages of History in Minnesota," the beginnings of Grange activity in Kelley's home state are described in some detail. A picture of the Kelley home at Elk River, the "cradle of the Grange," appears with the article.

An account of "The Pioneers at Lake Hendricks" by Gustav O. Sandro and C. N. Trøien, published in the 1932 yearbook of *Trønderlaget*, contains much material about Norwegian pioneers in southwestern Minnesota.

An illustrated historical account of the Norwegian settlement at New Richland and of the Le Sueur River Evangelical Lutheran Church appears in the 1932 yearbook of *Nomedal, Kongsberg og omegn lag*.

The history of old Fort Ripley on the upper Mississippi is reviewed by Irving A. Caswell in an article in the *Little Falls Daily Transcript* for June 29, which calls attention to the opening of the Minnesota National Guard training center on the site of the fort (see *ante*, p. 202). He also describes the traffic over the most eastern of the Red River trails, which followed the Mississippi to Crow Wing, near the fort site.

The Birch Cooley monument controversy, which is discussed in some detail by Robert K. Boyd, *ante*, 12:297-301, draws the attention of Mr. George G. Allanson of Wheaton, a grandson of Joseph R. Brown, in the April issue of the *Southern Minnesotan*.

The rise and decline of some of "Minnesota's Ghost Towns" are described by Willis M. Kimball in a feature article published in the *Minneapolis Journal* for May 29. According to this writer "the

lumber industry has been responsible for more of Minnesota's ghost cities than any other agency," though he also deals with communities that owed their brief existences to gold rushes and to land speculation. He neglects altogether the fact that the building of a railroad some miles from a town site spelled doom for many a promising community. Most of the villages described by Mr. Kimball were located in northern Minnesota.

The meeting of the Saturday Lunch Club of Minneapolis on May 16, 1931, was devoted to a "memorial service" in honor of the late Professor Willis M. West. The program included addresses about Professor West's career as a teacher and historian by Dr. Lotus D. Coffman, Mrs. Arthur Brin, Professor Albert W. Rankin, Professor Norman Wilde, Mr. Benjamin Drake, and others.

#### LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

A "Washington Bicentennial Pageant" was presented at Anoka on June 15, 16, and 17 in connection with the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the county. A feature of the celebration was the exhibition in local store windows of objects illustrative of pioneer life in the community — costumes, farming implements, household utensils, firearms, books, newspapers, and the like. Detailed descriptions of these exhibits appear in the *Anoka Herald* for June 21 and the *Anoka County Union* for June 22.

The history of the Trinity Lutheran Church of Johnson in Big Stone County, which celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding in 1882 on July 3, is briefly outlined in the *Graceville Enterprise* for June 23.

About a hundred people attended a dinner given at Mankato on statehood day, May 11, by the Blue Earth County Historical Society in honor of Judge Thomas Hughes. The principal address was given by Theodore C. Blegen, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, on "Pioneer Traits." Drawing his illustrations from Minnesota in the period of the winning of statehood, he pictured the pioneers as young, optimistic, self-dependent, capable of audacity, with a talent for organization and an inherent respect for traditional forms even when breaking new ground, having a Puritan code of conduct,

vigorous and hard-working in meeting the manifold problems of the frontier. He paid tribute to Judge Hughes as a pioneer of culture and called attention especially to his work in writing the history of the Welsh in Minnesota, of Blue Earth County, of steamboating on the Minnesota River, and of old Traverse des Sioux. In his response Judge Hughes described his successive ventures in historical research, which, he said, had their roots in a deep and permanent interest in history.

An "historical presentation of the original organization meeting" of the Chatfield Presbyterian Church was given by the pupils of its Sunday school in connection with the celebration on June 19 of its seventy-fifth anniversary. A detailed history of the church, which was organized on June 21, 1857, with seven charter members, appears in the *Chatfield News* for June 16.

An interesting method of gathering historical material is revealed by an anonymous writer for the *Mabel Record*, who contributes to that paper for May 27 a history of the local schools. "It is not complete," he writes, "but the ground covered may be indicated somewhat by the fact that for each decade since 1850 there is some one residing at Mabel who can recall his or her school days for that decade, and the Record has interviewed some one for each decade." For example, some recollections of Mr. Ed Harkness, whose family emigrated from Vermont in 1856 and who recalls the building of the little red school house that served the children of some of the earliest settlers of the locality, are presented. By combining a number of such reminiscent accounts, the writer traces the story of the Mabel schools to 1917, when a number of districts combined to form a consolidated school district.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of traffic over the Duluth, St. Cloud, Glencoe and Mankato Railroad, better known as the Alphabet Road, was celebrated at Freeborn on May 19. Among the speakers were Mr. Fremont Snyder, who told how Freeborn County was gradually invaded by the railroad; Mr. H. A. Barch, who described the platting of the village of Freeborn by his grandfather, E. S. Dunn; Mr. George Lattin, who presented a history of the local post office; and the Reverend William E. Thompson,



who read items culled from local newspaper files relating to the history of the railroad. Sketches of the history of the Alphabet Road appear in the *Albert Lea Evening Tribune* for May 21 and in the *Alden Advance* for May 26.

The beginnings of Congregationalism in Freeborn County and the organization of pioneer churches at Freeborn and Albert Lea are described in the *Alden Advance* for June 2. The article tells particularly of the activities of the Reverend S. J. Drew, a pioneer pastor at Albert Lea in the early seventies who preached also at Freeborn.

A detailed history, by the Reverend William C. Bimson, of St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Willmar, which celebrated its sixtieth anniversary on May 28 and 29, appears in the *Willmar Journal* for June 3.

Judge J. E. Haycraft describes his first impression of Fairmont, which was obtained forty years ago from the top of a box car, in an article published in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for June 15. He tells of the journey from his father's farm near Madelia to Fairmont, where he went in June, 1892, to attend an encampment of the Sons of Veterans, and he describes the Grand Army of the Republic encampment that was being held at the same time.

About five thousand people attended a "Northwest Martin County Golden Jubilee" at Cedar Lake on June 29. Among the speakers were Mr. Albert Hoevet, who presented an "Old Settlers History"; the Reverend H. W. Neunaber, who described the histories of the various churches of the vicinity and outlined the general history of the region; and Mr. C. L. Blanchar, who reviewed the history of the local schools. The papers prepared by the Reverend Mr. Neunaber appear in the issues of the *Triumph-Monterey Progress* for June 30 and July 7.

A brief historical sketch of *Martin County before 1850* compiled by Allen L. Moore has been published by the Martin County Historical Society (1932. 27 p.). Naturally it deals for the most part with the Indians of southern Minnesota and with exploration. It includes sections on the geology of Minnesota, the explorations of Le Sueur, the Sioux Indians, the county as depicted on Nicollet's map, and the county during the territorial period.

The Olmsted County Historical Society coöperated with the Rochester Methodist Episcopal Church when the latter organization celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on May 14 and 15. The history of the church was reviewed by Mr. Burt W. Eaton, the president of the historical society, who also arranged an exhibit of photographs of pioneer residents of Rochester and early members of the church. Mr. Eaton's paper is outlined and a list of the photographs that he collected is printed in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for May 16. In the same issue are two papers on the early history of the church that were furnished by the historical society. In one, prepared in 1896 by Mrs. Maria H. Emerick, the work of the women for the church during its early years is reviewed; in the other, written in 1912 by J. S. Woodward, a pioneer of 1857, experiences as an early member of the church are recalled.

More than five thousand people attended the annual meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society, which was held on May 17 at Pelican Rapids to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the railroad at that place. Among the speakers were Mr. E. F. Flynn of St. Paul, who reviewed the history of the Great Northern Railroad in the vicinity; and Mr. S. H. Ongstad, who presented reminiscences of pioneer days in the county.

Plans are under way for issuing a new edition of *Old Clitherall's Story Book: A History of the First Settlement in Otter Tail County, Minnesota*, by Hallie M. Gould, which was published at Battle Lake more than a decade ago (see *ante*, 7:94). Before the pamphlet can be printed, however, orders for 130 copies at fifty cents each must be in the hands of Miss Alta Kimber of Battle Lake.

A detailed "History of the Redwood Falls Fire Department" from 1885 to the present, compiled by R. F. Byram and H. V. Starr from manuscript records, appears in the *Redwood County Sun* for June 10.

The early history of Carleton College under the presidency of James W. Strong was the topic for discussion at a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society held at Northfield on May 23. Professor C. A. Duniway of Carleton College sketched the career of the first president of the college and presented a picture of the conditions

under which he worked from 1870 to 1903. Other speakers, including Mrs. C. H. Wellman, Miss Isabella Watson, and Dr. C. A. Culver, gave reminiscent talks about early days at Carleton College. An exhibit of papers and documents relating to the history of the college was arranged by Professor Duniway.

About three thousand people attended a celebration held at Warroad on June 18 and 19 under the sponsorship of the Roseau County Historical Society and the local old settlers' association in commemoration of the bicentennial of the arrival of La Vérendrye, the French explorer and the first white man to visit the Lake of the Woods region. Among the speakers were Father d'Eschambault, secretary of the St. Boniface Historical Society, who reviewed the history of French exploration in the Lake of the Woods country; and Mr. Wilmoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, who estimated the importance of the fur-traders and the posts that they established in the development of the frontier. Other features of the celebration were the presentation of a pageant depicting La Vérendrye's visit to the Lake of the Woods; the dedication of a bronze marker on the site of the American Fur Company post that existed at Warroad in the early nineteenth century; and a steamboat excursion to the site of Fort St. Charles, La Vérendrye's post on the Lake of the Woods.

A bronze marker calling attention to the first school house in Roseau County was placed on the school in question and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies by the Roseau County Historical Society on May 29. The marker bears the following inscription: "School District No. 27. First School District and School Building in Roseau County. Organized January 9, 1889. First School Board: John Marshall, John Norquist, and Andrew Danielson. First Teacher: Frank Irish." An account of the dedication ceremonies, at which Mr. Eddy E. Billberg, president of the society, presided, and a brief history of the school appear in the *Roseau Times-Region* for June 2.

Students of St. John's University at Collegeville are attempting, under the direction of Professor Garland Taylor, to trace the route of the Red River trail through Stearns County, according to an announcement in the *St. Cloud Daily Times* of May 16.

The history of the First National Bank of Verndale, which was founded by Isaac Hazlett in 1882 and which celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on May 2, is outlined in the *Verndale Sun* for April 21.

"The Life History of a Canby Pioneer — C. G. Nelson" is related by his granddaughter, Arvilla Nelson Thompson, and published in the *Canby News* for April 29. She tells particularly of the years that Nelson spent on a farm in Oshkosh Township following his arrival at that place in 1878.

The story of Minneapolis' first fire department, a volunteer organization started in 1868 and continued to 1879, when the "city was forced to keep pace with its development by the organization of a paid fire department," is related by Harry Remington in an illustrated feature article published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for June 5. The narrative is based on the manuscript journal of W. M. Brackett, formerly chief engineer of the volunteer fire department. The writer quotes Brackett's accounts of the organization of the department, of its members, officers, and meetings, and of the difficulties encountered in fighting the fires following the great mill explosion of 1879. Brackett's journal now is owned by Mr. Joseph Scallan of Minneapolis, president of the Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the Richfield Methodist Church of Minneapolis was celebrated with special services by members of the congregation from April 10 to 17. The anniversary program included a history of the church prepared by Mrs. George Towler. An account of the past of this church is combined with some material about the Richfield Baptist Church, which celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary in May, in the *Minneapolis Journal* for April 3.

The passing of seventy-five years since St. Paul's Church on the Hill, the second Episcopal parish to be organized in St. Paul, was founded was celebrated by members of the congregation during the week of April 3. The history of the church is the subject of a feature article by Lawrence Boardman, which appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for April 3.



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