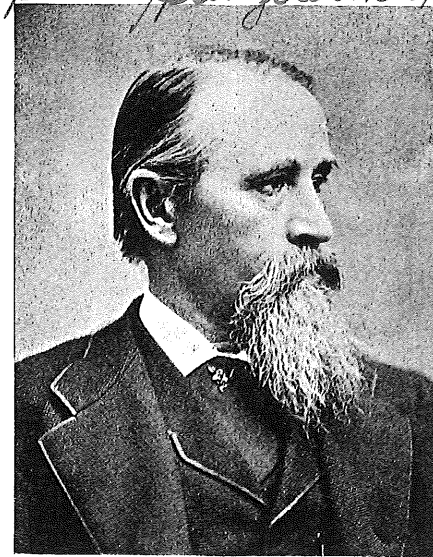


CHARLES EUGENE FLANDRAU.

Charles E. Flandrau was born in New York City on July 15, 1828. His ancestors on his father's side were Huguenots, who settled in West Chester County, New York, and founded the town of New Rochelle. Thomas H. Flandrau, father of Charles E., was born at New Rochelle. His mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Macomb, was a half sister of General Alexander Macomb, who was commander-in-chief of the United States Army from 1828 to 1841. Thomas H. Flandrau was a law partner of the famous Aaron Burr, and for many years practiced with Colonel Burr in the city of New York. Charles E. Flandrau commenced his education at Georgetown, D. C., and when thirteen years old decided to enter the United States Navy, and applied for the position of mid-shipman. He was, however, too young and the appointment could not be made. He was bent on following the sea, and immediately upon discovering that his youth rendered him ineligible for a commission as mid-shipman, he shipped on the United States Revenue Cutter Forward, as a common seaman. After several voyages in various vessels, he gave up the idea of being a sailor and returned to school at Georgetown, but shortly afterwards went to New York and learned the trade of veneer-sawing in the mahogany mills of Mahlon Bunnell. Three years later he went to Whitesboro, New York, and commenced studying law with his father. After several years of close study he was admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with his father. However, within two years he determined to remove to Minnesota, and in November, 1853, in company with Horace R. Bigelow, Judge Flandrau landed in St. Paul. The young lawyers at once formed a partnership under the firm name of Bigelow & Flandrau. In those early days there was little business in the legal line, and Judge Flandrau had many opportunities of exploring the territory. During one of his trips he was so impressed with the possibilities of the Minnesota Valley that he determined to settle at the village of Traverse des Sioux. While living at Traverse des Sioux, Judge Flandrau held a number of local offices, and was a member of the Territorial Council, and of the Constitutional Convention of 1857. In 1856 Judge



Flandrau was appointed by President Pierce agent of the Sioux Indians. While in this position he took an active part in the punishment of the Indians who participated in the Spirit Lake and Springfield massacres, and was instrumental in the rescue and return of the captive women taken by them on this occasion. On July 17, 1857, President Buchanan appointed him Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Minnesota. At the convention of the Democrats during the same year for the nomination of state officers, under the new constitution, Judge Flandrau was nominated for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. His election to this important office gave him an opportunity to impress his personality and his rare ability as a jurist upon the legal history of the state. His record as a jurist is chiefly to be found in the first nine volumes of Minnesota reports. The first Supreme Court of Minnesota had much important work in formulating a system of practice for the state, and the construction of a large number of statutes was also to be judicially determined for the first time, and the labors of Judge Flandrau were necessarily heavy. Judge Flandrau's decisions are described as being always "plain, simple and uniformly terse, vigorous and decided." While a justice on the supreme bench, there came to Judge Flandrau the opportunity which has made him most

famous in the history of the state. On the morning of August 18, 1862, Judge Flandrau was notified at his home at Traverse des Sioux, that the Sioux had risen and that a terrible massacre was in progress. Before noon the Judge had armed and equipped a company of one hundred and fifteen volunteers and was on his way to the relief of New Ulm, the largest and most exposed town in the region of the depredations of the Indians. On his arrival at New Ulm he was made commander-in-chief of all the assembled forces. The heroic relief and defense of New Ulm under his command is now a matter of familiar Minnesota history. This episode in the life of an active justice of the Supreme Court is probably without precedent. For some time after the relief of New Ulm, Judge Flandrau continued in the service. He was authorized by Governor Ramsey to raise troops and take general charge of the defense of the southwest frontier of the state. In the spring of 1864 Judge Flandrau resigned his position on the supreme bench, and commenced the practice of law in Nevada. Shortly after he formed a partnership with Col. R. H. Musser, of St. Louis, but in less than a twelve month he had returned to Minnesota and formed a partnership with Judge Atwater, at Minneapolis. During the same year he was elected city attorney of Minneapolis, and in 1868 was chosen president of the board of trade of that city. In 1870 he moved to St. Paul and formed a partnership with Messrs. Bigelow and Clark. This firm with various changes has continued until the present time. Judge Flandrau is, in politics, a representative of the old Jeffersonian Democracy. In 1867 he was Democratic candidate for governor, but was defeated by William R. Marshall. In 1869 he was Democratic candidate for chief justice of the supreme court, but was again defeated, the Republican majority in Minnesota being very large. None of these nominations were sought, and were only accepted on account of his loyalty to the Democratic party. He is still an ardent Democrat, but an equally zealous opponent to the free silver coinage movement. Judge Flandrau has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Isabella R. Dinsmore, of Kentucky, to whom he was married on August 10, 1859. Mrs. Flandrau died

June 30, 1867, leaving two daughters, Mrs. Tilden R. Selmes and Mrs. F. W. M. Cutcheon. On February 28, 1871, Judge Flandrau married Mrs. Rebecca B. Riddle, daughter of Judge William McCluer, of Pittsburg. They have two sons, Charles M. Flandrau and William Blair McC. Flandrau.

HENRY GEORGE HICKS.

Henry George Hicks, recently a judge of the district court of Hennepin County, is one of the self-made men of the Northwest, who has impressed himself strongly upon the community in which he lives. He was born at Varysburgh, Genesee (now Wyoming) County, New York, January 26, 1838. His father, George A. Hicks, was a saddler and harness maker by trade at Castleton, New York, a man in moderate circumstances and with no capital but his skill as a workman and his honorable reputation as a man. He died at Freeport, Ill., in 1881. George A. Hicks' wife was Sophia Hall, a native of Rutland, Vermont, who died at the home of her son, Henry, in Minneapolis, in 1885, at the age of seventy. Her father was Asa Hall, who was wounded in the battle of Lake Champlain in the War of 1812. George A. Hicks' mother, Hannah Edwards, was a cousin of the elder Jonathan Edwards. Henry G. Hicks, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools of New York and Pennsylvania, and also enjoyed one winter term at the academy at Arcade, New York. At the age of fifteen he began teaching school. Five years later he entered the preparatory department of Oberlin College, where by intervals of teaching and by employment in a printing office he supported himself until 1860 when he entered the freshman class. He then taught the first ward grammar school at Freeport, Illinois, for a year, and at the close of his engagement enlisted, July 24, 1861, as a private in Co. A, of the Second Illinois Cavalry. He was appointed corporal and sergeant of his company and then sergeant-major of the regiment, August 12. October 15 he was commissioned adjutant, was at the battle of Fort Donelson, and mustered out June 1, 1862. He was then appointed adjutant of the Seventy-first Illinois Infantry, a