

L' ETOILE DU NORD
Notes on French Influence
in the History of Minnesota

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L'ETOILE DU NORD

motto chosen by Governor Sibley
for the state seal in 1858

"One who does not know the past will suffer an incomplete future"
A. Fuente

"There are only two lasting bequests we can ever hope to give
our children: one is roots; the other, wings". Hodding Carter

"Ils (nos ancêtres) ont fixé les bornes d'un empire, ce n'est pas rien;
mais ils ont jeté en même temps les principes d'une colonisation toute
française par pénétration fraternelle et par collaboration des races.
C'est une originalité dont la noblesse et les conséquences ne doivent
jamais être oubliées". Gaston Martin

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MINNESOTA FRENCH PARISHES
en 1930

*il y en a d'autres
qui ne sont pas mentionnées
dans cette liste.*

Diocese of St. Paul

St. Paul, St. Louis (French)
Minneapolis, Ste Anne (French)
Notre-Dame de Lourdes (French)
St. Anthony (originally French)
Centreville, Anoka Co., Ste Geneviève, Rev. M. Masl, pastor
Corcoran, Hennepin Co., Ste Jeanne de Chantal (French mission)
Faribault, Rice Co., Sacred Heart (French)
Hamel, Hennepin Co., Ste Anne (French)
Hugo, Washington Co., St. John the Baptiste, Rev. Jules Périgord, pastor
Little Canada, Ramsey Co., St. John the Baptiste (French)
Stillwater, Washington Co., St. Joseph (French)
White Bear Lake, Ramsey Co., St. Mary of the Lake, Rev. Claude Génis, pastor

Diocese of St. Cloud

Belle Prairie, Morrison Co., Holy Family, Rev. Léo Garreaud, pastor
Brown's Valley, Traverse Co., St. Anthony, Rev. C. Thiebaut, pastor
Clarissa, Todd Co., St. Joseph (French mission)
Little Falls, Morrison Co., St. Francis Xavier (French)

Diocese of Duluth

Duluth, St Jean Baptiste (French)
Cloquet, Carlton Co., Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Rev. Charles Giraux, pastor
International Falls, Koochiching Co., St. Thomas (French)
Keewatin, Itasca Co., St. Mary ~~of the Lake~~, Austin Turbiaux, pastor

Diocese of Crookston

Argile, Marshall Co., Ste Rose de Lima (French)
Brooks, Red Lake Co., St. Joseph, Victor Gardin, pastor
Crookston, Polk Co., Ste Anne (French)
Gentilly, Polk Co., St. Peter (French)
Lambert, Polk Co., St. Francis Xavier, Rev. W. T. Roy, pastor
Oklee, Red Lake Co., St. Francis Xavier, Rev. G. O. Trudeau, pastor
Red Lake Falls, Red Lake Co., St. Joseph (French)
St. Vincent, Kittson Co., ste Anne (French mission)
Terrebonne, Polk Co., St. Anthony, Rev. A. Tapin, pastor
Warroad, Roseau Co., St. Mary, Rev. Father Saint-Amant. O.M.I. Canada

MINNESOTA --A FRENCH VIEW

The recorded history

The first white people in Minnesota were the French. In the 17th century the French explorations of the northwest began, and with the echo of civilized voices on the watercourses, the curtain rose on the picturesque company who were to enact the first scene in the Minnesota drama.

They came from the stockades and settlements on the St. Lawrence and pushed bodily westward by the Great Lakes until their paddles dipped at last into the narrow reaches of the upper Mississippi. The land of the Sioux and the Chippewas, for centuries safeguarded by obscurity, was suddenly thrust into the light of history. Soldiers and titled officers braved discomfort and death to establish forts and claim lands in the name of their monarch. Traders made their hazardous way over lakes and streams, carrying firearms, cutlery and other articles of civilization to exchange with the Indians for the prized peltries.

Explorers attracted by the mirage of the Northwest passage pushed bodily through the wilderness to draft the first maps. Catholic missionaries, fired by zeal, attempted to convert the natives to Christianity. With the explorers, traders, soldiers and priests came the VOYAGEUR, and woven in and out of the pattern is the glowing story of the COUREUR DE BOIS. Unlicensed and outside the law the coureurs penetrated the great woods on foot or in canoes.

Etienne Brulé, Radisson and Groseilliers, Dulhut, Father Hennepin and his companions Accault and Auguelle, De Noyon, Perrot, Le Sueur, La Vérendrye, his nephew and his sons, all strode the stage in leading parts.

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ETIENNE BRULÉ As told by Gabriel Sagard, lay brother and historian of the early Recollect exploration of the West, in "Le Grand Voyage du Pays des Hurons", Paris 1632, Etienne Brulé had visited the region of the lake Superior in 1622 and was the first white man to see its copper mines, possibly on Isle Royale.

RADISSON AND GROSEILLIERS Pierre Esprit Radisson and Médart Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers, may have reached Minnesota territory on an expedition overland from lake Michigan in 1655. It is more probable that they visited Minnesota on a journey southwest from lake Superior about 1659. Knife lake at 7 miles of Mora on State 65 is identified by some historians as the rendez-vous of Radisson and Groseilliers with small bands of Minnesota's Indians.

DANIEL GREYSOLON SIEUR DULHUT is known to have penetrated the territory southwest of lake Superior in 1679 as far as Mille Lacs where he set up the standard of Louis XIV. The following year Dulhut crossed the Bois-Brulé-Ste Croix rivers to the Mississippi where he delivered a party of three Frenchmen led by Michel Accault. They had been sent up the river by La Salle to mark the first exploration of the Upper Mississippi. Accompanying this expedition was Father Hennepin who, during his wanderings before meeting Dulhut, discovered and named the falls of St. Anthony and who later wrote the first published description of the country. During eleven years (1679-1690) Dulhut traveled up and down the shores of lake Superior and explored the triangle between the Mississippi and the Ste Croix rivers.

FATHER HENNEPIN, MICHEL ACCAULT, and ANTOINE AUGUELLE, all sent by La Salle, ascended the Upper Mississippi from the Illinois country in 1680 and, although taken captive by a band of Sioux, got as far as Mille Lacs. After returning southward Hennepin and Auguelle discovered and named the Falls of St. Anthony, which they had barely missed on the upward journey. The meeting between Dulhut and Hennepin down stream from the mouth of the Ste Croix, where Dulhut had gone drawn by rumors of white "spirits", must surely have been one of the most dramatic encounters in the history of the Northwest.

NICOLAS PERROT first followed on Dulhut's track, and the autumn of 1685 found him on the upper Mississippi where he built Fort St. Nicolas at the mouth of the Wisconsin river, at or near Prairie du Chien, and Fort Trempealeau, north of the mouth of the Black river. The remains of this second fort were found at the beginning of this century and the site has been made a State Park named in honor of Perrot. In the spring of 1686 Perrot erected Fort St. Antoine on the eastern shore of lake Pépin, north of the mouth of the Chippewa river. There, in 1689, Perrot claimed the area of the upper Mississippi valley in the name of the French monarch Louis XIV. Perrot was a leading fur trader in the Sioux country and "Commandant of the West" for some twenty years.

PIERRE CHARLES LE SUEUR was a companion of Perrot and a trader in the upper Mississippi for some years. In 1695 he built a fort on Isle Pelée (today Prairie Island) near Red Wing. In 1700 he boldly ascended the Mississippi from the Gulf of Mexico with the first sail boat to navigate on that river. Then he ascended the Minnesota river to the site of Mankato where he erected Fort L'Huillier. It was from this post that he transported to France two tons of blue colored earth, supposing wrongly that it contained copper.

RENÉ BOUCHER SIEUR DE LA PERRIÈRE knew the West, having been lieutenant in Louvigny's expedition and having before that visited the Sioux to secure their neutrality. In 1727 he chose a site on the western shore of lac Pépin two miles from the railroad station of Frontenac, Minnesota, and built a fort which was named for the new governor of New France, the marquis de Beauharnois. The fort was occupied intermittently until 1754. Near the fort Fathers Nicolas Gonnor and Michel Guignas, who accompanied Sieur de la Perrière, opened the first mission in the upper Mississippi.

JACQUES DE NOYON was probably the first white man to traverse any part of the northern boundary of Minnesota, about the year 1688. About twenty eight years of age, the French Canadian voyageur set out from lake Superior by the canoe route of the Kaministiquia river, under the guidance of a party of Assiniboine Indians, in the hope of coming to

the Sea of the West. He passed through Rainy lake and wintered on its outflowing Rainy river.

PIERRE DE LA VERENDRYE AND HIS SONS established the canoe route from lake Superior to lake Winnipeg, built a line of forts reaching as far as the present site of Calgary on the upper Saskatchewan in Alberta, crossed the upper Missouri, and probably sighted the Black Hills. In 1732 they built Fort St. Charles on the Lake of the Woods within Minnesota borders.

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The French had explored and opened the way to the Minnesota area. They had establish the fur trade. There remained, as evidence of their passing, hundreds of colorful place names and a scattered host of half breed progeny.

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JEAN BAPTISTE FARIBAULT was engaged during the greater part of his long life as a trader among the Sioux, at first for the Northwest Fur Company. He was born at Berthier, Province of Québec, in 1774, and came to the Northwest in 1798, taking charge of a trading post on the Kankakee river near the south end of lake Michigan. During the years 1799 to 1802, he was stationed at the Redwood post situated on the Des Moines river, "about two hundred miles above its mouth", being in what is now the central part of Iowa and then, a part of Louisiana. Coming to Minnesota in 1803, he took charge of a post at Little Rapids, on the Minnesota river a few miles above the present sites of Chaska and Carver, where he remained several years. Afterward he was a trader on his own account at Prairie du Chien, Wisc., whence he removed to Pike Island, at the mouth of the Minnesota river, in the spring of 1820. After 1826 Faribault and his family lived in Mendota, and in the winters during many years he traded with the Sioux at Little Rapids. His influence with the Indian tribes west of the Mississippi, from Missouri to the Red river, was very great. He endeavored to teach them agriculture, and was the first white settler to cultivate the soil in this

state . He spent his last years in the town of Faribault, in Rice County, founded, at first as a trading post, by his eldest son, Alexandre Faribault, for whom the town was named. He died at the home of his daughter there, August 20, 1860.

An appreciative memoir of him, by Gen. Henry H. Sibley, in the Minnesota Historical Society Collections (vol. III, pages 168-179), close with these words: "Among the pioneers of Minnesota, there are none whose memory and whose name better deserve to be respected and perpetuated."

JOSEPH NICOLAS NICOLLET a geographer and explorer. His admirable map and report of the region that now comprises Minnesota and the eastern parts of North and South Dakota were published in 1843, soon after his death. His name is commemorated by a county and an island of the Mississippi at Minneapolis, and by a principal avenue of that city.

Nicollet was born July 24, 1786, at Cluses, in Savoy, France. He completed his studies in Paris, where in 1817 he was appointed an officer of the astronomical observatory. He was financially ruined by results of the Revolution of 1830, and came to the United States in 1832, to travel in unsettled parts of the South and West. Under the direction of the U.S. War Department and Bureau of Topographical Engineers, he made a canoe journey in 1836, from Fort Snelling up the Mississippi to Itasca lake, and in 1838 a trip up the Minnesota river and past lake Shetek to the red pipestone quarry. He died in Washington, D.C., September 11, 1843

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NEW FRANCE

- 1654-60 Radisson and Groseilliers "Coureurs de bois", make two journeys into "les Pays d'En-Haut", probably Minnesota, and demonstrate possibilities of a remunerative fur trade.
- 1670-71 Jesuit cartographers map lake Superior, with a river, presumably the St. Louis river, at the western end.
- 1679 Daniel Greysolon, Sieur Dulhut, plants the banner of France in the vicinity of Duluth, and "in the principal village of the Sioux tribe, know as the Issati" near Mille Lacs.
- 1680 Father Hennepin, Recollet missionary, and his companions, Michel Accault and Antoine Auguelle, are sent by La Salle to explore the upper Mississippi which they reach after a journey down the Illinois. The three are captured by the Sioux on the shores of lake Pépin and taken to the village of Mille Lacs. Hennepin and Auguelle on their descent of the Mississippi discover and name the Falls of Saint-Antoine (St. Anthony).
- v. 1688 Jacques de Noyon, in the north, discovers le lac des Bois (lake of the wood)
- 1689 May 8, at Fort Saint-Antoine, near the foot of lake Pépin, Nicolas Perrot, "Commandant of the West", who reached the upper Mississippi several years before, lays formal claim to all the Upper river for France.
- 1695 Pierre Le Sueur builds a fort on Isle Pelée (Prairie Island) above Red Wing
- 1700 Pierre Le Sueur establishes Fort L'Huillier on the Blue Earth river near Mankato.
- 1727 René Boucher, Sieur de la Perrière and Jesuits establish Fort Beauharnois at Frontenac on Lake Pépin and open the first mission in Minnesota.
- 1731 Pierre de la Vérendrye, his nephew, and his son, begin exploring waterways on northern border and extend operations far northwest into Canada. One of the many forts erected along this route is St. Charles, on the Lake of the Woods, within the present area of Minnesota.
- 1736 June 5, Jean-Baptiste La Vérendrye, eldest son of the explorer, Father Aulneau, and nineteen Frenchmen are massacred by the Plain Sioux on an island of the Lake of the Woods, which has been called since that day: Massacre Island.
- 1756 Joseph Marin and his son abandon the Frontenac post, last French fort on the upper Mississippi.

ENGLISH RULE - East of the Mississippi

- 1763 France cedes to Great Britain the Minnesota country east of the Mississippi British nationals take over the fur trade, but French Canadians and half breeds continue to be intermediaries between the English and the Indians.
- 1783 Land east of the Mississippi river is ceded to the United States by Great Britain, and passes nominally under American rule.

NOMINAL SPANISH RULE - West of the Mississippi river

- 1762 The land west of the Mississippi is secretly relinquished to Spain.
- 1800 Spanish possessions west of the Mississippi are retroceded to France.
- 1803 The Louisiana Purchase gives the United States a vast region west of the Mississippi, including west Minnesota.

BRITISH RULE - North of the Mississippi river, i.e. the northern part of Minnesota
East of the Mississippi river, de facto till 1815

- 1790's The Northwest Fur Company establishes the St. Vincent trading post on the Red river under a French Canadian. A village on that site will be founded later on by Acadian refugees from Prince Edward Island.
- 1790's Augustin Rocque has a trading post at Wabasha. The post will eventually attract settlers.
- 1792 Jean-Baptiste Cadotte is located at the Northwest Fur Company trading post at Fond du Lac, and we are told that he has not only a large garden but several heads of cattle. (The Mackinac Register of 1753 shows a baptism record of Marie Joseph Tellier, legitime daughter of Jean-Baptiste Tellier of Fond du Lac)
- 1798 The Northwest Fur Company establishes a trading post at Red Lake Falls under Jean-Baptiste Cadotte. The trading post attracts French Canadian settlers.
- 1846 The 49° parallel becomes officially the international border between the United States and Canada.

AMERICAN RULE - nominal until 1815

Pre-territorial days

- 1783 The British will continue to occupy the territory east of the Mississippi well into the next century.
- 1787 US Congress, under the Articles of Confederation, establishes nominally the Northwest Territory, west of Pennsylvania, east of the Mississippi river, and north of the Ohio river.
- 1803 Jean-Baptiste Faribault arrives in Minnesota from the trading post of Redwood on the Des Moines river (Iowa) and takes charge of the trading post at Little Rapids (near Carver) on the Minnesota river.
- 1810 Augustin Rocque has a Sioux trading post on the site of Read's Landing.
- 1812 British military occupation is reestablished on the upper Mississippi at the onset of the second British-American War.
- 1814 The Treaty of Ghent sweeps the last vestige of British authority in the / Northwest.
- 1815 The last British garrison on upper Mississippi evacuates Prairie du Chien.

- 1816 Congress passes a law denying fur trading privileges to all but the US citizens. Formation of the John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company --the first American business monopoly. Some French Canadian traders and voyageurs join the American fur trade, but others remain with the British fur trade.
- 1819 US troops establish a cantonment at Mendota at the junction of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers.
- 1820 Construction of a log fort across the river from Mendota, called Fort St. Anthony until 1825, then Fort Snelling (commandant's name).
- 1820 Jean-Baptiste Faribault and his family move 30 miles downstream to Pike Island at the mouth of the Minnesota river.
- 1822 Jean-Baptiste Faribault and his family settle permanently in Mendota, when an ice jam in the Minnesota river threatened to flood his home on the east bank of Pike Island.
- 1826 Alexandre Faribault, the eldest son of Jean-Baptiste Faribault, builds the largest of his six trading posts on the Cannon river at a site bearing his name. French Canadian trappers and traders join him at his trading posts.
- 1826 The Red river overflows, driving many French speaking colonists out of the Red river settlement of Selkirk to Fort Snelling.
- 1837 Two treaties, one with the Sioux and the other with the Chippewas, open the triangle between the Mississippi and the Ste Croix rivers to the settlement of the whites.
- 1837 French Canadians establish a settlement at Afton on the Ste Croix river.
- 1838 French Canadian Paul Parrant builds a shanty on present site of St. Paul.
- late 1830's(?) French Canadians settle in Little Canada (Ramsey Co.)
- 1840 May 6, by order of the Secretary of War, French speaking squatters on the military reservation are expelled from Fort Snelling. They move down the Mississippi river and settle at Paul Parrant's Pig Eye Landing. In so doing they found the future metropolis of St. Paul.
- 1841 In November, a log chapel is erected by Father Lucien Galtier on the present site of St. Paul and dedicated to St. Paul the apostle. The name of the church becomes the name of the town.
- 1844 Olivier Faribault establishes a frame house in Shakopee on the Minnesota river.
- 1847 French Canadians, half breeds, and Acadians found the village of St. Anthony
- 1848 Pierre Bottineau, a half breed, establishes a trading post at Elk River.
- 1848 The opening of the land office at Ste Croix Falls brings the first wave of settlers from the eastern states.

In the closing days of the Pre-territorial period, the Sioux and the Chippewas still claim and occupy the vast tract westward from the Mississippi river to the Missouri river.

Territorial days (1849-1858)

- 1849 March 3, Congress creates the Minnesota Territory and St. Paul becomes its capital. French is then the common language.
- 1849 East coast settlers found the village of Minneapolis.
- 1850 Centerville (Anoka Co.) at 15 miles north of St. Paul is settled by the French.
- 1850 The census records 6,077 inhabitants.
- 1851 By the Treaties of Traversée des Sioux and Mendota, the Sioux were induced to relinquish their claims to much of their land in Iowa, the present Minnesota and South Dakota: 24 millions acres, some of the richest farmland in the world, and to move to a tract reserved for them along the upper Minnesota river.
- 1851 Schools were opened in St. Paul and St. Anthony by the Sisters of Saint Joseph (of Bourg, France?)
- 1852 Champlin (Hennepin Co.) is settled by the French.
- 1854 By the Treaty of Lapointe, Wisconsin, the Chippewas relinquish their claims to lands north of lake Superior and in the north central areas, tracts greatly coveted for lumbering operations.

The growing tension between Indians and Whites became more and more evident during Territorial days.

State of Minnesota (from 1858)

- 1858 May 11, Minnesota is admitted to the Union as a state.
- 1860 Federal census numbers 172,023 Minnesotans.
- 1861 Onset of the Civil War (ends in 1865).
- 1862 August 18, Minnesota Sioux revolt. September 23, Indians are defeated at the battle of Wood Lake; December 26: 38 of the 306 Indians condemned are hanged at Mankato.
- 1870 A process invented by French Canadian Edmond N. LaCroix revolutionizes wheat milling.
- 1872 Minneapolis and St. Anthony merge as city of Minneapolis.
- 1878 Railroads are extended into the extreme northwestern part of the state carrying many settlers to the Red river valley.
- 1879 Gentilly (Polk Co.) is organized by French Canadians.
- 1885 The million population mark is passed.
- 1896 Large tracts of timber and farm lands in the northern part of the state are opened to settlement by the reduction of Red Lake Chippewa Indian reservation.

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SAINT LOUIS RIVER

The river was probably so named by LA VÉRENDRYE (born 1685, died 1749), who was a very active explorer, in the years 1731 and onward, of the vast country from Pigeon river and Rainy lake to the Saskatchewan and Missouri rivers, establishing trading posts and missions. The king of France, in 1749, shortly before the death of La Vérendrye, conferred on him the cross of St. Louis as a recognition of the importance of his discoveries, and thence the name of the St. Louis river appears to have come. On Franquelin's map (1688) and Buache's map (1754), it is called "Rivière du Fond du Lac"; the map by Vaugondy (1755) is the earliest to give the present name.

Duluth (St. Louis Co.) The Duluth area was occupied originally by the Sioux and then by the Chippewas. ETIENNE BRULÉ may have visited the area in 1622, but PIERRE ESPRIT RADISSON and MÉDARD CHOUART SIEUR DES GROSEILLIERS are generally given credit as the first white men to have explored the southern lake shore (1654-60). Ten years later FATHER ALLOUEZ is known to have been at the mouth of the St. Louis river. DANIEL GREYSOLON SIEUR DULHUT, for whom the modern city is named, made his first visit in 1679. It is on or near the site of Duluth and at the urging of Sieur Dulhut that the tribes of the Northwest held their Great Council of September 15, 1679, as part of a program of pacification and alliance with France.

Duluth has a French parish: St Jean-Baptiste.

POINT D'INTÉRÊT

Canal Park on Minnesota Point At Little Portage is a plaque memorializing the landing of Sieur Dulhut and his seven French companions on June 27, 1679.

Fond du Lac bearing a French name given by early French traders and voyageurs to their trading post on the north side of the St. Louis river. The name of Fond du Lac occurs for the first time in 1750 and the Michilimackinac Register of 1753 shows a baptism record of Marie Joseph Tellier, legitimate daughter of Jean Baptiste Tellier of Fond du Lac. In 1792 the Northwest Fur Company had a trading post there under Jean Baptiste Cadotte. We are told that he had not only a large garden but several heads of cattle.

After being for more than a century an important post for trade with the Indians Fond du Lac was annexed by the town of Duluth and platted in autumn of 1856.

Indian Reservation of Fond du Lac It was established by the Treaty of La Pointe (Wisconsin) of September 30, 1854 for Chippewas.

Ely's Peak is one of the highest points at the head of the Lake and overlooks a striking panorama of the surrounding country, including the St. Louis river bay and the Wisconsin shore.

Lookout Point, about 500 feet above the rocky river bed. This is one of the most beautiful views along the route. Far below the river winds from the bay. The wooded or craggy terraces left by the receding waters of old lake Duluth are plainly marked. Early voyageurs who came to the head of the lakes entered the dalles and rapids a short distance up the St. Louis river, in what is now Jay Cooke Park. Thence they carried their canoes across country to other streams. Two of these old trails still traverse the park.

MILLE LACS

It was named Lac Buade by HENNEPIN in 1680, for the family name of Count Frontenac governor of New France. The French voyageurs and traders called the country having "all sorts of lakes" the Mille Lacs (thousand lakes) region; whence this name came to be applied more particularly to this largest lake of the region.

Twenty ancient village sites, scattered around the entire circuit of Mille Lacs, were occupied for some time by the Sioux or Dakota people. They are most frequent about the southwestern third of the lake, from Wahkon to Aquipaguetin, Vineland, and the west side of Wigwam bay, thirteen sites of the former villages being found in that distance of about twenty miles.

POINTS D'INTERET

Vineland The "Great Village" called Izatys by Dulhut, and misread "Kathio" by Brodhead, is thought to have been near the town of Vineland, by the lakeside. In his report of his service to France, Dulhut wrote of his first visit to the Sioux at Mille Lacs: "On the 3rd of July, 1679, I had the honor to plant his Majesty's arms in the great village of the Nadouecioux, called Issati or Isanti."

Aquipaguetin Island A very interesting and reliably historic locality, identifies and named by Brower, is Aquipaguetin Island, a tract of hard ground about a half mile long and a quarter of a mile wide, in the northeast part of section 25, Kathio, inclosed by Rum river on the east, the western part of Third or Onamia lake on the south, and a swamp on the west and north. In a Sioux village there the chief Aquipaguetin lived, who adopted HENNEPIN as his son and befriended him during his enforced stay in the vicinity of Mille Lacs from May to September 1680, excepting their midsummer absence on a great expedition to hunt far down the Mississippi.

Hennepin Island, also named Prisoner's island, alluding to the captivity of Hennepin, lying nearly five miles north of Wahkon village.

Spirit island The only other island far from the shore is the Wakan or Spirit island (the old Sioux name for Mille Lacs lake). By proclamation of the President of the United States in 1915, Spirit island is a bird refuge or reservation, for protection of water-loving birds that have resting places and nests there.

State Park Father Hennepin on the southeast shore of the lake, near the village of Isle.

Accault bay is named for one of the Frenchmen who were at Mille Lacs with Hennepin.

Radisson bay named for the earliest writer of travels in the area of Minnesota, who came with Groseilliers to Prairie Island in 1655 and to the region of Kanabec county not far southeast of Mille Lacs, in the midwinter of 1659-60. (Radisson's journals of his voyages to the West were found only in 1880 in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, England--written in English in a quaint and unusual style and imperfectly dated; they were evidently written many years after the events they narrated. (Published for the first time in Boston, in 1885).

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Knife lake (Kanabec Co.) about 13 miles southeast of Mille Lacs lake, on State 65, is identified by historians as the rendez-vous of Radisson, Groseilliers, and small bands of Chippewa, Huron, and Ottawa Indians who followed the Frenchmen, with the Sioux Indians. A great feast was held there. The lake is said to have been so named because Radisson gave them the first steel knives many had ever seen.

FOLLOWING THE ROUTE OF THE FRENCH EXPLORER

SIEUR DE LA VÉRENDRYE

Pigeon river About two miles above the mouth of the river is a 120 foot cataract. South of the river the highway runs through former Indian and fur trading country near GRAND PORTAGE.

Grand Portage crossing A nine mile trail through the woods crossing lake Supérieur to Pigeon river above its principal falls. The first white man to record its existence was SIEUR DE LA VÉRENDRYE, who passed over it in 1731. Hikers can follow its entire length.

Grand Portage A village and formerly a very important trading place, at the end of the bay of this name, and at the southeast end of the GRAND PORTAGE. It has the distinction of being the most eastern and oldest settlement in the area of Minnesota. Its population is almost entirely Chippewa Indians. During the period of La Verendrye's explorations, this place became the chief point for landing goods from the large canoes used in the navigation of the Great Lakes, and for their being dispatched onward, from the end of this long portage in smaller canoes to the many trading posts of all the rich fur country northwest of Lake Superior. It was an important rendez-vous of the voyageurs during the French and English Regimes.

Beyond the enclosure of the high stockade post of the Northwest Fur Company were the camps of the "mangeurs de lard" as the canoe men were called, the wigwams of the Indians, and a canoe yard that accomodated 150 canoes. Here foregathered hundreds of Indians, impertubable and watchfull; here was the goal of the dashing voyageurs, naively vain and dramatically colorful with jauntily perched plumed caps of red wool, blue capotes and colorful sashes, bare thighs, deerskin leggings and moccasins, and their ubiquitous pipes.

The VOYAGEURS, mostly French from Canada in the region of the St. Lawrence river, were an extraordinary group of men; short of stature, so they could fit easily in the

canoes, they were nevertheless exceedingly strong, unmoral and boastful; it was their faithfulness and loyalty to their contracts that made the vast fur trade possible. Taking great pride in their manners, their dancing and singing, they were yet voluntary exiles, their ambition being to become "les gens libres".

By 1790 these fearless, skilled boatmen had reached the Pacific coast and in the years following repeatedly crossed and recrossed the western upper half of the continent from the Pacific's Columbia River to Lake Superior's Grand Portage in regular trips. Arrived at Grand Portage and their cargoes unloaded, the voyageurs swaggered about the post, chaffing in their own patois, soon riotous.

Trading negotiations were usually completed in July, after which there always followed a celebration to which VOYAGEURS AND INDIANS --all who could possibly get there-- came from miles around. The banquet was followed by a dance. Gallons of rum were drunk and to the musique of the violons and flutes they danced the night through. The fiesta over, the Voyageurs set off once again in their canoes, loaded now with trade goods and camp supplies, and cheered by their own songs, paddled and portaged back through the wilderness to face long months of hardship and loneliness. In the shipping of furs on Lake Superior the average canoe carried more than five tons of furs and supplies, and was manned by eight voyageurs. Boats used in the interieur lakes and rivers carried one or two tons and were manned by a crew of six.

At the northern edge of the village of GRAND PORTAGE stands a wooden structure on the site of the first Catholic mission school established in the state (1838). Under the direction of the State and local historical societies the old landmarks are being restored.

Rainy lake East of International Falls, State 11 follows the beautiful southern shore of Rainy lake, called "Lac La Pluie" by the French explorer LA VERENDRYE (1685-1749), who crossed its water in 1732. In a rugged area of rock escarpments as rich in color as in minerals, its primeval beauty has won for Rainy the title "Queen of the Lakes". It is about 50 miles long and 3 to 15 miles wide, with numerous

long arms and bays, giving it a total area of about 325 square miles. Rainy lake has 1,600 islands. Most of them are heavily wooded and all have beautiful rocky shore lines interspersed with occasional sand beaches; many are occupied by summer homes.

From Rainer another extension of State 11 penetrates the district eastward along the foot of Rainy Lake to Black Bay. This route climbs through the highland country, which affords a magnificent panorama of Rainy lake. In natural beauty the Black bay district is rarely excelled.

Pelland (Koochiching Co.) A hamlet at the mouth of the Little Fork, was named for Joseph Pelland, a French farmer, who was its postmaster.

Cingmars (Koochiching Co.) Township named for E. F. Cingmars, a French settler there, who removed to the West.

Beaudette (Beltrami Co.) Township and village named from the Beaudette river, there tributary to the Rainy river. It is an early French name probably in commemoration of a fur trader.

Durand (Beltrami Co.) Township in honor of Charles Durand, a homesteader on the northeast side of lake Puposky.

Warroad (Roseau Co.) When LA VÉRENDRYE came to this region, it was common ground for Sioux and Chippewas and the old Indian "war road" that passes this point was a familiar trail traversed by war parties. In the village park on the lake shore are a plate and a stone marking the approximate site of the American Fur Company post established about 1820.

Lake of the Woods SITE OF FORT ST. CHARLES (marked), which was established by La Vérendrye in 1732 and named by him in honor of the governor of Canada, Charles de Beauharnois, was discovered in 1908, on the Minnesota shore of the Northwest Angle Inlet and at its north end. From this fort the eldest son of La Vérendrye and a Jesuit

missionary named Father AULNEAU, with nineteen French voyageurs, started in canoes June 5, 1736 to go to Michilimackinac for supplies. Early the next morning, at their first camping place, they were surprised and murdered by a war party of the Prairie Sioux. This massacre, from which not one of the Frenchmen escaped, was on a small island of rock, since called MASSACRE ISLAND, in the Canadian part of the Lake of the Woods, about twenty miles distant from the fort by the canoe route. (see Rev. Francis J. Schaefer, in Acta et Dicta, published by the St. Paul Catholic Historical Society, vol. II, pp. 114-133, July, 1909, with two maps between pages 204 and 241 in the same volume). The bodies of the slain Frenchmen were brought to Fort St. Charles and buried under the chapel.

+ + +

SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST

The Echo Trail Canoe routes in the area include those used by the Hudson's Bay's Company, the famed Dawson route, well known to all fur traders and others, used for centuries by the Indians and later the French missionaries. At the time of the first RIEL REBELLION (1870) English troops moved through this territory from Port Arthur to Fort Garry in a hundred big canoes.

FORT ST. ANTHONY/SNELLING

The westward surge of settlers that followed the peace treaty (1814) necessitated the policing of the borders. Colonel Henry Leavenworth arrived in 1819 and camped his troops on the site of Mendota on the right bank of the Minnesota river at the confluence of this river with the Mississippi. The post was moved across the river in 1820, where Colonel Josiah Snelling started the construction of a log fort on the bluff overlooking the junction of the two rivers. The log structure was first occupied in 1822, and about two years later a diamond-shaped enclosure around it was defined by a ten foot stone wall, with corners accented for defense by round towers. The fort was called Fort St. Anthony until 1825, then Fort Snelling. From this military reservation St. Paul first citizens came: a group of dispossessed Selkirk colonists from the Red river.

In 1821 an agent for the American Fur Company, whose post was near the fort, drove a herd of cattle to the colony of Lord Selkirk of Pembina on the Red river and brought back with him five French speaking families who squatted on the fort lands. These families, and later arrivals from the Red river, lived there until 1838 when they were expelled from the military reservation. A few families settled on the other side of the river where PIERRE PARRANT, a French Canadian who traded with the Indians, had established himself. The newly arrived 'refugees' are the first agricultural settlers in the State of Minnesota.

MENDOTA, Dakota Co., (173 pop.) Bears a Sioux name meaning "meeting of the waters", because here the Minnesota river joins the Mississippi. Until 1837 Mendota was called indiscriminately St. Peter or Mendota.

Mendota is the oldest town in the state, the site of the first permanent settlement in Minnesota. The early history of this community, which figured most prominently in the history of the state, is interwoven with romance, adventure, and tragedy. Situated west of the Mississippi river, Mendota was a part of Louisiana, but there is no records of permanent settlement on the site during the French and nominal Spanish Regimes.

After 1803, this site became the meeting place for traders and trappers, notably Dr Lamont, Alexis Bailly, Henri H. Sibley (who became the first governor of the new state), and JEAN-BAPTISTE FARIBAULT. Faribault came to Minnesota (from Iowa) in 1803 and settled on Pike Island at the mouth of the Minnesota river in the spring of 1820. He moved his family to Mendota in 1822, when ice jam in the Minnesota river threatened his home. There he built a substantial stone house, the first in Minnesota.

Mendota became the headquarters of the American Fur Company in 1828 and was by then the focal point of the Red river trade and the liveliest and busiest community of the Northwest. It seems more than probable that had legal ownership been granted the village before the fur trade shifted to St. Paul, Mendota might have become the capital city of a vast region and have swallowed up both of the neighboring villages (Pig/Eye/St. Paul, St. Anthony) before they had taken any true significance. But governments moved slowly in those days, and by the time its residents could claim the right to own and improve the land they lived on, Mendota was already fading into the drowsy site of memories it is today.

In 1870 Mendota had a population of 300 mostly French.

POINTS D'INTERET

Hypolite DuPuis House On Main Street is Sibley Tea House a brick house built on the hill in 1854 by Sibley's secretary Hypolite DuPuis. The brick was shipped from Milwaukee and the building costed \$3,500.00. It was remodeled by the D.A.R. and opened to public in 1930. Many old pieces of furniture are preserved in the house.

Jean-Baptiste Faribault House adjoining the Sibley estate, was built in 1837.

Faribault's family lived on the lower floor and the upper story was used for lodgers. Its restoration began in 1935, and today it has almost regained its original appearance.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, a small frame structure in which is preserved the cross that surmounted the steeple in 1853. A large part of the congregation today, as in its earlier years, is French. The Easter sunrise services attract many visitors.

FIG'S EYE/ST. PAUL

Some of the people expelled from the military reservation of Fort Snelling settled at a few miles down the Mississippi where PIERRE PARRANT had erected a cabin at the landing of the river and where he was trading. The settlement which grew around him became widely known by his nickname: Fig's Eye landing. But when FATHER LUCIEN GALTIER erected a wooden chapel at the landing in 1841, which was consecrated the 1st of November of that year, the population adopted gratefully the name of the apostle for their village.

In 1844 PIERRE BOTTINEAU, a half breed guide of the Red river, arrived at St. Paul. Handsome and reckless he is one of the legendary character of the history of Minnesota. French Canadian settlers, some of them half breeds, followed Bottineau to the new settlement (also to St. Anthony in 1847).

In 1845 St. Paul had 30 families, most of them farmers. In 1849 St. Paul had 840 inhabitants and 142 buildings (St. Anthony had 250 inhabitants and much less buildings) and became the capital of the newly formed territory. Settlers, mainly from the eastern states poured into the river town which was incorporated in 1854 (St. Anthony was incorporated in 1855): i.e. had a government. By 1860 its population exceeded 10,000 --a strenuous and dramatic evolution from a small settlement into a thriving city whose rapid growth was the wonder of the West. St. Paul became the most important fur trading center of the Northwest.

At St. Paul the south or right bank of the Mississippi rises steeply 100 to 200 feet above alluvial flatlands. The north or left bank, about half as high takes the form of a stone terrace which rises from the river (alt. 703 feet) to the surrounding glacial plains (alt. 900 feet) offers a sweeping and spectacular views across the river valley.

Of St. Paul earliest days there remains little to see. At first the population whose shacks, log cabins, and tepees collected about the boat landing, was made up of French Canadians, half breeds, Selkirk colonists and Yankees. FRENCH WAS THEN AND FOR MANY YEARS TO COME THE COMMON LANGUAGE.

POINTS D'INTÉRÊT

Cherokee Heights Park and lookout overlooks the river valley; on a clear day Minneapolis as well as St. Paul is visible. The night view is unexcelled.

The site of the settlers landing is at the steamboat wharf, on the Mississippi river at the river end of Jackson St. James J. Hills warehouses and yards once stood at this point on the river flat that today is used as an excursion boat dock. The landing site of the low town was known as Pig's Eye Landing until 1841.

The site of the Chapel of St. Paul, between Minnesota and Cedar Streets, is marked by nails, almost imperceptible now (1938) driven into the macadam roadway. At this spot in 1841 FATHER LUCIEN GALTIER established the town first church, the chapel of St. Paul. Most of the communicants were French Canadians who quickly seized upon the name of the church as a more suitable one for the pioneer village than the earlier name Pig's Eye.

The history of the building and naming of the chapel, with the adoption of the name for the village and city, was written as follows by Galtier in 1864:

"In 1841, in the month of October, logs were prepared and a church erected, so poor that it would well remind one of the stable of Bethlehem. It was destined, however, to be the nucleus of a great city. On the 1st day of November, in the same year, I blessed the new 'basilica', and dedicated it to Saint Paul. I expressed a wish, at the same time, that the settlement would be known by the same name, and my desire was obtained. I had, previously to this time, fixed my residence at Saint Peter's (Mendota), and as the name of Paul is generally connected with that of Peter, and the gentiles being well represented in the new place in the persons of the Indians, I called it Saint Paul. The name 'Saint Paul', applied to a town or city, seemed appropriate. The monosyllable is short, sounds well, and is understood by all denominations of Christians... Thenceforth the place was known as SAINT PAUL LANDING, and, later on, as SAINT PAUL." (History of the City of St. Paul, by Williams, 1876, pp. 111-112)

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Saint Joseph's Academy, Marshall and Western Avenues, between Carroll St. and Virginia Avenue, a catholic preparatory school, is the city's oldest school for girls. The buildings, gothic in design, form a pleasant cloistered group surrounding a court and enclosed by an iron fence.

In 1851 four sisters of St. Joseph (of Bourg, France?) arrived in the wilderness village to establish a school for girls and, in the vestry of Father Galtier's church opened classes in the fall of that year. The little school expanded rapidly and after numerous changes in location began instruction in 1863 in a building on the present site. Students at one time reached the school by cable cars over cathedral Hill. St. Joseph's may be said to have mothered St. Catherine's college, for its boarding students were transferred to that institution in 1905. The college was staffed by sisters of St. Joseph.

College of St. Catherine, Randolph St, between S. Cleveland and Fairview Ave. Its campus of 100 acres overlooks the valley of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers. This area was originally within the Fort Snelling reservation. On the campus the beautiful limestone chapel 'Our Lady of Victory' overlooks a landscaped terrace. It was designed in early romanesque style and modeled after the cathedral of St. Trophime at Arles, France.

In St. Paul early days the site of the College of St. Catherine was an unbroken stretch of red and white oaks traversed by a government road along which Indians, traders and settlers traveled between the fort and the tiny settlement which was to become St. Paul. A surviving remnant of this once broad trail is a narrow footpath which cuts diagonally across the campus. On the campus the

St. Thomas College and Military Academy (1885), Summit Avenue, between N. Cleveland and N. Crétin Avenues. The college chapel was designed by the French architect E. L. Masqueray. The library of 20,000 volumes has a good collection of French literature.

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St. Paul Seminary, Mississippi river Boulevard, between Summit and Goodrich Avenues. The seminary is the headquarters of the Catholic Historical Society of St. Paul, which includes in its collection books, manuscripts, and furniture of early priests and missionaries, as well as complete publications of the Wisconsin and Minnesota Historical Societies. The organization published the yearly journal ACTA ET DICTA which, with the exception of two intervals, has appeared regularly since 1907.

The Cathedral of Saint Paul, Summit Ave, between Silby and Dayton Aves., designed by E. L. Masqueray, begun in 1906 and still incomplete, was dedicated in April 1915. The general mass resembles that of St. Peter's in Rome.

Minnesota State Capitol The governor's ornate reception room off the west corridor of the main floor provides a background for a series of historical paintings. The best known are:

- (1) Frank J. Millet's Treaty of Traversé(e) des Sioux;
- (2) Douglas Volk's Father Hennepin Discovers the Falls of St. Anthony.

SAINT-ANTOINE

(Bi-Centenary Celebration of the discovery of the Falls of St. Anthony by Father Louis Hennepin, see Minnesota Historical Society Collections, vol. VI, pp. 29-74)

In 1847, 167 years after the discovery of the Falls of Saint-Antoine by the French Franciscan Missionary, Father Louis Hennepin--the first recorded white visitor on this post--the French Canadians formed the settlement of Saint-Antoine, by the Falls on the east side of the river, and at the head of the navigation on the Mississippi river. Some of them were half breeds and some came from Québec. Others, exiled from Acadia, after wandering about for years, established homes besides the falls. St. Anthony was platted in 1849, incorporated in 1855 (pop. 3,500) and chartered as a city in 1860.

In 1849, the first of a group of dwelling on the west side of the river was erected. The settlers, mainly from the eastern states, occupied US military land across the river from Saint Antoine. In 1855 the government gave these illegal squatters patent rights and a new village was incorporated in 1856 (pop. 1,500) and chartered in 1867. It derives its name from minne, a Sioux word meaning "water" and the Greek word polis meaning "city". In 1870 the population of Minneapolis was 13,066 and St. Anthony's 5,013. In the 1860's following the treaties with the Indians, the three towns: St. Paul, St. Anthony and Minneapolis grew rapidly and in 1872 St. Anthony and Minneapolis amalgamated under the name of the larger.

Until 1900 the French continued to come to St. Paul and St. Anthony, most of them from Canada, and for years they struggled to conserve their language and traditions but it was a losing fight in the face of the hordes of Scandinavians who were all but taking possession of the city on the west bank. Today (1938) the French Canadians only stronghold is the Church of Notre Dame de Lourdes, where sermons in French are still preached every Sunday and in whose parochial school at least a part of the teaching is carried on in the language of their ancestors.

The first known Swede who settled in St. Anthony in 1851, was Nils Nyberg, a shoemaker, and he was always referred to as "the foreigner". Until the Civil War times (1861-1865) a Swede was regarded with lively curiosity and interest. After the Civil War, Scandinavians swept into the territory in ever increasing number. Washington Avenue, on the west side of the river, became their main business street, with Swedes outnumbering Norsemen and Danes.

While the protestant Scandinavian immigrants went to Minneapolis, mainly on the west bank, with the protestant "Bostonians", the catholic Germans and Irish stayed in St. Paul. Minneapolis is dominated by the Lutherians and St. Paul by the Catholics. While Minneapolis was concentrating its attention on logs and wheat, St. Paul was the Northwest's most important fur trading center. St. Paul has made more of its river front and has never allowed industry to monopolize and mar its bank to the extent long permitted by Minneapolis.

POINTS D'INTERET - East bank

The site of Cheever's landing is marked by the OLD PORTAGE TRAIL TABLET, a bronze marker on a boulder. Here, Indians, traders, and explorers, among them Hennepin, portaged around the falls of Saint-Antoine. The area is now included in the campus of the University of Minnesota.

Lucy Wilder Morris Park, Main Street and 6th Avenue S.E. has in it a bronze marker indicating THE SPOT WHERE IN 1680 THE FIRST WHITE MAN FATHER LOUIS HENNEPIN LOOKED UPON THE RAGING CATARACT OF SAINT ANTOINE FALLS, now flowing smoothly over an apron or cut-off wall. An observer will have to give his fancy free rein, for the falls of which the priest wrote so glowingly have been tamed and harnessed, and suggest not a trace of their former wild beauty! St. Anthony Falls described 100 years ago by Carver AS 30 feet high, appear now to be less than half this height, and are much more valuable for their water power than their grandeur or beauty of scenery.

The tenth avenue bridge, open only to foot traffic, an old steel span adjacent to the park is ONE OF THE FINEST VANTAGE POINTS IN THE CITY.

The Alex Coultier House, 915 Second Street N.E. A single story building, is believed by many to be the first frame dwelling in the city. It was built according to family records, in August 1848 by ALEX COULTIER A FRENCH CANADIAN who came to St. Anthony from Montréal with 60 others to work for the fur trade. If this date is correct the Coultier House antedates by several months the Godefroy house, usually accredited as the first dwelling. In this home Harriet Coultier was born in 1848, the first white(!) child to be born in the settlement of St. Anthony.

Saint Antoine de Padoue, Main Street and 9th Avenue N.E. The oldest church in all Minneapolis was founded in 1849 by a group of French Canadians under the leadership of a pioneer priest, FATHER RAVOUX. The site was donated by Pierre Bottineau, a half breed, and the present structure was erected in 1861. The French members were soon outnumbered by the incoming Irish and left the parish to join Notre-Dame de Lourdes.

The Hennepin Avenue bridge marks the site of the first bridge to ever span the Mississippi river (1855). Hennepin avenue crosses NICOLLET ISLAND once a St. Anthony village park covered with maples and oaks.

Notre-Dame de Lourdes at the end of Prince Street, built in 1857, now consists of the original church and two additions. The exterior resembles that of a small Gothic church and two additions. The exterior resembles that of a small Gothic church. Closely connected with the French parish was "L'ECHO DE L'OUEST" the only French newspaper in Minnesota. Founded in 1833 by Zéphirin Demoules, a French Canadian member of the parish, this four-page sheet recorded the history of French activities in the Northwest. It was discontinued in 1928. The church maintains a convent and the only French catholic school in the city (1938). From its birth in 1833 to its demise 45 years later l'Echo played a major part in preserving the French language and French traditions in the Northwest.

POINTS D'INTERET - West Bank

Nicollet and Hennepin Avenues are Minneapolis most prestigious shopping avenues.

The site of the old Nicollet House, Washington Avenue, between Hennepin and Nicollet Avenues, is occupied by the modern Nicollet Hotel. The old frontier inn, built in 1857 of local stone, was popular in the "milltown" whirls when Minnesota was still was still a Territory and Minneapolis not yet a chartered city. The hotel was named, as is its present successor and the avenue on which it stands, in honor of Joseph N. Nicollet, a French exilé, who was commissioned by the US Government to make scientific observation in the Minnesota Territory in 1836-1838.

Statue of Father Louis Hennepin stands in a small triangle in front of the Basilica St. Mary, Hennepin Avenue and 16th Street. It was designed by Fred A. Slifer of St. Paul and placed there in 1930 by the Knights of Columbus to commemorate the 250th ANNIVERSARY of the Franciscan monk's discovery of the Falls of Saint-Antoine.

The Gateway Building, Washington Avenue between Nicollet and Hennepin Avenues, houses the Tourist Information Bureau (1938). In the waiting room are MURAL DEPICTING INCIDENTS IN MINNESOTA'S HISTORY.

In the Northwestern National Life Insurance Building lobby, 430 Oak Grove Street, are MURALS DEPICTING THE MISSISSIPPI AS THE WATER HIGHWAY OVER WHICH CIVILIZATION CAME INTO THE NORTHWEST.

The site of an Indian Village is marked by a bronze tablet at E. Calhoun Boulevard and 36th Street. The land between Calhoun and lake Harriet was for many years inhabited by the Indians who were known as the Island Sioux or "Water People". Their village of roofed cabins was long presided by Chief Cloudman or Man-in-the-Sky. The Island Sioux lost their home in 1851 when, by the Treaty of Mendota, the encroaching settlers bought the land for 12½ cents per acre.

Historic Minnehaha Park, Minnehaha Boulevard at Minnehaha Avenue. The park is bordered on the east by the Mississippi river. A deep ravine divides the park from the north to the south. This area was at one time a branch of the Mississippi river around an island. The ravine joins another deep glen, the bed of Minnehaha Creek, which cuts the park from the south to the northwest. The Minnehaha creek flows eastward from lake Minnetonka along the residential boulevard and then drops 50 feet over an escarpment at Minnehaha Falls, immortalized by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his "Song of Hiawatha", in its course to the Mississippi more than a half mile distant. The Indians called the falls "Minne-ha-ha" or "laughing waters". A stone arch bridge near the foot of the falls affords a splendid view of the drop and ravine. A few yards above the falls on an island is a romantically treated group: Minnehaha and Hiawatha. The beautiful Indian maiden is wholly a creation of the author. As to Hiawatha, this Indian Edda is found in a tradition prevalent among North American Indians, of a personage of miraculous birth, who was sent among them to clear their rivers, forests, and fishing grounds, and to teach them the arts of peace.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER VALLEY

from the Iowa border to the source of the Great River

Homer (Winnona Co.) FRANCOIS DUCHOQUETTE, a half breed blacksmith, built a shack here in 1830, seeking to establish trade with the Wabasha tribe then ruling this area. Frequent raids upon the Sioux by the Sac and Fox Indians caused him to move first to what became known as Blacksmith's island and finally to Prairie du Chien. His forge and anvil on the island is the only remaining evidence of this first attempt at white civilization in the region.

Wabasha (Wabasha Co.) Named in honor of a Sioux chief, is on the flood plain with bluffs west of the river. The spot was a favorite of fur traders from a period shortly after the American Revolution, when AUGUSTIN ROCQUE had posts on or near here. Later, after 1834, ALEXIS BAILLY operated a post on the site; JOSEPH LA BATHE was established here in 1840. A town was founded and named in 1843.

Read's Landing (Wabasha Co.) During the American Revolution a French Canadian trader in the British service was sent here for purpose of preventing the Sioux from aiding the Americans farther down the river. The man was the father of AUGUSTIN ROCQUE who had a Sioux trading post on this site from 1810 to 1830; also his son bearing the same name, from 1835 till he died in 1845. The landing became a famous trading center in the 1840's, but later was supplanted by Wabasha. The town was platted in 1856.

Lake Pépin (Goodhue Co.) Called by the Indians "Lake of the Mountain", lake Pépin was first seen by a white man FATHER HENNEPIN and two companions ACCAULT and AUGUELLE when they were taken along its channel by their captors, the Sioux. The Franciscan renamed it "Lac des Fleurs" (lake of the tears) in his journal and map, because the Indians, while camping on its banks, wept until daylight in the hope of gaining their leader's permission to kill one of their white prisoners. Lake Pépin bears this name on the DeLisle's map (1703) which is derived fromt the PEPIN FAMILY of Trois-Rivières, on the lower St. Lawrence in Québec, Canada, two of whose members accompanied Sieur

DuLhut to the upper Mississippi in 1679.

The Mississippi broadens out to form Lake Pépin. This bluff-walled lake, 34 miles long, is formed by the entrance of the swift-flowing Chippewa into the Mississippi. Five hundred feet wide at its mouth, the Chippewa has a strong descending current from the high tablelands of western Wisconsin. Pebbles and silt are carried along this fast stream and deposited in the bed of the sluggish Mississippi, which, unable to carry the load, backs up and spreads out to the high bluffs. In addition to Lake Pépin, Lac qui Parle and Lac Ste Croix were also formed this way.

Fort Beauharnois (Goodhue Co.) From Frontenac railroad station turn left on a country road to Frontenac, 1.2 mile. The town is named for Louis de Buade, Count of Frontenac (1622-1698), a French colonial governor of Canada or New France. At 1.9 mile is the junction with a dirt road; R. to St. Hubert Lodge. At 3.5 miles south of the lake shore road, which branches L. from St. Hubert Lodge, is Villa Maria. It stands on a wooded knoll overlooking the lake and the bluffs to the north and south. The school was established by nuns from St. Louis. East and south of Villa Maria is Sand Point of Nicollet's map (1843), today Wells Creek, a wave-built spit of sand and gravel jutting into lake Pépin. It is believed to be THE SITE OF FORT BEAUHARNOIS, built in 1727 and rebuilt in 1732 after abandonment in 1728. PERRIÈRE, De GONNOR and GUIGNAS, SAINT-PIERRE--all are names associated with its early history.

To the north are the bluffs of Point-no-Point, from whose summit the whole of lake Pépin is visible.

Frontenac State Park, north of Frontenac and on the lake shore, commemorates Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac, who was born in Paris in 1622 and died in Québec in 1698 on November 28. He was the French colonial governor of New France in 1672-82 and 1689-98.

Prairie island near Red Wing, translated from its early French name Isle Pelée, was visited by RADISSON and GROSELLIERS in 1655-56 (see H.S.M. Collection, Vol. X, part II, pp. 449-594, with maps). In 1695 PIERRE CHARLES LE SUEUR built a fort on the island.

Little Canada (Ramsey Co.), 7 miles north of St. Paul, is an old settlement of Canadian French.

Osseo (Hennepin Co.) A village platted in 1856, occupies a part of Bottineau Prairie where PIERRE BOTTINEAU (1817-1895), a half breed guide, made his claim in 1852.

Centerville (Anoka Co.), north of St. Paul, settled in 1850-52, was organized in 1857, has a central location between the Mississippi and the Ste Croix rivers. The settlers in the village and vicinity were mostly French, and this came to be known as the French settlement. North of the village is Peltier lake named for early settlers Charles, Paul, and Olivier Peltier, the first of whom built a sawmill.

Champlin (Hennepin Co.), first settled in 1852, organized May 11, 1858, was named from its village, platted in 1853, opposite Anoka and the mouth of the Rum river. Its population is predominantly French. Northward for more than fifty miles stretches the potato growing belt, one of the most important in Minnesota.

Dayton township (Hennepin Co.) has "French lake" named for a settlement of French families there, who came in 1853.

Anoka (Anoka Co.) Formerly an important settlement of the Old Red River Trail. Residents believe that the large stone near the mouth of the Rum river with the inscription "FATHER HENNEPIN - 1680" was carved by the Franciscan himself.

The Rum river (Anoka Co.) is one of Minnesota most famous stream. FATHER HENNEPIN and SIEUR DULHUT traversed its water, and many others followed them. It was a favorite highway for fur traders. Father Hennepin gave the river the name of St. François in 1682.

Elk River (Sherburne Co.), settled in 1848 by PIERRE BOTTINEAU, who established here an Indian trading post, which stood on a bluff east of the bridge across the Elk in US 10. Bottineau also built a hotel in 1850 on the bank of the Mississippi about a half mile below the mouth of the Elk. A large number of settlers came here from Maine and nearly all of them were experts in lumbering.

Saint Cloud (Benton Co.) In the summer of 1853, John L. Wilson, a native of Maine, bought for \$250 property rights to the site. The following year, he platted a town that he named for the French city, which, in his repeated readings of Napoleon's biography, had taken a deep hold on his imagination. The chateau of St. Cloud in France was an imperial residence.

POINTS D'INTERÊT

The Stearns County Courthouse At the head of the main stairway is a mural depicting life in pre-territorial days.

The Public Library A casket of earth from St. Cloud, France, and a collection of pictures of the famous palace and gardens sent by the ancient aristocratic city to its lusty young namesake are on view in the library building.

Little Falls (Morrison Co.) built on both shores of the Mississippi, where the river descends 11 feet in 0.25 mile. The rapids for which the town is named were first called "Painted Rocks" by the French Voyageurs.

A small boy in Little Falls would become a symbol of adventure and enterprise in the air. His father, Charles A. Lindbergh Sr. began to practice at Little Falls after he was graduated from the law School of the University of Michigan in 1883. He was defeated for the office of US Senator in 1917 and for the Governorship of Minnesota in 1918. In 1924 he was again nominated for the office of Governor of Minnesota, but died before the primary. His persistent and courageous denunciation of war propoganda and profiteering not only caused him to be unpopular but undoubtedly contributed to his defeat. His home on the west bank, where Col. Charles A. Lindbergh lived while he was a child and until he graduated from high school, is

today in the Lindbergh State Park and surrounded by 100 acres. The home has been restored and in its entrance hall is a decorative map of Colonel Lindbergh's solo flight painted in oil.

In Little Falls is the Church of Saint François Xavier (French).

Big Sandy Lake (Aitkin Co.) Under the French and British rule there was a trading post on the western shore of the lake. An important point in the trade route between the Mississippi and the East. Also a site of a large Indian village.

Itasca Park In the northeast corner of the park is Itasca lake, formerly called 'Lac la biche', the source of the Mississippi river. In the nomenclature of the park we find a good number of the great explorers of the Mississippi river and of Minnesota: i.e. RADISSON and GROSEILLIERS, NICOLET. Also the Picard lakes, named for ANTOINE AUGUELLE, dit le Picard, a companion of Hennepin in 1680. HENNEPIN lake and river near the source of the Mississippi; LA SALLE river and lake, tributary of the Mississippi from the northwest.

THE SAINTE CROIX RIVER

Afton (Washington Co.) A picturesque village on the west shore of Lake St. Croix, and at the base of a wooded bluff, was named for Robert Burn's poem Afton Water. It has been settled by the French in 1837, but was not platted until 1855.

ON THE MINNESOTA RIVER

Name of the largest river which lies wholly within the area of the state, excepting only that its sources above Big Stone lake are in South Dakota. During a hundred and fifty years, up to the time of organization of Minnesota Territory, in 1849, the name St Pierre (St. Peter) had been generally applied to the river by the French. In 1852 the name of the river was changed to Minnesota, its Indian name, by an act of Congress, upon request of the territorial legislature.

The old name, St. Peter's river, of French derivation, seems probably to have been given in commemoration of its first exploration by PIERRE CHARLES LE SUEUR. If so, his journey up the Minnesota river was more than ten years before his expedition upon it in the year 1700, when he mined what he supposed to be an ore of copper in the bluffs of the Blue Earth river, near the site of Mankato; for St Pierre and Ste Croix rivers are mentioned by these names in NICOLAS PERROT's proclamation at his Fort St Antoine, on lake Pépin (Wisconsin shore of the Mississippi), taking possession of this region for France, dated 8th of May, 1689.

The Dakota or Sioux name Minnesota means: Minne, water, and sota, clouded.

Shakopee, Scott Co., (2,023 pop.) At the eastern end of First Street is the tamarack log cabin built in 1844 by OLIVIER FARIBAULT (1819-1851). It is still used as a dwelling and stands as originally built except that the logs are covered with unpainted sidings.

Le Sueur, Le Sueur Co. (1,897 pop.) The name of the town commemorates a Canadian French trader and explorer, PIERRE CHARLES LE SUEUR. He was born in Canada in 1657, of parents who had emigrated from the ancient province of Artois in northern France. At the age of twenty-six years, in 1683, he came to the Mississippi by way of the Wisconsin river. The remaining years of the century, excepting expeditions for the sale of furs in Montréal and absence in voyages to France, he spent principally in the country of the Sioux or Dakotas. He was at Fort St Antoine, on the eastern shore

of lake Pépin, with NICOLAS PERRROT at the time of his proclamation in 1689, which he signed as a witness. At some time within a few years preceding or following that date he made a canoe trip far up the Mississippi, this being the first recorded exploration of its course through the central part of Minnesota.

Within the first few years after LE SUEUR came to the area of this state, he had acquired acquaintance with the language of the Sioux, and had almost certainly traveled with them along the Minnesota river. From his first christian name, Pierre, came the French name St Pierre (St. Peter), by which this river was known to the white people through more than a century and a half, until its aboriginal Sioux name was adopted.

A letter of CADILLAC, written in 1712, cited in the Margry Papers, states that after the appointment of IBERVILLE, a cousin of LE SUEUR's wife, to be the first governor of Louisiana, LE SUEUR had his family remove there, and that his wife and children were living in Louisiana, where he had died.

In Le Sueur there is a Church of Sainte-Anne.

Le Sueur Center, Le Sueur Co. In this town there is a Church of St. Mary, Rev. William Colbert, pastor (1905).

Traversé(e) des Sioux State Park is named for the ford (gué) where Indians and pioneers crossed the Minnesota river. The French word "traversée" means "crossing". The Minnesota river was crossed here on a much used trail from St. Paul and Fort Snelling to the upper Minnesota valley and the Red river valley.

Near the ford the Treaty of Traversé(e) des Sioux was signed in 1851. By the terms of this treaty with ^{the} Upper Bands, and that of Mendota with the Lower Bands, the Indians ceded to the Federal Government a tract estimated at nearly 24 millions acres, the greater part of their lands in southern Minnesota. Dissatisfaction with the manner in which the provisions of the treaties were executed by the government was one cause of the Sioux war of 1862. At the time of the treaty there was a trading post and a mission here.

The SITE OF THE TREATY OF TRAVERSE^(E) DES SIOUX of 1851 was appropriately marked June 17, 1914, by a brass tablet on a granite boulder.

St. Peter, Nicollet Co., (4,811 pop.) was founded in 1853. The city was named for the Minnesota river, formerly called the St. Pierre (St. Peter) river by the French. In 1857 the territorial legislature attempted to remove the capital from St. Paul to St. Peter. The bill, passed by both chambers of the legislature, was being held in a committee for enrollment and for the Governor's signature when JOSEPH ROLETTE chairman of the committee, disappeared, taking the bill with him. Until the assembly was adjourned by constitutional time limitation, he remained in hiding in a hotel room. The governor thereupon signed a copy of the bill and it was printed with the laws of 1857. But the territorial Supreme Court nullified the act with the decision that there was no evidence that the bill was that passed by the legislature.

Mankato, Blue Earth Co., (14,038 pop.) on the great bend of the Minnesota river where it turns sharply north and is joined by the Blue Earth river from the south, is in a valley 1.5 mile wide and from 150 to 200 feet deep. The town takes its name from the Blue Earth river, for a bluish green earth that was used by the Sioux as a pigment, found in a shaly layer of the rock bluff of this stream about three miles from its mouth. The blue earth was the incentive and cause of a very interesting chapter of our earliest history. LE SUEUR, the French explorer, before his return to France in 1695, had discovered the locality whence the savages procured this blue and green paint, which he thought to be ore of copper, and he then took some of it to Paris, submitted it to L'Huillier, one of the king's assayers, and secured the royal commission to work the mines. But disasters and obstacles deterred him from this project until four years later, when, having come from a third visit in France, with thirty miners, to Biloxi, near the mouth of the Mississippi and then the capital of French Louisiana, he ascended this river in the year 1700, using a sailing vessel, the first one to appear on the Mississippi. Coming forward along the Minnesota river, he reached the mouth of the Blue Earth river on the last day in September or the first in October.

Le SUEUR spent the ensuing year on this river, having built a post named Fort L'Huillier, and in the spring mined a large quantity of the supposed copper ore. Taking a selected portion of the ore, amounting to two tons, and leaving a garrison at the fort, Le Sueur again navigated nearly the whole length of the Mississippi, and arrived at the Gulf of Mexico in February, 1702. Thence with IBERVILLE, the founder and the first governor of Louisiana, who was a cousin of Le Sueur's wife, he sailed for France in the latter part of April, carrying the ore or blue earth, of which, however, nothing more is known.

Thomas Hughes, Of Mankato, historian of the city and county, identified in 1904 the sites of Fort L'Huillier and the mine of the blue or green earth, which are described in a paper contributed to the Minnesota Historical Society Collections (vol. XII, pages 283-85):

"No event in the annals of old Louisiana appeals more to our interest than the founding in 1700 of Fort L'Huillier. The daring enterprise of LE SUEUR in pushing so far into the very heart of the wilderness, the romantic records we possess of the adventures he and his followers met, and the mysterious copper mine which they claimed to have discovered, all contribute to our zest in the story, and especially so since the scene is laid in our midst... To aid in determining the location, we possess three contemporary authorities: first, an extract from the daily journal of LE SUEUR, the leader of the expedition, which LA HARPE copied into his history of Louisiana; second, the Relation of PENICAUT, a ship carpenter, who was a member of LE SUEUR's party, and whose account of the founding of the fort and life therein, as given by him in Paris some years later, was written down by a friend, and preserved; third, early French maps of this locality, on which the fort is designated.

From these original sources we learn that the fort was situated on the Blue Earth river, about a league from its mouth, on the east bank, close by and just below where its eastern tributary (designated on one map the "St Rémi", on another the "St Henri", and on later maps as the "Le Sueur") empties into the Blue Earth, on a point of land about a quarter of a league distant from the timber. Three quarters of a league above it, on the Blue Earth river, were the copper mines of green earth...

As the fort consisted of three or four log cabins inclosed by a log palisade, the timber used in its construction must have been conveniently obtained, since LE SUEUR's party had no means to transport it except by hand. It is also evident that in selecting a site for a fort it would be natural to fix upon the strongest and most commanding position in the vicinity where good water and building material were handy.

Right at the confluence of the Le Sueur and Blue Earth rivers stands a large natural mound, about sixty to seventy-five feet high, with a few acres of fairly level land on its top. It is on the right or eastern bank of the Blue Earth river, just below the mouth of the Le Sueur river. Its side toward the Le Sueur is so precipitous that no timber can grow thereon, and its side toward the Blue Earth river is extremely abrupt, but wooded; while in its rear lies a small fertile valley, extending from one river to the other, and varying in width from a quarter to half a mile or more. This valley, now called the "Red Jacket valley" in its original state was a strip of meadow land, which cut the mound off from the timber and bluffs beyond. The sides of the mound toward this valley are also quite steep, but were always, as now, grass-covered, with here and there a few scattering bur oaks.

The top of the mound is now ^acultivated field ; but originally it had a grove of two or three acres of heavy timber upon it. The highest point is immediately opposite the junction of the two rivers, where this grove once stood. It is a most commanding spot and affords a magnificent view of the Blue Earth and Le Sueur valleys.

Some of the early settlers remember noticing, before the land was grubbed and cultivated, indications of an old excavation just at this point. The place by actual measurement is distant from the mouth of the Blue Earth river about a French league, or somewhat less than three miles; and the bed of blue or green clay, which the Indians used for pigment, and which LE SUEUR supposed to contain copper, is found three-quarters of a league farther up the Blue Earth, in its southeastern bluff, and nowhere else.

On the very top of the mound, and within a few feet of where the fort must have

stood, a fine large spring of running water gushes forth, which in pioneer days never failed in summer or winter. In fact, the top of this mound tallies exactly with all the data we possess regarding the fort's location, while no other spot tallies with any of them.

A careful study of the foregoing facts, with a thorough personal inspection of the country, made many times during the summer of this year 1904, has convinced the writer beyond a doubt that this natural mound at the mouth of the Le Sueur river, on the farm now owned by Mr. J. H. Ray, is the site of the old Fort L'Huillier; and this conclusion is fully and unanimously concurred in by Gen. James H. Baker, Judge Lorin Gray, and Prof. U.O. Cox, who in September of this year personally investigated the sites of both the copper mine and the fort."

PENICAUT's relation of LE SUEUR's expedition was translated by Alfred J. Hill in the Minnesota Historical Society Collection (vol. III, 1880, pages 1-12); and a map showing the locations of the fort and mine, ascertained by Hughes, was published in 1911 by Winchell, on page 493, "The Aborigines of Minnesota". From that expedition and the mine, we have the name of the Blue Earth river, county, township and city of Blue Earth in Faribault county.

In Mankato there is a Church St John the Baptist, Rev. Dominique Mangan, pastor.

At the conclusion of the Sioux uprising in 1862, the 303 Indians condemned to death were brought to Mankato and held at Camp Lincoln (now Sibley Park) to await President Lincoln's approval of the verdict. Lincoln commuted the sentences to life for all but 38. The day of the execution, December 26, 1862, was bitterly cold. In front of large throngs of people who had come to witness the hanging, THIRTY EIGHT INDIANS WERE HANGED SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM A SINGLE GALLOW. A granite marker commemorating the hanging stands on the site of the execution on the southwest corner of Front and Main streets.

New Ulm, Brown Co., (7,837 pop.) Here occurred one of the important battles of the Sioux uprising.

ON THE CANNON RIVER

The Cannon river, joining the Mississipii at the head of the lake Pépin, was called by the early French explorers "rivière aux canoes". English traders, who came later on, thought the Indians were trying to say "cannon" and wrote it that way on their maps.

Dundas, Rice Co., (377 pop.) Here were located about 75 years ago (1863) the flour mills of the Archibald brothers, who had established a wide reputation when the mills of Minneapolis were still in their infancy. The Archibalds were pioneers in a new method, making flour by a secret process developed by a French Canadian, EDMOND LACROIX, who was brought to Dundas in the 1860's. Sifters, blowers, and an intricate system of sieves produced flour that brought envious millers from the entire Northwest to watch rollers, feel the machinery, and experiment with the mysteries of Rice County wheat. Farmers, after traveling 200 miles to see the long rows of vibrating sifters, dubbed the Archibalds the "shaking millers". When the younger LACROIX took the secret of Dundas flour to the Washburns of Minneapolis, an obscure sifter-scraper in the Minneapolis plant grasped the opportunity to patent the process!

Faribault, Rice Co., (12,767 pop.) In the valley of the Cannon river, the city spreads over the slopes to the summit of the 200 foot bluffs. It was named in honor of ALEXANDRE FARIBAULT, the eldest son of Jean-Baptiste Faribault. Alexandre was born in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, June 22, 1806, and died November 28, 1882 in the city of Faribault which he had founded. He came to the Cannon river as a trader among the Indians and built here in 1826 the largest of his six trading posts. During the eight years the shrewd trader established trading posts on the sites of Waterville in Le Sueur county and Morristown in this county, and also at a large Sioux village on the northwest shore of Cannon lake. In 1834-35 he persuaded these Sioux to remove their village to the site of Faribault.

For a quarter of a century before the stampede of settlers in the 1850's, Faribault's fur carts, creaking across the grass grown trails of Minnesota's southern

triangle, represented the only commerce of these prairies. French Canadians trappers and traders joined Faribault at this trading post, and were followed by New Englanders who arrived in 1853. These two groups were later outnumbered by northern European immigrants.

POINT D'INTERÊT

The Faribault House The first frame dwelling put up in Faribault was the home of Alexandre Faribault, built at the cost of \$4,000.00. The lumber was brought from St. Paul. The house, which still stands near the center of town, long dominated the architecture as well as the social life of the city.

Owatonna, Steele Co., (7,654 pop.) at the junction of Cannon and Straight (Sioux: Owatonna) rivers. Chief Wadena is said to have moved his entire village to this site, so that his frail daughter might drink from its mineral spring, thus making Owatonna the first Minnesota health resort. The water, rich in iron and sulphur, is described as similar to that of the VICHY SPRINGS IN FRANCE. This spring, on the northeastern side of the town is now within a tourist camp ground.

CANADA

RED RIVER
NORTH DAKOTA



RED RIVER OX CART

The route (US) along the western edge of Minnesota crosses the entire state following, in the north, the fertile Red River Valley and bordering the Detroit Lake Resort area; midway it approaches Lake Traverse and Big Lake; and in the south it passes the Indians' sacred quarries of pipestone in a prosperous farming country.

THE RED RIVER VALLEY

The Red river is the western boundary of Minnesota and flows north into the lake Winnipeg. Its more distinctive name, Red River of the North, was used by Nicollet to distinguish it from the Red river tributary of the lower Mississippi.

An exceedingly flat plain adjoins the Red river, having an imperceptible descent northward. This vast plain, lying half in Minnesota and half in North Dakota and stretching north from lake Traverse to lac Winnipeg, a distance of 300 miles, is the widely famed Red River Valley, one of the most productive wheat raising district in the world.

Red river and Red lake first appeared under their French names of lac Rouge and rivière Rouge on the map of La Vérendrye (1737). Both were translations of their chippewa names, which refers to the red hues of the smooth water surface reflecting the color of the sky at sunset on a calm evening summer.

Pembina Trail The highway US 75 coming from Manitoba, Canada, follows the Pembina Trail now unmarked, used for generations by pioneers and in earlier times by the Indians. Along this same ancient trail creaking oxcarts once carried valuable loads of furs: beaver, otter, mink, marten, muskrat, fox pelts, buffalo hides, for the American Fur Company, from the Red River to Mendota.

THE RED RIVER CARTS

No history of Minnesota would be complete without mentioning the Red River oxcarts and, indeed, a more colorful period Minnesota has never known. Alexander Henry, Jr., a partner in the Northwest Fur Company, indicates in his journal that he found these

carts in use in the Red River Valley as early as 1801. Martin McLeod, who traveled through this region in 1837, states in his diary that they were used extensively by the natives in their buffalo hunts. As many as six hundred carts were employed to carry the meat of animal killed during a single hunting expedition to the west.

JOSEPH ROLETTE, an employee of the American Fur Company at Pembina (N.D.) deserves credit for introducing the cart in the transportation of furs and supplies between Pembina and Mendota in 1843. Everything needed to build these vehicles was close at hand in the Red River Valley; the axe prepared the wood, and the knife prepared the hide used in their construction. The carts have been described as follows:

"The Red river cart is built on a model of the French Normandy's peasant's cart, and tells us at once that its inventors were of French descent. It is simply a light box with a pair of shafts, mounted on a axle connecting two enormous wheels The wheels are broad at the felloes (or rims) so as not to cut through the prairie sod. They are very much dished so that they can be strapped together and a rawhide stretched over them to make a boat. The whole cart is made of wood. There is not a bit of iron about it, so if it breaks the material to repair it is easily found. The axles are never greased and make a harsh screeching sound, nerve racking when large trains were in motion."

The carts remained unchanged until the advent of the railroads ended their usefulness.

St. Vincent, Kittson Co., (304 pop.) was settled before 1880. It is vis-à-vis Pembina, North Dakota. Peaceful and serene it is the oldest village in Kittson County, and seems little changed from its pioneer days. Its name had been earlier given to a trading post established on or near the site in 1790's, in honor of Saint Vincent de Paul from 17th century France. Many of the early settlers migrated from Prince Edward Island. These ACADIANS endured almost unbelievable hardships as they traveled the frozen trail across Canada in subzero temperatures. Many of these sturdy pioneers intermarried with the Chippewa Indians. Their descendants were known for their remarkable feats of endurance.

French mission church of Sainte-Anne.

The Kittson county, lying wholly within the great area of the Glacial Lake Agassiz, has now only very few and very small lakes. One of them is lake Stellar, adjoining the village of St. Vincent. It was called "Lac du Nord Ouest" on the map of Minnesota in 1860, so called by the French Voyageurs.

Brislet township, Polk Co., organized in 1880, was probably named for one of its early settlers.

Gentilly, Polk Co., (172 pop.) Organized in 1879, Gentilly received its name from a village on the St. Lawrence River in the Province of Québec, which was named itself for the town of Gentilly (today Chantilly) in France, a southern suburb of Paris. Most of its inhabitants are of French Canadian origin. Their parish priest for many years was Father Eli Theilon, born near the town of Limoges, France. He urged his parishioners to organize a co-operative plant and make LIMOGES CHEESE from the recipe he had obtained from his old monastery in France. Within a year of its founding in 1895, the Gentilly Dairy Association produced 15,000 pounds of Limoges cheese; by 1927 its output was 150,000 pounds, most of which went to the eastern markets. Prosperity came to farmers and town alike. Father Theilon served as president of the association and manager of its factory until his death. He refused any personal reward, but his grateful parishioners built for him the impressive cathedral that stands on the outskirts of the village.

Cathedral Church of St Peter (French).

Lessor township, Polk Co., received its name, changed in spelling from Lessard, in honor of a French Canadian pioneer farmer.

Mallory, Polk Co., a railway village in Huntsville, was named in honor of Charles P. Mallory, a lumber merchant in Fisher. He was born in the Province of Québec, March 7, 1844; came to Minnesota in 1871, settling in Minneapolis; and removed to Fisher in 1878.

Delorme, Red Lake Co., a station of the Northern Pacific railway in the south edge of Lake Pleasant township, was named for Ambrose Delorme, an adjoining homestead farmer.

Amardville township, Red Lake Co., received its name in honor of Pierre Emard, who was born in Longueuil on the St. Lawrence river in Canada, opposite to Montréal, in 1835, and came to Minnesota in 1878, settling as a homesteader in section 24, Red Lake Falls. One of his sons is the county treasurer.

Gervais township, Red Lake Co., was named in honor of Isaiah Gervais, who was born at Fort Garry (now Winnipeg), Manitoba, December 10, 1831; came to Minnesota and lived in St. Paul; settled as a homestead farmer in section 26, Red Lake Falls, in 1876; and died there, November 2, 1888.

Huot, Red Lake Co., is a little village on the Red Lake river in section 28, Louisville. The village and township were each named for Louis Huot, an early French Canadian homesteader there.

Lambert township, Red Lake Co., was named for François Lambert, who was born at Ste Ursule, in the Province of Québec, March 10, 1847. He came to Minnesota in 1881, settling as a farmer on section 10 in this township, of which he was the treasurer during many years.

Louisville township, Red Lake Co., like its village of Huot, before noted, commemorates Louis Huot, a pioneer farmer.

Perrault, Red Lake Co., a Northern Pacific station near the center of Lake Pleasant township, was named for Charles Perrault, an adjacent homestead farmer, who died in 1915. His son, Joseph Perrault, is the county judge of probate.

Terrebonne township, Red Lake Co., has a French name received from the county and town of this name in the Province of Québec.

Red Lake Falls (Red Lake Co.) In 1798 a Northwest Company trading post was established at Red Lake Falls under JEAN BAPTISTE CADOTTE. Lured by the wealth of furs and skins that brought fortunes in European markets, French settlers swarmed into the territory. Today this dairying community is still predominantly French.

DETROIT LAKES DISTRICT

Détroit Lakes (Becker Co.) The name of the town is derived from a word spoken by a French missionary over 200 years ago. This missionary, standing on the shore of the lake with his French companions and Chippewa guides, commented on the distinct "détroit" (a straight or narrows). Henceforth, the Indians and white fur-traders employed that name for the immediate vicinity. "Lakes" was added in 1927 as being characteristic of the district: 500 lakes. Detroit Lakes is known as the capital of the park region; many resort hotels cater to thousand of summer visitors.

Audubon (Becker Co.) was named for the great French ornithologist JEAN-JACQUES AUDUBON (1780-1851) at the suggestion of his niece who, with a party of tourists, once camped in the vicinity.

Pomme de Terre river is named for an edible root with "eyes" like potato, which was used by the Indians for food. South of Elbow lake US 59 traverses the beautiful Pomme de Terre lake county.

Lac qui Parle is a lake formed by the widening of the Minnesota river. It is a French translation of the Indian name meaning "Lake that speaks"