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### Moonen, Joseph (1835 - )

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MOONEN, JOSEPH

File No. B-921

Joseph Moonen was born in Holland in 1835. When he was nineteen years old he went to Germany where he worked for a few years. In 1860 he married Catherine Peschen in Germany, and shortly after his marriage returned to Holland where they lived for one year. As there was very little work to be had in Holland, he decided to come to America, bringing his wife and child with him.

They first settled on a farm in Cologne, Minnesota where they lived for five years. Then they came to St. Anthony, Stearns County, Minnesota, where they settled on a homestead.

The trip to St. Anthony was made by covered wagon, and in this they lived until the land was cleared and a house was built.

Their first house was made of logs with a birch bark roof, and had no floor or windows.

Very little crop was raised the first two or three years, as it took a long time to clear the land. The chief crops were wheat and potatoes. The wheat was cut with cradles and threshed with flails until later it was threshed with horsepower threshing machines.

The wheat had to be hauled by oxen to St. Joseph, a trip which took from two to three days.

Joseph and Catherine (Peschen) Moonen had thirteen children. Barbara is married to Jacob Ohnsory and lives at Albany. They have six children. Joseph, Anne, William, Mathew, John and Peter.

Catherine, is married to Herman Hingelmiller and lives at Long Prairie. They have no children of their own but adopted four.

Jerry, is married, his whereabouts are unknown. Anton, married

MOONEN, JOSEPH

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Mrs. Jochum and lives in Albany. They have six children. Anthony, Frank, Jacob, Joseph, Cecelia and Roman.

Joseph, married Edna Paul and they live in Carlton, Minnesota. They have ten children.

Mary, married William Fabeck and they live in Melrose. They have nine children. George, Margaret, Joseph, Herman, Peter, Fred, Elizabeth, Mathew and Alfred.

Peter Moonen, married Elizabeth Denny. After she died he married Mrs. Dumont. He has twelve children from his first wife, and three stepchildren. Peter lives on the home place at Albany.

Theodore, married Margaret Martin and has eight children. They live in Canada.

Five children of Joseph and Catherine (Peschen) Moonen are dead. They are: Theodore, John, William, John and Anne.

Catherine (Peschen) Moonen died July 26, 1923, and is buried in St. Anthony. Joseph Moonen died in 1927 and was buried beside his wife.

Interviewed: Mrs. Mary (Moonen) Fabeck  
Date: May 12, 1937  
By: Ann Kramer

Publication Granted