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Miller, Catharine Mary (Ley) (1847 -)

Dorothy Hansmann

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MILLER, CATHARINE MARY (LEY)

File No. B-897

Catharine Mary Ley was born January 17, 1847 in Wisconsin. Her parents moved to Saint Martin when she was about eight years of age. She lived at Saint Martin eleven years when she married and came to Sauk Centre. When the Ley family moved from Wisconsin there were three buildings in Saint Cloud. There were three families who came with their stock and household goods, by ox team, with the Leys, and settled near Saint Martin.

Catharine Mary Ley was married at Saint Martin February 21, 1866 to Antony Miller.

Antony Miller was born November 28, 1835 at Boos, Conlenz Germany. He came to America in 1856 settling on a homestead in Kaukauna, Wisconsin. In 1863 he came to Sauk Centre and took a homestead in Getty township on which he lived fifty years. Antony Miller was the first man of catholic faith to take up his residence in this vicinity. He helped build all three German Catholic Churches and the parochial schools.

When Antony Miller was a young man he drove a stage coach drawn by oxen from coast to coast.

In 1911 he owned five hundred and eighty acres of land which he divided among his three sons, Peter J., Joseph W., and Henry C. He retired from farming and moved into Sauk Centre where he died June 22, 1918.

Antony and Catharine Mary (Ley) Miller had ten children: Peter J. was born December 5, 1867; Mary was born March 1, 1869. She married Benjamin Deters and lives in West Union, Minnesota; John M. was born March 27, 1871 and lives on a farm near West Union; Nettie K. was born July 8, 1873 and died June 6, 1877; Catharine was born July 4, 1875. She married Jacob P. Orth and lives in Minneapolis; Joseph was born December 8, 1879 and lives on a farm in Getty township; Henry C. was born August 27, 1882 and farms near Sauk Centre; George was born November 13,

1885 and lives at Black Duck, Minnesota; Anna was born November 8, 1888. She married Joe Kruchten and lives at Luxenburg, Minnesota. There are thirty-six grandchildren and forty-five great grandchildren.

In 1866, when Catharine (Ley) Miller arrived in Sauk Centre the city boasted three buildings outside the stockade, a hotel, a public hall and one residence. Her sister Mrs. Capser had a store inside the stockade. Calkman owned the hotel.

When the Millers started farming they had an ox team, a plow, a drag, and a wagon. Their main crop was wheat and if they didn't get thirty-five or forty bushels to the acre they thought they had a crop failure. They also raised some oats and barley.

The social activities centered around the church in the early days with a few house parties during the holidays. But as Mrs. Miller says, "When you make all the clothing, by hand, for ten children you haven't much time to go visiting."

During those first years at Sauk Centre the Catholics met at the Miller home for church services. The nearest church was at New Munich about eighteen miles distant.

Catharine Miller makes her home with her son, Henry C., on the original Miller homestead and although she is bed-ridden she thinks she is fortunate indeed compared to some of her early acquaintances. She has a very alert mind for her ninety years and is able to help herself for which she is very grateful.

Interviewed: Catharine Mary (Ley) Miller
Date: October 9, 1936
By: Dorothy Hansmann

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE CATHARINE MARY (LEY) MILLER BIOGRAPHY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. Joseph Miller	May 9, 1870	Twp, of Getty	Joseph Miller	
2. Emanuel Miller	Apr. 24, 1875	" " "	" "	
3. Christina Miller	Apr. 4, 1882	" " "	" "	
4. Charles Miller	Apr. 20, 1884	" " "	" "	
5. Baby Miller	July 20, 1871	" " "	Anthony Miller	43
6. Nettie Miller	July 7, 1873	" " "	" "	
7. Katie Miller	July 4, 1875	" " "	" "	
8. Baby Miller	Dec. 6, 1879	" " "	" "	
9. Henry Miller	Aug. 27, 1882	" " "	" "	
10. George M. Miller	Oct. 13, 1885	" " "	" "	
11. Anna Miller	Nov. 8, 1888	" " "	" "	52

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. Catherine Kuzba		A	5	14	
2. Catherine Kuzba		A	187	9	
3. Catherine Kuzba		A	491	25	
4. Catherine Kuzba		A	599	23	
5. Ann Ley		A	31	5	Male
6. Catherine		A	103	29	
7. Catherine		A	187	16	
8. Catherine		A	349	38	Male
9. Catherine		A	491	16	
10. Catherine		B	16	19	
11. Catherine	40	B	110	9	

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COURT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE CATHARINE MARY (LEY) MILLER BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK C. PAGE 3

Anthony Miller and Catherina Ley

Married at St. Martin, February 21, 1867

By: Rev. P. Cornelius Wittmann

Witnesses: Theodore Zeimantz and Anna Zeimuntz

DEATH RECORD BOOK K. PAGE 22 LINE 713

Anthony Miller Born in Germany , November 28, 1835

Son of Peter Miller and mother unknown

Died June 22, 1918

Age 82 years 6 months and 24 days

MILLER, CATHERINE MARY (LEY)

Second interview to affirm or correct information in biography as compared to information as listed in the legal records in the Stearns County Court House.

CORRECTION:

Marriage of Anthony Miller and Catherine Ley, February 21, 1867, is correct as stated in the legal record.

CORRECTION:

Birth of, John Miller, July 20, 1871, is correct as stated in legal record.

CORRECTION:

Birth of Nettie Miller, July 7, 1873, is correct as stated in legal record.

CORRECTION:

Birth of Joseph Miller, December 6, 1879, as stated in legal record.

CORRECTION:

Birth of George Miller, October 13, 1885, as stated in legal record.

Re-interviewed: Henry Miller
Date: October 6, 1937
By: Dorothy Hansmann