

of brush and blinds of grass gently, and I was ready to fire at everything that moved. Nothing happened though and we didn't lose another man on the trip."

During the trip to Idaho, Hiram Adam Flecken said, "The members of the escort didn't have much time to study the country, anyway. We were kept busy most of the time. We had our horses to look after and many other military duties, which were increased greatly by conditions in the western country. We slept in little tents, three feet high and just large enough for two men. We ate only two meals a day, chiefly hardtack, pork, and coffee."

When he was discharged in 1866, Adam worked as a farm hand for several years, cutting grain with a hand sickle, building it by hand and experiencing the usual conditions of farm life in Minnesota.

Adam married Maria Josepha Dieken at St. Mark's Church on April 27, 1869. Maria Josepha was born on March 5, 1850 in Gangelt, Rheinland, Prussia, daughter of Peter Leonard Dieken and Maria Catherina Busch. They had 12 children.

In the 1870s Adam lived in Shakopee, employed in the Omaha machine shops for three years, and then establishing a brickyard a mile Southeast of the city, where he operated for five years. In 1888 he sold the brickyard and Maria Josepha and Adam ran the Occidental Hotel, on First and Sommerville Street from 1889 until 1914. It then stopped serving meals, and became a boarding house for salesmen until 1931. The building was torn down in April of 1956.

Maria Josepha Dieken Flecken, age 74, died on October 27, 1924.



Hiram Adam Flecken died on June 30, 1931 at 90 years old. He was the second last survivor in Shakopee of the Civil War. They both were buried at the Shakopee Catholic Cemetery.



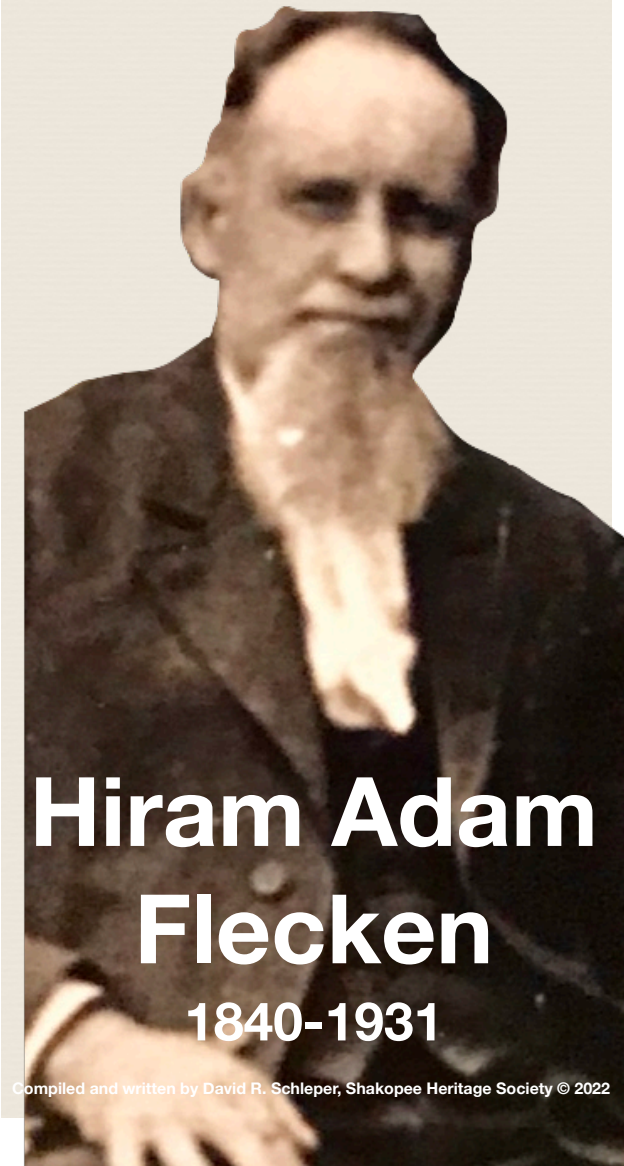
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Hiram Adam Flecken

1840-1931



Hiram Adam Flecken was born in Limberg, Zittert, Holland on November 11, 1840. His parents were Hubert Flecken and Mary Johnson. Hiram was usually called Adam.

In 1863 Adam and his parents moved to the United States, and Adam settled in Carver county, according to **Little Sketches of Big Folks in Minnesota, 1907.**

When the Civil War started, Hiram Adam Flecken volunteered. At age 23, Adam was assigned to Company H, Second Regiment of Minnesota Cavalry of the Grand Army of the Republic. Adam was in the army from February 22, 1864 until April 28, 1866.

The 2nd Minnesota Cavalry Regiment was a Minnesota cavalry regiment that served in the Union Army during the American Civil War. The 2nd Minnesota Cavalry Regiment was mustered at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. for three year's service on December 5, 1863, and were mustered out on November 17, 1865, and May 4, 1866. It served entirely in Minnesota, Dakota Territory, and Montana Territory.

Picture of the Flecken family in front of the parlor of the Occidental Hotel in Shakopee in 1909. In front is Adam Flecken and Josepha Dieken Flecken. In back is Catherine, Mary, Henry, Anna, and Leonard.



Adam remembered the trip west “through South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming into Idaho in the summer of 1864 and the brush strokes of his reminiscences paint a scene of the primitive west—monotonous stretches of prairie, strips of desert sand, streams fringed with gaunt cottonwoods, willows, and scrubby oaks, and then, far ahead on the horizon the beckoning mountains, shrouded in their purple mantle of haze, first the Black Hills, then the Big Horn range and the foot hills of the Rockies,” said in the article, *Pioneer Day Recollection: Adam Flecken Tells Interesting Story About the Primitive West* in Midland Feature Services on June 18, 1925 and published in ***The Shakopee Tribune***, and now published in the book ***Recollections of Early Pioneers 1925***, edited by Betty Dols in 2000.

Hiram Adam Flecken knew that the company from Fort Snelling were there to escort a train of gold-seekers bound for the mountains of Idaho. Of course, there were other people already living here, even though they mentioned there was “no sign of habitation saved for the blackened tents of the Indians.” Indigenous people lived here for years at *Paha Sapa* (Black Hills), *Ĥeyúškiška* (Bighorn Mountain), and, as one member of the Navajo Native

Nation Len Necefer called the Rocky Mountain’s Longs Peak the Arapaho name: *Nenísótoyóú’u*, according to an article *Reclaiming the Indigenous Names for Mountains One Geotag at a Time: A Navajo climber is leading a social media campaign to spread awareness of the indigenous names of peaks* at <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/social-media-can-let-people-know-about-mountains-indigenous-names-180968186/>.

The people have stewarded it throughout the generations. Important resources including plants, migratory big game, rock shelters, tipi poles, stone for tools, the bison, fish, deer, elk, roots, and berries are critical for the people.

Adam was part of an escort of 300 or 400 men and a few women and children who were heading west, and some of the people were nervous about the Indians. In Missouri, Adam noted “Two of our pickets were killed by Indians one night. It was my turn to go on guard duty a night a few days later, and I remember that night as well as if were yesterday. The night was cloudy and there was a faint light from the moon. A light moved the branches of