



CHARLES ALFRED PILLSBURY.

Charles Alfred Pillsbury is a name more widely known than that of any man in Minnesota. He was for a long time the head of the famous milling firm of Charles A. Pillsbury & Company, and is now manager of the Pillsbury-Washburn syndicate, the largest flour milling organization in the world. Mr. Pillsbury is a native of New Hampshire, having been born at Warner, Merrimac County, October 3, 1842, the son of George A. Pillsbury, a merchant of that place, now a resident of Minneapolis, ex-mayor of the city, a member of the milling firm of C. A. Pillsbury & Co., and identified with many of the important enterprises of this city. Charles A. Pillsbury graduated from Dartmouth College at the age of twenty-one. His collegiate course was interrupted somewhat by teaching school as a means of partial self-support while in college. Soon after the completion of his college course he went to Montreal, where for six years he was engaged in mercantile pursuits, the greater part of the time as a clerk. In 1869 he came to Minneapolis, where he bought an interest in a small flouring mill at the Falls. There were then four or five mills located there, of the old-fashioned pattern, using buhr stones for grinding grain. Mr. Pillsbury's business habits

led him to a thorough investigation of the methods of the business in which he is engaged and he applied himself industriously to mastering the details of flour milling. This was about the time of the invention of the middlings purifier, a Minneapolis device which greatly improved the quality of the flour and increased the profits of the milling business. Mr. Pillsbury was among the first to adopt the new invention and reaped a rich harvest on account of the reputation which his celebrated "Pillsbury's Best" attained before the new device came into general use. Simultaneously with the invention of the middlings purifier came the introduction of the roller mill, which took the place of the buhr stone and substituted steel rollers. The Minneapolis mills enjoyed a practical monopoly of this new process for a number of years and profited by it. These improvements enabled the millers to manufacture from spring wheat the finest quality of flour and stimulated the wheat growing industry of the Northwest. In 1872 Mr. Pillsbury associated with him his father, George A. Pillsbury, his uncle, John S. Pillsbury having been with him since the beginning, and enlarged the scope of his operations. At a later period his brother, the late F. C. Pillsbury, was admitted to the firm which continued as Charles A. Pillsbury & Co., until the acquisition of the milling property of this firm and that belonging to W. D. Washburn by an English syndicate, under the name of the Pillsbury-Washburn syndicate. Mr. Pillsbury's phenomenal success in the management of this business led to his engagement as manager for the syndicate, in which he also retained a large interest. Under the ownership of the firm of C. A. Pillsbury & Co., the original mill had been added to by purchase and lease until it included the great mill called "Pillsbury A," with a capacity of over 9,000 barrels a day, and other mills making up a total capacity of about 15,000 barrels. The consolidated property has a capacity now of over 20,000 barrels a day. The milling industry at the Falls has taken up all the water power available under present conditions, and last year the English syndicate undertook, upon Mr. Pillsbury's recommendation, the construction of another dam below the Falls which will add 10,000 horse power to the capacity already provided. An important feature of

the administration of this immense business has been the introduction of the profit sharing plan by Mr. Pillsbury, under which as high as \$25,000 have been divided among the employes in one year. Mr. Pillsbury is identified with numerous other important enterprises and is prominent in benevolent and philanthropic undertakings, his large resources and liberal hand contributing to the support of many charitable institutions, both public and private. While Mr. Pillsbury is a prominent Republican and has never sought political honors he has not shirked his political duties, and for ten years he served his city as state senator. During most of that time he occupied the position of chairman of finance committee and had charge of the bill which his uncle, then governor, had recommended for the adjustment of state bonds. Mr. Pillsbury is a man of robust health and buoyant spirits, popular with all classes, readily accessible at all times, alive to the interests of his city, and devotes a great deal of time for so busy a man to the promotion of its best interests, politically, economically and educationally. He is an attendant of Plymouth Congregational Church, was for a long time trustee of that society and is a liberal supporter of its work. He was married September 12, 1866, to Mary A. Stinson, of Goffston, New Hampshire, a daughter of Captain Charles Stinson. They have two sons.

ALF E. BOYESEN.

Alf E. Boyesen, a lawyer of St. Paul, was born in Christiania, Norway, April 21, 1857. His father, Capt. S. F. Boyesen, of Christiania, was an officer in the Norwegian regular army. Capt. Boyesen's father was a landed proprietor of Norway, and the owner of "Hovin," one of the largest estates in Norway. "Hovin" is situated a few miles out of Christiania, Norway's capital, and is famous as one of the most attractive country seats in that region. The maternal grandfather of Alf E. was Judge Hjorth, of Systrand, on Sognefjord, Norway. Alf Boyesen attended the public schools in Norway, and also studied with his father, who was a man of fine educational attainments, until he came to the United States at the age of twelve years. On his arrival in this country he went to Urbana University, at



Urbana, Ohio, where his brother, the celebrated author and philologist, the late Hjalmar Hjorth Boyesen, was then engaged as an instructor. In 1878, having completed his university course, Mr. Boyesen came to Minnesota, located in Minneapolis, and was taken into the law office of Shaw, Levi & Cray, as a law student. He was admitted to the bar of Hennepin County in 1880, and shortly afterward went to Fargo, North Dakota, to engage in the practice of his profession. He continued there in that business until 1887, when he returned to Minnesota and located at St. Paul, where he has been engaged in the practice of law ever since. He is now a member of the firm of Munn, Boyesen & Thygeson. This partnership was formed in 1890, and constitutes one of the leading law firms of the state. Mr. Boyesen is what may be called a Cleveland Democrat in politics, is a thorough believer in sound money, in a low tariff and adheres to the principles of civil service reform. He has, however, never aspired to any political office, and has no desire to achieve honors or responsibilities of that kind. His political activities consist chiefly of a leading membership in the Civil Service Reform Association, of St. Paul. Mr. Boyesen was married in 1883 to Miss Florence Knapp, of Racine, Wisconsin. They have no children.