

FRANK HATCHER SR.

Frank Hatcher Sr. was born in Dorsetshire, England, on July 28, 1830. He married Mary Ann Wilkins at Matcam Church at Gillingham on April 12, 1848. The ceremony was performed by Parson Dean. While still in England they had three children, Martha, born June 14, 1849, Albert, born March 3, 1851, and Frank Jr. born March 27, 1853.

Frank Sr. came to America in 1853, lived in Burlington, Iowa. Here his wife and children joined him. In crossing from England a storm blew the ship off the course and took several weeks longer to get here. Then in March 1856 they came to Minnesota settling on a farm in Plymouth where they lived the rest of their lives. Mary Ann dying on February 24, 1906 and Frank Sr. on January 27 1915.

On March 3, 1857 Frank Sr, walked to Forest City near Litchfield where the Government offices were located and pre-emped on the N.W.^{1/4} of ^{§ 17 1/2} sec. 17, 40 Acres, and the E. ^{1/2} of the S.E.^{1/4} of sec. 18, 80 Acres for which he paid \$1.25 an acre.

The next children born to this couple were a set of twins which were some of the first children to be born in Plymouth Township. Their names were William and Sarah born on August 5, 1857. Then came Emmanuel born July 8, 1859 Anna born August 20, 1861, Thomas born July 19, 1863, Amellia, July 8, 1865, Amos, February 16, 1867, Alice, September 20, 1869, Edwin, July 1, 1871, and James, December 8, 1874.

It was a common thing, during their early childhood,

for these children to have to scamper under the beds when the Indians came to beg for food. They also remembered the time the tribe from up North, came through the fields near their house on the way to the New Ulm Massacre, all painted up in their war paint.

These pioneers thought nothing of walking to Minneapolis for their supplies and coming home with a sack of flour on their backs rather than taking the oxen as that was at least a three day trip and they could make it in two by walking. About once a year they had to make the trip with the oxen so as to bring the years supplies. Once when Frank Sr. went with the oxen the Indians came for food and when they didn't have much to give them the Indians wouldn't go away. Mary Ann had to show them and still they stayed. As Frank Jr. told about it, the children were very frightened and pretty tired of staying under the beds.

Frank Sr. was drafted into the Army and served in company G Third Minnesota until the close of the Civil War.

Through all the hardships of this rugged life there were relatively few early deaths in this large family. A brother of Mrs. Hatcher's was drowned in Parkers Lake and was believed to be one of the first to be buried in Parkers Lake Cemetery in about 1871. Martha, the eldest daughter, who was married to Charles Hughes on May 16, 1865, died at the age of 33 in 1882 leaving ^{eight} seven small children, and Edwin was killed in a shooting accident in 1894 at the age of 23. Most of the rest of the family

lived to ripe old age, in fact at this writing Amos, aged 86 in 1953, and married to Mary Luby on May 13, 1890, still live at Buffalo Minnesota, where he farmed until his retirement a few years ago.

Nine of the children chose farming as their life work, two went to Minneapolis, one as a housewife and one as a teamster and the other, which I think the most colorful, was a lumberman and business man. Frank Jr., who was married to Julia Hughes on November 25, 1876 and Ann who married John Hughes on October 29, 1878, settled on farms near the old home and their descendents are still on the very same places, in fact Ann's grandchildren are living on the original Hughes farm. Frank lived to the age of 82, passing away in December 1935 and Ann passed away in 1947 at the age of 86.

Albert married Minnie Barry on January 5, 1880, after he had begun his career in the woods. He was known as a Lumber Cruiser. This is one who goes into the woods for the big companies and determines how many board feet of lumber in a given section. He also spent many winters bossing the work crews in the camps. In about 1915 he built the first garage in Wayzata, later he sold to Mr. ^{Morre} ~~Reising~~ and it has been known as the Wayzata Motor Co. Now the building is being remodeled into a grocery store. Soon after this he retired and lived with a daughter on the West River road near Minneapolis until he passed away in 1940.

Sarah married Henry Case and lived on a farm near Rockford until her death on February 2, 1929. This

family was interested in racing, first horses and then cars. William married Minerva Lewcock and went to town to be a teamster until trucks took over the work of the horse and he retired. He died on January 15, 1926. Amellia married William Davis on October 1 1884, and lived, until her death in 1953, in Minneapolis. Emmanuel, or Doc as most people knew him, was married to Jennie Pover on January 1, 1884. This brother had a restaurant on the old market which he ran for several years before the farm called him back. After a few years in Plymouth Township he took his family to Wisconsin, near Grantsburg where he lived till death took him in 1933. Alice was married to Henry Gerber on December 9, 1890, and spent the remainder of her life on a farm a few miles west of the old home. She died on February 2, 1918.

Thomas married Clara Snyder on December 15, 1892 and spent many years on a farm east of the old home place and then took his family to Minneapolis where he worked as a teamster and passed away in 1949. James, the youngest member of this family, married Lena Barcow July 12, 1894 and also settled on a farm and later going to town as a teamster, dying on February 26, 1923.

Frank Sr. and Mary Ann were buried in Parkers Lake Cemetary also the following children; Martha, Frank, William, Anna, Thomas, Amillia, Alice, Edwin and James.