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Rev: Milton Badger D.D.

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St: Paul, February 23-1850.

Rev Miller Badger D. D.

Dear Sir.

In order that you may be enabled to make out a full exhibition of the doings of the Society, for the year, I forward the required Statistical Report -

Statistical Report.

First Presbyterian Church - St: Paul. Ramsey Co. Minnesota Territory
Church formed Dec 1. 1849.

Added by letter &

Contributions to the A. H. No. 8. \$45.00

Facts. Branches at Falls of St. Anthony any other Sunday after small hours of worship built by members of the Presbyterian Congregation - Philadelphia - Pa

Though not a year has elapsed since I first took the Soil of Minnesota yet a few great changes & those in the right direction - In company with Rev. A. Bent, who you just informed that reached the gospel to Clinton Illinois, Leavenworth Iowa I landed ~~here~~ at St. Paul April 1849 - It was then a village of 300 inhabitants, mostly illiterate Friends - Indians attached to the church of Rome. The largest building was a rude log chapel in which Friends services were performed by the priest. At present there is a population of 900, which will probably be increased a third shortly after the opening of navigation, and worship in accordance with the usage of the Methodist, Baptist & Presbyterian denominations. Two Protestant houses of worship erected and there are three common schools in operation. There are also two newspapers issued regularly - The village of St. Anthony eight miles west of Paul has three

up within the last six months and already a population of 300, a congregation or Sunday of about 70, a good Union Sabbath School, two day schools, and a school building 34x36 ft, which makes a very convenient house of worship. On the stocks here there is a steamboat which will be launched in the Spring & navigate that portion of the Mississippi which is above the falls. Who would have dreamed of such a thing ten years ago? Here also is a Library Association incorporated by the Territorial Legislature, in whose library there are already the works of Burke Channing, Greeley, Wendell Phillips and Telford.

During the winter there has been a course of lectures delivered weekly by various persons in the Territory upon popular & practical themes. These changes are gratifying to every Christian & Patriot, ~~but~~ it is at yet "a day of small things" with Minnesota.

Four-fifths of the Territory is an Indian country, the abode of the warlike Ojibways, the wild ~~Sauks~~ ^{Dakota} and the discontented Winnebagos. Negotiations however are going on, which will shortly induce the Dakota to dispose of the lands of his ancient ancestors, & to commence his painful Exodus towards the setting sun.

As soon as this lands come into the market, villages filled with inhabitants as industrious as those around Lake Superior will spring up near Lake Pepin, and the valley of the winding Minnesota will wave with fields of corn & be settled at once into a native American population, we with the enterprizing and the hardy Norwegian, the latter of whom has already begun to direct letters of inquiry to this region.

In five years see the contributors to your noble society thus in direct & speedy communication, between St. Anthony's Falls & New York. ~~the~~ the lakes, harbors & towns will be - called by it

least five times as many labors in this field - In the place of the Indian mission stations at Remicca, Kapoia, Traverse de Sault and So-a-quie-Baile, there will be home-mission stations. In the places of the Scalp-dance, the Skin-lodge, the painted and beaded faces of the savages, we will witness the white cottage, the bright and laughing children, the neat school-house and plain but beautiful church of a Christian people.

A dweller in St Paul can & with true reality say with the "Sea" of Whittier

"I hear the tread of pioneers
Of nations yet to be;
The first low wash of waves, where soon
Shall roll a human sea."

The rudiments of empire here
Are plastic yet, and warm;
The chaos of a mighty world,
Is sounding into form!

Each rude and posting frequent door
Its fitting place, shall find —
The raw materials of a State
Its muscle and its mind.

Behind the scared ignorant birds - canes
The steamer smokes and raves,
And city lots are staked for sale,
Above old Indian graves.

This last stanza is quite applicable, as the town is built just above

an ancient cemetery of the Dakot.

Let it be borne in mind at the last, that this Territory is more than twenty one times as large as Massachusetts - The population is destined to be more heterogeneous than that of Wisconsin. The Governor in his message to the first Legislative Assembly remarked that the unrevised code of the State would not be adapted to the wants of the Territory. He says "the chief portion of the inhabitants of this Territory will be drawn from another direction. Our principal dependence to convey immigrants to us is plainly the Mississippi river, in whose great valley & tributary of the Missouri, our Territory is nearly wholly situated; and while it is not unlikely that all the States of the Union, to the extremest North Eastern one of the Confederacy, will have more or less representation amongst us in proportion of wealth or health; yet it is palpable, that only upon the lower Middle & the Western States, and those foreign immigation as can avail itself of the Ohio & Mississippi rivers to transport itself hither, should we, or can we, to any material extent, rely to furnish the great proportion of our population; together with some Anglo-French immigration from the British provinces, drawn less partly by their religious sympathy, and common language, with most of the first white residents of the Country."

Who are to mold the religious character of this Northern region? Mainly the teachers commissioned by your Society. Like those in the countries of Northern Europe, in northern Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, & Sweden, no inhabitant will be ready, indeed,

-trious and intelligent. They will crave a learned and pious ministry, - the teachings of a theological system which as it has been finely said is symbolized by the two great natural objects, on which the former looked; a system which has the steadfastness and ruggedness of the Alps, and the transparency of the Lake of Geneva."

A century ago Stockbridge, Mass resembled our towns in Minnesota containing Indians & land speculators, yet on Dec 12, 1750 a little church in this frontier town ventured to make proposals to him whom Robert Bell called "the greatest man of the world" to become their minister. We approve of this spirit & in imitation would venture to ask ~~for~~ for Minnesota missionaries & missionaries' wives like Jonathan Edwards and his spouse Sarah Pierpont, a wife so truly beautiful & valuable as a helpmeet in spiritual as well as temporal affairs that she induced George Whitefield to offer up a prayer that God "would send him such a daughter of Abraham, to be his wife".

We do not desire Ministers that leave the East because of the narcotic influences they exert, for the people in this valley prefer a small dose of opium, what they will to do. We do not want men who will love New England, or any other section of the Union so much, that they cannot construct society in the locality out of the "ruins & pestilential fragments" which here abound. We do not want men to sow wheat, but to sow the seed of God beside all waters. We do not want fierce partisans of any school or "ism" but men who will advocate a broad and scriptural Christianity, "as Christianity is sympathetic with the hardness of our lakes, the deserts of our prairies, the length of our rivers, the peace of our government, the very genius of our whole social organization".

We do not want young men who will come here because it is a romantic region, or because they think that to their friends they will seem more witty & brilliant inasmuch as the Poets tell them

"This distance lends ^{christian} enchantment to the view."

But we do want, scholars, men that have bathed themselves in the learning of the inspired writings; Christians gentlemen like the Apostle Paul, who ~~will~~ be ready to work with their own hands rather than cringe, or dare not speak the truth; men who will live to be a friend to all poor way-faring men and yet think themselves happy when they can by their counsels bearing, gain the ear of a Ring Leader, a Felix, a Drusilla or a Bernice.

Yesterday a bombardier who gave much "alms" to the support of the synagogue in this place ~~took~~ his departure for a distant military post. As he has attained to these ten years we shall scarcely see his face again in the church below.

In the W^to int I receive a letter from Revd A. J. Copeland, dated Geneva, 116, Jan 28th in which he says "I still feel that my Master may have a work for me to do there (to Utting) But I may be mistaken in this. I highly wish to leave my post of duty if possible".

To which I replied "the chief reasons why I oppose your taking that portion of my field are these

(1) The people do not wish you.

(2) The Brethren here ^{without exception} believe that you can have better advantages elsewhere

(3) No Ep: Committee will not insure you a sufficient

If after this reply Brother Copeland should visit us again, I shall

be induced to take him by the hand & help him all I can -
 Before this you have perceived that I am afflicted with
 "coocettes scribens".

Yours is the bound of the gospel
 E. O'Neill.

P.S. Will you please forward at the Massachusetts Sabbath School
 Society's expense the following little books in paper covers & send
 them to me by mail.

Mackinaw Mission

Sixin Mission

Gibwa or Chippewa Mission

Deduct the cost from my salary.

E.W.