

# HISTORY OF Goodhue County MINNESOTA

ILLUSTRATED

EDITOR IN CHIEF

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vorson; Rev. James H. Gaughan;  
Henry R. Cobb; Edgar F.  
Davis and many others

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Ellingson, who came to America in 1845 and located in Boone county, Illinois. In that county the family was saddened by the death of the mother, in 1848. The father continued farming on his 160 acres until 1865, when he came to Warsaw township, this county, after which he retired, taking up his residence with his children, from whom he received loving care and attention until his death in South Dakota in 1875. Left motherless as a young lad, Andrew received his early education in the schools of Boone county and farmed with his father until 1857. He came to Goodhue county in 1860 and worked by the day and month until 1864, when he commenced to improve his own farm. He moved to Red Wing in 1867 and his first employment was as clerk for Charles Betcher in the hardware business for about four years. Thomas Wilkenson then became his employer until 1876, when he became interested in a clothing venture with A. G. Henderson, the firm name being Henderson & Ellingson. This company did business on Plumb street until 1899, when the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Ellingson going to the village of Goodhue, where he carried on the clothing business until 1904, the date of his retirement from active business. Mr. Ellingson was a member of the Red Wing city council for two terms and served as justice of the peace in Warsaw township for one term. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Ellingson was married in 1865 to Margaret Hoyland, of Dane county, Wisconsin, and to this union were born three children. Louis Martin, the only one who survives, was born March 25, 1866. He has taken to himself a wife and makes his home in this city. Josephine, born at Warsaw, this county, in 1867 died in 1885. Henry Philip, born at Warsaw, died in 1871. Mrs. Margaret Ellingson died October 23, 1873. Mr. Ellingson was then married, May 23, 1876, to Signe M. Lindas, daughter of Hans and Carrie Lindas, of Marshall, Dane county, Wisconsin. Six children have brightened this union. Carrie was born in 1877 and died in 1878; Amanda, born in September, 1879, married the Rev. O. A. Anderson, of Dell Rapids, South Dakota. Clarence H., born in May, 1880, is a Chicago dentist. Lydia B. was born in 1881 and died in December, 1908. Arthur M. was born in 1883 and died September 17, 1893. Evelyn E. was born in 1895. Mrs. Signe Ellingson died January 20, 1904. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. Andrew Ellingson has two brothers and two sisters: Elem is married and lives in Capron, Boone county, Illinois; Nels is also married, and lives on a farm in Warsaw township, this county. Mrs. Sjure Holman lives at Deerfield, Dane county, Wisconsin, and Mrs. C. O. Peterson lives in Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

**Joseph A. Thacher**, of Zumbrota, the "farmer statesman" of

Goodhue county, was a central figure around whom the rural population of the county were wont to rally. He had many of the characteristics of the New England puritan, but a long residence in the West had modified their asperities. He had well defined views upon all public questions, and did not lack ability or inclination to vindicate his opinions when occasions offered for their expression. He served in the legislature of the state, and would doubtless have represented his district in Congress but for his rigid views of political ethics, which restrained him from adopting the methods in vogue and practiced by aspiring politicians in his time. He early realized the substantial character of the resources and capabilities of the new country in which he had made his home, and hence had unlimited confidence in the possibilities of its future. He did much to advance the material interests of his immediate locality, and is gratefully remembered as one of the founders of that delightful community, cosily nestled in the charming valley of the Zumbro.

**Martin Spencer Chandler**, now deceased, many years sheriff of Goodhue county, and a man of prominence in the state, was born at Jamestown, Chautauqua county, New York, Feb. 14, 1824, son of Woodley W. and Phebe Winson Chandler, both of New England ancestry. The maternal great-grandfather of Martin S. Chandler was an officer in the Revolutionary War, and his grandfather on the same side was in the War of 1812. The father was a woolen manufacturer and an extensive farmer, being one of the leading men of Chautauqua county for many years. An uncle, Spencer Chandler, from whom Martin S. was named, was city marshal of Nashville, Tennessee, for twenty-three years, and when the Civil War broke out was one of the few men in that city who stood nobly by the old flag. Martin was educated at the Jamestown and Fredonia academies, and learned the tanner and currier's trade, but preferred farming, which he followed in his native town until the fifties, when he came to Goodhue county and opened a farm in Pine Island. During the first year he was in the state he was elected one of the three county commissioners, serving until 1858; in the autumn of which year he was elected sheriff, taking office Jan. 1, 1859, in which position he served for nearly three decades. He was a stanch Republican and from the earliest days of the county was a leader in the party councils. He was a presidential elector in 1872 and was elected messenger to carry the vote of the state to Washington, but declined in favor of Wilford L. Wilson, of St. Paul. Mr. Chandler was several times urged to become a candidate for Congress and other honors were offered him, but many of these he declined. He served the state two terms as United States Surveyor General for Minnesota and in 1888 was