"The First Court House" *

—IN—

THE HISTORY

-OF-

FARIBAULT COUNTY

MINNESOTA,

From its First Settlement to the Close of the Year 1879.

IN THREE PARTS.

FIRST PART. The Annals of the County.

PART SECOND. Historical Sketches of the Several Townships.

PART THIRD.

Historical Sketch of the Government of the County, and of the Several County Offices.

TILE STORY OF THE PIONEERS

J. A. KIESTER, Attorney at Law.

"Let me speak to the yet unknowing world, How these things came about." *Shakespeare*.

> MINNEAPOLIS, MINN HARRISON & SMITH, PRINTERS 1896

^{*} This article appeared on page 358 of Kiester's *History of Faribault County*. It is complete, though reformatted. The year the courthouse was completed was 1872.

THE FIRST COURT HOUSE.

The project of building a court house, for the use of the county officers and for court purposes, heretofore referred to, after much planning and discussion, resulted in the erection, on Court House Square, in Blue Earth City, of a brick building, thirty-seven by forty-five feet in size and two stories high. The first story is divided into five rooms, for county offices, the second story is fitted up for a court room. A commodious fire-proof vault is attached on the rear of the building, and the whole structure is well built and well finished. The cost was about five thousand dollars, the larger part of which expense was paid by the county, and the remainder by the township of Blue Earth City. No public debt was incurred in the enterprise. The building was completed late in the fall [of 1872], and several county officers moved into their respective rooms, in the holiday season, between Christmas and New Year's day.

This structure is not large, nor imposing, but is substantial, a credit to the county, and will serve the purposes of the county for many years. Few counties have been so well, and at the same time, so economically provided for, in this respect, as ours.

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