

HISTORY OF
Goodhue County
MINNESOTA

ILLUSTRATED

EDITOR IN CHIEF

FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

ASSISTED BY

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Wellner, M. D.; John C. Applegate; Ralph W.
Holmes; Dwight C. Pierce; Henry Hal-
vorson; Rev. James H. Gaughan;
Henry R. Cobb; Edgar F.
Davis and many others

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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

his brother, Fred A., opened a hardware and farming implement establishment on Bush street, which was sold to Augustine & Wilson in 1907. Mr. Scherf moved his family to Red Wing in 1904. In June, 1905, he launched in the jewelry business on Third street, where he has a large business. He also owns 200 acres of land in Hay Creek township adjoining his father's farm. Mr. Scherf was one of the many called upon to mourn after the Lake Pepin disaster, July 13, 1890. His brother Martin (born in 1867), and his aunt, Mary Scherf, together with the latter's daughter, lost their lives in that catastrophe. A sister, Matilda C., born December 2, 1864, died in 1897. While at college, Mr. Scherf was captain of one of the University Cadet Corps, and a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the United Workmen, the Royal Arcanum, the Elks, Red Men, and the Red Wing Commercial Club. He is an independent voter, for two years served as justice of the peace in Hay Creek, and is at present connected with the Red Wing Telephone Company. The family religion is that of the Methodist and English Lutheran churches. The subject of this sketch was married in Hay Creek township May 6, 1897, to Emily Saupe, born September 6, 1872, daughter of Frederick Saupe, a native of Germany, and an early settler of Hay Creek. To Mr. and Mrs. Scherf have been born four children: Horace E., born March 6, 1898; Eugene P., born April 18, 1900; Jerome L., born May 2, 1903, and Ruth D., born April 27, 1905. The children are all at home.

Hon. John W. Peterson, one of the county's distinguished citizens, has been active in political, church, military and agricultural circles. He was born March 30, 1838, in Gardsby, Sweden, the second child of his parents, who were natives of Smoland, Sweden. The father brought his family to America in 1856, making his first settlement in Chisago county, this state, two miles from Chisago City. There he established his home and raised his family on a farm of eighty acres, which he purchased soon after his arrival. In his family were five children. John W. attended the schools of his native land, and worked on the farm with his father, coming to America with the family at the age of eighteen years. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, subsequently was promoted to corporal and still later to sergeant. He was sent from Ft. Snelling against the Sioux Indians, and was one of that heroic band which attacked 1,500 Indians at Birch Cooley, rescuing 150 brave men who for days had been holding out against that howling mass of savages. Sergeant Peterson was with the soldiers who followed the Indians to Yellow Medicine county, where General Sibley released 170 white women and children. The pur-

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