

HISTORY OF
Goodhue County
MINNESOTA

ILLUSTRATED

EDITOR IN CHIEF

FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

ASSISTED BY

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Holmes; Dwight C. Pierce; Henry Hal-
vorson; Rev. James H. Gaughan;
Henry R. Cobb; Edgar F.
Davis and many others

CHICAGO
H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.

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pany being Sherman & Richter. Three years later he purchased a farm in Bell Creek. In Red Wing he took up the grocery business. Later he removed his store to Third street and the business is now managed by his son, Frank. Mr. Sherman was married October 29, 1856, to Delana Richter, daughter of John J. and Henrietta Richter, pioneers of Red Wing. To this union have been born six children: Frank, William, Fannie, Nellie, Gertrude and Leigh. The family attends the Presbyterian church. Mr. Sherman died in 1909.

Charles H. Meyers, county auditor, is a native born son of this county, having first seen the light of day at Red Wing, February 22, 1858. He received such education as the country schools of his district afforded and then attended the high school at Red Wing. Being an ambitious youngster, he started work in the store of Henry Gross at Red Wing, while at an early age. Later he saw the necessity for a more thorough business education, and consequently entered the Bryant and Stratton business college at St. Paul. In the fall of 1882 he went to the Red River valley and conducted a general store until 1891. In 1892 he engaged in the shoe business on Third street in Red Wing. In 1904 he cast his lot in the political arena, after disposing of his shoe stock. He was a candidate for county auditor and the same year received an appointment as deputy city clerk. His services in this office deserved the election as city clerk which he received in 1906. He was in charge of the duties of this office, when he resigned to take the office of county auditor in January, 1909. He is also clerk of the school board, having served as a member of that body since 1898, three years of which time he was clerk, and two years president. His political platform is that of the Republican party, and his religious faith that of the Methodist Episcopal church. His fraternal affiliations include membership in the Odd Fellows, the Foresters, the Modern Samaritans and the Knights of Pythias, in several of which he has held office. Mr. Meyers was married October 17, 1883, to Emily Schreiner, daughter of Rev. William Schreiner, a clergyman of the German Methodist church, at that time stationed at Ft. Dodge, Iowa. The mother died at Ft. Dodge in 1902 and the father is now living a retired life at Glad Brook, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Meyers have been born five children: Grace L. was born September 26, 1884; Leon C., born May 3, 1886, is city clerk of Red Wing; Amy L. is attending music school at Chicago; Milton Wallace was born April 3, 1892, and Leslie V. was born February 14, 1901.

Hon. F. I. Johnson has a civic, military and political record of which any man might well be proud. He first demonstrated his ability in public office when he was elected county commissioner in 1875. In this position he served until 1880, when he resigned

to become a candidate for the high office of state senator. Overwhelmingly elected, he soon made himself a power in the senate, and the people of the county returned him to his seat two times, his services covering the three terms of 1881, 1883 and 1885. In addition to this he has served ten years on the state board of equal assessments, has been chairman of the township eleven years, and treasurer of school district 42 for over thirty years. In business, religious and fraternal circles he has been no less prominent, having been president of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, of Vasa, seven years; president of the Farmers' Elevator at Cannon Falls many terms; treasurer of the Spring Garden church twelve years; trustee of the Orphans' Home at Vasa twelve years and a director in the Scandinavian Relief Association thirty years. Mr. Johnson was born in Sweden, December 25, 1840, son of John Carlson and his wife, Carrie Johnson, also natives of that country. It was in 1858, at the age of eighteen years, that the subject of this sketch first came to the shore of the country of which he was later to become so prominent a citizen. After working on the St. Croix, Apple and Snake rivers as a lumberman, with Stillwater, Washington county, Minnesota, as headquarters, he enlisted in Company C, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, August 14, 1862. This company was sent on the Indian expedition, and was stationed at Ft. Snelling, at Ft. Abercrombie or on the frontier until the spring of 1864, commanded by that valiant old warrior, General Sibley. After spending some time in the Bad Lands and on the banks of the Yellowstone river, as well as in Idaho, the company returned with the regiment to Ft. Snelling and was then ordered south, to Murfreesboro, later participating in the battle of West Nashville. January 1, 1865, found them at Washington, after which they were attached to the Twenty-third Army Corps, and ordered to Ft. Fisher. This fort, however, was captured before their arrival, and they accordingly went to Newbern, N. C., and subsequently to Kingston, N. C., where the army engaged in battle with the command of General Johnson. At Gouldsboro, N. C., the regiment took part in another engagement and then participated in a part of Sherman's march to the sea. Remaining with Sherman until the time of Lincoln's assassination, the company was ordered to Kingsboro, N. C., and then to Charlotte, N. C., where the mustering out took place July 11, 1865. On August 1, 1865, the soldiers received their honorable discharge at Ft. Snelling. After the war, Mr. Johnson returned to Vasa and lived until 1868, when he moved to Leon township, where he has since conducted general farming on 255 acres in section 1, Leon township. Of late years the son has rented the place from his father and has general charge of the farming operations. The house

is comfortable and the barns well kept, everything about the place bespeaks thrift, intelligence and hard work. Mr. Johnson was married in 1865 to Anna Larson, who died in 1875, leaving four children: Edward A., now clerk of the court at Kittson county, Minnesota; Levi E., farmer living in the same county; Esther O., wife of Peter Johnson, of Cannan Falls, and Anton E., now living in California. Anton E. is a veteran, as well as his father, having served in Company F, Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in the Philippines. Upon his return to San Francisco he worked two years as a bookkeeper and then became a traveling salesman on the Pacific coast. By Christine Johnson, whom Senator Johnson married in 1876, there were four children: Alice, Clarence, Susie and Isadore. Clarence manages the home farm, and Susie and Isadore are deceased. The mother of these children died in 1887 and Senator Johnson then married Mrs. Wilhelmena Haggstrom, daughter of G. M. Magnusen, who still survives.

Albert George Scherf, a progressive and prosperous jeweler of Red Wing, is a native of this county, born December 20, 1862, in Hay Creek township. His father was Anton Scherf, and his mother, Elizabeth E. Kattergrolin, whose brother and a Mr. Barnes were the first men to make brick in the city of Red Wing. The father was a native of the Black Forest district, in Germany, and the mother was born in Westphalia, Germany. Anton Scherf came to this country in 1852, and for a time worked with his brother on the famous first suspension bridge across the Niagara, coming to Wacoota in 1854, where he engaged in steamboating and rafting on the Mississippi river, continuing for several years. In 1860, he pre-empted 160 acres at Hay Creek, and to this added from time to time until he was the proud possessor of 593 acres of rich land, all in one farm and mostly under cultivation. There he continued farming until 1903, when he moved to Red Wing, where he and Mrs. Scherf are living, but still owning the old homestead in Hay Creek. They were married at Red Wing, November 2, 1861. Albert G. attended the district schools of Hay Creek, and after one year at the high school of Red Wing, took a four months course at the Curtiss Business College of Minneapolis, after which he entered Wesleyan University of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, graduating in 1890. Thus equipped, with an excellent education, he taught school two years in his native town, and for a time acted as agent for the Mutual Life Insurance Company. His next occupation was as representative of the "Human World," of St. Paul, for which he was manager one year. He subsequently worked on his father's farm eight years. In 1901, while on the farm, he was sent to the legislature from the Red Wing district, and at about the same time, in partnership with