

## HISTORY OF THE DAY FAMILY

Francis Day born August 22, 1831, came from Maine in the early 1850's. He pre-emped 160 Acres of Sec. 15 S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$  on November 22, 1860.

The first meeting for the purpose of forming a town board was held at the home of Francis Day on May 11, 1858. At this meeting he was elected as the first assessor of Plymouth Township. It was decided also at this meeting that the name of the township would be Plymouth, taken from the name of a village laid out on the north west shore of Parkers Lake in 1856.

Nathaniel Day Sr., father of Francis, arrived at Plymouth Township, with his wife and some of his family, in 1865 and settled on a corner of the Francis Day farm. He was born in Maine in 1807 and married Eunice Boober December 5, 1830 by Stephen Snow Esq. Their family consisted of Francis, born August 22, 1831, Susan, born May 18, 1833, John born December 5, 1834, Amos, March 24, 1836, Cynthia, January 20 1838, Isabell, October 13, 1839, Clementine, February 16, 1843, Nathaniel Jr., February 8, 1845, Eunice, September 14, 1847, Joseph, July 22, 1849, and Sarah, June 9, 1851.

Nathaniel acted as Postmaster of Plymouth Post office, which was moved from Medicine Lake to his home in 1865. He died in the winter of 1867, leaving the care of his wife and family to the youngest son, Joseph, who was 17 years of age at that time.

2

Amos Day was a soldier in the Civil War. He was a prisoner in Libby Prison. Some very sad stories were told of the ill treatments to the soldiers. The prison had no roof and the soldiers were fed fat pork and water. Many died of starvation and exposure as did Amos.

Nathaniel Jr., when a young lad, went to war as a drummer boy. One day he was hit by a spent bullet right over the heart. His suspender buckle shielded him from injury. He lived for many years in Minneapolis working in the lumbering business. In later years he bought a home at Sandstone Minnesota where he lived until his health was gone. He passed away at his brother Joseph's home, on August 24, 1915.

Sarah Day married Edward Hughes in November 1871 in a double wedding ceremony with Joseph Day and Ellen Sarah Hughes, officiated by Rev. Charles Haskill, the first Pastor of Parkers Lake Church. Sarah and Edward Hughes spent their entire life on the farm home, now part of which is owned by a grandson, John Eastman. (1953)

Joseph and his wife Ellen settled on the farm located south of the Perkinsville road and East of the Town Hall road, the present Matt Roehl farm (1953). Seven children were born to them; John Amos, born May 11, 1872, Albert Warren born August 15, 1873, Elmer Loren, May 11, 1875, Elzada Bell, May 17, 1877, Elizabeth Julia, November 15, 1882, Frank Archie, February 10, 1887 and West, who died in his youth, December 29, 1888.

3

Joseph worked on his farm and owned a steam thrasher with which he did harvesting for neighboring farmers. He also did carpentry being one of those who helped to build the Parkers Lake Church. The one that burned on November 15, 1947.

It was very interesting to hear him tell of the many hunting trips he took with his sons. They hunted deer, wolf, fox and other animals. Whenever the boys got together they would reminisce on the fun they had had. His wife Ellen was a great help to many neighbors, caring for sick and helping in many ways. She passed away April 13, 1918. In March of 1919 Joseph sold his farm and with his daughter Elizabeth moved to Wayzata, where he lived with his other daughter, Mrs. G. L. Lamb, until his death on October 21, 1922. This is all that is now known of the original family of Nathaniel Day.

John Amos Day, son of Joseph spent his entire life in Plymouth Township. In January 1894 he married Mary Roehl. They made their home on a portion of the original 160 acres belonging to Marys father, Nicholas Roehl of which a part is now owned by Joe Etzel (1953). There were nine children born to them. These being; Grace born February 8, 1895, Helen, October 22, 1896, Ernest, November 2, 1898, Archie, December 19, 1900, Earl, November, 22, 1902, Alice, December 19, 1904, Nathaniel, January 6, 1907, Emory, January 12, 1909, and Florence, April 23, 1912. Of these, Grace, Helen and Nathaniel still live in Plymouth, Earl lives in Wayzata and the

rest live in the West. John married again in 1924 to Berniece Creelman. They had four sons, Larry born August 23, 1925, Mandell, March 8, 1928, Ralph, December 19, 1929 and Norman, September, 1931. John died at the age of 68 years, on February 24, 1940. Some of Nathaniel Sr's. great, great, great grandchildren still live near the original home.

Albert W. Day married Eliza Jardine on October 25, 1898 at Parkers Lake Church and have lived in and around Wayzata ever since. They have four children, Janet, Elsie and Margaret who live in Wayzata and Paul who lives in California. (*Percy died young - 5<sup>th</sup> child*)

Elmer lived for a short time in Wayzata and in the 1920's moved to International Falls. His children are West, Emely, Harvy and Van. He passed away in May 1934. *Marrried Bora Schmitz*

Elzada, or Alice as most people know her, married G. L. Lamb and lived in Wayzata until recently when they moved to Hanover Minnesota. Their children are, Warren, Hazel, Elizabeth, Pearl, Arbie, Vern and Effie.

Elizabeth lived many years in Wayzata and now lives with her sister in Hanover. Frank also lived many years in and near Wayzata and now lives in Indiana. His children are, Roy, Russell, John and Percy. *with Ned & Alice Lamb*

Written by Helen Gates.

Francis Day the son of Nathaniel, Sr. married Annie Philbrook, step daughter of Francis Berube, but was later separated and moved to Minneapolis and remarried. Little is known of him.

( Mrs. Peter M Schmitz )