

George E. Warner

HISTORY
OF
HENNEPIN COUNTY

AND THE
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS,

INCLUDING THE
EXPLORERS AND PIONEERS OF MINNESOTA,

BY REV. EDWARD D. NEILL,

AND

OUTLINES OF THE HISTORY OF MINNESOTA,

BY J. FLETCHER WILLIAMS,

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CONTENTS.

| | PAGE | | PAGE |
|---|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| PREFACE, - - - - - | iii | | |
| MAP, - - - - - | opp. 1 | CHAPTER XLV. | |
| CHAPTER I—XXIII. | | Brooklyn, - - - - - | 285-293 |
| Explorers and Pioneers of Minnesota—Rev. | | CHAPTER XLVI. | |
| Edward Duffield Neill, - - - - - | 1-128 | Osseo, - - - - - | 294-297 |
| CHAPTERS XXIV—XXIX. | | CHAPTER XLVII. | |
| Outlines of the History of Minnesota from | | Champlin, - - - - - | 298-301 |
| 1858 to 1881—J. Fletcher Williams, - | 129-160 | CHAPTER XLVIII. | |
| CHAPTER XXX. | | Dayton, - - - - - | 302-306 |
| Fort Snelling, - - - - - | 161-166 | CHAPTER XLIX. | |
| CHAPTERS XXXI—XXXIV. | | Hassan, - - - - - | 307-310 |
| Hennepin County History, - - - - - | 167-187 | CHAPTER L. | |
| CHAPTER XXXV. | | Greenwood, - - - - - | 311-316 |
| War Record, - - - - - | 188-211 | CHAPTER LI. | |
| CHAPTER XXXVI. | | Corcoran, - - - - - | 317-321 |
| Richfield, - - - - - | 212-221 | CHAPTER LII. | |
| CHAPTER XXXVII. | | Maple Grove, - - - - - | 322-328 |
| Bloomington, - - - - - | 222-230 | CHAPTER LIII. | |
| CHAPTER XXXVIII. | | Plymouth, - - - - - | 328-338 |
| Eden Prairie, - - - - - | 231-237 | CHAPTER LIV. | |
| CHAPTER XXXIX. | | Minneapolis, Town of, - - - - - | 339-353 |
| Minnetonka, - - - - - | 238-246 | CHAPTER LV. | |
| CHAPTER XL. | | Saint Anthony, Town of, - - - - - | 353-356 |
| Excelsior, - - - - - | 247-256 | CHAPTERS LVI—LXXV. | |
| CHAPTER XLI. | | Minneapolis, City of, - - - - - | 357-499 |
| Minnetrista, - - - - - | 257-262 | CHAPTERS LXXVI—LXXXIV. | |
| CHAPTER XLII. | | Minneapolis, City, Biographies, - | 499-662 |
| Independence, - - - - - | 263-268 | CHAPTER LXXXV. | |
| CHAPTER XLIII. | | Chronology, - - - - - | 662-668 |
| Medina, - - - - - | 268-277 | CHAPTER LXXXVI. | |
| CHAPTER XLIV. | | Directory, - - - - - | 669-696 |
| Crystal Lake, - - - - - | 278-284 | INDEX, - - - - - | 697 |

MAPLE GROVE.

CHAPTER LII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—FIRST SETTLEMENT—
ORGANIZATION — CHURCHES — LYCEUM —
SCHOOLS—MANUFACTURES — TOWN HOUSE—
CEMETERIES—ROSTER FOR 1880—BIOGRAPHICAL.

The town of Maple Grove is situated in the northern central part of Hennepin county, and is bounded on the north by Dayton and Champlin, east by Brooklyn and Osseo, south by Plymouth, and west by Corcoran. The surface of the town is rolling, excepting on sections 22 and 23, where it is bluff. When first settled, it was heavily timbered with a large growth of elm, oak, basswood and maple, the latter growing in large quantities, scattered in such beautiful groves over the town, that it was named Maple Grove. The southeastern portion of the town is covered with a low underbrush. Bottineau Prairie, west of Osseo, includes half of section 1, all of section 12, one-quarter of section 11, and half of section 13. It is bordered by a narrow belt of brush land. The remaining portion is timber and wild meadow land, with fine rich meadows bordering on Rush Creek. The soil is a black loam with clay sub-soil, excepting on the east part of the prairie, where it is gravel. There are several lakes in the town, all well stocked with fish, except Mud Lake; among them are Eagle Lake, in the south-east corner of the town, occupying the greater portion of section 36; this is the largest lake in the town. Fish Lake is a long and somewhat irregular-shaped body, watering portions of sections 21, 22, 27 and 28. Weaver Lake, on sections 17, 18, 19 and 20, in the west part, and Rice Lake near the centre, mostly on section 16. Cedar Island Lake on sections 26 and 27, takes its name from the three islands that it surrounds, which are covered with a small growth of cedar. It is also watered by Elm Creek, which rises in the north-

eastern part of Plymouth, and flows north-easterly through Rice Lake; thence on in the same direction, emptying into Hayden's Lake, in the town of Dayton. Rush Creek also flows through the northern portion of the town in an easterly direction, and forms a junction with Elm Creek on section 34, in Dayton, near the northern boundary line of the town.

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The stillness of the forests which covered much of the territory now embraced within the limits of the town of Maple Grove, had never been disturbed, except by the stealthy tread of the Indian, until Louis P. Garvais, in 1851, broke the silence which for ages had pervaded the wilderness. He settled on the southeast quarter of section 12, and sounded the first notes of civilization from that point. With his family he labored, battling with the forest and wild beasts, and with the more formidable Winnebagos, who, two years after his settlement, were removed to their reservation.

About the same time came William M. Ewing, who helped survey the town and name it. Ewing moved to Osseo, in 1857. With the retirement of the Indians, the prospects of the settlers brightened, and the face of the country was soon dotted with the betterments of a hardy class of pioneers.

In May, 1854, came Harvey Abel, who, following the course of empire, westward, marked his claim where the Town House now stands, the first west of Bottineau Prairie. He sold his claim and made another, and, full of Yankee enterprise, sold that and made the third and last claim, the one on which he now lives, built his log cabin, covered it with bark, and used the same material for floor and tables, cooked for himself, and lived alone for three years. The same year came A. O. Angell, and settled on section 10, built his cabin of rough logs and covered it with bark, split and laid basswood slabs for his floor, and commenced house-keeping. The same year came W. E. Evans, from Chittenden county, Vermont, and located

on section 4, where he now lives. He built the first log cabin on the road between Minneapolis and Crow River. Patrick Devery also came in 1854, and located on section 28, where he still lives. He built him a home, and gathered about him a small stock of cattle. He had one cow stolen and killed by the Indians, who roasted one-half of it, and took the rest away with them, on their way to the battle between the Chippewas and Sioux, at Shakopee, in 1858.

Late in 1854, O. R. Champlin came and settled on section 16. He built his house in the woods, and in the place of bark, which was then much in use for covering, used wooden troughs for shingles.

In 1855, came J. H. Briggs, who settled on section 4, in the north part of the town, and built his log house; brought his provisions on his back, from Saint Anthony, a distance of sixteen miles, marked trees being his only guide. The same year came John Cook, and located on section 30. In June of the same year, Luther Hoff came and settled on section 8; he died in October 1864. His widow, Mrs. Minerva Hoff, is still living on the place. About the same time came Patrick Darmody and settled on section 31, in the southwest corner of the town. In the fall of the same year, came William Trott, and settled on section 10. He lived in a little shanty covered with bark, the first winter, and with the true pioneer pluck, he worked on alone, opening up his farm, until now he has all the evidences of thrift around him. In 1856, John M. Eddy came from Addison county, Vermont, and settled in the north part on section 4, of the town, and is now an honored and respected citizen. He has filled the office of town clerk for many years, with credit to himself and satisfaction to the town. George A. Laffin came from Chittenden county, Vermont, in 1856, and settled on section 10, in the north part of the town, and is now one of the prominent citizens of Maple Grove. From this date (1856) settlements were quite rapid, and the next care was the church and school, the only real foundations upon which a community can securely build. The first preaching in the town was at the house of P. B. Newton, on section 4, in 1855, by Rev. L. Atkinson, a Baptist. Later, in 1856-7, came the Rev. C. G. Ames and held services in the north part

of the town, preaching to the Free Will Baptists for about a year. About the same time, came the Rev. Mr. White, Methodist, preaching at the house of P. B. Newton, on section 4. The first school was taught in the summer of 1858, in an old vacant dwelling house on section 4, by Delos Hawkins. The first marriage was that of J. M. Eddy to Mary E. Evans, February 24th, 1857, by Rev. Lewis Atkinson.

First birth, Persis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Briggs, in the winter of 1855-6.

First deaths, Alonzo and Melissa Corey, children of James M. Corey, in the winter of 1855-6.

ORGANIZATION.

The first meeting for the purpose of organizing a board of town officers, was held April 11, 1858, at the house of Hiram Blowers. Meeting called to order and Hiram Blowers elected Moderator, and J. M. Eddy Clerk. Supervisors, A. C. Austin, Jeremiah Brown, Robert Woodard; Town Clerk, J. M. Eddy; Assessor, William R. Champlin; Collector, Chauncey Blowers; Overseer of Poor, P. B. Newton; Constables, Charles Savage and J. M. Corey; Justices, William E. Evans and Moses Blowers.

Previous to this organization a vote was taken on the "Five Million Loan," and every vote in the precinct was against it.

CHURCHES.

There are two Methodist Episcopal churches in the town, one located on section 17, and built in 1868. A class was formed about twenty years ago, and from it has grown the present church. Rev. Mr. White was the first minister. The second Methodist Episcopal church is located on section 4, in the north part of the town, and is not yet completed, but in a condition to permit public worship. Both the Methodist churches are now supplied semi-monthly by the pastor from the town of Champlin.

Maple Grove Catholic Church is located on section 29, in the south-western part of the town near school No. 45, has been in charge of the Rev. Father, A. Ladriere for the past five years, and has a membership of over a hundred families.

The Congregationalists had preaching for a few years in the school-house on section 4, by the Rev. A. K. Packard, from Anoka, but for the past seven years have had no regular preaching.

The Universalists have preaching occasionally in the school-house on section 4, by Revs. Goodrich and Harrington. There is also an Episcopal service conducted semi-monthly at the same place by the Rev. Mr. Pise, of Minneapolis.

SOCIETIES.

I. O. G. T. This Lodge was organized in 1865. They built for their accommodation, a hall over the school-house in District No. 42, where regular meetings were held for several years, and the town rejoiced over the good work it was doing, but like all human efforts, it had the germ of decay in it, which fed upon its vitality until it finally became entirely extinct.

MAPLE GROVE LYCEUM.

Was organized in the winter of 1858-9, in the school-house in District 42. In connection with it, was started a paper called the "Maple Grove Watchman," read each week during the winter months. It was here the "Conscript Fathers" of the town, met to discuss the leading questions of the day—to measure swords in an earnest debate, and it is to be hoped, always rising above the debasing influences of an angry discussion. It grew, and flourished for a time, calling to its aid such men as W. A. Crawford, Assistant Editor of the "New York Graphic," who gave them a lecture the first winter of its existence. The "Watchman" chronicled the events of the town and many were the sharp "home thrusts" that bristled from its columns. But its glory is past, and it, like some of its founders has gone to rest.

SCHOOLS.

The school system in this town is equal to any in Hennepin county, which is called the banner county of the state. The first school in the town was established on section 4, in school district No. 42, and is now a joint district. The other joint ones are No. 101, located on section 6, and No. 46, located on section 27. The entire districts are No. 45, located on section 29, No. 44, located on section 17, and No. 100, located on section 9. Besides these are joint districts Nos. 33, 43 and 45, houses located in other townships. All the school buildings in the town are nearly new and in good repair; 42 and 46 are furnished with patent desks and seats.

MANUFACTURES.

A small saw-mill was built on Elm Creek, section 10, in 1865, by Franklin Cook and changed to a grist mill in 1868. It now has two run of stone, one for flour and one for feed, which is a great convenience for the immediate neighborhood. There are in the town, four amber cane mills, owned and located as follows: S. S. Hawkins, on section 3; E. P. Woodworth, on section 3; Henry Abel on section 17, and one on section 18, owned by William and James Chapman. Each one of them has a capacity of from eight to sixteen hundred gallons annually.

TOWN HOUSE.

The first building used for a town house, was purchased of Hiram Blowers and fitted up for the use of the town in 1863. It is located on section 9. It was used until the present building was erected on the site of the old one in 1877. Size, 22x32, one story high, well built and in good condition.

CEMETERIES.

There are three cemeteries in the town, located as follows: One on section 4, established sixteen years ago by an association, as a general burial ground; and one on the extreme west line of section 7; also one on the north line of the same section.

OFFICIAL ROSTER FOR 1880.

Supervisors—William E. Evans, chairman, Fred Pauley and James McConnell; Town Clerk, J. M. Eddy; Treasurer, George A. Laffin; Assessor, John A. Conover; Justices, Charles Leonard and William E. Evans; Constables, William Joslin and John Odenbreicht. Whole number of acres, 21,318. Valuation of real estate, \$293,162; of personal property, \$47,607. Taxes for 1880, \$3,808. Population in 1880, 1,156.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

Henry Abel was born in Essex county, New York, May 8th, 1824. He lived there twenty-three years, and in Hillsdale, Michigan, four years. Married Ann E. Lobdell, in 1850; she died in 1852. He came to Minnesota in April, 1854, and took a claim in Maple Grove, where the town house now stands. He did the first mason work this side of St. Anthony. He made a claim and sold it; then made another; sold

that, and took the one he now lives on; built a log house ten feet square and covered it with bark, using the same material for floor and tables. In 1858, he was married to Sarah M. Brown, who died in 1861. He married his third wife, Sarah Weaver, in 1862. Mr. Abel built a new house, which, with contents, was destroyed by fire in 1870. He is the father of four children. His third wife died in October, 1880.

A. O. Angell was born in Bridgewater, Vermont, in 1834. He moved with his parents to Michigan, then to Ohio, and in 1854, came to Minnesota, and made a claim in Maple Grove. June 8th, 1865, he married Mary Atkinson. They have two children living. He lived in his cabin covered with bark and with floor of basswood slabs, until 1858. Mr. Angell helped to cut the first road leading from Osseo to Rice Lake.

J. H. Briggs was born in Smyrna, Chenango county, New York, April 19th, 1828. He came to Minnesota, and located in Maple Grove in 1855. Married Jane A. Faulkner in 1852. They have six children. The first year he came, he had to carry provisions on his back from St. Anthony to his home, a distance of sixteen miles. At that time, Minneapolis had but two houses. Mr. Briggs is one of the oldest settlers in this town.

William Brooks was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, December 6th, 1826. He remained with his parents twenty years. Lived in Wisconsin eight years, and came to Minnesota in 1857, locating in Maple Grove, where he now lives. In 1852 he married Mary A. Carter, who died in December, 1861. His second wife was Sarah L. Jenne-son. The first eight years that he was here, he lived in a log house that was covered with red-oak shakes, and had a floor of split basswood.

Octave Caron, a native of Canada, was born in 1836. He lived there seventeen years; then came to Minnesota, and worked on a farm; also at the Sioux Agency. In 1855 he went to Shakopee. He ran a ferry for two seasons, at Mendota. Enlisted in 4th Minnesota, Company E. Was in Sherman's march to the sea, and was honorably discharged in 1865. He has lived in Maple Grove since 1878. In 1859 he married Philomene Le Duc. They have nine children living. He owns land in Brooklyn, and Wheatland, Rice county.

O. R. Champlin, born in Chenango county, New York, January 8th, 1832, and came to Maple

Grove in 1854. He married Miss H. M. Bosworth, in 1857. The first winter he passed in this county, the Winnebagoes gave him some trouble. He built his house in the woods, using wooden troughs for shingles. Mr. Champlin was in Stearns county during the Indian outbreak. Nearly all the people left the country, excepting his family and a young man named Warner.

John Cook was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1820. When fifteen years of age, he had learned the bakers' trade; came to America in 1849, stopping a short time in New York and Buffalo. In 1850 he went to DuPage county, Illinois, and remained five years. He married Mrs. Mary Ann Hardy. Came to Minnesota in 1855 and settled in Maple Grove. They have ten children living. Mrs. Cook died June 1st, 1876.

Patrick Darmody (deceased) was born in Tipperary, Ireland, in 1825. Came to America, stopping a short time in New Orleans and Cincinnati, landed in Minnesota May 24th, 1855, and settled in Maple Grove. He married Ellen Peters, July 19th, 1855. There are six children living. Mr. Darmody died December 5th, 1879.

Patrick Devery, a native of Ireland, was born in 1818, and lived with his parents twenty-one years. He then came to America; stayed in Ohio a few months, and in New York ten years. Came to Minnesota and settled in Maple Grove, October 1854; he made a shanty of rough boards a bedstead of hickory poles, and used a dry-goods box for a table. Mr. Devery is the father of eleven children.

Fredrick Ebert was born in Germany, 1816, came to Illinois in 1817. Married October 10th, 1848, to Julia Ostrath, of Macon county, Illinois, and lived there eighteen years. Came to Hennepin county, in 1864. Have eleven children: John, Frederick, Margaret, George, Julia, Adam, Henry, Susan, Charles, Conrad and Willie.

Louis Pierre Garvais was born at Wolf River, near Montreal Canada, in 1810. Lived there sixteen years, and moved to Lake Champlain, New York, where he resided for twenty-two years; then came to Saint Paul, remained there two years, and one year in Saint Anthony, after which he came to what is now Maple Grove. He made his claim on what is known as Bottineau Prairie, and was the first settler in this town. For nearly two years their only neighbors were

the Winnebago Indians. After he had been here nearly two years, the whites began to settle around him. He married Mary Twombly, in New York, October 15th, 1830. They have had ten children, four boys and six girls, all living, with the exception of the first-born, who died at the age of eleven, in York State. On the 15th of October, 1880, Garvais and wife, celebrated their golden wedding, at Osseo, impressive ceremonies being held at the church. Eight children, and seventy-five grand children were present.

John M. Eddy is a native of New Haven, Vermont. When twenty-two years old, he went to California, and stayed about five years. In 1856 he came to Minnesota, and settled in Maple Grove. He was married in 1857, to Mary E. Evans, of Chittenden county, Vermont. They have five children. Mr. Eddy was the first town clerk, and held the office nine years. He enlisted in the Second Minnesota Cavalry, December 22d, 1863, was discharged December 2d, 1865, and has been farming since that time.

W. E. Evans was born in Chittenden county, Vermont, December 28th, 1824. He remained there, working as mill-wright, until he came to Minnesota; was one of the first settlers of Maple Grove, and built the first house on this road, a log cabin, now used as a granary. Before his block house was finished, he covered it with blankets to protect his family. In 1847 he was married to Miss Lucia C. Austin, of Vermont; she died in 1880. Mr. Evans has held various town offices since he came here.

Leonard L. Hawkins (deceased) was a native of New Hampshire. In 1829 he married Olivia P. Wright, at Keene, New Hampshire. He lived in Vermont until he came to Minneapolis in 1856. For two years he had charge of the tollgate near the University. Mr. Hawkins died in 1863, and Mrs. H. resides in Minneapolis with her daughter, Mrs. G. W. Chowen.

S. S. Hawkins was born September 12th, 1842, at East Highgate, Vermont, and lived there twenty-two years. He went to Minneapolis in 1856, remained there until 1859, then located in Maple Grove. He was married August 29th, 1864, to Mary Woodworth. He is traveling for O. S. Rixford, of East Highgate, Vermont; has been in the business for twelve years, traveling winters, and spending summers at home. They have four children living.

Minerva Hoff was born in Ohio, April 17th, 1824, and lived with her parents until twenty-two years of age. She was married, in Ohio, to Luther E. Hoff, October 19th, 1850. They came to Maple Grove, June 2d, 1855, being among the first settlers of the town. They have five children living. Mr. Luther E. Hoff, her husband, died October 10th, 1864.

Sarah Kiefer, a native of New York, was born April 30th, 1831. She lived there for ten years, and then moved, with her parents, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She married, April 10th, 1849; came to Minnesota and settled in Maple Grove, in 1864, and has since made this place her home. Mr. Kiefer was born in Germany, September 5th, 1820, and died April 5th, 1874. Mrs. K. has nine children living. She now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land.

Michael Knopf was born near Buffalo, New York, in 1835. Lived there ten years, then moved to Cook county, Illinois; remained there until twenty-five years of age. He was educated at the North-west College of the Evangelical Association at Napierville. In 1860 he came to Rice county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming. He enlisted July 24th, 1864, in Company E, Sixth Minnesota Infantry, and served until he was honorably discharged in 1865, at Fort Snelling. He was pastor of the Evangelical Church at Waseca for three years, at Frontenac three years, one year near Henderson, and is now pastor of the Evangelical Church in Maple Grove. Married in 1861, to Miss S. F. Fritch.

George A. Laffin, a native of Chittenden county, Vermont, was born February 19th, 1837; he lived there nineteen years, and came to Maple Grove, Minnesota, in 1856. On June 10th, 1867, he was married to Miss Annie L. Eddy, of Maple Grove. In October, 1872, she died, and he married for his second wife, Elizabeth N. Kerr, January 7th, 1874. Mr. Laffin's first wife bore him three children, and he has two by his second wife.

Q. A. Laffin was born in Milton, Vermont, August 20th, 1850. He came with his parents to Minnesota in 1856, and lived in the town of Dayton until 1876. He was married December 7th, 1876, to Miss Nellie Knibbe, who was born in Holland December 18th, 1858, and came to America in 1873. They have two children.

David Marchand, a native of Canada, was

born October 14th, 1834. He lived there fifteen years, then removed to Massachusetts, and stayed until 1851, when he came to Minnesota, and settled in Maple Grove; worked at carpentering till 1870, and has since that time followed farming. In 1863 he joined General Sibley's expedition as a scout, was drafted while on his way from Fort Snelling to Ft. Ridgely and was ordered to return to St. Paul. He paid three hundred dollars for a substitute. He was detailed for duty at Fort Wadsworth, transferred to Fort Abercrombie, and again transferred to Fort Wadsworth; he left there in November 1864, and returned to Maple Grove. He married Laura Gasner, September 20th, 1858. They have six children living.

Albert A. Opitz, a native of Ohio, was born in Toledo, August 4th, 1855. He came to Minneapolis May 1st, 1868, and worked at the tanners trade until 1879, when he removed to Maple Grove. He married Mrs. Nancy Brownrigg, February 15th, 1880, who was born in Washington county, Ohio, in 1856. Her first husband died September 28th, 1879, and Mrs. Brownrigg married Mr. Opitz. They live on the farm purchased by Mr. Brownrigg.

Otto Ohrmundt was born in Germany, November 16th, 1848. He resided in his native country with his parents until he came to America. He came to this country in 1870, and after a residence of eighteen months in Wisconsin, came to Maple Grove, where he has since resided. He was married in Germany, in 1865. Has two children, a boy aged eight, and a girl four years.

William H. Pavitt came to Minnesota in the autumn of 1855. Remained about two years in Minneapolis, and then moved to Cokato, Wright county; staid there two years; then returned to Minneapolis, and remained until 1867, when he moved to Osseo, and has since lived on his farm, section 16, town of Maple Grove. He married Mary L. Hoff, in November, 1873. She is a native of Hennepin county.

Catharine Peters was born in Ireland, in 1832. She lived with her parents ten years; then went to England, and lived there three years; then emigrated to America. Came to Minnesota in 1855, and settled in Maple Grove. Married, April 4th, 1855, to John Peters, who died October 30th, 1866. She has two children living. James was born January 27th, 1856, and Edward, March 4th,

1858. The family is living upon the "Peters Estate," of 160 acres, on section 31. Both sons are able and active young men, conducting the farm with ability.

Sherman Phelps, born in Smithville, New York, August 11th, 1820. He lived there twenty-three years; then moved to Cook county, Illinois, and remained until 1865, when he came to Minnesota, and located in Maple Grove, where he has since resided. Married Anna E. Limberger, May 18th, 1848, who died February 14th, 1869. Mr. Phelps has seven children living.

A. Robert was born in Belgium, May 12th, 1813. For forty-three years he lived in his native land, then came to Minnesota, and settled in Corcoran. He removed to Maple Grove, and has since resided here. In 1863, he enlisted in Hatches Battalion Minn. Cavalry, and was discharged in May, 1866. Mr. Robert has never married.

Henry Robert, a native of Belgium, was born May 15th, 1819. When thirty-four years of age, he came to America, and located at Lake Superior; then removed to Minnesota in 1856; lived at Greenwood five years, and in Corcoran two years; then came to Maple Grove. He removed to Corcoran again, but returned to Maple Grove, and has since resided here. He married Miss Matilda Twombly, October 3d, 1859. They have four children living.

William Trott was born in England, in 1828. He came to America in 1846, and worked on a farm in Orleans county, New York, a few years; then went to Indiana, as foreman on a railroad. Poor health compelled him to resign. He came to Minnesota, in 1853, and bought a claim in Eden Prairie; sold it for \$500; then explored different parts of the then territory, making several claims and selling them. In 1854, he came to Maple Grove; bought a claim, built a shanty, which he covered with bark, and lived in it the first winter. July, 1866, he married Lilly Sutherland, of Canada.

Josiah Weaver, born in Miramichi, New Brunswick, November 26th, 1845. Went with his parents to Frederickton, lived there nine years and came to Minnesota in 1856, with his father, his mother having died when he was eighteen months old. Since coming to this state he has lived with Mrs. Hoff. He enlisted January, 1865, in company B, Second Minnesota Infantry Volunteers;

served until July 10, 1865, when he was discharged.

J. M. Williamson, a native of Washington, Ohio, was born February 24th, 1857. He came to Minnesota in 1865, and settled in Maple Grove, September 4th, 1880, he married Miss Sophia Zeorb. His father enlisted October 23d, 1861, in Company B, Seventy-fifth Ohio Infantry, but was discharged for physical disability, and was not able to do a day's work after he came out of the army. Mr. Williamson, Sr., died in 1880.

L. B. Wilmot was born in LaPorte, Indiana, August 18th, 1839, and lived there fifteen years; then went to Minneapolis, and from there to the

Black Hills, where he remained two years. Married Miss R. Foster, August 12th, 1875, and now lives in Maple Grove. They have one child, George.

E. P. Woodworth, born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, July 13th, 1844. Lived there seventeen years, and in Pennsylvania three years. He enlisted in the naval service, August 13th, 1864; served ten months, and was discharged. He was married July 24th, 1866, to Selina C. Clarke, of Pennsylvania, and came to Maple Grove where he has since lived. They have three children living.

PLYMOUTH.

CHAPTER LIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—FIRST SETTLEMENT—
ORGANIZATION—VILLAGES—CHURCHES—SO-
CITIES—SCHOOLS—POST-OFFICES—HOTELS—
ROSTER—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Plymouth is situated near the center of Hennepin county and comprises the congressional township of 118 north, range 22 west, fifth principal meridian. The surface is undulating, that portion of the town around the north end of Medicine Lake, being the most hilly. When first settled, the west and north-west part was covered with a heavy growth of timber, covering nearly half of the town; the remaining portion being covered by brush, with a few marshes that support a growth of tamarac. The principal woods are maple, oak and elm, with a little ironwood, ash and poplar. The soil generally is a clay loam. Around Parker's Lake it is sandy, and in some places gravelly. Sandy spots occur occasionally in the north-east part. The town is interspersed with numerous lakes. Among them is Medicine Lake, the largest, situated in the south-east part of the town. It is a beautiful

body of water, about two miles long from north-west to south-east, and nearly three-quarters of a mile wide in the widest part. The south-east shore is sandy, which with a sandy bottom makes it an excellent bathing-place, and is much resorted to for that purpose. At different places on the east and west shores, the banks are quite high and precipitous. The north and south ends are marshy. Its outlet is Bassett's Creek, which flows out of the south end and passes out of the town at the south-east corner and empties into the Mississippi at Minneapolis. The lake derives its name from an Indian legend, which says that an Indian in his canoe was capsized by a sudden storm, and the Indians not being able to find his body, gave it the name of Medicine Lake. Bass Lake is in section 2, and covers about one hundred and fifty acres, with an island of several acres in the center. Its shores are marshy, and its outlet is Bass Lake Creek, which leaves the lake from its north-east corner, flows eastwardly out of the town and empties into Shingle Creek in the south-west part of Brooklyn. It received its name from the large number of bass, they being