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Kurrell, Fredrick

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Hansmann, Dorothy, "Kurrell, Fredrick" (1936). *WPA Biographic Summaries*. 721.
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KURRELL, FREDRICK

File No. B-749

Fredrick Kurrell, a resident near Shakopee, Minnesota, induced by a friend of his, came in the summer of 1860 and located upon a claim in Section twenty-six West Union and Section thirty-five Ashley Township. He built a log cabin and broke about ten acres of land, but did not move upon his claim until the fall of 1862.

In 1867, just before the so-called "flood," Mr. Kurrell, with one of his sons went to Saint Cloud on business and while he was gone the great rain came and he could not get home for several days. His wife and small children were at home waiting for him to bring them provisions. Their cabin was between the Ashley and Silver Creeks, both at that time raging rivers, many rods across. Mrs. Kurrell, upon her knees, prayed to God for help that she might feed her little ones. An old hound off towards the north across Silver Creek started a deer and chased it to the Silver Creek where it plunged in and attempted to swim the raging stream. The children ran to the house and told their mother, she grasped the old musket and ran to the creek, the deer almost exhausted came near to shore and she fired and the deer mortally wounded floated down the stream. Mrs. Kurrell waded into the stream and grasped the deer and hauled it to shore. Her prayer was answered, for she was able to feed the children.

Christopher Miller was a brother-in-law of Fredrick Kurrell and came from Shakopee with him. He had an ox team and two cows and a heavy load of things necessary for his frontier home.

When he got as far as Fort Snelling, one of his oxen died and he had no money to buy another so he hitched one of his cows in with the ox and started on his journey. The load was too heavy for the cow, unused to work of that kind, and Mr. Kurrell took as much of his load

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as possible and they came on slowly and at last reached their new home which was located in Section thirty-five Ashley Township. He lived upon his homestead and made final proof there on November 26, 1870. Mr. Miller afterwards sold out to Henry Vessey.

Copied by: Dorothy Hansmann
Copied from: Sauk Centre Herald
October 7, 1936

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE FREDRICK KURRELL BIOGRAPHY

NO LEGAL RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE