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DOES THIS SETTLE IT?

HAS THE SOURCE OF THE MISSISSIPPI BEEN POSITIVELY FIXED?

The Story of the Search For It During Two Centuries—Lake Itasca and the Little Stream That Nicollet Christened the "Cradled Achilles."

"I have stepped across the Mississippi river," said Dr. Coues. "It was easy, for the stream was only about 8 inches wide and 2 inches deep. I have seen the Father of Waters where he rises literally out of the ground and starts as an infant rivulet, destined to cut the United States in twain with the mighty volume of his adult flood.

"The story of the search for the source of the Mississippi reads like a romance. After the discovery of the upper river in 1673 by Joliet and Marquette, and the discovery of the falls of St. Anthony in 1680, by Hennepin, little more was known of the Father of Waters for nearly a century. In 1766 Captain Jonathan Carver ascended the stream as far as the mouth of Rum river. In 1798 the famous English astronomer and surveyor, David Thompson, in the service of the Northwest company, reached Turtle Lake. This lake, which sends a tributary to the Mississippi, was for some time supposed to be the source.

"The first white man known to have visited the neighborhood of the actual source of the Mississippi was William Morrison, a fur trader, who was certainly at Lake Itasca in 1803 or 1804. He never published anything on the subject, and it is only very recently that his priority of discovery has been known. The next explorer of the sources of the river was Lieutenant Zebulon Montgomery Pike. He was the first American citizen to carry the flag of the United States into northern Minnesota. He was sent by the government to treat with the Indians and stop the sale of liquor in that region. Incidentally he purchased for \$250 and some whisky a tract of land nine miles square, which included the present site of Minneapolis. Congress subsequently voted an additional payment to the Indians for this tract of \$2,000.

"Lieutenant Pike proceeded by boat to the vicinity of the present Little Falls in Morrison county, Minn. He got no farther with boats, and so continued his journey through the winter of 1805-6 on snowshoes and with sledges northward. He finally reached Leech lake. This lake he mistook for the source of the Mississippi, and his report on this subject was held to be correct for some years afterward.

"In 1820 the Hon. Lewis Cass, accompanied by Henry R. Schoolcraft, the historian, went on an exploring expedition up the Mississippi as far as Cass lake, so named at the time by Schoolcraft. In 1823 an Italian traveler, J. C. Beltrami, went over David Thompson's route to Turtle Lake and reported that lake to be the true source. Evidently, however, he heard from the Indians about Lake Itasca, for he mapped it with approximate accuracy, though he was never there and did not imagine that the Father of Waters sprang thence.

"Lake Itasca was rediscovered in 1832, when Schoolcraft, accompanied by Lieutenant Allen, United States army; the Rev. Mr. Boutwell and others, was guided to the lake by a Chippewa Indian, known as Yellow Head. On this occasion Lake Itasca received its present name, which was made up of parts of the words Veritas Caput, signifying the 'true head' of the river. The Latin was bad, for it ought to have been Verum Caput. The lake had previously been known by the French name of Lac la Piche, meaning Elk Lake. This was a translation of the Chippewa Omosakos Sogisagon.

"Schoolcraft's party made an examination of Lake Itasca, being satisfied that they had found the true source of the Mississippi. Not again until 1896 did any scientific man visit the spot. This was a Frenchman, J. N. Nicollet, who tried to ascertain the source of the feeders of Lake Itasca. Exploring southward, he reached the springs from which the infant river takes its rise. It should be understood that the Mississippi runs from its source directly northward for a distance of 60 miles before turning about in a sort of fishhook bend and starting southward. To the baby stream, before it enters Lake Itasca, Nicollet gave the poetic name of "Cradled Achilles." He established its course in connection with three small lakes, since named Upper, Middle and Lower Nicollet lakes—that is to say, he found that the little river ran through two of these small lakes and connected with the third. This explorer mapped the whole of the Itasca basin and determined the latitude, longitude and altitude with such accuracy that subsequent surveys have only confirmed and amplified his observations.

"The whole subject of which I have been speaking was befogged and thrown into dispute recently by a certain Captain Glazier, who, apparently for no other purpose than to advertise himself, published his alleged discovery of a new and true source of the Mississippi. By reducing the size of Lake Itasca, ignoring Nicollet's Cradled Achilles, magnifying a small side lake which he called Lake Glazier, and by stretching out one of the feeders of the latter, he produced a distorted map which actually imposed on the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain. Many of the errors thus originated have crept into the standard maps of the United States.

"It may be said that there is nothing further to be learned about the true source of the Father of Waters. As a matter of essential fact, the true Upper Mississippi is the river called the Missouri. The stream that flows from Lake Itasca is merely a tributary. I ought not to forget to mention that I walked along the bed of the stream termed by Captain Glazier the Infant Mississippi for a considerable distance dry shod. The little brook was dried up. Late measurements have reduced the length of the Mississippi from 8,184 miles to 2,555 miles."

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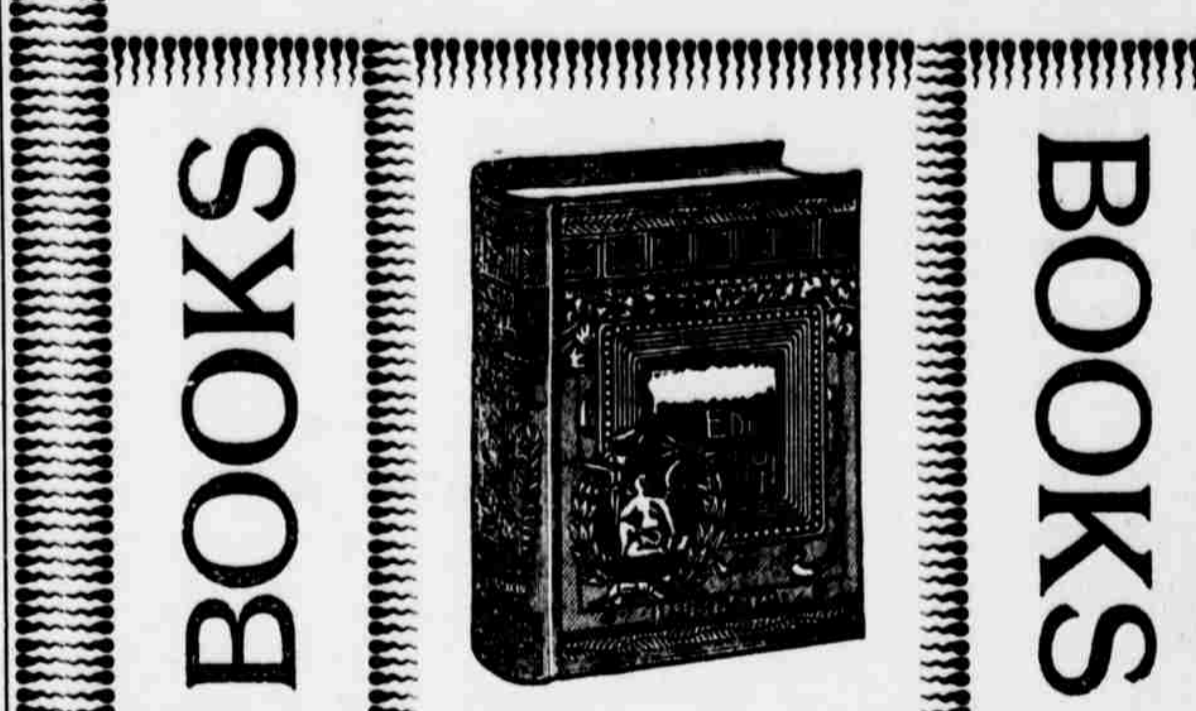
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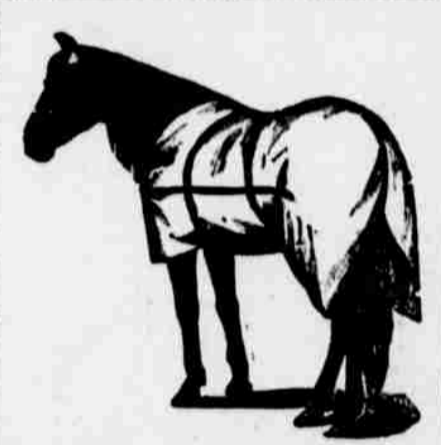
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SHERIFF'S SALE.

Notice is hereby given, that under and by virtue of an order of sale issued from the office of C. B. Crose, Clerk of the District Court of the Tenth Judicial District, within and for Webster county, Nebraska, upon a decree in an action pending therein, wherein John B. Hoover and H. G. Keebler are plaintiffs and against J. B. Arnold, Lavinda Arnold, McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, defendants and wherein John B. Hoover is plaintiff and against Freeman Arnold, Jennie Arnold, John B. Arnold, Lavinda Arnold, Dawes & Foss, Fayette J. Foss, D. E. Masten & Co., M. Hooy, McCormick Harvesting Machine Co., defendants. The two above cases having been consolidated by order of court, I shall offer for sale at public vendue, to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the east door of the court house, at Red Cloud, in said Webster county, Nebraska, (that being the building wherein the last term of said court was holden) on the 24 day of February A. D. 1895 at one o'clock p. m., of said day, the following described property, to-wit: The northeast quarter of section seven (7), Township three (3) north of range Ten (10), west of the 6th P. M. in Webster county, Nebraska. Given under my hand this 23rd day of December, A. D. 1894. J. W. RUSCHKY, Sheriff. A. M. WALTERS, Plaintiff's Attorney. 67 3



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