

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS

*Economic History of Wisconsin during the Civil War Decade*  
(State Historical Society of Wisconsin, *Studies*, vol. 1). By  
FREDERICK MERK. (Madison, the society, 1916. 414 p.)

The trend away from an exclusively political point of view in historical studies has resulted in numerous economic and social histories during the past years. By far the larger portion, however, have been general works, most of them of a textbook character; these, while valuable, need to be supplemented by more detailed studies, which must necessarily limit themselves to a definite period or to a particular region or to both. Of this latter class is the volume at hand.

While the center of the stage is occupied by Wisconsin in war times, there is no arbitrary bound; and in tracing the various lines of economic development, a sufficient leeway is allowed on either side to present a well-rounded view. So, for instance, when lumbering is under consideration, a brief survey of antebellum conditions is given; and, as some of the points require an extension of the treatment beyond 1870 to set forth the results of what happened during and immediately after the war, the story continues to a logical stopping-place.

The first eight chapters trace the development of agriculture, lumbering, mining, manufacturing, labor, banking, and trade. Then follow five chapters, the central theme of which is the railroad; the disastrous railroad farm mortgage with its accompanying evils is set forth as a basis for understanding the general attitude of Wisconsin people toward overland transportation in war times. Railroad construction, followed by the inevitable consolidation of numerous short lines, brought in its train the struggle between the carriers with monopolistic tendencies and a people seeking to free themselves from the burdens of excessive rates, corrupting proclivities, and discrimination in service. The "Antimonopoly Revolt" presents an excellent summary of the movement which foreshadowed the period of Granger activity of the seventies, while the "Genesis of Railroad Regulation" outlines

the earlier steps in curbing those instrumentalities which entered so vitally into the daily life of every person in the state. The two remaining chapters discuss the "Commerce of the Upper Mississippi" and "Commerce of the Great Lakes." In the first is brought out the rapid extension of the river traffic during the early sixties, and the even more precipitous decline during the latter half of the decade, when the railroads, at first looked upon as feeders for water transportation, throttled the picturesque life which Mark Twain has immortalized.

The materials used by Mr. Merk are to a large extent found in local newspapers, the details from which have been checked and supplemented by the use of local histories, official and trade reports, and, to a limited degree, of manuscripts. Probably no source material is harder to deal with than these, yet Mr. Merk has woven from them not only an illuminating narrative but a most readable book.

While the work deals primarily with Wisconsin, nevertheless, as the author remarks in his preface, "in all its important aspects her economic life reflected that of the states adjoining her borders. Agriculturally her development found its counterpart in Minnesota and Iowa; her lumber industry repeated that of Michigan and Minnesota; her lead mining was a duplication of what obtained about Galena and Dubuque. . . . Upon the Mississippi, La Crosse occupied a commercial position similar to those of St. Paul and Dunleith. . . . The account . . . therefore, typifies the history of the larger economic unit—the area later known as the Granger Northwest—of which Wisconsin was but a part." Not only, then, does this study of the economic development of Wisconsin throw light upon early conditions in Minnesota, for example, in lumbering, in the labor situation, in trade relations, in railroad expansion, but it serves as a model for similar works which may cover approximately the same period in neighboring commonwealths.

To a considerable measure the book is a pioneer. To be sure E. D. Fite's *Social and Industrial Conditions in the North during the Civil War* deals with many of the same topics for a shorter period over a much greater area, but Fite necessarily paints with a larger brush and has to make his strokes broad and sweeping.

Mr. Merk has demonstrated that there is an almost limitless field for studies similar to his, each of which will bring out those factors which, taken together, will allow a more accurate reading of our national progress. It is to be hoped that many will follow his example, not alone because of the opportunities it suggests, but also on account of its intrinsic merits as a sound study of a difficult subject, carefully arranged, logically developed, and highly interesting in its presentation.

LESTER BURRELL SHIPPEE

*The Life of James J. Hill.* By JOSEPH GILPIN PYLE. In two volumes. (Garden City and New York, Doubleday, Page, and Company, 1917. 498, 459 p. Illustrated)

Those who find their history in the biographies of the great will not look to the lives of presidents and politicians for a record of American development since the Civil War. They will look rather to the lives of those "captains of industry" whose clearness of vision made them leaders in the national task of developing a continent, and despots, benevolent or otherwise, in the modern business world. James J. Hill was one of these makers of modern America. It was no mere coincidence that he and the future Lord Strathcona, each driving a dog team, should meet for the first time on the far western prairies, one hundred and forty miles from the nearest house. Each of them had an imagination, described by Mr. Pyle as "tropical," which gave him an insight into the future of the West. Each had the ability—the genius—to lay foundations for the castles of his dreams. It is a favorite task of biographers to analyze this thing called "genius." Mr. Pyle is not a bad psychologist. He delights to show the ability of his hero to make the facts of the past and present cast light upon the future, to grasp and retain unlimited detail, to work incessantly without breaking, to wait as patiently as he labored for the favorable moment, to be honest, broad-minded, patriotic through it all. But granting that these things for the most part are true, the reader grows a bit weary of their endless repetition, and can but reflect that in another age our author would have been an able contributor to the *Acta Sanctorum*.

The author's fondness for character analysis does not alter the fact that these two volumes are a substantial addition to our knowledge of transportation development in the Northwest, and are distinctly worth while. Mr. Pyle has drawn freely upon the letters and papers of Mr. Hill, and has supplemented this information by means of private conversations with him and with his associates, by careful examination of the numerous court records which have opened so freely the archives of great corporations, by a first-hand acquaintance with newspaper files, and with such an historical background as the professional journalist is wont to acquire. He has traced with painstaking care and accuracy the stages by which the Hill interests grew from an idea into the gigantic system which they now are. His superior sources of information and his industry in using them enable him to shed new light all along the way. In view of the real merit of his work we can afford to bear with him while he argues for the benefit of a past generation that the consolidations of which he treats were not the outgrowth of "some Machiavellian scheme," but the result rather of the "irresistible forces of railway evolution." Admitted. But if these same "irresistible forces" should move on through federal control to ultimate government ownership, we shall hope that Mr. Hill was not correct in predicting as a result "the end of this country as a free and democratic government" (2:280).

It is remarkable in a work upon which obviously so few pains have been spared that there should be no maps to guide the reader through the maze of railway constructions and connections so constantly alluded to. But the facility with which Mr. Pyle handles twentieth-century English does much to overcome this difficulty. It is not easy to thread one's way through "the tangled web" of railway finance, but the author's statements are never obscure. Occasionally his figures of speech are a bit rampant, but they are usually effective; as, for example, when he describes the Hill system as "a giant cornucopia whose body extends from the Great Lakes to the Ohio River, contracts as it stretches west and northwest, and pours its contents through the relatively narrow orifice of Puget Sound and Portland" (2:57). His use of the English method of spelling such words as "favour," "labour," and "honour" contrasts somewhat oddly

with the screaming Americanisms which appear on every page. But he commands attention. Possibly if professional historians would cultivate a more interesting style, their services as authorized biographers would be more in demand. Until such a time it ill becomes them to criticize too freely a work which they will have frequent occasion to use.

JOHN D. HICKS

*Fourth Street.* By A. J. RUSSELL. (47-49 Fourth Street, Minneapolis, 1917. 127 p.)

It seems safe to predict that in time, when it has become scarce in the market, this little book will be highly prized and sought by collectors. No such work as this has appeared before, at least in Minnesota. It gives the history of a Minneapolis street long sacred to the profession of journalism, from the time when "the mighty river of the geological periods eddied and swirled" there until now, when it is solidly built up with business blocks and its pavements are trodden daily by thousands of busy people.

"Russ," as the author of *Fourth Street* is familiarly known, is the "Long Bow" man of the *Minneapolis Journal*. He was once Bill Nye's double in personal appearance and possessed a far finer and more delicate humor than that of the famous platform mate of James Whitcomb Riley and Eugene Field. His style is a delightful blending of Lamb, Hood, and Douglas Jerrold. As is the case with the choicest humor, his writings are not wanting in touches of pathos now and then, that mellow yet accentuate the merriment of cap and bells.

Probably no publication except a series of city directories contains the names of so large a number of people well known locally, especially newspaper men, as this little volume. No journalist of any prominence who was ever connected with the Minneapolis press is omitted. The author revives most pleasantly our recollections of James Gray, Martin Williams, Ed. Atterbury, "Fannie" Francis, Ed. Henderson, Abbott Blunt, Stiles Jones, Frank Wing, "Bart," "Larry Ho" Hodgson, Colonel Haskell, Horace Hudson, "Doc" Bowman, Edward A. Bromley, the first regular newspaper staff photographer in the United

States, Adolph Edsten, Smith B. Hall, J. Newton Nind, Joseph T. Mannix, Luther B. Little, Winthrop Chamberlain, W. A. Frisbie, Fred Hunt, Dr. Storrs, and many more.

The book covers in most detail the thirty-two years which have passed since "Russ," just out of Bowdoin College, transferred his *lares* and *penates* to the Flour City and began the newspaper work in which he was destined to outshine all others with his inexhaustible fund of spontaneous humor. There are numerous laughable anecdotes and reminiscences and a pathetic love story of a bachelor—a pioneer and one of the richest men of the city—who was reconciled on his deathbed with his fiancée, from whom he had been estranged for many years. *Fourth Street* is a book that every Minnesotan should read; it will not soon be superseded by one of greater interest.

JOHN TALMAN

## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

The stated meeting of the executive council, October 15, 1917, was open to the public and was attended by about forty members of the society and others. Dr. John D. Hicks, professor of history in Hamline University, read a timely paper on "Raising the Army in 1861," in which he drew largely upon the experience of Minnesota as typical of the North as a whole. The paper will be published in a later issue of the BULLETIN.

The following new members, all active, have been enrolled during the quarter ending October 31, 1917: Myron D. Taylor of St. Paul; Dr. Thomas S. Roberts of Minneapolis; Clarence L. Atwood of St. Cloud; Wilfred J. Whitefield of Sauk Center; Clarence E. Oakley of Buffalo; Godfrey C. Goodwin of Cambridge; Conrad Peterson of St. Peter; Miss Hannah Greer of Elk River; Rev. John H. Morley of Montevideo; David Peterson of Roseau; and Dr. B. M. Randall of Graceville. Deaths among the members during the same period were as follows: Hon. Elwood S. Corser of Minneapolis, August 30, and General William G. Le Duc of Hastings, October 30.

The death of General Le Duc removes one of the last two survivors of the 123 original members of the society. For years he was a most faithful member of the council, making the trip from Hastings to St. Paul in order to attend its meetings. The society was represented at the funeral by the president, the first vice-president, and the secretary, who acted as honorary pallbearers. It is expected that a biographical sketch of General Le Duc will be published in a later issue of the BULLETIN.

On October 9 the superintendent spoke before the Minnesota Library Association on the subject of "Historical Preparedness." The librarians were urged to collect and preserve everything which may be of value in the future as material for the history of the participation of the community or the state in the Great War. The address will be published in the December issue of

the *Library Notes and News* of the Minnesota Public Library Commission.

#### GIFTS

A large collection of printed and manuscript material has been received from Mrs. Hale, the widow of Major William D. Hale of Minneapolis, who was well known as a Civil War veteran, a former postmaster, a business associate of Hon. William D. Washburn, and, in general, a prominent figure in the commercial, political, religious, and educational life of his city and of the state. The printed material includes over one hundred Minnesota items, in the form of histories, memorials, addresses, pamphlets, atlases, directories, and publications of local institutions and organizations, a considerable portion of which are not duplicated in the library. The manuscript material includes Major Hale's account books and papers as receiver for the American Savings and Loan Association, 1896-1901, and a few records of other business firms, such as W. D. Washburn and Company, the Washburn Mill Company, and the Minneapolis Transfer and Terminal Railway Company. There are also letters received by Major Hale and miscellaneous papers which, from a cursory examination, may be assigned to the period from 1868 to 1894. Of the letters, about two hundred were written by William D. Washburn while in Washington as representative, and later as senator, from Minnesota. Among papers reminiscent of Civil War days is a document labeled "Original Enlistment Agreement of Co. A, 3d Minn. Vol. Infty, 1861."

From Mrs. Harry T. Morris, formerly of St. Paul and now of Detroit, Michigan, the society has received a number of large oil paintings and a collection of old photographs which were left by the late John A. Weide of St. Paul, a relative of Mrs. Morris by marriage. The paintings, which were done by Mr. Weide, represent, separately, some of the more battle-torn and service-worn of the Civil War flags which now repose in the rotunda of the state capitol, as these were in 1895. According to a document which accompanies them, the paintings embody the partial fulfilment of a purpose, apparently originated by Mr. Weide and commended by leading Minnesotans, whereby he was

to portray "in imperishable colors the glorious 'Battle Flags of Minnesota' . . . before rapidly approaching Time shall leave but their dust as a memento of their former lustre." The photographs include two enlargements of old pictures of Fort Snelling and a very large number of excellent pictures of persons. Most of the latter apparently were taken at the studio of Dr. A. Falkenshield of St. Paul and were accumulated by Mr. Weide in the course of his work as an artist and a tinter of photographs. Few of them bear inscriptions, but among those which are labeled or have already been identified are photographs of men prominent in Minnesota history, such as William Morrison, George L. Becker, Charles Scheffer, Joseph A. Wheelock, General H. P. Van Cleve, and A. L. Larpenteur. The collection as a whole belongs to the period of the fifties, sixties, and seventies, and even without identification of persons it is invaluable as illustrative of the photographic art and of the costumes of the period. A photograph of Mr. Weide, taken in 1911, is included in the collection.

What may prove to be one of the most valuable additions to the manuscript collections of the society during the year consists of two boxes and a trunk full of papers donated by Samuel J. Brown of Browns Valley, son of the well-known pioneer, Joseph R. Brown. The boxes have not been opened yet and the material can not possibly be arranged until the society is installed in the new building. From the hasty examination made by the society's field agent while packing the collection, it appears that papers of both father and son are included, among the items noted being a letter-press book of Joseph R. Brown and a census of Indians taken in 1864.

The society has received from Mr. Frederick W. Pearsall of Granite Falls a few pages from the daybook kept by a trader at the Santee Indian Agency, Nebraska, during August and September, 1884. The book is of interest to Minnesotans because several of the names entered are those of Indians connected with the history of the state or their descendants. After the Sioux outbreak of 1862 many of the Indians were taken to the Crow Creek reservation in Dakota, where they lived until 1866, when all the Minnesota Sioux were taken to the Santee agency. Rev.

A. L. Riggs, son of Stephen R. Riggs, the Minnesota missionary, and Antoine J. Campbell, a half-breed scout and interpreter, who was a United States employee for years, also are entered as patrons of the trader's store.

Mrs. E. O. Zimmerman, who last year turned over to the society a stock of about twelve hundred pamphlets on archeological subjects by Alfred J. Hill and T. H. Lewis, which were left in her possession at the death of Mr. Hill, has recently donated another lot of about twenty-four hundred copies of the same pamphlets. This material will be useful in the exchange department of the library. Mrs. Zimmerman at the same time presented eight photographs formerly belonging to Mr. Hill, being pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald McElrath and their small son, Mr. W. W. Rich, Major and Mrs. Howard Stansbury, and Lieutenant Lawrence Taliaferro, all taken during the sixties; also a picture of Mr. Warren Upham taken about 1883.

From the Minnesota Railroad and Warehouse Commission, through the courtesy of Mr. D. F. Jurgenson, engineer, the society has received eight folders of blue prints consisting of "Analyses of construction history and gratuities received by various railroad construction entities" in the state. These analyses will be helpful to students of the history of railroad transportation.

A bundle of manuscripts consisting of poll lists and other election material for the city of St. Paul has been turned over to the society by Mr. George F. Herrold of the department of public works of St. Paul. An especially interesting part of this collection consists of envelopes used for the ballots of voters in the army during the Civil War.

Mrs. Jane M. Black of Minneapolis, widow of Captain Mahlon Black, has presented a number of books and magazines from the library of her husband, and also a sword, a belt, a pistol, and a gun, used by Captain Black in the Civil War. The sword is said to have been captured from a rebel officer, who had presumably taken it from a union officer.

Mr. Rome G. Brown of Minneapolis has presented a collection of about seventy-five pamphlets consisting of his writings on

the subjects of constitutional government, water rights and water power, minimum wage, price maintenance, and uniform state laws. A copy of his book, *The Minimum Wage* (Minneapolis, 1914. 98, xxv p.), is included in the donation.

Miss Julie C. Gauthier, a St. Paul artist, has presented a portrait of "Pony," which she painted in 1883. "Pony," a little mulatto who earned a living as a woodcutter, was one of the picturesque figures to be seen on the streets of St. Paul a generation ago.

An iron spectacle case inscribed "Presented to George Washington, By Mother, Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1777," has been presented by Frank J. Wilder of Boston, Massachusetts. Accompanying this gift is a sworn and certified statement by Josephine Voorhees Wilder giving an account of the way in which the case came into her possession.

Mr. Edward A. Bromley has presented a photograph of Fari-bault in the early sixties. It is an enlargement from the original negative made by B. F. Upton of St. Anthony Falls in 1862 or 1863.

A set of twenty-one of the original Brady Civil War photographs has been presented by Mr. C. G. Landon of Minneapolis. The scenes are mostly of Yorktown and vicinity.

Among the books and pamphlets, mostly of recent publication, received as gifts from the authors or publishers during the last three months are the following: *A History of the Ball Family*, by L. A. Bradley, from Joseph M. Andreini of New York; *America's Attitude toward the War*, from the publisher, the Bankers' Trust Company of New York; *Flower Lore and Legend*, from the author, Mrs. Katherine M. Beals, of St. Paul; *The War and Humanity*, from the author, James M. Beck of New York; *A Brief Sketch of the Life and Times and Miscellaneous Writings of Rev. J. Copeland* and *Copeland Genealogy*, from the compiler of the latter, Charles Finney Copeland of Holdrege, Nebraska; *Fifth Avenue; Glances at the Vicissitudes and Romance of a World-Renowned Thoroughfare* and *Fifth Avenue Events*, from the publisher, the Fifth Avenue Bank of

New York; *The Genealogy of the Fox Family*, from the compiler, William A. Fox of Glencoe, Illinois; *A Wonderful Fifty Years*, from the author, Edwin T. Holmes of New York; *Banking and Currency and the Money Trust* and *Why Is Your Country at War and What Happens to You after the War*, from the author, Hon. Charles A. Lindbergh of Little Falls, Minnesota; *Rural Life in Litchfield County*, by Charles Shepherd Phelps, from the publisher, the Litchfield County University Club of Norfolk, Connecticut; *The English Ancestry of Peter Talbot*, from the author, Mrs. Cyrus P. Walker of San Francisco; *Whipple-Wright and Allied Families*, from the author, General Charles H. Whipple of Los Angeles; and *The Family Album*, from the artist and author, Frank Wing of St. Paul.

## NEWS AND COMMENT

The papers presented in the *Proceedings* of the Wisconsin Historical Society at its sixty-fourth annual meeting, October 19, 1916 (1917. 363 p.), include, among others: "President Lincoln as War Statesman," by Captain Arthur L. Conger; "Reminiscences of a Pioneer Missionary," by Father Chrysostom A. Verwyst; and "The Beginnings of the Norwegian Press in America," by Albert O. Barton. The volume contains also the usual report of the executive committee recounting the activities of the society during the year and discussing plans for the future.

"The Origin of the Various Names of the Mississippi River" is the title of a brief article by T. P. Thompson in volume 9 of the *Publications* of the Louisiana Historical Society (1917. 134 p.). The volume consists of proceedings and reports for 1916.

The presidential address at the last meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, "The Rise of Sport," by Frederic L. Paxson, is printed in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for September. This issue contains also the annual review of "Historical Activities in Canada," by Lawrence J. Burpee.

The Wisconsin Historical Society has recently received from the daughter of one of its founders a bequest of property valued at about twenty-five thousand dollars. The income is to be "devoted to the editing of materials for middle-western history, preferably that of Wisconsin itself."

The 1917 issue of *Acta et Dicta*, the serial published by the Catholic Historical Society of St. Paul, contains valuable contributions to the history of Minnesota and the Northwest. Archbishop Ireland's life of Bishop Cretin is continued from the 1916 number, carrying the narrative to the year 1838, when the subject left France for America. "A Chapter of Catholic Colonization," by William J. Onahan, deals with the work of the Irish Catholic Colonization Association of the United States, including the establishment of colonies in and around Adrian

in Nobles County and Currie in Murray County, Minnesota. An article on the "Titular Bishops of the Province of St. Paul" is contributed by Rev. J. A. Bigaouette; and Rev. James M. Reardon sketches the career of the late "Father Lacombe, the Black-Robe Voyageur," who served as a missionary to the Indians at Pembina and in the Canadian Northwest from 1849 on. The section devoted to documents contains an interesting and important description of the customs of the Indians, particularly the Ojibways of the Lake Superior region, in the shape of a lecture delivered by Bishop Baraga at Cincinnati in 1863. This is contributed by Rev. J. L. Zaplotnik, who also furnishes biographical data about the bishop. The "Letters of Bishop Loras, 1832 and 1836," included in this section, are preceded by an account of the materials relating to him in the society's collection. Considerable biographical information is presented under the headings "Contemporary Items" and "Obituary Notices," and other sections discuss the work of the society and announce some of its recent acquisitions. Especially noteworthy among the latter is the library of Auguste L. Larpenteur "containing many books and papers of unusual historical value."

The increasing realization of the importance of state history and of the desirability of fostering a more general interest in it is evidenced by the birth in 1917 of five quarterlies published by the historical societies of New York, Louisiana, Georgia, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The latest to appear is the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, the first number of which is dated September, 1917. The articles in this issue are: "Increase Allen Lapham, First Scholar of Wisconsin," by Milo M. Quaife; "A Forest Fire in Northern Wisconsin," by John L. Bracklin; and "Banker's Aid in 1861-62," by Louise P. Kellogg. These are followed by sections devoted to "Documents," "Historical Fragments," "Editorials," "Question Box," and "Survey of Historical Activities."

The October number of the *Michigan History Magazine* contains an article on "Government Survey and Charting of the Great Lakes from the Beginning of the Work in 1841 to the Present," by John Fitzgibbon.

The September issue of the *History Teacher's Magazine* contains a very useful "List of Historical Novels, Illustrating Some Phases of Economic or Social Development in American History," compiled by Professor E. L. Bogart of the University of Illinois.

The *History of Lewis Township*, Clay County, Indiana, will be welcomed as a suggestion for historical work in the schools. It was written by the teachers and pupils of the Lewis Township schools during the year 1915-16 and published in 1916 (Brazil, Indiana. 109 p.). The Coalmont High School students and faculty prepared several chapters on the geology of the township, its history and pioneer life, while the elementary schools supplied sketches of their districts and biographies of pioneers. The pamphlet is illustrated with pictures of local landmarks and contains a geological map.

The journal kept by Thoreau during his travels in Minnesota in 1861 is of interest to nature lovers as well as to historians. Extensive extracts from this journal have been incorporated by Franklin B. Sanborn into his *Life of Henry David Thoreau* (New York, 1917. xx, 542 p.). In 1905 the Bibliophile Society of Boston published this journal as a part of *The First and Last Journeys of Thoreau*, but, as the edition was small and printed for the members only, it has not been accessible to the ordinary reader. Mr. Sanborn has reprinted nearly all of the entries of general interest, omitting chiefly Thoreau's scientific notes.

The Minnesota State Federation of Labor *Year Book* for 1917 contains a sketch of the early phases of the "Minnesota Labor Movement." Such organizations as the Knights of Labor, the Eight Hour League, the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly, the State Federation of Labor, and various trades unions are discussed. In general the period covered is that from 1880 to 1900.

The insurance department of Minnesota has published an attractive brochure containing a history of the department, biographical sketches of former commissioners, and descriptive matter about Minnesota and the Twin Cities. It is designated as the "Convention Number" of the department's *Bulletin* [number

82], and contains the program of the National Convention of Insurance Commissioners, held at St. Paul, August 28-31.

The history of the inception and development of the St. Paul Institute is recounted at some length in its *Eighth Year-Book* for 1915-16 (156 p.).

In commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the founding of Wahkon, the business men of the city have recently published an illustrated booklet containing historical and descriptive matter (18 p.).

"Water Power Development on the Mississippi above Saint Paul" is the title of an article by Ralph D. Thomas in the September *Bulletin* of the affiliated engineers' societies of Minnesota. The author, who is assistant engineer of the St. Anthony Falls Water Power Company, treats the subject from both historical and engineering viewpoints. The geologic formation at the Falls of St. Anthony and the methods which have been used to conserve and direct the energy of the river for water-power purposes are described, and there is some discussion of the men and companies that have been most active in the field.

Rev. John P. Williamson, whose death occurred at the Yankton Agency, South Dakota, October 5, was born in 1835 at Lac Qui Parle, where his father, Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, had established a mission among the Sioux Indians. After the outbreak of 1862 he continued his father's work among the Indians, who had been removed to Nebraska and South Dakota.

"Sioux Historic Trail" is the name adopted for the proposed highway to connect points of historical interest between Traverse des Sioux and Browns Valley. At a meeting of the promoters held in conjunction with the Fort Ridgely celebration of August 22 it was decided to mark the trail with three nine-inch stripes on the telephone poles, red in the center and white outside, the whole to be surmounted by a stenciled Indian head. A committee was appointed to locate the route definitely. The expectation is that it will lead up the Minnesota from St. Peter, through Traverse des Sioux, Fort Ridgely, Ramsey Park, and Granite Falls to Lac Qui Parle, then over the old Fort Gary trail to

Browns Valley. In the *Minneapolis Tribune* of August 19 Elizabeth McCleod Jones describes for tourists the places of historical interest along this route.

Nearly eight thousand people gathered in the Fort Ridgely State Park on August 22 to celebrate the fifty-fifth anniversary of the battle of Fort Ridgely. Although national patriotism was the dominant note in the day's program, the speeches of Thomas Hughes and Lorin Cray of Mankato contained material of local historical interest. Mr. Hughes sketched the history of the fort, while Judge Cray, who took part in the suppression of the Sioux outbreak, gave his reminiscences. The two addresses with some account of the celebration are printed in the August 22 issue of the *Mankato Free Press*.

An event of historic interest is the annual banquet given to the old settlers by the Junior Pioneers of New Ulm to celebrate the anniversary of the coming of the first settlers in 1854. Only two members of the original group are now living, Peter Mack of Milford and Mrs. Hemsch of St. Paul. Mr. Mack was an honored guest at the banquet for 1917, which was held October 7.

On August 25 the boiler of the steamboat "Otter" was placed in Turner Park, New Ulm, as a memorial of early steam navigation on the Minnesota. This is all that remains of Captain Jacob Hinderman's boat, which plied western waterways from 1855 to 1879. The *New Ulm Review* of August 29 contains an account of the ceremonies and an historical sketch of the "Otter" by Captain Hinderman.

Thursday evening, September 27, was home-coming night at the Rice County fair in Northfield, and a large portion of the program was devoted to speeches recalling incidents of frontier life. An exhibit of souvenirs of pioneer days interested many of the visitors.

The following old settlers' associations have held annual meetings during the past three months: Luverne Pioneer Girls at Luverne, July 26; Marshall County Old Settlers' Association at Lundin's grove, near Stephen, July 28; Cass County Pioneers' Association at Hackensack, July 28; Hennepin County Territorial

Pioneers and Old Settlers' Association at Bederwood Temple, Wayzata, August 16; Itasca County Old Settlers' Association at Pokegama Lake, September 3; and St. Croix Valley Old Settlers' Association at the Sawyer House, Stillwater, September 19. The Olmsted County pioneers organized an association on "Old Settlers' Day," which was observed September 11 at the Olmsted County fair.

In connection with a plea for local support of Minnesota waterways Captain George H. Hazzard tells in the *Winona Republican-Herald* of September 1 of the development of transportation in Minnesota during the eighties. Captain Hazzard came to Minnesota in 1856 and spent several years on the river boats as cabin boy and clerk; later he represented various railroad and transportation interests. He is, therefore, well able to furnish authoritative information on this subject. The article is reprinted in the September 8 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* (Burlington, Iowa).

Miss Pauline Colby is the author of some delightful "Retrospections" that have appeared in recent numbers of the *Pine Knot*, a magazine published by the patients of the state sanitorium at Walker. Some twenty-five years ago Miss Colby went to the Leech Lake mission to teach lace-making to the Chippewa women. The class was one of the first of several opened through the influence of Miss Sybil Carter, whose success in establishing this industry among the Indian women and girls is now well known. The "Retrospections" are written in the form of letters to an eastern friend acquainting her with the people and life of the reservation.

The *St. Paul Daily News* for August 26 quotes at length from Marcus L. Hansen's "Old Fort Snelling" in an article entitled "Stories of 'Old Fort Snelling' Indian Fights Are Told by Iowa Historian." Another article in the same issue treats of Fort Snelling as the "Scene of U. S. Military Moves Since 1805."

In the *Minneapolis Ugebladet* of August 16 appears a descriptive article on Meeker County containing references to early Danish pioneers and present Danish-Americans who live in Litchfield and its vicinity. The Danish immigrants have not been

numerous, although some of them came to the country as early as the fifties.

A list of the Watonwan County pioneers with the dates of their arrivals, compiled by O. T. Holslin, is printed in the *Madelia Times Messenger* of October 19. A brief "School History" of Madelia accompanies the list.

Students of Scandinavian-American history will be interested in the account of the celebration of the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the *Nordlyset* published in the *Northfield American* of August 3. The *Nordlyset*, a Free Soil paper, appeared in 1847 at Norway, Wisconsin, and was the first Norwegian paper published in America. Its founder, Hans Christian Heg, was especially honored in the commemorative services held at Muskego, Wisconsin, July 29, under the auspices of the Ygdrasil Literary Society of Madison.

In the *Willmar Journal* of October 20 the editor, C. F. Spencer, tells his recollections of the early struggles of the *Valley Ventilator*, a paper established at Montevideo by C. W. Wheaton in 1876. Later it became the *Montevideo Leader*, which was recently consolidated with two other papers to form the *Montevideo News*.

A history of the *Stillwater Messenger* with some account of the founder's family is printed in a sixty-first anniversary edition of that paper, which was published October 3. When the founder, Captain A. J. Van Vorhees, came to Minnesota in 1855, he selected Stillwater as a suitable town in which to establish a Republican paper. The first issue is dated September 11, 1856.

The sixtieth anniversary of the establishing of the *Red Wing Republican* was the occasion of an historical sketch of that paper which appeared in the September 5 issue.

The *Roseau Times-Region* of October 5 contains an interesting description of a Chippewa-Sioux battle which is said to have taken place in 1857 near Two Rivers, Roseau County. The account is based on the story told by a Chippewa survivor twenty years ago and is reprinted from a contemporary issue of the same paper.

The issues of the *Winona Republican-Herald* for August 18 and 25 contain sketches by William Jay Whipple entitled "In the Primitive Days of 1852." The writer's own experiences furnish the material for his description of "log-raising" and other activities of pioneer days.

"Arm Chair Cogitations" is the title of an article on the history of the state fair grounds which appears in the *Hayfield Herald* of September 13. The writer tells how the grounds came to be located in St. Paul.

A list of "First Things in St. Paul" may be found in the August 26 issue of the *St. Paul Daily News*. Similar lists for Stillwater are printed in the *Stillwater Gazette* of October 17 and October 24.

A series of sketches of Cottonwood County men is being published by the *Cottonwood County Citizen* in "Our Biographical Department." Mr. Carl H. Ruhberg is the author.

Some reminiscences by David T. Adams appear in the *Duluth Herald* of September 24 under the title "Pioneer of Mesaba Range Tells Story of Early Days." Mr. Adams discusses his part in the discovery of iron ore in the Mesaba hills and the subsequent mine development in that range.

An article entitled "Ramsey State Park Is Beauty Spot" in the *Minneapolis Tribune* of April 26 deals with some phases of the history of Redwood Falls and vicinity. The author is Elizabeth McCleod Jones.

A letter from H. H. Davis, published in the *Sherburne County Star News* (Elk River) of August 30, tells of early log drives and points out something of their significance in the economic development of Minnesota.

A reminiscent article in the *Clay County Leader* of October 19 tells of the Granger and Farmers' Alliance movements in Clay County.

Some interesting incidents of pioneer life are related by Mrs. Helen Varney in the *Anoka County Union* of August 22.

The *Caledonia Journal* of August 8 reprints Carl Becker's article on "The Monroe Doctrine and the War" from the May number of the MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN.

The *Saturday Evening Post* of Burlington, Iowa, continues to publish valuable historical material on early river transportation. The section headed "The Old River Boats" contains letters from Samuel R. Van Sant, Fred A. Bill, and John Mahin of Chicago, August 18; a list of boats that went to Stillwater and St. Croix Falls, by Captain J. W. Darrah, September 15; and two articles by Fred A. Bill: "History of the Steamer Dubuque," October 6; and a biographical sketch of the late Rufus D. Button, clerk on the steamers of the Davidson line from 1866 to 1873, October 13. An autobiography of William Cairncross, entitled "Life on the Main Deck," is published in thirteen installments, beginning August 4. The author's career as a riverman dates back to 1847 and includes extensive experience in the navigation of the Mississippi and its tributaries.

A number of church societies have recently held services to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of their organization, and in connection with accounts of these celebrations several papers have published historical notes regarding the churches. The *Willmar Tribune* of September 5 sketches the history of the Vinje Norwegian Lutheran Church, which celebrated its semicentennial September 2. The *Mankato Daily Review* of September 17 prints pictures of several early pastors in connection with its account of the anniversary services of the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Mankato. On October 28 the Congregational society of Rochester marked the completion of the fiftieth year of its history by dedicating a new church building. Commemorative services were held by the members of the Anoka Universalist Church, September 12, and by the German Lutheran Church of St. Peter, September 23. An account of a twenty-fifth anniversary service, together with a sketch of the congregation of the St. Paul's German Lutheran Church of South St. Paul, is published in the *St. Paul Tägliche Volkszeitung* of September 3.

Several contributions to the history of the Sioux War of 1862 are to be found in recent newspaper articles. The *New Ulm*

*Review* of September 19 reprints an account of the first day's battle at New Ulm, published originally in a contemporary issue of the *St. Peter Tribune*. An editorial note accompanying the article explains that it was copied by Mrs. Gideon S. Ives from the scrapbook of her father, Governor Swift, who had endorsed on the margin, "Aug. 19, 1862. Battle of first day, before help came. True." The *Review* prints, also, two reminiscent accounts of these events: One, appearing August 22, is furnished by R. H. Henman of the Morton Indian Agency School, who bases his narrative on the story told him by one of the Indian participants, Hackita-Wakanda; the other, in the issue of October 24, is an account, contributed by Luther C. Ives, of the organization and activities of the Leavenworth Company composed of men from Milford, Sigel, and Leavenworth townships. The part taken in the uprising by Company F, Ninth Minnesota, is told in the *Rochester Daily Post and Record* of August 22 under the title "Fort Ridgely Times Recalled." Charles Culver, who participated in the war as a drummer boy in Company B, Fifth Minnesota, gives his recollections in the *Mankato Review* of August 28.



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