

BRIEF HISTORY OF JOHANN THIESSEN AND SUSANNA FAST

ing to the 1880 census of Kimball township in Jackson County, Minn.
of the Mt. Lake Mennonite Brethren Church, Cottonwood County, Minn.,
her records and documents.)



Johann Thiessen, born Feb. 11, 1835, and Susanna Fast, born Jan. 23, 1836,
both born in Prussia (Poland). It is believed they lived in the Danzig
It is not known if they were acquainted or at what age they migrated
their families to Southern Russia.

Johann and Susanna were married in Sparrau, South Russia, in the
Molotschna Colony, Province of Taurida, in the Ukraine. Ten of
their 13 children were born in Kleefeld, a Mennonite Village,
located fifty miles north of the Sea of Azov, in the Molotschna
Colony. Five of the children died in Russia.

70 In the early 1870's the family decided to move to America. After
several years of preparation, consulting with the Russian govern-
ment, and selling property, they migrated in mass, with approximately
seventy-five other families. Included in this number were four or
five of Johann's brothers and sisters and their families. The mig-