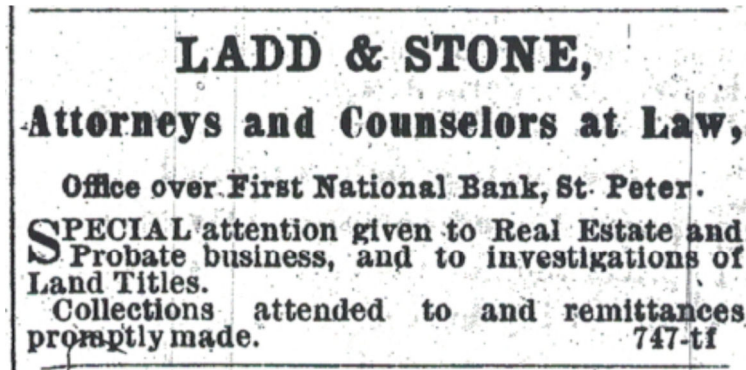


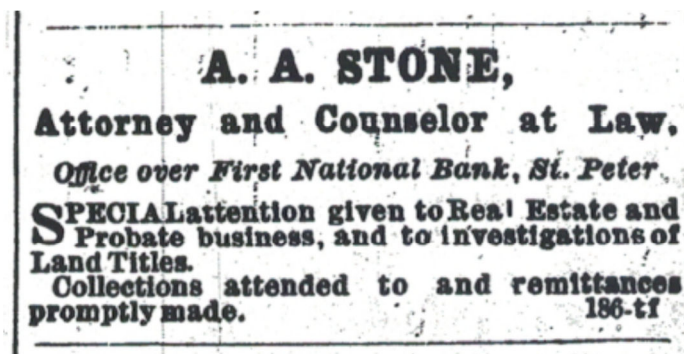
AZRO A. STONE

(January 17, 1840 — June 9, 1906)

In 1854 Azro Stone, known to many as Asa, moved with his family from Canada to a farm in Nicollet County. He served three years with the Second Minnesota Regiment during the Civil War. After his discharge, he moved to St. Peter and was elected county sheriff in 1865; he began the study of law and was appointed clerk of the district court in 1871. He was admitted to the bar in 1874, and formed a partnership with Sumner Ladd.¹ Their business card appeared in the *Saint Peter Tribune* for years.²



Eventually the firm split, and Stone placed this notice in the *Tribune*:³

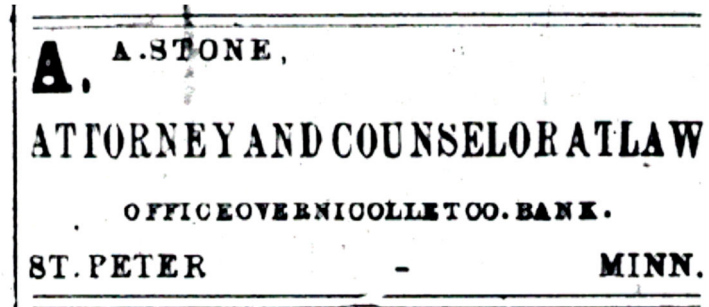


¹ Ladd (1838-1898) practiced law in St. Peter from 1866 to 1882, when he moved to Minneapolis. He was the People's Party candidate for Chief Justice in 1892.

² *Saint Peter Tribune*, February 16, 1876, front page. The same appeared on March 2, 1881, front page.

³ *Saint Peter Tribune*, January 10, 1883, front page.

He was elected mayor of St. Peter in 1879 and served many terms as Nicollet County attorney. In the 1890s, he moved to new quarters, necessitating a redesign of his business card:⁴



He died on June 9, 1906, in St. Peter, at age sixty-six. The *Mankato Free Press* carried the story:

A. A. STONE IS DEAD

County Attorney of Nicollet
Died Very Suddenly.

WAS STRICKEN LAST EVENING

Had Held Many Positions of Trust and
Honor; Veteran and a Pioneer
In This Section.

From Monday's Daily.

A. A. Stone for many years prosecuting attorney of Nicollet county and one of the most prominent lawyers in this section of the state, died suddenly in St. Peter just before nine o'clock last night.

Mr. Stone had been in the best of health all day and last evening entertained company at his home. After their departure he started for his office to attend to some urgent business matter and had walked

⁴ *St. Peter Herald*, April 29, 1898, front page.

but a short distance when he fell to the sidewalk. Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Anderson, who were seated on the porch of their home at Washington Avenue and Grace street, heard a moan and hastened to his side, but he was dead when they reached him. The body was removed to Mr. Stone's home. A physician later pronounced Mr. Stone's death due to cerebral hemorrhage.

Mr. Stone was born in Canada in 1840. He came to St. Peter in 1854. In 1861 he enlisted in Company B, Second Minnesota. He was wounded, and taken prisoner at Chickamauga. He was elected sheriff of Nicollet county in 1865, serving two terms. In 1871 he was appointed clerk of the court which office he held until 1875. He was admitted to the bar in 1874, was elected mayor of St. Peter in 1879, and in 1883 was chosen county attorney holding the office continuously with the exception of two years, when Congressman [Charles R.] Davis was prosecutor.

Mr. Stone was a member of the Blue Earth lodge and Masonic chapter at St. Peter and had membership in the Commandery at Mankato. He was gentle man of ability, an excellent lawyer, an honorable gentleman, a good citizen and devoted husband.⁵

⁵ *Mankato Free Press* (Weekly), June 14, 1906, at 3. Ten years later, the following sketch appeared in a county history:

Asa A. Stone, a native of Canada, born in 1840, came with his parents in 1854 to St. Peter, Minnesota, and resided on the farm until 1860; he then went to Colorado, but returned the following year and enlisted among the first in the Second Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. After serving his term of enlistment, three years, he lived for a time in Tennessee, then returned to St. Peter. In 1865 he was elected sheriff of Nicollet county. In 1866 he commenced the study of law and in 1874 was admitted to the bar. In 1871 he was appointed clerk of the district court, holding the office four years. In 1874 he formed a partnership with Hon. Sumner Ladd in the practice of law. He was mayor of St. Peter in 1879. He died about 1907.

William G. Gresham, ed., "Bench and Bar of Nicollet County" in 1 *History of Nicollet and LeSueur Counties, Minnesota* 3 (MLHP, 2008) (published first, 1916).

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Posted MLHP: February 27, 2016.