

RAMSEY COUNTY
History

A Publication of the Ramsey County Historical Society

Summer, 1990
Volume 25, Number 2



FOR HER HONOR'S SAKE.

There are cases where a brother must interfere in his sister's affairs.

An acid commentary on the Great Census War of 1890 and the rivalries which have colored the history of St. Paul and Minneapolis. See page 4.

RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORY

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On the cover: The United States census of 1890 sparked virtual warfare in the unceasing rivalry between Minneapolis and St. Paul. This cartoon was published in the *St. Paul News* for June 28, 1890.

Acknowledgements: All photographs used in this issue of *Ramsey County History*, as well as the maps on pages 12 and 13 are from the audio-visual and the map collections of the Minnesota Historical Society.

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A MESSAGE TO OUR READERS

In May, 1988, the Board of Directors of the Ramsey County Historical society decided that they should develop a plan to broaden the appeal of *Ramsey County History*, redesign it, expand its coverage of the history of the county, and publish the magazine four times each year.

In bringing change to the look of *Ramsey County History*, the Editorial Board has tried to make sure that the strengths in content and features of its predecessors have not been abandoned. Thus we have the good fortune to be able to publish carefully researched and well written articles on a wide range of topics associated with the colorful history of Ramsey County. And we have added new features, such as "A Matter of Time" and "What's Historic About This Site?".

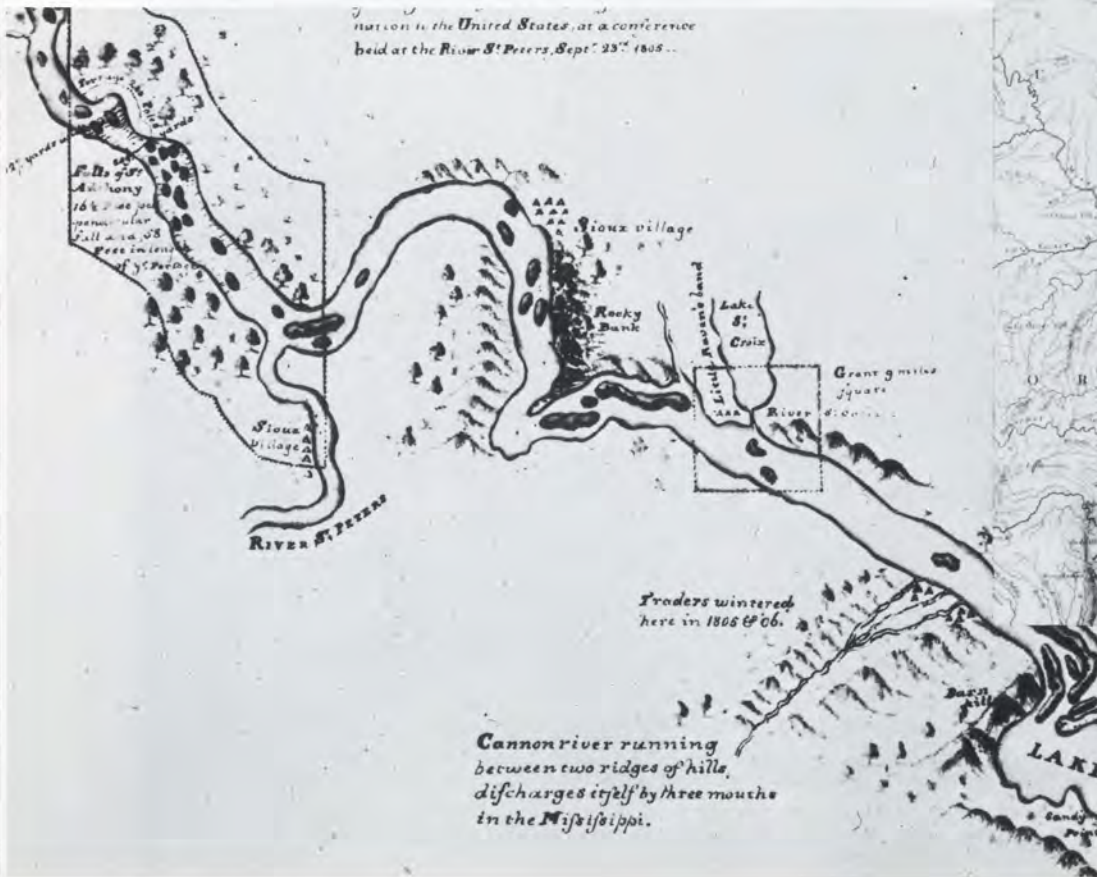
Throughout this process, the goal always has remained to produce the best possible magazine on the history of Ramsey County with the widest appeal within the resources available. The Editorial Board believes this new format meets those objectives. We hope you agree.

—John L. Lindley, chairman, Editorial Board

Mapping Minnesota



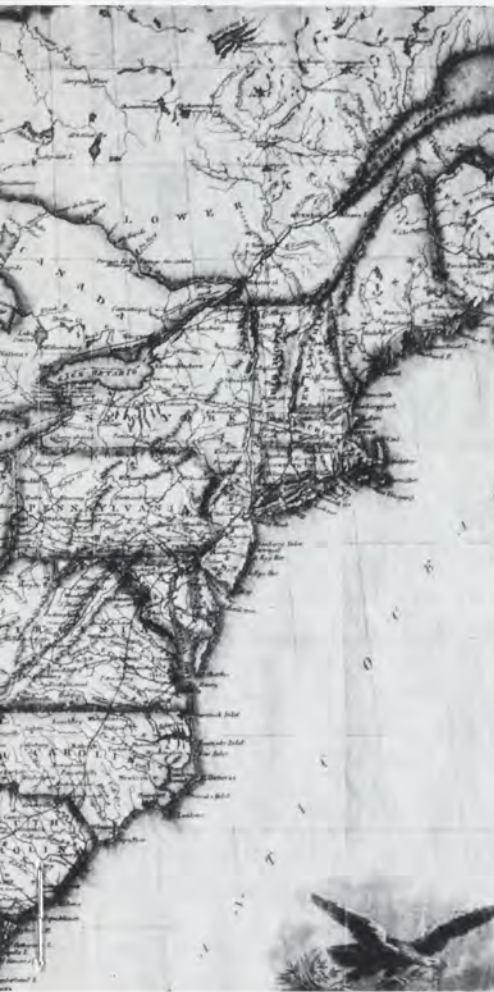
When Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain, on August 3, 1492, he was ushering in the dawn of the modern era. Nowhere can this be seen more clearly than in the maps that guided him on his great adventure. To mark the upcoming 500th anniversary of his voyage, an exhibition of rare maps from the American Geographical Society Collection, the Newberry Library, the James Ford Bell Library and the William L. Clements Library opens this summer in the Ramsey County Historical Society's exhibition gallery in Landmark. In recognition



◀Pike's map of 1805. This famous map of western North America was drawn by a government cartographer based on the information Pike made during his exploration of the upper Mississippi. It shows the curve in the Mississippi, the River St. Peters, and Dakota Indian villages and sites for forts. Pike's map was the first to show that ceded much of this land to the federal government.

ota: 1697 to 1857

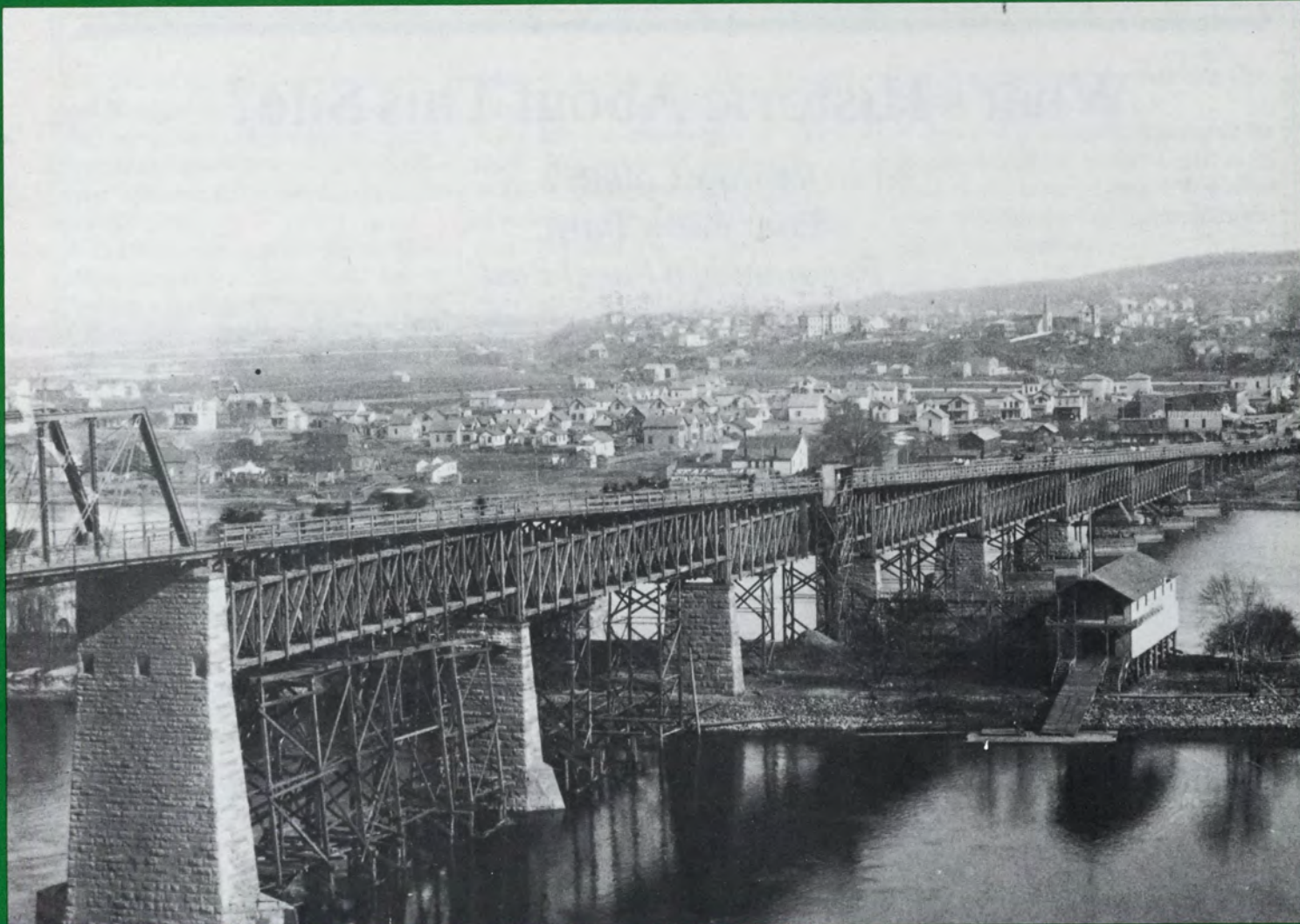
of the role of map-makers in charting newly-explored territories, *Ramsey County History* offers here a brief view of early maps of the Minnesota Region. One of the earliest was Father Louis Hennepin's 1697 map of New France. A section of his map (left) shows the Mississippi river valley lined with bluffs. Hennepin, a Belgian missionary, accompanied Robert La Salle on his 1679 expedition into the Great Lakes region. Captured by the Indians, Hennepin traveled up the Mississippi into what is now Minnesota and discovered and named St. Anthony Falls.



▲ Minnesota in 1857. J. H. Young's map shows Minnesota on the eve of statehood. Wagon roads criss-cross the territory and such geographical features as rivers, lakes, and the Big Woods (grand du bois) are carefully and accurately drawn in, but county lines are still in a state of flux.

◀ Map of the United States, compiled by John Melish around 1830. Wisconsin and the portion of Minnesota lying east of the Mississippi were still part of the old North West Territory in the 1830s. Throughout most of the eastern half of the country, however, state lines are in place.

of what is now the Twin Cities area actually based on notes Lieutenant Zebulon M. the upper Mississippi valley. It shows the great Peters (now the Minnesota), locations of parts. Pike negotiated the treaty with the Dakota eral government.



The Minnesota Boat Club below the Wabasha Street bridge around 1890. The old clubhouse was replaced just before World War I and the island, once known as Raspberry Island, is now Navy Island. See story on Page 9.

R.C.H.S.
RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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