

E-YER-SHAW-RED ROCK

Nature in Her Most Fascinating Garb Invites Thousands to the Shrine of Humble Devotion.

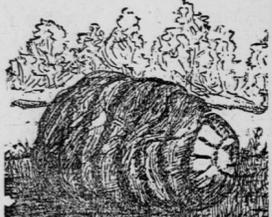
The Red Rock Camp Grounds—Origin of the Name and Interesting History of the Place.

Believers of the Red Men and Their Savage Encounters—Civilization vs. Barbarism.

Old Times—Old Settlers and Old Events—New and Better Aspirations.

The Camp Grounds.

HE man who is near to nature is close to God, and he who appreciates the handwork of the Supreme Author of all, as evidenced in the birds, the sky, the sunlight, the flowers, the water, the trees, the green grass, and the grand old forest, is better capable of comprehending the unfathomable plans and purposes of the Almighty than he who grovels amid the material elements of man as illustrated in huge piles of brick, and stone, and mortar.



Plot of the Park.

1868, or some seventeen years ago, he gave to the present Red Rock Camp association ten acres of land, which were the nucleus around which has gathered one of the most prosperous religious temporary settlements in the Northwest.

And the storms they sang, And the stars heard, and the sea; And the sounding aisles of the dim woods rang.

And so to-day, in the beautiful grove at Red Rock, thousands of hearts will beat in unison with nature and nature's God, and praise and prayer will be borne upon the summer breeze and wafted onward to the utmost limits of eternity.

This is the Indian name for Red Rock, or E-yer-shaw-teh-tah—Red Rock prairie. It derives its name from a large escentic boulder, which, in the eyes of the Sioux is sacred, and which, for a great many years, they painted red, and hence—Red Rock.

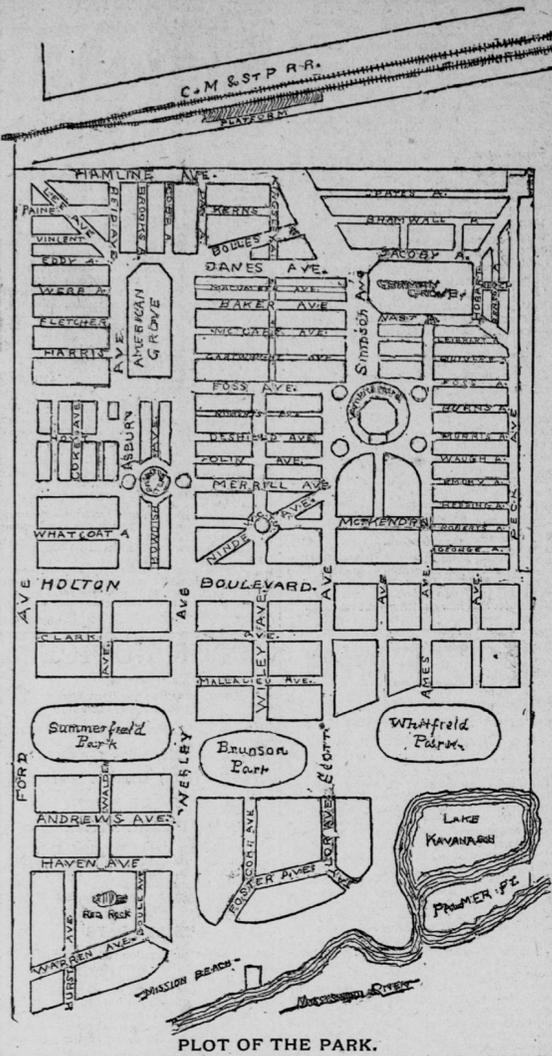
John A. Ford and Residence. Off to the right of the grounds, about an eighth of a mile, close to the river and in the midst of trees, is the humble yet pleasant home of John A. Ford, Esq., whose portrait appears in this article, and who married a daughter of Mr. Holton.

The old mission. The rock, and this would only enhance the devotion of the tribe, as they thought the spirit had accepted their gifts.

The first white settler at Red Rock. Father John Holton, an earnest and sincere Methodist, was the first white settler at Red Rock.

The camp ground. We retrace our steps and wend our way along leisurely over the beautiful camp ground, which rises from the river gradually sixty feet above the water.

to Little Crow's band at Kaposia and removed in 1838; took 320 acres of land at Red Rock, and went there to live in 1840. Here he cultivated the soil, and tilled a little, and in



Plot of the Park.

warmed and summer wind as it dodges around the corner of the face and kisses the heated brow. Ah! how lovely! how serene! how peaceful! how soothing! away from the bustling noise and the jingle of money; away from the turmoil of care and business troubles; here the weary hiker sinks to rest, lulled to sleep in the luxurious lap of charming Red Rock.

After good Father Holton had donated ten acres of land to the association some seventeen years ago, the Rev. C. G. Bowdish, pastor of Newport, a town about a mile below the grounds, began his efforts in 1868 to effect a camp meeting association.

Later on, when larger numbers attended the meetings, it was deemed advisable to hold them four weeks instead of two, and to keep the hotel open from June to September, and still travel some 1,000 miles, a good part of the way in a wilderness, to his home.

to become active members, and some were even elected to positions of trust without their permission, so anxious was the association to have the right men in the right places.

Then came along the students of Hamline university, who contributed largely to the success of the young people's meetings, and these students were greatly aided by some prominent men of Minneapolis, among whom were Elias Moses, a bank president.

The eminent men who have preached at Red Rock are Bishops S. M. Merrill, C. D. Foss and William Taylor, the missionary of Africa; also Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, Amanda Smith, the colored woman, Miss Belle Leonard, Thomas Harrison, Dr. William McDonald, J. D. Wood, George Watson, with Dr. Nest, the father of the German Methodist work in America.

Among many of the early preachers at Red Rock we note the following: Rev. D. Cobb, J. P. Chaffee, C. Hobart, John Quigley, S. Bolles, J. W. Martin, W. W. Sawtelle, I. H. Macomber, D. Tice, H. J. Crist,

and lasting friendships are established. While this is peculiarly a Methodist enterprise all are welcome and invited to not only attend the meetings but to purchase lots and become stockholders in this beautiful rural religious retreat.

D. Brooks, J. O. Rich, C. Brooks, J. Door, William McKinley, and T. McClary. The preachers who have subsequently entered the field are: Rev. W. K. Marshall, C. A. Vananda, D. Morgan, F. J. Wagner, S. McChesney, O. Williams, J. Watson, L. P. and M. B. Smith, J. B. Starkey, J. G. Teater, William H. Soule, S. B. Warner, I. Stafford, E. J. Fisher, E. Holman, R. Forbes, S. C. Gale, Rev. Mr. Eggleston, and W. S. Mathews.

WHERE IS RED ROCK LOCATED? About seven miles by a good carriage road, on the east side of the Mississippi river, below St. Paul, on the banks of the father of waters, can be reached by the cars of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad (six miles) and by a number of boats on the river. There are some nine trains of



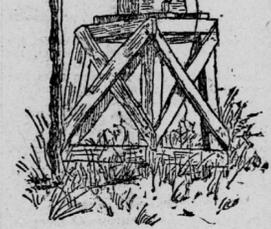
Methodist Bellmerfield Park.

cars per day and boats every two hours. The ground is gently rolling and filled with trees, and reaches from the railroad track on the one side to the river on the other, and with the original ten embraces now over sixty acres of land. Hundreds of trees cover the ground, and a more delightful place for camp meeting could not be conceived.

known as the grand stand, made of wood, used by the speakers, and in front of it is a large grove, and seats sufficient to accommodate 1,500 people. Just back of the grand stand is an old building used as a lodging-place for the preachers, while still back of that is the bell which has rung out its music some sixty years.

There are four parks beautifully laid out on the Red Rock grounds, besides a place for a large amphitheater, the American grove auditorium and the German grove auditorium. There is Red Rock park, Sum-

merfield park, Bronson park and Whitfield park. Near the Mississippi is Kavaauau lake, a very pretty sheet of water. Holton boulevard, upon which the hotel is built, is eighty feet wide, and Wesley avenue, which it fronts, is seventy feet wide.



Methodist Bellmerfield Park.

LOTS, SIZES, PRICES, COTTAGES. The whole sixty acres have been laid out into lots, except such portions as have been appropriated for public purposes. There are several hundred lots, of almost all sizes, from thirty to one hundred and one acre. Prices range from \$30 to \$350.

It is in contemplation to erect, some time during another year, a large building to be called the amphitheater. This building will have a stage 28x55 feet, porch 10x35, committee rooms in tower 10x10, 1,500 people, walls are formed of sliding doors, so that two-thirds of the walls can be removed, and the pleasure of the height of sides, 10 feet; height of building at lantern, 48 feet; height of tower, 60 feet; style of architecture, Swiss. This will be an elegant building and add very materially to the present popularity of the place.

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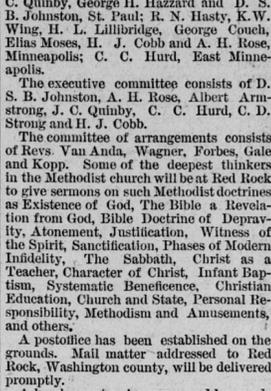
A STATE ASSOCIATION. The Red Rock Park association is organized under the state laws of Minnesota, and the officers of the organization have power to appoint policemen and enforce their rules as well as to preserve order on the ground. Thus far they have never had any disturbance, should it occur they have power to suppress it.

CELEBRITIES. The eminent men who have preached at Red Rock are Bishops S. M. Merrill, C. D. Foss and William Taylor, the missionary of Africa; also Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, Amanda Smith, the colored woman, Miss Belle Leonard, Thomas Harrison, Dr. William McDonald, J. D. Wood, George Watson, with Dr. Nest, the father of the German Methodist work in America.

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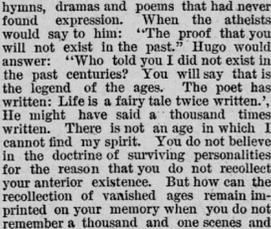
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