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Dimler, Mrs. Anna M. (Grab) (1853 -)

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DIMLER, MRS. ANNA M. (GRAB)

File No. B-289

Mrs. Anna M. (Grab) Dimler was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, December 26, 1853, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Grab. When Anna was three years of age the Grab family moved to Minnesota and settled on a farm in St. Cloud township, Stearns County, just on the other side of the 1936 site of the Calvary cemetery.

St. Cloud, at this time, was comprised of the St. Mary's log church and the old log central house and a few scattered log dwellings.

Her father drove to St. Paul by ox cart for flour and provisions. The journey took about four days. When the supply of food and money was low they used toasted grain for coffee.

Anna received about two years of schooling in St. Mary's log school which was located on the 1936 Post Office site. Later she helped on her father's farm until she reached the age of nineteen years. She was then married, in 1872, to Bernard Schaller at St. Mary's church in St. Cloud. The Schallers then moved to a farm near Pierz, until Bernard Schaller was forced to leave because of poor health. Three daughters were born to them while at Pierz, they are: Elizabeth, Catherine, and Bernadine.

After leaving Pierz they moved to St. Cloud and settled on 8th avenue North between 8th and 9th Street. At this time the north end of town was all prairie and one could see clearly to the freight yards. While living here the old home was destroyed by the cyclone of 1886. They at first thought that an engine had exploded in the freight yards because of the roar and flying boards, and dark smoky clouds. Mrs. Schaller just had time to get his wife and children into the house when the cyclone struck. He and Catherine were injured, his injury caused

his death a few months later. Catherine was confined in the hospital for six weeks because of a head injury she had received. The rest of the family escaped unscratched.

Mr. Schaller died September 15, 1886.

In 1887, Anna (Grab) Schaller met and married Doctor Edward Dimler, a young doctor from Germany and a graduate of a University at Friburg, Germany. He was practicing seven miles north of Foley at the time of his marriage. He served in the Union Army for three years as an army doctor. While in the war he lost his diploma from medical school and so he had to practice medicine only in rural districts. Dr. Dimler died December 29, 1912.

There are thirteen grandchildren and nineteen great grandchildren

Mrs. Anna Dimler is now living with her daughter, Catherine on 815-8th Avenue , North.

During the Indian uprising in 1862, they were forced only once to take shelter from the Indians in St. Cloud. Indians were very plentiful and often begged for food, but as a rule were harmless.

Interviewed: Mrs. Anna (Grab) (Schaller)
Dimler

Date: May 27, 1936
By: Virgil Chirhart

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE MRS. ANNA M. (GRAB) DIMLER BIOGRAPHY

NO LEGAL RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE