

HISTORY OF  
Goodhue County  
MINNESOTA

ILLUSTRATED

EDITOR IN CHIEF

FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

ASSISTED BY

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Holmes; Dwight C. Pierce; Henry Hal-  
vorson; Rev. James H. Gaughan;  
Henry R. Cobb; Edgar F.  
Davis and many others

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CHICAGO  
H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.

1909

fifties, locating first in Ohio, then in Iowa, and in 1855 in Red Wing, where the father followed his trade, retiring from active work some twenty years before his death, September 26, 1902. To Mr. and Mrs. Friedrich have been born three bright children: John C. was born August 22, 1897; Edward H., July 15, 1901, and James K., August 22, 1903. These boys all first saw the light of day in Red Wing. The family resides in a pleasant home at the corner of Seventh and East avenue, the residence being one of the most comfortable in the city. A democrat in politics, Mr. Friedrich has served in a number of important public capacities, was alderman two terms, member of the city cemetery board two terms and was on the fire board for a similar period. His most distinguished public service has consisted in acting as chairman, and a most active and interested member of the committees that have wrought for the city its three most important improvements. These three committees were: The citizens' committee that promoted the high bridge across the Mississippi; the joint committee of the fire board and city council that located and built the present beautiful city hall, and the committee of the city council that negotiated with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul and consummated the Levee park ordinance. Mr. Friedrich associates with the Masonic fraternity and attends the Episcopal church.

**William Freeborn**, one of the original proprietors and second mayor of the city of Red Wing, was born in Ohio, moved to Fulton county, Ill., as a boy, and in territorial days located in St. Paul. His sister Maria married Dr. W. W. Sweney, and the two families came to Red Wing in 1852. He was a member of the territorial legislature. His generous policy made possible the city of Red Wing as it is today, and to this policy is also due the fact that such rivals of those days as Wacoota and Lake City were rapidly outdistanced as trading and shipping points. He and Dr. Sweney gave liberally of land for various enterprises and donated parcels for school, public and church purposes, the land thus donated today representing a value which would amount to several fortunes. An evidence of his generosity is found in Hancock's History of Goodhue County, where that venerable clergyman and pioneer says: "The close of the year 1853 was made memorable by the fact that the entire community were invited by that generous, whole-souled town proprietor, William Freeborn, to partake of the annual Thanksgiving dinner at his house. With the exception of one or two persons, the invited guests were all present and had a grand social time. It was one of those occasions when the rich and the poor meet together and acknowledge God as the Maker of all, and the source from whence all blessings flow." In the early sixties, Mr. Freeborn

moved to California, where he died. In his honor, Freeborn county, this state, is named.

**William C. Santelman**, proprietor of the general store at Claybank, was born in Hay Creek, September 12, 1877. His parents, August and Mary (Minki) Santelman, natives of Germany, came to America in 1845, and farmed two years at Dayton, Ohio. They then bought 200 acres of land in Hay Creek, where they carried on general farming until 1904, when they retired, and purchased a home in Red Wing, where the father still resides at the age of seventy-two years. The mother died April 10, 1909. In the family are five brothers and four sisters aside from the subject of this sketch: Mary, married, lives in Fargo, N. D.; Edward, married, conducts the old homestead; Sophia, married, lives in this state; Henry, married, is proprietor of a general store at Red Wing; Emma, married, lives at Stanton, Minn.; August, married, is proprietor of a store at Frontenac; Minnie, married, lives in Red Wing; George and Benjamin work on the home farm. William received his education in the district schools of Hay Creek and farmed for a time with his father. January 1, 1903, he entered the employ of H. L. Hjermstad in the grocery business and one year later started a general store at Claybank with Mr. Hjermstad as partner. This store has been very successful and has a good trade, which is gradually growing. Mr. Santelman was married January 17, 1904, to Annie Sass, daughter of Henry and Mary (Burkhart) Sass, who came to America and located in Wabasha county, where they farmed 160 acres of land. Mrs. Sass died in 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Santelman have one child, Syviwla M., born September 17, 1905. Mr. Santelman is a Republican in politics, but has been too busy to actively engage in political affairs. He is a thorough business man, genial and accommodating, and has a bright future ahead of him.

**Henry Lidgerding**, Hay Creek township, born in Hanover, Germany, January 9, 1848, has spent practically all his life in this county, his occupation being that of farming. His mother died in the old country while he still a young boy, and his father, leaving young Henry in the care of relatives, came to this country to seek his fortune and to make a home for his motherless son. The father, William, is a resident of Red Wing, having reached the honored and venerable age of ninety years. Henry came to America in 1862 at the age of fourteen years, being met at Red Wing by his father. He went to Hay Creek township, and there grew to young manhood, working on the farm. Later he moved to Goodhue township, but subsequently returned to Hay Creek, where he has lived for the past dozen or so years. He has 240 acres of good land, 160 being under the plow and in a high