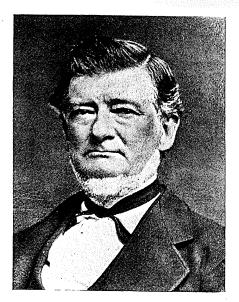
PROGRESSIVE MEN OF MINNESOTA. /897



STEPHEN MILLER.

The fourth governor of Minnesota, Stephen Miller, was born in Perry, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, January 17, 1816, the son of David and Rosanna Miller, and the grandson of Melchor Miller, who came to America from Germany about 1785. His education was secured in the common schools of Cumberland County, which were not of a high order in that early day, but he added largely to this rather slender stock of information by extensive reading and research at a later day. He was ambitious and possessed of energy and determination that enabled him to make a success of everything he undertook. In 1834, at the age of eighteen, he was in the forwarding and commission business in Harrisburg, in which he prospered for years. At this period of his life he was married to Miss Margaret Funk, of Dauphin County, who was a helpmeet in every true sense, and encouraged him in his ambition to make a mark in the world. In politics as a young man he was a Whig, which party made him probate officer of Dauphin County in 1849, and kept him in that office until 1855. Besides attending to his public duties during these years, he edited the

Telegraph, an influential Whig newspaper, published at Harrisburg. In 1855 Governor Pollock appointed him flour inspector at Philadelphia, a position he held until 1858, when failing health caused him to go into the new West. He came to Minnesota, locating in St. Cloud, one of whose leading merchants he soon became. In two years he was made delegate at large to the national Republican convention which nominated Lincoln for the presidency, and the same year his name headed the electoral ticket in Minnesota. At the commencement of the war Mr. Miller enlisted as a private. Before he had seen any service, however, Governor Ramsey appointed him as lieutenant colonel of the First Infantry, and he served with that regiment in the Army of the Potomac until September, 1862, when he was made a colonel and placed in command of the Seventh regiment. His first campaign as commander of this regiment was against the Sioux Indians in this state, where he distinguished himself for gallantry and ability. It was under his direction that the thirty-eight Indians who had been convicted of murder, were hanged at Mankato at the close of the Indian outbreak. Subsequently he was promoted to the rank of brigadier general, but saw no service in that capacity, being elected governor of the state in the fall of 1863. As governor he contributed in every way possible to the comfort of Minnesota troops in the field, and favored the plan of the government to bring the war to a speedy and successful close. After retiring from the office of governor he was out of politics until 1873, when he was sent to the legislature to represent the six southwestern counties of the state. In 1876 he was again on the Republican electoral ticket, and was the messenger who carried the official result to Washington. He was employed by the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad land company during the last years of his life, and resided first at Windom and later at Worthington, in which latter place he died in 1881. The funeral was attended by a large company of people from St. Paul, and he was buried with Masonic honors. Of four children, one, a daughter, died in infancy. The eldest son fell at Gettysburg, fighting for his country. The second son was a captain and com-

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missary in the army, but has for some years been lost sight of by the people of this state. The youngest son is an employe of the government in the printing office in Washington.

THEODORE LEOPOLD SCHURMEIER.

Mr. Schurmeier is one of the leading representatives of commercial life in the city of St. Paul, a member of the firm of Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier, wholesale dry goods merchants. What success he has achieved in business life is due entirely to his untiring perseverence and devotion to the commercial affairs in which he was engaged. Theodore Leopold Schurmeier was born at St. Louis, Missouri, March 14, 1852, the son of Caspar H. Schurmeier and Caroline Schurmeier. His father was engaged in the wagon and carriage manufacturing business in that city, but in 1854 moved with his family to St. Paul, where he has since lived and become a well-known business man. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the public schools of that city, and in the Baldwin University at Berea, Ohio. He entered the employ of J. J. Hill now president of the Great Northern system, in 1870, when but eighteen years of age. He was employed in the railroad offices for four years, when he was engaged as a bookkeeper for the First National Bank of St. Paul. Shortly afterward he was made teller of that institution, occupying this position until 1878. The wholesale dry goods firm of Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier was organized July 1, of that year, Mr. Schurmeier becoming one of the constituent members, with which firm he has been connected ever since, having in charge the finances and credit of this business concern since its organization. Mr. Schurmeier has been very successful from the start. He has a natural aptitude for business life, and to the thorough training which he had had in commercial affairs and methods, his sagacious conduct of the business and his faithful discharge of the responsible duties entrusted to him, is due, in great measure, the prosperity which the firm enjoys. He is held in high



esteem by all his business associates for his sound judgment and his careful and conservative handling of the vital interests of the firm with which he is connected. Mr. Schurmeier seldom errs in his calculations touching the financial interests of which he has charge, and as a financier his judgment is never questioned. Aside from his interest in the firm of Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier, he is interested largely in other financial institutions. He is a director of the First National Bank of St. Paul, also in the St. Paul Trust Company, and is the owner of considerable valuable real estate in that city. Mr. Schurmeier is liberal in his views and generous in his contributions to all worthy and benevolent objects of charity. He is president of the Minnesota State Immigration Association, also of the Northwestern Immigration Association, covering all of what is commonly known as the Northwestern states, and including the Province of Manitoba. He is also trustee of St. Luke's hospital. In November, 1882, he was married to Caroline Eudora Gotzian, and has three children, Conradine, Theodora and Hildegarde. Mr. and Mrs. Schurmeier's residence on Crocus Hill is a model of architectural beauty and elegance, indicative of the refined tastes of the owners.

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