

Exploring Historical Brickmaking in Minnesota

Minnesota Bricks

October 2021

Minnesota Bricks

Exploring Historical Brickmaking in Minnesota

www.mnbricks.com

Chaska Brick

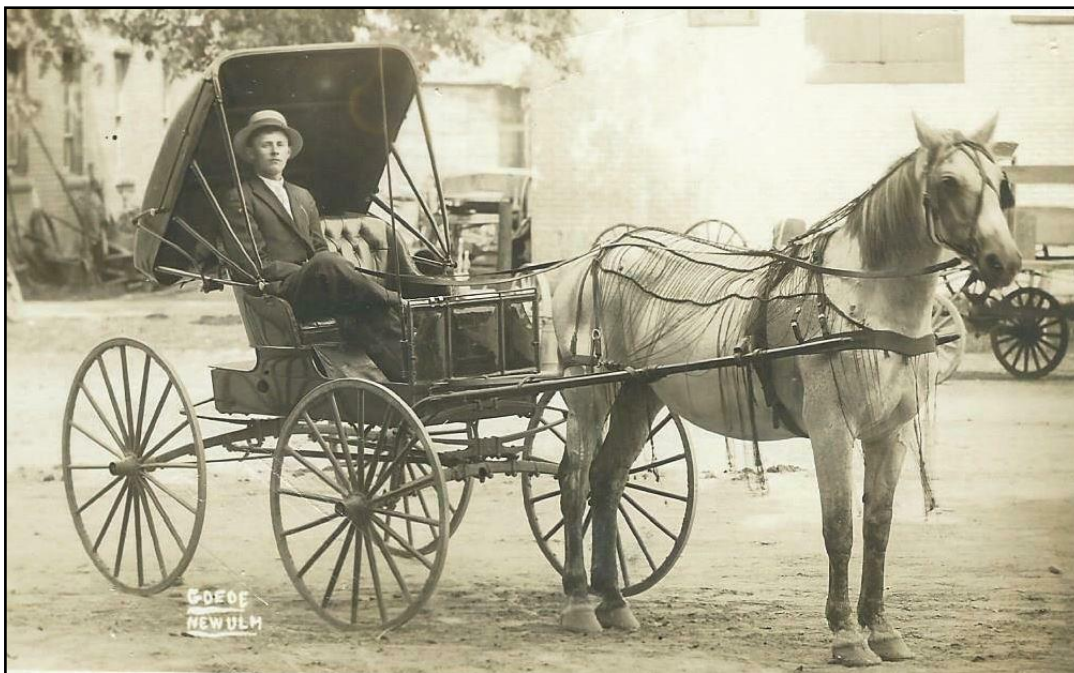
Brickmaking in Chaska Minnesota



www.chaskabrick.com

Contents

1. What's New?	3
2. Photo of the Month	4
3. Biography	5
4. Old Advertisements	8
5. A Look Back	9
6. News Nuggets	15
7. Brick Structure of the Month	18



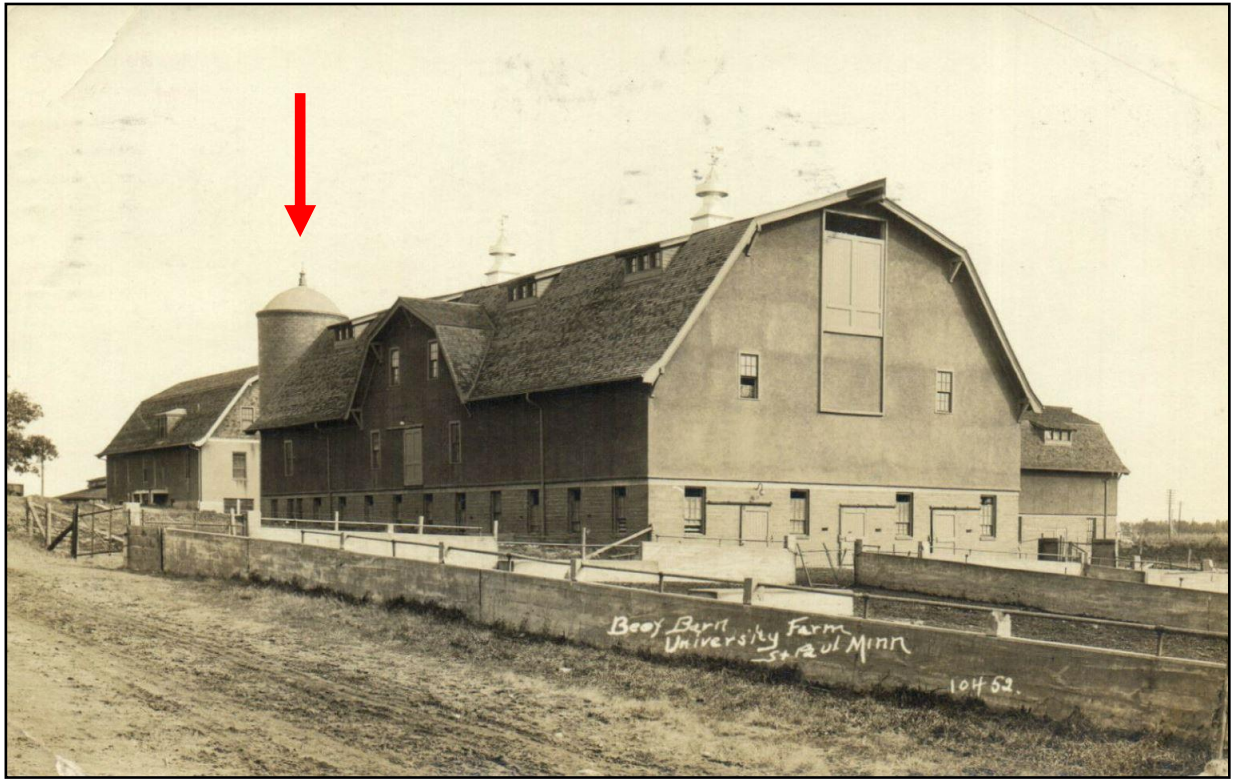
This old postcard is from New Ulm, Minnesota. The gentleman is quite young, and is probably quite proud to be driving his own horse and buggy.

1. What's New?

- A reader from Brainerd, Minnesota, contacted me about Kelly Brick, which were made in Wrenshall. I visited Wrenshall a number of years ago, and saw a Kelly brick mould in the local restaurant. This reader had a stack of Kelly brick, and was looking to find out where they were made. A picture of one appears below.
- Make sure to check out my historical videos, which can be found at: www.mnbricks.com/mn-historical-videos
- Feel free to contact me at www.mnbricks.com about any new topics or subjects. If you like what you see, tell others about it!
- It's been a very quiet month. Most people tend to be outside and are doing other things. Has anyone read my latest newsletters and found something about them interesting? I barely get any feedback, so I am debating whether I should continue producing them.
- If you want to sign up to automatically receive this newsletter via email, you can do so at www.mnbricks.com



2. Photo of the Month

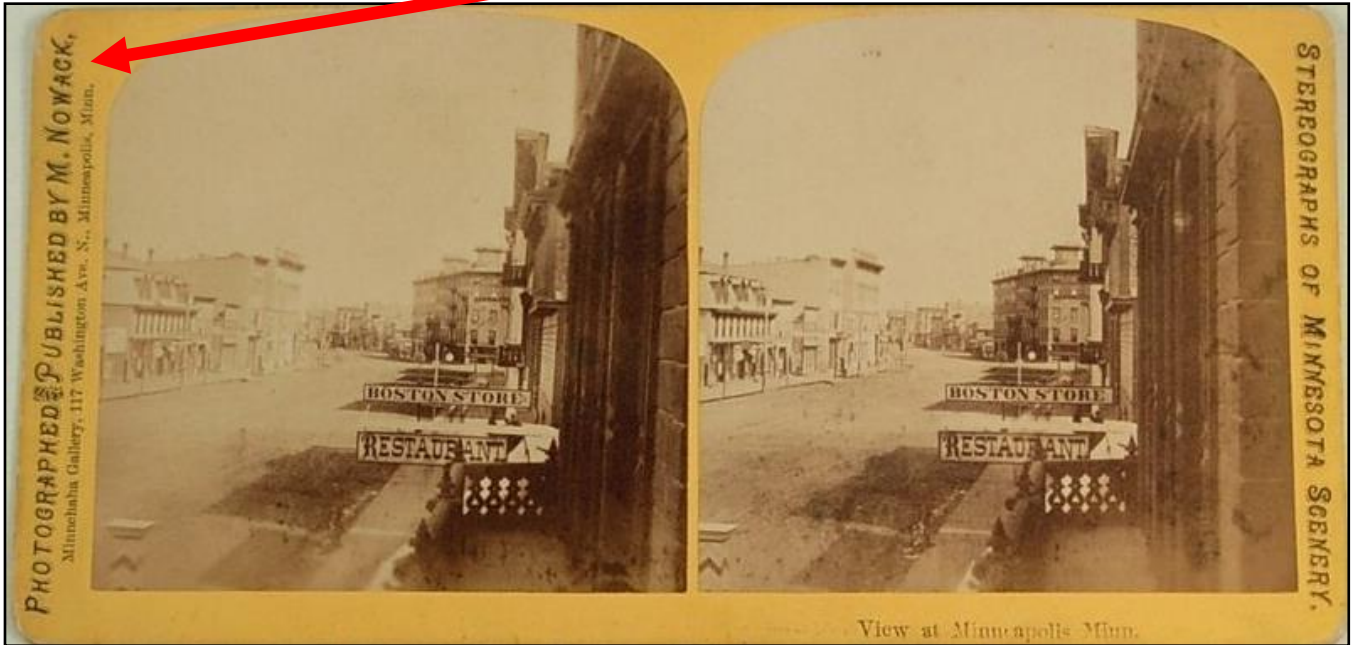


University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota

I have seen a few pictures of University Farm in St. Paul, which today is a branch of the University of Minnesota. Along with those old photographs, it has been stated that an ACO silo was built on the farm. I recently came across an old postcard of the large barn, and there was the ACO silo. I thought that was a grand find!

3. Biography

Michael Nowack Pioneer Minnesota Photographer



I collect old stereoscopic views of Minnesota. A stereoscopic view is when two photographs are placed on a cardboard backing right next to each other. They can be viewed with a stereoscope viewer, which makes them take on the illusion of depth (a viewer is shown below). Michael Nowack is a name I have come across a lot, so I am including his biography this month.



Continued on the next page...

Last Monday at 10 o'clock A. M. the nuptials of Mr. M. Nowack, proprietor of the Minnehaha photographic gallery, and Miss Christine Nelson, of this city, were celebrated with all due ceremony at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Rev. Father McGolrick officiating. (*Minneapolis Daily Tribune*, March 31, 1875, Page 4)

Died. Nowack – In this city, May 2d, Christine, wife of M. Nowack. (*Minneapolis Tribune*, May 2, 1876, Page 1)

In search of news we stepped into the Minnehaha Gallery to-day, and there in the operator's room we saw a picture that caused us to stop on the threshold for a moment in mute surprise and admiration. There, upon a canvas nine feet high and twelve feet long, portrayed by the skillful pencil of some most accomplished artist, we beheld the "Minnehaha, Laughing Water," as merry and as bright and sparkling in its wild grandeur as on the day when it was sole listener to the sweet words that fell upon the ears and won the heart of the dusky maiden, and so surprisingly perfect as to make one feel the weird enchantment of a face to face view of nature's own sublime Minnehaha. This painting, which needs only the finishing touches of coloring to make it worthy of a position of honor in any gallery of art, is used by Mr. Nowack, the artist, as a background to his card and other pictures, and must make his gallery eminently popular. A picture with this background is "perfectly lovely," and ladies, especially, having once seen it, will be content with nothing else. Mr. Nowack has for years paid \$100 per month during the summer for the privilege of taking pictures on the banks of the falls. But from the varying light and difference of distance he has found it impossible to secure a first-class picture of the subject and a clear, well defined impression of the falls. To overcome this difficulty he conceived the idea which has finally given birth to this new and beautiful Minnehaha of his own, with which he can produce a much more perfect picture of both subject and the falls than it has ever been possible to attain from the falls themselves. And notwithstanding the great expense of this work, pictures of all kinds with this background will be furnished at the same price as with any other. (*Minneapolis Tribune*, October 20, 1877, Page 1)

Over 500 persons visited the Minnehaha Gallery within a week to see that beautiful painting of Minnehaha that Mr. Nowack uses for a background in his pictures. (*Minneapolis Tribune*, October 30, 1877, Page 4)

At Cooper's Union hall last evening an interesting entertainment was given under the direction of Mr. Nowack. The first portion of the entertainment consisted of the exhibition of some fine views of the great mill explosion, and reflected credit upon the artist. After this portion of the entertainment was concluded the floor was cleared and several hours were spent in dancing. (*St. Paul Daily Globe*, January 24, 1880, Page 3)

Early yesterday morning Mr. M. Nowack, the well-known photographic artist, of this city, met with an accident which came near terminating his earthly career. It seems that he went to Minnehaha to take some winter views of the historic falls, and planted his camera on the top of the high ravine at the left of the cascade, and had just arranged the focus to obtain a splendid view, when his feet, in some unaccountable manner, slipped from under him, and artist, camera and instruments started simultaneously down the almost perpendicular declivity to the bed of the

Continued on the next page...

stream which flowed placidly some fifty feet below. Fortunately Mr. Nowack in his rapid descent managed to catch hold of a small tree which grew out of the bank, which broke the force of the fall and undoubtedly saved his life, for though badly shaken up he reached the bottom with only a few bruises. His instruments, valued at upwards of \$100, were totally demolished, but under the circumstances the victim of the accident thinks that he got off cheap enough. (*Minneapolis Tribune*, January 12, 1882, Page 7)

The railroad wreck was photographed by Nowack yesterday. (*St. Paul Daily Globe*, May 18, 1883, Page 2)

M. Nowack, the enterprising photographer and stereoscopic artist returned from Rochester and southern Minnesota on Saturday, with a rare collection of plates which he had taken. They comprise the various scenes along the path of the recent terrible tornado, showing the ruins of what only a few days ago was a beautiful and prosperous city. Business houses and happy homes in fifteen fateful minutes were razed to the ground and killed or wounded the inmates. These views are now being mounted to the stereoscope by Mr. Nowack and offered for sale. People who have never witnessed a disaster of this character must be interested in Mr. Nowack's collection, and can purchase them at the photographic gallery at No. 301 South Washington avenue. (*St. Paul Daily Globe*, August 27, 1883, Page 7)

The following parties received licenses to wed yesterday... Michael Nowack and Mary Kerr... (*St. Paul Daily Globe*, February 24, 1884, Page 9)

Michael Nowack, who for a period of twenty years was a well-known photographer in this city, his last place of business being on Nicollet Island, died at the city hospital in Stillwater a few days ago. (*The Minneapolis Journal*, March 14, 1904, Page 7)

Minnesota death index shows a Michael Norach who died February 22, 1904 in Washington County MN.



4. Old Advertisements

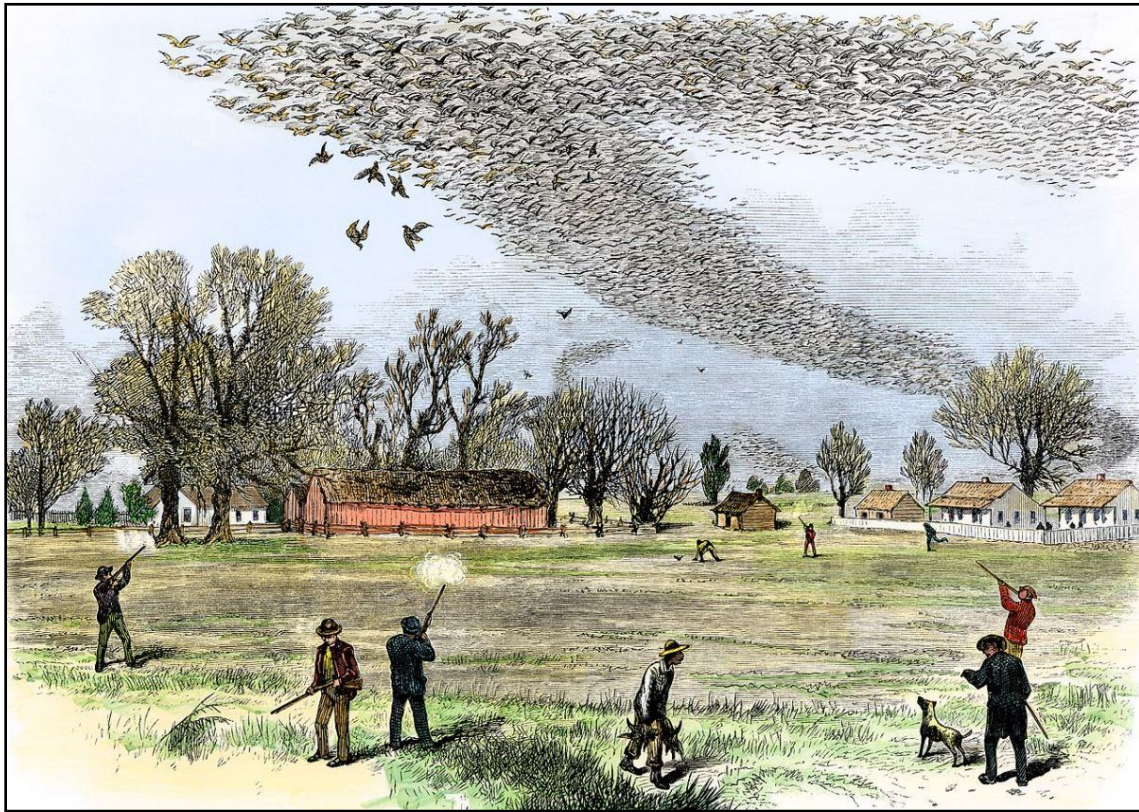
M. NOWACK,
Wholesale and Retail Dealer in
PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS,
Frames, Indian Curiosities, &c.
301 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis.
Branch Galleries: Nicollet Island, Minneapolis,
and 69 West Third Street, St. Paul.

WE ARE WITH YOU
ARISTO PHOTOS
75c Per Dozen.
We will not be outdone by our competitors
FOR THE NEXT THIRTY DAYS
We will make 13 Aristo Photos for 75 cts.
We are the only successful manipulators
of the Aristo in the city.
Don't Forget The Place
♦♦ DIAMOND JO DOCK
NOWACK BROS.

5. A Look Back

Passenger Pigeons in Minnesota

Minnesota History Segment



Men shooting at passenger pigeons – from an old magazine.

I remember passenger pigeons from history class, but I had always thought they were an Eastern United States bird. I had no idea they were also native to Minnesota, until I came across an old newspaper clipping about them. I did a quick newspaper search, and came across quite a few articles on the pigeons in Minnesota. I have attached the clippings I found for the years 1854, 1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865. The articles are a little hard to read, as they really don't supply any good news for the birds.

Although there were an untold number of these birds in the 1860s, they were virtually extinct by the year 1900. Some birds were kept in captivity later than this, but the species is extinct today.

St. Anthony Items. Pigeons are becoming abundant, large flocks passing and repassing daily. A gentlemen informed us that he bagged upwards of thirty in a few hours' shooting, one day the present week. (*The Daily Minnesota Pioneer*, July 8, 1854, Page 3)

Pigeons have been rather scarce this season, but the quality is now improving. In a few weeks, it will be no trouble to commence indiscriminate slaughter upon them, in the oak-openings, and high timbers, anywhere in the vicinity of St. Paul. (*The Daily Minnesota Pioneer*, July 18, 1854, Page 2)

Some of our hunters have been very successful in bagging pigeons, which are very numerous in this region, at the present time. We saw a sportsman the other evening, going through the streets with a horse load of them, consisting of upwards of two hundred, strung across his saddle, all of which he had killed that day. (*The Daily Minnesota Pioneer*, July 31, 1854, Page 2)

Wild pigeons are now taken by hundreds and thousands in nets by the farmers in the vicinity of St. Paul, who "kill two birds with one stone" in thus saving their grain crops from the voracious crops of these destructive creatures, and at the same time net no small profit by their sale in the St. Paul market. (*The Weekly Minnesotian*, St. Paul, August 12, 1854, Page 2)

Pigeons. These birds seem to abound plentifully this season. A half day spent in the woods a few miles from St. Paul, will suffice to bag hundreds. Every day sportsmen can be seen in our streets with as many as they can carry. (*Minnesota Weekly Times*, St. Paul, August 22, 1854, Page 2)

The Glencoe Register of June 18th, says: Near the residence of Hiram Pettijohn, Esq., in Rich Valley, of this county, the pigeons have appropriated a quarter section of timber land for the purpose of building their nests. In some instances there are as many as twelve nests in one tree. The department is literally lined with them. The smaller trees are fairly bowed down with them. It is singular they cannot be driven from the position they have taken. Countless thousands hover around their present breeding grounds. (*Saint Paul Week Minnesotian*, July 16, 1859, Page 3)



We thought we had seen some pigeons before now, but we confess we never knew what it was to see the woods literally alive with them, until we saw them in the timber between Leon and Cannon Falls. It is called a pigeon roost. For a space of a mile and a half in width and three or four miles in length they are as thick as they can conveniently get along together. Every tree has from one to twenty nests upon it. The young have flown from the nests and are flying from tree to tree in wonderful confusion. The noise was almost deafening. As we rode through there one day last week there seemed to be scarcely a moment's intermission between the firing of guns, but the birds paid not the least attention to it save only the unfortunate ones that were shot at – they would fall to the ground, and their neighbor would hop to the next tree – in two hours a person could get as many as he could carry away. As yet they have done but little damage to the crops, but the farmers in that neighborhood live in constant dread. (*The Goodhue Volunteer, Red Wing*, June 11, 1862, Page 3)

Our sportsmen are cleaning up their guns for a new campaign against the feathered tribe. Wild ducks and geese are becoming quite plenty, and wild pigeons have appeared in large numbers, notwithstanding it is rather early for them to make their appearance. (*The Saint Paul Daily Press*, April 4, 1863, Page 4)

Large flocks of pigeons are flying over town, and some of our experts have been quite successful in “winging” considerable numbers. (*St. Cloud Democrat*, April 9, 1863, Page 3)

The great abundance of pigeons now is calling all the old fowling pieces in requisition, and the warfare on the above mentioned birds is lively. Probably the best hunting grounds are found in the direction of Cottage Grove. (*The Saint Paul Daily Press*, April 9, 1863, Page 4)

Wild pigeons in great numbers are now in this vicinity. (*Chatfield Democrat*, April 11, 1863, Page 3)

Pigeons are very numerous in this vicinity, at present, and many persons who have leisure to do so are indulging in the sport of shooting them. (*Winona Daily Republican*, April 11, 1863, Page 4)

Our sportsmen are having fine times now among the pigeons and ducks. They were never more abundant, and are being brought in by the hundreds. (*Stillwater Messenger*, April 14, 1863, Page 2)

Pigeons are also numerous, large flocks of them appearing every day – sometimes in such numbers as to resemble in appearance great clouds. (*Winona Daily Republican*, April 18, 1863, Page 3)

The “oldest inhabitant” has no recollection of ever having seen Wild Pigeons in such vast numbers as they are now, to be seen in this part of Minnesota. In fact these birds are with us in such myriads that on many farms they are with great difficulty kept from gathering up the wheat as fast as it [is] sown. On a farm just above, one day this week, one man was dragging and another, with two dogs and a gun, was kept busy keeping the Pigeons off the field. In many localities it is feared that the wheat will have to be re-sown. Their settling upon the fields and fight through the air resemble great clouds. (*Chatfield Democrat*, April 25, 1863, Page 3)

The Wild Pigeons that have been so numerous in this section for several weeks past, are now resting in the timber immediately west of this place. The first nests are found some two miles from this village, where the woods are said to be perfectly alive with these birds. A gentleman informed us, yesterday, that he counted seventy-three nests on one tree. Persons desiring sport in the way of Pigeon shooting can have the same by night or day by coming this way. No throwing clubs allowed. (*Chatfield Democrat*, May 2, 1863, Page 3)

Hundred[s] of Pigeons are now being brought into town daily, slaughtered at the "roost" over the river. Some of our sportsmen boast very much of their skill in shooting, in fact we have heard that some of them are willing to bet that they can "pop" a sitting Pigeon off her nest three times out of seven. We regard the wholesale slaughter, that is now going on, of these birds as a wanton destruction of life. Let them alone until the "squabs" [young pigeons] come on and then we will have birds than can be eaten without being run through a "sausage mill." (*Chatfield Democrat*, May 2, 1863, Page 3)

Never before, within our memory, have pigeons been so numerous as this year. They fly over in perfect clouds; they swarm upon the wheat fields in this section of the country, threatening the utter destruction of every seed sown. In some cases acre after acre of wheat has been picked up and swallowed by them after it had been sown, before it could be covered. (*The Goodhue Volunteer*, Red Wing, May 6, 1863, Page 3)

One day last week we were one of a party to pay a visit to the Pigeon roost in this vicinity. All we saw and did on that occasion would be more than our limits will allow for details. Suffice it to say, that we never saw the like before. Pigeons by the thousand in front of us, to the right and to the left of us, and by millions all around us. Old ones clouded in the air with their countless numbers and the young ones burdened the trees and bushes for miles in circumference. The "squabs" were just in their prime for the gridiron, and hundreds were being captured by the crowds of men, women and children who made the forest ring with their shouts of merry glee. Strong men shook the saplings, little boys climbed the trees, the women filled their aprons with the young birds. All infant pigeons that could not by strength of wing make their way to the highest trees met with a sure and certain fate. To add to the pleasure of our excursion we met with a company of gentlemen from Carimona [Fillmore County township], who were encamped close by on the beautiful stream of Bear Creek, fully armed and equipped for capturing pigeons, trout, &c. By invitation we spent the night with these whole-souled "good fellows" and never in our lives enjoyed a better time. We ate pigeons cooked in every style, until we couldn't rest" without divers and sundry "night caps." Take it all together it was a time long to be remembered, as all may expect who fall into the hands of the Carimona boys. But we must say, that we had pigeons enough; too much of a good thing is too much, and we believe the unanimous verdict of the party was that fat squabs, whiskey and boiled eggs are a mixture, which refuse most decidedly to mingle together. *Chatfield Democrat*. (*The Goodhue Volunteer*, Red Wing, June 17, 1863, Page 1)

At no time, within a period of the last six years, have wild pigeons been so numerous. We hear of instances where whole fields of corn have been torn up by these pests. Our sportsmen have grown weary of making war on this kind of game. Thousands are slain weekly, yet the numbers do not appear to be diminished. We hear of several crack shots having been made. Our young friend George Morrison killed forty pigeons at two shots last Thursday. The proprietor of the Adams House on the 'Fort Road,' is doing a big thing in the way of trapping pigeons. Some days he will net fifty dozen. He tells us he has realized the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars by the sale of pigeons this season. (*The Goodhue Volunteer*, Red Wing, July 1, 1863, Page 2)

...they [pigeons] are now here more numerous than ever and we are reliable informed that they are nesting in the timber some three miles West of this village. We invite all creation to a feast when the "squabs" get ripe. Stewed "squabs" with "whisky sauce" are not bad to take if you know when you have eaten enough. (*Chatfield Democrat*, April 23, 1864, Page 3)

Our friend Mr. Tompkins, a gentlemen of leisure, who is stopping with Mr. T. Case, some six miles below this village, deserves to be classed among the benefactors of mankind for his kindness in furnishing the whole community hereabouts with Wild Pigeons. Mr. T. has a net which he handles with such skill that he is enabled to take just any number of birds desired, which are distributed to all who wish them without money and without price. We are indebted to Mr. T. for all the Pigeons we can use and – more too. (*Chatfield Democrat*, May 7, 1864, Page 3)

We are informed by one who says he counted them, that there are now "setting" at the Pigeon Roost, near this village, 100,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 Pigeons, and as each nest is supposed to turn out two "squabs," will some gentlemen, who has nothing else to do and is good at figures, tell us how many Pigeons there will be around here when the young 'uns are hatched out. (*Chatfield Democrat*, May 7, 1864, Page 3)

The pigeons to the number of several millions, billions, trillions, or in short a figure one with an indefinite number of ciphers, are nesting in the timber between this place and Pine Island. The roost is some seven or eight miles from here, and is a curiosity worth going to see. We are indebted to our friends Lybe and Shultes for some "four and twenty" pigeons, which, being all "baked in a pie" by our good lady, made an extremely good dinner. Our feelings toward these birds are much more friendly when in this condition than when we see them committing their depredations on the farmers grain fields. (*The Mantorville Express*, May 13, 1864, Page 3)

The people hereabouts have had a "bully time" squabbling for the past ten days, at the Pigeon Roost in this vicinity. The woods have been filled daily with men, women and children gathering the young squabs and we presume not less than seven thousand young pigeons have been brought to this village, alone, within the past ten days, besides thousands that have been eaten in the woods and carried off by people from the adjoining towns and country. The fun is almost over, however, as the young 'uns are getting strong enough to keep out of reach of anything but a shot-gun. (*Chatfield Democrat*, May 28, 1864, Page 3)

There is a man in this village who boasts that he has eaten twenty squabs per day or the past ten days. He is feathering out finely and will soon be able to fly. (*Chatfield Democrat*, May 28, 1864, Page 3)

The few inhabitants who were stirring as early as four or five o'clock yesterday morning might have supposed [that St. Paul was under attack]... From every direction the rattle of guns was heard, frequent and rapid. It seems that immense numbers of pigeons were flying over, most of them only a few feet above the ground, and presenting such a temptation to sportsmen, that every man and boy who had a gun, and was awake at that hour, was peppering them from his door-yard, regardless of the ordinance against the use of fire-arms in the city. A number got two or three dozen in the morning without stirring from their premises. A great many were killed with clubs and stones. Some who went out on the bluffs got 50 or 60 pigeons in an hour or two. Certainly, such exciting sport has never been had in the city before. (*The Saint Paul Press*, June 2, 1864, Page 4)

Large numbers of wild pigeons are being shot in the great "roost" near Chatfield, where millions of these birds congregate every night, and shipped to the Eastern markets. A party from Ohio bagged about 10,000 pigeons... (*St. Cloud Democrat*, June 2, 1864, Page 1)

The woods are full of pigeons and sportsmen are having a grand old time bagging them. They are young ones, and do not know just how to take care of themselves, which places them at the mercy of any blundering marksman that knows how to pull the trigger. *Hastings Independent*. (*The Goodhue Volunteer*, Red Wing, June 8, 1864, Page 2)

Thousands and thousands of Wild Pigeons are now nesting in the woods opposite this village. They occupy pretty much the same ground they have for the two past years, except that their nests extend further this way than heretofore. These birds have picked up more wheat this season than any year previous, we having heard of many fields from which every grain has been taken. Among the many big stories told, we have heard one which says forty bushels of wheat was picked up by these birds from one field in one afternoon. Dogs are employed by many of our farmers to keep the Pigeons off their fields. (*Chatfield Democrat*, May 13, 1865, Page 3)

We believe we do not under estimate the number a single bird when we state that 10,000 squabs were eaten and carried off from the Pigeon Roost in this vicinity on Saturday and Sunday last. (*Chatfield Democrat*, June 10, 1865, Page 3)

The great picnic at the Pigeon Roost on Saturday last was largely attended and proved a complete success. All who attended, we are glad to learn, had a delightful time and were well pleased with the day spent in the woods. (*Chatfield Democrat*, June 10, 1865, Page 3)



Mounted Passenger Pigeon from Wikipedia

6. News Nuggets

Some men oppose improvements for two reasons. First – they will cost them something. Second – they lack enterprise. There are a few such in Duluth. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, September 24, 1870, Page 3)

There are too many boys roaming round the streets at night. What are their fathers and mothers doing to make home attractive to them? (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, September 24, 1870, Page 3)

The quack of the wild duck and the crack of the sportsman's rifle are familiar sounds around our Bay. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 1, 1870, Page 3)

Duluth is to have a chain-gang. This means a decline in the drunk and dead-beat business... (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 1, 1870, Page 3)

The northern lights coruscated most brilliantly upon the horizon of Duluth on Saturday night last, Sept. 24th. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 1, 1870, Page 3)

The new copper mine, or vein, of free copper just discovered about twelve miles down the North Shore, just a little beyond the old French River company's workings, has excited some sensation in Duluth the past week, especially among the old copper men from the south shore. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 1, 1870, Page 3)

We observe, that the City Council has passed a "Fire Ordinance." There must be brick or stone chimneys; no stove pipe must run through a roof; ashes must be kept in fire proof vessels or buildings; hay nor straw must not be within fifteen feet of any place where fire is kept; secure lanterns must be used in buildings where hay or straw is deposited; no bonfire must be started within two hundred feet of any building; carpenter shops must remove shavings once a week, nor use any but incombustible candle sticks; every stove pipe hole in a chimney must have an iron thimble mortared into the brick work; all chimneys must be plastered inside under a penalty of twenty dollars; all houses over one story must have a roof scuttle or trap. The penalty for neglect or violation of the provisions of the ordinance is twenty dollars, and "three dollars for every day said violation shall continue" thereafter. It is made the duty of the Chief of Police, or the Fire Warden, to enforce the ordinance. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 8, 1870, Page 3)

**News Nuggets
from the late 1800s**

Amongst the agreeable visitors to Duluth within a day or two we greeted our old telegraph operator, Wm. H. Shrefler, who is now stationed on the Northern Pacific Railroad, at the point on the line wherever the Engineer headquarters may be – moving westward the telegraph lines and his instruments as the headquarters travel toward sunset. We learn from him that the telegraph line is being pushed through to the Mississippi Crossing, fourteen miles above Crow Wing – and that the headquarters of Engineer Spaulding, Owen and Rosser, will be at the Crossing during the winter. There will be intermediate telegraph stations at Sandy Lake and Portage Lake. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 8, 1870, Page 3)

We want to call the attention of our readers, that the Bay View House in this city, has reduced its price of day board to \$6.50 cents per week. This is really a first class house, a good table is set, and polite officers and servants attend to the wants of the guests; therefore we can recommend it to all. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 8, 1870, Page 3)

A veteran Duluth house-keeper affirms that the scarcity of good servants is largely attributable to the scarcity of mistresses who know how to keep house as one should be kept. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 15, 1870, Page 3)

Oliver Ames and Nelson Stone have opened a first-class restaurant in T. J. Morrison's old stand, opposite Sargent's Bank, and are now dishing up hot meals and cold lunches in apple pie order and at all hours. They make a specialty of oysters, and cook them up in a manner to suit customers. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 15, 1870, Page 3)

We have the satisfaction to announce this week, that the doubly-distilled fool arrangement by which the merchants of Duluth were prohibited from sending beer or liquors to the Dalles or Thomson on the L. S. & M. R. R. has been set aside and the "flowing bowl" flows up to Thomson, as usual, the past week, by ordinary rail. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 15, 1870, Page 3)

The woods and hills are clad in all the variegated beauty of their autumnal dress. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 22, 1870, Page 3)

It is not wise for parents to allow their boys to spend the evenings upon the street corners. There is poison in the night air, especially around saloons. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 22, 1870, Page 3)

A "traveler" piece of pure copper, weighing 11 ½ pounds was found at the crossing of Lake Avenue and First Street, on Thursday, by Mr. Kauffman, one of the Street grading contractors. It has been thoroughly inspected and Mr. K. will send it down to gladden the heart of J. Fletcher Williams, the energetic Secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society, as a donation to that institution. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 22, 1870, Page 3)

The brig *Commerce* was in sight of Duluth on Saturday, but her officers, not knowing anything about our harbor, kept out to sea until Sunday morning, when she sailed into port and landed 450 tons of coal for Hill, Griggs & Co., St. Paul... (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 22, 1870, Page 3)

Sergeant A. W. Cox of Washington City [D. C.], and of the new United States Storm Signal Corps, just organized "for the benefit of Commerce," and under "military control," was round here a day or two since, with orders to remain at Duluth (the only station on Lake Superior) and report to the War Department by telegraph, and to the local press, all meteorological observations, and of the approach, direction and force of storms; with the view to the construction in the future of Storm Maps, and of the adoption of Storm Signals for the guidance and safety of mariners. The system is to be extended throughout the Union. St. Paul is the other station in Minnesota. Observations will be taken in Duluth by Sergeant Cox "synchronous" with Washington time and with other stations, thrice a day – "one about 8 a. m., one about 6 p. m., and one at midnight." The reports from every station will be rapidly concentrated at Washington, and be immediately published there, to serve in the nature of Storm Alarm. Sergeant Cox has leased rooms in Gould & Edman's new block, and will set his instruments and take observations from the roof of that building. His first observation will be taken November 1st. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, October 22, 1870, Page 3)

The Pacific, of the Duluth and Buffalo Union Line, was loaded almost to her guards. She had 3,000 barrels of apples, 100 barrels oil, 1,000 kegs of nails, 370 boxes of seed, and 100 tons of miscellaneous freight for St. Paul, and 50 tons freight for Duluth. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, November 5, 1870, Page 3)

The schooner *Charlie* came in on Sunday from Beaver Bay for the last time this season. She has gone into winter quarters in our Inner Harbor. Her last cargo from the productive colony at Beaver Bay consisted of 10,000 lath, 15,000 feet dressed siding and flooring, 15,000 feet common lumber, 80 packages of fish, 15 barrels of potatoes, 100 head of cabbage, 2 barrels saur-kraut and one barrel of Native Raspberry Wine, which was all consigned to Wieland Bros., Minnesota Point. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, November 5, 1870, Page 3)

From the Red River Manitoban. The frontier town of Pembina is lively. The work of completing the American military post is being pushed forward rapidly. Six mule teams are coming and going in all directions with U. S. Government stores, and flatboats and wagons with every necessary [necessity] for making the garrison and government officers comfortable, are daily arriving. The freight is of the most miscellaneous character. Lumber, flour, lime, oats, ammunition, and supplies of every description are coming forward. So many new buildings are being finished that laborers and artisans are scarce, and command high wages. Even errand boys are "looking up," and will hardly do the slightest turn for less than fifty cents. Town lots are at – we would be afraid to say what figures – and everything indicates that the Pembinese have great faith in the future of that very fine section of country. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, November 26, 1870, Page 3)

A Rink Company has just been formed in Duluth to build a roofed circular enclosure ninety feet in diameter, so as to afford the people of this city a pleasant place of resort, where the light fantastic toe can be tripped on the ice to the music of a strong band and oysters, hot coffee, etc.; furnished to the ladies and gentlemen in separate side-rooms; and all for a small but sufficient consideration. The spot selected is the Lake Pond between the Railroad freight house and track, and the old shore; which, not being isolated, but most central, is a good location. (*The Duluth Minnesotian*, November 26, 1870, Page 4)

7. Brick Structure of the Month



Electric Power House & Water Tower Princeton, MN



The masons have made a good start on the power station and water tower. The work was delayed somewhat by the failure of the door frames to arrive on time but they are here now. Another crew is at work on the poles for the electric light line and these will be ready to set in a few days. (*The Princeton Union*, July 13, 1899, Page 4)

Continued on the Next Page...

The water tower has attained a sufficient height now so that people can see what sort of a structure it will be and our town is receiving many compliments. The engine room is being ceiled and otherwise prepared for the reception of the power and lighting plant. When completed the village will have over three miles of electric light wires on its pole line. (*The Princeton Union*, August 3, 1899, Page 2)

The water tower can be seen for miles in every direction from Princeton, and when it is surmounted by a light and the plant is put in operation it will serve as a splendid landmark to guide the belated traveler on dark nights. (*The Princeton Union*, August 24, 1899, Page 5)

The power station of the village electric light and waterworks plant has been the scene of great activity during the past week. The tank on the tower has been completed, roofed and painted and Tuesday the first water was pumped into it. The steam connections have all been made and the engine and dynamo adjusted and started. Everything appears to be running smoothly to an outsider but the experts are still at work making closer adjustments and will probably have everything arranged satisfactorily by the time the plant is to be turned over the village authorities. Tuesday morning the first water was turned on the mains and all the hydrants were flushed. Some of the valves and gates did not work perfectly and the crew has been paying them professional attention. Tuesday evening the lights were turned on for the first time and the small lights proved to be excellent. The street arcs, however, had not been adjusted and their work was not satisfactory. Electrician Toole worked on them yesterday and before long everything will be running in first class shape. The small street lamps proved to be much better than was expected and the only criticism of them that has been heard so far is that there [are] too few of them. Of course the area of the lighted district will be gradually extended until the whole village will be well lighted. However, the Union considers that a good start has been made. One thing has been arranged which is not in the contract and which will be generally commended by all and that is the location of an arc lamp on the peak of the water tower roof. From this elevation it can be seen for many miles and will prove a guiding star to many a belated traveler. The expense of this change was borne by many of the men about town who desired the improvement and patriotically put their hands in their pockets for the necessary cash. (*The Princeton Union*, October 12, 1899, Page 1)

The citizens of Princeton are proud of their new electric light and waterworks plant and well they may be, for it is one of the most complete and thoroughly up-to-date plants in the State. The building is of solid brick built especially for the accommodation of the plant and is very conveniently arranged. The machinery consists of a Crocker-Wheeler dynamo capable of carrying 1500 lights, a Chandler-Taylor high speed engine of eighty horse power to which the dynamo is directly connected and a Gardner pump capable of discharging 30,000 gallons of water per hour. The water tower is also of solid brick 80 feet high laid in cement surmounted by a tank 22 feet tall, with a capacity of 65,000 gallons. The standing pressure on the mains is 90 pounds, which will furnish a good fire-fighting stream. The pump is also arranged so that pressure can be applied directly to the mains, giving a higher pressure if necessary. The water supply is secured from a tubular well under the building, which insures consumers a very pure water, suitable for domestic uses, purer in fact than that taken from nine-tenths of the private wells at present. The village has a good system for fire protection in the business portion, hydrants being located at every block, and the mains are quite well extended in that portion of the village south of the river. On the residence streets the hydrants are also placed at every block. The total length of the mains already laid is 6,050 feet, which makes a very good start. The business portion is lighted with six 1,200 candle power enclosed arc lamps of the latest pattern and the outskirts have 22 incandescent lamps of 32 candle power. The citizens have already put in 450 commercial lights and Superintendent Miller and his assistants are kept busy with new contracts. Before Jan. 1 there will be over 700 commercial lights burning on contract. The village has been in possession of the plant less than ten days and everything is running in a most acceptable manner. (*The Princeton Union*, November 30, 1899, Page 1)