

## Frederick Radintz

Frederick Radinta was born in Prussia, June 29, 1828. At the age of eighteen he became a shepherd. It was in the year of 1852 when he was twenty four, that he decided to sail to America, the land of plenty. His reasons were like the other early pioneers, to escape poverty and have adventure.

After six weeks on the ocean in a sail boat, he landed in New York. From there he traveled to northern Michigan to work in the copper mines. After one year of mining he decided to go to Australia. When he got as far as Buffalo, New York, he heard there was yellow fever raging on the boats. Upon hearing this he decided to return to the mines for another year, which he proceeded to do. After that, he went to Chicago and worked as a laborer on some construction work. One of the workers on the job became ill with cholera and died. The man's widow could not find anyone to put her husband in his coffin, so he volunteered. He received fifty cents for the job and then purchased a pint of whiskey which he shared with a couple of other men. Cholera was on the rampage in Chicago at that time and since it was contagious to the utmost, Frederic Radintz was ordered out of the hotel to sleep in the barn as he had been in direct contact with the disease. He did feel ill for a few days but recovered and left Chicago for Galena, Ill..

From Galena he took a boat up to St. Anthony where he worked in a shingle mill the first winter and later, dug wells. It was in 1854 that he arrived in Plymouth Township to build a little log house which he referred to as his shanty. This land on which the shanty was situated was preempted by him Nov. 24, 1860, consisting of two parcels of land, first the E 1/2 of SE 1/2 and Lot # 3 of Section 30 and on the same date, lot # 4 of the same section. The first parcel contained 128.60 acres and the second 39.98 acres. It was obtained on a Warrant of 1855, which permitted settlers to obtain land west of the Mississippi River. This land had formerly

belonged to the Fort Snelling Reservation. The buying price was \$ 1.25 per acre as was required by law. According to government laws no one could preempt more than 160 acres. As his land exceeded that amount he had to relinquish Govt. lot # 4 and his brother Ferdinand took up that portion. His brothers William and Herman and a sister Mary, had recently come from Germany. Evidently Ferdinand had either come with Frederick or later.

Frederick married Christina Schnable in 1857. She was born in Baden, Germany in 1833. Her parents died when she was a very young girl so she made her home with an Aunt and Uncle. In her later teens, she got the notion of migrating to America. Her plea was that she wanted to go where her children could always have plenty to eat. Her Aunt and Uncle listened until she was nineteen, when they gave her passage money and she left. She arrived in New York in the early 1850's and went directly to Ohio where she stayed with friends for awhile and then journeyed to Iowa where she worked a few months.

From Iowa she went to Galena, Ill. and took the boat up to St. Anthony. There, she secured a job doing house work for Major Fridley and stayed until she married, two years later. For her wedding present, Major Fridley gave her her wedding dress and a cow; so she and her husband could start farming with a total of three cows.

When Frederick and his bride arrived at his preempted farm in Plymouth, the small cabin served them as a home until the family grew and he prospered, so a larger log house was built in 1872. The original structure still is a part of the old Radintz home, which has been sold and remodeled for the present owner. Frederick also bought additional land.

The first log house was made of natural logs. The shingles were hand made by himself. Their light was a candle which always remained lighted throughout the night. This was to guide lost travelere or a neighbor.

The Indians were quite numerous but not troublesome. A tribe camped at Gleason's Lake in about 1855. After the Sious and Chippewa war on the Minnesota

River near Shakopee, the Chippewas came through the territory and one band stopped at Frederick's house and stole all the bread from the oven.

They had fourteen children born to them. They are as follows;

Hannah was the eldest. She stayed principally at home. After her parent's death she made her home with her younger brother, Henry, on the old home place. She did not marry.

George went west for a few years but returned and took up one of the father's farms, consisting of 142 acres. He later sold it and made his home with his younger brother, Henry, on the home place. Both George and Hannah were laid to rest in Holy Name Cemetery in Medina Township.

Ella married Charles Haeg a farmer in Bloomington, Minnesota. They had four children, Sophie, who married George Paul, Violet, who married Edward Kramer, and Christine and Nina who died in youth. Ella was laid to rest in St. Mary's Cemetery in Minneapolis.

Bertha married George Vierling, a cigar maker in Shakopee, Minnesota. They had two children, George and Stacy, both deceased. Bertha was laid to rest in the Catholic Cemetery in Shakopee, Minnesota.

Herman married Amelia Klausman of Plymouth Township. They lived principally in north Minneapolis. He worked in a grocery store for many years. This couple had one son, Arthur. Arthur married Ethel Hinds. They had one child, Roland. Herman died in June 1951 and was laid to rest in Crystal Lake Cemetery in north Minneapolis.

Emma died at the age of twenty three. She did not marry.

Fred died at an early age. Both Emma and Fred are buried in Holy Name Cemetery, Medina.

Tena married William King from Germany. They lived in north Minneapolis. He was a bricklayer by trade. They had one child, Howard, who now resides in Glendale, California. Tena was laid to rest in Crystal Lake Cemetery in Minneapolis.

Elizabeth married Charles Auge of Minneapolis. He worked for the railroad. They had one child, Clarence, now deceased. Elizabeth still resides ( 1954 ) in Minneapolis and is eighty three years old.

Sophie died at an early age and was laid to rest in Holy Name Cemetery, Medina. Henry <sup>born 2/14/1873</sup> married Antoinette ( Nettie ) Mengelkoch, a daughter of Clement Mengelkoch, another one of the first settlers of Plymouth Township. This family represents the first generation of two first settlers of the Township of Plymouth. They lived on the Frederick Radintz homestead and farmed until 1928 when Henry retired and moved to north Minneapolis. He and Antoinette are still living ( 1954 ), Henry being 80 years old. They had seven children as follows;

Helen married Frank Lenzen of Medina Township. She is now living in Long Beach, California. She had two children, Frank and Antoinette.

Earl and George died in their youth and were laid to rest in Holy Name Cemetery in Medina Township.

Ethel a twin, married Robert Wilson of California. He died in service in 1943. In 1953, she married Robert Bailey of Minneapolis and is residing in Long Beach, California. They have no children.

Blanche, a twin, married Frank Edwards of Minneapolis, where they now reside. They have two children, Richard and Annette.

Mary married ~~Kenneth~~ Schiebe of Plymouth Township where they now reside. This union represents three firsts of Plymouth, the Radintz, Mengelkoch and Schiebe families. They have two children, George and Marlene.

Katherine married W Kent Corry of Cedar City, Utah. They reside in south Minneapolis. They have two children, Kathleen and Durrell.

Mary married Carl Keller. They made their home first in Minneapolis and later in Willow River, Minnesota. He was a dealer in horses and live stock. Their one child Earle is married and has four children.

Church was attended at Holy Name, Medina. The Radintz place was known for many

kitchen dances. When the new granery was built they danced upstairs. These dances were mainly for the younger people. The older ones passed the time in visiting with each other. They discussed their work, their children and problems common to all.

Helping to carve a new nation out of the wilderness was surely a tremendous job, but they always remembered the bad conditions they had left in Europe and never at any time did Frederick Radintz and his wife wish themselves back in Europe. Frederick Radintz died at the age of 81 in 1910 and Christine passed away at the age of 73 ub 1907. Both were laid to rest in Holy Name Cemetery, Medina, Minnesota.

Written by Mary Radintz Schiebe,  
granddaughter of Frederic Radintz.

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