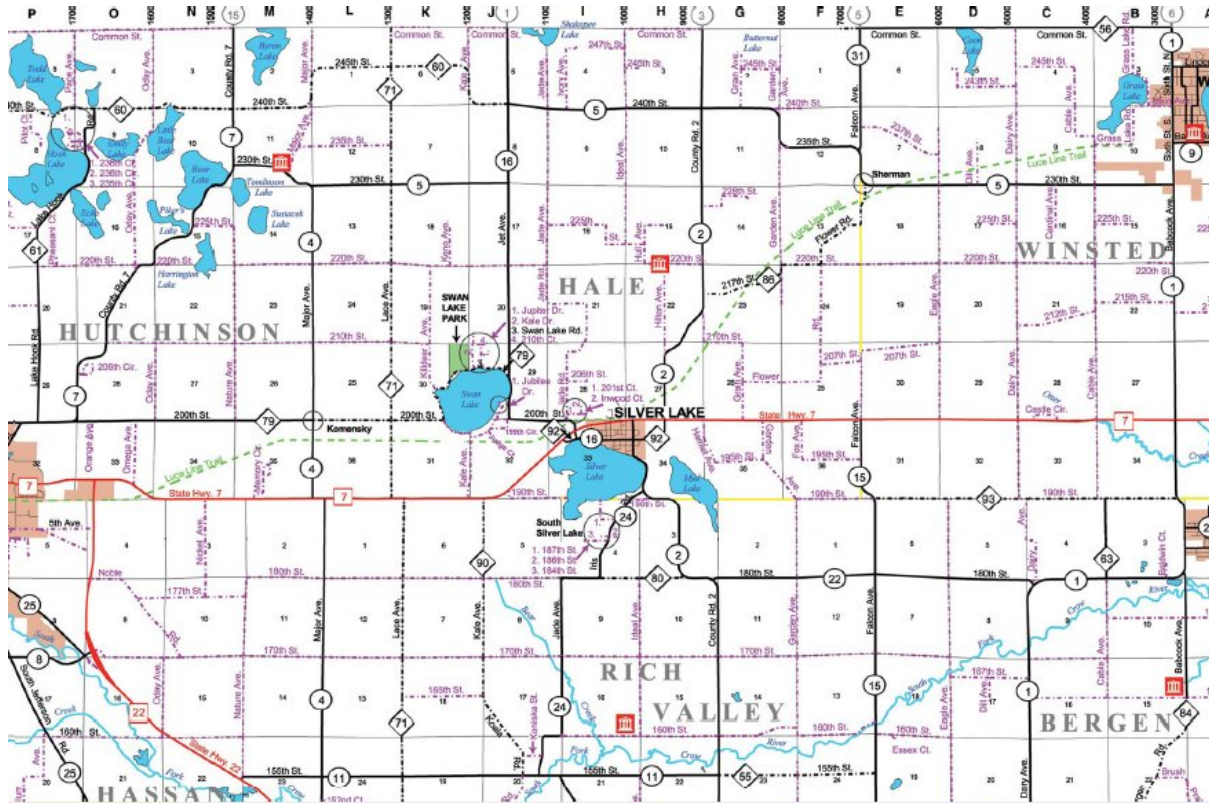


## Pavučina Corner – By Tony Kadlec

## LOOKING BACK--1860 CENSUS OF MCLEOD COUNTY, HALE AND RICH VALEY TOWNSHIPS

The Territory of Minnesota was an organized incorporated territory of the United States that existed from March 3, 1849, until May 11, 1858, when the eastern portion of the territory was admitted to the Union as the State of Minnesota. Shortly thereafter, the 1860 federal census enumerated the early pioneers of the state of Minnesota, including those residents of McLeod County.



Hale Township and Rich Valley Township, McLeod County (Source: [www.co.mcleod.mn.us](http://www.co.mcleod.mn.us))

Looking back to the 1860 census identifies the very first Canadian- and European-immigrants, and East Coasters to settle the area surrounding Silver Lake (Hale Township and Rich Valley Township). Among these settlers were the first Czech families: Casper, Navratile, Newash, and Wasmack (i.e. Kasper, Navrátil, Nunvář, and Vosmek) as well as French-Canadian families (e.g. Bibeau or Bebo), all of whom have descendents living in the Silver Lake area today, one hundred and fifty years later.

From the "History of McLeod County Minnesota" (Chicago and Winona, H. C. Cooper Jr. & Co. 1917)

**"General Statistics.** There were not fewer than 1,274 nor more than 1,286 people in the county in 1860. There were 315 dwelling houses and Mr. Gallick returned the same number of families. Many of the names of the members of a household were not, however, members or even relatives of the family; for the most part they were young, unmarried men who were boarders and lodgers and "made their homes" with the real family.

The enumerator's list gives 1,274 names, but the published lists give the total population as 1,286. The total foreign born was 456. There was not a negro in the county, nor a pauper, a convict, a deaf mute or a blind, and only one idiot and one insane person. The assessor estimates the true value of all property at \$500,000.

The assessed value of all the property in the county was \$254,733, of which \$56,646 was personal property. The total amount of taxes paid in 1859 was \$4,029. Five public schools with five teachers were held during the year at a cost of \$636.

**Death Census.** During the year ending June 1, 1860, there were but five deaths in McLeod county, as reported by Lawrence Gallick, the census enumerator. All of these were during the year 1859, as follows:

**Betsey Peterson**, aged 60; married, born in Norway; died in October of old age, after three days' illness; **John Gallaher**, of Hale township, aged 28; married, born in Ireland; died in July; disease unknown; sudden death; **Sally C. Church**, of Hale township; age 23; married; born in Ohio; died in May of consumption, after six months' illness; **Jenny N. McKenzie**, of Acoma township; age three months; born in Minnesota; died in January of scrofula, after three days' illness; **Edward Chevalier**, of Penn township, age one month, born in Minnesota; died in May; disease unknown, after six days' illness.

In submitting his mortuary report Enumerator Gallick took occasion to make a general statement of conditions in the county, saying: "There has been no malady of an unusual or peculiar character in this county. The water is clear and in some instances strongly impregnated with lime. The soil is black, deep, rich loam, with a clay sub-soil. The timber comprises the several different species of the oak, elm, maple, and poplar, together with the white walnut, basswood, black and red cherry, hickory, hackberry, white and black ash, cottonwood, and red cedar. The rock is mostly confined to boulders, and are, in most instances, lime, though there are both sand and granite rock, the soil itself is the only natural fertilizer. No particular disease has ever existed amongst the stock in this country. We have no murrain or other diseases so prevalent in some of the Western states."

**Wheat and Corn.** In his historical sketch, elsewhere referred to, Prof. Pendergast says that in 1860 a good wheat crop was raised by the pioneer farmers of McLeod county. "The surplus," says he, "was marketed in Minneapolis, hauled there by oxen, the round trip requiring from seven to twelve days. From 40 to 45 cents a bushel was realized." The census taker reported that in 1859 there were raised in the county 6,108 bushels of wheat, and 13,020 bushels of corn, with only 4,088 acres of improved land. [NOTE: in 2010 McLeod County comprises a total of 311,388 acres]

The following figures give the yield of wheat and corn and the improved acres in each township : Bergen, 898 bushels of wheat, 2,295 bushels of corn, 340 improved acres; Winsted, 377 bushels of wheat, 1,005 bushels of corn, 137 improved acres; Hale, 99 bushels of wheat, 540 bushels of corn, 81 improved acres; Rich Valley, 474 bushels of wheat, 1,255 bushels of corn, 169 improved acres; Helen, 839 bushels of wheat, 1,360 bushels of corn, 324 improved acres; Acoma, 204 bushels of wheat, 585 bushels of corn, 200 improved acres; Hutchinson, 585 bushels of wheat, 1,515 bushels of corn, 337 improved acres; Lee, 768 bushels of wheat, 870 bushels of corn, 245 improved acres; Penn, 439 bushels

of wheat, 975 bushels of corn, 467 improved acres; Glencoe, 1,425 bushels of wheat, 2,620 bushels of corn, 1,788 improved acres.

**Churches.** There were no mills or other manufactories in the county, as Larry Gallick certified. Other official statistics of the census of 1860 show that in 1859 there were two church organizations, a Methodist Episcopal and a Congregational, with church buildings valued respectively at \$1,200 and \$1,000. There were a Methodist, a Congregational, and two Union Sunday schools, with an aggregate of 446 volumes of appropriate books. Two private libraries (names of owners not given) were fairly large, with 1,120 and 2,330 volumes respectively.

**Wages.** The average monthly wage of a farm-hand, with board, was \$15; for a day laborer, with board, \$1.25, and without board, \$1.75; for a carpenter, without board, \$2.00; for a female domestic per week, \$2.00, and the price of board to laboring men per week was \$3.00.

#### **Hale Township.**

**Peter Bibeau**, age 26; farmer; born in Canada; personal estate, \$60. His wife, Philomando, age 21, born in Canada; their child, Mary, age 1, born in Minnesota.

**Joseph Revoux**, age 23; farmer; born in Canada; personal estate, \$80. His wife, Martha, age 14, born in Canada.

**Solomon Demo**, age 39; farmer; born in Vermont; personal estate, \$200; real estate, \$50. His wife, Eleanor, age 39, born in Canada; their six children, Abraham, age 16; Luke, age 13, and Agnes, age 11, were born in Vermont; Lucinda, age 8, born in New York; Celinare, age 4, and Solomon, age 2, were born in Minnesota.

**Anthony Gallagher**, age 25; farmer; born in Ireland; personal estate, \$90. His wife, Mary, age 26, born in Ireland.

**Mary Halloran**, age 28; washwoman; born in Ireland; personal estate, \$75. Her two children, Mary, age 3, born in Canada, and Alice, age 9 mo., born in Minnesota.

**John Barrett**, age 60; farmer; born in Ireland; personal estate, \$100. His wife, Catherine, age 50, born in Ireland; their five children, Michael, age 19, Thomas, age 17, John, age 15, Peter, age 7, and Catherine, age 5, were born in Pennsylvania.

**Thomas Barrett**, age 50; farmer; born in Ireland; personal estate, \$200.

**Peter Barrett**, age 30; day laborer; born in Ireland.

**William Long**, age 28; farmer; born in Prussia; personal estate, \$250. His wife, Delia, age 24, born in Prussia; their child, Ellen, age 1, born in Minnesota.

**Samuel Hall**, age 23; farmer, born in Ohio; personal estate, \$270. His wife, Laura C., age 17, born in Ohio.

**Frank Buska**, age 43; farmer; personal property, \$150. His wife, Rosella, age 46, and three children, Joseph, age 16; Julia, age 13 and Betsey, age 9, were all born in Prussia; Anthony, age 4, born in Wisconsin.

**William Luke**, age 40; personal property, \$80. His wife, Emilie, age 36, and their three children, Julia, age 12; William, age 10, and Delia, age 7, were all born in Prussia,

**Daniel Randell**, age 45; farmer; personal, \$150. He, and his wife, Betsy, age 44, were born in New York; their five children, Perry, age 20; Cyrus, age 14; Frederick, age 12; Olive, age 9, and Franklin, age 4, were born in Ohio.

**Jacob Harmon**, age 25; farmer; real estate, \$1,200; personal property, \$50. He, his wife, Martha, age 22, and their child, Daniel, age 1, were all born in Ohio.

**David Young**, age 63, farmer; personal, \$500. He, and his wife, Cornelia, age 62, were born in New York; their two children, (presumably adopted,) Dephorish (?) Storey, age 6, born in Ohio, and David H. Church, age 7 mo., born in Minnesota.

**Samuel N. Williams**, age 35; farmer; born in Ohio; real estate, \$600; personal, \$800. His wife, Harriet, age 32, born in New York; their three children, William H., age 9; Milton D., age 5, and Celestia, age 2, were born in Ohio.

**Benjamin F. Church**, age 32; farmer; born in Maine; real estate, \$4,000; personal, \$75.

**William J. Clyde**, age 26; stone mason; real estate, \$100; personal, \$150. He, and his wife, Jane, age 18, were born in Canada; their child, Angeline A., age 6 mo., born in Minnesota.

**Esther Williams**, age 50; born in Ohio; personal, \$125. Her four children, Abraham, age 17, a farmer; Lucidea, age 13; John, age 11, and Jane, age 8, were born in Illinois.

**Jacob Perricale**, age 48; farmer; born in Germany; personal, \$80. His wife, Elizabeth, age 56, born in Virginia; their three children, James, age 17; Jesse, age 13, and Hiram, age 12; were born in Illinois.

**John Connelly**, age 46; engineer; born in Ireland; personal, \$150. His wife, Ann, age 41, born in New York; their child, Ann, age 16, born in Canada.

**Delevan Peck**, age 23, shingle maker; born in New York.

**Lewis E. Clark**, age 33; farmer; born in Vermont; real estate, \$600; personal, \$200.

**John E. Clyde**, age 65; carpenter; born in Ireland; his wife, Rebecca, age 40, born in N. Carolina.

#### **Rich Valley Township.**

**Anthony Newash**, age 27; farmer; personal, \$200. He, and his wife, Ann, age 27, were born in Bohemia; their child, Joseph, age 1, born in Wisconsin.

**Joseph Zuick**, age 40; farmer; personal, \$200. He, his wife, Christina, age 42, and four of their children, Joseph, age 14; Louise, age 10; Mary, age 7, and Ann, age 3, were all born in Bohemia, Christina, age 9 mo., born in Wisconsin.

**Vincent Casper**, age 47; farmer. He, his wife, Catherine, age 40, and four of their children, John, age 22, day laborer; Anthony, age 11; Mary, age 9, and Frank, age 3, were all born in Bohemia; Ann, age 2, born in Wisconsin, and Joseph, age 3 mo., born in Minnesota.

**John Winesis**, age 45; farmer; personal, \$200. He, his wife, Fanny, age 45, and five of their children, Frank, age 21, day laborer; John, age 19; Joseph, age 16; Kate, age 11, and Fanny, age 6, were all born in Bohemia; Anthony, age 3, born in Wisconsin.

**Anton Navartile**, age 50; farmer; personal, \$300. He, his wife, Mary, age 40, and two of their children, Ann, age 15, and Anton, age 10, were born in Bohemia; Mary, age 2, born in Wisconsin.

**Joseph Wasmack**, age 40; farmer; personal, \$320. He, his wife, Fanny, age 35, and three of their children, Joseph, age 17; Peter, age 7, and Anthony, age 5, were all born in Bohemia; Christina, age 3, born in Wisconsin.

**William W. Rossman**, age 29; carpenter; born in New York; real estate, \$700; personal, \$150. His wife, Mary Jane, age 20, born in Pennsylvania; their child, Francis W., age 6 mo., born in Minnesota.

**Susan Pettijohn**, age 22; servant; born in Ohio.

**John McLelland**, age 24; day laborer; born in Indiana. William R. Gibson, age 32; blacksmith; born in Kentucky; personal, \$200. His three children, Jane, age 18, born in Missouri; Cynthia Ann, age 15, born in Indiana, and Luticia, age 1 mo., born in Minnesota.

**Charles P. Neally**, age 25; farmer; born in New Hampshire; real estate, \$800.

**Allen B. White**, age 24; miller; born in Ohio; real estate, \$2,000.

**Mathew Lynch**, age 54; farmer; born in Ireland, real estate, \$1,000; personal, \$600. His wife, Lydia W., age 36, born in New York; Albertis B. Bender, age 10, born in Massachusetts.

**Michael Lynch**, age 40; day laborer; born in Ireland; personal, \$100.

**Robert E. Van Nest**, age 47; farmer. He, his wife, Susan, age 50, and their six children, Hallamara, age 19; Harrison, age 17; Margaret, age 15; Mathew, age 12.; Lucy, age 10, and Martha, age 7, were all born in New York.

**Joseph Neil**, age 26; farmer; born in Maine; personal, \$175.

**William T. Newcombe**, age 21; day laborer; born in Ohio.

**William K. Vickroy**, age 37; farmer; born in Pennsylvania; personal, \$260. His wife, Nancy, age 28, born in Ohio; their six children, Edward A., age 10, born in Ohio; Charles, age 8, and Frank, age 5, born in Illinois; Annie L., age 3, and Alma Nora, age 3 mo., were born in Minnesota.

**Reuben Tamphere**, age 53; farmer; real estate, \$500; personal, \$225. He, and his wife, Amelia P., age 49, were born in Vermont; their child, George F., age 23, day laborer; real estate, \$500; born in Vermont.

**Frank W. Hanscom**, age 28; farmer; born in Maine; personal, \$800. His wife, Margaret, age 24, born in New York; their three children, Tilly H., age 4; Sarah, age 2, and George, age 1, were born in Minnesota.

**Ida Parusie**, age 18; born in Canada,

**Marion Williams**, age 28; farmer; born in Ohio; personal \$75.

**Charles P. Booth**, age 43; farmer; born in Connecticut; personal, \$170. His wife, Martha, age 22, born in New York; their four children, Truman, age 15, and Rebecca, age 11, were born in Ohio; Nettie, age 5, born in Illinois; Charles R., age 2, born in Minnesota.

**Charles Widenviksch**, age 25; farmer; born in Prussia; personal, \$100.

**Gottfried Emme**, age 59; farmer, personal, \$100. He, and his wife, Mary, age 49, and their four children, Ferdinand, age 26; farmer, personal, \$250; Julius, age 24; farmer; personal, \$100; Caroline, age 18, and Henriette, age 9, were all born in Prussia.

**Hiram Pettijohn**, age 54; farmer; born in Virginia; personal, \$400. His wife, Mary Ann, age 49, born in Ohio; their two children, Isaac, age 20, born in Ohio, and Elizabeth, age 13, born in Illinois.

**Dempsey Marshall**, age 25; farmer; born in Ohio; personal, \$150; his wife, Mary Ann, age 23, born in Illinois; their child, William S., age 3 mo., born in Minnesota.

**Daniel Pettijohn**, age 50; farmer; born in Ohio; personal, \$300. His wife, Clarissa, age 42, born in New York; Jehiel, ( ?) age 20; born in Indiana; Harriet, age 17; Rowan, age 15; Silas, age 12; Benjamin, age 10, and Christopher, age 6, were born in Illinois; Alice, age 4 mo., born in Minnesota.

**Alexander S. Nobles**, age 28; farmer; born in Ohio; personal, \$200. His wife, Catherine, age 26, born in Pennsylvania, their child, Lois, age 3, born in Minnesota.

**Alexander Grant**, age 26; day laborer; born in Maine.

**George W. Gibson**, age 23; farmer; born in Maine; personal, \$85. His wife, Abbey, age 26, born in Indiana; their two children, Mary, age 2, and Elizabeth, age 1, were born in Minnesota. There were nine people over 20 years of age in Rich Valley Township who could neither read nor write.

Helen Township.

**Andrew Rixon**, age 50; farmer; personal, \$350. He, and his wife, Martha, age 50, were born in Norway.

**William Fosberg**, age 25; farmer; personal, \$50. He, and his mother, Margaret, age 56, were born in Sweden.

**Andrew Olson**, age 38; farmer; personal, \$210. He, and his wife, Catherine, age 27, were born in Norway; their three children, Ole, age 3, born in Wisconsin; Christian, age 2, and Isabelle, age 2 mo., were born in Minnesota.

**Thomas Emerson**, age 33; day laborer; personal, \$150. He, and his wife, Julia, age 37, and two of their children, Ann, age 8, and Andrew, age 4, were all born in Norway; Anthony, age 4 mo., born in Wisconsin.

**Eric Thompson**, age 27; day laborer; personal, \$75. He, and his wife, Mary, age 30, and their child, Isabella, age 5, were born in Norway.

**Ole Erickson**, age 24; day laborer; born in Norway.

**Kenneth Halverson**, age 24; day laborer; born in Norway. Christopher Hanson, age 36; farmer; born in Denmark; personal, \$160. His wife, Ann, age 30, born in Norway.

**Ole Knuteson**, age 35; farmer; born in Norway; personal, \$250.

**Frederick Migates**, age 35; farmer; personal, \$75. He, and his wife, Margaret, age 34, and two children, Frances, age 7, and Fred, age 3, were all born in Germany.

**Evan Evanson**, age 42; farmer; personal, \$80. He, and his wife, Mary, age 43, were both born in Norway.

**Ole Knutson**, age 31; farmer; born in Norway; personal, \$125.

**Knute Olson**, age 73; born in Norway.

**Ole Knutson**, age 31; farmer; born in Norway; personal,

**Axel H. Reed**, age 25; farmer; born in Maine; real estate, \$800; personal, \$200.

**Frank B. Dean**, age 26; farmer; born in Vermont; real estate, \$600; personal, \$250.

**Robert Frason**, age 45; merchant; born in Scotland; personal, \$500; his wife, Cynthia, age 43, and four of their children, Agnes, age 18; Mary, age 15; Isabelle, age 13, and Alice, age 11, were born in New York; Robert, age 1, born in Minnesota.

**Thomas Johnson**, age 23; born in Canada; real estate, \$50.

**Joseph W. Bates**, age 33; hotel keeper; born in England; real estate, \$600; personal, \$400; his wife, Mary age 32, born in Canada; their two children, Hannah, age 11, born in Illinois, and Joseph W., age 2, born in Minnesota.

**William Bates**, age 29; shoemaker; born in England; real estate, \$150; personal, \$40.

**Francis M. Reynolds**, age 33; farmer; born in New York; real estate, \$75; personal, \$60.

**Elizabeth C. Thomas**, age 27; servant; born in Pennsylvania.

**Samuel H. Folsom**, age 33; common school teacher; personal, \$200; born in Maine; his son, Benjamin L. Folsom, age 11, also born in Maine.

**Stephen A. Dammon**, age 30; farmer; born in Maine; real estate, \$650; personal, \$200.

**John N. Bradford**, age 25; cabinet maker; born in Illinois; real estate, \$250; personal, \$250; his wife, Elizabeth, age 24, born in New York. Martha A. Bradford, age 42; born in Ohio.

**James Phillips**, age 38; carpenter; real estate, \$1,000; personal, \$200; he, and his wife, Lovina, age 39, were born in New York.”

If you have any contributions or suggestions for topics for future columns, please contact me by email: [tkadlec@gmail.com](mailto:tkadlec@gmail.com) or call me: (651) 271-0422 or send your letters to my attention: 1408 Fairmount Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105. Děkuji! Tony Kadlec