









HISTORY  
OF  
CRAWFORD AND RICHLAND COUNTIES,  
WISCONSIN.

TOGETHER WITH SKETCHES OF THEIR TOWNS AND VILLAGES, EDUCATIONAL, CIVIL, MILITARY AND POLITICAL HISTORY; PORTRAITS OF PROMINENT PERSONS, AND BIOGRAPHIES OF REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

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HISTORY OF WISCONSIN,

*by Charles C. Beckwith*  
EMBRACING ACCOUNTS OF THE PRE-HISTORIC RACES, AND A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF ITS TERRITORIAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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TO THE PIONEERS  
OF  
CRAWFORD AND RICHLAND COUNTIES.

THIS VOLUME IS  
RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,  
WITH THE HOPE THAT YOUR VIRTUES MAY BE EMULATED AND YOUR TOILS  
AND SACRIFICES DULY APPRECIATED BY COMING  
GENERATIONS.

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## P R E F A C E.

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This work was commenced, and has been carried forward to completion, with a specific object in view, which was, to place upon record in a reliable manner and in permanent form, whatever incidents of importance have transpired within what are now the limits of Crawford and Richland counties, since their first settlement. As preliminary to the narrative proper, it was thought best to give a succinct history of the State at large, including an account of its pre-historic earthworks, of the early visitations of the fur-trader and missionary, and of the jurisdictions exercised over this region by different governments; also of the important incidents transpiring here while the Territory of Wisconsin was in existence. (This part of the work is from the pen of Prof. C. W. Butterfield, of Madison.)

In the general history of the two counties, as well as in those of their cities, towns and villages, the reader will find that incidents, reminiscences and anecdotes are recorded with a variety and completeness commensurate with their importance. Herein is furnished (and this is said with confidence) to the present generation and to those which follow it, a valuable reflex of the times and deeds of the pioneers. It has been truly said that "a people that takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything to be remembered with pride by remote descendants." It is believed that, in the following pages, there is erected to the pioneer men and women of Crawford and Richland counties a lasting monument.

The resolutions passed by Congress in 1876 in reference to the preparation and preservation of local history, and the proclamation from the President recommending that those resolutions be carefully observed, have met with the very general and hearty approval of the people. Indeed, so acceptable has seemed this advice from our law-makers, that steps have already been taken in almost every thoroughly organized community throughout the land to chronicle and

place in permanent form the annals of each neighborhood, thus rescuing from oblivion much interesting and valuable information that is irretrievably lost each year through the death of old settlers, and the decay and ravages of time. It was thought there could be no good reason why the history of Crawford and Richland counties should not be placed upon as enduring a foundation as those of surrounding counties; and, to this end, no expense or pains has been spared to render it worthy the patronage of its citizens. A number of experienced writers upon local history under the guidance, and aided by C. W. Butterfield in Crawford county, and George A. Ogle in Richland county, have had the work in charge from its inception to its close; and, upon completion of their labor, before any portion of the manuscript was sent to the press, the whole was submitted to county and town committees of citizens for revision, thus insuring correctness and adding materially to the value of the book.

The labors of all engaged in this enterprise have been cheered by the cordial assistance and good-will of many friends, so many, indeed, that, to attempt to name them, would, in this connection, be impracticable; to all of whom, grateful acknowledgements are tendered. The officers of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, have, from the first, been unremitting in their endeavors to aid the undertaking. The press of both counties is entitled to special mention for their help and encouragements so generously tendered.

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# Certificates of Crawford and Richland Counties.

We the undersigned members of the committee appointed to revise and correct the General History of Crawford County, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the manuscript of said history was submitted to us and that we made all the changes and additions that we, in our judgment, deemed necessary; and as corrected, we are satisfied with and approve the same. Prairie du Chien, Jan. 29, 1884. [Signed.]

Wm. T. Sterling,  
B. W. Brisbois,  
James Fisher,  
John H. Tower,  
Wm. D. Merrell,  
Alexander M. Beach,  
John R. Hurlbut, } Committee.

We the undersigned committee appointed for the purpose of correcting the History of our respective towns for the History of Crawford County, hereby certify that the manuscript has been read to us, and that to the best of our recollection, with the corrections and additions we have made, the same is a correct history.

H. C. King, H. Barrette, Mrs. Lydia Atherton.	John H. Tower, Henry Eibret.	Freeman,	Samuel A. Clark, John Folsom, T. A. Savage.	Prairie du Chien.	Edward Garvey, Samuel Armstrong.	Seneca.
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We, the undersigned, members of the committee appointed to revise and correct the general chapters of the History of Richland county, Wisconsin, compiled by the Union Publishing Company of Springfield, Illinois, hereby certify that the said manuscript was submitted to us; that we examined and heard the same read, and that we have made all the changes, corrections and additions that we in our judgment and to the best of our recollection deem necessary, and as corrected we are satisfied with and approve of the same.

Richland Center, Jan. 8, 1884.

[Signed.]

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J. M. Thomas,  
R. M. Miller,  
Israel Janney. } Committee.

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# HISTORY OF WISCONSIN.

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## CHAPTER I.

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### PRE-HISTORIC AND SETTLEMENT.

**A**T a remote period there lived in this country a people now designated mound builders. Of their origin nothing is known. Their history is lost in the lapse of ages. The evidences, however, of their existence in Wisconsin and surrounding States are numerous. Many of their earth works—the so-called mounds—are still to be seen. These are of various forms. Some are regularly arranged, forming squares, octagons and circles; others are like walls or ramparts; while many, especially in Wisconsin, are imitative in figure, having the shape of implements or animals, resembling war clubs, tobacco pipes, beasts, reptiles, fish and even man. A few are in the similitude of trees.

In selecting sites for many of their earth works, the mound-builders appear to have been influenced by motives which prompt civilized men to choose localities for their great marts; hence, Milwaukee and other cities of the west are founded on ruins of pre-existing structures. River terraces and river bottoms seem

to have been favorite places for these mounds. Their works are seen in the basin of the Fox river, of the Illinois, and of Rock river and its branches, also in the valley of the Fox river of Green bay, in that of the Wisconsin, as well as near the waters of the Mississippi. As to the object of these earth works, all knowledge rests upon conjecture alone. It is generally believed that some were used for purposes of defense, others for the observance of religious rites and as burial places.

In some parts of Wisconsin are seen earth works of a different character from those usually denominated "mounds." These, from their supposed use, are styled "garden beds." They are ridges or beds about six inches in height, and four feet in width. They are arranged methodically and in parallel rows. Some are rectangular in shape; others are in regular curves. These beds occupy fields of various sizes, from ten to a hundred acres.

The mound builders have left other evidences besides mounds and garden beds, to attest their

presence in this country, in ages past. In the Lake Superior region exist ancient copper mines, excavations in the solid rock. In these mines have been found stone hammers, wooden bowls and shovels, props and levers for raising and supporting mass copper, and ladders for descending into the pits and ascending from them.

There are, also, scattered widely over the country, numerous relics, evidently the handiwork of these pre-historic people; such as stone axes, stone and copper spear-heads and arrow heads, and various other implements and utensils. As these articles are frequently discovered many feet below the surface of the ground, it argues a high antiquity for the artificers. These relics indicate that the mound builders were superior in intelligence to the Indians. None of their implements or utensils, however, point to a "copper age" as having succeeded a "stone age." They all refer alike to one age, the indefinite past; to one people, the mound builders.

There is nothing to connect "the dark backward and abysm" of mound-building times with those of the red race of Wisconsin. And all that is known of the savages inhabiting this section previous to its discovery, is exceedingly dim and shadowy. Upon the extended area bounded by Lake Superior on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, wide-spreading prairies on the south, and the Mississippi river on the west, there met and mingled two distinct Indian families, Algonquins and Dakotas. Concerning the various tribes of these families, nothing of importance could be gleaned by the earliest explorers; at least, very little has been preserved. Tradition, it is true, pointed to the Algonquins as having, at some remote period, migrated from the east, and this has been confirmed by a study of their language. It indicated, also, that the Dakotas, at a time far beyond the memory of the most aged, came from the west or southwest, fighting their way as they came; that one of their tribes once dwelt

upon the shores of a sea; but when and for what purpose they left their home for the country of the great lakes there was no evidence. This was all. In reality, therefore, Wisconsin has no veritable history ante-dating its discovery by civilized man. The country has been heard of, but only through vague reports of savages.\* There were no accounts at all, besides these, of the extensive region of the upper lakes; while of the valley of the upper Mississippi, nothing whatever was known.

#### FIRST EXPLORATION OF THE NORTHWEST.

The history of Wisconsin commences with the recital of the indomitable perseverance and heroic bravery displayed by its first visitant, John Nicolet. An investigation of the career of this Frenchman shows him, at an early age, leaving his home in Normandy for the new world, landing at Quebec in 1618, and at once seeking a residence among the Algonquins of the Ottawa river, in Canada, sent thither by the governor to learn their language. In the midst of many hardships, and surrounded by perils, he applied himself with great zeal to his task. Having become familiar with the Algonquin tongue, he was admitted into the councils of the savages.

The return of Nicolet to civilization, after a number of years immured in the dark forests of Canada, an excellent interpreter, qualified him to act as government agent among the wild western tribes in promoting peace, to the end that all who had been visited by the fur-trader might remain firm allies of the French. Nay, further: it resulted in his being dispatched to Nations far beyond the Ottawa, known only by heresay, with whom it was believed might be opened a profitable trade in furs. So he started on his perilous voyage. He visited the Hurons, upon the Georgian bay. With seven of that Nation, he struck boldly into wilds to the northward and westward never before visited by civilized man. He paddled his birch canoe along

\*Compare Champlain's *Voyages*, 1632, and his map of that date; Sagard's, *Histoire du Canada: Le Jeune Relation*, 1632.

the eastern coast of Lake Huron and up the St. Mary's Strait to the falls. He floated back to the Straits of Mackinaw, and courageously turned his face toward the west. At the Sault de Ste. Marie, he had—the first of white men—set foot upon the soil of the northwest.

Nicolet coasted along the northern shore of Lake Michigan, ascended Green Bay, and finally entered the mouth of Fox river. It was not until he and his swarthy Hurons had urged their frail canoes six days up that stream, that his western exploration was ended. He had, meanwhile, on his way hither, visited a number of tribes; some that had never before been heard of by the French upon the St. Lawrence. With them all he smoked the pipe of peace; with the ancestors of the present Chippewas, at the Sault; with the Menomonees, the Winnebagoes, the Mascoutins, in what is now the State of Wisconsin; with the Ottawas, upon the Manitoulin Islands, and the Nez Perces, upon the east coast of Lake Huron. He made his outward voyage in the summer and fall of 1634, and returned the next year to the St. Lawrence. He did not reach the Wisconsin river, but heard of a "great water" to the westward, which he mistook for the sea. It was, in fact, that stream, and the Mississippi, into which it pours its flood.

"History cannot refrain from saluting Nicolet as a distinguished traveler, who, by his explorations in the northwest, has given clear proofs of his energetic character, and whose merits have not been disputed, although, subsequently, they were temporarily forgotten." The first fruits of his daring were gathered by the Jesuit fathers, even before his death; for, in the autumn of 1641, those of them who were among the Hurons at the head of the Georgian bay of Lake Huron, received a deputation of Indians occupying the "country around a rapid [now known as the 'Sault de Ste. Marie'], in the midst of the channel by which Lake Superior empties into Lake Huron," inviting them to visit their tribe. These "missionaries were not displeased

with the opportunity thus presented of knowing the countries lying beyond Lake Huron, which no one of them had yet traveled;" so Isaac Jogues and Charles Raymbault were detached to accompany the Chippewa deputies, and view the field simply, not to establish a mission. They passed along the shore of Lake Huron, northward, and pushed as far up St. Mary's strait as the Sault, which they reached after seventeen days' sail from their place of starting. There they—the first white men to visit the northwest after Nicolet—harrangued 2,000 Chippewas and other Algonquins. Upon their return to the St. Lawrence, Jogues was captured by the Iroquois, and Raymbault died on the 22d of October, 1642,—a few days before the death of Nicolet.\*

#### WISCONSIN VISITED BY FUR TRADERS AND JESUIT MISSIONARIES.

Very faint, indeed, are the gleams which break in upon the darkness surrounding our knowledge of events immediately following the visit of Nicolet, in what is now the State of Wisconsin. That the Winnebagoes, soon after his return, made war upon the Nez Perces, killing two of their men, of whom they made a feast, we are assured.\* We also know that in 1640, these same Winnebagoes were nearly all destroyed by the Illinois; and that the next year, the Pottawattamies took refuge from their homes upon the islands at the mouth of Green bay, with the Chippewas.† This is all. And had it not been for the greed of the fur trader and the zeal of the Jesuit, little more, for many years, probably, would have been learned of the northwest. However, a questioning missionary, took from the lips of an Indian captain‡ "an account of his having, in the month of June, 1658, set out from Green Bay for the north, passing the rest of the summer and the following winter near Lake Supe-

\* History of the discovery of the northwest by John Nicolet in 1634, with a sketch of his life, by C. W. Butterfield, Cincinnati. Robert Clarke & Co., 1881.

\* Le Jeune, Relation, 1636.

† Col. Hist. New York ix, 161.

‡ Not "captive," as some local histories have it.

rior ; so called in consequence of being above that of Lake Huron. This Indian informed the Jesuit of the havoc and desolation of the Iroquois war in the west ; how it had reduced the Algonquin Nations about Lake Superior and Green bay. The same missionary saw at Quebec, two Frenchmen who had just arrived from the upper countries with 300 Algonquins in sixty canoes, laden with peltries. These fur traders had passed the winter of 1659 on the shores of Lake Superior, during which time they made several trips among the surrounding tribes. In their wanderings they probably visited some of the northern parts of what is now Wisconsin. They saw at six days' journey beyond the lake toward the southwest, a tribe composed of the remainder of the Hurons of the Tobacco Nation, compelled by the Iroquois to abandon Mackinaw and to bury themselves thus deep in the forests, that they could not be found by their enemies. The two traders told the tales they had heard of the ferocious Sioux, and of a great river upon which they dwelt—the great water of Nicolet. Thus a knowledge of the Mississippi began to dawn again upon the civilized world.\*

The narratives of the Indian captain and the two Frenchmen induced further exploration two years later when Father Rene Menard attempted to found a mission on Lake Superior, with eight Frenchmen and some Ottawas. He made his way in 1660 to what is now Keweenaw, Mich. He determined while there to visit some Hurons on the islands at the mouth of Green bay. He sent three of his companions to explore the way. They reached those islands by way of the Menominee river, returning to Keweenaw with discouraging accounts. But Menard resolved to undertake the journey, starting from the lake with one white companion and some Hurons ; he perished, however, in the forest, in what manner is not known, his companion reaching the Green bay islands in safety. White men had floated upon the Menominee,

\* History Northern Wisconsin, p.30.

so that the northeastern part of what is now Wisconsin, as well as its interior by Nicolet in 1634, had now been seen by civilized white man†.

#### FOUNDING OF JESUIT MISSIONS IN WISCONSIN.

In August, 1665, Father Claude Allouez embarked on a mission to the country visited by Menard. Early in September he had reached the Sault de Ste. Marie, and on the first day of October, arrived in the bay of Chegoimegon, at a village of Chippewas. Here he erected a chapel of bark, establishing the first mission in what is now Wisconsin to which he gave the name of the Holy Spirit. While Allouez had charge of this field, he either visited or saw, at Chegoimegon, scattered bands of Hurons and Ottawas ; also Pottawatamies from Lake Michigan, and the Saes and Foxes, who lived upon the waters of Fox river of Green bay. He was likewise visited by the Illinois, and at the extremity of Lake Superior he met representatives of the Sioux. These declared they dwelt on the banks of the river "Messipi." Father James Marquette reached Chegoimegon in September, 1669, and took charge of the mission of the Holy Spirit, Allouez proceeding to the Sault de Ste. Marie, intending to establish a mission on the shores of Green bay. He left the Sault Nov. 3, 1669, and on the 25th, reached a Pottawattamie cabin. On the 2d of December he founded upon the shore of Green bay the mission of St. Francis Xavier, the second one established by him within what are now the limits of Wisconsin. Here Allouez passed the winter. In April, 1670, he founded another mission ; this one was upon Wolf river, a tributary of the Fox river of Green bay. Here the missionary labored among the Foxes, who had located upon that stream. The mission, the third in the present Wisconsin, he called St. Mark.

In 1671 Father Louis Andre was sent to the missions of St. Francis Xavier and St. Mark, as a co-worker with Allouez. At what is now the

† Bancroft, in his History of United States, evidently mistakes the course pursued from Keweenaw, by Menard.

village of DePere, Brown Co., Wis., was located the central station of the mission of St. Francis Xavier. This mission included all the tribes inhabiting the vicinity of Green bay. A rude chapel, the third one within the present limits of Wisconsin, was soon erected. Allouez then left for other fields of labor; but Andre remained here, working with zeal during the summer of 1671. However, during a temporary absence his chapel was burned, but he speedily erected another. Then his dwelling was destroyed, but although he erected another, it soon shared the same fate. He was at this time laboring among the Menomonees. When he finally left "the bay tribes" is not known. In 1676 Father Charles Albel was stationed at what is now DePere, where a new and better chapel was erected than the one left by Andre. In 1680 the mission was supplied by Father James Eryalran, who was recalled in 1687. When he left, his house and chapel were burned by the Winnebagoes. It was the end of the mission of St. Francis Xavier. The mission of the Holy Spirit was deserted by Father James Marquette in 1671. It was the end for 170 years of a Roman Catholic mission at Chegoimegon.

#### WISCONSIN UNDER FRENCH DOMINATION.

In the year 1671, France took formal possession of the whole country of the upper lakes. An agent, Daumont de St. Luson, was dispatched to the distant tribes, proposing a congress of Indian Nations at the Falls of St. Mary, between Lake Huron and Lake Superior. The principal chiefs of the Wisconsin tribes were gathered there by Nicholas Perrot. When all were assembled, it was solemnly announced that the great northwest was placed under the protection of the French government. This was the beginning of French domination in what is now Wisconsin. The act of Daumont de St. Luson, at the Falls of St. Mary, in 1671, in establishing the right of France to the regions beyond Lake Michigan, not being regarded as sufficiently definite, Nicholas Perrot, in 1689, at the head of

Green bay, again took possession of the country, extending the dominion of New France, not only over the territory of the upper Mississippi, but "to other places more remote;" so that then, all that is now included within the boundaries of the State of Wisconsin (and much more) passed quietly into the possession of the French king.

No fur-trader or missionary, no white man, had as yet reached the Mississippi above the mouth of the Illinois river. But the time for its exploration was at hand. Civilized men were now to behold its vast tribute rolling onward toward the Gulf of Mexico. These men were Louis Joliet and James Marquette. Joliet came from Quebec, having been appointed by the government to "discover" the Mississippi. He found Marquette on the north side of the straits of Mackinaw, laboring as a missionary among the Indians. The latter was solicited and readily agreed to accompany Joliet upon his expedition.\* The outfit of the party was very simple: two birch-bark canoes and a supply of smoked meat and Indian corn. They had with them five white men. They began their voyage on the 17th day of May, 1673. Passing into Lake Michigan, they coasted along its northern shore, and paddled their canoes up Green bay and Fox river to the portage. They then crossed to the Wisconsin, down which they floated, until, on the 17th of June, they entered the Mississippi. After dropping down the river many miles, they returned by way of the Illinois and Lake Michigan to Green bay, where Marquette remained to recruit his strength, while Joliet returned to Quebec to make known the extent of his discoveries.

Fontenac's report of Joliet's return from a voyage to discover the South sea, dated Nov. 14, 1674, is as follows:

"Sieur Joliet, whom Monsieur Talon advised me, on my arrival from France, to dispatch for

\* That Count Fontenac, governor of New France, and M. Tolon, intendant, should have expressed a wish to Joliet that Father Marquette be invited to accompany him in his contemplated journey, is to be inferred from the words of the missionary; but nothing in the orders of these officers to Joliet is found to confirm the statement.

the discovery of the South sea, has returned three months ago, and discovered some very fine countries, and a navigation so easy through the beautiful rivers he has found, that a person can go from Lake Ontario and Fort Fontenac in a bark to the Gulf of Mexico, there being only one carrying place, half a league in length, where Lake Ontario communicates with Lake Erie. These are projects which it will be possible to effect when peace shall be firmly established and whenever it will please the king to prosecute these discoveries. Joliet has been within ten days' journey of the Gulf of Mexico, and believes that water communications could be found leading to the Vermilion and California seas, by means of the river that flows from the west [the Missouri] into the grand river [the Mississippi] that he discovered, which runs from north to south, and is as large as the St. Lawrence opposite Quebec.

"I send you by my secretary the map he has made of it, and the observations he has been able to recollect, as he has lost all his minutes and journals in the shipwreck he suffered within sight of Montreal, where, after having completed a voyage of twelve hundred leagues, he was near being drowned, and lost all his papers and a little Indian, whom he brought from those countries. These accidents have caused me great regret. Joliet left with the fathers at the Sault de Ste. Marie, in Lake Superior, copies of his journals; these we cannot get before next year. You will glean from them additional particulars of this discovery, in which he has very well acquitted himself."

It is not known that the copies of Joliet's journals, mentioned in Frontenac's report, were delivered to the French government; but an account of the voyage by Marquette was published in 1681 by Thevenat. This fact has caused an undue importance to be attached to the name of the missionary in connection with the discovery of the Mississippi, and at the expense of the fame of Joliet.\*

\*"The Count of Frontenac," says Shea (Wis Hist. Coll., Vol. VII, page 119), "on the 14th of November, [1674] in a dis-

Explorations begun by Joliet were continued. La Salle, in 1679, with Father Louis Hennepin, coasted along the western shore of Lake Michigan, landing frequently. The return of Henry de Tonty, one of La Salle's party, down the same coast to Green bay, from the Illinois, followed in 1680. The same year, Father Hennepin from the upper Mississippi, whither he had gone from the Illinois, made his way across what is now Wisconsin, by the Wisconsin and Fox rivers to Green bay.\*

He was accompanied by Daniel Greysolon Duluth, who, on his way down the Mississippi had met Hennepin in September, 1678. Duluth left Quebec to explore, under the authority of the governor of New France, the region of the upper Mississippi, and establish relations of friendship with the Sioux and their kindred, the Assiniboines. In the summer of 1679 he was in the Sioux country and early in the autumn of that year at the head of Lake Superior holding an Indian council. In June, 1680, he set out from that point to continue his explorations. Going down the Mississippi he met with Hennepin, as stated above, journeyed with him to the Jesuit station, near the head of Green bay, across what is now the State of Wisconsin. Following the voyages of Hennepin and Duluth was the one by Le Sueur, in 1683, from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi, ascending that river to the Sioux country in the region about St. Anthony, and his subsequent establishment, said to have been in 1693, at La Pointe, in the present Ashland Co., Wis. He was, at least, a *voyageur* stationed at Chegoimegon during that year. He continued to trade with the Sioux at intervals to the year 1702.†

patch to Colbert announced the successful issue of Joliet's expedition;" but Shea then adds: "They had to wait for full details till the account drawn up by Father Marquette should be sent down," as though such an account was really expected; but the fact was, as stated by Fontenac himself, that copies of Joliet's journals were what was looked for.

\*Hist. of Northern Wis., page 44.

†Ibid.



Nicholas Perrot was again in the northwest in 1684. He was commissioned to have chief command, not only "at the bay," but also upon the Mississippi, on the east side of which stream, at the foot of Lake Pepin, he erected a post. Here he spent the winter of 1685-6. The next year he had returned to Green bay. He vibrated between Montreal and the west until 1697. In 1699 St. Cosme and his companions coasted along the west shore of Lake Michigan. Other explorations followed, but generally in the tracks of previous ones. Except at "the bay," there was not so long as the French had dominion over the northwest, a single post occupied for any length of time by regular soldiers. This post was called Fort St. Francis. There were other stockades—one at La Pointe in 1726, and, as we have already seen one upon the Mississippi; but neither of these had cannon. At the commencement of the French and Indian War, all three had disappeared. At the ending of hostilities, in 1760, there was not a single vestige of civilization within what are now the bounds of Wisconsin, except a few vagrant Frenchmen among the Indians; there was no post; no settlement, west of Lake Michigan. But before dismissing the subject of French supremacy in the northwest, it is proper to mention the hostility that for a number of years existed between the Fox Indians and Frenchmen.

In the year 1693, several fur-traders were plundered by the Fox Indians (located upon Fox river of Green bay), while on their way to the Sioux; the Foxes alleging that the Frenchmen were carrying arms to their ancient enemies. We hear no more of their hostility to the French until early in the spring of 1712, when they and some Mascoutins, laid a plan to burn the fort at Detroit. It was besieged for nineteen days by these savages, but the besiegers were obliged finally to retreat, as their provisions had become exhausted. They were pursued, however, and near Lake St. Clair suffered a signal defeat at the hands of M. Dubisson and his

Indian allies. The Marquis de Vaudreuil, now that the Foxes continued their hostilities, determined on a war of extermination against them. De Lourigny, a lieutenant, left Quebec in March, 1716. He made his way with alacrity, entering Green bay and Fox river, it is said, with a force of 800 French and Indians, encountering the enemy in a pallisaded fort, which would have been soon reduced had not the Foxes asked for peace. Hostages were given, and Lourigny returned to Quebec. In 1721 the war was renewed, and in 1728 another expedition was organized against these savages, commanded by Marchem de Lignery. This officer proceeded by way of the Ottawa river of Canada and Lake Huron to Green bay, upon the northern shore of which the Menominees, who had also become hostile were attacked and defeated. On the 24th of August, a Winnebago village on Fox river was reached by De Lignery with a force of 400 French and 750 Indians. They proceeded thence up the river to the home of the Foxes, but did not succeed in meeting the enemy in force. The expedition was a signal failure. But the march of Neyon de Villiers, in 1730, against the Foxes, was more successful, resulting in their defeat. They suffered a loss of 200 killed of warriors, and three times as many women and children. Still the Foxes were not humbled. Another expedition, this time under the direction of Capt. De Noyelle, marched against them in 1735. The result was not decisive. Many places have been designated upon Fox river as points where conflicts between the French and their allies, and the Foxes and their allies took place; but all such designations are traditionary and uncertain. The Sacs and Foxes finally became connected with the government of Canada, and during the French and Indian War were arrayed against the English.

#### WISCONSIN UNDER ENGLISH SUPREMACY.

On the 9th day of September, 1760, Governor Vaudreuil surrendered Canada to General Amherst, of the British army, and the supremacy

over the northwest passed from France to Great Britain. But in what is now Wisconsin there was little besides savages to be affected by the change. The vagrant fur-trader represented all that there was of civilization west of Lake Michigan. Detroit was soon taken possession of; then Mackinaw, and finally, in 1761, a squad of English soldiers reached the head of Green bay, to garrison the tumble-down post, where now is Fort Howard, Brown Co., Wis. This was on October 12 of the year just mentioned. Lieut. James Gorrell and one sergeant, one corporal and fifteen privates constituted the "army of occupation" for the whole country west of Lake Michigan from this time to June 21, 1763, when the post was abandoned by the commandant on account of the breaking out of Pontiac's War, and the capture of the fort at Mackinaw by the savages. The cause of the war was this: The Indian tribes saw the danger which the downfall of the French interests in Canada was sure to bring them. They banded together under Pontiac to avert their ruin. The struggle was short but fierce—full of "scenes of tragic interest, with marvels of suffering and vicissitude, of heroism and endurance;" but the white man conquered. The moving incidents in this bloody drama were enacted to the eastward of what is now Wisconsin, coming no nearer than Mackinaw, but it resulted in the evacuation of its territory by British troops, who never after took possession of it, though they continued until 1796 a nominal military rule over it after Mackinaw was again occupied by them.

No sooner had the soldiers under Gorrell left the bay than French traders seized upon the occasion to again make it headquarters for traffic in furs to the westward of Lake Michigan. Not that only, for a few determined to make it their permanent home. By the year 1766 there were some families living in the decayed Fort Edward Augustus and opposite thereto, on the east side of Fox river, where

they cultivated the soil in a small way and in an extremely primitive manner, living, now that peace was again restored, very comfortably. Of these French Canadians, no one can be considered as the pioneer—no one is entitled to the renown of having first led the way, becoming, therefore the first settler of the State, much less the father and founder of Wisconsin. It was simply that "the bay," being, after Pontiac's war, occupied by Canadian French fur-traders, their station finally ripened into a permanent settlement—the first in Wisconsin—the leading spirits of which were the two Langlades, Augustin and Charles, father and son. It had all the characteristics of a French settlement. Its growth was very slow. The industries were few and simple. Besides the employments of trading and transporting goods and peltries, the inhabitants engaged in hunting and trapping. Attention was given to the cultivation of the soil only incidently. Gardens were cultivated to some extent for a supply of vegetables. Gradually, however, a few persons turned their chief attention to agriculture.\*

In 1783 four white persons occupied in a permanent manner the tract of land where now is Prairie du Chien, in Crawford Co., Wis. They were soon followed by a number of persons who located there. These became permanent traders with the Indians.

Besides the settlement at "the bay" and the one at Prairie du Chien some French traders were located where Milwaukee now is in 1795, but they could hardly be called settlers. Ten years before that date Laurence Barth lived at the portage between the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, now the site of Portage, Columbia Co., Wis., where he was engaged in the carrying trade. But his residence could not fairly be termed a settlement; so that when, in 1796, the English yielded possession of what is now Wisconsin to the Americans (a nominal one, however,) there were really but two settlements—Green Bay and Prairie du Chien.

\*Hist. Northern Wis., p. 49.

## WISCONSIN AS A PART OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

The Congress of the United States, by their act of the 6th day of September, 1780, recommended to the several States in the Union having claims to waste and unappropriated lands in the western country, a liberal cession to the general government of a portion of their respective claims for the common benefit of the Union. The claiming States were Connecticut, New York and Virginia, all under their colonial charters, and the last mentioned, in addition thereto, by right of conquest of the Illinois country. The region contended for lay to the northwest of the river Ohio. Virginia claimed territory westward to the Mississippi and northward to a somewhat indefinite extent. New York, and especially Connecticut, laid claim to territory stretching away to an unbounded extent westward, but not so far to the south as Virginia. The last mentioned State, by virtue of conquests largely her own, extended her jurisdiction over the Illinois settlements in 1778, and the year after, and erected into a county enough to include all her conquests. But, what is now the State of Wisconsin, she certainly did not exercise dominion over. The three States finally ceded all their rights to the United States, leaving the general government absolute owner of the whole country, subject only to the rights, such as they were, of the Indian Nations who dwelt therein.

Under a congressional ordinance, passed in 1785, for ascertaining the mode of disposing of lands in the western territory, the geographer of the United States was directed to commence the survey of them immediately beyond the Ohio river, upon the plan which has ever since been followed by the general government, resulting in regular latitudinal and longitudinal lines being run, so as to circumscribe every 640 acres of land, not only in Wisconsin but in all the west, wherever these surveys have been brought to completion. Two years subsequent to the passage of the first ordinance, was that of

another and more famous one, providing for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio. This is familiarly known as the ordinance of 1787; and to this day it is a part of the fundamental law of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, the five states since formed out of the region included within the limits affected by its provisions;—an act of Congress, passed in 1789, having adapted it to the constitution of the United States. But neither the treaty with Great Britain of 1783, nor the ordinances of Congress which followed, gave the United States anything more than constructive possession of the whole of its western territory. The mother country, it is true, recognized the northern lakes as the boundary between her possessions and those of the now independent states, but finding an excuse in the fact of some of her merchants not being paid their claims as stipulated by the treaty of 1783, she retained possession of the whole northwest, including what is now Wisconsin, until 1796.

By the ordinance of 1787, the United States in Congress assembled declared that the territory northwest of the Ohio, should, for the purposes of temporary government, be one district, subject, however, to be divided into districts, as future circumstances might, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient. It was ordained, that a governor, secretary and three judges should be appointed for the territory; a general assembly was also provided for; and it was declared that religion, morality and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education should forever be encouraged. It was also ordained that there should be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the territory, "otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted." But this organic law was of course nugatory over that portion of the territory occupied by the British, and so continued until the latter yielded possession, and in fact, for some time subsequent thereto.

By the treaty agreed upon in 1794, between the United States and Great Britain, usually known as the Jay treaty, the evacuation of the posts and places occupied by British troops and garrisons in the northwest, was to take place on or before the 1st day of June, 1796. All settlers and traders within the precincts or jurisdiction of these posts were to continue to enjoy unmolested, all their property of every kind, and to be protected therein. They were at full liberty to remain there, or to remove with all or any part of their effects; and it was left free to them to sell their lands, houses, or effects, or to retain the property thereof, at their discretion. Such of them as should continue to reside there were not to be compelled to become citizens of the United States, or to take any oath of allegiance to the government thereof; but were at full liberty so to do if they thought proper; and they were to make and declare their election within one year after the evacuation of the posts by the military. Persons continuing after the expiration of one year without having declared their intentions of remaining subjects of his Britannic majesty, were to be considered as having elected to become citizens of the United States. It is believed that no citizen of Wisconsin, either in the settlement at "the bay" or at Prairie du Chien made such a declaration, but that all who remained, became thereby citizens of the new government.

The Indian war in the west; which followed the Revolution, was brought to an end by the victorious arms of Gen. Anthony Wayne, upon the banks of the Maumee river, in what is now the State of Ohio, in the year 1794. The treaty of Greenville was entered into the next year with twelve western tribes of Indians, none of which resided in Wisconsin. Nevertheless, one of the provisions of the treaty was that, in consideration of the peace then established and the cessations and the relinquishments of lands made by the Indian tribes there represented, and to manifest the liberality of the United States, claims to all Indian lands northward of

the Ohio, eastward of the Mississippi, and westward and southward of the great lakes and the waters uniting them, were relinquished by the general government to the Indians having a right thereto. This included all the lands within the present boundaries of Wisconsin. The meaning of the relinquishment by the United States was that the Indian tribes who had a right to those lands were quietly to enjoy them, hunting, planting and dwelling thereon as long as they pleased, without any molestation from the general government; but when any tribe should be disposed to sell its lands, or any part of them, they were to be sold only to the United States; and until such sale, the general government would protect all the Indian tribes in the quiet enjoyment of their land against all citizens of the country, and against all other white persons who might intrude upon them. And if any citizen of the United States, or any other white person or persons should presume to settle upon the lands then relinquished by the general government, such citizens or other persons should be out of the protection of the United States; and the Indian tribe on whose land the settlement might be made might drive off the settler, or punish him in such manner as they might think fit; and because such settlements made without the consent of the general government would be injurious to them as well as to the Indians, the United States should be at liberty to break them up, and remove and punish the settlers, as they might think proper.

The titles of the Indians to their lands were thus acknowledged; and they were unquestionable, because treaties made, or to be made with the various tribes had been declared by the constitution of the United States, the supreme law of the land. But those titles could only be yielded to the general government. The principal question to be afterward determined was, what lands were each tribe the rightful owners of. So long as Wisconsin formed a part of the northwestern territory, no treaty was made by the United States with any

tribe or tribes occupying any portion of the country now lying within the limits of Wisconsin.

When, in 1796, Great Britain yielded possession of the northwest by withdrawing its garrisons from the military posts therein, in pursuance of the Jay treaty of 1794, and the United States took formal possession thereof, the change in the political relations of the few settlers of Green Bay and Prairie du Chien was not felt by them. They had become the adopted citizens of the United States without any realization further than a bare knowledge of the fact. British authority had been so little exercised in their domestic affairs, that its withdrawal was unnoticed, while that of the United States only reached them in name. Nearly all who were engaged in the fur trade were agents or employes of the British fur companies, and their relation to these remained unbroken. No intercourse for several years sprung up with the Americans.

Under the ordinance of 1787, Arthur St. Clair was appointed governor of the northwestern territory. At different periods counties were erected to include various portions of that region of country. By the governor's proclamation of the 15th of August, 1796, one was formed to include the whole of the present area of northern Ohio, west of a point where the city of Cleveland is now located; also all of the present State of Indiana, north of a line drawn from Fort Wayne, "west-northerly to the southern part of Lake Michigan," the whole of what is now the State of Michigan, except the extreme northwest corner on Lake Superior; a small corner in the northeast part of the present State of Illinois, including Chicago; and so much of what is now Wisconsin as is watered by the streams flowing into Lake Michigan, which included an extensive portion of its area, taking in the territory now constituting many of its eastern and interior counties. To this county was given the name of Wayne. The citizens at the head of Green bay, from 1796,

until the 4th of July, 1800, were, therefore, residents of Wayne county, Northwest territory. But the western portion of the present State of Wisconsin, including all its area watered by streams flowing northward into Lake Superior, and westward and southwestward into the Mississippi, was during those years attached to no county whatever. Within this part of the State was located, of course, the settlement of Prairie du Chien.

#### WISCONSIN AS A PART OF THE TERRITORY OF INDIANA.

After the fourth day of July, 1800, all that portion of the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio river, lying to the westward of a line beginning upon that stream opposite the mouth of the Kentucky river and running thence to what is now Fort Recovery, in Mercer Co., Ohio, thence north until it intersected the territorial line between the United States and Canada, was for the purposes of temporary government, constituted a separate territory, called Indiana. Within its boundaries were included not only nearly all of what is now the State of Indiana, but the whole of the present State of Illinois, more than half of what is now Michigan, a considerable portion of the present State of Minnesota, and the whole of Wisconsin. The seat of government was established at "Saint Vincennes on the Wabash," now the city of Vincennes, Ind. Upon the formation of a State government for the State of Ohio, in 1802, all the country west of that State, but east of the eastern boundary of the territory of Indiana, was added to the latter; so that then the area northwest of the Ohio river included but one State and one territory. Afterward, civil jurisdiction was exercised by the authorities of Indiana territory over the Green bay settlement, in a faint way, by the appointment, by Gov. William Henry Harrison, of Charles Reaume as the justice of the peace therein. Prairie du Chien was also recognized by the new territorial government by the appointment of two persons to a like office—

Henry M. Fisher and a trader by the name of Campbell.

As American emigration was now rapidly dotting the wilderness to the westward of the State of Ohio with settlements, a treaty with some of the Indian tribes who claimed lands in that region extending northward into what is now Wisconsin, was a necessity, for as yet, none of these Nations had met any authorities of the United States in council. At the close of the contest between France and Great Britain so disastrous in North America to the former, the Sacs and Foxes readily gave in their adhesion to the latter, asking that English traders might be sent them. The two Nations, then about equally divided, numbered about 700 warriors. Neither of the tribes took part in Pontiac's war, but they befriended the English. The Sacs had, by that date emigrated some distance to the westward, while the Foxes, at least a portion of them, still remained upon the waters of the river of Green bay, which perpetuates their name. A few years later, however, and the Sacs were occupants of the upper Wisconsin also to a considerable extent below the portage between that stream and Fox river, where their chief town was located. Further down the Wisconsin was the upper village of the Foxes, while their lower town was situated not far from its mouth, near the site of the present city of Prairie du Chien.

Not long after Wisconsin had been taken possession of by the British, its northern portion, including all that part watered by the streams flowing north into Lake Superior, was the home of the Chippewas. The country around nearly the whole of Green bay, was the hunting grounds of the Menomonees. The territory of Winnebago lake and Fox river was the seat of the Winnebagoes, while, as just stated, the Sacs and Foxes had the region of the Wisconsin river as their dwelling place. During the war of the Revolution, these two tribes continued the firm friends of the

English, although not engaged in active hostilities against the Americans. When finally England delivered up to the United States the possession of the northwest, the Sacs and Foxes had only a small portion of their territory in Wisconsin, and that in the extreme southwest. Their principal possession extended a considerable distance to the south of the mouth of the Wisconsin, upon both sides of the Mississippi river.

On the 3d of November, 1804, a treaty was held at St. Louis between the Sacs and Foxes and the United States. These tribes then ceded to the general government, a large tract of land on both sides of the Mississippi, extending on the east from the mouth of the Illinois to the head of that river, thence to the Wisconsin. This grant embraces, in what is now Wisconsin, the whole of the present counties of Grant and La Fayette, and a large portion of those of Iowa and Green. It included the lead region. These tribes also claimed territory on the upper side of the Wisconsin, but they only granted away a tract two miles square above that stream, near its mouth, with the right of the United States to build a fort adjacent thereto. In consideration of the cession of these lands, the general government agreed to protect the two tribes in the quiet enjoyment of the residue of their possessions against its own citizens and all others who should intrude on them; carrying out the stipulations to that effect embodied in the Greenville treaty, of 1795. Thus began the quieting of the Indian title to the eminent domain of Wisconsin by the United States, which was carried forward until the whole territory (except certain reservations to a few tribes) had been fairly purchased of the original proprietors.

So much of Indiana territory as lay to the north of a line drawn east from the southern bend of Lake Michigan to Lake Erie, and east of a line drawn from the same bend through the middle of the first mentioned lake to its northern extremity, thence due north to the

northern boundary of the United States, was, for the purposes of temporary government, on the 30th of June, 1805, constituted a separate and distinct territory, called Michigan. This new territory did not include within its boundaries any part of Wisconsin as at present defined.

#### WISCONSIN AS A PART OF ILLINOIS TERRITORY.

On the 3d of February, 1809, an act of Congress, entitled an act for dividing the Indiana territory into two separate governments, was approved by the President and became a law. It provided that from and after the 1st day of March thereafter, all that part of the Indiana territory lying west of the Wabash river and a direct line drawn from that stream and "Post Vincennes" due north to the territorial line between the United States and Canada, should, for the purpose of temporary government, constitute a separate territory and be called Illinois, with the seat of government at Kaskaskia, on the Mississippi river, until it should be otherwise ordered. By this law, all of what is now Wisconsin was transferred from Indiana territory to that of Illinois, except that portion lying east of the meridian line drawn through Vincennes. This fraction included nearly the whole area between Green bay and Lake Michigan and remained a part of the territory of Indiana. When, in 1816, Indiana became a State, this narrow strip, as it was neither a portion of Michigan territory on the east or Illinois territory on the west, remained without any organization until 1818. In that year it became a part of Michigan territory.

In 1809, an effort was made by John Jacob Astor, of New York city, to extend the American fur-trade by way of the lakes to Wisconsin and parts beyond; but the monopoly of the British fur companies was too strong. He could only effect his object by uniting with the northwest company of Montreal, in 1811, to form out of the American and Mackinaw companies, a new one, to be known as the Southwest company, of which Astor owned a

half interest, with the arrangement that, after five years, it was to pass into his hands altogether, being restricted in its operations to the territories of the United States. This company was suspended by the war with Great Britain, which immediately followed. At the close of hostilities, British traders were prohibited by law from pursuing their calling within the jurisdiction of the United States. The result was the southwest company closed up its affairs, and the American fur company re-appeared under the exclusive control of Astor, who established his western headquarters at Mackinaw, operating extensively in what is now Wisconsin, especially at La Pointe, upon Lake Superior, where large warehouses were erected; a stockade built, lands cleared, farms opened, dwellings and stores put up. But English traders evaded the law by sending their goods into the United States in the name of American clerks in their employ. These goods being of superior quality to those furnished by Astor, they continued to command the Indian trade to a large extent. It was only when the American prince of fur-traders was enabled to import goods to New York of equal quality and send them by way of the lakes, that he could successfully compete with his rivals and in the end drive them from the field.

At the commencement of the war with Great Britain the few settlers at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien depended largely upon the fur trade for their living, monopolized, as we have seen, at that period, by British traders. At the beginning of hostilities this dependency was promptly secured to the latter by the capture, from the Americans, of the post at Mackinaw. Naturally enough most of the people of Wisconsin, limited in number as they were, adhered to the English during the continuance of hostilities. As to the Indian tribes, within what are now the limits of the State, it may be said that, in a measure, they, too, all arrayed themselves on the side of Great Britain. The Menomonees and Winnebagoes took part in the

capture of Mackinaw, and subsequently in other enterprises against the Americans. Indeed, all the tribes in the northwest were firmly attached to the English by reciprocal interest in the fur trade, from which they derived their supplies. Great Britain had never ceased since the Revolution to foster their friendship by the liberal distribution annually of presents; hence, they were ready when the War of 1812-15 was inaugurated to take up the hatchet against the Americans. Just before hostilities began, the English traders were especially active in exciting the Indians against the Americans, more especially against American traders. Robert Dickson, a resident of Prairie du Chien, an Englishman by birth, was among the foremost in stirring up the animosity of the savages. Soon after the declaration of war he collected a body of Indians at Green Bay for the purpose of rendering assistance to the British forces in their operations on the lakes and in the northwest; they were principally Pottawattamies, Kickapoos, Ottawas, Winnebagoes and Sacs, the last mentioned being Black Hawk's band. This chief was made commander-in-chief of the savages there assembled, by Dickinson, and sent to join the British army under Proctor.

The English early succeeded in securing the Wisconsin Indian tribes as their allies in this war; and having taken Mackinaw in July, 1812, they were, virtually, put in possession of what is now the eastern portion of the State. Early in 1814, the government authorities of the United States caused to be fitted out at St. Louis a large boat, having on board all the men that could be mustered and spared from the lower country, and sent up the Mississippi to protect the upper region and the few settlers therein. The troops landed at Prairie du Chien, and immediately proceeded to fortify. Not long after, Col. McKay, of the British army, crossing the country by course of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, with over 500 British and Indians, received the surrender of the whole force. The officers and men were paroled and

sent down the river. This was the only battle fought upon Wisconsin soil during the last war with England. The post at Prairie du Chien was left in command of a captain with two companies from Mackinaw. He remained there until after the peace of 1815, when the place was evacuated by the British.

On the 3d of August, 1814, an expedition of about 300 men, under command of Maj. Zachary Taylor, left St. Louis in boats for the upper Mississippi. When they arrived at Rock Island they found the British there, apparently in force, with a battery on shore commanding the river. A severe fight took place, but after sustaining a loss of several killed and wounded the Americans returned to St. Louis. The British afterwards left Rock Island, and upon the signing of the treaty of peace by the envoys of the two governments, and the ratification of the same, the whole northwest, including Fort McKay at Prairie du Chien, was evacuated by British forces.

When it was made known to the Indian tribes of the west some of them upon the Mississippi were willing and eager to make treaties with the United States. A lucrative trade sprung up between the merchants of St. Louis and the traders and Indians up that river. Goods were periodically sent up the river to traders, who in turn transmitted in payment, by the same boats, furs and lead. But, generally, the savages hovered sullenly around the now rapidly increasing settlements in the territories of Michigan and Illinois, and the general government began to consider in earnest how the influence of British intercourse might be checked, for the savages were still encouraged by English traders in their unfriendly disposition and supplied with arms by them. Accordingly, in the winter after the close of the war, Congress prohibited foreign trade in the territory of the United States; and, in the summer following, steps were taken to make this policy effectual, by establishing a chain of military posts near the Canadian frontier and upon the



principal lines of communication thence into the interior. These posts were to be occupied by Indian agents, with factories, or government stores, designed to supply the place of the prohibited traffic.

On the 21st of June, 1816, United States troops took possession of the fort at Prairie du Chien. During the next month three schooners entered Fox river of Green bay, under the American flag, displaying to the astonished inhabitants of the small settlement upon that stream near its mouth, their decks covered with government troops. They were under command of Col. John Miller, of the Third United States Infantry, whose purpose was the establishment of a garrison near the head of the bay. The rendezvous of the troops was upon the east side some distance up the river, and was called "Camp Smith." At the end of two months the garrison was established in barracks enclosed with a stockade. Camp Smith was occupied until 1820, when a more substantial structure was erected on the west side of the stream near its mouth, and named Fort Howard.

The settlement at Green Bay was made up at the close of the war, of about forty or fifty French Canadians. The inhabitants (as at Prairie du Chien) were now for a time the subjects of military rule. "They received the advent of the troops in a hospitable spirit, and acquiesced in the authority asserted over them, with little evidence of discontent, maintaining a character for docility and freedom from turbulence of disposition remarkably in contrast with their surroundings. Military authority was, in the main, exerted for the preservation of order." There was no civil authority worth speaking of. It was at a period when important changes were taking place. That sometimes military authority, under such circumstances, should have been exercised in an arbitrary manner, is not at all a matter of surprise. "The conduct of the soldiery was also sometimes troublesome and offensive; as a rule, however, harmonious relations existed between

them and the citizens. The abuses were only such as were unavoidable, in the absence of any lawful restraint on the one hand, or means of redress on the other." This state of affairs did not long continue, as initiatory steps were not long after taken to extend over the community both here and at Prairie du Chien the protection of civil government.

The Indians of Wisconsin, upon the arrival of United States troops at Prairie du Chien and Green bay, gave evident signs of a disposition to remain friendly, although some thought the advent of soldiers an intrusion. An Indian agency under John Boyer and a United States factory, well supplied with goods, with Major Matthew Irwin at its head, were soon established at the bay; a factory at Prairie du Chien, under charge of John W. Johnson, was also started. The Menemonee and Winnebago tribes, the former upon Green bay, the latter upon the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, were now brought into nearer relations with the United States.

#### WISCONSIN AS A PART OF MICHIGAN TERRITORY.

Upon the admission of Illinois into the Union, in 1818, all "the territory of the United States, northwest of the River Ohio," lying west of Michigan territory and north of the States of Indiana and Illinois, was attached to and made a part of Michigan territory; by which act the whole of the present State of Wisconsin came under the jurisdiction of the latter. At the close of the last war with Great Britain, Wisconsin began in earnest to be occupied by Americans. But the latter were still few in number when the country west of Lake Michigan was attached to Michigan territory. Now, however, that the laws of the United States were in reality extended over them, they began to feel as though they were not altogether beyond the protection of a government of their own, notwithstanding they were surrounded by Indian tribes. On the 26th of October, 1818, the governor of the territory erected by proclamation three counties lying in whole or in part in what is now Wisconsin—Brown, Crawford

and Michilimackinae. The county of Michilimackinae not only included all of the present State of Wisconsin lying north of a line drawn due west from near the head of the Little Noquet bay, but territory east and west of it, so as to reach from Lake Huron to the Mississippi river. Its county seat was established "at the Borough of Michilimackinae." The whole area in Michigan territory south of the county of Michilimackinae, and west of Lake Michigan formed the two counties of Brown and Crawford; the former to include the area east of a line drawn due north and south through the middle of the portage between the Fox river of Green bay and the Wisconsin; the latter to include the whole region west of that line. Prairie du Chien was designated as the county seat of Crawford; Green Bay, of Brown county. On the 22d of December, 1826, a county named Chippewa was formed from the northern portions of Michilimackinae, including the southern shores of Lake Superior throughout its entire length, and extending from the straits leading from that lake into Lake Huron, west to the western boundary line of Michigan territory, with the county seat "at such point in the vicinity of the Sault de Ste. Marie, as a majority of the county commissioners to be appointed shall designate." Embraced within this county—its southern boundary being the parallel of 46 degrees 31 minutes north latitude—was all the territory of the present State of Wisconsin now bordering on Lake Superior. Brown and Crawford counties were soon organized, the offices being filled by appointments of the governor. County courts were also established, to which appeals were taken from justices of the peace. In January, 1823, a district court was established by an act of Congress, for the counties last mentioned, including also Michilimackinae. One term during the year was held in each county. James Duane Doty was the judge of this court to May, 1832, when he was succeeded by David Irvin.

The United States were not unmindful of her citizens to the westward of Lake Michigan, in

several other important matters. Indian agencies were established; treaties were held with some of the native tribes, and land claims of white settlers at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien adjusted. Postmasters were also appointed at these two places.

In 1825 and the two following years, a general attention was called to the lead mines in what is now the southwestern portion of the State. Different places therein were settled with American miners. In June, 1827, the Winnebago Indians became hostile; this caused the militia of Prairie du Chien to be called out. United States troops ascended the Wisconsin river to quell the disturbance. There they were joined by Illinois volunteers, and the Winnebagoes awed into submission. Fort Winnebago was thereupon erected by the general government at the portage, near the present site of Portage, Columbia Co., Wis. A treaty with the Indians followed, and there was no more trouble because of mining operations in the "lead region." On the 9th of October, 1829, a county was formed of all that part of Crawford lying south of the Wisconsin, and named Iowa. In 1831 the United States purchased of the Menomonees all their lands east of Green bay, Winnebago lake and the Fox and Milwaukee rivers. The general government, before this date, had, at several periods, held treaties with the Sac and Fox Indians. And the time had now come when the two tribes were to leave the eastern for the western side of the Mississippi river; but a band headed by Black Hawk refused to leave their village near Rock Island, Ill. They contended that they had not sold their town to the United States; and upon their return early in 1831, from a hunt across the Mississippi, finding their village and fields in possession of the whites, they determined to repossess their homes at all hazards. This was looked upon, or called, an encroachment by the settlers; so the governor of Illinois took the responsibility of declaring the State invaded, and asked the United States to drive the refrac-

tory Indians beyond the Mississippi. The result was, the Indian village was destroyed by Illinois volunteers. This and the threatened advance across the river by the United States commander, brought Black Hawk and his followers to terms. They sued for peace—agreeing to remain forever on the west side of the Mississippi. But this truce was of short duration.

Early in the spring of 1832, Black Hawk having assembled his forces on the Mississippi in the vicinity of the locality where Fort Madison had stood, crossed that stream and ascended Rock river. This was the signal for war. The governor of Illinois made a call for volunteers, and in a brief space of time 1,800 had assembled at Beardstown, Cass county. They marched for the mouth of Rock river, where a council of war was held by their officers and Brigadier-General Henry Atkinson, of the regular forces. The Indians were sent word by General Atkinson that they must return and recross the Mississippi or they would be driven back by force. When the attempt was made to compel them to go back a collision occurred between the Illinois militia and Black Hawk's braves, resulting in the discomfiture of the former with the loss of eleven men. Soon afterward the volunteers were discharged, and the first campaign of Black Hawk's War was at an end. This was in May, 1832. In June following a new force had been raised and put under the command of General Atkinson, who commenced his march up Rock river. Before this there had been a general "forting" in the lead region, in Illinois, and including the whole country in what is now Southwest Wisconsin, notwithstanding which a number of settlers had been killed by the savages, mostly in Illinois. Squads of volunteers, in two or three instances, had encountered the Indians, and in one with entire success—upon the Pecatonica, in the present Lafayette Co., Wis.—every savage (and there were seventeen of them) being killed. The loss of the volunteers was three

killed and wounded. Atkinson's march up Rock river was attended with some skirmishing, when, being informed that Black Hawk and his force were at Lake Koshkonong, in the southwest corner of what is now Jefferson Co., Wis., he immediately moved thither with a portion of his army, where the whole force was ordered to concentrate. But the Sac chief, with his people, had flown. Colonels Henry Dodge and James D. Henry, with the forces under them, discovered the trail of the savages, leading in the direction of Wisconsin river. It was evident that the retreating force was large, and that it had but recently passed. The pursuing troops hastened their march. On the 21st of July, 1832, they arrived at the hills which skirt the left bank of that stream, in what is now Roxbury town (township), Dane county. Here was Black Hawk's whole force, including women and children, the aged and infirm, hastening by every effort to escape across the river. But that this might now be effected it became necessary for that chief to make a firm stand, to cover the retreat. The Indians were in the bottom lands when the pursuing whites made their appearance upon the heights in their rear. Colonel Dodge occupied the front and sustained the first attack of the Indians. He was soon joined by Henry with his force, when they obtained a complete victory. The action commenced about 5 o'clock in the afternoon and ended at sunset. The enemy sustained a loss, it is said, of about sixty killed and a large number wounded.\* The loss of the Americans was one killed and eight wounded. During the following night Black Hawk made his escape down the Wisconsin. He was pursued and finally brought to a stand on the Mississippi near the mouth of the Bad Axe, on the western boundary of what is now Vernon Co., Wis.; and on the 2d of August attacked on all sides by the Americans, who soon obtained a complete victory. Black Hawk escaped, but was soon after captured. This ended the war.

\*Black Hawk gives a very different account as to his loss. "In this skirmish," says he, "with fifty braves I defended and accomplished my passage over the Wisconsin with a loss of only six men."

The survey of public lands to which the Indian title had been extinguished; the erection of Milwaukee county from the southern part of Brown; the changing of the eastern boundary of Iowa county to correspond with the western one of Milwaukee county; the attaching, for judicial purposes, of all the country west of the Mississippi river and north of the State of Missouri to the territory of Michigan in 1834, and the division of it into the two counties of Des Moines and Dubuque, were the important events following the close of the Black Hawk war. The prospective admission of the State of

Michigan into the Union, to include all that part of the territory lying east of Lake Michigan, caused, on the 1st of January, 1836, a session (the first one) of the seventh territorial council, to legislate for so much of the territory as lay to the westward of that lake, to be held at Green Bay, when a memorial was adopted, asking Congress for the formation of a new territory, to include all of Michigan territory not to be admitted as a State. This request, it will now be seen, was soon complied with by the National Legislature.

## CHAPTER II.

### WISCONSIN AS A TERRITORY.

The Territory of Wisconsin\* was erected by act of Congress of April 20, 1836, to take effect from and after the 3d day of July following.

\*Wisconsin takes its name from its principal river, which drains an extensive portion of its surface. It rises in Lake Vieux Desert (which is partly in Michigan and partly in Wisconsin), flows generally a south course to Portage in what is now Columbia county, where it turns to the southwest, and after a further course of 118 miles, with a rapid current, reaches the Mississippi river, four miles below Prairie du Chien. Its entire length is about 450 miles, descending, in that distance, a little more than 1,000 feet. Along the lower portion of the stream are the high lands, or river hills. Some of these hills present high and precipitous faces toward the water. Others terminate in knobs. The name is supposed to have been taken from this feature: the word being derived from *mis-is*, great, and *os-sin*, a stone or rock.

Compare Shea's *Discovery and Exploration of the Mississippi*, pp. 6 (note) and 268; Foster's *Mississippi Valley*, v. 2 (note); Schoolcraft's *Thirty Years with the Indian Tribes*, p. 220 and note.

Two definitions of the word are current—as widely differing from each other as from the one just given. (See Wis. Hist. Soc. Coll., Vol. I., p. 111, and Webster's Dic., Unabridged, p. 1632.) The first—"the gathering of the waters"—has no corresponding words in Algonquin at all resembling the name; the same may be said of the second—"wild rushing channel." (See Otchipwe Dic. of Rev. F. Baraga.)

Since first used by the French the word "Wisconsin" has undergone considerable change. On the map by Joliet, recently brought to light by Gravier, it is given as "Miskouing." In Marquette's journal, published by Thevenot, in Paris, 1681, it is noted as the "Meskouing." It appeared there for the first time in print. Hennepin, in 1683, wrote "Onisconsin" and "Misoncin;" Charlevoix, 1743, "Ouisconsin;" Carver, 1766, "Ouisconsin" (English—"Wisconsin"); since which last mentioned date the orthography has been uniform.—Butterfield's *Discovery of the Northwest in*

It was made to include all that part of the late Michigan territory described within boundaries "commencing at the northeast corner of the State of Illinois, running thence through the middle of Lake Michigan to a point opposite the main channel of Green bay; thence through that channel and the bay to the mouth of the Menomonee river; thence up that stream to its head, which is nearest the lake of the Desert; thence to the middle of that lake; thence down the Montreal river to its mouth; thence with a direct line across Lake Superior to where the territorial line of the United States last touches the lake northwest; thence on the north, with the territorial line, to the White Earth river; on the west by a line drawn down the middle of the main channel of that stream to the Missouri river, and down the middle of the main channel of the last mentioned stream to the northwest corner of the State of Missouri; and thence with the boundaries of the States of Missouri and Illinois, as already fixed by act of

Congress, to the place or point of beginning." Its counties were Brown, Milwaukee, Iowa, Crawford, Dubuque and Des Moines, with a portion of Chippewa and Michilimackinac unorganized. Henry Dodge was commissioned governor April 30, 1836; Charles Dunn, chief justice, and David Irvin and William C. Frazer associate justices; by Andrew Jackson, President of the United States. The following were the secretaries, attorneys and marshals, with the dates of their commissions who held office while the territory was in existence :

## SECRETARIES.

John S. Horner, May 6, 1836; William B. Slaughter, Feb. 16, 1837; Francis I. Dunn, Jan. 25, 1841; Alexander P. Field, April 23, 1841; George Floyd, Oct. 30, 1843; John Catlin, Feb. 24, 1846.

## UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS.

W. W. Chapman, May 6, 1836; Moses M. Strong, July 5, 1838; Thomas W. Sutherland, April 27, 1841; William P. Lynde, July 14, 1845.

## UNITED STATES MARSHALS.

Francis Gehon, May 6, 1836; Edward James, June 19, 1838; Daniel Hugunin, March 15, 1841; Charles M. Prevost, Aug. 31, 1844; John S. Rockwell, March 14, 1845.

The first important measure to be looked after by Governor Dodge upon his assuming, in the spring of 1836, the executive chair of the territory was the organization of the territorial Legislature. A census showed the following population east of the Mississippi: Milwaukee county, 2,893; Brown county, 2,706; Crawford county, 850; Iowa county, 5,234. Total, 11,683. The enumeration for the two counties west of the Mississippi was—Des Moines, 6,257; Dubuque, 4,274. Total, 10,531. The population, therefore, of both sides of the river aggregated 22,214. The legislative apportionment, made by the governor, gave to the territory thirteen councilmen and twenty-six representatives. These, of course, were to be elected by the people. The election was held Oct. 10, 1836.

Belmont, in the present county of Lafayette, Wis., was appointed as the place for the meeting of the Legislature, where the first session began October 25. A quorum of each house was in attendance. Henry S. Baird, of Green Bay, was elected president of the council, and Peter H. Engle speaker of the house.

The following persons served as presidents of the council while Wisconsin was a territory :

First session, first Legislative Assembly, Henry S. Baird, Brown county.

Second session, first Legislative Assembly, Arthur R. Ingraham, Des Moines county.

Special session, first Legislative Assembly, Arthur R. Ingraham, Des Moines county.

First session, second Legislative Assembly, William Bullen, Racine county.

Second session, second Legislative Assembly, James Collins, Iowa county.

Third session, second Legislative Assembly, James Collins, Iowa county.

Fourth (extra) session, second Legislative Assembly, William A. Prentiss, Milwaukee county.

First session, third Legislative Assembly, James Maxwell, Walworth county.

Second session, third Legislative Assembly, James Collins, Iowa county.

First session, fourth Legislative Assembly, Moses M. Strong, Iowa county.

Second session, fourth Legislative Assembly, Marshal M. Strong, Racine county.

Third session, fourth Legislative Assembly, Moses M. Strong, Iowa county.

Fourth session, fourth Legislative Assembly, Nelson Dewey, Grant county.

First session, fifth Legislative Assembly, Horatio N. Wells, Milwaukee county.

Special session, fifth Legislative Assembly, Horatio N. Wells, Milwaukee county.

Second session, fifth Legislative Assembly, Horatio N. Wells, Milwaukee county.

The following persons served as speakers of the House during the continuance of Wisconsin territory :

First session, first Legislative Assembly, Peter H. Engle, Dubuque county.

Second session, first Legislative Assembly, Isaac Leffler, Des Moines county.

Special session, first Legislative Assembly, William B. Sheldon, Milwaukee county.

First session, second Legislative Assembly, John W. Blackstone, Iowa county.

Second session, second Legislative Assembly, Lucius I. Barber, Milwaukee county.

Third session, second Legislative Assembly, Edward V. Whiton, Rock county.

Fourth (extra) session, second Legislative Assembly, Nelson Dewey, Grant county.

First session, third Legislative Assembly, David Newland, Iowa county.

Second session, third Legislative Assembly, David Newland, Iowa county.

First session, fourth Legislative Assembly, Albert G. Ellis, Portage county.

Second session, fourth Legislative Assembly, George H. Walker, Milwaukee county.

Third session, fourth Legislative Assembly, George H. Walker, Milwaukee county.

Fourth session, fourth Legislative Assembly, Mason C. Darling, Fond du Lac county.

First session, fifth Legislative Assembly, William Shew, Milwaukee county.

Special session, fifth Legislative Assembly, Isaac P. Walker, Milwaukee county.

Second session, fifth Legislative Assembly, Timothy Burns, Iowa county.

Each of the three branches of the infant government was now (October, 1836) in working order, except that it remained for the Legislative Assembly to divide the territory into three judicial districts, the number required by the organic act, and make an assignment of the judges. This was speedily done. Crawford and Iowa constituted the first district, to which the chief justice was assigned; Dubuque and Des Moines the second, to which judge Irwin was assigned; and Judge Frazer to the third, consisting of Milwaukee and Brown counties. The principal matters engaging the attention

of the legislators were the permanent location of the capitol, the erection of new counties and the location of county seats. Madison was fixed upon as the seat of government; and nine counties were erected east of the Mississippi: Walworth, Racine, Jefferson, Dane, Dodge, Washington, Rock, Grant and Green. West of the river six counties were set off: Lee, Van Buren, Henry, Louisa, Muscatine and Cook. The Legislature adjourned *sine die*; Dec. 9, 1836. The first term of the supreme court was held at Belmont on the 8th day of December, of that year. The appointment of a clerk, crier and reporter, and the admission of several attorneys to practice, completed the business of the first term. The following persons served as clerks while Wisconsin was a territory:

John Catlin, appointed at December term, 1836; Simeon Mills, appointed at July term, 1839; La Fayette Kellogg, appointed at July term, 1840. Gov. Dodge, appointed Dec. 8, 1836, Henry S. Baird, as attorney general. His successors were as follows:

Horatio N. Wells, appointed by Gov. Dodge, March 30, 1839; Mortimer M. Jackson, appointed by Gov. Dodge, Jan. 26, 1842; William Pitt Lynde, appointed by Gov. Tallmage, Feb. 22, 1845; A. Hyatt Smith, appointed by Gov. Dodge Aug. 4, 1845. Upon the organization of the territory in 1836, it was necessary that it should be represented in the National Legislature; so on the day of the election of the territorial Legislature, George W. Jones, of Iowa county, was chosen a delegate in Congress. His successors were:

James Duane Doty, elected Sept. 10, 1838; James Duane Doty, elected Aug. 5, 1840; Henry Dodge, elected Sept. 27, 1841; Henry Dodge, elected Sept. 25, 1843; Morgan L. Martin, elected Sept. 22, 1845; John H. Tweedy, elected Sept. 6, 1847.

At the close of the year 1836, there was no land in market east of the Mississippi, except a narrow strip along the shore of Lake Michigan, and in the vicinity of Green bay. The residue

of the country south and east of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers was open only to pre-emption by actual settlers. The Indian tribes still claimed a large portion of the lands. On the north were located the Chippewas. The southern limits of their possessions were defined by a line drawn from a point on that stream in about latitude 46 degrees 31 minutes in a southeasterly direction to the head of Lake St. Croix; thence in the same general direction to what is now Stevens Point, in the present Portage Co., Wis.; thence nearly east to Wolf river; and thence in a direction nearly northeast to the Menomonee river. Between the Wisconsin river and the Mississippi, and extending north to the south line of the Chippewas was the territory of the Winnebagoes. East of the Winnebagoes in the country north of the Fox river of Green bay were located the Menomonees, their lands extending to Wolf river. Such was the general outline of Indian occupancy in Wisconsin territory, east of the Mississippi, at its organization. A portion of the country east of Wolf river and north of Green bay and the Fox river; the whole of the area lying south of Green bay, Fox river and the Wisconsin, constituted the extent of country over which the Indians had no claim. In this region, as we have seen, was a population of about 12,000, it was made up of the scattered settlers at the lead mines; the military establishments, (Fort Crawford, Fort Winnebago and Fort Howard), and settlements at or near them; and the village of Milwaukee; these were about all the parts of the territory east of the Mississippi, at that date, occupied to any extent by the whites.

The second session of the first Legislative Assembly of the territory of Wisconsin, began at Burlington, now the county seat of Des Moines Co., Iowa, Nov. 6, 1837, and adjourned Jan. 20, 1838, to the second Monday of June following. The principal acts passed were, one for taking another census; one abolishing imprisonment for debt; another regulating the sale of school lands and to prepare for organizing, regulating and perfecting schools. There was also one passed incorporating the

Milwaukee and Rock River Canal Company. This was approved by the governor, Jan. 5, 1838. By an act of Congress approved June 18 of the same year, a grant of land was made to aid in the construction of the canal. The grant consisted of the odd-numbered sections on a belt of ten miles in width from Lake Michigan to Rock river, amounting to 139,190 acres. Of those lands 43,447 acres were sold at public sale in July, 1839, at the minimum price of \$2.50 per acre. Work was commenced on the canal at Milwaukee, and the Milwaukee river for a short distance from its outlet was improved by the construction of a dam across the river, which was made available for manufacturing and other purposes. A canal was also built about a mile in length and forty feet wide, leading from it down on the west bank of the river. Much dissatisfaction subsequently arose; the purchasers at this sale, and others occupying these canal and reserved lands felt the injustice of being compelled to pay double price for their lands, and efforts were made to repeal all laws authorizing further sales, and to ask Congress to repeal the act making this grant. The legislation on the subject of this grant is voluminous. In 1862 the Legislature of the State passed an act to ascertain and settle the liabilities, if any, of Wisconsin and the company, and a board of commissioners was appointed for that purpose. At the session of the Legislature in 1863, the committee made a report with a lengthy opinion of the attorney-general of the State. The views of that officer were, that the company had no valid claims for damages against the State. In this opinion the commissioners concurred. On the 23d of March, 1875, an act was approved by the governor, giving authority to the attorney-general to discharge and release of record any mortgage before executed to the late territory of Wisconsin given to secure the purchase money or any part thereof of any lands granted by Congress to aid in the construction of this canal. The quantity of lands unsold was sub-

sequently made a part of the 500,000 acre tract granted by Congress for school purposes. It is believed the whole matter is now closed against further legislative enactments.

There was another important act passed by the territorial Legislature of 1837-8, by which fourteen counties were erected, but all of them west of the Mississippi. The census having been taken in May, a special session of the first Legislative Assembly was commenced June 11, 1838, at Burlington, continuing to June 25, of that year. This session was pursuant to an adjournment of the previous one, mainly for the purpose of making a new apportionment of members. The population of the several counties east of the Mississippi was, by the May census, 18,149. By an act of Congress, approved June 12, 1838, it was provided that from and after the 3d day of July following, all that part of Wisconsin territory lying west of that river and west of a line drawn due north from its headwaters or sources to the territorial line for the purposes of a territorial government should be set apart and known by the name of Iowa. It was further enacted that the territory of Wisconsin should thereafter extend westward only to the Mississippi. Because of the passage of this act, the one passed at the special session of the territorial Legislature making an apportionment of members, became nugatory—that duty now devolving upon Gov. Doty. On the third Monday of July, 1838, the annual term of supreme court was held at Madison this, of course, being the first one after the re-organization of the territory; the previous one was not held, as there was no business for the court. On the 18th of October, Judge Frazer died, and on the 8th of November, Andrew G. Miller was appointed his successor, by Martin Van Buren, President of the United States.

The Legislature of the re-organized territory of Wisconsin met at Madison for the first time—it being the first session of the second Legislative Assembly—Nov. 26, 1838. Its attention

was directed to the mode in which the commissioners of public buildings had discharged their duties. There was an investigation of three banks then in operation in the territory—one at Green Bay, one at Mineral Point, and the other at Milwaukee. A plan, also, for the revision of the laws of the territory was considered. A new assignment was made for the holding of district courts. Chief Justice Dunn was assigned to the first district, composed of the counties of Iowa, Grant and Crawford; Judge Irvin to the second, composed of the counties of Dane, Jefferson, Rock, Walworth and Green; while Judge Miller was assigned to the third district, composed of Milwaukee, Brown and Racine counties—including therein the unorganized counties of Washington and Dodge, which, for judicial purposes, were, when constituted, by name and boundary, attached to Milwaukee county. The Legislature adjourned on the 22d of December, to meet again on the 21st of the following month. The census having been taken during the year, it was found that the territory had a population of 18,130, an increase in two years, of 6,447. The second session of the second Legislative Assembly began Jan. 21, 1839, agreeable to adjournment. An act was passed during this session legalizing a revision of the laws which had been perfected by a committee previously; this act took effect July 4, and composed the principal part of the laws forming the revised statutes of 1839. The session ended March 11, 1839. On the 8th of March of this year, Henry Dodge, whose term for three years as governor was about to expire, was again commissioned by the President of the United States. At the July term of the supreme court, all the judges were present, and several cases were heard and decided. A seal for the court was also adopted. From this time, the supreme court met annually, as provided by law, until Wisconsin became a State.

The next Legislature assembled at Madison, on the 2d of December, 1839. This was the



third session of the second Legislative Assembly of the territory. The term for which members of the house were elected would soon expire; it was therefore desirable that a new apportionment should be made. As the census would be taken the ensuing June, by the United States, it would be unnecessary for the territory to make an additional enumeration. A short session was resolved upon, and then an adjournment until after the completion of the census. One of the subjects occupying largely the attention of the members, was the condition of the capitol, and the conduct of the commissioners intrusted with the money appropriated by Congress to defray the cost of its construction. These commissioners were James Duane Doty, A. A. Bird and John F. O'Neill. They received their appointment from the general government. Work began on the building in June, 1837, the corner stone being laid with appropriate ceremonies July 4. During that year and the previous one, Congress appropriated \$40,000, Dane county \$4,000, and the territorial Legislature, about \$16,000, for the structure; so that the entire cost was about \$60,000. The building, when finished, was a substantial structure, which, in architectural design and convenience of arrangement, compared favorably with the capitols of adjacent and older States. The capitol proving inadequate to the growing wants of the State, the Legislature of 1857 provided for its enlargement. By this act, the commissioners of school and university lands were directed to sell the ten sections of land appropriated by Congress "for the completion of public buildings," and apply the proceeds toward enlarging and improving the State capitol. The State also appropriated \$30,000 for the same object, and \$50,000 was given by the city of Madison. The governor and secretary of State were made commissioners for conducting the work, which was begun in the fall of 1857, and continued from year to year until 1869, when the dome was completed. The Legislature of 1882

appropriated \$200,000 for the construction of two transverse wings to the capitol building, one on the north and the other on the south sides thereof, in order to provide additional room for the State historical society, the supreme court, the State library, and for the increasing work of the State offices. The governor, secretary of State, attorney general, with others, representing the supreme court and the historical society, were made commissioners for carrying out the work. The cost will be within the amount appropriated by the State. The total appropriations for the enlargement of the capitol and for the improvement of the park, to the present time, are \$629,992.54. This does not include the sum of \$6,500 appropriated in 1875, for macadamizing to the center of the streets around the park, nor the \$200,000 appropriated in 1882. The park is 914 feet square, cornering north, south, east and west, contains fourteen and four-tenths acres, and is situated on an elevation commanding a view of the third and fourth lakes and the surrounding country. In the center of the square stands the capitol. The height of the building from the basement to the top of the flag staff is 225½ feet, while the total length of its north and south wings, exclusive of steps and porticoes, with the addition of the new wings, is 396 feet, and of the east and west wings, 226 feet.

The Legislature of 1839-40, adjourned January 13, to meet again on the 3d of the ensuing August. The completion of the federal census of 1840 showed a population for the territory of 30,744. Upon the re-assembling of the Legislature—which is known as the extra session of the second Legislative Assembly—some changes were made in the apportionment of members to the House of Representatives. The session lasted but a few days, a final adjournment taking place Aug. 14, 1840. The first session of the third Legislative Assembly began Dec. 7, 1840, and ended Feb. 19, 1841, with only three members who had served in the previous Assem-

bly. All had recently been elected under the new apportionment.

On the 13th of September, 1841, Gov. Dodge was removed from office by John Tyler, then President of the United States, and James Dnane Doty appointed in his place, the commission of the latter being dated the 5th of October following.

The second session of the third Legislative Assembly began at Madison, on the 6th of December, 1841. Gov. Doty, in his message to that body, boldly avowed the doctrine that no law of the territory was effective until expressly approved by Congress. This construction of the organic act resulted in a lengthy warfare between the governor and the Legislative Assembly. On the 11th of February, 1842, an event occurred in the Legislative council, causing a great excitement over the whole territory. On that day, Charles C. P. Arndt, a member from Brown county, was, while that body was in session, shot dead by James R. Vineyard, a member from Grant county. The difficulty grew out of a debate on a motion to lay on the table the nomination of Enos S. Baker to the office of sheriff of Grant county. Immediately before adjournment of the council, the parties who had come together, after loud and angry words had been spoken, were separated by the by-standers. When an adjournment had been announced, they met again; whereupon Arndt struck at Vineyard. The latter then drew a pistol and shot Arndt. He died in a few moments. Vineyard immediately surrendered himself to the sheriff of the county, waived an examination, and was committed to jail. After a short confinement, he was brought before the chief justice of the territory, on a writ of *habeas corpus*, and admitted to bail. He was afterward indicted for manslaughter, was tried and acquitted. Three days after shooting Arndt, Vineyard sent in his resignation as member of the council. That body refused to receive it, or to have it read even; but at once expelled him. The second and last session of the third

Legislative Assembly came to a close Feb. 18, 1842.

For the next six years there were seven sessions of the territorial legislature, as follows: First session, 4th Legislative Assembly, commenced Dec. 5, 1842, ended April 17, 1843; second session, 4th Legislative Assembly, commenced Dec. 4, 1843, ended Jan. 31, 1844; third session, 4th Legislative Assembly, commenced Jan. 6, 1845, ended Feb. 24, 1845; fourth session, 4th Legislative Assembly, commenced Jan 5, 1846, ended Feb. 3, 1846; first session, 5th Legislative Assembly, commenced Jan. 4, 1847, ended Feb. 11, 1847; special session, 5th Legislative Assembly, commenced Oct. 18, 1847, ended Oct. 27, 1847; second session, 5th Legislative Assembly, commenced Feb. 7, 1848, ended March 13, 1848.

The members of the first session of the fourth legislative assembly had been elected under a new apportionment based upon a census taken in June, showing a total population of 46,678. In each house there was a democratic majority. Gov. Doty was a whig. It was a stormy session. After the two houses had organized, the governor refused to communicate with them, as a body legally assembled, according to the organic act, he claiming that no appropriation for that object had been made by Congress. The houses continued in session until the 10th day of December, when they adjourned until the 13th of January, 1843, they having meanwhile made representation to the National Legislature, then in session, of the objections of the governor. It was not until the 4th of February that a quorum in both houses had assembled. Previous to this, Congress had made an appropriation to cover the expenses of the session; and the governor, on the 13th of January, had issued a proclamation convening a special session on the 6th of March. Both houses in February adjourned to the day fixed by the governor, which ended the troubles; and the final adjournment took place, as already stated, April 17, 1843. Nathaniel P. Tallmadge

was appointed governor in place of Doty on the 21st of June, 1844, his commission bearing date the 16th of September. James K. Polk having been elected President of the United States in the fall of that year, Henry Dodge was again put in the executive chair of the territory, receiving his appointment April 8, 1845, and being commissioned May 13 following.

It was during the fourth session of the fourth legislative assembly that preliminary steps were taken, which resulted in the formation of a State government. The first Tuesday in April, 1846, was the day fixed upon for the people to vote for or against the proposition. When taken it resulted in a large majority voting in favor of the measure. An act was passed providing for taking the census of the territory, and for the apportionment by the governor of delegates to form a State constitution, based upon the new enumeration. The delegates were to be elected on the first Monday in September, and the convention was to assemble on the first Monday in October, 1846. The constitution when formed was to be submitted to the vote of the people for adoption or rejection, as, at the close of the session, the terms of members of the council who had been elected for four years, and of the house, who had been elected for two years, all ended. The legislature re-organized the election districts, and conferred on the governor the power and duty of making an apportionment, based on the census to be taken, for the next Legislative Assembly, when, on the 3d of February, 1846, both houses adjourned *sine die*. The census taken in the following June showed a population for the territory of 155,217. Delegates having been elected to form a constitution for the proposed new State, met at Madison on the 5th day of October. After completing their labors, they adjourned. This event took place on the 16th of December, 1846. The constitution thus formed was submitted to a popular

vote on the first Tuesday of April, 1847, and rejected. A special session of the legislature, to take action concerning the admission of Wisconsin into the Union began Oct. 18, 1847, and a law was passed for the holding of another convention to frame a constitution. Delegates to the new convention were elected on the last Monday of November, and that body met at Madison the 15th of December, 1847. A census of the territory was taken this year, which showed a population of 210,546. The result of the labors of the second constitutional convention was the formation of a constitution, which, being submitted to the people on the second Monday of March, 1848, was duly ratified. On the 29th of May, 1848, by act of Congress, Wisconsin became a State.

It may be here premised that the western boundary of the new State left out a full organized county, with a sheriff, clerk of court, judge of probate, and justices of the peace. A bill had been introduced at a previous session in Congress, by Morgan L. Martin, the delegate from Wisconsin, to organize a territorial government for Minnesota, including the district left out on the admission of Wisconsin; but which failed to become a law. The citizens of what is now Minnesota were very anxious to obtain a territorial government, and two public meetings were held—one at St. Paul, and the other at Stillwater—advising John Catlin, who was secretary of Wisconsin, to issue a proclamation as the acting governor, for the election of a delegate to represent what was left of the territory of Wisconsin. Mr. Catlin repaired to Stillwater and issued a proclamation accordingly. H. H. Sibley was elected; nearly 400 votes having been polled at the election. Sibley was admitted to his seat on the floor of Congress by a vote of two to one. His admission facilitated and hastened the passage of a bill for the organization of a territorial government for Minnesota.

## CHAPTER III.

## WISCONSIN AS A STATE.

The State of Wisconsin is bounded on the north by Minnesota and Michigan; on the east by the State last mentioned; on the south, by Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota; and on the west, by the two last named States. Its boundaries, as more particularly described, are as follows: Beginning at its northeast corner of the State of Illinois, that is to say, at a point in the center of Lake Michigan, where the line of forty-two degrees and thirty minutes of north latitude, crosses the same; thence running with the boundary line of the State of Michigan, through Lake Michigan [and] Green bay to the mouth of the Menomonee river; thence up the channel of the said river to the Brule river; thence up said last mentioned river to Lake Brule; thence along the southern shore of Lake Brule, in a direct line to the center of the channel between Middle and South islands, in the Lake of the Desert; thence in a direct line to the head waters of the Montreal river, as marked upon the survey made by Captain Cram; thence down the main channel of the Montreal river to the middle of Lake Superior; thence through the center of Lake Superior to the mouth of the St. Louis river; thence up the main channel of said river to the first rapids in the same, above the Indian village, according to Nicollett's map, thence due south to the main branch of the River St. Croix; thence down the main channel of said river to the Mississippi; thence down the center of the main channel of that river to the northwest corner of the State of Illinois; thence due east with the northern boundary of the State of Illinois to the place of beginning. The general shape of Wisconsin is that of an

irregular pentagon. Its land area is 53,924 square miles; and, in respect to size, it ranks with the other States as the 15th. It is known as one of the North Central States, east of the Mississippi. It extends from 9 degrees 50 minutes to 15 degrees 50 minutes west longitude from Washington city, and from 42 degrees 30 minutes to about 47 degrees 30 minutes north latitude. It has Lake Michigan on the east, Green bay, Menomonee and Brule rivers, Lake Vieux Desert, the Montreal river, Lake Superior and the St. Louis river; on the northeast and north; and, on the west, the St. Croix and the Mississippi rivers.\* The average length of the State is about 260 miles; its average breadth 215 miles. The surface features of Wisconsin present a configuration between the mountainous, on the one hand, and a monotonous level, on the other. The State occupies a swell of land lying between three notable depressions: Lake Michigan, on the east; Lake Superior, on the north; and the valley of the Mississippi, on the west. From these depressions the surface slopes upward to the summit altitudes. Scattered over the State are prominent hills, but no mountains. Some of these hills swell upward into rounded domes, some ascend precipitously into castellated towers; and some reach prominence without regard to beauty

\*"The boundary of Wisconsin is commonly given as Lake Superior and the State of Michigan on the north, and Michigan and Lake Michigan on the east, and sometimes, also, the Mississippi river is given as a part of the western boundary. These boundaries are not the true ones. The State of Wisconsin extends to the center of Lakes Michigan and Superior, and to the center of the main channel of the Mississippi river. As the States of Wisconsin and Michigan meet in the center of Lake Michigan, it is not Lake Michigan that bounds Wisconsin on the east, but the State of Michigan, and so on. The correct boundary of Wisconsin in general terms, is as follows: Wisconsin is bounded north by Minnesota and Michigan, east by Michigan, south by Illinois, and west by Iowa and Minnesota."—A. O. Wright.

or form or convenience of description. The highest peak, in the southwestern part of the State, is the West Blue Mound, 1,151 feet above Lake Michigan; in the eastern part, Lapham's Peak, 824 feet; in the central part, Rib Hill, 1,263 feet; while the crest of the Penokee Range, in the northern part, rises upward of 1,000 feet. The drainage systems correspond, in general, to the topographical features before described. The face of the State is the growth of geologic ages furrowed by the teardrops of the skies.

The constitution of Wisconsin provided for the election of a governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of State, treasurer and attorney general, as the officers of State. The first State election was held May 8, 1848, when, not only State officers were chosen, but members of the Legislature and members of Congress. The following are the names of the governors elected and the terms they have served, since Wisconsin became a State: Nelson Dewey, June 7, 1848 to Jan. 5, 1852; Leonard J. Farwell, Jan. 5, 1852, to Jan. 5, 1854; William A. Barstow, Jan. 2, 1854, to March 21, 1856; Arthur McArthur, † March 21, to March 25, 1856; Coles Bashford, March 25, 1856, to Jan. 4, 1858; Alexander W. Randall, Jan. 4, 1858, to Jan. 6, 1862; Louis P. Harvey, Jan. 6, 1862, to April 19, 1862; Edward Solomon, † April 19, 1862, to Jan. 4, 1864; James T. Lewis, Jan. 4, 1864, to Jan. 1, 1866; Lucius Fairchild, Jan. 1, 1866, to Jan. 1, 1872; C. C. Washburn, Jan. 1, 1872, to Jan. 5, 1874; William R. Taylor, Jan. 5, 1874, to Jan. 3, 1876; Harrison Ludington, Jan. 3, 1876, to Jan. 7, 1878; William E. Smith, Jan. 7, 1878 to Jan. 2, 1882; Jeremiah M. Rusk, Jan. 2, 1882, and still in office.

The gubernatorial vote of Wisconsin since its admission into the Union was as follows:

1848.	
Dewey, democrat.....	19,538
Tweed, whig.....	14,449
Dewey's majority.....	5,089

† *Ex-Officio.*

1849.	
Dewey, democrat.....	16,649
Collins, whig.....	11,317
Dewey's majority.....	5,332
1851.	
Farwell, whig.....	22,319
Upham, democrat.....	21,812
Farwell's majority.....	507
1853.	
Barstow, democrat.....	30,405
Holton, republicau.....	21,886
Baird, whig.....	3,334
Barstow's plurality.....	8,519
1855.	
Barstow, democrat.....	36,355
Bashford, republican.....	36,198
Barstow's majority.....	*157
1857.	
Randall, republicau.....	44,693
Cross, democrat.....	44,239
Randall's majrity.....	454
1859.	
Randall, republican.....	59,999
Hobart, democrat.....	52,539
Randall's majority.....	7,460
1861.	
Harvey, republican.....	53,777
Ferguson, democrat.....	45,456
Harvey's majority.....	8,321
1863.	
Lewis, republican.....	72,717
Palmer, democrat.....	49,053
Lewis' majority.....	23,664
1865.	
Fairchild, republican.....	58,332
Hobart, democrat.....	48,330
Fairchild's majority.....	10,002
1867.	
Fairchild, republican.....	73,637
Tallmadge, democrat.....	68,873
Fairchild's majority.....	4,764

\* This certificate was set aside by the supreme court.

1869.	
Fairchild, republican.....	69,502
Robinson, democrat.....	61,239
Fairchild's majority.....	8,263
1871.	
Washburn, republican.....	78,301
Doolittle, democrat.....	68,910
Washburn's majority.....	9,391
1873.	
Taylor, democrat.....	81,599
Washburn, republican.....	66,224
Taylor's majority.....	15,375
1875.	
Ludington, republican.....	85,155
Taylor, democrat.....	84,314
Ludington's majority.....	841
1877.	
Smith, republican.....	78,759
Mallory, democrat.....	70,486
Allis, greenback.....	26,216
Smith's majority.....	8,273
1879.	
Smith, republican.....	100,535
Jenkins, democrat.....	75,080
May, greenback.....	12,096
Smith's majority over both.....	12,509
1881.	
Rusk, republican.....	81,754
Fratt, democrat.....	69,797
Kanouse, prohibition.....	13,225
Allis, greenback.....	7,002
Rusk's plurality.....	11,957

The following are the names of the lieutenant governors and their terms of service, since Wisconsin became a State: John E. Holmes, June 7, 1848, to Jan. 7, 1850; Samuel W. Beall, Jan. 7, 1850, to Jan. 5, 1852; Timothy Burns, Jan. 5, 1852, to Jan. 2, 1854; James T. Lewis, Jan. 2, 1854, to Jan. 7, 1856; Arthur McArthur, Jan. 7, 1856, to Jan. 4, 1858; E. D. Campbell, Jan. 1, 1858, to Jan. 2, 1860; Butler G. Noble, Jan. 2, 1860 to Jan. 6, 1862; Edward Solomon, Jan. 6, 1862, to April 19, 1862; Gerry W. Hazelton, (*ex-officio*), Sept. 10, 1862, to Sept. 26, 1862;

Wyman Spooner, Jan. 14, 1863, to Jan. 3, 1870; Thaddens C. Pound, Jan. 3, 1870, to Jan. 1, 1872; Milton H. Pettit, Jan. 1, 1872, to March 23, 1873; Charles D. Parker, Jan. 5, 1874, to Jan. 7, 1878; James M. Bingham, Jan. 7, 1878, to Jan. 2, 1882; Samuel S. Fifield, Jan. 2, 1882, and still in office.

The following are the persons that have been elected secretaries of State, with their terms of office, since the State was admitted into the Union:

Thomas McHugh, June 7, 1848, to Jan. 7, 1850; William A. Barstow, Jan. 7, 1850, to Jan. 5, 1852; C. D. Robinson, Jan. 5, 1852, to Jan. 2, 1854; Alexander T. Gray, Jan. 2, 1854, to Jan. 7, 1856; David W. Jones, Jan. 7, 1856, to Jan. 2, 1860; Louis P. Harvey, Jan. 2, 1860, to Jan. 6, 1862; James T. Lewis, Jan. 6, 1862, to Jan. 4, 1864; Lucius Fairchild, Jan. 4, 1864, to Jan. 1, 1866; Thomas S. Allen, Jan. 1, 1866, to Jan. 3, 1870; Llywelyn Breese, Jan. 3, 1870, to Jan. 5, 1874; Peter Doyle, Jan. 5, 1874, to January 7, 1878; Ham B. Warner, Jan. 7, 1878, to Jan. 2, 1882; Ernest G. Timme, Jan. 2, 1882 and still in office.

The treasurers, with their terms of office, have been as follows:

Jairus C. Fairchild, June 7, 1848, to Jan. 5, 1852; Edward H. Janssen, Jan. 5, 1852, to Jan. 7, 1856; Charles Kuehn, Jan. 7, 1856, to Jan. 4, 1858; Samuel D. Hastings, Jan. 4, 1858, to Jan. 1, 1866; William E. Smith, Jan. 1, 1866, to Jan. 3, 1870; Henry Baetz, Jan. 3, 1870 to Jan. 5, 1874; Ferdinand Kuehn, Jan. 5, 1874, to Jan. 7, 1878; Richard Guenther, Jan. 7, 1878, to Jan. 2, 1882; Edward C. McPetridge, Jan. 2, 1882 and still in office.

Attorneys-General, with their terms of office, have been elected as follows:

James S. Brown, June 7, 1848, to Jan. 7, 1850; S. Park Coon, Jan. 7, 1850, to Jan. 5, 1852; Experience Estabrook, Jan. 5, 1852, to Jan. 2, 1854; George B. Smith, Jan. 2, 1854, to Jan. 7, 1856; William R. Smith, Jan. 7, 1856, to Jan. 4, 1858; Gabriel Bouck, Jan. 4, 1858 to Jan. 2, 1860;

James H. Howe, Jan. 2, 1860, to Oct. 7, 1862;  
Winfield Smith, Oct. 7, 1862, to Jan. 1, 1866;  
Charles R. Gill, Jan. 2, 1866 to Jan. 3, 1870;  
Stephen S. Barlow, Jan. 3, 1870, to Jan. 5, 1874;  
A. Scott Sloan, Jan. 5, 1874, to Jan. 7, 1878;  
Alexander Wilson, Jan. 7, 1878, to Jan. 2, 1882;  
Leander F. Frisby, Jan. 2, 1882, and still in office.

The constitution divided the State into nineteen senatorial and sixty-six assembly districts. In each of these districts, on the 8th of May, 1848, one member was elected.

The first Legislature of the State began its session at Madison, the capital, where all subsequent ones have convened. The commencement and ending of each session, with the names of the speakers, were as follows.

Ninean E. Whiteside, June 5, 1848, to August 21.

Harrison C. Hobart, Jan. 10, 1849, to April 2.

Moses M. Strong, Jan. 9, 1850, to February 11.

Frederick W. Horn, Jan. 8, 1851, to March 17.

James M. Shafer, Jan. 14, 1852, to April 19.

Henry L. Palmer, Jan. 12, 1853, to April 4.

Henry L. Palmer, June 6, 1853, to July 13.

Frederick W. Horn, Jan. 11, 1854, to April 3.

Charles C. Sholes, Jan. 10, 1855, to April 2.

William Hull, Jan. 9, 1856, to March 31.

William Hull, Sept. 3, 1856, to October 14.

Wyman Spooner, Jan. 14, 1857, to March 9.

Frederick S. Lovell, Jan. 13, 1858, to May 17.

William P. Lyon, Jan. 12, 1859, to March 21.

William P. Lyon, Jan. 11, 1860, to April 2.

Amasa Cobb, Jan. 9, 1861, to April 17.

Amasa Cobb, May 15, 1861, to May 27.

James W. Beardsley, Jan. 8, 1862, to April 7.

James W. Beardsley, June 3, 1862, to June 17.

James W. Beardsley, Sept. 10, 1862, to Sept.

26.

J. Allen Barker, Jan. 14, 1863, to April 2.

William W. Field, Jan. 13, 1864, to April 4.

William W. Field, Jan. 11, 1865, to April 10.

Henry D. Barron, Jan. 10, 1866, to April 12.

Angus Cameron, Jan. 9, 1867, to April 11.

Alexander M. Thomson, Jan. 8, 1868 to March 6.

Alexander M. Thomson, Jan. 13, 1869, to March 11.

James M. Bingham, Jan. 12, 1870, to March 17.

William E. Smith, Jan. 11, 1871, to March 25.

Daniel Hall, Jan. 10, 1872, to March 26.

Henry D. Barron, Jan. 8, 1873, to March 20.

Gabe Bonck, Jan. 14, 1874, to March 12.

Frederick W. Horn, Jan. 13, 1875, to March 6.

Samuel S. Fifield, Jan. 12, 1876, to March 14.

John B. Cassoday, Jan. 10, 1877, to March 8.

Augustus R. Barrows, Jan. 9, 1878, to March 21.

Augustus R. Barrows, June 4, 1878, to June 7.

David M. Kelley, Jan. 8, 1879, to March 5.

Alexander A. Arnold, Jan. 14, 1880, to March 17.

Ira D. Bradford, Jan. 12, 1881, to April 4.

Franklin L. Gilson, Jan. 11, 1882, to March 31.

Earl P. Finch, Jan. 10, 1883, to April 4.

The constitution divided the State into two congressional districts, in each of which one member of Congress was elected May 8, 1848. The first district embraced the counties of Milwaukee, Waukesha, Jefferson, Racine, Walworth, Rock and Green; the second district was composed of the counties of Washington, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Calumet, Brown, Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Marquette, Sauk, Portage, Columbia, Dodge, Dane, Iowa, Lafayette, Grant, Richland, Crawford, Chippewa, St Croix and La Pointe—the counties of Richland, Chippewa and La Pointe being unorganized. (It may here be stated that the first Legislature changed the apportionment, making three districts; other apportionments have been made at each decade, so that there are now nine congressional districts.) The first members were elected to the XXXth Congress, which expired March 4, 1849. The members elected from Wisconsin to that and subsequent Congresses are:

## XXXth Congress, 1847-9.

First District.—William Pitt Lynde. \*  
 Second District.—Mason C. Darling. \*

## XXXIst Congress, 1849-51.

First District.—Charles Durkee.  
 Second District.—Orsamus Cole.  
 Third District.—James Duane Doty.

## XXXIIId Congress, 1851-53.

First District.—Charles Durkee.  
 Second District.—Ben. C. Eastman.  
 Third District.—John B. Macy.

## XXXIIIId Congress, 1853-55.

First District.—Daniel Wells, Jr.  
 Second District.—Ben C. Eastman.  
 Third District.—John B. Macy.

## XXXIVth Congress, 1855-57.

First District.—Daniel Wells, Jr.  
 Second District.—C. C. Washburn.  
 Third District.—Charles Billingham.

## XXXVth Congress, 1857-59.

First District.—John F. Potter.  
 Second District.—C. C. Washburn.  
 Third District.—Charles Billingham.

## XXXVIth Congress, 1859-61.

First District.—John F. Potter.  
 Second District.—C. C. Washburn.  
 Third District.—Charles H. Larrabee.

## XXXVIIth Congress, 1861-63.

First District.—John F. Potter.  
 Second District.—Luther Hanchett, † Walter McIndoe.  
 Third District.—A. Scott Sloan.

## XXXVIIIth Congress, 1863-65.

First District.—James S. Brown.  
 Second District.—Ithamar C. Sloan.  
 Third District.—Amasa Cobb.  
 Fourth District.—Charles A. Eldredge.  
 Fifth District.—Ezra Wheeler.  
 Sixth District.—Walter D. McIndoe.

## XXXIXth Congress, 1865-67.

First District.—Halbert E. Paine.  
 Second District.—Ithamar C. Sloan.  
 Third District.—Amasa Cobb.  
 Fourth District.—Charles A. Eldredge.  
 Fifth District.—Philetus Sawyer.  
 Sixth District.—Walter D. McIndoe.

## XLth Congress, 1867-69.

First District.—Halbert E. Paine.  
 Second District.—Benjamin F. Hopkins.  
 Third District.—Amasa Cobb.  
 Fourth District.—Charles A. Eldredge.  
 Fifth District.—Philetus Sawyer.  
 Sixth District.—Cadwallader C. Washburn.

## XLIst Congress, 1869-71.

First District.—Halbert E. Paine.  
 Second District.—Benjamin F. Hopkins. †  
 David Atwood.  
 Third District.—Amasa Cobb.  
 Fourth District.—Charles A. Eldredge.  
 Fifth District.—Philetus Sawyer.  
 Sixth District.—Cadwallader C. Washburn.

## XLIIId Congress, 1871-73.

First District.—Alexander Mitchell.  
 Second District.—Gerry W. Hazelton.  
 Third District.—J. Allen Barber.  
 Fourth District.—Charles A. Eldredge.  
 Fifth District.—Philetus Sawyer.  
 Sixth District.—Jeremiah M. Rusk.

## XLIIIId Congress, 1873-75.

First District.—Charles G. Williams.  
 Second District.—Gerry W. Hazelton.  
 Third District.—J. Allen Barber.  
 Fourth District.—Alexander Mitchell.  
 Fifth District.—Charles A. Eldredge.  
 Sixth District.—Philetus Sawyer.  
 Seventh District.—Jeremiah M. Rusk.  
 Eighth District.—Alexander S. McDill.

## XLIVth Congress, 1875-77.

First District.—Charles G. Williams.  
 Second District.—Lucien B. Caswell.  
 Third District.—Henry S. Magoon.  
 Fourth District.—William Pitt Lynde.  
 Fifth District.—Samuel D. Burchard.  
 Sixth District.—Alanson M. Kimball.  
 Seventh District.—Jeremiah M. Rusk.  
 Eighth District.—George W. Cate.

## XLVth Congress, 1877-79.

First District.—Charles G. Williams.  
 Second District.—Lucien B. Caswell.  
 Third District.—George C. Hazelton.  
 Fourth District.—William Pitt Lynde.  
 Fifth District.—Edward S. Bragg.  
 Sixth District.—Gabriel Bouck.  
 Seventh District.—Herman L. Humphrey.  
 Eighth District.—Thaddeus C. Pound.

\* Took their seats June 5 and 9, 1848.

† Died Nov. 24, 1863; McIndoe elected to fill the vacancy, Dec. 30, 1862.

‡ Died Jan. 1, 1870, and David Atwood elected to fill vacancy Feb. 15, 1870.



## XLVIth Congress, 1879-81.

First District.—Charles G. Williams.  
 Second District.—Lucien B. Caswell.  
 Third District.—George C. Hazelton.  
 Fourth District.—Peter V. Deuster.  
 Fifth District.—Edward S. Bragg.  
 Sixth District.—Gabriel Bouck.  
 Seventh District.—Herman L. Humphrey.  
 Eighth District.—Thaddeus C. Pound.

## XLVIIth Congress, 1881-83.

First District.—Charles G. Williams.  
 Second District.—Lucien B. Caswell.  
 Third District.—George C. Hazelton.  
 Fourth District.—Peter V. Deuster.  
 Fifth District.—Edward S. Bragg.  
 Sixth District.—Richard Guenther.  
 Seventh District.—Herman L. Humphrey.  
 Eighth District.—Thaddeus C. Pound.

## XLVIIIth Congress, 1883-85.

First District.—John Winans.  
 Second District.—Daniel H. Sumner.  
 Third District.—Burr W. Jones.  
 Fourth District.—Peter V. Deuster.  
 Fifth District.—Joseph Rankin.  
 Sixth District.—Richard Guenther.  
 Seventh District.—Gilbert M. Woodward.  
 Eighth District.—William T. Price.  
 Ninth District.—Isaac Stephenson.

The first Legislature in joint convention, on the 7th of June 1848, canvassed, in accordance with the constitution, the votes given on the 8th of May, for the State officers, and the two representatives in Congress. On the same day the State officers were sworn into office. The next day Gov. Dewey delivered his first message to the Legislature. The first important business of the first State Legislature was the election of two United States senators; Henry Dodge and Isaac P. Walker, both democrats, were elected. The latter drew the short term; so that his office expired on the 4th day of March, 1849, at the end of the thirteenth Congress; as Dodge drew the long term, his office expired on the 4th day of March, 1851, at the end of thirty-first Congress. Both were elected, June 8, 1848. Their successors, with the date of their elections, were as follows: Isaac P. Walker, Jan. 17, 1849; Henry Dodge, Jan. 20, 1851; Charles Durkee, Feb. 1, 1855;

James R. Doolittle, Jan. 23, 1857; Timothy O. Howe, Jan. 23, 1861; James R. Doolittle, Jan. 22, 1863; Timothy O. Howe, Jan. 24, 1867; Matthew H. Carpenter, Jan. 26, 1869; Timothy O. Howe, Jan. 21, 1873; Angus Cameron, Feb. 3, 1875; Matthew H. Carpenter, Jan. 22, 1879; Philetus Sawyer, Jan. 26, 1881; Angus Cameron, March 10, 1881.

The constitution vested the judicial power of the State in a supreme court, circuit court, courts of probate, and justices of the peace, giving the Legislature power to vest such jurisdiction as should be deemed necessary in municipal courts. Judges were not to be elected at any State or county election, nor within thirty days before or after one. The State was divided into five judicial circuits, Edward V. Whiton being chosen judge at the election on the first Monday in August, 1848, of the first circuit, composed of the counties of Racine, Walworth, Rock and Green as then constituted; Levi Hubbell, of the second, composed of Milwaukee, Waukesha, Jefferson and Dane; Charles H. Larrabee, of the third, composed of Washington, Dodge, Columbia, Marquette, Sauk and Portage, as then formed; Alexander W. Stow, of the fourth, composed of Brown, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Winnebago and Calumet; and Mortimer M. Jackson, of the fifth, composed of the counties of Iowa, LaFayette, Grant, Crawford and St Croix, as then organized; the county of Richland being attached to Iowa county; the county of Chippewa to the county of Crawford; and the county of La Pointe to the county of St. Croix, for judicial purposes. In 1850, a sixth circuit was formed. By an act, which took effect in 1854, a seventh circuit was formed. On the 1st day of January, 1855, an eighth and ninth circuit was formed. In the same year was also formed a tenth circuit. An eleventh circuit was formed in 1864. By an act which took effect the 1st day of January, 1871, the twelfth circuit was formed. In 1876 a thirteenth circuit was "constituted and re-organ-

ized." At the present time John M. Wentworth is judge of the first circuit, which is composed of the counties of Walworth, Racine, and Kenosha; Charles A. Hamilton of the second, which includes Milwaukee county; David J. Pulling of the third, composed of Calumet, Green Lake and Winnebago; Norman S. Gilson of the fourth, composed of Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Kewaunee and Fond du Lac; George Clementson of the fifth, composed of Grant, Iowa, La Fayette, Richland and Crawford; Alfred W. Newman of the sixth, composed of Clark, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau and Vernon; Charles M. Webb of the seventh, composed of Portage, Marathon, Waupaca, Wood, Waushara, Lincoln, Price, and Taylor; Egbert B. Bundy of the eighth, composed of Buffalo, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, Pierce, and St. Croix; Alva Stewart of the ninth, composed of Adams, Columbia, Dane, Juneau, Sank, Mquette; George H. Myres, of the tenth, composed of Florence, Langlade, Outagamie, and Shawano; Solon C. Clough of the eleventh, composed of Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Polk, and Washburn; John R. Bennett of the twelfth, composed of Rock, Green, and Jefferson; A. Scott Sloan, of the thirteenth, composed of Dodge, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha; Samuel D. Hastings of the fourteenth, composed of Brown, Door, Mainette and Oconto.

The first Legislature provided for the re-election of judges of the circuit courts on the first Monday of August, 1848. By the same act it was provided that the first term of the supreme court should be held in Madison, on the second Monday of January, 1849, and thereafter at the same place and on the same day, yearly; afterward changed so as to hold a January and June term in each year. Under the constitution, the circuit judges were also judges of the supreme court. One of their own number under an act of June 29, 1848, was to be, by themselves, elected chief justice. Under this arrangement, the following

were the justices of the supreme court, at the times indicated: Alex. W. Stow, C. J., fourth, district, Aug. 28, 1848, to Jan. 1, 1851; Edward V. Whiton, A. J., first circuit, Aug. 28, 1848, to June 1, 1853; Levi Hubbell, A. J., elected chief justice, June 18, 1851, second circuit, Aug. 28, 1848, to June 1, 1853; Charles H. Larrabee, A. J., third circuit, Aug. 28, 1848, to June 1, 1853; Mortimer M. Jackson, A. J., fifth circuit, Aug. 28, 1848, to June 1, 1853; Timothy O. Howe, A. J., fourth circuit, Jan. 1, 1851, to June 1, 1853; Wiram Knowlton, A. J., sixth circuit, organized by the Legislature in 1850, Aug. 6, 1850, to June 1, 1853. In 1853, the supreme court was separately organized, the chief justice and associate justices being voted for as such. The following persons have constituted that court during the terms indicated, since its separate organization: Edward V. Whiton, C. J., June 1, 1853, to April 12, 1859; Luther S. Dixon, C. J., April 20, 1859, to June 17, 1874; Edward G. Ryan, C. J., June 17, 1874, to Oct. 19, 1880; Orsamus Cole, C. J., Nov. 11, 1880, (in office); Samuel Crawford, A. J., June 1, 1853, to June 19, 1855; Abraham D. Smith, A. J., June 1, 1853, to June 21, 1859; Orsamus Cole, A. J., June 19, 1855, to Nov. 11, 1880; Byron Paine, A. J., June 21, 1859, to Nov. 15, 1864; Jason Downer, A. J., Nov. 15, 1864, to Sept. 11, 1867; Byron Paine, A. J., Sept. 11, 1867, to Jan. 13, 1871; William P. Lyon, A. J., Jan. 20, 1870, (in office); David Taylor, A. J., April 18, 1878, (in office); Harlow S. Orton, A. J., April 18, 1878, (in office); John B. Cassoday, A. J., Nov. 11, 1880, (in office).

The act of Congress entitled "An act to enable the people of Wisconsin territory to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State into the Union," approved Aug. 6, 1846, provided for one United States judicial district to be called the district of Wisconsin. It was also provided that a district court should be held therein by one judge who should reside in the district and be called a district judge. The court was to hold two

terms a year in the capital, Madison. This was afterward changed so that one term only was held at the seat of the State government, while the other was to be held at Milwaukee. Special terms could be held at either of these places. On the 12th day of June, 1848, Andrew G. Miller was appointed by the President district judge. By the act of Congress of July 15, 1862, a circuit court of the United States was created to be held in Wisconsin. The district judge was given power to hold the circuit court in Wisconsin in company with the circuit judge and circuit justice, or either of them, or alone in their absence. Wisconsin now composes a portion of the seventh judicial circuit of the United States, Thomas Drummond being circuit judge. He resides at Chicago. The circuit justice is one of judges of the United States supreme court. Two terms of the circuit court are held each year at Milwaukee and one term in Madison.

In 1870 the State was divided into two districts, the eastern and western. In the western district, one term of the United States district court each year was to be held at Madison and one at La Crosse; in the eastern district, two terms were to be held at Milwaukee and one at Oshkosh. On the 9th day of July, 1870, James C. Hopkins was appointed judge of the western district, Andrew G. Miller remaining judge of the eastern district. The latter resigned to take effect Jan. 1, 1874, and James H. Howe was appointed to fill the vacancy; but Judge Howe soon resigned, and Charles E. Dyer, on the 10th of February, 1875, appointed in his place. He is still in office. Judge Hopkins, of the western district, died Sept. 4, 1877; when, on the 13th of October following, Romanzo Bunn was appointed his successor, and now fills that office.

An act was passed by the first Legislature providing for the election and defining the duties of a State superintendent of public instruction. The persons holding that office, with the term of each, are as follows: Eleazer Root, from

Jan. 1, 1849, to Jan. 5, 1852; Azel P. Ladd, from Jan. 5, 1852, to Jan. 2, 1854; Hiram A. Wright, from Jan. 5, 1854, to May 29, 1855; A. Constantine Barry, from June 26, 1855, to Jan. 4, 1858; Lyman C. Draper, from Jan. 4, 1858, to Jan. 2, 1860; Josiah L. Pickard, from Jan. 2, 1860, to Sept. 30, 1864; John G. McMynn, from Oct. 1, 1864, to Jan. 6, 1868; Alexander J. Craig, from Jan. 6, 1868, to Jan. 3, 1870; Samuel Fallows, from Jan. 6, 1870, to Jan. 4, 1874; Edward Searing, from Jan. 4, 1874, to Jan. 7, 1878; William C. Whitford, from Jan. 7, 1878, to Jan. 2, 1882; Robert Graham, from Jan. 2, 1882, (now in office.) By the same Legislature, a State University was established. The school system of Wisconsin embraces graded schools, to be found in all the cities and larger villages, the district schools, organized in the smaller villages and in the country generally, besides the University of Wisconsin, (located at Madison, the capital of the State). The university has three departments: the college of letters, the college of arts, and the college of law. It was founded upon a grant of seventy-two sections of land made by Congress to the territory of Wisconsin. That act required the secretary of the treasury to set apart and reserve from sale, out of any public lands within the territory of Wisconsin, "a quantity of land, not exceeding two entire townships, for the support of a university within the said territory and for no other use or purpose whatsoever; to be located in tracts of land not less than an entire section corresponding with any of the legal divisions into which the public lands are authorized to be surveyed." The territorial Legislature, at its session in 1838, passed a law incorporating the "University of the Territory of Wisconsin," locating the same at or near Madison. In 1841 a commissioner was appointed to select the lands donated to the State for the maintenance of the university, who performed the duty assigned to him in a most acceptable manner. Section 6 of article X of the State constitution provides that "pro-

vision shall be made by law for the establishment of a State University at or near the seat of government. The proceeds of all lands that have been or may hereafter be granted by the United States to the State, for the support of a University shall be and remain a perpetual fund, to be called the 'University fund,' the interest of which shall be appropriated to the support of the State University." Immediately upon the organization of the State government an act was passed incorporating the State University, and a board of regents appointed, who at once organized the institution.

The University was formally opened by the public inauguration of a chancellor, Jan. 16, 1850. The preparatory department of the University was opened Feb. 5, 1849, with twenty pupils. In 1849 the regents purchased nearly 200 acres of land, comprising what is known as the "University Addition to the City of Madison," and the old "University Grounds." In 1851 the north dormitory was completed, and the first college classes formed. In 1854 the south dormitory was erected. Owing to the fact that the lands comprising the original grant had produced a fund wholly inadequate to the support of the university, in 1854 a further grant of seventy-two sections of land was made by Congress to the State for that purpose. In 1866 the University was completely re-organized, so as to meet the requirements of a law of Congress passed in 1862, providing for the endowment of agricultural colleges. That act granted to the several States a quantity of land equal to 30,000 acres for each senator and representative in Congress, by the apportionment under the census of 1860. The objects of that grant are fully set forth in sections four and five of said act. The lands received by Wisconsin under said act of Congress, and conferred upon the State University for the support of an agricultural college, amounted to 240,000 acres, making a total of 322,160 acres of land donated to this State by the general government for the endowment and support of this institution. Up

to the time of its re-organization, the University had not received one dollar from the State or from any municipal corporation. In pursuance of a law passed in 1866, Dane county issued bonds to the amount of \$40,000 for the purchase of about 200 acres of land contiguous to the University grounds for an experimental farm, and for the erection of suitable buildings thereon. The next winter the Legislature passed a law which appropriated annually for ten years to the income of the University Fund, \$7,308.76, that being the interest upon the sum illegally taken from the fund by the law of 1862 to pay for the erection of buildings.

In 1870 the Legislature appropriated \$50,000 for the erection of a female college, which is the first contribution made outright to the up-building of any institution of learning in this State. In order to comply with the law granting lands for the support of agricultural colleges, the University was compelled to make large outlays in fitting up laboratories and purchasing the apparatus necessary for instruction and practical advancement in the arts immediately connected with the industrial interests of the State, a burden which the Legislature very generously shared by making a further annual appropriation in 1872 of \$10,000 to the income of the University Fund. The increased facilities offered by improvements in the old and by the erection of a new college building proved wholly inadequate to meet the growing wants of the institution. In its report for 1874, the board of visitors said: "A hall of natural sciences is just now the one desideratum of the University. It can never do the work it ought to do, the work the State expects it to do, without some speedily increased facilities." The Legislature promptly responded to this demand, and at its next session appropriated \$30,000 for the erection of a building for scientific purposes. In order to permanently provide for deficiencies in the University Fund income, and to establish the institution upon a firm and enduring foundation, the Legislature of 1876 enacted

"That there shall be levied and collected for the year 1876 and annually thereafter, a State tax of one-tenth of one mill for each dollar of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of this State, and the amount so levied and collected is hereby appropriated to the University Fund income, to be used as a part thereof." This is in lieu of all other appropriations for the benefit of this fund, and all tuition fees for students in the regular classes are abolished by this act.

The fourth section of the act of 1876, to permanently provide for deficiencies in the University Fund income, is as follows: "From and out of the receipts of said tax, the sum of \$3,000 annually shall be set apart for astronomical work and for instruction in astronomy, to be expended under the direction of the regents of the University of Wisconsin, as soon as a complete and well equipped observatory shall be given the University, on its own grounds without cost to the State: *Provided*, that such observatory shall be completed within three years from the passage of this act." The astronomical observatory whose construction was provided for by this act, was erected by the wise liberality of ex-Gov. Washburn. It is a beautiful stone building, finely situated and well fitted for its work. Its length is eighty feet, its breadth forty-two feet, and its height forty-eight feet. Over the door to the rotunda is a marble tablet bearing this inscription: "Erected and furnished, A. D. 1878, by the munificence of Cadwallader C. Washburn, and by him presented to the University of Wisconsin; a tribute to general science. In recognition of this gift, this tablet is inserted by the regents of the University." The telescope has a sixteen inch object-glass. The size is a most desirable one for the great mass of astronomical work. In 1881 a students' observatory was erected and a wing was added to the east side of the Washburn observatory.

In the fall of 1848 there was a Presidential election. There were then three organized

political parties in the State—whig, democrat and free-soil, each having a ticket in the field; but the democrats were in the majority. The successful electors for that year and for each four years since that date, were as follows:

1848. Elected November 7.

At Large—Francis Huebschmann.  
Wm. Dunwiddie.  
First District—David P. Maples  
Second District—Samuel F. Nichlos.

1852. Elected November 2.

At Large—Montgomery M. Cothren.  
Satterlee Clark.  
First District—Philo White.  
Second District—Beriah Brown.  
Third District—Charles Billinghamurst.

1856. Elected November 4.

At Large—Edward D. Holton.  
James H. Knowlton.  
First District—Gregor Mencil,  
Second District—Walter D. McIndoe.  
Third District—Bille Williams.

1860. Elected November 6.

At Large—Walter D. McIndoe.  
Bradford Rixford.  
First District—William W. Vaughan.  
Second District—J. Allen Barber.  
Third District—Herman Lindeman.

1864. Elected November 8.

At Large—William W. Field  
Henry L. Blood.  
First District—George C. Northrop.  
Second District—Jonathan Bowman.  
Third District—Allen Warden.  
Fourth District—Henry J. Turner.  
Fifth District—Henry F. Belitz.  
Sixth District—Alexander S. McDill.

1868. Elected November 3.

At Large—Stephen S. Barlow.  
Henry D. Barron.

First District—Elihu Enos.  
 Second District—Charles G. Williams.  
 Third District—Allen Warden.  
 Fourth District—Leander F. Frisby.  
 Fifth District—William G. Ritch.  
 Sixth District—William T. Price.

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 1872. Elected November 5.

At Large—William E. Cramer.  
 Frederick Fleischer.  
 First District—Jerome S. Nickles.  
 Second District—George G. Swain.  
 Third District—Ormsby B. Thomas.  
 Fourth District—Frederick Hilgen.  
 Fifth District—Edward C. McFetridge.  
 Sixth District—George E. Hoskinson.  
 Seventh District—Romanzo Bunn.  
 Eighth District—Henry D. Barron.

—  
 1876. Elected November 7.

At Large—William H. Hiner.  
 Francis Campbell.  
 First District—T. D. Weeks.  
 Second District—T. D. Lang.  
 Third District—Daniel L. Downs.  
 Fourth District—Casper M. Sanger.  
 Fifth District—Charles Luling.  
 Sixth District—James H. Foster.  
 Seventh District—Charles B. Solberg.  
 Eighth District—John H. Knapp.

—  
 1880. Elected November 2.

At Large—George End.  
 Knud Langland.  
 First District—Lucius S. Blake.  
 Second District—John Kellogg.  
 Third District—George E. Weatherby.  
 Fourth District—William P. McLaren.  
 Fifth District—C. T. Lovell.  
 Sixth District—E. L. Browne.  
 Seventh District—F. H. Kribbs.  
 Eighth District—John T. Kingston.

The popular vote cast for President at each of the Presidential elections in Wisconsin, and

the electoral vote cast for each successful candidate, were as follows :

Year.....	CANDIDATES.	Popular Vote..	Electoral Vote.
1848	Zachary Taylor.....	13,747	..
	Lewis Cass.....	15,001	4
	Martin Van Buren.....	10,418	..
1852	Franklin Pierce.....	33,658	5
	Winfield Scott.....	22,240	..
1856	John P. Hale.....	8,814	..
	James Buchanan.....	52,843	..
	John C. Fremont.....	66,090	5
1860	Millard Fillmore.....	579	..
	Abraham Lincoln.....	86,118	5
	John C. Breckinridge.....	888	..
1864	John Bell.....	161	..
	S. A. Douglas.....	65,021	..
	Abraham Lincoln.....	83,458	8
1868	Geo B. McClellan.....	65,884	..
	Ulysses S. Grant.....	108,857	8
1872	Horatio Seymour.....	84,707	..
	Ulysses S. Grant.....	104,997	10
	Horace Greeley.....	86,477	..
1876	Charles O'Connor.....	834	..
	Rutherford B. Hayes.....	130,668	10
	Samuel J. Tilden.....	123,927	..
1880	Peter Cooper.....	1,509	..
	G. C. Smith.....	27	..
	James A. Garfield.....	144,398	10
	Winfield S. Hancock.....	114,644	..
	J. B. Weaver.....	7,986	..
	Neal Dow.....	68	..
	J. B. Phelps.....	91	..

The act of the first Legislature of the State, exempting a homestead from forced sale on any debt or liability contracted after Jan. 1, 1849, and another act exempting certain personal property, were laws the most liberal in their nature passed by any State in the Union previous to that time. Other acts were passed—such as were deemed necessary to put the machinery of the State government in all its branches, in fair running order. And, by the second Legislature (1849) were enacted a number of laws of public utility. The statutes were revised, making a volume of over 900 pages. The year 1848 was one of general prosperity to the rapidly increasing population of the State; and that of 1849 developed in an increased ratio its productive capacity in every department of labor. The agriculturist, the artisan,

the miner, reaped the well-earned reward of his honest labor. The commercial and manufacturing interests were extended in a manner highly creditable to the enterprise of the people. The educational interests of the State began to assume a more systematic organization. The tide of immigration suffered no decrease during the year. Within the limits of Wisconsin, the oppressed of other climes continued to find welcome and happy homes. There were many attractions for emigrants from the Old World, especially from northern Europe—from Germany, Norway, Sweden and Denmark; also from Ireland and England.

The third Legislature changed the January term of the supreme court to December and organized a sixth judicial circuit. The first charitable institution in Wisconsin, incorporated by the State, was the "Wisconsin Institute for the Education of the Blind." A school for that unfortunate class had been opened in Janesville, in the latter part of 1849, receiving its support from the citizens of that place and vicinity. By an act of the Legislature, approved Feb. 9, 1850, this school was taken under the care of the Institute, to continue and maintain it, at Janesville, and to qualify, as far as might be, the blind of the State for the enjoyment of the blessings of a free government; for obtaining the means of subsistence; and for the discharge of those duties, social and political, devolving upon American citizens. It has since been supported from the treasury of the State. On the 7th of October, 1850, it was opened for the reception of pupils, under the direction of a board of trustees appointed by the governor. The other charitable institutions of the State are the State Hospital for the Insane, located near Madison, and opened for patients in July, 1860; Northern Hospital for the Insane, located near Oshkosh, to which patients were first admitted in April, 1873, and the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, located at Delavan, in Walworth county.

The entire length of the building of the Wisconsin State Hospital for the Insane, situated on the north shore of Lake Mendota, in Dane county, is 569 feet, the center building being 65x120 feet. The first longitudinal wing on each side of the center is 132 feet, and the last on each extremity is 119 feet. The transverse wings are eighty-seven feet long. This commodious building is surrounded by ornamental grounds, woods and farming lands, to the extent of 393 acres, and is well adapted for the care of the unfortunate needing its protection. In 1879, additional room for 180 patients was added, by converting the old chapel into wards, and by the addition of cross wings in front of the old building. The hospital will now accommodate comfortably 550 patients. In 1870 a law was passed authorizing the erection of the building for the Northern Hospital, on a tract, consisting of 337 acres of land, about four miles north of the city of Oshkosh on the west shore of Lake Winnebago. The necessary appropriations were made, and the north wing and central building were completed. Further appropriations were made from time to time for additional wings, and in 1875 the hospital was completed according to the original design, at a total cost to the State of \$625,250. The building has been constructed on the most approved plan, and is suited to accommodate 600 patients.

The land first occupied by the Wisconsin Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, comprising 11 46-100 acres, was donated by Hon. F. K. Phoenix, one of the first trustees, but the original boundaries have since been enlarged by the purchase of twenty-two acres. The main building was burned to the ground on the 16th of September, 1879; but during the year 1880 four new buildings were erected, and with the increased facilities provided, 250 children may be well cared for. The new buildings are a school house, boys' dormitory, dining-room and chapel, with a main or administration building. These buildings are plain, neat, substantial structures, and well fitted for the uses intended.

The Institution was originally a private school for the deaf, but was incorporated by act of the Legislature, April 19, 1852. It designs to educate that portion of the children and youth of the State, who, on account of deafness, cannot be educated in the public schools. Instruction is given by signs, by written language, and by articulation. In the primary department few books are used, slates, pencils, crayons, pictures, blocks and other illustrative apparatus being the means employed. In the intermediate department the books used are prepared especially for the deaf and dumb; more advanced pupils study text-books used in our common schools. The shoe shop commenced business in 1867; the printing office in 1878, and the bakery in 1881. The law provides that all deaf and dumb residents of the State of the age of ten years and under twenty-five, of suitable age and capacity to receive instruction, shall be received and taught free of charge for board and tuition, but parents and guardians are expected to furnish clothing and pay traveling expenses.

The taking of the census by the United State, this year, 1850, showed a population for Wisconsin of 305,391—the astonishing increase in two years of nearly 95,000. Many, as already stated, were German, Scandinavian and Irish; but the larger proportion were, of course, from the Eastern and Middle States of the Union. The principal attractions of Wisconsin were the excellency and cheapness of its lands, its valuable mines of lead, its extensive forests of pine, and the unlimited water-power of its numerous streams. In 1860 the population had increased to 775,881; in 1870 to 1,054,670, and in 1880 to 1,315,480. By an act of the fourth Legislature of the State, approved March 14, 1851, the location and erection of a State prison for Wisconsin was provided for, Waupim, Dodge county, being afterwards the point selected for it. The office of State prison commissioner was created in 1853, but was abolished in 1874. During that time the following persons held the office: John Taylor, from March 28, 1853 to April 2,

1853; Henry Brown, from April 2, 1853 to Jan. 2, 1854; Argalus W. Starks, from Jan. 2, 1854 to Jan. 7, 1856; Edward McGarry, from Jan 7, 1856 to Jan 4, 1858; Edward M. MacGraw, from Jan. 4, 1858 to Jan. 2, 1860; Hans C. Heg, from Jan. 2, 1860 to Jan. 6, 1862; Alexander P. Hodges, from Jan 6, 1862 to Jan. 4, 1864; Henry Cordier, from Jan 4, 1864 to Jan. 3, 1870; George F. Wheeler, from Jan. 3, 1870 to Jan. 4, 1874. The State (Law) Library had its origin in the generous appropriation of \$5,000 out of the general treasury, by Congress, contained in the seventeenth section of the organic act creating the territory of Wisconsin. At the first session of the territorial Legislature, held at Belmont in 1836, a joint resolution was adopted appointing a committee to select and purchase a library for the use of the territory. The first appropriation by the State, to replenish the library, was made in 1851. Since that time, several appropriations have been made. The number of volumes in the library at the beginning of 1883 was 16,285.

The fifth Legislature—the Assembly, whig, the Senate, democratic—passed an act authorizing banking. This was approved by the governor, L. J. Farwell, April 19, 1852. The question of “bank or no bank” having been submitted to the people in November previous, and decided in favor of banks; the power was thereby given to the Legislature of 1852 to grant bank charters or to pass a general banking law. By the act just mentioned, the office of bank controller was created, but was abolished by an act of Jan. 3, 1870. During the continuance of the law, the following persons filled the office, at the time given: James S. Baker, from Nov. 20, 1852 to Jan. 2, 1854; William M. Dennis, from Jan. 2, 1854 to Jan. 4, 1858; Joel C. Squires, from Jan. 4, 1858 to Jan 2, 1860; Gysbert Van Steenwyk, from Jan 2, 1860 to Jan. 6, 1862; William H. Ramsey, from Jan 6, 1862 to Jan. 1, 1866; Jeremiah M. Rusk, from Jan. 1, 1866 to Jan. 3, 1870. The sixth Wisconsin Legislature commenced its session, as we have



seen, Jan. 12, 1853. On the 26th of that month charges were preferred in the Assembly against Levi Hubbell, judge of the second circuit court, for divers acts of corruption and malfeasance in office. A resolution directed a committee to go to the Senate and impeach Hubbell. On the trial he was acquitted. By an act of the same Legislature, the State Agricultural Society was incorporated. Since its organization the society has printed a number of volumes of transactions, and has held, except during the civil war, annual fairs. Its aid to the agricultural interests of the State are clearly manifest. Farming, in Wisconsin, is confined at the present time to the south half of the State, the northern half being still largely covered by forests. The surface of the agricultural portion is, for the most part, gently undulating, consisting largely of prairies alternating with "oak openings." The State is essentially a grain-growing one, though stock-raising and dairy farming are rapidly gaining in importance. Wheat, the staple product of Wisconsin, is gradually losing its prestige as the farmer's sole dependence, and mixed farming is coming to the front. About twenty bushels of wheat are raised annually to each inhabitant of the State. Much more attention is now paid to fertilizers than formerly, clover and plaster being looked upon with constantly increasing favor. While within the last ten years stock-raising has been a growing interest, yet it has not been a rapid one; not so, however, with dairying—no other agricultural interest has kept pace with this. The principal markets for the farm products of Wisconsin are Milwaukee and Chicago.

By an act approved March 4, 1853, the State Historical Society was incorporated, it having been previously organized. The society is under the fostering care of the State, each Legislature voting a respectable sum for its benefit. It has published a number of volumes of "Collections" and of catalogues. Its rooms are in the capitol at Madison, where are to be found its library of historical books and pamphlets,

the largest in the northwest. On the 21st of September, 1853, Timothy Burns, lieutenant-governor of the State, died at La Crosse. As a testimonial of respect for the deceased, the several State departments, in accordance with a proclamation of Gov. Farwell, were closed for one day, October 3. The year 1850, to the agriculturalist, was not one of much prosperity in Wisconsin, owing to the partial failure of the wheat crop. The State was visited during the year by cholera, not, however, to a very alarming extent. In 1851 the State was prosperous. In 1852 the citizens of Wisconsin enjoyed unusual prosperity. There were abundant harvests and high markets; an increase of money and a downward tendency of the rates of interest. The next year (1853) was also one in which every branch of industry prospered. There was an especial increase in commerce and manufactures. And here it might be said that next to agriculture the most important pursuit in Wisconsin is manufacturing; foremost in this interest is lumber, of which the pineries furnish the raw material. The pine region extends through the northern counties of the State from Green Bay to the St. Croix river. The demand for lumber is constantly increasing, while the facilities for its manufacture are continually enlarging. Over one billion feet of logs are cut annually. The lumber mills have a capacity exceeding one and one-half billion feet. The products of these find their way to market, either by the Mississippi and its tributaries, by the various lines of railways, or through the great lakes. The other leading articles of manufacture are flour, agricultural implements and malt liquors.

The fourth administration—William A. Barstow, governor—was signalized by a fugitive slave case, which greatly excited the people of Wisconsin. Sherman M. Booth, for assisting in the rescue of Joshua Glover, a fugitive slave, was arrested, but discharged by the supreme court. He was again arrested under an indictment in the United States district court, and a

second time discharged by the supreme court; but the supreme court of the United States reversed the action of the State court in its second discharge of Booth, and he was re-arrested in 1860; the sentence of the district court was executed in part upon him, when he was pardoned by the President. The eighth Legislature of the State (Jan. 10—April 2, 1855), passed an act very liberal in its provisions relative to the rights of married women. On the 27th of June, 1855, Hiram A. Wright, superintendent of public instruction, died at Prairie du Chien. The State census, taken in this year (1855), showed a population of 552,109. In 1865, the number had increased to 868,325; in 1875, to 1,236,729. Industrial occupations in Wisconsin were prosperous during the years 1854 and 1855. The fifth administration began with William A. Barstow in the executive chair, by virtue of a certificate from the board of canvassers, that he had been a second time elected governor by a majority (as previously shown) of 157. But this certificate was set aside by the supreme court, giving the office to Coles Bashford, not, however, until Barstow had resigned, and Arthur McArthur, acting, by virtue of his office of lieutenant-governor, as governor from March 21, to March 25, 1856. A dry season during this year diminished the wheat crop. The tenth Legislature of Wisconsin—Jan. 14 to March 9, 1857—passed an act establishing at Waukesha a house of refuge for juvenile delinquents, afterwards called the State Reform School; now known as the Wisconsin Industrial School for boys. It was opened in 1860. The buildings are located on the southern bank of Fox river, in view of the trains as they pass to and from Milwaukee and Madison, presenting an attractive front to the traveling public, and furnishing the best evidence of the parental care of the State authorities for the juvenile wards within its borders. The buildings include a main central building, three stories high, used for the residence of the superintendent's family, office

chapel, school rooms, reading room and library, officers kitchen, dining room, and lodging, furnace room and cellar. On the east of the main central building are three family buildings, three stories high, each with dining hall, play room, bath room, dressing room, hospital room, officers' rooms, dormitory and store room. On the west of the main central building are four family buildings like those on the east in all respects, with the exception of the building at the west end of this line, which is a modern building with stone basement. In the rear of this line of buildings is the shop building, 38x258 feet, three stories high, which embrace boot factory, sock and knitting factory, tailor shop, carpenter shop, engine room, laundry and steam dyeing room, bath rooms, store, store rooms, bakery and cellar. The correction house, 44x80 feet, (intended for the most refractory boys) and will accommodate forty; a double family building 38x117 feet for the accommodation of two families of boys of fifty each. There is on the farm, which consists of 233 acres of land, a comfortable house, a stone carriage and horse barn two stories high, built in the most substantial manner.

The constitution of the State, adopted in 1848, provides, "that the revenue of the school fund shall be exclusively applied to the following objects: "1st. To the support and maintenance of common schools in each school district, and the purchase of suitable libraries and appurtenances therefor. "2d. That the residue of the income of the school fund shall be appropriated to the support of academies and normal schools, and suitable libraries and appurtenances therefor." No effort was made to take advantage of this provision of the constitution for the endowment of normal schools until 1857, when an act was passed providing "that the income of twenty-five per cent. of the proceeds arising from the sale of swamp and overflowed lands should be appropriated to normal institutes and academies, under the supervision and direction of a "board

of regents of normal schools," who were to be appointed in pursuance of the provisions of that act. Under this law, the income placed at the disposal of the regents was distributed for several years to such colleges, academies and high schools as maintained a normal class, and in proportion to the number of pupils in the class who passed satisfactory examinations, conducted by an agent of the board. In 1865, the Legislature divided the swamp lands and swamp land fund into two equal parts, one for drainage purposes, the other to constitute a normal school fund. The income of the latter was to be applied to establishing, supporting and maintaining normal schools, under the direction and management of the board of regents of normal schools, with a proviso that one-fourth of such income should be transferred to the common school fund, until the annual income of that fund should reach \$200,000. During the same year, proposals were invited for extending aid in the establishment of a normal school, and propositions were received from various places.

In 1866, the board of regents was incorporated by the Legislature. In February, Platteville was conditionally selected as the site of a school, and as it had become apparent that a productive fund of about \$600,000, with a net income of over \$30,000, was already in hand, with a prospect of a steady increase as fast as lands were sold, the board, after a careful investigation and consideration of the different methods, decided upon the policy of establishing several schools, and of locating them in different parts of the State. At a meeting held on the 2d day of May, in the same year, the board designated Whitewater as the site of a school for the southeastern section of the State, where a building was subsequently erected; and on the 16th permanently located a school at Platteville, the academy building having been donated for that purpose. The school at Platteville was opened Oct. 9, 1866. The school at Whitewater was opened on the 21st of April, 1868.

A building was completed during the year 1870 for a third normal school, at Oshkosh, but owing to a lack of funds, it was not opened for the admission of pupils during that year. The opening and the ceremony of dedicating the building took place Sept. 19, 1871. A fourth normal school was opened in September, 1875, at River Falls, Pierce county. It is understood to be the policy of the board of regents to establish eventually, when the means at their disposal shall permit, not less than six normal schools, but several years must elapse before so many can go into operation. The law under which these schools are organized provides that "The exclusive purpose of each normal school shall be the instruction and training of persons, both male and female, in the theory and art of teaching, and in all the various branches that pertain to a good common school education, and in all subjects needful to qualify for teaching in the public schools; also to give instruction in the fundamental laws of the United States and of this State, and in what regards the rights and duties of citizens."

Subsidiary to the State normal schools are teachers' institutes, held annually in nearly every settled county, and the State teachers' association, which has been organized for a quarter of a century. Besides the public schools of the State, there are a number of denominational and other colleges, the principal of which are Racine College, Beloit College, Milton College, Ripon College, Carroll College, at Waukesha; Lawrence University, at Appleton; St. John's College, at Prairie du Chien; Galesville University; Northwestern University, at Watertown; and Pio Nono College, at St. Francis Station, south of Milwaukee. There is also quite a large number of incorporated academies and seminaries, the more prominent ones being the Milwaukee Academy and St. Mary's Institute, at Milwaukee; Kemper Hall, at Kenosha; St. Catharine's Academy, at Racine; Rochester Seminary, Lake Geneva Seminary, Fox Lake Seminary, Albion Academy, Elroy Seminary,

Wayland Institute, at Beaver Dam, and Santa Clara Academy, at Sinsinawa Mound. There are also about 700 private schools in Wisconsin. The whole number of children in Wisconsin between four and twenty years of age is 483,071; the number of pupils in attendance in public schools, 299,019. The aggregate valuation of school property in the State is \$5,297,678.24.

The sixth administration, Alexander W. Randall, governor, was noted for its "long parliament," the eleventh Legislature of the State having been in session 125 days. A report of commissioners previously appointed to revise the statutes, was acted upon during the session, the result being the publication, in one volume, of the "Revised Statutes of 1858." The twelfth Legislature (Jan. 12, to March 21, 1859) was, like the two previous Legislatures, republican. At the commencement of the seventh administration, Randall's second term as governor, that party not only had control of the thirteenth Legislature, but of all the State offices. The governor, in his message to the fourteenth Legislature, on the 10th of January, 1861, declared that the right of a State to secede from the Union, could never be admitted. "*The government must be sustained, the laws shall be enforced!*" An extra session of the Legislature was convened on the 15th of May, at which, no acts were passed except such as appertained to the military exigencies of the times. Meanwhile a demand made upon the governor by the President, for troops to sustain the federal arm, met with a quick response. During the year, 9,991 men, in ten regiments, for three years' service, and one regiment for three months service, of 810 men, were sent out of the State. The number of volunteers originally in the several military organizations, from Wisconsin during the war, were as follows:

First Infantry, three months.....	810
First Infantry, three years.....	945
Second Infantry, three years.....	1051
Third Infantry, three years.....	979
Fifth Infantry, three years.....	1058
Sixth Infantry, three years.....	1108

Seventh Infantry, three years.....	1029
Eighth Infantry, three years.....	973
Ninth Infantry, * three years.....	870
Tenth Infantry, three years.....	916
Eleventh Infantry, three years.....	1029
Twelfth Infantry, three years.....	1045
Thirteenth Infantry,* three years.....	970
Fourteenth Infantry, three years.....	970
Fifteenth Infantry, three years.....	801
Sixteenth Infantry, three years.....	1066
Seventeenth Infantry, three years.....	941
Eighteenth Infantry, three years.....	962
Nineteenth Infantry, three years.....	973
Twentieth Infantry, three years.....	990
Twenty-first Infantry, three years.....	1002
Twenty-second Infantry, three years.....	1009
Twenty-third Infantry, three years.....	994
Twenty-fourth Infantry, three years.....	1003
Twenty-fifth Infantry, three years.....	1018
Twenty-sixth Infantry, three years.....	1002
Twenty-seventh Infantry, three years.....	865
Twenty-eighth Infantry, three years.....	961
Twenty-ninth Infantry, three years.....	961
Thirtieth Infantry, three years.....	906
Thirty-first Infantry, three years.....	878
Thirty-second Infantry, three years.....	993
Thirty-third Infantry, three years.....	892
Thirty-fourth Infantry, nine months.....	961
Thirty-fifth Infantry,* three years.....	1066
Thirty-sixth Infantry, three years.....	990
Thirty-seventh Infantry, one, two and three years	708
Thirty-eighth Infantry, one, two and three years.	913
Thirty-ninth Infantry, one hundred days.....	780
Fortieth Infantry, one hundred days.....	776
Forty first Infantry, one hundred days.....	578
Forty-second Infantry, one year.....	877
Forty-third Infantry, one year.....	867
Forty fourth Infantry, one year.....	877
Forty fifth Infantry, one year.....	859
Forty-sixth Infantry, one year.....	914
Forty-seventh Infantry, one year.....	927
Forty-eighth Infantry, one year.....	828
Forty-ninth Infantry, one year.....	986
Fiftieth Infantry, one year.....	942
Fifty-first Infantry, one year.....	841
Fifty-second Infantry, one year.....	486
Fifty third Infantry, one year.....	380
First Cavalry, three years.....	1124
Second Cavalry, three years.....	1127
Third Cavalry, three years.....	1186
Fourth Cavalry, three years.....	1047
Milwaukee.....	83

\*Nov. 1, 1865.

First Battery Light Artillery.....	155
Second Battery Light Artillery.....	153
Third Battery Light Artillery.....	170
Fourth Battery Light Artillery.....	151
Fifth Battery Light Artillery.....	155
Sixth Battery Light Artillery.....	157
Seventh Battery Light Artillery.....	158
Eighth Battery Light Artillery.....	161
Ninth Battery Light Artillery.....	155
Tenth Battery Light Artillery.....	47
Eleventh Battery Light Artillery.....	87
Twelfth Battery Light Artillery.....	99
Thirteenth Battery Light Artillery.....	156
Battery A, Heavy Artillery.....	129
Battery B, Heavy Artillery.....	149
Battery C, Heavy Artillery.....	146
Battery D, Heavy Artillery.....	146
Battery E, Heavy Artillery.....	151
Battery F, Heavy Artillery.....	151
Battery G, Heavy Artillery.....	152
Battery H, Heavy Artillery.....	151
Battery I, Heavy Artillery.....	150
Battery K, Heavy Artillery.....	148
Battery L, Heavy Artillery.....	152
Battery M, Heavy Artillery.....	152
Sharp Shooters.....	105
Gibbons' Brigade Band.....	13

On the 10th of April, 1862, Gov. Louis P. Harvey, the successor of Alexander W. Randall, started, along with others, from Wisconsin on a tour to relieve the wounded and suffering soldiers from this State, at Mound City, Paducah and Savannah. Having completed his mission, he made preparations to return. He went on board a boat, the Dunleith, at the landing in Savannah, and there awaited the arrival of the Minnehaha, which was to convey him and his party to Cairo, Ill. It was late in the evening of the 19th of April when the steamer arrived; and as she rounded to, her bow touched the Dunleith precipitating the governor into the river. Every effort was made to save his life, but in vain. His body was afterward recovered and brought home for interment.

Edward Salomon, lieutenant-governor, by virtue of a provision of the constitution of the State, succeeded to the office of governor. The enlisting, organization and mustering into the United States service during Randall's adminis-

tration of thirteen regiments of infantry—the First to the Thirteenth inclusive, and the marching of ten of them out of the State before the close of 1861, also, of one company of cavalry and one company of sharpshooters constituted the effective aid abroad of Wisconsin during that year to suppress the Rebellion. But for the year 1862, this aid, as to number of organizations, was more than doubled. At the end of the year 1863 thirty-three regiments left the State—the Thirteenth regiment being the only remaining one of the thirty-four in Wisconsin. The ninth administration, James T. Lewis, governor, saw the close of the Rebellion. On the 10th of April, 1865, Lewis announced to the Legislature, then in session, the surrender of Gen. Lee and his army.

Fifty-three regiments during the war were raised in Wisconsin, all, sooner or later, moving south and engaging in one way or other in suppressing the Rebellion. Twelve of these regiments were assigned to duty in the eastern division, which constituted the territory on both sides of the Potomac and upon the seaboard from Baltimore to Savannah. These twelve regiments were:

The First (three months), Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Nineteenth, Twenty-sixth, Thirty-sixth, Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth.

Ten regiments were assigned to the central division, including Kentucky, Tennessee, Northern Alabama and Georgia. These ten were:

The Tenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-fourth, Thirtieth, Forty-third, Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh. Added to these was the First (re-organized).

Thirty-one regiments were ordered to the western division, embracing the country west and northwest of the central division. These were:

Eighth, Ninth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth,

Eighteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth, Twentyninth, Thirty-first, Thirty-second, Thirty-third, Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, Thirty-ninth, Fortieth, Forty-first, Forty-second, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, Fiftieth, Fifty-first, Fifty-second and Fifty-third.

During the war several transfers were made from one district to another. There were taken from the eastern division the Third and Twentysixth and sent to the central division; also the Fourth, which was sent to the department of the gulf. The Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Twentyninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Thirty-second were transferred from the western to the central department. The other military organizations from Wisconsin had various assignments. Recruiting ceased in the State on the 13th of April, 1865. It was not many months before Wisconsin's last soldier was mustered out of service. The State furnished during the war over 75,000 men, of which number nearly 11,000 died in the service.

Among all the noble women who gave themselves to the sanitary work of the civil war perhaps few were more peculiarly fitted for forming and carrying out plans than Mrs. C. A. P. Harvey, widow of the late lamented Gov. Louis P. Harvey. She was appointed by Gov. Salomon one of the sanitary agents of the State. She soon procured the establishment of a convalescent hospital at Madison, Wis. The building when no longer needed as a hospital, Mrs. Harvey conceived the idea of having it converted into a home for soldiers' orphans. On Jan. 1, 1866, the home was opened with eighty-four orphans, Mrs. Harvey at the head. The necessary funds had been raised by subscription; but it soon became a State institution. The orphans were not only maintained but brought up to habits of industry. But it was not long before the number of the inmates began to decrease, owing to the fact that homes were found or many, while some were returned to their,

mothers; none were kept in the institution after they had reached the age of fifteen. At length when the number had diminished to less than forty children, it was thought best to close the institution. This was in 1875. The whole number of orphans cared for during the continuance of the home was about 700. The Legislature then transferred the building to the regents of the University of Wisconsin, who disposed of it; and a Norwegian seminary is now established therein.

During the tenth administration, Lucius Fairchild, governor, the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, the northwestern branch of the National institution, was established in Wisconsin, three miles from Milwaukee. It has a capacious brick building, containing accommodations for 1,000 inmates. In addition to this building which contains the main halls, eating apartment, offices, dormitory and engine room, are shops, granaries, stables and other out-buildings. The Home farm contains 410 acres, of which over one-half is cultivated. The remainder is a wooded park traversed by shaded walks and drives, beautifully undulating. The main line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad runs through the farm, and the track of the northern division passes beside it. Soldiers who were disabled in the service of the United States in the War of the Rebellion, the Mexican War, or the War of 1812, and have been honorably discharged, are entitled to admission to the Soldiers' Home.

A law was passed in 1867 creating the office of insurance commissioner, the secretary of State being assigned to its duties. But, in 1878, it was made a distinct office, to be filled by the governor's appointment. It was, however, made elective in 1881. Philip L. Spooner has served since April 1, 1878, and is still in office. The joint-stock fire insurance companies of Wisconsin are three in number, its mutual companies also three. There is but one life insurance company in the State. A large number of fire and life insurance companies located outside of

Wisconsin transact business under State law within its borders.

Early in 1870, during Gov. Fairchild's third term, was organized, and in March of that year incorporated, the "Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters," having among its specific objects researches and investigations in the various departments of the material, metaphysical, ethical, ethnological and social sciences; a progressive and thorough scientific survey of the State, with a view of determining its mineral, agricultural and other resources; the advancement of the useful arts, through the application of science and by the encouragement of original invention; the encouragement of the fine arts by means of honors and prizes awarded to artists for original works of superior merit; the formation of scientific, economical and art museums; the encouragement of philological and historical research; the collection and preservation of historic records and the formation of a general library, and the diffusion of knowledge by the publication of original contributions to science, literature and the arts. The academy has already published several volumes of transactions, under authority of the State. On the 3d day of July of that year A. J. Craig, superintendent of public instruction, died of consumption, and on the 13th of January following occurred the death of associate justice, Byron Paine, of the supreme court. At the twenty-fourth regular session of the Legislature (January 11—March 25, 1871,) a commissioner of emigration, to be elected by the people, was provided for. The office was abolished Jan. 3, 1876. During this time but two persons held the office—Ole C. Johnson, from April 3, 1871, to Jan. 5, 1874; Martin J. Argard, from Jan. 5, 1874, to Jan. 3, 1876. By an act of the Legislature, approved March 4, 1879, the board of immigration of the State of Wisconsin was created, to consist of five members, of which number two are *ex-officio*—the governor and secretary of State. The principal office is located in Milwaukee,

with a branch office at Chicago. The object is to encourage immigration from Europe to Wisconsin. On the 23d of March, 1871, the State board of charities and reforms was created, to consist of five members to be appointed by the governor of the State, the duties of the members being to investigate and supervise the whole system of charitable and correctional institutions supported by the State or receiving aid from the State treasury. This board have since reported annually to the governor their proceedings. The Wisconsin State horticultural Society, although previously organized, first under the name of the "Wisconsin Fruit Growers' Association," was not incorporated until the 24th of March, 1871—the object of the society being to improve the condition of horticulture, rural adornment and landscape gardening. By a law of 1868 provision was made for the publication of the society's transactions in connection with the State Agricultural Society; but by the act of 1871 this law was repealed and an appropriation made for their yearly publication in separate form. The society holds annual meetings at Madison.

In October, 1871, occurred great fires in northeastern Wisconsin. The counties of Oconto, Brown, Kewaunee, Door, Manitowoc, Outagamie and Shawano suffered more or less. More than 1,000 men, women and children perished. More than 3,000 were rendered destitute. The loss of property has been estimated at \$4,000,000. No other calamity so awful in its results has ever visited Wisconsin. A compilation of the public statutes of the State was prepared during the year 1871 by David Taylor (now associate justice of the supreme court), and published in two volumes, known as the "Revised Statutes of 1871." It was wholly a private undertaking, but a very creditable one.

The Wisconsin Dairymen's Association originated in a resolution offered in the Jefferson County Dairymen's Association, Jan. 26, 1872, to issue a call for a meeting of Wisconsin dairymen, to be held at Watertown, Feb. 15,

1872. A few gentlemen met and organized the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association. The aim of the organization has been to secure improved methods of making butter and cheese and the best markets for shipment and sale. The association holds its annual meeting in January of each year for the discussion of the dairy interests. Dairy fairs are held at each meeting. There is printed annually by the State printer 2,000 copies of the transactions of the association. The Legislature receives 600 copies, the State Historical Society, Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, State Agricultural Society and Northern Wisconsin Agricultural Association receive forty copies each; the remainder are distributed to the members of the association and generally over the State to all who make application for them. The association receives its support from members who join each year, paying the sum of \$1, and by appropriations from the State. Wisconsin won first premium on butter in competition with the world; the second premium on Cheddar cheese (the first going to Canada), and the second on fancy shaped cheese at the International Dairy Fair, held in New York city in December, 1877. To the Dairymen's Association belongs the credit of raising the reputation of Wisconsin cheese and butter from the lowest to the highest rank.

On the 23d of March, 1873, Lieut.-Gov. Milton H. Pettitt died suddenly and unexpectedly. The Legislature this year passed an act providing for a geological survey of the State, to be completed within four years, by a chief geologist and four assistants, to be appointed by the governor, appropriating for the work an annual payment of \$13,000. An act, approved March 25, 1853, authorized the governor to appoint a State geologist, who was to select a suitable person as assistant geologist. Under this law Edward Daniels, on the 1st day of April, 1853, was appointed State geologist, superseded on the 12th day of August, 1854, by James G. Percival, who died in office on the 2d

of May, 1856. By an act approved March 3, 1857, James Hall, Ezra Carr and Edward Daniels were appointed by the Legislature geological commissioners. By an act approved April 2, 1860, Hall was made principal of the commission. The survey was interrupted by a repeal March 21, 1862, of previous laws promoting it. However, to complete the survey, the matter was re-instated by the act of this Legislature, approved March 29, the governor, under that act, appointing as chief geologist Increase A. Lapham, April 10, 1873. On the 16th of February, 1875, O. W. Wight succeeded Lapham, but on the 2d of February, 1876, T. C. Chamberlain was appointed Wight's successor, and still holds the office. He has published four volumes of reports in a very able manner, extending from 1873 to 1879, inclusive. Reports were also published by his predecessors.

And just here it may not be inappropriate to say a word concerning the physical history of Wisconsin. "This can be traced back with certainty to a state of complete submergence beneath the waters of the ancient ocean, by which the material of our oldest and deepest strata were deposited. Let an extensive but shallow sea, covering the whole of the present territory of the State, be pictured to the mind, and let it be imagined to be depositing mud and sand, as at the present day, and we have before us the first authentic stage of the history under consideration. Back of that the history is lost in the mists of geologic antiquity. The thickness of the sediments that accumulated in that early period was immense, being measured by thousands of feet. These sediments occupied, of course, an essentially horizontal position, and were doubtless in a large degree hardened into beds of impure sandstone, shale and other sedimentary rock. But in the progress of time an enormous pressure, attended by heat, was brought to bear upon them laterally, or edge-wise, by which they were folded and crumpled and forced up out of the water, giving rise to an island, the nucleus of Wisconsin. The force



which produced this upheaval is believed to have arisen from the cooling and consequent contraction of the globe. The foldings may be imagined as the wrinkles of a shrinking earth. But the contortion of the beds was a scarcely more wonderful result than the change in the character of the rock which seems to have taken place simultaneously with the folding, indeed, as the result of the heat and pressure attending it. The sediments, that seem to have previously taken the form of impure sandstone and shale for the most part, underwent a change, in which re-arrangement and crystallization of the ingredients played a conspicuous part. By this metamorphism granite, gneiss, mica schist, syenite, hornblende rocks, chloritic schists and other crystalline rocks were formed.\* But to pursue further an inquiry into the geological structure of the State would be foreign to this brief historical sketch of Wisconsin. The subject is ably treated of in the geological reports before referred to.

The actual mineral resources of Wisconsin remain very largely to be developed. Its useful mineral material comes under the head of metallic ores and non-metallic substances. Of the first class are the ores of lead, zinc, iron and copper; of the second class are the principal substances found in brick-clay, kaolin, cement rock, limestone for burning into quick lime, limestone for flux, glass-sand, peat and building stone. In Wisconsin lead and zinc are found together; the former has been utilized since 1826, the latter since 1860. The counties of La Fayette, Iowa and Grant—the southwestern counties of the State—are known as the “lead region.” All the lead and zinc obtained in Wisconsin are from these counties. The lead ore is of one kind only—that known as galena. A large amount is produced yearly from the various mining districts in the lead region. The number of pounds raised from single crevices has often been several hun-

dred thousand. The zinc ores were formerly rejected as useless, but their value is, beyond doubt, very great, and they will be a source of wealth to the lead region for a long time to come, as they are now extensively utilized. Iron mining in the State is yet in its infancy. Numbers of blast furnaces have sprung up in the eastern portion, but these smelt Michigan ores almost entirely. The several ores in Wisconsin are red hematites, brown hematites, magnetic ores and specular hematites; the first are found in Dodge county; the second in Portage, Wood and Juneau; the two last in Bayfield, Ashland, Lincoln and Oconto counties.

The thirteenth administration (C. C. Washburn, governor) ended with the year 1873, the republican party in the State being defeated for the first time since the commencement of Randall's administration. The session of the Legislature of 1874 was a noted one for the passage of the “Potter Law,” limiting the compensation for the transportation of passengers, classifying freight, and regulating prices for its carriage on railroads within Wisconsin. Three railroad commissioners were to be appointed by the governor; one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years, whose terms of office should commence on the 14th day of May, and the governor, thereafter, on the first day of May, of each year, should appoint one commissioner for three years. Under this law the governor appointed J. H. Osborn, for three years; George H. Paul, for two years; and J. W. Hoyt, for one year. Under executive direction, this commission inaugurated its labors by compiling, classifying, and putting into convenient form for public use for the first time, all the railroad legislation of the State. In 1876 this board was abolished and a railroad commissioner, to be appointed by the governor every two years, was to take its place. This latter office was made elective in 1881. The commissioners who have held office under these various laws are: John W. Hoyt, from

\* T. C. Chamberlain, State Geologist, in *Illustrated Hist. Atlas of Wisconsin*.

April 29, 1874, to March 10, 1876; George H. Paul, from April 29, 1874, to March 10, 1876; Joseph H. Osborn, from April 9, 1874, to March 10, 1876; Dana C. Lamb, from March 10, 1876, to Feb. 1, 1878; A. J. Turner, from Feb. 1, 1878, to Feb. 15, 1882; N. P. Haugen, from Feb. 15, 1881, and now in office. The "Potter Law" was resisted by the railroad companies, but ultimately the complete and absolute power of the people, through the Legislature, to modify or altogether repeal their charters was fully sustained by the courts both of the State and the United States. The necessity for railroads in Wisconsin began to be felt while yet it was an appendage of Michigan territory. Great advantages were anticipated from their construction. There was a reason for this. Explorers had published accounts of the wonderful fertility of Wisconsin's soil, the wealth of its broad prairies and forest openings, and the beauty of its lakes and rivers. From 1836, with the hope of improving their condition, thousands of the enterprising yeomanry of New England, New York and Ohio started for the territory. Germans, Scandinavians, and other Nationalities, attracted by the glowing accounts sent abroad, crossed the ocean on their way to the new world; steamers and sail-craft laden with families and their household goods left Buffalo and other lake ports, all bound for Wisconsin. With the development of the agricultural resources of the territory, grain raising became the most prominent interest, and as the settlements extended back from the lake shore the difficulties of transportation of the products of the soil were seriously felt. The expense incurred in moving a load of produce seventy or eighty miles to a market town on the lake shore frequently exceeded the gross sum obtained for the same. All goods, wares and merchandise, and most of the lumber used were hauled by teams from Lake Michigan. To meet the great want, better facilities for transportation, railroads were an indispensable

necessity. Between the years 1838 and 1841, the territorial Legislature of Wisconsin chartered several railroad companies, but with the exception of the Milwaukee & Waukesha Railroad Company, incorporated in 1847, none of the corporations thus created took any particular shape. There are now in Wisconsin the following railroads, costing, in round numbers, \$150,000,000: Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul; Chicago & Northwestern; Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha; Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western; Wisconsin Central; Green Bay & Minnesota; Green Bay, Winona & St. Paul; Wisconsin & Minnesota; Chippewa Falls & Western; Fond du Lac, Amboy & Peoria; Prairie du Chien & McGregor; Milwaukee & Northern; Chippewa Falls & Northern, and Wisconsin & Michigan. Other lines are still needed, and present lines should be extended by branch roads. The questions, as we have seen, upon which great issues have been raised between railway corporations in Wisconsin and the people, are now happily settled by securing to the latter their rights, and the former, under the wise and conciliatory policy pursued by their managers, are assured of the safety of their investments. An era of good feeling has succeeded one of distrust and antagonism. The people must use the railroads, and the railroads depend upon the people for sustenance and protection.

In 1874 the Wisconsin commission for the purpose of fish culture was organized. The next year, by reason of State aid, the commission was enabled to commence work. In 1876 was completed the purchase of grounds, the erection of the buildings, and the construction of the ponds (seven in number) of the Madison hatchery, situated in the town of Fitchburg, Dane county. A temporary hatching house was continued for some time in Milwaukee, for the hatching of spawn of the white fish and lake trout. The commission was re-organized in 1878, the number of the members being increased from four to seven. Appro-

priations by the Legislature have been continued, and the work promises favorable results to the State.

Under an act of 1875 an Industrial School for girls was organized in Milwaukee, where buildings have been erected, capable of accommodating 150 inmates. Its proper subjects are: (1.) Viciously inclined girls under sixteen, and boys under ten years of age; (2.) The stubborn and unruly, who refuse to obey their proper guardians; (3.) Truants, vagrants and beggars; (4.) Those found in circumstances of manifest danger of falling into habits of vice and immorality; (5.) Those under the above ages who have committed any offense punishable by fine or imprisonment in adult offenders. Although the school was founded by private charity, and is under the control of a self-perpetuating board of managers, it is incorporated and employed by the State for the custody, guardianship, discipline and instruction of the aforementioned children. In default of responsible and efficient guardianship, they are treated as the minors and wards of the State, and by it are committed to the guardianship of this board of ladies during minority.

The application of Miss Lavinia Goodell for admission to the bar of Wisconsin, was rejected by the supreme court at its January term, 1876; but as a law subsequently passed the Legislature, making ladies eligible to practice in the several courts of the State, she was, upon a second application, admitted.

By an act approved March 13, 1876, a State board of health was established, the appointment of a superintendent of vital statistics provided for, and certain duties assigned to local boards of health. The State board was organized soon after, seven persons having been appointed by the governor as its members. And here it is proper to say a word as to the health of Wisconsin. "When we compare the general death-rate of Wisconsin with that of the other States of the Union, we find that it compares most favorably with that of Vermont, the

healthiest of the New England States. The United States census of 1850, 1860 and 1870, gives Wisconsin ninety-four deaths to 10,000 of the population, while it gives Vermont 101 to every 10,000 of her inhabitants. The census of 1870 shows that the death-rate from consumption in Minnesota, Iowa, California and Wisconsin are alike. These four States show the lowest death-rate among the States from consumption, the mortality being thirteen to fourteen per cent. of the whole death-rate. Climatologically considered, then, there is not a more healthy State in the Union than the State of Wisconsin. But for health purposes something more is requisite than climate. Climate and soil must be equally good. Men should shun the soil, no matter how rich it be, if the climate is inimical to health, and rather choose the climate that is salubrious, even if the soil is not so rich. In Wisconsin, generally speaking, the soil and climate are equally conducive to health, and alike good for agricultural purposes."\*

There was in Wisconsin a general feeling of patriotism (if the acts of its citizens, both native and foreign born, are to be taken as an indication of their attachment to their country), manifested throughout the centennial year, 1876. A board of State centennial managers was provided for by the Legislature, to represent Wisconsin at the Philadelphia exhibition, and \$20,000 appropriated for their use, to make there a proper exhibition of the products, resources and advantages of the State. Under a law of this year, three revisors, afterward increased to five, were appointed to revise the statutes of the State. The result was a large volume, ably collated, known as the Revised Statutes of 1878, which was legalized by act of the June session of the Legislature of that year. On the 19th of October, 1880, Chief Justice Edward G. Ryan departed this life, in the seventieth year of his age. He was buried in Milwaukee, with honors becoming the position held by him at the time

\*Dr. Joseph Hobbins, in Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wisconsin.

of his death. His successor, as previously stated, is Chief Justice Orsamus Cole.

By an act of the Legislature of 1881, a board of supervision of Wisconsin charitable, reformatory and penal institutions was founded. The boards of trustees by which these institutions had been governed since their organization were abolished by the same law. The board of supervision consists of five members, who hold their office for five years, and who are appointed by the governor, the Senate concurring. The board acts as commissioners of lunacy, and has full power to investigate all complaints against any of the institutions under its control, to send for books and papers, summon, compel the attendance of, and swear witnesses. The powers delegated to this board are so extraordinary, and its duties so manifold, that a recital of them will be found of interest. They are as follows :

(1.) To maintain and govern the Wisconsin State Hospital for the Insane, the Northern Hospital for the Insane, the Wisconsin State Prison, the Wisconsin Industrial School for Boys, the Wisconsin Institution for the Education of the Blind, and the Wisconsin Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb ; and such other charitable and penal institutions as may hereafter be established or maintained by the State. (2.) To carefully supervise and direct the management and affairs of said institutions, and faithfully and diligently promote the objects for which the same have been established. (3.) To preserve and care for the buildings, grounds and all property connected with the said institutions. (4.) To take and hold in trust for the said several institutions any land conveyed or devised, or money or property given or bequeathed, to be applied for any purpose connected therewith, and faithfully to apply the same as directed by the donor, and faithfully to apply all funds, effects and property which may be received for the use of such institutions. (5.) To make on or before October 1 in each year, full and complete annual in-

ventories and appraisals of all the property of each of said institutions, which inventories and appraisals shall be recorded, and shall be so classified as to separately show the amount, kind and value of all real and personal property belonging to such institutions. (6.) To make such by-laws, rules and regulations, not incompatible with law, as it shall deem convenient or necessary for the government of the said institutions and for its own government, and cause the same to be printed. (7.) To visit and carefully inspect each of said institutions as often as once in each month, either by the full board or by some member thereof, and ascertain whether all officers, teachers, servants and employees in such institutions are competent and faithful in the discharge of their duties, and all inmates thereof properly cared for and governed, and all accounts, account books and vouchers properly kept, and all the business affairs thereof properly conducted. (8.) To fix the number of subordinate officers, teachers, servants and employees in each of said institutions, and prescribe the duties and compensation of each, and to employ the same upon the nomination of the respective superintendents and wardens. (9.) To promptly remove or discharge any officer, teacher or employe in any of said institutions, who shall be guilty of any malfeasance or misbehavior in office, or of neglect, or improper discharge of duty. (10.) To annually appoint for the Wisconsin State Hospital for the Insane and for the Northern Hospital for the Insane, for each, a superintendent, one assistant physician, a matron, a steward and a treasurer ; and for the Institution for the Education of the Blind, and the Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb, and the Industrial School for Boys, for each, a superintendent, a steward, a treasurer, and all necessary teachers ; and for the State prison, a warden, a steward and a treasurer, who shall be the officers of said institutions respectively and whose duties shall be fixed by said board, except as herein otherwise provided. (11.) To

maintain and govern the school, prescribe the course of study and provide the necessary apparatus and means of instruction for the Institution for the Education of the Blind, and for the Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb. (12.) To prescribe and collect such charges as it may think just, for tuition and maintenance of pupils not entitled to the same free of charge, in the Institution for the Education of the Blind and in the Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb. (13.) To fix the period of the academic year, not less than forty weeks, and prescribe the school terms in the Institution for the Education of the Blind and the Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb. (14.) To confer, in its discretion, upon meritorious pupils, such academic and literary degrees as are usually conferred by similar institutions, and grant diplomas accordingly, in the Institution for the Education of the Blind and in the Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb.

On the 20th of April, 1883, a commissioner was appointed by the governor, for two years, in accordance with the provisions of an act passed by the Legislature of that year creating a bureau of labor statistics. The object of this office, now filled by Frank A. Flower, is to collect manufacturing and labor statistics, report violations of laws for benefit of artisans, and generally to show the manufacturing condition and resources of the State.

In her political divisions Wisconsin has copied, to a considerable extent, from some of her sister States. These divisions are counties, towns, cities and incorporated villages. The county government is in charge of a county board of supervisors, consisting of the chairman of each town board, a supervisor from each ward of every city, and one from each incorporated village. The county officers are: Clerk, treasurer, sheriff, coroner, clerk of circuit court, district attorney, register of deeds, surveyor, and one or two superintendents of schools, all elected biennially. There are sixty-five coun-

ties in the State. The government of the towns is in charge of a town board of supervisors. The other officers are clerk, treasurer, assessors, justices of the peace, overseers of highways and constables. The government of cities depends upon charters granted by the State Legislature. Generally, there is a mayor, common council, clerk, treasurer, attorney, chief of police, fire marshal and surveyor. Incorporated villages are governed by a president and six trustees. The other officers are clerk, treasurer, supervisor, marshal and constable, and sometimes a justice of the peace or police justice.

The constitution of Wisconsin, adopted by the people in 1848, is still "the supreme law of the State;" but it has several times been amended, or had material additions made to it:

(1.) Article V, section 21, relating to the pay of the members of the Legislature. This was amended in 1867.

(2.) Article VI, sections 5 and 9, relating to the salaries of the governor and lieutenant-governor. This was amended in 1869.

(3.) Article I, section 8, relating to grand juries. This was amended in 1870.

(4.) Article IV, sections 31 and 32, relating to special legislation. These sections were added in 1871.

(5.) Article XI, section 3, relating to municipal taxation. This was amended in 1874.

(6.) Article VII, section 4, relating to the number and term of the judges of the supreme court. This was substituted for the original section in 1877.

(7.) Article VIII, section 2, relating to claims against the State. This was amended in 1877.

(8.) Article IV, sections 4, 5, 11 and 21, relating to biennial sessions, and a change in salaries and perquisites of members of the Legislature. These were thus amended in 1881.

(9) Article III, section 1, relating to residence of voters in election districts some time before the election, and to registration of voters in cities and villages. Amended to this effect in 1882.

(10.) Article VI, section 4, article VII, section 12, and article XIII, section 1, all relating to biennial elections. Amended to this effect in 1882.\*

\*A. O. Wright, in Exposition of the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin.



# HISTORY

OF

# CRAWFORD COUNTY,

## WISCONSIN.

### CHAPTER I.

#### AREA, POSITION AND PHYSICAL FEATURES.

BEFORE entering upon a consideration of the history of Crawford county, past and present, it is a matter of importance to understand its area and geographical position.

##### AREA.

Crawford county, in area, ranks among the southern counties of Wisconsin as one of average size. It includes twenty-seven whole, half and fractional congressional townships with an average in each as follows:

AREA OF TOWNSHIPS.		Acres.
Township 6, of range 5 west...		812 32
“ “ “ “ 6 “ .....		5,648 84
“ “ “ “ 7 “ .....		980 12
“ 7 “ “ 3 “ .....		143 15
“ “ “ “ 4 “ .....		7,844 01
“ “ “ “ 5 “ .....		19,401 10
“ “ “ “ 6 “ .....		22,028 57
“ “ “ “ 7 “ .....		2,564 24
“ 8 “ “ 3 “ .....		15,258 85
“ “ “ “ 4 “ .....		22,507 37
“ “ “ “ 5 “ .....		23,350 73

	Acres.
Township 6 of range 6 west.....	21,317 02
“ “ “ “ 7 “ .....	1,627 57
“ 9 “ “ 3 “ .....	23,003 24
“ “ “ “ 4 “ .....	22,739 57
“ “ “ “ 5 “ .....	23,208 70
“ “ “ “ 6 “ .....	9,596 22
“ 10 “ “ 3 “ .....	23,078 53
“ “ “ “ 4 “ .....	22,884 87
“ “ “ “ 5 “ .....	23,540 80
“ “ “ “ 6 “ .....	17,475 44
“ “ “ “ 7 “ .....	4,705 79
“ 11 “ “ 3 “ .....	13,026 24
“ “ “ “ 4 “ .....	11,498 82
“ “ “ “ 5 “ .....	11,580 96
“ “ “ “ 6 “ .....	11,600 68
“ “ “ “ 7 “ .....	3,679 06

This does not include the area of the private land claims confirmed to different parties by the United States, and located on the prairie, the same on which the city of Prairie du Chien is situated. The extreme length of the county, north and south, is twenty-nine and one-half

miles; its extreme width, east and west, twenty-eight miles.

#### POSITION.

Crawford county is bounded on the north by Vernon county; on the east by the counties of Richland and Grant; on the south by the county last mentioned; and on the west by Allamakee and Clayton counties, Iowa. It is in the second tier of counties north of the northern boundary of the State of Illinois; its northern line being a distance from the southern boundary line of Wisconsin, in a straight course, of sixty-three miles. The eastern line of the county is 144 miles distant from the western shore of Lake Michigan. A distance from its northeast corner of 225 miles, due north, is the nearest point on the southern shore of Lake Superior.

#### PHYSICAL FEATURES.—A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW.

[From the Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wisconsin, 1873.]

At Prairie de Chien, the prairie is underlaid by about 140 feet of sand and gravel—river deposit—under which commences the Potsdam sandstone formation. This has been penetrated to the depth of 1016 feet in boring an artesian well, without reaching the granite. Above the plain at this place, the Magnesian limestone rises in perpendicular cliffs to the height of about 250 feet. Above this, the bluff slopes back to a perpendicular height of about 100 feet. This slope is composed of the St. Peter's sandstone, and the lower portion of the Trenton limestone. The formation of the whole of Crawford county is of similar character. The county is bounded on the west by the Mississippi river; on the south by the Wisconsin. The waters of these rivers have worn out deep channels in the rock, producing beetling bluffs on either side. The Kickapoo river runs diagonally through the county from northeast to southwest, in consequence of which the face of the county is worn into deep ravines. A very narrow ridge runs the whole length from northeast to southwest, sloping off abruptly—to the Kickapoo on one

hand and Mississippi or Wisconsin on the other. This ridge forms an admirable wagon road.

The soil of Crawford county is rich in the elements necessary for vegetable growth. It is both argillaceous and calcareous, mixed in many places with sand and universally with a large proportion of vegetable mold. The soil produces abundant crops of cereals and affords good pasturage. The timber is composed of oak of several varieties, hickory, butternut, ash, elm, basswood, hard and soft maple, quaking asp, white and yellow birch, and black walnut.

The county has one feature which is somewhat remarkable. None of it has been subject to action of the glacial period. There is no drift, nor are there any boulders or water-worn pebbles, except in beds of streams, with only one exception, which is in a bed of limonite at Seneca, where there are numerous water-worn pebbles imbedded in iron ore. This bed of ore is situated on the highest land in the county.

At this place there is a considerable deposit of limonite, which has never been worked. In the town of Wauzeka, there is considerable copper ore, of the variety called by miners gossam. It is found in masses imbedded in the earth from the size of peas to fifty and sometimes 100 pounds. This ore yields about twenty-five per cent. of copper. At Bridgeport, there are extensive quarries of Dolomite or Magnesian limestone. These quarries are of much importance, producing beautiful and durable building stone. It is at present mostly dressed into window caps and sills and columns. In the town of Wauzeka some lead ore is found; but in no large quantities, as the Galena limestone terminates in a north-westerly direction.

There are three artesian wells at Prairie du Chien, one discharging 869,616 gallons daily. This well is 960 feet deep, and is said to possess rare mineral qualities. The others are upward



of 1,000 feet in depth, and discharge proportionately large quantities of water. The two wells last mentioned were bored for the purpose of obtaining water to drive machinery.

#### THE RIVERS OF THE COUNTY.

Crawford county is emphatically the river county of Wisconsin. Leaving the smaller streams to be described in the record of the towns, it is sufficient, in a general view, to notice only the Mississippi, the Wisconsin and the Kickapoo.

##### I.—THE MISSISSIPPI.

This is the largest and most important river of the United States, rises in the north part of Minnesota at an elevation of 1,680 feet above the tide water. Its chief source is Itasca lake, which is 1,575 feet higher than the sea, and about 3,000, or, as some say, 3,160 miles from the mouth of the river, and is about latitude 47 degrees, 10 minutes north and longitude 95 degrees, 20 minutes west. From Itasca lake it runs first northward, but soon turns towards the east, and expands into Lake Cass and other lakes. After flowing towards nearly every point of the compass, it arrives at Crow Wing below which it runs southward to St. Cloud and southeastward to Minneapolis. Here is a picturesque cataract called the Falls of St. Anthony, which is the head of navigation. The river here descends sixty-six feet in less than one mile, including a perpendicular fall of seventeen feet. It passes by the city of St. Paul and a few miles lower strikes the boundary of Wisconsin and expands into the long and beautiful Lake Pepin, bordered by vertical limestone bluffs, which are about 400 feet high and very picturesque. Below Dubuque its general direction is southward, and it forms the boundary between the States of Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana on the right and Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi on the left hand. After an extremely sinuous course it enters the Gulf of Mexico by several mouths at the southeast extremity of Plaque-

mine parish, Louisiana, in latitude 29 degrees north and longitude 89 degrees, 12 minutes west. Its largest affluents are the Missouri, Ohio, Arkansas and Red rivers, besides which it receives the Minnesota, Iowa and Des Moines from the right hand and the Wisconsin and Illinois rivers from the left. The Missouri river is longer than the part of the Mississippi above the junction of the two rivers, which is called the Upper Mississippi. The total length of the stream from the source of the Missouri to the Gulf of Mexico is computed to be 4,300 miles, which exceeds that of any other river in the world. The area drained by this river and its tributaries, according to Prof. Guyot, is 1,244,000 square miles. It is computed that the mean volume of water discharged by it in a second is 675,000 cubic feet. It is navigable by large or middle-sized steamboats from its mouth to St. Paul, a distance of about 2,200 miles. Steamboats can ascend the Missouri to Fort Benton, which, according to some, is about 2,500 miles from its mouth, and 3,900 miles from the mouth of the Mississippi. The chief cities on the great river, giving precedence to those nearest the source, are Minneapolis, St. Paul, La Crosse, Dubuque, Davenport, Keokuk, Quincy, Hannibal, St. Louis, Memphis and New Orleans. The lowest place at which the river is crossed by a bridge is St. Louis, Mo., about 1,400 miles from its mouth. This has three arches raised so high that large steamers can pass under it. The river is 3,500 feet wide at St. Louis, about 2,500 at New Orleans and 4,000 feet at the mouth of the Ohio. It appears that it is generally wider between Dubuque and St. Louis than it is below the latter city. Three other bridges cross the river at Davenport, Clinton and Dubuque. The mean velocity of the current between St. Louis and the Gulf of Mexico is about sixty-five miles per day. The Mississippi Valley comprises a vast extent of very fertile land, which is nearly level or gently undulating. As the river runs southward and traverses eighteen degrees of latitude, the

climate and productions of the lower part differ greatly from those of the upper part of the valley. In Louisiana and Mississippi the river is bordered by alluvial plains and swamps, which are lower than the surface of the water, and are often inundated, though partly protected by artificial embankments called levees. The greatest floods occur in the spring, after the snow and ice of the Upper Mississippi have been melted. The water begins to rise about the 1st of March and increases until June. The levees are sometimes bursted or overcome by the violence of the flood, which rushes through crevices and devastates large tracts of arable land of which cotton and sugar are the staple products. Such a calamity occurred in April, 1874, and reduced many thousand people to destitution. At the mouth of the river a large delta has been formed by the mud and detritus carried down by the current. This delta is intersected by a number of outlets, or water-courses, called bayous, which issue from the Mississippi, or derive from it a supply of water in time of a flood. "The whole area of the delta," says Dana, "is about 12,300 square miles and about one-third is a sea-marsh, only two-thirds lying above the level of the gulf." The amount of silt or sediment carried to the Mexican gulf by this river, according to Humphreys and Abbott, is about 1-1,500th the weight of the water, equivalent for an average year to 812,500,000,000,000 pounds, or a mass one square mile in area and 241 feet deep. "The new soil deposited in one year by the Mississipi," says Guyot, "would cover an area of 268 square miles with the thickness of one foot." The water enters the gulf by five channels called the Northeast Pass, Southeast Pass, South Pass etc. The navigation of these passes is partly obstructed by sand bars, which are continually formed or shifted, and to obviate this difficulty a system of jetties has been constructed in the South Pass by Capt. J. B. Eads, by authority of the National government, calculated to maintain a channel thirty feet in depth.

#### II.—THE WISCONSIN.

This stream, which washes for about ten miles the northwest boundary of Dane county, is much the most important of those which drain the elevated lands of the State. Its total length from its source to its mouth is about 450 miles. It forms, with its valley, the main topographical feature of central Wisconsin. Rising in Lac Vieux Desert, on the summit of the Archæan watershed, at an elevation of 951 feet above Lake Michigan, it pursues a general southerly course for 300 miles over the crystalline rocks, and then, passing on to the sandstones which form its bed for the remainder of its course, continues to the southward some eighty miles more. Turning then westward, it reaches the Mississippi within forty miles of the south line of the State, at an elevation of only thirty feet above Lake Michigan, so that its fall from Lac Vieux Desert is 921 feet—an average of a fraction over two feet to the mile. Like all other streams which run to the south, southeast and southwest from the crystalline rocks, it has its quite distinct upper or crystalline rock portion and its lower or sandstone portion. This river, however, may be regarded as having three distinct sections, the first including all that part from the source to the last appearance of crystalline rocks in the bed of the stream, in the southern part of Wood county; the second, that part from this point to the dells on the south line of Adams and Juneau counties; and the third, that portion from the dells to the mouth of the stream. The first of these divisions is broken constantly by rapids and falls, caused by the descent south of the surface of the Archæan area, and by the obstructions produced by the inclined ledges of rock which cross the stream. The second and third sections are alike in being almost entirely without rapids or falls, and in the nature of the red rock, but are separated by the contracted gorge known as the dells, which, acting in some sort as a dam, prevents any considerable rise in the river below, the water above not in-

frequently rising as much as fifty feet in flood seasons, whilst below the extreme fluctuation does not exceed ten feet. The total lengths of the Archaean upper sandstone and lower sandstone sections of the river are, respectively, 250, sixty-two and 130 miles; the distance through the dells being about seven and a half miles.

The width of the river, where it enters Marathon county, is from 300 to 500 feet. It pursues a general southerly course through townships 29, 28, 27, 26, 25 and 24 north, of range 7 east, and townships 24 and 23 north, of range 8 east, in the southern portion of Portage county. In this part of its course the Wisconsin flows through a densely timbered country, and has, except where it makes rapids or passes through rock gorges, a narrow bottom land, which varies in width, is usually raised but a few feet above the water level, and is wider on one side than on the other. Above this bottom terraces can often be made out, with surfaces in some cases one or two miles in width. Above, again, the country surface rises steadily to the dividing ridges on each side, never showing the bluff edges so characteristic of the lower reaches of the river. Heavy rapids and falls are made at Wausau (Big Bull Falls), at Mosinee (Little Bull Falls), at Stevens Point and on section 8, in township 23 north, of range 8 east (Contant's Rapids). All but the last named of these are increased in height by artificial dams. Two miles below the foot of Contant's Rapids, just after receiving the Plover river on the east, the Wisconsin turns a right angle to the west and enters upon the sparsely timbered sand plains, through which it flows for 100 miles. At the bend the river is quiet, with high banks of sand, and a few low outcrops of gneiss at the water's edge. From the bend the course is westward for about nine miles, then, after curving southward again, the long series of rapids soon begins, which, with intervening stretches of still water, extend about fifteen miles along the river to the last rapid at Point Bass in southern Wood county.

East of the river line, between the city of Grand Rapids and Point Bass, the country rises gradually, reaching altitudes of 100 feet above the river at points ten or fifteen miles distant. On the west the surface is an almost level plain, descending gradually as the river is receded from. At Point Bass the gneissic rocks disappear beneath the sandstones which for some miles have formed the upper portions of the river banks and now become in turn, the bed rock, and the first division of the river's course ends. The main tributaries which it has received down to this point are, on the left bank, the Big Eau Claire, three miles below Wausau; the Little Eau Claire, on the north side of section 3, in township 25 north, of range 7 east, just south of the north line of Portage county; and the Big Plover, on section 9, in township 28 north, of range 5 east, just at the foot of Contant's Rapids; on the right bank, the Placata or Big Rib, about two miles below Wausau; the She-she-ga-ma-isk, or Big Eau Pleine, on section 19, in township 26 north, of range 7 east, in Marathon county; and the Little Eau Pleine, on section 9, in township 25 north, of range 7 east, in Portage county. All of these streams are of considerable size and drain large areas. They all make deviations in their courses, so that their lengths are much greater than the actual distances from their sources, to the Wisconsin at the nearest point; and all of them have a very considerable descent, making many rapids and falls over the tilted edges of schistose and gneissic rocks, even down to within short distances of their junctions with the main river.

The streams on the west side head on the high country along the line of the fourth principal meridian, about forty miles west of the Wisconsin, and at elevations of from 200 to 300 feet above their mouths; those on the east, head on the divide between the Wisconsin and Wolf about twenty miles east, at elevations not very much less. Reaching back, as these streams do, into a country large-

ly timbered with pine, and having so large a descent, they are of great value for logging and milling purposes.

The second section of the Wisconsin river begins at Point Bass with a width of from 700 to 900 feet. The next sixty miles of its course, to the head of the dells, is a southerly stretch, with a wide bow to the westward, through sand plains, here and there timbered with dwarf oaks, and interspersed with marshes. These plains stretch away to the east and west for twenty miles from the river bottom, gradually rising in both directions. Scattering over them, at intervals of one to ten miles, are erosion peaks of sandstone, from fifty to 300 feet in height, rising precipitously from the level ground. Some of these are near and on the bank of the river, which is also, in places, bordered by low, mural exposures of the same sandstone. The river itself is constantly obstructed by shifting sand bars, resulting from the ancient disintegration of the sandstone, which in the vicinity everywhere forms the basement rock; but its course is not interrupted by rock rapids. As it nears the northern line of Columbia county, the high ground that limits the sand plane on the west, curving southeastward, finally reaches the edge of the stream, which, by its southeasterly course for the last twenty miles, has itself approached the high ground on the east. The two ridges thus closing in upon the river, have caused it to cut for itself the deep, narrow gorge known as the dells.

In the section of its course the Wisconsin receives several important tributaries. Of those on the east the principal ones are Duck creek and Ten Mile creek, in the southern part of Wood county, and the Little and Big Roche—a Cris creeks, both in Adams county. The two former head in a large marsh twenty-five miles east of and over 100 feet above the main stream. The two latter head on the high dividing ridge, on the west line of Waushara

county, at elevations between 150 and 200 feet above their mouths.

These streams do not pass through a timbered country, but have very valuable water powers. Of those on the west two are large and important, the Yellow and Lemonweir rivers. Yellow river heads in township 25 north, in the adjoining corners of Wood, Jackson and Clark counties, and runs a general southerly course nearly parallel to the Wisconsin for over seventy miles, the two gradually approaching one another and joining in township 17 north, of range 4 east. The yellow river has its archæan and sandstone sections, the former exceedingly rocky and much broken by rapids and falls, the latter comparatively sluggish and without rock rapids. The upper portions of the river extend into the pine regions, and much logging is done in times of high water. The water powers are of great value. The Lemonweir is also a large stream. Heading in a timbered region in the southeast corner of Jackson county, it flows southward for some distance through Monroe, and, entering Juneau on the middle of its west side, crosses it in a southeasterly direction, reaching the Wisconsin on section 24, in township 15 north, of range 5 east, having descended in its length of some seventy miles about 200 feet.

The Wisconsin enters the gorge, already spoken of as the dells, not far above the southern boundary line of Juneau and Adams counties. This famous passage of about seven and one-half miles has been often described. At its fork, between the counties of Sauk and Columbia, the Wisconsin enters upon the last section of its course and also upon the most remarkable bend in its whole length. Through the dells its general course is southward, but it now turns almost due east, in which direction it continues with one or two subordinate turns southward for about seventeen miles through low sand banks as far as Portage. Here it bends abruptly south again, and, reaching its most eastern point not far below, soon swerves around into

the final southwestward stretch to the Mississippi. The cause of this long detour to the east is sufficiently evident. As the river leaves the dells it finds lying directly athwart its course two bold quartzite ranges, extending east and west through Sauk county for upward of twenty miles, and crossing into Columbia, finally unite about eight miles east of the county line in a sharp and bold eastwardly projecting point, rising 400 feet above the river bottom.

Above Portage where the Wisconsin forms the southern boundary line of the town of Lewiston, the ground immediately north is lower than the water in the river—the heads of Neenah creek, a tributary of the Fox, rising a short distance from its banks. In times of high water, the Wisconsin overflows into these streams, and thus contributes to a totally different river. At Portage, the Fox, after flowing south of west for twenty miles, approaches the Wisconsin, coming from the opposite direction. Where the two streams are nearest, they are less than two miles apart, and are separated by a low, sandy plain, the water in the Fox being five feet below that of the Wisconsin at ordinary stages. The greater part of this low ground is overflowed by the latter stream in times of high water, and to this is chiefly due the spring rise in the Fox river.

After doubling the eastern end of the quartzite ranges, as already said, the Wisconsin turns again to the west, being forced to this by impinging on the north side of a high belt of limestone country, which, after trending southward across the eastern part of Columbia county, veers gradually to a westerly direction, lying to the south of the river, along the rest of its course. Soon after striking this limestone region, the river valley assumes an altogether new character, which it retains to its mouth, having now a nearly level, for the most part treeless bottom, from three to six miles in width, ten to thirty feet in height, usually more on one side than on

the other, and bounded on both sides by bold and often precipitous bluffs, 100 to 350 feet in height, of sandstone capped with limestone. Immediately along the water's edge is usually a narrow timbered strip, rising two to four feet above the river, which is overflowed at high water. The line of bluffs along the north side of the valley is the northern edge of the high limestone belt just mentioned, which reaches its greatest elevation ten to fifteen miles south of this edge. In front of the main bluff-face, especially in its eastern extension, are frequently to be seen bold and high isolated outliers of the limestone country. On the north bank, the bluffs are at first the edges of similar large outlying masses, but farther down they become more continuous, the river crossing over the north westward trending outcrop line of the Lower Magnesian limestone.

In this last section of its course, the Wisconsin is much obstructed by bars of shifting sand, derived originally from the erosion of the great sandstone formation which underlies the whole region, and to whose existence the unusual amount of obstruction of this kind in the river is due. The altitude of the water surface of the Wisconsin at Lac Vieux Desert above Lake Michigan is 951 feet; at Wausau, above dam, 623 feet; at Knowlton (high), 538 feet—(low), 523 feet; at Stevens Point, 485 feet; at Contants Rapids, 468 feet; at Grand Rapids—railroad bridge—420 feet; at Kilbourn City—railroad bridge—233 feet; at Portage, 211 feet; at Merrimaek, 182 feet; at Sauk City, 165 feet; at Spring Green bridge, 134 feet; at Muscoda, 115 feet; at the mouth of the stream, 34 feet. The average velocity of the river below Portage is remarkably uniform, and is just about two miles per hour. The daily discharges of the river at Portage, in times of extreme low water, is about 259,000,000 cubic feet. The average fall of the water surface of the river below Portage is one and one-half feet per mile. This rapid fall, were it not for the great amount of sand in the river bed, would

make the stream a series of pools and rock rapids.

#### II.—THE KICKAPOO.

The Kickapoo rises in Monroe county, that is, its main or east branch; which is frequently termed the Kickapoo proper. It runs a southwest course after entering Vernon county, through the towns of Whitestown, Stark, touching Webster, and then after crossing into Richland, in which county it flows in a south course,

returns to Vernon, in the town of Liberty, and at a point on section 33, in the town of Kickapoo, receives the west branch. The river afterward takes a southwesterly course, leaving Vernon county on section 16, in the town last mentioned. The river runs through Crawford county, in a southerly direction and empties into the Wisconsin, on section 17, in the town of Wauzeka, just below the village of the same name.



## CHAPTER II.

## TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.

A much clearer and more correct knowledge can be obtained of the topographical features and geological formations of the county, by referring by townships to its water sheds, streams, springs, prairies, forests, soils and sub-soils, clays and underlying formations, than from general remarks on its entire area.

By carefully studying the references to each congressionally-surveyed township in the county, it will be seen that the whole region lies within the great driftless area of the State, and that its surface contour has never been modified by glacial action.

We notice here high rolling ridges of land, intersected in all directions with deep ravines and valleys, often bordered with precipitous cliffs,—the elevation of the ridges above the valleys being from 300 to 500 feet. The valleys in their length and breadth are the effect of erosion only; but it seems probable that the streams formerly were much larger and acted with greater rapidity and force. When we mentally reconstruct the country, as it must once have been, by filling up the valleys with the formations now found on their sides, and then add the formations whose outlines still remain, we can appreciate the immense denudation which the country has undergone.

## TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES AND GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS OF THE VARIOUS SURVEYED TOWNSHIPS.

TOWNSHIP 8, range 3 west (Marietta in part). This township is very hilly and rough land. The hills are high, steep, and covered with heavy timber of maple, elm, oak and basswood. The soil is a sandy clay. The formations are

Potsdam, Lower Magnesian and St. Peters sandstone.

TOWNSHIP 9, range 3 west (Scott). The divide between Knapp creek and the Kickapoo passes irregularly through the township from section 31 to section 5. The ridge is, in some places, quite wide, and contains some good farming land. The township is well watered by numerous streams flowing from its center in all directions. The timber is very large and dense. The Potsdam covers one-third of the township, including all the valleys, and the Lower Magnesian the rest, excepting a narrow belt of St. Peters along the divide.

TOWNSHIP 10, range 3 west (Clayton in part). The divide mentioned in township 9 continues through township 10, from sections 32 to section 3, with numerous lateral spurs and ridges. The township consists chiefly of high, rolling, ridge land, with numerous ravines running down to the streams. The soil is clay, and the timber very dense and large, with but little underbrush. The principal trees are maple and elm. Along the crest of the divide, on sections 3, 9, 16 and 20, are some very conspicuous mounds formed by outliers of St. Peters sandstone. Sink holes are also of frequent occurrence. Water is obtained with difficulty on the ridges. In places wells are sunk from 100 to 165 feet. The formations are the same as in township 9.

TOWNSHIP 11, range 3 west (part of Clayton in Crawford county, and of Kickapoo in Vernon county). The eastern and central parts of this

township consist of high, wide, rolling ridges; and the western part, of steep, rocky bluffs. The township is watered by the Kickapoo on the west and north. Fine springs are very numerous. The valley of the Kickapoo averages about a mile in width. The soil throughout the township is clay and the timber very heavy. The Potsdam covers about one-third of the township; the Lower Magnesian, one-half; and the St. Peters, one-sixth. Many loose boulders of the St. Peters are found on the ridges where the formation cannot be found in place. The general section, in this township, of the formation is as follows:

	Feet.
St. Peters sandstone.....	50
Lower Magnesian limestone.....	150
Potsdam sandstone.....	300
	—
From ridge to valley, total.....	500

TOWNSHIP 7, range 4 west (Wauzeka in part). The part of this township which lies north of the Wisconsin river consists almost exclusively of the alluvial bottoms of that river and the Kickapoo. It is densely timbered with elm, maple, basswood, butternut, etc., with a deep, black, swampy soil. The hills which inclose the rivers are found along the north line of the township. The formations are Potsdam and Lower Magnesian.

TOWNSHIP 8, range 4 west (parts of Wauzeka, Marietta and Eastman). There is a high ridge running in a northeasterly course through this township, from which the ground slopes to the Kickapoo and Wisconsin rivers. The country is very hilly, the ridges narrow and broken by deep ravines. The soil is clay, and the timber very large and dense. The township is well watered by the Kickapoo and its several branches. There are a great many large springs in the valley of the Kickapoo. The Potsdam covers about one-sixth of the township; the Lower Magnesian, two-thirds; and the St. Peters sandstone and Trenton limestone, one

sixth. The general section of this township, taken from the ridge of the Kickapoo is:

	Feet
Trenton limestone.....	30
St. Peters sandstone.....	100
Lower Magnesian limestone.....	180
Potsdam sandstone.....	170
	—
Total from ridge to valley.....	480

TOWNSHIP 9, range 4 west (Haney). A large part of this township is occupied by the valley of the Kickapoo, which is from one-half to a mile wide. The stream is about 200 feet wide, very crooked and sluggish. On each side of the river the country is very hilly. The valley of the Kickapoo and the country to the east of it has the heavy timber—maple, elm, etc.; but, west of the valley, the hills are smooth and bare, many of them showing terraces of the Potsdam, and the timber is white oak in grove, on the tops of the ridges. The formations are Potsdam, one-third; Lower Magnesian, two-thirds; and some ridges and mounds of St. Peters on the eastern side.

TOWNSHIP 10, range 4 west, (east part of Utica and west part of Clayton.) The general features of this township are similar to those of township 9. The valley of the Kickapoo is wider, more sandy, and less heavily timbered. Fine springs are very numerous. The formations are Potsdam and Lower Magnesian in about equal parts.

TOWNSHIP 11, range 4 west, (part of Utica in Crawford county, and of Franklin in Vernon county.) This township is composed chiefly of high, rolling ridge land, with a clay soil. In the central part of the township the soil is rather sandy, owing to a long belt of St. Peters which crosses the township from section 4 to section 34. The timber consists of groves of large white oaks. The formations are Potsdam one-sixth; Lower Magnesian two-thirds; and St. Peter's sandstone, one-sixth.

TOWNSHIP 7, range 5 west, (Wauzeka in part) This is a very hilly township. It is watered by the Wisconsin river, Grand Gris and



Little Kickapoo. The valleys and sides of the ravines are heavily timbered with elm, maple, basswood, butternut, etc. There are two very high and wide ridges in the northern and north-western parts of the township, where the soil is clay, rather shallow, and the timber smaller and more scattering. All the formations from the Potsdam to the Galena limestone, inclusive, are represented.

TOWNSHIP 8, range 5 west, (parts of Wauzeka and Eastman.) The high ridge which divides the Kickapoo and Mississippi rivers passes through the west side of this township. From it the country slopes to the east in wide, regular ridges, and deep narrow ravines. The soil throughout the township is clay. The timber is small and consists of groves of small black oak. Much of the country is prairie and devoid of timber. The geological formations are the same as in township 7. The general section of this township, from section 32 on the ridge to section 36, on the Kickapoo, is as follows:

	Feet.
Galena limestone.....	20
Blue limestone.....	25
Bluff limestone.....	20
St. Peter's sandstone.....	100
Lower Magnesian limestone.....	180
Postdam sandstone .....	100
—	
From ridge to river, total.....	445

TOWNSHIP 9, range 5 west, (Seneca in part.) The divide continues from the last township, from section 31 to section 3. It is very high, wide and rolling, with numerous subordinate ridges. The township is well watered by numerous small streams, and springs are found quite near the summit of the ridge, issuing from the numerous clay layers in the Trenton limestone. The soil is clay, frequently rather sandy. The timber is oak, small but quite abundant. All the formations from the Galena limestone to the Potsdam, are present; the St. Peter's and the Lower Magnesian are the prevailing ones.

TOWNSHIP 10, range 5 west, (parts of Utica, Freeman and Seneca.) The divide continues a

nearly north and south course from section 34 to section 3. The general features of the country are very similar to those of township 9. Much of the township is prairie. The soil is a deep clay and the timber light. With the exception of the principal ridge, the country is very hilly and the valleys very deep and narrow. The formations are Potsdam, Lower Magnesian and St. Peter's; the last two being the principal ones.

TOWNSHIP 11, range 5 west, (parts of Utica and Freeman in Crawford county, and of Franklin and Sterling in Vernon county.) This is chiefly a prairie country; the divide is high, wide and rolling, extending from section 35 to section 1. There are no large streams in the township, but numerous small ravines running east and west from the divide. Small springs are quite numerous and the greater part of the township is available for agricultural purposes. The formations are St. Peter's and Lower Magnesian in about equal parts.

TOWNSHIP 6, range 6 west (part of the town of Bridgeport and of the city of Prairie du Chien.) That part of this township which lies north of the Wisconsin river consists of the rich alluvial bottom lands of that stream, with numerous sloughs and swamps. The bluffs which inclose the river on the north commence near the north line of the township. The township is well timbered; soil, clay. The formation is Lower Magnesian.

TOWNSHIP 7, range 6 west, (parts of the towns of Bridgeport and Prairie du Chien and of the city of Prairie du Chien.) The high ridge which divides the Kickapoo and the Mississippi begins in this township and runs northeast, passing out at section 2. The ridge is wide, level and heavily timbered with white, black and burr oak. The soil is clay. The township is well watered and springs are quite numerous. On the west side is the valley of the Mississippi from one to two miles wide between the bluffs and the river. Its soil is sandy. All the formations are present from the Galena to the Lower Magnesian, inclusive.

TOWNSHIP 8, range 6 west, (part of Eastman.) The land in this township is very hilly and rough, being composed of long, straight ridges, which run east and west and become quite narrow as they approach the Mississippi on the west. There are a great many good springs arising near the ridge which in the course of a half mile sink into the ground, so that the large ravines although deep, seldom have any water in them. The soil is clay and in the western part quite stony. The timber is small and rather sparse. The formations are Galena limestone to Potsdam sandstone, inclusive. The general section of this township from section 23 to the Mississippi river is as follows:

	Feet.
Galena limestone.....	50
Trenton limestone (blue and buff).....	40
St. Peters sandstone.....	110
Lower Magnesian limestone.....	250
Potsdam sandstone.....	20
- From ridge to valley, total.....	
	470

TOWNSHIP 9, range 6 west, (part of Seneca) The bend of the Mississippi river causes this to be a fractional township, containing only about twelve square miles. It is composed of steep and rocky bluffs, forming the ends of ridges, often making perpendicular cliffs and escarpments of rock for long distances along the bank of the river. The township is covered with small timber. The ridges are very high, narrow and steep. The formations are the same as in township 9, just mentioned.

TOWNSHIP 10, range 6 west, (parts of Seneca and Freeman). This is also a fractional township and contains about twenty square miles. It is well watered by the Mississippi river and Sugar, Buck and Copper creeks. Five large springs are very numerous. The soil throughout the township is clay and the timber small but abundant. The valleys and ridges are wide. The formations are the Potsdam and Lower Magnesian in about equal parts.

TOWNSHIP 11, range 6 west, (part of Freeman in Crawford county, and of Wheatland

and Sterling in Vernon county). This township consists chiefly of high rolling, ridge land, having an elevation from 400 to 550 feet above the Mississippi. The principal ridge is very wide and runs east and west through the northern part of the township, with numerous smaller ridges running north and south. The soil is clay, in some parts rather sandy. The timber is small, but abundant. Water is very scarce on the ridges. The only stream is Rush creek in the southern part of the township; it has a rich and fertile valley about half a mile in width. The formations are Potsdam, Lower Magnesian and St. Peters; the two latter predominating.

TOWNSHIP 11, range 7 west, (part of Freeman in Crawford county, and Wheatland in Vernon county). This is a township made fractional by the Mississippi river, and contains about sixteen square miles. It is very hilly. The river runs close to the bluffs, which are high and precipitous. The soil is clay and the timber white oak. The formations are Potsdam, Lower Magnesian and St. Peters, the second being the prevailing one.

FRACTIONAL TOWNSHIPS, 6, (being a part of Bridgeport), 7, (being a portion of the city and town of Prairie du Chien), 8, (being a part of Eastman) and 10, (being a portion of Freeman), range 7 west. These fractional townships lie immediately upon the Mississippi river, the land being in many places subject to overflow in high water.

FRACTIONAL TOWNSHIPS 7, range 3 west, (in Marietta), and fractional township 6, range 7 west, (in Wauzeka), both lie immediately north of and are washed by the Wisconsin river.

#### EXPOSURES OF THE POTSDAM SANDSTONE.

There are some fine exposures of the Potsdam sandstone in Crawford county.

(1.) There is one on the northwest quarter of section 11, township 10, range 4 west, (Clayton), where a small creek enters the Kickapoo.

(2.) On the Kickapoo, on the southwest quarter of section 27, township 9, range 4 west,

(Haney), where the top of the Potsdam is distinctly marked by a bed of white sandstone fifteen feet thick. Above it are the transition beds, and the lower beds of the Lower Magnesian. The Potsdam is also exposed for fifty feet below its junction with the Lower Magnesian, and consists of heavy-bedded white and yellow sandstones. The bluffs, in this vicinity, present this appearance for a distance of about a mile.

The productions of the Potsdam, which are of importance in an economical point of view, are iron, building stone and mineral waters. Iron, in the form usually of hematite, is found in Crawford county, but none is mined. Building stone and sand, for mortar and plastering, are obtainable; but it is in the mineral waters obtained by means of artesian wells that the Potsdam is most valuable as yet to the county. An account of these wells will be given hereafter.

#### LOWER MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE.

This formation is an important one because by its decomposition it produces a rich and fertile soil on the ridges, and being washed down into the valleys, it fertilizes the otherwise barren sand derived from the Potsdam.

In the valley of the Mississippi there is no formation which presents finer or more frequent exposures. Its hardness, and the frequent joints which it contains, predispose it to form the lofty cliffs and precipices which form such an impressive feature in the scenery of the river.

At Prairie du Chien, the upper and middle portions are exposed, but the entire thickness is not seen until about six miles above, when the lower layers are exposed. Proceeding up the river, the formation constantly occupies a higher position in the bluffs.

This limestone is always light-colored, embracing all shades of yellow and gray, and is sometimes perfectly white. In texture it is hard and compact, the separate grains of which it is composed being seldom distinguish-

able. It usually presents an indistinct crystalline appearance, but the crystals are never large enough to present distinct faces or a cleavage. Exposed surfaces of this formation always weather very irregularly by the removal of the lime through the usual atmospheric agencies. Small irregular cavities and hollows are thus formed in all parts, and in cliff exposures small holes and caves are sometimes seen, usually penetrating but a short distance.

The Lower Magnesian limestone always overlies the Potsdam conformably; that is, no denudation of the latter appears to have taken place before the former was deposited. The line of demarkation between the two formations is sometimes very distinctly defined by beds of limestone devoid of sand overlying the white sandstone of the Potsdam. The transition beds are, however, usually present, and the Lower Magnesian sometimes graduates almost insensibly into the Potsdam. The stratification of the Lower Magnesian is very regular and uniform; in some of the exposures, as in the cliffs along the Mississippi river, the same beds can be traced continuously for long distances. The greatest thickness which the Lower Magnesian is found to attain anywhere north of the Wisconsin river is 250 feet. The least thickness yet observed is 100 feet. This can be seen in the northwest quarter of section 5, township 9, range 5 west, (Seneca). Its average thickness may be stated at about 175 feet. These measures of thickness refer to localities where the formation is overlaid by the St. Peters.

The following is a list of localities in Crawford county where the exposures of the Lower Magnesian limestone offer facilities for the study of the formation:

- (1.) At DeSoto, on the Mississippi river, where the formation affords a fine, close-grained and durable building stone. It is of a very light color, and often nearly white.
- (2.) Section 6, township 7, range 6 west, (Prairie du Chien), where there are many fine cliff exposures overlaid with bluffs of St. Peters,

(3.) Section 18, township 8, range 6 west, (Eastman), where, along the Mississippi river, there are long, continuous cliff exposures of the formation, overlying the upper beds of the Potsdam, and affording good opportunities to examine the transition beds.

No very extensive or valuable deposits of metallic are found in the Lower Magnesian formation in Crawford county. A few localities of copper and lead exist, which show that the formation is not entirely destitute of metallic contents. Copper has been found on the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter, and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 26, township 8, range 5 west, (Eastman). This is in the valley of Plum creek, a small tributary of the Kickapoo, and about two miles above its junction with that stream. Here the copper has been mined.

The existence of copper ore here has been known for a number of years, and small quantities have been from time to time extracted; but it was not until 1860 that any systematic attempt at mining was begun. In 1858, the land was purchased by a company of five persons, residents of New York city, who commenced work in 1860, and abandoned it in 1861 on account of the war. Since then no work has been done in the Plum Creek Copper Mine, as it is called. About two car loads of ore were shipped. An analysis of some of the ore found at the mine gives only a little over ten per cent. of metallic copper, which is hardly a result to justify additional expense in developing this mine.

The Copper Creek mine is on the northeast quarter of section 34, township 10, range 5 west, (Utica). The mines of this locality are situated about three-quarters of a mile southwest of the village of Mt. Sterling, and on the side of a hill sloping toward one of the branches of Copper creek. The deposit of copper ore was discovered, in 1843, by William T. Sterling. It was first worked by him and George Messersmith they paying a tribute of one-sixteenth to

the United States. During this time, a specimen weighing 300 pounds was sent to the patent office. In the work performed by these men, 20,000 pounds of ore were taken out, when the best part of the deposit appeared to be exhausted and the work was suspended for two years. In 1846 the ground was leased to a German company who worked it about a year, their work being chiefly drifting and prospecting, after which time they abandoned it as unprofitable.

The property remained idle until 1856, when it was leased to a New York company, who worked it from May to September, producing 20,000 pounds of ore, at a cost of about \$4,000; since then the land has never been worked.

In an analysis of the ore made about thirty years ago less than twenty per cent. was metallic copper.

The existence of lead in Crawford county, in the Lower Magnesian formation, is confined to the vicinity of the lower part of the Kickapoo valley. The Little Kickapoo Lead Mine is located on the northwest quarter of section 10, township 7, range 5 west, (Wauzeka), in the upper part of the bluff on the north side of the Little Kickapoo, a small tributary of the Wisconsin. Lead ore was first discovered here in the year 1840, and was worked at intervals until the year 1850. There have been obtained from this mine from 25,000 to 50,000 pounds of ore. An analysis shows over eighty-two per cent. of metallic lead. This is equal to any found in Wisconsin. There are evidences of other deposits in the country round about.

Wherever the Lower Magnesian is exposed, there is always an abundance of good building stone. Some of the best quarries in the county are those at Prairie du Chien. This formation also affords lime with as much facility as building stone. All parts of the formation which are free from flint will produce lime on burning. There are several places in Crawford county

where lime is burned in kilns of the simplest form and construction.

#### ST. PETERS SANDSTONE.

Owing to the elevation attained by the several formations, through their gradual rise in a northerly direction, and to the great and general denudation to which the country has been subjected, the St. Peters sandstone is only found in isolated areas of comparatively small extent and confined to the highest parts of the ridges. The area of this formation begins in township 6, range 6 west, (Bridgeport), and extends in a northerly direction through the county. On the west it approaches to the Mississippi in township 10, range 6 west, (parts of Seneca and Freeman), and may be traced along the bluffs of that river and all its tributary streams, in a belt varying from a mile in width on the north, to a quarter of a mile wide opposite Prairie du Chien; thence, along the bluffs of the Wisconsin and its tributaries to the Kickapoo. On the eastern side of the divide, it is seldom found more than two or three miles from the principal ridge, but as the country descends more gradually to the Kickapoo than to the Mississippi, it covers relatively a much larger area than on the western slope; and in township 10, range 5 west, (parts of Utica, Seneca and Freeman), it is the surface rock over about one-half of the township.

The country just described embraces many fine exposures among which may be mentioned the following:

1. The mounds near Mt. Sterling, which are chiefly composed of sandstone. 2. A ledge fifty feet high near the quarter post of sections 15 and 22, in township 8, range 5 west, (Eastman). 3. A mound on the southwest quarter of section 34, township 8, range 5 west, (Eastman).

The following exposures are situated on the ridge between Knapp creek and the Kickapoo:

1. In township 8, range 4 west, (Marietta), the St. Peters is the surface rock in parts of the following sections: 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20,

21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33 and 34. Its total area is a little more than seven square miles. There is one good exposure where it forms a mound in the southeast quarter of section 2.

2. In township 8, range 3 west, (Marietta), a branch of the same range is seen, extending through sections 6, 7, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 29, forming an area of about three square miles, with one fine ledge exposure near the center of section 7.

3. The same sandstone ridge continues in a northerly direction through sections 36, 25 and 24 in township 9, of range 4, (Hauey), and through sections 31, 30, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 10, 9, 8, 4, 5 and 6, in township 9, of range 3 west, (Scott), and runs out in sections 31 and 32, of township 10, range 3 west, (Clayton), comprising a surface area of six sections. There is also an isolated area on sections 13, 14, 23 and 24 in township 9, range 3 west, (Scott), equal to one section.

4. In township 10, range 3 west, (Clayton), there are two large isolated areas: the first is on sections 22, 23, 26, 27, 35 and 36 having an extent of two square miles; the second is on sections 3, 4, 9, 16, 17 and 20 having an extent of one and a half square miles. On the latter are four prominent mounds of large size, which afford fine opportunities for studying the formation.

#### TRENTON, OR BUFF AND BLUE LIMESTONE.

These two formations, which are usually considered collectively, are occasionally found north of the Wisconsin river. They usually attain their average thickness, which is about twenty-five feet each. There are no useful ores found in this formation north of the Wisconsin. The blue limestone would furnish an excellent material for burning to lime; but it is not used for that purpose.

A very singular deposit is to be seen at the village of Seneca, in the lower part of the buff limestone. It forms a small eminence a short distance north of the village. The deposit consists of a conglomerate, formed of quartz peb-

bles of small size, and sand in large rounded grains, firmly united with iron as a cementing material. The pebbles are seldom more than half an inch in the longest dimension, consisting always of white or transparent quartz, and always smoothly rounded, evidently having been rolled by the action of water.

The extent of the deposit is small, covering only about an acre and not exceeding five or six feet in depth. Several pits have been sunk in it, and numerous large masses of the conglomerate taken out in attempts to utilize it as iron ore; but, on account of the large amount of quartz ore material, which constitutes nearly one-half of the entire bulk, it is useless as an ore. This deposit derives its chief interest from the fact that it is the only ore of the kind found anywhere in the formation.

1. The Trenton forms the surface rock in sections 3, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 29, 30, 31 and 32, in township 9, of range 5 west, (Seneca). On section 20, the Galena limestone appears, and buff and blue form a belt surrounding it. This belt, commencing on section 20, runs southwest to the bluffs of the Mississippi; thence south along that stream and all its tributaries; thence east and north about the upper parts of the Grand Gris, Little Kickapoo and Plum creek; thence north to the head of Otter creek to the point of departure. Compared with this large tract all the other areas are small.

2. The blue limestone is found on sections 13, 14, 21, 22, 23 and 28 in township 8, of range 4 west, (Marietta), lying on the crest of the ridge in a long strip about half a mile in width, comprising an area of about two sections.

3. There is also a semi-circular strip, on sections 1 and 2, in the same township, extending into section 6, of township 8, in range 3 west, (Marietta), and forming an area equal to one square mile.

4. In township 10, range 5 west, (Utica), the two small mounds near the village of Mt. Sterling are capped with buff limestone.

5. In township 11, range 5 west, (Utica), is an area of about two square miles, surrounding the village of Rising Sun, lying on sections 14, 15, (in Vernon county), 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 35, and on the divide between the Mississippi and Kickapoo rivers.

#### GALENA LIMESTONE.

This sub-division of the Trenton period is found in a strip averaging about a mile in width, occupying the highest part of the ridge between the Kickapoo and Mississippi, extending from section 20, in township 9, of range 5 west (Seneca), to section 28, township 7, of range 6 west, (Prairie du Chien), a distance of about fourteen miles. From this ridge, the formation extends west, towards the Mississippi, in three small, subordinate ridges; and on the east, it extends for a short distance on the ridges between the Grand Gris, Little Kickapoo, Plum and Pine creeks. This formation is usually hard and compact in texture, of a yellow color and contains numerous flints disseminated through it. It is almost devoid of organic remains, and has not been found to contain any ores or minerals of value.

#### GEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE UNDERLYING FORMATIONS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

[By T. C. Chamberlin, State Geologist.]

##### *I.—Potsdam Sandstone.*

After the great Archæan upheaval, there followed a long period, concerning which very little is known—a lost interval in geological history. It is only certain that immense erosion of the Archæan strata took place, and that in time the sea advanced upon the island, eroding its strata and re-depositing the wash and wear beneath its surface. The more resisting beds withstood this advance, and formed reefs and rocky islands off the ancient shore, about whose bases the sands and sediments accumulated, as they did over the bottom of the surrounding ocean. The breakers, dashing against the rocky cliffs, brought down masses of rock, which imbedded themselves in the sands, or were rolled and rounded on the beach, and at length were

buried, in either case, to tell their own history, when they should be again disclosed by the ceaseless gnawings of the very elements that had buried them. In addition to the accumulations of wash and wear that have previously been the main agents of rock formations, abundant life now swarms in the ocean, and the sands become the great cemetery of its dead. Though the contribution of each little being was small, the myriad millions the waters brought forth, yielded by their remains, a large contribution to the accumulating sediments. Among plants there were sea-weeds, and among animals, protozoans, radiates, mollusks and articulates, all the sub-kingdoms except the vertebrates. Among these, the most remarkable, both in nature and number, were the trilobites, who have left their casts in countless multitudes in certain localities. The result of the action of these several agencies was the formation of extensive beds of sandstone, with interstratified layers of limestone and shale. These surrounded the Archæan nucleus on all sides, and reposed on its flanks. On the Lake Superior margin, the sea acted on the copper and iron-bearing series, which are highly ferruginous, and the result was the red Lake Superior sandstone. On the opposite side of the island, the wave-action was mainly upon quartzites, porphyries and granites and resulted in light-colored sandstones. The former is confined to the immediate vicinity of Lake Superior; the latter occupies a broad, irregular belt bordering on the Archæan area on the south, and, being widest in the central part of the State, is often likened to a rude crescent. It will be understood from the foregoing description, that the strata of this formation lies in a nearly horizontal position, and repose unconformably upon the worn surface of the crystalline rocks. The close of this period was not marked by any great upheaval; there was no crumpling or metamorphism of the strata, and they have remained to the present day very much the same as they were originally deposited, save a slight arching upward in the central por-

tion of the State. The beds have been somewhat compacted by the pressure of superincumbent strata and solidified by the cementing action of calcareous and ferruginous waters, and by their own coherence, but the original character of the formation, as a great sand-bed, has not been obliterated. It still bears the ripple-marks, cross-lamination, worm-burrows, and similar markings that characterize a sandy beach. Its thickness is very irregular owing to the unevenness of its Archæan bottom, and may be said to range from 1,000 feet downward. The strata slope gently away from the Archæan core of the State and underlie all the latter formations, and may be reached at any point in southern Wisconsin by penetrating to a sufficient depth, which can be calculated with an approximate correctness. As it is a water-bearing formation, and the source of fine artesian wells, this is a fact of much importance. The interbedded layers of limestone and shale, by supplying impervious strata, very much enhance its value as a source of fountains.

## II.—*Lower Magnesian Limestone.*

During the previous period, the accumulation of sandstone gave place for a time to the formation of limestone, and afterward the deposit of sandstone was resumed. At its close, without any very remarked disturbance of existing conditions, the formation of limestone was resumed, and progressed with little interruption till a thickness ranging from fifty to 250 feet was attained. This variation is due mainly to irregularities of the upper surface of the formation, which is undulating, and in some localities may appropriately be termed billowy, the surface rising and falling 100 feet in some cases, within a short distance. This, and the preceding similar deposit, have been spoken of as limestone simply, but they are really Dolomites, or Magnesian limestones, since they contain a large proportion of carbonate of magnesia. This rock also contains a notable quantity of silicia, which

occurs disseminated through the mass of rock; or, variously, as nodules or masses of chert; as crystals of quartz, filling or lining drusy cavities, forming beautiful miniature grottoes; as the nucleus of oolitic concretions, or as sand. Some argillaceous matter also enters into its composition, and small quantities of the ores of iron, lead and copper, are sometimes found, but they give little promise of value. The evidences of life are very scanty. Some sea-weeds, a few mollusks, and an occasional indication of other forms of life, embrace the known list, except at a few favored localities where a somewhat ampler fauna is found. But it is not, therefore, safe to assume the absence of life in the depositing seas, for it is certain that most limestone has originated from the remains of animals and plants that secrete calcareous material, and it is most consistent to believe that such was the case in the present instance, and that the distinct traces of life were mostly obliterated. This formation occupies an irregular belt skirting the Potsdam area. It was, doubtless, originally a somewhat uniform band swinging around the nucleus of the state already formed, but it has since been eroded by streams to its present jagged outline.

#### III.—*St. Peter's Sandstone.*

At the close of this sandstone-making period there appears to have been an interval of which we have no record, and the next chapter of the history introduces us to another era of sand accumulation. The work began by the leveling up of the inequalities of the surface of the Lower Magnesian limestone, and it ceased before that was entirely accomplished in all parts of the State, for a few prominences were left projecting through the sand deposits. The material laid down consisted of a silicious sand, of uniform, well-rounded—doubtless well-rolled—grains. This was evidently deposited horizontally upon the uneven limestone surface, and so rests in a sense unconformably upon it. Where the sandstone abuts against the sides of the limestone prominences, it is mingled with ma-

terial derived by wave action from them, which tells the story of its formation. But aside from these and other exceptional impurities, the formation is a very pure sandstone, and is used for glass manufacture. At most points the sandstone has never become firmly cemented and readily crumbles, so that it is used for mortar the simple handling with pick and shovel being sufficient to reduce it to a sand. Owing to the unevenness of its bottom, it varies greatly in thickness, the greatest yet observed being 212 feet, but the average is less than 100 feet. Until recently, no organic remains had ever been found in it, and the traces now collected are very meagre indeed, but they are sufficient to show the existence of marine life, and demonstrate that it is an oceanic deposit. The rarity of fossils is to be attributed to the porous nature of the rock, which is unfavorable to their preservation. This porosity, however, subserves a very useful purpose, as it renders this pre-eminently a water-bearing horizon, and supplies some of the finest artesian fountains in the State, and is competent to furnish many more. It occupies but a narrow area at the surface, fringing that of the Lower Magnesian limestone on the south.

#### IV.—*Trenton Limestone.*

A slight change in the oceanic conditions caused a return to limestone formation, accompanied with the deposit of considerable clayey material, which formed shale. The origin of the limestone is made evident by a close examination of it, which shows it to be full of fragments of shells, corals, and other organic remains, or the impressions they have left. Countless numbers of the lower forms of life flourished in the seas, and left their remains to be comminuted and consolidated into limestone. A part of the time the accumulation of clayey matter predominated, and so layers of shale alternate with the limestone beds, and shaly leaves and partings occur in the limestone layers. Unlike the calcareous strata above and below, a portion of these are true limestone



containing but a very small proportion of magnesia. A sufficient amount of carbonaceous matter is present in some layers to cause them to burn readily. This formation is quite highly metalliferous in certain portions of the lead region, containing zinc especially, and considerable lead, with less quantities of other metals.

The formation abounds in fossils, many of them well preserved, and, from their great antiquity, they possess uncommon interest. All the animal sub-kingdoms, except vertebrates, are represented. The surface area of this rock borders the St. Peter's sandstone. Its thickness reaches 120 feet.



## CHAPTER III.

## ANCIENT INHABITANTS.

The first people of Crawford county, who were they? The question, of course, can never be answered. We know that, scattered over it in various directions, there once lived a race, concerning which all that has come down to us is exceedingly shadowy. These people are denominated the

## MOUND BUILDERS.

Vestiges of the labor of the so-called mound builders still exist in Crawford county, in the form of earthworks consisting of mounds; some rudely representing animals; others seemingly like low battlements; while a third variety are simply elevations, usually conical in shape.

## ANCIENT MOUNDS.\*

On the questions of the origin and design of these monuments of antiquity, I have but little at present to say. On these questions much has been said and written, but from it all the world has become but little the wiser or better. Their existence, together with the evidence we have of design, taste or ambition to perpetuate the memory of some noted event or honored individual, give ample evidence of intelligence far in advance of the Aborigines found here by the Anglo-Saxon race, who at present occupy the country.

The trees frequently found growing upon them of 400 years' growth declare their antiquity and the recent discoveries in the copper region of Lake Superior of mines over which trees of the same age are growing, makes it

probable that the same race who wrought those mines also built these mounds.

Who these ancient people were, whence they came and what became of them, have been questions of deep and abiding interest for the last fifty years, or since the whites have been settling the great valley in which their works abound; and various methods have been resorted to to derive some plausible answer to each question, but all to no purpose. Indeed, he who can answer one can answer the others. But nothing has, as yet, come to light satisfactory to the public mind on this engrossing subject.

The Book of Mormon, which has caused two civil wars, cost many lives and is now founding a new State, if not a new empire, among the mountains of California, is the first, the last and the only book ever published purporting to be a history of the people who inhabited this country at the time when the tumuli and fortifications were erected.\* But as no one except the followers of the prophet give any credence whatever to the story, the world is not the whit the wiser for the information it contains, and we remain in the dark, and probably shall till the end of time, as to who were the people who did this work, where they came from, what became of them, or what was their design in erecting these mounds.

\* The late Prof. C. S. Rafinesque wrote the *Ancient Annals of Kentucky*, prefixed to Marshall's *History of Kentucky*, published in 1824. These *Ancient Annals* profess to trace the Aboriginal history of Kentucky from the creation through six periods, down to a comparatively modern date, giving quite minute details of Noah's and Peleg's floods, and many conquests and re-conquests of the country by the opposing Indian tribes. It is a grotesque production, and deserves to be ranked, in point of historical authority, with the veritable *Book of Mormon*.

\* *Ancient Mounds; or, Tumuli in Crawford County.* Read before the Wisconsin Historical Society, at its annual meeting, January, 1850, by Alfred Brunson, of Prairie du Chien.

The fact that human bones have been found in some of them is no evidence that they were erected as tombs for the honored dead; because the Aborigines found here by the whites, have long been in the habit of burying their dead in them; and so many of these tumuli have been opened without finding either bones or anything else in them but soil, the presumption is very strong that the bones sometimes found in them are from the interments of the Indians who more recently occupied the country.

For aught that I know, or any one else knows, they may have been built for tombs; but I say the finding of bones in them at this time is no evidence of such a design; and one very strong, and to me unanswerable argument in favor of this position, is, what must be known by every one, that human bones could not have continued in them undecayed for the space of 400 years, the acknowledged age of these tumuli. In some instances, and in positions, or under circumstances peculiarly calculated to preserve them, as by embalming, or being in dry nitrous caves, bones have been preserved for a longer period; but no case can be found on record where such preservation has been had with bones exposed to the dampness of the soil, or mixed with the earth, as those found in these tumuli are.

In some few instances slabs of stone were placed around the bones; but the rude masonry found in such cases would be no protection from dampness, while surrounded with a damp soil; and it must be admitted that this rude masonry corresponds much better with the rude state of the modern Aborigines, than with the more improved state of the builders of these ancient mounds; and if we suppose, which is very probable, that the same race which built the ancient works at Aztalan, also erected these mounds, we must suppose that their masonry would have been greatly in advance of anything yet discovered of the kind; and further, the decay of the work at Aztalan, shows conclusively that their antiquity is such that human bones

would have long since mouldered back to their mother dust; for, if burnt bricks have so decayed as to render them scarcely distinguishable from the earth with which they are intermixed, most certainly bones would have long since entirely disappeared; and this fact, together with the known fact, that the recent Indian inhabitants of the country were in the habit of interring their dead in these mounds, and in the mode and manner in which bones have been found, shows conclusively to my mind, that the bones thus discovered are of more recent burial than that of the builders of these tumuli.

And further, and in confirmation of this conclusion, the fact that metallic substances have been found in these tumuli, which could not have been known to the natives previous to the discovery of the country by the whites, shows that the skeletons found with such substances must have been interred since the whites came to the country, which does not agree well with the antiquity of trees 400 years old, so frequently found on these mounds.

The mounds found in the county of Crawford, are of various forms and sizes. On Prairie du Chien, one of the largest and highest of these tumuli, having a base of some 200 feet and about twenty feet high, of a circular form, was leveled for the present site of Fort Crawford. Another, of about the same dimensions and form, stood within the old or first fort built at this place by the Americans, on which now stands the splendid mansion of H. L. Dousman, Esq. A cellar, well, and ice-house vault, were dug in this last, and a well dug where the first stood, but in neither were any evidences found of the design of their erection; nothing was found but bones, rifles, etc., of recent interment.

The circular form is the most common for these tumuli, but many are of different forms. Some are from one to two hundred yards long, from ten to twenty feet wide, and from two to three feet high. These frequently have an

open space through them, as if intended for a gate, and they would have the appearance of breast works if they had angles, or a rear protection, as of a fort.

Others, especially on the dividing ridge between the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, in towns 8 and 9 north, of range 5 west, are in the form of birds with their wings and tails spread and of deer, rabbits and other animals, and one which I have seen resembles an elephant. The birds lie spread out on the ground, while the other animals lie on their sides, with limbs stretched as if on the jump. In this region, also, some few mounds resemble a man lying on his face. These mounds are from three to four feet high, at the highest points, tapering off to the extremities, corresponding with what they were intended to represent.

On the margins of these two rivers, on the beach lands and the highest peaks of the bluffs, these tumuli are very numerous, and can often be seen from the boats passing on the river. Indeed there is no point yet discovered of any great extent, in the country, which is not honored, to a greater or less extent, with these marks of ancient settlement, corresponding with the descriptions above given, and varying in form and size; some being not over ten feet on the base and two feet high, circular in form, while others, as above stated, have a base of 200 feet, and twenty feet elevation, and others are in forms of animals which generally are 100 feet long. And it is believed that at least 1,000 of them can be found in the county, which is, however, geographically large. But in no case that has come to my knowledge, in thirteen years residence, have bones, or other matter than earth, been found in them, except with evidence of recent Indian interment.

One rather singular circumstance is observable in the construction of some of the mounds on Prairie du Chien, and especially those near the fine dwelling of B. W. Brisbois, Esq. They stand on the margin of the Mississippi,

on the extreme west of the prairie, and about one and a half miles from the bluffs. The soil on the prairie is river sand intermixed with vegetable mould. But these tumuli are of a different soil, a loam, the like of which has not yet been discovered within several miles of its present location; so that, to appearance, the earth of which these mounds are composed must have been brought from a considerable distance.

It is also a singular feature of all the mounds and fortifications I have examined in the west—and they are quite numerous—that there is no appearance that the earth of which they are composed was dug up from the side of them or even near by them. The surface of the surrounding soil generally comes up to the base of the mound on a smooth level. In some instances the mound stands on a natural elevation, showing that the entire mass of which it is composed was carried from below, up to the place of deposit.

One such mound, which stands in a group of them, on the southwest angle of Prairie du Chien, has a base of some fifty feet, and is about ten feet high; but being on a natural elevation, it has the appearance, a short distance from it, of being twenty feet high; yet there is no evidence that the earth of which this mound is composed, though of the common soil of the prairie, was taken from the neighborhood of its present location. From the top of this mound can be seen to advantage the extensive low bottom lands and lakes which lie between the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers, and were it not for the timber on the margin of the two rivers, their flowing currents could also be seen for some distance. This circumstance induces the belief that it was built for a kind of watch-tower or looking-out place, to watch the approach of enemies. But the hand of civilization, the plow, the hoe, and the spade, are fast demolishing these monuments of antiquity. When they fall within an enclosure, and the plow breaks the sod, the action of

the water in time of rain, and of the wind in time of draught, together with continued cultivation, contribute to level them rapidly with the surrounding earth; and but a few years will elapse before they will be lost in the oblivion of their builders, and will be forgotten, except as their memory will be preserved by the hand of intelligence on the page of the historian.

In reflecting upon the destiny of this people—a people once so numerous and intelligent as those must have been, who laid up with skill and care, these evidences of their existence, taste and mental improvement—we can hardly avoid feelings of melancholy. It amounts to annihilation, so far as this world is concerned. We have no trace as to who they were, where from, or where they are gone; we only know that they lived and are dead.

If they reflected as we do on the future and contemplated that in a few centuries nothing but these mounds would be left of their whole race, that not a man, not a name, not a song, nor even a tradition of them would be left on earth, their feelings must have been gloomy in the extreme. The idea of annihilation is said to be even more painful than thoughts of a miserable existence. But *we* turn from such melancholy reflections with hopes blooming with immortality. The mental and moral culture which we enjoy with the blessings of the pen and the press, inspire in us the pleasing reflection that though our individual names may not be noted centuries to come, yet our race will be known on the page of history, and our institutions and the monuments we leave behind of our intelligence and wisdom, which we trust will continue to improve our race as they descend the stream of time, will bless the world, and we shall not have lived in vain. One object, and the great object of this association is to preserve from oblivion those scraps of history which are fast passing into forgetfulness, and by embodying them into a history, transmit to posterity not only our name, as a people, but also such facts,

snatched from the destructive hand of time, as will cast *some* light, the best we have, on the past history of the State; and though we have not omniscience and cannot solve the historic problems of the past to our entire satisfaction, yet we can do much for the information of ourselves and of our fellow-men, and thus discharge a debt we owe to others for the benefits we have derived from histories of other countries and other times.

#### ANCIENT EARTHWORKS IN THE BASIN OF THE WISCONSIN.

[From Lapham's "Antiquities of Wisconsin."]

The Wisconsin river is the largest stream within the State, having its source on the boundary line between Wisconsin and Michigan, in a small sheet of water known as "Lac Vieux Desert," and running into the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien. Its general course is nearly south as far as the Winnebago portage, where it almost unites with the Neenah. At this point it is suddenly deflected towards the southwest and west. Its length cannot be less than 400 miles, and it has an aggregate descent of about 900 feet, or two and a quarter feet per mile. It drains an area of about 1,100 square miles. The valley of this fine stream, from Winnebago portage to its junction with the Mississippi, may be deemed the great central seat of population at the time of the erection of the animal-shaped earthworks; at least we must so infer from their comparative abundance and importance along that valley.

The first published notice of the mounds in the valley of the Wisconsin, is in the narrative of Long's Second Expedition, in 1823. It is here stated that "one of the block-houses of the fort (at Prairie du Chien) is situated on a large mound, which appears to be artificial. It was excavated; but we have not heard that any bones or other remains were found in it."

Mr. Alfred Brunson, in a paper on the "Ancient Mounds of Crawford county, Wisconsin," read before the State Historical Society, remarks that another similar one formerly ex-

isted on the prairie, now removed; but no evidences of the design of their erection were found—nothing was observed but bones, rifles, etc., of recent interment.

“One mound, standing in a group at the southwest angle of this prairie, has a base of some fifty feet, and is about ten feet high, on an eminence of about the same elevation. From its top can be seen to advantage the extensive low bottom lands which lie between the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers; and were it not for the timber on the margin of the two rivers, their flowing currents could also be seen for some distance. This circumstance induces the belief that it was built for a kind of watch-tower, or look-out place, to watch the approach of enemies.”

Trace of mounds were discovered by me (in 1852) along the whole extent of the prairie, apparently similar to others found in the vicinity; but from cultivation, and the light sandy nature of the materials, they are now almost entirely obliterated. The large round tumuli, situated along the island between the “slough” and the main channel of the Mississippi, are so near the level of the river that their bases are often washed by the floods. In 1826, at the highest known floods, (it being eight feet higher than the high water of 1832, and about twenty-six feet above the lowest stage,) the mounds were all that could be seen of this island above the water. These were doubtless for burial, and of less age than the more elaborate works in the interior of the country.

Below the town and fort, towards the mouth of the Wisconsin, are similar tumuli, equally subject to overflow; and on the high bluffs south of that river are some look-out stations or mounds.

Advantage is taken of these elevations for the foundations of the better class of dwelling houses, above the reach of high water; being, perhaps, the only instance in which the ancient works are rendered useful to the present inhabitants. In general it is deemed necessary to

remove them, as incumbrances, rather than to preserve them as matters of convenience.

Some traces of a ditch and embankments observed on the island, evidently of a military character, proved, on inquiry, to be the remains of the original American fort that was taken by the British in the War of 1812.

It is quite clear that this interesting place has been a favorite one with all the different tribes or races of inhabitants, from the days of the first mound builders to the present time; and the construction of a railroad (soon to be completed) connecting this point with Lake Michigan, at Milwaukee, will doubtless render it one of the greatest importance.

Proceeding up the Wisconsin, the first locality requiring notice is called by the French the *Petit Cap au Gres*; which was visited by Messrs. Keating, Say and Seymour, of Long’s exploring party, and of which the following account is given: “They found the bluff which borders on the Wisconsin, about four miles above its mouth, covered with mounds, parapets, etc.; but no plan or system could be observed among them, neither could they trace any such thing as a regular inclosure. Among these works they saw an embankment about eighty-five yards long, divided towards its middle by a sort of gateway about four yards wide. This parapet was elevated from three to four feet; it stood very near to the edge of the bluff, as did also almost all the other embankments which they saw. No connection whatever was observed between the parapets and the mounds, except in one case, where a parapet was cut off by a sort of gateway and a mound placed in front of it. In one instance the works, or parapet, seemed to form a cross, of which three parts could be distinctly traced; but these were short; this was upon a projecting point of the highland. The mounds which the party observed were scattered without any apparent symmetry over the whole of the ridge of highland which borders upon the river. They were very numerous, and generally from

six to eight feet high, and from eight to twelve in diameter. In one case a number of them, amounting perhaps to twelve or fifteen, were seen all arranged in one line, parallel to the edge of the bluff, but at some distance from it.

Mr. Brunson, in a paper read before the Ministerial Association of the Methodist Church, held at Viroqua, Sept. 7, 1858, says :

"History is among the most pleasing and entertaining of human studies. By it we converse and become familiar with men and things of ages long in the past, and live, as it were, from the beginning of time to the present hour; but we cannot extend our researches into the future. History relates to the past. Prophecy to the future.

"History embraces the biography of men and Nations; their ups and downs, rise and fall, detailing the incidents which *have* been, the changes which have occurred, the improvements which have been made, and when known, the *reasons* therefor, which is the *philosophy* of history.

"There are, however, many things of interest on the face of the earth of which we have no history, for the reason that none has reached us, if any was ever written; of such we can only draw inferences of their causes from the effects which lie before us. Such is the case in reference to the ancient tumuli which abound to an unknown extent in the western States, but in none of them more numerous than in our own.

"Their forms, and the materials of which they are made, clearly indicate the work of human hands, and intelligence and design on the part of the builders. The forts and fortifications indicate the existence of wars among them, and that the combatants had more or less knowledge of military science. In some of them the existence of something like brick or pottery indicates some advances in the arts of civilization, much more so than anything found among the aborigines which the Anglo-Saxon race found in the country. But the present race of Indians have no traditions of the people

who made these mounds, nor of the design for which they were built.

"The age in which these builders lived, or the distance of time from the present, is inferred from the age of trees found growing in the mounds, some of which, from their annual rings, are supposed to be 400 years old. But who were the builders, whence they came, whither they went, or by what means they became extinct, lies in the impenetrable darkness of the past, and is not likely to be known in time. But there is an interest excited in the mind on seeing these ancient works, a written history of which would highly gratify, if it were authentic, or believed so to be. This interest in us shows the duty to the future, to record what we know of the past or present, for its edification, as we would that others should have done unto us, even so we should do to those who are to follow us.

"As the matter relative to these mounds now stands, conjecture alone can answer the inquiries of the antiquarian, which in most cases is as unsatisfactory as the total darkness in which the history of those times is now enveloped. Some have thought that these mounds were thrown up as monuments over the distinguished dead, and have inferred this from the fact that in some of them relics have been found. But as the most and the largest of them, on examination, are found to contain no such remains, the inference is not well founded.

"That human bones and *Indian* relics have been found in some of them of late years is no proof that they were erected for places of interment; for since the whites have been in the country, our modern Indians have been in the habit, more or less, of burying their dead in them, and frequently guns, axes, kettles, etc., have been found with the bones—and sometimes without them—which shows that the interment took place since the whites came to the continent, and the fact that such metallic substances have been found without the bones, shows that if men were buried there at first,

their bones could not have continued in a state of preservation until this time.

"It is worthy of remark that while in Ohio the most prominent of these tumuli were forts or fortifications in Wisconsin, but few of that description are found. I can now call to mind but one such, that at Aztalan, and in traveling extensively in the State for twenty-two years, I have noticed but few of these mounds south of a line drawn east from the mouth of the Wisconsin river to the lake, while north of this line and between the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers there are probably 1,000 of them. In Crawford county alone there are at least 500, 100 of which can be found in the towns of Prairie du Chien and Wauzeka.

"The evidences of ancient mining found in the Lake Superior copper region, with trees on them of 400 years' growth or more, indicating some degree of intelligence and skill, makes it probable that those mines were wrought by the same race of people who made the mounds, and at about the same time; and yet, there being no copper relics found in these mounds, makes it probable that either they had no commerce with each other, or that they were few in number and emigrated from place to place, to avoid their pursuing enemies, and that those mines were their last retreat, from which they disappeared from this country, either by emigration or by being destroyed. The latter, I think, is the most probable."

#### OF THE INDIANS.

The earliest record we have of the occupation of Crawford county and contiguous territory, by the Indians, is that given on the map of Samuel Champlain, dated in 1632. It is there seen that reports had reached the ears of the French upon the waters of the St. Lawrence, of a great river to the westward of Lake Huron and to the southward of Lake Superior, but which it was said flowed north into the lake last mentioned. This was a vague account of the Mississippi. Upon that river are located

savages, which, probably, were those afterward known as

#### THE SIOUX.

Bands of this Nation occupied the whole country immediately north of the Wisconsin and adjacent to the Mississippi. It is not known that they had any village within what is now Crawford county; but this region was, probably, their hunting grounds, if they did not actually occupy it with their wigwams.

It was known to the French, also, before any white man had ever set foot upon any part of Wisconsin or the northwest, that these Sioux were in the habit of going in their canoes to trade with the Winnebagoes, who were located at that time (before 1634) around Lake Winnebago. Farther than this, no knowledge had been gained of these savages. Not many years afterward they must have withdrawn farther up the Mississippi, leaving the country upon and down this river for some distance from the mouth of the Wisconsin, without inhabitants. At this time, the nearest savages eastward, were the Kickapoos, Miamis and Mascoutins, who were located on Fox river above Lake Winnebago. Such was the case in 1634, when John Nicolet, the first man to explore the present State of Wisconsin, reached that river.

"The first inhabitants of this region," says the Rev. Alfred Brunson, "included in the original county of Crawford, of whom we have any knowledge, except from ancient tumuli, were the Dakota or Sioux Indians. The builders of those tumuli are so far lost in the past, that no pretence is made to a history of them, except in the pretended visions of Joe Smith, in his so called Golden Bible. When the French missionaries and traders from Canada first visited the country south of Lake Superior, east of the Mississippi, and north and west of the Wisconsin, the Sioux were the lords of the soil.

"I learned from the Chippewas at La Pointe, when I was agent for the United States among



them in 1842-3, that previous to their crossing Lake Superior to settle upon its southern shores, the Sioux occupied the whole country south of it, and as far east, at least, as Ke-we-wa-non Bay, then called Che-goi-me-gon; for there, in 1661, it seems they captured and killed the missionary Rene Mesnard, whose cassock and breviary were afterwards found among the Sioux, kept by them as amulets.\*

#### THE SACS AND FOXES

What is now Crawford county and its surrounding country remained a derelict region until finally the Sacs and Foxes from the east came to Fox river and then moved westward to the Wisconsin. Of all the tribes who have inhabited this State, they are the most noted. The Sacs were sometimes called Sauks or Sankies and the Foxes were frequently known as the Outagamies. They are of the Algonquin family, and are first mentioned in 1665, by Father Allouez, but as separate tribes. Afterward, however, because of the identity of their language, and their associations, they were and still are considered one Nation. In December, 1669, Allouez found upon the shores of Green bay a village of Sacs, occupied also by members of other tribes, and early in 1670 he visited a village of the same Indians located upon the Fox river of Green bay, at a distance of four leagues from its mouth. Here a device of these Indians for catching fish arrested the attention of the missionary. "From one side of the river to the other," he writes, "they made a barricade, planting great stakes, two fathoms from the water, in such a manner that there is, as it were, a bridge above for the fishes, who by the aid of a little bow-net, easily take sturgeons and all other kinds of fish which this pier stops, although the water does not cease to flow between the stakes." When the Jesuit father first obtained, five years previous, a knowledge of this tribe, they were represented as savage above all others, great in numbers, and without any permanent dwelling place. The Foxes

were of two stocks—one calling themselves Outagamies or Foxes, whence our English name; the other, Musqnakink, or men of red clay, the name now used by the tribe. They lived in early times with their kindred the Sacs east of Detroit, and as some say, near the St. Lawrence. They were driven west, and settled at Saginaw, a name derived from the Sacs. Thence they were forced by the Iroquois to Green bay; but were compelled to leave that place and settle on Fox river.

Allouez, on the 24th of April, 1670, arrived at a village of the Foxes, situated on Wolf river, a northern tributary of the Fox. "The Nation," he declares, "is renowned for being numerous; they have more than 400 men bearing arms; the number of women and children is greater, on account of polygamy which exists among them—each man having commonly four wives, some of them six, and others as high as ten." The missionary found that the Foxes had retreated to those parts to escape the persecutions of the Iroquois. Allouez established among these Indians his Mission of St. Mark, rejoicing in the fact that in less than two years he had baptized "sixty children and some adults." The Foxes, at the summons of De la Barre, in 1684, sent warriors against the Five Nations. They also took part in Denonville's more serious campaign; but soon after became hostile to the French. As early as 1693, they had plundered several on their way to trade with the Sioux, alleging that they were carrying arms and ammunitions to their ancient enemies frequently causing them to make portages to the southward in crossing from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi. Afterward they became reconciled to the French; but the reconciliation was of short duration. In 1712, Fort Detroit, then defended by only a handful of men, was attacked by them in conjunction with the Maseoutins and Kickapoos. However, in the end, by calling in friendly Indians, the garrison not only protected themselves but

\* Bancroft's history of the United States, Vol. 3, P. 117.

were enabled to act on the offensive, destroying the greater part of the besieging force.

The Nation continued their ill will to the French. The consequence was that their territory in 1716 had been invaded and they were reduced to sue for peace. But their friendship was not of long continuance. In 1718 the Foxes numbered 500 men and "abounded in women and children." They are spoken of at that date as being very industrious, raising large quantities of Indian corn. In 1728 another expedition was sent against them by the French. Meanwhile the Menomonees had also become hostile; so, too, the Sacs, who were now the allies of the Foxes. The result of the enterprise was, an attack upon and the defeat of a number of Monomonees; the burning of the wigwams of the Winnebagoes (after passing the deserted village of the Sacs upon the Fox river), that tribe, also, at this date being hostile; and the destruction of the fields of the Foxes. They were again attacked in their own country by the French, in 1730, and defeated. In 1734 both the Sacs and Foxes came in conflict with the same foe; but this time the French were not as successful as on previous expeditions. In 1736 the Sacs and Foxes were "connected with the government of Canada;" but it is certain they were far from being friendly to the French.

The conflict between France and Great Britain, commencing in 1754, found the Sacs and Foxes allied with the former power, against the English, although not long previous to this time they were the bitter enemies of the French. At the close of that contest so disastrous to the interests of France in North America, these tribes readily gave in their adhesion to the conquerors, asking that English traders might be sent them. The two Nations, then about equally divided, numbered, in 1761, about 700 warriors. Neither of the tribes took part in Pontiac's war, but they befriended the English. The Sacs had emigrated farther to the westward; but the Foxes, at least a portion of them, still remained upon the wa-

ters of the river of Green bay, which perpetuates their name. A few years later, however, and the former were occupants of the upper Wisconsin; also to a considerable distance below the portage, where their chief town was located. Further down the same stream was the upper village of the Foxes, while their lower one was situated near its mouth at the site of the present city of Prairie du Chien. At this date, 1766, and even later, what is now Crawford county, was within the territory claimed as theirs. Gradually, however, they retreated down the Mississippi until, before the close of the century all their possessions in what is now Wisconsin, was in the extreme southwest. They no longer had their hunting grounds to the northward of the Wisconsin river. Another tribe had, as it were, crowded them out.

During the War of the Revolution, the Sacs and Foxes continued the firm friends of the English. In 1804 they ceded their lands south of the Wisconsin river to the United States; so that they no longer were owners of any lands within this State. From that date, therefore, these allied tribes cannot be considered as belonging to the Indian Nations of Wisconsin. They were generally friendly to Great Britain during the War of 1812-15, but they soon made peace with the United States after that contest ended. A striking episode in their subsequent history is the Black Hawk War, which will be narrated in a subsequent chapter. The exact date of the Foxes leaving the Wisconsin river country is unknown. They sold the prairie at the mouth of that stream to some Canadian French traders, in 1781, and subsequently vacated their village. Probably about the beginning of the present century they had abandoned this region as their home, although they long after visited it for the purposes of trade.

WHY THE FOX INDIANS LEFT THE LOWER WISCONSIN.

[By Jonathan Carver.]

On the 8th of October, (1766), we got our canoes into the Ouisconsin river, which at this place is more than a hundred yards wide and

the next day arrived at the great town of the Saukies. This is the largest and best built Indian town I ever saw. It contains about ninety houses, each large enough for several families. These are built of hewn plank, neatly jointed and covered with bark, so compactly as to keep out the most penetrating rains. Before the doors are placed comfortable sheds, in which the inhabitants sit, when the weather will permit, and smoke their pipes. The streets are regular and spacious, so that it appears more like a civilized town than the abode of savages. The land near the town is very good. On their plantations, which lie adjacent to their houses, and which are neatly laid out, they raise quantities of Indian corn, beans, melons, etc., so that this place is esteemed the best market for traders to furnish themselves with provisions of any within 800 miles of it.

The Saukies can raise about 300 warriors, who are generally employed every summer in making excursions into the territories of the Illinois and Pawnee Nations, from whence they return with a great number of slaves. But those people frequently retaliate, and, in their turn, destroy many of the Saukies, which I judge to be the reason why they increase no faster.

Whilst I stayed here I took a view of some mountains, (Blue Mounds), that lay about fifteen miles to the southward, and abounded in lead ore. I ascended one of the highest of these, and had an extensive view of the country. For many miles nothing was to be seen but lesser mountains, which appeared at a distance like haycocks, they being free from trees. Only a few groves of hickory and stunted oaks, covered some of the valleys.

So plentiful is lead here that I saw large quantities of it lying about the streets in the town belonging to the Saukies, and it seemed to be as good as the produce of other countries. On the 10th of October we proceeded down the river, and the next day reached the first town of the Outagamies. This town contained

about fifty houses, but we found most of them deserted, on account of an epidemical disorder that had lately raged among them, and carried off more than one half of the inhabitants. The greater part of those who survived had retired into the woods to avoid the contagion.

On the 15th we entered that extensive river, the Mississippi. The Ouisconsin, from the carrying place to the part where it falls into the Mississippi, flows with a smooth but strong current; the water of it is exceedingly clear, and through it you may perceive a fine and sandy bottom, tolerably free from rocks. In it are a few islands, the soil of which appeared to be good, though somewhat woody. The land near the river also seemed to be, in general, excellent; but that at a distance is very full of mountains, where, it is said, there are many lead mines.

About five miles from the junction of the rivers I observed the ruins of a large town, in a very pleasing situation. On inquiring of the neighboring Indians why it was thus deserted, I was informed that, about thirty years ago, the Great Spirit appeared on the top of a pyramid of rocks, which lay at a little distance from it toward the west, and warned them to quit their habitations; for the land on which they were built belonged to him, and he had occasion for it. As a proof that he, who gave them these orders, was really the Great Spirit, he further told them that the grass should immediately spring up on those very rocks from whence he now addressed them, which they knew to be bare and barren. The Indians obeyed, and soon after discovered that this miraculous alteration had taken place. They showed me the spot, but the growth of the grass appeared to be no ways supernatural. I apprehended this to have been a stratagem of the French or Spaniards to answer some selfish view; but in what manner they effected their purpose I know not. This people, soon after their removal, built a town on the bank of the Mississippi, near the mouth of the Ouisconsin, at a place called by the

French Les Prairies les Chiens, which signifies the Dog Plains ; it is a large town and contains about 300 families ; the houses are well built, after the Indian manner, and pleasantly situated on a very rich soil, from which they raise every necessary of life in great abundance. I saw here many horses of a good size and shape. This town is a great mart, where all the adjacent tribes, and even those who inhabit the most remote branches of the Mississippi, annually assemble about the latter end of May, bringing with them their furs to dispose of to the traders. But it is not always that they conclude their sale here ; this is determined by a general council of the chiefs, who consult whether it would be more conducive to their interests to sell their goods at this place, or carry them on to Louisiana or Michillimackinae ; according to the decision of this council, they either proceed farther or return to their different homes.

The Mississippi, at the entrance of the Ouisconsin, near which stands a mountain of considerable height, is about half a mile over ; but opposite to the last mentioned town, it appears to be more than a mile wide and full of islands, the soil of which is extraordinarily rich and but thinly wooded.

#### CONCERNING THE FOX INDIANS.

[By Schoolcraft, 1820.]

The first we hear of these people (the Foxes) is from early missionaries of New France, who call them, in a list drawn up for the government in 1736, "Gens du Sang" and Miskaukis. The latter I found to be the name they apply to themselves. We get nothing, however, by it. It means red earth, being a compound from *misk-wau*, red, and *aukie*, earth. They are a branch of the great Algonquin family. The French, who formed a bad opinion of them as their history opened, bestowed on them the name of Renouard, from which we derive their long standing popular name. Their traditions attribute their origin to eastern portions of America. Mr. Gates, who acted as my interpreter and is well acquainted with their lan-

guages and customs, informs me that their traditions refer to their residence on the north banks of the St. Lawrence, near the ancient cataract. They appear to have been a very erratic, spirited, warlike and treacherous tribe, dwelling but a short time at a spot, and pushing westward as their affairs led them, till they finally reached the Mississippi, which they must have crossed after 1766, for Carver found them living in villages on the Wisconsin. At Saginaw they appeared to have formed a fast alliance with the Sauks, a tribe to whom they are closely allied by language and history. They figure in the history of Indian events about old Michillimackinae, where they played pranks under the not very definite title of Muscodainsug, but are first conspicuously noted while they dwelt on the river bearing their name, which falls into Green bay, Wisconsin.\* The Chippewas, with whom they have strong affinity of language, call them Outagamie, and ever deemed them a sanguinary and unreliable tribe. The French defeated them in a sanguinary battle at Butte de Mort, and by this defeat drove them from Fox River.

Their present numbers cannot be accurately given. I was informed that the village I visited contained 250 souls. They have a large village at Rock Island, where the Foxes and Sauks live together, which consists of sixty lodges, and numbers 300 souls. One-half of these may be Sauks. They have another village at the mouth of Turkey river ; altogether they may muster from 460 to 500 souls. Yet, they are at war with most of the tribes around them, except the Iowas, Sauks and Kickapoos. They are engaged in a deadly and apparently successful war against the Sioux tribes. They recently killed nine men of that Nation, on the Terre Blue river, and a party of twenty men are now absent, in the same direction, under a half-breed named Morgan. They are on bad terms with the Osages and Pawnees, of the Missouri, and

\*This name was first applied to a territory in 1836.

not on the best terms with their neighbors, the Winnebagoes.

I again embarked at 4 o'clock A. M. (8th). My men were stout fellows, and worked with hearty will, and it was thought possible to reach the prairie during the day by hard and late pushing. We passed Turkey river at 2 o'clock, and they boldly plied their paddles, sometimes animating their labors with a song; but the Mississippi proved too stout for us, and sometime after night-fall we put ashore on an island, before reaching the Wisconsin.

In ascending the river this day, I observed the pelican, which exhibited itself in a flock standing on a low sandy spot of an island. This bird has a clumsy and unwieldy look, from the duplicate membrane attached to its lower mandible, which is constructed so as when inflated to give it a bag-like appearance. A short sleep served to restore the men, and we were again in our canoes the next morning (9th) before I could certainly tell the time by my watch. Daylight had not yet broke when we passed the influx of the Wisconsin, and we reached the prairie under a full chorus and landed at 6 o'clock.

#### INDIAN CONFLICTS WITHIN THE COUNTY.

The various tribes, in visiting the "prairie," or in passing up and down the Mississippi, sometimes came in deadly conflict within the present limits of this county, since the first settlement here by white men—the result, in many cases, of ancient hostilities existing between them. Two writers have well described some of these conflicts, and their accounts are appended.

#### WAR BETWEEN THE SACS AND FOXES AND THE SIOUX.

[I.—By Mrs. H. S. Baird, of Green Bay.]

During the first half of the present century, there existed between different Indian tribes of the north and west, a succession of sanguinary wars. The conflicts between the contending parties were marked by the characteristic traits of cruelty and ferocity of a barbarous race.

The tribes engaged in these hostilities were the Sioux, Chippewas, Sacs, Foxes and Winnebagoes. Their battles were not always fought in their own country, nor on their own lands. Whenever and wherever a hostile party met, a contest was sure to be the result; and many incidents connected with this warfare were observed by the early settlers of Wisconsin, one of which I witnessed, and will relate.

In the month of May, 1830, with my family, I visited Prairie du Chien, on the Mississippi; we were guests of the late Joseph Rolette, then a trader, and agent of the American Fur Company. One evening, a few days after our arrival, we were startled by hearing the continual and successive reports of fire-arms, apparently on the Mississippi below. The firing continued for an hour or more, and was succeeded by sounds of Indian drums and savage yells, with an occasional discharge of guns.

The family having retired at the usual time, were aroused from their slumbers about midnight by hearing foot-steps on the piazza, conversation in the Indian language, and finally by knocking on the door and window shutters. Mr. Rolette immediately arose and went out to ascertain the cause of the disturbance, when he was informed that a bloody battle had been fought, and the visitors were the victors, and had called up their trader to inform him of their victory, and to obtain the necessary spirit water to celebrate the glorious event in regular savage style. Their wants were supplied, of course, when they took their leave, but not to sleep; neither could we sleep, as the warriors kept up through the night a most horrible pow-wow, enlivened by savage yells, all plainly within our hearing.

In the morning we heard the particulars of the savage fight, and during the day witnessed one of the most disgusting and revolting exhibitions that human beings could display.

On the day before the battle, or rather massacre, a war party of some twenty or twenty-five Sioux encamped on an island opposite

Prairie du Chien. They were there joined by a few Menomonees, who volunteered to assist their friends, the Sioux. It appears that the latter had previously received information that on that day a party of Sacs and Foxes, their inveterate enemies, would leave their village, situated on the Mississippi, some distance below Prairie du Chien, intending to visit the latter place; and that they would encamp for the night at a regular camping ground, near the mouth of the Wisconsin river.

In the afternoon of that day, the Sioux war party embarked in several canoes, and descended the river. Arriving near the spot where they knew their intended victims would encamp, they drew their canoes on land, and carefully hid them in the thick woods, and then selected a spot covered with a dense growth of bushes, and within a short gun-shot of the landing place on the camping ground. Here, with true Indian cunning, they lay in ambush, awaiting the arrival of the unsuspecting Sacs and Foxes. No fire was made, and the stillness of death reigned in the forest. Nor had they long to wait for the arrival of their foes.

Between sunset and dark, the party, in three or four canoes, arrived at the fatal landing place, and dis-embarked. It consisted of eighteen persons, one old chief, one squaw, one boy about fourteen years old and fifteen warriors. Upon landing, the party commenced unloading the canoes. The concealed war party remained perfectly quiet, scarcely breathing, so that their victims might be completely surprised. After all had landed, and while carrying their effects on shore, leaving their guns and war-clubs in the canoes, the party in ambush bounded to their feet, with a horrible yell, and fired a murderous volley at the surprised party, by which all fell except one man and the boy. The former reached a canoe, seized a loaded gun, and discharged it, mortally wounding one of the Sioux; but the poor Sae was soon despatched, and the only one of the eighteen who survived was the boy, who hap-

pened to be in a canoe. He seized a paddle, pushed into the stream, and made his escape down the swift current of the river.

After the massacre, all who yet breathed were despatched, and horribly mutilated. Hands, feet, fingers, ears and scalps were cut off, and more horrible still, the heart of the aged chief was cut from his breast, and all taken by the victors as trophies of the bloody conflict.

On the day succeeding the murder, the victorious party assembled, and accompanied by a few squaws, paraded the streets of Prairie du Chien, with the monotonous sounding drum and rattle, and displaying on poles the scalps and dismembered human fragments taken from the bodies of their victims. The whole party was painted with various colors, wore feathers, and carried their tomahawks, war-clubs and scalping-knives. Stopping in front of the principal houses in the village, they danced the war-dance and scalp-dance, ending with yells characteristic of incarnate devils.

The mangled limbs were still fresh and bleeding; one old squaw had carried on a pole the entire hand, with a long strip of skin from the arm of one of the murdered men, elevated above her head, the blood trickling down upon her hair and face, while she kept up the death-song, and joined in the scalp-dance. After this exhibition, which lasted two or three hours, the warriors went to a small mound, about 200 yards from Mr. Rolette's residence, and in plain sight made a fire and roasted the heart of the old murdered chief, and then divided it into small pieces among the several warriors, who devoured it, to inspire them with courage, and "make their hearts glad."

The whole scene was shocking and disgusting in the extreme, and such a one, we hope, never again will be witnessed in a civilized community.

The incidents just related occurred in a town containing a civilized (?) population of 600 or 800 inhabitants, under the walls of the U. S.

garrison, and within musket shot of the fort. Neither civil nor military authorities made any effort to prevent the exhibition of the revolting and savage trophies of the sanguinary battle. In the afternoon, the party of Sioux warriors embarked in their canoes and ascended the Mississippi, on their return to their own village, leaving on the minds and memories of those who witnessed these horrible and frantic orgies recollections not soon to be forgotten.

II.—By James H. Lockwood.

In 1830 a party of Sauks and Foxes killed some Sioux, on or about the head-waters of Red Cedar river, in the now State of Iowa; and the same season a band of Fox Indians, who resided about where Dubuque now is, had occasion to visit Prairie du Chien on business with the agent, whom they had previously informed that they would arrive on a certain day. An Indian called the Kettle was their chief. It was generally believed that John Marsh gave the Sioux information of the coming of the Foxes, and of the time they were expected; and on the morning of the day appointed for the arrival of the Foxes at Prairie du Chien, a small war party of young Sioux made their appearance here, and joined by a few of the Menomonee young men, proceeded down the Mississippi to the lower end of the Prairie du Pierreux, some twelve or fifteen miles below Prairie du Chien, where a narrow channel of the Mississippi runs close to that end of the prairie, fringed with small trees, bushes and grass. They knew the custom of the Indians in going up stream to avail themselves of all such side channels, as there was less current in them than in the broad river; and secreting themselves among the bushes, trees and grass, awaited their unsuspecting victims. When the Foxes came within point blank shot, they all fired upon them, killing their chief Kettle and several others. The Foxes finding their chief killed, returned down the river to carry the news of their misfortunes to the tribe, while the Sioux and Menomonees returned home with the tidings of their victory

and to dance over it. They passed through Prairie du Chien, and remained a short time here, but for some unaccountable reason, no notice whatever was taken of it.

The signs of several war parties of the Foxes were reported to have been seen on the opposite side of the river during the year; but they effected nothing until sometime, I think, in June, 1831, when a considerable number of Menomonees had collected at Prairie du Chien, and encamped on an island near the eastern shore of the Mississippi, about one-fourth of a mile from the old Fort Crawford. They had obtained whisky enough for all to get socially drunk upon—and it is rare to find a Menomonee who will not get drunk when he has a chance—and they had carried their revels far into the night, until men, women and children were beastly drunk. About two hours before day, a Fox war party, that had been watching their movements, fell upon them in that helpless state and killed about thirty of them. By this time some of the more sober of them were aroused, and commenced firing upon the Foxes; who fled down the river, pursued a short distance by the Menomonees.

Thomas P. Burnett, the sub-Indian agent, was sleeping with me in my store. It being very warm weather, we had made a bed of blankets on the counter, when about two hours before daylight, we were awakened by the cries of a Menomonee woman at the store door. We let her in, when she told us of the disaster to the Menomonees. Mr. Burnett took my horse and went to inform Gen. Street, the Indian agent, who lived about four miles above this, and who arrived about daylight and gave the first information to the fort. Although there had been a great firing of guns and hallooing among the Indians, the sentinels had reported nothing of it to the officers; but on hearing of the affair, the commandant immediately dispatched a company of men in boats after the Foxes, but they did not overtake them. The government demanded of the Sauks to deliver up the perpe-

trators of this deed. The Foxes fled to the Sauks, and their chief, Kettle, being dead, they remained among and amalgamated with them, and have not since continued a separate Nation or tribe. I have always believed this to be the origin of the Black Hawk War. There were, I suppose, other causes of discontent, but I believe that this transaction was the immediate cause of the movements of Black Hawk.

III.—BY JOHN H. FONDA.

The same year, 1830, the Fox and Sauk Indians killed some Sioux, at the head of Cedar river, in Iowa. Capt. Dick Mason\* started with a number of troops for the scene of disturbance, and I went along as guide. We arrived at the place of the fight, found everything quiet and all we did was to turn about and go back the way we came.

Soon after, the Sioux and a number of Monomonees attacked a party of Sauks and Foxes at Prairie du Pierreaux and killed some ten Indians, among whom was Kettle, the great Fox chief.†

The Sauks and Foxes were coming up to a treaty unarmed, and the Sioux, made aware of this through their runners, got the Monomonees and laid in ambush on the east shore. The unsuspecting Foxes were fired into from the ambuscade and their best warriors lost their scalps.

After the fight the Monomonees and Sioux came up here to have a dance over the scalps. The Indians presented a horrid appearance. They were painted for war and had smeared themselves with blood and carried the fresh scalps on poles. Some had cut off a head and thrust a stick in the throttle and held it on high; some carried a hand, arm, leg or some other portion of a body, as trophies of their success. They commenced to dance near the mound over the slough, but Col. Taylor soon stopped that

by driving them across the main channel on to the islands, where they danced until their own scalps went to grace the wigwams of the Sauks and Foxes.

In April of 1831, I was in the hospital at Fort Crawford, when, through the influence of Col. Taylor and Dr. Beaumont, I got my discharge. When I was convalescent, which was about June, a war party of Sauk and Fox Indians came up from their part of the country to the bluff north of Bloody Run, from where they watched the Monomonees, who were encamped on an island opposite Prairie du Chien, a little north of the old fort. One night the Monomonee camp was surprised by the Fox and Sauk war party, and all in the camp killed except an Indian boy, who picked up a gun and shot a Fox brave through the heart and escaped. After massacreing, scalping and mutilating the bodies, the Fox Indians got into canoes and paddled down the river past the fort, singing their war song and boasting of their exploits. Soldiers were sent to punish them, but I believe they failed to catch them. In the morning I helped to bury those killed. There were twenty-seven bodies, all killed with the knife and tomahawk, except the Fox brave shot by the boy. They were buried in three graves on the landing below the present Fort Crawford, and until within a few years the spot was marked by a small muslin flag kept standing by the few Monomonees who lingered in this vicinity; but nothing is now left to preserve the graves from sacrilege, and soon the iron horse will course o'er the bones of those red men, long since gone to their happy hunting grounds.

After the Monomonee massacre, a warrior of that tribe was found in the old Catholic graveyard and buried. He had no wounds and it is thought that when the Foxes attacked the Indians on the island, he got away and ran so fast that he had to lean against the wall to rest, and that he rolled over and died.

The Indian agency was removed this year to Yellow River and the Rev. Mr. Lowrey ap-

\* Richard B. Mason, a native of Virginia, was a 1st lieutenant in 1817, captain in 1819; served in the Black Hawk War; major of dragoons in 1832, lieutenant-colonel in 1836 and colonel in 1846. He commanded the forces in California and was ex-officio governor 1847-48; brevetted brigadier-general and died at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., July 25, 1850.

† This was in 1830.



pointed agent. It was afterwards removed to Fort Atkinson, Iowa. The mission buildings can be seen now on Yellow river, about five miles from its mouth.

#### THE WINNEBAGOES.

The Nation which displaced the Saes and Foxes upon the Wisconsin river and its contiguous territory, including what is now Vernon county, was the Winnebagoes. It is now 250 years since the civilized world began to get a knowledge of the Winnebagoes—the “men of the sea,” as they were called, pointing, possibly, to their early emigration from the shores of the Mexican gulf, or the Pacific. The territory now included within the limits of Wisconsin, and so much of the State of Michigan as lies north of Green bay, Lake Michigan, the Straits of Mackinaw and Lake Huron were, in early times, inhabited by several tribes of the Algonquin race, forming a barrier to the Dakotas, or Sioux, who had advanced eastward to the Mississippi. But the Winnebagoes, although one of the tribes belonging to the family of the latter, had passed the great river, at some unknown period, and settled upon Winnebago lake. Here, as early as 1634, they were visited by John Nicolet, an agent of France, and a treaty concluded with them. Little more was heard of the Winnebagoes for the next thirty-five years, when, on the 2d of December, 1669, some of that Nation were seen at a Sac village on Green bay, by Father Allouez.

As early at least as 1670, the French were actively engaged among the Winnebagoes trading. “We found affairs,” says one of the Jesuit missionaries, who arrived among them in September of that year, “we found affairs there in a pretty bad posture, and the minds of the savages much soured against the French, who were there trading; ill treating them in deeds and words, pillaging and carrying away their merchandise in spite of them, and conducting themselves toward them with insupportable insolences and indignities. The cause of this disorder,” adds the missionary, “is that they

had received some bad treatment from the French, to whom they had this year come to trade, and particularly from the soldiers, from whom they pretended to have received many wrongs and injuries. It is thus made certain that the arms of France were carried into the territory of the Winnebagoes over 200 years ago.

The Fox river of Green bay was found at that date a difficult stream to navigate. Two Jesuits who ascended the river in 1670, had “three or four leagues of rapids to contend with, when they had advanced one day’s journey from the head of the bay, more difficult than those which are common in other rivers, in this, that the flints, over which they had to walk with naked feet to drag their canoes, were so sharp and so cutting, that one has all the trouble in the world to hold one’s self steady against the great rushing of the waters. At the falls they found an idol that the savages honored; never failing, in passing, to make him some sacrifice of tobacco, or arrows, or paintings, or other things, to thank him that, by his assistance, they had, in ascending, avoided the dangers of the waterfalls which are in this stream; or else, if they had to ascend, to pray him to aid them in this perilous navigation. The missionaries caused the idol to be lifted up by the strength of the arm, and cast into the depths of the river, to appear no more, to the idolatrous savages.”

The Winnebagoes, by this time, had not only received considerable spiritual instruction from the Jesuit fathers, but had obtained quite an insight into the mysteries of trading and trafficking with white men; for, following the footsteps of the missionaries, and sometimes preceding them, were the ubiquitous French fur traders. It is impossible to determine precisely what territory was occupied by the Winnebagoes at this early date, farther than that they lived near the head of Green bay.

A direct trade with the French upon the St. Lawrence was not carried on by the Winneba-

goes to any great extent until the beginning of the eighteenth century. As early as 1679, an advance party of LaSalle had collected a large store of furs at the mouth of Green bay, doubtless in a traffic with this tribe and others contiguous to them; generally, however, the surrounding Nations sold their peltries to the Ottawas, who disposed of them, in turn, to the French. The commencement of the eighteenth century found the Winnebagoes firmly in alliance with France, and in peace with the dreaded Iroquois. In 1718, the Nation numbered 600. They had moved from the Fox river to Green bay. They were afterward found to have moved up Fox river, locating upon Winnebago lake, which lake was their ancient seat, and from which they had been driven either by fear or the prowess of more powerful tribes of the west and southwest. Their intercourse with the French was gradually extended and generally peaceful, though not always so, joining with them, as did the Menominees, in their wars with the Iroquois, and subsequently in their conflicts with the English, which finally ended in 1760.

When the British, in October, 1761, took possession of the French post, at the head of Green bay, the Winnebagoes were found to number 150 warriors only; their nearest village being at the lower end of Winnebago lake. They had in all not less than three towns. Their country, at this period, included, not only that lake, but all the streams flowing into it, especially Fox river; afterward extended to the Wisconsin and Rock rivers. They readily changed their course of trade—asking now of the commandant at the fort for English traders to be sent among them. In the Indian outbreak under Pontiac, in 1763, they joined with the Menomonees and other tribes to befriend the British garrison at the head of the bay, assisting in conducting them to a place of safety.

They continued their friendship to the English during the revolution, by joining with them against the colonies, and were active in the Indian war of 1790-4, taking part in the at-

tack on Fort Recovery, upon the Maumee, in the present State of Ohio, in 1793. They fought also on the side of the British in the War of 1812-15, aiding, in 1814, to reduce Prairie du Chien. They were then estimated at 4,500. When, in 1816, the government of the United States sent troops to take possession of the Green bay country, by establishing a garrison there, some trouble was anticipated from these Indians, who, at that date, had the reputation of being a bold and warlike tribe. A deputation from the Nation came down Fox river and remonstrated with the American commandant at what was thought to be an intrusion. They were desirous of knowing why a fort was to be established so near them. The reply was that, although the troops were armed for war if necessary, their purpose was peace. Their response was an old one: "If your object is peace, you have too many men; if war, you have too few." However, the display of a number of cannon, which had not yet been mounted, satisfied the Winnebagoes that the Americans were masters of the situation and the deputation gave the garrison no further trouble.

On the 3d of June, 1816, at St. Louis, the tribe made a treaty of peace and friendship with the general government; but they continued to levy tribute on all white people who passed up Fox river. English annuities also kept up a bad feeling. At this time a portion of the tribe was living upon the Wisconsin river, away from the rest of the Nation, which was still seated upon the waters flowing into Green bay. In 1820 they had five villages on Winnebago lake and fourteen on Rock river. In 1825 the claim of the Winnebagoes was an extensive one, so far as territory was concerned. Its southeast boundary stretched away from the source of Rock river, to within forty miles of its mouth, in Illinois, where they had a village. On the west it extended to the heads of the small streams flowing into the Mississippi. To the northward, it reached Black river and the Upper Wisconsin, in other words, to the Chip-

pewa territory, including what is now Vernon county, but did not extend across Fox river, although they contended for the whole of Winnebago lake. In 1829 a large part of their territory in southwest Wisconsin, lying between Sugar river and the Mississippi, and extending to the Wisconsin river, was sold to the general government.

Just previous to this time occurred the Winnebago war, an account of which will be found in the next chapter. In 1832, all the residue of the Winnebago territory south and east of the Wisconsin and the Fox river of Green bay, was disposed of to the United States.

Finally, in the brief language of the treaty between this tribe (which had become unsettled and wasteful) and the United States, of the 1st of November, 1837, "the Winnebago Nation of Indians" ceded to the general government "all their lands east of the Mississippi." Not an acre was reserved. And the Indians agreed that, within eight months from that date, they would move west of "the great river." This arrangement, however, was not carried out fully. In 1842 there were only 756 at Turkey River, Iowa, their new home, with as many in Wisconsin, and smaller bands elsewhere. All had become lawless and roving. Some removed in 1848; while a party to the number of over 800 left the State as late as 1873. The present home of the tribe is in Nebraska, where they have a reservation north of, and adjacent to the Omahas, containing over 100,000 acres. However, since their first removal beyond the Mississippi, they have several times changed their place of abode. The period of Winnebago occupancy of Crawford county and the region of country contiguous thereto, properly began about the commencement of the present century and ended, virtually, in 1848.

Within the last two years steps have been taken toward paying such of the Winnebagoes, in Wisconsin, as might come forward to be enrolled, at least a portion of the money due to them under the act of Jan. 18, 1881. It has

been found by this enrollment that the whole number of Winnebagoes in Wisconsin at this time (1884) is about 1,200; while those in Nebraska number about 1,400; so that the entire Nation now consists of about 2,600 souls.

Concerning the removal of the Winnebagoes, John H. Fonda says:

During the year 1848, just previous to the adoption of the State Constitution, the Winnebago Indians were scattered through the country along the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, through the Kickapoo timbers, and the Lemon-weir valley. Orders came from the sub-Indian agent, J. E. Fletcher, to collect and remove them to their Reservation, near Fort Atkinson, Iowa.

In 1848, when orders were received at Fort Crawford to remove the Winnebagoes, several attempts were made to do so, but with poor success. Early in the same year I received the following official letter:

OFFICE SUB-INDIAN AGENT,  
TURKEY RIVER, JAN. 4, 1848. }

Sir:—In answer to your inquiry respecting the disposition to be made of the Winnebago Indians, who may be found wandering about through the country, I have to say that I wish you to arrest them, cause them to be securely guarded, and report them to me as early as may be practicable.

Very respectfully your obd't servant,

J. E. FLETCHER,

To Lieut. ———, *Indian Ag't.*

Commanding Ft. Crawford, W. T.

Upon receipt of the above, I made all necessary preparation, and started with fifty men to collect the Indians. This attempt was quite successful, and several hundred were arrested, and sent to Fort Atkinson, Iowa. It may appear strange to some persons that such a handful of men could take many hundred Indians prisoners, and guard them day and night as we traveled through a wild unsettled country: but it was done, and I have a list of names of those men who accompanied me on that expedition.

My journal, kept during the time we were hunting the Indians, presents numerous interesting items, only one or two of which, I will relate.

In taking the Indians, great caution was necessary to enable us to approach them. When the scouts reported that Indians had been discovered, four or five of the men would start on ahead, enter the Winnebago camp, collect all the guns and take off the locks before the Indians were aware of their intention. Frequently a hunting party would come in while the men were *un*-locking the guns, and make a demonstration of resistance, by which time our entire party would arrive, and prevail on them to submit to the same treatment, telling them if they came along with us quietly, no harm would be offered them. On the 10th of May we encamped in a valley near the Baraboo, and three days after were on Dell creek. Here the scouting party captured a Winnebago Indian, who told me his part of the tribe were encamped at Seven Mile creek. I sent eleven men to the camp, which was very large and comprised many lodges. When the main body had come up to the Indian camp, we found the men had succeeded in getting all the guns but one, which belonged to a young brave who refused to give it up. Fearing he might do mischief, the gun was taken from him. It was a fine rifle, of which he was proud; but in spite of his remonstrance, the lock was taken off, and put in a bag with others. When the piece was rendered un-serviceable, they handed it back to the young Indian. He looked at it a moment, and then grasping the barrel he raised it above his head, and brought the stock down with such force against the trunk of a young sapling, as to break it to splinters, and threw the barrel many rods from him. His sister, an Indian girl about seventeen years old, picked up the barrel and handed it to him. The brother bent it against the tree and then hurled it over the bank into the creek.

The addition of the Indians put us on short allowance, and I was obliged to send one of the wagons back to Baraboo for provisions and

grain. Just before making camp on main ridge the 15th of May, my horse was bitten on the nose by a rattlesnake. The horse's head was soon swelled to twice its natural size, and I thought him as good as dead, when an old Frenchman offered to make the horse well by the next morning. I turned the horse over to his care, and sure enough, the morning following the swelling had all disappeared, and the horse was as well as ever. I asked what he had put on to effect the sudden cure, he said he did not apply anything, but one of the men told me that he cured the horse by looking at and talking to it. This was the same man who cured one, Theo. Warner, now [1858] living in Prairie du Chien, when he was bitten by a rattlesnake. His name was Limmery, and a strange man he was; his eyes were the smallest I have ever seen in the head of any human being, with a piercing expression that once seen could never be forgotten. He would never allow a snake to be killed if he could help it, and could take up the most venomous snake with impunity. I saw him take up a large moccasin snake while we were in the Kickapoo bottoms, and it never offered to bite him, while it would strike fiercely at any third person who approached it. I could only attribute the strange power of this man to some mesmeric influence.

We were fortunate enough to bring all the Indians to Prairie du Chien without accident, where they were delivered to a body of regulars from Fort Atkinson, who moved them to their Reservation. That was the last of the Winnebagoes in Wisconsin as a tribe. There are now a few stragglers loitering near their old hunting grounds, in the Kickapoo and Wisconsin bottom lands, but altogether they do not exceed a hundred souls.

#### THE WINNEBAGOES IN 1816.

In 1816 the Menomonees inhabited the country about Green bay, and their women occasionally married Winnebagoes, but not often. The Menomonees were a quiet and peaceful race, well disposed and friendly to the whites. To-

mah, the acting chief of the Nation, was well spoken of by all the traders who knew him.

The principal villages of the Winnebagoes were at the lower and upper end of the lake of that name, with an occasional lodge along the Fox river. At the season that traders generally passed the Portage of Wisconsin, they would find old grey headed Day-Kau-Ray at the Portage with his band. Their village was a short distance from there up the Wisconsin, and the Winnebagoes had villages up the Baraboo river, and several small ones along down the Wisconsin to near its mouth and up the Mississippi. They were estimated at that time by the traders best acquainted with them, to be about 900 warriors strong. Of the Day-Kau-Rays, there were four or five brothers, who were all influential men in the Nation. One sister had a family of children by a trader named Leeuyer, who had married her after the Indian manner. Tradition says that their father was a French trader, who, during the time the French had possession of the country, married a Winnebago woman, the daughter of the principal chief of the Nation, by whom he had these sons and daughter; that at the time the country was taken possession of by the English, he abandoned them, and they were raised among the Indians, and being the descendants of a chief on the mother's side, when arrived at manhood they assumed the dignity of their rank by inheritance. They were generally good Indians, and frequently urged their claims to the friendship of the whites by saying they were themselves half white.

#### THE WINNEBAGOES IN 1818.

The locations of the different tribes of Indians in the vicinity of Crawford county, in 1818, including also the homes of the Winnebagoes, is clearly pointed out in the narrative of Edward Tanner, published in the *Detroit Gazette* of January 8 and 15, 1819:

"The first tribe of Indians after leaving St. Louis is the Ojibways, (Iowas). This tribe live about 100 miles from the west side of the Mis-

issippi, on the Menomonee, and have about 400 warriors. The next tribe are the Sauks, who live on the Mississippi, and about 400 miles above St. Louis. They emigrated from the Onisconsin (Wisconsin) about thirty-five years ago. Their military strength is about 800 warriors, exclusive of old men and boys, and are divided into two divisions of 400 men. Each division is commanded by a war chief. The first are those who have been most distinguished for deeds of valor, and the second the ordinary warriors. They have also two village chiefs who appear to preside over the civil concerns of the Nation. The next tribe is the Fox Indians. This tribe have a few lodges on the east side of the Mississippi near Fort Armstrong and about four miles from the Sauk village. Thirty miles above this, at the mine De Buke (Dubuque), on the west side, they have another village, and another on Turkey river, thirty miles below Prairie du Chien. Their whole military strength is about 400 warriors. They are at this time in a state of war with the Sioux; and as the Sauks are in strict amity with the Fox Indians, and have the influence and control of them, they are also drawn into the war. This war was in consequence of depredations committed by the Fox Indians on the Sioux.

"Prairie du Chien, on which the village of that name stands, is a handsome plain, about half a mile wide from the bank of the river to the bluff or commencement of the rising ground, and out of danger from inundations. In consequence of the serpentine course of the river, the plain widens above and below the village. The soil is a black sand about fifteen inches deep, appearing to be very productive. The foundation is gravelly, containing amber stones susceptible of a handsome polish. Timber is scarce. The upland in the vicinity is very broken, poor and nearly barren. In the settlement are about 1,500 inhabitants, exclusive of the military, who are principally creoles. As a

place of business, it now appears on the decline.

“The river Ouiseconsin (Wisconsin) is about half a mile wide—common depth one to four feet—no falls, but generally a brisk current. The channel is subject to change, from the numerous bars of sand which lie in it, and frequently alter their position. In the river are numerous islands, on which grow the principal timber of the country. The banks are generally low and sandy—some plains lined with the common granite stone. The bordering country is very broken, sandy and barren. In the interior the same description will answer. Barren, broken and destitute of vegetation, few places can be found that will admit of settlements. The Winnebago Indians inhabit the country bordering on the tributary streams of both sides of the river. They appear to go abroad for their game, and have no conveniences for dwelling, except a kind of lodge which they carry with them wherever they go. Their territory extends from the Mississippi to the vicinity of Green bay, and the number of their warriors is 700.”

#### INDIAN AFFAIRS IN CRAWFORD COUNTY.

From the commencement of the settlement upon the “Prairie des Chiens” until the final disappearance of the Winnebago Indians, as elsewhere described, Indian affairs in some way engrossed a large share of the attention of the pioneers. Important treaties were held here, notably in 1825 and 1829. For a number of years the Winnebagoes assembled here annually, to receive their payments. One of the most tragical events of the Winnebago war occurred near here, as explained in another chapter; and the closing incidents of that brief season of hostile acts were upon the “prairie.” During the Black Hawk War, in 1832, Prairie du Chien was an important point of operations for the Americans, as is fully shown in another portion of this history.

#### TREATIES WITH THE SAC AND FOX INDIANS AND THE WINNEBAGOES.

Twelve treaties were held at different times between the United States and the Sac and Fox Indians and the Winnebagoes, affecting, immediately or remotely, the territory now included within the limits of Crawford county, as follows :

1. A treaty was held at St. Louis, Nov. 3, 1804, between the Sacs and Foxes and the United States. William Henry Harrison was acting commissioner on the part of the government. By the provisions of the treaty, the chiefs and head men of the united tribes ceded to the United States a large tract on both sides of the Mississippi, extending on the east from the mouth of the Illinois to the head of that river, and thence to the Wisconsin, and including on the west considerable portions of Iowa and Missouri, from the mouth of the Gasconade northward. In what is now the State of Wisconsin, this grant embraced the whole of the present counties of Grant and Lafayette and a large portion of Iowa and Green counties. The lead region was included in this purchase. In consideration of this cession, the general government agreed to protect the tribes in the quiet enjoyment of their land, against its own citizens and all others who should intrude on them. The tribes permitted a fort to be built on the upper side of the Wisconsin river near its mouth, and granted a tract of land two miles square adjoining the same. The government agreed to give them an annuity of \$1,000 per annum. The validity of this treaty was denied by one band of Sac Indians, and this cession of land became, twenty-eight years after, the alleged cause of the Black Hawk War.

2. Another treaty was held at Portage des Sioux, now a village in St. Charles Co., Mo., on the Mississippi river, Sept. 13, 1815, with certain chiefs of that portion of the Sac Nation then residing in Missouri, who, they said, were compelled since the commencement of the late war, to separate themselves from the rest of

their Nation. They gave their assent to the treaty made at St. Louis in 1804, and promised to remain separate from the Sacs of Rock river, and to give them no aid or assistance, until peace should be concluded between the United States and the Foxes of Rock river.

3. On the 14th of September a treaty was made with the chiefs of the Fox tribe, at the same place. They agreed that all prisoners in their hands should be delivered up to the government. They assented to, recognized, re-established and confirmed the treaty of 1804 to the full extent of their interest in the same.

4. A treaty was held at St. Louis, May 13, 1816, with the Sacs of Rock river, who affirmed the treaty of 1804, and agreed to deliver up all the property stolen or plundered, and in failure to do so, to forfeit all title to their annuities. To this treaty Black Hawk's name appears with others. That chief afterward affirmed that though he himself had "touched the quill" to this treaty, he knew not what he was signing, and that he was therein deceived by the agent and others, who did not correctly explain the nature of the grant; and in reference to the treaty of St. Louis in 1804, and at Portage des Sioux in 1815, he said he did not consider the same valid or binding on him or his tribe, inasmuch as the terms of those treaties, territory was described which the Indians never intended to sell, and the treaty of 1804, particularly, was made by parties who had neither authority in the Nation nor power to dispose of its lands. Whether this was a true statement of the case or otherwise, it is quite certain that the grant of lands referred to was often confirmed by his Nation, and was deemed conclusive and binding by the government. The latter acted in good faith to the tribes, as well as to the settlers, in the disposition of the lands.

5. A treaty of peace and friendship was made at St. Louis, June 3, 1816, between the chiefs and warriors of that part of the Winnebagoes residing on the Wisconsin river. In this treaty the tribe state that they have sepa-

rated themselves from the rest of their Nation; that they, for themselves and those they represent, confirm to the United States all and every cession of land heretofore made by their Nation, and every contract and agreement, as far as their interest extended.

6. On the 19th of August, 1825, at Prairie du Chien, a treaty was made with the Sioux, Chippewas, Sacs and Foxes, Winnebagoes, Ottawas and Pottawattamies, by which the boundary between the two first Nations was agreed upon; also between the Chippewas, Winnebagoes and other tribes.

7. Another treaty was held Aug. 5, 1826, at Fond du Lac of Lake Superior, a small settlement on the St. Louis river, in Itasca Co., Minn., with the same tribes, by which the previous treaty was confirmed in respect to boundaries, and those of the Chippewas was defined, as a portion of the same was not completed at the former treaty.

8. A treaty was made and concluded Aug. 1, 1827, at Butte des Morts, between the United States and the Chippewa, Menomonee and Winnebago tribes, in which the boundaries of their tribes were defined; no cession of lands was made.

9. A treaty was made at Green Bay, Aug. 25, 1828, with the Winnebagoes, Pottawattamies and other tribes. This treaty was made to remove the difficulties which had arisen in consequence of the occupation by white men of that portion of the mining country in the southwestern part of Wisconsin which had not been ceded to the United States. A provisional boundary was provided, and privileges accorded the government to freely occupy their territory until a treaty should be made for the cession of the same. This treaty was simply to define the rights of the Indians, and to give the United States the right of occupation.

10. Two treaties were made at Prairie du Chien on the 29th of July, 1829, and Aug. 1, 1829. At the first date, with the Chippewas, Ottawas and Pottawattamies, by which these

Nations ceded all their lands which they claimed in the northwestern part of Illinois; and at the latter date with the Winnebagoes, by which that Nation ceded and relinquished all their right, title and claim to all their lands south of the Wisconsin river, thus confirming the purchase of the lead-mine region. Certain grants were made to individuals, which grants were not to be leased or sold by the grantees.

By this important treaty, about 8,000,000 acres of land were added to the public domain. The three tracts ceded, and forming one whole, extended from the upper end of Rock river to the mouth of the Wisconsin, from latitude 41 degrees 30 minutes to latitude 43 degrees 15 minutes on the Mississippi. Following the meanderings of the river, it was about 240 miles from west to east, extending along the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, affording a passage across the country from the Mississippi to Lake Michigan. The south part of the purchase extended from Rock Island to Lake Michigan.

11. At the conclusion of the Black Hawk War, in 1832, for the purpose of clearing up the Indian title of the Winnebago Nation in the country, a treaty was made and concluded at Fort Armstrong, Sept. 15, 1832. All the territory claimed by this Nation lying south and east of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers of Green bay, was ceded to the United States, and no band or party of Winnebagoes was allowed to reside, plant, fish or hunt on these grounds, after June 1, 1833, or on any part of the country therein ceded.

12. The Winnebago Nation, by the chiefs and delegates, held a treaty with the government at Washington, Nov. 1, 1837. That Nation ceded all their lands east of the Mississippi, and obligated themselves to remove, within eight months after the ratification of the treaty, to certain lands west of the Mississippi

which were conveyed to them by the treaty of Sept. 21, 1832.

A SEQUAL TO THE GREAT INDIAN TREATY OF 1829.  
[By Caleb Atwater.]

On the day we delivered the goods to the Winnebagoes, after the Indians were all seated on the ground in rows, the chiefs on the highest spot in the center, on benches, clothed in the most sumptuous manner; where they could see and be seen to the best advantage; every tribe by itself; the half-breeds in one place, the full whites in another. As I passed through the open spaces between the ranks, my attention was forcibly drawn to a particular spot by a constant snarling, hissing noise of some miserable human being, whom, on approaching I ascertained to be an Indian woman, shriveled, haggard and old, though remarkably neat in her person and dress. She appeared to be about sixty years of age, and scolded incessantly. Some of the goods placed before her, as her share of them, she complained of as being too fine; others as being too coarse; some cost too much, while others were quite too cheap, and none of them seemed to please her. Wishing, if possible, to please all of them, and especially the ladies; actuated by the best of motives, I endeavored by every argument in my power to satisfy her, that so far as I could do anything towards it, great care had been taken in the distribution to do justice to every individual. I told her that her great father, the President, had specially ordered me, so far as in me lay, to please all, and to see that none went home dissatisfied. At that moment she returned upon me a volley of epithets too degrading to be repeated, even though applied to myself, as I felt conscious of not deserving them. Turning around to some females who were politely sitting on the ground behind me, I learned the fault finder *was an old maid*, (unmarried men at sixty years of age I will call bachelors, but ladies never), and that the only distinguishing mark of attention she had ever



received from any man was a smart blow with a flat hand on her right ear.

As there is no law regulating taste, and sometimes no rational way of accounting for some of its freaks; and as some sights are the aversion of some persons, while the appearance of other objects is equally disagreeable to others; and as I never could endure the ideas conveyed to my mind by a rattlesnake, a heartless politician, an iceberg and a cold-hearted woman, I turned away from her in disgust, and never saw her more nor inquired her name, for fear I should remember it. She was the only person who left the treaty ground dissatisfied with the commissioners. To please her it was utterly impossible.

Seated, as I said, upon rising ground on benches, clad in blankets, either red or green; covered with handsome fur hats, with three beautiful ostrich plumes in each hat; dressed in ruffled calico shirts, leggins and moccasins, all new, and faces painted to suit the fancy of each individual, who held in his hand a new rifle, adorned too, with silver brooches, silver clasps on every arm, and a large medal suspended on each breast; the chiefs, principal warriors and head men, to the number of forty-two, sat during the two hours after all the goods had been delivered to the Nation.

Every individual of both sexes in the Nation had lying directly before the person on the ground the share of the goods belonging to the individual. Great pains had been taken to give each, such, and just so many clothes as would be suitable for the owner to wear during the year to come. The clothes were cut so as to correspond exactly with the size of the owner. The pile of clothes for each person was nearly two feet in thickness, the sight of which entirely overcame with joy our red friends, and they sat, during two hours, in the most profound silence, not taking off their eyes one moment from the goods, now their own. For the first time during my constant intercourse of several weeks with these interesting

sons and daughters of the forest, as I passed repeatedly through their ranks, not an eye appeared to see me, not an ear to hear my heavy tread, not a tongue, as always heretofore, repeated the endearing name of "Oconee Kairake," (the good chief), which their kind partiality had given me on my first landing at Prairie du Chien. Their minds were entirely overcome with joy.

The day being far spent, and, as the landing of the canoes, in which they were about to depart, would necessarily occupy some little time, I informed the chiefs and principal men that the time had arrived when we should part to meet no more; that the great gun at the fort would soon be fired to do them honor. With one accord they all arose, and shaking me heartily by the hand, many of them shedding tears on the occasion, they one and all invited me to visit them at their respective places of abode. In a shrill tone of voice Nankaw issued his orders for every individual to arise, take up his or her goods, and repair to the beach of the river near at hand, and there await the signal from the fort for their embarkation.

In fifteen minutes they were all seated on the sands by the river's edge, where they all sat in breathless silence awaiting the signal, which was soon given. As soon as that was given each chief came forward, shook me again cordially by the hand, accompanied by the warmest protestations of friendship. In a few moments more they were off, covering a considerable surface with their canoes, each one of which carried its flag of some sort floating in the gentle breeze, which ruffled the surface of the Mississippi.

The Chippewas, Ottawas and Pottawattamies had received their goods in the same manner as the Winnebagoes; had been treated precisely in the same way, and three guns, one for each Nation, had given them signal to depart, and they had parted with me in the same kind and affectionate manner.

After the departure of the above named Indians, we had the Sauks and Foxes still with us, with whom we had orders to hold a council to ascertain from them "if they would sell their mineral lands, situated west of the Mississippi?"—and if they would sell them, upon what terms?"

Gen. M'Neil, who was in command as a military officer in this section of country, addressed these tribes and was answered by Keokuk on the part of the Sauks, and by Morgan for the Foxes. I regret that the injunction of secrecy rests on these speeches in the United States Senate; otherwise I should take great pleasure in laying them before the reader. Keokuk, in particular, made one of the best speeches I ever heard, and it was admired as such by several members of the Senate. Keokuk, on the part of these Indians, complained to us of certain white men who had settled on the Indian lands along the Mississippi in order to supply persons navigating the river with necessaries, such as poultry, milk, butter, eggs, and above all, cordwood for the steamboats. He complained that the United States had cultivated lands as a garden for the garrison at Prairie du Chien—had erected a mill without leave, on Indian land—and had not fulfilled former treaties with them.

Making them liberal presents, we naturally deferred the whole subject in discussion for the consideration of the government of the United States to act on it; and I take pleasure in saying the government has, since that time, done its duty to these sons of the forest.

After arranging all matters with them as well as we could, which occupied several days, they were dismissed in a very friendly manner, as all other Indians had been already, and they immediately descended the river for their homes.

Before leaving this place I wish to make a few remarks of a general nature.

Though I neither am, nor ever pretended to be a military man, yet I venture a few remarks

on some of the military establishments in the northwest.

The fort on Rock Island is commanded by hills on both sides of it, and could not stand an hour against an enemy with cannon posted on the heights.

Why this fort was placed here where it is, no man of sense can tell, if the British were to be the attacking enemy. If this work was intended to protect this frontier against Indians it is in so dilapidated a state that by crossing on the island above the fort, or gliding along in their canoes under the western side of the island, which forms the outside of the fort, the Indians could in any dark night make themselves masters of the garrison in fifteen minutes. Whenever they please they can collect at this point in ten days 4,000 warriors, to contend with 400 soldiers. There is no regular mail connecting this post with the United States, and war might be declared for three months, in some seasons of the year, without the garrison's knowing it.

There is a postoffice established here, and in summer the officers sometimes go to Galena for their papers and letters, 100 miles above them—and sometimes they go to Springfield, in the Sangamo country, a distance of seventy miles perhaps, for their letters. The officers must go themselves, as the soldiers, if permitted to go, would desert the service. Cut off from all the world, that is, the civilized world, during six months of the year, the officers and soldiers lead a life as dull as need be. The officers who have families have established a school for their children, which is doing very well.

Ascending the Mississippi, 200 miles or more above Rock Island, we arrive at Fort Crawford, at Prairie du Chien. This post like that at Rock Island, stands near the Mississippi on its eastern shore, and is entirely and completely commanded by the hills on each side of the river. It enjoys, too, a situation so low that nearly every summer, during the dog days, its site is under water from six to ten feet in depth, from the overflowing of the river.

This work is in so dilapidated a state that I presume it is now abandoned for another site somewhat more elevated but nearer the high hill that will forever command it, just east of it. Maj. Garland pointed out to me the spot where he supposed a new fort would be erected.

There is a propriety in placing a military post somewhere, at or near the mouth of the Wisconsin, in order to form a line of posts situated on Green bay, where there is a fort—and in the interior, at the spot where Fort Winnebago is; but what consideration could have induced the government to place a garrison at St. Peters, 300 miles and more beyond a single white settlement—unconnected, too, with any other post in the very heart of the Indian country, I am unable to determine. If this post was intended to strengthen this frontier, it certainly weakens it to the amount of the force stationed there added to an amount of force enough to succor and defend it. If the object was to station a garrison where an intercourse with the Indians, for the purposes of trade, was sought, Lake Pepin, far below it, is the place where it should have been located. As it is, it so happens often that the officers and others who pass and repass between Prairie du Chien and St. Peters are taken prisoners on the route by the Indians. Unless some one wished to get a good governmental job by getting this post established, then I cannot account for this strange location, and I am equally at a loss to account for the continuance of this worse than useless establishment where it is.

All the officers in the Indian country, who have been there ten years, ought instantly to be relieved by others. Lieut. Col. Z. Taylor, has been in the Indian country constantly with his family, about twenty years. Here he and his lady, who were bred in the most polished and refined society, have been compelled to rear, as well as they could, a worthy and most interesting family of children. Col. Taylor commands Fort Crawford, at Prairie du Chien. Dr. Beaumont and his amiable and accomplished lady;

Maj. Garland and his, belonging to this garrison, are doing the same. It is an interesting sight, to see such persons, located as they are, in a fort, on the very verge of civilized life, educating a family of young children. The situation of delicate females, belonging to some of the best families in the Nation, reared in tenderness, amidst all the luxuries and refinements of polished society, now living in a fort, calls for our sympathy and admiration of their fortitude, which enables them to bear with all the ills, and overcome all the difficulties attendant on their mode of living. When I was very unwell, from exposure, miserable water, and the worst of cookery, and worn down too by fatigue of body and mental suffering, I always found sympathy, food that I could eat, and smiles and kindness which touched my heart, in the families I have named, nor can I ever forget the females belonging to the families of Mr. Rolette and of Judge Lockwood, at Prairie du Chien. Without their kindness towards me, I must have perished. I do not deny my fondness for woman, because I know that in cases of distress and suffering, her sympathy and cheering voice, infuses into man new life, new vigor, and new fortitude, and he marches onward with redoubled energy, to climb over every alps that is placed in his way. Living, as these ladies do, amidst dangers, in an Indian country, they are familiarized with them and their animating voice is worth an army of men. I never can forget them, nor their families while I live. Would the government hear my feeble voice, such officers would not be compelled, with their families, to spend all their days, in an Indian country, while others who have known no suffering in the service, are attending levees and gallanting about the ladies at Washington City.

There is something wrong in all this, that I hope will be rectified yet.

At each of the military posts, the officers have established a library and a reading room, at their own expense. Their books consist of useful works, connected with their pursuits.

History, geography, mathematics, chemistry and scientific books, are in the library, and the officers and their families are well read in them all. Though they may be uninformed as to the passing events, at the very moment they occur, yet, at unequal periods, their regular files of all the best newspapers published in the United States, are received and read with care. The *National Intelligencer*, *National Gazette*, all the literary periodicals, worth reading, are carefully perused

The younger officers were all educated at West Point Academy, and whenever I met one of them, I always found a gentleman, and man of science, brave, active, vigorous, energetic, high minded, honorable, strictly honest and correct in all his deportment. He claimed all that belonged to him, and not one tittle more, of any one. These officers, belonging to the first families in the Nation, educated in the very best manner, are induced by their self respect, to conduct themselves in the very best manner on all occasions. They fear nothing but disgrace, originating in their own bad conduct, and they scrupulously avoid it everywhere, and at all times. As officers, as gentlemen and as men, I feel proud of them as my countrymen.

I pray them to accept this testimony in their favor, as a small payment towards a large sum, justly due to them for their good conduct in every part of the Union where I have had the pleasure of meeting with them. My only regret is, that this honest, heartfelt approbation of them is all I have it in my power to bestow upon persons so worthy. Those who are in actual service on the Indian frontier, deserve more pay than they receive, in a country where everything is so extravagantly dear. Congress ought to remember these worthy men, and make future provision for them, and to Congress I submit their case. While those who shine in every fashionable circle at Washington, under the eye of Congress, are well paid *for their services*, it is to be hoped that others, who undergo

nothing but hardships, will not be forgotten, as I know they will not be by the Senate.

Having completed all our business of a public nature, so far as we could at this place, about the middle of August, as near as I now remember, we concluded to give our friends here a ball on the evening preceding our leaving them. It was attended by all of the respectable part of the people in the garrison and in the village. It was a most interesting scene. Within the council house, where the civilized people were assembled, might be seen persons of both sexes, as polished and as refined in their manners, as well bred, and educated as well too, as any person in the United States; and at the same moment might be seen on the outside of the house, at the doors and windows, looking on and occasionally dancing by themselves, by way of experiment, or to show what they could do as dancers in the open air, as motley a group of creatures, (I can scarcely call them human beings) as the world ever beheld. They are a race peculiar to those parts of the upper Mississippi, where settlements were originally made by the French, soon after the conquest of Canada by the English, under Gen. Wolf. They are of a mixed breed, and probably more mixed than any other human beings in the world; each one consisting of negro, Indian, French, English, American, Scotch, Irish and Spanish blood; and I should rather suspect some of them to be a little touched with the prairie wolf. They may fairly claim the vices and faults of each and all the above named Nations and animals, without even one redeeming virtue.

The reader will see that we were on the very confines of civilized and savage life.

The officers and their families from Fort Crawford, and the best families in the Prairie, were all very happy, and we parted with them all in friendship, and retired to rest at about midnight.

INDIANS UPON THE MISSISSIPPI IN 1825.  
(By Schoolcraft.)

We finally left Mackinack for our destination on the Mississippi, on the 1st of July. The

convocation to which we were now proceeding, was for the purpose of settling internal disputes between the tribes, by fixing the boundaries to their respective territories, and thus laying the foundation of a lasting peace on the frontiers. And it marks an era in the policy of our negotiations with the Indians, which is memorable. No such gathering of the tribes had ever before occurred, and its results have taken away the necessity of any in future, so far as relates to the lines on the Mississippi.

We encountered head winds, and met with some delay in passing through the straits into Lake Michigan, and after escaping an imminent hazard or being off into the open lake in a fog, reached Green Bay on the 4th. The journey up the Fox river, and its numerous portages, was resumed on the 14th, and after having ascended the river to its head, we crossed over the Fox and Wisconsin portage, and descending the latter with safety, reached Prairie du Chien on the 21st, making the whole journey from Mackinac in twenty-one days.

We found a very large number of various tribes assembled. Not only the village, but the entire banks of the river for miles above and below the town, and the island in the river, was covered with their tents. The Dakotahs, with their high-pointed buffalo-skin tents, above the town, and their decorations and implements of flags, feathers, skins and personal "braveries," presented the scene of Bedouin encampment.

Wanita, the Yankton chief, had a most magnificent robe of the buffalo, curiously worked with dyed porcupine's quills and sweet grass, a kind of war flag, made of eagles' and vultures' large feathers, presented quite a martial air. War clubs and lances presented almost every imaginable device of paint, but by far the most elaborate thing was their pipes of red stone, curiously carved, and having flat wooden handles of some four feet in length, ornamented with the scalps of the red-headed woodpecker and male duck, and the tail feathers of birds artifi-

cially attached by strings and quill work, so as to hang in the figure of a quadrant. But the most elaborately wrought part of the devices consisted of dyed porcupine quills, arranged as a kind of aboriginal mosaic.

The Winnebagoes, who speak a cognate dialect of the Dacotah, were encamped near; and resembled them in the style of lodges, arts and general decorations.

The Chippewas presented the more usually known traits, manners and customs of the great Algonquin family—of whom they are indeed the best representatives. The tall and warlike bands from the sources of the Mississippi—from La Point, in Lake Superior—from the valleys of the Chippewa and St. Croix rivers, and the Rice lake region of Lac du Flambeau, and of Sault Ste. Marie, were well represented.

The cognate tribe of the Menomonees, and Pottawattamies and Ottawas from Lake Michigan, assimilated and mingled with the Chippewas. Some of the Iroquois of Green Bay were present.

But no tribes attracted as intense a degree of interest as the Iowas, and the Sac and Foxes—tribes of radically diverse languages, yet united in a league against the Sioux. These tribes were encamped on the island, or opposite coast. They came to the treaty ground, armed and dressed as a war party. They were all armed with spears, clubs, guns and knives. Many of the warriors had a long tuft of red horse hair tied at their elbows, and bore a necklace of grizzly bears' claws. Their head dress consisted of red-dyed horsehair, tied in such manner to the scalp lock as to present the shape of the decoration of a Roman helmet. The rest of the head was completely shaved and painted. A long iron shod lance was carried in the hand. A species of baldric supported part of their arms. The azian, moccasin and leggins constituted a part of their dress. They were, indeed, nearly nude and painted. Often the print of a hand in white clay, marked the back or shoulders. They bore flags of feathers. They

beat drums. They uttered yells at definite points. They landed in compact ranks. They looked the very spirit of defiance. Their leader stood as a prince, majestic and frowning. The wild, native pride of man, in the savage state flushed by success in war, and confident in the strength of his arm, was never so fully depicted to my eyes, and the forest tribes of the continent may be challenged to have ever presented a spectacle of bold daring, and martial prowess, equal to their landing.

Their martial bearing, their high tone, and whole behavior during their stay in and out of council, was impressive, and demonstrated, in an eminent degree, to what a high pitch of physical and moral courage, bravery and success in war may lead a savage people. Keokuk, who led them, stood with his war lance, high crest of feathers, and daring eye, like another Coriolanus, and when he spoke in council, and at the same time shook his lance at his enemies, the Sioux, it was evident that he wanted but an opportunity to make their blood flow like water. Wapelo, and other chiefs backed him, and the whole array, with their shaved heads and high crest of red horse hair, told the spectator plainly, that each of these men held his life in his hand, and was ready to spring to the work of slaughter at the cry of their chief.

Gen. William Clark from St. Louis, was associated with Gen. Cass in this negotiation. The great object was to lay the foundation of a permanent peace by establishing boundaries. Day after day was assigned to this, the agents laboring with the chiefs, and making themselves familiar with Indian bark maps and drawings. The thing pleased the Indians. They clearly saw that it was a benevolent effort for their good, and showed a hearty mind to work in the attainment of the object. The United States asked for no cession. Many glowing harangues were made by the chiefs, which gave scope to their peculiar oratory, which is well worth the preserving. Mongazid, of Fond du Lac, Lake Superior, said: "When I heard the voice of

my Great Father coming up the Mississippi valley calling me to this treaty, it seemed as a murmuring wind; I got up from my mat where I sat musing, and hastened to obey it. My pathway has been clear and bright. Truly it is a pleasant sky above our heads this day. There is not a cloud to darken it. I hear nothing but pleasant words. The raven is not waiting for his prey. I hear no eagle cry, come let us go. The feast is ready—the Indian has killed his brother."

When nearly a whole month had been consumed in these negotiations, a treaty of limits was signed, which will long be remembered in the Indian reminiscences. This was on the 19th of August, 1825, *vide* Indian Treaties p. 371. It was a pleasing sight to see the explorer of the Columbia, in 1806, and the writer of the proclamation of the army that invaded Canada in 1812, uniting in a task boding so much good to the tribes whose passions and trespasses on each others lands kept them perpetually at war.

'Tis war alone that gluts the Indian's mind,  
As eating meats, inflames the tiger kind.

—Hute.

At the close of the treaty, an experiment was made on the moral sense of the Indians, with regard to intoxicating liquors, which was evidently of too refined a character for their just appreciation. It had been said by the tribes that the true reason for the commissioners of the United States government speaking against the use of ardent spirits by the Indians, and refusing to give them, was not a sense of its bad effects, so much, as the fear of the expense. To show them that the government was above such a petty principle, the commissioner had a long row of tin camp kettles, holding several gallons each, placed on the grass, from one end of the council house to the other, and then, after some suitable remarks, each kettle was spilled out in their presence. The thing was evidently ill relished by the Indians. They loved the whisky better than the joke.

*Impostor.*—Among the books which I purchased for Gen. Cass, at New York, was the narrative of one John Dunn Hunter. I remember being introduced to the man, at one of my visits to New York, by Mr. Carter. He appeared to be one of those anomalous persons of easy good nature, without much energy or will, and little or no moral sense, who might be made a tool of. It seems no one in New York was taken in by him, but having wandered over to London, the booksellers found him a good subject for a book, and some hack there, with considerable cleverness, made him a pack-horse for carrying a load of stuff about America's treatment of the Indians. It was called a "captivity," and he was made to play the part of an adventurer among the Indians, somewhat after the manner of John Tanner. Cass reviewed the book on our route and at the Prairie for the *North American*, in an article which created quite a sensation, and will be remembered for its force and eloquence. He first read to me some of these glowing sentences while on the portages of the Fox. It was continued, during the leisure hours of the conferences, and finally the *critique* was finished, after his visiting the place and the person, in Missouri, to which Hunter had alluded as his sponsor in baptism. The man denied all knowledge of him. Hunter was utterly demolished, and his book shown to be as great a tissue of misrepresentation as that of Salmana-zar himself.

August 21st the party separates. I had determined to return to the Sault by way of Lake Superior, through Chippewa river. But, owing to the murder of Finley and his men at its mouth in 1824, I found it impossible to engage men at Prairie du Chien, to take that route. I determined, therefore, to go up the Wisconsin, and by the way of Green bay. For this purpose, I purchased a light canoe, engaged men to paddle it, and laid in provisions and stores to last to Green Bay. Having done so, I embarked about 3 o'clock P. M., descending the ma-

jestic Mississippi, with spirits enlivened by the hope of soon rejoining friends far away. At the same time, Mr. Holliday left for the same destination, in a separate canoe. On reaching the mouth of the Wisconsin, we entered that broad tributary, and found the current strong. We passed the point of rocks called *Petit Gris*, and encamped at *Grand Gris*.

Several hours previous to leaving the Prairie, a friend handed me an enveloped packet, saying, "read it when you get to the mouth of the Wisconsin." I had no conception what it related to, but felt great anxiety to reach the place mentioned. I then opened it, and read as follows: "I cannot separate from you without expressing my grateful acknowledgments for the honor you have done me, by connecting my name with your *Narrative of Travels in the Central Portions of the Mississippi Valley, etc.*" Nothing could have been more gratifying or unexpected.

22d. A fog in the valley detained us till 5 o'clock A. M. After traveling about two hours, Mr. Holliday's canoe was crushed against a rock. While detained in repairing it, I ordered my cook to prepare breakfast. It was now 9 o'clock, when we again proceeded, till the heat of noon much affected the men. We pushed our canoes under some overhanging trees, where we found fine clusters of ripe grapes.

In going forward, we passed two canoes of Menomonees, going out on their fall hunt, on the Chippewa river. These people have no hunting grounds of their own, and are obliged to the courtesy of neighboring Nations for a subsistence. They are the most erratic of all our tribes, and may be said to be almost nomadic. We had already passed the canoes, when Mr. Lewis, the portrait painter, called out stontly behind us, from an island in the river. "Oh! ho!" I did not know but there was some other breaking of the canoe, or worse disaster. and directed the men to put back. "See, see," said he, "that fellow's nose! Did you ever see such a protuberance?" It was one of

the Menomonees from *Butte des Morts*, with a globular irregular lump on the end of his nose, half as big as a man's fist. Lewis' artistic risibles were at their height, and he set to work to draw him. I could think of nothing appropriate, but Sterne and Strasbourg.

23d. A heavy fog detained us at Caramanis village till near 6 A. M. The fog, however, still continued so thick as to conceal objects at twenty yards distance. We consequently went cautiously. Both this day and yesterday we have been constantly in sight of Indian canoes on their return from the treaty. Wooden canoes are exclusively used by the Winnebagoes. They are pushed along with poles.

We passed a precipitous range of hills near Pine creek, on one of which is a cave, called by our boatmen, *L'diable au Port*. This superstition of peopling dens and other dark places with the "arch fiend," is common. If the "old serpent" has given any proofs to the French boatmen of his residence here, I shall only hope that he will confine himself to this river, and not go about troubling quiet folks in the land of the lakes.

At Pine river we went inland about a mile to see an old mine, probably the remains of French enterprise, or French credulity. But all its golden ores had flown, probably frightened off by the old fellow of *L'diable au Port*. We saw only pits dug in the sand overgrown with trees.

Near this spot in the river, we overtook Shingabowossin and his party of Chippewas. They had left the prairie on the same day that we did, but earlier. They had been in some dread of the Winnebagoes, and stopped on the island to wait for us.

In passing the channel of *Detour*, we observed many thousand tons of white rock lying in the river, which had lately fallen from the bank, leaving a solid perpendicular precipice. This rock, banks and ruins is like all the Wisconsin valley rocks—a very white and fine sandstone.

We passed five canoes of Menomonees, on their way to hunt on Chippewa river, to whom

I presented some powder, lead and flour. They gave me a couple of fish, of the kind called *pe-can-o* by the Indians.

24th. We were again detained by the fog till half past 5 A. M., and after a hard day's fatiguing toil, I encamped at 8 o'clock P. M., on a sandy island in the center of the Wisconsin. The water in the river is low, and spreads stragglingly over a wide surface. The very bed of the river is moving sand. While supper was preparing I took from my trunk a towel, clean shirt and a cake of soap, and spent half an hour in bathing in the river upon the clean yellow sand. After this grateful refreshment, I sank sweetly to repose in my tent.

25th. The fog dispersed earlier this morning than usual. We embarked a few minutes after 4 A. M., and landed for breakfast at 10. The weather now was quite sultry, as indeed it has been during the greater part of every day since leaving *Tipesage*—i. e. the prairie. Our route this day carried us through the most picturesque and interesting part of the Wisconsin, called the Highlands or River Hills. Some of these hills are high, with precipitous faces towards the river. Others terminate in round, grassy knobs, with oaks dispersed about the sides. The name is supposed to have been taken from this feature. \* Generally speaking, the country has a bald and barren aspect. Not a tree has apparently been cut upon its banks, and not a village is seen to relieve the tedium of an unimproved wilderness. The huts of an Indian locality seem "at random cast." I have already said these conical and angular hills present masses of white sandstone wherever they are precipitous. The river itself is almost a moving mass of white and yellow sand, broad, clear, shallow, and abounding in small woody islands and willowy sandbars.

While making these notes I have been compelled to hold my book, pencil and umbrella, the latter being indispensable to keep off the

\**Sin*, the terminal syllable, is clearly from the Algonquin—*Os-sin*, a stone. The French added the letter *o*, which is the regular local form of the word, agreeably to the true Indian.



almost tropical fervor of the sun's rays. As the umbrella and book must be held in one hand, you may judge that I have managed with some difficulty; and this will account to you for many uncouth letters and much disjointed orthography. Between the annoyance of insects, the heat of the sun, and the difficulties of the way, we had incessant employment.

At 3 o'clock P. M. we put ashore for dinner in a very shaded and romantic spot. Poetic images were thick about us. We sat upon mats spread upon a narrow carpet of grass between the river and a high perpendicular cliff. The latter threw its broad shade far beyond us. This strip of land was not more than ten feet wide, and had any fragrant rocks fallen, they would have crushed us. But we saw no reason to fear such an event, nor did it at all take from the relish of our dinner. Green moss had covered the face of the rock and formed a soft velvet covering, against which we leaned. The broad and cool river ran at our feet. Overhanging trees formed a grateful bower around us. Alas, how are those to be pitied who prefer palaces built with human hands to such sequestered scenes. What perversity is there in the human understanding to quit the delightful and peaceful abodes of nature, for noisy towns and dusty streets.

"To me more dear, congenial to my heart,  
One native charm than all the gloss of art."

At a late hour in the evening we reached the Wisconsin portage, and found Dr. Wood, U. S. A., encamped there. He had arrived a short time before us, with four Indians and one Canadian in a canoe, on his way to St. Peter's. He had a mail in his trunk, and I had reason to believe I should receive letters, but to my sore disappointment I found nothing. I invited Dr. Wood to supper, having some ducks and snipes to offer in addition to my usual stock of solids, such as ham, venison and buffalo tongues.

ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI IN 1829.

Galena stands on the land we afterwards purchased of the Indians, and is the largest town in

Illinois. When we arrived there it had been settled about three years. It contained several taverns, a considerable number of stores, about a dozen lawyers, and four or five physicians, with little to do, as the country is healthy. There were three religious congregations in the place—Methodists, Roman Catholics and Presbyterians. The town is built on the side hill, in the form of a crescent, on the north side of Fever river, and contains, perhaps, 1,000 inhabitants. It is a seat of justice of Jo Daviess Co., Ill., and is situated in latitude about 42 degrees, 30 minutes north. It contains at all times very large quantities of lead, brought here either as rent to the government, or for sale to the merchants. The superintendent of the mines and his assistant, Maj. Campbell, live here. The latter gentleman and his amiable and interesting lady had been with us on our passage from St. Louis, and they were happy to find themselves at the end of as disagreeable a journey as was ever made on these waters.

Numerous groceries appeared in the town, to us, and two billiard tables were occupied by persons who wished to amuse themselves at billiards.

Mr. James Barnes, formerly of Chillicothe, Ohio, kept an excellent boarding house, and I found many old acquaintances in the town, enjoying the best of health, and they appeared cheerful and happy.

Here we learned that a large body of Indians had already been assembled at Prairie du Chien, for some time, and were in readiness to meet us. Knowing the necessity of supplying them with food, that ours would not reach us for sometime yet, and knowing this to be the last opportunity we should find to purchase any food, we purchased 500 bushels of corn, and loading all we could convey, we left this beautiful town on the next day, and departed for our final destination, where we arrived about the middle of July, 1829.

As soon as we were discovered by our red friends, a few miles below the fort, opposite to their encampment, they fired into the air about 1,500 rifles, to honor us. Our powder had become wet, and, to our extreme mortification and regret, we could not answer them by our cannon. Having fired their arms, some ran on foot, some rode on their small horses furiously along over the prairie to meet us where we landed. Amidst the motley group of thousands, of all ages, sexes, classes of society, colors and conditions of men, women and children, who met us on the wharf—Nawkaw and Hoochopekah, with their families, eagerly seized my hand, and I was happy, indeed, to meet them here. During twenty years I had seen them several times, and they recognized me in a moment, among the crowd, and assured me of their friendship and good wishes. These chiefs of the Winnebagoes and their families pressed around me, and continued close by me until we reached the tavern where we went. There we entered into a long conversation, and they introduced me to their red friends. I assured them of my ardent friendship, and that they and their people should be dealt with, not only justly but liberally; that the President, their great father, was their friend, a warrior like them, and never would do them any injury; that I wished them all to remember what I now told them, and when we finally parted, if my solemn promises thus voluntarily made to them had not been kept to the very letter, I wished them to publicly tell me so. Shaking me heartily by the hand, and assuring me of their friendship, they then appealed to Col. Menard, who heartily agreed with me in assuring them of our good intentions towards them.

Dr. Wolcott, the agent for the Chippewas, Ottawas and Pottawattamies, here met us, and he had been at incredible pains to get his Indians here, where they had been for nearly a month, perhaps. Mr. Kinzy, the sub-agent of the Winnebagoes, whose sub-agency is located at Fort Winnebago, had also come and with

him all the principal persons of that Nation, residing in that direction.

All the Indians with whom we were sent to treat were represented on the ground, and all that was wanting to begin our councils we urged forward with all the energy that the officers of the government and their numerous friends could muster. The next day, in company with Gen. Street, the agent of the Winnebagoes, resident here, several sub-agents and interpreters, I met the principal men of the Winnebagoes, and we impressed upon them the necessity of keeping their young men under subjection, and arranged with them the outlines of the manner in which our business should be conducted. The talk was a long one and occupied the afternoon. Gen. Street was very zealous in the service of the government.

Gen. McNeil and his officers at the fort erected a council shade near the fort and in about three days we were ready to hold a public council, when Dr. Wolcott's Indians informed me that they could not meet in public council until an Indian was buried, and inquired of me if I objected to the burial, to which I replied that I could not object to the burial, certainly. On the next day, to my regret, I learned they would not assemble in council until the Indian was buried, and again inquired whether I was willing to have the person buried, to which question I replied in the affirmative, when I was informed that the relatives of the deceased would not consent to the burial of the murdered person until they had received a horse, as the compensation for his death. Understanding the difficulty at last, the commissioners gave the horse, the deceased was buried and the Indians agreed to meet in council next day.

I took some pains to get the murderer and the relatives of the deceased together in order to have a perfect reconciliation between them. They shook hands very cordially in appearance, but the relatives of the deceased person informed me privately afterwards that, as soon as the murderer got home with his horse and

goods, they would kill him and take his property, which he could better keep than they could until then. If I am correctly informed they did as they assured me they would after their arrival in their own country. So that compounding for the murderer only procrastinated for a time the punishment of the crime.

When everything was in readiness for the opening of the council, the Indians of all the tribes and Nations on the treaty ground attended, and requested to have translated to them, severally, what we said to each tribe, which being assented to on our part, the Winnebagoes, the Chippewas, Ottawas, Pottawattamies, Sioux, Sauks, Foxes and Monomonees, half-breeds, the officers from the fort, the Indian agents, sub-agents, interpreters and a great concourse of strangers from every city in the Union; and even from Liverpool, London and Paris, were in attendance. The commissioners sat on a raised bench facing the Indian chiefs; on each side of them stood the officers of the army in full dress, while the soldiers, in their best attire, appeared in bright array on the sides of the council shade. The ladies belonging to the officers' families, and the best families in the Prairie, were seated directly behind the commissioners, where they could see all that passed and hear all that was said. Behind the principal Indian chiefs sat the common people—first the men, then the women and children, to the number of thousands, who listened in breathless and death-like silence to every word that was uttered. The spectacle was grand and morally sublime in the highest degree to the Nations of red men who were present, and when our proposition to sell all their country to their Father had been delivered to them, they requested an exact copy of it in writing; the request was instantly complied with and the council broke up. The next day we addressed the Winnebagoes, as we had the Chippewas, etc., the day before, and at their request gave them a copy of our speech.

After counciling among themselves, the Chippewas, etc., answered favorably as to a sale, though they would do nothing yet until they had fixed on their terms.

The Winnebagoes appeared in council and delivered many speeches to us. They demanded the \$20,000 worth of goods. "Wipe out your debt," was their reply, "before you run in debt again to us."

Our goods, owing to the low stage of the water, had not arrived yet, and the Indians feared we did not intend to fulfill Gov. Cass' agreement of the year before. When our goods did arrive and they saw them they then changed their tone a little; but in the meantime, great uneasiness existed, and I was often seriously advised by Nawkaw and other friends to go into the fort, as Gen. McNeil had done. Col. Menard's ill health had compelled him to leave the ground and go to Gen. Street's, five miles (the general calls it three) from the council house. Unless we left the ground, we were told by the Winnebagoes, that they "would use a little switch upon us." In plain English, they would assassinate the whole of us out of the fort. Two hundred warriors under Keokuk and Morgan, of Sauks and Foxes, arrived and began their war dance for the United States, and they brought word that thirty steamboats with cannon and United States troops, and 400 warriors of their own, were near at hand. The Winnebagoes were silenced by this intelligence, and by demonstrations, not misunderstood by them.

When Keokuk arrived, he brought two deserters from the garrison here, whom he had made prisoners on his way up the river. Quasquawma and his son-in-law, Tia-ma, came with Keokuk. It was a season of great joy with me, who placed more reliance on these friendly warriors than on all our forces. Good as our officers were, our soldiers of the army were too dissipated and worthless to be relied on one moment. Taking Keokuk aside and alone, I told him in plain English all I wanted of him,

what I would do for him and what I expected from him and his good officers. He replied in good English: "I understand you sir, perfectly, and it shall all be done." It was all done faithfully, and he turned the tide in our favor.

The goods arrived and also our provisions; Col. Menard's and Gen. McNeil's health were restored and they appeared again at the council house and everything wore a new aspect. They approved of all I had done in their temporary absence.

On the 29th of July, 1829, we concluded our treaty with the Chippewas, Ottawas and Pottawattamies.

On the 1st day of August a treaty was concluded with the Winnebagoes.

So the treaties were executed at last, and about 8,000,000 acres of land added to our domain, purchased from the Indians. Taking the three tracts, ceded, and forming one whole, it extends from the upper end of Rock Island to the mouth of the Wisconsin; from latitude 41 degrees, 30 minutes, to latitude 48 degrees, 15 minutes, on the Mississippi. Following the meanderings of the river, it is called 240 miles from south to north. It extends along the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, from west to east, so as to give us a passage across the country from the Mississippi to Lake Michigan. The south part of the purchase extends from Rock Island to Lake Michigan south of the Wisconsin, the Indians now own only reservations where they live, which, as soon as the white people settle on all the ceded lands, will be sold to us, and the Indians will retire above the Wisconsin, or cross the Mississippi, where the bear, the beaver, the deer and the bison invite them. The United States now owns all the country on the east side of the Mississippi, from the Gulf of Mexico to the mouth of the Wisconsin.

When I have crossed Rock river, after having passed over the interior of the ceded country, I will describe it more particularly.

It remains for me to make a few remarks upon the country along the Mississippi from

Fort Edwards upward, and briefly describe Prairie du Chien.

Ascending the Mississippi, the country appeared to rise up out of the river at Fort Edwards, and the hills assume a greater elevation still, at Du Buque's mine and tomb not far from Galena. From thence upwards, the bottom lands are narrow, the river turns towards the northwest and becomes very crooked, bounded by high hills. Cassville, thirty miles below Prairie du Chien, stands on a narrow bottom, where an opening into the mineral country, in the direction of Mineral Point, presents itself. This easy passage down to the river has located a town here of a few houses, consisting of a tavern, a storehouse for the lead, belonging to the United States; and here a government sub-agent to collect and receive the government's share of lead resides, Maj. Beal.

Opposite to the mouth of the Wisconsin stands Pike's hill, lofty and abrupt, and just above this place, on the eastern bank of the river, begins the low prairie ground on which Fort Crawford and the village of Prairie du Chien stand. The town begins to show itself three miles above the Wisconsin, and extends upwards about nine miles, where it ends. The river is full of islands, and when at its highest altitude in a freshet is three miles in width, from hill to hill. Originally settled by the French, it was once a place of some importance, as the remains of old cellars and chimneys show. That importance is no more, and probably never will be again. Overflowed by high waters, and but little good land near it, without waterpower, I see little inducement to build up a town here. On the north side of the Wisconsin there is no land on which a town can be located near the Wisconsin, and the south side is preferable for it, where one will, one day, rise up. The town, though, is a seat of justice for a county of Michigan, and perhaps thirty families, besides those belonging to the garrison, reside here. No Indians reside near

here, and there is no sort of need of nor propriety in having an agency, etc., here for the Winnebagoes, because Fort Winnebago is the proper place for the agency.

Gen. Street, the agent and near relative of Mr. Barry, the postmaster general, is the present agent, and his residence, I consider to be about five miles above the fort, though I am aware that Gen. Street's estimated distance is only three miles.

The water found by digging in this prairie is not always good, and that in our well was the worst I ever tasted, operating upon the bowels like glauber salts, and I suffered excessively from using it. Even the food cooked in it affected me seriously. The well in the fort is better and some persons obtain water from springs in the river when it is low. The river covers all the town and where the fort is in high water. The Mississippi rising late in the season, and subsiding in the summer solstice, this place must be sickly in summer every year, when a freshet takes such a time to appear. In 1829 there was no such rise in the river, of any amount, and the place was healthy.

The only Indians living on this river below this place and near it, are the Sauks and Foxes. The principal town of the former, on the east side of the Mississippi, is situated on the north side of Rock river, near its mouth, and in sight of the Mississippi. Not many years ago this town contained, it is said, 4,000 or 5,000 inhabitants. They have sold all the country east of the river Mississippi, and are withdrawing from it to a new town some ten miles west of the old town, and about the same distance from Rock Island.

The principal town of the Foxes is on the brink of the river near Du Buque's mine, and in sight of his tomb, which is erected on a high hill, where the cross on his grave can be seen from the river to a considerable distance from it. Du Buque was an Indian trader and lived and died here.

The Fox town contains twenty wigwams or upwards, and I presume some 200 Indians. I saw but a few acres of poorly cultivated corn near the town, and the wigwams looked shabby enough. Morgan is the principal warrior of this village, as Keokuk is of the Rock river town.

The Sauks and Foxes were so useful to us as auxiliaries, that I feel grateful to them and make a few remarks on their principal men who were with us.

Keokuk, the principal warrior of the Sauks, is a shrewd, politic man, as well as a brave one, and he possesses great weight of character in their national councils. He is a high-minded, honorable man, and never begs of the whites.

While ascending the Mississippi to join us, at the head of his brave troops, he met, arrested and brought along with him to Fort Crawford, two United States soldiers, who were deserting from the garrison when he met them. I informed him that for this act he was entitled to a bounty in money; to which he proudly replied, that he acted from motives of friendship towards the United states, and would accept no money for it.

Morgan is the principal warrior of the Foxes, and resides at Du Buque's mine on the western bank of the Mississippi. Though less versatility of talent belongs to him than Keokuk possesses, yet he is a brave man and fond of war. More than a year before we were in this country, this Indian general had gone to the Sioux country and killed a woman and three children of that Nation, which act produced the war, then raging between the two Nations. This act has since been dreadfully avenged by a large party, on some twenty individuals of the Foxes.

Tiama, a principal civil chief of the same tribe, is an excellent man, and son-in-law of Quasquawma. Their village is already noticed as being located on the west side of the river, opposite where we lay on an island, at the head of the lower rapids.

Quasquawma was the chief of this tribe once, but being cheated out of the mineral country, as the Indians allege, he was degraded from his rank and his son-in-law, Tiama, elected in his stead. The improvisatori, whose name has escaped my recollection, is a shrewd wit and a very good man, certainly a very amiable and agreeable one. He is highly esteemed by all his people.

Tom, a half-blood, is a great pet among the whites. He speaks prairie-wolf French and a little English, in addition to his knowledge of Indian languages.

Of the above named individuals, and several others belonging to these brave and generous allies, I brought away with me as correct a likeness as I ever saw drawn. Gratitude towards them was my motive for being at the expense of these beautiful paintings which have gone to London a year since. Like many other expenses I was necessarily put to, I have never received even one cent from the government towards them, nor have I received one cent, either for my expenses or my services at St. Louis, the lower rapids, Rock Island or Galena. I say this because it has been stated very differently, even on the floor of the House of Representatives. It is not true that all my expenses were paid by the United States; nor is it true that my services have been paid for by the government at all. In saying this, I do it in justice to myself as I would to do justice to any other injured individual, however humble in the Nation. I am even yet unpaid, but I never will condescend to beg for my pay at the doors of Congress. I did once expect very different treatment from my country.

#### AN INDIAN SCARE.

In 1846 the citizens living contiguous to the Wisconsin river were treated to a genuine Indian scare, and as the Winnebagoes were the supposed enemies, an account in this history is properly given of the event.

In the winter of 1844-5, and while the Legislature of the State was in session at Madison, the

capital, a rumor that an Indian war had broken out, came to the ears of the legislators with a thousand fearful forebodings, and producing intense excitement. At this time the militia laws had all been repealed, probably with a view to counteract the supposed influence of Gov. Doty, and the capital he might have made by the organization of the militia, and the appointment of the officers from among his friends, the majority of the Legislature being opposed to Doty. At this juncture, however, a change in the administration of the general government had changed governors, and Gen. Dodge was again at the helm of the territory. But the law which abolished the militia service with a view to hamper and trammel Doty, was now, in a time of need, found to trammel and hamper Dodge, for though great fear was excited, that plunder and murder would be, or were actually being committed by the Indians, the governor's hands were tied by the law, which he had himself approved. The representations of the Indian disturbances made to the governor he communicated to the Assembly.

The emergency of the case was such as to call the two Houses together at an evening session, to receive the governor's message on the subject, and to devise ways and means for the public defense. And while one was looking at another, at a loss to know what to do, a member penned and offered a bill to repeal the act by which the militia organization had been abolished, and to restore the former laws upon the subject. In offering the bill which contained only a few lines, he moved a suspension of the rules, so that the bill passed at once, and was sent to the council; and by the same process, it was passed there, and in about half an hour from the time it was first offered, the governor had approved of it, and the whole militia of the territory was organized, officers and all, and measures were taken to call out a portion of it, to chastise the supposed marauders, when a second communication to the governor showed that there was no occasion for it.

The first report had grown out of exaggerated statements of some white hunters, who had come in contact with some Indians in the same pursuit, and who probably took some game which the whites would have been glad to have taken; and possibly some pigs had been taken on the credit of the Indians, but this was never proven against them.

By reference to the Legislative journals, it appears that this matter happened on the last evening, Feb. 3, 1846. The governor communicated the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of Muscoda, on the Wisconsin river, in Grant county, dated Sunday night, Feb. 1, 1846, stating as follows: "The citizens of this prairie and surrounding country, having been for the last several months annoyed and harrassed by the depredations of the Winnebago Indians, and submitted to their bullying and insults, have at length been forced to the *dernier* resort; to take up arms for our protection. This evening a skirmish took place between the Indians and the citizens, in which four of the former were severely, if not mortally wounded; and from the known character of the Indians, we may naturally expect more serious consequences to ensue. A true and correct statement of the occurrences of the day is substantially as follows: A number of the Indians came down the north side of the Wisconsin river to Capt. Smith's, and stole his canoe. He discovered them and called to them to bring it back, which they refused to do. The captain, with several other men, came over to this shore, found the Indians who took his boat, and chastised one or two of them with a stick, and in the *melee* one of his men was severely hurt with a club in the hands of one of the Indians. The Indians then ran, and the citizens, a number of whom had by this time collected, followed them a little way and returned. In a short time the Indians came back also. All the citizens having by this time assembled, Capt. James B. Estes and Booth advanced towards them, unarmed, and in a peaceable manner,

making friendly manifestations, all of which time the Indians threatened, by drawing their knives, throwing off their blankets, waving their guns in the air, and pointing them toward the whites. Finding it impossible to pacify or appease them they separated, and in a moment they fired upon the citizens; the next minute their fire was returned, and four of them fell." They then add, that the Indians have sent their runners to collect their scattered bands, and the whites have sent for aid; that they want the governor's assistance, and are determined to kill or drive every Indian on the Wisconsin over the Mississippi; have upwards of forty men under arms, and have chosen James B. Estes for captain.

Gov. Dodge recommended the adoption of a memorial to the secretary of war, asking for a corps of dragoons to protect the frontier settlements. "In the course of half an hour," says the *Madison Argus* of that period, "resolutions were adopted to that effect, and the militia law of the territory revived;" and on the adjournment of the Legislature, the governor set out immediately for the scene of disturbance, but the excitement had died away and no more trouble was apprehended.

#### CONCERNING INDIAN MIGRATION.

[By Alfred Brunson.]

At what period the Chippewas began to occupy that portion of the country south of Lake Superior, and within the ancient limits of Crawford county, it is difficult to ascertain. Their first council fire within these limits was kindled on the Island of Magdalene, now, La Pointe—but when, neither history or their traditions definitely inform us. Whenever it was, the Sioux occupied the main land, and I was shown points and places on the island, as well as on the main land, where the severest of battles were fought between these warlike tribes. From the best date I have the Chippewas were on this island in 1722; for about that time a trading post existed there, and how long previously is not determined. In 1665, the mis-

sionary, Claude Allouez reached Kenenana, and interposed his influence in preventing a party of young warriors from going against the Sioux; from which it would appear that Kenewana was then the western limit of the Chippewas, on the south shore of that lake.\*

After the Chippewas had gained a foothold upon the Magdalene Island, their first move "inland" was towards the head branches of the Chippewa, and resulted in planting a colony at Lake Flambeau. As early as 1659, the Chippewas were near Green bay, and west and north-west of it to the Wisconsin and Lake Superior, from which the Flambeau colony probably received accessions, and by degrees they extended their conquest down the Chippewa, until the the battle field between them and the Sioux was between the falls of Chippewa and Lake Pepin.

In the meantime this warlike and conquering people extended their excursions to the head of the lake, and up the St. Louis river; and passing the falls by a nine mile portage, they continued to ascend that river, and the Savannah branch of it,—and by a five mile portage reached the waters of Sandy Lake, on the Mississippi, where they planted a colony, and this region became the battle ground between them and the Sioux in that direction until the line was pushed down the river to the Sauk rapids. In 1825, when General Cass, as governor of Michigan and superintendent of Indian affairs, had a general congress of Indian Nations at Prairie du Chien, to settle the boundaries of their respective lands, a dispute arose between the Sioux and Chippewas, as to the line between them. The latter claimed to the St. Peter and the Mississippi rivers, while the former claimed to Lake Superior, and averred that their fathers had always occupied and owned the country to that point.

General Cass inquired of the Chippewas, "on what ground they claimed the country, the Sioux having occupied it before the Chippewas came to it." Upon this Hole-in-the-day, then

but a young man, rose and said, "We claim it on the same ground that you claim this country from the King of England—by conquest." "Then," said Governor Cass, "you are entitled to it." One of the most sanguine battles fought between these tribes was at the mouth of the Crow Wing river, as near as I could learn, from Indian tradition, about the year 1768. The battle lasted four days between seventy Chippewas and 400 Sioux, the most of the latter being killed. In 1843 the remains of the fortifications, such as holes dug in the ground, and breast works thrown up by the Chippewas, were plainly visible; and the affair was explained to me by William Aitkin, Esq.

The next Indian occupants of a portion of the soil in this original country, seem to have been the Sacs, (Sauks or Saukies) and the Foxes, the latter called Ottigamies by Carver. At what time they commenced their occupation is uncertain. In 1673, and for some time before, they lived on Fox river, not far from Green bay. But in 1766, Carver found the Sauks at Sauk Prairie, and the Foxes at Prairie du Chien. And, according to his account of the time of building their village—it being thirty years previous to his reaching the place—it must have been as early as 1736, and perhaps earlier. These confederated tribes, who had been like Ishmael, their hands against everybody, and, of course, in self defence, everybody's hand against them, were driven from the St. Lawrence step by step, until they were reduced in numbers, and compelled to unite their fragments of bands for mutual defence and self-protection, and settle on Fox river, fifty miles from Green bay, where in 1706, they were defeated by the French and some allied Indians, who killed and took most of them prisoners.\* It is probable that soon after this event they moved over upon the Wisconsin river, and wrested the country from the Sioux, with whom and the Chippewas they kept a continual war, until, as Black Hawk says, in his life by Le

\*Banerofts page 150.

\*Carver's Travels, p 45.



Clerc, they discovered the beautiful country on Rock river, the occupants of which were weak and unable to defend themselves. Of this country they took possession, driving off the former occupants. This being the way this banded confederated tribe got possession of the countries they occupied, we can have the less pity for them, even if their sorrowful story of frauds practiced upon them by the whites were true.

Somewhere between 1706 and 1736, they must have moved to the Wisconsin; and they were there as late as 1790, as I was informed by Michael Cadotte, who showed me mounds with holes in them for breast works, about five miles north of the falls of Chippewa river, which were made by the Sauc and Foxes when warring against the Chippewas. The chief of the Foxes, who was first found by the whites at Prairie du Chien, was named Dog; and the prairie upon which he built his town, was called his, or Dog's prairie.

After the Sauks and Foxes left the Wisconsin and the country north of it, and took up their abode on Rock river and west of the Mississippi, the Winnebagoes moved from the vicinity of the lake of their name, to the country vacated by the former; at what date is uncertain. But as the Sauks and Foxes were here in 1790, and not here in 1805 when Lient. Pike ascended the river, the Winnebagoes came here probably about the beginning of the present century. At this period the Sioux, Chippewas and Winnebagoes, were the occupants of the soil as hunting grounds. The Menomonees claiming a part of the country west of the Wisconsin, and above the Portage. In 1825 the metes and bounds of these respective claimants were settled, in a general council of all the tribes within reach; and continued so until 1837, when the Sioux and Winnebagoes sold out to the United States all of their claims east of the Mississippi, and the Chippewas sold all they claimed to it, south of 46 deg. north latitude. And within ten years the Chippewas and Menomonees have sold out the remainder of

their claims, so that the Indian title to the soil is now fully extinguished.

#### OF EARLY INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The fur traders and missionaries were attracted to this distant quarter by nothing save the Indian settlements. There was at first no habitation of the red men at Prairie du Chien or in that immediate neighborhood. The Foxes, the Miamis, Kickapoos and Mascoutins were confederate tribes, seated east of the portage of the Wisconsin. The Sioux and Iowa tribes, somewhat similarly allied, were above and across the great river. Between these two confederations there was a continual warfare, which kept a large district of country between them unoccupied and uninhabitable. It was a war party of Sioux, in pursuit of the Miamis, that took Hennepin prisoner. Perrot, in 1685, with difficulty prevented the capture of his post near Lake Pepin by an expedition of Foxes and their allies, who designed turning his ammunition against their hereditary enemies. The journal of Le Sueur gives further incidents of a similar nature.

The region about the mouth of the Wisconsin was notoriously infested by predatory bands and warlike expeditions from one side or the other. The efforts of the French to establish a trade with the Sioux were met at first by remonstrances from the Foxes, because their sanguinary enemies were thus supplied with fire arms and ammunition. Being unheeded, they determined to close the road to the Mississippi by way of the Wisconsin, which lay through their country, and visit vengeance upon all who attempted to pass that way. This was so far effectual, as early as 1699, that none ventured to take that route if they could avoid it. The French endeavored to chastise and bring these troublesome people to terms, and a long period of bloody opposition followed. Laperriere's expedition made its way to the Mississippi during a lull in the hostilities; their revival caused the abandonment of the enterprise, as already stated. Finally, the greater portion

of the Fox tribe, if not all, withdrew from the river, which bears their name, and established themselves in the valley of the Wisconsin, about its mouth, somewhere near 1750.

Thus, instead of being attracted to the shores in this derelict region, the *voyageurs* and traders avoided them as much as possible, whenever they traveled the dangerous route. The licensed traders were attached to the interests of the government and made instruments of extending its territorial jurisdiction by being given a sort of *quasi* military command over their employes, and at places convenient for their traffic, erected block houses or stockades, which they held in the name of the king, at their own expense. These were the only posts or garrisons ever established by the French west of Green bay. There was no inducement whatever for such a post in the vicinity of the Prairie. The reference in Perrot's official minute indited at Green bay, in 1689, to the trader, De Borie Guillot, as commanding the French in the neighborhood of the Wisconsin on the Mississippi, has been assumed as evidence of the existence at that time of a post at Prairie du Chien. With reference to this assumption, it is only necessary to remark that the Iowas were the only Indians seated in the neighborhood, and they were upon the opposite side of the Mississippi, about Yellow river. If that trader had any established post, which is altogether improbable, it is neither designated by name or locality, nor referred to in any way.\*

At the beginning of the war between France and Great Britain, in 1754, the former made

\*In a subsequent chapter, the question as to whether there was ever a French fort at Prairie du Chien, is fully discussed.

peace with the Foxes, some of whom subsequently enlisted under their banner. This reconciliation and the establishment of that tribe at the mouth of the Wisconsin, by opening the way for the traders, made an entire change in affairs. The place is now heard of for the first time, as the seat of a village of the Foxes, known among the traders by a name derived from that of their principal chief, Alim, or in the French language, Chien, the dog; hence, La Prairie les Chiens, signifying the Prairie of the Dogs, which has been modified to its present form, Prairie du Chien. There was no effort, however, to extend the authority of France in this direction; its attention was withdrawn and its energies concentrated to retain possession of Canada, and with the surrender of that province to the British, in 1760, all its claims upon the northwest, as far as the Mississippi, were totally abandoned.

In 1781 the Foxes sold the prairie at the mouth of the Wisconsin to some Canadian-French traders, and subsequently vacated their village, but at what precise date cannot be determined. Their withdrawal, doubtless, occurred within a few years in the course of the general migration of that Nation, by which its occupancy of the region upon the north side of the Wisconsin was abandoned, and its southern borders extended to Rock Island. It should be remarked, however, that their bands frequented the place as long as it continued to be a place of resort for the neighboring Indian tribes for purposes of trade. The country abandoned by them was soon occupied by the Winnebagoes, from Chippewa river to the Wisconsin, except that they laid no claim to the prairie.

## CHAPTER IV.

## EARLY EXPLORATIONS.

The territory now included within the limits of Crawford county, was first visited along its southern border in 1673 by Frenchmen, from the river St. Lawrence, in Canada. The first to approach this region of country was John Nicolet, in 1634, who came no nearer than to the village of the Mascoutins, on Fox river, supposed to have been located somewhere on that stream within the present boundaries of Green Lake Co., Wis. A Jesuit missionary, in 1670, also visited the Mascoutins. His name was Claude Allouez; but he came no nearer what is now Crawford county, than did Nicolet, in 1634.

## EXPEDITION OF LOUIS JOLIET.

In 1673, Louis Joliet, accompanied by a missionary, James Marquette, and five other Frenchmen, ascended the Fox river to the portage, now Portage, Columbia Co., Wis.; crossed over to the Wisconsin river and dropped down that river to its mouth. Thence, Joliet journeyed down the Mississippi.

In the month of June, 1673, two frail birch-bark canoes glided down the current of the Wisconsin river. It was the first time the ripples on its broad bosom were stirred by the oar of a white man. The canoes bore Louis Joliet and Father James Marquette with five attendants in quest of the great river toward the west, of which the French on the upper lakes had heard from the Indians. On the seventeenth of the month (corresponding to the twenty-eighth, new style), their eager eyes beheld the Mississippi. They entered its current, as the missionary relates, turned their canoes into its channel, and with joy inexpressible, let their canoes gent-

ly glide with the water, while they sounded its depths. They observed, attentively, the peculiarities of the majestic river and the surrounding scenery as they proceeded on their voyage. Marquette's account is silent respecting the vicinity of Prairie du Chien, doubtless because everything in that direction was hidden from observation by a belt of woodland that formerly skirted the Wisconsin.

He says:

"We knew that there was, three leagues from Maskoutins, a river emptying into the Mississippi; we knew too, that the point of the compass we were to hold to reach it, was the west-south-west; but the way is so cut up by marshes and little lakes, that it is easy to go astray, especially as the river leading to it is so covered with wild oats, that you can hardly discover the channel. Hence, we had good need of our two guides, who led us safely to a portage of 2,700 paces, and helped us to transport our canoes to enter this river, after which they returned, leaving us alone in an unknown country in the hands of Providence.

"We now leave the waters which flow to Quebec, a distance of 400 or 500 leagues, to follow those which will henceforth lead us into strange lands. Before embarking, we all began together a new devotion to the Blessed Virgin Immaculate, which we practiced every day, addressing her particular prayers to put under her protection both our persons and the success of our voyage. Then after having encouraged one another, we got into our canoes. The river on which we embarked is called the Meskonsing; it

is very broad, with a sandy bottom, forming many shallows, which rendered navigation very difficult. It is full of vine-clad islets. On the banks appear fertile lands diversified with wood, prairie and hill. Here you find oaks, walnut, whitewood, and another kind of tree with branches armed with long thorns. We saw no small game or fish, but deer and moose in considerable numbers.

“Our route was southwest, and after sailing about thirty leagues, we perceived a place which had all the appearances of an iron mine, and in fact, one of our party who had seen some before, averred that the one we had found was very good and very rich. It is covered with three feet of good earth, very near a chain of rock, whose base is covered with fine timber. After forty leagues on the same route, we reached the mouth of our river, and finding ourselves at 42½ deg. north, we safely entered the Mississippi on the 17th of June, with a joy that I cannot express.”

Louis Joliet, with his companion James Marquette, and the five other Frenchmen were the first white men who ever set foot upon any part of what is now Crawford county.

The next visit of any white men to Crawford county was in 1680, upon the

#### EXPEDITION OF MICHAEL ACCAU.

In 1680 La Salle, who was then on the Illinois river, was desirous to have the Mississippi explored above the point where it was first seen by Joliet; that is, above the mouth of the Wisconsin river; so he dispatched one Michael Accau, on an expedition thither; with him were Antoine Auguel and the Rev. Louis Hennepin, a recollect friar. The party proceeded down the Illinois river in April and up the Mississippi river. They were the second white men who ever saw any portion of what is, at this time, Crawford county, or who set foot upon its territory. This was in May, 1680. The leader of this party was Accau; Father Louis Hennepin wrote the account here given. It was first published in 1683.

“We set out from Fort Creve Cœur [on the Illinois river] the 29th of February, 1680, and toward evening, while descending the river Seignelay [Illinois] we met on our way several parties from Illinois returning to their village in their periaguas or gondolas loaded with meat. They would have obliged us to return, our two boatmen were strongly influenced, but as they would have had to pass by Fort Creve Cœur, where our Frenchmen would have stopped them, we pursued our way the next day, and my two men afterward confessed the design which they had entertained.

“The river Seignelay on which we were sailing, is as deep and broad as the Seine at Paris, and in two or three places widens out to a quarter of a league. It is skirted by hills, whose sides are covered with fine, large trees. Some of these hills are half a league apart, leaving between them a marshy strip, often inundated, especially in the autumn and spring, but producing, nevertheless, very large trees. On ascending these hills you discover prairies further than the eye can reach, studded, at intervals, with groves of tall trees, apparently planted there intentionally. The current of the river is not perceptible, except in time of great rains; it is at all times navigable for large barks about a hundred leagues, from its mouth to the Illinois village, whence its course almost always runs south by west.

“On the 7th of March we found, about two leagues from its mouth, a Nation called Tamara, or Maroa, composed of 200 families. They would have taken us to their village lying west of the river Colbert, six or seven leagues below the mouth of the river Seignelay; but our two canoemen, in hopes of still greater gain, preferred to pass on, according to the advice I then gave them. These last Indians seeing that we carried iron and arms to their enemies, and unable to overtake us in their periaguas, which are wooden canoes, much heavier than our bark one, which went much faster than their boats, dispatched some of their young men after us

by land, to pierce us with their arrows at some narrow part of the river, but in vain; for soon discovering the fire made by these warriors at their ambuscade, we promptly crossed the river, gained the other side, and encamped on an island, leaving our canoe loaded and our little dog to wake us, so as to embark more expeditiously, should the Indians attempt to surprise us by swimming across.

“Soon after leaving these Indians, we came to the mouth of the river Seignelay, fifty leagues distant from Fort Creve Cœur, and about 100 leagues from the great Illinois village. It lies between 36 deg. and 37 deg. north latitude, and consequently 120 or thirty leagues from the Gulf of Mexico.

“In the angle formed on the south by this river, at its mouth, is a flat precipitous rock, about forty feet high, very well suited for building a fort. On the northern side, opposite the rock, and on the west side beyond the river, are fields of black earth, the end of which you can not see, all ready for cultivation, which would be very advantageous for the existence of a colony. The ice which floated down from the north kept us in this place till the 12th of March, whence we continued our route, traversing the river and sounding on all sides to see whether it was navigable. There are, indeed, three islets in the middle, near the mouth of the river Seignelay, which stop the floating wood and trees from the north and form several large sand-bars, yet the channels are deep enough, and there is sufficient water for barks; large flat-boats can pass there at all times.

“The river Colbert [Mississippi] runs south-southwest, and comes from the north and northwest; it runs between two chains of mountains, very small here, which wind with the river, and in some places are pretty far from the banks, so that between the mountains and the river there are large prairies, where you often see herds of wild cattle browsing. In other places these eminences leave semi-circular spots covered with grass or wood. Beyond these

mountains you discover vast plains, but the more we approached the northern side ascending, the earth did not appear to us so fertile, nor the woods so beautiful as in the Illinois country.

“This great river is almost everywhere a short league in width, and in some places, two leagues; it is divided by a number of islands covered with trees, interlaced with so many vines as to be almost impassable. It receives no considerable river on the western side except that of the Olontenta and another, which comes from the west-northwest, seven or eight leagues from the Falls of St. Anthony, of Padua. On the eastern side you meet first an inconsiderable river, and then further on another, called by the Indians Ouisconsin, or Wisconsin, which comes from the east and east-northeast. Sixty leagues up you leave it, and make a portage of half a league to reach the bay of the Puans [Green bay] by another river which, near its source, meanders most curiously. It is almost as broad as the river Seignelay, or Illinois, and empties into the river Colbert, 100 leagues above the river Seignelay.

“Twenty-four leagues above, you come to the Black river, called by the Nadouessians [Sioux], or Islati, Chabadeba, or Chabaondeba, it seems inconsiderable. Thirty leagues higher up, you find the Lake of Tears [Pepin], which we so named because the Indians who had taken us, wishing to kill us, some of them wept the whole night, to induce the others to consent to our death. This lake which is formed by the river Colbert, is seven leagues long and about four wide; there is no considerable current in the middle that we could perceive, but only at its entrance and exit. Half a league below the Lake of Tears, on the south side, is Buffalo river, full of turtles. It is so called by the Indians on account of the numbers of buffalo found there. We followed it for ten or twelve leagues; it empties with rapidity into the river Colbert, but as you ascend it, it is always gentle and free from

rapids. It is skirted by mountains, far enough off in some places to form prairies. The mouth is wooded on both sides, and is full as wide as that of the Seignelay."

#### EXPEDITION OF DULUTH.

The next expedition independent of that of Accau, and down the Mississippi from the St. Croix to the Wisconsin river, and, therefore, along the western border of what is now Crawford county, was that of Daniel Greysolon Duluth, generally known as Duluth. He and some companions, in 1680, made the journey across from Lake Superior to the Mississippi by way of Bois Brule river and the St. Croix. Upon reaching the Mississippi, he learned the fact that some Frenchmen had passed up and had been robbed and carried off by the Sioux. This was Accau and his party. These, however, he finally induced the Indians to liberate, and the whole party floated down the river to the mouth of the Wisconsin, returning by that stream to Mackinaw.

#### THE MISSISSIPPI VISITED BY LE SUEUR.

LeSueur, a Frenchman, passed up the Mississippi from the mouth of the Wisconsin in 1683; but of this voyage we have no account, only that he was on his way to the Sioux country.

#### PERROT'S VOYAGE TO THE WEST.

Nicholas Perrot was the next to ascend the Mississippi; and his was the fourth expedition that had floated along the western border of what is now Crawford county. This was in 1684. Perrot had been appointed by the governor of Canada to command in the west, leaving Montreal with twenty men. His object was the establishing of a post on the Mississippi. He proceeded from the St. Lawrence to Green bay, and up the Fox river to the Portage; thence down the Wisconsin and up the Mississippi to Lake Pepin, on the east side of which, near its mouth, he erected a stockade.

The next year he prevented with a good deal of difficulty the capture of his post by the Fox Indians and their allies. He passed the winter

of 1685-6 in his stockade, and then returned to Green bay by the same route traveled by him when going out. In 1688 he again ascended the Mississippi from the mouth of the Wisconsin to the mouth of the St. Peters, and returned by the same route to Green bay. This ended the explorations of Perrot in the valley of the Mississippi.

#### LE SUEUR AGAIN ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

In the year 1700 the fifth explorer ascended the Mississippi. His name was Le Sueur, the same who had seventeen years before been among the Sioux. From the 1st of September until the 5th he advanced but fourteen leagues. It is probable he landed several times in what is now Crawford county. Le Sueur was the last to ascend the Mississippi until 1727, when Sieur La Perriere attempted a renewal of the fur trade which the governor of Canada had resolved to abandon west of Mackinaw, some time previous.

#### LA PERRIERE BUILDS A FORT ON LAKE PEPIN.

"Fort Beauharnais," on Lake Pepin, was erected by La Perriere, but it was not long occupied as a military post. The same year, a Jesuit missionary, Louis Ignatius Guignas, attempted to found a mission among the Sioux on the upper Mississippi, passing up the river for that purpose to Fort Beauharnais, but it proved a failure. He was on the Mississippi again in 1736, and at Lake Pepin, with M. de St. Pierre, but of his latter voyage little is known. From this time until the war of 1758-60, between France and Great Britain, French traders at intervals passed up the Mississippi; but during that conflict the river was totally abandoned by Frenchmen.

#### THE JOURNEY OF JONATHAN CARVER.

The first to ascend the river after Great Britain had assumed control of the country, was Jonathan Carver. In 1766 he reached the mouth of the Wisconsin, just above which he found an Indian village called LaPrairies les Chiens by the French, the site of the present village of Prairie du Chien, in Crawford Co.,



*William D. Merrill*





Wis. It was inhabited by the Fox Indians. He says the name meant Dog Plains.

"It ('Prairies les Chiens') is a large town and contains about 300 families; the houses are well built after the Indian manner, and pleasantly situated on a very rich soil, from which they raise every necessary of life in great abundance. I saw here many horses of a good size and shape. This town is the great mart where all the adjacent tribes, and even those who inhabit the most remote branches of the Mississippi, annually assemble about the latter end of May, bringing with them their furs to dispose of to the traders. But it is not always that they conclude their sale here; this is determined by a general council of the chiefs, who consult whether it would be more conducive to their interest to sell their goods at this place, or carry them on to Louisiana or Michillimackinac. According to the decision of this council they either proceed further, or return to their different homes.

"The Mississippi, at the entrance of the Wisconsin, near which stands a mountain of considerable height, is about half a mile over; but opposite to the last mentioned town it appears to be more than a mile wide, and full of islands, the soil of which is extraordinarily rich, and but thinly wooded.

"A little further to the west, on the contrary side, a small river flows into the Mississippi, which the French call *Le Jann Riviere*, or the Yellow river. I then bought a canoe, and with two servants, one a French Canadian, and the other a Mohawk of Canada, on the 19th proceeded up the Mississippi." \* \* \*

"About sixty miles below this lake is a mountain remarkably situated; for it stands by itself exactly in the middle of the river, and looks as if it had slidden from the adjacent shore into the stream. It cannot be termed an island, as it rises immediately from the brink of the water to a considerable height. Both the Indians and the French call it the mountain in the river.

"One day, having landed on the shore of the Mississippi, some miles below Lake Pepin, whilst my attendants were preparing my dinner, I walked out to take a view of the adjacent country. I had not proceeded far before I came to a fine, level, open plain, on which I perceived at a little distance a partial elevation that had the appearance of an intrenchment. On a nearer inspection I had greater reason to suppose that it had really been intended for this many centuries ago. Notwithstanding it was now covered with grass, I could plainly discern that it had once been a breast work of about four feet in height, extending the best part of a mile, and sufficiently capacious to cover 5,000 men. Its form was somewhat circular, and its flanks reached to the river. Though much defaced by time, every angle was distinguishable, and appeared as regular, and fashioned with as much military skill, as if planned by Vauban himself. The ditch was not visible, but I thought on examining more curiously, that I could perceive there certainly had been one. From this situation also I am convinced that it must have been for this purpose. It fronted the country, and the rear was covered by the river; nor was there any rising ground for a considerable way that commanded it; a few straggling oaks were alone to be seen near it. In many places small tracks were across it by the feet of the elk and deer, and from the depth of the bed of earth by which it was covered, I was able to draw certain conclusions of its great antiquity. I examined all the angles and every part with great attention and have often blamed myself since for not encamping on the spot, and drawing an exact plan of it. To show that this description is not the offspring of a heated imagination, or the chimerical tale of a mistaken traveler, I find on inquiry since my return, that Mons St. Pierre, and several traders, have, at different times, taken notice of similar appearances, on which they have formed the same conjectures, but without examining them so minutely as I did.

How a work of this kind could exist in a country that has hitherto (according to the general received opinion) been the seat of war to untutored Indians alone, whose whole stock of military knowledge has only, till within two-centuries, amounted to drawing the bow, and whose only breast work even at present is the thicket, I know not. I have given as exact an account as possible of this singular appearance, and leave to future explorers of these distant regions to discover whether it is a production of nature or art. Perhaps the hints I have here given might lead to a more perfect investigation of it, and give us very different ideas of the ancient state of realms that we at present believe to have been from the earliest periods only in the inhabitations of savages.

“The Mississippi below this lake flows with a gentle current, but the breadth of it very uncertain, in some places being upward of a mile, in others not more than a quarter. This river has a range of mountains on each side throughout the whole of the way, which in particular parts approach near to it, in others lie at a greater distance. The land betwixt the mountains, and on their sides, is generally covered with grass, with a few groves of trees interspersed, near which large droves of deer and elk are frequently seen feeding. In many places pyramids of rocks appeared, resembling old ruinous towers; at other amazing precipices, and what is very remarkable, whilst this scene presented itself on one side, the opposite side of the same mountain was covered with the finest herbage, which gradually ascended to its summit. From thence the most beautiful and extensive prospect that imagination can form opens to your view. Verdant plains, fruitful meadows, numerous islands, and all these abounding with a variety of trees that yield amazing quantities of fruit, without care or cultivation, such as the nut-tree, the maple which produces sugar, vines loaded with rich grapes, and plum trees bending under their blooming burdens; but above all, the fine river flow-

ing gently beneath, and reaching as far as the eye can extend, by turns attract your attention and excite your wonder.”

The following excellent summary of explorations from DuLuth to Carver, is from the Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wisconsin of 1878:

“In 1680, the trader DuLuth was at the head of Lake Superior; and at the same time, LaSalle was on the Illinois river. The latter dispatched Father Louis Hennepin, with two companions to explore that river to its mouth. From this point they turned their canoe up the Mississippi, and fell into the hands of the Sioux, who led them captive to their home above the falls of St. Anthony, where they passed the winter. The following summer, 1681, Hennepin represented to his captors that he expected a party of Frenchmen at the Wisconsin with merchandise, which induced them to set out in canoes to meet the traders, the Father being permitted to follow. The party in advance, upon reaching the Wisconsin and finding no Frenchmen, retraced their course and met their prisoner with severe reproaches for deceiving them. DuLuth, hearing of these men, descended the St. Croix with five attendants and joined them on the Mississippi, whereupon taking Hennepin under his protection, the whole party proceeded down the Mississippi and by way of the Wisconsin to Green bay, stopping within a day or two’s journey of the Wisconsin, to smoke some meat.

“Nicholas Perrot proceeded by this route to visit the Sioux in 1683. He was at the time, or soon afterward, commissioned by the governor of Canada to manage the interests of commerce from Green bay westward. He built a small log fort nearly opposite the mouth of Chippewa river, which he appears to have made his winter headquarters for several years. It was called the post of the Nadouessioux (Sioux). De Borie Guillot is mentioned by Charlevoix as trading near the Mississippi, whence he was recalled in 1687; and is cited by Perrot as commanding the French traders in the neighbor-

hood of the Wisconsin on the Mississippi. Le Sueur, in 1683, descended the Wisconsin and ascended the Mississippi to the Sioux in the region about St. Anthony, with whom he continued to trade at intervals until 1702. His last voyage was made from Louisiana, the governor of Canada refusing permission, having resolved to abandon the country west of Mackinaw. An attempt was made to renew the traffic with the Sioux by this route in 1727 by an expedition under the Sieur de LaPerriere, which established a post and erected a stockade on the north side of Lake Pepin. The traders reached this point at intervals for a few years; after which, it was entirely abandoned. These are all the trustworthy accounts given of this region during the French domination in the northwest. They show that the waters of the Wisconsin and the Mississippi were traversed at intervals, but do not indicate that the locality of Prairie du Chien was visited or attracted any attention. This may be explained in connection with the causes that subsequently brought it into notice.

"In 1766, Jonathan Carver visited this region with a view of ascertaining favorable situations for new settlements, and is the first traveler who mentions Prairie du Chien. He set out from Mackinaw, the most remote British post in the northwest, in the month of September, in the company of some traders. In passing down the Wisconsin, he observed upon the right bank about five miles above its mouth, at the eastern base of a pyramid of rocks, the ruins of a village of the Foxes, which had been abandoned for the better location at the Prairie du Chien. Here he found about 300 families in houses well built after the Indian manner, and pleasantly situated on a very rich soil, from which the necessaries of life were raised in abundance. The occupants had many horses of good size and shape. The peculiarities of the location are remarked, and the place is described as a summer resort for traders, who were met here annually about the month of May, by a

large assemblage of the Indian tribes, both near and remote, with furs to dispose of, so that it had become a trading mart of considerable importance. While here, the different tribes, even though at war with each other, refrained from any acts of hostility, a voluntary agreement which they ever afterward observed. Sometimes, however, they proceeded to Mackinaw or Louisiana before disposing of their furs. In Carver's faithful and minute narrative, no mention is made of any French settlement or other white residents, or of fortifications, from which circumstance it is highly probable that there were none in existence. His book did not induce the progress of settlement into this region, and the British outposts were advanced no further than Mackinaw, consequently, Prairie du Chien is not again brought in notice by accounts of that period, until 1780. In June of that year, the traders had collected a lot of peltries, and deposited them at the Prairie, in charge of Charles de Langlade, a noted trader of Green Bay and Mackinaw. The American forces then occupied Illinois, and hearing reports that they were intending the capture of Prairie du Chien, the commandant at Mackinaw, sent forward an expedition to bring away the stores, in charge of John Long, lieutenant in a company of traders enrolled as militia at that post. The party consisting of twenty Canadians, and thirty-six of the Fox and Sioux tribes, proceeded in nine large birch canoes, laden with presents for the Indians at the village. Arriving on the seventh day at the mouth of the Wisconsin, they found there an array of 200 Foxes on horseback, armed with spears, bows and arrows, who at first did not seem pleased with the visitors, but after a short parley, conducted them to their village, and feasted them upon dog, bear, beaver, deer, mountain cat, and raccoon, boiled in bear's grease, and mixed with huckleberries. A council was then held, the presents were distributed, the chiefs assented to the removal of the peltries, and the visitors re-entered their canoes and moved up to the place of deposit, a

log house, where they found Capt. Langlade. Three hundred packs of the peltries were placed in the canoes, the remainder, some sixty in number, they were unable to store away, and therefore burned, after which they returned to Mackinaw. The Americans never came, as anticipated. The narrative shows no material change in the place, or the course of trade since Carver's visit, except that the traders from the lakes had erected a building, in which their furs could be temporarily lodged and guarded."

We find no further accounts of visits of travelers until 1780. At that date Capt. J. Long while at Mackinaw was sent by the commanding officer to accompany a party of Indians and Canadians to the Mississippi. Information had been received at Mackinaw that the Indian traders had deposited their furs at Prairie du Chien, where there was a town of considerable note, built under the command of Mons. Langlade, the King's interpreter, and the object of the expedition was to secure these furs and keep them from the Americans. Capt. Long left Mackinaw with thirty-six Indians of the Outagamies and Sioux, twenty Canadians in nine large birch canoes, laden with Indian presents. The party arrived at Green Bay in four days and proceeded through the Fox and Wisconsin rivers to the forks of the Mississippi where he met 200 of the Fox Indians, and had a feast of five Indian dogs, bear, beaver, deer, mountain cat and raccoon boiled in bear's grease and mixed with huckleberries! He proceeded to Prairie du Chien where he found the merchants peltries in packs in a log house, guarded by Capt. Langlade and some Indians. He took 300 packs of the best skins and filled the canoes. Sixty more were burnt to prevent the enemy (the Americans) from taking them. He then returned to Green Bay (in seventeen days) and thence to Mackinaw.

Capt. Long's account of this trip written by himself will be found in full in a subsequent chapter.

It was nearly forty years subsequent to Carver's visit before the Mississippi was ascended by any one who left a record of his journey. In 1805 Maj. Z. M. Pike made a reconnoissance up the river. We give his description of what he saw as he passed from a point below the mouth of the Wisconsin up to "a prairie called La Crosse:"

Sept. 2, [1805], Monday.—After making two short reaches, we commenced one, which is thirty miles in length, the wind serving, we just made it; and encamped on the east side opposite to the mouth of Turkey river. In the course of the day, we landed to shoot at pigeons; the moment a gun was fired, some Indians, who were on the shore above us, ran down and put off in their perouques with great precipitation; upon which Mr. Blondeau informed me, that all the women and children were frightened at the very name of an American boat, and that the men held us in great respect, conceiving us very quarrelsome, and much for war, and also very brave. This information I used as prudence suggested. We stopped at an encampment, about three miles below the town, where they gave us some excellent plums. They dispatched a perouque to the village, to give notice, as I supposed, of our arrival. It commenced raining about dusk, and rained all night. Distance, forty miles.

September 3, Tuesday.—Embarked at a pretty early hour. Cloudy. Met two perouques of family Indians; they at first asked Mr. Blondeau, "if we were for war, or if going to war?" I now experienced the good effect of having some person on board who could speak their language; for they presented me with three pair of ducks and a quantity of venison, sufficient for all our crew, one day; in return, I made them some trifling presents. Afterwards met two perouques, carrying some of the warriors spoken of on the 2d inst. They kept at a great distance, until spoken to by Mr. Blondeau, when they informed him that their party had proceeded up as high as Lake Pepin, with

out effecting anything. It is surprising what a dread the Indians in this quarter have of the Americans. I have often seen them go around islands, to avoid meeting my boat. It appears to me evident, that the traders have taken great pains to impress upon the minds of the savages, the idea of our being a very vindictive, ferocious and warlike people. This impression was perhaps made with no good intention; but when they find that our conduct towards them is guided by magnanimity and justice, instead of operating in an injurious manner, it will have the effect to make them reverence, at the same time they fear us. Distance, twenty-five miles.

“September 4th, Wednesday.—Breakfasted just below the mouth of the Wisconsin. Arrived at the Prairie Les Chiens about 11 o'clock; took quarters at Capt. Fishers, and were politely received by him and Mr. Frazer.

“September 5th, Thursday.—Embarked about half past 10 o'clock in a Schenectady boat, to go to the mouth of the Wisconsin, in order to take the latitude, and look at the situation of the adjacent hills for a post. Was accompanied by Judge Fisher, Mr. Frazer and Mr. Woods. We ascended the hill on the west side of the Mississippi, and made a choice of a spot which I thought most eligible, being level on the top, having a spring in the rear, and commanding a view of the country around. A shower of rain came on which wet us, and we returned to the village without having ascended the Wisconsin as we intended. Marked four trees with A, B, C, D, and squared the sides of one in the center. Wrote to the General.

“September 6th, Friday.—Had a small council with the Puants and Winnebagoes; and a chief of the lower band of the Sioux. Visited and laid out a position for a post, on a hill called Petit Gris, on the Wisconsin, three miles above its mouth. Mr. Fisher accompanied me; was taken very sick, in consequence of drinking some water out of the Wisconsin. The Puants never have any white interpreters, nor have the

Folle Avoine (Menomonee) Nation. In my council I spoke to a Frenchman, he to a Sioux, who interpreted to some of the Puants.

“September 7th, Saturday.—My men beat all the villagers hopping and jumping. Began to load my new boats.

“September 8th, Sunday.—Embarked at half past 11 o'clock in two bateaux. The wind fair and fresh. I found myself very much embarrassed and cramped in my new boats, with provision and baggage. I embarked two interpreters, one to perform the whole voyage, whose name was Pierre Rosseau, and the other named Joseph Reinulle, paid by Mr. Frazer to accompany me as high as the Falls of St. Anthony. Mr. Frazer is a young gentleman, clerk to Mr. Blakely, of Montreal; he was born in Vermont, but has latterly resided in Canada. To the attention of this gentleman I am much indebted; he procured for me everything in his power that I stood in need of; dispatched his bark canoes and remained himself to go on with me. His design was to winter with some of the Sioux bands. We sailed well, came eighteen miles and encamped on the west bank. I must not omit here to bear testimony to the politeness of all the principal inhabitants of the village. There is, however, a material distinction to be made in the nature of those attentions. The kindness of Messrs. Fisher, Frazer and Woods (all Americans), seemed to be the spontaneous effusions of good will, and partiality to their countrymen; it extended to the accommodation, convenience, exercises and pastimes of my men; and whenever they proved superior to the French openly showed their pleasure. But the French Canadians appeared attentive, rather from their natural good manners, the sincere friendship; however, it produced from them the same effect that natural good-will did in others.

“September 9th, Monday.—Embarked early. Dined at Cape Garlic or at Garlic river, after which we came on to an island on the east side about five miles below the river Iowa, and

encamped. Rained before sunset. Distance twenty-eight miles.

“September 10th, Tuesday.—Rain still continuing, we remained at our camp. Having shot at some pigeons, the report was heard at the Sioux lodges; when La Yieulle sent down six of his young men to inform me that he had waited three days with meat, etc., but last night they had began to drink, and, that on the next day he would receive me with his people sober. I returned him for answer, that the season was advanced, that time was pressing, and that if the rain ceased, I must go on. Mr. Frazer and the interpreter went home with the Indians. We embarked about 1 o'clock. Frazer returning, informed me that the chief acquiesced in my reasons for pressing forward, but that he had prepared a pipe (by way of letter) to present me, to show to all the Sioux above, with a message to inform them that I was a chief of their new fathers, and that he wished me to be treated with friendship and respect. \* \* \* We embarked about half past 3 o'clock, came three miles and encamped on the west side. Mr. Frazer we left behind, but he came up with his two pirogues about dusk. It commenced raining very hard. In the night a pirogue arrived at the lodges at his camp. During our stay at their camp, there were soldiers appointed to keep the crowd from my boats. At my departure their soldiers said: As I had shaken hands with their chief, they must shake hands with my soldiers. In which request I willingly indulged them.

“September 11th, Wednesday.—Embarked at 7 o'clock, although raining. Mr. Frazer's canoes also came on until 9 o'clock. Stopped for breakfast and made a fire. Mr. Frazer staid with me, and finding his pirogues not quite able to keep up, he dispatched them. We embarked; came on until near 6 o'clock, and encamped on the west side. Saw nothing of his pirogues after they left us. Supposed to have come sixteen miles this day. Rain and cold winds, all day ahead. The river has never been

clear of islands since I left Prairie les Chiens. I absolutely believe it, here, to be two miles wide. Hills, or rather prairie knobs, on both sides.

“September 12th, Thursday. It raining very hard in the morning, we did not embark until 10 o'clock, Mr. Frazer's pirogues then coming up. It was still raining and was very cold. Passed the Racine river, also a prairie called La Crosse, from a game of ball played frequently on it by the Sioux Indians. This prairie is very handsome; it has a small, square hill, similar to some mentioned by Carver. It is bounded in the rear by hills similar to the Prairie les Chiens. On this prairie Mr. Frazer showed me some holes, dug by the Sioux, when in expectation of an attack, into which they first put their women and children, and then crawl themselves. They were generally round, and about ten feet in diameter; but some were half moons and quite a breastwork. This I understood was the chief work, which was the principal redoubt. Their modes of constructing are, the moment they apprehend or discover an enemy on a prairie, they commence digging with their knives, tomahawks and a wooden ladle; and in an incredibly short space of time they have a hole sufficiently deep to cover themselves and their family, from the balls or arrows of the enemy. They have no idea of taking those subterraneous redoubts by storm, as they would probably lose a great number of men in the attack; and although they might be successful in the event, it would be considered a very imprudent action. Mr. Frazer, finding his canoes not able to keep up, staid at this prairie to organize one of them, intending then to overtake us.”

(OBSERVATIONS OF MAJ. PIKE.)

“The village of the Prairie les Chiens is situated about one league above the mouth of the Wisconsin river. \* \* \* \* The prairie on which the village is situated is bounded in the rear by high, bald hills. It is from one mile to three-quarters of a mile from the river, and ex-

tends about eight miles from the Mississippi to where it strikes the Wisconsin, at the Petit Gris, which bears from the village southeast by east.

\* \* From the village to Lake Pepin we have, on the west shore, first Yellow river, about twenty yards wide, bearing from the Mississippi nearly due west. Second, the Iowa river, about 100 yards wide, bearing from the Mississippi about northwest. Third, the Racine river, about twenty yards wide, bearing from the Mississippi nearly west, and navigable for canoes sixty miles. Fourth, the rivers Embarra and L'Eau Claire, which join their waters just as they form a confluence with the Mississippi, and are about sixty yards wide, and bear nearly southwest.

“On the east shore, in the same distance, is the river de la Prairie la Crosse, which empties into the Mississippi, at the head of the prairie of that name. It is about twenty yards wide, and bears north-northwest.

“We then meet with the Black river. \* \* \* \* In this division of the Mississippi the shores are more than three-fourths prairie on both sides, or, more properly speaking, bald hills, which, instead of running parallel with the river, form a continual succession of high, perpendicular cliffs and low valleys; they appear to head on the river, and to transverse the country in an angular direction. Those hills and valleys give rise to some of the most sublime and romantic views I ever saw. But this irregular scenery is sometimes interrupted by a wide extended plain, which brings to mind the verdant lawn of civilized life, and would almost induce the traveler to imagine himself in the center of a highly cultivated plantation. The timber of this division is generally birch, elm and cottonwood, all the cliffs being bordered by cedar.”

Maj. S. H. Long having made a tour to the portage of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, returned to Prairie du Chien and made a voyage to the Falls of St. Anthony, in a six-oared skiff, accompanied by a Mr. Hempstead as interpret-

er, and by two young men named King and Gunn, grandsons of Capt. Jonathan Carver, who were going up to the Santeurs to establish their claim to lands granted by those tribes to their grandfather. The day after his arrival, (July 23, 1817,) he examined the country to find a location better adapted for a post than the present one, but did not succeed. While here he made excursions in the surrounding country, and refers to the remains of ancient earth-works above the mouth of the Wisconsin, more numerous and of greater extent than had heretofore been noticed. On the 25th he measured and planned Fort Crawford. He says it is a square of 340 feet each side, of wood, with a magazine 12x24 of stone—that it will accommodate five companies—block houses, two stories high, with cupolas or turrets. The building of the works was commenced July 3, 1816, by troops under command of Col. Hamilton, previous to which time no timber had been cut, or stone quarried for the purpose. He says: “Exclusive of stores, workshops and stables, the village contains only sixteen dwelling houses, occupied by families. In the rear of the village about three-quarters of a mile are four others, two and a half miles above are five, and at the upper end of the prairie are four, and seven or eight scattered over the prairie. So that the whole number of family dwellings now occupied does not exceed thirty-eight. The buildings are generally of logs, plastered with mud or clay, and he thinks the village and inhabitants have degenerated since Pike was here in 1805. The inhabitants are principally of French and Indian extraction. One mile back of the village is the ‘Grand Farm,’ an extensive enclosure cultivated by the settlers in common. It is about six miles in length, and one-quarter to one-half a mile in width, surrounded by a fence on one side, and the river bluffs on the other, thus secured from the depredations of cattle.” He speaks highly of Capt. Duffhey, the commanding officer. He says of the name of the village, it derives its

name from a family of Indians, formerly known by the name of "The Dog," that the chief's name was "The Dog." This family or band has become extinct. The following tradition concerning them came to his knowledge: "That a large party of Indians came down the Wisconsin from Green Bay; that they attacked the family or tribe of the "Dogs" and massacred almost the whole of them and returned to Green Bay; that the few who had succeeded in making their escape to the woods, returned after their enemies had evacuated the prairie, and re-established themselves in their former place of residence, and that they were the Indians inhabiting the prairie at the time it was settled by the French.

#### UP THE MISSISSIPPI IN 1819.

[From a "Journal of a voyage from St. Louis to the Falls of St. Anthony in 1819," by Maj. Thomas Forsyth, Indian Agent.]

I set out this morning with a view, if possible, to reach Prairie du Chien, but having no wind in our favor, and current strong, we could get no further than the mouth of the Ouisconsin. Distance to-day, twenty-four miles.

Monday, July 5, 1819.—I arrived to-day at 9 A. M., at Prairie du Chien, and immediately the wind sprang up and blew a fresh breeze. This was vexing, as I had experienced five days of head winds successively. I found here, awaiting my arrival, the Red Wing's son, a Sioux Indian, who wished to be considered something, with a band of followers. He invited me to a talk, and after relating the loss of one of his young men who was killed by the Chippewas, he expressed a wish that I would take pity on all present, and give them some goods. All this was a begging speech. I told him that I meant to go up with the troops to the river St. Peter's, and on my way up I would stop at their different villages, where I would speak to them, and give them a few goods. Here I had nothing to say, as I could not give any goods at this place, because it required goods to give weight to words, and make them understand

me well. Yet he is such a beggar, that he would not take any refusal. I got up in an abrupt manner and left him and band, to study awhile. The Leaf, the principal chief of the Sioux, arrived this evening.

Tuesday, 6th.—The Kettle chief, with a band of Foxes, arrived here to-day, to make arrangements with Mr. Partney about selling him the ashes at the different mines. A boat belonging to the contractor arrived to-day, loaded with provisions for the troops, in twenty-five days from Wood river.

Wednesday, 7th.—The contractor's boat left this day to return to Wood river.

Thursday, 8th.—A young Folle Avoine (Memonnee) stabbed a young Sioux in a fit of jealousy to-day, near the fort. He was in liquor.

Friday, 9th.—The Sioux Indians yesterday seized on the Folle Avoine Indian who had stabbed the young Sioux, and kept him in confinement, well tied and guarded by a few young Sioux; but the Sioux chiefs sent for the Folle Avoine, and made him a present of a blanket and some other articles of clothing, and made him and the young Sioux whom he had stabbed eat out of the same dish together, thus forgiving and forgetting the past.

Sunday, 11th.—Every day since my arrival at this place, the wind has blown up the river; to-day it came around south and with rain; wind settled at the northwest.

Monday, 12th.—The Red Wing's son is still here a begging. He invited me to talk with him in council yesterday. This I refused as I did not wish to be troubled with such a fellow.

Tuesday, 13th.—Much rain this morning; wind southwest.

Wednesday, 14th.—Some Winnebagoes arrived from headwaters of Rocky river, and portage of Ouisconsin. These fellows are scientific beggars. Wind north.

Thursday, 15th.—Yesterday evening the Red Wing's son's band of Sioux Indians set out for



their homes, and I am glad of it, for they are a troublesome set of beggars. The wind blows hard from the north to-day, which makes it much cooler than it has been for many days before.

Friday, 16th.—The wind continues to blow hard from the north, and the weather is still cool. Two men arrived this evening from Green Bay in a canoe.

Saturday, 17th.—Mr. Bouthillier (Francois Bouthillier) arrived here to-day from Green Bay. Mr. Shaw also arrived here to-day from St. Louis in a canoe, having left his horses at Rocky Island. He informs me that he left Belle Fontaine on the 15th ult., that the recruits destined for the Mississippi set out on the day before and may be expected shortly.

Sunday, 18th.—Took a ride out in the country. Found some of the situations handsome, but the farmers are poor hands at cultivation. Flour, \$10 per cwt.; corn, \$3 per bushel; eggs, \$1 per dozen; chickens, \$1 to \$1.25 a couple. Butter, none made.

Monday, 19th.—A little rain, and cool all day. Mr. Shaw left to-day to return home.

Tuesday, 20th.—A little rain to-day.

Wednesday, 21st.—Winds fair for boats coming up the river, and little rain to-day.

Thursday, 22d.—A fine wind up the river to-day, with much rain. The old Red Wing, a Sioux chief, with about twenty of his followers, arrived to-day. This is another begging expedition.

Friday, 23d.—The wind is still up the river, with some rain. The old Red Wing and I had a long talk, and, as I supposed, the whole purport was begging.

Saturday, 24th.—Having heard much talk about Carreis' claim to land at or near St. Peter's river, and understanding that the Red Wing knew or said something about it last year, curiosity led me to make inquiries of him, having now an opportunity. He told me he remembered of hearing his father say that lands lying on the west side of Lake Pepin, known by the name of the old wintering places, were given to

an Englishman; that he is now an old man (about sixty years of age), and does not, himself, remember the transactions. I wished to continue the conversation, but the old man did not like it and therefore I did not press it.

Sunday, 25th.—Wind north and a warm day.

Monday, 26th.—Capt. Hickman and family left this place to-day in an open boat for St. Louis. Wind north, and another warm day.

Tuesday, 27th.—Another warm day. No news of any kind.

Wednesday, 28th.—A boat arrived here from Green Bay.

Thursday, 29th.—This is the warmest day I have experienced this season, although there blew a hard wind up the river all day.

Friday, 30th.—Yesterday evening the war party of Foxes who had been on a hunt of some of the Sioux of the interior, returned without finding any. Much wind and rain this morning. I returned Mr. Moore \$3, which Mr. Aird gave me last September to buy him some articles, which could not be procured.

Saturday, 31st.—Wind light up the river; no boats, no recruits, no news, nor anything else from St. Louis.

Sunday, August 1st.—Maj. Marston set out to-day early with twenty-seven troops in three boats to garrison Fort Armstrong, at Rocky Island. The boat which brought the settlers' goods from Green Bay a few days since set out to-day to return home. Some rain to-day; weather warm.

Monday, 2d.—Thank God! a boat loaded with ordnance and stores of different kinds arrived to-day, and said a provision boat would arrive to-morrow, but no news of the recruits.

Tuesday, 3d.—Weather warm, with some rain.

Wednesday, 4th.—This morning the provision boat arrived. No news from St. Louis. This boat brings news of having passed a boat with troops on board destined for this place. Some of the men say two boats. Some rain to-day.

Thursday, 5th—Much rain last night. Col. Leavenworth is determined to set out on the 7th if things can be got ready for the expedition to St. Peter's. The colonel has very properly, in my opinion, engaged the two large boats now here, with as many men belonging to the boats as will remain to accompany the expedition, their contents being wanted for the new establishment at St. Peter's. Without the assistance of these two boats, it would appear impossible for the expedition to go on.

Friday, 6th—Yesterday evening some Frenchmen, who would not agree to go any further up the Mississippi, set out for St. Louis in a bark canoe. This morning eight discharged soldiers set out from this place for St. Louis in a skiff.

Saturday, 7th—Every exertion was made to get off to-day, but impossible. A fine wind up the river.

Sunday, 8th—This morning the colonel told me that he would be ready in an hour, and about 8 o'clock we set out for river St. Peter's. The troops consisting of ninety-eight rank and file, in fourteen bateaux and two large boats loaded with provisions and ordnance, and stores of different kinds, as also my boat; and a barge belonging to the colonel, making seventeen boats; and in the whole ninety-eight soldiers and about twenty boatmen. I felt myself quite relieved when we got under way. We made to-day eighteen miles.

From Schoolcrafts "Discovery of the Sources of the Mississippi River," we extract the following:

"At the rapids of Black river, which enters opposite our encampment, a saw mill, we are informed, had been erected by an inhabitant of Prairie du Chien. Thus the empire of the arts has begun to make its way into these regions, and proclaims the advance of a heavy civilization into a valley which has heretofore only resounded to the savage war-whoop. Or, if a higher grade of society and arts has ever before existed in it, as some of our tumuli and antiqui-

ties would lead us to infer, the light of history has failed to reach us on the subject.

"At the spot of our encampment, as soon as the shades of night closed in, we were visited by hordes of ephemera. The candles lighted in our tents became the points of attraction for these evanescent creations. They soon, however, began to feel the influence of the sinking of the thermometer, and the air was imperceptibly cleared of them in an hour or two. By the hour of 3 o'clock the next morning (Aug. 5, 1820), the expedition was again in motion descending the river. It halted for breakfast at Painted Rock, on the west shore. While this matter was being accomplished, I found an abundant locality of unios in a curve of the shore which produced an eddy. Fine specimens of *U. purpureus*, *elongatus* and *orbiculatus* were obtained. With the increased spirit and animation which the whole party felt on the prospect of our arrival at Prairie du Chien, we proceeded unremittingly on our descent, and reached that place at 6 o'clock in the evening.

"Prairie du Chien does not derive its name from the dog, but from a noted family of Fox Indians bearing this name, who anciently dwelt here. The old town is said to have been about a mile below the present settlement, which was commenced by Mr. Dubuque and his associates in 1783.\* The prairie is most eligibly situated along the margin of the stream, above whose floods it is elevated. It consists of a heavy stratum of diluvial pebbles and bowlders, which is picturesquely bounded by lofty cliffs of the silurian limestones, and their accompanying column of stratification. The village has the old and shabby look of all the antique French towns on the Mississippi, and in the great lake basins; the dwellings being constructed of logs and barks, and the court-yards picketed in, as if they were intended for defence. It is called Kipsisagœ by the Chippewas and Algonquin tribes, generally meaning the place of the

\* This is shown in a subsequent chapter to be erroneous.

jet or overflow of the (Wisconsin) river. This, in popular parlance, estimated to be 300 miles below St. Peter's and 600 above St. Louis.†

Its latitude is 43 deg., 3 min., 6 sec. It is the seat of justice of Crawford county, having been so named in honor of W. H. Crawford, secretary of the treasury of the U. S. It is, together with all the region west of Lake Michigan, attached to the territory of Michigan. There is a large and fertile island in the Mississippi, opposite the place.

"We found the garrison to consist of a single company of infantry, under the command of Capt. J. Fowle, Jr.,\* who received us courteously, and offered the salute due to the rank of His Excellency, Gov. Cass. The fort is a square stockade, with bastions at two angles. There was found on this part of the prairie, when it came to be occupied with a garrison by the Americans, in 1819, an ancient platform-mound, in an exactly square form, the shape and outlines of which were preserved with exactitude by the prairie sod. This earthwork, the probable evidence of a condition of ancient society, arts and events of a race who are now reduced so low, was, with good taste, preserved by the military when they erected this stockade. One of the officers built a dwelling house upon it, thus converting it to the use, and probably the only use, to which it was originally devoted. No measurements have been preserved of its original condition; but judging from present appearances, it must have squared seventy-five feet and have had an elevation of eight feet.

"I solicited permission of Gov. Cass to visit the lead mines of Dubuque, which are situated on the west bank of the Mississippi, at the computed distance of twenty-five leagues below Prairie du Chien. Furnished with a light canoe, manned by eight *voyageurs*, including a guide,

† These distances are reduced by *Cr. Doc.* 257, respectively to 260 and 542 miles.

\* This officer entered the army in 1812, serving with reputation. He rose through various grades of the service to the rank of Lieut. Col. of the 6th infantry. He lost his life on the 25th of April, 1838, by the explosion of the steamer *Moselle*, on the Ohio River.

I left the prairie at half-past 11 a. m., (Aug. 6), passed the entrance of the Wisconsin, on the left bank, at the distance of a league.\* Opposite this point is the high elevation which Pike, in 1806, recommended to be occupied with a military work. The suggestion has not, however, been adopted; military men probably thinking that however eligible the site might be for a work where civilized Nations were likely to come into contact, a simple style of defensive works would serve the purpose of keeping the Indian tribes in check. I proceeded nine leagues below, and encamped at the site of a Fox village† located on the east bank, a mile below the entrance of Turkey river from the west.

The village, consisting of twelve lodges, was now temporarily deserted, the Indians being probably absent on a hunt; but if so, it was remarkable that not a soul or living thing was left behind, not even a dog. My guide, indeed, informed me that the cause of the desertion was the fears entertained of an attack from the Sioux, in retaliation for the massacre lately perpetrated by them on the heads of the St. Peter's."

In 1823, Count Beltrami came up the Mississippi on the steamer *Virginia* (118 feet long and twenty-two feet wide) in the month of May, and stopped at Prairie du Chien; among the passengers were Maj. Biddle, Mr. Talliaferro, and Lieut. Russel.

Maj. S. H. Long, U. S. A., the same year, made his journey up the Mississippi by order of the Government to discover the sources of St. Peter's river. His party left Philadelphia for Fort Dearborn, Chicago, and thence by land northwest through Illinois and what is now the southwestern counties of Wisconsin to Prairie du Chien, where they arrived on June 20—found Col. Morgan in command. The route taken from Fort Dearborn is believed to be the first

\* It was at this spot, 137 years ago, that Marquette and M. Joliet, coming from the lakes, discovered the Mississippi.

† Now the site of Cassville, Grant Co., Wis. It is a post town, pleasantly situated, with a population of 200.

that ever was taken by the whites, the journey occupied nine days, traversing 228 miles. He says that there were about twenty dwellings with a population of 150. The Fort, he says, is the rudest and most uncomfortable he had ever seen. The site is low and unpleasant. He refers to the ancient mounds in the vicinity which have been heretofore described. The party were here re-inforced, and proceeded up the river. There were but few Indians here at the time.

Col. T. L. McKenney, one of the commissioners to treat with the Indians at Butte des Morts, came up the Fox river and down the Wisconsin to Prairie du Chien, arriving at this place, September 3, 1827. He says: "The buildings are old and in a state of decay, only two good houses, Rollette's and Judge Lockwood's, about 100 decaying tenements, the picket fort standing on the plain a little north of the village, [where the Dousman residence now (1884) stands] and quite a ruin."



## CHAPTER V.

## THE WAR OF 1812-15.

Singularly enough, what is now Crawford county has been the theatre of stirring incidents in four wars: The Revolution, the War of 1812-15, the Winnebago War, and the Black Hawk War. The data for what transpired here during the Revolution are exceedingly vague and shadowy excepting only that a detachment of soldiers came up the river to the "prairie" in 1780, and destroyed a warehouse and some fifty packs of furs belonging to British traders. That these soldiers were a detachment from George Rogers Clark's force at the Illinois towns seems altogether probable; nevertheless it must rest upon probability alone, as there is no positive evidence extant that such was the case. Dismissing thus summarily the Revolution, we proceed to notice, in so far as Crawford county was concerned,

## THE LAST WAR WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

On the 18th of June, 1812, the declaration of war against Great Britain was made by Congress. The protection of this part of our frontiers was considered of great importance to ourselves, as its possession was to the British. In the summer of 1814, the Government authorities at St. Louis fitted out a large keel-boat, made bullet proof, and sent it with what men could be spared, under command of Lieut. Perkins, to occupy Prairie du Chien. The troops built a stockade upon a mound, the present site of the Dousman residence. Its provisions for defense consisted of four small iron cannon besides the small arms of the garrison. The provisions and ammunition remained on the boat for want of convenient accommodations in the

fort. The British traders of Mackinaw finding their communication with the Mississippi interrupted, planned the capture of the post. A strong expedition was fitted out and placed under command of Lieut. Col. William McKay, a member of the Northwest Fur Company, an enterprising man and resolute officer. He was given two companies of militia, formed among the employees of the traders. One of these companies was commanded by Joseph Rolette, of Prairie du Chien. About eighteen regular troops, under Capt. Pehlman, were assigned to the command, and Col. Dickson furnished McKay a part of his Indian force, numbering about 200 Sioux and 100 Winnebago warriors, and at Green Bay he was joined by about thirty militia and 100 Menomonees and Chippewas. The force now numbered about 150 whites and 400 Indians. Proceeding in boats up Fox river and down the Wisconsin, when within twenty-one miles of the prairie, Michael Brisbois and Augustin Grignon were dispatched in advance to procure information, and returned with the report that the garrison numbered about sixty. The invaders reached the vicinity of the fort, unperceived, about 10 o'clock Sunday morning, July 17, when its officers were upon the point of taking a ride into the country.

As soon as the British and Indians were discovered, the citizens left their houses and retired, some to the stockade, but the majority to the country. Col. McKay made an imposing display of his forces, invested the fort above and below, and summoned it to surrender. Lieut. Perkins promptly refused, where

upon some forty of the Green Bay militia and Menomonees gained the island in front of the village and in the rear of the gun-boat, to annoy it while the besiegers opened on it from the land side with a brass six-pounder. One of these shots striking the boat, caused a leakage which, toward sundown, induced Capt. Yeiser, its commander, to swing her round and move down stream. The garrison called on her to stop, and, being unheeded, fired a shot to bring her round, but without effect. She escaped down the river, ignominiously leaving the garrison almost destitute of provisions and ammunition. Meanwhile, the besiegers directed an irregular fire of small arms against the fort, which was occasionally returned, but without effect on either side. The second day was spent by the besiegers in counselling, and doing some shooting at long range. That night some of the Indians commenced to mine from the bank of the river, but their progress toward the stockade was so slow that they soon gave it up. The third day passed as inactively as the second. The fourth day McKay prepared to fire the fort with hot shot, to be followed by an assault, when a white flag was raised, and two officers went out and agreed on a surrender of the post and stores, the garrison to retire unmolested down the river. The formal surrender was made the next morning. Strict orders were given the Indians against molesting the disarmed garrison, and an attempt by one of the Sioux to strike a soldier, was promptly punished by a knock down from the war club of a chief. McKay had, however, some trouble in preventing the Indians, especially the Winnebagoes, from plundering the settlers, who had by this time returned to their homes. After several days the prisoners were dispatched down the river, escorted by a squad under charge of Michael Brisbois. The Mackinaw forces then withdrew, leaving Capt. Pohlman in command of the stockade, which was named Fort McKay, and was garrisoned chiefly by militia, enrolled among the inhabi-

tants of the village, until the following year, when, upon the ratification of peace, the British commander withdrew from the place.

Such, in brief, is the history of the war as enacted in what is now Crawford county. From it, only a general idea can be had of the many stirring events which transpired on the "prairie" during that war. Additional particulars are demanded at our hands, and we append, therefore, a recital of every event thought worthy of preservation.

Concerning McKay's expedition, James H. Lockwood says:

"At this time [Sept. 1816] at Prairie du Chien the events of the War of 1812 in this quarter were fresh in the minds of every one. I learned that in the spring or summer of 1814, the United States government sent boats, made bullet proof, under a captain Yeiser, who was in command of the boats, and a company of United States troops, under Lient. Perkins, to take and retain possession of Prairie du Chien. Perkins built a stockade on a large mound, on which Col. Dousman's house now stands, and Capt. Yeiser remained on board the boats where most of the ammunition and provisions were stored as there was no room for them within the stockade.

"Soon after the breaking out of the war, when the American officers in garrison at Mackinaw, and the citizens of that place were yet ignorant of the commencement of hostilities, but apprehensive that war had been declared, some traders were dispatched to the old British post and settlement of St. Josephs, on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan, for intelligence. As none of the traders returned, remaining absent so much longer than was deemed necessary, it naturally enough excited the suspicions of the commanding officer and the principal citizens of Mackinaw. Under the circumstances, a council was held, at which it was determined that immediate information must be had from St. Josephs, and the question

then was, who could go there and not be suspected of being a spy. After looking around and finding none qualified to go, the late Michael Dousman, of Mackinaw, said that he had an outfit in Lake Superior that ought, by that time, to be at St. Josephs, and he thought that he could go there and look after his property without being suspected. Accordingly he volunteered his services, and late in the afternoon he left Mackinaw for St. Josephs in a canoe. About dark, at Goose island, fifteen miles from Mackinaw, he met the British troops on their way to that place, who took him prisoner, but released him on his parole that he would go back to Mackinaw, and not give the garrison any information of what he had seen, but collect the citizens together at the old still-house on the southern side of the island, where a guard would be immediately sent to protect them from the Indians. This promise Mr. Dousman faithfully performed, and was probably the cause of saving many an innocent family from being brutally murdered by the savages. The British arrived, planted their cannon during the night, and in the morning sent in to the commanding officer a copy of the declaration of war, with a demand for him to surrender, which he complied with.

“The traders in the British interest, resorting to Mackinaw as the British headquarters of the northwest, learning of the American occupation of Prairie du Chien in 1814, and anticipating, that so long as this force should remain there, they would be cut off from the trade of Prairie du Chien, its dependencies, and the Sionx country, at once set on foot an expedition for the re-capture of that place. The British officers and traders accordingly fitted out an expedition under the command of Col McKay, of the Indian department, an old trader; and under him were, a sergeant of artillery with a brass six pounder, and three or four volunteer companies of the Canadian *voyageurs*, commanded by traders and officered by their clerks,

all dressed in red coats, with probably 100 Indians, officered by half breeds.\* Having made a secret march they arrived on the prairie without being expected, and made the best display of red coats and Indians that they could. They made a formidable show, and the Americans not knowing of what materials they were composed, and supposing they were all British regulars, appeared to have been panic-struck. The sergeant had brought his field piece so well to bear that he hit one of the boats, I believe the one Yeiser was in. During this time the troops and Indians had made a move towards the fort, but keeping out of gun shot. On the boat being hit, Capt. Yeiser had the cable cut, and swung round down the river, ordering the others to do the same, carrying with them the provisions and ammunition of the garrison. After the boats had gone, Col. McKay summoned the fort to surrender, and having neither provisions nor ammunition they had no other alternative, and accordingly surrendered. The British took and kept possession of Prairie du Chien until peace, in 1815, thus opening the Indian trade to the traders at Mackinaw. The inhabitants of Prairie du Chien being British subjects, were ordered into service by the British government to do duty in the garrison during the war. The British sergeant of artillery for hitting the keel-boat, was promoted by his government.”

#### GRIGNON'S RECOLLECTIONS.

Col. McKay came with his force in boats to Green Bay, where he tarried awhile to increase his numbers, and make all necessary preparations. A company of the Green Bay militia, of about thirty persons, and many of them old men unfit for service, was raised; of which Pierre Grignon was the captain, and Peter Powell and myself (Augustus Grignon,) the lieutenants. At the bay, James J. Porlier, a youth of some eighteen years, and son of

\*There were at least 1,000 Indians under Col. McKay, as stated in the accounts of the time, and not less than three pieces of light artillery.

Jacques Porlier, was commissioned a lieutenant in the regulars, and joined Pohlman's company.\*

Here about seventy-five Menomonees, under Ma-cha-nah, or the Hairy Hand; I-om-e-tah, Kish-kon-nau-kau-hom, or the Cutting off; and Tamah's son, Mau-kau-tau-kee, and a party of about twenty-five Chippewas, mixed with the Menomonees, joined the expedition. Our entire force now consisted of 400 Indians and 150 whites—such was the understanding at the time; if the newspapers of that day represented it much larger, it was for effect on the part of the British to impress the Americans with an idea of their great strength in the northwest; and on the part of the Americans, in palliation of their loss at Prairie du Chien.

At length the expedition moved forward up Fox river, the whites in six boats or barges and the Indians in canoes, and carrying their craft over the Portage, they descended the Wisconsin. Reaching the old, deserted Fox village, on the Wisconsin, twenty-one miles from Prairie du Chien, the force stopped, while Michael Brisbois, myself, a Sioux and a Winnebago Indian were dispatched to Prairie du Chien in the night to obtain a citizen and bring him to Col. McKay, from whom to obtain intelligence. Descending the river to where the ferry has since been located, some five or six miles from Prairie du Chien, we went thence across by land and reached the place without difficulty. We saw the sentinel on duty at the fort. We went to Antoine Brisbois, the uncle of Michael Brisbois, of one party, who lived three miles above the town, and took him to where we left our canoe at the ferry place, then called Petit Gris. There we awaited the arrival of Col. McKay and his force and they made their appearance the next morning, when the sun was about an hour high. Antoine Brisbois reported the American strength in the garrison at sixty.

\*This was the only military service of J. J. Porlier, who remained with his company all winter; and the next year, when peace was proclaimed, Capt. Pohlman evacuated Fort McKay at Prairie du Chien, and returned with his company to Mackinaw. Porlier then left the service, engaged in trade at Green Bay, raised a family and died at Grand Kau-kau-lin in 1838.

We then continued down to the mouth of the Wisconsin, and thence up almost to Prairie du Chien through a channel or bayou between a continuous number of islands and the Mississippi. We reached the town about 10 o'clock unperceived. As this was Sunday and a very pleasant day the officers of the garrison were getting ready to take a pleasure ride into the country, and had McKay been an hour or two later, the garrison would have been caught without an officer.\*

Nicholas Boilvin had directed a man named Sandy to go out and drive up his cattle, as he wished to kill a heifer that day, and have some fresh meat. Sandy went out and soon discovered the British approaching, and knew from the red coats worn by the regulars and Capts. Rolette and Anderson, for none of the rest had any, and the dozen British flags displayed by the Indians, that it was a British force. Sandy returned coolly to Boilvin and said there were "lots of red cattle" at such a place, and invited him to go with him and see. Boilvin went and scarcely crediting his own eyes, asked earnestly "What is that?" "Why, it is the British!" replied Sandy; when Boilvin, who was the American Indian agent at Prairie du Chien,\* hastened to his house and conveyed his family and valuables to the gun-boat for safety. All the citizens now left their houses and fled from the impending danger, some to the fort, but mostly to the country.

\* Joseph Crelee, of Portage, was then an inhabitant of Prairie du Chien and corroborates Mr. Grignon in this part of his narrative; stating, without knowing that Mr. Grignon had done the same, that the English made their appearance on Sunday, and that he, Crelee, had loaned his horse and wagon to one of the officers, who were generally preparing to go a riding into the country; and that if Col. McKay had been an hour later there would not have been an American officer in the garrison. Upon the alarm being given, Crelee, with many others, fled to the fort, and he shared in the defense until the surrender. It may further be added that the newspapers of that day state that Col. McKay made his appearance at Prairie du Chien on the 15th of July, 1814, and the 17th of July in that year occurred on Sunday.

\* Boilvin's father, during the Revolutionary War resided at Quebec, and was there very kind and humane to a wounded American surgeon, who had been taken prisoner; and when exchanged, the elder Boilvin gave him money to carry him home. After the war, Nicholas Boilvin came west as an Indian trader, and did not succeed; and fortunately meeting the old surgeon at St. Louis, whom his father had befriended, the surgeon succeeded in getting Boilvin appointed Indian agent.



Upon arriving at the town, making a very formidable display for that quiet place Rolette and Anderson, with their companies, the Sioux and Winnebago Indians, were directed to take post above the fort, while Col. McKay himself, with the Green Bay company, the regulars, the Menomonees and Chippewas, encompassed it below. A flag was sent in, borne by Capt. Thomas Anderson, demanding the surrender of the garrison, with which demand Lieut. Perkins, the commandant of the post, promptly declined to comply. The six-pounder, under the management of the regulars, was now brought to bear on the gun-boat of the Americans; the first shot, however, fired by the six-pounder, was a blank charge, intended as a sort of war-flourish or bravado. But our men did not take a very near position; I should say they were half a mile from the gun-boat, if not more, and hence the firing upon the boat by the cannon, and the firing by guns or cannon from the boat, was generally ineffectual. When the firing first commenced on the gun-boat, Capt. Grignon, with a part of his company and several Menomonees, some thirty or forty altogether, were directed to cross the river in two boats, and take a position on land so as to annoy and aid to drive off the gun-boat, the position of which was at first near the middle of the stream, but when fired upon, had moved over nearer the western shore. During the day the gun-boat was at least once or twice struck by the balls of the six-pounder, and caused a bad leakage, which, when the sun was about half an hour high, induced its commander to move down stream. Seeing this movement, the Americans in the fort called out to them not to go off; but this being unheeded, they fired their cannon at the boat to stop it. Meanwhile Capt. Grignon and his party over the river\* had been annoying the boat. As the

\* The newspapers of that day, and McAfee's History of the War in the Western Country, unite in stating that this party had taken position on an island opposite to Prairie du Chien, covered with timber, which served to screen them from the shots of the gun-boat. This appears quite probable.

boat passed down the river, one six-pounder was made three times to hit her, twice on the side and once in the stern, but it soon got beyond our reach. Had we manned some of our boats and pursued, we could undoubtedly have taken it, as we afterward learned that it leaked so badly that the Americans had to stop at the mouth of the Wisconsin and repair it. The only injury the firing of the gun-boat did was a ball, before noon, striking a fence post, some of the splinters of which inflicted a flesh wound in the thigh of one of the Menomonees.

While this contest was progressing with the gun-boat, McKay's party of whites and Indians, on all sides of the fort, kept up an irregular firing of small arms, which, from their great distance from the fort, was harmless; and thus if they did no harm, they were out of the way of receiving any in turn. At length towards noon, Col. McKay ordered his men to advance over the Marais St. Freol, a swampy spot, and take position much nearer the fort—not more than a quarter of a mile distant. This was obeyed by those on the lower side of the fort, who had a sufficiency of houses to shield them from the guns of the garrison. From this new position, the firing was somewhat increased; but the men under Rolette and Anderson, with the Sioux and Winnebagoes, on the upper side of the fort, kept at a safe distance, fully half a mile off, but they really needed no protection at that distance against small arms. In the fort were four iron cannon, somewhat larger than six-pounders, and these were occasionally fired.\* Whenever Capt. Rolette would see the flash of the cannon, he would give the rather unmilitary order of "Down, my men, down!" A couple of Winnebagoes discovering that there were some hams in a house, which had been deserted, and to which they could not gain an entrance, mounted upon the roof, intending to tear off some shingles, when they

\* Probably there was not much ammunition in the fort, and they wished to be sparing of it, for closer action, if it should come to that; for it has been stated, that the gun-boat contained the magazine of powder, and that had departed.

were espied from the fort, and each wounded in the thigh, when they quickly retreated from their exposed situation.

The second day the men and Indians amused themselves with some long shooting, but Col. McKay and his officers spent the day in counselling as to the best course of procedure. It was pretty much resolved to make an assault, and towards evening assembled the leading Indian chiefs, and laid the plan of an assault before them, when the Winnebago chief Sar-cel, or *The Teal*, remarked that he and his people remembered too well taking part with the Shawanoes in assaulting an American fort, and were beaten back with terrible slaughter,—probably alluding to the attack on Fort Recovery,\* in Wayne's Indian war in 1793,—and they would not like to resort to so hazardous an experiment; but proposed a better and safer way—to spring a mine from the river bank and blow up the garrison. Col. McKay did not waste words unnecessarily, but simply replied, "Go at it." Teal and his Winnebagoes spent a part of the evening digging but found their progress in undermining was slow, and after penetrating a dozen or fifteen feet, they gave it up as a bad job. As the fort was several hundred feet from the river bank, it would have been an interminable operation for the Indians to have attempted to prosecute their scheme to completion.

Nothing of moment occurred the third day,—as usual some little firing was done. Col. McKay sent into the country about three miles for a load of straw, which was made up into small bundles to have in readiness to place in the darkness of night, with kegs of powder near the fort, and fire a train of straw leading to the powder, and thus make a breach in the enclosure. But this was only designed as a *dernier* resort. During this day or the preceding one,

\* Pe-sheu, or the Wild Cat, and Sar-cel, once got into a wrangle in which their bravery was called in question, when Pe-sheu put a clincher by saying to Sar-cel, "Don't you remember the time we aided the Shawanoes in attacking the fort, that you ran off so fast that you lost your breechcloth?"

a Fox Indian received a spent ball which lodged between his scalp and skull; it was cut out, and the wound was so slight as to prove no obstacle to his sharing in the further events of the siege.

The fourth day Col. McKay resolved to accomplish something more decisive. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon, with his troops properly stationed, and cannon balls heated red hot in a blacksmith's forge, I was sent to go round and specially direct the interpreters to order the Indians not to fire on the fort till the cannon should commence playing the hot shot, and the fort should be set on fire; then to use their muskets as briskly as possible. Scarcely had these directions been given, when the Americans, probably seeing from indications that a severe assault of some kind was about to be made, raised the white flag. Two officers now came out and met Col. McKay—strict orders having been given to the Indians not to fire on these Americans, on the pain of being themselves fired on by the British troops. The result was, a surrender was agreed on; Col. McKay should have possession of the fort and public stores, and the Americans be permitted to retire unmolested in boats down the river. By this time it was too late to go through with a formal surrender, which was postponed till the next morning.

A little before the appointed time to give up their arms, one of the Winnebagoes seeing a soldier in the fort, made a motion to him to shake hands; the soldier reached his hand through a port-hole, when the Winnebago seized it and cut off one of his fingers, and ran off with his singular trophy. As Lieut. Perkins and his men marched out from the fort to lay down their arms, a Sioux warrior attempted to strike one of the soldiers, when a chief, a son-in-law of Wau-ba-shaw, knocked down his treacherous countryman with his war-club. Col. McKay had given such strict orders to the Indians against massaereing or molesting the Americans, and to the regulars and militia to keep the In-

dians in awe, that nothing more, so far as I know, transpired, that had the least appearance of treachery on the part of the Indians.

When the American flag was hauled down, Col. McKay was the first to observe the singular fact, that though it was completely riddled elsewhere with balls, the representation of the American eagle was untouched. The Indians, during the whole four days had directed many shots at the flag and had shot off one of the cords, which let the banner part way down the flag staff, and there it remained till the surrender. The flag staff was planted near the center of the fort.

Several days elapsed before arrangements were completed by which to send the prisoners down the river. When they took their departure, they escorted Michael Brisbois, with a suitable guard, but I do not know how large a guard, as I had previously left. I understood Col. McKay gave the Americans their arms as they started down the river; but I have no knowledge of their being followed by the Indians.

Capt. Pohlman, with his regulars, remained in command, with the two Mackinaw companies under Capt. Anderson and Lieut. Dmcan Graham, who was now promoted to the captaincy of his company, as Capt. Rolette had been sent with dispatches to Mackinaw immediately after the surrender.

McKay had much difficulty in managing his Sioux and Winnebago allies, particularly the latter. At the first investment of the place, when these Indians were placed with the Mackinaw militia above the fort, they had in the most wanton manner, shot down a number of horses and cattle belonging to the citizens, much to the regret and vexation of the British commander; and after the surrender, the Winnebagoes swarmed around among the settlers, to openly plunder them of anything they might desire; and McKay was under the necessity of threatening to turn his troops against them, if they did not instantly desist, and go off home. The

Indians once off, Col. McKay, the Green Bay troops, Menomonees and Chippewas took their departure.

Capt. Rolette at length with his boat hove in sight of Mackinaw. Large numbers thronged the shore, anxiously waiting to learn the tidings from Prairie du Chien. "Capt. Rolette, what is the news?" "A great battle—a sanguinary contest," responded Rolette, with an air of great solemnity and importance. "How many were killed?" "*None!*" "How many wounded?" "*None!*" "What a bloody contest!" vociferously shouted the crowd, as they escorted the hero from the boat to the garrison.

Capt. Pohlman continued in command at Prairie du Chien till after the peace, which ensued the following year, when the fort was evacuated. I may mention one incident of the winter after my departure. A couple of Frenchmen, named Dubois and Chanpanie, the former a half-breed Sioux, and brother-in-law of Capt. Rolette, were sent to a Sioux camp to obtain some venison for Rolette. While at the camp, a Sioux Indian demanded first, a gun, and then some ammunition, which being refused, he concluded to accompany them on their return to Capt. Rolette, saying that Rolette would let him have what he wanted. While the two men were asleep before their camp-fire in the night, the Sioux, who lay on the opposite side of the fire, got up, took the only gun, and shot them both at the same discharge, killing Chanpanie on the spot, and mortally wounding the other. The Indian now ran off, and Dubois, though distant a day's journey, reached Prairie du Chien, and died shortly after. The Sioux chief of that band was taken and detained till the murderer was brought in, who was tried and shot. He was a bad Indian, and was much feared by his own people.

Of Col. McKay, I can only state in addition, that after the war he retired to Montreal, where he long since ended his days. He was a fine looking, tall, well proportioned man, but was regarded as strict, and sometimes severe over those in his employ in the Indian trade.

I knew Col. Robert Dickson from his first coming from England, as I think, and engaging in the Indian trade. He commenced his career as a trader about the year 1790, and traded principally with the Sioux, and continued till the war; after the war he did not renew the business. He was very humane to American prisoners during the war, releasing many from the Indians; and in after years he several times received letters from such, enclosing presents of money, as tokens of their gratitude. He was a large man, of full face, tall and commanding. He had a Sioux wife and four children.

ANDERSON'S JOURNAL, 1814.\*

Wednesday, August 10, 1814.—Col. McKay set off at 10 o'clock in the morning; would not allow any guns to be fired. In the afternoon a few Renards (Foxes) arrived from the Riviere an D'Inde, and brought word that they had seen the two barges that had went adrift from this place. The Tonnerre Noir, or Black Thunder, a Yankee Indian passed on his way above, unperceived.

Thursday, August 11.—Gave out some few articles of goods to the Michigan Volunteers, by Col. McKay's orders previous to leaving. Gave out twelve carrots of tobacco to be distributed among the troops in general. This was done because it is customary to allow the people of this place to smoke as a preventive to sickness. The want of provisions obliges me to give every assistance to the farmers to get in their grain as fast as possible. I, therefore, allow all the volunteers that are not on duty, to go and work for them in the day-time. Employed the sergeant of artillery men, with some of the Michigans, in making leaden three-pound balls. Appointed a patrol to go about at night in order to detect stragglers, if any such persons should be found, that they may give an account of themselves.

\* "Journal of the Proceedings at Fort McKay from the Departure of Lieut. Col. McKay, for Mackinaw, comprehending the particulars of every occurring circumstance in and out of the Fort, within the vicinity of Prairie du Chien." By Capt. T. G. Anderson.

Friday, August 12.—Sent off twelve men with an interpreter, and two Indians for the barges that drifted away from this place. One of the volunteers by the name of Aslin, having refused to go on fatigue, and having absented himself without leave, I put in close confinement, and allow him one and one half pounds of bread, and two quarts of water per day, till further orders. At 3 in the afternoon, eight canoes of Renards came, and landed at the entrance of the Marais, a little below the Prairie. From there the chief with another came up and asked leave to offer some scalps they had brought. I gave them leave, and they returned for their canoes. This being the Prince Regent's birthday, put off practicing at the cannon till to-morrow. The small store of powder we have here, prevented our firing the customary salute on this day. At 4, the canoes arrived, and asked to speak with me. I told the Indians to repair to the house lately belonging to Mr. Boilvin. The head man, not a chief, got up and gave me his hand, saying: "My father, we are ashamed to present you with these scalps (holding four scalps in his hand,) because we did not kill them ourselves; but got three of them from our friends, the Sauks, and one we picked up on our way here—a man, that we supposed your guns had killed, in the gunboat where you fought; he was lying on a sand bank." Then presenting me with a few articles of American clothing, said: "We give you these things, to wish you a good day, as they came from the enemy, hoping you will give us some assistance." Another Indian rising and showing me his leather breech-cloth: "My father, I beg of you some little assistance; you see how miserable I am off, being obliged to wear a leather petticoat."

To these requests I gave the following answer: "I am happy to see you, but am much chagrined that I have not a monthful of provisions to give you. As for powder, tobacco, and goods, you need not speak of these articles, for your father" (alluding to Col. McKay,) "after

the battle of the Rapids, and previous to his departure gave to the Sauks and Renards twenty kegs of gunpowder and fourteen bales of goods to be distributed among such Indians of these Nations as we knew to be good subjects, and must support. But in the space of twenty or twenty-five days there will be a strong reinforcement of troops here, and plenty of ammunition and other goods. Those Indians that merit support, will have it amply; but those that are attached to the Americans, as many of the Renards are, will be treated as we treat bad dogs."

At half past 4 o'clock Lieut. Brisbois arrived, having been below the rapids of the Riviere des Moines, with the prisoners. He brought nothing new. At sun-down the fatigue party I sent for the barges arrived, with the two barges, having received no injury.

Saturday, August 13, 1 p. m.—A Sioux canoe arrived from above, bringing word that Feuille's band, in drinking their rum, fought much, but without arms, among themselves. They were about to kill the Aile Rouge, or Red Wing, but he ran away. At 4, the Renards, that gave me four scalps yesterday, assembled, and requested of me to return them the scalps, observing that they were the enemies' scalps that we had killed with our little cannon; but that I did not want such trophies, as we never took off the scalps of our enemies. Speaking of their loyalty, I answered them that it was not possible to depend upon their Nation in general; that I knew that there were some good subjects among them, but many bad ones. That when they saw Robert Dickson, how they came and cried to him for support; and as soon as their English Father was fond of his children he always assisted them; but their misfortune was, that as soon as his back was turned, and they saw the Americans, some among them immediately raised their war clubs over our heads. I am sorry to speak to you in this way, but necessity requires it, as I do not know the good from the bad. When your English Father

speaks to his well-known good children, he does it with an open hand and heart; but when he knows he speaks to bad subjects, he does it with an *arm* in his hand. But the time is drawing near when a fire will be kindled, as in a meadow where there are stout trees. The bad hay will be burned down, and the fire will protect the stout trees and leave them to grow without being annoyed.

Sunday, August 14, 12 o'clock.—Went out to the farms to inquire about mills, in order to get some flour made immediately. The mills are in bad order, but they will get them repaired; and as soon as the harvest gets in they will begin to grind the wheat. At 3, returned and found two of the Michigans drunk. They had stolen rum out of a keg that had been issued for a party going for a gun-boat of the enemy, being a little above Fort Madison. When I arrived they were lying drunk. I ordered them into the guard-house. They were very insolent to the sergeant, and in fact rushed out of the block-house where they were confined, having no sentry over them, and behaved with violence, taking up clubs to defend themselves from the guard, when I ordered them a second time to be kept close. Having only one pair of fetters, I had them put on to one of them; the other I had tied.

Monday, August 15.—At 9, seven canoes, Renards from the Riviere au D'Inde, arrived. Having received a letter in French, from Capt. Grignon, on the 12th inst., the difficulty of deciphering it prevented my inserting till to-day, as follows:

Fort McKay, Aug. 12, 1814.

CAPT. T. G. ANDERSON, Com'g Fort McKay:

SIR—I beg you to take into consideration the request which I made of Lieut. Col. McKay, which he accepted. As I do not intend to act in anything that would be disagreeable to you; and knowing your intelligence, I hope that you will take everything into consideration. My only object is to prove as much as my feeble knowledge permits, to submit my views of pub-

lie matters, which are founded upon truth, and which are of the greatest importance to make known, and should be understood everywhere, being interested for the service of His Majesty, etc.

1. The provisions which are absolutely indispensable, and which it would be a failure not to recognize [are wanting]. You know that the inhabitants of Green Bay are without help for their harvest, and that it is impossible for them to gather their crops without assistance. A mill there stands idle for lack of workmen. It is important for them to be provided with flour, unless affairs at Mackinaw should permit the furnishing an immediate supply, or I should not be allowed to return home (the people there must suffer).

It would be possible to send the powder you need, from that place; I myself could furnish 250 pounds. Here you need to be provided with the munitions of war; you have not enough for the force you have, and what is the need of us Green Bay people here? Without additional supplies you will be unable to defend the place; it is like a body without a soul. If permitted to return to the bay, and you should have information of the approach of the enemy, I think that, receiving notice, I could come to your assistance as soon as the (Indian) Nations nearest here; and the Nations of Fox river would come more promptly with me than by sending a message to them, which would only be met by procrastination, as usual.

2. The provisions which are being consumed here by so many, it would be better, in my opinion, to husband in part, for another time (when the enemy should threaten and reinforcements should be needed). It is costly to transport supplies for so many men from Mackinaw. As there are not sufficient munitions for those here, it has been my intention to obtain leave to go to the Illinois with some volunteers. I have tried to raise the Saes and Foxes, in order to embroil them with the enemy. Such were the intentions of your servant, and more.

I need say nothing further. I hope for a furlough, and not transportation, as early as possible, with a letter of recommendation to the commander at Mackinaw, if agreeable to you to grant it.

I am, sir, etc., etc.,

PIERRE GRIGNON, Capt.

My answer was as follows:

FORT MCKAY, August 15, 1814.

CAPTAIN GRIGNON:

SIR.—In answer to your letter of the 12th inst. I have to say that as to the request you say you made of Col. McKay, I know nothing about it. Summing up the contents of your letter, I find you want permission to return home, a request I cannot take upon myself to grant, for two reasons: first, that it was optional with you, previous to the colonel's departure, to remain here, or return to your home; secondly, you are on the list with those to do garrison duty here till the re-inforcement arrives from Mackinaw. As to provision, the less said on this subject the better. The object of our coming here was to make use of our arms, etc.

As to your good intentions, and wish to go and burn St. Louis,\* I conceive it to be out of the question to harbor any such idea, with any number of the Indians, and perhaps forty or fifty volunteers that you with difficulty could muster. Attacking and totally destroying so formidable a place as that, is in my opinion, absurd. I am much obliged to you for your offer of powder, and am sorry it is out of reach. Having answered the principal subjects of your letter, I am sir, your humble servant,

THOS. G. ANDERSON, Capt. Comd'g.

At 10, Lieut. Graham went off to try and get the gun-boat, as mentioned in yesterday's orders. At 6 p. m. a violent thunder storm, with rain and much lightning. The firmament was as if in a continual blaze, from 7 till 10.

Tuesday, August 16th.—At 10 called up the Michigans that were confined on Sunday. When

\*As this intention does not appear in Capt. Grignon's letter, it must have been derived from verbal expressions.

they proved that they got the rum, with which they got drunk on Sunday, from one of the volunteers, I sent for him, liberated the two Michigans, and put him in their place. The Michigans deserved, perhaps, to be more rigorously punished; but their corps being my principal support, would not admit of my being too strict with them for the present. At 5, a canoe of Puants arrived from their village on the Quisconsin. Kept a party at work making swivel bullets. Finished covering the house. At half past 8 the volunteer in the guard house was on the point of, and threatening to break out, when I ordered him to be put in irons.

Wednesday, August 17th.—Got the artificers at work widening the passage through the fort, but could not complete it entirely. At 9 p. m. the Feuille, or Leaf, arrived with five of his young men. He had heard by the Renards that the Americans were coming up, and that cannon had been heard firing below the Rock river lately, and that a barge had arrived from Mackinaw. The report of the firing of the cannon we knew to be false. Lient. Brisbois has just come from there, and if a barge had arrived from Mackinaw, no doubt we would have had letters from there. Those vagabonds made this news in hopes to make themselves pass for friendly Indians.

Thursday, August 18th.—At 10 the Feuille came to the fort, when I told him the talk I had held with the Renards, the whole of which, he agreed, was perfectly right. I gave him the four scalps I got from the Renards. He told me, that in the course of a few days, he would send down to hear the news, and after that, he would come down himself with the men of his band to wait the arrival and command of his father, Robert Dickson. I gave him a few loaves of bread, and he went off. At 2 o'clock this morning, John Campbell, of the volunteers, having repeatedly refused to do duty, I sent the corporal of the guard with two men, and brought him up. In questioning him and asking him his reasons for his not attend-

ing, he said he would not mount guard as long as he could get work to gain anything by. I told him he had better do his turn of duty with the others. He immediately mounted his high horse, and began to talk in a high tone, when I commanded him to be silent. He became insolent, and told me he did not care a d—n for me. I ordered him to the guard house. Kennet, who was put in irons on Tuesday, continues in the guard-house with his irons on him; is very abusive, and threatens every person in the garrison without exception. The fort door, and well completed.

Friday, August 19th.—The officers, etc., took two lessons at the gun, and got on very well. Let John Campbell out of the guard-house. A heavy shower in the morning. Got word that the Renards above had found the Indian that got drowned while going up with the Little Corbeau. They say he had his feet tied together. Got the carpenter to work making a scaffold, on which for a sentry to stand high, and see over the pickets. One of the swivels well mounted, and in the blacksmith's hands, to be bound, and ironed completely. Gave out a second to be mounted.

Saturday, August 20th.—At 6, practiced at the gun till a quarter past 8. Went around to arrange with the farmers for flour. They will begin to thrash out their wheat on Monday. I promised them every assistance. At 10, the Michigans were drilled. At 2 p. m., got the other three-pounder mounted, and went out in brigade at 4 o'clock, practicing shaw fighting till 6, when we returned to the fort. At half past 3 p. m., three young Renards arrived with a pipe, they say, from the Sauks, who send me word that the Americans were on their way up here in barges. They say they do not deceive me, three different couriers having seen the barges above the Cap au Gris ten days ago. The Sauks request me to go down to the rapids with all the forces here, and meet the enemy there, and at the same time take them ammunition and guns. I told them I could give them an answer

in the morning, as they told me this news at 7 o'clock in the evening. I cannot put faith in this report. The couriers cannot inform me the number of the enemy's barges, nor can they tell me the number of young Sauks that brought the pipe to the Renard village. They ask for ammunition and guns, two articles they have been repeatedly told that we have none; and Col. McKay, when he gave the Epervier Noir, or Black Sparrow Hawk, the last present, told him positively he need not expect any further supply of powder till the re-inforcement came out. All these circumstances considered, I conceived it to be a made up story of the Renards and Aile Rouges or Red Wings, to get us away from this, perhaps to destroy the place, or else to get us, as they suppose, into their power below this, and, as in such a case we would not suspect them, to get us into a council, and then do our business. Be this as it may, I treat the couriers well, and do not give the smallest idea that I doubt the truth of their report. On the contrary, I will encourage them to be on the lookout, etc. If there is any truth in their assertions, we shall know it in the course of three or four days by Lieut. Graham. The enemy will not reach this point, if the report is true, before twenty days.

Sunday, August 21st.—Answer to the young Renards that brought the pipe, and news of the approach of the Americans: "You will tell the Sauks, that I thank them for having sent a pipe as a token of the certainty of the enemy's approach. I also thank you for having been so expeditious in bringing the news here. You will tell the Sauks that my orders will not admit of my leaving this place for the present, having been left here to defend the post. At any rate, knowing that there are a number of bad Indians both above and below me, I fear were they to find that I had left the village unguarded, they might come and insult and destroy the inhabitants of the place."

I was careful to prevent their learning that we had only one half barrel of flour on hand. As to ammunition and guns, I sent word to the

Sauks, that they well knew I had none to spare, having on hand only what would be necessary for twenty days in case of an attack,—this was designed, in case the Sauks should give information to the enemy, to make them believe that we are not short of supplies. The Sauks, Renards, etc., ought to be well supplied, having got, previous to Col. McKay's leaving here, twenty kegs of gunpowder, and having taken a number of guns from the enemy, they are well enabled to stand a strong attack.

I advised the Indians below "to keep a good look out, and not allow themselves to be surprised, and in case the Americans should come on horseback, as you say, try and decoy them into the bush, and surround them. Men on horseback, in a thick bush, cannot do much; and in case they get past your village in barges, follow them up here, with a party on each side of the river, and annoy them if they debark to camp, to get wood, or otherwise; and by the time they reach here, I will have a strong re-inforcement of Indians. Before they can reach here, the re-inforcement will perhaps be out from Mackinaw, when you, our Sauk friends, will be all well supplied with ammunition and everything else.

"I am very sorry I cannot take upon myself to furnish the Sauks with any more ammunition; but let them take courage, and act as bravely as they did when they drove back the American gun-boats, and they may depend upon ample support, perhaps more than they can possibly expect, when the re-inforcement comes out. When Black Hawk and the Sauk chiefs send expresses in the future, send people that can give the particulars of anything that is going on, and not young men that can give no information at all. The young men that brought me the pipe could neither tell me where the enemy were seen, their number of boats, nor anything more than merely they were coming. The pipe, you say, the Sauks sent to be left with me. I will keep it as a token of their good intentions,



and will deliver it to their father, the Red Head,\* as soon as he arrives.”

At 12, the Sauk chief, Thomas, arrived. Two canoes having left the village previous to the arrival of this news there, he could give me no further assurance. He met Lieut. Graham within a few miles of the Rock river, and says he will be back here to-morrow or next day.

Monday, August 22d.—At 6 in the morning, it began to rain hard, and thundered a good deal. Rainy weather all day. At 8 in the evening a Sioux canoe arrived with one man and three women; nothing new. Issued thirty-seven pairs Indian shoes to the volunteers, and drilled the people.

Tuesday, August 23d.—Got a number of men threshing wheat. At 7 in the evening, Lieut. Graham arrived bringing Indian news, that the Americans were coming up. Nothing certain as to their force, or where they were seen. On the 20th, while Lieut. Graham was preparing to proceed from Rock river to go and destroy the gun-boat (the Sauks having refused to go and assist in getting her up), two young men arrived express from the Sauks on the Missouri, reporting that white people from the Illinois, they do not know who, sent word to the Sauks on the Missouri to inform those on the Rock river to be on their guard, as the Americans were to leave the Illinois on the 4th inst., in a strong detachment, to cut off the Sauks. No other certain news of their approach.

Wednesday, August 24th.—Having deliberated on the news Lieut. Graham brought from the Sauks, and taking into consideration the promises made Indians in general by the Government, through Robert Dickson, and Col. McKay previous to his leaving here, of giving them every assistance, and supporting them against the invading enemy, I think it my duty to send an expedition to the Sauks for that purpose, in order to convince them that promises made by

British officers are inviolable, and will be fulfilled, even under the most inconvenient circumstances. I, therefore, ordered that an expedition to the Rock river would be in readiness to march on the 27th inst. The forces are mentioned in the orders of the 24th. I also ordered that Mr. Renville leave here early to-morrow morning for the Sioux, that is the friendly band, to ask their chief, with as many as he can spare of his young men, to go on the same expedition, and at the same time to tell the Feuille or Leaf, to send word to the Little Corbeau to proceed with all the warriors of the lake,\* and when they get to the Prairie La Crosse, to wait there till they send me word, and get further orders what to do. Lieut. Graham brought intelligence that the Sauks were all assembling at the Rapids of Rock river, and had sent word to the Puants, etc., and that he believed that before our expedition reaches them, there will be about 1,200 warriors assembled there. They promised they would fight to the last man, and sent me word that their fields of corn were open to the troops that I might send, as well as to all Indians going to their aid.

Thursday, August 25th.—The guns are in a fair way; the brass three-pounder finished at 3 in the afternoon. A Renard canoe arrived from above. There are eight men, with Le Jeune Homme chief. They arrived very much dejected, and were ashamed to hold up their heads. They did not offer to speak to me. The commissary got in 500 weight of flour.

Friday, August 26th.—At 10 the Jeune Homme assembled his young men, and asked to speak with me. I went and found them in Boilvin's house. They had a pipe of peace, an otter sack, and a painted elk skin, with a few pieces of dried meat to give me. When he arose to speak, he offered me his hand; but I refused to give him mine. He then began a discourse that had no sense in it. His principal strain was, that he had always wished to follow his father, the Red Head's advice; but

\*Col. Robert Dickson. The Indians called him the *Red-Haired Man*. The American Indians were accustomed in after years, when Gov. Wm. Clark, of Missouri, became the Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the northwest, of designating him as *Red Head*, as he had sandy hair.

\*Probably Lake St. Croix.

the Americans had turned his head, and he had behaved ill. And was sorry for it. In entering into the room, I, knowing he had a British silk flag, and had not hoisted it when he arrived here, told him, before he spoke a word, to show me his flag, for I feared he had given it to his friends, the Americans. He sent and had it brought. I would have taken it from him, but fearing it might be improper, he having received it from the superintendent. On that account I said nothing about it.

When he had finished his speech, his war chief got up with the pipe in his hand, and said: "I made use of all the sense the mother of life gave me, in order to induce you to smoke my pipe; if I have done wrong, it is because I have been advised to it by my chief;" and having concluded his remarks, and about to light the pipe, I told him to save himself the trouble, as I would not smoke with them. He laid down the pipe, etc., at my feet.

I then replied to them thus: "You ought not to be surprised that I treat you in this way. You are of an age not to be foolish. You ought to have sense. I cannot, therefore, attribute your bad conduct, to us, to have risen from a want of knowing better. But I attribute it to a real inclination of wishing to be American subjects. If you were ashamed to expose your English flag to view, why did you not act as men, and arrive here with your American father's mark of distinction? The time is over for British officers to flatter, beg and pray of the Indians to follow the good road. Your father the Red Head, is tired of using these means to Indians that come crying to him, when he is here, to get a blanket to cover themselves, or a charge of powder to kill wherewith to eat; and then as soon as his back is turned, to raise their war club over our heads, and ask, with flattering stories, the same assistance from the enemy. None but dogs can be guilty of such conduct.

"The time is drawing near when the sun will be eternally hid from the bad Indians, and

will be three times larger than now for good ones. Let every one who wishes well to his women and children, lose no time in showing his true colors; for I think when the great chief, the Red Head arrives, his good children will appear bold and walk in good spirits, with their heads up. But the bad Indians will be like dogs almost starved to death. Everything that you have said, and my answer, I have marked on this piece of paper (holding up a sheet of paper), and will keep it till the great chief, the Red Head, arrives, and show it to him, that he may know our discourse. Your pipe and sack you will keep, and when he arrives, as he has the command of all the Indians, he will do as he pleases; but as for me, I cannot make peace with the Americans."

Never were Indians, perhaps, more dejected, and perhaps none ever so sincerely regretted their past folly. The *Jeune Homme* was the man that, when they got word of the Americans coming here last spring, got J. M. Cardinal, an inhabitant of this place, to write the Americans the situation of the country, and sent some of his young men with it to the enemy, and afterwards offered his services to go to war against us, and was instrumental in delivering up, with the *Aile Rouge*, or *Red Wing*, this place to the enemy. I conceived it my duty to talk to them in this strain, to convince them that the British wished all the Indian Nations well, and would support them as long as they followed their good advice; but, at the same time, put them at defiance, and despised any threats from those that chose to join the Americans.

FORT MCKAY, Aug. 26, 1814.

TO LIEUT. GRAHAM.—

SIR:—The expedition for the Rock river under your command, being now in readiness, you will march to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock, and proceed with all haste to your place of destination. On your arrival there, you will assemble the Indians, and explain to them that the intention of the expedition is to support

them in defending their lands, and women and children, according to promises made to them by their father, Robert Dickson, and Lieut. Col. McKay; and that in case of any attack, they must support and defend the guns as long as they have a man standing. That they must not amuse themselves, during the action, in taking scalps. They must destroy the enemy as much as possible, except prisoners. Those they will treat well, and not, as is generally the case, use them barbarously; but on the contrary, if they use them as we always do our prisoners, and bring them here, they shall be well recompensed for it. You will, in case of being successful, and should be fortunate in making prisoners, use every means in preventing their being insulted, or ill-used by the Indians; and by all means act in every way towards them as becoming a British officer. You will not proceed below the Rock river until you find it necessary to take advantage of a commanding situation. If the enemy do not reach Rock river in six days after your arrival there, you will decamp and return here, unless you get information of their being at hand. But in case you find the enemy's forces to be absolutely too strong to risk an engagement, you will retreat here with all possible haste, leaving the Indians and a few of your men to follow up the enemy, and annoy them as much as possible until they reach here. Having full confidence in you, and the troops under your command, I trust to your judgment to arrange all necessary matters as occasion may require, and trusting to a deliberate and prudent conduct in you, I wish you a successful and safe return.

I am, sir, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON,  
Capt. Comd'g.

Saturday, August 27th.—At 8, the expedition for the Rock river, marched. We gave them three shots from the six pounder. At 2, the Feuille, or Leaf, with fifty Sioux, arrived, on their way to join the expedition. Shortly after, forty Renards arrived for the same pur-

pose. I gave them fifteen loaves of bread, and sent to procure a beef that I knew was for sale, but the owner sent me word if I would send him two milch cows, I might get his ox. I then inquired of Mr. Brisbois, from whom I have had every assistance he could possibly give, even to the distressing of his own family. He furnished a pair of two year old bulls, which I gave to the whole of the warriors. The Feuille brought word that he had met a Renard canoe with two men in it, who informed him, that a Renard messenger was sent from the Illinois by the Americans, with a notice to the Indians, that they, the Americans, were on their way up here mainly to take possession of their fort [at Prairie du Chien], and not to hurt the Indians. That they, the Indians, were requested to keep out of the way. That the Americans, like hunters in the wood, had wounded a deer; they had wounded the English, and were following the track till they should ruin or destroy the whole. The Feuille heard this report too late to authorize him to take the Renard. The Feuille does not understand the Renard language himself, but this was interpreted to him some time after passing the Renard canoe.

Sunday, August 28th.—Gave the Feuille ten bushels of wheat to take him, with the Renards, to the Rock river. A young lad of this place, by the name of Antoine Du Bois, volunteered his service, and embarked with the Sioux interpreter. I gave the Feuille a few articles he was absolutely in want of. Fifty Sioux, of the Feuille band, with forty-five Renards, left this place at 2 o'clock singing the war song; and at 6, about sixteen Puants arrived from above, debarked at the upper end of the village, and walked down to the lower end, singing the war-song, then immediately embarked and went off. Wrote a note to Capt. Grignon to prepare himself to go off express to Mackinaw to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Monday, August 29th.—Finished the dispatches at 10, and Capt. Grignon being detained

in expectation of Mr. Antoine Brisbois arriving from below, did not set off till 4 in the afternoon. Mr. Brisbois did not arrive.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, FORT MCKAY,

Aug. 29, 1814.

TO LIEUT. COL. McDOUALL.—

SIR:—The command of this post having been left to me by Lieut. Col. McKay, I have the honor to communicate to you, that on the 27th inst., I sent off a small detachment under the command of Lieut. Graham, of the Indian department, for the Rock river, consisting of thirty men, one brass three-pounder, and two swivels. Having sent Lieut. Graham to that place on the 15th inst., in order to get a party of Sauks to proceed with him to within two miles of the enemy's abandoned Fort Madison, to take possession of, and, if possible, bring away a gun-boat that the enemy had got sunk, by the fall of a tree, last spring, on their way up here; and, at the same time, to get information of the enemy.

But the Sauks, having got repeated information, by scouting parties, that the Americans were on the point of leaving St. Louis for this place, they were afraid, and would not go. Lieut. Graham, therefore, determined to proceed, with his small party of volunteers, to burn the gun-boat, in order to prevent its falling into the enemy's hands. As he was on the point of embarking for that purpose, two young Sauks arrived from the Sauks on the Missouri (where there are still ten lodges—say 100 men) express, with news that a courier had been sent by some French gentlemen, from St. Louis, to the Sauks on the Missouri, to notify them that a strong detachment of the enemy was to march from St. Louis on or about the 12th inst., to cut off the Indians at Rock river.

The courier from St. Louis was sent to the Indians on the Missouri, that they might immediately give information to those on Rock river to be on their guard. Lieut. Graham, believing this report to be true, returned here on the 23d

inst., but previous to his return, exclusive of circulating reports, the Indians at the Rock river sent word to me, and to the Indians above this, through the medium of a pipe, to inform me of the enemy's being on their way here and begged that I would send them some ammunition, with one or two guns and a few soldiers, to assist them in defending their lands, women and children.

On Lieut. Graham's arrival, I called together all the officers to have their opinions on the subject, and they universally agreed that it was absolutely necessary to send a small detachment, not only for the preservation of the post, but to retain the Indians in our favor. This small detachment, together with the aid they get from the Feuille with forty of his young men, will greatly encourage the Indians on the lower Mississippi, and prevent their joining the enemy which necessity might otherwise compel them to do.

The Sauks, Renards and Kickapoos that were about the entrance of Rock river when Lieut. Graham was there, formed about 800 men, though, with the re-inforcements that will join them by the time the detachments from this reaches them, I am well persuaded will reach from 1,200 to 1,500 men. Upwards of 100 men, Sioux, Puants and Renards, from above this, passed here yesterday on their way to join the detachment. Ammunition, arms and tobacco are the principal articles the Indians are really in distress for.

I beg leave to remark that the critical situation of the country here at present absolutely requires that Robert Dickson should be here with the re-inforcements of troops asked for by Lieut. Col. McKay. The volunteer privates from Mackinaw and the bay, though willing to serve their country, are becoming weary of garrison duty, and as the time for which they volunteered their services having expired, they hope to be soon relieved. I send Capt.

Grignon, of the bay express, with this communication I have the honor to be, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON,  
Capt. Commanding.

Tuesday, August 30th—At 12 o'clock the Bourgne, a Puant chief, arrived, and reports that he heard that Robert Dickson had left Mackinaw some time since for this post.

Wednesday, August 31st—Requested of Mr. Brisbois to repair Mr. Fisher's store, a convenient place to put part of the public goods. The Feuille having assured me that he had sent off two young men from his village to inform the Little Corbeau, I did not send an interpreter, as ordered on the 28th inst. The Feuille gave me this information on the 29th inst., in the morning.

Thursday, Sept. 1st, 1814—

To MR. FRENIER: You will leave this immediately, with three men in a wooden canoe, and proceed with all haste up the Mississippi till you fall in with the Little Corbeau. You will tell him the enemy are on their way up here. That Robert Dickson, from Indian reports, will be here in a very short time, and that it is requested that the principal part of his band will remain above this, not higher up than the Prairie La Crosse, to hunt, till further orders.

Yours, etc., THOMAS G. ANDERSON,  
Capt. Commanding.

Mr. Frenier went off at 10 o'clock. Showers of rain all day.

Friday, September 2d—Two letters that I wrote Lieut. Graham when he went down to the Rock river in quest of the American gun-boats, having been omitted, are inserted as follows:

FORT MCKAY, Aug. 14, 1814.

TO LIEUT. GRAHAM:

Sir—You will leave this to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, with one interpreter and six men, in a canoe. You will proceed immediately to the Rock river, unless you get certain news of the enemy's approach. On your arrival there

you will call together the Sauk chiefs, soldiers and braves, and give them a carrot of tobacco, as a present, and a request to them to go with you to assist in obtaining the object of your voyage, which is, to bring up an American gun-boat that is lying a short distance above Fort Madison. In case you are successful in getting the boat, you will use your endeavors in getting the Indians to assist you in bringing her up here; but if you cannot get that assistance, you will run her up into the Rock river where she will be safe till she can be sent for from here. If your best exertions fail in getting off the boat you will burn her, to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands.

In case you get certain information of the enemy's approach; or if you find it necessary on any other occasion to send an express here by land, you will order the Indians bearing it, to show themselves on the hills opposite this place. On their arrival, they will halloo a few shouts, then fire one gun, and shortly after they will fire three shots. This will be a signal to let me know who they are. In asking assistance from the Indians, you will tell them if they go with you and bring up the boat, they will be amply recompensed when the re-inforcement arrives from Mackinaw. Wishing you a short and successful passage, I am, sir, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON, Capt. Com'd'g.  
FORT MCKAY, Aug. 21, 1814.

LIEUT. GRAHAM:

Sir—Last evening three Renards arrived here with a pipe, sent, they say, by the Sauks, to tell me the Americans were on their way up here; but the express could [not] tell me what number of barges were coming, nor where they were seen. I will thank you to make particular inquiry of the Sanks, where the pipe came from; and tell them if they send in future, to send people that can be depended upon to give every information. They asked for ten kegs of gun-powder, and guns—two articles that they are already well supplied with. I, therefore gave them none.

Get certain and particular information before you send or return. You will tell the Indians, in case the enemy are coming up, to follow them by land, on each side of the Mississippi, and annoy them as much as possible; at the same time not to waste their ammunition in firing random shots. They requested me to go down and meet the enemy at the Rock river. This being impossible, for several reasons, I refused them positively. If you cannot get the gun-boat, use every means to destroy it. Yours, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON, Capt. Com'd'g.

At 4 A. M., a Puant arrived with Francois La Pointe's horse, that had been stolen by the Puants.

Saturday, Sept. 3d.—A cool pleasant morning, but foggy.

To LIEUT. GRAHAM:

SIR.—You will receive by interpreter Grignon, 520 pounds of flour, all that I can possibly muster. Indian report says, that Robert Dickson left Mackinaw a long time ago for this place. I have been waiting now three days, in hopes of certain information on that head, to no purpose. If you think it necessary, you can remain a few days longer than the term mentioned in your instructions of the 26th ult. I am very anxious to hear from you. I refer you to Mr. Grignon for further particulars. In hopes shortly to receive flattering news from you, I am, sir, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON, Capt. Comd'g.

Sunday, Sept. 4th.—At 10 the militia assembled as usual. I thanked the inhabitants of St. Friolet, by way of encouraging them, for having furnished what little flour they had done. Having heard a rumor that the volunteers were about to take their discharge when on parade, I represented to them the disgrace that would attend such a step, etc. They made no reply, and continued their duty for the present. At 3 A. M. two Renard canoes arrived, with six men and several women and children. By way of getting provisions and ammunition, they fabricated a story that the detachment gone below

had surrendered to the Americans. Knowing this to be a base falsehood, I abused the cowardly villains, as they deserved, and gave them nothing. This afternoon a canoe of Renards from above was seen by old La Pointe, to go down the river behind the island. He did not give me notice till late in the evening.

Monday, Sept. 5th.—The Renards that arrived yesterday, went off above.

Tuesday, Sept 6th.—Finding that one Fontaine had a mare and a young colt here, and that he had been in the Illinois three years, I ordered the mare to be taken (the colt being only this spring's) and broke in for the King's service.

Wednesday, Sept. 7th.—At 4 o'clock four Sauks, old men arrived from the Rock river, bringing the following communications from Lieut. Graham:

ROCK RIVER, Sept. 3, 1814.

CAPT. THOS. G. ANDERSON:

SIR.—Agreeably to your orders of the 26th of last month, I proceeded with all expedition for this place, which I reached on the 29th of the same month. Although there is no apparent danger, our coming here has given more satisfaction to the Sanks than if all the goods in the King's store in Mackinaw had been sent them, as they are now firmly convinced that their English Father is determined to support them against the ambition and unjust conduct of their enemies. I made known to them the intention of the expedition, to which they answered that, if we should come to action, they would stand by us to the last man. One hundred and twenty-two men, Sioux, Renards and Puants, arrived here the day before yesterday. The whole of the Indians appear to be much animated to meet the enemy, and I think with what force we have to be able to repulse any party that the enemy will be able to send this way.

I have not been able to obtain any satisfactory information of the enemy coming up. Four days ago, five Indians that went down on discovery, returned. They were as far as Cap au

Gris. They say at that point there is a small fort, which I suppose to be Fort Independence. There was a considerable number of men in and around it, with two large gun-boats at anchor before it. Whether this force is stationed there to guard their frontiers, or for collecting for an expedition to come this way, is uncertain. I detained this letter three or four days, waiting the return of five Indians that had been gone about twelve days, in hopes to obtain from them more certain information; but finding their stay too long, I send off this, as I know you are impatient to hear from this place.

Eight Indians went off, three days ago, to find out what detained the others. To them I gave orders to burn the boat, as I thought it would be impossible to send the number of men it would require to bring her up in case of an attack. As there is continually a number of Indians on the look-out, we cannot be surprised on the least notice of their coming. We shall take our position on the island,\* which is the best place for defense that I know on the Mississippi. I beg you will pay attention to those that go up with this, as we are dependent on them here for provisions. As soon as the discovering party returns, if there is no appearance of the enemy coming up, I shall of course return. I hope ere this you have news from Mackinaw.

Sir, I am, etc.,  
(Signed). DUNCAN GRAHAM,  
Lieut. Indian Dept.

(P. S.) Having finished this at 10 o'clock at night, in the morning the discovering party arrived. They saw, yesterday morning three large gun-boats under sail on their way up, about thirty leagues from here. It seems their fears prevented them from knowing their exact number. Before this reaches you, we shall, I hope, decide the business. As soon as it is daylight, I will send Lieut. Brisbois with a canoe well manned, if possible to know their strength.

\*Rock Island, unquestionably.

Should we be attended with success, you shall soon hear. I expect them after to-morrow. Nothing further at present. The 4th of September about 1 o'clock in the morning.

(signed) DUNCAN GRAHAM.

At five, a canoe arrived from the above; three Iroquois from the Riviere des Sotrax\* having left their families on that river, and came here to get some ammunition, as they were quite destitute of that article.

FORT MCKAY, Sept. 7th, 1814.

To Lieut. GRAHAM—

SIR:—I received your communication of the 3d and 4th inst., and from the enemy's apparent force, I hope ere this the business is decided in our favor. I am much gratified to have it in my power to give a most flattering detail of the good conduct of the Sauks, etc., to Lieut. Col. McDouall, who I am well persuaded will be highly pleased with them. No news from Mackinaw, but hourly expected. The express for Mackinaw left here on the 29th ult., also an express for the Sioux on the 1st inst., not yet returned. In case of your being successful, and take any prisoners, use every effort to preserve them; and if your stock of provisions will admit, bring such prisoners up here, to be sent on to Mackinaw. I am, sir,

THOS. G. ANDERSON,  
Capt. Commanding.

N. B. You will receive this by the return of the Sauks you sent up here, who leave here to-morrow morning. T. G. A.

Thursday, Sept. 8th.—The Sauks that arrived with the communication from Lieut. Graham, set off with dispatches at 8 o'clock in the morning. Previous to their setting out, I gave them each a blanket, a breech-clout, and a knife, they being four in number. They went off highly pleased.

Friday, Sept. 9th.—At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, six Puant canoes arrived from the Oniseon-sin, with La Grueness, and the Old Wolf. They

\*Saut eur or Chippewa River, doubtless.

brought word that a Folle Avoine woman from Mackinaw brought news to the bay, that when she left the post, the American fleet was in sight of Mackinaw. How long since, or what was their force, she knew nothing about.

Saturday, Sept. 10th—At 1 o'clock p. m., five Sioux arrived from the Rock river, bringing news that Lieut. Graham, with the detachment under his command, and the Indians, had attacked and defeated eight large American gun-boats at the Rock river; had taken neither prisoners nor anything else. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon, a young Sauk, who had set off from the Rock river express with two Sioux and a Renard, but having tired them out, arrived here alone with dispatches from Lieut. Graham, as follows:

ROCK RIVER, Sept. 7th, 1814.

Capt. THOMAS G. ANDERSON—

SIR:—I mentioned to you in my letter of the 4th inst., by the information I had from the Indians, that the enemy were within thirty leagues of this place on their way up. As soon as I found out their strength, I concluded the place of their destination must be La Prairie du Chien. The rapids was the only place where we could attack such a force to any advantage. On the 5th inst., we moved to the westside of the island, and took our position at the narrowest part of the channel, the only place where they could pass at that point. We were determined to dispute the road with them, inch by inch.

They appeared in sight at 4 o'clock p. m., with a strong fair wind. There were eight large boats, four of which were equal in size to the one that made her escape from the Prairie. The largest of them had a white flag flying at her mast head. When they came to the head of Credit island, about two miles from us, a storm of rain, thunder and lightning came on, and the wind shifted to the opposite point of the compass, which compelled them to pass the remainder of the day, and that night there. All the women and children were sent to the island.

took all the Sioux with us to cover the guns in case of being obliged to retreat, as they promised they would rather be killed to the last man than give up the guns.

I told the Sauks, in case the enemy should attempt to land at their village, to retreat to the island, and then we would return altogether and attack them. The 6th, at break of day, some of the Sauks came to us, and requested that we should attack them immediately, as the wind was against them, and some of their boats were aground. We crossed to the main land at the Foxes' village. There we left our boats, and went as quick as possible through the prairie unperceived by the enemy until we were on the beach opposite to them. Here we had a close view of them. I had no idea of the enormous size of their boats before. They lay with their broad sides close to a low sandy beach. The largest of them had six port-holes open on the side next to us. The channel was about 600 yards broad.

We were on an elevated spot, but no covering. I requested the Indians not to waste their ammunition firing at the boats, and save it in case the enemy should attempt to land. They did so. Finding they could not make up matters with the Sauks, as they had killed one of their sentinels in the night, they took down the white flag, and put up the bloody flag in its place, which I believe to be a signal of no quarters. It was then 7 o'clock in the morning. Everything being ready, we opened a brisk fire, from the three-pounder, and two swivels, on their boats. In about three quarters of an hour the largest of their boats, which was ahead of the others, after having about fifteen shots through her, began to push off, and dropped astern of the rest, and made the best of her way down the current. The others soon followed her. We kept firing at them along the bank, as far as the ground would permit us to drag the guns; but they soon got out of our reach.

They went on about a league, and put to shore. I thought they might intend to throw



up some breast-works, and make a stand at that place. I sent immediately for the boats to go with all the Indians, to endeavor to dislodge them from there. By the time we were ready to embark, some of the Indians that followed, returned and informed us, that it appeared to them that the Americans had committed the bodies of some of their men to a watery grave, well knowing if they buried them on shore, they would be torn to pieces. They then got up their sails, the wind being fair, and made the best of their way off. As the enemy landed at that place, the Indians say they were about 1,000 men. I think their number to be between 600 and 800.

If we had had a larger supply of ammunition and provisions, we might have harassed them as far as the rapids of the Riviere des Moines; but having only a scanty supply of the one, and entirely destitute of the other, we were obliged to give up pursuing them any further. Although we have not been able to capture any of their boats, they have been completely repulsed, and I have every reason to believe with a considerable loss, as out of fifty-four shots that we fired at them, there was only three or four that did not go through their boats. The action lasted about an hour. One of the swivels was served by Lieut. Brisbois, and the other by Colin Campbell, which they executed with credit to themselves; and all attached to the expedition behaved themselves in a manner worthy of veteran troops, for they seemed to vie with each other who would be the foremost, notwithstanding they were entirely exposed to the enemy's shot, and I am happy to say that not a man was hurt. It is to the skill and courage of Sergt. Keating, on whom everything depended, that we owe our success, and no praise of mine can bestow on him what he deserves. As the Indians had no communication with the enemy, I have not been able to find out who commanded the American expedition. Sir, I am, etc.

DUNCAN GRAHAM,  
Lieut. Indian Dept.

Sunday, Sept. 11th.—The Indians from the Rock river detachment continued arriving in small bands.

Monday, Sept. 12th.—The remainder of the Sioux, Puants and Renards arrived from the detachment below. At 4 o'clock a wooden canoe arrived from the portage, with interpreter Bester and Lance Corporal Haywood, and their men, bringing with them one case ordnance stores and one keg of powder. The conductor of the boat from Mackinaw, not being active, did not get the boat over the portage, therefore the ordnance stores, etc., were left there till I can send for them. I received letters as follows:

MICHILLIMACKANAC, Aug. 21, 1814.

To Capt. Anderson, or officer commanding Fort McKay:

SIR:—I have great pleasure in returning you my thanks for your judicious and spirited conduct during operations which ended in the capture of Fort McKay. I doubt not that whenever another opportunity presents, you will again distinguish yourself by such praise worthy conduct. I beg you will take the earliest opportunity of expressing my entire satisfaction with the good conduct and spirit evinced by all ranks employed upon the expedition; but in particular to mention my obligations to Capts. Dease and Grignon, and Lieuts. D. Graham and Brisbois, and the interpreters, St. Germain, Renville, Honore and Grignon, of the Indian department. I likewise request you to return to Sergt. Keating, particularly, my thanks for the bravery and good conduct which he so conspicuously displayed, and also to the detachment of the Michigan Fencibles and to the volunteers and militia, for their spirited and exemplary behavior. You will convey to the garrison in general my firm belief that the fort which they so gallantly won, they will as gallantly defend.

In the event of Col. McKay's having left the fort, you will command them until further orders, making every possible exertion to strengthen your post, and omitting no precau-

tion which may be necessary for its defense. I have sent Lance Corporal Heywood, of the 10th Veteran Battalion, in charge of some ordnance stores. He is to remain with you, and be employed at the artillery, under Sergt. Keating, whom I have appointed ordnance store keeper at Fort McKay.

You will see the obvious necessity of cultivating the best possible understanding with the Indians, particularly with our allies, the Sauks and Renards. You will signify to them how highly I am pleased with their conduct, and that everything in my power shall be done to supply their wants. You will signify to the Leaf and Little Corbeau my approbation of the assistance which they have afforded, and my hope that, if another attack is threatened this fall, that they will bring down the whole of their warriors to your assistance. Point out to them of what consequence it is to them to keep the enemy at their present distance. You may assure them that great efforts are making by the King in their behalf; and that the ministry are determined to make no peace till the lands plundered from the Indians are restored. To attain this purpose, great re-inforcements of troops are coming out.

As Lieut. Grignon, of the Indian department, is to reside for some time at Green Bay, you will communicate with me through him, by every possible opportunity, taking care to acquaint me with every consequence that occurs. If our post is likely to be attacked, you will also call upon him to collect whatever Folles Avoines, Winnebagoes and militia from Green Bay that he can, and repair with the utmost expedition to your assistance. I am not without hopes of being able, by and by, to send a detachment of troops to re-inforce your garrison.

It will be necessary that some regular system should be adopted for victualing the troops, which Capt. Rolette will undertake. They must be supplied with game and deer, and what beef can be got. We have not any pork to spare, and, indeed the only chance of our

being able to keep a fort at Prairie du Chien, is by the country being able to feed and support that garrison, without making any demand upon this post for provisions, which is out of the question for me to grant. Capt. Dease and yourself must make the best arrangements you can for supplying the troops, taking care that the utmost regularity and correctness appear in your accounts and disbursements. Col. McKay mentions his finding Mr. Honore, of the Indian department, a very useful commissary, and you had better still employ him in that capacity.

On Capt. Rolette's return he will take with him the proper form, according to which your monthly pay-lists are to be made out. On the 24th of each month, the troops to be regularly mustered, and the men all present or their absence accounted for. You will always be upon your guard, and take the necessary precautions to become acquainted, through the Sauks, with all the motions of the enemy; and endeavor to ascertain, as early as possible, if they have intentions of attacking you, that you may, in due time, be prepared for a most determined and vigorous defense. With the assistance of your Indians, I doubt not you will be able to repel any attempt of the enemy; but above all things, be constantly in readiness for it. I have the honor to be, etc.,

(Signed)

R. McDouall,

Lieut. Col. Commanding.

POINT AU ECORCE, Aug. 24, 1814.

My Dear ANDERSON :

As soon as the boat arrives, you will send down ten kegs of powder to the Sauks, etc. I need not tell you to put the place in the best state of defence, and get all the Indians from above, etc. Yours, etc.

(Signed) Wm. McKay, Lieut. Col., etc.

Besides these, I received other letters from my friends

Tuesday, September 13.—Lieut. Brisbois arrived early in the morning in a canoe, with interpreter Grignon, and the men that went down

with the first supplies of provisions. At 12 o'clock the weather cleared up, having rained successively two days and nights. At half past six Lieut. Graham arrived with the whole detachment under his command, all well, after having driven off eight large gun-boats, with about 100 men in each of them. We were obliged to give a good deal of bread and some wheat to the warriors from below. The Puants drove off and killed one of Capt. Rolette's oxen. Notwithstanding his men saw them drive the ox away, they neither attempted to rescue him out of their hands, nor come and give information, in order to get assistance from me.

Wednesday, September 14.—Began to write dispatches to Mackinaw. Finished at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. To Lieut. Col. McDouall, as follows:

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, FORT MCKAY,  
Sept. 14, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your obliging favor of the 21st ult., which I received on the 12th inst., in the evening, with one case of fixed shot and one keg of powder, the conductor of the boat, not, as he says, having been able to drag the boat across the portage. I sent off a boat this afternoon to bring away the ammunition, and the one from Mackinaw will return immediately from there to Green Bay with these dispatches, directed to Lieut. Grignon, for him to forward.

I have the honor most graciously to thank you for myself, and in the name of all the troops, etc., attached to this garrison, for your condescending approbation of their conduct in the late engagement at this place, under our undaunted and able commander, Lieut. Col. McKay, to whose judicious management the inhabitants of this place, and the Indian tribes on the Mississippi, acknowledge a happy and easy deliverance from an enemy that absolute necessity obliged them for a moment to countenance. I beg you may be assured every particular of

your orders shall be strictly attended to, and put in execution without delay. I am happy in having your approbation of Capt. Dease's able assistance to act in conjunction with me. I shall only take the liberty to remark, the only change that can at present be made about the garrison, is to put in comfortable quarters in which to lodge the troops; and as for provisions, in my opinion, the cheapest and most convenient means would be to send a detachment from here taking the Sauks, etc., on their way, and bring from some distance above St. Louis, a drove of cattle, where the Indians report that there are vast droves running wild about American abandoned settlements. In this case, and even in the event of depending upon the Indians, a quantity of salt would be necessary.

Lieut. Graham having arrived last evening with the detachment from Rock river, I have the honor to communicate to you, that on leaving here the 27th ult., they made the best of their way, and arrived at the Rock river on the 29th; and soon got certain information that the enemy were near at hand, but could not know their strength till eight large gun-boats hove in sight on the 5th inst., at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The foremost being the largest, and a finely painted boat, was supposed to be the commanding officer's. She had a white flag hoisted at her mast-head. This was supposed to be with an intent either to deceive the Indians, or to use every means to gain them over to their side. Our people kept themselves concealed, expecting the enemy would attempt to ascend the rapids, when they would have had a fair opportunity to capture the whole. The enemy had no communication with the Indians, but lay quietly at anchor.

In the course of the night, contrary to Lieut. Graham's orders, some of the Indians shot two of the sentries from off their boats, and the next morning the enemy struck the white flag, and, to their confusion be it said, hoisted a scarlet one in its place, a signal for no quarters. Lieut. Graham, finding their intentions were to re-

main there some time, and as the Indians became ungovernable, it became necessary to commence a fire upon them, which was done with much honor to those who commanded the guns. They having fired about fifteen rounds into the front boat, she turned her stern to the current, and sailed down as fast as possible, the seven others immediately following. The guns played upon them as long as they could be dragged along the beach.

Lieut. Brisbois commanded one of the swivels, Sergt. Keating the three-pounder, and Sergt. Colin Campbell, of the fencibles or volunteers, the other swivel. The shots were well directed, for out of fifty-four that were fired, not more than three missed doing execution. The enemy were thrown into such a consternation on seeing a few red coats, that they could do nothing with their guns, and in fact did not fire more than fifteen shots till they recovered their senses, and then they were too far off to do execution, but kept up a brisk random firing. Notwithstanding about 1,200 Indians, and the detachment from this place were the number present, and every man displayed the greatest courage and good conduct, yet the battle was fought by only about twenty men that manned the guns.

If the officers and men of this garrison have merit for their conduct on the 17th of July last, surely the detachment to the Rock river excel, and deserve every praise. The gun-boats were supposed to have 800 men on board, and some of them were pierced for twelve guns. I beg to mention particularly Lieut. Graham's judicious conduct in the command of the detachment, and Lieut. Brisbois, Sergt. Keating, and Sergt. Colin Campbell of the volunteers, for their courage and well managed firing. On this head too much cannot be said of Sergt. Keating.

The satisfaction afforded the Indians from their having had this assistance, can only be imagined. Their shouts and acclamations of joy at every shot from our guns, drowned the

report of the guns, and notwithstanding the only assistance they could give was to drag about the guns, they displayed the greatest courage, and promised to die to a man with their fathers. The Fenille with his warriors were particularly active in this duty. The Sauks have, without repeating their gallant conduct in the field, behaved in a manner foreign to Indian Nations. They, having large fields of corn, strove one with another, who would be the most obliging, and furnish the most of that article to the detachment.

Not being well acquainted with the duties of a commanding officer, I dreaded reproach by leaving the garrison, is the reason why I did not go myself with the detachment below; but should any other opportunity present itself, I will risk the leaving the garrison in charge of some militia, to go and meet the enemy with all the force I can muster, unless I receive contrary orders. The iron three-pounder, we took with Fort McKay, is without any elevating screw, a necessary part of the gun we cannot get made here. I take the liberty to refer you to letters written to and received from Lieut. Graham during his absence with the detachment to the Rock river, which will afford you a more minute detail of the whole management.

That worthy soldier, Sergt. Keating, begs of me to request you will do him the favor to accept his warmest acknowledgments for the honor you have shown him. From his behavior since he left Mackinaw, I have not the smallest doubt but he will continue to deserve your approbation of his conduct. I have the honor, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON, Capt. Com'd'g.

Sent a barge off for the portage to bring away the ammunition, and at the same time to take the dispatches there and forward them by the barge that came from Mackinaw to Lieut. Grignon at Green Bay, and for him to forward to Mackinaw.

Thursday, Sept. 15th.—Nothing material happened till the afternoon at 6 o'clock,

when interpreter Frenier arrived from above, with news that the Sioux would all leave their villages on the 14th inst., to come and wait at the place I told them till further orders, except the Little Corbeau with his lodge, who would come and camp here. This chief sent word to the Renards above this, that his Father had told him to destroy the Americans as much as lay in his power, and he knew these Renards to be Americans; but at the same time they were related to the Sioux, on which account he warned them to be out of his way when he should come down. That he would be down with a detachment, and intended to hunt Americans all winter; and that whatever of that description came in his sight he would cut down. When the Americans were here, they sent a carrot of tobacco to each village except his, saying they knew him to be too good an Englishman to be induced to join them. The Little Corbeau said he was quite proud of the honor they did him; but as it was done with a view to despise him, he could not forget it on that account, and the only means of retaliation he had, was to make his young men take a few scalps, which he would have done before the spring.

Friday, September 16th.—Got word of some Puants having killed an ox, and that they were drying the meat a short distance below the entrance of the Ouisconsin. By allowing them to go on in this way, without trying to prevent it, they would in a short time destroy all the cattle in this region, and leave us destitute of provisions. I, therefore, ordered Lieut. Brisbois, of the Indian department, with one interpreter and four men, to go to their lodge and take whatever meat they had, and order them away.

FORT MCKAY, Sept. 16, 1814.

LIEUT. BRISBOIS.—

SIR:—Some Puants camped a short distance below the entrance of the Ouisconsin, having, in defiance of the orders they have received to the contrary, killed, within this day or two, an

ox belonging to a citizen of this place; you are requested to go immediately, with one interpreter and four of the volunteers, to order them away from this, and take what beef they may have remaining. Yours, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON, Capt. Comd'g.

At 6, Lieut. Brisbois returned, bringing with him a little dried meat, and some tallow. I gave the meat to those that had been to bring it, and the tallow I kept for the use of the guns. Lieut. Brisbois brought word that the Puants expected to have been taken, and confined in the garrison. They said they were surprised that we complained that they killed an ox; that we would be more surprised when their Father arrived from Mackinaw, for then they would neither leave an ox, cow or horse in the village.

Saturday, September 17th.—Lieut. Graham, when at Rock river, found some of the Missouri Indians there, who came with an intention to see the superintendent; and finding that they behaved themselves so well in the action, he promised them some trifling articles from the King's store. I, accordingly, mustered what I could, and set off interpreter, Guillroy, with them, ordering, at the same time, that he should remain with the Sauks in case any news should be received of the enemy's coming up, to get ocular information, and immediately to bring me word.

Sunday, September 18th.—At 10, assembled the troops as usual, and read to them the contents of Lieut. Col. McDouall's letter as far as it regarded them. I then spoke to them in the following manner: "After reading the contents of Lieut. Col. McDouall's letter to you as far as it regards Michigan fencibles, volunteers, etc., I now take the opportunity to thank the detachments in general that defeated the eight American gun-boats at the Rock river, for their good and spirited conduct during their absence from this place, and do not make the smallest doubt but they will receive the thanks of Lieut. Col. McDouall. I also take this opportunity of explaining to you all, the orders

of the day, in which you will find the demands made upon the different corps; and as it is for the preservation of this place in general, and for the good of His Majesty's service, I have not the smallest doubt but my demands will be executed without a murmur. From your good conduct, and attention to your duties since the Michigans and volunteers so nobly possessed themselves of this fort, and delivered the citizens of this place from an enemy, the presence of which was most aggravating to them, I have every reason to believe I shall not be under the necessity of going to extremities, a most disagreeable task to one who wishes his fellow-soldiers and volunteers everything that is good and glorious."

At 12 o'clock, a Sioux woman from above, brought word that a party of Gens de Feuille, with some Yanktons of the Riviere des Moines, numbering about forty men, were near the Feuille's village, destined for the war path; but they did not know where the the Feuille, or Leaf, was; and having been notified not to go alone, he went with his warriors to know what were the intentions of this party. No news since.

About 2 o'clock, hearing that Winosheek, an old Puant, was in possession of a pipe and wamum for the Sioux, I inquired what was the intention of it. The old man brought it to my room, and showed it to me, saying it was to ask permission of the Sioux to winter on their lands between this and the Riviere des Sioux; not to go to war on the Sotrax [Sauteurs, or Chippewas], but, on the contrary, to request all Indians, of what Nation soever, to join hands, and not allow an American to come this far. How true this is, I know not.

Monday, Sept. 19th. — Five Sauks arrived about 10 o'clock with news that the enemy were at the entrance of the Riviere des Moines, but uncertain what were their number, or whether they were making a fort, or on their way up here. I, therefore, await interpreter Guillroy's return, to decide what I will do—

whether to go and meet them, or wait their arrival here. At 12, sent off interpreter Renville to notify the Sioux to keep themselves in readiness, and to assemble from the Prairie a La Crosse downwards to hunt till further orders.

Tuesday, Sept. 20th.—Nothing of consequence. A party of militia at work at the fort. Engaged Charles La Pointe at ten shillings a day to oversee and finish the doubling of some part of the garrison [pickets] where they are weak. The three guns kept constantly drilling. Bought a horse to draw the six-pounder.

Wednesday, Sept. 21st.—At 2 P. M., the barge arrived from portage with the ordnance stores, and powder and tobacco for the Indian department. A case of round shot for the three-pounder wanting, and nearly a keg of powder; and one-third of a roll of tobacco belonging to the Indian department missing. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon six Renards, of the Barboulliers' band arrived from above to learn the news. They brought a pipe, and the following speech from the Barboullier:

"My Father, why have you not confidence in me? I am yours. In everything you do I wish to be with you. I can only die once, and the only death I look for is along side of you. I expected you would have sent me word to tell me the enemy were coming up. I send you my pipe to tell you my ideas, and at the same time to know yours.

"My father, if there are any bad birds, do not, I beg of you, number me with them. I have hold of your hand, and will never let it slip; but will follow your road as long as I live. Send me word what you intend doing. I am ready to follow you. When I went to meet the bad dogs last time at the Rock river, I had but a few mouthfuls to give my warriors, but now I have really too much—what might make a good feast. My young men are numerous, stout and hungry."

I replied: "My brethren you must not call me Father. You have only one Father in this country, that is the Red Head, Robert Dickson,

the others are all your brethren. The moment that the Sauks arrived from below, and told me they had seen the enemy, they supposed, on their way up here, I sent off an interpreter with them to inform all the Indians he should see on his way up, till he should meet the Little Corbeau, of the news the Sauks brought. At the same time to request all to repair to Prairie a la Crosse, to await the return of interpreter Guillroy, whom I sent down some days ago to gain certain information of the enemy. That on his return I would again send and notify all the Indians whether I would go, and meet the enemy below, or await them here; and that I had not the smallest doubt, from their courageous conduct heretofore, but they would be all ready at a moment's warning." I then informed them of the news from Mackinaw, etc. Capt. Dease gave them a little powder and tobacco, and they went off at 7 o'clock in the evening. In the course of the day, I went out to the inhabitants to purchase flour, but could procure none. There are only two days' rations of that article in the garrison.

Thursday, Sept. 22d.—Capt. Dease assembled the inhabitants at this place, and appealed to them to try and procure flour. Want of horses, mills and time were the reasons they gave for not supplying that article. They promised to furnish what they can spare as fast as possible; but not with that energy generally shown by British subjects on like occasions. Capt. Dease preferred to go with ammunition to the Sauks.

Friday, Sept. 23d.—Capt. Dease set off at 9 o'clock in the morning with three men, accompanied by Thomas, the Sauk chief. Fired a few rounds from the guns to practice.

Sunday, Sept. 25th.—Assembled the troops as usual, and immediately after went out and practiced at the target. Shot six rounds with the six-pounder, five with each of the three-pounders, and five with a swivel. Confined Demairaix, a Michigan private, for refusing to do his duty when on fatigue, and one of the volunteers for absolutely refusing to mount guard.

Duncan Campbell made the best shot at the guns.

Monday, Sept. 26th.—Two men of the volunteers, Kennet and Grignon, were confined in the guard-house by the officer of the day, for fighting when on guard. Established a court of inquiry to be held to investigate the conduct of the men in the guard-room. Not being able to inflict corporal punishment, this method is adopted in case they are found guilty and merit punishment. They will be detained in confinement till an occasion offers to send them to Mackinaw. At 12 o'clock, the court of inquiry not finding Demairaix and Grignon guilty of the crimes they were charged with, I had them released.

Tuesday, Sept. 27th.—At 10, a court martial was held, when Pierre Emare, private in the volunteers, was found guilty of neglect of duty in refusing to mount guard; but the court after condemning him to be sent to Mackinaw in irons, to lose his pay from the time of his engagement, and to lose his share of the prize money, recommended him to the mercy of the commanding officer. Finding his crime proceeded entirely through ignorance, and in consequence of his former good conduct, I ordered him to be released from confinement to-morrow morning, and return to his duty. At 2, a canoe arrived from below, with six Renards, among them Bardack, a chief, with news that the Americans, seen at the Riviere des Moines, were those driven back from the Rock river, who put ashore to bury some of their dead.

They also complained hard of Capt. Dease not giving them any powder on his way down. They also came to inquire about a report circulating amongst them, that the Sioux were assembled to go to war against the Renards and Sauks. This report was fabricated by the bands of the Jenne Homme, or Young Man, and Tonnerre Noir, or Black Thunder, Renard Yankee chiefs, to irritate those Nations against the Sioux, and by this means to disaffect our Sauks and Renards. I contradicted the report, and told them it

sprung from the Little Corbeau having sent word to the Tonnerre Noir and Jeune Homme, when they heard of his coming down the river, to be out of the way, for his Father at Mackinaw told him to cut down everything American that he found in the road, no matter what color or size. In the evening interpreter Renville arrived from above. The Little Corbeau, with 100 of his warriors, would not remain above to hunt, lest his presence might be necessary here sooner than word could reach him from me. He therefore will be here to-morrow, and appears to be determined to remain till his Father arrives from Mackinaw.

Wednesday, Sept. 28th.—At 11 o'clock, the Little Corbeau arrived with 100 men and their families. With all his young men, he called upon me, gave me a soldier's pipe and every assurance of his fidelity, and insists, that when Robert Dickson arrives, he will go to work with his warriors, to exterminate those Indians about here that adhere to the Americans. It was with much difficulty that the Feuille or Leaf with the assistance of Mr. Renville, who I sent up for that purpose, prevented Little Corbeau's falling upon the Renards above this. However, he promises to be quiet till his Father, Robert Dickson, arrives; then he, with the Feuille, will insist upon beginning with the Gens de la Feuille.

I only said to him, that his having been to Mackinaw, rendered it unnecessary for me to give him any advice, or tell him his Father's orders; but requested him not to permit his young men to injure the people here in killing what few Americans yet remain. The Bardack, or Renard, that I yesterday requested to remain to hear the news from the Little Corbeau himself, being present, he told them that what he had said respecting the American Indians was true; but as to speaking in general terms against others, he intended to say, that he regarded every Indian and white soldier, no matter of what color, as long as they were British subjects, as his brother—the rest his inveterate

enemies, and would act with the greatest vigor towards both accordingly. He then said: "I wish to talk with my friend, the Bardack; but as I am only on a visit in the house of a brother soldier, I can say nothing; however, I will thank you not to go away to-day, and I will do myself the pleasure to invite you and talk over the affairs of our Nations in general, at my own wigwam or lodge." I gave them each a glass of whisky, and among the whole, forty loaves of bread, which I got with much difficulty.

Thursday, September 29th.—At about 3 in the morning, it began to rain excessively, and thundered and lightened very much. At 10, the Little Corbeau sent for me to visit his lodge with the Renards. He related to the Renards all the talks he had got from his Father, saying he looked upon all people, no matter of what Nation, so long as they were British subjects, as his brethren. "I sent word," said he, "to the Renards, at the Riviere des Ayovois [Iowas], when they heard of my coming down, to be out of the way, that my Father told me to strike everything American that came in my way; but the soldier you see here, together with the advice of the Feuille, have made me withhold my war-club till my Father arrives; then if he says, strike, I will do so with the greatest good will and violence; and if he tells me to withhold it, I will do it, but never without his request. My opinion is, the nearer we are related, the better we ought to love each other; and when relations fall out, our revenge ought to be the more violent." Presenting the Renards with a pipe, he said: "Take this soldier's pipe, and report to all the Sauks and Renards my discourse and my determination, and tell them from me that it is not a good time to be idle or sporting, but every man must follow my example. If any are my enemies, let them show themselves, and let my friends do the same."

He then gave them the pipe, and we ate a mouthful, after which the Renards answered as follows: "As to my Father's talks, we know



that all that comes from his mouth is true and good. In every village we find some fools. I have frequently spoken to our relations, the Jeune Homme and Tonnerre Noir, but have not been able to bring them to reason. I shall go to-morrow with your pipe, and deliver them your discourse. I hope they may open their ears; but let the consequence be what it may, this is the last time I shall counsel them. If they listen to me, so much the better; but if they absolutely persist in evil conduct, and will not leave it in our Father's power to give life to their women and children, I shall then be ready with you to follow our Father's directions. I have killed Americans, and am always awake, with my *cass-tete* or tomahawk in my hand for that purpose."

I then told them I was happy to see them give such friendly proofs of their relationship, and that as long as they continued in the same sentiments they should not want; that I was not left here to give advice or counsel with my red brethren, but to take care of this fort and the people about it; that I listened to everything that was going forward, and wrote it down, that their Father might see it, and that I had not the smallest doubt but their Father would be pleased with their present discourse. I then turned to the Renards, and told them when they heard the Little Corbeau speak, they heard the talk of the whole Sioux Nation, and that he must be respected and hearkened to.

Friday, September 30th.—Nothing material, except two men, having been out hunting, saw three Puant lodges at the entrance of the Ouisconsin, who told them that they had heard by other Indians that Robert Dickson was near the portage, and that the Puants were assembling at the portage to meet him.

Saturday, Oct. 1st.—At 7, Duncan began to make the chimneys. He is to have a man to assist him continually, and to get 400 livres for each chimney, to be finished the 15th, and should be supplied with 100 pounds of pork, and three pounds of powder. At 8, two men, by the

names of Pierre Vasseur and Jacques Hebert, were confined in the guard house; also a man by the name of Pierre Provancall, of the volunteers, the two former for having got out of the fort, through a port-hole, after 8 o'clock at night, the latter for having fallen asleep on his post when on guard; the whole to be examined on Monday next before a court of inquiry, to be appointed for that purpose. It appears that Pierre Vasseur made use of mutinous language in the fort. At 12, a Folle Avoine arrived from the portage, who brought word that an express had arrived there ten days ago, with news, that Robert Dickson was at the bay, when the courier from the bay left that place; that he was bringing a great number of barges and soldiers, and that no word was mentioned of the Puants.

Sunday, Oct. 2d.—The troops assembled as usual; practiced firing; fifteen shots were fired; only one struck the target; Manaiger, a private of the Michigans, made the best shots.

Monday, Oct. 3d.—All hands on fatigue. The Sioux played at la crosse all day; several got sore wounds from the ball and the hurl sticks. At 7, Antoine Brisbois arrived with a boat load of corn. Rained excessively.

Tuesday, Oct. 4th.—Nothing new. Got word that the Renards from above wished to come and deliver themselves up. This proceeds from the Little Corbeau's threats, and the same time having given a pipe to the Bardack, telling him his determination, as soon as his father arrives, to begin and strike on all those that are the American's friends. The Jeune Homme arrived in the village, but did not show himself where I was. The Sioux continued playing at la crosse. Yesterday we buried an old woman by the name of Marie. She died the night before last. She had been poisoned. A great loss to this village, she being an excellent old doctress, particularly for children. She was of the Sioux Nation, but had been a long time amongst the white people. Hazy weather.

Wednesday, Oct. 5th.—Several canoes of Renards arrived from above. Called upon me with

their flag twisted, in consideration of the Little Corbeau's pipe. I gave them my hand, and at the same time told them the reason why I did so. The Sioux finished playing at la crosse. It is with the greatest difficulty the commissary procures provisions for the troops.

Thursday, Oct. 6th.—A beautiful morning. At 9 o'clock one canoe with six men arrived from the Feuilles' band for a little powder and tobacco. Though much in want of those articles, I have none to give them, and Capt. Dease's long stay below, obliges them to return in the morning without this very necessary assistance.

Friday, Oct. 7th.—The Feuilles' young men did not depart, in expectations that Capt. Dease would return. At 12, released Pierre Vasseur and Jacques Hebert from the guard house, as also Pierre Provancall; but confined them to the square on hard labor, the first for eight days, the second for six days, and the last for four days. The numerous Indian tribes about the village, quite destitute of tobacco and ammunition, are, in a manner, in distress, and Robert Dickson's arrival is much wished for by all ranks and colors.

Saturday, Oct. 8th.—Capt. Dease's unexpected long absence obliges me to order Lieut. Graham to issue a little tobacco to the Sioux, who are absolutely in want.

FORT MCKAY, Oct. 8, 1814.

LIEUT. GRAHAM—

SIR:—The absolute necessity the Sioux are in for that article, and Capt. Dease's long absence, makes it necessary for me to order that you will immediately issue to Little Corbeau, twenty pounds of tobacco, of that which Capt. Dease left in your charge, to be distributed in the Feuille and Little Corbeau's bands, as they think proper.

I am, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON,  
CAPT. COM'D'G.

Sunday, Oct. 9th.—At 8, yesterday morning, Capt. Dease arrived from below. Brought interpreter Guillroy with him, who had been at

the American fort at the rapids of the Riviere des Moines, and brings word that they have built a fort exactly opposite that river; that it is about fifty yards square; that they saw three men about the fort, two of whom he supposed were looking for honey; the other was about their boats. They have uncovered their boats for lumber to cover their houses.

Some of the volunteers refused to take corn for their rations; and when the troops were all assembled, I ordered those that had refused their rations out of the ranks, took away their guns and forbid every person giving them any support, or, at their peril, to harbor them, and gave orders to the officers of the Indian department to tell the Indians, that if any of them were found any distance from here, to bring them back, dead or alive. They were much surprised at the sentence, and immediately wished to apologize for it, but I would not hear them. I, at the same time, thanked the others for not allowing themselves to be led into such a disgraceful plot.

Monday, October 10th—Capt. Dease distributed powder and tobacco to the starving Indians here about; and in order to provide flour for the garrison, he at the same time was under the absolute necessity of exchanging powder for that article. The inhabitants not being able to thrash their wheat for the want of time, I was obliged to exempt them from working at the garrison.

Tuesday, October 11th—Employed the day in writing letters to Mackinaw, etc.:

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, FORT MCKAY,  
Oct. 11, 1814.

LIEUT. COL. R. MCDOWALL:

SIR—I have the honor to communicate to you that yesterday a discovering party, I had sent off some time ago, returned with news that five of the eight gun-boats, that were driven back from the Rock river (the other three are supposed to have continued their route to St. Louis) are at the entrance of the Riviere des Moines; and the Americans have built a fort there, on

the east side of the Mississippi, about 140 leagues from this, and about half way from this to St. Louis, two leagues below the fort of the Rapids. Interpreter Guillroy, who headed this party of eight Sauks, reports to have been within musket shot of the fort for a whole day, and discovered three men, two of which he supposed were looking for honey; and wishing to take them prisoners, prevailed upon the Indians not to fire upon them. By this means they unfortunately made their escape. The third man was walking about the boat, all of which they have uncovered, and made use of the boards to cover their houses.

The fort is about fifty yards square, and is picketed in with very large oak pickets, about twelve feet high, and is situated on a high hill that terminates at the water side where their boats are hauled up. They have cleared all the trees and brush from the back part of their fort to the distance of musket shot; but in front, to the water side, they have left a thick wood standing, I suppose to cover their going for water. At the north side of their fort, about 700 or 800 yards distance, is a small hill or elevation, which rather exceeds the fort in height, and entirely covers the approach of troops till the extremity of the hill is attained. The Mississippi at this place is about 1,000 or 1,200 yards wide, and clear from islands. From the expeditious manner in which they have forwarded their work in so short a time, I am led to believe they must be about 500 strong. What their real plan is, I cannot say; but I conceive that their object is to assemble a strong force with a large supply of provisions, and either to attempt to come up here this fall late, or make a grand attack in the spring, and use every means to destroy the Indian tribes on the borders of the Mississippi.

A Pottawatamie Indian, having been taken prisoner some time ago by the Americans, made his escape about the time the eight gun-boats left St. Louis for this place, and reported to the Sauks, that an expedition of 500 men left St.

Louis at the same time, with the eight gun-boats, to proceed up the Missouri\* under a pretence of friendship with our Indians on that river, offer them terms of accommodation, give them a few goods and at the moment the Indians would be distributing the goods among themselves, the Americans were to fall upon them and cut them to pieces. This was also the plan they were to have adopted at the Rock river, when they hoisted their white flag. This news, coming by an Indian to the other Nations, has a good effect, because it is firmly believed; and convinces them what dastardly enemies they have to contend with; and did the Americans really wish or intend to come to terms with them, the Indians will be too apprehensive of treachery, to admit them to come to a parley.

There is not the smallest doubt but the enemy aim at this place, and their first object will be (as they have now no hopes of making peace or destroying the Indians by their vile stratagems) to drive them, if possible, off the borders of the Mississippi, to insure for themselves a free passage or communication with their boats to this place. This object obtained, they would with ease overcome our Indians, and in a short time make themselves very formidable here. To obviate this, I take the liberty to observe that our Indians ought to be amply supplied with ammunition; and some troops with a heavy gun would be indispensably necessary to destroy their gun-boats, and make a breach in their forts.

The forts they build are constructed in such a manner, that 300 or 400 men knock up one in the course of three weeks, composed of wood, earth and stone, so strong as to bid defiance to the small guns that are here; and without regular troops to cover the guns, and to show the example in scaling or making a breach, no attacking party can hope for success. For this purpose, in my opinion, a twenty-four pound

\* Lieut. Col. Henry Dodge's expedition up the Missouri, against a band of hostile Miamies, September, 1814, captured 152.

carronade, being light, would be the most proper gun.

Our troops are now on rations of corn one day, and flour and pork the next; but the latter will, in a few days, be at an end. There are still a few cattle remaining; but I think it advisable to keep them for the present in case of an attack. The numerous bands of Indians that are daily assembling here, are anxious for Robert Dickson's arrival, not only in hopes of receiving supplies of ammunition, etc., to support them during the winter, but in hopes that there may be an expedition sent down the Mississippi. The satisfaction afforded the Indians on hearing Robert Dickson's talk to them through Capt. Dease, was very great, and animated them exceedingly.

The mechanics I have employed about the garrison, etc., being poor people that live by their daily labor, I get them paid at short intervals by Mr. Brisbois, who has been very obliging in that way, and has furnished everything in his power for the use of the government. I am particularly under obligations to him for furnishing flour to the troops during the time the inhabitants were getting in their harvest. The militia in general have been attentive, and have assisted, when occasion required, to work at the garrison. The crop of wheat, and Indian corn, has, by no means, been so good as was expected; and if the troops are all obliged to winter here, there will be a deficiency of those articles.

Four Sauks have this moment arrived from the Rock river, and report that a party of their Nation and Kickapoos, that had been at war on the Missouri, returned six days ago to their village. After having attacked an American gun-boat about thirty leagues below the Riviere des Moines, and could make nothing of it, they proceeded to the Missouri, where they took two scalps and on their way back, saw six gun-boats coming up, but cannot say whether they are destined for the fort at Cap au Gris, twenty leagues above St. Louis, or the one at the Ri-

viere des Moines. The Sauks, since Capt. Dease took them the supply of gunpowder, are daily detaching themselves by small parties to lay in wait for the workmen about the new fort.

On examining the ordnance stores, sent out by Lance Corporal Haywood, there proves a deficiency of a whole case of three-pound round shot, thirty rounds less than mentioned in Sergt. Pilmore's account. I take the liberty to enclose to you three different lists of officers and men that were here present, or on command on the 24th of July, the 24th of August, and the 24th of September, and remark in the margin at what dates certain officers and men left this place. Not having the regular forms to make out the pay lists, etc., I trouble you with those lists to give an idea of the forces here.

The principal expenditures have been for mechanics, flour, and Indians, the whole of which will not exceed £ 350 currency, the exact amount of which I will transmit as soon as I get the regular form. This garrison is much in want of a flag, and the articles of war.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

THOS. G. ANDERSON,  
CAPT. COMD'G.

Wednesday, Oct. 12th.—Raining all day excessively, prevented Lieut. Graham's marching.

Thursday, Oct. 13th.—Weather cleared up at 10, and at 4 in the afternoon Lieut. Graham set off. In the evening, he having forgot some things, sent back a man with interpreter Berthe.

Friday, Oct. 14th—Nothing of consequence, except that the vagabond, the Tonnerre Noir, arrived. He neither showed his flag, nor called upon me.

Saturday, Oct. 15th—Having borrowed a keg of gun-powder some days ago from Mr. Giard, for use in case of necessity, and finding no other means of encouraging the farmers to make flour, I gave it to Capt. Dease to exchange for flour or other provisions.

Sunday, Oct. 16th—Practicing at the target was the means of expending much ammunition, left it off; but had the men drilled. In the eve-

ning two Folles Avoine women arrived from Green Bay, one month on the passage. They say Robert Dickson was to be at the bay about the 1st of October; that he was bringing with him a number of Court Orielles, all the Folles Avoines, and upwards of 100 soldiers; that the Nancy had taken two American vessels, and that the Sareel was the first Indian that got on board, for which he got a wam-pum collar.

Monday, Oct. 17th.—Began the northeast block-house. The Renards made a straw man, or a man of straw, and challenged the Sioux to strike upon him, which they did, and gave them a number of their arms, utensils and fineries. Bought six cords of wood from Champegne, which I have not yet paid him for. In the evening Lieut. Graham returned, bringing with him Mr. Rolette, from Mackinaw, who brought me letters from Col McDouall, etc. As time will not admit of my copying, they are filed in the desk.

Tuesday, Oct. 18th.—Began to write letters, to send off Lieut. Graham with them. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, fired a royal salute for the good news from Mackinaw.

Wednesday, Oct. 19th.—As I received orders from Col. McDouall to discharge the Green Bay volunteers, I did so. I got money from Mr. Rolette to pay them off. I issued a proclamation that neither provisions nor lead should go out of this post, knowing that an order was sent here from Green Bay, and the demands we had for those articles for the government, were my reasons.

Thursday, Oct. 20th.—The little Corbeau called a council, when he notified us that part of the Sioux were going to return home. Mr. Dease, knowing that I had received four kegs of gun-powder for the Indians, asked me for one to give the returning Siouxs. Finding it requisite, I consented, and gave it to him. Explained to them in a few words what Col. McDouall had ordered me to do. Finished my dispatches for Mackinaw. My letters being

too long to copy, I have filed them with other papers.

Friday, Oct. 21st.—Louison Berthe, interpreter in the Indian department, having been confined some days ago, by order of Capt. Dease, for having refused to obey orders, requested to speak with me, or to get permission to come and apologize for his past bad conduct. I sent him word I had nothing to do with him.

Sunday, Oct. 23d.—Assembled the troops as usual, and informed them that they were to be mustered, and paid off to-morrow.

Monday, Oct. 24th.—Mustered the troops, and paid the volunteers up to the 24th inst., Mr. Rolette having furnished the necessary money for that purpose.

Tuesday, Oct. 25th.—Paid off the detachment of Michigan Fencibles up to the 24th inst., Mr. Rolette having furnished the necessary money for that purpose.

Wednesday, Oct. 26th.—Capt. Dease having received a letter from Mr. Dickson, agent and superintendent of the western Nations, wherein he mentions to him to allow no person to interfere with him with respect to the Indians, I gave up to him everything in my charge belonging to the Indian department, for which I received his receipt.

Thursday, Oct. 27th.—Mr. Rolette having, since his arrival, kept selling rum to the troops, etc., I was under the necessity of putting up a proclamation forbidding the sale of spirituous liquors; for as long as this custom of allowing the men to get drunk lasts, nothing can be done about the fort. Mr. Aird arrived in the evening.

Friday, Oct. 28th.—Mr. Aird brought news that Lieut. Graham was promoted to captain in the Indian department, and Sergt. Keating as a lieutenant in the provincial volunteer artillery, but as this was only verbal, I made no orders on that score.

Saturday, Oct. 29th.—Mr. Rolette having been ordered to supply one of his horses for fatigue today at the fort, and refusing to obey the order,

Capt. Dease requested me to send a guard for the horse, which I did, because Mr. Rolette having refused, showed a bad example, and prevented a number of the inhabitants that were ordered to-day, from doing their duty.

Sunday, Oct. 30th.—In the evening a party of Renards from below, at the Riviere du D'Inde,\* brought some deer meat, which they disposed of in the village.

Monday, Oct. 31st.—Mr. Aird having brought with him a keg of wine tapped it the day after his arrival, and was very obliging, it being an article not common in this place, in making almost a general business of it, till there was no more. To-day the commissary got quite drunk, and was very abusive to every person, no matter who. A drunken man is always annoying to a sober one, and as Mr. Honore came into my house quite drunk, with an intention to be as abusive to me as to others, I put him out of doors; and as I had not drank a drop of liquor for some days, I could not put up with his abuse, and sent for the guard to take him away; but before the guard arrived, he was conveyed to his quarters.

Tuesday, Nov. 1st.—Being all Saint's Day, no work was done. Three Puants arrived from Ouisconsin. No news.

Wednesday, Nov. 2d.—Put up an advertisement to procure wood and candles for the use of the garrison, as the season is advancing fast. Mr. Honore persisting in his obstinacy, I was under the necessity of depriving him of his employment as commissary, for which purpose I wrote him a note, desiring him to deliver everything he had belonging to the commissary department, and deliver it to Lieut. Brisbois.

Thursday, Nov. 3d.—Rainy weather has been a great detriment to advancing the work of the fort.

Friday, Nov. 4th.—Mr. Rolette sent off a barge to get provisions, to accomplish which, I

\*Turkey river, a tributary of the Mississippi, about thirty miles below Prairie du Chien, on the Iowa side of the stream. On Mellish's map, of 1816, a Renard of Fox village is noted on the upper side of Turkey river, at its mouth.

was obliged to let him have six men of the volunteers.

Saturday, November 5th.—Three men of the volunteers got permission to return to their homes. Bought them a canoe and gave them rations. To conduct them, interpreter Honore got permission, with John Campbell, to accompany them till they meet Robert Dickson.

Sunday, November 6th.—Nothing of consequence.

Monday, November 7th.—Tried every means to purchase wood for the fort. Mr. Rolette having offered to take the contract at the extravagant rate of twenty shillings per cord of wood delivered here, I deferred entering into the contract till I got very particular information from every individual about the place.

Tuesday, November 8th.—Got a calash and went out to the farms to try and get the wood necessary for the fort, contracted for in small quantities, to give an opportunity to every person of gaining something during the winter; but not finding any person that would undertake even a cord, I was obliged to contract with Mr. Joseph Rolette for 300 cords, at twenty shillings per cord.

Wednesday, November 9th.—Being ration day, and the conductor having nothing but bustards, the Michigans did not wish to take one pound of that meat for their day's rations. However, as it is good, wholesome food, and agreeable to Mr. Rolette's contract with the government they were obliged to accept it.

Thursday, November 10th.—Nothing new. Continual rain and cold.

Friday, November 11th.—John Campbell, who went from this place with interpreter Honore to meet Mr. Dickson, returned, saying he had been to the portage, and getting no news of the re-inforcement, therefore returned.

Saturday, November 12th.—Violent rain. The Little Corbeau called a council and meditated going off; but Mr. Dease and myself, thinking it best that his band should remain a few days longer, in case Mr. Dickson should arrive, and

might be wanted, they agreed to stay, and Mr. Dease gave them twelve bushels of corn and forty loaves of bread.

Sunday, November 13th—At 12 o'clock, three men, of the Gens de la Feuille, arrived under the "Buffalo that Plays;" they were received as secret enemies, and got no assistance from us.

Monday, November 14th—A Folle Avoine canoe arrived and told us Mr. Dickson would probably be here in two or three days.

Tuesday, November 15th—A violent storm of rain all day. Nothing new.

Wednesday, November 16th—Cold north wind. Not able to plaster in the fort.

Thursday, November 17th—Continued very cold. Being ration day, I ordered one and a half pounds bustard meat be issued; one pound of that meat not by any means being equal to that quantity of venison or beef. Bought a keg of high wines of Mr. Brisbois, at \$14 the gallon, so by reducing it to be able to give, in this cold weather, a gill of whisky to each man on fatigue, etc.

Friday, November 18th—Paid the masons for making two chimneys, £49, 16s., 8d. At 10 o'clock three Sauk canoes arrived, bearing each a flag. They are all in winter quarters at the Riviere des Ayonais; that is part, of three different Nations, Sauks, Kickapoos and Renards. They bring word that the American fort, at the foot of the Riviere des Moines Rapids, was abandoned about the 20th of October. The Americans had burnt the fort and proceeded to the Illinois.

Saturday, November 19th—Continual rain and cold. A report was spread that the Sauks had turned against us, and that those seventeen Sauks that arrived on the 18th were come with an intention to take away the women from this place. After making every inquiry, found the report to be groundless.

Sunday, November 20th.—At 10 o'clock the Sauks called a council, when they pressed very hard to get a trader to their village; but we

told them we were not masters of the traders, and, at any rate, there was only one, who bought a few goods merely to support the troops of this post; but I was in daily expectation of seeing their Father, when no doubt they would receive ample support for the winter. But in the event of their Father's not coming, I would even go so far as to take powder from the big guns, to assist them.

Monday, November 21st.—Last evening the Feuille, with twenty-one of his young men, arrived, in hopes of seeing Mr. Dickson. This evening twenty of the Gens de la Feuilles arrived—bad Indians, rather American inclined.

Tuesday, Nov. 22d.—Called a council of all the Indians and whites here, wherein I told the traders to sell no powder to the Gens de la Feuilles; that in the event of Mr. Dickson's not coming, we should want all the powder the traders had, to furnish a little to our allies. The Feuille and Little Corbeau both spoke and approved of what I had done, and abused the Gens de la Feuilles very much for their bad conduct in adhering to the Americans.

Wednesday, Nov. 23d.—The Little Corbeau called a council of all the Sauks, Kickapoos and Renards present, and gave them a pipe, assuring them of his friendship towards them, and his determination to support them in the war against the Americans.

CAPT. ANDERSON'S MILITARY ORDERS.

FORT MCKAY, 1814.

In case of an alarm, two shots will be fired from the six-pounder, when every man, the militia not excepted, will immediately repair to the garrison.

When any British flag arrives, or leaves this post, a swivel will be fired to salute such flag, unless otherwise ordered by the commanding officer.

August 11th.—Ordered that an interpreter and twelve of the volunteers go off early to-morrow morning, in order to bring up the barges that went adrift from this place, and, according to Indian reports, are lying on sand-banks a few

leagues below. Seven men of the Michigan fencibles, with the artillery men, take lessons at the cannon daily, that is, immediately after parade, at 6 o'clock in the morning, and before parade in the evening. Three of the Michigans will be daily employed in making leaden balls for the guns and swivels. One of the officers, taken from the roster, with three interpreters, militia, or privates will do patrol duty every night. The patrol will be appointed by the officer of the day, and will walk around the village every two hours during the night, and will take up any stragglers that may be going about after — o'clock, no matter who or what he may be, unless he can give the countersign.

A countersign is to be given every night, by the commanding officer, to such officers as he may think necessary, and to the officer of patrol, and sergeant of the guard. Any officer or private, to whom the commanding officer may give the countersign, on being convicted of having divulged it to any person whatever, will be immediately put in close confinement, and kept there till an opportunity offers to send him into Mackinaw for his trial, as the enormity of the crime would be out of the reach of any court-martial that can be held here for the present.

August 12th.—No Indian, man, woman or child, will be allowed to enter the fort without orders from the commanding officer. This is ordered in consequence of there being, among the Renards particularly, many Indians who are bad subjects, and cannot be distinguished by some of the officers of the day.

August 13th.—The absolute necessity of lending every assistance to save the harvest, makes it absolutely requisite to allow the farmers to keep at their work, and not to assemble, as ordered, to-morrow at 10 o'clock; but they will make it a point to appear under arms every Sunday after this, at 10 o'clock in the morning, before the fort door, unless some urgency may require it to be otherwise ordered.

August 14th.—Lieut. Brisbois having brought word that a fine large American boat, covered

as a gun-boat, was lying a little above Fort Madison, on the shore quite near the water, ordered that Lieut. Graham, with one interpreter and six men, go for the barge. When they reach the Rock river, or at any time during the voyage, if Lieut. Graham gets any certain news of the enemy's approach, he will either come back himself with the men, or send back, as he finds most requisite. When he gets to the Rock river, he will give a carrot of tobacco to the chiefs, soldiers and braves, and request of them, as many as he thinks fit to go with him, not only to assist in bringing up the barge, but to guard him against any of the Sanks, etc., that may be ill-disposed, from the Missouri; and if he can prevail on the Indians to assist him in bringing the barge up here, they shall be well paid when the re-inforcement arrives from Mackinaw; otherwise to try and run her up into the Rock river, that I can send for her from here. In case he can find no means of getting her up, he will set fire to and burn her, to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands.

August 15th.—Ordered that a fatigue party will, to-morrow, if the weather will permit, be employed in repairing a small breast-work at the lower end, and one at the upper end of the village; and that carpenters be employed in mounting a half-pound swivel.

August 16th.—The patrol will be suspended for the present, as a party has gone down below, and will keep directly in the enemy's way; but the principal object of this is, to afford every means possible to assist in getting in the harvest. We have only a very short allowance of flour, three barrels remaining. To-morrow the artificers will be employed in widening the passage through the fort, in order to run out the guns on three field carriages.

August 17th.—The artificers will commence, to-morrow, making scaffolds for the sentries, to elevate them above the pickets. Ordered that the volunteers, when on guard, if they are not attentive to their duties, as sentries ought to be,





Thomas L. Brewer



shall be assigned to the same duty the next day, and so continue till they are attentive.

August 18th.—To-morrow morning at 6 o'clock, a party of officers and interpreters are to begin and practice the use of the three-pounder, commencing at 6 o'clock, until otherwise ordered, the exercise to be of two hours duration daily.

August 19th.—Ordered, that the commissary take every means to get in flour as fast as possible. As there are no articles in the store, that will answer the inhabitants in exchange for their flour, he will give orders on Michael Brisbois, Sr., for any flour he may purchase, till further orders.

August 20th.—Having the other three-pounder mounted, it is ordered that the two guns drill in brigade, twice every day, Sunday excepted, and to practice sham battles. The bombardier will be active in getting all the guns and swivels in the highest order, as expeditiously as possible.

August 21st.—Ordered that black-smiths be employed to do such work as is necessary about the guns.

August 22d.—Ordered, that all accounts, of flour and other articles borrowed, be settled, or made out, by the 25th inst.

August 23d.—Ordered, that as Chesier, the black-smith, is idle, and does not work as he ought to do, another black-smith be employed, and having no tools, will make use of Chesier's shop, etc., till the work necessary about the guns be finished.

August 24th.—Ordered, that two lieutenants of the Indian department, namely, Lieut. Graham and Lieut. Brisbois, and three interpreters, Augustin Rock, I. B. Guillroy, Francois Bouchre dit La Malice, with Bombardier Keating, eight Michigan fencibles, and sixteen of the volunteers, with a brass three-pounder, and two swivels in the gun-boat, and a barge, be all ready to march the 27th inst., on an expedition against the Americans, in order to meet them on their way up here at the Rock river, and as-

sist the Sauk Nation of Indians in the preservation of their wives and children.

Lieut. Graham will take the command. The commissary will issue fifteen days full rations of pork, and five days full rations of flour. Interpreter Renville will leave this place early to-morrow morning, and proceed with all haste to the chief of the Feuilles, and inform him of the expedition going below, and tell him that I request he will come down immediately, with as many of his young men as he can possibly spare, and go down and assist the Sauks; and at the same time to tell him to send word to the Little Corbeau, etc., to move this way immediately; but to remain about the Prairie a La Crosse, till further orders, and as soon as the Little Corbeau arrives there, he will send word and let me know, and Mr. Renville will return here as soon as possible.

August 25th.—Ordered, that the Sauk chief, Thomas, leave this place to-morrow morning, for the Sauks at Rock river, to inform them, that an expedition will leave here on the 27th, for that place. Lieut. Graham will have everything ready to march at 8 o'clock on that day. The men in general, going on the expedition below, are destitute of shirts. It is, therefore, ordered, that the commanding officers will give to such as he finds in absolute want, an order on Mr. Brisbois, to furnish them such necessities, and it will be deducted from their pay, when they are paid.

Aug. 26th.—Ordered, that the commissary augment the rations for the expedition going below, giving each man ten-ounces of pork, and one and a half pounds of flour. Those that remain here, will have six ounces of pork, and two pounds of flour.

Aug. 27th.—Ordered that ——— do the duty of interpreter, from this date, till further orders, and that he receive the pay and allowances that other interpreters do. The Sioux and Renards will leave this place to-morrow morning, to go and join the expedition to the Rock river. The commissary will furnish the

Sioux six bushels of wheat, and the Renards four, for their provisions, till they reach the Sauks.

Aug. 28th.—Ordered that Capt. Grignon prepare himself to leave this place, to-morrow morning at 10, for Mackinaw, with dispatches, and that an interpreter go, expressly to notify the Little Corbeau's band that the enemy are coming up, and direct him to camp somewhere about the Prairie a La Crosse, till further orders. The militia having been ordered to parade at 10 o'clock this morning, many of them came without guns, and some of them did not come at all. It is, therefore, ordered that when in future the militia are called out, if they do not all appear at the hour appointed, with their arms, those disobeying such orders shall be liable to a fine of fifteen dollars, to be levied on their goods and chattels, otherwise to be confined in the guard house, during the commanding officer's pleasure.

Aug. 29th.—Ordered that, as Capt. Grignon is now gone, and no officer of the bay volunteers here, what few of his company remain be included in Capt. Anderson's company, till further orders.

Aug. 30th.—That two men be employed sawing boards and planks for the use of the garrison.

Aug. 31st.—Ordered that interpreter Frenier, with three men, set off to-morrow morning, to go and inform the Little Corbeau, as mentioned in orders of the 28th inst., lest the express the Feuille sent should fail.

Sept. 1st.—Ordered that the commissary tell the inhabitants, if they do not be more active in making flour for the use of the troops, that men will be placed in their barns and mills by the commanding officer to thrash and grind their wheat, for the use of the garrison. That the men so employed will be paid from the produce of their flour, and for the balance the government will be accountable to the different individual owners.

Sept. 2d.—Ordered, that interpreter Grignon leave this place to-morrow morning with four men to take flour to the detachment gone to the Rock river.

Sept. 3d.—Ordered, that the commissary exchange with the inhabitants, as often as the opportunity may offer, whisky for flour or wheat, till further orders.

Sept. 4th.—Ordered, that no person be allowed to go into the fort, except those accustomed to do duty, without the permission of the officer of the day.

Sept. 5th.—Ordered, that a mare and colt, belonging to one Fontaine, a Canadian, who left here three years ago, and ever since has resided in Illinois, be taken and broken in, for the use of the garrison.

Sept. 6th.—Ordered, that the fort gate be shut every evening at 8 o'clock; and the guards be changed at 7 o'clock in the morning, till further orders.

Sept. 7th.—Ordered, that the four Sauks, who brought letters from Lieut. Graham, leave this place to-morrow morning, to return to the Rock river.

Sept. 14th.—Ordered, that a barge leave this place under interpreter Rock's command, with eight volunteers, and the three men that came in the wooden canoe from the portage, to go and bring the ordnance stores, etc. Also, that Lance Corporal Heywood be attached to the guns, under Sergt. Keating, and that the officers and men, from the detachment to the Rock river, return to their duty in the garrison, as usual.

Sept. 18th.—Ordered, that the Michigan fencibles, and Lance Corporal Haywood, of the 10th Volunteer band, with ten volunteers and seven militia, will be attached to the guns, and be drilled daily, and now and then practice firing, under Sergt. Keating, of the Royal artillery. A sufficient number of men will be selected from the volunteers and militia, as mentioned above, to man the six-pounder, and the two three-

pounders. Such men will be exempt from other duty till otherwise ordered.

Ordered, that eight of the volunteers, including one sergeant and one corporal, mount guard daily; that the guards be relieved at 7 o'clock every morning. That the guards take up their quarters, in the garrison, for the time being, and not absent themselves, on any pretense, without the permission of the officer of the day, whose business it will be to attend when the guards are relieved and see that all the men are as clean as circumstances will admit of; and see that they have on them a cartouch-box and bayonet, that their guns are in good order, and that the sentries are regularly relieved by the corporal.

Ordered, that carpenters be employed, and a party of the volunteers, when not otherwise on duty, together with a party of militia, be kept on fatigue, in order to repair the fort. When any of the inhabitants or militia are ordered with a team of horses or oxen, a reasonable allowance will be made them for such team. The militia, when on fatigue (provisions being scarce), will furnish themselves with food, for which an equivalent in pay will be made them. All men on actual duty will receive one gill of whisky per day, till otherwise ordered.

Lieut. Porlier, of the volunteers, and Lieuts. Graham and Brisbois of the Indian department, will each in turn, do the duty of officer of the day, having an eye on the garrison in general, keeping everything in order, and reporting to the commanding officer, the state of the new guards when mounted, as well as every other material circumstance coming to his knowledge.

Sept. 19th.—Ordered, that the men drilling at the guns, under Sergt. Keating of the Royal artillery, be all present, at the hours of 7 o'clock in the morning, and 3 o'clock in the afternoon; and should any be absent, Sergt. Keating will report them to the officer of the day, who will report them to the commanding officer.

Ordered, that the commissary attend at 7 o'clock every morning at the fort, to issue ra-

tions of whisky, agreeable to a requisition signed by the officer of the day.

Sept. 23d.—Ordered that four shots be fired from each of the three guns, every Sunday, till otherwise ordered. A target will be placed in a convenient place to prevent any accident, and at the same time so placed as to be able to recover the round shot.

Sept. 26th.—Ordered, that a court of inquiry be held in Fort McKay, at 10 o'clock this morning, to inquire into the conduct of Pierre Emerie, of the volunteers, and Solomon Demairaix, of the Michigans, both privates, who were confined in the guard house yesterday, for disobedience of orders. Also to examine Pierre Kennet and Pierre Grignon, Jr., both privates in the volunteers, for quarreling and fighting while on guard this morning. The court to consist of Lieuts. Graham and Brisbois, of the Indian department, and Lieut. Porlier of the volunteers, Lieut. Graham to be president.

Ordered, that no whisky be exchanged for any other article; but what whisky now remains will be kept for the use of the guards and fatigue parties, unless the commissary may receive other orders from the commanding officer.

The court of inquiry finding that Demairaix, of the Michigans and Kennet and Grignon of the volunteers, who had been confined, were not guilty of a crime to merit punishment, they are therefore released from the guard-house. But Pierre Emerie, of the volunteers, acknowledging his crime, a court martial is ordered to be held to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock for his trial. The court to consist of Lieut. Graham, of the Indian department, president, and Lieut. Brisbois of the Indian department, and Lieut. Porlier, of the volunteers, members.

Sept. 28th.—A court martial, for the trial of Pierre Emerie, of the volunteers, having been held this day, of which Lieut. Graham was president, and Lieuts. Brisbois and Porlier, members, where he, the said Emerie, was found guilty of disobedience of orders, in refusing to mount guard. The court condemned the pris-

oner to be sent in irons to Mackinaw, to lose his pay for the time of his service, and to lose his share of the prize money taken in the capitulation of Fort McKay. But being recommended to the clemency of the commanding officer, and the court being of the opinion that his disobeying orders proceeded more through ignorance, than a wish to be mutinous, the commanding officer, therefore, orders, that he be released from confinement, and immediately return to his duty.

October, 1st.—Ordered, that on Monday next, every man not on guard, etc., be employed on fatigue, to finish as soon as possible, the repairing of the fort. Also that a court of inquiry be held on Monday next at 12 o'clock to examine into the crimes, for which Pierre Vasseur and Jacques Hebert, of the Michigans, were confined this morning, Lient. Duncan Graham to be president, and Lieuts. Brisbois and Portier, members.

Oct. 3d.—Ordered, from to-morrow morning, only half rations of liquor will be issued to the troops.

Oct. 7th. Ordered, that Pierre Vasseur and Jacques Hebert, both privates in the Michigan fencibles, be released from the guard-house, and both confined to the square at hard labor, the former for eight days, and the latter for six from this date. And that Pierre Provencall, of the volunteers, who was confined for having allowed the above mentioned Michigan fencibles to go out of the garrison at night without leave, be released from the guard-house, and confined to hard labor in the square for four days, after which, all shall return to their duty, as soon as their respective terms of hard labor have expired.

Oct. 8th.—Ordered, that one day's rations be issued as usual to the troops, and one of hulled Indian corn; that is, every other day one quart of corn be issued, in place of pork and flour, till further orders.

Oct. 11th—Ordered, that Lient. Graham, with interpreter Berthe, and five men, namely, E.

Picbe, Bourdon, Langlos, La Honde and Le Mire, leave this place to-morrow morning with dispatches for Mackinaw, to be delivered to Lient. Grignon at Green Bay, from whence they will return here immediately.

Ordered, that there will be no more practicing with the guns at a target, till further orders.

Oct. 15th.—Ordered, that an ox be bought and that four day's rations be issued at a time, that is, one pound of beef, and two pounds of flour, for one day, and one quart of corn for the second day, and so on alternately.

Oct. 18th.—Ordered, that at 4 o'clock this afternoon, a royal salute be fired, and that all the troops and Indians be present. Immediately after which, a council will be held to inform the troops and Indians the news from Mackinaw\*

Oct. 20th.—Ordered, that the troops be mustered, on the 24th inst., at 10 o'clock in the morning; and on the 25th, as Mr. Rolette has offered to furnish money for that purpose, they will be paid up to the 24th.

Oct. 21st.—Ordered, that Lient. Brisbois, of the Indian department, act as overseer of the workmen at the fort, for which he shall be entitled to receive an additional allowance of pay, until further orders, of five shillings per day.

November 3d.—Ordered, that Mr. Honore, lately acting commissary, for which he received the pay of a lieutenant in the volunteers, be suspended from that duty and pay till further orders. This is ordered, from his having, when drunk, made use of most disrespectful and abusive language to the commanding officer, in defiance of all military order and discipline.

Ordered, that Lient. Brisbois, of the Indian department, receive to-morrow morning of Mr. Honore, all the accounts and stores lately in his charge as commissary, till further orders.

\*This probably refers to the repulse of the Americans in their attack on that place, under Majrs. Croghan and Holmes, Aug. 4th, 1814, and the subsequent capture of two American vessels engaged in blockading Mackinaw, as mentioned in Lient. Col. McDouall's letter to Capt. Anderson, Sept. 23d, 1814.

Nov. 6th.—Ordered, that the militia be exempt from appearing in parade in future on Sundays, till further orders.

Nov. 12th.—Ordered, that no more drilling be practiced for the present, because the men are continually on fatigue, and the rainy season has made the parade-ground too muddy.

Nov. 17th.—Ordered, that a keg of high wines be bought, and that the acting commissary issue to each man on actual duty one gill of liquor, till further orders. Also, as bustard meat is not equal in bulk or sustenance to other meat, that one and a half pounds of that meat must be issued per ration, till further orders.

Nov. 28th.—Ordered, that the troops attached to this garrison, when not on duty may, with the permission of the officers of their respective corps, be allowed to work for the inhabitants of this post, till further orders.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN DOCUMENTS, 1814-15.

List of Canadian *voyageurs* who volunteered their services, at Mackinaw, June 21, 1814, to go to Prairie du Chien, on an expedition against the Americans.

Joseph Rolette, Thomas G. Anderson, Joseph Polvin, Benjamin Roy, Ed. Picke, dit W. G. Stursman, Barnabe Sans Soisi, S. St. Germain, Pierre Grignon, Pierre Lambert, Jacques Savard, Jean B. Soyer, Pierre Gauslin, Etienne Dyon, Ant. Gauthern, Amable Tourpin, Jacques Lemire, John Campbell, Ant. Asselin, P. Provancall, Jean B. Emeric, Baptiste Berthe, Antoine Bereier, Louis Provancall, Francois La Chappelle, Gabriel La Londe, Jean M. Ducharme, J. B. Faribault, J. B. Paraut, Gabriel Danie, Louis Bourdon, Etienne Serare, Joseph Ouitelle, Luke Dubois, Francois St. Maurice, L. Dejrne, Sol. Bellange, Louis Desognier, Francois Frenere, Emanuel Ranger, Joseph Filion, Henry Fleure, Colin Campbell, Alexis Larose, Amable Gervais, Jean B. Bouchard, Francois Boivin, Jacques Laurent, Michael Gravelle, Pierre Emeric, Colish Veaux, Antoine Felix, St. B. Phillip, Joseph Dagenais, Joseph Minette, Prudent Langlois, Pierre Crochier, Amable J.

Durans, Antoine Dabin, Louis Genereux, Antoine Asselin, Jean Tivierge, Joseph Tivierge, Pierre Robedeau, Joseph Dechan, Louis Honore, Jacques Joseph Porlier.

The under named men were here present, or on command the 24th of August, 1814:

Bombardier, Royal artillery. James Keating.

*Michigan Fencibles.* Sergeant: Francis Roy. Corporal: Noel Bondvielle.

Privates: Michael Donais, Louis Vasseur, Solomon Demairaix, Joseph Lariviere, Jacques Parisiens, Oliver Degerdin, Jacques Hebert, Lacenne Dupuis, Francois Supernant. Pierre From.

*Canadian Volunteers from Mackinaw.* Sergeants: Amable Dusang, Henry Fleurie.

Corporals: Antoine Dabins, Jean B. Emerie, Privates: Manuelle Pichi, Seraphin St. Germain, Pierre Lambert, Jacques Savard, Jean B. Loyer, Jacques Lamire, John Campbell, Antoine Asselin, Baptiste Berthe, Antoine Bereier, Louis Provancall, Francois La Chapelle, Gabriel or William Lalonde, Jean M. Ducharme, Louis Bourdon, Etienne Serare, Luke Dubois, Francois St. Maurice, Louis Dagenais, Solomon Bellange, Louis Desognier, Emanuel Range, Joseph Filion, Colin Campbell, Amable Gervais, Jean M. Bouchard, Francis Boivin, Jacques Laurent, Michael Gravelle, Pierre Emerie, Antoine Felix, Joseph Dagenais, Joseph Minette, Prudent Langlois, Pierre Crochier, Louis Genereaux, Jean Tivierge, Joseph Tivierge, Pierre Robideau, Joseph Dechamps.

Pierre Kennet, a man that volunteered his services for his country on the 2d of August, 1814, at this place, is not included in the list sent to Mackinaw.

*Canadian Volunteers from the Bay.* Sergeant: Laurent Filey.

Corporal: Amable Grignon.

Privates: Joseph Courvalle, Labonne Dorion, Alexis Crochier, Joseph Deneau, Narcisse Delaune, Pierre Chalifou, Jean B. Latouch, Pierre

L'Allement, Etienne Bantiere, Francis Freniere, Pierre Grignon, Jr., Pierre Ochu.

Note of officers, etc., here present, or on command, the 24th of August, 1814.

Captain: Thomas G. Anderson, Com'd'g the volunteers.

Lieutenants: Pierre Grignon, Sr., Joseph Jacques Porlier.

*Indian Department.* Lieutenants: Duncan Graham, Michael Brisbois.

Interpreter: Louis Honore, Acting Commissary.

Lieutenants: Joseph Renville, Jean B. Guillroy, Pierre Grignon, Jr., Joseph Rock, Sr., Augustin Rock, Jr., Francois Bouche.

Captain: Francis Dease, Prairie du Chien militia.

The above is a correct statement of the forces in Fort McKay, on the 24th of August, 1814.

THOS. G. ANDERSON, Capt. Com'd'g.

FORT MCKAY, Sept. 18, 1814.

[ Endorsed on the back of the paper: ]

PAUL L'ALLEMENT,

CLAUDE LAFRAMBOISE,

MICHAEL ARMARD.

MICHILLIMACKINAC, 23d Sept., 1814.

To Captain ANDERSON:

SIR:—I have had the honor of receiving your letter of the 29th ult., by Capt. Grignon, communicating the information of the enemy's indicating an intention of attacking your post. I, however, am inclined to believe that their object for the present is confined to revenging themselves on the Sauks by an attempt to destroy their corn fields and villages, and I am sanguine in my hopes, from the formidable body of Indians assembled at the Rock river, that it will be completely frustrated and punished, as it ought.

I greatly approve of your having sent a detachment down the river in aid of the Indian force. I am convinced, it is the best mode of defending your post; and you cannot exert yourself too much in encouraging the Sauks, and affording them every assistance that is in

your power to give. By that means you keep the war at a distance; and if the proper spirit is cherished and kept up amongst the Indians, I flatter myself the enemy will not be able to force such a formidable barrier. I fear it will be difficult to preserve unanimity, and that cordial co-operation with each other which is so necessary, and yet so hard to bring about, where they are numerous. You will, of course, see the necessity of making this your constant study. The ammunition sent by Corpl. Heywood will arrive very opportunely, and prove for the present a supply fully equal to the demand; but unfortunately we had neither arms nor tobacco to accompany it. I am in hopes we shall be able very soon to send supplies of those articles with Mr. Dickson, who remains here until the arrival of the Indian presents, which have been delayed in consequence of the attack and blockade of this island. The latter inconvenience we happily got rid of, by capturing, with our detachment of seamen, assisted by soldiers from the garrison, both the vessels which the enemy left for that purpose; for us a very fortunate event, which, I trust, will enable us to not only receive our Indian goods, but an adequate supply of provisions. As I am expecting a re-inforcement in the course of a week or ten days, in which, I trust, I shall not be disappointed, it will then be in my power to detach an officer and about thirty men to Fort McKay to winter.

You will observe that it will wholly depend on my getting the men which I wrote for, and fully expect. With them I shall strain every nerve to furnish you with whatever can be spared from this place, as well as Indian supplies, as arms, powder and tobacco.

Mr. Rolette has contracted to supply the garrison, to the number of sixty men, with provisions for a year. When more, for any unforeseen emergency, is required, it must be provided on the best terms you can procure, taking care that you strictly conform to the mode pointed out for your guidance by Mr. Asst.



Dept. Com. Gen. Monk, at this place; and that the utmost accuracy is observed in your certificates as to the number of men victualled. To enable Mr. Rolette to fulfill his contract, you will transfer to him the salt now in possession, in whatever way you deem best, as you in your capacity of commandant must regulate everything as will most tend to the good of the service. What chimneys, fuel, or other indispensable articles may be required, you will direct to be furnished accordingly, never deviating from the established rule of procuring everything at the most reasonable rate. Mr. Rolette has been advanced £200, on account of his contract, the terms of which are sent you, and which must be scrupulously adhered to. You will, of course, ascertain that strict justice is done to the troops; and that the bills drawn upon the commissary here, are in conformity to the exact amount of provision supplied.

The dissensions and disaffection, which you mention as existing among some of the Indians, must ever be expected among so many different tribes, and where the enemy are making continual efforts to seduce them. Our efforts must be as great to reclaim such as have erred; or when that cannot be effected, to take any precaution to prevent their doing mischief. But above all you must not fail to pacify the murmuring and loyal part of them, who faithfully adhere to our interest, by pointing out to them the solid advantages which cannot fail to result from a perseverance in such praiseworthy conduct; that the numerous forces and fleets of their Great Father, the King, are attacking the enemy with decided advantage along the whole line of their sea coast; that in the Canadas our troops are embodied in great numbers; that the American army at Fort Erie is surrounded by the British, with scarcely the possibility of escaping, and this campaign has not only the prospect of ending gloriously, but the next still more so, there being little doubt that Detroit and Amherstburgh will again fall into our hands.

You will represent these particulars to them from me, in the most impressive manner you can, telling them my firm conviction that they will oppose the most determined resistance to the shameful encroachments of the enemy, and signalize themselves in defense of their wives and children, and of the lands with which they are intrusted from their forefathers. You may assure them of my doing everything in my power to support them in so just a cause, and that from the recent circumstances of our blockade, I cannot this season supply their wants as I could wish.

Yet in ammunition, it will in some measure be made up, and next year much more will be in our power. Impress strongly on their minds the important fact, that the king, their Great Father, is determined to see justice done them, and not to make peace with the enemy until their lands are restored, and complete security given that they are not again molested or invaded.

These matters must necessarily give them courage. You will present my best wishes for their success to La Feuille and the Little Corbeau, and that I have the fullest reliance upon their zeal and courage in so just a war; and that, if necessary, they will bring down all their young men to your assistance. I shall use every exertion to send Mr. Dickson with the Indian presents, I hope, accompanied by a detachment of troops, as soon as possible after the latter arrive. In the meantime, I send by Mr. Rolette four barrels of powder for the Indians. You will know it from his, that belonging to him being marked with his initials.

With regard to the volunteers, those belonging to the bay being, I understand, greatly wanted, you will, if their services can be dispensed with, permit them to return, of course, omitting them in your pay-list from the day their service ceases. The remainder will certainly be required, at all events, till relieved; but you may render their garrison duty as easy and as little harassing to them, as possible,

assuring them all at the same time, that I am highly pleased with their behaviour and services they have rendered. As they so meritoriously contributed to the recovery of the Prairie du Chien and Fort McKay, so, I doubt not, they will as gallantly exert themselves to defend their conquest. I am perfectly satisfied hitherto with your measures, but particularly with sending the gun and detachment to support the Indians.

The war must be kept at as great a distance from you as possible. You must hold a high language to the Indians, such as our great power, and unparalleled successes in general, and our commanding attitude in the Canadas in particular, justify and require.

Let the bright prospect which we may fairly anticipate, leave not a thought amongst any of you but of success and victory, and animate the whole in such a manner as will prevent the enemy from ascending the Mississippi this season.

Next year we shall, I hope, be able to afford more effectual support, and the enemy will then find himself assailed in all directions, and have fully enough upon his hands. I have the honor, etc.

(Signed,)

ROB'T McDOWALL,  
Lieut. Col. Com'd'g.

P. S. As commandant, no person is to interfere with your command. I doubt not but you are well supported by the officers under you, particularly Lieuts. Graham and Brisbois, and Serg't Keating of the artillery. You will not fail to mention to me such as, from their zeal and good conduct, merit my approbation, and such rewards as may heretofore be in my power to bestow.

Capt. ANDERSON to Lieut. Col. R. McDOWALL.  
PRAIRIE DES CHIENS, FORT MCKAY,  
Oct. 18th, 1814.

SIR :—I had the honor to receive your favor of the 23d Sept., by Mr. Rolette, and as Lieut. Graham, whom I had sent off with dispatches to you, on the 13th inst., having returned with

Mr. Rolette here, affords me an early opportunity of returning you my thanks for your approbation of the measures I have adopted in the defense of this post.

Long ere this you will have received my detail of our successes at the Rock river. Though no prizes were made, yet the favorable result of that expedition has been of the first consequence in the preservation of this country; for had the enemy put their design in execution, and had murdered the Sauks in that inhuman and American-like manner, as was their intention, as mentioned in my letter of the 11th inst., the Indian tribes on the Mississippi would not have been easily brought to understand or believe that our government's intention to support them is real. In fact, the Indian character is such that when a promise is made them, and not fulfilled at the time appointed, they immediately, without paying attention to the circumstances that cause the disappointment, attribute it to design, and a conditional promise with them is construed into a real or positive one.

The unforeseen and unfortunate delay of the Indian goods, notwithstanding Capt. Dease's and my indefatigable endeavors to explain to the Indians from whence it proceeds, is seriously injurious to the confidence placed by them; and if, unfortunately, anything should turn up to prevent Robert Dickson coming out here, and the supplies not reaching us, one-half of the Indians must inevitably starve to death. This last circumstance, which they themselves are continually observing to me, ought and would, to a set of rational beings in their situation, convince them, that without the supplies they receive from the British government, they cannot exist.

Mr. Rolette, having contracted for, and being able immediately to commence the supplying the garrison, is very opportunely; for the commissary stores were quite exhausted and the troops began to feed on Indian corn. There is still a barrel of pork remaining, which I kept as a stand-by. I shall, as soon as these dispatches

are gone, transfer to Mr. Rolette what small quantity of salt is remaining, say about forty pounds, and will immediately go about putting everything respecting the garrison, etc., in a regular way, according to the forms I have received.

With respect to the payment of the troops, Mr. Rolette has offered to furnish the money for that purpose, they having been paid up to the 24th of August last. The cold weather setting in, and the absolute necessity they are in for some articles of clothing, will make it necessary for me to pay them up to the 24th inst., which I would not otherwise do till I receive your orders to that effect. Whatever disbursements I have been obliged to make, shall be all transferred to Mr. Rolette, in order to give less trouble, being under one head. Mr. Rolette appears to wish to do everything in his power for the good of the service, and says he will at all times furnish what money he can for that purpose, and as to his contract, I am convinced he will do everything possible to complete it. The greatest inconvenience will be on account of salt, which cannot be procured here to preserve the summer's supply of meat.

I am putting Fort McKay in as strong and comfortable a situation, and at as little expense, as possible, at the same time omitting nothing that may tend to the safety of the place. The four barrels of powder sent out by Mr. Rolette were received, as also some half-pound round shot, and the case of round shot mentioned as deficient in my letter of the 11th inst.

In conformity to your orders, I sent off the Green Bay Volunteers, and nine of my own company, under Lieut. Graham, of the Indian department. I have given orders to Lieut. Graham to proceed with all possible haste till he meets Robert Dickson; that should he meet the troops previous to meeting Mr. Dickson, to give them every assistance in his power. My motive for doing this is because I understand they are greatly in need; and as there

are no appearances of the enemy's approach at present, the men are little wanted here.

The troops here have been almost continually, more or less of them, on fatigue, for which I make them the usual allowance of ten pence per day. The militia, when on fatigue, will have the same allowance; and as circumstances made it necessary for me to oblige them to furnish themselves with provisions, they will have six pence per day for that; and for every team furnished they will receive five shillings—all of which, as well as every other account, shall be correctly stated, and Mr. Rolette will pay them. With respect to the officers here, I am highly pleased with them all, and assure you they have rendered every service in their power. As to Sergt. Keating, of the artillery, from the zealous, courageous and handsome manner in which he has behaved himself since he left Mackinaw, I conceive him worthy of every advantage that merit in his profession deserves.

Mr. Honore, of the Indian department, has, since we left Mackinaw, acted in the capacity of commissary, without whose assistance I would be badly off in this respect, for which Mr. Rolette informs me he has received your approbation of granting him the pay of a lieutenant, which I hope may not be improper to continue, as his assistance in that capacity is indispensably necessary. It may be proper for me to observe, that the high price of goods at this place would make it impossible for a private soldier to keep himself completely equipped, exclusive of his yearly clothing, even if he had a subaltern officer's pay. It requires two and a half months' pay of a private to buy himself a pair of shoes, and other things in proportion.

The detachment of Michigan fencibles in this garrison have, till now, proved to be good soldiers; but they require severe officers. As this garrison is small, and not placed in an advantageous situation for the defense of the place, it will be necessary for the officer commanding here, as soon as possible, to have the

requisite instructions on this head; and if an alteration is allowed to be made, the materials necessary, such as wood and stone, must be got out to the spot on the snow. My determination and wish to act in every respect in conformity to your orders, and as exactly as possible, makes it necessary for me to trouble you much more on some heads than I perhaps ought to do; but as the good of the service requires, as long as I hold my present situation, that I should seek every information in this way, I take the liberty to ask you what authority I have with respect to the Indian department, and whether the necessary provisions, etc., for the Indians are furnished by the garrison, or whether the officers of that department make those purchases themselves?

The Sauks or Mississippi Indian heroes have just arrived, and brought word that a party lately arrived from the Riviere Des Forts,\* brought in ten scalps, and say they will continue to bring them in as they do ducks from the swamps. The want of provisions has been the cause of my not making an attempt there. Everything must be ready for a start in the spring. Should the re-inforcement of troops reach here in time, I should deem it best to make an attack this fall, as it would be an important point for the defense of this, to obstruct their boats. I am impatient for instructions.

I am informed that representations have been made at Mackinaw with respect to my conduct in the execution of my duty here; but as they proceed from envy and meanness, I do not regard them. My actions have ever been conducted by the purest motives for the good of the service; and if I did not give the command of the expedition to the Rock river to Capt Grignon, it was because his conduct in the pursuit of the American gun-boat, at the taking of this place, on the 19th of July last, would not authorize me to entrust a command of so much consequence to his charge.

\* So it appears in the manuscript; perhaps Des Moines river is the stream referred to.

MICHILIMACKINAW, 28th Oct., 1814.

TO CAPT. ANDERSON:

SIR:—I was highly gratified on receiving your dispatch, announcing the defeat of another attempt of the enemy to ascend the Mississippi for an attack on your post. I also fully approve of the judicious measures you adopted to counteract their intentions, particularly in affording that prompt assistance to the Sauks which inspired them with such courage and confidence, and in the end was productive of such brilliant results. Capt. Bulger, of the Royal Newfoundland regiment, being appointed by me to command at Fort McKay, and on the Mississippi, in resigning it to him, I should not do justice to the opinion I entertain of your merit, did I not testify my entire satisfaction with your conduct while you held it. I, therefore doubt not that you will exhibit the same zeal for the good of the service, and afford Capt. Bulger the utmost assistance and support which may be in your power, and, in the event of being again attacked by the enemy, that your company of volunteers will distinguish themselves by their gallantry and good conduct, of which, you may assure them, I have a high idea.

I have directed Capt. Bulger to give every facility to you, duly receiving your pay, and the other allowances to which you and your officers are entitled. I have the honor, etc.,

(Signed)

ROBT McDOWALL,

Lieut. Col. Commanding.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, Jan. 3, 1815.

Robert Dickson, "agent of the western Indians, and superintendent of the conquered countries," writes under the above date, to Capt. A. H. Bulger, commanding Fort McKay:

SIR:—The sergeant on guard having informed me that the Indian chief who was then a prisoner in Fort McKay, was sick, I thought proper to send the Sioux interpreter, Joseph Renville, to visit him, who returned with the following talk delivered by the Indian:

"I am very sick. My Father apparently finds it necessary that I should die here. If I am

longer kept a close prisoner, I will most surely die of disease. It troubles my spirit to think that I shall die of sickness. I request of my Father that I may suffer death from the hands of his soldiers. Dying by the hands of his soldiers, will be the means of saving my Nation from destruction; and the Sioux chief, the Little Corbeau, will know the manner of my death. The man who committed the murder of my band; but I understand that it is not altogether for him that I am bound, but for the very bad conduct of my people before this happened—therefore, I demand to die by the hands of your soldiers.”

On being interrogated by the interpreter respecting the man who was first confined, and who had promised to return, he answered: “That he was not a man of his band; and knowing the evil disposition of his people, he was sure that they had killed him.” He then added: “I am an old man. It was with difficulty that I got here. You know that I fell down often on the road, and principally when I descended the mountain; but my courage and force were renewed when I reflected that I was going to save the lives of my children by dying for them. Do not let my Father think, that by mean excuses and evasions, that I wish to save my life. No! I am above such baseness. I not afraid of death. My Father has already done me honor in sending his first soldiers to bring me here. I did not think my old body was worth so much trouble.”

I think it necessary to make you the above communication, and in an hour hence I shall wait on you in order to give you some information I have just received.

THE INDIAN MURDERER—JANUARY 7, 1815.

Le Corbeau Francois, on arriving at the gate of Fort McKay, with the prisoner who had killed the two men, said: “My Father! Here is the dog that bit you. In delivering him up, I trust that it will be the means of saving my band from destruction.” On coming into the commandant’s room he again repeated: “This is

the dog that bit you. Do with him as you please; he deserves to die. I have one favor to request of you—that you will not kill him until I go off; he most surely merits death. In delivering up this bad man, I also give up the marks [gifts insignia of friendship] of the Americans. Although we are not numerous, I think we can act as well as the other Indians, and henceforth I am resolved to follow your counsel. Some time ago you frightened me, and I then thought it was a bad business; but I am now convinced that it was the best thing that could have happened, as it is the means of preserving the lives of our women and children. You are now busy; I will relate to you at another time what the Americans told me, the last time I went to see them.”

Le Corbeau Francois’ talk January 7th, evening: “The reports that the Indian, lately arrived from the Americans, brought, were these: They told me, said he, that when they got angry that they would bring all the Nations from the Missouri, and sweep away everything in this quarter before them. Notwithstanding this, I have given up their marks and colors. I know what I do, and I shall in future act against them.” He then repeated to the interpreter the substance of the letter of Robert Dickson, the superintendent, to Capt. Bulger.

On the trial, being interrogated by the court, and pointing to the prisoner, asked if he was the man who killed one man and wounded the other? He answered—“He is truly the man.” The chief then addressed the prisoner: “Why did you deny the bad act you have done? You ought to speak the truth. The Master of Life will take pity on you. There can be no pardon for you—prepare for death. You ought not to regret dying after committing the crime you have.” To this the prisoner made no answer.

When taken from the court to the guard-house, the prisoner requested to see two Indians, his relations, which was granted. On their coming into the guard-house, the prisoner thus reproached them: “You have betrayed me in

bringing me here. I thought at least one of you would have consented to die with me; and far from that being the case, you have not even come to see me." They thus replied to the prisoner: "Do you think we have come so far in the cold for the love we bear you? You killed the people who came to save our lives, without any quarrel. If it depended on us to save your life, you would not live a single moment."

FORT MCKAY, 15th January, 1815.

SIR:—We beg of you to excuse us for the fault we committed towards your person, and the dignity of your commission; after which we dare flatter ourselves that you would condescend to receive this new address.

F. B.,  
J. R.

In the name of the inhabitants of the Dogs' Plains.

To Capt. A. H. BULGER, Com'dg Fort McKay.

FORT MCKAY, 15th January, 1815.

SIR:—We, the citizens of the Dog Plains, not knowing in what manner to explain the sentiments with which we are penetrated, we pray that you will receive our thanks and acknowledgments for the protection that you assure to His Britannic Majesty's subjects. Your conduct and activity in rendering justice in an Indian country, which has been exposed to so many misfortunes hitherto, gives us hopes to live in quiet under your command; and permit us at the same time, more and more to testify our zeal and loyalty towards our sovereign. We beg of you to believe us, with profound respect, sir,

Your very humble servants,

[Names not preserved.]

To Capt. A. H. BULGER, Comd'g Fort McKay.

MICHILLIMACKINAC, 24th Feb., 1815.

To Capt. ANDERSON—

SIR:—I, this day, had the honor of your letter of the 17th ult., stating your having resigned the command of Fort McKay to Capt. Bulger. That gentleman speaks of you in such a manner

that I have only to reiterate to you my thanks for the zeal and ability you displayed in your command at a very critical period; and I have to beg of you to give to Capt. Bulger the most friendly and cordial support, and, by every assistance in your power, endeavor to aid in procuring those supplies which will still enable us to retain that most important country, upon which our Indian connection, and even the safety of this island so much depend.

I am fully aware of the sacrifices you have made for the public service, and shall be ever ready, as far as it is in my power, to prove to you how desirous I am of your being recompensed, as you merit. I had before taken this into consideration, and in my last dispatch recommended you to His Excellency to be a captain in the Indian department from the 4th of September. This appointment, I have reason to believe, will afford you those permanent advantages, which, as captain of the Michigan fencibles, you would probably enjoy but a short time. I well know your zeal for the service, and will always be ready to serve you as far as in my power, and in the way most pleasing for yourself.

Every human effort must be made by one and all of you, to preserve your important post, upon which so much depends. Do your utmost to conciliate and animate the Indians, for with their hearty co-operation, I trust that the enemy is again destined to defeat and disgrace. As it is my wish that the utmost harmony should prevail at your garrison during this important crisis, I strongly recommend to you to forget what has passed, with regard to Mr. Rolette, and to be in future, on that friendly footing with him, which may, perhaps assist him in furnishing the supplies, which are of so much consequence in enabling Capt. Bulger to retain his important post. I have the honor, etc.,

(Signed):

ROBERT McDOWALL,

Lieut. Col. Com'd'g, and Commanding the Indian Department thereof, and its dependencies.

Answer of La Feuille, or The Leaf, principal Sioux chief, to Thomas,\* delivered to Capt. Anderson. [No date, in 1814 or 1815.]

MY BROTHER!—I have heard your words and received your talk, and will use my endeavors to follow your advice. You are near our Great Father at Michillimackmac, who gives us good counsels, and puts us in the road of our ancestors. Who would be foolish enough not to follow his advice?

MY BROTHER THOMAS!—I regard you as a brother. Take this pipe, (holding a pipe in his hand), and with it, talk to the Chippewas near me (the hereditary enemies of the Sioux); they are wild and stubborn. I wish to be as brethren with them. Tell them a parcel of foolish Renards (Foxes) went to war against them, though I used my endeavors to prevent them. It is my wish to be at peace with all Nations. I regard you as a brother, and hold you fast by the hand.

Speech of L'Epervier, or Sparrow Hawk, better known as Black Hawk, principal war chief of the Sauks, delivered before peace was known, at Prairie du Chien, April 18, 1815, and taken down by Capt. T. G. Anderson:

“MY FATHER!—I am pleased to hear you speak as you have done. I have been sent by our chiefs to ask for a large gun (cannon), to place in our village. The Big Knives are so treacherous, we are afraid that they may come up to deceive us. By having one of your large guns in our village, we will live in safety; our women will then be able to plant corn, and hoe the ground unmolested, and our young men will be able to hunt for their families without dread of the Big Knives.”

Taking the war-belt in his hand, and advancing a little, he continued:

“MY FATHER!—You see this belt. When my Great Father at Quebec gave it to me to be on terms of friendship with all his Red Children, to form but one body, to preserve our lands,

\*As La Feuille refers to Thomas whom he addresses as residing “near” to Mackinaw, it must have reference to the Menomonee Chief Thomas or Tomah, who lived near Green bay, rather than the Sauk Chief Thomas, whose home was doubtless with his people near the mouth of Rock river.

and to make war against the Big Knives, who want to destroy us all, my Great Father said: ‘Take courage, my children, hold tight your war club, and destroy the Big Knives as much as you can. If the Master of Life favors us, you shall again find your lands as they formerly were. Your lands shall again become green—the trees green—the water green, and the sky blue. When your lands change color, you shall also change.’ This, my Father, is the reason why we Sauks hold the war club tight in our hands, and will not let it go.

“MY FATHER!—I now see the time is drawing near when we shall all change color; but, my Father, our lands have not yet changed color—they are red—the water is red with our blood, and the sky is cloudy. I have fought the Big Knives, and will continue to fight them until they retire from our lands. Till then, my Father, your Red Children, cannot be happy.”

Then laying his tomahawk down before him, he continued:

“MY FATHER!—I show you this war club to convince you that we Sauks have not forgotten the words of our Great Father at Quebec. You see, my Father, that the club which you gave me is still red and that we continue to hold it fast. For what did you put it in my hands?

“MY FATHER!—When I lately came from war, and killed six of the enemy, I promised my warriors that I would get something for them from my Father, the Red Head; but as he is not here, and you fill his place, I beg of you, my Father, to let me have something to take back to them.

“MY FATHER!—I hope you will agree to what I ask, and not allow me to return to my warriors empty-handed, ashamed, and with a heavy heart.”

Speech of the Kickapoo chief, the Barbouiller, addressed to Capt. Anderson, at Prairie du Chien, Aug. 3, 1815.

“MY FATHER!—You suppose within yourself: What has this old fellow got to say? I have not much to say. My chief and warriors sent me to listen to your words, as the voice of our

Great Father at Mchillimackinac. I hear the news from below (meaning St. Louis), and from you. From below I hear, but do not retain it; from you I hear with satisfaction, and my ears and heart are open, and retain what you say. The Sauks and my Nation make one;

and whatever they say, I hearken to it. The Great Spirit hears us talk to-day under a clear sky, and we must tell truth. I squeeze my Father's hand, am obedient to his word, and will not forget the charity he now bestows upon us."





## CHAPTER VI.

## THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

During the winter of 1825-6, there were confined in the guard house of Fort Crawford, at Prairie du Chien, because of some alleged dishonest act, two Winnebago Indians. In October, 1826, the fort was abandoned and the garrison removed to Fort Snelling. The commandant took with him the two Winnebagoes. During the spring of 1827, the reports, about the two Indians, around Prairie du Chien, was to the effect that they had been killed. It was soon apparent that a spirit of enmity between the tribe and the settlers in southwestern Wisconsin was effectually stirred up. In addition to this, were the daily encroachments of miners in the lead region; for these miners had, by this time, overrun the mining country from Galena to the Wisconsin river. Finally the difficulties led to an open rupture.

## MURDER OF GAGNIER AND LIPCAP.

On the 28th of June, 1827, two Winnebago Indians, Red Bird and We-Kaw and three of their companions, entered the house of Rigeste Gagnier, about two miles from Prairie du Chien, where they remained several hours. At last, when Mr. Gagnier least expected it, Red Bird leveled his gun and shot him dead on his hearthstone. A person in the building by the name of Lipcap, who was a hired man, was slain at the same time by We-Kaw. Madame Gagnier turned to fly with her infant of eight months. As she was about to leap through the window, the child was torn from her arms by We-Kaw, stabbed, scalped and thrown violently on the floor as dead. The murderer then attacked the woman, but gave way when she

snatched up a gun that was leaning against the wall, and presented it to his breast. She then effected her escape. Her eldest son, a lad of ten years, also shunned the murderers, and they both arrived in the village at the same time. The alarm was soon given; but, when the avengers of blood arrived at Gagnier's house, they found in it nothing living but his mangled infant. It was carried to the village, and, incredible as it may seem, it recovered.

## A WINNEBAGO DEBAUCH.

Red Bird and his companions immediately proceeded from the scene of their crime to the rendezvous of their band. During their absence, thirty-seven of the warriors who acknowledged the authority of Red Bird, had assembled with their wives and children, near the mouth of the Bad Ax river, in what is now Vernon county. They received the murderers with joy and loud approbations of their exploit. A keg of liquor which they had secured was set abroach, and the Indians began to drink and as their spirits rose, to boast of what they had already done and intended to do. They continued their revel for two days, but on the third the source of their excitement gave out—their liquor was gone. They were, at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, dissipating the last fumes of their excitement in the scalp-dance, when they descried one of the keel-boats, which had a few days before passed up the river with provisions for the troops at Fort Snelling, on her return, in charge of Mr. Lindsay. Forthwith a proposal to take her and massacre the crew was made and carried by acclamation. They count-

ed on doing this without risk, for they had examined her on her way up and supposed there were no arms on board. But in this they were mistaken as the sequel shows.

#### FIRST BATTLE OF BAD AX.

There were indications of hostilities on the part of the Sioux on the upper Mississippi, and the boats when they left Fort Snelling had been supplied with arms. In descending the river they expected an attack at Wabashaw, where the Sioux were dancing the war dance, and hailed their approach with insults and menaces, but did not offer to attack the boats, or obstruct their passage. The whites now supposed the danger over, and, a strong wind at that moment beginning to blow up stream, the boats parted company. So strong was the wind that all the force of the sweeps could scarcely stem it; and by the time the foremost boat was near the encampment, at the mouth of the Bad Ax, the crew were very willing to stop and rest. One or two Frenchmen, or half-breeds, who were on board observed hostile appearances on shore, and advised the rest to keep the middle of the stream with the boat, but their counsel was disregarded. They urged the boat directly toward the camp with all the force of the sweeps. There were sixteen men on deck.

The men were rallying their French companions on their apprehensions, as the boat approached the shore; but when within thirty yards of the bank, suddenly the trees and rocks rang with the blood-chilling, ear-piercing tones of the war-whoop, and a volley of rifle balls rained upon the deck. Happily, the Winnebagoes had not yet recovered from the effects of their debauch, and their arms were not steady. One man only fell. He was a little negro named Peter. His leg was dreadfully shattered and he afterward died of the wound. A second volley soon came from the shore; but, as the men were lying at the bottom of the boat, they all escaped but one, who was shot through the heart. Encouraged by the non-resistance, the Winnebagoes rushed to their canoes with in-

tent to board. The boatmen having recovered from their first panic, seized their guns and the savages were received with a severe discharge. In one canoe two savages were killed with the same bullet and several wounded. The attack was continued until night, when one of the party named Mandeville, who had assumed command, sprang into the water, followed by four others, who succeeded in setting the boat afloat, and then went down the stream.

Thirty-seven Indians were engaged in this attack, which may be called the first "Battle of Bad Ax;" the second being fought just below this point, five years after, between the Americans and Indians of another tribe, of which an account will be given in another chapter. Of the Winnebagoes seven were killed and fourteen wounded. They managed to put 693 shots into and through the boat. Two of the crew were killed outright, and four wounded—two mortally. The presence of mind of Mandeville undoubtedly saved the rest, as well as the boat. Mr. Lindsay's boat, the rear one, did not reach the mouth of the Bad Ax until midnight. The Indians opened fire upon her, which was promptly returned. Owing to the darkness no injury was done to the boat, and she passed safely on. Considering the few that were engaged in the attack on the first boat and in its defense, the contest was indeed a spirited and sanguinary one.

#### GREAT ALARM UPON THE BORDER.

Great was the alarm at Prairie du Chien when the boats arrived there. The people left their houses and farms and crowded into the dilapidated fort. An express was immediately sent to Galena, and another to Fort Snelling, for assistance. A company of upwards of a hundred volunteers soon arrived from Galena, and the minds of the inhabitants were quieted. In a few days four imperfect companies arrived from Fort Snelling. The consternation of the people of the lead mines was great, and in all the frontier settlements. This portion of the country then contained, as is supposed, about

5,000 inhabitants—that is south of the Wisconsin river and at Prairie du Chien, and extending into Illinois. A great many of these fled from their homes.

#### ARRIVAL OF GOVERNMENT TROOPS.

On the 1st of September, 1827, Maj. William Whistler, with government troops arrived at the portage (now Portage, Columbia Co., Wis.), and while there an express arrived from Gen. H. Atkinson, announcing his approach, and directing him to halt and fortify himself and wait his arrival. The object of the joint expedition of Gen. Atkinson from Jefferson barracks below St. Louis, and of Maj. Whistler from Fort Howard, at Green Bay, was to capture those who had committed the murders at Prairie du Chien, and put a stop to any further aggression. And this march of the two into the Winnebago country from opposite directions was well calculated to over-awe the disaffected among the Winnebagoes. These Indians were soon advised that the security of their people lay in the surrender of the murderers of the Gagnier family. Accordingly, Red Bird and We-Kaw were surrendered up to Maj. Whistler, at the portage and the Winnebago war was ended. The two Indians were taken to Prairie du Chien for safe-keeping, to await their trial in the regular courts of justice for murder.

#### TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF THE MURDERERS.

The next spring (1828), Red Bird, We-Kaw and another Winnebago prisoner were tried at Prairie du Chien, before Judge James Duane Doty, who went from Green Bay there for that purpose. They were found guilty and sentenced to death. Red Bird died in prison. A deputation of the tribe went to Washington to solicit from the President of the United States, John Quincy Adams, a pardon for the others. President Adams granted it on the implied condition that the tribe would cede the lands then the possession of the miners, in the lead region, to the General Government. The Winnebagoes agreed to this. Madame Gagnier was compensated for the loss of her husband and

the mutilation of her infant. At the treaty with the Winnebagoes held at Prairie du Chien in 1829, provision was made for two sections of land to her and her two children. The United States agreed to pay her the sum of \$50 per annum for fifteen years to be deducted from the annuity of the Winnebagoes.

#### DE-KAU-RAY'S IMPRISONMENT.

In closing this account of the "Winnebago War" we give an anecdote, which places the Winnebago character in an amiable light. The militia of Prairie du Chien, immediately after the affair of the boats at the mouth of the Bad Ax river, seized an old Winnebago chief named De-kau-ray and four other Indians. The chief was informed that if Red Bird was not given up within a certain time he and the others were to die in his place. This De-kau-ray steadfastly believed. A messenger, a young Indian, was sent to inform the tribe of the state of affairs, and several days had elapsed and no information was received of the murderers. The dreadful day was near at hand, and De-kau-ray, being in bad health, asked permission of the officer to go to the river and indulge in his long-accustomed habit of bathing in order to improve his physical condition, upon which Col. Snelling told him that if he would promise on the honor of a chief that he would not leave town, he might have his liberty and enjoy all his privileges until the day appointed for his execution. Accordingly, he first gave his hand to the colonel, thanking him for his friendly offer, then raised both hands aloft, and, in the most solemn adjuration, promised that he would not leave the bounds prescribed, and said if he had a hundred lives he would sooner lose them all than forfeit his word. He was then set at liberty. He was advised to flee to the wilderness and make his escape. "Do you think," said he, "I prize life above honor?" He then complacently remained until nine days of the ten which he had to live had passed, and still nothing was heard of the murderers or of their being apprehended. No alteration could be seen in the countenance

of the chief. It so happened that on that day Gen. Atkinson arrived with his troops from Jefferson barracks, and the order for the execution was countermanded and the Indians permitted to return to their homes.

WM. J. SNELLING ON THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

No tribe considers revenge a more sacred duty than the Winnebagoes. It was their ancient custom to take five lives for one, and it is notorious on the frontiers, that no blood of theirs has been shed, even in modern days, that has not been fully avenged. They used, too, to wear some part of the body of a slain enemy about them as a testimonial of prowess. We well remember a grim Winnebago, who was wont to present himself before the whites, who passed the portage of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, with a human hand hanging on his breast. He had taken it from a Yankee soldier at Tippecanoe.

It was not difficult to stir up such a people to hostility, and, moreover, circumstances favored the design of the Dakotas. There is, or was, a village of Winnebagoes on the Black river, not far from the Dakota town of which Wa-ba-shaw is chief. The two tribes are descended from the same stock, as their languages abundantly prove, and the claims of common origin have been strengthened by frequent intermarriages. Now, it happened, that at the time when Toopun-kah Zeze was put to death at Fort Snelling, the Red Bird was absent from his Winnebago village, on an expedition against the Chippewas. He returned unsuccessful, and, consequently, sullen and malcontent. Till this time, he had been noted among his tribe for his friendly disposition towards the "men with hats," as the Indians call the whites, and among the traders, for his scrupulous honesty. However, this man, from whom no white person beyond the frontier would have anticipated injury, was easily induced to commit a bloody and unprovoked outrage.

Certain Dakota ambassadors arrived at the Red Bird's village, with a lie in their mouths.

"You have become a by-word of reproach among us," said they; "you have just given the Chippewas reason to laugh at you, and the Big Knives also laugh at you. Lo! while they were among you they dared not offend you, but now they have caused Wa-man-goos-ga-ra-ha, and his companion to be put to death, and they have cut their bodies into pieces not bigger than the spots in a bead garter." The tale was believed, and a cry for vengeance arose throughout the village. It was decided that something must be done, and the Dakota envoys promised to lend a helping hand.

A few days before, two keel-boats had ascended the river, laden with provisions for the troops at Fort Snelling. They passed the mouth of Black river with a full sheet, so that a few Winnebagoes, who were there encamped, had some difficulty in reaching them with their canoes. They might have taken both boats, for there were but three fire-locks on board; nevertheless they offered no injury. They sold fish and venison to the boatmen, on amicable terms, and suffered them to pursue their journey unmolested. We mention this trifling circumstance, merely because it was afterwards reported in the St. Louis papers, that the crews of these boats had abused these Winnebagoes shamefully, which assuredly was not the case.\* The wind died away before the boats reached the village of Wa-ba-shaw, † which is situated on the west bank of the Mississippi, twelve or fifteen miles above the mouth of the Black river. Here the Dakotas peremptorily commanded them to put ashore, which they did. No reason was assigned for the order. Upwards

\* To page 162, vol. ii. of our *Collections*, we appended a note from Gov. Reynold's *Life and Times*, which probably embodied the newspaper accounts of the pretended "shameful abuse of the Winnebagoes"—that the crews of these boats, on their upward trip, had stopped at a Winnebago camp, got them all drunk, and then forced six or seven stupefied squaws on board for *corrupt and brutal purposes*, and kept them during the voyage to Fort Snelling, and on their return. Hence the attack on the boats by the Winnebagoes when they became sober and conscious of the iniquity done them. But this emphatic denial by Mr. Snelling, of this infamous charge, and the fact that Judge Lockwood, in his narrative, and Gen. Smith and Mr. Neill in their histories, are silent on the subject, should brand it as utterly without foundation.

† The site of the present town of Winona.

of 500 warriors immediately crowded on board. A passenger, who was well acquainted with the Dakotas, observed that they brought no women with them as usual; that they were painted black, which signifies either grief or hostility; that they refused to shake hands with the boatmen, and that their speech was brief and sullen. He instantly communicated his observation to Mr. Lindsay, who commanded the boats, and advised him to push on, before the savages should have discovered that the party were wholly unarmed. Lindsay, a bold-hearted Kentuckian, assumed the tone of command, and peremptorily ordered the Dakotas ashore. They, probably, thought that big words would be seconded with hard blows, and complied. The boats pushed on, several Indians pursued them along the shore for several miles, with speech of taunt and defiance, but they offered no further molestation.

The Dakota villages\* higher up showed much ill-will, but no disposition, or rather no courage, to attack. Altogether appearances were so threatening, that on his arrival at Fort Snelling, Mr. Lindsay communicated what he had seen to the commanding officer, and asked that his crew should be furnished with arms and ammunition. The request was granted; his thirty-two men were provided with thirty-two muskets, and a barrel of ball-cartridges. Thus secured against attack, the boats commenced the descent of the river.

In the meanwhile, the Red Bird had cogitated upon what he had heard, every tittle of which he believed, and had come to the conclusion that the honor of his race required the blood of two Americans at least. He, therefore, got into his canoe with Wekaw, or the Sun, and two others, and paddled to Prairie du Chien. When he got there he waited upon Mr. Boilvin, in the most friendly manner, and begged to be regarded as one of the staunchest friends of the Americans. The venerable agent admitted his claims, but absolutely refused to

give him any whisky. The Winnebago chief then applied to a trader in the town, who, relying on his general good character, did not hesitate to furnish him with an eight gallon keg of spirits, the value of which was to be paid in furs in the succeeding autumn.

There was an old colored woman in the village, whose five sons had never heard that they were inferior beings, either from the Indians or the Canadian French. Therefore, having never considered themselves degraded, they were not degraded; on the contrary, they ranked with the most respectable inhabitants of the place. We knew them well. One of them was the village blacksmith; the others were substantial farmers. Their father was a Frenchman, and their name was Gagnier.

One of these men owned a farm three miles from Prairie du Chien, where he lived with his wife, who was a white woman, two children and a hired man named Lipcap. Thither the Red Bird repaired with his three companions, sure of a fair reception, for Registre Gagnier had always been noted for his humanity to the poor, especially the Indians.

Registre Gagnier invited his savage visitors to enter, hung the kettle over the fire, gave them to eat and smoked the pipe of peace with them. The Red Bird was the last man on earth whom he would have feared; for they were well acquainted with each other and had reciprocated good offices. The Indians remained several hours under Gagnier's hospitable roof. At last, when the farmer least expected it, the Winnebago chief leveled his gun and shot him down dead on his hearth-stone. Lipcap was slain at the same instant by Wekaw. Madame Gagnier turned to fly with her infant of eighteen months. As she was about to leap through the window, the child was torn from her arms by Wekaw, stabbed, scalped and thrown violently on the floor as dead. The murderer then attacked the woman; but gave way when she snatched up a gun that was leaning against the wall and presented it to his breast. She then effected her

\*Red Wing and Kaposia, says Neill.

escape. Her eldest son, a lad of ten years, also shunned the murderers, and they both arrived in the village at about the same time. The alarm was soon given; but when the avengers of blood arrived at poor Registre Gagnier's house, they found in it nothing living but his mangled infant. It was carried to the village, and, strange as it may seem, recovered.\*

The Red Bird and his companions immediately proceeded from the scene of their crime to the rendezvous of their band. During their absence, thirty-seven of the warriors, who acknowledged the authority of Red Bird, had assembled, with their wives and children, near the mouth of Bad Ax river. They received the murderers with exceeding great joy, and loud approbation of their exploit. The keg of liquor was immediately set abroach, the red men began to drink, and, as their spirits rose, to boast of what they had already done, and intended to do. Two days did they continue to revel; and on the third, the source of their excitement gave out. They were, at about 4 in the afternoon, dissipating the last fumes of their excitement in the scalp dance, when they descried one of the keel-boats before mentioned, approaching. Forthwith a proposal to take her, and massacre the crew, was made and carried by acclamation. They counted upon doing this without risk; for they had examined her on the way up, and supposed that there were no arms on board.

Mr. Lindsay's boats had descended the river together as far as the village of Wa-ba-shaw, where they expected an attack. The Dakotas on shore were dancing the war-dance, and hailed their approach with insults and menaces; but did not, nevertheless, offer to obstruct their passage. The whites now supposed the danger over, and a strong wind at that moment beginning to blow up stream, the boats parted company. That which sat deepest in the water had

\* Gen. Smith, on the authority of Judge Doty, states that this tragedy occurred on the 28th of June, 1827; Judge Lockwood says the 26th and Niles Register says the 24th. Neill follows Lockwood's chronology.

the advantage of the under current, and, of course, gained several miles in advance of the other.

So strong was the wind, that all the force of sweeps could scarcely stem it, and, by the time the foremost boat was near the encampment, at mouth of the Bad Ax, the crew were very willing to stop and rest. One or two Frenchmen, or half breeds, who were on board, observed hostile appearances on shore, and advised the rest to keep the middle of the stream; but their counsel was disregarded. Most of the crew were Americans, who, as usual with our countrymen, combined a profound ignorance of Indian character with a thorough contempt for Indian prowess. They urged the boat directly toward the camp, with all the force of the sweeps. There were sixteen men on deck. It may be well to observe here, that this, like all keel-boats used in the Mississippi valley, was built almost exactly on the model of the Erie and Middlesex canal boats.

The men were rallying their French companions on their apprehensions, and the boat\* was within thirty yards of the shore, when suddenly the trees and rocks rang with the blood-chilling, ear-piercing tones of the warwhoop, and a volley of rifle balls rained upon the deck. Happily, the Winnebagoes had not yet recovered from the effects of their debauch, and their arms were not steady. One man only fell by their fire. He was a little negro named Peter. His leg was dreadfully shattered, and he afterwards died of the wound. Then Peter began to curse and swear, d——g his fellows for leaving him to be shot at like a Christmas turkey; but finding that his reproaches had no effect, he also managed to drag himself below. All this passed in as little time as it will take to read this paragraph.

Presently a voice hailed the boat in the Sac tongue demanding to know if the crew were English? A half-breed Sac, named Beauchamp,

\* This advance boat was the Oliver H. Perry, according to Geo. Smith's History of Wisconsin.

answered in the affirmative. "Then," said the querist, "come on shore, and we will do you no harm, for we are your brethren, the Sacs." "Dog," retorted Beauchamp, "no Sac would attack us thus cowardly. If you want us on shore, you must come and fetch us."

With that, a second volley came from the shore; but as the men were now lying prone in the bottom of the boat, below the water line, they all escaped but one. One man, an American named Stewart, fell. He had risen to return the first fire, and the muzzle of his musket protruding through a loop-hole, showed some Winnebago where to aim. The bullet struck him under the left arm, and passed directly through his heart. He fell dead, with his finger on the trigger of his undischarged gun. It was a hot day, and before the fight was over, the scent of the gunpowder could not overpower the stench of the red puddle around him.

The Winnebagoes encouraged by the non-residence, now rushed to their canoes, with intent to board. One venerable old man endeavored to dissuade them. He laid hold on one of the canoes, and would, perhaps, have succeeded in retaining it; but in the heat of his argument, a ball from the boat hit him in the middle finger of the peace-making hand. Very naturally enraged at such unkind treatment from his friends, he loosed the canoe, hurried to his wigwam for his gun, and took an active part in the remainder of the action. In the meanwhile, the white men had recovered from their first panic, and seized their arms. The boarders were received with a very severe discharge. In one canoe, two savages were killed with the same bullet. Their dying struggles upset the canoe, and the rest were obliged to swim on shore, where it was sometime before they could restore their arms to fighting order. Several more were wounded, and those who remained unhurt, put back, satisfied that a storm was not the best mode of attack.

Two, however, persevered. They were together in one canoe, and approached the boat astern,

where there were no holes through which the whites could fire upon them. They soon leaped on board. One seized the long steering oar, or rudder. The other jumped upon deck, where he halted, and discharged five muskets, which had been left there by the crew, fled below through the deck into the bottom of the boat. In this manner he wounded one man very severely. After this exploit, he hurried to the bow, where he seized a long pole, and with the assistance of the steersman, succeeded in grounding the boat on a sand-bar, and fixing her fast under the fire of his people. The two Winnebago boatmen then began to load and fire, to the no small annoyance of the crew. He at the stern was soon dispatched. One of the whites observed his position through a crack, and gave him a mortal wound through the boards. Still, he struggled to get overboard, probably to save his scalp. But his struggles were feeble, and a second bullet terminated them before he could effect his object. After the fight was over, the man who slew him took his scalp.

The bow of the boat was open, and the warrior there still kept his station, out of sight, excepting when he stooped to fire, which he did five times. His third shot broke the arm, and passed through the lungs, of the brave Beauchamp. At this sight, one or two began to speak of surrender. "No, friends," cried the dying man; "you will not save your lives so. Fight to the last; for they will show no mercy. If they get the better of you, for God's sake throw me overboard. Do not let them get my hair." He continued to exhort them to resistance long as his breath lasted, and died with the words "fight on," on his lips. Before this time, however, his slayer had also taken his leave of life. A sailor, named Jack Mandeville, shot him through the head, and he fell overboard, carrying his gun with him.

From that moment Mandeville assumed the command of the boat. A few had resolved to take the skiff, and leave the rest to their fate.

They had already cast off the rope. Jack interposed, declaring that he would shoot the first man, and bayonet the second, who would persevere. They submitted. Two more had hidden themselves in the bow of the boat, out of sight, but not out of danger. After a while the old tar missed them, sought them, and compelled them by threats of instant death, enforced by pricks of his bayonet, to leave their hiding place, and take share in the business in hand. Afterwards they fought like bull dogs. It was well for them that Mandeville acted as he did; for they had scarcely risen when a score of bullets, at least, passed through the place where they had been lying.

After the two or three first volleys the fire had slackened, but it was not, therefore, the less dangerous. The Indians had the advantage of superior numbers, and could shift their positions at pleasure. The whites were compelled to lie in the bottom of the boat, below the water mark, for its sides were without bulwarks. Every bullet passed through and through. It was only at intervals, and very warily, that they could rise to fire; for the flash of every gun showed the position of the marksman, and was instantly followed by the reports of two or three Indian rifles. On the other hand they were not seen, and being thinly scattered over a large boat, the Winnebagoes could but guess their positions. The fire, was therefore, slow; for none on either side cared to waste ammunition. Thus, for upwards of three hours, the boatmen lay in blood and bilge-water, deprived of the free use of their limbs, and wholly unable to extricate themselves.

At last, as the night fell, Mandeville came to the conclusion that darkness would render the guns of his own party wholly useless, while it would not render the aim of the Winnebagoes a jot less certain. He, therefore, as soon as it was dark, stoutly called for assistance, and sprang into the water. Four more followed him. The balls rained around them, passing

through their clothes; but they persisted, and the boat was soon afloat. Seeing their prey escaping, the Winnebagoes raised a yell of mingled rage and despair, and gave the whites a farewell volley. It was returned, with three hearty cheers, and ere a gun could be re-loaded, the boat had floated out of shooting distance.

For half the night, a wailing voice, apparently that of an old man, was heard, following the boat, at a safe distance, however. It was conjectured that it was the father of him whose body the boat was bearing away. Subsequently inquiry proved this supposition to be correct.

Thirty-seven Indians were engaged in this battle, seven of whom were killed, and fourteen were wounded. They managed to put 693 balls into and through the boat. Two of the crew were killed outright, two mortally, and two slightly wounded. Jack Mandeville's courage and presence of mind undoubtedly saved the rest, as well as the boat; but we have never heard that he was rewarded in any way or shape.

Mr. Lindsay's boat, the rear one, reached the mouth of the Bad Ax about midnight. The Indians opened a fire upon her, which was promptly returned. There was a light on board, at which the first gun was probably aimed, for that ball only hit the boat. All the rest passed over harmless in the darkness.\*

Great was the alarm at Prairie du Chien when the boats arrived there. The people left their houses and farms, and crowded into the dilapidated fort. Nevertheless, they showed much spirit, and speedily established a very effective discipline. An express was immediately sent to Galega, and another to Fort Snelling, for assistance. A company of upwards of

\*It is stated in Neill's Minnesota, that among the passengers on Lindsay's boat was Joseph Snelling, a talented son of the Colonel, who wrote a story of deep interest, based on the facts narrated. This we presume was William J. Snelling, the writer of this narrative. As for the date of the attack on these keel boats, Judge Lockwood gives it as June 26th, which Neill follows; Gen. Smith, on Judge Doty's authority, we presume, says the 30th. Whatever was the real date, one thing is quite certain, that the murder of Gagniers family and the boat attack, transpired the same day, and the next day the first of the keel boats arrived at Prairie du Chien, increasing the war panic among the people.



100 volunteers soon arrived from Galena, and the minds of the inhabitants were quieted.

In a few days, four imperfect companies of the 5th Infantry arrived from Fort Snelling. The commanding officer ordered a march on the Red Bird's village; but as the volunteers refused to obey, and determined to return home, he was obliged to countermand it.

The consternation of the people of the lead mines was great. Full half of them fled from the country. Shortly after, however, when Gen. Atkinson arrived with a full regiment, a considerable body of volunteers joined him from Galena, and accompanied him to the portage of Wisconsin, to fight with or receive the submission of the Winnebagoes.

The Red Bird there appeared, in all the paraphernalia of an Indian chief and warrior, and surrendered himself to justice, together with his companions in the murder of Gagnier, and one of his band, who had taken an active part in the attack on the boats. They were incarcerated at Prairie du Chien. A dreadful epidemic broke out there about this time, and he died in prison. He knew that his death was certain, and did not shrink from it.

In the course of a year, the people of the lead mines increased in number and in strength and encroached upon the Winnebago lands. The Winnebagoes complained in vain. The next spring, the murderers of Methode, and the other Indian prisoners, were tried, convicted, and sentenced to death. A deputation of the tribe went to Washington to solicit their pardon. President Adams granted it, on the implied condition that the tribe would cede the lands then in possession of the miners. The Winnebagoes have kept their word—the land has been ceded, and Madame Gagnier has been compensated for the loss of her husband, and the mutilation of her infant. We believe that she received, after waiting two years, the magnificent sum of \$2,000.\*

\*At the treaty held at Prairie du Chien with the Winnebagoes, in 1829, provision was made for two sections of land to THERESE GAGNIER and her two children, FRANCOIS and

We will close this true account of life beyond the frontier, with an anecdote which places the Winnebago character in a more amiable light than anything already related. The militia of Prairie du Chien, immediately after the affair of the boats, seized the old chief De Kau-ray—the same who has already been mentioned. He was told that if the Red-Bird should not be given up within a certain time, he was to die in his stead. This he steadfastly believed. Finding that confinement injured his health, he requested to be permitted to range the country on his parole. The demand was granted. He was bidden to go whither he pleased during the day, but at sunset he was required to return to the fort on pain of being considered an old woman. He observed the condition religiously. At the first tap of the retreat, De Kau-ray was sure to present himself at the gate; and this he continued to do till Gen. Atkinson set him at liberty.

#### AN INCIDENT OF THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

The following incident, found in the *Western Courier*, published at Ravenna, Ohio, Feb. 26, 1830, was read by the secretary at a meeting of the Wisconsin Historical Society, in December, 1862:

"There is no class of human beings on earth who hold a pledge more sacred and binding, than do the North American Indians. An instance of this was witnessed during the Winnebago war of 1827, in the person of De Kau-ray, a celebrated chief of that Nation, who, with four other Indians of his tribe, was taken prisoner at Prairie du Chien. Col. Snelling, of the 5th regiment of Infantry, who then commanded that garrison, dispatched a young Indian into the Nation, with orders to inform the other chiefs of De Kau-ray's band, that unless those Indians who were the perpetrators of the horrid murders of some of our citizens, were brought to the fort and given up within ten days, De Kau-ray and the other four Indians,

LOUISE; and for the United States to pay THERESE GAGNIER the sum of \$50 per annum for fifteen years, to be deducted from the annuity to said Indians.

who were retained as hostages, would be shot at the end of that time. The awful sentence was pronounced in the presence of De Kan-ray, who, though proclaiming his own innocence of the outrages which had been committed by others of his Nation, declared that he feared not death, though it would be attended with serious consequences, inasmuch as he had two affectionate wives, and a large family of small children, who were entirely dependent on him for their support; but, if necessary, he was willing to die for the honor of his Nation.

"The young Indian had been gone several days, and no intelligence was yet received from the murderers. The dreadful day being near at hand, and De Kan-ray being in a bad state of health, asked permission of the colonel to go to the river to indulge in his long-accustomed habit of bathing in order to improve his health. Upon which, Col. Snelling told him if he would promise, on the honor of a chief, that he would not leave the town, he might have his liberty and enjoy all his privileges, until the day of the appointed execution. Accordingly, he first gave his hand to the colonel, thanking him for his friendly offer, then raised both his hands aloft, and in the most solemn adjuration, promised that he would not leave the bounds prescribed, and said if he had a hundred lives he would sooner lose them all than forfeit his word, or deduct from his proud Nation one particle of its-boasted honor. He was then set at liberty. He was advised to flee to the wilderness and make his escape. "But no," said he, "do you think I prize life above honor? or, that I would betray a confidence reposed in me, for the sake of saving my life?" He then complacently remained until nine days of the ten which he had to live had elapsed, and nothing heard from the Nation with regard to the apprehension of the murderers, his immediate death became apparent; but no alteration could be seen in the countenance of the chief. It so happened that on that day Gen. Atkinson arrived with his

troops from Jefferson barracks, and the order for the execution was countermanded, and the Indians permitted to repair to their homes."

GEN. CASS ON THE WINNEBAGO OUTBREAK, 1827.

In a speech, Gen. Lewis Cass, at Burlington, Iowa, in June, 1855, made the following reference to the Winnebago outbreak in 1827:

"Twenty-eight years have elapsed," said the venerable statesman, "since I passed along the borders of this beautiful State. 'Time and chance happen to all men,' says the writer of old; and time and chance have happened to me, since I first became identified with the west. In 1827 I heard that the Winnebagoes had assumed an attitude of hostility toward the whites, and that great fear and anxiety prevailed among the border settlers of the north-western frontier. I went to Green Bay, where I took a canoe with twelve voyagers and went up the Fox river and passed over the portage into the Wisconsin. We went down the Wisconsin until we met an ascending boat in the charge of Ramsay Crooks, who was long a resident of the northwest. Here we ascertained that the Winnebagoes had assumed a hostile attitude, and that the settlers of Prairie du Chien were apprehensive of being suddenly attacked and massacred. After descending about seventy miles further, we came in sight of the Winnebago camp. It was situated upon a high prairie, not far from the river, and as he approached the shore he saw the women and children running across the prairie, in an opposite direction, which he knew to be a bad sign. After reaching the shore he went up to the camp. At first the Indians were sullen, particularly the young men. He talked with them awhile, and they finally consented to smoke the calumet. He afterwards learned that one of the young Indians cocked his gun, and was about to shoot him, when he was forcibly prevented by an old man, who struck down his arm. He passed down to Prairie du Chien, where he found the inhabitants in the greatest

state of alarm. After organizing the militia, he had to continue his voyage to St. Louis. He stopped at Galena. There were then no white inhabitants on either bank of the Mississippi, north of the Missouri line. Arrived at St. Louis, after organizing a force under Gen. Clark and Gen. Atkinson, he ascended the Illinois in his canoe, and passed into Lake Michigan without getting out of it. The water had filled the swamps at the head of Chicago river, which enabled the *voyageurs* to navigate his canoe through without serious difficulty. Where Chicago now is he found two families, one of which was that of his old friend Kinzie. This was the first and last time he had been at Burlington. New countries have their disadvantages of which those who come at a later day know little. Forty years ago flour sold at \$2 a barrel, and there were hundreds of acres of corn in the west that were not harvested. The means of transportation were too expensive to allow of their being carried to market."

GEN. DODGE TO GEN. ATKINSON.

GALENA, Aug. 26, 1827.

DEAR GENERAL:—Capt. Henry, the chairman of the committee of safety, will wait on you at Prairie du Chien, before your departure from that place. Capt. Henry is an intelligent gentleman, who understands well the situation of the country. The letter accompanying Gov. Cass' communication to you has excited in some measure the people in this part of the country. As the principal part of the efficient force is preparing to accompany you on your expedition up the Ouisconsin, it might have a good effect to send a small regular force to this part of the country, and in our absence they might render protection to this region.

I feel the importance of your having as many mounted men as the country can afford, to aid in punishing those insolent Winnebagoes who are wishing to unite, it would seem, in common all the disaffected Indians on our borders. From information received last night, some

straggling Indians have been seen on our frontier.

Your friend and obedient servant,

H. DODGE.

To Gen. H. ATKINSON, Prairie du Chien.

There has repeatedly, during the past dozen or fifteen years, appeared in the papers an article purporting to be *An Indian's Race for Life*. It stated, that soon after the Winnebago difficulties in 1827, that a Sioux Indian killed a Winnebago Indian while out hunting near the mouth of Root river; that the Winnebagoes were indignant at the act, and 2,000 of them assembled at Prairie du Chien, and demanded of Col. Taylor, commanding there, the procurement and surrender of the murderer. An officer was sent to the Sioux, and demanded the murderer, who was given up; and finally was surrendered to the Winnebagoes, on condition that he should have a chance for his life—giving him ten paces, to run at a given signal, and twelve Winnebagoes to pursue, each armed only with a tomahawk and scalping knife—but he out-ran them all, and saved his life.

H. L. Dousman and B. W. Brisbois, have always declared that no such incident ever occurred there, and that there is "not one word of truth in the statement." This note is appended here that future historians of our State may understand that it is only a myth or fanciful story.

DANIEL M. PARKINSON'S RECOLLECTIONS OF THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

[From "Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin," Vol. II. 1856.]

In the year 1822 considerable excitement was created in relation to the lead mines near Galena, and a number of persons went there from Sangamon county, among whom was Col. Ebenezer Brigham, now of Blue Mounds, Dane Co., Wis. In 1826 the excitement and interest relative to the lead mine country became considerably increased, and in 1827, it became intense, equalling almost anything pertaining to the California gold fever. People from almost all portions of the Union inconsiderately rushed to the mining region.

With Col. William S. Hamilton, James D. Brents and two others, I arrived at Galena on the 4th of July, 1827, and on the same day arrived also a boat from St. Peter's, which had been attacked by the Indians a short distance above Prairie du Chien, bringing on board one man killed and two men wounded. In the encounter with the Indians they killed two of them. \* \* \* \* \*

Upon the reception of the alarming intelligence of the attack on this boat and also upon some of the inhabitants near Prairie du Chien and the reports being spread over the country, a scene of the most alarming and disorderly confusion ensued—alarm and consternation were depicted in every countenance—thousands flocking to Galena for safety, when in fact it was the most exposed and unsafe place in the whole country. All were without arms, order or control. The roads were lined in all directions with frantic and fleeing men, women and children, expecting every moment to be overtaken, tomahawked and scalped by the Indians. It was said, and I presume with truth, that the encampment of fugitives at the head of Apple river on the first night of the alarm was four miles in extent and numbered 3,000 persons.

In this state of alarm, confusion and disorder it was extremely difficult to do anything; almost every man's object was to leave the country, if possible. At length a company of riflemen was raised at Galena, upon the requisition of Gov. Cass of Michigan, who arrived there on the second day after the alarm. This company was commanded by Abner Fields, of Vandalia, Ill., as captain and one Smith and William S. Hamilton as lieutenants, and was immediately put in motion for Prairie du Chien, by embarking on board the keel-boat Maid of Fevre river. On our way up the river, I acted as sergeant of the company, and we made several reconnoitering expeditions into the woods near the river, where Indian encampments were indicated by the rising of smoke. In these reconnoissances we run the hazard of some danger, but fortunately all

the Indians that we met were friendly disposed, and did not in the least sympathize with those who had made hostile demonstrations.

When we arrived at Prairie du Chien we took possession of the barracks, under the prior orders of Gov. Cass, and remained there for several days until we gave way to Col. Snelling's troops who arrived from Fort Snelling. While we remained there, a most serious difficulty occurred between Col. Snelling, of the regular army, and Capt. Fields and Lieut. Smith of our volunteers, which eventuated in Lieut. Smith sending Col. Snelling a challenge and Capt. Fields insisted upon doing so likewise, but Col. Hamilton and I at length dissuaded him from it. Col. Snelling declined accepting Lieut. Smith's challenge, and immediately sent a corporal with a file of men to arrest Mr. Scott, the bearer of Smith's communication. The volunteers refused to surrender Scott into the hands of the guard, but Col. Hamilton wrote a note to Col. Snelling stating, in effect, that Scott should immediately appear before him. Accordingly Col. Hamilton and I conducted Mr. Scott into the presence of Col. Snelling, who interrogated him as to his knowledge of the contents of Lieut. Smith's communication; and upon Mr. Scott's assuring the colonel that he was entirely ignorant of the subject-matter, he was dismissed.

Col. Snelling then addressed the volunteers in a pacific and conciliatory manner, which seemed to dispose of the matter amicably; but the colonel, nevertheless, refused to furnish us with any means of support or any mode of conveyance back to Galena—as the boat in which we came, returned there immediately after our arrival. But for the noble generosity of Mr. Lockwood, who kindly furnished us with a boat and provisions, we would have been compelled to have made our way back to Galena on foot, or as best we could, without provisions. During our entire stay at the garrison, we received the kindest treatment and most liberal hospitality at the hands of Mr. Lockwood. At the time of

our arrival at Prairie du Chien, the citizens had in their custody as hostages for the good conduct of their Nation, three Indians, one of whom was the well-known chief De-Kau-ray. He disclaimed on the part of his Nation as a whole, any intention to engage in hostilities with the whites; he was, however, retained some time as a hostage before being released.

During our absence, another volunteer company was raised, commanded by Gen. Dodge, who was constantly in the field with his mounted force, keeping in check the approach of the enemy. During his rangings, he took young Win-ne-shiek, son of the chief Win-ne-shiek, who was detained as a hostage for some time. No farther disturbances of a serious character took place that season; and in the succeeding autumn, Gens. Atkinson and Dodge held a council or treaty with the Winnebagoes. After this we had no more Indian troubles till 1832.

JAMES H. LOCKWOOD'S ACCOUNT OF THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

In the winter of 1825-26, the wise men at Washington took it into their heads to remove the troops from Fort Crawford to Fort Snelling, and abandon the former. This measure was then supposed to have been brought about on the representation of Col. Snelling of Fort Snelling, who disliked Prairie du Chien for difficulties he had with some of the principal inhabitants. During the winter there were confined in the guard-house at Fort Crawford two Winnebago Indians, for some of their supposed dishonest acts; but what they were charged with, I do not now recollect. At that time, as already mentioned, our mails from St. Louis, the east and south, came via Springfield to Galena, and the postmaster at Prairie du Chien sent to Galena for the mails of that place and Fort Snelling. An order would frequently arrive by steamboat countermanding a previous order for the abandonment of the fort, before the arrival of first order by mail, and this matter continued during the summer of 1826, and until October, when a positive order arrived,

directing the commandant of Fort Crawford to abandon the fort, and proceed with the troops to Fort Snelling; and if he could not procure transportation, to leave the provisions, ammunition and fort in charge of some citizen.

But a few days previous to this order, there had been an alarming report circulated, that the Winnebagoes were going to attack Fort Crawford, and the commandant set to work repairing the old fort, and making additional defenses. During this time the positive order arrived, and the precipitancy with which the fort was abandoned during the alarm was communicated to the Indians through the half-breeds residing at or visiting the place, which naturally caused the Winnebagoes to believe that the troops had fled through fear of them. The commandant took with him to Fort Snelling the two Winnebagoes confined in Fort Crawford, leaving behind some provisions, and all the damaged arms, with a brass swivel and a few wall pieces, in charge of John Marsh, the then sub-agent at this place.

The Winnebagoes, in the fall of 1826, obtained from the traders their usual credit for goods, and went to their hunting grounds; but early in the winter a report became current among the traders that the Winnebagoes had heard a rumor that the Americans and English were going to war in the spring; and hence they were holding councils to decide upon the course they should adopt, hunting barely enough to obtain what they wanted to subsist upon in the meantime.

Mr. Brisbois said to me several times during the winter, that he feared some outrages from the Winnebagoes in the spring, as from all he could gather they were bent on war, which I ought to have believed, as Mr. Brisbois had been among them engaged in trade over forty years. But I thought it impossible that the Winnebagoes, surrounded, as they were by Americans, and troops in the country, should for a moment seriously entertain such an idea. I supposed it a false alarm, and gave myself

very little uneasiness about it; but in the spring, when they returned from their hunts, I found that they paid much worse than usual, although they were not celebrated for much punctuality or honesty in paying their debts. It was a general custom with the traders, when an Indian paid his debts in the spring pretty well, on his leaving, to let him have a little ammunition, either as a present or on credit. A Winnebago by the name of Wah-wah-peck-ah, had taken a credit from me, and paid me but a small part of it in the spring; and when I reproached him, he was disposed to be impudent about it; and when his party were about going, he applied to me as usual for ammunition for the summer, and insisted upon having some, but I told him if he had behaved well, and paid me his credit better, that I would have given him some, but that he had behaved so bad that I would not give him any, and he went away in a surly mood.

A man by the name of Methode, I think, a half-breed of some of the tribes of the north, had arrived here, sometime in the summer of 1826, with his wife, and, I think, five children; and, sometime in March of 1827, he went with his family, up the Yellow or Painted Rock creek, about twelve miles above the Prairie, on the Iowa side of the Mississippi river, to make sugar. The sugar season being over, and he not returning, and hearing nothing from him, a party of his friends went to look for him, and found his camp consumed, and himself, wife and children burned nearly to cinders, and she at the time *eniente*. They were so crisped and cindered that it was impossible to determine whether they had been murdered and then burned, or whether their camp had accidentally caught on fire and consumed them. It was generally believed that the Winnebagoes had murdered and burnt them, and Red Bird was suspected to have been concerned in it; but I am more inclined to think, that if murdered by Indians, it was done by some Fox war party searching for Sioux.

In the spring of this year, 1827, while a Chippewa chief called Hole-in-the-day, with a part of his band, visited Fort Snelling on business with the government, and while under the guns of the fort, a Sioux warrior shot one of the Chippewas. The Sioux was arrested by the troops, and confined in the guard-house. The Chippewas requested Col. Snelling to deliver the Sioux to them, to be dealt with after their manner; to which he agreed, provided they would give him a chance to run for his life. To this they acceded. The Sioux was sent outside of the fort, where the Chippewas were armed with tomahawks and war clubs. He was to be allowed a fair start, and at a signal started, and one of the swiftest of the Chippewas armed with a club and tomahawk after him, to overtake and kill him if he could, which he soon effected, as the Sioux did not run fast, and when overtaken made no resistance. The Winnebagoes hearing a rumor of this, got the news among them that the two Winnebagoes confined there (for the murder of Methode and family) had been executed.

During the spring of 1827, the reports about the Winnebagoes bore rather a threatening aspect; but, as I said before, situated as they were I did not believe they would commit any depredations. Under this belief, and having urgent business in New York to purchase my goods, I started for that city on the 25th of June; it then took about six months to go and return. Mine was the only purely American family at the prairie, after the garrison left. There was Thomas McNair, who had married a French girl of the prairie, and John Marsh, the sub-Indian agent, who had no family, and there were besides three or four Americans who had been discharged from the army. Without apprehension of danger from the Indians, I left my family, which consisted of Mrs. Lockwood, and her brother, a young man of between sixteen and seventeen years of age, who was clerk in charge of the store, and a servant girl be-

longing to one of the tribes of New York civilized Indians settled near Green Bay.

I started to go by way of Green bay and the lakes for New York, in a boat up the Wisconsin, and down the Fox river to Green Bay; thence in a vessel to Buffalo, and down the canal to Albany, and thence by steamboat to New York city. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the first day's journey up the Wisconsin, I came to an island where were sitting three Winnebagoes smoking, the oldest called Wah-wah-peck-ah, who had a credit of me the fall previous and had paid but little of it in the spring; the other two were young men not known to me by name. They had some venison hanging on a pole, and we stopped to purchase it. As I stepped on shore I discovered an appearance of cold reserve unusual in Indians in such meetings, and as I went up to them I said, '*bon jour*' the usual French salutation, which they generally understood; but Wah-wah-peck-ah said that he would not say '*bon jour*' to me. Upon which I took hold of his hand and shook it, asking him why he would not say, *bon jour*, to me? He inquired what the news was. I told him I had no news. He told me that the Winnebagoes confined at Fort Snelling had been killed. I assured him that it was not true, that I had seen a person lately from that fort, who told me of the death of the Sioux, but that the Winnebagoes were alive. He then gave me to understand that if such was the case, it was well; but if the Winnebagoes were killed, they would avenge it. I succeeded in purchasing the venison, giving them some powder in exchange, and as I was about to step on board of my boat, Wah-wah-peck-ah wanted some whisky, knowing that we always carried some for our men.

I directed one of the men to give them each a drink, which Wah-wah-peck-ah refused, and taking up his cup that he had by him, he showed by signs that he wanted it filled; and believing that the Indians were seeking some pretense for a quarrel as an excuse for doing

mischief, I thought it most prudent under the circumstances to comply.

There were among the boats' crew some old *voyageurs*, well acquainted with Indian manners and customs, who, from the conduct of these Indians, became alarmed. We, however, embarked, watching the Indians, each of whom stood on the bank with his gun in his hand. As it was late in the day, we proceeded a few miles up the river and encamped for the night. As soon as the boat left the island, the three Indians each got into his hunting canoe, and the two young Indians came up on either side opposite the bow of the boat, and continued thus up the river until we encamped while Wah-wah-peck-ah kept four or five rods behind the boat. They encamped with us, and commenced running and playing with the men on the sand beach; and after a little the young Indians proposed to go hunting deer by candle-light, and asked me to give them some candles to hunt with, which I did, with some ammunition, and they promised to return with venison in the morning. After they had gone, Wah-wah-peck-ah proposed also to go hunting, and begged some candles and ammunition, but remained in camp over night. Morning came, but the young Indians did not return, and I saw no more of them. In the morning, after Wah-wah-peck-ah had begged something more, he started, pretending to go down the river, and went as we supposed; but about an hour afterward, as we were passing on the right of the upper end of the island on which we had encamped, I saw Wah-wah-peck-ah coming up on the left. He looked very surly, and we exchanged no words, but we were all satisfied that he was seeking some good opportunity to shoot me, and from the singular conduct of the Indians, I and my men were considerably alarmed. But about 9 o'clock in the morning, meeting a band of Indians from the portage of Wisconsin, who appeared to be glad to see me, and said they were going to Prairie du Chien, my fears with those of the men were somewhat allayed. I wrote

with my pencil a hasty line to my wife, which the Indians promised to deliver, but they never did, as they did not go there.

This day, the 26th of June, we proceeded up the Wisconsin without seeing any Indians until we came near Prairie du Baie, when an Indian, alone in a hunting canoe, came out of some nook and approached us. He was sullen, and we could get no talk out of him. We landed on Prairie du Baie, and he stopped also; and a few moments thereafter, a canoe of Menomonees arrived from Prairie du Chien, bringing a brief note from John Marsh, saying the Winnebagoes had murdered a man of mixed French and negro blood, named Rijeste Gagnier, and Solomon Lipcap, and for me, for God's sake, to return. I immediately got into the canoe with the Menomonees, and directed my men to proceed to the portage, and if I did not overtake them to go on to Green Bay. I proceeded down the river with the Menomonees, and when we had descended to the neighborhood where we had fallen in with the Indians the day before, we met Wah-wah-peck-ah coming up in his hunting canoe alone, having with him his two guns. He inquired if I was going to the Prairie. I told him I was. He then told me that the whiskey at the Prairie was shut up, but did not tell me of the murders, and asked me that should he come to the Prairie whether I would let him have some whiskey? I told him I certainly would if he brought some furs, not wishing then to make any explanation, or to enter into any argument with him.

About this time, we heard back of an island, and on the southern shore of the Wisconsin, the Winnebagoes singing their war songs and dancing, with which I was familiar; and so well satisfied was I that Wah-wah-peck-ah was only seeking a favorable opportunity to shoot me, that if I had had a gun where he met us, I believe that I should have shot him. After talking with him the Menomonees moved down the river, and arrived at the mouth of the Wisconsin about dark without seeing any more Winne-

bagoes. It was so dark that the Menomonees thought that we had better stop until morning, and we accordingly crawled into the bushes without a fire and fought mosquitoes all night, and the next morning, the 27th, proceeded to the Prairie. I went to my house and found it vacant, and went to the old village where I found my family and most of the inhabitants of the Prairie, assembled at the house of Jean Brunet, who kept a tavern. Mr. Brunet had a quantity of square timber about him, and the people proposed building breast-works with it.

I learned on my arrival at the Prairie that on the preceding day, the 26th, Red Bird, (who, when dressed, always wore a red coat and called himself English), went to my house with two other Indians, and entering the cellar kitchen, loaded their guns in the presence of the servant girl, and went up through the hall into Mrs. Lockwood's bed-room where she was sitting alone. The moment the Indians entered her room she believed they came to kill her, and immediately passed into and through the parlor, and crossed the hall into the store to her brother, where she found Duncan Graham, who had been in the country about forty years as a trader, and was known by all the Indians as an Englishman. He had been a captain in the British Indian department during the War of 1812, and a part of the time was commandant at Prairie du Chien. The Indians followed Mrs. Lockwood into the store, and Mr. Graham by some means induced them to leave the house.

They then proceeded to McNair's Coulee, about two miles from the village, at the lower end of Prairie du Chien, where lived Rijeste Gagnier; his wife was a mixed blood of French and Sioux extraction, with two children; and living with him was an old discharged American soldier by the name of Solomon Lipcap. The Winnebagoes commenced a quarrel with Gagnier, and finally shot him, I believe, in the house. Lipcap, at work hoeing in the garden near the house, they also shot. During the confusion, Mrs. Gagnier seized a gun, got out at the back



window with her boy about three years old on her back, and proceeded to the village with the startling news. The cowardly Indians followed her a part of the way, but dared not attack her. On her arrival at the village a party went to the scene of murder, and found and brought away the dead, and the daughter of Mr. Gagnier, about one year old, whom the mother in her fright had forgotten. The Indians had scalped her and inflicted a severe wound in her neck, and left her for dead, and had thrown her under the bed, but she was found to be still alive. She got well, and arriving at womanhood got married, and has raised a family of children; she is yet alive and her eldest daughter was but recently married.

The people had decided not to occupy the old fort, as a report had been circulated that the Indians had said that they intended to burn it if the inhabitants should take refuge there. During the day of the 27th, the people occupied themselves in making some breast-works of the timber about Mr. Brunet's tavern getting the swivel and wall pieces from the fort, and the condemned muskets and repairing them, and concluded they would defend themselves, each commanding, none obeying, but every one giving his opinion freely.

About sunset one of the two keel-boats arrived that had a few days previously gone to Fort Snelling with supplies for the garrison, having on board a dead Indian, two dead men of the crew and four wounded. The dead and wounded of the crew were inhabitants of Prairie du Chien who had shipped on the up-bound trip. They reported that they had been attacked the evening before, about sunset, by the Winnebago \*Indians, near the mouth of Bad Ax

\*Ex-Gov. Reynolds, of Illinois, in his volume of his *Life and Times*, thus states the immediate cause of this attack. That somewhere above Prairie du Chien on their upward trip, they stopped at a large camp of Winnebago Indians, gave them some liquor freely and got them drunk, when they forced six or seven squaws, stuppel with liquor, on board the boats, for *corrupt and brutal purposes*, and kept them during their voyage to Fort Snelling and on their return. When the Winnebago Indians became sober, and fully conscious of the injury done them, they mustered all their forces, amounting to several hundred and attacked the foremost of the descending boats in which their squaws were confined. But this story has since been proven to be without foundation.

river, and the boat received about 500 shots, judging from the marks on its bow and sides. The Indians were mostly on an island on the west of the channel, near to which the boat had to pass, and the wind blowing strong from the east, drifted the boat towards the shore, where the Indians were, as the steering oar had been abandoned by the steersman. During this time, two of the Indians succeeded in getting on board of the boat. One of them mounted the roof, and fired in from the fore part; but he was soon shot and fell off into the river. The other Indian took the steering oar and endeavored to steer the boat to the island. He was also shot and brought down in the boat where he fell. During all this time the Indians kept up a hot fire. The boat was fast drifting towards a sand bar near the shore, and they would all have been murdered had it not been for the brave, resolute conduct of an old soldier on board, called Saucy Jack (his surname I do not remember), who, during the hottest of the fire, jumped over at the bow and pushed the boat off, and where he must have stood the boat was literally covered with ball marks, so that his escape seemed a miracle. They also reported that early the day before the attack, they were lashed to the other boat drifting, and that they had grounded on a sand bar and separated, since which time they had not seen or heard anything of the other boat, and thought probably that it had fallen into the hands of the Indians.

This created an additional alarm among the inhabitants. The same evening my boat returned, the men becoming too much alarmed to proceed. That night sentinels were posted by the inhabitants within the breast-works, who saw, in imagination, a great many Indians prowling about in the darkness; and in the morning there was a great variety of opinion as to what was best to be done for the safety of the place, and appearances betokened a great deal of uneasiness in the minds of all classes.

On the morning of the 28th I slept rather late, owing to the fatigue of the preceding day. My brother-in-law awakened me, and told me the people had got into some difficulty, and that they wished me to come out and see if I could not settle it. I went out on the gallery, and inquired what the difficulty was; and heard the various plans and projects of defense proposed by different persons. Some objected to staying in the village and protecting the property of the villagers while theirs, outside the village, was equally exposed to the pillage of the Indians. Others were for remaining and fortifying where they were, and others still urged the repairing of the old fort. As the eminence on which my house stood overlooked the most of the prairie, some were for concentrating our people there and fortifying it. After hearing these different projects, I addressed them something as follows: "As to your fortifying my house, you can do so, if it is thought best, but I do not wish you to go there to protect it; I have abandoned it, and if the Indians burn it, so be it; but there is one thing, if we intend to protect ourselves from the Indians, we must keep together, and some one must command."

Some one then nominated me as commander, but I said: "No, I would not attempt to command you, but here is Thomas McNair, who holds from the governor a commission of captain over the militia of this place and has a right to command; if you will agree to obey him implicitly, I will set the example of obedience to his orders, and will, in that case, furnish you with powder and lead as long as you want to shoot (I being the only person having those articles in the place), but unless you agree to obey McNair, I will put my family and goods into my boats and go down the river, as I will not risk myself with a mob under no control." Upon this they agreed to acknowledge Mr. McNair as commander, and I was satisfied that he would take advice upon all measures undertaken. Joseph Brisbois was lieutenant, and Jean Brunet was ensign, both duly commissioned by the

governor. Capt. McNair ordered a move of all the families, goods, with the old guns, to the fort, and it was near sunset before we had all got moved there.

About that time we discovered the skiff of the other keel-boat coming around a point of an island near Yellow river, about three miles distant; but we could not discover whether they were white men or Indians in the canoe, and of course it created an alarm, but in a few moments thereafter, the keel-boat hove in sight and the alarm ceased. It soon arrived, reporting that they had received a few shots in passing the places where the other boat had been attacked, but had received no injury. On this boat Joseph Snelling, son of Col. Snelling, returned to Prairie du Chien. Joseph Snelling and myself acted as supernumeraries under Capt. McNair. The government of Fort Crawford was conducted by a council of the captain and those who acted under him. It was immediately resolved to repair the old fort as well as possible for defense, and the fort and block-house were put in as good order as circumstances and materials would admit. Dirt was thrown up two or three feet high around the bottom logs of the fort, which were rotten and dry, and would easily ignite. Joseph Snelling was put in command of one of the block-houses, and Jean Brunet of the other, with a few picked men in each, who were trained to the use of the swivel and wall pieces that were found and mounted therein; and a number of barrels were placed around the quarters filled with water, with orders, in case of an attack, to cover the roof of the building with blankets, etc., and to keep them wet. All the blacksmiths were put in requisition to repair the condemned muskets found in the fort, and, mustering our force, we found of men and women about ninety that could handle a musket in case of an attack.

The next day after taking possession of the fort, J. B. Loyer, an old *voyageur*, was engaged to cross the Mississippi and go back through the country, now the State of Iowa, to inform



*Lawrence Case*



Col. Snelling, commanding Fort Snelling, of our situation. For this service Loyer was promised fifty dollars, and furnished with a horse to ride and provisions, and Duncan Graham was engaged to accompany him, for which he was to receive twenty dollars, provisions and a horse to ride; and for these payments, I became personally responsible.

Gov. Cass, who had come to Butte des Morts, on the Fox river, to hold a treaty with the Winnebagoes, learned from rumor that there was dissatisfaction among them, and starting in his canoe, arrived at Prairie du Chien on the morning of the 4th of July. He ordered the company of militia into the service of the United States, and appointed me quarter-master and commissary, with the request that I would use my own funds for the supply of the department, and that he would see it refunded; and, furthermore, assumed the debt for ammunition and provisions already advanced, and also the expenses of the express to Fort Snelling, and directed me to issue to the troops a keel-boat load of flour, that I previously receipted for to one of the agents of the contractors for Fort Snelling, who feared to go farther with it.

After these arrangements had been made, Gov. Cass proceeded in his canoe to Galena, and raised a volunteer company under the late Col. Abner Fields as captain, and assigned him to the command of Fort Crawford. Lieut. Martin Thomas, of the United States ordnance department, and then stationed at the arsenal near St. Louis, who happened to be at Galena, came up and mustered the two companies of the militia into the service of the United States; and contracted with Phineas Black, of the village of Louisiana, in Missouri, whom he found at Galena, for a quantity of pork which was sent up by the boat that brought the volunteer company. Gov. Cass proceeded from Galena to St. Louis to confer with Gen. Atkinson, then in command of Jefferson barracks and of the western military department. This resulted in Gen. Atkinson's moving up the Mississippi with

the disposable force under command at Jefferson barracks. During this time Col. Snelling came down the Mississippi with two companies of the 5th regiment of United States Infantry, and assumed the command of Fort Crawford, and soon after discharged the Galena volunteer company, as they could not well be brought under military discipline. But the Prairie du Chien company was retained in service until some time in the month of August, for which service, through the fault of some one, they never received any pay.

During this time Gen. Atkinson arrived with the troops from Jefferson barracks, having on his way up dispatched a volunteer force under Gen. Dodge from Galena, to proceed by land to the portage of Wisconsin. When Gen. Atkinson, with great difficulty, owing to the low state of the water in the Wisconsin, arrived at the portage, he met old grey-headed Day-Kau-Ray, with his band, who, finding himself surrounded by the volunteers in the rear, and Gen. Atkinson's force of regulars in front, and a company of volunteers from Green Bay, concluded to disclaim any unfriendly feelings towards the United States, and disavowed any connection with the murders on the Mississippi. Gen. Atkinson, on these assurances of Day-Kau-Ray, returned, but ordered the occupation of Fort Crawford by two companies of troops. Notwithstanding these murders of our citizens and movements of troops, the wise men at Washington, with about as much judgment as they generally decide upon Indian affairs, decided that this was not an Indian war.

After the people had taken possession of the fort, and before the arrival of Gen. Cass, Indians were seen in the village, and a guard was sent out to take them and bring them to the fort. They made no resistance, but surrendered themselves and were brought to the guard house. One proved to be the famous Red Bird, who headed the party that murdered Gagnier and Lipeap; another was Wah-wah-peck-ah, the Indian I had met up the Wisconsin river, and

whose conduct had so much alarmed me and my men; the other was a young Indian whose name I do not recollect. There being no charge of crime against Wah-wah-peck-ah and the young Indian, after the United States troops were stationed at Fort Crawford, they were discharged; and Red Bird was retained in the guard-house, where he died before he was tried for the murder of Gagnier and Lipcap.

AN INTERESTING EVENT OF THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

On the 1st of September, 1827, Maj. William Whistler, with government troops, arrived at the portage; and, while there, an express arrived from Gen. Atkinson, announcing his approach, and directing him to halt and fortify himself, and await his arrival. The object of the joint expedition of Gen. Atkinson from Jefferson barracks, below St. Louis, and of Maj. Whistler, from Fort Howard, at Green Bay, was to capture those who had committed the murders at Prairie du Chien, and put a stop to any further aggression. The Winnebagoes were advised that the security of their people lay in the surrender of the murderers of the Gagnier family. While Maj. Whistler was at the portage, he received a call in a mysterious way. An Indian came to his tent and informed him that, at about 3 o'clock the next day, "they will come in." In reply to the question, "who will come in?" he said, "Red Bird and We-Kau." After making this answer he retired by the way he came. At 3 o'clock the same day, another Indian came and took position in nearly the same place and in the same way, when to like questions he gave like answers; and at sundown a third came, confirming what the two had said, adding, that he had, to secure that object, given to the families of the murderers nearly all his property.

There was something heroic in this voluntary surrender. The giving away of property to the families of the guilty parties had nothing to do with their determination to devote themselves for the good of their people, but only to recon-

cile those who were about to be bereaved to the dreadful expedient. The heroism of the purpose is seen in the fact that the murders committed at Prairie du Chien were not wanton, but in retaliation for wrongs committed on this people by the whites. The parties murdered at the prairie were doubtless innocent of the wrongs and outrages of which the Indians complained; but the law of Indian retaliation does not require that he alone who commits a wrong shall suffer for it. One scalp is held due for another, no matter whose head is taken, provided it be torn from the crown of the family, or people who may have made a resort to this law a necessity.

About noon of the day following there were seen descending the mound on the portage a body of Indians. Some were mounted and some were on foot. By the aid of a glass the Americans could discern the direction to be towards their position. They bore no arms, and no one was at a loss to understand that the promise made by the three Indians was about to be fulfilled. In the course of half an hour they had approached within a short distance of the crossing of Fox river, when on a sudden singing was heard. Those who were familiar with the air said, "It is a death song." When still nearer some present who knew him said, "It is Red Bird singing his death song." The moment a halt was made, preparatory to crossing over, two scalp yells were heard. The Menomonees and other Indians who had accompanied the troops were lying carelessly about the ground, regardless of what was going on; but when the "scalp yells" were uttered, they sprang to their feet as one man, seized their rifles, and were ready for battle. They were at no loss to know what these yells were; but they had not heard with sufficient accuracy to decide whether they indicated scalps to be taken or given, but doubtless inferred the first.

Barges were sent across to receive and an escort of military to accompany them within

the lines. The white flag which had been seen in the distance was borne by Red Bird.

And now the advance of the Indians had reached half up the ascent of the bluff on which was the encampment. In the lead was Car-i-mi-nie, a distinguished chief. Arriving on the level upon which was the encampment of the Americans, order being called, Car-i-mi-nie spoke, saying, "They are here. Like braves they have come in; treat them as braves; do not put them in irons." This address was made to Col. McKenney. The latter told him he was not the big captain. His talk must be made to Maj. Whistler, who would do what was right. Mr. Marsh, the sub-agent, being there, an advance was made to him, and a hope expressed that the prisoners might be turned over to him.

The military had been previously drawn out in line. The Menomonee and Wabaukie (Oneida) Indians were in groups upon their haunches, on the left flank. On the right was the band of music, a little in advance of the line. In front of the center, about ten paces distant, were the murderers. On their right and left were those who had accompanied them, forming a semi-circle; the magnificent Red Bird and the miserable looking We-Kau, a little in advance of the center. All eyes were fixed on Red Bird. In height he was about six feet, straight, but without restraint. His proportions were those of most exact symmetry; and these embraced the entire man from his head to his feet.

He and We-Kau were told to sit down. At this moment the band struck up Pleyel's hymn. Everything was still. Red Bird turned his eyes toward the band. The music having ceased, he took up his pouch, and taking from it kinnikinnie and tobacco, cut the latter in the palm of his hand, after the Indian fashion, then rubbing the two together, filled the bowl of his calumet, struck fire on a bit of punk with his flint and steel, lighted and smoked it. All

sat except the speaker. The substance of what they said was as follows:

They were required to bring in the murderers. They had no power over any except two; the third had gone away; and these had voluntarily agreed to come in and give themselves up. As their friends they had come with them. They hoped their white brother would agree to accept the horses, of which there were perhaps twenty; the meaning of which was, to take them in commutation for the lives of their two friends. They asked kind treatment for them, and earnestly besought that they might not be put in irons, and concluded by asking for a little tobacco and something to eat.

They were answered and told in substance that they had done well thus to come in. By having done so they had turned away our guns and saved their people. They were admonished against placing themselves in a like situation in the future, and advised, when they were aggrieved, not to resort to violence, but to go to their agent, who would inform the Great Father of their complaints, and he would redress their grievances; that their friends should be treated kindly, and tried by the same laws, by which their Great Father's white children were tried; that for the present Red Bird and We-Kau should not be put in irons; that they should all have something to eat and tobacco to smoke.

Having heard this, Red Bird stood up; the commanding officer, Maj. Whistler, a few paces in front of the center of the line facing him. After a moment's pause and a quick survey of the troops, he spoke, saying: "I am ready." Then advancing a step or two, he paused saying, "I do not wish to be put in irons; let me be free. I have given away my life; it is gone" (stooping and taking some dust between his thumb and finger and blowing it away), "like that," eyeing the dust as it fell and vanished from his sight, adding, "I would not take it back, it is gone." Having thus spoken, he

threw his hands behind him and marched up to Maj. Whistler, breast to breast. A platoon was wheeled backward from the center of the line, when, the major stepping aside, Red Bird and We-Kau marched through the line, in charge of a file of men, to a tent provided for them in the rear, where a guard was set over them. The comrades of the two captives then left the ground by the way they had come, taking with them our advice and a supply of meat, flour and tobacco.

We-Kau, the miserable looking being, the accomplice of Red Bird, was in all things the opposite of that unfortunate brave. Never were two persons so totally unlike. The one seemed a prince, and as if born to command and worthy to be obeyed; the other as if he had been born to be hanged; meager, cold, dirty in his person and dress, crooked in form like the starved wolf; gaunt, hungry, and blood-thirsty; his entire appearance indicating the presence of a spirit wary, cruel and treacherous. The prisoners were committed into safe keeping at Prairie du Chien to wait their trial in the regular courts of justice for murder.

#### LAST ACT IN THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

*To all who shall see these presents, Greeting:*

WHEREAS, at a court of Oyer and Terminer, held at the village of Prairie du Chien, in the month of September, A. D. 1828. Wa-ni-ga, otherwise called the Sun, and Chick-hong-sie, otherwise called Little Benffe, were convicted of the offense of murder in the second degree, and the said Chick-hong-sie, otherwise called Little Benffe, was also convicted of another offense of murder in the second degree; And, whereas, also it appears satisfactorily to me that the clemency of the executive may be extended to the said convicts without injury to the public;

Now, therefore, I, John Quincy Adams, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the promises, divers other good and

sufficient causes one hereunto moving, have granted and do hereby grant to the said Wa-ni-ga, otherwise called the Sun, and to the said Chick-hong-sie, otherwise called Little Benffe, my full and free pardon for the offenses aforesaid.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents. Given at the city of Washington this third day of November, A. D., 1828 and of the Independence of the United States the fifty-third.

By the President; J. Q. ADAMS.

H. Clay, *Secretary of State*.\*

MRS. COASM CHERRIER (NEE GAGNIER). †

My father was born in St. Louis; he came to Prairie du Chien about the time of the last war with England.

My mother Theresa Chalefau, was born in Prairie du Chien; her father came to Prairie du Chien from Canada, before the last war with England.

I was born in this place (now called Frenchtown) Aug. 15, 1826. The following spring my father moved his family to a house on what is now known as the Ackerly place, a short distance below the limits of "Lower Town." The house had only one room. It was there that the murder of father and Lipcap, and the terrible mutilation of myself occurred.

I will tell the story as learned from my mother. June 10, 1827, my father visited the village of Prairie du Chien; the afternoon of that day mother noticed there were skulking Indians on the bluff east of the house, partially concealed, but being accustomed to seeing Indians almost daily, was not alarmed. Father did not return

\*Copied from the original pardon.

† The autobiographical account which follows was taken from the lips of Louisa Cherrier (nee Gagnier), wife of Coasm (usually known as Comb) Cherrier. Mr. Cherrier, wife and children, reside in what is usually known as "French Town," in the town of Prairie du Chien. What Mrs. Cherrier relates is the story often told her by her mother, Theresa Gagnier, wife of Rigeste Gagnier. It will be noticed that the narrative differs in some important particulars from that given previously in this chapter; but there are so many additional and exceedingly interesting statements that, in the main, are doubtless correct, as to justify the insertion of this relation as a sequel to the so-called "Winnebago War."



home until about noon of the next day, (June 11). He was accompanied by his half brother, Paschal Menoir, after dinner the family consisting of father, mother, Lipeap (an old man living with us), my brother Frank, three years old, myself, nearly ten months old, and Paschal Menoir (visitor), were having an after dinner chat. Young Menoir was sitting in the open window on the west side of the house, facing the door. My father was sitting on a trunk against the wall, to the right of the window, and also facing the door. My mother had returned to the work of the day, family washing. My brother Frank was amusing himself. Lipeap had gone to his work in the corn patch not very far from the house. I had crept to my father's feet and lifted myself by his clothing, and was standing with my hands on his knees. At this moment four Indians, who had reached the door unnoticed, entered the room. Mother placed four chairs, and bade them be seated; they complied, the table being as left. Mother asked them to have dinner; they replied: "We are not hungry. but thirsty." She satisfied their wants, and watching them closely, she said to father in French: "These Indians mean to do us some harm." Father made no reply. My father's gun was hanging in fastenings to a joist directly over h; three of the Indians had guns in their hands, the fourth, a chief, whose Indian name signified "Little Sun," was seated the nearest to my father, with his side toward him. This Indian had, unknown to the family, a shorter gun concealed under his blanket, and it was held in such a position as to bring my father in range. One of the other Indians left his chair, and took down my father's gun. Father instantly rose, seized and wrenched the gun from him, and stood it by the trunk, then both were seated again. My father spoke to mother, saying: "Come take this little girl." At this moment, at a signal from one of the other Indians, "Little Sun" fired his concealed gun, the bullet entering the right breast of my father, who had not changed his position. At

almost the same instant another Indian shot his gun at Paschal Menoir, who was still sitting in the window, but missed him. Young Menoir, with great presence of mind, fell backward, through the window. He was undoubtedly supposed by the Indians to have been killed, and was not immediately looked after. He made his escape into the timber, which stood close up to that side of the house.

The house was filled with powder smoke; my little brother was crying and calling for mother. Mother picked him up and ran out of the house. The Indians had preceded her, and leaped over the fence near the house. Mother, with Frank, made her way over the fence, and dropped directly in front of one of the Indians, who was crouching, unnoticed by her, on that side. Dropping the child, she seized his gun, and with unnatural strength, wrenched it away from him, and instantly cocked it, with the intention of killing him; some irresistible impulse compelled her at the moment of firing, to give an upward inclination, sufficient to carry the bullet over the Indian's head. She threw the gun after the Indians, who had started to kill Lipeap. My mother then returned to the house. I had crept under the bed. The house was partially cleared from smoke. Father was not dead, but could not speak or move, but made motions with his eyes, which she clearly understood as saying: "Make your escape." She then ran out, and through a picket fence, which divided their grounds from those of a man named Joseph Lambeire, who was eating his dinner in his cabin, which he occupied alone. He had heard the shots fired, but did not know their meaning.

My mother who had not been to Prairie du Chien since they moved to the place, did not even know the way. She hurriedly told him what had occurred, and asked him to help her escape. Lambeire whose horse was tied to a fence near by, told her to bring the horse. She did so, when he mounted and rode cowardly and rapidly away, without a word to her, who

then returned to the house. Father, who still lived, again with expressive look, plainly signaled "get away." Mother then with my little brother, made her way into the timber close to the house, into which Menoir had escaped. (All this occurred in a little time). While doing this, she discovered that Lipeap was being chased by the Indians, and making his way toward her, shouting, "wait for me." In her flight, she noticed a large soft maple tree, which had been blown down, and that the place where it had stood, was surrounded by a dense new growth of brush. She crept into this, and into the cavity made by uprooting the tree, placed Frank, and crouching low over him, remained almost breathless, until within twelve feet of her hiding place, the Indians overtook Lipeap and killed him with their knives, mutilating him and taking his scalp. My mother was not discovered.

The Indians then returned to the house, Paschal Menoir, who from his place of concealment, had kept a close watch, noticing this, took the opportunity to make his way to the village. He reached exhausted, the house of Julian Lariviere; he there found Frank Dechquette, who mounted his horse and alarmed the people, who turned out to the rescue "*en masse*."

My mother in the meantime, alive to the necessity of making her escape, had left her hiding place, and unnoticed by the Indians, found fathers horse, and with Frank had mounted, and was searching for the road to the village, when she saw the people coming to the relief. The Indians after killing Lipeap, made their last return to the house. I had crept down from under the bed, to the door. Of the brutal treatment of myself, "Little Sun," in his testimony given at the trial of himself and the chief, "Red Bird," for these murders said, "that he first gave the child a kick on the left hip, and then with his gun barrel in his hands, struck her with the breech of the gun on the right shoulder, and with his knife struck her across the back of the neck, intending to behead her,

and carry the head away with him," at this moment the other Indians outside of the house shouted, that "people are coming." He said, "I then took her scalp and with it part of the skull," he then scalped my father, down whose dying face, he said the tears were flowing, at witnessing the horrid butchery of myself.

When the people from the village reached the house, my father was dead. The Indians were gone. I was lying in a pool of my own blood, and supposed to be dead. Julian, son of Julian Lariviere, wrapped me in his handkerchief, and carried me to his fathers house, where some hours later, when being washed preparatory to burial, I was first discovered to be alive, and by careful nursing and tender care, under kind Providence, was restored to health.

The motives which actuated the Indians to commit these terrible murders, are not fully understood. The family believed that an indignity received by "Little Sun," at the hands of Rigiste Gagnier, was the immediate cause. The facts on which this belief is based, are told by Mrs. Cherrier, as follows: "In those years whenever a Catholic priest would visit Prairie du Chien, to celebrate mass, a procession would be formed by all of our Catholic people, and would march in line to the house devoted to the services of the day. Upon one of these occasions, among the lookers on was the Winnebago chief, "Little Sun" intentionally or otherwise. He was in the line of march, and as the head of the procession reached him, refused to move. Some confusion ensued. My father leaving his place in the line, advanced to the front, and seizing the chief, threw him one side with such force as caused him to fall to the ground. Arising with a murderous look and tone, "Little Sun" said, "you have thrown me down, but when I throw you down, you will never get up again."

My first husband's name was Moreaux. He died in 1855. By that marriage, we had ten

children, seven of whom are now living. I was married to Mr. Cherrier, March 1, 1862. We have had three children—Magdalene, born Dec. 6, 1863; Felix, born Oct. 7, 1865; and Louisa, born Feb. 29, 1868. The last named died in infancy.

My mother married again in 1831. Her second husband's name was St. Germain. They had two children—David and Hattie. My mother died in 1836 with the small-pox. My step-father died in January, 1882. Pascal Menoir died in Prairie du Chien, in 1882.



## CHAPTER VII.

## THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

To the people of Crawford county the brief contest between a portion of the Sac and Fox Indians and the Americans, in 1832, known from the name of the leader of the savages as the Black Hawk War, promises more than usual interest, for the reason that, within the limits of the county, as then constituted, occurred one of the principal incidents of the war. In the outline history of Wisconsin, previously given, a brief sketch of the hostile movements of both parties engaged in the work of death, will be found; but, at this point, it is proposed to enter more into detail.

Black Hawk's return from the west side of the Mississippi, and his moving up Rock river, caused the mustering into the service of the United States, in Illinois, of about 800 volunteers, who were sent in pursuit. Gen. H. Atkinson, brevet brigadier general in the United States Army, followed the militia with his regulars, but at too great a distance to afford support. On the 12th of May the volunteers reached Dixon's ferry, where they were joined by 275 men from the northern counties of the State. The latter force, however, were immediately sent out on scouting duty. But the two battalions still moved along together until Stillman's run was reached; the creek then being known as Kishwaukee, about thirty miles above the ferry.

## BATTLE OF STILLMAN'S RUN.

Black Hawk now made advances for peace, but two his messengers being killed, the negotiations were broken off. That chief at this

time had but forty men under his immediate command, most of his party being some ten miles away; nevertheless, with his handful of warriors, he started back to meet his pursuers. Raising the war-whoop, he rushed in upon the volunteers and scattered them in every direction. The fugitives, in their flight, did not stop until the ferry was reached. This was afterward known as "the battle of Stillman's Run," of May 14, 1832. The governor of Illinois issued a proclamation immediately after, calling for an additional force of 2,000 mounted volunteers. These incidents caused throughout the west the greatest alarm. The loss of the Indians in this, the first battle of the war, was none. Of the volunteers, one major, one captain and nine of the rank and file were killed, and five men wounded.

On the 17th of May, Gen. Atkinson reached Dixon's ferry with his regulars and a supply of provisions; and on the 19th, with 2,400 men, advanced up Rock river. On the 27th and 28th of the month, the volunteers were disbanded by the governor, leaving the defense of the frontiers in the hands of the regular troops and a few citizens who had volunteered temporarily. Meanwhile the savages were waging war in earnest against the exposed settlements. Their war parties were scattered from Chicago to Galena; from the Rock river to the lead mines. It was a warfare in regular Indian style; there was success first on one side, then on the other; until on the 24th of June, Black Hawk made an unsuccessful attack on Apple River Fort, near

the present village of Elizabeth, Ill. Meanwhile the volunteers called out by the governor of Illinois were assembling and ordered to rendezvous at Dixon's ferry, where they were mustered into the service of the United States and formed into three brigades. The contest now began to assume somewhat the appearance of regular war. But, before we proceed to narrate the aggressive movements of the Americans up the Rock river valley in pursuit of Black Hawk and his band, it is proper to more particularly describe the incident which occurred in various localities where the savages carried on their depredations previously.

In the night of the 17th of June a volunteer company encamped near Burr Oak Grove, thirty-five miles east of Galena, was fired on by the enemy. The next morning they started in pursuit of the savages, and succeeded in killing all of them—four in number—with the loss on their part of only one man. However, later in the day they were attacked by the Indians in considerable force, losing two killed and one wounded; but they beat off the assailants and killed their leader.

#### BATTLE OF PECATONICA.

On the 14th of June a party of men were attacked in a cornfield near the mouth of Spoford's creek, and five killed. Two days after Col. Henry Dodge, with twenty-eight men, struck the trail of the savages, overtaking them on the bank of the Pecatonica in what is now Lafayette Co., Wis. The savages numbered seventeen, and all were killed. Dodge's loss was three killed. This was, all things considered, the most spirited and effective fighting done during "the war." Capt. James W. Stephenson, at the head of the Galena volunteers, being on the lookout for Indians near the head of Yellow creek, lost three of his men and was obliged to retreat. This ended what may be called the irregular fighting of the campaign. We now return to Rock river, up the valley of

which Black Hawk and his force had moved and the Americans just commencing pursuit.

#### THE PURSUIT OF BLACK HAWK.

A battalion of spies was the first body ordered forward. They reached Kellogg's grove, and were informed on the morning of the 25th of June that a heavy trail was to be seen of the enemy not far away. Twenty-five men went out to reconnoitre, and were defeated, leaving five killed and three wounded, though the enemy's loss is said to have been nine killed. The enemy now retired up the river in the direction of Lake Koshkonong, in Wisconsin; and the fighting in Illinois was ended. The first halt made by Black Hawk was at what was afterward known as "Black Hawk Grove," just outside of the present city of Janesville, Rock Co., Wis., where his forces remained some time in camp. It must not be understood that they were now at their former homes. This was not the case. It was not then the country claimed by the Sacs, but by the Rock River Winnebagoes.

Gen. Atkinson having arrived at the mouth of the Pecatonica, in pursuit of the savages, and hearing that the Sac chief was further up Rock river, determined to follow him with the intention of deciding the campaign by a general battle if possible. Black Hawk, judging of his intentions from the report of his spies, broke up his camp and retreated still further up the river, to the foot of Lake Koshkonong, where on the west side of the river, in what is now the town of Milton, he again formed a camp. Here he remained some time, when he again moved, this time to an island in the lake, still known as Black Hawk's island. It is in the southeast corner of the town of Sumner, in Jefferson Co., Wis. Black Hawk afterward made his way still further up the valley of Rock river.

But now let us return to the army under Gen. Atkinson, in its march from the mouth of the Pecatonica to Lake Koshkonong, where he found the Sac chief had eluded him. The re-

ital is best given in the words of one who was in the army at the time and marched under Atkinson:

"The 30th of June, 1832, we passed through the Turtle village [now the city of Beloit, Rock Co., Wis.] which is a considerable Winnebago town, but it was deserted. We marched on about a mile and encamped on the open prairie near enough to Rock river to get water from it. We here saw very fresh signs of the Sac Indians, where they had apparently been fishing on that day. Gen. Atkinson believed we were close to them and apprehended an attack that night. The sentinels fired several times, and we were as often paraded and prepared to receive the enemy, but they never came, though from the accounts given by the sentinels to the officers of the day, there was no doubt that Indians had been prowling about the camp.

"July 1.—We had not marched but two or three miles before an Indian was seen across Rock river at some distance off, on a very high prairie, which, no doubt, was a spy, and likely was one that had been prowling about our encampment the night before. We proceeded a few miles further, and came to the place where the Indians, who had taken the two Misses Hall prisoners, had staid for several days [near the site of the present city of Janesville]. It was a strong position where they could have withstood a very powerful force. We afterward discovered they always encamped in such places. We had not marched but a few miles from this place before one of our front scouts came back meeting the army in great haste, and stated that they had discovered a fresh trail of Indians, where they had just gone along in front of us. Maj. Ewing, who was in front of the main army some distance, immediately formed his men in line of battle, and marched in that order in advance of the main army, about three-quarters of a mile. We had a very thick wood to march through, where the under-growth stood very high and thick; the signs looked very fresh and we expected every step to be

fired upon from the thickets. We marched in this order about two miles, not stopping for the unevenness of the ground or anything else, but keeping in line of battle all the time, until we found the Indians had scattered; then we resumed our common line of march, which was in three divisions. Soon after we had formed into three divisions, the friendly Indians that were with us raised an alarm, by seven or eight of them shooting at a deer, some little in advance of the army. The whole army here formed for action; but it was soon ascertained that these children of the forest had been at what their whole race seems born for, shooting at the beasts of the woods.

"We here encamped by a small lake [Storr's] this night, and had to drink the water, which was very bad, but it was all that could be found. Here a very bad accident happened. One of the sentinels, mistaking another that was on post, with a blanket wrapped around him, for an Indian, shot him just below the groin, in the thick of the thigh. At first the wound was thought mortal. I understood before I left the army that the man was nearly well. Here Gen. Atkinson had, on this night, breastworks thrown up, which was easily done, as we were encamped in thick, heavy timber. This was a precaution which went to show that he set a great deal by the lives of his men, and by no means was any mark of cowardice; for generalship consists more in good management than anything else.

"July 2.—We started this morning at the usual time, but went only a few miles before Maj. Ewing, who was still in front with his battalion (of scouts), espied a very fresh trail, making off at about a left angle. He dispatched ten men from the battalion, in company with Capt. George Walker and a few Indians, to pursue it and see, if possible, where it went to. He moved on in front of his battalion a short distance further, when he came to the main Sac trail of Black Hawk's whole army, which appeared to be about two days old.

"Capt. Early, who commanded a volunteer independent company, and had got in advance this morning, called a halt; so did Maj. Ewing with his battalion. Then Maj. Ewing sent back one of his staff officers for the main army to call a halt for a few minutes. He, with Maj. Anderson, of the infantry, Capt. Early and Jonathan H. Pugh, went a little in advance, when Maj. Anderson, with a telescope, took a view across the lake, as we had now got to Lake Koshkonong. [The army entered what is now Jefferson county, very nearly where, in going north, its south line is crossed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway. The trail, after leaving the southeast quarter of section 35, in township 5 north, of range 13 east, ran nearly due north to the southeast corner of section 26, in the same township and range, where the army reached the lake in what is now the town of Koshkonong]. They then discovered three Indians apparently in their canoes.

"Maj. Ewing went himself and informed Gen. Atkinson what discovery was made, and requested Gen. Atkinson to let him take his battalion around through a narrow defile that was between two of those lakes, where we supposed the Indians were. By this time our scouts, who had taken the trail that led off on our left, returned, bringing with them five white men's scalps. They followed the Indian trail until it took them to a large Indian encampment that they had left a few days before. They reached it; the scalps were sticking against some of the wigwams; some of them were identified; but I do not recollect the names of any, except one, which was said to be an old gentleman by the name of Hall.

"Maj. Ewing then marched his battalion about a mile, where the pass on the side of the lake appeared so narrow that he dismounted his men and had the horses all tied, and a few men left to guard them. The rest of us marched on foot about one mile through a narrow defile on the (east) bank of the Koshkonong lake. This was considered a dangerous procedure, but Maj.

Ewing, who was in front with Maj. Anderson, would have been first in danger. He now found that we were getting too far in advance of our horses; so Maj. Ewing sent a part of the men back for them. When we mounted our horses, we were joined by Capt. Early and his independent corps. We then marched some distance around the (Koshkonong) lake and went in between two of them, in a narrow defile until we found another deserted encampment. We now saw clearly that the Indians were gone from the Koshkonong lake; so, the next thing to be done was to find in which direction they had steered their course.

"Gen. Atkinson having been re-enforced by Gen. Alexander, took up his line of march, arriving at the burnt village on the 6th of July. That evening, Gen. Posey's brigade, in company with Col. Dodge's squadron, joined Atkinson. Col. John Ewing and his regiment came within a mile and a half of the main army and encamped. On the 10th, Gen. Atkinson sent Col. Ewing with his regiment down Rock river to Dixon's; Gen. Posey, with the rest of his brigade, was dispatched to Fort Hamilton; while Col. Henry and his brigade, Gen. Alexander's brigade and Col. Dodge's squadron were sent to Fort Winnebago, now Portage, Columbia Co., Wis., for provisions. Atkinson dropped down a short distance from the burnt village and built a stockade fort, which he called Fort Koshkonong. It was located on the south side of Rock river in the eastern outskirts of the present village of Fort Atkinson, Jefferson Co., Wis. Alexander returned from Fort Winnebago by the direct route, while Dodge and Henry took a more easterly one, striking Rock river at a point where there was a small Winnebago village, now Hustisford, Dodge county, which point was reached July 18. Information was here obtained that Black Hawk was at Cranberry lake, farther up the river. This was believed to be reliable, and an express was started down the stream at once, to inform Gen. Atkinson of the Sac chief's whereabouts. The

express came very unexpectedly, 'at a distance not more than eight miles from the starting point, upon the trail of Black Hawk, making his way down the river. The express returned to the army with the news, and the next morning, July 19, the pursuit began."

BLACK HAWK PURSUED TO THE WISCONSIN.

In the march in pursuit of the enemy, the Americans crossed the Crawfish near what is now Aztalan, in Jefferson Co., Wis., and were of course soon in what is now Dane county. But the account of the march is best told by one who participated in the pursuit:

"July 19, 1832.—This day we had for about twelve miles, the worst kind of a road. To look at it appeared impossible to march an army through it. Thickets and swamps of the worst kind we had to go through, but the men had something now to stimulate them. They saw the Sac trail fresh before them, and the prospect of bringing our campaign to an end. There was no murmuring, no excuses were made, none getting on the sick report. If we came to a swamp that our horses were not able to carry us through, we dismounted, turned our horses before us and stepped in ourselves, sometimes up to our arm-pits in mud and water. In this way we marched with great celerity. In the evening of this day, it commenced thundering, lightning and raining tremendously. We stopped not, but pushed on. The trail appeared to be still getting fresher and the ground better, which still encouraged us to overcome every difficulty found in the way. It continued raining until dark, and, indeed, until after dark. We now saw the want of our tents, a great number of us having left this necessary article behind in the morning, in order to favor our horses.

"The rain ceased before day, and it turned cold and chilly. In the morning we rose early, at the well-known sound of the bugle, and prepared in a very short time our rude breakfast, dried our clothes a little, and by 7 o'clock, [July 20th], were on the march at a quick pace. On

this day some of our scouts took an Indian as a prisoner. On examination he was found to be a Winnebago. He stated that Black Hawk was but a little distance ahead of us; and that he had seen some of his party not more than two miles ahead. But it was a bad piece of conduct on our part that this Indian was not kept as a prisoner of war, but was set at liberty and let go, no doubt, that he might inform the Sacs of our pursuit.

"We halted and the order of battle was formed as we expected we would overtake them this evening. The order was as follows: Gen. Dodge and Maj. Ewing were to bring on the battle. Maj. Ewing was placed in the center with his spy battalion, Capt. Gentry and Capt. Clark's companies on our right, and Capt. Camp and Capt. Parkinson on our left. Our own battalion [Maj. Ewing's] was reduced to two companies [as Capt. Wells and his company had been left at Fort Dixon]; Capt. Lindsay, of our own battalion, was placed on the right and Capt. Huston's company on the left; Col. Fry and his regiment on the right, and Col. Jones, with his regiment, on the left, and Col. Collins in the center. In this order we marched in quick time, with all possible speed, in hope that we would overtake the enemy on that evening. We were close to the Four lakes (in what is now Dane Co., Wis.) and we wished to come up with them before they could reach that place, as it was known to be a stronghold for the Indians; but the day was not long enough to accomplish this desirable object.

"We reached the first of the Four lakes [now known as Lake Monona, or Third lake] about sun-down. Gen. Henry here called a halt and consulted with Pouquet [Peter Pauquette], our pilot, as to the country we were approaching. Pauquette, who was well acquainted with this country, told him he could not get through after night; that we had to march close to the margin of the lake for some distance, as the underwood stood so thick one man could not see another ten steps. Gen. Henry concluded



to encamp here until the break of day. Gen. Dodge sent Capt. Dixon on ahead with a few men to see if they could make any discovery of the enemy, who returned in a very short time and stated that they had seen the enemy's rear guard about one mile and a half distant. Gen. Henry gave strict orders for every man to tie up his horse, so as to be ready to start as soon as it was daylight. The order was strictly obeyed; and after we took our frugal supper all retired to rest except those who had to mount guard, for we had marched a great way that day, and many were still wet by the rain that fell the preceding night; but being very much fatigued, we were all soon lost in sleep, except those on guard.

"July 21, at the break of day, the bugle sounded, and all were soon up and in a few minutes had breakfast ready, and, after taking a little food, we mounted our horses and again commenced the pursuit. We soon found that the pilot had told us no lie, for we found the country that the enemy was leading us into to be worse, if possible, than what he told us. We could turn neither to the right nor left, but were compelled to follow the trail the Indians had made, and that, too, for a great distance at the edge of the water of the lake. We had not marched more than five miles before Dr. Philleo came back, meeting us, with the scalp of an Indian. He had been on ahead with the front scouts, and came on this Indian, who had been left as a rear guard to watch our movements. There were several shots fired at him about the same time, and I suppose all hit him, from the number of bullet holes that were in him; but Dr. Philleo had scalped him, so he was called Philleo's Indian, which reminds me of the hunters: 'He who draws the first blood is entitled to the skin, and the remainder to the carcass, if there are several in the chase,' which was the case at this time."

Leaving our journalist for a moment, we will describe the particulars of the march from the time the Cutfish creek, or rather the Yahara, as

it is legally called, was reached until the army left the Fourth lake, the most northerly of the Four lakes, properly called Lake Mendota. In the timber skirting the Yahara, the Americans overtook the rear guard of the flying foe, where an Indian was wounded, who crept away and hid himself in the thick willows, where he died. A scouting party of fourteen men was sent forward and preceded the main body about two miles. When they arrived at the point now the site of Madison, the capital of Wisconsin, an Indian was seen coming up from the water's edge, who seated himself upon the bank, apparently indifferent to his fate. In a moment after his body was pierced with bullets, one of which passed in at the temple and out of the back part of his head. On examination it was found that he was sitting upon a newly made grave, probably that of his wife, who had perhaps died of fatigue, hunger and exhaustion, and her disconsolate companion had resolved to await the advancing foe and die there also. The trail was followed around the southern end of Lake Mendota (or Fourth lake), passing a little north of what is now the Capital Park, and along the lake across the University grounds. A few miles brought them to what appeared an admirable position for a battle field with natural defenses and places of ambush. It had been chosen by the enemy and here they had lain apparently the previous night. This spot was afterward laid out as the city of Four Lakes. It is about three-fourths of a mile north of the present village of Pheasant Branch, in Dane county. We now return to the journal, from which we broke off to relate these particulars.

"But I am not done with Dr. Philleo yet. I will show you that he is a good soldier, and something of an Indian fighter. The signs now began to get very fresh, and we mended our pace very much. We had not proceeded more than ten or fifteen miles further before our fighting doctor ran afoul of two more Indians; he showed his bravery by assisting to kill them.

I suppose he killed one and Sample Journey the other, so there was a scalp for each. But one of those miserable wretches sold his life as dear as possible. He, in the act of falling, after he was shot, fired and shot three balls into a gentleman who himself was in the act of shooting at him. The balls were all small; one went through his thigh, one through his leg, and the other through his foot. I am sorry I have forgotten the gentleman's name; he belonged to Gen. Dodge's squadron.

"We now doubled our speed, all were anxious to press forward, and as our horses were nearly worn out, we carried nothing, only what was actually necessary for us to eat; camp kettles and many such articles were thrown away. The trail was now literally, in many places, strewn with Indian trinkets, such as mats, kettles, etc., which plainly told us that they knew we were in pursuit. We, too, saw from the face of the country that we were drawing close to the Wisconsin river, and our object was to overtake them before they reached it; so now we went as fast as our horses were able to carry us. But this was too severe for our poor horses; they began to give out. But even this did not stop a man. Whenever a horse gave out, the rider would dismount, throw off his saddle and bridle and pursue on foot, in a run, without a murmur. I think the number of horses left this day was about forty. The rear guard of the enemy began by this time [about 3 o'clock P. M.] to make feint stands; and as the timber stood thick, we did not know but what the whole army of Black Hawk was forming for action; in consequence of which we got down and formed as often as twice, before we found out that their object was to keep us back until they could gain some strong position to fight from. Our front scouts now determined not to be deceived any more; but the next they came to, they stopped not for their feigned maneuver, but pursued them to the main body of the enemy. They returned to us in great haste and

informed Gen. Henry that the Indians were forming for action.

#### BATTLE OF WISCONSIN HEIGHTS.

"We all dismounted in an instant. The line of battle was then formed in the same order that it had been laid off the preceding day, Gen. Dodge's corps and Maj. Ewing's spy battalion still in front. The horses were left and every fourth man detailed to hold them; which gave seven horses to each man to hold. We had scarcely time to form on foot before the Indians raised the war-whoop, screaming and yelling furiously, and rushed forward meeting us with a heavy charge. Gen. Dodge and Maj. Henry met them also with a heavy charge, which produced a halt on the part of the enemy. Our men then opened a tremendous volley of musketry upon them, and accompanied it with the most terrific yells that ever came from the head of mortals, except from the savages themselves. They could not stand this. They now tried their well known practice of flanking; but here they were headed again by the brave Col. Jones and his regiment, who were on our left, where he met them in the most fearless manner, and opened a heavy fire upon them. Col. Fry was placed on the extreme right. They tried his line, but were soon repulsed. Their strong position was on the left, or near the center, where Cols. Jones, Dodge and Ewing kept up a constant fire upon them for something like half an hour.

"The enemy here had a strong position. They had taken shelter in some very high grass, where they could lie down and load and be entirely out of sight. After fighting them in this position for at least thirty minutes, during which time Col. Jones had his horse shot from under him, and one of his men killed and several wounded, Cols. Dodge, Ewing and Jones all requested Gen. Henry to let them charge upon them at the point of the bayonet, which Gen. Henry readily assented to, and gave the order "Charge!" which was obeyed by both men and officers in a most fearless manner. All were in-

tent upon the charge. We had to charge up a rising piece of ground. When we got on the top, we then fired perfectly abreast. They could not stand this. They had to quit their hiding place and made good their retreat. When they commenced retreating we killed a great number.

"Their commander, who, it was said, was Napope, was on a white pony on the top of a mountain in the rear of his Indians; he certainly had one of the best voices for command I ever heard. He kept up a constant yell, until his men began to retreat, when he was heard no more. Col. Collins was kept, during the engagement, in the rear, as a reserve, and to keep the enemy from flanking and coming in upon us in the rear, which was a very good arrangement of Gen. Henry. It was now nearly sun-down, and still raining, as it had been all the evening, but so slow that we made shift to keep our guns dry. The enemy retreated toward the river with considerable speed. The ground they were retreating to, appeared to be low and swampy, and on the bank of the river there appeared to be a heavy body of timber, which the enemy could reach before we could bring them to another stand. So Gen. Henry concluded not to pursue them any further that night, but remain on the battle ground until next morning, and then he would not be in danger of losing so many of his men, knowing that in the dark, he would have to lose a number; for the Indians would have the timber to fight from while we would have to stand in the open prairie. [The battle ground was on the east side of the northeast quarter of section 24, in what is now the town of Mazomanie, Dane Co., Wis.]

"Next morning, July 22, the troops were paraded and put in battle order on foot, except Col. Fry's regiment, and took up the line of march to the river, leaving Col. Collins, regiment to guard the horses and baggage, and take care of the wounded. We marched down to the river, which was about one mile and a half off; but, before we reached the banks, we had a

very bad swamp to go through, fifty or sixty yards on this side the timber, which stood very high on the bank of the river. We now saw that Gen. Henry had acted very prudently. If he had attempted to follow them the evening before, he would have lost a great many of his men. When we got to the bank, we found they had made their retreat across the river during the night, leaving a great many articles of trumpery behind. We also saw a good deal of blood, where their wounded had bled. We now returned to the camp, seeing there was no chance to follow them this day across the river.

"We, in this battle (known in history as the Battle of Wisconsin Heights), were very fortunate indeed. We had only one man killed and eight wounded; and we have learned since the battle that we killed sixty-eight of the enemy (but Black Hawk declared afterward that he lost only six), and wounded a considerable number, twenty-five of whom they report died soon after the battle. We were now nearly out of provisions, and to take up the line of march against them, in the condition our horses were in, told us plainly that we would suffer for something to eat before we could get it. We buried the brave young man, who was killed, with the honors of war. It was stated that he had just shot down an Indian when he received the mortal wound himself. His name was John Short, and he belonged to Capt. Briggs' company from Randolph Co., Ill. He had a brother and a brother-in-law in the same company, who witnessed his consignment to the mother earth. The wounded were all well examined and none pronounced mortal. We continued this day on the battle ground and prepared litters for the wounded to be carried on. We spent this day in a more cheerful manner than we had done any other day since we had been on the campaign. We felt a little satisfaction for our toils, and thought we had, no doubt, destroyed a number of the very same monsters that had so lately been imbruing their hands with the blood of our fair sex, the helpless mother and un-

offending infant. We dried our clothes, which then had been wet for several days. This day we spent in social chat between men and officers. There were no complaints made; all had fought bravely; each man praised his officers, and all praised our general. Late in the evening, some of our men, who had been out to see if there were any signs of the enemy remaining near us, returned and stated that they saw smoke across the river."

From this time until the Wisconsin river was crossed there were not many incidents of importance worthy of record; so we leave the journal, from which we have been copying, to relate only such events as will preserve the chain of our narrative until that time. On the 23d of July the army was put in motion, not in pursuit of Black Hawk, but to go to the Blue Mounds for supplies of provisions. And just here we must go back in our relation to the time when the army left the Rock river, July 19. On this day, the same express that had discovered the trail of Black Hawk the day previous, again started for Gen. Atkinson's camp, or Fort Koshkonong, where the general was with his infantry. That officer, as soon as he was informed that Black Hawk's trail was discovered, directed the same express to return at once to Gen. Henry with orders to the latter to pursue on the trail of the Sac chief until he could overtake him, and to defeat or capture him. However, before these orders had reached Gen. Henry, they had been anticipated. Black Hawk had been pursued, overtaken and defeated, but not captured. Gen. Atkinson also notified Gen. Henry that he would start himself with the infantry and Gen. Alexander's brigade; that the rest of the volunteers who were with him would be left to guard the fort; and that he would go by way of Blue Mounds. He also directed Gen. Henry, if he got out of provisions, to go to that place for a supply. This explains why the army, after the battle of Wisconsin Heights, marched for the Blue Mounds. Not only Gen. Henry's command,

but also those of Gen. Atkinson, reached the Blue Mounds without any mishap; so, also, a part of Gen. Posey's brigade from Fort Hamilton, who passed on to Helena, in what is now Iowa Co., Wis., where the Wisconsin river was to be crossed by the whole army. By the 26th of June all the commands had reached that place and preparations were made to cross the stream on rafts made for that purpose.

#### BLACK HAWK PURSUED TO THE MISSISSIPPI.

On the 27th and 28th of July, Gen. Atkinson with his select body of troops, consisting of the regulars under Col. Taylor, 400 in number, part of Henry's, Posey's and Alexander's brigades, and Dodge's battalion of mounted volunteers, amounting in all to 1,300 men, crossed the Wisconsin river and immediately fell upon the trail of the enemy. They were in what is now Sauk Co., Wis. Pursuing this trail first down the river, then to the northward, they finally struck off in a west-northwest direction through what is now Richland county, until the Kickapoo river was reached near the present Soldier's Grove, in what is now Crawford county.

Before entering upon the particulars of the march through Vernon county, as given in the journal from which extracts have already been so liberally made, it will be well to glance at the route taken from the Kickapoo to the Mississippi. After the Kickapoo was crossed, Black Hawk, followed closely by Gen. Atkinson, was soon in what is now Vernon county, passing, in a direction north of west, near the farm at present owned by Anson G. Tainter, in the town of Franklin; thence across West Prairie to the brakes or ravines leading into the head of Battle creek; thence down that creek through sections 2 and 3, in township 11, range 7, in the town of Wheatland, to the point where he was overtaken and compelled to fight the battle known in history as the battle of Bad Ax. Keeping this general description of the flight of the savages through Vernon county and the pursuit of them by the Americans in view, the

following narrative will prove of interest to the reader:

"About 12 o'clock this day (August 1, 1832), we came to a small river called the Kickapoo. We here found that the country was about to change. A short distance before we got to this stream, we came to a beautiful body of pine timber, which was tall and large. As soon as we crossed this stream, we found the mountains were covered with prairie grass. We here found the Indian trail was getting fresher. They had encamped at this creek. We had now been three days in those mountains and our horses had lived on weeds, except those that became debilitated and were left behind; for a great number had become so, and were left to starve in this dreary waste. We here for the first time in three days had an opportunity of turning our horses out to graze. Accordingly we left them to graze for about an hour, which they made good use of and during which we took a cold lunch. About 1 o'clock we started, at a faster gait than usual. We found from the face of the country that we were not a great way from the Mississippi. The country was still hilly, but hills of a small size, and almost barren; so we could get along with more speed. It gave the men new spirits. We now saw that our horses would not have to starve, as we had begun to think it probable that they would.

"On this evening, we came across the grave of an Indian chief, who was buried in the grandest style of Indian burials; painted and otherwise decorated as well as those wretched beings were able to do. He was placed on the ground, with his head resting against the root of a tree; logs were placed around him and covered over with bark; and on the top of which, green bushes were laid: so intended that we might pass by without discovering the grave. He was examined and found to have been shot. It was now late in the evening, and we had proceeded but a short distance from here, before some of our front spies came across an

Indian that had been left behind from some cause or other. The spies interrogated him about Black Hawk and his band. He stated that they would get to the river that day and would cross over on the next morning. The old sinner then plead for quarters; but that being no time to be plagued with the charge of prisoners, they had to leave the unhappy wretch behind, which appeared to be a hard case. But, no doubt, he had been at the massacre of a number of our own citizens, and deserved to die for the crimes which he had perpetrated in taking the lives of harmless and unoffending women and children.

"We this day made a tolerable push, having marched until 8 o'clock at night before we stopped. We then halted and formed our encampment. But it was for a short time only. Gen. Atkinson gave orders for all to confine their horses and be ready to march by 2 o'clock in pursuit of the enemy. We were now all tired and hungry and something to eat was indispensibly necessary. We had a long way to go after water, and the worst kind of a precipice to go down and up to procure it. All was now a bustle for awhile, to prepare something to sustain nature, and to do it in time to get a little rest before we would have to march. About 9 o'clock the noise began to die away, so that by 10 o'clock all were lost in sleep but the sentinel, who was at his post.

"At the appointed hour [2 o'clock in the morning of August 2] the bugle sounded; all were soon up and made preparations for a march at quickstep, moving on to complete the work of death upon those unfortunate children of the forest. Gen. Atkinson this morning had the army laid off and arranged in the following manner: Gen. Dodge, with his squadron, was placed in front, the infantry next, the second brigade next, under the command of Gen. Alexander; the first brigade next, under the command of Gen. Posey; the third brigade next, under command of Gen. Henry.

"In this order the march had commenced. We had not proceeded more than four or five miles before there was a herald sent back, informing us that the front spies had come in sight of the enemy's rear guard [in reality their outpost]. The intelligence was soon conveyed to Gen. Atkinson, and then to all the commanders of the different brigades. The celerity of the march was then doubled and it was but a short time before the firing of the front spies commenced, about half a mile in front of the main army. The Indians retreated towards the Mississippi, but kept up a retreating fire upon our front spies for some time, until Gen. Dodge, who commanded, began to kill them very fast. The Indians then retreated more rapidly and sought refuge in their main army, which was lying on the bank of the Mississippi [which river they had, in fact, reached the day before]."

BATTLE OF BAD AX.

While Black Hawk and his band and their pursuers were traversing the rugged country across what is now Richland county into Vernon, intelligence was conveyed to Prairie du Chien, by express, of the battle of Wisconsin Heights and of the retreat of the enemy across the Wisconsin river. The commander of the American forces at Prairie du Chien at once came to the conclusion that the savages would soon reach the Mississippi, and by crossing that stream escape the army in pursuit of them; so he engaged a steamboat, placed some regulars upon it and a six-pounder, with orders to cruise up and down the Mississippi to cut off the retreat of the Sac chief and his people. The steamer proving to be a slow one was withdrawn and a faster one armed in its place—the *Warrior*.

On the 1st of August, the *Warrior* discovered the Indians on the bank of the Mississippi where they had just arrived, not far below the mouth of the Bad Ax, making preparations to cross to the west side. A flag raised by Black Hawk was not respected by the *Warrior*, but a fire was opened from the boat upon the Indians

with not only the small arms of the regulars but the six-pounder. The fire was returned by Black Hawk's party. The contest was kept up until the steamboat was compelled to drop down the river to Prairie du Chien for fuel. The loss of the enemy was twenty-three killed. On board the *Warrior* none were killed and but one wounded. But the presence of the steamboat and the firing of course wholly interrupted the preparations of the savages to cross the river, while Atkinson and his army were marching rapidly upon their rear.

It was the next morning, as we have already seen, that the Americans under Gen. Atkinson came in sight of what was supposed by them to be the rear guard of the Indians, but which was, in reality, one of their outposts. It appears that the savages raised a white flag for the purpose of surrendering, which was either not seen or was not regarded, and the firing on both sides soon became spirited, the Indians retiring slowly to their main force on the bottom of the river, where the latter were busily employed transporting their women and children and the aged and infirm across the Mississippi [the *Warrior* not having returned to again cut off their retreat].

Let us now return to the American army in keen pursuit of the fugitives. It will be remembered that Gen. Henry had early in the morning been put in the rear, but he did not remain there long. Maj. Ewing, who commanded the spy battalion, sent his adjutant back to the general informing him that he was on the main trail; he at the same time formed his men in order of battle and awaited the arrival of the brigade which marched up in quick time. When they came up, Gen. Henry had his men formed as soon as possible for action; he placed Col. Jones and Maj. Ewing in front. Gen. Atkinson called for a regiment from Gen. Henry's brigade to cover his rear. Col. Collins formed on the right of Col. Jones and Maj. Ewing, when all were dismounted and marched on foot in the main trail, down the bluff into the bot-

tom. Soon the fire was opened on the main force of the enemy, at which time Gen. Henry sent back an officer to bring up Col. Fry with his regiment. Col. Collins was by this time in the heat of the action with his regiment. Capt. Gentry, from Gen. Dodge's corps, was by this time also up, and opened a heavy fire. He fell into the lines of Col. Jones and Maj. Ewing. Capts. Gruer and Richardson, from Gen. Alexander's brigade, with their companies and a few scattering gentlemen from Gen. Dodge's corps, were also up; who all joined Gen. Henry and fought bravely. Col. Fry obeyed the call of his general and was soon where the conflict raged with his regiment. By this time the savages were falling rapidly.

It was about half an hour after the battle commenced before Col. Zachary Taylor with his infantry and Gen. Dodge with his squadron got on the ground and joined in the battle. They had been thrown on the extreme right, by following the enemy's rear guard as was supposed, but which was, as already explained, their retreating outpost. Gens. Posey and Alexander had been stationed up the river on the extreme right, in order to prevent the Indians from making their escape in that direction, so they did not participate in the slaughter of the savages. The victory, of course, with such overpowering numbers, was complete; but those of the Indians who escaped death from the Americans had most of them made good their retreat to one of the islands in the river, when, at an opportune moment for the attacking parties the *Warrior* appeared in the river and opened fire upon the fugitives with her cannon, at the same time sending her two boats to the shore to transport troops to the island also, to attack the now distressed savages. Col. Taylor sent a detachment in the boats and the Indians were soon all killed on the island but one. There were of Black Hawk's entire force, besides a few who had succeeded in reaching the west side of the Mississippi, only himself and ten warriors with thirty-five women and

children who made their escape. About 150 were killed. The loss of the Americans was twenty-seven killed and wounded. Such was the battle of Bad Ax. Black Hawk was soon brought in a prisoner by the Winnebagoes, and the war was ended.

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BATTLE.

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST ARMY CORPS,  
NORTHWESTERN ARMY, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, }  
August 5, 1832.

"SIR:—I have the honor to report to you that I crossed the Wisconsin on the 27th and 28th ult., with a select body of troops, consisting of regulars under Col. (Zachary) Taylor, 400 in number; part of Henry Posey's and Alexander's brigades; and Dodge's battalion of mounted volunteers; amounting in all to 1,300 men; and immediately fell upon the trail of the enemy and pursued it by forced marches through a mountainous and difficult country, till the morning of the 2d instant, when he came up with his main body on the left bank of the Mississippi, nearly opposite the mouth of the Iowa, which we attacked, defeated and dispersed with a loss on his part of about 150 men killed and thirty-nine women and children prisoners. The precise number of the killed could not be ascertained, as the greater portion were slain after being forced into the river. Our loss in killed and wounded, which is stated below, is very small in comparison with the loss of the enemy, which may be attributed to the enemy's being forced from his positions by a rapid charge at the commencement, and through the engagement. The remnant of the enemy, cut up and disheartened, crossed to the opposite side of the river, and has fled into the interior, with a view, it is supposed, of joining Keokuk and Wappilo's bands of Saes and Foxes.

"The horses of the volunteer troops being exhausted by long marches, and the regular troops without shoes, it was not thought advisable to continue the pursuit. Indeed a stop to the further effusion of blood seemed to be

called for, until it might be ascertained if the enemy would not surrender.

"It is ascertained from our prisoners, that the enemy lost in the battle of the Ouisconsin [Wisconsin Heights], sixty-eight killed, and a very large number wounded. His whole loss does not fall short of 300. After the battle of the Ouisconsin, the enemy's women and children, and some who were dismounted, attempted to make their escape by descending that river, but judicious measures being taken here by Capt. Loomis and Gen. Street, an Indian agent, thirty-two women and children, and four men have been captured, and some fifteen killed by the detachment under Lieut. Ritner.

"The day after the battle on this river I fell down with the regular troops to this place by water, and the mounted men will join us to-day. It is now my purpose to direct Keokuk to demand the surrender of the remaining principal men of the hostile party; which, from the large number of women and children we hold as prisoners, I have every reason to believe will be complied with. Should it not, they should be pursued and subdued; a step Maj. Gen. Scott will no doubt take on his arrival.

"I cannot speak too highly of the conduct of the regular and volunteer forces engaged in the last battle [Bad Ax], and the fatiguing march that preceded it.

"As soon as the reports of the officers of brigades and corps are handed in, they shall be submitted with further remarks.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,  
your obedient servant,

H. ATKINSON,  
B't. Brig. Gen U. S. A.

MAJ. GEN. MACOMB,

Commander-in-Chief, Washington City.

UP AND DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI BEFORE THE BLACK  
HAWK WAR.

In May, 1831, Joseph M. Street, Indian agent at Prairie du Chien, left the agency in care of sub-agent, Thomas P. Burnett. The latter reported to Gen. William Clark, superintendent

of Indian affairs, at St. Louis, on the 18th of that month, that "the Indian relations among the different tribes of this quarter, have not a very amicable appearance. The threatenings of the Sauks and Foxes, and occasional acts of mischief committed by them against the whites in the vicinity of Rock Island, have doubtless been communicated to you before this time.

"The Sioux chief, Wabashaw, and a considerable number of his tribe, are now here [at Prairie du Chien]. A small party of them who came across the country from Red Cedar, state that within their country north of the line of the purchase of last summer, they came upon a war road of the Sauks and Foxes. They followed the trail leading out of the country several days, and from the signs remaining at their camps, they have no doubt, that three or more of the Sioux have been murdered by the Sauks and Foxes! Among other appearances that confirmed them in this belief, was a painted buffalo robe, such as no Indians in this quarter but the Sioux make or use, cut in pieces at one of their camps. They pursued their trail until they came upon their camp, a few miles north of the old Red Cedar fort; but finding them double their own number, did not make an attack. They say that they have made peace and promised to keep it, and will not in any case be the aggressors.

"Col. Morgan informed me, two days since, that he had sent down to the Sauks and Foxes to send up ten or twelve of their men to see him, and have a talk with him. They were expected here on yesterday, but have not yet arrived. The Sioux are waiting their arrival, and are, I believe, ready to meet them, either as friends or enemies. When they were informed that the Foxes were coming, they put their arms in order. They say that if the Sauks and Foxes come and deport themselves peaceably, they will not molest them, but if they see any hostile manifestations, they will strike them. My own opinion is that if the Sauks and Foxes have had a war party out against the Sioux, they will not



come here upon Col. Morgan's invitation, knowing as they do, that the Sioux always visit this place about this season in considerable numbers.

"A part of the Menomonees have been to see me since Gen. Street's departure. They renewed their promise not to go against the Chippewas for the present, but to wait a while longer to hear from their Great Father.

"The squally appearance of Indian affairs called for the watchful attention alike of agents and officers of the army. But it became a question of etiquette, which should take the lead in the matter. The military seems to have claimed that right, while the agents claimed at least to know what had been done in the premises, both being then under the superintendence of the war department, the military considered the Indian department [as subordinate to theirs. But Mr. Burnett thought otherwise, claiming that each branch of the public service had its appropriate duties with which the other should not interfere, while in case of necessity one should assist the other, both acting in unison. And as the Sauks and Foxes alluded to in his letter to Gen. Clark, did come to the place, with whom Col. Morgan held a council, without the knowledge or co-operation of the agent, Mr. Burnett claimed to be informed of the nature and extent of the proceedings, and addressed a note dated May 23, 1831, to Col. Morgan, as follows:

"SIR:—I was informed yesterday that you held, on the morning of that day, a council with a party of Sioux and a party of Fox Indians which you had assembled in the village of Prairie du Chien. As the acting Indian agent at this place, it properly concerns me to know what takes place at this post in relation to Indian affairs. I should therefore be glad to be informed of the circumstances that required such council. The objects to be effected and the results accomplished; also the names of the chiefs or men of influence of either tribe, who were present. Will you please to communicate to me as early

as may be convenient, the desired information, and likewise whether Gen. Street was apprised previous to his departure, of the contemplated meeting of those Indians."

This brought from Col. Morgan the following tart reply, and raised the question of prerogative:

"SIR—I acknowledge in you no right to call on me to render an account of my proceedings to you, though if you will do me the favor to call at my quarters on my return from St. Peter's, for which place I am just about to set out. I will explain to you the object of the council and tell you what passed. You were apprised yourself of the Foxes having been invited and you knew they had arrived. Why stay four or five miles off? I stated to the Indians that you should have been to the council if you had been there."

Mr. Burnett informed Gen. Clark of the transaction of Col. Morgan, May 28, 1831: "In my letter of the 18th inst., I informed you that Col. Morgan had sent for the Sauks and Foxes to visit this post. On the 21st inst., about fifteen men of the Foxes, of Dubuque mines, arrived at the village, and on the next day Col. Morgan held a council with them and the Sioux, who were here. I presume that whatever took place at the council, or was affected by the meeting of the Indians, of any importance, will be communicated to you through the proper channel, by Col. Morgan who acted alone in the measure.

"The Sioux had been waiting the arrival of the Foxes for several days. The Foxes landed at the village on Saturday evening, not later I think than 4 o'clock. The council was opened the next morning, as I am informed, at 10 o'clock; yet no intimation of either time or place of meeting, or that my presence was at all desired, was given, although there was ample time to do so. Throughout the transaction, there has been no consultation had, or co-operation had with the agency. The only communication upon the subject previous to the council

and departure of the Indians, was the simple fact that he had sent for the Foxes, of which I apprised you. I suppose that if anything occurred of sufficient importance to found a report upon, he will communicate the facts, and in that case, it must appear that the measure was undertaken and carried through without any connection or co-operation with this agency. I have, therefore, given the above statement of facts to show that the absence of co-operation in this affair was not from neglect of duty or inattention on the part of this agency."

The information that I have collected on the subject, is this: "Some fifteen Foxes from Dubuque mines, all young men except one or two, came up and had a talk with the Sioux and Col. Morgan, in which each expressed a desire to continue the peace which had been concluded between them the last year. The Foxes denied any knowledge of a war party having gone against the Sioux. They said they wished to be at peace, and would not do any act of hostility, but they could not answer for those below—they spoke for themselves only. They smoked and danced together and parted in apparent friendship and harmony.

"The extent of the frontier and the number of tribes within the agency kept up an almost incessant excitement as to their affairs, and to keep the government advised of all their movements, required constant vigilance and the writing of numerous letters. Under date of June 13, 1831, Mr. Burnett writes to Gen. Clark: "I have received since the last mail from this place information which I consider entitled to credit, that a war party of Sioux is now being organized among Washaba's band to go against the Chippewas, by a warrior of some note in that band. I have also understood that there are a few Menomonees, relatives of those who were killed by the Chippewas in the fall and winter past, now with the band of Sioux. But I have not been able to learn whether they intend joining the Sioux in their expedition or

not, but think it probable that some of them will do so."

"Under date of June 29th he wrote: "I am informed by Maj. Langham, who arrived here from below a few days since, that the Winnebagoes of the Prophet's village on Rock river, have united with the Sauks and Foxes. The Winnebagoes of the Wisconsin and Upper Mississippi are still peaceable. They are most likely waiting to see the first results of the movements below, and intend to act afterwards according to circumstances.

"Until within two or three weeks past, very few of those Indians have visited this place for a length of time, fewer, I am told, than usual at this season of the year. Lately a great many of them have been here, the most of whom came down the Wisconsin and have gone up the Mississippi. A great portion of them are old men, women and children. They continue to pass by daily. Many rumors are in circulation as to their present disposition and intention; very few of which are, perhaps, entitled to implicit belief. They have served, however, to give considerable alarm to many of the inhabitants of the prairie, and many of them begin to think themselves in danger. I have spared no pains to ascertain the disposition of the Winnebagoes here and have found no evidence of a disposition to hostilities on their part, unless their sending so many of their old men, women and children up the river and purchasing powder in larger quantities than usual for ordinary hunting, should indicate something of the kind.

"I also learned a few days since that the one-eyed Decori had left his village at Prairie La Crosse and gone down to the Sauks and Foxes. This was accidentally communicated to my informant by a Winnebago and is probably true. Decori was down about two weeks since and called to see me on his return home. His deportment was as usual; I saw no change. In fact, I have not discovered any change in the deportment or appearance of any of them that

I have seen. They all appear to be perfectly friendly. None of the traders here think they have any hostile intentions.

"Col. Morgan left the fort for Rock Island on the morning of the 27th inst., with two companies from his post, and two more from Fort Winnebago, under Maj. Twiggs. He had previously called in all fatigue parties and put his whole force under a course of training. Much alarm prevails in the mines. The people are arming and preparing for their defense. I do not consider that there is any immediate danger either here or in this vicinity. Much, however, will doubtless depend on the result below. The Sioux and Menomonees are certainly friendly, and against the Sauks and Foxes, would willingly unite with the whites if permitted to do so. I have heard nothing since my last of a war party of those Indians against the Chippewas.

"In February, 1832, Mr. Burnett was in Kentucky, when Gen. Street wrote him that 'the Menomonees and Sioux are preparing for a retaliatory war against the Sauks and Foxes in the spring. The Menomonees have made peace with the Chippewas, in order to have no fears from that quarter. The two tribes met above the mill on the Chippewa and made their peace. I have advised the superintendent so as to have the earliest interference, if any is intended. The Sauks and Foxes, I learn, expect retaliation and will be prepared to meet them. If the government is not early in stopping them, they will certainly go in considerable force, and a bloody contest may be expected.'

About the 1st of April Mr. Burnett received instructions, while yet in Shelbyville, to "proceed to the agency at Prairie du Chien, by way of St. Louis, and call on Gen. Clark for the funds allotted to the agency for 1832, or such portion thereof as he shall determine to forward. The receipts will be forwarded to you at St. Louis as soon as a conveyance by steamboat shall occur." Mr. Burnett reached the agency about the 1st of May. At that time the Sauks

and Foxes under Black Hawk were in hostile movements on Rock river, with Gen. Atkinson in pursuit. To aid in the defense of the country, Gen. Atkinson, from Dixon's ferry, May 26, 1832, addressed Gen. Street as follows:

"SIR:— I have to request that you send me at this place, with as little delay as possible, as many Menomonee and Sioux Indians as can be collected, within striking distance of Prairie du Chien. I want to employ them in conjunction with the troops against the Sauks and Foxes, who are now some fifty miles above us in a state of war against the whites. I understand the Menomonees, to the number of 300 warriors, who were with you a few days ago, are anxious to take part with us. Do encourage them to do so, and promise them rations, blankets, pay, etc. I have written to Capt. Loomis to furnish them some arms, if they can be spared, and ammunition. If there are none at Prairie du Chien, I must procure some in this quarter. Col. Hamilton, who has volunteered his services to lead the Indians to this place, will hand you this letter; and if the Indians can be prevailed on to come, will perform the duty. I have to desire that Mr. Marsh may be sent with Col. Hamilton and the Indians, and an interpreter of the Menomonee language." In accordance with this requirement, Gen. Street gave, on May 30, to Mr. Burnett the following instructions:

"SIR:— You will please proceed with John Marsh, who goes express to the nearest Sioux village, and render him such aid as may be necessary in obtaining as many Indians as possible, to come down with you, and proceed under the command of Mr. Marsh to join Gen. Atkinson. The letter of Gen. Atkinson will be your guide in the business. Use every means to expedite the object; and hasten your return, as much depends upon the expedition."

The nearest Sioux village was 130 miles up the river from the seat of the agency, which had to be ascended in canoes, there being no steamer then to be had. Yet in six days after receiving

the order, Mr. Barnett made the following report to Gen. Street:

"**STR:**—In obedience to your order of the 30th ult., I set out immediately from this place, in company with Mr. Marsh, in a canoe, with eight hands, to visit the nearest village of the Sioux Indians. From recent indications among the Winnebagoes of the upper Mississippi of a disposition to engage in hostilities with the Sauks and Foxes, Mr. Marsh and myself thought best to call at their village on the river La Crosse, and invite so many as might be disposed to join us on our return, and go with the Sioux and Menomonees to join Gen. Atkinson's army on Rock river. We arrived at the Winnebago village on the evening of the next day after leaving this post, and that night had a talk with the chiefs and braves upon the subject. Win-o-a-she-kan was opposed to the measure, and declined having anything to do with it. He said the Sauks had twice, this season, presented the red wampum to the Winnebagoes at Portage, and that they had as often washed it white, and handed it back to them; that he did not like that red thing, he was afraid of it. Waudgha-ta-kan took the wampum, and said that he, with all the young men of the village, would go; that they were anxious to engage in the expedition, and would be ready to accompany us on our return.

"The next day we reached Prairie Aux Ailes [Wabasha], and found the Sioux extensively anxious and ready to go against the Sauks and Foxes. They were intending to make a descent upon them in a few days, if they had not been sent for. They engaged with alacrity in their preparations, but we found it necessary to wait till Monday morning to give them time. We left their village on our return, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, accompanied by the whole effective force of the band, and at La Crosse were joined by twenty warriors of the Winnebagoes, the remainder of their village to follow the next day, and reached this place to-day, at 2 o'clock P. M., with 100 warriors, eighty of whom

are Sioux, and twenty, Winnebagoes. I think, from the disposition manifested by the Winnebagoes, that fifty or sixty more of them will be here before the expedition leaves the prairie, making a force of 130 or 140. The Indians with whom I have met appear well effected towards the whites, are in fine spirits and seem anxious to engage with the Sauks and Foxes.

"I made the promise authorized to the Indians of subsistence, pay, etc., and told them that their families should be supplied with provisions during their absence from home. The most of the families of the warriors have accompanied them thus far to take a supply of provisions home with them, when the expedition shall have left this place. It is due to Mr. Marsh to say that he has displayed great zeal and energy in effecting the object of our visit, and that his exertions had the effect of bringing out the greatest possible force from the bands we have called upon."

Mr. Barnett greatly desired and strongly urged Gen. Street to allow him to accompany these Indians and take part in the war. But the general thought his services were needed at and near the agency, and, therefore, declined to comply with the request.

In the meantime the Sauks and Foxes retreated from the Rock river to the Wisconsin, where they were routed, "horse, foot and dragoons." The news of this defeat of the Indians soon reached Prairie du Chien, and it was thought probable that if the Sauks and Foxes could get canoes, or even rafts, that they would attempt to escape from their pursuers by descending the Wisconsin river. To prevent this, some volunteer troops were stationed on that river at the ferry, now Barrett's. But the Indians took across the country towards Bad Ax.

#### AN EPISODE OF THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

As soon as it was ascertained that the hostile Indians under Black Hawk were wending their way to the Mississippi, after the battle of Wisconsin Heights, Joseph M. Street, Indian agent, wrote to Thomas P. Burnett, sub-Indian agent,

with a view to adopt means to intercept the savages, the following letter, on the 25th of July, 1832 :

“Sir:—You will proceed up the Mississippi to the Winnebagoes, twenty-five or thirty miles above this place, and inform them \* \* \* of the crossing of the Sauks to the north side of the Wisconsin, and that their chiefs, Carramana and Decori are here, and that I want all of the Winnebagoes to come down with you immediately; tell them it is the wish of their chiefs also. One object of this is, to get them out of the way with their canoes, to prevent their crossing the Sauks over the river. Send on word, if you can, to the upper villages, that the Sauks have been defeated, and have crossed the Wisconsin. And should the Winnebagoes hesitate, tell them if they do not come, I will not pay the annuity to any who refuse. The time is now near and they will lose their money. Hasten back as soon as possible.”

The next day, July 26, Mr. Burnett reported: “Sir:—In obedience to your order of yesterday, I set out from this place in a bark canoe late last evening to visit the Winnebagoes, supposed to be encamped twenty-five or thirty miles above Prairie du Chien. This morning before day the steamboat *Enterprise*, with a military command, came by my encampment and took myself and crew on board. Before arriving at the place where the Indians had been encamped, we found that they had been gone for several days, and had removed some distance above.

“We therefore continued on up a considerable distance, passing several lodges at different points until we came to the principal camp, on the east side of the river, supposed to be sixty miles above Prairie du Chien. I communicated your message to all the Indians I saw on the way, who readily promised to obey your instructions.

“At the principal camp I found Washington Decori with a considerable part of the tribe from the Wisconsin and Kickapoo river. I immediately informed them of your request, and

desired them to get ready as soon as possible and go to the agency. They manifested entire willingness to do so, but said some of their party were out hunting, and would be in at night, for whom they wished to wait, so that all might come together. They promised very positively, that they would start as soon as the hunters should arrive, and would certainly see you by the middle of the afternoon to-morrow. After some conversation about their starting this evening, and their still objecting to do so until the hunters came in, Lieut. Abercrombie told them that he would wait until sunset for them to get ready, and if they did not start by that time, he would take all their canoes and bring them down with the steamboat. About two hours after this they concluded to start and let the hunters come on after them; and after seeing all the canoes move off, we started on our return, and reached this place at 9 o'clock this evening. The Indians whom I saw will be here to-morrow by 12 o'clock. They had not heard of the battle on the Wisconsin, but appeared to be highly gratified and pleased at the news.”

The next day, July 27, Gen. Street ordered Mr. Burnett to “proceed with Washington Decori to La Crosse, and such other points as you may deem important, and tell the Winnebagoes I wish to see them at the agency. I wish Winneshieck certainly to come. Much must be left to your own judgment in the case. The object is to get what information you can relative to the Sauks and Foxes, and to draw all the Winnebagoes from the Upper Mississippi, and with them the means of passing the river. If you can, extend the news to the Sioux.”

The following day Mr. Burnett reported to Gen. Street: “In obedience to your order of yesterday, I went on board the steamer *Enterprise* last evening, and started for La Crosse. We arrived early this morning at the entrance of the lower mouth of Black river and found the Winnebagoes encamped on the shore. I took Wekon Decori, and went on shore immedi-

ately to see the Indians. I found the one-eyed Decori, and the Little Thunder at the lodges, but found that most of the band had left the village sometime since. Winneshiek and Wau-marnarsar, with about fifteen men and their families, had been gone near a month to hunt and dry meat about fifty miles up La Crosse and Black rivers. The rest of the band were in the camp. I told them that you wished to see them immediately; that the Americans under Gen Dodge had defeated the Sauks and Foxes on the Wisconsin, and after killing a great many, had driven them across the river; that the defeated Indians were endeavoring to make their escape to the Mississippi for the purpose of crossing it and regaining their own country; and that it was probable they would attempt to reach that point, that they might get the Winnebago canoes to cross in, and that they must get away from that place before the Sauks and Foxes arrived.

“They said they would come down immediately on the return of the absent party; that they were afraid of the Sauks, and did not wish to leave a small part of their band behind, who were too few to resist if they would meet them. I then told them to send two of their best young men on horseback to bring in the hunting party. They very promptly complied, and in a short time the young men were mounted and on their way. I charged the express to carry to the absent Indians the message I had delivered, and to tell Winneshiek especially, that his presence was required at the agency. The chiefs present told me that they thought they would all be here certainly in six days, and probably sooner. I told them it was of great importance to them to come as soon as possible, and bring all their canoes on the river; that if the Sauks should come to that point they were not strong enough to prevent them from taking their canoes (if they did not kill them), and crossing over the river; that should they effect a passage to the west side of the river, at any point above this place, within their country,

they would be suspected of assisting them, and if it should be known that they had done so, they would lose their annuities and be treated as allies of the Sauks and Foxes. They promised to start for this place on the return of the absent party and bring all their canoes with them. From their apparent anxiety, I think they will be here in three or four days at the farthest, though they said it might be six.

“The Sioux chief, L’Ark, who left this place on the evening of the 25th inst., passed Black river this morning before our arrival, and will reach his people with the news (which he received from here) to-day. Having done all we could, we left La Crosse at 10 A. M., and reached this place at 3 P. M., making ninety miles in five hours.”

It was but a few days after this the 2d of August, 1832, that Gen. Atkinson over-hauled the broken fragments of Black Hawk’s army, fatigued, hungry and dispirited, and attacked them on the bottoms of the Mississippi, a few miles below the mouth of Bad Ax river, about forty-five miles above Prairie du Chien, and totally defeated and scattered them, as related in a previous chapter. Black Hawk was soon after taken prisoner by a company of Winnebagoes.

Mr. Burnett met them soon after the capture, to whom Black Hawk gave a piece of red ribbon which was tied to his hair.

#### AFTER THE BATTLE OF BAD AX.

[By John A. Wakefield, 1833.]

As soon as the battle was over, all the wounded were collected to one place, and, with those of our enemy, were examined and their wounds dressed; there was no difference here between our men and our enemy. The different surgeons did their best for both. They were no longer able to do us any harm, but were in our power and begging for mercy, and we acted like a civilized people, although it was with the worst kind of enemies, and one that had done so much mischief and had taken away so many of the lives of our fellow citizens.

We had killed and wounded a great many of these wretched wanderers, that have no home in the world, but are like the wild beasts, more than man, wandering from forest to forest, and not making any improvement in the natural mind. All their study is how to proceed in the chase, or take scalps in time of war. But, although they are a miserable race of people, and live a wretched life, they are much frightened when they see death staring them in the face, which was the case at this time. When we came upon the squaws and children, they raised a scream and cry loud enough to affect the stoutest man upon earth. If they had shown themselves they would have come off much better, but fear prevented them, and in their retreat, trying to hide from us, many of them were killed, but contrary to the wish of every man, as neither officer nor private intended to have spilt the blood of those squaws and children. But such was their fate; some of them were killed, but not intentionally by any man, as all were men of too much sense of honor and feeling to have killed any but those who were able to harm us. We all well knew the squaws and children could do us no harm and could not help what the old Black Hawk and the other chiefs did.

The prisoners we took seemed to lament their ever having raised arms against the United States, and appeared to blame the Black Hawk and the Prophet for the miserable condition that their tribe was then in, but at the same time appeared to rejoice that they were prisoners of war, which plainly showed that they had some faith in our humanity and that they would exchange the life they were then living for any other. They appeared to manifest every token of honesty in their examination. They stated that Black Hawk had stolen off up the river at the commencement of the battle, with some few of his warriors and a few squaws and children. I think the number of warriors was ten, and thirty-five women and children, or, in other words, four lodges, which is the Indian

phrase, as they do not know how to count by numbers. They were examined respecting the first battle we had with them on the Wisconsin and they stated that we killed sixty-eight on the field of action, and that twenty-five had died since from their wounds, making in all ninety-three that we are certain we killed in that battle, besides a number more that there is no doubt still lingered and died with their wounds.

Putting together what were killed in the two battles, and all the little skirmishes, we must have destroyed upwards of 400 of these unhappy and miserable beings, which was occasioned, no doubt by the superstitious ideas which were instilled into their minds by the Prophet. Although I have already stated that those unhappy wanderers make no improvement in the natural mind, they still, by instinct, believe in an overruling Providence, and are the most credulous people upon earth. They pay much attention to their dreams, and if one of their Nation dreams much, he soon takes the name of prophet, as they believe it to be a visitation of the Great Spirit. One morning I chanced to rise very early, and taking a walk through the encampment, accidentally wandered to where the Indians were encamped. It was just at the dawn of day, and they were just beginning their morning worship of the Great Spirit. I had often heard that these uninformed children of the forest believed that there was a God, and tried to worship Him, which made me call a halt to see if what I had heard respecting this unhappy people was true. They commenced by three of them standing up with their faces to the east; one of them commenced a kind of talk, as though he was talking to some person at a distance, at the same time shaking a gourd, which from the rattling, I should have taken to be full of pebbles or beans. The other two stood very still, looking towards the east; the others were all sitting around in the most perfect silence, when the old prophet, priest, or whatever they called him, commenced a kind of song, which I believe is the common one sung

by the Indians on all occasions. It was as near as I could make it out, in the following words: "He-aw-aw-he-aw-how-he-aw-hmm," with a great many elevations and falls in their tone, and beating time with the gourd of pebbles. When this song was sung, they commenced a kind of prayer, which I thought the most solemn thing I had witnessed. It was a long monotonous note, occasionally dropping by a number of tones at once, to a low and unearthly murmur. When he had done he handed the gourd of pebbles to one of the two that stood by him, who went, as near as I could ascertain through the same ceremony, still shaking the gourd. When he had done he handed it to the third, who went through the same motions, and making use of the same words that the first two had done, which I suppose was a supplication or prayer to the Great Spirit to give them plenty to eat, and strength to conquer their enemies. It is stated by those who are acquainted with this race of people, that they are very much afraid of offending the Great Spirit. If they have bad luck in hunting, they think it is caused by their having offended the Great Spirit, and they make an atonement, by offering up or making sacrifice of something that they set much store by, such as burning their tobacco, or something else that they dote upon very much, but there is nothing in this world that they think more of than tobacco, as smoking they think is almost as indispensibly necessary as eating.

I must now return to the battle ground with my subject. After the battle was all over, and the wounded all attended to the prisoners and the wounded of both parties were put on board of the seamboat *Warrior*, and taken down to Prairie du Chien, where the wounded were taken to the hospital and the prisoners put in confinement.

The boat returned to us the next morning. We are still at the battle ground, or near it; whilst we lay there our men were still picking up scattering Indians. They brought in an old

chief who was wounded. He was very poor was between six and seven feet high, what hair was on his head was gray, but that was not much, as the most of it was shaved off, just leaving enough for hand-hold to scalp him by, as these superstitious beings think it would be a mark of cowardice to cut off this tuft of hair, which they call their scalp. These superstitious being believe that if they are maimed or disfigured in this world they will appear in the same form, which is the reason they scarcely ever bury their dead. If he should chance to lose his scalp they think that it would show in the next world that he had been conquered and scalped by an enemy which would go to show that he was not a great warrior.

Gen. Atkinson now thought he had taken just retribution for the blood these Indians had spilt on our frontiers, and saw that it would be useless to cross the river in pursuit of those wretched beings for they were now scattered and hid in the swamps, so that it was an impossible thing to take many of them. He finally came to the conclusion to drop down to Prairie du Chien and have a talk with the Winnebagoes, for it was now manifest that they had been allies to the Sacs and Foxes for the prisoners that we took in this action put all doubts to rest on this score. We had a long time believed that they were acting treacherously and Gen. Atkinson now thought that it was time to bring them to an account for their conduct. He accordingly on the second day after the battle, which was the 4th of August, took up the line of march for Prairie du Chien, but before Gen. Atkinson left the battle ground he provisioned a number of Sioux and some Winnebagoes and sent them in search of Black Hawk to see if they could not capture him, and bring him in as a prisoner, which the Sioux appeared to be anxious to do as the Sacs and they had been at variance a long time and they saw that there was no chance of taking revenge for the many injuries the Sacs had done them. Gen. Atkinson and the infantry went down on the



steamboat *Warrior* and reached Prairie du Chien the same day we started. The mounted men, baggage and all went down by land and reached Prairie du Chien the next day, which was the 5th of August. On entering the settlement of Prairie du Chien we witnessed a very novel scene. The Menomonee Indians were rejoicing at the defeat of the Sacs and Foxes, and were expressing it by music and dancing. They had obtained several scalps, amongst which were some of the squaws, which they always gave to their squaws. They had given their squaws several of them and were making music for them to dance around them. It was, as near as I could observe, in the following way: The men all stood in a row with gourds in their hands, shaking them in a very regular order, while one old fellow was beating on the head a kind of drum, which is generally a deer skin stretched over a hollow gum, sawed to the length of our drums. They never use but one stick and that very slow. The squaws were all paraded in front of the men, facing them, and the squaws, who were related to those whom the Sacs and Foxes killed in 1831, held scalps of the Sacs and Foxes squaws, on long poles and stood in the center between the two lines, shaking them while the other squaws and the men danced around them, apparently trying to keep time with the rattling of the gourds and the sound of the drum and all at the same time singing the song usually sung by all Nations of Indians, consisting only of a few simple words that I have already repeated; but they rise and fall very singularly and always beat time to the song with their feet; when the song gets to the highest pitch they jump up very high and sometimes stamp with their feet. They generally bend forward toward each other, sometimes with their noses so close as to touch. The squaws appeared to exert all the power they were master of in shaking the scalps, and using their feet at the same time with the drummer and the gourd shaker, and from their countenances they appeared to be perfectly happy.

Gen. Atkinson, on the second day after we arrived at Prairie du Chien, had the principal chiefs of the Winnebagoes, and a few of the Menomonees, at Gen. Street's, the Indian agent at Prairie du Chien, and had a talk with them. He told them that they had given him reason to think they were not true to him, as he had caught them in many lies, which they tried to deny. He then accused Winneshiek of aiding the Sacs, and inquired of him where his two sons were. The answer of Winneshiek was, that he did not know where they were. Gen. Atkinson then asked him if they were not with Black Hawk. His answer was that one had been with him, but he did not know where he was then. Gen. Atkinson then ordered him to be put in prison until his sons could be produced. He then had a talk with the Menomonees, who had never been at war with the United States. They professed all the friendship in the world for our government; and stated that they had never done us any harm, and did not tell lies, and that if they wanted to do any harm now that they would not know how. This was a little Menomonee chief, whose name I do not recollect. Gen. Atkinson talked very friendly to him and advised him to pursue the same friendly course towards the United States, and they would be well treated. When this chief was done he made a request of Gen. Atkinson, whom he termed father, to give each of his young men a pair of shoes, and stated that their feet were worn out with walking. He then went on to explain that when he said shoes he meant horses, and stated that his young men had been promised a horse apiece, and had not got them. Gen. Atkinson promised that they should have them, or that he would see to it, I do not recollect which. On the next day, about 11 o'clock, Winneshiek's sons were brought in, both badly wounded, which went to confirm that he and his sons were allies to the Sacs and Foxes. They had been wounded in the battle on the Mississippi. They were put in confinement August 7.

Gen. Scott and suite arrived this morning in the steamboat *Warrior*, and assumed the command of the whole army, to which station he had been appointed some time previous, but was unable to come on sooner, in consequence of cholera breaking out in his army. He came past several posts and discharged the men wherever he found them.

Gen. Scott concluded to discharge the army (or the mounted volunteers) that were then in the field, and demanded Black Hawk, of Keokuk, as both men and horses were nearly worn out with fatigue. Accordingly, on the 8th day of August, we left the tented fields and took up our line of march to Dickson's, on Rock river, the place appointed for us to be discharged at (or mustered out of the service of the United States). All now were eager to press forward. We had turned our faces toward our respective homes, and notwithstanding that we, as well as our horses, were nearly worn out with the fatiguing marches, through the swamps and over the mountains, yet all were cheerful, and every heart seemed to leap for joy, at the thought of being free from the toils and hardships of a soldier, to return again to the embraces of a wife and children, or a father and mother, brothers and sisters, and to mingle, once more, in the walks and society of the fair sex, which appears to be a sovereign balm to man in all his afflictions.

On this day, just at night, we met about 300 Menomonee Indians in company of an American officer from Green Bay, coming to join in pursuit of the Sac and Fox Indians. We happened to meet them in a prairie. The officer advanced and met us, or we certainly would have fired upon them. When we came up to them they appeared almost to lament that they had not got in before we had the last battle, in order that they could have had an opportunity of assisting us in the work of death to our common enemy. For they are, as I have already stated, great enemies to the Menomonee Indians. When they left us they seemed to press

forward with more vigor, as it was their object to pursue the balance of the Sacs and Foxes, who had made their escape.

On the next day we began to reach the settlements in the mining country. This was again a solemn scene. The farms had mostly been sown in grain of some kind or other. Those that were in small grain were full ripe for the sickle; but behold! the husbandman was not there to enjoy the benefits of his former labor by thrusting in the scythe and sickle and gathering in his grain; which was fast going to destruction. All appeared to be solitary, and truly presented a state of mourning. But as we advanced a little further into the more thickly settled parts we would occasionally see the smoke just beginning to make its appearance from the tops of the chimneys; as some of the inhabitants thought that it would be as well to risk dying by the tomahawk and scalping knife as to lose their grain and die by famine; and others had received information that we had slain in battle their troublesome enemy, who had driven them from their homes and slain many of their neighbors. Whenever we approached a house there is no telling the joy it would give to the desolate man who had lately emerged from some fort, and had left his wife and children still in it while he ventured to his home to save something for them to subsist upon.

I must confess that it filled my heart with gratitude and joy to think that I had been instrumental, with many others, in delivering my country of those merciless savages, and restoring those people again to their peaceful homes and firesides, there to enjoy in safety the sweets of a retired life; for a fort is to a husbandman what jail is to a prisoner. The inhabitants of this district of country had been shut up in forts for the last three months, through fear of becoming a prey to Indian barbarity.

Nothing very interesting occurred on our march to Dixons. Lieut. Anderson, of the United States army, met us at this point, and

by the 17th of August mustered us all out of the service of the United States. We sheathed our swords and buried our tomahawks and each man again became his own commander and shaped his own course towards his home, to enjoy the social society of his relatives and friends, in the pursuit of their different avocations in life.

CAPTURE OF BLACK HAWK AND THE PROPHET.

After the battle of Bad Ax, when Black Hawk's band was totally defeated, Brevet Brigadier-General H. Atkinson, of the United States army, and Joseph M. Street, agent for the Winnebagoes at Prairie du Chien, told the principal chiefs of that Nation, that if they would bring in the Black Hawk and the Prophet, it would be well for them, and that the government of the United States would hold them in future as friends and treat them kindly, and that they would not, by so doing, be considered any longer the friends of the hostile Sacs and Foxes.

On this declaration, the one-eyed chief, called the Decori, and Cheater took some of their men with them and went in pursuit of these Sac chiefs, in order, if possible, to take them prisoners and bring them and deliver them up to the Indian agent at Prairie du Chien. On the 27th of August, these two Winnebago chiefs returned, bringing with them the Black Hawk and the Prophet, the principal movers and instigators of the war. The interview with them at Prairie du Chien, I have been told, was a very interesting scene. I will give the reader the substance of their talk with Indian Agent Street and Col. Zachary Taylor, which will go to show how vigilant and with what perseverance these Winnebago chiefs acted to take these prisoners. They were upwards of twenty days gone, after they left Prairie du Chien, before they returned with them.

When they arrived, Black Hawk desired to speak to Indian Agent Street. The amount of what he said was, that he was not the originator of the war; that he was going where he would meet Keokuk, and then he would tell the truth; that he would then tell all about this war which

had caused so much trouble; that there were chiefs and braves of the Nation who were the cause of the continuance of the war; that he did not want to hold any council with him; that when he got where Keokuk was he would tell the whole of the origin of the difficulties and of those who committed it; that he wanted to surrender long ago, but others refused; that he wanted to surrender to the steamboat *Warrior*, and tried to do so until the second fire; that he then ran and went up the river and never returned to the battle ground; and his determination then was to escape if he could; that he did not intend to surrender after that, but that when the Winnebagoes came upon him, he gave up; and that he would tell all about the disturbance when he got to Rock Island.

The one-eyed Decori and the Cheater both in like manner addressed Mr. Street, whom they term their father; which almost all the Indians do their agents. The one-eyed Decori rose first and addressed him in the following manner:

"My father, I now stand before you. When we parted I told you we would return soon; but I could not come any sooner. We had to go a great distance [to the dales, dells, on the Wisconsin river above the portage]; you see we have done what you sent us to do. These are the two you told us to get (pointing to Black Hawk and the Prophet). We always do what you tell us to do, because we know it is for our good. My father, you told us to get these men, and it would be the cause of much good to the Winnebagoes. We have brought them, but it has been very hard for us to do it. That one—Macatamish Kakaeky—was a great way off. You told us to bring them alive; we have done so. If you had told us to bring their heads alone, we would have done so; and it would have been less difficult for us to do, than what we have done. My father, we deliver these men into your hands; we would not deliver them even to our brother, the chief of the warriors,

but to you, because we know you and believe you are our friend. We want you to keep them safe. If they are to be hurt, we do not wish to see it; wait until we are gone before it is done. My father, many little birds have been flying about our ears of late, and we thought they whispered to us that there was evil intended for us; but now we hope the evil birds will let our ears alone.

"My father, we know you are our friend, because you take our part; this is the reason we do what you tell us to do. My father, you say you love your red children; we think we love you as much or more than you love us. My father, we have been promised a great deal if we would take these men, that it would do much good for our people; we now hope to see what will be done for us. My father, we have come in haste, and are tired and hungry; we now put these men in your hands. We have done all you told us to do."

Mr. Street, the agent of the Winnebagoes then said:

"My children! you have done well. I told you to bring these men to me, and you have done so. I am pleased at what you have done. It will tend to your good; and, for this reason, I am well pleased. I assured the great chief of the warriors that, if these men were in your country, you would find them and bring them to me; that I believed you would do what I directed you to do. Now I can say much for your good. I will go down to Rock Island with the prisoners; and I wish you who have brought these men especially to go with me, and such other chiefs and warriors as you may select. My children! the great chief of the warriors, when he left this place, directed me to deliver these and all other prisoners to the chief of the warriors, Col. Taylor, who is by my side.

"Some of the Winnebagoes on the south side of the Wisconsin river have befriended the Sacs, and some of the Indians of my agency have given them aid; this was wrong and displeased the great chief of the warriors and

your great father, the President, and was calculated to do much harm. My children! your great father, the President at Washington, has sent a great war chief from the far east—Gen. Scott—with a fresh army of soldiers, who is now at Rock Island.

"Your great father has sent him and the governor of Illinois to hold a council with the Indians at Rock Island; he has sent a speech to you; and he wishes the chiefs and warriors of the Winnebagoes to meet him in council on the 10th of September next. I wish you to be ready to go along with me to Rock Island.

"My children! I am well pleased that you have taken Black Hawk and the Prophet and so many others, because it will enable me to say much for you to the great chief of the warriors and your great father the President. I shall now deliver these two men, Black Hawk and the Prophet, to the chief of the warriors here, Col. Taylor, who will take good care of them until we start to Rock Island."

Col. Taylor then said:

"The great chief of the warriors told me to take the prisoners when you should bring them and send them to Rock Island to him. I will take them and keep them safe, but use them well, and will send them by you and Mr. Street when you go down to the council, which will be in a few days. Your friend, Mr. Street advised you to get ready and go down soon, and so do. I tell you again, I will take the prisoners and keep them safe, but will do them no harm. I will deliver them to the great chief of the warriors, and he will do with them in such manner as he may be ordered by your great father, the President."

Cheater, a Winnebago, said to Mr. Street, the agent:

"My father! I am young and don't know how to make speeches. This is the second time I ever spoke to you before the people. My father! I am no chief, I am no orator, but I have been allowed to speak to you. My father!

If I shall not speak as well as others, still you must listen to me.

“My father! when you made the speech to the chiefs, Waugh-kan-decorri, Carimanee, the one-eyed Decorri, and others, the other day, I was there. I heard you. I thought what you said to them you also said to me. You said if these two (pointing to Black Hawk and the Prophet) were taken by us and brought to you there would never any more a black cloud hang over your Winnebagoes. My father! your words entered into my ears, into my brain and into my heart. I left here that very night, and you know you have not seen me since, until now. My father! I have been a great way. I had much trouble; but when I remembered what you said I knew you were right. This made me keep on and do what you told me. Near the dale [dells] on the Wisconsin river I took Black Hawk. No one did it but me. I say this in the ears of all present, and they know it; and now I appeal to the Great Spirit, our Grand Mother, for the truth of what I say. My father! I am no chief, but what I have done is for the benefit of my own Nation, and I hope for the good that has been promised us. My father! that one, Waboki-shick, is my relation. If he is to be hurt I do not wish to see it. My father! soldiers sometimes stick the ends of their guns [bayonets] into the back of Indian prisoners when they are going about in the hands of the guard. I hope this will not be done to these men.”

#### DEATH OF BLACK HAWK.

Black Hawk was sent as a prisoner from Prairie du Chien to Jefferson barracks, under charge of Lieut. Jefferson Davis—then in the United States army at Prairie du Chien, and thirty years later President of the Confederate States. Black Hawk was kept a close prisoner until April, 1833, when he was taken to Washington, together with some of his family and the Prophet. After an interview with President Jackson, and being emphatically told by him that the government would compel the red men

to be at peace, they were sent as prisoners to Fortress Monroe, for “levying war,” as Davis was, thirty-two years later, for the same offense. On June 4, 1833, by order of the President, Black Hawk and his fellow prisoners were liberated and sent home, under officers appointed to conduct them through the principal cities of the Union, in order to impress them with a proper sense of the power of the whites and of the hopelessness of any conflict on the part of the Indians with the government of the United States. Black Hawk ever after remained quiet. He died Oct. 3, 1838, and was buried on the banks of the Mississippi, in the State of Iowa, near the head of the Des Moines rapids, where the village of Montrose is located.

#### JOHN H. FONDA'S NARRATIVE.

The Black Hawk war commenced this year, [1832]. Some of Dodge's recruiting officers were drumming around here. I met and got acquainted with one, named White, and enlisted during the war. A quartermaster was up here buying horses. He purchased near 500 head, and I went with them down to the mouth of Rock river, where the army under Atkinson was encamped.

I was under Dodge's command of Illinois volunteers, and a wilder, more independent set of dare-devils I never saw. They had a free-and-easy, devil-may-care appearance about them, that is never seen in the regulars, and Gen. Dodge of all others, was the officer to lead them. A number of Sioux, Winnebagoes and some Menomonees joined the forces on Rock river. I was in the ranks, and my opportunities for knowing and seeing the movements of the army, from the encampment on Rock river to the Four lakes, and to the Wisconsin bluffs, were limited.

Gens. Atkinson, Dodge, Henry and Alexander, lead the different commands. The force under Dodge, consisted of 200 or 300 men, and we proceeded to the lakes, through the swamps towards Black Hawk's camp on Rock river. Gen. Dodge was impatient to engage the Ir-

dians, and urged the men on; but orders came for our men to proceed to head quarters, where we immediately went.

From Gen. Atkinson's camp we were marched to Fort Winnebago, from where we started in pursuit of the Indians, who there held the two Hall girls prisoners, and were camped at Rock River Rapids. Gen. Henry's and Dodge's men reach the Rapids, but the Indians had retreated. Information was received that the Indians were making westward, and getting on their trail, we followed them rapidly for two days; the scouts discovered many Indians on the second day about camp near the lake. The pursuit was renewed on the day after reaching the lakes, where one or more of the Indians was killed. Our men led the chase, next after the scouts, who were continually firing at the Indians. The Indians continued to retreat, until they reached the Wisconsin river, where some made a stand and showed fight, while the others crossed the river. Here we were fired on by the Indians, and one man was killed and several wounded. We returned their fire with effect, and then charged them, killing a good many, all of whom were scalped by the wild Sucker volunteers.

Soon after the skirmish on Wisconsin bluffs, Gen. Atkinson came up, and the entire army crossed the river at Pine Bend, (Helena), and took the trail on the opposite side, and followed it seven or eight miles, in the direction of Prairie du Chien. When it was discovered that the Indians were making for the Mississippi, Gen. Atkinson sent me with little Boiseley to carry a dispatch to Fort Crawford, that the inhabitants might be ready to prevent the Indians crossing in any canoes or boats belonging to the citizens. Boiseley and I traveled day and night, and arrived at the fort without seeing an Indian. Black Hawk and his people, with the army in pursuit, had turned northward, intending to ford the Kickapoo high up.

It was on the 1st day of August when Boiseley and I reached the Sugar Loaf, at the south

end of the prairie. As we were taking a look over the prairie, previous to starting for the fort, we saw the smoke and steam of a boat coming up the river, just off the mouth of the Wisconsin. We hastened on, and reached the fort as the steamer *Warrior* made the government landing. I reported myself to Capt. Loomis, and was directed to go up the river in the boat. I assisted to get a six-pounder from the fort on to the *Warrior*, which cannon was managed by five other persons and myself, and was the *only* cannon fired at the Indians—if not the only one aboard.

The steamboat *Warrior* was commanded by Thoekmorton, and Lieut. Kingsbury was aboard with a body of regulars. The cannon was placed on the forward part of the boat, without a defense of any kind; and I have the names of the five persons who assisted to manage it, for they got on at the prairie when I did.

The boat steamed up stream with all on board anxious to get a pop at the Indians. Just above where Lansing is, we picked up a soldier, who had been discharged from Fort Snelling, and was coming down the river in a canoe. He had come down the west channel, on the Minnesota side opposite Bad Ax, and, fortunately for him, he did not meet the Indians. We came in sight of the Indians south of the Bad Ax river; they were collected together on a bench of the land close to the Mississippi, and were making efforts to get their women across.

Capt. Dickson's scouts had not come up yet, and the Indians raised a white flag and endeavored to induce the boat to approach the eastshore, and succeeded in bringing her close enough to pour a shower of balls into her. The cannon sent a shower of canister amongst the Indians, which was repeated three times, each time moving a swath clean through them. After discharging the gun three times, (there was only three charges of canister shot aboard), the Indians retreated to the low ground back from the shore, where, lying on their bellies, they were safe from us,

A continual firing of small arms was kept up between the persons on board the boat, and the Indians ashore, until the fire-wood gave out, when we were obliged to put back to Prairie du Chien to wood up—for there were no woodyards on the Mississippi as now. The village was roused to carry wood aboard, and we soon had a sufficient quantity of that article. A lot of Menomonee Indians were also taken on, and then, under a full head of steam, we put back to the scene of the battle.

Before we rounded the island, and got within sight of the battle-ground, we could hear the report of musketry, and then it was that I heard Thockmorton say: "Dodge is giving them h—ll!" And he guessed right, for as we reached the scene of action, the wild volunteers under Gen. Dolge were engaged in a fierce conflict with the Indians. The Indians were driven down to the river edge; some of them under shelter of the bank were firing at the volunteers, who had command of the bluffs. The Suckers and Hoosiers, as we called them, fought like perfect tigers, and carried everything before them.

The troops and Indians on board the *Warrior* kept up a brisk fire on the Indians ashore, who fought with a desperation that surpassed everything I ever saw, during an Indian fight, and I have seen more than one. The Indians were between two fires; on the bluffs above them were Dickson and his rangers, and Dodge leading on his men, who needed no urging; while we kept steaming back and forth on the river, running down those who attempted to cross, and shooting at the Indians on shore.

The soldier we picked up helped to man the gun, and during the engagement he was wounded in the knee by a rifle ball. The Indians' shots would hit the water or patter against the boat, but occasionally a rifle ball sent with more force, would whistle through both sides. Some of the Indians, naked to the breech-cloth, slid down into the water, where they laid, with only their mouth and nostrils above the surface; but by

running the boat closer in to the east shore our Menomonees were enabled to make the water too hot for them. One after another, they jumped up, and were shot down in attempting to gain cover on the bank above. One warrior, more brave than the others, or, perhaps, more accustomed to the smell of gun-powder, kept his position in the water until the balls fell around him like hail, when he also concluded to *pugh-a-shee*,\* and commenced to creep up the bank. But he never reached the top for Thockmorton had his eye upon him, and drawing up his heavy rifle, he sent a ball through the ribs of the Indian, who sprang into the air with an *ugh!* and fell dead. There was only one person killed of those who came up on the *Warrior*, and that was an Indian. The pilot was fired at many times, but escaped unharmed, though the pilot house was riddled with balls.

One incident occurred during the battle that came under my observation, which I must not omit to relate. An old Indian brave and his five sons, all of whom I had seen on the prairie and knew, had taken a stand behind a prostrate log, in a little ravine, midway up the bluff; from whence they fired on the regulars with deadly aim. The old man loaded the guns as fast as his sons discharged them, and at each shot a man fell. They knew they could not expect quarter, and they sold their lives as dear as possible; making the best show of fight, and held their ground the firmest of any of the Indians. But they could never withstand the men under Dodge, for as the volunteers poured over the bluff, they each shot a man, and in return, each of the braves were shot down and scalped by the wild volunteers, who cut with their knives, and cutting two parallel gashes down their backs, would strip the skin from the quivering flesh, to make razor strops of. In this manner I saw the old brave and his five sons treated, and afterward had a piece of their hide.

\* *Pugh-a-shee—be off—escape*—is quite a common word with several of the western Indian tribes. The Shawanoe use it.

After the Indians had been completely routed on the east side, we carried Col. Taylor and his force across the river, to islands opposite, which we raked with grape and round shot. Taylor and his men charged through the islands to the right and left, but they only took a few prisoners; mostly women and children. I landed with the troops, and was moving along the shore to the north, when a little Indian boy, with one of his arms shot most off, came out of the bushes and made signs for something to eat. He seemed perfectly indifferent to pain, and only sensible of hunger, for when I carried the little naked fellow aboard, some one gave him a piece of hard bread, and he stood and ate it, with the wounded arm dangling by the torn

flesh; and so he remained until the arm was taken off.

Old Wa-ba-shaw, with a band of his warriors and Menomonees, were sent in pursuit of those of Black Hawk's people who crossed the Mississippi, and very few of the Sauk and Fox Indians ever reached their own country. The *Warrior* carried down to the Prairie, after the fight, the regular troops, wounded men and prisoners; among the latter was an old Sauk Indian, who attempted to destroy himself by pounding his own head with a rock, much to the amusement of the soldiers.

Soon after Black Hawk was captured, the volunteers were discharged, and I received a land warrant for my two month's service, settled down and got married.





## CHAPTER VIII.

## UNITED STATES LAND SURVEYS.

The first surveys by the general government of lands in Wisconsin, were made south of the Wisconsin river and the Fox river of Green bay. The northern boundary line of the State of Illinois, fixed April 11, 1818, on the parallel of 42 degrees 30 minutes north latitude, became, properly enough, the base line of these surveys, (as indeed of all the surveys afterwards made by the United States in this State). A principal north and south line, known as the fourth meridian, was run at right angles, of course with the base line, and extending from it to Lake Superior. This meridian line is east of all the territory in Crawford county. It runs south through the center of Richland, and continues on to the base line on the east boundary of Grant and on the west boundary of Lafayette and Iowa counties. It extends north, through Vernon county, through the eastern part of Monroe, Jackson, Clark and other counties; until it strikes Lake Superior a short distance to the westward of the mouth of Montreal river.

Parallel lines to the fourth meridian were run every six miles, on the east and west sides of it. The intervening six miles between lines are called ranges. Range 1 east, is the first six miles of territory east of the fourth meridian; range 2 east, is the second six miles; and so on, to Lake Michigan. However, on the west side of the fourth meridian, the ranges are numbered consecutively westward. Range 1 west, is the first six miles of territory west of that line; range 2 west, is the second six miles, and so on, to the Mississippi river. Therefore

it is that Crawford county lies in ranges 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 west.

## HOW CRAWFORD COUNTY WAS SURVEYED.

Parallel lines north of the base line (the north boundary line of the State of Illinois) were run every six miles, which crossing the ranges at right angles, cut the whole into blocks six miles square, called townships. These townships are numbered by tiers going north, from the base line; the first tier being known as township north, the second tier, as township 2 north, and so on until the extreme north boundary of the State (not covered by water) is reached, which is of course the extreme north side of the most northern of the Apostle islands, in Bayfield county. Now, if we begin at the base line and count the tiers of townships until Crawford county is reached, we discover that we have numbered six of them.

Looking upon the map of the county, we find that the first tier of townships on the south is numbered the 6th; but in this tier, there are only three townships, and these fractional. They are townships 6, in ranges 5, 6 and 7 west.

The next tier is numbered 7. In this are five townships—all fractional, except one. They are townships 7, in ranges 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 west. The third tier going north is numbered 8. In this are five townships—two whole ones and three fractional. They are townships 8, in ranges 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 west. The fourth tier in the county is numbered 9. In this are three whole and one fractional township. They are townships 9, in ranges 3, 4, 5 and 6 west. The fifth tier of townships is numbered 10. In this

tier are three whole and two fractional townships. They are townships 10, in ranges 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 west. The sixth tier is cut in twain, the south half being in Crawford county, while the north half is in Vernon county. The tier (as a whole) is numbered 11. In it are four half townships, and one fractional half. They are (half) townships 11, in ranges 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 west.

After the several township lines were run, then each township was sub-divided into sections and quarter sections, called, in surveying language, "sectionized." As a section is a mile square, there is, of course, in every whole township, thirty-six sections of land. For convenience, these are always numbered as follows:

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

In each whole section, there are 640 acres; and, when a section is divided into four parts, each quarter section contains 160 acres. It is usually in quarter sections that the land of the United States is disposed of; although, if desired, it will be divided into eighty acre tracts, or even forty acres.

#### CIVIL TOWNS AND SURVEYED TOWNSHIPS.

Only two of the civil towns of Crawford county contain each a surveyed township—no more or less; these are the towns of Haney and Scott. The towns of Freeman, Utica, Clayton, Seneca, Eastman, Marietta, Wauzeka and Prairie

du Chien, contain each more than one surveyed township; while the town of Bridgeport contains less than one.

The town of Haney has, for its territory, township 9, in range 4 west; while that of Scott has township 9, in range 3 west. All the other towns have territory so irregular in their shape, that a reference to the map is necessary to understand their size and outlines.

#### DATES OF SURVEYS AND NOTES OF SURVEYORS.

From the field notes of the surveyors and the government plats, many items of interest are obtained. These sources furnish the following facts:—The township lines in Crawford county were run by W. A. Burt, Ira B. Brunson, Pizarro Cook and John Ryan, in the years 1839, 1840, 1841, 1854, 1857 and 1881, mostly in 1839.

The sectional lines were run by Orson Lyon, Ira B. Brunson, Samuel C. Wiltse, A. L. Haren, W. Barrows and John Ryan, in the years 1840, 1843, 1854, 1857, 1881 and 1882, mostly in 1840 and 1843.

The first surveying was done by Wm. A. Burt, who ran nearly all the township lines in Crawford county in the 4th quarter of 1839.

The last surveying was done by Pizarro Cook, who re-surveyed the town of Haney in 1881–82.

Township 6 north, of range 5 west (south-western part of Wauzeka) was surveyed by Orson Lyon assisted by Truman B. Gorton, Samuel Kirkpatrick, chainman, and I. K. Vinderburgh, in the 2d quarter of 1840.

Township 6 north, of range 6 west (part of the town of Bridgeport and a portion of the city of Prairie du Chien) was surveyed by Orson Lyon, United States deputy surveyor, in March, 1840. He was assisted by Truman B. Gorton, Samuel Kirkpatrick, chainman, and I. K. Vinderburgh. The surveyor says: "Surface of this township is hilly, rocky and poor second rate. Except the river bottom, which is low, level, wet, and not fit for cultivation. Well timbered with oak, maple, ash and elm. The

upland is thinly timbered with white, black and burr oak, and some hickory undergrowth."

Township 7 north, of range 3 west (a fraction of section 6 only). Orson Lyon surveyed this township in April, 1840. He was assisted by T. B. Gorton and S. D. Kirkpatrick.

Township 7 north, of range 4 west (in Marietta and Wauzeka) was surveyed by Orson Lyon, assisted by T. B. Gorton, S. D. Kirkpatrick, chainman, and F. Cox. The surveyor has this to say of this township:

"The surface of this township is hilly and well timbered, north and east of the Kickapoo river. Timber is oak, lynn, elm and sugar tree. The river bottoms of the Wisconsin and Kickapoo, are low, swampy and third rate.

"The upland between the river bottom and bluff is rolling and good second rate land, with some first rate. The land in the hills is rocky, and poor second and third rate.

"West and south of the Kickapoo river the land is hilly and thinly timbered with white and black oak, with an undergrowth of grape vine.

"The river bottom is level, swampy and third rate."

Township 7 north, of range 5 west (Wauzeka) was surveyed in the 2d quarter of 1840, by Orson Lyon, United States deputy surveyor, who was assisted by Truman B. Gorton, S. D. Kirkpatrick, chainmen, and Isaac K. Vinderburgh. This township, says the surveyor, "is hilly and broken, soil third rate and poor second rate, also some little first rate land. Timbered with black oak, with but little undergrowth."

Township 7 north, of range 6 west (part of Bridgeport, and of the city and town of Prairie du Chien) was surveyed in the 1st quarter of 1840 by Orson Lyon, assisted by T. B. Gorton, hind chainman; S. D. Kirkpatrick, fore chainman; J. B. Cartz, marker.

In his field notes, Mr Lyon says: "The surface of this township is hilly, and in many places broken and rocky. The soil with few

exceptions is poor second and third rate lands. "The timber is principally white oak, with little undergrowth.

The hollows are mostly without timber. Soil, first rate."

Township 7 north, of range 7 west (town and city of Prairie du Chien, in part) was, some portions of it, surveyed in March and July, 1857, by Ira Brunson.

Township 8 north, of range 3 west (part of Marietta) was surveyed in the 2d and 3d quarters of 1840 by Orson Lyon, assisted by T. Cox and John Corley. The surveyor says: "Surface hilly, soil broken, bushy and might be called third rate.

"The timber is oak, lynn and sugar-tree, excepting on the river and creek bottom, where the timber is elm, ash, maple and oak, with an undergrowth of the same."

Township 8 north, of range 4 west (parts of Marietta, Wauzeka and Eastman), was surveyed in the 3d quarter of 1840, by Orson Lyon, assisted by John Corley and T. Cox. In his notes Mr. Lyon states that the surface is hilly, soil broken and poor second rate.

"East of the Kickapoo river, is well timbered with lynn, sugar-tree and oak, with an undergrowth of the same, with prickly-ash, briars and grapevines. In that part of the township lying west of the Kickapoo river the soil is second rate, hilly and broken, thinly timbered with oak."

Township 8 north, of range 5 west (parts of Eastman and Wauzeka) was surveyed by Orson Lyon, in the 2d quarter of 1840; he was assisted by chainman S. D. Kirkpatrick and marker, I. K. Vinderburgh. The notes of the surveyor are as follows: "Surface hilly and broken, in many places, and might be called poor second rate land. Is thinly timbered with white, black and burr oak. The creek bottoms are prairie and first rate land."

Township 8 north, of range 6 west (a part of Eastman) was surveyed by Orson Lyon, deputy surveyor, in March and April, 1840, assisted by

T. B. Gorton, S. D. Kirkpatrick, chainman, and J. B. Chartz, marker.

Township 8 north, of range 7 west (a part of Eastman) was surveyed in March and July, 1857, by Ira B. Brunson.

Township 9 north, of range 3 west (Scott) was surveyed in the 2d quarter of 1843, by Samuel C. Wiltse, deputy surveyor. "Majority of this township," says the surveyor, "is composed of first and second rate qualities of land. Whole township is heavily timbered, maple and oak predominating. Every section contains a capital 'sugar orchard' and some of them are covered with little else. The streams which are all bordered with a dense undergrowth are permanent and full of mountain trout. The water is clear, cold and soft, running over pebbly bottoms."

Township 9 north, of range 4 west (Haney) was surveyed July 2-11, 1843, by Samuel C. Wiltse, deputy surveyor, assisted by J. B. McFardin, W. J. Curtiss, chainmen, and E. D. Smith, marker. Re-surveyed by Pizarro Cook, November and December, 1881.

Township 9 north, of range 5 west (part of Seneca) was surveyed in the 2d quarter of 1843 by A. L. Haren, deputy surveyor, assisted by Austin Wilder, C. C. Carter, chainman, and C. Hamilton, marker. The surveyor says: "Surface broken. Timber of an inferior quality, with the exception of a few groves on the west side of the township."

Township 9 north, range 6 west (part of Seneca), was surveyed by A. L. Haren, in the 4th quarter of 1843. He was assisted by S. P. Folsom, S. N. Lester, chainmen, L. Davis, marker.

Township 10 north, of range 3 west (a portion of Clayton), was surveyed by Samuel C. Wiltse, in the 3d quarter of 1843, assisted by J. B. McFardin, W. T. Curtiss, chainmen, and E. D. Smith, marker. The surface of this township says Mr. Wiltse, "is uneven, the soil shallow. Is valuable chiefly as a grazing district. Water excellent and abundant."

Township 10 north, of range 4 west (parts of Utica and Clayton), was surveyed by S. C. Wiltse in the 3d quarter of 1843. He was assisted J. B. McFardin, W. T. Curtiss, chainmen and E. D. Smith, marker. The surveyor says: "Surface of this township is hilly, timber and land of little value." This township was re-surveyed by Pizarro Cook Dec. 7, 1881—Jan. 13, 1882.

Township 10 north, of range 5 west (parts of Utica and Seneca) was surveyed in the 3d quarter of 1843, by A. L. Haren, assisted by Austin Wilder, C. C. Carter, chainmen, C. Hamilton, marker. This township is mostly broken, says the surveyor, and hilly. The prairie in the southeastern part is rolling first-rate land. The soil excepting on the hill sides is a rich sandy loam. The hill sides are covered with loose rock and flint. Township is exceedingly well watered, on the west by streams running into the Mississippi and on the east by streams running into the Kickapoo.

Township 10 north, of range 6 west (parts of Freeman and Seneca) was surveyed in the 4th quarter of 1843 by A. L. Haren, assisted by L. Davis, S. N. Lester and S. P. Folsom. The surveyor says: "Township is broken and hilly and is mostly fertile, excepting the steep side hills and bluffs. Upland generally well timbered."

Township 11 north, of range 3 west (a part of Seneca) was surveyed in the 3d quarter of 1843, by W. Barrows deputy surveyor, assisted by Ed. Fitzpatrick, W. V. Anderson, chainmen, and W. P. Easley marker.

Township 11 north, of range 4 west (parts of Clayton and Utica) was surveyed in the 3d quarter of 1843, by S. C. Wiltse, assisted by J. B. McFardin, W. T. Curtiss, chainmen, E. D. Smith, marker.

Township 11 north, of range 5 west (parts of Utica and Freeman) was surveyed in the 3d quarter of 1843, by A. L. Haren, assisted by Austin Wilder, C. C. Carter, chainmen, Louis Davis, marker. The surveyor says: "Soil mostly rolling, first-rate land or good second-rate land. Soil sandy loam."

Township 11 north, of range 6 west (a part of Eastman) was surveyed in the 3d quarter of 1843, by A. L. Haren, deputy surveyor, assisted by Austin Wilder, C. C. Carter, chainmen, and Louis Davis, marker. "Surface extremely broken and hilly."

Township 11 north, of range 7 west (a part of Freeman) was surveyed in the 4th quarter of 1843, by A. L. Haren, deputy surveyor, assisted by S. P. Folsom, S. N. Lester, chainmen, Louis Davis, marker.

#### LAND DISTRICTS.

The first land offices in Wisconsin were established under an act of Congress approved June 26, 1834, creating additional land districts in the States of Illinois and Missouri, and in the territory north of the State of Illinois. The first section provides "that all that tract lying north of the State of Illinois, west of Lake Michigan, south and southeast of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, included in the present territory of Michigan, shall be divided by a north and south line, drawn from the northern boundary of Illinois along the range of the township line west of Fort Winnebago to the Wisconsin river, and to be called—the one on the west side, the Wisconsin land district, and that on the east side the Green Bay land district of the territory of Michigan, which two districts shall embrace the country north of said rivers when the Indian title shall be extinguished, and the Green Bay district may be divided so as to form two districts, when the President shall deem it proper;" and by section three of said act, the President was authorized to appoint a register and receiver for such office, as soon as a sufficient number of townships are surveyed.

An act of Congress, approved June 15, 1836, divided the Green Bay land district, as established in 1834, "by a line commencing on the western boundary of said district, and running thence east between townships 10 and 11 north, to the line between ranges 17 and 18 east, thence north between said ranges of townships to the line between townships 12 and 13 north,

thence east between said townships 12 and 13 to Lake Michigan; and all the country bounded north by the division line here described; south by the base line, east by Lake Michigan and west by the division line between ranges 8 and 9 east," to be constituted a separate district, and known as the "Milwaukee land district." It included the present counties of Racine, Kenosha, Rock, Jefferson, Waukesha, Walworth and Milwaukee and parts of Green, Dane, Washington, Ozaukee, Dodge and Columbia.

An act was approved March 3, 1847, creating an additional land district in the territory. All that portion of the public lands lying north and west of the following boundaries, formed a district to be known as the Chippewa land district: Commencing at the Mississippi river on the line between townships 22 and 23 north, running thence east along said line to the fourth principal meridian, thence north along said meridian line to the line dividing townships 29 and 30, thence east along such township line to the Wisconsin river, thence up the main channel of said river to the boundary line between the State of Michigan and the territory of Wisconsin. The counties now included in this district are: Pepin, Clark, Eau Claire, Dunn, Pierce, St. Croix, Polk, Barron, Burnett, Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Taylor, Chippewa and parts of Buffalo, Trempealeau and Jackson.

An act of Congress, approved March 2, 1849, changed the location of the land office in the Chippewa district from the falls of St. Croix to Stillwater, in the county of St. Croix, in the proposed territory of Minnesota; and by section two of the act, an additional land office and district was created, comprising all the lands in Wisconsin not included in the districts of land subject to sale at Green Bay, Milwaukee, or Mineral Point, which was to be known as the Western land district, and the President was authorized to designate the site where the office should be located. Willow river, now Hudson, was selected. The district was usually known as the St. Croix and Chippewa district, and in-

cluded St. Croix, La Pointe and parts of Chippewa and Marathon counties.

By an act of Congress, approved July 30, 1852, so much of the public lands in Wisconsin as lay within a boundary line commencing at the southwest corner of township 15 north, of range 2 east of the fourth principal meridian, thence running due east to the southeast corner of township 15 north, of range 11 east, of the fourth principal meridian, thence north along such range line to the north line of the State of Wisconsin, thence westwardly along said north line to the line between ranges 1 and 2 east of fourth principal meridian, thence south to the place of beginning, were formed into a new district, and known as the Stevens Point land district, and a land office located at that place. The boundaries enclosed the present counties of Juneau, Adams, Marquette, Green Lake, Waushara, Waupacea, Portage, Wood, Marathon, Lincoln and Shawano.

#### WISCONSIN LAND DISTRICT.

It will be remembered that the Wisconsin land district, by the organic act of the territory, was to be extended north of the Wisconsin river "when the Indian title should be extinguished." Now, as that event took place in 1837, it follows that when what is now Crawford county was surveyed into townships by the United States surveyors, it was in the Wisconsin land district, the land office being at Mineral Point. It was usually called the "Mineral Point land district." The surveys into sections and quarter sections were nearly all made while in the same district; hence the early settlers went to Mineral Point to enter their land.

#### LA CROSSE LAND DISTRICT.

An act of Congress, approved March 2, 1849, formed the La Crosse land district, including within its limits the following territory:

"Commencing at a point where the line between townships 10 and 11 touches the Mississippi river, [in the present county of Crawford,] and running thence due east of the fourth principal meridian; thence north to the line be-

tween townships 14 and 15 north; thence east to the southeast corner of township 15 north, or range 1 east of the fourth principal meridian; thence north on the range line to the south line of township 31 north; thence west on the line between townships 30 and 31 to the Chippewa river; thence down said river to the junction with the Mississippi river, thence down said river to the place of beginning."

This included, though it has since been lessened, so much of Crawford as lies north of the line between townships 10 and 11, all of the present county of Vernon, likewise that of La Crosse, Monroe, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Eau Claire, Clark and parts of Juneau and Chippewa counties.

By act of Congress, approved Feb. 24, 1855, an additional district was formed of all that portion of the Willow river land district lying north of the line dividing townships 40 and 41, to be called the Fond du Lac district, the office to be located by the President as he might from time to time direct. The present counties of Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland and part of Burnett were included within its boundaries.

By an act of Congress, approved March 3, 1857, so much of the districts of land subject to sale at La Crosse and Hudson, in the State of Wisconsin, contained in the following boundaries, were constituted a new district, to be known as the Chippewa land district. North of the line dividing townships 24 and 25 north; south of the line dividing townships 40 and 41 north; west of the line dividing ranges 1 and 2 east; and east of the line dividing ranges 11 and 12 west. The location of the office was to be designated by the President as the public interest might require. The present counties of Chippewa, Taylor, Eau Claire and Clark were in this district.

#### LA CROSSE LAND OFFICE.

There are at the present time six land offices in the State. They are located at Menasha, Falls of St. Croix, Wausau, La Crosse, Bayfield and Eau Claire. By the provisions of law,

when the number of acres of land in any one district is reduced to 100,000 acres, subject to private entry, the secretary of the interior is required to discontinue the office, and the lands remaining unsold are transferred to the nearest land office, to be there subject to sale. Under this provision, Crawford county is in the La Crosse land office.

#### PIZARRO COOK'S RE-SURVEY IN CRAWFORD COUNTY.

Under an act of Congress, of Feb. 9, 1880, for the survey of all that portion of township 9 north, of range 4 west, lying east of the Kickapoo river in Crawford county, also township 10 north of the same range, east of that stream, Pizarro Cook, county surveyor of Crawford county, was employed by the United States to do the work, under the direction of the commissioner of the general land office. The township lines had been run; but the land had not

been "sectionized." However, as it had originally been returned as having been run into sections, the work of Mr. Cook is called a re-survey. He began work Oct. 25, 1881, and finished about the middle of January, 1882. Congress appropriated, by the act already mentioned, the sum of \$1,000 for the work. Mr. Cook's bill amounted to \$984.18.

#### THE LYON SURVEY.

When the United States surveyors crossed the Wisconsin river to enter upon the survey, in this region of public lands, they found, upon their arrival, within what are now the limits of Crawford county, certain tracts that were in fact not United States lands and had already been surveyed. Of course, these tracts were not again surveyed. They were the private land claims already treated of very fully in the previous chapter, which were surveyed by Mr. Lyon, deputy United States surveyor, in 1828.



## CHAPTER IX.

## PRIVATE LAND CLAIMS.

While it is true that every man's title to land in Crawford county is derived from the United States, as in other parts of Wisconsin, yet these are not, all of them, thus derived, because of purchases from the general government. To understand this anomolous state of things, and why there are exceptions to the general rule, it must be explained that there were residents occupying tracts within this county so long before the United States had actual possession of it, as to entitle them, in strict justice, to be considered as the real owners; and, as we shall soon see, they were, in many cases, adjudged to be the owners—not by *purchase* from the United States, but by occupation at a certain period. In short, these certain individuals, or their legal representatives, had their lands confirmed to them under certain acts of Congress; and that confirmation started their respective titles from the United States as fully and completely as though they had been purchasers of their respective tracts.

Mention is made in the chapter on the military occupation of the county, of evictions having frequently been made, by the commanders of Fort Crawford, of settlers on the "prairie." This caused the people to appeal to the United States government for protection in the possession of their property. Congress passed an act for their relief, under which the secretary of Michigan territory, the register and receiver of the Detroit land office, were commissioned to examine and report upon the matter. The provision of the Jay treaty of 1796, by which the inhabitants of Prairie du Chien were received

into citizenship and guaranteed protection in the possession of their lands and other property, was made the basis of the settlement, and the commissioners were empowered to confirm the claims to all farm and village lots that had been continuously occupied since the treaty went into operation. Isaac Lee was sent from Detroit to collect testimony during the summer of 1820. In addition to the claims continually occupied since 1796, a number which at that time were occupied as a village common, but were subsequently appropriated by individuals, were reported favorably. The evicted persons were restored to their rights. This settlement was confirmed by Congress, and the people of the Prairie who had hitherto been compelled to rest content with mere occupation, were guaranteed a reliable title. Some effort was made by United States officers to interrupt the confirmation in a few instances by representing that claimants had taken up arms for Great Britain during the War of 1812, and thereby incurred the penalty of treason. Delay was thus occasioned in some instances, but the government wisely concluded to overlook the offense, inasmuch as they had been made citizens without their own volition, and had been drawn into the hostile attitude without choice of their own, through the peculiar circumstances of their situation, and all the claims were eventually settled without discrimination upon that point. The village of Prairie du Chien also entered a claim to an additional tract extending to the Kickapoo river, based on the Sinclair purchase and a subsequent ratification by the Fox In-



dians at Cahokia, but the United States refused to recognize the validity of the purchase by Sinclair, as the territory was beyond the jurisdiction of the British crown at the time, and denied this additional claim.

"At the session of Congress of 1819-20," says Mr. Lockwood, "an act was passed to take testimony relative to the private land claims at Sault St. Marys, Mackinaw, Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, that were reserved to subjects of the British government under Jay's treaty; and in the fall of 1820, commissioners were dispatched to the different places to take testimony. A Mr. Lee came to Prairie du Chien. The most of those claims at Prairie du Chien were found to come under Jay's treaty, but there were several that wanted a year or more of coming under it. These facts being reported to Congress, they at a subsequent session passed an act giving to every settler who was in possession of land at the date of the declaration of war in 1812 against Great Britain, and who had continued to submit to the laws of the United States, the lands he claimed.

"It is a matter of history, that the British took Mackinaw and subjected its dependences to their government, including all the afore-named places, and the most part of these claimants were ignorant Canadians and supposed themselves British subjects, not aware that if they did not within a year choose, as stipulated in the treaty, to continue British subjects, they became American citizens; and when the British government took military possession of the country during the War of 1812-15, the military officers in command considered them as British subjects, and ordered them to do military duty as militia. They were a conquered people, and feeling that they owed no allegiance to the United States, took up arms in obedience to the orders of the British officers. There were some among them intelligent enough to know their position, but had they claimed to be American citizens and refused to take up arms,

surrounded as they were by hostile Indians, they would not have been safe; especially as the British officers did not believe in a British subject expatriating himself, and of course there was no law of the United States in the conquered country to submit to. Notwithstanding all these circumstances being known to the officers of the army stationed at Sault St. Marys under Maj. Cutler, they got up a remonstrance to the government, representing these people as traitors; in consequence of which the patents were delayed, to the great annoyance and sometimes to the great injury of the claimants."

THE COMMISSIONERS ACTS OF QUALIFICATION.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
DISTRICT OF DETROIT. }

We, William Woodbridge, Secretary of the Territory of Michigan, Peter Audrain, Register, and Jonathan Kearsley, Receiver of the Land Office of the Land District of Detroit, do, and each of us doth solemnly swear, that we will impartially exercise and discharge the duties imposed upon us by an act of Congress, entitled "An act regulating the grants of land in the Territory of Michigan," passed the 3d day of March, 1807; and also "An act to revive the powers of the commissioners for ascertaining and deciding on claims to land in the District of Detroit, and for settling the claims to land at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, in the Territory of Michigan," passed the 11th day of May, 1820. So help us God.

WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE,  
PETER AUDRAIN,  
J. KEARSLEY.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF WAYNE. } to-wit:

Personally appeared before me, John McDonnell, one of the Associate Justices of the Court of the county of Wayne, and Territory aforesaid, William Woodbridge, Peter Audrain, and Jonathan Kearsley, Esquires, who took and subscribed the foregoing oath in my presence.

Given under my hand, at the city of Detroit,  
the 8th of August, 1820.

JOHN McDONELL,

Associate Justice of the Court of the  
County of Wayne, Territory of Mich.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
DISTRICT OF DETROIT } to-wit:

I, Henry B. Brevoort, Register of the Land Office for the District of Detroit, do solemnly swear that I will impartially exercise and discharge the duties imposed on me by an act of Congress entitled "An act regulating the grants of land in the Territory of Michigan," passed on the 3d day of March, 1807; and also "An act to revive the powers of the commissioners for ascertaining and deciding on claims to land in the District of Detroit, and for settling the claims to land at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, in the Territory of Michigan," passed the 11th day of May, 1820. So help me God.

HENRY B. BREVOORT,  
Register.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
Land District of Detroit. }

Personally appeared before me, this 14th day of May, A. D. 1821 [1820] the above-named Henry B. Brevoort, Esquire, Register of the Land District of Detroit, who took and subscribed the above written affidavit in my presence.

Given under my hand the day and year above written.

GEORGE McDUGALL,

Justice of the Peace,  
County of Wayne, M. T.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ISAAC LEE, AGENT.

The following are the instructions to the Agent appointed to receive claims and take evidence concerning land claims at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
Land District of Detroit, }

August 8th, 1821 [1820.]

SIR:—You are hereby notified of your appointment (with the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury), and in conformity with the pro-

visions of the act entitled "An act to revive the powers of the Commissioners for ascertaining and deciding on claims to land in the District of Detroit, and for settling the claims to land at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, in the Territory of Michigan," passed the 11th of May, 1820, as agent for the purpose of ascertaining the titles and claims to land at the settlements of Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens.

The Secretary of the Treasury has given general directions that you proceed, with as little delay as possible, taking the various laws which relate to your duties as your guide in the execution of the trust reposed.

The evidence of titles and claims which it is presumed you will receive, are such as are founded upon legal grant made or authorized prior to the treaty of Paris (Feb. 10, 1763), by the French government, or subsequent to that period and prior to the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain (Sept. 3, 1783), or such as may be deducible from some act of Congress.

The whole system heretofore applicable to the Land District of Detroit, is presumed to have been reinstated in its full extent, except so far as controlled by the late law, and made specially applicable to the settlements of Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens. You will therefore not fail to notice that *occupancy* and *possession* of tracts within either of those settlements, between the 1st day of July, 1796, and the 3d day of March, 1807, by the present claimants, or those under whom they may successively make claim, are, by the act of the 3d of March, 1807, recognized as conferring just claims for confirmation. And you will also see, by reference to the 4th section of the act of the 25th of April, 1808, that so much of the act of March 3d, 1807, as limited the claim to one tract, is repealed.

These references are given you that your records may not be needlessly burdened: it is nevertheless believed that you cannot of right refuse to receive and record any evidence of title, of whatsoever nature that may be offered,

for the law clearly contemplates that the power of rejecting, as well as confirming all claims, resides in the first instance, in the commissioners, and not in the agent.

It is presumed to be the intention of the law that all the evidence of title and claims shall be recorded in the English language; yet, it is recommended in all cases of doubtful or technical expressions, that you preserve the original expression used; also, in all cases where it is desired by the claimants, that you record also true copies of entire documents in their original language. After being recorded with every proof of authentication which is offered, it is considered, that the claimants will be entitled to receive again of you their deeds or other documents. The originals, it is believed, are not required to be brought here, unless by the consent and desire of the claimants.

A doubt occurs how far it may be competent for you to administer oaths; that power is not expressly given you by law; it is there given only to those who have the right to examine and decide. Such implied powers only can be supposed to have been given you as are really necessary to enable you conveniently to receive the notices and record the evidences of the titles and claims adduced. The commissioners do not deem it necessary, at this time, to express an opinion on that point, as they are advised that you will receive commissions as justice of the peace for each of the two counties of Crawford and Brown, before your departure, in virtue of which, under the territorial laws, you will be qualified to administer all necessary oaths; and take all proper affidavits.

As it is feared (from the characteristic want of caution of the Canadian French, as it regards the presentation of their title deeds) that most of their claims will be attempted to be supported by proving continued possession, this proof will, of course, consist principally of affidavits to be taken at the time of preferring their claims, it is specially recommended to you that you attend whenever practicable, personally, to the

taking of such affidavits; that you have special regard to the prevention of all attempts at deception; and that you certify them in both your capacities of agent and justice of the peace. This form of authentication must remove all doubt as to your competency to administer oaths and will be particularly convenient also, as it will enable you to draw the affidavits in the English language.

It is not practicable for the commissioners to prescribe the period of time which, by your notices, you will assign at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, respectively, for receiving the evidences of claims and titles. The law requires *reasonable* notice; what may be deemed *reasonable* notice must depend upon the number of claimants, and the remoteness of relative situations. You must judge of it.

Though the settlement of Green Bay is spoken of by Charlevoix as early as 1720, yet it is believed the whole number of claimants there cannot exceed 150. The settlement of Prairie des Chiens is supposed to have been some thirty years later, though the number of claimants is believed to be considerably greater; but in respect to both, it is said the settlements are quite compact. All the traditionary or other information which can be procured by you concerning the origin and history of these settlements, would be very desirable, and may be of much use in the ultimate investigation of their land claims.

It is expected that from the time of your arrival at Green Bay, and entering upon the duties devolving upon you, you will keep accurate minutes of all your official proceedings.

WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE, Sec'y of Mich.,

PETER AUDRAIN, Register,

J. KEARSLEY, Receiver,

Commissioners.

To ISAAC LEE, Esq., Agent.

QUALIFICATION OF AGENT.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }

Land District of Detroit. }

I, Isaac Lee, of the said Territory, having been appointed agent for the purpose of ascer-

taining the titles and claims to land at the settlements of Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties imposed upon me by the act entitled "An act to revive the powers of the commissioners for ascertaining and deciding on claims to land in the District of Detroit, and for settling the claims to land at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, in the Territory of Michigan," according to the best of my ability and understanding. So help me God.

ISAAC LEE.

Sworn to and subscribed before us, this 8th day of August, 1820.

WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE, Sec'y of Mich.,

PETER AUDRAIN, Register,

J. KEARSLEY, Receiver,

Commissioners.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF AGENT.

To the Commissioners of the Land District of Detroit :

GENTLEMEN:—On my arrival at Green Bay, on the 24th of August, A. D. 1820, I found that the principal land claimants were absent. I gave personal notice at every house of my arrival and business, and embraced the first opportunity of a passage to Prairie des Chiens, stating to the inhabitants of Green bay that I should return and attend to their land claims in October.

On my arrival at Prairie des Chiens, October 2, [1820]. I gave personal notice at each house of my arrival and business there, and immediately commenced to take testimony, which I completed, and took my departure for Green Bay, October 24th, at which place I arrived November 16th, and found myself obliged to remain there during the winter season. The principal part of my report is contained in the records already before you.

As to the traditionary account of the first settlement of that country, and the purchase of the lands from the natives, I refer you to the depositions before you, and [to] a letter from Matthew Irwin, Esq., factor at Green Bay, to

Gov. Cass. I was requested by the inhabitants of both Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, to represent to you the situation of those whose claims would not come within the present law, with a request that you would officially represent to the general government, their situation, and endeavor to procure the passage of a law more favorable than the existing law ; as they find it difficult to prove a continual occupation for twenty-five years. The records before you contain an account of every kind of claim that came to my knowledge in the country.

With respect, yours, etc.,

ISAAC LEE, Agent.

FARM LOTS CONFIRMED.

The heirs of James Aird.....	Farm Lot No. 1
Charles Menard, for Mariame Labuche	
Menard his' wife .....	do 2
Joseph Rolette, in behalf of Jean F. Rolette.....	do 3
Joseph Rolette.....	do 4
The heirs of Felix Mercier.....	do 5
Jean Fisher Rolette.....	do 6
Magdeline Gauthier.....	do 7
Dennis Courtois.....	do 8
John Simpson.....	do 9
Joseph Rolette.....	do 10
Benjamin Cadotte.....	do 11
Michael Brisbois.....	do 12
The heirs of Claude Gagnier.....	do 13
Francois Chenneviere.....	do 14
The heir of James Aird .....	do 15
Augustus Hebert.....	do 16
Jean Baptiste Albert.....	do 17
The heirs of John Campbell.....	do 20
Antoine Lachapelle, for his wife Polise Lachapelle.....	do 25
Andrew Basin.....	do 29
Pierre Lariviere.....	do 30
Julian Lariviere.....	do 31

FARM LOTS NOT CONFIRMED.

The heirs of James Aird.....	Farm Lot No. 18
Joseph Rolette.....	do 19
Francois Vertefenille.....	do 21
Augustus Hebert.....	do 22
The heirs of Pierre Jaudron.....	do 23
James McFarlane.....	do 24
Julian Lariviere.....	do 26
John Simpson.....	do 27
Joseph Rolette.....	do 28

Jean Marie Quere.....	Farm Lot No.	32
Charles Lapointe .....	do	33
Pierre Lessard.....	do	34
Strange Poze [Powers].....	do	35
Francois Lapointe, Sr.....	do	36
Francois Lapointe, Jr.....	do	37
Michael Lapointe .....	do	38
Pierre Lessard.....	do	39
Therese Lapointe.....	do	40
Charles Lapointe.....	do	41
Joseph Lemrie .....	do	42
Thomas McNair.....	do	43

MAIN VILLAGE LOTS CONFIRMED.

Michael Bisbois.....	Village Lot No.	1
Michael Brisbois .....	do	2
Nicholas Boilvin.....	do	3
La Framboise.....	do	4
Wilfred Owens .....	do	5
Jean Baptiste Coran.....	do	7
Jean F. Rolette.....	do	8
Wilfred Owens.....	do	12
Nicholas Boilvin .....	do	13
American Fur Company.....	do	14
Michael Bisbois .....	do	15
Francois Bouthellier .....	do	16
Joseph Rolette .....	do	17
The heirs of James Aard .....	do	18
Marshal Mann.....	do	19
Charles Lapointe.....	do	20
Joseph Rolett .....	do	21

MAIN VILLAGE LOTS NOT CONFIRMED.

James McFarlane.....	Village Lot No.	22
Antoine Lachapelle.....	do	23
Francois Galorneau.....	do	24
Joseph Crete.....	do	25
No ch'antant.....	do	26
Wilfred Owens.....	do	27
Oliver Cherrier.....	do	28
Augustus Roe.....	do	29
Duncan Campbell.....	do	30
Pierre Lessard.....	do	31
Thomas McNair.....	do	32
Etienne Dyanne.....	do	33
Josep Rolette.....	do	34
John W. Johnson .....	do	35
Theodore Lupin.....	do	36
Pierre Courville.....	do	37

UPPER VILLAGE LOTS CONFIRMED.

Michael Brisbois .....	Village Lot No.	1
Benjamin Cadotte.....	do	2
Pierre Charlefeu.....	do	3
Francois Vercefeuille.....	do	4
Alexander Dumont.....	do	5

Augustus Hebert.....	Village Lot No.	6
Joseph Rivard.....	do	7
Andre Bas'n.....	do	13
Strange Poze [or Powers].....	do	14
Francois Provost.....	do	15
Jean Marie Quere.....	do	16
Pierre Lessard.....	do	17
Francois Lapointe.....	do	18
Charles Lapointe.....	do	19
Bartolome Monplaisir.....	do	20

UPPER VILLAGE LOTS NOT CONFIRMED.

Jean Marie Cardinal.....	Village Lot No.	8
Michael Perillard.....	do	9
Pierre Lapointe.....	do	10
Benjamin Roy.....	do	11
John Simpson.....	do	12

EXTINGUISHMENT OF INDIAN TITLE.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
 COUNTY OF CRAWFORD, } ss.

Be it remembered, that on this day personally appeared before me, Isaac Lee, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and agent duly appointed to ascer ain the title to lands at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, Dennis Courtois, of said county, who, after being sworn according to law, deposeth and saith that he is fifty-two years old; that he has been a resident of Prairie des Chiens twenty-nine years; that, according to the best information he has been able to obtain from the tradition of the inhahabitants of Prairie des Chiens, the old French fort was burned during the second year of the Revolutionary War; that he has no knowledge of any building or fence being erected on the same ground since that time, but that the land between the said fort and the hills or bluffs was occupied before and since the time that deponent arrived in this country; that Prairie du Chien has been formerly occupied much in the manner of an Indian village, the lands being alternately in common, and improved in detached parts as each should please, and this by the common consent of the villagers, since deponent's arrival in the country; that he (deponent) has been uniformly told by the old French inhabitants of the prairie, that it was bought and paid for by

the French many years ago; that he has never heard any Indian make claim to said lands.

DENNIS COURTOIS.

Sworn [to] and subscribed before me, this 21st of October, A. D. 1820.

ISAAC LEE,

J. P. C. C. and Agent.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD, } ss.

Be it remembered, that on this day personally appeared before me, Isaac Lee, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and agent duly appointed to ascertain the title to lands at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, Michael Brisbois, of said county, who, after being sworn according to law, deposed and saith that he, this deponent, is sixty years of age; that he has been thirty-nine years in this country; that from the best information he has been able to obtain, and from his own knowledge, Prairie du Chien, extending from the mouth of the river Wisconsin [Wisconsin] to the upper part of the prairie, has been occupied and cultivated in small improvements, in virtue of sundry claims of French people, both before and since deponent's arrival in the country; that he (deponent) has never heard of any Indian claim to said tract, except that, about eighteen years ago, the French people became somewhat apprehensive as to their title which fact being made known to the Indians, one of the first chiefs of the Fox Nation, named Nanpouis ratified at Cahokia, near St. Louis, an ancient sale of said prairie to the French; that in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-one Gov. Sinclair bought the island of Michillimackinac, Green Bay and Prairie du Chien; that this deponent saw the papers relating to said purchase executed and folded up, to be sent to Montreal or Quebec; deponent was informed on his first arrival at this place, that it derived its name from a large family called Des Cheins, who formerly resided here; that the same family, or their descendants, were at the time of deponent's arrival, and were called "Des Chiens."

M. BRISBOIS.

Sworn [to] and subscribed before me, this 21st day of October, A. D. 1820.

ISAAC LEE,

J. P. C. C. and Agent.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD, } ss.

Be it remembered, that on this day personally appeared before me, Isaac Lee, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and agent duly appointed to ascertain the title to lands at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, Pierre La Pointe, of said county, who, after being sworn according to law, deposed and saith that he is seventy years of age; that he has been forty-four years in this country, of which period he has resided thirty-eight years at Prairie des Chiens; that, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-one, this deponent was at Michilimackinac, and acted in the capacity of interpreter at the treaty held by Gov. Sinclair with the Indians, for the purchase of the islands of Michillimackinac, Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens; that during the time deponent has resided at the prairie he has never known the Indians to make claim to said tract of land as their property; that deponent was present at Prairie des Chiens and saw the goods delivered to the Indians in payment for the said prairie, by Basil Giard, Pierre Antaya and Augustin Angi, according to the stipulations of the treaty with Gov. Sinclair, above-mentioned.

PIERRE LA POINTE, his X mark.

Sworn [to] and subscribed before me, this 23d day of October, A. D. 1820.

ISAAC LEE, J. P. C. C. and Agent.

CLAIM FOR VILLAGE COMMON.

Territory of Michigan, to-wit:

I, Isaac Lee, agent appointed to receive claims to land at the settlements of Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, and to take down and receive testimony concerning them, do certify that the whole extent of the prairie on which is situated the village of Prairie des Chiens, excepting so much of it as is fenced, and in the exclusive possession of individuals, is claimed by the villagers and inhabitants of that settlement as a common appurtenant to the village, and tha

many objections were urged against some of the claims preferred, lest they should ultimately be found to encroach upon that common.

I further certify that no testimony was tendered to me to establish the said claim, as all the inhabitants residing there felt equal interest in establishing the claim, and might not, therefore, be considered competent witnesses; but that, as an individual, and in my official capacity, I made diligent inquiry in relation to this matter, especially among the oldest and most intelligent of the inhabitants; the result of which was, the most entire conviction in my own mind that, in truth, from the earliest periods in the history of this settlement, all that part of the said prairie not enclosed and in the exclusive occupancy of individuals, was, and continually has been, and is used as a common appurtenant to said village and settlement, in which all the inhabitants are acknowledged to have an equal interest.

I further certify that among the most aged of the inhabitants of the prairie, none could be found who could recollect, or who had any knowledge of the first establishment of the French there, nor could any satisfactory account be obtained by any traditions among them touching this point. The remains of what is commonly called the Old French fort are yet very distinguishable. Though capacious and apparently strong, it was probably calculated for defense against musketry and small arms only. None can recollect the time of the erection of this fort—it was far beyond the memory of the oldest; nor can the time of its erection be determined by any evidence to be obtained. Some difference of opinion seems to exist there as to the question whether it was originally built by the French or by the Spanish government. It is evidently very ancient.

ISAAC LEE, Agent.

CONTEST FOR VILLAGE LOT NO. 14.

The American Fur Company laid claim to a tract upon the "prairie," which is thus described by the agent, Isaac Lee:

VILLAGE LOT NO. 14 AMERICAN FUR COMPANY:

Entry of land made this tenth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, by John Jacob Astor, Ramsay Crooks and Robert Stewart, merchants, known by the firm [name] of "The American Fur Company," which is described as follows, viz., it being village lot number fourteen, bounded in front by Water street, on the east by the lower marais, on the north by lot numbered thirteen, claimed by Nicholas Boilvin, on the south by lot number fifteen, claimed by Michael Brisbois, and is ten rods in width and about one hundred and fifty rods in depth.

TESTIMONY.

Michael Brisbois, being duly sworn deposeth and saith that the above described tract or lot of land was occupied thirty-one years ago by John Stork, who sold to Andre Todd, who sold to John Campbell, who sold to Lewis Crawford, who sold to the Michillimackinae Company, who sold to the Southwest Company, and is now claimed by the American Fur Company, that the occupation has been kept up by the aforesaid individuals and companies for the said period of thirty-one years, or until it was taken possession of by John W. Johnson.

ANOTHER DEPOSITION CONCERNING THE SAME TRACT.

Dennis Courtois being duly sworn deposeth and saith that the aforesaid tract of land was occupied in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, by John Stork, who sold said possession to Andre Todd, who sold to John Campbell, who sold to Lewis Crawford, who sold to the Michillimackinae Company, who sold to the Southwest Company, and is now claimed by the American Fur Company; and that said claim has been occupied by the above named individuals and companies from one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three to one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, when it was taken possession of by John W. Johnson.

PROTEST.

John W. Johnson, United States' factor at Prairie des Chiens, enters, on behalf of the

United States, a protest against the granting of a final certificate, by the commissioners to the American Fur Company on their claim to a certain lot of land situated in the village of Prairie des Chiens, numbered by Judge [Isaac] Lee, the United States agent, lot No. 14, and bounded in front by Water street, in the rear by the marais, on the south by a lot claimed by Michael Brisbois, said lot being ten rods in front by about 150 in depth; and on the behalf of the United States, and for the information of the said commissioners, he further states that, on the 26th day of May, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, he, the said Johnson, arrived at Prairie des Chiens; and, on the twenty-seventh day of said month, entered into an agreement with Francois Bouthellier, agent for the Southwest Fur Company to rent the building belonging to said company and erected on said lot, as Indian factor, on behalf of the United States; that, on the twenty-first day of June following, and shortly after the departure of the said Bouthellier from the Prairie, Brigadier General [T. A.] Smith informed the said Johnson that he should no longer pay rent to the said Southwest Company for the said buildings, as he said he felt authorized in taking possession of the said buildings for the use of the United States; in consequence of which the said Johnson, as factor aforesaid, ceased to pay rent from that time, and still continues in the occupancy of the said buildings as public property; and the said Johnson further states that he has since erected other buildings and made various repairs and improvements on said lot at the expense of the United States and under the sanction of the United States Superintendent of Indian trade; the items of which said buildings, repairs and improvements, will probably amount to about three thousand dollars as will appear from the schedule hereto annexed, or as will more accurately appear by reference to the accounts rendered by said Johnson, in the office of the said Superintendent of Indian trade, at Georgetown, District of Columbia.

JOHN W. JOHNSON, U. S. Factor.

The following were the documents which accompanied the foregoing protest:

*Article of Agreement between John W. Johnson and F. Bouthellier.*

Agreed with Francois Bouthellier to rent the houses which he occupies, the property of the Southwest Company, from this day until the last day of August next, unless he thinks proper to leave them before that time, at the rate of twenty-seven dollars per month; provided, nevertheless, that John W. Johnson, United States factor, should refuse to leave the said house after giving him fifteen days notice, from the thirty-first day of July next, to pay the sum of three hundred dollars damages, if he refuses to deliver the premises without proceeding to law; in case that the said houses should be sold at Michillimackinac to be delivered before the end of August.

Made between both parties, duplicate, bona fide, at Prairie des Chiens, the twenty-seventh day of May, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

JOHN W. JOHNSON,  
F. BOUTHELLIER.

Witness: ROBERT B. BELT.

DEPOSITION OF JOHN W. JOHNSON, ESQ., UNITED STATES FACTOR AT PRAIRIE DES CHIENS.

I, John W. Johnson, U. S. factor, of lawful age, do testify and say that, on the twenty-sixth day of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, I arrived at Prairie des Chiens, in the Territory of Michigan, and, on the twenty-seventh of said month, entered into an agreement with Francois Bouthellier, agent for the Southwest Fur Company, to rent the buildings belonging to said company at said Prairie des Chiens. On the twenty-first day of June following, Brigadier General Thomas A. Smith called on me shortly after the departure of said Bouthellier, and informed me that I would no longer pay rent, as he felt himself warranted in taking possession of said buildings for the United States. I accordingly, from that time, stopped paying rent, and have occupied,



and still continue to occupy said premises as public property. I have also erected additional buildings, and made various improvements on them, at the expense of the United States and under the sanction of the Superintendent of the Indian trade.

JOHN W. JOHNSON, U. S. Factor.

Sworn [to] and subscribed before me, this twenty-first day of October, 1820.

ISAAC LEE, J. P. C. C. and agent.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM BRIG. GEN. T. A. SMITH TO MR. CALHOUN.

FRANKLIN, M. T., Sept. 2, 1819.

SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the twenty-first of July and the several enclosures. The buildings at Prairie des Chiens, for which a man by the name of Astor claims rent, was occupied by the factor, in conformity with my instructions, while in command of the ninth military department. These instructions were given after my having ascertained from the intruders at that place that the only claim they had to the soil was the permission of the Indians to reside there for the purposes of trade. These persons having in violation of the laws taken possession of public lands were subject to fine and imprisonment. *I would have destroyed the settlement, and delivered the male part of the inhabitants to the civil authority to be prosecuted for the intrusion, but for the impression that they could be made useful in provisioning a post so remote. The officer left in command was authorized to carry this view of the subject into effect whenever he should deem it expedient.\**

INDIAN OFFICE GEORGETOWN, }  
Feb. 27, 1823. }

SIR: Mr. John W. Johnson, the late factor at Prairie du Chien, has informed me that, when he established the factory at that place, he rented from one of the settlers a house for the accommodation of the factory until he could

put up buildings for the purpose; that in the meantime, Gen. Smith having taken the command at that place, considered himself authorized by his instructions to dispossess some of the settlers, and, among others, the person from whom he rented, and put him in possession of the property as public property, with directions not to pay rent. In consequence of this Mr. Johnson proceeded to put up buildings for factory, which it appears from the last returns are estimated at upwards of \$6,000. In 1820, the American Fur Company (Mr. Astor) presented a claim to the commissioners sitting at Detroit for this property. The commissioners made a partial decision, referring the final decision to the government. On this decision, the American Fur Company brought suit against Mr. Johnson for all the back rents, amounting to several thousand dollars. The court at Detroit has continued the suit, until a final decision on the claim is made by competent authority.

Observing that an act has lately passed for the adjustment of the land claims in the territory of Michigan, I have deemed it proper to make this communication, in order that you may give such instructions to the persons authorized to carry the law into effect as you may think necessary to protect the interest of the United States in this property. I am not advised of the nature of the decision of the commissioners at Detroit on this particular claim. I called at the land office, but was informed that the report of the commissioners had been sent to the Senate. It is presumed that the property will be protected by the provision in the third section of the late act. With very great respect, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE GRAHAM,

Agent.

To Hon. William H. Crawford, Esq., Secretary of the Treasury.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

Report concerning land titles at Prairie des Chiens, in the county of Crawford and territory of Michigan:

\* The Italic are the Editors of this History, to the end that attention may be particularly called by the reader to the uncertain tenure by which the people of the country held their homes in 1816.

Few difficulties have been met with by the commissioners in their investigations of these titles; they are not individually intricate. The determination of a few principles of general applicability has furnished a rule by which they have all been decided; for they rest upon long continued possession.

Notwithstanding the high antiquity which may be claimed for the settlement of Prairie des Chiens, and the very considerable numbers of which it has so long consisted, no one perfect title, founded upon French or British grant legally authenticated, has been successfully made out; comparatively but few deeds of any sort have been exhibited to us. To an American, unacquainted with the astonishing carelessness of the Canadians in respect to whatsoever concerns their land titles, this fact must seem unaccountable. It nevertheless accords with whatever is known in this regard of the French population throughout this country.

It became manifest, therefore, immediately after the commissioners were possessed of the report of the agent, that whatever claim the people of Prairie des Chiens might have for a confirmation of their land titles, must be founded upon proof of continued possession since 1796—a basis sufficiently broad to have comprehended perhaps all their claims, but for the changes which have occurred within a few years among them, and the interruptions and occasional evictions from their possessions consequent upon the establishment there, since the late war, of bodies of American troops.

Such interruptions and evictions, though frequent since the period last referred to, seem never, among the French population, to have excited a spirit of resistance, but to have been submitted to in silence. Since their ancestors were cut off by the treaty which gave the Canadas to the English, from all intercourse with their parent country, the people, both at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, have been left, until within a few years, quite isolated—almost without any government but their own.

And although the present population of these settlements are natives of the countries which they inhabit, and consequently are by birth citizens of the United States, yet, until within a few years, they had apparently, as little connection with its government as their ancestors had with that of the British. Ignorance of their civil rights, carelessness of their land titles, docility, habitual hospitality, cheerful submission to the requirements of any government which may be set over them, are their universal characteristics. With those who know them, their quiet surrender of their fields and houses upon the demand of those who come ostensibly clothed with authority, would constitute no evidence of the illegality of their titles, or of the weakness of their claims.

A few additional remarks, in conclusion, might seem sufficient to satisfy the requisition of the law, and to explain adequately the grounds of the decisions the commissioners have made. A circumstance has occurred, however, which seems to call for a more detailed exposition of their views. After [the] agent [Isaac Lee] had returned from Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, and when it seemed too late to obtain rebutting or further testimony, a caveat was filed with the commissioners, at the instance of the superintendent of Indian trade, by John W. Johnson, Esq., Indian factor, against the claim to village lot No. 14, preferred by the American Fur Company. The principles upon which that caveat is founded, and by which it is endeavored to be supported, apply with equal force to all the other land claims at Prairie des Chiens. The objections against the claim, and the documents adduced in its support, consist in this: that the settlement at Prairie des Chiens is of recent origin; that its residents have intruded upon the public land in violation of the laws of the United States, and that, in truth, the Indian title to the country in question has not been extinguished; objections which, if sustained in one case, must conclude all cases there. Upon a critical examination of this matter, so unex-

pectedly and so recently presented to them, the commissioners have not been able to discover anything in the protest of the United States' Indian factor, in the documents he has adduced, nor in his own fair and candid statement, which could sanction a doubt as to the propriety of confirming the claim set up by the American Fur Company.

It appears to have been in the spring of 1673, that Pierre [Pere] Marquette and Mons. [Louis] Joliet took their departure from the French establishment at Green bay, on a voyage of discovery up the Fox river and down the Ouisconsin [Wisconsin), to the Mississippi. This channel of communication between the great lakes and the Mississippi, from about that period, had attracted a considerable portion of public attention. The French voyagers continued afterwards generally to take that route; their Indian traders most usually did, and it is the same channel through which [Jonathan] Carver also penetrated into the Mississippi country, in 1766.

Although the commissioners have not, on this head, been able in so short a time to procure that ample and certain information which is desirable, yet it is believed that not very many years after its first discovery, in 1673, by the French, a permanent establishment was made by them at Prairie des Chiens. Vestiges of an old and strong *French* fort are still discernable there, although it is stated to have been destroyed so early as in the first years of the Revolutionary War.

When, in 1805, the late Gen. Pike was on his voyage up the Mississippi, he computed the fixed white population of the place, in the absence of the traders and those connected with them, at 370, and the total number of them at from 500 to 600. Mr. Schoolcraft, in 1820, estimates the population at 500. No evidence can be obtained from the traditionary history of the country, that, at any *one* period, that settlement has received, by emigration, any sudden and large augmentation in the number of its in-

habitants. It has never been characteristic of the French Canadian settlements to increase rapidly; and it is considered a fair inference, from all that can be learned on the subject, that, for a long and an indefinite time, its numbers have been considerable, and increasing only at a tardy pace. This consideration is supposed to be eminently corroborative of the position the commissioners have assumed of the antiquity of this settlement.

With what propriety the inhabitants of Prairie des Chiens, who were born there, and whose ancestors have for more than a century resided there, may be said to have "taken possession of the public lands in violation of the laws;"—how *they* may be said to be "intruders" who, and whose ancestors, through so many political changes, have, with the assent, expressed or implied, of each successive sovereignty, continued to inhabit the country which gave them birth, it is hard to imagine.

It has been urged against them that their only right in the soil which they occupy consists in the *permission accorded them by the Indians to remain there*. Surrounded, as that settlement always has been, by numerous hordes of ferocious savages, quite well disposed at all times to cause their power to be felt, it may perhaps be emphatically said (especially since the power of the French government here was overthrown) that its inhabitants have occupied their lands "*by permission of the Indians.*" Left with none to defend them, they must have accommodated themselves to their humors: it has from *necessity* resulted that they have been compelled to submit to their commands and however reluctantly to subserve perhaps often their vindictive views. But it is not considered that anything in their history, in such respects, detracts from the force of their present claims.

The commissioners have not had access to any public archives by which to ascertain with positive certainty, whether either the French or English government ever effected a formal extinguishment of Indian title at the mouth of

the Oniseonsin [Wisconsin]; yet the same observation, with the same truth may be made in relation to the land now covered by the city of Detroit. It is believed that the French government particularly, was not accustomed to hold formal treaties for such purposes with the Indians. And when lands have been anciently procured from them, either in virtue of the assumed right of conquest or by purchase, evidence of such acquisition is rather to be sought for in the traditionary history of the country, or in the casual and scanty relations of travelers, than among collections of State papers. Tradition *does* recognize the fact of the extinguishment of the Indian title at Prairie des Chiens by the old French government before its surrender to the English. And by the same species of testimony, more positive because more recent, it is established also that in the year 1781, Patrick Sinclair, Lieut. Gov., in the province of Upper Canada, while the English government obtained over this country, made a formal purchase from the Indians of the lands comprehending the settlement of Prairie des Chiens. In Pike's *Journal*, allusion is made to the last mentioned purchase. [Pike's *Journal*, Appendix to Part I, Page 47]. The agent [Isaac Lee] also took down some testimony concerning the same facts, which may be found in the subjoined abstracts.

Whatever purchases may thus have been made by the French or British authorities, [they] have since been sanctioned by the treaty of St. Louis, holden on the 3d of June, 1816 [between the United States and that portion of the Winnebagoes residing on the Wisconsin river]; and by another treaty (see acts of the 2d session of the 14th Congress pp. 307-309), concluded also at St. Louis, on the 24th of August of the same year. It is provided (Art. 2) that the United States relinquish to the tribes with whom that treaty was holden a certain tract of country lying north of a west line from the south bend of Lake Michigan, "excepting out of said relinquishment a tract *three leagues square* at

the mouth of the Oniseon-in [Wisconsin], including both banks," etc.; thus giving additional sanction to the allegation of a previous acquisition of the country comprehending the Prairie des Chiens settlement. For it will not escape observation, upon a reference to the treaty of the 3d of November, 1804 (U. S. Laws, Vol. 1 pp. 428), that the last mentioned treaty *does not contain a cession* of the tract thus excepted by the United States from their relinquishment. The real object of the clause alluded to in the treaty of the 3d of November, it is apprehended, was to enable the United States, in its election, to erect a fort on the west bank of the Mississippi, where the Indian title had not yet been extinguished, and where a more eligible site, it was supposed, could be selected.

If further evidence were necessary on this head, it might be found perhaps in the provisions of the 4th article of the treaty of Greenville. The settlement of Prairie des Chiens lies "east of the Mississippi: it is "west" from Detroit. It was certainly "in the possession of the French people," who, or whose children still inhabit it. It is believed to be comprehended within both the words and the spirit of the provisions of the 3d and 4th articles of that treaty.

After all, it is not deemed important (except so far as it may seem to strengthen the equity of the claimants), to establish the proposition of an early extinguishment of the Indian title. There can be no doubt but that the Indian title is now extinguished. It would be hardly admissible to suppose that the American government have been themselves guilty of an act of oppressive usurpation and violence; and yet, it cannot otherwise be if the Indian title be not extinguished—for they have erected forts and established garrisons there [at Prairie des Chiens]. It would equally violate every principle of decorum for the commissioners to suppose that they had no power, and that the people of Prairie des Chiens had no right in relation to this matter, when the law of May 11, 1820, under which they act, expressly extends

to that people all the benefits and all the rights which, in virtue of former acts of Congress, the people residing within the Detroit land district heretofore possessed in relation to their land titles; and also imperatively requires of the commissioners that they give effect to that act.

The act of the 3d of March, 1807, vested in those for whose benefit it was passed, a right to be confirmed in their claims upon the exhibition of proof of continued possession from July 1, 1796, to March 3, 1807, inclusive. The extension to the people of Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens of the provisions of that act, it is presumed, conferred upon them upon the exhibition of like proof, a like right. Proof of this tenor has been adduced by John Jacob Astor, Ramsey Crooks and Robert Stewart, co-partners under the firm [name] of "The American Fur Company," formerly styled "The Southwest Company," as well as by others whose claims they have confirmed; and the commissioners have not felt themselves justified in adopting any course of reasoning which would frustrate the object of the law from which they derive all the power they have possessed.

A majority of the commissioners have felt obliged, nevertheless, to withhold from many of the claims the sanction of their confirmation; not because those claims were less equitable, but because the proof adduced of occupancy, possession and improvement did not reach far enough back; they considered that the possession, etc., contemplated by the law, was an individual and exclusive possession from July, 1796, to March, 1807. The fact in relation to the claims not confirmed seems to have been that the lands so claimed had been immemorially occupied by the villagers in common, or as a common; and that they had not been individually and exclusively appropriated until after July, 1796.

As no dissent on the part of the villagers was at any time expressed or rather as none was proved, or attempted to be proved, one of the

commissioners was willing to deduce from circumstances appearing, a presumption of assent, equivalent to a formal conveyance. Upon such hypothesis, the present claimants combining their own exclusive possession with the antecedent occupancy of the villagers in common, under whom they might be considered to claim, would be respectively entitled, under the law, to confirmations; but a majority of the commissioners believing that such construction was at least obnoxious to much doubt felt obliged reluctantly to reject it, and, without further difference of opinion, they all resolved to present with these cases to the revising power, their respectful and most earnest petition in behalf of the unsuccessful claimants, that their claims may be confirmed. Although some of these claimants have been in the exclusive occupancy of their possessions but for a very short space of time, yet their claims are considered not the less meritorious; for those who have thus remained in possession for the shortest period would seem to have been removed from their former and older possessions, because those possessions were deemed necessary for the convenience of the troops by whose permission they have located themselves on the tracts now claimed. \* \* \*

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE,

Secretary of Michigan.

HENRY B. BREVOORT,

Register Land Office, Detroit.

J. KEARSLEY,

Receiver Land Office, Detroit.

SURVEY OF LUCIUS LYON, UNITED STATES DEPUTY SURVEYOR, 1828.

In the "Field Notes, etc., of the survey of private land claims at Prairie du Chien; the whole made in July and August, 1828, by Lucius Lyon, deputy surveyor," there is a record of the survey of the following claims:

Heirs of James Aird.....	Claim No	1
Charles Menard.....	do	2
Joseph Rolette.....	do	3

Joseph Rolette.....	do	4	Thomas McNair* .....	do	43
Phelix Mercer [or Mercier].....	do	5	Heirs of Claude Gagnier*.....	do	70
Jean Fisher [Rolette].....	do	6	SURVEY OF UPPER VILLAGE LOTS.		
Magdaline Gouthrie [Madeline Gouth- ier or Magdaline Gauthier].....	do	7	Michael Brisbois.....	Lot No.	1
Dennis Courtois.....	do	8	Francois Vertefeuille.....	do	4
John Simpson.....	do	9	Alexander Dumont.....	do	5
Joseph Rolette.....	do	10	Augustin Hebert.....	do	6
Benjamin Cadotte.....	do	11	Joseph Rivard .....	do	7
Michael Brisbois.....	do	12	VILLAGE LOTS IN ST. FRIOL [FERIOLE].		
Heirs of Claude Gagnier.....	do	13	Andrew Bazin.....	Lot No.	13
Francis Chainvent [Francois Cheune- viene, or Chenneviere, as written by Isaac Lee] .....	do	14	Strange Powers.....	do	14
Heirs of James Aird.....	do	15	Francois Provost.....	do	15
Augustin Hebert [Augustus Hebert, as written by Isaac Lee].....	do	16	Jean M. Querie.....	do	16
John Baptiste Ouilmette [Jean Bt. Al- bert, as written by Isaac Lee].....	do	17	Pierre Lessard.....	do	17
Heirs of James Aird*.....	do	18	Francois Lapointe.....	do	18
Joseph Rolette*.....	do	19	Charles Lapointe.....	do	19
Heirs of John Campbell.....	do	20	Barth. Monplaisir.....	do	20
Francois Vertefeuille*.....	do	21	MAIN VILLAGE LOTS.		
Augustin Hebert*.....	do	22	Nicholas Boilvin.....	Lot No.	13
Heirs of Pierre Jandron [or Jaudron, claimed in 1820, by Augustus Hebert,]*.....	do	23	American Fur Company.....	do	14
James McFarlane*.....	do	24	Michael Brisbois.....	do	15
Antoine Lachapelle.....	do	25	Francois Bouthellier.....	do	16
Julian Lariviere*.....	do	26	Joseph Rolette.....	do	17
John Simpson*.....	do	27	Heirs of James Aird.....	do	18
Joseph Rolette* .....	do	28	Marshal Mann.....	do	19
Andree Bazin [Andrew Basiu, as writ- ten by Isaac Lee].....	do	29	Charles Lapointe.....	do	20
Pierre Lariviere.....	do	30	Joseph Rolette.....	do	21
Julian Lariviere.....	do	31	Charles Lapointe.....	do	20
Jean M. Querie [Jean Marie Quere, as written by Lee]*.....	do	32	Joseph Rolette.....	do	21
Charles Lapointe*.....	do	33	ITEMS FROM LYON'S "FIELD NOTES," 1828.		
Pierre Lessard*.....	do	34	[1]		
Strange Powers [Poze]*.....	do	35	[Concerning the main village lots numbered		
Francois Lapointe, Sr.*.....	do	36	by the agent, in 1820, from 1 to 12 inclusive,		
Francois Lapointe, Jr.*.....	do	37	Mr. Lyon, the deputy United States surveyor,		
Michael Lapointe*.....	do	38	in 1828, says:]		
Pierre Lessard*.....	do	39	"The ground where all the Main Village lots		
Therese Lapointe* .....	do	40	up to No. 13 were situated, is now, and has been		
Charles Lapointe*.....	do	41	for several years, occupied for military pur-		
Jocham Lumiere [Joseph Lemrie as written by Lee]†.....	do	42	poses. Other lots situated in the lower part of		
			the village, were designated by the command-		
			ing officer, and taken possession of by the in-		
			habitants, in lieu of the lots thus occupied, but		
			these lots have not been confirmed." [The		
			sufferers by this were Michael Brisbois, Nich-		

\*Not confirmed by the commissioners in 1820.—Ed.

\*Not confirmed, in 1820.—Ed.

\*In 1820, not confirmed.—Ed.

†Surveyed in 1828, but not marked "confirmed."—Ed.

olas Boilvin, La Frombois, John Babbiste Coron, Jean Fisher Rolette and Wilfred Owens].

## [II.]

"The whole island formed by the slough or Marias de St Friol [Feriole] is subject to inundation. About two months ago the water was of sufficient depth for steamboats to pass in any direction over the island. The fences were swept away; the fort, was, for a time, abandoned by the troops; and the inhabitants were compelled to retreat across the slough, on to the prairie near the bluffs; retire to the lofts of the houses, or live in boats and on rafts."

## [III.]

"The surveyed village lots are level and elevated about ten feet above low water. There are houses and other buildings on all of them except No. 16. Several mounds of a character already described are also scattered over the island."—Field notes of Lucius Lyon, United States deputy surveyor, July, 1828.

## [IV.]

"Marais is the appellation which the French apply to designate a marsh, fen, bog or swamp. The word is adopted and used in the same sense by the English on the lakes and Mississippi."

## [V.]

"From the mean of a series of ten days' observation of the meridian altitude of the sun, Mars, and one of the fixed stars, the latitude of Fort Crawford appears to be 43 deg. 5 min. This, I believe, is somewhat less than the observation of Prof. Douglas and Maj. Long."

## [VI.]

"This farm [Farm lot No. 7, confirmed to the heirs of James Aird], by the description appears

to be bounded on the Mississippi; but on account of the high water, it now, and has been for several months quite impossible to determine precisely where the bank of the river is and the line is run direct to the place of beginning. The land can be of no value should there be any cut off."

## [VII.]

"There appears to have been a mistake in entering this claim [Farm lot No. 37, confirmed to Francois Lapointe, Jr.] The farm occupied is nearly twice the width mentioned in the claim."

## [VIII.]

"This claim [Farm lot No. 42] by the record of the commissioners does not appear to have been confirmed; but, as there was reason to think it had been omitted in the list through mistake, the description was inserted and I have made a survey accordingly, but have since learned that it was not occupied in 1802 [1820] nor any time previous, consequently could not have been recommended for confirmation by the commissioners."

## [IX.]

"I have surveyed this claim [Farm lot No. 43] agreeably to the confirmation by the commissioners, extending from the bluffs toward the Mississippi, but have no doubt from the concurrent testimony of the owner and every other person on the prairie, that it ought to have been in a contrary direction, up the coulee. The house and improvements on which the claim is founded are there, and it was expected the claim would cover them; but by some mistake, or design of the person who was entrusted with making out the description, it does not."

## CHAPTER X.

## FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE COUNTY.

To three Canadians of French descent belongs the honor of being the first settlers in what is now Crawford county. Their names were Basil Giard, Pierre Antaya and Augustin Ange. The year of their arrival on the "Prairie des Chiens," was 1781. Soon after them came Michael Brisbois. Pierre La Pointe took up his residence on the Prairie the next year—1782. These five men may fairly be considered the pioneers *par excellence* of Crawford county. That posterity should desire to know more of them than merely their names, who can wonder?

## OF THE FIRST FIVE SETTLERS.

Of Basil Giard there is but little to record. He did not figure in public affairs. He had a Spanish claim of three miles square allowed him by the United States, where McGregor, Iowa, is situated. He was a Canadian trader. He died in Prairie du Chien in 1819, at about seventy years of age. He left quite a family by a Sac woman. Some of his grand-children are yet living in the county.

Pierre Antaya was, as already mentioned, a native of Canada. He was a farmer. His wife had some Fox Indian blood in her veins. They raised a large family, mostly girls. Antaya died soon after the peace of 1815, between the United States and Great Britain.

Augustin Ange first came west as a *voyageur* but in time became a trader. He finally went among the Sioux of the Prairie, on the Missouri, to trade. He attended the Indian treaty at Prairie du Chien, in 1825, but returned after the treaty to his home on the upper Missouri,

where he subsequently died, and where he left a family.

Michael Brisbois was born at Maska, below Montreal, in 1760. His grandfather emigrated from Normandy. His parents were Joseph and Marguerite Brisbois. In 1775, Michael was a student in a college at Quebec. In 1779 he was in Mackinaw. He reached the "Prairie des Chiens" in 1781, probably very soon after the arrival of Giard, Antaya and Ange.

About the year 1785, Brisbois married a fair and handsome Winnebago woman. By this marriage he had three children—one was a daughter, Angellie; the others were boys, Michael and Antoine. On the 8th of August 1796, he was again married, this time at Mackinaw, to Domitelle Gautier de Verville, generally called Madelaine, daughter of Charles Gautier de Verville. Her mother, wife of De Verville, was, before her marriage, Madelaine Chevalier. The result of the marriage of Michael Brisbois to Domitelle Gautier de Verville, was a family of ten children; one of whom—B. W. Brisbois—is still a resident of Crawford county. The father died, in 1837 and is buried on the bluff overlooking the prairie.

Pierre LaPointe, as we have seen, came to the "Prairie des Chiens" in 1782. He, too, was a native of Canada. He was well educated and well informed. He was one of the best of Indian interpreters, and his services were much in quest by the traders. In 1817 he was in the employ of Joseph Brisbois, at Bad Ax. He died three or four years later, a little past seventy years of age. His wife was a sister of



the Sioux chief, Wabashaw. They raised a family. La Pointe was a sensible, good man, and servicable to the pioneer settlement in Crawford county and to the Indians.

#### NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS.

Of those who followed the five Canadians just mentioned, within a few years, and settled at the Prairie, there were : Jean Marie Cardinal, Claude Gagnier, Antoine Brisbois, Marie Souligne, Dennis Courtois, Pierre Lariviere, Jean Marie Courville, Joseph Rolette, Patage Lapierre, Nicholas Colas, Pierre Lafleur, Francois LaRoche, Francois Bellard, John Campbell, Jean Marie Guere, Nicholas Boilvin, Antoine Sicoer, Francois Bouthellier, Augustus Mason, Joseph Laplante, Francois Lavigne, Peter Antega, Augustin Hebert, Benjamin Cadotte, Francois Vertefeulle, James Frazier, Pierre Jaudron, John Simpson, M. St. Condore, Henry Monroe Fisher, Francois Provost, Robert Dixon, Joseph Senie, Joseph Crele, John Stork, Andre Todd, Michael La Bothe, Jean Baptiste Faribault, Francois Roeker, Jean Baptiste Barthelette, James Vernier, Charles Lapointe, Francois Lapointe, and a brother of the two last named ; also, one Michael Lapointe.

Of others who settled at the Prairie before the year 1829, there were Julian Lariviere, Andrew Basin, Strange Powers, (whose name was frequently written 'Poze,') Bartolome Montplaisier, Joseph Lenrie, Benjamin Roy, Francis Dease, Oliver Cherrier, Augustin Roe, Duncan Campbell, Pierre Lessard, Thomas McNair, Etienne Dionne, John W. Johnson, Theodore Lupin, Charles Menard, Felix Mercier, Francois Cheu-neviene, John Baptiste Albert, Adam Wilmot, John L. Finly, Charles Duquette, La Fombois, John Baptiste Caron, Lewis Crawford, Robert B. Belt, Alexander Dumont, Joseph Rivard, Nicholas Brisbois, Wilfred Owens, Jean F. Rolette, Marshall Mann, James McFarlane, Antoine LaChapelle, Francois Galorneau, James H. Lockwood, Theodore Lupin, Michael Perillard; M. du Choquette, Peter Barrette, Sr.

#### AN UNSOLVED PROBLEM.

There is an unsolved problem concerning the first advent of settlers to the "Prairie des Chiens"—a question which has not been settled. In 1781, Patrick Sinclair, lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada, held a treaty at Mackinaw with the Fox Indians, when the "prairie" was purchased of that tribe—but for whom, is the question? At that time, the English government had jurisdiction (and exercised it) over this whole region. Was the purchase on behalf of that government, simply to extinguish the Indian title, so that settlers could have an assurance of being undisturbed? or, did Sinclair purchase the "prairie" for himself? If neither, was it bought directly for Bazil Giard, Pierre Antaya and Augustin Ange? or, were these latter only the agents for other settlers? A satisfactory answer, however, at this late date, would not be of any particular value; as all the old settlers, finally, after the United States came into possession of the country, who had titles confirmed to them, by the general government, had the confirmation based wholly upon *occupation*.

#### WHERE THE FIRST SETTLEMENT WAS MADE.

It is a matter of some consequence to know just where, on the "prairie," the early settlers were located. As to this, there is no uncertainty. Their location was made on the Mississippi shore, about midway of the prairie, some distance above the site of what had formerly been an Indian village. Here a slough, which they designated the "Marias de St. Feriole," runs up from the river, and being generally filled with water, separates from the principal prairie a strip of lower ground nearly half a mile wide, and something more than a mile in length. Upon this tract, fronting the Mississippi, and upon the opposite border of the slough, these settlers erected their houses in separate groups, designated collectively as the village of "Prairie des Chiens," that upon the main land being long distinguished by the name of "St. Feriole." It is said that the ground at

first occupied temporarily was a little distance below; but the locality in question was settled upon as early as 1785. These occupants consisted of traders and voyagers who engaged almost exclusively in traffic with the Indians. They usually passed the winter months at the Indian villages, and during the summer transported their collection of furs to Mackinaw, returning with their canoes laden with goods for the next season's trade, and a supply of provisions. In the winter the village was half deserted, while in the summer its numbers were swelled not only by the return of its own people, but also by traders from other quarters, and by throngs of Indian visitors. The inhabitants placed little or no value upon the soil, except as a location for their village, conveniently situated for the purposes of their favorite employment; yet they found leisure to cultivate small portions of the prairie in a rude way, and occasionally a *voyageur*, wearied with his roving life, or unable longer to endure its hardships, settled down and devoted himself exclusively to farming.

The first location upon the "prairie" beyond the environs of the village was made at its upper extremity in 1788, by Jean Marie Cardinal, a hunter and trapper, who died not long afterward, and Nicholas Colas succeeded to his possessions by marrying his widow. She lived to old age, and died at the village in 1827. Tradition ascribes her the distinction of having been the first white woman in the settlement. From a statement of hers, it is probable that she came to the prairie with her husband during the course of a great flood in the Mississippi. Pierre Antaya made the second location of the description in question in 1790; Joseph Crele the third, in 1791; and Claude Gagnier the fourth, 1792—all upon the upper portion of the prairie. Dennis Courtois came to the village in 1791, and located upon the prairie two years later.

NO SETTLEMENT IN CRAWFORD COUNTY BEFORE 1781.

So much currency has been given to traditions concerning a very early date at which,

it is alleged, Prairie du Chien (and therefore, Crawford county,) was first settled, that it is here necessary to state, in substance, what these traditions are, and then give them their refutation. In this connection, it is proper to consider the following from the pen of the late Alfred Brunson:

"The first regular settlement at Prairie du Chien, other than traders, as well as I can ascertain, was commenced by a man of the name of Cardinal, who came to the country as a hunter and trapper, which must have been between 1720 and 1730. He came from Canada, with his wife, who, as far as I can learn, was the first white woman upon this prairie. He probably came with the troops who came to Green Bay in 1726, and hearing from the traders of the rich hunting grounds on the Mississippi, tried his fortune in this direction. On his first visit he ascended the river as far as Cannon river, just above where Red Wing now stands, but preferring this point to any other he saw, took up his residence here, and is said to have made the first farm upon Prairie du Chien.

"His wife, who outlived him, and it is said a dozen other men to whom she was married, one after the other, died here in 1827, computed from the best data that could be obtained, to be 130 years of age. B. W. Brisbois, Esq., who was born and raised on this prairie, heard her say that when she came to the place first, the waters were so high that they came up from the Wisconsin, next to the bluffs where the ground is some feet lower than the rest of the plain, in their bark canoe. He also heard her say that when she first came to this country, the buffalo were so thick and in such droves as to impede their progress sometimes, when they had to wait for them to cross the river before the canoe could pass in safety."

But the writer just quoted, in saying that Cardinal "must have come to the country between 1720 and 1730," bases it wholly upon the supposed fact that the flood mentioned by Mrs. Cardinal was that of 1727, he not knowing that

a similar flood occurred in the Mississippi in 1785. Besides, it is shown elsewhere in this history that the "prairie" was visited in 1766 and in 1780, and that there were no white settlers upon it at either of those dates.

Arthur St. Clair, then governor of the north-west territory, made a report of official proceedings in Illinois county from March 5, to June 11, 1790, in which he says:

"There is another communication between Canada and the Mississippi by the Wisconsin river, a little above the mouth of which is Prairie du Chien. At that place there was a considerable town, while the country was in the hands of the French. It has gone to ruin; but by that communication the British carry on all the trade of the upper part of the Mississippi, and at the Prairie du Chien, they assemble twice in every year in great numbers, frequently, I have been informed, to the amount of 500 or 600 persons. It would certainly be for the National honor that an establishment that would command that communication was made; but the great distance, and the difficulties that might attend the supporting it, will probably prevent it at present."

St. Clair had only hearsay evidence that there was, on the "prairie, a considerable town while the country was in the hands of the French." And that the report he was in possession of as to the place was entirely unreliable is shown by his next sentence: "It [Prairie du Chien] has gone to ruin."

Much has also been said about early French traders having their homes upon the "prairie" at a time long anterior to its actual settlement; especially has it been claimed that there was a trader located here soon after Joliet's discovery in 1671, of the upper Mississippi. Concerning this trader and Joliet's discovery, Rev. Alfred Brunson, in the publication already quoted from in this chapter, says:

"The third place visited and settled by white men, in what is now Wisconsin, is Prairie du Chien. But at what time the first visit or per-

manent settlement was made, is in the dark, and rather uncertain. Marquette and Joliet descended the Wisconsin river into the Mississippi, June 17, 1673. But as they sailed *down* the river, and this prairie lying *above* the junction, and being entirely hid from view at the mouth of the Wisconsin by the timber on the bottoms. I think it extremely doubtful whether they ascended the Mississippi to this point, and such a landing not being mentioned by them, it is not probable that they did so.

"Furthermore, as this prairie was then claimed by the Sioux, whose villages were over 100 miles above, there could have been no Indians at the place, unless by accident, to call their attention to it.

"In 1680, seven years later, Hennepin ascended the Mississippi, a prisoner to the Sioux. He could hardly have passed this beautiful place without noticing and stopping at it; nor is it at all probable that his captors, who were the owners of the soil, would have passed it unnoticed. But as he makes no mention of it, it is not probable that any trader or Indian village occupied the place at that date. But as he was released from captivity the next year, 1681, through the interposition of a trader, and returned to Quebec by the way of the Wisconsin river, it is probable that the trader lived at Prairie du Chien. I should infer, from the circumstances, that the trader could not have been there when Hennepin ascended the river, or he would have procured his release at that time, and sent him home. This was probably the beginning of the fur trade at this place, that is in 1681, which grew to the magnitude in which Carver found it in 1766, eighty-five years afterwards. But who this trader was is unknown. This is to be regretted, as his name might be honored by being attached to some building or public work, if it were known. As it is, Hennepin should not be forgotten, as he probably was the first white man, except the trader in question, who ever saw this place."

The trader mentioned by Mr. Brunson is now known to have been Duluth, who never resided on the "prairie," but who, having heard that some white men had been captured, started to their rescue from a point many miles north of the present location of Prairie du Chien. As is shown in another chapter, when Carver visited the "Prairie des Chiens" in 1766, it was simply and purely an Indian village. Whatever then there was of the fur trade here in 1766, was with Indians who were visited for the purposes of trade by the fur trader.

A very general way of expressing the antiquity of the settlement upon the "prairie" prevalent to this day is to say that it is as "old as Philadelphia." This "ball was set in motion" by Charles J. Latrobe, an English traveler, who was in Prairie du Chien in 1833, where, he says, he found but few Indians and these Menomonees; and then adds:

"The old French settlement of Prairie du Chien, founded the same year as the city of Philadelphia, and occupying as much ground as the penitentiary of that flourishing place, lies on the margin of the river, and consists of a few old, gray trading and dwelling houses with nothing either in architecture or position to merit further notice. It seems doomed to remain under the same spell as others of a like origin."

The report of the commissioners, Nov. 9, 1821, made to Congress (or to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States), which in another chapter is given entire, says, concerning the early settlement at "Prairie des Chiens:"

"It has never been characteristic of the French Canadian settlements to increase rapidly; and it is considered a fair inference from all that can be learned on the subject that, for a long and indefinite time, its numbers have been considerable and increasing only at a tardy pace. This consideration is supposed to be eminently corroborative of the position the commissioners have assumed, of the antiquity of the settlement [of Prairie des Chiens].

"With what propriety the inhabitants of Prairie des Chiens, who were born there, and whose ancestors have for more than a century resided there, may be said to have taken possession of the public lands in violation of the laws, how they may be said to be intruders, who, and whose ancestors, through so many political changes, have, with the assent, express or implied, of each successive sovereignty, continued to inhabit the country which gave them birth, it is hard to imagine."

This, as already indicated, was written in November, 1821; and, if the statements contained therein are facts, then the first settlement upon the "prairie" ante-dates the year 1721. But let us examine the sources of their information as to the ancestors of the people living at "Prairie des Chiens" in 1821, having resided there "for more than a century," and see, too, how many of those were residents in 1821 "were born there." The testimony of every person living on the "prairie," of any standing, was taken in 1820, to aid in establishing the antiquity of the settlement there, to the end that their land claims might be confirmed. The substance of this evidence has been published; and we look in vain for any statement indicating the residence here of any one of those testifying, or of any of their ancestors, before the year 1781. And the only one who gave testimony (and a large number were sworn) tending in the least to establish a settlement on the "prairie" before that date was Michael Brisbois. The following is his deposition in full:

"TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN }  
County of Crawford. } ss.

"Be it remembered that on this day personally appeared before me, Isaac Lee, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and agent duly appointed to ascertain the title to lands at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, Michael Brisbois, of said county, who, after being sworn according to law, deposeth and saith that he, this deponent, is sixty years of age; that he has been thirty-nine years in this country;





*W. L. Douglass*



MRS. DOUSMAN





that, from the best information he has been able to obtain, and from his own knowledge, Prairie du Chien, extending from the mouth of the river Wisconsin to the upper part of the prairie, has been occupied and cultivated in small improvements, in virtue of sundry claims of French people, both before and since deponent's arrival in the country; that he (deponent) has never heard of any Indian claim to said tract except that about eighteen years ago the French people became somewhat apprehensive as to their title, which fact being made known to the Indians, one of the first chiefs of the Fox Nation, named Nanpouis, ratified at Cahokia, near St. Louis, an ancient sale of said prairie to the French; that, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-one, Gov. Sinclair bought the islands of Michillimackinac, Green Bay and Prairie du Chien; that this deponent saw the papers relating to said purchase executed and folded up, to be sent to Montreal or Quebec; deponent was informed on his first arrival at this place, that it derived its name from a large family called Des Chiens, who formerly resided here; that the same family or their descendants were here at the time of deponent's arrival, and were called 'Des Chiens.'

"M. BRISBOIS.

"Sworn and subscribed before me, this 21st day of October, A. D. 1820.

ISAAC LEE, J. P. C. C. AND AGENT."

It will be observed that the date of Brisbois' arrival "in this country" was 1781; and that the "prairie" had been occupied and cultivated in small improvements in virtue of sundry claims of French people, both before and since" his arrival; and that the chief of the Fox Nation ratified an ancient sale of said prairie to the French, in 1802. In order to fully understand how these things could all be and yet the first settlement of the "prairie" date no farther back than 1781, it is necessary to introduce in this connection another deposition:

"TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
County of Crawford, } ss.

"Be it remembered, that on this day, personally appeared before me, Isaac Lee, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and agent duly appointed to ascertain the title to lands at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, Pierre Lapointe, of said county, who, after being sworn according to law, deposeseth and saith that he is seventy years of age; that he has been forty-four years in this country, of which period he has resided thirty-eight years at Prairie des Chiens; that in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-one, this deponent was at Michillimackinac, and acted in the capacity of interpreter at the treaty held by Gov. Sinclair with the Indians, for the purchase of the islands of Michillimackinac, Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens; that, during the time deponent has resided at the prairie he has never known the Indians to make claim to said tract of land as their property, that deponent was present at Prairie des Chiens and saw the goods delivered to the Indians in payment for the said prairie by Basil Giard, Pierre Antaya, and Angustin Ange, according to the stipulations of the treaty with Gov. Sinclair above mentioned.

"PIERRE LAPOINTE, his X mark.

"Sworn and subscribed before me this 23d day of October, A. D. 1820.

"ISAAC LEE, J. P. C. C., AND AGENT."

Lapointe, it will be noticed, says nothing about Brisbois having been present at the "prairie" when the goods were delivered to the Indians in payment for it; but he does mention who were present. And we know that Messrs. Giard, Antaya and Ange, not only come in the early part of 1781, but came to remain. The probability is, then, that they at once commenced improvements, and upon the arrival of Mr. Brisbois from Mackinaw in the fall of the same year, he found the "prairie" already occupied by these three men; so that it was true that it had been "occupied and cultivated in small improvements, in virtue of sundry claims

of French people, both before and after "his arrival there," as set forth in his deposition. As to the ratification of a sale to the French, by a Fox chief in 1802, of the "prairie," it is very evident that the sale referred to is the one made by that tribe to the French settlers in 1781, at Mackinaw, at the instigation of Gov. Sinclair.

#### EARLY CUSTOMS AND HABITS.

Enough has already been said to show that the early settlers of Crawford county were all confined to the "Prairie des Chiens;" and that a very large proportion of them were Canadian French. These inhabitants were nearly all unmarried men when they established themselves here. They adopted the customs of their Indian neighbors to some extent, and very generally formed temporary domestic alliances with females of that race. During early days an Indian mistress was installed in nearly every cabin. One after another, however, as they found opportunity to procure wives of their own race from distant places, these dusky sweethearts were discarded. These families of the mixed blood for a while greatly outnumbered the white, and traces of Indian lineage are still not infrequently met with among the descendants of these people. The settlement received considerable acceleration to its growth from this cause, and drew accessions to its numbers gradually from other French Canadian colonies. In the course of fifteen or twenty years it grew to the extent of thirty or forty houses, sheltering a population of 300 or 400. In 1805 there were sixteen houses in the principal village, half as many more at St. Feriole, and several scattered about the prairie, thirty-seven in all. The French settlement made little if any further growth of progress. In 1817 the number of houses was not more than thirty-eight. In 1820, the place is described as containing, in all, about eighty buildings, including those of the garrison, being mostly shabby constructions of logs and bark and surrounded by picket yards. The traders were

generally men of considerable wealth, for it required means to carry on their business, provide stocks of goods and provisions for long periods, and transport them hundreds of miles by oarsmen kept constantly employed for that purpose. Many of them were gentlemen. The *voyageurs* constituted a very different class; they were generally very poor, and dependent on their small wages, which barely sufficed to supply them with the simplest necessities of life. Although there was no administration of law, the will of their employers, enforced by possession of their subsistence, was very nearly absolute over them, and the distinctions of master and servant were strongly marked. The houses of the wealthy, though constructed of logs, sometimes clapboarded, yet rude and unattractive in external appearance, were comfortably, neatly and even elegantly furnished. Those of the poorer class were very inferior structures, often without floors, and with straw for a covering, while their furniture consisted of a few rude kitchen utensils, benches and other domestic requirements, equally meager. Such a state of affairs could only exist in a primitive community, far removed from the rest of the civilized world.

A sort of middle class eventually sprung up in the small farmers scattered about the prairie, who were somewhat less dependent upon the will and caprice of the aristocratic traders. They were enabled to live better than the *voyageurs* and employes of the latter, whose diet consisted chiefly of corn soup; but they were necessarily content with wooden carts, plows, and other implements, to which the team was attached by raw-hide thongs. Coffee mills were at first used for grinding. These were superseded by mills turned by hand power, the burrs being cut from native granite bowlders. Amid these conditions, apparently favorable to the development of lawlessness and violence, these people, surrounded by savage life, were remarkably characterized by docility, habitual hospitality, and a disposition

submissive to any authority assumed over them. Violent crimes were extremely rare, even when the village was the scene of drinking and carousing throngs. Upon their wintering grounds, the traders practiced many devices to overreach one another, which would generally be stigmatized as dishonorable; but on their return to the village, met and settled all difficulties over a glass of wine. Beyond these tricks of trade, they generally manifested a commendable spirit of honor, and when their word was pledged it might be safely relied on. Morality, indeed, as usually understood, was at a very low ebb, but this was largely due to necessary relations with the savages. They were destitute of schools or spiritual teachers. Their amusements were limited to rude dances, foot and horse racing, and other similar sports, copiously enlivened by the free use of intoxicating liquors. Yet instances are not wanting to show a delicate appreciation of the higher sentiments that adorn humanity. Upon one occasion, a mother whose dying babe had never received the ordinance of baptism, there being no priest within reach, in her distress sent for : justice of the peace, and with swelling heart besought his ministrations. With tearful eyes he read the baptismal service and christened the babe. The mother's gratitude touched his heart ever after with a feeling of awe whenever the event recurred to his memory.

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY IN 1805.

Maj. Pike who was on the "prairie" in 1805, as elsewhere explained, says:

"The present village of the Prairie des Chiens, was first settled in the year 1783, and the first white settlers were Mr. Giard, Mr. Antaya, and Mr. Dubuque.\* The old village is about a mile below the present one, and has existed during the time the French were possessed of the country. It derives its name from a family of Reynards who formerly lived there, distinguished by the appellation of Dogs. The

present village was settled under the English government, and the ground was purchased from the Reynard [Fox] Indians.

"The village of the Prairie des Chiens is situated about one league above the mouth of the Ouisconsin [Wisconsin] river. On the east bank of the river there is a small pond or marsh which runs parallel to the river in the rear of the town, which, in front of the marsh, consists of eighteen dwelling houses, in two streets; sixteen in Front street, and two in First street. In the rear of the pond are eight dwelling houses; part of the houses are framed, and in place of weather-boarding, there are small logs let into mortises made in the uprights joined close, daubed on the outside with clay, and handsomely whitewashed within. The inside furniture of their houses is decent, and indeed, in those of the most wealthy displays a degree of elegance and taste.

"There are eight houses scattered round the country, at the distance of one, two, three and five miles; also, on the west side of the Mississippi, three houses, situated on a small stream called the Giards river, making, in the village and vicinity, thirty-seven houses, which it will not be too much to calculate at ten persons each, the population would be 370 souls; but this calculation will not answer for the spring or autumn, as there are then, at least 500 or 600 white persons. This is owing to the concourse of traders and their engagees from Michillimackinac and other parts, who make this their last stage, previous to their launching into the savage wilderness. They again meet here in the spring, on their return from their wintering grounds accompanied by 300 or 400 Indians, when they hold a *fair*; the one disposes of remnants of goods, and the others reserved peltries. It is astonishing there are not more murders and affrays at this place, as there meets such an heterogeneous mass to trade; the use of spirituous liquors being in no manner restricted; but since the American government has become known, such accidents are much less frequent

\*This is the only statement extant crediting Mr. Dubuque with having been one of the early settlers in what is now Crawford county. It is an error.—Ed.

than formerly. The prairie on which the village is situated is bounded in the rear by high bald hills. It is from one mile to three quarters of a mile from the river, and extends about eight miles from the Mississippi, to where it strikes the Ouisconsin [Wisconsin] at the *Petit Gris*; which bears from the village south-east by east.

"If the marsh before spoken of was drained (which might be easily done), I am of the opinion it would render the situation of the prairie healthy, which now subjects its inhabitants to intermitting fevers in the spring and autumn.

"There are a few gentleman residing at the Prairie des Chiens, and many others claiming that appellation; but the rivalry of the Indian trade, occasions them to be guilty of acts at their wintering grounds, which they would blush to be thought guilty of in the civilized world. They possess the spirit of generosity and hospitality in an eminent degree; but this is the leading feature in the character of frontier inhabitants."

#### TRADITIONS AND RECOLLECTIONS OF PRAIRIE DU CHIEN.\*

Charles Brisbois, son of Michael Brisbois, was born in 1798. After the peace of 1815, he engaged in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, and returned home in 1843, after twenty-eight years' absence. He was a lieutenant in Capt. Wiram Knowlton's company, raised in the Mexican War to occupy Fort Crawford, at Prairie du Chien, while the regulars had gone to the front for service during that war; and was engaged in the removal of Indians to the west, and died of fever in the old garrison at Prairie du Chien, in 1848:

Michael Brisbois, Sr., was arrested after the war, charged with treasonable practices during the British occupation, in 1814—15, and sent to St. Louis for trial. Col. Thomas H. Benton defended him, and he was acquitted. He really took no active part in behalf of the British,

\*Adapted from an article by B. W. Brisbois and L. C. Draper, in the IXth Vol. of the Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

simply furnishing supplies, as he had to the Americans, as a mode of livelihood. He died at Prairie du Chien, in June, 1837, at the age of seventy-seven years, greatly respected. He was six feet in height and quite stout in form. His widow survived him several years.

His oldest son, Michael Brisbois, Jr., was born, doubtless, at Prairie du Chien, about 1790. He was a lieutenant in the British Indian service, and served under Col. McKay in the affairs at Prairie du Chien, in 1814, accompanying the American prisoners as far as Rock Island, whence they proceeded by themselves to St. Louis; and he also served under Lieut. Graham in repelling the Americans at Rock River Rapids. He was as unusually fine in his appearance as a man, as his Winnebago mother was as a woman; and acquired a very extensive knowledge of Indian languages, which induced Gov. William Clark, of St. Louis, superintendent of western Indian affairs, to obtain his services as Indian interpreter. About 1820 he was out deer hunting near St. Louis, and was shot by some unknown person, thus ending his days in the prime of life. He had married a daughter of Pierre Antaya, one of the early Prairie du Chien pioneers, and had a daughter. He was a man of remarkable agility; could easily jump over an ordinary tent, six feet in height. He spoke with ease and fluency all the Algonquin languages, and was very active with the Indians during the British possession of Prairie du Chien in 1814.

Pierre La Pointe's wife was a sister of the great Sioux chief, Wau-pa-sha; they raised a family. Their daughter, Mrs. Antoine La Chapelle, whom La Pointe taught to read and write, was the mother of Theophilus La Chapelle, who, in 1841—2, represented Crawford county in the Legislative Assembly, and in 1842—4, in the Legislative Council, and now, quite aged, is in the Insane Asylum at Mendota. B. W. Brisbois' wife was a daughter of Mrs. Antoine La Chapelle. La Pointe was a very sensible, good man, and greatly serviceable to

the pioneer settlement, as well as to the Indians.

Joseph Crele, who died in Caledonia, Wis., Jan. 27, 1866, was about ninety-four years old when he passed away, and not of that fabulous age as reported—so several old people at Prairie du Chien, who had long known him, agree. Mr. Brisbois has no knowledge of Crele's father having resided at Prairie du Chien. Crele was accustomed to fibbing and exaggerating his age. Once M. Brisbois, Sr., accused him of it, when he confessed his frailty in that direction, with tears. He appears to have settled at Prairie du Chien in 1791, when he must have been quite a young man.

James Aird, a Scotchman and Indian trader, was another early Prairie du Chien pioneer. He emigrated from Mackinaw. He had many trading operations with Joseph Rolette. He died not very long prior to 1820—supposed from a beard of the wild rice getting in his throat. His death occurred in a building located where the Sherman House now is. He had no family. He was over six feet in height, and was greatly respected. Mr. Brisbois has no knowledge of Aird's brother, George, mentioned in Capt. Anderson's narrative as among the traders, about 1810. He probably died not very long thereafter. The names of neither of the brothers appear among the volunteers against Prairie du Chien, in 1814.

Of the capture of Prairie du Chien by the British, in 1814, Mr. Brisbois, though only eight years old at the time, has a very vivid recollection of that notable event, and its attendant circumstances. He can, however, give no particulars of the Indian leaders. It must have been at Kickapoo river, now Wauzeka, which was the locality of a former Fox village, twenty-one miles from Prairie du Chien, that Augustin Grignon and Michael Brisbois, Jr., with a Sioux and Winnebago Indian, left the main British force under Col. McKay, and went to Prairie du Chien to procure some person to take back to the colonel, from whom he could

gain intelligence. Arriving in the night, they took Antoine Brisbois, residing three miles above the town, and brought him to the Ferry Place, on the Wisconsin, then called *Petit Gris*, some five or six miles from Prairie du Chien, where they left their canoe, and there awaited the arrival of Col. McKay. While yet in Prairie du Chien, young M. Brisbois, Jr., ventured to his father's residence, Michael Brisbois, Sr., and mounted a fence near by, to get as good a view as he could of one of the American gun-boats. Those on the boat, noticing his too inquisitive observations, fired a rifle shot at him, the ball passing between his legs and lodging in his father's house. This was not far from the American Fort, and near the present Dousman residence.

Mr. Brisbois thinks Joseph Rolette was quite active during these operations. He was stationed on "the Point," some two-thirds of a mile above the fort, and was fired on by the Americans under Lieut. Perkins, from the fort on the mound. Thinks Capt. Yeizer, who commanded the gun-boats, was cowardly; he cut the cables and left; otherwise the British could have been repulsed; and being thus left without the aid of the gun-boats, Lieut. Perkins was compelled to surrender his fort to the British forces. Most of the citizens, Mr. Brisbois thinks, joined the British. Of the American cannon balls found in recent years, Horace Beach, of Prairie du Chien, has one, and the late Mrs. Dousman had two—fired from a three-pounder, and lodged in a ridge nearly a mile from the fort, up the river, near where Rolette's party were stationed. Yeizer had several cannon on the gun-boats, and was *said* to have had 250 men; while the British had only one small cannon. Although there was much firing on both sides prior to the surrender, yet the actual damage was slight, the British and Indians suffering no loss. Capt. Rolette was sent with dispatches to Mackinaw; and when his boat hove in sight of that island garrison, large numbers thronged the shore, anxious to obtain the earliest tidings from Prairie du Chien. "Capt. Rolette, what's the news?"

"A *great battle—a sanguinary contest*," responded the heroic Rolette, with an air of great solemnity and importance. "How many were killed?" "None." "How many wounded?" "None." "What a bloody contest!" vociferously shouted the crowd, as they escorted the hero from the boat to the garrison.

While the British held Prairie du Chien, Antoine Dubois and one Champignier were sent several miles into the woods, to procure a supply of meat for the garrison, as related by Capt. Anderson. They were both shot by a treacherous Sioux, at one discharge, killing Champignier outright and mortally wounding Dubois. The latter made a trail of gun-powder, some five feet from the dead body of his companion, completely encompassing it, well knowing it would prove a protection against wolves; and then made his way, as best he could, to Prairie du Chien. This murderous attack on the two unsuspecting Frenchmen occurred in Girard's Coulee, some five or six miles west of the Mississippi. When a party repaired to the spot from Prairie du Chien, some thirty persons in all, including several youths not over fourteen years of age, they found Champignier's body untouched by the wolves, though the tracks of these animals were *plenty* outside of the powder lines, but none *within*.

Two Sioux chiefs were apprehended, and confined in the fort as hostages until the culprit should be found; he was soon brought in, when the chiefs were released. The condemned Sioux was shot by six men, selected for the purpose, all firing a platoon together, just a little south of Dousman's mound, at the streets where Mr. Dousman commenced a pond. Mr. Brisbois witnessed this execution, as did indeed the whole garrison, the inhabitants of the village, and such Indians as were present. The doomed Sioux had no sympathizers. The wounded man, Dubois, lived some three days. Rolette's first wife was a sister to this unfortunate man; and, it may be added, Dubois's wife was a sister of the famous Sioux chief, Wau-pa-sha. LaPointe,

as already stated, had also married a sister of this noted warrior.

When it was known that peace had been made between the United States and Great Britain, the British evacuated Prairie du Chien. In the succeeding night there was a meteoric shower, and the same night the fort burned down causing its total destruction. It was quite generally supposed that it was set on fire by some of the British party, though some pretended it was caused by some stray meteor from the heavens.

Francis Michael Dease, an old trader, is remembered by Mr. Brisbois. He was rather above the common size, with dark hair, and was fond of children. Capt. Dease shared in the capture of Prairie du Chien in 1814. He appears at this period to have filled the double position of sub-Indian agent under Col. Dickson, and captain of the militia of Prairie du Chien. His life was mostly devoted to the Indian trade, and he was engaged in both the North West Fur Company, and the Hudson's Bay Company service. He was never married, and died on Red River, now Manitoba, Aug. 15, 1865, at the age of seventy-nine years.

Of Col. Robert Dickson, the British leader of the Sioux, Winnebagoes and Menomonees, Mr. Brisbois has a good remembrance. He had a red head and a red face. When at Prairie du Chien, he always stopped with Mr. Brisbois, Sr., he would bring newspapers with him, and was a great reader.

Though he knew Capt. Duncan Graham, Mr. Brisbois can give no particulars of his career. He was a small sized man, quite unassuming, upright in his intercourse with his fellow-men and highly respected.

He was the father-in-law of Alexander Fari-bault, lately deceased, who was the founder of the flourishing town that bears his name. Capt. Graham was an officer in the British Indian department, and was present in command of a party of Dakota or Sioux warriors, composing a portion of the force that was defeated by Col.

Croghan, at Lower Sandusky, in 1813. He became a citizen of the United States subsequent to the war, and traded with the Sioux Indians for many years; he died in 1844, or 1845, at Wabasha, where he had been living with his son-in-law, Joseph Buisson. He must have been seventy-five years old or more at the time of his demise; and for several years previously had passed his leisure days in going from one part of this wild region to another, being a man of remarkable physical vigor, although of slight build.

The crop of 1819 having failed in Lord Selkirk's colony on Red river, Duncan Graham, with one Laidlaw, was employed in the spring of 1820 to conduct three boats from Prairie du Chien, laden with 200 bushels of wheat, 100 bushels of oats and thirty bushels of peas, to Pembina. This timely supply cost Lord Selkirk about \$6,000.

Capt. Graham was a native of the Highlands of Scotland, descending from a good family. He appears to have shared with Robert Dickson and the Indians in the campaign of 1813 on the Maumee, and at Fort Stevenson, and the next year at Prairie du Chien, and the Rock River Rapids. He married a half-breed Dakota woman—a descendant of Penechon, a noted Sioux chief, said to have been the son of a white trader of that name, who lived on the eastern shore of Lake Pepin—and as the Indians used to relate, the first white man ever seen by their ancestors. Capt. Graham had one son, Alexander, and four daughters, the latter marrying respectively: Alexander Faribault, James Wells, Joseph Buisson and Oliver Cratt. For his war services, Capt. Graham was granted lands in Canada, which from litigation never realized him anything. He is said to have been the first white man who penetrated so far in the northwest as the Devil's Lake, in Dakota, an island in which was named after him.

At a very early period, one Grant was said to have penetrated the country on what is now Grant river, discovered lead there, ruined some

of it and buried the mineral. He went away, and never returned for it. As late as 1827, Joseph Brisbois, B. W. Brisbois and Julian Larriviere went in quest of the hidden mineral searching all along to the head of the river, but found none. B. W. Brisbois used to hear his father speak of Grant. Mr. Brisbois has no further traditions of him. Grant river took its name from him, and his early lead discovery there, and Grant county took its name from the river.

Wau-pa-sha, the distinguished Sioux chief, derived his name in part from wau-pa, leaf, called The Leaf, or Red Leaf. The French called him La Feuille, The Leaf—sometimes The Falling Leaf. His village was at the present locality of Winona. He was a full blooded Sioux, rather small in size, with a Roman nose, and Caucasian countenance. Once when cutting a willow, his knife caught, and accidentally destroyed one of his eyes, and he ever after wore a black handkerchief over that half of his face. He died of small-pox, at Prairie du Chien, in the fall of 1835.

One of the Car-imau-nee family of Winnebagoes was known as Tete de Chien, or Dog's Head. He lived in 1827, at English Prairie, now Muscoda. He was a prominent man, of considerable good sense and very honest. The Indians cultivated some fields there, and lived there as one of their changeable localities. Lawence Rolette, a brother of Joseph Rolette, had a trading establishment at that locality.

Pierre Pauquette related to Mr. Brisbois this incident: Once Gov. Doty was traveling with an Indian, and pointing to Fox river, asked its native name. Supposing the governor meant the element, and not its particular geographical name, the Indian responded "Nee-nah," water. Doty not doubting that he had now learned its aboriginal name, endeavored to have it restored, but did not succeed to any great extent. Pauquette cited this as a case in point, showing how geographical blunders sometimes occur.

Baribault, was the name of an old Canadian French trader, who had his trading post on what is now known as Baraboo river, and which stream took its name from him. As Mr. Brisbois, Sr., knew him well, and often spoke of him, he must have traded there the latter part of the last century, or early in this. Mr. Brisbois does not know what became of him, or anything further of his history.

#### SETTLERS BETWEEN 1820 AND 1840.

Judge James Duane Doty became a resident of Prairie du Chien in the fall of 1823, but removed to Green Bay the following year. Hercules L. Dousman came in 1826, in the employ of the American Fur Company. Joseph M. Street came to the place as United States Indian agent, in 1828, and remained until some years after the Black Hawk War, when he was transferred elsewhere. In 1830, Thomas P. Burnett came to Prairie du Chien as sub-Indian agent, and removed into Grant county, seven years after. I. P. Perrit Gentil became a resident in 1832. J. T. Mills came to the prairie in 1834, as a tutor in the families of Col. Zachary Taylor and Joseph M. Street. Some men who were stationed here in the military service of the United States, made selections of eligible locations within a short distance of the prairie, to which they returned after their term of service had expired; among whom may be mentioned Edward Hughes, John McClure, J. P. Hall and Daniel Frost.

In 1835, after the removal of Gen. Joseph M. Street, Indian agent, to Rock Island, and the Rev. David Lowry to his Indian school, there were but four American families (strictly such) remaining in Crawford county outside of Fort Crawford; and these four—all on the prairie—were those of J. H. Loekwood, Samuel Gilbert, Ezekiel Tainter and John Miller. There was one Irish family and three or four discharged soldiers, who had concluded to make the Prairie their home. All the remainder in the county were of French and mixed blood.

There were, in all, about 500 souls, not including those in Fort Crawford.

In 1836, John H. Folsom came to the Prairie, and remained here until December, 1839, when he removed to what is now the town of Eastman. He remained there until May, 1840, when he returned to Prairie du Chien, where he has ever since resided. Rev. Alfred Brunson reached Prairie du Chien, July 16, 1836. There also, this year, came E. W. Pelton, William and James Fisher, Milo Richards and John Thomas.

In the fall of 1836, the total population outside of Fort Crawford, was 537 in the county, including one slave. The names of the heads of families, and the number in each family, were as follows:

NAME OF HEAD OF FAMILY	White Males.	White Females.	Total.
Samuel Gilbert.....	9	4	13
Antoine La Chapelle.....	5	2	7
Piere La Chapelle.....	4	1	5
J. H. Lockwood.....	2	3	6*
Joseph P. Mills.....	1		1
Henry Curtis.....	1		1
John Miller.....	6	3	9
John Molston.....	2	2	4
William S. Lockwood.....	1		1
Thomas P. Burnett.....	1		1
Richard Curtis.....	4	5	9
Edward Hughes.....	2	2	4
Ezekiel Tainter.....	3	5	8
Allen Hill.....	2	3	5
H. L. Dousman.....	15	1	16
Thomas P. Street.....	2	1	4†
Charles Menard, Sr.....	3	3	6
Francis Gaffno.....	2	5	7
Antoine Rabonad.....	1		1
Peter Loambare.....	1		1
Peter Grimard.....	2	4	6
Dennis Courtis.....	5	2	7
Fredrich Stramb.....	5	4	9
Francis Larrivier.....	1	1	2
Louiser Revoir.....	2	1	3
John Limery.....	2	4	6
Isaac Harrison.....	1		1
Joseph Martin.....	5	1	6
Francis Chenneviere.....	6	3	9
Baptiste Larrivier.....	4	4	8
Charles Minare.....	5	3	8
Joseph Dunsau.....	1	2	3
John Colton.....	2	2	4
Joseph Thomas.....	2	4	6
Liman Frost.....	2	1	3
Jettedier P. Hall.....	4		4
James Gilbert.....	3		3
Charles Antoine.....	5	7	12
Francois Provost.....	1	3	4
George Brisbois.....	3	1	4
Joseph Brisbois.....	7	1	8
Michael Brisbois.....	3	3	6
Pierre Larivier.....	3	1	4
Julien Larivier.....	4	4	8
Baptiste Larivier.....	2	1	3
Louis Barrette.....	3	2	5
Pierre Barrette.....	6	1	7
Hyaclnth Lapoint.....	1	2	3
Maria Lapoint.....	3	1	4
Louise Querie.....	1	1	2



NAME OF HEAD OF FAMILY.	White Males.	White Females.	Total.	NAME OF HEAD OF FAMILY.	White Males.	White Females.	Total.
Alexis Cowhevier.....	1	1	2	A. Hagen.....	1		1
Baptiste Gauthier.....	1	1	2	J. Hidy.....	1		1
George Fisher.....	4	2	6	William Hayley.....	1		1
Strange Powers (Poze).....	3	5	8	G. Genthery.....	1		1
Isaac P. P. Gentil.....	2	1	3	A. Burnett.....	1		1
Francis Lapoint.....	5	6	11	J. Vauahin.....	1		1
Augustin Buisson.....	1	1	2	M. Fitzpatrick.....	1		1
Abraham Prepagnier.....	2	1	3	H. Lane.....	1		1
Tunis Hell.....	1	1	2	J. Marecinstire.....	1		1
Joseph Demerlor.....	6	3	9	Joseph Benson.....	1		1
Margaret Davis.....	2	4	6	D. Frost.....	1		1
Joseph Labat.....	4	3	7	Alonzo Jefford.....	1		1
Margaret Cambell.....	2	5	7	H. S. Allen.....	4		4
John Bruner.....	3	1	5 <sup>‡</sup>	H. H. Sibley.....	1		1
Joseph Rolette.....	8	6	14	J. B. Brown.....	1		1
H. Hermaringer.....	4	1	5	Alexander Famboust.....	1		1
Jules Sleepach.....	1	5	6	P. Allard.....	1		1
Joant St. Cyr.....	4	7	11	J. Boefsean.....	1		1
Issac Monrow.....	2	2	4	M. L. Brine.....	1		1
James Reed.....	1	5	6	Joseph Lord.....	1		1
William Wilson.....	2	1	3	L. Lisabell.....	1		1
Exevier Brizzet.....	1	1	2	Louis Martin.....	1		1
Joseph Ruse.....	2	2	4	Joseph Bouscan.....	1		1
Ellen Grenio.....	2	3	5	Joseph Brillard.....	1		1
Thomas Hore.....	2	5	7	E. Lanitor.....	1		1
Oliver Cherrier.....	6	5	11	J. Moore.....	2	2	4
John Miller.....	6	3	9	J. B. Dallam.....	2		2
Charles Lapoint.....	3	3	6	Silas Holloway.....	1		1
Arcange Gallierneau.....	3	3	6	William Holloway.....	1		1
Jeremiah Quin.....	1	2	3				
Whiteside Argus.....	1	2	3	Total.....	337	196	537
Betsy Hawkins.....		2	2				
Richard Hartwell.....	1		1	The number of officers and men stationed at Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien in W. T. 206			
Christofer Antoyer.....	1		1	Women at do do do do do do do do	13		
Era Putman.....	1		1	Children do do do do do do do do	23		
John Dunlap.....	1		1	Slaves of both sexes do do do do do do do	17		
William Parsons.....	1		1				
Marie Postnot.....	1		1	Total.....			850
I. Dourille.....	1		1 <sup>§</sup>				
L. Cardinal.....	1		1	* 1 Male slave.			
I. Dourille Fillion.....	1		1	† 1 Female slave.			
L. Shurena.....	1		1	‡ 1 Free colored male.			
Oliver Landrich.....	1		1	§ 1 Free colored female.			
J. B. Noro.....	1		1				
Joseph Morisette.....	1		1				
Joseph Moquin.....	1		1				
Joseph Champigne.....	1		1				
Joseph St. Cyr.....	1		1				
S. Harthe.....	1		1				
Benjamin Brandrich.....	1		1				
Joseph Godfrey.....	1		1				
Alexander Garlepie.....	1		1				
G. M. Ganlin.....	1		1				
Francis St. John.....	1		1				
Barnard W. Brisbois.....	2	2	4				
Alexander Dupine.....	1		1				
P. Felix.....	1		1				
A. Martin.....	1		1				
C. McNillage.....	1		1				
John Cambell.....	1		1				
B. Marshall.....	1	1	2				
John P. Finly.....	1		1				
Elisha Brown.....	1		1				
Charles Bruce.....	1		1				
John Vale.....	1	1	2				
S. Shimmerhorne.....	1		1				
J. Griffin.....	1		1				
Nathaniel Manning.....	1		1				
Thomas—(Name crumbled out).....	1		1				
George—.....	4	1	5				
Joseph McDorn.....	1		1				
H. Colbert.....	1		1				
A. Lemmons.....	1		1				
J. Thompson.....	1		1				
John Penell.....	1		1				
S. Hudson.....	1	2	3				
William Shuster.....	1		1				
Samuel Lamb.....	2	1	3				
J. H. Dermerer.....	3	4	7				
L. Dermerer.....	3	5	8				
D. Cambell.....	1		1				
J. Pitt.....	1		1				
C. Noble.....	1		1				
J. Searly.....	1		1				

The number of officers and men stationed at  
Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien in W. T. 206  
Women at do do do do do do do do 13  
Children do do do do do do do do 23  
Slaves of both sexes do do do do do do do do 17  
Total..... 850

\* 1 Male slave.  
† 1 Female slave.  
‡ 1 Free colored male,  
§ 1 Free colored female.

PRESENT RESIDENTS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, WHO  
WERE LIVING HERE IN 1836:

Town of Prairie du Chien: Edward Hughes,  
John McClure, Felicite Duseaum, Flavian Cher-  
rier, Louis Stram and wife.

City of Prairie du Chien: Mrs. Peter Grim-  
mard, John H. Folsom, Charles Menard, O. B.  
Thomas, Oliver Cherrier, Mrs. Julian Lariviere,  
B. W. Brisbois, Mrs. Laramie, Joseph Duneau  
and Louisa Dechamp.

Town of Eastman: Nicholas Chenevert, Comb  
Cherrier, Mrs. Comb Cherrier, James Fisher  
and William Fisher.

Town of Bridgeport: Theresa Barrette.

Of these, four were born in Crawford county:  
Theresa Barrette in 1805; Louisa Dechamp and  
Mrs. Julian Lariviere in 1807; and B. W. Bris-  
bois in 1808.

## SETTLERS IN 1837, '38 AND '39.

In 1837 the following persons became settlers in the county: Alexander McGregor, Seth Hill, S. A. Clark, George W. Pine, Messrs. Smith and Merriek, Thomas Bugbee, Dr. B. C. Miller, Levi R. Marsh, D. Hopkins, H. W. Savage and Thomas A. Savage. Following these during the next two years were: William Wright, W. H. C. Folsom, Elisha Warner, William Kurts, Jackson Foster, Mr. Revel, Christopher Bowen, Joseph Curley, Mr. Tyler, Richard Lane, James Foster and others.

## PIONEER TIMES.

The character of the pioneers of Crawford county was a compound of civilization and primitive simplicity, exhibiting the polite and lively characteristics of the French, and the thoughtlessness and improvidence of the aborigines. Possessing the virtues of hospitality, and the warmth of heart unknown to residents of cities, untrameled by the etiquette and conventional rules of modern "high life," they were ever ready to receive and entertain their friends, and more intent upon the enjoyment of the present than to lay up store, or make provision, for the future. With few wants, and contented and happy hearts, they found enjoyment in the merry dance, the sleigh-ride, and the exciting horse-race, and, doubtless, experienced more true happiness and contentment than the plodding, calculating, and money-seeking people of the present day. This was the character of the settlers who occupied this country before the arrival of the Yankees; a class now entirely extinct, or lost sight of by the present population; but it is one which unites the present with the past, and for whom the old settlers entertain feelings of veneration and respect.

H. S. Baird says:—"During the early years of my residence here at Green Bay, the *social circle*, although limited, was by no means insignificant. It was composed of the families of the garrison and the Americans, and several of the old settlers. If it was small, it was also united by the ties of friendship and good feel-

ing. Free from the formalities and customs which are observed by the *elite* of the present day, we met to enjoy ourselves, more like members of one family than as strangers. The young people of that period (and all felt young then) would assemble on a few hours' notice at the house of a neighbor, without form or ceremony. Young ladies were then expected to appear at an early hour in the evening, and not at the usual hour of retiring to rest; nor were they required to appear in court or fancy dresses. The merry dance followed, and all enjoyed themselves until the early hours in the morning. One custom prevailed, universally among all classes, even extending to the Indians; that of devoting the holidays to festivity and amusement, but especially that of 'calling' on New Year's Day. This custom was confined to no class in particular. All observed it; and many met on that day, who did not again meet until the succeeding year. All then shook hands, and exchanged mutual good wishes. All old animosities were forgotten, all differences settled, and universal peace established.

"During the winter season, Green Bay was entirely insulated. Cut off from communication with all other parts of the civilized world, her inhabitants were left to their own resources for nearly half a year. The mails were few and far between. Sometimes but once a month, never more than twice, did we receive them; so that the *news* when received here was no longer *news*. The mails were carried on a man's shoulders from Chicago to Green Bay, through the wilderness, a distance of about 250 miles, and could not contain a very great quantity of interesting reading matter. Under such circumstances, it became necessary that we should devise some means to enliven our time, and we did so accordingly; and I look back upon those years as among the most agreeable of my life. The country at that early day was destitute of roads or places of public entertainment. Nothing but the path, or 'Indian trail' traversed the wide expanse of forest and prairie from Lake

Michigan to the Mississippi; and the travel by land was performed on foot or on horseback.

“But there was then another mode of locomotion, very generally adopted by those who took long journeys, now become obsolete, and which would be laughed at by the present fast-going generation; that of the Indian or bark canoe. The canoe was used in all cases where comfort and expedition were desired. These may appear strange words, when you reflect that the traveler sat cooped up all day in a space about four feet square, and at night encamped on the bank of the stream, cooked his own supper, and slept upon the ground, with no covering but a tent and blanket, or, oftentimes, nothing but the wide canopy of heaven, having, after a day of toil and labor by his crew, accomplished a journey of thirty or forty miles. But these journeys were not destitute of interest. The *voyageur* was enlivened by the merry song of his light-hearted and ever happy Canadian crew, his eye delighted by the constant varying scenery of the country through which he passed, at liberty to select a spot for his encampment, and to stop when fatigued with the day’s travel, and, above all, free from care, and from the fearful apprehensions of all modern travelers on railroads and steamboats; that of being blown up, burned or drowned.

“I can better illustrate this early mode of travel by giving an account of a party of pleasure undertaken and accomplished by myself. In May, 1830, being obliged to go on the annual circuit to Prairie du Chien, to attend court, I concluded to make it a matter of pleasure, as well as business. I accordingly obtained a good-sized and substantial northwest bark canoe (about five fathoms, or thirty feet, in length, and five feet wide in the center), a good tent, or ‘marquee,’ together with mattresses, blankets, bedding, mess basket, and all things required as an outfit on such expeditions. The party consisted of my wife, self, two small children, two young ladies as companions, and a servant girl; my crew, of four Canadians (experienced

men, and good singers) and two Menomonee Indians as bow and steersmen. The canoe was propelled both by oars and paddles. We ascended the Fox river to Fort Winnebago, and descended the Wisconsin to the Mississippi, and thence up the latter, four miles, to Prairie du Chien.

“The voyage occupied eight or nine days in going, and about the same length of time in returning, during which the ladies camped out every night save two. They did all the cooking and *household* work. The former was no small item; for with appetites sharpened by pure air and exercise, and with abundance of fresh venison, with fowl and fish to satisfy them, the quantity of viands consumed by the party would have astonished modern epicures, and, perhaps, shocked the delicate tastes of city belles. We frequently encamped early in the afternoon, at some spot which attracted our attention from its natural beauty or romantic appearance, and strolled along the bank of the stream, plucking beautiful wild flowers, which abounded; or, clambering up some high bluff or commanding headland, obtained a view of the surrounding country, and traced the meandering stream through its high banks, far in the distance. It was in the merry month of May, when the forest was clothed in its deepest verdure, the hills and prairies redolent with flowers, and the woods tenanted by melodious songsters. It was truly a trip of pleasure and enjoyment. Many trips for pleasure have been undertaken, where parties may have experienced the refinements and accommodations, and enjoyed the luxuries to be found in the present day in old and long settled countries; but I believe few, if any, realize more true delight and satisfaction than did this party of pleasure in a bark canoe.”

As time passed along, many changes took place. Other men and their families came in, and became a part and parcel of the community, introducing new ideas, and bringing with them the customs and habits of the places from which they removed. The title acquired by

the government, by treaties with the Indians, and these lands being surveyed and brought into market, and offered at a mere nominal price, increased the number of settlers from the eastern and other States. By energy and perseverance, they surmounted all obstacles, and by their courage and firmness; and to them is owing the development of the country, the opening the way for the introduction of civilization, education, and the arts and sciences; and to them should be awarded the merit of having largely contributed, by their talents and labor, to the formation and organization of the territory, now State of Wisconsin. Not many years ago, the whole State of Wisconsin, except Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, was a wilderness, with here and there a settler, and those in the lead-region in the southwestern part. It seems almost incredible to think, or in any way realize what has since taken place, as it seems almost like enchantment.

But the delights of pioneer life carried with them many difficulties and hardships. C. M. Baker, in his address at the old settlers' meeting of Walworth county, in 1869, says:

"I have spoken of the men who first settled old Walworth; but what, old comrades in this life-battle in the wilderness that was, what of our companions, the women?

"Most of them had been delicately reared, and were accustomed to the luxuries and refinements of cultivated society; and most, or all, had good homes, with the necessaries and conveniences of life in abundance, and were surrounded by kind friends and dear relatives. To these they had been bred; to all these they were strongly attached. But these ties were sundered, these homes were left behind, when, after the last trunk was packed, and the last farewell was sadly uttered, they set their faces westward for a new life and a new home, they knew not whither; but they knew it must be among strangers. They shared with us the toils of the journey, the weary miles of sunshine and storm, as we journeyed on and onward.

They partook with us of the coarse fare and rude accommodations of the wagon and way-side, the canal-boat and the steamer, the log-tavern, and the bivouac under the open heavens, all this they encountered without murmuring, and cheerfully.

"And when, late in autumn or early spring, it may be, in the cold storm, or driving mists and chilly winds that cut to the bone, they took their departure from Chicago or Milwaukee, the last outposts of civilization over those low, lonely prairies which surrounded the one, or through the gloomy forests which enveloped the other, over dismal roads beset with ruts or stumps, without sign of cultivation or human habitation, then it was that the hour of bitter trial came to their hearts; then it was, that, amid their loneliness and utter heart-desolation, the dear homes and kindred they had left, rose up before them, and, through their tears, they looked down upon the little ones who clung to them. But not a murmur, not a word of regret or repining, escaped them. The feelings, too deep for utterance, which swelled within them, were smothered in their bosoms. When we, at last (some later, some earlier), had found a place where to make a home in these pleasant groves and prairies, pleasant to us men; for here there were herds of bounding deer, and flocks of wild fowl, the wolf and the sand-hill crane, and game, large and small, to give us sport. The lakes and streams abounded in fish, and we could take them at our will. The country was all open, and free to roam over as one great park. There was excitement for us in all this, suited to our rougher natures and coarser tastes. We could roam and fish or hunt as we pleased, amid the freshness and beauties of nature.

"But how was it for our wives? From all these bright, and, to us, fascinating scenes and pastimes, they were excluded. They were shut up with the children in log-cabins, when they were fortunate enough to get them, rude huts, without floors often, and, not unfrequently,

without doors or windows, while the cold, bleak winds of March and December whistled through them. Frequently they were covered with shakes fastened on with poles, between which the stars at night looked down upon the faithful mother and her sleeping infants. Here, in one small room, filled, perhaps, with smoke; without furniture, except a little of the rudest kind, rough slab stools, an equally rough table, and a bedstead, if any, made of poles fastened into the house; without kitchen-utensils, save, perchance, a kettle, a skillet, and a frying-pan; destitute of crockery, and with a little tinware, they were called upon to do, unaided, the duties of a housewife. With these conveniences and these surroundings, they took upon them for weeks and months, and even for years, the burden of their households in a continued struggle with hinderances and perplexities. These were the heroic women to whom our hearts did homage; and I should fail in my duty at this time, if, in the roll-call of worthy and honorable names, they should not be remembered."

The experience of the settler in Walworth county, however, was no worse, and in some respects better than those who lived farther in the interior of the State. Many of these pioneers have passed away; some are still living, and are enjoying, in the evening of their days, wealth, and the comforts obtained by honorable toil and industry. Their conduct and action as public servants will bear the scrutiny of posterity, and they will lose nothing in comparison with legislators or rulers of the few past years. May those who succeed them in either capacity follow their example, and prove as true to the interests of the State, as did the old settlers in their time! and may the present and future Legislatures, by their acts, retrieve the character and credit of the country from the odium brought upon it by reckless and inconsiderate Legislation!

#### INCIDENTS OF PIONEER HISTORY.

In 1820, an expedition of three Mackinaw boats, with six men each, was fitted out for the

Selkirk settlement on the Red river of the north. The boats were loaded with wheat, oats and peas, and started April 15th from the "prairie." The following year, Lord Selkirk purchased cattle at the "prairie" and had them sent to the colony under the guidance of J. B. Loyer, a noted pilot of the place. In 1823, the *Virginia* steamboat, the first one to reach Crawford county, landed at Prairie du Chien. In 1826, occurred the highest flood in the Mississippi that had then been seen since the year 1785. The river rose twenty-six feet inundating the site of the old village. The cholera in 1832 reached the county and about 100 soldiers died in two weeks in the garrison at Prairie du Chien. In 1833, smallpox broke out, but did not extend greatly among the white inhabitants, although it made serious ravages among the Indians. In 1836, in Crawford county (confined of course to the "prairie") speculation ran wild—as in many other places in the west."

"There were but few Americans in this settlement," says Alfred Brunson, "previous to the occupancy of the fort by the United States army in 1816. In 1805, Lieut. Pike found a few Americans here; but the most of the traders and settlers were Canadian French. When I moved my family to this place in 1836, there were but three or four American families in the place, out of the garrison and the Indian department. At that time the Indian title had not been extinguished to any portion of the country north of the Wisconsin, except to this prairie, as above stated by common consent.

"In 1830, or thereabout, Judge J. H. Lockwood, under a license from the war department and by consent of the Sioux, to whom he paid an annual ground rent, built a saw-mill on the Red Cedar branch of the Chippewa, at which establishment some gardening, but no farming was done. In 1838, after the treaties with the Indians of 1837 had been ratified, one company ascended the St. Croix to the Falls; another to the Falls of Chippewa; and in 1839, another

company went to the Falls of Black river—all of them to build and run saw-mills. But each became the nucleus of more extended settlements, which have been extending themselves wider and wider, until they settled a part of Minnesota, which has been taken from us; and the counties of Lapointe, St. Croix, Chippewa, La Crosse and Bad Ax, which have been organized from the western portion; and the counties of Richland, Sauk and Adams, from the eastern portion of what was originally Crawford county, leaving the present county to contain 558 square miles; and, in 1850, 2,399 inhabitants."

#### PROMINENT PIONEERS.

We hold in remembrance the pioneers, of the country and cherish their memories for the indomitable courage they manifested, and for the trials they endured. Generally speaking, it would be invidious to single out a few of these worthies as entitled to particular mention, where all filled their spheres with so much credit. However, circumstances have conspired to make historical characters of a few in so marked a manner that a more than passing notice of them is demanded of the historian.

#### HERCULES L. DOUSMAN.

[By Henry H. Sibley.]

Hercules L. Dousman departed this life at Prairie du Chien in the State of Wisconsin on the 12th day of September, 1868. The announcement of the event, the intelligence which was soon spread far and wide, that death had suddenly stricken a man so long and favorably known, throughout the west, was productive of more sad emotions in the entire State in which he was an honored citizen, than are usually manifested in a single community, when it is made known that one of its most prominent members has been unexpectedly called away. Indeed so identified with the territorial and State history of Wisconsin and Minnesota had my lamented friend become, that his name was a familiar word in almost every household, as that

of a kind-hearted, high-minded man, and public spirited citizen.

Col. Dousman was born in the Island of Michillimackinac, or Mackinac as it is now called, in the year 1800. He was the son of Michael and Catharine Dousman, long and highly esteemed residents of the island, the soil of which now covers their remains. He was sent to Elizabethtown, N. J., for a high school education, where he remained until he had attained the age of eighteen years, when he removed to New York and engaged himself as a clerk to a Mr. Robinson, a dry goods merchant in the city.

His services in that capacity continued for two years and he then returned to the home of his parents at Mackinac. He was soon thereafter employed as a clerk by the American Fur Company, under the management of John Jacob Astor, Mackinac being the principal western depot of that association.

In 1826 he was dispatched to Prairie du Chien, as the confidential agent of the company, to take charge of the business at that important *entrepot* of the fur trade. Here the great natural abilities of Col. Dousman, combined with the thorough commercial education he had received, displayed themselves in the broad and almost limitless sphere to which he had been assigned. The late Joseph Rolette Sr., was his ostensible superior, inasmuch as he held the position of partner with the American Fur Company, but in reality the commanding talents of Col. Dousman soon placed him in actual control of the business of the company in this region. In fact the entire country north and west of Prairie du Chien, to the British boundary (except the Mississippi valley above the falls of St. Anthony, and the upper St. Croix and its branches), with its numerous trading stations, and fur traders and other employes, was tributary to that post until the year 1834, when a new and different organization was effected.

It required a man of sound and cultivated judgment, and of great executive ability to

systematize operations in so extensive a district, embracing many thousands of Indian hunters belonging to distinct and separate tribes, wild and savage in disposition, and even more addicted to inter-tribal war than to the chase. Among these discordant and belligerent bands, were stationed at intervals more or less regular the fur traders and *voyageurs* of the great company, entrusted with merchandise amounting in the aggregate to many hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. None but those familiar with the ramifications and intricacies of the trade with wild Indians in early days, can rightly estimate the business tact and energy requisite to bring order out of confusion, and to reduce to a proper working system the operations of traffic in so wide a field. No higher tribute can be paid to the surpassing abilities of Col. Dousman as a business man, than the bare mention of the fact that he was successful in his efforts to effect an organization almost perfect in all its parts.

My personal acquaintance with the subject of this memoir dates back to the year 1829. I was then a mere boy employed as a clerk by the American Fur Company at their central agency at Mackinac. Col. Dousman and others in charge of important districts were required to report in person during the summer of each year at that point, whither they went in charge of the Mackinac boats that contained the furs and skins collected during the previous year. I became quite intimate with him, although he was by many years my senior, and at each of his annual visits he depicted the beauties of the wild western land in such glowing colors, and the abundance and variety of game animals and birds it contained; that my youthful imagination was captivated, and my love of adventure aroused, so that in 1834, at his earnest solicitation, I formed with him and the late Joseph Rolette Sr., a co-partnership with the American Fur Company of New York, which passed in that year under the direction of Ramsey, as president.

By the terms of the agreement, Messrs. Rolette & Dousman were to continue in charge of the station at Prairie du Chien and conduct the trade with whites and Indians in the region more immediately contiguous, and tributary to that post, while I was to be placed in control of all that country above Lake Pepin to the head waters of the streams emptying into the Missouri, and north of the British line, with my headquarters at St. Peters, now Mendota. Col. Dousman was therefore under providence chiefly instrumental in linking my destinies with the soil, which has since become the territory and State of Minnesota. I am thankful for the recollection that from our first acquaintance to the day of his death, our warm friendship was mutual and undiminished, and that the harmony existing between us was never in a single instance marred by any serious controversy.

A biography of Col. Dousman commencing with his advent to the upper Mississippi, would not fall far short of Wisconsin and Minnesota. Although there was probably no office in the gift of the people of the State to which he could not have successfully aspired, he made it a rule of his life to accept no public position. Nevertheless, so widely and so favorably was he known, that his advice with reference to the management of Indian affairs in the northwest was eagerly sought by high dignitaries of the general government, and if that advice had been always followed, many grave errors might have been avoided. During his connection with the American Fur Company, of New York, and subsequently as a partner with myself, with the extensive firm of Pierce, Chateau & Co., of St. Louis, to whom the interests of the former corporation in this region were transferred in 1843. Col. Dousman was brought into close relations with the Winnebagoes, Menomonees, some of the lower bands of Sioux, and a portion of the Chippewas, and his influence, especially over the first named bands, was almost without limit.

The Winnebagoes were regarded as among the most turbulent and dangerous of the wild, western savages, and nothing but the benign rule, under which they were brought by my deceased friend, prevented outbreaks of violence which would necessarily have resulted in great destruction of life and property among the white settlers. His tact, sagacity, and consummate knowledge of Indian character were displayed on many critical occasions, when a collision seemed inevitable, and the services he thus rendered in the cause of peace, were the subject of public recognition by government officers, both civil and military. Gen. Alex. MaComb, formerly in chief command of the United States army, held him in high estimation, as did Gen. Brooke, who, in after years commanded the department of the Upper Mississippi, with his headquarters at Prairie du Chien, and their policy in the management of the Indian tribes of the northwest was that recommended ordinarily by Col. Dousman. The attempts of the government to negotiate treaties with the Winnebagoes were often frustrated by the jealous suspicions of their chiefs and head men, and their great reluctance to sell their land, and it was almost impossible to succeed in that direction, without first securing the consent and influence of the individual who was the trusted friend and counsellor of these wild bands. They had unbounded faith in the honesty of Col. Dousman, and they looked to him for protection from the rapacity of unprincipled agents, and of the swarm of white cormorants who were ever on the alert to deprive the ignorant savages of the pittance to which they were entitled from the United States government.

Hon. Simon Cameron, then United States senator from Pennsylvania, was a member of a commission many years since to make payments under treaty stipulations to the Winnebagoes and their mixed bloods; and having received material assistance from the subject of this memoir, he took occasion to state subsequently on the floor of the Senate, that in all

his long experience, a more truthful, energetic, fearless man he had never met, than Hercules Dousman, and that his talent, if possible, exceeded his virtues. Seldom indeed, if ever, has it fallen to the lot of a man in private station to wield an influence so extensive, and at the same time so beneficent. The primitive people among whom he so long resided, were accustomed to depend upon him for advice and assistance when trouble overtook them. He acted as peacemaker in their disputes, oftentimes preventing litigation by his wise counsels, and he was withal ever ready to minister to the wants of the poor and the distressed without distinction of race.

Although not a politician in the ordinary acceptance of the term, Col. Dousman was in sentiment a conservative democrat; but he was independent enough to condemn whatever he deemed wrong in the acts of his own party; and with equal candor he never withheld his tribute of praise from political opponents, when, in his judgment, the line of policy pursued by them was in accordance with the public welfare. So prominent was this trait in his character, and so convinced were the people at large of his unswerving integrity, that if he had assented to the solicitations of his friends to become a candidate for high public position, he would unquestionably have received the votes of very many who differed from him in politics.

When the War of the Great Rebellion burst upon the country, the personal influence and the purse of Col. Dousman were cast into the scale in support of the Lincoln administration; and few private citizens accomplished more than himself in arousing the people of his section to the emergency of the peril, and in equipping regiments for the field. He frequently expressed to me his earnest conviction that it was the duty of every man in the community to devote his means and his energies to maintain intact the integrity of the Federal Union.



Col. Dousman was a firm friend of his own territory and State. Intimately acquainted as he was with the topography of the country and its vast capacity for production, he advocated its claims to consideration and predicted the brilliant future of Minnesota with all the enthusiasm of an old settler. Next to his own State, to which he was ever loyal, his affections were bestowed upon the younger sister of Wisconsin, and his memory merits a warm place in the hearts of the people of Minnesota for the anxiety he manifested, and the efforts he made to advance their material interests. Northwestern Wisconsin has also good cause to cherish him in grateful remembrance. For many years an owner of steamers on the Upper Mississippi, he accomplished much in directing immigration and business to her ports; and but for his unremitting exertions and the liberal outlay from his own resources in aid of the enterprise, the railway from Milwaukee to Prairie du Chien, that great thoroughfare of travel and transportation, would long have remained unconstructed.

The strict business habits of the deceased, and the many opportunities afforded in a new and rapidly growing region for judicious investments, enabled him to amass an ample fortune.

While he was always liberal in his contributions to religious and charitable objects, and noted for his hospitality, Col. Dousman was by no means given to extravagance, nor did he encourage it in those within the sphere of his influence. Many men are yet living who are indebted for their prosperity to the pecuniary aid and wise direction they received from him in time of need.

In 1844, Col. Dousman was united in marriage to the widow of his former partner in business, Joseph Rolette, Sr., who died some years previously. The issue of the union was a son, now twenty-three years of age, who bears the name and is possessed of many of the characteristics of the father. The estimable widow

resides with her son in a new and splendid residence erected upon the site of the old homestead at Prairie du Chien.

Mr. President, I am well aware that I have very imperfectly discharged the duty devolved upon me by the society, of preparing a suitable memoir of my cherished friend. I might have entered into much greater detail, but in so doing I would have been compelled to transcend the limits allotted ordinarily to an obituary of any man however distinguished. On the other hand I could not have said less without doing violence to my feelings. I cannot but recall to mind with the keenest regret that the friend of my early and riper years, my associate in business for nearly a quarter of a century, who directed my steps for the first time to what is now Minnesota, and to whom I was fervently attached, has been gathered to his father's. He left behind no enemies to exult in his sudden departure from the earth, but many dear relatives and warm friends to lament the loss of one whose place can never be filled in their affections. All that was mortal of the imposing form and presence of the departed now lies mouldering in the cemetery he himself had donated to the Catholic Church in Prairie du Chien, and the magnificent marble monument erected by loving hands to commemorate his virtues will have become dim and tarnished by time, long ere the remembrance of his noble example shall cease to exercise an influence on the community of which he was an honored member.

“Alas for them but not for thee,  
They cannot choose but weep the more,  
Deep for the dead their grief must be  
Who ne'er gave cause to mourn before.”

JANE F. DOUSMAN,

widow of the late Col. Hercules L. Dousman, died at her residence, at Prairie du Chien, on the 13th of January, 1882. Mrs. Dousman was born at Prairie du Chien, April 12, 1808, and with the exception of an occasional temporary absence, resided here until her death. She was

the daughter of Capt. Henry Monroe Fisher (a near relative of President Monroe), and of Madeleine De Verville, a member of one of the most distinguished French families, connected with the early settlement of the west. She enjoyed the best educational advantages which her home afforded in the early days, and subsequently spent some years at a prominent school at Cincinnati. In 1819 she was married to Joseph Rolette, a man of superior education and intelligence, who, at the time, was the agent of the American Fur Company, and principal merchant and trader at Prairie du Chien. By this union she had three children—Joseph, Virginia and Frederick Rolette, all of whom she outlived many years. Mr. Rolette died in 1842, and two years later she was married to Col. Hercules L. Dousman, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Dousman died in September, 1868, and from that time until her death she continued to occupy her beautiful home which marks a historic spot on the banks of the great Father of Waters. She leaves one son, Hercules L. Dousman, her only surviving child, who succeeds to her large estate. She was buried beside the grave of her husband, the late Col. Dousman, in the beautiful cemetery which he had donated to the Roman Catholic Church. She had been a life-long and consistent member of this Church, and was buried with its most solemn and impressive ceremonies. Mrs. Dousman was in many respects a remarkable woman. Even in her old age, she might have been called beautiful; and her light, elastic step, her graceful, stately bearing and her cheerful, pleasant face, gave ample proof of past and prepossessing beauty. Through her whole life she was a type of physical perfection, and retained the full and perfect use of all her senses until the day she died. Her noble, generous soul was in harmony with its earthly tenement, essentially kind, affectionate, sympathetic and tender-hearted, she always sought to alleviate suffering and to assist the distressed. Her soul glowed with Christian charity, and

she never seemed so happy as when doing some work of love. In all the relations of life, as daughter, wife and mother, Mrs. Dousman gave an example worthy of imitation. Of the social circle she was the life and soul. Sensitive by nature, and quick of perception, she seemed instinctively to know the feelings of others, and to guard them with special care. With those who have seen her at her beautiful home, and who have experienced her generous hospitality, her memory will ever live green and unfading.

Alfred Brunson was born in Danbury, Fairfield county, State of Connecticut, Feb. 9, 1793. His education was such as could be obtained in the common schools of those times. In 1800 his father moved to Sing Sing, N. Y., on the Hudson river, where he was drowned in 1806, when his mother moved back to Danbury with seven children, of whom Alfred was the eldest, then thirteen years of age. He was then placed under the care of his uncle to learn the shoe-making trade, where he remained for five years. He had a taste for reading, and an ambition to pursue some higher calling than his trade. Reading and hearing of Roger Sherman, the celebrated statesman, who was of the same trade, he felt an ambition to follow his steps, and leave the world the better for having lived in it. To accomplish this object, like Arndt, he planned to study and practice law, and if a war occurred, which the signs of the times strongly indicated, to share in its dangers, and, if possible, in its glories. In the fall of 1808, having a disagreement with his uncle, he started for Ohio, where he had another uncle. He remained a while at Carlisle, Penn., and finding himself not perfect as a workman, received instructions until he became very thorough in his trade. He had been religiously inclined from the time of his father's death; and now, being in a Methodist family, he attended church with them, and was thoroughly awakened, and on Feb. 3, 1809, was converted to God. Soon after this, he felt called of God to preach, and joining that church, abandoned his former plans, and devoted his

time in preparing for the ministry. In the fall of 1809 he returned to Connecticut. He stopped at Bridgeport, and informed his mother and uncle of his whereabouts, and paid the latter for the balance of his time, and continued to live here, where the way opened up for him to commence public religious services as he was licensed to exhort. In 1811 he married, and opened a shop for business; but the War of 1812 so interfered, that he removed to Ohio, to work on a farm. Realizing his insecurity on the frontier, he entered the army under Gen. Harrison, in 1813, for a year. He was at the taking of Malden and the re-taking of Detroit. At the expiration of his term of service, he returned home, and in 1815 was licensed to preach. In 1818 he formed a new circuit in Huron Co., Ohio, where in six months, he established twenty-four appointments, and gathered up 150 members. His next circuit was in the northwest part of Pennsylvania; was 400 miles round, having forty-four appointments to fill in four weeks. He had a colleague, and they had 300 conversions as the fruit of their labor. In 1820 he joined the Ohio Annual Conference. The Pittsburg (Penn.) Conference was organized in 1825; with which he was connected. He traveled extensively through this region of country, preaching with great success, and literally "contending for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints." In the meantime, he formed a knowledge of jurisprudence necessary to a wise administration of discipline, and for four years read law, not anticipating admission to the bar. In 1831 the Meadville College was offered for the patronage of the Conference to which he belonged. The offer was accepted; and he was appointed on that district, in order that his valuable services might be given for the benefit of the institution. In 1835 he learned of the sad condition of the Indians on the Upper Mississippi, and determined to press his way toward these and other poor sufferers. He entered Wisconsin on the 25th of October of the same year. He was then presiding elder of a district

extending from Rock Island to the head of the Mississippi, including the Indian Mission. He concluded, in looking for a place to locate his family, that, as Prairie du Chien seemed to be the outpost of civilization, it would not be wise to go beyond. He could not find a suitable house to rent; and material for building and labor costing such an enormous sum, he wrote home to his wife, who contracted for a boat, and material prepared and ready to be put together, to be moved with the family. He reached home the following February, to find that his faithful wife had made all necessary preparations. During this journey home, he encountered some serious difficulties in fording streams, and among wolves, but was providentially preserved from the violence of either. In June, 1836, he put the material for the house into the boat, with two families beside his own; descended French creek and the Alleghany river to Pittsburg. There he tied to a steamboat, and was towed to St. Louis. Then he tied to another steamer, and was towed to Prairie du Chien, 1,950 miles by water from Meadville. He reached his destination July 16, 1836. Owing to the pressing wants of the district, the house was not erected until the next spring. He was the first Methodist preacher who ever set foot on the soil north of the Wisconsin river. In 1839 he was compelled to resign his ministerial labors because of ill health. Being now without income he accepted several offices of low grade, and, being desirous to attend to matters in court he was admitted to the bar on the ground of his former law reading, and practiced for ten years. In 1840 he was elected to the territorial Legislature. In 1842 he was appointed Indian agent at La Pointe in Lake Superior. In 1846 his wife, two daughters, and son-in-law died. In 1850 he was a candidate for the circuit judgeship, but was defeated. He returned to the ministry, and was appointed at Mineral Point. In 1853 he was made presiding elder of Prairie du Chien district, which included an extensive territory. Under his administration,

it was made to flourish and bear precious fruit, and, at the close of his term of service, was divided into two districts. In 1862 he was made chaplain in the army; went as far as Kentucky, where he was taken ill, and was compelled to resign his position. In 1867, having partially recovered, he was made effective in the ministry, and was made presiding elder of a district, but was subsequently twice re-appointed to other districts. At the close of his four years' service he was compelled to retire on account of ill health.

During his ministry, he was sixteen years a presiding elder, and a delegate to the General Conference four times; he wrote much for both religious and secular journals; and assisted in building about thirty churches. He died in Prairie du Chien, Aug. 3, 1882.

Emma Brunson was born in Fairfield, near Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 21, 1791. Her maiden name was Burr. She was distant relative of Aaron Burr. She was married to Alfred Brunson in August, 1811, and emigrated with

her husband to Trumbull Co., Ohio, in 1818. Her husband becoming a Methodist minister in 1813, she was made subject to frequent removals, and shared with him the toils and the privations of his life. During her married life, she resided in Painsville, Youngstown and Hubbard, in Ohio; Detroit, in Michigan; Alleghany City and Meadeville, Penn., and Prairie du Chien, Wis. In 1836 she removed to the last named place. She died in that village in 1843, at the age of fifty-five. She was the mother of eight children, all of whom attained their majority. Mrs. Brunson was an intelligent, motherly woman, one who sympathized deeply with the afflicted. She often invited to her house young men who were sick, and away from their own home and nursed them with a mother's care. By her affectionate kindness and attention, she obtained the cognomen of "Mother Brunson." She was universally respected and beloved by all who were acquainted with her. One of her daughters, the wife of the late Thomas P. Burnett, died the same day that her husband died, and three weeks after her mother's death.



## CHAPTER XI.

## PIONEER LIFE.

Records of pioneer times are interesting, and they are not without their lessons of instruction. By the light of the past, we follow in the foot-prints of the adventurous and enterprising pioneer. We see him, as it were, amid the labors and struggles necessary to convert the wilderness into a fruitful field. We sit by his cabin fire, partaking of his homely and cheerfully-granted fare, and listen to the accounts which he is pleased to give us of frontier life, and of the dangers, trials, hardships and sufferings of himself and others, in their efforts to make for themselves homes in regions remote from civilization. Through these pioneer records, we make our way along to the present. From small beginnings we come to the mighty achievements of industry, the complex results of daring enterprise, subduing and creative energy and untiring perseverance.

Following on in the path of progress and improvement, we see once waste places rejoicing under the kindly care of the husbandman; beautiful farms, with all the fixtures and appurtenances necessary to make the tillers of the soil and their families contented and happy, are spread out before us; villages are built up as if by magic, and by hundreds human souls are congregated within their precincts; the marts of trade and traffic and the workshops of the artizans, are thronged; common schools, union schools and high schools have sprung up; young and ardent minds—children of the rich and the poor—may press forward together in the acquisition of science, literature and art; churches are built and a Christian ministry is

sustained for the inculcation of religious sentiments and the promotion of piety, virtue and moral goodness; the press is established, whence floods of light may emanate for the instruction and benefit of all; railroads are built to bring the products of every clime, and the people from afar, to our doors; and the telegraph “upon the lightning’s wing” carries messages far and near. Let the records of the pioneers be preserved; in after years our children and our children’s children will look over them with pleasure and profit.

## THE LOG CABIN.

The first important business of the pioneer settler, upon his arrival in Crawford county, was to build a house. Until this was done, some had to camp on the ground or live in their wagons—perhaps the only shelter they had known for weeks. So the prospects for a house which was also to be a home, was one that gave courage to the rough toil, and added a zest to the heavy labors. The style of the home entered very little into their thoughts—it was shelter they wanted, and protection from stress of weather and wearing exposures. The poor settler had neither the money nor the mechanical appliances for building himself a house. He was content, in most instances, to have a mere cabin or hut. This was made of round logs light enough for two or three men to lay up. The house would generally be about fourteen feet square—perhaps a little larger or smaller—roofed with bark or clapboard, and floored with puncheons (logs split once in two and the flat side laid up). For a fire-place, a wall

of stones and earth was made in the best practicable shape for the purpose, in an opening in one end of the building, extending outward, and planked on the outside by bolts of wood notched together to stay it. Sometimes a fire-place of this kind was made so large as to occupy nearly the whole width of the house. In cold weather, when a great deal of wood was needed to keep the proper warmth inside, large logs were piled in the fire-place. To protect the crumbling back wall against the effects of the fire and to throw forward the heat, two back-logs, one on top of the other, were placed against it.

For a chimney, any contrivance that would carry up the smoke would do. They were usually constructed of clay and sticks. Imagine a cold winter's night, when the storm of wind and snow was raging without, the huge fire blazing within, and the family sitting around! It might be cozy enough if the cold was not too intense; and, in reality, before those fire-places there was often something of cheer, as the farmer sat smoking—if he had any tobacco; and the wife knitting—if she had any yarn and needles.

For a door to his log cabin the most simple contrivance that would serve the purpose was brought into requisition. Before a door could be made, a blanket often did duty in guarding the entrance. But, as soon as convenient, some boards were split out and put together, hung upon wooden hinges, and held shut by a wooden pin inserted in an auger-hole.

#### PIONEER FURNITURE.

In regard to the furniture of the pioneer's cabin, it may be said that it varied in proportion to the ingenuity of the occupants, unless it was where settlers brought with them their old household supply, which, owing to the distance most of them had to come, was very seldom. It was easy enough to improvise tables and chairs; the former could be made of split logs; the latter were designed after the three-legged stool pattern, or benches served their purpose.

A bedstead was a very important item in the domestic comfort of the family; and the fashion of improvising them was as follows:

A forked stake was driven into the ground diagonally from the corner of the room, and at a proper distance, upon which poles reaching from each side of the cabin were laid. The wall ends of the poles were either driven into auger-holes or rested in the openings between the logs. Bark or boards were used as a substitute for cords. Upon this, the wife spread her straw-tick; and if she had a home-made feather bed, she piled it up into a luxurious mound and covered it with her sheets and bed-quilts. Sometimes sheets were hung against the wall at the head and side of the bed, which added much to the coziness of this resting place—this pioneer-bed room. The sleeping arrangement was generally called a "prairie bedstead."

#### PRIMITIVE COOKERY.

If the settler arrived in the early part of the season and had not time to plant, or had no fields prepared for that purpose, he could, at least have a truck-patch, where a little corn was planted, also a few potatoes and turnips, and some other vegetables were put in the ground. Of course this was only to make his small supply, which he had brought with him, reach as far as possible. His meager stores consisted of flour, bacon, tea and coffee. But these supplies would frequently be exhausted before a regular crop of wheat or corn could be raised, and as game was plentiful, it helped to eke them out. But when the corn was raised, it was not easily prepared for the table. The mills for grinding were at such distances away, that every other device was resorted to for making meal.

Some grated it on an implement made by punching small holes through a piece of tin or sheet-iron, and fastening it upon a board in concave shape, with the rough side out. Upon this the ear was rubbed to produce the meal. But grating could not be done when the corn became so dry as to shell off when rubbed.

Some used a coffee-mill for grinding it; and a very common substitute for bread was hominy, a palatable and wholesome diet, made by boiling corn in a weak lye till the hull or bran peeled off, after which it was well washed to cleanse it of the lye. It was then boiled again to soften it, when it was ready for use, as occasion required, by frying and seasoning it to the taste. Another mode of preparing hominy was by pestling. A mortar was made by burning a bowl-shaped cavity in the end of an upright block of wood. After thoroughly cleaning it of the charcoal, the corn could be put in, hot water turned upon it, when it was subjected to a severe pestling by a club of sufficient length and thickness, in the large end of which was inserted an iron wedge, banded to keep it there. The hot water would soften the corn and loosen the hull, while the pestle would crush it.

#### PRIMITIVE THRESHING.

When breadstuffs were needed, they had to be obtained from long distances. Owing to the lack of proper means for threshing and cleaning wheat, it was more or less mixed with foreign substances, such as smut, dirt and oats. And as the time when the settlers' methods of threshing and cleaning may be forgotten, it may be well to preserve a brief account of them here. The plan was to clean off a space of ground of sufficient size, and, if the earth was dry, to dampen it, and beat it to render it somewhat compact. Then the sheaves were unbound and spread in a circle, so that the heads would be uppermost, leaving room in the center for the person whose business it was to turn and stir the straw in the process of threshing. Then, as many horses or oxen were brought as could conveniently swing around the circle, and these were kept moving until the wheat was well trodden out. After several "floorings" or layers were threshed, the straw was carefully raked off and the wheat shoveled into a heap to be cleaned. This cleaning was sometimes done by waving a sheet up and

down to fan out the chaff as the grain was dropped before it; but this trouble was frequently obviated when the strong winds of autumn were all that was needed to blow out the chaff from the grain. This mode of preparing the grain for flouring was so imperfect that it is not to be wondered at that a considerable amount of black soil got mixed with it, and unavoidably got into the bread. This, with an addition of smut, often rendered it so dark as to have less the appearance of bread than mud; yet upon such diet the people were compelled to subsist for want of a better.

#### GOING TO MILL.

Not the least among the pioneers' tribulations during the first few years of the settlement, was the going to mill. The slow mode of travel by ox teams was made still slower by the almost total absence of roads and bridges, while such a thing as a ferry was hardly even dreamed of. The distance to be traversed was often as far as sixty or ninety miles. In dry weather, common sloughs and creeks offered little impediment to the teamsters; but during floods and the breaking up of winter, they proved exceedingly troublesome and dangerous. To get stuck in a slough, and thus be delayed for many hours, was no uncommon occurrence, and that, too, when time was an item of grave import to the comfort and sometimes even to the lives of the settlers' families. Often a swollen stream would blockade the way, seeming to threaten destruction to whoever would attempt to ford it. With regard to roads, there was nothing of the kind worthy of the name.

When the early settlers were compelled to make these long and difficult trips to mill, if the country was prairie over which they passed, they found it comparatively easy to do in summer when grass was plentiful. By traveling until night, and then camping out to feed the teams, they got along without much difficulty. But in winter such a journey was attended with no little danger. The utmost economy of time was, of course, necessary. When the goal was

reached, after a week or more of toilsome travel, with many exposures and risks, and the poor man was impatient to immediately return with the desired staff of life, he was often shocked and disheartened with the information that his turn would come in a week. Then he must look about for some means to pay expenses, and he was lucky who could find employment by the day or job. Then, when his turn came, he had to be on hand to bolt his own flour, as, in those days, the bolting machine was not an attached part of the other mill machinery. This done, the anxious soul was ready to endure the trials of a return trip, his heart more or less concerned about the affairs of home.

Those milling trips often occupied from three weeks to more than a month each, and were attended with an expense, in one way or another, that rendered the costs of breadstuffs extremely high. If made in the winter, when more or less grain-feed was required for the team, the load would be found to be so considerably reduced on reaching home that the cost of what was left, adding other expenses, would make their grain reach the high cash figure of from \$3 to \$5 per bushel. And these trips could not always be made at the most favorable season for traveling. In spring and summer, so much time could hardly be spared from other essential labor; yet, for a large family, it was almost impossible to avoid making three or four trips during the year.

#### WILD ANIMALS.

Among other things calculated to an annoy and distress the pioneer was the prevalence of wild beasts of prey, the most numerous and troublesome of which was the wolf. While it was true, in a figurative sense, that it required the utmost care and exertion to "keep the wolf from the door," it was almost as true in a literal sense. There were two species of these animals, the large, black, timber wolf, and the smaller gray wolf that usually inhabited the prairie. At first, it was next to impossible for a settler

to keep small stock of any kind that would serve as a prey to these ravenous beasts. Sheep were not deemed safe property until years after, when their enemies were supposed to be nearly exterminated. Large numbers of wolves were destroyed during the early years of settlement. When they were hungry, which was not uncommon, particularly during the winter, they were too indiscreet for their own safety, and would often approach within easy shot of the settler's dwellings. At certain seasons their wild, plaintive yelp or bark could be heard in all directions at all hours of the night, creating intense excitement among the dogs, whose howling would add to the dismal melody.

It has been found by experiment that but one of the canine species, the hound, has both the fleetness and courage to cope with his savage cousin, the wolf. Attempts were often made to capture him with the common cur, but this animal, as a rule, proved himself wholly unreliable for such a service. So long as the wolf would run the cur would follow; but the wolf, being apparently acquainted with the character of his pursuer, would either turn and place himself in a combative attitude, or else act upon the principal that "discretion is the better part of valor," and throw himself upon his back in token of surrender. This strategic performance would make instant peace between these two seions of the same house; and not unfrequently dogs and wolves have been seen playing together like puppies. But the hound was never known to recognize a flag of truce; his baying seemed to signify "no quarters;" or, at least, so the terrified wolf understood it.

Smaller animals, such as panthers, lynxes, wildcats, catamounts and polecats, were also sufficiently numerous to be troublesome. And an exceeding source of annoyance were the swarms of mosquitoes which aggravated the trials of the settler in the most exasperating degree. Persons have been driven from the labors of the field by their unmerciful assaults.



The trials of the pioneer were innumerable, and the cases of actual suffering might fill a volume of no ordinary size. Timid women became brave through combats with real dangers, and patient mothers grew sick at heart

with the sight of beloved children failing in health from lack of the common necessities of life. The struggle was not for ease or luxury but was a constant one for the sustaining means of life itself.



## CHAPTER XII.

## FIRST THINGS.

## THE MILITARY ROAD.

The first regularly laid out road in Crawford county, leading out of it, was what was known as the "Military Road." It was built at the expense of the United States for the transportation of supplies from Fort Howard, as the army post at Green Bay was called, to Fort Winnebago, near what is now the city of Portage, Columbia county and Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien, and for the passage of troops to and from these posts. In summer, provisions and the munitions of an army could be transported in batteaux by water from the lakes to the Mississippi, but in winter this could not be done; hence, the necessity for a road between Green Bay and Prairie du Chien by way of the portage of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers.

The road was a crude affair and was constructed by cutting through timber land, clearing a track about two rods wide and setting mile stakes. On the prairies, the mile stakes were also set, and mounds thrown up of earth or stones. On the marshes or other low places, corduroy roads were made by crossing timbers and covering with brush and earth.

Commencing at Fort Crawford in Prairie du Chien, the road ran to Bridgeport. A ferry at this point took soldiers and supplies across the Wisconsin river. The road then ran up on to the divide, keeping it to the Blue Mounds. The first stopping place after leaving Prairie du Chien was at Wingville, forty-one miles distant, where there was a log house; the next was at the Blue Mounds, at the same distance beyond.

Concerning this highway, a report was made to Congress Sept. 1, 1839, by Capt. T. J. Cram, as follows:

"Military road from Fort Crawford, by Winnebago, to Fort Howard, at Green Bay; Commencing at Prairie du Chien, and running as far east as to the Blue Mounds, this road is laid on the ridge dividing the waters flowing toward the north from those flowing toward the south. At the Blue Mounds this dividing ridge deflects toward the northeast, and continues on this course to within about four miles of Fort Winnebago, where it is lost in a summit level, denominated the portage. This remarkable summit is one among a few others of similar character in our country, possessing the property of dividing the waters flowing into the Gulf of Mexico from those which flow into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The part of the road from Fort Crawford to the portage, a distance of about 115 miles, will need the sum of \$5,700 to be expended, chiefly in the repairs and construction of small bridges and the opening of ditches, which are not only necessary to the immediate use of the road, but also to the preservation of the road itself. The construction of a safe and permanent road across the portage for about four miles, will require the sum of \$5,955. Owing to the periodical overflows of this summit level, the road across it is rendered utterly impassible, and continues so for several days at a time, amounting to some weeks during each year. At such times the United States mail and travelers to Fort Winnebago are obliged to be taken around on a cir-

cutious route of about fifteen miles, crossing a lake on their way, in order to reach the desired point; and it is not unfrequently the case that the unwary traveler is led into the middle of the portage before he becomes fully apprised of his danger, when all of a sudden, his horses are mired in the midst of a flood of water, from which he finds it impossible to extricate his team, and might perish in sight of the fort, but for the assistance of the soldiers, who come off in canoes to his rescue. A thorough and critical examination has been made with a view of constructing a road around the portage. It is found, however, that the cost of such a construction, besides an increase of distance and the inconvenience of a ferry, would quite equal the cost of making the present road good and safe at all times.

"The sum required to complete the construction of the part of the road between Fort Winnebago and the south end of Lake Winnebago, a distance of about sixty miles, is \$6,320. The land in the vicinity of this portion of the road is of good quality, and similar in most respects to that described elsewhere in this report. From the south end of Lake Winnebago to within about six miles of Fort Howard, at Green Bay, the road is exceedingly bad, and the cost of transportation over it is a heavy tax upon the settlers, and tends greatly to retard the settlement of the whole tract of country between Green bay and the Wisconsin river.

"The tract of land bordering the east side of Lake Winnebago, and thence along Neenah river to Green bay, is chiefly covered with excellent timber, consisting of various kinds of oak, white pine, sugar maple, bass wood, black walnut, etc., and from its proximity to navigable waters, on both sides, must become valuable. The soil of this tract is deep, with a substratum of limestone, and being well watered with numerous small brooks, is well adapted to farming. The military road along here passes directly through the settlements of the Brothertown and Stockbridge Indians. The farms of

the Brothertown people are in a promising condition; and the clearings, fences and snug buildings show that their proprietors are not behind any of the farmers of Wisconsin in the art of agriculture. Their respectable appearance, civil and quiet demeanor and exceedingly industrious habits, all combine to render them good and worthy citizens of the United States. It is to be regretted, however, that the general appearances of the Stockbridge settlements are not so favorable; and yet, were it not for the contrast of their neighbors, the Stockbridge people might be said to have evinced signs of civilization not often met with in the settlements of the red men.

"The cost of constructing the road from Fond du Lac to Green Bay, about fifty-six miles, would be \$17,292, to be expended in bridging, ditching, and filling the wet places with durable materials, all of which exist in abundance on the road. Thus the whole sum required to complete the construction of the military road from Fort Crawford, by Fort Winnebago, to Fort Howard, an extent of about 235 miles, amounts to \$35,267. This sum, with strict economy in adopting the most simple kind of construction, would not more than cover the cost of completing this road, which, in a military point of view, is of unquestionable importance; connecting, as it does, a chain of military posts, which the safety of the people of Wisconsin and the north part of Illinois will require to be maintained for several years to come."

#### THE FIRST STEAMBOAT UP THE MISSISSIPPI.

A steamboat first made its appearance in Crawford county in 1821. It was called the *Virginia*, and owned in St. Louis. Joseph Rolette, Alexis Bailly and a few more went on her to Fort Snelling. They stopped and cut wood as they needed it. J. B. Toyer went as pilot. It was a stern wheeler, and a man with a pole was stationed on the bow to aid in steering. The inhabitants were greatly surprised when they first saw the boat in the middle of the river

without sail, as the keel boats always kept near the shore in ascending the river.

Baily was the first man to see the boat; he procured a spy glass of Michael Brisbois and thus discovered its character. Madame Brisbois went on board and remarked how strange it was that they did not have to go *down* into it, as in other boats she had seen.

#### THE FIRST SCHOOL.

The first school taught in Crawford county was a private one. It commenced in Prairie du Chien, May 25, 1818. It was taught by Willard Keyes. In June he had about thirty scholars, "mostly bright and active, at two dollars per month." He boarded with Mr. Faribault. He taught three months. Mr. Keyes remained in Prairie du Chien until May, 1819, when he found it "of no use to remain longer in this expensive place;" so he went down the river to Madison Co., Ill.

#### FIRST POSTAL ARRANGEMENT.

In 1823 Judge James Duane Doty, at Prairie du Chien, finding that the mail matter for the place came up the river on keel-boats, or by military express, sent occasionally for the special purpose, to Clarksville, Mo., a village about 100 miles above St. Louis, and the then nearest postoffice, made application to the post-office department for the establishment of a postoffice at Prairie du Chien, which was granted. This was the first postoffice in Crawford county. Judge Doty was appointed postmaster—the first one in the county. The judge was given the privilege of expending the proceeds of the office for carrying the mail. The receipts for postage, together with contributions from the principal inhabitants and officers of the garrison, enabled him to send John B. Soyer, an old *voyageur*, one trip to Clarksville during the winter, for which he was paid \$30.

During the winter of 1823-4, Judge Doty concluded to change his residence from Prairie du Chien to Green Bay, and resigned his office of postmaster, and recommended James H. Lockwood for the vacancy. Mr. Lockwood was

appointed with the same power and authority that Doty had. Lockwood applied during the summer of 1824, and got a postoffice established at Galena, and Ezekiel Lockwood appointed postmaster; also an office at Rock Island, with Lee Davenport, postmaster; the proceeds of both offices to be applied by James H. Lockwood to defraying the expenses of conveying the mail from Prairie du Chien via Galena and Rock Island, to Clarksville, Mo. The increased fund, by this new arrangement, enabled the postmaster at Prairie du Chien, James H. Lockwood, to send the mail twice during the winter to Clarksville; and thus the postal arrangements remained until the close of 1825, when a post route was extended from Springfield, Ill., to Galena; and, on the first of January, 1826, John D. Winters, the contractor, arrived at Galena with the first mail sent through by this arrangement. The office at Prairie du Chien continued to send to Galena for her mail at her own expense until the fall of 1832, when Dr. Addison Philleo, who had obtained the contract to Prairie du Chien, sent the mail through; and thus the latter place had a regular mail for the first time brought there under permanent government arrangements.

#### THE FIRST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The first Sunday school established in Crawford county was at Prairie du Chien, in the the spring of 1825, by Mrs. Juliana Lockwood, wife of James H. Lockwood. There was not, at that time, any meeting to attend on Sunday; even the Roman Catholics had a priest visit them only occasionally; and Mrs. Lockwood having been accustomed to see the children collected in Sunday schools, and seeing a large number playing about the streets on the Sabbath, concluded it would be doing them a good service to gather them into a Sunday school. She proposed the subject to Miss Crawford, a young lady reared in the place, who spoke English and French fluently, and who had a good common education. The latter agreed to assist her. The two together influenced Dr. Edwin

James, the surgeon of the United States army, who was then stationed at Fort Crawford and John H. Kinzie, formerly of Chicago, then quite a young man, in the employment of the American Fur Company, at Prairie du Chien, also to take hold of the matter.

The four collected the children and commenced their school in the spring of 1825; and continued it until the winter following, but not without opposition. Some took the ground that it was the design to make Protestants of the children. To counteract this, the teachers introduced and taught the children the Roman Catholic catechism. During the winter, however, Dr. James was ordered to another post, and Mrs. Lockwood went in the spring of 1826 to New York. Mr. Kinzie and Miss Crawford also left the place, both going to Mackinaw. This broke up the school, and another was not collected until 1830, when the members of the different Protestant denominations united in forming a union Sunday school. This continued for a few years, until the Methodists, becoming, by far, the most numerous, assumed the management of it, and it became a Methodist Sunday school.

#### FIRST PROTESTANT MEETINGS.

In the year 1828 Gen. Joseph M. Street was appointed Indian agent at Prairie du Chien, and arrived alone in the fall of that year to assume the duties of his office; and, in the winter, returned to Illinois, and brought his family to Prairie du Chien in the spring of the following year, being the first family who settled in Prairie du Chien that made a profession of religion of the Protestant faith, of any of the different sects.

In 1830, a man by the name of Coe, who claimed to be a minister of the Presbyterian Church, and missionary to the Indians, passed through the country, and remained over Sunday at Prairie du Chien, and made an attempt at preaching; but he was a very illiterate man, and not overstocked with good sense. He made several trips to the upper Indian country, and

on one occasion took passage on a keel boat and arrived within about thirty miles of Fort Snelling on Saturday night; and as the boat would start early in the morning, and he would not travel on the Sabbath, he went on shore without provisions, and encamped over Sunday, and on Monday made his way to Fort Snelling, hungry and nearly exhausted. Sometime in the year 1832, a student of divinity, of the Cumberland Presbyterian sect, came here and taught school for about six months, and on Sundays attempted to preach.

At the treaty of Fort Armstrong, Rock Island, of which Gen. Scott and Gov. Reynolds were the commissioners, concluded Sept. 15, 1832, in part consideration for a claim of land, it was stipulated that the general government should, for a term of twenty-seven years, maintain a school at or near Prairie du Chien for the education and support of such Winnebago children as should be voluntarily sent to it, to be conducted by two or more teachers, and at an annual cost not to exceed the sum of \$3,000. To carry out the stipulations of the treaty, the United States, the next year (1833), sent the Rev. David Lowry, of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination, as superintendent of the Indian school; but it was about a year before suitable buildings were erected on the Yellow river, in Iowa, and Mr. Lowry remained at Prairie du Chien, and preached on Sundays; and during this time he collected those professing religion, of the different denominations, into a society.

In the fall of 1835 the Rev. Alfred Brunson visited Prairie du Chien, and returned home the same autumn; and in the spring of 1836 he came back with his family, as superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Mission of the upper Mississippi and Lake Superior. He purchased a farm and built a house, the materials for which he brought with him from Meadville, Penn., and continued several years laboring in his missionary capacity. He several times visited the missions on the upper Mississippi, and when

at Prairie du Chien preached and formed a Methodist society.

In the year 1836 the Rev. Mr. Caddle, of the Episcopal Church, came to Prairie du Chien as a missionary, but was shortly after appointed chaplain to Fort Crawford, in which capacity he continued until 1841, when feeling, as he expressed it, that he was not in his proper place, preaching to soldiers who went to hear him more from compulsion than anything else, he resigned his chaplaincy and again entered the missionary service in another part of the territory. Mr. Caddle, while chaplain of the fort, formed a Church of the few communicants of Prairie du Chien, and of the officers and ladies of the fort, which he called Trinity, but was obliged, for most of the Church officers, to elect non-communicants.

In the year 1842 the Rev. Mr. Stephens, of the Presbyterian Church, who had been on a missionary service somewhere in the Indian country, came as a missionary of that denomination, formed a Church, and continued here two or three years. There being too few members of his Church to supply the means of support with the stipend he received from the missionary society, he left.

#### FIRST M. E. CHURCH EDIFICE.

In 1842, the subject of religion created considerable interest, and at a quarterly meeting of conference, held in Prairie du Chien on the 25th

day of September, in that year, the project of building the First Methodist Episcopal church, was talked over and resolved on. At that same meeting a committee of three, Mr. Dandley, H. Brace and Sam Gilbert, were appointed to secure a suitable piece of ground on which to build; to make out plans, estimate the cost, and to obtain subscriptions in money, materials and labor for the erection of the church. The committee selected lot No. 15, of H. L. Dousman's addition to St. Friele, part of farm lot No. 32, as the most suitable piece of ground for the purpose. This lot was donated to the Church by Col. H. L. Dousman. Subscriptions to the amount of \$1,034.93, in cash and materials were soon raised; and on the 6th of April, 1843, the building committee, Rev. A. Brunson, Sam Gilbert and H. Brace, entered into a contract with H. H. Baily and G. W. Blunt, for the erection of the church. The building was to be fifty feet long by thirty-six feet wide, with stone foundation; to have on the front end a tower fourteen feet square at the base, and thirty feet high from the main plate, with spires at each corner; to have a gallery on the front end eight feet wide. Blunt and Baily agreed to have this building finished by Sept. 1, 1843, in consideration of \$1,010; but the church was not finished at the time.

The Sunday School Library was formed by subscription and donations, and comprised many volumes—some very valuable works.

## CHAPTER XIII.

## FORMATION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY AND LOCATING THE COUNTY SEAT.

The people who were living within what are now the limits of Crawford county, on the 18th day of April, 1818, became, by an act of Congress of that date, citizens of Michigan territory, along with all others who then resided between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river north of the northern boundary line of the State of Illinois as fixed by the act just mentioned. Instead of being in the territory of Illinois, they were now in the territory of Michigan, the former territory having become extinguished. It was incumbent, therefore, upon the governor of Michigan, Lewis Cass, to at once form new counties out of the area thus added to his territory and to provide for their organization. This he proceeded to do by issuing proclamations, one of which was as follows:

## FORMING AND NAMING THE COUNTY.

"WHEREAS, by the seventh section of the act of Congress, passed April 18, 1818, entitled, "An Act to enable the people of the Illinois territory to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," it is provided, that all that part of the territory of the United States, lying north of the State of Indiana, and which was included in the former Indiana territory, and which is situated, north of, and not included within the boundaries prescribed by this act, to the State hereby authorized to be formed, shall be, and hereby is attached to and made part of the Michigan territory, from and after the formation of the said State; and whereas the con-

tingency, upon which the annexation of the said tract of country to the said territory of Michigan, has occurred, by the formation of the State of Illinois,

"*Now therefore*, I do by these presents proclaim the same, and that the inhabitants of the said tract of country, are by the said act of Congress, "entitled to the same privileges and immunities, and subject to the same rules and regulations, in all respects, with the other citizens of the Michigan territory.

"And I do, by virtue of the ordinance of Congress, of July 13, 1787, lay out that part of the tract of country to which the Indian title has been extinguished, included within the following boundaries, namely: "Bounded on the north by the county of Michillimackinac, as established by an act of the governor of the said territory, of this date; on the east by the said county of Michillimackinac, and by the western boundary of the said territory, as the same was established by the act of Congress, passed January 11, 1805, entitled, "An Act to divide the Indian territory into two separate governments;" on the south by the States of Indiana and Illinois, and on the west by a line to be drawn due north from the northern boundary of the State of Illinois, through the middle of the portage between the Fox river and the Ouiseconsin river to the county of Michillimackinac, into a separate county, to be called the county of Brown.

"And I do establish the seat of justice of the said county of Brown, at such point on the Fox river, and within six miles of the mouth thereof,

as may be selected by a majority of the judges of the county court of the said county.

"And I do, by virtue of the ordinance aforesaid, lay out that part of the tract of country to which the Indian title has been extinguished, included within the following boundaries, namely: Bounded on the north by the county of Michillimackinac, on the east by the county of Brown, on the south by the State of Illinois, and on the west by the western boundaries of the territory of Michigan, into a separate county, to be called the county of Crawford.

"And I do establish the seat of justice of the said county of Crawford at the village of Prairie du Chien.

"In testimony whereof, I have caused these letters to be made patent, and the great seal of the said territory to be hereunto affixed.

"Given under my hand at Detroit, this twentieth day of October; in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, and of the Independence of the United States, the forty-third,

LEWIS CASS."

In order to understand what extent of country was, by this proclamation, formed "into a separate county, to be called the county of Crawford," it is necessary to know that the southern limits of the county of Michillimackinac, as established by the governor at the same date, ran across from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi, east and west, near the northern limits of the present county of Barron.

Crawford county was thus named by Gov. Cass after Fort Crawford, the military post then located at Prairie du Chien.

#### THE COUNTY REDUCED TO ITS PRESENT LIMITS.

It was not until 1829, that the limits of Crawford county, as defined by the proclamation of the governor of Michigan, Oct. 26, 1818, were disturbed. In that year, the Legislative Council of the territory of Michigan, by an act approved October 29th, to take effect the 1st day of January, 1830, formed out of its area, a

new county which received the name of Iowa, embracing the whole of Crawford county lying south of the Wisconsin river; so that the county last named was now limited to the region north of that stream. But it still embraced what are now the counties of St. Croix, Dunn, Pepin, Eau Claire, Taylor, Clark, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson, Wood, Adams, Juneau, Monroe, La Crosse, Vernon, Sauk and Richland; and parts of Green, Dane, Columbia, Marquette, Waushara, Portage, Marathon, Lincoln, Chippewa, Barron and Polk counties.

Crawford county remained with its boundaries unchanged, after the passage of the act of 1829, until 1834, when its eastern boundary was restricted to the Wisconsin river above the portage, by the Legislative Council of Michigan territory extending the western boundary of Brown county to that stream; so that now Crawford county had that river for its entire southern and eastern boundary. No other changes were made in the boundaries of the county so long as it remained a part of Michigan territory.

In 1836 the territory of Wisconsin was formed and Crawford county, of which it was a part, was soon shorn of a portion of its area by the Legislature of the new territory. This was effected by the formation of Portage county, which extended across the Wisconsin river, by virtue of an act approved Jan. 12, 1838, entitled:

"AN ACT establishing a county, to be called Portage, defining its territory, etc.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the territory of Wisconsin*, that township number 10, range 6, township number 10, range 7, townships numbers 10 and 11, in range 8, townships 10, 11, 12 and 13, in ranges 9, 10, 11 and 12, east of the fourth principal meridian, and the territory within the following described boundaries, viz.: Crossing the Wisconsin river on the township line between 10 and 11, six miles due west; thence up in a line parallel and six miles from





*A. C. King*



the west shore of said river, to a point opposite to the upper rapids thereof, and thence due east to said rapids, be, and the same is hereby established and declared to be a county, with the name of Portage, and the seat of justice is hereby established at Kentucky city.

"SEC. 2. All acts and parts of acts, which in any way contravene the provisions of this act, are hereby declared to be null and void."

But the loss sustained by Crawford county in the Legislature extending the county of Portage across the Wisconsin, was much more than compensated for, seven days after, by the addition of a large extent of country on the north. It happened in this way: The northern portions of Wisconsin territory had, while a part of Michigan territory, formed parts of the counties of Michillimackinac and Chippewa, as already explained. The dividing line between the State of Michigan and the territory of Wisconsin, as established in 1836, left the county seats of these two counties outside of Wisconsin territory; so now there was a considerable area within the limits of the latter without any organization. All this was added "for all judicial purposes" to Crawford county, by an act of the Legislature of Wisconsin territory, approved Jan. 19, 1838, which was as follows:

An act to enlarge the county of Crawford.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin,* That all that part of Wisconsin territory lying south and west of Lake Superior, and east of the Mississippi and Grand Fork rivers, and north of the Wisconsin river, heretofore not included in any other county in this territory, be, and the same is hereby attached to and made a part of Crawford county, for all judicial purposes."

As the county was now constituted, it included, for judicial purposes, nearly all of what is now the State of Wisconsin north and west of the Wisconsin river, and so much of the present State of Minnesota as lies east of the Mississippi and Grand Fork rivers. But, because

of the spread of settlements, it was not destined to long remain with such an extended area. It commenced in 1840 to be shorn of its wide domain, by the formation of the counties of Sauk and St. Croix.

In 1839 an election precinct was established by the commissioners of Crawford county, at Sauk Prairie, and an election was there held in the fall of the same year, at which fourteen votes were cast, returns being made to Prairie du Chien. Owing to the difficulty of communicating with so distant a county seat, the citizens petitioned the Legislature to set off a new county. Accordingly by an act of Jan. 11, 1840, the county of Sauk was formed, comprising townships 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, of ranges 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, east, lying north and west of the Wisconsin river. To this, township 13, of range 2 east, was added in 1849.

But the loss of territory on the south by the formation of Sauk county was not all the diminution suffered by Crawford county in 1840; for, by an act of the territorial Legislature passed January 9, to take effect August 1, of that year, "all of the territory of Wisconsin lying west of a line commencing at the mouth of the Porcupine river, on Lake Pepin, thence up said river to its first forks, thence on a direct line to the Meadow Fork of Red Cedar river, thence up said river to Long Lake, thence along the canoe route to Lac Courte Oreille, thence to the nearest point on the Montreal river, thence down said river to Lake Superior, thence north to the United States boundary line," was formed into a separate county, and named St. Croix.

On the 18th of February, 1841, the county of Portage was enlarged, which deprived Crawford of a considerable tract. This was done by the passage of an act entitled:

An Act to enlarge the boundaries of Portage county and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin:*

"SECTION 1. That all that district of country lying immediately north of the counties of Sauk and Portage, and comprised in ranges two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight and nine, east of the fourth principal meridian, and extending north to the northern boundary of the territory except fractional townships fourteen and fifteen north, in range nine east, shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to and made a part of the county of Portage."

Following this, was the creation in 1842, out of a part of Crawford, of the county of Richland. During the winter of 1841-2, the few residents of what is now that county, held a mass-meeting at the Eagle mill and prepared a petition to the territorial Legislature, then in session, setting forth their desire to be detached from Crawford county, in which they then belonged, and to be set apart in a new county. In compliance with this request, by an act dated Feb. 18, 1842, a new county was formed and named Richland, having its present boundaries, so the limits of Crawford county were materially narrowed.

In 1845 still another diminution of territory took place; for on the 3d of February, of that year, the Legislature passed

An act to divide the county of Crawford, and to organize the county of Chippewa.

*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin:*

SECTION 1. That the county of Crawford shall be limited to that district of country which lays north of the Wisconsin and east of the Mississippi rivers, and south of a line beginning at the mouth of Buffalo river, thence up the main branch of said river to its source, thence in a direct line to the most southern point on Lake Chetac, thence in a direct line drawn due east until it intersects the western boundary line of Portage county, as enlarged by an act approved Feb. 18, 1841; and west of the western boundary lines of the counties of Portage and Richland.

SEC. 2. That all that district of country lying west of Portage county enlarged as aforesaid, north of the northern boundary line of Crawford county aforesaid, east of the Mississippi river and south of the boundaries of the county of St. Croix, as prescribed in the act approved Jan. 9, 1840, organizing said county, to be known under the name of Chippewa county.

By an act approved Jan. 14, 1846, concerning the boundary line between the counties of Crawford and Chippewa, it was declared as follows:

SECTION. 1. That the boundary line between the counties of Crawford and Chippewa, shall be a line commencing at the mouth of Buffalo river, on the Mississippi river, thence up the main branch of Buffalo river to its source, thence along the dividing ridge between the waters of Chippewa river and Black river, until it reaches the head waters of Black river, thence in a direct line drawn due east until it intersects the western boundary line of Portage county, as enlarged by an act approved Feb. 18, 1841, which line shall hereafter be the northern boundary of Crawford county, and the southern boundary of Chippewa county, any law to the contrary notwithstanding."

By the Revised Statutes of 1849, it was declared that "the district of country included within the following boundaries" should form and constitute the county of Crawford:

"Beginning at a point in the western boundary line of this State, in the Mississippi river, opposite the mouth of the Wisconsin river; and running thence northerly on the boundary line of this State, in said Mississippi river, to a point opposite the mouth of Buffalo river; thence on the southern boundary line of Chippewa county, until it strikes the range line between ranges 1 and 2, east of the meridian aforesaid; thence south on said range line to the northeast corner of township 12, north of range 1 east; thence west on the township line, to the northwest corner of township 12, north

of range 2 west of said meridian; thence south on the range line, to the middle of the Wisconsin river; thence down the middle of the main channel of said river, to the place of beginning."

The last dismemberment of the county ("the most unkindest cut of all") was brought about by the passage of the following act and the amendment thereto:

An act to divide the county of Crawford and organize the counties of Bab Ax and La Crosse.

*The People of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. All that portion of the county of Crawford lying between sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, in township 11 and township 15, north of ranges 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 west, be and hereby is organized into a separate county, to be known and called by the name of Bad Ax; and all that portion of Crawford county lying north of township number 14, north of ranges 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, be and hereby is organized into a separate county to be known and called by the name of La Crosse.

SEC. 2. On the first Tuesday in the month of April next the electors of said counties of Bad Ax and La Crosse shall, in addition to electing their town officers, vote for and elect all officers necessary for a complete county organization, and the county officers so elected shall qualify by bond and oath as prescribed by law, and enter upon the duties of their respective offices upon the third Monday of May and continue in office until the first Monday of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, and until their successors are elected and qualified. It is hereby made the duty of the clerk of the board of supervisors of the county of Crawford to make out notices of such elections, to be posted in the respective counties upon the publication of this act; and the sheriff of Crawford county shall

cause the said notices to be duly posted as in other general elections.

SEC. 3. The county of Bad Ax shall remain one town until the board of town supervisors shall divide the same into three or more towns, and the supervisors, town clerk, and town treasurer may act as and be county officers for such offices respectively.

SEC. 4. All that portion of the county of La Crosse laying south of townships range No. 19, is hereby organized in a separate town to be called the town of La Crosse, and the towns of Albion and Pine Valley shall retain the present respective boundaries except as herein altered; and the county board of supervisors shall have power at any time to organize new towns or alter the boundaries of any town or towns.

SEC. 5. The county of Crawford as so organized shall constitute and be one town and the town supervisors shall also be the board of county supervisors; the board of county supervisors shall have power at any time to divide the county into three or more towns according to law, when they shall deem it necessary.

SEC. 6. From and after the third Monday of May next, the said counties of Bad Ax and La Crosse shall be organized for judicial [and] county purposes, and for all purposes and matters whatever, and the county of Chippewa shall be attached to the county of La Crosse for judicial purposes. The circuit court shall be holden in the county of Bad Ax on the third Monday of May and fourth Monday of November of each year, and in the county of La Crosse on the fourth Monday of February and the fourth Monday of August of each year.

SEC. 7. All writs, process, appeals, suits, reconizances, or other proceedings whatever already commenced, or that may hereafter be commenced, previous to the third Monday of May next, in the county or circuit court of Crawford county, shall be prosecuted to a final judgment, order, or decree, and execution may

issue thereon and judgment, order or decree may be carried into execution in like manner, and the sheriff of said county shall execute all process therein in like manner as if this act had not passed, anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 8. The returns of all elections provided for in this act shall be made for the county of Bad Ax to the clerk of the board of supervisors of the present town of Bad Ax, who shall issue certificates, within ten days from the time of holding such election, to the persons elected to the respective offices. The returns for the county of La Crosse, shall, so far as county officers are concerned, be made to the clerk of the board of town supervisors for the town of Albion, and said clerk shall issue like certificates of election within fifteen days after said election, to the persons duly elected.

SEC. 9. The county seat of the county of Bad Ax shall be at such place as the board of supervisors shall designate, until a place shall be permanently located by election upon that subject, and the qualified electors may vote at any election for the permanent location, and the place (designated by ballot) that shall have a majority of all the votes cast on that subject shall be the permanent county seat for said county.

SEC. 10. The county seat of the county of La Crosse shall be located at the village of La Crosse for the term of three years, upon condition that the people of the town of La Crosse shall furnish suitable buildings for county purposes free of all cost or expense to the county for such buildings: Provided, that if such buildings are not prepared within one year that the county seat shall be permanently located at such place as shall be designated by ballot, at any election of the county, previous notice for thirty days having been given that such election will be held, and the place having a majority of all the votes cast upon that subject,

shall be the county seat of said county. And in case no place shall be selected, the board of supervisors shall designate some suitable place for the same purpose.

GEO. H. WALKER,  
Speaker of the Assembly, *pro-tem.*  
SAMUEL W. BEALL,

Lieut. Governor and President of Senate.

Approved March 1st, 1851.

NELSON DEWEY.

An act to amend an act entitled "An Act to divide the county of Crawford, and organize the counties of Bad Ax and LaCrosse."

*The People of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :*

SECTION 1. All that portion of the county of Crawford, included within the following boundaries, shall form and constitute, and is hereby organized into a separate county, to be known and called by the name of Bad Ax, viz: Beginning at the northwest corner of the county of Richland, thence running south on the range line between ranges two and three west, to the northeast corner of section 24, of township 11, north of range 3 west; thence west on the section line to the boundary line of this State, in the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence northerly on the boundary line of this State, in the said river, to the point of intersection of said boundary line and the township line between townships 14 and 15 north; thence east on said township line to the northeast corner of township 14 north, of range 1 east; thence south on the range line between ranges 1 and 2 east, to the southeast corner of township 13, of range 1 east; thence west on the township line between 12 and 13 to the place of beginning; and all of that portion of the county of Crawford lying north and southwest of the said county of Bad Ax be, and hereby is organized into a separate county to be known and called by the name of La Crosse.

SEC. 2. Section one of the act to which this is amendatory is hereby repealed.

FREDERICK W. HORN,  
Speaker of the Assembly.

DUNCAN G. REED,  
President *pro tem.* of the Senate.

Approved, March 1, 1851.

NELSON DEWEY.

It was thus that Crawford county was reduced to its present limits; and the Revised Statutes of 1858 enacted that: "The district of country included within the following boundaries shall form and constitute the county of Crawford, to-wit: Beginning at a point in the western boundary line of this State in the Mississippi river, opposite the mouth of the Wisconsin river, and running thence easterly up the middle of the main channel of the Wisconsin river, to a point where the range line between ranges 2 and 3, west of the meridian aforesaid, intersects the middle of said main channel; thence north on said range line, to the northeast corner of section 24, of township 11 north, of range 3 west; thence west on the section line to the west boundary line of this State, in the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence southerly on said boundary line to the place of beginning."

The limits of the county as thus defined have, by the Revised Statutes of the State, published since that date, been re-affirmed; so that the extent of its territory is well understood and, doubtless, established permanently.

#### THE COUNTY ORGANIZED.

Steps were soon taken by Gov. Cass, after the issuing of his proclamation of October 26, 1818, forming and naming the county of Crawford, to organize it. The officers to be appointed were a chief justice of the county court, two associate justices, a judge of probate, a clerk of the court, a register of probate and of deeds, a sheriff, three justices of the peace, and three county commissioners. The Michigan executive, not having at hand sufficient data to warrant him in making out the appoint-

ments for the different offices, hit upon the plan of sending blank commissions to be filled after agreement among the citizens as to the proper persons to hold these offices. Accordingly, the principal inhabitants, after receiving the proclamation of Gov. Cass, assembled at the house of Nicholas Boilvin, in Prairie du Chien, to determine what names should be inserted in the blanks of the commissions sent from Detroit. Boilvin, being already a justice of the peace, under a previous appointment, was authorized to administer the oath of office to those persons agreed upon at the meeting. The result of the deliberation at the citizens' meeting was as follows: For chief justice, John W. Johnson; associate justices, Francis Bouthillier and Wilfred Owens; judge of probate, Wilfred Owens; clerk of the court, John S. Findly; register of probate and of deeds, John P. Gates; sheriff, Thomas McNair; justices of the peace, James H. Lockwood, Nicholas Boilvin (already commissioned) and John W. Johnson; county commissioners, Joseph Rolette, James H. Lockwood and Dennis Courtois, all of "Prairie des Chiens." The clerk of the court was ex-officio county clerk.

The blank commissions, brought out from Detroit by an army officer, reached Prairie du Chien in the spring of 1819. The names of the citizens chosen at the meeting for the respective offices were inserted in the blanks, and the oath of office was administered to each by Nicholas Boilvin, justice of the peace, and thereupon they entered upon the discharge of their official duties. This completed the organization of the county.

The sheriff, in addition to his ordinary duties, was required to make out the assessment rolls, and then, upon warrant of the commissioners, collect the taxes, by first demanding at the usual place of residence of each person, the sum assessed to him, within five days from the receipt of the warrant; and if, thereupon, payment was not made, the goods and chattels of the delinquent were forthwith distrained and

sold after five days' public notice. The commissioners were not allowed any compensation for their services. All this will more fully appear by sections 2 to 5 inclusive, of the act of the territory of Michigan, passed Sept. 10, 1819, now given, as follows:

An Act respecting the counties of Brown and Crawford:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the governor and judges of the territory of Michigan:* That the county courts for the counties of Brown and Crawford, shall be held on the second Monday of July in every year.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted:* That the duties required by the act entitled "An Act to regulate the assessment and collection of territorial taxes," to be performed in the said counties, by the supervisor of territorial taxes, shall be performed by the sheriffs of the said counties respectively, and the duties required by the said act to be performed by the territorial treasurer, shall, within and for the said counties, be performed by the county commissioners of the said counties respectively, except so much as relates to the receipt of the taxes levied by the said act, and the prosecution of delinquent sheriffs and coroners, which last mentioned duties shall be performed by the county treasurers of the said counties respectively. And the taxes specified in the said act shall be collected agreeably to the provisions thereof, except as herein excepted, in the said counties, and the amount shall be paid into the treasury of the proper county, and expended, upon the order of the county commissioners, for any claims, which, by law, are payable at the county treasury.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted:* That the commissioners of the said counties shall not receive any compensation for their services.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted:* That the act passed the twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, entitled "An Act respecting the counties of Brown and Crawford," be

and the same is hereby repealed: *Provided,* That all rights which have accrued under the said act shall remain valid.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted:* That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after the thirty-first day of December next.

The same being adopted from the laws of one of the original States, to-wit, the State of Ohio, as far as necessary and suitable to the circumstances of the territory of Michigan.

Made, adopted and published at the city of Detroit, in the said territory, this 10th day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen.

LEWIS CASS,

Governor of the territory of Michigan.

A. B. WOODWARD.

JOHN GRIFFIN,

one of the judges of the territory of Michigan.

The county officers, at first, kept no records in a permanent way of their doings. Memoranda were made on shingles or bits of paper. The officers of the county continued to hold by appointment from the governor of the territory until 1825, after which, all except sheriffs, justices, judges and their clerks, were chosen by the people. This was in pursuance of an act of Congress directing the Legislative Council of Michigan to provide for the manner of their election.

#### LOCATING THE COUNTY SEAT.

In his proclamation of October 26, 1818, forming and naming the county of Crawford, Gov. Cass also, it will be remembered, located the county seat "at the village of Prairie du Chien."

But this language was of doubtful meaning, as there were at that time two villages upon the prairie; besides, no particular place was designated where the public buildings were to be erected. It became necessary, therefore, for the Legislative Council of the territory of Michigan to make plain what in the proclamation was of doubtful import, by passing an act



not only specifying particularly which of the two villages was to be the seat of justice, but to locate the precise spot where the public buildings were to be erected; so the following act was passed and approved July 24, 1824:

An Act to establish the seat of justice within the counties of Brown and Crawford.

*Whereas*, Lewis Cass, governor in and over the territory of Michigan, did, by proclamation, bearing date the 26th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, lay out all that tract of country to which the Indian title has been extinguished, and comprehended within certain boundaries therein defined, into two separate counties, to-wit: the counties of Brown and Crawford, and by one of the provisions of said proclamation, a majority of the judges of the county court of the county of Brown, were authorized and required to establish the seat of justice of said county at any point within six miles of the mouth of Fox river in said county, and whereas, the said judges have neglected to comply with the requisitions contained in said proclamation, to the great and manifest inconvenience of the people of said county; *and whereas, also*, by the said proclamation the seat of justice of the said county of Crawford was fixed at the village of Prairie du Chien, but no particular place within said village was designated where the public buildings should be erected, and it appearing doubtful by said proclamation which of the said villages upon said prairie were al-luded to in said proclamation; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Governor and Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan*, That the county commissioners in the county of Brown, or a majority of them, shall have power, and they are hereby required, on or before the first day of October next ensuing, to establish the seat of justice of said county of Brown, at any point they may deem expedient, within six miles of the mouth of Fox river.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the seat of justice of the county of Crawford shall

be, and the same hereby is established upon the farm lots situated at Prairie du Chien, numbered thirty-four and thirty-five upon the map or sketch of the claims to lands at said place, submitted to the commissioners in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and entered in the names of Pierre Lessard and Strange Poze, or upon whichever of the said lots, the three high mounds lying immediately below the village of St. Ferriole (so called), and above the lot claimed by Francis Lapoint, senior, may be found to be situated when the boundary lines of said lots are run by the surveyor, or may be otherwise ascertained; and the county commissioners are hereby required to erect the court-house upon the highest or center mound of the said three mounds, and all the other public buildings of said county in the immediate vicinity thereof, whenever the person who is owner of said mounds and the lands adjacent shall execute to the commissioners of said county, for the time being, for the use of said county, a quit claim deed of a lot which shall include the said three mounds, bounded in front by a certain road, leading from the village of St. Ferriole to the old French trading fort (so called), and extending in the rear of said mounds thirteen rods.

The owner of the lot which included "the said three mounds", was James Duane Doty, who immediately proceeded to quit claim to the county commissioners his interest therein by the following deed:

"Whereas, by the second section of an act of the Legislative Council of the territory of Michigan, entitled 'An Act to establish the seats of justice within the counties of Brown and Crawford,' approved by His Excellency, Lewis Cass, on the third day of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, it is provided 'that the seat of justice of the county of Crawford shall be, and the same hereby is established upon the farm lots situated at Prairie du Chien, numbered thirty-four and thirty-five, upon the map or sketch of the claims to lands at said place, submitted to the commissioners in the year one

thousand eight hundred and twenty, and ordered entered in the names of Pierre Lessard and Strange Poze, or upon whichever of the said three high mounds lying immediately below the village of St. Ferriolle, (so-called), and above the lot claimed by Francis LaPoint Sr., may be found to be situated when the boundary lines of said lots are run by the surveyor, or may be otherwise ascertained; and the county commissioners are hereby required to erect the court house upon the highest, or center mound of the said three mounds, and all the other public buildings of said county in the immediate vicinity thereof, whenever the person who is owner of said mounds and the lands adjacent, shall execute to the commissioners of said county for the time being, for the use of said county, a quit claim deed of a lot which shall include the said three mounds, bounded in front by a certain road leading from the village of St. Ferriolle to the old French trading fort (so called), and extending in the rear of said mounds 13 rods.

“And, whereas, the said Lessard and Strange Poze (or Powers), did, by deeds bearing date the twenty-third and twenty-fourth days of February, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, sell and convey the said town lots numbered thirty-four and thirty-five, in fee, to James Duane Doty;

“Now, therefore, be it kown, that I, the said James Duane Doty, being the owner of said mounds and lands adjacent thereto, (excepting and specially reserving such just claim as the United States may have as owners of the same), for and in consideration of the provisions contained in the act aforesaid, and for and in con-

sideration of the probable increase in value of lots aforesaid, from the erection of public buildings on the mounds before mentioned, and for divers other good and sufficient considerations, have bargained, sold and quit claimed, and by these presents do bargain, sell and quit claim unto the commissioners of said county of Crawford, for the time being, and to and for the use of the said county, all my right, title, interest, estate, claim and demand, both at law and in equity, and as well in possession as in expectancy, of, in and to a certain lot which shall include the said three mounds, bounded in front by a certain road leading from the village of St. Ferriolle to the ‘old French trading fort,’ (so called), and extending in the rear of said mounds thirteen rods; according to the following plat or sketch of that part of the Prairie du Chien upon which the said mounds are situated; that is to say: [Here a map is inserted]. Together with all and singular the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging.

“In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, this twenty-eighth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four. JAMES D. DOTY, [L.S.]

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of us, Robert Irwin, Jr., A. J. Irwin.

COUNTY OF BROWN, ss:

“Be it remembered, that on this thirty-first day of August, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, came before the undersigned, Justice, James Duane Doty, who acknowledged that he had executed the foregoing deed, for the purposes and uses therein expressed; all of which I do certify according to the statute.

ROBERT IRWIN, JR.,  
Justice of the Peace.”

## CHAPTER XIV.

## MILITARY OCCUPATION.

So much has been printed about a supposed "French Fort," as having once been in existence within the present limits of Crawford county that it would be thought strange should mention of it be wholly omitted in this connection. But the truth of history demands that we write it down.

## THE "FRENCH FORT"—A MYTH.

There was never on the "Prairie des Chiens"—never within what are now the boundaries of Crawford county—a French military post of any kind;—never a stockade or fortification built by the French, or while France held dominion over this region, at what is now Prairie du Chien; nor were French soldiers ever stationed here; no official French document has ever been discovered giving any account of a fort here, no traveler visiting the "prairie" during French domination in the northwest (and there were a number of them) mentions any fortification; no one has placed on record that he has been told that such was the fact by one who had seen anything like a French military post here. How then does it come to pass that writers are so emphatic in asserting that there *was* once a French fort on the "prairie?"

A Wisconsin historical writer of marked ability says:

"The exact time at which a military post was established at Prairie du Chien, has been the subject of much speculation, some putting it as late as 1775, while it is stated in a report of a committee of Congress, to have occurred in 1755, which was the year following the reconciliation of the French and Sacs and Foxes.

The latter date may be the correct one, as the French surrendered Canada to the English in 1760; but it is very evident that there must have been a post at a much earlier date, at or near the prairie. The evidence of this early occupation is found in the official documents of the taking possession of the Mississippi valley in the name of the French King, by 'Nicholas Perrot, commanding at the post of the Naudouesieux' at the post of St. Anthony, May 8, 1689, to which documents, among the names of witnesses, was 'Mons De Borie-Guillot, commanding the French in the neighborhood of Ouis-konehe, [Wisconsin] on the Mississippi.' No more suitable place could have been selected for a military post than Prairie du Chien, and from all the information thus far obtained, its location must be conceded as an established fact. Judge Geo. Gale, in his work on the Upper Mississippi; says, 'We may safely infer that the country about Prairie du Chien was occupied as a French post at least as early as April 20, 1689, and possibly the previous fall.'

It is now well known that the French were, in 1689, "on the Mississippi," it is equally well known that their post was many miles above what is now the city of Prairie du Chien. They were there commanded by Mons. De Borie-Guillot. It is stated to have been "in the neighborhood" of the Wisconsin river. Any one acquainted with early French documents knows that "in the neighborhood" are words in them of extremely doubtful import as to distance; places hundreds of miles away being put down frequently as being "in the neighbor-

hood." The writer cited also says that "it is stated in a report of a committee of Congress [that the building of the French Fort] occurred in 1775." What is here referred to is not "the report of a committee of Congress," but of one to Congress, in 1821, "concerning the land titles at Prairie des Chiens," given in full in this history in the chapter on private land claims. What that report says is this: "It is believed that not many years after its first discovery [i. e. the first discovery of the Upper Mississippi] in 1673, by the French, a permanent establishment was made by them at the Prairie des Chiens. Vestiges of an old and a strong *French* Fort are still discernable there, although it is stated to have been destroyed so early as in the first years of the Revolutionary War." It will be noticed that the year 1775 is not mentioned by the commissioners. An explanation of the "vestiges of an old and a strong *French* Fort" will hereafter be given.

The writer previously cited, having, "as a base of operations," the report from which the extract just given is taken, goes on to say:

"In the year 1755 the government of France established a permanent military post near the mouth of the Wisconsin, in consequence of which a number of French families settled in that vicinity, and established the village of Prairie du Chien. The fort near the Wisconsin, established in 1689, had evidently been abandoned sometime previous. By the treaty of Versailles in 1763, the village and fort followed the condition of the Canadas, and the Illinois country, as it was called, passed to the Crown of England. In 1783 the events of the American Revolution again changed their condition, and June 1st, 1796, the village and fort formally surrendered to the United States."

Now, this reads like veritable history; but we have already seen that it has no foundation in fact. But, before discussing further the matter at issue it is necessary to introduce the journals of two travelers both of the name of Long. The first is that of Capt. J. Long:

"In the month of June, 1780, news was brought [to Mackinaw] from the Mississippi, that the Indian traders had deposited their furs at La Prairie des Chiens, or Dogs' Field, (where there is a town of considerable note, built after the Indian manner) under the care of Mons. Longlad [Langlade], the king's interpreter; and that the Americans were in great force at the Illinois, a town inhabited by different Nations, at the back of the Kentucky State, under the Spanish government, who have a fort on the opposite shore commanded by an officer and about twelve men, to prevent illicit trade.

"The commanding officer at Michillimackinac [Mackinaw], asked me to accompany a party of Indians and Canadians to the Mississippi, which I consented to with the utmost cheerfulness. We left the post with thirty-six southern Indians, of the Attigamies [Fox Indians] and Sioux Nations, and twenty Canadians, in nine large birch canoes, laden with Indian presents. After a march of three days I was taken ill, which I attributed to hard living in the Nipegon country; considering, however, the urgency of the business, and that there was not any one of the party capable of acting as interpreter, I struggled with my indisposition; apprehending, also, that if I could not pursue the journey, I should be exposed to great inconveniences; and therefore I increased my endeavours, determined to risk my life at all hazards.

"The fourth day we encamped at Lac les Puans [Winnebago Lake], so called, I apprehend, from the Indians who reside on the banks being naturally filthy; here we got plenty of deer and bears, Indian corn, melons and other fruit. The southern Indians have more villages, and are better civilized than the northern, the climate being warm, and nature more prolific, which enables them to raise the fruits of the earth without much labor. Their houses are covered with birch bark, and decorated with bows and arrows, and weapons of war. Their beds are bark and matts made of rushes.

"We pursued our voyage to Ouisseonsin [Wisconsin], a fine river, with a strong current for about sixty leagues, which our canoes ran down in a day and a half; and upon which we saw an immense quantity of ducks, geese and other fowl. On this river we were obliged to unload our canoes, in order to transport our goods across the portage, about two miles in length. We encamped on the banks, and intended setting off at break of day, but one of the Indians was bitten by a rattlesnake, which Mr. Adair calls the bright inhabitant of the woods, and which had fourteen rattles.

"Mr. Beatty relates that as he was preaching to the Indians and others, at a small house near Juniata river, a rattlesnake crept into the room but was happily discovered and killed; and before the people could well recover themselves, a snake of another kind was discovered among the assembly, which was also killed without any other detriment than disturbing the congregation, which surprised him very much, as it was a matter of astonishment how these reptiles could crawl into the house without being offended by some one, and which always excites them to bite.

"The Indians say that when a woman is in labor, holding the tail of a rattlesnake in her hand, and shaking the rattles, assists her delivery. It is always observable that the Indians take out the bag which contains the poison of this venomous reptile, and carry it alive in their medicine box when they go to war.

"This unfortunate accident retarded our journey till the unhappy sufferer relieved himself by cutting out the wounded part from the calf of his leg, and applying salt and gunpowder, and binding it up with the leaves of the red willow tree; he was soon able to proceed, bearing the pain with that fortitude for which the savages are so eminently distinguished.

"At the close of the next day we encamped near the river, and it rained very hard; the Indians made some bark huts. One of them walking some distance in the woods, discovered

a small log house, in which he found a white man, with his arms cut off, lying on his back. We conjectured he had been settled at the spot, and killed by a bad Indian, which must have happened very recently, as he was not putrid. Before our departure we buried him.

"The next day we arrived at the forks of the Mississippi, where were 200 Indians of the Nation of the Renards or Foxes, on horseback, armed with spears, bows and arrows. They did not seem pleased with our appearance, which Warbisbar, the chief of our band, told me. Just before we landed they dismounted, and surveyed us. The Sioux asked me if I was afraid. I told them I had seen a greater number of savages before, and more wild than any of the southern Indians. Warbisbar gave orders to strike ashore. As soon as we landed, the Renards took our Indians by the hand, and invited them into their camp. In the space of an hour they prepared a feast, which consisted of five Indian dogs, bear, beaver, deer, mountain cat, and raccoon, boiled in bear's grease, and mixed with huckleberries. After the repast, the Indians danced and sung. A council was then held, when the chief of the Renards addressed Warbisbar to this effect: 'Brothers, we are happy to see you; we have no bad heart against you; although we are not the same Nation by language, our hearts are the same; we are all Indians, and are happy to hear our great Father has pity on us, and sends us wherewithal to cover us, and enable us to hunt.'

"To which Warbisbar made answer: 'It is true, my children, our great Father has sent me this way to take the skins and furs that are in the Dog's Field, under Capt. Longlad's charge, least the Great Knives, (meaning the Americans) should plunder them. I am come with the white man (meaning me) to give you wherewithal to cover you, and ammunition to hunt.'

"When the speech was finished, we immediately distributed the presents, got our canoes into the water, and left the Renards in the most friendly manner. After seven days' journey

we arrived at La Prairie des Chiens, where we found the merchants' peltry, in packs, in a log house, guarded by Capt. Longlad [Langlade], and some Indians, who were rejoiced to see us. After resting sometime, we took about 300 packs of the best skins, and filled the canoes. Sixty more which remained, were burned, to prevent the enemy from taking them, having ourselves no room to stow any more, and proceed on our journey back to Michillimackinac. About five days after our departure, we were informed that the Americans came to attack us, but to their extreme mortification we were out of their reach. Seventeen days after leaving La Prairie des Chiens, we arrived at Lac les Puans, where we found a party of Indians encamped. The next day we embarked, and arrived at Michillimackinac, after an absence of eighty days. Soon after my return, I waited on the commanding officer, expecting payment for my services, but was referred for satisfaction to the Indian traders, from whom I never received any compensation."

It may be here remarked that the current tradition among the French Canadian inhabitants at Prairie des Chiens, as to a French fort having once been in existence on the "prairie" was supplemented with another tradition that it was burned in the second year of the Revolutionary War. Now this "second year," to the inhabitants, was the year 1780; that is, to the French and Canadians, but more especially to the Indians of the upper lakes; for, not until 1779, had the contest between the mother country and the colonies made much if any impression, either at Mackinaw or Green Bay. The reader should here bear in mind that it was in 1780 that the sixty packs of furs were burned, and doubtless the log house with them; as the Americans were hourly expected from below, and did actually arrive in five days from that time, to attack the place.

The other journal of which mention has been made, is that of Maj. S. H. Long, who, in 1817 made a tour to the portage of the Fox

and Wisconsin rivers; returned to Prairie du Chien and made a voyage to the Falls of St. Anthony, in a six-oared skiff, accompanied by a Mr. Hempstead as interpreter, and by two young men named King and Gun, grandsons of Capt. Jonathan Carver, who were going up to the Sauteurs to establish their claim to lands granted by those tribes to their grandfather. The day after his arrival (July 23d,) he examined the country to find a location better adapted for a post than the one then in use, but did not succeed. While here he made excursions in the surrounding country, and refers to the remains of ancient earthworks above the mouth of the Wisconsin, more numerous and of greater extent than had heretofore been noticed.

The following is his description of the ancient mounds—prehistoric earth works:

"The remains of ancient works, constructed probably for military purposes, were found more numerous and of greater extent on the highlands, just above the mouth of the Wisconsin, than any of which a description has been made public, or that have as yet been discovered in the western country. There the parapets and mounds were found connected in one series of works. Whenever there was an angle in the principal lines, a mound of the largest size was erected at the angle; the parapets were terminated by mounds at each extremity, and also at the gateways. No ditch was observed on either side of the parapet. In many places the lines were composed of parapets and mounds in conjunction, the mounds being arranged along the parapets at their usual distance from each other, and operating as flank defences to the lines.

"The Indians in the vicinity of Prairie du Chien can give no account of these ancient works, and their only mode of explaining their existence is by supposing that the country was inhabited at a period anterior to the most remote traditions, by a race of white men similar to those of European origin, and that they were cut off by their fore-fathers. It is said that tomahawks of brass and other metals, different

from those in use among the present Indians, have been found under the surface of the ground, [Keating.] and stories are told of gigantic skeletons being often disinterred in the neighborhood. Mr. Brisbois, who has been for a long time a resident of Prairie du Chien, informs me that he saw the skeletons of eight persons that were found in digging a cellar near his house, lying side by side. They were of gigantic size, measuring about eight feet from head to foot. He added, that he took a leg bone of one of them, and placed it by the side of his own leg, in order to compare the length of the two, the bone of the skeleton extended six inches above his knee. None of these bones could be preserved, as they crumbled to dust soon after they were exposed to the atmosphere." \*

What bearing this extract from the journal of Maj. Long has upon the subject of the "Old French Fort" will be discerned by a careful consideration of the following from Isaac Lee, the agent appointed to receive claims to land at "Prairie des Chiens" in 1820:

"The remains of what is commonly called the 'Old French Fort' are yet [1820] very distinguishable. Though capacious and apparently strong, it was probably calculated for defense against musketry and small arms only. None can recollect the time of the erection of the fort—it was far beyond the memory of the oldest; nor can the time of its erection be determined by any evidence to be obtained. Some difference of opinion seems to exist there [at Prairie des Chiens] as to the question whether it was originally built by the French or by the Spanish government. It is evidently very ancient."

That "the remains of ancient works, constructed probably for military purposes," as mentioned by Maj. S. H. Long, had (in the case of one of them), been used for the purpose of erecting upon it the log house described by

Capt. J. Long, seems extremely probable. The burning of this log house "in the second year of the Revolutionary War"—in reality in 1780—accounts for the tradition as to the French Fort having been then burned; and "evidently very ancient" earthworks seen by Isaac Lee were manifestly one of the series of prehistoric earthworks first described by Maj. Long.

Concerning the "French Fort," the following is to be found in the "Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wisconsin," published in 1878:

"With regard to the establishment of a French post or fort at the prairie previous to the beginning of the present settlement in 1783, the only account in contemporaneous records, is that by Lieut. Long, of the trading establishment burned in 1780. The current supposition of something earlier and more important, is founded in a misconception of the local tradition preserved among the early inhabitants of the place, as embodied in the testimony before Isaac Lee, in 1820, and that gentleman's report in relation to the same. \* \* \*

The map accompanying Lee's report, locates \* \* what was commonly called the 'Old French Fort,' burned during the Revolutionary War, which he refers to 'as apparently strong, as the remains were yet very distinguishable.' The location and the circumstances and date of burning, harmonize with Long's account of the trading post; the remains of a wooden structure burned in 1780, would scarcely be distinguishable in 1820; but a contemporary account, perhaps sheds some light on the nature of these so-called remains, and shows how easily Lee might have been misled by proximity of location and current popular opinion. In 1817, Maj. Stephen H. Long, of the United States army, found at Prairie du Chien some earthworks, which he describes as of ancient construction, for military purposes, delineating their fortified lines, parapets, gateways and sally-ports. The Indians, he says, ascribed them to a race of white people like the present,

\* As Maj. Long's Journal is elsewhere quoted from in this history, we only give so much as relates to the ancient earthworks, in this connection, for reasons which will soon appear.

from the manner in which human skeletons were found buried in them. They were, in fact, a series of interesting monuments of the labor of the pre-historic mound-builders, as subsequent investigation has shown."

The location of what the people of Crawford county called the "Old French Trading Fort" in 1824, identical with the so-called "French Fort" of 1820 and 1821, but which we have shown was not a *French Fort* at all, but the remains of a pre-historic earth-work on which there was erected during the first year of the Revolution a log house, used as a store house by fur traders, and burned in 1780, has been of late a matter of dispute. But its position, whatever it may have been, has no historical significance; and we shall not, therefore, attempt to fix its site.

#### THE FIRST FORT CRAWFORD.

The building of a regular fort in Crawford county, by the United States, was begun on the "prairie" in 1816. The site was that of Fort McKay, described in another chapter. Here, during that summer, four companies of United States riflemen were employed in the work. The quarters consisted of long block-houses, with shed roofs sloping outward, and arranged so as to inclose a space 340 feet square. These walls were covered at opposite corners—the northwest and southeast—by two square block-houses, of two stories each, the upper story placed diagonally across the first, so as to present eight faces. These were each armed with two pieces of artillery. The remaining corners were stockaded. The works contained accommodations for five companies.

While the work was going on, James H. Lockwood arrived at Prairie du Chien; and he records the following concerning the fort:

"When I arrived at Prairie du Chien, Sept. 16, 1816, there were four companies of riflemen under command of Brevet Maj. Morgan, building a fort, which was constructed by placing the walls of the quarters and store houses on the lines, the highest outside, and the slope of

the roof descending within the fort. There were block houses at two corners and large pickets at the others, so as entirely to enclose the fort. John W. Johnson, from Maryland, was United States factor, with a certain Mr. [Robert B.] Belt as assistant and book-keeper, and John P. Gates was interpreter. Col. Alexander McNair was the sutler of the fort, and his nephew, Thomas McNair, and John L. Findly, were the clerks in his employ and had charge of the business."

The work when completed was called "Fort Crawford," in honor of the (then) Secretary of the Treasury of the United States. As the name was afterwards extended to the county, it is proper that some mention should be made of the man.

#### WILLIAM HARRIS CRAWFORD,

a lawyer and statesman, was born in Nelson Co., Va., Feb. 24, 1772; he died near Elberton, Ga., Sept. 15, 1834. His father, Joel, in 1783, removed his family to Georgia, but died in 1788; and young Crawford, after assisting his mother to support the family by teaching, for several years, at length studied law. In 1799 he commenced practice in Lexington, Oglethorpe county, and soon became distinguished in his profession. In 1800 he was appointed, with Horatio Marbury, to revise the laws of Georgia, and compiled the first digest of her laws, which was published in Savannah, in 1802. He was a member of the State Legislature, 1803-7; United States Senator, 1807-13; and was its president *pro tem* in March, 1812. In this body he shone pre-eminently, soon making himself known and respected by the force of natural ability, energy and loftiness of mind. His influence was further increased by his perfect integrity and unflinching firmness. He evinced, in the consideration of many important and exciting questions, statesmanship of a high order. He was opposed to the policy of a war with Great Britain, but finally voted for it.

Having declined the war secretaryship in 1813, Mr. Crawford accepted the post of minis-



ter to France, where he remained two years, and acquired the friendship of La Fayette, who appointed him agent for his American lands, and with whom, after his return home, he carried on a confidential correspondence. On his return to the United States, he was appointed to the war department, but in October, 1816, was transferred to the treasury department, the duties of which he continued to discharge until 1825, when he became the democratic nominee for the Presidency, but was defeated. A long and severe sickness destroyed all chance of his election by the House, and removed him henceforth from the political arena. Mr. Adams offered to continue him as Secretary of the Treasury; but he declined. He was strongly opposed to the nullification movement, and was generally regarded as the greatest of the citizens of Georgia. In 1827 he was appointed judge of the northern circuit court of that State, which office he retained until his death.

#### A REIGN OF TERROR.

United States troops landed in Prairie du Chien, June 21, 1816, under Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Smith. Immediately, there succeeded a reign of terror.

The conduct of the commanding officer was not calculated to win the good will of the people. Choosing to regard them as intruders, he turned out the occupants of such houses as he wished to use for the purposes of the troops. Fort Crawford was commenced, as we have seen, on the site of Fort McKay, and the dwellings in the vicinity were ordered to be taken down and removed. Upon Gen. Smith's departure, he directed the officer left in command, as shown in another chapter, to destroy the settlement and send the male portion of the people under arrest to distant points to be tried for the offense of inhabiting the place, whenever he should see proper. Lieut. Col. Talbot Chambers assumed command during the following winter. One of his first acts was the arrest of Michael Brisbois upon a charge of treason for having engaged in the British service during the War

of 1812. He was sent to St. Louis under arrest; but no charge being preferred against him, he was discharged. Upon some trivial pretext, Joseph Rolette was banished to an island in the Mississippi, where he was compelled to pass the winter. Citizens of the place were tried by courts martial, and sometimes publicly whipped for slight disobedience of the commanding officer's orders. Disputes between citizens upon a mere matter of property were dragged before military tribunals, whose decrees were rigidly enforced. The small beginnings of civil authority previously established were thus almost altogether supplanted for a while. Perhaps, in the main, the ends of justice were practically attained in the regulation of disputes and the punishment of offenses; but there was no excuse for treating the unoffending inhabitants as a conquered people. Happily, the authority of those mentioned was brief, and their successors were men of less arbitrary proclivities.

Concerning the arbitrary acts of Gen. Smith and Col. Chambers, one of the pioneers, James H. Lockwood, says:

"Brevet General Smythe [Smith], the colonel of the rifle regiment, who came to Prairie du Chien in 1816 to erect Fort Crawford, arrived in June and selected the ground where the stockade had been built and the ground in front to include the most thickly inhabited part of the village. The ground thus selected encroached upon the ancient burying ground of the Prairie, so that the inhabitants were obliged to remove their dead to another place.

"During the winter of 1816 or early in the spring of 1817, Lieut. Col. Talbot Chambers arrived at Fort Crawford, and assumed the command, and the houses in the village being an obstruction to the garrison, in the spring of 1817, he ordered those houses in front and about the fort to be taken down by their owners, and removed to the lower end of the village, where he pretended to give them lots.

"When Gen. Smythe [Smith], first arrived at Prairie du Chien, he arrested Michael Brisbois,

then the most prominent citizen of the Prairie, and placed him under a guard of soldiers for several days, charging him with treason, for having taken up arms against the United States. After keeping him in duress for several days, he was sent on board of a boat under a guard to St. Louis, Gen. Smythe refusing to let Mrs. Brisbois send her husband a package of beaver pelts to raise money in St. Louis to pay his expenses. The guard took him to St. Louis and landed him on the levee, where they left him, not having delivered him over to the civil authorities, or instituted any proceedings against him, but left him there without money or means to return home. But Mr. Brisbois was known in St. Louis, at least by reputation, and readily found friends who assisted him to return home. During his absence the commandant, who I believe was Lieut. Col. Hamilton, ordered Mrs. Brisbois and family out of her house, and took possession of it, in which to spread the contractor's flour to dry; and also took possession of Mr. Brisbois' bake-house, with about two hundred cords of dry oven wood, which was used by the commissary or contractor, for which aggressions and injuries Mr. Brisbois received no compensation.

"Although in a time of peace, and our government had received the country by treaty stipulation, the officers of the army treated the inhabitants as a conquered people, and the commandants assumed all the authority of governors of a conquered country, arraigning and trying the citizens by courts-martial and sentencing them to ignominious punishments. This was more particularly the case under the reign of Col. Chambers, who was a brave soldier in the field, but a weak man and not qualified for a commandant, as he was generally governed by some favorite officer or officers, who, not being responsible for the outrage committed by their superior, would induce him to do acts to gratify their whims or prejudices.

"Charles Menard, the husband of the notable Mary Ann, was arrested, having been charged with selling whisky to the soldiers. He was

brought about five miles from his residence under a guard, tried by a court-martial, whipped, and with a bottle hung to his neck, marched through the streets, with music playing the rogue's march after him. Menard protested that he had not sold liquor to the soldiers, but that they asked him for it, and that he refused to let them have any, as he did not keep liquor for sale.

"And during Col. Chamber's reign, for some alleged immoral conduct, he banished Joseph Rolette to an island about seven miles above Prairie du Chien, where he obliged him to pass the winter, but in the spring permitted him to return to the village to attend to his business, as his outfits were coming in from the Indian country."

#### A MILDER REIGN.

In 1819, Lieut. Col. Leavenworth was sent with the 5th regiment, of United States Infantry, to occupy Forts Crawford and Armstrong, and to build a fort at the mouth of the St. Peters; and, from this time onward, affairs at the first mentioned post were conducted less arbitrarily towards the citizens of Crawford county. During this year, Maj. Nathan Clarke, of the United States army, was at the fort with his wife. Here, his daughter, afterward Mrs. Charlotte O. Vanclève, was born. The next year (1820) the garrison consisted of a company of infantry, ninety-six strong, under command of Capt. Fowle. In 1826, because of high water, the troops for awhile abandoned the fort and took possession of the higher ground east of the slough. This was in May, and the water rose twenty-six feet in the Mississippi, above low water mark. Another notable flood occurred in 1828.

Fort Crawford continued to be occupied until 1826, when it was evacuated, the troops being transferred to Fort Snelling; but it was re-occupied in August, 1827, by four companies from Fort Snelling, under Maj. Fowle, in consequence of troubles with the Winnebagoes. In 1829, Maj. Stephen Watts Kearney was in com-

mand. His successor was Col. Zachary Taylor, who continued to occupy the fort until the year 1831, when the garrison was removed by him to a new fort on the "prairie," leaving the sick in the old hospital and the surgeon in the old fort. The next, however, the complete evacuation took place.

#### THE FIRST FORT CRAWFORD IN 1833.

In 1833, the English traveler, Latrobe, was, as already mentioned, in Prairie du Chien. Of the first Fort Crawford, he says:

"To the north of the village an ancient quadrangular block-house, built of squared logs, and as usual, so contrived as to present eight faces; the upper part of the square standing across the angles of the lower, marks the position of the old military post." The fort was located on village lots numbered 9, 10 and 11, as marked on the map of 1820, accompanying the report of Isaac Lee, on private land claims in "Prairie des Chiens."\* It was near what is now (1884) the Dousman residence, in the fourth ward of the city of Prairie du Chien.

#### ZACHARY TAYLOR

was born in Orange county, Virginia, 1790, and was descended from an English family who settled in that State in 1692. His father, Col. Richard Taylor, was a companion-in-arms of Washington, and bore a name dreaded in Indian warfare; his mother, as usual in the case of men who in any way distinguished themselves, was a woman of high spirit and intelligence. The military life of Zachary Taylor, who was always noted for his hardihood, commenced at the out-break of the war with England in 1812, when he was commissioned as lieutenant, and sent to defend the borders against the Indians; his great exploit on this occasion was the defence of Fort Harrison on the Wabash, at the head of a garrison numbering only fifty-two men. He rose from grade to grade till he became general in the subsequent Indian wars of Florida and Arkansas, but ac-

quired his great popularity in the invasion of Mexico, 1846, when he crossed the Rio Grande, and gained in succession the battles of Palo-Alto, Reseca-de-la-Palma, Monterey and Buena-Vista. His character is very well expressed by the nick-name of 'Rough-and-ready; given to him, according to a very natural practice on the part of a free people, of characterizing, by an expressive term, a popular favorite. Gen. Taylor was elected President in November, 1848, and entered upon office in March, 1849. He was carried off suddenly, before completing his term, by an attack of cholera, in July, 1850, and was succeeded by Vice-President Fillmore.

#### NOTABLE EVENTS.

There are many events worthy of record which happened during the occupation of the first Fort Crawford, no one, however, more tragic or fatal in its consequences than the following, related by a person who was on the "prairie" at the time, and a soldier:

"The old Fort Crawford was then [June, 1829,] commanded by Maj. Kearney, and garrisoned by the first regiment of the United States Infantry. Among the soldiers were many persons who possessed thorough and even classical educations, whom adventure or some other motive, had enlisted in the United States army. There was a young man of this class in Fort Crawford, named Reneka. He was a favorite with both the officers and men. His strict, soldier-like attention to duty, and courteous bearing, made him many friends, and he bid fair to occupy the highest non-commissioned rank in the army. But in an unguarded moment he allowed himself to accept the proffered invitation of his comrades, to join them in a social glass, and—fell.

"Unaccustomed to liquor, the poison soon flew to his brain, and he complained of being dreadfully sick; he immediately left his companions, and started for the barracks. Entering the sally-port with a firm but excited tread, he passed the sentry on his way to his quarters, from which he was directly afterward seen to issue

\*See American State Papers—Public Lands, Vol IV; also Lyon's Map of 1828, of the survey of private land claims, at Prairie des Chiens.

with a rifle. The rifle was one which he had purchased a short time before, for the purpose of hunting, and always kept it in his quarters, ready loaded.

"It is supposed that, on reaching his room, the liquor he drank had made him crazy, for taking his rifle he rushed out into the parade, and raving like a maniac, he whirled the heavy rifle around his head. Aroused by the disturbance, the officer of the day, Lieut. Mackenzie\* came out of his quarters at the further end of the long parade, and calling to the corporal of the guard, told him to "take that fellow to the guard-house." Hardly had the order escaped his lips, when Reneka observed him, and instantly poising his rifle, shot Mackenzie through the brain. It was a long shot, but a deadly one. In making it, Reneka had killed his bosom friend. He was arrested and confined in the guard-house, and when he became sane, and learned he had killed his best friend, no words of mine can picture the heart-rending agony of remorse that seized him. But he was delivered over to the civil authorities, convicted of murder, and sentenced to be hung and brought back here to be executed.

"The gallows was erected over the slough, and the day of execution arrived. I did not go to see him hung, but it is said he made an affecting speech to his comrades, warning them against strong drink. He showed up his own case in the strongest light, and described the grief of his mother when she should hear of her boy's disgrace. Many an old veteran shed tears when Reneka was swung off into eternity. But this is not an isolated instance where youth, talent, hope—all, were sacrificed to king alcohol. The army and early history, present a multitude of such victims; even now, none are exempt from the baleful effects of the curse; every individual feels, or has felt, personally or socially, its injurious influence."

\*John Mackenzie was a native of North Carolina, graduated at West Point, and entered the army in 1819 as second lieutenant; promoted to first lieutenant, November, 1822, and killed as stated in the text, Sept. 26, 1828.

In 1829, a daughter of Col. Taylor was married in the fort to Dr. A. C. Wood. The marriage of another daughter to Jefferson Davis has been the cause of much speculation and a good deal of romancing. Concerning this marriage a recent writer says:

"Many are the historical reminiscences given of the early days of Fort Crawford, and many are the incidents and adventures of the men who subsequently became conspicuous in the annals of our history. Perhaps none figure more conspicuously, or so often, as does Jeff. Davis. Here [in Fort Crawford] he first received his first initiation into the vigor of military life on the frontier; but, as he remained here but a short time, being ordered to Fort Winnebago as speedily as possible by Col. Taylor, who disliked him heartily, we cannot credit that he figured in all the incidents related of him, as it would have necessitated a continual season of wakefulness and fasting, neither of which are leading characteristics of our Jeff.

"In Fort Crawford it was, so it is said, that he surreptitiously wooed and won the fair Noxie Taylor, and the consequent ill-will of *pater familias*, Old Zack! This has passed into history; and the window through which she escaped, and the rope by which she descended to the arms of her lover, would be shown as evidence of the truthfulness of the romance, had the house been left standing and the rope preserved; but unfortunately for posterity, they are numbered among the things that were, and inasmuch as she was but twelve and he twenty when he was stationed here, and they did not marry for over four years after this, and then in Louisiana, the faithful chronologist is forced to write, upon the authority of one who learned his first words in english from Jeff., that the whole story, or rather all the stories of the elopement are of the purest fiction."

A correspondent of *The Teller*, in 1883, writing from Mississippi, reports an interview with Mr. and Mrs. Jeff. Davis, from which we clip

the following regarding his reputed elopement with Gen. Taylor's daughter:

"When he mentioned the *Gazette*, I felt that my time had come, and that it was now, or never about that elopement from Prairie du Chien. You see it was only a year or so ago that 'Johannes Factotum,' (who is no other than Geo. W. Perrigo, the genial editor of the *Gazette*) wrote for the *Globe-Democrat* of St. Louis, a long yarn about that elopement—a yarn which the amiable Johannes contradicted the very next week and which elicited from Mr. Davis a private letter to a friend in relation to the matter in hand. Parts of this letter have been published, and the part that concerns us at present is here inserted, being an authoritative answer to my question. 'Did you or did you not, Mr. Othello Davis, steal away that old man's daughter at the barracks at Fort du Chien and marry her against the consent and wishes of her friends and kindred?'

"Mr. Davis doth 'a round, unvarnished tale deliver' about the whole business and here we have it: 'The story of my elopement with Gen. Taylor's daughter is as unfounded as the rest. I was one of the two officers selected from the First Infantry for promotion in the new regiment of dragoons, organized in March, 1833, which separated us from Col. Taylor's regiment. In 1835 I went to Kentucky, where Miss Taylor was with her father's sister, near Louisville, and there married her in the presence of Gen. Taylor's brother, sister, his son-in-law and daughter (Dr. and Mrs. Wood), with many other members of the family. I served under Taylor in the siege of Monterey and was one of the commissioners to arrange for its capitulation. \* \* \* Every incident in the letter of 'Johannes Factotum' is totally destitute of the least foundation in truth. That letter placed me at Prairie du Chien in 1834, when I was serving in the First Dragoons, U. S. A., of Arkansas.'

"It seems a pity to have that nice little elopement story torn into threads and patches

in this cold-blooded, unromantic day, but the truth about these things we must have, no matter what the cost of ink and paper and in wear and tear of tender sensibilities."

A soldier named Barrette was killed in 1831, by J. P. Hall, an officer, who struck the man on his head with a pitch-fork handle, and broke his skull. Hall was acquitted.

JOHN H. FONDA'S NARRATIVE. \*

In the year 1829, Col. Zack Taylor arrived and took command of old Fort Crawford. Col. Taylor was a brave man and a good officer. It was about this time that large bodies of recruits were coming on, would stop here a few days, and then continue up or down the river, as they might be ordered. The army regulations then admitted of enlisting for a term of three or five years. Taking advantage of this, I enlisted in April, of 1829, for a term of three years, previous to the rescinding of the article permitting that term of enlistment. Under the command of Taylor I was a corporal, and attained the rank of quarter-master's sergeant. Having a natural turn for such things, I had acquired a good knowledge of military tactics, and being then free from the prevailing habit of drinking liquor, an evil common to the soldier, I, perhaps, (if the truth is known,) stood high in the estimation of my superior officers. I said that Taylor was a brave officer, and now repeat it, asserting that he was ignorant of fear. On one occasion when all the soldiers were mustered for "dress parade," Taylor came sauntering in from the quarters, and running his eye along the front rank, observed a large stout German recruit out of line. The German was a raw recruit, anxious to do his duty, but did not understand the English language. So when the order was given to "dress," the soldier remained as before. Col. Taylor remarked this, and thinking it an act of wilful neglect on the soldier's part, walked up to him and after one or two trials, got hold of his ears, and shook the fellow severely. This treatment was called "wor-

\* Written in 1858.

ling," a favorite mode of punishment with Taylor, but the German not knowing how to appreciate it, nor why it was inflicted upon him, had no sooner got his head free than drawing back, he struck Taylor a blow that felled him to the ground like a log. This was mutiny, and the officers and guards would have cut him down, if Taylor had not rose up and said, "let that man alone, he will make a good soldier," and the German was allowed to go back to his place and never got punished for his insubordination. After he could speak our language, I found him an intelligent man, and an agreeable companion. He afterwards became one of the most faithful soldiers in the garrison, was promoted, and served in the Black Hawk War of 1832.

A depredation had been committed by the Fox and Sauk Indians on the whites at the mines. A number of horses were stolen, and word was received at the fort that assistance from the troops was necessary to recover them. Lieut. Gardenier was immediately put in command of a body of soldiers, and sent down the river to Dubuque, where the Indians were said to be encamped. I accompanied Lieut. Gardenier\* as pilot of the line. We arrived at the mouth of the slough, after dark one night, and encamped. It rained hard all night, and next day, and though the bluffs where Dubuque is buried, and all the country was thoroughly searched, yet no Indians were discovered, and we got neither horses nor glory on that occasion, but I got a better knowledge of the mineral region than I had previous to this expedition. At Dubuque, the country was rough, wild and wooded, with few indications of civilization; and across the Mississippi at Galena, the face of the country was rugged and rocky, but the discovery of mineral had caused an excitement that brought emigrants there in swarms, who, on their arrival would go *pros-*

*pecting*, frequently making fortunes, but oftener failing to make anything.

It was during Taylor's command, in the year 1829, that the present Fort Crawford was commenced. It was known that I came down the Wisconsin river, and therefore Taylor chose me to pilot the men up along that river to a given point, where they were to cut timber for building the fort. I guided them as far as where Helena now is. We found such timber as was needed, and the men commenced cutting down the trees, and preparing the logs to raft down stream. I returned to the fort, having performed the duty allotted me, to the satisfaction of the commandant. This apparently raised me in favor, for I was appointed to do much outside duty, and frequently had a file of men under me. Many a time was I sent out on special duty, which none would have been entrusted with but such as could command the implicit confidence of Old Zack himself. In an early stage of the fort's erection, Col. Taylor sent for me, to know where would be the best place to burn lime. I told him that the stone along the bluff, to the eastward was of a sandy formation, but I was sufficiently acquainted with the west side of the river, to know that plenty of good limestone existed there. He then gave me directions to take a file of men, and go over and find a convenient spot to make a kiln. It was an easy matter to have told of several with certainty, but it was always my motto to "obey orders, if you break owners," so, following his directions, I took two men and started across the Mississippi in a *piroque*. This species of water-craft was a dug-out made from the trunk of a mammoth pine. In the center of this large canoe was rigged a mast, with a large square sail. There was no wind, so we had to propel it with paddles. On reaching the west side, below where the town of McGregor now is, we turned the dug-out down stream, and running along the bluff until we reached the coulee where old Jack Frost then lived, and there landed. Near this coulee,

\* John R. B. Gardenier, a native of New York, entered West Point as a cadet in 1823; was appointed brevet Second Lieut. July 1, 1828. First Lieut., 1836; assistant Com. Subsistence and Captain, 1839; and died at Dardanelle Springs, Ark., June 24, 1850.

(at the present day known as Limestone Coulee,) we soon found suitable stone in abundance. There was no difficulty in doing this, for a better quality of stone or more of it, cannot be found, even at this day, than is in the bluffs south of McGregor. The place picked out, we had nothing more to do but return to the fort.

The men who were with me were both stonemasons. One was known by the name of Dunbar, a lively, fearless fellow, ready for any mischief; the other, as Baird, a timid person, who was afraid of Indians, of dying, drowning—in fact anything that had any affinity to danger. It was a warm, sultry day, and we continued to loiter in the cool shade, 'neath the bluffs, conversing, lolling on the grass, occasionally jerking a piece of rock out on the mirror-like surface of the Mississippi (that being the way we worked for the government) until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. I had prophesied a storm that day, on account of the calm; but my predictions sometimes failed, and no attention was paid to my remark, until we heard a deep, distant rumble, and Baird jumped up and said, "what's that?" I knew that it was the coming storm, for lying on the ground, I heard the thunder distinctly, and looking up, I saw the fleecy clouds borne on the wind over the bluffs; but winking at Dunbar, he suggested the howling of wolves. This was very probable, for wolves were more common than they are now, and the wildness of the place gave weight to the idea; but to increase his fright, I attempted to account for the growing darkness and roaring thunder on some volcanic principle. A new terror seized him, and casting a hasty glance up at the wild, rugged, precipitous bluffs, he implored us to hasten back, and made off in double quick time. It was now time to think of returning, and going down to the piroque, found Baird crouched in the bottom, shivering with fear. We told him to get in the bow, and trimming the sail, Dunbar took charge of it,

while I sat in the stern to steer. We waited for the storm to burst upon us.

Drops of rain commenced falling, the river became ruffled, the thunder sounded nearer, at last the storm burst with terrific fury. This was our time; putting out from the shelter of the bluff, the wind struck us, and away went the piroque, plowing through the waves, dashing the spray from its bows, and leaving a foaming wake astern. With the wind blowing a perfect hurricane, and with the thunder, lightning, rain and water on a general tear, Dunbar and I were in our element. But how was it with Baird? Poor fellow! he sat in the canoe, praying us to take down the sail (the piroque would have instantly filled had we done so), but seeing we did not answer his prayers, and thinking he was certainly to be drowned, he appealed to Heaven. One exclamation of his was, "Oh, Lord, if I must die let the gallows claim its own!" We laughed at his fear as he continued to curse, pray, blaspheme, and finally to threaten us, when Dunbar told him to stop his noise. This made him cower down, but when the canoe struck the government landing he was standing in the bow, and the sudden jerk pitched him headlong, a distance of twenty feet out on shore. He recovered himself, and taking to his heels, ran to the fort, never once halting until he was safe in his quarters. I made my report to quarter-master Garland, and was afterwards sent back with a body of men to make lime; but poor Baird did not go with us, for he could never be induced to go boating on the Mississippi again.

It was in the fall of 1829, while the present Fort Crawford was building, that Col. Z. Taylor ordered a body of men to proceed to the pineries on Menomonee river, there to cut logs, hew square timbers, make plank and shingles to be used in the construction of the fort and its defences. The number of soldiers drafted for the purpose was seventy, besides three officers and myself. Col. Taylor himself came to me as he had done before, and did afterward, and said

he wanted me to pilot that expedition. It was late in the season, and I did not like to bear the responsibility, and told him so; but Taylor had more confidence in me than I had in myself, and nothing would do but I must go. We left here in seven Mackinaw boats, with ten men in each boat. The officers accompanying the expedition were Lieut. Gale,\* Lieut. Gardénier, Sergt. Melvin, and myself as pilot. Lieut. Gale was the senior officer, and had the command. I was put in command of the advance boat, Gale in the third boat, Melvin in the fifth, and Gardénier in the rear boat, with orders to keep the boats well up, and see that they reached shore together at night.

The weather was fine for that season of the year; cold nights and clear, frosty mornings. The boats made good headway against the current, kept together admirably, and the men felt vigorous under the influence of the pure, bracing atmosphere. Officers and men were in good spirits, and we passed along swimmingly until we reached Wabashaw's Prairie. As we entered Lake Pepin floating ice was encountered, the current was swifter, and the cold intense. Now, instead of the men being in good spirits, *good spirits* got into the men, and from that moment we had trouble. Lieut. Gale would get ashore with his gun and a couple of men, to kill some of the geese and ducks for our mess, and always left orders for the boats to keep together. One afternoon, when we had entered the Chippewa river, Gale landed on the northwest shore to shoot brant geese, that were very plenty, leaving Lieut. Gardénier in command, with strict orders to keep all the boats together, and at night to land them in a body, so the men might form one camp. This was necessary for the sake of convenience, and because it kept the men from getting separated, in case the river should close suddenly.

After Gale went ashore, I took his boat, which was the flag-boat of the expedition, and ap-

pointed one of the men to take temporary command of mine, continued up the river. Chippewa river is a very crooked stream, and the channel is worse. Often only one or two of the boats would be in sight, on account of the bends and abrupt turns in the river. At sun-down we had arrived to within fifteen miles of the mouth of the Menomonee river, and only three boats in company. I decided to encamp, and wait for the other four boats.

Selecting a place on the southeast side of the river, the men prepared to camp, and I sent a skiff to the opposite shore to bring over Lieut. Gale and one soldier named Earl, who had come down stream opposite to the camp. Gale saw the other boats were missing, and sent me down in the skiff to find them and hurry them up. Some distance below, I met Melvin with two of the boats. He said Gardénier had run aground on the sandbar that I had carefully warned him (Melvin) to look out for. I had guessed as much, for Gardénier was far behind when the other boats were warned. The channel near the bar, ran across the river at right angles with the course of the stream. Lieut. Gardénier was not aware of this, and when his boats struck the bar the men tried to force them over into the deep water of the channel just above, but this made matters worse, for the boats were heavily laden with stores, and the quicksand closing around them, soon made it impossible to move back or forwards. Between the boats and the shore on either side, the swift, icy water was too deep to wade, and the only alternative was to remain where they were until the other boats took them off. So when I got down to the bar, there they were tight enough—in more respects than one. It was very cold, and to keep their blood in circulation, they had tapped two of the whisky casks, and were circulating the liquor—every soldier was allowed a certain amount of whisky per diem, at that time called “whisky rations”—this article of the soldier's rations was abolished

\* Levin Gale, a native of Maryland, entered West Point as a cadet in 1823; brevet Second Lieutenant July 1, 1827; and died at Dixon's Ferry, Ill., Sept. 1, 1832.



during Jackson's administration, and coffee and sugar substituted.

On arriving alongside of the boats, I saw it was useless to think of getting them off that night, so telling all who could to tumble into the skiff, I pulled for the shore, and after three or four trips, had all the men together with their blankets and provisions, safely landed in the Chippewa bottoms. After the fires were made, I got into the skiff and rowed back to the main camp, where Melvin had arrived before me. I reported to Lieut. Gale, and sitting down regaled myself on roasted goose. Next morning we went to Lieut. Gardenier's to inquire into the matter of running the boats aground. A council was held, and resulted in Lieut. Gardenier's being sent back. There was an effort to attach the blame on me, but it fell through. The day following was spent in unloading the boats, and fruitless attempts to get them off the sand bar. On the third night the Chippewa river closed, and while the ice was getting stronger, we made sleds to draw the stores on the ice fifteen miles up to the point on the Menomonee river, where we were to cut timber. By the time the sleds were made, the ice on the river was strong enough to bear a team, and the sleds were loaded with casks of whisky, blankets and provisions, and we drew them up to the proper place on the Menomonee river, where Gale remained with two men to watch the stores, while I returned with the men and sleds for another lot.

It seems that soon after I left, Gale discovered a war party of Chippewas on the path, looking for Sioux, and, having a natural fear of Indians, he made off through the wooded bottoms at the top of his speed. The chief of the party sent a couple of his swiftest runners to bring Gale back, but they could not overtake him. The warriors had no idea of disturbing anything, but seeing the liquor and goods lying around without a guard, they were tempted to help themselves, and took some of the goods and filled everything they had that was capable

of holding whisky, and then departed. It is seldom war parties are out after snow has fallen; I have only noticed it among the Sioux and Chippewas, who were always warring against each other. I arrived the second day with more goods, and learned from the two men that Lieut. Gale had been gone almost sixty hours from camp. I sent men in the direction he had taken, and discharged guns every moment, and stationed a look-out on the high ground that commanded an extensive view of the Chippewa flats. The day passed without our finding the Lieutenant. On the third day, the oldest chief of the war party paid us another visit, returning all the things they had taken except the whisky, which they promised to pay for with venison.

While the party were in the camp, the look-out reported that he could see some object moving on the marsh, about three miles distant. Two soldiers were sent out who succeeded in creeping on Lieut. Gale, and catching him before he could get away. He had been wandering three days and three nights, and exposure had deranged his mind, and he did not recognize his friends. He was brought in, and, on examination, I found his feet and legs were frozen up to the knees. A hole was cut in the ice, and the Lieutenant's limbs thrust through. After the frost was out of the frozen parts, they were greased with melted deer-fat, and wrapped up in blankets. In a few hours Gale had come to his senses, especially that of feeling, and ordered us to carry him down to Prairie du Chien. We made him as comfortable as possible on a sled, and with three men started to draw him to the Prairie, leaving sergt. Melvin, who was my senior, and ranked me, in command of the men. Lieut. Gale endured great pain, for every motion was torture, but when we came within sight of the Indian lodges on Wabashaw Prairie, he forgot his pain and wanted us to avoid meeting the Indians. This would have been a difficult thing to accomplish, so we marched into the village, and Wa-ba-shaw

came out of his wigwam to welcome us. Upon learning the condition that Gale was in, the chief had him carried into his lodge and treated after the Indian manner with a concoction of white oak bark and poultice of roots. To these remedies Gale owed his perfect recovery, if not his life. We left Wabashaw Prairie and arrived safe at Prairie du Chien, and the Lieutenant was placed under the care of Dr. Beaumont.\* I was immediately ordered up the river again with the three men, and had to drive two yoke of oxen back. When we arrived at the camp on Menomonee river, the men had a log cabin almost finished, and were drawing the goods into it.

We had only been there a short time, when one of the men who was drawing a sled, slipped down and broke his lower jaw. Sergt. Melvin was a severe disciplinarian and believed in flogging a soldier for an accident. He ordered the man to strip and prepare to receive a few lashes. It was brutal to scourge a man who was already suffering with pain, so I told the man to keep his coat on. The sergeant glared at me, but perhaps he discovered something in the expression of the men's faces, for he kept silent, and the man was put on the sick list. The men were divided into three gangs, two of thirty men each, one gang commanded by Melvin, another by me; and the third gang of ten men, remained in camp. It was my first duty to build a large flat-boat, and having selected a piece of timber suitable for the gun-wales, we erected scaffolds and prepared pulley's and ropes to raise the log upon them.

This preparation attracted the attention of Melvin, and he supposed the men were about to hang him. Fear had previously caused him to have built a small block-house in which he had placed all the arms and ammunition, and where he now unnecessarily shut himself up. He gave

\*Dr. William Beaumont, a native of Maryland, entered the army as a surgeon's mate in 1812, promoted to surgeon, resigned and retired from the service Dec. 21, 1839. He was the author of an interesting work relating to experiments on the gastric juice.

me orders through a loop hole, but would never come out to see if they were faithfully executed.

The work progressed steadily until the river opened. Trees had been felled, timber hewn, stuff for the flat-boat got out, and we had divided the log with whip-saws, and the parts were being hewed into proper shape for gun-wales, when one of the men laid his thigh open to the bone with a broad-ax. It was necessary that the man should have medical aid, so Melvin made out his report of the work done, also a charge against me for creating mutiny, and appointed me to carry the documents and two wounded men—the man who broke his jaw was unfit for duty—in a dug-out down to headquarters. I paddled down the river without accident, and entered the slough north of the fort, one evening after dusk, and was surprised to hear the bugles playing the "Dead March." I had the men put in the hospital as soon as I landed, and then repaired to Maj. Garland's office, when I found Taylor and his officers, holding a council. They were deliberating on the removal of Lieut. McKenzie's body from the old burying ground near the mound, where Col. Donsman's dwelling stands, to the officers grave-yard north of the new fort. It was to be done with the honors of war, and the musicians were practicing for the occasion, which accounts for the music I heard. I delivered the papers to quarter-master Garland, and after perusing them in silence, he began to read Melvin's charge against me in his droll tone, that convulsed all present with laughter. Garland asked me if we intended to hang the sergeant. I told him we hadn't thought of such a thing, and then gave a straight forward account of all that had transpired from the departure of the seven boats, up to my leaving the camp on the Menomonee in the dug-out. I was not court-martialed.

Lieut. Gardenier, Boisley, myself and seven men, returned to the pineries to bring down the rafts. We found on our arrival, that the men had worked well, and had got out a large

quantity of square timber, with any amount of shingles, and the flat-boat was put together and nearly finished. Two rafts were soon formed of the timber, and I was put in command of one, and Lieut. Gardenier took the other. My raft was the largest, but it drew less water, and, therefore, all the provisions for the men of both rafts were placed on it, except a barrel of whisky. Melvin was left with some of the men, to bring down the shingles in the flat-boat as soon as it was launched.

The rafts were run out of the Menomonee down into Chippewa river smooth enough. One night I made fast to the shore, just above the head of Boeuf slough, on the Chippewa, and was waiting for the other raft. It presently appeared in sight and I noticed that something unusual was going on, for the raft floated rail-fence fashion, first against one shore and then against the other, bumping along as though it was intoxicated, perhaps that whisky barrel leaked. I cried out to Gardenier to either make fast above me, or pull for the point opposite the slough. He heard me, and tried to make the opposite shore, but owing to the strong current or some mismanagement, the raft was sucked into the slough, without touching, and was carried down some distance, and struck on a small tow-head or island. I thought it best to wait until morning before going to them, and quietly ate my supper which Boiseley had prepared. The principle dish of this meal, was a hedgehog that I had shot. It was cooked by throwing it into the fire whole, and after being perfectly roasted, taken out and all the quills and hair scraped off, and the entrails taken out. After it had undergone this process, it looked as nice as any roasted pig I ever saw, and with proper seasoning, it tasted better.

In the morning, I put some food in Boiseley's canoe, and went down to the raft. The men were glad to get the grub, for they had had nothing to eat but whisky, all night and you may believe they were not in the best working order. I saw how matters stood, and suggested

that the raft be "broke," and towed out of the slough piece-meal. Gardenier didn't approve of the plan, for he said such a large stream of water must have an outlet somewhere, and he would follow it, and take his risk of getting through to the Mississippi river.

At the entrance of this slough, the Chippewa river forms an elbow, the acute angle of which is the mouth of the slough. This slough was indeed a pretty stream of water, wide and deep, with fine banks, and had I not learned better, I would probably have made the same error that the lieutenant did. I told him, that when we drove oxen through the frozen bottoms, I found out where the slough spread out into a wide marsh, and following it up to the Chippewa, we often came to large piles of drift-wood, that would certainly stop the raft.

It was decided, however, that the raft should go down the slough, and orders were given to swing her off the island, and bidding me good-bye, they were swept down the stream. I went along down the the Chippewa into Lake Pepin, without seeing anything of Gardenier's party, and feeling anxious about them, for they had been absent four days without provisions. I got into the canoe with Boiseley, and taking our guns and something to eat, started to find them. I knew very near where the raft would bring up, so putting into a slough that has its rise in big marsh, we paddled the little canoe through the water at a good rate, until unfortunately we run on a sunken log and were upset. Boiseley siezed the guns and carried them ashore, but all our food and ammunition was damaged or lost. I turned the canoe right side up, and getting in, we continued up the slough, came to the marsh, and, as I expected, found the raft jammed against a pile of drift wood in the slough, some distance above. The raft was deserted by everything except the whisky barrel, and that was *empty*. Boiseley said the men had been gone from the raft at least two days, and knowing that they would head off my raft, somewhere below, we did not try to find them, but started

to return to our party. We had gone back some distance, when, passing close to a small island covered with willows, a band of young Sioux braves jumped up and gave a war-whoop. The Indians told us to come to them, and even waded towards us, but preferring to keep our guns, blankets, and canoe, in our own possession, we paddled away through the islands, and soon got out of their reach.

In our haste to leave the Indians, we missed our way, and wandered around in the marsh for two days before we reached the Mississippi river, far above our raft. We were hungry, for our provisions gave out two days previous, our guns were wet, and all the powder spoiled, so we could not shoot any game for food. Landing on an island in the river, we hauled the canoe up, and went to sleep without a fire. Next morning the wind blew so, we dared not leave the island. I had been so long without eating, that I did not care if I ever saw food again. I had a hot, bitter sensation in my stomach. Late in the afternoon of that day we saw a canoe, with two Indians in it, coming down the western shore. I told Boisley, we must meet that canoe if we wanted to live. Shoving the canoe out, we got in, and by paddling and drifting, made the west shore, where we were picked up by the Monomonee chief, Wa-ba-naw, and his squaw. I asked the chief for food, and told him how long we had been without. He landed and made camp and his squaw cooked some hominy. This was given to us in very small quantities at first, and no entreaty or threat could make the Indian increase the dose, until it suited his pleasure. He continued to feed us at intervals, little by little, until our appetites became ravenous, and then he made us lie down, and we fell asleep. Wa-ba-naw's squaw aroused us at midnight, and set before us a kettle of thick bouillon, made of hominy and meat, and told us to eat. We eat all the soup, went to sleep, and awoke in the morning as well as ever. Old Mrs. Wa-ba-naw called me her son ever after, and I always gave her a present of

snuff, when she came to see me. She lives on the island opposite Prairie du Chien, and she says she has seen twice fifty years, but that falls short of her real age. She is blind and lives in a wigwam with her son, who, with another Indian, murdered an old white man, and was pardoned the same year I came to Prairie du Chien. Mother Wa-ba-naw knows many traditions of the country.

Wa-ba-naw went down to the raft with us, from which we had been gone six days. The men were glad to see us safe, and getting the raft into the current, we floated down, keeping a good lookout for any signs of Gardenier's party. Second day after my return to the raft, a signal was discovered on an island below us. It proved to be the missing party. They had been absent eleven days, and had eat nothing but acorns and roots. We treated them according to Wa-ba-naw's direction, for they were almost famished, and would have killed themselves, had they been allowed to eat all their appetites craved. They took the high land after leaving the raft, and traveling ahead of us, made a raft of drift-wood that carried them to the island. The wind broke up their raft, and it was swept away, making them prisoners on the island. There they remained without eating, until we took them off. They had resolved to kill and eat a man named Austin Young, who was resigned to his fate, and had gone down to the river for water, while his comrades loaded a musket and cast lots who should shoot him. He filled the kettle with water, and was about to go back, when he saw the raft coming, and told his companions. Our appearance at that time saved his life.

Putting the weakest of the party into a Mackinaw boat we had picked up, I sent them down to the Prairie with a couple of men. The boat must have got down a long time ahead of the raft, for when we arrived at Point Rock, I met Lieut. Gardenier looking well as ever, and he promised me something handsome if I would not give the particulars in my report, as to how

the raft was lost. But I knew Taylor hated a liar as bad as he did a drunkard, so when I arrived at the fort I stated all the facts just as they were; and it was well I did, for Col. Taylor would soon have found out the truth. Besides, I secured the respect of Lieut. Gardenier by so doing, for he was an honorable man. His wife sleeps in the officers' grave yard, where the slabs that mark the resting place of those who died at that early day, may now be seen.

I think it was in the year 1830 that I witnessed a murder in the garrison of Fort Crawford, without being able to prevent it. One Coffin, a provost sergeant, whose duty it was to spy on the men, make arrests and report everything that occurred, was shot by one Beckett, a soldier. The facts of the transaction as I recollect them, are these:

Provost Coffin had discovered the soldier Beckett in the act of leaving the fort through one of the windows, from which a couple of iron bars had been removed. It was one night after *tattoo*. Coffin was on the watch, and he caught the man just as he got out, and kicked, beat and otherwise injured him, until he was nearly dead, and then had him dragged to the guard-house. The soldier was in a dangerous condition, and the physician had him put in the hospital, where he laid sick a long time. He asked and received permission to go back to his company as soon as he was able to be up. He had ever been a favorite with his comrades, and they all expressed their joy at his return; but he replied to their kind welcome with a strange quiet in his manner that left an impression of dark foreboding on the minds of his friends. He continued in a state of morbid taciturnity, in spite of efforts made to cheer him.

One day while acting quarter-master's sergeant, I was going out with a file of men to see to butchering some cattle, when an officer named Green hailed me and said the pay-master was at the quarter-master's department, and I had better go there soon, if I wanted my pay. I then had all the money I needed, and

not being afraid to trust Uncle Sam, I went on with the men. When I got back I went into the quarter-master's office to make my report, and found the pay-master gone. The only persons present, was Coffin, who had a little desk in the office, at which he was writing, and the soldier Beckett, who had come in and was standing with his musket near the stove. I noticed something strange in Beckett's appearance, and, knowing his disposition, it instantly occurred to me, that he intended to shoot Coffin, who stood with his back towards us.

Without speaking, I walked towards Beckett, hoping to approach near enough to snatch the musket; when designing my purpose, he warned me off, and quickly shot Coffin—a cartridge of three buck-shot and a ball passed through him, and he fell dead without a groan.

Beckett was arrested, and confined in the guard-house. He was ironed with great care—his hands and feet confined with irons, an iron collar around his neck, with a bar connected, extending through the shackles of his hands and feet. He laid in a stone cell, on the floor made of square timber eighteen inches thick, to which he was confined by a band of iron passing over his body and fastened firmly on either side. A guard was placed over him, but with all this precaution he managed to escape.

He got away as far as Cassville, and went to work in the mines somewhere south of that place, and was found by Capt. Billy Harris,\* who was down there hunting for deserters. He was carried to Mineral Point, tried by the civil authorities, convicted, brought back here, and hung like a dog. The sheriff who sent his soul into eternity, barely escaped on a fleet horse with his life, for the soldiers were enraged at the indignities shown to their unfortunate comrade, and tried to kill him.

#### THE SECOND FORT CRAWFORD.

The building of the second Fort Crawford was commenced in 1829, occupied by the gar-

\*Capt. Wm. L. Harris, a native of Virginia, was a cadet in 1819; brevet second lieutenant, 1824; first lieutenant, 1830; served in the Black Hawk War; assistant commissary of subsistence, 1833; dismissed, October, 1836, and died in Illinois, in February, 1837.

rison in 1831, and completed in 1832. It was located upon the main land below the village as then existing, upon the site of several ancient mounds, already referred to, now occupied by a convent. It was constructed of stone, quadrangular in shape. The north and south sides were officers' quarters, each 35x242 feet. The east and west sides were each filled by two buildings, 175 feet long, separated by a sally-port. These four faces embraced in all an inclosure of about 250x400 feet and consisted of an elevated basement and one story above. They were designed to accomodate a regiment. The commandant's residence and headquarters and the hospital were upon the outside.

A recent writer says:

"Owing to the high waters of '21, '26 and '28, it was decided by Col. Zachary Taylor to erect a new fort on higher ground. The site chosen was Pike's Hill, a high, projecting bluff, three miles below, on the Iowa side, because of its commanding both the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers, but after two years successive failure to build a road that could not be affected by the disastrous floods of the region, it was abandoned, and a position on the main land, which is about forty feet higher than the island, was selected, and in 1832 new Fort Crawford was completed and occupied."

"The north quarter of the new fort," says Mr. Fonda, "was completed in the summer of 1830. The powder magazine, at the southeast corner of the fort, was built the same year. It took four men ten months (the way we worked for government) to build it. The walls are of rock, three feet thick, and each rock matched into another, like flooring, and cemented together.

"In building the fort, we disturbed an Indian mound. It was a common burying place of the Indians, and we took out cart-loads of bones.

"Col. Zachary Taylor (afterward President of the United States) was in command of the last Fort Crawford from its first occupation until in

the fall of 1836, when he was succeeded by Gen. Brooks, who was followed by Gen. Wilson in 1843, and he by Col. Davenport in 1845."

#### NOTABLE EVENTS.

[1832.]

The cholera raged terribly among the troops in the year of 1832. 100 soldiers died at Fort Crawford in two weeks. They were buried on the prairie south of the old Dagoon stable. Only four citizens died of the cholera, and these in one house.

[1833.]

Charles J. Latrobe, the English traveler, was at the new fort in 1833. He says:

"Within these few years [the first Fort Crawford] has been superceded by a large spacious range of stone barracks, built on the gentle swell on the opposite side of the bayou. An Indian mound, round which the new buildings were constructed, was removed in leveling the square, and forty-eight bodies, some enclosed in wooden or bark coffins, were removed. Fort Crawford, as the new erection is called, is calculated to afford quarters to the entire regiment, though only a few companies were there at the time of our visit."

[1834.]

Charles Fenno Hoffman, in his "Winter in the West" says: "On the 12th of November, 1834, he arrived at the prairie, and was entertained by Col. Z. Taylor at the fort. He remained two weeks. The garrison consisted of five companies of the 1st infantry. Says the village is a half mile from the fort, with antique looking timber houses, containing an amphibious population of *voyaguers* and hunters, half French and half Indian. Visits the mounds and fortifications on the bluffs."

[1836.]

Rev. R. Caddle, of the P. E. Church, came to Prairie du Chien as a missionary in 1836, but was shortly after appointed chaplain at Fort Crawford, where he continued until 1841, when he resigned and entered the missionary service

in another part of the territory. While here he organized Trinity Church.

In the fall of this year Col. Z. Taylor, with his regiment, left this fort for Florida, and Gen. Brooke assumed command. As "new lords make new laws" so a little incident connected with this change shows how the public money is sometimes disposed of. Gen. Brooke thought the house in which Col. Taylor, with a large family, had lived for many years, was not good enough for him, and he applied to the department of war for a new house. The answer was, "no, can't afford it; repair the old one." To do this the old house was entirely removed, or torn down, except the cellar, and over this a new building was erected, costing \$7,000, under the head or repairs. This house, with all the government land, was subsequently sold, being bought by John Lawler, the house remodeled and the grounds improved.

Many humorous anecdotes are related of Taylor and his method of punishing slight offences, while in command of Fort Crawford. The method was styled "wooling," and consisted in taking hold of the man's ears and shaking him. A soldier named Brady made a wager with a comrade that the colonel would not "wool" him. The man greased his ears well and during parade put himself in the way of punishment. Taylor rushed at him, caught him by the ears, but they slipped from his grasp, again and again he attempted to clutch them, but in vain, he could no more hold them than he could hold an eel, and he gave up the effort in disgust. Brady won his wager, escaped the "wooling," but his *ruse* gained him the guard house.

S. A. Palmer, of Pottsville, Pa., was here in 1836, and relates that there were 300 troops at the fort, four substantial stone buildings, each 200 feet long, forming a square; a few mean houses, tenanted by a miserable set of French and Indians.

[1837.]

Capt. F. Marryat, the English novelist, came from Green Bay to Fort Winnebago in

June, 1837, and from the latter place to Prairie du Chien with a party bringing provisions for the fort. While here he visited the mounds. He remained a week at the fort, which he says is a mere enclosure, intended to repel the attacks of Indians, but is large and commodious, and the quarters of the officers are excellent, built of stone, which is not the case at Fort Winnebago or Fort Howard.

[1846.]

This year, 1846, and the succeeding year, Fort Crawford was garrisoned by a company of volunteers under Capt. Wiram Knowlton, the regular troops having gone to Mexico. Concerning this occupancy, Mr. Fonda says:

"It was this same year [1846] that the affairs with Mexico came to a head; war was declared, and volunteers were raised throughout the country. Orders were received from the secretary of war to raise a company to occupy Fort Crawford during the trouble with Mexico. A company was enlisted under Brevet-Maj. A. S. Hove.\*

"Wiram Knowlton was captain, Charles Brisbois, first lieutenant; and on the 3d day of September, 1836, I received a second lieutenant's commission from Gov. Henry Dodge. The inferior officers were sergts. D. Gary, F. N. Grouchy and E. Warner; and corporals W. R. Curts, A. Tilow, B. Fox and J. A. Clark; the whole number of men in the company was seventy-three. The men were a little aristocratic, and they all wanted to wear officers's uniform; but after the one year (which was the term of enlistment) had expired, a new company was mustered by Major Garland, and placed under the command of Capt. Knowlton, who maintained the strictest of military discipline. This company was styled the Dodge Guards, and was commanded by the officers of the first company."

\* Alexander S. Hove, a Virginian, was a cadet in 1823; entered the army as brevet second lieutenant 1827; first lieutenant, 1833; captain, 1838; was distinguished in the battles of Palo Alto and Rascacade la Palma, in the latter of which he lost an arm, and breveted major. He died at Baton Rouge, La., Dec. 9, 1847.

[1847].

On the 20th of June, 1847, two ejectment suits were tried in the circuit court involving title to farm lots 33 and 34, heretofore held and supposed to be owned by the United States government, and on which Fort Crawford is situated. The suit was brought by Ira B. Brunson, B. W. Brisbois and Cyrus Woodman, against a tenant of the United States, the government taking up the defense. The suits were decided in favor of the plaintiffs.

The following appeared in the *Patriot* of August, 1847:

"IN MEMORY OF LIEUT. CHARLES BRISBOIS, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE, AUG. 13, 1847.

"Of congestive chills, at Fort. Crawford, on Friday evening, the 13th inst., Charles Brisbois, first lieutenant of the volunteers, stationed at this post, aged forty-nine years, five months and thirteen days. The disease of which Mr. Brisbois died, was contracted when on a visit to St. Louis, and in the fatal termination, the community has lost one of the most valuable citizens, and society an honored member. He was born and educated in the western country, and from youth to manhood had been engaged in the fur trade, connected with the Hudson Bay Fur Company. Residing in a country where there was no law, he had ever acted upon principles of right, and formed a character, which in later years, in his intercourse with men, had won for him the confidence and respect of all. In July, last year, he became second lieutenant of the Dodge Guards, and has since been promoted to first lieutenant, which office he filled at the time of his death. As a soldier, his upright and impartial conduct had secured the confidence of his superiors in rank, and the respect of all under his command; as a citizen, he was liberal and active; as a friend, faithful, generous and kind. He has left a wife and family, and a large number of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. His funeral took place on Saturday evening, with military honors, and a large con-

course of people were in attendance, and joined in the solemn ceremony that consigned to their last resting place, the earthly remains of an esteemed friend, a kind husband and father and a worthy citizen."

"At a meeting of the officers of Fort Crawford, Wisconsin Territory, agreeable to previous notice: Maj. A. S. Hove, was chosen chairman, Dr. S. S. Beach, secretary. Capt. Wiram Knowlton presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, We have been, by all-wise Providence, deprived of our estimable friend and officer, first lieut. Charles Brisbois, whose loss we feel in common with his bereaved wife, children and friends, to be irreparable to his family, his relatives, his home and country.

"Therefore, resolved, That we will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days, in token of our sincere respect to his memory.

"Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with his family, who have been deprived by an all-wise Ruler, of a kind and affectionate husband, father and protector, who was an honest, just and upright man, as well as a worthy citizen and officer, who was beloved by all who knew him, and above all suspicion of wrong and an irreparable loss, both to his country, which he had volunteered to serve during the war with Mexico.

[Signed]

A. S. HOVE, Brevet Major, U. S. A.  
WIRAM KNOWLTON, Capt. Wis. Vol.  
S. S. BEACH, Acting Ass't Surgeon.  
J. H. FONDA, 2d Lieut. Wis. Vol."

Concerning Charles Brisbois, Mr. Fonda says: "On the 13th day of August, 1847, first lieut. Charles Brisbois, died at his post, from a disease contracted while on a visit to St. Louis, and in its fatal termination the community lost one of its most valuable citizens, and society an honorable member. He was born and educated



in the western country, and from youth to manhood had been engaged in the fur trade connected with the Hudson Bay Fur Company. Residing in a country where there was no law, he ever acted upon the principles of right, and formed a character, which in his intercourse with his fellow-man, had won for him the confidence and respect of all. As a soldier, his upright and impartial conduct had secured him the confidence of his superiors in rank, and the respect of all under his command; as a citizen he was liberal and active; as a friend, faithful, generous and kind. He left a wife and family, and a large number of relatives and friends. We buried him in the old Catholic burying ground, with military honors, and a large concourse of the people were in attendance, and joined in the solemn obsequies that consigned to the last resting place, the earthly remains of Lieut. Charles Brisbois.

"After Brisbois died, I was promoted to the first lieutenancy in the volunteer company of Dodge Guards, and received my commission dated from the 13th day of August, 1847. I took an active part in the affairs of the post, often performing duties that belonged more properly to the commanding officer, while Capt. Knowlton, being a superior disciplinarian, took much pride in drilling the men."

[1847]

On the 14th of September, 1847, Major Hove, commandant, at Fort Crawford received orders to repair to Baton Rouge, and left immediately.

[1848]

"In the year 1848 a society was formed at Fort Crawford" says Mr. Fonda "called the 'Fort Crawford Temperance Society.' The object of the society was to promote the cause of temperance. All that was requisite to become a member was to sign a pledge to abstain from the use of liquor as a common beverage, for six months, a year, or any length of time a person joining might see fit to set opposite his name. The society met each Saturday night, and so long as the interest was kept up, its in-

fluence may have been beneficial; but like many such societies, it was short lived and its effects forgotten.

"It is an impossibility to keep liquor out of the garrison, if the men are determined to have it. No matter how vigilant and watchful the officers may be, the soldiers will smuggle it in some way. Maj. Garland had arrived at Fort Crawford, and was stopping at my quarters, and was expected to inspect the men. So strict orders were given to prevent the men passing in and out with suspicious packages, and to search all such, to see if they had whisky about them. Trusty sentinels were put on guard at all the sally-ports, and when the first review came off, every man was in his place, and after Capt. Knowlton had drilled them awhile, the major was perfectly satisfied with their discipline and equipments, and complimented the officers on the fine appearance of the men. That same evening, after supper, Maj. Garland proposed a stroll through town. It was a nice, moonlight night, and we remained out some time after tattoo. When we reached the gate that opened into the grounds that surrounded the fort, something attracted the major's attention, and he pointed an object out to men, and asked: 'Is that a cat going towards the fort?' I looked in the direction, and supposing it was only a cat creeping across the green, I paid no more attention to it. When we were about to enter the little private wicket in the northeast gate, Maj. Garland spoke and said: 'See, that cat is making in this direction; it moves strange, let us see what's the matter with it.' So passing along under the wall, we reached a little ditch paved with rock, that carried off the water from the inside of the fort, here we discovered a string stretching out towards the cat, that still continued to approach us. Stepping on this string the major cut it, and all at once the cat stopped within a few feet of us. It was evident the string governed the motions of the cat, and taking hold of one end, we drew the apparent cat up to us; but on close

examination, it *proved to be a cat's skin, stuffed with a bladder full of whisky!* The major had just been speaking of the unusual sober appearance of the volunteers, while I had lauded the reforming influence of the temperance society. He little suspected that the patrol guard we passed in our walk, had the *barrels of their guns charged with fire-water, warranted to kill forty rods;* but it was even so.

"On the 6th day of September, 1848, I obtained 'my honorable discharge' from the 'Dodge Guards,' and returned to citizen, but not to private, life; for soon my friends offered me the office of justice, which I accepted and held for a number of years; since which time, all matters of interest have been noticed by many other persons, who have made the public familiar with them. I will merely remark, that I have witnessed the gradual progress of civilization in the west for fifty years; came to Prairie du Chien when it was the most extreme settlement in the northwest; have seen the dawning of a new epoch, since the introduction of railroads and the electric telegraph, and being yet strong and robust, I may live to enjoy a share of their benefits."

[1856].

On the 12th of June, 1856, the government officers and troops departed with stores and provisions, on the steamer *War Eagle*, for Fort

Snelling. The garrison consisted of four companies of United States rifles. The local newspapers expressed the desire that the fort would not be used again as such, and the grounds should be brought into market.

The Fort Crawford military lands were purchased of J. H. Lockwood and James D. Doty, by the United States, in the year 1829 and covered the front and main portions of farm lots numbered 33 and 34, of the private land claims at Prairie du Chien, and comprised about 160 acres. Fort Crawford, as we have seen, was built on this tract in 1829, 1830 and 1831. There was also a reservation of section 18, township 7, in range 4 west, in what is now the town of Wauzeka, near the present village of Wauzeka. This section has its southeast corner at the mouth of the Kickapoo river; the tract was generally known as the "Cattle Guard." On the 17th of November, 1864, the acting commissioner of the general land office, by order of the war department, offered for sale at public auction, at La Crosse, the government land at Fort Crawford, which had been surveyed and subdivided into town lots, 80x140 feet, with streets sixty-five feet and alleys twenty feet wide, conforming to the plat of the village of Prairie du Chien. Then and subsequently all these lots were sold and the United States were thus divested of all interest in the military lands and reservation in Crawford county.

## CHAPTER XV.

## TERRITORIAL, STATE AND CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION.

From the date of the organization of the northwest territory in 1787, until the time when what is now Wisconsin became a part of the territory of Michigan, the inhabitants upon the "prairie" had no voice in sending any officer to represent them, either in the legislatures of the northwest territory, the territory of Indiana or the territory of Illinois, or in the Congress of the United States. But the creation of Crawford county in 1818, soon brought with it the power to hold elections for delegates in Congress. The following were the successful candidates, all of whom received more or less vote in Crawford county:

## CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES FROM MICHIGAN TERRITORY.

XVIth Congress, William Woodbridge,\* 1819-20. Solomon Sibley,† 1820-21.

XVIIth Congress, Solomon Sibley, 1821-23.

XVIIIth Congress, Gabriel Richards, 1823-25.

XIXth Congress, Austin E. Wing, 1825-27.

XXth Congress, Austin E. Wing, 1827-29.

XXIst Congress, John Biddle, 1829-31.

XXIIId Congress, Austin E. Wing, 1831-33.

XXIIIId Congress, Lucius Lyon, 1833-35.

XXIVth Congress, George W. Jones,‡ 1835-37.

Members of the Legislative Council of the territory of Michigan, representing districts of which one of the counties was Crawford, were also voted for on the "prairie," so that there

was in fact a representation at Detroit as well as at Washington.

## DELEGATES TO CONGRESS FROM WISCONSIN TERRITORY.

George W. Jones, elected Oct. 10, 1836.

James D. Doty, elected Sept. 10, 1838.

James D. Doty, elected Aug. 5, 1840.

Henry Dodge, elected Sept. 27, 1841.

Henry Dodge, elected Sept. 25, 1843.

Morgan L. Martin, elected Sept. 22, 1845.

John H. Tweedy, elected Sept. 3, 1847.

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF WISCONSIN TERRITORY, REPRESENTING CRAWFORD COUNTY.

## [I.]—CRAWFORD.

First session, First Legislative Assembly: no member; 1836.

Second session, First Legislative Assembly: no member; 1837-38.

Special session, First Legislative Assembly: no member; 1838.

First session, Second Legislative Assembly: George Wilson; 1838.

Second session, Second Legislative Assembly: George Wilson; 1839.

Third session, Second Legislative Assembly: Joseph Brisbois\*‡; 1839-40.

Fourth (extra) session, Second Legislative Assembly: Charles J. Learned†; 1840.

## [II.]—CRAWFORD AND ST. CROIX.

First session, Third Legislative Assembly: Charles J. Learned; 1840-1.

Second session, Third Legislative Assembly: Charles J. Learned; 1841-2.

\*In place of George Wilson, resigned.

‡In place of Joseph Brisbois, resigned.

\*Resigned in 1820

†To fill vacancy of William Woodbridge, resigned.

‡Was a delegate until Michigan became a State, with his residence in Wisconsin, which was then a portion of the territory of Michigan.

First session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
Theophilus LaChapelle; 1842-3.

Second session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
Theophilus LaChapelle; 1843-4.

Third session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
Wiram Knowlton; 1845.

[III].—CRAWFORD, CHIPPEWA, ST. CROIX AND  
LA POINTE.

Fourth session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
Wiram Knowlton; 1846.

[IV].—CRAWFORD.

First session, Fifth Legislative Assembly:  
Benjamin F. Manahan; 1847.

[V].—CRAWFORD, CHIPPEWA, ST. CROIX AND LA  
POINTE.

Special session, Fifth Legislative Assembly:  
Benjamin F. Manahan; 1847.

Second session, Fifth Legislative Assembly:  
Benjamin F. Manahan; 1848.

By the apportionment of members of the First Legislative Assembly of the territory of Wisconsin, as made by Gov. Dodge, upon the basis of a census taken in 1836, Crawford county was allowed two members of the house of Representatives, but no member of the Council. The people of this county claimed that, under the organic act, each county was entitled to be represented in each house; and Thomas P. Burnett was unanimously elected by them to be a member of the Council. The full number of members authorized by law had, however, been chosen in other counties, pursuant to the governor's apportionment and proclamation; and very naturally Mr. Burnett's election was not certified to by the governor, nor was he admitted to the seat which he claimed.

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY OF WISCONSIN TERRITORY, REPRESENTING CRAWFORD COUNTY.

[I].—CRAWFORD COUNTY.

First session, First Legislative Assembly:  
James H. Lockwood, James B. Dallam, 1836.

Second session, First Legislative Assembly:  
Ira B. Brunson, Jean Brunet, 1837-8.

Special session, First Legislative Assembly:  
Ira B. Brunson, Jean Brunet, 1838.

First session, Second Legislative Assembly:  
Alexander McGregor, 1838.

Second session, Second Legislative Assembly:  
Alexander McGregor, Ira B. Brunson, 1839.

Third session, Second Legislative Assembly:  
Ira B. Brunson, Alexander McGregor, 1839-40.

Fourth (extra) session Second Legislative  
Assembly: Ira B. Brunson, Alexander Mc-  
Gregor, 1840.

[II].—CRAWFORD AND ST. CROIX.

First session, Third Legislative Assembly:  
Alfred Brunson, Joseph R. Brown, 1840-1.

Second session, Third Legislative Assembly:  
Joseph R. Brown, Alfred Brunson, 1841-2.\*

First session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
John H. Manahan, 1842-3.

Second session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
John H. Manahan, 1843-4.

Third session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
James Fisher, 1845.

[III].—CRAWFORD, CHIPPEWA, ST. CROIX AND LA  
POINTE.

Fourth session, Fourth Legislative Assembly:  
James Fisher, 1846.

[IV].—CRAWFORD.

First session, Fifth Legislative Assembly:  
Joseph W. Furber, 1847.

[V].—CRAWFORD, CHIPPEWA, ST. CROIX AND LA  
POINTE.

Special session, Fifth Legislative Assembly:  
Henry Jackson, 1847.

Second session, Fifth Legislative Assembly:  
Henry Jackson, 1848.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

The first constitutional convention assembled at Madison, on the 5th day of October, 1846, and adjourned on the 16th day of December following, having framed a constitution, which was submitted to a vote of the people on the first Tuesday in April, 1847, and rejected. The person representing Crawford county in the convention was Peter A. R. Brace.

\*Seat contested and awarded to Theophilus La Chapelle.

The second constitutional convention assembled in Madison Dec. 15, 1847, and adjourned Feb. 1, 1848, having framed a constitution, which was submitted to a vote of the people on the second Monday in March following, and adopted. It was the constitution of Wisconsin, now (1884) in force. The member representing Crawford county in the second constitutional convention, was Daniel G. Fenton; he represented Chippewa county, also.

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE WHO HAVE REPRESENTED CRAWFORD COUNTY.

Senators representing even numbered districts were elected in 1881, and hold office till Jan. 1, 1885, those from odd numbered districts were elected in 1882 and hold office until Jan. 1, 1887. Senators are elected for four years. As Crawford county is in the fourth senatorial district (an even number) a Senator will be elected in the fall of 1884, and every four years thereafter, who will represent the county in the State senate.

1848—Third district, D. G. Fenton.

1849-50—Third district, James Fisher.

1851-52—Third district, Hiram A. Wright.

1853-54—Fifteenth district, Levi Sterling.

1855-56—Nineteenth district, William T. Gibson.

1857—Thirtieth district, William T. Price.

1858-59—Thirtieth district, William H. Tucker.

1860-61—Thirtieth district, Buel E. Hutchinson.

1862—Thirtieth district, N. S. Cate.

1863—Thirtieth district, William S. Purdy.

1864-6—Thirtieth district, Wm. Ketcham.

1866-67—Thirtieth district, Benjamin Bull.

1868-69—Thirtieth district, Wm. Ketcham.

1870-71—Thirtieth district, George Krouskop.

1872-73—Twenty-eighth district, Henry L. Eaton.

1874-75—Twenty-eighth district, George Krouskop.

1876-77—Twenty-eighth district, Daniel L. Douns.

1878-79—Fourth district, George W. Swain.

1880-81—Fourth district, O. B. Thomas.

1882-83—Fourth district, Van S. Bennett.

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY WHO HAVE REPRESENTED CRAWFORD COUNTY.

From the organization of the State to the fall of 1882, members of Assembly were elected annually; the biennial election beginning in the fall of 1884.

[I.]—CHIPPEWA AND CRAWFORD.

First session, 1848, Wm. T. Sterling.

Second session 1849, James O'Neill.

Third session, 1850, Wm. T. Sterling.

Fourth session, 1851, Wm. T. Price.

[II.]—BAD AX, CHIPPEWA, CRAWFORD AND LA CROSSE.

Fifth session, 1852, Andrew Briggs.

[III.]—BAD AX AND CRAWFORD.

Sixth session, 1853, Hiram A. Wright.

Seventh session, 1854, Wm. F. Terhune.

Eighth session, 1855, James Fisher.

Ninth session, 1856, Andrew Briggs.

Tenth session, 1857, Buel E. Hutchinson.

Eleventh session, 1858, James R. Savage.

Twelfth session, 1859, Thomas W. Tower.

Thirteenth session 1860, Wm. C. McMichael.

Fourteenth session, 1861, Daniel H. Johnson.

Fifteenth session, 1862, O. B. Thomas.

Sixteenth session, 1863, James Fisher.

Seventeenth session, 1864, Horace Beach.

Eighteenth session, 1865, O. B. Thomas.

Nineteenth session, 1866, Geo. E. Harrington.

Twentieth session, 1867, O. B. Thomas.

Twenty-first session, 1868, James Fisher.

Twenty-second session, 1869, Benj. F. Fary.

Twenty-third session, 1870, William Raymond.

Twenty-fourth session, 1871, D. W. Briggs.

Twenty-fifth session, 1872, O. A. Caswell.

Twenty-sixth session, 1873, Peter Doyle.

Twenty-seventh session, 1874, Wm. H. Evans.

Twenty-eighth session, 1875, Zenas Beach.

Twenty-ninth session, 1876, Fergus Mills.

Thirtieth session, 1877, S. L. Wannemaker.

Thirty-first session, 1878, J. H. Jewel.  
 Thirty-second session, 1879, Atley Peterson.  
 Thirty-third session, 1880, Atley Peterson.  
 Thirty-fourth session, 1881, Atley Peterson.  
 Thirty-fifth session, 1882, Atley Peterson.  
 Thirty-sixth session, 1883, Thomas Curley.

UNITED STATES SENATORS FROM WISCONSIN.

Isaac P. Walker, elected June 8, 1848.  
 Henry Dodge, elected June 8, 1848.  
 Isaac P. Walker, January, 1849.  
 Henry Dodge, elected January 30, 1851.  
 Charles Durkee, elected February 1, 1855.  
 James R. Doolittle, elected January 23, 1857.  
 Timothy O. Howe, elected January 23, 1861.  
 James R. Doolittle, elected January 22, 1863.  
 Timothy O. Howe, elected January 24, 1867.  
 Matt. H. Carpenter, elected January 26, 1869.  
 Timothy O. Howe, elected January 21, 1873.  
 Angus Cameron, elected February 3, 1875.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO HAVE REPRESENTED  
 CRAWFORD COUNTY.

XXXth Congress, 1847-49, Second District—  
 Mason C. Darling.

XXXIst Congress, 1849-51, Second District—  
 Orsamus Cole.

XXXII Congress, 1851-53, Second District—  
 Benjamin C. Eastman.

XXXIII Congress, 1853-55, Second District  
 —Benjamin C. Eastman.

XXXIVth Congress, 1855-57, Second District  
 —Caldwallader C. Washburn.

XXXVth Congress, 1857-59, Second District  
 Caldwell C. Washburn.

XXXVIth Congress, 1859-61, Second District  
 —Caldwallader C. Washburn.

XXXVIIth Congress, 1861-63, Second Dis-  
 trict—Luther Hanchett\* and Walter D. McIn-  
 doe.

XXXVIIIth Congress, 1863-65, Third Dis-  
 trict—Amasa Cobb.

XXXIXth Congress, 1865-67, Third District  
 —Amasa Cobb.

XLth Congress, 1867-69, Third District—  
 Amasa Cobb.

XLIst Congress, 1869-71, Third District—  
 Amasa Cobb.

XLII Congress, 1871-73, Third District—  
 J. Allen Barber.

XLIII Congress, 1873-75, Third District—  
 J. Allen Barber.

XLIVth Congress, 1875-77, Third District—  
 Henry S. Magom.

XLVth Congress, 1877-79, Third District—  
 George C. Hazelton.

XLVIth Congress, 1879-81, Third District—  
 George C. Hazelton.

XLVIIth Congress, 1881-83, Third District—  
 George C. Hazelton.

XLVIIIth Congress, 1883-85, Seventh Dis-  
 trict—Gilbert M. Woodward.

\*Died Nov. 24, 1862, and Walter D. McIndoe elected to fill  
 the vacancy, Dec. 30, 1862.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## THE COURTS—PAST AND PRESENT.

From the first settlement in 1781, in what was afterward Crawford county, until the year 1805, the citizens, confined in their residences to the "Prairie des Chiens," were without administrative officers, or other constituted authorities, but permitted the most learned man to exercise the powers of civil magistrate, according to his understanding of their traditionary customs. In accordance with the Jay treaty, Great Britain surrendered all pretensions to the northwest on the 1st of July, 1796, and the people of Prairie des Chiens became by adoption, citizens of the United States, without any agency of their own. But the new government was in no condition to extend its civil jurisdiction to a few people so remote, and they were now left more than ever to themselves. They were simply recognized as citizens of the northwest territory, of whom even the governor had heard but little. Upon the formation of Indiana territory, "Prairie des Chiens" fell into the jurisdiction of it; and now, for the first time, the citizens of the "prairie" were made fully aware that they were amenable to territorial laws, in the appointment among them, as a justice of the peace, of Henry Monroe Fisher.

Mr. Fisher held his office of justice of the peace and captain of militia by appointment of the governor of Indiana territory, which territory then (1805) included also the whole of the present State of Wisconsin. Being an influential trader, Mr. Fisher, in his triple capacity, became the most prominent man in "Prairie des Chiens." His parents were Scotch, or of Scotch descent; and he was born near Lake Champlain,

not far from the line separating the State of New York from Lower Canada, or Canada East. He came from Canada by way of Mackinaw and Green Bay, somewhere about 1790. He carried on a very extensive trade with the Indians in "Prairie des Chiens" region, and furnished outfits to other traders, some of whom traded above, and others below that place. The Sauks, Foxes, Sioux, Winnebagoes and Menomonees then resorted there in great numbers for the purpose of procuring supplies of clothing, ammunition, etc.

Mr. Fisher continued in trade at the "prairie" until 1815, when he left in company with his son, and a son of the late Michael Brisbois, to join the Hudson Bay company, as trader on the Red river of the north, and continued in the service of that company until 1824. In 1826 he had just returned from Lac Traverse, the head water of the Minnesota river, where he had passed two years in the employ of the American Fur Company. He then gave unmistakable evidences of a man of extraordinary activity and vigor for his age. He died at Prairie du Chien in 1827. He was a tall, well-built athletic man, and capable of enduring hardships and fatigue, and of course well calculated for a frontier life of those times. He was easily excited, and possessed indomitable courage and perseverance. The only judicial office that he ever held was that of justice of the peace, at Prairie du Chien, as before mentioned.

One of the daughters of Mr. Fisher was, first, the wife of Joseph Rolette; afterward,

the wife of Hercules L. Dousman. Another daughter is Mrs. Henry S. Baird, of Green Bay.

After the formation of the Territory of Illinois, Prairie des Chiens passed under its jurisdiction, as did all the rest of what is now Wisconsin. The citizens upon the "prairie" were now residents of the county of St. Clair, in the Territory of Illinois, and they had as successor to Mr. Fisher, as justice of the peace, an Irishman, appointed by the governor of that territory, by the name of John Campbell.

This officer was also a sub-Indian agent at Prairie des Chiens." Concerning Campbell, we have an interesting narrative from the pen of James H. Lockwood, who says :

"Campbell charged, for celebrating the rites of matrimony, 100 pounds of flour, and for dissolving them, 200 pounds, alleging that when people wanted to get unmarried, they would willingly give double what they would originally to form the matrimonial connection.

"The *coutume de Paris* [law of Paris] so far prevailed in this country generally, that a part of the ceremony of marriage was the entering into a contract in writing, generally giving, if no issue, the property to the survivor; and if they desired to be divorced, they went together before the magistrate and made known their wishes. and he, in their presence, tore up the marriage contract, and according to the custom of the country, they were then divorced. I was once present at Judge Abbott's, at Mackinaw, when a couple presented themselves before him and were divorced in this manner. When the laws of Michigan were first introduced at Prairie du Chien, it was with difficulty that the justice of the peace could persuade them that a written contract was not necessary, and some of them believed that because the contract of marriage gave the property to the survivor, that they were not obliged to pay the debts which the deceased owed at the time of his death.

"There was an instance of this at Praire du Chien. A man by the name of Jean Marie

Quen (de Lamouche,) who had been married by contract, died without issue, leaving a widow, some personal property and a good farm, but was indebted to Joseph Rolette about \$300, which his widow refused to pay, alleging that the contract of marriage gave her all the property; nor could she be convinced to the contrary, until I had brought suit and obtained a judgment.

"In the absence of religious instructions, and it becoming so common to see the Indians use so little ceremony about marriage, the idea of a verbal matrimonial contract became familiar to the early French settlers; and they generally believed such a contract of marriage was valid without any other ceremony. Many of the women; married in this way, believed, in their simplicity and ignorance, that they were as lawfully the wives of the men they lived with as though they had been married with all the ceremony and solemnity possible.

"A woman at Prairie du Chien, respectable in her class, told me that she was attending a ball in the place, and that a trader, who resided on the lower Mississippi had his canoe loaded to leave as soon as the ball was over, proposed to marry her; and as he was a trader, and ranked above her, she was pleased with the offer, and as his canoe was in waiting, he would not delay for further ceremony. She stepped from the ballroom on board his canoe, and went with him down the Mississippi and they lived together, three or four years, and she had two children by him. She assured me she then believed herself as much the wife of this man as if she had been married with all the ceremony of the most civilized communities, and was not convinced to the contrary until he unfeelingly abandoned her and married another; and from her manner of relating it, I believed her sincere.

"In speaking of the courts of justice of the county, and of their county seats, Mr. Brisbois related to me that some time previous to the War of 1812, he and Mr. Campbell had a dispute about a heifer that was worth at the time,



perhaps \$8; and as each believed it to be his property, they applied to the lawyer at Cahokia to assist them in finding out who was the real owner. The mode of traveling in those days, was in a canoe, manned with six or eight men to paddle, and taking with them some flour, tea and sugar for the bourgeois, and some hulled corn and deer tallow, enough to season the soup for the men, depending upon shooting game by the way, or buying wild fowl or venison from the Indians. The parties litigant were obliged to take their witnesses with them, paying them for their time and expenses, from their departure until their return home. The parties were also obliged to take a bundle of beaver skins, and dispose of them at St. Louis to pay the expenses of lawyers."

The plaintiff recovered in the action, which was brought in Cahokia, before a justice of the peace, the sum of \$16. But the defendant appealed to the county court of St. Clair county. As "Prairie du Chein" was in that county, the sheriff had about 500 miles to travel to subpoena the witnesses for the new trial. But, being an Indian trader, he fitted out a boat, and having stocked it with goods adapted to the Indian market, proceeded thither with his papers. Having subpoenaed the witnesses, (including most of the residents of "Prairie du Chien") he made his return, and charging, as he had a right to do, a travel fee for each, his cost and the costs of the suit altogether, it is said, exceeded \$900. Finally, before the suit came on for hearing in the county court, it was settled. The parties each incurred an expense of about \$1,500.

Upon the death of Campbell, Nicholas Boilvin succeeded to his dignities, in consequence of which, when the British forces appeared in 1814, he hurriedly left the place, but returned after peace was declared, and resumed his functions. His off-hand way of administering justice may be illustrated by an anecdote:

"Col. Boilvin's office was just without the walls of the fort of Prairie du Chien, and it was

much the fashion among the officers to lounge in there of a morning, to find sport for an idle hour, and to take a glass of brandy and water with the old gentleman, which he called taking a little '*quelque chose*.' A soldier, named Fry, had been accused of stealing and killing a calf belonging to M. Rolette, and the constable, a bricklayer of the name of Bell, had been dispatched to arrest the culprit and bring him to trial. While the gentlemen were making their customary morning visit to the justice, a noise was heard in the entry, and a knock at the door.

Come in, cried the old gentleman, rising and walking toward the door.

Bell—Here sir, I have brought Fry to you, as you ordered.

Justice—Fry, you great rascal! What for you kill M. Rolette's calf?

Fry—I did not kill M. Rolett's calf.

Justice—(shaking his fist) You lie, you great rascal! Bell, take him to jail. Come, gentlemen, come, *let us take a little quelque-chose*."

Col. Boilvin was a native of Canada. Upon the erection of Crawford county, he was commissioned anew by Gov. Cass, holding the office of justice of the peace after the country became a part of Michigan territory. He died near St. Louis and was buried at that place. He was fully sixty years of age. He was of common height; rather stocky, stooped and bow legged. He left a son of the same name, who went to California and died there.

Of Col. Boilvin, James H. Lockwood says:

"Mr. Campbell, of whom I have previously made mention as Indian agent and justice of the peace, had passed to his long home before I came to the country [in 1816], and I found a Canadian of French extraction by the name of Nicholas Boilvin clothed with the dignified office of sub-agent and justice of the peace. \* \* \* His law library consisted of a single volume of the old statutes of the Northwestern territory, one of Illinois, and one of Missouri territory; but in deciding cases, he paid no at-

tion to the statutes, but decided according to his own ideas of right and wrong."

#### COUNTY COURT.

In another chapter it has been stated that the county court, upon the organization of the county, consisted of chief justice, John W. Johnson, associate justices, Francis Bouthellier and Walford Owens, whose successor, in 1821, was Joseph Rollette. The justices of the peace appointed at the same time were James H. Lockwood, Nicholas Boilvin and John W. Johnson. In connection with the judiciary of the county, nothing further can be given concerning justices of the peace and trials before them at an early day, except to narrate the following from the pen of James H. Lockwood:

#### A MODEL JUSTICE.

"When the 5th regiment of the United States Infantry came into the country in 1819, and established their headquarters at the mouth of the St. Peters river, they brought with them a man by the name of John Marsh, a graduate of some eastern college, as teacher of the post-school at headquarters. He appeared to have a great fondness for the Sioux Indians, and was endowed with the faculty of acquiring languages with great facility. He soon learned the Sioux language so that he spoke it with as great ease as they did themselves. Getting tired of teaching an army school, he came down to Prairie du Chien in 1826, and went over to Green Bay. He afterward met Gov. Cass, who was much interested in getting Indian information,—their traditions, anecdotes and tales; and he employed Marsh by the month for that purpose and procured for him the appointment of sub-Indian agent at Prairie du Chien, and appointed him justice of the peace for Crawford county.

"Some of his decisions were almost equal to those of Judge Reaume of Green Bay. He was in the practice of taking notes for collection, and issuing process on them. Some person sent him a note to collect from Green Bay against Benjamin Roy. Now there were two men in the country of that name, one resided at the Por-

tage of Wisconsin, and the other was in the employ of the American Fur Company at Prairie du Chien. Neither of them could write his name. The note was signed with a mark, and witnessed by a man who wrote his name, and the witness had gone into the Black river country to winter. Marsh believing that the Roy that was here was the man, issued process and had him brought before him, but he denied any knowledge of the note; but Marsh, satisfied that he was the person who gave it, rendered judgment against him for the amount, and said he would examine the witness when he came down in the spring. Hercules L. Dousman hearing of this decision, went to Marsh and told him that if he proceeded any farther in the case, he would report him to Gov. Cass. That ended the proceeding."

#### EARLY TRIALS BEFORE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

As to some early trials before justices, Mr. Lockwood says:

"Of all the foreigners that came to this country, the Canadians of French extraction seemed to have the least idea of the privileges of American citizenship. It appeared almost impossible to instil into their minds anything of the independence of self-government, and this was not confined entirely to the uneducated, but would apply more or less to the partially educated classes. They do not consider it a privilege to vote for the officers who are to govern them; and consider it only desirable to use the elective franchise in order to gratify some friend who has asked them to vote for himself or his candidate; and when so requested, they are too polite to refuse, unless a previous promise had been made to some other.

"In the spring of the year 1824, a delegate to Congress was to be elected for Michigan; and Michigan, like all other portions of the Union, had several patriotic men who desired to sacrifice themselves to the service of their country. Among the numerous candidates, Mr. [Joseph] Rolette and I each selected one for our support, and solicited the votes of the Canadians for our

respective candidates. Among the voters was a respectable and industrious farmer living in the lower end of Prairie du Chien, by the name Barrette, whose vote had been solicited both by Mr. Rolette and myself; but Barrette being engaged in getting in his spring crop of grain, and thinking if he went to the election he would offend one or the other of us, which he wished to avoid, concluded it would be wisest to remain at home, and work on his farm. Mr. Rolette's idea of the elective franchise was such, that he believed that every man was bound to vote, and, moreover, that he should do it precisely in accordance with the leader's wishes, without exercising any judgment whatever of his own. Mr. Rolette being a Canadian by birth, of French extraction, and although an educated man, considered himself insulted by Barrette's not coming to the election and voting for his candidate, and declared that he would be revenged on him.

"There was a law at that time in Michigan preventing stud horses from running at large when over eighteen months of age, under a penalty of ten dollars for each offence, if willingly or willfully at large. At this time the water was high in the Mississippi, and the old village of Prairie du Chien was an island. One morning shortly after the election, Mr. Rolette with his men brought me two horses of the aforesaid description, and hitched them before my door. I was then a justice of the peace. Rolette entered my house under considerable apparent excitement, saying, he had brought me two horses that were running at large contrary to law. I answered him, that I did not want the horses, nor was I going to take charge of them. Mr. Rolette then asked, as they were at large contrary to law, what was to be done? I answered, that I would have nothing to do with the horses, and should not take charge of them; but if he wished to make a complaint against their owners, I was bound to take notice of it.

"Mr. Rolette then concluded to make such complaint against Barrette, the owner of one of the horses, and let the other off, as he had no

pique to gratify in his case. Process was accordingly issued against Barrette, and soon returned served. On the day of trial, a man by the name of Perkins, heretofore spoken of, seeing that the suit was brought by an apparently wealthy man to oppress a poor one, volunteered his services to assist in defending him, and on calling the case the defendant demanded a jury. The Legislature of Michigan had some two or three years before this reduced the jury before a justice of the peace to six, and the year preceding this trial, they had repealed that law, without any saving clause.

"Under these circumstances, I decided that the repeal of the law, revived the old one of twelve jurors, and accordingly had a jury of that number summoned and sworn. It so happened that there were some Americans on the jury, and as the trial proceeded, the defendant admitted that his horse was at large, but not willingly or wilfully, and proved that his horse was old, and had been worked down very poor in the spring, and that when he was through with his work and wished to turn him out on the prairie, to save himself from the penalty of the law, he had taken him to be castrated to the only man on the prairie that pretended to perform such operations. But he declined doing so, saying that the horse was too poor and weak to live through it, and that he had better turn him out on the prairie to rest and recruit a few days, as he could do no harm. Under this testimony, the jury brought in a verdict for defendant, stating that Barrette's horse was neither willfully or willingly at large, contrary to law.

"After this Barrette, by advice of his friend, brought suit against Mr. Rolette, before N. Boilvin, Esq., another justice of the peace, for trespass, and swimming his horse across the slough of St. Ferule, and had another jury, who gave Barrette five dollars damages and costs, which mortified Mr. Rolette very much. He did not care so much about the money, as he did about attempting to punish a Canadian

farmer for disobeying his wishes, and to have that farmer beat him."

A LAWYER "SQUASHED."

The magistrates of Prairie du Chien gained for themselves a merited reputation for energy in the administration of the laws. They fined a man of ninety for indecency; scourged a soldier at the public whipping post, and looked with wonderful complacency upon the ejection of an Indian from a wheat field, in which he had been trespassing. There was a jail in the place calculated to keep delinquents, just so long as they wished to remain and no longer. Report has it, that the jailor was accustomed to bolt the door with a boiled carrot. In truth, up to this time law had exercised but little sway in the place. The traders made and executed laws to suit their own convenience and but little regard was had to justice.

The magistrates who held court in the place were for the most part illiterate men, and knew little about law or mode of procedure in legal matters. They decided all matters according to their own notions of right and wrong, and oftentimes justice became comedy in their hands. The following is an illustration of their mode of dispensing justice: A case was being tried before one of these magistrates, on which a jury had been empaneled, and lawyers employed. During the trial one of the lawyers made an objection to the character of the evidence offered by a witness. He informed the judge that it was not legal. His honor overruled the objection, and the case proceeded. The lawyer objected again, and was again silenced. A third time he objected, and, endeavoring to convince the obdurate judge that he was proceeding contrary to all law, when the foreman of the jury sprang to his feet, and thundered out, that he had taken his oath as a juror to decide the case according to the evidence; he wanted to hear the whole thing, and if that fool of a lawyer was going to keep on in that style, he would leave the court. It is needless to say that the lawyer was effectually "squashed."

FIRST TERM OF THE COUNTY COURT.

Although the chief justice and the two associate justices were appointed in 1818, no record of their proceedings has been preserved anterior to 1823, when, in May, the "county court of Crawford county met in session." The record for this term is as follows:

May 12, 1823, Prairie du Chien, county court of Crawford county met in session; J. L. Findly, C. C. C. C.

The oath of the grand jury: The grand jury do solemnly swear that you will diligently and true presentment make in behalf of the United States of America, of all complaints made to you, and of all unlawful acts that should come to your knowledge, that shall be required of you according to law, without fear, fraud or partiality. So help you God.

The grand jury being sworn, retired, and brought in the following report: "No bill made." J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

The court adjourns until 10 o'clock to-morrow. J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

The court met agreeable to adjournment, and proceeded to business.

Nicholas Perrine } This process is a writ of  
vs. } Attachment.  
Hardin Perkins. }

Names of the jurors: Sandy Simprau, Francis Vertifeulle, Joseph Rivard, Oliver Cheriery, Michael Brisbois, Edward Persan, Joseph Brisbois, John Dis Pouse, Alexis Bailey, Frederick Barnard, James Reed, A Range.

The complainant plead a non suit. The judges decided that the writ of attachment was illegal, and that complainant was non-suited, with all costs. J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

*Ordered*, that John Brunet and John Dispouse are licensed as tavern keepers in the borough of Prairie du Chien for one year.

J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

*Ordered*, that James Reed be licensed as a tavern keeper in the borough of Prairie du Chien for one year. By order of the court.

J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

The court decree that the proceedings of James H. Lockwood, Esq., are legal and proper and are to be filed in the clerk's office. By order of the court.

J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

*Ordered*, that this court have designated the limits of the jail to be one mile square.

J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

*Ordered*, that the court be adjourned until the next term in course.

J. L. FINDLY, C. C. C. C.

A CHANGE.

No change was made in the county court from the time of the first appointment of the justices, until July 31, 1830, on which day Joseph Rolette was commissioned chief justice in place of John W. Johnson, and Jean Brunet, associate justice instead of Francois Bouthellier, both Johnson and Bouthellier having removed from the county. And this was then all the more a necessity, as the court, having previously been shorn of its powers, as will hereafter be more fully explained, was, by an act of the Legislative Council of the territory of Michigan, approved July 31, 1830, fully restored to its just powers, as originally possessed. On the 14th day of May, 1831, Joseph M. Street was appointed to succeed Joseph Rolette as chief justice, and James H. Lockwood was appointed an associate justice.

No other changes were made in the county court until September 6, 1834, when Hercules L. Dousman was appointed associate justice, in place of Jean Brunet. The court remained unchanged from this time until abrogated by the district court upon the organization of Wisconsin territory, according to the provisions of the organic law, as set forth in

"SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That all suits, process, and proceedings, and all indictments and informations which shall be undetermined on the third day of July next in the courts held by the additional judge for the Michigan territory, in the counties of Brown and Iowa; and all suits, process, and proceed-

ings, and all indictments and informations, which shall be undetermined on the said third day of July, in the county courts of the several counties of Crawford, Brown, Iowa, Dubuque, Milwaukee and DesMoines, shall be transferred to be heard, tried, prosecuted, and determined in the district courts hereby established, which may include the said counties."

OF THE JUSTICES OF THE COUNTY COURT.

That justice was administered without much regard to the forms of law, at an early day, in Crawford county, is not to be charged against the justices of the county court as a dereliction of duty on their part. They were all men of the pioneer stamp and their honesty can not be impugned. John H. Fonda says:

"I remember that soon after I came to Prairie du Chien, Joseph Rolette was chief justice I forget who his associates were, and it was rich to watch the proceedings and decisions of the court. Joseph M. Street, H. L. Donsman, M. Brisbois and James H. Lockwood were afterwards appointed to the offices of chief justice and associate judges, and a decided improvement was introduced in the manner of conducting the court. Severally, the associates had the powers of a justice of the peace; they could marry persons, issue warrants for arrest, etc., but it was only collectively that they had original jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters."

That those who come after them should desire to learn something of these men is a matter of no wonder. The first who held the responsible position of chief justice was, as already stated, John W. Johnson.

The nativity of Mr. Johnson is unknown, but is believed to have been American, as he came from Maryland to the "prairie." His advent here was as United States factor in June, 1816. He continued in that position so long as he remained here—a period of sixteen years. He filled the office of chief justice of the county court from the spring of 1819, when that court was first organized, until succeeded by Joseph

M. Street, in 1830. In 1832, he was relieved of his duties as factor, by the winding up of the factor system of Indian trade, when he removed to St. Louis, where he died some years after.

Mr. Johnson was a man of good sense and judgment, but had from quite a young man held the appointment of United States factor and resided in the Indian country, where he could obtain but little knowledge of the proceeding of courts or the ordinary transactions of civilized life.

Joseph M. Street emigrated from Richmond, Va., in the winter of 1805-6, to Frankfort, Ky., where he soon engaged in the publication of *The Western World*, and for several years took a conspicuous part in the gladiatorial field of Kentucky politics. Appointed in 1828, to the agency of the Winnebagoes, at Prairie du Chien, he remained there for a number of years. He died on the Des Moines river, Iowa, while agent for the Saes and Foxes, May 5, 1840, at about the age of sixty years.

Of Francois Bouthellier but little is known. He was in what is now Crawford county, at an early day, and was agent of the Southwest Fur Company. On the 27th of May, 1816, he leased to John W. Johnson, United States factor, the buildings of that company, which were afterward attempted to be confiscated to the general government, but without success. Lot No. 16, in the main village of Prairie des Chiens was claimed by him in 1820, and the claim allowed by the agent of the United States, Isaac Lee. The testimony taken to substantiate his claim was in substance as follows:

“Michael Brisbois and Dennis Curtois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the above described tract of land [village lot No. 16] was occupied in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, by Michael La Bothe; that, after his death, Francois Bouthellier purchased said lot at auction, and that the occupation of said lot has been kept up by the said

Michael La Bothe and Francois Bouthellier, from the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, to the present time.”

After leaving Crawford county, Judge Bouthellier moved to Galena, near which place he died in 1833.

Wilfred Owens ended his days in 1821, by cutting his throat, in a fit of mental derangement. The following notice of his death appeared in the *Detroit Gazette*, Oct. 5, 1821: “Died, at Prairie du Chien, on the 23d of August last, Mr. Wilfred Owens, merchant. He committed suicide by cutting an artery of his arm and of his throat, in the presence of two of his friends, and was supposed to be insane. Mr. Owens was judge of probate and associate justice in the county of Crawford, and a very respectable member of society.”

Mr. Owens was a Kentuckian, and was sent to Prairie du Chien by Alexander McNair, of St. Louis, as his clerk in the sutler business, giving him an interest in the profits.

Joseph Rolette assistant and afterward, for a short time, chief justice of the county court of Crawford county, was a native of Canada where he was born about the year 1787. He was, while young, an auctioneer's clerk, and was remarkably expert in catching and announcing the rapid bids made for goods offered at public sale. He appears to have located at “Prairie des Chiens” in 1804. He early became a prominent and enterprising trader. Like other Canadian traders, he sided with the British during the war of 1812-15, and was active in the capture of Mackinaw from the Americans in 1812.

Up to thirty years of age, Rolette used no liquor or wine—an unusual thing for a trader. He died at Prairie du Chien, in 1841, over the age of sixty. His perception was quick, and he had a wonderful power in calculating figures. Though not daring in his character, he would fight when it seemed to be necessary.

Once, in crossing the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien, at a dangerous time, when the ice ran heavily, the late H. L. Dousman was one of the party with him. Rolette got so alarmed for his safety, that he solemnly promised that, if spared, he would devote \$1,000 towards the erection of a Catholic church on the prairie. After no little hard work, the icy obstacles were overcome and they approached the shore in safety. On landing, while one foot was yet in the boat, Rolette exclaimed: "Collect it if you can; you haven't got my note for it!" Dousman so badgered him that he subsequently paid the amount for the object promised.

Of the subject of this sketch, James H. Lockwood, in his published narrative, says:

"Joseph Rolette was a Canadian by birth, of French extraction, and an educated man. He told me he was educated for the Roman Catholic Church, but not liking the profession, he quit it and served a regular apprenticeship to mercantile business, and, about the year 1804, came to Prairie du Chien in business connection with Mr. Cameron, an old Indian trader, who usually resided at Lac-qui-Parle on the St. Peter's river. Mr. Rolette superintended the business at the prairie, and kept the books of the concern, wintering occasionally at, and in the vicinity of, Lake Pepin, and returning to Prairie du Chien early in the spring, to take advantage of the spring trade of the Indians visiting here. Mr. Rolette was an active merchant and trader, and I suppose would be called a clever merchant; that is, he was active in taking every advantage of his neighbor for making money, without regard to the morality of the transaction. Although he was active in business, and used every exertion to make money, it was not with the miserly disposition of hoarding it, for he was equally liberal in scattering it. Among many bad qualities as a citizen, Mr. Rolette yet possessed many redeeming traits. He was hospitable and generous, and liberal to the poor, and where a man had met with loss by accident, he was generally one of

the first to afford relief; and, for an Indian trader, he had considerable enterprise for the prosperity and improvement of the country. I believe that he introduced the first swine into the country, but am not sure that such is the fact; I know that he introduced the first sheep, and that he was much imposed on in the purchase. He bargained with an American below this on the Mississippi, to deliver him a certain number of ewes on the prairie. The man brought the number of sheep, and told him they were according to contract, and Mr. Rolette, knowing very little about sheep, counted them and directed his man to take them to his farm, and paid for them agreeably to contract, and after a while some one examined them, and found that instead of ewes they were nearly all wethers.

"About 1840, a man by the name of Manhan, who was a tanner and currier, came to this place, and proposed to set up his business here, but not having the necessary means, Mr. Rolette advanced them to him; but it turned out a poor adventure. I must here relate an anecdote of Rolette. His ambition was always to be ahead of me in everything. I think that some time in 1823, I mentioned to some person that I thought a distillery would do well at the Prairie, and that I would introduce some rye; and if I could induce the French to raise it on the front of their farms that were sandy, I would build a distillery, but wished to get the rye growing first. Mr. Rolette, hearing of my suggestion, concluded at once that he would build a distillery; and in going to Mackinaw, he fell in with a man by the name of Curtis, who had been a captain in the army, and had been cashiered by court-martial, and being without means of support, was ready for almost anything. He persuaded Mr. Rolette that he was a scientific man and could do almost anything, and, especially, was well acquainted with distilling. Mr. Rolette engaged him, and brought him to the prairie, in 1824; but as the distillery was not yet built, Mr. Rolette employed him as a teacher in his family, for which he was very

well qualified. During this time Mr. Rolette ordered and received the coppers and other apparatus for his distillery. For some reason, the building of the distillery was delayed until the spring of 1828, when a man by the name of Giapon, a Canadian by birth, clerk of our circuit court, and fond of a joke, told Mr. Rolette one day, that I would make him build a distillery; that I had only to say that I was going to build one, and he would be certain to immediately do so. It was not true that I had ever said so to Giapon; but Mr. Rolette soon after sent his coppers to St. Louis, and nothing more was heard of the distillery.

"It was so well understood that Mr. Rolette would oppose any measure that he did not introduce, that when I wished to carry out any object without opposition, that I considered for the public good, I would get some person to go to Mr. Rolette and tell him that I was going to introduce such a measure, and I would soon after hear that Mr. Rolette was going to do the same thing. I would, of course, second him and we would get along without any difficulty. Mr. Rolette was evidently the first man of this little village when he came to the country, and some may say that in representing his foibles, I have maliciously taken advantage of him, as he cannot now answer for himself. As we were for several years opposing candidates for the rank and consideration of the first man of our little village, and were rival Indian traders, I have introduced our respective names only when necessary to elucidate the events in the history of the region of Prairie du Chien.

"I have lived among this people of Prairie du Chien upwards of thirty years, and have taken considerable interest in elections, and frequently asked the people to vote for the candidate that I supported, and recollect but a solitary instance, in all that time, where a man had the independence to refuse my request. It was amusing, after the county of Crawford was organized, and an election was to take place for a delegate to Congress from Michigan, to see these people

about election time. It so happened that Joseph Rolette and myself influenced about an equal number of voters, and as we generally supported different candidates, these people would meet, and talk among themselves about the election, asking each other who they were going to vote for? The answer invariably was, '*Je va vote pour Mons. Rolette;*' or '*Je va vote pour Mons. Lockwood;*' the names of the opposing candidates never being mentioned, and very seldom known; a rather amusing circumstance."

Mrs. Kinzie relates in her *Wau-Bun* the following capital story of M. Rolette. The scene was on Lake Winnebago, where M. Rolette was engaged with a trading boat, when he met another boat on which were his employes, directly from Prairie du Chien. "Of course, after an absence of some weeks from home, the meeting on those lonely waters, and the exchanging of news, was an occasion of great excitement. The boats were stopped; earnest greetings interchanged; question followed question.

'*Eh! bien*'—inquired M. Rolette, 'have they finished the new house?'

'*Oui, Monsieur.*'

'*Et la cheminee, fume-t-elle?*' (Does the chimney smoke?)

'*Non, Monsieur.*'

'And the harvest; how is that?'

'Very fine, indeed.'

'Is the mill at work?'

'Yes, plenty of water.'

'How is Whip?' (His favorite horse.)

'Oh! Whip is first rate.'

"Everything, in short, about the store, the farm, the business of various descriptions being satisfactorily gone over, there was no occasion for further delay. It was time to proceed.

'*Eh! bien—adieu! bon voyage!*'

'*Arrachez—mes gens!*' (Go ahead, men.)

Then suddenly—'*Arretez—arretez!*' (Stop! Stop!)

'*Comment se portent Madame Rolette et les enfants?*' (How are Mrs. Rolette and the children?)"



Mrs. Kinzie also gives us another glimpse of M. Rolette's character. The Indians, she says, called him Ah-kay-zaup-ee-tab, or *Five More*; because, as they said, let them offer what number of skins they might, in bartering for an article, his terms were invariably "five more."

"Upon one occasion," continues Mrs. Kinzie, "a lady remarked to him, 'Oh, M. Rolette, I would not be engaged in the Indian trade; It seems to me a system of cheating the poor Indians.'

'Let me tell you, madame,' replied he with great *naivete*, 'it is not so easy a thing to cheat the Indians as you imagine. I have tried it these twenty years, and have never succeeded!'"

A general memoir of Joseph Rolette was commenced July 27, 1876, *L'Opinion Publique*, a paper published in Montreal. It was written by Joseph Tasse, is in French, and is continued in a number of issues of that paper. This memoir, along with many others, has since been published in book form by Mr. Tasse.

James H. Lockwood died in Prairie du Chien, Aug. 24, 1857, in the sixty-fourth year of his age. He was born in Clinton, Co., N. Y., in 1793. He continued until his sixteenth year, employed on his father's farm, getting such an education as the circumstances of the country then afforded; when to be able to read, write and cipher was considered sufficient qualifications to teach a common school. He engaged in the study of law for a time, but abandoned that to become a clerk for a sutler attached to a portion of Gen. Izard's army in 1841. In 1815 he was invited by Lewis Rouse, of Green Bay, to assist him, as he had secured the sutling of the rifle regiment, which was then in Buffalo. He accepted the invitation, and had the pleasure of riding to Buffalo on the stage, which, with colors flying, bore to that city the welcome tidings of peace. The troops were then ordered *west*--at that day a word of very different signification from what it is now; and on the 15th of August, 1815, Mr. Lockwood arrived at

Mackinaw. In 1816 Mr. Lockwood engaged as clerk for a party of traders. Green Bay and Prairie du Chien were the only settlements in this State at that time. He continued in this situation, until in the fall of 1819, he made his home in Prairie du Chien, where he resided ever since.

The subject of this sketch had been justice of peace, associate justice of Crawford county, postmaster and member of the territorial legislature. In 1842, he united with the Episcopal church. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of friends. Service was read by Rev. John H. Egar; an address was delivered by the Rev. A. Bronson. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Radeliffe. Many incidents of Mr. Lockwood's life are to be found in other chapters of this history.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE H. L. DOUSMAN.\*

[By an "Old Settler."]

The Wisconsin press has noticed without distinction of party, the demise of Hercules Louis Dousman, of Prairie du Chien; and the press has done itself honor, by the respect it has paid to so eminent a man.

A great portion of the newspapers now printed in this State cannot, however, be aware of the most varied and striking incidents in the career of the subject of their obituaries. But an acquaintance with the affairs of the territory and of the State for more than thirty years, enables the writer of this article to state several particulars which bring the extraordinary capacity and excellence of Col. Dousman into strong relief. In 1834 he was known at Washington as a man whose influence in the vast regions of the upper Mississippi was only equalled by his intimate knowledge of its interests. By this is meant his familiarity with the geography of the country--the disposition of the savage tribes--his just and comprehensive views of the future progress of the great northern northwest; of its resources, agricultural, geological and commet-

\*So important an historical character is Mr. Dousman that we give this tribute a place notwithstanding the sketch of him by Gen. Sibley, in a previous chapter.—Ed.

cial; and his personal influence in quelling frontier disturbances as well as giving counsel to the officers of the government. He was always the adviser of those who commanded troops at Fort Crawford, Fort Winnebago, Fort Snelling and the line of forts which watched the frontier. He was the friend of Col. Brooke, and the confidant of Gen. Dodge. When a civil commission was sent to the Colean de Prairie, in 1835, to examine the resources of this extraordinary tract, which as then was not even mapped, the United States geologist was instructed by Mr. Poinset, then secretary of war, to consult with Hercules L. Dousman, and with him alone.

Gen. Alexander Macomb, then commander-in-chief, directed thus: You will, on reaching Prairie du Chien and presenting the letters with which you are furnished, to Mr. Dousman, ask him to furnish such geographical, mineralogical and general statistics as will promote the efficiency of your command. Incidentally you will be able to secure the clue to a mass of information which the government requires, and which can be furnished so accurately and reliably by no other individual in that important tract of the northwest. At this period Mr. Nicolet and Gen. J. C. Fremont had not executed the government map of the space between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers; and in fact the traders and *voyageurs* estimated them as being 300 miles nearer to each other than they are now established to be. On the arrival of the State geologist, Col. Dousman produced a map which he had constructed for the use of the American Fur Company, which he presented. This map was constructed from years of close observation, extended business and keen judgment. It was made without instruments, and actually came within twenty-five miles of the true distance as afterwards established by the United States engineers. Those who were present can never forget his remark in reference to this manuscript chart. "*Il-ya peut-etre quelque erreur, mais J'ai examine le supet; vous' nalley pas*

*rous egarer beaucoup.*" "There is perhaps some error, but I have examined the subject; you wont be much out of the way."

After the return of the geological expedition (via New Orleans) to Washington, the secretary of war addressed an autograph letter of thanks to Mr. Dousman for the aid, information, and hospitality he had tendered to the command; in truth, next to his knowledge of the country, his hospitality was unbounded in it.

It so happened that the writer, present upon this occasion, was sent in a different capacity to Prairie du Chien in 1838. A quarter of million dollars, (a large sum in those days, thirty years ago), was to be paid by Indian commissioners to the Winnebagoes. Here was a labyrinth to unspread, a complication to simplify. The gentlemen comprising the commission candidly wrote to the President of the United States, that their instructions were ample, but that the Winnebagoes were discontented, and that the commission wanted more light as to their discretion in a matter which might not only embroil the government, but might lead to the past scenes of the Black Hawk War. The dispatch of the secretary of war, in answer, was this: "A gentleman upon your commission, can inform you that some years ago, when with his father, instructions were sent to the United States geologist to consult Hercules L. Dousman, Esq., at Prairie du Chien. Mr. Dousman has undoubtedly the letter addressed to him from the war department. In the meantime I renew the general statement. He is the most valuable man on the upper Mississippi. He has great influence over many tribes, and is esteemed by John Jacob Astor, Ramsey Crooks, and all connected with the western outfit, as the most competent civilian within that interesting portion of the valley of the Mississippi. It appears that a candid consultation with him is desirable, before returning to Washington, as you contemplate, without carrying out the objects of the commission which the Government is desirous to have accomplished. It is understood

that his influence over the Winnebago Indians is unbounded, and it is very desirable to have them permanently removed west of the Mississippi."

So the commissioners opened their sessions. False claims were adjusted. Just claims were allowed, interminable difficulties solved, and general justice done. Nor were the fiscal duties those which involved the most peril. Five thousand Winnebago Indians were encamped between the plains of Prairie du Chien, and the Pointed Rocks, seven miles up the river. Occasionally the whole body assembled all around the stockade of Fort Crawford, which was garrisoned by only 100 men. At one time it was contemplated to call in volunteers from across the river, and pay them out of the specie held by the commission. In fine, if not a scene of terror and confusion, men held their breath, and thought of something else than dancing with ladies at military balls. The red heathen were upon us. To add to the dilemma, some soldiers broke into the magazine and pillaged kegs of specie, amounting to several thousand dollars. In fine, it was proposed to abandon a portion of the quadrangle of the fort, and defend the rest to the last. Besides this, the troops were not far from mutinous. In this extremity Hercules Dousman called a council of the Indians, upbraided, alarmed and deterred them. The Winnebagoes appointed a commissioner of their own, connected with their blood and interests. He sat on the board—all animosities were appeased, all was unison and harmony. Hence the influence of a powerful character like that of Hercules Dousman, a man whose life was at the mercy of any desperate, discontented member of the most ferocious race known from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains, is unparalleled in the history of "such men who have only led the life of Kit Carson." Ex-United States senator, Hon. Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, in relating the treaty, payment and its results, remarked in the United States senate a few years

ago: "I have lived in almost every State of the Union; I now represent in part the Keystone State but in all my experience, a more truthful, energetic, fearless, noble-hearted man I never met than Hercules Dousman. His talent, if possible, exceeded his great virtues."

A public print remarked sometime since that Mr. Solomon Juneau, Gov. James Duane Doty and Col. Hercules L. Dousman, were the men who possessed the greatest influence over the Indian tribes. Certainly Mr. Juneau was well acquainted with the Fol Avoines, or Menomonees; he had had dealings with many of their bands. He also had much influence with a certain portion of the Chippewas. His fairness and amiability entitled him to more than this. Gov. Doty, except as an old settler and prominent public man, had no influence at all with any tribe or band from Detroit to the Mississippi river; whereas, the absolute influence of Dousman extended everywhere over the Pottawattamies, the Chippewas living around the bounds of Lake Superior itself—over the discontented chiefs of all of them, and over the ambitious half-breeds. The Menomonees called him father in four different treaties, for the substantial reason that for nearly forty years he supplied them with provisions during the Indian pestilence, "Lapicotte," or the confluent small-pox.

In the hereditary wars between the Ojibewas and Sioux, when the Indian bureau was paralyzed in its functions, Hercules L. Dousman was the only man in the length and breadth of the land who could or would, or dared to act as a pacifier between these powerful Indian Nations, and it is not less singular that he lived so long without any casualty in a region so wild and tempestuous. Nor were his relations with the capitalists of New York and St. Louis less remarkable. In case of the non-advent of specie to comply with treaty stipulations, to pay off soldiers, or of any general public necessity, a courier to either of these commercial centers, from Hercules L. Dousman, brought the

money to any point within a circumference that is now measured by empires. No living man, ever in the United States, possessed the same direct visible and operative power over the aborigines. Personally, he was a remarkable man, quite unassuming, eminently gentleman-like, and of commanding presence. Cautious in his undertakings, but the soul of honor in fulfilling them; above all envy, detraction, or malice. But it may also be observed that his personal courage was so well known, and shown on remarkable occasions, that very few braves, either white or red, in the valley of the Mississippi, tried conclusions with him a second time. He knew the Indian languages and spoke French with the purity and precision of the Choultens and Pratts. In fact, the writer of these pages, a Frenchman by language but an American by birth, supposed that Col. Dousman had been educated in France. He had never crossed the ocean.

Death had already taken away but a short time before his brother, Dr. Dousman, of Milwaukee, and this new fiat of heaven has diminished the number of eminent and excellent men who came to the west even anterior to a very

#### OLD SETTLER.

#### TERRITORIAL CIRCUIT COURT.

No sooner had the three counties of Brown, Crawford and Michillimackinac been organized and their county courts established, than it was felt to be a great draw-back to the prompt administration of justice that, in all civil cases of over \$1,000, and in criminal cases that were capital, as well as in actions of ejectment, in the allowance of writs of error, and mandamus, recourse must be had to the supreme court at Detroit; the latter place being the seat of government of Michigan territory. Therefore, in January, 1823, an act of Congress provided for a circuit court, and for the appointment of a judge for these counties. This court had concurrent jurisdiction, civil and criminal, with the supreme court of the territory, in most cases, subject, however, to have its decisions taken to the latter tribunal

by a writ of error. The law provided for holding one term of court in each year, in each of the counties named in the act; so, at last, there was to be a speedy administration of justice at home, and the people were to be relieved from all military arbitrations, which frequently had been imposed upon them. James Duane Doty was appointed judge of this court at its organization. Appeals were taken from the county court to the "circuit court of the United States for the county of Crawford," as Judge Doty's court was called. A May term was held in Prairie du Chien; a June term in Green Bay; a July term in "the borough of Michillimackinac," in each year. In 1824 Henry S. Baird, of Brown county, was appointed district attorney. Doty held the office of judge until May, 1832, when he was succeeded by David Irvin. The new circuit included all of Michigan not in the peninsula, the now State of Wisconsin, and the country north of St. Croix river and east of the Mississippi to latitude 49—now under the government of Minnesota. In the winter or spring of 1823, Doty was appointed by President Monroe the additional judge. At the session of 1823-4, Congress changed the tenure of office of the judges of Michigan from "good behavior" to the term of four years, and Judge Doty's re-appointment was announced in *Nile's Register* of Feb. 28, 1824. The first term of Judge Doty's court was held at Mackinaw, in July, 1823.

James Duane Doty was born at Salem, Washington Co., N. Y., in the year of 1799. He received a common school education, and then devoted himself to the study of law. In 1818, he removed to Detroit, in the territory of Michigan, where, in the following year, he was admitted to the bar. He early attracted attention, and, in 1820, accompanied Gov. Cass on one of his extensive tours, and was present when the governor hauled down the British flag displayed by the Chippewas on the American side of the straits of Mackinaw, despite their menaces. In the winter of 1821,

while visiting Washington, Doty was admitted to the bar of the United States supreme court. A year later, upon the passage of the act forming northern Michigan into a judicial district, he was selected by President Monroe to occupy the bench. In the fall of 1823 Judge Doty, with his wife—he had recently married a daughter of Gen. Collins, of Oneida Co., N. Y.,—removed to Prairie du Chien for the purpose of entering upon his duties; but, the following spring, because the traders did not manifest a very friendly spirit, and believing that Green Bay was a healthier place, established his home there. During this year the organization of the courts was completed, and thereafter he held his terms with strict regularity until 1832, when he was succeeded by Judge David Irvin. Thus relieved of official duties, he made repeated tours over the then unsettled territory, became thoroughly acquainted with its natural resources, and contributed not a little towards obtaining the good-will of the Indian tribes toward the government. In 1831–2, he was one of the commissioners who surveyed the United States military roads from Green Bay to Chicago and Prairie du Chien. In 1834 he was elected to the territorial council of Michigan, in which he served two years with distinction. In that body he introduced the proposition for the formation of a State government, and the separate territorial organization of Wisconsin, which prevailed in 1836. Meanwhile, at the Green Bay land sales of 1835–6, he was intrusted with large sums of money for investment in eligible locations, and many flourishing villages now stand on sites of his selection. He was chiefly instrumental, at the Belmont session of the Wisconsin legislature, although not a member, in securing the location of the seat of government at the Four Lakes, now Madison. In 1838, he was elected delegate in Congress from Wisconsin territory, serving until 1841. He became governor, by appointment from President Tyler, in September, 1841, which office he held until June, 1844, being the second terri-

torial governor of Wisconsin. He was a member of the first convention chosen to draft a State constitution in 1846. He was elected to Congress from the third or Green Bay district, in 1848, and re-elected in 1850. At the close of his term in 1853, he retired to private life. His last residence in Wisconsin was at Menasha, on Doty's island, of Lake Winnebago. In 1861 he was appointed superintendent of Indian affairs by President Lincoln, and subsequently governor of Utah, holding this position until his death, which occurred June 13, 1865. He was emphatically one of the most eminent pioneers of Wisconsin, and his important public services entitle him to lasting honor.

#### HOLDING COURT UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

To reach Prairie du Chien from Green Bay, Judge Doty had to travel the distance in a bark canoe, by way of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. Annual journeys were undertaken between the two points, from 1825 to 1828, by the judge and district attorney, Henry S. Baird, in one canoe. It was usually manned by seven Indians, and the trip each way occupied about seven days. Baird took his family along. Mrs. Baird, who is now (1884) still living, relates the journey was rendered very enjoyable by its sociability and novelty. It was through a wilderness, on wild waters, and no white inhabitant found along its entire course.

In 1829 Morgan L. Martin came to Green Bay, and was subsequently admitted to the bar by the court. In May, of the same year, he and Judge Doty, and the district attorney (Baird), with a Menomonee Indian for a guide, traveled on horseback from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien and back. It took them seven days each way. During the journey, they saw no white man. Their course led through what is now Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Madison, Blue Mounds and Dodgeville; crossing the Wisconsin river six miles above its confluence with the Mississippi.

In those early days, courts were held in rooms in log dwellings, log school houses, and barns,

in an emergency, as was the case at the May term, 1826, at Prairie du Chien, when the site of the village was inundated by the Mississippi. "It would naturally be imagined that, under such circumstances [as the flood] court could not be held. But not so; a large barn, situated on dry ground, was fitted up for the occasion. The judge and the attorneys occupied the extensive threshing floor, and the jurors the mows. When the latter retired to make up a verdict, they were conducted by an officer to another barn or stable." After Iowa county was created, and the county seat established at Mineral Point, the court was also held at that place, as well as at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien.

A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CIRCUIT COURT.

It was thought advisable to try the Indian prisoners confined for the murder of Gagnier and Lipeap at Prairie du Chien, in Judge Doty's court; so, in order to give him jurisdiction, and, at the same time not to bring his court in conflict with the county court of Crawford county, the following acts were passed:

[I.]

An Act to restrict the jurisdiction of the county courts of the counties of Michillimackinac, Brown and Crawford.

*Be it enacted by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan,* that from and after the first day of July next ensuing, it shall not be lawful for the county courts, in the counties of Michillimackinac, Brown and Crawford, to take or to hold, or entertain jurisdiction of the trial of any civil or criminal cause; nor shall it be lawful for the clerks thereof, as such, to issue any *venire* whatever, for any jury or juries, returnable at the said county courts, or either of them.

SEC. 2, That all its suits, indictments, recognizances, process, writs, appeals and all other matters and things whatsoever, relating to causes civil and criminal, pending in or returnable to the said county courts, are hereby transferred and made returnable to the circuit court of the United States, to be held in each of the

said counties where the same are pending; and the circuit court is hereby authorized and required to hear, try, and determine all such suits, indictments, recognizances, process, writs, appeals and all other matters and things aforesaid, according to law, and in like manner as the said county courts would have been required to hear, try, and determine the same, if this act had not been passed.

Approved June 18, 1828.

According to the provisions of this act, Judge Doty convened his court on the 25th of August 1828. On the 1st day of September, Chiekhongsic, or the Little Boeuf, and Waniga, or the Sun, were indicted for murder, as accomplices of Red Bird in the killing of Gagnier and Lipeap, in June of the preceding year, as related in a previous chapter. The two Indians (Winnebagoes) just mentioned were convicted and sentenced to be hung on the 26th of December following; but, before that day, they were pardoned by the President of the United States. Two other Indians, charged with the murder of Methode and family, were at the same term discharged under a *nolle prosequi*. Afterward the jurisdiction of the county court was restored by the act which follows:

[II.]

An Act to provide for holding a special session of the circuit court of the county of Crawford.

*Be it enacted by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan,* That "the additional judge for the Michigan territory, in the counties of Michillimackinac, Brown and Crawford," be and he is hereby authorized to hold a special session of the circuit court for the county of Crawford, at such place in the borough of Prairie du Chien, as he may appoint, on Monday, the twenty-fifth day of August next, and so long a time thereafter as may be necessary for the trial of all such criminal cases as shall then and there be moved and prosecuted in the said court; and the clerk of said court shall issue *venire*-

ies for fifteen grand, and twelve petit jurors to attend the said session.

SEC. 2. That the jurors aforesaid shall be free white males of this territory, above the age of twenty-one years, and shall have resided therein one year previous to the said twenty-fifth of August, and, no other qualification shall be required by the court, of the said jurors; and if any juror is subpoenaed as a witness in any criminal case, to be prosecuted as aforesaid, or does not possess a full knowledge of the English language, he shall not be discharged for such cause alone.

SEC. 3. That no person, indicted for any crime at the said session, shall be allowed by the court to challenge peremptorily, and without cause, more than twelve jurors of the said panel, anything contained in any law to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided*, That any deficiency in said panel, from any cause whatever, shall not operate to prevent the court from causing a sufficient number of jurors to complete the panel aforesaid, to be summoned from among the neighboring citizens.

Approved June 3, 1828.

An Act to restore the jurisdiction and powers of the county court of the county of Crawford.

*Be it enacted by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan.* That it shall hereafter be lawful for the county court of the county of Crawford, to take and entertain jurisdiction of all causes, civil and criminal, that may arise in said county, and to direct the issuing of all necessary process for carrying the same into effect, in as ample a manner as was possessed by said court, previous to the passage of the act entitled "An Act to restrict the jurisdiction of the county courts of the counties of Michillimackinac, Brown and Crawford, approved June 18, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, or as said court would have possessed, provided the act aforesaid had not been passed.

SEC. 2. That there shall be one term annually of said court, to be held on the first Monday of November, in each and every year.

Approved July 31, 1830.

While Judge Irvin, the successor of Judge Doty, was holding his office, it was thought best to better provide for the publication of all legal notices in the counties of Brown, Iowa and Crawford; so the following act was passed, applicable, however, to both circuit and county court:

An Act to provide for the publication of all legal notices in the counties of Brown, Iowa and Crawford.

SECTION. 1. *Be it enacted by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan*, that when notice of any application to any court or judicial officer in any of said counties of Brown, Iowa and Crawford, of any proceeding in any court, or before any judicial officers, in either of said counties, is required to be published in any newspaper, the said notice shall be published by posting one copy of it on the door of the house where the circuit court was last held, in the county in which said application is made or proceeding had; and the court or judge may order a further publication, if, in their discretion, the nature of the case shall require it, by inserting a copy thereof in a newspaper.

SEC. 2. The provisions of the foregoing section shall not effect any application made or proceeding had as aforesaid, previous to the 1st day of June next.

Approved Feb. 1, 1833.

The territorial circuit court, with David Irvin as judge, continued until the year 1836, when it was, along with the Crawford county court, abrogated by the organization of the territory of Wisconsin.

David Irvin was born in Albermarle Co., Va., in 1794, and was of blended Scotch and Irish parentage. His father was a Presbyterian minister and a teacher of the ancient languages of much local reputation. Young Irvin was educated for a lawyer and started in life in the Shenandoah valley. As he did not meet with much success there, he applied to his old school-mate, William

C. Rives, who was at that time in high favor with President Jackson, to get him an office. Mr. Rives suggested a judgeship. The term of office of Judge Doty, as judge of the additional district for Michigan territory, having expired, (1832), that position was tendered Irvin and accepted. Upon the organization of the territory of Wisconsin, he was appointed associate justice of the supreme court by President Jackson.

Being a bachelor, Judge Irvin's residence was not necessarily confined to any locality. He always preferred southern society; and as soon as his last office was ended, he went to St. Louis, where he remained some length of time. He subsequently became a citizen of Texas and a wealthy man.

Though only thirty-six years old when he first came to what was afterward the territory of Wisconsin, Judge Irvin seems never to have been regarded by the people as one of their number. He was free from the vices which too often, in those days, injured or even ruined some of the most promising men in the west. He was generally regarded as a fair and upright judge, of respectable ability. The peculiarities of his character, and his entire withdrawal many years ago from all connection with the State of Wisconsin, have led to numerous attempts, on the part of early settlers, to describe him. "Judge Irvin," says one who knew him well, "was about six feet in height, very erect and well proportioned. His hair was auburn, eyes blue, features narrow. He was not a laborious judge, but was attentive to duty, honest and upright in every particular. He was candid, and without intrigue or deception. For integrity and moral principle, he enjoyed general confidence. He was fond of a horse and a dog; always esteeming his horse and dog the finest and best. Being a bachelor, these animals seemed to be the especial objects of his care and attention. He was fond of hunting, particularly for prairie chickens. Upon these excursions he would frequently take members of the bar with him. He was very economical,

but scrupulously just in all his dealings. He indulged in acts of kindness to his relatives, but did not show much sympathy for others. While he treated all with urbanity and respect, he did not form particular attachments for strangers."

A description of Judge Irvin, by the late Judge C. M. Baker, of Walworth Co., Wis., is interesting:

"He [Judge Irvin] was a Virginia gentleman of the old school. Social, kind-hearted, aristocratic, as became a Virginian of the F. F.'s, he was a bachelor with his whims and peculiarities. He was a great lover of hunting, particularly of prairie hens, in the shooting of which he was an expert. On this he prided himself; and no one must excel him, if he would keep in his good graces. He was also learned in the knowledge of horses and dogs, as well as in the law. His own horse, Pedro, and his dog, York, to whom he was much attached, and whose superior blood often formed the theme of his conversation, were as well known to the bar as the judge himself. They were necessary appendages to the judge and the court. It was said by the wags that, if one wanted to win his case before the judge, he must praise his dog and his horse. But of truth it can be said of him that he was a lover of justice, detested meanness, was well grounded in the principles of the law, and was possessed of very respectable perceptive and reasoning powers. He seldom consulted law books, with which the bar of those days was poorly supplied; but, on the whole, for the times, was a fair and respectable judge."

#### TERRITORIAL DISTRICT COURT.

The act of Congress which provided for the organization of Wisconsin territory, declared that the judicial power therein should be vested in a supreme court, district courts, probate courts and justices of the peace. Charles Dunn was commissioned chief justice and David Irvin and William C. Frazer, associate judges. The act of Congress before mentioned required that the territory of Wisconsin should be di-



vided into the three judicial districts. The three judges of the supreme court were district judges. The counties of Crawford and Iowa were constituted, by the territorial Legislature, the first district, to which was assigned Chief Justice Dunn. He also, upon the erection of Grant county, held court therein. Judge Dunn continued chief justice and judge of the first district until the territorial district court was abolished by the admission of Wisconsin as a State, in 1848, notwithstanding a strong effort was made to have him ousted from office by certain citizens of the district, who circulated the following petition:

To his Excellency, James K. Polk, President of the United States:

The undersigned, citizens of the first judicial district, composed of the counties of Crawford, Grant and Iowa, in the territory of Wisconsin, would most respectfully represent to your excellency, that many persons in this judicial district, whose practice or business brings them in contact with our court, complain that Charles Dunn, chief justice of the territory, and presiding judge of our district, is in the constant habit of favoring the practice and clients of his brother, Mr. Francis J. Dunn, a practicing lawyer in said district, in all rules of court, pleas, motions and points of law, made by him, to the injury of those persons who may be so unfortunate as to have Mr. Dunn retained against them. Your petitioners are aware that charges of this nature cannot be sustained otherwise than by circumstantial evidence. The circumstance, therefore, on which they would rely to convince your excellency of the truth of this charge, is, that the docket of the district court of the county of Iowa alone contains over 250 causes, set for trial at the last term of court, and the brother of Judge Dunn, a very young lawyer, is retained in fully one-half of these causes. Notwithstanding the lucrative and successful practice of young Mr. Dunn in the circuit of his brother, the murmurs and complaints of the members of the bar and their clients, at this

state of things, might pass unheeded if Mr. Francis J. Dunn possessed talents to warrant such success. But with abilities not above mediocrity, there is nothing to justify so great and lucrative a practice, over older and better lawyers, but the fact of his being the brother of the judge.

Your petitioners would also represent to your excellency, that the said Charles Dunn has, in violation of the laws of the territory, presided in suits at law wherein his brothers have either been plaintiffs or defendants, which the records of our courts will show, in numerous instances. We would particularly call the attention of your excellency to the case of Dunn vs. Marsh, in the Crawford district court. The notorious Jeffries, in the corrupt reign of Charles II, could not have been guilty of a more shameful prostitution of justice to subserve his master, than this act of Judge Dunn to put money in the pocket of his brother.

Your petitioners would further represent to your excellency, that the said Charles Dunn, acting as judge of the first judicial district, did, in the year 1841, on the complaint of one John Dowling, of Galena, in the State of Illinois, now deceased, grant an injunction against the Bank of Mineral Point, appointing his brother, Mr. John Dunn, and two others, his personal friends, receivers to close the affairs of said bank. It is a matter of some notoriety that one of the receivers, thus appointed, boasted that they would each make at least \$10,000 out of the pickings of the bank.

About the time this injunction was granted, the cashier of the bank absconded. He was pursued and overtaken by Mr. John Dunn, one of the receivers, and Dr. William Davidson, who took from him acceptances and bills of exchange to the amount of \$70,000 or \$80,000. In a newspaper publication made about the time of the arrest of the cashier, to satisfy the public mind, the receivers state that the assets taken from the cashier and other officers of the bank, independent of the bonds, notes, banking house and

other property of the bank, amounted to nearly \$100,000! In the meantime, Dowling, the complainant against the bank, dies, and Mr. Francis J. Dunn obtains the administration of his estate in this territory, being at the same time agent and attorney for the receivers. Acting thus for the plaintiffs and defendants, he holds the keys of the front and back doors of the bank; and having at the same time associated with him, in the practice of the law, Mr. D. Walter Jones, the president of the bank at the time of its failure, and having further cemented that partnership by the marriage of that person into the family, the door has been effectually closed to all inquiry, and the affairs of the bank have been wrapped in mystery now for over four years.

During that time no expose of the condition of the Bank has been made, although frequently required by public meetings and otherwise, and no dividend has been made, except a private one of about \$3,000, which was divided among a very small number of bill-holders, at the rate of fifty cents on the dollar, to the exclusion of a large body of creditors of the bank, who were not advised of the terms and condition on which that dividend would be made.

However, before this partial and private dividend was made there was a payment made out of the assets of the bank to Dr. William Davidson, of Grant county, one of the persons who assisted in arresting the cashier, and who held the bills of the bank to a considerable amount. It is alleged that Dr. Davidson obtained this payment by threats that he would make an expose of certain illegal acts of the receivers or their agent. Be that as it may, it is the opinion of legal men that the payment to Davidson, and the partial division shared by a few of the bill holders, is a violation of the condition of the bond given by the receivers, and that the creditors of the bank could recover from the receivers and their securities, if not the full amount of their claims, at least the

same rate of dividend which their agent had paid to others.

But to seek justice before the presiding judge of the district, when it is known that he did not emigrate to the territory with a character like Caesar's wife, who is openly accused of presiding in cases wherein his brothers were parties, which is in direct violation of the laws, would be adding another act to the farce of justice which has so frequently been enacted in this district.

If the conduct of Judge Dunn, in any public capacity in which he has acted through life, was such as to place him above the suspicion of doing a dishonorable act, the murmurs and complaints against him would not have the weight with us they otherwise possess.

But it is asserted that, he did, while a member of the Legislature of the State of Illinois, in the year 1839, receive from a certain Samuel Wiggins a fee or bribe of \$200, to procure the passage of an act through the legislature, known as the "Wiggin's Loan;" a more corrupt and swindling act never having been passed by any legislative body in the Union!

This rumor considered, your excellency will not be surprised that the man against whom the broad charge is brought, true or false, that he sold himself as a legislator, may on slight grounds render himself obnoxious to the suspicion that he is corruptible as a judge! But there are other and graver charges against Judge Dunn, which are not based on suspicion. The proofs to sustain them are tangible and can be produced before any competent tribunal.

These proofs must serve to convince your excellency that, under any circumstances, Charles Dunn, chief justice of this territory, is unworthy and unfit to fill his present high and responsible office. They are first—

"That while holding court in the county of Iowa, at the spring term of said court, in the year 1838, Judge Dunn was intoxicated during the whole term of court. That during the said term a certain Mcumber was indicted and tried

for the murder of George C. Willard, a nephew of Gen. Dodge. The defendant, owing to the charge of the judge to the jury, was convicted of manslaughter, and received the sentence of the law, although from the testimony it was clearly a case of self-defense. These facts can be established by the testimony of W. W. Chapman, late United State's district attorney, Iowa territory; John Catlin, Esq., Madison; Moses M. Strong, Esq., Iowa county; Thomas P. Burnett, Esq., Grant county; J. D. Selhorst late sheriff, Iowa county; I. T. Lathrop, late postmaster, Mineral Point; F. Gheon, late marshal Wisconsin territory, and Thomson Campbell, Esq., secretary of state, Springfield, Ill.

"SECOND.—That at the October term of the Grant circuit court, held at Lancaster in 1838, Edward C. Oliver was indicted for the murder of John Russell at Cassville. In the trial of this case, after hearing the testimony, the jury retired and remained out all night. Having disagreed as to the testimony of John Allen, the principal witness for the prosecution, they came into court, and at their request this witness was recalled. At his previous examination, Allen was intoxicated; on being recalled into court, he was still more so. During his re-examination by the jury, the prisoner was not in court, nor had he been ordered in for that purpose! The testimony of Allen on his re-examination, was stronger against the prisoner than it had previously been. The jury again retired, and immediately returned into court with a verdict of guilty, against the prisoner. The counsel for Oliver then moved the court for a new trial. One of the grounds on which this motion was based, was that a witness for the prosecution had been recalled at the request of the jury, and was re-examined in court without the prisoner being present. This motion was overruled by the court, and sentence of death was pronounced on him! A bill of exceptions was then drawn up and tendered to the judge, who suffered the prisoner to be executed with this bill of exceptions in his pocket!

During the whole term of this court the judge was intoxicated; after its adjournment he was attacked with delirium tremens, jumped out of his chamber window, and was thereby disqualified from attending to his official duties in Crawford county, which court immediately succeeded that at Lancaster. The witnesses to this outrage on law and decency, are John S. Horner, Esq., register of the land office at Green Bay; Hon. Thomas S. Wilson, judge of United States district court, Iowa territory; Mortimer Bainbridge, Esq., Dubuque; John S. Fletcher, G. M. Price, J. Allen Barber, Nelson Dewey, Thomas P. Burnett and John H. Rountree, Esqs., Grant county.

"THIRD.—That at a previous term of the Grant circuit court, Judge Dunn was intoxicated during the term of the court, and was attacked with *mania a potu*. The witnesses are Dr. Wood, John S. Fletcher, Clovis Le Grand, Thomas P. Burnett, J. A. Barber, G. M. Price and Nelson Dewey, Grant county; W. W. Chapman, Parley Eaton and Moses M. Strong, Esqs., Hon. Judge Wilson and Joseph P. Hoge, member of Congress from Galena, Illinois.

"FOURTH.—That at a special chancery term appointed by Judge Dunn to be held at Mineral Point, in January, 1840, he was so much intoxicated as to disqualify him from holding the said term of court. The witnesses are Moses M. Strong, Parley Eaton and J. T. Lathrop, Esqs., and James H. Gentry, late sheriff, and John Bracken, late under-sheriff of Iowa county.

"FIFTH.—That while holding a court at Prairie du Chien, in Crawford county, for the trial of Che-ge-wais-cum, a Chippewa Indian, indicted for the murder of Mr. Akins, an Indian trader, Judge Dunn was intoxicated during the whole term of the court. The witnesses are, the Hon. Judge Wilson, James Churchman, Esq., Galena, Ills.; Thomas P. Burnett, D. G. Fenton, clerk of the court, William Wilson, J. H. Lockwood and H. Dousman, Prairie du Chien.

"SIXTH.—That on the 23d of February, 1843, Judge Dunn having become intoxicated at a ball, spent the day in Platteville, playing cards in a grocery, with James R. Vineyard, indicted for the murder of C. C. P. Arndt, a member of the Legislative Council, whom he had recently had before him on a writ of *habeas corpus*, and released from the jail of Dane county, on bail. Witnesses: Alonzo Platt, William Davidson, Dr. Bevans, John Morrison, J. M. Gordhue and B. C. Eastman, of Grant county; and J. H. Gentry, of Iowa county.

"SEVENTH.—That at a late term of circuit court, for the county of Crawford, at Prairie du Chien, Judge Dunn was again intoxicated during the term of the court. The witnesses are: Moses M. Strong, B. C. Eastman, Thomas P. Burnett and D. G. Fenton, Esqrs., and Ira Brunson, Esq., postmaster, Prairie du Chien."

In presenting to your excellency charges of so serious and degrading a nature against the chief justice of our territory, your petitioners are aware that they ought to be sustained by the accompanying depositions of the witnesses named, but as the majority of the witnesses are members of the court over which Judge Dunn presides, many causes operate on them to prevent their giving their voluntary testimony against him. We would, therefore, most respectfully request that you cause the records of our courts to be examined and the testimony of the witnesses named to be procured, and if they should sustain the charges herewith made against Judge Dunn, that you will, in conformity to the opinion of the late attorney-general, the Hon. Felix Grundy, remove him from office. If, however, you should not concur in that opinion, and question your power to remove a territorial judge, for an open violation of the laws, and for drunkenness on the bench; then we would further request you to lay this petition before the Congress of the United States.

How extensively this petition was circulated and signed is unknown; neither has it transpired as to whether it ever reached the eye of

the President; one thing is certain, however, if the attention of the chief executive of the Nation was called to it, he gave it no heed.

Although the territory of Wisconsin was created in 1836, yet Judge Dunn did not hold court in Crawford county until the next year, as appears from the following entries in the court journal:

"TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. }

MONDAY, MAY 1, 1837.

"This being the day appointed by law for the commencement of the term of the district court of the United States for the county of Crawford, and the judge of the said district court not attending, the court stands adjourned until tomorrow.

THOMAS P. STREET,  
Clerk."

Entries of a like tenor were made May 2 and 3, when on May 4, 1837, the entry was as follows:

"4th day, May term, 1837. Thursday morning, May 4, 1837. The court met; present, the Hon. Charles Dunn."

And he continued to hold court every year in Crawford county until 1848, when he was succeeded by the judge of the fifth judicial circuit of the State of Wisconsin.

John H. Fonda, in 1858, says:

"I believe that I sat on the jury when the first criminal case was tried under the territorial law of Wisconsin. As no harm can be done, I will give a brief history of this case, to show how such things were then managed. Judge Dunn was presiding at that time, and Ezekiel Taintor, who summoned me, was acting sheriff. The defendant was a Dacotah Indian, charged with the crime of murdering a young man named Akins, whose father was prosecuting. From the evidence it appeared that Akins, the senior, was a trader at the head of the Mississippi, where he had a trading house. Young Akins attended to the trading house department, while his father, who resided in a house some distance off, furnished the goods and capital. In his intercourse with the Indians, the son had

seen a remarkably handsome young squaw, and taken some kind of liking for her. The squaw was the wife of a young brave. By means of numerous presents, Akins persuaded the squaw to desert her husband, and live with him in the trading house. When the Indian came for his squaw, Akins locked the doors and refused to let her go. The Indian went away, but returned the next evening about dusk, and walked into the house where Akins was sitting, and again asked for his squaw. Akins refused to let her go, and the Indian shot him dead on the spot. The father of young Akins had the Indian brought down here [Prairie du Chien] for trial.

"The case was conducted with very few formalities; and whenever the court took a recess, the jury were locked up in a grocery, where, for the sum of seventy-five cents each, we could have all the liquor we wanted, provided we did not waste or carry any away. Now, imbibing was quite prevalent among all classes, in that day, and if each of the jurymen drank his seventy-five cents worth in one night, the judge and counselors could not have been far behind in that respect, and some individual was heard to say, that the prisoner was the only sober man in the court room. After the jury were charged, we were locked up two days and three nights. I generally got out and went home nights, but came into court in the morning; and on the third morning we brought in a verdict of 'not guilty,' and the Indian was discharged."

Charles Dunn was born December 28, 1799, at Bullet's Old Lick, Bullett Co., Ky., which is about sixteen miles from Louisville. He was the eldest of a family of five sons and four daughters, and at the age of nine was sent to school at Louisville, where he remained a number of years, when he was called home and sent on a business tour to Virginia Maryland and Washington. Upon his return home he read law a short time with Worden Pope, a distinguished lawyer of Louisville. He afterward proceeded to Frankfort and continued his law reading for

about two years with the eminent John Pope, then secretary of state, and who was the first law professor in the Transylvania University, at Lexington.

Mr. Dunn, in May, 1819, went to Kankakee, at that time the capital of Illinois, where he completed his studies under the direction of Nathaniel Pope district judge of the United States. In 1820 he was admitted to the bar, Sidney Bréese being admitted at the same time. He then commenced practice at Jonesboro, Union Co., Ill. In 1821, he married Mary E. Shrader, daughter of Judge Ostro Shrader, who had been a United States judge in Missouri territory. He remained in practice at Jonesboro for several years, and then removed to Goleconda, Pope Co., Ill.

For two years Mr. Dunn was engrossing clerk, during two sessions of the House of Representatives of the Illinois Legislature, and for five years its chief clerk. In 1829 he was appointed by Gov. Ninian Edwards, acting commissioner of the Illinois and Michigan canal, and with his associates on the commission, Edward Roberts and Dr. Jane, surveyed and platted the first town of Chicago. The first town lots of this embryo metropolis were sold by the commissioners on behalf of the State in the latter part of 1829, and the sales continued in 1830 and in 1831, during which years the survey of the canal and railway line was made and reported.

In the early part of 1832 Indian troubles commenced and a requisition was made upon the State authorities of Illinois for troops to engage in service against the Indians led by Black Hawk. Three brigades responded to the call, and Mr. Dunn entered the service as captain of a company he had raised in Pope county, where he then resided. His company was assigned to the 2d regiment, which was commanded by Col. John Ewing, and attached to the first brigade, under Gen. Alexander Posey.

Soon after in an engagement with the Indians (what engagement is unknown) Capt. Dunn be-

came the victim of a blundering mistake on the part of a sentinel, by which he was severely, and at first it was thought mortally, wounded\* On approaching the sentinel he was severely wounded by him in the groin, of course through the mistake of the soldier. Dunn was taken back to Fort Dixon, where he was confined by his wound until after the war was ended by the battle of Bad Ax.

As soon as he was sufficiently recovered, Capt. Dunn returned home, and in the spring of 1833 acted as assistant paymaster in paying off the first brigade. During that year he resumed the practice of his profession. In 1835 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of the State Legislature, from Polk county, and was chairman of the committee on the judiciary during the session. Upon the recommendation of the Illinois delegation in Congress, and the delegate of the territory of Wisconsin, George W. Jones, he was appointed by President Jackson, in the spring of 1836, chief justice of Wisconsin territory. He arrived at Mineral Point July 4, 1836, and was then and there sworn into office, which he held until the organization of the State judiciary. The last term of his court was held at Mineral Point, in October, 1848.

Judge Dunn was a member of the second constitutional convention of the State from La Fayette county, and was chairman of the committee on the judiciary of that body. He took a leading part in framing what afterward became and still is, the constitution of Wisconsin. Subsequently, he was elected State senator for the district composed of the county of La Fayette. He served in that capacity during the sessions of that body in 1852 and 1853, and was chairman of the committee on the judiciary during both of those years.

On the expiration of his term of office as chief justice, Judge Dunn engaged in the prac-

tice of the law in La Fayette and adjoining counties. He was regarded one of the most eminent among those who were or had been in the profession, in Wisconsin. While chief justice, his judicial studies were especially meritorious, as, during the greater portion of the time he was on the bench, his district, as circuit judge, was the most populous and important in the territory, and produced, it is believed, the greatest amount of litigation. His judicial and official duties were performed with rare ability, fidelity and integrity; and, although he had a few enemies (who has not?), he always commanded during his residence of thirty-five years in Wisconsin, both in public and private life, the confidence and esteem of a very large proportion of the people. To near the time of his death, in 1872, at the advanced age of seventy-two, he continued in the vigorous practice of his profession at Belmont, and was, at that time, the oldest lawyer in the State.

Mr. William Hull says of him: "As a lawyer, Judge Dunn ranked as one of the best. As a judge, he was as honest and impartial as a man of his temperament could possibly be. A good pleader himself, he held us all to the strict technicalities of the common law practice, which then prevailed, and, although at times prone to give way to the violence of his personal feelings, he was generally liked and respected by the members of the bar in his district and territory. He could never forget his dignity on the bench; on the road traveling from court to court; at the stopping-places for the night; and during the sessions of the courts; he was, with his friends, at all times courteous and a gentleman; to those whom he did not like, he could and did occasionally preserve a different course. This trait in the judge's character can only be accounted for by premising that, like all other descendants from the first families of Virginia, the Dunns claimed to have the royal blood of Powhatan flowing in their veins, through his daughter, the historical, abused Poehahontas.

\* It has found its way into print that this accident happened in what is now the town of Dunn, hence the name, but this is an error.—Ed.

"In all places and at all times Judge Dunn never put off his dignity. One instance of this ruling trait will bear to relate. Game of all kinds was very plentiful in those early days and deer-hunting was a common pastime. After the fall terms of the courts had terminated, on one occasion the judge, his brother Frank, a henchman of Frank's, Abe. Fields, a gentleman now prominent in an adjoining State, and Mr. Hull, of La Crosse, were in camp on the Kickapoo river, near Wayne's mill. The judge, for some cause, did not, as had been observed, take much interest in the unnamed gentleman. The second day of the hunt, the judge, a true sportsman, had killed a magnificent buck, and it had been brought into camp. The deer was hung up for dressing. Judge Dunn, with coat off, sleeves rolled up and knife in hand, had commenced work. After a few cuts with the knife had been made, the gentleman wishing to make some remark to the judge, spoke loudly—"Dunn!" As quick a flash Judge Dunn stopped his work, turned facing the gentleman, and with piercing black eyes flashing lightning, responded,—“Judge Dunn, if you please, sir!” After this explosion there was silence in the camp for awhile.”

#### STATE CIRCUIT COURT.

The constitution of the State of Wisconsin vested the judicial power of the State in a supreme court, circuit court, courts of probate and in justices of the peace. The State was divided into five judicial circuits. The fifth circuit was composed of the counties of Crawford, Iowa, La Fayette, Grant and St. Croix, as organized in 1848; the county of Richland being attached to Iowa county, Chippewa to Crawford, and LaPoint to St. Croix, for judicial purposes. By an act of the State Legislature, of 1850, a sixth judicial circuit was formed. In this circuit was included among others the county of Crawford. In 1861 this circuit was made to include the counties of Crawford, Bad Ax, LaCrosse, Monroe and Jackson.

In 1864 Crawford and Richland counties were, by the following act, made a part of the fifth judicial circuit of the State :

[Published April 18, 1864.]

An Act to detach the counties of Richland and Crawford from the sixth judicial circuit, and to attach said counties to the fifth judicial circuit.

*The People of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. The counties of Richland and Crawford, in the State of Wisconsin, are hereby detached from the sixth judicial circuit, and the same are hereby attached to, and shall hereafter constitute a part of the fifth judicial circuit, in said State of Wisconsin.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of January, A. D. 1865, and be in force from and after that time. Approved March, 31, 1864.

Crawford county still remains in the fifth judicial circuit of the State.

#### CIRCUIT JUDGES.

At the first judicial election, Mortimer M. Jackson was chosen judge of the fifth judicial circuit, which, as we have seen, included, in 1848, along with other counties, that of Crawford. The first term of the court began in Prairie du Chien, Nov. 13, 1848.

The following are the judges who have dispensed justice upon the Crawford county bench, since Wisconsin became a State :

M. M. Jackson, 1848-1850.

Wiram Knowlton, 1850-1856.

George Gale, 1857-1862.

Edwin Flint, 1863-1864.

J. T. Mills, 1865-1876.

M. M. Cothren, 1877-1882.

George Clementson, 1883—(still in office).

The June term, 1861, of the court was held by Judge I. E. Messmore. He had been appointed by the governor as judge upon a change in Judge Gale's district; but the supreme court decided the law changing the district unconstitutional, and Messmore was ousted from office.

Mortimer M. Jackson, the subject of this sketch was born in Rensselaerville, Albany

Co., N. Y. He studied law in the city of New York, and came to Wisconsin in 1838. He was afterward attorney general of the territory. On the organization of the State government in 1848, he was elected, as already stated, judge of the fifth judicial circuit, by virtue of which he was also a member of the supreme court. On the expiration of the term of Judge Stow as chief justice, Judge Jackson, was chosen by his colleagues chief justice, but declined to serve. In 1861 he was appointed United States consul at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and in 1880 was promoted to consul general of the United States for the British maritime provinces, in which capacity he acted until 1882, with residence at Halifax. He then returned to Wisconsin.

Wiram Knowlton was born in Chenango Co., N. Y., January 24, 1816. He was brother of James H. Knowlton, one of Wisconsin's eminent lawyers. In May, 1837, he came with his father's family to Wisconsin, locating at Janesville. Commencing the study of the law, he subsequently completed it with Parley Eaton, at Mineral Point. He was afterward admitted to the bar, and commenced the practice of his profession at Plattville.

In 1840, Mr. Knowlton settled in Prairie du Chien and practiced law for some five years. When the Mexican war broke out he raised a company of volunteers in Crawford county, and was captain of the company. His company, however, did not go to Mexico, but were assigned to detached service on the frontier with headquarters at Fort Crawford. After the war closed he resumed the practice of law, and in 1850 he was elected judge of the sixth judicial circuit embracing among other counties, that of Crawford. During three years of this time, he was ex-officio justice of the supreme court. He served six years as judge of sixth circuit. He remained in Prairie du Chien until about 1864, then removed to the north part of the State, where he died in June, 1873. He was a man of very fine ability.

George Gale was a native of Burlington, Vermont. He was the youngest son of Peter and Hannah Tottingham Gale, and was born on the 30th of November, 1816. He had the advantage of a good common school education. In March, 1839, he commenced reading law. In 1840, he was appointed postmaster at Waterbury Center, Vt. He was admitted to the bar in 1841; emigrated west, and settled in Elkhorn, Walworth county, Wisconsin. Here he opened an office, and entered into a successful practice of his profession.

Mr. Gale, besides holding several town offices, was, in the autumn of 1847, elected a member of the convention to form a State constitution, serving in that body on the judiciary committee. He was elected, the same fall, district attorney and a year after a member of the State senate. On the 4th of July, 1851, the subject of this sketch received from Gov. Dewey the appointment of brigadier general of militia. In the fall of that year, he removed to the upper Mississippi, locating at La Crosse. He was soon elected county judge for a term of four years, for the counties of La Crosse and Chippewa. He resigned his office Jan. 1, 1854, and in April, 1856, was elected judge of the sixth judicial circuit, his term of office commencing Jan. 1, 1857, and continuing six years. He served the whole term, and discharged the duties of his office with ability. During 1857, he removed from La Crosse to Galesville, Trempealeau county.

Mr. Gale's health partially failed in the summer of 1862, and he spent the three following winters in the south and east, most of the time in the service of the sanitary and christian commissions. During February and March, 1863, he had charge of the United States sanitary commission depot on Morris island, South Carolina. He died in Galesville, Wisconsin, on the 18th of April, 1868, in the fifty-second year of his age.

Judge Gale, however, is best known to the State as a friend of education. Seeing that all



northwestern Wisconsin was without college advantages, he first urged upon the people of La Crosse to take the initiatory steps toward founding an institution near that village. Failing in this, he decided to remove to the Trempealeau valley, start a village and found a college. Accordingly, in 1853, he purchased a large tract of land, where Galesville now stands, and in 1854, secured from the Legislature of the State the organization of Trempealeau county, and the location of the county seat on his land. He also obtained a charter for a university for the same location. The board of trustees was organized in 1855, and the college building commenced in 1858. The preparatory department was opened in 1859, and the collegiate in 1861. In 1865, Mr. Gale resigned the presidency of the college. He was a graduate of no college, but from his great interest in education, he was made master of arts by the Vermont university, in 1857, and doctor of laws by the Galesville university, in 1863.

His contributions to literature have been considerable and valuable. In August, 1845, he started the *Western Star*, the first newspaper in Walworth county, Wisconsin. In 1846, he issued the first edition of the Wisconsin Form Book. 1864, he contributed to the historical society of the State a valuable paper on the history of the Winnebago Indians. In 1866, he published the Gale family genealogy. In 1867, his history of the upper Mississippi was published, embracing a history of the northwest from A. D. 1600 to the present time. His writings all show close investigation, vigorous research, and a clear delineation of historical facts.

Edwin Flint settled in Mason City, Iowa, in 1869, where he now resides, and where he entered into a partnership with B. F. Hartshorn, forming the law firm of Hartshorn & Flint. He was born in Braintree, Orange Co., Vt., May 25, 1814. He is the son of Phineas and Abigail Weld Flint, of Vermont, who were the parents of seven children. His father was a farmer and died in

1826. His mother died in Mason City, in 1874. Mr. Flint remained on his father's farm until he was thirteen years old, and the following year he went to Windsor, where he passed a year in the office of of the Vermont *Chronicle*. He went thence to Burlington, where he was employed by Chauncey Goodrich, a book publisher of that city. He there prepared for college, paying his way in the printing office. He was matriculated at the Vermont University, at Burlington, in 1833, and graduated in 1836. Soon after that event, he went south and became a teacher in Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee. In 1840 Mr. Flint was admitted to the bar at LaFayette, Ind.; and, after a brief time went to Jackson, Mich., where he began the practice of his profession, remaining there until 1841, when he became impaired in health and returned south. In 1848, he went to Fond du Lac, Wis., and entered fully into the practice of the law. In 1851 he moved to La Crosse, and the next year was elected district attorney, and in the same year, chairman of the board of supervisors. In 1861 he was chosen to the State senate from the La Crosse district. The next year, 1862, he was elected judge of the sixth judicial circuit of Wisconsin, which position he filled with credit for six years; but as Crawford was detached from that district in 1864, he only presided in this county two years. In 1876 he retired from the practice of the law.

Joseph T. Mills was born in Crane Ridge, Bourbon Co., Ky., Dec. 18, 1812. He received an academic education, studied law, was admitted to the bar, came to the west and located in Bond Co., Ills., in 1831. In 1843 he removed to Wisconsin, and permanently settled in Lancaster, Grant county, where he entered upon the practice of the law. He was elected circuit judge of the fifth judicial circuit, and served from 1865 to 1877. He was a member of the assembly in 1856, 1857, 1862 and 1879.

Montgomery M. Cothren was born at Jerusalem, Yates Co., N. Y., Sept. 18, 1819. His father was Nathaniel Cothren, and his mother

Clarinda Weed. Mr. Cothren was educated in New York, and subsequently studied law at Kalamazoo, Mich. Having removed to Mineral Point, he was admitted to the bar of the United States district court in 1843, by Judge Charles Dunn, since which time he has been in active practice of his profession or upon the bench. He was a member of the last territorial Legislature of Wisconsin, and served in the State senate in 1849 and 1850. In the presidential election of 1852, he was one of the electors for the State at large, and cast his vote for Franklin Pierce and William R. King. During the same year he was elected judge of the fifth judicial circuit, and served in that capacity twelve years. At the close of his second term as circuit judge, he declined a re-election, and for the twelve years ensuing, engaged in the practice of the law; but, in 1876, he was again chosen judge this time, of the fifth judicial circuit, which now included within its limits, Crawford county. He served one full term. In 1879 Judge Cothren was nominated for associate justice of the supreme court by a caucus of the Democratic members of the Legislature, but the nomination was not confirmed at the polls. In the campaign of 1880, he was the Democratic candidate for member of Congress in the third district, but was defeated by George C. Hazelton. The bar of southern Wisconsin has been, and now is graced with many lawyers of commanding ability; second to none in this list is the name of Montgomery M. Cothren.

George Clementson, a native of England, was born March 13, 1842. His parents came to this country in 1849; they came west to Wisconsin the same year, and located in Grant county. Here the boy grew to manhood, receiving his education in this State. He read law here and completed his law studies at the State University of Michigan. He was admitted to the bar in March, 1863. After his admission, he engaged in the practice of law. In November, 1869, he associated with Hon. Allen Barber, of the firm of Barber & Clem-

entson holding a leading position as members of the bar in this section of the State.

In the fall of 1868, Mr. Clementson was elected district attorney, and held that office for four years. After that he was repeatedly solicited to accept the nomination for office, but steadily refused, preferring to devote all his time to the interests of his profession. However, he could not well refuse the call of friends to run for judge of this judicial circuit, and was elected, still holding that office. He was united in marriage May 10, 1869, to Mary Burr, a native of Vermont. They have four children: George B., Joseph A., Martha and Bessie.

The counties in the fifth circuit, the times of holding court in each and the places where held, are set forth in the following tabular statement:

**FIFTH CIRCUIT.**  
JUDGE—George Clementson, Lancaster.  
*Term expires first Monday of January, 1889.*

Counties.	Terms.	Where held.	Laws.
Grant .....	1st Tuesday in Feb... 1st Tuesday in Sept...	Lancaster.	Sec. 2424, R. S. Ch. 43, L 1879.
Iowa .....	4th Tuesday in March 1st Tuesday in Oct....	Dodgeville..	Sec. 2424, R. S.
La Fayette	4th Tuesday in June.. 1st Tuesday in Dec...	Darlington..	Sec. 2424, R. S.
Richland..	2d Tuesday in April.. 4th Tuesday in Oct...	Richland } Centre }	Sec. 2424, R. S.
Crawford..	4th Tuesday in May.. 2d Tuesday in Nov...	Pr. du Chien	Sec. 2424, R. S.

Every term in each of said counties shall be a special term for the whole circuit.—Sec. 2424, R. S.

**COUNTY COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.**

It will be remembered that mention has already been made that, among other courts provided for by the constitution, was one entitled court of probate, now very generally known as county court, as, in the act establishing the court, it is so designated.

The first proceedings of this court taken from the record are as follows:

“STATE OF WISCONSIN, )  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. )

“MONDAY, JAN. 7, A. D., 1850.

“This being the day appointed for the holding and organizing of the county court of the



Henry Otto



county of Crawford, in the State of Wisconsin, agreeable to and in pursuance of an act of the Legislature of the State of Wisconsin, approved March 31, A. D., 1849, entitled 'An act establishing a system of county courts in and for the State of Wisconsin.'

"Whereupon the Hon. Daniel G. Fenton, judge elect, took his seat as judge of this said county court, and produced his certificate of election as judge of said county court, by virtue of an election held on the 7th day of September, A. D., 1849, for the election of county judges, together with his oath of office endorsed thereon, which said certificate and oath of office was read in open court and filed in the clerk's office of this court in words and figures following, to wit:

"STATE OF WISCONSIN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. } ss.

"We the undersigned, clerk of the county board of supervisors and justice of the peace in and for said county aforesaid, hereby certify that on the 14th day of September, A. D. 1849, we procured and canvassed the returns of the election held in said county on the 3d day of September, A. D. 1849, for the election of county judge, and the following is the result of said canvass, to-wit:

"For the office of county judge, Daniel G. Fenton received the greatest number of votes, and is declared by us duly elected judge of the county court in and for the said county of Crawford, and for the county of Chippewa, thereunto attached for judicial purposes."

"In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands the day and year above written.

H. BALDWIN, Clerk of the Board of County Supervisors.

WIRAM KNOWLTON, Justice of the Peace.

AARON HOGAN, Justice of the Peace.

"The above is certified to as correct, by the clerk."

Judge Daniel G. Fenton then took the oath of office, and his first order as judge was this:

"Ordered that Alexander Leclere be appointed inspector of this court."

Mr Leclere was duly sworn into office, and court adjourned until the following day at 11 o'clock A. M.

At the next day's session the court ordered that "the rules of the circuit in and for the State of Wisconsin, be adopted as the rules of this court until otherwise ordered." The court then adjourned until court in course.

The next session occurred on February 4th and 5th, 1850; and adjourned at the end of the second day without doing any business.

The next session convened on March 4th, and the first business was the examination and admission to the bar of Hiram Wright, as attorney and counselor at law. The record shows considerable business done at this term.

Judge Fenton died the 11th day of Aug. 1851. Hiram A. Wright was appointed as his successor, on Nov. 3d, 1851, by Gov. Nelson Dewey, and took the oath of office on that day, on the opening of the November term of court. Judge Wright resigned the office after the close of the November term, of 1853; and on Jan. 18, 1854, Gov. William A. Barstow appointed Ira B. Brunson as Judge Wright's successor. Judge Brunson held the office until his death, Aug. 21, 1883. His successor, and the one now (1884) in office, is C. S. Fuller, who was appointed county judge, Sept. 1, 1883.

Ira B. Brunson was the oldest son of Rev. Alfred Brunson. He was born at Fowler, Ohio, on the 5th day of November, A. D. 1815, and at the time of death was in his sixty-eighth year. He came to Wisconsin and settled at Prairie du Chien in the year 1836. He was a man of strong mind, of great energy, and possessed of that kindness of heart and disposition and honesty of purpose that has endeared him to all the community. The people among whom he lived for nearly a half century appreciating his intellectual greatness and his incorruptibility have from time to time forced upon him its official positions, many times to his great pecuniary

disadvantages, the duties of which have, however, always been so acceptably performed by him that the people refused to take no for an answer. Coming into what was the extreme limits of the western frontier when a young man, he was at once recognized as capable, brilliant and upright, and was by almost a unanimous vote elected a representative from Crawford county to the first Legislature of the territory of Wisconsin. The territory at that time consisted of the counties of Brown, Iowa, Crawford, Des Moines, Dubuque and Milwaukee, and being the same territory now comprising the two States of Wisconsin and Iowa. During the Legislative session of 1837 and 1838, convened at Burlington, Des Moines county, he attended as such representative, his associate from this county being Jean Brunet. The journals of the House of Representatives for these two sessions show that none was more active than he, and none better understood the wants of the people of the vast territory over which their laws were to operate. Some of the best statutory provisions possessed to-day by these two great States were inspired by him. He was also elected from Crawford county to the second Legislative assembly which convened at Madison in 1839, and was a member of the Legislature of 1840. In looking over the record he appears to be the last of all those who composed the Council and House of Representatives that assembled at Burlington Nov. 6, 1837. Soon after returning from his legislative duties he was appointed postmaster at Prairie du Chien, which office he held for several years; then he was elected register of deeds, county surveyor, sheriff of Crawford county, clerk of the circuit court, and in 1854 county judge, which last named position he has held to the time of his death, making nearly thirty years service in that office. His kindness to those in want, his care for the rights, and his sympathy for the distress of those with whom he came in contact in this office, his just judicial mind as exhibited in his judicial decisions have endeared

him to the entire people of the county, who will sincerely mourn his loss, a loss that is especially felt to be irreparable by his old settler friends. The judge, in politics, was a democrat, and during the War of the Rebellion, was a prominent war democrat. Being too far advanced in years to go himself, he readily assented to the enlistment of his three sons, who volunteered with his approbation, and all of whom to the great joy of the father were gallant Union soldiers. The judge, socially, was one of the most genial and affable of men, one who, by his manners and his conversation, left the impression upon all, of his broadness of mind and extreme kindness of heart, and he in fact was a great broad-minded man with a heart and conscience as tender as a child's. He is gone; like the mighty monarch of the forest, around which vines had wound themselves and smaller trees had grown up in the shadow of its branches, that has been prostrated by violent storms, and in its fall has carried vines and trees down with it, so to-day as death lays low this kindly and good man, around whom his wife and children clung, and his innumerable admirers and friends so loved and trusted, they too lie crushed and prostrate with grief.

CLERKS OF THE TERRITORIAL COUNTY COURT.

John L. Findly, 1823—1829.

Joseph Brisbois, 1830—1836.

CLERKS OF UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

Thomas P. Street, 1837.

Daniel G. Fenton, 1841—1848.

CLERKS OF STATE CIRCUIT COURT.

Daniel G. Fenton, 1848.

Hiram Baldwin, 1849—1850.

Ira B. Brunson, 1851—1853.

O. B. Thomas, 1854—1855.

Samuel Cowden, 1856—1857.

James Fisher, (Nov. Term) 1857.

Walter B. Hunt, 1858—1860.

N. McCartney, 1861—1862.

P. S. Bibbs, 1863—1864.

N. McCartney, 1865—1868.

James E. Campbell, 1869—1875.

W. A. Vaughn, 1875—1876.

David B. Richardson, 1877—1878.

T. G. Brunson, 1879—1880.

James E. Campbell, 1881—1882.

William G. Campbell, 1883 (in office).

## CHAPTER XVII.

## THE BAR—PAST AND PRESENT.

The history of the bar of any county deals with men who, as a rule, rank high in intelligence, and who have been, and are among the most potent forces in shaping its intellectual and social standard. Crawford county is not an exception to this rule. During the last half century there have been a number of attorneys who have lived within its limits and practiced law in its courts, who have earned enviable places in the annals of the State and Nation.

James H. Lockwood was the pioneer lawyer in Crawford county, he having settled in Prairie du Chien, Sept. 16, 1816, though he did not engage in the practice of law till several years later, being employed in mercantile business in the meantime. He was not only the first to practice law in Crawford county, but the first to be admitted to the bar and the first to practice the profession within the limits of what is now the State of Wisconsin.

In his auto-biographical writings, Lockwood says that Judge Doty held a term of court in Crawford county, in May, 1824. In speaking of his first legal experiences, he further says: "As there were then no attorneys here, and Judge Doty, learning that I had at one time studied law, and had relinquished the profession for mercantile pursuits, suggested that I had better resume the practice of law, and kindly tendered me the use of his library and any instructions I might require, in order to refresh my studies. Not being extensively engaged in business at this time, I availed myself of Judge Doty's suggestions, and studied hard all the following winter and spring. I commenced the practice

of the profession, and attended the courts of Brown and Mackinaw, and found no attorneys in Brown. But, he says he found several at Mackinaw, whom he names, and among them Henry S. Baird, who did not move from Mackinaw to Green Bay until September, 1824, and was admitted to practice in Brown county district court on the 4th of October following, that being the first day of the term. Mr. Lockwood, therefore, was not only the first lawyer in the territory now included in Wisconsin, but was the first to practice within what are now the limits of the State."

The subject of this sketch was a native of Peru, Clinton Co., N. Y., and was born Dec. 7, 1793. He came to Mackinaw in the summer of 1815. He went to Green Bay in July, 1816, and came to Prairie du Chien two months later. He filled the office of justice of the peace for a number of years. In the year 1831, he was appointed associate justice of the county court of Crawford county, and held the office until the court was abrogated. He died Aug. 24, 1857.

The early years of Mr. Lockwood's life being passed on a farm, he did not enjoy the advantages of a classical education, but his great innate abilities largely compensated for his lack of scholastic training, so that he was a man of marked characteristics and extraordinary intellectual power. Judge Lockwood's wife, Mrs. Sarah Ann Lockwood, was born June 12, 1803, and died Feb. 12, 1877.

Thomas Pendleton Burnett, one of the very early practicing attorneys in Crawford county, was born in Pittsylvania Co., Va., Sept. 3, 1800.

In his early childhood his parents moved to Kentucky, where he was reared on a farm, with very meagre opportunities for obtaining an education. But having a taste and aspirations for the law he improved every facility to study, and in spite of poverty and lack of tutors, he acquired an academic education, read law, was admitted to the bar, and engaged in the practice of his profession in Paris, Ky., where he was elected and served as district attorney. Mr. Burnett took an active part in politics during the presidential campaign between John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson, on the side of "Old Hickory." President Jackson afterwards recognized his services by appointing him sub-Indian agent, under the agency of J. M. Street, at Prairie du Chien, his appointment, dating Oct. 15, 1829. He arrived and entered upon the duties of his position in June, 1830, at a salary of \$500 a year. Besides doing most of the active work of the agency he did something in the law practice, by permission.

In 1834 he severed his connection with the agency and devoted himself entirely to his profession. In January, 1835, he was appointed district attorney for the counties of Crawford, Iowa, Dubuque and Des Moines, but resigned the office the following September. In October, 1835, Mr. Burnett was elected a member of the Territorial Council of Michigan territory, which was to meet at Green Bay, and was chosen its president.

Upon the organization of Wisconsin territory in 1836, Mr. Burnett was appointed district attorney for Crawford county, which he promptly declined upon the receipt of his commission, in December, 1836. On the 29th of the same month he married Lucia M. Brunson, and the next spring moved to Cassville, Grant county. Upon the organization of the territorial supreme court Mr. Burnett was made reporter, and published his first report in 1841. He was elected to the General Assembly from Grant county in 1844; was chosen a member of the first convention, and during its session was summoned

home to the bedside of his dying mother and his sick wife. He made the trip, eighty five miles, in a lumber wagon, in a day and night. His mother died November 1. The fatigue and exposure of the twenty-four hours' ride proved too much for Mr. Burnett, and he was taken violently ill, and he breathed his last on Nov. 5, 1846. His wife soon followed him only living three hours after his death. As a lawyer, Wisconsin has furnished few peers of Thomas Pendleton Burnett. He possessed a broad, analytical mind, and devoted his large capabilities and energies assiduously to his profession. He first mastered his case, and then presented it with a clearness and logical force that carried conviction with his arguments.

James B. Dallam came to Prairie du Chien in 1827. He had been reading law before he came to Crawford county, but had not been admitted to the bar. He engaged in clerking for a sutler in Fort Crawford, after his arrival in Prairie du Chien, and subsequently was sutler in Capt. Dead's company. He went to Florida and was killed there by the Indians.

O. B. Thomas is the oldest member of the bar of Crawford county, now resident of the county, having been in practice here twenty-six years. Mr. Thomas is the son of John and Caroline C. Thomas, and was born in Bennington Co., Vt., Aug. 21, 1832. He came to Prairie du Chien when four years of age (1836) in company with his parents. He received his literary education at the common schools, and then took a regular course at the National Law School, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and graduated in 1856. He returned to Prairie du Chien, and entered upon the practice of his profession in 1857. He raised a company for the late war and was commissioned captain of company D, 31st regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served three years. During this time he was with his company and regiment in all battles participated in by them. He was elected district attorney of Crawford county, in an early day, was re-elected and served several terms. He was



elected as a republican to represent Crawford county in the State Legislature and served during the years 1862-5-7. He was a presidential elector on the republican ticket in 1872. He was elected to the State senate for the term of 1880-1, and served on important committees, was admitted to the supreme court of the State in 1860, and to the United States courts the same year. He has an extensive practice throughout the State, and is justly ranked as one of the leading attorneys of Wisconsin. In 1876, he formed a law partnership with Mr. C. S. Fuller, at Prairie du Chien, under the firm name of Thomas & Fuller, which has been continued to the present time. Mr. Thomas was married at Prairie du Chien in June, 1875 to Sarah, daughter of Samuel Rosenrantz. Mrs. Thomas is a native of Grant county, Wisconsin. They have two children—John, aged four years, and Carrie, aged two years.

Charles Learned located in Prairie du Chien and commenced the practice of law in 1838. After continuing in active practice a number of years, was appointed county judge, in which capacity he officiated eight years. After retiring from office he resumed his profession, and some years later removed to Dubuque, Iowa, and died there.

P. R. Brace settled in Prairie du Chien about 1839. He engaged in the practice of law a number of years in Crawford county, and subsequently removed up north, somewhere in Minnesota, where he died not long after.

D. G. Fenton settled in Prairie du Chien in 1840 and commenced the practice of law. Several years afterwards he was elected clerk of the United States district and circuit territorial court, and held the office a number of years. He was subsequently elected county judge to succeed Learned. At the expiration of his first term he was re-elected, and died while in office.

Leander Leclerc was a French Canadian, who came from the Dominion and settled

in Prairie du Chien in 1842. He brought a stock of goods with him, and engaged in the mercantile business several years after his arrival. Having a partiality for the legal profession he read law, and served a number of years as justice of the peace. In 1852 he was elected sheriff of Crawford county, serving one term of two years. Subsequently he devoted his attention to the practice of law. Mr. Leclerc was not a great lawyer, but he was a man of great industry and energy and worked into quite an extensive practice, especially in the lower courts. He married before leaving Canada, and had a family of three daughters and one son. He died Sept. 14, 1872.

Wiram Knowlton, one of Wisconsin's eminent lawyers practiced first in Grant county, then in Crawford. In the chapter of this history entitled "The Courts—Past and Present," will be found a more extended biographical notice of Judge Knowlton.

Buel E. Hutchinson, who held a prominent place in the bar of Crawford county for fifteen years, is a native of Jefferson Co., N. Y., born Nov. 26, 1829. He received an academic education, studied law and came west, settling in Prairie du Chien, Wis., in 1848, where he pursued the practice of his profession until he removed to Madison, in 1863, save while in the Legislature and in the army. He was elected district attorney for Crawford county in 1857 for the term of two years. He was elected to the General Assembly of Wisconsin in 1857 and to the State Senate from the thirtieth district in 1860-1.

In August, 1861, Mr. Hutchinson entered the army as commissary, with the rank of captain, and remained in the service with Gen's. Curtis and Steele's commands until September, 1863. Since that time he has resided in Madison; and, in 1879, represented the capital county in the Legislature, being elected by a large majority over two competitors, a democrat and a green-backer. He is now (1884) receiver in the land office at Aberdeen, Dak.

Willard Merrill arrived in Crawford county in 1856, and in July of that year settled down to the practice of law as a partner of Buel E. Hutchinson. Mr. Merrill was born at Rome, N. Y., Jan. 16, 1831. He was graduated from Amherst College, in Massachusetts, in 1854, and studied law at the Poughkeepsie law school. He was admitted to practice in the supreme court at Watertown, April 1, 1856. He came to Prairie du Chien shortly afterward, and during the succeeding four years struggled manfully to place himself among the prominent attorneys of Crawford county. In April, 1860, he removed to Janesville, Wis., and opened a law office, where he continued to practice until his removal to Milwaukee in Jan. 1873. He was a member of the lower branch of the State Legislature in 1871. In the fall of 1870, and after his election to the Assembly, he was appointed a member of the joint-Legislative committee, whose duty it was to visit and examine into the condition of the penal and benevolent institutions of the State. In the spring of 1871, he was appointed a member of the State board of charities and reform, which position he satisfactorily filled until 1874, when business matters prevented the proper discharge of his duties on the board, and he resigned. On Jan. 1, 1868, he had formed a law partnership with Hon. J. B. Cassoday, now associate justice on the bench of the supreme court. This partnership continued until his removal to Milwaukee in January, 1873. He then accepted the position of secretary to the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, which office he filled until his promotion, in December, 1881, to the position of superintendent of the agencies. In the summer of 1880 Mr. Merrill was elected president of the Amherst College Alumni Association, and presided at their annual meeting during commencement week, on the 30th of June, 1880. He is at present a trustee of Ripon College, of Wisconsin, also filling similar positions on the official board of the Milwaukee Female College and the University of Milwau-

kee, the latter of which is struggling to rise from its its inceptive limits. Mr. Merrill has been a member of the Presbyterian denomination for the past thirty years, and politically is a radical republican. While practicing at the bar, his legal talents were unquestioned, and as an advocate he was able and meritorious. His gentlemanly qualifications endear him to a host of friends, and, to use his own expression, "my life has been uneventful, but very pleasant."

Hiram A. Wright was admitted to the bar of Crawford county, after examination, on May 6, 1851.

Benjamin Bull came from Grant Co., Wis., and settled in Prairie du Chien in 1852, at once engaging in the practice of law. He was actively connected with the bar of Crawford county a quarter of a century. Mr. Bull was a native of Virginia, born in Harper's Ferry, Jan. 1, 1798. He came with his parents to Xenia, Ohio, was there educated, and read law and was admitted to the bar. In 1824, he went to Martinsville, Ind., and remained there until 1848, most of the time in active practice. He took somewhat of an active part in politics as a member of the old whig party, and held several local offices among which was probate judge. Coming west, he settled a few months in Mineral Point, then went to Grant county, practised law as a partner with Col. A. Cobb, while there, and from thence removed to Prairie du Chien. Mr. Bull was elected to the State senate from this district in 1865, and served two years in that body. He continued to ply himself to his profession until his death, Jan. 23, 1879. He married Miss Elenor Garrison, in Indiana. They were the parents of ten children, four of whom are residents of Crawford county.

Daniel H. Johnson located in Prairie du Chien about 1845, a young man fresh from an Illinois college, and engaged in teaching school, and studying law in the meantime. When prepared to pass an examination he was admitted to the bar in Crawford county, and commenced the practice of law. Some time previous to 1854 he

began writing articles for the columns of the *Prairie du Chien Courier*, and in that year he purchased an interest in the paper, and assumed the editorship of it during his connection with it, which only continued a year or two. He carried on the practice of his profession at the same time and, being a man of remarkably retentive memory and extraordinary innate ability, he soon attained a prominent place in the bar of the county. In 1860-61 he was a member of the General Assembly from Crawford county, and during the war was appointed assistant attorney general of Wisconsin. Mr. Johnson moved to Milwaukee soon after the war closed, where he still resides and pursues his profession. He has filled several city offices, among them city attorney, and represented that city in the Legislature in 1867-8 and in 1870-1. He ranks among the first lawyers of the State.

Jeremiah N. Kast was admitted to practice as an attorney in 1878, and resides at Bell Center. He has been a resident of Haney township since 1832. He was born in Medina Co., Ohio, Dec. 2, 1834. He moved with his father, Chancy Kast, to Scott township, Feb. 8, 1850. He enlisted Aug. 18, 1862, in company D, 31st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until December, 1863, when he was discharged for disability. He was severely injured while in the war, losing three fingers of his left hand. Mr. Kast has been twice chairman of the township board, and has served fifteen years as justice of the peace. In 1868 he turned his attention to the study of law, and was admitted to the bar at Prairie du Chien in 1878. He has been engaged in practice since that time. Mr. Kast has been married three times. His first wife was Elendar Jane Webb, to whom he was married March 23, 1853. She was a daughter of Peter M. Webb, and born in Illinois in 1834. She died June 20, 1874. His second wife was Mary L. Stantorf, also born in Illinois, in 1856. She died Oct. 30, 1878. His present wife was Emily Brickner, born in Haney township, in 1856. Mr. Kast had twelve children by his

first wife; two by his second marriage, and a son and daughter by his present wife.

Andrew C. Phillips came from Maine, his native State, to Prairie du Chien, in about 1855, and practiced in the courts of Crawford county until 1857, when he returned to Maine, after which he was appointed United States consul to Fort Erie, Canada. He since came west again, and now lives in Sioux Falls, Dak.

John Johnston settled in Prairie du Chien, and practiced law several years along in the fifties. He was a man of fine education and abilities, but of a modest and retiring disposition, which operated somewhat against his success as a lawyer. He moved south somewhere in Illinois, and report says he abandoned the law and entered the ministry.

Walter R. Bullock, a nephew of Gen. J. C. Breckenridge, came from Kentucky to Prairie du Chien in 1856, and, entering into partnership with D. H. Johnson and B. T. Hunt, under the firm name of Johnson, Bullock & Hunt, opened a law office. He continued in practice until 1860, when he went south and entered the confederate army and was made an aid-de-camp on Gen. Breckenridge's military staff. After the close of the war he settled in the city of Baltimore, and there practiced law till his death, which occurred several years ago.

A. V. Blair, a New York State man, located in Prairie du Chien in the practice of law about 1856, and remained there some five years. He was a very fluent talker, but only a fair lawyer. Prior to the beginning of the war he moved away, and from the best information obtainable went off south. Sometime along in the fifties, while he was practicing law in Prairie du Chien, a band of river pirates traveled up and down the Mississippi, having their own boats, robbing and pillaging the towns along its course. Among the places visited by the marauders was Prairie du Chien, where considerable property was stolen. The citizens of the place, and other towns in the vicinity to which the thieves had paid nocturnal visits, were greatly excited

and indignant over the matter, and banding together for the purpose, hunted down and arrested some twenty-five of the supposed members of the gang of outlaws. The prisoners were brought to Prairie du Chien. An impromptu court was organized, a jury summoned, and they were tried; and, although there was no evidence showing the guilt of the prisoners, about a dozen of the most suspicious characters among them were convicted, on general principles, and sentenced by the court to castigation of from five to twenty-five blows upon their naked backs, and to have their heads shaved. The verdict of the mock court was promptly executed by the excited mob, which numbered nearly 1,000 men. One desperate fellow of the gang of culprits swore he would burn the town of Prairie du Chien, and would wreak his vengeance upon the citizens. Mr. Blair had been prominent in the whole transaction, and acted as attorney for the prosecution in the trial. He treasured up the threat of the desperado, and so firmly believed it would be carried out, that he repeatedly told Mr. O. B. Thomas and others he was almost afraid to go out upon the streets after nightfall, lest he should be assassinated. Mr. Thomas, who has a keen appreciation of a good joke, thought he would test Mr. Blair's courage. Their offices, in which they slept, joined, and one dark night, quite late, Mr. Thomas slipped out of the back door and procuring a heavy billet of wood, slammed it against Blair's rear door, shouting at the same time, in disguised voice to Blair, to come forth; that he had come to be avenged for his punishment received at the hands of the mob in which he—Blair—was so prominent an actor, and the next breath began to give orders to his imaginary comrades to surround the building. Blair was so terribly frightened that notwithstanding he had two loaded guns in his room for self protection, as he had boasted, he bounded out of bed with a scream, and, without stopping to investigate or to even put on a single additional article of clothing, rushed out of

the front door and down stairs, and, hatless, pantless and shoeless ran for dear life, never halting till he reached the residence of Mr. Thomas' father, several blocks distant. There he related his blood-curdling experience and hair-breadth escape from the midnight assassins. The senior Thomas dressed himself, and, arming themselves to the teeth, he and Blair returned to investigate the whereabouts of the would-be murderers. Meantime young Thomas quietly returned to his room, and when aroused by his father and Blair from a feigned sound sleep, he affected great surprise at what had passed, and sympathized deeply with the victim of the burglarious attack. Thomas never let the joke out until after Blair left the place.

B. T. Hunt was a native of Ohio, and though a man of limited education, he possessed great natural powers and resources which earned for him a high rank as a lawyer. As an advocate his arguments were logical and convincing, and his eloquence, which was of the Tom Corwin syle, captivating and irresistible. Mr. Hunt came to Prairie du Chien, and began the practice of law, as a member of the firm of Johnson, Bullock, & Hunt, in 1857, and after remaining three years, he removed to Elkader, Clayton Co., Iowa, in 1860. He was there elected circuit judge, and filled the office one term, after which he resumed the legal profession until his death, several years ago.

Rufus King located in Prairie du Chien and began the practice of law in the courts of Crawford county in 1857, and continued until the War of the Rebellion broke out. He then entered the army as quartermaster of the 31st regiment of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving through the war. Soon after returning home, he went to Chicago, and is still practicing his profession in that city. Mr. King is an amiable gentleman and a lawyer of clever ability.

Edward Lowry, who was one of the most brilliant lawyers ever connected with the bar of Crawford county, was a native of Vermont,

from whence he emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in Lancaster, where he engaged in the practice of law some ten or twelve years, at the end of which time he removed to Prairie du Chien, about 1860. After practicing his profession some three or four years, he recruited a company of volunteers and went into the army as its captain. While in the service he contracted a disease from the effect of which he died soon after coming home. His family now reside in Lancaster, Wis., where one of his sons is engaged in the law practice.

Daniel Webster settled here in 1860. He was born Sept. 4, 1844, in McGrawville, Cortland Co., N. Y., and is the son of Mansel and Lucinda Webster. In 1851 he removed with his parents to Galena, Ill., where he spent his boyhood days. In 1857 he went to Allamakee Co., Iowa, where he began the study of law. In 1860 he came to Prairie du Chien, pursuing his studies there. He enlisted in May, 1864, in company C, 134th regiment Illinois Volunteers, 100 day service, and served the term of enlistment. On his return from the war Mr. Webster resumed his law studies, being admitted, in 1868, to practice in the circuit court of Crawford Co., Wis., in 1871 to the district and circuit courts of Iowa, and, in 1882, to the supreme court of Wisconsin. In 1876 Mr. Webster formed a partnership with his brother, M. M. Webster, for the practice of law, which partnership continued until the death of his brother, which occurred Oct. 16, 1881. Mr. Webster has since continued the practice alone. He was elected police justice of the city of Prairie du Chien in 1880 and 1881, being re-elected in 1883. Mr. Webster was married April 13, 1871, to Maggie, daughter of William Dunlap, born in Pittsburgh, Penn. They have had four children, three of whom are living—Gertrude, aged eleven years; Maud, aged five years; and Daniel Jr. Edith died in infancy.

L. F. S. Viele came in 1862. He is a son of Stephen S. and Caroline Mary (Lum) Viele, and was born in Seneca Falls, N. Y. He received

his education at Seneca Falls academy and at Hamilton College, and was preceptor of Seneca Falls academy. He studied law in his father's office, at Seneca Falls, and on admission to the bar entered into partnership with him in the practice of law. Mr. Viele went to Boscobel, Wis., in February, 1862, where he opened a law office, continuing in practice until October of that year at which time he came to Prairie du Chien, and established himself in practice at this place. He was elected district attorney of Crawford county in the fall of 1862, and served from January, 1863, to January, 1865. In April, 1865, he was elected justice of the peace, being re-elected each term since and having served in that capacity eighteen years. The greater part of that time he has held the offices of notary, circuit court commissioner, and United States court commissioner. In 1867, in addition to his legal business, he accepted the agency of certain insurance companies, both fire and life, and has worked up an extensive business in both, and is a thorough business man in every sense of the term.

Dealton Tichnor lived and practiced law in the justice's courts in Lynxville, in Crawford county, but never practiced in the higher courts. He went into the army during the late war, and died there.

William Dutcher located in Prairie du Chien, in the practice of law, in 1863, and was an active member of the Crawford county bar for about twelve years. During his residence here he filled a number of local offices; was elected district attorney to fill a vacancy, and re-elected for a full term. He moved to Boscobel, Grant county, a number of years ago, where he is still practicing law as a member of the firm of Brooks & Dutcher. Mr. Dutcher is a fine lawyer, and a very genial, companionable man. He possesses such a keen sense of the ludicrous and his mental composition so bubbles over with humor, that he never loses an opportunity to play a joke on his best friend, not even

allowing his own family to escape. His co-practitioners at the bar relate many very laughable anecdotes of contests of wit, in which his antagonist generally came out second best.

Joseph Wilcox came to Prairie du Chien about 1865, and practiced law two or three years, and was elected district attorney, but resigned and moved away before his term of office expired, because of charges of corruption in office. He subsequently settled somewhere in Iowa.

David Noggle moved to Prairie du Chien from Janesville, Wis., in 1865, and practiced law in Crawford county two years, at the end of which time he removed back to Janesville, and was soon after appointed United States district judge of the territory of Idaho. His health failed under the exposure of frontier life and the duties of his office, and he resigned, and returned to Janesville, but he never rallied, and died with softening of the brain a year or two after coming back to Wisconsin. Judge Noggle possessed a large and powerful physique and a massive brain; and, although he had but a limited literary education, he was a brilliant orator and a very able advocate. He was a man of strong impulses and decided convictions, and hence was a steadfast friend and a bitter enemy.

Peter Doyle was born at Myshall, county Carlow, Ireland, Dec. 8, 1844. When he was six years old his parents came to the State of Wisconsin and settled at Franklin, Milwaukee county, his father engaging at first in farming and afterward in mercantile pursuits. He also held several local offices. Mr. Doyle's first lessons were received at home; and at the common school in Franklin he acquired a knowledge of the ordinary English branches. Subsequently he pursued a collegiate course. He spent a short time in the office of the clerk of the United States district court in Milwaukee, and in 1863 entered in the law office of Butler & Cottrill in that city, intending to make law his profession. Having spent about two years

in the study of law, Mr. Doyle taught school for a short time in Milwaukee, and then, having been offered an acceptable position in a railway office at Prairie du Chien, removed to that place in July, 1865, with the intention of remaining there for awhile and then resuming legal studies. Business arrangements at Prairie du Chien, however, proving satisfactory, he continued there until his election as secretary of State in 1873.

In the spring of 1872 the subject of this sketch was nominated by the democratic city convention as first mayor of the city of Prairie du Chien, but he declined to accept, not desiring to enter political life. In the fall of the same year he was elected to the Assembly from Crawford county, and in the Legislature of 1873 took an active part in the discussion of many of the important measures of the session. In September of the same year he was nominated for the position of secretary of State by the reform convention held in Milwaukee, and was elected at the ensuing election. In November, 1875, he was re-elected.

The Milwaukee *News*, one of the leading papers of the State, in referring to his re-election, and the manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, used the following language. "No man has ever occupied the department of the secretary of the State, who has displayed a better knowledge of its duties, or greater ability and honesty in their discharge, than have characterized the Hon. Peter Doyle. Though comparatively a young man, being but a little over thirty years of age, he shows a maturity and wisdom in his action upon public affairs which give the impression of his being a much older man than he really is; and his official conduct has the discretion, the dignity and sobriety which belong to advanced years. He is a thorough man of business, a well read lawyer, and a scholar of ripe acquirements. He is really one of the ablest men in public life in the State. His reports and the part which he has taken in the administration of the State finances are evidences of the thorough fitness

and great capacity which he brought into the office. The rigor with which he discharges all the duties which the law places upon him, and the laborious care which he bestows on not only the larger, but the minor details of business, are such as have not been surpassed even by the most industrious and experienced of his predecessors.

Politically, Mr. Doyle is a democrat, but is liberal in his views, making party interests subordinate to those of the State and country. He first engaged actively in political affairs after the nomination of Horace Greeley for the presidency in 1872, and worked untiringly in his behalf. He favors the largest degree of personal liberty consistent with the welfare of society, and is strenuously opposed to interference by the State in matters pertaining to individual right or private conscience.

In religion, Mr. Doyle is a Catholic, this having been the faith of his parents.

Mr. Doyle is upward of six feet in height, of well developed form, and is capable of enduring much physical and mental labor. He is dignified in appearance and deportment, but is modest and unassuming, and has a high appreciation of real merit. He deliberates carefully and acts with promptness, energy and decision. Sincere and honest in his convictions, and earnest in the advocacy of his principles, he looks only to that which he believes to be right, disregarding mere expediency. He is a forcible writer and speaker, is clear in his views, logical in argument, and classical in style. He is fond of poetry, and is familiar with many of the works of the English and German poets, as well as the ancient classical authors. He appreciates highly the society of literary friends, and devotes his leisure hours mainly to literary pursuits. He is unmarried." Mr. Doyle, though a resident of Prairie du Chien since 1865, and a member of the Wisconsin bar has never been an active practitioner in the profession.

Andrew Huntington came to Prairie du Chien in 1865, and forming a partnership with David

Noggle, began the practice of law. After two years of active connection with the Crawford county bar, he left here, and after some changes finally settled in Green Bay, and is there practicing his profession. Mr. Huntington is an estimable gentleman and a brilliant lawyer, ranking among the first of the bar in the State.

Thomas L. Redlon settled at Belle Center, Crawford county, and commenced the practice of law immediately after the close of the late civil war, he having been in the United States service. He remained and practiced some eight or ten years.

Myron Mansel Webster, was a New York State man, born in McGrawville, Jan. 18, 1836, where he received his early education. In youth he came west and studied law with H. B. McGinnis, at Galena, Ill., and was admitted to the bar at the district court in Allamakee, Iowa, in July 1857, and later to the supreme court of Iowa. After ten years of active practice in Allamakee, Mr. Webster moved to Prairie du Chien, arriving Nov. 1, 1867. He was soon after admitted to the bar of Crawford county, and to practice in the State and United States courts. He devoted himself studiously to his profession until his death in October, 1881. In professional life Mr. Webster was a pains-taking, energetic and conscientious attorney, and was one of the ablest and brightest lawyers ever connected with the Crawford county bar. Socially and in business life he was a man of irreproachable character, and hence commanded the respect and esteem of all who knew him. At a meeting of the Crawford county bar, held for the purpose, soon after his decease, resolutions were passed embodying very flattering encomiums on his life and character. These were spread upon the court records and published in the local press.

S. S. Ferrell was admitted to the bar of Crawford county, in 1871, on examination by a committee consisting of Wm. Dutcher, O. B. Thomas and G. C. Hazleton. Mr. Ferrell read

law in Iowa county. He has never practiced his profession. His biography will be found in another chapter. He resides in Marietta.

J. N. Kast was born in Medina, Medina Co., Ohio, Dec. 2, 1833. He was educated in the place of his birth. Mr. Kast was admitted to the bar in Crawford county at the November term of the circuit court, 1871, and has practiced in the courts of this county, Grant, Richland, Vernon and Iowa counties. He resides at Belle Center.

Hon. Charles S. Fuller, county judge of Crawford county, and a member of the firm of Thomas & Fuller, attorneys at law, is the son of Charles and Celestia Fuller. He was born in Crawford Co., Penn., June 30, 1849. When four years of age he came to Wisconsin with his parents, locating in Dane county. He was educated at the State University at Madison, and graduated from the law department in June, 1875. He soon after came to Prairie du Chien, and after six months' practice formed a law partnership with O. B. Thomas, one of the leading lawyers of the State, under the firm name of Thomas & Fuller. This connection has continued for seven years. Thomas & Fuller have a practice extending throughout the State and in the higher courts. Mr. Fuller is the present efficient superintendent of city schools, having been elected to that office in July, 1883. He was married in Windsor, Dane, Co., Wis., June 19, 1877, to Clara, daughter of Edward Espenett. She was born in Alton, Ill. They have three children, two boys and one girl—Ada S., Herbert S. and Charles E. On Sept. 1, 1883, Mr. Fuller was appointed by Gov. Rusk county judge of Crawford county, to succeed Judge Ira B. Brunson, deceased, and now occupies that position.

J. B. Walton, of Wheatville, is an Englishman by nativity, born in Birmingham in 1826, and there received a common school education. After emigrating to this country he studied law in Madison, Wis.; was admitted to the bar in the circuit court of Crawford county in 1877,

in Prairie du Chien. In 1868 and 1869 he held the office of county surveyor in Crawford county. In 1876 and 1877 he served as deputy clerk of the circuit court, and in 1877 filled the office of court commissioner.

Alpheus E. Frank studied law and was admitted to the bar in Crawford county in 1875. He opened a law office in Prairie du Chien and commenced practice. The following fall he was elected district attorney and served one term of two years. Soon after his retirement from that office he moved to Deadwood, Dak., where he still resides, engaged in the practice of his profession.

George Mills, son of ex-Judge Joseph T. Mills, of Lancaster, Wis., located in Prairie du Chien about 1875. He was an active member of the Crawford county bar until 1880, and then went to Lake City, Col., where he is pursuing his profession.

William H. Evans, district attorney of Crawford county, has resided here since 1877. He is a native of Petersburg, Va., born Nov. 3, 1842, and the son of Joseph and Mary (Hall) Evans. His father was a mechanic, and, in pursuit of more favorable locations for business, changed his residence from time to time to several of the larger cities in the south and west. William H. received a common school education, and in 1860 came to Clayton, Crawford Co., Wis. In 1862 he enlisted as a private in company D, 31st Wisconsin Infantry. He received a gunshot wound in a skirmish before Atlanta, July 31, 1864, but continued in the service until the expiration of his term of enlistment. He began the study of law at Clayton, Wis., and was admitted to the bar in the circuit court at Prairie du Chien, in May, 1873. He practiced law at Clayton with marked success until January, 1877, when, having been elected district attorney at the preceding election, he removed to Prairie du Chien, the better to discharge the duties of his office. Mr. Evans has been elected to the same office three times



since, and is now serving his fourth term. He was elected, on the democratic ticket, to represent Crawford county in the General Assembly of 1873-4. He has won his way into the front ranks of his profession in the county, and now enjoys a lucrative practice. Mr. Evans was married in May, 1867, at Rising Sun, Wis., to Mary J., daughter of Michael and Catharine Flannagan. She was born in Ireland, emigrating to the United States, with her parents, in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Evans have seven children, five sons and two daughters—Joseph P., William M., Frederick J., Mary E., Francis, Catharine E. and Charles P.

G. L. Miller, attorney at law and collection agent, De Soto, Wis., was born in Steuben Co., Ind., March 28, 1848. He completed his literary education at the Wisconsin State University; read law and was admitted to the bar in 1877, since which time he has been practicing in Crawford and Vernon counties. Mr. Miller was elected county superintendent of schools of Crawford county in 1876, serving two years. In 1882 he was elected sergeant-at-arms of the house in the Wisconsin General Assembly.

T. B. Ward is a resident of Soldiers' Grove, Clayton town, and has been engaged in the law practice since May, 1878, which was the date of his admission to the bar, by Judge Cothren, in Prairie du Chien. Mr. Ward was elected justice of the peace in 1877, and chosen town clerk in 1878. He was born in Rockford, Ill., Sept. 8, 1853.

S. C. McClure, of the town of Eastman, has been admitted to the bar of Crawford county; so, also, M. E. Norris, of the city of Prairie du Chien.

Prof. Thomas Nyhan practiced law in Prairie du Chien for some time; but afterward removed out of the county.

#### PRESENT COUNTY OFFICIALS.

Charles H. Speck, register of deeds of Crawford county, is the son of Frederick and Louisa Speck, and was born Oct. 9, 1854, in Milwaukee,

Wis. He came with his parents to Crawford county in 1860, who settled in Eastman township, where Charles H. was reared on a farm. In 1876, while feeding a threshing machine, his right arm was drawn into the cylinder and crushed nearly to the elbow, causing amputation of the arm. In 1878 he engaged in the insurance business, also dealing in farm machinery. He was elected town clerk of Eastman, and served three years. In the fall of 1880, Mr. Speck was elected for the term beginning Jan. 1, 1881, to his present office, and being re-elected in the fall of 1882, is now serving his second term. Mr. Speck was married in Eastman, Oct. 1, 1878, to Charlotte, daughter of Mark Ingle, born in Canada. They have two children—Benjamin P. and Ettie L.

Alexander M. Beach, sheriff of Crawford Co., Wis., is the son of Justus and Salina (Borah) Beach, and was born Oct. 1, 1834, in Wayne Co., Ill. He was reared on a farm. When twenty years of age he came to Wisconsin, spending three years in various localities in the State; after which he settled on a farm in Eastman township, this county, and engaged in farming. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in company F, 8th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, known as the "Live Eagle" regiment. He was promoted to first sergeant of his company, serving three years and one month. During that time he engaged in all the battles and skirmishes in which his regiment took part, including twelve battles and twenty-five minor engagements and skirmishes. His service was in the western army under Gen's. Grant and Sherman. On his return from the army Mr. Beach resumed farming at the old place, in Eastman town, continuing until 1868, when he sold out and engaged in merchandizing at Eastman. In the fall of 1882 he was elected sheriff of Crawford county, and moved to Prairie du Chien, entering upon the duties of his office Jan. 1, 1883. On Jan. 1st, 1884, he became a partner in the printing and publishing business of the Prairie du Chien *Union*, by pur-

chase of the business interest of Mr. T. W. Lacy. Mr. Beach was married Sept. 28, 1858, to Angeline, daughter of John Ellis. She is a native of Maine. They have had three children—E. J., Nettie and H. Walter.

Aaron Denio, clerk of Crawford county, and son of Aaron and Sarah (Fitzgerald) Denio, was born Jan. 9, 1825, in Grand Isle Co., Vt. When twelve years of age he removed with his parents to St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., where he was brought up on a farm. He pursued the occupation of a farmer in the summer, and taught school during the winter months, until 1855, when he removed to Prairie du Chien, Wis. He was here employed as a teacher, and subsequently as a clerk in a forwarding and commission house. Mr. Denio enlisted Aug. 11, 1862, in company D, 31st regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Before leaving the State, he was appointed commissary sergeant, and was subsequently made quarter-master sergeant, serving three years. On his return from the war he was employed for three years and a half as clerk in the county treasurer's office. In 1870 he was elected county treasurer, re-elected in 1872 and 1874, defeated in 1876 and again elected in 1878, serving 1879 and 1880. In 1882 he was elected to the office he now holds, for the term of 1883 and 1884. Mr. Denio, although a republican in politics, has been elected in a democratic county with very flattering majorities. He was married in St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., Jan. 8, 1853, to Melinda Fitzgerald. Two children were born to them—Mary Adell and William A. Mrs. Denio died in April, 1875. Mr. Denio married, Dec. 1, 1879, in Franklin county, Mrs. Salena A. Matthews, widow of Andrew Matthews, and daughter of Francis Nevin. Mrs. Denio was born in St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.

Henry Otto, treasurer of Crawford county, and mayor of the city of Prairie du Chien, was born in Rhine-province, Bavaria, Feb. 27, 1831. He is the son of Peter and Sarah Otto, being educated in Bavaria, and learning the

carpenter trade. He emigrated to the United States in 1849, locating at Cleveland, Ohio, where he spent four years working at his trade. He then returned to his native country, remaining but one year, and in 1854, returning to Cleveland. In 1855 he came to Prairie du Chien, Wis., and the following year, April, 1856, was married to Anna B., daughter of Phillip Hoffman, born in Monroe county, Illinois. Immediately after marriage Mr. Otto engaged in hotel keeping at Prairie du Chien, which business he continued until May, 1882. Mr. Otto served several years as alderman and as a member of the school board. In 1880 he was elected treasurer of Crawford county, served one term of two years, was re-elected in 1882, and is now serving his second term. He was elected mayor of the city of Prairie du Chien at the municipal election of 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Otto have had nine children, six of whom are living—Henry, August M., Annie F. E., Emma P., Otilie and Nettie. Phillipina died, aged five years; George P. died, aged one year; Sarah died aged three years.

Will G. Campbell, clerk of the circuit court of Crawford county, is a son of Peter and Isabella Campbell, and was born near Lancaster, Grant Co., Wis., Jan. 27, 1856. His parents are natives of Scotland and emigrated to America in 1851. The father was of highland and the mother of lowland birth. Will G. was raised on his father's farm and was educated at the Boseobel High School, completing the course of studies in that institution. He began teaching when quite young, and has taught sixteen terms, all within an area of three townships of Crawford county. He came to Crawford county with his parents in 1857, who located in Marietta township. Mr. Campbell was elected to the office of town clerk—the first time when just of age—four terms; town treasurer one term, and on the 7th of November, 1882, he was elected by the democrats to the office which he now holds.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

## RAILROADS.

In 1816 the frontiers of the United States settlements had been extended into Michigan, Illinois, and Missouri, while Prairie du Chien was its most distant military outpost. This remote village was brought into communication with approaching civilization by the agents of the American fur company from the way of the lakes, and by military transportation from the way of St. Louis. Canoes or keel boats, pursued these ways at long intervals, yet with some degree of regularity, and this intercourse, slight as it was in comparison with modern connections by steam and rail, was sufficient to draw hither a few Americans for purposes of trade, or in discharge of some United States agency in connection with Indian or military affairs. The arrival of the first steamboat inaugurated a new era in commercial affairs and the building of roads in various directions tended to increase trade and traffic at this point. But the multiplication of steamboats and roads did not satisfy the demands of the public for cheap and rapid transit. Railroads began to be looked upon as a necessity, and a line that should connect Lake Michigan with the Mississippi as particularly desirable.

## THE MILWAUKEE AND MISSISSIPPI RAILROAD.

Between the years 1838 and 1841, the territorial Legislature of Wisconsin chartered several railroad companies, but with the exception of the "Milwaukee & Waukesha Railroad Company," incorporated in 1847, none of the corporations thus created took any particular shape. The commissioners named in its charter met Nov. 23, 1847, and elected a president, Dr. L.

W. Weeks, and a secretary, A. W. Randall (afterward governor of Wisconsin). On the first Monday of February, 1848, they opened books for subscription. The charter of the company provided that \$100,000 should be subscribed and five per cent. thereof paid in before the company should fully organize as a corporation. The country was new. There were plenty of active, energetic men, but money to build railroads was scarce, and not until April 5, 1849, was the necessary subscription raised and percentage paid. A board of directors was elected on the 10th day of May, and Byron Kilbourne chosen president. The charter had been previously amended, in 1848, authorizing the company to build a road to the Mississippi river, in Grant county, and in 1850, its name was changed to the "Milwaukee & Mississippi Railroad Company." After the company was fully organized, active measures were taken to push the enterprise forward to completion. The city of Milwaukee loaned its credit, and in 1851 the pioneer Wisconsin railroad reached Waukesha twenty miles out from Milwaukee. In the spring of 1852, Edward H. Broadhead, a prominent engineer from the state of New York, was put in charge of the work as chief engineer and superintendent. Under his able and energetic administration the road was pushed forward in 1852 to Milton, in 1853 to Stoughton, in 1854 to Madison, and in 1857 to the Mississippi river, at Prairie du Chien.

The first regular train reached Prairie du Chien, in April, 1857; and the terminus of the road was located at "Lower Town." It is appro-

prate here to observe, that this enterprise, a great one for its day, and for the era in which it was achieved, was undertaken and successfully carried through, (to their honor be it said) by citizens of Wisconsin, residents of the city of Milwaukee.

In this connection it is proper to state that Mr. E. H. Broadhead, of Milwaukee, was the then president of the road. William Jervis, of the same city, was superintendent, and E. P. Bacon, general freight agent. Among other gentlemen who took a leading part in carrying through this great work, may be here mentioned, the Hon. Ed. D. Holton, still living, and the Hon. Ashael Finch, lately deceased, (both of the city of Milwaukee).

#### CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILWAY.

In 1859 and 1860, the Milwaukee & Mississippi Railroad Company defaulted in the payment of the interest on its bonds. A foreclosure was made and a new company, called the "Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien," took its place, succeeding to all its rights and property. In 1867, the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company obtained control of the Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien railroad. The Legislature of 1857 had passed an act, authorizing all stockholders in all incorporated companies to vote on shares of stock owned by them. The directors of the Milwaukee & St. Paul company had secured a majority of the common stock, and, at the election of 1867, elected themselves a board of directors for the Prairie du Chien company. All the rights, property and interests of the latter company came under the ownership and control of the former. In 1865, Alexander Mitchell, of Milwaukee, was elected president, and S. S. Merrill, general manager, of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. They were retained in their respective positions by the new organization, and still continue to hold these offices, a fact largely owing to the able and efficient manner that has characterized their management of the company's affairs.

When, in the spring of 1857, the Milwaukee & Mississippi railroad reached Prairie du Chien, it was the only one at the time terminating on the upper Mississippi within the State of Wisconsin. The business of the road was forwarded from Prairie du Chien, by a line of packets, known as the Old Galena Packet Co., whose president was Orrin Smith, now deceased, and whose secretary was J. Russell Jones, subsequently United States minister to Belgium, still living, a prominent and prosperous citizen of Chicago. By means of this line of packets, passengers and freight were transferred between the terminus of the road and St. Paul, Minn.

The period at which this road reached the Mississippi river, marks a distinctive era in the history of the great northwest. At the time of which we speak, strange as it may now seem, Minnesota and all the country north of St. Paul, including the marginal border of our own State on the Mississippi, were importers of the necessaries of life, including meat and flour.

The first shipment of grain from Minnesota to the great lakes, was made by way of Prairie du Chien to the city of Milwaukee, in the autumn of 1859, and consisted of ten car loads of wheat. The event was so remarkable, as indicating the wondrous transition, which the country was undergoing, that however insignificant such a shipment might now appear, this one was made the subject of a congratulatory telegram to the chamber of commerce of the city of Milwaukee. As indicating the marvelous development of the country the fact may be cited, that more than 100 car loads were shipped daily from the same point, to the same destination within two years from the date of the first shipment.

In the spring of 1864 it became apparent from the failure of the water in the so called "slough" at Lowertown, from which cause it was no longer possible for the larger class of boats to reach the landing at the terminus of the railway, through the so called "Pigseye;" that a change of base must be made, the company was forced

to abandon their terminus, at Lowertown, for a more favorable landing at so called "Upper-town." At the latter place the company, at great expense, established new tracks, comprising one of the finest railway yards in the United States; erected an elevator of 200,000 bushels capacity, at a cost of \$75,000, and built a substantial and commodious hotel called the "Dousman House," at a cost of \$45,000.

At the completion of this road it was a doubtful question in the minds of many, including some of the most sagacious men in the country, whether this progenitor of the great system of iron lines that now radiate from the city of Milwaukee, could ever successfully compete for the commerce of the upper Mississippi valley with its great natural rival, the Mississippi river.

Hitherto St. Louis was the one mart known to the shipper from Dubuque to St. Paul. By means of this road Milwaukee first appeared as the great rival of St. Louis for this commerce, but more especially for the grain trade of the upper Mississippi valley. By means of the facilities which we have just mentioned, and of the indomitable pluck of the men who controlled the pioneer railway of Wisconsin, the currents of trade which hitherto had flowed landward without interruption, were turned over this line to the city of Milwaukee. This was the inception of the great grain traffic, which continued to grow until Milwaukee became the largest grain market in the world. This remained the sole railway terminus on the Mississippi north of Dubuque, until the autumn of 1859, when the La Crosse road was extended to the city of La Crosse. At this time the two lines were rival interests, and so remained until 1866, when they became consolidated, and known as the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, with Alexander Mitchell as president and S. S. Merrill, general manager, of whom it is hardly necessary to state that they are citizens of Milwaukee. Receding a step in our narrative, we may now mention that there was no railway connection in Iowa opposite Prairie du Chien till the year

1863. This year the late Judge Green, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, undertook and built the first twenty-five miles of the McGregor Western Railway, one of the five principal land grant railways of Iowa.

Subsequently this railway became the property of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Company, under whose auspices the road commenced by Judge Green and built by him to Calmar, Iowa, a distance of forty-five miles, has been constructed across the entire State of Iowa; across the territory of Dakota; and to-day has its western terminus upon the banks of the Missouri, where it only halts in the presence of vast Indian reservations, the opening of which to white settlement it only awaits, to proceed on its way to the Pacific ocean.

The Milwaukee & St. Paul Company also resumed the long neglected railway construction in Minnesota, and in the year 1866, began and completed the work of building what is now known as the Iowa & Minnesota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, completing another connection with the city of St. Paul. So much for the railway interests that center about Prairie du Chien.

This brings us to a point where we may appropriately speak of some of the local features of Prairie du Chien.

In connection with the railway system centering here, is an important element, known as the transfer system.

In 1857 Alexander McGregor, the original proprietor and founder of the town of McGregor, Iowa, and after whom the town was named, operated a steam ferry between McGregor and Prairie du Chien, which was subsequently purchased and operated by the railway company. As the transfer business increased, other facilities were devised.

The steamer, *Allamakee*, a magnificent ferry boat was built by Col. H. L. Dousman, for the railway company, and put on the river at this point in 1859. At first it was customary to break bulk of all kinds of freight on each side

of the river. Necessity being the mother of invention, improved methods were devised. Mr. John Lawler, for many years the agent of the railway company at this point, caused large barges, called "transfer barges," to be constructed, which were fitted with railway tracks, corresponding to similar tracks upon the banks of the river.

Cars were loaded upon each barge, and the barges taken in tow by the steamer, one on either side. The cars, light or laden, were thus safely transferred across the river.

This system of transportation was employed with more or less modification until the year 1873, when Mr. Lawler devised the pontoon railway bridge now in use, under contract with the railway company, constructed across both channels of the Mississippi, permanently uniting the divisions of the railway company terminating in McGregor and Prairie du Chien. In this hazardous experiment, involving an immense expenditure, Mr. Lawler was encouraged by the railway company. The work was pushed vigorously to a speedy completion. The bridge, a novelty in its kind, is believed to be the first railway bridge ever operated under similar conditions. For the ten years last past, the business of the company has been transferred as safely and promptly over it, as business is transferred over any other style of bridge yet devised.

John Lawler, president and proprietor of the Prairie du Chien & McGregor Railway Company, and one of the most prominent and influential citizens of the State, came to this city from Milwaukee in 1857, the year in which the Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien Railroad was completed to the Mississippi. He was appointed station agent at this place, and held the position for several years, when he resigned it in order to be able to devote his entire time and attention to his own business affairs. He also attended to the duties of other important trusts, and filled several responsible corporate offices, having been for about ten years vice-president

of the McGregor Western Railway Company, and for a long time president of the Northwestern Packet Company. Soon after the completion of the railroad to this place, he became interested, on behalf of the railway company, in the question of securing the cheap and speedy transfer of passengers and freight across the Mississippi river from Prairie du Chien to McGregor. For some time this transferring was done by having cars placed in barges constructed for the purpose, and thus towed by a steamboat. This method, however, being available only during the season of navigation, and not being in other respects entirely satisfactory, in 1843, with a view to having a cheaper and more permanent transfer, he invented and obtained a patent for the railway pontoon bridge that has since been in use at this point, and which has been also adopted and used at Wabasha, Minn., and other places. This was a matter of private enterprise; it involved a large outlay of capital, and being original, was necessarily, to some extent, experimental. The result, however, justified Mr. Lawler's confidence in ultimate success; and to-day such bridges are justly regarded as the safest and most economical for transfer purposes on the principal rivers. The invention and successful operation of this bridge, the cost being comparatively small to that of the usual iron structures, has made Mr. Lawler extensively known throughout this country, and also in some others. As illustrating this, it may be proper to mention, incidentally, that some time ago, Russian engineers visited Prairie du Chien, and examined the construction of the bridge, with a view to having similar ones introduced in Russia. Mr. Lawler's superior business ability and exceptional executive capacity, have been fully recognized and appreciated by the managers of the railway company with which, in business relations, he has been so closely united; and delicate and responsible duties in connection with the increase and progress of that great corporation have frequently devolved upon him. In all such cases, the

officers of the company have justly placed the most implicit confidence in him, in every respect, and it is not too much to say that results have always justified their action. While never seeking wealth, as the great object of life, and while ever ready to contribute to objects of benevolence, education or charity, the business enterprises in which Mr. Lawler has been engaged, have brought to him a share of the world's goods much beyond that of ordinarily successful business men, and he ranks among the wealthiest of the citizens of the State. Although the main pursuits of his life have been essentially of a business character, still Mr. Lawler has been a close student of books, has devoted much attention to literature and science, and has delivered addresses on literary and scientific subjects at several places in the northwest. He is a life member of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He was one of the principal organizers of the Irish Catholic Colonization Society of the United States, and is now one of its directors. He has also been for some time past one of the trustees of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Milwaukee. Mr. Lawler has stead-

ily refused to enter political life, although frequently solicited to do so. In 1876, and again in 1880, he was nominated by the democratic State convention as presidential elector; and it is believed that this representative capacity is the only one in which he has ever been before the people for their suffrages. He has ever been a strong friend of education, and served for some time as a member of the board of regents of the State University. He was for two or three years president of the board of education of the city of Prairie du Chien, and it was while he was acting in this capacity that the present high school building was erected, he having procured an advantageous loan from the State to assist in having this done. He has, by his earnest and successful efforts in behalf of the educational interests of the locality where he has lived, deserved the warmest gratitude of his fellow citizens. The College of the Sacred Heart and St. Mary's Institute, two of the leading institutions of learning in the State, and ones in which he has taken a special interest, largely owe their existence and present prosperous condition to his liberality.



## CHAPTER XIX.

## AGRICULTURE AND THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The trend of the earliest industries of a country, is the result of the circumstances under which those industries are developed. The attention of pioneers is confined to supplying the immediate wants of food, shelter and clothing. Hence, the first settlers of a country are farmers, miners, trappers, or fisherman, according as they can most readily secure the means of present sustenance for themselves and their families. In the early history of Wisconsin this law is well exemplified. The southern part of the State, consisting of alternations of prairie and timber, was first settled by farmers. As the country has developed, wealth accumulated and means of transportation have been furnished, farming has ceased to be the whole interest. Manufactories have been built along the rivers, and the mining industry of the southwestern part of the State has grown to one of considerable importance. The shores of Lake Michigan was first mainly settled by fishermen, but the latter growth of agriculture and manufactures has nearly overshadowed the fishing interest; as has the production of lumber, in the north half of the State, eclipsed the trapping and fur interests of the first settlers.

Farming, at the present time, is almost entirely confined to the south half of the State, the northern half being still largely covered by forests. A notable exception to this statement is found in the counties on the western border, which are well settled by farmers much farther north. The surface of the agricultural portion of the State is for the most part gently undulating, affording ready drainage, without being so

abruptly broken as to render cultivation difficult. The soil is varied in character, and mostly very fertile. The southern portion of the State consists of undulating prairies of variable size alternating with oak openings. The prairies have the rich alluvial soil so characteristic of the western prairies, and are easily worked. The soil of the "openings" land is usually a sandy loam, readily tilled, fertile, but not as "strong" as soils having more clay. The proportion of timber to prairie increases passing north from the southern boundary of the State, and forests of maple, basswood and elm, replace, to some extent, the oak lands. In these localities, the soil is more clayey, is strong and fertile, not as easily tilled, and not as quickly exhausted as are the more sandy soils of the oak lands. In that portion of the State known geologically as the "driftless" region, the soil is invariably good where the surface rock is limestone. In some of the valleys, however, where the lime-rock has been removed by erosion, leaving the underlying sandstone as the surface rock, the soil is sandy and unproductive, except in those localities where a large amount of alluvial matter has been deposited by the stream. The soils of the pine lands of the north of the State, are generally sandy and but slightly fertile. However, where pine is replaced by maple, oak, birch, elm and basswood, the soil is "heavier" and very fertile, even to the shores of Lake Superior.

The same natural conditions that make Wisconsin an agricultural State, determined that during its earlier years the main interest should be grain-growing. The fertile prairie cover-



ing large portions of the southern part of the State had but to be plowed and sowed with grain to produce an abundant yield. From the raising of cereals the pioneer farmer could get the quickest returns for his labor.

There is the same struggle for existence, and the same desire for grain the world over, and hence the various phases of development of the same industry in different civilized countries is mainly the result of the widely varying economical conditions imposed upon that industry. Land is thoroughly cultivated in Europe, not because the Europeans have any inherent love for good cultivation, but because their land is scarce and costly, while labor is superabundant and cheap. In America, on the other hand, and especially in the newer States, land is abundant and cheap, while labor is scarce and costly. In its productive industries each country is alike economical in the use of the costly element in production, and more lavish in the use of that which is cheaper. Each is alike economically wise in following such a course, when it is not carried to too great extremes. With each the end sought is the greatest return for the expenditure of a given amount of capital. In accordance with this law of economy, the early agriculture of Wisconsin was mere land-skimming. Good cultivation of the soil was never thought of. The same land was planted successively to one crop, as long as it yielded enough to pay for cultivation.

The economical principle above stated was carried to an extreme. Farming, as then practiced, was a quick method of land exhaustion. It was always taking out of the purse and never putting in. No attention was paid to sustaining the soil's fertility. The only aim was to secure the largest crop for the smallest outlay of capital, without regard to the future. Manures were never used, and such as unavoidably accumulated was regarded as a great nuisance, often rendering necessary the removal of stables and outbuildings. Straw-stacks were invariably burned as the most convenient means of dispos-

of them. Wheat, the principal product, brought a low price, often not more than fifty cents a bushel, and had to be marketed by teams at some point from which it could be carried by water, as this was, at an early day, the only means of transportation. On account of the sparse settlement of the country, roads were poor, and the farmer, after raising and threshing his wheat, had to spend, with a team, from two to five days, marketing the few bushels that a team could draw. So that the farmer had every obstacle to contend with except cheap and fertile land, that with the poorest of cultivation gave a comparatively abundant yield of grain. Better tillage, accompanied with the use of manures and other fertilizers, would not, upon the virgin soils, have added sufficiently to the yield to pay the cost of applying them. Hence, to the first farmers of the State, *poor* farming was the only profitable farming, and consequently the only *good* farming, an agriculturo-economical paradox from which there was no escape.

Notwithstanding the fact that farmers could economically follow no other system than that of land-exhaustion, as described, such a course was none the less injurious to the State, as it was undermining its foundation of future wealth, by destroying the fertility of the soil, that upon which the permanent wealth and prosperity of every agricultural community is first dependent. Besides this evil, and together with it, came the habit of loose and slovenly farming acquired by pioneers, which continued after the conditions making that method a necessity had passed away. With the rapid growth of the northwest came better home markets and increased facilities for transportation to foreign markets, bringing with them higher prices for all products of the farm. As a consequence of these better conditions, land in farms in the State increased rapidly in value. With this increase in the value of land, and the higher prices paid for grain, should have come an improved system of husbandry which would prevent the soil from

deteriorating in fertility. This could have been accomplished either by returning to the soil, in manures and fertilizers, those ingredients of which it was being rapidly drained by continued grain-growing, or by the adoption of a system of mixed husbandry, which should include the raising of stock and a judicious rotation of crops. Such a system is sure to come. Indeed, it is now slowly coming. Great progress upon the earlier methods of farming have already been made. But so radical and thorough a change in the habits of any class of people as that from the farming of pioneers to a rational method that will preserve the soil's fertility and pay for the labor it demands, requires many years for its full accomplishment. It will not even keep pace with changes in those economical conditions which favor it. In the rapid settlement of the northwestern States this change has come most rapidly with the replacement of the pioneer farmers by immigrants accustomed to better methods of culture. In such cases the pioneers usually "go west" again, to begin anew their frontier farming upon virgin soil, as their peculiar method of cultivation fails to give them a livelihood. In Wisconsin as rapid progress is being made in the system of agriculture as, all things considered, could reasonably be expected. This change for the better has been quite rapid for the past ten years, and is gaining in velocity and momentum each year. It is partly the result of increased intelligence relating to farming, and partly the result of necessity, caused by the unprofitableness of the old method.

As has been before stated, Wisconsin is essentially a grain-growing State. This interest has been the principal one, not because the soil is better adapted to grain-growing than to general stock, or dairy farming, but rather because this course, which was at an early day most immediately profitable, has been since persistently followed from force of habit, even after it had failed to be remunerative.

The increase in the production of grain was very rapid up to 1870, while since that time it has been very slight. This rapid increase in grain raising is first attributable to the ease with which this branch of farming was carried on, upon the new and very rich soils of the State, while in the older States this branch of husbandry has been growing more difficult and expensive, and also to the fact that the war in our own country so increased the demand for grain from 1861 to 1866, as to make this course the most immediately profitable. But with the close of the war, came a diminished demand. Farmers were slow to recognize this fact, and change the character of their productions to accord with the wants of the market, but rather continued to produce the cereals in excess of the demand. The chinch bug and an occasional poor season seriously injured the crops, leaving those who relied principally upon the production of grain, little or nothing for their support. Hard times resulted from these poor crops. More wheat and corn was the farmer's usual remedy for hard times. So that more wheat and corn were planted. More crop failures, with low prices, brought harder times, until gradually the farmers of the State have opened their eyes to the truth that they can succeed in other branches of agriculture than grain growing, and to the necessity of catering to the demands of the market.

#### EARLY FARMING IN CRAWFORD COUNTY.

For about sixty years after the first settlement within the present limits of the county, farming was wholly confined to the "prairie," and the methods employed to carry it on were very primitive. "There was not," says James H. Lockwood, "at the time I came to Prairie du Chien [Sept. 16, 1816], any Indian corn raised there. The traders for the upper Mississippi had to send down for their corn which they used, to the Sauks and the Foxes at Rock Island, and trade with them for it. It is believed that the first field of corn raised at Prairie du Chien, was by Thomas McNair, an Ameri-

can, who had married a French girl and settled down to farming.

"The farmers of Prairie du Chien appeared to be a more thrifty and industrious people than those of Green Bay; they raised a large quantity of small grain, such as wheat, barley, oats, peas, and also some potatoes and onions. Every two or three farmers united and had a horse flouring-mill; the stones being cut from the granite rock found in the country. There they ground their wheat, and sifted the flour by hand. The surplus flour was sold to the Indian traders for goods, or exchanged with the Indians for venison, ducks and geese, or dressed deer-skins, as there was no money in circulation in the country. Any purchase made was payable in goods from the traders or flour from the inhabitants.

"The manner in which the traders dealt with the farmers was this; to let the farmer set his price on anything that he had to sell, without grumbling or saying anything about its being high, as it was payable in goods; the trader charging his price for the goods—so each party got all he asked, and neither had cause for complaint, but of course the trader was not the loser by the transaction. Mr. Michael Brisbois related to me a transaction which took place between himself and a farmer by the name of Pierre Lariviere. This Lariviere was ambitious to pass with his neighbors for the best farmer in the country, and went to Mr. Brisbois to see what he was paying for flour, which I think was then six dollars per 100 pounds; but Lariviere, desirous of the opportunity of boasting to his neighbors that he had gotten more for his flour than they did, expressed a wish that Mr. Brisbois would pay him more than the market value for his flour, which Mr. Brisbois told him he could not do. "Oh," said Mr. Lariviere, "you can make it up by charging more for the goods with which you pay me;" and so they closed the bargain, not to Mr. Brisbois' loss. The prices compared somewhat like this: When flour was worth \$8 per 100 pounds, hyson or

young hyson tea was worth \$8 per pound; if flour was worth only \$6, tea would remain the same price; when the farmer got \$9 per bushel for onions and \$1 per dozen for eggs, he paid the above price for tea.

"The women of Prairie du Chien, mostly daughters of the Indian traders, had been raised in the habit of drinking a great deal of tea in the Indian country, where other beverage for children could not be procured, and it thus became, from long habit with them, almost a necessary of life, and they would make any sacrifice to obtain their favorite beverage. When eggs were worth \$1 per dozen, rosin soap was worth \$1 per pound, and calico, that at this date would be sold at Prairie du Chien from twenty to twenty-five cents per yard, was then sold at \$2 per yard; clay pipes at forty cents each, and common tobacco at about \$2 per pound. So much flour was made at Prairie du Chien at this time, that, in 1820, Joseph Rolette contracted with the government for supplying the two companies of troops at Fort Crawford with it, they preferring the coarse flour of the prairie, which was sweet, to the fine flour transported in keel boats in the long voyage from Pittsburgh, which would be sour on its arrival.

"There were on the prairie about forty farms cultivated along under the bluffs where the soil was first rate, and enclosed in one common field, and the boundaries generally between them marked by a road that afforded them ingress and egress to their fields; the plantations running from the bluffs to the Mississippi, or to the slough of St. Ferriole, and from three to five arpents wide. The owners did not generally live immediately on their farms, but clustered together in little villages near their front, and were much the same description of inhabitants as those of Green Bay, except that there were a number of families of French extraction, entirely unmixed with the natives who came from the French villages of Illinois. The farmers' wives, instead of being of the Indian tribes about, were generally of the mixed blood. They

were living in Arcadian simplicity, spending a great part of their time in fishing, hunting, horse racing or trotting, or in dancing or drinking. They had little or no ambition for progress or improvement, or in any way bettering their condition, provided their necessities were supplied, and they could often collect together and dance and frolic. With these wants gratified, they were perfectly satisfied to continue in the same routine and habits of their forefathers before them. They had no aristocracy among them except the traders, who were regarded as a privileged class.

“Joseph Rolette, in connection with the Indian trade, carried on farming, after the fashion of the country, pretty extensively. Michael Brisbois, besides being a trader, carried on the business of baking and farming to some extent, receiving of the inhabitants 100 pounds of flour and giving in return tickets for fifty loaves of bread, and these tickets made a convenient change to purchase trifles from the Indians. None of the inhabitants pretended to make their own bread, but depended entirely upon the bake house. Jean Baptiste Faribault did something in the line of Indian trade and carried on a small farm, but soon after left the prairie to reside on the St. Peter's river.”

The following extract from a publication by the late Alfred Brunson, gives truthfully the first avocations of the “greater portion of the original settlers:”

“The greater portion of the original settlers here, came to the country as hunters, traders or employes, and taking wives of the natives, commenced farming upon a small and primitive scale, while they also hunted, trapped and voyaged, as occasions occurred. They probably raised their bread, vegetables and some meat, while their skins and furs bought their clothing, and what else they needed out of the store.”

AGRICULTURE OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

[By Alfred Brunson, 1851.]

The general formation of the country is hilly. Some portions of our original county (including

what is now Crawford, Vernon, La Crosse, etc.) is level, but more of it undulating. The level portions of it are at the heads of the largest streams, where it is apt to be swampy and marshy. Near the Mississippi the hills, or bluffs, rise in some places 500 feet above the river; but as you ascend the streams the hills lessen down to a gentle undulation on the small streams, and to a level or marsh and swamp on the larger ones. In the present limits of the county the land is generally hilly or rolling. The level or marshy portions are on the margins or bottoms of the great rivers. The whole of the original, as well as the present county, abounds in streams of pure water, and abundance of water power. The purity of the waters in the smaller streams and lakes—those that are fed entirely from springs—may be judged of from the fact that they abound with speckled trout. But those larger streams, which rise in swamps and marshes, many of them being tamarack swamps, show the effects thereof in the highly colored state of the water.

The prairie region extends from the Wisconsin, north, by a width of from thirty to fifty miles from the Mississippi, to within ten miles of Lake Superior at its western extremity, with sufficient timber for farming purposes the most of the way. Between the Black and Chippewa rivers, on the present mail route, the timber is too scarce to encourage a general settlement; but along the river hills, and also east of the mail route, timber is more abundant. East of the Kickapoo, and on the headwaters of the St. Croix, Chippewa and Black rivers, and on the western branches of the Wisconsin, all within the original county of Crawford, there is no lack of timber; indeed, it is generally a dense forest of pine, mixed with hard wood. Within the present limits of the county, except a dense forest on the east side of the Kickapoo, the county is divided between prairie and timber, and open woodland, so that no portion of it can suffer for want of timber; and except along the precipitous bluffs of the river, there is but little

waste land. It can mostly be ploughed, grazed, or kept for timber, and is not more uneven than some of the best cultivated portions of western Pennsylvania, Virginia and Ohio, along the Ohio river.

The general character of the soil is good; within the present limits of Crawford county, in Bad Ax, La Crosse, the western portions of Chippewa, and southern parts of St. Croix, it may be considered as first rate. Indeed, it is hard to imagine how it can be improved. Further east and north, when you reach the pine region, the soil becomes of less value, except in places where the pine does not grow.

The soil in that portion of the country first named is mostly a vegetable mould, formed from the decay of vegetable matter, or its ashes, when burnt over. It is mixed with sand sufficiently to give it warmth; and this seems to increase as we go north, showing that nature, or nature's God has provided against the vicissitudes of the climate. The poorer soils spoken of are, in the pines too sandy, and in the marlies too wet, and in a few instances a cold clay.

Of the crops and the general yield, it would be difficult for me to speak, because I have not sufficient data. Much depends on the mode of cultivation and the season; 50, 40, 30 and 20 bushels of wheat to an acre have been raised. So far as I know, 30 of wheat, 50 of corn and oats, and from 100 to 200 bushels of potatoes, are considered an average crop.

In the cranberry marshes, which are found at the head of the larger streams, the crops in good seasons are said to average several hundred bushels per acre.

Of the manner of cultivation, and of its defects, I can say but little. The old French settlers, when the Americans first came among them, wrought things as their fathers did 200 years before

To yoke oxen, they tied a pole across the backs of their horns. They had no wagons, and their one-horse carts were without tires,

boxes or skeins on the axles. They usually put in only spring crops. Their wheat, oats, barley and peas were sown on the ground with no other preparation than burning off the weeds, stubble and grass of the last years growth, and ploughed in—the ploughing being usually in the same direction—no crossing and no manuring.

The ground cultivated was in a narrow strip at the foot of the bluffs, where was the best soil, say from forty to eighty rods wide, and enclosed in one common field from five to seven miles long, having but one fence on the west side and across each end, the bluffs on the east answering for a fence on that side. The corn planted was of the early Indian variety, which ripens in the early part of September, yielding from thirty to fifty bushels per acre, according to the mode of cultivation. The wheat, oats, barley and peas being harvested in August, and the corn in September; the field was usually thrown open in October, as soon as the potatoes were gathered, as common pasture. If wood was scarce in the ensuing winter, or before the ice became good for procuring it from the islands and bottom lands of the river, most likely the fence would be used in their stores, being dry, and the place of the rails would be supplied before spring by new and green ones. These annual changes of the rails rendered it of little consequence whether they were made of oak, ash, maple or willow, the three latter being usually the easiest obtained, composed the most of the fencing material of the farm.

The grain cradle was not known here until the arrival of Americans, the scythe and sickle being the only instruments used for that purpose. The French bind their grain with willow withes to this day. In other respects, they have availed themselves of the improvements introduced by the American immigrants, and some of them are now among our best farmers.

Most of the new inventions for ploughs, harvesters and threshing machines are now in use.

The markets are good, and also the facilities for reaching them. From the earliest settlement of the country the military and Indian departments, including the fur trade, always furnished a good market for our surplus produce until a short time since, when the amount produced has been greater than the demand from that source. To supply the deficiency, the lumber trade since 1838 has kept the demand more than equal to the supply; add to this the demand growing out of the immigration, so that hitherto the demand for every thing, except wheat, in the two last years, has much more than equalled the home supply. And our prospects for a market are good for a long time to come in our own country, and nearly at our own doors. The lumber trade, the Indian trade and annuities, the military posts at the north and west of us, together with the continued tide of emigration; to which may also be added the mining interests; all together bid fair to consume the most of our surplus produce, except, perhaps, wheat.

Within two or three years past, the produce of wheat has been larger than the demand in the country. But the facilities for transportation by steamboat on the Mississippi has supplied us with a market in St. Louis. Our merchants purchased the wheat, cleaned it thoroughly, had sacks made of coarse domestic cotton, holding over a bushel each, and sent it to St. Louis, where its superior quality and clean state commanded the highest price, making it profitable for both the producer and the merchant.

The opening of the navigation of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, already gives us a choice of markets, between St. Louis and the lakes, for all we have to spare over and above the up river and home demand. And if, as is expected, the Milwaukee & Mississippi railroad should reach the river, we should have an additional facility for reaching an eastern market. Nor will it make much difference, if any, whether the road reaches that river at this point or not, so far as the surrounding country is concerned. The road must reach the river somewhere, but

if not, some other one will, within a short distance, by steam; so that before our surplus produce gluts the market on this great river, we shall have the double facility of steam-boat and railroad whereby to reach an eastern market, and that too at but a trifling expense. As it is well known that the average of our crops exceed that of the eastern part of our State, after deducting the expense of reaching the lake, we shall have equal, if not greater profit per acre than will our more eastern neighbors.

Our stock is that which is most common to the country. We have no animals of special note, unless it is pony breed of horses; and not many of them. Our early French settlers came to the country by water, and in bark canoes or Mackinaw boats, and could not bring with them the real Canadian or Norman horse. Indeed I do not remember of seeing one of that breed in this country. If there is one or more, they must have come by land from some States bordering on lower Canada. The original stock of horses here probably came from the south and west, and were from the stock introduced by the Spanish into Mexico, Santa Fe, etc., and from thence spread among the Indians. Carver mentions an expedition of the Winnebagoes towards Santa Fe, and the capture of eighty horses at one time, which they brought home with them. The French settlers here may have obtained horses from their brethren at Kaskaskia, or in Missouri. But in either case they were originally obtained, most probably, from the Indians to the south and west of them.

The present breed of horses or ponies are not generally of an extraordinary character. Only a few very great travelers have been found among them. I have, however, seen one of but moderate size, which is said to have traveled before a light train on the ice, from Mount Trempelean to this place, 120 miles, between sunrise and sundown, in February, and that without any visible injury. But whether any of such bottom can be now obtained, I am

unable to state. Our stock of horses has greatly improved of late from immigration.

The horned cattle in this country originally came from the States of Illinois and Missouri, and were not of the first quality. Some few of good quality were obtained from the droves brought up, but generally they were of the ordinary character. Immigration has lately brought some of good quality among us, but I know of none of the imported breeds of the day, though, no doubt, we have some of mixed bloods, which are quite valuable.

Sheep have done remarkably well, so far as they have been tried; they are very hardy, and produce good and heavy fleeces. To show their hardiness and the adaptation of the climate to their growth, I will give the following fact: In 1837 a drove of sheep was brought to this place for slaughter. One of them, a wether, strayed from the flock and took up its abode in the hills east of this prairie, and within three fourths of a mile of my house, and strange to tell, but nevertheless true, he escaped notice of men, dogs and wolves, through two winters, and was discovered and killed in the spring of 1839, in good eating order. His hoofs were so worn by traveling over the rocks, that they were but square stubbs. We know that he must have strayed from the said flock, because there had been at that time no other such drove on the prairie, from which he could have strayed. At this time there are a few small flocks of sheep which do exceedingly well, and show, most conclusively, that our hilly and healthy country is well adapted to raising them on a large scale. I have never heard of any disease among them.

As for hogs, we have some Berkshires, but they have become so mixed and crossed with other kinds, that but few of them can be distinguished. Poultry of all kinds do well.

The adaptation of the country to grazing, as compared with tillage, is a question I am not as well prepared to decide as are those of more experience. A few facts, however, may serve to show the grazing qualities of the country.

The French here who usually own large droves of horses, seldom, and some of them never, feed them in winter, except such as they use; and, in the spring they are in tolerable order. In our low bottoms and ravines where the wild grasses grow high and rank, they are sometimes beaten down by the fall rains and snow; in which case the snow usually covers a large quantity of green substance which the horses reach by pawing away the snow, if snow there is. If the grass is not beaten down by the snow, but stands up and reaches above it then they eat off the tops. And what is remarkable in this country, this dry grass, reaching above the snow, is eaten with avidity by the horses; and from the fact that they keep in good order on it, it must have considerable nutrition in it, even in that dead and dry condition.

There are, however, other means of grazing in the country. On some of the islands and river bottoms, there are not only thickets of underbrush on which the animals browse, but rushes abound in many places, on which horses and cattle will even thrive through the winter. These rush beds are not very numerous; they abound most in thickly timbered regions where the wild grass is thin, or does not grow at all. In the winter of 1842-3, when the hay failed at the falls of the Chippewa, the cattle not wanted for immediate use were driven to, and watched in the rush bottoms.

In the same winter a party of us voyaging with horses through Lake Superior and back, our hay and oats having failed, we were obliged to resort to the rushes on which our horses subsisted three days before we reached the settlement.

The quality of our prairie hay is said to be better than the same article further south. Those who have lived in the southern parts of Illinois and Missouri say that they can winter cattle easier in this region than in the former places. They think the grass here makes more substantial hay, probably from not being so much drenched in the summer by rains.

But a principal reason why cattle can be easier wintered is the character of our winters. We are not one day in mud and wet snow, nor being drenched with rain, and the next day frozen with icicles. Cattle, under such sudden and repeated changes, cannot do as well as with us, where but few changes occur, probably not more than one or two, and sometimes not one through the whole winter. Dry snow, and dry cold weather, even if somewhat severe, when it comes on gradually and is uniform, does not effect man or beast as does the contrary kind of weather. If it requires much labor to provide a winter's stock of provender, we have good health and physical strength to perform it, and we are satisfied to work if we have health, rather than get along without it, and shake half the year with the ague and fever. If our cattle cost us more to raise and keep, they bring a better price when raised than do those that come up themselves in sickly regions.

As between grazing and tillage, I think there is but little to choose if either is to be pursued by itself. But both together is certainly preferable; because the straw and stalks from tillage go far in wintering cattle, which would be a loss if we had no cattle to eat them.

Of dairies we cannot say a great deal, having but few; but we could say much in favor of their establishment. What few dairies we have are on a small scale, but have been and are very profitable, and would, no doubt, be more so on a larger scale. I have already stated the facility we have for raising and wintering cattle; these, of course, are necessary to a dairy, and so far it is an encouragement. The next, and indeed the great question is, as to the market for the products of the dairy and of this, let facts answer. The most of the cheese consumed in our mines, our pineries and on this entire frontier, is made on the Western Reserve in Ohio, and transported 2,000 miles by the rivers; and having changed hands several times, each of which must have some profit to pay for freight, storage, commission, etc., the

price realized by the producer cannot equal more than half the cost to the consumer. Having lived myself on that reserve, and having some knowledge, by experience, of the cost of clearing land, and getting it into grass, the crops obtained, etc., I am certain that cattle can be raised and kept in this region for one-half the expense necessary to be incurred for the same purpose in that country; and, of course, if the products of the dairy here equal the products there, per head of cattle, and the producer here realizes no more than the producer does there, the business must be much more profitable here than there; but if the producer here realizes double what the producer does there, and that too at one-half the expense for raising and keeping cattle, then the business is proportionately more profitable. The only difference and the only drawback in this country to this business is the difference in the wages of hired help. But the difference in costs and prices in favor of this country will more than balance the difference in wages.

The extent of our horticultural experiments are but limited. That the country is adapted to the growth of fruits is evident from the fact that the wild fruits indigenous to this climate are very abundant; such as crab apple, plums of some dozen or twenty varieties, grapes, cherries, currants, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries and several other varieties.

The French who first settled Detroit planted apple trees, pear trees and various other kinds of fruits, and, judging from the fact, I expected to find such trees in abundance in this region. But in this I was disappointed; finding of their planting but a few apple trees, and these of an indifferent quality.

About the year 1830 Gen. Street, the Indian agent, brought a lot of apple trees from Kentucky to this place, and set them out on a lot at the north end of this prairie. They have had but little care and are natural fruit, yet they have grown well and are very fruitful when not injured by the frost. In 1838 I pro-



cured fifty grafted fruit trees from Kentucky, the nearest place from which I could then procure them. But the distance of transportation and change of climate must have affected them. Furthermore, the warmth of the steamboat caused them to bud in the moss in which they were done up, so that but four or five of them lived. I have since tried seedlings of this country's growth, and though I have had bad luck, the mice and careless ploughman injuring the trees, yet there are some fine and very promising orchards in the country. What is wanted is a nursery in the country, so that the trees will become acclimated, and there can be no doubt but that apples, pears and plums will do as well as in any country as far north as this.

As for peaches our hopes and prospects are not so flattering. In 1846 I had twenty peach trees, which, in March, showed buds for as many bushels of fruit; but a severe frost in April killed them down to the very roots. A neighbor of mine had beat me, in that he had thirty or forty bushels of the fruit the season before, and had hopes of 100 at the time, but his shared the fate of mine, or nearly so. A few sprouted and made a great effort to live. We could raise peaches here if we could prevent the sap from starting before the late severe frosts in the spring. I do not agree with the theory that hard freezing before the sap has started kills these trees. For forty years I have watched these trees in the west, and I have never been satisfied that either the fruit or the tree has been injured by the frost before the sap starts in the spring. But invariably if the sap has started, and is followed by a black frost, that is, something harder than a mere white frost, the fruit, if not the tree, is killed.

Various remedies have been tried and recommended for this evil—a northern declivity, covering the roots with straw when the ground is frozen, etc. But the best, as I think, is engrafting the peach upon the wild plum. The plum, we know, seldom fails of bearing fruit on

account of frost, because it is late in putting forth its sap; and if the peach top is dependent on the plum root for sap it cannot get it, nor start its buds, until the plum root, according to the law of its nature, gives it. And as that period is so late, the frost usually does not injure the plum, neither can it injure the peach. Another advantage of this mode of grafting is, that the worm has sometimes killed the peach by goring its roots; but that occurrence, as far as I know, never happened to the plum.

The raising of peaches in this climate is a desideratum of which most persons despair. It is laid to the climate; but in this I think they are mistaken. Lower Canada, Vermont, New York, northern Pennsylvania, Ohio, and I think Michigan, once were favored with abundance of this delicious fruit. In 1812, when I first emigrated to northern Ohio, those farms which had been long enough cleared to have peaches on them abounded in this fruit, and the trees and fruit continued to grow and do well until about the year 1830, when the late spring frosts began to kill, not merely the fruit, but the trees themselves. And what is singular, the frost took those in the valleys in one year, and those on the hills in another; and so on from one location to another; until, in 1836, when I left that country, there were but a few peaches left, and from the newspapers I learn that since then this same cause has worked farther and farther south, until fears are entertained of the loss of this fruit as far as Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Now, from all this, the evil appears to be in the changes of the seasons and not in the climate. The climate in the same place must be the same. But seasons have changed and re-changed since the settlement of America, and favorable seasons may yet come round to us again in this matter.

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Crawford County Agricultural Society was organized Sept. 30, 1871, with a capital of \$250. The following is a list of officers since

its organization to and including 1884: President, North Miller; secretary, C. D. Lompart; treasurer, Dennis Bell.

List of officers for the year 1872: President, John M. Gay; secretary, C. D. Lompart; treasurer, Richard Wollin.

List of officers for the year 1873: President, North Miller; secretary, C. D. Lompart; treasurer, Richard Wollin.

List of officers for the year 1874: President, North Miller; secretary, C. D. Lompart; treasurer, Richard Wollin.

List of officers for the year 1875: President, L. A. Bonney; secretary, Fergus Mills; treasurer, Richard Wollin.

List of officers for the year 1876: President, Gilbert Stuart; secretary, Fergus Mills; treasurer, James Smith.

List of officers for the year 1877: President, Gilbert Stuart; secretary, Fergus Mills; treasurer, D. W. Briggs.

List of officers for the year 1878: President, North Miller; secretary, Fergus Mills; treasurer, Richard Wollin.

List of officers for the year 1879: President, Edward Garvey; secretary, J. K. Longdon; treasurer, D. W. Briggs.

List of officers for the year 1880: President, Edward Garvey; secretary, A. B. Withee; treasurer, D. W. Briggs.

List of officers for the year 1881: President, Edward Garvey; secretary, George Dean; treasurer, James Smith.

List of officers for the year 1882: President, Robert Morris; secretary, A. B. Withee; treasurer, James Smith.

List of officers for the year 1883: President, James Smethurst; secretary, A. B. Withee; treasurer, James Smith.

List of officers for the year 1884: President, James Smethurst; secretary, A. B. Withee; treasurer, James Smith.

The grounds of the society are located on the southwest quarter of section 10, adjoining the village plat of Seneca on the east; the area, nine

and three-fourths acres. The grounds were purchased of Samuel P. Langdon by the society in 1872, and in the fall of that year a fair was held thereon, but the first fair of the society was held in the village of Seneca, in the fall of 1871, on grounds near Kane's hotel. The amount of property belonging to the society at this time (1884) is valued at about \$600. Fairs are held in the fall, in September or October, the twelfth annual one being holden on the 25th, 26th and 27th of September, 1883.

#### CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. The name of the society shall be "The Crawford County Agricultural Society." Its object shall be to promote the Agricultural, Horticultural Mechanical and Household Arts.

ARTICLE II. The society shall consist of such citizens of this and other States as may signify their intention to become members, and on subscribing not less than \$1, and annually thereafter \$1.

ARTICLE III. The officers of this society shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, who shall constitute the executive committee. Also a general committee shall be appointed, consisting of one member from each town in the county.

ARTICLE IV. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes and have charge of books of the society. Also to carry on the correspondence with other societies, with individuals, and with the executive committee in furtherance of the objects of the society. The treasurer shall keep the funds of the society, and disburse the same on the order of the president or vice president, countersigned by the secretary, and shall make a report of the receipts and expenditures at the annual meeting. The executive committee shall have charge of all the property transmitted to or belonging to this society, and shall have charge of all communications designed for publication and so far as they may deem expedient shall arrange and publish the same. The general committee are

charged with the interest of the society in the towns where they respectively reside.

ARTICLE V. There shall be an annual meeting of this society on the fair grounds at 2 o'clock P. M., on the second day of the fair, for the purpose of electing the officers of the society, who shall assume the offices to which they were elected on the first day of January following. The general committee shall be appointed by the executive committee. The executive committee shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur in the offices of the society. Special meetings may be called by the executive committee after giving proper notice of not less than ten days, stating the day, hour and place of said meeting. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VI. The society shall hold its annual fair at such time and place as it shall designate.

ARTICLE VII. This constitution may be amended or altered by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any annual meeting.

#### AMENDMENTS.

ARTICLE I. The fair grounds shall be located within five miles of the geographical center of Crawford county.

ARTICLE II. The annual meeting of the society shall be held at Seneca on the last Saturday of November of each year, at 1 o'clock P. M.

ARTICLE III. There shall be a vice president elected from each town in the county, and one from the city of Prairie du Chien, who shall constitute a general committee.

ARTICLE IV. There shall be an officer elected annually, styled general superintendent, whose duty it shall be to oversee the division superintendents and see that each department has a superintendent.

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS.

RULE 1. All competitors living within ten miles of the fair grounds, must enter their names upon the secretary's book, and have the article or animal on the ground by 5 o'clock P. M. on the

first day of the fair. All articles and animals must remain on the ground until 4 o'clock P. M. of the last day of the fair, unless removed by permission of the president.

RULE 2. The judges will be on the ground promptly at 10 o'clock A. M. on the second day of the fair and answer to their names and proceed to the discharge of their duties. Three will constitute a quorum. The superintendents will fill vacancies in their respective divisions. Judges are required to report in writing, and notice in detail all entries in their respective classes, stating the merit of each. The object of this society is improvement in its various branches, and this will not be attained if mention is made only of the most worthy articles. It is hoped that judges will keep this in mind. Judges may withhold premiums when, in their estimation, articles are not worthy. Judges will hand their reports, properly signed, to their respective superintendents at as early an hour as possible after the decisions have been rendered. A majority must sign. Superintendents will see that the judges pass no article unnoticed in their divisions.

RULE 3. The secretary will furnish each entry with a card numbered to correspond with the number on entry book, which must be attached to the article, and judges making their report will be governed by number instead of name of exhibitor.

RULE 4. No exhibitor, or his agent, will sit as a judge in the class in which he exhibits. Any article or animal competing for more than one premium must pay additional entry fee, nor will any article or animal be allowed to compete for more than one premium, except as part of a collection.

RULE 5. Judges' report must be made to the superintendent of the department. No premiums will be paid except on reports duly signed by the proper superintendents and judges, and the proper officers are authorized and instructed not to pay premiums until they are satisfied that all the rules and regulations have been com-

plied with; it is therefore necessary that judges report as required.

**RULE 6.** Competition is only open to manufacturers of Crawford county, except for farm machinery and arts.

**RULE 7.** Canned fruit, etc., except wine must have been put up the present season.

**RULE 8.** The same animal after arriving at maturity, and having taken first premiums for two consecutive seasons in the same class, shall not be allowed to compete for a regular premium afterwards.

**RULE 9.** Farm products must have been raised the present season by the exhibitor to entitle to premium. Forage will be furnished to animals on exhibition free of charge. Stock cows must show offspring to entitle to premium. Brood mares must show a sucking colt. All animals entered as full bloods, must show pedigrees full blood, to compete with full bloods, grades with grades, natives with natives. Animals entering for trial, time to be test, distance and time of test to be arranged by the superintendents and judges. Butter, cheese, bread, cake, etc., must be tested by the judges. Superintendents will see that no others molest any article in their respective classes, except by

permission of exhibitor. Teams will be allowed on the grounds if properly secured.

**RULE 10.** When articles are entered which are not on the premium list, the judges may award such articles premiums if, in their judgment, such articles are worthy of it; which premium shall not exceed the regular premium in their respective classes.

**RULE 11.** Entry fee twenty per cent. of premium. Price of membership tickets \$1, and entitles the purchaser to a vote at all meetings of the society, and admits a gentleman and lady, or a man and his wife, or all of their unmarried children under twenty-one years of age, during the entire fair, and is not transferable. Children under fifteen years of age and not belonging to families holding tickets will be charged fifteen cents per day. Persons holding single day tickets will not be granted a pass, except from 11 o'clock A. M. to 2 o'clock P. M.

Any person not included in the above regulations, will be charged twenty five cents per day

As far as is practicable the premiums will be paid at the close of the fair.

**RULE 12.** All teams of horses, herds of cattle, sheep or swine, or collection of canned fruit or any other article must be owned by the person who enters it.



## CHAPTER XX.

## THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

Among the numerous physicians who have practiced medicine in Crawford county, some have attained positions of eminence in the profession.

The first person to practice the healing art in this county was, strange to say, a woman, whose name was Mary Ann Menard, familiarly known as "Aunt Mary Ann."

Of this "person of consequence," James H. Lockwood, in 1855, wrote as follows:

"Among the other inhabitants of notoriety at that time [1816], was a Mrs. Menard, of mixed African and white blood. She came from some one of the French villages below, and was then married to Charles Menard, a Canadian of French extraction. She had been married twice previously, first to a man by the name of Du Chouquette, by whom she had two sons, one of whom was in the employ of Mr. Astor in that unfortunate expedition of his sent in 1810 by sea and across the continent to the mouth of the Columbia river, now Oregon territory. Her next husband was named Gagnier, by whom she had three sons and three daughters. After Gagnier's death, she married Charles Menard, by whom she had three sons and two daughters. She was generally called by the inhabitants aunt Mary Ann, and was a person of consequence among them, being midwife, and the only person pretending to a knowledge of the healing art. Until a fort was erected at Prairie du Chien, and a surgeon arrived there with the troops, aunt Mary Ann was sent for by the sick, and attended them as regularly as a physician, and charged fees therefor, giving them, as

she expressed it, "device and yarb drink." She was an excellent nurse, and even after there were regular surgeons of the army stationed at Fort Crawford, Mary Ann continued to practice among the inhabitants. Whether they employed her because they had more faith in her skill, or because they could pay her with more ease, as she took her pay in the produce of the country, but was not very modest in her charges, I cannot with certainty state; and frequently after the army physician had attended a patient a long time, who perhaps for want of good nursing could not be cured, Mary Ann would take the patient home with her, and by the force of good nursing and "yarb drink" restore him to health, so that we frequently joked the physician about Mary Ann's superior skill in the healing art. There are at this time many of her descendants residing at Prairie du Chien, who are generally as industrious and orderly inhabitants as any others."

B. C. Miller was the first resident physician educated in the science of medicine, who practiced in Crawford county. He was a native of New York State, from near Poughkeepsie, and settled in Prairie du Chien in 1837. Dr. Miller was a man of exemplary habits, and possessed superior medical skill for those early days. He continued in practice in this county until his death, which occurred in 1845. He resided in that portion of Prairie du Chien known as "Lower Town," and died there.

Dr. S. S. Beach came to Prairie du Chien and located in the practice of medicine in 1843, being then a young man. He pursued his pro-

fession in Crawford county about five years, and then moved to New Orleans. From there he went to California when the gold fever was raging in 1849. Returning from the Pacific coast he re-commenced practice in New Orleans, but removed to Atlanta, Ga., some years later, where, with the exception of a few months in 1864 spent in Indiana, he devoted his energies to the healing art until his death, which occurred in December, 1879. Dr. Beach was appointed physician to the government barracks in Atlanta in 1864, and filled that position until the barracks was disbanded. He was a man of extraordinary skill and attained a high rank in his profession.

Jeremiah Day moved from Grant Co., Wis., about 1845 and located in Prairie du Chien. He was an able physician and conducted quite a large practice during the four or five years he remained there. He removed to St. Paul, where he died some years later.

E. P. Wood came to Prairie du Chien about 1850, and settled down to practice medicine, and also conducted a small drug store. He remained some six or seven years, then went off south.

Alonzo Benedict was a native of Troy, N. Y., and was born Oct. 6, 1814. He obtained his education there and commenced the study of medicine. In 1834 he went to Wheeling, Va., where he completed his medical course and began the practice of his profession in 1836. The same year he married Martha Taylor and continued there in practice six years. He then removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he spent nine years in active professional life. From there he returned to Wheeling, Va., but after a brief stay went to Nashville, Tenn. Being an abolitionist at heart, the institution of slavery was very obnoxious to him, hence his residence in Nashville was limited to a few months, when he came north and settled in Prairie du Chien in 1851. Here he labored in his profession until his death which occurred on Feb. 25, 1864. Dr. Benedict possessed fair ability

as a physician, and being a splendid nurse he was quite successful in the treatment of disease, and commanded a large practice. He was an upright, pious gentleman, and was highly respected and esteemed as a citizen.

Dr. Joel Dart Jones was born at Middletown, Conn., Sept 16, 1818. In his family record is much of historic interest. His father, Joel Jones, was born at Hebron, Conn., May 14, 1792, and was married Sept. 13, 1815, to Miria Dart. He removed to Conneaut, Ohio, in 1819. He was the sixth son of Capt. Samuel Jones, of Hebron, Conn., who was an officer in the French and Indian wars. He held two commissions under King George II, of England. Returning from the war, he settled in Hebron, and married Lydia Tarbox, by whom he had six sons and four daughters. Nine of the ten lived to years of maturity. Samuel, the eldest son, was a lawyer, and practiced his profession for many years at Stockbridge, Mass. From another brother descended the late Hon. Joel Jones, first president of Girard College, the late Samuel Jones, of Philadelphia, and Matthew Hale Jones, of Easton, Pa. From a third brother descended Hon. Anson Jones, second president of the republic of Texas. The family is in possession of a letter written by Capt. Samuel Jones to his wife at Fort Edward, dated Aug. 18, 1758. One hundred and ten years previous to the date of that letter, his ancestor, Capt. John Jones, sat at Westminster, as one of the judges of King Charles I. Col. John Jones married Henrietta (Catherine), the second sister of Oliver Cromwell, in 1623, and was put to death, Oct. 17, 1660, on the restoration of King Charles II. His son, Hon. Wm. Jones, survived him, and one year before his father's death, was married to Hannah Eaton, then of the parish of St. Andrews, Holden, Epinton. He subsequently came over to "these American Colonies," with his father-in-law, the Hon. Theophilus Eaton, first governor of the colony of New Haven and Connecticut, where he occupied the office of deputy governor for some

years, and died Oct. 17, 1706. The mother of Dr. Jones was born at Chatham, Conn., March 27, 1797,— is still living with him, and has nearly attained to the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. Dr. Jones was married at Prairie du Chien, June 15, 1854, to Josephine S. Brisbois, daughter of Col. B. W. Brisbois. They have four children—Josephine M., widow of Victor Bertholet, and a resident of Prairie du Chien; Bernard Walter, a graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago, Ills., and in the employ of the Penn Mining company, at Vulcan, Mich. Joel D., is a student at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, and Joseph R., a telegraph operator in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company at North McGregor, Ia. Dr. Jones took a regular course at the medical department of the University of St. Louis, and graduated in March, 1851. He settled in Prairie du Chien the same year, and began the practice of his profession with flattering prospects, and exceptional success. Possessed of a most happy and genial disposition, and thoroughly skilled in his profession, he has won many warm friends that place him in the front rank of the leading physicians of the State.

R. E. Glover came to Crawford county in 1855, not having yet attained his majority. He studied medicine, and located at Belle Center about 1866, and continued in practice some ten years, then moved away, and is now living at Granger, Mo.

Harry Fairbanks settled in Prairie du Chien in 1855, and remained there in practice until 1860 or 1861, then removed to Harper's Ferry, Iowa, where he died a few years later.

Darius Mason, physician and surgeon, was born in Bristol county, Mass., April 1, 1830, and was educated chiefly at the Friend's Academy in New Bedford, Mass. In 1850 he began the study of medicine in the medical department of Howard university, and subsequently prosecuted his studies in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York city, from which he

graduated in 1853. He filled the position of house physician and surgeon in Randall's Island Hospital, N. Y., in 1853-54. Coming west, he located in Prairie du Chien in 1856, and soon built up a fine medical practice. In September, 1862, he entered the army with a commission as surgeon of the 31st Wisconsin Volunteers. Early in 1864 he left the regiment and became surgeon of the enrolling board of the third district of Wisconsin, and filled the office till the close of the war, when he returned to Prairie du Chien and resumed practice, continuing until he removed to Milwaukee in June, 1878, where he still resides and is doing a very extensive professional business. Dr. Mason is constitutionally adapted for the surgical branch of the medical profession, by his cool nerve, rare good judgment and innate genius for mechanics; and, as is usual where nature especially qualifies a person for a given work, his tastes coincide with, and is an index of those qualifications and determines the choice of avocation, so it is with him; and he has devoted his energies largely to the study and practice of surgery, and has attained an eminence in his profession, unsurpassed by any in this State, and equaled by few in the west. Added to his professional skill, Dr. Mason is a thorough gentleman, and is highly esteemed by all who know him.

J. J. Whitney located in Prairie du Chien in 1856, and practiced medicine in Crawford county two or three years. When the mining excitement at Pike's Peak was at its height he caught the gold fever, and went out there, remaining about two years. On his return to Wisconsin he engaged in work for the Northwestern Mutual life insurance company until 1862, when he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the 18th regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, and served to the close of the war. He then settled in Indianapolis, Ind., from whence he returned to Prairie du Chien in 1867. In 1869 or 1870 he removed to Emmetsburg, Iowa, where he remained some ten years, then went to Dakota.

Dr. G. Morgan came from Indiana and located in the town of Haney, Crawford county, about 1856. He practiced medicine there a number of years, then removed to Nebraska, and has since died. He was born in the State of New York in 1839, and was a skillful physician of the alopathic school.

Dr. H. Brunner was a German by birth, and was educated for the medical profession in his native country. He emigrated to this country and settled in Prairie du Chien in 1857 or 1858. He was an able physician and a fine man, and had a large practice, especially among his own countrymen. After residing in the "prairie" about ten years, he removed to Iowa, practicing a short time in Lansing and in McGregor, then went to Fremont Neb., where he soon secured an extensive practice, and continued to do a large business until his death from Bright's disease, in 1881.

Charles St. Johns came to Prairie du Chien in 1858, and after practicing medicine a little over a year, he removed to Ohio; and it was rumored that he abandoned the pill bags for the pulpit.

B. D. Eastman was an Ohio man by birth, but he moved from Pecatonica, Ill., where he had been engaged in the practice of medicine, to Prairie du Chien in the fall of 1862. The last years of the war he served as a ward surgeon in the Swift United States Hospital, situated at Prairie du Chien. He was also a partner with Dr. John Conant in practice for a time. Dr. Eastman was an able physician and a thorough gentleman. His usefulness was curtailed by physical debility from weak lungs. He died in Prairie du Chien in 1865.

John Conant, physician and surgeon, proprietor and manager of the Prairie du Chien Remedial Institute, was born in Illinois near Chicago, Feb. 9, 1839. He received his literary education at Antioch college, Yellow Springs, Ohio, under the direction of Horace Mann, president. He began his medical studies at Chicago, took one course of lectures at the Rush

Medical college, and subsequently a regular course at the Chicago Medical College, from which he graduated in 1860, when twenty-one years of age. He began the practice of his profession at Pecatonica, Ill., and in 1863 was appointed assistant surgeon of the 45th regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. After the capture of Vicksburg, he was assigned to old Fort Crawford as hospital surgeon. The fort hospital was a branch of the Swift United States General Hospital of Prairie du Chien, under the management of Dr. F. W. Kelley, surgeon in charge. Dr. Conant continued at his post till after the close of the war. He then located at Prairie du Chien and built up a very extensive practice. On the completion of the celebrated Prairie du Chien artesian well he opened the Remedial Institute. This establishment is fitted up with a view to the treatment and cure of chronic diseases, and comprises the use of the Turkish, Russian, and electric baths, also hot and cold mineral water baths. Practiced attendants are in charge, and the institution which is commodious and complete in its appointments, is conducted on the most approved modern plan. A free use of the baths and of the mineral water is to produce a certain cure of rheumatism and all other chronic complaints. The hot air treatment has proved very beneficial to consumptive patients. The Institute is patronized by people from nearly every State in the Union. Some who have failed to get relief at the Hot Springs of Arkansas, have been treated here with marked success. Dr. Conant was married at Elyria, Lorain Co., Ohio, in 1861, to Ellen Groat. One child, a daughter, Louisa, was born of this marriage. Mrs. Conant died, and several years after Dr. Conant was married again in Prairie du Chien, in February, 1872, to Amy Edwards, a native of London, England. They have one son, John H. Conant. Dr. Conant has been honored by his fellow citizens with the election to the office of mayor two terms.

Emil Steiger, physician and surgeon, was born in Switzerland, July 7, 1838, was educated at



Zurich, Munich and Basel, and graduated from the medical college of Basel in the class of 1860. He soon afterward came to America and entered the federal army as assistant surgeon of the 39th New York Volunteer Infantry (Garibaldi Guards), and continued in the service till 1864. In 1865 he came to Prairie du Chien and entered upon the practice of his profession. He was married in that city, March 15, 1870 to Mary E., daughter of John B. Plummer. Mrs. Steiger was born in England. Dr. Steiger has built up an extensive practice, and is counted among the leading members of his profession in western Wisconsin.

Frederick Jaeger, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, studied medicine before coming over, and upon arriving in this country he first settled in the practice of his profession in Albany, N. Y. He afterwards removed to Woodville, Ohio, where he practiced many years, and came from there to Prairie du Chien in 1867. He only remained about one year, then went back to Ohio, settling in the town of Elmore, where he died in 1877.

Alexander F. Samuels, M. D., B. D., son of S. H. Samuels, was born Sept. 11, 1842, in New Orleans, La. When four years of age he removed with his parents to Memphis, Tenn., where he was educated. He attended lectures in medicine in the old Memphis Medical College, and at the breaking out of the war entered the hospitals as contract physician and served in both armies as such from Ohio to the gulf of Mexico. He graduated as M. D. from the University of Nashville, Tenn., in 1867. He is also a graduate of Nashotah Theological Seminary, of Wisconsin, and officiated for some years as an Episcopal clergyman. Dr. Samuels has practiced medicine in Memphis, Tenn., and St. Louis, Mo., and has traveled in nearly every State in the Union. He has officiated as clergyman in Maine, Missouri, Wisconsin, Tennessee and Mississippi. He settled at Prairie du Chien, Wis., in 1875, and is now practicing medicine. He was married in October, 1881, to

Margaret E. Dietz, of La Crosse, Wis. They are the parents of one child.

J. S. Barry was an Irishman by nativity. He graduated with the degree of M. D. from Rush Medical College, Chicago, and located in Prairie du Chien in 1877 in the practice of his profession. He moved from here to Vulcan, Mich., where he died in the summer of 1883.

L. C. Halsted, of Wauzeka, is a native of Genesee Co., N. Y., where he was born April 19, 1819. He received a common school education; began teaching at the age of seventeen; was engaged in teaching and farming till twenty-three years of age, when he began the study of medicine; attended lectures at Geneva Medical College, Geneva, N. Y., graduating in the class of 1843; spent several years in traveling after graduation, after which he established himself as a physician at Colesville, Wyoming Co., N. Y.; thence to Clarence Hollow, where he remained two years. In 1848 he came to this State and located at Wauwatosa, where he practiced his profession till 1854, when, his health failing he retired for a time from professional duties. He enlisted as a private in April 1861, in the 1st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, for a period of three months. At the expiration of his three months' service he was appointed surgeon of the 7th Wisconsin Battery, in which capacity he served till the spring of 1864, when he resigned and soon after located at Wauzeka, where he has since resided. He engaged in other occupations than the practice of medicine till 1875, when he returned to medical practice. He was married in the State of New York to Harriet Sawin, who died at Wauwatosa in 1856.

During the existence of Fort Crawford, there were a number of surgeons in charge successively; but the most of them never mingled much among the citizens outside, and very little was known of them by the early settlers.

A Dr. Moore was surgeon in the fort a number of years prior to 1840, in which year he died. He practiced some among the early settlers, and was a very skillful physician for

those times. He erected a brick dwelling on the east side of south Church street, which still stands nearly opposite to what is now (1884) L. Case's residence.

It is a notable fact that Dr. William Beaumont, in the United States army service was at one time located at Fort Crawford, and there conducted some of his experiments upon Alexis St. Martin, who was wounded at Michillimackinac, Mich., in 1822, resulting in a fistulous opening into the stomach, whereby the process of digestion could be observed; and some of these experiments were made at Fort Crawford. The subject of these experiments (Alexis St. Martin) is still (1884) living; he resides at Oakdale, Mass.

Dr. Elwees succeeded Dr. Moore as surgeon in Fort Crawford, taking charge about 1840. He remained surgeon of the post until the 5th regiment went into the Mexican war, then went off with it.

There was also a Dr. Wood, who had surgical charge of the fort for a time. Dr. Wood was a son-in-law of Col. Zachary Taylor. He had some practice outside the fort among the citizens.

Charles McDougal came as surgeon to the military post of Fort Crawford, in the fall of 1841, and retained that position until the war with Mexico commenced, when he accompanied a regiment into the field. He was also a surgeon in the late war, and attained considerable celebrity in that capacity.

In the last years of the war of the rebellion, a military hospital was established at Prairie du Chien, and named the Swift United States Hospital. The hospital comprised several wards, and at times contained a number of sick and wounded soldiers.

Dr. F. W. Kelly was surgeon in charge, and Dr. Baxter, Dr. B. D. Eastman, Dr. J. B. Carey, Dr. John Conant and Dr. Charles True, were ward surgeons.

Dr. Kelly remained in charge till late in the year 1865, when he went to Chicago, where he

has resided and practiced medicine up to the present time.

Dr. Baxter is a brother to Dr. J. H. Baxter, of Washington, D. C., medical purveyor of the United States army. He left here soon after the close of the war, and is now (1884) in Washington city.

Dr. Casey came here from Patch Grove, Grant Co., Wis., and when he severed his connection with the hospital, he returned there; but having asthmatic trouble, he went in search of a more agreeable climate to Salina, Kan., and leaving there, he finally located in Denver, Col., and engaged in practice, combining the drug business with it. He was an able physician and a successful practitioner.

Dr. True studied medicine with Drs. Conant and Eastman, and after graduating, took charge of a hospital ward in the spring of 1865. After the hospital was wound up, he moved down into central Illinois, where he is still practicing medicine.

James Dinsdale, M. D., of Soldiers' Grove, was born in Yorkshire, England, November 18, 1848. He came to this country and to Wisconsin the following year. Mr. Dinsdale attended the State University of Wisconsin during the winters of 1867, 1868 and 1869. In the fall of 1871, he entered Lawrence University, at Appleton, Wis. He graduated from this institution in 1875. He studied medicine the three following years, ending by a graduation at Rush Medical college in the spring of 1878. He then settled at Soldier's Grove, where he at once entered upon the practice of his profession and where he still resides.

The first physician to locate in the practice of medicine in the town of Utica, Crawford county, was Dr. Fredrick Corfu. Soon after him came Dr. Isaiab Roberts, who moved from Mount Sterling to Richland Center, where he died some time after. Dr. Frederick Corfu went into the army in 1862, as assistant surgeon in the 1st regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. After the war he returned and continued the

practice of his profession in that portion of Crawford county until 1881, and then removed to the village of Union, Hardin Co., Iowa. He was born in England in 1823, and was there educated. Dr. Corfu was an able and successful physician.

There was also Dr. F. J. Briggs, who resided in Mt. Sterling and practiced medicine a short time.

Dr. C. V. Porter, the only resident practicing physician in Utica, located at Mt. Sterling in 1881. He is a native of the State of Maine,

and was born in 1849; came to DeSoto, Vernon county, Wis., in 1871, and deciding to enter the medical profession, he graduated from the medical department of Michigan State University in 1875. Since which time he has been in active practice.

A number of other physicians have practiced at various times in Crawford county:—Simeon F. Huntington, in Freeman; Dr. Fredett, in Eastman; Dr. Ross, in the town of Scott; and Drs. Oviatt, Brand, Hammond and Wood in Prairie du Chien.



## CHAPTER XXI.

## PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

The tales of the olden time carry with them a charm that is entrancing. We delight to listen to the recital of those, who, in their youth and while yet the savages were numerous, braved the dangers of pioneer life and settled upon the border. The reminiscences of the heroic men and women are always interesting to those who followed in their footsteps. We bespeak for the following narratives, the careful reading which their importance demands:

BY JOHN SHAW.

In the fall of 1815, I went up the Mississippi with a boat properly manned, on a trading voyage. The Indian traders on the upper Mississippi, purchasing goods at St. Louis, were desirous of making payment by remitting lead from the mines on Fevre river, which they had received in trade from the Indians, and which was of their own smelting and manufacture from the mineral. This promised to open up a new field of trade and commerce; but the process of boating up the Mississippi at this period, was at times quite tedious. The boats were propelled up stream by means of poles and sails, and with favorable wind, 110 miles have been accomplished in a single day. From twelve days to a month were requisite for the voyage from St. Louis to Prairie du Chien, while the descending trip was made in from six to ten days.

I had conversed with Indians at the treaty at Portage des Sioux, and at St. Louis, about trading with them, and asking their permission to build a saw-mill in their country, if I could find a suitable locality, as it was a pine region, and

pine lumber was then worth seventy dollars a thousand in St. Louis. I now started to carry out these views. At the place now called Bellevue, in Iowa, about fifteen miles below Galena, and about six below the mouth of Fevre river, I stopped, and found a water-power, which I judged would fully answer my purpose. Here a small stream flowed into the Mississippi, and some thirty or forty rods above its mouth was a fine locality for a mill; and logs could be rafted down the Wisconsin, and other streams upon which the pine grew abundantly, as I had learned from traders and Indians in that quarter. The Indians had previously informed me, that if I should go up for such a purpose, I must obtain written permission of the government. I now had a regular license from Gov. Clark, the superintendent of Indian affairs, to trade with the Indians.

There were a few Indians then encamped at this Bellevue locality, and others collected while I remained, so that in all, there were 300 or 400 warriors, and many more squaws and children, assembled there. I soon discovered but little feeling of friendship on the part of the Indians towards the Americans. I had a talk with them, reminding them of their promises to me, and my wish to trade at that point, and erect a mill there. After I had distributed presents during several days to the amount of \$300 in value, and concluding that they had obtained all they could, they said they had been consulting about the matter, and declined to grant my request; that doubtless many whites would be soliciting similar favors and

privileges, and one grant of this kind would pave the way for another, and they must firmly deny all; that they must check the advance of the whites, for if one should go into their country, others, like swarms of bees, would follow. They constantly begged for whisky, of which I had none.

I now proceeded on to Prairie du Chien, and there engaged in some little traffic. The place was much scattered, and sparsely settled; there were some fifty or sixty dwelling houses, and all the people could speak the English, French and Indian languages, and all imperfectly. There were perhaps three or four permanent traders located there, and, during the warm season of the year, some fifty or more would resort there, and late in the fall scatter abroad to their several trading stations on the upper Mississippi and its numerous tributaries. This had been the custom for many years. I do not think there was an American resident at Prairie du Chien. The traders were polite and kind, and their hospitality was both general and generous; and while they drank freely, it was regarded as disgraceful to get drunk.

Mr. James Aird, a Scotch trader, had been thirty-seven years in the upper Mississippi country, making Prairie du Chien generally his place of summer resort. Joseph Rolette, Antoine and Michael Brisbois, Francis Bontielle, Jean Baptiste St. Jean, Mons. Tiercourt, Mons. Bennette, Mons. Palen, and many others, were among the traders. All these traders had families, and mostly by Indian wives; but Michael Brisbois had a fine French wife. In Brisbois' family was a beautiful girl named Fisher, whose parents,\* early settlers there, were dead; and Joseph Rolette was said to have married this young girl when she was only ten years of age. Rolette was regarded as the largest trader there, and reputed wealthy. The marriages of

the traders with squaws was without ceremony, and to last only for a single trading season. The trader would make the engagement with the parents of the young squaw, to whom he would make liberal compensation; and by making a permanent marriage, the trader's business would be increased. When the trader renewed his engagement for his squaw wife for two or three years in succession, he generally then kept her for life.

I remained a few weeks at Prairie du Chien, and then returned without molestation to St. Louis, taking down a few skins and hides, but the trip was unprofitable. I learned, while at Prairie du Chien, that the people there had chiefly depended upon the traders bringing flour and other supplies from Mackinaw, but their remoteness from the older settlements, would now render it necessary to engage in farming, and raise large crops of wheat, and that arrangements were then making for that purpose. I thought it would be a good locality for a grist mill, and promised the people that I would erect one, for which there was sufficient water-power at Fisher's Coulee, four miles above Prairie du Chien. This promise was gratifying to them, as they had no mode of grinding except sometimes to hitch a horse to a sweep, and grind on a small scale with a band and small stone; hence called a band-mill.

About June, 1816, I returned to Prairie du Chien with a large boat, and full load of merchandise and provisions, I then being but a common carrier for others. The post at Rock Island was then occupied, and commanded by Maj. Willoughby Morgan; this post was commenced the previous year. On this visit, I believe, I found a detachment of United States troops arrived at Prairie du Chien shortly before me; perhaps from fifty to 150 in number, but I have forgotten the name of the commanding officer. Their arrival was very unwelcome to the settlement generally. They were occupying and repairing the old fort on the bank of the river, at the upper part of the town.

\*When Capt. Piko visited Prairie du Chien in 1805, he speaks of Fisher as an American, and a prominent man of the place. He then had the title of captain and judge, and then filled those positions, as will elsewhere be shown, in this history.

Having discharged my load, I descended to Fevre river, as I had orders from St. Louis merchants to bring down lead from the traders in payment for goods they had purchased there. Reaching a point then known as Kettle Chief's prairie,\* some little distance below where Cassville now is, perhaps fifteen or eighteen miles, I there met the traders upon whom I had the orders, and some 2,000 or 3,000 Indians congregated, holding a sort of jubilee just after their corn planting, swigging whisky, and invoking the blessing of the Great Spirit upon their crop. The traders requested me to go down to the mouth of Fevre river, and there await their sending the lead down; they were very anxious that I should take it down to St. Louis for them, and they had it piled up at the very spot where Galena now is. This I refused, as I could not consent to wait so long, and asked to go up with my boat. This request the Indians refused, saying that "the Americans must not see their lead mines," as they were particularly suspicious of Americans, but did not cherish the same feelings towards Frenchmen, with whom they had been so long connected and associated. Speaking, as I did, the French as fluently as I did the English, the traders declared to the Indians that I was a Frenchman, and all my boatmen, which was true, were French *voyageurs*; the Indians, with very little persuasion, consented that I might go to their smelting establishments.

About 200 Indians jumped upon my boat, while others followed in canoes, and we pushed on to the spot. There was no Indian town there, but several encampments, and no trading establishment. There were at least twenty furnaces in the immediate neighborhood; and the lead was run into *plaques* or *plats*, or *flats*, of about seventy pounds each. These *flats* were formed by smelting the mineral in a small walled hole, in which the fuel and mineral were mingled, and the liquid lead run out, in front, into a hole

scooped in the earth, so that a bowl shaped mass, of lead was formed therein. The squaws dug the mineral, and carried it in sacks on their heads to the smelting places. I loaded seventy tons of lead in my boat, and still left much at the furnaces. This was the first boat load of lead from Galena. The Indians had often previously taken lead in small quantities in their canoes to Portage des Sioux and St. Louis, for purposes of barter.

In the course of that year, I made two trips in the trade to Prairie du Chien, and also trips in 1817-18\*-19 and '20, making altogether nine trips. I am not certain that I took more than one other trip up Fevre river for a load of lead, for the traders, now making all their purchases at St. Louis, would carry down their own lead, and take back a new supply of goods suitable for the Indian trade. After the peace of 1815, and all was settled down again in quiet in the northwest, the channel of the Indian trade was completely changed, from Mackinaw, where it had so long centered, to St. Louis, as it was found far more accessible, and by this time there were several heavy establishments of merchandise selected with special reference to this trade.

In 1818 I built a grist-mill, as I had promised, at Fisher's Coulee, four miles above Prairie du Chien. It had but a single run of stones, and eventually proved a source of expense to me, but a matter of great convenience to the people. Lieut. Col. Talbot Chambers went up to Prairie du Chien in 1817, in my boat, and assumed the command of the garrison. Col. Chambers loved to make a display, was fond of drinking freely, and was naturally tyrannical and over-bearing, and, when intoxicated, was desperate and dangerous. Once, when so inflamed with liquor, he chased a young female

\* Probably named after the Fox chief Kettle, who was killed, in 1830, by a war party of Sioux and Menomonees.

\*In a letter dated at Prairie du Chien, June 7th, 1818, it is stated: "Since you left this place, there have been several arrivals at different times from St. Louis, among whom were Mr. Bolyin, (who is now Indian agent, and civil magistrate,) Col. McNair, Maj. Fowler, Mr. Shaw and Lieut. (now captain) Hickman and lady. In two hours after his arrival, Col. Chambers started for St. Louis; whether he will return, I do not know. Hickman now commands this post."

into the house of Jacque Menard, with no good motive for doing so, when Menard reproached him; upon which Chambers ordered a file of twenty-five soldiers to tie him up, strip, and give him twenty-five lashes with a cat o' nine tails, well laid on.

While the preparations were making for carrying this inhuman order into effect, a son of Nicholas Boilyin, a bright and handsome youth of some ten years of age, ran up and commenced crying and pleading in behalf of Menard, not wishing to see one of the citizens thus humiliatingly punished in public. After two or three blows were struck, Col. Chambers ordered the drummer to cease. Menard was a clever citizen, cultivated a large farm, and had a worthy family of quarter-bloods. Col. Chambers inflicted corporeal punishment in several instances, and finally, for cutting off both ears of one soldier, and one ear of another, was tried and cashiered, and then descended the Mississippi; went to Mexico, and joined the army there, and had risen to about the rank of colonel in that service, and was in the Mexican army at the surrender of the city of Mexico to Gen. Scott. It was in consequence of Col. Chambers' petty tyrannies, the civil law not being much in force or very effectual, that I abandoned all idea of settling at Prairie du Chien, and all the designs of improvement I had formed, and sold my mill at a sacrifice.

In 1819 I proceeded up Black river to the first fall, about six feet descent, and erected a saw mill on the southeastern bank of the stream. I had barely got it fairly going, when hundreds of Winnebagoes came there, in a starving condition, and importuned me incessantly for everything I had for eating or wearing purposes, and I was thus soon left without supplies, and returned to Prairie du Chien. The next spring I went up there again and found the Indians had burned the mill; I then rafted down a quantity of pine logs I had cut the previous year. These

were the first mills erected in western Wisconsin.

BY JAMES H. LOCKWOOD.

I was born in the town of Peru, Clinton Co., N. Y., Dec. 7th, 1793—and as the sequel will show, I have lived in the woods the most of my days. My father was a farmer, to which occupation I was raised until past the age of sixteen years. When I was between two and three years old, my father's house in Peru took fire and almost everything he possessed of a movable character, was consumed. He sold his farm, and about this period removed to the town of Jay, in the adjoining county of Essex, where he owned or obtained land. Here he made improvements, and had good buildings, an orchard, and everything comfortable about him, when, about 1803, he got the Ohio fever. He sold his farm at a great sacrifice; but before he collected the money for it, he met a gentleman who had just returned from Ohio, who stated that though lands were cheap, and they could raise large crops of grain and flocks of cattle with little labor, yet many of the settlers were obliged to go twenty or thirty miles to mill, and there was no market for their fine cattle and rich harvests, and that a farmer with a comfortable home was better off in the cold and unproductive region of northern New York, than in the fertile plains of Ohio without a market. These considerations dissuaded my father from removing to Ohio, and, in March, 1805, he settled in Champlain, Clinton Co., N. Y., where he purchased a farm, with a log dwelling and forty acres of improvement.

Living thus on the frontiers, and removing from place to place, my educational advantages were very limited. But after moving to Champlain, the nearest school was at the village of Chazy, two and a half miles distant, whither I went pretty regularly for two or three winters. In that day and in a new country, to be able to read, write and cipher as far as the rule of three, was considered sufficient qualifications to teach a common school. I was ambitious to ob-

tain a good education, and relaxed no efforts to be punctual in my attendance, although the distance was great, and traveling through the deep snow was often very laborious. I read with avidity every book that chance threw in my way, or which I could obtain by borrowing in the neighborhood.

In the summer of 1808 I boarded at Champlain village, and attended the school taught by the late Dr. William Beaumont, who was then a student of medicine. Under his tuition I greatly improved myself in grammar, geography, etc., but at that early day I never saw a school atlas. Opportunities for attending better schools increased, and I continued alternately on the farm and at school until I was between sixteen and seventeen years of age, when I engaged in the study of the law. I, however, concluded that, from deficient early education and my native diffidence, I should never make a great lawyer, and my ambition protesting against a second or third rate position, I abandoned the law as I then supposed, forever, and sought and obtained a situation as a merchant's clerk.

The merchant who employed me became the sutler to the Light Artillery regiment, then commanded by Col. Wm. Fenwick, and formed a part of Gen. Izard's army. This force commenced its march from Plattsburgh to the west in August, 1814; and my employer having some business to transact in Plattsburgh, before his departure, sent me to attend to the sutling business, and I continued with the regiment until the campaign on the Niagara was over, and the troops retired into winter-quarters near Buffalo. In November my employer arrived, and taking offense at some of his acts, I demanded a settlement, and left him. I then engaged myself to a man named Fuller, sutler for Maj. Ball's two companies of dragoons, then cantoned near Avon, N. Y., on the Genesee river, where I remained doing little or nothing during the winter, as the dragoons, for some reason, were not paid off.

In April, 1815, I received a letter from the late Lewis Rouse \* of Green Bay, a townsman of mine, dated at Buffalo, stating that he had obtained the sutling of the consolidated Rifle regiment, and desired my assistance. Having no need of my services, I left Mr. Fuller and repaired to Buffalo, and the stage which conveyed me carried flying colors announcing the news of peace.

Those of the troops enlisted for the war were now discharged, and those enlisted for five years retained; of the latter was the Rifle regiment, then understood to have been ordered to Detroit. As I had conducted Mr. Rouse's business principally, he wished me to go with him, and desiring to see the country, I accepted his invitation. The troops having left Buffalo about the first of June, we sailed from that place on the 15th of that month, in the schooner *Lady of the Lake*, said to have been the best vessel then on the lakes and arrived at Detroit on or about the 10th of July. Here we found, that the regiment had been ordered to Mackinaw.

Detroit was then an old French village, with the houses mostly covered with bark. Waiting here a few days for a vessel on which to proceed to Mackinaw, we engaged passage about the 15th of July, on a crazy old schooner commanded by Capt. Pearson, bound for Drummond's Island, with pork and hard bread for the British troops then stationed at that place. On board the vessel as a passenger was Ramsey Crooks, since so distinguished among the Rocky Mountain traders, then on his way to Mackinaw, to receive the property of the Southwest Fur Company, which had been recently purchased by John Jacob Astor of New York. We found this old crazy vessel without any convenience of table or provisions. Mr. Crooks

\* Judge Rouse was a native of Rouse's Point, on Lake Champlain, and settled at Green Bay about 1824. He was judge of the northwest judicial district while Wisconsin yet formed a part of Michigan Territory. He was a man of prominence in his day, and possessed many kind and gentlemanly qualities. He died suddenly at his residence, in Manitowoc, April 19th, 1855, at the age of sixty-three years. His sudden death was probably caused by apoplexy, as he was of plethoric habit, and weighed over 300 pounds.



had come passenger on her from Buffalo, and the captain had promised him that he would lay in ample supplies at Detroit, but just as we had got under way from the latter port, Mr. Crooks went into the cabin and ascertained that the captain had failed to fulfill his engagement; and immediately he took the skiff, went ashore, and purchased dishes, knives, forks, spoons, and provisions, and we proceeded on our voyage. We were becalmed about ten days on the St. Clair river and flats, during which we went on shore and bought a sheep, which helped along with the rusty pork and hard bread. At that time, I had seen very little hardships, and I suffered much from such fare as hard bread and rusty pork.

We were almost a month from Detroit to Drummond's Island, where we found a trader named LaCroix, with a boat bound to Mackinaw, and with him we engaged our passage. No provisions could be had at Drummond's Island, so we were obliged to depend on the *voyageurs'* kettle of corn soup, a new kind of fare to me, and, I believe, I ate but a few mouthfuls from Drummond's Island to Mackinaw. We were two days reaching Mackinaw, where we arrived on the morning of the 15th of August. Once there and recruited, we had a new source of anxiety, in daily expecting the arrival of the paymaster, until the close of navigation; and then I had to content myself, as well as I could, until the ensuing spring of 1816. At the request of some of the inhabitants, I concluded to open a school, as it would keep me from idleness; if my scholars did not learn much English, I concluded I should stand a chance of acquiring some French; thus acting out the Yankee character of adapting one's self to circumstances. And thus I spent the winter.

During the winter of 1815-16, Congress passed an act excluding foreigners from participating in the Indian trade within the limits of the United States or its territories. This was then supposed to have been done through the influence of Mr. Astor; and, upon the pur-

chase of the property of the Southwest Company, the American Fur Company re-appeared under the auspices of Mr. Astor, the headquarters of which were in Mackinaw.

Although Congress had passed a law excluding foreigners from the Indian country, it was found that the trade could not be carried on without their aid, as most of the clerks, interpreters and boatmen were foreigners; and, in the summer of 1816, the secretary of the treasury of the United States, issued orders to the Indian agents on this frontier to license foreigners as interpreters and boatmen, on their giving bond with large penalties for their good conduct in the Indian country. Thus the British traders, who wanted to get into the Indian country, had only to employ an American, to whom the goods were invoiced; and the license taken in his name, and the trader went as interpreter until they were beyond the Indian agencies, when the trader assumed the control of his property, and carried on his business as usual.

During the summer of 1816, it was projected to establish a United States fort at Green Bay; and, in July of that year, Col. John Miller, then colonel of the 3d regiment, United States Infantry, was ordered on that service, and soon chartering three vessels, embarked three or four companies of rifle-men and infantry, with some artillery. Among the vessels was the *Washington*, the largest of the fleet, commanded by Capt. Dobbins, on board of which vessel was the commandant. I had that year engaged myself as a clerk to some traders, to take charge of an outfit or trading establishment near the head of the St. Peters river, and the colonel apprehending difficulty from the Indians in landing at Green Bay, proposed to take the goods of several boats in the vessel, and tow the boats, and use them if necessary, in landing, and then return them to their owners.

Accordingly, Augustin Grignon, myself and a French clerk by the name of Chappin embarked on board the *Washington*, Mr. Grignon

and Chappin acting in some measure as pilots. During the night of the second or third day out from Mackinaw, the two other vessels became separated from the *Washington*, and arriving in the vicinity of what is now called Washington island and harbor, and learning from Mr. Grignon that there was a good harbor, Col. Miller ordered the *Washington* to put in there to wait for her consorts. We remained there nearly two days, during which time the officers and passengers rambled over the island, and finally, in honor of our vessel, supposed to be the first one that had entered the harbor, we gave its name to Washington island and harbor, which they have ever since retained. Finding the other vessels had got into Green bay ahead of us, and had found a harbor at Vermillion island and were waiting for us, we proceeded up the bay, and arrived at Green Bay settlement about two days after, when the troops landed without the anticipated opposition from the Indians. This was in the month of July, 1816.

Green Bay was a kind of traders' depot for the trade of that bay, the Fox and upper part of Wisconsin rivers, which were considered dependents of it. There then resided at Green Bay, as a trader, John Lawe, and four or five at the Grignon's. Augustin Grignon resided and traded at the Little Kaukalin. Those traders who pretended to make Green Bay their home, resided generally but a small portion of the year there, as most of them wintered in the Indian country, and generally spent two or three months of the summer at Mackinaw. The traders of Green Bay mostly married, after the Indian manner, women of the Menomonee tribe, there being no white women in the country. I saw at this time but one woman in the settlement that pretended to be white, and she had accidentally been brought there at an early day, but her history, however, I do not now recollect. There were at Green Bay some forty or fifty Canadians of French extraction who pretended to cultivate the soil; but they were generally

old, worn out *voyageurs* or boatmen, who, having become unfit for the hardships of the Indian trade, had taken wives generally of the Menomonee tribe, and settled down on a piece of land. As the land did not cost anything, all they had to do was, to take up a piece not claimed by any other person, and fence and cultivate it. But they had generally been so long in the Indian trade that they had, to a great extent, lost the little knowledge they had acquired of farming in Canada; so that they were poor cultivators of the soil, although they raised considerable wheat, barley, peas, etc. Green Bay was at that time a part of the territory of Indiana, of which the seat of government was at Vincennes, which was also the county town of the county to which Green Bay was attached—between 400 and 500 miles distant by the tedious and circuitous route of that day.

There was an old Frenchman at Green Bay of the name of Charles Reaume, who could read and write a little, who acted as justice of the peace. He had been commissioned under George III., when Great Britain held jurisdiction over the country and after it was given up to the American government and attached to Indiana, he had been commissioned by Gov. Harrison,\* and being thus doubly armed with commissions, he acted under either as he found most convenient. The laws under which he acted were those of Paris† and the customs of the Indian traders of Green Bay. He was very arbitrary in his decisions.

The county seat was so distant and difficult of access, that if a person felt himself aggrieved he preferred suffering injustice to going to the expense of an appeal; so that, practically, Reaume's court was the supreme court of the country. He took care not to decide against any of the traders who were able to bear the

\* Reaume received his commission as justice from Gov. Harrison, of Indiana territory, which was probably not long after the organization of that territory in 1801, from which, till 1813, Gen. Harrison continued uninterruptedly its governor.

† The code *Coutume de Paris*, the law of France, which governed Canada, and all the territory of the northwest while under the French dominion.

expense of an appeal; in fact the traders made use of him to hold their men in subjection, but never submitted to him any difficulty between themselves. These were left to the arbitration of other traders. It was said of him, that a bottle of spirits was the best witness that could be introduced into his court, and that after the decision of a case, the losing party producing the above witness, has been granted a new trial or re-hearing, and a reversal of the former decision obtained. For misdemeanor, he sentenced the culprit to labor a certain number of days on his farm or cut and split a certain number of rails for him.

During my stay at Green Bay, waiting the arrival of my employers, one of their *engages* or boatmen had left their employ and engaged himself to an American concerned in sutling for the troops, and I went to Judge Reaume, stating the case to him, asked him what the law was on that subject, and what could be done. He answered me in his broken English: "*I'll—make—de—man—go—back—to—his—duty.*" "But," I again asked, "what is the law on the subject?" He answered: "*de—law—is—I'll—make—de—man—go—back—to—his—duty.*" I reiterated my inquiry: "Judge Reaume, is there no law on the subject?" He replied with a feeling of conscious dignity: "*We—are—accustomed—to—make—de—men—go—back—to—their—bourgeois.*"

On the 16th of September, 1816, I arrived at Prairie du Chien, a traders' village of between twenty-five and thirty houses, situated on the banks of the Mississippi, on what, in high water, is an island. The houses were built by planting posts upright in the ground, with grooves in them, so that the sides could be filled in with split timber or round poles and then plastered over with clay and whitewashed with a white earth found in the vicinity, and then covered with bark, or clapboards riven from oak. Tradition says the place took its name from an Indian chief of the Fox tribe by the name of Chien or Dog, who had a village

somewhere on the prairie near where Fort Crawford now stands. Chien, or Dog, is a favorite name among the Indians of the north-west.

There were then [when Mr. Lockwood arrived there] of the old traders residing at Prairie du Chien, Joseph Rolette, Michael Brisbois, Francis Bouthillier and Jean Baptiste Faribault, all Canadians of French extraction, except Bouthillier, who was from France, and Nicholas Boilvin, who was Indian agent and held the commission of justice of the peace, under the government of Illinois territory, whence he came.

Michael Brisbois informed me that he had resided in Prairie du Chien about thirty years;\* and there was an old Scotchman by the name of James Aird,† connected with the company by which I was first employed in the Indian trade, who generally wintered among the Sioux Indians, and had been a trader about forty years. There was also another man by the name of Duncan Graham, who had been engaged in the Indian trade about the same length of time, and was captain in the British Indian department during the war, from whom I obtained considerable information of the Indian country, and of the earlier days of Prairie du Chien.

Prairie du Chien was, at this time, an important post for Indian trade, and was considered by the Indians as neutral ground, where different tribes, although at war, might visit in safety; but if hostile, they had to beware of being caught in the neighborhood, going or returning. Yet I never heard of any hostile movement on the prairie, after they had safely arrived.

\*Mr. Brisbois, in 1820, gave evidence before Isaac Lee, the government agent, that he had been thirty-nine years in the country, and was then sixty years of age; and this would give the year 1781 as the year of his coming to Prairie du Chien.

†Mr. Aird was from Mackinaw, and was a worthy man and enterprising trader. His field of operations was mainly with the Sioux, in what is now Iowa and Minnesota. On the return of Lewis and Clark's expedition in 1806, they met Mr. Aird with two trading boats above the Big Sioux river, on the Missouri; and in their journal they speak of him as "a very friendly and liberal gentleman." In 1812, he had a trading post at Mendota.

The factories which John W. Johnson had charge of, were established by an act of Congress previous to the War of 1812, for the humane purpose of preventing the British traders from extortions on the Indians, and of counteracting British influence over them, which they exercised through the traders. But unfortunately they had the contrary effect, and through the bad management of the traders, the government of the United States was made to appear contemptible in the eyes of the Indians. The idea was then prevalent in the United States, that the most sleazy and cheap goods were what the Indians wanted, whereas the blankets furnished by the British traders, although of coarse wool, were thick and substantial, and so were the cloths and calicoes, while those furnished by the Americans were greatly inferior. It was many years before Mr. Astor, with all his wealth and sagacity, could obtain in England suitable blankets and cloths for the Indian trade, and also the proper guns. There was, at that time, an Indian gun manufactured in England, called the Northwest gun, of simple, plain and strong construction, and it was understood that the manufacture of blankets, cloths and guns was so much under the influence of the Northwest Fur Company, that an American could not procure the genuine article, and hence the goods furnished by the factors were all of an inferior article, except tobacco; and the British traders took especial pains when they happened to have a poor article, to call it American. They had been furnished for many years with their tobacco from Albany, an inferior article, made into carrots of from two to three pounds; and when the American tobacco in plugs, and of a tolerable good quality, was introduced among them, they admitted that it was the best.

When I first came to the country, it was the practice of the old traders and interpreters to call any inferior article of goods American, and to speak to the Indians in a contemptuous manner of the Americans and their goods, and the

goods which they brought into the country but too generally warranted this reproach. But after Mr. Astor had purchased out the Southwest Company and established the American Fur Company, he succeeded in getting suitable kinds of goods for the Indians, except at first the Northwest Indian gun. He attempted to introduce an imitation of them, manufactured in Holland, but it did not succeed, as the Indians soon detected the difference.

At that time there were generally collected at Prairie du Chien, by the traders and United States factors, about 300 packs of 100 pounds each of furs and peltries, mostly fine furs. Of the different Indian tribes that visited and traded more or less at Prairie du Chien, there were the Menomonees from Green Bay, who frequently wintered on the Mississippi; the Chippewas, who resided on the head waters of the Chippewa and Black rivers; the Foxes, who had a large village where Cassville now stands, called Penah; the Sauks, who resided about Galena and Dubuque; the Winnebagoes, who resided on the Wisconsin river; the Iowas, who then had a village on the upper Iowa river; Wabashaw's band of Sioux, who resided on a beautiful prairie on the Iowa side of the Mississippi, about 120 miles above Prairie du Chien, with occasionally a Kickapoo or Pottawattomie.

The Sauks and Foxes brought from Galena a considerable quantity of lead, moulded in the earth, in bars about two feet long, and from six to eight inches wide, and from two to four inches thick, being something of an oval form, and thickest in the middle, and generally thinning to the edge, and weighing from thirty to forty pounds. It was not an uncommon thing to see a Fox Indian arrive at Prairie du Chien with a hand sled, loaded with twenty or thirty wild turkeys for sale, as they were very plentiful about Cassville, and occasionally there were some killed opposite Prairie du Chien.

I must not omit to mention an early American settler—Ezekiel Tainter. In 1833 the quartermaster of Fort Crawford advertised in Ga-

lena for proposals for a contract to furnish the fort with a year's wood. Mr. Tainter and a man by the name of Reed got the contract, and came to Prairie du Chien and supplied the first contract together, at the end of which Mr. Reed left the country. Mr. Tainter remained and continued for several years to take the wood contract, together with that for supplying the fort with beef; and at this business, which he well understood, in connection with the cultivation of a farm on the bluff where he cut his wood, he made money quite fast, as he was industrious and saving. He sent for his family, whom he had left in the State of New York, and paid off some old scores that he had previously been unable to do, and had some money left, for which he had no immediate use. Notwithstanding he knew nothing about merchandizing, he concluded, as he expressed it, "that the merchants were coining money, and that he would have a hand in it;" and borrowing some means in addition to his own, went to St. Louis and purchased a small stock of goods, which, as might be expected, were not very judiciously selected for the market.

During this time Mr. Tainter's brother, Gorham, arrived by his assistance, whom he took into partnership; but knowing as little about mercantile affairs as his brother, the business was not very well conducted. Both had large families to support, and it appears that they kept no account of expenses, or of what each took from the store. If one wanted an article, the other took something else to balance it. They continued business for about two years, when they took an account of stock, and found a deficiency of about \$3,000, for which they could not account; and as goods to this amount had been taken from the store without keeping any account of them, it did not at first occur to their minds that their families had consumed them. This satisfied Mr. Tainter that money was not so easily gained by merchandizing as he had supposed, and he returned to farming,

and is now a resident and worthy citizen of the county.

Until the year 1824, it was believed that a steamboat could not come up to Prairie du Chien over the Des Moines and Rock river rapids. But, in the spring of that year, David G. Bates, who had for several years been engaged in running keel boats on the upper Mississippi, the water then being in a good stage in the river, brought to Prairie du Chien a very small boat called the *Putnam*. She was one of the smallest class of boats that run on the Ohio in a low stage of water. Capt. Bates proceeded to Fort Snelling with his boat. In June following, boats of a much larger class came over the rapids and went to Fort Snelling with supplies for the troops. Since then, the river from St. Louis to Fort Snelling has been navigated by steamboats, increasing every year in size and convenience.

During the summer of 1826, I built the first framed house that was erected in Prairie du Chien.\* I sent men to the Black river and got the timber for the frame and the shingles, and had the plank and boards sawed by hand, and brought down to Prairie du Chien. But then I had no carpenter or joiner, there being none here. I went on board of a keel boat that had landed, and inquired if there was a carpenter and joiner on board, on which a ragged, dirty-looking man said that he professed to be one; and, having seen quite as unprepossessing fellows turn out much better than appearances indicated, I agreed with him at \$1.50 a day and board.

I built on the site near Fort Crawford, now occupied by what is called the commanding officer's house. My house was of the following description: A cellar-kitchen, 30x26 feet, with frame on it of the same size, two stories high, with a wing 16x20 feet, on the south side, one-story, which I used for a retail store. There was a hall through the south end of the two-

\* This is an error, as there was a framed house in the place when visited by Thomas G. Anderson, as we have already seen, in the year 1800.—[Ed.]

story part, the whole length of the house, with stairs from the cellar kitchen up into the hall, and stairs from the hall to the upper story. The north end of the house was divided, the front part, about 14x16 feet, into a parlor, or sitting room; a chimney in the center of the north end, and a bedroom in the back part, about fourteen feet square; a door leading from the hall to the bedroom and one to the sitting room, and a door by the side of the chimney from the bedroom to the sitting room, and a door from the hall into the wing or store.

This house I afterward sold to the government, with the land on which the fort now stands. It was good enough for Gen. Taylor and family when he commanded here; but as soon as Gen. Brooke was in command, he got an appropriation from Congress to repair the house and had it all torn down except a part of the cellar wall, and built the one which is there at present [1855] at a cost of about \$7,000.

BY WILLIAM J. SNELLING.

The Chippewa and Dakota (Sioux) tribes have waged war against each other so long that the origin of their hostility is beyond the knowledge of man. Gen. Pike persuaded them to make peace in 1805, but it lasted only till his back was turned. The agents for the Government have brought about several treaties between the tribes, in which forgiveness and friendship, for the future, were solemnly promised. Indian hereditary hate is stronger than Indian faith, and these bargains were always violated as soon as opportunity occurred. Nevertheless, our executive gave orders in 1825 that a general congress of all the belligerent tribes on the frontier should be held at Prairie du Chien. They flocked to the treaty ground from all quarters, to see the sovereignty or majesty, we know not which is the better word, of the United States, ably represented by Govs. Cass and Clark, who acted as commissioners.

The policy of the United States on this occasion was founded on an error. It supposed that the quarrels of the Indians were occasioned by

a dispute concerning boundaries of their respective territories. Never was a treaty followed by more unhappy results, at least as far as it concerned the Dakotas. They concurred in the arrangement of their boundaries proposed by the commissioners, as they do in every measure proposed by an American officer, thinking that compulsion would otherwise be used. But they are not satisfied, nor have they reason to be, for their ancient limits were grievously abridged. All the Indians present had, or imagined they had, another cause of complaint. They had been supplied with food, while the congress lasted, by the United States, as was the reasonable practice, for they cannot hunt and make treaties at one and the same time. Dysentery supervened on the change of diet; some died on the ground, and a great many perished on the way from Prairie du Chien to their hunting grounds. Always suspicious of the whites, they supposed that their food had been poisoned; the arguments of their traders could not convince them to the contrary, and hundreds will die in that belief.

Moreover, they did not receive such presents as the British agents had been wont to bestow on them, and they complained that such stinginess was beneath the dignity of a great people, and that it also showed a manifest disregard of their necessities.

They were especially indignant at being stinted in whisky. It behooved the commissioners, indeed, to avoid the appearance of effecting any measures by bribery, but the barbarians did not view the matter in that light. To show them that the liquor was not withheld on account of its value, two barrels were brought upon the ground. Each dusky countenance was instantly illuminated with joy at the agreeable prospect, but they were to learn that there is sometimes a "slip between the cup and the lip." Each lower jaw dropped at least six inches when one of the commissioners staved in the heads of the casks with an ax, and suffered all the coveted liquor to run to waste. "It was

a great pity," said old Wakh-pa-koo-tay, speaking of the occurrence, "there was enough wasted to have kept me drunk all the days of my life." Wakh-pa-koo-tay's only feelings were those of grief and astonishment, but most of his fellows thought that this making a promise to the eye in order to break it to the sense, was a grievous insult, and so they continue to regard it to this day.

Everyone knows that, in the western country, French people make maple sugar in the spring. In March, 1827, one Methode chose to set up his sugar camp at the mouth of Yellow river, two [twelve] miles from Prairie du Chien. His wife, one of the most beautiful women we ever saw, accompanied him with her five children. Besides these, the wolves and the trees were his only companions. A week elapsed, and he had not been seen at the Prairie. One of his friends, thinking that he might have been taken ill, and was unable to come for his supplies, resolved to visit his camp.

On reaching the mouth of Yellow river, the man shouted aloud, that Methode or his dog might answer, and thereby indicate in what exact spot in the woods his cabin stood. No answer was returned. After searching upwards of an hour, and calling till he was hoarse, he fell upon a little path which soon brought him to the ruins of a hut that appeared to have been recently burned. All was still as it might have been at the birth of time. Concluding that Methode had burned his camp, and gone higher up the river, the honest Canadian turned homeward. He had not gone ten steps when he saw something that made him quicken his pace. It was the body of Methode's dog. The animal had been shot with half a score of balls, and yet held in his dead jaws a mouthful of scarlet cloth, which, apparently, he had torn from the calf of Indian's leg. The man ran at full speed to the bank of the river, threw himself into his canoe, and paddled with all his might till he was out of gun-shot from the shore.

Having made known what he had seen a party was soon assembled, all good men and true, and well armed. They soon gained the spot, and began to explore the ruins of the hut. The bodies of the whole family were there, and it was evident that accidental fire had not occasioned their death. They were shockingly mangled—Madame Methode in particular. Her husband's hand grasped a bloody knife, from which it was inferred that he had not fallen unavenged. Yet the stains might have come from his own person.

When the coroner's inquest sat, it appeared that a party of Winnebagoes had been out, notwithstanding the treaty, against the the Chipewas, and had returned unsuccessful. Fifteen of them had been seen near the Yellow river two days after Methode's departure from the prairie. It was ascertained that two Winnebagoes had been buried that night. The white party returned to the village; and the next day, an Indian boy of fourteen admitted that he had seen Methode's camp while hunting, and had communicated his discovery to his companions. To make assurance doubly sure, Wa-man-does-ga-ra-ha, an Indian of very bad reputation, made his appearance in the village in a pair of red leggins, one of which had been torn behind. He came to tell the agent, Mr. Boilvin how much he loved the Americans, and that he strongly suspected the Saes of the murder that had been committed. He demanded a blanket and a bottle of whisky as a reward for his zealous friendship. Mr. Boilvin caused the friendly Indian to be arrested, and examined him closely. Then the murderer called up his Indian spirit, confessed his guilt, and implicated several others.

A party of militia forthwith started for the nearest Winnebago camp. We are able to state—and we love to be correct in important particulars, that the captain wore neither plume nor sash, nor anything else that might have made him conspicuous; that the men did not march in the style most approved on Boston common; that they beat no drum before them, and that none

of them had ever seen a sham fight. No, each marched "on his own hook," each carried a good rifle or Northwest gun, and each kept his person as much out of sight as possible. The consequence was, that the Indian camp was surprised and completely surrounded, and the savages saw that their best and, indeed, only course, was to surrender quietly. However, the whites found only one of those they sought in camp, and took him away with them. The celebrated chief De-kau-ray followed them.

"Father," said he to Mr. Bolivin, "you know that there are foolish young men among every people. Those who have done this thing were foolish young men, over whom I and the other wise men had no control. Besides, when they went to Yellow river, they had just drank the last of a keg you gave them yourself. It was the whisky, and not they, that killed Methode, and abused his wife. Father, I think you should excuse their folly this time, and they will never do the like again. Father, their families are very poor, and if you will give them clothing and something to eat, you may be sure that they will never kill another white man."

"I shall give them nothing," said the agent, "and will be sure that they will never kill another man; they will assuredly be hanged."

"Your heart is very hard, father," replied De-kau-ray. "Your heart is very hard, but I cannot think that it will be as you say. You know that if you take our young men's lives we cannot prevent others from avenging them. Our warriors have always taken two lives for one. Our Great Father, the President, is not so hard hearted as you are. Our young men have killed a great many of your people, and he has always forgiven them."

At that time Prairie du Chien had no great reason to boast of her administration of justice. A soldier, indeed, had been scourged at the public whipping post; a man of ninety had been fined for lewdness; an Indian had been kicked out of a wheat field, on which he was samp-

ling, and the magistracy prided themselves not a little on these energetic acts of duty. A jail there was, but it was of wood, and stood so far from the village, that a prisoner might carve the logs at noonday without much danger of detection. Scandal says, that the jailor of it used to bolt the door with a boiled carrot. In this stronghold the criminals were put at night—the place did not own a set of fetters—and in the morning they were missing. Had they been left to their own devices, there is little doubt that they would have remained to brave their fate, but it is thought that some white man informed them what their exact legal responsibilities were, and advised them to escape.

Col. Willoughby Morgan commanded the military at Prairie du Chien. He immediately caused two Winnebago chiefs to be seized, and informed the tribe that they would not be liberated till the murderers were delivered up. They were soon brought in, and as the civil authority had proved unable to keep them, they were committed to the garrison guard-house. Shortly after the garrison was broken up by order of the secretary of war, and the troops were removed to St. Peters, 209 miles farther up. There was no appearance of the district judge to try the prisoners, and they were therefore transported to St. Peters, there to await his coming.

BY JOHN H. FONDA.

I was born in Albany Co., N. Y., and of a good family. My father kept me at school, until I had obtained what was then called a good English education, and it being my parents desire that I should follow a profession, he placed me in the office of a prominent lawyer, in my native town, where I studied law, with the assistance of the lawyer and his large law library. But, after remaining in the lawyer's office about two years, I caught the emigration fever, a disease that prevailed pretty generally at that time, and a company being about to start for Texas, I took advantage of the circum-



stance to satisfy my desire for travel, and east my lot with them. Bidding my folks a long farewell—(long, for I've never seen them since) we departed to seek adventure in the far west. And we got our share, I tell you! This was more than forty years ago, and the country west of the Alleghany mountains was new. Few and far between were the white settlements, while the country was filled with tribes of Indians, who hunted the deer, bear, elk and other game that afforded food or fur.

Our course lead through the State to Buffalo, where we took a boat to Cleveland, thence south through the State of Ohio, to Cincinnati, where we embarked on flat-boats and floated down the Ohio river into the Mississippi, which we went down as far as Natchez. At Natchez we stopped to sell the flat-boats. The inhabitants were French, Spaniards and Creoles. The boats were sold to an old half-breed trader, named Le Blanc, for some horses, a covered wagon and a team of mules. Before leaving Natchez, one of our party was seized with yellow fever and died. After burying our comrade, and completing our outfit, we were ferried over to the west side of the Mississippi into Louisiana, by the old trader, who charged an exorbitant price for his service—so much so, that I remember the company went on without paying him.

From Natchez we traveled directly west until we struck the Red river; this we followed up stream as high as where the Fort Towson barracks are, and camped on a branch, on a creek, called Le Bontte Run. Here the emigrants halted for a while to recruit, and hold a consultation for future proceedings, which resulted in a determination to settle on the prairie land near what they called the Cross Timbers, a tract of country watered by numerous streams, well timbered, and with soil of the richest qualities. But the novelty the journey promised at the start had been sobered down to a stern reality during the last six months, and instead of accompanying the party into the then Mexican territory, I remained with a Scotchman, who

had taken a Choctow squaw for a wife, and kept a trading post on the head waters of the Sabine river. With this Scotchman, I stayed during the winter of 1819, and in the spring of 1820 went down to New Orleans, with five voyageurs, to get a keel-boat load of goods for the Scotch trader, who had entrusted me with the business, for he took a liking to me, and knew of no other person in whom he could put as much confidence. The Red river was a narrow, crooked, turbid stream, steep banks on either side, and filled with snags; but the winter rains had swollen it, so we floated down without an accident.

On reaching New Orleans, I had no little trouble with the boatmen, whom I did not know how to manage at that time, though experience afterwards taught me the *modus operandi*.

It was eight or ten weeks before I had collected all the Indian goods; but what hindered most was the indolence of the French *voyageurs*, who would go to some of the low dance houses in the town, and spree all night, which made them useless all the next day; so in one or two instances I was obliged to hire Creoles to assist in loading goods that had been brought to the river.

One evening after the boat's load was complete, and the men pretty well over the previous night's frolic, I gave orders to move up stream. But, as for starting to go back, the men wouldn't listen to anything of the kind, as there was to be a grand fandango in town that night, and they had all anticipated going there. They went and I remained on board all night to watch the boat and goods.

Next morning the men came staggering in, and threw themselves down on the rolls of calico and blankets, where they slept until afternoon. About 2 o'clock they had all got up and were preparing some food, when I gave them to understand that we must start at sundown. They gave no answer, and having ate, they went to sleep again.

As the sun was going out of sight, I roused the men, directing them to get out the tow-line, poles, and run up stream. They paid no attention to what I said, but gathered around one of their number, a big half-breed, who insolently told me that it would be impossible for us to ascend Red river, because of high water and the strong current at this season of the year. I knew the fellow was lying, for I had seen the river the last summer, and knew that if we had any trouble it would be from low water. And I was obliged to give the man a severe whaling, tying his hands and feet, and threatening the others with a similar dose, before they would go to their duty. The men worked steadily that night, part of the time towing and poling, and sometimes taking advantage of the eddies in the lee of projecting points. The big half-breed begged to be released the next morning, and made no more trouble during the trip. The boat soon entered Red river, where we found sufficient water to float us, but had to make a number of portages before reaching what is called La Grange, a small French settlement [the French claimed all west of the Mississippi in those days], but the men did not offer to leave at this point, for they paid strict obedience to me since I punished their leader, and were growing more respectful each day as we approached the end of our journey.

We started in June, and had been gone three months, and it being September, I was anxious to get back, for the goods were much needed at the trading post.

On the 23d of September (I kept a journal) we were met about twenty miles below the trader's block-house, by one of his half-breed sons, who had come to take command of the keel-boat and crew, so I might go ahead and give in my report of the trip, before the boatmen had a chance to make any of their usual complaints. This custom was undoubtedly a good one, though I did not take advantage of it to the detriment of the men, but gave a favorable report of everything. When the boat ar-

rived, Monsieur Jones, as the old Scotchman was called, met them as they landed, praised the men for their faithfulness, and paid them what little might be due them, giving to each a trifling present. Now, I had observed while acting as clerk the previous winter, that a few beads, paints or cheap calicoes, would purchase many valuable furs; and after going down with the bales of skins, I had learned, after receiving the cargo of goods, that a considerable sum was placed to my employer's credit, which made the fur trade appear very profitable in my eyes. So I readily agreed to receive what wages were due me in goods, hoping to make a large profit on them. The old Scotchman did not seem over pleased with the goods I had selected by his direction; however, he paid me with some of them. And thus ended my connection with the first and last expedition that I ever accompanied on Red river, or the lower Mississippi, and also the detailed account of it, which is as correct as memory will allow me to relate.

I clerked for the trader during the fall and winter of 1820, but had very few opportunities to sell my goods, for good reasons; first, the goods I had were not suitable; and if they had been, I could not have traded them, for the old Scotchman, who had been an *engage* in the Hudson Bay Fur Company, was exceedingly grasping, and would not let me buy fur on private account, any where near the trading post. This prompted me to make several excursions among the Shawnee and Osage Indians, from whom I got a few packs of valuable fur. But, though there was an excitement about a trader's life that had a charm for me, yet often, when camped by a sheltered spring, ambition would whisper, "you have another mission to fulfill."

Soon after the grass was well up, in the spring of 1823, I put my trappings on board of an old pack-mule, and straddling a mustang colt, started for Santa Fe along with two fellows who had come up from New Orleans. My companions were agreeable enough, but seemed to have no other motive than to see the country

and to enjoy some of the pleasures of hunter life they had "hered tell on."

We traveled to the source of the Red river through the Comanche country, north to the forks of the Canadian river, where we took the old Santa Fe trail, which led us over and through the southern spur of the Rocky mountains, to Santa Fe, where we arrived without any of those thrilling adventures, or Indian fights, that form the burden of many travelers' stories. We had expected to meet Indians, and were prepared for them, but aside from a party of Kioways, with whom I tried to trade, we did not see any.

At Santa Fe I lost sight of my traveling companions among the traders, and soon left the trading post for Taos, where I passed the winter. The houses were all one story high, and built of clay on large gray brick. The people are Spaniards, Mexicans, Indians, a mixed breed and a sprinkling of trappers.

Taos was a lively wintering place, and many were the fandangoes, frolics and fights which came off during the season I stayed there. But, though at an age when a young man is most impulsive, I seldom had a desire to join in the dance, and never had but two personal affrays, which, owing to my superior strength, terminated in my favor.

In May, 1824, I had become perfectly disgusted with Taos and inhabitants, for the latter were a lazy, dirty, ignorant set, and as a whole, possessed less honor than the beggarly Winnebagoes about Prairie du Chien at the present time. Informing the Spaniard of my intention to leave, I went down to Santa Fe. Here I found a company of traders preparing to cross the plains, and soon made the acquaintance of a St. Louis merchant, who engaged me to oversee the loading and unloading of his three wagons, whenever it was necessary to cross a stream, which frequently happened.

The whole caravan of wagons, cattle, oxen, horses, mules left Santa Fe in good condition; but the number that reached the Missouri

river was not so large—the oxen and cattle died from thirst, the horses and mules became exhausted and were left—and disease did the business for the men in some cases. It was a hard journey, and one that I never cared to repeat; yet, it has always appeared to me, that the barren country, east of the Canadian river, would at some day prove valuable. It is rich in minerals. The ground in some places was covered with pieces of a crusted substance that tasted like saleratus. There were several springs of a volcanic nature.

From the merchant, whose name was Campbell, I learned much of Mexico, its climate, products, people and geography. He had been down the Del Norte and into the interior as far Sonora, where he married the daughter of a Mexican. I took great pleasure in hearing this man talk, and probably I gained more knowledge of Mexico from his conversation, than in any other way.

It was October before we got to St. Louis, which place I saw for the first time, and Campbell having no further need of my services, paid me in hard Mexican dollars, and I left him.

Having now been absent from home about six years, and possessing the means to carry me back, I was tempted to return. But chance threw me into the society of a person named Knox, a mason by trade, who persuaded me to follow the same business. Being naturally of a mechanical turn, I was soon able to earn fair wages. I worked steadily at the mason work and at bricklaying for fifteen months, at the end of which period I was dubbed a mason, and could do a passable job of plastering—the last accomplishment stood me in pretty well when Fort Crawford was built.

It was in the year 1825 that I had heard of Prairie du Chien, and made up my mind to see the country in that direction. But before proceeding to give you an account of the early history of Wisconsin as far back as the year 1825, let me first tell you what hardy exercise and western life have done for my constitution.

I should have told you, that when a boy, I was uncommonly large for my years; and it was my delight to swim, ride, run, wrestle, fish and hunt, in all which robust and athletic sports, I greatly excelled, and it is possible, that this love of sport, interfered not a little with the course of my studies, for my father sometimes had to reprimand me, and limited my hunting excursions to one day in a week, and that was generally Saturday. So, in consideration of the short allowance that restriction gave me, I frequently extended my hunts to two days, thus including the first day of the week, and appropriating it to my purpose. I can recollect on one occasion, when about sixteen years of age, I was along with two or three young companions, hunting ducks and other water fowl, on a small branch of the Mohawk river. It was in the spring of the year, and one of the early freshets caused by the melting of the snows on the Catskill mountains, had swollen the creek and overflowed large tracts of low land, thus forming an admirable feeding ground for mallard, widgeon and numerous other wild fowl, that instinct taught to leave the sea coast for these inland marshes, where the food they liked was most plentiful. The ducks flew best in the morning and latter part of the afternoon, and were almost as abundant as they are here on the Mississippi.

What I am now going to relate, happened on our second day out, which perchance was one of those first days of the week. We had hunted with good success the day before, and were determined to have one day more. But the wind had changed, and the weather was raw, and though we waited patiently all the forenoon, the ducks did not come in much, so very few were killed. It was very cold and chilly, but having forgot the tinder-box, (there were no phosphorus matches then) we did not light a fire as we would like to have done. Late in the afternoon, as we were lying in a clump of willows, on a sort of peninsula between the stream and a pond made by the rise, the ducks

began to fly over us in clouds and settle down on the pond. This was what we had been waiting for; but while waiting, we had got so benumbed by the cold wind, that it was with difficulty we could load our guns, and after discharging them with indifferent success, I was determined to have a fire, before another duck was shot at. So, directing my companions to collect what dry leaves, twigs and wood they could, I proceeded to ignite it in this manner: Having arranged the leaves and twigs properly I took a piece of gun-wadding, and filling it with powder, laid it among the leaves, upon which a handful of powder was also thrown. After this, I opened the pan of my fowling-piece, percussion caps being unheard of at that time, and putting in a good priming, pulled back the hammer, and placing the gun near the leaves, pulled the trigger. The "flash-in-the-pan," was instantaneously followed by another flash that made me start backward, with haste. My hair and eye-brows were badly burnt, and my right hand was severely scorched.

The fire burned briskly in the willows but I, had enough fire in my hand without wishing for more. As we rode home that evening, few words were spoken, and when the wagon stopped in front of our house, I alighted and went directly to my room. So severe were my burns, that they kept me confined to the house for six long weeks; during this time I was under the care of my mother, God bless her! she is dead now. That kind mother tried to impress upon my mind the duty I owed to my Heavenly Father, she advised me to regard the commandment, "remember the Sabbath," etc., and those early injunctions have never been forgotten though often disregarded. But it was not until the following fall, that I shouldered my gun and commenced to hunt again. Then came back my old roving habit, with it the fondness for manly sports, hunting included.

This early training, together with the almost constant exercise I had experienced, during my wandering mode of life, had toughened my

muscles and so completely developed me physically, that I was no mean match for two ordinary men; besides the desire to behold new scenes, had grown stronger than ever.

It was no other than a natural consequence then, that having heard of Prairie du Chien, and the "lead diggings" southeast of it, that I should have a desire to take a trip up the Mississippi river to the mineral region, from where reports came of fortunes being made by prospecting—these stories formed alluring inducements.

Having some money, and a sound constitution, that five years of border life had made capable of enduring any degree of hardship and fatigue, I left St. Louis, and started up the river in a little Ohio steamboat—I believe steamboats commenced running above St. Louis, the same year I left, 1825,—loaded with army stores for military posts on the upper Mississippi. The boat proceeded up stream till we reached the mouth of the Illinois river, where we met a keelboat coming down on board of which was an express, bound with dispatches for the commanding officer at Jefferson barracks. They brought reports of Indian murders in the north, and the same boat bearing the dispatches had been attacked, and had many ball marks on its sides, also a wounded man on board. The steamboat took the express aboard, and was about to return with him, to St. Louis, so I bid Captain Bates good-bye, and left his boat. I learned now, that the mining region was the scene of the Indian troubles, that the inhabitants were leaving the country through fear, and the greatest misery and confusion prevailed at the "diggings." So instead of continuing up the Mississippi as intended, I joined a party of five Frenchmen, who designed going to Green Bay, and having no definite object in view at the time, I agreed to go with them. We had little knowledge of the route, but one of the Frenchmen had somewhere seen an old outline map, and assured us we could reach the lakes by going up the Illinois river. We had entered the

river and gone up a few miles from its mouth, when we were seen by some Indians who made signs for us to approach the shore.

After some hesitation we landed, and, to the disappointment of the Frenchmen, were received in a most friendly way by the Indians, who treated us with roasted ducks and venison. They furnished us a guide for a small reward, and we resumed our course without entertaining any further alarm on account of Indians. The weather was delightful, and we enjoyed ourselves as well as early travelers ever did. The river afforded splendid scenery; at times it flowed through large prairies that formed a boundless area of fertile country, covered with luxuriant grass, and on which we frequently saw deer and elk feeding. Water fowl were abundant, and we could feast on them at every meal; while the river was swarming with excellent fish, that often formed a delicious addition to our other fare. There was no difficulty in killing game along that beautiful stream. Hardly an hour of the day passed but we had opportunities to shoot deer from the canoes, for it was the latter part of June, and in the heat of the mid-day the animals would come down to the river, where in the shade of small groves that lined the banks, they found a cool retreat. One of our party, a diminutive Frenchman, had a long Canadian duck-gun, of which he never ceased boasting, yet seldom confirmed his words by making use of it. The barrel of the gun, independent of the stock, was full five feet in length. I had curiosity to see how it could shoot, and asked the owner to let me try it. He let me have the gun and I loaded it with a heavy charge of powder and seven slugs or pieces of bar lead, and then laid it beside me in readiness for the first good shot.

Many chances offered where it was easy to have killed deer, but no notice was paid to them, and we continued to paddle up the river until near noon, when, just as the canoe passed around a headland, I observed a noble stag, standing knee deep in the water, on a bar, near

the outlet of a small stream. He was about 700 feet from the canoe, with his side toward us, when I raised the long gun and fired. The deer dropped without a struggle, and, on hauling him ashore, we found that every slug had struck it. Some had entered his glossy side, one broke a shoulder, another the back-bone. The result of the shot so pleased the little Frenchman, that I really believe money would have been no inducement for him to part with his gun; though I would not have given my short rifle for a dozen such. While engaged in securing the choicest portions of the venison, our Indian guide told us that it was but a short distance to a larger body of water, on the shore of which lived the great chief of his tribe, whose name was Much-ke-tay-ke-nay. This piece of intelligence made us think we were near the large lake, Lake Michigan; but we were disappointed, for late in the afternoon we entered the foot of Lake Peoria, and were met on landing by a number of Indians, from whom we learned that it was more than 200 miles to the nearest trading post on the lake, which was Chicago. We had to remain with this tribe several days, before our guide would leave the encampment; and during which time I saw several Indians of other tribes, one of whom was Black Hawk, who, I afterward found out, was then trying to get these Indians to join the Winnebagoes against the whites in the northwest. At length the councils were concluded, and our guide signified his willingness to proceed. Under his direction we paddled along until we came to the Des Plaines river, from which we passed into a large slough or lake, that must have led us into a branch of the Chicago river, for we followed a stream that brought us opposite Fort Dearborn.

At this period, Chicago was merely an Indian agency; it contained about fourteen houses, and not more than seventy-five or 100 inhabitants at the most. An agent of the American Fur Company, named Gurdon S. Hubbard, then occupied the fort. The staple business seemed to

be carried on by Indians, and runaway soldiers, who hunted ducks and muskrats in the marshes. There was a great deal of low land, and mostly destitute of timber. The principal inhabitants were the agent, Mr. Hubbard, and a Frenchman by the name of Ouilmette,\* and John B. Beaubien. It never occurred to me then, that a large city would be built up there. But great changes have taken place during the last thirty three years. I read that the old log fort, surrounded with its palisades, was torn down two years ago, and that Chicago is now one of the largest cities in the west. Great changes have I seen in my life; I was mail carrier in the northwest before there was a white settlement between Prairie du Chien and Fort Snelling—a government express, and volunteer during the Sauk war—from mere love of adventure, have I wandered through the wilderness of the west. I have explored its lakes and rivers in canoes, boats and on rafts, from Red river in the north to Red river in the south, and to New Orleans. I have traversed its woods and prairies, making myself familiar with western scenes, the early settlers, and native Indians.

The Indians you now see about town occasionally, all know me. They seldom come down to the prairie without stopping at my house. It was only three or four weeks ago, that seven Indians came down from Crow Wing. They called on me in the night, and we had a talk together. They said there was no game in the neighborhood of their reservation; that they couldn't work, and so they had come down, and wanted to know how it would do to go and hunt in Iowa, at the head of Cedar river. I told them this universal change, that I have witnessed everywhere, had been going on there also—that the country was filled with settlers, and deer scarce. The poor fellows looked sorrowful. It was late when they left my

\*Antoine Ouilmette, whose wife was a Pottawattamic woman, is mentioned in the treaty at Prairie du Chien, in 1839, with the Chippewas, Ottawas, etc.; and at the treaty of Chicago, September, 1863, provision is made for his children. It would appear that he died during the interim between the two treaties.

house; and though I tried to dissuade them from making the attempt, they resolved to go and see their old hunting grounds on the Wisconsin. Many Indians have left their reserve; and I have no doubt that they find shelter in the islands of the Mississippi, and in the Kickapoo timber.

The poor red man has been robbed, deceived, and driven from his possession. This I have seen; indeed, I have assisted to drive them from their homes. And yet, no person under heaven sympathizes more sincerely with them. They are almost extinct; they are passing from the face of the earth! But I look upon it as a decree of fate. Perhaps there are a few persons more sensible of the beauties of nature than I am, and yet so little loth to see those pristine charms effaced, the better to subserve the advancement of art and civilization.

It is near half a century since I came west, and the changes that have been rapidly affecting everything are too numerous for me to describe. The growth of Chicago is one of those changes. When there in the year 1825, it could boast of an old log fort, and a few cabins. What is it now! You know best, for I haven't been there these last thirty years, but I know its inhabitants are numbered at over 100,000; and where I once paddled in a dug-out, is now erected large blocks of buildings.

But to go on with my story, we departed from Fort Dearborn, in a fishing boat, and proceeded north along the lake shore towards Green Bay. We camped on the beach every night, and finally arrived off Milwaukee bay, which we entered; and went up Milwaukee river about half a mile above the mouth of the Menomonee, and landed on the east side of Milwaukee river, just below Solomon Juneau's trading house. I was not acquainted with Mr. Juneau at this time, though I afterwards became related to him through marriage, and learned his history. Seven years before, he had been in the employ of the Hudson Bay Fur Company, in the capacity of *voyageur*, and had visited Prairie

du Chien, where he found his uncle, my wife's father, who insisted on his leaving the company, to whom he was indebted in the sum of \$300, and loaned him the cash to pay the debt; besides furnishing him an outfit, with which he commenced trading with the Menomonee Indians, in the vicinity of Milwaukee.

I have already told how we arrived at Mr. Juneau's trading house, where the city of Milwaukee is built; but I did not describe the city; for it was not in existence then or even thought of, neither have I seen the city since it was built. The log house of Solomon Juneau, standing on a slight elevation back from the river, and a few neighboring cabins, belonging to half breeds and Frenchmen, who had followed his example by marrying Indian women and settling down, then formed the only indications of the present city of Milwaukee. Mr. Juneau was the only merchant Milwaukee could then boast of and, were I so disposed, I could give a correct inventory of his entire stock contained in the old log house near the river, as it was not an immense one by any means, and had been brought down from Green Bay in one Mackinaw boat. He had settled there first, surrounded by Indians, with whom he traded, but soon emigration turned in his direction, and he afterwards found other neighbors, who brought with them the spirit of enterprise and advancement. The few hardy settlers who first erected their cabins near his, found him in a wilderness, the primitive state of which had never yet been disturbed by a white pioneer. South and southwest of Mr. Juneau's house, could be seen extending large marshes, covered with tall swamp grass, rushes and water. The lake was about two miles distant, over the hill to the eastward; and on the west ran the river, beyond which was a wooded ridge that followed the river a distance of three miles up to the rapids, that being as far as I explored the stream. The landscape has probably altered, yet an old settler would recognize my description of Milwaukee's birth place, then in embryo.

I left the neighborhood of Juneau's settlement in the summer of 1827. We engaged a passage on one of Juneau's Mackinaw boats that were about starting for Green Bay, to bring back goods; as help was not over plentiful, he was glad to avail himself of our services down the lake until the boats reached Green Bay, where others were to be engaged in our stead. It was a pleasant morning, when the two boats passed out of Milwaukee river and entered the broad bay. The sun was just rising, and though I was no sailor, yet I was charmed by the beauty of this inland sea. A fresh breeze commenced blowing from the southwest, and taking in all but the steering oar, we rigged the leg o-mutton sails, and were soon wafted in our swift sailing Mackinaws outside the point. The boats were loaded with blankets, furs, kettles and provisions, and yet their shape was such that they maintained a degree of buoyancy, for which they were highly prized by those who used them. I have used the Mackinaw boat on the Mississippi, and consider its shape (pointed at both ends) admirably suited for the purpose of floating a large burden against strong currents.

We would land on the beach at night, and form our encampment on the white sand, where, gathering around the camp-fire we told our tales of love, hunting and adventure, sung songs, satisfied our appetites, and smoked, or prepared food for the next day. This camping on shore was a pleasant pastime. With no tent save the star-spangled canopy of heaven, we would wrap ourselves in our blankets on a moon light evening, and lying down amid the baggage or on the clean sand, gaze out on the lake, where the white caps sparkled in the moon beams; or looking up at the wood-clad bluffs, whose dark outlines stood in bold relief against the sky, we feasted on the romantic scenery, the mysterious beauty of which inspired the most practical among us with a deep sense of poetic feeling. If I ever felt poetic, it must have been during one of these night bivouacs, when listen-

ing to the beating of the waves on the beach, mingled with the melancholy notes of some night bird.

Many exciting incidents occurred during the voyage. One I will give an account of. It was early one morning, shortly after we had left our previous night's camping place and got about half a mile from land, that we observed a number of wolves on a point and others swimming in the lake. Their howling had attracted our attention, and we were wondering what possessed them, when one of the men remarked, "Perhaps they are after deer." But where were they? This was soon found out, for some distance ahead of us on the right hand side, we discovered a large doe, that the brightness of the morning sun prevented us from seeing before. She was swimming swiftly out to sea, and had evidently seen us, for she was straining every nerve to increase the distance between herself and our boat. Now I had often killed deer in the water, after having put hounds in the mountains to drive them down, but never before had I hunted with wolves. Entering into the spirit of the thing, I examined the priming of my rifle, and took a station in the bow of the boat, as the men began to pull for the poor animal. The billows were running pretty high, but the make of the boats caused them to ride the waves without shipping a spoonful of water.

A Frenchman named Joe King was in the other boat, urging the men to exert themselves to the utmost, that he might obtain the first shot. The two boats were about forty fathoms apart, and the distance between them and the doe, at the start, was equal. As the excitement of the race increased, the howling of the disappointed wolves was lost in loud shouts from the men, who propelled the rival boats through the waves that had increased in size, under the influence of a northeast wind. Gaining at every pull on the struggling animal, we soon came within easy shooting distance. King now got ready to shoot, but I knew the unsteadiness of



the boat, together with the excitement, would cause him to miss. Confident of the result, I was perfectly willing he should have the first shot. So, just as both deer and boat rose on the crests of the waves, he brought up his gun and fired. Spang! went the gun, and whiz went the ball, ricocheting over the waters. A clean miss, by thunder! now for my turn; and as the boat glided up to the panting animal, I sent a ball through his brain, to the envy of my rival, the Frenchman, King.

King settled down near Juneau, and became a resident of Milwaukee. He afterward sold some property that he had accumulated there, and removed to Rock river, where his family were living the last I heard from them.

We drew the carcass of the deer into the boat, and as the wind had increased to a gale, we concluded to run the boats on shore, and wait until the wind lulled. By skillful management the boats were made to ride breakers, and reached the beach in safety. The place where they ran the boats ashore, was near the mouth of two rivers, that flowed into the lake through an outlet. Here was a handsome, broad beach of fine white sand, behind which bluffs rose abruptly; and there being an abundance of dry driftwood scattered about, the spot offered a pleasant encampment. Lifting the baggage out of the boat, we conveyed it higher up the beach, and deposited it on the smooth, water-worn pebbles.

The geography of this region being unknown to me, I therefore resolved to take a survey. Asking King and two others to accompany me, we ascended the barren lake bank, carrying our guns with us. Arriving at the brow after a hard pull, we enjoyed an uninterrupted view of the lake. As we looked over the vast expanse of water spread out before us, and strained our eyes along the silent shore, over which hung so much doubt and uncertainty, we felt curious to see more of the country. Continuing our exploration along the southern river, we advanced into a heavily timbered country, principally pine. No timber-stealing lumbermen had then

rafted on the stream, and we took pleasure in believing that ours was the first party of white men who explored the country. We returned from our excursion into the interior at sunset, in season to join our companions in a feast of roast venison, which made a pleasant change, after living on dried meat and parched Indian corn.

We were up early in the morning, as was our custom. The lake was dark and agitated, the surf was breaking very heavily on the shore, and unwilling to venture out while the lake was so rough, we leisurely prepared and ate our morning meal. The sun had risen by the time we had finished breakfast, and as the wind was going down, preparations were made to start; we were soon embarked and plowing our way toward Green Bay.

Following along the coast we entered a pleasant bay, near the mouth of which were broad bars on which our men caught several trout and white fish. I had never seen these species of the finny tribe before, and the pleasure experienced in devouring the delicious, salmon-like flesh, is needless to describe, for they now form a dish on tables of every class, who esteem them a delicacy.

Our camp was on the northern side of the bay, under the lee of a point. On the bars and in the clear shallow water of the bay, I remarked several large boulders; they were apparently composed of some rock, extraneous to that generally found in their vicinity. A query arose in my mind, where these isolated rocks were formed—how, and why similar in shape? I was of an enquiring mind, yet possessed little knowledge of the geological formation of rocks, except what observation had taught me. The boulders could never have been formed from earth rolling down the bank, mixing with the sand, become hardened by the water, like the round stones that covered the lake shore—they were of a different texture. It was long after I had traveled on Lake Superior that the mystery was solved. When on that lake, in the neigh-

borhood of the pictured rocks, it occurred to me, that there was a resemblance between detached portions of these rocks and those boulders; and it resolved itself in my mind, that those foreign rocks, found along the shores of Lake Michigan, had their origin here; owing to the action of water, or other natural causes, in early ages—perhaps at the flood—they had been rolled to the place where I saw them.

Next morning while the others were loading the boats, I discovered some fine specimens of sulphurated iron ore in the lake bank. Making the men acquainted with my discovery, I got aboard and we soon doubled the point, and passed out into the lake, on our course. At each night's encampment, I was in the habit of examining the bluffs, and as a general thing, found that the iron and copper ore was mineralized by sulphur. If any geological survey has been made of the western shore of the lake, you will find my observations correct, if you consult it.

Indications of the advanced season, were becoming perceptible. Frosts were on the ground each morning, and the lake winds were sharper. Wild geese, brant and ducks were winging their way towards the south. These unmistakable signs were not to be disregarded, and we made fewer stoppages and urged the boats on their destination. Coasting along the shore, we passed between the Pottawattomie island and the main land, and pulling into Green bay, took the southeast shore, and went up as far as Sturgeon bay, where we encamped. Left the camp early next morning, and by sailing and rowing we entered Fox river that night, and arrived at Green Bay.

As we came into the village, the inhabitants crowded around us, with evident curiosity. They were a mixed crowd I can tell you; they were Indians and half-breeds, *voyageurs*, Canadians, French, and to my inexpressible delight, there were also Americans—*Yankees* among them! In answer to my inquiry, one of these latter, an American soldier, said there were a number of

*Yankees* in the settlement, that the United States fort there was garrisoned with them. The commanding officer, Gen. Cass, gave us a cordial welcome, and accepting his invitation, I accompanied him to his quarters, and under his hospitable roof I had a night of rest, enjoyment and refreshing sleep, that only a person who has camped out knows how to appreciate.

I had a view of Fort Howard, and Green Bay settlement next morning, by daylight. The fort contained a large garrison of soldiers, mostly rifle companies who had just arrived with Gen. Cass and Col. McKenney.\* Besides the garrison, Green Bay had a population of between 700 and 800 people, consisting of every Nation, from native Indian to the sable son of Africa; and amalgamation was not uncommon either, for all were connected by regular gradation of shades and color; and you might suppose an inhabitant's nationality to a fraction, as half-breed, a two-thirds Fox, etc. Thus you will perceive that society was a little mixed. This frequent inter-marriage had the bad effect to make them indolent, for they evinced neither enterprise nor intelligence. They gained a livelihood like the Indians, by hunting and fishing, or were in the employ of a fur company that monopolized their time, and prevented them from engaging in agricultural pursuits. And had they time and knowledge, their disposition would lead them to prefer a pipe and idleness. So it is to the sturdy enterprise of the white settler alone, that I can attribute the growth and improvement that have made themselves manifest in Wisconsin since 1827, at which time emigration began to pour into the territory.

When at Fort Howard in the year 1827, the Indian affairs had assumed a threatening aspect. Reports of murders and disturbances, had spread through the settlements. Not a strag-

\*Gen. Cass was not the commandant of Fort Howard, as Mr. Ponds supposed; but was with Col. McKenney, on a commission to hold a treaty with the Chippewa, Monomocnee and Winnebago Indians, which they did in August, of that year, 1827; at the great Butte Des Morts.

gler arrived but brought an exaggerated account of Indian difficulties. Prairie du Chien, Juneau's settlement, Chicago, Galena and Green Bay, were then the only white settlements in the northwest, and all more or less threatened by Indians, who infested the country surrounding them. I continued to hang around the fort, leading a sort of ranger life—sometimes accompanying the officers on their hunting tours, but refusing all proposals to enlist.

It was the winter of 1827 that the United States quarter-master, having heard of me through some of the men, with whom I was a favorite, came to me one day, and asked me if I thought I could find the way to Chicago? I told him it wasn't long since I made the trip by the lake. He said he wanted to get a person who was not afraid to carry dispatches to the military post at Fort Dearborn. I said I had heard that the Indians were still unfriendly, but I was ready to make the attempt. He directed me to make all the preparations necessary, and report myself at his quarters, at the earliest moment. I now began to consider the danger to be provided against, which might be classed under three heads: Cold, Indians and hunger. For the first it was only needful to supply one's person with good hunting shirts, flannel and deer-skin leggins, extra moccasins, and a Mackinaw blanket; these, with a resolute spirit, were deemed sufficient protection against the severest weather. And fortunate was he who possessed these. Hunger, except in case of getting lost, was easily avoided by laying in a pouch of parched Indian corn and jerked venison. Against danger from Indians, I depended on the following:

It was necessary at the time of the Winnebago out-break, in 1827, for every man—and woman too—to be constantly on their guard against surprise. Much trouble was apprehended from the Indian tribes generally, who were jealous at the encroachment of the emigrants, especially in the region of the lead diggings. The emigrant, settler, hunter and trapper, never

parted with their trusty rifle, either night or day. Weapons were an essential part of man's costume—his daily, yes, his constant companions—they were in the hands of the traveler, the homes of the hardy squatter, and had there been any sanctuaries in the territory then, I believe they would have been found in the pulpits. The rifle provided food for the hunter. It also executed the arbitrary law of the land—self defense, and its decrees were final. It was during such a state of affairs, that I had passed my word to carry the mail between Fort Howard at Green Bay, and Fort Dearborn, commanded by Capt. Morgan,\* that stood on a point, now forming a part of the city of Chicago. Although the danger from the Winnebagoes had abated, owing to Black Hawk's failing to entice other tribes into the conspiracy against the whites, and the Indian war of 1827 ended; yet the recent troubles made me rub up my rifle, and prepare everything needful to insure the successful performance of the duty I was about to undertake. Carrying the mail during the depth of winter, a distance of 200 miles, through a trackless wilderness, inhabited by wild beasts and wilder red men, was attended with no small danger. It will not be inappropriate, then, to describe my accoutrements and arms, to be used in case of emergency. My dress was *a la hunter*, one common to the early period, and best suited to my purpose. A smoke-tanned buck-skin hunting shirt, trimmed leggins of the same material, a wolf-skin *chapeau*, with the animal's tail still attached, and moccasins of elk hide. I must of had the appearance of a perfect Nimrod. My arms consisted of a heavy mountaineer's rifle that I had bought in St. Louis. It was rather long when I got it—the stock was bound with iron, and carved on it was a cheek piece and buffalo bull's head, that made it an efficient weapon in the hands of a strong man, even when not loaded. I, however, thought it unhandy, and had the

\*Capt. Willoughby Morgan, who subsequently rose to the rank of Colonel, commanded at Prairie du Chien, and died there.

barrel shortened, the cheek piece cut off, and a strap attached to it, so I could sling it over my back. Suspended by a strap from my shoulder, was a large horn, containing two pounds of powder. Buckled around my waist over the hunting shirt, was a belt containing a sheath knife and two pistols, one of which got lost, the other I have now—attached to the belt also, was a pouch of mink skin, wherein I carried my rifle bullets. The foregoing comprised my arms and accoutrements of offence, if we accept a short handled axe, thrust in the waist-belt.

It had been customary for the carrier who preceeded me, to be attended by a party of individuals, who, for any motives might be induced to go with him. This precedent appeared to me erroneous, and had no effect in shaping my movements, for I had concluded that one person could pass through the country, safer from being interrupted, than a large party; yet, being socially inclined, I chose a companion to go on the tramp with me. He was a Canadian named Boiseley and as he was a comrade with me for many years and figured in many incidents on the Mississippi, I will give a brief description of his person and appearance.

Boiseley was short, thick-set, had long arms with big hands of tremendous grasp attached, and on the whole he was a little giant in strength. His head was small and covered with coarse, black hair, and his eyes were small, black and as piercing as a rattle snake's. There was nothing prepossessing in his person, in fact, many would think him repulsive; yet this was the person I chose to go with me. He had been with me on one or two hunts, and remarking in him a spirit that was capable of enduring much fatigue, a sort of intimacy had sprung up between us, and that prompted me to select him. Having neither parents nor friends—that I ever heard of—he readily consented to go anywhere with me. I directed him to exchange his dress—rags would be the best term—for a comfortable outfit, obtained at my expense, and had the satisfaction of seeing him

transformed into a comparatively respectable looking man. He was accoutered in a style similar to myself. He sported a long Indian gun, and always carried a large knife, pistol and hatchet in his belt, bullet pouch and powder horn hung under his arm. To the horn were tied by sinew thongs several charms, which he believed possessed some mysterious power that preserved him from harm. Aside from this tinge of superstition, I found Boiseley was naturally intelligent and true as steel. During the many long jaunts we had together, there was only one thing about him I could not become reconciled to, and that was this: We would start early in the day, each carrying a pack of equal weight, and after tramping all day he would go to work and make camp, and prepare any game we had shot, without showing any evidence of fatigue; while I, a man of twice his size and apparent physical strength, would be so tired as not to care whether I ate at all.

It was in company with this Boiseley that I presented myself before the quarter-master, and reported ourselves ready for the start. I have not forgotten the expression depicted in the quarter-master's countenance when he saw our slender equipment. It discovered a want of confidence in our ability; but assuring him that two of us could travel as safe as a regiment, and with greater celerity, my logic prevailed, and he confirmed me in Uncle Sam's service. He entrusted me with the—not mail bag—but a tin canister or box of a flat shape, covered with untanned deer hide, that contained the dispatches and letters of the inhabitants. Receiving these and my instructions, we departed.

We left Green Bay on foot, carrying our arms, blankets and provisions. We had to pass through a country, as then little known to white men, depending on our compass and the course of the rivers to keep the right direction. Taking an Indian trail that led in a southeasterly direction, we passed through dense pine woods, cedar swamps, now and then a grove of red oak,

some of which reared their heads heavenward, and had for ages braved the fury of a thousand storms. Frequently would we disturb a gang of deer that had made their "yard" in the heavily timbered bottoms. And as we continued to plunge deeper and deeper into the primeval forest, and to proceed further on our course, the tracks of the fisher and the mink became more frequent, and occasionally a wild cat would get its quietus in form of a rifle ball. Once, at night fall, we encamped on a branch of what I now know to have been the Centre river. This stream was a live stream, several yards in width, and was not frozen over. It made several beautiful cascades as it flowed over the rocks. Under a projecting bank, Boiseley found the water perfectly alive with trout, and taking from his pack the light camp-kettle, he dipped out a mess of splendid speckled fellows, that relished well after being fried over the camp-fire. In the evening, after collecting a huge pile of wood, we heaped the snow up to windward, and in the lee of the snow bank scattered some branches, on which we spread our blankets, and laid down with the packs beneath our heads, to listen to a serenade from the wolves. The night was spent in smoking, keeping fire and intervals of sleep.

Leaving the trail at this tributary or branch of Centre river, we followed the creek down to the main stream, which ran in a southeast direction, and then taking a southerly course, we traveled a distance of twenty miles, and then struck another river. Following this due east, through a rough, but heavily timbered country, we arrived at the bank of the lake, on the second day after striking the river. It was near sundown when we made our camp near the mouth of this stream; and again within sight of the roaring breakers a load of uncertainty was taken from me, for with such a guide there was no going astray. It was decided that we should keep along the shore, at least where it could be done without diverging from a direct line running north and south; all headlands and points

we crossed, instead of going around them. The roughness and difficulty of our track, on account of the icy mountains formed by the industry of the breakers and Jack Frost, made it a "hard road to travel." But trudging along through the snow, climbing over ledges of ice that in some places extended up the bank, and plunging through gullies and ravines, we managed to make good headway. Thus we continued to travel day after day, though not without variety, either of incidents, fair or foul weather, scenery, something was always exciting interest or attention. Oft the winter mornings would appear beautiful and serene, without a cloud to obscure the rising sun. Then as we journeyed we would see flocks of ducks and sea fowl sporting in the lake, amid pieces of ice that sparkled like crystals; and anon a fisher or otter would glide off from the ice-field where it had sought its early meal, to gain a safe retreat in some crevice of the lake bank.

It was the fourteenth day after leaving Green Bay that I arrived at Juneau's settlement on the Milwaukee river, and as I had a message from Charles Larrabee to Mr. Solomon Juneau, I was welcomed by him, and remained two days with him to rest and recruit. I here learned that Joseph King had returned safe with the goods, but had a hard time getting back, being caught in the equinoxial storm, and encountered rough weather. The Frenchmen he hired at Green Bay, had already taken Menomonee squaws, and were living in their own cabins. Mr. Juneau had two children at the time, was lord paramount of the settlement, and did a good business trading with the Indians. Boiseley and I left his post to prosecute our journey. The river was frozen over, and the ice was near eight inches thick; taking this we pushed off for two or three miles, and moving over the frozen marshes, came on the lake shore, and crossed a wooded point on the south side of the bay; here, finding a trail on the lake bank we followed it three days.

On the third day, as we came out on a prairie, we found ourselves near a number of Indian

lodges. We wished to avoid them, but it was too late now, for the watchful curs of the Indians had seen us, and commenced a ferocious barking that soon brought the Indians out in a body. We soon learned these were all Menomonees, who had maintained friendly feelings towards the whites since the massacre of Chicago. There was one old chief in the village who spoke broken English, and could speak French fluently. He had been to Detroit and knew much about the white man. He was the most savage appearing Indian I ever saw; yet, he displayed so much of dignity and decision in his manner, that I retained the impression that he was a noble Indian. He was a powerfully built man, about six feet tall, and well dressed for an Indian. He wore plain moccasins, deer-skin leggins reaching to his thighs, a calico shirt, a beaded cap with three feathers of the gray eagle in it, and a green blanket. There were also three other Indians worthy of notice, but they did not attract my attention by any peculiarity, so I'll not describe them. As a whole these Indians were lazy, and staid in their lodges starving, rather than go out to hunt, though the country was teeming with deer, wild turkeys and elk. Our stay with these Indians was short, inasmuch as they had no provisions; however, they treated us kindly, and directed us to the best route, when we left them. Instead of continuing along the lake, the old chief advised us to go a little west of south until we arrived at the Des Plaines river, then follow that, and we would find plenty of game for food, and friendly Indians who would show us the way to Fort Dearborn.

The land route between Green Bay and Fort Dearborn was only traveled in the winter season, as then the rivers are frozen over, and offer no obstruction to traveling in a direct course. So, following the Indian's directions, we came to as smooth a road as I ever wish to see. It was the frozen surface of the Des Plaines river. This led through wide prairies and some large groves. Grouse were to be

seen budding on the trees, and we killed abundance of them as we passed along. The grouse, with now and then a fish caught in the shallow rapids, formed our only food for several days. Until a little northwest of Chicago, we met with few Indians, all as hungry as ourselves. But joining a party of thirty Pottawattamies on their way to the Indian agency, we obtained from them a good meal of jerked venison and parched corn.

One noon we arrived at the southern terminus of our journey, at Fort Dearborn, after being on the way more than a month. It was in January, thirty years ago, and with the exception that the fort was strengthened and garrisoned, there was no sign of improvement having gone on since my former visit. This time I was on business, and I advanced up to the sally port with a sense of my importance, was challenged by the sentry, and an orderly conducted me to the adjutant's office, where I reported myself as the bearer of dispatches for the commanding officer. Capt. Morgan was in the office, and advancing, intimated that he was that person, and took the case of letters, directing me to await his further orders. Getting a pass, I went outside the palisades, to a house built on the half-breed system, partly of logs and partly of boards. This house was kept by a Mr. Miller, who lived in it with his family. Here Boiseley and I put up during the time we were in the settlement.

I received my orders from Morgan about the 23d of January, and prepared to return with other letters. We started up one branch of the Chicago river, and after leaving this we followed the Des Plaines, taking pretty much the same way we had come; meeting with Indians and incidents, all of which were interesting, but only one of which I'll tell you now.

It happened that after sundown one day, as the twilight was coming on, we had arranged our camp for the night in the edge of a grove, and the cheerful camp fire was casting its rays upon the trunks of the neighboring trees, when

Boiseley seemed attracted by something to a large oak, that stood in the light of the fire. "What's there, Boiseley?" said I. "Come and see," said he. "Bear sign, by thunder!" I exclaimed, approaching the tree that bore marks of having been frequently climbed by that animal. "He must have been here often, and not long since, either, judging from the recent scratches." "Yes," said Boiseley, "but he has not been here to-day, for the little snow that fell last night is not tracked near the tree." "Well, that's plain, but why does he climb this tree so much?" "To get the honey, of course." "Sure enough." Knowing now that we had found a bee tree, we naturally wanted a taste of its contents. Setting to work with our axes, we commenced hacking around the roots, and the tree being hollow and quite decayed, it soon cracked, tottered, and came down with a crash across our fire. Luckily our guns and packs were leaning against a tree a short distance off, and escaped damage. The tree broke near its top, the smaller part split open by the fall, disclosing a store of honey that was tempting to us two hungry men. We filled the camp kettle with choice pieces of the comb, and as Boiseley was preparing a couple of grouse, (prairie-hens) for supper, I "dipped in" to the honey slightly. I have always been blessed with a good appetite, but on that occasion it must have been a little better than usual, for after eating my bird, and discussing a fair ration of dried meat and parched corn, I thought it better to fill the kettle again with honey, by way of dessert. That evening I got honey enough for a life-time. The sweet extract of a thousand prairie flowers passed from sight, but not forever. A strange sensation seized me, and were you ever sea-sick? if you were, it will be useless for me to describe what that feeling was, for you have experienced it. In the morning Boiseley invited me to join him at the honey pot, but I refused; and pursuing our journey, we left the rich treat to the wild animals. And since that memorable night, when

we cut down the bee-tree, I have never tasted honey without a feeling of nausea and disgust.

Stopping a short time at the Juneau settlement on our way back, we kept on our course and arrived at Green Bay on the 29th day of February. The quarter-master at Fort Howard expressed himself satisfied with my performance; and he wanted me to make another trip; but as I had seen the country, which was all I cared for, I did not desire to repeat it. Getting my pay from the department, and a liberal donation from the people, a portion of which I gave Boiseley, I left Uncle Sam's employ and took up my old profession—a gentleman of leisure, and continued to practice as such until the spring came, when, with a view to extend the field of my labors, I made ready to bid good bye to Green Bay. I had formed associations and friends among the inhabitants, with whom it was hard to part. The little Frenchman, with whose extraordinarily long gun I shot the buck in the Illinois river, had married and was living in a snug little home of his own, where I was ever a welcome guest. I felt solitary and perhaps gloomy when I turned my back on the settlement, and embarked in the canoe with Boiseley, for I was doubtful of bettering my condition by the move. But doubts could not deter me from making the venture, and with determination we plied our paddles and urged the canoe up Fox river.

The route from Fort Howard to Fort Crawford was not an unknown one by any means; yet it was through a wilderness then new, and led through an Indian country, inhabited by a race of men naturally cruel and treacherous, who, the year previous, had begun a war of extermination against the whites. To us the way was unknown, and we entered on it without other guides than a few directions from an old *voyager* in the employ of the American Fur Company, who had made the trip. I shall not speak of the incidents that befell us, nor of our several camping scenes, just now, but suffice it to say, that we continued up Fox river into Lake

Winnebago; and carrying our canoe across the narrow portage formed by the ridge that separates the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, we launched it in the latter; and were soon gliding down on its swift current, *en route* for the Mississippi. Proceeding on our voyage down the Wisconsin, we descried the beauties of a landscape enhanced by the charms of summer verdure. The bluffs that towered up on either side, as they do now, had never reverberated the shrill whistle of the locomotive, neither were the banks sprinkled with promising villages; but nature remained the same as it had for ages and ages. Now and then could be seen the wigwams of the Winnebagoes, but of the habitations of the white man there were none. The pale faces up to this time, had not dared to settle on the hunting grounds of the red men beyond the protecting influence of some fort. The whole splendid country about Madison contained but one white man, and that was Ebenezer Brigham, who had settled at Blue Mounds the year before I came to Prairie du Chien.

It was in the summer of 1828 that the canoe came out at the mouth of the Wisconsin river, and then paddling up the Mississippi for three miles, we arrived at the village of Prairie du Chien,, at that time limited to the island over the slough, consisting of the old fort, now gone, and the houses of the people in its neighborhood, some of which are now to be seen. As a correct description of Prairie du Chien, its appearance, its inhabitants, and its position generally, at that time (thirty years ago), would be interesting, I will give it to you; at the same time I will relate all such incidents and anecdotes connected with the country or its principal inhabitants, as they may come to mind.

On my arrival at Prairie du Chien, in June 1828, this was no insignificant point in the northwest. The establishment of a military post here by the French, in an earlier day, which, as a natural consequence, caused a host of traders, camp-followers, army speculators and a mixed class generally to gather around,

made it assume a livelier tone than many would imagine. Prairie du Chien was also an important point in consequence of the Indian agency then located here. Gen. Joseph M. Street was appointed Indian agent the same year I came, and he was engaged in several negotiations and treaties with different tribes of Indians, among whom he managed to preserve comparatively friendly relations, inducing them to part with their land to the government, strip after strip, for which he saw them paid off in cash or goods. I will not be certain that he always commanded the confidence of the Indians, but he was impartial in all his dealings with them, saw the conditions of engagements faithfully fulfilled, and made the annual payments promptly at the proper time. It was at these same payments, some of which I attended, that the traders and employes of the fur company reaped rich harvests. There are those here now, who made the bulk of their fortunes, after these payments, in trading with the unsophisticated Indian. This being a point most accessible to a great many tribes, they frequently received their payments here, at headquarters. These payments are great occasions to the Indian, because he would obtain new blankets and money, wherewith to buy guns, ammunition and whisky; to the trader, for he would rake in all that money, giving in exchange a very *superior* quality of goods, at a very *small* advance on first cost; and to the government, as it offered a chance for purchasing more territory. An Indian payment was invariably attended with a great jubilee, in most cases got up at the expense of the Indians. At these frolics the Indians generally got "plenty drunk," but the traders got all their money, and the government got their lands. Gambling was a common thing at such times, and the Indian often returned to his village, empty handed, *sans* land, *sans* money, *sans* everything but a deep conviction of having been cheated. Thus it will be plainly seen that the trade carried on between the Indians and whites, was any-



thing but advantageous to the former, while many of the dealings of the government with the Indians, threatened to embroil the frontiers in an Indian war.

Besides the Indian agency, and being a military post, there was located here the headquarters of the American Fur Company. This company was organized by John Jacob Astor, in the year 1809, and if memory serves me right, Joseph Rolette was the principal agent at this place when I arrived in 1828; and H. L. Dousman, who had come on the year previous, was also in the employ of the company. Of Rolette, I could relate a host of anecdotes, but space and other motives forbid. I will state, however, that his influence was considerable, his will arbitrary, and his word law. He held sway over the French inhabitants and *voyaguers*, which if not really tyrannical was exacting in its requirements. At the fire over the slough, when the company's buildings were burned, a powder magazine, filled with powder, stood in close proximity to the fire. This magazine was in eminent danger from the heat and flying cinders; and to prevent a terrible explosion, it was necessary to remove the powder. Rolette taking in everything at a glance, saw need of immediate action, and thereupon ordered all those in his employ to save the powder. And although it was almost as much as life was worth, they dared not disobey that mandate, and rushing in they seized the powder kegs and carried them through the fire and smoke down to the river. This incident shows his influence over the people, who feared him worse than they did death.

The Mississippi river, when I came here [in June, 1828,] was at a stage of water four and one-half feet higher than it had been known before, or has occurred during any subsequent rise. It was in June, and the site of the village was an island. To this same island, made so by too high water, was then restricted all that bore the name of Prairie du Chien. On the east of the slough, in the year 1828, there were only

five houses; the one built by J. H. Lockwood, afterwards occupied by Col. Z. Taylor, north of the present fort; one other where union block now stands; the house of one Larrivier, and two others that I cannot correctly locate.

I have said that all Prairie du Chien was included in what is now termed the main village. But at that time there were many more houses and inhabitants there than at present. It is true that the people were chiefly Canadians, Frenchmen and traders; and their habitations were less prized for architecture than comfort, yet there was much to admire in the neighborly sociality that pervaded the early society.

For some years before 1828-9, little advancement or change had been going on in the appearance of Prairie du Chien: Soon after, the Indian difficulties of 1827 were adjusted, and emigration increased, and settlers began to arrive, bringing with them seeds of progress. From that period the eastern emigrants commenced gathering at this point, the population increased, improvement began and prospered, until we now enjoy the blessings of the electric telegraph, railroads and reliable steam navigation. The arrivals of steamboats at that early day, were like angels' visits, "few and far between." Well do I remember in 1828, when the steamboat *Red Rover*, commanded by Capt. Harris, arrived at this place. It was like the dawning of a new era, and Capt. Harris is still spared, and now commands a floating palace on the Father of waters.

The principal citizens that resided in the village thirty years ago [1828], were J. Rolette, his wife and family; J. H. Lockwood, merchant trader, and his wife and family; J. Brisbois, family of four sons and two daughters; Hercules L. Dousman; Gen. J. M. Street and family; E. Bailey, who built the old Prairie House; F. Gallanau, F. Chenviet, and Flavin Cherrier, who were wealthy farmers. I may have omitted some others, but the remainder of the people then here, were mostly traders Cana-

dians, in the employ of the fur company, and those who lived on the Indian trade.

It was in 1831, I think, that I was with a few men getting out stone near Barrette's lower ferry. We lived in a cabin on the west shore of Wisconsin river. One evening, after we had gone to bed, two of the men, who had been to town for liquor, came rushing into the cabin and told us to get up, for they said the world was done! We got up, and the awful grandeur of the sight that we witnessed I shall never forget. The air was filled with a meteoric shower of phosphorescent light. It came down in flakes and as thick and fast as hail. It continued for some time presenting a brilliant spectacle, and giving us a pretty good idea of the judgment day. After the first surprise passed, I knew it was some natural phenomena, (although I had never before or since heard it accounted for), but it appeared strange that the fire did not burn. In the morning no trace was left of the previous night's wonder.

When Taintor and Reed came here and took contracts to furnish the fort with wood, which was soon after the close of the Black Hawk War, when they were showing Black Hawk around the country, I moved upon the bluff, and went into the employ of Reed. The wood was furnished at a high price, and the contractors made a good profit from it. I remained on the bluff some time; finally, Reed went away, and I returned to the prairie. Uncle Ezekiel Taintor afterwards commenced to keep a store on the prairie, but the business not suiting him he discontinued it and returned to his farm, where he now lives, a respected and well-to-do citizen of Crawford.

In the year 1834, I think it was, I moved back to the prairie, into the old tavern. That year the small-pox broke out in the village; many citizens were attacked with the disease, and hundreds of the Indians then living in this vicinity died. My oldest son, then nine months old, was seized with disease, and recovered; but a Winnebago, whom we called Boxer, and who

acted as my clerk and sold liquor to the Indians, caught the loathsome disease and died. I will relate the manner of his death; for he was a faithful fellow, and though he took in \$100 a day sometimes, he never defrauded me of a cent. I was about to move to Bloody Run, and had sent Boxer over to see if the shanty was ready, and he took his canoe and went over. It seems on his way back he felt sick, and drew his canoe up on the point of the island, east of the Run, where the fever came on, and he laid down by the water's edge to drink, and there he died. There I found him as I was going over to the Run. I buried him on the island, and can show you his grave, and say, there lie the bones of an honest Indian. I proceeded to Bloody Run after burying poor Boxer, and was there taken with the small-pox myself. I laid down by a spring and remained there during the attack, four days and four nights, which time was passed in great misery, and seemed an age to me, but after the crisis passed, I was enabled to reach the prairie, where I soon regained my health, and then moved my family to Bloody Run.

In Bloody Run I lived about two years. When we first went over there, the cabin I moved into leaked, and one day I was on the roof fixing it, when I saw a deer coming down the coulee, from the north, directly towards me. I thought it was chased by something, and not being entirely recovered from my sickness, I did not get down to harm it. Soon after the deer passed I was attracted by an exclamation from my son, and looking, I saw a large gray wolf making towards him. I got down quickly and snatching up a gun loaded with small shot, that my wife had been hunting with, I advanced toward the wolf, but it did not retreat until I sent a charge of shot into its face.

Bloody Run was a great hunting ground, and Martin Scott, of whom I know many interesting anecdotes, made it his favorite beat when in pursuit of game. From this circumstance it is said the Run derived its name, but that is an er-

ror, for the true origin of Bloody Run is known to some old settlers now alive, and it is as follows:

Bloody Run is so called, from an incident of backwoods' life, which I will relate as it was told me, by a person who was born in these parts, and who is now living in Prairie du Chien. The name applies to a large ravine or valley, on the west side of the Mississippi, in Iowa, opposite Prairie du Chien, and one mile north of McGregor. A stream of pure, cool spring water, clear as a crystal and thickly skirted with a growth of timber, meanders along through the valley over its pebbly bottom towards the Mississippi, into which it flows. This stream winds between high wood-covered bluffs that bound the valley on either side, and at a distance of more than seven miles from its mouth, it furnishes power to run Spalding & Marsh's mill.

In that season of the year when vegetation and verdure are at their height, a picturesque sight is presented to the tourist, as he wends his way along the stream through the valley of Bloody Run. The lover of nature has never imagined a wilder, more beautiful place than was Bloody Run, when I was there in 1834. No wonder that Martin Scott chose this as his favorite hunting-ground. His true sportsman instinct led him to this place, to watch for the red deer as it came down from the bluff at mid-day, to slake its thirst and cool its panting sides in the crystal waters of the run. Here it was his brag gun dealt death among the woodcock, wood-duck and pheasants, that were very abundant in the valley; and here, too, transpired a scene of bloodshed that gave to this beautiful spot its ominous name.

There is scarcely a stream, point, bluff, wood, coulee or cave in the west, but has attached to it some associations that are alone peculiarly historical; and as I possessed a natural curiosity to learn the derivation of names that to me seemed peculiar, my probings have often brought to light, mines of legendary lore and antique history.

It was years ago, before the English were guided to and captured Prairie du Chien, and before the traitorous guide hid himself in a cave in Mill Coulee; when Prairie du Chien was inhabited by only a few French families and Indian traders, that an event occurred which gave to the coulee, wherein North McGregor is now being built, the name of Bloody Run. A couple of traders lived on the prairie, named Antoine Brisbois and George Fisher, and as was the custom with those extensively engaged in the fur trade, these two traders had their clerks or agents, whom they supplied with goods to dispose of to the Indians. Among other clerks were two who lived with their families in Bloody Run. Their names were Smith Stock and a Mr. King. King's wife was a squaw from the Sauk tribe, while Mr. Stock and wife were English, and both families lived on a little bench or table land, about a mile and a half from the mouth, on the north side of the valley. Their cabin was situated a few rods west of the log house now standing, and I can show you the stones of the old-fashioned fire-place, lying where they fell after the cabin went to decay.

The clerks had sold a quantity of goods to the Indians on credit, who were backward in cancelling the debt. Among other Indians who had got in debt for goods, was a Sauk chief, Gray Eagle.\*

The chief had been refused any more credit, and would not pay for what he had really obtained. This dishonesty on the part of the chief made King impatient, and he told his wife that he would go to Gray Eagle's village, and if the chief did not pay, then he would take the chief's horse for the debt. His wife told him it would be dangerous to treat a chief that way, and warned him not to go; but he

\*We have no further certain information of this chief. Me-en-itch, or the Eagle a Sauk chief of Missouri, signed the treaty of 1815. Mau-que-tee, or the Bald Eagle, a Fox chief, signed the treaty at Rock Island in 1832. Pe-a-chin-a-car-mack, or Black Headed Eagle, father and son, signed the treaty with the Sauks and Foxes in 1836; and the same year Pe-a-chin-wa, a Sauk chief, signed the treaty of Dubuque, with Gen. Dodge.

said he had traded too long with the Indians to be afraid of them, and started to collect the debt.

On his way to the village he met the chief, unarmed, riding on the very horse he had threatened to take. Approaching him, he dragged the chief off, gave him a beating, and got on the horse himself and rode it home, and tied it before the shanty door. When he told his wife what he had done, she said she was afraid the chief would seek revenge, and warned her husband to be cautious. Soon after Mrs. King rushed into the cabin and said that Gray Eagle was near at hand with some of his people. Upon hearing this, King arose to go out to the horse, but he scarcely reached the door before a bullet from Gray Eagle's rifle pierced his brain, and he fell across the threshold a bloody corpse. The Indian took the horse.

Mr. Stock, the remaining trader, persisted in his refusals to give the Indians credit, which so enraged them, that they shot him through the heart. After this last tragedy, the surviving members of those two families removed from the old claim, and for years after, no white man lived in the valley, which, from the murders perpetrated there by the Indians, has ever since been called Bloody Run.

Such is a description and history of the place where I went to live twenty-four years ago; and it remained about the same until within two or three years. I lived there two years and raised two good crops, and spent the pleasantest two years of my life. The Indians were very numerous, their reservations being close by, and they sometimes stole my corn and potatoes, and killed my hogs; but I should have continued there, had the title to the land been good. But an advantageous offer was made to me to go up into Menomonee pineries, and I left Bloody Run.

Within the last twelve months, Bloody Run has undergone a great change. The land titles have been investigated and adjusted; the float-

ing population of the west has begun to settle there; mills have been built; dwellings erected, and a railroad is surveyed through the valley, and partly built. A young city is rearing itself in the valley; and will yet surpass its neighbor (McGregor) in population and trade, as it does now in its natural advantages.

It was in 1839, while in the Menomonee pineries, that desirous of returning to Prairie du Chien. I looked around for the means of doing so. I pitched upon a plan that few would think of in this age of progress, when a very few hours suffice to perform the journey, that then occupied as many days. But there were no conveniences of travel on the upper Mississippi then; a passage in a high pressure steam-boat, such as was the *Science*, could not be counted on with any certainty. I got a large Mackinaw boat, rigged an awning, and placed my family and what few worldly goods I possessed, in it and made the trip from the mills on Menomonee river to the prairie.

We had a pleasant trip, sailing and floating down the river; and were I to give a minute sketch of it, you might think it interesting; but as I am anxious to give an account of things in general, rather than a personal history, I will merely notice one incident of our journey, which occurred before our safe arrival at Prairie du Chien.

Our boat was thirty feet in length, and the awning extended over a space of fifteen feet in the centre, beneath which was placed our goods, provisions and bedding, at the same time affording shelter for my wife and children, from the rain and night damps. In the stern I had reserved a space to work the steering oar, while in the bow was a stove, where my wife cooked our food and such game as I shot. With all the exposure of that trip, I look back at the time thus spent as among the pleasantest of my life.

One day while the boat was floating lazily down with the current, opposite Trempealeau mountain, my attention was called to an animal,

pointed out by my wife. It was on a long, narrow bar or point of an island just below us, and appeared to be playing with some object, unconscious of our approach. I was not long in discovering that it was a large panther, and made up my mind to shoot it, for at that time I had never killed one. So, telling my wife to take the oar and direct the boat to a point nearest the beast, I stood in the bow ready to fire as soon as we had approached near enough. The panther kept dragging the object about, unmindful of the boat, until its keel grated on the sand within twenty feet of it. Just as the boat stopped I fired. The bullet pierced its vitals, and after satisfying myself that it was dead, got out to skin it, when I found that one of the panther's paws was firmly locked in the jaws of a large hard-shell turtle. It appeared to me that the panther had been in search of food, and spying the turtle, crept up to it with the intent to catch it, and he did *catch it*; "he caught a tartar." The turtle got a paw in his mouth, and kept hold so firmly that the panther was unable to extricate it. I am of the opinion that the panther knew he had "put his foot in it," and out of respect to his unfortunate condition, I never boasted the exploit of killing him. The skin of the panther was not worth a *sou-marker*, but the turtle was a prize I knew how to manage, for I was something of an epicure. The turtle furnished us with many a delicious feast, until we reached the Prairie.

I found on arriving at Prairie du Chien that the speculating mania had come to a crisis, and "hard times" had put a damper on the spirits of the people, as well as put a stop to all enterprises. Real estate was still held at high rates, but it did not change owners as frequently as in 1836. The state of affairs was similar to that of 1858.

In the year 1824, one cow would buy a small farm. As an instance, showing how cheap land could be bought then, I will cite a fact that occurred to me. A certain person owed me a bill of \$5 and not having the money, he

came to me and offered to deed a piece of property to me to pay the debt. Low as such property was, taxes were very heavy, and so I would not accept the offer. B. W. Brisbois afterwards paid \$800 for the lot and now it is not to be had at any price. From 1840 until the commencement of the war with Mexico, nothing to excite interest occurred; unless we remark that the country was rapidly filling up with new comers. In 1846 orders were received to raise a volunteer company of 100 men.

When I left Bloody Run to go up to Lockwood's mill on the Menomonee in 1836 or 1837, great speculative excitement existed. Land companies Nos. 1 and 2 were formed, and great improvements and projects were commenced. At Prairie du Chien and Cassville, towns were laid out, hotels built, and real estate was held at enormous prices. It was designed to make Cassville the capital of the Michigan territory; but men's practice always falls short of their theory. The hard times came on, and the much talked of project was abandoned; land depreciated, and a general stagnation of business ensued. Among the organizations of the times was a wild-cat banking institution, entitled the "Prairie du Chien Ferry Company." This company issued its shin-plasters at Prairie du Chien; some of which I have, and they bear the signatures of G. Washington Pine, president; and H. W. Savage, cashier. This pioneer bank, however, had to succumb to the pressure, and adopted the "suspend payment" system, which suspension has lasted to the present day.

The Rev. Alfred Brunson and quite a number of persons, some now living in Curts' settlement, came here the year I went to the mills on Monomonee river. I went to Lake Pepin with my family in the steamboat *Science*. At the lake were two trading houses. Immediately upon our arrival at the lake, a fierce battle was fought on its shores, between the Sioux and Chippewas, which resulted in the defeat of the latter. I passed the scene of the fight, and saw the mutilated bodies of the dead Indians. The Chip-

pewa Indians were better warriors than the Sioux, but being poor, their arms are almost valueless, which accounts for their defeat. From the Lake we went up to the Chippewa river in Mackinaw boats. The water of the Chippewa is as red as wine, and a crimson streak may be seen for some distance below its mouth. This color I attribute to deposits of iron ore through which the channel of the river runs. On reaching the mills (there being three of them), I entered upon my duties as lumberman. The mills were situated on the Monomonee river, in a tract of neutral ground between the Chippewa and Sioux Indians. These two tribes were constantly warring against each other, and I had frequent opportunities to see war parties of both tribes. There were some Chippewas living near the mills, who sold game, maple sugar, wild fruits, and like articles to the mill hands.

On one occasion the hands had gone to work, and left their cabin locked up, when a number of Chippewas came in their absence, crept through a window, stole the blankets from the beds, pork from the barrel, filled their blankets with flour, and started away with all their plunder. Fortunately the mill hands discovered their loss early. They pursued the Indians, overtook them, gave them a good whipping, and took away everything that had been stolen. It was with such incidents as these, that we relieved the monotony of life in the pinery.

One day my wife was alone in our cabin, when an old Chippewa, who had often visited us, came in with some maple sugar. My wife took the sugar, and in return gave him some pork and flour, at the same time telling him she thought there were Sioux Indians near, for that day she smelled kinnikinic smoke in the woods. The Chippewa soon left, and it seemed not more than a moment after that the house was filled with a war party of Sioux. The chief asked her if there was any Chippewas there, and she answered that she had not seen any. The Sioux said they had tracked one to

the cabin, and taking some of the sugar the Indian had brought, called it "Chippewa's sugar," and said they would eat the sugar and cut the Chippewa's throat when they caught him. The war party ate all the food they could get, and then filed out; but they didn't catch the old Indian, for he managed to escape, and afterwards brought game to our house.

There is something mysterious in the appearance of a war party. I have seen several, and they glided along like a serpent, with noiseless, even motion; and had I not been looking at them I should not have known that they were passing within thirty feet of me. Once a raft broke to pieces, and I went with the men to recover the lumber. While engaged in collecting it, we had to pass over a ridge frequently during the day, and at night when we were going over on our way back to the mills, we heard a laugh close by our side. We looked around for the cause, but not finding it, we were about to move on, when the laugh was repeated, and we were surprised to see what we had taken for a pine stump assume the form of a Chippewa scout. It appears he had been hid there all day watching for Sioux, and we had passed within arms' reach several times without seeing him.

I remained two years in the pineries, and could have made money, had I accepted the offer made me if I would remain longer, but I desired to return to Prairie du Chien.

The year after my coming down from Lockwood's mills, in 1840, an election occurred, and I was solicited to accept the office of constable in and for the county of Crawford and territory of Wisconsin. On the 28th of September, 1840, I was duly elected, and on the 19th day of October, was qualified before C. J. Learned, to perform the duties of the office. The business of constable here eighteen years ago was not very considerable, yet there was a kind of character attached to the office in that day, which made its occupant a person of note and dread in the eyes of the then unsophisticated inhabitants

of this vicinity. Well do I remember the first writ I served; the trepidation that took hold of the person against whom it was issued, when I came into his presence. But he has got bravely over that, and is at this time one of the first citizens of Prairie du Chien, under obligation to no man.

Ezekiel Taintor was elected sheriff of Crawford county about 1840; at all events he occupied that office in 1841. This point was then the place for holding all criminal trials for the entire country northwest of it. Some very noted lawyers of those times were located here; among these was T. P. Burnett, a thorough read lawyer, and a gentleman of respectability. His public services will long be remembered by the citizens of Wisconsin. He died in 1846, leaving a vacant seat in the territorial Legislature, and a large circle of friends.

In the year 1841, J. Rolette, the first citizen of Prairie du Chien, died, and was buried in the Catholic grave yard. Four years previous, Michael Brisbois, an old fur trader and citizen, died, and was buried on the summit of a high bluff, in accordance with a request made previous to his death. The bluff is back of the town, and is called Mt. Pleasant, and strangers whose curiosity prompts them with a desire to see all the sights of this beautiful valley, often climb up to the grave, where, reclining beneath the weather-beaten cross, they feast on the magnificent scene that can be had from the bluff, or listen to the story of the old pioneer's request.

At a general election held on the 22d day of September, 1845, I was elected to the offices of coroner and constable for Crawford county. In the first office, the duties that devolved on me were neither few nor pleasant. The holding of inquests on the bodies of persons picked up in the river, and found murdered, were of more frequent occurrence than now. The country being thinly settled, detection was easily avoided, and the penalties of the law hard to enforce; so evil disposed persons, not having the fear of

certain punishment before them, perpetrated deeds of violence with perfect impunity. I was once notified that a dead body was lying in the water opposite Pig's Eye slough, and immediately proceeded to the spot, and on taking it out, I recognized it as the body of a negro woman belonging to a certain captain then in Fort Crawford. The body was cruelly cut and bruised; but the person not appearing to recognize it, a verdict of "found dead" was rendered, and I had the corpse buried. Soon after, it came to light that the woman was whipped to death and thrown into the river during the night; but no investigation was made, and the affair blew over.

For a long term of years have I held positions that gave me every opportunity of observing and detecting crime; as a policeman, constable, sheriff and justice of the peace, I was an almost daily witness of rascalities, and could furnish a calendar of crimes perpetrated in the northwest that would startle even those who have lived here a much longer time, but who are not as thoroughly posted in criminal affairs. There is an individual now (1858) living in the town *known* to be guilty of several murders. Others are aware of this fact.

The subject of education was not an unknown one in Prairie du Chien at that day. Taxes were levied and money appropriated to establish and sustain district schools. In January, 1846, I was appointed collector for district No. 2, of which C. W. Pelton was trustee.

BY S. M. PALMER.

Desirous of visiting Cassville, Prairie du Chien and that part of the territory bordering on the Mississippi, I accepted a cordial invitation from Col. Daniels, of Cassville, to take a seat in his carriage for that place. It was a delightful morning in September, when, with an agreeable party, consisting of the colonel, Mr. Latham, of Mineral Point, and a Mr. Payne, of Boston, we bade adieu to the noble, generous people of Mineral Point, and proceeded over a rough, uncultivated, hilly, and tolerably

well timbered country, some six or ten miles to a pretty spot called Diamond Grove, near which was the residence of Col. John B. Terry. Here it was proposed to stop, but on approaching the house, it was evident that the family were not at home, and I proposed to pass on, but was overruled by Col. Daniels, who insisted that it was the seat of genuine hospitality, where the latch string was never drawn in; which proved to be the case on that occasion, at least, and the whole party entered the house. And although no member of the family was at home, Col. Daniels, presuming upon his friendship with the proprietor, opened the cupboard, and set out an excellent cold collation, to which was added a bottle of something stronger than milk, on which the party regaled themselves most satisfactorily.

Proceeding across a fine rolling prairie, beautiful as a garden, though almost in a state of nature, with at rare intervals a small agricultural improvement, of a hamlet of miners' huts, we struck the military road which traverses the dividing ridge extending across the territory, the western terminus being at Prairie du Chien, along which we continued through a succession of natural landscapes, the most rich and gorgeous that can be imagined, until we reached the intersection of the Cassville road; near which but a short distance along the last named road, we stopped for the night, at a small log hut, the only building of any description in the vicinity, excepting a small one on a recent improvement, said to have been commenced by Hon. Thomas P. Burnett, near where we diverged from the military road.

We were generously welcomed and as comfortably entertained as the limited means of our kind host and hostess would admit. The ride from this point to Cassville was through a country of extraordinary beauty, with a soil of unrivaled richness and fertility, though with the exception of a very few small buildings and improvements, untouched by the hand of man. The people of Cassville, proverbially intelli-

gent, accomplished and enterprising, proud of what they considered the great beauty and immense natural advantages of the location of their town, were all bustle and excitement in view of many grand and important improvements already projected or in progress; first among which was a magnificent hotel, the foundation for which was already being laid. All classes appeared prosperous, happy and contented, looking forward with confidence to a brilliant future for themselves and their favorite town.

After remaining a short time here, I took passage (kindly accompanied by Capt. Estlin and Mr. Latham) on board the steamboat *Adventurer*, a very small dilapidated and filthy boat, (for at that time there were comparatively few steamers of any description plying on the Mississippi, above Dubuque), for Prairie du Chien. This town, located on a beautiful prairie, some four miles above the mouth of the Wisconsin river, would have been fully equal in appearance to any other site on the Mississippi, but for a slough or bayou which ran through it nearly parallel with the river, thus dividing the town, and giving to that portion next to the river, or Old Town, as it was called, the appearance of an island, which was exclusively occupied by the store and warehouse, a large and elegant stone structure, and other buildings of the North American Fur Company, with a few mean huts tenanted by a miserable set of French and Indians. It was here that John Jacob Astor, the New York millionaire, as a member or chief of that mammoth fur company, made, it has been said, a considerable portion of his immense wealth.

On the opposite side of the bayou, or New Town, was Fort Crawford, in which were about 300 United States troops. It occupied a high, airy and commanding position on the prairie, and comprised four substantial stone buildings, each some 200 feet long, forming a hollow square, in the center of which was a spacious parade ground. The officers and ladies of the



garrison were exceedingly courteous and agreeable, exerting themselves to render our visit in every respect pleasant and satisfactory. The New Town contained but few dwelling houses, and those of a very ordinary character, the only one of any pretensions, which I recollect, being that occupied by Judge Lockwood.

Returning to Cassville I took passage on board the steamer, *Missouri Fulton*, and bidding adieu to that delightful territory, in the fond hope of being permitted to visit it again in after years, set out cheerily for my eastern homes at Rock Island, in which stood Fort Armstrong, a handsome and truly formidable fortress. The captain kindly landed to afford the passengers an opportunity of witnessing the formalities of concluding a treaty which was being held between Gov. Dodge, acting for the United States, and the chiefs of the Sauk and Fox Indians, during which the latter ceded to the government their immensely valuable reservation situation on the Iowa river, west of the Mississippi, and nearly opposite to Rock Island, the sum stipulated for the purchase being, as it was then understood, seventy-five cents per acre.\*

The acquisition of this domain was considered of great importance to the country; not so much on account of its intrinsic value, as to get rid of those mischievous tribes of Indians, who up to a period very recent, had kept up a continual warfare with their white neighbors, at the instigation of Black Hawk, who strenuously maintained to the last, that they had been un-

justly deprived of the lands and homes inherited from their fathers, and which ended only with the capture of that brave old chief, and the consequent termination of war in August, 1832.

Pending the treaty, some 400 of the Sauk and Fox tribes, old and young, male and female, were encamped on the western bank of the river, opposite the island, who, contrary to the supposed proverbial taciturn and stoical disposition of that people, were engaged in all manner of sports, including horse racing and gambling of every description. The men, many of them, were painted after a variety of grotesque fashions, their heads ornamented and decked out in scarlet cloth or flannel, with a profusion of feathers, beads and other finery. They appeared decidedly happy, and at times were boisterous in their mirth. After the passengers returned to the boat, they were visited, among others, by the co-chiefs, Black Hawk and Keokuk, who exhibited evident signs of pleasure and gratification at being introduced to them, particularly the ladies, toward whom they were decidedly gallant. This treaty was considered, and justly too, a highly important one, settling, as it did, forever, the difficulties and misunderstandings which had so long subsisted with those Indians, who were the original owners and occupiers of all that beautiful country on both sides of the river, for a considerable distance above and below Rock Island, and Gov. Dodge was highly complimented for the skillful and successful manner in which he conducted the negotiations for the final result.

Thus have I hastily and imperfectly jotted down the reminiscences of a brief residence in the territory, nearly a quarter of a century ago; and if, among them all, there shall be found a single fact worthy of preservation as connected with its early history, I shall feel amply recompensed for the little time and labor it has cost me in its preparation.

POTTSVILLE, PA., Nov. 1858.

\*This is substantially correct. The Sauks and Foxes ceded at this treaty, 400 sections, or 256,000 acres, in consideration of which the sum of \$30,000 was to be paid them the following year, and \$10,000 a year for ten years thereafter, making altogether \$130,000. In addition, the government agreed to pay certain debts due to traders, and other claims, amounting in the aggregate to \$56,294.67; and still further provided to pay certain annuities for several half-breed children for their education, etc., the total amount of which cannot be well estimated. This would show the cost of the ceded lands at between seventy and seventy-five cents per acre. It is interesting to notice that Black Hawk, who was present at the treaty, had no official connection with it, having been practically deposed by our government at the close of the Black Hawk War, by the recognition of Keokuk, as head chief.

## CHAPTER XXII.

## THE SCHOOLS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

From the time of the earliest event of the families of French traders into the region now known as Wisconsin, to the year 1818, when that region became part of Michigan territory, education was mostly confined to private instruction, or was sought by the children of the wealthier in the distant cities of Quebec, Montreal and Detroit. The early Jesuit missionaries, and—subsequently to 1816, when it came under the military control of the United States—representatives of various other religious denominations sought to teach the Indian tribes of this section. In 1823 Rev. Eleazar Williams, well known for his subsequent claim to be the Dauphin of France, and who was in the employ of the Episcopal Missionary society, started a school of white and half-breed children on the west side of Fox river, opposite "Shanty-Town." A Catholic mission school for Indians was organized by an Italian priest near Green Bay, in 1830. A clause of the treaty with the Winnebago Indians, in 1832, bound the United States to maintain a school for their children near Prairie du Chien for a period of twenty-seven years.

## THE ORIGINAL SCHOOL CODE.

From 1818 to 1836, Wisconsin formed a part of Michigan territory. In the year 1837, Michigan was admitted into the Union as a State, and Wisconsin, embracing what is now Minnesota, Iowa, and a considerable region still further westward, was, by act of Congress, approved April 20th of the year previous, established as a separate territory. The act provided that the existing laws of the territory of Michigan should

be extended over the new territory so far as compatible with the provisions of the act, subject to alteration or repeal by the new government created. Thus with the other statutes, the school code of Michigan became the original code of Wisconsin, and it was soon formally adopted, with almost no change, by the first territorial Legislature, which met at Belmont. Although modified in some of its provisions almost every year, this imperfect code continued in force until the adoption of the State constitution in 1848. The first material changes in the code were made by the territorial Legislature at its second session, in 1837, by the passage of a bill "to regulate the sale of school lands, and to provide for organizing, regulating and perfecting common schools."

It was provided in this act that as soon as twenty electors should reside in a surveyed township, they should elect a board of three commissioners, holding office three years, to lay off districts, to apply the proceeds of the leases of school lands to the payment of teachers' wages, and to call school meetings. It was also provided that each district should elect a board of three directors, holding office one year, to locate school houses, hire teachers for at least three months in the year, and levy taxes for the support of schools. It was further provided that a third board of five inspectors should be elected annually in each town to examine and license teachers and inspect the schools. Two years subsequently (1839) the law was revised and the family, instead of the electors, was made the basis of the town organization. Every

town with not less than ten families, was made a school district and required to provide a competent teacher. More populous towns were divided into two or more districts. The office of town commissioner was abolished, its duties with certain others, being transferred to the inspectors. The rate-bill system of taxation, previously in existence, was repealed, and a tax on the whole county for building school houses and supporting schools was provided for. One or two years later the office of town commissioners was restored, and the duties of the inspectors were assigned to the same. Other somewhat important amendments were made at the same time.

In 1840, a memorial to Congress from the Legislature, represented that the people were anxious to establish a common school system, with suitable resources for its support. From lack of sufficient funds many of the schools were poorly organized. The rate-bill tax or private subscription was often necessary to supplement the scanty results of county taxation. Until a State government should be organized the fund accruing from the sale of school lands could not be available. Congress had made to Wisconsin as to other new States, for educational purposes, a donation of lands. These lands embraced the sixteenth section in every township in the State, the 500,000 acres to which the State was entitled by the provisions of an act of Congress passed in 1841, and any grant of lands from the United States, the purposes of which were not specified. To obtain the benefits of this large fund was a leading object in forming the State constitution.

#### AGITATION FOR FREE SCHOOLS.

Shortly before the admission of the State the subject of free schools began to be quite widely discussed. In February, 1845, Col. M. Frank, of Kenosha, a member of the territorial Legislature, introduced a bill, which became a law, authorizing the legal voters of his own town to vote taxes on all the assessed property for the full support of its schools. A provision of the

act required its submission to the people of the town before it could take effect. It met with strenuous opposition, but after many public meetings and lectures held in the interests of public enlightenment, the act was ratified by a small majority in the fall of 1845, and thus the first free school in the State was legally organized. Subsequently, in the Legislature, in the two constitutional conventions, and in educational assemblies, the question of a free school system for the new State soon to be organized provoked much interest and discussion. In the constitution framed by the convention of 1846, was provided the basis of a free school system similar to that in our present constitution.

The question of establishing the office of State superintendent, more than any other feature of the proposed school system elicited discussion in that body. The necessity of this office, and the advantages of free schools supported by taxation, were ably presented to the convention by Henry Barnard, of Connecticut, in an evening address. He afterward prepared by request, a draft of a free school system, with a State superintendent at its head, which was accepted and subsequently embodied in the constitution and the school law. In the second constitutional convention, in 1848, the same questions again received careful attention, and the article on education previously prepared, was, after a few changes, brought into the shape in which we now find it. Immediately after the ratification by the people, of the constitution prepared by the second convention, three commissioners were appointed to revise the statutes. To one of these, Col. Frank, the needed revision of the school laws was assigned. The work was acceptably performed, and the new school code of 1849, largely the same as the present one, went into operation May 1st, of that year.

#### THE SCHOOL SYSTEM UNDER THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

In the State constitution was laid the broad foundation of our present school system. The

four corner stones were: (1) The guaranteed freedom of the schools; (2) the school fund created; (3) the system of supervision; (4) a State University for higher instruction. The school fund has five distinct sources for its creation indicated in the constitution: (1) Proceeds from the sale of lands granted to the State by the United States for educational purposes; (2) all moneys accruing from forfeiture or escheat; (3) all fines collected in the several counties for breach of the penal laws; (4) all moneys paid for exemption from military duty; (5) five per cent. of the sale of government lands within the State. In addition to these constitutional sources of the school fund, another and sixth source was open from 1856 to 1870.

By an act of the State Legislature in the former year, three-fourths of the net proceeds of the sales of the swamp and overflowed lands, granted to the State by Congress, Sept. 28, 1850, were added to the common school fund, the other fourth going into a fund for drainage, under certain circumstances; but if not paid over to any town for that purpose within two years, to become a part of the school fund. The following year one of these fourths was converted into the normal school fund, leaving one-half for the common school fund. In 1858 another fourth was given to the drainage fund, thus providing for the latter one-half the income from the sales, and leaving for the school fund, until the year 1865, only the remaining one fourth. In the latter year this was transferred to the normal school fund, with the provision, however, that one-fourth of the income of this fund should be transferred to the common school fund until the annual income of the latter fund should reach \$200,000. In 1870 this provision was repealed, and the whole income of the normal fund left applicable to the support of normal schools and teachers' institutes.

At the first session of the State Legislature in 1848, several acts were passed which carried out in some degree the educational provisions

of the constitution. A law was enacted to provide for the election, and to define the duties of a State superintendent of public instruction. A district board was created, consisting of a moderator, director and treasurer; the office of town superintendent was established, and provision was made for the creation of town libraries, and for the distribution of the school fund. The present school code of Wisconsin is substantially that passed by the Legislature of 1848, and which went into operation May 1, 1849. The most important change since made was the abolition of the office of town superintendent, and the substitution therefor of the county superintendency. This change took effect Jan. 1, 1862.\*

#### DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOLS IN CRAWFORD COUNTY.

From small beginnings indeed, education has developed in Crawford as in other counties, step by step, growth upon growth, ever widening and deeping to meet the wants of an increasing population, until to-day our schools stand abreast with the times, and are not far behind the foremost in Wisconsin.

Here and there some fifteen to twenty years ago the traveler might meet on some cross road or deep in the head of some coulee, the old-time log cabin, poorly lighted, largely ventilated, wretchedly constructed and furnished, where grown boys and girls with little children were taught from old fashioned and various text books, and often indeed, without even these poor aids. Educated and trained teachers were hard to obtain. There was little attempt at classification or any uniformity of method. One teacher spent part of his term in pulling down the work which the former teacher had built up, or in carrying the pupil over the same ground traveled by his predecessor, leaving the boy or girl at compound numbers or at fractions, to begin again the same process on the re-opening of the school and arrival of the next teacher.

\* "Educational History," by Prof. Edward Scaring, in the Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wisconsin.

The programme and curriculum of these palmy days were the time worn reading and arithmetic in the forenoon; geography, reading and spelling in the afternoon. Language lessons or grammar were seldom or never taught. Penmanship was a scarcity. The benches and desks were rude; the ceiling low; the floor rough and rickety. No outbuildings were visible and on the whole the aspect looked uninviting. Yet here and there some good, solid work was accomplished, owing, perhaps, rather to the determination and patience of the pupil than to the ability of the teacher and the aid of books, and out from even these poor schools have gone earnest hearted youths and maidens equipped and harnessed fairly for the struggle of life. So true it is that talent will finally manifest itself in spite of lack of aid from extensive sources.

Crawford county had several superintendents of schools in these days known as township superintendents.

By and by instead of the log cabin might be seen, along the public roads, here and there, the neat frame building; sometimes roomy and well lighted, with seats and desks in keeping, and occasionally a good blackboard and a map or two on the walls. Some system, too, was attempted in the examination of teachers, and also in the discipline of the school room. Scholarship became a necessary factor in the teacher's fitness. The schools were more frequently visited; better order prevailed; the tests of successful work sought out both by superintendents and district boards, and the attention of the public now closely turned to the conditions of the schools.

The township system of superintendents closed and that of county supervisors begun.

#### COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

The county superintendents who have been elected to that office and the year of their election are as follows:

Joseph Evens, 1861; Orson Jackson, 1863; E. Kielly, 1865; C. W. Clinton, 1867; M. E. Mum-

ford, 1869; F. D. Mills, 1871; L. G. Miller, 1875; M. E. Norris, 1877; James H. McDonald, 1879; James H. McDonald, 1881.

#### COUNTY SUPERVISION.

The effect of this supervision and discipline is manifest in the better order of the schools and the progress of the pupils. Not only is it sought to have the intellect developed, but likewise the heart of kindness and courtesy, in the school room and on the play grounds. A constant visitation, when not engaged in office work, is kept up by the superintendent, when methods of instruction are examined, suggested or recommended, and faithful work encouraged.

Public lectures are frequently given; talks to the children on the beauty and nobility of education, self government and a pure life, self-giving and unselfish are not infrequent. Teachers and pupils everywhere welcome the superintendent, and he has always a place in the hearts and homes of our generous people.

The holding each year of normal institutes, under the management of a normal school conductor, assisted by the county superintendent and most able and prominent teachers, is of incalculable benefit. They present the best and standard methods of teaching; experiences of the most successful in the profession; the drill, the discipline and the elementary nature of the work, and are calculated to fit the teacher for abler methods of greater uniformity and of larger results in the school room.

School boards and school patrons are of late turning their attention to the providing of text books for their districts of greater uniformity, and of school furniture, such as maps, globes, seats and desks. The outlay in this direction during the last school year (1883) has been large. The profession is becoming less and less an itineraey, good teachers being retained in the old places at an increased salary.

There is yet much to do. The battle has not yet been won. May the time soon come when the school house will adorn the country, when the last log cabin will have disappeared and in

its place will stand the neat edifice with pleasant surroundings, calculated to train and elevate the ideas of the beautiful in the hearts and minds of the children, and when every man and woman, every youth and maiden in this beautiful country will have risen to a larger conception of what America offers them and expects from them in return. A great people, a grand future, to be reached not so much by wealth or by victory on the battle field as through the agency and power of the common schools.

It will be seen by the following figures that the schools are still steadily though slowly increasing.

STATISTICS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY COMMON SCHOOLS.\*

Number of districts in the county, wholly in one town.....	73
Number of joint districts, composed of parts of two or more towns.....	21
Whole number of schools in the county.....	94
Number of pupils of school age in the county	5,023
Number of schools with more than one department.....	1
Number of teachers required to teach the schools in the county.....	95
Number of male teachers employed.....	55
Number of female teachers employed.....	108
Number of different teachers employed (1882-3).....	163
Average wages paid male teachers per month	\$30.06
“ “ “ female “ “ “	\$18.94
Number of pupils attending school last year.....	3,532
Number of districts in the county having a library.....	2

\* From the annual report of the county superintendent for the year ending June 30, 1883.

Number of school houses built last year.....	4
Cost of school houses built last year.....	\$2,084.85
Cash value of all school houses in the county	\$24,259.85
Highest valuation of any school house.....	\$3,037.50
Amount raised by tax in the county for school purposes.....	\$16,075.24
Amount paid out in the county for school purposes.....	\$21,352.76

The above statistics do not include the statistics for the city of Prairie du Chien.

James H. McDonald, superintendent of schools of Crawford county, was born in Hartford, Conn., July 8, 1853. In 1859 he came to Madison, Wis., with his parents, and from there to Richland Centre. He received his primary education at the high school at Richland Center, and subsequently took a course of study at the Prairie du Chien college. At the age of sixteen years he began teaching school, and has made that his business for upwards of twelve years. He was elected county superintendent of schools of Crawford county in the fall of 1879; served the term of 1880-81; he has been re-elected and holds the office till Jan. 1, 1885. Mr. McDonald has made a most efficient and popular superintendent. He was married at Prairie du Chien Jan. 13, 1880, to Miss B. M. O'Niel, the daughter of Michael O'Niel. Mrs. McDonald was born at Prairie du Chien. They have two sons—Joseph and John. Their residence is Eastman, Wis. Mr. McDonald lost his right arm in a railroad accident May 30, 1867. He has educated himself and by his energy and studious habits has won success as a teacher, while, by the faithful discharge of his official duties, he commands the respect and confidence of his constituents.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

## VARIOUS THINGS.

As the years pass away there are transpiring continually in the county incidents of importance, which in their nature only require brief mention, but which cannot well be overlooked. Some of these are so transient in their character, that by much the larger portion of the people, they are soon forgotten; but what may seem unimportant now may become exceedingly important to future generations. It is the office of this chapter to preserve these small things awaiting the time when each shall no longer seem like "an insubstantial pageant faded."

"PURCHASED BY DR. ALEXANDER POSEY."

Know all men by these presents, That I, Patsay (a woman of color), heretofore indentured agreeably to the laws of Illinois territory, to M. Street, and having recently been purchased by Dr. Alexander Posey, at sheriff sale, as the property of said Street, do hereby covenant and agree with said Posey to remain with Mrs. Street as her servant during the full period for which the aforesaid indentures were taken; and furthermore I do hereby voluntarily and of my own accord agree to go with the said Mrs. Street to Prairie du Chien, or wherever else she may wish to reside, and to serve her, in the capacity of a servant as above stated; and I do hereby again aver that my going with Mrs. Street, as aforesaid, is of my own free will and accord, and not through the compulsion or evertion [*sic*] of said Posey or any other person.

Given under my hand this 24th day of May, A. D. 1828. PATSAY, her X mark.

Witness: P. Redman, John Marshall, Joseph Caldwell.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }  
GALLATIN COUNTY. } ss:

Before me personally appeared Patsay (a woman of color) whose mark is affixed to her name in the following [foregoing] instrument of writing, and acknowledged the same to be her free and voluntary act and deed for the purposes therein named; and that the same was done in the absence of Dr. Posey. Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of May, 1828.

THOMAS. F. VAUGHT, J. P.

## A PIONEER INCIDENT.

Le Grant Sterling in 1847 carried his plow on his shoulders from West Prairie to Mt. Sterling, on his way to Prairie du Chien, to get it sharpened. At Mt. Sterling, his load getting rather heavy, he hired a horse and rode the residue of the distance. On his way back he overtook Alexander Latshaw, whose wife was a relative, and a joyful meeting was of course the result. Mr. Latshaw was just then on his way out to settle in what is now Vernon, but what was then Crawford county.

"THE VAST, ILLIMITABLE, CHANGNIG WEST."

[By John D. Lawler, 1871.]

The histories of the various States comprising the Union, are exceedingly prolific in thrilling incidents, and especially may this be said of States bordering on the Mississippi river. Few of the thriving cities, towns and villages that line its banks from St. Paul to New Orleans, but have connected with their first settlement and after growth, circumstances which serve to invest them with more than ordinary interest, an interest the more fascinating

from the fact, that the circumstances chronicled concerning them are just so far removed as to be out of our memory, and yet within the recollection of some of our elders, and indeed, upon the narratives of these men are we compelled to rely for the history of the western country. They tell us of the hardships and dangers endured by the early settlers, of

“The battles, sieges, fortunes—  
They have passed.”

They picture in vivid colors the barbarities of the savages, their ruthless massacres and their fiendish cruelties.

It seems almost impossible that such things should have occurred in this age and country; and yet, fifty years ago, they were of common occurrence, and they are narrated by those who have witnessed them—the hardy pioneers, who led the van of civilization into the vast wilderness of the west who, in youth, smoked the pipe of peace at the council fires of the savages, or mixed in deadly fray with this ruthless foe, and in old age they beheld the places where once their camp fires burned brightly, in the depth of unbroken forests, covered with the habitations of civilized life.

The unparalleled growth of this country is nowhere better evidenced than in this State. Half a century ago there were scarcely 1,000 inhabitants, and but two settlements within its limits; to-day, the population is more than 1,000,000, and numerous cities, towns and villages have sprung up as by magic.

#### AN OLD PROPHECY FULFILLED.

In the New England *Magazine* for September, 1832,—a magazine edited by J. T. & E. Buckingham—was printed an article reviewing a book entitled “A Tour to Prairie du Chien, etc.,” by Caleb Atwater. Mr. Atwater’s vision of an interoceanic railway was thus presented in his book :

“Along the National road, when completed from Wheeling to Jefferson City, in Missouri, a railroad might be made, and from thence up the Platte all the way to the Pacific, without a

hill in the way worth naming. I know, from personal observation, that not a single hill or valley prevents the construction of a railroad from Wheeling to St. Louis ; and that, I doubt not, is the worst part of the route. When locomotive engineers are brought to the perfection experience and ingenuity will soon bring them, goods and passengers could pass between the two seas in ten days. That this will be the route to China within fifty years from this time scarcely admits of a doubt. From sea to sea a dense population would dwell along the whole route, enliven the prospect with their industry, and animate the scene.”

This was more than the interviewer, “a gentleman who has resided several years in the western country,” could stand, and he demolished Mr. Atwater’s railroad with the following words :

“Ay, when railroads shall have been constructed over 1,000 miles of land almost as barren and arid as the desert of Sahara, this may be the channel of communication between New York and China. Pray, will the passengers in Mr. Atwater’s locomotive engine carry their food with them, or will they stop to hunt the buffalo ? Will the Indians have been exterminated, or will the steam cars run over them ? Will forests have grown up on the road to supply his boilers with fuel ? \* \* \* That such a communication may take place between the Atlantic states and the East Indies some day, we will not dispute, for nothing is impossible with God ; but that it will exist any time within the next two centuries we beg leave to doubt. The obstacles which exist at present are as follows : The Indian title is to be extinguished over a route of about 1,500 miles ; a railroad must be laid over two thirds of that distance ; wood must grow along the road, and reservoirs must be constructed to supply the engines with water. This seems to be a wilder scheme than even that of Oregon emigration.”

#### A CENTENARIAN.

Antoine Valley died in the town of Prairie du Chien Feb. 28, 1881, in the 104th year of his



age. He was born in St. Antonine, Canada, Nov. 4, 1777. He settled at Prairie du Chien in 1854. He was the father of eighteen children, nine of whom survived him. He practiced total abstinence from alcoholic drink, and died while giving thanks for blessings received.

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY IN 1873.\*

Among the striking physical features of this county are the towering bluffs, which often rise to the height of from 400 to 600 feet, and which present their bold, rocky fronts on the whole line of their boundary, as well as along either bank of the principal streams. The bottom lands lying at the foot of these bluffs are very fertile; and the soil, which is a light, sandy loam, is of great value for the production of garden vegetables of every description, which come to maturity much sooner than on the high lands in the same localities. Through this county, near its centre, runs a divide, which separates the valley of the Mississippi from those of the Wisconsin and Kickapoo rivers; and from this, at right angles with it, are alternations of ridge and valley, the former generally wooded; while in the vales are fertile lands, valuable forests, prairie meadows and good water-powers on never failing streams.

Agriculture and trade have hitherto been the pursuits of the people, to the almost entire neglect of manufactures; the census of 1870 showing an aggregate of farm production of \$823,000, while the products of our manufactures was but \$240,000. But, during the past year, the people have awakened to the importance of manufactures, over all other branches of industry; and henceforth the hammer, loom and anvil are to have their devotees, as well as the plough. In the line of public improvement are excellent roads and good school houses, so numerous that every child enjoys the privilege of a good common school education. The Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway extends along the southern line of the county for a distance of

twenty miles. Bridgeport is one of the principal shipping points on the road for grain and live-stock; while at Prairie du Chien the company have one of the largest freight depots in the State, a grain elevator with a capacity of 250,000 bushels, and from which 275 cars have been loaded with wheat in a single day. The company have here large car works, a good passenger depot, and near this, one of the finest hotels in the west. The business of the company has increased so rapidly under its excellent management, that it has been compelled to erect a temporary bridge over the Mississippi for the transfer of trains during the winter; while in the season of navigation in 1870, three steamers were constantly engaged in the transfer of cars from one shore to the other.

The commerce of the county at this time has an extent and importance which few would imagine who have not examined the figures which show it; and this is not conducted by rail alone; but three organized lines of elegant steamers touch at the river town, and do not only a large freight, but passenger business also. The county is remarkably healthy, is well-watered and has heavy forests in every town. In her markets, lumber and all descriptions of building material are plenty and cheap. Improved lands may be purchased at from \$15 to \$30 per acre; and unimproved from \$5 to \$10. The public schools are under the charge of good teachers and an efficient county superintendent, and are accessible to nearly every child. In Prairie du Chien is a large German school, with an accomplished native teacher; while the Catholics have a large "sisters'" school, and will soon open another, of a higher grade, in a large and beautiful building, which was erected at a cost of \$50,000.

The people of Crawford county are intelligent, industrious, wide-awake to their interests, and hence are good patrons of schools, churches and the press; and, taken all in all, the county possesses the natural and other advantages, which in future will permit her to take a front rank among those which make up the noble commonwealth of Wisconsin.

\* This sketch is compiled from the report of the commissioner of immigration for 1873.

CENSUS RETURNS.

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1820.

Free white males.....	243
Free white females.....	102
Foreigners, not naturalized.....	101
Number of persons engaged in Agriculture.....	71
Number of persons engaged in Commerce.....	58
Number of persons engaged in Manufactures.....	39
Free colored males.....	7
Free colored females.....	9
All other persons except, Indians, not taxed.....	131
Total.....	492

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1830.

Free white males.....	1,602
Free white females.....	1,501
Free colored males.....	6
Free colored females.....	5
Total.....	3,127

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1840.

Free white males.....	1,033
Free white females.....	464
Number of persons engaged in Agriculture.....	329
Number of persons engaged in Commerce.....	3
Number of persons engaged in Manufactures.....	102
Free colored males.....	1
Free colored females.....	4
Total.....	1,502

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1850.

White males.....	1,434
White females.....	1,047
Free colored males.....	4
Free colored females.....	13
Total.....	2,498

STATE CENSUS FOR 1855.

TOWNS.	AGGREGATE POPULATION.				Total.....	Deaf and Dumb.....	Blind.....	Insane.....	Foreign Born.....
	WHITE.		COLOR-ED.						
	Males.....	Females.....	Males.....	Females.....					
Eastman.....	295	240	.....	.....	535	1	.....	2	143
Highland.....	233	208	.....	.....	441	1	.....	.....	12
Marietta.....	173	139	.....	.....	312	.....	.....	.....	14
Prairie du Chien.....	815	678	13	13	1,519	.....	.....	3	400
Utica.....	253	263	.....	.....	516	.....	.....	.....	132
Total.....	1,769	1,528	13	13	3,323	2	.....	5	702

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1860.

TOWNS.	WHITE.		FREE COLORED.		TOTAL.
	Males.....	Females.....	Males.....	Females.....	
Clayton.....	440	387	.....	.....	827
Eastman.....	429	369	.....	.....	798
Freeman.....	413	366	.....	.....	779
Haney.....	259	203	.....	.....	462
Lynxville.....	145	117	.....	.....	262
Marietta.....	361	319	.....	.....	680
Prairie du Chien.....	1,227	1,143	14	14	2,398
Scott.....	172	159	.....	.....	331
Seneca.....	119	110	.....	.....	229
Utica.....	320	305	.....	.....	625
Wauzeka.....	351	326	.....	.....	677
Total.....	4,236	3,804	14	14	8,068

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1865.

TOWNS.	MALES.....	FEMALES.....	COLOR-ED.....	TOTAL.
Clayton.....	554	528	.....	1,082
Eastman.....	479	452	.....	931
Freeman.....	465	465	.....	930
Haney.....	243	203	.....	446
Lynxville.....	161	119	.....	280
Marietta.....	180	175	.....	355
Prairie du Chien.....	1,805	1,727	42	3,556
Seneca.....	406	376	1	783
Scott.....	347	314	.....	661
Utica.....	523	471	.....	994
Union.....	135	117	.....	252
Wauzeka.....	391	350	.....	741
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	11,011

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1870.

TOWNS.	NATIVE.	FOR-IGN.	WHITE	COLOR ED.	TOTAL.
Clayton.....	1,137	279	1,416	.....	1,416
Eastman.....	779	435	1,214	.....	1,214
Freeman.....	753	526	1,279	.....	1,279
Haney.....	452	37	488	1	489
Lynxville.....	.....	41	452	.....	452
Marietta.....	411	.....	452	.....	452
Prairie du Chien (town).....	2,457	1,203	3,642	13	3,655
Prairie du Chien (city).....	740	60	796	1	800
Scott.....	930	303	1,233	.....	1,233
Seneca.....	331	17	348	.....	348
Union.....	845	315	1,260	.....	1,260
Utica.....	976	247	923	.....	922
Wauzeka.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	9,612	3,463	13,054	15	15,769

\*In 1867 Lynxville merged into Seneca.

CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1875.

TOWNS.	POPULATION.				TOTAL.....	Deaf and Dumb.....	Blind.....	Insane.....
	WHITE.		COLOR-ED.					
	Males.....	Females.....	Males.....	Females.....				
Bridgeport.....	177	186	.....	.....	363	.....	.....	.....
Clayton.....	851	765	.....	.....	1,616	.....	.....	.....
Eastman.....	755	688	.....	.....	1,443	1	.....	.....
Freeman.....	798	766	.....	.....	1,564	1	.....	3
Haney.....	313	258	.....	.....	571	1	.....	.....
Marietta.....	498	404	4	3	902	.....	.....	.....
Pr. du Chien (town).....	394	326	.....	.....	720	1	1	2
Pr. du Chien (city).....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
First Ward.....	411	352	.....	.....	763	.....	.....	.....
Second Ward.....	429	535	2	3	964	1	.....	1
Third Ward.....	404	424	.....	.....	828	.....	.....	.....
Fourth Ward.....	184	209	12	5	393	.....	.....	.....
Scott.....	485	468	.....	.....	953	.....	.....	.....
Seneca.....	704	687	.....	.....	1,391	.....	.....	.....
Utica.....	773	697	.....	.....	1,470	.....	.....	1
Wauzeka.....	583	511	.....	.....	1,094	1	.....	.....
Total.....	7,759	7,276	18	11	15,035	6	1	7

## CENSUS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY FOR 1880.

Bridgeport.....	448
Clayton, including the following villages.....	1,976
Bell Center village, part of, (see Haney).....	27
Soldiers' Grove village.....	106
Weoster Mills village.....	62
Eastman, including Batavia village.....	1,459
Batavia village.....	63
Freeman.....	1,544
Haney, including part of Bell Center village.....	636
Bell Center village, part of, (see Clayton).....	71
Marietta.....	1,087
Prairie du Chien.....	724
Prairie du Chien city.....	2,577
First Ward.....	689
Second Ward.....	953
Third Ward.....	723
Fourth Ward.....	412
Scott.....	1,046
Seneca, including the following villages.....	1,446
Lynxville village.....	155
Seneca village.....	88
Utica, including the following villages.....	1,496
Mt. Sterling village.....	95
Rising Sun village.....	53
Towerville village.....	38
Wauzeka, including Wauzeka village.....	1,055
Wauzeka village.....	230
Total.....	15,644

## THE FUR TRADE IN CRAWFORD COUNTY.

It has incidently been mentioned that trading with the Indians was largely the employment of the early pioneers whose homes were upon the prairie. This was indeed the case for nearly, if not quite, sixty years after the first settlement there; and, in this connection, a few words with regard to the fur-trade, its origin, progress, and importance, are not out of place.

The northwest was visited and explored by French *voyageurs* and missionaries from Canada at an early day. The object of the former was trading and gain. The Jesuits, ever zealous in the propagation of their religion, went forth into the unknown wilderness to convert the natives to their faith. As early as 1624 they were operating about Lake Huron and Mackinaw. Father Menard, it is related, was with the Indians on Lake Superior as early as 1661. The early explorers were of two classes, and were stimulated by two widely different motives—the *voyageurs*, by the love of gain, and the missionaries, by their zeal in the propagation of their faith. Previous to 1679, a considerable trade in furs had sprung up with Indian tribes in the vicinity of Mackinaw and the northern part of "Ouisconsin." In that year more than 200 canoes, laden with furs, passed Mackinaw, bound for Montreal. The whole

commerce of this vast region then traversed, was carried on with birch-bark canoes. The French used them in traversing wilds—otherwise inaccessible by reason of floods of water at one season, and ice and snow at another—also lakes and morasses which interrupted land journeys, and rapids and cataracts that cut off communication by water. This little vessel enabled them to overcome all difficulties. Being buoyant, it rode the waves, although heavily freighted, and, of light draft, it permitted the traversing of small streams. Its weight was so light that it could be easily carried from one stream to another, and around rapids and other obstructions. With this little vessel, the fur trade of the northwest was carried on, as well as the interior of a vast continent explored. Under the stimulus of commercial enterprise, the French traders penetrated the recesses of the immense forests whose streams were the home of the beaver, the otter and the mink, and in whose depths were found the marten, sable, ermine, and other fur-bearing animals. A vast trade in furs sprung up, and was carried on by different agents, under authority of the French government.

When the military possession of the northwestern domain passed from the government of France to that of Great Britain, in 1760, the relationship of the fur trade to the government changed. The government of France had controlled the traffic, and made it a means of strengthening its hold upon the country it possessed. The policy of Great Britain was to charter companies and grant them exclusive privileges. The Hudson Bay Company had grown rich and powerful between 1670 and 1760. Its success had excited the cupidity of capitalists, and rival organizations were formed. The business of the company had been done at their trading-stations—the natives bringing in their furs for exchange and barter. Other companies sent their *voyageurs* into every nook and corner to traffic with the trappers, and even to catch the fur-bearing animals themselves. In the

progress of time, private parties engaged in trapping and dealing in furs, and, under the competition created, the business became less profitable. In 1815 Congress passed an act prohibiting foreigners from dealing in furs in the United States, or any of its territories. This action was obtained through the influence of John Jacob Astor. Mr. Astor organized the American Fur Company in 1809, and afterward, in connection with the Northwest Company, bought out the Mackinaw Company, and the two were merged in the Southwest Company. The association was suspended by the War of 1812. The American re-entered the field in 1816.

A more specific relation of these events is the following account from the pen of Eyman C. Draper, of Madison, Wis.:

"In 1783 several of the principal merchants of Montreal entered into a partnership to prosecute the fur trade, and, in 1787, united with a rival company, and thus arose the famous Northwest Company, which, for many years, held lordly sway over the immense region in Canada and beyond the great western lakes. Several years later a new association of British merchants formed the Mackinaw Company, having their chief factory or depot at Mackinaw; and their field of operations was south of their great rivals; sending forth their light pirogues and bark canoes, by Green Bay, the Fox and Wisconsin rivers to the Mississippi, and thence down that stream to all its tributaries. In 1809 Mr. Astor organized the American Fur Company, he alone constituting the company; and in 1811, in connection with certain partners of the Northwest Company, and others, he bought out the Mackinaw Company, and merged that and his American Fur Company into a new association, called the Southwest Company. By this arrangement Mr. Astor became proprietor of one-half of all the interests which the Mackinaw company had in the Indian country within the United States; and it was understood that the whole, at the expiration of five years, was to pass into his hands,

on condition that the American or Southwest Company would not trade within the British dominions. The war of 1812 suspended the association, and after the war it was entirely dissolved, Congress having passed a law prohibiting British fur traders from prosecuting their enterprises within the territories of the United States. Mr. Crooks, in 1815, closed up the affairs of the Southwest Company, preliminary to enlarged individual enterprise on the part of Mr. Astor."

In the Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wisconsin (1878), the subject is treated of in these words: "Loth to relinquish the profitable fur trade, that government [Great Britain] held possession of Mackinaw long after it acknowledged the independence of the United States by the treaty of peace in 1783. Although it relinquished all claim to this territory by the Jay treaty in 1796, that traffic was made a lever by which the Wisconsin outposts were held as subservient as before to British interests. The trade was for a long period controlled by an association of merchants at Montreal, known as the Northwestern Fur Company. The Mackinaw Company was formed somewhat later, and operated toward Green bay and the upper Mississippi. Their goods were brought through Canada, and having control of the fountains of supply they closed the door against competition from the United States. The traders at Prairie du Chien, as at other outposts, were usually agents of one or the other of the great companies, and their employes were engaged mostly at Montreal by contracts of the ironclad description. There were few, either traders or employes, independent of these associations. In 1809, John Jacob Astor endeavored to establish the American Fur Company, but abandoned the undertaking and joined the Northwest Company in 1811 in buying out the Mackinaw Company, merging that and the American in the Southwest Company, of which Astor owned a half interest, with the arrangement that after five years it was to pass into his

hands altogether, being restricted in its operations to the territories of the United States. The War of 1812 suspended this association, and at its close British traders were prohibited by law from pursuing their vocation within United States dominions; consequently the Southwest Company was wound up, and the American Fur Company reappeared under Astor's exclusive control, with its western headquarters at Mackinaw. But the British traders evaded the prohibition by sending their goods across the lines in the name of American clerks. Being of superior quality, their wares still commanded the Indian trade, while on the other hand the prohibition cut off the new American Company from the customary channel of supply, and its goods began to be imported to New York, and introduced by way of the lakes in 1816. They were at first of inferior quality, especially the guns, cloths and blankets, and it was several years before acceptable merchandise for the Indian trade could be procured through this quarter, such was the hold of the British traders upon the foreign manufacturers. When accomplished, however, they were supplanted, and the people of this region were released from their grasp."

A United States factory was established at Prairie du Chien in 1816, in charge of John W. Johnson, a worthy man, who remained in the discharge of his duties until the establishment was closed out by the winding up of the system in 1832, when he removed to St. Louis. These factories were established for the purpose of counteracting British influence and preventing extortion by the traders by furnishing goods to the Indians at fair rates, under the direct supervision of government agents. They, however, fell short of accomplishing their purpose on account of the inferior quality of the goods usually furnished.

Until 1816 goods came mostly from Montreal in bateaux or canoes, mostly by the Mackinaw or its successor, the Southwest company, or by some private traders. But early in 1815 Mr.

Astor purchased the interest of the Southwest company at Mackinaw and its dependencies, and in August of that year Ramsey Crooks, as already mentioned, went to Mackinaw as agent for Mr. Astor to complete the arrangements. In the spring of 1816 the goods of the American Fur Company were imported to New York, and thence by way of the lakes to Mackinaw. During that spring several Montreal traders arriving at Mackinaw with Indian goods, probably not aware of the law of Congress prohibiting British subjects from trading within the American territories, now took advantage of the order of the secretary of the treasury, and sent their goods into the Indian country, under the nominal direction of a hired American clerk, to whom the goods were invoiced and who took the license in his name, and gave proper bonds with security to the traders who owned them, who went along ostensibly as interpreters, until the boat passed all the American forts and agencies, when they assumed the ownership, and proceeded as usual in their business—these clerks' bonds were considered as a mere formality to evade the law, and were worth so much brown paper, and no more.

In the spring of 1817 the American Fur Company brought a large number of American clerks from Montreal and the United States, some of whom made good Indian traders and are yet in the country, but nearly one-half of them were found not qualified for the business, and in the following spring many of them were discharged from Mackinaw, which was the grand depot of the American trade.

The American Fur Company, as had been the practice of the Mackinaw and Southwest companies, made their outfits to Lake Superior, to the Mississippi, the head of St. Peter's and the Missouri. The boats for the Mississippi and Missouri trade passed through the north end of Lake Michigan from Mackinaw, thence through Green bay to the settlement of that name; thence up the Fox river to the Little Kaukalin, where they made a portage of about three

fourths of a mile. Augustin Grignon had a trading house at this point and kept teams to transport the goods and furs, (the men taking the boats empty up or down the rapids, as the case might be,) for which he charged about twenty cents per 100 pounds. The boats then proceeded to Grand chute, where the men made another portage of the goods or furs, and passed the boat over the Grand chute empty. Thence they proceeded to the rapids at the lower end of Winnebago lake, where they usually made half loads over the rapids into the lake. Thence they proceeded upward to where the Fox river enters the lake, thence up Fox river through Puckawa lake, and Lac de Boeuf, or Buffalo lake, and some smaller lakes to portage of Wisconsin, where a man by the name of Roy resided, who kept teams and hauled goods, furs and boats across the portage of one and one-fourth miles from the Fox to the Wisconsin river, for which he charged forty cents per 100 pounds, and \$10 for each boat.

The boats then went down the Wisconsin to its mouth, and thence up the Mississippi about three miles to Prairie du Chien; the traders of the lower Mississippi and Missouri never going down without a short stop at Prairie du Chien, where they generally spent some days in conviviality, dinners, dancing, etc. Tradition says that many years since, when there were many wintering traders in both the upper and lower Mississippi, it was the custom of every trader visiting Prairie du Chien to have in store a keg of eight or nine gallons of good wine for convivial purposes when they should again meet in the spring, on which occasions they would have great dinner parties, and, as is the English custom, drink largely. But in 1816 there were but few of the old traders remaining, and the storing of wine at Prairie du Chien had become almost obsolete, although the traders were then well supplied with wine, and that of the best kind, of which they made very free use. It was then thought that a clerk in charge of an outfit must have his keg of wine, but after

the American Fur Company got fairly initiated into the trade they abolished the custom of furnishing their clerks with this luxury at the expense of the outfit. As has already been said, the Indian trade of the Mississippi and Missouri and their tributaries was carried on from Mackinaw as the grand depot of the trade of the northwest.

The traders and their clerks were then the aristocracy of the country, and to a Yankee at first sight, presented a singular state of society. To see gentlemen selecting wives of the nut-brown natives, and raising children of mixed blood, the traders and clerks living in as much luxury as the resources of the country would admit, and the *engages* or boatmen living upon soup made of hulled corn with barley, tallow enough to season it, devoid of salt, unless they purchased it themselves at a high price—all this to an American was a novel mode of living, and appeared to be hard fare; but to a person acquainted with the habits of life of the Canadian peasantry, it would not look so much out of the way, as they live mostly on pea soup, seasoned with a piece of pork boiled down to grease; seldom eating pork except in the form of grease that seasons their soup. With this soup, and a piece of coarse bread, their meals were made; hence the change from pea soup to corn is not so great, or the fare much worse than that to which they had been accustomed, as the corn is more substantial than peas, not being so flatulent.

These men engaged in Canada generally for five years for Mackinaw and its dependencies, transferable like cattle to any one who wanted them, at generally about 500 livres a year, or in our currency, about \$83.33; furnished with a yearly equipment or outfit of two cotton shirts, one three point or triangular blanket, a portage collar and one pair of beef shoes; being obliged, in the Indian country to purchase their moccasins, tobacco, pipes and other necessaries at the price the trader saw fit to charge for them. Generally at the end of five years these poor *voyageurs* were in debt from \$50 to \$150 and

could not leave the country until they had paid their indebtedness; and the policy of the traders was to keep as many of them in the country as they could; and to this end they allowed and encouraged their *engagees* to get in debt during the five years, which of necessity required them to remain.

These new hands were by the old *voyageurs* called in derision *mangeurs de lard*—*pork eaters*, as on leaving Montreal, and on the route to Mackinaw, they were fed on pork, hard bread and pea soup, while the old *voyageurs* in the Indian country ate corn soup, and such other food as could conveniently be procured. These *mangeurs de lard* were brought at considerable expense and trouble from Montreal and other parts of Canada, frequently deserting after they had received some advance in money and their equipment. Hence it was the object of the traders to keep as many of the old *voyageurs* in the country as they could, and they generally permitted the *mangeurs de lard* to get largely in debt, as they could not leave the country and get back into Canada, except by the return boats or canoes which brought the goods, and they would not take them back if they were in debt anywhere in the country, which could be easily ascertained from the traders at Mackinaw. But if a man was prudent enough to save his wages, he could obtain passage, as he was no longer wanted in the country.

#### CLIMATOLOGY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

The climate of a country, or that peculiar state of the atmosphere in regard to heat and moisture which prevails in any given place, and which directly affects the growth of plants and animals, is determined by the following causes: 1st, distance from the equator; 2d, distance from the sea; 3d, height above the sea; 4th, prevailing winds; and 5th, local influences, such as soil, vegetation and proximity to lakes and mountains:

Of these causes, the first, distance from the equator, is by far the most important. The warmest climates are necessarily those of tropi-

cal regions where the sun's rays are vertical. But in proceeding from the equator toward the poles, less and less heat continues to be received by the same extent of surface, because the rays fall more and more obliquely, and the same amount of heat-rays therefore spread over an increasing breadth of surface; while, however, with the increase of obliquity, more and more heat is absorbed by the atmosphere, as the amount of air to be penetrated is greater. If the earth's surface were either wholly land or water, and its atmosphere motionless, the gradations of climate would run parallel with the latitudes from the equator to the poles. But owing to the irregular distribution of land and water and the prevailing winds, such an arrangement is impossible, and the determination of the real climate of a given region, and its causes, is one of the most difficult problems of science.

On the second of these causes, distance from the sea, depends the difference between oceanic and continental climates. Water is more slowly heated and cooled than land; the climates of the sea and the adjacent land are therefore much more equal and moist than those of the interior.

A decrease of temperature is noticeable in ascending high mountains. The rate at which the temperature falls with the height above the sea is a very variable quantity, and is influenced by a variety of causes, such as latitude, situation, moisture, or dryness, hour of the day and season of the year. As a rough approximation, however, the fall of 1 deg. of the thermometer for every 300 feet is usually adopted.

Air in contact with any part of the earth's surface, tends to acquire the temperature of that surface. Hence, winds from the north are cold; those from the south are warm. Winds from the sea are moist, and winds from the land are usually dry. Prevailing winds are the result of the relative distribution of atmospheric pressure blowing from places where the pressure is highest, toward places where it is lowest. As climate practically depends on the tempera-

ture and moisture of the air, and as these again depend on the prevailing winds which come charged with the temperature and moisture of the regions they have traversed, it is evident that charts showing the mean pressure of the atmosphere give us the key to the climates of the different regions of the world. The effect of prevailing winds is seen in the moist and equable climate of western Europe, especially Great Britain, owing to the warm and moist southwest winds; and in the extremes of the eastern part of North America, due to the warm and moist winds prevailing in summer and the Arctic blasts of winter.

Among local influences which modify climate, the nature of the soil is one of the most important. As water absorbs much heat, wet, marshy ground usually lowers the mean temperature. A sandy waste presents the greatest extremes. The extremes of temperature are also modified by extensive forests, which prevent the soil from being as much warmed and cooled as it would be if bare. Evaporation goes on more slowly under the trees, since the soil is screened from the sun. And as the air among the trees is little agitated by the wind, the vapor is left to accumulate, and hence the humidity of the air is increased. Climate is modified in a similar manner by lakes and other large surfaces of water. During summer the water cools the air and reduces the temperature of the locality. In winter, on the other hand, the opposite effect is produced.

The surface water which is cooled sinks to lower levels; the warmer water rising to the surface, radiates heat into the air and thus raises the temperature of the neighboring region. This influence is well illustrated, on a great scale, in our own State by Lake Michigan.

It is, lastly, of importance whether a given tract of country is diversified by hills, valleys and mountains. Winds with their warm vapor strike the sides of the mountains and are forced up into higher levels of the atmosphere, where the vapor is condensed into clouds. Air com-

ing into contact, during the night or in winter, with the cooled declivities of hills and rising grounds becomes cooled, and consequently denser and sinks to the low-lying grounds, displacing the warmer and lighter air. Hence, frosts often occur at these places, when no traces of them can be found at higher levels. For the same reason the cold of winter is generally more intense in ravines and valleys than on hill tops and high grounds, the valleys being a receptacle for the cold-air currents, which descend from all sides. These currents give rise to gusts and blasts of cold wind, which are simply the out-rush of cold air from such basins. This is a subject of great practical importance to fruit-growers.

In order to understand the principal features of the climate of Crawford county, and the conditions on which these depend, it is necessary to consider the general climatology of Wisconsin, particularly the western portion of the State, of which Crawford county is a part; and from this, the reader can readily deduce the character of the climate in the county.

The remarkable manner in which so large a body of water as Lake Michigan modifies the temperature has been carefully determined, so far as it relates to Wisconsin, by the late Dr. Lapham, of Milwaukee. It is seen by the map that the average summer temperature of Racine is the same as that of St. Paul. The weather map for July, 1875, in the signal service report for 1876, shows that the mean temperature for July was the same in Rock county, in the southern part of the State, as that of Breckinridge, Minn., north of St. Paul. The moderating effect of the lake during hot weather is felt in the adjacent region during both day and night.

Countries in the higher latitudes, having an extreme summer temperature, are usually characterized by a small amount of rain-fall. The Mississippi valley, however, is directly exposed in spring and summer to the warm and moist winds from the south, and as these winds condense their moisture by coming in contact with



colder upper currents from the north and west, it has a profusion of rain which deprives the climate largely of its continental features. As already stated, the average amount of rain-fall in Wisconsin is about thirty inches annually. Of this amount, about one-eighth is precipitated in winter, three-eighths in summer, and the rest is equally distributed between spring and autumn—in other words, rain is abundant at the time of the year when it is most needed. In Wisconsin the rainfall is greatest in the south-western part of the State; the least, on and along the shore of Lake Michigan. This shows that the humidity of the air of a given area can be greater, and the rainfall less than that of some other.

In comparison with western Europe, even where the mean temperature is higher than in the Mississippi valley, the most striking fact in the climatic conditions of the United States is the great range of plants of tropical or sub-tropical origin, such as Indian corn, tobacco, etc. The conditions on which the character of the vegetation depends are temperature and moisture, and the mechanical and chemical composition of the soil.

The basis of this great capacity (the great range of plants) is the high curve of heat and moisture for the summer, and the fact that the measure of heat and rain are almost or quite tropical for a period in duration from one to five months, in the range from Quebec to the coast of the gulf. Indian corn attains its full perfection between the summer isotherms 72 deg. and 77 deg., in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas; but it may be grown up to the line of 65 degs., which includes the whole of Wisconsin. The successful cultivation of this important staple is due to the intense heat of summer and a virgin soil rich in nitrogen.

While Milwaukee and central Wisconsin have a mean annual temperature of 45 deg., that of southern Ireland and central England is 50 deg.; the line of 72 deg., the average temperature for

July, runs from Walworth county to St. Paul, while during the same month Ireland and England have a mean temperature of only 60 deg. In Wisconsin, the thermometer rises as high as 90 deg. and above, while the range above the mean in England is very small. It is the tropical element of our summers, then, that causes the grape, the corn, etc., to ripen, while England, with a higher mean temperature, is unable to mature them successfully. Ireland, where southern plants may remain out-doors, unfrosted the whole winter, cannot mature these fruits and grasses which ripen in Wisconsin. In England a depression of 2 deg. below the mean of 60 deg. will greatly reduce the quantity, or prevent the ripening of wheat altogether, 60 deg. being essential to a good crop. Wheat requiring a lower temperature than corn, is better adapted to the climate of Wisconsin. This grain may be grown as far north as Hudson bay.

Autumn, including September, October and November, is of a short duration in Wisconsin. North of the 42d parallel, or the southern boundary line of the State, November belongs properly to the winter months, its mean temperature being about 32 deg. The decrease of heat from August to September is generally from 8 deg. to 9 deg., 11 deg. from September to October, and 14 deg. from October to November. The average temperature for these three months is about 45 deg. A beautiful season, commonly known as Indian summer, frequently occurs in the latter part of October and in November. This period is characterized by a mild temperature and a hazy, calm atmosphere. According to Loomis, this appears to be due to "an uncommonly tranquil condition of the atmosphere, during which the air becomes filled with dust and smoke arising from numerous fires, by which its transparency is greatly impaired." This phenomenon extends as far north as Lake Superior, but it is more conspicuous and protracted in Kansas and Missouri, and is not observed in the southern States.

Destructive frosts generally occur in September, and sometimes in August. "A temperature of 36 deg. to 40 deg. at sunrise is usually attended with frosts destructive to vegetation, the position of the thermometer being usually such as to represent less than the actual refrigeration at the open surface." In 1875, during October, at Milwaukee, the mercury fell seven times below the freezing point, and twice below zero in November, the lowest being 14 deg.

The winters are generally long and severe, but occasionally mild and almost without snow. The mean winter temperature varies between 23 deg. in the southeastern part of the State, and 16 deg. at Ashland, in the northern. For this season the extremes are great. The line of 20 deg. is of importance, as it marks the average temperature which is fatal to the growth of all the tender trees, such as the pear and the peach. In the winter of 1875-'76, the mean temperature for December, January and February, in the upper lake region, was about 4 deg. above the average mean for many years, while during the previous winter the average temperature for January and February was about 12 deg. below the mean for many years, showing a great difference between cold and mild winters. In the same winter, 1875-'76, at Milwaukee, the thermometer fell only six times below zero, the lowest being 12 deg., while during the preceding winter the mercury sank thirty-six times below zero, the lowest being 23 deg. In the northern and northwestern part of the State the temperature sometimes falls to the freezing point of mercury. During the exceptionally cold winter of 1872-'3, at La Crosse, the thermometer sank nearly fifty times below zero; on December 24, it indicated 37 deg. below, and on January 18, 43 deg. below zero, averaging about 12 deg. below the usual mean for those months. The moderating effect of Lake Michigan can be seen by observing how the lines indicating the mean winter temperature curve northward as they approach the lake. Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Two

Rivers and the Grand Traverse region of Michigan, have the same average winter temperature. The same is true regarding Galena, Ill., Beloit and Kewaunee. A similar influence is noticed in all parts of the State. Dr. Lapham concludes that this is not wholly due to the presence of Lake Michigan, but that the mountain range which extends from a little west of Lake Superior to the coast of Labrador (from 1,100 to 2,240 feet high) protects the lake region in no inconsiderable degree from the excessive cold of winter.

According to the same authority, the time at which the Milwaukee river was closed with ice, for a period of nine years, varied between November 15 and December 1; the time at which it became free from ice, between March 3 and April 13. In the lake district, snow and rain are interspersed through all the winter months, rain being sometimes as profuse as at any other season. In the northwestern part the winter is more rigid and dry. Northern New York and the New England States usually have snow lying on the ground the whole winter, but in the southern lake district it rarely remains so long. In 1842 and 1843, however, sleighing commenced about the middle of November, and lasted till about the same time in April—five months.

The average temperature for the three months of spring, March, April and May, from Walworth county to St. Paul, is about 45 deg. In central Wisconsin the mean for March is about 27 deg., which is an increase of nearly 7 deg. from February. The lowest temperature of this month in 1876 was 40 deg. above zero. April shows an average increase of about 9 deg. over March. In 1876 the line of 45 deg. for this month passed from La Crosse to Evanston, Ill., touching Lake Erie at Toledo, showing that the interior west of Lake Michigan is warmer than the lake region. The change from winter to spring is more sudden in the interior than in the vicinity of the lakes. "In the town of Lisbon, fifteen miles from Lake

Michigan," says Dr. Lapham, "early spring flowers show themselves about ten days earlier than on the lake. In spring, vegetation in places remote from the lakes, shoots up in a very short time, and flowers show their petals, while on the lake shore the cool air retards them and brings them more gradually into existence." The increase from April to May is about fifteen degrees. In May, 1876, Pembina and Milwaukee had nearly the same mean temperature, about 55 degrees.

The extremes of our climate and the sudden changes of temperature no doubt have a marked influence, both physically and mentally, on the American people. And though a more equable climate may be more conducive to perfect health, the great range of our climate from arctic to tropical, and the consequent variety and abundance of vegetable products, combine to make the Mississippi valley, perhaps, one of the most favorable areas in the world for the development of a strong and wealthy Nation.

During the months of summer, in the interior of the eastern United States, at least three fourths of the rainfall is in showers usually accompanied by electrical discharges and limited to small areas. But in autumn, winter and spring, nearly the whole precipitation takes place in general storms extending over areas of 300, 500 and sometimes over 1,000 miles in diameter, and generally lasting two or three days. An area of low atmospheric pressure causes the wind to blow toward that area from all sides, and when the depression is sudden and great, it is accompanied by much rain or snow. On account of the earth's rotation, the wind blowing toward this region of low pressure is deflected to the right, causing the air to circulate around the center with a motion spirally inward. In our latitude the storm commences with east winds. When the storm center, or area of lowest barometer, is to the south of us, the wind gradually veers, as the storm passes from west to east with the upper current, round to the northwest by the north point. On the south

side of the storm center the winds veer from southeast to southwest by the south point. The phenomena attending such a storm, when we are in or near the part of its center, are usually as follows: After the sky has become overcast with clouds, the wind from the northeast generally begins to raise and blow in the opposing direction of the march of the storm. The clouds which are now moving over us discharge rain or snow according to circumstances. The barometer continues to fall, and the rain or snow is brought obliquely down from the northern quarter by the prevailing wind. After a while the wind changes slightly in direction and then ceases. The thermometer rises and the barometer has reached its lowest point. This is the center of the storm. After the calm the wind has changed from its direction to northwest or west. The wind blows again, usually more violently than before, accompanied by rain or snow which is now generally of short duration. The sky clears, and the storm is suddenly succeeded by a temperature 10 or 20 degrees below the mean. Most of the rain and snow falls with the east winds, or before the center passes a given point. The path of these storms is from west to east, or nearly so, and only seldom in other directions. These autumn, winter and spring rains are generally first noticed on the western plains, but may originate at any point along their path, and move eastward with an average velocity of about twenty miles an hour in summer and thirty miles in winter, but some times attaining a velocity of over fifty miles, doing great damage on the lakes. In predicting these storms, the signal service of the army is of incalculable practical benefit, as well as in collecting data for scientific conclusions.

A subject of the greatest importance to every inhabitant of Wisconsin is the influence of forests on climate and the effects of disrobing a country of its trees. The general influence of forests in modifying the extremes of temperature, retarding evaporation and the increased

humidity of the air, has already been mentioned. That clearing the land of trees increases the temperature of the ground in summer, is so readily noticed that it is scarcely necessary to mention it; while in winter the sensible cold is never so extreme in woods as on the open surface exposed to the full force of the winds. The lumbermen in Canada and the northern United States labor in the woods without inconvenience when the mercury stands many degrees below zero, while in the open grounds, with only a moderate breeze, the same temperature is almost insupportable. In the State of Michigan it has been found that the winters have greatly increased in severity within the last forty years, and that this increased severity seems to move along even-paced with the destruction of the forest. Thirty years ago the peach was one of the most abundant fruits of that State; at that time frost, injurious to corn at any time from May to October, was a thing unknown. Now the peach is an uncertain crop, and frost often injures the corn. The precise influence of forests on temperature may not at present admit of definite solution, yet the mechanical screen which they furnish to the soil, often far off to the leeward of them is sufficiently established, and this alone is enough to encourage extensive planting wherever this protection is wanting.

With regard to the quantity of rain-fall, we cannot positively affirm that the total annual quantity of rain is even locally diminished or increased by the destruction of the woods, though both theoretical considerations and the balance of testimony strongly favor the opinion that more rain falls in wooded than in open countries. One important conclusion, at least, upon the meteorological influence of forests is certain and undisputed; the proposition, namely, that, within their own limits, and near their own borders, they maintain a more uniform degree of humidity in the atmosphere than is observed in cleared grounds. Scarcely less can it be questioned that they tend to promote the

frequency of showers, and, if they do not augment the amount of precipitation, they probably equalize its distribution through the different seasons.

There is abundant and undoubted evidence that the amount of water existing on the surface in lakes and rivers, in many parts of the world, is constantly diminishing. In Germany, observations of the Rhine, Oder, Danube and the Elbe, in the latter case going back for a period of 142 years, demonstrate beyond doubt that each of these rivers has much decreased in volume, and there is reason to fear that they will gradually disappear from the list of navigable rivers.

The Blue-Grass region of Kentucky, once the pride of the west, has now districts of such barren and arid nature, that their stock farmers are moving toward the Cumberland mountains, because the creeks and old springs dried up, and their wells became too low to furnish water for their cattle. In our own State "such has been the change in the flow of the Milwaukee river, even while the area from which it receives its supply is but partially cleared, that the proprietors of most of the mills and factories have found it necessary to resort to the use of steam, at a largely increased yearly cost, to supply the deficiency of water-power in dry seasons of the year. What has happened to the Milwaukee river has happened to all the other water-courses in the State from whose banks the forest has been removed; and many farmers who selected land upon which there was a living brook of clear, pure water, now find these brooks dried up during a considerable portion of the year.

Districts stripped of their forest are said to be more exposed than before to loss of harvests, droughts and frost. Hurricanes, before unknown, sweep unopposed over the regions thus denuded, carrying terror and devastation in their track. Parts of Asia Minor, north Africa and other countries bordering on the Mediterranean, now almost deserts, were once densely

populated and the granaries of the world. And there is good reason to believe that it is the destruction of the forests which has produced this devastation. From such facts Wisconsin, already largely robbed of its forests, should take warning before it is too late.

"I HAVE DISSOLVED THE PARTNERSHIP."

[From the *Prairie du Chien Union*, July 1, 1864.]

DISSOLUTION NOTICE.—The patrons of the *National Broad Ax*, published at Boseobel, and *Standard Bearer*, published at Prairie du Chien, and others to whom it may concern, are hereby notified that I have, on the 30th day of June, 1864, dissolved the partnership heretofore existing between L. R. Train and myself, under the name and style of L. R. Train and N. B. Moody, as editors, publishers and proprietors of the above named papers and printing business thereunto attached. \* \* \* I am completing arrangements to continue publishing said papers, so that subscribers will suffer no loss, and trust that our patrons will be better pleased with our new arrangements than with the old.

N. B. MOODY.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, June 30, 1864.

IN MEMORIAM.

[From the *Prairie du Chien Union*, April 15, 1864.]

BAR MEETING.—At a meeting of the bar of Crawford Co., Wis., held April 12, 1864, consequent upon the death of Lorenzo Barney, Esq., the sheriff of Crawford County. Ed. D. Lowry was appointed chairman, and L. F. S. Viele, secretary.

On motion of B. W. Brisbois, Ira B. Brunson, William Dutcher and Benjamin Bull were appointed a committee to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting.

Mr. Dutcher, chairman of said committee, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Divine Providence to remove from our midst, Lorenzo Barney, Esq., one of our most distinguished citizens and prominent and efficient county officers, by the hand of death; therefore,

*Resolved*—That in his decease the community has lost a valuable, energetic and useful citizen, and the county an efficient, honest, capable and humane officer, and his family a kind and affectionate husband and father.

*Resolved*—That as a tribute of respect and esteem, the county officers of the county of Crawford and members of the bar, attend his funeral in a body.

*Resolved*—That we hereby tender our warmest sympathies to the wife and family of the deceased in their deep and irreparable affliction.

*Resolved*—That a copy of these resolutions be signed by the chairman and secretary of this meeting and delivered to the family of the deceased, and published in the village papers, and also the same be published in the Milwaukee papers. Ed. D. Lowry, *Chairman*.

L. F. S. VIELE, *Secretary*.

On motion of Mr. Dutcher, the chair appointed Judge Brunson, B. Bull, William Dutcher, B. Dunn, O. B. Thomas and L. F. S. Viele, as pall bearers.

On motion, adjourned.

Ed. D. Lowry, *Chairman*.

L. F. S. VIELE, *Secretary*.

SPECIAL ELECTION FOR MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

[From the *Prairie du Chien Courier*, Dec. 18, 1862.]

The governor has called a special election on Thursday, Dec. 30, to fill the unexpired term of Hon. Luther Hanchett as representative in Congress of the second district, which is vacant by his death, and which expires on March 4, 1863.

The election will be held in the counties of Rock, Green, Lafayette, Grant, Iowa, Dane, Dunn, Sauk, Richland, Crawford, Vernon, La Crosse, Monroe, Juneau, Adams, Portage, Wood, Jackson, Eau Claire, Tempeleau, Buffalo, Pekin, Pierce, St. Croix, Chippewa, Clark, Marathon, La Pointe, Ashland, Polk, Burnett and Douglass.

The election to fill the full term in the sixth congressional district, of which Mr. Hanchett

was the member elect, will be held on the 30th of December.

RAILROAD FINISHED.

[From the *Prairie du Chien Courier*, Jan 27, 1863.]

The track of the Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien Railway is now completed to the upper depot, where freight is now loaded. H. Baldwin shipped the first car load this week. He shipped 20,000 pounds of lard direct to New York, and has several car loads ready for shipment.

PRESIDENTIAL, GUBERNATORIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL VOTES OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

	PRESIDENT, 1880.		GOVERNOR, 1881.				CONGRESS, 1882.		
	Garfield	Hancock	Kusk	Pratt	Kanouse	Republican	Democrat	Prohibition	
Bridgeport.....	34	43	22	16	1	18	53	...	
Clayton.....	221	215	126	89	18	133	131	41	
Eastman.....	69	182	48	77	...	57	158	14	
Freeman.....	186	82	87	54	...	92	46	1	
Haney.....	49	37	10	15	15	25	53	19	
Marietta.....	96	75	34	23	10	64	47	1	
Prairie du Chien, town	16	9	8	...	...	12	72	...	
city, 1st ward...	59	65	40	23	...	43	73	5	
2d ward...	75	118	37	51	9	46	139	4	
3d ward...	67	99	40	40	3	38	105	2	
4th ward...	19	47	13	27	...	18	35	...	
Scott.....	91	134	54	42	...	91	57	...	
Seneca.....	130	96	75	60	18	26	112	38	
Utica.....	196	70	94	35	11	141	53	8	
Wauzeka.....	107	117	58	65	20	63	98	3	
Total.....	1,415	1,459	746	636	113	867	1,232	136	

ATTEMPTED REMOVAL OF THE COUNTY SEAT.

The location of the county seat upon "the prairie," so long as the population was largely confined to that locality, was not, of course, felt to be a matter of inconvenience; but when the population had spread over the whole country the matter was looked upon by many in a different light. Action was finally taken in the matter; and, in 1859, the following act was passed by the Legislature:

[Published March 24, 1859].

An Act for the removal of the county seat of Crawford county.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. That at the next general election, to be held in the county of Crawford in this State, the qualified electors of said county shall be, and they are hereby authorized to vote for the removal of the county seat of said county, from Prairie du Chien to the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter, of section sixteen (16), township number nine (9), north of range number five, (5), west, which last named place is hereby fixed as the point to which it is hereby proposed to remove said county seat; and if a majority of all the votes cast upon that subject at such election be in favor of such removal, then the said southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section sixteen, (16), township number nine, (9), north, of range number five, (5), west, shall be the permanent county seat of said county.

SEC. 2. The votes cast on the subject of said removal of the county seat as above provided, shall be by ballot, said ballot shall have written or printed on them, or partly written and partly printed the words, "For the removal of the county seat to the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section sixteen, (16), township number nine, (9), north, of range number five, (5), west," or the words, "Against removal of county seat to the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section sixteen, (16), township number nine, (9), north, of range number five west, said ballots shall be deposited by the inspectors of election in a separate box to be by them provided for that purpose.

SEC. 3. At the close of the polls the said votes shall be publicly canvassed by the inspectors of election in the several towns, who shall respectively draw up a statement in writing, setting forth in words at full length, the whole number of votes given for the removal of the county seat to the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section sixteen, (16), township number nine, (9), north, of range number five, (5), west, and, the whole number of votes given against the removal of the county seat to the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section sixteen, (16), township number nine (9),

north, of range number five, (5), west, and shall cause a duplicate copy thereof to be made, which statement and duplicate copy they shall certify to be correct, and one of such statements shall forthwith be delivered to the clerk of the board of supervisors of said county, and shall be thereafter canvassed, certified, and the result ascertained and declared by the same officers as provided by law for canvassing, certifying and ascertaining the result of elections for county officers.

SEC. 4. In case a majority of the votes as aforesaid canvassed, shall be for removal of the county seat to the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section sixteen, (16), township number nine, (9), north of range number five, (5), west, then and in that case, the county seat of said county shall be at the said southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section sixteen (16), township number nine, (9), north, of range number five, (5), west, otherwise said county seat shall be and remain at Prairie du Chien.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 5, 1859.

But this law was not acted upon, so, in 1861, it was revised and amended as follows:

[Published April, 22, 1861.]

An Act to revise and amend chapter 45 of the General Laws of 1859 entitled "An Act for the removal of the county seat of Crawford county."

*The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Chapter forty-five of the General Laws of 1859 entitled "An act for the removal of the county seat of Crawford county," is hereby revised and amended as follows:

1st. By striking out from the first section of said act the words "next general election" where they occur in said section, and inserting in lieu thereof the words and figures "general election for the year 1861."

2d, By adding to the fourth section of said act the following proviso: "*Provided*, that if a majority of all the votes cast at said election upon the subject, be in favor of such removal, the records and offices of said county shall remain at Prairie du Chien, and the circuit and county courts of said county shall be held there until fire-proof offices are provided at the new county seat of said county, sufficient for the convenient and safe keeping of all the records of said county, and the convenient accommodation of all the county officers of said county who are or may be by law entitled to have offices furnished at the expense of the county, and until a proper room is provided for holding courts at said new county seat."

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication

Approved April 13, 1861.

The history of the effort made to remove the county seat near to the geographical center of the county (in the town of Seneca) is briefly this:

Prairie du Chien being in the extreme south western part of the county, an effort was put forth, by a number of the citizens of the county, remote from that place, to have the seat of government removed to a more central point. In 1861, for the purpose of encouraging the people to vote for the removal of the county seat, a company was formed and sufficient stock was subscribed, to erect a court house, which should be at the service of the county, until such time as the county should think proper to erect a more extensive building. The site selected for the building was on section 16, township 9 of range 5 west, about one mile southwest of the village of Seneca. A building was erected at a cost of about \$1,500. The stock was divided into shares of \$10 each; the prime mover in the enterprise was Deaton Tichenor. There being no court house at that time at Prairie du Chien, it was supposed that the erection of a building

suitable for court purposes and presenting the same to the county, would have a strong influence when the vote was taken for the removal of the county seat; this hope was verified at the election in the fall of 1861. It is said that the proposition to remove the county seat to Seneca received a majority of the votes cast, but that

through some technical point of law, or artful management on the part of the opposers of the movement, the enterprise was defeated. But the building which might have been a court house still stands, and is at present used as a dwelling house.





## CHAPTER XXIV.

## THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

Before entering upon a consideration of the part taken by the citizen soldiers of Crawford county, in the great contest between the slave owners of the south and the lovers of freedom in the north, it is proper to dwell for a brief period upon the causes leading to the conflict of arms and the incipient steps taken by the general and State governments in arousing and marshalling the hosts of liberty-loving men who afterward so grandly kept step to the music of the Union.

## WISCONSIN'S FIRST EFFORTS.

When Wisconsin was first called upon to aid the general government in its efforts to sustain itself against the designs of the secession conspirators, the commercial affairs of the State were embarrassed to a considerable degree by the depreciation of the currency. The designs of the secessionists were so far developed at the ending of the year 1860, as to show that resistance to the National authority had been fully determined on. It is not a matter of wonder, then, that Gov. Randall, in his message to the Legislature, early in January, 1861, should have set forth the dangers which threatened the Union, or should have denied the right of a State to secede from it.

"Secession," said he, "is revolution; revolution is war; war against the government of the United States is treason." "It is time," he continued, "now, to know whether we have any government, and if so, whether it has any strength. Is our written constitution more than a sheet of parchment? The Nation must be lost or preserved by its own strength. Its

strength is in the patriotism of the people. It is time now that politicians become patriots; that men show their love of country by every sacrifice, but that of principle, and by unwavering devotion to its interests and integrity." "The hopes," added the governor, most eloquently, "of civilization and Christianity are suspended now upon the answer to this question of dissolution. The capacity for, as well as the right of, self-government is to pass its ordeal, and speculation to become certainty. Other systems have been tried, and have failed; and all along the skeletons of Nations have been strewn, as warnings and land marks, upon the great highway of historic government. Wisconsin is true, and her people steadfast. She will not destroy the Union, nor consent that it shall be done. Devised by great, and wise, and good men, in days of sore trial, it must stand. Like some bold mountain, at whose base the great seas break their angry floods, and around whose summit the thunders of a thousand hurricanes have rattled—strong, unmoved, immovable—so may our Union be, while treason surges at its base, and passions rage around it, unmoved, immovable—here let it stand forever."

These are the words of an exalted and genuine patriotism. But the governor did not content himself with eloquence alone. He came down to matters of business as well. He urged the necessity of legislation that would give more efficient organization to the militia of the State. He warned the legislators to make preparations also for the coming time that

should try the souls of men. "The signs of the times," said he, "indicate that there may arise a contingency in the condition of the government, when it will become necessary to respond to a call of the National government for men and means to maintain the integrity of the Union, and to thwart the designs of men engaged in organized treason. While no unnecessary expense should be incurred, yet it is the part of wisdom, both for individuals and States, in revolutionary times to be prepared to defend our institutions to the last extremity." It was thus the patriotic governor gave evidence to the members of both houses that he "scented the battle afar off."

On the 16th of January a joint resolution of the Legislature was passed, declaring that the "people of Wisconsin are ready to co-operate with the friends of the Union everywhere for its preservation, to yield a cheerful obedience to its requirements, and to demand a like obedience from all others; that the Legislature of Wisconsin, profoundly impressed with the value of the Union, and determined to preserve it unimpaired, hail with joy the recent firm, dignified and patriotic special message of the President of the United States; that they tender to him through the chief magistrate of their own State, whatever aid, in men and money, may be required to enable him to enforce the laws and uphold the authority of the Federal government, and in defense of the more perfect Union, which has conferred prosperity and happiness on the American people." "Renewing," said they, "the pledge given and redeemed by our fathers, we are ready to 'devote our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honors' in upholding the Union and the constitution."

The Legislature, in order to put the State upon a kind of "war footing," passed an act for its defense, and to aid in enforcing the laws and maintaining the authority of the general government. It was under this act that Gov. Randall was enabled to organize the earlier regiments of Wisconsin. By it, in case of a call

from the President of the United States to aid in maintaining the Union and the supremacy of the laws, to suppress rebellion or insurrection, or to repel invasion within the United States, the governor was authorized to provide in the most efficient manner for responding to such call; to accept the services of volunteers for service, in companies of seventy-five men each, rank and file, and in regiments of ten companies of seventy-five men each, and to commission officers for them. The governor was also authorized to contract for the uniforms and equipments necessary for putting such companies into active service. \$100,000 was appropriated for war purposes; and bonds were authorized to be issued for that amount, to be negotiated by the governor for raising funds. It will be seen, therefore, that the exigencies of the times, for Fort Sumter had not yet been surrendered, were fully met by the people's representatives, they doing their whole duty, as they then understood it, in aid of the perpetuity of the Union.

Having defended Fort Sumter for thirty-four hours, until the quarters were entirely burned, the main gates destroyed, the gorge-wall seriously injured, the magazine surrounded by flames, and its doors closed from the effects of the heat, four barrels and three cartridges of powder only being available, and no provisions but pork remaining, Robert Anderson, major of the first artillery, United States army, accepted terms of evacuation offered by Gen. Beauregard, marched out of the fort on Sunday afternoon, the 14th of April, 1861, with colors flying and drums beating, bringing away company and private property, and saluting his flag with fifty guns. This in brief is the story of the fall of Sumter and the opening act of the War of the Rebellion.

"Whereas," said Abraham Lincoln, President, in his proclamation of the next day, "the laws of the United States have been for some time past, and now are, opposed, and the execution thereof obstructed, in the States of South Caro-

lina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by powers vested in the marshals by law." Now in view of that fact, he called forth the militia of the several States of the Union, to the aggregate number of 75,000, in order to suppress these combinations, and to cause the laws to be duly executed. "A call is made on you by to-night's mail for one regiment of militia for immediate service," telegraphed the secretary of war to Randall on the same day.

#### THE STATE AROUSED.

In Wisconsin, as elsewhere, the public pulse quickened under the excitement of the fall of Sumter. "The dangers which surrounded the Nation awakened the liveliest sentiments of patriotism and devotion. For the time, party fealty was forgotten in the general desire to save the Nation. The minds of the people soon settled into the conviction that a bloody war was at hand, and that the glorious fabric of our National government, and the principles upon which it is founded, were in jeopardy, and with a determination unparalleled in the history of any country, they rushed to its defense. On every hand the National flag could be seen displayed, and the public enthusiasm knew no bounds. In city, town and hamlet, the burden on every tongue was war." "We have never been accustomed," said Gov. Randall, "to consider the military arm as essential to the maintenance of our government, but an exigency has arisen that demands its employment." "The time has come," he continued, "when parties and platforms must be forgotten, and all good citizens and patriots unite together in putting down rebels and traitors." "What is money," he asked, "what is life, in the presence of such a crisis?"

Such utterances and such enthusiasm could but have their effect upon the Legislature, which it will be remembered, was still in session. So, although that body had voted to adjourn, *sine*

*die*, on the 15th of April, yet, when the moment arrived, and a message from the governor was received announcing that owing to the extraordinary exigencies which had arisen, an amendment of the law of the thirteenth of the month, was necessary, the resolution to adjourn was at once rescinded. The two houses thereupon not only increased the amount of bonds to be issued to \$200,000, but they also passed a law exempting from civil process, during the time of service, all persons enlisting and mustering into the United States army from Wisconsin. When on the seventeenth, the Legislature did adjourn, the scene was a remarkable one. Nine cheers were given for the star spangled banner and three for the Governor's Guards, who had just then tendered their services, the first in the State, under the call for a regiment of men for three months duty.

"For the first time in the history of this Federal government," are the words of the governor, in a proclamation issued on the 16th of April, "organized treason has manifested itself within several States of the Union, and armed rebels are making war against it." "The treasuries of the country," said he, "must no longer be plundered; the public property must be protected from aggressive violence; that already seized must be retaken, and the laws must be executed in every State of the Union alike." "A demand," he added, "made upon Wisconsin, by the President of the United States, for aid to sustain the Federal arm, must meet with a prompt response." And it did, and no where with more genuine enthusiasm than in Crawford county.

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY AWAKENED.

The county of Crawford was not slow to move when it was clearly seen by her citizens that the Union was indeed and in truth threatened by armed rebellion and avowed secession.

On the 25th of April, the *Courier* said:

"We have neither space or time to comment upon the startling news with which the dispatches and our exchanges come crowded.

The most prominent feature in the north is the perfect unity of sentiment in favor of sustaining the Federal Government, in a war that now seems inevitable. The same determination that every where shows itself in the north has a complete counterpart in the whole people of the south. Every southern State has formed an alliance, and the two sections of the country will meet in solid opposition. There is but one feeling at the north. There is but one sentiment at the south—north and south are now in direct opposition. The result is bound to be a sanguinary conflict, the like of which history does not record.”

In another article in the *Courier* of the same date, the editor has this to say:

“Last Friday evening, after only an hour’s notice, Union Hall was crowded with the most enthusiastic audience ever assembled in Prairie du Chien. It was composed of the most substantial citizens of this vicinity, representing every class and every interest, every opinion and every party. They all seemed to be fully aroused to the importance of the events now transpiring, and had met together with one will to counsel and hear the suggestions of patriotic and practical men. Several speakers including the venerable chairman, spoke to the people calmly, deliberately and determinedly, but without rashness. The fact of a general civil war being already commenced, was freely discussed and fearlessly confronted. The only sentiment of all was a common cause in support of the government, the constitution and the flag of the union, resolutions loyal to the government were unanimously adopted; volunteers enlisted, and a subscription of over \$300 subscribed to begin the work of organization. The feeling here is all on the side of sustaining the government in the enforcement of all constitutional law.”

#### THE FIRST COMPANY ORGANIZED.

Early in May, 1861, a company under the three months’ call was organized at Prairie du Chien—the first in the county; under the Presi-

dent’s proclamation no more three months’ men could be accepted; so the company was re-organized under the three years call. The men left Prairie du Chien for Madison on the 25th day of June and on the 15th of July, were mustered into the service as company C., of the 6th Wisconsin regiment.

#### MUSTER IN ROLL OF COMPANY C.

Captain.—Alexander S. Hooe.  
 1st Lieut.—Philip W. Plummer.  
 2nd “ Thomas W. Plummer.  
 1st Sergt.—Lloyd G. Harris.  
 2nd “ George O. Adams.  
 3rd “ Judson Hurd.  
 4th “ John W. Fonda.  
 5th “ Barnard McGinty.  
 1st Corpl.—John N. Chesnut.  
 2nd “ Lemuel Bailey.  
 3rd “ Orrin D. Chapman.  
 4th “ Charles H. Putney.  
 5th “ Herman Gaunter.  
 6th “ Simon W. Hubbard.  
 7th “ Edward Whaley.  
 8th “ James Sykes.

Drummer—Alexander Johnston.

Fifer.—George Northrop.

Wagoner.—Ambrose Young.

PRIVATES.—Charles Adams, Christian Ammon, Mathew Andrews, Wm. Armstrong, Cuyler Babcock, Alexander Boyd, Winfield S. Bouney, Edwin A. Bottom, Henry L. Bottom, Norman S. Bull, John Beoman, Thomas Budworth, Simpson M. Brewer, Henry J. Cardey, James G. Conklin, Lynn B. Cook, Richard Coreoran, John Davidson, William Day, Wm. H. Drew, John Drysdale, Evan W. Ellis, George Fairfield, Samuel R. W. Faulkner, Lucius R. Fitch, Albert L. Fisk, Peter T. Gulberg, Chancey A. Green, Willard Gilmore, Charles Guyre, Daniel D. Havens, John Hall, Henry W. Hall, Lemuel P. Harvey, Ezra P. Hewitt, Lyman D. Holford, William Hickok, Edwin Hutchcroft, John H. Ishmael, William Kelly, Jacob Lemons, Homer C. Lillie, Augustus L. Muller, Richard A. Marston, Henry H. Miller, Brallon B. Morris,

Millin McAdams, Martin L. Nelson, Wm. L. Nicholson, Alfred L. Onderkirk, Cornelius W. Okey, Henry Oviatt, Luke Parsons, Jonathan Hall, Burton Paekhard, Walter J. Pease, William Pease, Henry C. Pettitt, Martin Prother, John Richards, Wm. M. Russell, George Russell, Sylvester W. Russell, Gottlieb Schwitzer, or Sweitzer, Lyman W. Sheldon, Albert P. Sprague, Harley L. Sprague, Alexander Turk, Aleck Torley, Harry H. Thompson, Henry Vanderbilt, Stephen Vesper, Joseph Villemin, Francis G. Washington, Wm. H. Wallin, U. M. Weideman, Myndert Wemple, Wm. Winns, Alfred R. Withrow, Julius Wieman, George W. Wilson, Daniel M. Wordman, John P. Whitehouse, Chas. E. White, Robert White, Frank Young.

This company was made a part of

THE SIXTH WISCONSIN REGIMENT,

which was organized at Camp Randall, Madison, in July, 1861, and mustered into the service of the United States on the 16th of that month, and left the State for Washington on the 28th. The following was the roster of the regiment:

Colonel.—Lysander Cutler.

Lieutenant Colonel.—J. P. Atwood.

Major.—B. F. Sweet.

Adjutant.—Frank A. Haskell.

Quartermaster.—I. N. Mason.

Surgeon.—C. B. Chapman.

First Assistant Surgeon.—A. W. Preston.

Second Assistant Surgeon.—A. P. Andrews.

Chaplain.—Rev. N. A. Staples.

Captain Co. A.—A. G. Mallory.

“ “ B.—D. J. Dill.

“ “ C.—A. S. Hooc.

“ “ D.—J. O'Rourke.

“ “ E.—E. S. Bragg,

“ “ F.—William H. Lindworm.

“ “ G.—M. A. Northrup.

“ “ H.—J. F. Houser.

“ “ I.—Leonard Johnson.

“ “ K.—R. R. Dawes.

1st Lieut. Co. A.—D. K. Noyes.

“ “ B.—J. F. Marsh.

1st Lieut. Co. C.—P. W. Plumer.

“ “ D.—John Nichols.

“ “ E.—A. E. A. Brown.

“ “ F.—Fred Schumacher.

“ “ G.—G. L. Montagne.

“ “ H.—J. D. Lewis.

“ “ I.—F. A. Haskell.

“ “ K.—J. A. Kellogg.

2nd Lieut. Co. A.—F. C. Thomas.

“ “ B.—Henry Serrill.

“ “ C.—J. W. Plummer.

“ “ D.—P. H. McCauley.

“ “ E.—J. H. Marston.

“ “ F.—Werner Von Bachel.

“ “ G.—W. W. Allen.

“ “ H.—J. A. Tester,

“ “ I.—A. T. Johnson.

“ “ K.—John Crane.

The regiment arrived at Washington on the 7th of August, and was immediately assigned to King's brigade and went into camp on Meridian Hill, where it remained until the 3d of September, when it marched with the brigade to Chain bridge, and was employed in picket and guard duty at Camp Lyon, until it was joined by the 2d Wisconsin the 9th Indiana and the 7th Wisconsin, about the 1st of October. These, afterwards, formed the famous "Iron Brigade."

Early in the war Gen. Rufus King, a graduate of West Point, tendered his services to the government and was appointed brigadier general, with authority to form a brigade composed of regiments from Wisconsin. In this he only partially succeeded, as the 5th Wisconsin was transferred to another brigade. He, however, succeeded in permanently attaching the 2d, 6th and 7th to the brigade; these, with the 9th Indiana, afterwards received the name of the "Iron Brigade," in the history of which is merged that of the 6th Wisconsin.

The brigade assigned to McDowell's division remained in camp at Fort Tillinghast until March 10, 1862, when they took part in the advance on Manassas, Col. Cutler, of the 6th

Wisconsin, being in command of the brigade. The month of July found them at Falmouth, opposite Fredericksburg. The brigade afterward took part in the celebrated retreat of Gen. Pope.

On the 28th of August, 1862, the battle of Gainesville was fought. This was one of the bloodiest battles of the war, and was fought by the "Iron Brigade" alone, it only receiving aid after the heaviest of the fighting was over. On the 29th of August the brigade was present on the battle field of Bull Run, engaged as support to a battery, and took part in the battle of the 30th and in the retreat which followed.

The "Iron Brigade" took part in the battle of South Mountain, Sept. 14, 1862. In the early part of the battle of Antietam (which contest was participated in, among others by the "Iron Brigade"), a shell fell into the ranks of the 6th regiment, killing or wounding thirteen men and officers.

General Hooker was placed in command of the Army of the Potomac, and the campaign of 1863 was begun on the 28th of April. The "Iron Brigade" proceeded on that day to Fitzhugh's crossing below Fredericksburg, and was attached to the first division of the first army corps. A fight occurred the next day at the crossing, but the 6th Wisconsin, followed by the 24th Michigan, crossed over in face of the enemy and carried their works.

The "Iron Brigade" was in the battle of Gettysburg. But it was in the battle of the Wilderness that the 6th regiment suffered more than in any other of the war.

The severity of the service engaged in by the 6th Wisconsin from this time until it was mustered out, can be judged of by the lists of the killed and wounded at different periods.

The 6th regiment was mustered out on the 14th of July, 1865, and arrived at Madison on the 16th of that month, and were publicly received, paid and the regiment disbanded.

#### COMPANY F, 8TH WISCONSIN REGIMENT.

No company going to the war was made up *entirely* of Crawford county men. Some, however, besides company C of the 6th Wisconsin regiment, were so largely from the county as to entitle them to be called Crawford county companies. We give these in the order of their regiments: Company F, 8th Wisconsin regiment; companies A, D and K, 31st Wisconsin; and company A, 43d regiment. Besides these, there were a number of men from the county in the 2d Wisconsin cavalry and in the 7th Wisconsin battery. The following is the

#### MUSTER-IN ROLL OF COMPANY F, 8TH REGIMENT:

Captain—James H. Greene.

1st. Lieut. Zenas Beach.

2d " James Berry.

1st Sergt.—James T. McClure.

2d " Bedford Bush.

3d " Alexander M. Beach.

4th " Benjamin F. Allison.

5th " Willard D. Chapman.

1st Corpl.—Samuel McCough.

2d " Byron Hewitt.

3d " George H. Sterling.

4th " Wellington K. Forshey.

5th " Charles Green.

6th " Michael Maloney.

7th " Samuel L. Tillotson.

8th " James Patterson.

Privates.—Alonzo Allen, John W. Allison, Henry W. Allen, Frank Brady, Charles Belrichard, Samuel J. Burlock, Gonzaque Boucher, Amos W. Bickford, William Burns, B. Bailey, Henry E. Butterfield, Ferdinand Barnes, Edward D. Copey, William Copey, Seymour M. Cummings, John Clark, Edward C. Dwight, James W. Dennison, Stephen A. Dawson, George M. Drumm, John Elder, John T. Earle, Edward Ellis, Joseph M. Flint, Justus Fish, Martin Finley, Benjamin F. Groves, William C. Groves, Isaac N. Groves, Eli M. Groves, Joshua S. Groves, Louis Groesbeck, Philander S. Groesbeck, Stewart Groesbeck, John W. Greenman, Adna H. Griffin, Joseph H. Griffin, Blake

W. Griffin, Eben Hayden, James Hamilton, James H. Heavein, Alexander Henderson, Joseph Henry, Charles S. Irvin, Harrison C. Joseph, Thomas E. Joseph, John E. Joseph, Jeremiah L. Joseph, Milton Jacobs, Fred Lang, Joseph Lemons, Thurlow W. Lacy, Alfred Love, Lemuel J. Lewis, Albert Mallony, Cornelius A. Marston, Charles Munn, Zachariah McQueen, George S. Nichols, Martin Nyland, Edward Ostrander, Eben Pixley, Charles W. Parker, Robert Parker Jacob Paul, Michael Pelland, R. Perkinson, John Peters, Wilson Pitcher, Charles Adam Rosenbeck, George M. Robbins, Joseph Ruff, Ferdinand Ruba, A. Shulka, John W. Smith, John L. Smith, Aden Sherwood, Archibald Sears, Frank Shunway, John W. Shell, David Shrake, Michael Sallander, William Sallander, William Stephenson, William H. Thompson, James T. Temby, John Thomas, Francis Thurstin, William Wolford, Francis X. Wagoner, Darius Welch, T. A. Wilder, Stephen Dawson.

This company, as we have seen, was made a part of the 8th Wisconsin regiment.

The 8th regiment was called into camp from the 1st to the 16th of September, 1861, and placed under the command of Col. Robert C. Murphy, of St. Croix Falls. The other field and staff officers were, George W. Robinson, lieutenant-colonel; J. W. Jefferson, major; Ezra T. Sprague, adjutant; F. L. Billings, quarter-master; S. P. Thornhill, surgeon; W. Hobbins and J. S. Murta, assistants; and W. McKintley, chaplain. The companies were from the counties of Waupaca, Sheboygan, Eau Claire, Crawford, La Crosse, Racine and from Fox Lake, Fitchburg, Janesville and Belleville. The numerical strength of the regiment when it left Camp Randall was 966 men, and it was mustered into service by companies, by Maj. Brooks.

After being fully equipped (with the exception of arms), on the 30th of September, Col. Murphy received notice that he had been assigned, with his command, to Major-Gen. Fre-

mont's division. On the 1st of October, orders were received to move forward to St. Louis, at which place they arrived October 13. The fine appearance of the regiment elicited universal praise. It was received at St. Louis by the Hon. S. Cameron, Secretary of War, and Adjutant-Gen. L. Thomas, who paid it a high compliment. This was the first regiment that had passed in that direction from the State. The next day after their arrival, an order came for them to move forward to Pilot Knob with the certainty of meeting the enemy. They went forward, and on the 21st took part in the battle of Frederickstown. The regiment was held as a reserve.

The 8th regiment, from the time of their departure from the State, up to the middle of January, with the exception of the skirmish at Frederickstown, in the autumn of 1861, was principally engaged in guarding railroad bridges and other general duties in the southern portion of Missouri and in Arkansas. On the 16th of January they left Camp Curtis, arriving at Cairo the next day. From Cairo they were ordered to Point Pleasant, Mo., to participate in the attack on Island No. 10, whence they marched, on the 7th of April, to New Madrid.

Shortly after the reduction of this island, they were ordered to Corinth, and arrived at Pittsburg Landing on the 22d of April, when they at once took their place in the army destined for the reduction of Corinth. On the 9th of May, at the battle of Farmington, the 8th regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Robbins, lost in killed, three (of whom two were commissioned officers), and sixteen wounded, and one missing. On the 28th of May, leaving Farmington, the regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Robbins—Col. Murphy being in charge of the brigade—went into action before Corinth, and, by their steady courage and demeanor, demonstrated their bravery under a heavy fire, losing, in this action, two killed and five wounded. This was the last effort of the rebels to defend the city,

which was entered by our troops two days afterwards.

Subsequently they were ordered to Iuka, where they remained until the approach of the rebels under Price and Van Dorn, when they were again ordered to Corinth, and took part in the second battle of Corinth, on the 3d and 4th of October. During this battle, while Col. Murphy was absent, Lieut.-Col. Robbins and Maj. Jefferson were wounded, and carried from the field; and the command of the regiment devolved upon Capt. Britton, who nobly conducted the action. Their loss in this battle was fourteen killed, seventy-five wounded, and two missing. After joining in the pursuit of the rebels which followed this battle, they returned to Corinth on the 14th of October, after which time they were stationed in the vicinity of Waterford, Miss.

The 8th nobly earned the encomiums bestowed upon it. Its record is such that Wisconsin may well feel proud of the "Eagle" regiment.

On the 8th of December, the regiment was at Waterford, Miss., in the left wing of the Army of the Tennessee, under the command of Maj.-Gen. U. S. Grant.

The 8th regiment, in January, 1863, moved from La Grange, by way of Corinth, to Germantown, Tenn., where they were employed in building fortifications, and guard duty, until March 11, when they marched to Memphis, and joined the forces intended by Gen. Grant to operate against Vicksburg, which were being concentrated near Helena. Lieut. Col. Robbins was commissioned as colonel in the place of Col. Murphy dismissed. The regiment with others attacked the enemy, and, on the 14th of May, took possession of Jackson, the capital of Mississippi. They then proceeded to Walnut Hills, forming the extreme right of the investing force around Vicksburg. Here they took a part in the assault on the enemy's works. The regiment participated in many skirmishes with some loss, and on the 26th of September

moved to Black river bridge, and went into camp, and remained until Oct. 13. The 8th regiment, on the 27th of January, 1864, proceeded to Vicksburg, by way of Memphis, and encamped near Black river bridge on the 3d of February. They took part in Sherman's famous Meridian expedition, marching as far as Canton, Miss., and returning to Black river bridge, thence to Vicksburg, on the 5th of March. Here the regiment consented to remain and take part in Gen. Smith's projected expedition up the river to co-operate with Gen. Banks. The regiment expected to be sent home on veteran furlough, but remained at the especial request of Gen. Sherman. Leaving Vicksburg March 10, they passed down the Mississippi and up the Red River, to Simmsport, and landed. The brigade advanced and charged upon the rebels at Fort Scurvy, capturing several prisoners, and some military stores. Continuing up the river, they attacked and captured Fort de Russy, after a short resistance. Here they were joined by the fleet, when they proceeded to Alexandria, and thence to Henderson Hill, where they found the rebels posted with artillery. A *detour* of fifteen miles was made in order to attack the enemy on the rear. About midnight, Gen. Mower succeeded in capturing the whole rebel force (three hundred and fifty strong), with four guns and 400 horses, and other munitions of war. After a number of marches with Gen. Smith's army and a part of Gen. Banks's force, they received the attack of the enemy, and, after four hours hard fighting, drove him from the field. Our forces subsequently retreated to Grand Encore, and thence to Alexandrai.

The 8th participated in an action at Natchitoches, and also at Cloutierville, where the rebels were driven back in confusion. On the 4th of May, the 8th were deployed as skirmishers, and drove the enemy ten miles. At Bayou La Moore, the enemy annoyed them by continuous artillery and musketry fire. They also took part in an action at Mansura, and also



Calhan's Plantation, and Bayou De Glaize; after which Gen. Smith's army returned to the mouth of Red River, and, embarking, reached Vicksburg on the 24th, and went into camp. The rebels having attempted to blockade the Mississippi at Columbia, Ark., on the 6th of June, Gen. Smith sent forward a division of 1,500 infantry, and a battery in charge of Gen. Mower. The enemy were found, and an engagement ensued. The enemy were driven from their position, and pursued several miles. In this action, known as the "Battle of Chicot," the regiment had three killed, and sixteen wounded. The command proceeded up the river to Memphis, and went into camp. Here the veterans were allowed to proceed to Wisconsin on thirty days' furlough. The remainder of the regiment moved to La Grange, and in July took part in the expedition into Mississippi, and participated in the engagements near Tupelo. They returned to Memphis after a march of 260 miles. Here they were joined by the regiment from veteran furlough. Subsequently the 8th marched from Memphis to Mississippi with the forces of Gen. A. J. Smith. On the 2d of September, they proceeded to White River and to Duvall's Bluff, thence to Brownsville, in pursuit of Gen. Price, and reached Cape Girardeau, Oct. 1. On the 5th, they left for St. Louis, where the regiment was newly clothed and equipped. Re-embarking on transports, they reached Jefferson City, and thence to Lamoine Bridge. From this place, they were assigned on the expeditionary army against Gen. Price through Kansas. Learning of the defeat and dispersion of Price's forces, they returned, reaching Benton Barracks November, 15. On the 23d of November, they proceeded to Nashville to re-enforce Gen. Thomas, and took part in the battle on the 15th and 16th of December. In this action, the regiment captured a six-gun battery, about 400 prisoners, and two stands of colors. Their losses were, ten, killed; fifty-two, wounded. The regiment joined in the pursuit,

marching 150 miles, and finally encamped at Clifton, Tenn., on the 22d of January, 1865.

The 8th regiment joined the pursuit of the enemy after the battle of Nashville, marched 150 miles, and encamped at Clifton, Tenn. On the 2d of January, 1865, they moved to Eastport. Embarking on the 6th of February, they proceeded, with the 16th corps, down the Tennessee to Cairo, and thence to New Orleans, and went into camp five miles below that city. On the 5th of March they moved in transports to take part in the investment of the defences of Mobile, landing at Dauphin Island, and from thence proceeded up Fish river, ten miles, and went into camp. On the 25th they moved, and took position in the lines before the Spanish fort. Here they were engaged in fortifying, and the performance of picket-duty, until the evacuation of the fort, on the 9th of April, when they moved to a position before Fort Blakely, and took part in the charge on that place with a small loss. After the surrender, the regiment marched 180 miles to Montgomery, Ala., where they remained until the 10th of May, when they marched by way of Selma, and took cars for Uniontown, on the Alabama & Mississippi railroad. Here they went into camp, and remained until orders were received for their muster out. This was done at Demopolis, Ala., on the 5th of September, and the regiment reached Madison on the 13th, where they received their pay, and were formally disbanded.

The 8th was known as the "Eagle Regiment," from the fact that a live eagle was carried through all its campaigns, up to the return of the non-veterans in 1864. This bird was taken from the parent nest in Chippewa Co., Wis., by an Indian, who disposed of it to a gentleman in Eau Claire county, from whom it was purchased by members of Capt. Perkin's company, Eau Claire Eagles, by whom it was presented to the regiment while organizing in 1861. It is needless to say that it was instantly adopted as the regimental pet, and was christened "Old Abe." A perch was prepared and the royal

bird was borne with the regiment on all its marches, and into every battle in which the gallant 8th was engaged, up to the muster-out of the non-veterans. Perched on his standard, above the heads of the men, the bird was more than once the mark for rebel bullets, but, luckily, escaped unharmed, with the exception of the loss of a few feathers shot away. He returned with the non-veterans in 1864, and was presented to the State, and placed in charge of the quarter-master's department, and every care necessary bestowed on him. At the great Chicago fair in 1863, "Old Abe" was exhibited, and his photographs disposed of, realizing the amount of about \$16,000. He was also exhibited at the Milwaukee fair with profitable results. We are told that the sum netted to these charitable objects was about \$20,000. He occasionally breaks from his fetters, and soars into his native element; but he has become so far domesticated, that he is easily recovered. Occasionally the music of a band, or the noise of a drum, will reach his ear, when he will instantly listen, and will respond with his characteristic scream, probably recognizing the strain as one with which the battle-field has made his ear familiar. "Old Abe" has become celebrated in our military annals; and his history is inextricably interwoven with that of the brave and gallant regiment who bore him triumphantly through the field of strife.

Reference has been made to the 8th Wisconsin as the "Eagle Regiment." Some account of this "eagle," from whom the regiment derived its name, will prove interesting.

"Old Abe" was captured in the spring of 1861, in Chippewa Co. Wis., by an Indian, by the name of A-ge-mah-me-ge-zhig, of the Lake Flambeau tribe of the Chippewa Indians. The Indian sold the eagle to Mr. D. McCann, for a bushel of corn. Mr. McCann concluded that his eagle should go to the wars. He took him to Chippewa Falls, and from thence to Eau Claire. The eagle being then about two months old, he sold it for \$2.50 to

company C, 8th Wisconsin regiment. The eagle was soon sworn into service by putting around his neck red-white-and-blue ribbons, and on his breast a rosette of the same colors. The company, commanded by Capt. J. E. Perkins, and James McGennis, the eagle-bearer, left for Madison on the 6th of September, 1861. They arrived at La Crosse in the evening of the next day. The fact that a company was coming with a live eagle brought a great crowd to the wharf. A salute from the 1st Wisconsin Battery was fired, followed by cheers from the crowd and soldiers, "The eagle, the eagle! hurrah for the eagle!" Arriving at Madison on the 8th of September, the company marched direct to Camp Randall, the band playing Yankee Doodle, amidst great shouting from the 7th regiment and part of the 8th. The company entered the gate; and the eagle, as if by instinct, spread his wings, took hold of one of the small flags attached to his perch, in his beak, and carried it in that position to the colonel's quarters. The excitement knew no bounds; shout after shout was heard from the crowd. Deep and strong was the conviction that the eagle had a charmed life.

"In camp he was visited by thousands, among them the highest dignitaries of civil and military life. Capt. Perkins named him 'Old Abe,' in honor of Abraham Lincoln. By a vote of the company, the Eau Claire Badgers, its original name was changed to Eau Claire Eagles; and, by general expression of the people, the 8th Wisconsin was called the 'Eagle Regiment.'

"On the 12th of October, 1861, the regiment left Camp Randall. At Chicago, St. Louis, and in fact everywhere, 'Old Abe' attracted great attention. \$500 were at one time offered for him, and at another, a farm worth \$5,000 but, of course, in vain. His feathers are scattered all over the Union, so great the demand for them. 'Old Abe' was seen in all his glory, when the regiment was engaged in battle. At such times, he was always found in his place at the head of company C. In the midst of the

roaring of cannon, the crack of the musket, and the roll of smoke, 'Old Abe' with spread pinions, would jump up and down on his perch, uttering wild and fearful rereams. The fiercer and louder the storm of battle, the fiercer, wilder, and louder the screams. 'Old Abe' was with the command in nearly every action, about twenty-two battles and sixty skirmishes. It is a remarkable fact that not a color or eagle bearer of the 8th was shot down. The veterans were mustered out of United States service, at Memphis, Sept 16, 1864. It was there decided that 'Old Abe' should be given to the State of Wisconsin. They arrived in Madison on the 22d; and on the 26th, 'Old Abe' was received by the Governor from Capt. Wolf." "Old Abe" has paid the debt of nature, and now reposes as an object of curiosity, in a glass case, on an elegant pedestal, in the rotunda of the State house, in Madison, Wisconsin.

Three Crawford companies (A, D, and K), were, as before mentioned, made a part of

#### THE THIRTY-FIRST WISCONSIN REGIMENT.

This regiment (Col. Isaac E. Messmore) was left, in 1862, by the order of the war department prohibiting recruiting, with less than the minimum. Six companies from Iowa, Lafayette, and Crawford counties, were ordered into camp at Prairie du Chien; and special permission, before alluded to, was obtained to continue recruiting for this regiment. At the close of the year, it was much above the minimum strength, and of good material. On the 14th of November, it was removed from Prairie du Chien, in charge of the camp of rendezvous for drafted men at Racine, where it remained, awaiting orders to join the army in the field.

The regiment left the State for service in the field on the 1st of March, 1863, under orders to report at Columbus, Ky. Proceeding by way of Cairo, Ill., they arrived at Columbus on the 3d, and went into camp at Fort Halleck. Here the regiment was stationed, and was engaged in the performance of garrison duty, until Sept. 24, when it left Columbus, with orders to report

at Louisville, Ky., which place it reached on the 27th. On the 5th of October, it marched to La Vergne, Tenn., and guarded the road until the 25th, when it marched to Murfreesboro. Three companies were detached and stationed at a point where the railroad passed Stone river. Here they threw up fortifications, and guarded this important bridge during the winter.

Three companies of the 31st regiment were engaged in the winter of 1863-64 guarding the bridge at Stone river. On the 2d of April, they rejoined the regiment at Murfreesboro, and were engaged during the month along the road between that place and Normandy, Tenn., doing outpost-duty. On the 6th of July, they were ordered to Nashville, and on their arrival had quarters assigned them west of the Nashville & Chattanooga railroad. From Nashville, they proceeded by rail for Marietta, Ga., which they reached on the 19th. While on the road, near Kingston, one of the trains ran off the track, wounding two officers, killing one man, and severely wounding ten others. On the 22d of July, the regiment moved with the army upon Atlanta, and were placed in the front line; and here they lay under fire until Aug. 25, when they took part in the movement of the corps. They then returned to the railroad bridge across the Chattahoochee, while the rest of the army swung around to Jonesboro.

On the 4th of September, the skirmishers of the 31st were among the first to enter the city. The next day, the regiment moved within the fortifications, and was assigned quarters in the city. In addition to other duties devolving upon troops in an enemy's country, the regiment were engaged in protecting forage-trains, and were very successful furnishing grain for the famishing horses and mules of the army. The twentieth army corps broke camp on the 15th of November, and filed out of the burning city, which proved to be the march to the sea. The fatigues and dangers to which all were exposed were endured by the 31st

during the march through Georgia. They took part in an engagement ten miles from Savannah, capturing the works and the camp of the enemy; having one man killed, and three wounded. The regiment took part in the siege of Savannah, and after its capture was assigned quarters within the fortifications. Here they remained until the 18th of January, 1865.

On that day the regiment crossed the Savannah river, and rejoined its division at Parisburg, S. C., twenty-five miles distant from Savannah. Owing to rains, they were water-bound until the 28th. The regiment marched with the army through South Carolina, doing its share in burning and destroying, tearing up railroads, and similar duties, to drive back the enemy's rear-guard. On the 16th of March they took position in the front, at the battle of Averysboro, and were under fire until night. They lost two men killed, and ten wounded. On the 19th, the 31st was at the battle of Bentonville, in which ten were killed, and forty-two wounded. The regiment reached Goldsboro on the 24th of March, having been on the tramp sixty-five days, twenty-three of which the rain fell without cessation, many of them barefoot, and often hungry for twenty-four hours. On the 10th of April the army was again in motion, in the direction of Raleigh, when they heard of Johnston's surrender to Gen. Sherman. The regiment went into camp at Raleigh. On the 30th of April the twentieth army corps started for Washington, passing through Richmond, Va., on the 11th, and arrived at Alexandria May 20. On the 24th they took part in the grand review at Washington. On the 2d of June they were ordered to Louisville, where quarters were assigned to them. Six companies were mustered out, to date from June 20, and left for Madison June 21. They were paid off, and went to their homes July 8, 1865. The remaining companies remained in camp until July 8, and were mustered out, reaching Madison on the 12th, and were paid off and discharged July 20, 1865.

Another "Crawford County Company"—Company A.—as before noticed, was made a part of  
THE FORTY-THIRD WISCONSIN REGIMENT.

The 43d regiment, organized in the latter part of 1864, left Nashville on the 1st of January, 1865, and moved to Deckerd, Tenn., by rail, where six companies went into camp, and four companies were detached to guard Elk river bridge. In the beginning of June they returned to Nashville, and were mustered out of service on the 24th of June. They soon after returned to Milwaukee, and were disbanded.

There was, as previously indicated, a number of men from Crawford county in

THE SECOND WISCONSIN CAVALRY.

A special permit from the war department was obtained by Edward Daniels to raise a regiment of cavalry; and he received from Gov. Randall, on the 30th of June, 1861, a commission as lieutenant-colonel, as an indorsement of his commission from the general government. He immediately commenced recruiting, and formed a camp of rendezvous at Ripon, and soon drew together over 1,000 men. He soon after broke camp at Ripon, and moved to Kenosha, at which place the regiment was camped at the close of 1861. The field and staff officers were: Edward Daniels, colonel; O. H. Lagrange, first major; Henry Pomeroy, second major; H. N. Gregory, surgeon; Charles Lord and H. W. Cansall, assistants; and J. E. Mann, quarter-master. The 2d Cavalry regiment, like the first, was organized under a special permit from the general government, granted to Hon. C. C. Washburn. Col. Washburn received his commission from Gov. Randall, indorsing the action of the general government, Oct. 10, 1861 and immediately commenced recruiting for his regiment, and formed a camp for rendezvous on the fair grounds at Milwaukee. The original field and staff officers, as far as known, were: Thomas Stevens, lieutenant-colonel; H. E. Eastman, major; Levi Sterling, third major; W. H. Morgan, adjutant; C. G. Pease, surgeon; A. McBean, assistant; W. H. Brisbane, chaplain.

On the 28th of December, the 2d Cavalry numbered about 600 men.

On the 24th of March, 1862, the regiment left Camp Washburn, under orders for St. Louis; at which place they arrived on the 26th, and were quartered in Benton Barracks. Here they were mounted and completely equipped; and, on the 15th of May, the first battalion left for Jefferson City, followed, on the 19th, by the second and third battalions. They left Jefferson City on the 28th *en route* for Springfield, where they arrived on the 10th of June. From Springfield they were ordered, on the 13th, to join Gen. Curtis' command. The junction was effected at Augusta. They were present at the battle of Bayou Cache, on the 7th of July, and afterward accompanied Gen. Curtis' command to Helena, Ark., in the vicinity of which place they were at the close of 1862.

This regiment was familiarly known as "Washburn's Cavalry," having been recruited as we have seen by C. C. Washburn. He was retained in its immediate command but a short time, having been promoted to the position of brigadier-general. Col. Stephens, afterwards in command of the regiment, was formerly inspector general of this State. It was now in the third division of the Army of Eastern Arkansas, under command of Gen. Gorman.

The regiment in February, 1863, was at Memphis, Tenn., and remained there until the month of May, Lieut.-Col. Thomas Stephens in command. In April, a detachment took part in the action at Cold Water, and did very active service. On the 10th of June Maj.-Gen. Washburn was placed in command of all the cavalry forces at Memphis, and received orders to report to Gen. Grant at Vicksburg. On the 13th of June the regiment was at Snyder's Bluff, engaged in scouting, up to July 4. On that day, they moved to the forks of Deer creek and Big Black river. On their way they received information of the surrender of Vicksburg. They took part in Gen. Sherman's expedition to Jackson, and on their return encamped (June 29) within a

short distance of Redbone church. The 3d cavalry was, in the latter part of 1862, at Fort Blunt, and on the 16th of July, 1863, marched southward, under command of Gen. Blunt. The next day, they were engaged in the battle of Honey Spring, in which the rebels were utterly routed, with the loss of many prisoners. On the 16th of August, they routed a superior force of the enemy; and, the day ensuing, attacked a large body of rebel Choctaw Indians, capturing their stores, and putting the whole force to flight.

The 2d Cavalry on the 27th of May, 1864, moved to Vicksburg; and, on the 11th of May, the veterans returned from Wisconsin, Col. T. Stephens in command. The regiment was engaged in scouting in southwestern Missouri and northwestern Arkansas during the summer, and on the 1st of September returned to Vicksburg, and were engaged, in the months of October, November and December, in heavy scouting duty. On the 2d of December Lieut.-Col. Dale, with 250 men of the 2d Cavalry, encountered a large body of the enemy near Yazoo City, on the Vicksburg road, where two were killed, eight wounded and twenty-seven reported as taken prisoners. On the 8th of December the regiment moved up the river to Memphis, and were engaged in scouting, etc., to the last of April, 1865.

The regiment was at Memphis the latter part of May, 1865, scouting, when they were put upon the duty of guarding citizens from depredations of rebel soldiers and bushwhackers. They were engaged in this duty until in June, when they were ordered to report to Gen. Sheridan at Alexandria, La. On the 3d of July Col. Stephens and the men whose term expired Oct. 1, 1865, were mustered out, embracing about 200 men. The remainder of the regiment moved from Memphis to Alexandria, thence by way of Jasper, Livingston and Swartwout, to Trinity river, thence to Danville, Montgomery and Hempstead, Texas, where they arrived on the 26th day of July, after a march of 310 miles in

nineteen days. Here they were employed in drilling and camp duty until the 30th of October, when they commenced their march to Austin; where they arrived on the 4th of November. They were mustered out on the 15th, and on the 17th set out for home, arriving at Madison Dec. 11, 1865, and were paid off and disbanded.

CRAWFORD COUNTY'S ROLL OF HONOR.

The following are all the citizen soldiers of Crawford county, so far as they can now be ascertained, arranged under the towns in which they lived at the time of their enlistment:

[Those marked (a) were killed in action; (b), died of wounds received in action; (c), died of disease; (d), died prisoners of war; (e), killed by accident].

TOWN OF BRIDGEPORT.

Second Infantry.—Co. I.: Jacob Purell.

Sixth Infantry.—Co. C: Burton Packard, Stephen D. Bean.

Twenty-fifth Infantry.—Co. A: Philo Curley.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. A: Ithamer C. Burges. Co. D: Moses Barrette, Fredrick Brandes, George Curley.

Thirty-seventh Infantry.—Co. I: Edward Thurston.

TOWN OF CLAYTON.

Sixth Infantry.—Co. C: Alexander Turk, Rollin Abbey, Austin Chadwyne c, John Q. T. Jordan, Elias Turner, C. D. Lamport, Samuel B. Mitchel. Co. E: James West.

Seventh Infantry.—Co. C: Lawrence Dowling.

Thirteenth Infantry.—Co. I: Forger Munson, Severt Wilkerson.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Co. I: William Black, Samuel Brigg c, George A. Smith, Coleman Winn c.

Twenty-first Infantry.—Co. E: Michael Gorman.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. A: Samuel F. Brown, Corporal. Co. D: Jonathan W. Adney, William H. Evans.

Thirty-fifth Infantry.—Co. C: George W. Pugh.

Thirty-sixth Infantry.—Co. H: Samuel H. Hayes c.

Thirty-seventh Infantry.—Co. G: William Hounsell.

Forty-third Infantry.—Co. A: William Elden.

TOWN OF EASTMAN.

Third Infantry.—Co. H: Thomas Jones c.  
Sixth Infantry.—Co. C: John Davidson, William W. Fisher a, Simon P. Rittenhouse, Joseph Dennis, James T. Mollery, John Gospel, Hiram West.

Eighth Infantry.—Co. F: Zenas Beack, 1st Lieut., James T. McClure a, 1st Sergt., Alexander M. Beach, Sergt., Alonzo Allen, Gonzaque Busher, Frank Brady, Samuel J. Burloek, Edward Ellis c, Eben Hayden, Fred Lang c, Albert Mallory c, Edward Ostrander c, Charles A. Rossenbeck.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. G: Edwin D. Partidge, William Fisher.

Eighteenth Infantry.—Co. H: William W. Bruner.

Nineteenth Infantry.—Co. A: Silas A. Samphear.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. A: Milo J. Strong, Sergt., Robert Wisdom, Corpl., John B. Coyle, William Haley, Daniel T. Sage, Alfred Wallin, Joseph Wallin. Co. D: Lyman Cook, James McCann, James Tucker, John Vovrak. Co. K: Leonard A. Bonney, 1st Lieut., Aurelius P. Zander, 1st Sergt., Henry A. Bailey. Michael Holley, John Mischeo, Eugene L. Rossenback, Robert M. Thomas.

Thirty-sixth Infantry.—Co. H: George H. Hazen, Blitha G. Thomas.

Forty-third Infantry.—Co. A: Michael Donahue, Joseph Ott, David Roy, David Sibido, David C. Posey, Alfred Belrichard, William C. Coales, Joseph A. Elis c, Michael Gronerb, Daniel Stackland.

Second Cavalry.—Co. C: Aaron C. Hazen c.

TOWN OF FREEMAN.

Sixth Infantry.—Co. I: Charles Dibble a.  
Eighth Infantry.—Co. F: Martin Finley, Charles S. Twain c, Samuel J. Lewis c, Zachariah McQueen c.

Tenth Infantry.—Co. G: Andrew Knudson.  
Twelfth Infantry.—Co. K: Lewis Johnson, Henry Johnson, Thomas Lyme, Erick Knudson, Andrew Knudson, Othalis T. McQueen, Andrew Oleson.

Forty-second Infantry.—Co. B: Veranus E. Akin, Corpl., William P. Hill, Mathew E. Lawrence, Benjamin F. Olin. Co. D: Ole Oleson.

Forty-ninth Infantry.—Co. F: Andrew Lewis, Andrew Rogerson.

Fiftieth Infantry.—Co. B: Erastus H. Ames.

## TOWN OF HANEY.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. I: Alexander Wilkins, Henry D. Crow.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. A: Gilbert E. Haward, John D. Welch. Co. D: John C. Be'llville, 1st Sergt., James Rinehart, Corpl., Lewis Bartlett, Nathan K. Coleman, David V. Coleman, John Coleman, Nathan Coleman *c*, Phillip H. Moon, David J. McCullick, Ira N. Miller, Joseph Mars *c*, Ephriam H. Turk, Josiah Willsey. Co. K: John H. Fortney, H. D. Crow, C. D. Kast *c*. Edward Gray.

Forty-third Infantry.—Co. C: G. George Barnum, William W. Myers, Charles A. Miller.

Forty-seventh Infantry.—Co. E: Charles Miller. Co. G: Loyd Kelley, Sergt., Robert B. Austin, Isaac E. Crow, Benjamin G. Moon.

Forty-ninth Infantry.—Co. F: William Brickner.

## TOWN OF MARIETTA.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. B: George Clark. Co. I: Hiram Wood.

Twelfth Infantry.—Co. K: Edwin Rogers, Leysen Hanehin, William G. Wayne, Samuel Wayne, Franklin Wilsay, Stephen S. Ferrell.

Twentieth Infantry.—Co. C: John Fritze, Richard Hoyle. Co. D: Robert Reynolds *c*, Joseph Rice *b*, Seth Reynolds. Co. I: John Quigley.

Twenty-first Infantry.—Co. E: William Posey.

Thirty-third Infantry.—Co. A: William Sanders. Co. B: Thomas W. Reynolds, Corpl., Alfred A. Rogers, James Shields *c*, Frederick

Tipp, George Thompson. Co. G: George E. Harrington 1st Lieut., Martin Adams, William W. Bruce, Thomas Ward, Corpl. *c*, Edward F. Cheever, Albertus V. Cheever, Griffin Hurlburt *c*, Louis K. Pierce, Charles A. Steele, William Sanders, Jackson R. Wilson.

Forty-third Infantry.—Co. C: Isaac Thorp.

Forty-seventh Infantry.—Co. E: Daniel Rogers, Jonathan Rogers, Seth Reynolds. Co. G: Eli Emmons, Corpl., John A. McDaniel, Corpl., Josiah B. Bedient, Patrick Carlin, Francis M. Cheever, James Perrill, James C. Jones, Moses Lary, Hugh McDaniel, Charles B. Miller, John T. McDaniel, James McDaniel, Thomas McKnight, Daniel Q. R. Smith, Wilson Shoekley, Benjamin Shockley, Chauncey H. Steele.

Forty-ninth Infantry.—Co., F: Er~~os~~s Jennings.

## TOWN OF PRAIRIE DU CHIEN.

First Infantry.—Benjamin F. White, surgeon.

Second Infantry.—Co. B: Dane B. Peon.

Third Infantry.—Co. B: Cyrus Fairfield, Silas Streeter. Co. C: Michael Burke, Moses Dunn. Co. F: Matthew Howk, Thomas C. Linton.

Fifth Infantry.—Co. B: Danford A. Carpenter. Co. K: August Frang, Martin Zimpher. Co. II: George H. St. Clair.

Sixth Infantry.—Philip W. Plummer, Major *a*. John Davidson, Adjt., William Whaley, musician, Edward W. Plummer, Com. Sergt. Co. A: William Kilner, A. L. Pearson. Co. B: Terence McCabe, (drafted). Co. C: A. L. Hooe, Capt., Thomas W. Plummer, Capt., E. A. Whaley, Capt., Philip W. Plummer, 1st Lieut., Loyd G. Harris, 1st Lieut., Orrin D. Chapman, 2d Lieut., Norman S. Bull, 2d Lieut., Charles H. Putney 1st Sergt., George Adams, 2d Sergt., *c*, Judson Hurd, 2d Sergt., John W. Findy *c*, Lemuel Bailey, Corpl., Simon W. Hubbard, Corpl., Edward A. Bottum, A. M. Young, William P. Armstrong *a*, Mathews Andrews, Jesse Adams, Amman Christian, Alexander Boyd *a*, Simpson M. Brewer, James G. Conklin, Richard Coreoran, John Drysdale *c*, Samuel R. W.

Faulkner, Albert L. Fish *c*, Peter L. Gulberg, Willard Gilmore, Daniel D. Havens, Ezra P. Hewett *b*, John H. Hall, Lemuel P. Harvey, Henry Miller, Henry E. Pettit, George Russell, Gotlieb Schiortzer, Joseph Vallainin, William H. Wollin, Daniel M. Wordman, Wyndort Wimple, William Winney, Alfred R. Withrow, Charles E. White, Robert White, Julius Weiman, George W. Wilson, Frank Young, Jacob Snider, Charles H. Clay, Adam Rau, Harvy B. Vangarder, Leeter B. Martin, Stanley Vanderwather *c*. Co. D: John Davidson, John Bewman, Edward W. Plummer, Francis Gray *a*. Co. G: Phillip W. Plummer, Capt., Joseph Brader *c*, Isidore Morean, Isaac W. Roberts.

Seventh Infantry.—Co. F: Julius B. Nickuson.

Eighth Infantry.—Co. F: James H. Greene, Capt., Byron Hewitt, Corpl., Samuel Tillotson, Corpl., James Patterson, Corpl., Charles Belrichard *c*. Edward C. Dwight, Stephen Dawson *c*, Thurlow W. Lacy, Justus Fish, Martin Myland *c*, Jacob Paul, Michael Pelland, Joseph Ruff, Ferdenand Ruba, Anton Shulka, Francis H. Wagner.

Ninth Infantry.—Co. E: John A. Fingerly, Frederick Houk, Louis Heileck, Henry Hagene, Charles Witteman. Co. H: John A. Fingerly *b*. Co. K: John Mather, or Walber.

Tenth Infantry.—Co. F: Moses F. Abernathy.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. G: Samuel Jenks. Co. H: Sebastian Morisis.

Twelfth Infantry.—Co. G: Charles Branden, Hiram Chase, George S. Cooper, Hiram Gilmore, Frederick Gongoware, Patrick Keyes, George Long, James Swart, Theodore Woods.

Thirteenth Infantry.—Co. B: Thomas Cashman.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Co. F: Edward Larraviere, Corpl., Duff G. Brunson, Corpl., Ambrose Brunette, Arretus Butler, John Connelly (No. 3), Thos. Cushman, Edward Delancy, Felix Decaire, Oliver Denoe *a*, Erick Hazelins *c*, Paul Osberg *c*, Richard Richardson, Victor William.

Co. I: John C. Williams *a*, Frank Keiser, Chas. Schilenter.

Eighteenth Infantry.—Joshua J. Whitney, Asst. Surgeon. Co. A: W. P. Tinkham. Co. K: Chas. N. Hitchcock.

Nineteenth Infantry.—Co. A: Wm. A. Gale. Co. G: Wm. Gale. Co. K: Henry K. Sherman.

Twentieth Infantry.—Co. A: Everington Van Warmer. Co. I: Henry Brandes.

Twenty-first Infantry.—Co. A: John Dale, Casper Buehl, Simon Cull, Charles Verley. Co. G: John B. Cardy. Co. H: James F. Kast, Owen Kenedy, John W. Rue, Peter Richards.

Twenty-fifth Infantry.—Co. A: Cyrus C. Bennett.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Field and Staff: Isaac E. Messmore, colonel, Rufus King, quarter-master, William F. Benson, quarter-master, Darius Mason, Surgeon, Alfred Brunson, chaplain, Aaron Denio, 1st quarter-master sergt., Edward S. Eddy, hospital steward. Co. A: Henry A. Chase, Capt., George F. Lewis, 1st Lieut., William S. Rainier, Sergt., Thomas H. Livermore, Corpl., Albert T. Lewis, Corpl., James Allen, Jedariah Cole, Spencer E. Farnam, David S. Hill, Samuel S. Hewitt, George R. Hill *c*, Isaac Johnson, John C. Kellogg, William S. Martin, Alexander Newman, — Pugmire, Joseph Prew, George W. Russell, Andrew W. Shepard, William Shipley, Samuel Tinker, Hartwell H. Wilkerson, Robert Wilson, Frederick Watts, Gottlob J. Zech. Co. D: Ormsby B. Thomas, Capt. Nathaniel C. Denis, Capt., Charles W. Lockwood, 1st Lieut., David Van Wert Jr., 2d lieut., John C. Seybold, Sergt., Raphael Boisvert, Sergt., Theophilus G. Brunson, Sergt., Aaron Denio Jr., Sergt., Levi Grandy, Corpl., John Valentine, Corpl., John K. Wolfe, corpl. Thomas Tokes, Corpl., John P. Mathew, Corpl. *c*, Orlando W. Berge, Austin Birge, Edwin N. Baron, John Betz, John T. Baker, Edwin P. Curtiss, Patrick Finley, Zachariah F. Furgeson, Joseph Gale or Yale, John Grace, Henry Hardrich, John Maginiss, William Maxwell, John McCluskey, James McCluskey, Hugh Mines,



George W. Oswald, Jeremiah Phelps, Richard D. Phelps, Cornelius Russell, Patrick Ryan, Martin D. Smith, David St. Germain, George W. Smith, William Ward, Joseph Villemain, Peter Ward. Co. II: Byron Hewitt, Capt. Co. I: Daniel Boiswert, John R. B. A. Boiswert, Louis Chewert. Co. K: Edwin A. Bottum, Capt., Theophilus G. Brunson, 2d lieut., William A. Bottum, 1st sergt., John A. McClure Corpl. *c*, Edwin N. Baron, Richard D. Bull, Thomas Cashman, Eugene Durand, Francis Gauthier, Baker Knowlton, August Kessler, Peter La Pointe, Samuel H. Merrill, George Pease, James L. Sappington, Otis Stafford, Cyrus Sharp.

Thirty-third Infantry.—Co. A: Ebenezer C. Miller.

Thirty-sixth Infantry.—Co. II: Samuel Ole-son *c*.

Thirty-seventh Infantry.—Co. G: Miles Smith. Co. I: Lester L. Cowdry.

Fortieth Infantry.—Co. E: Edward F. O'Neill, corporal.

Forty-second Infantry.—Co. D: Battiece Wauban.

Forty-third Infantry.—Charles H. Williams, S. M. Co. A: William Partridge, Lieut., James H. McHenry, Sergt., Theophilus G. Brunson, Sergt., Patrick F. Hauley, Sergt., Charles H. Williams, Corpl., John Doyle, Augustus O'Neill, Baptiste L. Roque, Corpl., Nathan C. Skelton, Jerred Atwood, Eugene A. Brisbois, Cicero C. Chase, William Chase, John J. Conkling *c*, Henry Delaney, Samuel Dwachet, Michael Featherstone, William Garry, Albert Gauthier, Michael Higgins, Dennis Hayes, Ambrose Loyer, Andrew Norris, William H. Pierce, Eli Richards, Orlean Stram, Daniel Derry. Co. C: John T. Zeitz, Sergt., Albert Erdenberger, Carl Erdenberger. Co. H: Elijah L. Lyon, 1st Lieut., John Coughlin, Timothy Donehue, William B. Lacy, John C. Montgomery, Jene S. Smith.

Forty-fifth Infantry.—Co. C: Daniel R. Lawrence, sergt., Albert Green, corpl.

Forty-eighth Infantry.—Co. C: Edwin A. Bottum, Capt., Theophilus Darnes, Sergt., Edwin W. Barnes, Sergt., Samuel Batchelder, Sergt., Henry Hull, Sergt., John Wagwigan, Sergt., Frank L. Hodges, Corpl., Hiram Batchelder, Corpl., Joseph H. Clark, Corpl., Joshua A. Bradley, Corpl., Philip Wisenberger, Corpl., Charles L. Allen, Hamilton Burges, Ezra Boyle, John Covell, Michael Delury, Michael Donley, Moses Dugnette, John Elder, Paul Fernelle, Lucius R. Fitch, John Green, Michael Godfrey, Charles Honge, David Hickok, Patrick Kelly, John L. Lyon, Joseph Laroque, Peter Lessor, Patrick McArdle, Thomas E. Wagwigan, Alexander McClaferty, Charles Oazvis, Edward Portwine, William L. Russell, Charles Reihin, John F. Root, Tildon T. Root, Addison L. Root, Daniel H. Root, Joseph Sheffield, Abner Shrake, Adam Shrake, Henry H. Thomas, Jabus Tasker, Charles Wattles, John F. Willoughby, Thomas W. Alsif, George W. Beals, Joseph Riah. Co. K: Christian H. Miller.

Fifty-second Infantry.—Co. C: Vino Wales.

First Cavalry.—Co. C: William T. Shawl, William Shillers, John W. Warley, William Worley *c*, John Werley. Co. F: Henry Brag *c*, Daniel T. Brown, Jonas Fuller *c*. Co. I: William Lots, Frederick Schiller.

Second Cavalry.—Co. C: Chancey Blaucher, 1st lieut., Joseph Barrette, Franklin Bacon, George T. Doyle, John E. Hall, Enoch Haney Samuel A. Young, John T. Hewitt, Benjamin F. Howland.

Third Cavalry.—Co. D: Alfred Berkley, 1st Lieut.

Light Artillery.—8th Battery: Thomas L. Redlow. Thirteenth Battery: Chauncey Tibbetts.

## TOWN OF SCOTT.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. I: Oscar Dilley, Elijah T. Davis.

Twelfth Infantry.—Co. K: Ira T. Dilley.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. D: William H. Sloan.

Thirty-sixth Infantry.—Co. II: Jacob Graver.

Forty-seventh Infantry.—Co. G: James B. Newcomb, Sergt., Willam W. Tate, Sergt., Geo. W. Bedient, Corpl., Robert Duncan, Corpl., Charles F. Coulbourn, Corpl., Robert Eysers, William Flanagan, Tompkins Green, Allen D. Greenfield, George E. Harrington, Seymour C. Hurlburt, Lentler Herlocker, Daniel Q. R. Smith, Samuel Wood *c*.

Forty-ninth Infantry.—Co. F: Charles H. Lawrence, Alphonso Slade, James Turk.

TOWN OF SENECA.

Fifth Infantry.—Co. G: Morris E. Brown.

Sixth Infantry.—Co. C: George Fairfield, Richard A. Marston *a*, Alfred T. Onderkirk, Walter G. Pease, William H. Pease, Morton Prothero, George Copsay, George Green *c*, Peter George, Alvin Bundy, William B. Cockrill.

Eighth Infantry.—Co. F: Willard D. Chapman, Sergt. *a*, Charles H. Green, Corpl. *c*, Michael Maloney, Corpl., Henry E. Butterfield, James Hamilton, Chas. Munn *c*, John Peters *a*, George M. Robbins, John W. Smith, William H. Thompson, Darius Welch.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. A: Patrick Ewright, Dennis Ewright. Co. G: Benedict Ruchti, Henry Russell.

Twelfth Infantry.—Co. K: James Clark, Corpl., George C. Bonny, James M. Beane, George Mellison, George D. Clark, 2d Lieut., William F. Slater.

Fifteenth Infantry.—James Demmings, Hosp. Surgeon. Co. A: John Bray, Patrick Ryan, James P. Finley.

Eighteenth Infantry.—Co. C: John H. Graham, 1st Lieut., William Nittle. Co. K: Thomas Finley, Sergt. *c*.

Nineteenth Infantry.—Co. E: Clarence Wilke.

Twentieth Infantry.—Co. A: Charles W. Clark.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. A: George Lyman, 2d Lieut., Harrison H. Whaley, 1st Sergt., John C. Inman, Sergt., Dealson Tichenor, Sergt., John Smethurst, Wells Briggs, Samuel W. Clark, Pizard Cook, Daniel Canfield, James Da-

vidson, John Ewing, Newel H. Hopkins, Cyrus C. Knapps, Joseph Michael, Artimus McDonald, Archibald Montgomery, Owen E. Miller, Henry D. Shilto, Joseph Smethurst, Ira W. Thayer, Alfonso F. Tichenor, Ozral Watson. Co. D: Samuel Armstrong, James Boyles Renel F. Haskins *c*, Artemus McDonald, Timothy Sullivan, William True. Co. H: Freeman R. Pease, Sergt. Co. K: William True, Corpl., James J. Gear, James Boyles, George Dean, Samuel N. Daggett, George H. Harrington, Cyrus C. Knapps, George W. Newton, Henry C. Rose, James N. Searle, Henry Vanderbilt, William Withey.

Thirty-third Infantry.—Co. B: James J. Harris, John T. Nicholson. Co. G: Henry Russell.

Thirty-sixth infantry.—Co. H: Sinas E. Pease, Albert Wright *d*.

Thirty-eighth Infantry.—Co. A: James McCormick.

Forty-third Infantry.—Co. C: William H. Thompson, Corpl., Joseph B. Copper, Corpl., James Smithurst, Corpl. Co. H: Peter Casey, Zenas A. Canfield, Charles Ruebu, Thomas Ryan, Isaac Davis *c*.

Forty-fifth Infantry.—Co. C: Charles Cayo, Samuel Countryman, William W. Harrington, David L. Heligass, William Inard, Daniel Kane, Joseph Mercer, George J. Millett, Jr., Charles Valley, Oscar Varo.

Forty-sixth Infantry.—Co. C: Kanut Forge-son, Daniel George.

Forth-ninth Infantry.—Co. F: Bowdeoine Crowd, Israel Lind, Hugh Porter.

Fifty-second Infantry.—Co. C: George Bras-kin, William Dickson, John E. Rathbun, Eli-sha F. Randall.

TOWN OF UTICA.

Sixth Infantry.—Co. C: Harvey B. Ritten-house, Geo. R. Twining, Agrim Thompson, Nathaniel W. Wells, Nathaniel Lester, Patrick Leney, Benj. Lester.

Seventh Infantry.—Co. B: G. Ingebrighton.

Eighth Infantry.—Co. F: Geo. H. Sterling, Corpl., Freeman A. Wilder *c*, Aden Sherwood, Archibald Sears.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. I: Isaac R. Jenks.

Twelfth Infantry.—Co. A: John H. McCullles. Co. K: John O'Connor, 2nd Sergt., Hoover Hooverson 1st Corpl. Lewis Olson, Corpl., Peter Peterson, Corpl., Caleb Maznard, John Olson, Ole Peterson, Torgor Torgerson, Edmund Fisher, Ole T. Nash, Andrew Searight.

Fourteenth Infantry.—Co. E: Geo. W. Green.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Co. A: David George. Co. H: Hans C. Larmsen, Ole H. Rome, Thomas A. Sandvig. Co. I: Christopher Currier, Samuel C. Hyde, Samuel E. Shields, Sergt.

Eighteenth Infantry.—Co. B: Patrick Quinn, Joseph H. Brightman.

Twenty-fifth Infantry.—Co. A: Robert E. McCrellis, 1st Sergt., John H. McCrellis, Edward F. Huntington *c*.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Henry S. Twining, Hosp. Stew. Co. A: Edward Thompson, Sergt., Thomas W. Gay, Corpl., James Abbott, Stephen N. Broekway, James S. Dudley, Nicholas Grant Henry C. Newcomb, Able C. Stelle, Orsamus B. Swift, Gardener Stearns, Jas. H. Stevens, Nelson A. Tolman, Aaron C. R. Vaughan, A. P. E. Vaughan. Co. D: Cushman Rogers, Corpl., Frank Stien, Marion Boyer, Henry N. Clink, Martin Haet, Edward R. James, Israel, Johnson, Patrick Murphy, Geo. W. Phillips, Andrew Sherwood, Norman Sherwood *a*, David M. Twining, Henry S. Twining, Geo. W. Thackery, Barton D. Woodburn, Samuel R. Wolery. Co. K: Cornelius L. Allen, Edmund Packard, David Beard.

Thirty-third Infantry.—Co. G: Jas. K. Vanamberg, Corpl. *c*.

Thirty-sixth Infantry.—Co. H: Jonathan B. Coyur, Wm. Coe, Solomon Flick, John E. Howell *c*, Wm. H. Haynes, Marcus S. Lull *c*, David R. Mullikin, Thomas Moris *a*, Wm. McMammus, Thomas Oscar, Oliver I. Peck, Richard R. Parker *c*, Mathew Stunkard, Ole Severson, Peter Thompson, Everett Wørdburn *a*.

Forty-third Infantry.—Co. A: Edward, P. Briggs, Sergt., Wm. Lewis, Jonas McCullick, Wm. H. Payne, Samuel M. Turk. Co. C: Emanuel George, Jas. Jackson, Samuel Nicholson, Wm. Nicholson, Frederick Nicholson.

Forty-fifth Infantry.—Co. C: Denis Hagarty, Patrick Kelly.

Forty-sixth Infantry.—Co. C: Ingebrit Peterson. Co. K: Battaso Oprecht.

Forty-ninth Infantry.—Co. F: Jas. Allen.

First Cavalry.—Co. B: Lynderman Wright. Co. G: Harvey E. Tooker Corpl., Albert Tooker, Corpl. Co. E: John Emmerick *c*.

#### TOWN OF WAUZEKA.

Third Infantry.—Co. B: Chas. Cookerbaker.

Sixth Infantry.—Co. C: Jacob Lemons, 1st Sergt.

Eighth Infantry.—Co. F: Bedford Bush, Sergt., John Clark *c*, Joseph H. Griffin *c*, Joseph Lemons, John Thomas *c*.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. A: Washington A. Vaughn.

Twentieth Infantry.—Co. A: Reuben A. Brown, Geo. W. Dowse *a*, Jas. B. Mumford, Geo. W. Posey, Jas. B. Posey *b*, Moses H. Philmlee, Jacob W. Rue, Geo. W. Russell, John S. Seely, Milton H. Wayne.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. A: John Harold, Corpl., Samuel H. Griffin, Edward Hale, Andrew M. Hale. Co. D: Manley E. Mumford, 1st Sergt., John Coghlan, Sergt., Reuben Cooley, Michael Dunn, John H. Furtney, Geo. O. Harrison, August Kesler, Samuel T. Whitehead, David Wright, Corpl. Co. H: Wm. L. Oswald, Corpl. Co. K: John Devowrak, Geo. O. Harrison, Philip Leocke, James McCann, Geo. W. Rasey.

Thirty-third Infantry.—Co. B: Wm. H. Emery *c*.

Thirty-eighth Infantry.—Co. F: Robert E. Lawrence.

Forty-third Infantry.—Co. A: Ensign R. Tuttle, Kertland Tuttle. Co. H: Henry Phillip, Jasper Harris, Lewis W. Harvey, Geo. Rider, Joseph Volliner, Nelson Wright, Lewis Mickenhane *c*.

Forty-ninth Infantry.—Co. F: A. Brown, John Polander. Co. H: Orlando Vaughan.

Second Cavalry.—Co. C: John K. Hazel.

Third Cavalry.—Co. I: Geo. L. Bowen.

CRAWFORD COUNTY AT LARGE.

Fifth Infantry.—Co. A: Alfred H. Hubbard, H. A. Hubbard *c*.

Sixth Infantry.—Co. C: John Shaw.

Eleventh Infantry.—Co. G: Kingsley R. Boyd.

Twelfth Infantry.—Co. A: Cyrus C. Bennett. Co. K: George H. Fuzzard, Corpl., Caleb Pinkham, Joseph Pinkham, Thomas Slater, John Fuzzard, Philip Davenport, Lemiteius J. Green, Beadford Guist, Hugh Dowling, Robspier Mills, James Ewing *c*, Henry R. Mures *b*, Isaiah Wood *c*, Andrew Erickson *c*, Frank B. Cordler, John B. Lewis, George E. Montague, George W. Squire, William F. M. Kast, Henry C. Kast, Floyd Kelly, James W. Kast *c*.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Co. I: William Single, John Whitaker.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. A: Edward Gray, Sergt., John C. Wood, Lieut., Philip Laike, Ole Johnson, Luke Lapointe *c*, Samuel H. Merrell, Baptiste Mareot, Edwin Parkard, George W. Newton, George Pease, Henry C. Rose, Otis Stafford, James S. Sapington, Joseph W. Searle, Cyrus S. Sharp, Zachariah Wright. Co. D: John B. A. Boisvent, Deater N. Ames, Daniel Boisvent, Marcus T. C. Copper *c*, Lewis Chenvert, Michael Dumphy, William DeLounay, Louis Godfrey, Frank Gauthier, John A. Looby, David Lemons *c*, Richard Pierce *c*, Henry W. Mumford, James Murphy, Dallas Wilder.

Forty-fourth Infantry.—Co. H: Thomas J. Ellsworth.

Forty-seventh Infantry.—Co. E: Alfred Bonney, Richard Hancock, Michael D. Dowling, Alonzo Ward. Co. G: James D. Haze, James M. Jobe.

POSTOFFICES THAT THE TOWNS ARE NOT GIVEN.  
ROLLING GROUND.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. D: John Copass, Wesley Lenox. Co. K: Jonathan W. Adney.

Thirty-third Infantry.—Co. B: John A. Clase, corpl., George Cronk, Robert E. Glover, William Gaffny, Ciphaz Pinkham, Cornelius Young, Hulbert Young. Co. G: C. E. Closson, Sergt., Squire Toney, Corpl., Francis Hyues, Corpl., Henry Payne.

TELLERS CORNERS.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. K: Allanson Graves, sergt.

Thirty-third Infantry.—Co. B: Lewis W. Graham, William Mindham, Co. G: Alexander Wilkin.

TURNERS CORNERS.

Forty-ninth Infantry.—Co. F: Robert Ross.

CROWS MILLS.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. D: Jeremiah N. Kast. Co. K: Josiah Wilsey *c*.

ROLLING CENTER.

Thirty-first Infantry.—Co. D: Willard F. McMillin.

WAR EXTRACTS FROM COUNTY PAPERS.

From the bombardment of Fort Sumter to the death of Abraham Lincoln, there were published in the *Courier* (and after the establishment of the *Union*, in that paper also) many items of interest relating to the war. These, of course, are, in their nature, transitory, but of importance as reflecting the feeling of the people at home and of the soldiers in the army. As they form an every day record of the hardships and trials of the times, and it is a pleasing pastime to recall these already nearly forgotten incidents, many of them are here preserved.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COURIER.

May 2, 1861.—The present claimants having this fort [Crawford] in possession, and all the fort property, [in Prairie du Chien] have tendered it to the governor, for the use of the troops, and are desirous it should be the rendezvous for the 3d regiment. That the proposition will be readily accepted by Gov. Randall

there can be but little doubt. As to the capacity for accommodation of troops there is no better garrison in the northwest. The repairs necessary are not material, and the volunteers could make the entire fort as comfortable in every quarter as any private residence in the land in five days. The rooms are all arranged with regard to the health and convenience of soldiers, in both fort and hospital. There is no pleasanter, or more healthy location in the world. The prairie also affords the best imaginable parade grounds, where 100,000 troops have room to perform all necessary movements. The price of living would very likely be cheaper here than in any other portion of the State.

Mr. William E. Parish, who recently awaited upon Gov. Randall at the request of the volunteers and obtained the commissions for their officers, was also authorized to offer the use of Fort Crawford to the State. He has done so, and taking into consideration our facilities in the way of telegraph, railway and steamer communication with all points of the country, the governor could not select a more convenient place for the location of a large number of troops than at Fort Crawford. In less than three days 100,000 men could be sent down the river from this point into the very heart of the southern States.

May 2.—The company of Crawford county volunteers is now full, has been thoroughly organized, drilled for two weeks, and on the whole, are a fine appearing company of men. They are all alive with the right feeling, desirous of perfecting themselves in military tactics, and are making rapid progress in the acquirement of military knowledge. The officers and many of the men have had considerable experience in military matters. The officers elected are as follows:

Captain.—Alexander S. Hooe.

Lieutenant.—Philip Plummer.

Ensign.—William Partridge.

1st. Sergt. —L. G. Harris.

2d “ G. W. Adams.

3d Sergt.—Jud Hurd.

4th “ J. W. Fonda.

1st Corpl.—B. Bush.

2d “ B. McGinty.

3d “ J. N. Chestnut.

4th “ M. C. Lewis.

Privates.—W. P. Armstrong, C. Ammon, M. Andrews, A. Boyd, E. A. Bottum, N. L. Bull, William Bailey, L. Bailey, H. L. Bottum, C. Blanchard, H. E. Butterfield, S. Barney, S. Bailey, I. Bull, I. W. Blake, O. D. Chapman, J. Clark, J. D. Conklin, W. R. Coleman, W. D. Chapman, J. Davidson, H. W. Drew, E. A. Dwight, J. E. Earl, J. H. Fonda, E. E. Forsyth, G. Fairchild, J. Fisk, S. R. W. Fuller, W. S. Green, J. Grace, R. E. Glover, L. Harvey, C. P. Hooper, S. S. Havens, J. Hall, E. P. Hewitt, G. Harrington, J. Ingmundson, H. Keyes, W. Kelley, O. Kavanaugh, P. Lock, M. C. Lewis, R. A. Lawrence, F. McMillen, A. Marston, H. H. Miller, N. Myland, A. Onderkirk, T. Oswald, W. Pease, W. Prothero, C. H. Putney, William Russell, C. R. Shirland, G. Schweizer, William Slater, G. H. Sterling, J. Shaw, K. Tuttle, D. Thompson, J. W. Thayer, A. Terrick, H. Veasy, D. Van Gorder, J. Villenmir, H. Vanderbilt, W. H. Wallen, M. Weber, V. M. Wideman, W. P. Winney, M. Wemple, J. P. Whitehouse.

The above is a correct list of the officers and privates of the Crawford county volunteers.

E. A. BOTTUM, Company Clerk.

Capt. Hooe is the only son of major A. S. Hooe, who died in the United States service, and at one time the commandant at Fort Crawford. He is a patriotic and efficient officer; has a thorough knowledge of the duties of a soldier acquired at West Point. He is the most capable man in this part of the country to lead a company.

Lieut. Plummer was formerly of the Milwaukee Light Guards; has a fair knowledge of his duties, and is a thorough disciplinarian. The officers are certain to command the confi-

dence and respect of their company and officers and men, all in all, are ready to give a good account of themselves as occasion may require.

May 2.—For once in this century it is a matter of fact, and must be recorded, that the politicians are all dead! The distinction between parties, which has heretofore existed, is no more. The politician has turned into the patriot. If there are any in the north who have not become patriots, instead of democrats and republicans, then they are traitors. We know of none such in our city. With one heart and one voice men declare for their country.

May 23.—Two weeks ago we stated in an article relating to the advantages of this military post, that the present claimants of Fort Crawford, had offered the entire property of fort and grounds, to the governor, and asserted that it could be made comfortable at a light expense.

Since writing the article, Judge J. P. Atwood, of Madison, has been commissioned by Gov. Randall, to examine the fort and estimate the expense needed for repairs and improvements, to fit it up in readiness for the 4th regiment.

Judge Atwood called on us, and gave the information that he had thoroughly inspected the whole work and would report his estimate of the expense needed at about \$1,500. [This is less than it cost to fit up the cattle sheds on the State Fair Ground at Madison.]

Judge Atwood said that there is no doubt but Fort Crawford would be occupied by the 4th regiment.

Which ever regiment is quartered in the fort "Old Zack" built, may depend on having the best, healthiest, and pleasantest quarters, of any troops in the State.

The families now living in the fort will move out, and there will be ample room for a regiment of 1,000 men.

May 23.—The undersigned "twelve qualified voters of said town" of Prairie du Chien, do request that a special town meeting be held in

said town, for the purpose of voting a tax to raise money to pay the expenses of the volunteers, until called for by the governor of the State. [Signed.]

B. W. Brisbois, H. Wendenfield, Ira B. Brunson, Rufus King, O. P. Martin, B. E. Hutchinson, William E. Parish, Horace Beach, C. Amman, S. N. Lester, John Jackson, H. W. Savage, H. H. Hall, Lawrence Case, E. W. Pelton, George B. Kane, E. D. Bates.

May 30.—The people of old Crawford county cannot be beat for patriotism and pluck. In every town are volunteer companies organizing, and everywhere the "flag of our country" is floating in the breeze. At Seneca, Mt. Sterling, De Soto, Batavia, Rolling Ground, the "Stars and Stripes" have been unfurled with becoming ceremonies, exceedingly creditable to the loyalty of the citizens of those several localities.

At Rolling Ground a glorious flag raising came off recently, amid patriotic singing, reading, addresses and cheering. J. R. Hurlbert, Esq., was chairman, and J. C. Bellville, secretary.

Mrs. G. Morgan read some appropriate verses dedicated to the American flag. E. C. Dunham sung the "Star Spangled Banner." Messrs. L. Ross, J. Teller and Stephen Wade addressed the assembled people. A committee of the following gentlemen: William P. McBurney, G. Morgan and S. Wade, were appointed to draft resolutions, and reported as follows:

WHEREAS, The government of the United States is in great danger from the assaults of traitors and misguided men, it is

*Resolved*, That whatever may have been our previous political predilections, we do now relinquish all former opinions and parties, and cleave to the great bulwark of safety, the constitution and the Union.

*Resolved*, That the prompt action of the administration, in calling for troops to suppress all disloyalty to the government, and to protect public property, meets our hearty approval.

*Resolved*, That "The Union **MUST** and **SHALL** be preserved."

*Resolved*, That a military company be immediately organized at Rolling Ground, and its services tendered to the President in suppressing treason.

June 13.—The Home Guard, recently organized here, held a meeting at their armory, in Fort Crawford, last Saturday evening, and a full attendance was had. Some fifty-seven names were added to the list, and every man enrolled is a good reliable citizen, and a credit to the community. This is bound to be a tip-top company. The following are the officers elected:

Captain.—Darius Mason.  
 1st Lieutenant.—P. Sanders.  
 2d Lieutenant.—P. Dorr.  
 Orderly Sergeant.—B. Dunne.  
 2d Sergeant.—N. C. Davis.  
 3d Sergeant.—H. F. Batchelder.  
 4th Sergeant.—H. A. Chase.  
 1st Corporal.—G. B. Tillotson.  
 2d Corporal.—N. C. Witting.  
 3d Corporal.—J. B. Peon.  
 4th Corporal.—T. S. Cherrier.

There is to be a special meeting of the officers at the office of the orderly this (Thursday) evening.

July 4.—The Prairie du Chien company is the crack company of the 6th regiment of Wisconsin volunteers, and is receiving with its officers, the highest praise for its efficiency. Here is what a Madison paper says of it on its first arrival at camp:

"The first company of the 6th regiment—the Prairie du Chien volunteers—arrived in camp yesterday afternoon. This company has in it 105 men, rank and file, made up of the sturdy citizens of the counties of Crawford and Grant. They are a fine body of men, and have been as well drilled as is possible to drill men without arms. The commissioned officers of this company are: Capt.: Alexander S. Hooe, 1st Lieut.: Philip W. Plummer, and 2d Lieut.: Thomas W.

Plummer. Capt. Hooe is an experienced officer, having been connected with military movements his whole life. His father was a United States officer and the captain himself was born in a fort, and nearly his whole life has been spent in a garrison. Understanding, fully his duties, and having had his company organized for some time, his men make a first-rate appearance. Three more companies of the 6th regiment are expected to day. Lieut. Col. Atwood was upon the ground giving diligent attention to the preparation for the reception of the 6th regiment. Whatever he does, will be well done."

The success of the first company has prompted the raising of a second company here, "The Prairie du Chien Greys," and the latter now lack eleven men of its required complement. This latter company is regularly organized. Capt.: D. Mason, 1st Lieut.: B. Saunders, 2d Lieut.: P. Dorr. They will be uniformed and equipped within forty days, and will be ready when called on.

August 1.—James H. Greene has been appointed with authority to raise a company of volunteers for the war. He will take the names of all able-bodied men who can be depended upon as ready to enlist as soon as the harvest is over. This county has already furnished one fine company, and a dozen others can be raised on emergency. Old Crawford will do her part nobly, in the contest for the preservation of the Union.

September 12.—In behalf of the members of Crawford county volunteers, I return hearty thanks to the ladies of Prairie du Chien for their kindness in furnishing each member of the company with articles of so much use and comfort, as those I carry with me for the boys. On my return to Madison, we shall, each and every one of us, endeavor to merit the praise of our fellow-citizens at home, and by doing our duty, win the approval of those noble women

who have cheerfully sent their husband and brothers to maintain the flag of our Union.

Respectfully,

I. H. GREENE, Captain.

Prairie du Chien, Sept. 9, 1861.

October 3.—Orderly Sergt. McClure of Capt. Greene's Crawford county volunteers, was in town the first of the week. He has already assumed the garb and manners of a soldier. From him we learn that the 8th Wisconsin regiment will soon leave for Washington.

October 23.—We learn that S. S. Ferrell, of the town of Marietta, has volunteered for the war, in the new volunteer company now leaving this county. He is a true and brave man, and will prove an honor to the service, either in the ranks or as an officer.

December 26.—The Soldiers' festival was a pleasant affair. Union Hall was well filled, and the citizens of Prairie du Chien donated liberally to a bountiful supper. The receipts *in cash*, over all expenses, besides an immense amount of food, reached nearly \$100. The result speaks well for the patriotism of our citizens. It is very hard times for many; but there is no sacrifice that our citizens would not make, to aid and encourage the brave boys who have left us. The soldiers are provided with all the creature comforts really necessary by the government; but a few extras, such as a neat pair of mittens, woolen stockings, reading matter and letters would add greatly to their pleasure. We suppose the object of the festival was to furnish these things.

1862.—February 20.—We had supposed that almost every available man, who could possibly leave his family or business, had already enlisted to fill up the volunteer companies that had left here; but Lieut. Furlong has been recruiting here for Col. Doran's regiment, the 17th Wisconsin, with some success. Some dozen or more have already started for Madison.

August 14.—The company of Lieut. Henry Chase is filled, and two more new companies in this county are in the course of enrollment.

At a meeting of the citizens Monday evening, the most effective plans to secure the immediate enrollment of volunteers were discussed and adopted. The quota of men needed from Crawford county, under the two last calls (of 600,000 men) is about 270; of this number there is over 100 already enrolled. The meeting resolved on the immediate formation of two new companies, and they are already under good headway.

Mr. Joseph Evans, of Clayton, with a captain's commission, will raise a host of the bravest and best men in the county. He can do it, if any person can.

Hon. O. B. Thomas, of Prairie du Chien, will undertake the raising of another company for Prairie du Chien and vicinity. All this can, will, and it must be done. The whole country is aroused to the great danger that threatens the American Nationality, and every man must lay aside for the time, every obstacle which keeps him from going to the rescue. A volunteer bounty fund of \$25 for each man, will be raised and paid to volunteers or their families, before leaving. Let every man in the county come up nobly to the work. Forgive, forget, ignore every thing but your country! Let there be but one deep, united response, and that for the preservation of this American Union.

August 14.—At brief notice, the people of Prairie du Chien assembled at Union Hall, Tuesday evening, crowding it to overflowing with their great numbers, near 1000 were present, men, women and children; all wild with enthusiasm. Rev. A. Brunson, presided over the meeting, Mr. John Lawler, addressed the multitude increasing the interest ten fold by his eloquence. Capt. O. B. Thomas made a telling appeal, and the response came up by platoons, in the shape of resolute volunteers. There was the most intense excitement throughout the meeting. The German brass band played patriotic airs; the men cheered; the women sung and cried by turns; and recruits kept marching up,



taking the oath and pledging their service in defence of the union.

Donations were very liberally offered. Among the many subscriptions was \$15 each for the first twenty men enlisting in Capt. Thomas' company, also \$15 for the next ten men enlisting in the same company. These donations were made by John Lawler in behalf of the M. & P. du C., R. R. Co.; and by H. L. Dousman, respectively. There is to be a committee appointed immediately, who will wait upon every man in the county, and receive subscriptions, to the volunteer fund. It is intended to pay all volunteers a bounty of \$25,00 on enlisting. A meeting will be held to perfect this arrangement. Let no man refuse to give his means.

August 21.—At the town of Seneca, on Tuesday last, there was a gathering of volunteers and their friends. It was by far, the most enthusiastic and successful of any meeting yet held. About 200 volunteers were present, and their families and friends came also to spend the day with them.

The speaker's stand was surrounded with an excited and earnest assemblage of the best citizens of the county. They were addressed by several eloquent speakers, of whom we had the good fortune to hear Capt. O. B. Thomas and Capt. Chase. They were the favorites with soldiers, for they are soldiers themselves. Their appeals elicited cheers, loud and long, and made sympathetic thrills pass through the persons of those present, whose hearts are with them in the good cause. Many a tear-dimmed eye could be seen when Capt. Thomas recounted the sacrifices some of the men had made when he showed the great danger threatening his country. He had thought that he had sacrificed as much as any man. He was about to leave a home, with an aged mother, dear sisters and all the promising prospects of rising manhood. He went cheerfully, "*his mother told him to go,*" and he hoped he might never return alive until every traitor to his country was annihilated.

Others present had given much to their country. One grey haired man had his sons, nephews, every living male relative, in the ranks. One son had fallen in a recent battle, and the old man was taking care of his son's widow. Yet, the old veteran begged to be allowed to enlist.

Cheer after cheer was given for the Union, the speaker, and for the men, as they walked up and put their names to the enlistment roll.

The air resounded with martial music, every demonstration of enthusiasm prevailed, and the meeting continued throughout the day without a thing to mar the glorious outpouring spirit of patriotism.

The citizens who had charge of the dinner, and the general arrangement for the comfort of all, did credit to the town of Seneca and themselves.

Such meetings are good at this time, and there should be at least one held in each town in the county.

August 28.—The Union volunteers of the county of Crawford, who make up the companies of Capt. Chase and Capt. Thomas, stand at the head in answer to the President's last call. They have held their elections, organized, and commenced to do the duty of soldiers. The selections of officers were necessarily good, for among so many really earnest, true men there could not be a mistake. Most of the officers chosen in each of the companies we have been intimately acquainted with for years, and can join the men in feeling that their interests and welfare will be carefully looked to.

The following is a correct list of the officers elected, as furnished us:

Captain.	—O. B. Thomas, Prairie du Chien.
1st Lieut.	—N. C. Denio, " " "
2d " "	C. Amman, " " "
Orderly Sergt.	—J. C. Bellville, Haney.
2d " "	David VanWert, Wauzeka.
3d " "	T. G. Brunson, P. du Chien.
4th " "	J. Gale, Prairie du Chien.
5th " "	A. Denio, " " "

- 1st Corpl.—R. Boiswert Prairie du Chien.  
 2d “ Orando Birge “ “ “  
 3d “ Jeremiah Kast, Bell Centre.  
 4th “ John Coughlin, Wauzeka.  
 5th “ R. Haskins, Haney.  
 6th “ A. W. Haskins, “  
 7th “ John Grace, Prairie du Chien.  
 8th “ Alanson Graves, Utica.  
 Captain.—Henry A. Chase, Prairie du Chien.  
 1st Lieut.—Geo. F. Lewis, “ “ “  
 2d “ E. A. Bottum, “ “ “  
 Orderly Sergt.—David Beard, Utica.  
 2d “ George Lyman, Seneca.  
 3d “ Edward Grey, Clayton.  
 4th “ Milton Jacobs, Grant Co.  
 5th “ Dealton Tichenor, Seneca.  
 1st Corpl.—Harrison Whaley, Lynxville.  
 2d “ J. C. Inman, Seneca.  
 3d “ Owen Miller, “  
 4th “ E. Thompson, Mt. Sterling.  
 5th “ E. E. Forsythe, Prairie du Chien.  
 6th “ John Smethurst, Seneca.  
 7th “ T. Livermore, Prairie du Chien.  
 8th “ Wm. Martin, “ “ “

We shall, as soon as the companies are in camp, give the names of each man comprising them.

September 4.—Among the many good men who have enlisted to go to the war from this county is our esteemed fellow citizen, Geo. E. Harrington of the town of Scott. He has been elected 1st lieutenant of the last new company mustered at Boscobel, and has with him upwards of forty of “old Crawford County’s best sons.” George E. Harrington will prove a good soldier and a worthy officer. Having always been strictly temperate, and bearing an untarnished reputation, and a good moral character, with a fair share of patriotism, he will prove perfectly trustworthy, be it in facing the enemy or in any other position in which he may be placed. We know that he enters the army from a sense of duty and will perform faithfully the duties devolving upon him as a soldier. May the God of battles be with him on the battle field. But

if he falls it will be in the thickest of the fight with his face towards the enemy, fighting for liberty and the Union.

September 25.—The “Old Barracks” begin to assume a soldier-like appearance once again. Several companies of as good men as the war has called forth are now quartered in the fort. The commissary department is being arranged; many of the army stores are received and the sutler’s store is opened. Blankets have been distributed among the men who will soon have their rations furnished them and do all their own cooking. It is not yet decided how long the regiment will remain or where it is to go.

September 25.—Co. C. Sixth regiment. From a private letter received in town from Capt. Hooe, of the above named company, we learn that the following men, in addition to the list published week before last, were wounded in the battle of South Mountain, Sept. 14th and Sharpsburg, Sept. 17th:

Sergt. E. A. Whaley, Lynxville, leg.

Corpl George Fairfield, Seneca, head.

Private Richard Corcoran, Sergt, J. N. Chestnut, (color bearer) Clayton, Iowa, wrist.

Private Ezra P. Hewitt, Prairie du Chien, thigh, Private William Nicholson, Cassville, leg.

The captain says: “This company has been in seven hard fought battles in less than twenty days, and now is reduced to less than eighteen men for duty, including officers.”

October 9.—We publish below a list of the men who composed the companies of Crawford county volunteers, now in Fort Crawford. They are a noble set of boys, many we have known and associated with for years, They are from among our best citizens; good, honest, worthy men; and their names are creditable to “Old Crawford:”

#### CAPTAIN CHASES’ COMPANY.

Captain.—Henry A. Chase, Prairie du Chien.

1st Lieut.—George F. Lewis, “ “ “

2d “ J. C. Wood, “ “ “

Orderly Sergt.—George Lyman, Seneca.  
 2d “ Harrison Whaley, Lynxville  
 3d “ Edward Gray, Clayton.  
 4th “ Milton Jacobs, Grant Co.  
 5th “ Dealton Tichenor, Seneca.  
 1st Corp.—Milo J. Strong, Lynxville.  
 2d “ J. C. Inman, Seneca.  
 3d “ E. Thompson, Mt. Sterling.  
 4th “ Owen Miller, Seneca.  
 5th “ William S. Reinier, P. du Chien.  
 6th “ T. Livermore, Prairie du Chien.  
 7th “ John Smithurst, Seneca.  
 8th “ Robert Wisdom, Eastman.  
 Musicians.—L. E. Farnum, vacancy, (fifer.)

Privates.—James Abbott, James Allen, Wm. Ault, Wm. T. Bottum, Ishamer Burgess, Eugene Briggs, L. A. Bonney, David Beard, Wells Briggs, Wm. F. Benson, Richard D. Ball, Samuel F. Brown, S. F. Brockway, David Clark, Jedediah Cole, Samuel W. Clark, Pizarro Cook, John B. Coyle, Daniel Canfield, Jas. S. Dudley, Jas. Davidson, John Ervine, S. E. Farnum, Edward Glenn, Samuel H. Griffin, Nicholas Grant, Thos. W. Gay, David L. Hill, Edward Hall, Geo. B. Hill, Wm. Haley, John Harold, Andrew M. Hall, G. N. Hammond, N. H. Hopkins, Samuel L. Hewitt, Isaac Johnson, Leroy Jacobs, W. G. Johnson, John C. Kellogg, Cyrus C. Knapp, Luke La Pointe, A. T. Lewis, Phillip Loek, Joseph Michael, John McClaren, Samuel H. Merrill, A. Montgomery, W. L. Martin, A. T. Newman, H. C. Newcomb, Edmund Packard, George Pease, Joseph Prew, Joseph Pugmire, Henry C. Rose, Geo. Russell, Henry D. Shiltz, Joseph Smithurst, Daniel T. Sage, Jacob Shrake, Chas. Scorill, Cyrus S. Sharp, Wm. Shipley, O. B. Swift, Gardener Stearns, A. C. Stille, A. W. Sheppard, Joseph N. Searles, N. A. Tallman, Samuel Tucker, A. F. Tichenor, Ira W. Thayer, A. C. B. Vaughn, A. P. E. Vaughn, H. H. Wilkerson, Alfred Wallin, John D. Welch, Zachariah Wright, Robt. Wilson, Frederick Watts, Joseph Wallin, Ozial Watson, Gottlieb J. Zeek.

CAPT. THOMAS' COMPANY.

Captain.—O. B. Thomas, Prairie du Chien.  
 1st Lieutenant.—N. C. Denio, “ “  
 2d “ C. M. Lockwood, “ “  
 Orderly Sergeant.—J. C. Bellville, Hancy.  
 2d “ D. Van Weit, Wauzeka.  
 3d “ T. G. Brunson, P. du Chien.  
 4th “ J. Gale, Prairie du Chien.  
 5th “ A. Denio, “ “  
 1st Corporal.—R. Borswert, “ “  
 2nd “ John Coughlin, Wauzeka.  
 3d “ Henry Hardwick, P. du Chien.  
 4th “ M. E. Mumford, Wauzeka.  
 5th “ Louis Bartlett, Bell Centre.  
 6th “ John C. Seybold, P. du Chien.  
 7th “ James A. Porter, Seneca.  
 8th “ Jeremiah N. Kast, Crow's Mill.  
 Musicians.—Martin D. Smith, Henry L. Twining.

Privates.—Jonathan Adney, Samuel Armstrong, Michael Bartley, Moses Barrett, Edwin M. Bacon, John S. Baker, John Betz, Austin Birge, Orlando W. Birge, Marvin Boyer, James Boyles, Frederick Brandis, Henry N. Clark, Reuben Cooley, Lyman Cook, David Coleman, John Coleman, Nathan Coleman, N. K. Coleman, John Copas, Edwin P. Curtiss, George Curley, George Dean, Michael Dunn, William H. Evans, Z. F. Ferguson, Patrick Finley, John H. Fortney, Alanson Graves, John Grace, Levi Grandy, A. W. Haskins, R. F. Haskins, G. O. Harrison, William Hicklin, Martin Host, Edwin R. James, Israel Johnson, August Kessler, Wesley Lenox, John Maginnis, William Maxwell, John P. Mathews, Joseph Mars, James McCluskey, John McCluskey, William F. McMillan, Anthony McQueen, James McCann, Arthur McDonald, Hugh Mines, Ira N. Miller, P. H. Moon, Patrick Murphy, George W. Oswald, George W. Phillips, Jeremiah Phelps, Richard D. Phelps, Cushman Rogers, Cornelius

Russell, Patrick Ryan, Norman Sherwood, Andre v Sherwood, W. H. Sloan, Lewis B. Smith, Frank Sterne, David St. Germain, George W. Smith, Timothy Sullivan, George W. Thackery, Thomas Tokes, William Trew, James Tucker, Ephriam H. Turk, David M. Twining, John Valentine, Joseph Villemin, John Vowick, Peter Ward, William Ward, S. T. Whitehead, Josiah Wilsey, B. D. Woodburn, J. K. Wolfe, S. R. Woolery, David Wright.

October 16.—Army correspondence.—Editor *Courier*:—I have only time to drop you a line. In the battle at Corinth, my company lost two men, killed—Corpl. John W. Shell, of Vernon county, and John Peters, of Seneca. They were brave, good and true men. George M. Robbins, of Lynxville, was wounded severely in the arm, so that amputation has been necessary. W. H. Thompson, of Seneca, was missing after the regiment retired from the field; but I learn he is wounded and in hospital at Corinth. We are now forty miles south of Corinth, in pursuit of Price.

In haste,

J. H. GREENE,

Capt. Co. F, 8th Wis.

October, 23.—Company C. 6th Wisconsin.—The following members of the above company were in the hospitals at Washington, on the 6th inst:

Sergt. J. W. Fonda, intermittant fever. Corpl. C. Babcock, dysentery. Corpl. Wm. Hay, rheumatism. Corpl. S. W. Hubbard, wounded leg. Henry E. Pettit, wounded. Frank Young, wounded. Wm. Kelly, vericose veins. M. McAdams, pneumonia. A. Ondirkirk, A. Boyd, wounded, below knee H L. Bottum, nurse. Henry Cardey, dysentery. E. W. Ellis, wounded, hip. R. Coreoran, wounded, shoulder. G. Fairfield, wounded, head. S. M. Brewer, convalescent. C. W. Akey, lumbago. Luke Parsons, debility. Jesse Adams, at King street hospital, Alexandria, Capt. A. S. Hooe, sick at private house in Georgetown.

November, 6th.—A letter dated at Corinth, Oct. 12th, contains the following pleasing ex-

tract. Speaking of the recent fight at Corinth, the writer says:

“The finest thing I ever saw, was a live American eagle, carried by the 8th Wisconsin, in the place of a flag. It would fly over the enemy, during the hottest fight, then would return and seat himself upon his pole, clap his pinions, shake his head, and then start off again. Many and hearty were the cheers that arose from our lines as the old eagle would sail around, first, to the right, then to the left, and always return to his post regardless of the storm of leaden hail, which was flying around him.”

November, 27.—For several years past, the county of Crawford has been indebted, and the county scrip has been at a discount. Thanks to the careful management of our county officers, and particularly to the present county board, this order of things is now changed. The board at its last session, displayed the greatest industry, working from morning until late at night, carefully examining the affairs of the county. No board of supervisors ever labored more faithfully. Worth Miller, of Seneca, Lorenzo Barney, of Marietta, and Ralph Smith of Wauzeka, are the members of the county board and the citizens of the county have been very fortunate in selecting these gentlemen for the position. They are among our oldest inhabitants, they are well acquainted with the necessities of the county, and also well qualified to discharge the duties appertaining to the office. The interests of the people will not suffer so long as they are entrusted to such hands.

B. Dunne Esq., the clerk of the board, discharges his duties with aptness and dispatch. He is now about entering upon his third term. His repeated re-election is the best evidence of the appreciation of his excellent qualifications for the position.

The board has levied a volunteer aid tax of five mills on the dollar of all the taxable property in the county, which it is estimated, will be provision sufficient to prevent any suffering this win-

ter, among such families of volunteers in the county, as are not otherwise well provided for. This fund is placed subject to the draft of the towns. This measure necessarily places county orders at a par, as they are receivable for taxes, and the holders will keep them for that purpose. The whole amount of county taxes levied this year, is \$11,795,10, and all the county script now out-standing is one-half that amount. Thus it will be readily seen, that the orders of the county are better than the irredeemable currency now in circulation.

Jan. 22, 1863.—In town.—Capt. O. B. Thomas has been in town for a few days on business. He is looking well, and says a soldier's life agrees with him. He will rise to be a Brigadier at least, if allowed a chance to distinguish himself. We wish him well. The captain would like to hear from about a dozen good, hardy boys, who wish to enlist. Come boys, who of you will go with Capt. Thomas.

February 26.—Capt. A. S. Hooe, of the first company of Union volunteers organized in Crawford, county for the 6th Wisconsin regiment has resigned, and returned home, by reason of illness. Capt. Hooe has been in the service about two years. We have it from the best authority that a majority of all the commissioned officers in the 6th regiment and other regiments in Virginia have, or are about to resign for one cause or another.

May 21.—Returned home.—Capt. Tom Plummer of the 6th Wisconsin regiment has returned home. He was wounded severely in one leg, and left hand, at the late battle near Fredricksburg. He was among the first of his regiment to cross the river. Capt. Plummer is recovering, and will be able to join his regiment. Capt. Plummer is a brave young officer and all our citizens may well feel proud of him.

June 11.—Enrolling Officer.—Mr. Menges, town assessor, has been appointed enrolling officer for Prairie du Chien. He is a prompt man, and the appointment is good.

July 2.—The Enrollment.—The enrollment for this town and county is completed. No difficulty whatever has been had by the enrolling agents. The people of old Crawford are true, law-abiding citizens, and intend to maintain their reputation in this respect, and as established by their acts in the past.

July 23 —Lieut. Loyd G. Harris, of the 6th Wisconsin regiment was in town recently. He has returned. Lieut. Harris was the first to shoulder his musket and enter the ranks as high private. He was loved and respected by all. He left a good situation, and with feelings of real patriotism, he entered the army. His soldierly conduct has won for him the respect of his superior officers, and has been rewarded by promotion.

Like many of the young men who left with the first company enlisted in "old Crawford," Lieut. Harris has bravely fought and bled with the gallant sixth, in the "Iron Brigade," until the command is reduced to a mere handful of scarred veterans. He speaks well of several of our friends in the ranks, and as has every officer and soldier with whom we have spoken. He speaks in praise of Gen. George B. McClellan, and pledges his life and honor on "Little Mack." Lieut. Harris has the best wishes of our citizens.

December 17.—Resigned.—It is announced (not officially) that Surgeon D. Mason, and Capt. O. B. Thomas, both of the 31st Wisconsin regiment, have resigned, and will soon return home. Surgeon Mason is loved and valued by a host of friends here, who will be happy to welcome him home.

Capt. Thomas stands high in the profession of law, and he may re-enter his favorite pursuit in an office here, unless something unexpected should happen.

[From the *Prairie du Chien Union*.]

1864.—March 25.—William Dutcher, son of attorney Dutcher, of this city, a young veteran, of the "Iron Brigade," called here this week. It really does us good to grasp the hand of one

of those noble veterans—there is something about them that is cheering to all patriots. Mr. Dutcher enjoys an enviable reputation in the musket and artillery drills; and from what our military men say concerning him, we wonder that he is kept in the background, as new regiments are being formed. This young man is intelligent, active, and we mistake if he does not possess the qualities necessary for a first-class officer. Let his claims be properly presented in the place of civilians and the army would be the gainer and true merit would be rewarded.

April 1.—We have the pleasure of announcing that company K, of the 12th regiment of Wisconsin veteran volunteers arrived here [in Prairie du Chien] last evening. They number about forty, and all have re-enlisted. Three cheers for company K. On behalf of our citizens, we welcome you brave defenders of our country to your homes once more. We feel proud of you for what you have done, and still more proud after all you have endured for our country, for what you still propose to do. Welcome, thrice welcome, to our town and our fire-sides once more.

May 20.—Promoted.—We are always glad to hear of the promotion of brave and worthy soldiers, but more especially of those of our own town. This is true of most of our citizens; and it is with pride that we notice the promotion of Rufus King, late quarter-master of the 31st Wisconsin, with rank of lieutenant, to commissary, with rank of captain. Our readers will also be pleased to learn that Quarter-master Sergt. William F. Benson, also of this place, [Prairie du Chien], has been promoted to lieutenant and quarter-master to fill the vacancy made by the promotion of Capt. King. All our citizens will feel a little town pride as they see their townsmen climbing. May both of these gentlemen honor their new positions as they have heretofore their old ones.

June 24.—The 8th returned.—Capt. Green's company of the 8th regiment arrived in town yesterday morning. Capt. Green did not ac-

company them; he has gone east to meet his family. He expects to be in Prairie du Chien in a day or two.

These noble veterans have re-enlisted and only remain at home a short time. Let our people give them such a welcome and make their stay so happy that they will feel they have homes and friends and a country worth fighting for. Three cheers for the glorious 8th.

The following is a list of those returned of company F.: Drum Maj. T. W. Lacy, Sergt. G. W. Kohins, Corpl. F. Wagner, Corpl. L. S. Tillotson, Privates A. Allen, B. Bush, J. Henry, A. Sears, A. G. Sherwood, G. W. Sterling, J. Keiff, A. Shelka, D. Shrake, Corpl. F. Thurston, Privates Samuel Burlock, M. Salender, William Stevenson.

July 1.—Mr. C. B. Thomas, a veteran from Eastman, in the 36th Wisconsin regiment, is now home, wounded. He received a bullet through his hand in the battle of the Wilderness, disabling him at present. He talks encouragingly of the army.

July 15.—Capt. William Hill, formerly editor of the *Prairie du Chien Leader*, has been in town for a day or two. He has been in the service over three years and is now mustered out.

Sept. 9.—Dr. Eastman has again returned with his health much improved and is actively engaged in his practice again. Having for a long time been a successful practitioner, his patrons will be glad to hear of his return. His partner, Dr. Conant, has been very successful this season. His experience in the siege of Vicksburg is of great value to him.

Oct. 28.—It may not be generally known that we have a United States hospital located here. The Brisbois House is secured for this purpose. Capt. Cutler, a gallant Minnesotian, is stationed here as commander of the post, and quarter-master. He has opened an office in Dousman's block. Iowa papers speak highly of him and we believe his stay with us will be agreeable to the citizens.

The drafted men from this county started for Madison on Tuesday last. They were fine looking men and will give a good account of themselves on the tented field. Better men than many of them never volunteered or drew a sword. We hope the brave veterans will give them a brotherly welcome as they reach their camps. The sneaks mostly ran away, and several towns will have to be drafted from, again, to fill their quotas.

The ladies' festival was a great success. A large amount was taken in for sanitary purposes. The untiring efforts of Horace Beach; the assistance rendered and wares furnished by J. S. Newton and L. Case; and the help received of Messrs. Lester, Pierson and others, aided the ladies in accomplishing so much. The soldiers will appreciate these patriotic efforts; and now that a general United States hospital is located here, there is likely to be immediate need of all they can do for the soldier.

November 4.—Horace Beach has taken a large contract to furnish the hospital buildings with stoves and other articles on short notice. Capt. Cutler is fitting up the entire Brisbois house and the barracks of Fort Crawford for hospital purposes. This general United States hospital will be open in a few days. Indeed, 150 invalids from the army are daily expected. Few men, in a common establishment, could fill such an order for hardware, but Mr. Beach is a prompt, fair dealer.

November 11.—The United States hospital at this place [Prairie du Chien] is in operation. Over 150 soldiers from Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, are now here under charge of Surgeon Kelly. It is due to this officer to state that by his energetic and patriotic efforts to alleviate the wants of those under his charge and his gentlemanly deportment to all, he is making many friends here. All who have friends here may be assured they will meet with every attention Capt. Cutler or he can give them. But do not forget the boys are in need of much,

which cannot in a new hospital be obtained for them.

Now is the time for the aid societies of Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin to send in supplies. You will be sure that the supplies are not lost or stolen; so do not hesitate to send in, at once, loads of potatoes, firkins of butter, barrels of eggs, bushels of onions and other articles. And, ladies, they have no window curtains—do not forget this, and slippers are much called for. We make mention of these things for we feel assured that the L. A. S. only have to be apprised of the wants and needs of the soldiers. The ladies of this place, God bless them, are doing all they can.

December 2.—We are happy to state that Dr. Whitney, our townsman and surgeon of the 18th Wisconsin, is now at home with the regiment, spending a few days with his friends. The noble regiment has re-enlisted, and the Doctor is to return with them soon to the tented field. It will be remembered that the 18th regiment distinguished itself at Altoona and other hard fought battles and their friends will feel proud of the privilege of making these heroes happy during the short respite given them before they go to the tented field. All honor to the Doctor and the brave boys who again offer themselves to the country.

December 23.—We were shown over the building [at the hospital] and found every thing systematically arranged, and as far as we could see in perfect harmony. The brave boys seemed to have the knowledge that we used the "quill" in their behalf, and were very anxious for us to know that they appreciated the best hospital and surgeon they had ever been in or had.

As we were invited to dine on the same fare that the soldiers had, more through curiosity, we admit we accepted the invitation and called it good. We made up our mind if it was this way the soldiers were starved, it had better be continued. We will mention the list we saw for the special diet of patients, which was pre-

pared under the eye of the Doctor himself: Toast, boiled milk, boiled onions, poached eggs, warmed potatoes, baked apples, canned peaches, pickles and oysters. These delicacies are not furnished by the government, but by the people; and that they may continue to have these things, do not let a malicious rumor deter you from sending supplies. Dr. Kelly and lady are doing all they can for those under their care. Mrs. Kelly furnishes the sick with delicacies at her own labor and expense. How many other ladies do this?

More soldiers have arrived at the hospital. There are now nearly 300 there. All sorts of vegetables, preserves, etc., should be gathered in as fast as may be. Enough is here just now; but 300 men will soon consume a large quantity. Shirts, drawers, etc., are less needed here than at the front. The government furnishes these; but butter, milk, potatoes, fruits, dried and green, and all sorts of vegetables are to be supplied by the sanitary commission, and will be kept sacredly for time of need.

1865—January 6th.—Our friend, Joseph Henry, of company F, 8th regiment, was one of the killed before Nashville. Mr. Henry served three years, and last fall re-enlisted as a veteran. He went out in 1861 with Capt. Greene; has fought bravely, and has now nobly given his life for his country. Let us remember and honor him. We received a letter from him a few days before the eventful battle, and he talked like a hero who deserved his country's thanks. Lieut. Greenman was wounded; also another man of the same company by the name of Greenman.

February 3.—The Ladies' Club, gotten up for the purpose of relieving soldiers' families and for social amusement, has been quite successful this season. They have relieved a number and have funds in readiness to assist others. This is a noble object. People need amusements and recreation; and if they can turn these to good account, the object is doubly blessed. Any person knowing of soldiers'

families who need assistance, will do well to inform us or the ladies, that assistance may be extended to them. We must and should care for, and keep from want or public charity, the families of the defenders of our country. Read the following:

“PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, Feb. 1, 1865.

“EDITOR UNION: Wishing to correct an erroneous report existing, with regard to the funds of the Ladies' Club, allow us to state that the club was organized for the express purpose of relieving veterans' and soldiers' families. We have already relieved several, and will be greatly obliged by your transmitting us the names of any of these worthy of relief.

“Respectfully,

“EMMA HOUSTON, Treasurer.

“EMILY LAWRENCE, Secretary.”

March 17.—The men of Capt. Bottom's company who came on the Wednesday morning's train were ordered to report to-day to receive their government bounty. The men seem in fine spirits. We wish them a year of health and the “olive wand” of peace as their trophy to bring back to us when they again resolve themselves into the various channels of business from which they have come forth to swell the number of heroes.

John Davidson, of this [Crawford] county, who went out a private in company C, 6th Wisconsin volunteers, in 1861, has been promoted to the 1st lieutenant of company D, 6th Wisconsin regiment.

We are happy to learn that two very worthy veteran members of the “old 6th”—Christian Ammon and Gottlieb Schweizer—have been promoted to the 2d lieutenant; the former in company F, of the 48th regiment, the latter in the 45th regiment. These boys have richly earned their shoulder straps.

March 31.—The Swift Hospital is recuperating all of its patients, a death being of so rare occurrence, that one of the surgeons thinks of hiring some one to die!



Through the liberality of Col. H. L. Dousman the Swift Hospital has been donated the use of about thirty acres of excellent land for gardening purposes. Aid societies will confer a great favor upon the soldiers by collecting seeds and forwarding in season for planting. What is mostly needed is garden beans, peas and sweet corn. They may be directed to Swift Hospital, care of H. Beach.

April 7.—Lieuts. Ammon and Smith gave us a call while here on a short visit before joining their regiment, the 48th, which is now in Paoli, Kan. We hope when they call again the reign of peace will be over all the land. May they come soon.

April 14.—When the glad news came trembling off the wires that Richmond was taken, it so electrified and enlivened the Nation that their joy seemed to know no bounds. Before these glad tidings subsided another signal rocket of success shot forth the surrender of Lee and his 25,000 remaining men. Our exultation now is unbounded and our cause is so just that it would be a sacrilege to be otherwise than exultant.

April 14.—Gen. Grant through the heroic deeds of his officers and men, has caused Gen. Lee and his army to surrender. They were obliged to come to the terms offered by Grant. The signal lights of our success have so lit the moral and social heavens, that the horizon of the old world has been tinged with the glow, and they will soon have caught the inspiring theme. Victory to the Union forces!

They will have forgotten their dastardly conduct, their favoring eye to the would-be Confederacy, and extend a warm greeting to the powers that be. We will, when our home difficulties are adjusted, with all Quaker humility, call upon Maximilian and suggest that he had better get him hence, or harm may come unto him. No distant future will settle the emperor question on this continent.

April 24.—Assassination of President Lincoln.—On Saturday last, the whole community were horror-stricken by a dispatch that on Friday evening, President Lincoln was assassinated, and that an attempt was made to assassinate Secretary Seward. All stood aghast! The ordinary pursuits of life as if by one accord, were suspended; desire failed; the merchant was no longer anxious for gain; the mechanic dropped his implements of skill; the housewife ceased to ply her task; each looked upon the other with horror and astonishment; stalwart men turned pale, faint, sick at heart, and reeled like drunken men; others with compressed lips, clinched teeth, and livid countenances, seemed nerved for desperate deeds; and even little children, with earnest, anxious looks, enquired what had happened. None could scarcely realize the terrible calamity that had bereft a nation of its executive head; that the bullet of the fiendish assassin had slain him, around whom, and in whom the hopes and affections of the Nation centered.

April 24.—Funeral solemnities, Wednesday, April 19th.—At the meeting of citizens held at Union Hall, Tuesday evening, of which Horace Beach Esq., was president, and S. N. Lester was secretary, measures were adopted for the observance of the funeral obsequies of the late President Lincoln. A committee of arrangements, consisting of John Lawler, Capt. Cutler, John Thomas, A. Baldwin, T. L. Brower, and B. W. Brisbois, were appointed by the meeting, and reported the following officers for the occasion: President, H. L. Dousman; vice-presidents, B. W. Brisbois, T. A. Savage, H. Baldwin, J. N. Congor, J. Plummer; marshalls, Col. Thomas, Capt. Cutler. Pall bearers, John Lawler, Dr. Kelly, E. W. Pelton, J. Farnechon, T. L. Brower, H. Beach, C. M. Seely, B. Dunne. Chaplains, Rev. H. W. Carpenter, Rev. J. Gierlow, Rev. L. Gauthier, Rev. F. W. Delap.

A committee consisting of William Dutcher, Hon. Ira Brunson, Dr. Huntington, R. Scott

and J. S. Lockwood, were appointed to draft resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS:

"WHEREAS, In the midst of our rejoicing, on the events of our victories with which Heaven has helped the efforts of our brave and patriotic army, and while the President of the United States was in the full discharge of his duty in the bosom of the Nation, he has been stricken down by the hand of a cowardly assassin,

*Resolved*, That, in the death of Abraham Lincoln, a great and good man has untimely fallen, and the Nation plunged into the deepest gloom and sorrow,

*Resolved*, That, while we mourn the loss of our noble and beloved President, we bow with humble submission to the dispensation of an All-Wise Providence, and are consoled by the conviction that, in his wise and judicious administration of our government, and in his firm and unswerving fidelity to its principles, he has won the respect and confidence of the Nation; and the Old World acknowledge him as their peer, and gaze with wonder on the glorious achievements of our brave and heroic army under him in the gigantic work of crushing out this treason and rebellion.

*Resolved*, That our heart-felt sympathies are hereby tendered to the bereaved family of President Lincoln, and we commend them to the care of Him, who tempers the winds to the shorn lamb, for their future hope and consolation,

*Resolved*, That, confiding to the fullest extent in the ability, patriotism and integrity of Andrew Johnson, upon whom the Presidential office now devolves, we, with all the loyal men of the country, will rally around him, and give his administration of the government, the same cordial and generous support which was accorded to that of his lamented predecessor."

Gen. Thomas Curley, was a resident of Missouri when the conflict commenced, and bore a gallant part in the Nation's struggle for supremacy, and is now a resident of Prairie du Chien.

He was born in Tremane Co., Rascomman, Ireland, May 8, 1825; received a common school education, and is a farmer by occupation. He emigrated to the United States in 1851, settling in St. Louis, Mo. In 1867 he removed to Mt. Sterling, Crawford Co., Wis., thence to Haney town, and after the loss of his residence by fire in 1883, to Prairie du Chien. In 1860 he entered the military service as 1st lieutenant in the Southwest Battallion of Missouri. He had previously been an active member of several militia companies, and had served six months on the frontier of Missouri. In June, 1861, he enlisted in the volunteer service of the United States, and was commissioned major of the 7th Missouri Infantry. He was promoted in May, 1862, to lieutenant-colonel, and in July was called home to recruit, raising in a short time the 27th Missouri Infantry, of which he was made colonel, and at which time he was presented, by his friends, with a \$1,000 sword. Gen. Curley participated in the seige and capture of Vicksburg, the capture of Jackson, the campaign of the 15th army corps from Vicksburg to Chattanooga, in the battles of Lookout Mountain, where he fought with Gen. Joe Hooker above the clouds, Mission Ridge, with Sherman in his march to the sea, Resaca, Dallas, Kennesaw Mountain, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, the capture of Savannah, Fort McAllister, the well known campaign before Atlanta, which lasted four months, with its great strategic movements and brilliant achievements, and in the campaign through South Carolina, capturing Charleston and Columbia. At the latter place he was instrumental in saving a Catholic church from the fire. He was also in the battle of Bentonville, capture of Raleigh and in many minor campaigns. He was commissioned brigadier-general, March 17, 1865, for meritorious services during the war. On his arrival home, in St. Louis, with his regiment, he was presented with a new stand of colors, with the names upon it of the sixteen battles in which his regiment had fought. Gen. Curley has never been

an aspirant for political honors, but has held various local offices in the town in which he resided. Yielding to the solicitations of his political friends he was an unsuccessful candidate for the Assembly in 1878, but running again in 1882 on the same ticket, he was elected, and served in the session of 1883 with honor to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He received 1,042 votes against 1,037 for T. L. Brower, republican, and 264 for S. L. Wannemaker, prohibitionist. He lost his valuable sword and the set of colors that he received at St. Louis at the burning of his residence. The charred and warped remains of the sword is all that is left him of those highly treasured trophies of the war.

CRAWFORD COUNTY PENSIONERS.

The following shows name of pensioner, cause for which pensioned, and monthly rate allowed:

BELL CENTRE.

Purington, Lucretia. widow 1812 .....	\$8 00
Kast, Jeremiah N. injured left hand... ..	8 00
Tutk, Alexander H. wound left knee.....	1 00
Thompson Jefferson H. wd. head. caus. epilepsy.	4 00
Young, Cornelius R. pneu. res. bron and plths.	6 00
Lawrence, Nancy. widow.....	8 00
Fillmore, Peter. wounded right hand.....	7 00

BRIDGEPORT.

Blunt, Sarah E. widow.....	8 00
Clifton, Thomas. cb. dia. and rheum.....	6 00
Adams, Charles. wound left side.....	6 00
Bean, Albertus C. wound left knee.....	6 00
Jacobs, Milton. chronic diarrhoea.....	6 00
Jacoby, Peter. wound left thigh.....	8 00

EASTMAN.

Brady, Frank. wound left leg. ....	4 00
McClure, Samuel. chr. diar. catarrh, res bron.,	8 00
Harrington, Geo. II. chr. diar. res dis abd. vis.	4 00
Kussmaul, Rudolph. wound right arm .....	12 00
Fisher, Louisa. widow.....	8 00
Jones, Sarah. widow.....	8 00
Ostrander, Christiana. widow .....	8 00
Beach, Zenas. loss right eye imp vis left.....	6 00

FERRYVILLE.

Campbell, Jehn. wound right forearm.....	12 00
Hutson, William J. chronic diarrhoea .....	4 00

FREEMAN.

Peterson, Peter. wound right arm.....	4 00
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HURLBUT'S CORNERS.

West, Alice. mother.....	8 00
Churchill, George W. wd. l. shld., res dis lungs	18 00
Byers, Margaret. mother.....	8 00
Brickner, Wm. typ. pneu. res dis. h'd and chest.	8 00

KNAPP'S CREEK.

Fardy, Thomas. wd back. ....	8 00
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LOWER LYNNVILLE.

Corey, Warner J. wound right hand ..	4 00
Davis, Elisha. Father.....	8 00
Pease, Libas E. wound right foot ..	4 00
Hobbs, Andrew J. wound right thigh.....	4 00

MOUNT STERLING.

White, Charles. wound left thigh.....	4 00
Keyes, Richard W. fr. thigh bone, inj. right hd.	2 00
Hutchius, Lucy P. widow.....	10 00
Bellows, Darius R. survivor 1812.....	8 00
Thompson, Agrim. wound left leg.....	2 66 $\frac{2}{3}$
Thompson, Edwin. wound left hand.....	4 00
Spencer, Alfred. wound left arm.....	4 00
Abhey Rollin W. wd left hand.....	4 00
Harding, Theodore W. wound right arm.....	6 00
Newcomb, Henry C. dis. of ab. vis frm ch diar.	4 00

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN.

Royce, Prudence. mother ..	8 00
Bottum, Edwiau A. chronic rheumatism .....	10 00
Villemin, Jean. father .....	8 00
Fonda, John H. father .....	8 00
Vanvickle, Edson W. chronic diarrh.....	4 00
Hobbs, Frank T. wounded forearm.....	10 00
Hewitt, Byron. wound left side .....	4 00
Stafford, Otis. loss right arm.....	18 00
Hamilton, Louisa. widow.....	8 00
Boucher, Harriet. widow.....	10 00
Deneaux, Joseph. wound pelv. aff right hip and leg.....	14 00
Plummer, Mary E. mother .....	25 00
Specht, Louisa. widow.....	8 00
Henderson Joanna mother .....	8 00
Miller, Olivia D. mother .....	8 00
Mosgrove, Mary C. mother.....	8 00
Fairfield, George. wd tp. head and above l. c.	6 00
Foster Geo. W. rheu, heart dis. wd. lf hand..	8 00
Bull, Norman S. wound face res debility.....	31 25
Biedermann, Louis. wound right thigh.....	6 00
Bulda, Joseph. diseased heart.....	4 00
Fenley, Patrick inj right side, res abscess .....	12 00
Brunson, Alfred. chronic diarrahoea .....	20 00
McClure, John. injured right knee.....	8 00
Clark, Hugh. diseased eyes.....	18 00
Row, Adam. wound left shoulder.....	6 00
Bronson, Duff G. wound both thighs.....	5 00
Whaley Edward A. loss right leg.....	24 00
Zeeh, Joseph G. chronic diarrhoea.....	4 00

## RISING SUN.

Finley, Timothy. father.....	8 00
Finley, Mary. mother.....	8 00
Nash, Ole T. wound left leg.....	4 00
Seveason, Ole. loss part index fin. and mid r. h.	4 00

## SENECA.

Gay, Lot. chonic diar. and rheum.....	8 00
Deane, Phebe. widow 1812.....	8 00
Lewcey, Peter. wound right hand.....	6 00
Marston, Charlotte. mother.....	8 00
Porter, James A. wound left shoulder.....	8 00
Chapman, George. diseased lungs and neuralgia.	6 00
Copsey, John, chron. rhem. left hip and leg ..	6 00
Cragan, John. wound left hand.....	4 00
Sterling: Geo. II. inj. r. side r. hip., pt. in. loss fin. g s, w.....	6 00
Kenueson, Martin S. chron rheum.....	6 00
Casey, Peter. inj. spine invol kidneys.....	8 00
Wood, George W. wound right leg.....	6 00
Tichenor, Mary. widow.....	8 00
Lawler, Edward. diseased lung.....	6 00
Newton, George W. wound right thigh.....	4 00

## SOLDIERS' GROVE.

Richardson, Eva A. widow.....	10 00
Briggs, Nathene A. widow.....	8 00
Hill, Eliza. widow.....	8 00
Smith, Jonathan. chron diarrhoea.....	18 00
Nicholson, Samuel. diseased lungs.....	4 00
Nelson, Peter. resec. head r. humerus.....	18 00
Murphy, Patrick. chr. diarr. and dis. of abd vis.	6 00
McCabe, Terrence. wound in back.....	14 00
Connelly, Rachel. mother.....	8 00
Baker Charles W. wound face.....	4 00
Johnson, Richard M. wd through right leg.....	6 00

## STEBEN.

Kast Henry C. C. injured knee.....	6 00
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## TOWERVILLE.

Thompson, Ann. mother.....	8 00
Mettick, Matthias. wound right leg.....	4 00
Rogers, John S. pt. paral. r. arm and shoulder.	6 00
Parker, Ellen. mother.....	8 00
Flick, Marion, wound left hand.....	4 00

## WAUZKA.

Johnson, Isaac. chr. dair. and dis. eyes.....	8 00
Miller Abigail. mother.....	8 00
Barr, Samuel father.....	8 00
Dwoark, John injury of abdomen.....	8 00
Phillip, Henry. chron rheumatism.....	6 00
Lawrence, Robert A. gun shot wound left arm.	4 00
Cole, Truman W. injured spine.....	4 00

## WHEATVILLE.

Turk, James W. injury to abdomen.....	8 00
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## IN MEMORIAM.

When Pericles was called upon to deliver the oration over those who had fallen in the first campaign of the Peloponnesian war, he began by extolling Athens; and, having expatiated upon her glories, her institutions and her sciences, he concluded by exclaiming: For such a republic, for such a Nation, the people whom we this day mourn fell and died." It is "for such a republic—for such a Nation" as the United States of America, that the people of the north, by thousands, "fell and died" during the war for the Union; and, to those thousands, Crawford county contributed her share.

Crawford county's war record is of such a character that her people may ever refer to it with pride and satisfaction. One of the early counties in the State, as we have seen, to respond with volunteers in the hour of gravest peril, she never faltered during the entire struggle, weary and disheartening as it oft times was. Her old men were not wanting in counsel, nor her young or middle aged in true martial spirit. With a firm, unswerving faith in the righteousness of the Union cause, her citizens, with scarce a distinction in age or sex, were imbued with a determination to conquer or die rather than survive defeat. It was this kind of patriotism that bore the Union cause through defeat as well as victory, whenever the oft-repeated news was brought home of depleted and scattered ranks. Crawford county valor is attested upon every street of her hospitable villages; upon her broad sections of fertile land; and last, but not least, within the silent enclosures of her dead. It is here that with each recurring anniversary the graves of her heroes are moistened with the tears of sorrow, as loving fingers bedeck them with beautiful flowers.

Although there are in the preceding pages some facts which may remind the citizens of Crawford county of the deeds of those who fought the good fight until the end, yet without these records, those days of peril, of suffering,

and of victory at last, would not be forgotten by the present generation; they are too deeply engraved in the hearts of all. Each of the citizen-soldiers from this county who stood loyally by the country's standard through the war, has wrought his name in characters that live as monuments to the memories of men.

Many gallant sons of Crawford, who went out from home to battle for the Union, with only the benediction of a mother's tears and prayers, came back to those mothers' arms with a glorious record. Many returned having left a limb in the swamps of Chickahominy; on the banks of the Rapidan; at Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Vicksburg, or in the Wilderness. Many still bear the marks of that strife which raged at Stone River, Iuka, Chickamauga, or on the heights of Lookout Mountain, whence they thundered down the defiance of the skies; or of that strife which was waged before Atlanta, Savannah and in the Carolianas.

But there were many who came not back. They fell by the wayside, in the prison, on the battlefield, or in the hospital. Their memory, however, is held in the most sacred keeping. Some sleep beside their ancestors in the village churchyard, where the violets on their graves speak not alone of womanly sweetness, but in tender accents of the devotion of those beneath

the mounds of earth. All, all, whether buried in the distant South or at home, are remembered as they slumber on in a peaceful, glorified rest.

"Winds of Summer, Oh whisper low,  
Over the graves where the violets grow.  
Blossoming flowers and songs of bees,  
Sweet ferns tossed in the summer's breeze,  
Floating shadows and golden lights,  
Dewy mornings and radiant nights,  
All the bright and beautiful things  
That gracious and bountiful summer brings,  
Fairest and sweetest that earth can bestow,  
Brighten the graves where the violets grow."

Many of the brave soldiers who battled for the Union—many, very many—have "gone before;" and they now wait upon the threshold of Paradise for the coming of those loved ones left behind, when they, too, shall have exchanged the feeble pulses of a transitory existence for the ceaseless throbbing of eternal life. Faithful and fearless, on the march, in the strife, at victory or defeat, they at last laid down at the mysterious frontier, leaving the exalted hope behind that, though the world was lost forever, there would be unfurled another realm of unimaginable glory, where they and all whom they loved on earth, might realize the promise which the Great Ruler of the universe has made to the just.



## CHAPTER XXV.

## THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

Crawford county had been organized more than a quarter of a century before any newspaper was printed and published within its limits. The people finally could not be longer without a county journal of some kind; so there was issued the Prairie du Chien *Patriot*.

The first paper in Crawford county was established in Prairie du Chien. The first number was issued Sept. 15, 1846, by O. J. & H. A. Wright. It was a five column folio sheet, and called the Prairie du Chien *Patriot*. It was neutral in politics. The stock, materials and press of the *Patriot* were purchased by subscription, and became the property of the publishers by virtue of their conducting the paper a certain length of time.

In the first number of the paper appears the following cards:

BACK AGAIN.

Dr. S. S. Beach has returned to Prairie du Chien and offers his services to his former patrons and friends, as he has located himself permanently for the future in this place.

September 14, 1846.

ALFRED BRUNSON,

Attorney and Counselor at Law,  
Prairie du Chien, W. T.

P. A. BRACE,

Attorney and Counselor at Law,  
Prairie du Chien, W. T.

In the second issue (September 22,) is to be found the following:

DIED.

In this village, on the 11th inst., Mr. Ezra Pelton, aged 39 years.

In this village, on the 13th inst., Mrs. Nancy Pelton, wife of Ezra Pelton, aged 39 years.

In this village, on the 13th inst., Mr. Champion Pelton, aged 43 years.

In this village, on the 3d inst., Joseph Morrill, aged 40 years.

In this village, on the 29th ult., Mr. James Hendricks, aged 30 years.

On the 6th of October, 1846, the following paragraph appears:

On Thursday last, our village was visited by a number of Indians, having crossed the Mississippi river, near the upper ferry. After making sad havoc among the swine, and committing other depredations of a similar nature characteristic to the race, they were put to flight by a sergeant's guard sent from the Fort [Crawford] by Capt. [Wiram] Knowlton. By some means the Indians were informed of the coming of the missive from the Fort and "the speed of the wind was theirs;" so that when the soldiers got where they were, they were not there.

The *Patriot* was published by the Messrs. Wright, until Nov. 9, 1847, when O. J. Wright left the firm. It was continued by H. A. Wright until it ceased to exist. Like many similar enterprises, the paper was established for a pet purpose; and when that object failed or had been accomplished, there being no further call for its influence its support ceased and the publication stopped. The materials and press were sold to parties who started with them the first paper printed at La Crosse, called the *Spirits of the Times*—that being the

foundation of what was afterward the *National Democrat*.

It should be remembered that at the time of the starting of the *Patriot* in Prairie du Chien, as also for a long period subsequent, it was the only paper on the upper Mississippi, there being no other journal published at any of the river towns above it. The whole northwest then was but sparsely settled, inhabited principally by Indian tribes, United States soldiers, and Indian traders. Prairie du Chien itself was a mere trading post of the American Fur Company or its predecessors in the Indian trade. There were no conveniences of daily mails, no telegraph lines, no railroad communication with all parts of the country, as there are now; but a semi-occasional stage coach and as uncertain a steamer, brought all the intelligence from abroad; and out of these scanty materials, the editor of the *Patriot* had to select and make up his paper. And yet the files of the first papers published in the county, will compare favorably with many papers printed at the present day, and possessing the benefits of all their modern advantages. One reason why these old papers are interesting is from the unmistakable originality of the various articles and the tinge of fancy that pervades them, showing, positively, that the editor depended more on his fertile imagination than on the irregular mails to get subjects with which to interest his readers.

In a number of the *Patriot* of 1849, about three years after its commencement, we find an article entitled the "Press of Minnesota," which records the starting of a new paper at St. Paul called the *Minnesota Pioneer* (afterward *Pioneer and Democrat*.) and goes on to state that the proprietor is James M. Goodhue, formerly of the *Wisconsin Herald*, that Mr. Goodhue was widely and favorably known in connection with the press of Wisconsin; that another paper, the *Register* was commenced about the same time by A. Randall of the United States Geological Corps of Wisconsin;

and that W. W. Wyman, one of the pioneers in the newspaper line and who, we believe, started the first paper in Madison, was also about to establish another St. Paul paper, called the *Minnesota Standard*. Thus it will be seen that three years after the *Patriot* was established at Prairie du Chien, it notices the starting of the first papers at St. Paul. As emigration and civilization progressed, other newspapers sprung up in the west; and, in 1848, we hear of the first daily paper in Dubuque; mail routes began to multiply; the river steamers increased in size and numbers; railroads were projected; and Prairie du Chien was not behind other western towns in the display of this spirit of progress.

#### THE CRAWFORD COUNTY COURIER

In 1852, the *Patriot* had succumbed to the pressure of unavoidable circumstances; its remains had been carried to La Crosse, and Phoenix like, another paper had grown out of them. The railroad interest had begun to effect the people of Prairie du Chien and they must needs have another organ to represent them and look after their interest. Prompted by these motives, the more enterprising men held out inducements, which were accepted by Buel E Hutchinson and J. Hurd, who, on Wednesday, May 19, 1852, started another paper in Prairie du Chien, entitled the *Crawford County Courier*. This paper began under auspicious circumstances. It was edited with ability by Mr. Hutchinson. It was independent in politics, though slightly leaning to the democratic in tone and on the whole was well received and supported by the people of the town and county.

Mr. Hutchinson conducted his paper for two years, when he disposed of his interest advantageously and was succeeded by D. H. Johnson. The *Courier* was continued under the editorship of Hurd and Johnson, until Nov. 10, 1855, when William E. Parish assumed the interest of Mr. Hurd, and it was published by Johnson and Parish. The printing business not suiting Mr.

Parish, or his not being suited to the printing business, soon caused him to let his share of the establishment to Dr. Whitaker Jenkins, and the paper was printed by Johnson and Jenkins. Through all these changes, D. H. Johnson had the editorial management of the paper; and, under his administration, it was rapidly verging towards republicanism.

The co-partnership of Johnson & Jenkins continued from December, 1855, to April, 1856, when the establishment was purchased by V. A. W. Merrell, who greatly improved the office by the addition of new material, job press, and many improvements which appeared to his experienced mind indispensable. Mr. Merrell was a thorough practical man, a printer by choice from boyhood, and had, at the time of purchasing the *Courier*, resided in Wisconsin sixteen years. Besides fitting up the office in a workmanlike shape, he completely revolutionized the political character of the paper. Perhaps the best idea of the omens and intents with which he commenced, can be had from the following extract from his salutatory:

"In taking charge of the publication of a newspaper, whether in the case of one long established and well known, or in that of a new enterprise, it is customary for the publisher to introduce himself to his patrons, in an introductory article, setting forth and describing the principles he will advocate. In making our *debut*, a very few words will suffice for this purpose, and we mean it shall be an earnest that we will not inflict long articles upon our readers, as is the usual custom; but will, in all cases, try to express our ideas in plain English and as briefly as possible. Politically, the *Courier* will be democratic. Thus much might have been said at an earlier day, when the democratic party of Crawford county was more united; now, however, it is proper to say, to prevent misunderstanding, so far as we are able to follow in the old and well-worn path trodden by the recognized patriots and statesmen, in the democratic party, we shall do so."

"Impressed," continues Mr. Merrell, "by the natural advantages and position of Prairie du Chien, and believing its future prospects equal to any upon the Mississippi, and superior to most places, we have come to reside among its people; to cast in our lot with theirs; to invest what little we have in a business with which we have been accustomed from boyhood, and one we do not wish to change; intending that business shall be subservient to the interests and welfare of this town and county; hoping, by careful attention to business, to share reasonably in its growing prosperity."

For over two years, Mr. Merrell conducted the *Courier*; he spared neither time nor expense to make it a paper full of news, of immediate interest; a paper sought after abroad, as furnishing the most accurate knowledge of what was transpiring in its locality; also fraught with valuable information for the farmer; a welcome visitor at many a western fireside.

"All this time," says William D. Merrell, a son of V. A. W. Merrell, "the *Courier* preserved 'the even tenor of its way;' possessing the confidence of the people, being the old county paper and disclaiming all connection with party cliques, it received the support of the honest conservatives of both parties. I had now been in the *Courier* office as foreman a long time, and having the means to purchase and carry it on, I accepted an offer of V. A. W. Merrell and bought the entire office, subscription list and good will; and after the 18th of November, 1858, all business was done by me"

The following was the announcement of the sale of the *Courier* by V. A. W. Merrell and its purchase by William D. Merrell, as it stands in the issue of Dec. 2, 1858:

"To the patrons of the *Courier*: Having sold all my right, title and interest in the *Courier* office establishment, my duties as proprietor, much to my gratification and gain, ended on the 18th of November. During my time as a journalist, it was my pride to devote every-



thing to the best interests of this paper's patrons; and it is a satisfaction to know that my successor will be actuated by similar motives. I return thanks for favors received from numerous kind friends ever to be remembered; and in saying good-bye to the readers of the *Courier*, would wish them many hours of happiness in the realizing of its promising future.

V. A. W. MERRELL."

"The purchase of all Mr. Merrell's type, presses, stock and printing materials brings the *Prairie du Chien Courier* under our exclusive control. Under the new administration the same editorial supervision—the same principles and policy that have heretofore marked this paper [*only a little more so*], will be strictly adhered to. We hope by unremitting attention to maintain the character of this establishment for promptitude and regularity, and intend to spare no efforts to make it a newspaper worthy the patronage of this town and county.

WILLIAM D. MERRELL."

William D. Merrell was born at Plattsburg, N. Y., May 18, 1840. His father, Victor A. W. Merrell, who was a native of Burlington, Vt., received a fair English education, and learned the printing business in the Burlington, *Free Press* office. He afterwards passed three years traveling, part of the time on a merchant trading ship, visiting many cities in this and foreign countries. He returned to New York city, where his oldest brother, Brutus Merrell, a ship owner and wealthy broker, was then living. He was induced to settle down, got married, and became part owner and publisher of the Plattsburg, N. Y. *Republican*. Subsequently he published the *Chronicle* at Whitehall N. Y. About this time, Henry D. Wilson, of the Milwaukee *Sentinel and Gazette*, met him in Buffalo, at Connor & Son's type foundry, bought out his printing material, and persuaded him to accompany him to Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory. In 1843 he went to Milwaukee, and with Wilson & King, and Elisha Star, helped to make the Milwaukee *Sentinel* a success. The year following (1844)

he moved his family to Milwaukee. The journey was made to Buffalo by canal, and from Buffalo to Milwaukee "round the lakes." There were few railroads in those days. V. A. W. Merrell is now (1884) a resident of the city of Prairie du Chien. His mother was a native of Ellenborough, N. Y. She died in Prairie du Chien. Young Merrell came to Wisconsin in 1844, and with his parents resided in Milwaukee for twelve years. He was a pupil at Prof. Buck's Collegiate Institute for three years. Subsequently he served an apprenticeship in Star's job printing office, and became proficient in the "art preservative." In the spring of 1856 he came to Prairie du Chien, and took charge of a printing office that his father had purchased the year previous. This was the *Prairie du Chien Courier* as explained in this chapter. Mr. Merrell performed much of the mechanical work of the office and was editor of the paper. In November, 1858, Wm. D. Merrell was enabled to purchase the *Courier* establishment, clearing it of all debt and liabilities, and has ever since remained its editor and proprietor, and every edition for over twenty years has been issued regularly, as the files in his possession prove. Mr. Merrell has been uniformly prosperous and successful as a printer and publisher. He was able to provide a comfortable home for his parents, and helped support the family until the children were old enough to do for themselves. His father, a man of iron constitution, robust and vigorous at sixty-five years of age, remains with him in Prairie du Chien. Mr. Merrell comes of ancestry remarkable for longevity. His grandfather and namesake, Wm. D. Merrell, of Burlington, Vt., reached the age of ninety-six years, and his great-grandmother died at the extreme age of 103 years. Wm. D. Merrell was married to Julia McCahil, at St. Gabriel's (Catholic) church in Prairie du Chien, Wis., by Rev. Francis Nagle, on May 18, 1868. Miss McCahil was a sister of Mrs. P. Reynolds, then living in Prairie du Chien. Two children by this marriage died in infancy.

The mother died July 3, 1870. This was the first great sorrow that Mr. Merrell had experienced, and the loss of his wife had a great effect upon his life. She was a devout member of the Roman Catholic Church, attentive to her religious duties, well known and esteemed for her piety and amiability. She was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Prairie du Chien, where her sister, Mrs. Reynolds and her children had preceded her. Mr. Merrell entered upon political work before he was of age. He did effective service in the Fremont and Buchanan presidential campaign. He became prominently known in local and State politics as an organizer of more than ordinary executive ability. He became an acknowledged democratic leader in Crawford county, and for years his friends and party were always victorious. He never listened to any proposals for himself, never accepted any nomination for political preferment, but was always untiring in his endeavors to promote the interests of political friends and the success of his party. This uniform success of the democrats continued until the indication of unscrupulous ambition in certain politicians convinced him that their labors, party fealty, and the welfare of the people were being made to subserve mere personal ends. Then he turned upon the selfish set of officials who had control, and with his journal, and seconded by the people, drove the party "barnacles" out of office, defeating every man of them, and inaugurating a new era in Crawford county local politics. Mr. Merrell was married again May 28, 1872, to Mary Francis Clark, of Fairview, Alamakee Co., Iowa. Rev. Father P. A. McMannus, pastor of St. Patrick's (Catholic) Church, near Harper's Ferry, officiating at the sacrament. A son and daughter by this marriage, now living, bless the editor's pleasant home, where he seems supremely contented, possessed of excellent health, and most agreeable surroundings. Mr. Merrell has acquired an extensive landed property during the past fifteen years. He now

owns more real estate within the city limits of Prairie du Chien than any other one tax-payer. For the past ten years he has given considerable attention to farming, established farmers' societies, addressed agricultural fairs and invested a considerable amount of money in improved farm machinery, horses and cattle. He has a favorite farm of over eighty acres in the center (2d ward) of Prairie du Chien, within fifteen minutes' walk of his residence. Here he likes to go among the horses and cattle, or out in the fields with sulky plows and self binders. He gives employment to farm help the year round. He pays out his money as fast as it is received; his only incentive to earn money seems to be the satisfaction he takes in paying it out to workingmen. He certainly has no ambition to merely accumulate money, and never expects to get rich. In this, as in his political and publishing work, he secures employment and support for others, without any very flattering prospects of pecuniary profit for himself. This is a marked trait, almost a weakness in Mr. Merrell. He is calm and brave enough upon occasions requiring physical courage, but when asked by men out of employment for his aid, he has never been known to dare say "No." It is a fact noted among the printer's "craft" for more than twenty-five years, that he never refused to assist an unfortunate fellow-being. The typo who was "carrying the banner" who could meet the proprietor of the *Courier* was certain of a job, a square meal, something to help him along. Appeals to his bump of benevolence never yet failed to draw "the ready" if he had a dollar within reach. If there is any particular trait about Mr. Merrell most prominent, it is this disposition to lend the helping hand on all occasions; and the only thing that can disturb his habitual equipoise of mind, is an evidence of ingratitude. He thinks that is the "unpardonable sin." In twenty-seven years there has never been a subscription raised for any charitable or religious purpose in Prairie du Chien, but he freely gave his share, regardless

as to denomination. When sometimes remonstrated with about such indiscriminate giving for a man of his limited means, he would say: "That's part of my religion!" [The writer has had occasion to know whereof he makes these statements, and Merrell's friends and neighbors can add much more to confirm them.] With a perfect physical development and plenty of mental power, at the age of forty-four years, Mr. Merrell holds a responsible position among the residents of the "Prairie City." He is the oldest editor (in years of actual work) now living in western Wisconsin; and his journal, the *Courier*, is the oldest established newspaper in this city and county, if not in the northwest. Mr. Merrell will continue to publish the *Courier*, promoting every worthy public enterprise, confident that unrivalled advantages and location will ensure for the city of Prairie du Chien metropolitan proportions and importance in the near future, and he naturally expects to live long enough to share in its prosperity. Generous to a fault, prompted by good intentions, ready to sympathise with the afflicted and prompt to divide his last dollar with a friend, or forgive a fallen foe, William D. Merrell deserves to live long and die happy. Few men in western Wisconsin have exerted more effective political influence than the editor of the *Courier*; and as a consequence he had to stand the brunt of bitter political opposition. He must have possessed much manly attraction, for he has always retained many true friends. But for a few years he has voluntarily held aloof from active partisan politics, enjoying the more congenial associations of private pursuits; but still steadfast as ever in his political faith, an earnest advocate of the principles of constitutional democracy.

#### PRAIRIE DU CHIEN LEADER.

After the republican party had gained the ascendancy in Crawford county, it soon began to lose ground, and it was not long before the vote was decidedly democratic. This fact made

those who assumed to be leaders of the republican party in the county, look about them for some means by which they could reach the people, that they might counteract the political effect of the *Courier*. The result of their efforts was the starting of a new republican paper in Prairie du Chien. The manner of its establishment was this:

William Hill, who had served his apprenticeship in Starr's job office in Milwaukee, learning there was an opening for another paper here; that he might expect considerable assistance from interested parties if he would publish an opposition journal; and, being encouraged by a number of persons, he came out with press and materials to start a paper. On arriving at Prairie du Chien with his office, he was unable to obtain the aid he had expected; the assistance promised was not forthcoming. For a considerable time he remained undecided what to do, whether to establish his paper or not. At length Mr. Hill succeeded in obtaining the assistance of James Greene, to establish the "Prairie du Chien *Leader*," and its first number appeared July 18, 1857.

#### SALUTATORY.

"We do not conceive it necessary to urge the benefits resulting from a well conducted newspaper! they are patent to all. In our own State, the cities and villages that have most rapidly increased in population and in business have been those most ably represented through the local press, and most persistent and liberal in urging and advertising their claims to public regard. Milwaukee, with its eight daily newspapers, and weeklies in still greater number; Madison, with a population of but 10,000 to 12,000, supporting as large a number of daily papers, as, perhaps, the capital of any State in the Union; Janesville, with its two dailies; Oshkosh, Watertown and Fond du Lac, are all more or less indebted to this source for their prosperity; all bear evidence to the closeness of

the relation between success and printer's ink. Nor is this less applicable to manufacturing and agricultural interests, or to individuals and individual business? The press not despising to trumpet forth its own praises, has harped upon its influence in this respect until the subject has become almost stale; but that facts have warranted all that has been said, none will deny.

"We seek to publish a paper worthy of the prospective rank of our city; one that in size and appearance will compare not unfavorably with the *first* newspapers of the State. It will be our aim to make it "a leader in everything that promises to develop the resources and increase the wealth of our locality, or elevate and enlighten our citizens," not a mere echo of more able cotemporaries. That the necessity of such a paper is felt, has been evinced in the cordial support which has thus far greeted our enterprise. And believing that the degree of success attendant upon our efforts must be commensurate with the extent to which you second our endeavors (admitting the faithful fulfillment upon our part of the duties devolving upon us), we respectfully solicit a continuance of this support, and the co-operation and encouragement of all, so far as in your judgments such support may subserve the interests and principles which we uphold."

The publishers of the *Leader* earnestly devoted all their energies to the publication of their new paper; political friends, actuated by the hope of political aid, encouraged them. The fall election of 1857 passed, and the result was a democratic majority in town and county. This somewhat cooled the ardor of party friends; but, inspired by the hope of "better luck next time," they continued to put their faith in the *Leader* until the election of 1858, which resulted in the election of the entire democratic ticket.

Now the fickle character of political friends began to show itself. All confidence was lost in the hope that the *Leader* could help the re-

publican party in Crawford county; and, with this loss of confidence, came the desertion of friends and want of support. About this time the monetary crisis was afflicting the newspaper press throughout the country. Papers were being discontinued or reduced in size. The *Leader* adopted the latter measure; the paper was cut down from an eight to a seven column sheet; and soon after came under the sole supervision of James Greene, who continued to publish it for some time, but its days were numbered.

#### THE PRAIRIE DU CHIEN UNION.

This paper was established in Prairie du Chien early in 1864, by Mr. Greene. The following was his salutatory:

"Having undertaken to publish a newspaper in Prairie du Chien, at the invitation of a large number of its leading citizens, it will be expected that we explain the policy to be pursued therein. In times of peril, like the present, each patriot desires to know the political whereabouts of those around him, whether they are patriots like himself, or traitors seeking the protection of the government in their efforts to give aid and comfort to the enemy, or cold and indifferent to the struggle which is working out our future destiny.

"While we conduct the *Prairie du Chien Union*, it will sustain the National government, not coldly, complainingly or with "ifs," "buts," or conditions, but cheerfully and heartily. During the war, we feel that we should heartily support the administration, whether we consider its policy, in all its minutia, the wisest or not. Very few persons would exactly agree; each has some theory peculiar to himself; but every plan cannot be adopted; one plan may be; and as Abraham Lincoln is held responsible for the result of plans, we are of the opinion that his are the plans that should be supported. And we support them, too, because of their wisdom. Furthermore, Abraham Lincoln is the properly constituted head and exponent of the Union sentiment, Union armies, and the National govern-

ment. Jeff Davis is the head of those who are in all shades of rebellion against the government.

"All that support Lincoln and his plans give strength to the Union sentiment, army and government; those who oppose him, oppose all that is represented by him, and hence give aid and comfort, morally and substantially, to Jeff Davis and all that is represented by him. We desire to pursue such a course as will be in harmony with the operations of our armies, giving all our sympathy, influence and aid on the side of loyalty, and our opposition to whatever opposes or weakens the National government.

"It shall be our aim to favor whatever tends to improve our county or city. We expect to devote much time and space to the mechanics arts, agriculture and every department of trade and commerce. Prairie du Chien is peculiarly located with reference to all these interests; being situated on the great Mississippi, at the mouth of the Wisconsin, at the terminus of the Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien Railroad [now, 1884, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul] and across the river from the terminus of the McGregor Northwest Railroad, in a healthy country with good water, it is clear that it needs but the application of capital to cause machine shops and manufactories to spring up, and trade to grow up to meet the popular demands. If properly directed, commerce will be a great source of wealth to our citizens; while under enlightened cultivation, our quick soil will become the source of great profit to the gardiner and fruiter. Enterprise, knowledge and labor, if united, have here abundant scope to carve out ample fortunes, in a pleasant, healthy, romantic place, and enjoy superior facilities for varied employments. We shall endeavor to advocate these great interests.

"Nor shall we be undmindful of education. The great pillars of free institutions, of civil law and public safety, are grounded in our free schools. In States where free public schools

have been established there has been no rebellion. But just in proportion as the educational interests of any part of the country have been neglected, to that extent have the different shades of rebellion prevailed.

"Wit and humor—laughing sprites—will be welcomed to our columns, as smiling messengers of health, joy and peace, good for the soul and resting to the intellect.

"We shall aim to give the general and local news, and trust that our readers will assist us in this respect, by promptly sending any items of general interest that come under their notice. The local news and interests of Prairie du Chien and Crawford county, will take precedence of general matters; as it is expected that the *Union* will be an exponent of the loyal people of this city and county; hence their interests will be our interests; their wants and ours, identical. We shall aim to encourage whatever conduces to the public good, and discourage what appears to be public evil. A citizen among you, we desire to study the interests of the people, and make a good family paper. It is very desirable that the loyal people of this county (and all should be loyal) should be united; then each supported and being supported, may be useful members of the great Union body.

"Trusting that we are in a charitable community, and that our readers will overlook errors of the head, if the heart is right, we undertake the enterprise, looking to the intelligent people for support.

#### OUR PLATFORM.

"We are frequently asked by those who have acted with different parties, what party do you belong to? Are you a republican or democrat? We propose to set our political friends and enemies at rest upon this subject; we desire to place ourselves squarely upon the record, in this respect, that we may be understood.

"We are for the Union and against all disunionists. We believe that the only certain or probable way to sustain the Union in the perilous

crisis, is, to help the administration *fight down this rebellion*. We are for asserting and maintaining the authority of the government over every foot of territory belonging to the United States. We have no fears that the administration will strike any too hard, or too fast, or at an innocent person; hence we shall not be alarmed, should he suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*, prohibit newspapers from injuring the government, either by inciting rebellion at home, or encouraging it in the south, or do other acts regarded by rebels and their sympathizers as tyrannical and oppressive.

The President of the United States is our civil executive head and the commander-in-chief of our army and navy. As a civil officer, he is subject to the constitution; as a military chieftain, he is amenable to the laws of Nations, And it is our purpose to do all in our power to sustain him in both capacities until peace is restored. It is not for us to arrange or disarrange his plan of operations, but it is for us to do all that we can to make them successful. These may not be the very best that could be devised, but they are the best that are devised, hence it is our duty to sustain them.

"The commander of an army, and not the private soldier, must direct its operations; so must a Nation's movements, in time of war be directed by the head; and citizens and soldiers should unite in upholding and strengthening the Nation's head. Abraham Lincoln is the people's President; and as such we expect to sustain him as we have done since he first commenced trying to break up this rebellion. Not by halves or with ifs and provisos do we sustain our President, but give him and his administration, including his proclamations, a cheerful support. We believe it to be constitutional to fight down this rebellion and punish rebels. The constitution was made to form a more *perfect* Union and not to license unprincipled men to incite rebellion and connive to break up the government.

"We care not what becomes of the democratic or the republican party; but we want the Na-

tion to stand and our armies to "conquer a peace." We belong to the party that the soldiers do—to the war party—the Union party, which we regard as the only constitutional party in the country. We care not whether we vote for men called democrats or republicans, if they be honest, capable and really in earnest in their support of the National authorities in their efforts to put down this rebellion. This is the only issue we make at present. We have no faith in men who seek to get up side issues to distract the public mind from the great work of saving the country. Let us be united and work all together, caring not whether we act with democrats or republicans, but see that we do not unwittingly play into the hands of copperheads or rebels. We hope we are understood."

Mr. Green was succeeded by Waldo Brown in the publication of the *Union*, and in turn gave way to Nicholas Smith and Joseph Smethurst. In 1871, Mr. Smith purchased the latter's interest and run the paper until September 1874. He then sold it to Fred J. Bowman, who subsequently disposed of it to B. J. Castle.

From March 1st, 1877, to April, 1883, the paper was conducted by John R. Berryman; associated with the latter, for four years, was Thurlow W. Lacy. The latter, in connection with Ira D. Hurlbut, published the paper until Dec., 28, 1883, when Mr. Lacy disposed of his interest to A. M. Beach; so that, at the present time (1884) the *Union* is published by Messrs. Hurlbut and Beach.

Ira D. Hurlbut was born in the town of Scott, Crawford Co., Wis., April 7th, 1856. He is of a family of nine boys and one girl. Four brothers are now living. His father, John R. Hurlbut, is an American; but his mother emigrated from Germany, in her childhood. The subject of this sketch, lived at home on a farm until sixteen. He afterwards engaged in teaching in Crawford and Grant counties, following

the business, at intervals, for ten years, but attending school during a part of the time, both at the normal school at Plattsville, and at the university of Wisconsin, at Madison. Mr. Hurlbut's first newspaper venture was the *Excelsior*, 'Richland Co.' *Press*; and was abandoned as unprofitable after about two years. He was, in 1879, associated for a short time, with H. L. Marshall in the publication of the Vernon county *Herald*, published at Viroqua.

In May, 1882, he undertook the publication of the Crawford county *Journal*, but severed his connection with the paper in April of the following year; when he purchased the business interests of J. R. Berryman of the *Prairie du Chien Union*. Mr. Berryman was the senior partner. Mr. Hurlbut was married July 16, 1883, to Louise Speck, of *Prairie du Chien*.

The Crawford county *Journal* was established Jan. 1, 1882, by Wm. Borgen, succeeded in the following May, by Ira D. Hurlbut. The latter was succeeded the following April, 1883, by Hurlbut & Patten, and in May following, by J. E. Patten, who became sole manager. The paper is, and has been, owned by a company consisting of the business men of Soldier's Grove.

J. E. Patten, the youngest managing editor in Crawford county, was born in Winnebago Co., Ill., Sept. 2, 1865, where he resided one year, his parents removing to Marietta Crawford county, where they now reside. Mr. Patten is now managing editor of the Crawford county *Journal*. He is a son of James and Jane Patten, his father being chairman of the township committee, a position which he has held for a number of years.



## CHAPTER XXVI.

## EARLY COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

There is much in the early government of Crawford county to demand attention and awaken an interest in the mind of the reader. The subject is naturally divided into two parts; the first includes a narrative of what the county legislators did from the creation of the county in 1818\* to the ending of the existence of Michigan territory in 1836; the second includes a sketch of their proceedings down to the year 1848, when the territory of Wisconsin ceased to exist and Crawford became one of the counties of the State of Wisconsin. Of these two divisions, only such extracts from the records are given hereafter as are believed to be of paramount importance.

The government of the various counties of Wisconsin since the admission of the State into the Union is so well understood that only a reference to the changes in the form will here be given.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The Legislature, during the winter of 1860-61 passed an act abolishing the board of supervisors and creating the board of county commissioners. Under the former system the county board was composed of one member from each town in the county, while under the new system the board consisted of three commissioners. The county was divided into three districts and each was entitled to one commissioner. The creating act provided that annual meetings should be held on the second Monday in January, of each year.

\*As will be hereafter seen, the record of Crawford county's government begins in 1821. Back of that, nothing has been preserved:

## SUPERVISORS AGAIN.

During the year 1868, the Legislature passed an act changing again the system of county government throughout Wisconsin. This act abolished the commissioner system, or board of three, and reinstated the old system of a board made up of one member from each town and one from each ward of a city and from each incorporated village. This law is still in force.

The record of the board of supervisors of Crawford county since the admission of the State into the Union is very full and complete; but the re-production of even the more important measures adopted by the "county legislature" would extend this history beyond its prescribed limits.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' RECORD FOR 1821-22.

On Thursday, the 29th of this month, [November, 1821] a court of the commissioners will be held at 10 o'clock. All persons having demands against the county are requested to bring them in; also, all persons having in their hands property belonging to said county are requested to deliver them [*sic*] up to the commissioners who will receipt for them. The county treasurer will, on that day, deliver up his accounts with an account current of expenditures since the time of his appointment.

The collector of taxes will also bring in his accounts in the same money that has been paid to him to save an examination. All persons holding contracts with the county are requested to bring them before this court. By order of the commissioners.

JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk C. C.



The court met on Friday, the 30th of November agreeable to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That John P. Gates be paid \$4.62½ out of the treasury of the county for one book for the court of probate, provided the said book is returned.

*Ordered*, That Joseph Creely will put all timbers, planks, etc., belonging to the jail of the county, into the jail and nail up the door.

*Ordered*, That two pair of handcuffs be made for the county and be delivered to the sheriff of said county.

*Ordered*, That the treasurer, sheriff and collector of this county bring in their respective accounts on Saturday, the 8th instant, or they will be dealt by according to law.

JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk C. C.

COUNTY OF CRAWFORD DEC. 3, 1821.

*Ordered*, That the clerk of the county court receive four books for the use of the county—the sheriff two, and the commissioners two for their respective offices.

*Ordered*, That the supervisors of roads and highways have the roads and highways that have been ordered, put in good order without delay.

*Ordered*, That this court be adjourned until Saturday, the 8th instant, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk, C. C.

The commissioners met on this day, December 10, 1821.

We, the commissioners, on account of the neglect and the infirmity of James McFarland, collector of Crawford county, do appoint Thomas McNair, sheriff, to collect all taxes not collected by said James McFarland, for the years 1820 and 1821.

*Ordered*, That Thomas McNair, sheriff, who being appointed collector, do enforce the law against all delinquents for county taxes due for 1820 and 1821 and that he render, on Thursday the 20th instant, an account of the same to the commissioners.

*Ordered*, That Joseph Creeley be paid out of the county treasury \$1, not otherwise appropri-

ated. The court adjourned until the 20th of December, 1821. By order.

JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk, C. C.

*Ordered*, That John L. Findley be paid \$25 per year as clerk for the commissioners of the county.

*Ordered*, That the treasurer receive for his services two and one-half cents on all moneys received and disbursed for the county.

By Order.

J. L. FINDLY, Clerk C. C.

The court met on Saturday, Feb. 16, 1822, agreeable to adjournment.

The court adjourned until the first Monday in March, 1822. JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk, C. C.

The honorable, the court of commissioners of Crawford county met on Monday, the 4th day of March, 1822.

*Ordered*, That the public school house be repaired so as to receive all persons holding public courts for the county or meetings.

By order,

JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk C. C.

March Term, 1822.—At a court of the commissioners for the county of Crawford, taking into consideration the expenses of the county for the year 1822, upon due consideration had, do order that the assessor take as ratable property for this year, wild and improved lands, horses, mares and geldings, over two years old, gigs, carioles, calashes and pleasure wagons; that the assessor assess all retailers of merchandise \$5, and all tavern keepers\* \$5; and that all male persons over the age of twenty-one who have resided in the county six

\*There can be no doubt, from this wording, that there were taverns in Prairie du Chien as early as 1822. The following, which has passed into history as "a part of the narrative of John H. Fonda, must be considered as erroneous so far as the house he speaks of being "the first tavern" in Prairie du Chien:

"I continued in government employ until the fall of 1831, when having saved some money, I formed a co-partnership with a person named Perry, and went to keeping a boarding house and tavern. I can say that I kept the first tavern in this town [Prairie du Chien]. It was kept in a house we bought of J. H. Lockwood, which house [in 1858] is still standing. I continued in the business some time, and found it very profitable; but afterwards sold my interest to Perry, who became involved. A suit arose about this time between J. H. Lockwood and myself, about some notes, This suit lasted several years, and was finally decided in my favor."

months, not having ratables, shall pay \$1 poll tax and no more.

*Ordered*, That John W. Johnson, Michael Brisbois and Oliver Cherrier, be requested to visit the house of Thomas McNair, which is occupied as a jail, there to give their opinion how much said house is worth per month; also to say how much wood has been necessary for said prison per week; and on Saturday, the 9th instant, to examine the county jail to know whether it be sufficient to hold prisoners, and if possible to report to the commissioners on that day in writing.

*Ordered*, That this court is adjourned until Monday, the 16th instant; nevertheless, should the sheriff want any provisions for Jourdan [prisoner] between this and that time, he can get them by calling on one of the commissioners.

The commissioners met this day, March 16, 1822, agreeable to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Thomas McNair and Oliver Cherriere, freeholders, shall be appointed to estimate the ratable property of this county for this year, 1822, and report agreeable to law.

This court is adjourned until the first Monday in May next. By order.

JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk C. C.

June 3, 1822.—The commissioners of Crawford county met according to law and adjourned until Monday, the 17th instant.

JOHN L. FINDLY, Clerk C. C.

June 17, 1822.—The court met agreeable to adjournment

*Ordered*, That the percentage be one-fourth of one per cent. on every dollar for this year.

*Ordered*, That James Reed, deputy sheiff, be appointed collector of the county tax for this year.

*Ordered*, That all persons not holding property to the amount of \$400 shall pay \$1 poll tax.

*Ordered*, That the court adjourn until further orders.

Nov. 30, 1822.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD, } ss.

At a special meeting of the commissioners for the said county, Joseph Rolette and James H. Lockwood, having taken into consideration the necessity of a having a sufficient jail for criminals until the county jail shall be repaired—they do hereby order that the guard room of Fort Crawford shall be for the time being a county jail.

The honorable, the court of commissioners for Crawford county, met on the first Monday in December, 1822, according to law.

*Ordered*, That the following persons shall receive from the treasurer the following sums: Joseph Rolette, \$12, for interest due from the county; John L. Findly, \$12, in part for his services; Thomas McNair, \$5, in part of his account; Charles Mendenhall, \$14, balance due on account; Dennis Courtois, \$3.87½, in full of his account; and the United States factory agent, \$7.60 in full of his account; and the court adjourns until Friday, the 6th instant.

MISCELLANEOUS EXTRACTS FROM COMMISSIONER'S RECORD.

Monday, June 16, 1823.—The court met, and issued a precept to the sheriff of the county to collect the taxes for the year 1823, amounting to \$241.55, and adjourned to meet agreeable to law. By order.

J. H. Lockwood, Deputy clerk.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. } ss. March term, 1824.

At a court of commissioners held at Prairie du Chien, on the 1st day of March, 1824, present J. H. Lockwood, D. Courtois and Joseph Rolette. it was

*Resolved*, that the supervisor be directed to build a bridge across the marais, or slough to St. Feriole with the labor of the road tax, at the point which the supervisor shall deem more for the accommodation of the public, at any place between the pond in said marais at Pierre Lariviere's and the outlet of said marais, and the Mississippi.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
 COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. }

Court of the commissioners for said county, of the term of September, 1825. Present: Joseph Rolette and James H. Lockwood, who proceeded to examine the accounts presented against said county, as follows: Ezekiel Lockwood, services rendered, as sheriff pro tem. for said county, \$31.31; Thomas McNair, for services rendered as sheriff at the election for delegate to Congress, \$5; Charles Giasson, for services rendered as clerk of the circuit and county courts, as clerk to the commissioners, and hire of a house for court room, etc., \$63.43; Joseph Brisbois, as clerk of election for a delegate to Congress, and for a member of the Legislative Council (of Michigan Territory), \$6; James Reed, for assessing at Prairie du Chien and Fever river, and for summoning grand and petit jurors for the circuit court, \$25.50; Jean Brunet for hire of room for grand jurors etc., \$5; Thomas H. Januans, assessing at Fever river, \$4; James H. Lockwood, one double bolt, etc., furnished for the county, \$5.75. All of which accounts are allowed by us.

JOSEPH ROLETTE }  
 J. H. LOCKWOOD } Com.

Prairie du Chien, Sept., 6, 1825.

CHARLES GRASSON, Clerk to committee.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN }  
 COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. } ss

At a court of commissioners held at Prairie du Chien on Monday the 5th of December, 1825. Present: Dennis Courtois, Joseph Rolette and James H. Lockwood. The commissioners proceeded to examine the account of the supervisor of roads, and find that the tax roll for 1824, has been expended by Oliver Cherrier, the supervisor, except the sum of \$9 for money commuted for days, and that the roll for 1825, has not been worked or commuted for days except \$6.

The commissioners then proceeded to lay the county into road districts; and it is hereby resolved that the township of Prairie du Chien be one road district, and that John Brunet be ap-

pointed supervisor of roads for said district; and that the supervisor proceed with the taxes, of said district to erect a bridge over the marais of St. Feriole, opposite to the road leading from the Mississippi to Lariviere's; the bridge to be built above common high water mark in the spring; to be twenty feet wide; to be built in the following manner, that is to say: Stone wall to be built at the direction of the supervisor as to thickness on each side, and filled with earth, and a place of twenty-five feet left over the principal channel of the river; to be made of strong pieces and covered with hewed timber; to be made with railing three and a half feet high.

At a special court of the commissioners for the county of Crawford held at Prairie du Chien, the 28th day of June, 1826, present Joseph Rolette and Dennis Courtois, who proceeded to examine the assessment roll for the year which amounted to \$248.41, which they adjudged to be a correct assessment, and accordingly gave an order to the sheriff for the collection thereof, and directed the clerk to make duplicate tax rolls according to the statute.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
 COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. }

At a special meeting of commissioners of the term of June, 1827. The commissioners, according to law, present—Joseph Rolette, James H. Lockwood and Dennis Courtois; who proceeded to examine the assessment roll produced by the assessors, and having found said roll correct, do hereby direct the clerk of said court to make out duplicate tax roll according to the statute, directed to be collected by Edward Pizanne, under sheriff; and Michael Brisbois, treasurer of said county, being absent from said county, it is hereby ordained that Oliver Cherrier be appointed treasurer *pro tem.*, and that he give bond in the sum of \$500.

A CHANGE.

The last session of the court of commissioners of Crawford county, was at the March term,

1828. The labors of the commissioners, Dennis Courtois, J. H. Lockwood, and Joseph Rolette, then came to an end, and in place of them were appointed three supervisors for the county—John Marsh, John Simpson, and Dennis Courtois. The county was also erected into one township, called St. Anthony, the supervisors of the county being also supervisors of the township. The following is the first record under the new arrangement :

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. }

At a session of the supervisors of the county of Crawford and township of St Anthony, held on the second day of June, 1828, was present, John Marsh, John Simpson and Dennis Courtois, supervisors of said township, and took into consideration and examined the accounts against the county of Crawford, and allowed what we have found just and correct; there was presented the account of Pierre Lariviere, of \$1 as assessor; Augustus Hebert, for \$1, as assessor; John Marsh, account, \$1; John Simpson, account, \$1; John Simpson, account, \$4; Dennis Courtois, account, \$1; Daniel Curtis, account, \$26; Joseph Brisbois, account, \$17; Michael Brisbois, account, \$10; Antoine Lachapelle, account, \$2,50; Franeois Galarneaux, account, seventy-five cents; Oliver Cherriér, account, \$8.34; Pierre Lariviere, account, \$1, and Augustus Hebert, account \$1.

The collector not having presented his security for the collection of the taxes thereof, we allow to said collector ten days to find security, and the court adjourn until the first Monday in July next, at 9 o'clock A. M.

JOHN MARSH,

his  
JOHN X SIMPSON,

mark.  
DENNIS COURTOIS, Supervisors.

Attest: JOSEPH BRISBOIS,

Clerk of St. Anthony Township.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. } ss.

At a session of the supervisors of the county of Crawford, and township of St. Anthony, held

on the 7th day of July, 1828, present, John Marsh, John Simpson and Dennis Courtois, supervisors of said township, was presented the account of Pierre Lember of \$1.50, which was allowed; and Dennis Courtois, account of \$1; John Simpson, of \$1; John Marsh, of \$1, and Joseph Brisbois, of \$2, which was allowed.

Upon the representation of the sheriff that the prison is insufficient for the safe keeping of D. McNutt, a prisoner confined on the charge of murder, a request was made to the commanding officer of Fort Crawford to take the prisoner into his custody for safe keeping. The court adjourned until the first Monday in September next, at ten o'clock A. M.

#### A NEW BOARD.

A new board of supervisors for the county of Crawford, and township of St. Anthony, was now appointed, consisting of Joseph M. Street, Jean Brunet and Joseph Rolette. The record of their first meeting was follows :

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. }

At a session of the supervisors of the county of Crawford and township of St. Anthony, according to previous notice, present, Joseph M. Street and Joseph Rolette.

*Resolved*, That an account made by Isaac Harrison, for the amount of \$56 has been found illegal, and that any part which may have been paid will be charged to Daniel Curtis, sheriff of said county.

*Resolved*, That the account of James and George Kernely be made out by the clerk and duly certified to and sent for collection to St. Louis.

*Resolved*, That the account of Ezekiel Lockwood, for monies received by him as treasurer of the corporation of Prairie du Chien and remaining in his hands be made out by the clerk and duly certified to and sent to Galena for collection.

*Resolved*, That the account of Jean Brunet, as supervisor for monies paid to him by Oliver Cherrier, be made out and duly certified

to and handed over to the sheriff for collection.

Prairie du Chien, April 13, 1829.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
 COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. } ss.

At a special session of the supervisors for the county aforesaid, and township of St. Anthony, there were present: Joseph Rolette, Joseph M. Street and Jean Brunet, supervisors of said township, and they took in consideration to settle the accounts of the treasury, but the sheriff being absent they postponed the said settlement to Saturday, the 3d day of April next. The following accounts were presented and allowed, to-wit:

NAME.	ACCOUNT.	AMOUNT.
Joseph Rolette. ....do.....		\$8 00
Jean Brunet.....do.....		8 00
Joseph M. Street.....do.....		8 00
Joseph Brisbois.....do.....		5 50
James B. Dallam.....do.....		2 00
American Fur Company...do .....		7 00

Then the court adjourned until Saturday, the 3d of April next. Prairie du Chien, March 29, 1830.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, }  
 COUNTY OF CRAWFORD. } ss.

Term of May, 1830. At a session of the supervisors of the township of St. Anthony and county of Crawford, on Monday, the 10th day of May, present: Jean Brunet, Joseph M. Street and Joseph Rolette, supervisors of the township and county aforesaid, it was the opinion of the supervisors that they settle with J. C. Hayes, by receiving from him all monies he has received, or the county treasurer's receipt for what he has received and paid over and the tax list with what he has not collected. In the case of county tax and the sheriff [J. C. Hayes] not having his account ready, they postponed to Wednesday, the 12th instant.

At a court of the supervisors held according to the adjournment, on Monday, the 20th day of Dec. 1830, present: the Hon. Jean Brunet and Joseph Rolette, supervisors of the township of St. Anthony and county of Crawford and Territory of Michigan.

*Resolved*, That \$20 be allowed Joseph Brisbois for removing the county jail from its present situation and placing the timber on the mound of the court house on or before the 10th day of Feb. 1831, according to previous notices.

WHEREAS, The supervisors of the county of Crawford, in the Territory of Michigan, did at a former meeting agree to convey to the United States the lots of land heretofore deeded to them by J. D. Doty, on which to erect the new buildings of Fort Crawford, on condition that when said new fort should be ready to accommodate the troops, the land and part of the building of the old Fort Crawford should be given to the said county as a court house, jail and other public uses; and the officer now in command at Fort Crawford having written to the secretary of the department of war, requesting that the said lot of land whereon the old fort stands, with a part of the buildings, be conveyed to said county, or that he be ordered to surrender them to them; We, the undersigned, supervisors of the said county, now in session, pray that the Congress of the United States would pass such law or laws as may be necessary to authorize the conveyance of the said land and buildings of the old Fort Crawford to the supervisors of said county and their successors in office for the use and benefits of the said county, on which to erect a court house, jail and for such other public use as they may deem for the benefit of the county.

Done in open court, Jan. 10, 1831.

JOSEPH M. STREET, }  
 JOSEPH ROLETTE, } Supervisors.  
 JEAN BRUNET. }

Attest:

J. BRISBOIS, Town Clerk.

SUPERVISOR'S COURT FOR THE COUNTY }  
 OF CRAWFORD, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, }  
 MARCH 14, 1831.

COL. WILLIAM MORGAN:

Commanding at Fort Crawford:

SIR: The people of the county of Crawford not having erected buildings for the transaction

of public business, we would be greatly obliged to you to permit the people of the county of Crawford and their public functioners to have the use of the block house, in the southeast corner of the old Fort Crawford, as a clerk's office, court house, etc., for the transaction of their public business. Should you concede the privilege, be so obliging as to direct the key of the building to be given to Mr. Joseph Brisbois, the clerk of the county.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH M. STREET,  
JEAN BRUNET,

Supervisors for the county of Crawford, Michigan Territory.

#### NEW SUPERVISORS APPOINTED.

In 1832 J. H. Lockwood took the place of Joseph Rolette upon the board of supervisors, in the early part of the year, but was superseded in the fall by Thomas P. Burnett, so that the members at that time were: Joseph M. Street, Jean Brunet and Thomas P. Burnett. However, in June, 1833, J. Brisbois, Joseph Rolette and Jean Brunet constituted the board; and B. W. Brisbois was township clerk. In 1834 H. L. Dousman and Thomas P. Street took the places of J. Brisbois and Joseph Rolette. In 1835 the members were: Thomas P. Street, H. L. Dousman and J. H. Lockwood. They continued in office until March, 1836, when Samuel Gilbert took the place of H. L. Dousman; so that when the territory of Wisconsin was formed and Crawford county was no longer a part of Michigan Territory, the members of the board of supervisors for the county, and for the township of St. Anthony, were: Thomas P. Street, Samuel Gilbert and J. H. Lockwood, with J. Brisbois clerk.

The last meeting "of the supervisors of the township of St. Anthony and the county of Crawford" before the township and county became a part of Wisconsin Territory, was held March 31, 1836. It was during this term that the supervisors sent the following:

A PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

*To His Excellency, the President of the United States:*

The supervisors of the county of Crawford in the Territory of Michigan, acting for and on behalf of the people of said county and at their request, would most respectfully submit to your excellency the following representation and petition:

The county of Crawford as it is now defined, includes only the country lying between the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, to which the Indian title has been extinguished and extends only to the reservation at and around the ancient settlement at Prairie du Chien. Owing to the indefinite language of the different Indian treaties relative to the settlement, it is left in doubt and uncertainty as to what extent of country, precisely, the Indian title has been extinguished and what are the proper limits of the county.

The settlements at Prairie du Chien were originally made by French traders while the country belonged to the government of France as a dependency of Canada.\* The ownership of the soil was then in the Fox Indians who were found in its occupancy and possession. A district of country was purchased by those traders from the Indians, according to the custom of making such purchases under that government for the purpose of making a settlement. The period at which this was done is so remote that it is perhaps impossible to ascertain certainly the extent of the purchase that was thus made;† but it is understood at this day by the traders and the Indians and the oldest citizens of the place that it includes all the lands lying between the Kickapoo, Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers and about fifteen or twenty miles north from

\* We have shown, in another chapter, the incorrectness of this statement. The settlement was made, originally, in 1781, when the country belonged to Great Britain.—Ed.

† It is now a well-established fact that it included only the prairie extending from the mouth of the Wisconsin, some eight miles up the Mississippi, and back to the bluffs, on which the city of Prairie du Chien is now located.—Ed.

the mouth of the Wisconsin. After the Canadas and all their dependencies passed from the possession of the French to that of the British government, the purchase was renewed by the agent for this part of the country of the British Indian department, who paid the Indians, on account of his government, a large amount of goods for the relinquishment of their title. This took place about the year 1785 and is recollected by some of the old settlers of this place who were here at the time.\*

The neighboring Indians consider the district of country just defined as properly belonging to the white people. They have not had for many years, any village or settlement upon it and rarely hunt upon the ground, no more than they do upon other unsettled lands of the United States in their vicinity. The Winnebagoes own the surrounding country on the north and east, and occupy the northern bank of the Wisconsin above the mouth of the Kickapoo, as the successors of the Sacs and Foxes, who have been driven step by step from Canada to the west of the Mississippi. The Winnebagoes never owned the district of country which we have designated above,† and the Foxes, who were found in possession of it by the first settlers have been, by different treaties removed some fifty miles to the west.

The old French settlements at various places in the northern and western part of the country have always been secured and protected by the government of the United States and have been frequently reserved and confirmed by treaties with different Indian tribes. The 3d Article of the treaty of Greenville, made the 3d of August, 1795, fixes the boundary line between the Indian tribes and the United States; and by it the Indians cede to the United States various small specified tracts, beyond the said boundary line; and by the 4th Article, the United States relin-

quish their claim to all other lands beyond the said boundary line between the Ohio and the Mississippi rivers, the lakes, and the northern boundary of the United States, explicitly excepting Gen. George Roger Clark's grant near the Rapids [Louisville, Ky.], of the Ohio river, the post at St. Vincennes, and the lands adjacent to which the Indian title has been extinguished, the post of Fort Massac, and the lands at all other places in possession of the French people and other white settlers of which the Indian title has been extinguished by gifts or grants to the French or English governments. The provisions of this treaty, it is considered, embraced the settlement at Prairie du Chien and the adjacent country, as it had been in possession of the French people for a long time previous by the British government as we have before mentioned.\*

By the 3d article of the treaty of St. Louis, made Aug. 24, 1816, there was reserved from the Indians three leagues square at the mouth of the Wisconsin river, including both banks and such other tracts on or near the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers as the President of the United States should think proper to reserve;† provided that such tract should not exceed in the whole the quantity that would be contained in five leagues square. It is not known to us that the President has ever exercised the power vested in him by the treaty of reserving any quantity of land in this vicinity in addition to the three leagues square.

The reservation has never been surveyed and it is not known with certainty what extent of country will be included in it, but it is believed that the three leagues square and the quantity of five leagues square, which the President has the power (if not heretofore exercised else-

\*The provisions of the treaty of Greenville, did embrace "the prairie," on which, in 1836, was Prairie du Chien, but not "the adjacent country," as the petition would have it. In 1820, when the French settlers were called upon to declare what their rights were, no claim was made by them outside of "the prairie."—ED.

†But why reserve all this, if the Indians made no claim to it? The fact is they *did* claim it, and the reservation was made for the purpose of erecting a post thereon by the United States.—ED.

\*The reader will not fail to see, in all this, a confused account of the purchase of "the prairie" in 1781, by Sinclair as fully explained in another chapter of this book.—ED.

†No such non-ownership, was ever suggested by the Winnebagoes to the United States at any treaty, either before or after this petition was drawn up.—ED.

where) to add to it, will embrace all the country between the Kickapoo, Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers, and the second large creek that empties into the Mississippi from the east, above the mouth of Wisconsin, called by the French, Coulee des Male.

By the 10th article of the treaty of Prairie du Chien, made Aug. 19, 1825, establishing the boundary line of the different Indian tribes parties thereto, among other reservations and exceptions, the ancient settlement at Prairie des Chiens and the land properly thereto belonging, are explicitly excepted from the claims of any of the Indian tribes.\*

In considering the exception, the question arises. What is the land properly belonging to this ancient settlement? We think that, upon examination, it will be found that but one answer can be given; that the land properly belonging to the ancient settlement includes all the land originally granted by the Indians for the use of the French settlers extending to the limits above mentioned.†

This opinion receives strength and confirmation from the fact that the Winnebagoes who occupied the country on the north and east, never owned this tract and that they do not, as we understand, pretend to claim any part of it; and the Foxes who were the owners of it, at the time when the original settlement was made, do not now own a foot of land on the east side of the Mississippi nor within less than about fifty miles of this place on the west. And although the last mentioned treaty fixed the boundary of the Winnebago country from where the Sioux crosses the Mississippi opposite the mouth of the upper Iowa up to the Chippewa country and round to the north, east, south and west, up to the Wisconsin, it leaves the line between that tribe and the settlement at Prairie

\*The "ancient settlement at Prairie des Chiens" was the cluster of houses on the immediate bank of the Mississippi and St. Feriote beyond the marais, or marsh; while "the lands thereunto belonging" were the residue of the prairie as claimed by the early settlers, individually or in common.—Ed.

†This clause would be entirely correct had it ended with these words:—"Extending to the limits of the prairie."—Ed.

du Chien altogether undefined.\* Whether the question is considered with this view of the subject or in reference to the express reservation under the treaty of 1816, and the additional reservation in the power of the President to make, it will secure to the settlement the district of country above designated.

We beg leave most respectfully to call the attention of the President to the importance to the people of this country that the above construction should be given to the Indian grants and treaty stipulations (which seem to us to be the only proper one of which they are susceptible) and of having the county surveyed and the boundries designated and established.

The settlement at Prairie du Chien is the extreme northwestern settlement of the United States and one of the oldest on the frontier. It has always been exposed, perhaps more than any other, to all the dangers, hardships and privations incident to the situation. Its location and relative position to other parts of the country render it a place of great public importance as a depot for the army and for the commerce of the upper Mississippi and the Wisconsin. The county of Crawford is the oldest organized county in the Territory [of Michigan] west of the Wisconsin portage and under the laws of the Territory, the people of the county have to bear all the burdens of supporting their public institutions without any aid from the territorial treasury. The small portion of land to which private titles have been acquired or which is open to purchasers, and the uncertainty which generally prevails as to the extent of country to which the Indian title has been extinguished discourage emigration and greatly restrict the growth and prosperity of the community. The claims that have been confirmed to the old settlers are not sufficient for the present population, and of all the land in the

\*It is only necessary here to state that the treaty of 1825 above referred to, was held five years after a large part of the "Prairie des Chiens" had been confirmed to the settlers thereon; so there was no need of defining the boundary between the Winnebagoes "and the settlers at Prairie du Chien."—Ed.



county owned by individuals there is not a single acre of timber, all the supplies of that article for the use of the citizens have, of necessity, to be drawn from the public lands; many parts of the country between the Kickapoo and the Mississippi are well adapted to agriculture, and could the lands be purchased they would be soon settled both by our own citizens and by emigrants who would be induced by the many advantages of the situation to establish themselves here if they could secure titles to their homes. The timber alone would induce almost every citizen who is able, to purchase a tract for the necessary use of his house and farm.

The survey and sale of the district with its boundaries established upon the principles above set forth, would be a measure of incalculable advantage to the people of the county. It would encourage and promote agriculture, extend the necessary means of a poor but hardy and exposed race of citizens, advance the population by inciting emigration and settlement, increase the political consequence and importance of the county and promote the domestic prosperity of the community and thereby add to the general interest of our common country.

We therefore pray that the president will, in pursuance of the different treaty stipulations and grants to the old French settlers according to the common understanding of the Indians and the people, cause the reservation at this place to be established so as to include all the land lying between the Kickapoo, the Wisconsin and the Mississippi rivers as far north as Coulee des Male, and the east line drawn from the head of that stream to the Kickapoo; and that the country may as soon as practicable, be surveyed and offered for sale.

We are not assured whether any act of Congress will be necessary to enable the President to carry out these views, in case they should receive his sanction; should it be so, we pray that a recommendation may be made from the

proper department for the passage of such an act as may be necessary, securing the usual pre-emption right to actual settlers. Should it be considered necessary to enter into further stipulations with the Indians relative to their boundary before the one prayed for can be established, we pray that the necessary measures may be taken to hold a treaty with the Winnebagoes for the purpose of fixing and establishing the limits between them and the settlement at this place.

Accompanying this is a rough sketch of the country embraced in the petition, which, though not drawn from any survey is believed to be in general correct.\*

J. H. LOCKWOOD,  
THOMAS P. STREET,  
H. L. DOUSMAN,

Sups. of the County of Crawford, M. T.

I certify the foregoing is a true copy of the original petition.

J. BRISBOIS,

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—A NEW BOARD.

From 1836 to 1838, the board of Supervisors of the township of St. Anthony and the county of Crawford consisted of the following persons: 1836.—Thomas P. Street, Samuel Gilbert, J. H. Lockwood.

1837.—H. L. Dousman, W. Wilson, B. W. Brisbois.

1838.—B. W. Brisbois, W. Wilson H. L. Dousman.

But now a change was made from supervisors to county commissioners, as the following entry shows :

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, March 17, 1838.

James H. Lockwood, Samuel Gilbert and Levi P. Marsh, having been, on the 5th inst., elected county commissioners of the said county of Crawford, held their first meeting this day, at

\*This map is a fair representation of the country between the Kickapoo, the Wisconsin and the Mississippi, as far up the latter as the Coulee des Male. Upon the bank of the Mississippi is marked the village of Prairie du Chien and the second Fort Crawford. There is a public road indicated, leading off in a southeasterly direction to the Wisconsin where there is a ferry designated. The streams emptying into the Mississippi from the east are named (going north) Fisher's creek, Picardy, Prairie des Sioux river and Coulee des Male.

the court house, pursuant to public notice; whereupon Joseph Brisbois, late town clerk, handed over the books, papers etc., belonging to said county, which were in the hands of the late supervisors, and Joseph Brisbois, the treasurer handed in his account current with the said county, and voucher therefor, showing a balance due said treasurer of \$11.19 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, April 7, 1838.

The board of county commissioners met this day at the court house, agreeable to public notice, at 10 A. M., and proceeded to draw a panel of grand and petit jurors from the following list of names, taken from the tax roll, for the year 1838:

Benjamin Bolles, B. W. Brisbois, Tunis Bell, Simon Barthe, George P. Brisbois, Peter A. Bazin, Ira B. Brunson, James Bunker, John Boston, Theodore Bugbee, James F. Chapman, David Clark, Jr., Francis Chinevert, Sr., Nicholas Chinevert, Bazil Chinevert, Oliver Chierrier, Sr., Oliver Chierrier, Jr., Lester Deming, Francis Deschauquette, N. C. Dimmick, Jesse Dandly, John H. Fonda, John H. Folsom, William H. C. Folsom, Leyman Frost, James Fisher, Hiram Francis, George Fisher, William Fisher, Francis Gallineaux, A. Grignon, Bazil Gagnier, James Gilbert, Samuel Griffen, Thomas Hore, J. P. Hall, Richard Hartwell, Daniel Hopkins, Seth Hill, L. Hill, Joshua M. Hosmer, Henry Johnson, Francis Labath, William S. Lockwood, Charles Lapointe, Francis Lapointe, Barthelemie Lapointe, John Lemerger Pierre Lachapelle, A. Lachapelle, Julien Larivierre, Baptiste Lariviere, Theodore Lupine, Joseph T. Mills, John Miller, Charles Menard, Sr., Charles Menard, Jr., Louis Menard, John B. Mayand, Alexander McGregor, John M. Merritt, Frederick Oliver, Elijah Osborne, Harvey Osborne, Ezra Putnam, Francis Provost, L. B. Pion, James Reed, Stephen Richards, Henry W. Savage, Hyacinth St. Cyr, Seth Sanford, Stephen G. Tainter.

Before the close of the year the board of commissioners consisted of L. R. Marsh, J. H. Lockwood and H. L. Dousman.

January 7, 1839.

The clerk of the board presented the petition of the inhabitants and claimants along the Wisconsin for a road leading from the Prairie, commencing at Dousman's Coulee, and running in an easterly direction through Samuel Gilbert's claim, to the Grand Gres, together with the viewers' report of the blazing out of the same, which petition and report was accepted, and the road ordered to be opened according to law (66 feet wide), and that the district surveyor be requested to survey the same forthwith.

*Ordered,* That the first road district be and it is hereby established, to be drawn on a line running on the south side of the road leading east and west from the slough of St. Feriole to the bluffs (north, and by the side of Tainter's hotel) comprising all the inhabitants south of said line, and those residing up, and along the Wisconsin, as far as the Grand Gres. (The people residing on the bluff at the head of said east and west line are excluded from the said first district.)

The second road district shall be, and the same is hereby established, from the northern boundary of the said first district, including the people on the bluffs at the head of late Miller's road, and those residing south of the line running between farm lots No. 22 and No. 23, and also to include all the people in the main village [of Prairie du Chien].

The third road district shall comprise all the people residing north of said line between farm lots 22 and 23. Christopher Bowen was appointed supervisor of the first district; William Wilson, of the second; and Francis Chinevert, Sr., of the third district.

The board of commissioner for the year 1839, consisted of H. L. Dousman, Samuel Gilbert and Levi R. Marsh. The same gentleman constituted the board for 1840 and 1841; for 1842 the members were Samuel Gilbert, John H. Manahan and David Clark, Jr. The next year (1843) I. P. Perret Gentil took the place of Manahan.

At a regular meeting of the board of county commissioners for the county of Crawford, W. T., held pursuant to law, on the 3d day of April, 1843; present, David Clark, Jr., Samuel Gilbert and I. P. Perret Gentil, the board proceeded to set off and divide and name the different precincts in the county of Crawford, viz:

No. 1.—First precinct to be called the Prairie du Chien precinct—bounded as follows: On the south and east by the boundaries of said county of Crawford; on the west by the Mississippi river; and on the north by a line drawn due east from the mouth of Coon river, so called; and the following named persons are hereby appointed judges of elections: Stephen G. Tainter, H. L. Dousman and Daniel G. Fenton.

No. 2.—Second precinct to be called the Black River Falls precinct (and the elections to be held at the house of Mr. O'Neil)—bounded as follows: On the south by a line drawn due east from the mouth of Coon river; on the west by the Mississippi river; on the north by a line drawn due east from the mouth of Riviere Aux Boeuf; and on the east by the east boundary of said county of Crawford. The following named persons are hereby appointed judges of election: William Lewis, George Miller and Levi M. Mills.

No. 3.—Third precinct to be called the Chippewa Fall Mill precinct—election to be held at the house of Jean Brunet, near said fall—bounded as follows: On the south by a line drawn due east from the mouth of Riviere Aux Boeuf; on the east by the east boundary of said county; on the north by the north boundary of the aforesaid county; and on the west by the Little Elk creek or river and down the Chippewa river on the south side of said river to the Mississippi thence down the Mississippi to the mouth of Riviere Aux Boeuf, or Buffalo river. The following named persons are hereby appointed judges of elections, for said precinct: Lyman M. Warren, Jean Brunet and George P. Brisbois.

No. 4.—South precinct to be called the Menomonee precinct, bounded as follows: On the north by the north boundary of the county; on the east by the Little Elk creek or river; on the south by the Chippewa river; and on the west by the dividing ridge between the Menomonee river and the Aux Gallait river. The following named persons are hereby appointed judges of elections for said precinct: Hiram S. Allen, S. S. McCann and Arthur McCann.

No. 5.—Fifth precinct to be called the Aux Gallait precinct (the elections to be held at the house of T. A. Savage & Co., at the mill) bounded as follows: On the north by the north boundary of the county; on the west by the Mississippi river; on the south by the Chippewa river; and on the east by the dividing ridge between the Aux Gallait river and the Menomonee river. The following named persons are hereby appointed judges of elections for said precinct: George C. Wales, Henry Eaton and A. Richardson.

The following named persons were commissioners for 1844: David Clark, Jr., Joseph Morrill, William Curts. For the year 1845, the following named persons constituted the board: William Curts, Joseph Morrill and Henry Brandes. The next year (1846), Ralph Smith took the place of Henry Brandes. For 1847, the following persons were commissioners: William Curts, Ralph Smith and Edward Hughes. The commissioners for 1848—the last year of Wisconsin as a territory, were: H. L. Dousman, Edward Hughes and Nathan Myrick.

At a session of the board of county commissioners begun and held at the office of the clerk of said board on the 9th day of January, 1849, in pursuance of law, Thomas J. De Frees and Jacob Spaulding appeared and filed their certificates and oath of office as county commissioners of said county; and the board proceeded to elect their chairman; and, on examining the votes, Jacob Spaulding was found duly elected.

The board then proceeded to divide the county into four towns; and the following is the description of said towns, to-wit:

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN (town No. 1) comprises that part of the county lying south of the line between townships number 9 and 10 north.

BAD AX (town No. 2) comprises that portion of the county lying north of township number 9, and south of the line between townships number 16 and 17 north, including not only the whole of what is now Vernon county, but parts of the present counties of La Crosse and Crawford.

ALBION (town No. 3) comprises that part of the county lying north of the line between townships number 16 and 17 north, and south of the line between townships 22 and 23 north.

PINE VALLEY (town No. 4) comprises all of the county north of township 22.

The board then proceeded to designate the places in these towns, at which the first town meetings should be held, to-wit:

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN (town No. 1) at the court house in the village of St. Feriole.

BAD AX (town No. 2) at the residence of Hiram G. Rice.

ALBION (town No. 3) at the residence of Jacob Spaulding, at Black River Falls.

PINE VALLEY (town No. 4) at the residence of James O'Neill.

The formation of Bad Ax and La Crosse counties, in 1851, of course blotted out from Crawford county, the whole of the towns of Pine Valley and Albion, and nearly all the town of Bad Ax. Since the reduction of Crawford to its present limits by the creation of those two counties, towns have been formed at various times, until their limits have been fixed as we now (1884) find them, which limits will be fully defined in subsequent chapters.



## CHAPTER XXVII.

## TOWN OF BRIDGEPORT.

Bridgeport is in the southwestern corner of Crawford county. It is bounded on the north by the towns of Prairie du Chien and Wauzeka; on the east by the town of Wauzeka; on the south by Grant county, with Wisconsin river flowing between, and on the west by the Mississippi river and the city of Prairie du Chien. It is composed of parts of townships 6 and 7, of ranges 5 and 6, west.

Bridgeport was included in the town of Prairie du Chien till 1872, when it was given a separate organization. The surface of the town is rough and broken by a series of ridges and valleys so common to all the county. The soil too, is of a similar nature to the other towns; it being of clay on the ridge and in the valleys. In the latter, however it consists more of a loam mixture than on the ridges. All kinds of crops, including grass and vegetables are produced here with as large a yield as in any part of Crawford county.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad runs through the southern part of the town, and there is a station at the village of Bridgeport, where a wagon bridge crosses the Wisconsin river into Grant county.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

James and Samuel Gilbert, two brothers, were the first settlers in the town of Bridgeport. They came in 1826. James located on section 10, on the place now known as the Fairfield place, and his brother Samuel on the place afterward owned by George Ward. The Gilberts

remained about six years, when they left the county.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF MRS. JOSEPH ATHERTON.

In April, 1838, a party embarked in a keel-boat at Wellsville, Ohio, some distance below Pittsburg, Penn., their objective point being Crawford Co., Wis. This party consisted of Elisha, and Elihu Warner, brothers, William Curts, Christopher Bowen, Jerrih Warner, Jackson Foster, and a man named Ravel. These men were all married, and had their families with them. Elias Bowen, Joseph Curley, James Foster, son of Jackson Foster, and Richard Lane, were the young unmarried men of the company, together with three others, named Carr, Wickersham and Tyler. The party started down the Ohio river; but when not far from the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, finding their progress too slow, a bargain was made with the steamer, *Nashville* to tow them to St. Louis. From there to Prairie du Chien, they were towed by the steamer *Burlington*. After resting a day or two, they commenced the laborious task of ascending the Wisconsin river, by poling and fastening cables to trees on the bank, and thus pulling the boat against the strong current. One week of faithful toil in this way, brought them to Millville, on the south bank of the stream, in Grant county, where the party left the keel-boat, *Kickapoo*, (a name given it before leaving Wellsville, Ohio,) except one family, that of C. Bowens, who remained on the boat a few weeks, until Mr. Bowen erected a

house in what was afterward the town of Wauzeka.

Elihu Warner and his sons, remained at Millville and there built a mill, the same year, 1838. William Curts left the boat at a point later known as Wright's Ferry, and moved his family into a vacant house, on what is now called the Fairfield farm, in the town of Bridgeport. Elisha Warner remained at Millville, the point of landing, for about ten days, when he also moved into the same house.

Jackson Foster lived at Millville a year or more, and then settled in Grand Gris valley, in what is now the town of Wauzeka, where both he and his wife died a few years later. The remainder of their family all left soon after except Jackson, Jr., who was, years afterward, in company with Ralph Smith, in the milling business at Wauzeka, but in 1882, moved to Dakota Territory. Mr. Kavel remained at Millville, until the winter of 1838-9, and then located a short distance from the present site of Bridgeport. He died in that village in 1859, his wife having died in 1853. Carr and Wickersham built C. Bowen's stone house in the summer and fall of 1838, and then returned to Ohio. Mr. Bowen occupied this house until his death in August, 1840. Elias, son of C. Bowen, married a few years later, and settled on the farm now, (1884), owned by A. J. Beesecker. Joseph Curley married a daughter of C. Bowen and lived in Bridgeport about twenty years, and then moved to Iowa. Richard Lane married the widow of John Ward, one of the early settlers of Bridgeport. He died in 1878. Tyler only remained a year or two. At the date of this band of pioneer's coming, the only settlers in this town, as now bounded, were the families of Seth Hill, and Francis Lapoint, who were then engaged in operating a pole ferry, on the Wisconsin river, at the crossing of the military road, where the village of Bridgeport now stands. John Brunet came in some time during 1838, and made a settlement.

The following is an amusing incident in regard to the above mentioned party, who came in on the keel-boat *Kickapoo*:

While the fatigued party were resting at Prairie du Chien, some of the sharp ones (specimens of whom can be found in all new countries) espying the name of the boat, *Kickapoo*, supposed they knew the destination of the party; accordingly two or three of them, with their grub sacks, started post haste for the banks of the Kickapoo river, looking for the most desirable points at which a large company might settle. They marked such spots as "squatter's claims" by hanging a pole on two forked sticks, a tree or two cut down and other sham work of improvement. Here these sharps settled down to eat their rations and watch for the pioneer keel-boat, *Kickapoo* but alas! like many another well laid scheme nothing came of it.\*

#### FIRST EVENTS.†

The first marriage was that of William Keith and Emaline Crow, in 1841.

The first death was a child of John Allen's, in 1839.

The first school in the town was taught by Delia Bowen, in a log building on the site of the present brick school house in district No. 5, in 1841.

Elisha Warner preached in 1838 the first sermon, holding services every Sunday for some time.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Prior to 1872 the territory embraced within the town of Bridgeport was included in the town of Prairie du Chien. It was at this date that the city of Prairie du Chien became an incorporated city and owing to dissatisfaction in regard to taxes, the people of the southern part of the town of Prairie du Chien, petitioned the

\* Mrs. Joseph Atherton, upon whose recollections reliance has been placed concerning the history of those who came in the *Kickapoo*, was one of the party.

† It should be understood by the reader that the first events here spoken of have especial reference to that part of the town of Bridgeport not included in the prairie about Prairie du Chien, as these are spoken of elsewhere in this book.

county board to be set off into a separate town; accordingly, in November of that year, 1872, this was done. The first election under the new town organization occurred April 3, 1873. John B. Davis, Charles Kahler, Lyman King, D. F. Haskins, and J. B. Davis clerks. The following officers were elected:

Joseph Atherton, D. F. Haskins and John Bunders, supervisors; Chancey Blancher, clerk; H. C. King, treasurer; Henry Barretta, assessor; John B. Davis, W. B. Hicklin and Sylvester Ault, justices of the peace.

Officers acting in 1883: H. C. King, George Ward and Lewis Kenyon, supervisors; Henry Barretta, treasurer; Charles Kahler, clerk; William Curts, assessor; Terry Fairfield, O. E. Miller and Charles Kahler, justices of the peace.

#### SCHOOLS.

In 1884, the town of Bridgeport had two full and two joint school districts.

District No. 1, had a brick school house, on section 10, town 6, range 6 west, valued at \$245. Number of pupils, sixty-six.

District No. 2, had a log building situated on section 6, town 6, range 5 west, valued at \$30. Number of pupils, fifty.

Joint district No. 5, with town of Prairie du Chien, had a frame building situated on section 33, town 7, range 6 west, valued at \$275. Number of pupils, forty.

Joint district No. 6, with the town of Prairie du Chien, also, was provided with a house in the last named town. Number of pupils from the town of Bridgeport, twenty-one.

About fourteen sections of the town were at this date attached to the independent district of the city of Prairie du Chien, for school purposes.

#### CEMETERY.

The town has but one cemetery; this is situated on section 10, town 6, range 6 west, and was established in 1839.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The town of Bridgeport has never had a regular Church organization. In 1838, Elisha

Warner, one of the party who came on the keel boat *Kickapoo*, from Ohio, preached the first Gospel sermon listened to in the town. He preached from time to time at various places, wherever a few could be found, who wanted to be taught in divine things. He was a man who exercised a positive influence for good over the people of Bridgeport. He was a christian by precept and practice. His kind heart made all men friends. It is said of him, "the children all loved him," and one says "even the dogs liked him." He was the pioneer preacher of the town; was always ready to conduct religious services wherever and whenever people would meet for that purpose. His wife died in 1858, aged sixty-four years. Mr. Warner died in 1875, from apoplexy. Elder Brunson, who had officiated at the funeral services of Mrs. Warner seventeen years previous, performed the same services for Mr. Warner, and feelingly announced the same hymn: "There will be no more sorrow there," at closing services at the grave. The memory of Elisha Warner and his good wife is fondly cherished by all the old settlers of Bridgeport.

#### STONE QUARRY.

One of the most extensive stone quarries of this part of the State, is found in the northwest corner of section 15, town 6, range 6, on land originally owned by H. L. Dousman, but after a number of changes, finally came into the hands of Thomas Marsden, Sr., who began developing the same, in 1863, for the purpose of supplying stone for the State House at Madison. In 1882 the property was owned by Thomas Marsden, Jr., his father having died. Mr. Marsden, in company with Mike Menges, of Prairie du Chien, commenced to work this quarry on a very extensive scale, in 1883; the proceeds from the sale of stone during two years, amounting to \$20,000, large amounts being used in the capitol at Madison, and in the famous archwork railroad bridge at Minneapolis, Minn. The proprietors of this celebrated quarry, employ the most improved

methods for quarrying, loading and shipping; they use large derricks, cables and cars, by which they convey the stone on an iron track to the line of the C. M. & St. P. R. R. A large number of men are constantly employed at a shop built for the purpose, in cutting and dressing stone for shipment, on orders for finished work, which goes to all the cities and towns of the northwest.

The stone found in this quarry is a magnesian limestone, a mixture of lime and sandstone, which, upon exposure to the elements, becomes exceedingly hard, thus rendering it a most valuable building material.

#### WISCONSIN RIVER BRIDGE.

By an act of the Legislature in 1854 or 1855, a bridge company was organized and incorporated. E. W. Pelton was chosen president; William E. Parish, vice president; B. F. Fay, secretary; I. P. P. Gentil, treasurer; E. W. Pelton, W. E. Parish, H. L. Dousman, B. W. Brisbois and Alfred Brunson, directors. This bridge was completed in the fall of 1857. It passed into the hands of James Hall, under a trust deed, about 1865, and from him to George M. Dickinson and John Lawler. To aid in the building of this bridge, the town of Prairie du Chien took stock to the amount of \$10,000, for which bonds were issued. The original capital of the bridge company was \$30,000, of which \$27,000 was paid up, including the bonds issued by Prairie du Chien. Upon the completion of this bridge the ferry at this point was abandoned.

#### VILLAGE OF BRIDGEPORT.

Bridgeport is situated on the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, near the Wisconsin river, on section 11, in town 6, of range 6 west. The land upon which the village stands was originally owned by H. L. Dousman, who, in 1839, sold 300 acres to Peter Barretta, Sr. Thomas Calanan, who was the first settler on the site of the village, erected the first house, in 1855. A ferry was established in 1835, by John Brunet. In the spring of 1857, when the railroad was built to this point, George M.

Dickinson opened a general store. Shortly after this he sold to William Snell. The same year, 1857, L. O. King, B. F. Fay and George M. Dickinson, erected large warehouses and did an immense grain business. In 1863, B. F. Fay built an elevator, which he sold to W. B. Hunt and it finally came into the hands of John Bidwell.

H. C. King, of King & Barretta, built an elevator in 1868, on the site of their old warehouse; this burned in 1874 and was rebuilt the same year.

In 1861 Anton Schmidt opened a hotel, which was burned the following year.

Another hotel was built in 1865 by John B. Davis, who sold to Frank Bacon about 1871. Bacon operated the house a year and sold to C. A. Mathews. He sold to Walter Hicklin and he in 1874 to Moses Barretta, who run it till 1881 and sold to George W. Keye, who a year later sold to William P. Hill and he to A. J. Beesecker, who was operating it in 1884.

Moses Barretta opened a saloon in 1850, which in 1866 he sold to Henry Barretta, who after ten years sold to Frank Bacon. In 1881 Bacon sold to Thomas Nugent.

As before stated, George M. Dickinson opened the first store of the village. He sold to William Snell, who, in 1866 was succeeded by Coleman Brothers and they by King & Kenyon in July, 1872. Six months later Mr. King bought Kenyon out and the same year removed the stock to a new building; and in 1875 sold the building and goods to Joseph Atherton, who the next year sold to C. A. Mathews. Mrs. Carrie Mathews owned and operated the store in 1884.

In 1876 H. C. King opened a general store and in the spring of that year became associated with Henry Barretta, who in 1884 sold back to Mr. King.

"Con" Snell built a good store building and opened up a fine general stock in 1868, on the site afterwards occupied by King & Barretta. In 1872 he sold out to his brother William.



## HISTORY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

This store together with the goods was destroyed by the same fire which burned the elevator and other property in the village on March 14, 1874. Mr. Snell rebuilt the same year, but went out of trade the following year, 1875.

Thomas Neill started a blacksmith shop in 1870, continuing until 1881.

A postoffice was established at Bridgeport in the autumn of 1857. B. F. Fay was the first post master; he was succeeded by the following in their proper order: L. O. King, T. D. Coleman, John B. Davis and H. C. King.

When the railroad was built through the village in the spring of 1857, the place became a flag station, and remained as such till 1867. The depot was destroyed by the disastrous fire that occurred on March 14, 1874, and was rebuilt the same year. The trestle work of the railroad bridge was all destroyed at the same time.

Jan. 15, 1884, the business interests of the place were as follows: H. C. King and Mrs. Carrie Matthews, general dealers; A. J. Bee-secker, hotel; H. C. King, grain dealer; Thomas Nugent, saloon; H. C. King, post master.

Bridgeport has been one of the heaviest shipping points along the line of the C. M. & St. Paul railroad, between the Mississippi and Milwaukee. Especially is this true of live stock, large amounts of which come from Grant county, over the wagon bridge, across the Wisconsin river, at this point. During the year 1883, it was no uncommon occurrence to see twelve car loads shipped per day, from this point.

### PROMINENT CITIZENS.

Peter Barrette, senior, was born in Montreal, Canada, January 1800. In 1816, he came by the lakes, Green Bay, Fox and Wisconsin rivers to Prairie du Chien, and for five years worked for fur traders and others. In 1821 he married Theresa La Point, daughter of Charles La Point. (For further notice see recollections of Mrs Theresa Barrette). He was a farmer at the time of his marriage and followed farming for

some years afterwards. In 1835 he took the government contract for mail carrying from Prairie du Chien to Plattville and return, three times a week. At this time he moved out from the village and locating, established a pole ferry on the Wisconsin river, about two miles below the present village of Bridgeport.

There were no highways at this time, and mail was carried on horse back. Indian trails were followed until open country was reached, then the nearest "cross the country" route taken. In 1839 this ferry was abandoned, and he bought 300 acres of land of H. L. Dousman, and the ferry property in sections 11 and 12, town 6, range 6, now town of Bridgeport. The village of Bridgeport stands on part of this purchase. He changed his mail route, and operating the ferry, put on the route passenger wagons, and extras, and operated the same until 1854, when he went out of the mail service. He had previously (in 1845,) bought a horse ferry boat at a cost of \$750, in and operated the same until 1857, when the Bridgeport bridge was built. He then sold the ferry to parties at Boydtown, where it was run a short time. His residence since 1839 was on the Dousman purchase, where he had a fine farm, and where he lived until his death, Aug. 5, 1863. His widow still lives on the old homestead with her grandson Samuel, son of Lewis Barrette. Their residence is a substantial, heavy walled stone house, the walls of which were made by John Brunette and the building completed by Mr. Barrette after his purchase of H. L. Dousman of the property. The house stands on an elevation, giving a fine view of the opening of the Wisconsin valley into the Mississippi valley, and the Iowa bluffs beyond. In the family room stands a heating stove, in good condition, bought of Joseph Rolette's family in 1839. It had then been in use ten or more years. Peter Barrette, Sr., has left a long line of descendents. He had eight sons and four daughters. Susan, born Jan. 18, 1822, died in infancy; Louis, born Feb. 29, 1824, of Minneapolis; Charles, born Feb. 26,

1826, of Bridgeport; Peter, born March 7, 1829, of Prairie du Chien; Antoine, born May 20, 1831, of Prairie du Chien; Julia, born June 25, 1833, died in infancy; Moses, born Aug. 10, 1835, of Waterton, Dak.; Paul, born Sept. 22, 1836, of Prairie du Chien; Samuel, born Jan. 30, 1838, died in infancy; Henry, born July 20, 1841, of Bridgeport; Margaret, born March 5, 1844, died April 17, 1864; Philaman, born Aug. 12, 1846, died Dec. 20, 1857.

Charles Barrette is the son of Peter Barrette, Sr. He was born Feb. 26, 1826, in Prairie du Chien. He owns and resides on the Samuel Gilbert claim made about 1826. He has one of the best improved farms in the town, with good buildings. In 1849 he married Emily J., daughter of H. L. Dousman, and lived with his father the first two years after his marriage. In 1852 he moved into what is known as the mill farm of H. L. Dousman, and lived there eighteen years. In 1870 he moved to his present residence. His wife died April 8, 1874. They have had born to them eight children—Virginia, born Sept. 20, 1850, wife of Thomas Ward. Theresa, born September, 1852, wife of Exis Brothers, and died Aug. 15, 1877; Jane, born Dec. 7, 1858, wife of Chas. Brandes, of Wauzeka; Minnie, born December, 1860, of Nashua, Iowa; Susan, born in 1862, died in 1864; Mattie, born Feb. 9, 1864; May, born Dec. 15, 1865; Charles L., born in 1867, died in 1875.

Henry Barrette is the son of Peter Barrette, Sr. He was born July 20, 1841. He married Anna M. Kane, Jan. 3, 1864. She was the daughter of Bernard Kane, of Pittsburg, Penn. She was born Sept 24th, 1841. They have eight children—Lizzie O., born Nov. 14, 1864, Jennie May, born May 1, 1866; George W., born Feb. 22, 1868; Walter H., born July 28, 1870; Louis B., born Sept 6, 1872; Willie E., born and died Sept. 27, 1874; Annie V., born Oct. 9, 1876; Mary Josephine, born May 16, 1878. Mr. Barrette is a prominent citizen of Bridgeport village, has been a long time in the mercantile trade. He has held the office of town treasurer since 1878, was the town asses-

sor five years previous, elected first term 1873, and ten years was a member of the school board.

#### REMINISCENCE OF THERESA BARRETTE.

"I was born in Prairie du Chien, in the year 1805. My father was Charles La Point, my mother was Susan Antaya; they were married in 1803, at Prairie du Chien. My father was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1775. In 1797, he came with two brothers, Francis and Peter La Point, by way of the St. Lawrence river, the lakes, Green bay and Fox and Wisconsin rivers, to Prairie du Chien, and for a few years following was in the employ of the American Fur Company. In their employ, father made several trips to Green Bay. The winters he spent in traffic with Indian settlements, and exchanged Indian goods for peltries, etc.; but after his marriage he went to farming. In those days, when they wanted land, all they did was to take possession of it. From that time, farming was his principal occupation, though being able to handle most all kinds of tools, and do almost any kind of work needed on the frontier, he worked a portion of the time at carpentering, and other mechanical pursuits. My mother was born the same year of my father (1775), in St. Louis. Her father Michael Antaya, in 1785, with his wife and three daughters, Susan (my mother), Josephine and Mary embarked at St. Louis in a canoe destined for Prairie du Chien. In passing the lower rapids, their canoe was upset, and only for the timely assistance of a party of Fox Indians, who fortunately were near, the whole family would have been drowned. My mother's sister, Josephine, married Sandy Simson. After his death, she married Augustus Crochier, a native of Montreal, and with whom she returned to Canada, and died there. Mary married Francis La Point (my father's brother), whose death in Prairie du Chien left her with a family of eight children. She married Michael La Point, in 1822 (he was no kin to my father and uncles), who came from the Red river of the north, was a laborer, and much of the time in the

employ of the American Fur Company. By this marriage, four children were born, one of whom is now (1884) living, Mrs. Madeline Lariviere. I was the first born of my mother. My sister, Louisa, widow of Joseph Dechamp, was born in 1807. She lives in Prairie du Chien (1884). Her first marriage was to Edmund Ronche in 1823. One child, Louisa, was born to them in 1824; she is now living, the wife of Alexander Paquette, in Benton, La Fayette Co., Wis. Edmund Ronche, died in Prairie du Chien in 1826. My sister married Dechamp in 1828, who died in 1862. They had nine children; five are living: Joseph in Minneapolis, Amuabe lives in Chippewa Falls, Theresa, wife of Moses Duquette Edmund, lives in Texas, Frederick lives in Mineral Point. I married Peter Barrette, Sr., in 1821, who died Aug., 5, 1863.

From my earliest recollection, I remember Pierre La Point. He was born in Canada, about 1747, and came to Prairie du Chien in 1782. He was grand-uncle to my father, and my uncles Francis and Peter La Point. About 1784, he took an Indian maid for a wife, and to them were born four daughters: Palazee, Victorie, Susan and Theresa Palazee married a trader, named Crawford; they had two children, one son (what became of him I don't know), and a daughter named Sophie, who married an Indian trader, named Mitchell, and went to Mackinaw, never returning. Palazee separated from her first husband, Crawford, and about 1817, married Antoine La Chappelle. By this marriage, she had seven children, Theresa, Theophilus, Peter, Bernard, Frederick, Pauline, and Antoine. Theresa married B. W. Brisbois, of Prairie du Chien. Theophilus, if living, is in the Madison Insane Asylum. He was a brilliant man, and made insane by hard study. Peter lived and died in Prairie du Chien. Bernard committed suicide at the age of thirty years. Frederick is now living at Wabasha, Minn. Pauline is living at Atlanta, Ga., the widow of Dr. Beach, formerly of Prairie du Chien. Antoine is living at Winnebago agency, Blue Earth Co., Minn. To return

to the other daughters of Pierre La Point, Victoria married Edward Beezan. Susan died young. Theresa married an officer stationed at Fort Crawford. Pierre La Point was physically an athletic, strong man; tall, straight, well-formed, and very active; he never made money fast, was always employed by others. Instead of giving employment, he worked much of the time for the American Fur Company, and independent traders. He disliked farming, but always made maple sugar, in its season. He died at Prairie du Chien, in 1829. Myself and my sister Louisa Dechamp are the two oldest persons living in Crawford Co., who were born within its limits."

As one of the first born of Prairie du Chien. Mrs. Barrette has seen this country pass from barbarism to civilization, the wilderness converted into lands teeming with corn and grain. The rude "dug out," give way to floating palaces on our river. Indian trails converted into steel roadways crowded with commerce, and the few score of civilized people, in the northwest swelled into millions, and to this she has contributed her full share, for, over two scores of living people of this day carry her blood in their veins, seven children, thirty-one grand children and six great-grand children.

Samuel Barrette was the son of Lewis Barrette. He was born in 1849, is one of the family of nine children—Rosanna, wife of Joseph Rule, John, Adeline wife of Frank Dunn, Louisa, Peter and Henry all of Minneapolis. Samuel Barrette was married May 30, 1883 to Adaline Hartgag, daughter of Flora Hartgag. They are living on the old homestead of Peter Barrette, Sr., with his grand mother, Theresa Barrette.

Harvey Bassett and his wife, his mother, Mrs. Catherine Craw, (widowed by the death of her second husband, Samuel Craw,) with two half sisters, Minerva and Alicia Craw, and Isaac Hill, left Fairfield Vt., May 22, 1838, destined for Crawford Co., Wis. The outfit consisted of three two horse teams and wagons, considerable household furniture, pro-

vision, etc. Seth Hill, brother of Isaac Hill, had settled in Bridgeport town a year or two previous. His representations induced the emigration of this party. They were met in Michigan by Seth Hill, who returned to this town with the party. In Illinois they were joined by Samuel Bassett, a brother of Harvey, also by another half sister, Emiline Craw. Harvey Bassett, was born in Easton, N. Y., June 8, 1808. He lived previous to coming west in Fairfield, Vt., where he married Clarrissa Warren, in 1833. His wife was born in that town, March 5, 1811. In 1838, they came to Bridgeport, and settled on section 9, town 6, range 6 west, making a very fine farm, with valuable improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Bassett had two children—Jane Ann, born July 4, 1840, and died at the age of sixteen years, and Victoria Augusta, born Dec. 1, 1846, and married, Feb. 19, 1873, to William B. Hickey. Mr. Hickey died April 30, 1881. Mr. Bassett died June 3, 1867, and his widow is still in vigorous health, and is living with her widowed daughter on the old homestead where they settled in 1838. Isaac Hill died about two years after coming here. Seth Hill lived in the county until after the war, when his wife having died, he moved to Illinois. Grandma Craw died in 1859, Emiline Craw married William Keith, and went to Missouri and there died. Minerva is living in Illinois, and is the wife of Elias S. Bowen, Alicia died in Bridgeport town, about 1863. Samuel Barrett, lived in Bridgeport many years, but died in Minneapolis, Minn., in 1872.

Joseph Atherton was born in Chesterfield, N. H., in 1813. In his early manhood he was engaged in teaching school. He came to the west in 1838, and settled in Crawford Co., Wis., in 1840. On the 8th of December, 1844, he was married to Lydia Warner, the adopted daughter of Elisha Warner, (now deceased) since which date he was chiefly engaged in farming near Bridgeport. He was often entrusted with public business for his town and county, and uniformly discharged his duties

with ability and fidelity. He was a close thinker, a careful reader, and a thorough student of passing events. In his intercourse and dealings with his fellowmen he was governed by the strictest honesty and integrity. Not bigoted in any of the "isms," he was the advocate of equity and justice in public, as well as private matters. Mr. Atherton was a kind and affectionate husband and father, a faithful friend, and an excellent citizen. His exit beyond the dark confines of earth, left a sorrowing family; and threw a pall of sadness over a large circle of friends and neighbors, with whom his greetings were always warm and heartfelt. In his death, the last of the early settlers in the Bridgeport district has gone. His early neighbors in pioneer life were Elisha Warner, Theodore Warner, S. G. Basset, Elias Bowen, William Wright, Seth and Lorea Hill, Peter Barrette, Sr., Samuel and James Gilbert, Joseph Curdy, J. P. Hall, William Curts, Lyman Frost, H. Brandes and Hiram Delap, with most of whom he is now testing the realities of eternity. Mr. and Mrs. Atherton formerly resided on the fine farm now owned by H. C. King. They were the parents of seven children, three of whom are living—Mrs. Carrie A. Matthews, Emma, wife of Fred J. Bowman, of La Beau, D. T., and Joseph, residing on the home farm with his mother. The deceased children were—Martha, wife of Chancy Blancher, of Prairie du Chien, who died in September, 1870, George, who died in 1864, aged fifteen years, and Charles H. and Joseph (twins), who died in 1864, aged ten months. Mrs. Atherton is a native of Trumbull Co., Ohio, born in 1828, and accompanied her adopted father, Elisha Warner, to Prairie du Chien, in 1838, arriving in the keel boat *Kickapoo*. Mrs. Carrie A. Matthews owns and personally conducts a general merchandise store in the village of Bridgeport, and is a woman possessed of fine business qualifications. She is the mother of one child—Emma, born Oct. 18, 1872. Mr. Atherton died at his residence in Bridge-

port, on the morning of the 6th of January, 1880, of paralysis, by which he was attacked on the 31st of December previous.

John Burrell, son of John and Catharine Burrell, was born in Cassville, Grant Co., Wis., in 1839. In 1841 he came with his parents to Crawford county, his father engaging in the manufacture of brick on section 8. In 1866 he purchased 161 acres of land on section 10, town 6, range 6 west, Bridgeport town, where he now resides. Mr. Burrell married Theresa Comeskey, a native of Canada. They have seven children, four sons and three daughters.

Mrs. Philena Anns resides on section 3, town 6, range 6 west, Bridgeport town. She is the widow of Justus Anns, a native of Genesee Co., N. Y., and born in 1814. When young he removed with his parents to Cattaraugus county, where his parents resided until their decease. Mr. Anns received a good education, especially in mathematics, of which he was very fond, and was reared to the occupation of a farmer. In 1838 he went to Indiana and engaged in teaching. He was there married, in 1839, to his present widow, then Philena Scott. In 1849 Mr. Anns came to this town, and in 1852, settled on section 3, taking 120 acres of the government, and adding forty acres at a subsequent time. He died at the homestead quite suddenly, March 13, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Anns had ten children, seven of whom are living—John R., William H., Dewitt C., Albert A., Louisan M., Richard Roy and Jessie Jannett. Those deceased are—Martha Jane, Sarah Emeline and Ellen E.

Charles Fritsche, resides on section 9, town 6, range 6 west. Mr. Fritsche was born in Prussia, in 1836, where his father died. In 1854, his mother, with the family, emigrated to the United States coming directly to Prairie du Chien. There were four children in the family,—two sons and two daughters, Caroline, who became the wife of Antoine Brenner, and died in May, 1883, in the town of Prairie du Chien, Minnie, Charles and Henry. In 1861,

the brothers purchased a tract of land of Lucius Johnson, and lived together and worked in common for a period of ten years. In 1871, they agreed to make a division of the land and since that time have owned and occupied different farms adjoining each other. They are both successful and prosperous farmers. The farm of Charles contains 180 acres; his brother has 160 acres. The farms are in a good state of cultivation; all improvements have been made by them. Charles enlisted, in 1863, as a recruit in the 1st regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. In 1864, he was transferred to the 21st regiment, where he served till the close of the war. He participated in a number of important engagements of the war, among which were the siege of Atlanta, and Sherman's march to the sea. Charles married Susan, a step-daughter of Bernard Herrold, one of the old settlers of the town of Wauzeka. She is a native of Louisville, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Fritsche have five children,—Carrie, William, Robert, Andrew and Emma. Mrs. Fritsche has four children by a former marriage. Her first husband, Charles Kuchenbacker, was also in the army; he and Mr. Fritsche enlisted at the same time, and served together till the close of the war. He died Dec, 15, 1873, of injuries received from being thrown from a wagon.

Charles Kahler, one of the pioneers of Prairie du Chien of 1856, and for many years one of the county officers of Crawford county, was born in Prussia, March 11, 1833, and is the son of William and Christiana Kahler. He was educated in his native country, and emigrated to the United States in 1855, disembarking at New Orleans, La. In the spring of 1856, he came to Prairie du Chien, and moved his family to this place the following October. For several years after coming to this city, he was engaged in the boot and shoe business. He was chosen a member of the town board for 1865-6, and was elected county clerk for the term of 1867-8, and re-elected for the years 1871-2-3-4. In 1870, for the benefit of the health of his

family he removed to his fine farm of 240 acres, situated three miles southeast of the city, in the town of Bridgeport. Since a resident of this town, he has served as chairman of the town board, and is the present town clerk. Mr. Kahler was married on the eve of leaving Germany for the United States in 1855, to Eulalie A. C. Lenz. They have two sons and one daughter—Arno A., Franklin G. and Eulalie M.

George Fairfield was born Sept. 10, 1839, in Fulton Co., Ohio. He left his home for Wisconsin, on the 28th, of May, 1857, in company with his brother-in-law, George Chapman, making the entire journey with teams. They arrived in Crawford county, June 21, 1857. Mr. Fairfield enlisted in Prairie du Chien, April 27, 1861, in company C, 6th regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. His record in the army is an honorable one, and proves him to have been a brave and faithful soldier. He was known throughout the brigade as a leading spirit of personal adventure. He participated in many important battles among which were: Gainesville, second battle of Bull Run, South Mountain, Fredericksburg, the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, North Anna River and others. He was in front of Petersburg during the first part of the siege of that city. He was promoted to corporal, May 29, 1862, and by request of Gen. Bragg, for bravery at the battle of Fredericksburg, he was promoted Feb. 1, 1863, to sergeant. He twice refused to be nominated for a commission, and on the 29th of April, 1864, refused the position of sergeant-major of Camp Randall, under Maj. Dill, preferring to go to his regiment, where he received the compliments of his captain. He received a gunshot wound in the head, at the battle of South Mountain, which carried away the sagittal suture down to the cerebrum. From the effects of this wound he was confined two months in the hospital at Washington City. At Gettysburg, his canteen, filled with water, was struck by a minnie ball, while his regiment was making a charge

on the 2d Mississippi. The canteen of water resisting, to some extent, the force of the ball, and diverting it from its course, doubtless saved his life. At Petersburg he was struck by the fragment of a shell, which fractured the left temporal bone. He was struck five times while in the service, with ball and shell. Soon after his last wound, he was discharged, his term of service having expired. In the military history of Wisconsin, by E. B. Quiner, Esq., the following acknowledgment is made: "To Sergt. George Fairfield, of company C, 6th Wisconsin Infantry, we are indebted for the loan of a well kept diary, from July, 1861, to the battle of South Mountain, where he was severely wounded, and during the Wilderness campaign to the assault at Petersburg, June 18, 1864, where he was again wounded." At the close of the war, Mr. Fairfield returned to Seneca, Crawford county, where he taught school for one term. On the 2d day of March, 1874, he purchased of J. F. Haskins, 100 acres of land on section 10 town 6, range 6 west, where he now resides. His farm is well stocked and in a good state of cultivation. Mr. Fairfield has been twice married. He was first married to Elnora J. Haskins, April 9, 1865. She died Feb. 18, 1880, leaving five children—Willard, Laverne, Jennie V., Lizzie L., and George E. Mr. Fairfield subsequently married Eliza J. Allen, Dec. 23, 1882, with whom he is now living.

Henry C. Maynard resides on section 1, town 6, range 6 west, where he has lived since February, 1868. He is a native of Vermont, born in 1830. When quite young he removed with his parents, Dr. David S. and Lydia A. Maynard, to Ohio. In 1859 he moved to Grant Co., Wis., his usual occupation being farming, but he was for a short time engaged in the insurance business. He married Ellen A. Hill, a native of Barre, Orleans Co., N. Y. Mr and Mrs Maynard have had three children, two of them are living—Frank A. and Carl H. Their

eldest child, Marium, died aged three years. Mr. Maynard's farm contains 200 acres of land.

William Curts, Jr., son of William and Mary Jane Curts, was born on the homestead where he now resides, on section 10, town 6, range 6 west, Sept. 5, 1859. His father settled on this place in 1839. He married Eva Poff, born in Indiana in 1858. Her father, John Poff, settled in the town of Haney, and resided at Bell Centre at the time of his death. His widow lives in Readstown. Mr. Curts' father died April 4, 1861; his mother died June 21, 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Curts have one son—Marion Edward.

Lyman King with his family came from Trumbull Co., Ohio, and settled at Port Andrew, Richland Co., Wis. in 1856. He there buried his wife Nov. 28, 1857. Mr. King came to Bridgeport town in 1860, and lived with his son L. O. King, until the death of the latter which occurred in 1868. He then lived with a younger son, Theodore, until 1879. He then bought of his son, Henry C. King, forty acres of land, and built a house in which he has since resided with his only living daughter, Mrs. Jane Fitzsimmons. Mr. King is now (1884) eighty-two years of age, in good health, vigorous, strong, good memory and strong mind. His son L. O. King died in Prairie du Chien Dec. 24, 1878. He was master of the Masonic lodge and buried with masonic orders, Odd Fellows and United Workman lodges participating. Lyman King has had eleven children, George F. born 1826, Elisabeth, born 1827, died in Ohio, 1842, Jane, born 1829, Lyman O. born 1832, died Dec. 24, 1878, Henry C. born 1834, Theodore, born 1845, Sally, born 1855, wife of Franklin Bacon, died in Bridgeport 1872. Four children, in Ohio, died in infancy.

Henry C. King, is a resident of Bridgeport town and a prominent business man of Bridgeport village. Mr. King was born in Trumbull Co., Ohio, Jan. 16, 1834. In 1851 at the age of seventeen he started out in life on his own account, having a brother older, George F. King,

living in Mobile, Ala. He went to him, and with him remained until the spring, of 1854, learning the trade of carpenter and joiner. He then went to Galveston Texas, and went into business as contractor, for general building, doing quite an extensive business. On the outbreak of the civil war, business was suspended. Mr. King being a northern man by birth was loyal, but by adoption and business interests was identified with the south. His situation was a trying one to him, his loyalty was perhaps divided, but he always believed that the appeal to arms was unnecessary; that the ballot box could and should have settled all differences between the two sections. In 1862 under the Confederate government conscription act, Mr. King was drafted into the confederate army, and placed in the 24th Cavalry (Texas Rangers) and the regiment was placed in drill school at Shreveport, La, in July. The regiment made part of a confederate force of 10,000 men under orders for Little Rock, Ark. Later his regiment, was dismounted and the force ordered to Arkansas Post, there going into winter quarters. In January 1863 when Gen. McClelland and Sherman's forces made their attack upon the post, he was in the line of battle outside the fort. During the engagement which preceded the capitulation, Mr. King had a slight wound in his head, which caused permanent deafness in one ear. His chum was killed by his side by the same shell that injured him. After the surrender, while in line, marching to the transport of the Union fleet, hardly able to walk, he thought of the fine revolver his comrade had on his person. Leaving the line he obtained it. Soon after returning, noticing a fine looking Union officer nearing him he hailed him and sold the revolver to him for a five dollar greenback, which, in his penniless condition, was a fortune. He was taken by way of Alton to Camp Butler Ill. The severity of the weather, and change of climate brought him very low and the sickness following, with prison hospital care, came very near being his last. In March, being a little improv-

ed in health but still suffering by inward trouble in his head, caused by the wound, he began to study upon the future and concluded to take the oath of allegiance. This he did and in his old rebel uniform and the greenback in his pocket he made his way to Springfield, Ill. His health improved rapidly and he was soon at his old trade. In the meantime, by correspondence, Mr. King learned in May, that his father, Lyman King, had moved, in 1856, from Ohio to Wisconsin and was then living in Bridgeport, Crawford county. He immediately joined them and has from that time resided in this town. Mr. King owns a very fine farm, the old Atherton place, about one and one half miles from the village. His residence is upon this farm. He was married in 1869 to Mary Seaman. Four children have been born to them, only one of whom is living—Tudney V. born September, 1870, died September, 1871, Nellie, born December 1873, died March 1882, Ruba P. born April 1877, Hurley C. born April 1879, died March 1880. Mr. King is one of the prominent men of the county, is serving now (1884) as chairman of the town board. He has served five years as town treasurer—1873 to 1878.

Andrew Bailey, is the son of Henry H. and Eliza S. Bailey. He was born June 27, 1850. He was married Feb. 8, 1881, to Carrie, daughter of John D. Harp, of Cassville, Grant county. She was born June 16, 1856. Mr. Bailey is an active, wide-awake business man, is now (1884) in the employ of Henry C. King, in charge of Mr. King's general merchandise store. Mrs. Eliza S. Bailey lives in Bridgeport village. She was the daughter of Christopher and Mary Bowen, and part of her family came from Pennsylvania in the keel boat *Kickapoo*, in 1838. Besides herself there were two sisters and two brothers in her father's family—Elias S., of Illinois; Alfred A., died in Bridgeport, April, 1880; Delia, married Joseph Curley, and lives in Iowa; Barbara, married John Sane; she died in Illinois, June 27, 1874. Mrs. Bailey, formerly Eliza S. Bowen, married Henry H.

Bailey Jan. 1, 1845. To them six children were born—Arnold, born Dec. 20, 1845, died Aug. 15, 1847; Charles, born Feb. 28, 1848, of Grant county; Andrew, born June 27, 1850, of Bridgeport; Ara, born March 25, 1854, of Grant county; Benjamin, born Oct., 16, 1857, died in infancy; Delia, born June 19, 1859, wife of Dante Poole. A few years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey moved to Vernon county, and lived near Viroqua two years, then moved to Prairie du Chien, there remaining about four years; and after two years' residence in Batwice, this county, he came to Bridgeport, remaining a short time. In 1865, they moved to Taylor's Falls, on the St. Croix river in Minnesota, and lived there about five years; returning to Prairie du Chien, and buying a place, lived there seven years. He then sold out and bought a farm in this town where he has lived most of the time since. Mr. Bailey died in this town, March 17, 1878. Mrs. Bailey is living with her son-in-law, Dante Poole. Mr. and Mrs. Poole have one child—Charlie, born March 24, 1882.

Charles A., son of Henry H. and Eliza S. Bailey, was born Feb. 28, 1848. He was married, March 27, 1872, to Annie M. Whiteside, step-daughter of John D. Harp, of Cassville, Grant Co., Wis. His wife died April 6, 1875. To them were given two children—Harry, born Aug. 13, 1874, and Glendon, born March 29, 1875. At the time of his wife's death, Mr. Bailey was a clerk in a dry goods establishment, at Prairie du Chien, and at present is engaged in farming in Grant Co., Wis. Ara W. was married January 14, 1880, to Hannah J. Ladd, daughter of Lemuel Ladd, of Grant Co., Wis., where he resides at present.

Thomas Marsden, owner of the Bridgeport stone quarry, is the son of Thomas Marsden, Sr., who began developing the quarry in 1863, for the purpose of obtaining stone for the capitol at Madison. The land on which the quarry is located was originally owned H. L. Dousman. It changed hands a number of times before.



coming into the possession of Thomas Marsden Sr., (1868,) who had been connected with the working of the same, since 1863. A description of the quarry will be found elsewhere in this work.

Thomas Marsden, Sr., was born in Lancashire, England, in 1812. He emigrated to New York in 1849, and was engaged in the marble and limestone trade at Albany, N. Y., for some time, in fact, during the greater part of his life, he was connected with quarrying and stone-cutting. He married, in England, Isabella Morrow. He died here April 20, 1874. There are three surviving sons—Thomas, James, who resides at Barraboo, Wis., and William, of Tombstone, Arizona Territory.

Thomas Marsden, Jr., was born at Liverpool, England, in Oct., 1848. He enlisted in 1861, when but thirteen years of age, in the 3d regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war; he participated in the battle of Big Bethel, one of the early battles of the war, and served under Maj-Gen. Butler for a considerable length of time. He participated in Gen. Grant's Virginia campaign; was in Butler's unsuccessful attack on Fort Fisher, and subsequently Gen. Terry's successful attack on that confederate stronghold. In the storming of Fort Fisher by the forces under Gen. Terry, his regiment, the 3d New York, lost every officer, commissioned and non-commissioned, and a private commanded what was left of the regiment, at the end of the fight. After the close of the war, he engaged in the business of marble and stone-cutting. He worked at various places—Rock Island, Duluth, LaCrosse, etc. He succeeded his father in the ownership of the quarry. His wife was Catharine Donahue. They have four children—Thomas, Mary Isabella, Winefred C. and Charles A.

Andrew J. Beesecker, was born in Monroe Co., Penn., Oct. 17, 1831, and was the son of a farmer. While young he attended school in winters and worked on the farm during the other sea-

sons. In his twentieth year, July 4, 1851, he married Elizabeth Postens, born in the same county, Oct. 1, 1832. They made their home in that county and followed farming until 1865, in which year they came to Crawford Co, Wis., and bought a farm on section 6, town 7, range 5 west. His farm contains 188 acres, and was occupied by him, since his residence in town, until 1882, when he rented it and bought the Bridgeport hotel property and is now doing a successful business as hotel keeper. Mr. and Mrs. Beesecker have had ten children, eight now living. Alfred, born Sept. 27, 1852; Ellen J., wife of D. Valmer, born June 23, 1854; Rachel A., wife of M. Feely, born Jan 1, 1856; Mary C., born Oct. 27, 1860; Susan, wife of Chas. Bean, born Jan. 27, 1863, Sarah, born Jan. 22, 1866; Amanda, born Nov. 3, 1868; and Lewis, born Aug. 23, 1872. The two deceased children are Reuben, born Jan. 25, 1858; died in Pennsylvania, June 28, 1871, and Elizabeth, born April 8, 1871, and died June 28, 1871.

Thomas Nugent was born in Ireland, March 12, 1859. In 1864 his father, with the family, came to America. They lived in Poughkeepsie, N Y, about one year. In 1865 they came to Crawford county, settling in Eastman, where he has made a farm and now resides. His father had ten children, five boys and five girls: Eliza, Thomas, Mary, Ann, John, William Barney, Ellen, Bridget, Maggy and James. Thomas Nugent was married in Seneca by the Catholic priest, Rev. J. J. Burns, to Mary Litner, April 23, 1883. Mr. Nugent is now conducting an orderly saloon in Bridgeport village, and is a good citizen.

Jacob Strayer was born in Crawford Co., Penn., in 1823. In 1855 he moved to La Fayette Co., Wis.; and in 1858 to Grant county. In 1865 he came to Crawford county, settling in Bridgeport and engaged in work on the bridge which crosses the Wisconsin at that place. In 1879 he purchased a lot of three and a quarter acres of William Snell, on section 9, where he now resides. Mr. Strayer married in Pennsylva-

nia, Sarah Lindsey. She died in Crawford county, in 1873. He subsequently married Susan (Mitchell) Miles, a native of Vermont. She has seven children by her first husband, two sons and five daughters. Mr. Strayer has three children by his former marriage—George, John H. and Mary E. He is republican in politics and a strong temperance man, believing in total abstinence. By occupation Mr. S. is a mechanic and repairs all kinds of farm implements in the wood line.

Fred E. Collins is in the employ of the C. M. & St. P. R. R., as agent at Bridgeport station. He has held his present position since October 1881. Mr. Collins has been a resident of Crawford county, since 1868. He learned telegraphy in the railroad company's office at Prairie du Chien. Mr. Collins is a very energetic, capable young man, and popular with those doing business through the station in his charge.

Lewis Kenyon resides on section 1, town 6, range 6 west. He purchased his farm of E. B. Richardson. A portion of this farm, 121½ acres, was entered by Hiram Delap in 1841, and the remainder by E. W. Pelton, in 1853. The first improvements on the farm were made by Mr. Pelton. About nineteen transfers have been made of the whole or a part of this place, since the entry by Mr. Delap.

Mr. Kenyon was born in Clayton Co., Iowa, in 1849. He removed to Minnesota with his parents when a child, where the family resided 12 years. They came to Prairie du Chien in 1868. The first farm owned by Mr. Kenyon was also on sec. 1, which he purchased of his father, and sold to the present owner, Frank Garrow. He married Lovina Garrow, a daughter of John Garrow; her mother is now Mrs. Daniel Thompson, of this town. Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon have two children, Herbert Edgar and Myrtle May.



## CHAPTER XXVIII

## TOWN OF CLAYTON.

Clayton is bounded on the north by the towns of Kickapoo and Franklin, in Vernon county; on the east by the towns of Syloan and Aiken, of Richland county; on the south by the towns of Haney and Scott, in Crawford county; and on the west by the towns of Utica and Seneca, in the last mentioned county.

This town contains a portion of four congressional townships, one half of township 11, in range 3 west; also six sections in township 11, in range 4 west; and sixteen full sections and five fractional sections, in township 10, in range 4 west.

The surface of Clayton is very broken. The valleys are well supplied with springs which gush forth in all their crystal purity, giving an abundant supply of water for both stock and domestic purposes. Upon the ridges there have been improved some very good farms. Here the sub-soil is clay and is well adapted to the growing of corn, wheat and oats. In the valleys the soil is of a black loam, made from the decay of vegetable matter, a portion of which has been washed from the higher and more uneven lands. Wheat does not do well on this land as it grows too rank and is apt to lodge before it ripens.

The Kickapoo river which washes a greater portion of the western border of the town, runs through a sandy soil, well adapted to small grain and corn culture. This valley, however, requires much more fertilizing than does the ridges and other valleys of the towns. The timber of Clayton is principally oak, maple, with some ash, elm and basswood. The oak,

however, is the species upon which the farmer and business man depend. There are large amounts of railroad ties cut and sent to market from out these forests. This town is also noted for the large number of hoop poles which are cut and shipped to various markets.

This town, not unlike the other portions of Crawford county, is well supplied with never failing streams, which make it a desirable place for stock business. The main water course is the Kickapoo river, which enters Clayton on the northern line near the northeast corner of section 19, in township 11, of range 3 west, running in a southwesterly course through sections 19 and 30, in township 11, range 3 west and through sections 25, 35 and 36 of the same township, in range 4 west; also through sections 2 and 11, of township 10, range 4 west, leaving the town from section 34.

Soldier's Grove creek takes its rise on section 4, in township 10, of range 3 west, and passes through sections 31 and 32, emptying into the Kickapoo river, on section 30, in township 11, of range 3 west.

Janes creek heads on section 23, in township 11, of range 4 west and passes through sections 23 and 24, uniting with the Kickapoo river on section 30, in township 11, of range 4 west.

Trout Run has its source on section 26, passing through sections 27, 28, 21, 20, 29 and unites with the Kickapoo river on section 30, in township 11, of range 3 west.

Smith creek takes its rise on section 6, of township 11, in range 3 west and passes through sections 1 and 11, of township 10, in range 4

west, forming a junction with the Kickapoo river on section 11.

Bear creek has source on section 8, of township 10, in range 3 west, passing through sections 17, 18 and 7 of township 10, in range 3 west, and sections 12 and 11, in township 10, of range 4 west.

Little Sand creek heads on section 26, township 10, range 3, and unites with the Kickapoo river on section 24, township 10, range 4 west.

Big Sand creek heads on section 20, township 10, range 3 west, and passes through sections 20 and 19, of township 10, range 3 west, and sections 25, 26, 36, 35, leaving the town from section 34, township 10, range 4 west. The eastern portion of the town of Clayton is well supplied with never failing cold spring brooks, which are utilized for various purposes.

#### FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first to effect settlement in this part of Crawford county, was Simeon Tyler, who came in 1850. He was a native of New York; he "squatted" on section 28, town 10, range 4 west, where O. P. Rounds was living in 1883. The next to locate was a Mr. Marsten, who "squatted" on section 19, town 11, range 3, west in 1852. Elias Bell came the same year, and located in the south part of the town. Another settler of 1852, was L. B. Smith.

During 1853, among the number who came in for settlement, were J. E. Campbell, who in 1884 was living at Prairie du Chien; John Jones who settled on section 30, town 11, range 4 west; John Janes, who entered eighty acres on section 11, town 11, range 4 west; Benjamin Hill took up a claim in the fall of 1852, or spring of 1853, on section 19. Other settlers of 1853 were Christopher Christopherson, who settled on section 2, town 10, range 4 west. Thomas Hoo-verson on section 35, town 11, range 4 west. Andrew Bottlerson on section 2, town 10, range 4 west.

In 1854, David Smith located on section 11, town 10, range 4 west, He died in 1866. Among others who came that year, were the

following: Joseph Martin, who settled on section 11, town 10, range 3, west, who moved to Dakota in 1875; Robert Welch, John Murphy, Mathew Ryan, Henry Murphy, Morris Murphy, David Mook, David Black, J. Glover, Peter Hoffman, David Underwood, Marwood Hound-sell and B. Davenport.

Mr. Patridge, who afterward became nationally known in connection with the affair of the capture of Jeff Davis, settled in 1854 or 1855 on section 32, town 11, range 3 west. In 1884, he was living in Iowa. Richard Brannan came the same time locating on section 30, town 11, range 3 west. George and Samuel Briggs also located in 1854, on section 30, town 11, range 3, west. George A. Smith was another who settled in 1854, he claimed 160 acres from parts of sections 20, 29, and 30 of town 11, range 3 west. In 1884 he was a merchant, doing business at Soldier's Grove. C. W. Baker was another pioneer of the town, coming in 1854. He purchased the "squatter's claims" taken up by Mr. Marsten.

In 1856, Joseph Brightman came in and entered eighty acres of land on section 31, town, 11, range 3 west, where the village of Soldier's Grove now stands.

Nathaniel Woodard came the same year and entered 320 acres on section 35, town 11, range 3 west. During that year Samuel Clark claimed forty acres on section 29, town 11, range 3, west.

William Bounds came in at about the same time and entered 80 acres of land on section 3, town 11, range 3 west; also Robert Briggs who claimed land on section 24, town 11, range 4, west, came the same season. Other settlers of 1856 were: George W. Barlow, who took land on section 1, town 10, range 4; Ralph Barker who settled on section 22, of the same town and range; C. P. Bennett, section 31, town 11, range 4; Dennis Bell, who took 120 acres on section 34, town 10, range 4, west.

The following year, 1857, came S. S. Brown, who entered eighty acres on section 27, town 10,

range 4 west; Joseph and Isaac Evans came the same year and entered a farm together on section 14, town 10, range 4.

During 1858, the settlement commenced in earnest and the tide of emigration has rapidly increased until now (1884) the larger part of the land that is tillable is already occupied and improved by an industrious class of people, a large per cent. of which are of Irish descent, with some Norwegians, and a few Americans who came from the State of New York

#### FIRST EVENTS.

Simeon Tyler, the first settler of the town, erected the first house, without any one to aid him. It was a log building 10x14 feet, on section 28, in town 10, of range 4, west.

Joseph Brightman, who, in 1884, is still a resident of the town, erected in 1856, the first frame house and barn, where Soldier's Grove is now situated.

Weddings were not common in the early settlement of this town. The good people witnessed no such event until the latter part of 1859, when Samuel Mitchell and Miss Ida Smith were united in marriage, by Joseph Evans, who was then a justice of the peace.

The first birth was that of Benjamin Hill, Jr., which occurred in the summer of 1852.

The deaths were not numerous, although occurring early in the settlement of the town, the first being Simeon Tyler, the first settler who died in 1853. His wife followed him to the grave, in about two weeks. The death and burial of James Brannan is of historical importance enough to be given in this connection. He died in 1856, in the northern part of the town, near the banks of the Kickapoo river. His remains were taken up the river in a canoe and the mourners and friends followed in skiffs and other boats, making a funeral cortege of three boats, which meandered their way around up this remarkably crooked stream to Readstown in Vernon county, where the body was interred.

The first mill within the town was a water saw mill, erected in 1856, by Joseph Brightman, near the present location of Soldier's Grove. In 1884, A. Peterson owned this mill power and another mill upon it.

The earliest religious services held in the town of Clayton were held at the house of David Smith in 1856.

The first school was taught by Miss Frank Carter, in the barn of J. H. Brightman. After teaching the school two weeks, she was compelled to resign on account of sickness, when Mary Brightman—afterwards Mrs. M. R. Tate—undertook to finish the term, being at the time but thirteen years of age.

The first Fourth of July celebration was held at Bell Centre, in 1856, and was attended by most of the people of the town

The first cemetery in Clayton, was the one known as the "Yankee Town Cemetery." This was laid out in 1861, and the first burial therein, was Mrs. Sarah Bennett, wife of C. P. Bennett.

The first orchard set out was by C. W. Baker, in 1856, who, in 1884, was still spared to eat of the fruit of his own planting and culture.

The first election in Clayton was held on the 7th day of April, 1857, at the house of David Smith, who then resided on section 1, of town 11, in range 4, west.

#### ORGANIC.

Clayton was organized in the spring of 1857, and the first town meeting for the election of officers was held at David Smith's, April 7, of that year, when the following were elected: Peter Hoffman, chairman; David Smith and D. Bell, side board; G. Morgan, clerk; Peter Hoffman, treasurer; Isaac Evans, assessor. The number of votes polled at the election were forty-two.

The officers for 1883, were: A. Peterson chairman; C. P. Sessman and John Severson, side board; C. W. Baker, treasurer; N. O. Peterson, clerk; William Barney, assessor; J. H. Brightman, John L. Stowell, justices of the peace; Daniel Ryan, Eben Hartly, Stephen S.

Brown, constables. Mr. Ryan failing to serve, Peter Nelson was appointed to fill his place.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

Much interest has always been manifested in school matters in Clayton, and its educational advantages have been fully up to the other towns of the county. In 1884, there were fifteen school buildings within the towns. The school population at this time was 855, the value placed on all school property at that date was \$2955. The following gives the number of pupils in each district Jan. 1, 1884: No. 1, 55; No. 2, 29; No. 3, 30; No. 4, 126; No. 5, 85; No. 6, 40; No. 7, 75; No. 8, 50; No. 10, 38; No. 12, 62; No. 13, 36; No. 14, 63; No. 15, 59; joint district No. 9, 15; joint district No. 11, 59.

#### POST OFFICES.

In 1884, the town of Clayton contained five postoffices, established and located as follows: Knapp Creek, on section 12, of township 10, range 3, was established in 1869. The first postmaster was Daniel Adney, who was still serving in 1884.

North Clayton is located on section 34, it was established about 1870.

St. Phillips is located on section 16; this was established after the civil war.

Yankeetown postoffice is on section 1, established 1858.

Soldier's Grove was made a postoffice in 1866. The first postmaster was Joseph H. Brightman, who was followed by Samuel Hutchins, and he by Atly Peterson, who is now (1884) still in office.

#### RELIGIOUS.

There are now (1884) four religious organizations within the town of Clayton—the Catholic, Methodist, Disciples and United Brethren. The former had occasional services at a very early day. A house of worship was built in 1869, on section 22, township 10, range 3, west.

A society of the United Brethren sect was formed just after the rebellion closed; a log house was erected in which to worship, which was situated on section 26, township 11, range

3, west. This church bears the name "Mt. Zion." Rev. John Day, of the town of Scott, was the minister in charge in 1883.

About 1858, a Methodist Episcopal class was organized by Rev. Brakman, with David Gander as its leader. In 1884, that class numbered about thirty; they were then holding service once in two weeks at the school house at Soldier's Grove. The pastor stationed at Mt. Sterling had charge of the work.

#### ST. PHILIP'S PARISH.

No organization as a parish existed prior to 1873. Previous to that period the spiritual wants of the faithful, who now constitute this parish, were attended to by visiting friends from different sections of the surrounding country. The first priest who visited this section was Father Gaultier. He lived in Prairie du Chien, and was accustomed to make excursions, at regular intervals, through the different parts of Crawford county that required the services of a Catholic priest, he being the only one, at that time, in the county. His first visit was on July 6, 1857. The journeys were made, for the most part, on foot, and with great difficulty, through the dense woods and over the rough hills of Clayton town. Father Gaultier continued to visit Clayton for about two years, until 1859, and died a few years later in Prairie du Chien. His successor was Father O'Conor. During his attendance the little log church, begun under Father Gaultier near the site of the present structure, was finished. Father O'Coner resided at Rising Sun and paid his first visit to St. Phillips in October, 1859. Towards the end of 1862 he was succeeded by Father Murphy, who also resided at Rising Sun. Under his administration nothing of importance took place. He was a great favorite with his people, and was a successful instrument in the conversion of a great many who entered the fold of the Catholic church during his attendance. A modest monument in St. Patrick's cemetery, at Seneca, will point out to many, to whom his kind features were familiar, the spot where he is buried.

The next to take charge of the congregation of St. Philip's, was Father Montague, in the beginning of 1863. He it was who first projected the erection of a new church. The idea of a new house of worship seemed to give a new impetus to the religious affairs of the mission, and the zeal of the scattered flock was quickened, about this time, by a visit from the bishop of the newly erected diocese of La Crosse, Rt. Rev. Michael Heiss, now Archbishop of Milwaukee. During his visit a committee of three prominent gentlemen of the congregation, Matthew Ryan, James Brady and Peter Kelly, all of Clayton, waited upon his lordship and interviewed him regarding the new undertaking and the further organization of a regular parish. The prelate sanctioned the project, promising, further, that he would send them a resident pastor provided they were able to give him the necessary support. With an enthusiasm worthy their desire they gave the required assurance, and never has the bishop or his honored successor had cause to regret his promise, and the hearty good will with which the entire congregation have from year to year made good the pledge of the zealous committee, testify to the spirit of unity that prevailed among the people and that the promise made to the bishop was not without foundation. Father Montague, during his short stay, prosecuted with no little enthusiasm the new undertaking, which was brought to a successful end in November 1870, under the wise direction of his successor, Father Beau, seconded by the energetic co-operation of the committee and people; the happy event was celebrated by a mission conducted by the Benedictine Fathers of Chicago. In August, 1872, the new church was dedicated by Bishop Heiss, assisted by Fathers Vexweist and Bernard.

Father Beau, besides completing the church edifice, erected a very neat little pastor's residence.

Heretofore, St. Philip's congregation received only the attendance of visiting priests. The last of these was Father Beau, who was succeed-

ed in February, 1872, by Rev. Father Wendelin Bernard, the first resident pastor. During his pastorate Father Bernard donated to the new church a number of utensils and sacred vessels required for divine service. He presided over the parish one year and was succeeded in February, 1873, by Rev. R. V. Steinburg. Father Steinberg was in turn succeeded by Rev. Patrick Walsh, in June, 1875, who was again succeeded by Rev. John Conroy, in May, 1876. Nothing of particular note occurred during the administration of the latter three gentlemen, the affairs of the parish running smoothly on, with satisfaction to all, as the result of a solid and thorough organization. Father Conroy died on Feb. 12, 1877, and is buried in the churchyard near the front entrance to the church. The prostrate forms of the worshipers at St. Philip's, on each succeeding Sunday at his grave, where they stop to offer a prayer, attest the high esteem and veneration which his noble and saintly qualities gained for him, and the tender affection of the people who thus piously regard his memory.

Father Conroy's successor was Rev. Bonaventun De Gory. Father De Gory belonged to the order of Capuchin Friars, in his native country, Holland, but being in delicate health, was permitted, by his superiors, to come to this country over thirty years ago. His missionary labors extended throughout the State of Wisconsin, he having belonged successively to the dioceses of Milwaukee, Green Bay and La Crosse. He was possessed of a great zeal for the erection of churches and other buildings in the interest of religion and a facility for acquiring the necessary funds and other assistance, as well as the good will and co-operation of the people was always at his command, and insured success from the beginning. It is said that he erected between forty and fifty churches in this State; for, though old and longing for the peace of a quiet and retired life again, did his customary zeal in this regard forsake not him while at St. Philip's. Understanding full well that

the safety of religion, no less than the welfare of society demand that youth be instructed in religion and the principles of Christian morality instilled in their minds, with heroic self-sacrifice and apostolic zeal, he devoted his time, labor and private property to the erection of a beautiful frame school house, which he presented to the congregation of St. Phillips, in 1881. The school known as St. Francis Parochial School, was first in charge of the Sisters of Mercy, of Fond du Lac, but laterly has been conducted by the Sisters of St. Francis, of Silver Lake. The building is a two-story cottage-roof, with a capacity for eighty pupils on the ground floor, the second floor being occupied by the Sisters apartments.

Father DeGory also erected two mission Churches, St. Patricks, Scott town, Crawford county, and St. Peters, Richland county, both being attended from St. Phillips. On July 8, 1883, Father DeGory bade his sorrowing congregation adieu and a few days later left for New Jersey to visit friends. On August 1, he set sail for Europe, visiting the home of his youth, Haarlem, Holland, traveling the greater part of the continent, and spending two months in Rome, when he was accorded an audience with the Holy Father in November. He again returned to Holland, and now, from the quiet and solitude of his convent home looks back over a life of toil and untiring exertion, devotion and self-denial in the interest of his fellow men, happy in the reflection that his life was spent for their welfare, and the consciousness that the love and prayers and affections of his children follow in his seclusion.

One week after the departure of Father DeGory, his place was occupied by Rev. J. L. Fitzpatrick, the present incumbent of St. Philip's parish. Father Fitzpatrick was born in Jacksonville, Chickasaw Co. Iowa, August 25, 1858. He attended the district schools of the neighborhood until the age of fifteen when he went to Milwaukee and became a student at St. Francis' Seminary. Here he remained three

years, studying the classics, English and mathematics. In June 1876, he left St. Francis and in the following September was numbered among the students of St. Josephs college Du-buque. He remained at St. Josephs two years, the first being devoted to a continuation of his former studies, the second being occupied in the study of philosophy. He then rested from his studies for one year, remaining at home, his time being occupied principally with a review of his previous studies. In September 1879, he was again back at St. Francis' Seminary with his old classmates where he prosecuted with them the study of philosophy for another year. He was now ready for the finishing study in preparation for the priesthood; this he began in September, 1880, and finished in June 1883; the course occupying three years. On July 2, 1883, he was ordained priest by Rt. Rev. Killian Flasch, at Big River, Pearce Co., Wis. Two weeks later, in obedience to his bishop, he came to St. Phillips, in charge of which he has since remained. Father Fitzpatrick is the son of Jeremiah Fitzpatrick, and his wife, Catherine Collins, both living in Jacksonville, Iowa. He is the second youngest of ten children, seven of whom are now living. Their names are—John and Timothy, both dead; Jeremiah, living in New Mexico; Ellen, died in infancy; Daniel, now in Virginia City, Nev; Ellen, Clayton, Crawford Co., Wis., Mary, now Mrs. T. Burck, Sacramento, Cal.; Patrick F, Jacksonville, Iowa, and Michael J. E. now attending the College of the Sacred Heart, Prairie du Chien.

Adjoining the church premises is the St. Phillips' cemetery. It was organized in 1857, the first person buried therein being Philip Murphy, after whom the church was named. Mr. Murphy was born in the county Wexford, Ireland, and came to this country in 1852. Her resided a few months in Chicago, removing to Rock Co., Wis., in the vicinity of Beloit, where he married Jane Cavanaugh. In 1856 he came to Clayton. He died July 4, 1857. He left two sons, now living in Minnesota. Some years later, his widow married Mr. Michael Gorman, of Clayton,



where she still resides. Two of Mr. Murphy's sisters, Mrs. Mathew Ryan and Mrs. Miles Dorren, are living in St. Philips' parish, and one, Mrs. Mathew Ryan, of Sylvan, Richland county, in St. Peters'.

Among the earliest members of St. Philips' parish are to be mentioned: James Brady, Mathew Ryan of Clayton, Miles Dorren, Michael McCormick, P. McCormick, Robert Welsh, M. Garrity, Mrs. Eichorn, Richard Rowe, John Kelly, Terence Gaffany, Peter Gaffany, James Garrity, John Brady; Terence Brady, Philip Murphy, nearly all of whom are yet living, staunch supporters of the parish which they helped organize, and whose steady growth they witnessed from its infancy and favored in every possible manner.

The Disciple Church was organized in 1870 by Rev's. Buraker and Sheffield, with a membership of thirteen, who held services at the Yankeetown school house. The first officers were Amos Braman and Fletcher Canfield. The first pastor was Jacob Reinhart. In 1884 this Church numbered eighteen. At one time it numbered thirty-eight, but was decreased by death and removals.

A well conducted Sunday school has always been a strengthening arm to this Church.

#### CEMETERIES.

The oldest cemetery in the town of Clayton is located at what is known as "Yankeetown," below Soldier's Grove a few miles. This was laid out in 1861. In 1884 the town contained the following burying grounds: One at the Catholic church; one on section 34, town 11, range 3 west, called "Winns;" one known as the "Sugar Grove cemetery," on section 24, town 11, range 3 west, which was the most used and best cared for of any in the town; another, "Soldier's Grove burying ground," on section 25, town 11, range 4 west.

#### BARTO'S MILL.

In 1882 J. L. Nowlin built a steam saw mill provided with a circular saw, on section 33, town 11, range 3. He soon sold to Joseph

A. Barto, who engaged extensively in the manufacture of hard and soft wood lumber and railroad ties. This mill had a capacity of 10,000 feet of lumber and 200 ties per day.

#### THE LOST CHILDREN.

In the summer of 1855 Mr. Patrick Padden and his three children, Mary, Edward and James (the oldest being about eight years of age), were in the forest in search of "sang" (ginseng root), which grew in great quantities throughout the valleys and hill sides, at an early day, and became a great source of revenue to the inhabitants. In their search the children got away some distance from their father and were lost. As soon as they were missed by the father the alarm was at once given about the settlement, all of which turned out in pursuit of the little wanderers. The calls for "Mary! Mary!" who was the eldest child, all seemed in vain, as no answer came back, save the hollow echo of the poor father's cry. The curtains of night were drawn in by nature and the search was continued with but little hopes of finding them alive, as the forests were alive with various wild animals, including wolves and bears.

The following morning the company was increased by men from Vernon county, near Liberty Pole, making in all about thirty, nearly all of whom had guns with them. An arrangement was made by which no one should fire his gun unless he found the children, and then this signal was to be repeated all along the line that all might know the glad tidings. Fortunately the dog had accompanied the children, but in his travels he crossed the track of a pole cat and for the time being seemed to think more of the skunk than of his precious charge, the children. Whether the dog was a complete conqueror or not, he succeeded in getting well perfumed, and then returned home. By quite an effort the party tracked the dog's foot prints to the point where he intercepted the path of the skunk, and from that point were able to mark the wanderings of the lost children by an occasional stalk of spikenard, which they had broken down.

Long before the morning sun had made crimson the eastern sky, the party in search had divided off into squads throughout a radius of many miles; and notwithstanding the solemnity of the occasion, now and then laughter was provoked by the constantly repeated words of Mr. Padden, who in his distress would say: "Well! well! well! pwhat shall I do? The bears will ate 'em up, the bears will surely ate 'em up! Pwhat shall I do? The bears will ate 'em up!" Sometime during the second day the children were found near Knapp creek, five miles away, having cried themselves into a half-wild state and were feasting on blackberries and seemed more like Indian children than those of a civilized race. To any one acquainted with the rough surface of the land in this part of the State, and a knowledge of the fact that wild beasts roamed at will through these same valleys, where had passed the feet of these young and helpless children, it will seem almost a miraculous deliverance from the jaws of death.

#### THE VILLAGE OF SOLDIER'S GROVE.

This thriving little mart, which in 1884 contained about 300 people, is situated on section 31, town 11, range 3. The first building erected in the place was by J. H. Brightman, in 1856. He built a saw mill at this point about the same date, these being the only buildings for a number of years. In 1866, the village was laid out by Messrs Netwick and Sime. Ten years later the grounds were legally platted. They at first consisted of four blocks, but a little later three blocks additional were platted by Mr. Severson.

The first mill was put in operation in 1856 by Mr. Brightman.

The first store was operated by Samuel Hutchins in 1866.

A flouring mill was built in 1875 by T. N. Sime, which was propelled by water power derived from the Kickapoo river, upon the banks of which the village stands.

The first hardware dealer was W. H. Smith, who began business in 1875.

The first hotel was opened by Samuel Hutchins in 1866.

The first school was taught by Mrs. M. R. Tate (formerly Miss Brightman).

The first school building was erected in 1857. This building was 24x30 feet and cost \$300.

In 1884 the business interests of this village were represented by the following firms: R. S. & F. W. Smith, drugs and groceries; George A. Smith, hardware; W. W. Tate, J. L. Nowlin, Ole Knuterson, Henry Davidson, general stock; H. M. Peterson, boots and shoes; George Baker & Co., harness and saddles; J. L. Nowlin, sawmill; Sime & Mullikin, flouring mill; Loe, Foss & Son, wagon makers; Foss & Son, Cowan & Olson and E. Brimmer, blacksmiths; James Chambers, meat market; Charles Nebel, barrel hoop factory; James Dinsdale, physician and surgeon.

#### SOCIETIES.

Soldier's Grove, I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 36, was organized in 1882, and the following officers chosen: James Dinsdale, N. G.; J. O. Davidson, V. G.; G. C. Baker, S.; William H. H. Smith, P. S.; S. Larson, T.; G. A. Smith, R. S. N. G. In 1883, the officers of the lodge were, J. O. Davidson, N. G.; J. F. Whittimore, V. G.; G. C. Baker, S.; William H. Smith, P. S.; S. Larson, T.; S. Fox, R. S. N. G.; R. L. Smith, L. S. N. G.; A Peterson, W.; William H. Smith, C.; W. W. Bennett, R. S. D.; John Stowell, L. S. S.; T. M. Sime, I. G.; C. A. Nebel, O. G.; F. W. Smith, R. S. V. G.; C. M. Poff, Chaplain. At this date the lodge had a live membership of forty-seven, and was in a flourishing condition, having a fine hall well furnished.

Temple of Honor, No. 129, was organized, Feb. 21, 1878, by the following charter members and officers: J. F. Whittimore, V. C. T.; George C. Baker, W. V. T.; William E. Williams, Recorder; A. D. Smith, F. R.; C. W. Baker, Charles Brekke, T.; Frank Smith, U.; T. E. Hutchins, D. N.; Thomas Murphy, G.; H. Knuterson, S.; James Davidson, G. A. Smith and Theodore Allen.

## KINGSTON.

This, in 1884, was a small collection of houses, though not a regularly platted village. However, considerable business interest was manifested by the few live business men who were then living there. This place is located on section 23, in town 11, of range 3 west, and was commenced in 1882, by H. E. King. A year later it contained a steam saw mill, owned and operated by J. D. Hunter, who was doing a large business in cutting lumber and railroad ties, and a blacksmith shop conducted by William Wallace.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

The following named persons are representatives of the bone and sinew of Clayton town. Some are pioneer settlers, and others have been here but a few years, but they are all, individually and collectively, among the honored and respected citizens of the county:

Frank Brightman was born in Crawford Co., Wis., in 1851, and has resided in the county since. He owns a sawmill, with circular saw and water power, on section 34, town 10, which has a capacity of 3000 feet of hard wood lumber per day, but is run mostly on railroad ties. He also has 110 acres of land on sections 34, 35 and 36, town 10. He is now engaged in farming, milling, and keeping the books for W. W. Tate & Co., at Bell Centre. In 1876, Mr. Brightman was married to Margie C. Wood, who was born Oct. 24, 1857, in Crawford Co., Wis. They are the parents of three children—Joseph G., Mary G. and an infant not as yet named. Mr. Brightman's father, Joseph H., was born April 7, 1818, in Pawtucket, R. I. He has now retired from business. He was a member of the 18th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged by reason of promotion to 2d lieutenant of company H., 37th regiment, Volunteer Infantry. He was the first town treasurer of the town of Utica, chairman of the town of Haney three years, and chairman of the county board one year.

Charles Wesley Baker was born in Broome Co., N. Y., Sept. 11, 1829, where he grew to manhood, receiving a common school education. In 1853 he removed to Crawford Co., Wis., settled in the town of Clayton, and purchased a squatter's claim to a farm of 160 acres on section 19, town 11, range 3, which he lost in 1856, not being able to prove his claim. The same year he purchased a farm of 120 acres on sections 31 and 32, town 11, where he now resides. Mr. Baker now owns 220 acres of rich land. Sept. 20, 1853, he was married to Laura A. Smith, who was born in Broome Co., N. Y., Aug. 13, 1835. They were the first family to settle in the town of Clayton. Mr. Baker was a member of the 1st United States sharpshooters, known as Berdan sharpshooters, and was engaged with McClellan, Burnside, Hooker and Meade. He was wounded by a gunshot passing through his right cheek into his throat. Mr. Baker has a stock farm, and owns some fine cattle of the Galloway breed, and is otherwise improving his grade of stock in all branches. Mr. Baker has been a member of the side board for two years, and town treasurer for three years. It is said that he planted the first orchard in the township.

George A. Smith, one of the early settlers of Clayton, was born in Broome Co., N. Y., March 23, 1825. He received a common school education, and arrived at manhood in his native county, being engaged in farming until 1854, when he removed to Crawford Co., Wis., and entered 120 acres of land on sections 30, 20 and 29, town 11, which he now owns, and which he has increased to 200 acres. He also has a house and lot, and an acre of ground in Soldier's Grove. In 1879 he removed to Soldier's Grove and engaged in the hardware business, which he still conducts, carrying a stock of about \$1,500. He was married in 1846 to Jane Edson, born in Broome Co., N. Y., Feb. 22, 1825. This union has been blessed with five children—Helen, A. D., R. S., F. W. and M. E. In 1862 he enlisted in the 17th Wisconsin Volun-

teer Infantry, holding the position of drum major, and was discharged April 5, 1865. His father, Samuel M., was born in New Hampshire, in 1790, removing to Crawford county in 1860, returning to New York in 1862, where he died April 16, 1865. His mother, Betsy, was born in New Hampshire, and died in New York in 1857. Mrs. Smith's father, Guy Edson, was born in 1794, and when seventeen years of age, was coachman for John Adams, second President of the United States. He died in Crawford county, Oct. 18, 1883. Her mother, Rhoda, died in Vernon county in 1864.

Jacob Allen was born Dec. 23, 1838, in Perry Co., Ohio, where he remained about sixteen years. He then came west to Crawford Co., Wis., and settled in the town of Clayton. He was engaged in farming until 1882, when he embarked in the mercantile trade, and is carrying a general stock, consisting of dry goods, groceries and notions, in the village of Kingston. Mr. Allen owns a store building and residence combined, and five acres of land on section 23, town 10 north, of range 3 west. He was married, in 1865, to Nancy Kellogg, who was born in 1851, and by whom he had seven children—John, Mary A., Sylvester, Harvey, Newell R., Carrie and James. Mrs. Allen departed this life in 1881.

J. J. Briggs, one of Clayton's young farmers, was born May 24, 1855, in Crawford Co., Wis., where he has lived ever since. He owns forty acres of land on section 16, town 10, range 4 west, where he now resides. In 1878 Mr. Briggs was united in marriage to Sarah A. Mook. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs have three children—Eva A., Mary W. E. and Charles D. S. Mr. Briggs commenced life without anything, and now owns a small farm well improved.

David Mook passed his earlier life in Pennsylvania where he was born March 4, 1818. In 1827, his parents removed to Stark Co., Ohio, and there he arrived at manhood and remained until 1844, when he went to Allen Co., Ind., and remained there until 1855, when he again

moved westward, locating this time in the town of Clayton, Crawford Co., Wis. He entered a farm of eighty acres on section 21, town 10, range 4 west, where he still resides. Mr. Mook was married Oct. 13, 1849, to Mary Correll, who was born in Allen Co., Ind., in 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Mook have six children—David H., Sarah, Abram, Charles, Johanna and Ella. David married Martha Shanes. Sarah is the wife of Jesse Briggs, and Johanna married Henry Pinkham. Mrs. Mook's father, Abram Correll, was born Aug. 3, 1776, in Maryland, and came to Clayton, Crawford Co., Wis., in 1856, where he died Nov. 23, 1882, being 106 years, three months and twenty days old.

Chas. P. Bennett, a pioneer settler of this town was born in Alleghany Co., N. Y., Aug. 21, 1820, where he received a common school education and arrived at manhood. In 1842, Mr. Bennet commenced lumbering on the Alleghany river, and followed that vocation until 1856, when he removed with his family to Crawford Co., Wis., and entered a farm of eighty acres on section 11, town 10 north, of range 4 west, where he now lives. He also owns a farm of 120 acres on section 11, town 10, range 4 west, where he keeps and breeds some very fine specimens of thoroughbred Galloway cattle. On July 7, 1849, Mr. Bennett was married to Sarah Langdon, who was born Nov. 13, 1822, in Alleghany Co., N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have seven children—G. M., who was born in 1854; W. W., born Feb. 9, 1855; Deett, born in 1859; Fred, born in April, 1861; Arthur, born Sept. 14, 1863; Rexie, born Sept. 16, 1865, and Harvey, born in October, 1867. G. M. married Ellen Purington. W. W. is the husband of Nettie Montgomery and Deett selected for his wife Adelbert Mulikin. Mr. Bennett has been a member of the town board for three years.

Abraham Phillips was born in Orange Co., N. Y., Dec. 23, 1815. In 1837 he removed to Indiana, where he remained until 1842, removing to McHenry Co., Ill., where he remained

six years. He then removed to Dodge Co., Wis., where he was engaged in farming for seven years. He then removed to McGregor, Iowa, where he remained two years, and in 1856 removed to the town of Marietta, and has resided in the county since. He is now a resident of Clayton and owns 160 acres on section 19, town 11. In 1838 Mr. Phillips was married to Lucy Barnard, by whom he had six children—William, Nettie, Mary, Susan, Lucy and Hellena. Mrs. Phillips died in 1856, and in 1863 he married Julia Hale, by whom he has had four children—Elijah and Elisha, twins; Leticia and Albert.

Philip Sheridan is a native of Ireland, born in 1830, and came to the United States in 1848. He worked as a common laborer in different places for a number of years, mostly along the Mississippi river, and the line of different railroads. In 1864 he came to Crawford county and bought a farm of forty acres on section 33, town 11, range 3 west, which he now owns. In 1847, Mr. Sheridan was married to Ellen Dolan, by whom he had three children—Michael, John and Mary. Mrs. Sheridan died in 1877. Michael Sheridan, the oldest of the children, is a native of Massachusetts. He was born in Fillmore county, Dec. 4, 1853. He remained in his native place until 1857, when his parents removed to Wood Co., Ohio, and resided there ten years, thence to Crawford Co., Wis., and settled in the town of Clayton, on section 33. Michael is now owner of a farm of eighty acres on section 32, town 11, range 3 west, but is residing with his parents on the home farm.

J. L. Stowell, a native of Ashtabula Co., Ohio, was born June 13, 1831. When one year old his parents removed to Dupage Co., Ill., and were there during the Black Hawk war. In 1835, they removed to La Salle Co., Ill., and in 1857 to Crawford Co., Wis., settling in the town of Haney, where he purchased 170 acres of land. In 1879 he removed to the town of Clayton, purchased a farm of 160 acres on sections 22, 23 and 27, town 10, where he now resides, being

engaged in farming, contracting and building. In 1853 he was married to Rosina Mullen, by whom he had four children—Roselle, Arthur L., now married to Mary Parker, Jefferson S. and Calvin. Mrs. Stowell died in 1863. He was again married in 1866 to Julia Brown, who was born Jan. 3, 1846. Mr. Stowell was the superintendent of schools in the town of Haney, from 1859 to 1863, and held the office of justice of the peace and town clerk until 1878. He has been justice of the peace of the town of Clayton for three years, and during the winter months since 1859, has taught day school and music.

S. L. Brown, a native of Winchester Co., N. Y. was born May 14, 1805. In 1853 he removed to Clayton, Crawford Co., Wis., and purchased eighty acres of land on section 27, town 10, which he now owns. He was married in 1826, to Mary Hoyt. They are the parents of six children—Nancy M., Elizabeth, Lydia, Julia E., Stephen and Samuel. In 1860, Mr. Brown engaged in the merchantile business in Bell county, and in 1861 was burned out, losing about \$6,000, and leaving his family nothing.

David Gander was born Aug. 10, 1825, in Muskingum Co., Ohio, where he grew to manhood, and received a common school education. In 1860, he removed to Crawford Co., Wis., settling in the town of Clayton, where he purchased 160 acres of land on section 33, town 11. He now owns forty acres of the original land, and forty acres on section 32. He sold his son George, a farm of fifty acres, his son John forty acres; his son Nathan forty acres, and his son Frank, forty acres, of the old farm, and three "forties" of land purchased about the year 1874, known as the "Sprague land." He was married, in 1849, to Mary P. Ward, who was born in Muskingum Co., Ohio, July 19, 1830. They are the parents of seven children, six sons and one daughter. One son died in infancy, and the daughter in her sixteenth year. George J. married Martha

Kissack; John L. married Lucretia Grandstaff; Nathan H. married Eva Parmer; Milton F. married Ida Bailey; David E. is yet single, and is living at home with his parents. Mr. Gander has been a member of the town board for one year. He has never been an office-seeker in any direction desiring rather to live a quiet life on the farm.

G. J. Gander was born in Allen Co. Ind., Sept. 24, 1850. In 1853 his parents removed to Muskingum Co., Ohio; removing in 1860 to Crawford Co., Wis., settling in the town of Clayton, where his father purchased 160 acres of land on section 33, town 11. Mr. Gander now owns fifty acres of the original farm, and is engaged in farming and merchandising for Mrs. M. R. Tate. He was married in 1871, to Martha Kissack, who was born Feb., 17, 1854, near Cleveland, Ohio, and who came to Crawford county in 1867. They are the parents of five children—Laura E., Rhoda, Bertha, Thomas and Frank. Mr. Gander has been a member of the town board for two years. In early life he received a good common school education, and was engaged in teaching in the common schools for a number of years.

Ole Johnson came from Norway in 1857. He was born Jan. 10, 1840, and first settled in Vernon C., Wis., where he was engaged in farming until the year 1860, when he removed to Crawford county and purchased eighty acres of land in the town of Clayton, on section 25, town 10, range 3 west, where he now resides. He is a very prosperous farmer. In 1865, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Betsy Johnson who was born in Norway, in 1843. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have eight children—Christena, John, Carrie, Anna James Bertie Emily, and Ella

Archibald Montgomery was born in Cortland Co., N. Y., Sept. 13, 1818, and received a common school education. He was married April 30, 1845, to Silence E. Huntley, of Cortland county; came west to Wisconsin. May 11, 1845. They settled in Racine county, and he was en-

gaged in farming for over three years. In 1849 he removed to Sauk county, and was chosen justice of the peace, which office he held until 1861, when he removed to Crawford county. He enlisted in company A, 31st regiment of Volunteer Infantry, Aug. 8, 1862, and was engaged in the battle of Bentonville, N. C., and mustered out June 20, 1865. He commenced the practice of law in Sauk county; was admitted to the bar at Prairie du Chien in 1871. His wife died Sept. 20, 1875. They were the parents of five children—four of whom are married—William, Franklin A., John A., Lillian S. and Nellie R. He was chosen chairman of the town board of the town of Clayton in 1871. He has lately sold his farm and now resides with his daughter Lillian, who is married to William Rinehart. Mr. Montgomery is still engaged in the practice of law. While living in Sauk county, he was engaged in various branches of business, keeping the Wisconsin House, in the village of Delton, in 1858, and also buying and selling land, and selling dry goods on a small scale. His children are all settled near him but one, John A., who is living in Dakota, where he owns a large farm. Mr. Montgomery has been a justice of the peace in Crawford county eight years, and has married in this and Sauk counties, 126 couples.

Amos Braman, a native of Washington Co., N. Y., was born Oct. 11, 1842, and in 1846, his parents removed to Kalamazoo, Mich., where he became acquainted with Nancy Fish, and married her in 1862. That same year, Mr. and Mrs. Braman, with his wife's parents, came to Crawford Co., Wis., and first located in the town of Seneca, where they remained but a short time, and then came to the town of Clayton, and purchased 120 acres of land on section 1, town 10, range 4 west, where they now reside. Mr. Braman owns but 40 acres of the original homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Braman have four children—Loretta, Mary, George and Adeline. Loretta is the wife of Stephen Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Martin, have one child—Dollie. Mr. and Mrs.

Braman are prominent and influential members of the Christian Church, located in their neighborhood. Mr. Braman has been clerk of his school district for three years. Mrs. Braman's father, Lyman Fish, was born in Vermont, in 1807, and died in Crawford Co., Wis., in 1881. Her mother, Hannah Fish, was born in 1819, in Vermont, and now owns eighty acres of land on section 1, town 10, range 3 west.

Seymour Fish is a native of St. Lawrence Co., N. Y. He was born March 1, 1853, and accompanied his parents to Sauk Co., Wis., in 1854, where he remained until 1859, when his parents removed to Kalamazoo, Mich., and remained there until 1862. They then returned to Wisconsin, and settled in Crawford county, in the town of Seneca, but remained only a short time, and subsequently removed to the town of Clayton. Mr. Fish now owns forty acres of land on section 1, town 10, range 3 west. He was united in marriage in December, 1865, to Charlotte Talcot, a native of New York, born in 1861.

Sever Christopherson is also a native of Norway. He was born Feb. 22, 1833, and there resided until 1862, when he emigrated to the United States, and settled in Dane Co., Wis. He was engaged in farming until 1866, when he removed to Vernon county, town of Clinton, and remained one year, and then came to the town of Clayton, and purchased sixty acres of land on section 23, town 11, range 3 west, which he subsequently sold, and purchased 210 acres on section 36, town 11, range 3 west, where he now resides. Mr. Christopherson was united in marriage to Engry J. Datler, who was born July 7, 1840, in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Christopherson are the parents of nine children, Anna, Jens, Christopherson, Christena, Ole, Sophia, Carrie, Ida and Thomas. Mr. Christopherson has had a great deal of sickness in his family, and yet he is a very prosperous farmer. He has been supervisor of roads for three years.

George C. Baker, one of the prominent business men of Soldier's Grove, was born in Broome Co. N. Y., Dec. 25, 1840. In 1868 he removed to Soldier's Grove, being engaged as a common laborer by a lumber firm. In 1871 he removed to Minnesota, returning to Soldier's Grove in 1876, and engaged in the harness business in company with J. F. Whittemore, carrying a stock valued at \$1,500. Mr. Baker now owns two business buildings with lots. He was a member of Co. B. 89th New York Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged in 1864. He held the position of 2nd sergeant for one year and was under the following officers: Burnside, Gilmore, and Grant.

J. F. Whittemore, the partner of Mr. Baker, was born in Broome Co. N. Y., June 24, 1844. He removed to Soldier's Grove in 1876 and engaged in the harness business. He was married in 1868 to Jane Acker. They are the parents of two children, Georgie and Birdsal. He has held the office of constable three years, and deputy sheriff five years.

Nelson O. Peterson, one of the prominent men of the town of Clayton, was born in Norway, June 3, 1851, and emigrated to the United States in 1852 with his parents, coming direct to Crawford Co., Wis., and settling in the town of Utica. After a residence there of twenty-nine years, Mr. Peterson removed to the town of Clayton and located in the village of Soldier's Grove, and engaged in the mercantile business. He continued in that for four years, and then opened the Headquarter's hotel at Soldier's Grove. He now owns the hotel, a large two-story frame structure, with two lots in the village. Mr. Peterson was united in marriage, in 1872, to Betsy Foss, who was born in Norway, in 1852, and emigrated to the United States in 1869, and settled in Soldier's Grove with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have two children—Martin and Nellie. Mr. Peterson has held the office of town clerk for the past six years.

Hoover M. Peterson, a native of Norway, was born Aug. 28, 1855, and emigrated to the

United States in 1872. He came direct to Soldier's Grove, and engaged in shoemaking, which trade he has since conducted with good success. He now carries a stock valued at about \$500. Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Mary S. Larson, who was born in Crawford Co., Wis., in 1861, where she has lived ever since. They have been blessed with three children—Henry, Peter and George.

J. F. Whittemore, one of the prominent merchants of Soldier's Grove, was born June 24, 1844, in Broome Co., N. Y., where he remained until 1866, when he emigrated to Wisconsin, and was in different counties of the State until 1867, when he settled in Walworth county, and engaged in harness making. In 1868, he removed to Jefferson county, and worked at his trade until 1870, when he returned to Walworth county, and remained until 1872 thence to Chippewa Falls, and remained there until 1876, when he came to Soldier's Grove. He engaged in the manufacture of harness with A. D. Smith, and remained with him two years, then went into partnership with G. C. Baker, and they are now conducting the business on a large scale. Mr. Whittemore owns a house and lot in the village of Soldier's Grove. He was united in marriage, in 1868, to Jane Acker, by whom he had two children—Georgia and Birdsal. Mr. Wittemore enlisted in 1864, in company M, 1st New York Veteran Cavalry, and was honorably discharged in June, 1865. He has held the office of constable three years, and was deputy sheriff of Crawford county five years.

Oley Knutson, a native of Dane Co., Wis., was born Feb. 21, 1849, where he remained until 1859, removing with his parents to Grant Co., Wis. While there, Mr. Knutson learned the miller's trade, and after completing his apprenticeship, operated the Badger mills for four years, and the Boscobel mill for three years. In 1874 he removed to Clayton, Crawford Co., Wis., and operated the Soldier's Grove mill one year. He then engaged in the mercantile business, carrying a stock of dry goods, notions,

clothing, hats, caps, boots and shoes, and in fact, everything that is kept in a first-class general store. He now owns a store building and residence combined, and three-fourths acres of land in Soldier's Grove. He was married in 1876, to Betsy Peterson, who was born in Crawford Co., Wis., March 20, 1857. They are the parents of two children—Nelse Adolph and Gahard. Mr. Knutson's father was born in Norway, in 1817, and now resides in Grant Co., Wis. His mother was born in Norway, and died in Dane county, in 1857.

S. Lawson, one of the prominent business men of Soldiers Grove, was born in Denmark in 1838. He emigrated to America in 1873, and settled in Vernon Co., Wis., where he remained until 1877, removing to Soldier's Grove, where he opened, and has since conducted, a furniture store. Mr. Lawson now owns a house and lot, and a half interest in a large three story business block in Soldier's Grove. He was married in 1859 to Bergithe Nelson, by whom he had three children—Lauritz, Nels and Mary. Mrs. Lawson died in 1870. In 1883 Mr. Lawson was again married to Betsy Halverson, who was born in Dane Co., Wis., in 1851 and who came to Soldier's Grove in 1872.

James Dinsdale was born Nov. 18, 1848, in England, and emigrated to the United States in 1849, with his parents, John and Tirzah Dinsdale. They first settled in Grant Co., Wis., and in 1876, James taught school, and read medicine under Dr. J. J. Leavitt, of Fennimore, Wis. In 1877, he attended the Rush Medical College at Chicago, Ill., graduated in February, 1878, and then came to Soldier's Grove and commenced the practice of medicine. He has since remained there enjoying a good practice, being the only physician in the village. The doctor now owns 240 acres of land on sections 9, 32 and 35, also a house and lot in the village of Soldiers Grove. In November, 1882 he was united in marriage to Sarah Hoverson, who was born in Crawford Co., Wis., May 2, 1861.



Martin Helgerson was born in Vernon Co., Wis., in 1857, where he resided until 1880, when he removed to the town of Clayton and purchased 120 acres of land on section 35, town 10, where he now resides. He was married in 1879 to Susan Oleson, who was born in Vernon Co., Wis., in 1856. They are the parents of two children—Nellie and Ida.

J. D. Hunter was born in Dauphin Co., Penn., Sept., 21, 1835. In 1853 he went to Illinois and remained three years. He then returned to Pennsylvania, and July 29, 1859, was married to Sophia R. Brubaker, a native of the same county, born May 20, 1841. In 1861 Mr. Hunter enlisted in the Union army, and ten months later was discharged, his term of enlistment having expired. He returned home to Millersburg, Penn., and soon after removed

with his family to Brookville, Ogle Co., Ills., and resided there till 1865. In that year, he re-enlisted in the 2d Illinois Light Artillery, and served till the war closed. In 1870 he removed to Republic Co., Kan., but in 1874, returned to Illinois, locating in the village of Polo. He worked at carriage making until the fall of 1878, then returned to Kansas, where he resided until February, 1883. He then made a settlement at Kingston, in this town, and purchased a saw mill, which is located on section 23, town 11, range 3 west. The mill is operated by steam power and has a capacity of 4,000 feet of hard wood lumber per day, and 4,000 railroad ties. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter are the parents of five children—Harry, who married Mahala Martin, Bertha, wife of Jacob Pursinger, Jennie, wife of John Null, Mertie and Frank.



## CHAPTER XXIX.

## TOWN OF EASTMAN.

That portion of Crawford county known as the town of Eastman is bounded on the north by the towns of Seneca and Haney; on the east by the towns of Marietta and Wauzeka; on the south by the towns of Wauzeka and Praire du Chien, and on the west by the Mississippi river (or, more correctly speaking, the State of Iowa). It was organized in the spring of 1855. and was named in honor of Hon. Ben C. Eastman, a member of Congress from this district.

The territory embraces a part of four congressional townships—fractional sections of township 8, range 7 west; thirty-one whole sections, and five fractional sections of town 8, range 6, west; thirty-five whole sections of town 8, range 5, west, and three whole sections, together with seven parts of sections of town 8 range 4 west.

The general surface of the town is quite rough, having a ridge called the divide, between the Mississippi and Kickapoo rivers, with a few ridges extending east and west, toward the above named rivers.

The soil on these ridges, is a clay sub-soil, based on lime rock. The soil in the valleys, on either side of the divide is a "washed soil," which produces large crops of corn oats, rye, barley and vegetables of all kinds. While the soil on the ridges contains more clay, and at an early day was not considered good corn producing soil, it has of later years, proven itself well adapted to this, even claimed by some to be superior to bottom lands, on account of floods and frosts. An abundance of wild fruit grows

along the beautiful streamlets, which course through the town.

The town is well watered on the west by the the Mississippi river and its branches the De Sioux and Picadee creeks. The former (that is the De Sioux), takes its rise on section 14, in town 8, of range 6, west, and unites with the Mississippi; the latter (the Picadee) has its source on section 28, in town 8, of range 6 west, passing west through sections 29, 30 and 31.

In the eastern portion of the town, there are four streams, namely: Plum creek, which heads on section 29 town 8, range 5, passing through sections 28, 27, 34 and 35, leaving the town from the north-east corner of the latter section. Otter creek takes its rise on section 9, in town 8, of range 5 west, passes through sections 10 and 11, entering Pine creek on the latter named sections, thence through section 12, of town 8, range 5, and section 18, town 8, range 4, uniting with the Kickapoo river. Pine creek enters the town on section 3, town 8, range 5, passes through sections 2 and 11, town 8 range 5, there forming a junction with Otter creek; thence to the Kickapoo, as before described. Citron creek enters the town on section 6, town 8, range 4, and passes diagonally from north-west to south-east, through the section, uniting with the Kickapoo river, on section 8, town 8 range 4.

## SETTLEMENT.

The first steps toward the development of this town were made by John H. Folsom, in 1839. He located on the north half of section 25, in town 8, of range 5 west. He is a man of

good education. The next year he removed to Prairie du Chien, where he took charge of the schools; he still [1884] resides there, a hale and hearty old man, with but few of his faculties impaired.

R. Lester was the next settler to enter the town; he came in 1839, and was killed by the Indians in 1843. Old Mr. Bouilett, a Frenchman, who had been a civil engineer in Napoleon's army, came about the same time. In 1841 came Aaron Hazen. He was from New Jersey. He entered 160 acres of land on section 36, in town 8, of range 5 west. Abram Hazen came on at the same time with his father, Aaron Hazen, and entered forty acres of land on section 31, town 8, range 5 west.

In 1842 Conzac Boucha and Louis Boucha made settlement in the town. The same season came Lewis Buscher, F. Duchurm and Daniel Amber. During 1843, among the number who came in were: Fred Nickerson, who claimed land on section 31, town 8, range 5; John Miller settled on section 1, in town 8, of range 5 west, and Jacob Lemmon came the same time, settling on section 18 in town 8 of range 5 west; Ira B. Stevens, and Henry Chandler came the same year, or early in the spring of 1844: In 1844 Philander Green and Louis Caya came in and commenced improving.

#### EARLY EVENTS.

The first school house in the town was erected in 1848, on section 36, township 8, range 5.

The first dwelling house was built in 1838, by John Folsom, on section 34, town 8, range 5.

The first sermon preached was delivered by Elisha Warner, at the house of Aaron Hazen, in 1843.

The first marriage was that of Matthew D. Ribble and Anna Lambertson, in 1850.

The first birth was Etta Hazen, daughter of Abram and Mary Hazen, Feb. 25, 1844.

The first death was that of William Persons, in 1843.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Eastman was organized in 1855, and the first town election held April 3d, that

year, at the school house in district No. 2, on section 18, town 8, of range 5 west. The following were elected as the first officers of the town: J. Cummings, chairman; Oliver Langdon and Ralph Smith, side board; J. Bouilatte, clerk; Elisha Daggett, treasurer; James Langdon, assessor; J. Bouilatte, superintendent of schools.

The following were the town officers of 1883: Zenas Beach, chairman; Michael Donahue and Samuel Buscher, side board; C. E. Alder, clerk; Charles Iverson, treasurer; Samuel Thompson, assessor; Alonzo Copsy, S. C. McClure, William Koap, justices.

#### SCHOOLS.

In 1884, the town of Eastman had nine school buildings, valued at \$2,500, with a school population of 550. It was then divided into twelve districts, nine full and three joint districts. District No. 1, Hazens district, had fifty-eight pupils. The school house was a frame structure, valued at \$300.

District No. 2, Batavia, had eighty-nine pupils, and was provided with a frame house, valued at \$400.

District No. 3, joint with the town of Haney, with school house in the latter town, had seven pupils from Eastman.

District No. 4, Gronert district, had a frame house valued at \$100. Number of pupils, fifty-two.

District No. 5, Bonney district, had ninety-three scholars and had a good frame school building, valued at \$600.

District No. 6, Shanghai Ridge, had a frame building valued at \$300. Number of pupils, sixty-eight.

District No. 7, Thomas district, had fifty-one pupils, and was provided with a frame building, valued at \$300.

District No. 8, joint with the town of Wauzeka. Number of pupils, sixteen.

District No. 8, joint with the town of Haney, had six pupils.

District No. 9, had sixteen pupils, and a frame school house, valued at \$150.

District No. 10, Donahue Ridge district, had fifty-one pupils and used a log school building, valued at \$50.

District No. 12, Pine Creek district contained forty-three pupils and was provided with a frame building, valued at \$300.

#### RELIGIOUS.

From the earliest settlement of the town, the Roman Catholics have, from time to time held services. The earliest record shows that a priest came from La Crosse and established a mission, about 1847. In 1884, the Catholic element within the town had grown very strong, outnumbering all other sects. A commodious church edifice was erected that year, near the village of Batavia (Eastman).

In 1854 the Methodist Episcopal denomination organized a class at the school house in district No. 2; and services have always been maintained here, sometimes by a large and sometimes by a very small class. The earliest ministers in charge of this station were Elders Brunson and Springer.

The German Methodists formed a church about 1870, and in 1874, built a neat frame chapel, on section 20. They also have a burying ground in connection.

#### GOOD TEMPLARS' LODGE.

Eastman lodge No. 191, was organized April 29, 1880, with the following as its charter members.

Hugh Bonny, Velma Bonny, Eugene Tichenor, Ella Bonny, Maggie Fisher, Kate Fisher, Charles Campbell, Fred Bonny, Bell Campbell, Jim Fisher, James Campbell, Julia Campbell, Eddie Fisher, Jessie Withee, Mrs. Maggie Tichenor, Frank Scott, Fred Gassel, S. W. Koop.

In the winter of 1880-81, the membership numbered forty-nine. The lodge is still (1884) running and in a prosperous condition, being a

means of great good throughout this neighborhood.

#### CEMETERY.

Eastman cemetery was laid out in 1859, by Robert Wisdom and L. A. Bonney, on section 6, town 8, range 6. John Wisdom, the first person interred in this cemetery, was a son of Robert and Margaret Wisdom.

#### THE MILL.

No community is complete without its grist mill; it matters not whether its machinery be turned by steam power, by the swift flowing, narrow stream which gushes from out the mountains side, giving motion to the old overshot wheel, so idolized by poets from time immemorial, or whether it be situated on the banks of some meandering deep stream worthy of the name river. Hence it is not out of place in this connection to speak of Winegar's flouring mill, which was erected in 1859, on section 28, town 8, range 5. This mill was carried down stream by a flood, June 14, 1868, and was rebuilt in 1870. Its size is 40x40 feet, two and a half stories in height, and is propelled by the waters of Plum creek. The cost of this mill, which has two run of stone, was about \$4,000. It has a capacity of seventy-five bushels per day. In 1884 it was still being operated by its original builder, Henry Winegar, of Prairie du Chien.

#### HAMLET OF EASTMAN.

This is not large enough to be called a village, but more properly comes under the head of hamlet. It is situated on section 18, in town 8, of range 5 west, and contained, in 1884, two general stores, a hotel, a saloon; also a wagon and blacksmith shop and a postoffice. The place was originally started by Israel Mallory, in 1862, when he opened a store and kept an inn. In 1883 Hurlbut & Beach platted ten acres, upon which the place stands.

#### PERSONAL.

The following named citizens made a settlement here in the order in which their sketches occur:

James Fisher, one of the pioneer settlers of Crawford county, was born in Crawford Co., Penn., Feb. 5, 1816. He grew to manhood in his native county receiving a common school education and learning the carpenter and joiner's trade. In 1836 he came, with Elder Bronson's family, to Crawford Co., Wis., settling at Prairie du Chien. He worked at his trade some years. At the time that they came here the county extended from St. Paul on the north, to the Wisconsin river on the south, and there was no settlement outside of Prairie du Chien, in what is now Crawford county, to Lake Superior. In 1844 Mr. Fisher was elected to the territorial Legislature, which position he held until 1846, when he was elected sheriff of Crawford county. In 1849 he was elected to the State Senate, holding the office one term. In 1852 Mr. Fisher purchased 240 acres of land on section 6, town 8, range 5 west, Eastman town. He now owns 157 acres of the same land, which he has in a good state of cultivation, and on which he resides. In 1859 he was again elected sheriff of the county, and in 1861 to the Legislature, which office he held until 1865. He has been chairman of the town board for four years, and of the county board three years, was clerk of the court two years, town treasurer one year, and assessor of the town two years. While sheriff the first time Mr. Fisher traversed the county on foot from Prairie du Chien on the south, to St. Paul on the north and Lake Superior on the east, swimming the streams when necessary, and sleeping out in the woods at night. He was a member of the expedition that went up the Mississippi, in 1842, to arrest the Indian that killed sheriff Lester. Before starting many of the men had taken a little of the Indian's "fire water," and were a little the worse off for it. They were all well armed and would shoot at every Indian they saw on the banks. The Indians reported the fact to the fort and regulars were sent out to quell the disturbance. On their return the expedition stopped at a French trading post, and after

getting their supper, drank whisky, got the trader drunk, and disarming him, tied him to the bed. They then drank and ate everything up that they could get. The next morning they set their prisoner free, and offered to pay him fifty cents each for damages, but he would only agree to take fifty cents for it all. Mr. Fisher married in 1861, Margaret Gordon. She died in 1871, leaving four children—Jim, Kate, Margaret and Maud.

Samuel Hazen, a son of the late Aaron Hazen, was born Aug. 16, 1830, in the State of New York, near Rochester, and when but seven years of age his parents moved to Oakland Co., Mich., where his father engaged in farming until 1841, when he removed to Crawford Co., Wis., it then being on the frontier of the northwest. His father immediately came to the town of Eastman, and entered 320 acres in section 36, town 8, range 6 west, and at the time of his death, 1860, had increased his farm to 560 acres. Samuel Hazen now owns 200 acres. 120 acres in section 36, town 8, range 6 west; forty acres in section 25, town 8, range 6 west, and forty acres in section 30, town 8, range 5 west. Samuel Hazen was united in marriage, October 1853, to Elizabeth Evans. Mr. and Mrs. Hazen have ten children—Thompson, Sarah, William and Samuel, (twins), Richard, John, George, Elizabeth, Mary E. and Phœbe. Sarah is the wife of James Kanan; Thompson married Amelia Ostrander, and Phœbe became the wife of E. Cherrier. Mr. Hazen has been quite prominent in the affairs of his town having been a member of the side board for four or five years.

Adam Steiner, a native of Crawford Co., Wis., was born April 30, 1848. He is a son of Valentine and Regina Steiner, who came to this county in 1841. His father was a soldier in the regular army, and after passing through the Florida war, he was stationed at Prairie du Chien until 1846, at which time he was discharged. He then removed to Eastman town. Mr. Steiner now owns a farm of eighty acres on section 22, town 8, range 5 west, on which

he resides. In 1869 Mr. Steiner was married to Sophia Long, who was born in 1850, in Germany, and came to Crawford county in 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Steiner have four children—Lewis, Lena, Louisa and Rosa. Mr. Steiner has been director of his school district for sometime.

Cyrus Peck is a native of Wayne Co., Penn., born Oct. 19, 1821. He received a common school education, and in 1847 was married to Martha Rogers, who was born Feb. 7, 1829, in the same county. In 1851, Mr. and Mrs. Peck, in company with her parents, emigrated to Dane Co., Wis., where they remained one winter, each teaching school until the spring of 1852, when they moved to the town of Utica, Crawford county, and purchased 160 acres of land, where he resided until 1877, when he purchased a farm in the town of Haney and moved on it and remained six years, and then came to the town of Eastman, where they now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Peck have four children—Elsie A., Clayton E., Merritt W. and an adopted child, Addie Rogers. Clayton E. married Emerett Lester, and Merritt was united in marriage to Ida Gibbs. In 1862 Mr. Peck enlisted in the 6th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged in 1864, after re-enlisting in the 36th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and was commissioned 1st lieutenant of company H, 36th Wisconsin, which commission he held at the time of discharge. During his service he was through the Potomac campaign. Mr. Peck was elected a member of the first town board of the town of Utica; also town superintendent of Utica, four years, and assessed the town seven successive years.

A. Balrichard is a native of Switzerland, born March 9, 1840. In 1852 he emigrated with his parents to the United States. He settled first at St. Louis, Mo., and the following spring moved to Dubuque, Iowa. After a short residence there he went to Prairie du Chien, and a few months afterwards to Eastman town, where he now owns 240 acres of land on section 21, town 8, range 6 west. Mr. Balrichard was mar-

ried in 1866, to Bertie Rhube. She was born in Germany, in 1850, and came to Crawford county with her parents in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Balrichard have six children—Anna, Emily, Ellen, Albert, Henry and Daniel. Mr. Balrichard enlisted in the service of his adopted country in 1864, being a member of the 43d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

Andrew Beekwar was born in 1826, in Bohemia. In 1854 he emigrated to the United States, settling in Crawford Co., Wis., where he entered eighty acres of land on section 7, town 8, range 5 west, which he afterwards increased to 120 acres. Mr. Beekwar was married in 1849, to Anna Slayback, who was born in 1824. He was a tailor by trade, and was quite a musician, having acquired control of many instruments. He was school clerk of his district for a number of years. Mr. Beekwar died in 1871, leaving a wife and nine children—Anthony, John, Jacob, Anna, Agnes, Mary, Andrew, Elizabeth and Frank.

David Drew, one of the prominent farmers of Eastman town, was born at Fort Snelling, Minn., May 6, 1826, his father being a soldier in the regular army. When two years of age, the soldiers moved from Fort Snelling to Prairie du Chien. He has resided in Crawford county since, with the exception of eight years, when he lived at St. Paul. When twenty years of age, Mr. Drew carried the mail on his back, from Prairie du Chien to Winona, during one winter, and from Winona to St. Paul the following winter, in the same way. In 1850 he married Matilda Martell, born in Canada, in 1827. She came to Prairie du Chien in 1841. Mr. and Mrs. Drew have six children—Philemon, David, Jr., Joseph, Matilda, Alfred and Agnes. In 1855 Mr. Drew purchased 160 acres of land on section 18, town 8, range 6 west, on which he now resides. He has seventy acres under cultivation. Since Mr. Drew's residence in Eastman town, he has been a greater portion of the time school clerk of his district.

Leonard Bonney was born Dec. 5, 1819, in Chautauqua Co., New York. In 1835, he moved to Crawford Co., Penn., remaining until 1856, when he came west, settling in Eastman town, Crawford Co., Wis., where Mrs. Bonney had a brother. Mr. Bonney was married in 1850 to Jane Fisher, born in Crawford Co., Penn., in 1822. She was the widow of Mathias Gear, who died in 1843. Mr. Bonney first entered eighty acres of land on section 1, town 8, range 3 west, but at the time of his death, July 9, 1881, his farm contained 160 acres of land. He was in the war from 1862 until its close, being 1st lieutenant of company K., 31st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was chairman of the county board, four successive years, and justice of the peace for seven years. Mr. Bonney left five children—Emma J., Velma, Hughes, Ella and Fred. Mrs. Bonney had two children by her former husband—James T., and Mary E. Gear. Mrs. Bonney transacted all

the business of the Eastman postoffice for six years, when the office was moved to the now village of Eastman.

Ferdinand Winegar was born in Logansport, Ind., in 1856. When two years of age, his parents moved to Crawford Co., Wis., and settled in Eastman town, where his father immediately commenced the erection of a flouring mill. This mill was swept away by the high water in 1878, when his father immediately built the present mill. It is situated on section 28, town 8, range 5. Ferdinand learned the millwright and miller's trade of his father, at which he has worked since fourteen years of age, and now has exclusive control of the mill. His father operates another mill at Prairie du Chien. Ferdinand was married in 1881, to Anna Hunt, who was born in 1861, in Germany, and emigrated to the United States in 1863.



## CHAPTER XX X.

## TOWN OF FREEMAN.

This town is in the extreme northwestern corner of Crawford county. It is composed of a part of six congressional townships. It is bounded on the north by Vernon county; on the east by the town of Utica; on the south by the town of Seneca; and on the west by the Mississippi river.

The surface of Freeman is very uneven like most of the county; it consists of ridges and valleys, following the general course of the streams, which nearly all run in a southwesterly course, emptying into the Mississippi river.

The productions are similar to those produced throughout the county—grain, corn and vegetables.

The streams are Cooley creek, which heads in Vernon county and flows southwest, intersecting Rush creek on section 32, in town 11, of range 6 west.

Rush creek, one of the largest streams in the town, is formed by two branches; the west branch rises in Vernon county and intersects the east branch, which heads in the town of Freeman, on section 19, in town 11, of range 5 west, and flows southwest, emptying into the Mississippi from section 1, in town 10, of range 7 west.

Sugar creek takes its rise on section 28, in town 11, of range 5 west, flows southwest and enters the Mississippi from section 16, town 10, range 6 west, about three-quarters of a mile below Ferryville.

Buck creek rises on section 7, town 10, range 5 west, and flows southwest entering the Mississippi from section 22, in town 10, of range 6 west.

Copper creek is formed by two branches, the greater of which rises on section 16, town 10, range 5, flows south and intersects the east branch on the southeast corner of section 21, in town 10, of range five west, and flows southwest into the town of Seneca.

There is an abundance of timber within the town of about the same varieties as is found throughout Crawford county—oak, maple and linn.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

At the general election held in 1857 there were thirty-eight votes polled in the town of Freeman, by the following pioneers, whose whereabouts in 1884 are stated in brief: Aaron Cooley, died on his way home from the army; D. O. White, moved to Dakota Territory; Abel Copper, died in Illinois; James Lawrence died in 1883; William E. Heal, dead; Henry Lawrence, dead; E. Naylor, dead; Herman Hulce, dead; Parley Whitney, removed; Andrew Call, removed; A. Absolom, removed; D. Sweep, removed; Elias Torgerson, dead; M. Joslin, removed; D. Sumner, dead; Dr. S. F. Huntington, dead; A. V. Hubbard, dead; L. F. Munsell, removed; A. E. Davis, in Oregon; Joseph Copper, dead; Lewis Eskerstrand, dead; John Johnson, moved to Dakota Territory; Nels Johnson, moved to Dakota Territory; T. C. Ankeny, removed to Tennessee; T. Christopherson, dead; William Hubbard, dead; David Ulery, moved to Oregon; Casper Laugh, dead; Henry Hendrickson, dead. The balance of this pioneer band were residents of the town in 1884: Thomas Lawrence, R. Knudson, William Wy-



bum, Henry Van Amburg, E. T. Bishop, Alexander Young, John Call, D. P. Ames, Robert Mellon, John Rutter, H. T. James, Henry Van Amburg, G. L. Hutson, Martin Laugh.

Two Frenchmen, Michael and Joseph Godfrey, were in fact the first to effect a real settlement in what is now the town of Freeman. They located, in 1845, in what is the village of De Soto, a part of which is in this, and a part in Vernon county. About ten years later they sold the eighty acres they had taken up, to the mill company and in 1857, moved to Prairie du Chien. They had squaws for wives and were engaged in farming and trapping.

In 1851, David Ulery, Mr. Alcorn and Robert Linn settled on Sugar creek, the latter making a claim at what is known as the Shea place. In about two years he sold his claim to Joseph Brightman. When he left this town he started for Pike's Peak. On the way it was found that the Indians were troublesome, and he, with others, volunteered to fight them and was never heard of afterward, and it is supposed he lost his life at the hands of the savage tribes of the plains.

Aaron Cooley settled on the creek which bears his name, in 1852, on section 19, town 11, range 6 west. This farm was afterwards owned by John C. Bean. Mr. Cooley went into the army as a drummer; he was taken sick, procured a furlough and nearly reached home, but died between De Soto and his home, not two miles from his house.

Elias Torgerson settled in 1854, on section 26, town 11, range 6 west.

Ole Rosenwater and Deidrick White settled on section 30, town 11, range 5 west, in 1853. The former lives in the town of Utica and the latter moved to Dakota Territory. These two, with Ole A. Runice, who entered land at the same time, just over the Vernon county line, were the first Norwegian settlers in the town of Freeman.

Martin and Casper Laugh came in 1854 and settled on section 9, town 10, range 6

west. Casper died about 1872. Martin was still living there in 1884.

William Melton and Sanford S. Wightman settled at the mouth of Sugar creek, in 1854.

Thomas Adams settled in the town in 1850; finally moved to the town of Utica.

Nels Oleson came in about the same time, perhaps a year before, and settled on Sugar creek, where he was still living in 1884.

Other settlers of about this date were Amon Christianson, Nels Johnson, Michael Eitser and Herman Hulce.

James P. Finley and Martin Finley came in 1857. The latter moved to Iowa, where he died. Timothy Finley who came about that date was still a resident of the town in 1884.

In 1858, John Walder came to the town and was still a resident in 1884.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

Thomas Carlyle was the first child born in the town of Freeman. This occurred in the fall of 1855. Next was Mary Young, daughter of Alexander and Ann M. Young, born June 30, 1856. She became the wife of R. M. McAuley, of De Soto.

One of the earliest, if not the first marriage in the town, was Christian Homutt to Hannah Eitser, a sister of Henry Eitser, in the fall of 1857. The ceremony was performed by Joseph Copper, a justice of the peace.

The first log house in the town was built by Michael and Joseph Godfrey, two Frenchmen, at De Soto. James Osgood built the first frame house in 1855, at De Soto.

The first school was taught by Mary Coffin (who became the wife of Thomas Lawrence) in the summer of 1856. This school was held in a small log building, built for a hired man of Mr. Lawrence.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Freeman was detached from the town of Utica, by the county board of Crawford county, in September, 1856. The first town meeting was held at the house of T. C. Ankeny, on section 24, in town 11, of range 6

west, April 7, 1857. The following were elected to serve as town officers the ensuing year :

A. B. Hubbard, Henry Seifert and Parley Whitney, supervisors ; A. E. Davis, clerk ; Fayette Munsell, assessor ; James Osgood, Joseph Copper, Henry Van Amberg and David Ulery, justices of the peace ; Edward Naylor, John Austin and George Coffin, constables ; Dr. Samuel F. Huntington, superintendent of schools ; Aaron Cooley, sealer of weights and measures.

Officers of 1883: T. T. Sime, Lewis Christianson, A. J. Runice, supervisors ; Henry Halgerson, treasurer ; J. H. Tower, clerk ; Martin Most, assessor ; William F. McMasters, William Melton, William Davis and J. H. Tower, justices of the peace ; E. M. McMaster, Frank Davis and Ralph Copper, constables.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

Freeman was fully up with her sister towns, in way of school matters, in 1884, at which date the town was made up of seven full school districts and nine joint districts.

District No. 1 had a good frame building, located on section 26, town 11, range 7 west, which is near De Soto. The number of pupils in this district was then forty-seven.

In district No. 2, the school house is situated on sections 27 and 28, town 11, range 6 west. This house was built in 1863, at a cost of \$885. Number of pupils in 1884, sixty-one.

District No. 4 is the next full district. The school house in this district is situated on section 36, in town 11, range 6 west ; it is a frame structure, painted white. This district has sixty-five pupils.

The building in district No. 6 is located on section 8, town 10, range 6 west, and is known as the Ferryville school. This is a frame house, valued at about \$200 ; it was erected in 1859. Number of pupils in 1884, fifty-nine.

District No. 7 is provided with a building erected in 1883, on section 30, town 11, range 5 west. This is a frame house, painted white ;

its cost was \$500. Number of pupils in the district in 1884, fifty-seven.

District No 10 was formed in 1883, and provided with a new house, costing \$500, which is located on section 33, town 11, range 6. The number of pupils here is forty.

The school building in district No. 11, is situated on section 17, town 10, range 6 west. This is a new frame house, costing about \$300. Number of pupils within the district, forty-two.

The following described are joint districts:

Joint No. 5, with the town of Utica, has a building on section 28, town 11, range 5. In 1884 there were forty-four pupils from Freeman, and twenty-two from Utica.

Joint district No. 14 is made up of territory from the towns of both Freeman and Utica. The school building is on section 9, town 10, range 5 west ; it was erected in 1882, at a cost of \$673. Number of pupils belonging in the town of Freeman, seventy-nine.

Joint district No. 3 is comprised of part of the town of Wheatland, in Vernon county, and a part of Freeman. Number of pupils from Freeman in 1884, eight.

Joint district No. 2, with the town of Sterling, in Vernon county, is provided with a good school house, situated in the town of Sterling. Number of pupils from Freeman, eight.

Joint district No. 8 is with the town of Seneca.

Joint district No. 9 is also with town of Seneca, with house in the latter. Number of pupils from Freeman in 1884, fourteen.

Joint district No. 12 is with the town of Sterling, where the building is located. There were twenty-one pupils from Freeman in 1884.

Joint district No. 13 is with the town of Utica. The school house in this district is located at Rising Sun.

DeSoto union village school, belongs in part to the town of Wheatland, Vernon county and in part the town of Freeman. The number of pupils from Freeman in 1884, was thirty three.

Many of the school buildings of this town are new and the class of teachers employed compare well with other towns of Crawford and Vernon counties.

#### RELIGIOUS.

There are but two churches in this town; these are both Norwegian Lutheran. The first services of this denomination in the town were conducted by the Rev. Peter Solberg, at the house of Ole A. Runice, in 1869. This sect erected the first church edifice within the town in 1875, on section 20, in town 11, of range 5 west. The first preacher was Peter Solberg, who preached for this church a number of years. He was succeeded by Rev. F. H. Carlson, who served three years and then came O. A. Oppogaard, who lived in Jackson county, this State. Their church building is a frame one, costing \$600, and is the property of the "Huges Synod."

The other church edifice of the town belongs to the "Conference Synod." This is situated on the southwest quarter of section 25, town 11, range 6. It was built in 1870, at a cost of \$600. The first pastor to serve this church, was the Rev. Mit Boe, who was succeeded by Rev. Nor, who remained till 1883, at the close of which year the church was being supplied from other points.

Each of these two church organizations have about twenty-five families in their connection.

#### CEMETERY.

At this date (1884) there is but one regularly laid out cemetery in the town of Freeman. This is located on section 26, town 11, range 7 on the farm of J. W. Lawrence. This is a very pleasantly situated ground and kept in good condition.

Another place sometimes used for burial purposes is situated on section 28, on lands donated by John Rutter. Another small burying ground is found on section 15, town 10, range 6. The Lutheran organization also have a bury-

ing ground near their church building, on section 25, in township 11, of range 6, west.

#### POSTOFFICES.

The people of Freeman are accommodated by the use of three postoffices—Freeman, Ferryville and DeSoto. Freeman was established in 1867, on section 27. John H. Tower was the first postmaster appointed, and was still holding the office in 1884. Mail is received twice each week, over the Ferryville and De Soto route.

Ferryville postoffice was established in 1867, on section 16, town 10, range 6 west. S. S. Wightman was the first postmaster; he was succeeded by T. C. Ankeny, who was succeeded by Joseph Copper, and he in turn by Louis Helgerson. Then came W. F. McMasters, who was followed by W. J. Lankford.

#### MILLS.

There are two grist mills in the town of Freeman—Glenn Mills, and Diamond Mills. The former is owned by J. H. Tower & Son. It is situated on section 27, and was erected in 1858, by Valentine & Twiford, who operated it till 1864, and then sold to William Millins, of Pennsylvania, who employed A. Hoevert to run it. In 1884 it was the property of J. H. Tower & Son. It is a water mill, provided with two run of stone, doing a good custom business. This mill has a fall of sixteen and a half feet.

Diamond Mill is located on section 29, town 11, range 6 west, on Cooley creek. It was built by Rose & Mulkins, in 1874. In 1884 it was owned and run by W. G. Conklin, who has had thirty-five years of experience as a miller. The mill is run by water, having a head of thirty feet. It is a frame building, and has three run of buhrs.

At this date [1884] there is no saw mill in the town. The first one erected, was the property of T. C. Ankeny, built in the spring of 1856, on Rush Creek, section 24, town 11, range 6 west. After being operated for a number years it was abandoned.

The second saw mill was built by John Ruter, in 1857, and was run by him for many years.

Another saw mill was built on Rush creek, in 1859, by Valentine & Twiford, who also built the Glenn flouring mills. This saw mill was washed away by the floods in 1865.

J. H. Jewell built a saw mill on Sugar creek, in 1868, which was run for a few years, but was finally abandoned.

#### DE SOTO VILLAGE.

De Soto was first known as Winneshiek's Landing, from the chief by that name, who came here to trade his furs for supplies with the French traders at this point. Two French families by the name of Godfrey, located here not long after the close of the Black Hawk War. They were induced to come through efforts put forth by Col. Dousman, of Prairie du Chien. This was occupied as a trading post for about twenty years. Moses M. Strong made the original entry of the plat of the village.

Dr. Euclid B. Houghton purchased it of Mr. Strong. Dr. Simeon D. Powers, Dr. Houghton and Dr. James Osgood laid out the village in 1854. These gentlemen came hither from Port Washington. Dr. Osgood built the first house on the village plat, which was occupied in 1884 by Charles Lyttle as a residence. Dr. Houghton opened the first store.

The first building of any importance was erected by Carlyle, Dowse & Co. The lumber with which this house was built came from Black river falls, the nearest available point for obtaining lumber at that time.

The first blacksmith in the village was William N. West, who afterward moved to Minnesota.

The first cooper shop was operated by Ambrose De Lap.

The first shoemaker was Henry Fosdick. In the fall of 1855 Mr. Adam Carlyle purchased for Mr. Fosdick a side of sole leather and other stock for his shop of Ulysses S. Grant, of Galena, Ill.

The first saw mill was built in the fall of 1855 by A. B. Clapp and George Meade. This mill and all others at this point were operated by steam power. It was destroyed by fire in 1864. N. S. Cate & Co., built a saw mill in 1857. This firm was composed of Messrs. N. S. Cate, H. M. Chamberlain and Emery Houghton, who came from the State of Maine. They operated the mill until 1862, and did an extensive business, employing sometimes as high as fifty men. The mill cut upon an average 50,000 feet of lumber per day, besides shingles, lath, etc. This company also built a grist mill adjoining the saw mill, which was propelled by steam power. In 1862 these mills went into the hands of H. M. Chamberlain & Co., who in 1864 sold to John C. Davis. The stock was closed out and the mill lay idle for several years. This failure was caused in part by the failure of the New England Glass Co., of which Mr. Houghton was the financial manager. On the completion of this mill, when they had a three months' supply of logs on hand, the stock of this concern amounted to \$100,000.

A shingle mill was built by C. M. and A. R. Worth, about 1865. They also sawed some lumber. After running this about four years it was converted into a grist mill and the Worth Brothers then occupied the Cate & Co's mill for about five years, during which time they manufactured large amounts of lath, shingles and lumber. In 1884 this mill was used for cutting staves and heading.

An establishment for the manufacture and cutting of files was started by A. Miller, who run it for a year or so and enlisted in the army to "suppress the rebellion," which had then just commenced. He was killed in the battle of Gettysburg.

In 1857 Capt. William Plummer & Co. engaged in the manufacture of lime and connected with their business the manufacture of hard wood barrels. They did an extensive business, although it was continued only about a year.

The De Soto brewery is owned by Charles E. Reiter, who purchased it of George Eckhardt in 1882. Mr. Reiter makes about 400 barrels of beer per annum. The building was erected by Cate & Co. in 1858 and used by them as a store. George Eckhart first utilized it for brewing purposes.

The first school in the village was taught by Mrs. Catharine P. Stevens in the winter of 1855-6. This was a private school. The first school house proper was built in the summer of 1856, in which James McDill taught the first school the winter following. This house was in use as a residence in 1884, a new school house having been built in 1872. This building was a frame structure, two stories high. The cost of this house was \$3,500, and, excepting the one at Viroqua, was the best in Vernon county.

The first physician in De Soto was Dr. G. S. Sperry, who came from St. Paul in the summer of 1856. He was an excellent physician. He died in 1873.

Other physicians were Dr. G. W. Brooks and Dr. Worth. The physician in 1884 was Dr. Orlando Ewers. Others who have borne the title of doctor, though not educated physicians, were Dr. E. B. Houghton, the original proprietor of the village, who moved from this place to La Crosse, and later to St. Louis, where he died in 1862. Dr. James Osgood came in 1854 and assisted in laying out the village and finally became the owner of one-fourth of the town plat, and died in 1863. Dr. Simeon Powers, a dentist, was also owner of another fourth interest in the town site of De Soto. He afterwards removed to Sparta, where he was at the time of his death. Capt. C. B. Worth came in 1854 and remained till his death in 1875. He was also owner of a fourth interest in the village plat. His son Addison made the first lumber wagon in De Soto.

The first lawyer who practiced at this point was Addison A. Hosmer, a graduate of the Harvard law school at Cambridge, Mass. He came in 1857 and returned to that State in 1860.

From there he went into the army, and before the war closed became quite distinguished. After the close of the war he was made judge advocate, and it was he who passed sentence on the notorious Wirz, of Andersonville infamy.

Tolbert C. Ankney came here as an attorney in 1865, though he had been here previous to the war. He was associated with George McDill, who was also an attorney here at that time.

H. W. McAnley began the practice of law in 1866, continuing for a number of years.

The present attorney is George L. Miller.

The first hotel in this village was known as the Winneshiek House. It was a log house and among the first built in the place. The Bay State House was erected in 1856, by Seth Crowell and Jonathan F. Porter, who ran it for several years. Other parties who have from time to time operated this house, are: C. H. Allen, Thomas Lawrence, who had charge of the house in 1862-63, and was succeeded by Benjamin Trott; who improved the premises and who operated it till his death, in December, 1879. In 1884 it was owned and conducted by his widow, Mrs. Hannah Trott. This hotel was, without doubt, the finest in the village in 1884. It was a three story frame building, 32x45 feet, and finished in good style. The first cost was \$7,000.

Mrs. Hannah Trott, proprietress of the Bay State House, De Soto, is the widow of Benjamin Trott who came to De Soto in 1859. He was born in Shuncook in the British Province, in 1816. He was brought up in the State of Maine. He came here in the milling interests of Cate & Co., and had charge of the manufacturing of shingles in the mill of this company. In February, 1864, he rented the Bay State House, which he conducted for several years, then purchased it, and continued in charge of the same, till his death, which occurred Dec. 15, 1879. He was a man highly respected in the community in which he lived, as an upright, honorable citizen. His wife still owns and conducts the

hotel. Her maiden name was Hannah Bean. She was born in Perry, Washington Co., Maine. She has two children—Barbara, wife of Mr. Steele, of Viroqua, and Rebecca, wife of Robert Rice.

The next hotel was the De Soto House, built soon after the Bay State House was erected. It was built by Kurtz & Hale for a hotel and boarding house, but finally was used for a carriage and wagon shop.

The second hotel, called the De Soto, was formerly a store building and was changed to a hotel, by Edward Sweeney. This house, in 1884, was being operated by Mrs. Ann M. Miller.

The postoffice at De Soto, was established in 1855. Dr. S. D. Powers was the first postmaster, and Adam Carlyle acted as his deputy. The next to hold the office was Dr. Osgood, with J. C. Kurtz as his deputy. Dr. Osgood was succeeded by C. B. Whiting, whose deputy was Fred Carr. In 1884 the postmaster was J. H. Rogers, who was appointed in 1865. This became a money order office in July, 1878. The first order was issued to J. H. Hinds, for \$38.32. The first order paid, was to Mrs. John Babcock, and was dated July 22, 1878.

The business interests of De Soto, in 1884, were in the hands of the following:

C. Lyttle & Co., general merchants, also dealers in lumber and grain.

Fred Eckhart & Co., grain dealers.

J. A. Cooper, manufacturer of wagons and carriages, also dealer in farm machinery.

Charles L. Woodbury, general merchandise, and farming implements.

Adam Carlyle, agent for the Diamond Jo steamboat line.

C. Lyttle, agent for the North Western line of steamers.

J. H. Rodgers, general merchandising and drugs.

Charles H. Upham, general store, also hardware and farm machinery.

D. A. Steele, furniture.

Charles McDowell, blacksmith shop.

J. F. Allen, wagon maker.

Mrs. A. H. Wareham, millinery and furnishing goods.

Miss M. L. Porter, dress-maker.

C. L. Ingersoll, flour and feed.

Louis Stinseng, boots and shoes.

Patrick De Lacy, boots and shoes.

John Devlin, meat market.

Fred Schmidt, drugs.

Mrs. J. A. Cooper, millinery and dress-maker.

Mrs. H. Carpenter, dress-maker.

N. E. French, grocery and restaurant.

Orville D. Pulver, restaurant.

Charles E. Reiter, brewer, and owner of the Lansing and De Soto ferry.

Mrs. Hannah Trott, owner and proprietor of the Bay State Hotel.

Mrs. A. N. Miller, owner and proprietor of the De Soto House.

William Waldron, fish dealer.

W. F. McMastress, fish dealer.

H. E. McMasters, cooper.

C. L. Mueller, stave and heading factory.

O. Ewers, physician.

G. L. Miller, attorney.

James H. Rogers, postmaster.

D. Abbott Steele came to De Soto, Oct. 5, 1855, in company with his brother, Alvah Steele, who remained about three years, and returned to New Hampshire. D. Abbott Steele was born in Georgia, where his parents, who were natives of New Hampshire, were then living. He has been variously engaged since coming to De Soto; in 1884, he was engaged in the furniture business.

John W. White came in the spring of 1855, and located just northeast of the village, where he still lived in 1884.

Edmund Houghton came to De Soto, April 1, 1855. He is now the earliest present resident on the village town plat. He was born in Harvard, Mass., in 1808. Served an apprenticeship in New Hampshire, to the trade of a

machinist; and came here from that State. A friend of Mr. Houghton's, R. P. Waite, came with him, but returned to New Hampshire. Mr. Houghton made a location on section 10, town 11, range 7 west, where he made a claim which he still owns, but he has always made his home in the village. His wife was Nancy Bryant, a native of New Hampshire. They have one daughter—Ellen, the wife of Woodbridge Dyre.

Other early settlers of the town were: Samuel Pike, who came from Massachusetts in 1855 and remained until 1873, when he removed to Iowa. He was a painter by trade; C. B. Stevens, who was a tinner, came into the village of De Soto, in the spring of 1855, and continued to live there until 1882, when he moved to Dakota. Also, Dennis Powers, Sidney R. Gage, Hugh McDill, R. F. Lemmen, A. McDowell and Anthony Valle, a Frenchman, who enlisted in the United States army, and died at Andersonville prison.

The first meeting of the Congregational society in this locality was held Feb. 15, 1856. The society was organized at this meeting. The minister present was the Rev. L. L. Radcliffe, of La Crosse district convention. Among the number who joined the society at this time were: Charles Houghton and wife, Fannie Houghton, Mrs. Mary E. Roach, Mrs. Abbie W. Tobey (the last two were daughters of Mr. Houghton), Daniel D. Fuller and wife, Mery P. Fuller, Alexander Young and wife, Wilton E. Roach and J. F. Tobey. The first pastor was Rev. L. L. Radcliffe; the first officers were Charles Houghton, deacon, and Daniel Fuller, clerk. Rev. L. L. Radcliffe was succeeded by Rev. Alexander Parker, in 1863, and he by Rev. Peter Valentine, in 1865. The next pastor in charge was Rev. L. Bridgeman, who came in 1868 and remained till his successor, Rev. James Mitchell, came in 1871; the Rev. S. H. Thompson came in 1874, and was succeeded by Rev. William Houghton, in 1879; Rev. Charles

Vaile was pastor in 1881; then came Rev. William Houghton to his second pastorate.

A church building was erected in 1859; it was built in the Gothic style of architecture, and cost the society about \$1,800. The society has been supported by a good Sunday school since the time of its organization in 1859. D. Abbott Steele, who was elected superintendent of this school in 1862, was still its superintendent in 1884, having served continuously for twenty-one years. This school averages about thirty-five pupils.

The first services of the M. E. Church were held in a building built of railroad ties for a wagon and blacksmith shop, in the year 1855.

The first class was formed by Rev. T. C. Clendenning in the year 1858. The members, as near as can be ascertained, were as follows: James Lawrence and Mary, his wife; William Hemmingway and wife, and his son, George, and daughter, Mary Hemmingway, and William Wyburn.

The first minister of the M. E. Church who preached in De Soto was Rev. John Whitworth, now of Viroqua.

The M. E. Church was built in the year 1859, and removed out in the country in the year 1875, being now known as the Central Church.

The pastors of the M. E. Church in De Soto circuit have been as follows: Revs. John Whitworth, T. C. Clendenning, Mr. Lane, Mr. Smith, S. D. Bassenger, J. E. Irish, W. P. Hill, C. Bushby, Thomas Manual, H. J. Walker, D. L. Hubbard, D. Clingman, H. D. Jencks, W. W. Hurd and the present pastor, Rev. I. F. Nuzum.

The De Soto Baptist Church was organized at the house of Dr. James Osgood, Jan. 11, 1855, with a constituency of sixteen members, who adopted as theirs the New Hampshire articles of faith and covenant. The Church was duly recognized by council on the 9th of the following February. A. B. Hubbard, a member of the Church, served as its pastor with acceptance for six months, after which Rev. D. Mulhern became pastor. For a while the

Church gained in membership, both by baptism and letter. In 1857 serious trouble arose which resulted in the exclusion of quite a number of members. The aggrieved, with others, holding letters from other Baptist Churches, called for a council, which was attended by delegates from the La Crosse and Winona, Minn., Churches. Although the Church was represented in the council, it refused to comply with the recommendation to reconsider its action. The council further recommended that, should the Church refuse to reconsider its action, a new Church should be formed. This was done soon after by the union of about twenty members. The new Church was admitted to the La Crosse Valley Baptist Association at its next annual meeting. Rev. D. Mulhern served as its pastor, and a few were added by baptism. Through removals its membership was reduced and its meetings discontinued, and were never revived. The first Church held occasional meetings at De Soto. In March, 1861, its place of meeting was changed to Brush Creek. Here it was prospered, at one time numbering thirty-one members. Removals and change of residence led the Church in 1868 to again make De Soto its place of meeting. Concessions were made which resulted in those living in the neighborhood, members of the second Church, uniting with the old Church. The following year Rev. S. E. Sweet became pastor and was ordained. He preached here and at other points, one of which was Harmony, where a Baptist Church was organized the following January. Rev. Sweet served the two Churches one year, when, in order to pursue further study, he went to Beaver Dam, Wis. In 1872 Rev. William Haughton became pastor, serving the Harmony Church also. He remained about eighteen months. From this time regular monthly meetings were held, with occasional preaching, till February, 1875, when Rev. N. L. Sweet became pastor. Quite a number were added to the Church by baptism. Rev. Sweet's pastorate continued four years. Since his

resignation the Church has been declining. Although twenty-eight names are reported now, but very few are active members.

#### SOCIETIES.

Ancient Order United Workman Lodge, of De Soto, was organized June 10, 1878. The charter members were: James Lyttle, Fred Schmidt, William Davis, Philip B. Peters, George Eckhardt, B. D. Jenks, D. A. Steele. Fred A. Schlottman, Jacob Eckhardt and Woodbridge Dyre. The first officers were: James Lyttle, P. M. W; Jacob Eckhardt, M. W; P. B. Peters, foreman; B. D. Jenks, recorder; D. A. Steele, financier; W. Dyre, receiver; George Eckhardt, guide; F. A. Schlottman, overseer; F. Schmidt, I. W; William Davis, O. W; P. B. Peters, George Eckhardt, and James Lyttle, trustees. In 1884 this lodge had a working membership of thirty-two, and was in a flourishing condition. In 1884 there was both a lodge of the Odd Fellows and Good Templars at De Soto, each in a flourishing condition.

#### DISASTROUS FIRES.

The steam mill of Whiting & Carr was burned in July, 1865, involving a loss of over \$20,000. In March, 1879, occurred the worst conflagration that ever visited the place. The cause of this fire has always remained a mystery. It originated in the general store of L. C. Larson. Eight buildings were consumed. Mr. Ingersoll sustained the greatest loss, which included two buildings occupied as a wagon and blacksmith shop, together with a fine stock of general merchandise. His total loss was about \$10,000. Among those who sustained quite heavy losses were: L. C. Larson, John L. O'Kre, J. F. Allen, Fred Schmidt and John Delvin. This fire was a serious blow to De Soto, from which it never fully recovered.

#### THE OLDEST SHOEMAKER IN AMERICA.

In 1884 the village of De Soto boasted of a resident, who came to the place at an early date, and who by careful investigation was found to have been actively engaged more years, at the shoe bench, than any other man in



the country. This gentleman's name is Patrick De Lacy, who has been constantly engaged at the bench since twelve years of age, or a period of seventy-one years. And strange to say, after these long years of stooped shouldered work, he is as erect as most young men of to-day.

#### VILLAGE OF FERRYVILLE.

The village of Ferryville is the only one platted within the town limits of Freeman, except a part of De Soto. Ferryville is located on section 16, in town 10, of range 6 west, on the Mississippi river. It was platted about 1858, by T. W. Tower and William McAuley and an addition made in 1867, by Watts & Dayton.

It was called Ferryville, as the proprietor intended to establish a ferry between that point and Lansing, Iowa. The charter for such a ferry line was obtained but for some reason it was never established.

Lewis Helgerson kept the first store in the place. Other merchants who located here were W. R. Hopkins and William J. Lankford; the last named was the last to sell goods in the village.

Charles Huffsmidt, of Prairie du Chien and a Norwegian firm, bought grain for a time, here. The place existed for about six years and then went into decay and to-day the passer-by can see no evidences of a village having been there.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Thomas Lawrence, although a resident of Freeman, Crawford Co., Wis., was with his father, an early resident of Vernon county, owning a farm near Liberty Pole, which was first occupied by John McCulloch, the first settler of Vernon county. His father, James Lawrence, located at Liberty Pole, July 5, 1851, and settled on the farm now owned by William Clawater. James Lawrence was born in Monmouthshire, England, in 1809. He emigrated to the United States in 1851, making his first settlement at Liberty Pole, where he remained until the spring of 1854, then removed with his family to the town of Freeman, Crawford county,

being the first settler in the neighborhood, and where he resided until his death, Aug. 23, 1883. In 1832 he was married to Mary Williams, who still survives him. Father Lawrence, as he was called, was a member of the Bible Christian Church in England. When he came to the United States he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church and remained a firm believer until his death, being a member of these churches for over fifty-five years. He was an earnest and sincere Christian and his memory will long be cherished and his name remains a prominent one in the pioneer history of Crawford and Vernon counties. His surviving children are Thomas, Mary, wife of Nathan Coe, of Viroqua, Vernon Co., Wis.; Julia, wife of L. J. Miller, of Wheatland town, Vernon county; James W., Mathew E. and Jane E. Thomas, the eldest child, was born in England, in 1834. He resides in Freeman, Wis., at present, but was for several years a resident of De Soto. He kept the Bay State House in 1862-3, and a meat market from 1874 until 1877. His wife was Mary Coffin, a daughter of Peleg Coffin. She was a native of Massachusetts. They have three children—Ellen J., William and Alice Z. They lost their eldest daughter.

Dorsey P. Ames, came from Ohio, in the fall of 1854, with John Rutter, Samuel and Amon E. Davis. Samuel Davis made a location near the village of Viroqua, Vernon county, but the other two, and our subject settled in town 11 north, of range 6 west. Mr. Ames selected his new home on section 27, where he entered 280 acres of government land, which he still owns with the exception of ten acres. He was born in Guernsey Co., Ohio, in 1820. When about nine of age, his parents removed to Morgan county, in the same state, where he was reared. He married Rachel Davis, a daughter of Samuel Davis, who died at Viroqua, in 1871; her mother died in Ohio, in 1844; her father married the second time. Mr. and Mrs. Ames have eight children—Margaret, Samuel, Clarence M., Sarah Ann, Absalom, Mary S., Rachel

and Hannah E. The three oldest were born in Ohio; the remainder in this town. Mr. Ames' parents, Absalom and Margaret Ames, were natives of Washington Co., Penn. They came to Crawford county in 1859, and lived there till their deaths, which occurred at an advanced age.

John Rutter resides on section 28, where he settled in 1855. He came with his family, however, in the fall of 1854, in company with Dorsey P. Ames, Samuel and Amon E. Davis, and located at that time. His farm now consists of 320 acres, and Mr. Rutter is one of Crawford county's most honored pioneers. He was born in Green Co., Penn., March 14, 1812. When seventeen years of age, he accompanied his father, Ebenezer Rutter, to Ohio. The following year (1830), the father settled in Athens county, where he lived till his death. John remained in that county until the date of his removal to Crawford county. He married Mary Ann Bell, a native of Washington Co., Ohio, born in 1813. She died July 29, 1883. Fourteen children were born to them—eight sons, and six daughters, five sons and two daughters are still living. Thomas C., Elizabeth, wife of Thomas De Lacy; Maria, wife of Cornelius C. Tower; James R., George W., William H., and French E. The latter is the only native of Crawford county. George W., who occupies the homestead farm with his father, was born in Athens Co., Ohio, in 1847. He was married July 11, 1837, in Athens Co., Ohio, to Harriet, daughter of Jesse Davis, an early settler of Vernon Co., Wis. They are the parents of four children—Minnie M., Pearl E., John R., and Martin E.

Joseph E. McCrillis is one of the early settlers of Crawford county. His present location is on section 29, town 11, range 6 west, where he settled in 1874. This farm he exchanged the previous year with Eric Johnson, of the town of Utica. Mr. McCrillis settled in the town of Utica in the fall of 1855, where he entered eighty acres of land, which now forms part of the farm of Thomas Adams, of that town. Mr. McCrillis was born in the town of

Topsham, Orange Co., Vt., in 1808. In 1831 he went to Massachusetts, where he worked at the trade of a shoe-maker. He removed to Providence, R. I., in 1857, and in the fall of 1838, went to Taunton, Mass. During this period he was engaged in shoe-making and peddling. From Massachusetts he removed to Vermont. In 1855 he came to Rock Co., Wis., and in October of the same year came to Crawford county, and entered land as before stated. He was married in Massachusetts in 1832, to Abigail Rist, who died in August, 1835. His second and present wife was Elmira Swift, to whom he was married in Providence, R. I., in 1837. She was born in Corinth, Vt., Jan. 6, 1809. Mr. McCrillis had one son by his first wife—Joseph, who was killed near Mt. Sterling, Sept. 7, 1880. He has five children by his present wife, three sons and two daughters—John H., who resides in Vernon Co., Wis.; Sally A., wife of Elisha Moore; Robert E., a resident of Hampton, Iowa; Hannah E., wife of H. H. Whaley; Isabella D., wife of J. M. Dennis, of Hot Springs, Dakota. Neither of the children were born in this State. Mr. McCrillis' farm contains 240 acres.

Alexander Young resides on section 36, town 11, range 7 west, which he entered in 1856. Mr. Young was born in County Derry, in the north of Ireland, in 1818. He emigrated to Massachusetts with his family in 1847. In 1855 he came to De Soto, and settled on his present farm the following year. His wife was Anna M. McMillan, also a native of County Derry. They have five children—Jane, widow of William McDonald, of this town; Mary, wife of Richard McAuley; Margaret, wife of Arthur James; Martha R. and Sarah, unmarried. They lost three children by death—John, Alexander and Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Young were among the hardy pioneers of Crawford county who have made for themselves a pleasant home in this now beautiful region, which, but a few years since, was in a state of wilderness. Their recollection of the early times,

when they and a few others located here, and shared each others trials and sufferings, will ever be remembered by them; nor are they ungrateful for the many blessings which have been bestowed upon them. They have a pleasant home and are passing their declining years in peace and plenty. Mr. and Mrs. Young have been for many years members of the Congregational Church, at De Soto.

Elind T. Bishop entered a piece of land on section 23, town 11 north, of range 6 west, in the fall of 1855, which farm now comprises 140 acres, with excellent improvements. He was born in Berkshire Co., Mass., Dec. 15, 1808. His father, Bohan Bishop, was a native of Stockbridge, in the same county. His maternal grandfather was a brother of the grandfather of the eminent showman, P. T. Barnum. Mr. Bishop resided in his native county until he was seventeen years of age. He then engaged in the manufacture of combs, which he continued until the spring of 1855. At that time he went to Grant Co., Wis., and a year and half later came to the town of Freeman. He has been quite successful in growing an excellent apple, both for quantity and quality. He planted the seed while a resident of Grant county, and removed and transplanted the young trees in his present orchard. Mr. Bishop married Eliza Higgins, who died in October, 1874. Four children are living—Jared, Virginia, wife of Jerry Burger, now living in Dakota Territory; Annis, wife of J. B. McClurg, now living in Vernon Co., Wis., and Clarence C. The latter was born in Massachusetts, in 1848, and married Rosa Jordon, whose father was an early settler in the town of Sterling, Vernon county. They reside on the old homestead, and have three children—Clinton R., Grace and Charles. Mr. Bishop is a member of the Congregational Church at Retreat.

Henry Helgerson resides on section 21, town 10, range 5 west, where he settled in 1860. He purchased his farm of Emanuel George, but the land was entered by A. C. B. Vaughn, now of Mt. Sterling. Mr. Helgerson has, however,

been a resident of the town of Freeman since 1857. He is the son of Helger Helgerson, a native of Norway, and came to the United States in 1856, and the same year to the town of Sterling, from Dane Co., Wis. In 1857, he entered land on section 29, town 11, range 5 west. He is now a resident of the town of Utica. Henry Helgerson was born in Norway, Feb. 17, 1832. He came to the United States in 1857, the year following his father's emigration to this country. He lived two and a half years with his father, and then settled where he now lives. His farm contains 160 acres. His wife was Betsey Olson. They have ten children—four boys and six girls. Mr. Helgerson is one of the prominent citizens of the town of Freeman; is a successful farmer and an intelligent gentleman. He is now (1884) serving his eighth term as treasurer of his town. He has also assessed the town several times.

Henry T. James has been a resident of Freeman town since 1856. He resides on section 23, town 11 north, of range 6 west, where he owns a farm of 160 acres. Mr. James was born at Bristol, R. I., in 1812. When a child, his parents, Samuel and Phebe (Kempton) James, removed to New Bedford, Mass., where both died. Henry T. there learned the painter's trade, and subsequently drifted out to Kansas. In September, 1855, he went to De Soto, Vernon Co., Wis. In 1856, he entered eighty acres of government land. In 1862 he purchased eighty acres of his present farm of Charles Crawshaw, who entered it from the government. Mr. James was married in Massachusetts to Phebe A. Akin, born in Dartmouth, Mass., in 1815, and a daughter of Abram and Rebecca (Eldridge) Akin, also natives of the "Bay State." Eight children have blessed this union, five living—Edward, Ethelbert, now residing in Wisconsin; Henry T., a sailor; Adelaide, who lives in Iowa; Arthur A., who resides on the homestead; Albert F. and Arthur A. (twins), and a daughter, Emeletta, are deceased.

Henry Eitsert resides on section 9, town 10, range 5, west, where he settled in 1860, purchasing his farm of Herman Hulce, who entered the land June 25, 1855. He is the son of Michael Eitsert, who was born in Saxony, Oct. 6, 1794; came to the United States with his family in 1844, first to New Orleans; thence to St. Louis; thence to Belleville, Ill., where he resided for a period of seven years; thence to Freeport, Ill., removing to Prairie du Chien in April, 1855. In October of that year he entered a farm in the town of Freeman, section 15, town 10, range 5 west. He resided here till April, 1866, when he returned to Prairie du Chien, and died Feb. 8, 1879. He was twice married; his first wife died in Illinois, his second is still living in this county. Henry Eitsert was born in Prussia, in 1835. He came to this country with his father, with whom he also came to Prairie du Chien in 1855. In 1857, he purchased a farm on Sugar creek, in this town, where he resided till he settled where he now lives. He married Marion C., daughter of Herman Hulce, the latter of whom was born in Delaware Co., N. Y., in 1811. He removed to Platteville, Grant Co., Wis., July 4, 1854. His wife was Mary J. Thompson, a native of Scotland. As previously stated, he entered the farm which Mr. Eitsert owns in 1855. He died here Nov. 6, 1872. His wife died May 11, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Eitsert have three children; all natives of this town—Mary C., born in 1862; Francis Henry, born in 1866; Albert N., born in 1871. They have lost four children; their first born died Nov. 15, 1861; their third child died Sept. 18, 1864; their fifth child, born May 30, 1868, died Dec. 2, 1870; another child was born April 9, and died May 20, of the same year. Mr. Eitsert's farm contains 320 acres. He is one of the most successful farmers in the town of Freeman.

Tosten T. Sime, chairman of the town board of Freeman for 1883, is the son of Andrew Sime, who settled on the farm which Tosten now owns, on section 16, town 10, range 5 west,

in 1861, purchasing the farm of J. H. Jewell. Andrew Sime was a native of Norway, born in 1830; came to the United States at the age of twenty-seven years, and died here in the fall of 1864. He came to Crawford from Dane Co., Wis. His wife, also a native of Norway, resides at the homestead with her son. Tosten L. Sime was born in Norway in 1855, and came to this county with his parents. The family contained five children of whom Tosten T. was the eldest. He was elected a member of the town board for 1882, and owing to the serious illness of the chairman for that year, was appointed to that position and at the following election was elected chairman for 1883. Mr. Sime is a young man of ability and intelligence. He made a competent executive officer, and possesses the confidence and respect of all.

Veraus E. Akin resides on section 23, town 11 north of range 6 west, where he settled in 1861. He was born in Dartmouth, Mass., in 1821, and when seventeen years of age went to sea, and followed a sailors life for twenty-three years. He was first engaged in the whaling trade, but sailed for many years in a merchantman. He made three trips around the world, twice sailing eastward and once westward. In 1859, he entered a tract of land in the town of Freeman, and two years later severed his connection with his vessel, and settled down to a farmer's life. He subsequently purchased an "eighty" of Lewis Ehrle, and his entire farm now comprises 122 acres. During the late war, he enlisted in September, 1864, in the 42d Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served till the rebellion was crushed. Mr. Aikin has been thrice married. His first wife was Marinda Bourne, to whom he was married in 1849. She died in 1856, leaving one daughter, Fannie, now the wife of William Bates, of Kansas. His second wife was Juliette Defield. They were married in 1861, and Mrs. Akin departed this life in 1881. His third and present wife was Maggie Seymour, a native of New York, to whom he was united in 1882.

Peter Bartholomew, proprietor of a livery stable at De Soto, is a native of Ohio, born in 1837. In 1848 he moved with his parents to Highland, Iowa Co., Wis. In 1861 he came to De Soto, Vernon county. In 1862 he enlisted in the 25th Wisconsin Infantry, and served three years, after which he returned to De Soto, where he has since resided.

Ralph Copper has been a resident of Crawford county since 1859 (when he located in Utica town), and a citizen of the town of Freeman since 1862. His farm is located on section 31, town 11, north of range 5 west, and was first entered by a man named Sweeny, father-in-law of Henry Sifrit, both of whom were early settlers of Freeman town. Mr. Copper's brother, Charles, came several years later, resided here for a time, then removed to Des Moines, Iowa, where he died. His two cousins, Joseph and Abel Copper, were well known early settlers of Freeman town. Another cousin, George Copper, came with our subject, and settled at Ferryville, where he lived till his decease. Ralph Copper was born in 1814, in Beaver Co., Penn., where his mother died shortly after. He removed with his father, Ralph Copper, Sr., to Licking Co., Ohio, where the father resided till his death. Mr. Copper then went to Van Wert Co., Ohio, and from thence to Crawford county in 1856. He entered a tract of government land in the town of Utica, where he resided until his removal to the town of Freeman. He married Mary Ann Williams, a native of Crawford Co., Penn., born in 1821. She is the only one of her father's family, that became a resident of this county. Nine children have been given to these parents, seven living—Diana, wife of D. N. Ames; Oscar B.; Mandane, wife of John Valentine, a resident of Wadena Co., Minn.; Anna, wife of E. G. Lees; Emma, wife of Lysander Rounds; Alice and Ralph W. The deceased children are Marcus T. C., who was a member of company D., 31st regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and died at Murfreesboro; and Mary, wife

of H. H. Lewis. Mr. Copper is a gentleman of genial tastes, and his hospitality is noted far and wide. He has served many years in different official positions; was justice of the peace, in the towns of Utica and Freeman, for fifteen years; town clerk of Freeman for two years; chairman of town board, and member of county board of supervisors three years, and for the past six years has been deputy sheriff of Crawford county.

Mrs. Jane McDonald resides on section 24, near De Soto. She purchased the farm of 160 acres on which she resides, of George Coffin. It was entered by his father, Peleg Coffin. Mrs. McDonald is the widow of William McDonald, and a daughter of Alexander Young, of this town. Mr. McDonald was a native of the north of Ireland, where he was born in 1833. He followed the sea as a sailor, from his boyhood till 1862, when he located in Wisconsin. He came to De Soto the same year, and afterward settled on a farm in the town of Genoa, Vernon county, where he resided till his decease, which occurred Oct. 18, 1881. Mrs. McDonald was born in the north of Ireland, Dec. 31, 1845. She has six children—Jane, Willie, Maggie, Alexander, John and Mary. She also lost two children. Mrs. McDonald's farm, which she purchased for a homestead since the death of her husband, contains 160 acres. It is a valuable farm, with good improvements.

John H. Tower is a representative citizen of one of the best known families in the northern part of Crawford county. His father, John H. Tower, Sr., was born in the town of Hingham, Mass., in 1793; his ancestors were of English nativity, and among the earlier settlers of New England. John H. early learned the trade of a shoemaker, in the meantime acquiring a good English education. When twenty years of age, he went to Albany, N. Y., and for three years was employed as a school teacher in the near vicinity of that city. During the War of 1812, he volunteered his services in the Plattsburgh expedition, but before he reached

the field the battle had been fought, and he returned to his school. The district authorities on school matters were not in sympathy with the American cause and refused him further employment. In consequence of this unforeseen circumstance, he returned to Massachusetts, and at North Brookfield resumed work at his trade. He there married Phebe Poland, an aunt of the eminent Judge Luke Poland, of Vermont, and subsequently removed to Underhill, Chittenden Co., Vt., where he was engaged in the mercantile pursuits until the fall of 1853. The year previous, one of his sons, J. P., had gone out to Wisconsin, and laid claim to a tract of land in what is now Utica, Crawford county. He settled on this land, and in 1853 was joined by his father and brothers, John H. and Thomas, and their families. John H. Sr., entered land in 1854, and with the assistance of his two sons, John H. and Thomas, laid out and platted the village of Towerville. This was in the spring of 1855. Previous to this, they had erected a grist mill, on what was then the most modern plan, and it was started Dec. 15, 1854. John H. Sr., died in April, 1856, and his loving and faithful wife departed this life at Towerville, in 1860.

John H. Tower, Jr., was born at Underhill, Vt., in March, 1819. He was reared in the mercantile trade, and his present success is due in a great measure to the valuable business training he received in his father's store. He married Jane Woodruff, a native of Fairfield, Vt., born in August 1822. After coming to Crawford county, he was associated with his father in the erection of the grist mill, but about the time of its completion disposed of his interest, and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He continued

in trade until 1860, when he was elected sheriff, and served two years. In 1866, he came to the town of Freeman, and purchased the grist mill on section 27, town 11, north of range 6 west, which he still owns. Since coming to Freeman town, he has served as town clerk thirteen years, chairman of the town board, one year, justice of the peace ten years, and is highly esteemed as an upright, honest citizen. He has two sons—Cornelius P. and William H. The former is part owner and miller in the aforesaid grist mill, and the latter is a farmer of this town.

William Davis was born in Knox Co., Ind., in 1826. When twenty-five years of age he went to Stillwater, Minn., for three years, and in 1854 went to Vernon Co., Wis., entering land on section 4, town 11, range 5 west, in Sterling town, which he improved and on which he resided until 1872. He then came to Crawford county, settling on land which he purchased of Mrs. Joanna T. Wightman, situated on section 16, town 10, range 6 west, Freeman town. Mr. Davis enlisted in February, 1862, in the 19th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving until the close of the war. He participated in many of the most important battles, including Butler's operations in the vicinity of Richmond, siege of Petersburg, etc. He married Martha A. Heavrin, a native of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have had seven children, six of whom are living—Mary A., William N., George G., Alice E., Charles F. and Edwin A. Mr. Davis has been a justice of the peace of Freeman town for several years. He also filled the office of town treasurer in the town of Sterling for three terms.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

## TOWN OF HANEY.

The town of Haney comprises congressional township 9, of range 14 west, and is bounded, on the north, by the towns of Clayton and Utica; on the east, by the town of Scott; on the south, by the towns of Marietta and Eastman; and on the west, by the town of Seneca.

The surface of this town is the most broken of any in the county. The Kickapoo river enters the town on the northwest quarter of section 3, and takes a winding, southwesterly course to the southwest quarter of section 20, then southeast to the middle of section 34, from which section it leaves the town.

"Hull's Branch," is the second stream in size; this enters the town on section 6, and flows nearly east for two miles, then bears south and enters the Kickapoo on the section line between sections 9 and 10.

Crow Hollow creek enters the town on the northeast corner of section 12, and flows nearly west, uniting with the Kickapoo river on section 10.

Shaw Valley creek, the fourth stream in size in the town of Haney, rises on section 24, flows southwest into the Kickapoo river, on section 34. There is also a spring creek in the town, which has two branches.

The town was originally well supplied with timber; all varieties of woods being represented except pine and hemlock. The saw mills of modern times have consumed much of this timber, leaving but the second growth. Railroad ties are cut and run down the Kickapoo river in great numbers, which also lessens the supply of valuable timber within the town.

The soil within the valleys is very rich, producing an abundant crop of corn, grass and oats, while the ridges are better fitted for wheat, rye, etc.

## FIRST SETTLERS.

The first settler of this town was John Haney, who, in 1844, located in what has since been styled Haney Valley. Mr. Haney entered 160 acres of land; but it appears that it was not in his name, but in the name of one Houghton, of Galena, Ills. Mr. Haney enclosed a few acres and cultivated it, but seemingly did not intend to become a permanent settler. He was of a speculative turn of mind; he brought a few goods with him for the purpose of trading with the Indians. In 1849 he left his settlement, crossed the Mississippi river and founded the city of Lansing, Iowa, where he resided till his death. Some of his family are yet (1884) residents of that place.

The land entered by Mr. Haney for Mr. Houghton, passed from the hands of the latter into the possession of J. F. Haskins.

A Frenchman named Lesserd located about 1847 on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 33. He built a house, which was the second dwelling erected in the town, Haney's being the first. Lesserd and his wife remained there a short time, when their house was burned. He rebuilt, and then sold out to James Mullaney, and moved to Prairie du Chien, where he died.

The next settlers, and indeed the first permanent ones, were James H. Kast and James Mullaney. The former settled on section 12,

in the spring of 1851, and the latter entered land the same year on section 33.

In the fall of 1851, Peter M. Webb, Thomas Spencer and Quinton Nicks located in what is known now as the town of Haney. Mr. Webb died April 9, 1860. In 1884 his son still resided in the county, but his widow was in Kansas. Spencer and Nicks settled on section 11. Spencer died where he settled, Aug. 29, 1859. Nicks sold his claim to Spencer and removed to Richland county, and from there moved west.

In 1852 W. H. Bliss settled on section 3, where he made a claim and lived about two years, when he entered land on section 4.

In September of the same year, 1852, J. N. Kast settled on section 12, where he entered forty acres of land. In 1884 he was an attorney at Bell Center.

In 1853 Peter Miller settled on section 10, where he remained till the time of his death in August, 1881. His oldest son, Charles, still owns and occupies the place.

James Wilkins settled the same season, on section 24. His son, Alexander Wilkins, settled the same time on the same section. The former died in Grant county a few years ago, and the latter at last accounts was living in Iowa.

Another settler of 1853 was William Shaw, who settled on section 26, on the farm afterward owned by Anna Gibbs. Mr. Shaw returned to Indiana, from whence he came.

L. H. Alvord located on section 6, where he entered 360 acres of land. A few years later he moved to Kansas.

Peter Lansing, a Baptist minister, settled on section 13, in November, 1854. He came from Indiana; he at once entered 160 acres of land, upon which tract he lived for five or six years, when he moved over into Grant county. All speak of him as being an excellent man and a talented preacher.

Dr. Simon Alder came in at the same time Mr. Lansing did, and settled on section 24, where he entered eighty acres and lived there

till 1860, when he sold out and located at Petersburg, where he lived a few years and then moved to Illinois. He practiced medicine during his stay in the town of Haney.

In 1854 Nathan Kelley settled on section 13; he still lived in the town in 1884.

Thomas Coleman was also a pioneer of 1854; he located on section 1, where he remained till the time of his death in 1861.

Another settler of 1854 was Martin Totten, who located on section 10. He finally returned to his native State, enlisted in the Union army, and was killed during the civil war.

Ferdinand Glathart, who came in the same year, settled on section 10; he too returned to Indiana, enlisted, and was killed during the war.

Ira Lawrence located the same year, 1854, at Petersburg, where he built a large frame hotel, which was still standing and in a good condition in 1884. After running this hotel several years he moved to Nebraska and there engaged in the same business.

Simeon Wilcox came in 1854, from Indiana and settled on section 10, at Petersburg, and a little later moved to the town of Freeman, where he died.

In 1855, came George W. Wood, C. D. Bellville, William Raymond, Merritt Thompson, Mr. Iceam, Alanson Taft, James J. Holden, Madison and James Alderman, Richard Reed, Martin Reed, G. Cummings, Amos Alderman, II. A. Sturges, E. S. Barnum, George Root, James Dawling, and perhaps a few whose names have been forgotten.

Among the large number of settlers who located in 1856, were: William Brickner, W. D. C. Lewis, William Shultz, George Smith, Frank Stowell, Truman B. Stowell, Henry Meyers and S. Chadwick.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

Mr. Haney built the first log house.

Peter Miller built the first frame house in the fall of 1854 at Petersburg.



The first child born within the limits of the town was Thomas, son of Peter and Jane Webb, born Feb. 28, 1852. He died in this town when about twenty years old.

The first marriage which occurred in the town of Haney was that of J. N. Kast and Elendar J. Webb, March 23, 1852. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Dolerhide, a United Brethren preacher. Mrs. Kast died June 20, 1874.

The first death was that of Solomon Shook, a young man who came in from Illinois. He shot himself accidentally, Sept. 1, 1853. His remains were buried on section 11.

The first ground cultivated was that of John Haney's.

Henry Crow built the first mill, a saw-mill, on section 12, situated on Crow Valley creek.

The first school was taught by Maria Wilkins in the summer of 1853. She began the term at the residence of Thomas Spencer and completed the school in a school house erected that summer. James McAdam taught the following winter. He was a soldier in the Civil War and was killed at Fort Donaldson in 1862.

The first religious services within the town were held by Rev. Dolerhide, a United Brethren minister, from Richland county. These services were held at the house of James H. Kast, on Christmas eve, 1851.

The first physician was G. Morgan, who came in about 1856; was here a number of years and then removed to Nebraska, where he finally died. He was a native of the State of New York. He was a good doctor of the old school practice.

#### ORGANIC.

The first town meeting in the town of Haney was held April 5, 1859, at the house of George Root, on section 21. There were fifty-seven votes cast at this election, by which the following officers were elected:

Nathan Kelley, James H. Kast, Oliver Langdon, supervisors; David Wion, clerk; Henry Crow, assessor and treasurer; J. L. Stowell,

town superintendent of schools; Oliver Langdon, G. F. Bigelow and G. W. Wood, justices of the peace; C. D. Kast, Ira Miller and W. F. Harris, constables.

Of these pioneer town officers the following were deceased prior to 1884:

Messrs. Langdon, Root, Bigelow, Crow, C. D. Kast, Harris and Wion. James H. Kast, Nathan Kelley and George Wood were still residents of the town at this date; the others having removed to various parts of the country.

The election of 1883 was held April 3, at Wood's Hall on section 11. There were 110 votes polled for the following officers:

J. N. Kast, Jefferson Buckmaster, C. R. Young, supervisors; Harrison Coleman, clerk; Alanson Taft, assessor; R. F. Haskins, treasurer; A. L. Stowell, James Alderman, S. Taft and John G. Richardson, justices of the peace; Austin Alderman, R. Dowling and P. C. Kast, constables.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

In 1884 the town of Haney was divided into two full and eight joint school districts. Districts No. 1 and 5 are the full districts; the former has thirty-one pupils of school age; the school house is situated in Haney Valley, on section 20.

No. 5 has twenty-three pupils; the school building in this district is on section 27, in Shaw's Valley. Joint district No. 1, is provided with a building situated in the town of Clayton. The average attendance belonging to the town of Haney is three.

Joint district No. 3 has a building on section 30. This district is made from parts of Haney, Seneca and Eastman.

Joint district No. 4 is provided with a house on section 11 of the town of Haney. Number of pupils, thirty-seven.

Joint district No. 7 is made of portions of Haney and Seneca. The school building in this district is in the town of Seneca. Number of pupils from the town of Haney, six.

Joint district No. 8 has a good sized frame house located on section 33, of the town of Haney. Number of pupils, seven.

Joint district No. 9 is furnished with a house situated on section 3. The number of pupils from the town of Haney is forty-four. This is what is known as the Bell Centre school. The building in this district is the best in the town.

Joint district No. 11 is provided with a school house on section 25. Number of pupils twenty-six.

Joint district No. 12 has a poor log building, situated on section 13. Number of pupils, twenty-seven.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The United Brethren were the first denomination to hold services of a religious character. They were still the most numerous sect in the town in 1884, at which time they kept their meetings up at the several school houses.

The next to hold services, were the Free Will Baptists, whose society has never been very large.

The Methodists are organized into quite a strong society. They hold services at Bell Centre and Haney Valley, alternately.

A church edifice is now (1884) being erected on section 25, this is to be a Union church, built by a general subscription, to be used by all denominations.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are three burying grounds in the town of Haney. One of these is located at Bell Centre, on section 3. This was the first cemetery used in the town, it being established in 1854.

Another is situated in Shaw's Valley, on section 27. This also has been in use for many years. But little care is taken of these grounds, which remain unfenced and otherwise neglected.

The third place of burial is on section 25. This is of a later date, and receives more care.

The first interments made in the town, were in what is known as Crow Hollow. There are

also several private burying grounds within the town.

#### POSTOFFICES.

There are three postoffices in the town of Haney. The first established was called Bell Centre, which has its history in connection with the village of Bell Centre.

North Star postoffice was established in July, 1864. Anson T. Cook was the first postmaster and was still serving in that capacity in 1884. The office has always been kept at the residence of Mr. Cook, on section 34. It is on the route from Wauzeka to Readstown; mail is received three times a week.

Haney postoffice was established Sept. 26, 1882. Seymour Taft was appointed the first postmaster. His commission is dated, Aug. 29, 1883. It is a special office on the route from Wauzeka to Readstown; it is supplied from North Star postoffice.

#### MILLS.

The first mill erected in the town of Haney, was a saw-mill, begun by James H. Kast, on Crow Valley creek, at a point on section 12. This was sometime during 1853. Mr. Kast, aided by his brother Chancey, got out the frame and made considerable progress toward the erection of the mill, when on account of ill health, James H. Kast was obliged to stop work. It remained in an incompleated condition till 1855, when the property was sold to Henry Crow, who set about completing it. Several years later he built a grist mill, a mile or so below the saw-mill. This was operated several years and finally burned and another mill erected on the same site, by Buckmaster & Morse. In 1884 this was doing a good business; at this date it was owned and operated by Jesse Buckmaster.

George F. Bigelow built a grist mill in 1857, on Hall's Branch, about two miles from the Kickapoo river. This mill was a failure, owing to the lack of a sufficient "head;" also, by reason of the dam being hard to keep in repair. But little was ever done in the way of grinding; the

mill building was still standing, in 1884, as a land mark of early days.

A saw-mill was built by Horace Langdon, in 1873, on Crow Hollow creek, on section 10. He run it about two years, when the machinery was taken out, and the mill abandoned. In the fall of 1881, George W. Wood, on whose land it was situated, put in new machinery and made general repairs and the following February started the mill again, with an abundant supply of water power. Several portable steam saw-mills have been operated throughout the forests of the town, at various times, but are no longer in use.

#### VILLAGE OF BELL CENTRE.

Bell Centre is so called from Dennis Bell, and the fact that its site was centrally located within the town, on section 3. The site of the village is on land entered by Silas Anderson about 1852. Anderson sold to Dennis Bell, in 1854. He engaged C. D. Bellville a surveyor, to lay out the village plat, and gave him a third interest for his services. Dennis Bell sold a part of the site to his brother, Elias Bell, so that the proprietors of the plat were Dennis and Elias Bell, and C. D. Bellville. The plat was made by C. D. Bellville in August, 1855.

Elias Bell and Merritt Thompson had erected a frame store building, 16x20 feet, and opened a small general store, in June, previous to the survey of lots; this was the first building erected on the plat. The first building after the platting was done, was a shanty erected for a dwelling house for the time being. George W. Wood built it. C. D. Bellville built a cheap house, at about the same time. Late in the fall of 1855, Bellville erected a small frame dwelling, which, in 1884, formed a part of the residence of J. N. Kast. Mr. Wood also built a frame building that fall, into which he moved his family, and the following spring opened a store in the same building; therefore, he was the second merchant in the village.

The first blacksmith at Bell Centre was Jonathan O. Parker, who erected his forge and

placed his anvil several years after the platting of the place. He also did wagon work. He is spoken of by the pioneers as a skilled workman.

In the fall of 1855 William Raymond purchased the interest Elias Bell had in the village site, and in the spring Dennis Bell became sole owner of the plat. He operated the store a short time and then sold to Raymond, who continued a few months longer, when the business, store and goods were purchased by George W. Wood, who was succeeded by William Raymond, in 1861. Two years later, Raymond erected a better store building across the street in the town of Clayton; and with Aaron Cook as partner, he continued in trade till 1871, when they dissolved, Raymond continuing a year longer. In 1884 he was in the banking business in Hampton, Iowa.

Isaiah Rounds succeeded Raymond in business, and operated the store till his death, when the business was closed out.

The plat of the village extends to the town line of Clayton. At first it contained ten acres; a small addition was made, on the west side, in 1856, by Elias Bell, and another on the south. Several business houses were erected, also residences, across the street in the town of Clayton.

In 1884 the merchants on the village plat, were Lewis Bros. The business was first established by H. H. Lewis, in 1873, and has been conducted by various members of the family. The village plat, in 1884, contained the following business concerns: Lewis Bros., groceries, drugs, provisions, etc.; Arthur Stowell, blacksmith; Jack Richards, blacksmith; Nathan Kelley, wagon maker; J. N. Kast, attorney; Fred Lewis, postmaster; James Russell, hotel

On the Clayton side of the village there were at this time, keeping a store, and carrying a general line of goods W. W. Tate & Co.

The first hotel in the place was kept by George W. Wood, in 1861, in the hotel building owned by William S. Waite, which was

erected by Mr. Wood, in 1857, for a dwelling house.

The postoffice at Bell Centre was established early in 1856, and C. D. Bellville was the first to serve as postmaster. He was succeeded in a few months by George W. Wood, who kept the office till June, 1861, and was succeeded by William Raymond, who was followed by Isaiah Rounds; Mr. Woods was again postmaster from Dec. 1, 1870, till June, 1873, when he was succeeded by William S. Waite, who, in turn, was followed by R. E. Glover. H. H. Lewis was the next postmaster; he was followed by Fred Lewis, who is still (1884) in office.

“STAR TEMPLE LODGE.”

This is the name of a Good Templars' lodge at Bell Centre which was organized Feb. 10, 1872 by the following charter members, whose title of office in given with their names: J. L. Stowell. W. C. T.; F. Glover, W. V. T.; Helen Wood, W. F. S.; R. E. Glover. W. R. S.; M. Rounds, W. T.; Horace Langdon, W. M.; Emma Barto, W. D. M.; M. L. Coleman, P. W. C. T.; Nettie Rounds, W. I. G.; William Langdon, W. O. S.; Margaret Smith, W. R. S.; Jennetta Rounds, W. L. S.; Edward Barto, W. C.; S. C. Smith, H. C. Walker, M. L. Coleman, Alvin Langdon, Jefferson Stowell, Jane Poff, Libbie Barber, O. P. Rounds, William Rounds, Ester Rounds, F. Brightman, David Dunham, H. H. Lewis, H. J. Poff, W. S. Wait, A. L. Stowell, Samuel Dagett, O. Bennett, B. Poff, F. W. Lewis, Nancy Rounds, M. Welch.

Officers of 1883: Thompson Whiteker, W. C. T.; Frank Coleman, W. V. T.; Joseph Whiteker, W. R. S.; Hattie Whiteker, W. F. S.; J. B. Strong, W. M.; R. Coleman, W. D. M.; Silas Anderson. W. S.; William Strong, W. G.; Aba Thompson, W. R. S.; Amanda Thompson, W. L. S.; J. N. Kast, P. W. C. T.; Hiram Whiteker, W. C.; S. Coleman W. T.; Ina Brown, W. L. D.

REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

The following named persons are mostly early settlers; those who have stood in the front

ranks during the pioneer “battle of the wilderness,” and now behold the result of their hardships and privations. They certainly deserve an honored place in the annals of progress.

Ira F. Kast, the son of James H. Kast, was born in La Fayette Co., Wis., in 1846. He married Margaret J. Payne, daughter of Jonathan Payne. They have six children, four boys and two girls. Mr. Kast resides on the homestead which he now owns. His father was the oldest permanent resident of Haney town, coming to this town in the spring of 1851. Land had been entered by other parties before this date, but no permanent settlement made. He was born in New York State, in 1804. When twenty-two years of age he went to Medina Co., Ohio, remaining until 1845, when he went to La Fayette Co., Wis. In 1850 he came with his brother Chauncey to Scott town, this county, and in 1851 entered 160 acres of land on section 12, Haney town, where he has since resided. Mr. Kast has had eleven children, only four of whom are living—Lois C., widow of Henry Crow; Mary J., wife of B. S. Haskins; Eleanor L., wife of George Burton, and Ira F.

John G. Richardson resides on section 11, where Thomas Spencer settled in July, 1852. He is a son of William Richardson, one of the early settlers of Scott town. Mr. Richardson was born in Kentucky, Jan. 4, 1842. He enlisted in February, 1865, in the 47th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. Two of his brothers, Samuel and David, were also in the army. Mr. Richardson married Eliza, daughter of Thomas Spencer, born in Richland Co., Ill. They have six children, Mrs. Richardson's father was born in Indiana, and came to this town in 1851. He died in August, 1859. His wife is still living. Mr. Richardson's father was born in Loudon Co., Va., and came to this county in 1852. He entered 120 acres of land on section 7, where he resided until his decease in 1873. His wife died a few days previous.

William H. Langdon resides on section 20, Haney town. He is a son of Oliver and Sarah (Knight) Langdon, who settled on the farm, now owned by Oliver Langdon's heirs, in 1854. He was born in Vernon Co., Wis., Nov. 18, 1853. He married Jesse M. Thompson, daughter of Ambrose Thompson, of Seneca town. Mr. Langdon's father enlisted in the latter part of the war, in the army, but died at Madison, Wis., while waiting to be transferred to the field. His widow, now the wife of Montrose Washburn, resides in Howard Co., Neb.

Harrison Coleman was born in 1847, in Indiana. In 1855 he came with his parents to Crawford Co., Wis., and has since been a resident of Haney town. He enlisted, when seventeen years of age, in the 3d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Bentonville, and Averysboro, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Alanson Taft. Mr and Mrs. Coleman have two children—Clarence and Pearl. Mr. Coleman was clerk of Haney town for 1883. He resides on section 22, this town. His father, Thomas Coleman, was born in Ohio. He died at his residence, on section 1, Haney town, in 1861. His mother died in Vernon Co., Wis., in 1877.

James Smethurst lives on section 29, town of Haney. He was born in Lancaster, England, in 1840. His father, Daniel Smethurst, came to this country while James was an infant, settling in Morgan Co., Ohio. In 1855, the family came to Crawford Co., settling on section 10, town of Seneca. His father died in 1872, and his mother in 1874. James, the subject of our sketch, was married in 1863, to Augusta Langdon. Mrs. Smethurst was a daughter of S. P. Langdon, the original owner of the village of Seneca, one of the earliest settlers of Columbia Co., Wis. James lived with his father until after his marriage, when, in 1864, he made the farm on section 10, now owned by B. Crow. Sept. 1, 1864, he enlisted in company C., 43d Wisconsin Volunteer, serving until the

war ended, and the regiment was discharged July, 1865. In 1876, Mr. Smethurst, removed to Haney, buying land on sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33, owning 577 acres, with about 300 acres under cultivation, with valuable improvements, being one of the finest farms in Kickapoo valley. They have three children—Charles, born Jan. 17, 1864; Anna E., born May 20, 1866; Ira A., born Oct. 11, 1868. Mr. Smethurst has served as chairman of town board one term, on side board two terms, and is one of the reliable men of this town.

Henry Hamilton resides on section 32, town 9, range 4 west, in what is now known as Citron valley, where he located in 1873. Mr. Hamilton's father, Lot Hamilton, is a native of Lancastershire, England, and came to this country in 1853, to find a location and make a home for his children, his wife having died in England. In 1855 he entered land on section 11, this town, and in 1856, brought over his children, Henry and James, and settled on his land. Henry was born in England, in 1840. He entered the Union army in 1864, as a member of the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry, serving until the close of the war. He was present at the capture of Jefferson Davis, and received his share of the prize money given for that exploit. In 1872 he went to Texas, but not being pleased with the country returned in 1873, and purchased his present farm. He has 450 acres of land, 270 of which he bought of Mr. Mullaney. His farm is beautifully located in the Citron valley, and is one of the best stock farms to be found, perhaps, in the State. Mr. Hamilton married Catherine, daughter of M. Fairchild. She was born in German township, Fulton Co., Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton have eight children, six sons and two daughters. His father, Lot Hamilton, lives with him. Mr. Hamilton's brother, James, died while in the service of his country in 1863.

W. D. C. Lewis has resided in the village of Bell Centre since 1857. In that year he came to Bell Centre and purchased land adjoining the village, which he converted into a good farm

which he still owns. Mr. Lewis was born in Shelby Co., Ind., in December, 1827. When four teen years of age, he removed with his parents to what is now the State of Iowa. His father, H. H. Lewis, went to California during the gold excitement of 1849, and from there he went to Oregon, where he died. Mr. Lewis married Abbie C. Girdler, a native of Massachusetts. They have five children—Horace H., Laura C., Fred, who is the postmaster at Bell Centre; Frank J. and Abbie E. The firm of Lewis Bros. have the only store on the village plat of Seneca. They deal in groceries, provisions, drugs, etc.

Mrs. C. Eliza Biederman is a native of New Haven, Conn. She came to Haney, Crawford Co., Wis., in 1858. She has been twice married, her former husband being Dr. Justin B. McCarthy, of St. Francisville, Ill; her second one, Carl H. Biederman, of Poesnick, Prussia. Mrs. Biederman is a woman of culture and more than ordinary ability—the author of the "Soldier's Souvenir," "Photos from Life," etc. She has four daughters, one of whom was by her former marriage. Her father, Capt. George F. Bigelow, was one of the early settlers of the town of Haney, he was born in 1800, at South Egremont, Mass., and reared in North Haven, Conn. At the age of eighteen he became master and owner of a coasting vessel; was married to Rebecca Wilmot, of Darien, Conn., in 1826, and removed from New Haven to North Hampton Co., Va., a few years after, where he engaged in merchandizing, milling and manufacturing castor oil. Mr. Bigelow also built many trading vessels for his own use, employing them to convey the produce he brought to New York, and West India markets. His property being destroyed by fire, he removed to Norfolk, Va. where he established himself in the milling and manufacturing business. While here Mr. Bigelow patented an improvement in the construction of ships. In 1841, he removed to Indiana, where himself and father were engaged in merchandizing. He next removed to Lawrence Co., Ill., where

he resided many years, engaged in milling, merchandizing and farming. In 1856, on account of his health, he came to Haney town and erected a grist mill on Hall's branch, but only ran it a short time, and then departed this life. His wife followed him to the "world beyond," Feb. 1, 1880. Of their four children, Mrs. Biederman is the only survivor.

Alanson Taft, Sr., resides on section 13, Haney town, where he settled March 5, 1858, having previously purchased his farm of Peter Lansing. Mr. Taft was born in Machias town, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., Sept. 3, 1817. His mother, Lucretia (McIntyre) Taft, died in New York State, and his father subsequently married Deborah Vial. In October, 1833, his father moved to Trumbull Co., Ohio, and afterwards to Ashtabula county, where he lived until his death, which occurred while on a visit at West Mission, Iowa. Alanson Taft was married in what was then West Salem town, Mercer Co., Penn., to Elizabeth Graves, a native of Pennsylvania. He removed with his family to Crawford Co., Penn., thence to Grant Co., Wis., coming from there to Crawford county. Mr. Taft has 480 acres of land in this town, 100 of which are improved. He also owns land elsewhere. Mr. Taft died July 16, 1864, leaving eight children—Absalom, Phebe, Mary, Elizabeth, Alanson, Oliver and Olive (twins), and Adelaide. They all, with the exception of two, are married, and all but one residents of Haney town.

Platt A. Lathrop resides on section 24, Haney town, where he settled in 1864, purchasing his farm of R. S. Lathrop. Mr. Lathrop was born in Chautauqua Co., N. Y., in 1835. His father, Landias Lathrop was an early settler of that county, but a native of Massachusetts. Mr. Lathrop enlisted, in 1862, in the 112th regiment, New York Volunteers, and served in the army two years. He married Harriet Rossiter, a native of Chautauqua county. Mr. and Mrs. Lathrop have five children—Cassius, Ella, Jennie, Lowell and Landis, (twins.) Mr. Lathrop's farm

consists of 160 acres of land, 100 acres of which are improved. It is pleasantly located, with a fine new brick veneered residence, and other valuable improvements on it.

Seymour Taft, postmaster at Haney, resides on section 24. He was born in Freedom

town, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., in 1819, where he was reared. He married, in Hinsdale town, Philura Hawley, who died before Mr. Taft left his native county. He afterwards married Eudolha Morrea, who died in Pennsylvania where Mr. Taft was then living. He has four children—Lucretia, Thaddeus W., Ella and Edwin M.



## CHAPTER XXXII.

## TOWN OF MARIETTA.

Marietta is located in the southeastern corner of the county. It is bounded on the north by the towns of Scott and Haney; on the east, by Richland county; on the south by Grant county and the town of Wauzeka; and on the west, by the towns of Wauzeka and Eastman. It comprises all of town 8, of range 3 west, north of the Wisconsin river, and all of town 8, of range 4 west, except section 31; also a part of section 6, in town 7, of range 3 west, and a part of section 1, in town 7, of range 4 west, together with a few acres of sections 24 and 25, in town 8, range 5 west.

The Kickapoo river forms the western boundary of the town until it reaches section 31 of town 8, range 4, where it enters the town of Wauzeka. The course of the Kickapoo makes sections 3, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19 and 30, fractional, and the course of the Wisconsin river makes sections 13, 14, 22, 28 and 32, of town 8, range 3 west, on the southeastern border of the town, fractional. Also section 6, in town 7, of range 3 west, and section 1, in town 7, of range 4 west. The town, not unlike most of Crawford county, is very broken, having high ridges with narrow valleys between. In the east and southern part of the town, these valleys run toward the Wisconsin river, and those on the west toward the Kickapoo river.

At an early day the ridge lands were well-timbered with white, red and black oak, hard and soft maple, basswood and some black walnut and butternut timber. The heads of the valleys were covered with a scrubby timber, with many wild plum and thornapple trees,

while farther down in these valleys a heavy growth of good timber was found. The manufacture of lumber from these forests, furnished about the only means of employment among the early settlers.

The soil, is a heavy clay mixture, on the ridge land, while the valleys contain more loam. Both ridges and valleys produce good crops of small grain, grass and corn, together with the fruits and vegetables common to this latitude.

The main dividing ridge between the Wisconsin and Kickapoo rivers, is traversed by the leading thoroughfare of the town, running from Wauzeka village. It gains the summit of the ridge on section 28, town 8, range 4, crosses section 28, 21, 22, 14 and 13, then enters town 8 of range 3 west, crosses section 18 into 7, and passes northwest through section 12, in town 8, of range 4 west, and through section 1, between the town lines of the towns of Marietta and Haney. The State road between Boscobel and Viroqua runs from the Wisconsin river, on section 22, passing through sections 15, 9 and 4, to the town line of Scott into Richland creek, then follows up the valley.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Robert Boyd made the first settlement in the town of Marietta, in 1844, at what was later known as Boydstown.

William and Jonathan Wayne effected the next actual settlement; the former coming in 1846 and the latter in 1847. Jonathan settled on section 35, town 8, range 4. A few years later he, with Mike Woodard, platted George-



town. He died in Illinois sometime after the close of the civil war.

George Lull came on the same year, 1846, and located on section 36 in town 8, of range 4 west, and remained till 1849.

During 1849 the next settlement was made. Among the number who came at this date were: Martin Seeley, who settled on section 2, town 7, range 4; George W. Harrison, who settled at Boydstown, where he died in 1859, and his wife in 1872. S. P. Kinny came the same year, remained at Boydstown till about 1858, but afterward removed to Minnesota. Among the settlers of 1850 were Lewis Wayne and Ed Rogers. Mr. Wayne settled on section 15, town 8, range 4, where he died in 1869. Mr. Rogers was a millwright by trade; he located on section 9, town 8, range 3. He died in 1858.

Guy S. Thompson, George W. Cup and O. E. Wise came in 1851. Thompson located on section 9, town 8, range 3 west. He was the first town treasurer, and held that office for five years, from 1855 to 1860. He came from Ohio to this county; he was a prominent man; he ran a tavern for a few years and finally removed to the town of Scott, where he died. Mr. Cup settled on the Jonathan Wayne farm, where he remained till his death, which occurred in 1880. Mr. Wise remained in the town till after the civil war, then moved to Colorado, where he died in 1880.

John T. Ferrel came the same year, 1851, and located on section 9, town 8, range 3, and remained a resident of the town till after the civil war. In 1884 he was living in New Mexico. He operated a ferry on the Wisconsin river at a point near where the Boscobel bridge now stands, for about two years, until he got into litigation with Mike Woodard, who ran another ferry line at that point; they "lawed" until Mr. Ferrel lost nearly all he had and then sold out in disgust, to Hiram Comstock, who ran the ferry till the completion of the bridge.

In 1852 Alonzo Ward came in and settled on section 13, town 8, range 4, where he still lived

in 1884. But little, if any, increase was given to the settlement in 1853; but the year following quite a number came in, among whom were the following: Stephen Gardner, who located on section 20, town 8, range 4 west; James Posey, on section 10, town 8, range 4 west; S. S. Ferrel and his sons, John F. and James M., all of whom settled on sections 8 and 9, town 8, range 3 west. Samuel Wannemaker came in at the same time, and settled on section 2, town 8, range 3 west. He died in the Union army.

The following settled during 1855: Peter Campbell, on section 17, town 8, range 3 west; Chancey H. Steele, on section 2, town 8, range 3 west; Isaac C. Jones, on section 2, in town 8, range 3 west; John Cummings, on section 10, town 8, range 3 west; Thomas Ward, on the same section as Cummings; J. Cain, on the same section, also; L. Parce, on section 4, town 8, range 3 west; he died in the army; Warren Cheaver, on section 11, town 8, range 3 west; Thomas Shields, on section 11, town 8, range 3 west; Charles E. Wannemaker, on section 2, town 8, range 3 west. The latter now (1884) lives in Colorado; John T. Farris settled in the town in 1856, on section 9, town 8, range 4 west, where (1884) he still resides.

From this date on, the settlement increased rapidly.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first marriage within the town of Marietta was that of Robert Boyd and Eliza Wayne, in 1848.

The first death was Florence Wayne, in 1852.

#### ORGANIC.

The first election was held in the town of Marietta the first Tuesday of April, 1855. It was organized by electing O. E. Wise, chairman, and A. D. Allen, clerk. The following officers were elected:

S. P. Kinney, chairman, Ira L. Wayne and George W. Harrison, side board, E. Lull, clerk; Robert Boyd, treasurer; Jonathan Wayne, assessor; J. D. Jobe, school superintendent; S. P.

Kinney, Thomas Reynolds, A. D. Allen and Alvin Woods, justices of the peace.

In 1866 that part of the town west of range 3, was set off into a town called Union, and their first election held April 2, 1867, at which time the following officers were elected: J. N. Wayne, chairman; J. W. Powell and Robert Jobe, side board; S. L. Daywitt, clerk; Stephen Gardner, assessor and treasurer; S. P. Kinney, Barnet Daywitt James Posey and W. L. Wayne, justices of the peace.

In 1875 this territory was again set back, and the towns of Union and Marietta were consolidated under the old name.

Officers of 1883 were: James Patton, chairman; H. J. Foust, and Florence Williams, side board; J. N. Calloway, clerk; Stephen Welch, treasurer; James Harris, assessor; S. S. Ferrel, J. H. McDonald and A. Titus, justices of the peace.

#### SCHOOLS.

This town has nine full and three joint school districts

District No. 1 has a frame house located on section 16, town 8, range 3 west, valued at \$250. In 1884 this district had forty pupils.

District No. 2 is provided with a frame building on section 9, town 18, range 3 west, valued at \$350. Number of pupils, fifty-three.

District No. 3 has a frame house on section 12, town 8, range 3 west, valued at \$250. Number of pupils, forty.

District No. 4 has a frame house on section 29, town 8, range 3 west, valued at \$300. Number of pupils, sixteen.

District No. 5 has a frame house located on section 21, town 8, range 4 west, valued at \$400. Number of pupils, sixty-six.

District No. 6 has a frame house on section 10, town 8, range 4, west, valued at \$400. Number of pupils, forty-five

District No. 7 is provided with a frame building on section 26, town 8, range 4 west, valued at \$150. Number of pupils, fifty.

District No. 8 has a frame house on section 12, town 8, range 4 west, valued at \$400. Number of pupils thirty-one.

District No. 9 has a frame house on section 34, town 8, range 4 west, valued at \$350. Number of pupils, thirty-five.

Joint district No. 1 is formed of parts of the towns of Marietta and Wauzeka; has a building in the latter named. Number of pupils in Marietta, thirteen.

Joint district No. 11, with Wauzeka, has its school house in Wauzeka.

Joint district No. 7, joint with the town of Scott, is provided with a house in the latter named. Number of scholars from Marietta, ten.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first religious services held in the town were conducted at the house of William Wayne, in Boydstown, in 1850.

The first religious services in the northwest part of the town were held in 1856 at the house of James Posey, by a Baptist minister named Wade. In August, 1857, a Church was formed consisting of thirty members, who afterward were under the charge of Elder Ross, and upon his removal to Minnesota, the society went down.

There are now (1884) but two religious societies within the town. The United Brethren Church, composed of two classes, led by leaders F. Smith, David Foust, William Kast, William Parrington and J. Thompson. Their pastor at this date was Rev. William A. Taylor, who was born in Grant county, in 1852, and ordained to preach in October, 1880. He had charge of ten appointments in 1884, five in the town of Marietta and five in the town of Haney.

A Methodist Episcopal class was organized in what was then the village of Marietta, in 1854. Rev. Tucker was among the the earliest preachers; he was drowned in the Wisconsin river a few years later. The first text preached from in the town was remembered by Esquire

Ferrel, thirty years afterward, as being, "*I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ.*" Mr. Ferrel was chosen class leader at an early time, and is still (1884) doing his Christian duty in that line. This class is in the Madison district, Excelsior circuit.

## CEMETERIES.

The oldest burying ground in the town is the one located at Boydstown, on section 1, town 7, range 4 west. This was first used in 1852. An infant of James and Cynthia Wayne was the first to be buried in these grounds; she died Sept. 15, 1852.

What is known as "Wayne's Cemetery" is situated on section 14, town 8, range 3 west; this was established in 1852.

In 1861 a cemetery was laid out on section 3, town 8, range 3 west. Mrs. Daniel Shaw was the first adult buried at this place. She died March 17, 1863.

In 1862 another cemetery was provided on section 10, town 8, range 4 west. The first interment was Lydia, daughter of Stephen and Eliza Gardner, who died Oct. 13, 1862.

Another cemetery called "Wayne's Cemetery" is situated on section 25, town 8, range 4 west. This was first used in 1873. Walter, a son of James and Cynthia Wayne, was the first one buried at this place.

On section 17, town 8, range 3 west, there is another cemetery, which was established in 1862. In 1884 this was a platted ground and well cared for.

A few graves may be found on section 1, town 8, range 4 west.

## POSTOFFICES.

The postoffice known as Marietta, on section 9, town 8, range 3 west, was first established in 1852, with O. E. Wise as the first postmaster. It was discontinued in 1863, and again established in 1866, when Lewis Kimball became postmaster; he was followed by J. M. Calloway, who still (1884) holds the office. The name of the office is Millet.

Stuben postoffice was established June 16, 1882, on section 9, town 8, range 4 west. Henry C. C. Kast was appointed the first postmaster.

## MILLS.

Lewis Wayne and Joshua Woodard erected the first mill within the town in 1850. This was a water power saw-mill, located on section 15, town 8, range 3 west, on Richland creek. It was run by some of the Wayne family till 1861, when the father, Lewis Wayne, and his four sons all enlisted in the Union army, and the mill was never after operated.

O. E. Wise and Ed Rogers built the second mill in 1851. This was a saw mill run by water power, derived from Richland creek, at a point on section 9, town 8, range 3 west. In 1867 a flood washed this mill away. The site finally passed into the hands of J. M. and J. V. Calloway, who rebuilt it. It is now (1884) owned and operated by J. V. and M. H. Calloway.

In 1856 Charles and S. L. Wannemaker, C. H. Steele, and Isaac C. Jones, built a steam saw-mill, which was operated till 1859, when fire destroyed it. It was re-built in 1861, by S. L. Wannemaker, on section 12, town 8, range 3 west; it was abandoned in 1868.

In 1857 S. P. Kinney built a steam saw-mill on Clear creek, on section 19, town 8, range 3 west, which he operated till 1864. It was finally moved from the town and run elsewhere.

William H. Main built a saw-mill, run by water power furnished by Clear creek on section 30, town 8, range 3 west in 1869. Three years later, this mill was taken down stream by the flood, and it was never replaced.

In 1876 John A. Daggion built a thirty-horse power steam saw-mill, on section 32, town 8, range 4 west. This mill was a first class saw mill, cutting all kinds of hard wood lumber, railroad ties etc.

In 1877 J. G. Allen and his son Albert, built a fine flouring mill on Richland creek, at a point on section 9, town 8, range 3 west. This mill was 36x24 feet, built of wood and provided with two run of stone. In 1882 it was burned,

but with enterprise characteristic of Mr. Allen, the mill was re-built and again in operation inside of three months. With the re-building, much improvement was made in the machinery of the mill.

In 1882 James Juckian built a thirty-five horse power steam saw-mill on section 26, in town 8, range 4 west.

About 1876 Francis McSpadin built a stave mill, operated by steam power. It was located on the north bank of the Wisconsin river, near Boscobel. In 1884 it was owned and run by William McWilliams.

#### REMINISCENCE OF NANCY WAYNE.

I was born in Shelby Co., Ky. My father was Ledston Redmon, who was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was in the battle of New Orleans. My mother's brother was also in that battle. My grandfather, George Redmon, also his father, were soldiers in the Revolutionary struggle, serving nearly through the whole war. I had four brothers in the Black Hawk war. In 1828, I married Lewis Wayne, in Edgar Co., Ill. We built, and occupied the first house in Paris, the present county seat of that county. We moved to Green Co., Wis., in 1842, and in 1844 to Grant county, settling three miles below where Boscobel now stands. The widow Powell, our nearest neighbor, lived three miles up the river, on the present site of the Boscobel fair grounds. Jesse Howell, living five miles up the river, was our next neighbor. In 1850 we moved to the town of Marietta, Crawford county, settling on section 15, on Richland creek. My husband was a descendant of General Wayne, "Mad Anthony," of Revolutionary fame. Whether the Indians hated him on account of his name, or he hated them for the same reason, I do not know, but at any rate there always existed a bitter feud between them. When we lived in Green county, he met a party of about fifteen Indians one day. The foremost of them drew his bow and arrow on him, but my husband quickly covered him with a rifle, and the Indian then shot the arrow up-

wards. About 1854, a man named Smith, living at Fort Andrew, had two horses stolen by a band of Indians, one of them a blooded racing mare, and on account of her value, he was anxious to recover her. The Indians being equally anxious to get away with her, divided their forces; two braves, after muffling the mare's feet, mounted her and took a direct course for the Mississippi river, near the present site of Lynxville.

My husband volunteered to recover the mare, and he at once discovered the trick of the Indians. With a comrade he started in pursuit, and followed the faint trail until he left it and struck across the country, with a view of intercepting them. At this point his comrade weakened and turned back. Near where Lynxville now is on the bank of the river, my husband came in sight of the two Indians, mounted on the horse. One Indian escaped on the horse, badly wounded, but has probably long since rejoined his comrade in the "happy hunting ground." My husband returned, bearing as a trophy, the rifle of the Indian who did not escape. When I asked him if he was afraid, he said: "Yes, when it was all over, for I did not know how near the main party of Indians might be." The other wing of the pursuing party recovered the other horse, and the blooded mare was afterwards taken from the Indians. About a year after this, my husband was trailing a wounded buck near Clear Lake, on the Wisconsin bottoms, when he discovered an Indian following him. They both "treed," and my husband managed, by exposing part of his clothing, to draw the Indian's fire; then he showed himself and the Indian attempted to escape by running. He did not run far, however! A year or so later on the same ground, he met an Indian who drew his knife and made a rush for him; my husband was armed with a rifle but was willing to meet the red man on equal terms; so drawing his knife and dropping his gun, he awaited the attack. The Indian halted and offered to bury the tomahawk, if he would show him where

the bones of the dead Indian were buried. This my husband was able and willing to do. Though the Indians were frequently seen skulking around, no actual attacks were made upon him after this occasion.

My husband built the first saw mill on Richland creek, in 1850, on our own land, and operated it until 1861, when he and the boys went into the army, and the mill was never started again. In November, 1860, on the day of the election of President Lincoln, my husband and two of our sons, Nathaniel and Frank, started with a barge load of potatoes, about 1,500 bushels, I think, which they floated down the Mississippi river, looking for a southern market. The barge was frozen in at Burlington, Iowa, and they were compelled to unload and bury their potatoes. They then went to Peoria, Ills., where they secured work in the coal mines during the winter months. In the spring, they returned to the barge and found that it had been badly broken up by the ice. Repairing it, and reloading their potatoes, they again embarked. They sold part of their cargo at different points. At Memphis, Tenn., they disposed of 600 bushels to rebel encampments. As the rebel sentiment was growing stronger, they were compelled to return north, leaving several hundred bushels of potatoes in the hands of commission merchants, from whom they received no returns.

Reaching home in the summer, my husband and our four sons enlisted in company K, 12th Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers. My sons were: Nathaniel, Samuel, William and Francis. I expect if they had ever reached Memphis they would have tried to get the pay for those potatoes. My sons all served the whole term of the war, and all came home alive. I came from a family always ready for war, married into another, and have reared still another!

VILLAGE OF BOYDSTOWN—DEFUNCT.

[By Mrs. J. N. Wayne.]

The first white man that permanently settled in what is now the town of Marietta, was Robert

Boyd, from Missouri. He erected a small log cabin on the banks of the Wisconsin river, twenty-five miles east of Prairie du Chien, in 1846. It was on a beautiful, sunny bank, sloping gradually to the bluff, half or three-quarters of a mile back from the river. Here he lived alone for one year, with only the red man and his dusky mate for companions. But in the year of 1847, his brother Kingsley came, and they lived together for one year. Mr. William Wayne moved his family across the river from the lead mines near Plattsville. He was welcomed by Mr. Boyd, who early the following spring married his daughter, Elizabeth. She still lives near the old place. George Wayne, a son of William Wayne, was the first white child born there. In the spring of 1848, the first steam boat, named the *Wagner*, landed there to purchase wood. Wayne and Boyd taking advantage of the times, and with a view of what might be, entered into partnership, considering it a good point for trade. A beautiful stream of spring water flowed down its valleys, and the prospect for mills and manufacturing looked brilliant. They had visions of a future city, and looked forward to the time when this valley would be a boom of life and prosperity. They gave it the name of Boydstown.

In the spring of 1849, several families moved in and permanently located. Among them were Morton Seeley and S. P. Kinney. They purchased land on this stream, and built a water power saw-mill, which looked very encouraging. This mill is located half a mile from Boydstown, on section 2, town 7, range 4 west. In the fall of this same year, Mr. Cornelius Seeley came with his family and purchased some land, together with the mill property. He subsequently sold it to his son, D. F. Seeley, who still owns the property, but has done nothing with it for the last four years.

The first religious services that were held at Boydstown, were in the house of Cornelius Seeley, by itinerant preachers named Hill and Dana. This same year, Johnathan Wayne

came with his family of grown up children. Some of them were married and settled in this place; also came George W. Harrison, who was the first justice of the peace.

The first court held in Boydstown was a case of petty larceny, which happened in this wise. The wife of the second itinerant preacher sent here, named McSchooler, claimed to have been robbed of jewelry, ribbons, lace, etc. Suspicion rested on a young girl, who was arrested and tried, but the lost property was not recovered. This same Mrs. McSchooler was a very pretty, modest lady, and being brought into publicity, so favorably impressed the men and officers who had the naming of the new town then being created, that they gave it her name—Marietta. This was in 1853.

In the year 1849, James Anderson built a small steamboat on the Ohio river, on which he moved his family down the Ohio, up the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, and landed at Boydstown. A few weeks after his arrival here, his wife died, being the first death and burial in the place.

The first school was supported by subscription, and taught by Mrs. S. P. Kinney, in 1849. She was recommended by I. D. Brunson, of Prairie du Chien. The first school district was organized in the fall of 1851, and embraced all the territory in Crawford county, lying east of the Kickapoo river. It contained three settlements—Boydstown, Richland Creek and Cass, being about thirty miles in extent.

The first district school was taught by Ira Allen, of Indiana, who was also district clerk. He occupied three or four days in taking the district census. At this date, (1884) Viola Allen, grand-daughter of said Ira Allen, is teaching school on the same grounds her grand-father taught on thirty-eight years before, and is teaching the great grand-children of parents that sent to her grand-father.

“We see the same scenes our fathers have seen,  
We run the same race our fathers have run.”

But to resume the history of Boydstown: In 1852 C. Bermer, a German, came from New York, and opened a store in a building which he erected for that purpose. He also purchased a large share of the town plat.

Robert Boyd started a ferry-boat across the Wisconsin river soon after his arrival, which was maintained until the construction of the Boscobel bridge.

When the railroad was surveyed from Milwaukee to Prairie du Chien, Mr. Boyd supposed the line would run through Boydstown, and on the strength of this supposition the town was laid out in blocks and streets, and obtained a charter for a village. Several lots were sold and buildings erected. A respectable looking steamboat, *Enterprise*, Capt. Humbertson, made regular trips up the Wisconsin from different points on the Mississippi, and made Boydstown a regular weekly landing place. Among the carpenters there, were J. Barstow, brother of Ex-Gov. Barstow. He erected several buildings, among which was a large hotel. He afterward moved to Viroqua, where his wife was killed by a tornado.

But the place being left off the line of a railroad, rapid as had been its growth, the decline was still more marked. Mr. Boyd died in 1856, but lived to see his hopes vanish. William Wayne had died in 1851.

In 1856 almost the last vestage of the place had disappeared. The Bermer property was sold to Martin V. Foust, and by him to Jasper Wayne, who is improving and making a farm of the old site. Many buildings were removed, and some decayed on the grounds where they were built. One by one the inhabitants removed, until the last man, John Foust, moved away in 1883. Thus has passed from sight with its hopes and ambitions, the old land mark—Boydstown.

VILLAGE OF GEORGETOWN—THAT WAS.\*

I was a resident of Georgetown during part of its palmy days. I believe it was in 1852,

\*Information furnished by Isaac Woodward, of Boscobel.

that Jonathan Wayne and Mike Woodward bought eighty acres of land on section 14, town 8, range 3 west, within what was afterward the town of Marietta, and platted so much of it as could be made available between the bluffs and the Wisconsin river. They gave the name of the plat, "Village of Georgetown." In 1849, Lewis Wayne and Joshua Woodward built and operated a ferry at this point, which soon passed into the hands of "Mike" Woodward. I rented and run this ferry in 1855. The growth of Georgetown was in a business way, quite flattering. The first general store was opened in 1852 by L. Brown. About a year later, George Roberts opened up a stock of groceries and liquors. David McCord, also carried about the same sort of a stock. Another dealer whose name is forgotten, operated at the same time. It took a heap of whisky to run this town in its early days, under the "Marietta Code"—the unwritten law. Our blacksmith was Samuel Wagner; our landlord was Alfred Rogers. In 1856 we had a boat yard. A Mr. Webster, from below came up here and built two large barges for the Mississippi river trade. Upon the completion of the Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien railroad and the location of Boseobel, a general stampede prevailed, causing the people to scatter in all directions, and the village, buildings, people and all disappeared as if by magic. "Lib" Brown lives in the town of Scott, George Roberts went into the Union army, and after the war moved to Kansas. "Mike" Woodward is also a resident of Kansas. McCord died Jan. 14, 1884, in Boseobel; Jonathan Wayne died in Illinois; Samuel Wayne removed to Illinois. The ferry was operated till 1862, and then moved to a point about half a mile above the Boseobel bridge, which was built in 1876 at a cost of \$33,000. The village site and the original purchase of Wayne and Woodward, is now held by H. Comstock on a tax deed from Crawford county.

#### VILLAGE OF MARIETTA—NOW GONE.

At an early day there was quite a collection of houses at what is now Millet postoffice, on

section 9, in town 8, of range 3 west, at a point about where Callaway's saw-mill now stands. This was called the village of Marietta, and was indeed, quite a trading point. In 1853 Alvin Woods and William Rogers put in a large stock of general merchandise, and operated on so large a scale that the pioneers say they "failed up bad."

In 1860 George Cannon engaged in trade, he also dealt extensively in the cash product of the times, ginseng root, for which he paid out large sums of money and disposed of many thousand dollar's worth of goods. He remained only three years, and was followed by Kimball & Stover in 1866. This firm, which was the last to do business at this point, removed in 1867.

Guy S. Thompson built a tavern here which is now (1884) used by Mr. Callaway as his residence. No trace of a village has been visible here for years.

#### PIONEER SETTLERS AND PROMINENT CITIZENS.

William Wayne was born in Kentucky. In early life he settled in Cole Co., Ill., and about 1842 came to Grant Co., Wis. In 1845, with his family, consisting of himself, wife and eight children, he came to Boydstown, being, with the exception of Robert Boyd, who preceded him one year, the earliest settler of Marietta. His wife died in Marietta about 1860.

James N. Wayne, son of William Wayne, was born in Cole Co., Ill., in 1825; came to Marietta with his father in 1845. On Jan. 7, 1847, he married Cynthia, daughter of Dr. Chester Pratt, of Fennimore, Grant Co., Wis. They have had nine children—Jasper, born June 16, 1850; Florence, born Feb. 21, 1852 and died Sept. 15, 1852; James N., Jr., born Oct. 18, 1853 and died Feb. 21, 1855; Jane, born Jan. 15, 1856, wife of Rolla Harrison; William A., born April 1, 1859; Chester E., born Nov. 7, 1861; Walter, born May 24, 1864 and died March 21, 1869; Mary M., born Oct. 11, 1867, and Frank, born April 16, 1871. William A., the third son, lives with his mother on the old

homestead on section 35, town 8, range 4 west. They own two farms, 240 acres in all, with valuable improvements.

Lewis Wayne was born in Madison Co., Ky., in 1808. He settled in Marietta in 1850, on Richland creek, then called Bear creek, on section 15, town 8, range 3 west, where he bought 360 acres of good land. His son-in-law, Joshua Woodward, came with him. They crossed the Wisconsin river at Georgetown and made a road most of the way to their location. He married Nancy Redmon in 1828. They have ten children—Milton G., born 1829; Elizabeth E., born 1830; Nathaniel, born 1833; Samuel, born 1835; William, born 1838; Francis M., born 1841; Hester died in infancy, in 1842; Margaret, born 1846; Isabelle, born 1850; Nancy, born 1853. Hattie, born 1855; Mr. Wayne was a frontiersman, rugged and fearless. He was patriotic and a great hater of Indians (see reminiscence by his widow). He was blunt and outspoken. His death occurred March, 1869. He was buried with Masonic honors.

Nathaniel Wayne is the son of Lewis Wayne. He was born in 1833. He came to Boscobel, and with his father's family, to this town in 1850. The fortunes of his father he largely shared, serving in the army with him and three brothers in company K, 12th Wisconsin Volunteers, which service cost him dearly, having been an invalid ever since. He resides with his mother, Nancy Wayne, on the old homestead purchased by his father in 1850, on section 15, town 8, range 3 west. He was married in 1871 to Mrs. Sarah Madison. They have two children—Joseph L., born June 10, 1872; James L., born June 16, 1874. Mr. Wayne was a good and faithful soldier, and for disability contracted in the army he receives a pension.

Stephen S. Ferrel was born in Botetourt Co., Va., in 1815. In 1820 his parents moved to Sangamon Co., Ill., settling on Lick creek, six miles south of Springfield, which was then a

“squatter” village. His father, who was a Revolutionary soldier, died in 1823. He married, in 1840, Eliza Jane Todd, who was born in Kentucky, and a distant relative to President Lincoln's wife. When Lincoln was a young lawyer, Mr. Ferrel became well acquainted with him, which acquaintance continued until his removal from the State. He says of Lincoln: “He was the most honest lawyer I ever knew or heard of.” When he came to Iowa Co., Wis., he bought land and settled near Dodgeville, but followed mining. In 1850 he moved to Marietta, settling on 160 acres in sections 8 and 9 in Richland creek valley. The entry he made with a land warrant granted to his mother on account of services rendered by his father in the Revolution. He enlisted September, 1861, in company K, 12th Wisconsin Volunteers. He was discharged in September, 1862, on account of hemorrhage of the lungs. He still lives on the old homestead. They have had six children—John T., born 1841; William Henry, born 1843, died 1858; James, born 1845; Anna, born 1848; Virginia, born 1852; Edwin is dead. He has served as chairman of town board of Marietta, about twelve years. The first election after his residence in the town, he was made justice of the peace, which office he has held to this date (1884). Counting his Illinois service, he has been a magistrate nearly half a century. He has always been an active and useful citizen.

J. T. Ferrel, son of S. S. Ferrel, was born in Sangamon Co., Ill., 1841. He came to this town with his father in 1854, with whom he lived until 1861, when he enlisted in company K, 12th Wisconsin Volunteers. He served three years, then “veteranized,” and served until the regiment was mustered out, July, 1865. He was always able to be in the ranks in all engagements of the regiment. The regiment was in the battles of Atlanta, July 20, 21, 22 and 28, following Sherman to the sea, up through the Carolinas, and in the line at the grand review of the grand army, at Washington, in



June, 1865. Mr. Ferrel was a faithful, capable soldier, and for meritorious service in assisting in the laying of a bridge across the Savannah river, the night before the evacuation of the city, he was promoted from the ranks to a lieutenant. In 1866 he married Martha S. Castley, of Marietta. They have eight children—William, born 1866; Nellie, born, 1868; George, born 1870; Charles, born 1872; Walter, born 1874; Dolly, born 1878; Carrie, born 1881, and Frank, born 1883. Mr. Ferrel lives and owns a farm in section 9, Richland creek valley. He has served on town boards of supervisors and as town clerk.

Jonathan Rogers lives on section 15, town 8, range 3 west, in Richland creek valley. He was born in 1840, in Milwaukee, Wis. He came to this county with his father, Edward Rogers, about 1850. Edward Rogers was a millwright, and the first one of his trade, who ever worked in Crawford county, he was formerly from Ohio. He came to Milwaukee about 1840, and in 1843 to Dodgeville, Iowa county, working near three years in the lead mines. About 1850 he came to Marietta; was the millwright employed by Lew Wayne & Woodward, in building the "Peonice Mill," of this country. In partnership with O. E. Wise he built the second mill, the site of which, is now owned by the Callaway boys. The settlement of Mr. Rogers was on the place now owned and occupied by J. M. Callaway. Mr. Rodgers, when he settled in Marietta, was a widower, with a family of six children—Adeline, wife of O. E. Wise; Caroline, wife of J. T. Ferrel; Edwin, Daniel, Jonathan and Charlotte. His last wife was Mrs. Chandler, formerly of Platteville, Wis. By this marriage Mr. Rogers had three children. Mr. Rogers died about 1858, and his widow and her three children moved to another part of the State. Mr. Rogers could use almost all kinds of tools, and work iron or wood; was a man by nature master of mechanical work; is also remembered as being active in public affairs in the new settlement. His son Jonathan Rogers married March 13,

1871, Eva Drake. They have four children—Mary L., born Jan. 26, 1872; Anna, born Aug. 18, 1874; Frank, born Oct. 8, 1879, and Charlotte M., born Oct. 30, 1883.

James M. Ferrel was the son of S. S. Ferrel. He was born in Sangamon Co., Ill., in 1845. He came with his father to Marietta in 1854, and lived with him until he enlisted in 1865, in the 47th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers. He served nine months and was mustered out with the regiment, Sept. 20, 1865. He married Josephine Moore, of Iowa Co., Wis., whose parents were among the first settlers there; her mother, America Parish, being the first white woman in the county, and was there married to Col. Levi Moore. Mr. Ferrel had six children, five living—Pearl S., born Aug. 1, 1869; Fern E., born Sept. 4, 1871; Ivy S., born Jan. 16, 1876; Lena C., born Jan. 11, 1878; and Lee J., born April 19, 1883. Jennie M. was born Jan. 29, 1882, died in that year. Mr. Ferrel owns and lives upon a farm on section 9.

Stephen Gardiner was born in Wabash Co., Ill., Oct. 30, 1827. When two years of age his father, Joseph Gardiner, moved to Richland Co., Ills., where he died in 1856. Stephen went to Jo Daviess county, in 1849, when Oct. 30, 1850, his 23d birthday, he married Elizabeth Ann Posey. In May, 1854, he came to Marietta, settling on section 10, town 8, range 4 west, where he lived until 1870, when, preferring to live on the ridge land, he bought a farm on section 20, and has since resided there, still owning the old farm in the valley of the Kickapoo. They have nine children—William J., born Jan. 13, 1852, died in infancy; Nancy Jane, born Feb. 28, 1853; Jerusha, born Feb. 12, 1855; Harriet, born Nov. 26, 1856; Josephine, born May 11, 1859; Lydia, born May 16, 1861, died Oct. 13, 1862; Martha A., born Jan. 1, 1863; David, born Dec. 9, 1864; Jemina, born June 9, 1867. Mr. Gardiner has had many public trusts; one term chairman of town board, justice several terms, town treasurer five or six terms, and one term assessor.

James Posey settled with his family on section 10, in Kickapoo valley, town 8, range 4 west, town of Marietta, in May, 1854. He crossed the Wisconsin river at Georgetown, coming thence by way of Richland creek, from the waters of which they made their road to the Kickapoo valley. They were the first settlers of the northwest part of the township. Mr. Posey was instrumental in making roads, leading up the valley of Kickapoo river, and to Boydstown on Wisconsin river. He also, with S. Severson and John T. Farris, established a ferry on the Kickapoo, near where the Farris Bridge now stands; this bridge, with a little assistance from the town, was built by the neighborhood in 1858; it is on the main road from Seneca and vicinity to Wauzeka and Boscobel. Mr. Posey was born in 1817, near Savannah, Ga. While young his parents moved to Tennessee; in 1829, to Wayne Co., Ill., where he married, in 1835, Jerusha V. Farris. In 1845, they moved to Jo Daviess Co., Ill., and from there to Marietta. They have had nine children—Elizabeth Ann, born 1836, wife of Stephen Gardiner; Nancy Jane, born 1838, died 1878; Louisa, born 1840, died 1877; George W., born 1843; James D., born 1846; Jerusha E., born 1848; Isaac F., born 1851; Edna Ann, born 1854; William S., born 1856, in the old town of Union. Mr. Posey was chairman of the board of supervisors most of the time from 1862 to 1875.

Chauncy H. Steele, lives on section 3 (Marietta), town 8, range 3 west, where he has a fine farm with valuable improvements. He was born in Oswego Co., N. Y., in 1827, coming to the territory of Wisconsin at the age of sixteen; stopping at Platteville, Grant county, he engaged in farming. The same year (1844) his parents followed him. In 1850, he went to California and followed mining and teaming for two years. He returned to Wisconsin in February, 1853, and married Rebecca E. Wannemaker. In September 1855, he came to Marietta, locating on section 2, town 8, range 3 west. He built a

horse-power stave-mill; not proving a success, he built a larger, and put in an engine, and machinery for cutting all kinds of hard wood for general building purposes, running also a stave-cutter. He rafted and floated to market, down the river, the products of the mill. He had in partnership with him Charles and S. L. Wannemaker and I. C. Jones. This was the first steam mill ever built in the town of Marietta; it burned in 1859. In 1863 he moved to his present residence, where he owns 240 acres of land. They have five children—Walter E., born 1854; Clarence H., born 1856; Rena S., born 1861; Nelson E., born 1863; Myrtie E., born 1875. Mr. Steele served a short term in the army, enlisting in company G. 47th Wisconsin Volunteers in January, 1865, was appointed commissary sergeant, was mustered out with the regiment in September, 1865. He has held many important public trusts; served as chairman of county board of supervisors two terms, as chairman of the town board, four terms; several terms as member of sideboard, and as assessor and treasurer. His father and mother lived with him during the last years of their lives. An obelisk in a beautiful cemetery, bears these inscriptions: Timothy Steele, died June 20, 1866, aged 83 years. Orpha J. Steele, died Nov. 9, 1865, aged 70 years.

Peter Campbell was born in Perthshire, Scotland, in 1819. He was married in 1846, to Isabel Stevenson. June 2, 1851, with his wife and two children, he embarked on a sail-boat, at Glasgow, for America, landing at New York, and continuing west, by the way of Buffalo, and the lakes, and Milwaukee, to Lancaster, Grant Co., Wis., reaching there Aug. 2, 1851. He lived in that vicinity, following farming, until the spring of 1856, when he came to Marietta town, settling first on section 20. He lived there until 1868, when he built his present fine residence on section 17. Mr. Campbell owns lands on sections 17, 18, 20, 21 and 7, town 8, range 3 west, in all, 520 acres, having about 200 acres under cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Camp-

bell had nine children given them—Peter, born 1847, died in October 1872; Thomas, born in 1849; Maggie, born in 1851; Will G, and James S., (twins) born in 1856; Robert, born in 1858; Albert, born in 1860, died in November 1872; Jennie born in 1862, and Wallace born in 1865. Mr. Campbell was the first settler, on what is known as Campbell ridge. He has served about twenty years as school treasurer in his district, one term as town treasurer, and three terms on side board of supervisors, and is a much respected citizen.

Samuel L. Wannemaker, was born in Trumbull Co., Ohio, 1822. He lived there until 1845, then came to Grant Co., Wis. He lived in the town of Liberty until 1850, owned a farm, but worked at his trade, carpenter and joiner. In 1850 he bought in Clifton a saw mill, with water power. He operated the same until 1857, living, meanwhile in Clifton, then taking into co-partnership, Peter Clayton, Wm. Howdle, William Oliver, and William Andrew. On the old mill site, they built a substantial flouring mill. This was called Annaton mill, and cost \$15,000. The same year, Mr. Wannemaker sold out his interest and moved back to Liberty. In 1859, he went to Pike's Peak, Col., and followed mining until 1861, when he returned to Grant county, and in the fall of the same year, came to Marietta. He then built a steam saw mill on section 12, operating this mill two years. He then, in 1863, exchanged it for a farm in Grant county. Since that time, he has paid his attention to farming, and his trade, and has had his residence on section 12, town 8, range 3 west. He also owns three rented farms in Grant county. In 1852, he married at Wingville, Grant county, Maria J. Hill; they have five children—Jenny Lind, born May 16, 1853; Edgar L. born Sept. 10, 1855; Samuel Lee, born May 4, 1858; Loren E. born Jan. 22, 1862; Ellen Kate, born Dec. 2, 1864. Mr. Wannemaker has always been a prominent citizen wherever he has resided, and has represented his county in the State Legislature, served five terms as chairman of the

board of supervisor, served two years as town clerk, one year as treasurer, and one year as assessor. His father, Jonas Wannemaker, was born in Lehigh Co., Penn., 1795. At the age of fifteen, he moved to Trumbull Co., Ohio. In 1818 he married Esther Everett. He moved to Wisconsin, in 1847, and settled in Liberty, Grant county. He lived there until the summer of 1872, and moved to Marietta, living with Samuel until his death, which occurred Nov. 3, 1872. His wife lived until Jan. 21, 1875. They have been blessed with a family of twelve children, and all are living at this time (1884)—Samuel L., Lydia, wife of I. C. Jones; Mary A., wife of Eli Emmens; Rebecca, wife of C. H. Steele, of Marietta; Sarah A., wife of E. A. Brown; Charles E., Jonas, Clarrissa, wife of Leonard Fry; Nelson, living in California; Susan, wife of Dr. Wm. Loy; Emma, wife of Robt. Dennis, of Grant county; Kate, wife of James B. Newcomb, of McLeod Co., Minn. His grandfather Wannemaker, and his great-grand-father were soldiers in the Revolutionary War, and were both in Gen. Wayne's (Mad Anthony) command, at Paoli, when the command was surprised in their sleep, and the larger portion, massacred. His grandfather was among the prisoners, and his great-grand-father was killed.

J. W. Daugherty was born in Adams Co., Ills., in 1837. While young, his parents removed to Fair Play, Grant Co., Wis., (1843); two years later to Dickeyville, and in 1856, to Fennimore. In 1865, the subject of this sketch came to Marietta, locating on section 14, town 8, range 4, living there five or six years; then removing to Ellenboro, Grant county, where he stayed one year, then returned and located on section 24, town 8, range 4, where he has since resided. Early in 1864, he enlisted in company E., 35th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers. After thirteen months service, he was discharged, on account of injuries received while on duty. He was married at Fennimore, Wis., Jan. 31, 1858, to Jane Bailey, a native of Ohio. They have had nine children, six of whom are living—

Elmer E., John F., Hattie Bell, Huldah I., George C. and Rhoda E. Three are buried—Oney, Sarah and James. Mr. Daugherty had two brothers in the army. John enlisted in the 2d Wisconsin Cavalry, in 1862, and died in hospital in 1864. Thomas was a member of the 25th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and was killed at the battle of Resaca, Ga. His father lived his last years with him, and died Nov. 27, 1881.

William Harris was born in Perthshire, Scotland. The family came to America, landing at Quebec, in 1854. His father, William Harris, Sr., settled in Wellington with his wife and five children. In 1864 William Harris, Jr., with a married sister, whose husband had preceded them, came to Milwaukee, Wis. William went to Madison in railroad employ, and part of the year worked on the Wisconsin river. His father was killed by the falling of a tree in Canada in 1865. To assist his mother and family he returned to Canada, but his Wisconsin experience induced him to return, with all the family, in November of the same year; family consisting of his mother, his brothers Peter, James, George, John and himself and sister Isabella. They made home first on rented land in Wauzeka town in a neighborhood called Sundown, living there about two years. They then rented a farm of John Loaby in Eastman, and lived there until 1871. In 1872 William and James bought land on section 34, town 8, range 4 west, and brought their families here, being the first settlers on the range in that part of town. James now owns the first location; William owns and occupies the northwest quarter, section 34, town 8, range 4 west. Their mother is living with her son George on section 27, same town. All the family that came to Wisconsin are living and in this town. William Harris, Jr., married Jemina Hunter, of Eastman. They have five children—William, born 1871; Robert, born 1873; John, born 1875; Margaret Jane, born 1877; and James Guy, born 1881. Mr. Harris is one of the substantial

farmers of this town, and a man held in high esteem by his townspeople.

James Patten was born in Cayuga Co., N. Y., in 1835. At the age of nineteen years, his parents being dead, he as the eldest son, had charge of the family, which consisted of his step-mother, five brothers and two sisters. In 1854 he moved to Cherry Valley, Winnebago Co., Ill. There in 1860 he married Jane Coya. He enlisted in the 12th Illinois Cavalry early in 1862, serving nearly three years, he was in all engagements of the regiment. In June 1865, he came to Marietta, looking for a location; in September of the same year, he brought his family, consisting of a wife and three children. The following year (1866) he purchased, on the ridge west of Richland creek, 360 acres of land on section 7, where he has lived ever since. They have ten children—Joseph, born 1860; Mary, born 1862; James E., born 1865; Samuel E., born 1866; Hattie, born 1868, and died in 1873; William, born 1870; Louisa, born 1872; John, born 1874, died in infancy; Georgiana, born 1876, and Lee, born 1878. Mr. Patten is serving his third term as chairman of the board of supervisors, has also served three terms as side member, has always been active in all matters promoting public good.

J. M. Callaway was born in Franklin Co., Va., Nov. 25, 1810. When twenty-one years of age, his father A. E. Callaway, with the family, wife and twelve children, six sons and six daughters, moved to southeastern Missouri. The subject of this sketch remained there until 1846, excepting about four year's absence, which was spent mostly in Vicksburg, Miss., though he made several journeys to Texas during that time, in its "Lone Star Republic" days. There he was repeatedly asked the usual question in those days, "What have you been doing in the States, that you have to come here?" Texas was then the place of refuge from justice. Mr. Callaway has been quite a traveler, has visited eighteen different States. In 1846 he came to Iowa Co., Wis., and there

married, July 23, 1847, Margaret Daily. He lived there, near Highland, ten years (excepting three years spent in California, 1853, 1854, and 1855), engaged in farming, but more largely in mining. In 1856 he moved to Henrietta, Richland county, where he bought land and made a farm, and built a saw and grist mill in said town of Henrietta. He lived there also ten years. In 1866 he bought land on sections 8 and 9, on Richland creek, town of Marietta, making his residence on section 9, where he has lived to this date, (1884). They have nine living children, eight living with parents—Joel D., born June 11, 1848; Millard H., born May 18, 1851; James V., born Aug. 31, 1853; Jennie, born May 4, 1857; Ruth, born Oct. 31, 1858; Douglas, born Oct. 4, 1860; Frank, born Oct. 10, 1862; Dolly, born May 4, 1865, and May, born July 10, 1867. Two infant twin children were buried in 1849. Mr. Callaway is an active, public-spirited citizen, has been postmaster at Marietta postoffice, now called Millett, sixteen years, was register of deeds for Crawford county in the years 1871 and 1872; in 1870 enumerator of census for the county east of Kickapoo river; in 1880, for town of Marietta. He is now (1884) town clerk.

James Guickan is operating a steam saw mill located on section 26, town 8, range 4 west. Mr. Guickan has operated steam mills in Crawford county the past sixteen years. He commenced the business when a young man, losing a mill by fire in Union Co., Ohio, in 1866. He has suffered severely by fire and accident in this county. He first located in the town of Scott in 1868, and has operated mills in Scott, Clayton, Wauzeka and Marietta towns. In 1871, Mr. Guickan was taken out of the debris of a mill wrecked by boiler explosion, in the town of Scott, in a supposed dying condition, and for three years was nearly blind from the effect of this explosion. He was badly burned, and will carry to the grave scars received at that time. He was afterward connected with a very fine mill in Clayton town,

which was destroyed by fire. Mr. Guickan is a man of great energy, and never gives up to adversity. He was born in County Letrim, Ireland, in 1847; came with his parents to America in 1855. His father settled in Preble Co., Ohio, where he still resides. When Mr. Guickan was not yet sixteen years of age, he enlisted, Oct. 16, 1862, in the 50th regiment Ohio Volunteers; not being of legal age, his father on writ of *habeas corpus* took him out of the regiment, but, finding that James would go in some way, consented to his enlistment as a drummer boy, in the 54th Ohio Volunteers. A few weeks found the drum exchanged for a musket, and for sixteen months he could always be found in the ranks. He was then discharged as an invalid, but later entered the employ of the Government at camp Hamilton, and remained until the camp was broken up in 1865. Mr. Guickan was married in Ohio, in 1865, to Mary Robinson. One child—Charles E. was born to them in Ohio, Aug. 16, 1865. Mrs. Guickan, long an invalid, died July 5, 1877. On Feb. 24, 1878, Mr. Guickan married Martha, daughter of William O'Shaughnessy, of this town. By this marriage there were three children—Martha Ellen, born Dec. 2, 1878; James William, born April 21, 1881; and Lillian, born July 5, 1883.

J. B. Kinder, a native of Perry Co., Ohio, was born in 1845, and in August 1861, enlisted in company D, 31st regiment, Ohio Volunteers, at the age of sixteen years, serving four years, lacking eight days. He was always able to do duty, and participated in all the battles in which the regiment was engaged; followed Sherman through Georgia to the sea, through the Carolinas, and was in the line at the grand review at the Nation's capital, in June, 1865. The war left him out of health, and after one year of sickness, for health and recreation, after selling his farm in Ohio, he came west, and in 1867 bought a farm in Wauzeka, and the same year married Frances Ward, of Marietta. The following year, he sold, and bought land on sec-

tion 18, of Marietta, town 8, range 3 west, where he now resides, owning 220 acres. He has made valuable improvements, and has a fine orchard, etc. Mr. and Mrs. Kinder have had eight children, seven living—Alonzo, born in 1868; Charles, born in 1870; Jerome B., born in 1872; Peter, born in 1874; Willie, born in 1876; Bertie, born in 1878; Lemuel, born in 1881, and Mary, born in 1883. One son, Willie, died in 1881.

J. G. Allen was born in Posey Co., Ind., in 1815. In 1838, he married Susannah Schnee, a native of Pennsylvania. In 1845, Mr. Allen came west, settling near Wingville, Grant county, where he made a good farm and lived twenty-six years. He afterwards moved to Boseobel, and lived there about six years. He then came to Marietta. He with his son, Albert A. Allen, built a flouring mill, on Richland creek, on section 9. Allen's mill is known far and wide and has earned for its proprietors a good name. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have had seven children—Robert S., born 1844, who enlisted in the 3d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in 1863, and died in hospital in New York, March 8, 1865; Albert A., born 1847; Anna born 1849, wife of Allen Bell of Venango Co., Penn.; Gilbert L., born 1852, lives in Saginaw, Mich. September, 1877, J. G. Allen and his son Albert A. Allen, of Boseobel, came to Marietta and bought 23 acres of land, including mill site, on Richland creek on section 9, and immediately commenced building a flouring mill. In 1878, they had a substantial structure, 36x24 feet, containing two buhrs in operation. The mill was a success from the start, but, in December, 1882, the mill was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Allen and son, with characteristic energy, rebuilt on the old foundation, and were running in three months, having made valuable improvement in the machinery. The mill is a favorite with farmers and customers, doing custom work; also buying wheat and selling flour. William M., born 1857, agent at Brookfield station C. M. & St. P. R. R. Two children died in Indiana while young. Albert A. is in partnership, in business with his father. He was married in October, 1881, to Hattie Martin. They have one child—Winnie.

Henry C. C. Kast is a pioneer of the county, but has lived in this town but a short time. He was nine years of age, when his father, Chancey Kast, in 1850, settled in the town of Scott. At the age of eighteen years, Henry married Sarah E. Prater, of Port Andrew, and after marriage settled in the town of Haney. Sept. 29, 1861, he enlisted in company K, 12th Wisconsin Volunteers; while the regiment was at Camp Randall, before leaving the State, he received, while on duty, an injury to his left knee, which so disabled him as to cause his discharge. Returning home, he lived at Petersburg until 1872. Then, after a few months' residence at Port Andrew, he bought land on section 14, Haney town, living at Bell Centre, and improved it. He came to the town of Marietta, Dec. 13, 1881, and located on section 9, town 8, range 4 west, where he keeps a country store, and the post-office named Steuben, owning land near by. They have four children—Francis W., born 1863; Calvin R., born 1865; Melinda E., born 1870; Henry W., born 1872.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

## PRAIRIE DU CHIEN—TOWN AND CITY.

After the county of Crawford had been created it was clearly seen that the people resident therein needed a town organization; so the secretary of the Territory of Michigan, William Woodbridge, then vested with the power and authority of governor, issued a proclamation forming a "township" (town), which was named the

## BOROUGH OF PRAIRIE DES CHIENS.

The proclamation creating this town was in the following words:

"WHEREAS, It is provided by the ordinance of Congress, for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, which ordinance by several subsequent acts of Congress, has been applied to and now constitutes the fundamental law of said Territory of Michigan, that the governor thereof shall proceed from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of said Territory, in which the Indian title shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships; and, whereas it is deemed promotive of the public good at this time, that the village of Prairie des Chiens, in the county of Crawford, within said Territory, should be erected into a township for the better regulation of the internal public thereof, and for other purposes:

"Now, therefore, I, the above named William Woodbridge, do, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, constitute the whole of that tract of country comprehending the said village of Prairie des Chiens, which lies within the bounds hereinafter described, into a township to be known and called by the name of the

"Borough of Prairie des Chiens," to-wit: All that country which lies within the following boundaries: Beginning at the confluence of the river Ouiconsin with the river Mississippi, thence in a line at right angles with the course of said river at the point aforesaid to the boundaries of the said Territory; thence up the said river along said boundary line to a point opposite from the entrance into said river Mississippi of a small run or creek known by name of Fisher's creek; thence up said creek four miles, or to its source if it should not be found four miles long; thence to the confluence of the river Kickapoo with the river Ouiconsin; thence along said river to the place of beginning.

"Given under my hand and the great seal of said Territory at Detroit this seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and of the independence of the United States of America the forty-sixth.

WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE."

The borough (township or town) of Prairie du Chien continued in existence until 1828, when it was superseded by the town of St. Anthony; which included, as shown in a previous chapter, the whole of Crawford county, the dimensions of which were very large. The town last mentioned continued until 1849, when the county was divided into four towns, one of which was called the town of Prairie du Chien. It included nearly all of the county as at present circumscribed. Since that date it has been shorn of territory until in 1872 it was reduced

to the present limits. It is bounded on the north by the town of Eastman, on the west by the town of Wauzeka, on the south by the town of Bridgeport and the city of Prairie du Chien and on the west by the Mississippi river and comprises parts of town 7, of ranges 6 and 7 west.

The surface of the town is very rough, except the beautiful prairie land between the bluffs and the Mississippi river, which is about one and one-half miles wide. The western part of the town is cut by numerous lagoons, setting back from the main channel of the Mississippi river. The ridges originally had good timber, but has long since given way to the axe of the settler; and where once stately forest trees grew now a second growth has sprung up. The soil is a heavy clay on the ridges, while the valleys, especially that of the Mississippi, contains a mixture of sand.

#### FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement in what is now (1884) known as the town of Prairie du Chien was made at what is called Frenchtown, a suburb of the city of Prairie du Chien, and which is located on the "Prairie" midway between the bluff and the east bank of the Mississippi river two miles north of the city. This settlement dates back nearly a century, and was first called "Pople." The name "Frenchtown" began to be used about 1850.

Dennis Courtois was the first white man who settled at this place. In 1820 he made affidavits showing himself to have been in the country as early as 1792, at which time he and his wife came from Canada.

Claude Gagnier settled on farm lot No. 13, in 1794, and died leaving a family as residents of the place.

Francois Cheneviere came in 1806 and married a half blood Indian woman. In 1810 he erected a two horse sweep power grist mill which was in use till 1838.

Piere Chelofau came from St. Louis and settled here in 1812.

In 1813 a Canadian named Le Blonde came in, married a squaw and raised a family. He died in 1843. About this date came Mr. Gollan and wife from Canada. He died at Frenchtown in 1867, and his wife died in Missouri in 1880, at the age of 103 years.

Frederick Stram, native of Switzerland came with his family in 1826. They came by way of the Red river of the north, accompanied by Joseph Boothe and a man named Merebeau with their families. The latter remained only three years, but Mr. Boothe remained till the time of his death in 1867. His widow married Modest Corden.

In 1836 Ezekiel Tainter settled on the bluff in the town of Prairie du Chien, on what is now known as the Nickerson farm.

The next to venture out and make settlement on the bluffs, were E. Putnam and John Miller.

#### ORGANIC.

The following is a list of the first town officers of the town of Prairie du Chien:

Alfred Brunson, chairman; Joseph Atherton, Aaron Hazen, supervisors; Theodore Bugbee, town clerk; Isaac P. Perrit Gentil, town treasurer; Isaac P. Perrit Gentil, town assessor; Alfred Brunson, town superintendent of schools; Anson B. Cay, Daniel H. Whaley, William E. Keith, constables; Wiram Knowlton, James H. Lockwood, Joseph Atherton, and Aaron Hazen, justices of the peace.

The first annual meeting was held April 3, 1872, when the following officers were elected: John Folsom, Thomas McGrath and Flavien Cherrier, supervisors; M. E. Norris, clerk; Andrew Bosch, assessor; Joseph Pinz, treasurer; M. I. Donnell, Patrick La Vell and M. Lechner, justices of the peace.

Officers of 1883: Thomas McGrath, chairman; James Norris, Joseph Wilharber, supervisors; D. H. Quilligan, town clerk; Judson Lareviere, assessor; Theodore Bay, treasurer; Thomas J. Quilligan, John H. Folsom, justices.

#### SCHOOLS.

At the present time (1884) the town is divided into three full and four joint school districts:



District No. 9 has an old frame building, on section 12, town 7, range 7 west. Number of pupils, forty-five.

District No. 10 has a brick house situated on section 10, town 7, range 6 west, valued at \$200. Number of pupils, thirty-six.

District No. 11 is provided with a brick building on section 9, town 7, range 6 west, valued at \$300. Number of pupils, thirty.

District No. 6, joint with Bridgeport and Wauzeka, has a frame house, in good condition, located on section 23, town 7, range 6 west, valued at \$700. Number of pupils, eighty-three.

District No. 4, joint with Wauzeka, in which town the school house is located. Number of pupils, six.

District No. 5, joint with Bridgeport, with building in last named town. Number of pupils, twenty-five.

Sections 29 and 30, town 7, range 6 west, are attached to the city of Prairie du Chien, for school purposes.

#### FLOURING MILL.

The first flouring mill in all this section of the State of Wisconsin, aside from the hand mills and other rude contrivances used before the American settlement proper was effected, was constructed in 1810, by Francois Cheneviere. This was propelled by two horses and a sweep, and was used till 1818, when Col. John Shaw built a water power mill, on what is now known as the Dousman mill farm, which is situated on Mill Coulee creek, on section 6, town 7, range 6 west. It is stated by the old French settlers, that the owner of the "horse power mill" took one-third for grinding.

The mill on Mill Coulee, is the only one in the town; it was rebuilt in 1840, by Joseph Rolette, and in 1883, by George E. Jacobia. An entire new foundation was placed underneath the building, the old time overshot wheel, so moss-covered and water-soaked, taken out and a modern Turbine wheel put in and new machinery throughout, making it a very valuable

mill. But little business has ever been transacted in the town, except what was carried on in a small way at Frenchtown.

Louis Stram opened a grocery store and also handled liquors quite extensively, from 1854 to 1872. He kept a hotel there for many years, while Prairie du Chien was yet in its infancy.

#### CITY OF PRAIRIE DU CHIEN.

This city, which is the county seat of Crawford county, is situated on the east bank of the Mississippi river, in the extreme southwestern part of the county, and is one of the oldest places in the State of Wisconsin, dating from 1781.

Before the whites (who were Canadian French) first located on the Prairie. it was inhabited by the Fox Indians, whose chief was named Dog (Chien in French); and it was from this it took its name, which was subsequently given to the village.

Of all the charming city sites in the great and far-famed upper Mississippi valley, perhaps none excels Prairie du Chien in grandeur and beauty. Surrounded as it is by the mountain-like bluffs on either side of the river, which flows on in its ceaseless current toward the far off ocean, the picturesque scenery is ever a feast to the eye.

The prairie on which the city is laid out is a sand and loam plain, about two miles wide at the south end, running north about seven miles, to a point, the whole embracing about seven sections of land. The site of the city stretches along the Mississippi river about two miles; nearly all of which affords a good steamboat landing, and averages about one and a half miles in width.

This place is situated about 300 miles below St. Paul, in Minnesota and seventy miles up the river from Dubuque and Dunlieth; is 600 miles from St. Louis and 1,800 from New Orleans by way of the meanderings of the Mississippi river, and is ninety-eight miles west of Madison and 198 miles from Milwaukee. The platting of the city shows much taste as well as

practical design, the streets being laid out at right angles and the blocks of convenient size for both business and resident purposes. The river at this point is a mile and a quarter wide, including islands; the whole valley, from the bluffs on the east to those on the Iowa shore, is about three miles in width. This level plain, walled in as it is by these everlasting hills, which in many places rise into great altitude, their surface covered with a carpeting of green and scattering timber, with here and there a precipitous rock cropping out in bold relief, lends a beauty to the city and its environments, which must be seen in order to be fully appreciated.

Another prominent feature of the city is its artesian wells, which are not only curiosities but also of great utility. One of these fountains is situated within the city park and throws a constant stream of the purest, most health-giving water of any well in the world. This stream, which doubtless has its source in a distant part of the State, furnishes the city with water for domestic use, for fire protection and flows down on either side of the principal business streets, over stone gutters, which are kept clean and white by this never-failing stream, that supplies a cooling draught for both man and beast. This well attracts the attention of the stranger as he visits the city and leads him to exclaim, "*A thing of beauty is a joy forever!*"

Here and there throughout the city may be seen a very substantial class of business buildings and public edifices. Especially great pride is taken in the schools and church buildings of the place. These, together with the court house, which is a stone structure, situated in a charming public square, the surface of which is shaded by the dark green foliage of the pine and cedar—have come to be a pride to the people of Prairie du Chien.

This point was made the terminus of the Milwaukee & Mississippi River railroad, in April, 1857; it being the most northern point on the river to which the iron steed had found

his way. In 1884, this was known as the Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul line.

#### RECORDED PLATS.

The various plats of Prairie du Chien were filed for record as follows:

Original plat, Sept. 11, 1837. This plat was purchased of Amable and Lenore Moreau, by Thomas P. Burnett, for \$65.

Lockwood's addition, Dec. 26, 1840.

Streets, additions, April 9, 1839.

Power's addition, Sept. 9, 1840.

Beaumont's addition, Oct. 31, 1842.

Dousman's addition, Nov. 16, 1842.

E. Power's addition, April 8, 1843.

Parish's addition, Dec. 5, 1855.

J. Y. Smith's addition Sept. 26, 1856.

McGregor's addition April 27, 1856.

Clark's addition, Dec. 22, 1855.

Marsh's addition, Sept. 1, 1856.

Union plat by H. L. Dousman *et al*, Sept, 27, 1856.

First addition to Union plat, June 4, 1857.

Beaumont's addition, Aug. 12, 1856.

Lower Prairie du Chien, June 14, 1856.

Extension to Union plat, March 13, 1858.

At the present time, (1884), the principal part of the city is on the high ground in the rear of the old village of St. Feriolo. What was known as the "Main Village" at an early date, lay immediately along the east bank of the Mississippi river, and is now occupied by the railroad yards, ware houses, and lumber yards.

"Lower Town" is that part of the city situated about a half mile down the river from old St. Feriolo. Here, the railroad shops are located, and other business interests, yet the principal business of the city is done on the old site of St. Feriolo, about midway between the two bluffs.

#### AMERICAN SETTLEMENT.

A history of the first settlement of Prairie du Chien, largely by Canadian French, will be found in a previous chapter. We here com-

mence the narrative when the Americans began to settle very rapidly on "the prairie."

Hercules L. Dousman, who was of Canadian French origin, came to the village in 1826 or 1827, in the employ of the American Fur Company, and speedily rose to wealth and distinction. Some men who were stationed here in the military service of the United States made selection of eligible location within a short distance of the prairie, to which they returned after their term of office expired; among whom may be mentioned Edward Hughes, John McClure, J. P. Hall, and Daniel Frost. Between 1830 and 1835, the names of Tainter, Miller, Putnam and Martin, were identified with the history of this place.

In 1832 I. P. Perrit Gentil, afterwards for many years county treasurer, located here. J. F. Mills came in 1834, for the purpose of engaging as tutor in the families of Col. Taylor and Indian agent Street, but entered the quartermaster's office, and subsequently rose to distinction in civil life.

Another arrival of 1836, was Alexander McGregor, who was one of the principal men and, in that year laid out the lower village. He also established that year a ferry across the Mississippi. After laboring assiduously to build up the lower town, he removed in 1847, and became the founder of the city on the Iowa side, which bears his name.

In this year (1836) the fever of speculation, then running rampant over the country, reached this place, and property ran up to fabulous heights. Two land companies were organized, who bought up all they could get of the private land claims below the garrison, and laid it out into city lots. But failing to succeed as they wished, this part of the city remained only on paper for several years.

A man by the name of Van Dorn, from Michigan, full of the idea of Chicago and Milwaukee, came to this place and finding no land in market except the private land claims, bought up some claims on Government land not yet surveyed in

the Wisconsin bottoms, which are low and marshy, and subject to annual inundations. This he platted on paper, and went east and put into stock, at \$200,000, \$100 per share, and imposed on many honest men, who supposed they were buying shares in the city of Prairie du Chien, for so he called his marsh. He paid for his claims in Michigan wild cat money a few days before those banks exploded. He had to leave the country, and the last heard from him he was in Texas.

In this year population began to increase. Many who were bound ultimately for Iowa and Minnesota, made this their stopping place till they could prepare their future homes. Several new houses were put up, and permanent residences made.

Among the number who came to Prairie du Chien in 1837, were Losen and Seth Hill, II. W. and Thomas Savage.

Concerning Prairie du Chien in 1857, and what its future prospects might be, the Rev. Alfred Brunson at that date wrote:

"The town plat lies two miles along the river, and runs back one and a half miles, on an average, covering an area of about three sections. But the present inhabitants, numbering about 3,000, are scattered over the equivalent of seven sections, all of which can, and probably will be occupied for dwellings and business in a few years.

"We have one large steam flouring, and one steam saw mill; we have three lumber yards; five brick yards; four lime kilns, and stone quarries without number. Several millions of brick have been made and laid up during the past season, in dwellings and large stores and ware houses. And by the aid of furnaces brick are being made during the winter at the rate of 3,000 per day, and will be ready to be laid up as soon as the ensuing spring opens.

"Three graceful churches, and one in the course of building, together with two other places of divine worship, honor the morals and religious tastes of the people. A high school

and suitable number of district schools supply the wants of our children and youths for educational purposes; and an academy and several more churches are in contemplation.

"We have several lines of daily, tri-weekly and weekly stages, plying in Wisconsin, and the same from McGregor, which may be considered as a part of this place, plying in Iowa and Minnesota, all centering to this place, in view of the railroad and steamboat travel.

"The railroad is at the time of this writing, finished up to a point of twenty miles from this place, and the track is being laid at the rate of half a mile a day. The grading and bridge building keep out of the way of the rail layers, and the cars are expected to reach this place in February next.

"During the past season the steamboat arrivals have averaged ten or twelve a day, none of which were owned at this place. But arrangements are now being made by which four freight boats are to be put on in connection with the railroad, and also four daily boats expressly for passengers, to receive the passengers from the trains, and go at a speed never yet attained on this river, and ply between this place and St. Paul, and the intermediate ports. By this arrangement freight will not be permitted to lie at the depot for weeks before it will be forwarded; and passengers will not be left without beds nor be compelled to hang upon the guards to get a passage, as it has been to some extent the past season or two; one of the boats of the greatest speed is to ply between this place and Dubuque, daily.

"This place offers at this time, the greatest facilities for wholesale dealers, for manufactories, and for all kinds of mechanics and laborers. This may be seen at a glance from our position. The town site is ample for buildings, without the expense of grading, piling or wharfing, and the facilities for receiving and sending out goods, wares and merchandise, are exceeded by no place west or north of Chicago.

"Hundreds of buildings would now have been up and occupied by families and traders, if materials and men could have been at command; and as soon as these can be obtained, building will progress with great rapidity. Hence the opening for mechanics, lumber, and other materials for building.

"A foundry on a large scale is very much needed. Buildings with iron fronts are being put up, and stoves by the hundred are being sold, mill irons are in great demand, for all the country about us, various kinds of machinery are being erected, and for all these and every other kind of castings, we are under the necessity of sending below, while we have within 100 miles of us, at and near the falls of Black river, iron ore enough to supply the entire northwest with that material, which could be easily and cheaply floated down the current to this place, and strong indications of iron ore are abundant within twenty miles of us.

"People of all kinds and descriptions find ample employment; laborers are in great demand and all at the highest wages, say from \$1.50 to \$3, and in the opening of next spring far greater numbers of them will be required to supply the demand. Several large wholesale and retail stores, commission and forwarding houses, besides numerous dwellings were the last season added to our former stock; and these will be greatly increased in the coming year, together with several new and spacious hotels, and the depot buildings, now partly up.

"The manufacturing of plows, chairs, carriages, furniture, book-binding, etc., would find every encouragement; planing, turning and other useful machinery will find ample employment. An additional printing press is much wanted and would find a good support.

"Enterprising farmers and dairymen are in great requisition, and a better country for them the sun never shone upon. Butter, cheese, eggs, beef, pork, poultry, etc., and all kinds of garden vegetables are in great demand, and in the coming season, will be more so.

"Flouring, grist, and saw-mills are much needed, and good sites, both for water and steam power are abundant; and for a grist mill by water power, near the town, a good millwright and miller, would find good encouragement from the present proprietor.

"It is expected that in the coming season, and to increase as time rolls on, from 500 to 1,000 people will arrive and depart daily, but at present, our hotels, though of a good quality could not entertain more than 150 comfortably; hence the call for more accommodations of this kind.

"The health of the place, though it has been greatly misrepresented by those whose interest it was to do so, we affirm to be generally good; fully equal to any other on the river, and far superior to any place below us. We have had no sickness, except what was common to the country, and even at that, not as much as many other places reputed to be healthy. In all the ravages of the cholera, not a single case originated here. Visitors to the place, who were looking for a future home, have been to our cemeteries and finding so few new graves in a population of some 3,000 have come to the sage conclusion that comparatively but few die among us, and on inquiry, have found that they were mostly from causes common to human nature, and not from any local cause particularly.

"We deem it prudent to say but little. We do not claim to be prophets, nor possess the attributes of fore-knowledge. The intelligent reader can draw his conclusions from the foregoing facts, as satisfactorily to himself, as if done by ourselves. The growth of the west, though a fixed fact, can hardly be appreciated, except from actual observation. The unprecedented growth of Milwaukee and Chicago, is known to be owing to their position, and local advantages; and the principal purchases of real estate among us are from those places, who, viewing our prospects of rapid growth, from the same cause as theirs, have paid and fixed upon prices for lots corresponding with prices with

them when they were about of our present dimensions, and though those who wish to purchase for speculation, as would be natural for them to do, talk as if our prices were too high—that is too high for them to expect the advance they would like to receive—yet, if they become owners, relax nothing in their high estimate of the value of their lots. But the fact, that business men from such places, are purchasing, building, and removing their families to settle among us; and the fact that business men of the highest character for enterprise and foresight, from Buffalo, New York, and other eastern cities are also coming, purchasing and settling among us, are favorable omens of the magnitude of our future position, in a commercial point of view. We are at this time ahead of what Milwaukee and Chicago were twenty years ago, and having advantages to start upon that neither of them had at that time, it is not deemed visionary to suppose that in less than twenty years, we shall be equal to what they are now.

"The above was read and adopted by a large and respectable meeting of the business men of the place, held at the Mondell House, Dec. 10, 1856, and is published at their request."

The *Courier*, of Jan. 8, 1857, says: "A line of steamers is building, to run in connection with the railroad from Prairie du Chien to St. Paul; that during the year past, two new brick hotels have been completed, and two others remodeled; two steam ferry boats, to cross the river to McGregor, have been purchased; one new church, erected; three splendid brick blocks, nineteen stores, two breweries, one steam flouring mill, and about a hundred dwelling houses put up, besides the extensive works of the railroad company. Five brick yards, two stone quarries, three lumber yards and one saw-mill have been inadequate to meet the demands required for improvements."

#### INCORPORATION.

In 1822 it was enacted by the governor and judges of the territory of Michigan "that all the

citizens of this territory, inhabitants of the borough of Prairie du Chien be, and the same are hereby ordained, constituted and declared to be from time to time forever hereafter, one body, corporate and politic, in fact and in name, by the name of the wardens, burgesses and freemen of the borough of Prairie du Chien." Some of the provisions of the law were very curious; among other things a fine of \$2 was assessed for allowing a chimney to blaze out at the top; \$1 for hitching a horse to a fence; \$2 fine for white persons to be seen skulking or sneaking about after ten o'clock at night, and \$2 to \$5 for "sharriveriers." The borough passed and repealed by-laws for about three years, and stopped business in 1825. The first warden was John W. Johnson; M. Brisbois and Thomas McNair, burgesses—the last were Joseph Rolette, warden; M. Brisbois and J. H. Lockwood, burgesses.

In 1872, Prairie du Chien became an incorporated city, having never been incorporated as a village, but always being governed by the town authorities, of the towns in which it was situated since the borough government, before spoken of, was done away with. A city charter was granted in April, 1872, since which time the affairs of the city have been managed in a prudent manner as is shown by the finances. Prairie du Chien can now (1884) say what few places in the State can say truthfully, that they "owe no man anything," and have funds on hand.

The following is a list of the city officers from the date of incorporation, to 1884:

1872.—Benjamin F. Fay, mayor; Nicholas Smith, clerk; Otto Georgii, treasurer; R. G. Mathews, marshal.

1873.—Same as those of 1872.

1874.—Benjamin F. Fay, mayor; W. Leclerc, clerk; Otto Georgii, treasurer; R. G. Mathews, marshal.

1875.—J. F. Williams, mayor; W. W. Seley, clerk; Otto Georgii, treasurer; A. B. Laroque, marshal.

1876.—Same as those of 1875.

1877.—Dr. John Conant, mayor; Joseph Zech, Jr., clerk; Otto Georgii, treasurer; D. L. Crawley, marshal.

1878.—Dr. John Conant, mayor; T. G. Brunson, clerk; Otto Georgii, treasurer; R. G. Mathews, marshal.

1879.—S. Rosenbaum, mayor; T. G. Brunson, clerk; Otto Georgii, treasurer; R. G. Mathews, marshal.

1880.—S. Rosenbaum, mayor; T. G. Brunson, clerk. Otto Georgii, treasurer; George E. Harrington, marshal.

1881.—James Garvey, mayor; T. G. Brunson, clerk; S. Rosenbaum, treasurer; George E. Harrington, marshal.

1882.—James Garvey, mayor; T. G. Brunson, clerk; S. Rosenbaum, treasurer; R. G. Mathews, marshal.

1883.—Henry Otto, mayor; J. E. Campbell, clerk; S. Rosenbaum, treasurer; G. E. Harrington, marshal.

#### POSTOFFICE.

A postoffice was established at Prairie du Chien in 1824, with James Duane Doty as the first postmaster; he in about a year was succeeded by James H. Lockwood. In 1838 Thomas P. Street was postmaster and held the position for a number of years. Keeping the office in a little log house on Water street. The following are remembered as having served as postmasters:

John S. Lockwood, Mr. Grace, H. A. Wright, Charles Brisbois, Charles Creal, Ira Brunson, S. N. Lester, W. B. Hunt, who served under James Buchanan's administration, Fred J. Miller, who held the office during the rebellion and was followed by Edward Whaley, a major in the Union army and who lost a limb in the service during the Civil war. Mr. Whaley still (1884) is in office.

This point became a money order office in July, 1865. The first order was issued to Charles W. Clinton, in favor of Shaw & Clark, Biddeford, Maine, for \$20, and was dated July 10, 1865.

The first order drawn on this office was remitted by Dragutt Scharff of Milwaukee, Wis., and payable to Julius Eakhardt, who was then in the hospital at Prairie du Chien.

The first postal note was issued to postmaster Whaley's wife at Milwaukee, in October 1883.

#### RAILROADS AND BOAT LANDING.

Prairie du Chien, which is the second oldest city in the State, justly claims to be the point at which has transpired the first of many important events of the past century, in the great northwest. Long before the introduction of our present system of railways, boats and ferries were employed at this point to transport men and their merchandise to the western shores of the Mississippi, that settlement might be effected on the vast and almost unlimited scope of fertile prairie lands beyond this great water course.

Milwaukee, the metropolis of the State, owes its growth largely to the fact that it is situated at the nearest accessible point on the western shore of Lake Michigan from Prairie du Chien.

Prairie du Chien was for many years the uppermost boat-landing on the Mississippi river, and it was here all the French and Indian traders of the upper Mississippi valley came for their supplies and also to exchange their game, fur and produce, for the necessities of life. Almost the entire frontage of the city is available for boat landing purposes, and prior to 1857 was indeed a busy scene of boats and boatmen. But in the early spring of 1857, a railway was completed from Milwaukee to the Mississippi, at this point, known as the Milwaukee & Mississippi River railway, but later as a part of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul.

The opening of the road was a great cause of rejoicing and every one felt the inspiration. When it is remembered the difficulty was experienced before this time by the residents in going to and fro from Milwaukee and Chicago, and depending, as they were obliged to do, entirely on the Mississippi river for a market, and in the winter season entirely cut off except by

land transportation; it will be seen that there was much cause for enthusiasm. Its influence on Prairie du Chien and the states of Iowa and Minnesota was of a marked character, inducing immigration, and benefiting all classes of business enterprise. One newspaper states that three hundred and twenty-seven houses were erected here this year, and besides many other public improvements.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road made Prairie du Chien a division point and has a large shop and round house in that part of the city, known as "Lower Town." Their main yards and depot buildings after 1862, being located just west from the main portion of the city.

#### THE PILE—PONTOON RAILWAY BRIDGE.

This bridge is a part of the "transfer" line of railway spanning the waters of the Mississippi river, and connecting Prairie du Chien with North McGregor, which is situated on the Iowa bank of the stream. This invention is indeed one of the triumphs of the nineteenth century, which has attracted the attention of civil engineers and master workmen the world over, and therefore justly claims a minute description in this connection. It is the invention of John Lawler, of Prairie du Chien. It was patented by him, Aug. 11, 1874, but its construction was fully completed on the 15th of the previous April. The entire length of the bridge is 8,000 feet, crossing both channels of the Mississippi river and an intervening island at Prairie du Chien, thus connecting the Iowa and Wisconsin divisions of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway. It is constructed in two parts; the pile or stationary part, and the pontoon or movable part, consisting of two floating "draws," one in each channel, which, when closed, form an unbroken track, permitting safe and rapid transfer of trains, and when open affording a clear space of 400 feet in either channel, allowing the widest rafts and largest tows that float the river to pass with ease and safety at all times and in any kind of weather. The pile part of this bridge

is of the ordinary construction, used by all railways in crossing low, marshy ground and shallow streams. The "draw" over each channel consists of one pontoon, 408 feet long, twenty-eight feet beam, four feet high and twelve inch draft. It has great buoyancy and strength, being provided with a Howe truss passing through its entire length. When trains are passing over, the draft is increased to eighteen inches. The extreme rise and fall of the river is twenty-one feet, and to overcome the variation in height of the places between the pile bridge and pontoon, aprons or movable tracks are provided, which are adjusted by means of powerful hydraulic jacks and movable blocks, which are operated by the men in charge of the bridge. The connections between the ends of these aprons and the track of the bridge is a simple device, counterbalanced by equal weights, so that one man clamps and unclamps the end of the pontoon, when swung in or out of its position. The pontoon "draws" are each attached at one end to a pile, placed twenty-eight feet back from the end of the stationary bridge, by an arm as long as the draw is wide. About this pile or pivot the "draw" swings, describing in its course an arc of ninety degrees, and when open lies at right angles to the pile, and entirely out of the channel. The "draw" openings of this bridge, are the only ones on the Mississippi river wide enough to permit a steamer and large raft to pass through in one section.

The closing and opening of each pontoon is effected by an engine of twenty-horse power, situated on the "draw," working a simple winch around which is wound a chain, the extremities of which are secured to a cluster of piles above, and below the pontoon, so fixed as to give a diagonal lead across the stream. The bridge opens with the current in one minute, and closes against the current in about three minutes, without showing any undue strain, or requiring the application of more than five-horse power. In relation to the passage of trains, it has been proved to afford greater security than the old

style of draw bridges, for the pontoon is capable of floating a weight equal to six times that of the heaviest trains.

This bridge affords facilities for the passage of 1,000 cars per day, the average being, however, about 300. In speaking of this bridge, Gen. Humphrey, chief of engineers, United States army, says: "The bridge in question is exceptionally free from objection as an obstruction to navigation; it conforms to existing laws regulating the bridging of the Mississippi river, and affords excellent facilities for steamers and rafts to pass through the draw openings."

At this date (1884) the inventor and builder, John Lawler, together with his sons, still owns and operates the bridge and receives a certain amount per car from the railway company, for all freight and passenger trains which pass over the Mississippi river.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The schools and colleges of Prairie du Chien are the pride of its people; and the high type of culture and refinement found among her citizens is but the outgrowth of these educational institutions. While this is a strong Roman Catholic city, both Catholics and Protestants work in harmony in supporting the public schools.

The first school district formed here was what is known as district No. 1. This was created in 1842.

The first school was taught in a private building by Miss Rice, afterward Mrs. Jerrad Warner. A school house was at once erected. This district took in what is now the "Lower Town." About the same date, however, district No. 2 was formed, which embraced old St. Feriole, or the city proper now.

Among the earliest teachers here were Ellen Overton and A. Denio.

In 1857 a project was started by which a new school building for the "Lower Town" was to be built to take the place of the first one erected in the city. At that date there could only be



raised about \$300 on the "grand list" of taxable property; but the citizens not wishing to build with so small a fund, petitioned the Assembly, through the State superintendent, to allow them to levy a larger tax. The reasons set forth by the petitioners being sufficient this was duly granted them, and soon after the erection of a two-story stone building was commenced, which finally cost \$4,000. This building is still (1884) in use. However, before the completion of this building the district run short of funds, but through the public spirit of Samuel A. Clark, who loaned them \$2,200, the work of finishing went on.

Mr. Samuel A. Clark was elected as the first school treasurer, whose office it was, then, to collect all school taxes. He held this position for twenty-two years, from 1840 to 1862.

In 1872, when the city of Prairie du Chien became an independent corporation, it also became an independent school district, which was soon provided with its own school board and also school superintendent.

#### HIGH SCHOOL.

At a regular meeting of the city council of the city of Prairie du Chien held May 3, 1875, under the provisions of the amended city charter, the first board of education was elected. The following persons constituted

#### THE FIRST SCHOOL BOARD.

For the City at Large—John Lawler.

1st Ward—A. H. Reitemeyer.

2d Ward—William Dutcher.

3d Ward—Prof. J. Sutter.

4th Ward—John E. Sutton.

The election of the above gentlemen gave general satisfaction and their fitness for the duties imposed can be appreciated from the following endorsement published at the time:

"The city school board of education, elected at the first meeting of the new city council (May 3, 1875) are all men of unimpeachable character, and amply qualified to perform the duties devolving upon them. They are men of responsibility, well educated, and persons of excellent

judgment, fully aware of the responsibilities of the positions they occupy, and sincerely desiring to promote the educational interests of this city. Let all good citizens extend to them the co-operation and assistance necessary to ensure the right results.

"The choice of Mr. John Lawler as the representative of the citizens at large upon the board of education, is a fitting evidence of the public confidence in his integrity. His broad, liberal views, and his well-known zeal in promoting the cause of education, need no better index.

"Mr. A. H. Reitemeyer, of the 1st ward is one of our most respected German-American citizens, and he is an educated gentleman of fine address.

"Mr. William Dutcher, of the 2d ward is also distinguished for the interest he manifests in educational matters. He brings years of experience, and a fund of useful knowledge to the aid of the board.

"Prof. J. Sutter, of the German-English Academy, is a talented practical teacher. He understands all the requirements of his profession. He will prove one of the best members of the board.

"John E. Sutton, of the 4th ward, was the choice of every tax-payer in that part of the city. He was formerly a teacher, has a thorough education that will insure effective work.

"Taken as a whole, the first board of education is well constituted, better than had been hoped, and the citizens have a right to congratulate themselves upon this first step in the right direction.

"The board of education will at once organize, elect its president, clerk, and city superintendent, and inform themselves fully upon all points necessary to enter rightly upon the work of organizing the city public schools under the new system.

"We have endeavored to ascertain the views of the school board in relation to the subject of a high school; and without an exception,

they are all in favor of a graded high school being established."

The first regular meeting of the board of education in Prairie du Chien was held at the office of Hon. Wm. Dutcher, Monday, July 5 1875. John Lawler was elected president of the board. Prof. Thomas H. Nyhan, (since deceased) was tendered the position of school superintendent, but declined to accept. At a subsequent meeting of the board, held July 10, 1875, Prof. J. Sutter was elected city school superintendent and clerk of the board, and immediately entered upon the discharge of his duties. He was a most efficient and faithful officer. Mr. Theodore Schuman was elected to take Prof. Sutter's place on the board.

The board of education promptly visited the schools in every ward, and made a careful investigation of all the school property, school houses and modes of management then existing. They were convinced that extensive improvements were absolutely necessary. They determined to have a first-class school with competent teachers in every ward. They made known to the city council the result of their deliberations from time to time.

At a meeting of the city council held July 19, 1875. John Lawler, president of the board of education, read the following communication relative to the school question :

"GENTLEMEN : The writer upon further examination into the school affairs of this city, desires to add to what he has already stated in a former communication recommending certain improvements in school district No. 2, that the school building of that district is not, in his opinion, at all adequate or suitable for the large number of children in attendance there. The building itself, besides being too small, its ceilings being too low, and its ventilation bad, is in every other respect, far behind the essential requirements of education. The building, with its appurtenances of grounds, fences, water closets, furniture, etc., are such as tend to deprave and corrupt the tastes and morals of the young who attend

there instead of tending, as the surroundings of youth always should tend, to refinement in taste and purity in morals. To remedy this evil the only true way is to erect, as soon as practicable, a suitable new building, and to supply such other reasonable and necessary wants as the welfare of the children require.

"A good beginning might be made in this direction the present year, and that, too, without increase of taxation. For we already have, as the property of the city, ample and desirable grounds for the site of a school building and sufficient funds—those known as the college funds—on hand to put the necessary new school building well under way. This much, once done, the city could probably obtain from the State, according to the provisions of chapter 42 of the general laws of 1870 such additional sum as would complete the undertaking. In this way we may almost without perceptible increase of our taxes, provide, as far as it is possible, for the wants of those children who are to depend upon the public schools of the city for instruction. These are the views which the writer entertains relative to this public school question. He expresses them for himself only, for the reason that the board of education has not, for want of proper organization, expressed any conclusion upon the subject. Should these views be in accord with yours, the writer will, if a harmonious board can be organized, do whatever he can to carry them into practical effect. Otherwise he begs to step down and out by placing his resignation at your disposal.

"I am, gentlemen, respectfully, yours,

J. LAWLER.

The common council, immediately after reading of this communication, passed by unanimous vote, the following resolution :

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this council the views expressed by Mr. Lawler, in his communication just read, are in full accord with the views of the council," which was confirmed by the unanimous vote of the council.

As an evidence of the actual condition in which the city schools were, at that time, the following extract from the journal of the council, will be sufficient :

“To the Honorable Mayor and Council of Prairie du Chien :

“GENTLEMEN : The board of education find the water closets of the school house of district No. 2, in a shamefully unsuitable condition, and recommend their destruction at once, and the building of new ones. Your immediate action will be necessary. The cost of the renewals recommended will be from \$300 to \$350.

“Respectfully, J. LAWLER,  
Pres't Board of Eeducation.”

This was also agreed to by unanimous vote of the council.

This was the first official action to improve the condition of the city public schools, and construct a high school in Prairie du Chien. Much preparatory work had to be accomplished. All the ward schools were put in first-class order. The preliminary matters arranged, the first appropriation asked by the board, \$4,000, was levied Oct. 4, 1875, and on Monday, Oct. 11, 1875, the plans for the new high school were approved. This determined that the new central high school building should be erected, and the board called for another appropriation of \$5,000 to commence the work. The board found upon subsequent consideration that they would require about \$10,000, more than the city could appropriate for the purpose, and there was a lengthy correspondence between the secretary of State, Hon. P. Doyle, and the attorney general and the president of the school board. It was agreed that a special act of the Legislature was necessary to secure a \$10,000 loan from the State. The following communication to the city council explains the whole matter :

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, Aug. 9, 1875.

“To the Honorable, the Mayor and Common Council of Prairie du Chien.

“GENTLEMEN.—The board of education begs leave to submit the accompanying correspond-

ence between the Hon. Peter Doyle, secretary of state, and the Hon. A. Scott Sloan, attorney general, relative to the school loan desired to be made by this city.

“Since it appears that the law, in the opinion of the attorney general, cannot be construed so as to authorize the commissioners of education to make the loan, however willing they might be so to do, it is the sense of this board that it would be advisable to begin work upon the proposed new building as soon as the fund, now held in trust by the board of college trustees, shall have been placed at the disposal of the city, for there can be but little doubt that the authority to make the loan will be readily granted by the next Legislature, in the same manner that former Legislatures have authorized loans to be made to other cities for purposes similar to that of ours. And if the Legislature should refuse even, we must have the new school building, for the interests of the city demand it, and we believe the people of the city will not hesitate to vote the tax necessary for the purpose.

“Respectfully submitted,

J. LAWLER,  
President Board of Education.”

A special city election was held, and the taxpayers carried it in favor of a tax to build the high school building. The money was borrowed from the State. The contract was let to Messrs. Menges & Lefeldt. And thus the first high school in Crawford county originated, and was completed under the direction of the first board of education, and to the credit of the citizens of Prairie du Chien. At this time (1884) the schools of the city are in a very flourishing condition.

There are now (1884) five school houses within the independent district of Prairie du Chien, situated as follows: First ward, a two story stone structure, built in 1857; second ward, one brick building two stories high, built in 1876, at a cost of \$12,000, and a frame house, two stories high; third ward, a brick building

not in use, but in good condition ; fourth ward, this contained a small one story frame building, which stands west of the slough near the river.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

The people of Prairie du Chien have ever taken a deep interest in educational matters and from the earliest date have provided the best methods of teaching. Especially are the Roman Catholic people entitled to much credit for their zeal in this direction, as they have always labored to make Prairie du Chien a city of schools and colleges, the benefit of which they are finally enjoying; as but few places in the State can boast of better denominational schools than those at this point. They have two flourishing institutions of learning at this place.

The College of the Sacred Heart, conducted by the Fathers of the Society of Jesus, for the training and education of boys, and St. Mary's Institute, conducted by the sisters of the Society of Notre Dame, for the education and practical training of girls. Each of these institutions aims to give the youth of both sexes such a practical education as will enable their pupils to meet the exigencies of life, and to be useful and respected members of society. While these institutions are Roman Catholic, their doors are open alike to Catholic and non-Catholic, and as a matter of fact, the patronage is about equally divided between these two classes, which is a striking evidence of the esteem in which they are held by the public. The patronage of both institutions has outgrown their foundations, consequently the Jesuit Fathers are preparing to increase their accommodations to twice their present capacity, by the erection of a new building, the estimated cost of which is \$50,000. When this improvement is completed the college property will be worth \$100,000. The college at present is under the immediate control of the Rev. Father William Becker, president, who has conducted its management successfully since its establishment. The number of students in attendance from September, 1882 to July, 1883, was ninety-one.

This institution was opened in September, 1880, and chartered as The College and University of the Sacred Heart, Aug 20, 1881. The college comprises two courses of study, classical and commercial. The full course consists of six classes, to be absolved in six years. Though the college is only entering upon its fourth year, the number of classes will be complete the next session. The College of the Sacred Heart is complete in its appointments, and conducted under a wise, firm, yet mild and paternal system of government. The situation is picturesque and healthful. The building stands on rising ground commanding extensive views of the Mississippi and Wisconsin valleys and the beautiful bluffs that bound them. Taken all in all, it is one of the most attractive and beautiful collegiate properties in the entire northwest. Its president, the Rev. Father William Becker, is a thorough scholar, and a man of fine executive ability. He was born in Germany, educated in Europe, and came to the United States in 1869.

He acquired an enviable reputation, in the east, as the founder of the St. Ignatius College at Buffalo, which he conducted several years, with such marked success, that it was acknowledged by the highest authority in educational matters in New York, as one of the leading institutions of that State. He is supported by an able faculty, four of whom are of American birth, one of English and the others of German.

The college building was originally built as a large hotel in 1857-8, by a joint stock company, at a cost of \$56,000. It was used as a hotel only a few years, or until the removal of the railway depot to Upper Town. During the war, it was used by the government as a hospital; next, an unsuccessful effort was made to have the State accept it as a site for a Normal school. Failing in this, its managers organized an independent college, known as the Prairie du Chien College, this institution proved a failure, financially, and was closed after a brief existence of three years. About 1873 the

property passed into the hands of the Brothers of the Christian schools, a Catholic order, who opened it under the title of St. Johns' College. This Institution failed to meet the expectations of its founders, and was closed about 1876.

The property was then purchased of the Catholic Brothers, by Mr. John Lawler, who added largely to its value by substantial and important improvements, and then in his free handed public spirited way, presented it to the "Fathers of the Society of Jesus," thus making that order a present of a property, valued at nearly \$50,000, while his beneficence insured to Prairie du Chien a permanent and creditable institution of learning.

St. Mary's Institute, was established in 1872. The buildings being erected for that special purpose, under the management of the chief donor, Mr. John Lawler. The Institute is conducted under the management of the sisters of the order of Notre Dame, and is presided over by a sister superior, of that order. During the vacation period of 1883, the sisters completed a dormitory, capable of accommodating 100 students. For the year ending July, 1883, the number of students in attendance, averaged seventy-five. It may be proper here to remark that in the Institute as well as the College the students comprise representatives from nearly all of the northwestern states. The system of education, under the able management of the sisters, is one that commends itself to every unprejudiced mind. This is no fashionable boarding-school, where only a superficial education is obtained; here the solid acquirements are gained that fit the students for the earnest duties of life, which in the course of events are liable to devolve upon them; at the same time, the range of studies embraces the higher branches, languages, music and art. The buildings of the Institute occupy the historic ground of Fort Crawford, the ruins of which form a picturesque feature of the landscape. The situation is elevated, and commands a magnificent view

of the Mississippi river and valley, and the towering bluffs on either side.

The buildings are tasty and commodious, and fitted with the most improved modern conveniences. No pains have been spared to make this institution a model of its kind.

It would be an injustice to its most liberal patron to omit to mention the fact that the institution owes its origin, and present prosperous condition to the unbounded liberality and careful supervision of Mr. John Lawler, one of Prairie du Chien's most respected and enterprising citizens.

#### INDEPENDENT GERMAN SCHOOL.

On the first day of December, 1866, a number of the prominent German citizens of Prairie du Chien, met for the purpose of organizing an independent German school, where the German language might be taught, without regard to any religious creed. After preliminaries, the following officers were elected: F. Unger, R. Rosenbaum, Jacob Raffauf, M. Menges, Otto Georgii and H. Boehlke trustees; F. Unger, president; F. Rosenbaum, treasurer; Jacob Raffauf, secretary.

A constitution was adopted and the following March, 1867, the society was made a legal corporation, by an act of the State Legislature. For two years this school society held their school in a private school building of John Lawler's and in the German Methodist church. In 1868, however, they erected a neat, one story brick school building which stands just east of the court house square. This school was in successful operation until 1878, when it was discontinued. At one time the school contained seventy-five pupils, a part of whom were from American families. A tuition fee of \$1.00 was required of those whose parents belonged to the society, and \$1.50 from those outside. The association was made up of about thirty members, but finally has been reduced to thirteen, on account of deaths and removals.

At the present time (1884), the society exist and own their property which is not used as a school house, but leased for various purposes.

The last officers elected were as follows: M. Frederick, M. Menges, H. Otto, S. Rosenbaum, C. Leefeldt and Theodore Shuman, trustees; Henry Otto, president; M. Menges, vice-president; R. Rosenbaum, treasurer, and M. Frederick, secretary.

#### FERRIES.

In 1836 Alexander McGregor established a horse ferry between Prairie du Chien and the Iowa side of the river. The point of debarkation, on that side, soon received the Iowa name of McGregor's Landing, where now stands the city of McGregor.

In 1840 the United States government commenced to build Fort Atkinson, and as supplies had to reach that point from Prairie du Chien (or Fort Crawford) by way of this landing, this ferry became one of much importance to the public and of great profit to its owner, who had been granted the exclusive right to ply a ferry at this point, under a charter issued by the State.

One of the conditions in the license granted Mr. McGregor by the court, was that not more than the following rates should be charged for ferriage: One person, twenty-five cents; man and horse, seventy-five cents; wheeled carriages, twenty-five cents per wheel; horned cattle and horses, fifty cents per head; sheep and goats, six and one-fourth cents per head; mules, jacks and jennets, fifty cents per head; freight not in wheeled carriages six and one-fourth cents per 100 pounds. This ferry continued under the management of McGregor till 1856, when his energies were bent more especially in founding the city which now bears his name. He then willed the property to a relative, W. B. Gardner, who, in company with Ole Oleson, operated a short time and sold to John Lawler; he run it until the spring of 1882 and sold to H. Schlader, who has run it on a diminished scale, owing to the building of Lawler's pile pontoon bridge.

Bass & Rice operated a ferry about 1840, for the government; this was operated as an opposition line to McGregor's ferry, and only continued a short time.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Another mark of wisdom upon the part of the city is the well organized fire companies, whose vigilant eyes watch the property of the city, by day and by night, and through whose skill and watch-care the populace of the place feel secure against the fire fiend. This department, which is under the direct supervision of the city authorities, is composed of three fully equipped fire companies, the "Phoenix," No. 1, consisting of forty-three members; the "Badger," No. 2, consisting of thirty-two members; and the "Ætna," No. 3, having a membership of twenty-three; forming a grand total of 103. These companies are all uniformed and regularly equipped with the most modern fire-extinguishing apparatus, including three hand engines, the total cost of which was about \$1,800. These engines are made effective by means of 3,000 feet of the best quality of rubber hose.

This department was organized in 1872, since which date, no disastrous fires have occurred within the city, except the burning of the Mondell Hotel; this being occasioned by the inferior quality of hose then in use, which gave way at a critical stage of that long-to-be-remembered conflagration.

These companies are provided with a never-failing supply of water from the artesian wells for which Prairie du Chien is so noted.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The earliest religious services of which there is any record was that held by the Roman Catholics in 1817, when Father Durand came and held mass, and baptized about 125 persons, all of the families of the French and mixed races. As some children of Catholic parents were found who, although nearly grown men and women, had never before had an opportunity to receive the rites of baptism, it is inferred from this that no priest had visited the

post for many years prior to the advent of Father Durand. This Father left a written record behind him which is the foundation of the records of the Catholic Church at this point. The Rev. Father did not remain more than a few years, and after his departure there is no further record till 1836, when the Rev. Father Mazzucheli was sent to select a site for a church, and to lay the corner stone which he did, and the place was called the "Episcopal See." In 1839 Rev. Bishop Loras visited the place. He was followed in 1839 by Father Cretin, who remained four years and erected the first church edifice in the place. It was named St. Gabriel's Church. Father Cretin was a remarkable man. His talents and culture were only equaled by his kindness of heart, industry and deep humility. From here he went to Du-buque, and in 1850 was appointed the first Bishop of St. Paul. His death occurred at that city, Feb. 22, 1857. He was succeeded by Rev. Father Bonduel, and he by Father Ravoux and Father L. Galtier, both of whom came here with Father Cretin, and each in order were placed in charge of this congregation. Father Lucius Galtier succeeded to the charge in 1847, and remained at his post till the time of his death, which occurred in 1866. Father L. Lux was next in charge, and remained till May 26, 1867. He was succeeded by Father Koke and he by Father Abeline, Sept. 1, 1880. Father Herman Richards, of the Society of Jesus, became the pastor and held that position till August, 1883, when he was assigned to another field. While serving as pastor of this congregation Father Richards has been required to preach in four different languages, to suit the understanding of his people. The congregation numbers about 3,000 members, who all live in a radius of from seven to ten miles about Prairie du Chien. The Catholics outnumber all other denominations combined, by a large majority, and record among their members many of the wealthiest and most influential citizens of Prairie du Chien. They have two flourishing

institutions of learning established here, a sketch of which is given elsewhere in this work.

#### THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SOCIETY.

In 1834 the Rev. David Lowery, a Presbyterian clergyman organized the first protestant society in Prairie du Chien; it afterward was merged into the Congregational society.

#### THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Prairie du Chien was organized in 1836, by the Rev. Alfred Brunson, superintendent of the M. E. mission, of the upper Mississippi and Lake Superior. Mr. Brunson came here in the fall of 1835, from Meadville, Penn., and returned home the same autumn. In the spring of 1836 he came back with his family, purchased a farm and built a house, the materials of which were brought by boat from his old home in Pennsylvania. He soon organized a society.

Mr. Brunson says: "We reached Prairie du Chien July 16, 1836. I organized a class of ten members out of those who came with me, being the first class of Methodists ever formed north and west of the Wisconsin river. \* \* \* I spent the winter in missionary labors at home and in the new settlements that were springing up within reach. In the winter of 1836-7, we had a gracious revival at Prairie du Chien, in which about twenty souls were converted, and in the course of the winter of 1837-8, another revival crowned our efforts under the blessing of God."

The church edifice was built about 1847. The records contain no history of the church, and as the memory of the oldest inhabitant seems to be at fault as regards any facts connected with it, our sketch must remain incomplete. The present pastor, Rev. John Knibbs has been in charge two years, and has lately been appointed to his second term. As he has had an eventful experience in this field, we append a brief mention of his life.

Rev. John Knibbs, pastor of the M. E. Church of Prairie du Chien, was born in Oxford, Eng.

land, March 2, 1826. He emigrated from England to America, in 1855, joined the West Wisconsin Conference, in 1856, and has been in active service now about twenty-seven years. In the winter of 1856-7, while a stranger in the land, Mr. Knibbs was engaged by the Rev. Alfred Brunson, to officiate at Eastman, in place of a brother minister who was prevented by sickness, from keeping his appointment. He started to travel some five miles over the hills. The snow being nearly three feet deep and covered with a sharp crust, as no road was broken, he soon lost his way, and wandered about a considerable time. His horse becoming exhausted he tied him to a tree and tried to make his way on foot. Like many others when lost he traveled in a circle and soon came back to his horse. Again he tried to make his way out only to find himself back to the horse again. When night came on he crawled into the snow for protection. The following day he tried again but with no better success. Four days and three nights were spent in these vain attempts—his feet, hands and face were frozen and he was nearly starved. At last he sighted smoke from a chimney and was barely able to reach the house. The people only supposed one foot to be frozen, which they thawed out with spring water. This foot was saved and the other that was thought uninjured was so badly effected that amputation of a part of the foot was necessary. More recently three different amputations of the limb have been made, one in 1883, nearly twenty-seven years after his exposure. Mr. Knibbs has in spite of his physical disabilities done effective work as a mission preacher. He is a man of fine ability and great earnestness of purpose. The past two years he has filled the pulpit at Prairie du Chien and at the last conference was appointed to his second term at this point. Mr. Knibbs does not feel hopeful of filling the term of his appointment, but expects to be soon retired from active service.

The Episcopal Church of Prairie du Chien has "a local habitation and a name" and but little more. The first religious services conducted by a clergyman of this denomination were held in 1836 in Fort Crawford by Rev. Mr. Coddle, the first chaplain. The parish was organized in June, 1855, by the Rev. John Egar, rector. The church edifice was erected the same year under the management of Mr. H. Baldwin. At the close of the year Mr. Egar resigned and Mr. Lyman was called to fill the vacancy. He only remained a few weeks. The Rev. Mr. Pratt filled the pulpit a few times but was not located here. Mr. Clinton was the next rector, and he served two years. He was followed by the Rev. Mr. Lloyd, who only remained nine months and withdrew. The Church was then vacant for some time, till Rev. Mr. Geirlow was chosen rector. The field had no charms for him and he resigned after ten months' service, having during his pastorate consecrated the church. Aug. 13, 1865, the Rev. Mr. Skinner was appointed rector, and after a brief career resigned on November 18th of the same year. The pulpit was vacant till 1867, when the Rev. H. C. H. Dudley filled it as a missionary, but refused the rectorship. Again the pulpit was vacant till Oct. 3, 1875, when the Rev. Dr. A. F. Samuels was called to the rectorship. Under his management the church was partially rebuilt and new interest excited. For six years Dr. Samuels labored without hope of reward; the smallness of the congregation making it practically impossible to support a pastor. Dr. Samuels retired from the ministry in October, 1881, and resumed the practice of medicine. At this writing, September, 1883, the Church is still vacant.

The First Congregational Church of Prairie du Chien, was organized under the management of the Rev. Mr. L. L. Radcliff, July 16, 1856. Names of members at date of organization: Leonard L. Radcliff, local pastor; J. S. Lockwood, A. O'Neil, P. J. Adams, James J. Langdon, B. Bull, A. C. Phillips, B. E.



Hutchinson, Walter R. Bullock and O. B. Thomas. Aug. 16, 1856, D. H. Johnson, E. G. Perry, and T. B. Moore joined; August 17, W. L. Mower and E. P. Lockhart joined. The first officers of the society were: L. L. Radcliff, president; Benjamin Bull, vice president; A. C. Phillips, secretary; P. J. Adams, treasurer; J. S. Lockwood and B. E. Hutchinson to complete board of trustees.

The church was built in 1858, under the supervision of the pastor, Mr. L. L. Radcliff, at a cost of \$2,424.36.

Mr. Radcliff began as the first regular pastor of this denomination at this point, in October, 1855, sent by the American Home Mission. He was a member of the LaCrosse district convention of Congregational and Presbyterian Churches. He remained in charge of this Church till the close of 1860, when he returned to Pennsylvania, and is now preaching at Chautauqua Lake, N. Y. He was succeeded by Rev. H. W. Cobb, who was succeeded by Rev. Henry Carpenter, in 1864. Mr. J. Porter succeeded Mr. Carpenter, and filled the pulpit several years. He was said to have been the first Protestant minister that held service in Chicago. Rev. W. H. Marble succeeded Mr. Porter, and closed his work Jan. 9, 1871. Mr. C. F. Clapp was the next pastor, and served till March, 1877, when he was succeeded by Rev. A. W. Safford, who remained till the spring of 1880. The church was vacant till April 1, 1881, when Mr. Ariel McMaster, the present pastor, was chosen to fill the pulpit. The membership is fifty. Mr. Orson Jackson is the only deacon.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in 1862. The first pastor was the Rev. John Himmler, who was succeeded by Rev. Loren Schorr, and he by Carl Weideranders, Herman Krotzschmer, Joseph Westenberger, Johannes DeJung, and he by the present pastor, the Rev. Christian Gevers. The church was built in 1868, at a cost of \$1,000. The present membership is about thirty. Among the first

members were Fred Rhemhold, Fred Pagelo and Louis Scharpf. This society has a flourishing Sabbath school, which has been kept up since the organization of the society. It now has a regular attendance of sixty scholars. Louis Scharpf is the superintendent.

The Evangelical Association was organized June 26, 1864, under the management of Rev. Peter Speich, pastor. Among the first members were: Frederick Bauer, John Poehler, Frederick Ahrens, John Schulz and Carl Lang. The Rev. Peter Speich was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Ragatz, and he by Fred Kaufmann, Fred Stroebel, Louis Runkel, William Kamm, Fred Asmann, G. Schwantes, the present pastor, who entered upon his duties in March, 1883. Mr. Schwantes was a mission preacher in 1863, and held the first services of this society, in the court house, in that year. The church was built in 1865, a wooden structure, at a cost of \$1,500. The trustees, in 1883, were: Fred Bauer, John Schulz and John Kauffmann.

#### FIRST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The first Sunday school within what is now Prairie du Chien, was organized through the labors of Mrs. Juliana Lockwood and Miss Crawford, assisted by Dr. Edwin James, post surgeon United States army, and John H. Kinzie. This school included all denominations of both Catholic and Protestant faith, and was in operation from the spring of 1825, to the spring of 1826. It is mentioned in a previous chapter.

#### SOCIETIES.

The following societies are now (1884) represented in Prairie du Chien: Good Templars, St. Joseph Benevolent Society, Odd Fellows, Grand Army of the Republic, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Masonic and German Harugari.

Prairie du Chien Lodge No. 16 (Independent Order of Good Templars), was instituted by S. E. Farnham, special deputy G. M., Oct. 31, 1875, with a charter membership of sixty-six, of whom only two are, at this writing, members in good standing. The first officers were:

Dr. John Conant, W. C. T.; Mrs. J. Lovewell, W. V. T.; Rev. C. F. Clapp, W. C.; P. J. Bowman, W. R. S.; J. D. Humphrey, W. F. S.; Anna McCulloch, W. T.; C. A. Douglass, W. M.; Annie Oram, W. I. G.; J. Lovewell, W. O. G. Two hundred and thirty-four members have been admitted since the lodge was organized. The number now in good standing is fifty. The present officers are:

William Mauke, W. C. T.; Aggie Herr, W. V. T.; Schwantse, W. C.; L. T. Butterfield, W. R. S.; Charles Lester, W. F. S.; Clara Gerry, W. T.; David McMaster, W. M.; Belle Thompson, W. I. G.; Eddie Poehler, W. O. G.; L. T. Butterfield, lodge deputy. Lodge meets Monday nights, at their hall, in the Dousman Block.

St. Joseph's Benevolent Society (a Bohemian benevolent society), was organized Sept. 28, 1879. The object is for mutual aid in sickness and death, sick benefits are paid, and in case of death; the brother's widow or heirs receive \$600, and in case of the death of a wife, the husband receives \$300. Albert Vondrak was the first president, John Fuka, vice-president, Anton Prochaska, secretary, Frank Liber, financial secretary, Joseph Lauka, treasurer, Anton Vlaste, collector. The present officers are, Anton Prochaska, president, Charles Kalina, vice-president, Matt. Kobliska, secretary, Matt. Chapek, financial secretary, Wenzel Hanzel, treasurer, Frank Kalina, banner-bearer, Joseph Krejci, marshal, Frank Liber, second marshal. The society numbers seventy-four, and meets once a month.

Pioneer Lodge, No. 37, I. O. O. F., the first Odd Fellows' lodge of Prairie du Chien, was organized Aug. 3, 1849. The record states that the Grand Master was present, and conferred the fourth degree upon Bro. E. P. Wood, and the full five degrees upon Bros. H. A. Wright, T. L. Wheeler, F. B. Bachelor, and I. S. Curtis. The lodge opened on Friday night, Aug. 3, 1849, E. P. Wood was chosen noble grand, H. A. Wright, vice-grand, and I. S. Curtis, inside guard. The first candidate initi-

ated, was C. P. Fox, whose initiation took place at the first meeting. Bro. Fox was a candidate for a degree at each successive meeting, and was finally voted in the fifth degree, Aug. 31, 1849. Degrees fourth and fifth were conferred upon Bro. Harrison; degrees third, fourth and fifth, upon Bros. T. Robertson, Wm. Robertson and L. Jackson. The lodge seemed to lack vitality, for some cause or other. The records show the last meeting to have been held May 2, 1856. It is supposed that the charter was surrendered about that time.

Crawford Lodge No. 98 (Independent Order of Odd Fellows), was organized at Prairie du Chien, Feb. 28, 1859, D. D. G. M., E. A. Botton in the chair. The following named brothers were elected, and installed as the first officers of the lodge: Robert Scott, N. G.; A. Benedict, V. G.; T. Warner, R. S.; S. A. Clark, treasurer. A charter was issued to the lodge dated Jan. 19, 1860. Bros. Sam. A. Clark, Robert Scott, Theodore Warner, Alonzo Benedict and A. Coburn were the charter members. The Charter bears the signature of Stoddard Judd, G. M.; H. Ruda, G. S. The lodge has had an uninterrupted existence, from its organization to this writing, and is now in a prosperous and healthy condition, present membership, sixty-six. Its present officers are George Wright, N. G.; H. C. Parshler, V. G.; E. W. Van Vickle, R. S.; E. Blanchard, P. S.; A. Denio, T. Past Grands, are Sylvester Ault, J. C. E. Bear, S. A. Clark, Dr. John Conant, A. Denio, S. E. Farnham, M. Friederich, C. S. Fuller, T. M. Fullerton, J. M. Gillis, Frank Jallish, John Koch, Thomas Kemp, E. O. Laey, David McIntyre, Henry Otto, Jacob Pugh, J. H. Priest, D. B. Richardson, James Stackpole, G. C. Smith, Joel C. Smith, J. G. Schweizer, (deceased), C. M. Lully, I. M. Stern, Edwin Trefry, L. F. S. Viele, A. C. Wallin, and T. G. Brunson.

Peter V. Plummer, Post No. 37, G. A. R. was instituted July 18, 1882. Daniel Webster, commander, Dr. E. J. Eddy, adjutant. The mem-

bership numbers fifty. Meets every first and third Friday of each month. The organization is growing rapidly, and is in a prosperous condition.

Star Lodge No. 15, Ancient Order United Workmen, was instituted by district deputy grand master, W. H. Burford, at Prairie du Chien, Oct. 19, 1877. The meeting was held at the hall of the I. O. G. T., in Donsman Block. The charter members were H. R. Farr, William Manke, F. W. Herr, D. Webster, C. W. Plummer, J. A. Newton, J. D. Humphrey, Dr. E. Steiger, L. O. King, John B. Davis, L. Case.

The first officers were William Manke, F.; L. Cherrier, O.; D. Webster, R.; Phil Helwig, G. L. R. and F.; H. C. Poehler, R.; G. W. Foster, Dis. Dep. G. M. The lodge meets every alternate Tuesday in the Odd Fellows' Hall.

The aggregate losses paid to Aug. 1, 1883-4, amount to \$8,000. The association is growing and prosperous.

Trustees were: Short term, L. Case; middle term, J. A. Newton; long term, J. D. Humphrey; guide, C. W. Plummer; I. W., F. Herr; O. W., William Manke. The lodge numbers forty-five members. The present officers are: L. T. Butterfield, P. M. W.; Henry Otto, M. W.

Prairie du Chien lodge No. 106, A. F. and A. M., was instituted with charter bearing date June 11, 1858. The following were the appointed officers: John Kennaly, W. M.; I. P. errit Gentil, S. W.; John J. Chase, J. W. First meeting was held Jan. 6, 1858, acting under dispensation of the grand lodge. The first officers elected: Henry Patch, W. M.; I. Perit Gentil, S. W.; John Kennaly, J. W.; O. P. Martin, T.; John J. Chase, S.; J. S. Curtis, S. D.; H. Weidmfeld, J. D.; A. C. Dudley, T. The first brother initiated and raised was Ira F. Manuel, Feb. 24, 1858, was made a master

mason. The lodge was worked successfully continuously from its inception to date (1884). The lodge bought an old store building near the old fort grounds, about the close of the war, which they sold to Mr. Herdenberger, who moved it to Bluff street, opposite the Central House, where it is now used as a meat market. Their present commodious hall was built by the lodge; size 28x80 feet. The postoffice is below, offices back, built in 1872, at a cost of \$6,000, of mill brick, two stories, situated on north side of Bluff street near Church street.

The present membership, 1884, is 100 master masons. Present officers: A. C. Wallin, W. M.; E. Morrison, S. W.; S. E. Farnham, J. W.; Aaron Denio, T.; George D. Cottrell, S.; John Koch, S. D.; M. Frederick, J. D.; A. Tilmont, S.; R. M. Halsey, T.

Jersusalem Chapter No. 25, (Prairie du Chien) was operated under dispensation of the grand chapter July 11, 1865, and instituted Feb. 20, 1865. The first officers were: U. F. Case, H. P.; J. J. Chase, K.; G. M. Rising, Scribe; A. Coburn, treasurer; E. Johnson, secretary; R. C. Dimock, C. of H.

The first officers after the lodge was instituted were U. F. Case, H. P.; J. J. Chase, K.; G. M. Rising, scribe; A. Coburn, treasurer; R. C. Dimock, C. of H.

The present officers are R. C. Dimock, H. P.; J. D. Jones, K.; L. F. S. Viele, S.: Aaron Denio, treasurer; A. C. Wallin secretary; L. Canillard, C. of H. The chapter meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Mississippi Lodge No. 423, (Deutcher Order Harugari of Prairie du Chien), was instituted under the jurisdiction of the grand lodge, which organized in New York city March 9, 1847, and reorganized in Wisconsin, Jan. 25, 1869. The Mississippi lodge No. 423 was chartered May 8, 1880. The charter members were Charles Reinhold, H. Willers, Charles Bracher, Herman Doshe, William Ziel and Christian Griesbach. The lodge has a membership of twenty-two, and is composed

exclusively of Germans. The first officers were: Theodore Willers, Ex. B.; Carl Reinhold, O. B.; Christian Greisbach, U. B.; Charles F. Bracher, S.; Thio Willer, T. The present officers are: William Ziel, O. B.; Ferdinand Pflaun, U. B.; Henry Netz, S.; Charles Reinhold T.; M. Menges, D. D. Ex. B. The association is exclusively German, and originated in New York city, March 9, 1847. Twelve Germans founded it for the purpose of preserving the German language in America, and for preserving the German National characteristics. Subsequently it was made a benevolent order, and by its laws pays endowments or insurance to the heirs of deceased brothers to the amount of \$500, and a sick benefit to sick brothers as fixed by the by-laws. This lodge meets every Thursday evening at their hall in Brunson's block.

#### DRIVING PARK ASSOCIATION.

The Prairie du Chien Mechanical, Agricultural and Driving Park Association was organized Aug. 22, 1883. H. L. Dousman was elected president; O. B. Thomas, vice president; Wm. Newton, secretary; A. M. Beach, treasurer, and M. Menges, superintendent. The capital stock was limited to \$10,000, about \$6,000 of which has been subscribed at this writing. The association has bargained with Mr. B. F. Fay for fifty-seven acres in the northeastern part of the city, for the site, being a part of farm lot No. 35; the price to be \$3,000. It is the intention on the part of the managers to proceed at once to improve the ground, and construct a first-class race course thereon.

#### BAND.

The Bohemian band, of Prairie du Chien, originally organized in 1870, comprised eight pieces, with Matt Chapek as leader. The band was composed of Bohemians, and was very popular. About 1877 it suspended for a while, and re-organized in 1881, with ten pieces. The following named parties compose the band: Matt Chapek, leader; M. Tehle, W. Tesar, Joseph Zeman, C. Zeman, Joseph Tehle, Matt Hanzlicek, Fred Bachelder, Charles Pion and

Winzel Strauski. This band have a good outfit of instruments; are well drilled, and are widely and favorably known.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are, at this date (1884), four burying grounds used by the people of Prairie du Chien. These "silent cities" have buried, within their numerous vaults, a history which nothing but eternity can reveal. Within these sacred enclosures lie buried the joys and sorrows of two generations of pioneers. Here rest the remains of many a bold adventurer and frontiersman, and by his side has long since decayed the mortal part of scores of gallant soldiers. Here the pioneer has oftimes bent over the confined form of a darling child, who lived but to lisp, perhaps a single word, then was plucked like a spring flower and transplanted into a better world; others have grown to young man and womanhood, and then been laid low by disease and finally placed beneath the green sod which has been moistened by tear drops from the eyes of a dear father and loving mother, for many a year. Then in time, they too, have been subjects of disease, pain and death, and put away at rest by the side of their children so dear. Funeral procession after funeral procession has slowly coursed its way to these burying grounds and deposited the loved ones from out the home circles of this city, and monuments have been reared to their memory, until to-day, these "silent sentinels" stand one against another, as it were. The oldest of these cemeteries is one of the three Catholic burying grounds used by the pioneers. This is situated just north of the city, and contains the remains of many of the departed dead. The only public and non-sectarian cemetery in the place is located in the southeast part of Lower Town. This contains about eight acres of ground, and was laid out on land owned by John S. Lockwood, in 1842. This cemetery has been properly cared for and presents to the passer by an index of the culture and refinement of the city populace. Besides the public cemeteries, there

are numerous private burying grounds in and about the city, where rest the remains of many of the pioneers of Crawford county, some of which are on the highest bluffs east of, and overlooking the city. There are also several interments on land enclosed in what is known as the officers' cemetery, on grounds reserved by the United States. This is near John Lawler's residence, and contains the bodies of soldiers and their families, who died at this point when Prairie du Chien was yet a military post.

CITY PARK.

Prairie du Chien can boast of one of the prettiest public parks in southern Wisconsin. It is located just south of Bluff street, which is the main business thoroughfare of the city. Minnesota street runs on the east, Wisconsin street on the south, the grounds being in block 90 of the Union plat. The land embraced within this beautiful park was purchased of H. L. Dousman, Jr. The principal attraction of this spot is the fountain formed by the perpetual flow of the artesian well, situated within the enclosure of the park. A very neat and substantial fence encloses the grounds, which are made charming by an abundance of choice shade trees, including some fine evergreens of symmetrical proportions.

ARTESIAN WELLS.

One of the peculiar and interesting features of the city of Prairie du Chien is its several mammoth artesian wells. To the late Judge Ira B. Brunson belongs the credit of proposing and urging the undertaking of opening an artesian well at this city. The subject was discussed by the judge in so earnest and hopeful a manner that he soon had other prominent citizens interested in the project.

The drilling of a well was commenced in the latter part of 1875, without any formal organization and before its completion, a public meeting was held (May 26, 1876) for the purpose of organizing a joint stock company.

Judge Ira B. Brunson was chosen president, and Mr. L. Case, secretary, of the meeting. A

committee on organization was appointed, consisting of B. F. Fay, A. Denio and W. B. Hunt. A second meeting was held June 23, 1876, and the organization was perfected. Judge I. B. Brunson was elected president, and E. M. Wright secretary. A board of directors was chosen, consisting of B. F. Fay, Lawrence Case, T. L. Brower, H. Beach, M. Menges, I. B. Brunson and W. B. Hunt.

Articles of association were adopted, and the capital stock fixed at \$10,000. The association was to be known as the Prairie du Chien Artesian Well Company. Stock was readily taken, and the work pushed to a speedy completion. The diameter of the tube is six inches, and the well was sunk to the depth of 960 feet, when a powerful stream of mineral water was struck which was found to flow at the rate of twenty barrels per minute, and with sufficient force to rise to the height of seventy feet.

An analysis of the water was made by a competent chemist with the following showing per gallon:

	Grains.
Bicarbonate of lime.....	.6222
Bicarbonate of magnesia.....	10.9739
Chloride of sodium.....	90.2007
Chloride of potassium.....	3.8064
Bromide of sodium.....	.1281
Sulphate of soda.....	12.7978
Sulphate of lime.....	15.3699
Bicarbonate of iron.....	.2318
Alumina.....	.0610
Silica.....	2.8430
Phosphate of soda.....	Trace.
Organic matter.....	Trace.

The water is said to be a powerful remedial agent in rheumatism, dyspepsia and numerous other diseases. The original cost of the well was \$4,200, which was the amount of stock issued. The additional improvements, including mains and hydrants extending down Bluff street to the foot of Main, cost \$2,500. A still further expense has been incurred for copper pipe for lining main pipe to the rock. The present annual income is between \$600 and \$700. The company, with a view of developing the business,

has granted the sole right of sale of the water for a term of ten years from July 1, 1883 to Henry F. Schultz, of Milwaukee, for a nominal sum.

The present officers, (1884), are M. Menges, president; Wm. Newton, superintendent and secretary.

The well is situated on the northwest corner of Minnesota and Wisconsin streets. The surplus water is conducted to Bluff street and there divides equally and passes down the open gutters, which are paved with stone, thus presenting the curious and agreeable spectacle of two brooklets of clear, sparkling water, flowing one on either side of the principal business street of the city, while at frequent intervals open hydrants pour out a never-ceasing stream. Drinking cups and watering tubs supply the thirsty mortal or beast with abundant opportunity for quenching thirst. Two wells of this kind propel a flouring mill in the heart of the city, and Mr. T. L. Brower has another similar well at Lower Town, which throws an immense volume of water. It is situated in a beautiful private park of Mr. Brower's designing, and supplies a miniature lake. Besides the main fountain which forms so interesting a feature of the park, another fed by the well, through pipes, throws its bright waters high in the air, on the beautiful lawn that fronts the owner's residence. Still another no less beautiful fountain than Mr. Brower's, ornaments the beautiful grounds of the Dousman mansion near the river.

#### MILLS AND MANUFACTORIES.

The first milling done at or near the city of Prairie du Chien, was the grinding of small grain, such as wheat, peas, barley and oats. Two or three farmers would unite in the construction of a horse power mill. The buhrs were large stones cut from the granite rock, found about the city. The product of these mills was sifted by hand. The first regular grist mill within the limits of the city of Prairie du Chien, was erected by Edward Pelton in 1847.

This was a frame structure, except the engine room, which was built of brick. It was situated on the east bank of the Mississippi river, in the northwestern part of the city. It was still doing service in 1884. The original building was 50x50 feet, four stories in height and contained two run of stone. But in 1867 the property passed into the hands of J. Fameshon, who remodeled the building and provided new machinery throughout. In 1884 the mill was propelled by a sixty-horse power engine and operated as an exchange mill. In 1878 after the artesian wells of the city were pronounced a lasting success, Henry Weniger conceived the idea of securing a power sufficient to propel a flouring mill by means of two of these wells. So he opened one having an eight inch bore and one with a six inch bore. These wells were sunk 1,044 feet, and the streams give an upward force equal to the requirements of this mill, which contains two run of stone with a capacity of grinding 100 bushels per day. This is the only mill known in the world that derives its power directly from an upward stream of water, coming from the earth. This mill is located just north of Bluff street and east of the "slough."

The first saw-mill at Prairie du Chien was built in 1857, for the purpose of cutting hard wood lumber. It stood near the site of the present round house. Soon after its erection, it was burned down, and through aid derived by private subscription, it was rebuilt and continued a few months.

The next saw-mill in or about Prairie du Chien, was that owned by Stauer & Co., which was operated in McGregor for about a year, and in 1872 moved over to Prairie du Chien, in order to get more yard room in which to operate on a larger scale. This mill is one of the largest between Minneapolis, Minn., and Clinton, Iowa. Its propelling power is a 125 horse-power engine, which drives machinery sufficient to cut 85,000 feet of lumber per day. At this mill, besides the immense quantities of lumber

sawed, there is one of the largest shingle and lath mills in the county.

The location of this mill is on the east bank of the east channel of the Mississippi river, just northwest from the railway depot of the C. M. & St. Paul railway, the track of which passes through the mill yard.

Most of the logs used by this mill are rafted from Stillwater and the Chippewa country; and the major part of the mill's product finds a market in Iowa and Dakota.

The first brewing done at Prairie du Chien was in 1855, by Theodore Schumann and Otto Georgii, who operated in a small wood building near the base of the bluffs, where they excavated a large cellar which was stoned up and arched over. In 1870 M. Menges bought into the company, as the successor of Fred Kalpel, who had purchased Mr. Georgii's interest a year or two before. On the 29th of April, 1872, this brewery was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$8,000, while \$12,000 of its value was covered by insurance.

A few weeks after this fire a new brewery was commenced, which was still running in 1884, and known as the City Brewery. This concern fronts Church street from the westside, and is situated in block No. 1, and is the property of Theodore Schumann and M. Menges. This building is 45x160 feet, two and three stories in height. It is a stone and iron structure, erected at a cost of \$23,800, including machinery. It has a capacity of 6,000 barrels per year, which finds market in Wisconsin and Iowa, where eight salesmen are constantly employed. This concern uses from 12,000 to 14,000 bushels of malt of their own manufacture, and from 1,000 to 3,000 bushels imported. It also consumes 1,800 tons of ice per season.

Harris & Benson are manufacturers of steel plows and cultivators. Their business was established in 1855, by D. G. Harris, and conducted by Mr. Harris, and various partners, till 1871, when he formed a partnership with H. J. Benson. This firm does an extensive business in

the manufacture of steel plows and cultivators, of which they make several varieties. For the year 1882, they made 4,000 plows and cultivators. The senior partner has had thirty-four years' experience in the business, while Mr. Benson has devoted several years to the same line of work. Their plows and tools are sold throughout the west, and are held in high favor.

Just before the Civil war, H. H. Hall found money for Capt. Chase and Alonzo Pelton to put in operation a soap factory, which they continued to run till April, 1864, when they sold to J. D. Humphrey, of Galena, Ill., who operated successfully until Jan. 12, 1883, and then sold to Haskins & Wallan, who carried on the business until December of that year, when Mr. Haskins purchased his partner's interest; the concern then going under the name of Leroy Haskins' soap and candle factory.

No little importance is centered about industries of this character; indeed, they are the vitality of any city. Five standard grades of laundry soap are here manufactured—"Eureka," "Palm," "Old English," "Favorite" and "Economist." The capacity of these soap works is 11,000 sixty-pound boxes per annum. These soaps find market in Iowa, Wisconsin and Dakota, in which States salesmen are constantly employed. This factory is situated in one of the pioneer buildings of the city. It was formerly the "Rioletto House," kept by a Frenchman at an early day. It was next used as an office for the Indian agent, and later still, as a select school. Since 1870 this concern has been superintended by Jeremiah Cannon, an experienced soap maker.

The Vinegar works, of A. H. Reitemeyer, another enterprise of manufacturing industry of Prairie du Chien, was established in 1870, in the three-story brick business house, in Lower Town, built in 1857 for a bank. Up to 1879, the product of these works was made by use of spirits, which were imported; but at that date Mr. Reitemeyer, put in new machinery and has since produced the best grades of vinegar,

by the "vaporizing process," employing spirits obtained from malt, corn and rye, purchased and extracted at his works. The capacity of these works is 1,000 barrels per year; however, the average amount produced is about 600 barrels, which is sold to the retail trade of Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

#### COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

The commercial interests leading to the foundation, and subsequent development of a city, which must of necessity, receive the attention of the historian, is attended with many difficulties and uncertainties unknown to those who have never undertaken the collection of such matter. Especially is this true of a city dating back to so early a time as Prairie du Chien. Few of the early business men of the place are now living, and to the memory of the few surviving ones, years that have passed are but as fleeting hours, and the reports given by these pioneers are often at antipodes in relation to vital points, such as names and dates of those who first embarked in business. Notwithstanding these obstacles, the task has been undertaken, and the result is here given as a matter of record, to be handed down to succeeding generations, that they may know who founded the business of a city whose proportions shall increase with the incoming years, and the magnitude of its commerce outstrip the most sanguine hopes of its projectors.

In this connection it will be the aim of the historian to give, as far as possible, the names of the first representatives in each line of business, together with a brief history of their business and then in conclusion, show the advancement made by a business directory of the city in 1883.

As the earliest trading at this point, has been spoken of at length, in former chapters, in connection with the French and Indian trading post, no special mention will be made of the city's business until the American settlement commenced.

#### BUSINESS OF "LOWER TOWN."

The first merchandising done at this point, was carried on by John S. Lockwood, who opened a general store in 1839, and continued till about 1844, when he moved the stock to Upper Town, and a few years later died. Samuel A. Clark was the next to embark in trade in the Lower Town. He commenced in 1840, and continued until 1862 and then moved his goods to Viroqua, Vernon county, where he built a fine store building, which a few years later, he sold to Mr. John Tate, who was still in trade there in 1884.

The first hardware dealer of the place was G. C. Cone, who finally moved to McGregor, where he died. Succeeding him in this line, came Oswald & Hopkins in 1856.

Frank Jackish run the pioneer meat market of this part of Prairie du Chien.

A bank was established in 1856, under the state banking laws, by a man from Milwaukee, who continued some few years. This bank was kept in a large three story brick block erected by Allen Reed for that purpose. In 1883, this was utilized as a vinegar manufactory.

In 1857 the principal trade of the place was in the hands of the following:

T. L. Brower, wholesale and retail drug store.  
Mr. Osborne, grocery store.

H. Baldwin, ship store, which he kept in the railroad depot.

Samuel A. Clark, general store.

William Hawkins, groceries and provisions.

At this date there were eight hotels of various kinds, which changed hands many times and several of these were destroyed by fire, it is supposed to obtain the insurance, which was placed upon them.

In the winter of 1862-3, the long talked of removal of the depot, to a point up the river, near what was the "Main Village" of early date, was finally effected and with this change of railroad business, all other branches of trade commenced to center at Upper Town, many



of the business men removing their goods from "Lower Town."

"Lower Town" contains at this time (1884) but one store, which is operated by the pioneer, T. L. Brower.

Aside from the Vinegar works of A. H. Reitemeyer established in 1870, this constituted the business of this part of Prairie du Chien.

The C. M. & St. Paul have their round house and repair shops here, also a passenger depot.

#### BUSINESS OF "UPPER TOWN."

The earliest trading done here, was carried on at what was then known as "Main Village," on the island, near where the Milwaukee depot now stands. The building used was a solid, stone structure, which is still standing. This was head-quarters for the Indian traders, among whom were Dousman & Brisbois, agents for the American Fur Company.

In 1839, Edward Pelton opened up a general store.

In 1847, Thomas A. Savage and Martin Neinhardt engaged in trade; the former in a general stock, and the latter in exclusive grocery stock.

O. P. Martin embarked in the drug and grocery trade, at about the same time.

Gaillard & Famechon, began business in 1849, running a large general stock, then called and still known as the "French Store." In 1855, they erected a spacious stone building on Bluff street where Mr. Famechon is still (1884) doing business.

The first to engage in the hardware trade at this point was Mr. Frisbie, who sold to B. F. Fay, in 1857. Beach & Weber engaged in the same line in 1858.

The earliest dealer in furniture was Christopher Greeley, who commenced business in 1850, in a shop near the site of the present Commercial Hotel. This business is still (1884) carried on by his son Charles.

Horace Beach kept the pioneer agricultural store.

The first lumber dealers were I. P. P. Gentil & Dorr, who operated as early as 1856-7.

Shipley & Peas run the first livery stable, beginning about 1853.

The first to deal in clocks and jewelry was Mr. Giles, who was in trade here just before the war, and here commenced the foundation of the great fortune he has since amassed in Chicago, where he has long since been one of the noted business men.

The pioneer picture taker was Alphens Wright, who located long before the art of taking photographs was known. About 1850 was the date of his commencing to take daguerrotypes. D. A. Douglass was the second artist, who settled here. He was farther advanced in his profession, and taught Mr. Wright the process of taking both photographs and ambrotypes. He located in 1856, and continued in the business till 1865. His gallery was situated on Church street near where the city brewery was afterward built.

The first shoemaker in Prairie du Chien was a German named Sielgher, who commenced cobbling in 1842. In 1856, J. T. Christoph came from New York city and opened a shoe shop, and in 1860 added a stock of boots and shoes. He is still (in 1884) operating in this capacity.

The first restaurant in the place was run in connection with a boarding house, known as "Our House," which stood near where the French store building now stands. It was kept by John Pion, who is a native of Prairie du Chien. He was born in 1821, on the site of the present Railway House, and died Dec. 1, 1882. He had served two years in the United States army 1846-7, in a campaign against the Indians of the northwest. At one time he was counted among the wealthiest men in Prairie du Chien; but one reverse added to another till all was finally swept from him. The last twenty-five years of his life he suffered much from inflammatory rheumatism, contracted while in the army. It is said Mr. Pion was a "born gentlemen," and like most of the early French settlers, he was liberal and hospitable. His death added another to the long list of pioneers, who have

been gathered to their fathers, leaving only a few of that generation who lived on this beautiful prairie, and whose chief business was "dance, sing and make merry."

Mr. Pion was married in 1850, to Anna Brisbois, a neice of Col. Brisbois, by whom he had ten children—John, Emma, Louis, Anna, Charles, Addie, Ella, Lotta, Johnny and Eddie.

DIRECTORY OF 1883.

The following is a business directory of Prairie du Chien in December, 1883:

Brower, T. L., general store.  
 Brower & Son, drugs and groceries.  
 Beach, H., hardware and farm implements.  
 Bassett, Huntington & Co., grain dealers.  
 Butterfield, L. T., photographer.  
 Baldwin, H., Tremont House.  
 Bridenbauch, M., Central House.  
 Chase, L. & Co., general store.  
 Crehain, Dennis, St. Paul Hotel.  
 Conant, Dr., Turkish Bath.  
 Case & Co., grain dealers.  
 Douglass, D. A., notion store.  
 Evans, William, attorney.  
 Eddy, E., physician.  
 Famechon, J., French Store.  
 Fuller, C. S., attorney.  
 Frederick, M., harness maker.  
 Famechon, J., grain dealer.  
 Garvey Brothers, dry goods.  
 Grelle, Charles, furniture.  
 Griesbaugh, Christian, meat market.  
 Haskins, Le Roy, soap manufacturer.  
 Hewitt, Byron, farm machinery.  
 Jones, J. D., physician.  
 Kohn & Co., clothing.  
 Knops, John, furniture.  
 Lindner, G. L., cigar maker.  
 Levi, N. H., jeweler.  
 Lockart, E. P., lumber dealer.  
 Mathews, R. G., jeweler.  
 Morrison, E., hardware.  
 Nor, Frederick & Co., meat market.  
 Poehler, H. C., groceries.  
 Rosenbaum, S., groceries.

Reitemeyer, A. H., Vinegar Works.  
 Rodgers, Edward, Sherman House.  
 Rodway, T. F., restaurant.  
 Schweizer, Mrs. J. G., Commercial Hotel.  
 Schweizer, M., boots and shoes.  
 Stauer & Co., saw mills.  
 Shumann & Menges, brewery.  
 Steiger, A., physician  
 Samuels, A. F., physician.  
 Schumecher, R. R., restaurant.  
 Thomas, O. B., attorney.  
 Viele, L. F. S., attorney.  
 Wright & Co., drugs.  
 Weidenfeld, H., dry goods.  
 Webster, Daniel, attorney.

HOTELS.

The hotel, as well as the grist mill, saw-mill and blacksmith shop, serves as a vanguard to civilization, going up as it does in the midst of the wild, unsettled frontier, to give shelter and repast to the explorer and home seeker. Could the foundation stones of the early taverns in the neighborhood of Prairie du Chien but speak, they would, indeed, reveal history which can never be written. They would tell of men and women of whom we know but little, they would describe the manners and customs of those who, perhaps, tarried here but a few days, or maybe give us a volume of comic incidents which occurred within the superstructure above them. Here the French and Indian traders assembled and told one another of their exploits and the dangers through which they passed in search of worldly gain among the savage tribes of Indians, whose finest hunting ground was hereabouts. They would also make mention of the marriages, births and deaths and of dances and charivaries besides a thousand other things which must have transpired in those early days around the public houses. But as these have been dumb listeners it is left for the historian to trace out, as near as possible the facts connected with the building and operation of the first hotels of the city and such additional notes concerning those of a later

date as he may be able to find and then weave them together as a record of the hotels of this place.

There were several inns kept by the French settlers at a very early date; but the first record to be found of a licensed tavern was granted May 13, 1823, to John Brunet, by J. L. Findly, then county clerk. About the same time another was granted to John Dispose, and a year later, one to James Reed. These were all three small concerns, and their history, however extensive and interesting it may have been, has been lost by the flight of time; and all that is known is the facts above stated.

About 1839 Ezekiel Tainter built what was known as the Phoenix Hotel. This was on Main street, near the New York store building. In a few years Mr. Tainter sold to Edward Pelton, who operated it for a time, and from him the property passed into the hands of Mr. Keith. The next landlord was Deacon Hurd (Dennis J.), who continued for several years, and finally gave way to William Campbell, and he in turn to Alonzo Kane, who changed the name of the house to "Kane's Hotel." He conducted the house till 1861, when J. George Schweizer purchased and operated it till Nov. 8, 1873, at which time it was destroyed by fire, occasioned by the burning of Mr. Boisvert's barn, as some thought, while others concluded it must have been willfully set on fire, while the barn was yet smouldering.

About 1834 a hotel was built on Bluff street, which in 1884, was used as a private house. This was called the Prairie House; it was a story and a half building, erected by a Frenchman named Baylee. Later it became the property of H. L. Dousman, but was operated by N. F. Hurd, also by Messrs. Parvin & Campbell.

In 1839 Alexander McGregor built a very substantial, spacious hotel in Lower Town, known as the Granite Hotel. This was constructed of Prairie du Chien granite, and was

a fine building. It was destroyed a few years later by fire.

In 1857-8 a joint stock company erected a large hotel in Lower Town, known as the Brisbois house. This was an immense house, built over the excitement connected with the completion of the Milwaukee & Mississippi River railroad to this point. It was too large a house to be in any sense profitable to its owner, and so was operated but a few years. Its cost was \$56,000. During the rebellion it was used by the government as a hospital. Later still, an unsuccessful attempt was made to have it utilized by the State as a Normal School building; but having failed in this, its owners organized an independent college, known as the Prairie du Chien College. This proved a financial failure, and the building passed into the hands of the Catholics, who started a school therein, which also proved a failure. John Lawler then purchased the property and donated it to the Fathers of the Society of Jesus, who have added substantial and expensive improvements, and sustain one of the best schools in the State.

Another fine hotel was erected in 1856-7 by E. W. Mondel, at a cost of \$40,000. This was known as the "Mondel," and was a very superior house. Among others who conducted this hotel, were, A. M. Tryon, Mr. Van Velzer and Edward Pelton, who were experienced hotel men, and won the esteem their merit deserved as good landlords. This building was a fine three story structure, situated on Bluff street, the principal street of the city. It was destroyed by fire in December, 1880, and was not re-built.

The Railroad House, on the island, is the property of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. This spacious building was erected in 1862-3, at the time the depot was moved from its original site in Lower Town. This is a fine structure, built of Milwaukee brick, and provided with all modern appliances for the comfort and convenience of the traveling public. The cost of the building was about

\$35,000, exclusive of furniture. It is located within a few rods of the east bank of the Mississippi river, near the depot, and from its rooms may be seen the charming river scenery.

Among the smaller hotels of the place are the Tremont, Sherman, St. Paul and Central hotels.

The building which forms a part of the Tremont House, is a pioneer structure, being built by H. L. Dousman, in 1826-7. It stands near the river, also close to the Milwaukee depot. It first served as a residence and Indian trading post. For many years it was operated as a hotel by H. Baldwin, who added to its capacity, from time to time. In 1882 it was purchased by Walter Newick.

The St. Paul House was built in 1868, by Dennis Crehain. It is a small frame building near the Tremont and Railway Houses. Mr. Crehain, the proprietor, operated the Western House, at Lower Town, at an early day; he was also section boss seven years on the section running east from Prairie du Chien, when the road was first constructed.

The Sherman was formerly known as the Minneapolis House. This house was built in 1875 and operated in 1884, by Edward Rodgers.

The Central House is situated in the center of the business part of the city, on Bluff street. This building was built for a residence, but converted into a hotel in 1877. Its proprietor in 1884 was M. Bridenbauch. What was known as the Wisconsin House, was built by J. George Schweizer, in 1856 or 1857, as a saloon; but soon after the marriage of Mr. Schweizer, he converted it into a tavern and continued to operate it till 1861, when he purchased the Kane House.

Last, though far from being the least, is the Commercial Hotel. This is a brick business block, remodeled into a hotel in 1881, by J. George Schweizer. It stands on the corner of Bluff and Prairie streets, facing the south and east. It contains many elegant rooms on the first, second and third floors; also a fine billiard hall and bar are run in connection with the

house, both of which are conducted in a creditable manner. Since Mr. Schweizer's death in May, 1882, the house has been operated by Mrs. Schweizer, under the management of her two sons, George and Charles. The Commercial has telephonic connection with all parts of the city, as well as with the city of McGregor. Another pleasing feature of this hotel, is the beautiful crystal-like stream of mineral water, which proceeds from the famous artesian well, and flows within a few feet of the office door. With all these surroundings, the stranger is made to feel at home, while he remains at the Commercial.

#### BANKS.

In 1837 a bank was started at Prairie du Chien called the Prairie du Chien Ferry Co. Handsome bills were issued. George W. Pine, president, H. W. Savage, cashier. It did not circulate well here, as it had no charter. It did less damage than most of the wild cat institutions of that day.

The first successful attempt at the banking business, was in 1856, when a Milwaukee capitalist, Anson Eldred, opened a banking house at Lower Town, known as the Bank of Prairie du Chien. After a few years this concern was moved to Upper Town and finally failed.

Another bank was opened in the winter of 1856-7, by Chase Bros., called the Exchange Bank. This was located on Water street. This institution was in operation a few years and then closed up, its capital being invested in other directions. Another bank known as the Exchange Bank, which is at this time, (1884) is the only bank of the place, was founded in 1872, by C. M. Seley, who sold to Aaron Denio, in 1880. The cash capital of this institution is \$10,000.

#### FLOODS.

Prairie du Chien, situated as it is on the prairie land between the two bluffs, which form the valley of the Mississippi river, has been the scene of many great inundations, the greatest of which are spoken of in this connection.

In the month of May, 1826, a great flood occurred, at which time the river was higher than it had ever been known to the white settlers. At this point it was twenty-six feet above low water mark. The troops then garrisoned here, abandoned the fort and took possession of the higher ground east of the slough. The next remarkable flood was in May, 1859. In the vicinity of the round house in Lower Town, there were several houses, where the inmates would have been drowned had they not taken refuge in the upper story or at their neighbors. Front street was only passable by boats, and the merchants in that section were damaged by having the water fill the basements. All the islands in the river were submerged and the channel over one mile wide. The main town was indeed an island, the bridge across the slough was covered with water at both extremities and a part of it carried down stream.

Another sweeping flood occurred about the 20th of June, 1880; the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers were then higher than they had been known for over forty years. The saw-mills and railroad companies sustained heavy losses in this flood. During this freshet assistant superintendent Collins and roadmaster Mitchell came from Woodman, a station on the Milwaukee road, about twenty miles distant, in a skiff, and found the water to be four feet over the railroad track in many places. Nine hundred feet of the track was washed away between Boscobel and Woodman, and the entire Wisconsin bottoms were inundated. The people living at Frenchtown, just north of the city, were completely surrounded by the waters of the Mississippi, and lost all their farm and garden products. On the Iowa side of the river, twenty-five miles of the Dubuque & Minnesota railroad was submerged and all trains abandoned. During this flood a party of musicians chartered a large boat of Louis Martin, and with quite a number of friends took a sail over the submerged portion of the city, the 4th ward. The musicians were: Mr. Humphreys, James Hicks,

A. K. Graves, Mrs. Newton, Mrs. McKey, Miss Jennie Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. Newman, vocalists; Mrs. Le Clerc, organist; Mr. King, violinist, and Dr. Samuels, guitar accompaniment. It is said the boat glided along over the peaceful waters, while the pale moon lent her mild light, peeping out occasionally from the scattering grey clouds, while the sweet strains of music floated pathetically over the "transient sea of waters." After serenading some friends in their half submerged houses, the boat was moored at the steps of the railway eating house, the inmates of which were greeted by a long serenade and there invited by the genial landlord, Col. Williams, to partake of the bounties of his table, after a nice little welcome speech.

The latest, the severest and by far the most extensive flood ever known to the people of the upper Mississippi valley, occurred in October, 1881. It commenced about the first of the month, and continued for about three weeks, devastating towns, cities, mills, railroads and bridges. In Prairie du Chien, the mills were all shut down, and the hands thrown out of employment. Boats took the place of wheeled vehicles for conveyance through the principal streets. The hay crop all along the Mississippi valley was ruined, and large numbers of stock were drowned.

#### REMAINS OF THE MILITARY POST.

There exists no point in the northwest, around which so much of historic interest clusters, as that of the city of Prairie du Chien, especially, is this true concerning the old government quarters, the remains of which have to be pointed out to the stranger, in order that he may discern that the spot was once a military post, where stood one of the most substantial and important forts along the Mississippi river. Where Ft. Crawford stood with its massive walls of solid masonry, bidding defiance to the charge of a mighty enemy, now towers the walls of the Catholic school building. Where the shrill sound of the bugle at roll call, was heard, now rings forth the convent bell. The

last picket guards about these grounds have long since beat their "spears into pruning hooks and their swords into plowshares," and many of them been laid away at rest; and where they once stood guard by night, the street lamps of the city serve as silent sentinels—befitting emblems of peace.

The grounds occupied by the Fort were purchased of J. H. Lockwood and James Doty, in 1829. They consisted chiefly of farm lots Nos. 33, and 34, which contained 160 acres.

One of the early frame houses in Prairie du Chien was erected by James H. Lockwood; this house was upon the grounds purchased for the garrison and was the residence of various army officers among whom were "Zac" Taylor, then colonel in the United States army, having command of this post for a number of years prior to his promotion to the presidential chair.

After the close of the Civil war, all the government property at this point, was sold, the fort and other military buildings torn down and the material of which they were constructed, utilized for private purposes, as well as the land upon which they stood. No longer were they needed as a bulwark of defence; thus, stone by stone, the buildings were removed. John Lawler purchased the grounds about the fort; also portions of the government building. He donated the spot where the fort stood to the Roman Catholics, who erected a convent, upon the exact spot. The old flag staff from which "Zac" Taylor unfurled the stars and stripes in those early days, has been carefully preserved by Mr. Lawler, and still supports the proud flag upon all public occasions, and indeed waves "Over the land of the free, and the home of the brave." At the present (1884), nothing of note remains to remind one of the old garrison, except the building, once used as an army hospital; the stone structure previously used for the storage of the munitions of war, and the officers cemetery where sleep the heroic dead.

The hospital is a low one story stone building erected in the form of a right angle, with broad

porches extending along the entire frontage. Within this hospital were performed some of the most noted surgical operations known to the profession. As one passes by this building, half in ruins, and exposed to the commons, they are reminded of other times, of days when each ward within this hospital was occupied by the sick and dying, whose groans were heard throughout the garrison. "Oh the enormity of war!" The munition buildings stand just north of the hospital. These are two story stone buildings constructed in the most substantial manner. The wood work having nearly all decayed, or been removed, the naked walls alone stand as monuments of the past.

The officers' cemetery is situated just north of the John Lawler property and is but a small enclosure, reserved by the government and cared for in a very creditable manner by Mr. Lawler, who has great respect for the departed dead: A tight board fence surrounds the graves, a number of which contain tombs of old style, provided with a brick work three feet above the ground, and this surmounted by a thick marble slab about 3x7 feet, upon which is carved various inscriptions to the memory of those whose remains rest beneath. The privates were buried at another part of the garrison grounds and when the lands were disposed of by the United States so many of these remains as could be found, were removed to the officer's cemetery and by a special act of Congress, head boards were placed by these "unknown" graves.

With each recurring spring time, the citizens of the place observe Decoration Day, and they are sure to remember these earlier graves with a peculiar tenderness and there bestow their choicest garlands.

#### CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

In the year 1814 Faribault, after whom Faribault, Minn., was named, an early trader of the upper Mississippi, was robbed of a large stock of goods at the village by the Winnebagoes. A slight earthquake was noticed this year.

1818.—Col. John Shaw built a grist-mill at Fisher's coulee four miles above the prairie where the Dousman mill now stands.

1821.—The first steamboat appeared here this year. It was owned in St. Louis and called *Virginia*.

1826.—In the month of May occurred a great flood of the Mississippi, the highest of more modern times. The water at Prairie du Chien reaching twenty-six feet above low water mark.

1832.—The cholera raged here severely this year, and 100 soldiers died in two weeks.

1836.—The population at this time was 850.

1837.—The county authorities levied a tax to build a bridge across the "Marais de St. Feriole." It was built between what is now the Catholic church and the Dousman residence, and floated away soon after.

1842.—The first public school was taught this year by Miss Rice, who afterward became the wife of Jerrud Warner.

1849.—Louis Mayard was killed by Theophilus La Chappelle, and his house burned. The latter was tried in November of that year and not found guilty, on the plea of insanity.

1856.—During this year Alexander McGregor, built and put in operation a steam ferry boat, to ply between Prairie du Chien and the village of McGregor.

1857.—The first train of cars reached Prairie du Chien April 14; a grand reception being tendered the passengers.

1859.—On the 12th of May another inundation took place, the water being higher than had been known for ten years. The islands in the river were covered, the main town, an island and the bridge over the slough under water.

#### EVENTS OF INTEREST.

In July 1832, two river gamblers came up the river to this place. They had taken the small-pox somewhere below, which made its appearance on them here, and from which they died. The disease spread from them to the inhabitants and Indians. Some of the former died, but more

of the Indians. In Waubasha's band, where Winona now stands, 140 died. The contagion was said to work its way west to the Missouri river, scattering death among the poor natives. The Mandan villages were said to have lost all but sixteen souls. The Winnebagoes in this vicinity died by scores and hundreds, and their remains were scattered along the river banks and in the woods, unburied, and eaten up by the wolves.

For some time prior to 1858, the towns on the upper Mississippi were known to be the lurking place of a gang of robbers and thieves, and this year the depredations that were committed in the neighborhood of the prairie, made it evident that they had come up the river to extend their business. About the 1st of May, a crowd of villainous looking fellows were observed about the town, and a few days after, an elderly man in passing through the place to his home in the country fell into their hands and was plundered of everything. Shortly after, a jewelry store in the town was broken into and robbed of property to the value of \$2,000. These vagabonds were seen in the streets with revolvers and bowie knives insulting those who came in their way, and threatening "to clean out the town." The proper authorities were insufficient to discharge their duties, and the rowdies were allowed to do pretty much as they pleased. These events created a great deal of excitement among the inhabitants, and a vigilance committee was appointed, who arrested some twelve of these characters, and put them in the jail. A meeting of the citizens was called, and it was decided that something must be done to rid the town of these rascals. The prisoners were brought to the court house and examined, and it was decided that six of the principal ones should have their heads shaved and receive ten to thirty lashes on the back, and sent down the river; one of the number, a negro, was appointed to do the shaving. The sentence was duly enforced. A few of the number were discharged, on due and proper admonition, and

some escaped. A report of the proceedings was drawn up and published in the newspapers.

In 1862, Austin Birge, while digging in a mound, at lower Prairie du Chien, came across some bits of bones and primitive pottery, and among them espied a larger silver coin than he had ever seen. Removing to Grant Co., Oregon, he carried his find with him, but later sent it back, so that it came into the possession of Horace Beach, who has generously presented it to the Wisconsin Historical Society. Its diameter is two and one-eighth inches; that of a dollar is one and one half inches. It weighs 776 grains, or nearly twice the weight of a dollar, which is 412½ grains. Its material is chiefly silver, though it possibly contains more alloy than the coins issued in the mints of the United States. Its obverse bears a bust, one and one half inches high, stamped in very bold relief. It was originally encircled by an inscription now almost illegible. Upon the reverse is the word *merito*, in letters so large that six of them fill more than an inch. This legend is in the midst of a wreath tied with ribbons. The leaves of the wreath are those of the cactus or prickly pear. This relic has a hole bored through it in the margin, so that it could be hung round one's neck. It was clearly minted not for a coin, but for a medal. No silver coin so heavy is noted in the currency of the world. The cactus leaves are a feature which points to Mexican origin. The word *merito* also is Spanish, meaning merit, or reward of merit. It seems to have been originally *por merito*.

It is noteworthy, that while *merito* is well preserved on one side of the medal, all the words on the other are well nigh obliterated. In the inscription which encircles the bust, the words *Carlos*, *Espana* and *Indias* are easily decipherable, and placing the medal upon a hot iron, all the legend may be made out as follows:

“*Carlos III. Rey D'España de las Indias.*”

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

John S. Lockwood, a brother of Judge H. Lockwood, settled at Prairie du Chien in 1838.

He was born in the town of Jay, Essex Co., N. Y., about 1796, and removed with his parents to Champlain, N. Y., where he grew to manhood. He was married at Plattsburg, N. Y., to Margaret L. Miller. On coming to Prairie du Chien he engaged in merchandising, and was one of the early merchants of Lower Town, and afterward engaged in business at Upper Town. His wife died in September, 1839, and was the first one buried in the cemetery at Lower Town. Mr. Lockwood married for his second wife, Hannah R. Morley, born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and died in Chicago, in 1881. He died in 1868. Besides Judge Lockwood, two brothers, Ezekiel and William, have also been residents of Crawford county; also a sister, Samantha. Mr. Lockwood had eight children by first marriage, four of whom are living—Mrs. Ralph Smith, Hannah P., Carrie H. and James E. His surviving children by second marriage are—Charles R., Nettie and Lizzie B. Charles R. enlisted at the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, and on the organization of the 43d Wisconsin regiment he was promoted to a 2d lieutenantcy, and appointed to drill the 43d, which was stationed at Prairie du Chien. He served through the war, and was for some time a member of Gen. Sherman's staff.

#### COUNTY BUILDINGS.

A jail of hewn logs (oak) with two apartments was built in 1820 or 1821, in the old village, and was burned in 1834. It was erected in the rear of village lot No. 17. The house was about 25x16 feet, and divided by the same kind of logs into a debtors' and criminals' apartments. At this old log jail, a sergeant of the 1st regiment of United States Infantry was hung, in 1828, for shooting Lieut. McKinzie of the same regiment; and in 1833 a soldier of that regiment was executed there for shooting Sergeant Coffin in the new Fort Crawford. This was the only building erected for county purposes until 1835, when the contract for a stone, combined court house and jail was let to William Wilson for \$3,695. It was completed the same year. This



was the first court house in the territory. Thomas Street and H. L. Dousman were the building committee. Michael Brisbois donated the lot. It was a stone building of sufficient size to have on the ground floor a room each for criminals and debtors, and two rooms for the jailor, with a court room and two jury rooms on the second floor. The taxable inhabitants then in the county were confined to the Prairie. The county was still a part of Michigan Territory and so well were the county affairs managed that the taxes were not raised more than five mills on the dollar to pay for this improvement. This was the first court house in Wisconsin. Stone offices were afterward built at a cost of \$800, and occupied until the completion of the present court house. The latter edifice is situated upon the site of the first court house, the county having secured the entire block. It is a large and substantial limestone structure of three stories, with cut caps, corners and water-tables, the lower, or half-basement story containing the jail apartments and sheriff's residence. The next floor is divided into offices and jury rooms, while the upper story constitutes a capacious court room. The cost of the building was \$23,800, and was erected in 1867-8. H. L. Dousman, H. Beach and William Dutcher were the building committee.

#### PRAIRIE DU CHIEN AS A PLEASURE RESORT.

But few, if any, localities along the Mississippi river afford better facilities and more charming attractions to the tourist and summer traveler than that of Prairie du Chien.

To the lover of the gun no portion of southern Wisconsin affords more facilities for hunting than does this location. Among the bluffs and in the woodland are found deer, partridge, quail, rabbits and prairie chickens; on the bottom lands and islands the various species of water fowl, snipe and woodcock abound in almost unlimited quantities. It has long since been a favorite resort for sportsmen from the eastern part of the State and is rapidly grow-

ing in favor since the sinking of the Artesian wells.

Fishing, in which nearly all classes take delight, is unsurpassed. The rivers abound with the finest specimens of pickerel, black bass, wall eyed pike, white and striped bass; and in the streams which flow through the coulees or ravines, especially that of Sioux coulee, large numbers of fine brook trout are taken. In the river, fishing at the mouth of the Wisconsin and Yellow rivers, that empty into the Mississippi from the Iowa side are favorite resorts.

To the geologist no portion of the northwest affords better opportunities for investigation, as a section of the rocks is here exposed to view to a depth from the surface of the bluffs of 400 feet, exposing the lower shell-beds of the Trenton, the entire St. Peter's and the most of the lower Magnesian limestone, in which are found many fine fossiliferous specimens, well preserved, and standing out in bold relief, where the strata are well separated.

To the archæologist this locality is one of the most interesting in the west, as here there are many untouched mounds upon the prairies and the points of the bluffs; and they extend all through the country, as these old denizens were fish eaters, and loved to dwell adjacent to streams of considerable magnitude. Evidence everywhere exists of the old dwellers, as large shell heaps, broken pottery and numerous utensils have been incidentally found belonging once to this people. It matters not what the object of one's visit to Prairie du Chien be, he can for a time be agreeably and profitably entertained. If he comes for health, he has the benefit of the best well water in the world, and superior medical attendance; if it is for pleasure, no pleasanter drives can be found anywhere. The summits of the bluffs, from which the most magnificent views of the Mississippi and Wisconsin are obtained, are easily accessible by carriage; if he comes for sport, hunting and fishing invites his attention, and a day's sport is always followed by good results, and if he

comes for geological investigations or sight seeing the far famed pictured rocks on the Iowa side, but three miles below the city, are unsurpassed for beauty of formation and magnificent scenery. The people, too, are always willing to contribute to one's entertainment, and a more delightful society can be found nowhere.

#### RETROSPECTIVE AND BIOGRAPHICAL.

Over a century of years have passed into the annals of history since Jonathan Carver found upon the east bank of the upper Mississippi a small village of French fur traders, and half breeds called "Prairie des Chiens." French Canadians, seeking a more western trading point and supply depot, found here a cordial and generous welcome. The different tribes of hostile Indians were drawn to the spot by the oily tongue of the trader and alluring display of fancy colored blankets and trinkets, and brought their furs to exchange for powder, shot and whisky. John Jacob Astor founded that now extinct, but then most powerful organization known as the American Fur Company, at this point, and for years controlled the great fur trade of the north and west. Fort Crawford was erected, by our government, garrisoned by able and efficient soldiers, and "Prairie des Chiens" assumed a martial air. For three score years it boasted of being the greatest trading point in the northwest, and this assertion was well founded. American white settlers commenced pouring in about 1820, and the rapid influx of civilization drove the aboriginal inhabitants farther north and west. Churches and schools were erected on the site of former trading tents and supply warehouses, and the surprised and revengeful Winnebago was slowly and mercilessly driven back into the rapidly disappearing forests. At one time, Prairie des Chiens was almost a city when Chicago contained but a stockade and a few cabins. Now, all is changed, and the Prairie des Chiens of old, has departed forever. The present beautiful city contains a thrifty, enterprising population, and but few landmarks re-

main of her early glory. The pioneer settler has been "sleeping with his fathers" for years upon years, and his children's children tread where his footsteps were wont to go. But in the midst of all the business bustle and activity of the present day, the heart will sometimes turn back to "pioneer times," and wonder as to its first settlement and growth. Old time memories and associations still linger around the old fort and long familiar points on the mighty "Father of Waters," and are recalled with interest and pleasure, by the pioneers' descendants. The earlier settlers were French, and have left no record behind, of their parentage, or life pursuits, but the American settler has been more solicitous for his posterity, and in this work has transmitted to his descendants the history of a life well spent. The following personal sketches, together with those in the pioneer and reminiscence chapters, are intended to preserve this doubly valuable record, and also present the histories of those who have been largely instrumental in developing the present flourishing city. They are men known mostly throughout the whole surrounding country for their sterling business qualifications and unblemished characters.

John H. Folsom, a pioneer of Prairie du Chien, of 1836, is the son of Jeremiah and Octavia (How) Folsom, and was born Dec. 27, 1812, in eastern Maine, and until about fourteen years of age, lived in Skowhegan, Somerset county. When a lad he entered the service of a rich mercantile firm of Bath, as store boy. He was promoted to clerk, and subsequently sent to Africa, as supercargo, of the merchant ship, *Transit*. On his return from Africa to Bath, he quit the service of this company and went to Bangor, thence to Boston, Mass., from there to Toledo, Ohio, and in 1835, to Mt. Clemens, Mich. In January, 1836, he came to Prairie du Chien and wrote in the quartermaster's department and sutler's store, then was a book-keeper for J. H. Lockwood, until he was married. After this, he engaged in farming. He was

elected justice of the peace at an early day, holding that office several years. He was chosen chairman of the town board of Prairie du Chien, being re-elected several times. He was married at Prairie du Chien, Dec. 2, 1839, to Angelina M., daughter of John B. Pion. Mrs. Folsom was born in this town, her people being among the early pioneers. They had one daughter—Caroline, who died in infancy. Mrs. Folsom died Jan. 11, 1882. Mr. Folsom has an adopted daughter—Annie J., who is the companion of his old age. Nearly half a century has passed since Mr. Folsom selected his home on these prairies. His early neighbors were the Indians and French, and in his time he has witnessed many curious scenes. His memory is clear, and of all the old settlers left, few, if any, can give so accurate an account of the interesting events that have transpired in this region in the past forty-seven years. Mr. Folsom's home is on farm lot No. 24, just north of the city.

Samuel Adams Clark located at Prairie du Chien in 1838. He was born in Whiting township, Addison Co., Vt., Oct. 22, 1810. He learned the trade of wheelwright and carriage maker in his youth, also that of blacksmith and painter, and subsequently that of carpenter and joiner, working at the latter trade for fourteen years. When twenty-one years of age he went to Westport, Essex Co., N. Y., where he resided five years. He then removed to Prairie du Chien, arriving June 18, 1838. On coming to this place he worked at the carpenter and joiner trade, one of his first jobs being on the quarters of the commanding officers of Fort Crawford. In June, 1840, he opened a general store at Lower Town, then the business center of Prairie du Chien. In 1844 he opened another store at Garnaville, Iowa, where he also bought grain. Three years later he moved his stock to Clayton, Iowa, where he carried on business for several years, building up an extensive trade. He also put up several buildings at that place and was largely interested in real estate. Six years later he removed his stock to Viroqua,

Vernon Co., Wis., having previously erected a large store at that place. He was in business there five years. He also laid out the town site of Marion, Minn., erected a large store building and stocked it with general merchandise. Mr. Clark had at one time seven different stores in operation, including the original store at Prairie du Chien. He also became interested in farming, and now has 350 acres of land, the care of which occupies his principal time. He continued in the mercantile business twenty-two years, during which time he acquired the reputation of an enterprising and fair dealing merchant. Mr. Clark was also interested in railroad matters, aiding and encouraging the opening of this region to the commerce of the world. Mr. Clark was married, at Prairie du Chien, Jan. 19, 1844, to Adelia M. Richards. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters—Pamelia S., wife of Joel C. Smith, of Chicago; Cornillo, a merchant of Menomonee, Dunn Co., Wis.; Elmira, wife of George Morsey, of Moberly, Mo.; Danoin A., a resident of Missouri; Walter A., of Centralia, Mo.; Eda, wife of Edwin Paff, of St. Louis, Mo.; Ernest L., residing on the homestead. Mrs. Clark died July 16, 1870. Mr. Clark was married Nov. 9, 1873, to Frances, daughter of O. F. Reynolds, and born in Rock Co., Wis. They had two children—Mary, who died aged two years, and Adams S. The name of Adams in the Clark family came through Mr. Clark's mother, who was kin to John Quincy Adams.

Edward P. Lockart, lumber merchant, is one of the earliest pioneers of Prairie du Chien. He is the son of Robert and Sarah Lockart, and was born Jan. 20, 1816, in Chester Co., Penn. In the spring of 1839, he moved to Mineral Point, Wis. Ter., residing in that place until June, 1841, when he came to Prairie du Chien. In 1843 he was appointed deputy sheriff of Crawford county, under sheriff Robert D. Lester, who was shot by an Indian while coming down the river in his canoe. Mr. Lockart was elected sheriff in the fall of 1844, serving 1845 and 1846.

During his term of office, his jurisdiction extended to Lake Superior, and included the territory now the site of the city of St. Paul. He was chosen sergeant-at-arms of the Senate in the last Territorial Legislature, and the first in the State Senate of 1848-9. In 1852 he engaged in the lumber business near Chippewa Falls, where he had an interest in a saw-mill. In 1854 his company opened a lumber yard at Prairie du Chien, which they operated until 1857. In 1867 Mr. Lockart engaged in the lumber business alone. Mr. Lockart was married in November, 1845, at Burlington, Iowa, to Mrs. Esther A. Lester, widow of Robert D. Lester and daughter of Jesse Danley. Mrs. Lockart was born in Meadville, Penn., coming to Prairie du Chien with her parents, in 1837. They have had five children, three of whom are living—W. S., wife of B. F. Fay, of this city; Martha and Edward P. Mary died in 1880 and Robert died, aged three years. The youngest son, Edward P., is a practicing physician, and a recent graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York city.

Julius Famechon, one of the pioneer merchants of Prairie du Chien, is the son of Constant S. and Melanie (Baillet) Famechon, and was born Sept. 22, 1824, in the department of Pas de Calais, France. He grew to manhood in his native country, and in 1848, emigrated to the United States. He spent the winter in St. Louis, Mo., and in March, 1849, came to Prairie du Chien, Wis., where he formed a partnership with Augustus Gaillard in the mercantile business, starting in a small way as their means would permit. They were very successful, and their business rapidly increased. This partnership continued until the death of Mr. Gaillard, which occurred in 1864, since which time Mr. Famechon has conducted the business alone. He now carries a stock of \$15,000. Mr. Famechon has extended his business interests in other directions. He is now the proprietor of the Merchant Flouring Mill at this place. This mill has three run of buhrs, and has a milling

capacity of seventy-five barrels of flour per day. He has an elevator for storage, with a capacity of 25,000 bushels. He also has an oil mill, where rape and flaxseed are converted into linseed oil. Mr. Famechon is a large real estate owner. Beside his city property, he has a fine farm of 1,000 acres in Eastman town. He has been in mercantile business at Prairie du Chien longer than any one now here. Starting with limited means, he has, by strict attention to business, and by fair and cautious treatment of his customers, built up a large business. He was married, in Prairie du Chien, in 1858, to Ada Jenkins, born in Kentucky. They have two children—Julius C. and Melanie.

Charles Grelle, son of Christopher Grelle, was born in Millhausen, Alsace-on-the-Rhine, Germany, Jan. 21, 1845. He emigrated to America with his parents in 1849, coming directly to Prairie du Chien, Wis. He received a common school education and learned the cabinet maker's trade in his father's shop. After the death of his father, Dec. 27, 1880, Charles succeeded to the business. Mr. Grelle has a well stocked cabinet shop, just east of the Commercial House. He was married at Wauzeka, Wis., Dec. 29, 1854, to Caroline, daughter of Henry Streckey, born in Crawford Co., Wis. They have seven children, four boys and three girls—Charles, William, Frederick, Caroline, Mary, Emma and Edward.

Christopher Grelle was born in Hanover, Germany, Aug. 13, 1813. He learned the trade of cabinet making and became a very skillful workman. He was married in Alsace, Germany, to Louisa Riiff. They had one son, Charles, now of Prairie du Chien. Mr. Grelle emigrated to the United States in 1849, and came at once to Prairie du Chien, where he opened the first cabinet shop in that village. Mr. Grelle was an industrious and skillful workman, and carried on the business successfully, until his death, which occurred Dec. 27, 1880. Mr. Grelle was a member of the city council

of 1879. He was universally esteemed and respected by his fellow citizens.

James E. Campbell, proprietor of the billiard hall and sample room, was born in Cortland Co., New York, June 27, 1835. His father, Densmore Campbell, is of Scottish birth, and emigrated to America in childhood. He is still hale and hearty, and a resident of Prairie du Chien. James was reared to manhood in the State of New York, and received an academic education. He learned the shoemaker's trade and worked at that occupation till 1849. He then went to Whitewater, Wis. The following year he came to Crawford county, and engaged in farming in the town of Clayton. He was elected clerk of the court of this county in 1849, and removed to Prairie du Chien; was re-elected and served three terms. He was next elected county clerk and served one term; then as county treasurer one term; was again elected clerk of the court, and in 1884 was serving as city clerk. Mr. Campbell was married in Cortland Co., N. Y., in October 1849, to Tacy daughter of John Van Allen. Mrs. Campbell was born at Dryden, Tompkins Co., N. Y. They have had six children, five of whom are living—Edwin R., Albert E., Fred, Charles W. and Frank. The daughter, Mary T., died at the age of two years.

John G. Steiner was born in Crawford Co., Wis., May, 19, 1851. His father Valentine Steiner, was a pioneer of this county of 1843. He came from the east and located on a farm in town of Eastman, Crawford county, about eleven miles northeast of Prairie du Chien. He served as justice of the peace several years and was a highly respected citizen. His death occurred Oct. 1, 1880. John G., was reared on the farm. In 1872 he entered the service of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company as pile driving man, for five years, then served as brakeman for three years. He was subsequently promoted to conductor, and since 1882 has held the position of conductor of transfer. Mr. Steiner was married in April 1875, to Mary,

daughter of Charles Lang. She was born in Crawford county. They have two children—Nellie and Clara.

Andrew Bosch was born Dec. 6, 1822 in Wurtemberg, Germany. He is the son of John G. Bosch, and was reared in his native country. In 1848 he married Barbara Schenser, and in 1851 emigrated to the United States. The first year in this country was spent in Toledo, Ohio. In 1852 he came to Prairie du Chien and engaged in farming, about three miles north of the city. He lived on his farm about nineteen years and then moved into the city, engaging in the beer bottling business in connection with Schuman & Menges, brewers. He still owns his farm of 280 acres which he has let under lease. Mr. and Mrs. Bosch had three children, one son and two daughters—Frederick, Mary and Jossie. An unfortunate mental trouble on the part of Mrs. Bosch caused a legal separation from her husband, and she returned to Germany. Mr. Bosch was married, in 1872, at Prairie du Chien, to Mrs. Catharine Bauer, widow of Charles Bauer and daughter of George Albricht. She was born in Wurtemberg, Germany. They have one child—Thuselda. Mr. Bosch is a gentleman of fine literary attainments, and has written many poems that have been published in the German press and magazines, and which have been received with good favor. His friends have advised the collection and publication of his writings in book form, but he has not felt disposed to undertake the task.

T. B. Norris, southeast corner Church and Bluff streets, staple and fancy groceries, carries a stock of about \$1,500. The business was established by Martin Coleman and M. E. Norris in November, 1882. Coleman sold to T. B. Norris May 16, 1883, and M. E. Norris still remains in the business as manager. T. B. Norris was born at Prairie du Chien in May, 1852. His father, James Norris, who was then proprietor of a cooper shop at this place, died the same year. Mr. Norris is also proprietor of a liquor store and sample room on Church street.

M. E. Norris was born at the Norris farm in the town of Prairie du Chien, Dec 12, 1852, and assisted on the farm until 1869, when he began teaching a district school. He kept on teaching successfully until 1877, when he was elected county superintendent of schools, as a democrat, and served for the term of two years. He then studied law, and was admitted to the bar at Richland Center, in April, 1881, but never went into the practice. Mr. Norris was also town clerk of the town of Prairie du Chien from 1873 to 1878. He was twice married; first to Mary A. Dunne, by whom he had one child—Kittie, who is living. Mary A died Nov. 20, 1878, just one year from the date of her marriage. He was married to his present wife, Laura Denning, at LaCrosse, June 4, 1883.

S Rosenbaum, one of the oldest business men of Prairie du Chien, came to this city, in 1852, from LaPorte, Ind. Soon after his arrival he opened a general grocery and provision store, which he has carried on continuously for thirty-one years. Mr. Rosenbaum was twice elected mayor of the city, in 1879 and 1880, and was elected city treasurer in 1881, and re-elected in 1882 and 1883, being the present incumbent. Mr. Rosenbaum was married at LaPorte, Ind., in 1852, to Susan Wadle, daughter of Andrew Wadle. They have had eight children, five yet living—Mary, Emma, Ida, William and Mollie.

Maj. Edward A. Whaley, postmaster at Prairie du Chien, is a native of Athens Co., Ohio, born July 12, 1837. In 1841, his parents, Alvin and Elizabeth Whaley, removed to Muscatine, Iowa, and in 1852 to Prairie du Chien, Wis., where Edward learned the cooper's trade and worked at it until 1861. Soon after the war began in that year, he enlisted for three years, as a private in company C, 6th regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, it being the first company to enter the service from Prairie du Chien. In the battle of South Mountain, Aug. 14, 1862, he was wounded by a rifle ball, which passed through his left leg below the knee, breaking the bones so badly that the hospital surgeon in-

sisted upon amputating the limb, and it was only by persistent and determined pluck in resisting, that the wounded man saved what is now a sound and healthy leg. But it was nearly eleven months before he was able to join his regiment. Mr. Whaley was promoted to the office of 1st sergeant of his company Sept. 1, 1862, serving in that capacity up to the time the regiment re-enlisted, soon after which, July 15, 1864, he was commissioned captain of his company of veterans. In the battle in front of Petersburg, Va., he was wounded a second time by a gun-shot in the right foot. And at the battle of Five Forks, one of the last engagements of the war, on April 1, 1865, while commanding his regiment, captain Whaley was shot through the right thigh, shattering the bone and rendering amputation necessary. He was breveted major from the date of this battle for gallant and meritorious conduct. Maj. Whaley was mustered out of service in August, 1865, retiring, halt and battle-scarred, but leaving behind him a proud record, each scar and the empty pantaloons leg which he carries being an eloquent testimonial of his bravery as a soldier and a patriot. Among the battles he participated in were Gainsville and Bull Run, Aug. 28 to 31, 1862; South Mountain, Sept. 14, 1862; Mine Run, Va., Wilderness, Va., May 5, 1864; Spotsylvania, Va., May 8, 1864; Laurel Hill, Va., May 8, 1864; Jericho Ford, Va., May 25, 1864; Cold Harbor, Va., June 2, 1864; Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864; Hatcher's Run, Va., Feb. 6, 1865; Gravelly Run, Va., March 31, 1865; and Five Forks, Va., where he lost his leg. On returning from the war, Major Whaley was given a clerkship in the postoffice at Prairie du Chien, and on Feb. 1, 1866, was appointed postmaster at that place, and has held the office by re-appointment up to the present time. He still cherishes his love for the gun and is very fond of hunting and target shooting, and has won the reputation of being the best rifle shot in this part of the country. On Oct. 30, 1865, Maj. Whaley was united in marriage with Ade-

lia, daughter of William Ryan, of Harper's Ferry, Iowa. She was born in Cumberland Co., Md. William A is the only child of this union. Mrs. Whaley died June 10, 1868. Mr. Whaley again married June 20, 1872, at Glen Haven, Wis., Adda, daughter of Walter Sprague, and a native of Michigan. They have but one child—Adda M. Whaley.

Peter Nolan, secretary and bookkeeper for H. L. Dousman, was born in county Wexford, Ireland, Feb. 10, 1847. He emigrated with his parents to America in 1849. They spent four years in St. Louis, Mo., and in 1853 came to Prairie du Chien, Wis. He was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools and at the Prairie du Chien College, of which he is a graduate. He began teaching school when quite young and for two years was principal of the Prairie du Chien city schools. In 1874 Mr. Nolan engaged with H. L. Dousman as private secretary and business manager of Mr. Dousman's Wisconsin property.

Lawrence Case, of L. Case & Co., merchants, is the son of C. N. Case, and was born Aug. 27, 1834, in Harwinton, Conn. He was reared in his native State and in 1852 went to California, spending nearly three years in San Francisco. He returned to Connecticut in 1855 and the following year came to Prairie du Chien with his father, and opened a general store under the firm name of L. Case & Co. The present firm, which was formed in 1870, is composed of Lawrence Case and Alexander McDonald. They have the most extensive mercantile house in the county, having four large store rooms and carrying an average stock of \$30,000. They also have branch stores in Wauzeka and Mount Sterling, Wis., also a branch grocery and provision store in the upper part of the city. Mr. Case was married in September, 1859, at Lawrence, Kan., to Miss E. F. Avery. They have four children living, two boys and two girls—Edmund L., Carrie, Charles and Laura. Louis died aged nine years.

Marcus Friederich, son of John and Regina Friederich, was born Dec. 13, 1833, in Baden, Germany. He served a regular apprenticeship to the harness and saddler's trade in his native country, and in 1854 came to America. He worked at his trade in Portage City, Wis., and also in Madison, Wis., and Dubuque, Iowa. In the fall of 1855 he came to Prairie du Chien and worked as a journeyman harness maker until the spring of 1856, when he bought out his employer, and has since conducted the business. He employs from four to six men, manufactures light and heavy harness and general saddlery, carrying an average stock of from \$2,000 to \$3,000. Mr. Friederich was married May 14, 1857, at Prairie du Chien, to Christiana Frankenhoff, daughter of William and Catharine Frankenhoff, natives of Prussia. They have had eleven children, seven of whom are living—Alice R., Bertha A., John M., Gertrude E., Heinrich W., Alexander A. and George B.; Mary C. died in infancy; Emila E. died aged two years, one month and three weeks; William E. and Wilhelmina, twins, died in infancy.

Dexter G. Harris, senior member of the manufacturing firm of Harris & Benson, was born in Franklin Co., Mass., Dec. 23, 1820. He is the son of Beriah and Tryphena (Gleason) Harris. His youth and early manhood were passed under the vigorous rules of a New England home of fifty years ago. The habits of industry and sobriety inculcated there have been the basis of a useful and temperate life of sixty odd years. Mr. Harris came to Prairie du Chien in the fall of 1855 and engaged in the manufacture of steel plows and cultivators and has continued the business without interruption to this date (1884). He was married in Belvidere, Ill., in November, 1850, to Charlotte Benson. They have two sons. The eldest, Albert, is married and employed as operator and station agent at Adams, Minn. The younger, Jay L., is station agent at Worthing, Dak.

Charles A. Mathews, proprietor of a livery stable, is the son of Andrew Mathews, and was born in Clinton Co., N. Y., town of Champlain, March 6, 1847. In 1855 he came to Prairie du Chien, Wis., with his parents. He learned the trade of a machinist and practical engineer. He began in the livery business in 1866, but the following spring, entered the service of the Northwestern Union Packet Company, as engineer, still retaining his interest in the livery business. He continued in the employ of the packet company ten years. At the expiration of this time, he re-opened in the livery business at Prairie du Chien. He now has a first-class livery, board and sale stable, situated in the central part of the city. He was married at Prairie du Chien, in 1866, to Carrie Atherton. One child was born to them, a daughter—Emma. Mrs. Mathews died in October, 1881.

Theodore Schumann, son of Gottlieb and Christiana Schumann, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, Jan. 30, 1830. He learned the brewer's trade in Germany. In 1849 he emigrated to the United States, and settling in Ohio he engaged in farming for a short time, subsequently working at his trade in Cincinnati. In 1853 he moved to Guttenburg, Iowa, engaging in the brewing business. In 1855 he came to Prairie du Chien, and formed a partnership with Otto Georgii, under the firm name of Schumann & Georgii. They built the Prairie Brewery and conducted the business successfully for a time. Subsequently Mr. Georgii sold out in 1868 to Mr. Kappel, and he, in 1870, to Mr. Menges. In 1872 the brewery burned down, and the new brewery was built under the name of City Brewery, and now produces about 6,000 barrels annually. They also have a well improved farm near the city. He was married at Prairie du Chien, Dec. 30, 1857, to Caroline, daughter of Dr. Faeger, of Woodsville, Ohio. Mrs. Schumann was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, emigrating to America in childhood. They have six children, two sons and four daughters

—Ida, Emma, Mary, Louisa, Theodore and Willie.

John George Schweizer was born April 23, 1827, at Grossbettlinzen, Germany. He served a regular apprenticeship to the tailor's trade, and was engaged in that line of work until 1851, when he emigrated to the United States. He located at Dayton, Ohio, for a short time, then removed to Madison, Wis. In 1855 he came to Prairie du Chien, working at his trade for a few years, and then opening a restaurant and sample room on Main street. This venture proved successful, and finding his quarters too small for his rapidly increasing business, he leased what was known as Kane's Hotel, a large structure containing sixty rooms. He subsequently bought this property, and operated it successfully until November, 1873, when it was destroyed by fire, by which event Mr. Schweizer sustained a heavy loss. However, he had prospered so well previously, that he had become a prominent property owner. Previous to this time he had built the fine three-story brick block at the corner of Bluff and Prairie streets, now known as the Commercial Hotel, and owned and operated by his widow and family. At the time of the fire, the upper floors of this block were used for public halls, and offices, while the first floor was used for business purposes. As soon as he could get possession Mr. Schweizer, converted this building into a hotel, naming it the Commercial House. He continued in the business until the time of his death, which occurred May 11, 1882. Mr. Schweizer was widely and favorably known as an enterprising and honorable citizen. He made money in a legitimate business, and as promptly invested it in substantial improvements which benefitted the public as well as himself. He was a man of liberal ideas, and active in the cause of education. He was the first director of the German School Association, and a member of the city board of education. He also served as a member of the city council. In every position of public honor or trust, he



was always found competent and reliable. He was an active member of several secret and benevolent societies. His funeral was conducted by the Odd Fellows and Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. Schweizer was married at Prairie du Chien, Oct. 11, 1857, and this union has been blessed with three children—J. George, born July 22, 1862; Charles H., born Feb. 18, 1865, and Clara A., born Aug. 10, 1868.

E. M. Wright, druggist, is the son of N. A. and Adeline Wright, and was born Jan. 6, 1844 in Danby, Tompkins Co., N. Y. In 1855, he came with his parents to Prairie du Chien, Wis. He was educated in the city schools, learning the drug business in his father's store. In April, 1864, he enlisted in the 50th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and was appointed hospital steward of that regiment, serving until the close of the war. His father, N. A. Wright, was then carrying on the drug business in company with his brother, Emery. On the night of Jan. 11, 1869, Emery Wright was killed, while in the act of defending the store against burglars. E. M. Wright succeeded his uncle, as his father's partner, this connection continuing until the death of his father, which occurred Sept. 11, 1872. Mr. Wright has since conducted the business, for himself and mother, under the firm name of E. M. Wright & Co. He carries a general stock of drugs, medicines, books, stationery, etc. He was married at Prairie du Chien, April 14, 1868, to Laura, daughter of P. I. Adams, born in Lancaster, Wis. They have three children, one son and two daughters—Elmer E., Mertie, and Nettie. The daughters are twins.

Thomas L. Brower, son of Thomas L., and Magdalene Brower, was born Jan. 29, 1821, in New York city. He learned the cabinet maker's trade in his father's shops, in New Jersey, and subsequently engaged in the hard wood lumber business, in New York. In 1856 he came to Prairie du Chien, then a thriving place with magnificent prospects. He formed a partnership in the wholesale drug business with

Charles<sup>s</sup> S. Van Duzer, under the firm name of Brower & Van Duzer. In two years, this connection was dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Brower continued the business alone, and Mr. Van Duzer returned east. The latter was killed in the late war. Mr. Brower, in view of the local demand, increased his business by adding a stock of general merchandise. His business stand was a large brick building, situated on the west side of Front street, Lower Town. At this time the Milwaukee & Mississippi railroad had its depots at Lower Town, and a ferry connected Lower Town with McGregor. The bulk of Mr. Brower's trade came from the west of the river, he having a large trade with Iowa emigrants and settlers. In 1875 he moved to his present stand nearly opposite the old one. His present store is a double building, 50x70 feet, making two fine stores. His stock is about \$7,000. In addition to his Lower Town establishment, he has a drug and grocery store, in Upper Town under the management of his son Arthur. Mr. Brower was married at New York city, in May, 1850, to Anna C., youngest daughter of John Battin, a soldier of the British army, who came to this country during the War of the Revolution, with Admiral Lord Howe, who appointed him, with others, as body guard to Prince William Henry, afterwards King William IVth, who was then a midshipman in the British navy, and on a visit to this country. He served during the war, and when the British troops evacuated, he had become so infatuated with America, that he was not found amongst the soldiers that returned home. He lived to the remarkable age of 100 years, and up to the last year of his life, clung to the old-fashioned costume of white stockings, and knee breeches. Mrs. Brower was born in New York city. They have had four children, one of whom is living—Arthur. Mr. Brower is an enterprising citizen, and has endeavored to improve the city and make it attractive. His own home is a model of beauty and comfort. Opposite his house, Mr. Brower has an elegant

little park, containing a large fountain of mineral water, which supplies a miniature lake. Well shaded walks and smooth lawns lead to a tasty summer house. This delightful spot has been perfected by Mr. Brower in his leisure hours. It has been the ambition of his life, to make for himself and family, an attractive home. That he has succeeded beyond a doubt, would be the opinion of every one who visited that favored spot. Mr. Brower has served in various local offices. He has been a member of the board of education, almost continuously, since his location here, and for the past six years has been its president. He has also served on the county board, and in the city council. He has been a candidate for the Legislature on the republican ticket, being defeated by only five votes. His friends were too confident of his success, to make a vigorous effort.

Arthur Brower, son of Thomas L. Brower, was born in Hoboken, N. J., Sept. 10, 1856. He came to Prairie du Chien with his parents when but a few months old. He received his education in the city schools and in the Protestant College of this place. He made a study of pharmacy and is a regularly registered pharmacist. On the opening, July 4, 1880, of the drug and grocery store by his father, Arthur was placed in charge and has continued to conduct the business since that time. It is a neat and well stocked drug and grocery store and carries a stock varying from \$4,000 to \$5,000. The proprietor is the manufacturer of and wholesale dealer in the medicine known as McFarlane's cough and consumption cure, a popular remedy. Mr. Brower was married Sept. 9, 1880, at Beloit, Wis., to Kate Gaston, daughter of N. B. Gaston.

Orson Jackson, retired merchant, was born in Westford town, Otsego Co., N. Y., Aug. 22, 1824. He is a graduate of the State Normal School of New York, and in 1846 adopted the profession of teacher. He taught in his native State, until 1851, when he removed to Ypsilanti, Mich., being employed one year and nine

months as principal of the Ypsilanti Union Seminary. He left the seminary to accept the position of professor of mathematics in the State Normal School of the same city. In 1856, Mr. Jackson gave up that chair and came to Prairie du Chien, forming a partnership with Edward W. Pelton, senior member of the firm of A. Pelton & Co., and Mr. Charles Wright. This firm did an extensive business in general merchandise and produce, and for years was the most important mercantile house in Crawford county. Mr. Jackson continued in business until 1875, when he retired, and has since devoted his time to the care of his farm. He has been prominently identified with the educational interests of the county. In the early days, under the old system, he was township superintendent of schools. In 1864 and 1865, he was county superintendent of schools, and during the existence of Prairie du Chien College, from 1865 to 1870, was a member of the board of trustees. Mr. Jackson was married at Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 2, 1858, to Mary E., daughter of Francis E. Reed. Mrs. Jackson was born in New York city, and is a graduate of the New York State Normal School and of the Oneida Conference Seminary, of Cazenovia. Prior to her marriage, Mrs. Jackson had devoted considerable time to teaching. They have two sons—John T. and Francis R.

Michael Menges, of the firm of Schumann & Menges, brewers, is the son of John N. Menges. He was born at Baden, Germany, Feb. 13, 1833, and came to the United States in 1849. He learned the carpenter trade at Philadelphia, being employed in that business until the fall of 1855, when he returned to Germany. The following spring he again came to this country, settling in Prairie du Chien, where he was soon extensively engaged as contractor and builder. He also kept hotel for three years. In 1870, he formed a partnership with Theodore Schumann in the brewing business, under the firm name of Schumann & Menges, which has continued up to the present time. This brewery produces 6,000

barrels of beer annually. Mr. Menges is one of the most energetic, pushing business men of the city. Outside of his brewing business he is still engaged in contracting and building, and has just closed the contract for building the basement of the addition to the College of the Sacred Heart, at this place. Mr. Menges was elected sheriff of Crawford county for the term of 1867-8, was coroner in 1862, and township treasurer in 1870. He is the present efficient chief of the Prairie du Chien fire department, and superintendent of the Prairie du Chien Mechanical, Agricultural & Driving Park Association. He was married at Prairie du Chien, May, 16, 1858, to Catharine, daughter of Peter Schmitz. She was born in Prussia and emigrated to this county in 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Menges have had ten children, seven girls and three boys, seven of whom are living—Mary, wife of Otto A. Watzke, of McGregor, Iowa; Elizabeth, wife of William Werder, also of McGregor; Frank, Minnie, Edward, Theodore and Emma. Ida died aged eleven years; Fannie died aged three years; Susanna died in infancy.

Jac Raffauf, one of the pioneers of Crawford county of 1856, and for many years a popular county and city officer, was born in Prussia, Aug. 28, 1833. He emigrated to the United States in 1852, and located in Cassville, Grant Co., Wis., where he made his home till 1856, then came to Prairie du Chien and engaged in mercantile business. In 1860 he was elected register of deeds of Crawford county, and re-elected three times, holding, in all, eight years. He was subsequently elected county clerk for two years, and also town and city treasurer, and held those offices eight years. He was also assessor, and a member of the school board. In 1870 he erected the fine brick block opposite the postoffice, where he was engaged in mercantile business. The commercial crisis of 1873 found him like many others, and he was obliged to close up his business. He started immediately in the wine and liquor business, and has since succeeded very well. Mr. Raffauf now has a

tasty sample room and billiard hall, nearly opposite the Commercial House, which is becoming a very popular resort for the better class of people. He was married in Paris, France, Dec. 13, 1857, to Margaretta, daughter of John Egbert. Mrs. Raffauf was born in Coblenz, Germany. Owing to Mr. Raffauf not being a citizen of France at the time of his marriage, there arose some question as to the validity of the ceremony. So on their arrival in the city of New York, they were re-married Dec. 30, 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Raffauf have six children, three sons and three daughters—Bertha, Ida, Alvina, Alexander, Frank and Max.

John Ackerley was born in England, at Runcorn, on the river Mersey, July 19, 1821. When of sufficient age he was placed on a farm to work. When fifteen years of age his parents died. He soon after engaged with Johnson Brothers, the well-known soap manufacturers of Runcorn. He soon left that business to enter the service of the Mersey & Irwell Carrying Company, plying on the river between Liverpool and Manchester, following that business about fifteen years. He next went to Burnley, where he was employed with the gas company and on the public works. In the summer of 1856 he emigrated to America, arriving in Wisconsin in October of that year. The following April he engaged with the Milwaukee & St. Paul railway company as check clerk, at the freight depot at Prairie du Chien, and has had general charge of the transfer of freight at this point. The immense amount of business done at this point in years past has made this a most responsible position. That he has proven himself capable and trustworthy, is apparent from the fact that he has held this position for twenty-six years, with the exception of two vacations, when he was away on visits to England. He was married in England, in 1842, to Mary, daughter of James Burrow, a prominent gun and rifle manufacturer of Preston, England. Mrs. Ackerley was born at Preston, Lancashire, England. They had four children born

to them, all natives of England. The eldest, James B., is married and resides at Prairie du Chien. His occupation is that of locomotive engineer. He has been in the employ of the Milwaukee & St Paul railroad company since 1857, and for nine years run an engine on the main line, and during the last nine years on the transfer between Prairie du Chien and McGregor. The youngest son, John, enlisted in the British army, went to India with his regiment, and died of a fever in that country in 1876. The other two sons died in childhood.

Richard G. Matthews, senior partner of the firm of R. G. Matthews & Son, jewelers, was born Dec. 5, 1835, in Brooklyn, King's Co., N. Y. When fourteen years of age he removed with his parents to Champlain, Clinton county, and, in the fall of 1857, to Prairie du Chien, Wis. He learned the millwright trade in the east, and soon after coming to Prairie du Chien became connected with Robert Scott in the manufacture of fanning mills. He was subsequently in the employ of the Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien railroad as a mechanic. In 1867 he started in the livery business, at Prairie du Chien, in company with Mr. Needam, under the firm name of Needam & Matthews. Their means were limited and stock consequently small. Mr. Needam had four horses and Mr. Matthews one. Two years later Mr. Matthews bought out his partner and rapidly increased his stock of horses and carriages, until he had a first-class establishment. He continued the business until February, 1883, when he sold the stock and equipments to his brother, C. A. Matthews, retaining the ownership of the buildings. In March, 1883, he purchased an interest in the jewelry business of his son, D. E. Matthews, who is a practical watchmaker, and had established the business in 1879. This firm carries a well-selected stock of watches, fine jewelry and silverware, of an average value of from \$5,000 to \$6,000. They also deal extensively in pianos and organs. While in the livery business Mr. Mat-

thews served as under sheriff, deputy sheriff and city marshal, holding the latter position six years. In 1875 he was appointed special State treasury agent, which office he still holds. He was married at Plattsburg, Clinton Co., N. Y., in 1855, to Laura A., daughter of Samuel Clark. She was born and raised in Clinton county. They have two children, a son and a daughter—Del E. and Hattie.

Joseph Tilmont came to Prairie du Chien in 1857. He was born in Brussels, Belgium, in 1816. He was an officer of the Dutch army and stationed in India, where he served ten years. On his return to Brussels in 1849, he was married to Fannie Roze, daughter of Paul Roze, and born in Brussels. They had one child—Alexander. Mr. Tilmont emigrated to America in 1856, and in 1857 came to Prairie du Chien, where he engaged in the drug business. He continued the business until 1878, when, on account of failing health he sold out. He had associated his son Alexander with him as a member of the firm some years prior to the close of his business career. He lived but a short time after retiring from business, his death occurring Feb. 23, 1879. Mr. Tilmont was held in high esteem by his neighbors and fellow citizens for his many noble qualities, both as a business man and neighbor. Mrs. Tilmont returned to Brussels in 1867 on account of failing health, and where she now intends to make her future home. Alexander Tilmont, his son, spent nearly a year in Europe just prior to his father's death. He is now a resident of Prairie du Chien, where he has business and property interests.

H. J. Benson, of the firm of Harris & Benson, manufacturers of steel plows and cultivators, was born in Onondaga Co., N. Y., in May, 1831. He was reared in New York, and moved to Rock Island, Ill., in 1852. In 1858 he came to Prairie du Chien with a brother, and opened a dry goods store. They handled a lot of plows on commission, the profitable sale of which prompted them to engage in their manu-

facture. They opened a factory at Prairie du Chien, and so rapidly did the business develop that at one time they were using a forty horse-power engine at their works, and making as many as 10,000 plows a year. In 1871 Mr. Benson formed the existing partnership with D. G. Harris. Mr. Benson has served as city clerk of Prairie du Chien, and has been a member of the common council. He was married in Iowa, Nov. 12, 1853, to Miss E. G. Gates, daughter of R. P. Gates. Mrs. Benson was born in Worcester, Mass. They have one child living, a daughter—Mabel; lost two—William, aged four years, and Edward, aged two years.

John A. Newton was born in Middlefield, Mass., in 1832. He moved to Albany, N. Y., in his youth, being engaged in milling at that place. In 1857 he came to Prairie du Chien, and soon after his arrival, formed a partnership with Messrs. Pelton & Wright, in the milling business, under the firm name of Pelton, Wright & Co. He was also engaged in mercantile business, dealing extensively in produce, live stock and hides. Mr. Newton was an active, enterprising business man, and was held in high esteem by his fellow-citizens. His death occurred July 24, 1881. Mr. Newton was married at Prairie du Chien in 1858, to Mary E. Parker. They have three children living—William, James and John.

William Newton was born in Prairie du Chien in 1859. He was educated at the city schools, and at the Beloit College. He acquired a practical business education, at Boscobel, Wis., where he served four years as salesman in a mercantile house. He then returned to Prairie du Chien, and in 1882 engaged in the grocery business, also dealing in hides and pelts. He carries a full line of staple and fancy groceries, provisions, crockery and queensware, and does an annual business in this line of \$25,000. In addition to his grocery trade, Mr. Newton deals extensively in hides and pelts, his business in this line averaging

about \$10,000 a year. He is the present secretary of the Artesian Well Company, and holds the same position with the Prairie du Chien Mechanical, Agricultural & Driving Park Association. Mr. Newton is one of the active, enterprising young business men of the city, whose success is assured.

Redmond C. Dimock, master carsmith at the yards of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul railroad, at Prairie du Chien, was born in Dundaff township, Susquehanna Co., Penn., Oct. 1, 1820. He served a regular apprenticeship to the carpenter trade, after which he entered the service of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Railway Company. He continued with that company twelve years, during several of which he was foreman carpenter. In May, 1860, he moved from Carbondale, Penn., to Prairie du Chien, and in June following began work with this company as carpenter, and in August, 1868, was appointed to his present responsible position. Mr. Dimock has now been in the company's employ twenty-three years, and is one of its most trusted and respected employes. Mr. Dimock was married in Pennsylvania, Oct. 25, 1843, to Theresa, daughter of Carlton Kent, of that State. Mrs. Dimock was born March 21, 1821, in the same county in which her husband was born. They have had six children, three sons and three daughters, four of whom are living—John C. is married, and agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, at Scotland, Dak.; Kate E., residing at home; Sarah F., wife of Charles E. Douglass, a jeweler, of Viroqua, Wis.; Charles C., telegraph operator for the railroad company at this station. Louisa E. died, aged twenty-two years; George D. died, aged two years.

Dr. Edward S. Eddy, dentist, was born in Providence, R. I., in August, 1839. He studied dentistry at the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, and graduated in the spring of 1861, after which he opened an office in Providence, R. I. He came to Wisconsin in the latter part of 1861, locating at Prairie du Chien. In August,

1862, he enlisted in company A, 31st regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was appointed hospital steward, and served in the army of the Mississippi, and later under Sherman. He was discharged in July, 1865, after which he returned to Wisconsin, and opened a dental office at Lancaster, Grant county. He soon after went to Providence, R. I., but only practiced there a short time, then returned to Wisconsin, establishing an office at Milwaukee. In 1872 he he went to Oshkosh, where he practiced his profession for nine years, and in 1881 returned to Prairie du Chien. In the past three years he has built up a very successful business. Dr. Eddy is thoroughly up with the times in his profession, and gives his patients the benefit of skill and experience. He has a branch office located at Bloomington, Grant Co., Wis. Dr. Eddy was married at Prairie du Chien, Feb. 19, 1868, to Sophia A., daughter of Judge Ira B. Brunson, one of the most highly respected of Crawford county's early pioneers. Mrs. Eddy was born at Prairie du Chien. Mr. and Mrs. Eddy have a family of one daughter,

David McIntyre, foreman of the blacksmith shop of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at Prairie du Chien, was born in Maine, Dec. 2, 1820. In his youth he went to Massachusetts, where he learned the blacksmith trade. While quite young, he went on a whaling voyage of three years. He then entered the United States naval service in 1846. While on the South American coast, his ship was ordered to Mexico to participate in the war with that country. He spent three years in Mexico and California, and was in active service during the entire war. On receiving his discharge from the navy, he returned to Massachusetts, and in 1849 came to Wisconsin. He located at Milwaukee, where he worked at his trade, principally in railway shops. He began with the old Milwaukee & Mississippi Railway Company, and has been in the shops of this line under all its changes to the present time (1884). In 1861 he came to Prairie du Chien to accept his pres-

ent position of foreman of the company's shops at that point. Mr. McIntyre is a master mechanic in his line of work, and is a popular man in his position, both with the officers of the road and his employes. He was married in Massachusetts in 1845, to Louisa Huff. Mrs. McIntyre is also a native of Maine. They have two daughters—Ann, wife of James Van de Vort, of Greenfield, Wis., and Josephine, widow of William Buchanan, a resident of Prairie du Chien.

Edward Rogers, proprietor of the Sherman House, was born in the north of Ireland, in 1829. He went to England in 1853 and became a miner. In 1860 he emigrated to the United States, landing at New Orleans and spending the winter of 1860-61. He went to Missouri the following April and engaged in mining, and the same year took out his first papers at St. Louis, to become a citizen of the United States. Not being pleased with his surroundings, owing to the breaking out of the war, he left that State early in 1861, and took up his abode at Prairie du Chien. Here he became an employe of the Milwaukee & St Paul Railway Company, continuing in the service of that company about nine years. In 1864 he built a small hotel opposite where his hotel now stands, which he carried on, the house being managed by his wife while he was in the employment of the railway company. He subsequently moved his house to its present location, near the depot of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, enlarged and improved it in 1870, and again in 1882, until he now has a large and well appointed hotel. He retired from railroad work several years ago, now devoting his entire time to the hotel business. Mr. Rogers has prospered in his affairs and is now in independent circumstances. He was married in England, in August 1858, to Ann Rooney, born in Ireland. When young she removed to England, where she was reared. They had two children born to them before leaving England, and six sons and three daughters born

in America. The names of the sons are—Charles A., John F., Edward, James P., George and William H. The daughters all died in childhood—Mary A., aged five years, Margaret E., aged three years and Margaret E., aged seven years.

George Wachter, proprietor of a billiard hall and sample room, is the son of C. H. Wachter, and was born in the province of Saxony, Germany, June 29, 1844. He emigrated to America 1859, locating in Herkimer Co., N. Y., where he spent two years on a farm. He then came to Prairie du Chien, spending three years with his brother-in-law, J. G. Schweizer, in the hotel business. In 1864 he started in his present business. At the death of Mr. Schweizer he was appointed the administrator of the estate. Mr. Wachter is a man of good business ability and commands the respect of all. He began business with very limited means, but by industry and good management has accumulated a fine property. He owns several fine brick buildings in the business center of the city.

John Knops, furniture dealer, established his business at Prairie du Chien in 1871. He was born April 16, 1837, in Luxemburg, Germany. He served a regular apprenticeship at the cabinet-making trade, working at it for about ten years in his native country. In May, 1864, he emigrated to the United States, coming direct to Prairie du Chien and engaging as a journeyman mechanic with C. Grelle, the pioneer cabinet-maker of Prairie du Chien. He continued in the employ of Mr. Grelle until 1871, when he opened his present establishment, where he keeps a general stock of furniture and house furnishing goods. Mr. Knops has been twice married. The first time in Wauzeka, Crawford Co., Wis., June 24, 1869, to Caroline, daughter of Fred Geisler. They had one child—Lena. Mrs. Knops died eighteen months after her marriage. Mr. Knops was married June 29, 1872, at Prairie du Chien, to Mary, daughter of Louis Reinhold, and born in Mecklenberg, Schwerin, Germany. They had seven children,

four of whom are living—Louis, William, Herman and Frederick. Charles died aged two and a half years; John died aged two and a half years, and the second John died, aged sixteen months.

A. D. Lampkins, assistant cashier of the Exchange Bank of Prairie du Chien, is the son of Isaac Lampkins, and was born in Coos Co., N. H., Oct. 18, 1808. He removed with his parents to Tompkins Co., N. Y., when very young. He subsequently went to Genesee Co., N. Y. In 1856 Mr. Lampkins removed to Suspension Bridge, being connected with railway business. After spending about three years in that place he traveled until 1864, at which time he came to Prairie du Chien. Mr. Lampkins took an active part in organizing the McGregor & Western Railway, and was appointed agent at McGregor, being the first to open a railway office at that place. The road subsequently became the property of the Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. Mr. Lampkins was associated with C. M. Seeley in the Exchange Bank of Prairie du Chien, and since the purchase of the bank by Mr. Denio he has served as assistant cashier. Mr. Lampkin was married in 1835 at West Bloomfield, Ontario Co., N. Y., to Eliza Curtis. Three children were born to them, two boys and one girl—Morton G., the eldest, is agent of the New York & Erie Railroad at Lockport, N. Y.; Caroline E. is the wife of G. A. Rathburn, an attorney at Ridgeway, Penn.; George S. died aged sixteen years. Mrs. Lampkins died in 1843. Mr. Lampkins was married in 1880, at Prairie du Chien, to Mrs. Caroline M. Rush, widow of Henry Rush, and daughter of John Darling. She was born in Cattaraugus Co., N. Y.

A. H. Reitemeyer, manufacturer of vinegar at Lower Town, Prairie du Chien, was born in the city of Paderbarn, Westphalia, Germany, Dec. 8, 1835. He emigrated to America in 1854, locating at Freeport, Ill. He subsequently removed to Dubuque, and, in 1857, to Cassville, Wis. In 1860 he went to California, engaging in the making of wine at Los Angeles and sub-

sequently in the wholesale and retail wine trade at San Francisco. In 1866 he returned to Wisconsin, locating at Prairie du Chien and engaging in the mercantile business at Lower Town. In 1872 he began the manufacture of vinegar. He occupies a three story brick building, uses steam power, and manufactures about 500 barrels of vinegar a year. His factory has a working capacity of 1000 barrels. Mr. Reitemeyer has served several years as a member of the board of education, and has also been a member of the city council. He was married in Prairie du Chien, May 22, 1870, to Mary, daughter of Henry B. Shneider. Mrs. Reitemeyer was born in Remagen, near Cologne, in the province of Rhine, Germany.

Garvey Brothers established themselves in the dry goods business at Prairie du Chien, in 1867; They do a strictly dry goods trade, and have a well selected stock, averaging in value about \$12,000. The firm is composed of Christopher and James Garvey. Christopher Garvey, the senior member of the firm, was born in county Down, Ireland, May 1, 1833. He passed his youth in his native country, receiving a liberal education. In 1851, having lost his father, he came with his mother to the United States, settling in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1867, he came to Prairie du Chien, and entered upon his present business with his brother James. Mr. Garvey was married at Highland, Wis., Aug. 5, 1873, to Maria Trant, a native of Kenosha Co., Wis. James Garvey, junior partner of the firm of Garvey Bros., was born at Newry, county Down, Ireland, May 9, 1848. He came to America with his mother in childhood, arriving in this country in 1851. He was reared in Cleveland, Ohio, and educated in the city schools of that place. He also received a good business education. In 1867 he came to Prairie du Chien, engaging in the dry goods business with his brother, under the firm name of Garvey Brothers. Mr. Garvey has been chosen to fill various local offices, and has been prominently identified with the educational interests of

Prairie du Chien. He has served several terms in the common council and was elected mayor of the city in 1881 and 1882. At the expiration of his term of office as mayor, in 1883, he was elected president of the board of education. Mr. Garvey was married at Chicago, April 4, 1880, to Jessie Burnett, born in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Mathias Chapek, proprietor of billiard hall and sample room, established his business in March, 1883. Mr. Chapek was born in Bohemia, in 1854, and emigrated to the United States in 1869. He came direct to Prairie du Chien, and engaged with the St. Paul railway company. He was engaged in various things till he engaged in his present business. Mr. Chapek is the leader of the Bohemian band, of which he was the founder, and of which a history is given elsewhere in this work.

George E. Harrington, son of Isaac and Relief Harrington, was born April 6, 1826, in Acton, Mass. He was reared on a farm, and in November, 1854, emigrated to Madison, Wis. In September, 1855, he went to Scott town, Crawford Co., Wis., where he engaged in farming. In January, 1869, having been elected sheriff of Crawford county, he removed to Prairie du Chien, and entered upon the duties of his office. The following August he purchased a half interest in the livery business with R. Matthews, and in April, 1871, he bought Mr. Matthews out, and has since continued the business alone. Mr. Harrington was elected to the Legislature of 1866. He has been a member of the county board three terms and chairman one term. He was elected city marshal in 1880 and re-elected in 1881, and 1883, being the present incumbent. Mr. Harrington was married in Richland Co., Wis., in February, 1858, to Betsy Duncan, born in Bath, N. H. They have had two children—Charles and Arabella, who died aged six years. They also have an adopted daughter—Annie, wife of George D. Cottrell, of Prairie du Chien. Mr. Harrington enlisted, in August, 1862, in com-



pany G., 33d regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers. On the organization of the company, he was made its 1st lieutenant, in which capacity he served till August, 1863, when he resigned from ill health. Partially recovering his health, he re-enlisted in September, 1864, in the 47th regiment of the same State and was made quartermaster sergeant of the regiment, and served as such until the regiment was mustered out, in September, 1865.

Frank Smrcina, proprietor of the Parlor saloon was born in Bohemia, Dec. 15, 1845. He emigrated to the United States in 1869, going direct to Prairie du Chien, Wis. He entered the service of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway company, continuing with them several years. In 1877, he started in his present business, and has prospered beyond his expectations. He was married in Bohemia, in 1868, to Mary Cunat, born in Bohemia. They have four children, one girl, and three boys—Mary, Wenzee, John and Thomas.

James H. McDonald superintendent of schools of Crawford county was born at Hartford, Conn., July, 8, 1853. In 1859, when but six years of age, he accompanied his parents to Madison, Wis., and subsequently to Richland Centre, Richland county, where he received his primary education. He commenced teaching at the age of sixteen years, and thus procured the means to defray his expenses at school. He took a regular course at Prairie du Chien high school, and, on the completion of his studies, resumed teaching, which profession, he has followed for the past twelve years. In the fall of 1879, he was elected to his present position, and re-elected in 1884, his second term expiring Jan. 1, 1885. Mr. McDonald is a competent and popular officer, and has discharged the duties of his office with ability and fidelity. On May 30, 1867, he met with a serious misfortune in a railroad accident, and sustained the loss of his right arm. He was married at Prairie du Chien, Jan. 13, 1880, to Mrs. B. M. O'Neill, daughter of M. O'Neill. Mrs. McDonald is a

native of Prairie du Chien. They have two sons—Joseph D., and John F. Mr. McDonald resides in the village of Eastman. Mr. McDonald is the first county superintendent, ever re-elected in the county. His success in this respect, is owing to his industry, honesty of purpose, and straight forward dealings with the public. He carried the county by 350 majority, the usual vote of the district being close.

Walter Newick, proprietor of the Tremont House, opposite the St. Paul railroad depot; was born in Somersetshire, England, Nov. 6, 1832. He learned the baker's trade in his native country, being engaged in that business until 1867, when he emigrated to Canada. After spending two years in Canada, he came to Wisconsin, locating in Grant county, and engaging in farming there two years. He then removed to Prairie du Chien, and opened a bakery near the railway depot. Here he carried on the business about eight years, when the death of a brother in Grant county, made it necessary for him to return there to settle up the estate. He remained in Grant county in charge of his brother's property until settled, after which, he returned to Prairie du Chien. Having purchased the Tremont House, near the depot, he took possession April 12, 1883. His house is conveniently located, and his accommodations good. Mr. Newick was married in England, in February 1855, to Mary, daughter of Henry Hutlon, and born in Somersetshire. They have one daughter, born in England, now the wife of William Whitmall, cashier of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Omaha railroad, at Minneapolis, Minn.

Edson W. Van Vickle, grain buyer, with L. Case & Co., is the son of Aaron Van Vickle, and was born at Hancock, Ill., Sept. 23, 1843. In 1850 he moved with his parents to Grant Co., Wis. He enlisted from that county Aug. 11, 1862, as a private in company D, 33d regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, was promoted to sergeant, and served until the close of the war. He was with his regiment and com-

pany in all the battles and skirmishes participated in by them. Mr. Van Vickle was married in Grant county, Dec. 28, 1871, to Olive, daughter of Robert Whiteside. She was born in Cassville, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Van Vickle have one child, Pira, aged eight years. Mr. Van Vickle moved to Prairie du Chien in 1873, and engaged in grain buying. For the past two years he has been in the employ of L. Case & Co.

George W. Foster was born Sept. 11, 1842, in Rome, N. Y., being reared in that city. In the spring of 1862, he enlisted as a private in company B, 117th New York Volunteers. He was appointed a non-commissioned officer, serving until the close of the war. He took part in the siege of Fort Wagner, the battles of Drury's Bluff, before Richmond, Cold Harbor, Petersburg Heights, Chapin's Farm, capture of Fort Fisher, at which his regiment led the charge, in the series of engagements before Petersburg, and numerous skirmishes. At the battle of Drury's Bluff he received his only wound of any importance, a gun shot wound that carried away the little finger of the left hand. In 1866, after the close of the war, Mr. Foster went to Logansport, Ind., entering the service of the United States Express Company as messenger on the Pan-Handle railroad, being subsequently assigned to routes in Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. He left the service of the express company for a short time, to serve as conductor of a train. In 1875 he was appointed agent of the express company at Prairie du Chien, and has since occupied that position, to the entire satisfaction of the company and its patrons. In 1868 Mr. Foster was married to Lamine Gongalia, born in New Albany, Ind. Mr. Foster has represented his ward in the city council one term, and served four terms as a member of the city school board.

A. D. Phillips is station agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway at Prairie du Chien. He has been employed by the company in this office twenty-six years. Since 1875 he

has been in charge of this station. Mr. Phillips was born in Brattleboro, Vt., Aug. 31, 1838, and moved with his parents to Massachusetts in childhood. He was educated in the old Bay State, and in 1856 moved to Kenosha, Wis. He began learning telegraphy in that city, and on the completion of the Milwaukee & Mississippi railway to Prairie du Chien, he was employed as telegraph operator at this station. He has continued in the employ of this road, under the different managements, continuously since, and for the past eight years has had entire charge of both passenger and freight business at this station.

Leroy T. Butterfield, photographer, is the son of Merriek and Lucy Butterfield, and was born in Windsor Co., Vt., Feb. 16, 1852. When three years of age he removed with his parents to Marengo, Ill. He received his primary education in the common schools and the high school of Marengo. He then took a two years' course at the Industrial University, of Champaign, Ill., where he fitted himself for the profession of civil engineer. In 1876 he came to Prairie du Chien, spending two years with Mr. Farr and learning photography. In 1878 he bought the gallery, and has since conducted the business with marked success. Mr. Butterfield was married at Marengo, Ill., Nov. 13, 1878, to Mattie E., daughter of William Rich. Mrs. Butterfield was born near Syracuse, N. Y.

Michael Breidenbach, proprietor of the Central House, was born in Cologne, Prussia, on the river Rhine, Oct. 28, 1847. He learned the baker's trade in his native country. In 1869 he emigrated to the United States, locating at Iowa City, where he engaged in the bakery business. Subsequently, Mr. Breidenbach went to St. Louis, working at his trade winters and traveling on the river summers as cook and steward. He was married at St. Louis in December, 1875, to Mary Humpal, born in Bohemia, Austria. They had one child—William, who died from the effects of an accident when twenty months old. Mr. Breidenbach

came to Prairie du Chien in 1877, and opened a bakery, which he operated five years. He then purchased the Central House, which he has greatly improved, and is making it one of the popular hotels of the city.

Fred Evert, manufacturer of cigars, established his factory in 1877. He employs four hands and turns out about 14,000 cigars per month. Mr. Evert was born in Mecklinberg, Germany, in 1843. He came to the United States in 1854, and made his home in Milwaukee, Wis. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in company E, 24th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and served till June, 1865, or until the close of the war. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Atlanta, Franklin, and in various skirmishes. At Chickamauga he was struck in the leg by a spent shell and seriously injured; also received two slight gun-shot wounds at Mission Ridge. He was married at Milwaukee, March 29, 1867, to Louisa Schwab. Mrs. Evert was born in Germany. They have eight children, one son and seven daughters—Arthur, Emma, Ida, Amanda, Hedwig, Clara, Minnie and Lillie.

Henry Weniger, is proprietor of the Prairie du Chien Artesian Well Flouring Mill. This mill was built by Mr. Weniger in 1878, and is a novelty in its way, the sole power being derived from the upward force of two large artesian wells. These wells are 1,044 feet deep, one being of six inch bore, and the other, of eight inch, and were dug by Mr. Weniger expressly for a power for his mill. He has another, still larger in process of construction, which is expected to materially increase the power of the mill. The building is 45x60 feet, two stories high, and has two run of stones, with a grinding capacity of 100 bushels per day. Mr. Weniger has another mill of equal capacity, situated in Eastman town, this county. Mr. Weniger was born in Saxony, Germany, March 19, 1825. He learned the miller's trade in his native country. In 1850 he emigrated to the United States, locating at Logansport, Ind. In 1854

he came to Crawford Co., Wis. settling on a farm in Eastman town. In 1855 he erected the first grist or flouring mill in the county, located in Eastman town. He carried on business here successfully until the summer of 1869, when, during a tremendous freshet, his dam, mill, and everything movable in the hollow, was swept away, by which, Mr. Weniger sustained a heavy loss. He rebuilt the following season, on the same site, and now has a good mill at that point which is operated by his son, Ferdinand. Mr. Weniger began to study on some plan of obtaining a water power that would be free from the many disadvantages of droughts and freshets. The idea of the artesian well power occurred to him and he at once put the thing into practice, at Prairie du Chien. The principle of a power obtained from the earth in the natural upward flow of water has puzzled the best mechanics. Millwrights have assured Mr. Weniger that such a power, suitable for operating his mill, was an impossible thing, but he has it, and it is a grand success. Mr. Weniger was married at Prairie du Chien, in 1855, to Matilda, daughter of Charles Oswald, and born in Saxony. They have nine children, four boys and five girls—Ferdinand, Angelina, Bertha, Louis, Minnie, Ottelia, Frederick, Henry and Matilda. The two youngest are twins.

Albert Levi is the junior and managing partner of the well known and popular Philadelphia clothing house of A. Kohn & Co. The factory and wholesale rooms of this firm are located in Philadelphia. They established a branch store in Prairie du Chien in 1880, where they carry a first class stock of clothing and gents' furnishing goods, of an average value of \$18,000. Mr. Levi is the son of Gabriel Levi, and was born in Philadelphia, Penn., May 20, 1858. He received a business education, and graduated from the Philadelphia High School in 1873. In 1874 he began his business career as book-keeper for an importing firm at Philadelphia, and continued with that firm until he formed the existing partnership with Mr. Kohn,

and assumed charge of the business at Prairie du Chien. Mr. Levi is a young man possessed of excellent business qualifications, while socially he is deservedly popular.

Nathan H. Levi, proprietor of the Jewel Casket, is the son of Gabriel Levi, and was born in Philadelphia, Penn., Aug. 20, 1859. He was educated at the city schools and graduated at the Philadelphia High school. He served a regular apprenticeship at the watchmaker's trade in his native city, working four years as an apprentice and one year as a journeyman. He then went to Nevada and began business at Eureka. After spending one year at that point he removed to the Pacific coast, visiting the chief points of interest in that region. In 1880 he came from San Francisco to Prairie du Chien, Wis., and October 1, of that year, opened the Jewel Casket, one of the most tasty and best stocked jewelry stores in western Wisconsin. Mr. Levi started with an entirely new stock of goods, of the latest styles, and now has an extensive and valuable assortment of watches, jewelry and silverware. As he is a thorough workman in his line, enterprising and liberal in his business relations, he has secured a fair share of the trade, and is deservedly popular.

Rev. Christoph Gevers, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Peter, was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1854. He was partially educated in his native country, and emigrated to the United States in 1877. He received a German and English education at the North-

western University, of Waterton, Wis. He took a regular theological course at the Lutheran Seminary, of Milwaukee, graduating in 1882, and being regularly ordained a minister of that Church and assigned to his present charge.

George E. Jacobia was born in Hudson, Columbia Co., N. Y., in March, 1833. His father was a large land owner in that county, and both parents died when he was nine years old. He was kept in school, and graduated when he was fifteen years and six months of age, and at once commenced studying law. He was admitted to the bar when twenty-two, and was engaged for many years in the practice of his profession in his native State, and also employed as assistant counsel in a number of other States. Being the owner of a large farm, willed to him by his father, he kept fine stock and became very much interested in stock-raising during his practice, and as soon as he could close up his law practice and real estate in New York, he intended to start a stock ranch in the southwest. In June, 1883, he met H. L. Dousman, in St. Louis, Mo., and by an agreement he started in the pursuit of milling, farming and stock-raising four miles from Prairie du Chien. They have about 2,500 acres of land and one of the best flouring mills in the State, and will soon have one of the finest stock farms in the northwest, stocked with the finest grades of sheep and cattle; Mr. Jacobia has but few equals in stock raising. He is a gentleman and possesses the "go-aheadism" to make the enterprise a success.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

## TOWN OF SCOTT.

The boundaries of the town of Scott are identical with those of congressional township 9, of range 3 west. It is bounded on the north by the town of Clayton, on the east by Richland county, on the south by the town of Marietta and on the west by the town of Haney. Its general surface, in common with all Crawford county is rough. It has high ridges cut by deep ravines leading down to the valleys of the Kickapoo river on the west and the Wisconsin on the south. The valleys in this town are quite narrow. The main ridge runs north and south, but takes an indirect course, with spur to the east and west.

The table lands were originally well timbered, with white and red oak, maple and basswood varieties together with some black walnut and butternut. In the valleys the timber is usually small, and inferior, with many thorn apple and plum trees. But following down to the widenings of these valleys, the soil is better and timber of a much heavier growth.

The soil on the high lands is clay, with loam mixed; in the valleys a clay subsoil prevails, but with more sand mixed with the loam. For production, this soil is fully equal to any part of the county. All kinds of grain and grasses grown in this climate do well on these lands. Also considerable fruit, of the more hardy varieties, is raised here.

The Boscobel road, so called, passes through the town from north to south, leading from Viroqua to Soldier's Grove and Reedstown to Boscobel. This road enters the town on section 5, passes through that section and diagonally

through the west half of section 9, nearly direct through sections 16 and 21, reaching the head of Richland creek on section 21, and then follows the valley through sections 28, 29 and 33, into the town of Marietta, on to Boscobel.

This town has no villages, no stores or hotels, but abounds in hospitality. It never had a licensed liquor saloon within its borders, and is made up of an intelligent, moral class of people, whose time and attention is all absorbed in agriculture.

This town has, perhaps more good and substantial improvements in way of houses, barns, orchards, shrubbery, etc., than an equal territory in any other portion of the county.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In the campaign against Black Hawk's band of Indians in 1832, which culminated in the battle of Bad Ax, in what was then Crawford, now Vernon county, on the east bank of the Mississippi, the left wing of the forces in pursuit, crossed the Wisconsin river at Muscoda and followed Knapp's creek some distance, there taking a spring branch leading to the ridge. For movement of wagons and transportation trains a road was cut through the forest, which was afterward used by the early settlers.

About 1845 William and Randolph Elliott, visited the territory now known as the town of Scott.

They came in on the military road just mentioned, and on section 19 built a small cabin, with a view of future occupancy. They each made squatter's claims by felling some trees;

they visited the place at different times, in the year preceding the first actual settlement.

In 1846 the town was visited by J. R. Hurlbut, William and Elmer Russell, Anthony Laughlin and Charles F. Coalburn, all from Grant county. They crossed the Wisconsin river at Port Andrew, followed the old army trail to a point where a hunter's cabin had been built, and there spent a day in looking the county over.

Three years later, 1849, J. R. Hurlbut moved into the town, with his family, some time during the month of November. Mr. Hurlbut was preceded a few months by Burril McKinney, who settled on section 18, town 9, range 3 west. Hurlbut and his family lived with McKinney, till January, 1850, when he had a house ready for occupancy on his own claim on section 17, town 9, range 3 west, where he still lived in 1884.

Hurlbut's corners were land marks for over thirty years.

Burril McKinney settled, as before stated, on section 18, in July, 1849. He brought his family, consisting of his wife and three children. After holding his claim a year, he sold out and made various other claims, but about 1854 he moved to Richland county, where he died in the autumn of 1882.

Chancey Kast came in December, 1849, purchasing the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 18, where he built him a house, into which he moved in April, 1850. His brother, James, settled the same time in the town of Scott, but a year later removed into the town of Haney. Both of these gentlemen were living in the county in 1884.

Chancey Kast was born in Monroe Co., N. Y., June 13, 1807. His parents were Peter and Catharine (Durbar) Kast. Chancey remained in New York till twenty-one years old, when he, in company with the family, moved to Medina Co., Ohio, where he was married in 1832 to Martha Merritt. He then moved to Erie, Penn., where he remained two years and returned to Medina county, and there resided till June, 1849, when

he removed to the town of Scott, this county, and located on sections 18 and 19, town 9, range 3 west. His first wife died in Ohio, in 1847, and in 1853 he married Mrs. Moody, *nee* Mary Breadlove, who died April 15, 1877. Mr. Kast's children were all by the first wife. They were: Jeremiah N., William F. N., Martha J., James W., Henry C. C. and Charles E. James W. was a soldier in the Civil war, in company K 12th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and died in hospital at Madison, this State, in 1865. William F. N. and Jeremiah also served in the Union army. They both lived in this county in 1884.

In the fall of 1850 William Elliott, who had made a "squatter's claim" in 1845, came to the town with his family, consisting of a wife and two children. He erected a small log cabin, near the site of the old hunter's cabin of 1845. Mr. Elliott died May 5, 1880, living the last years of his life on section 17, town 9, range 3 west.

George and Larkin Clark came in 1852, first settling on school lands, but afterward entering government lands on sections 18 and 19.

The same year (1852) William Ferguson located on section 9.

Among others who settled in the town during 1853 were: Andrew Byers and Alonzo Young, who died in 1877; also S. N. Black came that year.

In 1854 O. M. Mitchell, with his family, settled on the southwest quarter of section 4, where he still lived in 1884.

The same year Tompkins Green settled on section 34. He was the first settler on what is called Irish Ridge, making his own road as he moved in. He was accompanied by his brother-in-law, Henry Hill, who only remained a short time.

William Gilbert's settlement dates from 1854. He located on section 26.

The same year Robert Evers settled on the same section, where he was still living in 1884.

Robert Duncan settled on section 21, and J. R. Spence on section 17, where they still live

During 1855 the following came in: Charles F. Coalburn, section 16; James Turk, section 9; Jacob S. Whitaker, section 4, also E. B. Dilly on section 14. These gentlemen were all living in 1884.

In 1856, A. Slade, who was postmaster for fourteen years, at Sladesburg, settled on section 12; John P. Coleman settled on section 16, the same year. He died in February, 1883.

Charles Nutter was another settler of 1856. He settled on section 20.

Sometime during 1857, Elder Levi Ross, a Baptist minister, came from Trumbull Co., Ohio. Mr. Ross left the monument of his good work behind him. He is remembered as one ever ready in sickness to relieve, if possible, the distressed. He was a comforter to all in trouble and a counsellor for good in time of health, and in every capacity a valuable man to the pioneer settlement. He remained in the town until 1866, a hard-working, earnest Christian minister, preaching in Crawford and Richland counties. After living some years in Richland county, he removed to Minnesota, where he still did frontier work for the Master. A little later he removed to Dakota, where he died in 1880.

From 1857 on, the settlers came in quite rapidly.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

Burriel McKinney built the first log house (except the one found in 1845, built by hunters) in 1849.

The first frame house was erected by William Rogers in 1857.

The first frame barn was built in 1859, by Charles F. Coalburn.

The first birth in the town was that of E. Elliott, son of William Elliott, in March, 1851.

The earliest death known was that of a child of William Elliott, caused by its clothing taking fire, May 18, 1853. Its remains were buried on section 18, where a cemetery was soon plotted.

J. H. Hurlburt broke and put to crop some corn and fall wheat, in 1850. Chancey and James Kast also broke and cropped with corn, turnips, etc., and in the fall sowed fall wheat.

Dr. Cannon built the first saw-mill in 1862. It was a water power mill; never being considered a success it was finally abandoned.

The first threshing machine was brought in by Charles F. Coalburn in 1859. It was what is called the Chaff Piler, as it did not fan or clean the grain.

The first religious services were by the United Brethren in June 1853, at the house of William Elliott.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Highland comprised all of what is now known as the town of Scott, and all of the towns of Clayton and Haney east of the Kickapoo river. The first town meeting was held April 10, 1855, when the following were elected town officers for the ensuing year:

Alonzo Young, town clerk; J. R. Spence, treasurer; J. R. Hurlbut, superintendent of schools; William D. Sperry, J. R. Spence, Peter M. Webb and Eli W. Canfield, justices of the peace; Renbin Hamilton, James H. Kast and Orlo M. Mitchell, assessors; J. R. Hurlbut, county supervisor.

In the fall of 1858, the territory was divided up, and the name of Highland dropped, and a town created known as Scott. The first election in the newly made town, was held April 5, 1859, when the following were elected:

J. R. Hurlbut, O. M. Mitchell and Charles F. Coalburn, supervisors; Alonzo Young, clerk; George E. Harrington, superintendent of schools; Luther Poland, assessor; George E. Harrington, W. J. McBurney and Samuel Wood, justices of the peace.

Officers for 1883: James Turk, chairman; Lewis McCullick, James Putnam, side board; William B. Walton, town clerk; Charles F. Coalburn, treasurer; William Wilt, assessor;

Stephen Julian, Isaac Peterson, George McDowell and Barzell Gray, justices.

#### POSTOFFICES.

Sladesburg is the oldest postoffice within the town of Scott. It was established in 1857, with Alphonzo Slade as the first postmaster. He kept the office on section 12, until he removed from the town in 1880, when he was succeeded by J. M. Turk.

The second postoffice established in the town was in 1858; this was located on section 5, and kept by Isaac Teller, who is a cousin of Secretary Teller of the Department of Interior, at Washington, a member of President Arthur's cabinet. This office was named Rolling Ground. It was suspended for a few months, but re-established in 1868, and the name changed to Wheatville. William B. Walton was then appointed postmaster, and was still holding the office in 1884.

An office known as Hurlbut's Corners was established in 1861. J. R. Hurlbut was appointed postmaster, and was still acting in 1884. The name of the office was changed to Hurlbut in, 1883.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

Scott has five full and seven joint school districts.

District No. 1 is provided with a log building, located on section 20, valued at \$50. Number of pupils, forty-two.

District No. 2 has a frame house, situated on section 16, valued at \$400. Number of pupils, fifty-nine.

District No. 5 is provided with a good frame building, located on section 29, valued at \$500. Enrollment list, eighty-six.

District No. 6 also has a frame house, valued at \$450, situated on section 9. Here the number of pupils is seventy-two.

District No. 8 has a school house located on section 22, and is valued at \$400. The number of scholars in the district is forty-seven.

Joint district No. 7 has a building located on section 34, in the town of Scott, valued at \$500. Number of pupils, forty-two. The towns of Scott and Marietta comprise this district.

Richwood and Scott comprise joint district No. 8. This district has a frame building on section 12, in the town of Scott, valued at \$600. The total number of scholars in 1883 was forty-nine.

Joint district No. 1, made up of parts of Scott, Clayton and Haney towns, is provided with a building situated in the town of Clayton. Number of scholars from the town of Scott, five.

Joint district No. 4, made of parts of Scott and Haney, has a school house located in the town of Haney. Number of pupils from the town of Scott, seven.

Joint district No. 11 is composed of territory from the towns of Scott and Clayton. The building is located in the town of Clayton.

Joint district No. 12, made up of parts of territory in the towns of Scott and Haney, is provided with a building in the town of Haney. Number of pupils from the town of Scott, five.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first religious services in the town of Scott were conducted by the United Brethren, whose preacher held services at the house of William Elliott in June, 1853. These meetings were kept up once in two weeks for two years or more, and services have been kept up to the present time (1884) with a good degree of regularity. They have three classes, under the charge of Elder G. G. Nickey.

The Baptist people held services from 1856 to 1866, but never erected a church, always holding services at the school house, under the pastorate of Elder Levi Ross, supported occasionally by Elder Prouty, of Boseobel. The removal of Elder Ross in 1866 caused suspension of services, and the society has never been known as an independent organization since that date.



John Day was born near West Carlisle, Coshocton Co., Ohio, in 1824. He emigrated to Wisconsin in 1845. He resides on section 7, and is an ordained elder in the United Brethren Church. Since 1870 he has been settled in his present charge, and constantly in the work of the Church. Probably no more energetic, pushing servant of the cause can be found in the west. For nearly forty years he has been, not alone a western man, but most of the time a frontier man up and beyond the Missouri river in days of wild beasts and Indians, a pioneer in Nebraska and Kansas. Hardy, vigorous, and as full of vitality as a man nearly perfect, physically, can be, he has been, and is, a man to be most useful in rough, western, frontier life. The elder's ministerial work in this neighborhood may be mentioned in this history. In the winter of 1882-3, Elder Day officiated at the funeral of Abram Correll, the oldest resident of Crawford county, aged 106 years; also performed the same duty ten years previous for his wife—Mrs. Correll. Since his residence in the town of Scott, commencing in 1870, Elder Day has attended fifty-six funerals, solemnized thirty-six marriages, and added to the membership of his Church by baptism about forty-five. He holds regular services in six different localities in Crawford, Richland and Vernon counties; travels upon an average each year 3,000 miles; and if roads are bad, and his services are in immediate demand, leaves his team and walks, being good for fifty miles in a day's walk. He is aged sixty years, but as vigorous and hale as most men at forty to forty-five years. Elder Day was living with his second wife when he came to this town from Delaware Co., Iowa. She died and was buried in the town of Haney, March 4, 1873. Their wedded life of twenty years was not fruitful, no children being born to them, but his wife cared for and reared three children by a former wife—Elizabeth L., wife of David Patterson, of Wright Co., Iowa; Barbara E., wife of James McVeagh, a resident of Nebraska; and Sophia A., wife of Jacob Hoffman, of Green Co., Wis. On July 13,

1873, Elder Day married Martha E. Richardson, of the town of Scott. By this marriage he has had five children—Naomi J., born in June, 1874, and died at the age of four months; Norma J., born Dec. 9, 1875; John W., born March 7, 1878; Thomas J., born Dec. 3, 1880; and Daniel D., born Feb. 12, 1883.

A Methodist class was organized in 1858, and attached to Mount Sterling circuit, La Crosse district. John P. Coleman was the first class-leader, and Mrs. Jonah Glover, steward. The first pastor was Rev. William McMillan. This class was kept up till the beginning of the Civil war, when, true to their country, all the able bodied men of the class, including the pastor, enlisted. Rev. McMillan served over three years as a soldier, and during the time did much spiritual good among his fellow soldiers. After his return, he again took up his Master's work, and in 1883, was stationed at La Grange, La Crosse district.

About the time this Methodist class was formed, it built a log meeting house, near the north line of the town. Properly speaking, it belonged to both, the Methodist and United Brethren societies, as the latter aided in its erection. This class was reorganized in 1870. Rev. Bradley, of the Bell Centre circuit, supplied the class two years. They used No. 5 school house for a place of meeting. A new class was organized at the town house, with A. F. Thompson as preacher in charge for two years. Rev. J. F. Nuzum, assisted by Lew Wooley, succeeded Rev. Thompson. Rev. William McMillan came next, and he was followed by Rev. Isaac N. Adrian, under whose pastorate a new church was built in 1881, at a cost of \$1,000. This edifice is located on section 16. The name of the church is Mt. Zion; the same was dedicated, Sept. 3, 1881, by J. R. Irish, presiding elder of Madison district.

Rev. Adrian was succeeded by Rev. Eli Harding who was followed by Rev. Crouch, and he by James Ford. Under the pastorate of Rev. M. Nuzum, a large number were added to the

Church, who materially assisted in strengthening it, which then became a strong one.

In 1882 the Roman Catholic church completed a substantial church edifice, on section 23, which cost \$1,000. The size of the building being 24x48 feet. It is surmounted by a neat belfry. About twenty-two families are connected with the Church, which is under the charge of the priest who lives in the town of Clayton.

The Christian, or Disciple denomination, have a society in the town, with a hewed log house on section 12. This society was organized just after the Civil War.

#### CEMETERIES.

In 1884 there were three burying grounds within the town of Scott. The oldest of these is situated on section 18, and is not well located or cared for. The first burial was John J., a child of William Elliott, who was burned to death, accidentally, May 18, 1853.

On section 16 there is a well kept and beautifully situated cemetery. This is near the Mt. Zion (Methodist) church. Dethrick Coalburn, a Prussian soldier, who fought with Blucher, at the battle of Waterloo, was the first interment; date, Jan. 1, 1856.

Another cemetery is situated at the Catholic church, on section 23. This was established in 1882. James Kane was the first person to be buried there.

#### STEAM MILL.

There are two steam mills in the town of Scott—one on section 20, owned by J. J. Hurlbut; this has a twenty-five horse-power engine, which runs saws, planing mill, shingle and heading machines; also turns out wagon and furniture stock.

The other mill is located on section 11. This is run by a forty horse-power engine. This was started in the fall of 1882 by H. J. Kast, who the year following sold to his father, W. F. N. Kast. This mill cuts common lumber and railroad ties.

#### TOWN HALL.

The voters of Scott, experiencing the inconvenience of migratory elections, concluded in

1866 to build a town house, which they proceeded to do on section 16, near the centre—a very good, substantial building costing about \$400. The enterprise of the town, considering the early date of building, and the fact that few towns in the State had established a precedent, and none in Crawford county, is commendable.

#### CAPTURING BEARS.

An incident of the early days of Scott is given in the words of Mrs. William Gilbert, who lives on section 26:

“One spring, not long after we settled here (date of settlement was 1854), my husband was very hard at work getting a piece of ground ready for a crop. I used to help him in this work all I could. One forenoon I had been helping him, and about 11 o'clock went to the house to prepare dinner, going to the spring down a ravine a few rods, after water. I saw on my return, near the top of the ridge, coming out of another ravine, an old bear and four cubs; the cubs were as large as full grown coons. It occurred to me that if we could catch those cubs they would make nice pets, and I thought of who we could give them to, etc. But I did not stop to think long. I looked for and picked up a club, and went for them, and drove the old bear away a short distance and the cubs up a small tree. Then went to the high ground to call my husband, but before I could do this the old bear, who had kept up a whining, called the cubs down again, and I had to hurry back to keep them from going off into the woods again. This time I drove the cubs up a larger tree, the old bear walking around the tree in a circle and calling piteously all the while, and I was shouting at the top of my voice for my husband, who heard me, but was provoked at my calling him so early to dinner, as he supposed, but finally he thought, as I kept shouting, he had better come. Meanwhile I had kept pounding on the tree to keep the cubs up there. When my husband came, he took my place and I ran for a neighbor—

Stephen Grow. Upon my return with him, the old bear gave up all effort to recover the cubs and ran off, and then, with ropes, we captured the cubs and disposed of them in one way and another."

#### REMINISCENCE.

[By Charles F. Coalburn.]

Late in the summer of 1846 J. R. Hurlbut, William and Elmer Russell, Anthony Laughlin and myself, all residents of Grant county, visited within the present limits of the town of Scott. We crossed the Wisconsin river at Port Andrew; here we noticed the wreck of a steamer, which had been used by the United States forces in the Black Hawk war for transporting supplies. At this time the settlers of Port Andrew were utilizing what was left of the steamer, in aiding them to provide shelters for their families. We followed the road by the left wing of the troops in their pursuit of Black Hawk and his people; this road led from the ferry (which at this time was operated by two men named Andrew and Combs), up Knapp's creek, to a spring branch coming in from the northwest, following the branch up and out onto the ridge, to about the center of section 14, and thence west through sections 15, 16, 17 and 18, and to the Kickapoo. This road was used by the earlier settlers of Scott and adjoining towns in moving in, and is now the main thoroughfare, crossing the town east and west. We passed on the way up an encampment made by the soldiers. The hewn basswood tables made by the men fourteen years before were still fit for some use, with a little cleaning. When we reached the high lands, two or three days after, our dogs struck a bear trail and followed until a little "too fresh," for they overtook the animal, and one of them being part bull, had more courage than discretion, and, consequently, was badly used up. We found a small cabin near the top of the ridge, which had been occupied, we afterwards learned, by William and Randolph Elliott while hunting, and

perhaps by others; here we spent the night. The next day we looked over the land, noting the quality of soil and timber, etc., and then left, favorably impressed with what we saw. Three years later Hurlbut became the first permanent settler of the town. I came back with my family in 1855. At this time wild game was so abundant as to be a nuisance. J. R. Hurlbut lost in one year fifteen hogs and a cow and calf by bears. On one occasion Hurlbut and Burrill McKinney, looking after venison in the Kickapoo valley, counted from their position, overlooking a basin in the valley, forty-two deer. As they wanted only one, it troubled them to decide what to do. One season I was troubled by a dog, owned somewhere north of us. The brute would worry and mangle my hogs. One morning, hearing an outcry by an old hog, I hurriedly siezed my gun and some loose buckshot to put on top of the bird charges in the gun, and started to kill that dog! Reaching the scene, I discovered a huge bear, dragging off the hog, then dead! The bear left the hog and stood up awaiting me! After one shot she left. By running after her I got close enough to give her the other, but I did not stop the bear! My wife and Hurlbut, who was at the house, attracted by the shooting, came over to where the bear had left the hog, and while there two more bears approached to within fifteen feet of them, unnoticed. They were probably attracted by a desire to breakfast on pork chops. My spring, a little way from the house, had a large white oak tree leaning over it. While dipping a pail of water one day, a few pieces of bark dropped into the pail. I glanced up to see the squirrel that did this work, and to my surprise saw a very large bear in the forks of the tree, directly over my head. I started to the house for my gun; the bear evidently understanding the situation, commenced moving, and attracted my attention. I saw the brute come down; this was done by rolling up like a caterpillar; he dropped about twenty feet and made good his escape.

## DISCOVERY OF BUHR-STONE.

In 1846, when J. R. Hurlbut was hunting a location, he discovered a formation of rock, which seemed to him to be similar to French buhr-stone. He took a small piece back to Grant county with him, and had a miller, who was dressing up a new run of French buhrs, examine it. He first broke a small fragment off of the genuine buhr, unknown to the miller, and handed him both pieces for inspection. The expert miller tested their quality and pronounced them both inferior and worthless bits of stone. Mr. Hurlbut then revealed the fact to him, and fitted the genuine piece to its place on the buhr which he was working on. No more was done in the matter until about 1878, when George Mullikin quarried out a set of mill stones from this ledge, and these stones have now, (1884,) been in constant use ever since, and are pronounced by all to be superior to the French buhrs. Several run of these stone are now in use, and preparations are being made to quarry them in an extensive manner. This formation is to be found on sections 17 and 18, of town 9, range 3 west.

## PERSONAL.

The oldest permanent settler of the town of Scott, John R. Hurlbut, was born in Dutchess Co., N. Y., in 1817. In 1822 he went with his parents to Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., and afterwards to Trumbull Co., Ohio. When twenty-one years of age, John R. left Ohio and went to Illinois, remaining one year. In 1839 he moved to Grant Co., Wis., where he purchased government land near Ellenboro. He married Nov. 20, 1845; Charlotte Coalburn, sister of Charles F. Coalburn, who settled in Scott town in 1856. Mr. Hurlbut came with a party into the town of Scott in 1846, and being well pleased with what he saw of the country, he returned in November, 1849, with his wife and three children. He had been preceded a few months by Burrill McKenney, who brought his wife and two children and settled on section 18. He built the first dwelling in the town, a

log house. In July, 1849, Mr. McKenney sold his claim and the following spring moved to Richland county. Mr. Hurlbut lived with Mr. McKenney until January, 1850, when he moved into a log house on his own claim, on section 17, near his present residence. Mr. and Mrs. Hurlbut have always shown great hospitality, and the new comer and the way-farer have always found a hearty welcome at his house. He has been postmaster at Hurlbut Corners since the organization of the office, in 1861, a period of twenty-two years. He was the first representative of his town in the county board of supervisors, acting as chairman of the board. He was the first town superintendent of schools, under the old system, and has for sixteen years been county surveyor. He was also chairman of the town board of supervisors nine terms and treasurer of the town nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Hurlbut have had ten children, five of whom are living. We give their names in the order of their births—Seymour, born Aug. 28, 1865, died in the hospital at Madison, March 7, 1869; Charles H., born Dec. 23, 1847, died April 23, 1865; John J., born Aug. 8, 1849, now living in the town of Scott; Winfield Scott, born June 8, 1852, now living in this town; Robert M., born Sept. 6, 1854, now living in Dakota; Ira D., born April 7, 1856; living in Prairie du Chien, where he is associated with T. W. Lacy in the publication of the *Prairie du Chien Union*; Charlotte Minnie, born March 7, 1858, died April 4, 1862; Theodore W., born Jan. 18, 1860, died March 26, 1862; Albert L., born March 17, 1862, living with his parents; Reuben M., born Nov. 2, 1864, died March 27, 1865. Mr. Hurlbut still lives on the place that he pre-empted in 1850 and entered a year later. The winter of 1849 and 1850, he and McKenney lived in the town twelve miles from their nearest neighbor.

John J. Hurlbut is a son of J. R. Hurlbut, has grown up with the town of Scott, his father having located here in 1849, when John J. was but a few months old. He is a wide awake and pushing young man, supplying to the town

one of its most useful industries. He owns and operates a well managed steam mill, near the center of section 20, where he cuts lumber of all kinds, suitable for general building, out of the hard wood timber still standing in abundance over much of the town. He has a planing machine, heading and shingle machines also in connection with his mill. Furniture stock forms quite a large part of his manufacture, and he also has considerable wagon stock. Mr. Hurlbut first built a horse power mill in 1877; but finding this too slow he, in 1878, changed to steam power, and still finding more power demanded, he again changed, in 1880, to a twenty-five horse power. His business is now a success financially and otherwise. Mr. Hurlbut associated with himself, in 1881, J. Barto as a partner, but he soon after bought out Mr. Barto's interest and has since conducted the business alone. The earlier part of Mr. Hurlbut's life, previous to engaging in the milling business, was spent in surveying lands in Crawford county, his father being county surveyor for a number of years, and John J. succeeding him in the business in a very able and satisfactory manner.

William F. N. Kast is the son of Chancey Kast, who came into the town of Scott the second year of its settlement (1850), and who still lives on his original pre-emption on section 19. William and his father live together, William owning a farm on the same section. He was born in Medina Co., Ohio, in 1836. He was married in 1855 to May Moody. They have had five children—Henry J., born in April, 1858, married and living in town of Haney; Isabella M., born in May 1863, died in March, 1866; Rosa, born in January, 1867; Elvira, born in April, 1868; Celia, born in 1870. Mr. Kast's wife died in 1873. He was married again in 1873 to Emma J. Sterling. Five children have blessed their union—Emmett, born in June, 1874; Mary B., born in February, 1876; Jennie, born in August, 1877; Fannie, born in October, 1879, died Feb. 7, 1881; Stella, born in Sep-

tember, 1881. Mr. Kast, in addition to farming, is running a steam saw-mill on section 11.

Edward C. Elliott, son of William and Celia (Breedlove) Elliott, was born March 11, 1851, in Scott, Crawford county, being the first child born in the town, and still lives on section 19. In May, 1877, he married Harriet Quick, daughter of Daniel Quick, who died May 28, 1882. Mr. Quick was born in Ulster Co., N. Y., in 1813, left home when twenty-three years of age, living at different points in the State, and part of the time sailing on the lakes. In 1843 he went to Indiana, remained there ten years, then came to Lafayette Co., Wis., from there, in 1855, to Scott, settling on land on section 18. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott have three children—Harriet E., born in June, 1878; Agnes E., born in October, 1879, and Albert B., born in October, 1882. Mr. Elliott's father was one of the pioneers of Scott, having built a cabin there in 1845, which he and his brother occupied occasionally as headquarters while hunting and land-looking. They also made squatter claims, with a view to future settlement. In the fall of 1850, he built a small log house by the side of the cabin for a residence. He afterwards sold his first claim and purchased 120 acres on section 17, where he lived till his death, May 5, 1879.

Henderson Young is the son of Alonzo Young, who came in 1853 to the town of Scott, purchasing of the government the east half of the northwest quarter of section 20. He afterwards bought forty acres adjoining. Alonzo Young was town clerk for twenty years. Henderson, being the only son, succeeded to his father's estate. His grandmother, seventy-five years of age, and his sister, Rose, reside with him on the old homestead.

Robert Duncan was born in 1827, in Westmoreland Co., Penn. When quite young he removed with his parents to Ohio. In 1844 Mr. Duncan went to Ellenboro, Grant Co., Wis., where, in 1852, he married Pluma A. Jones. They have had six children, five of whom are

living—Obed A., Charles A., Chauncy N., Laura A. and Ella M. Robert W. was born Oct. 3, 1869, and died Oct. 16, 1870; Charles A. and Chauncy W. are now living in Iowa. Mr. Duncan came to the town of Scott, Crawford Co., in 1854, purchasing eighty acres of land, on section 21, where he has since resided. He afterwards purchased another forty acres of Walter Blandon. He served as a faithful soldier about nine months in the 47th Wisconsin Volunteers. He served several terms on the town board of supervisors.

Robert Eyers resides on the northwest quarter of section 26, Scott town. He owns eighty acres here and also eighty acres on section 27. Mr. Eyers was born in 1822, in Wiltshire, England. He emigrated to the United States in 1843, landing at Quebec, and going to London, Canada, where he remained three or four years. He was married at St. Thomas, in 1846, to Eliza Wye. After changing residence in Canada several times, in 1850 he went to Huron, Erie Co., Ohio, remaining until 1854, when he came to this town. Mr. and Mrs. Eyers have had eleven children, six of whom are living—Louisa, wife of H. J. Marshall, residing in Wood Co., Wis.; George, also in Wood county; Henry, married and living near his father; Frank, Sannel and Sarah. The two last are twins. Emma, Lotta and Edward are buried in the beautiful little cemetery on Union Hill. One infant was buried in Canada, and one in Ohio. Mr. Eyers served six months in the latter part of the war, in the 47th Wisconsin Volunteers. He is a highly respected citizen and neighbor.

William Gilbert came to the town of Scott from Davis Co., Ind., in the fall of 1854. He was born in Huntington Co., Ind., in 1828. When he came here he purchased land on section 26, where he has since resided. The year previous to his coming he married Maria Logan. When he made a settlement, Tomkins Green was the only man living in this part of Scott (now called Irish Ridge). With Mr. Gilbert

came two families named Lucas and Rore. They lived together on section 35, but after a few years left the town. Rore died later in Grant Co., Wis., and Lucas died in this county, in 1882. Mrs. Gilbert was a good specimen of the old style of pioneer women. As proof of this there can be found on another page an account of her driving off a bear, and "treeing" and holding four cubs until help came and captured them. In further proof, she has given birth to, and reared, ten children, all of whom are, at this date (1884) living—John, born in 1855; Margaret J., born in 1857; Henry W., born in 1859; Matilda, born in 1861; Abraham L., born in 1864; Ezra, born in 1867; Ella, born in 1869; Eliza, born in 1875; Nellie, born in 1877, and Lydia, born in 1879. In 1864 Mr. Gilbert enlisted in the 17th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, serving until the war closed; was a good soldier, and has always been a good citizen.

J. R. Spencer was born in 1826, in Trumbull Co., Ohio. He there married, Oct. 3, 1849, Lydia H. Kinne, also a native of Trumbull county. In June, 1851, he moved to Ellenboro, Grant Co., Wis., where he lived until 1854, following his trade, that of a blacksmith. He then came to the town of Scott, locating on section 17. Since entering his land he has bought eighty additional acres. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer have had nine children, seven of whom are living—Marion O., Warren O., Ezra N., Ida May, Laura E., Ellen C. and Lydia V. The two deceased are—Emma C. and Charles S. Mr. Spencer is one of the substantial men of his town and neighborhood. He has served one term on the county board, several terms as town treasurer, five terms as assessor, and was for six years a justice of the peace.

Charles F. Coalburn came to the town of Scott in 1855, locating on State school land on section 16, which he had purchased some time previous. His father, Deitrick Coalburn, was a native Prussian, and was a Prussian soldier under Blucher in the battle of Waterloo. Charles F. was born in Minden, Prussia, in 1826.

In 1834 he emigrated with his parents to the United States. They lived the first two years near Pittsburg, Penn. Mr. Coalburn's father being entitled to a grant of land by the English government, for services at Waterloo, and being able to obtain it only on condition that he settle on it, they, in 1836, moved to Canada to make a home. It not being desirable to remain there longer after the Patriot war, they removed, in 1838, to Trumbull Co., Ohio. In 1846 they removed to Harrison, Grant Co., Wis., where they resided until coming to this county.

Deitrick Coalburn died in 1856, being the first person buried in Union Hill cemetery. Mr. Coalburn was married in Grant county, April 27, 1851, to Mary A. Blakeslee. They have had eleven children, six of whom are living—Eliza E., wife of Robert Jones, Pocahontas Co., Iowa; Edith J., wife of A. A. Arms, town of Scott; Maria O., John E., Frederick L. and Charlotte L. Those deceased were—Eugene E., Mary E., Charles H. and Charles A. Mr. Coalburn enlisted in January, 1865, in the 47th Wisconsin Volunteers, being discharged after nine months service. He is now town treasurer.

James Turk, son of Ephraim Turk, was born in Butler Co., Penn., near Pittsburg, Sept. 7, 1822. When quite young his parents moved to Venango county, and in 1854 to Grant Co., Wis., where they lived about one year near Ellenboro. In the fall of 1855 they removed to the town of Clayton, Crawford county. In the fall of 1855 Mr. James Turk bought of the State the south half of the southwest quarter of section 9, Scott town, and he now owns 334 acres of land in the county. He was married in Venango Co., Penn., Dec. 24, 1844, to Sarah Greenleaf. Twelve children have blessed this union, nine of whom are living—Maria J., wife of M. D. Grow, of Dubuque, Iowa; Anna E., wife of John Jones; Martha M., wife of Henry Coney, Excelsior, Wis.; James M., postmaster at Sladesburg, this town; Samuel J., residing in this town; Sarah M., wife of Washington Davis,

this town; Anna B., wife of James Black, Osborn Co., Kan.; Butler L., residing in this town, and Wallace who lives at home. William J., John G. and Dorcas are deceased. Mr. Turk has bought and sold much land, and has deeded about 325 acres to his children. He served as chairman of the board of supervisors in 1880 and 1882, and is now serving his third term as chairman of the town board of supervisors; is also one of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mount Zion, and was a soldier in the Union army during the last war.

John P. Coleman was born June 2, 1822, in Shelby Co., Ohio, and moved to Allen Co., Ind., in 1845. He was there married to Catherine Doctor, June 3, 1847; then removed to Scott town in 1856, first settling on government land on section 25, where he lived for seven years, then sold this place and bought land on section 27, where he resided until his death. He was the father of seven children, of whom five are living. Through all his hardships he tried to live a Christian life. He had been a member of the M. E. Church for forty-five years. On February 22d he was fatally injured while chopping down a tree on the side-hill. The tree in falling lodged on a high stump adjoining, and while trying to cut the log laying in that position it broke off, and before he could get out of the way it caught him and pinioned him to the ground. It was twelve feet long and measured three feet at the butt; he laid under the log for five hours before he was found; called for help but no one heard him; there was no one at home but his youngest daughter and grand-son. The daughter had his dinner ready for him and waited for her father to come home. About 2 o'clock his son, who had been to the factory with a load of bolts, returned home, and she went out to tell him about their father, when she heard him call for help. The son put his horses in the barn and ran down where his father was laying, but could not roll the log off his prostrate body. He had to go a half a mile before he could get any help. When they

got him out, his limbs were frozen almost stiff. He lived about fourteen hours after being taken home. Annie H. Coleman was married in 1880 to George Phillips. W. S. Coleman resides on the old homestead.

Eli Nutter is a native of Indiana, born in 1842. He came with his father to Scott town, Vernon county, in 1856. Twelve years later he purchased the land which was entered by Samuel Freeman, and rented by his father, on section 20, where he still lives, his father making his home with him. Mr. Nutter was married March 12, 1864, to Julia Ann, daughter of William Elliott. Mr. and Mrs. Nutter have had eight children, six of whom are living—Josephine, wife of A. Boyd, of Boydstown; Minnie, Minerva, Ida, Delphia and Daniel. William C. died in 1870 and Walter in 1882.

William Mindham was born in Norfolk, England, Sept. 9, 1831. When seventeen years of age he started out in life for himself, and emigrated to the United States, landing at New York. He went west to Chicago, and from there to Cottage Hills, fifteen miles out of the city of Chicago, entering the employ of the Chicago & Galena railroad, then owning less than five miles of track. He lived there five years, then went to Geneva, where, April 15, 1854, he married Martha Ward. She was born in Birmingham, England, and came to America in 1848, living in New York up to the time of her marriage. In 1857 he left the employ of the railroad and came to Crawford county, staying one year with his father, Benjamin Mindham, who had settled in 1855 on section 29, Clayton town. In 1858 Mr. Mindham bought land on section 30, Scott town, where he now owns and occupies 200 acres, having a fine farm with valuable improvements. In 1862 he enlisted in company B, 33d Wisconsin Volunteers. He was absent from but one engagement in which his regiment took part, being a non-commissioned officer when mustered out of service.

Ethan A. Bowen was born in Trumbull Co., Ohio, March 22, 1822. When twenty-one years of age he married Sarah Wammamaker. In 1843 Mr. Bowen moved to Grant Co., Wis., where he purchased a farm of 100 acres, and was for several years engaged in farming and running a breaking team, turning over soil for new settlers. In 1857 he moved to Marietta, Crawford county, and in 1859 to Scott town, where he purchased 200 acres of land on section 36. When the war broke out he enlisted, and with the exception of service spent in the army, he has since made this his home. He has been a useful man in the community. He has served twenty years as justice, much of the time on the district school board, and as a member of the board of supervisors.

Alfred A. Rogers was born in 1822, in Trumbull Co., Ohio. When twenty-two years of age he married Mary A. Newcom, and the same year, 1845, with his young bride, came west, stopping at Exeter, Green Co., Wis., where he engaged in farming four or five years, then going to Blue Mounds, he followed lead-mining eighteen or twenty months. He then moved to Wingville, Grant Co., where he followed lead-mining till 1857, then came to Crawford county, living the first two years in Georgetown, Marietta town. In 1859 he came to Scott, and bought land the following year on section 36, in what is now called Hoover Valley, being one of the first settlers in the valley, and where, except during the time of his service in the army, from Aug. 15, 1862, to the mustering out of his regiment, he has lived. He was a good soldier in company B, 33d Wisconsin Volunteers. He has always been an honorable, industrious and esteemed citizen. During the three years he was in the army, his wife managed the farm prudently. They have had four children, two of whom are living—Libbie B., wife of William Wilt, of Scott; Eva M., wife of William Lawrence, of Scott.

William B. Walton was born in Birmingham, England, in 1826. In 1856, he emigrated to the



United States, coming directly to Madison, Wis., being there employed by P. McCabe, city surveyor, on the city survey. He was afterwards employed by D. W. Jones, secretary of State, in the platting of the State school lands. Mr. Walton was married in Worcestershire, England, June 19, 1851, to Sarah J. daughter of William and Jane Butler, who came to this country in 1854, and made a home in Haverhill, Mass., where Mrs. Butler still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Walton have had seven children, six of whom are living—Eleanor Jane, Caroline Louisa, William F., Maria E., Francis E., Alice E. and Joseph E. William F. was accidentally drowned in the Wisconsin river, while bathing, June 18, 1882. In the fall of 1859, Mr. Walton came from Madison, to Scott town, Crawford county, purchasing 160 acres of school land on section 5, which he has improved, and upon which he now resides. Coming into the town the year that gave organization to Scott, as it now is, Mr. Walton has watched the growth and progress of the town with a great deal of interest, and has had no small part in the labor of this work. He was commissioned by Gov. Bashford, notary public, and is at present court commissioner and town clerk. He has also held the offices of county surveyor and deputy clerk of court.

Jacob Graham resides on section 22. He was born in Mercer Co., Penn., Feb. 8, 1819. He was married in 1845, to Margaret Moreland, and emigrated to Illinois in 1846. He there resided four years and then came to Lafayette Co., Wis., and lived there three years; thence to Iowa, Co., Wis., and in 1860, he came to the town of Scott, purchasing eighty acres of land, which he has improved, and since occupied. Mr. and Mrs. Graham have had eight children—Martha P., William, Mary Ann, Maria, deceased; James, Robert, Adam, and John. Four of these children are living, and four deceased.

Theodore F. Pickett, son of William Pickett was born in Vevay, Switzerland Co., Ind., in 1848. When seven years of age, his parents

moved to Stephenson Co., Ill., where they lived until 1859. They then moved to Grant Co., Wis., and from there to Crawford county. They resided for one year at Prairie du Chien, then, in 1860, came to town of Scott, settling on section 22. Mr. Pickett was married Oct. 2, 1870, to Arvilla, daughter of Leander Blakeslee, and now resides with his mother-in-law on the Blakeslee homestead, on section 16. Mr. and Mrs. Pickett have had five children, four of whom are living—Annie V., Nettie L., Jesse S. and Pearl P. Cora was born March 1, 1872, and died the same month. Mrs. Pickett's father, Leander S. Blakeslee, was born in Bristol, Conn., in 1810. He was brought up to the clock-maker's trade, at which he worked the greater portion of his life. He came to Scott town in 1865, purchasing 120 acres of land on section 16, which he improved, making it his home until his death in 1880.

L. H. McCullick was born in Wells Co., Ind., in 1843. In 1859 his father, John McCullick, moved with his family to Haney town, Crawford county, purchasing 300 acres of land in Scott, Haney and Utica towns. He settled on the Utica purchase, remaining there until his death in October, 1875. His mother, Lavina McCullick, died in December, 1861. Mr. McCullick married in February, 1863, Eliza J. Coleman. They have had four children, three of whom are living—Lavina, wife of J. W. Spencer; Laura and John. Emmett died Feb. 5, 1877. After his marriage Mr. McCullick lived in Haney town about twenty months. He then moved to his present residence on section 6, Scott town, on lands which he purchased of his father. He is at present a member of the town board of supervisors.

William Wilt was born in Mercer Co., Penn., in 1840. He came to the town of Scott in 1864, and for several years made his home with Jacob Graham (though not engaged in his employ), with the exception of one year at Prairie du Chien. In 1865 he bought eighty acres of land on section 23. In 1871 he bought an adjoining

eighty acres, and these two tracts constitute his landed possessions. He commenced to purchase a farm before his marriage, which event occurred Dec 25, 1871. His wife was Libby, daughter of Alfred A. Rogers. They have had six children, four living—Mary, born Oct. 13, 1872; Bolser G., born Jan. 25, 1865; Alfred, born Oct. 27, 1879, and Charles, born Feb. 21, 1882. The deceased children are: Katie, born in November, 1876, and died in July, 1878, and an infant that died in September, 1878. Mr. Wilt has served as deputy sheriff four years, and in 1883 was town assessor. He is one of the prominent young farmers of the town of Scott.

Richard B. Laurence was born in 1826, near Havre de Grace, Md., and went with his parents to Lancaster Co., Penn. When six years of age he accompanied his parents to Mercer Co., Penn. In 1850 the family moved to St. Clair Co., Ill., and Richard returned to Pennsylvania in 1852. That same year he married, in Lawrence county, Betsy Grim. In 1855 he went to Iowa, thence to Illinois, thence to Louisiana, and returned to Pennsylvania in 1856. In 1865 he came to Scott town, purchasing land on section 23, where he has since remained. Mr. and Mrs. Laurence have four children—Bolser G., born in 1853; William F., born in 1855; Mary Ann, born in 1858, and Adam, born in 1862. Bolser G. resides on section 14, this town; William F. is living on section 36, town of Scott; Mary Ann is the wife of William E. Vanhorn, residing on section 22, town of Scott, and Adam resides at home. Mr. Laurence served two terms as chairman of the town board of supervisors, and one term each as justice of the peace, constable and deputy sheriff.

J. W. McDougal came to the town of Scott, after his discharge from the army in 1865, purchasing eighty acres of land on section 24, and living there two years. He then sold, and moved to Richland county, and in 1868 he removed to Iowa Co., Iowa. He remained there five years, and in 1873 returned to Scott town, purchasing the southeast quarter of section 13,

where he now resides. Mr. McDougal was born in Johnstown, Fulton Co., N. Y., in 1826. When thirteen years of age he removed with his parents to Cayuga county. In 1851 he was married to Ann Westfall, by whom he had four children—Darwin, Orin, Ida and Fanny. Mr. McDougal suffered the loss of his wife, and in 1866 he married his present wife, by whom he has had three children—Helen O., aged fifteen; William, age thirteen, and Freddie, aged five years. Mr. McDougal is a live and energetic man, prominent in local affairs, and always ready for duty.

John Miller's residence is on section 9. He was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, in 1820. The year he attained his majority (1841), he was married, in Washington Co., Ohio, to Elizabeth Keene. In 1865 Mr. Miller and family came to Crawford county, and located in this town. They have had nine children, five living, and they are here given in the order of their birth and death: Benjamin, born June 12, 1842; Mary Ann, born May 25, 1880, and died in Kansas, in 1880; Amanda, born December 1, 1844, and died July 12, 1870; Margaret, born in November, 1846; Susanna, born in October, 1849, and died in 1855; James Madison, born in November, 1853; Henry, born in March, 1856, and died in 1860; Francis Marion, born in October, 1860, and Precious, born in January, 1862. Mr. Miller has been a great sufferer, and has withstood more hard fortune than the average man would feel able to stand under. Still, by good and prudent management, industry and energy, he is in comfortable circumstances. In 1868, after being confined to his bed for twenty months, he suffered amputation of his right leg, being necessary on account of white swelling. This sickness and trouble cost Mr. Miller about one half of his farm, which he afterward bought back, and it is now in the family, owned by his son, James M.

David Burkholder was born in 1843, in Warsaw, Coshocton Co., Ohio. In 1854 his father moved his family to Grant county, settling in

Harrison town, where he still lives. In 1861, at the age of eighteen, David enlisted in company I, 10th Wisconsin Volunteers, serving till June, 1863, when he was discharged on account of disability. Regaining his health, he re-enlisted, in January, 1864, in company C, 7th Wisconsin Volunteers (Iron Brigade) and served till the close of the war; has been suffering physically from war service ever since. After the war he returned to Grant county, and the same year, in November, 1865, he married Delia L. Blakeslee. The winter following, in February, 1866, they came to Scott, where his wife's father, Leander Blakeslee, had preceded them a few months. Living with his father-in-law, about a year, in June, 1867, he settled on some land bought on section 21, where he still lives. They have two children—Amber R., born May 23, 1867, and Edgar E., born May 2, 1871.

George W. Churchill was born in Marysville, Union, Co., Ohio, in 1839. When ten years of age he moved with his parents to Wabash Co., Ind., and in 1858 to Kickapoo town, Vernon Co., Wis., where, in 1863 his father died, his mother dying in 1881. Mr. Churchill enlisted Sept. 7, 1861, in company I, 12th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. His army record we will give in words from a private letter, written by Gen. James K. Proudfit, his old commander, whose watchful eye noted every gallant action. Gen. Proudfit says: "I remember Churchill at the battles of Bald Hill, before Atlanta, the 21st and 22d of July, and at the battle of Ezra Church, July 28. On the 21st we lost 153 men in a successful bayonet charge, not lasting more than fifteen minutes; on the 22d Gen. McPherson the 'Bayard' of our army, was killed; all ranks did nobly and I delight to do them honor. "I remember at Baker's creek bridge, on the Sherman raid east from Vicksburg, which we repaired under fire, of both artillery and infantry. Calling for volunteers for this deadly work, Churchill was one of the first to respond, and in the work was a right hand man, in short, through the long service of Churchill up to the

time of receiving at Lovejoy station the wound which disabled him, which I well remember, he was a courageous, energetic and obedient soldier, and I am glad to do him honor." The bullet received at Lovejoy station Mr. Churchill still carries near the upper part of his left lung. The battle-flag of the 12th Wisconsin is preserved at Madison, and the following named battles are inscribed thereon: Lamar, Coldwater, Hernando, Vicksburg, Jackson, Baker's creek, Hatchie, Meridan, Kenesaw Mountain, Nickarjack, Bald Hill, Ezra Church, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Atlanta, Savannah, Pacataigo, Solkahie, Owensburg, Columbia, Bentonville, and Johnson's surrender. He has been as useful in civil life as in military having been chairman of the town board one term, and for several terms a member of the side board. In 1880 he was enumerator of census in district No. 52. He was for two years an employe of the State Senate. Mr. Churchill married, Feb. 2, 1867, Jennie M. Haggerty, from Vernon county. He had four children—Frank B., Thaddens W., Howard W. and Hurley N. After the war Mr. Churchill purchased 160 acres on sections 16 and 18 which he has occupied since 1867. He has bought quite a large amount of land in the meantime. In 1883 he visited Nebraska and purchased land, partly improved, in Clay county. He contemplates making his home there sometime in the future.

John Pittsley came to Scott town, Crawford county, in 1869, where he owns 120 acres of land on section 28 and forty acres on section 29, making his home on the latter section. Mr. Pittsley is a native of Alleghany Co., N. Y., where he lived until twenty-two years of age. He then went to Boone Co., Ill., remaining there several years and, in 1850, going to Grant Co., Wis., and living on Castle Rock until coming to Scott town. Mr. Pittsley married, in 1844, in New York, Adeline Halstead. They have had nine children, five of whom are living—Hannah A., wife of John S. Lindsley, of Nebraska; Almeda, wife of Jehiel Day, residing

in this town; Theodore, married and is living in this town; Adell, also married, to Salron Tirk is living in this town; Ervin, living at home; Mary married Jonathan Watron.

M. W. Rowan was born in county Claire, Ireland, in 1843. He came to America in 1851, his father having preceded him a short time. He resided in Chautauqua Co., N. Y., until the beginning of the war, when he enlisted in the 49th New York Volunteer Infantry. After two years' service he was discharged on account of sickness. Recovering his health, his patriotism prompted him to enlist in the 90th New York Infantry, in which he served one year. In 1869 he came to Crawford Co., Wis., living the first two years in the town of Haney, and since that time in the town of Scott. In 1871 he married Mrs. Mary Fitch, widow of John F. Fitch. They have had two children—Katie M. and James P. Mrs. Rowan is a native of Connecticut, born in New London. She came to this county in 1858, and in 1861 married John F. Fitch. He enlisted in the army during the war, and died in the hospital at Atlanta. Mr. and Mrs. Rowan now occupy 120 acres of land on section 15. Mr. Rowan served on the board of supervisors for 1882.

William Hughbanks was born in Scott Co., Ind., in 1828. While quite young his parents removed to Cole Co., Ill., and his father subsequently went to Mineral Point, Wis., while the country was yet new, living there until about 1863, when he moved to Cassville, where he died in 1873. About this time, the subject of this sketch, with his family, settled in the town of Marietta, Crawford Co., Wis. After selling the purchase he then made he came to the town of Scott, and purchased forty acres on section 32, where he now resides, and eighty acres on section 31. He was married in 1851 to May W. Hugo. They have eight children, all living but one—Franklin, James, William, Munroe, George, Charlie and Walter. Mrs. Hughbanks departed this life in 1873 and in 1874 he mar-

ried his present wife, Mary Ann Wayne. They are the parents of three children—Ettie May, Warren and John. Mr. Hughbanks is one of those men who came in the middle stage of development of Scott town, but since his arrival has done his share of improving and advancing the interests of the town.

Friend A. Phillips was born in 1833, in Wyoming Co., N. Y. When fifteen years of age he removed with his parents to Alleghany county and resided there until thirty years of age. He then went to Brown Co., Wis., living at De Pere two years, and residing ten years in the county. He was married Sept. 24, 1857, in Belmont, N. Y., to Betsy Maria Burt. She died in Brown Co., Wis., Sept. 3, 1872. By this marriage Mr. Phillips had five children, four of whom are living—Curtis A., George W., Sarah, wife of James Elliott, of McPherson Co., Kan.; Georgiana, who married Thomas Spencer and lives in this town; Byron D. was born in 1871, and died when seventeen months old. Mr. Phillips married Sept. 18, 1873, at Boscobel, Mrs. Charlotte M. Vaneuren, sister of his first wife. They have two children—Sheldon J. and John E. Mr. Phillips has served as constable several times. Mrs. Phillips has one son by her former marriage—William Wallace, born June 2, 1866. He was quite young when his father died, remembers but little about him, and has assumed the name of Phillips.

James Putnam, son of William Putnam, was born in Prince Edward Co., Canada West, in 1841. When two years of age his parents moved to Winnebago Co., Ill., and in 1850 to Iowa. James made his home with his father the most of the time until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he enlisted in the 53d Illinois Volunteers, and served until the regiment was mustered out July 28, 1865. He participated in the battles of Pittsburg Landing, siege of Vicksburg and Jackson, Miss. In the last battle he was so injured by concussion as to permanently affect his hearing. Veteranizing, he was with the regiment in the Atlanta cam-

paign, the battle of Kenesaw Mountain and others. For gallant and meritorious services at Atlanta he was promoted, on the field, from 1st sergeant to captain of his company. He followed Sherman on his march to the sea, and up to the capitol at Washington, where he was in line at the review of Sherman's grand army in June, 1865. While home on a veteran furlough, in 1864, he married Dulcia Wheeler, of Green Co., Wis. After the war he went to

Oshkosh, where he lived six years, engaging in his profession, that of engineer. He went from there to Brown county, in 1872, employed in the same work, and in 1880 he came to Scott town, bought land on section 29, and engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Putnam have had six children, five of whom are living—Maud E., Thadeus, Josephine, Grace and James. Georgia was drowned at Northport in 1875. Mr. Putnam is a member of the town board.



## CHAPTER XXXV.

## TOWN OF SENECA.

Seneca is bounded on the north by the towns of Freeman and Utica; on the east, by Utica and Haney; on the south by the town of Eastman. It comprises one whole congressional township 9, of range 5 west, and a part of three other townships, namely: Nine whole sections and eleven parts of sections of township 9, of range 6, west; six entire sections of township 10, of range 5 west; and of township 10, of range 6 west, two full sections and seven fractional sections; the latter being made fractional by the course of the Mississippi river. The greatest width of the town is on its south line, where it is ten miles from east to west; the least width is about seven miles. The distance from the north to the south line of the town is eight miles.

The surface is much broken, with ravine and abrupt bluffs in many places. The principal ridge passes through the middle of the town, entering on section 31, in town 9, of range 5 west, and leaves from section 3, in the same town, passing in an irregular course, across the town. What is known as the Black river road follows this ridge. There are ridges and ravines extending from this line, east and west, the former terminating in the Kickapoo river, and the latter in the Mississippi river. In the ravines or valleys, the soil consists of a rich, black loam, due largely to the washing of the bluffs, through a long geological period. A clay sub-soil is found, both on the ridges and in the valleys. These valleys are especially adapted to raising Indian corn and vegetables of all kinds, while the ridges are more suitable

for wheat and other grains. In the valleys an abundance of good water is found, but on the ridges some difficulty is experienced in getting water. There are a few fractional sections, consisting of islands, in the northwest part of the town, which are of but little real value owing to their liability to overflow.

The principal stream of the town of Seneca, is Copper creek. The west fork of this creek heads on sections 4 and 5 in town 9, of range 5 west, flows in a southwesterly direction and enters Winneshiek slough. on section 27, in town 10, of range 6 west. The east branch of Copper creek rises on section 33, town 10, range 5 west, and flows in a northwest direction, finally intersecting the west fork on section 29, in town 10, of range 5 west.

Hall's branch rises on section 10, town 9, of range 5 west, flows in a southeastern direction, leaving the town from section 36, town 9, range 5 west.

Kettle creek (or Michael's creek), rises on section 7, in town 9, of range 5 west, flows west into Winneshiek slough.

Pine creek heads on section 28, in town 9, of range 5 west, flows southeast and leaves the town from section 34, in town 9, of range 5 west.

Davidson's creek takes its rise on section 34, in town 9, of range 6 west, and flows west, entering the Mississippi river on fractional section 33.

A creek, sometimes known as Randall's creek, rises on section 24, town 9, range 6 west,

and flows northwest, entering the Mississippi from section 23, just south of Lynxville.

The town was never heavily timbered. The ridges were thinly covered with a small growth of the different varieties of oak. The heaviest timber was along the Mississippi river. On the ridges where the fire has been kept out, a rapid growth of timber has taken place, so that plenty of timber for domestic use is now found. In the ravines on the west, considerable butternut and black walnut, generally of second growth, is found; also, birch, maple, linn and some other varieties.

#### SETTLEMENT.

The first permanent settler of the town of Seneca was Mitchel Caya, who located south of Lynxville, on section 33, town 9, range 6, in 1846. Mr. Caya entered land two years later; he was still a resident of the town in 1883, having been there thirty-seven years. A short time previous to the coming of Mr. Caya, two brothers, natives of Poland, located above the present site of Lynxville, in what was afterward known as Poland Hollow. These first comers did not remain long, neither does it appear that they intended to make it their home; they brought some goods with them from Prairie du Chien for the purpose of trading with the Indians. They cultivated a small garden spot, remained about two years, and were never heard from afterwards.

Several years passed before other settlements were made. In 1851, William Philamalee made a claim in the southwest quarter of section 10, town 9, range 5 west; this claim included the present site of the village of Seneca. He erected a log house, and sold out in 1854 to Samuel Langdon, who laid out the village.

Elihu Daggett and Reuben Randall came on in 1852; the former settled on section 16, town 9, range 5 west, where S. Andrew afterward lived. The latter settled at Lynxville, and a few years later died.

In 1854 a large number of settlers came in and made location; among them may be mentioned Nicholas Morgan, who settled on section 16, town 9, range 5 west. He removed to Yankton, Dakota Territory, about 1870.

Aaron Kook came in at the same time and settled on section 33, town 9, range 5 west.

Daniel Tichenor, who came in the fall of 1854, settled on section 3, town 9, range 5 west. He had three sons—Dealton, Alphonzo and Anson. The Tichenor family were well known in the early history of the town. The father, Daniel Tichenor, was a man much respected; he run a brick yard, and also kept an inn for a number of years. His son Dealton, a lawyer, settled on section 18, town 9, range 5 west. He went into the Union army in 1862, was taken prisoner and died at Libby prison, Richmond, Va. Alphonzo was a mason by trade; he also preached and practiced medicine. In 1883 he was a practicing physician in Iowa.

Elmer and John Graham were settlers of 1854, and were closely identified with the early history of Lynxville.

Among the number who came in for settlement during 1855 were: Robert Garvey, A. C. Russell, Pizarro Cook, John Porter and family, Daniel and James Smethurst, William Oram, Meron Robins, Ingebert Peterson, Van Amburg, Joseph Robinson, Robert Tweed and David Cummings.

At the general election in 1857, the following voters were residents of what is now the town of Seneca: James Smethurst, dead; Elihu Daggett, in Iowa; Pizarro Cook, still here; Joseph Searle, dead; Samuel Langdon, in Iowa; Daniel L. Smethurst, dead; S. W. Clark, lives in Viroqua now; Wells Briggs, still here; George D. Clark, dead; Myrann Munn, dead; William Sherman, dead; Peter Stolp, lives in town of Utica; Lemuel Green, dead; J. H. Thomas, dead; Amos Rathburn, dead; Levi P. Marston, dead; A. C. Russell, still here; Alphonzo Tichenor, in Iowa; Jeremiah Putnam, dead; Daniel Tichenor, dead; Peter Kinny, removed; John Por-

ter, dead; A. C. Knight, in another part of Wisconsin; Joseph Michael, in Kansas; Nicholas Morgan, in Nebraska; George J. Millet, in Nebraska; North Miller, still here; Charles Lyman, in Iowa; Samuel Robb, in the town of Utica; James A. Robb, in the town of Utica; Dealton Tichenor, died in Libby prison; J. K. Chapman, dead; William McDonald, in Nebraska; John Helegass, in Iowa; James Langdon, removed; William Dean, dead; Lucius Dean, removed. Others who were known to have been in the town at that date (1857), but did not vote, were: George Dean, Peter Young, Robert Garvey and his sons, Elmer Graham, James Deming, William Kettle, who was afterward killed in the Union army; James Rathburn, Thomas S. Shaw, dead; J. D. Reynolds, dead; F. R. Pease, removed; Henry Vanderbelt, R. K. Davidson, O. Watson, dead; Daniel True, removed; Michael Caya, here still; William Withee, dead; Michael Snell, here still; William Snell, dead; John Burton, dead; Samuel Andrew, still here; L. McCumber, dead; John Cunningham, removed; James Boyles, dead; John Graham, removed; Reuben Randall, dead; Elihu Randall, still here; Thomas Dickson, still here; William Dickson, still here; Samuel Armstrong, still here; J. S. Bigelow, still here; William Smethurst, still here; Ransom Clark, in Viroqua; John Price, who afterward removed to Missouri; William Price, who enlisted and was killed at the battle of Chickamauga in 1863; Nathaniel Price, who moved to Kansas City, where he died; David Price who died in Minnesota in 1880; Valentine Ertel, a shoemaker, who still (1884) lives in the town; Marcus Nickerson, still here; Lewis and Alfred Hand.

These all came to the town of Seneca prior to the spring of 1857.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The town of Seneca was organized April 7, 1857. Changes were made in its boundaries from time to time; its present limits were fixed by the addition of Lynxville in 1868. The first

town meeting of Seneca was held April 7, 1857, at the house of Samuel Langdon. Joseph U. Searle was elected chairman of the town board; Ansel C. Russell and Daniel L. Smethurst, supervisors; James Smethurst, clerk; D. Tichenor, George F. Millet, Oliver Langdon and Lemuel Green, justices of the peace; Elihu Daggett, treasurer; George D. Clark, constable.

At that time the town of Seneca included that portion of the town of Haney which is west of the Kickapoo river. In the spring of 1859, the town of Lynxville was cut off from the west part of the town of Seneca, and at the same time, that part of the present town of Haney which was then a part of Seneca, was detached. In the spring of 1868, the town of Lynxville was restored to Seneca, and its present boundary established. The first town election of the town under its present boundary was held in the village of Seneca, April 7, 1868, when the following officers were elected: Wells Briggs, chairman; James Taylor and Thomas J. Brady, side board; John Mills, clerk; John Burton, treasurer; James S. Burton, assessor; Hugh Dowling and Nicholas Cron, justices of the peace; H. E. Cron, A. B. Withee and Martin Duffy, constables.

There were 217 votes polled at this election.

Officers for 1883: Robert Morris, chairman; Thomas Leary, Sanford C. Prince, side board; A. B. Withee, clerk; Furgus Mills, treasurer; James Taylor, assessor; A. B. Withee, William Watson and A. N. Searle, justices of the peace; I. L. Wing and A. C. Withee, constables.

#### RELIGIOUS.

There are two church organizations in this town—the Roman Catholic and the Methodist Episcopal. The first Catholic services held within the limits of the town were held at the house of Robert Garvey, on section 34, town 9, range 5 west, in November, 1855, by the Rev. L. Gaultier, a French priest from Prairie du Chien. A congregation was organized and a mission was established at that date. In the fall of the same year, another congrega-



tion was formed on Copper creek, where services were held at the house of Thomas Degnan, conducted by the priest above mentioned. In 1859 this congregation erected a log house, in which they assembled for services. This building stood on section 31, town 10, range 5 west, on the farm of Lawrence Bird, who donated the land. In 1866 a frame building was erected on the southwest quarter of section 27, town 9, range 5. Catholic services were held at both of these churches till the erection of the church edifice near the village of Seneca, which was in 1875. At this date the old log church was abandoned, and the congregations united in attending this more central location; though services are still held occasionally at the "little frame church." The Catholic people have a very pleasant and convenient place of worship. It was materially improved by Father J. J. Burns, who was their priest in 1884. The first resident pastor of this Church was Rev. Father Christian A. Verweyst, who was succeeded by the Rev. John G. Collins, and he by Rev. J. J. Burns in 1880.

The Church at Seneca is known as St. Patrick's Church, and the other as St. Peter's. These two Churches number 120 families.

Rev. J. J. Burns, pastor of St. Patrick's and St. Peter's Churches, in the town of Seneca, was born in Crawford Co., Ohio, Dec. 16, 1853. When but two years of age, his parents removed to Chickasaw Co., Iowa. He began his preparation for the Church in February, 1869, at St. Francis Seminary, in Milwaukee county, where he remained ten years, receiving that thorough preparation necessary for his present responsible duties. Father Burns was ordained at La Crosse, Dec. 8, 1879. Previous to receiving his present charge he was pastor at Rising Sun for one and one-half years.

The Methodists were the first protestant denomination to hold services within the town of Seneca. There is no record of the first preaching, but as this place was included in the Mt. Sterling circuit, the date of their first meeting

would not vary much. The class books of 1864 are the earliest record that can be found. At that time the communicants were quite numerous. The following names appear on the class book of 1864: W. H. Thompson, G. H. Harrington, Helen Thompson, E. Harrington, M. Inman, E. Haskins, Thersa Clark, M. Munn, H. H. Dean, Caroline Brown, N. Mc'artney, Lucy Campbell, D. Campbell, F. Campbell, R. Campbell, A. C. Knight, Jane Knight, William Sherman, E. Sherman, T. M. Tichenor, Mary Robb, G. Root, B. Root, M. Root, L. Root, John Copper, D. Duval, E. Daggett, Jane Searle, I. Duval, P. Green, M. F. Nickerson, Margaret Nickerson, J. Low and A. Low.

Not long after this class was formed, trouble occurred in the Church, and services for the time being were discontinued, and the class divided; some removing and others attending elsewhere, and others still, united with the Congregational Church which was organized at Seneca about that time, by Elder Valentine of Mt. Sterling. Services are now (1884), held each alternate Sunday, at Seneca, by the Methodists and Congregationalists; the ministers from Mt. Sterling conducting the services of each.

The Methodist class in 1883 was quite small in comparison with its original size in 1864; the members were as follows: James Smith (leader), Eliza Smith, N. Smith, William Smith, Hannah Cron, William Sherman and Mrs. George Dean.

No protestant denominational church has ever been built in the town; religious services were formerly held at the school house at Seneca, but are now held at the Good Templars' hall, in the village.

#### SCHOOLS.

The town of Seneca has now (1884) nine full school districts and five joint districts.

District No. 1 had a building on the southeast quarter of section 23, town 9, range 5 west. Number of pupils of school age, thirty-seven.

The school house in district No. 2 was on the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 20, town 9, range 5 west. This was in fair condition and valued at \$275. Number of pupils enrolled, thirty.

District No. 4 was provided with a log building on the northwest quarter of section 18, town 9, range 5 west. Number of pupils, forty.

District No. 5 has a house in the village of Seneca. This is one of the best in Crawford county outside of Prairie du Chien. It was built in 1881, at a cost of \$1,000. It is well furnished with patent seats; also has numerous charts, maps, and other modern apparatus. Number of pupils in this district, ninety-seven.

District No. 9 is supplied with a house situated on the northeast quarter of section 23, town 9, range 6 west. This is known as the Lynxville school, and is about the same as the one at Seneca, though not as large. The cost of this building was \$900. In 1883 the district contained ninety-three pupils.

In district No. 10 the school house is located on the southeast quarter of section 33, town 9, range 6 west. The number of pupils here is sixteen.

District No. 15 has a school building situated on the southwest quarter of section 32, town 10, range 5 west. There are fifty-three scholars in this district.

In district No. 16 the school house is located on the northeast quarter of section 33, town 9, range 5 west. It is valued at \$250. Number of pupils in attendance, forty-seven.

In district No. 17 the school house stands on the northwest quarter of section 31, town 9, range 5 west. This district has twenty-nine pupils.

Joint district No. 3, a part of the towns of Seneca, Haney and Eastman, has its building in the town of Haney. There are ten pupils from the town of Seneca.

Joint district No. 7, made of parts of Seneca and Haney is provided with a building on the southwest quarter of section 1, town 9, range

5. Number of pupils from Seneca, thirty-four. Valuation of building, \$125.

Joint district No. 8, made of a part of Seneca and a part of Freeman, has a school house on the southeast quarter of section 35, town 10, range 6 west. The building is poor, being valued at \$25. This district has fifteen pupils from the town of Seneca.

Joint district No. 9 has a good school building on section 29, town 10, range 5 west. It was built in 1883, at a cost of \$375. Number of scholars from the town of Seneca, twenty-four. This district is joined to the town of Freeman.

Joint district No. 15, with the town of Utica, is provided with a school house on the northwest quarter of section 3, town 9, range 5 west, which is valued at \$350. Number of pupils from the town of Seneca, twenty-two.

#### GOOD TEMPLARS' LODGE.

A lodge of this order was organized in 1864 or 1865, and continued a number of years in a flourishing condition, but was finally discontinued.

In January, 1878, the charter of the present lodge Seneca, was granted. The following comprised the charter membership: M. F. Nickerson, J. P. Nickerson, George Dean, Maggie McQueen, M. D. L. Smith, Gilbert Stewart, Jacob Smith, J. K. Langdon, Emma Langdon, Joseph Stewart, Eliza Stewart, Ida McQueen, Emma Randall, Luna Briggs, Anna Smith, Bell Barber, O. Smith, James Smith, William Smethurst, Fred Brigg, Annie Withee, Charles Strong, May Marston, Andrew Withee, Linda Clark, J. Clark, R. Stewart and Charles Nickerson.

The following were the first officers: M. F. Nickerson, W. C. T.; Emma Langdon, W. V. T.; M. D. L. Smith, W. C.; J. K. Langdon, W. L.; Anna Randall, W. A.; George Dean, W. T. S.; Ida McQueen, W. T.; Fred Briggs, M. M.; Bell Barber, W. D. M.; William Smethurst, W. O. G.; Eliza Stewart, W. R. H. S.; Mrs. P. M. Dean, W. L. H. S.; James Smith, P. W. C. T.

Officers of 1882-4: William Sherman, W. C. T.; James L. Low, W. C.; Ida McQueen, W. V.; Irvin C. Peck, C.; Robert Stewart, F. S.; Mrs. Lizzie Bigelow, W. T.; Lovella Smith, I. G.; James Smith, O. G.; Willis Haines, W. M.

This lodge is at present, 1884, in a flourishing condition; its present membership is sixty-five. It has a neat, commodious hall or lodge room, and is free from all debt.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are, at the present time (1884), six cemeteries within the town of Seneca; all of these, however, are not used now to much extent. The principal burying places now are these: One situated on section 16, town 9, range 5 west; and one on section 13, town 9, range 6 west. The other cemeteries spoken of above, are described as follows: One on section 27, near the "little frame church," and another just across the line on section 28. Also one near Mr. Russell's place on section 18, town 9, range 5 west, and one on section 6, town 9, range 5, near the log church.

#### MILLS.

A grist mill was built on True creek, near Lynxville, in the fall of 1858, by James Boyles; it was a frame building, and contained one run of stone; this was a small affair, and only used for grinding corn; the old settlers in referring to this ancient mill always speak of the "corn cracker." This mill was run by S. C. Prince, for Mr. Boyles, for a few months, when it was destroyed by fire.

A steam saw-mill was built by George Millet, at Crawford City, about 1858. This only run a short time, and was removed.

A grist mill was erected in 1868, on section 34, town 9, range 6 west, by Robert Wisdom. This mill was built near the head of Pine creek. It is a frame structure, containing two run of buhrs, and is furnished with ample water power. After a few years Mr. Wisdom took a partner, Orin J. Adams. In 1883 this mill was owned

by Thomas J. Wallin. At this date, it was the only mill within the town of Seneca.

#### FISHING.

Fishing has for many years been an important enterprise with the people of Lynxville and vicinity. John Vanderbelt and Day brothers have been among those most extensively engaged in this industry. The varieties of fish caught, are pickerel, bass and pike, but principally buffalo.

In December, 1873, one of the most remarkable catches of fish on record in the world was made by two brothers named Johnson, fish dealers from Dubuque. The draw of the seine was made in one of the little lakes, or bayous, at a point about two and one-half miles above Lynxville. The seine was drawn under the ice, and not less than 80,000 pounds of fish were taken out. However much like a big fish story this may sound to the reader, it is a well known fact, and is vouched for by a whole community of upright people. A car load of these fish, after the heads had been removed, were shipped to Dubuque, and upon their arrival in that city, the railroad company believing the car to be overloaded (more than 20,000 pounds), had it weighed, when it was found that the actual weight of fish was 42,000 pounds; and it was thought by good judges that this was only about one-half of the amount caught at the one draw.

In 1882, at the same lake, 40,000 pounds were taken at one draw, by Day and Vanderbelt. The lake where these remarkable catches were made is known as Dubuque lake, in honor of the men from that city who, in 1873, made that famous draw.

#### VILLAGE OF SENECA.

In 1851 William Philamalee made a claim of 120 acres of land, of the southwest quarter of section 10, town 9, range 5 west. He erected thereon a log house, where he resided with his family till 1854, when he sold his claim to Samuel P. Langdon. In 1857 Mr. Langdon engaged Pizarro Cook to survey what is now the

village of Seneca; the survey for such a plat was accordingly made by Mr. Cook, and afterward by H. H. Hall, who was county surveyor at the time. The plat contains about ten acres, a part of which is on the southwest quarter of section 10, and a part of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of the same section. No additions have been made to the original plat, but the growth of the village has extended beyond its limits as surveyed.

Mr. Langdon gave the name Seneca to the village at the suggestion of Nicholas Morgan, as that was the name of the town in the State of New York where he came from. On the organization of the town, it also took on the same name, being named from the village. Samuel P. Langdon, who laid out the village plat of Seneca, was a native of Massachusetts, where he was born in 1812. He was married in Boone Co., Ill., to Nancy Emory, a native of Pennsylvania. In April, 1854, he purchased of Mr. Philamalee the land where stands the village of Seneca.

This was before the day of railroads in western Wisconsin, and Seneca, being on the route between Prairie du Chien and Sparta, was quite an important point. In those days quite a hotel business was done at Seneca. His house was also the resort for land hunters, who received much information from Mr. Langdon, who was familiar with the character of the country for a radius of many miles. In the spring of 1868 he sold to D. R. Lawrence, and removed to Excelsior, in Richland county. He was engaged in milling till 1872, when he went to Lynxville, where he engaged in the grocery and drug trade. From this point he removed to Buena Vista Co., Iowa, and engaged in the stock raising business.

The store building of E. & T. Garvey being on the southern limit, Mr. Langdon sold the first lot to James and William Smethurst, who erected a store building thereon in 1858. William Smethurst also occupied a part of the building as a dwelling for his family; James

was a single man and boarded with his brother. The business established at that time still continues in the same building, and is conducted by members of the Smethurst family.

Alonzo C. Knight erected the second building, which he used as a wagon shop and dwelling house.

Lewis Smith erected the third building, which he used as a dwelling and saloon.

William Philamalee kept travelers in the log house just mentioned, and hence became the first hotel man of the village. Mr. Langdon continued to accommodate the traveling public when he had succeeded Philamalee.

The first wagon maker of the place was A. C. Knight. The first blacksmith was L. P. Marston. Campbell & Sons were the first shoemakers. Daniel Smethurst, brother of William Smethurst, bought out the saloon building of Mr. Smith, and started a second store. He commenced about 1865, and continued till 1870, when he moved his stock to Postville, Iowa, where he remained in business several years, and then returned to Seneca, and died at the house of his son John. Daniel Smethurst, when he discontinued business at Seneca, sold his building and four lots to E. & T. Garvey who still own the property, which is now (1884) occupied as a residence, by Thomas Garvey. In 1861 E. & T. Garvey erected a new store, on the site of Marston's blacksmith shop, and established a general merchandizing house, in the fall of that year, which business they are still (1884) engaged in. They have always done an excellent business. Their first building was 22x50 feet, two stories high. In 1875 they sold \$40,000 worth of goods. In 1872 their sales reached as high as \$67,000.

Daniel Smethurst kept the first drug store in the village. He sold out to William and James Smethurst, who connected this with their other business.

The postoffice was established in 1858. The first postmaster was S. P. Langdon who was succeeded by Daniel L. Smethurst; after this

came William Smethurst, who was succeeded by A. B. Withee, who served from Jan 1, 1871, to Sept. 1, 1881, a period of nearly eleven years. He was succeeded by Daniel Smethurst.

#### HOTELS.

As has been stated, William Philamalee kept travelers as early as 1851, and his successor also kept sort of an inn and served the public as best he could in those early days, when travelers were only too glad to eat such as was placed before them, "asking no questions for conscience sake."

Soon after the laying out of the village, Mr. Langdon put up a tavern on the site of the Kane Hotel, which is still a part of that house. Mr. Langdon ran this house a number of years, and finally sold to D. R. Lawrence, who sold to a party who did not occupy the house, but who soon after disposed of the property to Nelson Danlap, who was succeeded by Lawrence Bird, who added to the building and kept the house for some time, and then sold to Cornelius Kane, who has re-built it, and it is now known as Kane's House.

J. D. Bigelow opened a hotel in 1868, in a house erected by L. P. Marston, which he operated a year or so and sold to K. Haynes, who ran it about the same length of time and then sold to Wilson, a non-resident of the town; he rented the hotel to Alden, who kept it for about a year, when it was sold to James S. Burton, who used it as a private residence. In 1874 Mr. Bigelow built another hotel, which he opened July 1, that year, and operated the same till 1883, when he leased it to G. E. Peck.

In December, 1883, the business of the village was represented as follows: E. & T. Garvey, general merchants; Smethurst & Son, general merchants; Cornelius Kane, hotel; G. E. Peck, Bigelow Hotel; Matthew Brady, wagon-maker; Barnard Degnon, wagon-maker; Wilfred Marston, blacksmith.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The enterprise of the people of both the town and village of Seneca, is well illustrated

by the number and character of their public buildings. These consist of the school house, Good Templars' Hall and Church, and a town hall. The school house was erected in 1881, at a cost of \$1,000. It is a frame building, well finished both outside and interior.

Good Templars' Hall and Church was built by the liberality of the people thus connected. The land upon which this building stands was purchased and conveyed by Willis Briggs, in trust, to James Smith, George Dean and Joseph Stewart, trustees of Seneca lodge, No. 473, of Independent Order of Good Templars of the State of Wisconsin. The special condition of the deed was, that a building should be erected thereon, within a specified time, similar to the one that was built; the same to be used for a Good Templars' hall, and also as a church, free to all denominations, without respect to creed or religious belief. In accordance with this plan the people responded. The date of the indenture was Jan. 29, 1881; the building was begun the same season, but not fully completed till the fall of 1883. It is a frame building, two stories high, 24x40 feet. It cost about \$1,200. The first floor is used for church purposes, and the second floor for the Good Templars' hall.

While quite a number of persons were prominently identified with this movement, it is certainly due Mr. Daniel Smethurst to say, that the successful issue of the enterprise is due largely to him, who contributed largely in both time and money, and advanced means to carry on the work of construction.

The Town Hall was purchased by the town, upon the completion of the new school building. It was removed to its present location and then fitted up for town purposes, and affords a comfortable and convenient place for the purpose intended.

#### VILLAGE OF LYNXVILLE.

Several villages have been, from time to time commenced along the east bank of the Mississippi between De Soto and Prairie du Chien,

but Lynxville is the only one which ever amounted to any consideration. The plat of this village is on the northwest quarter of section 23, town 9, range 6 west; together with lots 3 and 4, on section 14, of same town and range; the former is on land entered by George Messersmith, and the latter is a part of government purchase, by John and James Haney. The site of the village passed from the hands of the first owners into the possession of Reuben Mink, Elmer Graham and James Boyles; these men, together with Hiram and Lyman McCumber, who soon became partners in the enterprise, laid out the village. The survey was made by Pizarro Cook, the same being completed April 10, 1857. Another village was begun about the same time by other parties, north of and nearly adjoining this plat. The former, for the sake of distinction, was called Lower Lynxville, and the latter known as Upper Lynxville; this term however, has long since been dropped, as the upper village has been absorbed by its rival.

Where the village is situated was formerly known as a steamboat landing; also Haney's Point, from John and James Haney, early settlers here. It received the name Lynxville, from the government surveyors, who were landed at this point from the steamboat *Lynx*, and when the village was laid out, the name was applied to that also.

The east channel of the river, at this point, makes a bend into the land, forming what is styled the "Devil's Elbow." On account of this elbow bend in the Mississippi, and the depth of water at this point, an excellent boat landing is afforded.

The first building or what afterward became the plat of Lynxville, was erected by Elmer Graham, in 1855, two years prior to the survey. He opened a general store, and continued in business for many years. He died in 1873.

J. D. Reynolds built the next house, which served as a store and warehouse; he continued in business till his death in November, 1861.

He came to Lynxville from the embryo village of Viola. He attempted to make a village site there, but upon failing to do so, cast his lot with the few pioneers of Lynxville. He was a man of good education, and an upright, honest citizen. His widow sold the property, which in 1883 was owned and occupied by John S. Kingsland, grain dealer. The next business was opened by Charles Lyman and George Sappington, who had a general store and warehouse; they sold out in 1862 and left the county. They were succeeded by L. D. Hopkins, who died in 1881. In 1883 the building was used by S. C. Prince, steamboat agent.

In 1862 Jewell, Case & Co., erected what is known as the upper warehouse. Here they conducted quite a large general merchandising business, and were succeeded in 1865 by John S. Kingsland and Lemuel Allen. Nicholas Morgan also kept a stock of goods in the upper warehouse in 1868 and 1869. Edward and Thomas Garvey, afterward of the village of Seneca, occupied this building with a stock of goods for a time. In 1883 this building was owned by Peter Young, who purchased it from J. H. Jewell.

John Davidson and John Irwin kept a stock of goods in what is now Kingsland's warehouse about 1866; they failed and left the county. Simeon Benson opened a grocery store and saloon in the fall of 1874; he finally sold out and went to Oregon. Thomas Bright engaged in business in the upper warehouse in 1875; he was later of the firm of Bright & Vanderbelt. Mr. Davidson was the first lumber dealer of the village. He afterward engaged in mercantile business under the firm name of Davidson & Irwin.

Ball & Huard were the principal lumber dealers for many years and were succeeded by C. L. Lyttle & Co.

J. L. Reynolds bought the first grain in the place.

Lyman McCumber was the first blacksmith, and Nathan Canfield the first shoemaker.

The first to entertain travelers at Lynxville was Elmer Graham. Nelson Wade also kept an inn for a time. Nicholas Morgan came next in the hotel line. He was succeeded by Charles Lyman, who erected a building on purpose for a hotel. The landlord of 1883 was Samuel Armstrong, who had been in the business since 1865. He kept a good house, both he and his excellent wife being well calculated to please the traveling public, who always find good entertainment at this house.

The postoffice was established June 21, 1858, and called Lower Lynxville. Charles Lyman was appointed the first postmaster. He was succeeded by J. D. Reynolds, Dec. 31, 1859. He was postmaster till his death, Nov. 3, 1861.

Elmer Graham came next and was finally followed by Mr. Reynolds, who served only a short time and was succeeded by L. D. Hopkins in April, 1862.

Mr. Hopkins kept the office for about ten years and then gave way to S. P. Langdon.

Then came Joseph U. Searle, during whose term of office the clerical work was transacted by N. A. Searle.

L. D. Hopkins was next commissioned Dec. 10, 1880.

The present postmaster, A. Nicetus Searle, received his commission July 14, 1883. The name of the office was at this time changed from Lower Lynxville to its present title, Lynxville.

Lynxville has always been a good trading point, and has long been known as one of the best wood landings along the river, and has had an extensive trade since 1850. Its good landing, with an abundant supply of fuel on the islands hard by, and along ridges and ravines of the main land near the river, has always been a great source of revenue and given employment to many of the settlers. A. Russell, who was in the wood trade in 1883, sold over 2,000 cords of wood during the boating season to steamers plying the Mississippi river.

The business of this village in December, 1883, was as follows :

Bright & Vanderbilt, general merchants and dealers in wood.

Searle & Vanderbilt, general merchants and druggists.

John S. Kingsland, dealer in grain, lime, salt, cement and land plaster.

Lyttle & Co., dealers in lumber and grain.

S. C. Prince, steamboat agent.

Samuel Armstrong, hotel.

#### VILLAGES THAT WERE.

Two villages, Viola and Crawford City, had a brief existence in this town. The former was located on the Mississippi river, about three miles below Lynxville. It was begun by J. D. Reynolds, in the fall of 1856, when he erected a store building.

In the summer of 1858, a man named Dickens, from Philadelphia, put up a three-story building, which he occupied as a residence and a store building. He put in a stock of hardware and groceries, and soon after opening, the building and stock were destroyed by fire. The fire extended to Reynolds' store, which was also consumed. Dickson left the country, but Reynolds rebuilt and remained till 1859, when he removed to Lynxville. J. C. Cole erected a dwelling house in the summer of 1858. He was a carpenter by trade, and taught school; he was also town school superintendent. After Reynolds had removed to Lynxville, Wilkinson occupied his building for a short time, in which he kept a store, but not long after removed to Prairie du Chien, and all efforts to make a town of Viola were abandoned.

In 1858 George J. Millet and Fenner Foster erected a steam saw-mill a short distance below Lynxville. A few other small buildings were put up, and the place was called Crawford City. The mill was operated two years and removed, and with it the embryo city pronounced a failure.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

The following named citizens are excellent representatives of the character and enterprise of the population of this town. They are given

in the order (as near as could be ascertained) in which they made a settlement. It will be noticed that the greater portion came in between the years 1854 and 1858 :

Mitchel Caya, who resides on section 13, town 9, range 6 west, was the first permanent settler of the town of Seneca. He came here first in the spring of 1846, but did not make his entry till two years later. Mr. Caya located on eighty acres, but gradually increased the size of his farm to its present large dimensions, now comprising about 500 acres. Mr. Caya is still an older resident of the county than of this town, having come to Prairie du Chien in 1840. He was born in Canada, about 1822, of French parentage. He came from Canada to Prairie du Chien when he was in his eighteenth year. He came to Wisconsin at the solicitation of his brother, who had preceded him to Prairie du Chien two years. Mr. Caya married Rose Loyea, a native of Prairie du Chien. Her father was a native of Canada, but of French parentage, and was among the early settlers of Prairie du Chien. Mrs. Caya died June 15, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Caya had eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, ten of whom are living—Maggie, Charlie, Louis, Leander, Morris, Mitchel, Frank, John, Albert and Julia. Virginia is deceased.

Louis La Force came to this town with Mr. Caya, with whom he lived nine years, being a single man at that time. He afterwards married at Prairie du Chien, where his wife died. He then married Harriet St. German. Mr. La Force lives one mile north of Mr. Caya, where he has resided for many years. He has one child by his first marriage—Emma, and three children by his second marriage—Louis, Julia and Laura.

Louis Caya, of Lynxville, is the son of Mitchel Caya, the first settler of the town of Seneca. He was born at Prairie du Chien, in March, 1846, being about two weeks old when his parents removed to the present town of Seneca. He has been in business at Lynxville a number of years, and owns the store building occupied by T. C. Bright &

Co., which he erected in 1868, at a cost of about \$600. This building is on the site of the store once owned and occupied by Benson, one of the early business men of the town. Mr. Caya has lived in the village since 1871.

Pizarro Cook resides on section 2, town 9, range 5 west. His residence in Crawford county dates from Nov. 24, 1854. Mr. Cook was born in Cayuga Co., N. Y., in 1826. In the summer of 1848, he went to Grant Co., Wis., and worked the following winter in the lead mines of that region, but returned to New York the following season, where he lived till the year of his settlement in Crawford county. Mr. Cook is by profession a surveyor, and at present (1884) is the county surveyor of Crawford county. In his youth he attended the public school of his native town, and received private instruction in mathematics of Prof. Edwin Dodge, and was always partial to that branch of science. His practical knowledge of surveying was obtained under George Geddes, at that time State engineer of New York. He has been more or less engaged in surveying since 1854. He was elected county surveyor in the fall of 1859, again in 1877, and the third time in 1882. He has also assessed the town of Seneca, and has filled the office of deputy sheriff. He enlisted, Aug. 9, 1862, in company A, 31st regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served till the end of the war. He participated in a number of important military events, including the siege of Atlanta, Sherman's march to the sea, battle of Bentonville, etc. Mrs. Cook was formerly Sarah Barr, born at St. Johns, Newfoundland, but a resident of Philadelphia, Penn., for many years. They have three children—Mabel, William and John.

Robert Garvey, a prominent merchant of Seneca, settled with his family on section 34, town 9, range 5 west, in June, 1855, where he pre-empted a farm of government land. Mr. Garvey was a native of county Down, Ireland. He emigrated to the United States with his family in 1853, locating first on a farm in Grant



Co., Wis., near Bloomington, where he resided until coming here. He married Susan Magee. Mr. Garvey died in 1872. Mrs. Garvey died in 1876. Mr. Garvey's sons are among the well known business men and farmers of Seneca town. Mr. and Mrs. Garvey had nine children, seven of whom are living—Christopher, Patrick, Peter, Frances, Edward, Bridget, wife of Robert Morris, of this town, and Thomas.

Ambrose Thompson was born, in July, 1835, in Huron Co., Ohio. In 1855 he came, with his brother Isaac, to Crawford Co., Wis., pre-empting eighty acres of land in Clayton town, where his brother soon afterwards died. His father died in Ohio. His mother came to this county in 1857, settling at Bell Centre. She subsequently removed to Boscobel, Grant county. In 1865 Mr. Thompson purchased of D. R. Lawrence, a farm on section 2, town 9, range 5 west, where he now lives, engaged in farming and stock dealing. He married Martha Turk, daughter of Ephraim Turk, an early settler of Clayton town. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have six children—George M., Julia A., Jessie M., Lucy M., Sadie A. and Charles A. Willie H. died, aged thirteen months.

A. C. Russell has lived in Seneca town since March, 1854, at which time he entered government land on sections 7 and 18, town 9, range 5 west. Mr. Russell was born in 1825, in Onondaga Co., N. Y. When twenty-two years of age he went to Du Page Co., Ill., where he lived until his removal to Crawford county. He still owns his original entry of land, on which he has lived for thirty years. His farm consists of 174 acres, eighty of which is broken. Mr. Russell is a carpenter by trade and was one of the first in the town. He erected many of the first buildings in Seneca town. He also erected the warehouses and many other buildings in the village of Lynxville. Mr. Russell has been agent for the sale of lots in Lynxville ever since it was platted, and still has a power of attorney from Mink & McCumber for that purpose. He was married in Illinois, to Drusilla

Rose, born in Saratoga Co., N. Y., in 1830. Mr. and Mrs. Russell have had ten children, five of whom are living—Ellen, wife of Nathan Canfield; Ralph A., Kate E., Edwin P. and Jason C.

George Dean was born in Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., in 1831, where he resided until coming to Crawford county in 1855. He settled on his present farm, located on section 20, town 9, range 5 west, Seneca town, in 1858. He has 120 acres of land. Mr. Dean has been twice married. His first wife was Josephine Searle, born in Walworth Co., Wis., Jan. 30, 1842. She was a daughter of Joseph N. Searle, who settled in Seneca town in 1854. Mrs. Dean died in November, 1863, while her husband was in the army, and he subsequently married Phanata Copper, daughter of Charles Copper, and widow of Thomas McQueen. Mr. Dean enlisted in 1862, in the 31st Wisconsin regiment, serving until the close of the war. He participated in many important battles and campaigns, including Sherman's march to the sea. He has two children by his first marriage—Jay D., who resides in Oregon, and Phebe J., wife of William West, of Kansas. He has one child by his present wife—Charles L. Mrs. Dean has three children by her first marriage—John O., Mary Ida and Margaret D. Mr. Dean's father, Lyman Dean, came to Crawford county in 1855, and resided with his son until his decease, which occurred in 1861, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Robert Morris was born in Lockport, Ill., in 1838. He came to Jefferson Co., Wis., with his parents in the same year. His father, Robert Morris, Sr., was in what is now Wisconsin when the territory was organized, and accompanied the commissioners who located the capital at Madison. Mr. Morris came to this county in 1855, settling on 320 acres of land in town 8, range 6 west, which his father received from the government. He occupied part of this farm until 1868, when he located on section 28, town 9, range 5 west, where he still resides. Mr. Morris has been assessor of Seneca town

twice, and four times treasurer. Has been president of the Crawford County Agricultural Society twice, and was chairman of the town board in 1883. He was married in 1868, to Bridget Garvey. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have six children.

Samuel C. Porter resides on section 3, town 9, range 5 west, Seneca town, where he was born Oct. 18, 1855. He married Ida Ertel, a native of Eastman town. They have two children—John and Archibald. Mr. Porter's father, John Porter, was a native of Ireland. When twelve years of age he came to the United States, and to Crawford county in 1855. He died Jan. 1, 1883, nearly seventy years of age. His widow, Priscilla Porter, still resides on the homestead.

A. N. Searle, of the firm of Searle & Vanderbilt, general merchants, at Lynxville, is a son of Joseph Utter Searle. He was born in Walworth Co., Wis., in 1854, and has been a resident of Crawford county since 1855. Mr. Searle married Lizzie Vanderbilt, born in Crawford county. He engaged in business at Lynxville, in May, 1879, under the firm name of Hopkins & Searle. In October, 1881, he bought his partner's interest, and continued alone until the present firm was established, in October, 1883. They keep a general stock of merchandise, including drugs. Mr. Searle's father came to Seneca town in 1854, and the following year located on section 32, south of the village of Seneca. He subsequently moved to section 16, same town, and in 1869, to section 14, where he resided at the time of his death, which occurred in the summer of 1876. His widow now lives with her youngest daughter, in Oregon. Mr. Searle is postmaster at Lynxville.

Samuel Armstrong settled in Lynxville, in 1856. He was born in England, in 1829. In 1849 he emigrated to the United States, resided in Delaware for a few months, then went to Constantine, Mich., and from there to Springfield, Ill. Mr. Armstrong went from Illinois to Baton Rouge, La., in 1852, where he was a vic-

tim of the yellow fever epidemic in the year 1855. Upon recovering, he came north, residing in Portage, Wis., until the winter of 1855-6, and coming to Lynxville the following September. He married Catharine Price, born in Richland Co., Ohio. Mr. Armstrong has been engaged in various things since coming to Lynxville. He has kept a hotel since 1866, being the present hotel man of the village.

J. S. Bigelow was born in Connecticut in 1826; lived on a farm till sixteen years of age, when he went to New Haven, Conn., and engaged in the business of butchering, which business he has followed till now, a period of forty-two years. He remained in New Haven till 1851, then went to Berkshire Co., Mass., making that his home till the spring of 1854; from there he went to Troy, N. Y., remaining a few months, then going to Florida for the benefit of his health where he remained till April, 1856. In July of that year, coming to Crawford county and locating in Haney town. In 1862 he came to Seneca, and is owner of the Bigelow House. He came to Crawford county with his uncle, George F. Bigelow, who had located in Haney town the previous year, and died on the farm where he first located. Mr. Bigelow's father was Levi L. Bigelow, now living in Connecticut. He is a brother of Robert B. Bigelow, ex-governor of Connecticut. In 1860 he married Mary E. Clarke, born in Illinois, and daughter of William Clarke, an early settler of Utica town.

Thomas Dickson was born in Scotland in 1825, and now resides on section 18, town 9, range 5 west, where he settled in 1856. He came here from Pennsylvania with his brother-in-law, Peter Young, with whom he purchased the farm of William Kenner, Mr. Young taking that part of the land of Mr. Kenner which now constitutes the farm of John Stewart. Mr. Dickson married Marion Young, sister of Peter Young. They have one son—Charles L., born here, April, 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson are worthy representatives of those hardy pioneers

who have built for themselves homes, and helped to develop the resources of what but a few years since was a rugged wilderness.

Valentine Ertel resides on section 20, town 9, range 5 west, where he located in 1876, purchasing his farm of Samuel Robb. Mr. Ertel was born in Newburg-on-Rhine, Germany, in 1831, emigrating to the United States in November, 1851. He resided four years in Pennsylvania and one year in Clayton Co., Iowa. Mr. Ertel has been a resident of Crawford county since 1856, at which time he located on section 30, same town and range in which he now lives. Mr. Ertel married Hannah Frobson. They have five children. Like many of the early settlers, Mr. Ertel came here poor, but by industry and economy he has secured a pleasant and comfortable home.

G. W. Pease is an old resident of Seneca town, Crawford county, having come to Lynxville Aug. 28, 1856. He served in the army during the war, being a member of company C, 6th Wisconsin Volunteers. His regiment belonged to the Iron Brigade. Mr. Pease enlisted April 25, 1861, and was mustered out July 15, 1865, serving over four years, or during the entire war. He participated in all the important battles and campaigns in which the Iron Brigade took part. Mr. Pease now resides on section 2, township 9, range 6 west, where he settled in the spring of 1882, being engaged in farming and also in practicing law. He married Mary A., daughter of William Churchill. Mr. Pease's father, G. P. Pease, came to this county in 1859, remaining until his decease.

William Sharman, Sr., was one of the early settlers of Seneca town, entering 200 acres of land on sections 24 and 25, town 9, range 5 west, in 1855, on which he settled with his family in 1856. Mr. Sharman was a native of England, born in Apperknowl in Dronfield, Derbyshire, May 20, 1833. He emigrated with his parents to the United States in 1849, settling in Montrose town, Dane Co., Wis., where Mr. Sharman resided until his settlement in Craw-

ford county. He married Elizabeth Huckins Kielley, born Sept. 19, 1816, in Strafford, Stafford Co., N. H. Mr. and Mrs. Sharman had four children, two of whom are living—William and Samuel. Mr. Sharman died Oct. 22, 1873; his wife dying in April of the same year. Their two sons own and reside on the homestead.

William Dickson was born in Scotland, in 1829, and came to this country with his brother Thomas. Coming to Crawford county from Pennsylvania in 1857, and settling on section 13, town 9, range 6 west. He has a farm of 200 acres, which he purchased of J. H. Jewell. He enlisted in the 52d Wisconsin regiment, serving during the last year of the war. He married Mrs. Alice (Young) Bright, a sister of Peter Young. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson have three children living—James, Janet and William. They have lost two children—John and Peter. Mrs. Dickson has two children by former marriage—Thomas C. Bright and Elizabeth, wife of Andrew Peterson.

North Miller was born in 1816, in Susquehanna Co., Penn. When eighteen years of age he went to Ohio, and from there to Indiana. In 1857, he came to Seneca town, Crawford county, settling on section 28, town 9, range 5 west. His farm contains 141 acres of land, eighty acres of which, he purchased from Wells Briggs. It is situated on sections 28 and 21, being well improved, the most of which improvements were made by Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller was married in Ohio, in 1836, to Amanda Bell, a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have five children—Owen E., Helen, Horace, Ambrose and Sarah M. Mr. Miller has been chairman of the town board seven terms; was one of the early county commissioners; has been president of the Crawford County Agricultural Society, and was chiefly instrumental in reorganizing the agricultural society, after the war.

James Ingham, resides on section 5, town 9, range 5 west, where he settled in the spring of

1858, though he had entered his land two years previous. He came with James Taylor, Samuel Taylor, John Taylor and John Mills. The above named early settlers all came at the same time (1856), made their locations, and settled at the same time, two years later. Mr. Ingham entered eighty acres, which forms a part of his present farm of 130 acres; he also owns another farm of eighty acres. He was born in Lancashire, England, July 19, 1824. He came to the United States when twenty-four years of age, and settled in Mercer Co., Penn. He was married in England, to Nancy Andrew, born Dec. 18, 1828. She died Feb. 11, 1881. Mr. Ingham has eight children—Elizabeth A., born Jan. 2, 1851; Emma J., born May 18, 1853; Alice, born Feb. 1, 1856; Mary, born Sept. 22, 1858; Isaiah born Feb. 25, 1861; Samuel, born May 4, 1863; Sarah, born Sept. 12, 1865, and Job, born Feb. 11, 1868.

Fergus Mills resides on section 14, town 9, range 5, where his father, John Mills, settled in 1858. He was born in England, in 1840. He married Miss M. Copsey, daughter of John Copsey, who settled in Crawford county in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Mills have five children—Walter, Emma, John, Susan and Nellie. Mr. Mills was a member of the House in the Legislative session of 1876. In 1877 he was chairman of the town board; and in 1883 was treasurer of the board.

Marcus F. Nickerson was born in Vermont in 1838, coming with his parents William S. and Catharine (Tainter) Nickerson, to Prairie du Chien in 1839. They came all the way from Vermont to Prairie du Chien with a team and wagon, except across the lakes. Mr. Nickerson has lived in this town since 1858, at that time settling on section 2, town 9, range 5. In 1864 he enlisted in the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry, serving till the close of the war. The regiment to which he belonged was detached to capture Jefferson Davis after his flight from Richmond, but the 4th Michigan Cavalry having passed around them during the night, effected the

capture. Mr. Nickerson was present when the capture was made, and received his share of the reward. He now lives on section 10, town 9, range 5 west, where he settled in 1866, on a farm of 117 acres which he purchased of George Hazen. Mr. Nickerson has been twice married. His first wife was Margaret, a daughter of John and Priscilla Porter, by whom he had eight children, four sons and four daughters—Lois A., Mary E., Charles A., John P., William M. (deceased), James G., Rose B. and Emma M. His present wife was Mrs. Bertha E. (Walker) Peters, widow of John Peters, who was killed at the siege of Corinth. Mrs. Nickerson has a son by first marriage.

James Taylor is a native of Lancashire, England, born in 1828. He came in 1842 to the United States, with his parents, Samuel and Ann Taylor. They settled in Beaver Co., Penn., where they lived two years, then removed to Trumbull Co., Ohio. Mr. Taylor's parents came with him to Crawford Co., Wis., in 1858, he having previously entered land, in 1856, on section 13, town 9, range 5 west. They lived with him until their decease; his father dying in 1863, and his mother in 1880. Mr. Taylor's farm originally contained 200 acres; he now has 300 acres. He was married to Pantha Mills, a native of Lancashire, England. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have had eight children, seven of whom are living—Ann Eva, John Samuel, Thomas C., Adam, Bettie A. and Martha M. He has been a member of the town board nearly every year since 1866, and has been chairman several terms. He was also chairman of the county board in 1882. Mr. Taylor was the assessor of the township for 1883. Mrs. Taylor's parents, John and Bettie Mills, came to the United States with their family in 1841. They came to Crawford county with Mr. Taylor in 1858, locating on section 15. Mr. Mills died Jan. 17, 1873. His wife still lives on the homestead.

A. B. Withee has been a resident of Crawford county since April, 1858. He was born in

Franklin Co., Maine, April 13, 1828. He went to Somerset county when fifteen years of age, and at the age of twenty-three went to Lewiston, where he learned the trade of a moulder, which he followed till he came west. Mr. Withee's residence in Wisconsin dates from November, 1854, at which time he came to Grant county, where he lived three and a half years; thence to Crawford county, and located in the town of Eastman. In November, 1863, he located near the village of Seneca, where he has since resided. Since coming to Crawford county he has been engaged in the occupation of farming, carpentry, etc. Mr. Withee has held, at various times, most of the town offices, and his long continuance in office is evidence of the confidence that is realized in his ability and integrity as a public officer. He is the present town clerk, and was first elected to that office April 1, 1873, and has held the office of clerk since that time, excepting the year 1882. He was elected assessor in 1865, and since that time has assessed the town five times; was elected justice of the peace, April 6, 1869, and has occupied that position constantly to the present date, except a interval of two years. He has been for the last three years secretary of the Crawford County Agricultural Society. He was appointed postmaster Jan. 1, 1871, and held that office until Sept. 2, 1881; was appointed notary public in June, 1875, and still holds that office. The accuracy and completeness of the records kept by Mr. Withee in the several offices that he has filled, together with the prompt and efficient manner of transacting all business pertaining thereto, is the key to his success as a public officer.

His father, Daniel Withee, was one of the early settlers of this county. He came to Grant Co., Wis., from the east in the fall of 1855, and early the following winter came to the town of Eastman and entered by land warrant a quarter section of land, which he improved. He sold out in 1865 and returned to Maine, and now resides in Augusta, that State. Mr. Withee was

married in Maine in 1853, to Margaret Hayden. They have four children—Andrew C., Jessie, wife of Frank Griffin; George M. and Orris M.

Isaac Baker was born in Crawford Co., Penn., in 1838. He went with his father, David Baker, to Grant Co., Wis., in 1857. Mr. Baker came to Crawford Co., Wis., in 1863, settling on section 2, town 9, range 5 west. He has 207 acres of land, the greater part of which was entered by John Porter. He entered the army Feb. 27, 1865, and served till April 20, 1866, as a member of the 50th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Baker married Betsy Porter, daughter of John and Priscilla Porter. They have five children—Orra, Anra, Hattie, William W., John L. and Clarence R.

Lemuel B. Allen came to Lynxville in 1864. He was born Jan. 26, 1816, in Washington Co., N. Y., where he was reared. In 1841 he went to Huron Co., Ohio, where he was engaged in farming and in the manufacture of lumber. He removed from Huron to Williams county, in the same State, coming here from that county. Since coming to Lynxville, he has been engaged in wooding and farming. His wife was Jane R. Reynolds, also a native of New York. She died March 7, 1879. Mr. Allen has three sons, all of whom are residents of Lynxville—Charles S., George W. and Winfield S., all of whom were born in Ohio.

Marstin S. Kenneson is a native of New Hampshire, born in 1824. When twelve years of age he moved with his parents to Canada, and when nineteen he went to Massachusetts. In 1855 he moved to Richland Co., Wis. Mr. Kenneson married Sarah A. Fowler, born in Waldo Co., Maine. When seventeen years of age she went to Massachusetts. Mrs. Kenneson's mother died when she was a child, after which her father came west. He was in the Black Hawk War, resided among the Indians for seven years, then returned to Maine, where he died. Mr. Kenneson enlisted in 1862 in the 19th Wisconsin Volunteers, serving until the close of the war. He participated in many

important battles and campaigns, losing his health before the expiration of his term of service, and passing the greater part of the last year in the hospital. At the close of the war, in 1865, Mr. Kenneson came to Crawford county, purchasing forty acres of land of Dr. Frederick Cork, located on section 3, town 9, range 5 west, Seneca town. His farm now contains eighty acres. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneson have had seven sons, three of whom are living—Leonard C., James H. and George A.

John S. Kingsland is a native of Pittsburg, Penn. In 1865 he came to Lynxville from Williams Co., Ohio. Since that time this has been his home, except from the fall of 1866 to the fall of 1867, when he was at Prairie du Chien, engaged in the insurance business with Samuel Lester. Mr. Kingsland is now engaged in the grain trade, which has been his occupation for many years. His wife is a native of Huron Co., Ohio. They have two children—Nathan, born at Stryker, Ohio, and Mary, born at Lynxville.

Alden E. Wolcott was born in Lynn Co., Iowa, in 1843. When four years old his parents removed to Elizabeth, Ill., and from there to Columbus, Iowa. He enlisted in January, 1863, in the 27th Iowa regiment, serving till Jan. 24, 1866. He participated in a number of severe engagements, including battles of Pleas-

ant Hill, La.; Tripelo, Miss.; was in Bank's Red river expedition; battle of Nashville, capture of Mobile, etc. His father served in the same regiment. He went to Lansing after the war, coming to Lynxville from there. His wife was Louisa Vanderbelt, born in the State of New York. Mr. Wolcott came to Lynxville in 1867, and was engaged for eight or nine years in the wood trade. Since 1867, during the winter, he has also been engaged in teaching in Grant and Crawford counties. He now represents Lyttle & Co., lumber dealers, Lynxville.

The firm of T. C. Bright & Co., general merchants at Lynxville, was formed in May, 1881. The firm is composed of Thomas C. Bright and John Vanderbelt. Mr. Bright is the son of the wife of William Dickson, of this town, and was born in Pennsylvania in January, 1854. He married a daughter of his partner, Mr. Vanderbelt. Mr. Vanderbelt is a native of Wayne Co., N. Y. He came to Green Co., Wis., when eighteen years of age, and has been a resident of Lynxville since 1859. He was for many years prominently engaged in running wood boats, fishing, etc. He served during the last part of the war in the 50th Wisconsin regiment. His wife was Mary Prince, born in the State of New York. They have two children—Lodie, wife of T. C. Bright, and Amelia.

## CHAPTER XXXVI.

## TOWN OF UTICA.

That part of Crawford county known as the town of Utica, is the center of three towns, forming the northern tier of towns in the county. It is bounded on the north by Vernon county; on the east, by the town of Clayton; on the south, by the towns of Haney and Seneca; and on the west, by the towns of Freeman and Seneca. Its territory is made up from congressional townships 10 and 11, of ranges 4 and 5 west; it contains about fifty-seven sections of land. The town is nine miles from north to south, and in the widest place, east and west, about seven miles. The Kickapoo river forms the eastern boundary of the town from a point on section 10, town 10, range 4, to section 33, on the south line. Fully three-fourths of the surface of Utica when cleared, will be tillable land and the remainder is well suited to grazing purposes. The southwest part of the town, near Mt. Sterling, consists of a rich black loam, which produces fine corn and wheat. The balance of the town, except along the streams, where rich sandy loam is found, consists of a clay soil, best adapted to wheat. It can truthfully be stated that for fertility the soil in Utica is not excelled in any part of the county. The Kickapoo river, which forms a part of the eastern boundary of the town, running between the towns of Clayton and Utica, is the main stream of this locality.

Tainter's creek, is the principal stream flowing through this town. It is so called from Ezekiel Tainter, one of the early settlers of the town. This stream flows into the Kickapoo river, from the southeast quarter of section 9, town 10, range 4 west. It has its source in the town of

Franklin, in Vernon county, and enters the town of Utica, on section 19, and flows in a southeasterly direction to the Kickapoo. It has several branches, the principal of which are Roger's creek and Peterson's branch. The former unites with Tainter's creek, on section 29, town 11, range 4 west, and the latter uniting on section 32, town 11, range 4 west. Laraby's branch enters from the west, at a point on section 32, and Well's branch, which is quite an important stream, flows several miles before entering Tainter's creek, which it does on the west part of section 4.

Collin's creek is a small stream which enters the Kickapoo river from section 21, town 10, range 4 west.

Sugar creek takes its rise on section 34, and flows west it into the Mississippi river.

Copper creek, another small stream, rises on section 26, town 10, range 5 west, and leaves the town from section 22.

In addition to these never failing creeks, there are several very valuable springs in various parts of the town, especially in the southern portion; these give rise to little creeks which flow south into Hall's branch, in the town of Haney.

This town was never heavily timbered, but consisted principally of oak openings. A thicker growth of the different kinds of timber, has been made in many places in the town since its settlement.

## SETTLEMENT.

To William T. Sterling belongs the honor of effecting the first settlement in the town of

Utica. He settled on forty acres, which includes the site of the residence of William McAuley, and is described as the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 25, town 10, range 5 west. The date of his coming was May 10, 1842. In July, the same year, he settled with his family on the land just described, he having erected a log house in the mean time. No other settlement had been made at that time within a radius of sixteen miles, his nearest neighbor being Aaron Hazen, who had settled in the town of Eastman.

William T. Sterling was born in Woodford Co., Ky., Jan. 29, 1808. His father, Harvey Sterling, was a native of Hagerstown, Md.; he was of English extraction. His mother was born in Holland; her father, Jacob Harper, on coming to this country, settled at what was afterward called Harper's Ferry, in Virginia. He removed to Kentucky in 1791. William T. Sterling's mother, Elizabeth Harper, was one of the three girls who volunteered to run the gauntlet to get water, during the siege, in the face of 600 Indians and 400 French, in the French and Indian War, near the "Dark and Bloody Ground." The subject of this sketch was reared in Kentucky, and when nineteen years of age (in 1827), he, in company with a party of thirteen, including Gov. Dodge, went to the mining regions of Galena, Ill., where Mr. Sterling remained till 1838. During that year he was elected to a clerkship in the Legislature known as the Burlington session. The same year he was appointed superintendent of public property and also librarian. In 1849 he was elected to the Legislature from Crawford and Chippewa counties and re-elected from the same counties. He became a resident of the town of Utica, Crawford county, in 1842. At the time he lived at Madison there were but two families living there—the Bird and Peck families. In 1840 Mr. Sterling took the census of Dane county, and he found there were but 315 persons within the county. He was married to Eliza Messersmith,

who was born in Ohio in 1820, and moved to Iowa Co., Wis., in 1827. She died Nov. 15, 1880, the mother of eleven children—George H., Josephine, Napoleon B., Emmet, Francis, Clay, Emma, Laura, John Rusk, Alice and Frank. The two latter are deceased. In 1884 Mr. Sterling, who was then seventy-six years old, still retained his memory of the past to a remarkable degree. But few men living in Wisconsin date their coming so early as he. He has been a close observer of passing events throughout his long life; and few men, either from observation or reading, possess a more complete knowledge of the history of the State of Wisconsin than does William T. Sterling.

Ezekiel Tainter was the next pioneer to penetrate the wilds of this town, and here make for himself a home. He made a claim on section 5, in town 10, of range 4 west, in the spring of 1847. During the summer of 1847, settlements were made by James B. Gay and John Mitchell, on section 9, town 10, range 4 west. Ezekiel Tainter was a native of Vermont. He went to Prairie du Chien in 1838, where he kept a public house, and also furnished the garrison with its meat for a time. He lived in this town about a dozen years, and then removed to Menomonee, and there spent the remainder of his days with his son Andrew. Mr. Tainter was a man of great energy, and somewhat eccentric in his manner. He was a Methodist, and one of the most zealous workers of that sect; he was extremely pious and devotional, and withal was a man who left an impression on the history of his town that will long survive.

In 1848 Sylvester Bacon and John Collins located on section 20, town 10, range 4 west, near where Gay's mill afterward stood.

Later, the same year, a young man named McBee, made a claim a mile and half north of the Tainter claim, but only remained a few weeks. Of the pioneers above mentioned, Mr. Sterling and Mr. Collins alone remained in 1883, as the only representatives of the early settlers.



Among others who came in during 1849 was William Clark, brother-in-law of John Collins. He came from Indiana, leaving his family there till three or four years later. He entered no land, but passed the winter in the pine regions above, and summers was engaged in cutting cord wood and other kinds of manual labor. He was a man of coarse organization, and subject to intoxication. He died about 1867.

Truman H. Wilder was one of the pioneers of the town of Utica. He was born in New York, in 1814. He removed to Ohio when a boy, with his parents, and thence to Illinois, when a young man. In 1848 he came to Vernon Co., Wis., with his family. He lived one year at Liberty Pole. The next year (1849), he came to Crawford county, and entered forty acres of land on section 22, town 11, range 5 west, on which he located with his family. This farm he afterwards increased to 100 acres. He was a carpenter by trade; for twenty-five years justice of the peace of this town, and notary public twenty years. He died Oct. 11, 1870. His widow, Nancy (Carver) Wilder still owns and occupies the homestead. She was born in Knox Co., Ohio, in 1821. She has had eleven children, eight of whom were living in 1883.

During the years 1850, 1851, 1852 and 1853, but few came in for settlement. But in 1854 the tide of emigration set in and the town was rapidly settled up.

Joseph P. Tower and John Woodburn came in the fall of 1853, and settled near the present site of Towerville.

In 1854 came J. H. Tower, Sr., and his two sons, Thomas W. and J. H. Tower, Jr., together with their families. The Tower family, were all well known and influential citizens, of whom all but one had left the town prior to 1882.

John S. Rogers lives on section 25, where he settled in 1854, on eighty acres of government land. He also took up a homestead which he still owns. He is a native of Pennsylvania,

but came here from Dane Co., Wis. His father also came here in 1854 and located the place afterward owned by Peter N. Peterson, where he died in 1865.

D. S. Clement settled on section 25, town 10, range 5 west, in 1865. He came to this county in 1855, entering land in the town of Freeman in 1856 and remained there till his removal to the town of Utica.

David M. Twining lives on section 28, town 10, range 4 west. He came to this town in 1854, and the following year, entered land on section 15, town 10, range 4 west, which he still owns. He is a native of Broome Co., N. Y., and is a gunsmith by trade. He served about three years in the War of the Rebellion, in the 31st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

Other settlers of 1854, were Edwin Thompson, Henry E. Bennett and Cyrus Bennett.

The earliest Norwegian settler of the town of Utica, was Nels Peterson, who in the spring of 1855, located on section 22, town 11, of range 4 west. A little later in the season of the same year in which Mr. Peterson settled (1855), Andrew Oleson settled on section 27, town 11, range 4 west.

H. Nephome settled that year, also, on section 34, same town and range. Mr. Nephome was born in Norway, in 1816, came to Dane county, this State, in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Nephome have seven children—Eric, Peter, Christopher, Ann, Herman, Bertie and Maria. The three oldest were born in Norway.

The first of the Irish settlement, in the town of Utica, was made by Michael Dolan, came to Rising Sun, April 19, 1855.

John Burns dates his settlement from 1854, also. He came from Vernon county too. His brother Andrew, came at the same time, but subsequently moved to Liberty Pole.

James Wheelock came about that date, from Milwaukee, and still resides where he first settled.

Henry C. Newcomb of Mt. Sterling, is the son of P. S. Newcomb, who came to Crawford

county in October, 1856. He was born in Wyoming Co., N. Y., in 1812. He came to this county, from Waukesha, this State, and purchased of Eliza Sterling the forty acres on which the village of Mt. Sterling now stands. He moved from this county to Kansas, where he died. Henry C., was born in Wyoming Co. N. Y., in 1838, and came west with his father; served three years in the army, during the Civil War, as a member of the 31st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He married Susan Moon, a daughter of King Moon, who came to this county in 1858. Mr. Newcomb is a dealer in furs, and also a manufacturer of gloves and mittens.

#### EARLY EVENTS.

The first couple married in the town of Utica were John Mitchell and Maria Flick. The exact date of their marriage is unknown. Another early marriage was that of John Collins, who married Rebecca Clock. The next couple married were Margin Mitchell and Sarah Tainter. These weddings all occurred before 1850.

The first birth was that of Napoleon B., son of William T. and Eliza Sterling, born April 16, 1843.

The first death was that of Louisa Sterling, daughter of William T. and Eliza Sterling, who died Sept. 15, 1844. She was buried on section 24, town 10, range 5.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The first election held in the town of Utica, after the town had received its present boundaries, was held at the house of William McAuley, April 3, 1855. The following officers were elected:

John H. Tower, chairman; Abel Copper, William McAuley, supervisors; Joseph B. Tower, clerk; J. H. Brightman, collector and treasurer; Cyrus Peck, superintendent of schools; Clayton Rogers, John E. Howell, T. H. Wilder, T. Y. Skinner, justices of the peace; A. B. Spencer, John S. Rogers, Wilmot Marsden, constables; John Woodburn, assessor; J. D. Gay, sealer of weights and measures.

Officers of 1883: Peter N. Peterson, chairman; Ole H. Helgerson, N. A. Tallman, supervisors; George W. Davis, clerk; George B. Mitchell, treasurer; Samson Turner, assessor; L. D. Layton, J. A. Curran, A. Sears, C. R. Rounds, justices of the peace.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first school in the town was taught by Abigail Crillis, in a slab shed, on section 14, town 10, range 5 west, in the summer of 1856.

The next school was taught by Elizabeth McAuley, daughter of William McAuley, at her father's house; this was taught the summer succeeding the one held in the slab shed. Some claim it was in 1856, others are of the opinion that it was a year later.

In 1883 the town comprised the following school districts: Seven full districts and five joint districts.

In district No. 1 the school house is situated on section 29. The number of pupils on enrollment list, ninety-one.

District No. 3, at this date, had a scholarship of twenty-six. The district is provided with a good frame building on section 9, town 10, range 4 west.

District No. 4 is provided with a school house situated on section 2, town 10, range 5 west. Number of pupils, eighty-six.

District No. 5 includes the village of Mt. Sterling. The school house is on section 26. Number of pupils, seventy-nine.

District No. 6 has an average attendance of forty-seven. The school house in this district is located on section 1, town 10, range 5 west.

In district No. 7 the school house stands on section 11, town 10, range 5 west. Number of pupils, fifty-four.

District No. 14 is located on section 22, town 11, range 4 west. The number of pupils in this district is fifty-eight.

Joint district No. 5 is provided with a house in the town of Freeman. The number of pupils from the town of Utica is twenty-three.

Joint district No. 11 is made up of territory from Clayton and Utica. Number of pupils from the latter named town, thirty-six.

Joint district No. 13 is supplied with a poor school house on section 22, town 11, range 4 west. There are forty-seven pupils belonging to this district from the town of Utica.

Joint district No. 14, comprising parts of Freeman and Utica, has its school building in the town of Freeman. Number of pupils from Utica, one.

Joint district No. 15 is a part of the towns of Seneca and Utica. Its building is located in the former named. Number of pupils from Utica, twenty-four.

#### RELIGIOUS.

Besides the numerous Church organizations mentioned in connection with the village histories of the town of Utica, there are two outside of the villages—the Norwegian Lutheran Church and the Roman Catholic Church. The first Norwegian religious services in this town were held at the residences of the early settlers in 1857. The first were conducted by Rev. H. A. Stubb, pastor of Coon Prairie Church, Vernon county. The first church building erected by this denomination was a log structure, built on section 22, town 11, range 4 west, in 1859. This building was used for church purposes until the present church in the town of Franklin, Vernon Co., was built, where the congregation then attended. In 1871 the number of families belonging to the Lutheran Church having so increased, that an additional church building was required, and the distance to the church in the town of Franklin being too great for many families, it was arranged to hold religious service in the Congregational church at Mt Sterling. In 1875 the present church building was erected. It is located on section 11, town 10, range 5 west. The congregation attending this church is a large one, comprising most of the families in this town and those from other towns who find it more convenient to attend

here. The cost of the church building was about \$4,000.

The first Roman Catholic services in the town of Utica were conducted by the Rev. L. Galthier, of Prairie du Chien, at the house of Patrick Finnigan, on section 22, town 11, range 5 west, in April, 1855. Between thirty and forty families comprise the congregation. Rev. Galthier held services occasionally for a number of years. A German priest whose name is not remembered, also came occasionally. Another priest, Father Seife, held services a few times. In the spring of 1857, a log church was erected, and the first pastor mentioned was the first to conduct services in this church. He was an earnest, energetic priest, and was well known throughout this section of country. The first pastor who was settled over the people here was the Rev. O'Connor, who was pastor for about four years. He was followed by Rev. Patrick Murphy, who remained two or three years. Father Montagne, who came about 1879, was pastor during the building of the present church edifice, which was built the following year. This is a frame building on section 22, town 10, range 5 west. Cost, about \$25,000. Then came Rev. Michael Heiss who was succeeded by the Rev. Constantine De Druste.

The next priest was Father B. DeGoey. Then came Father Collins from Seneca, who held services about six months, followed by Rev. John Collins. Then came Rev. J. J. Burns and Rev. J. B. A. Conroy, who was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Gabriel Momo.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are three burying grounds in the town of Utica. One of these is situated on section 25, on the farm of William McAuley. Another is located at Towerville, and the third, on sections 35 and 36, town 10, range 5 west, on the farms of Messrs. Stearns and Willet. The land constituting the first mentioned was deeded by Mr. McAuley to the school district in which he lived. The first burials there were a

child of Mr. McAuley's named Allen Hess, and a German whose name is unknown, who was looking up a location; he was taken sick at the house of Mr. McAuley and there died. These interments both occurred in 1856.

The cemetery at Towerville was first used by the Tower family and afterward used by the public in general. The first burials here date to about the same time as those in the cemetery just mentioned. These two cemeteries in 1884 were being used but little, except by those who already had friends buried there.

The principal burying place of the town was first used in 1870. This ground was deeded by Messrs. Stearns and Willet, to the Utica and Seneca Cemetery Association. The first burials within these grounds were removals from the cemetery on section 25. In addition to these places of burial, there were Church cemeteries in connection with both the Catholic and Lutheran Churches; also several private burial places.

#### VILLAGE OF MT. STERLING.

This village takes its name from the mound so called in honor of the first settler, Mr. Sterling. This mound is situated just east of and adjacent to the place, which is located on section 26, town 10, range 5 west. The land upon which the village is platted, was entered by William T. Sterling, in the name of his wife, Eliza Sterling, in 1855. The land was sold by its original owner to Truman Folsom, in 1856; it was again transferred to P. S. Newcomb, and from him to Cyrus Bennett, by whom the village was laid out in 1858. The only building on the land contained in the plat, at the time it was laid out, was a shanty owned and occupied by Mr. Newcomb and his family. Mr. Folsom, already mentioned, erected the first building in which he lived, and also kept a small stock of goods, and consequently must be given a place as the first merchant of the place.

A man named Swift was the earliest blacksmith of the village.

In the autumn of 1868, A. E. Mills erected a wagon and blacksmith shop. He employed George Shop and A. B. Williams as wagon makers.

The first shoemaker was A. C. B. Vaughan, who was postmaster of the place in 1883.

The postoffice at Mt. Sterling was established in 1851. William T. Sterling was appointed first postmaster. He was succeeded by the following in their proper order: C. C. Bennett, Truman Folsom, James H. Jewell, Dr. Frederick Corfe, Aaron Cook and A. C. B. Vaughan, who received his appointment in 1879, and is still (1884) in office.

#### CHURCHES.

There were three Church organizations within the village in 1884—Methodist Episcopal, Congregational and Universalist. The first two mentioned have buildings and maintain regular services.

The first services of the Congregational Church held at Mt. Sterling were conducted by the Rev. John Sherwin in 1863. Mr. Sherwin was at that time State agent of the Congregational Church in Wisconsin. He at that time organized a society, which was called the First Congregational Church at Mt. Sterling.

Those who united with the society at that time were: Mrs. Mary Radcliffe, Joel Robb, his wife, Mrs. Jane Robb, John M. Gay, Mrs. Sarah Gay, Priscilla Gay, Isaac Rounds, Mrs. Lucy A. Rounds, Thomas Allen and his wife, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Lydia Sherwood.

First officers were: John M. Gay and Joel Bobb, deacons; John M. Gay, clerk.

The first pastor was the Rev. L. D. Radcliffe. He preached for the society about three years. He was a man well liked and of fair ability. He is now living in Pennsylvania. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Peter Valentine.

The church edifice was erected in 1863. It is a frame building, and cost about \$2,000. Since its completion, \$400 have been expended in improvements. The society at present is

not a large one, many members having died and others removed. Marcus Nickerson is the present deacon, the pastor officiating as clerk. Present members, fifteen.

Rev. Peter Valentine has been pastor of the Church since Nov. 1, 1868. He is a native of Lancashire, England, where he was born in 1810. He began preaching when twenty-seven years of age as an Independent Methodist preacher, which he continued till 1842, when he came to the United States. Preached in Pennsylvania several years before coming to this State. Was ordained as a Congregational minister in 1864, in the town of Wheatland, Vernon county, by the Rev. John Sherwin. His wife, Alice Pollit, was also a native of England. They have two children, a son and a daughter.

Probably the first Methodist service held in the town of Utica, was conducted by the Rev. C. A. Wirech, in 1854, at the house of Ezekiel Tainter, but whether there was a class formed in the town as early as that date, is not certain, though it is highly probable that such was the case, as there were several Methodist families living in the town at that time.

The circuit which included this town at the time, consisted of a large area of territory, and services were held infrequently for a number of years. The second preacher on the circuit was the Rev. John Knibbs, in 1856.

The following is furnished by Rev. John Knibbs :

"I was sent in September, 1856, to the mission which included the town of Utica; I found the country new and rough, and the people few and far between. I can hardly remember where I preached first, but I think it was at the double log tavern of William McAuley, who I believe still resides at Mt. Sterling. If I remember aright, my first class was formed at Bro. Ezekiel Tainter's, or "Uncle Zeke," as he was generally known; whether a class was then formerly organized or whether, like Topsy, it "grew" I cannot now remember. We had

several good Methodist members in that region, who came principally from Ohio.

"Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur, Mr. and Mrs. Tallman, Mr. Roger's family, and two brothers named Peck. There were several others whose names I do not remember. The minister appointed by the conference to succeed me, was brother T. C. Clendenning, now of Rock River Conference, but I have long since lost sight of our Church in that region of the county.

"You ask for some account of my experience while traveling the circuit in the stormy winter of 1856-7. Well, it was a very chilling experience to say the least. I began my mission work in September, and had traversed the county quite thoroughly before winter set in. I had ten preaching places, besides several classes to visit. On the 22d of December, 1856, I started from Prairie du Chien, and preached at Bridgeport in the afternoon of that day. In the evening I went to Stukeville. During the night a hard snow storm came on and I was shut in with no entertainment for myself or horse. So in the morning I started for the house of J. F. Haskins, in Haney valley, but the storm increased and a crust an inch thick formed on the snow. My horse's legs were cut and bleeding and he refused to go further, so I left him and undertook to find a house on foot; but the intense cold and darkness confused me and I wandered about during five days and four nights, at the end of which time I was nearly exhausted. On the fifth day I found Eagle Points saw-mill, Mr. Ralph Smith, proprietor. There I was received and most kindly cared for. On the eighth day, mortification having begun, my left foot was amputated, and I was taken the same day to Prairie du Chien and kindly cared for by Mr. Alonzo Pelton, Drs. Benedict and Mason, and many others. Dr. Benedict afterward said that if my system had contained a particle of alcohol, I would not have survived the first night of my exposure. Many at that time lost their lives who were exposed but one

night to the intense cold. This part of my experience I have ever cherished as a valuable temperance lesson."

The Rev. T. C. Clendenning, who succeeded Rev. John Knibbs, was assisted on the circuit by the Rev. Isaac E. Springer.

The church building at Mt. Sterling, a frame structure, was the first Methodist church in the town. As late as 1867 Mount Sterling was in Batavia circuit. In 1868 it belonged to Seneca and Brookville circuit. There is no record of this church to be found extending back further than 1870, at which time the Rev. McKay was the pastor, who removed in 1872, and was succeeded by Rev. O. Burnett, who removed in 1874; then came Rev. Thomas Crouch, who removed in 1875 and was succeeded by Rev. Robert Smith, who remained two years. E. F. Bunce was appointed in 1877 but did not accept the appointment, when L. L. Wooley was appointed as supply, and Isaac C. F. Nuzem, preacher in charge, who remained till 1878 and was succeeded by William McMillan who remained one year. Rev. John Avery was appointed in 1880 and served two years. Rev. Edward McGinley was appointed in 1882, and was succeeded by Rev. James Barnett, in 1883.

In February, 1881, Rev. I. Eberhart delivered a course of lectures at Mt. Sterling on universalism. Services were held here occasionally thereafter, but no organization was effected till the spring of 1883, when a society was formed and the organization called the First Universalist Church of Mount Sterling. The society contains about thirty members.

The Rev. S. N. Cussett has preached for the society, and the Rev. A. Vedder is the present pastor.

#### SOCIETIES.

In 1883 there were two secret societies in the village—a Good Templars' Lodge, whose charter dates Feb. 27, 1878, and the Patrons of Husbandry, which was organized July 8, 1874.

#### BUSINESS HISTORY.

Truman Folsom sold the first goods in the village, and was soon succeeded by J. H. Jewell,

who remained in business a number of years. He kept a general stock and built him up a fine trade from the surrounding country. Prior to 1865 the firm was known as Jewell & Case, and during that year they were succeeded by Cook & McAuley, who in turn were followed by Cook & Haggerty. In 1868 this firm was changed to J. A. Haggerty, and three years later, to Haggerty & Co. The next change was in 1880, when N. Grant became proprietor, and a year later the firm was styled N. Grant & Co. In 1882 the firm became J. Smethurst.

Brightman & Stearns commenced a general merchandising business in 1866, and closed out about three years later. This firm was succeeded in 1881 by Bennett & Haggerty, who were still in trade in 1884.

A drug business was first established at Mt. Sterling in 1860, by Dr. Fred. Corfe and E. Packard. During the Rebellion, these gentlemen both served in the Union army, and their business discontinued till the return of Dr. Corfe, when another drug house was opened under the firm name of Corfe & Sherwood; the firm later became Corfe & Packard, the latter being a brother of the first mentioned Packard. It was again Corfe & Sherwood; then Corfe alone, who was succeeded in 1881 by W. A. Sherwood, who is still (1884) in business.

The pioneer hotel of the village was kept by Lorenzo B. Layton, who began keeping what is known as the Sherwood House. He afterward built the Layton House, which he operated till his death, which occurred in 1883.

The business of the village in December, 1883, was represented as follows: Haggerty & Bennett, general merchants; Smethurst & Case, general merchants; A. E. Mills, blacksmith; A. E. Spencer, wagon-maker; A. Sears, hotel; Sherwood & Son, Sherwood House; A. C. B. Vaughan, postmaster; Mrs. C. G. Green, milliner; W. A. Sherwood, drugs; C. B. Porter, physician.

#### VILLAGE OF TOWERVILLE.

This little hamlet is situated on the north-east quarter of the northeast quarter of section

4. The original owners of the plat were J. H. Tower, Jr., and T. W. Tower. It was laid out by these gentlemen and their father, J. H. Tower, in July, 1854; the plat was surveyed by William McAuley. A grist mill and two dwelling houses were erected that year by the proprietors of the village. In 1855 a store building was erected by J. H. Tower, Jr., who started the first store in the place; a blacksmith and cooper shop were started the same year by G. J. Freeman. The grist mill was built on Tainter's creek, which flows hard by the village and furnishes a good supply of water for any ordinary mill power. This mill was owned and operated by J. H. Tower and his sons for about three years. It then passed into the hands of other parties, and finally became the property of Matthew Stunkard, now deceased. There lingers in and around this moss covered mill much of historic interest, as it was the first mill in Crawford county, outside of Prairie du Clieu.

A saw-mill was built in 1858 by J. P. Tower, about fifty rods below the grist mill. He owned and operated the mill till 1865, when it was abandoned. At this date, 1884, Mr. Tower lives in Dickinson, Co., Iowa.

A woolen factory was built by Edward Davis in 1859. The size of the factory was 30x50 feet, two stories in height. The machinery consisted of a custom carding machine, one broad and two narrow looms, and set of manufacturing cards. Mr. Davis operated this mill for two or three years, when it was burned. He began re-building soon after the fire, and before its completion he formed a partnership with Thomas W. Tower. The factory was finally completed; it contained a set of custom cards, set of manufacturing cards, and two jacks. The mill also had 480 spindles, two broad and three narrow looms. Mr. Davis sold his interest, before its completion, to George M. Wilber, and two years later Mr. Tower became sole proprietor, and for several years did a thriving business. He finally leased, or

rather sold conditionally, to Clark Lawton; but the flames again consumed it in 1873. It was again re-built by David K. Lester. In 1883 it was owned and worked by George C. Davis, who did custom work, such as carding and manufacturing yarns.

A postoffice was established at Towerville in 1856. John H. Tower was the first postmaster commissioned. He was succeeded by his brother, Thomas W. Tower. Archibald Sears came next, and was succeeded in 1883 by Mrs. A. E. Helgerson.

For about twenty years Towerville was considered a place of much importance. Among the prominent men of the village in its palmy days were J. H. and T. W. Tower. The Tower family came here from Underhill, Vt., and were indeed men of much prominence in Crawford county at an early day. The father, J. H. Tower, died in 1856. In 1883 J. H., Jr., was a resident of the town of Freeman, and Thomas W. lived in Sumner, Bremer Co., Iowa, whither he removed in 1879. At the present date (1884) the business of the place is represented as follows:

Thomas Helgerson, general store; George C. Davis, woolen mill; Mrs Katherine Stunkard, grist mill; Amanda Helgerson, postmistress.

#### JOHNSTOWN.

In 1860 a mill dam was built on Tainter's creek, on section 9, in town 10, range 4 west, and the frame for a saw-mill got out; but high water washed away the dam, and other losses were sustained, and the project thereby abandoned. The parties thus interested were: John Mitchell, D. R. Wilkinson, John E. Howell, J. P. Mitchell and William Restler. A store was opened by the company composed of these gentlemen; it was operated by William Restler for a time. Samuel Hutchins also run a store here for some time. This place took its name from John Mitchell, one of the above named company. But owing to the abandonment of the mill project, business was altogether discontinued.

About a half mile above, on the same stream—Tainter's creek—is the grist mill of George M. Wilbur, which was built by him in 1876. It is a frame structure 26x36 feet; has two run of stone, with an ample water power to drive all necessary machinery.

#### GAY'S MILL.

The first mill built in the town of Utica was a saw-mill; it was located on the Kickapoo river, on section 28, town 10, range 4 west. It was erected by James B. Gay about 1848. It was owned and operated by Mr. Gay till 1859; on the death of Mr. Gay in that year, it went into the possession of his legal heirs, and was run till about 1878, after which it was removed. This mill manufactured lumber from pine logs rafted down the Kickapoo river from the vast pine region above; and also cut into lumber the various kinds of hard timber found in the vicinity. This point on the Kickapoo river has long been an important one for milling purposes. The excellent water power found here attracted the attention of the pioneers, and it was promptly utilized by Mr. Gay, who was one of the earliest lumbermen of this county.

In 1865 the present flouring mill at this point was erected by J. M. Gay, a brother of James B. Gay, and George M. Wilbur. Mr. Wilbur owned a half interest in the mill for about two years, when he sold out to Mr. Only, a son-in-law of Mr. Gay. The mill building is a frame structure 30x40 feet, containing two run of stone, with six feet fall, and an abundant supply of water at all seasons of the year. In 1883 the building was raised from a story and a half in height to three stories. The mill is now owned and operated by Thomas W. Gay and S. H. and J. A. Robb.

This mill has always done an extensive business, and is noted for the excellence of its work. The present proprietors are energetic business men. The business of the mill is annually increasing. Improvements are in contemplation and will soon be made, which will enlarge the

capacity of the mill, and give increased facilities for doing excellent work.

The term, "Gay's Mill," is used to designate quite a settlement at this point. Mr. J. Steffy has a store here, and keeps a general stock of goods. There are also several societies and a Church organization with headquarters at this place. There is an organization of the Congregational Church here dating from September, 1871. Rev. P. Valentine has officiated as pastor since its organization. The following are the names of those who united to form the society: N. A. Tallman and wife, C. R. Rounds and wife, T. W. Gay and wife, Mrs. F. G. Robb, Mrs. M. Hartwell, Mrs. S. E. Angier and Fannie D. Gay. The first officers were: C. R. Round, secretary; N. A. Tallman and T. W. Gay, deacons. The society at present consists of thirteen members.

Another organization is a Post of the G. A. R., known as O. D. Chapman Post, No. 80. It was organized April 25, 1883. The applicants for a charter were: N. A. Tallman, Edward Gray, George R. Rounds, Theodore Harding, Phillip H. Moon, A. H. Frank, J. S. Dudley, Cyrus W. Shafer, C. R. Young, G. R. Twining, John Lowe, J. G. Richardson, Darius Welch, R. W. Abbey, Edwin Thompson, Charles R. Rounds, O. P. Rounds and O. D. Chapman. The officers of the lodge are: Edwin Thompson, P. C.; Edward Gray, S. V. C.; N. Tallman, J. V. C.; C. R. Rounds, A. D. J.; G. R. Twining, Q. M.; A. B. Purrington, surgeon; John Lowe, chaplain; A. H. Turk, O. D.; G. R. Rounds, O. G.; Darius Welch, S. M.; John G. Richardson, Q. S.; Cyrus W. Shafer, C. B. Quite a number have joined since the organization, and the post is in a flourishing condition. The time of meeting is the first and third Wednesday in each month, at two P. M.

A Good Templars' lodge was organized a number of years since, with the following charter members: F. G. Robb, T. W. Gay, P. R. Gay, Rissie Hartwell, M. D. Hartwell, M. A. Tallman, S. E. Angier, Callie Hartwell, C. R.



Rounds, E. C. Dunham, Rosanna Dunham, O. P. Samson, N. A. Tallman, J. J. Collins, T. W. Samson, Belle Davis, E. F. Stearns, A. B. Samson, J. A. Neaville, W. H. Winn and S. P. Hartwell. The charter was granted July 15, 1871. The lodge was organized by J. A. Neaville, of Grant county. First officers: J. A. Neaville, W. C. T.; R. R. Gay, W. V. T.; T. W. Gay, W. C.; E. F. Stearns, W. S. E. C.; S. E. Angier, W. F. S.; Rissie Hartwell, W. T. R. E. A.; N. Samson, W. M.; Belle Davis, W. B. M.; Callie Hartwell, W. I. G.; W. J. Collins, W. O. G.; Mrs. M. Hartwell, W. B. H. S.; F. G. Robb, W. L. H. S.; C. R. Rounds, P. W. C. T. This is one of the most prosperous Good Templars' lodges in the county. A commendable interest has always been manifested in the lodge.

Officers serving in 1883: M. H. Robb, W. C. T.; Rose B. Rounds, W. V. T.; Fannie Gay, P. W. C. T.; C. R. Rounds, W. C.; Jennie Robb, W. R. S.; Charles A. Hoffman, W. A. S.; Cora Gay, W. F. S.; Fred Twining, W. T.; Joe Gay, W. N.; Carrie Robb, W. D. M.; Bert S. Girdler, W. G.; Mahlon Twining, W. S.; Abbie Lewis, W. R. H. S.; Etta Shafer, W. L. H. S. There is also an organization of The Patrons of Husbandry, at this point for which a charter was granted in August, 1874.

#### VILLAGE OF RISING SUN.

This village is situated on section 22 town 11, range 5 west. The original owner of the site was T. H. Wilder. The place was never platted, but lots were sold by Mr. Wilder beginning about 1867, when men named Sink and McCullough purchased lots, and erected thereon residences and a blacksmith shop. The village was named from the following incident: When Mr. Wilder first located there, it had been raining for two weeks, and the sun had not made its appearance during all that time; but the next day, the sun made its appearance, and from this the locality was named "Rising Sun." In 1868, a residence was built by John Demming, who used the basement as a saloon. Robert Herrick erected the first store, and sold

therein the first goods. Herrick did an extensive business till 1871, when he failed, well off, as it is generally believed, and removed to St. Helena, Neb. Thomas Jerman was in business here about one year; he is now in the drug business at Veroqua.

James Curran conducted a store from 1872 till 1875, with N. McKie, of Viroqua, when he became a partner in the business. It was run in the firm name of McKie & Co., till 1877, then N. McKie became sole proprietor, who sold to Rogers in 1877, present proprietor.

John Demming and Guilford conducted business about one year in the firm name of Demming & Guilford, who were succeeded by M. A. Demming, who is still in business.

Michael Dolan engaged in business in 1878, and is still in business.

Truman H. Wilder kept the first hotel.

John Demming kept hotel for a number of years.

James Curran is the present hotel man.

Ove Larson, present blacksmith, came in 1877; has done a prosperous business.

The shoemaker of the place was Bent E. Eide; he came in 1874, left in 1878, and is now in Dakota.

The postoffice, Rising Sun, was established in the spring of 1852 or 1853, and T. H. Wilder was appointed postmaster. The following are the postmasters who have succeeded Wilder, in proper order: Neal Mines, Robert Herrick, Thomas Jerman, John O'Connor, James Curran, Henry Rogers who was succeeded by James Curran, who was appointed the second time. Mr. Curran resigned Jan. 1, 1884, and Henry E. Rogers was appointed.

#### PROMINENT CITIZENS.

One of the prominent early settlers of Utica town is William McAnley, whose settlement dates from 1854. Mr. McAnley resides on section 25, town 10, range 5 west of the fourth principal meridian. He was born in 1809, in Wythe Co., Va. When twenty-two years of age he removed with his parents, Daniel and

Margaret McAuley, to Indiana, living near Indianapolis for nearly four years. In 1835 he moved to Iowa (now Grant) county, in what is now Wisconsin, but which then belonged to Michigan Territory. He entered that year 240 acres of land near the site of the village of Lancaster. In 1836 he worked a farm for A. T. Boyce, which farm included the present site of Lancaster, where, the following winter, the county seat was located. The three following years Mr. McAuley resided with his parents on the land which he had entered upon coming to Grant county, after which he sold out and returned to Indiana. Returning soon after to Wisconsin, he purchased again his old farm in Grant county, resided there until 1854, when, as before stated, he came to Crawford county. He entered several hundred acres of land in this county, at the same time purchasing of William T. Sterling forty acres of land on which to build a home. His father died in Grant county, his mother in Crawford county. Mr. McAuley married Jane Megee, a native of Kentucky. They have had thirteen children, seven of whom are living—Rhoda A., wife of George Shoup; Margaret E., wife of Col. C. M. Butt, of Viroqua; Martha, widow of Henry McDougal; Sarah, wife of John A. Haggerty, of Mt. Sterling; Rosalia R., wife of Thomas W. Tower, an early settler of this town, but now a resident of Bremer Co., Iowa; John and Auley. Mr. McAuley is one of the most prominent and successful farmers and stock-raisers in the county. He gives much attention to the improvement of cattle by the introduction of thoroughbred stock. He now owns about 700 acres of land. Mr. McAuley has given considerable attention to surveying, being a practical surveyor. One son, William, died Dec. 26, 1883, aged twenty-eight years.

II. A. Sherwood was born July 5, 1834, in Saratoga Co., N. Y. He came to Crawford county with his father, Isaac Sherwood, in 1854. In 1855 he entered 200 acres on section 26, town 10, range 5 west, where he now owns a

farm of 340 acres. The fall of the same year, 1855, Mr. Sherwood began to make improvements, breaking seven acres and beginning the erection of a house, which was completed the next spring. He continued to occupy this house until 1875, when he erected his present residence. It is one of the finest farm residences in the county, costing \$2,500. Mr. Sherwood married Lydia C., daughter of Rev. Henry Maynard, an early settler of Columbia Co., Wis., now a resident of Lodi. Mrs. Sherwood was born at Bloomington, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood have had six children, four of whom are living—Isaac H., Orrin A., Edgar E. and Herbert L.

Aaron C. B. Vaughan, postmaster at Mt. Sterling, settled in Crawford Co., Wis., in 1854, locating on Copper creek, in what is now Freeman town. He resided there on a farm three years, then came to Mt. Sterling, and engaged in the boot and shoe business, in which he continued, except during his absence in the army, until 1879, at which time he was appointed postmaster. Mr. Vaughan was born in 1821, in Clinton Co., N. Y. He moved from New York to Rock Co., Wis., from there to Iowa, and from Iowa to Copper creek, now in the town of Freeman. He married Catharine Johnson, a native of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan have two children living—Daniel and Content. Mr. Vaughn enlisted in 1862, in the 31st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving until the close of the war. He took part in the siege of Atlanta, was with Gen. Sherman on his march to the sea, and participated in the battles of Aversburg and Bentonville. His son, Anselm E., accompanied his father into the army, being a member of the same company. He died in the hospital at Columbus, Ky. He was a young man highly respected for his upright and generous character, paying strict attention to his duties as a soldier, and a friend to soldiers and his country. He was married a few days before enlistment to Cornelia Brockway, an estimable young

lady, who was left to mourn the loss of a true and faithful husband.

Peter N. Peterson was born in Norway in 1842. His father, Nels Peterson, was the oldest Norwegian settler in Utica town, having come to this town in 1855. He is still living on section 22, town 11, range 4 west. Mr. Peterson enlisted Oct. 2, 1861, in the 12th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving till August, 1865. He was in active service all the time, participating in all the campaigns and battles in which his regiment was engaged. His first location of land was on section 22, town 11, range 4 west. In 1873 he located on section 33, in the same town and range, where he still lives. Mr. Peterson is now serving his fourth term as chairman of the town board, and is at present chairman of the county board of supervisors. Mrs. Peterson is also a native of Norway. They have seven children, three sons and four daughters.

Edwin Thomson is a native of Sussex, England, born July 6, 1830. He came to the United States with his father in 1842, and settled in Madison Co., N. Y. In June 1845, the family settled in Columbus, Columbia Co., Wis., locating on land which the father continued to occupy until his death in 1880. In 1854 Edwin Thomson entered land on section 25, town 10 north, of range 5 west, where he still resides. He was married Jan. 13, 1852, to Alma A. Folsom, a native of Vermont. In June, 1855, with his family and his wife's father and mother, Henry S. Bennett and Cyrus C. Bennett and their families, he removed to Utica town and made a permanent settlement near Mt Sterling. He enlisted on the 9th of August, 1862, in company A, 31st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, for three years; joined the 20th army corps at Marietta, Ga.; was at the siege of Atlanta, and accompanied the corps on that famous march to the sea. He participated in several serious engagements, was wounded at the battle of Benton Hill, March 19, 1865, and was discharged on the 27th day of September 1865, at Madison, Wis. Some two

years after his return from the war, his wife died. He then married Mrs. Catharine Bennett, the widowed wife of H. S. Bennett, who enlisted in November, 1864, in company D, 18th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and died at Jeffersonville, Ind., July 14, 1865, aged thirty-five years. She was a native of Ireland. Her parents died in her native country, and she came with the other children of the family to the United States in 1847. In the spring of 1854 she married H. S. Bennett, and they removed, with three other families, to Crawford Co., Wis. Mrs. Thomson had three children by her first husband.

Thomas Adams was born in county Armagh, in the north of Ireland, in 1820. His parents were respectively of Scotch and English descent. He came to the United States in 1851, residing for a time in New Hampshire. He went from there to Vermont, but returned to New Hampshire in a short time, where he purchased some land. In 1856 Mr. Adams came to Crawford Co., Wis. In 1866 he settled on section 14, town 10, range 5 west, where he now resides. Mr. Adams is a thoroughly practical farmer, and has one of the best farms in the town. It contains 240 acres, 121 of which he purchased of Joseph E. McCrillis, and fifty-one of Joseph R. McCrillis, son of Joseph E. The remainder he purchased of various parties. But a small portion of his land had been improved when he came here. He now has a fine residence, built in 1881, also a good barn and an excellent well. His well is 245 feet deep, producing an abundant supply of excellent water. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Oliver A. Caswell is a native of Connecticut, born in 1826. When five years of age he removed with his father, Oliver A. Caswell, Sr., to Ohio. He was there reared to agricultural pursuits, and when a young man learned the carpenter trade. He married Sophronia Thompson, born in 1830. Mr. and Mrs. Caswell have three children, one son and two daughters—E. A., Emerette E., wife of Ambrose Miller; Es:

tella, wife of Rev. I. N. Wooley, now pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Viola, Vernon county. Mr Caswell came to Crawford county in December, 1856, settling on his present farm, located on section 24, town 10, range 5 west. He purchased his farm of Charles B. Thompson. When Mr. Caswell bought it no improvements had been made, the farm consisting entirely of oak openings. He formerly had 440 acres of land, but, having given 120 acres to his son, he now has but 320 acres. Mr. Caswell is a democrat in politics. He was elected to the House in the Legislative session of 1871, his opponent being George Sweizer. He was deputy sheriff of Crawford county for twelve years, his first appointment being in 1859. He has also served as chairman of the town board.

Leonard Hammerly was born Aug. 4, 1827, in Switzerland, where he grew to manhood. In 1855 he came to the United States with his family. His father, Joseph Hammerly, died in Switzerland. In 1856 Mr. Hammerly came to this county from Green county, where he had resided a short time. He first located in Seneca town, this county, where he lived until 1864. He has owned a part of his present farm in Utica town since 1856. He has 154 acres of land and has made all the improvements himself. Mrs. Hammerly is a native of Switzerland. They have seven children—Ellen, Fred, Kate, Ann, Joseph, Leonard and Adam, all of whom were born in Crawford county. Mr. Hammerly is a successful farmer and a man well known throughout the county. He has been a democrat most of his life, but has latterly favored the principles of the green-back party. He has held several township offices.

David K. Lester, of Towerville, has been a resident of Crawford county since Oct. 16, 1856. In the spring of 1857, he located on 120 acres of government land, on section 33, town 11, range 4 west. He improved about eighty acres of that farm, then sold it to John Olson, who fail-

ed to pay for the same, and the farm reverted to Mr. Lester; he subsequently sold it to Ole Samuelson, and it is now owned by Ole Halverson. Mr. Lester was one of the early blacksmiths at Towerville, having engaged at that trade with Samuel Kirkpatrick, in 1856-7. He engaged in farming till 1864, when he embarked in the mercantile business with Thomas Tower, in which he continued for three years. He was then town clerk for four years; went to Johnstown in 1869 and in company with Charles and David Mullikin engaged in the building of water wheel patterns; returned to Towerville in 1870, and built the store house now occupied by Thomas Helgerson, which he afterward sold to Archibald Sears. Mr. Lester has been twice married. His first wife was Maria M. Peck, a native of Pennsylvania; who died in 1869. In the fall of 1872, he went to Pennsylvania and was there married to Rachel M. Bigelow, who died in August, 1877. On his return from the east in 1873, he purchased the burned site of the woolen factory at Towerville, and erected a temporary building for a carding machine. He built the present factory in 1874, which he ran till 1879, then sold the same to the present owner, George W. Davis. Mr. Lester has four children; two sons and two daughters by first marriage, and a daughter by his second wife. Mr. Lester was born in Pennsylvania in 1811, where he lived till 1856. When a young man he learned the trade of a blacksmith. His father, Andrew Lester, was a native of Connecticut.

Archibald Sears, owner and proprietor of the Mount Sterling House, at Mt. Sterling, has been a resident of Crawford county since 1856, at which time he settled at Towerville. Previous to the war he was engaged in farming. He enlisted, Aug. 10, 1861, in the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry (Eagle regiment), serving until September, 1865. He participated in all the battles and campaigns in which the gallant 8th was engaged. The record of this regiment shows twenty-four battles, and a distance trav-

eled of 14,814 miles, over 4,000 of which was traveled on foot. At the close of the war Mr. Sears returned to Towerville. In the fall of 1883 he purchased the Mount Sterling Hotel property, and is now operating this hotel. He was born in Wayne Co., Penn., in 1828. Mr. Sears married Mary E. Sherwood, a native of Pennsylvania. They have five children—Irene Jane, Amanda E., Kate P., Genevie E. and Earnest E.

Nelson A. Tallman was born Dec. 14, 1826, in Susquehanna Co., Penn. His father, William Tallman, was also a native of Pennsylvania, and there died. Nelson, when ten years of age, accompanied his step-father, H. Borst, to Broome Co., N. Y., and from thence to Michigan three years later. Abba Borst, his mother, died when he was but fourteen years of age. He came from Michigan to the territory of Wisconsin in 1846. He was married June 17, 1849, in Dodge Co., Wis., to Mary A., daughter of Solomon Hartwell, who removed from Saratoga Co., N. Y., in 1844, with his family, and settled in Waukesha Co., Wis. Two members of the family, a son and daughter, died within three months after locating there. On July 1, 1856, Mr. Tallman, wife, niece and a nephew of Mrs. Tallman, whom they had taken to raise, came to Crawford county, settling on section 21, town 10 north, of range 4 west, where he still lives. He entered forty acres of his farm, and bought forty acres of Thomas W. Tower and William McAuley, making all of the improvement himself. Mr. Tallman worked at the carpenter and joiner trade for James (better known as "Uncle Jimmy") Gay, getting his flour and meat of him. Times were very hard, and the nearest market was thirty-two miles distant—Prairie du Chien—flour \$5 per cwt., and pork twenty cents per pound. Mrs. Tallman taught the three first terms of school in that place; the first term taught on subscription, getting \$8 per month and boarding herself. She took her pay in anything that could be spared, even to sauerkraut or a grindstone. They were so

anxious to have a school district organized, and their children at school, that Mrs. Tallman walked about half a mile with only a foot path through the snow, which was very deep and the weather severely cold, teaching in a vacated log house, with a fireplace of "ye olden time," where the face would be scorched and the back frozen at the same time.

In October, 1856, the first religious service held in the place was conducted by the Rev. John Knibbs, who held regular appointments once in four weeks, at Mr. Tallman's house, the latter and his wife being the only professors of religion in the Gay's Mill valley. On one occasion, Rev. Knibbs, while coming to his appointment, lost his way, and was out five days and four nights without food or drink, resulting in the loss of one foot.

In 1857 Mr. James Gay put the first bridge across the Kickapoo river, Mr. Tallman doing the work. In 1857 he was elected justice of the peace, and held the office until his resignation, in August 1862, during which time he performed several marriage ceremonies, once walking seven miles and received \$1 as a marriage fee, seventy-five cents of which he had to pay for recording the same. On Aug. 13 1862, he enlisted in the 31st regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving until the close of the war. He was in active service during the entire term of his enlistment, being in all the battles and campaigns in which his regiment participated, his health being greatly impaired by this rough service. Mrs. Tallman lost two brothers in the war—J. D. and Stephen K. Hartwell (the latter dying in a Confederate prison), and the nephew they had taken to live with them, at the age of seventeen, gave his life for his country, having resided with them eleven years. He was buried at Cape Girardeau, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Tallman having no children of their own, have adopted a daughter—Clara S., and opened their doors for six homeless ones. In 1860 Mrs. Tallman's mother, Clarissa Hartwell, came to live with them, remaining until

her death, June 26, 1864, in the seventy-seventh year of her age. Mr. Tallman erected his present residence in 1866.

Rev. George M. Wilbur was born at Rising Sun, Ohio Co., Ind., May 1, 1818. He received such education as the common schools of the country afforded, and was reared to the occupation of a farmer. In the fall of 1855 he came to Crawford Co., Wis., entering the farm now owned by E. F. Howe, in Utica town, locating with his family in the spring of 1856. He had forty-five acres of this farm improved when he sold to Mr. Howe in 1864. He afterward located at Gay's Mill. He was also employed in the woolen mill for several years, at Towerville. In 1876 he settled in Johnstown, this town. Mr. Wilbur married Charlotte Buchana, also a native of Ohio Co., Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur have three children—Mary A., Theron R. and Charlotte M. Mr. Wilbur was one of the pioneer preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Crawford county. The first sermon he preached was at the house of William McAuley in 1856. He was then a local preacher, traveling and preaching at various points on the circuit. He was for several years employed by the presiding elder to supply the places of circuit preachers who had left their charges. Mr. Wilbur continued to preach quite regularly until coming to Crawford county, when he became proprietor of the mill at Johnstown.

Mahlon G. Mitchell was born in Sparta town, Livingston Co., N. Y., in 1833. His father Benjamin Mitchell, died in New York State. Mr. Mitchell is a nephew of John and Marjoram Mitchell, who were among the first to locate in this town. He settled in 1866 on section 24, town 10, range 5 west, on a farm which had been entered by O. D. Stearns in 1854. His farm contains 160 acres of land, on which Mr. Mitchell has made the most of the improvements. Mr. Stearns, however, had made a beginning before it passed out of his hands. Mr. Mitchell is an excellent farmer, and his farm is in fine condition. His buildings are among the

best to be found in the town. He married Lucy Sampson, a sister of O. D. Stearns. She was born near Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Mitchell is a brother-in-law of M. J. Steffy, of Utica town. They came to Crawford county together in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have two children—Rosecoe S. and Howard P. John P. Mitchell, a brother of Mahlon G., came to this town in 1856. He was born in 1831, and is now living at Johnstown, this town. His farm was entered by his uncles—John and Marjoram Mitchell.

J. Steffy, merchant at Gay's Mill, was born in Dansville, Livingston Co., N. Y., in February, 1831, where he grew to manhood. His father, Isaac Steffy, was a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. Steffy married Mary Mitchell, Sept. 7, 1857, also a native of Livingston Co., N. Y. He came to Crawford Co., Wis., Dec. 8, 1857, locating on a farm in Clayton town. In 1866 he came to Utica town, purchasing a farm on section 16, town 10, range 4 west, where he still lives. He has been interested in the store at Gay's Mill since February, 1880, at which time it was established under the firm name of Steffy & Co. Since October, 1882, Mr. Steffy has been alone.

George W. Davis, owner of the woolen factory at Towerville, and the clerk of Utica town, is the son of Edward Davis, who came to Towerville in 1856, purchasing a half interest in the grist mill of Thomas W. Tozier. He afterward erected a woolen mill on Tainter creek, at Towerville, which was burned down and rebuilt by Mr. Davis. George W. Davis was born in Ohio. He married Elizabeth, a daughter of David K. Lester. They have two children—Olla B. and Goldie. Mr. Davis is serving his fourth term as town clerk.

Ole Halverson is one of the prominent and well known early settlers of Utica town. He resides on section 33, town 11, range 4 west, where he settled in 1858. Mr. Halverson is a native of Norway, born Dec. 11, 1822. He came to the United States in 1857, and entered

government land as his first forty acres. He has been quite successful, and is now one of the largest farmers of Utica town, having 570 acres of land, 200 of which is improved, all by himself. Mr. Halverson married Betsy Larson in 1856, also a native of Norway. They have seven children—Louis O., born Dec. 26, 1856; John O., April 17, 1859; Elena, July 28, 1865; Henry Ellert A., Sept. 17, 1868; Anna Marie, Feb. 22, 1871; Olay, Jan. 6, 1873, and Albert O., Feb. 26, 1876. Mr. Halverson represents the Hekla Insurance Company. He is also agent for the American Red Star and Anchor line of steamers.

T. W. Gay, one of the owners and proprietors of what is known as Gay's Mill, is the son of J. M. Gay, who came here in 1858 and purchased the saw-mill property, then here. In 1865, with George M. Wilber, he erected a grist mill. He died at Prairie du Chien in February, 1877. T. W. Gay was born in Princeton, Ill., in 1835. He has resided here since 1859, coming to this county from Iowa. He enlisted in August, 1862, in company A, 31st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving until the close of the war. He participated in all the important battles and campaigns in which the 31st regiment was engaged, including the siege of Atlanta and Sherman's march to the sea. Mr. Gay married Priscilla Robb, daughter of Joel Robb. Mr. and Mrs. Gay have three children—Fannie, Cora and Joel. Mr. Gay's brothers-in-law, James A. and Samuel H. Robb, are associated with him in the ownership of the mill and adjacent property, including a fine stock farm.

Charles R. Rounds was born in Clarksfield, Huron Co., Ohio, but his parents returned to Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., where they had formerly resided, when Charles was but an infant. He was reared in New York State. In 1859 he removed to Bell Centre, Clayton town, Crawford Co., Wis., and in 1861 located on a farm. His father came to Clayton town in 1870, where he resided until his death, in 1879. Mr. Rounds

enlisted, in 1864, in the 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, company L, serving until the close of the war. He married Marianna Twining. They have three children—Mary A., Arthur H. and Rose B. Mr. Rounds' farm now contains 215 acres of land, situated on sections 28, 29 and 33, town 10, range 4, west.

Darius W. Briggs was born Jan. 28, 1820, in Jefferson Co., N. Y. When fifteen years of age he removed with his father to Ohio, settling near Cleveland. In December, 1863, he came to Crawford Co., Wis., purchasing a farm of the State of Wisconsin, located on section 24, town 10, range 5 west, where he still lives. Though not a pioneer of this county, Mr. Briggs traveled quite extensively through the territory in 1845. He traveled at that time through Racine, Janesville, Beloit, Fort Atkinson, Beaver Dam, Co'umbus, Broadhead, Milton, Aztalan, Watertown, Waterloo, Lake Mills, Whitewater, Milwaukee and Waukesha. The above named cities would at that time compare in size with Mt. Sterling of to-day. He made a settlement at Elba, Dodge county, but returned to Ohio in 1819. Mrs. Briggs was a native of Olmsted town, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs have two sons—Edward P. and Ernest G. Mr. Briggs was a member of the assembly in the State Legislature for the session of 1871, being elected by the republican party, to which organization he belonged. He has also been assessor and clerk of Utica town. He is a carpenter by trade, an occupation which he has followed for many years. His farm now contains 122 acres of land.

A. E. Mills, one of the prominent business men of Mt. Sterling, has resided in this town since the fall of 1868, at which time he erected a wagon and blacksmith shop. Mr. Mills built the house in which Mrs. Hutchins now lives, and, by giving employment to a number of men in his wagon-making and blacksmith business, was instrumental in the building of several other residences. He conducted both branches of business for a number of years, doing quite an ex-

tensive business, giving employment to six or eight men. In 1879 Mr. Mills sold his wagon shop to A. E. Spencer, who now conducts that branch of the business. Mr. Mills was born in Wayne Co., N. Y. When five years of age he went with his parents to Michigan. He learned the blacksmith trade and resided in Michigan until 1865, when he, with his family, moved to this county, locating in Freeman town, where he purchased and improved a farm. He came from there to Mt. Sterling in 1868. Mr. Mills was married to Augusta Gregory, a native of Michigan. Her father, H. S. Gregory, came with Mr. Mills to Crawford county, with whom he lived until his death, in 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Mills have nine children, seven of whom were born in Crawford county. Mr. Mills' father, Ira Mills, was a native of New York State. He came here in 1873, and resided with his son until his death in 1878. His mother, Alzina (Randall) Mills, was born in Wayne Co., N. Y. She died in Michigan in 1847.

J. A. Haggerty was born in Blairstown, N. J., in 1841, being raised to agricultural pursuits. In April, 1866, he came to Mt. Sterling, engaging at once in the mercantile business, with Mr. Cook, under the firm name of Cook & Haggerty, succeeding the firm of Cook & McAuley. He continued in this business until 1875, when he devoted himself exclusively to the real estate business until 1881. Mr. Haggerty has also dealt considerably in live stock. His excellent business qualities, combined with a remarkable amount of energy, have made him a successful business man. He now owns twenty improved farms in Crawford county, averaging 100 acres per farm. He also owns valuable property in the village. He has a fine creamery in process of erection near the village, which will have a capacity of 3,000 pounds of butter per day. This, with a creamery of much less capacity, now being erected by J. S. Rogers, of this town, will be the first erected in Crawford county. Mr. Haggerty married Sarah C., daughter of William McAuley. They have three children

—Bessie E. J., born in October, 1871; Willie A., born in July, 1875, Clarence R., born in July, 1877.

Samson Turner was born in Leeds, Yorkshire, England, in 1836. When thirteen years of age he came with his mother to the United States, his father having previously died in England. He settled at St. Louis in 1849, where his mother died of cholera. After the death of his mother, he wandered from place to place, reaching La Crosse, Wis., in the fall of 1850, then a village of three houses. He passed the following winter on Root river, in southern Minnesota; came to Prairie du Chien in February, 1851, and worked for William Mahan. His first location was on government land, on the line of Crawford and Vernon counties, where he resided two years. Mr. Turner was married in 1860, and lived in Vernon county eight years; served in the War of the rebellion; was mustered out June 12, 1866; moved to the town of Utica April 1, 1868, locating on section 20, town 11, range 4. Mr. Turner married Louisa E. Bundy, a native of New York. They have six children—Ralph, Joseph, Sarah, Frederick, Alice and William.

James A. Curran, postmaster at Rising Sun, is a native of New York city, born April 9, 1836. When two or three years of age he removed with his parents to St. Louis, Mo., and in 1849 to Monroe Co., Ill. In 1863 he engaged in the mercantile business in Freedom, Ill. He afterwards returned to St. Louis, and in 1869 came to Wisconsin. Coming directly to Vernon county, he located at Viroqua, engaging for three years as clerk for N. McKie. He then came to Rising Sun, Crawford county, taking charge of a branch house for Mr. N. McKie, of Viroqua. Mr. Curran was appointed postmaster Oct. 11, 1872, and served for some years, then resigned. He was again appointed in 1881. He was town clerk for the years 1881 and 1882, and treasurer from 1877 to 1879. Mr. Curran married Margaret McCoe, a native of New York State.



Henry C. Lester was born in Wayne Co., Penn., in 1847. He came to Crawford Co., Wis., in 1874. In 1876 he purchased a farm of Charles Chauney and M. Robinson, located on section 8, town 10, north of range 4 west, where he now resides. His farm contains eighty acres. Mr. Lester was married in Pennsylvania to Anna D. Southard. Mr. Lester's father and brother, Orrin, also reside in this town. His father has a farm of 115 acres on section 9, town 10 north, of range 4 west, and Orrin Lester has 160 acres on section 17.

Thomas Helgerson was born in 1849, in Norway, being the son of Ole Helgerson. In 1869 he came to Utica town, Crawford Co., Wis., engaging in general mercantile business at Towerville. Mr. Helgerson had had considerable experience in business before coming here, having been a clerk for a mercantile house for a number of years. He married at Mt. Sterling Amanda Sears, daughter of Archibald Sears. Mr. and Mrs. Helgerson have three children—Harry, Archie and an infant.

Rev. Gabriel Momo, pastor of St. James (Catholic) Church, in Utica town, is a native of

Italy. He received his ecclesiastical education in Turin, province of Piedmont, being ordained priest in 1867. In January, 1875, he came to the United States. He was appointed pastor of the Church at Genoa, in Vernon county, in January, 1876, and in June, 1882, was transferred to his present charge. Father Momo is a highly cultivated gentleman, generous and kind to all. His friends are not confined to his own Church, but he is greatly esteemed by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

John Smethurst, of the firm of John Smethurst & Co., merchants, who succeeded Nicholas Grant in the spring of 1882, is the son of Daniel L. Smethurst, who settled in Seneca town in June, 1855, a sketch of whom will be found in the history of that town. Mr. Smethurst enlisted, in 1862, in the 31st regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, serving until the close of the war. His brother, Joseph, was a member of the same company. Another brother, James, was a member of the 43d regiment. Mr. Smethurst married Helen, daughter of N. Miller.



## CHAPTER XXVII.

## TOWN OF WAUZKA.

The town of Wauzeka, so-called from an Indian chief, is situated on the south line of the county, on the north bank of the Wisconsin river. It is bounded by the towns of Eastman and Marietta on the north; by the town of Marietta and the Wisconsin river on the east; by the Wisconsin river on the south, and the towns of Prairie du Chien and Bridgeport on the west. This town is composed of parts of five congressional townships, all of township 7, range 4, west, north of the Wisconsin river, except section 1; all of township 7, range 5 west, north of the Wisconsin river, and fractional parts of sections 4, 5, 6 and 7, of township 6, range 5; also section 36, township 8, range 5, and section 31 of the same township in range 4 west.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad passes through the town following the course of the Wisconsin river. A station called Wauzeka is situated on sections 8 and 17, in towns 7, of range 4 west, and on north bank of the Kickapoo river about half a mile from the junction with the Wisconsin river.

The general surface of the town is very broken being a series of ridges and intervening valleys, which lead to the Kickapoo and Wisconsin rivers. The soil is a heavy clay on the ridges with more of a loam mixture in the valleys.

About three-fourths of the town was formerly heavily timbered by the various varieties of oak, maple, hickory, elm, walnut, with much basswood and ash. The greater part of the more valuable timber had been consumed pre-

vious to 1880, although in places there may still be found many of the original forest trees. The best timber to be found as this date was that of a second growth.

The Kickapoo river flows in a very crooked channel through the eastern part of the town, and along its banks grows a fine quality of sugar maple.

The Grand Gris (Grand Gray) is the next stream of importance. This flows through the southwest part of the town, and in an early day, was noted for the abundance of speckled trout which it contained. The little Kickapoo river enters the northwest corner of the town, and flows southeast, emptying into a slough of the Wisconsin river, on section 23, town 7, range 4 west. Plum creek enters section 36, in town 8 of range 5 west, flows through that section and enters the Kickapoo river on the same section.

## SETTLEMENT.

From the most reliable information to be obtained, Jackson Foster was the first settler of what is now embraced in the town of Wauzeka. He came from Ohio in 1839 and settled on Grand Gris creek, and lived there several years. Both he and his wife died on the place they first settled on.

Henry Stuckey was the next to settle in the town. He came to Prairie du Chien sometime during 1838 and not long after made a claim, the greater part of which is on section 13, town 7, range 5 west. He was a single man at that time, but he began the improvement of his land, soon after erecting a log house in which he kept

"bachelor's hall." In 1841 he married, and remained on the place till his death.

George Sehlund settled on section 15, town 7, range 5 west, soon after Mr. Stuckey came, probably in 1839.

About 1840, Maj. William Wright, who was a major in the Black Hawk war, settled in the town with Judge Lockwood, and established Wright's Ferry, on the Wisconsin river. A number of years later, he married, and he and his wife remained at the ferry, till their death. He died in 1856, and his wife, about one year previous to that time.

But few settlers came in for the next few years. Previous to 1847, however, L. Geitz settled on Grand Gris creek, where he built the first grist mill within the town in 1853. He died in the town some years afterward.

John Thomas, Stephen Tainter, Harvey Green, and perhaps a few others, made settlement before 1847.

In 1847 came L. L. Lathrop, who located on section 10, town 7, range 5 west, where he still lived in 1884.

Bernhard Herrold located on section 13, town 7, range 5 west. He afterwards lived in the village of Wauzeka.

In 1849 Ralph Smith settled on Plum creek, where he engaged in milling.

Morton Seeley, was another settler of 1849; he located on section 2, town 7, range 4 west. The same year he built the second saw-mill in the town. The following year, 1850, he removed from the county.

At about the same time of Mr Seeley's coming, John Thomas settled on section 15, town 7, range 5 west.

The same season, came John Miller, who settled on section 10, town 7, range 5 west. He had been a soldier in the regular army. Several years after his settlement here, he died.

John McHarg located lands by warrant in 1849, which embraced the present site of the village of Wauzeka, but he did not settle till 1855.

Philip Steinbach settled on section 32, town 7, of range 5 west, in 1850, where at the present time (1884) he still lives. He was a Mexican.

In 1851 Herman Stuckey settled on section 15, town 7, range 5 west. He purchased of John Thomas; he resided in the town till his death. The family still (1884) own the home-stand.

John Berry was an early settler in the town.

From about 1852 the town settled very rapidly; the population being mostly of a German element.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first white child born in the town of Wauzeka was Mary L. Stuckey, daughter of Henry Stuckey. She was born August 21, 1842. She became the wife of Frank Chapek.

The first school was taught in the summer of 1850 by James E. Lockwood, on section 36, town 8, range 5.

The first regular school house was built of logs in the summer of 1853, in what is now known as district No. 3.

The first postoffice was kept by Henry Stuckey; this was established in 1854. Mr. Stuckey was the first and only postmaster, as the office was discontinued as soon as the railroad was built and the village of Wauzeka started, which was in 1856.

The first saw-mill was built by John Thomas and A. M. Miller, on Plum creek, as early as 1848. The only grist mill ever built in the town was erected by L. Geitz, in 1853, on Grand Gris creek; it was destroyed by a flood in 1876, and rebuilt by Mr. Oswald. The first goods retailed in the town were sold by Ralph Smith on section 36, in town 8, range 5 west, in 1849. These goods which came from St. Louis by way of Prairie du Chien, were sold to those in the neighborhood, and also to log men in the pinceries above.

#### ORGANIC.

The first town meeting in Wauzeka was held April 26, 1858, at which time the following were elected as town officers for that year:

John C. Berry, chairman; John McHarg, L. L. Lathrop, side board; Joseph Burlingame, clerk; Loren Barnes, assessor; Jesse R. Pratt, superintendent of schools. The above are the only officers on the records of the first election.

Officers of 1883: O. P. Vaughan, chairman; Christopher Walters, George Benner, side board; Charles Brandes, clerk; Jacob Wilhaber, assessor; Chris Rice, treasurer; L. C. Halstead, Patrick McKillip, Jasper Wayne, and John Steinbach, justices of the peace.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

At this date (1884) there are three full and five joint school districts in the town of Wauzeka.

District No. 1, joint with the town of Marietta, has thirty-seven pupils, and school property valued at \$320. The building is in a poor condition.

District No. 2 comprises the village of Wauzeka. The first cost of the school house in this district was \$4,500. Number of pupils of school age, 149.

District No. 3 is a full district; it has a poor school building, valued at \$45. Number of pupils, thirty-four.

District No. 4 has thirty-three pupils. This district is provided with a fair log house.

District No. 5 is a full district, which is provided with a good frame building valued at \$350. Number of pupils, thirty.

District No. 6 is a full district, having fifty-two pupils. The school house is a log building in a fair condition, valued at \$100.

District No. 8 is joint with the town of Eastman. Number of pupils, thirty-four. This district has a log house in a good condition, valued at \$300.

District No. 11 is joint with the town of Marietta. It is provided with a frame school house valued at \$150. Number of pupils from the town of Wauzeka, seventeen.

#### CEMETERY.

The only regular cemetery within the town of Wauzeka, was established on section 18, in 1872. There were a few private burying places;

but most of the remains were removed to this cemetery.

#### MILLS.

The first mill built in the town was erected by John Thomas and A. M. Miller, in 1848; they operated this mill a year, and sold to Ralph Smith, who run it ten years, during which time he cut large amounts of native lumber, together with the pine timber found on the head waters of the Kickapoo river.

Morton Seeley built a saw-mill in 1849. This mill was operated till 1880.

A small grist mill was built in 1853, by L. Geitz, on the Grand Gris creek, which a Mr. Oswald bought in 1865. This mill was burned in 1876, and rebuilt the same year.

#### COPPER MINES.

In 1860 copper ore was discovered by C. N. Mumford, on the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 26, town 8, range 5 west. The plant was not developed very extensively till 1884, when Messrs. C. N. Mumford, A. Eaton and J. J. Hollister, formed a company, and were mining a paying grade of "float" copper. Ninety tons of this ore, was shipped to Baltimore, and yielded about forty per cent. copper.

#### VILLAGE OF WAUZKA.

Wauzeka is the only village within the limits of the town. The original plat of the village is located on the north half quarter of section 17, town 7, range 4 west. This land was located by land warrants held by John McHarg in 1849. The warrant being obtained by Mr. McHarg for services in the war with Mexico. About the time of the completion of the Prairie du Chien division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, to this point, the above mentioned quarter section of land was purchased by H. L. Dousman, who, the same season, 1856, caused the plat to be surveyed. In 1857 an addition was made to this plat, on the west, by John McHarg. This part of the village plat being on section 18. The first dwelling house on the plat was built by the mill-

ing firm of Markham, Foster & Co., in the summer of 1856. This was a two and one-half story frame building. It was owned by the company till 1880, when it was sold to Isaac Johnson. Markham, Foster & Co. also erected the first store building in the place, and sold the first goods; this store was open, ready for trade, in the winter of 1856-7. It was located on block 19, and was occupied by the above named firm for many years, and finally purchased by John Chestnut, who removed it to a location near the depot. In 1884 it was used as the postoffice building.

A steam saw-mill was completed in 1856, by Markham, Foster & C, which had a sawing capacity of 15,000 feet of lumber per day. This mill worked up pine logs, which were rafted down the Kickapoo river, as well as the native timber which was found in great abundance at an early day. Markham, Foster & Co., run this mill about seventeen years, when they disposed of the machinery. In 1865, a steam-power saw-mill was built by Esterly & Kiser, of Whitewater; the mill was finally removed to Michigan.

The Wauzeka Manufacturing Company was organized in May, 1871. B. F. Fay was made its president; George L. Scott, secretary; B. F. Fay, treasurer; Captain Ira Bisbee, superintendent. This company engaged in the manufacture of staves and other cooper stock. The mill was completed and in operation in July, 1873. It is run by steam-power, given by a forty-five horse-power engine. The full capacity of this stave mill, is about 5,000 cords of stave bolts per year. They manufacture from the native timber, oak being principally used.

About 1875, Parker, Hilderbrand & Co., erected a factory, for the manufacture of tight barrel staves; this was located on railroad land below the depot, on the south side of the track. John Parker, of the firm, had charge of the works; this mill was operated about four years. doing an extensive business; but in 1882 was

removed to Aiken, Minn., on the Northern Pacific railroad.

In the winter of 1883-4, a steam saw mill was built by Curry & Co., which had a capacity for cutting 4 000 feet per day. It was propelled by a thirty horse-power engine.

A postoffice was established at this point in 1856, and Dr. Hutchinson was appointed postmaster; after several years he was succeeded by George Parker, who, after a few years, was followed by Jane Walker, and she, two years later, by Leo Oswald. Then came L. M. Culver, station agent; he was succeeded by Charles Brandes. It became a money order office Aug. 1, 1882. At the present date, 1884, Charles Brandes is postmaster, having been in office two years.

#### FIRST THINGS.

Markham, Foster & Co. opened the first store in the village. They also owned and operated the first blacksmith shop; it was located on the mill lot, block 14.

The first shoemaker was H. W. Silga, who came in about 1859. In 1882 he moved to Esterville, Iowa.

The first harness-maker was John Steinbach, who opened his shop in 1882.

L. M. Culver started the first general hardware store, also acted as station agent, and afterward was appointed station agent at Esterville, Iowa.

#### HOTELS AND OTHER MATTERS.

Charles Ozeos kept the first hotel of the place, in a building erected by John McHarg for a residence. Dr. Hutchinson afterward kept the same house, which he purchased of Ozeos. About 1865 Benjamin Wolf built a hotel, which was burned in the fall of 1871. Ira Lawrence built a hotel, which was destroyed by the fire just mentioned. James Mallery built a hotel about 1873, which was destroyed by fire a short time after it was completed. The hotels at the present time (1884) are the Ranney House and the Wauzeka House.

A boat yard was established at this place, on the Kickapoo river, about 1862, by Joseph Reynolds, proprietor of the Diamond Joe line of steamers, which ply the waters of the Mississippi river. The hulls of several steamboats were built here; also a number of barges. It was continued for a number of years, and was, indeed, quite an enterprise for the place, giving employment, as it did, to so many men who lived in the immediate vicinity.

In April, 1864, Dr. L. C. Halsted and Capt. H. Hubbel began the building of a steamer of quite large dimensions, the length being 265 feet. Mr. Hubbel failing to fill his part of the contract, the project was abandoned, and the incomplete boat sold to the Diamond Joe company, who used it as a wharf boat at the city of Dubuque.

#### CHURCHES.

In 1884 the village contained two church edifices—those were the German Lutheran and Roman Catholic. The former was built as a German Evangelical Methodist church, by that denomination, aided by liberal outside donations, with the understanding that it should be open for services to other denominations. By reason of removals, the Methodist class grew small, and in 1882 the building was sold to the German Lutherans, who number quite large. The first cost of this building was \$900.

A Roman Catholic church was finished in the fall of 1881. This is a frame building with a neat steeple surmounting it; the cost was about \$600. This church is supplied from Prairie du Chien.

#### SCHOOLS.

The village of Wauzeka is within school district No. 2. The first school was taught by Miss Gould, of Prairie du Chien. She commenced in a private house, owned by William Sinks. A school house was completed, however, before the term closed, and the school removed to it. The date of the commencement of this school was in May, 1858, and the school house was built by Ralph Smith. Among the

early teachers in this school house were Jane Scott, sister of Robert Scott, of Prairie du Chien, Electra Washburn, James Roach, Mr. Wood, Miss Jefferson, W. A. Vaughan, Dr. Halsted and Manly Mumford. The old pioneer building, in which these just mentioned taught, constituted the town hall in 1884. In 1871 the present school house was built; it is a frame structure, 30x45 feet, with twenty-two foot studding. The building is a neat looking one, being provided as it is with a belfry and bell; it is the first object that meets the eye of the stranger as he enters the place. This school has for years been looked upon as one of the best in Crawford county. The school is not as large as at one time in its history, but still it sustains a good reputation for its excellence. Two teachers have always been employed; the first in the new building were James Malcolmson and Emma Comstock. The former was employed two years as principal, and then followed by James Smith. James Bedicheck was principal for four years, and was accounted one of the most successful teachers ever had in the village. Lizzie McHarg, Mrs. Bedicheck and Helen Smith were teachers in the primary department during the time Mr. Bedicheck was principal.

E. W. Farnham succeeded Mr. Bedicheck, and was retained for three years; he was a graduate of Lawrence University, Wisconsin, and was a successful teacher. Under Mr. Farnham were Helen Smith and Mattie McDonald. In 1883 the schools were in charge of J. F. Burgess and Miss Mattie McDonald.

A large number of young ladies have been prepared for teaching at this school; among those are: Dora Jefferson, Maggie Smith, Flora McHarg, Helen Smith, Carrie Smith, Lizzie McHarg, Mamie McDonald, Mattie McDonald, Lillie Culver, Ester Lester, Fanny McHarg, Lottie McHarg, Agnes McHarg, Cora Rosencrantz, and perhaps others whose names have not been recalled. Also the following young men have

received a like preparatory course: John Fryer, William Lester and Asael Larson.

#### SOCIETIES.

An organization of the Temple of Honor was founded at Wauzeka in December, 1877. The following were the charter members: Dr. L. C. Halsted, J. N. Wayne, George Beier, Chester A. Pratt, W. J. Dougherty, E. M. Farnham, E. A. Bottom. The first officers were: Dr. L. C. Halsted, W. C. T.; J. N. Wayne, P. W. C. T.; E. M. Farnham, W. R.; George Beier, W. T.; C. A. Pratt, W. F. R.; W. J. Dougherty, A. R.; E. A. Bottom, W. V. T.

This lodge numbered at one time seventy members, and has been the cause of much good; a large number of confirmed drunkards have been rescued and reformed, who still remain true to their obligations, and many moderate drinkers have been restrained from further indulgence; while others have remained faithful for a short time and then broken their obligations and gone back to their cups. But on the whole the influence of this lodge has been for general good. Jan. 1, 1884, the lodge numbered twenty-three members; meetings were then held semi-monthly, on Saturday evenings.

Emery Lodge, of the order of Good Templars was organized at Wauzeka, Aug. 3, 1865. The first officers were as follows: S. J. Foster, W. C. T.; M. Washburn, W. V.; O. B. West, W. S.; S. Perry, W. T.; O. Washburn, W. M.; J. J. Austin, P. W. C.; G. W. Clark, W. C.; S. Roseneranz, I. G.; G. Racey, O. G.; Hellen Ormsby, R. H. S.; E. Burlingame, L. H. S.; M. L. Smith, A. M. This order had a charter membership of about twenty. The lodge continued about two years, the last officers of this lodge were elected in July 1867. Their names appear in their records as follows: J. McMillin, W. C. T.; H. Smith, W. V. T.; S. Clark, W. S.; J. Smith, W. F. S.; B. McMillin, W. T.; E. Ward, W. M.; E. McMillin, Jr., W. I. G.; R. Moore, W. O. G. The lodge suspended soon after this election.

Wauzeka lodge No. 33, of the I. O. of G. T. was organized Oct 20, 1879, by Bro. J. A. Johnson, State organizer. The charter members were as follows: R. Smith and wife, James McMillin and wife, M. Priest and wife, Mrs. N. A. Wright, Mrs. N. Johnson, George Beck, Mrs. H. Rosenerantz, Mrs. L. Lester, Rev. A. F. Thompson, F. Priest, Mrs. Jennie Walker, Mattie McDonald, Thomas Burlock, Mrs. S. Rosenerantz, Mrs. F. Lindig, L. Hayse, and Luey Lawrence. The total membership from the date of the organization till 1884, was 290. The present membership is thirty-five. The success of this lodge has been very good. There is also a juvenile lodge of this same order at this place, which is also doing a good work.

#### DIRECTORY—1884.

The following directory will show the business and other interests of the village of Wauzeka, Jan. 1, 1884:

Fay & Bisbee, manufacturers of loose and tight barrel staves and heading.

John Rausin, manufacturer of and dealer in hoop poles.

W. A. Vaughan & Co., dealers in general merchandise.

J. N. Feldman, dealer in general merchandise.

George Beier, dealer in boots and shoes.

J. G. Widmann, hardware.

Daniel Volmar, restaurant.

G. W. Ranney, proprietor of the Ranney Hotel.

Robert Moran, proprietor of the Wauzeka House.

W. G. Bailey, wagon-maker and carpenter.

Joseph Berren, blacksmith.

W. E. Hazelwood, blacksmith.

John Steinbach, harness shop.

Curry & Ranney, saw-mill.

Hattie Rosenerantz, milliner.

L. C. Halsted, justice of the peace and physician and surgeon.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

Ralph Smith, one of the pioneers of Crawford county, was born in 1811, in Berlin, Washington Co., Vt. In 1831 he removed with his father's family to Plainfield, in what was then a part of Cook, now Will Co., Ill., when he was appointed postmaster in 1837, and held the office three years. Soon after the arrival of the family at Detroit on their journey west, Mr. Smith, accompanied by his father and a hired man, started out on a tour of exploration on foot, with a view of finding a suitable place to locate, traveling the entire distance on foot from Detroit to Chicago, in 1831. There were no roads from Ypsilanti west, an Indian trail being the only guide to travelers, not a frame house having then been erected on the present site of the city of Chicago. His father located in Will county, and engaged in the mercantile business in Plainfield. Mr. Ralph Smith was engaged in business with his father; also built by contract a half mile of the Illinois and Michigan canal in the years 1833, 1834 and 1835. He settled in Crawford county in 1840, coming to Prairie du Chien. Soon after he leased the hotel in Lower Town, known as the Granite House, and owned by Alexander McGregor. Conducting this for about one year and a half, he leased for one year a farm of Judge James H. Lockwood. He then engaged in mercantile trade also took a contract from the government for transporting Indian annuities from Prairie du Chien to Fort Atchison, Iowa. During these years Mr. Smith was associated in business with different individuals. The firm being first known as Thomas & Smith, then Bugbee & Smith, and afterwards Savage & Smith. A. Savage succeeded Savage & Smith. Mr. Smith engaged in the lumber business, which he followed for twenty years. In 1849 he came to Wauzeka, and purchased the saw-mill on Plum creek near its entrance into the Kickapoo. In 1846 this mill was erected by Thomas and Miller, and was the first mill erected in Wauzeka. After two years he abandoned this mill and

built one further down Plum creek and nearer the Kickapoo, which he run for ten years, manufacturing lumber from the pine logs, which floated down the Kickapoo from the head waters of that stream. At the end of ten years he moved from Plum creek to the village of Wauzeka, where he and Markham Foster built a steam mill, continuing in the lumber business till 1876, when he closed out his milling business, and in September, 1877, took a residence in Dakota, Moody county. During his long residence in Crawford county, Mr. Smith has been known as a successful business man, also an honorable, upright citizen. He has been twice married, first to Betsy Goss, born in Montpelier, Vt., Sept. 18, 1814, and who died in 1845 at Prairie du Chien, leaving six children, all have since died except two—Charles and Hanor. In 1847 he married Sarah L. Lockwood, born in Champlain, Clinton Co., N. Y. They have eight children—Maggie L., John L., Hardeleine, Helen M., James H., Carrie H., Marian G. and Mary N. In 1874 Mr. Smith was appointed by the Chicago & Tomah Railway Company (narrow gauge) as a trustee and still holds that position.

Frank Chapek, who resides on section 14, is a son-in-law of Henry Stuckey, who made a claim of this farm in 1838. Mr. Stuckey was a native of Prussia, born Dec. 13, 1811. He was the oldest child of his parents, and came to the United States when quite a young man. He resided for several years in the State of New York, moved from there to Pennsylvania, then to Galena, Ill. From here he went to St. Louis, coming to Prairie du Chien in 1837 or 1838. He was married in Prairie du Chien, Aug. 15, 1841, to Mary L. Herdelbrink, a native of Hanover, Germany. Immediately after his marriage he located on the farm now owned by his son-in-law, Mr. Chapek. He had erected a house and made other improvements previous to that time, being one of the well known early settlers of this town. His general business was farming and dealing in live stock, though he



kept a hotel and store for some time, doing quite an extensive business during the construction of the railroad through this vicinity. The first hotel and store here were kept by Mr. Stuckey also the first postoffice, being called the Stuckville post-office. The office was discontinued when the office at Wauzeka was established. He died Nov. 20, 1880, at the homestead. Henry Stuckey from his habits of industry and frugality acquired additions to his farm, until it numbers 720 acres, the income of which supplies all his wants in his declining years. He was among the first settlers of the town, and assisted in the organization of the first school district in the town, and did what he could to foster and support the common school in which he always took a deep interest. His oldest child, wife of Mr. Chapek was born Aug. 21, 1842, at the homestead, and was probably the first white child born in the town. Mr. Chapek was born in Bohemia in 1851, and came with his parents to the United States in 1869. They have six children—Caroline Lily, Caroline Louise, William H., Frank J., Emma M. and Matthias F.

L. L. Lathrop was born Jan. 9, 1818, in Rutland Co., Vt. For some time prior to coming to Wisconsin he lived in Canada. Coming to Grant county from Canada, in 1837, one year later he took up his residence in Prairie du Chien. In 1847 he removed to Wauzeka, locating where he now lives, and owns a tract of 800 acres of land, on which has been found considerable lead ore, and investigations which he is now making promise further developments. He was married Nov. 3, 1844, in Prairie du Chien, to Samantha McCaptee, born in Chatauqua Co., N. Y. They have nine children—five girls (only two living) and four sons. In politics Mr. Lathrop is a republican, and a warm advocate of the principles of that party. He is a man of extensive reading, and though he has to a great extent lost his hearing, he is well informed on the general topics of the day.

H. L. Richmann, of the village of Wauzeka, is the son of Henry Richmann, an early settler, having settled in 1852 on section 13, town 7, range 5 west. He is one of the large farmers of this town, owning about 1,000 acres of land. H. L. Richmann is proprietor of a saloon in Wauzeka. He was born in Prussia in 1848, living at the homestead till May, 1880, when he came to the village and engaged in his present business. He married Julia Bower, of Marietta.

They have one daughter, Jennie, born Jan. 6, 1883.

John McHarg, one of the prominent and well-known early settlers of Wauzeka, was born in 1815 in Scotland. His mother died when he was a child, and soon after her death his father, with the family, moved to Ireland. When nineteen years of age, he emigrated to Canada, making his home with a brother who had preceded him by several years to America. In 1846 he went to Chicago. At that time the Mexican war was in progress, and enlistments were being made for service in the conflict. Mr. McHarg enlisted, Feb. 23, 1847, to serve till the close of the war. He was assigned to the 6th regiment, United States Infantry, and was honorably discharged, July 31, 1848, having participated in the battles of Cherubusco, Molino del Rey, Contreras and was present at the capture of the city of Mexico by Gen. Scott. He was a non-commissioned officer, filling the position of color guard. At the close of the war, he re-enlisted in the same command, which was stationed at Prairie du Chien. In 1849 his regiment was transferred to Fort Leavenworth, Kan. During his second term of enlistment, which was for five years, he held the position of sergeant, and was connected with the quartermaster's department. When his time expired, his regiment was stationed at Fort Riley, which was built by the command to which he belonged. The captain of his company, Charles Lovill, gave him, on his discharge from service, the following letter, which illustrates his life as a soldier: "He has always been a faithful, steady, and excellent non-commissioned officer, in which capacity he has served his entire term of enlistment, five years. Every confidence may be placed in his integrity.

"Signed, Capt. CHARLES L. LOVILL.

"Fort Riley, August 1, 1853."

Mr. McHarg has been a resident of Wauzeka, since May, 1855. In 1849 he had secured by a land warrant, obtained for service in the Mexican War, 160 acres, which includes the present

site of Wauzeka, but on the building of the railroad in 1856, he sold this quarter section to Mr. Dousman, who laid out the town. He then settled on section 17, where he has since lived, engaged in farming. In politics he is a republican. He was chairman of the town board of Wauzeka for ten years, and in 1880 was census enumerator for his district. He was married at Fort Leavenworth, while a soldier, to Fanny Ormsby, a native of Ireland, but reared in New Orleans. They have had twelve children, ten of whom are living—Ann, Rebecca, Lizzie, William, Agnes, John, Fannie, Cottie, Ormsby and Ella. Mr. McHarg and family removed to Dakota in the spring of 1884, a number of their children now residing in that territory.

Christian Rice was born in 1829, in Wurtemberg, Germany. When twelve years old, he lost his father, and in 1855 came to the United States, first living for two years in Fulton Co., Ohio, then moving to Green Bay. From there he went to Grant county, coming here in February, 1856, where he still resides. He was engaged in milling for many years, and for eighteen years has been head sawyer in the saw mill of Ralph Smith. Mr. Rice was married in Germany to Margaret Schuld. They have seven children, three sons and four daughters. He has been treasurer of Wauzeka since 1874, except an interval of two years. No present resident of the village was here before Mr. Rice.

James Degnan, Jr., was born Aug. 4, 1842, in Ireland, and came to the United States, with his parents in 1848. They lived in New York, five years, and removed to Jo Daviess Co., Ill., in 1853, where they resided till the spring of 1860, when they came to Crawford Co., Wis., and they settled on section 35, in the town of Eastman. In 1866 Mr. Degnan bought the farm where he lives, located on section 2, town 7, range 5 west, from Emily E. Lemons. He is one of the prominent citizens of Wauzeka, being elected town clerk in 1869, he served six years; was also chairman of the town board of Wauzeka, two terms. He married Mary E. Dunne, of Eastman.

They have eight children, two sons and six daughters

Charles N. Mumford was born in Lewis Co., N. Y., in 1816, and is the youngest son of a Revolutionary soldier. When three years of age, his parents removed to Fredonia Chautauqua Co., N. Y., where Charles grew to manhood. In October, 1836, he married Clarrissa Blackney, born in Columbia Co., N. Y. In 1839 his father's family, accompanied by himself, wife and babe, removed to McDonough Co., Ill., and followed farming there about three years. His father died the first year of their residence there; his mother died the same week. In 1841 Charles N. moved his family to Lafayette Co., Iowa, remaining there until 1845, when he came to Wisconsin, locating in town of Highland, Iowa county. During his residence in Iowa county, Mr. Mumford kept hotel at Mineral Point, and on Blue river. He did some mining, and served as sheriff of Iowa County being elected to that position, in 1852. Mr. Mumford was postmaster for several years at Blue river, and was one of the active men of that time and locality. He came to Wauzeka in 1860, settling on section 36, town 8, range 5, where he still resides; owns 160 acres of land, and is a much respected citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Mumford have nine children—Henry W., born in New York, April 16, 1838; Manley E., born in Illinois, Jan. 2, 1841; Corelelia, born in Iowa July 20, 1843, married Amos B. Foster, and died in Illinois, April 16, 1880; Adeline, born in Iowa Co., Wis., Sept. 17, 1846, wife of Jacob Lemons, of Missouri; Edward born in Iowa Co., Wis., Sept. 9, 1848, died June 12, 1872; Frank, born in Iowa Co., Wis., July 16, 1850, resident of Idaho; Mary C., born Oct. 16, 1852, wife of J. P. Kendall, of Iowa; Jane, born Aug. 18, 1855, wife of J. F. Beardsley, of Lone Rock, Wis.; Marian A., born Nov. 25, 1859, and is residing at home.

W. A. Vaughan is one of the two general merchants at Wauzeka, the firm name being Vaughan & Co. The business was established

in August, 1876. He is a son of J. A. Vaughan, who settled in the town of Wauzeka, in September 1860. J. A. Vaughan was born at Whitehall Vt., in 1803, where he lived till about twenty-five years of age. Then he removed to New York, and from thence to what is now Corry, Penn. From Pennsylvania, he removed to Cleveland, Ohio, and from thence, in the fall of 1845, to Kankakee, Ill. He came to Wisconsin in 1855, and located at Black Earth, Dane county, where he lived five years. He came to Wauzeka in 1860. He located near the village of Wauzeka, where he resided till his decease, Nov. 26, 1876. He was twice married; his first wife was a Miss Clark, also a native of Vermont; his second wife, Sarah Coon, whom he married in Pennsylvania. She was born and reared in New York, and died in this town in March, 1874. Mr. Vaughan had four children by first marriage, who grew to maturity, two of whom are still living—Annis, who lives in Kansas, and Esther, in Pennsylvania. He had six children by his second wife, five of whom are living—Sarah, Harriet, Washington A., Orlando and Lorenzo, all of whom are residents of this town, excepting Lorenzo, who lives in Dakota. W. A., was born in Ohio, in 1845. He enlisted in the War of the rebellion, in company A., 11th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving the last two years of the war. He participated in all the campaigns and battles in which his command took part, after he entered the army, including the siege and capture of Mobile; and was wounded in the charge on the defenses of that city. After the war, he was engaged in teaching and farming for a number of years. In 1872 he was elected register of deeds, for Crawford county, and at the expiration of his term of service, was elected clerk of the court, serving one term. His wife was Miss M. L. Koch, a daughter of John Koch, of Prairie du Chien. Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan have three children—Walter, Irving and Grace. He has also served as town clerk, and treasurer of this town.

O. P. Vaughan was born in Kankakee Co., Ill., in 1848. His father J. A. Vaughan removed to Black Earth, Wis., in 1855, and in 1860 moved to Wauzeka. In 1872 O. P. Vaughan married in De Soto, Wis., Delia Cutting, of Lansing, Iowa. They have five children—Orla P., born in 1874; Roy A., born in 1876; Lulu, born in 1878; Florence, born in 1880, and H. Leon, born in 1883. Mr. Vaughan resides on section 12, town 7, range 5, where he owns 160 acres, and also forty acres on section 18. He was chairman of the town board of supervisors in 1883, and is one of the most active men in public affairs in his town. He served in the 49th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, for about nine months in the last year of the war, being but sixteen years of age when he enlisted.

Andrew Miller was born in Genesee Co., N. Y., Feb. 8, 1827. When a child, his parents removed to Trumbull Co., Ohio; his father, Peter Miller, died there. Andrew was married in November, 1848, to Clarinda Courtwright, also a native of New York. In 1825, Mr. Miller went westward to Genesee Co., Mich., and followed farming there two years, then removed to Ingham county in the same State, and lived in that and Wayne counties until November, 1859, when he came to Wisconsin, and located at Mt. Hope, Grant Co., two years. In 1861, Mr. Miller came to Wauzeka, and bought land on section 7, town 7, range 4 west, improved it, making a good home, where he still resides. His mother, Betsy Miller, lived with him until her death, which occurred in 1865. They have two children living—Jay, born in Ohio, in 1853, and Emma, born in Michigan, in 1858. Margaret was born the year after they came to this town, and died in 1864; two infant children were buried in Ohio. Emma resides near her parents, and is the wife of William Atche-on. Jay married Oena Seely, Jan. 3, 1881. One child has been given to them—Stella, born Jan. 16, 1883. Jay lives on the old homestead with his parents. Andrew Miller is one of the striving men of Wauzeka. Mr. Miller and son Jay, own 177 acres of land, fifty of which are under cultivation.

Jacob Jetter was born Oct. 19, 1820, in Wurttemberg, Germany. He came to the United States in 1853, residing in New York a short time, then going to Canada. In 1859 he went west to the Pacific coast, visiting California, and the other States and territories. He settled in Carson valley, Nevada, where he erected a hotel and hot spring bathing house, living there six years. In 1867, he returned to Europe, visiting his old home in Germany, and came back in the spring of 1868, making his home in Wauzeka, and engaging in the saloon business. He married Mrs. Johanne F. (Keler) Christ, widow of George Christ, who died Jan. 24, 1880, leaving her with seven children—five sons and two daughters. Four of the sons live in Marietta and one in Boscobel. The oldest daughter lives in Illinois, the younger at home. Mrs. Jetter has lost three children, from her first marriage.

William Atcheson, Sr., resides on section 12, town 7, range 4 west. He owns, on this section, 210 acres of land, of which ninety acres are under cultivation. His son, William Jr., married Emma Miller, Jan. 4, 1881. They have one child—William A., born July 2, 1883. William Jr., lives with his father and conducts the farm; father and son are both intelligent and enterprising citizens. William Atcheson, Sr., was born in County Antrim, Ireland, June 26, 1823. In 1847, he embarked at Belfast for Quebec, and from there he went to Erin, Canada West, buying and clearing 100 acres of heavily timbered land. He was married in March, 1859, to Jesse Harris. They had born to them four children—William, born in 1860; Jane, born in 1862; John Henry, born in 1864 and James, born in 1867. Mr. Atcheson was bereaved by the death of his wife in 1869. The spring of the following year he came to Wauzeka, and made his present location. Jane was married Feb. 4, 1884, to Theodore Lamere, who owns a farm in the town of Eastman.

George Beier was born in 1850, in Mechlenburg, Germany, and came with his parents to the United States in 1865, they settling in Wau-

kesha, Wis. He learned his trade, that of boot and shoemaker, in Waukesha, coming to Wauzeka in 1873. In 1874 he established a general store of ready made goods, but still manufactured custom work, and does repairing. He is the only exclusive boot and shoe dealer in the place, carries a good stock of goods, and has a good trade. He was married April 4, 1874, at Waukesha, to Minnie Timmerman, born in Germany. They have four children—May, Walter, Salma and William.

John Nicholas Feldmann was born Nov. 18, 1843, in Schleiswig, Germany. When a boy he went to sea with an uncle, following the life of a sailor for seven years. In 1864 he came to the United States, accompanied by a sister and her four children, her husband having preceded his family to this country by four years, and engaging in Boscobel, Grant county. Mr. Feldmann engaged in ship building at Manhattan, near Boscobel for a time, after which he was employed on the Wisconsin and Fox river improvement enterprise. He came to Wauzeka in 1871, and was employed in the boat yard for a time, but did not come here permanently until 1876. Mr. Feldmann has one of the two general stores at Wauzeka, engaging in business Dec. 27, 1877, as successor to Leo Oswald, deceased. He is a wide awake, successful business man, and has a prosperous trade. He has been twice married. First, to Mrs. Anna (Schevert) Oswald, widow of Leo Oswald, who died Dec. 22, 1878, leaving one son—Alexander. His present wife was Maggie Harold, daughter of Bernard Harold, one of the early settlers of Wauzeka. They have two children—Charles and Mary.

John G. Widmann was born in 1851, in Wurttemberg, Germany. He learned his trade, that of tinning, in Lowell, Dodge county, with Henry Stokes, and came here in the spring of 1878. He is the hardware dealer of Wauzeka, including in his stock, general hardware, such as stoves, tinware, farming implements and sewing machines. His wife was Maggie Wagner, born in Saxony, Germany. Mr. Widmann was previously married to Dora Schmalenberger, who died in 1879, leaving two children—Louis and Emma. He also has one son by his present wife—John G.

# HISTORY

OF

# RICHLAND COUNTY,

# WISCONSIN.

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## CHAPTER I.

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### INTRODUCTORY.

Each year, as it rolls its resistless way along the mighty pathway of time, is fast thinning the ranks of the hardy pioneers, who, in their adventurous way, first broke the broad pathway of emigration into what is now the bright valleys and beautiful hills of Richland county. The relentless hand of death, pursuing his remorseless and unceasing avocation, is cutting down, one by one, the hardy and brave men and women who first established the "broad blaze" and footmarks of civilization and progress in this, then, great wilderness, whose only inhabitants were the cruel red man and his hardly less wild congener, the savage beast.

No tongue can tell, no pen portray the hardships and cruel vicissitudes of fortune endured in those early days by this little band of Argonauts, who, thirty-five and forty years ago, bidding adieu to the home roof-tree, in the older homes of civilization and comfort, turned their

backs upon it all, many of them forever, and wandered away into the broad domain of the mighty west, there to hew themselves out, literally, homes in the vast primeval solitudes.

The weather-beaten form, the furrowed brow, the prematurely hoary locks, are sad, yet eloquent evidences, that theirs was no holiday life, while weathering the storms and turmoil of pioneer life. Penury, hardship and often absolute want were their lot, while trying to conquer dame nature and establish homes for themselves and their families in this boundless wilderness.

Let us hasten then to put down the words, as they fall from their lips, of the grandly heroic deeds done in those early days that their actions may find the niche in history which they deserve. Let their words and deeds form a monument that shall long outlast the stone or bronze which must ere long mark the place of

their rest. Let their epitaph be: "They have builded better than they knew."

But before we take up the history of historic times it is the duty of the historian to record the facts as they have existed "down through the dim and misty vista of time, before man was. Therefore, it becomes quite necessary for us to ascertain something of the history of the earth beneath, as it was formed in the vast, pre-historic era, before man had lived and moved upon its surface; history not written upon the puny records of man, but grandly engraved by the hand of creation upon the rocks and granite of the everlasting hills; let us, therefore, begin at the

#### TOPOGRAPHY OF THE COUNTY.

Richland county, in common with nearly all the State of Wisconsin, presents many remarkable and interesting topographical features, and according to the now accepted theory, developed by patient research, of the highest authority, was once, in those far distant primeval days, buried far beneath the bosom of a broad and waving ocean. The boldly marked inequalities that mark its surface are due, in a large measure, to three different agents, acting at different times and under different conditions; these are:

1st. During that long cycle of time that existed between the emergence of the land from its bed in the vasty deep, and what is known as the drift period, the numerous streams and rivers were ploughing their beds deeper and deeper into the primeval rocks, and rendering the former level surface more and more irregular. The softer rocks being more readily eroded than the harder ones increased their unevenness, there being a constant tendency of the streams to follow the softer strata wherever the slope of the land favored, and as these run in a northerly and southerly direction generally throughout the county, the main streams have that general course. The little streams gathered into the larger ones are not unlike the branches of the forest tree as they gather into the parent stem. The erosion of this nature produced in

the unevenness of the surface a symmetry and a certain system easily recognizable. As this action upon the rocks occupied the period preceding the glaciers, we, for convenience, call it the pre-glacial.

2nd. The modifications of the surface constituting the first class of topographical features were produced by running water; those of the second class, which follows next in order of time, were formed by ice, in the form of glaciers, and by the various agencies, brought into action by their melting. The work of the ice was two-fold; first, in the partial leveling of the surface by planing off the hills and strewing the finely pulverized rock upon the surface of the valleys; second, in the creation of a new, uneven surface by the promiscuous heaping up the clay, sand, boulders and gravel, thus giving the land a new aspect. Among the features produced by this movement of gigantic mountains of ice, are parallel ridges, sometimes many miles in length, having the same general direction as the ice movement; hills of a rounded, flowing contour, like many found along the shores of the Wisconsin river; half embosomed rocky ledges cropping out of the hillside, like giant battlements on titanic castles; all of which combine to form a peculiar and distinctive contour of surface easily recognizable. All these apparent freaks of nature being due to the action of the ice are therefore denominated, glacial features.

3d. Subsequent upon the subsidence of the glacial period the streams resumed their wearing action, but under different conditions, and carved out a new surface contour, the features of which may be termed post glacial or drift.

There are no evidences of any violent disruptions of the earth's crust in the county, but the region has owed all its peculiarity of aspect entirely to the above agencies.

#### GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.

The county of Richland is situated in the southwestern portion of the State of Wisconsin, but one range of counties separating it from the line between this and the State of Illinois,

and is in the second tier of counties east of the Mississippi river. It is bounded on the north by Vernon and a small portion of Sauk, the latter also forming the eastern boundary; to the south lie Iowa and Grant counties, from which it is separated by the Wisconsin river; on the west it has Crawford and Vernon counties for a boundary. The general shape of the county is almost a square, except upon the southern border, where the line follows the sinuosities of the river, and is therefore of an irregular shape. Containing, as it does, some sixteen townships, it covers, in area, 620 square miles, or nearly 400,000 acres. The general character of the land is steep, bluff hills and fertile valleys, and streams course down each dale. When the white man first settled within its boundaries, the face of the earth was covered with a dense primeval forest, and much of the county is, to this day, heavily timbered.

Great timber masses of trees cover the hillsides and the ridges, and fully supply all the needs of the community for fuel, rails and building lumber. The principal varieties are: white oak, (*Quercus Alba*), black oak, (*Quercus Tinctora*), red oak, (*Quercus Rubra*), burr oak, (*Quercus Macrocarpa*), elm, (*Ulmus Americana*), white maple, (*Acer Dasycarpum*), sugar maple, (*Acer Saccharinum*), white ash, (*Fraxinus Americana*), basswood, (*Tilia Americana*), pine, (*Pinus Sylbesteris*), white and black walnut, and cherry. These timbers support one of the principal industries of this section of country, saw-milling.

The broken face of the country, while its climatorial effects are very pleasant, modifying the rigidity of a prairie winter, does not present the advantages of Illinois or Iowa, for large capitalists who desire to open up immense grain or stock farms. The peculiar topography of this county marks out its future destiny, to be divided up into small tracts, occupied by industrious, thrifty farmers, raising a comfortable living, and each having a surplus, sometimes large and sometimes small, to spare for invest-

ment in manufactures or any other scheme called for by the recourses or progress of the country. The principal attention of the rural population is engaged in the raising of stock, and notably that of sheep, although the dairy interests are by no means small. It is claimed that the county of Richland has the elements of greater superiority, in the rearing of this class of stock, over any other part of the State; besides the abundance of water power affords unusual facilities for investment in woolen manufactories.

The geology of this section of the State is marked throughout the county by the outcrop of Trenton limestone, near or at the top of the bluffs or hills; this strata varies in thickness from a few feet to twenty, and invariably overlies a substratum of Potsdam sandstone, which is of a friable nature, and varies from a light cream or buff color, through all the gradation of shades to a reddish brown. This rock is largely quarried, and is extensively used for building purposes. The Trenton limestone is well known for its caves and the fantastic shape it often puts on where exposed to the elements. One of these curious freaks of nature is quite noted throughout this county. We refer to the natural bridge, at the town of Rockbridge, of which the following description has been written by one of the early pioneers of the county:

"Richland county boasts a natural bridge, which, though of less pretensions than the Natural Bridge of Virginia, is still a curiosity worthy of an examination. It is located in the town of Rockbridge, the name being suggested by it. The visitor, in traveling north through the town of Rockbridge, is struck with the utter abandonment of style or purpose in the distribution of the rocks and ledges, until he arrives at this bridge, consisting of a mass of rocks about a half mile in length, from thirty to ninety feet in height, and varying in width (we should judge) from three to five rods at the top, but shelving so that it is much less at the bottom. Here a purpose might be assigned, and that, the damming up, or changing from its channel the

meandering west branch of the Pine river, though it heeds not the obstacle, but pursues its serpentine windings to the ledge and along its side, and seeks, successfully, for escape through an aperture beneath the massive structure, which its action and old Father Time have evidently enlarged beyond its primitive size. The arch is irregular, about ten feet high, exclusive of a narrow seam which extends far up toward the top, and some eighteen or twenty feet wide at the bottom; and has formerly been utilized by building a flume to run a grist mill."

While upon this subject, it were perhaps as well to give a description of some caves in the town of Sylvan, located on section 34, which have not been as yet thoroughly explored. One of these caves has long been known as the Bear Den, their lair, which had been supposed to be the extent of the cavern, having been often seen. The entrance to the cave, about 200 feet above the level of the creek (west branch of Mill creek), and from a sink hole of about ten feet in depth, is through an opening in the solid rock; the passage of twenty feet is high and wide enough for a man, followed by a wider one for forty feet further, after which, by change of direction, the Bear Den is reached; after this a passage of ten rods brings the explorer to a small hole, just a close fit for a man's body, through which they can climb, then making their way through a difficult passage of twenty rods, which will bring them to a round room, about thirty feet in diameter, from the center of which a small stream of water is constantly dripping. Two passages lead off from this room; the one from the left is through rock, ten rods, where a pool of pure, clear water, about two feet deep, is found; passing this, the end of that cavern is reached in about four rods; the passage leading from the right of the central room also discovers a pool of good water, larger than the other. After passing the water, at the distance of ten rods, a small opening is found, but what remains beyond has not been explored.

On the other side of the creek, from the caves above described, on the bluff, another, equally curious, has been visited. The two, or either of them, will well repay an exploration. The distance from the Centre is about fourteen miles, and it does seem curious that the citizens of that place are not more fully acquainted with these natural curiosities.

The county abounds in fine springs and pure streams of water, among the latter of which some swell to the dignity of rivers, while others rejoice in the nomenclature of creeks. Pine river, which is probably the most important, rises just over the line in Vernon county, traverses the entire length of Richland county in a general southerly direction, sometimes inclining to the eastward, watering the towns of Henrietta, Rockbridge, Richland, Buena Vista, and a small corner of Ithaca. The principal affluents are Indian, Melancthon, Soules, Hawkins, Fancy, Willow and Ash creeks, and the West branch.

The Kickapoo river traverses sections 6, 7, 18 and 19 of the town of Forest, its principal affluent, Camp creek, running from the east, westward across the whole town, and fertilizing with its waters the surrounding country.

The little Baraboo river rises in the town of Westford, flowing in an easterly direction, passes into Sauk county, crossing the county line in section 12.

The west branch of the Baraboo river just enters the county, in section 1 of the town of Westford.

Besides these rivers, several creeks of some considerable dimensions are found within the limits of the county, of which the most notable are: Knapp's creek, in the western part of Akan and Richwood; Eagle or Mill creek, which rises in the southern part of the town of Forest and flows southerly through the towns of Sylvan, Eagle and Dayton; Willow creek and tributaries, which water the eastern part of the county, and Bear creek, whose waters lave the



bosom of Ithaca and Buena Vista towns, and finally empties into the Wisconsin.

#### SOIL, PHYSICAL FEATURES AND CROPS.

Richland county is said to be within the mineral range. In the southern part some lead ore has been found, but always in small quantities, never in large enough bodies to induce the mining of it to be extensively entered into. Iron ore is, however, present in many places, and considerably good sized leads of it have been found at several points, the most important being at or near the town of Cazenovia. There has never been sufficient development, except at the latter place, to ascertain whether it exists in very extensive veins or not. Occasional specimens of copper ore have been also found, principally in the form of float or surface pieces.

The soil, throughout nearly the whole of the county, is found to be, in the valleys, a deep black, rich, alluvial loam; in some places, however, more particularly about the river bottoms, it is quite sandy. The soil upon the upland ridges seems quite often to be a species of clay, and is claimed to be the very best land for the luxuriant growth of winter wheat. The land upon some of the hill sides is too steep for cultivation, and the narrower ridges are deemed unsuitable for that purpose, but they are very valuable for grazing purposes and for the timber. About one-fifth of the territory is under cultivation; one-half to two-thirds of the remainder may be easily tilled; while very little will be lost to the economical, thrifty and intelligent class of farmers who make it their home.

The soil and climate are well adapted to the cultivation of wheat, oats, rye, barley, corn, potatoes, tobacco, hops, all kinds of vegetables, clover, timothy and other grasses, and plenty of all these are raised for home consumption, besides having a large surplus for export. Ap-

ples and grapes can be raised with more than moderate success, and all the small fruit thrive abundantly, while wild plums, blackberries, raspberries and strawberries are indigenous. An article published in the Richland county *Observer*, written by W. M. Fogo, thus speaks of the capabilities of the county:

"While the county is well adapted to almost everything known to agricultural economy, its best hold is stock raising. No section of the State is better adapted to it; the hills and valleys and crystal brooks affording convenient range, protection and water. Until recent years the farmers have paid but little attention to this industry, but latterly they are engaging in it extensively, and there are numerous fine herds and flocks, which are rapidly increasing in number and quality as the years roll on."

The industries of the county are: farming, in all its various forms; butter and cheese-making; lumbering, principally in fine hard woods; milling, manufacturing of various kinds, and nearly all of the varied mechanic arts and employments. There are some twenty grist, thirty saw, and two woolen mills within the county. Many good water powers exist all over the county, quite a number of which remain to be improved. The villages of the county are: Richland Centre, Lone Rock, Sextonville, Richland City, Orion, Eagle Corners, Port Andrew, Excelsior, Boaz, Viola, West Lima, Spring Valley, Woodstock, Rockbridge, Stalwart, Cazenovia, Loyd and Ithaca.

Of these Richland Centre is by far the largest, and is a thriving village and the county seat and commercial center, and is the terminus of the Richland Center branch of the Prairie du Chien division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad.

There are some thirty-three postoffices in the county, but Richland Centre and Lone Rock are the only money order ones within its limits.

## CHAPTER II.

## MOUND BUILDERS AND INDIAN OCCUPANCY.

The historian, looking back away down the dim corridor of time, perceives faintly in the mythical light of that far off, pre-historic period, before the red man's foot had desecrated its soil, the traces of a race who evidently peopled these hills and valleys of Richland county; a race who lived in semi-barbaric civilization, akin to that of the Aztec that Cortez found on the plains of Mexico; a race who lived and died and left no trace of their existence except the mysterious mounds and ridges that they have built or that mark the site of their ruined buildings; a race of whom no tradition even exists from which their history can be written; a people of mystery, and probably ever to remain so—the Toltecs or Mound-builders.

The high bluffs and the broad, level bottom lands along the Wisconsin river are in many places thickly dotted over with these reminiscences of a vanished race. In many localities these relics have attracted much antiquarian attention, and many theories have been advanced, plausible enough, but apparently only based upon vague speculation, accounting for their origin and purpose. The few slight traces of bones and implements, with, in some instances, pottery, are all that are left to tell us of a race that has been extinct for centuries.

In the neighborhood of Excelsior, Port Andrew, Richland City, and all along the Wisconsin river, these mounds are quite numerous, and are of various shapes and sizes; but we have failed to find that any attempt has been made to elucidate their mystery by a careful research.

During the summer of 1881, a party from Mineral Point made some research, near Lone Rock, in this county, under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution, and in the interest of anthropology, of which the following account is given:

“The mounds opened were in the meadow of Mr. Loomis, two miles north of Lone Rock, where was found a group of about twenty mounds—all round, except one, which was oblong, and about 200 feet long. The land and mounds had been cultivated, but are now in grass, and no doubt, by these means, the mounds have been greatly denuded; they were in diameter the same as those above mentioned, but lower; no regular design in their position was observed, except in those farthest east, where were seven round mounds in a north and south line, with a mound to the east and west of the second mound, from the south end of the line, each mound about thirty feet in diameter, and distant sixty-six feet from center to center, thus forming a cross. The second mound from the south end or center of the cross was opened, but at the depth of four feet, they were satisfied from the appearance of the earth, that it had been opened before, and the excavation refilled, as it showed no outward signs of having been interfered with.

“Another mound to the west was then opened, and at the depth of three feet the bones of three persons were found; they were so decomposed, fragile, and near to dust that it was only with great care, that parts of them could be preserved; these bodies had been laid upon the

surface of the ground, and the mound erected over them; they were doubled up at the knees and hips and laid east and west, with the head alternately each way; one of them is thought to have been a man six feet three inches, and the others of ordinary stature. Strong evidence that part of the remains had been burned, were obtained here, as also the greater part of the genuine skull of a mound builder; many bones and fragments, some charred to coal were taken from here, as also many of the teeth, which were best preserved of all.

“Another mound about 100 feet southeast of the last one mentioned, was then opened, and at the depth of two and one-half feet were found the bones of two persons of ordinary stature, in the same condition, and buried in the same manner, as those last described.”

Some idea of the antiquity of these mounds, so called, may be gathered from the fact, that some of them in various portions of the State, represent the form of a mastodon, which leads to the inevitable conclusion, that those ancient builders were cotemporary with that long extinct animal. This theory has been strengthened by the presence of mastodon bones found in the mounds. And the conclusion is reached that, either these Toltees were of earlier date than has been generally supposed, or that the mastodon or mammoth is of later.

Many other monuments of this long banished race are to be found throughout the county, but it would seem that no further effort has been made toward investigating them. Whether they were a race with all the refinements and civilization of the Egyptian or Babylonian, as has been claimed for them, or whether they had but the ruder culture of the more primitive races, remains as ever an unwritten mystery; their history has perished in the lapse of ages, and been buried under the dust of centuries.

Of their successors, the red Indian, the Scythian American, but little has been preserved. Their traditions, like the traditions of all barbarous races, border so much upon the marvel-

ous; are so inter-warped with the myths and creations of the imagination, that what is fact and what is fable it were difficult to determine. The early French explorers in their wanderings to and fro, throughout what is now the broad domain of the State of Wisconsin, record about all that is positively known of the whereabouts of the various tribes that then had a habitation or that hunted and fished within the limits of the State.

We are told, that the earliest that is known, with any degree of accuracy, of any tribes inhabiting the vast wooded solitudes of Richland county, is, that, it was the hunting ground of a portion of the tribe of Sauks or Saes, and their friends and allies, the Ottagamies or Foxes. These tribes are of the great Algonquin family and are perhaps one of its most noted branches, and the first mention is made of them by the French Jesuit missionary, Allouez, during a voyage made by him in 1665. The valley of the Wisconsin river seems to have been a favorite locality for them. They were, as is told by the Jesuits, an industrious Nation, singularly so for Indians, and cultivated large tracts of corn lands. History still records the fact that they had quite an extensive village on the northern banks of the Wisconsin river, within the limits of this county, not very far from the present site of Port Andrew, perhaps just west, near what is now known as the Coumbe farm, as the large amount of graves of the red hunter and warrior, found upon that place would lead one to believe.

The northern part of the county was claimed and held by a portion of the Winnebagoes, or men of the sea, as the name is translated, showing that they had migrated from the shores of the great salt water in previous ages. These two tribes, with a small sprinkling of Pottawattamies, formed the bulk of the aboriginal inhabitants before the advent of the white man.

The Foxes and Saes ceded all their portion of this county to the United States, by a treaty,

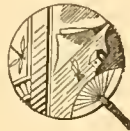
signed in 1804, so that they were no longer owners of any land within its limits, nor were they found in any great numbers this side of the Mississippi river, until the episode of the Black Hawk war, in 1832. However, this was, from the date of its cession to the general government, by the Foxes and Sacs, the favorite hunting ground of the Winnebagoes. These people had some settlements also in the southern and central portions of the county, according to tradition, and were for many years inimical to the Americans, having espoused the cause, and taken up arms in favor of the British, during the War of 1812-15.

In 1816, however, a treaty of peace was entered upon with them by the general government, at St. Louis; and finally, in November, 1837, the Winnebagoes ceded to the United States, all their lands east of the Mississippi river. Nothing was reserved, and it was agreed upon by the contracting parties, that within some eight months from the time of the signing of the treaty, the Indians would all move west of the "Father of Waters." This arrangement was not fully carried out, the rich

forests of Richland and adjoining counties proving too strong a temptation, and many still lingered in their former home. The history of these nomadic inhabitants has been treated here in rather a cursory manner, as the full details will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Close in the neighborhood of Port Andrew, in the southern portion of the county, tradition still points out the place of a battle, between two bands of rival Indian claimants, for the right of hunting in the rich region of the Wisconsin bottoms.

Another fact in history is, that Black Hawk crossed Richland county in his retreat from the infuriated settlers of Grant and Jo Daviess counties, just before he made his last stand at Bad Ax. The trail along which he passed was plainly visible to many of the early settlers, and was followed by many of them. The trail, as seen by them, crossed the Wisconsin river near the mouth of Honey creek, then passed northward through the towns of Buena Vista, Ithaca, Rockbridge and Bloom, following one of the creek valleys.



## CHAPTER III.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Coming down to what may more properly be called the historic age, it suffices to say that prior to 1838 the region now constituting Richland county was known only by a few adventurous hunters and trappers, who had pushed their way into the depths of its pristine woods in search of the game that then abounded in its solitudes.

The wide, rushing current of the tortuous Wisconsin river, together with the presence of the wild denizens of the land, had checked the flow of emigration that had peopled the region lying south of that river in the previous years. In those early days a dense forest covered the face of hill and valley, and the bear, elk, deer and other smaller game literally abounded beneath its umbrageous shades, and myriads of fish disported in its crystal streams. It was a favorite hunting ground of the Winnebagoes, who guarded it as the apple of their eye from the growing encroachments of their white neighbors, and who resented with violence the few faint attempts made to erect cabins thereon, by the few hunters and trappers that ranged its depths.

The first white man who ever attempted a settlement within its borders was John Coumbe, of whom the following account has been written by Dr. R. M. Miller, who knew him well. Of him it says: "Captain John Coumbe was born in Devonshire, England, March 25, 1808. His boyhood days, or a portion of them, were passed in the city of London, where he received his education. During the year 1828, then be-

ing twenty years of age, he, in company with his father and family, emigrated to America. They first settled in the State of Ohio. Here the young man did not stay long, for, feeling dissatisfied with that country, he pushed on, following the 'course of empire,' and finally arrived in the then pioneer city of Galena, in the fall of 1835. Early the next spring, as soon as the snows had melted, he started for the lead mines in Grant Co., Wis. Here he remained until in the summer of 1838, when he, in company with two young companions, John La Rue and Frank Hubbard by name, crossed the swift Wisconsin river in an Indian canoe, landing near where the town of Port Andrew is now located. The party at once went to work and erected a cabin for themselves, which stood about two rods east of the stone bridge in that now thriving village. Here all was then a primeval wilderness, the hunting ground of the wild Indian and the home of the hardly less savage beasts. These young men, having some idea of a settlement in their mind, christened their embryo village Trip Knock; but their hopes of then being colonists were blasted—nipped, as it were, in the bud. Just how long they tarried here cannot now be ascertained with any degree of accuracy, but finding the Indians, who, it was generally supposed, had been removed by the government to reservations west of the Mississippi river, were likely to prove troublesome neighbors, they deemed it prudent, at least, to vacate and return to the mines, thinking, no doubt, discretion the better part of valor.

“But John Coumbe had had his eyes blessed with the sight of the promised land, and he felt a strong desire to again enter upon the possession of this western Canaan. Therefore, in June, 1840, he determined to make another trial, and this time was more successful. He was accompanied on this expedition by his brother, Edward. On one of Capt. Coumbe’s first visits to Richland county, he was accompanied by a Mr. Popejoy. After landing, they located about half a mile west of where Coumbe and his companions had built their first cabin, two years before. Here John remained, a tiller of the soil, and one of the most highly respected men among the pioneers who immediately followed in his footsteps, until the day of his death, which occurred May 2, 1882. He was married in May, 1849, espousing a daughter of Thomas Palmer, one of the band of early pioneers of Richland county.”

These hardy adventurers were beyond all doubt the first white inhabitants of the county, in the sense of actual settlers. Edward Coumbe, however did not stay very long, but returned to Grant county, where he died many years ago. It has been claimed that the actual settlement of some others, preceded this last location of the Coumbe brothers, but a rigid examination of the dates given, prove indubitably, that they are entirely mistaken, and that the palm of being the pioneer of Richland county, belongs to Capt. Coumbe. The land settled on by him lies but a short distance west of the now village of Port Andrew; here the river bottom expands into a beautiful plain, two miles or more in width, and a house built on it commands a fine picturesque view of the broad river, studded with its green islands, and the broad valley stretching far away into the blue and misty distance, enclosed, as it were, within the walls of the state-ly bluffs that frown down in somber magnificence upon the beholder. All these, no doubt, charmed the early settler and made him feel that this was an earthly Eden.

In July, of the same year, Matthew Alexander came into the county, locating a claim about six miles east of the land of Coumbe, near where Eagle Corners has risen in later days. Mr. Alexander brought his family with him, and as Mr. Coumbe, who, by the way, was at that time a bachelor, has the honor of being the first white man in the county, Mrs. Alexander can also claim her just dues to being the first woman who settled in these wooded wastes.

When the frosts of autumn began to touch the leaves of the forest during that same eventful year, Wiley H. Waters, his brother, Samuel, and William Smiley, crossed the tortuous channel of the Wisconsin, landing near what is now called Orion village. These men staid with John Coumbe, until early in the spring of 1841, when the Waters brothers, determining to turn colonists themselves, located a tract of land, in true squatter style, a short distance west of the mouth of a stream called Bird’s creek. Here, these hardy pioneers commenced their labors, and erected a cabin. But let Mr. Waters tell the story himself, which can be found in the following statement made by him, and read at one of the meetings of the Old Settlers’ Association. After entering upon an account of his early years, Wiley H. Waters goes on to state that he came to Grant county in June, 1833, when he was about fourteen years of age. He stopped about three miles west of Platteville, and in 1837 or 1838, went to Iowa county and located a short distance west of Highland. In the fall of 1840 Mr. Waters, his brother, Samuel A., and William Smiley, crossed the Wisconsin river just below Muscoda, a Parish landing. At that time Matthew Alexander and family lived three and a half miles below what is now Orion. The place is now called Pilling’s Mills. Capt. John Coumbe was keeping bachelor’s cabin near his present residence. At this time Mr. Alexander and Capt. Coumbe were the only actual settlers in Richland county. Mr. Waters, his brother and Mr. Smiley remained

with Mr. Coumbe during the winter of 1840 and 1841. In the spring of 1841 Mr. Waters and brother located upon a tract of land a short distance west of Bird's creek, built a log house, cultivated some of the land, and Mr. Waters' father, Thomas Waters, and family, occupied the premises for three years, and sold out to James Andrews, a brother of Capt. Andrews. In the spring of 1841 Capt. Smith and Thomas Matthews established a ferry between Muscoda (which was then called Savannah, to the best of my recollection) and Orion, which they gave the name of Richmond. They soon laid out a town plat and were the first settlers in Orion. In the season of 1841 one Robert Boyd located on Mill creek where Rodolf's mills now stand, with the view of erecting a saw-mill. He afterwards sold his interest to Capt. Stephen Estes and Thomas J. Parish. They built a saw-mill and a "corn crusher" grist mill the following year, which were the first mills in Richland county.

Hardin Moore accompanied Boyd in the spring of 1841, and located on the land which constituted part of the McClary farm, more recently owned by Marvin Briggs. Mr. Moore put up a large cabin and put in a basswood puncheon floor. He started a blacksmith shop, the first in the county. He had no family, and only one room in the cabin. That summer Mr. Moore raised some cabbage, potatoes and other vegetables. He put them in the cellar, and in the fall turned his attention to his trade, using his cabin for a shop. There were but two horses in the county, which were owned by Capt. Andrews. On a bitter cold day in the latter part of 1841, Capt. Andrews and Mr. Waters took the horses to Mr. Moore for the purpose of having them shod. One of them was taken in the cabin and held by Mr. Waters. He braced himself well, taking hold with both hands to hold steady. Capt. Andrews held up one of the fore legs while Mr. Moore took his drawing-knife (for want of something better), squared himself around facing Capt. Andrews,

placed a piece of board on the floor and rested it against his shoulder while Mr. Andrews held the toe of the hoof against the board and Mr. Moore began to pare the hoof. The horse became restless and began to struggle till he finally floundered and plunged himself into the cellar among the cabbage and potatoes. After the horse became quiet, a second platform of puncheon was arranged, and with leading, pulling and boosting the horse was brought out.

In the fall of 1843 Mr. Waters, his brother, James Andrews and Vincent B. Morgan first visited Pine river valley. They came up the Wisconsin river from Port Andrew to Pine river, then up Pine river and Ash creek, and landed a short distance below where Brimer's carding mill now stands, and where they remained some time hunting bees and killing game, which were quite plenty.

About this time Samuel Swinehart, Mr. Palmer, Mr. French and Mr. Green established a logging camp on Pine river, section 22, in the town of Rockbridge, a short distance west of the present residence of W. H. Joslin. They cut and put into the river several hundred pine logs and floated them down to Muscoda. They had no team and were obliged to do everything by hand.

During the same year a trapper by the name of Knapp, also built him a cabin on the creek that now bears his name, in the town of Richwood.

These rugged and hardy adventurers were soon followed by others, who settled all along the northern shore of the Wisconsin river. Hardin Moore, Stephen Taylor, Capt. James B. Estes, Thomas J. Parrish and Robert Boyd locating in 1841; G. C. White, Thomas Andrews, his son-in-law, with his brother, James Andrews, Martin Moon and V. B. Morgan in 1842; Robert Akan, Hiram Palmer, Natbaniel Green, John Youst, Samuel Swinehart and Thomas Parrish in 1843, had penetrated up the Pine river as far as Rockbridge, and engaged in logging at that place. Mr. Swinehart gives an in-

teresting account of these early days, and perhaps it would be as well to give it in this connection. In relating his experience to the old settlers assembled on a late occasion, Samuel Swinehart, now of Avoca, but one of the pioneers of Richland county, as noted above, goes on to relate that he first crossed the Wisconsin river Oct. 10, 1843, in a canoe, a short distance above Muscoda, landing near the mouth of Indian creek. He then made his way along the north shore of the Wisconsin to the mouth of Pine river, and pitched his camp on its east bank, but was soon compelled to remove it by the Winnebago Indians, who were inclined to appropriate everything to their own use. The latter part of October and first of November were occupied in exploring the valley of the Pine as far up as Rockbridge, where the West branch passes through the rocks. He passed through the aperture in a little canoe made of a pine log, and so light he could easily carry it on his back or pass it over or under a log or other obstruction in the river. He established a camp under the east side of the shelving rock near the southern extremity. Two hackberry trees stood close by, and upon one he cut his name. This was in November, 1843. A week or ten days were occupied in making explorations in the vicinity, the chief object being to find pine timber near the river. After satisfying himself, the next important consideration was whether logs could be floated down the Pine into the Wisconsin. In order to ascertain this, it was necessary to go the whole length of the river in a boat. For this purpose, about the 15th of November, he embarked at Rockbridge (the name he had given it) in his tiny boat to explore the river, which he found to be of good depth, without shoals or rapids—a beautiful stream, but quite crooked, having many acute angles. About the fourth day he reached the mouth of Willow creek, where he found an old Indian village, many of the wigwam poles still standing. He found places where the Indians had smelted lead ore by making a shallow basin

in the ground, placing flat stones on the bottom, then the ore on the stones, and a fire on the ore. Proceeding on his journey, two days more brought him to the mouth of the Pine. On this journey he had with him his gun, two dogs, pair of blankets, a hatchet, a frying-pan and some hardtack. He subsisted chiefly on game, which was abundant. He proceeded to Galena, procured an outfit, and returned in December of the same year, accompanied by John Youst, Nathaniel Greene, Hiram Palmer and a Mr. French. An attempt was made to reach Rockbridge, by the way of Indian creek, with a sled drawn by two yoke of oxen. The snow was deep, and after a trial of two days they were obliged to turn back to Muscoda. A hand-sled for each man was constructed, and tools, provisions and camp equipments placed thereon, and the party set out in high spirits upon the ice on the Wisconsin river, and the mouth of Pine river was made with little trouble. The party went up the stream to within two miles of Ash creek; the weather grew warmer, the ice thin, and in many places the current had cut it out, rendering it almost impossible to proceed. A few days were spent in hunting coons, which were plenty. Here the party passed the holidays, which were properly observed. The bill of fare consisted chiefly of roast coon. The weather became colder and a forward move was made. From this point to the rocks on the east side of the river, a mile above where Bowen's mills now are, the journey was very laborious; the ice in many places was nearly gone, the sleds were hauled through the deep snow, over logs, through the brush and numerous swamps, but by energy and perseverance, after fifteen days of great fatigue and hardships, they reached the rocks, and it was decided to go into camp.

The next morning Swinehart assured the party they were not far from the pines, and he made a motion that the camp be left in charge of one of the dogs, and proceed to the pines, with axes, dig out a canoe, come down the river and take



up the luggage. The first day they reached the pines, they found a bee-tree and after feasting on wild honey and the lunch they had with them by a huge blazing fire of dry pine, Mr. Swinehart proposed to fell a majestic pine standing near the bank of the river, which was agreed to, and the sound of the white man's axes resounded in those woods for the first time. The canoe was completed, and floated down to the camp which they found duly guarded by the dog, and all right. A camp for the winter was constructed and the party employed for the remainder of the winter, cutting the beautiful and majestic pines that were then standing thick on the high lands, and rolling them into the river. Four hundred logs as choice as ever was cut were put into the river and floated out at the breaking up of winter. Mr. Swinehart was occupied most of the time in packing supplies on his back from Muscoda, which usually took him a week to make the trip. The boom which held the logs gave way in March, the camp broke up, everything was placed in canoes and the party followed their winter's production. It took them till the 4th of July to reach the mouth of Pine river, innumerable trees which lay across the stream impeding their way, having to be cut out. They sold their logs at Muscoda, to Thomas Parish, for \$1,200.

Mr. Swinehart soon returned to Rockbridge and continued to exercise possession of his claim. Harvey Cole, a lumberman of Galena, became interested in the enterprise about this time, and during the summer of 1845 a saw-mill was erected, but not completed till the following spring.

In the fall of 1845 Mr. Swinehart with a party of men opened the first wagon road from Orion to Rockbridge, and the following winter, under contract, cut out Pine river, eighteen feet wide, of all logs, trees and brush above the ice. The mill was started in the spring of 1846.

To the best of Mr. Swinehart's recollection, Mrs. Minerva Culver, the wife of Mason Cul-

ver, a millwright, who worked on the mill, was the first woman that came to Rockbridge.

Mr. Swinehart was actively engaged in lumbering at the mill and marketing its products until he sold his interest in the year 1848. Mr. Cole disposed of his interest to James Vineyard and James Moore, of Platteville. Thomas Mathews named Indian creek, Mr. Swinehart named Ash creek, by reason of the heavy ash timber upon the ridge near by. Rocky branch being the only stream running into the Pine which has a gravel bottom, it was thus given its name. What is now known as Center creek was called Camp creek, by reason of its being a camping ground; Brush creek, because it was filled with brush; Horse creek, because a horse in crossing became mired and died; Fancy creek, for its resemblance to a stream of that name in Sangamon Co., Ill.; Buck creek was near the Creeds; Sole's creek, because James Sole built a cabin and manufactured shingles in its valley.

Robert Akan, another of these advance guards of the future civilization of Richland county, has also left on record a very amusing as well as instructive account of the times which graphically depict the mode of life then in vogue. In this account, Robert Akan relates, that:

"When we arrived at Rockbridge, Nov. 5, 1845, there were sixteen men working at the mill. All the provisions had to come from Platteville, seventy-five miles away, and no road from Orion to Rockbridge. Two men of some experience were sent to blaze the trees, and three men started for Orion on November 10, to cut a road so that we could get through with a team and load. I went with the men to get the cattle and sleds, and the men at the mill commenced to cut the road to meet us. It was a good day's walk to Orion. On the third day after we got there, we had our loads on and started on our expedition to Rockbridge; camped the first night on Indian creek, at the spring where M. McIlhatten's widow lives. A deer

made its appearance; three or four started in pursuit, each eager for a shot. I was the first to fire. At the crack of the gun, the deer bounded off and I lost sight of it and returned to camp, while some of the others still pursued. In about half an hour they returned, bringing the deer, which had fallen dead after running a short distance. We roasted, broiled and stewed it, and got up in the night to eat of it, and not one slice of that deer was left when breakfast was over next morning. We doubled teams up-hill and passed over to south Ash creek. At Booth's farm, one of the men found a bee-tree, and we got a wash-tub full of honey. We camped at the spring where Thompson lived. Some of the men had cut and put up hay for their teams, if all things went on all right at the mill. Some went to cutting stringers for a bridge across Ash creek, while others made puncheons for the cover, which took all day. The men went out to hunt, and one of them brought in a fine buck. Next day we camped at Durfee Bovee's farm; the timber was awful. The following night we got to Klingler's spring, this we called the Ash swamp, for the cattle mired. Got to Rocky branch the next night. Stopped there until the men cut the road to Muddy branch or Center creek, a day and a half. My partner and I went to Center creek with the men in the morning, who were cutting the road. We followed the blazes to Brush creek, and the men thought they would make it that night. We killed a deer, back of where Hurbert Dows lives, and undertook to drag it to camp, down through the brush. I thought it was five miles, so we hung it up and struck out for camp; it was dark when we got in; we could see the smoke but the brush and vines were awful to make our way through. Here our oxen went back on us; they run back to Orion. We sent two men after them, who brought them back, which took three days. We had, in the meantime, cut the road to Fancy creek, where the others met us, and there we had a jollification and a regular old pioneer drunk, as we had with us a barrel

of whisky. This must not shock the extremists, for it was fashionable, in those days, to get on a jollification drunk once in a while. We got to the mill, however, all sound. The next day Samuel Swinehart and I went to Orion for provisions. They had a dance at Capt. Smith's. We got there about dark, and the boys and girls began to assemble for the festivities of the evening. The music, such as it was, was soon in full blast. Capt. Smith and another man had a jug of whisky hid in the room, where I, being tired with my days tramp, had laid down to rest. They had come in three or four times and taken a nip, but Mrs. Smith saw that they were getting full, came in and took the jug and hid it, and put in its place one like it filled with coon oil. In about twenty minutes they came in again. Captain turned the jug up and took a swig but said nothing, handing it to his companion, who also took a swallow. The first word was: 'H—l, what's this?' Captain was silent for a moment, but tasting it said: 'Coon grease?' and swore roundly. This was more than I could stand, so had to laugh outright. He went for me, but I dodged him and got into the ball room to avoid further trouble. Presently in came the men—coon grease on their mouths and beards. This second party's wife wiped it off with her handkerchief, but he was terribly mad and never forgot it; always blamed me, as I would not explain and tell on Capt. Smith's wife.

Once while living at the mill, when the Indians had run off, or killed off, all the deer and bear, so that nothing but muskrats and pheasants were left, provisions getting scarce, I started for Platteville to get a supply. I was gone longer than I had made calculation on. For four days my brother, Andrew, was left with my family; they had half of a deer, twenty pounds of flour, coffee and tea in plenty, and he could kill pheasants, if they could live on that, but he got discouraged, I had been gone so long; thought I was killed or some accident had happened to me. My wife said to him:

'You go and kill a deer and we can live for a week yet,' and added that I would be back that day. He was despondent, but took his gun and started hunting on the road to Museoda. About 2 o'clock in the afternoon he heard the driver's halloo to the team. He said that the most pleasant voice he ever heard was that teamster's at that time."

To resume the thread of the narrative; it was during the year 1844, that Myron Whitcomb, John McKinney and family, Burrell McKinney, and Peter Waggner, joined the few settlers in this infant colony and the numbers that came every year thereafter steadily increased, so that when the year 1846, had dawned upon their little world something like a settlement had been reached, although these few people were scattered over such a wide expanse of country, and among such thick timber, that each seemed "monarch of all he surveyed," for the survey in many instances, did not extend very far. These were the hardy and experienced pioneers who led the advance guard of the all conquering Anglo-Saxon, the "most powerful race that ever existed," in their onward march, to found the civilization and culture of the nineteenth century, in this land of unequalled resources, but lying then a virgin wilderness, a leafy desert, having little of outside help or support; yet the settlement grew up from the start, in that form of rugged independence and self-reliance so characteristic of the American people.

#### ORGANIZATION.

During the fall of 1841, and through the early winter following, the question of the organization of the county was canvassed, and the seven residents of the district, now comprising this county, meeting in "mass meeting" at Eagle Mills, drew up a petition, and signing it, sent it to the Legislature, praying that august body, that such power might be given them, to set off the county of Crawford, of which, it then formed a part, and to organize themselves into a new and separate county. This prayer

was granted by the third Territorial Legislature, in an act passed Feb. 18, 1842, and signed by James Duane Doty, the then Territorial governor. By this act, Richland county was attached to Iowa county for judicial and electoral purposes, until such time as a sufficient number of people had moved into the new county, as would warrant them, in setting up a separate government for themselves. By this act, also, Abner Nichols, James Murphy and John Ray, all of Iowa county, were appointed a commission to locate the future county seat of the newly made county. After some discussion, it was determined to fix upon a point, near what was afterwards the town of Richmond (now Orion). This continued to be recognized as the county seat for several years. We are told that the name Richland was suggested by the character of the soil. What a power, that word rich, must have had over these early settlers of the county. It seems to us that they must have thought of little else, as we find Richland county, Richland town, Richland Center, Richland City, Richmond and Richwood town.

The county continued attached to Iowa county until the first day of May, 1850. When, in pursuance of an act of the State Legislature, approved Feb. 7, 1850, it was separated, and became a county by itself, enjoying all the privileges and immunities thereunto belonging. An account of this organization can be found in Chapter IV, given in detail.

The following, are copies of the acts above referred to:

#### ACT OF FEBRUARY 18, 1842.

An Act to establish the county of Richland:  
*Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin:*

SECTION. 1 That all the district of [country] lying within the following described limits, viz: Commencing at the Wisconsin river, where the line between the ranges of 2 and 3 east of the fourth principal meridian crosses said river, thence along said line to the northern bounda-

ry of town 12; thence west along said line, until it intersects with the western line of range 2 west, of the fourth principal meridian, thence south along said line to the main channel of the Wisconsin river; thence up the middle of the main channel of said river to the place of beginning, shall be and the same is hereby constituted a separate county by the name of Richland.

SEC. 2. The said county of Richland is hereby attached, temporarily, to the county of Iowa for all county and judicial purposes; and the county commissioners of the county of Iowa are hereby required to cause the assessors in said county of Iowa to assess and include in their assessment roll all of the real and personal property of the inhabitants of said county of Richland, which may by law be assessed in the county of Crawford, and make return thereof as required by law, which property shall be subject to be taxed at the same rate which property in the county of Iowa is taxed, and collected in the manner provided by law.

SEC. 3. That Abner Nichols, James Murphy and John Ray, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to locate the county seat of said county, in which location they will have due regard to the present as well as the probable future population of said county; said location to be made at or near the center of said county, or on the Wisconsin river, as may seem most advantageous, and should the location be made on public land, the said county commissioners of Iowa county are hereby authorized to take such steps as may be necessary to secure to the county of Richland the right of pre-emption, as provided by an act of Congress, approved May 26, 1824, entitled "An act granting to the counties or parishes of each State and territory of the United States in which the public lands are situated, the right of pre-emption to quarter sections of lands for seats of justice within the same;" and they are hereby authorized to borrow the sum of \$200, at a rate of interest not exceeding ten per cent. per annum, for a

period not exceeding five years, for the purchase of 160 acres of land under the provisions of said pre-emption law above referred to, and may mortgage said land for the payment of said money so borrowed.

SEC. 4. That should the said commissioners be unable to find a suitable tract of public land on which to locate said county seat, they are hereby authorized to make the location on individual property: *Provided*, the proprietor or proprietors shall convey in fee simple, free of expenses, to the county commissioners of Iowa county in trust for said county of Richland, every fourth lot in any town in which may be laid out as the said seat of justice for the said county of Richland: *Provided further*, that the whole number of lots so ceded to said county shall not exceed thirty acres.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Approved, February 18, 1842.

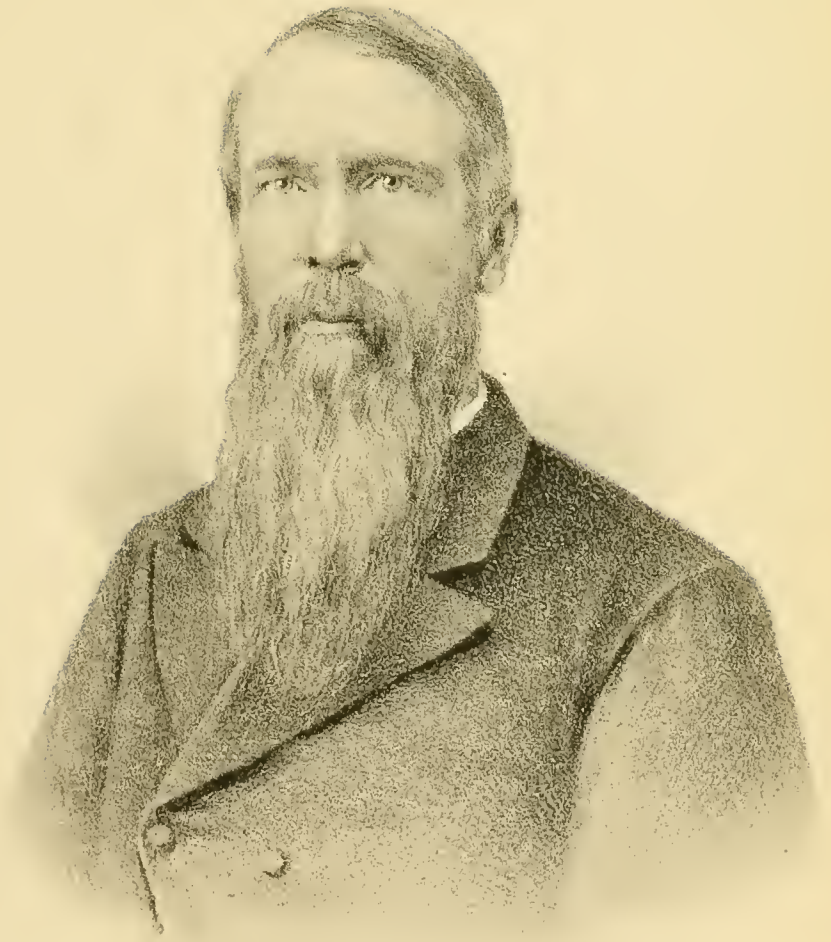
ACT OF FEBRUARY 7, 1850.

An Act to organize the county of Richland. *The People of the State of Wisconsin represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. That from and after the first day of May next, the county of Richland in this State, shall be organized for judicial purposes, and shall enjoy all the privileges and immunities of the other counties of this State. It shall form a part of the fifth judicial circuit, and the courts therein shall be held by the judge of said circuit.

SEC. 2. That all writs, processes, appeals, recognizances, or other proceedings, which shall be pending undetermined in the circuit court of Iowa county, on the said first day of May next, which originated in the courts of justice of the peace in said county of Richland, shall be removed back and determined in said county of Richland.

SEC. 3. That on the said first day of May, the clerk of the circuit court of the county of Iowa shall transmit all writs, process, appeals,



*James H. Miner*



recognizances, or other proceedings originating as aforesaid, together with a transcript of the records in each case, to the clerk of the circuit court of Richland county.

SEC. 4. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, the legal voters of Richland county may hold a special election on the first Tuesday of April next, in the respective towns or precincts of said county, for the election of such county officers as are required by law to be elected at annual elections, whose term of service shall commence on the said first day of May next, and continue until said terms shall expire by law. There shall also be elected by the qualified electors of said county of Richland, at a special election to be held at the several towns or precincts of said county, on the first Tuesday of June next, a county judge, who shall hold his office until the first day of January, A. D. 1854, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

SEC. 5. That the said elections shall be conducted in all respects, and the votes canvassed and returned in the same manner as is now provided by law in relation to the election of county officers.

SEC. 6. That the judge of the said fifth judicial circuit shall hold courts in the said county of Richland, semi-annually; one term on the last Tuesday of April, and the other on the second Tuesday of September in each year.

SEC. 7. That at the annual election of 1851, the voters qualified, as hereinafter provided, shall deposit with the inspectors of elections in the several towns or precincts in said county, a ballot, on which shall be printed or written, or partly printed and partly written, the name of the place voted for as the county seat of said county; and the place receiving a majority of all the votes cast at said election on that subject, shall be declared the county seat of said county: *Provided*, That if no place shall receive a majority at said election, the question shall be submitted in the same manner at each succeeding

annual election, until some one place receive such majority.

SEC. 8. Whenever the county seat shall be established, as provided in the eighth section, the board of county supervisors of said county shall take such measures as they may deem proper to obtain funds to erect county buildings in said county.

SEC. 9. The sheriff of the county of Iowa is hereby required to give the legal notice of such election required to be held in said county of Richland, on the first Tuesday of April next, as the law directs.

SEC. 10. All records of Iowa county, relating to persons or property in said Richland county, shall be free of access to, and be free of charge to the proper officers of Richland county, to transcribe.

SEC. 11. That every free white male inhabitant, who shall have resided in said county six months next preceeding any annual election, shall be deemed a qualified voter at such election, for the purpose of permanently locating the county seat of said county.

SEC. 12. That until the county seat of said county shall be located, as provided in the seventh section of this act, the courts for said county shall be held, and all county business shall be transacted at Richmond in said county.

MOSES M. STRONG,  
Speaker of the Assembly.

SAMUEL W. BEALL,

Lt. Governor and Pres't of the Senate.

Approved, February 7, 1850.

NELSON DEWEY.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The matter of the first marriage that was solemnized within the limits of the present county of Richland, has, in the absence of any records, occasioned much trouble to the compiler of this history, but a careful and conscientious research, and a thorough canvass of the memories of those of the early pioneers, who still linger this side of the "bright and shining shore," develops the fact that the rite

that united W. G. Parker to Emily McKinney, in the year, 1846 has the precedence in point of time above all others.

The subject of the first child born in the county, is also a mooted question, but the birth of Melinda Morgan, which occurred in April, 1843, is the earliest that can be found, and she is, therefore, entitled to the honor of being the first born of this precinct.

The first death that occurred within the same limits was a man by the name of David Petty, or Pettis; this occurred in the year 1844, at Rockbridge. It seems that Petty was the cook for the Swinehart-Akan party, then engaged in logging at that place, and who was taken sick, and took a dose of some medicine, perhaps his own prescription. This seemed to rather increase his disorder instead of alleviating it, and he grew so much worse that it was absolutely necessary for him to have the advice of a physician. But here they were, twenty miles away from a settler, and how was the doctor to be procured. At last the great big heart of the frontierman could not stand it any longer to see his fellowman suffer without trying to do something for him, so Samuel Swinehart started afoot to thread the vast forest that lay between them and the villages on the river. All day long and through the night he plunged on through marsh and mud, and on reaching the first physician, he took the back track with him. But the ministrations of the doctor were of no avail, and the man died in great agony. Determined not to bury their quondam companion in the depths of the forest, these rough pioneers hewed out a canoe from a pine log, and Wiley Waters and another man, placing the body therein, launched themselves upon the bosom of the Pine river, which was to bear them to the settlements. Long and weary must have been the ride with this corpse, as they floated down the sluggish current, and through the heavy timber that then cumbered its banks and shaded its waters. There is something wierd and ghastly in this idea of these two men drifting down the dark

stream, by the light of the sun or moon, with the dead body of their companion. They reached the Wisconsin river at last, and landing at Muscoda, procured a hand sled, and finished their deed of charity by dragging the body to Mineral Point, where his friends received and interred the corpse.

The first school that was taught in the county, we are led to believe, was in the year 1847, by a man from Pennsylvania, but whose name has entirely escaped the memory of our informants. This pioneer school was held in a room of the house of Peter Kinder, in Richwood town, and is believed to have been a subscription one as no records are extant, showing the formation of a school district so early. However, in 1849, a building was erected for the accommodation of a district school on the land now owned by Mr. Garner, on section 27, of the town of Richwood, and a little west of the village of Port Andrew, and during the years 1849 and 1850 Mary Melanthey, now Mrs. Joseph Elliott, presided over its destinies, as school mistress. This is no doubt the first district school in Richland county.

The first postoffice within the limits of the county was established at a place called Sand Prairie about one and a half miles west of the village of Port Andrew, on land now owned by H. J. Clark, lying in the town of Richwood. This was about 1845, and Johnson Young was the postmaster. John Kineannon had the first contract for carrying the mail thither, we believe, from Mineral Point, and he brought it on his back, going and coming afoot, which seems to have been the usual method of travel in those days.

The business of saw-milling being a large one in the county, it would probably be of interest to say that the first structure of that description ever erected was built by Estes & Parrish, in the fall of 1841, and was located at or near the site of the mills now known as Rodolf's, on Mill or Eagle creek, in the town of Eagle.



The first preaching of the Gospel that ever took place in the county, was, possibly, performed by a Methodist minister by the name of Wheeler, in 1848, at the then rising village of Richland City. This gentleman was, at the time, a resident of Iowa county, and has often laughingly, made the remark, that "he brought Sunday over into this county, where it had never been before." Sometime during the same year, however, a Congregational minister located himself at the same place, and a more regular service was instituted. This gentleman's name was Benton.

The first grist-mill was built at Sextonville, in the years 1851-2, by Jacob Krouskop. Prior to this time the settlers had oft-times to go fifty and seventy-five miles to mill with the little grain they had to grind.

John McKinney, however, before the erection of the mill, had a small mill driven by horse power, in which he could grind a sort of corn meal. This might be called the first attempt at grinding in the county, but could hardly be termed a grist mill.

The first physician to locate within the county was Dr. Hartshorn, whose settlement at Law's or Gage's ferry, precedes any other in point of time.

The first blacksmith shop in the county was started by Hardin Moore, in the summer of 1841.

Settlements were begun in all parts of the county by the beginning of 1850, and the population by that time was, according to the census returns, between 900 and 1,000; during the next decade the flood of emigration, for which that period has been noted all over the northwest, rapidly filled up the waste places of this county, until in 1860, the government census placed the number of inhabitants at 9,732. During the late Civil War, the emigration here, as everywhere else, came to a stand still, and the large amount of enlistments from this locality, and the large death rate in Wisconsin regiments, in the field, kept down any remarkable increase in the population, until after the close of the re-

bellion when immigration received a new impetus, and the number of the population has steadily grown from then until the present day.

In those early days rude log cabins, scattered throughout the county, stood on little clearings, surrounded by the dense wilderness of trees that covered the whole land, as with a mantle; but in the years that have passed, these cabins have given way to fine, comfortable frame, and in many instances palatial brick residences. There are many yet living, whose eyes have beheld these wonderful transformations, but alas, many, very many of these early pioneers have never lived to realize or enjoy the full fruition of their days of toil and hardship. The roll of those whose feet have crossed the dark river is a long one. Still, in the days when they faced all the trials of a frontier life, and battled with stern nature, to keep the wolf from the door, these hardy pioneers enjoyed much pleasure in their rude way. In the language of one of these heroes of the outpost: "It is the mistaken notion of modern aristocracy, that happiness dwells only with wealth and fine equipage. Some of us can point to our log cabins, at least in memory, as our independent homes, where true content and happiness brooded over the domestic circle, and sincere gratitude gave relish to the most homely fare."

Contrast the Richland county of 1845-6 with the same as it is to-day. Then it was a dense, almost unbroken wilderness, an umbrageous desert with only here and there the scattered clearings of a few adventurous frontiersmen; and now it is largely cleared up, with good farms, fine farm houses and barns, commodious and numerous school houses and churches on every hand. In those days, the early settlers were poor in purse and struggling against fearful odds and almost insurmountable obstacles, to hew for themselves and their posterity, homes out of the forests, and all nature seemed uncongenial and seemed to turn a frowning face

upon all their efforts. To-day, the inhabitants are prosperous and thrifty, and live in comparative ease and comfort. Then the "blazed" track through the woods was their only pathway or road, and the rivers and streams were crossed on the felled tree or by the still more primitive

fashion of swimming; now, broad highways intersect the comty and good bridges span its streams, and comfort and luxury are seen on every hand. Then, seventy miles to mill was the rule, and now the iron horse brings the necessaries of life almost to the very door.



## CHAPTER IV.

## COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

The county of Richland was organized on the first day of May, 1850, and the first entry upon the records of the board of supervisors in and for the county, is in regard thereto, and is as follows:

“In pursuance of an act of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, ‘To organize the county of Richland,’ approved Feb. 7, 1850, an especial meeting of the board of supervisors, in and for said county, was held at the house of Alex. Smith, in the town of Richmond, in the county and State aforesaid, on the first day of May, A. D., 1850. Said first day of May being the day designated in said act, that from and after which, the county of Richland should be organized for judicial purposes, and should enjoy all the privileges and immunities of the other counties of the State.”

At the time of this organization, the county was divided into three towns, and the first board of supervisors who were empowered to handle the reins of the infant government were John H. Price, of Buena Vista; E. H. Dyre, of Richmond, and Adam Byrd, of Richwood. Of this board, the first named was chosen president, and John Rutan, clerk.

As the county had no court house, nor place wherein to transact even a moderate amount of business, that then occupied the attention of its officers, the board, at its session held May 2, the same year, ordered that “Marvin White be allowed the sum of \$90 for the use of a house in Richmond, for one year, for the purpose of the county officials:” the same to be considered

as the county court house until more definite arrangements could be made.

At the June session, 1850, a petition was presented, praying for the organization of a new town, to comprise the congressional townships 11 and 12 north, range 1 east. This petition was signed by Orin Haseltine and others. The board, in granting the prayer, designated the towns as above as an election precinct, and ordered that it be organized under the name of Rockbridge, and that the first election should be held at the house of Ira S. Haseltine, then a resident of the village of that name.

The first county road mentioned upon the records seems to have been one from Richland City to Pine river, and was made in accordance with a petition, signed by Ira S. Haseltine and others. The board appointed Orin Haseltine, N. P. Engels and John H. Price as the commissioners to locate the same. This was at the same June session, in the year 1850.

It would seem that from a lack of funds in the treasury, or some other cause, the county officers, in June, or nearly a month after their installment into office, were without any books, papers or stationery; and they therefore instructed Marvin White, the then register of deeds, to act as a special agent to purchase the necessary books and stationery, including the seals; one for the circuit, one for the county court, and one for the clerk of the board of supervisors; together with ink, inkstands and sand boxes, wafers and stamps; to be paid for out of the first moneys in the treasury of the

county, for the contingent expenses of the said county.

Nov. 20, 1850, the new board of supervisors took possession of the helm of government, and the first act of their administration was to authorize James Laws to establish and keep a ferry at Briggstown, on the Wisconsin river; and at the same time established the following, as the rate to be charged for ferriage: Two horses and wagon, fifty cents; one horse and wagon, twenty-five cents; one horse and carriage, thirty-five cents; one horse and man, twenty-five cents; cattle, per head, ten cents; each foot passenger, ten cents; hogs and sheep, per head, three cents. The license granted Mr. Laws was granted for the term of three years, the first year to be free of any charge.

The weather growing chilly, and the board not wishing to retard the growing greatness of the juvenile county by freezing out its officers, instruct John J. Mathews, the sheriff, to make the purchase of a stove and pipe.

As an instance of the trouble of traveling in these early days, it is recorded that, it being necessary for the county to send a man to Milwaukee on business, the time occupied by him on the journey there and back was twelve days, the mode of traveling being by horseback.

The salaries of these early days seem to have been so small that it is a wonder that men should seek political preferment. As an instance of it, it is noted in the minutes of this session of the board, that the board allowed to J. W. Coffinberry, county judge, the munificent salary of \$10 a year. They also authorize him to procure the necessary record books for his office at the proper expense of the county. The same board made an allowance of \$50 per year for the salary of the prosecuting attorney. The ferry from Richmond to Museoda was also licensed, and the rates of ferriage established, by the same board, Mathews & Smith being the proprietors. It was during the same session that the board of supervisors appointed J. W. Coffinberry a com-

missioner for said county, to supervise the preparation of the application and proof of claimant for bounty lands granted to the soldiers and their heirs. James H. Wallace was also granted the right to establish a ferry at Richland City, across the Wisconsin river, on the same terms and at the same rates of ferriage granted the other parties.

Nov. 19, 1850, the board ordered that a tax of two and one-half mills on the dollar be levied in the county for school purposes; this was the first levy for such fund in the county, and deserves special notice as an instance of the early attention paid by the former generation to the educational status of our county. The entire levy of tax for all funds was seventeen and one-half mills on the dollar.

The first bridge built by the county of which any record exists seems to have been built by James Laws across Merriman's creek, and cost the whole of \$17, and was finished and the bill ordered paid, Nov. 20, 1850.

At the May session of the board of supervisors, it being found that the quarters occupied by the county officers were too contracted, two rooms were rented of R. Barnes, in the town of Richmond, for their accommodation, at a rental of \$5 per month.

At the fall session it was ordered that the sale of delinquent taxes be proceeded with; this is recorded as the first in the county of Richland.

On a petition, signed by R. McMaehan and others, being presented to the board at this session, the order was made that all of town 10 north, range 1 east, except sections 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36, of said town, be attached to the town of Rockbridge, as a part and parcel of the same.

The value of property in the county, as returned by the assessors, for the year 1851, was as follows:

Buena Vista .....	\$44,023 00
Richmond.....	45,111 00
Richwood.....	14,801 00
Rockbridge.....	3,500 00
Total.....	\$107,435 00

Of course this was much below the actual value, but some idea can be gained by these figures of the amount possessed by the early settlers in the way of worldly wealth. The tax levy for this year is given as fourteen mills for county purposes, three mills for State purposes, two and a half mills for school fund or nineteen and a half mills on the dollar for all funds.

#### COUNTY SEAT.

The question of making a permanent location of the county seat having now come to the front, the board of supervisors, at their meeting held July 26, 1852, had entered upon their minutes that "It is unanimously decided by this board, that Richland Centre is the proper place for transacting the business of the county." This seems to be the opening of the discussion, for we find that the same day the following resolution was spread upon the minutes: "*Resolved*, That the board accept of twenty village lots, and also a certain building, to be used for county purposes, of Ira S. Haseltine, in the village of Richland Centre, in accordance with a bond, dated Oct. 24, 1851, held by the county of Richland against said Haseltine. And it is also ordered that all the county business of Richland county be hereafter transacted in the said village of Richland Centre, and the officers thereof shall forthwith repair thither for that purpose."

In explanation of this action, it would seem, the next day the board passed the following:

"WHEREAS—Ira S. Haseltine has donated to the county of Richland, in the State of Wisconsin, a certain house situated on village lots No's. 3 and 6, in block 6, in the village of Richland Centre, in said county, to be used for a court-house and other purposes as said county board may direct, for and during a term of five years, from the first day of May last: Therefore, it is ordered that said house be, and is hereby designated as the said county building, for the uses and purposes as above specified. Also, it is ordered that a notice be served on the various

county officers to remove the books and papers of the county forthwith to Richland Centre, the county seat of Richland county. Also ordered that the county raise \$100 to furnish the new court house."

Nov. 9, 1852, the first meeting of the board of supervisors in the new court-house took place. At this session, it was ordered, that "town 10 north, range 1 east, be, and is hereby set off as a separate town and election precinct, and shall be known as the town of Richland; and that the court-house in Richland Centre be designated as the place of holding the first town meeting."

It was at the same time ordered, that towns 11 and 12 north, range 1 west, be attached to the town of Rockbridge, and the house of Orin Haseltine was designated as the place of holding the town meeting.

Either the progress of the country was quite rapid or the development of crime had increased largely, for we find, that at this meeting of the board, the salary of the prosecuting attorney was made \$100 per annum, an increase of 100 per cent.

At the session of the board held in March, 1853, it was determined to build a county jail and it was decided to erect the same on lot 5, in block 14, in the town of Richland Centre, the building to stand thirty-three feet from the east line of the lot, and central as to north and south lines. The proposition to raise the sum of \$300 to build the said jail, the same to be paid in three equal yearly installments, was entertained, but was finally laid over until the next meeting of the board.

At this session it was ordered, that, "all the territory embraced in towns 9 and 10 north, of range 1 west, except one tier of sections from the east side thereof, be, and is hereby set off, as a separate town and election precinct, to be known as the town of Eagle, and that Rodolf's mill, in said town, is designated as the place for holding the first town meeting."

The board of supervisors, at the annual session held in November, 1853, were presented with a bill by Amasa Cobb, the prosecuting attorney of Iowa county, for locating the county seat of Richland county, in the year 1842, when the county of Richland was attached to the county of Iowa. This bill was for some \$3, and its receipt at this time provoked much indignation. After due deliberation the board made and returned the following answer:

"This board would respectfully say to the honorable board of supervisors of Iowa county that they do not find any indebtedness to said county. Said county claims having paid Abner Nichols and John Ray for making a location of the county seat, under an act to establish the county seat of Richland county, approved Feb. 18, 1842. Now, said act in section 1 describes the limits of said county. In section 2, it attaches said county, for judicial and county purposes, to the county of Iowa; gives the county commissioners, assessors and collectors, the same power over Richland county as over their own, to assess and collect the taxes thereof, in the same proportion, so that it made it, temporarily, but one county.

"In sections 3 and 4 it constituted the county commissioners of Iowa county, commissioners to locate a permanent county seat for Richland county.

"Then follows an act to organize Richland county, approved Feb. 7, 1850.

"In this law it gives the people of Richland county the right to vote for a county seat; and it does nowhere refer to a settlement between the two counties. Now, in our opinion, under the first law, we think that it was the intention of the Legislature, that Iowa county, with Richland county attached, should pay the cost of locating the county seat, out of revenue arising from property assessed in said county. And as the county commissioners of Iowa county have never heretofore rendered any account between the two counties, of what they collected, and report what they paid out, we concluded that

they considered, under the law passed, that we were, as long as attached to them, but one county. Also we think it the duty of Iowa county if they thought they were wronged in this last act, to provide through their representative, some act for a settlement between the two counties. Having this view of the question, we deem it unnecessary to answer the extravagant claim set up against us; but upon this and other grounds, disallow the claim presented."

#### COUNTY BUILDINGS.

The court-house, being two small for the purpose intended, owing to the rapid increase in population and the consequent swelling of the volume of business done at the county offices, the question of erecting new buildings began to be agitated about this time, and although nothing seems to have been done at this term of the board, still the question of court-house was quite a factor in the coming election.

The assessed value of property in the county, in 1853, was as follows:

Buena Vista,.....	\$64,663 00
Eagle,.....	18,256 00
Richmond,.....	26,465 00
Richland,.....	14,685 00
Richwood,.....	20,809 00
Rockbridge,.....	13,310 00
	<hr/>
Total,.....	\$158,188 00

The rate of tax, as laid by the board this year, was fifteen mills for county fund, six mills for State purposes and one and one-half mills for school fund, or twenty-two and one-half mills on the dollar for all.

When the board of supervisors met at the annual meeting, November, 1854, the first business transacted by them was the organization of towns 11 and 12 north, of range 2 east, into a separate town and election precinct, under the name of Willow; the first election to be held at the house of R. B. Stewart.

It was also decided to erect towns 11 and 12 north, of range 1 west, into a separate town, under the name of Marshall, and the first elec-

tion was ordered to be held at the house of Josiah McCaskey, on Fancy creek.

By order of the board at this meeting, sections 1, 12, 13, 24, 25 and 36, of town 10 north, of range 1 west, were set off from that town (Richmond) and attached to Richland; also the order for the organization of towns 11 and 12 north, of range 2 west, into a separate town, to be called Forest, was issued, and the residence of William Ogden was assigned as the place for holding the first election. It seems, from the records, that this was all the business that came before this board, except the auditing of the various bills and claims against the county.

Nov. 15, 1855, the new board of supervisors held their annual meeting. The first business brought before them being the matter of county buildings. It was reported to the assembled Solons that Ira S. Haseltine and his wife had deeded to the county, as a fee gift and donation, the east half of block 13, all of blocks 14 and 22, and the north half of block 23, all in the village of Richland Centre. This gift was made that the county might have a place whereon to build the said buildings. The board in accepting the deed, appointed themselves committee of the whole, to view the lots and select a suitable site thereon on which to place the structure to be known as the court-house.

Considerable wire pulling and manuevering was now displayed to determine the board to favor certain interests and to locate the buildings to suit the wishes of this or that party. James B. Cling offered to donate to the county five acres of ground, provided, that the county erect the new buildings on blocks 22 and 23. At first the board seemed to favor this, but after mature deliberation, by vote, it was decided not to accept the offer, and to leave themselves untrammelled in their choice of the site of the public buildings. By resolution, a committee was appointed for the purpose of fixing the amount necessary to be appropriated for the erection of the buildings. This committee,

consisting of B. L. Jackson, Alden Haseltine and E. L. D. Moody, reported to the board next day in the following words:

“Upon due consideration your, committee are of the opinion, that, it would be advisable to appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for the purpose of building a jail in Richland county, and would advise that the building be 18x26 feet, to be divided into two rooms. The building to be built on the block house plan, with weather-boarding on the outside and lined on the inside with sheet iron; and your committee are of the opinion that the interests of the county demands the appropriation of the sum of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) for the purpose of building a court-house, and would further recommend that the four lots on block thirteen (13) be under suitable regulations and at a proper time put on sale, as a means of raising a part of the fund; and would still further recommend that the court-house be built 28x36 feet, with posts twenty-one feet long, the lower story to be finished in accordance with a plan accompanying this report; and would call the attention of the board to the propriety of appointing three commissioners who shall have power, as a building committee, to award contracts, under suitable restrictions. Your committee are of the opinion that it is not necessary at the present time to raise more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) if the lots aforesaid are placed on sale at the proper time.

B. S. JACKSON, }  
E. L. D. MOODY, } Committee.”  
ALDEN HASELTINE. }

This report was adopted, with the amendment of making the \$1,000 to be raised \$500 and the building committee (to be appointed) here to be authorized to contract to pay interest on the balance on one-half the sum for one year, and on the other half two years, at seven per cent.

The following resolution was presented in relation to the matter under discussion, and in

accordance with the recommendations of the committee's report, as given above.

"*Resolved*, That the board proceed to elect three commissioners, to act as a building committee, and their duties shall be, first, prepare a draft and fix specifications for the building of a jail and court-house on the plans reported, with such internal alteration as may be found necessary, which alterations shall not increase the cost. Next, to advertise such plans, for a period of four weeks, and upon the expiration of such time, to award the contract to the lowest and best bidder. Also, it shall be their duty to examine the work while under construction, and to accept the work when done, if it shall be finished according to contract. Such contract shall be completed as follows: The jail to be completed by the first day of October, 1856, and the court-house by the first day of April, 1857."

On the above resolution being submitted for a vote, the result was a tie, but the chairman, by virtue of his office, gave the casting vote in its favor, and it was declared adopted.

The committee appointed under it, as the building commission, consisted of Josephus Downs, Milton Langdon and B. L. Jackson. It was also,

"*Resolved*, That the lots in block thirteen (13), shall be advertised for eight weeks, and put up at public sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the first Monday in July, 1856; also, that the county's lots, on the west side of Pine river, be sold at the same time."

The ways and means having been provided, it was "*Ordered*, That the building committee be empowered to draw orders on the county treasurer, from the building fund, to pay the sum of \$500 on the completion of the jail, and the sum of \$500 when the said court house shall be enclosed and doors hung, floors laid and stairs built; if the work is done according to the terms of the contract."

At this meeting, also, the town 11 north, of range 2 west, was set off from the town of Forest,

and ordered to be organized as a separate precinct under the name of Sylvan, and the school house in district No. 6, was named as the first town meeting place. Also town 12 north, of range 1 west, was set off from the town of Marshall and christened Bloom, and was ordered to perfect organization and vote for town officers at the house of Isaac Pizer. Town 12 north, of range 1 east, was also detached from the town of Rockbridge, and under the name of Henrietta was instructed to elect the necessary officers to complete the organization thereof, the voting place being at the house of H. B. Miller. Town 10 north, of range 2 east, and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, and the north half of sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, in town 9 north, of range 2 east, and section 1 and the north half of section 12, in town north of range 1 east, were ordered to be organized into one separate town under the name of Ithaca, and the first election was ordered to be held at Mr. Thomas' school house.

The committee appointed to investigate and audit the books of the county treasurer, reported that they had done as instructed and found all in good order, and that the treasury contained money to the amount of \$725.78.

While the board were discussing the financial affairs of the county government, Israel S. Sanderson, came into the room and presented to each member of the board, a copy of the first issue of the Richland county *Observer*, the first newspaper published within the limits of the county. This was Nov. 17, 1855. The board immediately passed the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That the board tender their sincere, thanks to Israel S. Sanderson, the editor of the Richland county *Observer*, for his kindness in presenting them with the first copies of his paper."

Town 10 north, of range 2 west, having asked for a separate organization, the prayer was granted, and the town named Akan and the house of Martin Munson was designated as the place of voting, at the first election.



The assessed value of the entire county this year shows a marked increase, being \$399,185.83.

In November, 1856, at the annual meeting of the board of county supervisors, the organization of the two remaining towns was ordered, as follows: Town 12 north, of range 2 east, to be known as the town of Westford, and the first election for town officers to be held at the house of Asa Lincoln, in the village of Cazenovia. Town 10 north, of range 1 west, to be organized and known as the town of Dayton, and the first election to be held at the residence of Henry McNelly.

The building committee, having made their report, that they had let the contract, for erecting the county buildings, to Ira Andrews whose bid was \$1,325, and that he had built the buildings in accordance with the plans and specifications as laid down in the contract; the board, in accepting the edifices from his hands, passed the following resolution, by a unanimous vote:

*Resolved*, That the county board of supervisors tender their sincere thanks to Mr. Ira Andrews, the contractor, for the faithful discharge of his duties, and for the energetic spirit and action which he has manifested in the speedy completion of the county buildings."

Much of this county lying on hillsides, and the wash of rains destroying them, the question of plank roads is found, at this time, to come to the front. In answer to several petitions asking that companies might be empowered to build such roads, and enjoy the benefits and emoluments thereof, the board appointed a committee to look into the matter. The report of the committee is given in full as it is a complete history of the plan upon which companies were formed.

"We, your committee in the matter of plank road companies, would report: That it is the opinion of your committee that it is for the best interests of this county that the prayer of said petitions, with restrictions, be granted; and

your committee would recommend that Garwood Green, Joseph C. Clark and J. W. Coffinberry, of the town of Buena Vista; D. L. Downs, Charles G. Rodolf and Napoleon Graham, of the town of Richmond; R. M. Miller, Jacob Rhodes and Reuben Powers, of the town of Richwood, be appointed commissioners to draft and compile charters, open stock or subscriptions for one, two or three plank and turnpike companies.

"One road may commence at Richland City, one at Richwood and one at Port Andrew, to run northerly in the direction of such terminus, as said commissioners shall determine, with a capital to each charter not to exceed \$20,000, with shares of \$20, payable in cash only, by per centum or otherwise.

"If the commissioners accepted, they were to hold their first meeting at Richmond, Dec. 20, 1856, and there pass such rules for their government as suited them, so as not to conflict with any State law. *Provided*, however, that the commissioners shall not have any demand on this county for their services.

"It is made the duty of the said commissioners to report, in a summary manner, all their doings in the premises, except the charters by them compiled shall be reported at length to the county board of supervisors, at any regular session, for approval, modification or rejection."

It was probably at this session of the board that the name of the village of Richmond was changed to that of Orion.

At an extra session called Jan. 5, 1857, for the purpose, the board ordered the purchase of a safe for the treasurer's office.

In November, 1857, at the annual meeting of the board, the extravagance that has characterized the various legislative bodies of later days, is foreshadowed by the board voting that each member be supplied with a lead pencil at the expense of the county.

The treasurer's report, submitted Nov. 13, 1857, gives the financial standing of the county at that date:

TREASURER OF RICHLAND COUNTY, <i>Dr.</i>	
To cash received from clerk of circuit court, as State tax.....	\$ 24.00
To cash received from clerk of circuit court, as fines and forfeitures.....	30.00
To State and county taxes, received from town treasurers.....	10,333.26
To school fund from State.....	2,078.21
To cash from tax certificates sold.....	458.34
Total.....	\$12,913.81
<i>Cr.</i>	
By State taxes paid.....	\$ 4,109.00
By State paid for fines.....	41.00
By amount paid contingent expenses.....	39.98
By amount paid for safe, etc.....	231.50
By amount paid school fund.....	1,651.98
By unpaid taxes on hand.....	1,666.95
By amount paid for making returns of delinquent tax.....	27.02
By making out tax sale certificates.....	496.75
By treasurer's fees.....	507.19
Total.....	\$ 12,926.12
Balance due treasurer.....	\$12.31

The committee appointed to ascertain the amount of outstanding warrants of the county, reported at this session. Their report declares that there were then outstanding of warrants issued from 1852 up to Jan. 1, 1857, \$1,479.27; since Jan. 1, 1857, \$1,796.66; making in all, \$3,275.93.

The court house at Richland Centre having been destroyed by fire in the spring of 1860, an account of which is detailed elsewhere, the board of supervisors, at a special meeting held May, 1860, passed the following resolutions in regard to re-building the same:

"*Resolved*, That we build a court-house 28x38 feet, the court room to be on the lower floor, with two jury rooms above; and that we also build four fire-proof offices outside the court house, each 12x16 feet in dimension.

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to receive plans and specifications and bids for the building of the court-house and county offices; said plans, specifications and bids to be received on or before the 15th day of May, A. D. 1860, and that the said committee

be, and is hereby empowered to let the building of the same to the lowest and best bidder."

D. L. Downs, James Barnes and William J. Bowen were appointed the committee under this resolution, and soon made their report to the board, saying that they had made the following plan for a court-house: "The building to be built of brick, the lower story with sixteen-inch walls, the upper twelve, with one inch hollow space therein. The lower room to be twelve feet from floor to ceiling, while the second floor should be nine feet between the same. The edifice to have a common roof, about one quarter pitch, and to be covered with good oak shingles, on hardwood sheathing. To be lighted with twelve windows below and twelve above. The whole structure to be surmounted by a cupola, as on the old court-house. The court room, being on the ground floor, to be floored with bricks placed on edge; the jury rooms, with good oak flooring; all inside wood-work and finishing to be in hardwood, and to be painted with three good coats of paint."

This plan was adopted by the board, and the committee instructed to proceed with the work, by the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the building committee build, or cause to be built, a court-house, 28x38 feet in size, and fire-proof buildings for county offices, for the sum of \$1,200, now in the treasurer's hands, and \$1,000 in county orders, and as much better and larger as they can, with the amount to be raised by the subscription of the citizens of Richland Centre; said committee to be restricted to the said sum and the said \$1,000 in county orders, which are to be issued and paid to the contractor, on the completion and accepting of the building, by the county board, and that all money remaining in the hands of the committee after the buildings are finished, be appropriated for furnishing the county offices."

The contract to build the county building was thereupon signed with Ira S. Haseltine, who immediately commenced the erection of the

present edifices, and completed them before the fall of the same year.

In the meanwhile it was necessary that the county officers have some place for their books, papers, and for the transaction of their business. The board appointed Alden Haseltine, Allen Tinker and O. H. Malette a committee to provide suitable rooms for that purpose, and for a temporary court room; which committee next day made the report that "They had rented the rooms of D. Pease for sheriff, clerk of the courts and clerk of the board, for \$7 per month, and they had hired the Lybrand hall for the holding of court, for \$3 per day, lights and fuel included, and that the register of deeds be allowed to furnish his own room, at an expense not to exceed fifty cents per week; and the proposition of Dr. Gage, to furnish a room for the treasurer free of charge, be accepted."

Matters being arranged in this manner, the board ordered that for all intents and purposes, Lybrand hall should be the county court house, for the time being.

At the next meeting of the board of supervisors, held in November, 1860, the new court house was so far completed that the assembled wisdom of the county could occupy the same for their deliberations, and the first business was to apportion the offices to the officers of the county, which was done, and the matter regulated as we now find it.

At this time a petition was presented by the citizens of the town of Richmond, praying that the name of that town be changed to that of Orion. This prayer was granted, and the town has ever since been known by that cognomen.

The citizens of Richland Centre being desirous of removing the county jail to the court house square, petitioned the county board for permission to do so, at their own expense. This was immediately granted, and the building com-

mittee ordered to expend the sum of \$25 in erecting a suitable foundation therefor.

At a special session of the board, held in July, 1861, a committee, consisting of W. J. Bowen, A. Loveless and W. Ketchum, was appointed to re-district the county into three precincts; the intention being to try and govern the county by three supervisors, instead of by the rather cumbrous machinery of the chairmen of the town boards, sixteen in number. This committee made its report, and on their recommendation the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That Richland county be divided into three supervisor districts, as follows: Richwood, Eagle, Orion and Buena Vista, to be called district number one; Richland, Rockbridge, Henrietta, Westford, Wil'ow and Ithaca, to be called district number two; Dayton, Bloom, Marshall, Forest, Sylvan and Akan, to be called district number three."

Several resolutions were passed at this and succeeding sessions, in regard to the relief of the families of the volunteers then going and gone to the front, which will be found under their proper head, in the chapter devoted to the war record of the county.

The subject that so long agitated the county politics came to the front this session—the building of a new jail. A committee having been appointed to look into the matter, reported favorably upon the undertaking, and recommended that the sum of \$400 be raised for that purpose, but the matter was laid upon the table for the present.

The first mention of the purpose of purchasing a county poor farm was brought up at a meeting of the county board, held Nov. 20, 1865.

At a special meeting of the board of supervisors, held July 12, 1867, and called for the especial purpose of taking into consideration the erection of a jail, competent to hold the prison-

ers committed to it in safe keeping, the following resolutions were adopted:

*“Whereas, The jail of the county is unfit, and not sufficient for the safe keeping of persons placed therein, therefore,*

*“Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) be raised by tax, and appropriated for the erection of a new jail; plans and specifications to be hereinafter agreed upon by this board.*

*“Resolved, That J. G. S. Hayward visit Prairie du Chien and Viroqua, to get plans and estimates of cost of jails at those places.”*

In accordance with the above resolution, at an adjourned meeting of the board, held Aug. 26, 1867, for the purpose of deciding upon the plan, etc., Thomas Cholerton, B. C. Hallin, and J. G. S. Hayward, were appointed a committee to draft the plan and make the specifications for the edifice, and the clerk of the board was instructed to advertise in the newspapers of the county, for bids for furnishing material, delivering the same, and doing all the work necessary to complete the said edifice.

These requirements having been complied with and the bids being received, the committee, deeming none of them satisfactory, determined upon building it themselves, which they at once commenced.

The county board, at this session, make a purchase of a safe, for the treasurer's office, at an expense of \$1,061.88, including freight, going on the principle, evidently, of “fast bind, fast find,” and from experience, knowing that a poor safe will not keep the money in, or the festive burglar out, invested in a first class article, which is doing good service to this day.

The county board again met in regular session Nov. 16, 1869, and a resolution of that body recites: “That it is the opinion of a large portion of the people of Richland county, that the benefit to our schools from the visitation of the

county superintendent, is not commensurate with the expense incurred, and,

*“Whereas, The board are in favor of an economical administration of the county government, and desire to relieve the people of taxation, when it can be done without the sacrifice of the public good, do, therefore,*

*“Resolve, That the county superintendent of schools be hereby requested, during his next term of office, commencing Jan. 1, 1870, not to visit the schools, and we do, therefore, relieve him of that part of his duties, and he is requested to confine his labors to holding institutes, public examinations and making the necessary reports.”*

At the session of the board, November, 1870, the clerk was instructed to have a well made on the court-house grounds, for the accommodation of the county officers, and as an extra precaution for the extinguishment of fires.

All along through the records, one is struck with the singular pertinacity of the various boards, who in their desire to a more economical administration of the finances of the county, are continually memorializing the Legislature for an amendment to the act in regard to the payment for the printing of the delinquent tax lists, and other county printing, which in their opinion is much too high.

The board having found out by this time that it was a mistake in their action in regard to the county superintendent of schools, and that the lowest salary that they can pay him, according to a statute of the State, is \$800, by resolution rescinded their former instruction and desired him to devote his entire time to the duties of the office.

\* The assessed value of all property in the county, in 1871, is given as \$2,544,824.12.

As an evidence of the growth of the county, and its improved financial condition, the report

of the treasurer of the county for November, 1872, is here inserted:

TREASURER OF RICHLAND COUNTY, *Dr.*

To tax sale certificates on hand last report .....	\$ 9,569.43
To cash on hand last report.....	175.88
To State tax received from towns.....	5,559.00
To county tax received from towns .....	3,365.31
To tax, county superintendent's salary .....	762.56
To cash from county judge.....	30.00
To cash from fines received.....	65.00
To suit tax from clerk of court.....	26.00
To State school fund .....	2,662.92
To delinquent tax from State.....	336.27
To interest on certificates sold .....	64.66
To interest on certificates redeemed.....	39.14
To fees from county clerk .....	195.45
To delinquent taxes collected before sale.....	2,726.62
To amount of tax sale.....	4,492.59
Total.....	\$ 30,070.80

*Cr.*

By State tax paid State treasurer. ....	\$ 5,633.09
By cash paid towns.....	1,518.26
By State school funds paid towns.....	2,656.29
By cash paid on illegal certificates.....	119.24
By cash paid treasurers for returns.....	28.94
By cash paid register .....	45.85
By cash paid insurance.....	20.00
By loss on certificates sold .....	7.65
By cash paid county superintendent.....	600.00
By cash paid posting notice of land sale.....	3.00
By cash paid county clerk for contingent fund....	250.00
By county certificate to county clerk.....	164.06
By cash, expenses to Madison twice.....	25.00
By cash, county orders redeemed.....	5,874.45
By tax sale certificates on hand.....	9,957.09
By one year's salary.....	800.00
By cash on hand to balance.....	2,373.97
Total.....	\$ 30,070.80

The poor farm subject again comes to the foreground, during the session of the board of supervisors, held November, 1874, but it seems there was a division of opinion upon the subject, and the more advanced thinkers had to give the matter up for the time being, finding themselves in the minority.

A resolution was also introduced, offering to donate the sum of \$500 toward the town's sinking an artesian well in the court-house square. This produced considerable debate and was, when action was taken thereon, voted down.

Jan. 1, 1875, the board of county supervisors, in order to clear up the books and offices of the county officers, made the sale of all the tax sale certificates, remaining in the possession of the

county, to James L. McKee, for the sum of \$2,500, or about fifteen per cent. of their face value. This was considered at the time a very good price, as many of them were of quite ancient date, and others, no doubt, were illegally assessed and consequently were of no value.

The assessment rolls for 1875 show that there were then in the county, assessable, 365,898 acres of land, at an assessed value of \$1,824,471; town property valued at \$187,700. There was also of live stock, owned by the community, 5,308 horses, 15,612 head of horned cattle, 225 mules and donkeys, 22,625 sheep and 13,681 swine. The personal property assessable was valued at \$711,223.

It was at the session of the board of supervisors, November, 1879, that a petition was presented, from the ex-soldiers of Richland county, for permission to place a memorial monument to their dead comrades in arms, in the court house square. The prayer was granted with the usual liberality of the board, and a place pointed out as the most appropriate, but from some cause or other the monument has not been erected yet. It has been suggested that, as so many Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic have been organized in Richland county, it would be fitting and proper that they take the matter in hand, and not let the dead heroes be forgotten. He who died with arms in his hands and his face to the foe, should have his name revered and his monument raised that men may see, lest they forget his deeds and death in defense of liberty and right.

When the board of supervisors met in special session, May, 25, 1881, Mr. Blackmer, of Burlington, Iowa, appeared before them, showing the Pauly system of steel-clad cells for jails, and the board, after fully understanding the merits of the invention, determined upon equipping the Richland county jail with them, passed a resolution adopting it and appointing the chairman, A. S. Ripley, J. D. Haring and George E. Bennett, clerk of the board, a committee to prepare and sign the contract with

the party, and also to superintend the work of putting in the cells. The sum of \$3,200 was also appropriated to defray the expense of the same.

In November, 1882, at the annual meeting of the board, the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, By the county board of supervisors of Richland Co., Wis, that Homer J. Clark, the county clerk; Irvin Gribble, the county treasurer; D. L. Downs, O. F. Black, J. L. McKee and J. H. Miner be, and the same are hereby appointed, a committee to consider and devise plans, and procure estimates for the erection of a new court house in this county, and report their proceeding to the county board at its next annual session in 1883."

At the annual session held in November, 1883, this committee made a lengthy report, in which they recommended that a court house be erected upon the site occupied by the present county buildings. They thought the building should be about 45x90 feet in size, two stories and a basement in height, and estimated that it would cost about \$20,000. The report continues that the strongest reasons for a new court house, that have been presented to the committee, were: "First, That the present building is not adequate to hold the necessary persons in attendance at court; such as witnesses, juries and parties; for evidence of which Judge Mills, in 1867, condemned it and rented Chandler's Hall for a term of three weeks; and in 1879 Judge Cothren rented Krouskop's Hall at a cost of \$10 per day; and at the last term of court the room was intolerable by reason of being so small that it would not hold the crowd, and many persons were compelled to stay away, while others stayed outside the doors and windows. Second, That the records of the county are unsafe and exposed to fire. No person's title to land is secure, and endless litigation would grow out of the titles, tax titles, judgments, mortgages and other matters of record, in case of the destruction of the records."

It was also further stated "that all the estates of deceased persons, and all the rights and titles devised through the settlement of the same by the county court are now resting in wooden pigeon holes in a small wooden building surrounded by other inflammable buildings."

After considerable discussion it was decided to lay the report aside for the consideration of some future board of supervisors. But at the same time the matter was partly compromised by appropriating from the county treasury the sum of \$600 for the erection of a small office for the county judge. This building was begun immediately after the board adjourned, and finished about Jan. 1, 1884. It stands just north of the other county buildings.

At the same session, the board fixed the salaries of the various county officers for the years 1884 and 1885 as follows: county treasurer, \$800; county clerk, \$800; County superintendent, \$800; district attorney, \$400; clerk of court, \$600.

#### BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS.

1850—John H. Price, of Buena Vista; E. H. Dyre, Richmond; Adam Byrd, Richwood.

1851—John H. Price, of Buena Vista; Molbry Ripley, Richmond; Adam Byrd, Richwood; Orin Haseltine, Rockbridge.

1852—Lucius Tracy, of Buena Vista; R. H. McMahon, Rockbridge; George N. Ewing, Richmond; Elias McClure, Richwood.

1853—C. G. Rodolf, of Eagle; Elias McClure, Richwood; D. L. Downs, Richmond; Luther Irish, Buena Vista; Orin Haseltine, Rockbridge; A. J. Sheldon, Richland; David Bovee, as associate from the village of Richland Centre.

1854—Henry Connor, of Richwood; D. L. Downs, Richmond; L. B. Palmer, Eagle; William Harman, Buena Vista; Alden Haseltine, Rockbridge; Ira S. Haseltine, Richland.

1855—Josephus Downs, of Marshall; Levi Houts, Richmond; B. L. Jackson, Buena Vista; George Rea, Richwood; Alden Haseltine, Rockbridge; L. B. Palmer, Eagle; Milton Langdon, Richland; E. L. D. Moody, Willow; E. B. Tenney, Forest,

1856—E. L. D. Moody, of Willow; J. W. Coffinberry, Buena Vista; William Herman, Ithaca; Riley Hamilton, Richland; J. S. Scott, Rockbridge; William H. Joslin, Henrietta; Josephus Downs, Bloom; J. B. Bennett, Forest; Horace Cook, Sylvan; Zenas W. Bevier, Akan; Samuel W. Flick, Richwood; L. B. Palmer, Eagle; D. L. Downs, Richmond; Archibald Wanless, Marshall.

1857—Alden Haseltine, of Rockbridge; L. Nichols, Buena Vista; Isaac Sepley, Bloom; J. W. Ambrose, Forest; William H. Joslin, Henrietta; John Fogo, Marshall; Leroy D. Gage, Richland; John Coumbe, Richwood; Jacob Fellows, Willow; Allen Tinker, Westford; George N. Ewing, Eagle; E. B. Tenney, Sylvan; Horace Wait, Akan; G. W. Oglevie, Dayton; Isaac McCollum, Ithaca; John Hendricks, Richmond.

1858—Zenas W. Bevier, of Akan; Thomas C. Clark, Bloom; D. B. Young, Buena Vista; George W. Oglevie, Dayton; L. B. Palmer, Eagle; J. V. Bennett, Forest; Milton Satterlee, Henrietta; William Dixon, Ithaca; John Fogo, Marshall; John S. Scott, Rockbridge; William H. Wilson, Richland; Horace Wait, Richmond; Samuel Clayton, Richwood; George H. Babb, Sylvan; Allen Tinker, Westford; Jacob Fellows, Willow. After the organization of this board Jacob Fellows resigned his seat and E. L. D. Moody was allowed to fill his place.

1859—B. C. Hallin, of Akan; T. C. Clark, Bloom; D. B. Young, Buena Vista; G. W. Oglevie, Dayton; William Sharp, Eagle; W. H. Mack, Forest; L. Rennick, Henrietta, S. H. Doolittle, Ithaca; John Fogo, Marshall; G. B. Lybrand, Richland; Horace Wait, Richmond; Henry Connor, Richwood; Alden Haseltine, Rockbridge; O. H. Mallette, Sylvan; E. L. D. Moody, Willow; Allen Tinker, Westford.

1860—John Wait, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; Elias Thomas, Buena Vista; James Barnes, Dayton; Newton Wells, Eagle; A. Loveless, Forest; Milton Satterlee, Henrietta; J. H. Post, Ithaca; Joseph Benton, Jr., Marshall; Horace

Wait, Richmond; I. J. Wright, Richwood; Alden Haseltine, Rockbridge; William J. Bowen, Richland; O. H. Mallette, Sylvan; E. L. D. Moody, Willow; Allen Tinker, Westford.

1861—John Black, of Akan; William Farlin, Bloom; William Ketchum, Buena Vista; Molbry Ripley, Dayton; L. B. Palmer, Eagle; A. Loveless, Forest; R. J. Stevenson, Henrietta; S. H. Doolittle, Ithaca; J. H. Hindman, Marshall; Andrew Bird, Orion; Henry Connor, Richwood; William J. Bowen, Richland; Alden Haseltine, Rockbridge; O. H. Mallette, Sylvan; John Shaw, Willow; Allen Tinker, Westford;

1862—The mode of county government having been changed, three supervisors were vested with the power of the original board of sixteen. The first board under this rule was comprised of John Hendricks, of district No. 1; J. M. Thomas, of district No. 2; S. D. Ripley, district No. 3; and met January 13.

1863—Q. J. Wright, Alden Haseltine and A. Loveless.

1864—A. Loveless, Q. J. Wright and Alden Haseltine.

1865—George Caswell, A. S. Haseltine and A. Loveless.

1866—S. Henthorn, George H. Babb and J. G. S. Hayward.

1867—J. G. S. Hayward, George H. Babb and D. L. Downs.

1868—L. G. Thomas, Joseph Benton, Jr. and D. L. Downs.

1869—L. G. Thomas, J. S. Scott and Joseph Benton, Jr.

1870—It is gathered from the records that the three supervisor system not proving satisfactory, the return was made to the old system of representation, being one from each town. The roll for this year is: D. W. Core, of Akan; T. C. Clark, Bloom; V. Harter, Buena Vista; George R. Pyle, Dayton; C. D. Stewart, Forest; R. C. Hawkins, Henrietta; D. M. Logan, Ithaca; John Fogo, Marshall; J. H. Tilley, Orion; J. B. McGrew, Richland; J. S. Ellsworth, Richwood; James Washburn, Rock-

bridge; O. H. Mallette, Sylvan; Joseph Moody, Westford; John Smith, Willow; H. O. Morris, Eagle; G. L. Laws, of the village of Richland Centre. Before the regular session of the board, George R. Pyle, of Dayton, resigned his seat, and James M. Adair was chosen in his stead.

1871—L. O. Smith, of Akan; Henry H. Hoyt, Bloom; Vincent Harter, Buena Vista; James S. Barnes, Dayton; J. M. Thompson, Eagle; S. P. Kanable, Forest; P. H. McCarthy, Henrietta; D. M. Logan, Ithaca; John Fogo, Marshall; Jacob Brimer, Orion; William J. Bowen, Richland; J. S. Ellsworth, Richwood; James Washburn, Rockbridge; Joseph Moody, Westford; John Smith, Willow; James Twaddle, Sylvan; D. L. Downs, Richland Centre.

1872—Hiram Harvey, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; Lemuel Akey, Buena Vista; James T. Barnes, Dayton; W. T. Briggs, Eagle; Patrick H. McCarthy, Henrietta; D. M. Logan, Ithaca; Joseph Benton, Jr., Marshall; Jacob Brimer, Orion; J. B. McGrew, Richland; J. S. Ellsworth, Richwood; J. S. Scott, Rockbridge; Stephen Henthorn, Sylvan; Joseph Moody, Westford; C. P. Flora, Willow; D. L. Downs, Richland Centre.

1873—Richard Carpenter, of Akan; H. H. Hoyt, Bloom; William Krouskop, Buena Vista; A. J. Campbell, Dayton; George Kite, Eagle; J. A. Loveless, Forest; Bertrand Clark, Henrietta; William Dixon, Ithaca; Philip M. Smith, Marshall; Andrew Bird, Orion; J. B. McGrew, Richland; Robert Buchanan, Richwood; Alden Haseltine, Rockbridge; Stephen Henthorn, Sylvan; William Dueren, Westford; John Smith, Willow; Gilbert L. Laws, village of Richland Centre.

1874—Richard Carpenter, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; William Krouskop, Buena Vista; William Beam, Dayton; James C. Wilson, Eagle; John A. Loveless, Forest; Thomas Norman, Henrietta; William Dixon, Ithaca; William Lowry, Marshall; David Weiker, Orion; Henry St. John, Richland; James W.

Jones, Richwood; James Washburn, Rockbridge; Nathaniel Grim, Sylvan; D. L. Downs, village of Richland Centre; Joseph Moody, Westford; J. Smyth, Willow.

1875—Richard Carpenter, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; Vincent Harter, Buena Vista; August S. Ripley, Dayton; H. O. Morris, Eagle; S. P. Kanable, Forest; P. H. Shields, Henrietta; William Dixon, Ithaca; Archibald Wanless, Marshall; Jacob Brimer, Orion; N. L. James, Richland; Robert Buchanan, Richwood; Alden Haseltine, Rockbridge; Nathaniel Grim, Sylvan; Joseph Moody, Westford; John Smyth, Willow; James L. McKee, village of Richland Centre.

1876—P. M. Eaton, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; Vincent Harter, Buena Vista; August S. Ripley, Dayton; J. H. Case, Eagle; J. A. Loveless, Forest; D. Wherry, Henrietta; William Dixon, Ithaca; Archibald Wanless, Marshall; J. M. Truax, Orion; N. L. James, Richland; Robert Buchanan, Richwood; E. Murphy, Rockbridge; M. Burroker, Sylvan; J. Keane, Westford; B. B. Brownell, Willow; James L. McKee, village of Richland Centre.

1877—James Sheffield, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; C. E. Brace, Buena Vista; August S. Ripley, Dayton; J. H. Case, Eagle; J. C. Bender, Forest; P. H. Shields, Henrietta; William Dixon, Ithaca; Archibald Wanless, Marshall; W. H. Stewart, Orion; J. B. McGrew, Richland; Robert Buchanan, Richwood; James Washburn, Rockbridge; Nathaniel Grim, Sylvan; Joseph Moody, Westford; B. B. Brownell, Willow; D. G. James, village of Richland Centre.

1878—Squire Sheafor, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; Henry Dillon, Buena Vista; A. S. Ripley, Dayton; Horatio Cornwall, Eagle; J. C. Bender, Forest; P. H. McCarthy, Henrietta; Albert Misslich, Ithaca; William Lowry, Marshall; J. B. McGrew, Richland; Edmund Clark, Richwood; George Fogo, Rockbridge; D. B. Sommars, Sylvan; B. M. Jarvis, West-



ford; E. C. Wildermuth, Willow; James L. McKee, village of Richland Centre.

1879—James Brady, of Akan; Elijah Allbaugh, Bloom; George J. Carswell, Buena Vista; A. S. Ripley, Dayton; Orrin Henry, Eagle; John A. Loveless, Forest; Jonathan Dillon, Henrietta; Albert Misslich, Ithaca; Philip M. Smith, Marshall; William H. Stewart, Orion; J. B. McGrew, Richland; J. H. Tilley, Richwood; George Fogo, Rockbridge; T. M. Sheffield, Sylvan; B. M. Jarvis, Westford; D. J. O'Hara, Willow; W. M. Fogo, village of Richland Centre.

1880—James Brady, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; H. L. Eaton, Buena Vista; P. Sweeney, Dayton; E. D. Manning, Eagle; Irvin Gribble, Forest; John F. Conley, Henrietta; Albert Misslich, Ithaca; J. W. Barrett, Marshall; William Brimer, Orion; J. B. McGrew, Richland; J. H. Tilley, Richwood; William H. Joslin, Rockbridge; Thomas Harn, Sylvan; B. M. Jarvis, Westford; B. B. Brownell, Willow; D. L. Downs, village of Richland Centre.

1881—James Brady, of Akan; Darius Morrison, Bloom; John H. Carswell, Buena Vista; A. S. Ripley, Dayton; James Lucas, Eagle; J. S. Kanable, Forest; John F. Conley, Henrietta; Albert Misslich, Ithaca; Thomas Gillingham,

Marshall; William A. Brimer, Orion; J. D. Harring, Richland; L. M. Thorp, Richwood; George Fogo, Rockbridge; Thomas Harn, Sylvan; Benedict Adleman, Westford; B. B. Brownell, Willow; D. L. Downs, village of Richland Centre.

1882—James Brady, of Akan; Elijah Allbaugh, Bloom; J. Q. Black, Buena Vista; Peter Sweeney, Dayton; John M. Craigo, Eagle; J. S. Kanable, Forest; John W. Fowler, Henrietta; Albert Misslich, Ithaca; Thomas Gillingham, Marshall; William A. Brimer, Orion; Barney C. Hallin, Richland; L. M. Thorp, Richwood; J. M. Ryman, Rockbridge; George Henthorn, Sylvan; Birney M. Jarvis, Westford; J. P. Smyth, Willow; D. L. Downs, village of Richland Centre.

#### THE BOARD IN 1883.

James Bachtenkireher, of Akan; Elijah Allbaugh, Bloom; J. Q. Black, Buena Vista; C. A. Berghazen, Dayton; J. M. Craigo, Eagle; J. A. Loveless, Forest; P. Dunn, Henrietta; A. Misslich, Ithaca; P. M. Smith, Marshall; W. M. Brimer, Orion; B. C. Hallin, Richland; L. M. Thorp, Richwood; Col James Washburn, Rockbridge; George Henthorn, Sylvan; B. M. Jarvis, Westford; J. R. Smyth, Willow; D. L. Downs, village of Richland Centre.



## CHAPTER V.

## VARIOUS OFFICIAL MATTERS.

In this connection are presented various official matters, which, although too brief to place in a chapter separately, are too important to be entirely ignored. The items have been gathered from records, and other most authentic sources.

## TAXES AND VALUES.

The first board of equalization of taxes, of and for Richland county, met at the court house in the village of Richland Centre, Sept. 20, 1850, and was composed of the assessors of the various towns, as follows: J. S. Chitwood, Akan; J. P. Dewey, Buena Vista; Adam Altongh, Bloom; E. Davis, Dayton; Oliver Wherry, Eagle; Ashail Savage, Sylvan; Demas Wherry, Henrietta; Asa McCollum, Ithaca; James Clark, Marshall; Isaac Welton, Richland; William Wulfig, Richmond; Samuel Fleck, Richwood; C. H. Smith Rockbridge; John Miller, Willow; Solomon Clark, Westfor. The town of Forest does not seem to have been represented at this board. In 1863 the real estate in the various towns of the county as equalized by the board of supervisors, was assessed as follows: Akan averaged \$1.50 per acre; Bloom, \$1.75; Buena Vista, \$3; Dayton, \$2; Eagle, \$3; Forest, \$1.75; Henrietta, \$1.75; Ithaca, \$3; Marshall, \$2; Orion, \$2; Richwood, \$2; Richland, \$3; Rockbridge, \$2; Sylvan, \$1.75; Willow, \$2 and Westford, \$1.75.

The taxes of 1863 were apportioned among the various towns as follows:

TOWNS.	State Tax.	County Tax.	Supt's Salary.	County School Tax
Akan .....	\$ 99 40	\$ 259 87	\$ 12 00	\$ 32 48
Bloom.....	162 64	425 04	19 60	53 14
Buena Vista.....	382 95	1,027 44	47 41	128 43
Dayton.....	152 98	399 99	18 43	49 99
Eagle.....	236 90	619 45	28 59	77 44
Forest.....	136 90	357 93	16 49	44 74
Henrietta.....	129 14	337 67	15 56	42 20
Ithaca.....	351 71	919 64	42 42	114 95
Marshall.....	174 37	455 93	21 02	56 00
Orion.....	172 69	451 53	20 82	56 44
Richland.....	417 18	1,090 80	50 34	136 25
Richwood.....	307 75	804 65	37 11	100 59
Rockbridge.....	158 43	414 24	19 10	51 78
Sylvan.....	145 85	381 35	17 58	47 66
Westford.....	134 58	351 88	16 21	43 98
Willow.....	143 74	375 84	17 32	46 98

By the report of the county treasurer, dated November 18, 1863, there had been \$25,803.60 disbursed from the county treasury during the year just closed. The total receipts for the year were \$25,961.64, leaving a balance in the hands of the county treasurer of \$158.04.

Compare the above statement for the year 1863, with the following facts which relate to 1873, after one decade had passed: The total valuation of property in the town of Akan was \$111,529, land was assessed at \$3.75 per acre; Bloom, valuation \$145,701, land assessed at \$4.60 per acre; Buena Vista, valuation \$225,767, land assessed at \$5.90 per acre; Dayton, valuation, \$144,712, land assessed \$4.75 per acre; Eagle, valuation \$192,947, land assessed \$6.75 per acre; Forest, valuation \$130,462, land as-

sessed \$4.15 per acre; Henrietta, valuation \$122,735, land assessed \$4.25 per acre; Ithaca, valuation \$214,564, land assessed \$5.50 per acre; Marshall, valuation \$150,735, land assessed \$4.75 per acre; Orion, valuation \$94,964, land assessed \$3.60 per acre; Richland, valuation \$320,163, land assessed \$6.25 per acre; Richwood, valuation \$209,236, land assessed \$5.85 per acre; Rockbridge, valuation \$140,452, land assessed at \$4.50 per acre; Sylvan, valuation \$118,755, land assessed at \$4.25 per acre; Westford, valuation \$145,205, land assessed at \$4.65 per acre; Willow, valuation \$116,711, land assessed at \$4.25 per acre.

In the report of the county treasurer, under the date of Nov. 15, 1873, appears the statement that the total receipts for the year just closed were \$34,483.28; total disbursements, \$32,348.59; total cash on hand, \$2,136.69.

The following statement will show the taxes in the various towns of the county, as apportioned by the board of supervisors in November, 1873 :

TOWNS.	County school tax.	County tax including country road tax.	State Tax.	County Superintendent's salary.	Legal certificates.	Road damages apportioned by board in 1872.	Total amount of all taxes.
Akan.....	\$130 00	\$966 78	\$302 48	\$24 58	\$184 52	\$64 00	\$1,698 31
Bloom.....	250 00	479 16	365 17	45 11	.....	.....	1,293 44
Buena Vista.....	250 00	412 47	612 32	69 88	.....	.....	1,674 67
Dayton.....	170 00	475 91	312 48	41 80	3 90	.....	1,087 69
Eagle.....	200 00	633 54	523 30	50 73	.....	.....	1,452 56
Forest.....	200 00	429 04	538 82	40 30	.....	64 00	1,087 28
Henrietta.....	250 00	403 63	332 88	37 89	.....	.....	1,034 43
Ithaca.....	250 00	405 63	281 94	66 42	.....	.....	1,603 99
Marshall.....	150 00	496 72	408 82	46 65	.....	.....	1,216 19
Orion.....	200 00	311 30	257 43	29 99	.....	.....	752 13
Richland.....	400 00	552 92	587 50	64 76	.....	.....	2,390 57
Richwood.....	350 00	488 11	380 31	43 48	.....	61 00	1,135 31
Rockbridge.....	185 00	461 90	322 69	36 77	.....	17 00	941 30
Sylvan.....	175 00	300 34	477 53	44 56	.....	.....	1,166 30
Westford.....	250 00	477 53	393 82	36 14	5 87	.....	1,166 30
Willow.....	150 00	383 82	316 54	.....	.....	.....	862 37

PRODUCTS OF RICHLAND COUNTY.

In this connection is presented a statement of the crops grown and acreage thereof in Richland county, for the years 1873, 1882 and 1883. The statement is given at length, showing the results in each town, for the purpose of making the table valuable as a means of reference.

In the year 1873, there were 21,346 acres sown to wheat in the county; 7,320, sown to oats; 18,240 to corn; 159 to barley; 1,019 to rye and 395 to hops. These amounts were distributed among the various towns as follows:

TOWNS.	Wheat.....	Oats.....	Corn.....	Barley.....	Rye.....	Hops.....
Akan.....	880	208	927	.....	7	23 1/2
Bloom.....	1,831	447	1,319	31	8	18
Buena Vista.....	1,003	703	1,758	16	327	73
Dayton.....	1,229	390	944	4	4	3
Eagle.....	2,432	369	1,890	.....	23	101 1/2
Forest.....	1,317	401	947	.....	6	3
Henrietta.....	837	396	802	5	9	81 1/2
Ithaca.....	2,011	1,022	1,377	72	194	84 1/2
Marshall.....	1,691	529	1,186	.....	4	161 1/2
Orion.....	838	307	733	.....	15	12
Richland.....	1,089	403	1,295	5	17	22
Richwood.....	1,460	283	1,739	.....	159	22
Rockbridge.....	1,056	378	1,034	.....	10	15
Sylvan.....	1,730	445	1,193	.....	.....	2
Westford.....	1,243	567	527	43	9	53 1/2
Willow.....	690	374	629	.....	27	47 1/2
Totals.....	21,346	7,323	18,240	159	1,019	395

The following table shows the aggregate number of acres of land assessed in the several towns of Richland county, with the price per acre as fixed by the county board of supervisors at their annual session, 1883; also their aggregate valuation, the valuation of village and personal property, and the aggregate valuation of all property in said county, as equalized; together with the State, county, county school and county superintendent's salary tax as apportioned to the several towns; also the amount of delinquent personal property and illegal tax sale certificates charged back to towns, and the amounts due the State on loans to school districts :

## STATEMENT FOR 1883.

TOWNS.	Number of acres of Land.....	Value per acre as equalized.....	Value of aforesaid acres of land.....	Value of Village Property.....	Value of all Personal Property.....	Total value of all Property.....	State Tax.....	County Tax.....	County School Tax.	County Superintendent Salary Tax...	Personal Property Tax charged back...	Illegal tax sale certificate charged back.	Loans to School Districts .....	Total.
Akan.....	23,000	\$4 00	\$ 92,000		\$ 1,310	\$116,223	167 40	522 45	250 00	31 42	23 14			\$994 41
Bloom.....	23,964	5 50	131,802	\$ 8,775	31,829	213,559	307 56	959 98	300 00	57 75	3 93		284 97	1,914 19
Bu'na Vista	22,623	5 65	127,820	26,816	13,145	208,037	299 60	935 16	275 00	56 26	3 96		26 94	1,596 92
Dayton.....	22,861	4 75	108,590	4,050	8,095	154,253	222 15	693 40	250 00	41 72	13 24			1,220 51
Eagle.....	22,200	7 50	166,500	6,650	14,031	223,556	321 95	1,004 90	300 00	60 46	12 00	2 27	114 00	1,815 58
Forest.....	22,718	5 00	113,590	4,920	12,705	172,590	248 56	775 82	225 00	46 67	4 05		16 87	1,316 97
Henrietta..	21,106	4 25	93,500	5,825	2,970	140,055	201 70	629 56	275 00	37 88	4 83			1,148 97
Ithaea.....	29,450	5 60	164,920		10,882	229,903	331 10	1,033 43	300 00	62 18	59	3 28	365 43	2,096 01
Marshall...	23,078	5 75	132,699		13,573	185,361	266 95	833 22	275 00	50 23	11 67			1,437 07
Orion.....	18,619	3 25	60,512	4,502	7,193	92,288	132 92	414 85	200 00	24 88	17 24			853 80
Richland...	22,439	7 00	157,073	169,960	41,553	433,481	624 25	1,948 52	600 00	117 20	35 23		63 91	3,367 28
Richwood..	26,643	5 50	146,537	20,766	12,701	216,314	311 52	972 37	450 00	58 50	29 57		42 08	2,042 96
Rockbridge	22,620	5 00	113,100	2,026	6,280	156,424	225 28	703 15	350 00	42 30	17 65		321 00	1,397 98
Sylvan.....	23,035	5 00	115,175		10,563	157,463	226 77	707 70	250 00	42 48	14 17		59 60	1,241 12
Westford..	20,575	5 00	112,875	6,424	2,529	144,268	207 77	648 50	250 00	39 01	10 66			1,155 94
Willow....	22,112	4 00	88,448	1,910	1,636	115,270	166 02	518 17	200 00	31 06	9 11		174 50	1,098 86
Total.....	367,043		\$1,925,141	\$262,624	\$190,995	\$2,959,045	\$426 50	\$13,301 18	\$4750 00	\$800 00	\$211 04	\$5 55	\$1369 30	\$24,698 57

Dated, Richland Centre, Wis., Nov. 20, 1883.

H. J. CLARK, County Clerk

**STATEMENT**

*Showing the Principal Farm Products Growing in Richland County in July, 1883.*

TOWNS.	Number of Acres.													Milk Cows.		
	Wheat.....	Corn.....	Oats.....	Barley.....	Rye.....	Potatoes.....	Root Crops.....	Apple Orch's		Flax.....	Hops.....	Tobacco.....	Grasses.....	Growing Timber	Number.....	Value.....
								Acres.....	Number of bearing trees.....							
Akan.....	772	1,453	631	2	54	44½	19	909				1,144		234	\$ 4,432	
Bloom.....	1,894	2,048	1,065	26	61	62	70	3,281				1,350		437	7,340	
Buena Vista.....	217	1,469	933	4	314	53	13	919		1½		4,367	3,590	770	18,500	
Dayton.....	914	2,506	537	15	46	47	62	2,430				7,352		320	3,707	
Eagle.....	1,215	2,781	891	6	40	65	71	3,669				2,018	4,919	428	12,840	
Forest.....	1,600	1,401	1,046	4½	31½	59¾	¾	2,805				1,468	8,390	360	6,500	
Henrietta.....	813	877	716	8	9	53½	19	1,198				1,052	4,365	302	3,634	
Ithaca.....	327	851	841	11	143	520	72½	7,934	2	20		2,488	3,690	975	19,500	
Marshall.....	1,521	1,575	1,165	8	34	62	73½	3,425		1		1,483		462	6,041	
Orion.....	505	1,150	634	3	82	52	45½	1,522				886	2,727	258	3,547	
Richland.....	575	1,411	700	8	36	79	41¾					1,269		557	14,085	
Richwood.....	987	2,531	1,152	4	230	114	8	33	1,651		2¾	1,384	9,026	425	10,389	
Rockbridge.....	860	1,228	978		44	73	34	1,200		1		1,857		374	6,166	
Sylvan.....	1,704	1,730	813	2	144½	55¾	92½	3,191				2,157	9,916	416	6,511	
Westford.....	650	450	750	125	65	150	10	80				600	20,200	368	5,520	
Willow.....	578	1,132	800	9	38		48	2,091		½		1,543		412	8,240	
Totals.....	13,526	22,781	12,636	231	1,340	1,430	8½	709¾	32,600	2	24	2¾	30,941	58,833	6,738	\$ 130,452

PRINCIPAL FARM PRODUCTS OF RICHLAND COUNTY  
FOR 1882.

TOWNS.	Wheat.		Corn.		Oats.		Barley.		Rye.		Potatoes.		Root Crops.		Bushels of Cranberries.....
	Ac's Sown.	Bush. Harvested...	Acres.....	Bushels....	Acres.....	Bushels....	Acres.....	Bushels....	Acres.....	Bushels....	Acres.....	Bushels....	Acres.....	Bushels....	
Akan.....	846	8,641	1,172	35,550	461	15,900	32	32	12	298	47	3,863	.....	325	.....
Bloom.....	1,931	22,180	2,285	46,225	1,002	23,565	15	305	19	233	72	4,012	.....	802	.....
Buena Vista.....	150	1,846	1,369	49,410	782	25,189	.....	188	187	1,739	56	3,408	.....	.....	.....
Dayton.....	986	15,289	1,684	30,597	878	20,903	.....	262	20	225	90	5,737	.....	308	.....
Eagle.....	1,111	17,556	3,449	113,740	909	21,395	.....	100	49	200	68	4,934	.....	.....	.....
Forest.....	1,467	17,795	1,606	52,940	1,085	31,265	.....	24	2	70	45	3,915	.....	550	.....
Henrietta.....	428	9,776	794	18,140	495	18,381	18	170	19	350	60	352	.....	2,997	.....
Ithaca.....	467	7,151	1,620	45,660	1,168	28,332	32	120	95	1,665	79	6,008	.....	380	.....
Marshall.....	1,327	20,024	1,609	37,316	783	17,475	.....	.....	5	.....	64	4,753	.....	.....	.....
Orion.....	445	5,425	1,288	31,813	572	14,162	.....	46	60	709	44	3,752	.....	.....	.....
Richland.....	580	7,568	1,455	42,155	601	17,043	12	.....	28	46	73	5,574	.....	.....	.....
Richwood.....	977	10,025	2,800	90,341	874	24,871	7	25	260	1,783	75	6,653	.....	67	.....
Rockbridge.....	970	9,387	1,848	37,040	845	19,943	5	.....	24	100	107	4,921	½	297	.....
Sylvan.....	1,695	16,259	1,825	44,390	1,472	27,084	13	84	104	397	95	3,359	4	75	.....
Westford.....	718	6,195	808	19,885	832	24,205	102	85	128	707	115	5,615	.....	.....	.....
Willow.....	593	4,892	756	27,205	802	21,438	.....	75	27	306	101	5,308	.....	.....	.....
	14,691	162,214	26,368	669,467	13,511	319,886	204	2,492	1,039	8,758	1,191	68,249	4½	5,251	2

*Principal Farm Products for 1882—Continued,*

TOWNS.	Apple Orchards.			Flax.		Hops.		Tobacco		Grasses.		Growing Timber, No. of Acres.....	Bush. of Clover Seed Raised.....	Bu. Tim. Seed Raised.	Ac's. h'v'd for Seed, Clover.....	Timothy.....	Milch Cows		Dairy Prod'c.	
	Number of Acres.....	Number of bearing Trees.....	Yield in Bushels..	Acres.....	Pounds.....	Acres.....	Pounds.....	Acres.....	Lbs. Yielded.....	Acres.....	Yield Tons						Number.....	Value.....	Pounds of Butter...	Pounds of Cheese....
Akan.....	35	783	577	11,200						737	1,252	12,760					463	\$5,556	12,440	
Bloom.....	80	3,170	1,700					1,735	1,380	1,986	10,720	95		65			432	6,048	28,550	
Buena Vista...	11½	843	215						4,072	3,184	2,772	75	117	50	20		730	18,250	43,595	238,397
Dayton.....	74	2,691	2,094	1½				2,798	823	1,162	10,225	25	2	4	1		404	8,555	28,190	
Eagle.....	48	2,419	1,301					500	2,297	1,221	9,910				23		475	7,140	40,600	1,500
Forest.....	25	1,482	1,910						1,341	1,045	8,496	40½		49			357	7,270	24,480	
Henrietta.....	7	170	245						670		8,650	15		6			129	1,670	10,413	
Ithaca.....	40	1,308	963			2,100			5,909	2,627	4,532	43		8	11	1	976	23,940	64,900	120,000
Marshall.....	77	3,797	1,850			300		370	1,301	1,638	8,252	22		9	15		445	8,605	35,905	
Orion.....	68	2,131	820	¾				1,600	808	939	2,985	10		15			227	3,921	14,630	
Richland.....	55	2,023	1,038					9½	1,692	1,534	4,849						435	7,718	57,330	
Richwood...	90	3,055	3,278					1,550	1,369	1,485	6,036			135	127		330	4,732	37,560	
Rockbridge....	65	1,493	235						1,309	1,441	7,450						441	7,825	32,145	
Sylvan.....	178	7,119	2,547						3,480	1,309	7,650	67		80			362	4,245	25,615	1,200
Westford....	128	1,175	100			6½			1,243	1,127	12,848						277	6,380	14,145	
Willow.....	29	1,357				3	77	6	1,000	1,016	1,742	2,892					277	6,123	37,683	
	1,010½	35,075	16,933	1¾	11,200	9½	2,477	15½	8,953	29,446	23,692	121,027	352½	277	241	72	6,760	\$127,928	483,101	361,097

## ABSTRACT OF ASSESSMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1883.

TOWNS.	No. of acres of Land.	Value per acre as Equalized.....	Value of said Lands.	Value of Village and City Lots as equalized.....	Horses.		Neat Cattle.		Mules and Asses.		Sheep and Lambs.	
					Number.....	Value.....	Number.....	Value.....	Number.....	Value.....	Number.....	Value.....
Akan.....	23,000	\$4.00	\$92,000	\$	311	\$9,330	942	\$9,420	8	\$360	1,485	\$1,850
Bloom.....	23,964	5.50	131,802	7,175	536	16,080	1212	12,120	8	360	3,475	4,340
Buena Vista.....	22,623	5.65	127,820	22,916	368	11,040	1684	16,840	9	405	1,287	1,609
Dayton.....	22,861	4.75	108,590	4,300	421	12,630	1037	10,370	27	1,215	1,870	2,330
Eagle.....	22,200	7.50	166,500	.....	572	17,460	1600	16,000	22	990	1,805	2,250
Forest.....	22,718	5.00	113,590	5,330	417	12,510	1216	12,160	4	180	3,258	4,073
Henrietta.....	21,406	4.25	93,500	4,570	367	10,060	1040	10,400	7	315	3,596	4,495
Ithaca.....	29,450	5.60	164,920	5,520	462	13,860	1862	18,020	23	1,035	1,345	2,431
Marshall.....	23,078	5.75	132,699	.....	464	13,920	1149	11,490	8	360	6,043	7,554
Orion.....	18,619	3.25	60,512	3,850	264	7,920	642	6,420	10	450	901	1,126
Richland.....	22,439	7.00	157,073	136,060	522	15,660	1314	13,440	11	495	2,178	2,723
Richwood.....	26,643	5.50	146,537	9,130	561	16,830	1471	14,710	11	495	2,272	2,310
Roekbridge.....	22,620	5.00	113,100	1,920	457	13,710	1165	11,650	22	990	3,532	4,415
Sylvan.....	23,035	5.00	115,175	.....	407	12,210	974	9,740	7	315	3,052	3,815
Westford.....	20,575	5.00	110,875	6,861	309	9,270	809	8,090	9	405	673	811
Willow.....	22,112	4.00	88,448	2,115	287	8,610	810	8,100	11	495	2,060	2,575
Total.....	367,043		\$1,925,141	229,690	6,725	\$201,750	18,897	\$188,970	197	\$8,865	39,432	\$49,291



*Abstract of Assessments for 1883.—Continued.*

TOWNS.	Swine.		Wagons, Carriages and Sleigs.		Gold and Silver Watches.		Pianos, Melodeons, Organs.		Val. Merchandise and Manufacturers Stock.		Value of all other Personal Property.....	Total Value of Personal Property.....
	Number.....	Value .....	Number.....	Value.....	Number.....	Value.....	Number.....	Value.....	Assessed.....	Equalized.....		
Akan.....	917	\$ 917	94	\$ 940	3	\$ 30	2	\$ 60	\$	\$	\$ 1,310	\$ 116,323
Bloom.....	1,799	1,799	319	3,190	32	320	18	540	1,835	4,000	31,829	213,559
Buena Vista .....	827	827	213	2,130	45	450	53	1,855	8,785	9,000	13,145	208,037
Dayton.....	1,545	1,545	226	2,260	13	130	6	180	871	2,600	8,095	154,253
Eagle.....	2,189	2,189	255	2,550	28	280	14	420	1,200	1,200	14,031	223,553
Forest.....	1,212	1,212	187	1,870	13	130	11	330	10,400	8,500	12,705	172,500
Henrietta.....	1,065	1,065	185	1,850	8	80	10	300	845	9,500	2,970	140,055
Ithaca.....	1,480	1,480	209	2,990	45	450	49	1,715	6,600	6,600	10,882	229,903
Marshall.....	1,475	1,475	170	1,700	22	220	4	120	1,545	2,250	13,573	185,361
Orion.....	1,187	1,187	215	2,150	35	350	21	630	513	500	7,193	92,288
Richland.....	1,347	1,347	269	2,690	122	1,320	82	3,280	29,320	58,000	41,553	433,481
Richwood.....	1,471	1,471	268	2,680	39	390	34	1,330	16,825	7,200	12,700	216,314
Roekbrido.....	1,519	1,519	162	1,620	15	150	9	270	700	800	6,280	156,424
Sylvan.....	1,575	1,575	128	1,280	11	110	6	180	3,120	2,500	10,562	157,463
Westford.....	594	594	52	520	..	....	1	30	2,000	2,250	2,529	144,268
Willow.....	1,241	1,241	105	1,050	2	20	6	180	800	800	1,636	115,270
Total.....	21,443	\$21,443	3,147	\$31,470	431	\$4,310	330	\$11,420	\$92,724	\$115,700	\$190,995	\$2,959,045

## POSTOFFICES AND POSTMASTERS.

According to the first number of the Richland county *Observer*, published Nov. 20, 1855, there were thirteen postoffices in the county, which are given here for the satisfaction of the curious, together with the respective postmasters: Richland Centre, Leroy D. Gage, postmaster; Orion, B. Ferris, postmaster; Richland City, C. B. Pearson, postmaster; Sand Prairie, H. M. Miller postmaster; Sextonville, E. M. Sexton, postmaster; Loyd, B. Hilencock, postmaster; Cazenovia, A. Perkins, postmaster; Neptune, J. Sippy, postmaster; Siresville, M. Satterlee, postmaster; West Branch, D. Barrett, postmaster; Fancy Creek, Josiah McCaskey, postmaster; Forest, R. J. Darnell, postmaster; Sylvan, A. Savage, postmaster.

## POOR FARM.

It is not to be wondered at, that the hardy pioneer of these grand old forest lands, in his desperate struggle for very existence with the forces of adverse nature, should be ever ready to extend a willing hand to the poor and needy brother man, whose needs and necessities exceeded his own, when we consider that his own condition was but one remove from that of penny and want. The many deeds of kindness, the thousand acts of brotherly charity, done in those early days by the hardy band of immigrants, who first essayed to hew themselves out homes in the vast primeval forest of our county, are borne upon the page of no earthly annals. But the memory of their charity exhales around them like the sweet incense upon the altar. "The poor ye have with ye always" fell from the lips of the Incarnate Son of God coupled with the injunction of "help one another," and the promise that "whosoever gave unto these poor, were it but a cup of cold water" should be particularly blessed. And when we look around us and mark the fortunes of our forefathers, we know that they, many of them at least, have "gathered of life's fair sheaves," through the blessing of giving to their failing, fainting fellow creatures. Never once did the primal set-

tlar hesitate to share his last crust with the poor and necessitous; never once did the cry of the widow and orphan fall upon deaf ears, but heartily and readily was the provision made for their comfort, and they were not suffered to linger in abject poverty and want. Many a deed, done in the dark by those rugged sons of toil, should be engraved in letters of gold, were they but known; but the dark mantle of time has covered them up to our finite sight, and earthly annals will never bear their impress, but let us hope that in the hereafter their good deeds may be returned to them.

After the organization of the county, the various towns took measures for a more regular and sustained effort for the relief of the poor and needy; and as the number of those seeking relief necessarily grew greater as the population increased, the members of the county board thought that by concentrating these charities it could be performed more satisfactorily and at a less expense. In pursuance of this idea a resolution was adopted by the board of supervisors, Nov. 20, 1865, which after stating that, "being desirous of ascertaining whether a majority of the people of the county wish to abolish the distinction between town and county poor, and purchase a poor farm," it was determined to submit the same to a vote of the qualified voters of the county at the next general election. The estimates made at this time showed that the probable cost of the purchase would be about \$5,000. This was accordingly done, but the people of the county seemed to think that the old way was preferable and declined to sanction the measure, and the matter was allowed to rest, for the time being.

In 1870 the matter again came to the front, and after much discussion the following resolutions were adopted on July 20, of that year.

"Resolved, That economy and duty demand the adoption of a county poor system, and the abolition of the present town system.

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to make inquiry, of other counties, re-

lating to the county poor system, procure estimates of cost of farm and buildings, and report to this board at its next meeting.

Under this resolution, the chair appointed T. C. Clark, J. S. Elsworth and Vincent Harter, as the committee.

For some reason this committee failed to make any report, as far as the records show, and on Nov. 14, 1871, another committee was appointed for the same purpose, consisting of five members: J. S. Ellsworth, Jacob Brimer, William J. Bowen, O. H. Mallette and P. H. McCarthy. The gentlemen, after due consideration, returned two reports, the majority one being in these words:

"We, the undersigned, a committee appointed for the purpose of taking into consideration and reporting upon the subject of abolishing the distinction between the town and county poor system, beg leave to report as follows:

"We would recommend that the distinction now existing between the town and county poor system, be abolished, and that all poor persons in the county be supported at the expense of the said county.

Signed,

J. S. ELLSWORTH.

W. J. BOWEN.

J. BRIMER.

O. H. MALLETTE."

And the following resolution was placed before them for action:

"*Resolved*, That the distinction between the town and county poor, in this county, be, and the same is hereby abolished."

This was, on motion, referred to a committee, consisting of William Dixon, James Washburn and J. W. Jones, who, after due deliberation reported that they labored under too great a difficulty in procuring any reliable data, upon which to base an opinion in regard to the different systems, and recommended that the matter be taken into consideration by the committee of the whole. On the reception of this report, the board, by vote, laid the subject on the

table, from whence it was not taken during the balance of the session.

The subject seems to break out chronically, all along through the records about this time, for we find, that at the November session of the board, 1875, another resolution was presented, abolishing the town system of taking care of the poor.

The minority report was signed by P. H. McCarthy, and dissented from the opinion of his colleagues.

Nothing further was done in the matter, however, and the question was left in abeyance, until in November, 1873, when a resolution was introduced, at a session of the board of supervisors, to adopt the county system of taking care of the destitute and penniless of the county; but the vote, when taken, was against its adoption, being ten against the measure and seven in favor. This was for many years the vexing question, and opinions were so divided upon the utility and economy of it, that it seemed impossible for it to be accomplished, but its friends never once gave up but upon every and all occasions brought it up for consideration.

The next year, November, 1874, it was once more presented to the board.

"*Resolved*, That the board should purchase a poor farm for the support of the poor and needy of this county;" but action on the matter was again indefinitely postponed.

There is an old proverb, that "constant dropping of water will wear a stone," and it is recorded, that, at the session of the board, held November, 1877, a resolution was finally adopted abolishing the town poor system and substituting the county relief plan; the clerk of the board being also instructed, at the same time, to file the resolution with the register of deeds. The towns were, however, instructed to take care of their own poor, at the expense of the county, until the board had provided suitable buildings for the reception of such indigent persons.

The first superintendents of the poor were also appointed by this board, Nov. 19, 1877, and were: A. M. Grumbeck-r, T. C. Clark and L. M. Thorp. The salaries of these officers were affixed, as being, \$2 for every day of actual service, and mileage at the rate of six cents for every mile of actual travel. At the same time the following was adopted:

“Resolved, That the sum of \$2,000 be, and the same is hereby appropriated by the board of supervisors of Richland county, to make part payment on a county poor farm, and to provide suitable buildings for said farm.” It was also

“Resolved, By the board of supervisors of Richland county, that the superintendents elected by the said board to purchase a poor farm, and erect suitable buildings thereon, for the use of the county poor, be, and they are hereby instructed not to purchase or locate said poor farm within two and a half miles of any village in said county.” A tax was also ordered to be levied of \$2,500, for the support of the paupers for the ensuing year.

At a special session of the board of supervisors, held Feb. 6, 1878, the superintendents of the poor made the following report :

“We, the superintendents of the poor for the county, most respectfully report to your honorable body, that under the directions and resolutions of the board passed in November last, we have spent several days in viewing places and situations, and are unable to procure a suitable and advantageous location for a county poor farm outside the limits prescribed for the location of the same; and we most respectfully submit for your consideration the recommendation that the restriction be removed.

“Second, that the \$2,000 appropriated for purchasing a poor farm, we deem inadequate for the purpose, as it necessitates the following expenditures :

“First, to make first payment on farm; second, erecting necessary buildings; third, for furnishing the house; fourth, to stock the farm;

fifth, to purchasing implements and seeds; sixth, to paying overseer and labor on the farm. We, therefore, most respectfully recommend that the \$2,500 appropriated at the last session for the support of the poor, be placed at the disposal of the superintendents to meet the above expenditures. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

A. M. GRUMBECKER,  
L. M. THORP,  
T. C. CLARK,

Superintendents of the poor.”

On motion, the report was received and the recommendations contained therein adopted by a unanimous vote of the board, leaving to the judgment of the superintendents the location of the poor farm, and placing at their disposal the money asked for.

T. C. Clark having tendered his resignation as superintendent of the poor, S. P. Kanable was elected in his place.

The land for the farm was then purchased by the superintendents, and consists of the north-west quarter of section 36, and the north-east quarter of the northeast quarter of section 35, in the town of Bloom, and contains 200 acres. The price paid was \$5,000, of which amount \$1,000 was paid down, and the balance was to be made in two equal payments, in one and two years. The date of the purchase was March 9, 1878. The contract for digging the cellar, for the house, for the use of the indigent wards of the county was let to William Akan, Ira Monroe and W. H. Waters; who agreed to do it for the sum of \$250. The contract for the frame erection was let to William Shepherd, whose bid for the same was \$1,700. The following may be of some interest as showing the manner of outlay of so much money, by the so-called servants of the people.

RECEIPTS.

From the county treasurer.....	\$4,500 00
“ Pasturage.....	33 40
To balance.....	42 16
Total.....	\$4,580 56

DISBURSEMENTS.

To first payment on land.....	\$1,000 00
“ building house.....	2,080 00
“ “ outhouse.....	15 00
“ stock purchased.....	318 00
“ paid for labor.....	428 74
“ implements and harness purchased.....	160 00
“ furnishing house.....	427 54
“ threshing.....	28 45
“ insurance.....	32 50
“ clover seed purchased.....	8 50
“ hay, corn, oats and potatoes.....	57 00
“ miscellaneous items.....	24 83
Total.....	\$4,580 56

Robert N. McKay was appointed the first overseer, at a salary of \$500 per year.

The superintendents of the poor, also, in making their report, as above, asked for the following appropriation for the expenditures of the ensuing year:

To meet payment on farm and interest.....	\$2,280 00
“ overseer's salary.....	500 00
Erection of building for the insane.....	500 00
Additional stock for the farm.....	300 00
For support of the inmates of home.....	1,420 00
Total.....	\$5,000 00

At the same session the board passed a resolution deeming it, in their judgment, better to have one than three superintendents, and proceeded to an election. John A. Meeker was chosen as such, to act for the term of one year.

In 1879, as is learned by a report made to the board, there were nineteen inmates in the county poor house, and the average cost per head was \$46.17 per annum, or about eighty-eight cents per week. The total cost of running the farm and poor house was \$1,879.60, and the products were valued at \$1,557.27, leaving but a small deficit.

At the annual meeting of the board, the method of attending to the poor farm and the inmates thereof by one superintendent, not proving satisfactory, a change was again made, and three superintendents were appointed, who now hold that office: John A. Meeker, A. S. Ripley and Thomas Sippy.

The present overseer of the poor at the farm is Philip Warren, who has held that position for the past two years.

From the report of the examining committee made to the board of supervisors, dated Nov. 17, 1883, it is learned that at that time there were seventeen inmates on the poor farm; the whole number of weeks attendance by paupers at the poor house during the year just closed, was 780; the cost of maintaining each individual upon the farm per week was \$1.86; amount paid overseer per year, \$500.

THE MARRIAGE RECORD.

The first marriage recorded in the Richland county books bears the date of May 14, 1850. The parties united in matrimony were James W. Joslin and Emeline Thompson. The ceremony was performed by Thomas E. Hessler, a justice of the peace, at the house of Samuel Swinehart, in the town of Richland.

The second marriage upon record is that of Daniel Byrd, to Miria Alexander. The ceremony was performed Nov. 3, 1850, by Thomas H. Dougherty. The witnesses were Levi Sterling and Dr. Henry McNelly.

The following are the marriages which appear upon record as having taken place during the years 1850, 1851, 1852 and 1853, showing the parties, the date and the officiating officers:

Evart H. Erwin and Elizabeth McCloud, Nov. 11, 1850, by J. W. Coffinberry, county judge. The ceremony was performed at the house of Robert McCloud, in the town of Buena Vista. The witnesses were W. H. Janney and William C. Hurst.

Benjamin N. Smith and Hannah Cusher [or Kershner], by Henry McNelly, justice of the peace, on Nov. 11, 1850.

M. R. Whelpy and Amanda Cline, by Nathaniel Wheeler, in the town of Buena Vista, on Nov. 3, 1850.

Martin Munson to Mary Johnson, by justice of the peace, Johnson Young, on Nov. 13, 1850.

William Pierson to Susanah Kimbrough, by J. W. Coffinberry, county judge, in December, 1850, at the house of Elizabeth Smith. The-

ceremony was witnessed by J. J. Moreland and Nathaniel Guin.

Andrew J. Kincannon to Elizabeth Kincannon, by Johnson Young, justice of the peace, Jan. 23, 1851.

John J. Moreland to Mary A. McNelly, by Thomas E. Hessler, April 25, 1851.

Abram Beard to Sally Hays, by Thomas E. Hessler, justice of the peace, July 3, 1851, in the present town of Eagle.

John Henricks to Jane Brunt, by A. B. Slaughter, justice of the peace, Sept. 10, 1851.

Alonzo Carson to Elizabeth Armstrong, Sept. 25, 1851, by A. B. Slaughter, justice of the peace.

David Soles to Fanny Thompson, by David Bovee, justice of the peace, Nov. 15, 1851.

Cyrus Cline to Emily Sweet, Jan. 28, 1852, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace.

Jeremiah Kast to Elender Webb, by Thomas Palmer, justice of the peace, March 23, 1852.

Cary Kizer to Catharine Miller, by Thomas E. Hessler, justice of the peace, April 13, 1852.

Robert B. Griswold to Elenor Hooper, April 20, 1852, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace.

Alonzo E. Decker to Jennette Haseltine; April 19, 1852, by Robert Hawkins, justice of the peace.

William Dooly to Sarah Laws, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace, June 10, 1850.

Robert Sale to Elizabeth Miller, Oct. 20, 1851, by Dr. Henry McNelly, justice of the peace.

Herman Holcomb to Naney L. Loop, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace, July 2, 1853.

Herman Hook to Rozanna King, Dec. 30, 1852, by O. L. Britton, justice of the peace.

Eber Fineh to Charlotte Bacon, by Asa McCollum, justice of the peace June 22, 1853.

Byron F. Carpenter to Jane R. Haseltine; July 1853, by C. M. McCorkle.

William W. Williams to Sarah Hopkins, Jan. 12, 1851, by Charles G. Hoyt.

Abraham Dillon to Susan Sampson, Dec. 26, 1852, by George C. White, justice of the peace.

P. G. Dent to Ruth Cline, by O. L. Britton, justice of the peace, March 25, 1852.

Oliver Moon to Isabel Bugher, by A. B. Slaughter, justice of the peace, in September, 1852.

Edward Baxter to Margaretta McKungey, by Orrin Haseltine, Feb. 1, 1852.

Thomas H. Spencer to Mary J. Kast, by George C. Hoyt, justice of the peace, Aug. 2, 1852.

Nicholas Pool to Sarah Todder, July 27, 1852, by Orrin Haseltine, justice of the peace.

Johnson Curtiss to Jane Waddell, Feb. 22, 1852, by Orrin Haseltine.

Daniel Guin to Melissa Warden, Aug. 8, 1852, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace.

James Robinson to Margaretta E. Ewing, by Esquire A. B. Slaughter, Sept. 20, 1852.

Resin J. Dernal to Elizabeth ———, Oct. 20, 1852, by A. B. Slaughter, justice of the peace.

Philomen P. Fox to Jane Graham, Nov. 4, 1852, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace.

Albert Ghastin to Eliza Coleman, Nov. 4, 1852, by Nathaniel Wheeler.

Channey Kast to Mary Ellis Moody, Nov. 27, 1852, by J. M. McKinney, justice of the peace.

John Ewing, to Patsey Sullivan, Dec. 28, 1852, by Thomas Palmer, justice of the peace.

William Howard to Martha J. Sharp, Jan. 10, 1853, by A. B. Slaughter.

John R. Perrin to Nancy T. Monger, April 14, 1853, by Nathaniel Wheeler, Esq.

James W. Jones to Melinda Tabler, Aug. 31, 1853, by Thomas Palmer, justice of the peace.

Andrew McCorkle to Rebecca Sexton, Oct. 4, 1853, by Asa McCollum, justice of the peace.

Edward Baxter to Margaret McKenzie, Feb. 6, 1854, by Orrin Haseltine, justice of the peace.

Thomas J. Graham, to Mary E. Sharp, by Levi Houts, justice of the peace, Feb. 1, 1853.



MYRON WHITCOMB





Cornelius Stetler to Lonisa Durnall, March 31, 1853, by Levi Houts, justice of peace.

John Weldy to Mine rva J. McPheters, June 30, 1853, by Levi Houts, justice of the peace.

Isaac J. Powell to Jane Bell, July 31, 1853, by George C. White, justice of the peace.

Neal McPedigrove to Nancy Mickle, Oct. 3, 1853, by Levi Houts, justice of the peace.

Chester Foote to Jane Tracy, Oct. 13, 1853, by Nathaniel Wheeler justice of the peace.

Freeman Cass to Ann E. Taylor, Nov. 10, 1853, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace.

William Sharp to Margaret Ann Ingram, Sept. 7, 1853, by Rev. W. I. Smith.

Isaac Lucas to Sarah Jane Rose, Dec. 4, 1853, by George C. White, justice of the peace.

William Edwards to Janette Hutman, Dec. 22, 1853, by Levi Houts, justice of the peace.

John G. McCollester to Ann Price, Dec. 25, 1853, by Nathaniel Wheeler, justice of the peace.

John Ghastin to Elizabeth Stroud, Dec. 28, 1853, by C. M. McCorkle, justice of the peace.

The following table will show the number of marriages that have been recorded in Richland county, in every year from 1865 to 1883, inclusive:

1865.....	49	1875.....	180
1866.....	42	1876.....	176
1867.....	70	1877.....	183
1868.....	132	1878.....	162
1869.....	116	1879.....	173
1870.....	132	1880.....	206
1871.....	132	1881.....	154
1872.....	150	1882.....	177
1873.....	111	1883.....	198
1874.....	169		
		Total.....	2,712

MARRIAGE STATISTICS FOR 1882.

During the year 1882, there were 177 marriage certificates recorded by the register of deeds of Richland county. Of this number as the nativity of the husbands, seventy-nine were born in Wisconsin; twenty-two in Ohio; eight in Pennsylvania; one in Holland; five in Norway; eighteen in Indiana; ten in New York; one in Connecticut; five in Germany; two in Bohemia; four in Illinois; two in Iowa; three

in Maryland; two in Ireland; two in Michigan; one in Maine; one in Virginia; two in Sweden; one in Rhode Island; one in England; two in the United States, and five not stated. Their occupations are given as follows, in which it will be seen that farming takes the lead by a handsome majority: Farming, 133; teaching, one; merchant, six; dentist, one; engineer, one; blacksmiths, three; carpenters, two; tonsorial artist, one; laborers, five; mining, one; sailor, one; railroading, one; telegraphy, one; lawyers, two; clerks, three; grauger, one; doctor, one; professional one; shoemaker, one; wheelwright, one; stone cutter one; peddler, one, minister, one; stone mason, one; miller, one; mechanics, three; tinner, one, and jeweler, one.

FIRST INSTRUMENTS RECORDED.

The first deed recorded in the Richland county books, bears the date of May 23 1850. The instrument was executed by John J. Ash and wife, of Tippecanoe Co., Ind., conveying to Jacob Cosmer and Solomon S. Devorce, the northwest quarter of section 20, in the present town of Richwood. The consideration was \$200.

The first real estate mortgage upon record, was executed by Robert McCloud to William Elting, to secure a debt of \$600. The mortgage covers the east half of the northeast quarter of section 35, town 9, range 2 east.

POPULATION.

Richland county has had a steady increase in population, numbering in 1850, 963 inhabitants; in 1855, 5,584; in 1860, 9,732; in 1865, 12,186; in 1870, 15,736; in 1875, 17,353; and in 1880, 17,184. The nativity of the inhabitants in 1880 was given as 1,882 foreign, and 16,292 native.

The population of the various town in the county in 1880, was as follows:

Akan.....	841
Bloom.....	1,358
Buena Vista.....	1,075
Dayton.....	1,109
Eagle.....	1,303
Forest.....	905
Henrietta.....	1,005
Ithaca.....	1,110
Marshall.....	989
Orion.....	733
Richland (outside of village).....	821
Richland Centre.....	1,227
Richland (including village).....	2,018
Richwood.....	1,515
Rockbridge.....	1,200
Sylvan.....	1,035
Westford.....	1,002
Willow.....	901
Total .....	18,174

## CHAPTER VI.

## POLITICAL STATISTICS.

In this chapter is given the vote of Richland county for every general election held from the organization of the county until 1884, inclusive, so far as can be ascertained from the records. It will be noticed that there is no report of an election in 1883. By an act of the Legislature, passed during the winter of 1882-3, it was provided that all State and county officers should thereafter be elected in "even years." Therefore, those officers who would otherwise have been elected in 1883, hold over one year.

The first election held within the limits of Richland county was in April, 1850, when the first county officers were chosen. The following is the list, although no record is in existence to show the number of votes polled, or where the election was held: John Rutan, county clerk; Marvin White, register of deeds; A. B. Slaughter, clerk of the courts; D. H. Byrd, county treasurer; John J. Mathews, sheriff; J. W. Coffinberry, county judge, and John H. Price, E. H. Dyre and Adam Byrd, members of the board of supervisors.

The election of Nov. 5, 1850, was the first held in the county of which there is any record. At this election the total number of votes cast was 158, divided as follows:

ELECTION, NOVEMBER, 1850.	
Congress.	
O. Cole.....	76— 7
B. C. Eastman.....	69
State Senator.	
T. M. Fullerton.....	80— 2
Levi Sterling.....	78
Assemblyman.	
D. C. Evans.....	44— 6
C. D. Rodolf.....	38
G. C. White.....	16

The record states that the following county officers were elected: John Rutan, county clerk; A. B. Slaughter, clerk of court; Levi Houts, register of deeds; D. H. Byrd, county treasurer; J. W. Coffinberry, county judge; John J. Mathews, sheriff; John Stone, prosecuting attorney; James Appleby, surveyor and William Kincaannon, coroner.

The election July 15, 1851, was a special election, at which only eight votes were cast, electing John J. Morland to fill the office of prosecuting attorney, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Stone.

In November, 1851, the board of canvassers, having decided that the election held this year was not in accordance with the law, rejected all returns. "No election had taken place," was entered upon the records, and the old officers held over.

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 1852.	
Congress.	
B. C. Eastman.....	200— 70
C. C. Abbot.....	130
State Senator.	
Levi Sterliog.....	187— 41
L. M. Stroog.....	146
Assemblyman.	
Henry Conner.....	177— 44
E. M. Sexton.....	133
Scattering.....	5
County Clerk.	
Haseal Hazeltine.....	149— 6
L. B. Palmer.....	143
Scattering.....	11
Clerk of Court.	
A. B. Slaughter.....	230— 176
Asa Eastland.....	54
Scattering.....	5
Register of Deeds.	
C. M. Mc 'orkle.....	175— 24
L. vi Houts.....	151
Scattering.....	1

County Treasurer.	
Jacob Brimer.....	151— 36
Joseph Castro.....	115
William Capner.....	22
Scattering.....	2
Sheriff.	
R. C. Hawkins.....	176— 53
Molbry Ripley.....	123
John Holland.....	11
J. W. Hawkins.....	3
District Attorney	
David Strickland.....	114— 52
C. D. Rodolf.....	62
Scattering.....	4
Surveyor.	
James Appleby.....	167— 21
Alfred Bush.....	146
Coroner.	
Orin Hazeltine.....	124— 15
Rezin J. Darnell.....	109
For the Establishment of State Bank.	
Against the measure.....	162— 62
In favor of.....	100
ELECTION, SEPTEMBER 5, 1853.	
County Judge.	
A. B. Slaughter.....	130— 123
Thomas J. Sharer.....	7
Scattering.....	12
ELECTION, NOVEMBER, 1853.	
Governor.	
William Barstow.....	185— 58
E. D. Holton.....	127
H. S. Baird.....	17
Lieutenant-Governor.	
James G. Lewis.....	185— 47
B. Pinkney.....	138
Assemblyman.	
Nathaniel Wheeler.....	106— 26
C. G. Rodolf.....	80
D. L. Downs.....	68
E. M. Sexton.....	67
Prohibitory Liquor Law.	
Against its passage.....	156— 22
For its passage.....	134
ELECTION, NOVEMBER, 1854.	
[No record.]	
ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 1855.	
Governor.	
Coles Bashford.....	448— 262
William A. Barstow.....	186
Lieutenant-Governor.	
C. C. Sholes.....	440— 244
Arthur McArthur.....	196
Assemblyman.	
Robert Akan.....	231— 226
L. Irish.....	205
Leroy D. Gage.....	183
Scattering.....	12
ELECTION, NOVEMBER 4, 1856.	
President.	
Fremont and Dayton, electors.....	882— 427
Buchanan and Breckenridge, electors.....	435
Fillmore and Donelson, electors.....	37

Congressman.	
C. L. Washburn.....	896
Samuel Crawford.....	475
State Senator.	
L. W. Joiner.....	870— 391
G. C. Maigs.....	479
Assemblyman.	
R. C. Fields.....	872— 334
B. W. Telfair.....	488
County Clerk.	
Charles D. Stewart.....	892— 305
Robert C. Hawkins.....	527
County Treasurer.	
A. H. Bush.....	742— 294
Jacob Brimer.....	164
Horace Wait.....	448
Register of Deeds.	
Israel Janney.....	763— 199
A. B. Slaughter.....	584
C. D. Stewart.....	7
Clerk of Court.	
J. S. Wilson.....	843— 344
LeRoy D. Gage.....	499
Sheriff.	
L. M. Thorp.....	719— 247
William Thompson.....	472
William Barrett.....	169
Prosecuting Attorney.	
James H. Miner.....	857— 547
A. P. Thompson.....	310
C. G. Rodolf.....	120
County Surveyor.	
Joseph E. Irish.....	893— 855
Noah Titus.....	38
Coroner.	
Ira S. Hazeltine.....	714— 527
Benjamin Ferris.....	187
Scattering.....	47
JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 7, 1857.	
Supreme Judge.	
Edward V. Whiton.....	611— 112
M. N. Cothren.....	469
County Judge.	
A. B. Slaughter.....	675— 251
Riley R. Hamilton.....	421
ELECTION, NOVEMBER 3, 1857.	
Governor.	
James B. Cross.....	608— 60
Alexander M. Randall.....	548
Lieutenant-Governor.	
E. D. Campbell.....	622— 100
Carl Schurz.....	522
Assemblyman.	
C. G. Rodolf.....	633— 149
R. J. Stephenson.....	484
Amendment to constitution "to extend to the negro the right of suffrage."	
Against amendment.....	813— 491
For amendment.....	322
JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 6, 1858.	
Circuit Judge.	
M. N. Cothren.....	812— 704
J. Allen Barber.....	198
Scattering.....	16

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 2, 1858.			
Congressman.		Congressman.	
C. C. Washburn.....	782— 100	Luther Hanchett.....	1164— 349
Charles Dunn.....	682	J. D. Reymert.....	815
State Senator.		State Senator.	
D. B. Priest.....	760— 143	L. W. Joiner.....	1155— 345
C. G. Rodolf.....	617	B. F. Thomas.....	810
Scattering.....	3	County Clerk.	
Assemblyman.		G. H. Smith.....	1163— 359
William Dixon.....	654— 130	Samuel Clayton.....	804
Byron W. Telfair.....	524	County Treasurer.	
Thomas Edwards.....	261	E. M. Sexton.....	1028— 93
County Clerk.		D. L. Down.....	935
D. Glazier Pease.....	667— 38	Register of Deeds.	
Elihu Bailey.....	629	A. J. Page.....	1096— 296
F. M. Stewart.....	122	William Maek.....	860
County Treasurer.		Clerk of Court.	
D. L. Downs.....	838— 281	J. L. McKee.....	1186— 394
Robert B. Esselstyn.....	557	Samuel Doolittle.....	792
Clerk of Court.		Sheriff.	
L. Van Dusen.....	724	E. L. Moody.....	1141— 336
John S. Wilson.....	—	Horace Wait.....	805
O. Guess.....	11	Prosecuting Attorney.	
Register of Deeds.		A. P. Thomson.....	1115— 283
Andrew J. Page.....	646— 74	L. Van Dusen.....	832
W. H. Janney.....	572	Surveyor.	
Hascal Hazeltine.....	103	D. Hardenburg.....	1152— 338
C. E. Livingston.....	108	Josiah McCaskey.....	814
Sheriff.		Coroner.	
William H. Joslin.....	608— 88	Ira S. Hazeltine.....	1137— 312
R. C. Hawkins.....	520	P. McNamer.....	825
Thomas J. Graham.....	246	JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 2, 1861.	
Prosecuting Attorney.		Justice of Supreme Court.	
James H. Miner.....	727— 219	Orsamus Cole.....	447
William F. Crawford.....	568	James N. Knowlton.....	636— 189
D. S. Hamilton.....	100	Charles Eldridge.....	103
C. E. Livingston.....	88	Scattering.....	3
Surveyor.		County Judge.	
A. J. Campbell.....	752— 89	A. B. Slaughter.....	764— 71
William Chamberlain.....	663	C. D. Stewart.....	693
JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 5, 1859.		ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5, 1861.	
Associate Justice Supreme Court.		Governor.	
W. P. Lynde.....	432— 34	L. P. Harvey.....	714— 199
Byron Paine.....	398	B. Ferguson.....	515
Scattering.....	2	Lieutenant-Governor.	
ELECTION, NOVEMBER 8, 1859.		Edward Solomon.....	712— 231
Governor.		H. M. Billings.....	481
Alexander W. Randall.....	745— 98	State Senator.	
H. C. Hobart.....	647	Norman L. Cate.....	524— 47
Lieutenant-Governor.		C. M. Butt.....	477
B. G. Noble.....	744— 95	Assemblyman.	
A. S. Palmer.....	649	Leroy D. Gage.....	611— 123
ELECTION, APRIL 3, 1860.		D. L. Downs.....	487
Chief Justice Supreme Court.		Elihu Bailey.....	133
A. Scott Sloan.....	551— 81	School Superintendent.	
Luther S. Dixon.....	470	J. H. Mathers.....	1041— 875
ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 1860.		J. Silsby.....	166
President.		JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 1, 1862.	
Abraham Lincoln.....	1168— 391	Circuit Judge.	
Steven A. Douglas.....	777	George Gale.....	987— 717
John Breckenridge.....	27	Edwin Flint.....	279
John Bell.....	3		

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 4, 1862.

Congress.

Amasa Cobb .....	891— 197
R. B. Simps.....	694

State Senator.

W. S. Purdy.....	869— 172
C. G. Rodolf.....	697

Assemblyman.

John Walworth.....	971— 217
George Krouskop.....	754

County Clerk.

G. L. Laws.....	1091— 843
John H. Kenney.....	244
John A. Kenney.....	445

County Treasurer.

James L. McKee.....	954— 246
Thomas C. Clark.....	708
E. M. Sexton.....	78

Clerk of Court.

Milton Satterlee .....	959— 166
H. C. Priest.....	793

Register of Deeds.

A. J. Page.....	1125— 485
D. C. Daughette.....	640

Sheriff.

Joseph McMurtrey.....	1081— 406
Molbry Ripley.....	675

Prosecuting Attorney.

H. A. Eastland.....	856— 175
O. F. Black.....	681
Josiah McCaskey.....	185

Surveyor.

C. D. Bellville.....	989— 931
L. B. Palmer.....	36
Noah Titus.....	44
Scattering.....	58

Coroner.

Ira S. Hazeitine.....	954— 240
M. Sharp.....	714

SPECIAL ELECTION, DECEMBER 13, 1862.

Congress.  
(To fill vacancy).

Walter McIndoe.....	595— 74
Newton S. Ferris.....	521

JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 7, 1863.

Chief Justice Supreme Court.

S. S. Dixon.....	1023— 278
M. M. Cothren.....	745

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 3, 1863.

Governor.

J. T. Lewis.....	1135— 508
N. S. Palmer.....	627

Lieutenant-Governor.

W. H. Spooner.....	1129— 498
N. Dewey.....	631

State Senator.

William Ketchum.....	1117— 500
C. G. Rodolf.....	617
Scattering.....	10

Assemblyman

John Walworth.....	1117— 481
L. D. Gage.....	636

Register of Deeds.

(To fill vacancy).

John S. Wilson.....	1063— 394
C. Berger.....	609

School Superintendent.

W. C. Wright.....	1092— 430
Joseph H. Mathers.....	662

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 8, 1864.

President.

Abraham Lincoln.....	1020— 368
George B. McClellan.....	652

Congress.

Amasa Cobb.....	1026— 377
C. G. Rodolf.....	649

Assemblyman.

H. L. Eaton.....	1192— 504
L. D. Gage.....	688
Scattering.....	6

County Clerk.

Gilbert L. Laws.....	1184— 492
R. Akan.....	692
Scattering.....	6

County Treasurer.

C. H. Smith.....	1185— 490
J. Turner.....	695
Scattering.....	6

Clerk of Court.

D. S. Hamilton.....	1168— 475
J. M. Derriekson.....	693

Register of Deeds.

M. Satterlee.....	1166— 456
B. C. Hallin.....	710

Sheriff.

L. M. Thorp.....	1152— 492
R. C. Hawkins.....	660
Scattering.....	7

Prosecuting Attorney.

H. A. Eastland.....	1185— 469
O. F. Black.....	716
Scattering.....	7

Surveyor.

D. Hardenburg.....	1190— 502
L. B. Palmer.....	688
Scattering.....	5

Coroner

A. S. Neff.....	1189— 501
L. Rennick.....	688

JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 4, 1865.

Associate Justice Supreme Court.

Jason Downer.....	662— 661
A. S. Lee.....	1

County Judge.

James H. Miner.....	625— 246
A. B. Slaughter.....	379
Scattering.....	3

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 7, 1865.

Governor.

Lucius Fairchild.....	967— 331
H. C. Hobart.....	636

Lieutenant-Governor.

Wyman Spooner.....	952— 302
D. W. Maxon.....	646

	State Senator.	
B. Bull...	.....	950—890
Scattering.....		60
	Assemblyman,	
H. L. Eaton.....		947—298
A. S. Ripley.....		649
	School Superintendent.	
Van S. Bennett .....		946—298
W. W. Stewart.....		648
Amendment of constitution to "extend right of suffrage to the negro race "		
Against the amendment .....		934—400
For the amendment.....		534
	ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 1866.	
	Congress,	
Amasa Cobb .....		1258—510
N. H. Virgin.....		748
	Assemblyman.	
Ira S. Hazeltine.....		1103—280
William Knapp.....		823
	County Treasurer.	
C. H. Smith.....		1154—317
J. Fitzgerald.....		837
	Register of Deeds.	
A. Loveless.....		1190—536
Milton Satterlee .....		654
	Clerk of Court	
D. S. Hamilton.....		1240—502
H. C. Thomas.....		738
	Sheriff.	
John McMurtrey .....		1232—474
H. Dillon.....		758
	Prosecuting Attorney.	
John S. Wilson .....		1252—567
A. Durnford.....		685
	County Surveyor.	
D. Hardenberg.....		1243—537
James Appleby.....		706
	Coroner.	
A. Haskins.....		1223—1223
	JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 2, 1867.	
	Associate Justice Supreme Court.	
Orsamus Cole.....		898—330
L. P. Wetherby.....		508
	ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5, 1867.	
	Governor.	
Lucius Fairchild .....		1166—282
J. J. Tallmadge .....		884
	Lieutenant-Governor.	
W. Spooner .....		1166—284
G. H. Park.....		882
	State Senator.	
William Ketchum.....		1174—298
William Duteber.....		876
	Assemblyman.	
W. C. S. Barrow .....		1448—560
L. De Hart.....		888
	School Superintendent.	
G. W. Putnam .....		1147—261
Timothy Maroney.....		886

	JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 7, 1868.	
	Chief Justice Supreme Court.	
Luther H. Dixon.....		1227—252
Charles Dunn .....		975
	Associate Justice.	
Byron Paine.....		1229—255
E. H. Ellis.....		974
	ELECTION, NOVEMBER 3, 1868.	
	President.	
U. S. Grant, Rep .....		1619—517
Horatio Seymour, Dem .....		1102
	Congress.	
Amasa Cobb.....		1618—515
T. H. F. Passmore.....		1103
	Assemblyman.	
J. M. Thomas.....		1611—500
W. W. Stewart.....		1111
	Sheriff.	
J. B. McGrew .....		1629—542
J. W. Fuller.....		1087
	Register of Deeds.	
A. Loveless.....		1617—570
A. Durnford.....		1047
	County Treasurer.	
W. H. Joslin.....		1486—266
D. G. Pease.....		1220
	District Attorney.	
Oscar F. Black, Dem.....		1442—255
J. S. Wilson, Rep.....		1187
	County Clerk.	
W. F. Pier.....		1603—494
John Keane.....		1109
	Clerk of Court.	
James Lewis .....		1475—274
M. J. Briggs.....		1203
	County Surveyor.	
D. Hardenberg .....		1614—514
P. E. Bremer.....		1100
	Coroner.	
I. S. Haseltine.....		1574—157
	JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 6, 1869.	
	Chief Justice Supreme Court.	
Luther S. Dixon.....		1573—1572
J. Shaffer.....		1
	County Judge.	
Henry Fries.....		1054—275
C. D. Stewart.....		779
James H. Miner.....		2
	ELECTION, NOVEMBER 2, 1869.	
	Governor.	
Lucius Fairchild.....		1247—337
Charles D. Robinson.....		790
	Lieutenant-Governor.	
T. C. Pond.....		1246—354
H. Gray.....		892
	State Senator.	
George Kronskop .....		1100—150
O. B. Thomas.....		950
	Assemblyman.	
James H. Miner.....		1063—138
Ira S. Hazeltine.....		925

School Superintendent.	
George W. Putnam.....	1098— 106
H. W. Glasier.....	992

JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 5, 1870.

Judge of Circuit Court.	
Joseph T. Mills.....	1185— 179
Philo A. Orton.....	1006

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 8, 1870.

Congress.	
J. Allen Barber.....	1064— 254
John Stracham.....	810

Assemblyman.

Elihu Bailey.....	946— 63
L. G. Thomas.....	883

County Clerk.

W. H. Pier.....	1090— 340
H. Henthorn.....	750

County Treasurer.

W. H. Joslin.....	1048— 273
D. G. Pease.....	775

Register of Deeds.

J. D. Funston.....	939— 30
B. C. Hallin.....	909

Clerk of Courts.

James Lewis.....	937— 230
S. H. Doolittle.....	707
J. Lindley.....	196

Sheriff.

W. C. S. Barron.....	1105— 393
A. S. Neff.....	712

Prosecuting Attorney.

O. F. Black.....	1330— 897
H. A. Eastland.....	439

County Surveyor.

T. Borland.....	637
James Appleby.....	637
H. Haseltine.....	481

Coroner.

H. Collins.....	991— 158
R. Akan.....	833

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 7, 1871.

Governor.

C. C. Washburn.....	1401— 392
J. R. Doolittle.....	1009
Scattering.....	1

Lieutenant-Governor.

M. H. Pettit.....	1329— 821
John A. Rice.....	1008

State Senator.

H. L. Eaton.....	1829— 281
George Krouskop.....	1048

Assemblyman.

(First District.)

William Dixon.....	774— 253
L. G. Thomas.....	521

(Second District.)

G. W. Putnam.....	560— 39
C. G. Rodolf.....	521

County Surveyor.

D. Hardenburg.....	1246— 459
Josiah McCaskey.....	787

School Superintendent.	
William J. Waggoner.....	1334— 275
T. C. Clark.....	1059

ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5, 1872.

President.

U. S. Grant.....	1675— 676
Henry Conner.....	999
Horace Greeley.....	52

Congress.

J. Allen Barber.....	1672— 580
Allen Worden.....	1992

Assemblyman.

(District No. 1.)

Norman James.....	794— 127
O. F. Black.....	667

(District No. 2.)

G. W. Putnam.....	747— 218
J. T. Barnes.....	529

County Clerk.

W. H. Pier.....	1536— 280
S. J. Hyatt.....	1256

County Treasurer.

J. T. Walker.....	1551— 341
D. G. Pease.....	1210

Register of Deeds.

David Sommers.....	1616— 447
Barney C. Hallin.....	1169

Clerk of Court.

Michael Murphy.....	1650— 523
E. W. Wulfang.....	1127

Sheriff.

R. D. Robinson.....	1492— 200
J. L. R. McCollins.....	1292

Prosecuting Attorney.

James Lewis.....	1685— 617
H. Haseltine.....	1068

Surveyor.

James Appleby.....	1698— 622
D. Hardenburg.....	1076

Coroner.

G. Jarvis.....	1675— 559
R. Akan.....	1116

JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 1, 1873.

County Judge.

H. W. Fries.....	1448— 725
A. L. Wilson.....	723
Scattering.....	1

ELECTION, NOVEMBER, 4, 1873

Governor.

C. C. Washburn.....	1148— 82
W. R. Taylor.....	1066

Lieutenant-Governor.

R. H. Baker.....	1147— 88
Peter Doyle.....	1059

State Senator.

George Krouskop.....	1174— 155
F. G. Miller.....	1019

Assemblyman.

(District No. 1.)

J. B. McGrew.....	824— 786
Scattering.....	38

(District No. 2.)	
P. M. Smith .....	461— 10
J. S. Ellsworth .....	451
<b>ELECTION, NOVEMBER 1874.</b>	
Congress.	
H. S. Magoon.....	1524— 418
Charles F. Thompson.....	1106
Scattering.....	57
Assemblyman.	
(District No. 1.)	
Norman L. James .....	776— 117
Vincent Harter.....	659
(District No. 2.)	
B. F. Washburn .....	669— 609
Opposition.....	69
County Clerk.	
Jesse G. Burnell.....	1454— 165
Samuel Noble.....	1289
Scattering .....	2
Register of Deeds.	
D. B. Sommers.....	1565— 445
J. D. Funston.....	1120
Clerk of Court.	
Michael Murphy.....	1479— 367
S. N. Doolittle.....	1172
Sheriff.	
W. C. S. Barron.....	1503— 438
P. R. Long.....	1065
Prosecuting Attorney.	
James Lewis.....	1389— 77
Oscar Black.....	1319
County Surveyor.	
James Appleby.....	1635— 619
Hascal Haseltino.....	1016
Coroner.	
George Jarvis.....	1499— 385
John Walworth.....	1114
<b>JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 6, 1875.</b>	
Chief Justice Supreme Court,	
E. G. Ryan.....	1321
<b>ELECTION NOVEMBER 2, 1875.</b>	
Governor.	
H. Ludington.....	1522— 390
R. W. Taylor.....	1132
Lientenant Governor.	
H. L. Eaton.....	1545— 447
Charles D. Parker.....	1098
State Senator.	
D. L. Downs.....	1492— 338
H. W. Fries.....	1154
Assemblymen.	
(District No. 1.)	
Josephy Moody.....	726
L. R. McCollins .....	737— 11
Scattering.....	2
(District No. 2.)	
H. H. Hoyt.....	603— 92
J. T. Barnes.....	511
A. S. Ripley.....	52
School Superintendent.	
David Parsons .....	1551— 576
M. G. Hardeuberg.....	975

<b>JUDICIAL ELECTON, APRIL 4, 1876.</b>	
Judge of Circuit Court.	
W. E. Carter .....	1421— 89
M. M. Cothren.....	1332
M. M. Strong .....	56
Scattering.....	3
<b>ELECTION, NOVEMBER 7, 1876.</b>	
President.	
R. B. Hayes, (Rep.).....	2068— 447
Samuel J. Tilden, (Dem.).....	1591
Peter Cooper, (Greenback).....	31
Congress.	
G. C. Hazleton.....	2028— 406
Philo A. Orton.....	1622
Assemblyman.	
(District No. 1.)	
J. L. R. McCollum.....	953— 8
S. B. Loomis.....	945
(District No. 2.)	
Elihu Bailey .....	932— 118
David Matter.....	814
County Clerk.	
Jesse G. Bunell.....	2123— 590
Jonathan Turner.....	1533
County Treasurer.	
H. L. Burnham.....	2102— 533
Samuel Noble.....	1569
Register of Deeds.	
Reuben Sutton.....	2024— 381
Fred Mathews.....	1643
Clerk of Court.	
Michael Murphy.....	1981— 343
M. J. Connolly .....	1638
Sheriff.	
G. H. Mattison.....	2084— 521
M. H. B. Cunningham.....	1563
Prosecuting Attorney.	
Eugene Wulfiging.....	2027— 500
S. H. Doolittle .....	
County Surveyor.	
James Appleby.....	2058— 473
P. E. Brewer .....	1585
Coroner.	
W. M. Fogo.....	2003— 420
D. M. Lovering .....	1583
<b>JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 3, 1877.</b>	
Justice of Supreme Court.	
William P. Lyon.....	3023—3023
County Judge.	
H. W. Fries .....	1700— 381
W. C. S. Barron .....	1319
<b>ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6 1877.</b>	
Governor.	
W. E. Smith.....	1201— 472
James A. Mallory.....	729
Edward P. Allis.....	705
Lientenant-Governor	
James W. Bingham.....	1196— 462
R. E. Davis.....	734
E. H. Benton.....	704



<b>State Senator.</b>	
Archibald Campbell.....	1111— 226
J. L. R. McCollum.....	885
H. C. Cutter.....	630
Scattering.....	4

<b>Assemblyman.</b>	
(District No. 1.)	
J. M. Thomas.....	652— 288
J. Hoover.....	364
Albert Misslich.....	471

(District No. 2.)	
P. M. Smith.....	519— 164
T. C. Clark.....	355
J. T. Coates.....	252

<b>School Superintendent.</b>	
D. D. Parsons.....	1225— 568
D. Hardenberg.....	657
W. T. Sharp.....	707

**JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 10, 1878.**

<b>Justice Supreme Court (full term).</b>	
Harlow Orton.....	1424

<b>Justice Supreme Court (short term.)</b>	
D. Taylor.....	1427

**ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5, 1878.  
Congress.**

George C. Hazleton.....	1664— 224
Owen King.....	1440

<b>Assemblyman.</b>	
(District No. 1.)	
J. M. Thomas.....	883— 68
S. M. McCorkle.....	815

(District No. 2.)	
Elihu Bailey.....	731— 124
L. M. Thorp.....	607
Scattering.....	5

<b>County Clerk</b>	
Jesse G. Bunell.....	1729— 379
Peter Sweeney.....	1350

<b>County Treasurer.</b>	
H. L. Burnham.....	1671— 263
Israel Junney.....	1408

<b>Register of Deeds.</b>	
Reuben Sutton.....	1678— 285
B. C. Hallin.....	1393

<b>Clerk of Court.</b>	
Homer J. Clark.....	1706— 324
Martin Shields.....	1382
Scattering.....	3

<b>Sheriff.</b>	
Daniel S. Noble.....	1625— 186
Henry Dillon.....	1439

<b>Prosecuting Attorney.</b>	
E. C. Wullng.....	1527— 24
H. A. Eastland.....	1503
Scattering.....	11

<b>Surveyor.</b>	
James Appleby.....	1659— 260
D. Hardenberg.....	1399

<b>Coroner.</b>	
John H. Carswell.....	1644— 358
L. G. Thomas.....	1286
M. Lovering.....	145

**JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 1, 1879.**

<b>Associate Justice Supreme Court.</b>	
M. M. Cothren.....	1506— 161
Orsamus Cole.....	1345

**ELECTION, NOVEMBER, 1879.**

<b>Governor.</b>	
W. E. Smith.....	1713—1133
James G. Jenkins.....	580
Reuben May.....	428
Scattering.....	2

<b>Lieutenant-Governor.</b>	
James M. Bingham.....	1709—1139
George H. King.....	570
William M. Utley.....	437
Scattering.....	5

<b>State Senator.</b>	
J. B. McGrew.....	1740—1111
Robert Wilson.....	529
George J. Carswell.....	431
Scattering.....	4

<b>Assemblyman.</b>	
(District No. 1.)	
William H. Joslin.....	957— 493
William Smenschloss.....	78
H. W. Fries.....	464

(District No. 2.)	
J. H. Case.....	747— 513
D. Morrison.....	206
Jay Briggs.....	234
Scattering.....	2

<b>School Superintendent.</b>	
D. D. Parsons.....	1640— 644
H. W. Glazier.....	996

**ELECTION, NOVEMBER 2, 1880.**

<b>President.</b>	
James A. Garfield (republican).....	2280— 625
Winfield S. Hancock (democrat).....	1635
James B. Weaver (greenback).....	151
Neal Dow (prohibition).....	2

<b>Congress.</b>	
George C. Hazleton.....	2285— 557
M. M. Cothren.....	1728

<b>Assemblyman.</b>	
(District No. 1.)	
B. M. Jarvis.....	1152— 272
William McCorkle.....	880

(District No. 2.)	
John H. Case.....	1081— 211
F. G. Rodolf.....	870
Scattering.....	1

<b>County Clerk.</b>	
George W. Putnam.....	2280— 642
T. J. Ellsworth.....	1648
Scattering.....	5

<b>County Treasurer.</b>	
Irvin Gobble.....	2287— 630
Levi Houts.....	1657

<b>Register of Deeds.</b>	
W. H. Rennick.....	2304— 666
G. L. Sprangler.....	1638
Scattering.....	3

Clerk of Court.	
George E. Bennett.....	2288— 624
C. F. Leach.....	1664
Scattering.....	2
Sheriff.	
Harry Busby.....	2407— 865
John Shaffer.....	1542
Scattering.....	2
Prosecuting Attorney.	
Kirk W. Eastland.....	2307— 685
S. H. Doolittle.....	1632
Surveyor	
James Appleby.....	2347— 759
P. E. Brewer.....	1588
Coroner.	
D. O. Chandler.....	2273— 617
James Snyder.....	1656
JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 5, 1881.	
Chief Justice Supreme Court.	
Orsamus Cole.....	1826—1826
Associate Justice.	
John B. Cassoday.....	1824—1824
County Judge.	
D. L. Downs.....	1824—1318
L. G. Thomas.....	506
Scattering.....	7
ELECTION, NOVEMBER, 8, 1881.	
Governor.	
Jeremiah M. Rusk.....	1383— 697
N. D. Pratt.....	686
T. D. Kauouse.....	185
E. P. Allis.....	226
Scattering.....	2
Lieutenant-Governor.	
S. S. Fifield.....	1397— 704
W. A. Anderson.....	693
H. S. Clapp.....	165
D. Giddings.....	228
State Senator.	
W. C. Meffert.....	1329— 206
J. L. R. McCollum.....	1123
Assemblyman.	
(District No. 1.)	
James Washburn.....	744— 93
R. L. Telfair.....	651
(District No. 2.)	
George H. Tate.....	639— 349
J. W. Jones.....	390

JUDICIAL ELECTION, APRIL 4, 1882.	
Judge of Circuit Court.	
George Clementson.....	1676— 366
M. M. Cothren.....	1310
ELECTION, NOVEMBER 7, 1882.	
Congress.	
Cyrus M. Butt.....	
Gilbert M. Woodward.....	
B. F. Parker.....	
R. May.....	
Assemblyman.	
C. G. Thomas.....	1844— 436
Joseph L. DeHart.....	1406
S. Stofer.....	181
P. H. Fay.....	5
County Clerk.	
Homer J. Clark.....	1827— 458
H. C. Kyger.....	1396
W. H. Stewart.....	214
Scattering ..	16
County Treasurer.	
Irvin Gribble.....	1843— 278
Israel Janney.....	1565
Register of Deeds.	
Renhen Sutton.....	1857— 531
M. J. Covley.....	1326
M. L. Sherman.....	235
Scattering.....	3
Clerk of Court.	
George E. Bennett.....	1857— 494
John Keaue.....	1363
A. L. Holcomb.....	202
Sheriff.	
A. D. Lane.....	1796
George Fogo.....	1341
D. O. Chandler.....	279
Scattering.....	2
Prosecuting Attorney.	
Michael Murphy.....	1739— 240
S. H. Doolittle.....	1499
Scattering.....	7
County Surveyor.	
James Appleby.....	2164— 938
A. D. Dennison.....	1226
Coroner.	
Norman L. James ..	1736— 111
M. Lovering.....	1625
D. P. Wise.....	28

## CHAPTER VII.

## NATIONAL, STATE AND COUNTY REPRESENTATION.

In this chapter it is the design to trace the history of each of the county offices from the organization of the county to the present day, and also to mention the name of every citizen of Richland who has served the Nation, State or county in an official capacity. As far as possible, sketches are given of the various gentlemen. There has been much difficulty connected with obtaining material for biographical sketches of those who have died or moved from the county since their official services were performed. Where the mention of men who were prominent in their day, is short, it is because of the meagre material to be secured.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

Upon its organization, Richland county became a part of the Second congressional district. Orsamus Cole was elected to represent this district in November, 1849, and served in the Thirty-first Congress. Mr. Cole is the present chief justice of the supreme court of Wisconsin.

Benjamin C. Eastman succeeded Mr. Cole as congressman from the Second district and served in the Thirty-second and Thirty-third Congresses, or from 1851 to 1855.

Cadwallader C. Washburn next represented the Second district, and served in the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth Congresses, from 1855 to 1861. He afterwards became governor of Wisconsin.

In November, 1860, Luther Hanchett was elected to succeed Gov. Washburn. He died Nov. 24, 1862, and Walter McIndoe was elected to fill out the balance of the term. At this

time Wisconsin had three representatives in Congress.

By the census of 1860, it was found that Wisconsin was entitled to six representatives in the National House, and upon the State being re-districted, Richland county became a part of the Third congressional district. Amasa Cobb, of Mineral Point, first represented the new Third district. He was elected in 1864, and re-elected in 1866 and 1868, serving in the Thirty-eight, Thirty-ninth and Fortieth and Forty-first Congresses.

J. Allen Barber succeeded Amasa Cobb, as congressman from the Third district, being elected in November, 1870, and re-elected two years later.

In November, 1864, H. S. Magoon was elected congressman from this district, and served in the Forty-fourth Congress.

In November, 1876, George C. Hazelton, of Boseobel, Grant county, was elected to represent the Third congressional district, and being twice re-elected, served six years or in the Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Congresses.

In November, 1882, Gilbert M. Woodward, of La Crosse, was elected congressman from this district, and is the present incumbent of the office.

## RICHLAND COUNTY IN THE LEGISLATURE.

Richland county first appears as being represented in the Legislature at the third session of that body, which convened Jan. 9, 1850, and adjourned Feb. 11, 1850. At this time this county was associated with Crawford and other

counties, as the third senatorial district, and was represented by James Fisher, of Prairie du Chien. In the Assembly, Richland associated with Iowa county and was represented by Moses M. Strong, of Mineral Point. Mr. Strong was elected speaker of the House. He was considered at that time one of the finest lawyers in the west.

The fourth session of the Legislature convened January 8, and adjourned March 18, 1851. At this time, Richland, with other counties, was represented in the Senate by Levi Sterling, of Mineral Point. Charles G. Rodolf, of Highland, served Richland county in the Assembly. Mr. Rodolf was for many years identified with the development of Richland county, and is often noticed in this volume. He now lives at Museoda.

The fifth session convened January 14, and adjourned April 9, 1852. Levi Sterling, of Mineral Point, was still in the Senate. Luman M. Strong, of Highland, represented the county in the Assembly.

The Legislature convened for its sixth session on the 12th of January, 1853, and adjourned April 4, 1853, until the 6th of June following, for the purpose that the Senate might sit as a court of impeachment and the Assembly be present to prosecute the trial of Levi Hubbell, judge of the second judicial circuit, against whom articles of impeachment had been exhibited, charging him with acts of corrupt conduct and malfeasance in office. For this purpose the Legislature again convened on the 6th of June, and adjourned finally on July 13, 1853. Levi Sterling, of Mineral Point, in this Legislature, represented the district of which Richland county formed a part. In the Assembly the county was served by Henry Conner, then, as now, of Port Andrew.

The Legislature convened for its seventh session Jan. 11, 1854, and adjourned April 3, 1854. Levi Sterling was still in the Senate from this district; Nathaniel Wheeler was the assemblyman. Mr. Wheeler was a Methodist preacher,

who at that time lived in the town of Buena Vista, where he was a very early settler. He remained there until just before the breaking out of the war, when he left the county. He is spoken of as having been a popular and influential man in those days.

The eighth session of the Legislature began on Jan. 10, 1855, and adjourned April 2, 1855. The district to which Richland county was attached, was represented in the Senate by Hon. Amasa Cobb, of Mineral Point, one of the most able lawyers in the State, and afterward a member of Congress. Hon. D. L. Downs, now of Richland Centre, represented this county in the Assembly.

The Legislature convened for its ninth session Jan. 9, 1856; took a recess from March 31, 1856, to September 3, and adjourned finally Oct. 14, 1856. Amasa Cobb still represented this district in the Senate. In the Assembly, Robert Akan served Richland county. Mr. Akan came from the eastern States and at a very early day settled with his family upon a farm a short distance northwest of Richland Centre. There he remained until 1875, when he sold his place for \$5,000, and removed to Webster City, Iowa. He was a genial, pleasant fellow, and was well liked by his neighbors.

The tenth session of the Legislature convened January 14, and adjourned March 9, 1856. L. W. Joiner, of Wyoming, represented the district, of which Richland county formed a part, in the Senate. Robert C. Field served Richland county in the Assembly. Mr. Field came to Richland City as early as 1850, and located upon a farm about a mile north of that village. He remained there for about ten years, when he removed to Trempealeau county in the northern part of the State, and represented that district in the Senate. He died there in 1876. He was a very active business man, and spent most of his time in trading and bartering. He would buy anything he saw, and sell anything he owned.

The eleventh session of the Legislature convened January 13, and adjourned May 17, 1858. Lemuel W. Joiner, of Wyoming, still represented this district in the Senate. In the Assembly, Richland county was for the second time served by Charles G. Rodolf, of Orion.

The twelfth session convened January 12, and adjourned March 21, 1859. At this time, Charles G. Rodolf, of Orion, was in the Senate, and William Dixon, of Lone Rock, in the Assembly.

The thirteenth session of the Legislature convened Jan. 10, 1860, and adjourned April 2, 1860. C. G. Rodolf was still in the Senate. Jeremiah L. Jackson, of Viola, had succeeded William Dixon as assemblyman. Mr. Jackson still lives in the town of Forest.

The fourteenth session of the Legislature began January 9, and closed May 27, 1861. Lemuel W. Joiner was senator from this district, and Elihu Bailey, of the town of Marshall, represented Richland county in the Assembly.

The legislature convened for the fifteenth session, Jan. 8, 1862 and adjourned April 7, 1862. Re-convened June 3, and adjourned June 17, 1862. Met in extra session September 10, and adjourned Sept. 26, 1862. At this time Norman L. Cate, of Viroqua, represented the district in the Senate and Dr. LeRoy D. Gage, of Richland Centre, served the county in the Assembly.

The sixteenth session of the Legislature convened Jan. 14, 1863, and adjourned April 2, 1863. In this session William S. Purdy, of Viroqua, represented the district in the Senate, and John Walworth, of Richland Centre, represented the county in the Assembly.

The seventeenth session of the Legislature began January 13, and closed April 4, 1864. In this session Hon. William Ketchum, of Richland City, represented the district in the Senate. Hon. John Walworth was again in the Assembly, having been re-elected.

Hon. William Ketchum was born at Jericho, Long Island, May 24, 1819. In 1851 he came

west and located at Richland City, where for many years he was engaged in the lumber business. He served his two terms in the State Senate with honor to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He was always relied upon for his integrity and uprightness in all his official acts. His home remained at Richland city until the time of his death which occurred Sept. 14, 1879.

The eighteenth session of the Legislature convened Jan. 11, 1865, and adjourned April 10, 1865. William Ketchum was still in the Senate. Henry L. Eaton, of Lone Rock, represented Richland county in the Assembly. Mr. Eaton still lives in the town of Buena Vista.

The Legislature convened for its nineteenth session Jan 10, 1866, and adjourned April 12, 1866. At this time Richland county was associated with Crawford as a senatorial district and was represented in the upper house by Benjamin Bull, of Prairie du Chien. H. L. Eaton was still in the Assembly.

The twentieth session of the Legislature began Jan. 9, 1867, and closed April 11, 1867. The Senatorial district remained the same as in the preceding year, and Mr. Bull was still in the Senate. In the Assembly, Ira S. Haseltine served Richland county.

The twenty-first session convened January 8, and adjourned March 6, 1868. William Ketchum, of Richland City, had been again elected to the Senate from this district. Capt. Warren C. S. Barron, then of Westford, but now of Richland Centre, had been elected to succeed Haseltine in the Assembly.

The twenty-second session of the Legislature convened January 13, and adjourned March 11, 1869. William Ketchum was still in the Senate. Joseph M. Thomas, of Lone Rock, served the county in the Assembly. Mr. Thomas is still a resident of the town of Buena Vista.

The twenty-third session of the Legislature convened January 12, and adjourned March 17, 1870. At this time George Kronsop, of Richland Centre, was representing the district in

the Senate; and James H. Miner, of Richland Centre, served the county in the Assembly.

The twenty-fourth session began January 11, and adjourned March 25, 1871. George Krouskop was still in the Senate. Elihu Bailey, of the town of Marshall, had again been elected to represent the county in the Assembly.

The twenty-fifth session of the Legislature began January 10, and closed March 27, 1872. Henry L. Eaton, of Lone Rock, was Senator from this district. Richland county, according to the census taken in 1870, was entitled to two representatives in the Assembly. They were William Dixon, of Ithaca, and George W. Putnam, of Ash Ridge. J. H. Waggoner, a former resident of Richland county, was chief clerk of the Assembly during this and the two following sessions.

The twenty-sixth session convened January 8, and adjourned March 20, 1873. Henry L. Eaton, of the town of Buena Vista, was still in the Senate. In the Assembly, Richland county was served by Norman L. James, of Richland Centre, and George W. Putnam, of Ash Ridge.

The Legislature convened for its twenty-seventh session January 14, and adjourned March 12, 1874. George Krouskop, of Richland Centre, had again been elected Senator. In the Assembly, Richland county's representatives were Joseph B. McGrew, of the town of Richland, and Phillip M. Smith, of Marshall.

The twenty-eighth session of the Legislature began January 13, and closed March 6, 1875. George Krouskop was still in the Senate. In the Assembly, Richland county was served by Norman L. James, of Richland Centre, and Benjamin F. Washburn, of the town of Richwood.

The Legislature convened Jan. 12, 1876, for the twenty-ninth session, and adjourned March 14, 1876. Daniel L. Downs, of Richland Centre, had been elected to succeed George Krouskop as State Senator. The assemblymen from

this county were J. L. R. McCollum, of Sextonville, and Henry H. Hoyt, of West Branch.

The thirtieth session began Jan. 10, 1877, and adjourned March 8, 1877. D. L. Downs was still in the Senate. In the Assembly, Richland county was served by J. L. R. McCollum, of Sextonville, and Elihu Bailey, of Mill Creek.

The thirty-first session of the Legislature began January 9, and closed March 21, 1878. This Legislature met in extra session June 4, 1878, for the purpose of completing the revision of the statutes, and adjourned June 7, 1878. Archibald Campbell, of Middleburg, was Senator from Richland county. The assemblymen from Richland were Philip M. Smith, of Richland Centre, and Joseph M. Thomas, of Lone Rock.

The Legislature convened for its thirty-second session January 8, and adjourned March 5, 1879. The representatives from Richland county were the same in this as in the preceding session, except that J. M. Thomas, of Ithaca, had succeeded P. M. Smith, in the Assembly.

The thirty-third session of the Legislature began in January, 1880, and closed in April, 1880. J. B. McGrew had been elected State Senator, and took his seat at the opening of the session. The assemblymen were William H. Joslin, of the town of Rockbridge, and J. H. Case, of the town of Eagle. Mr. Case now lives near Winthrop, Iowa.

The Legislature convened in January, 1881, for its thirty-fourth session, and adjourned April, 1881. Mr. McGrew was still in the Senate. B. M. Jarvis, of the town of Westford, and John H. Case, of the town of Eagle, served the county in the Assembly.

The thirty-fifth session of the Legislature began in January, and closed in March, 1882. This county at that time was associated with Iowa county as a senatorial district, and was represented by W. C. Meffert, a harness-maker, who lived at Arena, in Iowa county. The assemblymen from Richland county in this session were James Washburn, of the town of Rock-

bridge, and George H. Tate, of the town of Forest.

During the winter of 1852-3 an act was passed by the Legislature changing the terms of office of senators from two to four years, and assemblymen from one to two years. The number of assemblymen was lessened, and Richland county was only entitled to one representative in the lower house. It was also provided that thereafter sessions of the Legislature should be held biennially. Senator Meffert held over from the former election. C. Thomas was elected assemblyman.

#### COUNTY CLERK.

John Rutan was the first county clerk for the county of Richland. He was elected at the organization of the county, in April, 1850, and was re-elected in November of that year. Mr. Rutan was among the first settlers at Richland City, where he was clerking in a store when elected to the clerkship. Soon after the expiration of his term of office he left the county. He was a married man; had a fair education, and in those days was considered a prominent man.

In November, 1852, Hascal Haseltine was elected county clerk and served one term. Mr. Haseltine was a native of Vermont, a member of the Haseltine family who settled at Richland Centre and founded that village. Hascal settled with his family upon what has since been platted as the Schoolcraft addition to Richland Centre. He remained in the county for a number of years and finally removed to Missouri, where he still lives.

David Strickland, of Richland Centre, succeeded Mr. Haseltine, being elected in November, 1854. His deputy was Israel Janney, who at that time was register of deeds.

In November, 1856, Charles D. Stewart was elected county clerk and served two years.

By the election in November, 1858, D. Glazier Pease, became county clerk, and made an excellent officer. Mr. Pease is still a resident of the town of Richland.

C. H. Smith succeeded Mr. Pease as county clerk, being elected in the fall of 1860. He served two years.

In November, 1862, G. L. Laws was elected clerk of court, and being re-elected in 1864 and 1866, served six years. Mr. Laws was a native of Illinois. At an early day, as early at least as 1850, he came to Wisconsin with his parents, and settled in Richland county, upon the Wisconsin river, at a point which took the name of "Law's Ferry." About 1860, Mr. Laws moved to Richland Centre and taught school here; when the war broke out he went into the service. At the battle of Williamsburg he lost a leg, and after partially recovering, in the hospital, he returned to his Richland county home, and was soon afterward elected county clerk. For some time he was associated with W. M. Fogo in the publication of a paper at Richland Centre, and was also a partner of C. H. Smith in the real estate and abstract business. He remained here until 1879, when he removed to Nebraska. He is now register of the United States land office at McCook, in that State. Laws was a man of more than ordinary education and business ability, and while like all men he was unfortunate in some respects, yet he is spoken of by all as having been a prominent man, and one who made many friends.

W. H. Pier was the successor of G. L. Laws, being elected in November, 1868. In 1870 and 1872 he was re-elected, serving the same length of time as Mr. Laws. Mr. Pier is now engaged in the banking business at Richland Centre.

In the fall of 1874, Jesse G. Bunell, then of Westford, but now of Richland Centre, was elected county clerk. In 1876 and in 1878 he was re-elected, serving three terms.

George W. Putnam was elected county clerk in November, 1880, and served the regular term of two years. Mr. Putnam is still a resident of the town of Marshall, Richland county.

By the election in November, 1882, Homer J. Clark became county clerk, and is the present

incumbent, making one of the most thorough and efficient officers the county has ever had.

#### CLERK OF COURT.

The first clerk of court for Richland county was A. B. Slaughter, who was elected in April, 1850, and re-elected in November, 1850, and 1852. In 1853 he was elected county judge and held that office for three successive terms. Judge Slaughter was a Kentuckian by birth. He came to Richland county in 1848-9 and settled in the town of Richwood. A few years afterwards he moved to what is now the village of Orion, where he remained, coming to Richland Centre to attend to the duties of county judge, until after the close of the war, when he removed to Kansas, where he still lives. Judge Slaughter was a man of a good deal of natural ability, which was supplemented by a good business education. He was kind hearted, benevolent, genial and pleasant, and a man of the strictest sense of honor. Politically he was a democrat, but he was not aggressive or dogmatic in his political belief, nor much of a politician, according to the generally accepted meaning of the word.

C. D. Bellville succeeded Judge Slaughter as clerk of court, but did not serve but a short time. Mr. Bellville came to Richland county from Indiana and settled with his family upon a farm in the town of Richwood. When elected clerk of court he came to Richland Centre to attend court. Later he removed to the town of Sylvan and remained there for a number of years. When the war broke out he went into the service and his family returned to Indiana. He settled in that State when the war closed and it is presumed still makes it his home.

A. B. Slaughter succeeded Mr. Bellville as clerk of court. He is noticed elsewhere at length.

In November, 1856, John S. Wilson was elected clerk of court and served one term. He afterward became a member of the bar and engaged in practice at Richland Centre,

Lawrence Van Dusen was elected clerk of court in November, 1858, and served two years. He also became a member of the bar and engaged in practice.

J. L. McKee succeeded Mr. Van Dusen by the election in November, 1860. He is still a resident of Richland Centre.

In November, 1862, Milton Satterlee was elected clerk of the court and served one term. Mr. Satterlee is still a resident of Richland county, now making Woodstock his home.

D. S. Hamilton succeeded Milton Satterlee. He was elected in November, 1864, and re-elected in 1866. D. S. Hamilton was originally from the State of New York, but he came to Richland county directly from the southern part of Wisconsin in 1854. He located in Richland Centre, and among other lines of business which at times he followed, he engaged in the practice of law before justice courts. He was married while here and remained until about 1873, when he removed to Readsburg, Wis., where he still lives.

James Lewis was the next clerk of court, being elected in November, 1868, and re-elected in November, 1870. He afterward read law; was admitted to the bar, engaged in practice, and served one term as district attorney.

Michael Murphy, of Richland Centre, succeeded Mr. Lewis. He was elected in November, 1872, and re-elected in 1874 and 1876, serving six years. He is the present district attorney for Richland county.

In November, 1878, Homer J. Clark the present county clerk, was elected clerk of court and served one term.

George E. Bennett, the present affable and efficient clerk of court, was elected to succeed Mr. Clark in November, 1880, and was re-elected in 1882.

#### REGISTER OF DEEDS.

Marvin White had the honor of first filling the office of register of deeds for Richland county. He was elected at the organization of



the county in April, 1850, and served until the qualification of his successor, who was elected in the fall of the same year. Marvin White was a mechanic who had settled in the village of Richmond in 1849. He was a single man and boarded "round among the folks." He remained until 1852 when he went north.

In November, 1850, Levi Houts, of the present town of Orion, was elected register of deeds and served two years.

C. M. McCorkle succeeded Mr. Houts, as register of deeds, being elected in November, 1852. Mr. McCorkle has settled with other members of that family, at Sextonville. He was a man of delicate health and before his term of office as register of deeds had expired, he died of consumption. In accordance with his wish, expressed before his death, the body was buried on the tall bluff near his former home. Mr. McCorkle is remembered as a man of excellent character, and one who was well thought of among the pioneers.

Upon the death of Mr. McCorkle, Israel Janney was appointed to fill the vacancy and in November, 1854, was elected for the full term, and was re-elected in 1856. Mr. Janney is now a resident of the town of Rockbridge, Richland county.

In November, 1858, Andrew J. Page was elected register of deeds. In 1860 and 1862 he was re-elected, serving six years. "Jack" Page, as he was usually called, came to the county at an early day, and settled with friends on Willow creek. He was a cripple, having through some misfortune lost the use of his limbs, so he had to be carried about. When elected to office, or possibly a short time previous, he moved to town. He died a short time after being elected for his last term as register of deeds. Mr. Page was a man of a great deal of ability. His appearance was odd, even painful; his head being very large in proportion to the size of the body, and his legs dangling lifeless, almost sent a chill of pity to all who saw him.

Politically Mr. Page was originally a democrat, but in later years he became a republican.

Upon the death of Mr. Page, John S. Wilson was appointed register of deeds by the Governor, and in November, 1863, he was elected to the office for the balance of the term.

In November, 1864, Milton Satterlee was elected register of deeds. Mr. Satterlee came from Indiana and settled at Woodstock at an early day. When elected to office he removed to Richland Centre, and lived there until after the expiration of his term, after which he returned to his former home, where he still lives.

A. Loveless succeeded Mr. Satterlee, being elected in November, 1866, and re-elected in 1868. Mr. Loveless came from the State of New York and settled in the town of Forest, Richland county, as early as 1858. He was an elderly man at the time of his removal here, and had quite a large family. J. A. Loveless, a son of his, still lives, and is a prominent man in the town of Forest; and a daughter is the wife of Van S. Bennett, the State senator from Vernon and Crawford counties. When elected register of deeds the old gentleman took up his residence at Richland Centre, and remained there until a short time before his death in 1871. A. Loveless is said to have been one of the most upright and honorable men who have lived in the county, and probably no better idea can be given of the esteem in which he was held than to repeat the words of an early settler in speaking of him: "He was kind, benevolent, honorable, of urbane manners, a man in every sense. You could not exaggerate his worth to a community, nor the esteem in which he was held." Mr. Loveless was a republican, but dabbled but very little in politics. He was badly crippled with rheumatism.

John D. Funston succeeded Mr. Loveless as register of deeds. He was elected in November, 1870, and served one term. Mr. Funston is still a resident of Richland Centre.

In November, 1872, David Sommers was elected register of deeds, and being re-elected

in 1874, served four years. Mr. Sommers came to Richland county at an early day, and settled upon a farm in the present town of Sylvan. When the war broke out he enlisted, and lost one arm in the service, after which he returned to his former home. When elected to office he removed to Richland Centre. Shortly after the expiration of his term of office he sold his place and removed to Dakota; returning again to Wisconsin, he settled in Vernon county, near the Richland county line, where he still lives.

Reuben Sutton was the next register of deeds. He was elected in November, 1876, and re-elected in 1878.

In November, 1880, W. H. Rennick, of the town of Henrietta, was elected to succeed Mr. Sutton, and served one term.

Reuben Sutton was again elected register of deeds in November, 1882, and is the present incumbent.

#### COUNTY TREASURER.

The first treasurer of Richland county was D. H. Byrd, who was elected in the spring, and re-elected in November, 1850. Mr. Byrd came to Richland county with his parents, in 1847, and settled at the head of what has since been known as Byrd's creek, in the town of Richwood. D. H. Byrd afterwards married a daughter of Matthew Alexander, whose family was the second to locate within the limits of the county. When elected treasurer, Mr. Byrd moved to Richmond City, then the county seat, and remained until about June, 1852, when he removed to Oregon, where, it is thought, he still lives.

In November, 1852, Dr. Jacob Brimer was elected county treasurer, and being re-elected in 1854, served two terms. Dr. Brimer is still a resident of Richland Centre.

A. H. Bush was the next county treasurer, being elected in November, 1856. Mr. Bush was a native of the State of New York. He came to Richland county at an early day, and settled upon a farm within the present limits of the town of Ithaca, where he engaged

in agricultural pursuits, and also taught school. When elected to office he removed to Richland Centre, and later became closely identified with the temperance movement, at one time being the highest officer of the Good Templars' Lodge in the State. A few years later he returned to his farm and became a local preacher for the Baptist Church. He remained in the county until about 1874 when he removed to Nebraska, where he still lives, having since served one term in the Legislature of that State.

In November, 1858, Dr. D. L. Downs was elected treasurer and served one term. He is the present county judge.

E. M. Sexton succeeded Judge Downs, being elected in November, 1860. He is noticed elsewhere at length.

In November, 1862, James L. McKee was elected treasurer and served one term. Mr. McKee is still a resident of Richland Centre.

C. H. Smith was elected county treasurer in November, 1864, and being re-elected in 1866, served four years. Mr. Smith was a prominent man in the county in the decade between 1860 and 1870, and was identified with many public interests and enterprises. At one time he was quite wealthy, but like thousands of others throughout Wisconsin, a large proportion of his worldly goods vanished in the great hop panic in 1868. He moved from here to Windom, in Cottonwood Co., Minn., where he was elected to represent his district in the State Senate. In 1880 he removed to Worthington, Minn., and upon the resignation of Hon. J. P. Moulton as receiver of the United States land office at that place, Mr. Smith was appointed his successor to that responsible position. At about the same time, Mr. Smith was also appointed field agent of the Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul & Omaha Railroad Company, succeeding Ex-Gov. Stephen Miller. He has been honored with many other positions of trust by his Minnesota fellow-men, and has in every way proved himself worthy of their suffrage.

In November, 1863, William H. Joslin was elected county treasurer, and in 1870, he was re-elected. The following biography of Mr. Joslin was published in the Wisconsin Blue Book. "William H. Joslin, (Rep.) Richland Centre, was born Sept. 25, 1829, in Ypsilanti, Mich.; had a common school education; is a farmer; came to Wisconsin in 1841 and settled at Madison; settled in Richland county in 1848; has held various local offices and was sheriff of Richland county in 1859 and 1860; county treasurer in 1869-70-71 and 1872. Recruited a company, commissioned captain Aug. 16, 1862, assigned to company B, 25th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Sent to Minnesota to guard the frontier against Indian depredations. Went south February, 1863; stationed at Columbus, Ky., till June; ordered to join Grant at Vicksburg; returned to Helena, Ark., remained till February, 1864; accompanied Sherman on his expedition, returned and joined the grand army at Chattanooga, May 5, 1864. Participated in the battles of Resaca, Dallas, Kennesaw, Nick, Jack, Decatur, Atlanta, Jonesboro, with Sherman in his march to the sea, also his march through the Carolinas and through to Washington; participated in the battles of Salkehatchie and Bentonville. Commissioned major, Aug. 25, 1863. Brevetted lieutenant-colonel, March 13, 1865. Was elected assemblyman for 1880, receiving 957 votes against seventy-eight for Lunenschloss, and 464 for H. W. Fries. Is at present assistant superintendent of public property, a State appointment.

J. F. Walker succeeded Mr. Joslin as county treasurer, being elected in Nov. 1872. Mr. Walker is still a resident of the town of Richland.

In November, 1874, Charles Wesley Peckham of the town of Bloom, was elected county treasurer and served two years.

H. L. Burnham, of the town of Ithaca succeeded Mr. Peckham. He was elected in November, 1876, and re-elected in November, 1878. Serving four years.

Irvin Gribble, the present county treasurer, was elected in November, 1880, and re-elected in November, 1882. Richland county never had a more capable, obliging and satisfactory officer than Mr. Gribble makes.

#### SHERIFF.

John J. Matthews has the honor of having been the first sheriff of Richland county. He was elected at the organization of the county in April 1850, and re-elected in November of that year for the full term. Mr. Matthews was among the very earliest settlers in the county, and as his name frequently occurs in this volume it is unnecessary, in this connection, to speak of him at length.

R. C. Hawkins was elected sheriff in November, 1852. Mr. Hawkins came to Richland county at an early day and settled with his family at Richland Centre, which remained his home until after the close of the war. In the spring of 1861 he raised a company of volunteers which was mustered into the service as company H, of the 5th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and Mr. Hawkins was elected captain. The company left Richland Centre, May 26, 1861. Shortly after the close of the war Mr. Hawkins removed to Woodstock where he lived until taking up his residence in Dakota, in 1876. He now lives in Sioux Falls, D. T., and is county judge of Minnehaha county. Mr. Hawkins, was a large man, slow of movement, but jolly and whole-souled in disposition.

In November, 1854, George C. White was elected sheriff and served two years. Mr. White was among the first settlers in the town of Richmond having settled upon a farm a short distance from the present village of Orion, at a very early day. There he remained until the war broke out when he enlisted and was killed in the service. He, with several others, getting into close quarters, surrendered to the enemy and were shot while in irons. Marvin White was a man of a good deal of intelligence and ability and was well liked by all the early set-

tlers He was an active man in politics being what was then termed a democrat "dyed in the wool."

In November, 1856, L. M. Thorp, of the town of Richwood was elected sheriff and served one term.

William H. Joslin succeeded Mr. Thorp, by the election in November, 1858, and served one term.

E. L. Moody was the next sheriff, being elected in November, 1860. Mr. Moody was a native of the State of New York. He came west at an early day and settled with his family upon a farm in the town of Westford, Richland county. When elected to office he removed to Richland Centre and remained until the time of his death, which occurred in 1862. Two of his daughters now live in the town of Forest. He was a man of upright character and held the respect of all.

Upon the death of Mr. Moody, A. S. Neff was appointed to serve the residue of the term. Mr. Neff is still a resident of Richland county.

In November, 1862, Joseph McMurtrie was elected sheriff and served one term. Joseph McMurtrie was born in St. Clair Co., Ill., in 1832. When he was nine years old the family removed to La Fayette Co., Wis. In 1843 the family scattered, and until 1856 Joseph spent most of his time in Iowa county. During the year last mentioned Joseph settled in Richland Centre, and engaged at blacksmithing. He remained there until 1871, when he removed to Cottonwood Co., Minn., where he still lives.

In November, 1864, L. M. Thorp was again elected sheriff, but did not serve out the full term.

Hiram Welton was appointed sheriff upon the resignation of Mr. Thorp, and served out the balance of the term. Mr. Welton came originally from Ohio but direct from Indiana, in 1852, and settled upon a farm about two miles south of Richland Centre. He lived there until the

time of his death in 1873. His widow and several daughters are living in Kansas; and one son W. W. Welton, lives at Sextonville. Hiram Welton was held in high esteem by all who knew him; being a man of the most strict integrity.

In November, 1866, Joseph McMurtrie was again elected sheriff.

J. B. McGrew, then of the town of Richland, succeeded Mr. McMurtrie as sheriff, being elected in the fall of 1868. Mr. McGrew now lives in the town of Marshall, and has been a prominent man in political and all public moves.

In November, 1870, Capt. W. C. S. Barron of Richland Centre, was elected sheriff and served two years.

R. D. Robinson was elected sheriff in November, 1872, and served a like term. Mr. Robinson now lives in Chicago.

In November, 1874, Capt. W. C. S. Barron, of Richland Centre, was again elected sheriff.

G. N. Matteson was elected sheriff in November, 1876 and served one term. Matteson came from northern Ohio, and settled at Richland Centre, in 1856. For a number of years he was engaged in running a general merchandise store. He was a dentist by profession, and practiced from 1868 until elected sheriff. He is still a resident of Richland Centre.

D. S. Noble, of the town of Marshall, succeeded Mr. Matteson as sheriff, and served two years.

In November, 1880, Harry Busby was elected sheriff, and served until the time of his death, in January, 1882. Mr. Busby came originally from the State of New York. He located at Richland Centre, in 1871, and followed his trade, painting, also running a livery stable, until elected sheriff. His death occurred while attending an entertainment in the hall. His family still reside in Richland Centre.

W. C. S. Barron was appointed to succeed Mr. Busby and filled out the residue of the term.

A. D. Lane, the present sheriff, was elected in November, 1882.

#### COUNTY JUDGE.

The first county judge of Richland county was J. W. Coffinberry, who was elected upon the organization of the county, in April, 1850, and re-elected in November of the same year. In 1851 he resigned. Judge Coffinberry was known as C. Bre, after 1856. He is treated more at length in the bar chapter.

Upon the resignation of Judge Coffinberry, David Strickland was appointed his successor, and served the remainder of the term. Judge Strickland also receives more extended notice in the chapter upon the bar.

In November, 1853, A. B. Slaughter was elected county judge. He was re-elected in April, 1857, and April, 1861, serving twelve years. Judge Slaughter was a native of Kentucky; but at an early day he settled in Lafayette, Ind., where he became judge of the municipal court. In 1848 he came to Richland Co., Wis., and settled in Richwood. In 1850 he removed to near Orion, where he remained until 1868, coming up to Richland Centre to attend to the duties of his office. In 1868 he removed to Missouri, then to Kansas, where he still lives. Judge Slaughter was the kind of a man who made every one his friend; he was a genial, pleasant, whole-souled man, highly esteemed by all, and had but very few if any enemies. Politically, he was a democrat.

James H. Miner, succeeded A. B. Slaughter as county judge, being elected in April, 1865. He is noted at length in the bar chapter.

In April, 1869, Henry W. Fries was elected county judge. He was re-elected in 1873 and 1877, serving until the time of his death in February, 1880.

Judge Henry W. Fries was of German descent, his father, Rev. Henry Fries having come from Germany and settled in Union Co., Penn., where Judge Fries was born in 1813. He remained there until 1858, when he came west and settled in Richland Co., Wis. Here

he remained until the time of his death, which occurred on Feb. 14, 1880. He left a wife, a family of ten children and an only brother. He had gathered about him many strong friends. He had by his social and affable ways, as well as by his strict integrity won the confidence and esteem of all the citizens. He was well liked as a public officer, noted for those sterling virtues which go to make up an independent and fearless man, and yet had but few, if any, enemies. In his official acts he was impartial, conscientious and particularly careful of the rights of the widow and the fatherless, and it is conceded that the probate business of the county was never better or more impartially discharged.

Upon the death of Judge Fries, D. L. Downs was appointed county judge, and filled out the residue of the term. In April, 1881, he was elected for the full term and is the present incumbent, giving excellent satisfaction to both the bar and the county at large.

#### PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

As all of the gentlemen who have held this office from the organization of the county until the present time, have been lawyers, and therefore treated at length in the chapter devoted to the bar, it is only necessary in this connection to give their names and the years in which they were elected. They are as follows:

John J. Moreland, 1850; John Stone, April, 1851; David Strickland, 1852; H. A. Eastland, 1854; James H. Miner, 1856-58; A. P. Thompson, 1860; H. A. Eastland, 1862-64; John S. Wilson, 1866; Oscar F. Black, 1868-70; James Lewis, 1872-74; Eugene C. Wulfing, 1876-78; Kirk W. Eastland, 1880; Michael Murphy, 1882.

#### COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

The change of the educational system, from town to county superintendence, has been treated in another connection.

The first county superintendent of schools of Richland county was Rev. J. H. Mathers, who

was elected in November 1861, and served two years.

In November, 1863, W. C. Wright was elected superintendent of schools, and served one term. Mr. Wright was a lawyer, who, at that time was located at Richland Centre.

In November, 1865, Van S. Bennett, now of Rockton, Vernon Co., Wis., was elected superintendent of schools. He was born in Medina, Ohio, March 15, 1836. He received an academic education. His parents removed from Ohio to Wisconsin in 1846, settling in Medina, Dane county; thence to Jefferson county in 1852, and to Richland county in 1855. In September, 1861, Van S. enlisted in company I, 12th Wisconsin Infantry, as lieutenant; was promoted to the captaincy in May 1862, and was honorably discharged in November, 1864. In 1866 he removed to Rockton Vernon county, where he still lives. He was three times chairman of the county board of Vernon county; was a member of the Assembly in 1869-70 and is the present senator from Vernon and Crawford counties.

G. W. Putnam, of the town of Marshall, succeeded Mr. Bennett, as school superintendent of Richland county. He was elected in November, 1867, and re-elected in 1869, serving four years.

William J. Waggoner, of the town of Forest, was elected superintendent of schools in November, 1871, and was re-elected in 1873.

David D. Parsons was the next superintendent of schools. He was elected in November, 1875, and re-elected in 1877 and 1879, serving six years. Mr. Parsons was an Englishman by birth, but grew up from boyhood in Richland county. He received a good education and became a school teacher, which profession he was following at the time of his first election. He remained here some time after the expiration of his term of office, and then removed to Missouri, where he still lives, engaged in farming. He made an excellent officer; although he labored under the great disadvantage of poor health.

In November, 1881, W. Scott Sweet was elected superintendent and is the present incumbent. Through a change of the law, requiring all county officers to be elected in "even years," Mr. Sweet's term of office is three years, or until Jan. 1, 1885.

#### COUNTY SURVEYORS.

James Appleby was the first county surveyor, and had held the office most of the time since the organization of the county. He was first elected in April, 1850, and was re-elected in 1852. Mr. Appleby walked to the southern part of La Fayette, Co., Wis., to obtain a compass and other necessary apparatus, paying \$80 therefor, and carried the same back with him. The first survey made by him was on May 17, 1850. It was laying out a road for the town of Richmond, which is now in the town of Eagle. The road began in the village of Monongahela (now defunct) and ran nearly due north, terminating at the quarter post between sections 25 and 26, town 9 range 1 west. Mr. Appleby's second work was surveying and platting the village of Port Andrew, for Thomas Andrew, on May 30, 1850.

In November, 1854, Loreman B. Palmer was elected surveyor and served one term. Mr. Palmer was raised in Fauquier Co., Va. In 1845 he came west and located in LaFayette Co., Wis., remaining there until 1848, when he came to Richland county and settled on a farm in the town of Eagle. There he remained until the time of his death in 1880, and his family still occupy the old homestead. Mr. Palmer was not a practical surveyor when he came to the county, but was taught the business by his brother-in-law, James Appleby.

Joseph E. Irish was elected surveyor in November, 1856 and served two years. Mr. Irish came from Ithaca, New York, in 1852, and settled with his parents at Sextonville, Richland county. At that time Joseph was hardly twenty years of age. He worked at odd jobs for some time, then learned surveying and followed that quite extensively. He remained at Sextonville

for many years, marrying Lucy Britton. During the war he began preaching, and for several years thereafter was an itinerant; finally settled in Eau Claire. He was appointed register of the United States land office, at that place, and later was elected to the State Senate. After serving his term in the Senate he was appointed presiding elder of this, Methodist Episcopal Church district, and for four years acted as such; then being elected president of the Appleton College, which position he still holds. Mr. Irish is a man of much natural as well as acquired ability, and holds the respect and esteem of all who know him.

In November, 1858, James Appleby was again elected surveyor and served two years.

D. Hardenburg succeeded Mr. Appleby by the election in November, 1860.

In November, 1862, C. D. Bellville was elected surveyor and served two years.

D. Hardenburg, of Lone Rock, was again elected in November, 1864, and was re-elected in 1866 and 1868.

At the November election, in 1870, the candidates for surveyor, James Appleby and T.

Borland, each received an equal number of votes. Upon casting lots James Appleby was the fortunate man. He refused to qualify and Mr. Hardenburg, therefore, held over until the November election, 1871, when he was elected for the balance of the term. Mr. Hardenburg is still a resident of Lone Rock, in the town of Buena Vista.

James Appleby was again elected surveyor in November, 1872. He is the present incumbent, having been re-elected in 1874, 1876, 1878, 1880 and 1882.

#### CORONER.

This is an unimportant office, and but few who have been elected to it have qualified. The following is a list of the gentlemen who have been chosen to the office, showing the years in which they were elected:

William Kincaannon, 1850; Orin Haseltine, 1852; Ira S. Haseltine, 1854-56-60-62; A. S. Neff, 1864; A. Haskins, 1866; H. Collins, 1868-70; George Jarvis, 1872-74; W. M. Fogo, 1876; John H. Carswell, 1878; D. O. Chandler, 1880; Norman L. James, 1882.



## CHAPTER VIII.

## THE COURTS OF RICHLAND COUNTY.

When Richland county was organized it became a part of the fifth judicial circuit. The first term of court was held by Judge Mortimer M. Jackson, in a rented building at Richmond (now Orion), commencing Sept. 11, 1850. There was but little business transacted. John J. Moreland was admitted to the bar after an examination by Amasa Cobb and Charles Dunn. There was no issue to be tried by petit jury. The grand jury found no presentments.

The first grand jury empaneled in Richland county, was composed of the following gentlemen:

\*Israel Janney, Lattimore Rennick, John P. Irish, Thomas H. Daugherty, Starling McKinney, Loman Parmer, O. L. Britton, Daniel H. Byrd, B. B. Sutton, William Mathews, Samuel Fleck, Stephen Finnell, Nathaniel Greene, George Goff, Thomas Mathews, Lucius Campbell and E. M. Sexton.

Terms of circuit court were subsequently held at Richmond, in April, 1851, September, 1851, and April, 1852. In September, 1852, court convened for the first time in Richland Centre. Since that time terms of court have been regularly held, with a very few exceptions, every spring and fall.

In 1852 Montgomery M. Cothren was elected circuit judge to succeed M. N. Jackson. In April, 1858, he was re-elected and served for twelve years continuously.

\*[Note.—It is a fact well worthy of note, that Israel Janney, who was a member of the first grand jury, was also a member and foreman of the last grand jury empaneled in the county prior to the abolishment of that system].

At the fall term of court in 1857, there were some twenty-seven cases brought against Michael Carmichael, and a large number against Peter Meehan, of Richland Centre, for selling liquor without a license. They were convicted on some of the charges and acquitted on others. There had been a temperance crusade inaugurated at Richland Centre. One of the lawyers made the board of health of the village believe they had the right to order the abatement of liquor saloons, if they thought it *injured the health of the community*. They thought so and accordingly ordered that the saloons be closed up. The order was resisted. The temperance element thereupon acted under the order of the board of health and executed it, demolishing the dram-shops and pouring the liquor into a convenient pond. The parties who had a hand in the affair were prosecuted for damages; they got a change of venue and took the case to Grant county; from there it was carried to Dane county; and finally the papers were stolen or lost and the cases were dropped. These cases were the first of a series of liquor litigation which appear upon the record, cropping out every now and then, until within a very few years ago. In the history of Richland Centre will be found an extended account of the temperance movements of that place, from which most of the liquor cases came.

In August, 1858, the case of Arnest Herrlitz vs. Elizabeth Herrlitz, for divorce, appears on the records. The attorneys were James H. Miner and D. B. Priest for the plaintiff, and A. C. Eastland for the defendant. The case, in



itself, involved merely the general grounds for divorce: desertion and quarreling; but it came to a tragic termination. The notice of trial was served April 13, 1859, and between that time and the June term of court the plaintiff was murdered. Herrlitz lived in a little cabin in the town of Dayton. On the fatal evening, just after dark, he heard some one at the window, as though they were trying to find the entrance. He went to the door to tell them to come in, and just as he opened the door the cowardly assassin shot him. He did not see who did it; but lived long enough to go to his brother's, a half a mile distant, and relate the particulars. Squire Durnford was employed to look up the facts, and enough was found to lead to strong suspicions, but not sufficient to justify the arrest of any one. No arrests were made, and the matter finally dropped from the public mind as new matters arose to draw away the attention. The matter still remains shrouded in mystery, although in the minds of Herrlitz's friends the bare hope remains that eventually "murder will out."

The case of Ransom and Sophia Ragan vs. Samuel and Sidney Simpson, was only remarkable in point of the length of time it was in litigation. As the oracle says, "way back in 1856" the Ragans loaned money to the Simpsons, and secured it by taking a mortgage upon some real estate in the town of Ithaca. In 1858 this action was brought to foreclose the mortgage, and recover the money or property. Every possible defense was made; the case was put over several times; then compromised for a time; recommenced; continued; then abandoned, and on and on; this and repeat, remaining in the courts or out, barely long enough to begin a new action, until the spring of 1883, when Samuel Simpson was finally ejected from the land. All of the attorneys of Richland county were at different times engaged upon one or the other side of the suit, besides many from adjoining counties, and several distinguished lawyers from Madison. The amount

of the mortgage was spent several times by both parties in prosecuting and defending their cases.

This early records of the circuit court have not been preserved—some having been burned and others lost. The earliest records which are in the hands of the clerk of court commence with the term of court beginning May 9, 1859. At this time Judge Cothren was on the bench. The record states that "the sheriff, W. H. Joslin, opened the court by proclamation." There was considerable business to attend to at this term and court remained in session for several days. The sheriff returned the venire for a grand jury, and the following gentlemen were empaneled: W. J. Bowen, A. Mullendore, R. C. Field, Jacob Yoder, T. Whiteraft, William Chamberlain, D. M. Donnell, H. J. Morrison, D. L. Hubbard, John Chitwood, James A. Sharp, Henry Collins, George Norman, Sr., J. G. S. Hayward, Thomas Snyder, W. P. Lewis, H. Conner, M. D. Hankins and Roswell Hamilton.

When the court ordered that the petit jury be called, the following gentlemen answered to their names: Demas Wherry, William Satterlee, L. Rennieke, Sidney Rose, L. Thompson, C. Sharp, F. M. Stewart, J. Manley, John Barret, William Robinson, E. Combs, G. D. Lybrand, D. Williams, R. Barnes, James Brinley, George Krouskop, B. Graves, D. D. Mosher, C. Devoe, John Fry, E. C. Walker, L. C. Gonchehour, D. O. Chandler, John Jewell, Samuel Clayton, G. P. Derrickson and W. M. Murlin. The record continues that the following were excused: "A. Nudd, because he was a member of the bar; William Janney, M. Whitecomb, Wallace Joslin, George E. Hale and George L. Dyke had gone to Pike's Peak, and J. M. Calloway on account of his privileges as a postmaster."

At this term of court J. S. Wilson, Charles D. Stewart and William Farlin were admitted to the bar. The examining committee con-

sisted of James H. Miner, A. C. Eastland and George L. Frost.

In 1860-1 political influence was brought to bear upon the Legislature by those who were dissatisfied with M. M. Cothren as judge, he being a democrat while this county was heavily republican, and particularly by the temperance element, and Richland county was taken from the fifth judicial circuit and attached to the La Crosse circuit.

In June, 1861, I. E. Messmore, of La Crosse, held the term of court here, and then drops forever from the records.

Hon. George Gale, of Trempealeau county, presided over the term of court held in November, 1861, and continued upon the bench until succeeded by Hon. Edwin Flint, of La Crosse, in 1863. Judge Flint held his first term of court here in June, 1863.

The case of Wildy Rickerson vs. J. L. McKee, an action on promissory note, which was tried at the April term of court, 1863, attracted wide interest. The following is a brief account of the cause of action: In the summer of 1862, the defendant, J. L. McKee, was nominated for county treasurer by the republicans of the county. E. M. Sexton, who was county treasurer at the time, announced himself as an independent candidate for the office. It seems that Mr. McKee, to secure his own election, gave to Sexton his promissory note for \$300 in consideration of the latter's withdrawing from the field and throwing his influence toward the election of the former; the note being given on Sunday. Mr. McKee was elected to the office by a majority of 246 over his opponent, Thomas C. Clark, and E. M. Sexton received seventy-eight votes. He then refused to pay the note, claiming that Sexton had worked against him, and thrown his influence toward the election of Mr. Clark. In the meantime, however, before the note became due, Mr. Sexton disposed of it and it came into the possession of Wildy Rickerson, as an innocent purchaser. Mr. Rickerson brought suit on the note in circuit court to

recover the amount due, employing as his attorneys Eastland & Eastland. James H. Miner, D. B. Priest and J. Allen Barber were the defendant's lawyers. The plaintiff relied upon the fact of the note being *prima facie* evidence of debt, and its being in the hands of an innocent purchaser. The defendant's attorneys set up three strong grounds for defense: 1st. The note being given on Sunday. 2d. Want of consideration. 3d. It was against public policy. After a long and hard struggle, every point being taken advantage of, the case was decided in favor of the plaintiff, Mr. Rickerson, who recovered a judgment for the amount due on the note.

The case of Samuel Wood vs. Samuel Patrick, which was tried at the September term of circuit court, in 1863, was an interesting one to the citizens of Richland Centre. Dr. O. H. Wood had owned the property where Hon. James H. Miner now lives. He sold it to Samuel Patrick, taking in part payment his note, secured by a mortgage on the property. The mortgage was never recorded and both note and mortgage was sold to Samuel Wood and subsequently disappeared mysteriously. In this action Samuel Wood sought to foreclose the mortgage and recover the amount due on the note. Samuel Patrick appeared as a witness on his own behalf, and swore that he had paid the note and destroyed the mortgage. Mr. Wood swore that the documents had been lost or stolen, and it appeared so conclusively that the latter was the case that Mr. Wood recovered the amount due, and in default thereof took charge of the property. He subsequently sold the same to James H. Miner, who still lives there. A bill of indictment for perjury was soon afterwards found against Samuel Patrick by the grand jury and he left the country. He has never returned.

In 1864 Richland county again was attached to the fifth judicial circuit. Hon. J. T. Mills succeeded M. M. Cothren as judge of the circuit, and held his first term of court in Richland

county in April, 1865. Judge Mills served twelve years upon the bench and gave excellent satisfaction.

The case of Patrick Quinn *vs.* Harvey Marshall, is cited as a sample of a class of cases which arose during the war. It seems that after one of the President's calls for men to go into the service, Marshall was drafted. He reported at Prairie du Chien. Patrick Quinn was a "substitute broker" at that place, and for a certain amount procured a substitute for Marshall. The latter refused to accept the substitute which he had bargained for, and Quinn employed Haselton & Dutcher as attorneys and brought this action for about \$400 damages. James H. Miner was retained by the defendant. A change of venue was secured and the case was brought to Richland county for trial in May, 1866. The case was warmly contested, and was postponed several times, until finally Marshall compromised the matter by paying Quinn \$25 and the case was dropped.

In October, 1868, the case of George Carmichael *vs.* Andrew Elang and Martin Banker was disposed of. It attracted a good deal of attention, on account of the principles and rights of the parties which it involved. George Carmichael lived upon a farm on Sun Prairie, in Dane county. Mr. Elang, for a long time, was his hired man. Mr. Carmichael gave to Mr. Elang a tract of land containing forty acres, telling him that he could live upon it and give a mortgage of \$300 in payment thereof. No money was paid. The mortgage was not recorded, as Mr. Carmichael had no doubt of Mr. Elang's honesty. For a long time Mr. Elang occupied the place and nothing was said about the mortgage. Finally, a man named Hawkins, who lived in the neighborhood, discovered the actual state of affairs. He went to Mr. Elang and succeeded in trading some other property for the forty acres. His next move was to sell the forty acres to Martin Banker, the co-defendant. Mr. Carmichael then brought this action to recover the amount of his mortgage. The

defense was upon the grounds that the mortgage was not upon record and that the defendant Martin Banker had no notice of it; that the mortgage might be the fruit of a collusion between Mr. Elang and the plaintiff. But it was shown that Martin Banker knew of the existence of the mortgage, and the plaintiff recovered judgment. The attorneys in the case were James H. Miner for the plaintiff, and Eastland & Eastland for the defendants.

At the April term of court in 1869, the case of E. M. Sexton *vs.* Richland county first came up for trial. The attorneys were Eastland & Cothren for Mr. Sexton, and O. F. Black, district attorney, and James H. Miner for the county. This case was one of the most important that has ever arose in Richland county. The plaintiff held the office of treasurer of Richland county during the years 1861 and 1862. In November, 1861, he had an accounting and settlement with the board of supervisors. A committee of three members of the board examined his books, and found both the debits and credits so erroneous and confused (some errors being in his favor and others in favor of the county), that they rejected the books and ascertained the receipts of the office from other sources, and required him to produce proofs from other sources than his books of all disbursements allowed. They reported to the board that he had received \$25,677.13 (giving the items) and had disbursed \$26,592.46, "for all of which," they stated, "we find satisfactory vouchers and evidences that it had been paid;" and, after detecting one error in the footings, they found due the plaintiff a balance of \$618.33. The board accepted the report and settled with the plaintiff upon the basis thereof; and at the end of 1862 had a full and satisfactory settlement for that year. In 1863 the county board discovered mistakes in the plaintiff's books, threatened him with a suit, and, for the purpose of protecting his bondsmen, he deposited with the clerk of the board money and securities amounting to \$1,000; at that and un-

der the circumstances Mr. Sexton admitting that he owed the county. In 1866 he demanded a return of this deposit, on the ground that he did not owe the county anything; and a return being refused he brought this action to recover the amount so deposited. Eastland & Cothren were retained by the plaintiff, and James H. Miner and Oscar F. Black appeared on behalf of the county. When the case came into circuit court it was referred to A. Durnford. The investigation before the referee consumed twenty-five days, and he reported as a part of his finding, that the defendants (the supervisors) had failed to establish, by evidence, that there was any mistake in the settlement of 1861; that "they had failed to prove that the vouchers which they produced in support of their defense did not, but ought to have entered into said settlement;" and that "a large number of the vouchers between towns and the county, which constituted the basis of the settlement of 1861," had been lost; so that it was impossible to ascertain whether any mistake occurred in that settlement or not. The referee, therefore, reported that there was due the plaintiff, from defendants, said sum of \$1,000 with interest. Upon the report of the referee coming into circuit court, the attorneys for the county took exceptions to it and moved the court to set it aside. After a very lengthy argument, Judge Miner, for the county, speaking for three hours upon the point, the court found as facts: 1. That the defendants had established by evidence that there was a mistake in the settlement of 1861. 2. That they had proved that the vouchers entered in support of the defense did enter into that settlement. 3. That if any vouchers had been lost, their contents were proven by other documentary evidence equally worthy of credit (specifying them, or some of them). 4. That at the time the plaintiff deposited the \$1,000, he was indebted to the defendants in a still larger sum. Judgment was accordingly rendered in favor of the defendants (the county) for costs.

Mr. Sexton appealed the case to the supreme court, where the judgment of the circuit court was affirmed; the decision being announced at the January term 1870. As the case attracted wide attention and has now become a standard case of reference, the opinion of the supreme court regarding it, is here presented. Chief Justice L. S. Dixon and Justice Orsamus Cole, agreed in affirming the decision of the circuit court; but Justice Byron Paine dissented from their decision. Both sides are presented:

"By the court—*held*: That settlement of county treasurer with county board, is not conclusive:

"1st. That the court might go behind such settlement, even after a lapse of six or seven years.

"2d. That upon satisfactory evidence of a mistake in such settlement, and that there was a balance due from the plaintiff, judgment was properly rendered against him, notwithstanding an alleged loss of vouchers used upon such settlement; especially where he did not show what those vouchers were, and for what purposes the amounts named therein were paid."

Justice Paine in his dissenting opinion claimed:

"1st. That the settlement should not be set aside without clear and positive proof of mistake.

"2d. The facts that the board, in such settlement, charged plaintiff with a larger amount of receipts, as well as credited him with larger disbursements; that his own books were then regarded as incorrect, both in debits and credits, and he was required to produce vouchers for all credits allowed him; and that these vouchers have since in part perished, forbids the setting aside of such settlement without the clearest proof of mistake; and the proof here is insufficient."

The case of Andrew Soldusky *vs.* T. P. and C. C. Derickson, at the spring term, 1870, was an important one. The parties had got into some quarrel over land difficulties, and the

Dericksons assaulted Soldusky, beating him very badly with a pitch fork, as he claimed. He was laid up for a long time by the injuries received, and upon his recovery he commenced this action for damages. The jury gave him a verdict for \$800, but this was reduced by the court to \$650, which amount was paid by the defendants. The attorneys in the case were Cothren & Black for Andrew Soldusky, and Eastland & Eastland for the Dericksons.

The case of Robert Akan *vs.* Alfred Parfrey and Dexter E. Pease, was first tried at the April term of court in 1870. This case was afterward carried to the supreme court, and has now become one of the most important standard reference cases in the Wisconsin reports. The history of the case is as follows: The defendants Parfrey and Pease, in 1865, built a dam across Pine river, at Richland Centre, for the purpose of raising water to work their water mills. The dam caused the water to overflow Robert Akan's land above the dam, and he claimed damages. The defendants agreed to pay the plaintiff \$200 a year for three years, for damage to the plaintiff's land, and the parties entered into a written agreement in the form of a lease, the plaintiff agreeing to take \$200 per year for the flowage, and the defendant's agreeing to pay the same. At the expiration of the lease, the defendants continued to occupy the plaintiff's land without his consent. In February, 1870, the plaintiff brought an action against defendants under the mill-dam act of the State, for the purpose of having his damage assessed. The case was tried at the April term of circuit court in 1870, and the jury returned the following verdict: "We, the jury, find for the plaintiff, and assess the damage at \$800, which shall be in full of all claim and demand for injury done to the plaintiff's lands at the present height of water, estimated at six feet and five inches;" or, "We, the jury, find for the plaintiff, and assess the damages to be annually paid the plaintiff by the defendants at the sum of \$100, which shall

be paid so long as the dam shall be used by the defendants or their assigns, at the present height of water, estimated at six feet and five inches, unless a re-assessment of damages shall be made herein, commencing from the expiration of the lease. James Tuttle, foreman jurors." The verdict was received and allowed by the court and recorded. The defendants moved to have the verdict set aside, and for a new trial, which was overruled by the court. On May 4, 1870, the plaintiff made his election of the alternative verdicts to take the \$800 gross damages. The defendants failed and neglected to pay the plaintiff the \$800, or secure the same; whereupon the plaintiff asked for judgment of \$800 against the defendants, which the court refused to grant. This question of whether the plaintiff was entitled to judgment was carried to the supreme court at the June term, 1871, and determined against the plaintiff. Up to this time the case had been managed by A. Durnford, and Cothren & Black for the plaintiff, and Eastland & Eastland for the defendants; but at this time James H. Miner took charge of the plaintiff's case, and managed it to final termination, assisted a portion of the time by M. M. Cothren. On Aug. 14, 1872, the plaintiff served upon the defendants a written notice, reciting the substance of the proceedings in the case and demanded that the defendants reduce their dam, which they refused to do.

On Aug. 16, 1872, the plaintiff brought an action upon the verdict rendered in April, 1870, and demanded defendant's dam be abated or reduced, and a verdict was returned for the plaintiff and judgment and decree entered to the effect, that in case the defendants failed to pay the plaintiff the \$800 with interest and costs within sixty days, the sheriff should reduce the dam so that the water would not overflow the plaintiff's land. From this decree the defendants appealed to the supreme court, asking that the same be reversed and a new trial granted. The whole controversy in the case was in regard

to the form and sufficiency of the verdict. The defense contended: "That the verdict on which the action was based, to be valid, must find all the issues in the case and settle all matters controverted. That the mill-dam Act provided that 'if it shall be alleged in the complaint that the dam is raised to an unreasonable height, the jury shall decide how much, if any, the dam shall be lowered, and shall state such decision as a part of their verdict.' That the complainant in the former action, alleged that the dam was raised to an unreasonable height, but the jury failed to find anything upon that point." "Under this verdict," continued the defense, "we find an insuperable difficulty in determining the height of the water defendants have a right to maintain. Defendants contend that they have a right to keep the water up to the height it then was, though above the height estimated by the jury, while plaintiff contends that the water shall be reduced to an absolute standard of six feet and five inches. But if six feet five inches is fixed as the standard, then the verdict must also fix the place where the measurement is to be made, and fix it, not by inference merely, but so as to be definite and unequivocal; and this it utterly fails to do." In answer to the objection that the former verdict was based upon an estimated height of water of six feet five inches, the plaintiff's attorneys contended "that the plaintiff could take no advantage thereof, since in the event of his bringing another action, the allegation and proof of a greater height of water would not be sufficient to maintain his action. He would also be obliged to allege and prove that the height had been raised above what it actually was at the time the former damage was estimated, and that he was injured thereby. And this is just what the plaintiff would be required to prove in a new case, if the height of the water in feet and inches had not been mentioned in the verdict. Plaintiff declares, in the election itself, that it is an election to take \$800 for his damages, and what is stated about the six feet and five inches

can have no other meaning than to throw light upon the estimated height of water at the time the damage was estimated. In the event of the defendant's paying the \$800, plaintiff would be estopped from claiming anything more, unless he could clearly show that the water had been actually raised upon his land by defendant's dam to a greater height than it was when the former damage was estimated." The whole gist of the contention will at once be seen from the sides taken by the parties. After a very warm contest, and lengthy argument, the supreme court affirmed the judgment of the circuit court, deciding in favor of the plaintiff, Robert Akan.

The case of Jacob W. Lybrand vs. James and Santippa Ann Haney was at the fall term of circuit court in 1871. The prominence of the parties, the amount involved, and the elaborate opinion given by the supreme court when brought before that tribunal, renders the case important and of interest recalling the taxes and tax titles of earlier days. The case was managed by James H. Miner, attorney for plaintiff, with W. E. Carter as counsel; and Eastland & Eastland for defendants. Mr. Haney was the owner of large tracts of land in the southwestern part of the county, upon which he neglected to pay the taxes. The lands were sold year after year by the county for taxes. Mr. Lybrand purchased the lands at the tax sales. Mr. Haney failing to redeem the lands within three years after the respective sales, Mr. Lybrand obtained tax deeds of the lands, ten in all, upon nine forty acre tracts. The first deed was dated Aug. 11, 1865, and the last May 20, 1870. Before bringing the action to quit the title and fully obtain the lands, Mr. Lybrand proposed to Mr. Haney to quit claim the lands to him upon his paying the tax, costs of sale, and one-half of the accrued interest. This offer was not accepted, and Mr. Lybrand brought this action, setting forth the facts of the non-payment of the taxes, that deeds had been issued to him, giving a copy of

each deed, and asked a judgment that he be judicially declared the owner, and that James and Santippa Ann Haney be barred and foreclosed of all right and equity of redemption. The defendants demurred to the complaint upon several grounds; among others that as to the deeds of 1865 they were barred by the statutes of limitations, and that the complaint did not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action. The demurrer was argued before the circuit court, Judge Mills presiding, and overruled. From this ruling the defendants appealed to the supreme court. At the January term, 1872, the case was argued before the supreme court, by A. C. Eastland on the part of Mr. Haney, and James H. Miner for Mr. Lybrand. The ruling of the circuit court was sustained; but the court went further and held that no cause of action could be based upon deeds issued more than three years before the time of bringing the action. By this ruling, Mr. Haney was relieved from depositing the amount of tax, interest, costs and charges due upon the lands, which he was required to do before he would be permitted to serve and file his answer to the complaint, so that the plaintiff could accept and release the lands, or refuse and test the validity of the tax deeds, and take the lands. Mr. Haney made the deposit of something over \$300. Mr. Lybrand accepted the money and released the lands, upon Mr. Haney's paying the costs, about \$100, besides \$50 in the supreme court.

About the only trial of any importance at the April term in 1872, was that of the State of Wisconsin *vs.* John and George Quackenbush. Oscar F. Black appeared for the State, and James H. Miner for the defendants. John and George Quackenbush had been arrested in December, 1871, for stealing a large quantity of hops from Alpheus Smith, on Willow creek. Upon preliminary examination they were held to bail, and in default thereof, remanded to jail. They laid in jail all winter, waiting for their trial before the circuit court. They had

been troublesome guests for the sheriff, who found it necessary to chain them to the floor of the jail to prevent them from doing mischief. When the trial finally came off they were found guilty, but they came so near proving that the hops were of no value that the judge imposed only the light fine of \$25, and astounded the bar and spectators by directing the sheriff to *give the prisoners the limits of the county until the fine was paid.*

The case of Jaquish *vs.* the Town of Ithaca, appears upon the calendar for the October term of circuit court in 1872. It was an action to recover damages for injuries to the person and property, suffered by the plaintiff by reason of a defective bridge, parcel of a highway in Ithaca, the defendant town. Eastland & Eastland, with Cothren & Lanyon, were attorneys for the town, and George C. Hazelton and O. B. Thomas appeared for Mr. Jaquish. It appears that during the afternoon of March 8, 1871, the plaintiff attempted to drive a team of horses across the bridge in question, but the horses broke through or ran off the bridge into the water, and one of them was drowned, and the other soon after died from the injuries. The stream was usually very small, but at the time of the accident was so much swollen by rain and melting snow that the water ran over the bridge. The plaintiff claimed, and the testimony tended to prove, that in consequence of his exposure and exertion in endeavoring to rescue his horses, his health was seriously and permanently impaired. Therefore he brought this action for damages. A change of venue was taken to Vernon county. The most important points that were argued in the trial were, as set by the defense: When a highway has *suddenly* become deficient or out of repair, through some action of the elements, the town is not liable for resulting injuries, without notice and time to repair the defect; that when a party seeks to recover damages of another for an injury caused by the carelessness or negligence of the agents or servants of the

other, he must himself be entirely free from contributory negligence. That plaintiff knew the condition of the bridge, and acted carelessly and negligently in attempting to cross it. It was not denied that the bridge was out of repair when the accident happened, but it was claimed that it had suddenly become so but recently before the time, by reason of a freshet in the stream; and that sufficient time had not elapsed thereafter, and before the accident, for the town authorities to repair it, or guard travelers against the danger. But there was evidence tending to prove that the town authorities had notice of the defect in the bridge. It was undisputed that the chairman of the board of supervisors of the town passed over the bridge on the same afternoon, and before the accident to the plaintiff, and saw that one end of some of the plank was loosened from the stringers. Upon this point the court held that notice of the defect to that officer, who was one of a board charged by law with the care and superintendence of the highways and bridges in the town, was notice to the town. There was considerable evidence tending to prove that the plaintiff was guilty of negligence which contributed directly to the injury; but still there was other evidence to prove that he exercised reasonable care to avoid the injury. The jury, after a full hearing found for the plaintiff, and assessed his damages at \$700. The defendant then moved for a new trial, which motion was overruled. The defendant appealed to the supreme court for new trial, where the judgment of the circuit court was affirmed. One of the reasons urged in the higher court why a new trial should be granted, was that the damages were excessive; that except about \$125, they were merely speculative. Upon this point the supreme court's opinion was as follows: "The testimony tends very strongly to show that the exertion by the plaintiff in rescuing his team, his exposure to the elements, and his agitation, all the direct result of the defect in the bridge, produced epilepsy, which disease

was developed soon after the accident, and from which the plaintiff still suffers. The probability is that he will never recover. He describes himself as a wreck both in mind and body, and the testimony of the physicians is that the disease usually terminates in paralysis and mental imbecility or total idiocy. It is probable that about \$500 of the damages were awarded for personal injuries. If the jury in the lower court found (as we presume they did find) that the epilepsy with which the plaintiff has been, and still is afflicted, was and is the result of the accident, the damages awarded are very moderate. Indeed, it would seem that the plaintiff and not the defendant is the party who may justly complain of the award."

The case of *F. S. Hall vs. Aschel Savage*, tried at the April term of court in 1873, evoked considerable interest, especially among the farmers. Mr. Savage lived in the town of Sylvan. It seems he sold a yoke of oxen to F. S. Hall, the plaintiff, and took \$10 to bind the bargain, agreeing to deliver the oxen at Viola, at a specified time, three or four weeks distant. Shortly after this bargain was made, one of the oxen was taken sick. Mr. Savage took care of and tried to cure it, and did partially recover. At the appointed time, however, he took the oxen to Viola and delivered them to the plaintiff, receiving therefor the amount agreed upon. In a few days the ox died. Mr. Hall then secured the services of Cothren & Black, as attorneys, and commenced an action to recover the amount paid for the ox. James H. Miner was retained as defendant's attorney. The point involved was whether the payment of the \$10 so far completed the sale that any loss thereafter would fall upon the party buying or upon the one who sold. The case was first tried before Justice A. L. Wilson, of Richland Centre, where it was decided in favor of the plaintiff, he recovering a judgment for the amount paid for the ox. Mr. Savage appealed the case to circuit court, where it came to final trial at the April term, 1873. After





*D. G. James*



a sharp contest on both sides, the decision of the justice's court was reversed, and judgment was rendered for the defendant.

At the April term of court, 1875, the case of *State vs. Charles Holbrook and Buchanan Nicks* was tried. The whole northern part of the county were interested in this case, although the case itself involved but little. It seems that the boys and young men, in the vicinity of Woodstock, had got into the habit of having a "good time," as it is expressed, at church, Sunday school, and other meetings of like nature. Their fun was not vicious, but provoking, such as throwing paper wads, laughing and carrying on generally. This was in vogue there for several years until it became intolerable, and then steps were taken to put an "effectual stop" to it. The first case was brought in December, 1874, against Charles Holbrook, Buchanan Nicks, Abner Hammond, Luther Waldsmith, Joseph Orr, O. M. Neff, and Lyman Clark, before Alden Haseltine, justice of the peace. James Lewis appeared for the prosecution and James H. Miner, for the defense. The trial was a long one, lasting four days, and was attended by a very large concourse of people. A large number of witnesses were examined. It seems that all of the defendants were dismissed except the first two, and these were found guilty, the fines and costs amounting to \$86. Judge Miner appealed the case to the circuit court, and again appeared for the defense. Oscar F. Black prosecuted the case in circuit court. The case was disposed of at the April term, 1875. The boys had been arrested under the provisions of section 1, chapter 145, laws of 1866, which is as follows:

"Every person who shall, at any time, willfully interrupt or molest any assembly of people met for the worship of God, or any member thereof, or persons when meeting or met together for the performance of any duties enjoined on or appertaining to them as members of any religious society, or any wedding party, or other company or assembly of peaceable citi-

zens, or for the recitation or performance of oral instruction in vocal music, within the pale of such meeting or out of it, shall be punished by fine not exceeding \$20 nor less than \$5."

Judge Mills, in his charge to the jury, defined what the law contemplates as "willfully molesting public worship, etc." The following quotation from the charge will show his interpretation of the law:

"It cannot be regarded as a molestation or interruption in view of the above law, for a person to leave his seat in a quiet and orderly manner, go out, and return again. But boisterous and noisy demonstrations with tongue or feet, such as every reasonable person should know would interrupt and molest the exercises of the meeting, would render the defendant liable to the penalty of the law, if guilty of such conduct. Gestures and grimaces calculated to attract the attention of and disturb the audience would be such an interruption as is contemplated by the law. All peaceable and lawful assemblies, equally with religious societies, are under protection of the law.

"It is your business to determine whether the evidence shows such conduct on the part of the accused or the contrary.

"I do not think the evidence against Buchanan Nicks sufficient to go before the jury."

The jury found Holbrook guilty, and he was fined \$10. The other defendant was discharged.

The case of *State of Wisconsin vs. N. H. Austin*, upon the charge of perjury, was the most important case tried at the October term in 1875. N. H. Austin was a money lender, a man about fifty years of age, and a former resident of Richland Centre. He came here from Ironton, remained for a number of years, and in 1873 returned to the place of his former residence. During the summer of 1872, while in Richland Centre, he made one loan and a trade with a Mrs. Frank, and secured the two notes which were given, by a mortgage on a farm. When the time expired, he commenced fore

closure proceedings. She set usury as a defense, and succeeded in defeating Austin. A short time afterward, Austin was indicted for perjury, and upon a change of venue the case was brought to Richland county for trial. John Barker, district attorney for Sauk county, and J. W. Lusk, prosecuted the case; and Oscar F. Black and W. E. Carter appeared for the defendant. The indictment or complaint charged that the defendant was guilty of perjury in swearing that there was no usury taken for a loan made by him to Mrs. Frank in September, 1872. Austin claimed that he loaned Mrs. Frank \$56, July 8, 1872; that she also bought a hop press in September, 1872, for which she gave another note for \$60. The Franks claimed that the note given July 8, was for the hop press, and the one in September for the loan. In these statements laid the gist of this action. Both sides swore to their statements. Eighty witnesses were examined. Hon. Alva Stewart, circuit judge of the circuit to which Sauk county is attached, and most of the members of the Sauk county bar appeared as witnesses. The defense relied upon proving the truth of Austin's statements. It was shown that the hop machine was patented by Mr. Brockway, of Richland Centre; that the first that he had manufactured was not completed until the 28th of August, 1872; that the regular price of them was \$60, conforming exactly with the note given in September, 1872. Therefore it could not have been delivered on the 8th day of July, because it was not in existence at that time. The case was bitterly contested on both sides. The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty."

One of the amusing little incidents of the trial was: The counsel for the defense had proved that Austin had held the offices of justice of the peace and assessor of his town for many years; that he was a member of the Methodist Church, and an earnest exhorter. This was to give the defendant standing before the jury. When they came to the closing arguments, J. W. Lusk, as fine an appearing

man as ever addressed any jury, in answer to the charge of counsel for the defendant, that the prosecution was malicious, in getting such distinguished lawyers, said, stooping down toward the defendant, "I have no enmity nor the slightest ill feeling against Austin," who was a little, shrimped up old man, "but I could earnestly say, may the Lord have mercy on his soul!" "Hold on! Mr. Lusk," exclaimed Judge Mills, from the bench, in his fine, screechy voice, "if Austin is an exhorter he had ought to answer, 'Amen!'"

In April, 1876, the case of C. Cooper & Co. vs. F. G. and T. C. Rodolf, was tried. It attracted a good deal of interest, both on account of its being warmly contested, and because it involved a nice point of law. The plaintiffs were engaged in manufacturing, or at least, handling saw-mill machinery. They sent an agent to the defendant to sell their goods. Messrs. Rodolf contracted for a saw-mill outfit with this agent. The contract, after setting forth the style and size of the different pieces of machinery, read, "and also a carriage twenty-four or thirty feet in length." The design was that the agent should learn which was wanted and then scratch out the other; but this was neglected in this case. In due time the goods arrived, and the "carriage" was found to be *twenty-four feet in length*. Messrs. Rodolf resisted payment for the goods, and when action was brought, set up among other points for defense, that the contract had not been fulfilled. The question then was: In a contract of this character, which of the parties had the right of choice. After a full hearing, the court held that the party who was first to act, or, in other words, the party who was to make the first move toward fulfilling the contract, had the right to choose, where the contract contained an alternative clause. Therefore the plaintiffs recovered.

The trial of the case of State of Wisconsin vs. Hugh Boyle, for assault with intent to kill, excited a good deal of interest at the October

term of circuit court in 1876. It involved several very nice questions of law and fact. Hugh Boyle had been upon a spree for several days at Lone Rock, and when in this condition he was a very violent man. He had eaten nothing for almost two days. On the evening of the second day, he was sitting in a saloon beside Andrew Campbell, when suddenly he sprang to his feet, and, without any provocation, drew a revolver and fired at Campbell, exclaiming, "I'll blow you through!" He was soon secured, and this action was brought in the name of the State, charging him with an assault with intent to kill. The fact of assault was very evident, but the question was raised by the defense whether drunkenness excused it, and whether a drunken man could form an intent to kill. The defense did not claim that drunkenness excused the assault, but it was claimed that drunkenness did excuse that class of crimes where there must be not only a general intent but a specific intent to do the criminal act. In the course of trial it was argued upon this point, that the mind must be capable of forming the intent, and if Boyle was so drunk as to be incapable of entertaining the specific intent to kill, although he intended to injure, the crime of assault with intent to kill was not made out. That men are punished either according to the gravity of the intent combined with the act, or according to the gravity of the act combined with the intent, and, that a small act with a grave intent constitutes a great crime, or a great act with a small intent constitutes a grave crime. That, further, as the act of killing did not take place, the prisoner could only be punished for his intention, which he was too drunk to entertain. The attorneys interested in the case were E. C. Wulging, James Lewis, James H. Miner and W. E. Carter for the prosecution, and Eastland & Son and O. F. Black for the defendant. After a full hearing the jury returned a verdict of "guilty of assault" only. The judge fined Boyle \$100, but instructed the sheriff not to col-

lect the same in case it would *embarrass the defendant!*

At the same term of court a large number of the cases of farmers against the railroad company, upon appeal from the damages allowed by the commissioners appointed to appraise the lands, appear on record. The major portion, if not all, of these cases were compromised.

The case of R. C. Rounsavell vs. Elihu and D. G. Pease, was one of the most important civil actions tried at the October term of circuit court in 1876. The facts in this case, as near as they can be learned from conflicting statements, were as follows: Elihu and D. G. Pease were proprietors of a store at Richland Centre. One day an agent for a sewing machine company called at the store to get Mr. Pease to take the agency of the machines. Mr. Pease had his team at the door in readiness to go to Rockbridge. He told the agent that he would take the agency, but had no time to look over the contract which the agent produced. The agent prevailed upon Mr. Pease to sign the contract, however, and said he would fill it out afterward and leave a copy of it at the store. Mr. Pease claimed that he understood that he was merely taking the agency of the machines. The contract which he signed, however, when the blanks were filled, proved to be an order for a certain number of machines. In due time the machines arrived. Mr. Pease was not successful in selling the machines, and refused to pay for them. The company then brought this action on the contract. The attorneys were Miner & Wulging, for the plaintiff, and O. F. Black and Eastland & Son, for the defendants. The court after a full hearing, held, and so instructed the jury, that if the blanks in the contract had not been filled out as agreed it was not binding. The jury took the view that the blanks were not so filled out, and Messrs. Pease received a judgment for costs. The case was carried to the supreme court and the decision in the circuit court was affirmed.

The case of Griffin *vs.* the Town of Willow, came up for trial at the fall term of court in 1876. It was an action by Daniel Griffin and wife for injuries to their persons which they alleged they sustained by reason of the defective highway. The evidence showed that at the place where the accident occurred, a ditch and break-water ran diagonally across the road, and that upon Griffin driving his wagon into this ditch, the axle-tree was broken, the wife was thrown from the wagon, the horses ran away, and both the plaintiffs sustained personal injuries. J. W. Lusk, of Sauk county, brought the action for damages; but not having time to try the case he left it in the hands of James H. Miner, E. C. Wulging and James Lewis, for trial. M. M. Cothren and O. F. Black appeared on behalf of the town. The case was warmly contested and the jury disagreed, being equally divided. A new trial was had in the spring of 1877, when J. W. Lusk was present and managed the case himself. In the meantime, Mr. Cothren had become circuit judge and took his place upon the bench. Lusk was advised to take a change of venue, but he thought he would receive as good treatment from Cothren as any other judge. O. F. Black and W. E. Carter, this time defended the town. Again the case was warmly contested; but Cothren in his charge to the jury and admission of the evidence, left the plaintiff no chance; so the defendant received a judgment for the costs. Lusk carried the case to the supreme court, where the judgment of the circuit court was reversed and the case came back to circuit court in Vernon county for a new trial. The matter ran along for some time, and finally the case dropped from sight.

The case of Thomas J. Whitcraft *vs.* Town of Rockbridge, was one of the most important cases upon the docket for the fall term of court in 1876. James H. Miner and E. C. Wulging appeared on the part of the plaintiff, and Oscar F. Black for the defense. Mr. Whitcraft, in company with others, was in a wagon

crossing the Pine river in the town of Rockbridge, when the old "rickety" bridge gave way, and in the fall Mr. Whitcraft was badly hurt. He was laid up for some time, and his injuries were of such a nature that possibly he might never fully recover from their effects. He made a proposition to the town of Rockbridge to settle the matter for \$250, but the town refused to give that much. He therefore began suit against the town for \$500 damages. The road upon which the defective bridge was located was one which had been formally adopted by the county. This was done to legalize an act of the board of supervisors, in appropriating a small amount from the county funds to be applied towards repairing this particular road. The defense of the town in this action was based upon this fact. The defense set forth that the road in question was a county road; had been formally adopted by the county; and if any injury resulted from its being out of repair, the county must be liable, not the town. But after an exciting trial the jury viewed the matter in a different light, and gave Thomas Whitcraft a verdict of \$316 and costs, amounting in all to \$452.83.

In April, 1876, Hon. M. M. Cothren was again elected circuit judge, and served until January, 1883.

At the April term of court in 1877, the case of State of Wisconsin *vs.* Thomas McClary and Hugh Brooks first came up for trial. This was probably the most important criminal case that has ever been tried in Richland county. A great deal of feeling was engendered over the case, and it has been difficult for the historian to arrive at the true state of facts; but as near as they can be gleaned, the history of the case was as follows:

Many years ago, Hon. Charles G. Rodolf erected a valuable grist-mill on Mill creek, in the town of Eagle. Mr. Rodolf was very popular, and his mill gained a very large patronage. One morning, in 1868, while the employees of the mill were at breakfast, the mill was dis-

covered to be on fire. All efforts to save it were futile. The mill was burned to the ground, and very little was saved. Various conjectures were advanced at the time as to the origin of the fire. Mr. Rodolf soon rebuilt his mill, and one night about 12 o'clock, when it was well nigh completed, the mill was again discovered to be on fire, and this time some one was seen running from the mill. The party who discovered the fire went up stairs and there found an old glass-box partly filled with rags, shavings, papers, and other combustible material, all on fire. This was extinguished. Mr. Rodolf suspicioned one of his neighbors, had him arrested, taken before a justice of the peace at Richland Centre, and held to bail. He was afterwards indicted by the grand jury. Subsequent developments, however, proved that this party was entirely innocent, so the case was dropped. The work on the mill progressed. It was finished, and continued to run until the night of Feb. 6, 1876. Upon this memorable night, for the citizens of that vicinity, at between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock, it was again discovered that the mill was in flames. It was totally destroyed, together with about \$1,000 worth of wheat and flour, which was in the mill. The day after the mill burned the Rodolfs came to the conclusion that the mill had taken fire from the stove, which was in an office adjoining the mill. Two prominent and, it seems, plausible reasons were given for this. One was, a snow had fallen early in the evening before the mill burned, and no tracks could be found the next morning; the other reason was, the unsafe condition of the stove. In the spring of 1876, it was whispered around the neighborhood that Thomas C. McClary had stated that he had burned the first mill and had threatened to burn the other. The Rodolfs picked up scraps of evidence, and it was reported they had offered a large reward for information regarding the burning of the mills.

Hugh Brooks, one of the defendants mentioned, told Rodolf that Thomas McClary had

hired him (Brooks) to burn the mill, agreed to give him \$500, and had given him \$5, and that *he (Brooks) had burned the mill.* Brooks soon after stated to another party that he had not burned the mill, nor had Mr. McClary hired him to, but there was money in it which he could make easier than by hard work. Brooks was arrested in July, 1876, and was locked up in jail, without any examination or order of commitment. At about this time the sheriff and C. G. Rodolf went to Spring Valley, Minn., to apprehend Mr. McClary, he having removed there in November, 1875. The friends of McClary sent Scott Kincannon to advise McClary what was being done. After full consultation, Kincannon and McClary's attorney at Spring Valley advised him to keep out of the way for a while, and in the mean time find out what they could. The sheriff and Mr. Rodolf returned without Mr. McClary. During the hot days of August, Mr. Brooks got restless and fled. He was again arrested and lodged in jail and remained there until Nov. 1, 1877. While in jail Mr. Brooks told several persons that he had burned the mill. This he afterwards denied; said he did not burn the mill, and stuck to it, so swearing upon his final trial, and claimed Rodolf hired him to so state. Mr. McClary's friends paid Mr. Kincannon liberally for his trouble, time, expense and counsel; and from the part he had taken it was supposed he knew the whereabouts of Mr. McClary. Mr. Rodolf sent for Mr. Kincannon to call and see him at Muscoda. Mr. Kincannon said he had sympathy for Mr. Rodolf's family, and in consideration of the \$103 paid and \$97 to be paid, he told Mr. Rodolf the whereabouts of Mr. McClary. F. C. Rodolf, by the aid of this information, arrested Mr. McClary in Illinois and brought him back to Richland Centre, in irons, in March, 1877. Mr. Brooks and Mr. McClary were taken before a justice of the peace, and after an examination, Mr. Brooks was remanded to jail, and Mr. McClary held to bail in the sum of \$12,500, to await trial. Mr. McClary's bail was afterwards

reduced by court commissioner Durnford to \$6,000 which was furnished.

At the April term, 1877, they were proceeded against by the State jointly, upon information, for arson. Mr. McClary's friends saw at once that his being associated with Mr. Brooks would be a sad blow for the defense. But how to get Judge Cothren to give separate trials was a question. A successful plan, however, was devised. Mr. Brooks made an application for a change of venue, setting forth in his affidavit that he feared he could not get an impartial trial in this circuit on account of the prejudice of the judges. The change of venue was accordingly granted, and the case of State *vs* Hugh Brooks was taken to Dane county for trial. The attorneys were O. F. Black, E. C. Wulfing and George C. Hazelton, for the State, and James H. Miner, James Lewis, Eastland & Son and Dutcher & Brooks, for the defense. The trial at Madison was a long one, some forty witnesses being in attendance. The most important point raised in the trial was over the admission of testimony. Mr. Brooks had admitted before a justice of the peace that he had been hired to, and did burn the mill. The defense objected to the admission of this as evidence, on the ground that it was a confidential statement made to an officer of the law. The point was hotly argued and the judge sustained the objection. But during a recess for dinner he consulted one of the criminal lawyers who was in the city, and when court again convened he reversed his former decision and allowed the admissions of Mr. Brooks to be introduced. This placed Mr. Brooks in a bad position before the jury, and he could expect no leniency. If he had not burned the mill, as he claimed in his defense, then he was guilty of trying to get Mr. McClary in prison by false swearing, and if his former statements were true, then he was guilty. After being out a short time the jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the judge sentenced him to five years in the penitentiary.

The final trial of the State of Wisconsin *vs* Thomas McClary, for complicity, took place at the fall term of circuit court in 1878, in Richland Centre. The trial excited great interest and was attended by a large concourse of people from all parts of the county. A great number of witnesses were sworn and examined. The testimony in a great measure was the same facts that have been related. Mr. Brooks after having made his first confession, that Mr. McClary had hired him to burn the mill, denied it, and stated that Rodolf had hired him to make the confession and throw the blame upon Mr. McClary, in the hope of forcing money from him (McClary). This was taken advantage of by the defense. Throughout, the case was managed in a most able manner upon both sides, not a stone being left unturned. The charge of Judge Cothren seemed to leave no hope for the defense, as will be seen from the following extracts from the charge, which will also serve to throw some light upon parts of the testimony introduced: Judge Cothren said to the jury: "If you find from the evidence that the defendant had a grudge against Rodolf, the owner of the mill, and had made threats that the mill should be destroyed, it justifies the conclusion that the defendant was under the influence of motives that might reasonably be supposed sufficient to prompt him to hire a person to burn the mill.

"If you find from the evidence that he employed, directed or counseled Hugh Brooks to burn the mill, you should find him guilty of the offense charged in the information. Brooks has been judicially found guilty of burning the mill. \* \* It was not the result of an accident. You will consider the conduct of defendant in going from place to place to escape arrest, leaving his family and having letters directed to him under an assumed name. Such conduct usually attends consciousness of guilt. Such conduct is not consistent with the possibility of innocence. It is inconsistent with the probability of innocence, and if not explained



upon some reasonable hypothesis, which renders it consistent with his innocence, it raises a strong presumption against him of guilt. You will consider the statement made by Mr. Kincannon (if you believe that the defendant made it) that he only paid Mr. Brooks \$5 when told that they would prove he paid Mr. Brooks \$50, and give it such weight as you think it deserves. You will consider the statement made to Tuck Rodolf when arrested (if you believe that it was made) that if it had been twenty-four hours later he never would have got him in this world, and give it such thought as you deem it entitled to. And in the same connection you will consider the statement made to the sheriff, George Matteson, that if he had got his money before Tuck got hold of him, he would have given them a bigger chase, and give it such weight as you think it deserves. It is established that Hugh Brooks fired the mill. If you believe that James McKinney went with Mr. Brooks at the time the mill was fired, and believe that defendant had told Mr. McKinney that he had hired Mr. Brooks to do the burning, and had asked Mr. McKinney if he would do it in case Mr. Brooks failed, your belief from the evidence will lead to the result that the defendant is guilty, as charged in the information. If you believe from the evidence that Mr. McKinney went with Mr. Brooks at the time the mill was fired, and believe that he was induced to go with Mr. Brooks upon Mr. Brooks' representation that the defendant had employed him to do it, and had agreed to pay him \$500 for doing it, and finding in connection with the evidence, will justify you in finding the defendant guilty, though you should doubt that defendant had told Mr. McKinney that he had hired Mr. Brooks, and doubt that defendant had asked Mr. McKinney if he would do it in case Mr. Brooks failed. It is possible that Mr. Brooks never burned the mill. But we are not in this case to look for that possibility for the purpose of engendering a doubt. He has been tried and found guilty.

That settles the question that he was at the mill and fired it. To raise any doubt upon that subject would require the clearest and most convincing proof that he did not do it. Every question involved in the idea that the burning might have been caused by a defective stove, that there was doubt about his doing it, on account of tracks in the snow not having been found, and his absence from the place of burning was passed upon in that case. You will take the fact that Hugh Brooks burned the mill as a fixed fact, and take that for your starting point, unless you are satisfied, from the evidence, that Mr. Brooks did not do the burning. Was the defendant accessory to the burning? Mr. Brooks in the beginning, charged that Mr. McClary employed him to do it. Mr. McClary fled. That is a circumstance. It is claimed that defendant, when informed of the charge, did not deny the charge. That is a circumstance. It is claimed that he made statements, inconsistent with his innocence, to Mr. Kincannon, to Tuck Rodolf and George Matteson. You are to judge. James McKinney says that he was present when the mill was burned. It is shown that he was in the neighborhood and might have been present. He is shown to be a man of bad reputation for truth and veracity. It does not follow that because his reputation is bad that the jury are bound to disbelieve what he said. A bad man may tell the truth. It is for the jury to say whether they believe him or not. Is his statement confirmed by others? They are to consider his manner of telling his story. His apparent intelligence and suavity, his means of knowledge, the interest he can have for telling a falsehood. Would he be likely to accuse himself of a heinous crime if it were not true? They are also to inquire whether the defendant is shown to be a man likely to confide in such characters as Mr. Brooks and McKinney. Did he associate with them? Was he here in Richland Centre eating at Mr. McKinney's house at the time Mr. McKinney said he was? Had the defend-

ant boasted of a previous burning and threatened a subsequent one? Is Mr. McKinney's statement consistent with the fact of burning, and with his relations to the defendant and Brooks? If it is, and has inherent evidences of truth in itself, and fits in with all of the circumstances of the case and harmonizes with them, it may afford the jury the most incontestable evidence of the defendant's guilt. You are to pass upon the credibility of every witness, and are the sole judges of whether any one is to be believed. Mr. McKinney is brought upon the stand by the public prosecutor. He is solemnly sworn to tell the truth. There is no apparent reason for supposing that he has any pecuniary interest in telling a falsehood. No reason apparent for his entertaining feelings of personal hostility towards the defendant. He has every reason for shrinking from branding himself as a midnight incendiary. The presumption is that one will not falsely accuse himself. When he does inculpate himself does it not indicate that he testifies as one feeling the solemn obligations of his oath? It is your duty as reasonable men to believe or disbelieve? It is claimed that there is doubt of McKinney's statements, arising from tracks not having been found leading to or from the mill. To make this a ground for doubt you must be satisfied that there was such an examination made for tracks, as to very satisfactorily establish the fact that their were not any tracks made, when they must have been made if Mr. McKinney's statements are true. To warrant you in convicting you must be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty. The doubt must be reasonable and not merely imaginary. It must be such as to lead you to say my conscience is not satisfied of his guilt. Mere pity ought not to deter you from finding according to your convictions. Society in bringing criminals to justice, acts upon the principle of self defense. Let the guilty go free from the sympathy or soft heartedness of juries, and it is difficult to say who is safe or whether property possesses any

value. The jury is clothed with the defense of the public when passing upon the guilt of the guilty. If from the whole case you entertain a reasonable doubt of the guilt of the accused, you will acquit him. If you have no reasonable doubt of his guilt you ought not to be deterred from any mere sentimentality from saying guilty."

After delivering his charge to the jury, Judge Cothren turned to the sheriff and ordered him to take the defendant in charge, and place him in jail, this notwithstanding the fact that he was under bail. The jury retired; the judge and a few others went to supper, but the major portion of the crowd hung around the court house in feverish excitement. In a short time the bell clanged! Every one rushed to the court house to hear the verdict, scarcely any one, not even the defendant or his attorney, even hoping for a verdict of not guilty. But in this they were mistaken; for, notwithstanding the charge of the judge, the verdict when read was *not guilty!* The old court house never before or since witnessed a scene like that which was then enacted! The judge ordered the defendant released and almost every one went to their homes feeling that justice had been done. Thus closed probably one of the most important criminal cases that have passed into the history of Richland county.

The case of N. H. Sliter *vs.* Luke Dean and Giles Cook, which was tried at the April term of court in 1879, attracted considerable attention. Sliter was a Baptist preacher; a small, bright, dapper fellow of a sensitive, mercurial temperament, and a good speaker. He preached in the town of Sylvan, where he had a large congregation. One Sunday, in the fall of 1878, he made some remarks which a young man, who was in the audience, took offense at, and deemed personal. After the services were over, the young man walked up to the pulpit and threatened the preacher with bodily harm. Sliter shoved the young man back. The affair produced great excitement at the time; but for several months

nothing was done regarding it. In the meantime the young man had left the State. Finally, at the end of this time, Luke Dean, who was an elder in the Church and a local preacher, prevailed upon Giles Cook to procure the arrest of Sliter upon the charge of the assault mentioned. Sliter was arrested in Richland Centre. He he was taken before 'Squire Webb, of the town of Sylvan, and remained under arrest all day and part of the night awaiting trial, but the prosecution put in no appearance and the case was dismissed. Sliter then commenced this action against Luke Dean and Giles Cook, for malicious prosecution, to recover damages. The Church in Sylvan, where Dean was a member, and also the Church at Richland Centre, where

Sliter occasionally preached, were divided in sentiment over the affair. The trial in circuit court was had at the April term, 1879, and was an exciting one. The attorneys were Black & Burnham for Sliter, and Miner & Berryman and Ex-Judge Mills, for the defendant. After a full hearing the jury returned a verdict of \$270 for Sliter. Mr. Sliter afterward abandoned the pulpit and began reading law. He now lives somewhere in the northern part of this State.

In April, 1882 George Clementson was elected judge and is the present incumbent. The Fifth district now embraces the counties of Richland, Grant, Iowa, La Fayette and Crawford. Terms of court are held in April and October each year.



## CHAPTER IX.

## THE BAR OF RICHLAND COUNTY.

There is probably nothing of more interest in this history, to the general public, than the history of its bar, past and present. In this chapter, as far as possible, are given sketches of every attorney who has practiced in Richland county.

## THE BAR OF THE PAST.

Among those who have practiced before the courts of Richland county in the past, and who have been resident lawyers, were the following: John J. Moreland, A. C. Eastland, J. W. Coffinberry (or C. Bre), A. P. Thompson, E. M. Sexton, Byron W. Telfair, Josiah McCaskey, D. B. Priest, William F. Crawford, Amos Nudd, Charles G. Rodolf, John S. Wilson, Lawrence Van Dusen, C. D. Stewart, W. C. Wright, W. S. Black, James Lewis, E. C. Wulfinf, George Jarvis and A. E. Stroud.

Among others who have been members of the bar, but not actively engaged in the practice of law, were: William McFarland, W. H. Downs, Josephus Downs, Ira S. Haseltine, Hascal Haseltine, George C. Wright, A. B. Slaughter, Robert Akan, G. W. Hadder, D. S. Hamilton, C. D. Bellville, Le Roy D. Gage, R. R. Hamilton, W. F. Hart, E. Livingston and E. C. Hammond.

All of the early settlers agree that John J. Moreland was the first lawyer to locate within the limits of Richland county. Mr. Moreland came here from Indiana as early as 1850, and settled at Richmond (now Orion). He was one of the first prosecuting attorneys of the county, and remained at Richmond until 1853, when he moved to the northeastern part of Iowa. Mr. Moreland claimed to have been in practice prior

to coming here. He was not a man of education by any means, but was possessed of good natural ability and tact, and while here he had his share of the practice before justice courts. His present whereabouts are unknown, not having been heard from since the close of the war.

A. C. Eastland was born in the State of New York in 1820. His early life was spent upon his father's farm. When about twenty-one years of age he began the study of law in Michigan, and was admitted to the bar at Kalamazoo when twenty-four. He located at that place and began the practice of law, remaining about four years when he left there. In 1852 he came to Richland Co., Wis., locating at Sextonville. For several years he was engaged in a saw-mill enterprise and then came to Richland Centre and resumed the practice of his profession. For a number of years he was alone, after which he was in partnership with his brother, H. A. Eastland. A. C. Eastland was first married at Kalamazoo. He married his second wife at Sextonville. He remained in Richland Centre until 1881, when he moved to Muscoda, Grant Co., Wis., where he still lives. He was a man of a great deal of both natural and acquired ability, a well-read lawyer and an able speaker. For many years he was considered one of Richland county's most able lawyers.

J. W. Coffinberry came to Richland county in 1849, from Michigan, and settled with his family at Richland City. He was elected the first county judge of the county, but resigned in 1852. During 1852 and 1853 he kept a hotel and real estate office in Richland City,

and was quite a prominent man in public affairs. In 1856 he had his name changed by the board of supervisors from "J. W. Coffinberry" to "C. Bre." It was always a mystery why he took this step. The only reason he offered the board for the change was, that the sound of the name "Coffinberry" when simmered down was really nothing more than "*C. Bre.*" He remained in the county until just before the war broke out when he moved to Kansas, he and his wife having separated. His sons having got into the stock business pretty extensively, he now lives with them. Mr. Coffinberry, or perhaps, more properly Mr. Bre, did not engage in active practice when he first came to the county, but after resigning the office of county judge, and having his name changed he devoted a good deal, if not all, of his time to the profession. He was a man of a good deal more than ordinary education for those days, and a man of much ability. He was affable and pleasant in his manners, and held the respect of the early settlers.

A. P. Thompson was an eastern man. He was a graduate of the Albany Law School, New York, and came west to pass through pioneer life and secure a foothold in his chosen profession as the country developed. He first located in Sank county and began practice, but in 1852 came to Richland county and settled in Richmond, now Orion. He was at that time about thirty-five years old, and was married while there. He remained at Richmond for about fifteen years, when he removed to Grant county, where he still lives. He served Richland county as district attorney for several years. He was an able and close lawyer, a good speaker, and a man of much more than ordinary acquirements.

E. M. Sexton came from New York State at a very early day, and settled where Sextonville was afterward laid out. The village was platted by and named after him. He served the county and town in which he lived in various offices. He was admitted to the bar at an early day,

and devoted some of his time to the practice of law, but never had more than a meagre business. In 1874 he removed to Barron Co., Wis., where his home remained until the time of his death, in 1878. He had a fine legal mind, and was one of the best counselors the county has ever had. He held the respect and esteem of all, and his death was mourned by a large circle of friends.

Byron W. Telfair became a member of the Richland county bar in 1854. He came from New York, being a graduate of the Albany Law School, and located at Sextonville. He had been admitted to the bar prior to his removal west, and brought a small library with him. His professional life dates from his arrival, for he at once began practice, and continued until the war broke out. At this time he enlisted and went into the service, serving with distinction, and finally becoming captain of his company before his discharge. Upon the close of the war he returned to his Richland county home, and again took up the practice of law, remaining until his death, which occurred in 1872. His wife and one child survived him, and a few years later they removed to the northern part of the State, where they still live. Byron W. Telfair was a man of much energy in anything he earnestly undertook, yet he lacked the necessary application to study which must always be a component part of a successful disciple of Blackstone. He was an earnest and forcible jury advocate, and withal, fairly successful at the bar. He never had much circuit court business, but before the justice court, on nearly all trials in his part of the county, he had one side or the other. He was a democrat in politics.

Josiah McCaskey was a native of Scotland. He came to Richland county as early as 1852, and settled with his family on Fancy creek, in the town of Marshall, and through his influence a postoffice was established at that place, with himself as postmaster. He remained there until 1874, when he removed to Taylor county,

where he died in 1879. Josiah McCaskey was a noted character in Richland county. He was educated in Scotland, and came from the old "blue stocking, Presbyterian stock;" but while studying Greek, as he said, he became converted from the Presbyterian to the Baptist doctrine, and was always thereafter a man of strong religious tendencies. He was a man of high moral character, a great lover of books, and a self constituted guardian of the people, always being upon the alert to detect fraud in persons serving in official capacities. He was a very accurate surveyor and an active politician. He was not a very good speaker, but what he had to say he delivered in "sledge hammer style." In the practice of law he was never very active aside from trials in justice court.

Daniel Badger Priest became a member of the Richland county bar in June, 1855. He was born March 9, 1830, in Putnam Co., Ind. His father, Fielding Priest, who emigrated from Kentucky at an early day, and was one of the pioneer settlers of Indiana, was a man of great force of character, acknowledged ability and unsullied reputation. The early life of Daniel was spent upon his father's farm, attending school during the winter months. He completed a liberal education at the Asberry University. He chose the profession of law for his life calling, and even before arriving at his majority was well and favorably known to many of the prominent men of his native State. In the fall of 1850 he emigrated to Fort Snelling, Minn., near where St. Anthony now stands, and pre-empted 160 acres of land, remaining until the following spring. In 1852 he located for the practice of law, at Monroe, Wis., and soon afterward married Lucy Farrow, of Kentucky. Up to the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska act and the repeal of the Missouri compromise, he was a democrat. But in 1854 he was a delegate to the congressional district convention, held at Mineral Point, and with a number of others he dissolved his connection with that party, because the convention refused

to endorse Congressman Eastman in his opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska act. In June, 1855, he removed to Richland Centre and remained in the active practice of law until 1861, when he removed to Viroqua, Vernon county. During his residence of seven years at Viroqua, he was twice elected to the office of district attorney, served two terms in the Assembly, and also discharged the duties of the office of assistant assessor of Internal revenue for Vernon county. He was also one of the editors of the Vernon county *Censor*. In March, 1869, Secretary Washburn tendered to him the appointment of minister to Naples, which he declined, and accepted the appointment of collector of Internal revenue for the sixth district of Wisconsin. In 1869 he removed to Sparta, Wis., where he was connected with the editorial department of the Sparta *Eagle* for some time. Sparta remained his home until the time of his death, Sept. 6, 1870. While Mr. Priest was a resident of Richland county he made a great many friends. He was always prominent in all public moves and enterprises, and was a leader among men. When he came here in June, 1855, Richland Centre was without any educational facilities at all. He at once took hold of the matter, worked up an interest, and through his influence, to a very large degree, a school house site was secured and a building erected. He was ever a champion of public interests and educational progress. When the news of the death of Mr. Priest was received, a meeting of the bar was held and resolutions of respect and regret were passed. At this meeting Hon. James H. Miner, in an address regarding Mr. Priest, said: "I became acquainted with Mr. Priest in August, 1855, and formed a law partnership with him in November following, which continued for more than thirteen years. I count myself happy in having formed his acquaintance and receiving the benefits of his presence. \* \* \* If we are to count the length of life by what is accomplished, he lived long; for he accomplished much. Some have done more; but the

ten thousand times ten thousand have done less. His faults were scarcely perceptible through his many virtues. He was solid and steady, inflexibly just, incapable of using any falsehood, flattery or deceit. Neither elated with honors nor disconcerted with ill success, he now fills an honored grave."

William Crawford came to Richland county in 1855, and settled upon a farm in the town of Ithaca. In 1856 he moved into Richland Centre, and began the practice of law, becoming a partner of lawyer Frost, of Mineral Point. He had never read very much law, but was a man of much more than ordinary intelligence and information, and had very good success at the bar, before the circuit court.

Amos Nudd came from some of the New England States and settled with his family at Richland Centre, in 1856. The first winter of his residence in Richland county he was engaged at teaching school, after which he went into the real estate and loan business with L. D. Gage, and began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar, and began practice, but only kept his "shingle" out a short time, when he removed to Wanpon, Iowa, where he engaged in the manufacture of pumps. He still lives there. Mr. Nudd was a man of high moral character and strict integrity, and held the respect and esteem of all. While he never became very prominently identified with the bar of Richland county, he had very bright prospects for future success in the profession, being a man of ability and education. He had a very excellent and intelligent family, his wife being the sister of George James.

Charles G. Rodolf came to Richland county at a very early day, and became a prominent man in all public affairs. He settled at the village of Orion, where he engaged at general merchandising. He began the practice of law in 1855, and was interested in much of the legal business in early days. He was very successful as a lawyer, well read in the law, and a fair speaker, although his language was quite

broken his native German accent being plainly noticeable. He now lives at Muscoda, in Grant county.

John S. Wilson came to Richland county with his parents in 1853, and settled at Richland Centre. John S., for a number of years, followed teaching school and clerking in stores. In 1856 he was elected clerk of court, and while in this office he read law, and was admitted to the bar. After the expiration of his term as clerk, he opened a law office as partner of Amasa Cobb of Mineral Point, and remained in practice until the war broke out, when he raised a company, became its captain, and went into the service. After the close of the war he returned to Richland Centre, and again opened a law office. He remained there for a number of years, when he removed to Kansas, where he is still in the practice of law. While here Mr. Wilson did not have a very large law practice, but with that in which he was interested he was fairly successful. He did a large pension business, and it is thought made money. While here, in 1857, he was married to Jane Hamilton.

Lawrence Van Dusen came originally from the city of New York. In 1854 he located at Milwaukee, Wis., and two years later came to Richland county and settled upon a farm north of Richland Centre. In 1858 he was elected clerk of court, and during his term of office he studied law and was admitted to the bar. About the time the war broke out he began practice and remained until the spring of 1863, when he removed to Iowa. He afterwards engaged in the practice of medicine, was on the road for a time, and his whereabouts at present are unknown. Mr. Van Dusen was a very shrewd and able politician, having been brought up in Albany, N. Y., where his father was clerk of court and a democratic leader. He was a man of polished manners and of great ability; everybody's friend and a scheming money-maker.

Charles D. Stewart was admitted to the bar in Richland county at the May term of circuit court in 1859. Charley Stewart, as he was familiarly called, came from the State of New York at an early day and settled on Willow creek in the present town of Willow. In November, 1856, he was elected county clerk, and moved to the county seat. He served one term in the office, and during that time began the study of law. In 1859 he was admitted to the bar and engaged in the practice of law in the northern part of the county, locating in the town of Forest. He remained there until the time of his death which occurred in 1873. Mr. Stewart was possessed of a good education, made a good county official, a fair lawyer, and was a prominent man in his part of the county. He was a jovial, pleasant fellow, and, it is said, would rather laugh than eat.

W. C. Wright came to Richland county as a lawyer in 1860 and settled at Lone Rock. He had been in practice before coming here and was a very well educated man. He was a hard-worker, and a good speaker, when he had time to prepare himself. He had a fair practice and was very successful at the bar. After practicing law for several years he gave it up and began preaching for the Baptist Church. For a number of years he was located at Richland Centre, and the Baptist church at that place was erected during his pastorate. He finally moved to Madison and has subsequently changed his religious doctrine from the Baptist to the Unitarian faith. He still lives in Madison, where he is engaged at preaching and also teaching music, as he is a very fine musician.

Winfield Scott Black was born in Montgomery Co., Va., in 1848. He came to Richland county with his parents in 1854, and settled on Willow creek. He received a good education, taking a commercial course at the Chicago Mercantile College, and attending the State University at Madison. In the spring of 1869 he began reading law with his brother, O. F. Black, of Richland Centre, and was admitted to the bar

in the fall of 1870. He at once began the practice of law in partnership with his brother, and this relation was maintained until the fall of 1875, when W. S. went to Minneapolis as collecting agent for O. P. Baker & Co. In 1872, Mr. Black was stricken with paralysis, but partly recovered and was soon able to attend to business again. In January, 1876, he returned to Richland Centre, from Minneapolis, and died March 22, 1876, from pleuro pneumonia, the effects of the stroke of paralysis he had received. In 1870, Mr. Black had been married to Alla L. Downs, and one son, Buford, blessed this union. The widow and child are still residents of Richland Centre. W. Scott Black was a young man of more than ordinary promise, and had the prospect of becoming an honor to the profession. He was bright and keen, a good speaker, and a well read lawyer. He was unusually energetic in everything he undertook.

James Lewis grew up from a young man of twenty-two, in Richland county, having come here at an early day with his parents from Indiana, and settled in the town of Richwood. He afterwards married a daughter of L. M. Thorp, of the western part of the county, and settled down to farming. In 1868 he was elected clerk of court, and two years later was re-elected. In 1862 he had settled at Port Andrew where he read law, and began practice. Upon the expiration of his term of office he located at Richland Centre, for law practice. In 1872 he was elected prosecuting attorney, and in 1874 was re-elected, serving four years. For a number of years he was in partnership with W. E. Carter, of Platteville, and they made a good firm. A few years ago Mr. Lewis removed to Nebraska, where he is now county judge of Greeley county, in which county he resides and has a large farm. James Lewis was a sound lawyer; he was not an eloquent nor even a fair speaker, but he was quick to see a point and was abundantly able to tell "what he had to say." He was what in the profession would be termed an "equity lawyer."



E. C. Wulging was one of the most promising young attorneys who have ever belonged to the Richland county bar. He was of German descent, and came to the county at an early day, settling with his parents upon a farm in the town of Orion. He afterwards came to Richland Centre, and took a thorough course of reading with O. F. Black, and in 1873 was admitted to the bar. For several years he was in partnership with Hon. James H. Miner, after which he was alone. In 1876 he was elected prosecuting attorney for Richland county, and being re-elected in 1878, served four years, making an efficient officer. He married Kate Downs, daughter of W. H. Downs, of Richland Centre. Mr. Wulging remained here, acquiring a good practice and making money, until 1882, when he went to Mitchell, Dak., where he is still in practice. He made many friends here, and all speak of him as a young man with the very brightest of prospects for the future.

George Jarvis came here a young man, with his parents, and settled in Richland City. He afterward moved to Richland Centre, where he became justice of the peace. He thus became pretty well posted in law and conversant with the detail of practice and was admitted to the bar. He remained here until 1882, when he went to Minnesota, where he engaged in the milling business. While here he devoted a good deal of his time to pension matters.

A. E. Stroud was a lawyer that located at Lone Rock but a few years ago, and after remaining two years, he left the county. He now lives in Milwaukee, where he has become justice of the peace in one of the city wards.

#### THE BAR IN 1884.

In 1884 the bar of Richland county was composed of the following gentlemen: H. A. Eastland, James H. Miner, Oscar F. Black, Kirk W. Eastland, F. W. Burnham, J. H. Berryman, Michael Murphy and Thomas A. Johnston, all of Richland Centre, and actively engaged in practice. In addition to the above the following gentlemen are members of the bar but are

not engaged in practice: David Strickland, S. H. Doolittle, A. Durnford and H. W. Eastland, of Richland Centre; Newton Wells, of the town of Eagle; L. M. Thorp, of Excelsior; and Dr. R. M. Miller, of Port Andrew.

H. A. Eastland is the oldest lawyer residing in the county. He located and hung out his shingle at Sextonville in April, 1851. He practiced law at that place for about ten years, then came to Richland Centre, where he has since been engaged in a general law and collection business. Mr. Eastland was born in Oneida Co., N. Y., April 4, 1816. In 1833 he emigrated with his parents to Michigan, where he studied law and was admitted to the bar. In 1847 he came to Wisconsin and practiced law at Prairie du Sac, until he came to Richland county. He voted with the republican party from its organization until 1876, since that time he has voted the National greenback ticket. He is an active temperance worker. The only office he ever held was that of district attorney. In October, 1851, Mr. Eastland was married to Mrs. Isabelle A. Pierce *nee*. Briggs. They have two children—K. W. and H. W.

R. W. Eastland is a son of H. A. Eastland. He was born in Richland county, Oct. 5, 1852, and educated in the schools at Richland Centre, and subsequently read law. In 1875 he was admitted to the bar and has since devoted his attention to the legal profession. He is a republican, politically, and has been district attorney, and is at present town clerk. He was married Dec. 23, 1877, to Margaret Ostrander, daughter of D. B. Ostrander, of Sextonville. They have one child—Vera B.

Alexander Black was born in Montgomery Co., Va., Feb. 17, 1800. His early life was spent on a farm, and through his own efforts he succeeded in obtaining a good education. He was married at the age of twenty-five, to Elizabeth McDonald, who was of Scotch descent, but born in Virginia. Mr. Black held the office of county surveyor in his native State for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Black reared a family of

twelve children. The oldest son, Harvey, was a soldier in the Mexican War, and subsequently graduated in the medical department of the University of Virginia. He then, in 1849 or 1850, went to Chicago, purchased a horse, and on horseback went to Green Bay; thence to Mineral Point; purchased land in Richland county, and went to St. Joseph, Mo.; then returned through the southwestern States to Virginia. The entire trip from Chicago was made on horseback. In 1854, Mr. Black, accompanied by his son, Oscar F., came to Wisconsin to see the land which Harvey Black had purchased. They were, however, intending to go to Texas, but on arriving at Richland county they were so well pleased with the location that Mr. Black purchased a large tract of land on Willow creek, and soon after moved his family from Virginia, and here engaged in farming until his death, which occurred Sep. 17, 1872. His wife died May 27, 1880. The children living are—Harvey, a physician in Blacksburg, Va.; Ellen, wife of James Spickard; Margaret, unmarried; Elizabeth, wife of George Krouskop; Amanda, wife of William Krouskop; James A., Oscar F. and J. Q. Scott Black came with his parents to this county and educated himself for the legal profession. He married a daughter of D. L. Downs. His death took place March 22, 1876. Charles Black died in August, 1856, aged sixteen years.

O. F. Black was born in Virginia, June 1, 1840. He came with his father to Wisconsin in 1854, and the first season broke land and raised a crop of corn. During the next five years, assisted by his brother, he broke 400 acres with ox teams. He was educated at the academy at Richland City, at Albion, and at the University at Madison. In the fall of 1861 he commenced to read law, with John S. Wilson as preceptor, and afterwards with J. H. Miner. In 1863 he was admitted to the bar. He then read law with H. W. & D. K. Tinney, of Madison, one year, then taught school six months at Muscoda. In the fall of 1864, he

stumped the county for Gen. George B. McClellan for the Presidency, in joint debate against D. L. Downs and others. He then clerked in the quartermaster's department at Memphis, Tenn., until the following spring, and since 1866 has given his attention to the legal profession. He now has a good practice. Mr. Black is fond of traveling. He has crossed the plains four times, and has visited nearly all portions of the United States. His politics are democratic. He has served two terms as district attorney, and is a member of the F. & A. M. June 16, 1875, Mr. Black was married to Ida Burnham, daughter of Dr. S. Burnham. They have one daughter—Virginia.

Alfred Durnford is a native of England, born in Peekham, near London, May 1, 1818. His father, Andrew Montague Isaacson Durnford, was lieutenant-colonel in the Third Guards, British army, and the family was consequently not permanently settled at any given place; but resided in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland. Alfred Durnford was educated for the legal profession, and for a number of years was engaged in parliamentary solicitorship. In 1840 he united in marriage with Annie Smith, and in the fall of 1854 emigrated to the United States. He stopped at Milwaukee until the spring following, then came farther west and became one of the early settlers of Richland county. He purchased land on section 2, town of Dayton, and engaged in farming. But as he was admitted to the bar soon after coming to the county, he gave considerable of his time to the practice of law, and as his practice increased he left the farm and removed to Richland Centre and gave his entire attention to the legal profession until 1880, when on account of failing health he retired from practice, and now resides in the north part of the village, where he owns thirty acres of land, and is pleasantly located. He became associated with the democratic party soon after coming to America, and still adheres to its ranks, but has never taken any further interest than to perform his duty as an

enlightened citizen. He was court commissioner for several years, and has served as justice of the peace. His religious convictions are with the Presbyterian society. Mr. and Mrs. Durnford have reared eleven children, five now living—George, Harriet, now Mrs. J. M. Shireman; Rosa, now Mrs. Lewis James; Edward II. and Frederick W.

James H. Miner is numbered among those who settled at Richland Centre when that now thriving village was in its infancy, his residence in that place bearing date Aug. 31, 1855, since which time he has given his attention to the legal profession. During the spring of 1856 he was chosen town superintendent of schools and served the people in that capacity one year. In the fall of 1856 he was elected district attorney and held the office for two terms. In 1862 he was deputy United States assessor of revenue. In 1865 he was elected county judge and served one term. In 1870 he represented his district in the Assembly. On the 26th day of July, 1876 he was appointed postmaster at Richland Centre and held the office until May, 1881. He served as a member of the State Industrial school for boys at Waukesha in 1880 and 1881. He has been court commissioner of the United States district court since 1872. He served as president of the village board one year and is now a member of the same. He took an active part in securing the railroad at Richland Centre and was one of the directors of the same. Thus it can be seen he has continually held positions of trust and honor, which fact among many others indicates his ability, and he is to-day justly honored and esteemed by his fellow men. Judge Miner was born in Lockport, N. Y., Feb. 4, 1830. His father Luthur Miner, was of Welch extraction and a farmer by occupation. His mother Eleanor (Grant) Miner, was of Scotch descent, but was born in Delaware. The early life of the subject of this sketch was spent on his father's farm and when eight years old he removed with his parents to Hillsdale Co., Mich., where he received an academic education

and taught school. At the age of eighteen he commenced the study of law with Judge E. H. C. Wilson and subsequently continued with Judge Orsamus Cole. In 1852 he came to Wisconsin, taught school in Grant County, and in April 1855 was admitted to the bar, on the 12th day of May 1855, at Volga city, Iowa, he was married to Sarah Ann Dunn, who was a native of Alleghany Co., N. Y. The following winter he taught school in Richland Centre and was the first male teacher employed. The children are—Berkie, the first graduate of the Richland High school, and now the wife of J. H. Berryman; Grant L., Freddie J. (deceased), Carrie and Minnie. Judge Miner in politics was formerly a whig and now acts with the republican party, is a member of the Masonic fraternity having served as Master of Richland Lodge, No. 66, of which he was a charter member.

On the 22nd of February, 1876, the republican State convention nominated Mr. Miner, as one of the presidential electors, and remained as such nominee until in October, and then tendered his declination for the reason that subsequent to the nomination he had been appointed postmaster of Richland Centre, which rendered him ineligible. The declination was accepted by the central committee, and Dr. D. L. Downs, of Richland Centre, was placed upon the ticket to fill the vacancy, and was elected.

J. H. Berryman is a member of the law firm of Miner & Berryman. He was born in Lafayette Co., Wis., March 31, 1854. His parents were John and Mary A. (Retallach) Berryman. His early life was spent upon a farm. When he was twelve years old, his parents removed to Jo Daviess Co., Ill. He was educated at the Normal school at Galena, and afterwards taught school. In 1876 he went to Madison, where he acted as assistant State librarian, and also read law; afterwards read law in the office of Lewis, Lewis & Hale, and in November, 1878, was admitted to the bar by the circuit court. In June, 1879, he graduated from the law depart-

ment of the State University. His residence at Richland Centre, dates from November, 1878. Oct. 30, 1880, Berkie Miner became his wife. They have one daughter—Mary Edith. Mr. Berryman is a republican in politics, and village attorney. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

F. W. Burnham, of the law firm of Black & Burnham, is a son of H. L. and Susan (Lowell) Burnham. He was born in Addison Co., Vt., June 25, 1853; came with his parents to Wisconsin in 1856. He helped till the soil until eighteen years of age, then took a course at the La Crosse Business College. In the fall of 1875, he commenced to read law with O. F. Black, a preceptor, and in 1877, was admitted to the bar, and has since been a member of the above named firm. Politically he is a republican. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and the I. O. O. F.

#### PRESENT COUNTY OFFICIALS.

Michael Murphy, district attorney, is a native of Ireland, born Feb. 2, 1846. His parents were Daniel and Elizabeth (O'Brien), Murphy. The family came to America in 1850, and first stopped in Westchester, N. Y. In 1854 they came to Wisconsin and settled in the town of Willow, Richland county, where they engaged in farming until 1872. The parents now reside with the subject of this sketch. The children living, are—James, Kate, Michael, Daniel and Eliza. Michael helped till the soil with his father, and received a good common school education and subsequently taught school. In the fall of 1872, he was elected clerk of the circuit court, and held the office six years. During that time he studied law, and was admitted to the bar of Richland county. In 1880, was admitted to practice before the Supreme court of the State. In the fall of 1882 he was elected district attorney and entered upon the duties of the office Jan. 1, 1883. His politics are republican.

In the county clerk's office at this time may be found Homer J. Clark, who was elected to this position in the fall of 1882, and entered upon his

duties January 1, 1883. Mr. Clark is a genial, whole-souled gentleman, affable and accommodating, ever ready to serve any one who may have business in his office, and the people of Richland county certainly exercised good judgment in their selection of an officer to this position. As a public man he has proved himself a satisfactory officer, having served several years as town clerk of Richwood, and one term as clerk of circuit court, and was assistant enrolling clerk, General Assembly, 1882. He is a Royal Arch mason, and in politics a republican. Mr. Clark is the only son of Edmund and Sally (Benson) Clark; was born in Schuyler Co., N. Y., on the 20th day of April, 1848. He was left motherless when four years old, but subsequently his father married again, and in 1856 the family came to Wisconsin and settled in the town of Richwood, Richland county, and engaged in farming. Homer received a good common school education, and afterwards taught a number of terms. He made farming a business, and at this time, in connection with his father, owns about 350 acres of land. On the 23d day of October, 1873, he was married to Ada McNelly, daughter of Dr. Henry McNelly. They have two children—Nora and Hattie.

W. S. Sweet, the present county superintendent of schools, is not an old resident in the county, but a gentleman well qualified for the position he occupies. His parents, Abijah and Maria (Rhodes) Sweet, reside at Spring Green, and it was in the district schools of that vicinity, that he acquired the rudiments of his education, and at the age of fifteen years, taught his first term of school. Being a poor boy, he could not afford to educate himself at once, so he continued teaching, during the winter season, and attending school in the summer. In this way he attended one term at the State University, and afterward, several terms at the State Normal school, at Platteville. In the spring of 1875, he was chosen principal of the schools at Lone Rock, and in the fall of the same year, took charge of the grammar de-

partment of the schools at Richland Center. One year later he was chosen principal of said schools, which position he held for four years. In 1880 he passed the State examination and was granted a State certificate. In the fall of 1881 he was elected to the office he now holds, and entered upon its duties on the first day of January following. Mr. Sweet is the author of a book entitled "The Polity of Home Government," which supplies a long felt want in the schools. By the aid of this text book the pupil may become well-versed in the duties of local affairs, thus fitting himself to become a useful and better citizen. Winfield Scott Sweet was born in Dodge Co., Wis., Jan. 31, 1854, and has always been a resident of the State. Aug. 24, 1876, Jennie C. Fries, daughter of the late Judge Henry W. Fries, became his wife and they now have two children—Bula and Bessie. Mr. Sweet is politically a republican, and in religion, a believer in the Baptist faith.

R. Sutton, register of deeds, is a native of Ripley Co. Ind., born Sept. 3, 1843. He is the third of the five sons of A. M. and Jane M. (Wilson) Sutton. His early life was spent upon his father's farm. When the Civil War broke out, he at once enlisted in company A, of the 37th Indiana Volunteer Infantry; re-enlisted in 1863, and served until August, 1865, when the regiment was mustered out of service. He participated in all of the engagements of his regiment and returned home in good health and without a scratch. At the close of the war, he resumed farming, and in 1867, had the misfortune to cut one of his legs with an ax, crippling himself for life. In 1870 he came to Wisconsin and settled in the town of Eagle, Richland county, and followed farming until the fall of 1876, when he was elected to the office he now holds, and in which he is now serving his third term. He is an accommodating officer, and well fitted for the position he occupies. In politics he is a republican, and has served several years as town clerk of Eagle town. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is present secretary of Richland Lodge, No. 66. Mr. Sutton has been twice married. In 1869 to Mary Gault, who died in 1871, leaving one son—Emmett. In 1873 Eunice E. Beard became his wife. By this union, three children have been born—Ellen R., Maud I. and Clyde E.

The funds of Richland county are now in charge of Irvin Gribble, who is serving his second term as county treasurer. He was born in Somerset Co., Penn., May 9, 1841, his parents

being John and Rebecca (Kanable) Gribble. In 1844 the family removed to Clinton Co., Ind., and in 1854 came to Wisconsin, and settled in the town of Kickapoo, Vernon county. The father owned land in Richland county but on account of water privileges built his cabin in the county of Vernon, and engaged in farming. About the year 1869 the parents removed to Viola, where the father died in April, 1875. The mother is yet living, and now resides with one of her sons. Irvin Gribble assisted his parents on the farm until October, 1861, when he responded to the call of his country, and enlisted in company I, of the 12th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, re-enlisted Jan. 4, 1864, and served until Aug. 10, 1865, when the regiment was mustered out of service. Mr. Gribble was chief clerk in the inspector general's department on the day Gen. James B. McPherson was killed. Returning from the army, he resumed farming. He was at one time chairman of the town board of Forest, and at another time treasurer of the same. In politics he is a republican, and in 1880 was a delegate to the State convention, where he cast his ballot and used his influence in favor of James G. Blaine for a Presidential candidate. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Gribble, in 1872, was married to Sarah Bender, daughter of Elias E. Bender, and now has five children—Lina, Elsie, Ella, Willard and Myra.

James Appleby, the present county surveyor, and pioneer settler of the town of Eagle, was born in county Durham, England, Nov. 27, 1828. At an unusual early age he was sent to the common school, which he attended until eleven years of age. He was then sent to Kirby Academy. When thirteen years old, he, in company with his parents, emigrated from Yorkshire, England, to America, coming directly to the territory of Wisconsin, and locating in that part of Iowa county now known as La Fayette county. His father made a claim on a tract of mineral land, at that time held in reserve by the Government. As soon as the land came into the market he purchased it. He erected his house nearly on the site, where a few years before the first lead furnace in that part of La Fayette county was built. Here the subject of our sketch, at the early age of fourteen, engaged in teaching as private tutor for the family of James Murphy, Esq., teaching for him two years, and again engaged for Capt. Matthew Williams during one winter, in the same capacity—in the intervening time attending the district schools in his neighborhood. He was married

in 1846 to Susanna C. Palmer. She was born in Shelby Co., Ky. He went to Jo Daviess Co., Ill., and engaged as clerk in a general store, remaining there until the spring of 1849, when he came to Richland county and settled in what is now known as the town of Eagle. He made his home in that town until 1863, when he removed to Richwood, purchasing land on sections 4 and 5, town 8, range 2 west. He erected a good frame house on section 4, and still makes that his home. Mr. Appleby has been county surveyor for seventeen years. His first official survey was made in 1850, for the town of Richmond. It was for a road, and commenced in the middle of Commerce street, village of Monongahela, and extended north past Rodolf's mill and terminated at the quarter section corner stake, between sections 25 and 26 of town 9, range 1 west. He has been superintendent of schools for the town of Eagle, one year, and assessor for the town of Richwood, two years. Mr. Appleby is a member of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, belonging thereto about twenty-six years, and has filled many important places in his Church, being granted license, by his quarterly conference to preach, being quarterly conference secretary for several years, was recommended to the annual conference, accepted, and given license by Bishop Glossbrenner, of Virginia, to preach, passed the several examinations required and ordained as an elder in said Church. He has filled the office of secretary of the Wisconsin Annual Conference. He has been appointed to and filled the most important committees of his conference, and was elected a delegate to the last general conference of his Church, of which privilege, however, he did not avail himself. Notwithstanding his many and arduous duties and labors, he can always find time to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ. It would almost seem unnecessary to add that Mr. Appleby is a strong temperance man, upon which he can truly say "I nurse my wrath to keep it warm." Mr. and Mrs. Appleby have nine children—Mary S., J. Marshall, Martha E., Arthur W., Laura L., Emma F., Luther L., Annie V. and Lelia F. Mr. Appleby is well known in all

parts of the county, and enjoys, to the fullest extent, the respect and confidence of the people.

Daniel Lyman Downs, M. D., is a native of Trumbull Co., Ohio, born on the 2d day of December, 1824. His father, Lyman Downs, a native of Connecticut, was a shoemaker by trade, followed farming to some extent, and for a number of years was engaged in buying butter and cheese on the Western reserve. He would sell his butter and cheese in Cincinnati, then go east and buy clocks, which he would sell in the southern States; then buy horses and return to Ohio, and having disposed of them at a remunerative figure would invest the proceeds in butter and cheese. His mother, Esther (Woodward) Downs, was of Scotch descent, and was born in the State of New York. In 1832 the family removed to Michigan and in 1838 to Belvidere, Boone Co., Ill., and settled on a farm. Here the subject of this sketch helped till the soil, attended school a part of the season and at the age of seventeen entered the Belvidere Academy, where he took a two years course. He then commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Daniel H. Whitney, attended lectures at the Rush Medical College, and in 1847 commenced practice as a physician at Millville, Jo Daviess Co., Ill. In the fall of 1849 he associated Molby Ripley as a partner and engaged in a general mercantile and drug business. During the month of February, 1850, accompanied by his partner, he came to Wisconsin, and about the middle of this month they made their first appearance in Richland county. They located at Orion, purchased property and established themselves in business, removing their stock of goods from Millville. About this time Dr. Downs, failing in health, left his partner in charge of the business, and took a trip to the Pacific coast, engaged in mining in California until February, 1852, then returned to Orion, and in April, 1853, sold his interest in the store to his partner and resumed the practice of medicine. In 1858 he was elected county treasurer, removed to Richland Center and served the people in that capacity one term. He then purchased the drug business of F. P. Bowen, and in 1860 furnished the necessary capital to build a tannery in this place which was the second enterprise of this character in the county. In January, 1865, he sold a half interest in his drug business to F. P. Bowen, and enlisted in the 46th Wisconsin regiment, and served as assistant surgeon until mustered out. He then again attended to his drug trade until 1878, when on account of failing eyesight, he sold his interest in the business to his partner. In February, 1880, he was appointed county judge as successor to H. W. Freis, and in the spring of 1881, was elected for a full term. Dr. Downs, in politics, was originally a democrat, in 1860 voted for Stephen A. Douglas, but in 1864 cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been a republican. In 1855 he represented his district in the Assembly, and in 1876-7 was a member of the Senate. He has been a member of the county board for many years, and has often been chairman of the same, holding, meanwhile, various minor offices of public trust. He is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the G. A. R. Thus it can be seen that Dr. Downs was one of the early pioneers, and has been one of the most active citizens of the county, and no man within its borders has the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens to a greater degree. Mrs. Downs, formerly Mary D. Cowen, is a native of Illinois. The children are—Hubert L., Allie, J. Lee, Minnie L. (deceased) and Eno L.

## CHAPTER X.

## EDUCATIONAL.

History has furnished no lens powerful enough for us to discern the beginning of the school system, if system it can be called, that in the dawn of human intelligence first undertook to instruct the young. It appears like some fixed star which is lost in the nebulae of mythology, and is obscured from our eyes in the misty past. We are told of schools of astronomy in Babylon, at least 3,300 years before the Christian era, schools of medicine and science in China but little later. Schools were one of the institutions of Egypt in the time of Moses, and the schools and lyceums of Greece date back to the seige of Troy. But little is known of the mode of teaching in these early days, and, it is not until in the fifteenth century, that anything like an intelligent effort seems to have been made toward the instruction of the masses.

In our own time and country the history of education has been a varied one. The Puritan had no sooner established himself on the wave-washed, stormy coast of New England, than he planted the precious seed of the district school, whose foundation was so solid, whose roots were so deep and far reaching that it secured so strong a foothold, the storms and trials of two centuries and a half have never disturbed, nor interrupted its course, nor loosened its hold in its native soil. The system of district schools, as these mighty reformers planted and nourished it, has endured and does endure to this day in the land where they first raised the banner of universal education.

This system, with such modifications as were suggested by the difference of time and circumstances, was brought from that far away land of our forefathers, by them when they turned their faces toward the setting sun; and some of the precious seed, so sown, has found a lodgment in this, our noble State of Wisconsin.

For many years after the settlement of Richland county, each town had the absolute control of the schools within its limits, and the town superintendent of schools was one of the most important of its officers. It was not until 1861, when the system was changed and the school districts put under the authority of a county superintendent of public instruction. The gentleman who has the honor to first fill this position was J. H. Mathers, who was elected November 5, the year above mentioned. He was succeeded after two years service, in 1863, by W. C. Wright, who also held it for two years. The succeeding superintendents were: V. S. Bennett, G. W. Putnam, William J. Waggoner, David Parsons and W. Scott Sweet, who at present, presides over the destinies of the educational system of Richland county.

It has always been the endeavor to choose such men for this position as were best fitted by nature and education, for the situation, and a highly commendable system has been the outgrowth of this foresight.

As has been said, the first school taught in the county was that opened in 1847, in a room of Peter Kinder's house, in Richwood town, and from that small beginning has grown and ramified into the present full tree of education.

No district is complete without its school houses; in the county are now some 130 buildings used for that purpose, covering an investment of about \$40,000, and employing about 210 teachers, who have enrolled in the neighborhood of 7,500 scholars. Behold, from how small a beginning great results may follow.

In 1875 there were enrolled in the various schools of the county 5,429 scholars, out of a total population of 7,094, between the school ages of four and twenty. At that time 127 teachers were employed, and the schools of that period are spoken of as being in fine condition; but those who have lived in the county from an early date say that the last eight years have seen a remarkable improvement over that. This is partly due to the active exertions of W. S. Sweet, the present superintendent, who, to a liberal education and strong natural abilities, brings an earnest desire to raise the standard of excellence and quality of the educational status.

The number of scholars enrolled in the various school districts of the county, during the year 1879, is here given by towns for convenience of reference:

Akan, 323; Bloom, 536; Dayton, 440; Buena Vista, 340; Eagle, 454; Forest, 383; Henrietta, 364; Ithaca, 455; Marshall, 385; Orion, 272; Richland, 663; Richwood, 626; Rockbridge, 492; Sylvan, 434; Westford, 468, and Willow, 380; or a grand total of 7,029 in the whole county. There were at that time, 127 schools, taught by 203 teachers, who were paid salaries that averaged, for males \$28.48, and for females \$20.34.

The school buildings were valued at \$37,821, without the apparatus and fittings therein contained. Most of the buildings were in good state of repair, and the county superintendent in his report for that date speaks quite proudly of the efficiency of the corps of teachers.

Teachers' institutes are held annually, and occasionally semi-annually, with a good attendance.

A teachers' association is also one of the institutions of the county, which meets weekly for the discussion of educational topics and, also, for mutual improvement. Nearly all the teachers in the county are members of it; but many are deterred by distance, and the duties attendant upon their profession, from a regular attendance. One of the out-growths of this pleasant re-union has been

#### THE TEACHERS' LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

This is an association which was organized in the year 1875, for the mutual improvement of the teachers of Richland county. The idea is to have a library which is distributed in some twenty different localities in the county, from which the members can take out volumes to read; these books are changed from place to place twice every year, so as to give all a change of pasture. The society has now about 150 members, and has accumulated the nucleus of a fine library already numbering some 428 volumes. The members are required to pay \$1 on joining, and an annual due of twenty-five cents thereafter. The matter has received the support of all those interested in educational progress, and bids fair to be a large factor in the near future in the school system. The management is advised by the county school superintendent, W. S. Sweet, who is president, and who finds no labor too hard or onerous, if it will result in good to the cause he has the interest of, so much at heart.

Many of the items relating to the early schools and the later and present status of the educational interests, having been made mention of in the history of the various towns, have been omitted here to avoid useless repetition. By a reference to these, it will be found that there this subject has received the full consideration which it deserves, a subject we all have the deepest interest in, for it has most truly been said that "the public school system is the palladium of our liberties."



## CHAPTER XI.

## GOVERNMENT SURVEYS.

From the field notes of the surveyors and the Government plats, many items of interest are obtained. These sources furnish the facts presented in this chapter.

The town lines in Richland county were run by William Burt, Lucius Lyon, Joshua Hathaway and J. E. Witcher, in the years 1839, 1840 and 1845, mostly in 1840.

The sectional lines were run by Orson Lyons, Harvey Parker, Sylvester Sibley, Alvin Burt, Joshua Hathaway, Robert D. Lester, James M. Marsh, Willard Barrows, Charles Phipps, Garret Vliet and A. L. Brown, in the years 1833, 1839, 1840, 1842, 1844, 1845, 1846 and 1852. The first surveying was done by Harvey Parker, who ran the sectional lines in the southwestern part of Richland county in February, 1833.

The last general surveying was done by Charles Phipps, who surveyed the towns, Marshall and Sylvan, May, 1852.

Town 8 north, of range 2 east (sections 1-5, 11 and 12, in the southeastern part of Buena Vista), was surveyed by Sylvester Sibley, February, 1833. He was assisted by James Videto and A. L. Cotton, chainmen, and Noah Brookfield, ax-man. Was re-surveyed by Alvin Burt, assisted by Reuben Fenick and John S. Byrne, chainmen, and Anson B. Morey, marker.

Town 9 north, of range 2 east (sections 1-6 and the northern half of sections 7-12, is in the southern part of Ithaca; the southern half of sections 7-12 and the whole of sections 13-16, constitute the main part of Buena Vista), was surveyed by Alvin Burt, assisted by Reuben Fenick and John S. Byrne, chainmen, and An-

son B. Morey, marker, June 1842. The bluffs in this town are high, abrupt, rocky points and ridges, thinly timbered with a stunted growth of black and white oak, with a thick undergrowth of aspen, hazel brush and vines. On the bottoms it is thinly timbered with bur, black and white oak, with aspen and willow underbrush, and near the margin of the streams with maple, elm, ash, aspen, alder, linn, etc. On sections 22 and 23 is a growth of pitch pine.

Town 10 north, of range 2 east (main part of Ithaca), was surveyed in 1843 by Robert D. Lester, who was assisted by Joseph Atherton and S. P. Folsom, chainmen, and James Hall, marker. This town is generally hilly and broken, land good in the ravines; on ridges soil is thin and light, well watered by pine springs and small streams, thinly timbered with black and white oak, elm, linn, aspen and hickory, with an undergrowth of oak, hazel and poplar bushes.

Town 11 north, of range 2 east (Willow), was surveyed in the fourth quarter of 1855, by James M. Marsh, assisted by William Clearland and Joseph Stone, chainmen, and James Anderson, marker. The face of the country in this town is very broken, consisting of high precipitous sandstone bluffs, in height from ten to 150 feet, covered with a heavy growth of aspen, elm, linn, sugar cherry, white and black oak. The country is well watered by springs. The streams are rapid. The east branch of Pine river, south branch of Honey creek and the south branch of Baraboo river have their source in this town.

Town 12 north, of range 2 east (Westford), was surveyed in 1843, by Gilbert Vliet, assisted by J. Vliet and C. T. Seregimbe, chainmen, and C. Webster, marker. This town lies in the "divide" between the Baraboo and Pine rivers. It is for the greater part heavily timbered, the timber being of good quality, large and thrifty. The land is principally undulating, of good quality, well adapted to farming, the principal objection being a want of water, though where found it is of a superior quality.

Town 8 north, of range 1 east (northern part of sections 4 and 5 in the southwestern part of Orion), was surveyed by Sylvester Sibley, United States deputy surveyor, assisted by James Videto and A. L. Cotton, chainmen, and Noah Brookfield, ax-man. The survey was commenced February 19, and completed March 4, 1833.

Town 9 north, of range 1 east (sections 2-11, 14-23, 23-35, the main part of Orion; section 1, and the northern half of section 12 is in the southwestern part of Ithaca; southern part of section 12 and the whole of sections 13, 24 and 36 is in the western part of Buena Vista), was surveyed in March, 1833, by Sylvester Sibley, assisted by James Videto and A. L. Cotton, chainmen, and Noah Brookfield, ax-man. Was surveyed by Alvin Burt, June, 1842, assisted by Reuben French and John S. Byrne, chainmen, and Anson B. Morey, marker. In his notes Mr. Burt says: "This town is mostly broken and hilly. The ridges are high, narrow and rocky, timbered thinly with white and black oak, with a thick undergrowth of oak, hazel, aspen, dogwood, hickory brush and vines. The ravines are mostly narrow, deep, and timbered with white and black oak, elm, linn, aspen, sugar and ironwood."

Town 10 north, of range 1 east (Richland), was surveyed by Robert D. Lester in 1843. Was assisted by Joseph Atherton and L. P. Folsom, chainmen, and James Hall, marker. This town is generally hilly and broken. Land generally poor, well watered by the Pine river and its

branches. West of the river it is well timbered with white and black oak, elm, linn, aspen, hickory and elmwood, with an undergrowth of hazel, dogwood, and prickly ash, on the highland. In the ravines, in which the streams run, alder, prickly ash, thornbush, etc. East of the Pine river there is principally a second growth of poplar, burr-oak, ironwood, hickory, ash, hazel, dogwood, grape vines, etc. Pine river is a stream about sixty links in width, with a quick current of two feet in depth, sand bottom, shores low and of the same kind of soil.

Town 11 north, of range 1 east (Rockbridge), was surveyed by William Clearland, assisted by Joseph Stone, chainman, and James Anderson, marker. The face of the land in this town is very broken, soil sandy and poor. The timber consists of a heavy growth of white and black oak, linn, elm, sugar, aspen, ironwood, and some pines on the bluffs in the immediate vicinity of Pine river, with a heavy undergrowth of grape-vine, briar, prickly ash, etc. The water in this town is very good, consisting of excellent springs. Pine river flows nearly through the center of this town from north to south.

Town 12 north, of range 1 east (Henrietta), was surveyed April, 1845, by James M. Marsh, assisted by William Clearland and Joseph Stone, chainmen, and James Anderson, marker.

Town 8 north, of range 1 west (northwestern half of section 1 and the northern part of section 2, is in the southeastern part of Eagle. Eastern half of section 1 is in the southern part of Orion), was surveyed May, 1833, by Sylvester Sibley, assisted by James Videto and A. L. Cotton, chainmen, and Noah Brookfield, ax-man.

Town 9 north, of range 1 west (sections 1-35 and the western half of section 36 is the main part of Eagle. The eastern half of section 36 is in the southwestern part of Orion), was surveyed by Orson Lyon in 1840. He was assisted by Truman Carter and S. D. Kirkpatrick, chainmen

and Thomas Cox, ax-man. The soil of this country is broken and hilly; second and third rate. Excepting the southern part along the Wisconsin river, where it is nearly level, and is first rate and second rate land. The tract is from one to two miles in width on the southern part of the town. The whole is well timbered with linn, oak, sugar tree, ironwood, aspen, etc., with an undergrowth of the same, and prickly ash, plum, thorn and crab apple on the creek bottom.

Town 10 north, of range 1 west (Dayton) was surveyed in 1843 by W. Barrows, assisted by W. V. Anderson and Edward Fitzpatrick, chainmen, and William P. Easley, marker. This town is much the same in character as town 10 north, of range 2 west (Akan), very hilly and broken. The soil in many places is thin and unfit for cultivation. The timber in general is good.

Town 11 north, of range 1 west (Marshall), was surveyed in 1843 by W. Barrows, assisted by William Vandover and Edward Fitzpatrick, chainmen, and William P. Easley, marker. Was re-surveyed May 1852, by Charles C. Phipps, assisted by Edwin Fossett and Jeremiah Hurley, chainmen, Edward Stever, ax-man, and C. F. Mathias, flagman. The surface of this town is very hilly. In the eastern part it is poor, third rate, in the western part it is first and second rate. The timber is of the first quality, and stands very thick on the ground.

Town 12 north, of range 1 west (Bloom), was surveyed in 1845, by A. L. Brown, assisted by Alexander Anderson and Joel M. Higgins, chainmen, and James Anderson, marker. The most remarkable feature about this town is its great quantity of water. At the source of almost every stream there is a bold and seemingly never failing spring. The timber is chiefly sugar, maple, linn, and elm. There seems to be wild game of every description, with the exception of the wild turkey.

Town 8 north, of range 2 west (sections 2 and 8 are in the southern part of Richwood), was

surveyed by Harvey Parker, February, 1835. He was assisted by L. O. Bryan and W. Smith, chainmen. Was re-surveyed by Orson Lyon, May, 1840. He was assisted by Freeman B. Gordon and S. D. Kirkpatrick, chainmen, and Isaac Vanderburgh, marker.

Town 9 north, of range 2 west (main part of Richwood), was surveyed in 1840, by O. Lyons, assisted by Truman B. Gordon and S. D. Kirkpatrick, chainmen and Isaac K. Vanderburgh, marker. This town is hilly, second and third rate, excepting in the southern part where there is a strip of land from three-fourths to one and one-half miles in width, that is rolling, with some first and good second rate soil. The whole is well timbered with oak, linn, sugar tree and ironwood; also some butternut and black walnut.

Town 10 north, of range 2 west (Akan), was surveyed June, 1843, by W. Barrows, assisted by William Vandover and Edward Fitzpatrick, chainmen, and William P. Easley, marker. The surface of this town is broken and hilly; with one or two exceptions there is not level land enough to make a good farm. There is a ridge of good timber land. The soil generally is good. The timber is mostly sugar tree, linn and white oak. Would make a good sugar camp.

Town 11 north, of range 2 west (Sylvan), was surveyed by W. Barrows, assisted by William Vandover and Edward Fitzpatrick, chainmen and William P. Easley, marker, in 1843. Was re-surveyed in 1852, by Charles Phipps, assisted by C. Fossitt and Jeremiah Hurley, chainmen, Edwin Steever, ax-man, and E. F. Mathias, flagman.

Town 12 north, of range 2 west (Forest), was surveyed in December, 1845, by A. L. Brown, assisted by Joel M. Higgins and Alexander Anderson, chainmen, and James Anderson, marker. The tops of the ridges in this town, notwithstanding their great elevation, are generally not too rolling for cultivation. Judging

from the timber, which is large, very tall and thick, also from the kind, namely: first, sugar maple; second, linn; third, elm and ash; fourth, black, white and bur oak, the soil must be very good but not more than one foot deep, with a substratum of yellow clay. The bottoms are generally wet and unfit for cultivation. They are timbered with elm, with an undergrowth of alder.

Acreage of each town and parts of towns in Richland Co., Wis.:

Northern part of town 8: Range 2 west, 3,433.61; 1 west, 161.32; 1 east, 238.64; 2 east, 3,959.40.

Town 9: Range 2 west, 23,123.29; 1 west, 22,312.73; 1 east, 22,620.52; 2 east, 22,920.95.

Town 10: Range 2 west, 23,214.84; 1 west, 22,666.70; 1 east, 23,109.73; 2 east, 22,990.37.

Town 11: Range 2 west, 23,190.88; 1 west, 23,275.60; 1 east, 23,098.76; 2 east, 22,985.48.

Town 12: Range 2 west, 23,304.97; 1 west, 23,233.38; 1 east, 23,246.79; 2 east, 22,938.60.



## CHAPTER XII.

## REMINISCENCES OF EARLY DAYS.

In this chapter are given the personal experiences of pioneers of Richland county. These articles are written or related by the pioneers, and when written, the compiler has in no case attempted to change the style of the writer, it being the design to show the peculiarity of the writer, as well as to record the facts narrated. The expressions of an individual in writing show his character and peculiarities as plainly as his features painted upon canvass, or printed from steel or stone.

These sketches relating to personal matters will show the disadvantages under which the hardy pioneers procured the homes which now seem so comfortable. Whatever of romance adhered to the hardy colonist was abundantly compensated for by hard work. Contrast the journey of that devoted party through the roadless and bridgeless tract between Chicago and their destination, with a party on a like journey to-day. Instead of weeks of labor and toil, privation and suffering, with cold and hunger, a seat is taken in a palace car in the evening at Chicago; an unexceptional supper is partaken of without leaving the train; the passenger retires upon a downy couch, and in the morning awakens to find himself at his point in southwestern Wisconsin, having lost no time by the journey. Those who enjoy these blessings would be less than human if they were not filled with gratitude to these early settlers, who paved the way and actually made the present condition of things possible. At that time the confines of civilization were on the lakes; Chicago had not many thousand people; Milwaukee

was just beginning to be a village, and Madison was a mere vidette, and an outpost of civilization. There was nothing in the now wealthy region of southwestern Wisconsin except the intrinsic merit of the location, to attract people from their more or less comfortable homes in the eastern States, or on the other side of the water. The hope as to the future, which "springs eternal in the human breast," was what lured them on, and, although, those that came were usually regarded by the friends they left as soldiers of fortune, who, if they ever returned at all, would indeed be fortunate; they were a sturdy race, who realized the inequality of the struggle in the old States or countries, and resolved to plant themselves where merit would not be suppressed by tradition.

The men who came were, as a rule, enterprising, open-hearted and sympathizing; they were good neighbors, and so good neighborhoods were created, and they illustrated the idea of the brotherhood of man more by example than by quoting creeds. With a bravery that never blanched in the presence of the most appalling danger, they were nevertheless tender, kind and considerate in the presence of misfortune; and their deficiency in outward manifestations of piety was more than compensated by their love and regard for humanity. And if their meed of praise is justly due to the men, and it certainly is, what shall be said of the heroic women who braved the vicissitudes of frontier life, endured the absence of home, friends and old associations, whose tender ties

must have wrung all hearts as they were severed. The devotion which would lead to such a breaking away, to follow a father, a husband or a son into the trackless waste, west of the great lakes, where gloomy apprehensions must have arisen in the mind, is above all praise. The value of the part taken by the noble women who first came to this uninhabited region, cannot be over-estimated. Although by nature liberal, they practiced the most rigid economy, and often at critical times, preserved order, reclaiming the men from despair during gloomy periods; and their example of industry constantly admonished him to renewed exertions; while the instincts of womanhood, constantly encouraged integrity and manhood.

#### EARLY DAYS IN THE TOWN OF ORION.

[By Levi Houts.]

Richland county was held by Iowa county until organized as a county. Was sub-divided by Iowa county into two towns: 1st, Richmond, which includes all the territory from the Wisconsin river north on the congressional line, range 1 east, of the 4th principal meridian, to the north line of the county; thence west along said line to the northwest corner of township 12, 2 west; thence south from said corner on the congressional line to the Wisconsin river; thence east along said river to the place of beginning, including now, Orion, Richland, Rockbridge, Henrietta, Bloom, Marshall, Dayton, Eagle, Richwood, Akan, Sylvan and Forest. 2d, Buena Vista, which included all the territory from the Wisconsin river, commencing at the congressional line on said river, range 1 east, of the 4th principal meridian; running thence east along said river to where the congressional line, range 2 east crosses said river; thence north along said line to the northeast corner of township 12, range 2 east; thence west along said line to the northeast corner of township 12, range 2 east; thence west along said line to the congressional line, range 1 east of the 4th principal meridian, thence south on said line to the place of begining, including what

is now Buena Vista, Ithaca, Willow and Westford.

The first election held for town officers in the town of Richmond, was on the first Tuesday in April, 1849. The said election was held at the house of Matthew Alexander, on section 33, town 6, range 1 west, now in the town of Eagle. The house (a log one, or double log) was situated on the bank of the Wisconsin river near the place where the Pilling's saw-mill later was situated. The officers who conducted said election were John R. Smith, Myron Whitcomb and Reason J. Darnell, as inspectors of said election; George C. White and Nathaniel Green, clerks. The following were the town officers elected at said election: John R. Smith, chairman; Adam Byrd and William Kincannon, supervisors; John Nipple, town clerk; Stephen Finnel, collector or town treasurer; Walter B. Gage, assessor; Marion White, superintendent of schools; William Thompson, E. H. Dyer, B. B. Sutton and Matthew Alexander, justices of the peace; Nathaniel Green, William White and Daniel H. Boyle, constables; L. B. Palmer and William White, overseers of highway. The persons elected were all qualified as such officers. John Nipple, town clerk, died before the expiration of his office, and A. B. Slaughter was appointed in his place. Also Mr. Slaughter resigned and Levi Houts was appointed to fill the unexpired term of said office and made out the first tax list for said town.

The record of the first county officers elected, you have in the county clerk's office, therefore will not give their names here. After their election they had to go to Mineral Point in Iowa county to qualify. Your unfortunate subscriber hired a team and took the said officials to Mineral Point to be qualified, and it is needless to say that they, the said officers, had to stop at Highland over night on going, in order to view the beauties of the place, inspect the whisky and buck the faro bank. On the next day we got to Mineral Point and it took them two days to qualify and inspect that village, etc.,

therefore I was four days making the trip, and \$3 out of pocket. I had agreed to take them for a fixed price. John J. Matthews was the sheriff and he collected the tax on the list I made out.

As to the first settlers in the then town of Richmond, it will be hard to determine; I would refer your honorable committee to John Comb and Myron Whitcomb. I believe that they come as near giving that point of information as any person. I came into the county Sept. 10, 1849. I must say like the man fiddling told the Arkansaw traveler: "These hills were here when I came and so were men, women and children, situated here and there in the forest in log houses, and seemed happy and contented." Their meat they had in abundance by killing the bear, the deer and moose, and for sweet they had the bees and had all the honey by cutting the trees; corn they raised for meal and homony; potatoes and garden vegetables they raised. The flour they used was generally bought at Galena, in Illinois, and hauled here. One of these pioneers would start to Galena with an ox team loaded with honey, bear and deer, trade his load for flour and groceries, and that would supply a number of families for a time. There was a sociability between those pioneers that is now gone among the things that are past. There was no lawing one against the other. The people held as a sacred law to themselves to follow the golden rule one toward the other. Now and then a little bad whisky helped a fight and that settled the matter. I would like to here give the name of some of those pioneers; some are dead and some are still living, who, in the pioneer settlement of this county, were men whose characters were not blemished, and we still have some of them living with us, and the golden light of justice and right between their fellow men is still shining. But I suppose when they let their minds wander back to the early settlement of this county, and think of the times then in the wilds of nature and then pass on year

after year, change after change to the present time, they will express—the wilderness is blooming and turned as by magic into beautiful fields and costly houses instead of the log houses, and the great strife now is to get money—honest or dishonest. He says in his mind, where is the sociability we had in the early days? Then if a man killed a deer or bear, and if his neighbor was out of meat, he would divide and in turn it was paid back without laws. But now it is law and confusion, compared to what it was in the early pioneer days. The man who has a few more dollars than his neighbor looks on him as a poor a scamp, and that sociability existing in early days without regard to wealth is gone. Methinks you will behold a deep sigh heave in the breast of that pioneer. For fear of making this a personal matter, I forbear giving names.

As to the history of the first roads and mills, at now Rodolf's mills, Rockbridge mills and a corn cracker at now Brimer's woolen factory, I will not give in this. The first school house in the then town of Richmond, was located in now Richwood, not far from M. Whitcomb's. I leave them to Combs or Whitcomb to report that and their first teacher. The next was in the now village of Orion (all log houses). The first teacher in the school house in the village of Orion was Mary Malanthy (now Mrs. Joseph Elliott, of Port Andrew). In the summer of 1846, and in the fall and winter of 1849, your writer taught three months' school in the same house and enrolled eighteen scholars, a few of them over twenty years of age.

As I have already written considerable matter, such as it is, I will stop, hoping others will furnish more and better information than I have given. Should I endeavor to make a personal matter of all the pioneers at a certain time, and then go on to describe the continued changes of persons coming into the county so far as my knowledge would permit, and their usefulness in building up the county, I might leave some out and then they would be offended;

or if the locating and building up of villages in the county and their now delapidation, cause, etc. I do not expect to be able to attend your meetings. It matters but little to me in the future if I am permitted to live in seclusion among the hills of Richland county the remaining days of my life.

MORE ABOUT ORION.

[By William Wulfing.]

Before the town of Orion was organized and adorned with its present name, it was, at the time I came to Wisconsin, May, 1849, a part of the town of Richmond, and after the adjoining towns in the east, and Eagle in the west, had taken considerable, and not the poorest part of the territory that should by right belong to her, left it, as it is at the present day, one of the smallest and poorest towns in the county. Probably to compensate for the wrong done to the new town, the name of one of Heaven's brightest constellations was adopted. Its history to the present day would likely be one of troubles and difficulties, occasioned by the many miles of roads and numerous bridges, but the energies of some of her earliest settlers has conquered the same, and the town has never, to my knowledge, been involved in lawsuits on account of the condition of her roads and bridges.

The ferry across the Wisconsin near Avoca, was at that time run by a Mr. Gage who, with his family and one Dr. Hartshorn, resided on the bank of the river in this county, near the place where James Laws, a few years after, settled, and who succeeded Gage as ferryman; it was from this place that I struck out for Ash creek, and found there a small settlement, and tired of travel, bought a piece of land and made one of the number of early settlers. I found then here about twenty residing in the town; now, about ten have gone to their resting places and the balance taken Greeley's advice.

It is perhaps superfluous to say much of the life we have led in those early days; the hardships in a newly settled country are almost alike

in all places; our troubles were not who should sell our produce but where to buy. We had no grist mill nor stores on this side of the Wisconsin river, neither a postoffice, and our nearest trading point was Franklin, in Iowa county, now Highland, until a store was started in Orion and Jacob Krouskop built his grist mill on Willow creek. This gave us at the same time a bridge across Pine river near the mouth of Ash creek, and Mr. Banks, of Sextonville, took a contract from government to run a weekly mail from Sextonville to Prairie du Chien and back, and an office was established at Ash creek and Orion, so that we once more were in communication with the outer world. The clearing of land and chopping and hauling saw logs to the mill, constituted the most work in winter, and hunting deer and other game during the fall, of which most settlers in a new country are fond of, was much practiced and gave a great deal of sport and some profit to the settlers, who late in fall generally took their deer to Platteville and other places to trade for their winter provisions. There was great harmony among the first settlers and it did not require much to make them feel contented; it seems every one was inclined to be sociable. I remember once we had a gathering at my home, when the whole settlement was present, and although we had only a room of 16x18 to dance in, with Jeff Shaver as musician, sitting in one corner on an empty saurkraut barrel, and assisting the fiddler with his feet, the smaller children by the dozens laying up stairs on beds and floors, you can hardly find a jollier set than there was that night in the humble cabin. Among the hunters occurred sometimes laughable incidents. On a general election day, in November, a crowd of us went to the village, also a bear which one of our number, a tall and easy going fellow, had shot the day before; the man starting for the woods and leaving his dog, he was too young to be of any service, at home, ran up all at once to Mr. Bear laying under a fallen tree, he fired at



him instantly and retired quickly. The dog who had followed unbeknowns to his master hearing the report of the gun, came running towards him, and the man thinking he had missed his game and was pursued by the bear, made long strides towards home, where man and dog arrived at the same time. Not being sure how things really were, he got one of his neighbors to go with him to the spot where the shooting took place and there found bruin dead in his lair, being shot through the brain. The man was rallied a great deal on the way the next day, especially by the fellow who went with him after the bear. In a few days we had a light sprinkling of snow, and both these men being out with their guns, after having killed a deer, struck the track of a bear, which following, they found their game in a small cavern. Holding a council of war, they agreed that one should take a pole and rake Mr. Bruin in the ribs, thereby inducing him to come out, when the other standing on the rock above, would shoot him. Following this plan they got the bear to rush out and the man on the rock firing instantly, hit him, breaking his lower jaw. The enraged brute went for the man who had done the poking, who run lustily down hill and finding the bear was gaining on him, took to a small ironwood tree, hollering and screaming all the time for help, until the other, who was the same man who had been bored about his running away from his own dog, came up and shot the brute, thereby releasing the prisoner and having the laugh on his own side.

Of physicians, we had only a small supply in 1849, namely the aforementioned Dr. Harts-horn who stayed only a few years and then left, looking for a place where the folks were less hardy. Later the town had some good physicians, D. L. Downs, Dr. Howe, J. H. Tilly and Jacob Brimmer. Lawyers did not fare very well in the town of Orion. A. P. Thompson settled in the village at an early day, and although the adjoining towns kept him more than

Orion, he at last left in disgust and has had no successor.

It was several years before a preacher came among us to show us the way we should go. The first offer we had came from a lawyer residing in an adjoining town, who volunteered to come over every four weeks and preach to us and save us if possible. We held a council, and being a little dubious if the pulpit be the right place for an attorney, concluded not to accept his kind offer and take our chances. In a few years several churches were established and some worthy preachers came among us. Five buildings were erected and used as places of worship; one of them is situated near the northern town line for the use of the United Brethren Church, and Jacob Brimer, Durfee Bovee and James Howard are the men who contributed mostly the means necessary. On section 3, near Henry Segrist, the German Methodists have a nice building for worship, their pastor residing on east side of Pine river. Next is the Christian church near Henry Wilson on Ash creek, whose pastor is Rev. J. Walworth, through whose exertions, aided by David Wiker, Hezekiah Jones, Abram Miller and others, the church was built and is flourishing. The elder is much respected by his followers, but we owe it to posterity to record that they accuse him of baptising and catching fish at the same time on a certain Sunday, but if the truth has to be told, the fishing was accidental and only the suckers, which came up the Elder's leg, between pants and lining, is to blame. The German Lutherans have a substantial building near D. Wiker's; their pastor residing at Boaz. The members of the Methodist Church have erected a house of worship on Oak Ridge, near S. S. Blake's, who is one of its leading members.

The schools in the early days of Richland county and under the system then in vogue, did not give the scholars the advantages they now enjoy. The few children were scattered over a large territory, roads often bad and the means

of the settlers limited. Then the method of giving the examination of teachers to the chairman of the town board did not work well in many instances, and was often light on the teachers and hard on the chairman. The method of requiring the teacher to "board round," as it was called, was also often annoying to both parties. I know of one instance where the teacher had to sleep with five of his scholars in one bed, the mother claiming that this would greatly assist the young ones to acquire knowledge, and the teacher could not convince her of her error.

Of industrial establishments, the town has only the woolen factory of Jacob Brimmer, on Ash creek, which is a great accommodation to wool-growers and of benefit to the whole community. W. H. Stewart is one of the best mechanics and has a widespread reputation, is also very successful as a raiser and keeper of bees. Thomas Mathews and Levi Houts have expended much time and labor digging for lead mineral, and although they had some success, the quantity found was too small to make it a paying job and so abandoned it. In the mercantile business were engaged in the village of Orion, Downs & Ripley, Rodolf & Graham, Berry Ferris, Clements & Wait, Miller & Edwards, St. Randall, Dan Clinginsmith, Jacob Dosch, and at the present day, A. Crosby and W. H. Dawson. Orion had at one time a lively trade, but the building of the M. & P. C. railroad, and the erection of the bridge across the Wisconsin river, took the largest part away and left her struggling in the sand. She also had the misfortune to lose the court house, and was only lucky in declining the proposal of Mr. Moore to make a donation of several thousand dollars, towards erecting the bridge.

It speaks well for the town of Orion that in a space of thirty years no serious crimes are to be recorded. The only instance of an aggravated nature, was the burning of the dwelling house of C. G. Rodolf, by a deluded German, whereby the family of Mr. Rodolf, he himself was at the

time a member of the Assembly in Madison, was brought in great danger, and the German was sent to Wanpun for seven years. Of the men who watched over the interests of the town as supervisors thereof, I name D. L. Downs, Jacob Brimmer, J. H. Tilly, David Wiker, W. H. Stewart, Dan Clinginsmith, but for the faithful service rendered the town, Levi Houts stands at the head, who for the last thirty years, almost without interruption, has served as town clerk, and who at the present day, would give a more comprehensive history of the town than any other man.

I have tried to give a brief sketch of Orion's history, and as I write from memory only, omission of many things of interest are natural, and I hope will be excused and errors corrected.

REMINISCENCE OF EARLY DAYS IN ROCKBRIDGE.

[By A. Haseltine.]

About the year 1840, a company from Mineral Point penetrated the forest up Pine river for the purpose of lumbering, a small pinery having been discovered there, from which the river takes its name. They located and built a saw-mill on the northwest quarter of section 10, in town 11 north, of range 1 east, about twenty-two miles from the mouth of said river, with the intention of rafting their lumber on the Pine to the Wisconsin river. They were unfortunate both in damming the stream at the mill and in keeping it clear for rafting below, so that their enterprise nearly proved a failure. In 1850 the mill property was purchased by Orrin and I. S. Haseltine who immediately thereafter, moved in from Black Earth, cutting their road on the east side of the river from Sextonville. At that time it was all government land, except the quarter section on which the mill stood. The Haseltines immediately commenced entering lands chiefly for the timber, and constituted themselves emigrant agents to encourage settlers to take up and improve farming lands.

In the spring of 1851, towns 11 and 12, one east and one west, were organized as a town and named Rockbridge, from the natural bridge over



PETER KINDER  
(DECEASED)



the west branch of Pine river near the mill. Fourteen votes were cast at the first town meeting. Orren Haseltine was elected chairman and Alonzo Decker, town clerk. No party feeling marred the harmony of the meeting. They undoubtedly elected their best men, for nearly every one had an office. Several cabins were built and settlements commenced this year. Amasa Hoskins, Seth Butler, John Pool, Jacob and William Dairy, on section 22; Augustus Hoskins and Orion Satterlee, on section 18; Reuben Hancock and German Tadder, on section 17; Hiram Tadder on section 20, of town 11, 1 east; Joseph Marshall and A. P. Hide, on section 13, town 11, 1 west. In 1852, town 10, 1 east was annexed to and made part of the town of Rockbridge. Orren Haseltine was elected chairman and Robert Hawkins, town clerk. Number of votes cast sixteen. Roads were laid this year from Pine river mill to Amasa Hoskins' and thence to Cass & Pound's (now Bowen's) mill; also from A. Hoskin's up Fancy creek across section 30 and 19 to town line; also from Richland Centre to Willow creek.

In 1853, town 10, 1 east, was set off and organized as the town of Richland, leaving Rockbridge its original limits of four townships. O. Haseltine was elected chairman, and F. M. Stewart, town clerk. The following is the poll list at the general election in November of this year: Hiram Tadder, O. Satterlee, R. M. DeLap, Harvey Gillingham, John Marshall, Alden Haseltine, Joseph Marshall, F. M. Stewart, Moses Laws, A. Aikin, O. Haseltine, Augustus Hoskins, G. Tadder, A. G. Decker, Seth Butler, Daniel Hoskins. Sixteen general settlements were commenced this year in town 12, 1 east. The first of whom were W. W. Garfield, on Soles creek; A. Sires on the West branch and W. H. Joslin on the east branch of Pine river. Settlements were also commenced in town 12, 1 west, by Isaac McMahn and others, near where Spring Valley now stands. At the spring election 1854, forty-two votes were cast. Alden Haseltine was elected chairman and F. M. Stew-

art, clerk. Roads were surveyed and laid out this year, up Fancy creek, up both branches of Pine river, and across from both branches to Fancy creek, in the whole about forty miles.

In April 1855, towns 11 and 12, 1 west, having been set off from Rockbridge, were organized by the name of Marshall, leaving Rockbridge to consist of towns 11 and 12, 1 east. The number of votes cast at the spring election was thirty-three. Alden Haseltine was elected chairman and J. W. Chinch, clerk. In April 1856, town 12, 1 west, was organized by the name of Henrietta, leaving to Rockbridge its present limits, town 11, 1 east. J. S. Scott was elected chairman and Hiram Freeman clerk; number of votes polled thirty-eight. The first school district was organized in 1853 by Abner Aikin, town superintendent. The settlement of this town has not been rapid but steady. We have now 1,200 inhabitants; 515 children of school age and about 240 voters and settlers on every section. (Written in 1879.)

#### EARLY HISTORY OF FOREST.

[By Salma Rogers.]

In the years 1854 and 1855, the town of Forest was comprised of the towns 11 and 12, range 2 west, now known as Sylvan and Forest. The first town meeting of the joint towns was held at the house of William Ogden, in Sylvan, April 3 1855; fifteen votes polled at that meeting; was duly organized by the election of the following officers of the meeting: Elijah Austin, chairman; Silas Benjamin, William Wood, associates; E. B. Tenny, Asahel Savage, clerks. At the same meeting the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year: E. B. Tenny, chairman; R. J. Darnell, William Wood, associates; Levi C. Gochenaur, clerk; William Ogden treasurer and Asahel Savage, assessor.

In the year 1855, the town was divided; the geographical town 12 retained her political name of Forest, and town 11 assumed the political name of Sylvan. The first town meeting held in the town after the division was made, was held at the house of John W. Ambrose, on the

first day of April, 1856. R. J. Darnell, presided as chairman; Salma Rogers and Cyrus D. Turner, as associate supervisors; Levi C. Gochenaur, clerk. At said election the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year: Jesse Harness, chairman; William Mathews and J. V. Bennett, associate supervisors; Hartwell L. Turner, clerk; Levi Kanable, assessor; Andrew Carpenter, treasurer; Harvey C. Goodrich, Jeremiah D. Black, Salma Rogers, justices of the peace; William Clift, Emanuel P. Bender and George Pitsenborgner, constables.

In the year 1852, in the month of April, the first piece of land was entered, it being the southeast quarter of section 33, town 12 north, range 2 west, by Alexander Barclay, now owned by Charles Marshall. On July 2, following, Mr. Barclay was drowned in the Wisconsin river at Orion. The first settlers in the town were Daniel and William Bender. Daniel Bender entered his land, it being the northwest quarter of section 33, town 12 north, range 2 west, in the month of April, 1854, and built his house, the first that was built in the town, on the 12th day of May, the same year, and moved with his family into the house on the 15th, and buried his wife on the 24th day of May, 1854, this being the first death that occurred in the town. Ten persons were present at the burial and only two of that number were resident of the town. The fall of 1854 the town was settled very rapidly.

On Sept. 20, 1854, H. L. Turner, William Turner, Cyrus D. Turner, Salma Rogers and J. Lyman Jackson, settled at Viola, in the Kickapoo valley; Laal and William Clift came to the Kickapoo valley, June 8, 1854, where Laal Clift now resides. Cyrus D. Turner laid out and platted the village of Viola. In October, 1854, Levi Kanable and David Johns settled in the southwestern part of the town, and in the same month, John W. Ambrose, Jacob K. Ambrose, Levi C. Gochenaur, Jacob P. Neher and R. J. Darnell, settled in the southeast part of the town.

The first marriage in town, was that of George Chroninger and Nancy Smith, solemnized by Oliver Guess, justice of the peace, Aug. 27, 1856.

The first sermon was preached by Edwin Buck, on the second Sunday in April, 1856, at the house of R. J. Darnell. The text was, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life."

The first school superintendent was R. J. Darnell, and the first school teacher examined for a certificate was Helen Jackson, who taught the first school in the town of Viola, in the summer of 1855.

The first saw-mill built in the town, was that of Adam Shambaugh's, built by Salma Rogers in the year 1857, on the south branch of Bear creek.

The first merchandise was sold by Cyrus D. Turner, at Viola, in October, 1854.

In July, 1851, the first road was laid through the town; it was a country road running from R. J. Darnell's in a westerly direction across the town to the county line on the west. R. J. Darnell, Adam Bird, John Price, commissioners, and James Appleby, surveyor. On June 7, 1855, the first town road laid through the town, was from Viola through the valley of Camp creek to R. J. Darnell's by E. B. Tenny, chairman, R. J. Darnell and William Wood associate supervisors and L. B. Palmer, county surveyor.

The estimated number of votes at this date is some over 200. The town has thrived and prospered by dint of hard labor; her forests have fallen before the hardy sons, large fields have been opened and her soil yields her golden harvest and makes glad the hearts of the husbandman.

#### HISTORICAL JOTTINGS OF SYLVAN.

(By George H. Babb.)

The town of Sylvan (congressional town 11, range 2 west of fourth principal meridian) is situated in the western part of Richland county.

It is bounded on the east by the town of Marshall; on the south by the town of Aken; on the west by the town of Clayton in Crawford county, and town of Kickapoo in Vernon county; on the south by the town of Forest, in Richland county, of which it was an integral part until April, 1856, when it was separated from the town of Forest, and organized into a separate town, by the election of officers on April 1, 1856. First election was held at what was then known as Ogden school house. E. B. Tenny, William Wood and Horace Cook were elected first town board of supervisors; Lyman Matthews, clerk; and William Ogden, treasurer.

The first settlement was made in 1853, E. B. Tenny and William Ogden being the first permanent settlers. The immigration steadily but slowly increased for a year or two, owing to the difficulty of procuring provisions, having to haul them over rough roads from Orion, on the Wisconsin river, a distance of about twenty miles. But when the town was organized, in 1856, there were thirty-two votes polled, and in November, there were forty-nine votes polled. From that time the population rapidly increased.

The town of Sylvan is pleasantly situated, being alternated by ridges and valleys, which are very productive. It is also well watered, a creek called Eagle creek (Mill creek) runs along its eastern border, and the West branch of Eagle creek runs along its southern side. A long stream called Elk creek rises near the center of the town and runs to the northwest into the Kickapoo river; together with numerous rivulets and springs, some of which are very large; it is thickly set with timber of the following varieties: White oak, bur oak, red oak, basswood, ash, hard and soft maples, butternut and some other varieties. At the time it was organized it was almost an unbroken wilderness; since then the improvements have kept apace with population. In 1855 Mr. O. Guess built a saw-mill on Eagle creek and run it by what is called a flutter wheel, which supplied

the immigrants with lumber to a great extent. Since then it has been rebuilt, and the flutter wheel replaced by an overshot and the sash saw by a rotary saw.

In 1855 there was a small grocery store stationed at what is known as Sylvan Corners, by a Mr. Nixon; since then it has passed through several hands and each time enlarged. At this time it is owned by Mr. William Henthorn and is enlarged into a respectable dry goods store, the only establishment in the town of this kind.

Whilst the citizens were subduing the forest they were not neglectful of their mental culture, and as soon as districts could be formed, they began to build school houses; though rude, they answered the purpose for which they were intended. The first school taught in the town was taught by Miss Olive Matthews. When we look back upon the crudeness of the common school system under the town superintendency and compare it with the present advanced state of the schools we are astonished that men could not see these things before. One instance of an examination under the town superintendency: A young lady went to be examined. The examination in arithmetic was: Add  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{1}{8}$   $\frac{1}{16}$  together, which was done very quickly, that was all the examination there was on that branch. The superintendent remarked to the writer that "she is pretty sharp;" this is only a specimen of examinations of those days.

It would perhaps not be inappropriate here to notice some of the natural scenery. There are in some localities bold rocks cropping out from the points of hills that have pillars of rocks on them that rise to the height of twelve or fifteen feet above the level of the hill; upon which if you take your stand, gives you a view of the surrounding country which is delightful and picturesque. There is a locality known as the Big Rocks on section 16 which is very singular in appearance. The ground rises gradually from the north for about thirty rods, when it abruptly breaks and forms a perpendicular

wall of about 100 feet in height, then runs to the south in a gentle slope, forming quite a valley. There are in the south part of the town three caves of considerable size, one of which has been explored to a distance of one-fourth or one-third of a mile, and as far as explored consists of three rooms, each one of which is 50x150 feet. They are all hung with stalactites, and have stalagmites rising from the bottom, of various sizes and shapes, which give it truly a grand appearance.

#### REMEMBRANCES OF EARLY DAYS.

[By A. L. Hatch].

The welcome a settler now receives is very different from that we received as actual settlers upwards of twenty-five years ago. Those who came before the terrible winter of 1856-7 were welcomed with mild and fruitful seasons, abundance of wild game in the woods, and we supposed that much of it run about all roasted, ready to eat! Leastwise some such stories were afloat in the east when we came here, and as we didn't find any, we presume it must have been here before we came. Then those fellows had choice of all the land; provided they were as smart as other speculators who eagerly gobbled up the whole batch that was of any great value.

After a time these old chaps got pretty well started, and then they turned around in this welcoming business and welcomed every greenhorn who brought plenty of cash and bought slices of their land at five times its first cost.

But woe! woe! to the poor devil who came here in the fall of 1856, and especially if he had a family and was obliged to pass through that terrible winter with its rains and snows, when the mercury congealed at times with the intense cold, and the four feet of snow had its four crusts of ice. There was hardship, suffering and privation that winter among the poor, and few were wealthy here in those times. This winter was the collapse of the land speculation, after which many men from the burden of their taxes were actually land poor. Added to this there was the financial crisis of 1857, that sent

the wild cat banks into space and dissolved much of our currency into thin air.

Thus we see that many of us had to make our homes here under these discouraging circumstances. I have seen the time when a sack of bran was valued as much for food as a sack of Parfrey & Pease's best, patent, fancy, super-extra flour would be to-day; when it was very common for families to subsist a week or a month on two or three articles of diet, and happy was the man who could have pork and potatoes at the same meal. Everything that would do for food was utilized that terrible winter. Even the poor deer, worried and bleeding from the pitiless ice crusts of the snow, starved and frozen were mercilessly slaughtered. Those who came to Wisconsin from the east usually brought with them two things: one was a lively remembrance of the plenty they left, the other a big appetite. It was wonderful what a great amount of food we found necessary to acclimatize us. How hungry we were. Father bought a hog that winter, that was actually so poor it would hardly fry itself, yet it was the sweetest pork I ever tasted.

What a big effort we made to grow hosts of garden vegetables in 1857, and how abominably wet the season was. How smutty the wheat was. Didn't we have shady bread that winter? We toiled in the fields, we grubbed alders, hoed corn, mauled rails out of tough logs, cut firewood from knotty old oaks, hunted cows in Uncle Sam's log pasture, and sometimes, especially when it was stormy, it was terribly long. May be we perfumed our breath with a leak, scraped the wild beans from our clothes with a case knife, and picked the wood ticks out of our hair.

Ox teams were the fashion then, so much so that you could count all the horses on your fingers a whole town might possess. Father, who at that time had a blacksmith shop in Loyd, shod ninety-five yoke of cattle in one winter.



Curious old tools we had in those days, and everybody was jack-at-all-trades. We mended our plows, patched up our wagons, and cobbled our own boots and shoes. Many of our dwellings were made with fire places of sticks and clay, the floors of the house of "punchons," or split logs, the roof of "shakes" (long split shingles). In such dwellings as these, many of our mothers and sisters toiled, and no doubt imbibed many lessons of skill, industry and economy that more recent homes do not afford. Our home-made clothing was washed by their hands, with home-made soap; and home-made clothing meant that made with needle by hand—very few affording a sewing-machine then. Economy was rigid. Many are the pairs of pants we have seen made from grain sacks; one year they were very fashionable.

Then business developed with the country, and new excitements roused us to new actions. What lots of money was made in digging ginseng. For a year or two it was a great thing. Then we had sorghum introduced, and we all got rich—in a horn! No, we waited for that until 1868, and went into hops and got busted.

Well, we began way back in those early times to build school houses, make roads and bridges, organize churches, societies and associations. We have built mills, shops and factories. Our villages have grown until they teem with all kinds of useful pursuits that the country may need. We have also built our homes among the hills of Richland, where once forests were growing. We have no regrets that our county was not settled among stirring scenes of war and tragedy. It is better, far better, that our settlers were devoted to the arts of peace. We have had our quaint old characters, our religious revivals of many kinds, our political excitements, our business struggles, our spelling schools, debating schools, singing schools, and more than this we have had our 4th of July celebrations, our Christmas festivals and New Year's jollities, and many of these are freighted

in memory with interesting accidents, incidents and reminiscences.

THE PIONEER SCHOOL TEACHER.

[By G. L. Laws.]

I remember him; he came to our house as he "boarded around," bringing with him his Saratoga, (a red silk handkerchief containing all his worldly effects), a clean shirt of unbleached muslin and wide collar of same material, a razor, brush and "strop," and a strap for the boys. I say "he" because girls and old maids were not permitted to teach in those days, because they were supposed to be mentally and physically incompetent.

The pioneer teacher was a sort of John the Baptist, and he not only firmly believed in the doctrine of Solomon, that "sparing the rod spoils the child," but he religiously practiced it, and he executed the law on the prophets, ranged round the room, in rows, on benches. To me, through remembrance, the "oil of joy" of even these days has a taste of leather strap in it. The pioneer teacher's edicts were like the laws of the Medes and the Persians—unchangeable, but not those of the tyrant, Caligula, hung so high that nobody could read them. They contained no inkhorn phrases of doubtful mean, but were in good plain English and were read aloud every Monday morning, with such additions as the previous week's experience had proven necessary. Among them was one that "each scholar should come to school regularly at 9 o'clock, with face and hands clean washed and head clean combed."

It was once the custom to bar teachers out on holidays and make them treat. An occurrence of this kind once took place in southern Illinois where a young man from Ohio came out west to "keep school." The school house was a log one, batten door hung on wooden hinges. The chimney was of logs lined with stone for a few feet up, then finished with clay and sticks, which latter in this case had fallen off. Twenty or more young men and boys and a few girls assembled early Christmas morning and barred the door. The teacher came and was refused

admittance till he treated. He tried the door, then walked off briskly, for apples and candy, the boys thought. He soon returned with an ax and butcher knife, took off his coat, leisurely rolled up his sleeves, chopped the door off its hinges and entered, ax in one hand and knife in the other. No Arnold Winkelreid was there among these boys, "to make way for liberty and die." There was no way of escape except over the burning hickory logs in the fire place, and out over the top of the fallen chimney. The larger boys dropped out over the top of this chimney as fast as one could get out of the way of another, and each took the "route step" for home. The smaller boys from under benches surrendered unconditionally and were allowed to retain their jack knives and other side arms.

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In a different view the early teachers of Richland Centre may be counted pioneers, and my heart wakes to the pulse of the past as I run over the list. To four, perhaps the most faithful good and true, "school is dismissed:" Mary, Emma, Cordelia and Betsey, have "climbed the golden stairs."

"School is out." The coasters, the skaters, the group on the green, and the flowers brought fresh every morning as tokens of friendship and love, are not, to them. Those who remain will love the old school house in the autumn.

#### THREE WORTHIES.

[By J. M. Reid.]

John Fogo was a Scotchman, with all the sturdy virtues and some of the weaknesses of the people of his nationality. He was a man of strong passions, which (alas for the weakness of human nature) sometimes got the better of him; yet he was of quick sensibilities, of generous impulses and of a kindly heart. He was a warm and a truly trusty friend, but fearless and outspoken against what he considered wrong. He had no sympathy with the weak sentimentalism of the present day, which apologizes for any rascally transaction, thus "putting

bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter," confounding the distinctions between virtue and vice. His legal knowledge, for a man in his station, was considerable, and this, coupled with strong common sense, made him a reliable public officer and a useful counselor to his neighbors. He was gifted with a remarkable memory and (what does not always accompany a good memory) good judgment. His memory enabled him to retain historical facts remarkably well. History indeed was his delight, especially the history of his native land. Few men were better informed in regard to the political and ecclesiastical history of Scotland.

He had quite a taste for theological learning. He had been quite well instructed in childhood (for he came of a goodly house), and in Kilmarnock and Pittsburgh he had opportunity of hearing some of the first preachers of the age. He was also well read in the old divines of the sixteenth century. He was ever a lover of the sanctuary, and gave devout attention to the various services of sermon, psalm and prayer. As many times as I have preached before him, I do not remember a single instance in which his attention flagged.

He was a most genial and instructive companion. Some of the most pleasant memories of my sojourn in Wisconsin, are of the long winter evenings, spent by the "chimla lug" of his humble home, in cheerful conversation with him and his "guid wife." History, poetry and religion, as well as the common topics, was our theme until it was time to "tak the bukes," which in a Scottish household means to have family worship.

Alanson Clark was a man of considerable information, and of a pure and upright life, being highly respected by his neighbors. He was a very kind man and of a sociable disposition. He may have lacked in firmness and decision of character, which, as a philosopher has said, is apt to be the case with natures thoroughly kind. His tastes lay in a different direction from the other two. While they were men of

war from their youth, engaging with a will in the disputes that arose about town, county, State and National affairs, Mr. Clark was more like Jacob, a plain man dwelling in tents. He took but little part in the stormy contentions arising out of questions agitating the neighborhood or the country. His name was identified with the Church; he was the friend of Zion and of Sabbath schools; his brethren recognizing his merits, elected him to the responsible position of ruling elder, the duties of which he discharged both in Ohio and Wisconsin. His gifts and graces shone particularly in public prayer. I have heard few men engage in that exercise more to edification than Mr. Clark. His prayers were humble, solemn, and sound in the faith, and enriched by scriptural quotations. He had a deep and abiding sense of eternal things. He spoke often on the shortness and uncertainty of life, and of the importance of being prepared for death. He has gone to his grave like a shock of corn fully ripe. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Josiah McCaskey was a man of good natural parts and superior intelligence. I believe he was of Scotch-Irish extraction, and had the firmness (to put it mildly) we might expect, for the Scotch-Irish are a doggedly, obstinate race, which I may say without offence, remembering "the rock whence I myself was hewn." He was a great stickler for forms, and desired all things to be done according to the laws made and provided, whether in matters ecclesiastical or civil. This, let us hope, resulted not from a fault-finding disposition (for he was equally severe on the false steps of friend or foe), but from a desire to have the forms of law preserved. Owing to his knowledge of law, there were not many in the neighborhood a match for him except Mr. Fogo. In him he found a "foeman worthy of his steel." Their controversies at town meetings and other public gatherings were long and fierce, but did not destroy their friendship for each other. Sometimes they discussed Church matters, and then there would

be an exchange of rigorous English (and Scotch), but all ending in good part. Mr. Fogo used to good-humoredly call him an "auld Ishmaeleete," because his hand was against every man, and every man's hand against him.

Not only had he no sympathy for mistakes and negligence in conducting public business, but anything like corruption in office was apt to bring him up to a white heat of indignation. Had he been President, official delinquency would have found no mercy at his hands, and it would be no fault of his if the morality of our civil service was not brought back to the state of purity characteristic of the "better days of the Republic."

He was well acquainted with the Scriptures, and had some knowledge of the original language in which the New Testament was written. He once sent me a roll of papers entitled "Field Notes of a Surveyor," which proved to be Greek criticisms on the New Testament. Many of his annotations were judicious, and though not of great importance, tended to throw some light on the sacred text. In the early days of my ministry at Fancy Creek, he used to sit before me with his Greek Testament in his hand, imitating the Bereans in "searching the Scriptures whether these things were so." But soon something was said or left unsaid, or done or left undone, which gave offence and he absented himself. Few things in this world pleased him, either in Church or State. He had looked so much at the dark side of human nature that he had almost lost faith in mankind. Poor man! He had his troubles here. Let us hope that, through those Scriptures which he professed so highly to revere, he at length found peace. Though it may be said of him, "*Pancis lacrymis compositus es.*" With few tears thou wert laid to thy rest, yet, let us forget his infirmities and remember his virtues.

Thus have passed away three worthies—representatives of the olden time, in integrity and real worth. Let us avoid their mistakes

and imitate their excellencies, and let us be admonished by their departure that we too shall die and not live. Our heads will soon be silvered, and crow's feet be found in our temples—the fore-runner of death—for man goeth to his long home and the mourners go about the streets.

#### EARLY TIMES IN RICHLAND COUNTY.

[Author Unknown.]

In 1851, by act of the Legislature, the county seat was located at Richland Centre, which is on the north side of Horse creek, supposing the county to be square, but by counting the fractions on the south side of the county it brings the geographical center on the north end of section 28, town of Richland, on land which the writer hereof bought of Uncle Sam and on which he lived three years. The above statement is necessary to show the cause of the eight years war. That war carried on with much bitterness between Romulus, the founder, and the exasperated Sabines. It is said that Romulus promised lots, free, to those who would vote to confirm the act of the Legislature referred to above, and thus succeeded in locating the village of Richland Centre. John Price, then chairman of the county board was succeeded by a Mr. Tracy when new life and energy was given to the Sabines by the removal of Charley to Mill creek and the assistance of Robert and A. M. S. John Mathews was then sheriff and fought the county seat question to the bitter end.

In 1851 I first sat foot on the present site of Richland Centre, near sun down, and a more tired and hungry paddy than I was, you never saw. A smoke, and to my great joy, over the river by the side of the bluff was a log cabin occupied by a Connecticut Yankee by the name of Bacon. He told me he once had a pre-emption on the quarter, now the county seat, and that he had sold it to Romulus for \$25. Bacon was an honest man but a very green Yankee.

In the summer of 1852, was built the little court house where now stands Hugh Boyle's

blacksmith shop. The old building is now Schmidt & Lawrence's fruit store. During the same summer, part of the American (now Richland) House was built, and with the whole block, was sold to A. S. Neff in 1854, for \$1,200. This was the first substantial purchase in the new city. In 1852, Judge Coffinbury resigned, and David Strickland was appointed county judge, by Gov. Barstow. R. C. Hawkins was elected sheriff in 1852, but did not enter upon the duties of his office till 1853, which compelled John Mathews to attend court in the "Centre" one day. Passing the office of the clerk of the court one cold, stormy day, I heard a pounding inside and my first thought was that the Sabines had taken possession of the ark of knowledge and the throne of justice, and were preparing to carry it away on their shoulders, so I rushed in and found the county judge seated on a high stool, A. B. Slaughter, clerk, at the desk and John Mathews trying with a very dull ax, to split an oak knot to fit in an eighteen inch stove. They all looked cold, and I offered to cut enough wood for two fires for twenty-five cents, but they all confessed, in open court, to want of funds and I believed them and left them shaking with the cold.

The winter of 1853 gave a new turn to affairs. The Legislature was petitioned to bring the school section into market and lay it off into lots which was done and a day appointed for the sale of lots to the highest bidder. This measure made more stir in Richland county than is made by the civil rights bill in Congress. In the spring of 1853 was held the first town meeting in the town of Richland at which Asa J. Sheldon was elected chairman, McMann, clerk, C. McCarthy, treasurer and Hascal Haseltine superintendent of schools.

#### REMINISCENCE.

[By J. H. Waggoner.]

[The following reminiscence appeared in the Richland county *Republican*, on July 1, 1869, under the head of "Fifteen Years Ago."]

Fifteen years ago to-morrow (July 2, 1854), the family of C. Waggoner, of whom the writer was one, hauled up at the hotel of Richland Centre, then kept by Col. I. S. Haseltine, after a tiresome journey by rail, steamer and stage, from the eastern part of Ohio. The railway between Milwaukee and Madison was then new, and as rough as new. The trip from Madison was made in nearly two days by livery conveyance. All the surroundings observed in this then new country were very different from those of the home just left. The rude cabins, the rough roads, the wild scenery, were in striking contrast with the comfortable dwellings, the well worked roads and the placid surface of eastern Ohio. But the change was little lamented by "we boys." Our "range" was much enlarged, and we enjoyed the freedom of the hills, though the luxuries of the former home came only with the developments of after years.

The first celebration of the National Anniversary in Richland Centre was on the second day after our arrival here. The first flag unfurled to the breeze in this valley was that which waved here on the 4th of July, 1854. The first "liberty pole" implanted in the soil of the village was that from which the stars and stripes floated on the 4th of July, 1854. A glorious day seemed that 4th of July. No 4th has seemed more grand since. A handful of people, comparatively, participated in the observance of the day; but they were nearer to each other than now—there were no internal dissensions. The good of one was the good of all. The people of the surrounding country and the people of the village were one. All sought the aid of the lowing cattle for purposes of pleasure or labor, and the fat of the land, wherever found, was common property.

At that time Richland Centre was comprised of part of August Schmidt's building, then used as a court house; of what is now the "old part" of the American House, where travel-

ers were entertained by Mr. Haseltine; the building now belonging to Le Roy Humbert, west of Austin's corner (then south of the same corner and occupied by S. H. Austin with a small stock of goods); a small building in what was afterward known as the Hamilton settlement, belonging to and occupied by Sidney Rose; the main part of the now Grant House, then unfinished and occupied by Hascal Haseltine; the building now occupied by George H. James, then occupied by a Mr. Sheldon, in the front room of which a little store was soon opened, and the house now belonging to W. J. Waggoner, on the east side of the village, then occupied by Dr. Gage, where also was the post-office. During the summer several dwellings were erected, among them one by the head of our family. Little improvement was made during two or three years following, but soon thereafter immigration gave the village and adjacent country a respectable population; from which time to the present the growth has been sure if not rapid, with every promise of ultimate good cheer for all the people.

Though the village of Richland Centre has grown from a handful of people to nearly 1,200 in fifteen years, with wealth nearly an hundred fold advanced over the increase of population, it is apparent to all that greater advancement might have been made. But how, has not been demonstrated, unless the experience of the past be demanded to guide the effort.

Great as have been the improvements in the village, considering its embarrassments, the county at large bears off the palm. Bounding from a population of but 900 to over 15,000, it has developed in wealth and substantial improvements far beyond the county seat. Valuable farms and fine dwellings, thrifty villages with excellent manufacturing establishments, dot its length and breadth. As a whole, though not enjoying all the advantages of many other sections of the State, we doubt if its advancement has been greatly surpassed by any other. Our quick soil, splendid timber, pure water, and

healthy climate, offer inducements to settlers not always combined.

EARLY DAYS IN RICHLAND CENTRE.

[By James H. Miner].

Richland Centre in 1855, contained a population of about 200 souls all told. At this time no county buildings had been erected, neither church or school house, although the county seat had been located here several years before.

Orion, then called Richmond, had a school house and maintained a good school. Richland city had shown a degree of enterprise in building an academy and maintaining an institution of learning which deserved a better fate than befell it. After a few years the village ceased to grow and its commerce went to Lone Rock on the railroad. The academy failed. Silsby, the principal had gained, by his successful management of the school, a well deserved reputation as an educator of eminent attainments.

At Richland Centre, in 1855, the subject of securing a school house site and erecting a school building took a definite shape. The annual meeting, of that year, was a stormy one. The party favoring the locating and building the house finally prevailed. The public school interest received lasting and substantial aid from Mr. Priest's untiring efforts. And it was mainly owing to his exertion, that his friend Israel Sanderson was induced to establish the *Observer*, the first newspaper in the county. The first issue of the paper was one of the marked and important events in our history. The county board was then in session (November, 1855), and some of the first copies were distributed to the members, and when the carrier presented each member a copy, the business of the county was suspended until the paper was read and favorably commented upon. The paper soon became well established.

The political campaign of 1856 received the consideration its importance demanded. In October, a republican mass convention was held, and addressed by C. C. Washburn, who was

then a candidate for reelection to Congress; Judge Jackson, and the witty and humorous Mohawk dutchman, Vinton. The meeting was well attended, and Fremont, the Presidential standard bearer strongly endorsed.

The democratic mass meeting was afterwards held, and was addressed by Judge Crawford, candidate for Congress, against C. C. Washburn. The meeting was well attended, and James Buchanan and Judge Crawford, were enthusiastically supported by their party.

The people of this county were deeply interested in the contest at Madison during the winter of 1856, between Governors Barstow and Bashford. Aside from the question of which was elected, and whether the supreme court, a co-ordinate branch of the State government, had the authority to determine the controversy, our member of assembly, Robert Akan, who was elected by a peculiar turn of political affairs, was a strong supporter of Gov. Barstow.

A large proportion, however, of the people of the county firmly believed that Gov. Bashford had been really elected, and were his firm supporters. The supreme court were of the opinion and declared him elected and he was installed into office.

The severest winter known since the first settlement of the county was that of 1856-7. It was during this winter that the bold and adroit John J. Shoemaker, an adventurer, came among us. He made his appearance, representing himself to be a man of great wealth, and looking for a location to lay out a town and build an academy. He went into the northern part of the county and platted a village, on the west branch of Pine river, calling it Marysville. He then went to Chicago and purchased a large saw-mill on credit, and at great expense hauled it with teams from Lone Rock, some thirty-five miles, to Marysville, where he set it up. He also purchased at the same place a \$10,000 stock of goods with which he opened a store in Richland Centre. Before his bills in Chicago fell due, he had disposed of a large share of the

goods for cash, he obtained credit everywhere, and in the latter part of February, left the country with a valuable team and several thousand dollars, the proceeds of a few months scheming.

In the fall of 1857 the contest over building a school house was renewed with greater vigor than before. Several meetings were held, and a tax of \$2,000 was finally voted toward a school house, which was placed upon the tax roll. It was found impossible for a large majority of the tax-payers to pay the tax in money, and an expedient was resorted to. A building committee was appointed with power to receive building materials or labor, at a price to be fixed by the said committee, for which they gave a receipt, which was taken by the town treasurer in the place of money, and these receipts were taken by the district in its settlement with the treasurer.

The price allowed by the committee for clear basswood or linn lumber was \$7 per thousand. The old school house, 34x52 feet in dimensions, and two stories high, now stands a monument of the generosity and public spirit of a majority of the citizens of the village, during the most depressing financial time in the history of the present generation. It has been in almost constant use ever since, and is in a good state of preservation yet.

The people of the county took a deep interest in the political contest of 1860, and when it merged into the stern realities of war, with one accord they determined to sustain the government. At an early day a public meeting was held at the court house and strong resolutions were passed, expressing the will and opinion of the people. Company II., of the 5th Wisconsin Infantry, was raised, and quartered in the village for some time, supported by the volunteer contributions of the citizens.

On the 21st of May, orders were received to report at Madison. The citizens gathered and expressed a deep feeling in their quiet words and anxious countenances.

At this time the mail was taken by stage from Lone Rock every morning and arrived here at 11 o'clock. The driver, on reaching the outskirts of the town, blew a tin horn to announce his arrival. The citizens would soon begin to assemble at the postoffice and hear from the boys and the news from the seat of war. A copy of a daily would be handed out the first thing on opening the mail pouch, which would be read to the crowd.

From this time forward the record shows the temper and patriotism of the people of the county. From a population of only 9,732 in the county in 1860, enlistments were made during the war, nearly equalling two regiments.

Considering all things, the people of Richland county have shown an enterprise and industry in the development of the resources of the county, unsurpassed in the settlement of the State.

Churches and school houses have been erected and supported in every part of the county, and all by the settlers, out of their hard earned money, as very few men located among us with surplus means, and the accumulation of wealth has sprung from the development of land and country.

B. C. Hallin, now one of the members of the county board of supervisors, tells the following story, that illustrates, better than anything else can do, the stuff of which the noble pioneer women, who first settled in Richland county, were made of. Mr. Hallin was absent on business, his wife sat down by a window to rest. Looking out to see where the child was, that was playing in front of the house, she espied what she thought was a large dog making its way through the wild pea vines that interlaced the heavy growth of timber near the house. A searching glance soon revealed the fact that the intruder was a large brown bear. To rush out and save the child was but the work of a minute. Mrs. Hallin, having secured her offspring, turned to where she had her dog, a large English mastiff, chained up, and loosing his collar, sent him to grasp

ple with his bearship. The dog made for him and a lively tussle ensued. The place of the combat was upon the declivity of a small hill at the bottom of which run a small creek, and in their struggles the two animals rolled into the water. The brave woman picked up the ax, which lay convenient, and running down to the place of combat, sought to assist her dog. But here she found matters in so much of a mixed state that she could not strike the bear for fear of hurting the dog. Watching her chance, however, she at last saw the chance she was looking for, and a well directed stroke of the ax soon gave the quietus to bruin and ended the battle. When the combat was ended she called to her assistance a neighbor, who helped her to skin the beast, and drag the carcass to the house. A numerous family of children have all been cradled in this trophy of their mother's nerve and pluck. Hallin winds up his story, which is well authenticated, by saying that the bear came just in the nick of time, for there was no other meat in the house, and his bones were pretty well polished before they got through with him.

#### THE RICHLAND, UNION CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.

[By Rev. John Walworth.]

In the early settlement of this county there were many of the different denominations and religious organizations of the eastern States, represented by the emigrants located here, and among them were a number of the members of the Christian Church from Ohio, Indiana and eastern States.

After the excitement and trouble of the war of the Rebellion, and our soldiers that were spared had returned home, the members of all societies saw and felt the duty of a better organization for the moral and religious instruction of their families, and the better order of society generally.

In accordance with this sentiment, a meeting was held at district No. 8, in the town of Sylvan, on May 5, 1866. After devotional exer-

cises and mutual consultation, it was unanimously,

*Resolved*, That the moral and religious wants of the community requires of us a better organization for the more successful and efficient performance of our work as ministers and members of the Church of Christ."

After which the following ministers (all of whom presented good credentials of their ordination and correct standing in their respective churches): Jacob Felton, of the town of Aikin; Jacob Mark, of Marshall; John Walworth, of Richland Centre, and John Poff, of Sylvan, and delegates from two Churches or congregations, proceeded to organize this conference by electing Rev. J. Walworth, president and Rev. J. Mark, secretary. After which the following formulated principles in substance were adopted as the basis of the faith of this conference:

The Bible is the inestimable gift of God to man, and contains in its teaching, all that is essential to direct man in his duty to his God, his neighbor and himself; and, therefore, the only authoritative rule of faith and practice for man.

That all men have a God given right and duty to read, search and interpret the Scriptures according to his own best judgment, using such aids and helps as are accessible to him. That every man is accountable to God for his actions, and for the use which he makes of his life and the blessings bestowed upon him.

That the Divine law fixes and promises a reward and blessing to the righteous in this world, and eternal life and happiness in the life to come, and that the same Divine law fixes and ordains an adequate retribution for sin of every kind, in this world and the world to come.

That the Lord Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah, the son of God, the only medium between God and men, and the only name given under Heaven to man whereby he can be saved.



That the name Christian, designates the character of the disciple of Christ, and is therefore the only appropriate and scriptural name given to the true believer and the Church of Christ.

That in all Nations and ages, every one who fears God and works righteousness, is accepted by him, and is therefore entitled to a membership in the Church of Christ by virtue of a Christian character.

That all divisions among true Christians and persecutions for a difference of opinion is unauthorized by the Bible, and contrary to the true spirit of Christianity.

That all true Christians should be united in fellowship, in all gospel ordinances, in all good works and charity.

The form of ecclesiastical government of this conference and the Churches connected with it, is Congregational.

This conference has peacefully and without ostentation labored on, mostly in rural districts, until at its last annual session held at the Bethel church, in the town of Orion, October, 1883, the reports showed its membership to be twenty-one ministers, seventeen churches and about 300 communicants, with ten or more houses of worship. It has never received any pecuniary aid from abroad, but has a home missionary society with a permanent fund of about \$300, and is ever active in the Sunday school work and the cause of temperance. Its officers elected at the last session are: Rev. John Walworth, president; Rev. C. M. Poff, M. D., vice-president and Rev. Jacob Mark, treasurer.

#### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

[By Rev. J. H. Mathers.]

There are three Presbyterian churches in connection with the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Richland City, Richland Centre and Fancy Creek—organized in the order here given. The Rev. Joseph Adams, of Dane county, occasionally crossed the Wisconsin river to preach to the few Presbyterians who had found their way to the frontier settlements of Richland county.

He was somewhat advanced in years, and had the care of a farm near Hayworth Ferry, so that his time was occupied with other interests, and after the organization of a Church about 1855, he retired from the field. For a short time, Rev. William McNulty supplied the little Church. In January, 1855, J. H. Mathers arrived in Richland Centre, with a view to supply this Church for a few months, and then continue his journey westward. E. P. Young and his son, David B. Young, and Richard Strubble, were the ruling elders, and upon them, with the help of J. H. Morrison, at a later date added to the eldership, and a few others, depended the maintenance of our feeble Church.

Richland Centre, in the summer of 1855, was in the very infancy of its existence. Its entire population, before the inflow of that season, did not reach two score, I believe. The immigration of that year, however, gave it a new impulse, and as the county seat, it attracted population more rapidly.

The first religious services, I think, were held in Richland Centre, by Rev. William Smith, a Congregational minister who resided at Sextonville. He held his services in the store-room of Mr. Langdon. In the fall of that year my attention was directed to the place by the settlement there of several Presbyterian families—the Waggoners, Wilsons and Youngs. My first service was held in a room occupied as a grocery store by W. H. Vinton, in the house now known as the American Hotel. At the next appointment our services were held in an upper room of the same building, fitted up and used as a ball-room. This room was generously placed at my disposal by Mr. Herschel Hazelton, who owned and occupied the building, and who had no sympathy with the doctrines taught by the young minister. In this room, in February or March, 1856, the Presbyterian Church was organized by the Rev. Bradley Phillips, of Mineral Point (the preacher in charge being simply a licentiate and not an ordained minister). Caleb Waggoner and E. P.

Young (formerly of Richland City) were elected ruling elders, and our services were subsequently held in a school house, and then in the court house, and finally, after much tribulation, in the building now occupied by the congregation, this house was finished in February, 1858, and for years was the only church edifice in Richland Centre. It shows the primitive condition of the town, that when the Church was organized, there was not a school house within its limits. A small building, which had been designed for a dwelling, was purchased by the district and fitted up for school purposes. Here the school meeting was held which determined to build the large frame building in the eastern part of the town. This first house was afterward purchased by C. D. Stewart, and by him converted into a dwelling as originally intended. Now it is in contemplation to erect an edifice which will cost \$30,000.

#### TOWN OF MARSHALL.

The Presbyterian Church of Fancy Creek, in the town of Marshall, was organized in the fall of 1857. Rev. J. H. Mathers was the first Presbyterian minister who preached within the limits of this township. The first sermon was preached in the house of Daniel Noble, on Fancy creek, in August or September, 1855, and for some time thereafter regular services were held at the dwellings of Alanson Clark and Daniel Noble.

The Church was organized a couple of years or more after their services were first introduced. A meeting was called for the purpose at the house of Alderson Clark, and after due considerations it was determined by the Presbyterians of the neighborhood to place themselves in formal connections with the Church of their fathers. Alanson Clark and Daniel Noble were elected ruling elders, and about eighteen or twenty others entered into covenant, as the Church of Fancy Creek. Among the names that now seem to me as connected with this enterprise, either as members or supporters, are Clark, Noble, Fogs, Benton, Smith, Hart,

Wanless, McDonald and Morrill. There was no church building at that time in the township. Our ordinary services were held in the rude houses of the earlier settlers, and our communion services in the larger buildings, which the increasing crops rendered necessary for their storage. I remember now that the sacrament of the Lord's supper was dispensed on the threshing floor of "Squire" Joe Marshall's barn, which was kindly placed at our disposal by its generous owner. On another occasion the barn of Mr. John Hart sheltered us from the fierce rays of a summer's sun. Afterward the school house opened for our use. At a Congregational meeting held in Marshall's school house on Jan. 28, 1861, it was determined to build a log house 28x30 feet, for the use of the Church, and arrangements for preparing the logs etc., were made at the same time; the building was erected during the summer of same year, which is now about to give way to a neat and substantial frame building.

The relation of the pastor, J. H. Mathers (under whose ministry the Churches of Richland Centre and Fancy Creek were originally gathered), was broken by his removal to Pennsylvania in the spring of 1864.

Rev. J. M. Reid was the immediate successor of Mr. Mathers, but his health was finally broken and he was compelled to lay aside entirely the duties of the ministry. In 1877 his friends in Richland Centre were shocked by the tidings of his tragic death near Congress, Ohio. He was crushed to death beneath the wheels of a loaded wagon which he was driving. He was a man of fine ability. He was a resident of Richland County for eight or nine years.

Rev. Joseph H. Mathers was the first Presbyterian minister who permanently located in Richland county. His ministry began there on Feb. 1st, 1855, and terminated in April, 1864. J. H. Mathers was born on Aug. 5, 1832, at Mifflintown, Juniata Co., Pa. His parents were James Mathers, a leading member of the bar

of Juniata county, and Jane Hutchinson, a daughter of Rev. John Hutchinson, for nearly forty years pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Mifflintun and Lost creek. Mr. Mathers graduated at Jefferson College, Cavensburg, Penn., on Aug. 7th, 1850, and at the Theological Seminary at Princeton, N. J., in May, 1854. He was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Huntingdon, in June of the same year, and a few months there after began his ministry in Richland Co., Wis. In October, 1856, he was ordained to the full work of the Gospel ministry by the same body. On Dec. 2, 1856 he was married to Sarah E. Jacobs, of Mifflintun, Penn., who shared with him the toils and joys of life until Nov. 8, 1869, when she passed to the rest of Heaven.

In 1860 the existing order as to the superintendency of the common schools, was adopted, and J. H. Mathers was elected the first county superintendent. The change was a very great one, and perhaps for the time worked to some disadvantage. The standard of scholarship on the part of the teachers was elevated, but some whose attainments were comparatively limited, but whose aptness to teach compensated for this deficiency, in a measure, were excluded from the schools. There was, in consequence, a scarcity of teachers, and in some instances really less competent teachers were placed in charge. In a short time, however, educational interests were adjusted to the new order, and undoubted advance in the right direction has since resulted from the change. It would be wearisome to dwell at any length upon my experience as county superintendent.

A leading business center at the time of my first removal to Richland county, was Krouskop's store and mill. Any history of that region would be defective which did not give a prominent place to Jacob Krouskop and his family. The old gentleman was then really in his prime. A sturdy, upright and shrewd man of business, he accomplished much in the building up of his new fortune and in advancing the

general interests of the community. His influence was felt not only in business circles, but he was recognized as a leader in religious enterprises—was an earnest and consistent member of the M. E. Church for many years. His mill and store attracted an extensive trade, whilst his home was a centre of social influences widely felt. His oldest son, now Hon. George Krouskop, the banker, was just embarking in business, whilst "Doe" was in his youth, not as yet having the opportunity to develop the talent which has since made him an important factor in the commercial history of Richland county. But you will have of course, a full biography of the father and his sons, all widely known in the county, and indeed the State in which they reside.

The Black family must also occupy a conspicuous place in such a history. Alexander Black was a man of rare courtesy, intelligence and integrity. Being prematurely grey, he had a more venerable appearance than his age would really suggest. It was always a pleasure to visit his hospitable home on the Willow, and enjoy the delightful society of this cultivated gentleman and his family. He possessed the courteous manners of the Virginian, and his intelligence always rendered him a most agreeable and entertaining companion.

The eccentric E. M. Sexton, the founder of Sextonville, was a notable character. He was among the very earliest settlers. His eccentric manners sometimes possibly offended those who did not know him well. My relations to him were exceedingly pleasant, and I have the tenderest remembrance of the man. He was greatly crushed when the tidings reached him that his only son had been slain in battle. He never fully recovered from that blow.

The Brush's, the Foxes, Field's, Bremer's, Devoc's, Derriekson's, Young's, Morrisons, Wheeler's, etc., were all prominent families in those early days, and many of the descendants are still conspicuous citizens.

Israel Janney was, in 1855, the clerk of the county. His name is closely identified with the social and political history of the times. His residence originally in Buena Vista, was transferred to Richland, and for years he was a citizen of the county seat. His reminiscences of Richland county will be especially rich. The "Pike's Peak" excitement took away many of our citizens, and for a time Mr. Janney disappeared from the county. His return was a satisfaction to his friends, as it was an advantage to society.

BY MRS. CYRUS D. TURNER.

Three young men, Hartwell, Cyrus and Jerry Turner left Stykesville and Sheldon, Wyoming Co., N. Y., about the 1st of May, 1854, and came west, making explorations for government lands, intending to go into the Bad Ax river valley; they stopped for a time at Mr. Wilson's, at Kickapoo Centre, to rest. Hartwell took lands on Camp creek and some in Vernon county. Cyrus took lands in Richland and some in Vernon. Jerry took a tract in Vernon, which he afterwards traded for the farm of Mr. Richards near the town plat of Viola.

These men returned to New York, where Cyrus and Jerry remained until September.

A short time after they had returned home, Hartwell returned and entered more lands, and with him came Lyman Jackson. Mr. Jackson entered lands where Mr. Sommers' residence now is, and Hartwell and Jackson both built log buildings, Jackson on said premises and Hartwell near the mouth of Camp creek. Then Hartwell again returned to New York. Mr. Jackson remained here expecting his family to come on in company with the Turners. The 1st of September five families came: William Turner and wife; Hartwell, wife and two children; Cyrus Turner and wife and two boys; Salma Rogers and wife and two children; Lyman Jackson's wife and two children; Jerry Turner, John Fuller and Asa Patten.

We came around the lakes to Milwaukee, and from there with our own teams. Our journey

was altogether a pleasant one until we left Richland Centre, then a town invisible, and entered the woods, with sometimes a road and sometimes not. Crying children, tipped over wagons and camping out, sitting up on chairs for fear of snakes, helped fill the programme of our journey; many walked as long as strength lasted rather than peril the lives of the little ones which they carried in their arms and on their shoulders.

Cyrus Turner looked over his land entries and proceeded to lay out a town line, his first survey did not please him, and he again made another plat which is now a part of the city property, although some of the streets have been fenced up for many years. The first thing to be done was to excavate a log for a canoe with which to transfer travelers from shore to shore of the Kickapoo, which was fordable where the Waggoner's mill now stands.

House building was yet in its infancy here. The Gothic, Ionic, Doric orders of architecture are but little known; the style of which all the principal buildings here are composed may be termed "Kickapooric," for several sprang into existence about this time, which consisted of rolling logs up on to each other so as to enclose a square pen until the required height was obtained when the structure was covered with split boards, called "shakes" in western vernacular, which are nailed on by placing poles across them, thus making a very picturesque roof and a well ventilated attic. The space usually inclosed is about 18x20 feet or about the size of your dining-room. This is the house of the pioneer, this little room is the kitchen, dining-room, pantry, bed-room, nursery, and frequently the up-stairs and down cellar for a family of about a dozen members; into this are stowed beds, chests, dishes, boxes, babies, pots, kettles, and all the trumpery and paraphernalia, and you can easily imagine what a paradise of commotion it is; there cannot be much of coveting for all are on an equality, even in taking pleasure rides after ox teams and faring sumptuously

upon wild game or mush and milk, or the most dainty dish of all, batter, warm griddle slap, pan cakes with pumpkin butter or wild honey. Our first religious sermon was preached in this pioneer building by Mr. Neher, of Forest, and in the summer of 1855 a little log school house was erected near the county line, and in a remote part of the town plat. Here our Sabbath school was organized, a library from the American Sunday School Union was procured, and we did well, notwithstanding all our difficulties; trees were chopped down, corn and potatoes planted, if disposed to indolence the melodious music of the mosquito or the silent aches of our limbs reminded us of action, by fighting mosquitoes or rubbing our rheumatic limbs, or pass the time in shaking our superfluous flesh off.

William Mack, a half breed from the Picatonic country, now appears among us. He bought out the store of D. C. Turner, and built a wooden structure, which is now attached to Mr. Tate's store. With Mr. Mack came Mr. Goodrich and family. Mr. Goodrich built a plank house on block three, which is still standing. Here his little daughter, Libbie Goodrich, died. This was the first death. She was buried near the house on the said lot, near the southern line of the street, where her grave is indistinct.

In the fall of 1857 Mr. and Mrs. Keith, teachers in the Brown school of Chicago, spent their summer vacation in Viola with the family of D. C. Turner. In three days after their return to Chicago, Howey Willie Turner, D. C. Turner's oldest son, was a corpse. Here appears Dr. Gott, of Viroqua, for the first time; yet his skill was of no avail. This child's death was a crushing calamity upon his family.

Mr. Keith, Howey Willie and Freddie Turner were buried on the mound between the residence of Charley Tate and Nelson Buegor's store for several years, but disinterred in 1869, and removed to the Viroqua cemetery, along with the remains of William Turner.

In the year 1857 Viola Mack was born, and received a lot in block three for her name.

This year also D. C. Turner bought out Mr. Mack, and commenced buying ginseng, which business he followed for eight successive years. Buying and clarifying and drying was also largely carried on by James Turner and Henry Livingstone, from Kentucky.

D. C. Turner built another store, and the old Mack building was used for a dry house. The store then built is now a part of H. C. Cushman's.

In the fall of 1856 Harry Turner and family, Mr. Gill and family, Mr. Loveless and family, Amos Fuller and family came on. Harry Turner bought out Lyman Jackson; Mr. Gill bought out the tract of land Jerry Turner had entered and now resides there. Amos Fuller went to blacksmithing, got sick of the country, and went back in the fall of 1867. In the fall of 1859 Henry M. Keith and family came here and bought the pioneer home of Mr. Hull. Mr. Keith had been obliged to resign his situation in the Brown school of Chicago on account of ill health. He received a death blow from a band of ruffians in that school building, an account of which the papers of Chicago detailed in full particulars. Mrs. Keith taught our school one summer, before her husband's death, which occurred Feb. 18, 1861. In the winter of 1859-60 our school house was made lively frequently from time to time, in which Jerry Turner and Van S. Bennett figured largely.

1858-9.—About this time several acres of land were given by C. D. Turner for a cemetery on the mound east of the new school house, where Mr. Clark now resides. This did not suit and became outlawed. Mr. Keith, consequently, was buried and removed, as before mentioned.

1860-1.—The second pioneer house was removed, and the residence Mr. Cushman now occupies was erected. John Fuller left for California. Mrs. Keith left for the Chicago school again. General political excitement prevailed; the war was upon us; consequently no improvements were made for some time.

Jerry Turner enlisted; was 2nd lieutenant, then first, then captain of company H, 5th Wisconsin Infantry. Here is an extract from Benjamin Lawton's letter, as written to Harry Sherme's family: "He fell while charging on Mary's Hill, back of the city of Fredericksburg. He was struck in the head by a large ball; I think it must have been a canister shot, for it made a hole about the size of a canister shot. He was shot so dead that he did not move. He was a brave and noble soldier. We mourn his loss and always will. He has been the main stay of company H, ever since we came out. When the captain fell I staid with him and took care of his body, which I agreed to do when I first came out; I told him I should stand by his side until the last, and I have done so. I tried my best to get his body embalmed and sent to you; but I could not for want of an ambulance to get it carried it to Falmouth. Our quarter-master assisted me all he could, but it could not be got, for everything in the shape of wagons was used to bring the wounded off the field, so we had to bury him in the city." He was killed May 3, 1863. He made us his last visit on his thirty-first birth day, the 16th of February before his death.

Company I, of the 12th Wisconsin Infantry, was organized and drilled here until ordered to headquarters. Hartwell Turner was captain of this company. While this regiment was in Leavenworth he was very sick. C. D. Turner, his brother, went to and staid with him till he could be brought home.

From 1861 to 1864 it was only *war, war, war*, until scarcely an able bodied man was left in the town of Forest, in 1865. D. C. Turner was quite sick, was drafted, and Dr. Terhune, of Viroqua, reported for him, as he was under the doctors's care for sometime, until he was able to go to Boscobel, prepared to furnish a substitute, but was not accepted. From this time more or less sickness followed. He gave up the mercantile business and sold out to Mr. Tate. In 1865 Mr. Harrington and family, John Bryant

and C. Ward came. N. D. Ward, of the 2d Wisconsin Cavalry, returned from Texas.

Of the five original families that came to Viola in 1854, only two are here now—Salma Rogers' and H. L. Turner's. Of the twenty persons, or children, of that time, there are still living: Salma Rogers and wife and two children; Mary Bews, of Deadwood; Frank Rogers, of Viola; Hartwell Turner and wife; Lyman Jackson, wife and son, of Oregon, Wis.; Helen Jackson Drenn, of Centralia, Ill.; Dewitt C. Turner and his mother, Greenfield, Mo.

These are deceased: William Turner and wife, Cyrus D. Turner and son, George Turner, Alice Turner Waggoner, Jerry Turner and John Fuller.

BY ISRAEL JANNEY.

Pine river runs the entire length from north to south, through the central portion of the county. On the west side of the river was a heavy forest with a thick undergrowth of brush, extending for miles with no roads or bridges. We were without communication with the western settlements, only by the difficult route of crossing the Wisconsin river and traveling down to the village of Muscoda, there re-crossing the river and following the trail the western settlers made to their homes, the only entrance for the early settlers of the western part of the county. There was a good highway from the above village to Mineral Point, and also to Galena, where the emigrants by water landed that were looking for homes in Wisconsin; and those that made their way by land from Illinois, Indiana, southern Ohio and further south, generally found their way to Mineral Point.

This accounts for the settlements in the western part of the county, being generally composed of people from the above named States, while the eastern portion of the county was reached from the east by the way of Sauk Prairie and Helena. The result was, the eastern portion of the county was settled by the inevitable Yankee; a close, industrious and enterprising settler, with the milk-pail on his arm, ready to milk the first

cow he could secure, and also a foreign emigration working their way westward from the eastern States and cities. I will here state the Yankee, with the cow, has been a large and important factor in the improvement and development of the rich resources of our county.

Robert and William McCloud, with their families, emigrated from Hardin Co., Ohio, in the year 1845, to Wisconsin, having previously purchased a tract of land near Muscoda without seeing it. After arriving at the above named place and having examined their purchase, they found it worthless for agricultural purposes. They remained in the village of Muscoda during the fall and winter of 1845-6, looking at different parts of the country, hunting and buying furs that were found in the northwest at that time, such as the beaver, otter, fisher, martin, mink and bear. The above named animals were numerous. Robert McCloud was a general agent for a fur company located at Perrysburgh, Ohio, and his agents traveled as far north as St. Paul. In the spring of 1846, Robert and William McCloud moved upon farms they had selected on the east bank of Bear creek, in town 9 north, of range 2 east. Robert broke up about eighty acres, planted corn, potatoes and garden vegetables, and William broke and planted about forty acres. They had good crops, and when my brother, Phinneas Janney, and myself moved into the above named town in the fall of 1846 we found the McClouds comfortably situated with good log houses. Robert had sown four bushels of winter wheat, which was without doubt the first sown in the county. They were the only families in the eastern half of the county at the time we moved in, except some parties that were engaged in building a saw-mill on Pine river, where the village of Rockbridge is located.

Mineral Point was our postoffice for a time, and later, Franklin or Highland in Iowa county. Our supplies had to come from Mineral Point.

Richland county at this time was a wilderness, where the Indian and wild beasts of the

forest roamed at will; such as the lynx, elk, deer, bear and wolf; the three latter were very plentiful. Our animal food consisted chiefly of the deer and bear meat. The hunting of them was a very pleasant and exciting exercise, as well as profitable. Fish were very plentiful in the small streams. We found trout and the larger varieties in the Pine and Wisconsin rivers. They furnished fine sport and amusement in securing, as well as an important article of food; and the hunting of the wild bee was interesting and profitable. They were very plentiful and yielded a large amount of honey, which took the place of sugar and syrup for all sweetening purposes, so that we were not without some amusement and pleasure to mix with the troubles and trials incident to pioneer life. About three weeks after our arrival, Philip Miller, a very promising young man, died of typhoid fever, which cast a gloom and sorrow over the small settlement; and we were admonished of the truth, notwithstanding our journey of hundreds of miles, that the messenger of death was near, and would find us sooner or later.

The winter of 1846-7 was one of the coldest and hardest that I have experienced in the county; the snow fell very deep, and soon after thawed sufficiently to form a heavy crust that would almost bear a man up; but about the time he would straighten up, down he would go, and would continue to repeat it for a short distance, until he found himself played out. The result was we had to keep close quarters, and had often to eat what we called Irish supper—venison, potatoes and salt. We had an early spring. It turned warm and remained so; and it was not long until we laid aside our troubles caused by the winter, and were delighted with the prospects the country presented. The bold bluffs and beautiful valleys, with their cool springs, brooks and creeks, with the surrounding forest, made up a view beautiful and grand; and the thought occurred that there were none to dispute our right to

this beautiful country. But we were disappointed; the red man of the forest made his appearance with claims, and gave us considerable trouble; and on several occasions we were compelled to collect with our families at one house, for safety and protection, until the Indians were disposed of.

The McCloud brothers had been absent for several days from the village, early in the spring of 1846, looking at different parts of Richland county, and on their return home, found the people of the village in a fight with the Indians. They were called on for help, and responded by hurrying to the scene of action. There were four of the Indians killed and one wounded by the McClouds. The Indians then fell back into a heavy undergrowth of pine timber, taking their dead and wounded with them. The whites called a council and decided to send a messenger to Gov. Dodge, and runners to the different settlements for help, believing the Indians would renew the conflict as soon as they could collect their forces. By morning there were a large number of whites on the ground, and fully as many Indians. They seemed determined on mischief. But the whites acted strictly on the defensive until they could hear from the governor, which was soon answered by his presence in person; and after a careful investigation of the facts, he sustained the people in what they had done and complimented the McClouds very highly for the brave and decisive action they took in the matter. The Indians were sent to their reservation by Gov. Dodge, with orders not to remove; but the orders were often violated and they gave the different settlements more or less trouble, but more particularly the McCloud settlement; they were determined to have the scalps of those two men, and made many attempts to secure their object; and the number they lost in the raids they made will probably never be known. They finally disappeared and left the McClouds to enjoy their new

homes in peace. A few words in reference to the McCloud family.

Judge William McCloud, the father of Robert and William, was one of the early pioneer settlers of Champaign, Logan and Hardin counties in Ohio. The family held a prominent place in the hearts of the early settlers in the above named counties; was respected and esteemed by all who knew them. Robert and William McCloud having grown up in the midst of the greatest warlike Indian tribes of Ohio, with such opportunities for studying the peculiar traits of character of the Indians, well qualified them to meet their Indian troubles in this county with the success they did. Mrs. Elizabeth McCloud, the mother of Robert and William, after the death of her husband, came to this county and remained with her children and friends until her death, which took place at James D. Key's, in the town of Buena Vista. She was a lady of fine intellect, highly cultured and of excellent memory. She had been a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and was one of the true Christian mothers of the past.

The next addition to our small settlement was Mary J. Janney, now Mrs. William Willey, of Fancy creek, born Dec. 12, 1846, daughter of Israel and Elizabeth Janney. In the spring of 1847, W. H. Janney located on the farm now owned by J. W. Briggs; and Amos Merser settled on land east of David Young's farm, but shortly afterward sold out and located about four miles northeast of Lone Rock, in Sauk county where he now resides.

In the fall of the same year there were two men with their families, one by the name of Parshall Smith and the other Cyrus Cline, moved in and settled on Bear creek.

In the fall of 1848 Jonathan Ingram and family, Samuel Long with his family, and many others, moved into the town. Our first election was held in November at the house of Robert McCloud, and I think there were thirteen votes polled. Up to 1849 we had never seen or hear



of an assessor or tax collector. We certainly ought to have been happy.

Nathaniel Wheeler moved from the State of New York, to Dane Co., Wis., in the fall of 1848. He settled in town 9 north, of range 2 east, on the farm now owned by David Young. He was the first Methodist preacher in the town. Mr. Wheeler served one term in the State Legislature from this county. He left this county many years ago, and when last heard from was living in the State of New York, as a Baptist minister. He had evidently changed his religious views.

B. L. Jackson was the first local preacher of the same Church, and settled in the same neighborhood in 1848. They organized a class about the same time in a log school house, a short distance from Samuel Long's residence. Mr. Jackson was an itinerant preacher in the M. E. Church for a number of years, and was then transferred to an Iowa conference.

Rev. G. G. Nickey was one of the pioneer preachers of the United Brethren Church on Fancy creek, and under his preaching they have increased in strength and numbers, and at the present writing are strong and prosperous.



## CHAPTER XIII.

## WAR FOR THE UNION.

If there is any one thing, more than another, of which the people of the northern States have reason to be proud, it is the bright record they made during the dark and bloody days of the war of the Rebellion. When the war was forced upon the country, the people were quietly pursuing the even tenor of their ways, doing whatever their hands found to do—making farms or cultivating those already made, erecting homes, founding cities and towns, building shops and manufactories—in short, the country was alive with industry and hopes for the future.

The people were just recovering from the depressions and losses incident to the great financial panic of 1857. The future looked bright and promising, and the industrious and patriotic sons and daughters of the free States were buoyant with hope—looking forward to the perfection of new plans for the securing of comfort and competence in their declining years of life; they little heeded the mutterings and threatenings of treason's children in the slave States of the South. True sons and descendants of the heroes of the "times that tried men's souls"—the struggle for American Independence—they never dreamed that there was even one so base as to dare attempt the destruction of the Union of their fathers—a government baptised with the best blood the world ever knew. While immediately surrounded with peace and tranquillity, they paid but little attention to the rumored plots and plans of those who lived and grew rich from the sweat and toil, blood and flesh of others; aye, even trafficking in their

own offspring. Nevertheless, the war came, with all its attendant horrors.

April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter, in Charleston bay, South Carolina, Major Anderson, U. S. A., commandant, was fired upon by rebel arms. Although base treason, this first act in the bloody reality that followed, was looked upon as the mere bravado of a few hot heads, the act of a few fire-eaters whose sectional bias and freedom-hatred was crazed by excessive indulgence in intoxicating potions. When, a day later, the news was borne northward, on the wings of the telegraph, that Anderson had been forced to surrender to what had at first been regarded as a drunken mob, the strong patriotic souls of the people of the north were startled from their dreams of the future, from undertakings half completed, and made to realize, that, behind that mob, there was a dark, deep, well organized purpose to destroy the government, rend the Union in twain, and out of its ruins erect a slave oligarchy, wherein no one would dare question their right to hold in bondage, the sons and daughters of "sunny Africa." But "they reckoned without their host." Their dreams of this Utopia, their plans for the establishment of an independent confederacy, were doomed from their inception to sad and bitter disappointment.

Immediately upon the surrender of Fort Sumter, Abraham Lincoln, the President, who, but a few short weeks before, had taken the oath of office as the nation's chief executive, issued a proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers for three months, being misled by uninformed

counselors as to the magnitude of the task before him. The last word of that proclamation hardly ceased to vibrate along the telegraph wire, before the call was filled. Men and money were poured into the lap of the General Government with lavish hands. The people who loved their country—and who did not—could not give enough. Patriotism thrilled and pulsed through every heart. The farm, the shop, the office, the store, the factory, the bar, the pulpit, aye, even the college and school houses offered their best men, their lives and their fortune in defense of the unity and honor of their government and flag. Party lines were ignored or lost sight of and bitter words, spoken in the moment of political heat, were forgotten and forgiven, and joining hands in a common cause, northern democrat, republican and conservative repeated the oath of America's soldier-statesman, "by the Great Eternal, the Union must and shall be preserved."

But alas, 75,000 men were not enough to subdue the rank rebellion. Nor were ten times that number. The war continued to rage, and call succeeded to call, until, to the doubting heart, it looked as if there were not men enough in all the northern States to crush these traitorous foes within the limits of our own glorious land, helped and aided as they were by traitorous friends across the ocean. But to every call for either men or money, there was a ready and willing response. And it is the boast of the people that, had the supply of men fallen short, there were women brave and daring enough, aye, even patriotic enough, to have offered themselves a willing sacrifice upon their country's altar. Such were the impulses, motives and actions of the patriotic sons of the north, among whom the loyal sons of Wisconsin made a conspicuous record, and the boys from Richland county were not in any wise behind in the movement to preserve the life of our government.

The county government made such appropriations as seemed to them proper and right for

the support of the families of those who volunteered; and of these matters we will treat first. Immediately upon receipt of the President's proclamation, the citizens of Richland county proceeded to recruit a company, but, owing to the distance from the seat of war, could not get them accepted under the three months' call, and the Scott Guards were mustered in under the first call of three years.

The first action of the board of supervisors, in regard to the volunteers then going and gone to the front, was at a special session held July, 1861, when the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the families of non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, mustered into the service of the State or of the United States, in pursuance of any law of this State, being residents of this county, in addition to the pay provided for the rank of soldiers of the rank aforesaid, shall receive the sum of \$4 for four months, to be paid only to the families that really need it; and that such appropriation be paid by the county treasurer upon the presentation of a certificate of a justice of the peace of said county, to the effect that the applicant is of the class above specified, and in need of said appropriation."

At its November session, the same year, the board, the time for which the previous resolution provided having expired, appointed a committee to make and report to them an order making an allowance to the families of the volunteers. In accordance with the above instructions, when the committee made its report, the board appropriated the sum of \$2,500 to meet the expenses of the partial support of the families of volunteers, to be applied under the direction of the board. It was also determined that it should be the duty of the town boards, when an application was made to them for relief, by the family of a volunteer in the United States service, to inquire into the case, and if necessary, to provide such aid and draw orders

on the county treasurer, who was instructed to pay them.

Jan. 13, 1862, the board of supervisors made the following order:—"That the families of non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates mustered into the service of the State or of the United States, being residents of this county at the time of their enlistment, in addition to the pay provided for soldiers of the rank aforesaid, receive from the county the sum of \$1 per month during their service; that families having children under twelve years of age, receive the sum of \$1 per month for each child, in addition to the sum aforesaid, this allowance to date from Nov. 20, 1861."

The board also passed resolutions defining how, when and where the applications for this relief shall be filed and paid, and rescinds any and all actions of previous boards of supervisors.

At a special session of the board of supervisors held March 4, 1862, the following resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS—There is no money in the treasury with which to redeem the orders issued to the families of volunteers, and whereas, the families are realizing but about one-half the amount therefrom, it is therefore

"*Resolved*, That it is deemed for the best interests of all concerned that the act passed at January session, for the relief of families of volunteers be, and the same is, hereby declared repealed."

The calls for more men, more victims to the unholy demon of war, now became more frequent and soon there were no young men left in the county to bear the brunt of war's fierce struggle, and yet some must go. And when the call for 300,000 more came in December, 1864, some steps must be taken to fill the county's quota, and a meeting was held in the court house at Richland Centre to take such steps, as seemed advisable, toward that object. The meeting was organized by the selection of Le

Roy D. Gage, as chairman, and D. Downs as clerk.

When the meeting was opened, N. L. James moved the appointment of a committee on resolutions, which was carried, and Robert Akan, Norman L. James and C. H. Smith were appointed the said committee. (The committee reporting a majority and minority report, and both being lengthy, and neither being adopted, both have been omitted). However the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That every man liable to the draft be requested to pay \$25 for the purpose of procuring volunteers, and \$3 for the purpose of paying the taxes of all enlisted men now in the service incurred by a town tax for war bounty purposes; and that the town board of supervisors be petitioned to hold at the earliest practicable day a town meeting for the purpose of voting for or against a tax of \$200 for each volunteer properly credited to the town.

*Voted*, That C. H. Smith be, and he is hereby authorized to receive and receipt for the \$28 requested from those liable to the draft; and that he is authorized to pay out of money so received the sum of \$300 for each recruit properly credited to Richland town.

*Voted*, That J. H. Miner, D. E. Pease, J. B. McGrew and D. L. Dows are hereby appointed as a committee to call upon all subject to the draft and urge the payment of the \$28 recommended by meeting.

*Voted* That the names of those paying the \$28, as requested, be published in *The Observer*.

*Voted*, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in *The Observer*.

Nearly every one liable to draft met this demand upon them and the quota was filled. It was discovered after the peace, that the State of Wisconsin had furnished a considerably greater number of men than was her proportion, and Richland was one of the counties which had a greater number on the credit side of the account.

But two men had the honor to serve in the three month's service, from Richland county, and these were, Jesse S. Miller and William Worden.

The first man from Richland county that was killed in the late war, was George Hamlin, a son of Charles Hamlin, of Richland Centre. This young man laid down a precious life on the altar of his country, at the battle of Pittsburg Landing, April 2, 1862, and was at the time a member of the 11th Ill., Infantry, although a resident of this county.

In almost every one of the regiments that left the State for active service in the field, were some of the brave boys of Richland county. The first company that was raised in the county exclusively, however, was the Scott Guards, who enlisted in the spring of 1861, when the first flush of patriotism burned throughout the land. This company was assigned to the 5th regiment and given the letter H as its designation. During its four years the company saw much active service and the history of the gallant 5th will not suffer by comparison. On mustering into the service of the general government, the regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, its first active duty commencing in the spring of 1862, when they were placed in the front and right nobly did they their devoir, taking a foremost part in the battle of Williamsburg. Arriving on the field about ten o'clock, skirmishers were thrown out to the front and left, the regiment crossing Queen's creek and taking possession of the enemy's earthworks on the right. Here they again formed in line, three companies being deployed as skirmishers, facing the second work, of which the regiment also took possession, suffering severely from a galling fire, which the enemy opened from three other works on the front and left. The regiment again advanced about four hundred yards, two companies being sent forward to support the line of skirmishers, the remainder of the regiment supporting a battery which had taken a

position near some low farm houses, and were engaged in shelling the enemy's works.

This position was maintained until 5 o'clock in the afternoon when vastly superior forces made a retrograde movement highly necessary. Col. Cobb, in his official report, says :

"In falling back to the point indicated, the regiment was immediately unmasked by the buildings, and found itself in front of the enemy's center; a heavy regiment, afterwards ascertained to be the 5th North Carolina, which was supported on either flank by other troops, all of whom advanced rapidly, concentrating upon us a rapid and heavy fire. The regiment fell back in good order, every man loading as he retreated, wheeling and returning the fire of the enemy, with the rapidity and coolness of veterans. In this way they fell back to the line of battle of the brigade, which had already formed, taking position in the center, a space having been left for that purpose. A charge being then ordered, the whole line moved forward with a shout and a well directed fire, driving the enemy before them like chaff, they fleeing in wild confusion, leaving the field, over which they had just pursued the retiring line of the 5th, literally strewn with their dead and wounded, and leaving their battle flag behind them, which was captured by a member of the regiment.

This charge turned in our favor the wavering scale of battle. For this they received the thanks of Gen. McClellan.

Gladly would we follow all the movements of this gallant regiment, of which the boys of Richland formed a part, did but space allow. How they struggled at Spottsylvania, the seven days conflict on the Chickahominy, at Rappahannock, Sailor's creek, Winchester, Petersburg, Mary's Heights, Fredericksburgh and other famous battles.

In the battle at Mary's Heights, the 5th Wisconsin headed the famous charge which carried a part of the almost impregnable Mary's Heights at Fredericksburgh. Greeley says,

“Braver men never smiled on death, than those who climbed Mary’s Hill on that fatal day.” The one gleam of success in that gallant but disastrous fight, was the capture by the 5th Wisconsin of a rebel battery. All else was failure where “we had reason for sorrow but none for shame.”

We have inserted here an account of the charge at Rappahannock Station, made by this famous regiment and its twin mate, the 6th Maine, as it is thought to be the only true and most graphic account of one of the most heroic actions of the war, at the request of a number of the men of company H, of the 5th.

A FAMOUS ASSAULT.

[By J. S. Anderson.]

On the 6th of November, 1863, the Army of the Potomac lay in camp in the vicinity of Warrenton, fronting the confederate army, commanded by Gen. Lee, which occupied the line of the Rappahannock river. A short time previous, Lee had repeated against Meade the tactics and strategy which had been so successful against Hooker and Pope, and passed around the right flank of the army of the Potomac. He had compelled Meade to fall back nearly to the vicinity of Alexandria.

Meade selected a position in the neighborhood of Centreville, and Lee, finding his antagonist had pursued a cautious and judicious course, and was ready to confront him upon ground of his own choice, fell back to the line of the Rappahannock, destroying the railroad and all other public property in his path. Meade, smarting at having been out-maneuvred, and anxious to deliver a return blow, followed him a little to the south and east of Warrenton, striking the enemy a sharp blow at Bristoe Station, but failed to bring him to battle. Both armies rested near the line of the Rappahannock, Lee holding the fords and crossings of the river.

On the evening of the 6th of November, 1863, orders were issued to fill up to the maximum with ammunition, to have three day’s

cooked rations in the haversacks and be ready to march at day-break. Always prompt, the bugle sounded at the headquarters of “Uncle John” Sedgwick, the grand old commander of the sixth corps, just as the sky began to redden in the east.

The first division of the sixth corps led the advance; the third brigade, commanded by Gen. David Russell, and consisting of the 5th Wisconsin, 6th Maine, 49th and 119th Pennsylvania regiments in front. The 49th Pennsylvania led the entire column. After passing the picket line about two miles out, a line of skirmishers was thrown out to the front and flanks of the column, and in this manner marched without opposition until about 2 o’clock, P. M., when at a distance of two and a half miles from the river, a small party of cavalry was struck.

They fell back without seriously attempting to oppose the advance, contenting themselves by observing our approach. We soon arrived near the range of hills bordering the river and the head of the column turned to the left so as to pass down the river. We marched down and parallel with the river, nearly to the railroad and connected with the advance of the fifth corps, under Gen. Warren, which soon after came up in force. The second division of the sixth corps, as it came up, deployed by the right and supported a couple of batteries, which took position on a height from which the rebels could be seen in medium shell range. The enemy were found to be strongly entrenched on the same side of the river, on which we were, holding a *tete de pont* back of which was a pontoon bridge.

Their works consisted of several strong forts. On the south side of the river, immediately in our front, on commanding ground, was an elaborate redoubt pierced for four pieces of artillery, and containing two twelve pound Parrott guns taken originally from Milroy, at the capitulation of Winchester. Further to the rebel right, at a distance of six hundred feet, was a smaller redoubt, containing two three inch guns, said to

have been taken from us, one at Antietam, the other at Chancellorsville. This redoubt was on ground a little lower than the first, and commanded the approaches along the line of the railroad and the river below. The two redoubts were connected by a strong line of rifle pits, and to the rebel left of the larger work, an elaborate and carefully constructed line of breastworks extended up the river and parallel with it for a long distance.

On the further side of the river, on a high hill, that dominated the whole, was a strong fort, in which were planted several heavy guns, I should judge field 32-pounders, and further up, on the same side of the river, a smaller redoubt.

These works were fully manned. In the works on the side of the river facing the federal troops there were two entire brigades. "Stone-wall" Jackson's famous old brigade was there, and with them also were the famous Louisiana Tigers. This Louisiana brigade was commanded by Brig. Gen. Hayes, who as senior officer commanded all the forces on that side of the river. The other brigade was that of Gen. Hoke, who commanded a brigade of three large regiments, the 6th, 54th and 57th North Carolina. They were the flower of the rebel army. Well dressed and splendidly equipped, they no doubt considered themselves a match for any equal number of men in the world. The Louisianians occupied the two redoubts and the rifle pits connecting them and a small party of the line to their left of the larger redoubt, directly in front of the pontoon bridge. The line to their left was held by the North Carolina regiments. Our troops took some little time to deploy and form the desired connections with the fifth corps. As soon as the lines were formed, the skirmishers of the 49th Pennsylvania were called in and the entire right wing of the 6th Maine, under Maj. Fuller, deployed as skirmishers, with orders to push the rebel skirmishers back inside of their works if possible. This was quickly and gallantly done, the artillery aiding in the work, and the men lay down be-

hind stumps, fallen trees, hillocks, and any object which afforded shelter, keeping up a sharp but desultory fire on the entrenched line of the enemy.

In the meantime several batteries had taken position on the ridge in front of the infantry lines and had opened a heavy cannonade on the enemy's entrenchments. Shot and shell flew like hail through the forts on both sides of the river, but without any perceptible effect; the enemy's infantry would lie down in the rifle pits while the storm passed over them, perfectly protected. The artillery, shielded by the heavy curtains of earth, could not be silenced.

Gen. Russell, who commanded the first division of the sixth corps that day, solicited permission to make an attempt with his brigade to carry it by storm. The desired permission was given by Gen. Wright, who commanded the corps that day, in place of Gen. Sedgwick, who had charge of the entire right wing of the army, and preparations were immediately begun. It was trying ground for a charge. Between our lines and the enemy were two long ranges of hilly ground, with several hundred yards of broken declivity between, at the bottom of which was a small stream.

The storming party selected consisted of the left wing of the 6th Maine, and the entire 5th Wisconsin. They were to be supported at some distance by the 49th and the 119th Pennsylvania. Just as the sun touched the horizon the left wing of the 6th Maine deployed on the summit of the first ridge, in the form of a strong skirmish line. The 5th Wisconsin formed a hundred yards behind them, and the whole moved forward.

When the 5th Wisconsin reached the little creek I have spoken of, two or three shells whizzed above the heads of the regiment and burst close by. In another moment the regiment would be under fire. There was an ominous growl along the line, and a half stop. "What is the matter, men?" cried an officer.

“We’re not loaded ; you’re taking us in with empty guns,” cried half a hundred voices. Some officer riding in the rear, I think one of Gen. Russell’s staff, cried out, “Forward ! Your orders are to depend entirely on the bayonet.” The only answer to this was the deepening of the hoarse murmur along the line and the rattling of the ramrods. Nearly every man had bitten off a cartridge, and was trying to shove it down his rifle barrel as he marched in line. Finally, Col. Tom Allen, who was riding in front of the regiment, had his attention called to the confusion, and ascertaining its cause, thundered out : “Halt ! Load at will, Load !” “Be quick, men,” Col. Allen added. “Don’t cap your guns,” cried out the same staff officer from the rear again, “rely entirely on the bayonet.” The only answer was a half contemptuous growl, accompanied by the clicking of gun locks all along the line, as the bright pieces of copper were fitted to the tubes.

“That fellow must think we’re a pack of greenhorns,” the writer heard one of the men say.

The rifles being loaded, the line moved quietly and rapidly forward. The delay caused by loading had considerably increased the interval between the 6th Maine skirmishers and the line of battle. These gallant fellows had pushed fearlessly forward until they came up with the skirmish line formed by the right wing of the regiment, and the two thin lines together rushed headlong on the enemy.

There were less than 370 of them, officers and men, and they had charged nearly ten times their number. The audacity and impetuosity of the attack was such that the enemy recoiled for a moment before it, but seeing how small was the number of their antagonists, they sprang back to the attack and the work became hot.

No better regiment than the 6th Maine ever marched. They had never known defeat, they had never failed to break the enemy in a charge, nor to well back the waves of attack

from the front. Between them and the 5th Wisconsin there was a peculiar affection. The men of the two regiments had fraternized from the first. They were together all through the war and had helped each other in many a hard spot.

They had a right to expect that the 5th Wisconsin would not fail them, *and they did not*. As soon as the 5th Wisconsin passed over the crest of the second ridge, behind which they had loaded their guns, they became exposed to artillery fire. A number of shells were thrown at them, most of which passed over their heads. The deepening shades of the twilight and the rapidity with which they marched down the open slope disarranged the aim of the gunners so that they suffered little or none from this cause. As they came nearer the whistling rush of canister greeted their ears and the regiment broke into the double quick. As they clambered over the swampy river the crackle and roar of musketry burst forth in their front, and as they climbed the bank on the other side they could see the Maine boys clinging to the parapets of the redoubts, or standing in little groups of twos and threes, at the very edge of the breastworks, with their bayonets at a charge, or loading their guns and casting anxious glances to see if help was coming. They were falling thick and fast. Then arose from that line of battle a terrible shout. It was not the usual charging cheer. It was a yell of rage, a shout of encouragement, an imprecation of vengeance all in one. Only one shout and then a terribly significant silence. They had no breath to waste. Knapsacks and haversacks were thrown right and left, and through the storm of bullets rushed the 5th Wisconsin to the rescue. A stalwart lieutenant of the 6th Maine leaped on the parapet of the large redoubt and shouted, “For God’s sake, 5th Wisconsin, hurry up.” The call was not needed. In another instant the line of battle reached the rebel works. The greater part of the 5th Wisconsin rushed over the parapets into the larger redoubt,



the remainder swept down the rifle pit to the left and threw itself into the smaller one. They emptied their rifles right and left among the enemy, the muzzles sometimes touching the bodies of their opponents.

Men were found dead next morning with their flesh scorched with powder. A terrible and indescribable struggle ensued. It was "hand to hand and foot to foot." The men from Maine and the men from Wisconsin, without a semblance of organization, fought side by side. The Louisianians, cut off from the pontoon bridge, and with a deep river in their rear, fought desperately. Muskets were seized and torn from the grasp of those who held them, and men grappled and fought with their fists. Inside the large redoubt the melee was frightful. The rebel artillery men stuck by their guns to the last, and fought savagely with rammers, hand spikes, swords or whatever was at hand. A handsome, curly haired young man of the 6th Maine, who curiously enough bore the name of Jeff Davis, killed one of the rebels with a blow so terrible that the stock of his rifle was swept off, and the skull of his opponent shattered to fragments. The next instant he himself fell shot through the head. Sergeant Joe Goodwin, of company A, 5th Wisconsin, and one or two others of the regiment, wheeled one of the captured cannon around to the rear of the traverse on the left of the redoubt, and seeing a line being formed near the pontoon bridge, apparently to charge back upon the fort, hurled among them a double charge of canister intended for us, breaking them up and driving them away from the bridge. As he put his shoulder to the wheel to run the gun back, he fell, shot through the heart.

These two regiments carried on this terrible and unequal struggle for fifteen or twenty minutes, and in that time sixteen out of twenty-one commissioned officers, and 123 out of 350 enlisted men of the 6th Maine had fallen, and of the 5th Wisconsin, seven officers and fifty-six men were killed or wounded. Without com-

mander, without organization, the men fought doggedly and desperately on. Lient. Col. Harris, commander of the 6th Maine, lay in the ditch with his hip shattered. Col. Tom Allen, of the 5th Wisconsin, partially crippled in one arm by an old wound received in battle when with the Iron Brigade, was struck in the other arm with a rifle bullet, when he had nearly reached the works. Major Wheeler, then next in command, just recovering from an old wound received at the storming of Fredericksburg Heights, fell mortally wounded, near the foot of the slope. Horace Walker, of company A, senior captain of the regiment, fell dead with a rebel bullet through his brain, near the right angle of the large redoubt. Capt. Ordway, of company D, next on the list, fell headlong from the parapet, killed, as he was cheering on his men. Thus the four senior officers of the regiment were struck down. Near Walker, lay dead the gallant Capt. Furlong, of the 6th Maine, who had hitherto passed through all the battles of the regiment unhurt. He was a large, handsomely built man, and was known through the brigade as "the big captain." A warm hearted, genial fellow, he was brave as a lion, and fairly worshiped by his men.

Inside the fort, and a little to the left of Ordway, lay Lient. McKinley, of the 6th Maine, with his brains blown out. Around him too, lay half a dozen of his men, who had followed him to the death. Thus it was all along that terrible line. The air was filled with a medley of shouts, shrieks and groans, calls to surrender, yells of defiance, imprecations and curses, and through and above all other sounds the unceasing crash and rattle of musketry. The artillery on both sides was silent, for federals and confederates were so mingled together that they could not tell friend from foe.

That portion of the storming party which had passed to the left of the larger redoubt swept down the rifle pits to and beyond the smaller redoubt, crowding the enemy back inch by inch, toward the river at their right flank and

rear. As they were broken up they would pass up toward the pontoon bridge, thus strengthening their fellows in the fight, going on around the larger redoubt. A number of them, however, were cut off, and attempted to escape by passing out of their works at the extreme right and wading the river near the abutments of the railroad bridge. Here a terrible affair happened. The water was up nearly to their armpits, and as they were in the stream the Union soldiers, mad with the rage of battle, pushed down to the water's edge and poured a pitiless fire upon them. Many sunk, wounded, in the water, with a bubbling shriek, losing thus whatever chance of life was left after the bullet had done its work. The horrors of the situation struck even the battle maddened soldiers, and suspending their fire, they shouted to the confederates to come back and surrender. The greater part of those in the river started back to surrender, but when they came near the shore an officer stepped from behind a stone abutment and ordered them to return again, enforcing his order by flourishing his sword. The men again wheeled around in the water and began splashing their way to the opposite shore, and again the pitiless hail of bullets was showered upon them. At last they gave up the attempt and sheltered themselves behind the ruined abutments of the bridge, where they cried out for "quarter," and about seventy-five surrendered.

I have no means of knowing who the officer was that prevented his men from surrendering sooner, and thus kept up the useless slaughter, but I have reason to believe it was Col. Goodwin, the commander of the Louisiana brigade, who surrendered afterwards with his men.

Meanwhile, and as soon as a lodgment had been effected on the enemy's works, Gen. Russell had sent back to bring up the 49th and 119th Pennsylvania in support. There seemed to be an almost interminable delay in their coming up, and staff officers were sent in quick succession to hurry their movements. At last

they came, and with a cheer the 49th and the greater part of the 119th went up to the assistance of their comrades. They were none too soon. The rebels had prepared for a last desperate attempt to regain the large redoubt, from which an incessant storm of bullets was sweeping the pontoon bridge, striking down all who attempted to escape.

They had gathered in force as near to the bridge as they dared. A part of the force on their left, which had not been closely engaged, was brought up to assist the disordered ranks of the Louisianians, and a hot enflading fire had already been opened on the overtaxed forces in and around the large redoubt. This fire, passing through the thin and shattered ranks of the 5th Wisconsin and 6th Maine, smote full on the right wing of the 119th Pennsylvania and threw them into disorder. Many of them cast themselves into the dry ditch at the foot of the slope, and added to the horror and confusion of the moment by returning the fire of the rebels, regardless of the fact that a line of their own comrades was between the two fires. They were, in a moment, however, gallantly rallied by their major and led up in line with the rest.

And now the lines thus reinforced swept on. The rebels pushed to the river's brink, threw down their arms by scores, and were sent to the rear. The enemy were entirely swept away from their extreme right up to the large redoubt and along the rifle pits to a point in front of the pontoon bridge.

The last stroke was now given. Gen. Russell at last seeming to realize the fact that he had led his brigade into a battle against large odds, had sent orders to Gen. Upton, commanding the second brigade of the same division to charge with two of his regiments on the right. That officer selected the 5th Maine and 121st New York regiments, and forming them in line of battle behind the crest nearest to the rebel lines, ordered them to pile up their knapsacks and all other superfluous weight; and then marched rapidly forward. As they neared the

rifle pits they received a scattering volley of musketry. "Steady! forward men! don't fire a shot," shouted Upton, and with a ringing cheer, forward they go over the rifle pits, with a rush, crowding the enemy to the river bank, where they surrendered, and now the conflict is over. The sullen prisoners were marched to the rear. Some few escaped up the river in the darkness, which by this time had settled down like a pall. A few stray swimmers plunged into the water, and swam over to tell the tale to their comrades across the river. The rattle of the musketry died away into silence, and soon the lanterns were flashing over the field as the sad work of gathering up the wounded was begun.

What were the results? The crossing of the river was seized and a lodgment made on a salient point of Lee's general line, which compelled him to fall back to the line of the Rapidan. Four guns with caisson and ammunition, five limbers with full complement of battery horses, all complete; one stand of colors, 500 prisoners, and many hundred stand of small arms, were taken by Russell's brigade alone. Two strong redoubts were taken by a line of battle not much heavier than an ordinary skirmish line. To the two regiments of Upton there surrendered over 1,100 prisoners, with seven stand of colors. Most of these were from the regiments which had been broken and driven from their positions by Russell's brigade, and escaped from them only to fall into the hands of Upton's men.

When it is remembered that the entire strength of Russell's brigade was 1,549, officers and men, and that all these results were accomplished by them, assisted only by two regiments of another brigade, against more than double their number, thoroughly prepared in a chosen position, I think I am warranted in saying that the achievement is without a parallel in the history of the war. The confederates fought under the eye of Gen. Lee, who stood with Gen. Jubal Early in the fort on the opposite side of the river, and was a witness of the disaster to his forces. The

chaplain of the 54th North Carolina, in an account of the battle written by him to the *Richmond Examiner*, three days after, said: "The brigade (Hoke's) is almost annihilated; the 54th has only one captain left, with five lieutenants and fifteen men remaining. The fragments of the brigade are now collected under the command of Lieut. Col. Tate, of the 6th, and attached to the Louisiana brigade. These fragments now number about 275 men."

The meed of praise was given to the 6th Maine and 5th Wisconsin for this unparalleled feat, by all who witnessed it, and had it not been for the desperate tenacity with which they clung to the earthworks they had stormed, until the supports came up, the attack must have resulted most disastrously to our troops. Nor can I close this already too long account more fitly than by quoting from the general order issued from brigade headquarters the second day of the battle:

"Officers and soldiers:—Your gallant deeds of the 7th of November will live in the annals of your country, and will be not the least glorious of the exploits of the Army of the Potomac. To have carried by storm with a mere skirmish line and a feeble support in numbers, powerful earthworks, a strong natural position manned by the flower of the rebel army and strengthened by artillery, would be an achievement that a division of our forces might well feel pride in, but it was not too much for the gallant sons of Maine and Wisconsin."

After a long term of service, having, many of them, re-enlisted as veterans, the regiment was mustered out at Madison, July 20, 1865.

Company D, 11th Wisconsin Infantry, was organized in September, 1861, and first went into camp at camp Randall, where the men were mustered into the service of the United States, with Jesse S. Miller, as captain. The 11th regiment was attached to the second brigade, under Gen. Hovey, in Gen. Steel's command, and under orders to proceed south, passed through Missouri to Arkansas. Its first engage-

ment, of any note, was at Bayou Cache, July 7, 1862, when companies D, G, H, and I, held in check a vastly superior force of rebels, until the arrival of reinforcements. After this conflict the regiment arrived at Helena, on the 13th. In October they returned to Pilot Knob, Mo., where they remained in camp all winter. March 13, 1863, embarking at St. Genevieve, they soon landed at Memphis. From this point they were sent to Milliken's Bend, La., and were assigned to a position in the second brigade, fourteenth division of the thirteenth army corps.

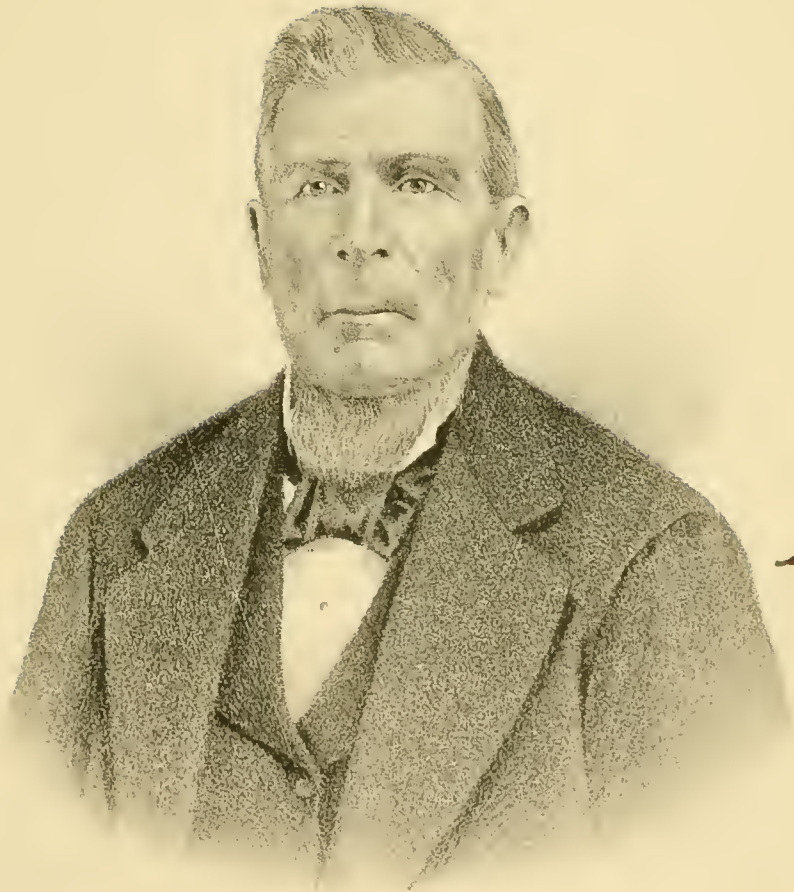
When the morning of the 1st of April dawned, it found the 11th leading the advance, and at Anderson Hill, near Port Gibson, Miss., they encountered the enemy and after a warm engagement, which proved no "April Fool business" the rebels were driven back in dire confusion. On May 15th, they took part in the battle of Champin Hills, and the following day cut off the retreat of the "boys in gray" at Black river bridge, where there was a warm contest, the boys of the 11th taking upward of a thousand prisoners, and a regimental stand of colors, as trophies of their valor.

On the 19th the regiment was found in the trenches before Vicksburg, and they participated in that terrible and fatal charge made on the 22d of May. They were employed quite actively in the days of siege that lay before that place, and took a part in the ceremonies of the surrender on the glorious 4th of July, 1863. Immediately after that event, the regiment received marching orders and started for Jackson, taking a prominent part in the "second Teche campaign" and going as far as Opelousas. Returning over almost impassable roads and through mud and mire they took shipping at Algiers, on the 19th of November, for Brazos Santiago, Texas, where they received orders to reinforce the forces under Gen. Banks, at Arkansas Pass. While here, fresh orders were received sending them to Fort Esperanza, were they arrived too late to assist Gen. Washburne in re-

ducing the enemy at that place. Three-fourths of the regiment having re-enlisted, they were relieved from duty on February 11th and mustered in as veterans on Feb. 13th. Those who did not see fit to re-enlist were transferred for the balance of their term of service to the 33d regiment. The veterans in accordance with the custom of the war department, were allowed to return home on furlough of thirty days, and they reached Madison, March 21st, and received a magnificent ovation from the hands of the State authorities and citizens of that city.

Having enjoyed themselves to the top of their bent, they returned, leaving the State on the 25th of April, and proceeded to Memphis. They afterward took part in the various expeditions in northern Mississippi and Alabama, and always received the commendation of their commanders for good and efficient service. The regiment was mustered out at Mobile, Ala., Sept. 4, 1865, and reached home on the 18th of that month and year. The company from Richland passed through many vicissitudes in its career with the regiment, losing many officers by death and resignation, so that Henry Toms, who left only as a corporal came back the captain, more by the law of promotion than for any gallant deeds, for where all were heroes none could be called the bravest and most gallant. They left many of their comrades sleeping in southern graves, to be remembered and talked of when the shades of night have settled over a resting world, and whose names are enshrined in every patriotic breast.

Company II, of the same regiment was partly raised in this county, and marching shoulder to shoulder with their comrades of company D, passed through the same experiences and participated in all the honor that hangs around the banners of the gallant 11th, a braver regiment than which never left the Badger State. Company I, 12th Wisconsin Infantry, was also raised in the county of Richland, which was intensely loyal during the entire course of the war. This fine regiment was mustered into the



Yours truly  
John Walworth



service during the fall of 1861, at Camp Randall, Madison, and Col. George E. Bryant made colonel. They left Madison, the 11th of January, 1862, with orders to report at Weston, Mo. They participated in all the engagements that led up to the siege of Vicksburg and were in at the submission of that rebel strong-hold, the reduction of which has been called "the crowning glory of the war in the valley of the Mississippi."

After the fall of that place, they were ordered to Natchez, Miss., where they remained until the 22d of November, 1863, when they proceeded by steamer up the Mississippi, and landing at Vicksburg, marched thence ten miles, northeast to Bovina station, where they went into camp on the 26th, as guard to the railroad near the Black river. Under orders to join an expeditionary force under Gen. Gresham, they broke camp at Bovina on the 4th of December, and proceeding down the river from Vicksburg, landed early in the morning of the 6th, at Natchez. Here they joined the other forces assigned to the expedition, and immediately marched in pursuit of Wirt Adams' rebel command. Failing to discover any considerable force of the enemy, they returned on the 8th to Natchez, remaining in camp at that place until the 21st, when they again marched on a scouting expedition to Fayette, Miss., from which they returned on the 23d, and went into camp on the Pine Ridge road, near the fortifications. Embarking at Natchez on the 23d of January, 1864, they landed at Vicksburg on the following day, and marching thence ten miles in a northeasterly direction, encamped on the 25th, at Hebron, where the 12th was re-organized as a veteran regiment.

Of 667 present with the regiment, 602 had been in the service upwards of two years, the remaining sixty-five having joined by enlistment since its organization. Five hundred and twenty of those whose term of service permitted re-enlisted, and were again mustered into the service for three years. Of the others,

forty-eight promised to re-enlist on the expiration of two years from their respective dates of enrollment.

On the 3d of February, they left camp at Hebron, accompanying the celebrated Meridian expedition under command of Gen. Sherman. On the following day, they took part in the action at Bolton, Miss., with a loss of three killed and four wounded. The enemy was forced back a distance of two miles across Baker's creek, where the regiment repaired and held the bridge, until relieved on the morning of the 5th by the arrival of the third division. With the advance of the expedition, they marched through Jackson, Hillsboro and Decatur, to Meridian, and thence to Enterprise and Quitman, destroying the railroad track, bridges, store-houses, and other rebel property on their route. Returning by way of Decatur, Canton and Black river bridge, they re-entered camp at Hebron on the 4th of March, having marched in thirty-one days about 416 miles. The veterans of the regiment left Hebron on the 13th of March, and embarking at Vicksburg, proceeded up the Mississippi to Cairo, Ill., and thence by rail to Madison, Wis., where they arrived on the 21st. After a public reception at the capital by the State authorities and members of the Legislature, they remained at Camp Randall until the 31st, when the men received their pay and dispersed to their homes, in the enjoyment of veteran furlough.

The veteran 12th left the regimental rendezvous at Camp Randall on the 30th of April, and arrived on the 3d of May at Cairo, Ill., where they were joined by the non-veteran portion of the regiment, which had been left at Hebron, Miss. Accompanying the forces of Gen. Gresham, they embarked at Cairo on the 10th, with the first brigade, to which they had been transferred, and proceeding up the Tennessee river, landed on the 14th at Clifton, Tenn. They left Clifton next day, marching by way of Huntsville and Decatur, Ala., and Rome, Ga., a distance of nearly 300 miles, they joined the Army of the

Tennessee, with Gen. Sherman's forces, at Aekworth, Ga., on the 8th of June. They moved forward to Big Shanty on the 10th, and next day formed line of battle, and charged two miles through the timber, capturing the first skirmish line of the enemy in front of Kenesaw Mountain, before which the regiment was constantly employed in picket and fatigue duty, with frequent engagements with the enemy, during the remainder of the month, sustaining a loss of thirty-four men in killed, wounded and missing.

Participating in Gen. McPherson's celebrated movement to the right of the army, they moved from position before Kenesaw Mountain on the evening of the 2d of July, and marching during the night by a circuitous route, took position near the Chattahoochie river, at the mouth of Nickajack creek. On the 5th, forming a part of our line, they advanced towards the creek, driving the enemy from a strong line of rifle pits and forcing him across the stream, to his main works. They fortified the point thus gained and advanced the picket line to the bank of the creek, occupying the position until the night of the 8th, when bridges were built and the skirmish line thrown across the stream, and established in rifle pits on the opposite bank. During the succeeding night, the enemy abandoned his entire works on the right bank of the Chattahoochie and fell back to the south side of the river. At this time the regiment was transferred to the first brigade, third division, seventeenth army corps, with which they were afterwards identified. On the 17th of July, they were again put in motion towards the left with the Army of the Tennessee. Crossing the Chattahoochie at Roswell's Mills, they passed through Decatur, on the Georgia railroad, six miles northeast of Atlanta, on the 19th, and crossing the railroad which they destroyed at this point, advanced on the following day towards Atlanta. Forcing back the enemy's skirmishers, as they advanced, they bivouacked in line during the night, and on the 21st, as part

of a storming party, carried a high fortified ridge in front, about four miles from Atlanta, which they held, although suffering severely from an enfilading fire on the right, repulsing the enemy's repeated attempts to recover the position. In this action the 12th captured forty-eight prisoners and 500 stand of arms, sustaining a loss during the day of 154 in killed, wounded and missing.

During the night, the rebels evacuated their works on the right, which were next morning occupied by our troops. About noon, the enemy in great force fell upon the left of the line, outflanking and forcing back the fourth division, which held the extreme flank of our army, and pushing rapidly forward to position in rear and within 300 yards of the works occupied by the 12th Wisconsin. While passing forward to the assault, the sixteenth corps, which arrived at this juncture on the field of battle, fell in turn upon the rebel rear, and with the seventeenth corps, succeeded in capturing nearly the whole of the attacking force. The general commanding the brigade having been wounded early in the action, Col. Bryant took charge of the brigade, Lieut. Col. Proudfit assuming command of the regiment. During the conflict, the heroic 12th fought oftentimes in two wings, back to back, with the enemy on both fronts and one flank, one wing of the regiment being unprotected with works. They held their own, however, but the rebels continued the engagement outside of the works on the left and point of the ridge during the night, fighting often over the embankment at a distance of eight or ten feet, until near daylight, when they retired.

In the general movements of the army, as it closed upon Atlanta, they marched on the evening of the 26th, with the Army of the Tennessee around the rear of the Army of the Cumberland, which they joined on its right the next day, advancing by the left on the city. Having taken part in several skirmishes, as they advanced, the regiment bivouacked in line for the night. Next morning the forward movement



was continued until at the noon halt; the rebels attacked the fifteenth corps, then about two miles in advance. The 12th, which was immediately ordered to their rescue, advanced on the double quick and outstripped all other re-enforcements, arriving just in time to meet and check the onset of the confederates, which had succeeded in outflanking our troops. Taking their position on the right, they were soon joined by other bodies of men, and "the battle was on once more" and raged with great fury until sunset, when the "Johnnies" withdrew from the field, their successive charges on our lines having met with great slaughter.

Next day the 12th was relieved, and for a change was set to doing picket and fatigue duty in the trenches before Atlanta, constantly exposed to the rebel fire until the 26th of August, when they set out with the Army of the Tennessee, marching toward Sand-town, on the right, but next day their direction was changed to the southeast, and on the 27th they arrived at Fairburn. Having destroyed the Atlanta & West Point railroad at this point, they again took up the forward movement, and on the 31st of July, they arrived at Jonesboro, twenty-two miles from Atlanta, on the Macon & Western railroad, having been engaged in heavy skirmishing as they took up their position, and they formed in line between the seventeenth and eighteenth corps. Shortly after noon, the enemy attacked in heavy force, and after a severe battle, were repulsed, our troops occupying the ground during the night. During the battle at this point, on the 1st of September, the regiment occupied position on the extreme right of the seventeenth corps and sustained but slight loss. Next day they marched in pursuit of the enemy, who had retreated during the night, leaving his wounded, with many stragglers, upon the field. Having advanced six miles to Lovejoy, where the rebels had occupied a new position, strongly fortified, the regiment was ordered forward and drove the enemy's skirmishers from a wooded hill, upon which they had been posted, to the

main force, when line of battle was formed, in which the regiment retained position until the 5th. At this date, they marched on the return to Atlanta, near which they went into camp on the 8th, and remained until late in the fall.

But it would be needless to give all the history of this one of Wisconsin's most famous regiments, for it is well written in all the general histories of the war. Suffice it to say that after participating in all the campaigns around Atlanta, it took its way with the rest of Sherman's forces in that unparalleled march to the sea, and was, on the conclusion of hostilities, mustered out July 16, 1865, having suffered, while in the service, a loss of fifty-nine killed in action, thirty-two who died of wounds and 202 of disease.

Company B, 25th Wisconsin Infantry, was organized in July 1862. And on the 14th of September, at Camp Solomon, at Lacrosse, they were mustered into the service of the United States, with Col. Milton Montgomery as the head of the regiment and Captain W. H. Joslin as the commanding officer of the company. On the 19th of September they left the State with orders to report to Gen. John Pope, at St. Paul, Minn., to aid in suppressing the Indian difficulties in that State. After contributing to the preservation of tranquillity among the settlers, and airing the festive red-skin, they returned to the State and went into quarters at Camp Randall, where they arrived Dec. 18, 1862. Leaving there Feb. 17, 1863, for Cairo, whence they were taken to Columbus, Ky., and from there to join the army in the vicinity of Vicksburg. The regiment participated in the fatal mistake made by Sherman when he undertook to take the Yazoo bluffs, and had better success in the rear of Vicksburg. Here they remained, taking a hand in the trials and labors of that sanguinary siege, losing many a man from the diseases incident to that swampy ground. They enjoyed the spectacle of seeing the banner of the so-called Confederacy lowered from the heights of the city and

the stronghold of strongholds delivered unto their keeping.

They soon received marching orders and proceeded to Helena, Ark., where they remained employed principally in provost duty, until the 1st of February, 1864, when they embarked, and proceeding down the Mississippi, landed on the following day at Vicksburg. Marching with the celebrated Meridian expedition, under command of Gen. Sherman, they left that place on the 3rd, and moving across the State of Mississippi, reached Meridian on the 14th. After waiting here for two days the march was resumed, and the regiment arrived on the 26th at Canton, having marched a distance of 275 miles from Vicksburg. They left Canton on the 1st of March, and marched to Vicksburg where they again went into camp, and remained until the 13th, when they again embarked, going up the Mississippi river to Cairo, arriving there on the 20th. Here they received orders to proceed to Columbus, Ky., and had proceeded part of the way when they were countermanded and they were ordered to return, which they did. Re-embarking they proceeded up the Tennessee to Clump's landing, where they landed and bivouacked for the night. On the following day they marched thirteen miles to Purdy, Tenn., having met and routed a body of rebel cavalry under Col. Wisdom. They returned to the transports and the next day resumed their progress up the river. On the 2nd of April they landed at Waterloo, Ala., and marched thence to Decatur, where they had a sharp skirmish with the enemy on the 17th. At this point the regiment was stationed for guard duty until May 1st, when they started on a march through Huntsville, to Chattanooga, Tenn., arriving there on the 5th. They immediately moved forward to join our forces under Sherman and formed into line at Resaca on the 9th of May, under the fire of the rebel guns.

From this time until the evacuation of Resaca, they were constantly under fire. They participated in the battles of the 13th, 14th and

15th of May. After the decamping of the "boys in gray" they were pushed forward in pursuit, skirmishing every day until the 26th, when within two and one-half miles of Dallas, when forming in line shortly before noon, they were engaged in skirmishing until evening, when they advanced through Dallas, which had been abandoned by the enemy, and bivouacked for the night a short distance south of the town. On the 27th, they advanced to the front, and were engaged during the three following days in heavy skirmishing with the enemy, repulsing his attacks upon the picket line with heavy loss.

They occupied position in the front line until the 1st of June, when they were withdrawn from the trenches before daylight, and participating in the general movement to the left to turn the rebel position at Allatoona Pass, marched six miles to Pumpkin Vine creek, near which they bivouacked for the night, and on the afternoon of the following day changed position a mile to the right, where they were attacked by the enemy's batteries, which were soon silenced by our artillery. Crossing the stream on the 3d, they advanced four miles, and having erected breast-works during the night, occupied the position until the afternoon of the 5th, when they moved four miles to the right. Next day they were again put in motion, and passing through Ackworth, encamped nearly a mile from the town, remaining until the 10th, when they advanced four miles, accompanying the army of the Tennessee in the movement to break the rebel lines between Kenesaw and Pine mountains. On the following day, taking the lead of the second brigade, they advanced two miles to the railroad, where line of battle was formed with the enemy on their flank and front. While holding this position, company C was detailed at three in the morning of the 12th, to build rifle pits in front, which they finished by daylight, and next day company D was employed in opening a road through the woods in their rear for more convenient access to the teams. In the evening

companies C, H and K, occupied the front line of rifle pits, and on the 15th, companies B, D, F, G and I were thrown forward on the skirmish line, under command of Lieut. Col Rusk, the balance of the regiment taking possession in the evening, in the front line, whence they afterward moved forward to support the picket line against the anticipated advance of the enemy.

The enemy having abandoned his line on Lost Mountain, on the 17th, they advanced on the 19th across the rebel works in their front, and in the afternoon, advanced still farther towards Kenesaw Mountain, establishing position on the crest of a hill, which they proceeded to fortify. Here they were engaged in siege and fatigue duty, constantly exposed to the enemy's fire, until the morning of the 3d of July, when they were put in motion to accompany the movement of the Army of the Tennessee, on the right of our forces. Marching on the road between Kenesaw and Lost Mountains, they advanced three miles, where they constructed breastworks, and were ordered to support a battery, under heavy fire from the rebel artillery. They subsequently occupied the works in their front, which were abandoned by the enemy, and on the 5th continued the movement to the right. Marching on the Sandtown road, they encamped in the evening two and a half miles from the Chattahoochee river, remaining until the 7th, when they advanced two miles towards the river. They again moved on the 9th, and passing through Marietta, where they bivouacked for the night, forded the Chattahoochee on the following day, going into camp on the south side of the river.

Participating in the general advance of the army, they marched at noon on the 17th, and crossing the railroad next day, passed through Decatur on the 19th, encamping on the right of the Army of the Tennessee, in rear of Gen. Logan's command, on the following day. On the 21st, with a section of artillery, they moved back to Decatur, under orders to guard the flank

of the army trains, and next day companies B, E, F and I, of the 25th, with four companies of an Ohio regiment, moved forward on a reconnoissance, the enemy having been reported in heavy force on their front. Companies D and G being detached on picket duty, the remaining companies, C, H and K, with a battery of artillery, under command of Maj. Joslin, were left in charge of the camp. The enemy having advanced in greatly superior force (two divisions of Wheeler's corps), Col. Montgomery's command fell back to camp, and after a gallant resistance, the whole force retired to the town, and subsequently half a mile beyond, where the advance of the rebels was finally checked. The train was saved, but the regiment sustained a loss of fifteen killed, fifty-seven wounded, twenty-five missing, and three prisoners, among the latter of whom was Col. Montgomery, who was also severely wounded. On the 23d, having buried the dead, and provided for the wants of the wounded, they marched through the town, and proceeding two miles on the Atlanta road, erected breastworks, and bivouacked until the 25th, when they advanced three miles, encamping in line, protected by breastworks.

They were thenceforward constantly occupied in the active duties of the siege, until the evening of the 26th, when they were put in motion, accompanying the movement of the Army of the Tennessee. Continuing the march, they struck the Atlanta and West Point railroad near Fairburn on the 28th, and having spent the next day in destroying the road, they resumed the march, on the morning of the 30th, and advancing towards the Macon railroad, bivouacked for the night near Jonesboro. They were next day present at the battle of Jonesboro, but were not actively engaged. On the 2d of September, they moved forward eight miles in pursuit of the retreating enemy, when they fortified a position near Lovejoy Station, and remained until the 6th, at which date the return march was commenced. They arrived

on the 8th at East Point, six miles from Atlanta, on the Macon & Western railroad. They followed the flag and fortunes of that incomparable soldier, W. T. Sherman, to the sea, and were finally mustered out of the service June 7th, 1865.

#### THIRTY-SIXTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY, CO. II.

This regiment was recruited under the call of Feb. 1, 1864, for 500,000 men, was rapidly filled to the maximum, and organized under the superintendence of Col. Frank A. Haskell, previously adjutant of the 6th Wisconsin, whose muster into service as colonel dates from the 23d of March. After a short time employed in acquiring familiarity with their duties as soldiers, they left Camp Randall on the 10th of May. From Washington they proceeded on the 16th to the front, taking position on the 18th in the first brigade, second division, second army corps, the movements of which they have since accompanied.

It would be doing gross injustice to the gallant conduct of this, as well as other Wisconsin regiments, to attempt a detailed statement of their services, in the absence of the data furnished by a regimental report, but we will simply say that after participating in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac and James, and adding fresh laurels to the wreath of Wisconsin, they were mustered out July 12, 1865. A criterion of the trials of the regiment is the losses incurred while in the front, and is given by the official records as follows: Killed seventy-nine, died of wounds, forty-seven, died of disease, 170, and mustered out from physical debility and wounds, 214.

#### FORTY-SIXTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY, CO. II.

This regiment was organized and recruited under the call for volunteers for one year. The date of the muster-in was March, 1865. It participated in all the campaigns in Alabama and Tennessee, and was mustered out Sept. 25, 1865.

#### SIXTH WISCONSIN BATTERY.

The 6th Wisconsin Battery was principally recruited in the county of Richland, by Henry

Dillon, of Lone Rock, afterwards elected captain, and Samuel F. Clark, of Prairie du Sac, afterwards senior 1st lieutenant; though it drew volunteers from the adjoining counties of Grant, Iowa, Dane and Columbia. It was the first to receive its full quota of men, and instead of being numbered as the 6th, it should have been the 1st; but those in charge by some inadvertence failed to follow the prescribed line of "red tape," it failed to get its appropriate number.

The organization was perfected at Lone Rock by the election of officers, on the 25th of September, 1861. Henry Dillon was elected captain, S. F. Clark and Thomas R. Hood 1st lieutenants, and John W. Fancher and Daniel T. Noyes 2d lieutenants. Capt. Dillon was a veteran of the Mexican War, having been a member of the celebrated Bragg's Battery, officered at the time by George H. Thomas, T. W. Sherman and John F. Reynolds, all of whom were afterwards major-generals in the Union army. Lieuts. Clark and Fancher had seen service, having been members of the 1st Wisconsin Infantry—three months' volunteers.

The battery was ordered to rendezvous at Camp Utley, Racine, and left Lone Rock on the 30th of September. At Racine it was mustered into the United States service on the 1st of October, by Capt. Trowbridge, U. S. A. Here it was expected the battery would soon be equipped and sent to the front; but this hope proved to be a futile one, as weeks passed and the troops were not even uniformed. The thought of having to spend the winter in common army tents, exposed to the rigors of a Wisconsin winter, was not a pleasant one. The troops were poorly supplied with blankets, and the approach of winter brought much suffering; but kind friends at home were not unmindful of the comforts of the battery boys, and from thence they were soon amply supplied with clothing. Despite the forbidding aspect of camp life in winter, there were too many attractions in the city for time to pass heavily, so the winter passed pleasantly

and rapidly, and the approach of spring brought marching orders.

Left Racine on the 15th of March, 1862, for St. Louis, at which place stopped but two days, and proceeded under orders to New Madrid. Arrived at the latter place March 21st, and was temporarily assigned to Gen. John M. Palmer's division of Pope's corps. The siege of Island No. 10 was then in progress; and the battery being still unequipped for the field, was placed in charge of heavy guns at points along the river, to prevent re-enforcements or supplies from reaching the besieged army; and here they were engaged in several brisk skirmishes with the rebel gun boats.

After the surrender of Island No. 10, Capt. Dillon equipped the battery from a park of guns that had been left by rebels in their flight from New Madrid; and being furnished with horses, the organization was at last equipped for the field, though it remained in New Madrid, on garrison duty, until May 17th, when it embarked on transports, under orders, and proceeded up the Tennessee river to Hamburg landing, at which place it arrived on the 23d, and on the 26th moved to the main line investing Corinth, where, being assigned to Gen. Jeff. C. Davis' division, took up a position with Pope's besieging forces. After the evacuation of Corinth, joined in the pursuit of the retreating forces as far as Boonville, then returned to Rienzi, where it remained on garrison duty during the summer. Broke camp at Rienzi, October 1st, 1862, under orders to report to Gen. Hamilton at Corinth. Took part in the battle of Corinth, October 3d and 4th, going into battle with ninety-three effective men, and sustaining a loss of five killed, including one lieutenant, and twenty-one wounded. After the battle, had the ranks repleted by a detail of twenty-five men from the infantry, and joined in the pursuit of the retreating enemy, returning to Corinth on the 11th. Left Corinth November 2d, marching by the way of Grand Junction, Davis' Mills and LaGrange to Moscow,

Tenn. Participating in the general southward movement of Grant's army, passed through Holly Springs and encamped at Lumpkins' Mills; thence followed in pursuit of the enemy, who, having been flanked by a column under Sherman, were evacuating their works on the Tallahatchie and retreating southward. Went as far as the Yocona river, south of Oxford, Miss., when the sacking of Holly Springs, cutting off the base of supplies, caused a retrograde movement. Returned to Lumpkins' Mills, whence one section under Lieut. Clark was sent to Memphis, as escort to a supply train. The remainder of the battery returned to Holly Springs, and thence moved to LaFayette, Tenn., where it was rejoined by the section under Lieut. Clark. On the 2d of January, 1863, went into winter quarters at Buntyn's Station, five miles east of Memphis. Embarked at Memphis, March 1st, and proceeded down the river to Grand Lake, Ark., but returned and encamped on a sand bar opposite the head of the Yazoo pass, four miles below Helena, Ark., whence moved as a part of the Yazoo pass expedition, moving down the pass on transports as far as Greenwood, being nine days in the descent. Disembarked April 3d, and the next day one section under Lieut. Clark moved out and opened on the rebel fortifications. Being ordered to return, re-embarked that night, and early next day set out on the return, reaching the former rendezvous on the 9th of April. Re-embarking on the 13th, proceeded down the river to Milliken's Bend, La. Left the latter place on the 25th, and marched across the peninsula, arriving at the river below Grand Gulf on the 30th. Crossed the river May 1st, taking up the line of march for Port Gibson, the advance being then engaged at Thompson's Hill.

The battery was placed in a position to prevent a flank movement, but did not become actively engaged. On the 2d, pursued the retreating enemy through Port Gibson, as far as Bayou Pierre, where further progress was

checked by a burning bridge. The pursuit was resumed the next morning, the enemy making a stand near Willow Springs, where the battery silenced a rebel battery.

The enemy was driven across Black river, burning the bridge after them. On the 9th, resumed the march toward Jackson, participating in the battle of Raymond on the 12th and Jackson on the 14th, sustaining a loss of two wounded at the latter place.

Left Jackson next morning for Vicksburg, retracing our steps as far as Clinton, and on the 15th were again engaged on the hotly contested field of Champion Hills, sustaining a loss of two wounded. Followed the retreating forces to Black river, they destroying the bridge after them. Crossed the next day, and on the 19th reached the enemies fortifications surrounding Vicksburg. Took up a position at once and opened fire, being actively engaged every day during the siege, sustaining a loss of one killed and seven wounded.

After the surrender, remained in camp at Vicksburg until the 12th of September, when embarked on transports and proceeded up the river, under orders to re-enforce Gen. Steel at Little Rock, disembarking at Helena on the 15th. Little Rock being evacuated, remained in camp at Helena until the 26th, then embarked and proceeded up the river to Memphis. Left Memphis October 6th, under orders to report to Gen. Sherman at Glendale, Miss., from which place moved with the fifteenth army corps by the way of Inka, Miss., Florence, Ala., and Winchester, Tenn., to Chattanooga, arriving at the latter place on the 20th of November. Crossed the river above Chattanooga with Sherman's forces on the 24th, moving with the advance, and the same day one section was planted on the summit of Mission Ridge—the guns being drawn up by ropes—maintaining this position and being actively engaged throughout the battle of Mission Ridge. Joined in the pursuit on the 26th, following as far as Graysville, Ga., then returned to Chattanooga, where

the guns were turned over to the ordnance officer, having been condemned as worn out in service, prior to leaving Vicksburg.

Left Chattanooga December 2d, and returned to Bridgeport, where remained in camp until the 22d; then moved to Larkinsville, Ala., remaining there from the 26th of December to the 7th of January, 1864; then marched for Huntsville, where on the 9th went into winter quarters, here being equipped with a new battery of 12-pound Napoleon guns. Remained in Huntsville, on garrison duty, until June, one section being in the meantime sent to Whitesboro, on the Tennessee river, where they occasionally exchanged a few shells with the rebel forces on the other side. Left Huntsville on the 22d of June for the front, where active operations were in progress for the reduction of Atlanta; moving by rapid marches to Stevenson. Left Stevenson by railroad on the 30th of June, reaching Kingston, Ga., on the 2d of July, and went into camp. Left Kingston July 11th, and next day took up a position in the fortifications on the Etawah river, near Cartersville, where it remained during the summer.

Those of the original organization who had not re-enlisted under the call for veteran re-enlistment, left Cartersville on the 26th of September, under orders to proceed to Madison, Wis., to be mustered out for expiration of service. Reached Chattanooga and found the railroad track was torn up and in possession of a rebel force; so remained in the cars at Chattanooga a week, leaving on the night of October 3d, and reached Madison on the 10th. Here on the 10th day of October, 1864, the old organization was mustered out of service.

After the departure of the "boys of '61" the company was re-organized as a four gun battery by Lieut. Simpson, the rolls indicating two commissioned officers and ninety-six members, forty of whom were re-enlisted veterans. But the force in camp numbered but thirty-four men. For the next month the battery continued to garrison Fort Etawah subject to all the activi-

ties, dangers and uncertainties incident to an outpost in front of manœvering armies. Their railroad connections were continually being broken, their commissary supplies being very limited, both horses and men subsisted largely on the country, which was infested with guerillas and rebel cavalry.

The terrible battle of Altoona Pass fought on the 5th of October was within sight and hearing of Fort Etawah, the battery was held in readiness but was not called into action. Immediately after the battle Lieut. Simpson was despatched to Nashville for fresh horses and such other supplies as would put the battery in moving condition. Failing in this mission, on the 1st of November, there remaining twenty-three horses fit for service, they were turned over to the 12th battery, and on the 10th of November the battery proceeded by rail to Nashville, arriving in time to take an active part in the defense of that town against Hood, who invested the city soon after their arrival. Without horses and guns of their own, the men were ordered from point to point, manning guns that were stationed by mule teams. Superintending the construction of artillery defenses, bearing muskets, handling ammunition, etc. etc. This campaign exposed the men to much suffering and many privations. Not until after the decisive battle of December 17th and 18th did they go into permanent quarters near Fort Gillem. Capt. Hood assumed command of the company, Nov. 29. On the 17th of February 1865, the company was ordered to Chattanooga and went into permanent quarters with the artillery reserve corps of that department. The company was filled up with with a transfer of about fifty men mostly from the 3d and 8th Wisconsin batteries and were fully equipped as a mounted battery, and were kept busy with camp and drill duties until the 26th of June, when they were ordered to the State to be mustered out—whence they immediately proceeded under Capt. Simpson, who assumed command on the resignation of Capt. Hood, May 21st. The

company arrived in Madison, at 6, P. M., July 3d, whereupon the entire command "broke ranks" without orders. Very many of the boys were able to reach their homes in time to celebrate Independence Day. On July 6th, the company re-assembled at Madison and were formally mustered out of the service.

#### SECOND WISCONSIN CAVALRY

This regiment was organized March 12, 1862, with a total muster of 1,127 men, under the command of Col. C. C. Washburn, who was afterwards promoted to the rank of brigadier general; was engaged in the campaigns in Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. The movements of cavalry regiments are very difficult to follow, owing to the detached duty they are called on to perform. But it can be said of the 2d, that it never faltered when duty called, nor hesitated to follow when lead by its officers. The regiment was mustered out November, 1865, having lost during its campaigns: Killed in action, sixteen; died of wounds, four; died of disease, 265; died of accidents, 8; and a large loss by reason of discharges for disability.

#### RICHLAND COUNTY'S ROLL OF HONOR.

Among the citizen soldiers of Richland county, those who volunteered to save the country when its existence was threatened, are the following:

[Those marked *a*, were killed in action; *b*, died of wounds received in action; *c*, died of disease; *d*, died prisoner of war; *e*, killed by accident.]

#### FIFTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

##### *Company H.*

[Known as the "Scott Guards."]

Captain, Robert C. Hawkins

Lieutenants: George D. Lybrand, J. J. Turner *a*.

Sergeants: G. W. Bell, John McMurtrie (promoted captain) *a*, A. H. Robinson, G. L. Laws, E. C. Hungerford *a*.

Corporals: Thomas J. Edwards, Frank A. Moore, James M. Ewing *a*, Benjamin M. Law-

ton, William F. Hoyt *a*, Mathias Lawless (missing), E. P. Ryder, Frank Thomas.

Privates: J. L. Jones, R. P. Mathews, Jonathan Adams, James W. Austin, O. A. Atwood, A. H. Armore, Edwin Austin, Alexander Y. Babb, E. H. Downs *c*, M. L. Babb, Thomas J. Bass, W. H. Bennett, William Barries, Adam C. Bell, Adrian Bryant, Thomas Cooper, Henry Collins, A. Chismore *c*, John Douglass, J. G. Dunken, William Fazel *b*, Henry Fazel, Peter Fazel, J. F. Farland, John Frawley, John Gaston, Allen Graham *a*, H. C. Gray, Adelbert Helms, Alfred Hiatt, H. H. Hoyt, Edward Hoke *c*, Leander W. Handy, G. W. Henthorn, Charles Hickok, L. G. Householder, Henry M. Johnson, L. M. Jones, N. Kinyon (missing), H. C. Kyger (promoted to 1st sergeant), H. H. Lewis (transferred to company D), G. W. Lawton, H. A. Lamphear, H. J. Lawton, William Morrison, John Miller, G. W. Miller, M. S. Morrison, A. G. Mardin, G. W. Moore, E. A. Mack, J. G. Sweet, J. B. Shaffer, G. A. Shaw, William Landmyer, T. J. Shannon, G. L. Smith, Henry Vance, G. W. Wilsey, C. M. Woodcock (missing), George Jarvis, James Kinniff, A. C. Mayfield, G. W. Mayfield, G. L. Marshall, Frederick Moody, G. W. McPheters, W. H. McPheters, John R. Moon, A. W. Miller, W. A. Nicks *c*, O. N. Northrop, C. J. Ostrander, H. Osgood, Youngs Parfrey, J. P. Pool, F. M. Russell, Ami Shireman, Jonathan Spry, W. H. Shoonmaker *c*, W. A. Stafford, William Smith, A. L. Thomas, W. B. Walker, H. E. Walker, C. C. Kyger, James Kinney, George Bissell (promoted to captain).

ELEVENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company D.*

Captains: Jesse S. Miller (promoted major), Henry Toms.

Lieutenants: William Hill, William H. Dawson, A. A. Chamberlain, G. W. Dale, Hiram Freeman, Richard Caddell *a*.

Sergeants: James S. Robinson, Albert Carlton *c*, Nathan Hoyt *a*.

Privates: P. P. Fox, Jerman Tadder, Cornelius McCarthy, Richard Caddell, Ephraim

Alderman, George P. Magill *c*, Lysander Mathews, fifer; L. D. Dillingham, drummer *c*, Philip Acton *b*, George Alltaugh *a*, Calvin P. Alling, David Aylsworth, Perry Adney, William Allpress, Enos Barrett, Cyrus Butler, Seth Butler, Newel H. Bingham, John D. Beighle, drowned; David Barrett, David Briggs, Joseph Brace *b*, Joseph Burke *c*, J. D. Brannan *c*, Thomas Bond *c*, William Collins, Daniel F. Coats, Dighton Chesemore, Israel Cooper *c*, William M. Core, John J. Conkel, Daniel Conkel, Judson Cook, John M. Doudna, David Fogo, James Fazel, R. J. Fowler, James W. Fox, Charles Fife *c*, John Gwin, Jerome Grimes, John Gray, James A. Huffman, Joseph M. Huffman, Daniel W. Huffman *c*, Charles Hamblin, Albert Hoke, David J. Heckandom, John M. Jaquish, Andrew J. Kinney, Renal E. Kimball, Delos Lyons, Carey D. Lyons *c*, William H. Miller, William Mapes, James S. Magill, Amzi McClintock, F. M. Morrison, Jacob Mann, John Mahler, G. N. Mickel, Angus Noble *c*, G. Norman, Edwin W. Owens, William Parsons, John Riesebeck, James S. Robinson, John M. Robinson, Robert T. Robinson, Benjamin E. Robinson *c*, John S. Robinson, George W. Rinehart *c*, William A. Sharp *c*, Benjamin F. Slater, Ander Snyder, Franklin Snyder, Benedict Southin *a*, Martin V. B. Smith *c*, Ansel L. Standish, Charles A. Stevens, Benjamin B. Sutton, J. Dary, William Sullivan *c*, James W. Thompson, Edwin Tepier, Thomas Barzillai, Benjamin Williams, George C. White *a*, Henry Widner *c*, Martin Widner, Peter Ward *c*, Casper Zerving, Levi J. Leach, John Thomas, W. Bennett *c*, W. H. Campbell, W. Hill *c*, James L. Miller, R. Smalley *c*, L. Berry, J. M. Fruit, P. Hebert, J. McKey, W. Sellers, V. Ewing, H. H. Wood, Benjamin F. Thompson, Alfred Titus *c*, Isaac Talbot, Robert J. Wilson, Comfort E. Walker *c*, Edward C. White *c*, George A. Waddell, Peter York, William Hill, Daniel Matoecin, R. Amery *c*, J. Creckpan *c*, A. Campbell *c*, M. D. Hankins, J. W. Kennedy *a*, Joseph M. Kennedy *a*, Daniel Smalley *c*, T. Berry, W. Favorite, D. T.



Lindley, W. Moon, J. W. Southard, J. A. Loveless, S. Wiltrout, W. Yeager.

*Company G.*

Robert King, Alexand Strond, John S. Welsh.

*Company H.*

Captains : Alexander Christie, James O'Neal.

Lieutenants : E. H. Mix, Charles Allen, C. A. Johnson e, John E. Lyon, R. J. Wright, promoted captain, William N. Gates.

Sergeants : C. A. Bacon a, W. H. Jacobus a, C. Brunaller a, G. Parsons e, R. C. Phillips e,

Corporals : B. P. Benson e, W. N. Fay e, J. Hughbanks e, D. S. Washburn e.

Privates : E. Ackerman e, S. Almy e, William Bilke, H. C. Baker, R. Bacon, H. C. Blaker, E. W. Bidwell e, Frederick Bauer, A. Colborn e, C. A. Cox, William A. Delap e, James S. Dickenson, John Faith e, G. W. Faith e, F. N. Hartson a, Frederick Holzinger, R. Hornby e, John E. Jones e, Benajah Johnson, William Kent e, F. Langdon e, J. K. Lum, A. C. Miller e, W. Mather e, W. McElroy e, William P. Newman e, D. H. Olmstead e, J. W. Perkins, W. H. Powderly e, Hiram Porter e, S. M. Quaw, O. S. Robinson e, William L. Richards, G. Richardson e, William Risk, P. Richardson e, Horace Sheldon e, J. P. Spaulding, Reuben G. Sawyer e, Orison Washburn, W. H. Walters, E. C. Wheelock e, I. P. Camp, J. L. Lavigne, J. Dingman, H. S. Brown, Robert Clark, B. Sutton, B. F. Rice, B. P. Benson, Henderson Faith, Pinckney Sutton, George Gray, William Gates.

TWELFTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company I.*

Captain, Van S. Bennett.

Lieutenants: Salma Rogers, Irvin Gribble, Francis Hoyt.

Privates: Eli McVey, Elias Darnell, Jacob Benn, J. S. Kanable, E. P. Bender, J. C. Bender, H. A. Shaffer, W. S. Snow, E. B. Tenney, William Ogden, Silas Benjamin, Albert Savage, John Moon, John A. Thorp e, Ephraim Sanford, Charles Toptine e, H. J. Keepers, Remmsalae Brewer, Laal Clift, M. P. Clift, D. B. Sommers, L. M. Keepers e, D. Yakey, William T. Dob-

son e, John Henthorn e, T. S. Jordan, S. F. Moon a, G. S. Marshall e, Neal Pettygrove, Thomas Dean a, J. B. Sommers, Angus Barelay, Russell Francis, James E. Mace, T. R. Beighle, L. M. Mallette, Launcelot Coggin e, John D. Welker, F. B. Clark, W. J. Woodruff, Jerome Fetterley, Abner Thorp e, J. C. Toptine e, C. H. Thompson e, David Tenney e, A. B. Tyler e, John A. Thorp e, Henry Wempner e, A. W. West, A. C. Wempner e, Thomas Skinner.

TWENTY-FIFTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company B.*

Captain, W. H. Joslin (promoted to major and brevet lieutenant-colonel).

Lieutenants: William Roush, W. H. Bennett (promoted to captain) d.

Orderly Sergeants: W. C. S. Barron (promoted to captain), E. A. Houstain (promoted to 1st lieutenant), John A. Mark e, E. A. Clark e, Adam Albaugh e.

Corporals: W. M. Gault e, Edward B. Waggoner (promoted to 2d lieutenant), Robert D. Robinson, Robert M. Classin, Abram Miller, Edward Morris, Ansley Wallace e, James R. McMahan e.

Musicians: Norman Collins, John W. Basye. Teamster, G. Laymon.

Privates: Harry Austin, Simon S. Blake, John Bolenbaugh e, Peter Bolenbaugh, Israel Breese, W. S. Breese a, L. D. Browning, Jesse G. Bunnell (to sergeant), Newton Chesemore, Ole Chistophson e, Stephen V. Craig e, Lewis Craigo, J. J. Crandall e, W. Crandall e, Jacob Dickason e, Jacob Dix, Shadrach Dix e, Ellridge Dodge e, John Fitzgerald (promoted to adjutant), Isaac Fish e, William Fisher, George W. Freeman e, David Graham e, Benjamin Gray e, Enoch Gray, Charles C. Higgins e, Walter A. Holbrook e, W. M. Hough e, Robert F. Hurd, David Hough, Thomas D. James e, Benjamin B. Jewell e, John Johnson, Jesse Jones e, Alexander Jones e, O. Klingler, Samuel Kramer, John M. Lewis, Samuel Q. Lewis e, Franklin E. Lyons, Henry W. Marden, Samuel Marshal, Greene Mayfield, John McKay, John McNelly e, Ira W. Merrill,

Charles Mills, George Miller, John Sherer, Francis T. Skinner, Albert W. Stockton, Emanuel Taylor, Jacob Van Pool, Daniel Wallace *c*, Stephen J. Wallace *c*, John W. Wildemouthe *c*, Jacob Yonder, Horace Alby, Peter F. C. Bartle, George Myers *a*, Joseph Moody, John D. Nicks, Robert J. Nimmick, Ole Oleson *a*, E. E. Ottawa-way, Ole Paulson *c*, E. Pierson, W. R. Peckham, Charles W. Peckham, Peter Penny, George E. Perkins, George L. Ramsdell, John Reeves, *c*, W. F. Rose, Frank E. Seeley, Thornton J. Smith, David R. Taplin, Albert Truesdell *c*, William Waddell, Hiram Wallace *c*, M. J. Welton *c*, DeWitt C. Wood, John Young, O. M. Byington, John D. Brockover, James A. Blair, John C. Bock, William E. Classin, John Craig, Edmund Doseh, Darius P. David, Martin Gray, Ansel Hurlburt, Thomas Harris, Ole Hangeson, Albert J. Hoyt, James Lewis, George T. Logue, Adam J. Logue, John M. Logue, John L. S. Logue, Warner C. Moore, Robert C. McKinney, Neal Pettygrove *c*, Samuel J. Robinson, Cutler Salmon, Albert W. Willetts, William Racy *a*, William E. Booth, R. F. Carver, Dolas Colwin, John Cove, Cassius C. Dean, Marcus P. David, David G. Gillis, William Willoughby, James M. Waldeck, George W. Wilsey, Andrew Young, M. Bennett, J. Lafayette Hoyt *c*, James W. Joslin, Timothy Manning *b*, J. M. Sutton *c*, H. S. Milner, Joseph C. Privet, James K. Purcell, C. C. Sutton, William Wright *c*, Henry Gear *b*, Seth Rogers, Andrew E. Oleson *c*, Christian Munson, *c*, Julius C. Jenks *c*, George W. Breese, William Brown *c*, J. M. Keepers, William Perrigo, W. W. Sanborn.

Quartermaster : W. H. Downs.

*Company B.*

Privates: J. W. Wildermouthe, George W. Freeman *c*, Henry Scher *a*.

*Company F.*

Private: Aaron Sutton *c*.

THIRTY-SIXTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Lieutenants: A. S. Ripley, James F. Lann.  
Privates: J. W. Barrett, E. C. Bristol, Wil-

liam Davolt, Adam Fry, J. A. Hill, B. C. Hallin, M. Hoe, E. J. Long, Joseph Miller, C. H. Pearce, C. H. Rist, J. P. Rollet, Ezra Reagles, A. C. Weston, John Welsh, Patrick Wallace, J. D. Fazel, David W. Davis *c*, W. T. Lewis *c*, George W. Ferris, Ezra S. Bailey *c*, Daniel A. Diball *a*, Henry J. Haydon *c*, A. C. Sheble, Daniel Beggs *c*, John Black *a*, Daniel Graves *c*, John Jacobs *c*, A. J. McNurlen *c*, J. C. McIntire *c*, J. B. Norris *c*, John Rosenbaum *c*, George M. Wright *c*, A. J. W. Wood *c*, John G. Wood *c*, Peter Hamilton, James Bolton *c*, C. F. Smith *c*.

*Company B.*

Privates: Samuel Drake, William Recobs, George Kite, Thomas Hesler.

*Company C.*

Private: Michael Hull.

*Company H.*

Captain: Austin Cannon.

Lieutenants: Cyrus Peck, G. S. Morris, James G. Merrill.

Privates: Samuel W. Hill, O. P. Peck, Samuel Bovee, A. H. Bush, Patrick Dargan *c*, T. A. Dunston, Alfred H. Dow, John D. Fazel, Solomon Flick, John Gordon, Leo W. Mayfield, M. Munson, O. A. Northrup, Edward B. Parrish, John G. Parrish, John Popp, James A. Parrish, R. J. Passmore *a*, Samues A. Pease *c*, Cornelius Stetler, Eli Stewart, M. Vandusen *a*, Stephen Welsh, John E. Howell, E. D. Tichenor *c*, S. W. Hill, Lester C. Jacobs *c*, Samuel Oleson *c*, M. C. Lull *c*, Fred Acken *a*, John Brennan *c*, Alanson Dagett *c*.

SIXTH WISCONSIN BATTERY.

Captain, Henry Dillon.

Lieutenants: Samuel F. Clark, Thomas R. Hood, John W. Fancher, Daniel T. Noyes *a*, James G. Simpson, John Jenawein, Sylvester E. Sweet, Alta S. Sweet, L. N. Keeler.

Privates: Alonzo B. Avery (bugler), Riley O. Allen, O. J. Burnham (bugler), Byron Babcock, James H. Bailey, W. M. Bailey, Fred T. Baker, George W. Barney *a*, James Bratt, John L. Bennett, S. Beaver (corporal), Lorenzo Beck

with, Edward R. Bell, Victor A. Bennett, Christian Berger, Henry J. Bynes, George A. Bickford, William S. Booth *c*, William H. Booth, Robert L. Booth, A. P. Briggs, George D. Brown *a*, Edgar E. J. Burdick, Christian Burga, E. M. Burnham, E. W. Barbarin, W. A. Burnham bugler, Bradley Benson *c*, Henry P. Bowers, Marion Baneroft, George W. Benedict, Orman W. Bush, Frank Benoit, Robert E. Zanks *c*, B. F. Brown, corporal, Luman H. Calkins, Coulter Campbell *c*, John Campbell, R. B. Carpenter, John B. Chaffee, A. M. Clayman, Levi Clayman, William Colborn, A. P. Clayton, D. L. Carpenter, William Cavens, Silas S. Caspar, Avery Colborn, John Colborn, Edgar P. Dixon, James Doyle, Ferdinand Daggett, George D. Dalrymple, Silas C. Davis, Herman Demmer, Augustus Dilley, W. H. Dowden, H. P. Dunning, M. Dziejowski, sergeant, Rezin L. Dye, corporal, Daniel J. Davis, Henry W. Dunning, Addison W. Day, Evan W. Evans, John C. Eagion, Albert D. Elston, David Evans, Isaiah Emerson, Levi J. Emerson, George Fisher, Hugh Flannery, John A. Flemme, Jules Francois, Stephen A. Ferris, Charles H. Fernald, Francis Francois, Sylvester J. Gould *a*, Daniel Goodwin, sergeant, Thomas Goodman, Peter Green, Henry T. Grinnell, E. A. Grover, Charles H. Gerhart, Robert Grey, Daniel W. Grey, George W. Grey, Henry C. Gardner, A. J. Gardner, George W. Giles, William A. Gordon; Sergeants: J. G. S. Hayward, Sidney Hawxhurst, Joseph M. Hood, William H. Hamilton (promoted to lieutenant-colonel), Alexander J. Hood, Charles Hutchinson, and L. Bruce Honn *a*, corporals; John T. Higgins, N. B. Hood, corporal, Edgar F. Hayes, Edgar K. Hill, corporal, Watson T. Hays, Albert Hauxhurst *c*, Asa Hatch, Andrew Herron, Thomas J. Hungerford, Edwin Hungerford *c*, Milton Hungerford, R. Hammond, George T. Hill, E. J. Herdman, William H. Harrington, Daniel W. Hays, John J. Hazard, John G. Haskins *c*, Albert Hurd, William H. Holmes, Jonathan O. Ide, John B. Jackson,

Hiram P. James, corporal, George B. Jones, Wilder B. Jacobs, Thomas C. Jackson, Benjamin I. Johnson *c*, J. L. Jones, Griffith Jones, Enoch Johnson *c*, Thomas R. Jones, N. B. Jaquish, Henry S. Keene, quartermaster sergeant, John Keller, August H. Knapp, corporal, Jacob Kencig *c*, Andrew J. King, Fred King, Franklin King *a*, Joseph Lester, Michael Larsen, Lyman Leach, Robert H. Lloyd, Samuel F. Landon, Jay G. Lambertson, Fred Malish, quartermaster sergeant, John C. McCann, Lewis H. Miller, Henry W. Miller *c*, Andrew J. Morse *c*, P. B. Moss *c*, Patrick McMahan, Hiram M. Morey, Michael W. Murphy *c*, Armstrong Moore, J. Marden *c*, A. W. Maxwell, Charles K. Maxwell, Charles F. Neefe, corporal, Julius F. Neefe, Nelson Newbury, Edward J. Orr, John H. Price, William N. Piper, Frank W. Parrish, Jerome E. Parker, John W. Proctor, R. M. Proctor, E. J. D. Perry *c*, Alva B. Page *a*, Charles H. Pickard, D. A. Paddleford, H. R. Phillips, W. Phetterplace, J. O. Phetterplace, Alexander Ray, William Runyon, Edwin Ricker, C. E. Richardson, Alonzo Rose, Moses Rose *c*, Alfred Rich, Benjamin F. Runyon, John W. Robson, Byron W. Reynolds, J. B. Rogers, *c*, Levi Reed, Henry Robson, Rollin Randolph, Ernest Reynolds, Ozin Stoel, D. S. Stewart, Alpheus Sanderson, S. A. Sanderson, Fred. C. Schmidt, Luzi Schneller, P. J. Seiders, Henry Sigrist, Hiram W. Sheldon, Asa Sheldon, George W. Spencer *a*, Cris. Stolz, Fred Swartz, Aaron Southard, William B. Southard, William A. Stewart, John S. Stewart, Alexander Stevans, George W. Simonds, John H. Seiders, N. L. Sweet, John M. Sweet, Byron W. Telfair, Charles E. Trowbridge, Menzo Tenant *b*, Augustus Trunkhill, Gilbert L. Thomas *a*, Griffith, Thomas, Benjamin Tutin, Levi Verneps, I. VanBrocklin, C. B. Worthington, corporal, David Wallace, Hiram Wallace, P. J. Walport, Martin Weaver *c*, Abram Weaver, Solomon F. Wheeler *c*, H. F. Wheeler, William W. Wyman, E. S. Williams, A. F. Wentworth, John Wolf *a*, George Weller, William West.

## FORTY-SIXTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company H.*

Captain, A. Hoskins.

Lieutenants: Steven Norris, John J. Bovee, Fred S. Lovell, A. B. Smedley, Charles H. Ford, William G. Ritch, N. Stewart, D. DuBois, D. L. Downs, G. R. Turner.

Sergeants: George W. Lawton, James M. Hoskins, William Ogden, John Hart, D. W. Richardson.

Corporals: Arthur B. Ewing, Richard Lawton, William Turnipseed, Thomas L. Dobson, Thomas M. McCarthy, J. R. Burgett, Ransom N. Francis, William W. Lilly.

Musician, Daniel U. Withrow.

Privates: Jonathan Turner, Elijah Allbaugh, David Anstin, Marshall Anstin, E. J. Barnett, William Barnett, Joshua Barnett, William J. Barnett, William J. Baker, Hiram Bender, Elias E. Bender, Aaron Boman, Jr., Joseph Benton, Jr., V. L. Benjamin, Henry L. Bevier, James R. Campbell, John A. Carpenter, William H. Clift, George Clark, Hugh M. Clark, Joshua Clark, Benona Davenport, Robert Drake, A. M. Deets, Alonzo De Pee, Nathaniel Ewing, John Ewing, Stephen Foard, Samuel Fetty, William Fairbrother, Oliver Guess, Abner Gray, Louis Herbert, Olney Hoskins, Edwin P. Handy, Albert Hopkins, Albert Howe, Emmett Jaquish, F. G. Lawton, Willett Lopen, Michael Lynch, John A. Morrow, St. Clair S. Miller, John M. Miller, Orrin Mallette, William Minett, Elijah Merry, Ambrose Osborne, Elias Peckham, Lawrence Roach, Calvin P. Rice, Jonathan Stout, Simon P. Spry, James G. Slater, Jasper N. Smith, Mahlon Stewart, Harvey Smith, Noble Sugdon, C. D. Stewart, David Thompson, Olivier Totten, Joseph Thornton, Thomas W. Todd, David Vance, William Wulfin, Jesse W. Wentz, Thomas Whiteraft, Benjamin Winegardner, H. J. Welker, Fernando Walker, J. S. Waller.

## SECOND WISCONSIN CAVALRY.

*Company F.*

Captains: Charles M. Palmer, Newton DeForest, R. R. Hamilton, Francis M. Poynter.

Lieutenants: H. W. Wadsworth, M. F. Cutting, Thomas H. Damon *c*, George H. Stem, J. R. Trusdale.

Privates: J. H. Waggoner, W. M. Fogo, Nicholas N. Pelton *c*, James Ripperdam *c*, James Logue *c*, Nathan L. Beele *c*, William Bartle *c*, Walter Bowe William D. Birge *c*, Garrett Joseph Cody *c*, Craigo, Joseph M. Cringo, Harvey F. Decker *a*, L. Davis *c*, Alvarado Goodwin *b*, John J. Jeffrey *c*, B. F. Lilly, John M. Long *c*, Michael McDonald Andrew Halstinson *c* John U. Hewitt *c*, George McKenzie *c*, Willis Maze *c*, Henry Moll *c*, George McGuire *c*, A. McAllister *c*, John H. H. McFarlin, James Nelson, William J. Noble Joseph A. Pettet *c*, Miles Palmer, Joseph Squires *c*, M. B. Sweep *c*, T. F. Shepherd, George W. Washburn *c*, Levi Bump *c*, H. G. Myers, William W. Harvey, L. Furstenberg, Walter Palmer, L. A. Mathews, Orrin Welton, Joseph Trusdale, D. J. O'Hara, N. J. Weller, Thomas Graham, Thomas Kanouse, Lyman Creed, Allen Brewer, Arthur Culver, Joseph Thompson, R. J. Allen, James Poole, F. D. Fowler, V. D. Niles, N. D. Ward, William Nichols, Frank Harris, Francis Patch, I. R. Trusdale 2d lieutenant, Gerge R. Mitchell, surgeon, William Ward, Willis Brewer, H. G. Hewett, Theodore Wharton, John McKane, Alexander Smith, W. T. Kinney, Joseph Kerris, Joseph Craig.

## THIRD WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company F.*

Alfred Beckwith, Henry Allen.

## SIXTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Allison Fowler *a*, J. O. Keys *a*.

*Company E.*

Peter Hamilton, Joseph Denmon, Jr.

*Company K.*

Joseph Kennedy, R. M. Brown.

## SEVENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company O.*

Henry Colbert.

*Company F.*

John A. Drew.

EIGHTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

Dr. A. W. Bickford, surgeon.

*Company F.*

Benjamin F. Groves *b*, Eli M. Groves, died,  
W. C. Groves *c*.

TENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company G.*

I. T. Potts *c*, H. H. Benson.

*Company K.*

T. Tallage.

THIRTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

P. Burns.

SIXTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company C.*

D. G. James, N. L. James.

*Company D.*

Henry Wildermouth *c*.

*Company F.*

Rodolph Martin, lieutenant.; A. T. Northrup  
*a*.

SEVENTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY

*Company I.*

William Blackman.

*Company F.*

James Morlan.

EIGHTEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

M. B. H. Cunningham.

NINETEENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

G. W. Cooper.

*Company B.*

Ira Monroe.

UNASSIGNED.

William Knapp, David Ogden.

TWENTIETH WISCONSIN INFANTRY.

*Company B.*

A. Bingham *c*, Joseph Moon *c*, Henry Fazel.

FIRST WISCONSIN HEAVY ARTILERY.

*Company C.*

Privates: H. A. Culver, George W. Putnam,  
Miner Robinson, W. G. James.

*Company A.*

Privates: Norman Markley, Andrew J.  
Reeves.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Thomas Armstrong, company D, 22d Wis-  
consin Infantry; George Miller, company B,  
25th Wisconsin Infantry; Seth Butler, 29th  
Wisconsin Infantry; B. B. Brownell, 31st Wis-  
consin Infantry; L. Williams, company H, 31st  
Wisconsin Infantry; E. H. Liscim, 33d Wis-  
consin Infantry; C. E. Clossin, company G,  
33d Wisconsin Infantry; J. Sennett, 33d Wis-  
consin Infantry; George Hoke, 37th Wisconsin  
Infantry; Lewis Henry, company C, 38th Wis-  
consin Infantry; L. Sippy, company B, 40th  
Wisconsin Infantry; W. M. Fogo, 42d Wis-  
consin Infantry; N. M. Tenney, 43d Wisconsin  
Infantry; Henry Tenney, 43d Wisconsin In-  
fantry; Henry Collins, company F, 43d Wiscon-  
sin Infantry; Charles M. Collins, company F, 43d  
Wisconsin Infantry; John Walworth, chaplain,  
43d Wisconsin Infantry; William Minett, com-  
pany H, 46th Wisconsin Infantry; W. B.  
Hoyes, 49th Wisconsin Infantry; W. H. Wey,  
50th Wisconsin Infantry; W. F. Fisher, com-  
pany A, 50th Wisconsin Infantry; George J.  
Jarvis, 3d Wisconsin Battery; D. P. Nichols,  
4th Wisconsin Battery; George W. Alvord, 7th  
Wisconsin Battery; Alexander Craig, 7th Wis-  
consin Battery; Charles Gale, 7th Wisconsin  
Battery; George W. Mayfield, Iowa Cavalry;  
John Dondna, Iowa Infantry; W. J. Burchamer,  
company A, 10th West Virginia Infantry; Sol  
Townsend, company C, 4th West Virginia In-  
fantry; J. W. Watts, company G, 9th Indiana  
Infantry; N. Bingham, company K, 156th Illi-  
nois Infantry; M. L. Sherman, company K, 52d  
Illinois Infantry; A. G. Pate, 38th Illinois In-  
fantry; C. G. Mickle, 4th Minnesota Infantry;  
E. J. Davis, company E, 20th Iowa Infantry;  
John Seewright, company K, 24th Iowa In-  
fantry; J. A. Burns, company H, 101st Indiana  
Infantry; George Hamblin, 11th Illinois In-  
fantry.

## CHAPTER XIV.

## THE HONORED PIONEER DEAD.

In this chapter it is not the design to mention or to give a sketch of all the deceased pioneers of Richland county, but to briefly sketch the lives of some of those who have been called hence, to whom it has not been convenient to refer at length in other connections. Yet many of those who are here noted, of necessity receive attention elsewhere, as their deeds have indissolubly connected their names with the progress and development of Richland county, and therefore all matters treated of in this volume. Sketches of old settlers who are deceased, which do not appear in this chapter, will be found elsewhere, either in the town or general county history.

## PIONEER DEAD.

Alexander Sires died at the residence of F. M. Stewart, in Henrietta, on the 11th of April, 1869, aged about seventy-three years. Mr. Sires was one of the first settlers in the northern part of Richland county. He laid out the village of Siresville, now Woodstock, and it was first named after him.

E. P. Young, one of the pioneers of Richland county, died at Richland Centre on the 24th of June, 1870. E. P. Young was of Quaker parentage. He was born in the State of New Jersey, in 1798. When about eleven years of age he emigrated with his parents to the then "far west," and settled in Knox county, Ohio. Here he continued to reside until 1852, when he removed to Richland City, Wis. Three or four years later he came to Richland Centre, where he spent the evening of his days. When about thirty years of age, under the ministry of that

eminent divine, Rev. James Scott, he united with the Presbyterian Church, and for nearly forty years, at Frederickstown, Ohio, at Richland City and Richland Centre, he was a ruling elder in the house of God. He held the respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends, and his death, while not unexpected, was sincerely mourned.

On the 11th of December, 1870, John Worth, an old and highly esteemed resident of Ithaca, died.

David Jaquish died at the residence of his son in Madison, in April, 1875. Mr. Jaquish was a pioneer and a veteran. He has served as a soldier in the war of 1812. For over twenty years his home was in Richland county, at the time of his death, being a resident of the town of Ithaca. He was eighty-three years old.

On Saturday, May 22, 1875 D. A. Johns, of the town of Eagle, after getting into his wagon to drive home from Richland Centre, was taken with an apoplectic fit. He was carried home the same evening insensible and died the following day, May 23, 1875. Mr. Johns was seventy-seven years of age, and had been a resident of Richland county for twenty-two years. He was an industrious peaceable citizen, much esteemed by his neighbors and acquaintances for his social qualities and uniformly upright life. He left an aged wife and several children. Thus passed to his rest another of the pioneers of Richland county, whose industry had provided a good home for his family, and left an example worthy of memory and imitation.

Died—on the 30th of August, 1875, Michael Ghormley, one of the oldest settlers in the town of Henrietta, aged seventy-nine years. He left a wife in her eighty-sixth year, one son, James Ghormley, and many other relatives and friends to mourn his loss. He was beloved by all who knew him. He was noted for his piety and Christian example, and died as he lived—a Christian.

Morris Sexton died in the town of Buena Vista, March 1, 1876, of paralysis, aged sixty-two years. Mr. Sexton was a native of the State of New York. He came to Wisconsin in 1849, and made a settlement at what is now known as the village of Sextonville, the place being named in honor of him as its founder. He erected and opened the first house of public entertainment on the Black river road north of the Wisconsin river. There his native energy and enterprise found ample opportunity for development in making improvements, laying out roads and inducing emigration. Being well adapted to pioneer life, he seemed much attached to its excitements and highly enjoyed its various duties and responsibilities, and secured the confidence and esteem, by his uniform kindness and liberality to the needy, of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Though past the meridian of life, he still fondly cherished the remembrance of his pioneer experience and as infirmity and reverses had cast a shade over his prospects he naturally sought sympathy with nature in the hope of finding again some of the bright days of his pioneer life, and in 1873 he removed to Barron county in the northwest part of the State. About three weeks before his death Mr. Sexton came here in company with his wife to visit his old home and many friends. Here his health which had been for some time impaired, entirely failed, and, as stated, he died on the 1st of March.

During the early part of September, 1876, the following pioneers died:—Alexander Chisholm, and Mrs. M. Copenheifer, of Fancy Creek, and Willis P. Breese, of Orion.

Miles Randall died in the town of Willow, Jan. 9, 1877, aged fifty-seven years. Mr. Randall was one of the early settlers of the county, having moved here with his family in 1855. He had been an invalid for seven years previous to his death, and had not been able to even feed himself.

Henry B. DeHart, of the town of Bloom, died on the 3d of January, 1877, aged seventy years. Mr. DeHart had been a resident of the town of Bloom for about twenty-two years, having with his family located there when it was a wilderness, and had cheerfully borne the burdens incident to pioneer life. He was highly esteemed by a large circle of friends. He left a mother-in-law, eighty-one years of age, and three sons.

Jacob Simons died at his residence near Sairs mills, July 14, 1877, aged eighty-five years. "Father" Simons, as he was called, was born in the State of New York. He came to Wisconsin in 1842 and became a resident of Richland county. He had been a professor of religion for sixty-three years, of the Disciple Church. He was a consistent Christian, lived what he professed, and died in the assurance that his work on earth was well done. He was loved and respected by all who knew him. His funeral took place at Woodstock and was conducted by Rev. G. G. Hamilton.

John C. Davis, another of the pioneers, died in the town of Rockbridge, Oct. 14, 1877, aged fifty-one years. Mr. Davis resided in this county for over twenty years. In 1864 he went into the army, was assigned to company K, 17th Wisconsin regiment, and went with Gen. Sherman in his march to the sea. While in the service he contracted a disease from which he never recovered and which was evidently the cause of his last sickness and death. Mr. Davis was much esteemed by a very large circle of friends and acquaintances.

William H. Downs died Nov. 5, 1877. Mr. Downs was born near Chillicothe, Ohio, in 1819, and had only such opportunities of educa-

tion as the new country afforded at that time; but these he improved to the best advantage. He made choice of the carpenter and joiner's trade as his occupation, and in early life he settled at Bellefontaine, Ohio, and resided there while he remained in that State. In 1855, in company with a number of other families (most of whom are still residents here), he came to this county with his family, and located where Richland Center now is, and took an active part in all the improvements and interests of the growing town, which at times seemed destined to struggle hard for even a subsistence, but in all these trials and hardships he was always actively engaged for the general good, hopeful and cheerful. In 1861, when the War of the Rebellion was inaugurated and a call was made by President Lincoln for volunteers to preserve the Union, Mr. Downs was among the first to enroll his name to defend the flag of our Nation and perpetuate our constitutional compact. He was assigned to the 25th regiment of Infantry, in which he soon received the appointment of quartermaster, in which capacity he served about three years, much to his own credit and the general satisfaction of the regiment, showing excellent qualification for the office. In the second year of the war he consented that his only son should enroll his name as a volunteer, and was received as a drummer; but Eddie's career was only a few months, for he died in camp quite suddenly from some disease which seemed not to be fully understood by the surgeons. This was a sad and heartfelt bereavement to the family, and especially to Mr. Downs—a sacrifice which he laid upon the altar of his country that few could appreciate, a sacrifice of priceless value, and doting parents only could realize its magnitude. The loss of his only son and the long exposures of camp life were obviously preying upon the health and constitution, which had until then seemed to be proof against all hardships, and it was necessary to seek for rest and some recuperative process to sustain life, and he accordingly re-

turned to his home, but he never seemed to regain that strength of body and vivacity of mind which were so peculiar to him in former years. The seeds of disease were evidently sown in the constitution, which medical skill could not eradicate. The community was greatly startled and thrown into profound sorrow Monday, Nov. 5, 1877, at the news that one of the oldest and most prominent citizens had passed away very suddenly while sitting in his chair. While it was well known that he was in feeble health, and that he might pass away at any time, none anticipated that his disease would culminate so suddenly. But two days before his death he was about as usual. He seemed to realize his feeble condition greater than did any who surrounded him, for in his memorandum of the previous Thursday he wrote: "My last day at the office." And true enough it was the last! Some years before, he had a partial stroke of paralysis, from which he never fully recovered, and since which time he had been subject to bad spells. Mr. Downs has held several offices of trust, with honor to himself and profit to his fellow citizens. For some years he held the office of postmaster in this village, and soon after his return from the army he was elected as justice of the peace, not more by the sympathies of his fellow citizens than a conviction of his unquestioned integrity and qualifications for the discharge of the duties of the office, which he held until his decease. In the several relations of life Mr. Downs was much esteemed. As a neighbor he was kind and obliging; in his friendships, true and charitable; in his family, considerate and indulgent. His home was a sanctum of rest. Though not a member of any particular Church, he was a firm and consistent believer in the doctrines and promises of Christianity, and often expressed a consoling prospect of that better life where sorrow, disease and death never reach the happy spirits of the redeemed. His funeral was largely attended. The interment



was conducted by the Masonic order, with its usual services and ceremonies, as he was for many years a worthy and esteemed member of that ancient and honorable fraternity.

Jacob Krouskop died at the residence of his son-in-law, J. L. R. McCollum, in Sextonville, Feb. 7, 1878. One by one the old land marks of the county passed away. Jacob Krouskop was born in one of the eastern States in 1800. He passed the most of his early life in Bellefontaine, Ohio, from whence he came, in the spring of 1851, with a large family to Richland Co. Wis., and settled at Sextonville. With characteristic energy, he erected a saw-mill there, the first in that region, and soon afterward a grist mill. In speaking of him, Rev. J. E. Irish, who had known him since his first settlement in Wisconsin, said:

"At that time the entire region where Richland Centre now is, was an unbroken wilderness. Bringing with him the experience and fruits of a laborious life in Ohio, Mr. Krouskop was prepared to lay more broadly the foundation of a goodly estate here, and the result has been far more satisfactory than has fallen to the lot of most men. His prudence and sagacity, together with that of his faithful wife, who lingers on the shore behind him, were crowned with ample success. His enterprising sons and sons-in-law, known far and near as successful business men, have continued to seek his counsel in his declining years.

"Mr. Krouskop has been a member of the M. E. Church for over half a century. On his removal west, he united his religious fortunes with the feeble society at Sextonville, with which he has ever since been connected. His aid and counsel have always been of value. Not of a very demonstrative nature, yet in the social meetings with his brethren his heart often melted with tenderness as he talked of Jesus, and his power to save. His last sickness was short and painful, but with an unfaltering trust in Jesus' blood, he went hence.

"The funeral was an occasion of great interest and was attended by a very large concourse. The circle of relatives alone was large enough to nearly fill the church, while the citizens turned out *en masse* to testify their respect to his memory. The writer was called from a distant field of labor to preach the sermon, having been an acquaintance of the family since their first settlement in the State.

"Father Krouskop was laid to rest in the peaceful cemetery among the hills, side by side with some of his kindred who had passed on before him, and in near proximity to others with whom he had often worshipped in this changing world. Together, we trust, they now rejoice before the throne."

Zachariah Hale died in the town of Orion, on the 6th of March, 1878, aged fifty-three years. The deceased was born in Marion Co., Ind. He came to and cast his lot with friends in Richland county in 1856, and resided here until the time of his death. His amiable disposition and unflinching integrity gained for him many friends. He left a large circle of relatives to mourn his loss.

Martin Banker died in the town of Rockbridge, on the 14th of March, 1878, aged eighty years. Mr. Banker was another of the pioneers of the county, having settled here in 1853.

Capt. J. G. S. Hayward, an old, well known and prominent citizen of Richland county, died at his home in the town of Eagle, on the 3d day of May, 1878. Mr. Hayward was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, Sept. 11, 1819. He emigrated to Wisconsin in 1854, and settled in the town of Richwood, now Orion. He soon after removed to and settled in the town of Eagle, where he lived until the time of his death. He was one of the most useful and highly esteemed citizens. "The death of so good a man is always to be regretted." Mr. Hayward was ever ready to help all the interests, either public or private, in his neighborhood. He embraced the faith in Christ in 1843, and since that time he has exemplified the Christian life, which en-

abled him to bear his afflictions without a murmur, and to meet death without a struggle. He left a wife, two children and five grandchildren to mourn his loss.

Daniel Householder died at his home, in the town of Bloom, in August, 1878. Mr. Householder had lived in Richland county almost a quarter of a century, coming here from Ohio in about 1854. At the time of his death he had reached the extreme old age of ninety-nine years.

Henry J. Smith died in the town of Richland, on the 30th day of September, 1878, aged fifty-nine years. He died of a cancer, after lingering and suffering intensely for eight months. Mr. Smith was one of the early settlers of the county, having settled here in 1851. He was an industrious, peaceable and respected citizen, and his memory will be long cherished by his many friends.

Joshua Ewing died in the town of Sylvan, Jan. 26, 1879, of heart disease, aged seventy years. Mr. Ewing was born in Maryland; but he came west at an early day and settled in Richland county. He was a member of the Methodist Church for nearly half a century, and was a man who held the respect and esteem of all. He left a large family to mourn his loss.

On the 29th of January, 1879, in the town of Rockbridge, Morris Freeman died, aged seventy-six years. Mr. Freeman was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., where he remained until 1846, when he came to Wisconsin and settled for a time in Waukesha county. In 1855 he removed to Richland county with his family, and located in the town of Rockbridge, where he lived until the time of his death. He raised a family of six children, five of whom survived him. As a neighbor, a friend and a worthy citizen, he was much respected, and, as was said in his obituary, "as he leaves us, we feel deeply that another land-mark and pioneer of the county has passed to that land from whence no traveler returns."

On the 6th of April, 1879, James Dowling, an old and highly respected citizen of the town of Westford, was killed by an accident. His son was cutting down a tree, Mr. Dowling being near by. When the tree fell a limb struck him on the back of the head, killing him instantly.

Thomas Kinney died at his residence in Richland Center, on the 6th of April, 1879, aged seventy-seven years. Mr. Kinney was one of the early pioneers of Richland county. He was born in Nova Scotia in 1801. He moved to Canada West in 1838, to Waukesha Co., Wis., and to Richland county, where he has since lived, in 1853. He left an aged companion and several grown children. He was a highly respected citizen.

Cornelius McCarthy, an old citizen of Richland county, died at his home in the town of Henrietta, on the 14th of September, 1879. Mr. McCarthy was a resident of the county for twenty-seven years. During the war he served with distinction in the army, and was severely wounded in the battle of Bayou Cache, Arkansas.

Martin Munson, aged sixty-two years, died at his residence in the town of Akan, Oct. 21, 1879, after having been confined to his bed for over two months. He was born March 1, 1817, in Norway; emigrated to this country in 1849, and in 1850 settled in the town of Akan, Richland county, where he lived until the time of his death. His early days here were a life of toil and hardship. Accompanied by two other families, they drove their teams as far as Port Andrew, and from there carried their household goods, including stoves, some seven or eight miles, as it was impossible to drive the team through the woods. His death was widely regretted. He was held in high esteem not only by his own countrymen but by all who knew him.

William W. Garfield died at his home in the town of Henrietta, on the 25th of October, 1879, aged seventy-two years. Mr. Garfield was a native of Vermont, but came west at an early

day, settling with his family in Richland county in 1853. He was a man of sterling integrity and worth, in every walk of life which he trod.

The Richland County *Republican*, in announcing the death of Joseph Benton, Sr., a pioneer, which occurred July 14, 1880, makes the following expressive remarks:

"The old citizens of Richland county are fast passing away. Within the past three or four years a very large per cent. of the early settlers of the county have passed to that other and brighter shore. The latest death which we have been called upon to announce, is that of one of the best men who ever crossed to America's shore—Joseph Benton, Sr., who died at his residence in the town of Marshall, July 14, 1880, after a protracted illness of twelve months, who had reached the ripe age of seventy-seven years and two months. Mr. Benton was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, April 20, 1803; emigrated to America in 1834, settled in Ohio, and lived there until 1855, when he removed to Wisconsin and settled on Fancy creek, town of Marshall, Richland county, where he resided until the time of his death. He was one of the early pioneers of the county, and contributed his means and energy to develop the resources of the county. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and died with the hope of a better life beyond the confines of time. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. M. Leonard. A large concourse of his neighbors followed him to his last resting-place, thereby showing their appreciation and respect for his memory. He leaves three sons and one daughter, and an aged widow, to mourn their irreparable loss."

"John Fogo, one of the pioneer settlers, and a well-known citizen died at his home on Fancy creek, on Friday, Sept. 1, 1876. Mr. Fogo was born in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1799, and was at the time of his death about seventy-seven years of age.

"He received the elements of a good education in the parish school, which he attended until

twelve years of age. He was then apprenticed as a weaver, and while learning his trade he enjoyed, among other means of improvement, free access to the parish library, of which he made good use, storing up its contents in a memory wonderfully retentive. Gifted with a mind of extraordinary capacity, which was thus cultivated to the highest degree, and in the broadest sense of education, at that period he laid the foundation of his great knowledge of history, both ancient and modern, which remained with him until the day of his death.

"He came with his parents to America in 1820, and settled in Columbiana Co., Ohio, and was among the early pioneers in that section. At the time of his settlement in Ohio, it was a new and wild country—the foot-prints of the savage were barely cold.

"He removed to Wisconsin in 1853, bringing with him a large family of young children, and settled on Fancy creek, where he has ever since resided, and again passed through the labors and struggles incident to opening up a new country. He was preceded in his settlement on Fancy creek by only three or four families. From that time he has been well known in the county. By his neighbors he was honored and beloved, and he was held in great esteem by all who knew him. He has repeatedly been honored by his fellow-townsmen with many offices of honor and trust. He aided in the organization of the town of Marshall; was its first chairman, which office he held for sixteen years consecutively, always being elected without opposition.

"During his whole life he has been a constant attendant upon the preaching of the gospel in the Presbyterian Church, in which he was born and baptized. In that Church he has been a member in full communion for a number of years past. He always had a firm conviction in the divine inspiration and truth of the Scriptures, and believed in their inculcations, in order to sustain pure society and a prosperous government. In the close of life, by faith in

God, through the Scriptures, he found submission to the Divine will, with peace and joy. Mr. Fogo was remarkably genial in his disposition, and his society was highly prized by those who delight in conversation that is intelligent and full of information. Many persons have enjoyed his company for an hour, or hours in a very pleasant and profitable manner.

"He leaves to mourn his loss, a companion, with whom he lived nearly half a century. Also eight sons and daughters, all of whom, except one living in Minnesota, are settled in families in the neighborhood, and were around his dying bed.

"The deceased was a great sufferer for the past few years, but his final end was free from pain and suffering. He passed away as calmly as the falling asleep of an infant.

"Thus has passed away, at the ripe age of nearly four score years, another of our early pioneers—a man whose honesty and integrity was religion, and whose greatest heritage to his descendants is his exemplary life and untarnished honor."—[From the Richland county *Republican and Observer*.

In the *Republican and Observer* of Feb. 10, 1881, appears the following item which explains itself:—"We notice an announcement of the death of W. P. Furey, who will be remembered by the older residents of the county, as the founder of the first democratic paper published in the county—*The Democrat*. This paper, we believe was established in 1859, and was published for about a year. The senior editor of the *Republican and Observer*, W. M. Fogo, set his first type under the direction of Mr. Furey. After he left here he went to Darlington, from there to Iowa and thence back to Pennsylvania, his native State. For years we had lost track of him. Following is the notice of his death referred to:

"We regret to announce the death of William P. Furey, of Altoona, Penn., which occurred at San Antonio, Texas, in January, 1881. Mr. Furey was originally from

Mauch Chunk, Penn., and was a printer by trade. He came west in 1858, and worked for a short time in Darlington, in a printing office which was started there before it was made the county seat. During the winter of 1858—9 he went to Warren, Ill., and worked for a few months in what is now the *Sentinel* office, and it was while there we first became acquainted with him. He afterward married a sister of Rev. Mr. Safford, now of Darlington. After remaining a number of years in the west he went back to Pennsylvania and engaged in the publishing business at Altoona. About a year ago his health began to fail, being attacked by that dread disease consumption. A month or two ago, accompanied by his wife, he went to San Antonio, Texas, hoping that the salubrious climate of that part of the country might prove beneficial to him, but he had hardly reached the place before the grim messenger called for him."—(*Platteville Witness*, Feb. 3, 1881.)

Jonathan Totton, one of the old settlers of the town of Marshall, died quite suddenly on Feb. 14, 1881. Mr. Totton was born in Washington Co., Penn., in March 1802, and was therefore nearly eighty years of age at the time of his death. He removed to Ohio at an early day, and in 1855 came to Richland Co., Wis., and settled on Fancy creek where he remained until the time of his death. Mr. Totton had been a member of the Disciple Church for over forty years. He was a very conscientious, upright and honest citizen, and highly esteemed by his neighbors and friends.

Isaac McMahan, an old citizen of the town of Bloom, died March 14, 1881, after a painful illness extending over a period of three years, of cancer. Mr. McMahan was born in Ohio, and at the time of his death was seventy-four years of age. He was truly a pioneer of Richland county, having removed here and settled in the town of Bloom in 1853.

Myron C. Pease, an old and esteemed citizen of Richland Center, died of typhoid pneumonia,

on the 18th of April, 1881. Mr. Pease was born in Weston, Vt., April 17, 1842. He came to Richland Center with his parents in 1857, and resided here until the time of his death. In 1864 he was married to Emma, second daughter of C. W. Huntington, and his widow and two children survive him. The *Republican and Observer* in speaking of his sad death said: "Mr. Pease has been actively identified with the business interests of Richland Center, ever since he has been old enough, and has pushed steadily forward mastering the small details as well as the more comprehensive affairs of a large and growing business. For a while he was associated with his brothers in the retail trade, but afterwards engaged in the wholesale notion business for himself, for a number of years. At the time of his death he was traveling for a Chicago wholesale house. The same warm, generous, impulsive nature, which as a school boy made all who knew him, love and admire him, was manifested in his associations; for with advancing years his genial qualities became broader and deeper until it became almost an unwritten law in the business and social circles in this community that Myron C. Pease was the soul of honor. Ever ready with a kindly word, or his purse, he was never appealed to in vain for a good cause. To his family and friends and indeed to all, this character was like sunshine, and by its truth and brightness, it was a guide. To all men he was the same and to those who were in trouble or in need and appealed to him, he gave good counsel and what assistance was needed, for his was a helping hand."

Samuel Davis, an old and honored citizen of the county, died at his home in the town of Ithaca, April 17, 1881, of paralysis of the heart, aged eighty-one years. "Father" Davis, as he was usually called was born in Washington county, Penn., Oct. 27, 1799. He moved to Wayne Co., Ohio with his parents at an early day, and in March, 1845 removed to Indiana. He removed from that State to Wisconsin, ar-

iving at Spring Green, June 13, 1855, and during the same year he moved to Willow creek, Richland county, where he resided until the time of his death. Father Davis was a good neighbor and an honorable citizen.

Mrs. Thomas Mathews, one of the very earliest settlers in the county died at her home in Orion on the 23rd of August, 1881. Mrs. Mathews was born in Illinois in 1825, and came to Wisconsin in 1839. In 1840 she was married to Thomas Mathews, who survives her, and in 1842, they settled in Orion, where they have since lived.

William Recob, an old and respected citizen of the town of Eagle, died on the 9th of September, 1881, of paralysis, with which he had been afflicted for over four years. Mr. Recob settled in the town of Eagle in 1854. When the call was issued for volunteers at the breaking out of the Rebellion, Mr. Recob was among the first to respond, and left his home and family, like thousands of others, to save his country and government. He served his term faithfully, and received an honorable discharge. He was present at the surrender of Gen. Lee at Appomattox, and received injuries from which he never recovered, but the effects continued to increase on him with advancing age until he was rendered entirely helpless, and continued so until death relieved his sufferings. His funeral was attended at Pleasant Hill church by a large number of sympathizing friends. The services were conducted by Rev. John Walworth, the sermon being founded on Job xix., 24-25, the text chosen by the deceased.

Randolph L. Carver, postmaster at Port Andrew, was found dead at the water's edge of the Wisconsin river. The facts elicited at the coroner's inquest, in regard to his death, were substantially as follows: Mr. Carver arose early in the morning, ate his breakfast, waited upon several callers at the postoffice, talked with several persons, and was apparently in usual health. He was last seen alive walking toward the river with an ax in his hand. In less than

ten minutes afterward his son saw a railroad tie floating in the water. He went down to get it out, and found his father lying with his feet in the water—dead. Others saw him at almost the same instant. The verdict of the jury was that he died of heart disease. Mr. Carver was an old and respected citizen. He settled at Port Andrew in 1854, and was postmaster for over twenty years. He was always obliging in the discharge of his official duties, and was ever willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. He was fifty-eight years old. He left a wife and three children to mourn his sudden death.

David Wallace, an old citizen of Lone Rock, died quite suddenly on Nov. 13, 1881. Mr. Wallace was born in Iroquois, Canada, June 10, 1800. In 1821 he was wedded to Lydia Hitchcock, from which union sprang up a family of ten boys and two girls, all of whom survived him. In 1849 Mr. Wallace brought his family to the United States, locating in Ohio, where they resided until 1853, when they came to Richland Co., Wis. In 1865 the wife and mother died, since which time the old gentleman had resided with his son, John Wallace, of Lone Rock.

German Tadder, an old citizen of Richland Center, died on the 18th of November, 1881, aged sixty-four years. Mr. Tadder was one of the earliest settlers of the county, having come here in 1851 and settled on Fancy creek. At the outbreak of the war in 1861, he joined, upon its organization, the company known as the Richland Plowboys, and which afterwards became company D, of the 11th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He remained with the company until compelled by disease to get a discharge, and took part with the regiment in the campaign in Missouri and Arkansas, in the summer of 1862. After his discharge he returned home and again took up the pursuits of civil life. For a number of years prior to his death he was unable to do any kind of labor, owing to disease and infirmities. He was an honest man—lived respected and died regretted.

The following is a list of the pioneers who died during 1881: William Akan, William Re-cob, Myron C. Pease, Mrs. Thomas Whiteraft, Mrs. John Fogo, Mrs. Clarisa Shaanon, Amos Poff, German Tadder, R. L. Carver, C. W. Jones, Elizabeth Allen, Ann Finnegan, Emma M. Har-ter, Mrs. Samuel McMillan, Almeda E. Gress, Samuel Davis, Mrs. H. H. Barnard, Dama Dewey, Peter Welsh, Mrs. W. F. Lewis, Mrs. Dighton Chesemore, Helen Conable Aldrich, Prudence Hart, Sarah Brightman, Henry Dil-lon, Lodema T. Ketcham, Mrs. T. J. Graham, Mrs. Thomas Mathews, S. N. Thompson and Mrs. Samuel Fries.

The death of John Coumbe, the first settler in Richland county, occurred at his home in Port Andrew, on May 2, 1882.

James Weldy, an old and respected citizen of the town of Eagle, died May 16, 1882, aged about seventy years.

B. P. Plato, an old and honored citizen of Wisconsin, died at Richland Center, August 1, 1882, aged sixty-nine years.

Alden Haseltine, an old citizen of Richland county, died at his residence in the town of Rock-bridge, on the 10th of February, 1883. Mr. Haseltine was born in the State of Vermont, in 1808. He came to the county at a very early day, and located in what is now the town of Rockbridge. He was always enterprising and active in all the interests and improvements of his own town and the county generally, and held various positions of public trust and responsibility.

Samuel McMillan died at the home of his son, Joseph McMillan, in the town of Orion, Feb. 10, 1883, at the ripe old age of eighty years, after a short illness. His death was mourned by many relatives and friends. Mr. McMillan was born at Conococheague, Penn., April 21, 1803. He moved with his family to Richland county in the spring of 1855 and settled in the town of Orion, where he resided until the time of his death. He followed farming as an occupation, but did the blacksmithing of his com-

munity for many years. His aged and estimable partner in life passed to that other shore ten years in advance of him. Mr. and Mrs. McMillan reared a family of four sons and five daughters. Two sons were killed in the army; one has since died, and the other, Joseph, is still a resident of Orion. The daughters are—Mrs. James McClaren, Mrs. John Rue, Mrs. Joseph Privott and Mrs. S. Sherman, of the town of Orion; and Mrs. D. E. O. Bird, of Dakota.

Andrew Lewis, one of the pioneer settlers of the town of Richland, died very suddenly, Oct. 4, 1883. Mr. Lewis was born in the State of Pennsylvania, Sept. 25, 1823. He removed to Jefferson Co., Ohio, when young, where, in

1852, he was married to Sarah A. Vanpool. He lived two years in Belmont Co., Ohio, and then removed to Richland county, where he remained until the time of his death. He left a wife, twelve children, eight grandchildren, seven brothers and sisters and many kind friends to mourn his death.

James Collins, another pioneer settler of Richland county, died at his home on Ash creek, Oct. 16, 1883.

Caleb Waggoner died at the residence of his brother, Dr. Joseph Waggoner, in Ravenna, Ohio, Oct. 16, 1883. He is noticed elsewhere at length.



## CHAPTER XV.

## THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

As to who was the first disciple of Galen and Hippocrates to locate in the pristine days of Richland county's history, has been a work of much difficulty to gather, but a desire for historical accuracy, and a diligent research in the annals of the past, have developed the fact that, Dr. Hartsborn has the honor of being the pioneer of that profession. He came into Richland county as early as 1848 from Illinois and settled at what was then called Gage's (later Law's) ferry, on the Wisconsin river. He remained until 1850 or 1851, when he left for parts unknown.

Dr. Henry McNelly was the second physician to locate within the limits of Richland county. Dr. McNelly was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1821. In 1830 he removed with his parents to Clinton Co., Ind. In 1843-4 he studied medicine, and until 1849 he practiced in Indiana. July 4, 1849, he started for Wisconsin, and in August of the same year he located in Orion, Richland county. Here he remained many years, practicing his profession, but moved to the village of Richland Center in 1861 and remained there a short time, removing from thence to the southern part of the county again. He is now in Dakota.

Dr. D. L. Downs located at Orion in February, 1850. That place remained his home until December, 1858, when he removed to Richland Center, where he still lives. He has been a very prominent man in all public affairs; has held various offices of trust and is the present county judge.

Dr. Jacob Brimer came to the county during the year 1850, locating at Orion, where he remained until the fall of 1873, when he removed to Richland Center, and has continued to reside there ever since, in the practice of his profession.

Dr. Charles B. Pierson located at Richland City in 1851, where he remained until 1865. He was assistant surgeon of the 38th Wisconsin Infantry during the late unpleasantness. He now resides at Spring Green, Sauk Co., Wis., and is a gentleman of culture and a physician of much prominence.

Dr. Bailey located at Sextonville, and Dr. L. Nichols at Richland City, and Dr. Sippy near Ithaca, during the year 1853. In 1854 Dr. LeRoy D. Gage came to Richland Center as the postmaster, but practiced the profession of medicine at the same time. He was the first physician in the village in point of time. He remained at that place until August, 1870, when he ended a useful and valuable life by committing suicide.

Dr. Byers also made his appearance in the county during 1854, locating at the county seat, where he remained until 1858, when he, thinking to better his condition, moved to Baraboo.

In the same year a Dr. Carpenter settled at the town of Rockbridge.

Dr. Wallace located at Richland Center during the fall of 1855, but staid in the county but about six months.

In 1856 Dr. Drewett came to Richland Center but remained only until the next spring.



Dr. Henry Priest came to Richland Center in 1857, and remained there until 1862, when he returned to Greencastle, Ind., from whence he had come. During the same year Dr. Castle located at Lone Rock, and Dr. O. H. Wood at the Center. The latter gentleman remained in the county some years; was a surgeon in the 23d regiment of Wisconsin Infantry, during the Rebellion; removed to Missouri on its close, and was killed by a railroad accident near Brookfield, Mo., March 1, 1881.

A Doctor McLane, located at Richland Center in 1856 or 1857, but on account of poor health was compelled to give up practice, after about six months, and left the county.

Dr. E. W. Beebe was a very prominent physician who made his appearance at the county seat during the year 1859. Here he remained until 1864 when he went to Evansville, and in 1879, removed to Milwaukee. He is now noted as one of the most eminent specialist physicians in the State, treating all diseases of the eye and ear.

Dr. W. W. Stewart came to the Center in 1863, staid but one year and returned to Loyd. He is now located at Lake Shetock, Wisconsin.

Dr. A. W. Bickford, made his debut in the county at Richland Center in 1864 and has continued in constant practice ever since. The doctor is well known as a very public spirited citizen and has been a member of the village board and held other offices, and is now traveling in California for the benefit of his health, which has suffered by a too close application to the most arduous of professions.

Dr. McIntosh became one of the physicians of Richland Center in 1863, and remained for some time.

Dr. G. R. Mitchell, now a resident physician came to the Center in 1869.

Dr. H. J. Wall first located in the village of Richland Center in the fall of 1875, and the present moment still finds him there, enjoying a lucrative practice.

Dr. J. E. Marsh came to the Center in April, 1882, remained about six months and then left. He is now located at Medford, Wis.

#### TOWN OF BLOOM.

The town of Bloom in 1884 had five physicians; Drs. O. Houts, Mrs. Field and Adam Shambaugh, located at Spring Valley; and Drs. J. H. Helm and A. B. Cole, who are located at West Lima.

Dr. O. Houts is a native of Richland county, born Nov. 11, 1852, in the town of Orion. He has always been in the county, and is among the best of the medical profession. In 1869 he commenced reading medicine with Adam Shambaugh, commenced practice in the town of Forest the year following, where he remained until 1880, when he removed to Spring Valley, where he is now located, and deservedly has a lucrative practice. In 1876 he was married to Anna Shambaugh, who was born in 1851. They have had two children—Virtner, who died in 1879, and G. W. J., now one year old. In 1880 Mr. Houts attended the Bennett Medical College, of Chicago, from which institution he is a regular graduate. His parents, Levi and Sarah Houts, are among the pioneer settlers of Richland county, now living in the town of Orion, and are mentioned more at length in the history of that territory. The doctor now has a pleasant location in Spring Valley, and is fully engaged in the practice of his chosen profession; has the respect and confidence of the public generally.

Adam Shambaugh, one of the early settlers, of Richland county, was born Feb. 12, 1817, in Cumberland Co., Penn., where he resided five years, when his parents removed to Montgomery Co., Ohio, and resided there until 1826; thence to Fountain county, and remained only three years; thence to Tippecanoe Co., Ind., where he learned the joiner's trade, and received his schooling. He studied arithmetic eleven days, and grammar seven days. This constituted his school education; yet by perseverance and industry, Mr. Shambaugh has acquired

for himself a good education. In 1854 Mr. Shambaugh moved to Boone Co., Ind., where he engaged in merchandising two years and then removed to Richland Co., Wis., and first settled in the town of Forest, and entered 120 acres of land on section 2, which he sold in 1857, and removed to the town of Bloom, and there engaged in farming, merchandising, preaching and practicing medicine. Mr. Shambaugh has a complete stock of drugs, also a one-half interest in a dry goods and general store, in company with A. Householder. Mr. Shambaugh was married in 1850 to Sarah Shambaugh, who was born Dec-22, 1825, in Perry Co., Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Shambaugh have one child—Sarah A., who is now the wife of Dr. O. Houts. Mr. Shambaugh has been a member of the United Brethren Church for the past fifty years and has been preaching for the past thirty-five years, and has practiced medicine since 1856, since he came to Richland county. Mr. Shambaugh has converted over 2,500 persons to a belief in religion; and has been a great benefactor to the people of Richland county, in many ways. He has taken one family paper fifty years in succession.

Dr. John H. Helm was born Sept. 7, 1842, in Delaware Co., Ind. He lived in his native county till 1857, then removed to Warren county. He lived there for two years, following farming; thence to Atica, Fountain county, and clerked in a grocery store in 1859; thence removed back to his native county, in the spring of 1860, farming till June. He then went back to Atica, and stayed till the spring of 1861, when he moved back to his native county. He began going to school, in Granville, Ind., his birth-place; remaining there till March, 1862, when he went to Muncie. He attended school, till the last of June. He worked at farming, plowing corn till wheat harvest came, and then followed harvesting until about July 8. Mr. Helm then enlisted in the 84th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, was promoted to the rank of 1st sergeant, and honorably

discharged in 1865. He began to read medicine Sept. 2, 1865; reading till the fall of 1866, when he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, to attend a course of lectures on medicine, reading with Dr. John C. Helm. In the spring of 1867 he began the practice of medicine in his birthplace, practicing one year; then farmed two years, and in the spring of 1870, resumed his practice till Sept. 28, 1870 when he went to New York city to attend medical lectures at the University of New York, where he graduated Feb. 21, 1871. He then returned to Granville and continued his practice another year. He then removed to Eaton, in the same State, and remained two years; thence to Muncie, and lived one year thence to Anoke, and remained another year, when he returned to Muncie, stopping about eighteen months; thence came to his present location in the town of Bloom, where he has a remunerative practice. He was married in 1866 to Naoma Powers who was born in Henry Co., Ind., in February, 1843. They have three children—Isaac C., Mark and Arthur C.

#### TOWN OF DAYTON.

Dr. E. S. Garner, who was located in the village of Boaz, was the only representative of the medical profession in this town, in 1884.

#### TOWN OF EAGLE.

In 1884 the medical profession was represented in the town of Eagle, by Dr. Marcus W. Haskell, who was located at Eagle corners, and Dr. George Miller of the eastern part of the town.

Dr. George Miller, son of William and Charlotte (Dawson) Miller, was born in Anderson Co., Ky, Jan. 10, 1818. He was but eleven years old when his pioneer life began in Clinton Co., Ind., where his parents had moved. Here he assisted his father in clearing a farm and made his home until 1840, when he was married to Julia Ann Widner. He had previously learned the cooper trade and continued to work at that in Clinton county, until 1851. He then came to Richland county, and settled in town 9, range 1 west, now known as the town

of Eagle. His father had given him a piece of land on section 23, and he purchased another tract on section 24 and there erected a log house. Here he continued to work at his trade in connection with farming until 1862, when in July he enlisted in the 25th Wisconsin, company B, and went to Minnesota, where the regiment remained until winter; then went south. His health was not good and he was assigned to duty in the field hospital, where he was general superintendent. He was discharged July 16, 1864, from Harvy hospital, Madison, and returned home. He was unable to do any manual labor for more than a year, but continued the study of medicine which he had taken up before the war. His experience in the hospital had been a great help to him, and soon after his discharge he commenced practice, and as a physician has been quite successful. He is of the eclectic school. His wife died a few days before he was discharged, leaving six children,—William H., Rachael M., Hannah J., Samuel, Lafayette and Lydia. His second wife, to whom he was married Aug. 3, 1865, was Sarah B. Blackledge, who was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind. She left two children, one of whom is now living—Woodford. His third wife, to whom he was married Aug. 30, 1874, was Margaret Wey, widow of Nathan Beebe. She was born in Preble Co., Ohio, Sept. 2, 1844. She was married to Osear H. Dilley, June 16, 1872, by whom she had one child—Maggie Myrtle.

#### TOWN OF FOREST.

In 1884 the only representatives of the medical profession in this town were Drs. R. H. De Lap and J. Goyer, both located at the village of Viola.

R. H. De Lap, one of the prominent physicians of the county, was born in Green Co., Wis., in 1846. When he was eight years old, his parents moved to Grant county, where they lived about four years; then they moved from place to place, his father being a member of the West Wisconsin Conference of the M. E. Church. In 1862 he enlisted in the

33d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged in 1865. On returning home, he began the study of medicine, under Dr. E. De Lap, of Boscobel, Wisconsin, studying with him one year, then moved to Viroqua, where he continued the study of his profession under Dr. E. W. Tinker for three years. He then began practicing at Viroqua, remaining there two years, then moved to Viola, where he was the first physician to settle in the village. Dr. De Lap graduated at the medical college in Keokuk, Iowa, having attended two courses, and is well qualified to practice his chosen profession. He is a member of Southwestern Medical Association, and is one of the board of censors for the same. He was married in 1870, to L. Kate Tinker, daughter of Dr. E. W. and Mary Tinker. Mr. and Mrs. De Lap have three children—Mary M., Carrie and Robert H. Dr. De Lap now owns a house and two lots in the village of Viola, and one acre of ground in section 19. He has been justice of the peace for eight years, has a good reputation among his fellowmen, and is a representative of the best class of Richland county citizens.

Joseph Goyer, M. D., is a native of Bartholomew Co., Ind. In 1826, his parents removed to Putnam county, of same State, where he lived till 1836, when his parents removed to Warren Co., Ill.; remained there till 1837; thence to Henry county, of same State; remained there till 1847, and removed with his parents to Bureau Co., Ill., where he studied medicine two years, after which he attended medical lectures at the Indiana Medical College, of Como, Ill., for a portion of a term. He then went to Rock Island, Ill., where he began the practice of his profession; remained till 1853, and removed to Big Rock, Scott Co., Iowa; bought a store and stocked it with drugs and general merchandise, and practiced his profession for two years; returned to Rock Island, remaining there till 1859, then went to California; returned in 1860, and in 1862 enlisted in the 89th regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry;

was wounded at the battle of Stone River, Tennessee, in 1862, through left shoulder and right hip; taken prisoner and re-taken in same battle. Was discharged in 1863, and returned home. In 1864 went to Tomah, Monroe Co., Wis., where he practiced till 1876; from thence to Viola, Richland county, where he now resides. Dr. Goyer owns a house and three lots in the village. He was married to Ann Amelia Goddard, in 1855. She died in 1865, leaving two children—George M. and Julia L. He was again married in 1866, to Carrie E. Bradley. She was the mother of five children, four living—Iolo E., Nettie M., Charles B. and Marcus A. Fannie R. died in 1870.

#### TOWN OF HENRIETTA.

Dr. J. B. Hitchcock, of Woodstock, represented the medical profession in this town in 1884.

J. B. Hitchcock, M. D., is the only practicing physician in the town of Henrietta. He located at Woodstock in 1880. He is of the homeopathic school, and received his diploma from the State University of Iowa. He is the son of Jason and Polly (Hurd) Hitchcock, and was born in Boone Co., Ind., Feb. 12, 1849. When he was but eleven months old his father died; his mother continued to live in Boone county until 1853, when she came to Richland county in company with her parents, who settled in the town of Orion. One year later she was married to William Collins, and settled in the town of Henrietta; remained there two years and then returned to Orion. Here the subject of this sketch grew to manhood, receiving his early education in the district school, supplemented by two terms at the high school in Sextonville. When he was twenty-two years old he bought a tract of land in the town of Orion, and engaged in farming, occupying his leisure time in study. In the winter of 1878-9, he went to Iowa and entered the medical department of the State University, at Iowa City. In the spring of 1879, he came to Woodstock and commenced practice, returning to Iowa in the

fall to complete his course of study in the State University. He received his diploma in March, 1880. He then returned to Woodstock, purchased a house, and has since followed his chosen profession at this point. He was married in 1872 to Melissa, daughter of Hezekiah and Sally (Marsh) Jones. They have two children—Neva E. L. and Dennis A. B.

#### TOWN OF ITHACA.

In 1884 the medical profession was represented in this town by Drs. Asa McCollum and Miss Ada Lamson, who were located at Sextonville, and Dr. Osman Cass, who was located on section 19.

Osman Cass, M. D., was born in the town of Stanstead, Province of Quebec, Canada, June 26, 1826. He was the son of a farmer and his younger days were spent in assisting his father and going to school. At the age of nineteen, he went to Lowell, Mass., and engaged in a woolen mill, the Middlesex corporation. He remained there but a few months and returned to Canada. He purchased land and improved a farm in the town of Clifton, where he resided until 1854. He started, in the spring of that year, for Richland county to visit his brothers who had preceded him here. Being pleased with the country, he concluded to make it his home. He spent the summer with his brother, Colby. In the fall he went to Pine river and worked with his brother James in his mill, and in the spring of the year following, moved with him to Ithaca. He soon after entered land on section 21, on which he lived one year, then sold out and purchased land in section 20, where he remained about a year. He then again sold out and bought his present farm, which is pleasantly located on section 19, town of Ithaca. It is well watered by Willow creek. He has erected good frame buildings and has a pleasant home. He has been twice married—first to Julia Cass, March 11, 1846. She was born in Stanstead county, Province of Quebec, Canada, Aug. 18, 1827, and died June 6, 1846. His second wife was Harriet Hicks, a native of Sher-

brooke county, born June 8, 1830. They are the parents of three children—Emma, Ella and Lydia. Dr. Cass has always been an extensive reader and careful student. In selecting reading matter, he has chosen those books which would give him the greatest amount of useful information, making a specialty of medical works. About 1870, his health failing, he employed a number of physicians, but they failed to relieve him. He then decided to begin the practice of medicine, with himself for a patient. He was successful in recovering his health, and since that time has continued to practice that profession and been generally successful. As a citizen he enjoys the confidence and respect of all good citizens.

## TOWN OF MARSHALL.

Dr. Hugh Morrow, who was located on section 13, was the only physician in Marshall in 1884

## TOWN OF ORION.

In 1884 the representative of the profession in this town was Dr. Truax, who was located at the village of Orion.

## LONE ROCK.

Dr. R. L. Telfair was the only physician located at Lone Rock, in 1884.

R. L. Telfair was born at Cairo, Green Co., N. Y., in 1832. His father, William Telfair, G., was also a physician, and a native of Scotland; he was educated in the City of Edinburg, and came to the United States at the age of about twenty-five years, and was for forty years a practicing physician of Cairo, in the Catskill mountains of New York. He came to Richland county in 1855, and lived at Sextonville till his decease, in 1857. His wife still lives at Sextonville. Dr. R. L. Telfair began the study of medicine with his father, at the age of sixteen years. He graduated at the Albany Medical College, Dec. 27, 1853. He married Theresa C. Dexter, born at Cairo. They have two surviving children—Brouson A., now a student of medicine, born at Cairo, N. Y., Jan. 11, 1854, and Robert L., Jr., born August, 1877.

They lost their second son, Frank A., who was a student of medicine and a fine physician. He was fatally poisoned in the dissecting room of Rush Medical College, Chicago, Ill., and died in May, 1881, aged twenty-one years and ten months. He had nearly completed his medical course.

## RICHLAND CENTER'S PHYSICIANS IN 1884.

In 1884 the medical profession was represented in Richland Center by Drs. Jacob and B. F. Brimer, G. R. Mitchell, H. J. Wall, F. P. Casey and M. Lovering.

Jacob Brimer, M. D., located on section 21, Orion, in the spring of 1850, and as he has given his attention to the practice of medicine since that date, he is now the oldest resident physician in the county. He now resides on section 2, Orion, but has an office at Richland Center where he can be consulted each day. Dr. Brimer is a native of the State of New York, born in Rensselaer county on the 15th day of August, 1815. He was left motherless when but a small child, and he then resided with Elisha Bovee, with whom he removed to Cayuga county and ten years later to Erie county where he helped till the soil. A few years subsequently he removed with the family to Boone Co., Ind. He there prepared himself for the medical profession, and in 1850 came to Wisconsin. He was elected county treasurer in 1852, serving four years, and at various different intervals has held local offices. Dr. Brimer is plain and unassuming in his manners, has a large office practice, and is highly respected. His wife was formerly Elizabeth McMannis. They have reared seven children—John N., Sarah Ann, William M., Benjamin F., Jacob B., Mary E. and Harvey B.

Dr. Benjamin F. Brimer is a son of Dr. Jacob Brimer and he was born in Boone Co., Ind., Jan. 20, 1849. He came with the family to this county, and at an early age commenced the study of medicine with his father as preceptor. He also attended medical lectures at the Bennett College of Chicago, and since 1872 has

given his entire attention to his profession. He has principally an office practice and makes a specialty of treating chronic diseases. Dr. Brimer is also interested as partner in the drug business of Dr. J. Brimer & Sons. In November, 1878, he married Anna M. Humbart. She is a daughter of William Humbart. Dr. Brimer is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

J. N. Brimer, druggist, of the firm of Dr. J. Brimer & Sons, was born in Boone Co., Ind., Feb. 23, 1841. He came with his parents to Richland county, helped till the soil and for about nine years worked in the Ash creek woolen mills. In 1873 he became a member of the above named firm, and since 1874 has had charge of the business. In October, 1863, he married Anna Miller, daughter of Campbell Miller. They have two daughters—Edith and Maggie. Mr. Brimer is a member of the I. O. O. F.

G. R. Mitchell, M. D., represents the homeopathy school of the medical profession and may well be called one of the leading physicians of the county. He located at Richland Center in 1873 and is meeting with marked success. He was born in Rock Co., Wis., March 19, 1848. His parents were C. J. and Charlotte Mitchell. The father now resides at Evansville, Wis. G. R. Mitchell received an academic education and in 1869 commenced the study of medicine with Dr. E. W. Beebe, of Evansville (now of Milwaukee), as preceptor. In 1871 he entered the Hahneman College, at Chicago, where he attended until the spring of 1872. He then attended the Homeopathic College at Detroit, Mich., graduating at that institution in June, 1872. He then had charge, as principal, of the schools at Albany, Green Co., Wis., from whence he came to Richland Center. Dec. 25, 1872, Dr. Mitchell united in marriage with Laura E. Dodge, daughter of Dr. J. Dodge, of Green county. They have two children—Nellie and Fred. The doctor is a member of the M. E. Church, also of the Temple of Honor.

H. J. Wall, M. D., is a native of Ithaca, N. Y. He was born July 12, 1843. His father, John Wall, was a native of Bristol, England, and a merchant tailor. The subject of this sketch received an academic education and in 1858 commenced the study of medicine with his brother-in-law, Enos Canfield, and attended medical lectures at Geneva, N. Y. In 1862 he enlisted in the United States service, where he remained until June, 1865. He then returned to his native State and read law. In 1866 he went to Minnesota, and in 1868 commenced the practice of medicine with Dr. E. M. Moorhouse, of Owatonna, Minn. In 1870 he went to Fort Atkinson, Iowa, and in 1875 came to Wisconsin and has since been located at Richland Center. In the spring of 1880 Dr. Wall graduated at Rush Medical College of Chicago and is well qualified for the important profession which he is following. In 1869 he was married to Cora F. Plato, of Rock county. They have two daughters—Katie and Jennie. Dr. Wall is a member of the American Medical Association, chairman of the board of censors of the Southwestern Wisconsin Medical Association; a member of the G. A. R., and a Mason. In politics he is a democrat and served as a member of the democratic State central committee of Minnesota, and has acted in a like capacity in the State of Wisconsin.

F. P. Casey, M. D., located at Richland Center, in April, 1882. He is a graduate of the University of Buffalo, N. Y., and consequently entitled to the confidence granted him by the public. He was born in Sandusky City, Ohio, April 29, 1857, and early in life commenced the study of medicine. Dr. Casey is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

#### TOWN OF RICHLWOOD.

In 1884 this town had four representatives of the medical profession: Drs. R. M. Miller, of Port Andrew; O. Ross, J. C. Wright and J. T. Coates, of Excelsior.

Dr. R. M. Miller visited the county in 1849, and with his brother, L. N. Miller, as partner,

established in 1851 a general store at Port Andrew. But Dr. Miller did not bring his family until the spring of 1852. He then settled at said place and gave his attention to the practice of medicine, which in those days was very hard on a physician, as the country was but sparsely settled and there being no roads, the making of long trips was very tedious. In 1854 his property was destroyed by fire. In 1859 he started a drug store at Boscobel, and run the same one year. He then spent one year in Canada. Returning home he assisted Capt. Rowley to recruit a company of men for the United States service, and went with them to Racine, expecting to enlist himself, but one day while driving under a leaning tree on a side-hill, his wagon slipped and so crushed his body between the wagon and tree as to fracture every rib, and he was thus unable to leave the house for one year, and when he was again able to walk about, he found that he was two and a half inches less in height than when he was injured. He again resumed practice. But in 1872 he found himself well advanced in years and in poor health, and thus retired from practice. He never took much interest in politics, although he served as justice of the peace for over twenty years, and never had a case appealed from his docket. R. M. Miller was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, in 1811. His father was a native of Pennsylvania, and a contractor and builder by occupation. Mr. Miller assisted his father until nineteen years of age, then went to New Orleans. Three years later he went to Galena, Ill., where he continued the study of medicine, which he had commenced with Dr. John Watson in New Orleans, with A. T. Crow & John Stukle & Johnson, preceptors in Galena. He afterward opened a store at Shellsburg, where he was the first merchant of the place. He was also the first merchant at Mifflin, Iowa county. In 1837 he married Elizabeth Phlager. She was a daughter of George Phlager. She was born at Fort Snelling, Minn., in June, 1821, and was thus the first white child

born in that State. They reared twelve children, seven of whom were living in 1883—Alva G., Augusta, Frank D. O., Nathan B., George F. and Minnie B. Dr. Miller has been a member of the I. O. O. F., since 1840; he joining lodge No. 5, Galena, Ill., the second year of its organization. After coming to Wisconsin, he became a member of Eureka lodge, No. 73, Muscoda.

J. C. Wright, M. D., a leading physician of Richland county, son of I. J. and Catherine Wright, was born in Richland county, March 19, 1859. He attended the common schools until thirteen years of age, then took a three years' course at Muscoda. He went with his parents to Tennessee, and while there took a scientific course at the Edwards Academy, at Greenville. Returning to Muscoda, he was engaged in the drug trade a short time, then roughed it in Dakota one season. He commenced the study of medicine with Dr. G. F. Gay as preceptor. He afterwards entered the Rush Medical College, where he graduated in 1882. He commenced practice at Excelsior soon after leaving college. He was employed by the board of health in 1883, and served as secretary of the Southwestern Wisconsin Medical Association. Dr. Wright is a well qualified physician and deservedly has a remunerative practice. Being a cautious and affable gentleman he has a good many warm friends. Although young in years, his growing practice indicates his professional ability, and a future of prosperity seems before him.

#### TOWN OF SYLVAN.

Drs. Luke Dean and E. S. Stebin represented the medical profession in this town in 1884, the former being located near Sylvan Corners, and the latter on Mill creek.

#### TOWN OF WILLOW.

In 1884, the only medical practitioner located in this town was Dr. E. P. Kermott, of the village of Loyd.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## RAILWAY AND TELEGRAPH LINES.

Between the years 1838 and 1841 the territorial legislature, of Wisconsin, passed various acts, chartering several railroads. None of these corporations thus created, however, assumed any shape, with the exception of the Milwaukee & Waukesha Railroad Company, which after hanging fire for several years, was finally incorporated during the year 1847. The commissioners named in its charter assembled, Nov. 23, 1847, and elected the first officers, in accordance with the provisions of the act in question. Dr. L. W. Weeks was named president and A. W. Randall, secretary.

The books, for the subscription of stock, were first opened in the early part of February, of the following year, but from the lack of funds, incident to a new country, it was not until April 5, 1849, that the necessary amount of stock was subscribed for, or requisite fund raised.

During this time, in 1848, the charter had been amended, authorizing the embryo company to build a road to the Mississippi river, the terminus to be located in Grant county, and, in 1850, the name was changed to that of the Milwaukee & Mississippi Railroad Company.

After the company was fully organized, active measures were, at once, taken to push the new enterprise forward to a steady completion. The city of Milwaukee loaned the corporation its credit, and, in 1851, this pioneer railroad of the State of Wisconsin, had reached Waukesha, twenty miles from Milwaukee. In the spring of 1852, Edward H. Broadhead, a prom-

inent civil engineer from the State of New York, was put in charge of the work, as chief engineer and superintendent.

Under his supervision the work of building was urged onward—reaching Milton in 1852—Stoughton in 1853, Madison the year following, and in 1856, the iron rails were laid to Lone Rock in this county. The railroad was pushed on to the Mississippi river, reaching that stream at Prairie du Chien in the fall of 1857. The company after many trials and tribulations, incident to a new railroad in an unsettled country, in 1859 and 1860, defaulted the payment of interest on its bonds; a foreclosure was made, and a new company, called the Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien Railroad Company, took its place, in all its rights and property.

In 1867, the road, through a change of name, became the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad line and that company still operates it.

Having drawn the above sketch of the great through line that traverses a small portion of the territory of this county, in a cursory manner, as in a manner explanatory of the following we approach the building of what might be called an entirely Richland county enterprise.

## THE PINE RIVER AND STEVENS POINT RAILROAD.

This road owes its inception and completion to the public-spiritedness and business tact of the residents of the county seat of the county, and has been the means of a large increase in the value of real estate and business facilities of the entire county.



As early as April 28, 1857, there was a movement made looking to the bringing of a railroad from Lone Rock to Richland Center, but the plan seems to have been abandoned on account of the then financial embarrassments of the whole country, during the panic of that year.

The whole scheme was held in abeyance until in the fall of that year when it was again agitated but nothing was done in a practical way toward the matter, and like the former project it too was allowed to drop. At various times afterwards some talk was made but nothing more was done in the premises until in 1870, when a charter was granted by the legislature to incorporate a company for the building of a railroad—narrow gauge, wooden or iron rails—with the above name. In pursuance with this charter, which bears date of Aug. 5, 1872, the first meeting was held August 20th, of that year, and the following directors were elected: George Krouskop, Joseph L. De Hart, John Walworth, Norman L. James, D. E. Pease, D. L. Downs, D. O. Chandler, A. C. Eastland, J. M. Adams, Charles G. Thomas and David Hardenburg. The officers elected were: George Krouskop, president; D. L. Downs, treasurer, and A. C. Eastland, secretary.

At the time of the organization of the company it was not contemplated to build the road by their own unaided efforts, but simply to make such surveys as were necessary to ascertain the feasibility of the route and demonstrate to some other railroad company this fact, as an inducement that that company would build the road for them.

But during the summer 1875, the plan had so far undergone alteration as to develop into an arrangement to build a narrow gauge railroad by individual subscription, and to be supplemented by the subscriptions of the towns traversed by the line of the road and which would be most benefited thereby.

Stock subscription books were accordingly opened and stock subscribed by most of the residents of the village of Richland Center and

town of Richland. The town, by vote, took stock to the amount of \$19,000; and about \$5,000 in stock was subscribed by parties outside of the town.

The contract for grading the roadbed and surfacing the same, and laying maple rails, was let at some \$400 per mile, the work to be finished and the road to be in running order by June 25, 1876.

The road was to be narrow gauge, thirty-six inches between the track, laid with maple rails,  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5$  inches in diameter. All the road was laid with maple rails except three miles of switches and side tracks which were laid with iron rails.

In December, 1875, the engine was purchased, and also some flat cars for construction purposes. The locomotive was bought of Porter, Bell & Co., Pittsburg, Penn., at a cost of \$5,000. It weighed ten tons, and was a perfect model for one of the class to which it belonged. It was hauled across the country from Lone Rock to Richland Center upon logging trucks, and was used for construction purposes from Richland Center south.

The road soon was carried to completion and was ready for business on the 1st of July, 1876, when the first passenger train ran through from Richland Center to Lone Rock. It had then cost about \$66,508.10.

In the summer of 1875, the second set of directors and officers were chosen. The directors were: George Krouskop, A. H. Krouskop, D. O. Chandler, D. E. Pease, J. M. Adams, N. L. James, J. L. DeHart, W. J. Bowen and A. C. Parfley. The officers elected were: George Krouskop, president; A. H. Krouskop vice-president; N. L. James, general manager; D. O. Chandler, treasurer; and A. C. Eastland, secretary.

On the 27th of August, 1878, a meeting of the stockholders was held, and the following were elected directors to succeed those above mentioned: J. W. Lybraud, John Walworth, J. L. McKee, F. P. Bowen, J. L. DeHart, James H. Miner, Jacob Brimer, A. C. Parfrey and A.

W. Bickford. At the election of officers of the company, the following were chosen: Jacob W. Lybrand, president and general manager; A. W. Bickford, vice-president; J. L. McKee, treasurer, and W. H. Pier, secretary. This was the last set of officers and directors that were elected.

The road continued in operation under the home company increasing its business, and finally arriving at what might be called a paying basis until May 26, 1880, when it was sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. company. The directors obtained some \$56,000 as the price, which paid the indebtedness of the company and paid fifty cents on the dollar, on all original stock, except the \$19,000 stock subscribed by the town of Richland, which had been sold at a nominal price and canceled. At the time of the sale the narrow gauge road was in excellent working condition. The entire length of the road having been laid with iron track, except about three miles. The Milwaukee company at once proceeded to make the road entirely iron rail, and the following year altered the track to the standard width of all their roads, and it is now a fully recognized branch of that monster corporation.

#### THE PONY TELEGRAPH.

This was another wholly Richland county enterprise. In 1874, Charles W. Towsley, telegraph operator at Lone Rock, conceived the idea of constructing a telegraph line from Rich-

land Center to Lone Rock. He accordingly made a proposition to the people of Richland Center, that if they would patronize him and pay for a certain amount of telegraphing in advance, he would construct and manage the operation of the line. Tickets, which were called "franks," were issued, and were handled the same as stock of a joint stock company; only differing in this, "that the holder of a frank was entitled to telegraph out the amount shown upon the face of the frank, and was not entitled to dividends." The people of Richland Center took hold of the matter with a vim, and many of the enterprising citizens took \$5, \$10, and some as high as \$150 worth of the franks. At least \$700 was raised in this way at Richland Center. The line was ready for operation in September, 1874, and Mr. Towsley placed operators at Richland Center and Sextonville. The enterprise met with marked success and gave the best of satisfaction to its patrons.

When the narrow gauge railroad was built, this line of telegraph was used for railroad business, notwithstanding the fact that the wires followed the wagon track, and shot across fields and creeks, the nearest way possible to Lone Rock, regardless of the course taken by the railroad.

When the narrow gauge railroad was sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company, in 1880, it ended the existence of the Pony Telegraph as a Richland county enterprise.

## CHAPTER XVII.

## DARK DEEDS.

Crime, like every vice, has always, more or less, disgraced the annals of every community, and without entering upon a relation of minor actions, or mi-demeanors, that have occurred, from time to time, it is intended here to only give an account of a few of the more important events of that nature that have transpired.

The records of a community are so seldom preserved for posterity that the task of getting at all the facts is a difficult one. Could we have access to that book where time records the acts of man, it would be an easy task to write a true history of the past. But when in antiquarian research, we are compelled to rely in part upon the memory of the living, treacherous at the best, oftentimes known only to the relator by tradition, it becomes an arduous task, and is often, by the force of circumstances, inaccurate. Memory cannot always be relied upon, especially in reference to dates, and hence the accounts herein have been taken mostly from the files of the papers of the county, supplemented by such facts as have been gleaned from the conversation and relations of the older settlers.

## MURDER OF ARNEST HERRLITZ.

The first murder committed within the limits of Richland county was that of Arnest Herrlitz, in the spring of 1859. Herrlitz lived alone in a little log cabin in the town of Dayton. He was a married man; but a short time previous he and his wife had separated, and he had commenced proceedings in the circuit court for divorce. On the fatal evening, in the spring of 1859, he was sitting in his cabin, when he

heard some one at the window as though they were trying to effect an entrance. He went to the door for the purpose of showing in whoever it was, and just as he opened the door, the cowardly assassin shot him. He did not see who did it, but lived long enough to go to his brother's, a half mile distant, and relate the particulars, when death relieved his suffering. 'Squire Durnford was employed to look up the facts and enough was learned to lead to strong suspicions, but not enough to justify the arrest of any one.

## MURDER OF BENJAMIN SUTTON.

This was the next crime of importance committed in Richland county. Benjamin Sutton, was an elderly man, but recently returned from the seat of the "war between the States," then raging, having been a member of the 11th regiment of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was engaged in keeping a small grocery or saloon at Port Andrew, in Richwood township, and while engaged in sweeping off the sidewalk in front of his place of business, about 8 o'clock, on the morning of the 4th of December, 1862, was shot by an assassin with a rifle.

It seems, from the evidence in the case, that Milton Hubanks had a quarrel with Sutton, said to have grown out of the treatment of Sutton's daughter by Hubanks, and out of this had sprung up a deadly feud, and Sutton had made many threats to shoot Hubanks on sight. On the morning in question, the latter concealed himself in the house of James Haney, within six or eight rods from Sutton's place, and locating himself near a window overlooking the door

of that person's place, loaded his rifle with the intention of shooting him. It has been urged in extenuation that he was goaded on to this act by the threats of his enemy and the advice of some friends, on whom he relied, but whose warmth of feeling had warped their judgment. Here at the window, he waited until the old man made his appearance, and then deliberately taking aim shot him down, the ball passing through the abdomen, making a fatal wound. Sutton fell to the ground, and while lying there the dastardly assassin again shot him; this time the ball passing through the arm and entering the breast of his victim.

Sutton lingered in great agony for some hours, in spite of the strong efforts of Dr. R. M. Miller to alleviate the pain, and died before the following morning.

Hubanks was arrested and brought before a jury and they adjudging him guilty of manslaughter only, on account of the extenuating circumstances, he was sentenced for a term of four years to the penitentiary. After serving two years he was pardoned.

#### KILLING OF EDWARD LIVINGSTON.

This sad affair occurred in the same neighborhood as the one just related. Livingston was a remarkably smart young man; a lawyer, and when sober, a gentleman of polished manners. One evening, while half drunk, he went to the house of an old man named Crozier, and attempted to get into bed with Mrs. Crozier. A violent quarrel and struggle ensued between him and Mr. Crozier, and during the encounter they got down upon the floor, when Mr. Crozier, who had succeeded in snatching a knife, stabbed the intruder fatally. The coroner's jury, at the inquest which was held over the dead body, exonerated Crozier from any blame and the case went no further.

#### MURDER OF MRS. WALLACE.

One of the most atrocious crimes, one that has seldom been paralleled anywhere, was committed within the limits of Richland county in 1868. A simple recital of the crime, and the swift, sure

vengeance that overtook the fiend who committed it, is all that space will permit in this connection. The following account of the affair is from the able pen of Hon. J. H. Waggoner:

"It was during the forenoon of Thursday, Sept. 24, 1868, that a floating rumor upon the streets of the village said that the body of a woman had been found near the house of Patrick Wallace; that her head had been eaten by the hogs, and her body otherwise mutilated by them. Soon afterwards word was brought that the wife of "Pat" Wallace had been murdered, and that he had discovered the body, after a night of care and anguish, brooding anxiously over the cause of her absence. An inquest was at once called, and justice Farlin and sheriff McMurtrey, accompanied by several citizens, made all possible haste to the scene demanding their official attendance.

"All agree in the statement that a more revolting spectacle never met their eyes, and the record of a murder more horrid in its execution had never passed under their notice. Some of them were men whose form had stood in the red front of fierce battle, who had looked upon death in all its ghastliest shapes; some were men whose silvery locks betokened the snows of many winters that had settled there; all were accustomed to scenes and conversant with descriptions of terrible violence. But there the man of stoutest nerve and hardihood quailed like weak children at the terrible sight that lay before them.

"A jury was impanelled, and the testimony of neighbors concerning the then mysterious affair duly taken. A physician was also called, who carefully examined the body and testified concerning the probability of death from the wounds inflicted.

"The examination of the body disclosed a most horrid murder, terrible in its conception, but barbarous and fiendish in the execution. The head had been cut off, a deep gash cut into each side of the body, the flesh of one arm almost cleft from it, a fearful cut in the calf of

one of her legs, and all these marks clearly indicated the use of a murderous ax as the weapon of her taking off. A little search soon brought to light this instrument, all clotted with blood and hair, and the blades of which (for it was a double bitted one) fitted in the gashes made in the body. Only the lower jawbone and teeth could then be discovered, although the skull was afterwards found, the certain marks of the ax deeply penetrating each side of it. The body where found—a distance of twenty rods from the house, and toward the house of her father-in-law—was tracked by the blood which streamed from the murderous, gaping wounds. Through a cabbage patch adjoining the house, over two fences and through the belt of woodland, until life was extinct or nearly so, had this much to be pitied woman almost bounded, followed by a fiend whose crime would shock the very demons of hell itself. Blood was oozing from her at every step, and precious life was being sacrificed at the instigation of a soulless wretch, lured on by the hope of possessing a few paltry dollars—the hard earned dollars of another. On investigation, the little money of the victim was found to have been taken, and also a coat and pair of pantaloons belonging to the husband. With these facts brought before them, the jury at once rendered a verdict indicating the foulest murder and pointing out the perpetrator.

“The testimony of the husband, relatives and friends, left no doubt as to the identity of the committer of the dark deed. This was John Nevel, a boy of about fifteen years of age, the son of a nice, quiet and respectable farmer who resided in the town of Dayton, about six miles west of the village of Richland Center. This lad had, within the past four years, developed a precocity in almost inconceivable depravity beyond degree, both in his inclination and actions, but, in all charity to the boy, let it be said that his mind was not well balanced, and some said that he was quite imbecile. Although

guarded and surrounded by an honest, anxious father and friends during this time, he had committed all manner of depredations within his power, or that could suggest itself to a willfully wicked mind. He had the reputation of being troublesome, disobedient and ungovernable. Yet, until within a few days before committing the crime for which his life was the penalty, his deeds of sin and wickedness were mostly confined to petty thefts and disorderly brawls, of which many are reported.

“But the crime which led to or suggested the final one was perpetrated the day before. In a fit of brutal devilishness, he committed an unmentionable crime upon a little girl of eleven years of age, the daughter of a neighboring farmer, and so inhumanly treated her that her life was endangered. This fearful exhibition of criminal propensity was enacted in the presence of the little brother of the innocent girl, and both he and his sister were threatened with death, if they should resist him, or divulge the shocking crime. Complaint was soon made, and a warrant issued for Nevel's arrest, but for some unexplained and unaccountable reason, its service was delayed. Had this warrant been served upon him immediately after its issue, and he taken into proper custody, the murder of the following day would have been prevented. But apprehending arrest, he was fleeing the county, and in his course—the road to crime having opened to him its broadest avenues—it was seemingly without remorse that he could perpetrate any deed or crime, no matter how devilish.

“The murdered woman, Mrs. Anna Wallace, was the daughter of John Joice and wife of Patrick Wallace, all industrious, peaceable, respected citizens of the town of Marshall. The residence of Mr. Wallace was about four miles from that of Mr. Nevel, the heartbroken father of the guilty boy, and about ten miles from the village of Richland Center. Mrs. Wallace was only about twenty years of age, and had been married only six months. Endeared to her

family and friends by her virtues, her accomplishments and her winning manners, as well as the common interests of a nationality noted for its clannish love for one another. and of Church, her tragical death cast a gloom over the entire community, and brought tears to eyes unused to weep. That any life be taken, is enough to arouse the indignation of the coldest of humanity, but when to murder is added such diabolical atrocity and butchery, it seems as if every heart must be fired with hatred and thoughts of vengeance; the latent feeling will spring to the surface, and men will become brutes and worse than brutes, and do dire deeds that may prove the subject of life-long regret to them afterward.

“From the testimony developed at the examination, it seems that Patrick Wallace, the husband, had gone to the Center early Wednesday morning, on business, and did not return until in the evening. Mrs. Wallace was alone, and had evidently, just concluded her morning work when the butchery took place. She had been trying to earn a little money by picking hops during the three or four weeks prior to the evening preceding the awful day, and had a small sum of money about her, the result of her praiseworthy industry. That morning, young Nevel had called at the house of John Wallace, Pat’s father, which is about eighty rods from that of his son, and inquired if Pat had any revolver or other firearm to sell. Mrs. Wallace replied that Pat owned nothing of the kind, and that he had gone to Richland Center with a load of wheat that same day. Nevel had been seen a few miles from the neighborhood of the dire calamity, with blood on his face. He had been stopped and questioned about what he was doing and where he was going, and he replied that he had ‘a scrape with a girl,’ and was leaving the county. Having no suspicion of the real status of the case and the terrible tragedy, the questioner passed on, Nevel pursuing his way in a different direction.

“At the close of the inquest the pursuit of the murderer was vigorously instituted. At noon of Thursday, twenty-four hours after the crime, John Barrett, constable; Sylvester Keplar, Benjamin Ewers and John Wallace, the father-in-law of the unfortunate victim, started in pursuit of this fiend in human shape.

“In speaking of the pursuit and subsequent arrest, the testimony of Mr. Keplar, an eye witness and active participant, is given, as the best and most graphic picture of the scenes and incidents. He says:

“We started about noon for the house of Nevel’s father, and at Sylvan Corners, six miles distant we had word of the object of our search, John Nevel. He had purchased a little powder here and had inquired the road to Readstown. We followed in that direction, and when near Readstown. We learned that he had stopped there on Wednesday night and had attended a dance; had slept at the hotel, but had eat neither supper or breakfast there; he had left in the forenoon, first inquiring the road to Ferryville, a landing about eight miles below De Soto. He also made several inquiries about the State of Iowa, and said that he was going to that State, to attend school. He had bought a new hat and a knife at Readstown, and wore two hats from there to Ferryville. He had left Readstown, as has been said, in the morning, and also, made some inquiries respecting Towerville, the next village. On reaching the latter place, he stopped long enough to make the purchase of some crackers and a tobacco box.

“He reached Ferryville landing about sundown, Thursday, having traveled from Wallace’s there on foot, a distance of about forty-five miles, in a day and a half.

“Before entering the town, he put on, over his own clothing, the coat and pantaloons he had stolen from Wallace’s house, after the murder had been perpetrated. He went into the post-office and there left his old straw hat and old

vest, and going out obtained lodging at the house of Mr. George Copper.

“We reached Ferryville about eight o’clock, just a few minutes after Nevel had gone to bed. He was still awake. Making known our business to Mr. Copper, we were shown to his bedside, and at once arrested him. We found the stolen property in his possession, and took charge of it; also a double barrellled pistol, some powder and caps, a couple of knives and other things he had bought on the road. We found but \$4 in his possession, he having squandered the balance. Barrett and myself sat up with the prisoner during the night. We accused him of the crime, but he persistently denied any knowledge of it. His story was that he had bought the clothing of a man he had met between Pat Wallace’s and Ewer’s; had paid \$5 for the articles, and on investigation had found some money in the pocket. When morning had dawned, Barrett went with the prisoner to the postoffice, and got the clothing he had left there, which he acknowledged were his. We had previously examined the vest and found blood upon it.

“We left Ferryville, on our return, at 8 o’clock, Friday morning, and stopped at Tower-ville for dinner. Up to this time he had refused to make any confession. We had but four horses, (being horseback), and we let the prisoner ride and walk with us, alternately. However, after we had started from the latter place, Nevel riding Barrett’s horse, I rode up beside him and commenced a conversation with him, exercising all my ingenuity to draw from him a statement of his crime. I was well rewarded, for within an hour’s ride from the town, he confessed to me that he had murdered the woman. He said that he had shot her and then cut her with the ax.”

“This confession he afterwards repeated to the others of his captors, after some little hesitation. In reply to their numerous inquiries, which they propounded to him, he gave the particulars of the crime, which corroborated

most of the facts, as elicited at the inquest, and further along entered upon a relation of the details in full.

“He said, that after his conversation with the elder Mr. Wallace, which is given elsewhere, he went to Pat’s house, knowing that Mrs. Wallace had been picking hops, and must have some money in the house, and he having a \$5 bill, wanted it changed. This Mrs. Wallace, with her usual kindness of disposition, was willing to do; but, in making the change for him, she brought her pocket-book to the door and he saw that she had some more money in it, and the demon of avarice took possession of him, and he made up his mind to kill her and get possession of it. The little sum for which this remorseless fiend was willing to shed the blood of an innocent woman, was not above \$15 or \$18.

“He watched where she put the pocket-book containing the money. She then seated herself in a chair between the stove and the door, with her back toward him, he standing at the door. He then went on to relate, that when he cocked the pistol, to shoot her, he held his hand over the trigger, to prevent her hearing the click of the lock. Taking deadly aim at the unsuspecting woman, he fired. After he had discharged his pistol, the ball entering at the back of her head, she jumped up, looked at him intently for a moment, and started for her father-in-law’s house, on a run. Seeing that she might live, he seized the ax, which was close to the door, and followed her. She had a little start ahead of him, and he told that he could not overtake her until she fell. He then, on coming up with her, struck her several times with the ax about her head and body. He was a little frightened by this time, and did not know how many times he did strike her.

“Having cut and beaten her, with the ax, until he was sure she was dead, he returned to the house, secured the money and clothing, and started for the Mississippi river, with the intention of going into Iowa.

“To test his sense of the horror of the crime, he was asked if he thought he would do the like again. He replied that he thought not. The question was then asked him, that if a friend asked him to help him by murdering some one, what would do. He said that he would help him.’

“On Saturday the prisoner was brought to the county seat. The excitement, by this time, was intense, and the village streets were thronged with the relations and friends of his victim, the people of an outraged community. The preliminary examination was held at the courthouse. An immense crowd filled the edifice and many were unable to obtain entrance. But court was quietly opened, and counsel for both State and prisoner appeared. A motion, by the counsel of Nevel, to continue the examination until Monday was sustained. No other measure of importance transpiring, the court was dismissed. The crowd then quietly dispersed, and the prisoner was lodged in the county jail. This was about 2 o’clock. Soon after the examination, the funeral cortege passed through the streets. The train of buggies, wagons and pedestrians made the largest procession of the kind ever witnessed in the streets of the town. The almost insane husband, the nearly distracted relatives and friends of the deceased, presented a spectacle that thrilled the hearts of every onlooker. During the exercises at the cemetery, the village was almost deserted. At the grave the upper lid of the coffin was raised and the mangled neck of the corpse, with the bared jawbone and teeth, were all that could be seen. (The head was not found until the following Monday, when it was interred in the same grave with the body.) The sight of these ghastly remains was enough to chill the blood, and many turned away from the open coffin, with revenge stamped upon their lowering brows.

“Up to this time, no demonstration had been made, which looked to certain violence to the

murderer, though fears were entertained by many, who, as was afterwards proven, had strong grounds for their belief.

“From the grave to the courthouse square, about 4 o’clock, marched, with hurried and determined step, the people who had sustained the severe loss, and whose blood was aroused to a fearful fever by the terrible butchery. A consultation in the square, which lasted but a few minutes, resulted in a united and fierce rush for the door of the jail. The mob was well supplied with revolvers, as well as with ropes. The proper officers who met them at the door, warned them of their peril, and did all that men could do to stem the now furious tide that ebbed and surged around them, but in vain. All who sought to defend the law or protect the prisoner were swept aside, like the straw upon the incoming billow, by the intensely infuriated mob. The door was soon broken down, the prisoner seized, and, in less time than it takes to pen this sentence, the soul of the miserable wretch was launched into the “sweet subsequently,” there to meet a fearful retribution before a just and omnipotent God. He was taken to a tree near by, his body swung in the air and all was over. Immediately after the consummation of the violence, the crowd slowly dispersed, wending homeward slowly, and quiet once more reigned supreme.

“The body of the boy was taken possession of by the authorities, who immediately handed it over to the parent and friends of the family, and received burial from the hands of those who had loved and cared for him in infancy. His victim’s and his own body lie, with but the fence between, in the cemeteries of Richland Center.

“The ringleaders of this violation of the law, were afterwards indicted by the grand jury, but the sentiments of a large portion of the community being with them, the cases were never prosecuted and the matter was allowed to drop where it was”



## MURDER OF MRS. COLEMAN.

During the month of July, 1882, the whole community was horrified at hearing of an atrocious murder of an old lady in the town of Akan. The following account has been compiled from newspaper files of that date and contain a full and complete history of the tragedy. It would seem that Mrs. Sabina Driskell, known more commonly by her first husband's name of Coleman, and who came from Butler Co., Penn., about 1878, and has been living with her son, Martin Coleman, on a farm on section 30, in the town of Akan, and known to the neighbors as the McDermott place.

Martin owned a small farm of forty acres, on section 21, on which place he was building a house and had in some crops, (this place was about two miles from where he lived.) The son's story, as he related it, was as follows:

On Wednesday, July 19th, he started for his farm, as usual, to work. Just before leaving the house, however, his mother requested him to go to the village of Excelsior, about six miles distant, to get some groceries which were needed. He made the remark that he did not want to lose a day from his work in the corn. She then told him that she would go up to the farm and work in the field while he went to town on the errand. This met his views and he started to his work, with the understanding that he should leave the hoe in a pile of lumber, so that he could find it.

From his account it appears that he worked until noon, and then went to his uncle's, Michael Hernan, about a quarter of a mile from his own farm, to dinner, according to his usual custom. After dinner he started for Excelsior, as he had promised his mother he would. In going there the road took him by his home, and stopping there, found his mother had gone and the house locked up. He forced an entrance, by pulling out the staple in the door, which was fastened by a padlock. He went up stairs to get some money, which he had forgotten in the morning, and had left in his pants

pocket, but finding it gone, he supposed that his mother had taken it, or put it away for safe keeping, so he did not worry about it. Not having any money, he did not go on to town to make the purchase contemplated, but waited for his mother to return.

However, she did not return that night, and, in his account, he said that he did not think strange of that, but supposed that she had staid at his uncle's, as she had sometimes done before. In the morning he started out, and went to the uncle's place, and on inquiring found that she had not been there. On his arrival at his farm he found that she had been there and had done three or four hour's work in the corn, but could see nothing of either her, or the hoe, both having mysteriously disappeared. Thinking nothing of this he went back to his uncle's and borrowed a hoe, with which he worked until the dinner hour. On arriving there he seemed to be surprised at her continued absence, and told his uncle so, saying that he could not find her at all.

In the afternoon, he went home and finding that she had not returned thither, during his absence, he instituted inquiries among some of the neighbors, who, in reply, said that they had seen nothing of her. He now began to be alarmed at her prolonged absence. Toward evening Mr. Hernan, himself and some of the neighbors, took a lantern, and went out in search of her, going up on the ridge for that purpose, but found no trace of her.

On Friday morning the search was resumed, and the following account of the events of the morning, are taken from the testimony of James Brady, given at the inquest subsequently held, and being the words of an eye witness, can be relied upon.

In the words of Mr. Brady: "We commenced the search of her quite early, and I was placed in charge of the investigation, and placed the men, as I thought best, so as to take in a strip of about thirty feet wide."

The party went all around the field, but without finding any trace of the lost woman. Brady then placed them across the ravine, from bluff to bluff, and the search was extended as far as Gorman's field. Young Coleman, or his uncle Hernan, then suggested that perhaps she had gone to Chicago. Brady then asked Martin if he had missed any of her good clothes, in the house. His reply was that he had not, and, what was more, probably could not miss them. The suggestion was then made to search the house, and investigate the matter there. The three went to the premises, leaving the balance of the neighbors engaged in the prosecution of the search, and giving them word to go on to Hernan's to dinner and to await there the return of the three.

On their arrival, they went into the house, and after a rigid examination, Coleman declared that his mother's best clothes hung on a nail and were not missing. There was a tub on the floor, with some clothing in it, to soak, and it was remarked that a woman that left things in that shape, evidently left with the intention of an early return. Then it seemed first to dawn upon their minds that some foul play was, probably, at the bottom of the whole business.

After a short consultation, the search was recommenced, and this time in dead earnest, and while carrying it on in Gorman's field, one of the owner's boys asked Martin if he had thrown any logs into a hole over there, pointing out a certain part of the land. This put them on the true scent, and under the guidance of the youth, the hole was sought for and found—a hole evidently made by an upturned tree, and some logs found therein were discovered to have traces of blood on them, as were also some pieces of rock. After a prolonged search in every direction, a trail was struck, and followed up and the mutilated form of the murdered woman was found at the head of the ravine, covered with rocks and rotten logs, so that it was nearly hidden from sight.

The head was bruised and cut as if with some sharp instrument, the clothing was torn, and quite a number of wounds were found on one arm and on the head. The body was carefully removed to the house of M. Hernan, and the coroner summoned and a jury impaneled before Squire Pucket, of Excelsior.

Before many days had elapsed, in spite of the feeling to the contrary, a strong suspicion began to enter the minds of the majority of the people, that the unknown party who had committed the dastardly deed was no other than her son Martin, and that this was more than a common murder.

The circumstances surrounding the case caused the officers to make the closest investigation. On searching the premises lately occupied by the accused and his supposed victim, they found the tub of water, before mentioned, to have the overalls and overshirt of the young man in it to soak. These garments were secured, and were dried, and on being submitted to chemical analysis, the marks of what was supposed to be blood was found to have been upon them. These things and many little incidents drew suspicion upon him and he left for other climes. Immediately upon his flight becoming known, sheriff Barron detailed marshal Spangler to pursue him and bring him back. He was followed to Lynxville, on the Mississippi river, where he had taken a boat, going north. After some delay he was followed, and in the course of the next day, was found near Lake City, Minn., at work for a railroad company near that place. He was arrested and brought back to meet his accusers, and was lodged in the county jail. Next day he was brought before D. L. Downs, the county judge, for examination. The evidence being purely circumstantial, and not very strong, and nothing positively proving his connection with the murder, he was simply bound over in bonds of \$1,000, to appear at the next term of the court, to answer the charge.

At the meeting of the court, no further evidence having been found against him, or any other parties, the district attorney entered a *nolle pros.* to be entered on the case; and the case dropped, leaving the punishment of the criminal to the just and sure vengeance of the great Tribunal, where all crimes must be answered for at last. Coleman, upon his discharge, left the country, and disappeared from the knowledge of the people of Richland county.

#### KILLING OF EPHRAIM DOCKERTY.

The Richland County *Observer*, of Oct. 12, 1882, contains a graphic description of the next terrible tragedy, which occurred at Sextonville, in Ithaca town, Oct. 5, 1882, from which we quote, by kind permission.

After relating, how that excitement ran high in that village, when the news of the event was received; how the whole community was shocked; the article in question goes on to state that this was the second case of the taking of precious life in the county in ninety days; and that this has no mystery attending it, as it was a clear case of murder in self-defense, or justifiable homicide. The *Observer* then goes on to say:

"The particulars of this unfortunate affair, as we collect from reliable sources, are, that Ephraim Dockerty, the victim, some fourteen years ago, married a widow, who owned a farm near Sextonville, and who had a family of two sons, Arthur and Samuel, and one daughter. They have lived together all these years, the sons helping to carry on the farm, and at times working out. The family has, however, lived unhappily for years, and strife and contention have been rife and continuous between Dockerty and the boys.

"During last winter, matters in the domestic circle became so unpleasant that some kind of a division of property was made between Dockerty, his wife and the boys. He was given a team and wagon, on the condition that he would leave and not return to molest them. He took

his departure for Dakota some time during last April, and it was hoped that the family and neighborhood was rid of him for good. But the old saying, that "a bad penny always returns," proved true in this case, for about the latter part of September he returned to Sextonville. Here he talked hard, and made threats against the boys and the family, saying that he was going to stay with the family, and similar remarks.

"He camped in the neighborhood for several days after his return, and did not visit the family until Sunday, October 1st. On that day he was seen to go there, and knowing that he was desperate, several men followed him to the house. None but the women of the family were at home. He made no disturbance, but asked for the youngest child, which he took into the street and played with for some time. He soon sent in for the child's clothes, evidently with the intention of taking it away. Mrs. Dockerty went out and took the child in her arms, when Dockerty took it from her by force. The other parties then interfered, rescued the child and returned it to its mother. Dockerty drew a revolver and made violent threats. In the meantime Arthur, one of the boys, returned, when some words passed between them, not very amicable, Dockerty threatening to take his, (Arthur's) life. The boy very quietly told him that he did not want any fuss, and that as he (Dockerty) was not welcome there, it would be best for him to leave.

This advice Dockerty, finally took and went away, and quiet reigned once more. By the advice of friends, who were aware of Dockerty's desperate frame of mind, young Arthur Van Dusen procured a revolver with which to defend himself, if need be.

"Nothing further occurred until Tuesday, October 5th, when Dockerty went to the place, put his team in the barn, and spent the afternoon quietly in the house. Samuel was at home but Arthur was absent. However, when the latter returned in the evening, his team being

heated by travel, he wanted to put the horses into the barn, so the old man's team was taken from thence and tied to the wagon. This "riled" Dockerty up, and he arose and said he was going. The boys helped him hitch up his team and he got on his wagon to start. He turned to Samuel and said "you'll get scorched financially for this." Arthur spoke up and said that he "ought not to make such threats," whereupon Dockerty reached for his revolver, saying that he would shoot him. At this Arthur drew his revolver and fired, the bullet going through the old man's cheek. This apparently stunned him and he climbed from the wagon and tried to keep on the opposite side of it from the boys. The team, however, moved on and left the man and boy facing one another, within a few feet of each other.

"Dockerty had his revolver up and the hammer half cocked. At this Arthur again shot, the ball taking effect in Dockerty's head, killing him instantly.

"Arthur Van Dusen then went into town and telling the story of how it was done, delivered himself a prisoner into the hands of the officers of the law. The day following, an inquest was held before 'Squire Barnard, with a jury composed of prominent citizens. The examination was conducted by H. A. Eastland, for the State, and Oscar F. Black on the part of the defense. The full facts in regard to the killing were brought out, and on reviewing them and investigating the matter thoroughly, they agreed on a verdict of justifiable homicide. The verdict seems to have met with universal satisfaction and approval."



## CHAPTER XVIII.

## THE PRESS.

There is no instrumentality, not even excepting the pulpit and the bar, which exerts such an influence upon society as the press of the land. It is the Archimedean lever that moves the world. The talented minister of the gospel, on the Sabbath day, preaches to a few hundred people; on the following morning his thoughts are reproduced more than a thousand fold, and are read and discussed throughout the length and breadth of the land. The attorney at the bar, in thrilling tones, pleads either for or against the criminal arraigned for trial, often causing a jury to bring in a verdict against the law and evidence in the case. His words are reproduced in every daily that is reached by the telegraphic wire, and his arguments are calmly weighed by unprejudiced men and accepted for what they are worth. The politician takes the stand and addresses a handful of men upon the political questions of the day; his speech is reported and read by thousands of men for every one that heard the address. Suddenly the waters of one of our mighty rivers rise, overflowing the land for miles, rendering thousands of people homeless, and without means to secure their daily bread. The news is flashed over the wire, taken up by the press, and known and read by all men. No time is lost in sending to their relief; the press has made known their wants and they are instantly supplied. "Chicago is on fire! Two hundred millions worth of property destroyed! Fifty thousand people rendered homeless!" Such is the dread intelligence proclaimed by the Press. Food and clothing are hastily gathered, trains are char-

tered, and the immediate wants of the sufferers are in a measure relieved.

The power for good or evil of the Press is to-day unlimited; the shortcomings of the politician are made known through its columns; the dark deeds of the wicked are exposed, and each fear it alike. Indeed, the controlling influence of a Nation, State or county is its press.

The local press is justly considered among the most important institutions of every city, town and village. The people of every community regard their particular newspaper or newspapers as of peculiar value, and this not merely on account of the fact already alluded to, but because these papers are the repositories wherein are stored the facts and the events, the deeds and sayings, the undertakings and achievements, that go to make up final history. One by one these things are gathered and placed in type; one by one the papers are issued; one by one these papers are gathered together and bound, and another volume of local, general and individual history is laid away imperishable. The volumes thus collected are sifted by the historian, and the book for the library is ready.

The people of each city or town naturally have a pride in their home paper. The local press, as a rule, reflects the business enterprise of a place. Judging from this standard, the enterprise of the citizens of Richland county, is indeed commendable. Its papers are well filled each week with advertisements of home merchants and of its business enterprises.

## REPUBLICAN AND OBSERVER.

*Richland County Observer.*

This paper was established in November, 1855, in the then new village of Richland Center by Israel Sanderson, and was the first in Richland county. The first issue made its appearance on the 20th of November, being a six column folio, very neatly made up and well printed. But little of the matter was editorial, it being mostly clipped from eastern papers. At the mast-head was placed the following: "A county and family newspaper; independent in all things, neutral in nothing."

The following is a list of the local advertisers in the first issue: D. B. Priest, W. F. Crawford, David Strickland and D. S. Hamilton, attorneys; S. W. Wallace, physician; L. D. Gage, land agency; Albert Nell, American Hotel; O. H. Northrup, wagon-maker; L. D. Gage, drugs; Milton Langdon and I. Janney, nursery; Milton Langdon, S. H. Austin, L. Dillingham and J. S. Wilson, general merchandise goods.

The only local items in the first paper relate to the marriage of Charles R. Nelson and Melinda A. Hawkins, and to the death of Louisa M. Austin, Helen L. Bowen and Thomas C. Carlton.

A lengthy salutatory was presented in the first issue, by Mr. Sanderson, from which the following is an extract:

"CITIZENS:—Having sought a location for the establishment of a public newspaper in your young and prosperous county, it is with pleasure that I announce to you, that with your aid and the blessing of good health, henceforward will be published at Richland Center the Richland County *Observer*. That this county is now advanced in wealth and population sufficient to keep in tolerable existence a well conducted public journal there can hardly be a doubt; but it must not be expected that the labors and exertions of its editor and proprietor alone can accomplish so desirable an end. Every man who feels for the welfare of his home and county, should remember that unless the county in which he lives can support a newspa-

paper, his property cannot be greatly enhanced in value, or his county respected; and hence to accomplish this, in so new a county, it is necessary for him to subscribe for his home paper, and advertise if he need to, previous to sending his money elsewhere, for such purposes. \* \* \* I hope to meet with sufficient encouragement to enlarge the paper at the end of six months, which can only be done by the interest taken in it by the citizens of the county."

In regard to the mails of the county, showing the disadvantages under which the pioneer paper labored, the editor in the first issue makes the following remarks: "Until there is a different mail arrangement than the present, the readers of the *Observer* cannot reasonably expect to find news in its columns from Madison, except by chance, much short of a fortnight old. By reference to the notice published in another column, it will be seen that the mail service from Richland City to this place is badly arranged. Why two mails should leave Richland City for Richland Center the same day, we are at a loss to divine. This arrangement gives but one mail a week from that place."

The notice regarding the arrival and departure of mails referred to, was as follows:

"From Highland, Iowa county, by the way of Richland City and Sextonville, arriving at Richland Center every Wednesday, at 6 p. m. Leaves Richland Center for Highland every Thursday morning, at 6 a. m.

"Viroqua mail, by the way of Bad Ax, Kickapoo, Forest and Fancy Creek, arrives at Richland Center every Tuesday, at 11 a. m. Leaves for Richland City the same day, at 12 m., returning on Wednesday at 11 a. m., and leaving for Viroqua same day at 12 m.

"Mails for West Branch and Siresville arrive and depart every Wednesday, at 12 m."

In the second issue the following direction is given as to "where the *Observer* may be found": "Office in Mr. Charles Nelson's store building, back room. Entrance through the gate."

The only marriage notice in this issue is that of George Krouskop to Elizabeth Black. The ceremony was performed Nov. 22, 1855, by Rev. Alfred Brunson.

The second issue also contained an interesting description of Richland county, from which the following extract is gleaned:

RICHLAND COUNTY IN 1855.

"It is true that in 1850, from all that could be ascertained, the aggregate population of Richland county was but 993 inhabitants! To such as are not acquainted with the fact that the census of 1855 shows the population has increased to the almost incredible number of 5,584, it would be almost beyond belief, were it not known how rapidly some new regions of country in the United States have been settled. If it should increase at the same ratio for the next ten years, that it has for the last five, it will rank high among the counties of the State in population and wealth. Already it has a people that are making themselves respected abroad for their intelligence and enterprise; for, from a wilderness, where the Indian still found a hunting-ground, in five or six years they have made some parts of the county assume the appearance of having been settled a quarter of a century, whereas it is probably not more than twelve years since the first house was built within the boundaries now known as the county of Richland. This is, without doubt, one of the best watered and timbered counties in the State. There is sufficient water-power to be found on the streams to propel a vast amount of machinery. The streams are rapid, and hence great inducement is extended to the capitalist and machinist; and we hope, before many years, to see the locomotive traversing our valleys to take the lumber from our mills (to the counties almost timberless, in other parts of the State) which scores of saws have made. The county is divided by heavy ridges of land extending along the streams. These are covered with excellent timber, and are believed to be our best lands for the production of small grain, as the

valleys have generally yielded the best corn, potatoes, etc. As far as proper experiments in the culture of all kinds of crops suited to this climate have been made, the soil has yielded immensely. It is a sandy loam, and consequently the seed expands into the plant with great rapidity. Fruit trees grow well, and the peach in particular, which gives great hope that the soil and situation of the country are suited to make it vigorous and productive."

The following sonnet to the Pine river appeared in the second issue of the *Observer*. It was written by Jane Hamilton, afterwards Mrs. John S. Wilson:

SONNET TO PINE RIVER.

Thou gently rolling stream,  
 Round which trees and shrubs combine,  
 How pleasantly the sun's bright beam  
 Upon thy waters shine.  
 Ah, how I love to gaze  
 Upon thy waves so bright,  
 And listen to thy murmurings  
 With pleasure and delight.  
 And as the sun is setting  
 Behind the western hill,  
 Thy course keeps onward moving,  
 So gentle and so still;  
 That one might almost wish to stay,  
 To guide thee on thy happy way.

Israel Sanderson continued the publication of the *Observer* until 1858, when he was succeeded as editor and proprietor by J. Walworth. Mr. Sanderson removed to Platteville, Grant Co., Wis., where he established the *Grant County Witness*. He remained connected with that paper a year or two, when he drifted into southern Illinois, where he still resides. Mr. Sanderson was a man of ability, and a clear and forcible writer.

J. Walworth remained in charge of the paper until about 1864, when J. H. Waggoner became editor and proprietor. During 1864 and a portion of 1865 Mr. Waggoner was alone; after which, for a time, was associated with his brother, William J. Waggoner. He then again conducted the paper alone until in July, 1866,

when he sold the office and good will of the paper to the firm of Walworth, Fogo & Hoskins—*en personnel*, J. Walworth, W. M. Fogo and J. M. Hoskins. This firm at once took charge of the paper and got out the issue dated July 5, 1866, enlarging it to an eight column folio, and otherwise much improving it. In speaking of their reasons for enlarging, the editor, Mr. Walworth, says: "The paper has so steadily grown in popular favor that it has by force of necessity become necessary to enlarge it to its present fair proportions. Friends have flocked to its support in such numbers that limits more confined than those to-day presented would not contain their favors. The *Observer* is the largest county paper published anywhere in western Wisconsin, between Madison and the Mississippi river."

On July 26, 1866, J. M. Hoskins retired from the partnership, and the firm became Walworth & Fogo. Mr. Hoskins was a bright and talented young man. He is now (1884) engaged in the banking business, and is postmaster at Sioux Rapids, Iowa.

Messrs. Walworth & Fogo continued the publication of the *Observer* until Aug. 1, 1867. During this time journalistic heat in Richland county reached its maximum. An opposition paper called the *Live Republican* had been started by Ira S. Haseltine and J. H. Waggoner, and the sharp thrusts, and the sarcastic articles which were passed, and the bitterness which existed between these two papers gained them a State reputation.

On Aug. 1, 1867, Walworth & Fogo sold the *Observer* to Messrs. C. H. Smith and G. L. Laws. The latter firm then bought up the *Live Republican*, the opposition sheet, and consolidated the two under the name of the

#### RICHLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN,

discontinuing the publication of both the old papers.

Smith & Laws continued the publication of the "consolidated papers" for sometime, and were finally succeeded by James H. Waggoner

and George D. Stevens, as Waggoner & Stevens. This firm remained editors and proprietors until 1870, when Mr. Stevens retired from the firm, leaving Mr. Waggoner sole editor and proprietor.

James H. Waggoner continued the publication of the *Republican* alone until in December, 1873, when W. M. Fogo purchased a half interest in the paper and the firm became Waggoner & Fogo. In September, 1874, G. L. Laws purchased J. H. Waggoner's interest, and the firm became Fogo & Laws.

Fogo & Laws conducted the paper until April 1, 1876, when O. G. Munson purchased G. L. Laws' interest in the same, and the partnership then formed, as Fogo & Munson, still continues. In January, 1881, Fogo & Munson purchased the material and good will of the *Observer* and consolidated it with the *Republican* changing the name to the

#### REPUBLICAN AND OBSERVER,

under which title the paper is still published. The office of the *Republican and Observer* is equipped with a Potter cylinder press, with a capacity of taking 1000 impressions per hour, run by steam, and two job presses. It occupies the first floor of a fine two-story brick building seventy-four feet deep, which was erected by W. M. Fogo, in 1883.

The *Republican and Observer*, through all its changes of management, has occupied a high position in journalistic circles of the State and has been recognized as a prominent and influential newspaper, not simply as a local or provincial journal. It has always taken and maintained a leading position in the discussion of State and National affairs and all the current topics of the day. Under the enterprising management of its present proprietors it has attained a large circulation, wields a powerful influence and has extended and advanced its former State wide reputation. As a county paper, it is one of the ablest in the State, and is the just pride of the people of Richland county, who accord it a



liberal support, and claim it as one of the permanent institutions of the county.

W. M. Fogo, senior editor of the *Republican and Observer*, is a son of John and Jane (Dreg-horn) Fogo, and was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, on the 18th day of June, 1841. He came with the family to Wisconsin in 1853, where he worked upon a farm until 1859, when he commenced work as apprentice in the office of the Richland County *Democrat*, of which W. P. Furey was at that time editor. He received as liberal an education as the common schools of his native State, and the then new Richland county afforded. On the 12th day of December, 1861, he enlisted in company F, 2d Wisconsin Cavalry, and served one year, when he was discharged on account of sickness. Regaining his health, again in August, 1864, he re-enlisted and was made Sergeant Major of the 42d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served with that rank until the regiment was mustered out at the close of the war. Returning to Richland Center he resumed newspaper work as one of the proprietors of the Richland County *Observer*. One year later he removed to Calumet county and established the *Calumet Reflector*, which he published one year. He then went to Iowa and soon afterward purchased an interest in the Howard County *Times*. In 1873 he returned to Richland Center, and has since been one of the proprietors of the Richland County *Republican*.

Mr. Fogo is an able editor; as a writer he is pungent and to the point, wasting no time trying to display what he can do, and under the management of himself and Mr. Munson, the *Republican and Observer* has become one of the leading county papers of the State. In addition to the foregoing, Mr. Fogo has served as bookkeeper and assistant clerk in the Wisconsin Assembly, and for a number of years has been secretary of the Richland County Agricultural Society, and is now Secretary of the Old Settlers' Association of Richland county. He is a Royal Arch Mason and highly esteemed and

respected as a citizen. In 1866 he was united in marriage with Amelia St. John. They have two children—Emma C. and Stephen W.

#### THE LIVE REPUBLICAN.

This newspaper sprung into existence in 1866, as a result of disaffection and dissention in local politics. Ira S. Haseltine and James H. Waggoner were the founders. The first issue made its appearance in December, and was a seven column folio. As the sixteen years that have passed since these facts transpired, have so healed all differences that it is now considered as a joke, it will be interesting to notice some of the inside press history of that day.

From the cradle of the *Live Republican*, until it dropped from existence, there was the most bitter feeling and enmity between it and the *Observer*. It seems that in the fall of 1866, Ira S. Haseltine was nominated for member of the General Assembly by the Republicans, after a hard fight and a bitter opposition. Some of the Republicans were very much dissatisfied with the nomination. In commenting upon the result of the convention, the *Observer* presented an article which was really the cause of the *Live Republican's* establishment. In the course of the article the *Observer* remarked—referring to Mr. Haseltine—that it was “better to submit to an *unwelcome necessity*, than to sacrifice a single vote on national issues.” This made Haseltine very wrathful, and he accordingly established the *Live Republican*, in partnership with J. H. Waggoner, in December, 1866, as has been stated.

As a sample of the respects which were passed between the two papers, “in an editorial way,” an extract is presented which appeared in December, 1866. It is unnecessary to state in which paper this particular extract was published; for in those days the papers contained as bad and even worse articles every few weeks. The one editor, referring to the other, says:

“The young fledgling over the way, with a grand flourish of its brazen trumpet, publishes the above garbled extract from the \* \* \*

which as a sweet morsel it rolls under its forked, glazy, slimy, copperhead tongue! You long-haired, long-eared, foul-mouthed, swarthy faced, whining, niggardly mule; you old stench of putrid rottenness, plagues and boils, why don't you publish the article in full and not garble it to suit your own contemptible purposes? It didn't look well, did it? ! ! — \* \* —!

*The Live Republican* continued in existence until Aug. 1, 1867, when it was sold to C. H. Smith and G. L. Laws, who also purchased the *Observer* at the same time. These two papers were consolidated under the name of Richland County *Republican*. A history of the latter paper has already been given.

#### THE OBSERVER.

In 1876 J. H. Waggoner established the second *Observer*. The first issue of this paper made its appearance on the 21st of December, 1876, as a six column quarto. It was very neatly gotten up and well edited, J. W. Waggoner being one of the finest writers the county has had. In presenting his paper to the public Mr. Waggoner, under the customary head of salutatory, said:

"With charity for all and malice toward none, as God gives us to see the right, the *Observer* greets every person to whom it may come. The paramount condition of existence is daily labor. Scarcely less imperative is the decree that mind and body be harmoniously employed to crown that life with happiness. The training of the boy will in most cases determine the pursuit in which the man is to reap his measure of contentment and success. January 14, 1856, I was installed as printer's devil in the office of the Richland County *Observer*, then a six column folio of a few weeks' existence; and in 1864 and 1865 I was its editor and proprietor. During more than one half of the twenty-one busy and eventful years that have been marked on the dial of time since the advent of the *Observer*, I have been identified with the struggles and prosperity of the local newspaper. The ex-

periences of these years have decided my life labor."

In regard to the politics of the new paper Mr. Waggoner said:

"The *Observer* will be *republican*. I accept the progressive, liberal and humane policies of the Republican party as the fundamental ideas under which the republic is to be prospered and perpetuated. But this faith does not carry with it the blind sanction of every measure, nor the reckless endorsement of every man labelled 'republican.'"

James H. Waggoner remained connected with the *Observer* as long as it was continued, being associated at different times with C. E. and C. J. Glasier, as publishers, and with N. B. Burch upon the editorial staff.

In January, 1881, Fogo & Munson, the proprietors of the Richland County *Republican*, purchased the material and good will of the *Observer* and consolidated it with their paper, the *Republican*, changing the name to the *Republican and Observer*, as has been stated.

#### SATT'S PINE RIVER PILOT.

This was the odd title of a newspaper established at Richland Center in the fall of 1880, by M. F. Satterlee. It was a small paper, but sharp, and rather aggressive in its policy. The publication of the paper was continued until the spring of 1881, when it ceased to exist. Mr. Satterlee had been brought up in the county, his father having lived here for many years. After the *Pilot* ceased publication, the young man left the county. Satterlee is now at Neillsville, Clark county, where he is publishing a paper under the still odder name of *The Owl*.

#### THE RICHLAND DEMOCRAT.

This paper was established at Richland Center by Otis H. Brand in 1880. The first issue made its appearance on the 13th of August. It was an eight column folio, and was neatly printed and well edited. Mr. Brand was induced to come here by the Democrats of this vicinity, who deemed a paper of their creed necessary. He continued the publication of the

paper until during the succeeding winter of 1880-1, when he was closed out by the sheriff, with a mortgage which he had given upon his office. After being closed out, as soon as he could settle his business affairs, Mr. Brand moved to Janesville, where he now occupies a responsible position upon the staff of the *Daily Recorder*.

The office of the *Richland Democrat* was sold by the sheriff, in January, 1881, and the material and office fixtures were bid in by Jerry A. Smith. The material was again put in shape and a paper was started, which has finally become

#### THE RICHLAND RUSTIC.

Jerry A. Smith got out his first issue Feb. 5, 1881, retaining the name of *Richland Democrat*. The name was afterward changed to *The Democrat and Farmer*, and finally in June, 1881, to the *Richland Rustic*, which name it still retains.

The *Rustic* was run as an eight column folio for a long time, and during the winter of 1883-4 was enlarged to an eight column quarto. The subscription price of the paper is only seventy-five cents per year, making it, as Mr. Smith can claim, the largest paper on earth for the price. It has a large circulation.

Jerry A. Smith, who is still the editor and proprietor of the *Rustic*, was born at Janesville, Wis., in 1858. His parents, M. C. and Bianca (Allen) Smith, still are residents of Janesville, where his father is among the most wealthy and prominent merchants and citizens. Jerry A.'s home remained at Janesville, save several years spent in travel, until 1880, when he came to Richland Center. He received a liberal business and general education, and this, having been supplemented by a wide business experience, it is unnecessary to say that he has made the *Rustic* a success in every way, and is abundantly able to continue the standard the paper has reached.

#### THE RICHLAND COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

This was the first democratic paper started in the county. It was established by William

P. Furey in 1859, and was a neatly printed seven column folio. The paper continued in existence for about one year, when it died for want of patronage. The material was then purchased by J. Walworth, and added to the office of the *Observer*.

William P. Furey was originally from Bellefonte, Penn., and was a printer by trade. He came west in 1858 and worked for a short time in a newspaper office at Darlington, Wis. During the winter of 1858-9 he went to Warren, Ill., and worked for a few months in what is now the *Sentinel* office. After which he came to Richland Center and established the *Richland County Democrat*. After remaining a number of years in the west, he went back to Pennsylvania and engaged in the publishing business at Altoona. In 1880 his health began to fail, being attacked by that dread disease consumption. In January, 1881, accompanied by his wife he went to San Antonio, Texas, hoping to benefit his health, but had hardly reached the place before he died. He was a man of a great deal of both natural and acquired ability, and a very able and brilliant writer, and speaker.

#### THE ZOUAVE.

This was the title of a paper established at Richland Center about 1863, by E. M. Gregory & Co. It was a six column folio, devoted to the interest of soldiers and literary matter, more than to local and general news. The editor was Mrs. Bloomer, whose literary *nom de plume* was "Lisle Lester." The publication of the paper was continued only for a few months.

Mrs. Bloomer, left the county upon the discontinuance of the publication of the paper, and finally drifted out to California, where she still lives, having married a prominent lawyer in San Francisco. She was an active and intelligent business woman, and a tasty and pungent writer. Mr. Gregory left Richland county at the same time and went to the northern part of the State. His whereabouts are now unknown.

## THE SENTINEL.

This paper was established at Richland Center in the fall of 1867, by J. Walworth. Shortly after selling his interest in the *Richland County Observer*, and the discontinuance of that paper, Mr. Walworth went to Fond du Lac and purchased the material with which he founded the *Sentinel*. The new paper was an eight column folio, and was well gotten up. Mr. Walworth continued the publication of the *Sentinel* for three years, building up a lucrative business. He then rented the office to E. Pickard, who managed the paper for some time and then its publication was discontinued.

## THE INDEPENDENT.

This paper was started by J. Walworth, in the spring of 1872, using the press and material formerly in the *Sentinel* office. The first issue of the *Independent* was dated March 15, 1872. It was a seven column folio with patent insides. J. Walworth was editor and M. F. Satterlee and Frank Johnson, publishers. Mr. Johnson was local editor. The terms of subscription for the new paper fixed \$1.50 per year, if not paid in advance; \$1.25 per year when paid in advance.

The following extract from the salutatory, which Mr. Walworth presented in his first issue of the *Sentinel*, contains the outlined policy of the paper:

"Honestly dissenting from the practical policy of the present (Grant's) administration, we take our humble position with the many thousands of as good, intelligent and patriotic Republicans as ever held an office, or cast a vote for Gen. Grant, who are now in favor of a reform of the government, a change in its policy, economy in its expenses and honesty in its officials, and are ready, all over the country to fall into line and labor arduously for the good of the whole country, instead of a mere party."

Mr. Walworth continued the publication of the paper for several years, the *Sentinel* becoming an influential and prominent organ. He finally gave Chas. B. Walworth a one-half interest in the office and the material and fixtures

were moved to Boscobel and used in the establishment of the *Dial*, at that place.

## THE RICHLAND UNION DEMOCRAT.

This newspaper was established at Richland Center in January, 1884, by Flickner & Cook. The first issue made its appearance Jan. 4, 1884, as a six column quarto, being neatly printed and well filled with local and general news. The name of Levi H. Cook appears as editor and P. Flickner as publisher. In presenting their paper to the public, addressing the "citizens of Richland Center and the county at large," the editor says:

"We present you this day with the first issue of the *Richland Union Democrat*, a forty-eight column newspaper, which we propose to publish hereafter every Friday afternoon.

"In presenting this paper to the public, we will say: it will be the endeavor of the *Democrat* to keep its readers posted on all points of general interest of the day; also, to advocate such measures as may tend to the advancement and upbuilding of the place, and to promote the welfare and prosperity of its citizens and the county at large.

"Politically the *Democrat* will be what its mast head indicates—a straight-out-and-out democratic journal—an exponent of pure democracy. Believing the best interests of the country demand a change in the political management of the governmental ship, it will labor to obtain this end, and defend the party and its rights with all the ability it possesses; yet while it so labors, it desires the existence of friendship's bonds and the unity of peace.

"Its local department will contain a variety of news from the surrounding townships, as well as items of home interest.

"For the benefit of our farming patrons we will publish a complete market report which will be corrected weekly before going to press. In a word, no pains will be spared to make the *Democrat* a first-class local paper. Our advertising columns are open to all, we reserving the

right to reject what we may consider 'objectional matter.'

"In conclusion we will say we have come to stay, and with this understanding shall expect all who are interested in the enterprise to come to the front at once and subscribe, especially all true democrats who have the cause at heart and wish to see that party once more in the ascendancy. We need a change, the people demand it, and are bound to have it if all will do their duty. We expect to do ours, but in these days of improvement the old 'one horse power' is all out of use, and nothing but a united effort, a 'long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether,' is going to accomplish the end in view.

"Again we say, we are here to stay, our outfit is our own, is paid for, and with the aid and support that we shall naturally expect, will endeavor to keep the same from under the sheriff's hammer.

"We shall aim to place our paper on a high moral basis, and in so doing it will not be unlikely that occasionally we may publish that which may appear to some objectionable, while to others it would be just the right thing in the right place. Being honest in our convictions, whatever we do will be done with an eye single to the best interests of the party in the soon coming campaign.

"In matters of difference of opinion as regards party polity, we generously and courteously grant that privilege, and shall expect the same with the same generosity and forbearance.

"With the encouragement already manifested we ought to swell our list to 800 or 1000 by the first of April."

At the masthead appears the significant sentence: "Bring again to the field the daring alacrity of Jackson." The *Union Democrat* has a well equipped office; having a Prouty power press with a capacity of taking 800 impressions an hour; excellent job presses and latest styles of type. The *Union Democrat* starts out under

able management and with very flattering prospects for the future.

Peter Flickner, senior member of the firm of Flickner & Cook, was born in New Jersey, in 1819. His parents, Jacob and Hannah (Young) Flickner, were of German descent. His father, in early life, was a weaver, but in later days followed farming. Peter Flickner remained in New Jersey until about thirty-one years of age, when he came to Wisconsin in what is now Walworth county. There he went into the wagon-making business, remaining for two years, after which he returned to New Jersey, and spent a couple of years there. While on his return west, on April 5, 1855, he was married to Mary Young, at Xenia, Ohio. Upon his re-arrival in Wisconsin he settled at Delton, Sauk county, and again engaged in the manufacture of wagons. Delton has remained his home most of the time since. Mr. Flickner is an educated man, affable and pleasant, and possesses the elements to make him popular among all with whom he comes in contact.

Levi H. Cook, junior member of the firm of Flickner & Cook, and editor of the *Union Democrat*, was born near Oconomowoc, Wis., on the 6th of July, 1849. His parents were Martin S. and Mary E. (Remington) Cook; his father being a carpenter and mechanic by trade. When Levi H. was three years of age his parents removed to Iowa and settled at Volga City. There they remained until 1861, when they returned to Wisconsin and located at Horicon, Dodge county. The father there enlisted in company C, 29th regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, and went into the service as sergeant. The family remained at Horicon until the father's return in 1865. At this time the mother died, and Levi H. left home, going to Leroy, Wis., where for three years he was engaged at doing chores and attending school. After that time he went to Fond du Lac City, where he was engaged in the paper mills, and remained until twenty-two years of age. While there he was married to

Sarah M. Hubbard, of Oakfield, Wis. After leaving Fond du Lac, he was engaged in the ministry for the Advent Christian Church. In 1880 he located at Delton, Sauk county, and followed his profession until 1882, when he established the *Mirror Lake Echo*, a newspaper at that place, and conducted that paper for one year. In January, 1884, in company with Mr. Flickner, he established the *Union Democrat*, as stated, and is now a settled resident of Richland Center. Mr. and Mrs. Cook are the par-

ents of three children—Morton R., Fred L. and Alva W.

LONE ROCK PILOT.

A paper of this name was established at Lone Rock, in the year 1875 by M. F. Satterlee, being printed in the office of the *Richland County Republican*, and circulated at Lone Rock. Its publication was continued about one year.

With the exception of the *Pilot*, all the papers that have ever been published in the county, were published at Richland Center.



## CHAPTER XIX.

## TOWN OF AKAN.

The town of Akan is one of the western tier of Richland county's towns, the second from the south, embracing congressional township 10 north, of range 2 west. It is bounded on the north by the town of Sylvan; on the east by Dayton; on the south by Richwood; and on the west by Crawford county. The surface of the town is well watered by Mill and Knapp's creeks, and their numerous tributaries. The valleys are very fertile and in many cases the ridges furnish excellent farming land. Wherever an enterprising farmer has taken hold and cleared land, a good and profitable farm has rewarded him. As yet there is considerable unimproved land in the town, which will probably in the near future be cleared and brought under cultivation.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement within the limits now comprising the town of Akan was effected in the spring of 1851 by Martin Munson, Ole Johnson and John Torgerson, a party of Norwegians, who came from Dodgeville. Martin Munson entered land on sections 26 and 27, where he erected a log cabin and commenced improvements. This was then on what might be called the extreme frontier, and many travelers on their way westward were entertained in Munson's little log cabin. Mr. Munson was an industrious and thrifty man and accumulated considerable property. He remained here until the time of his death, and his widow now lives on section 27.

Ole Johnson entered the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 35. He died

there on the 18th of March, 1855. His widow married Christian Jacobson and still resides in the town.

John Torgerson remained but a short time and then returned to Dodgeville. Two years later he came back and entered the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 33, where he still lives.

Nels Hanson, who also came with this party, settled in the town of Richwood where he still lives.

B. C. Hallin, a native of Ireland, came here in 1852 and entered land on sections 17 and 18, but did not settle here until 1854. He now lives in the town of Richland.

William Elder, a Virginian, was an early settler in the southern part of Richland county. He made a business of showing the pioneers land, and did a great deal toward the settling up of this region. In 1855 he settled on section 3, in the town of Akan. He resided in the town for a few years, then went to Crawford county and later removed to Dakota territory where he died. He was with the government surveyors when they surveyed the town of Akan and was noted as a great hunter and an extra good marksman.

David Woodruff came here in 1854 and settled on the southeast quarter of section 3. In 1875 he sold out and moved to Dakota. He now lives in Otter Tail Co., Minn.

James Brady, a native of Ireland, came in 1854 and settled just over the line in Crawford county. In 1861 he purchased land on section 19, this town, where he has since resided.

Lewis Deitder, a native of Germany, came here in 1854 and settled on section 25, where he still lives. He was accompanied by his father and three brothers. For a time they all lived together, the father and one of the brothers dying here. The rest are still residents of the county.

George Hall, an Irishman, and a veteran of the Mexican War, came here in 1853 and entered 160 acres on sections 19 and 20. He remained about two years, then sold out and left. The locality in which he settled has since been called Hall's bottom.

William Anderson, a native of Indiana, came in 1854 and settled on the southwest quarter of section 30. He remained about three years and then returned to Indiana.

A Scotchman named Penny came in 1854 and settled on the northwest quarter of section 27. He improved a farm and remained for several years, when he went to Minnesota.

William Smith, an Englishman, came at the same time and located on section 21. He went to Minnesota with Penny.

Samuel Yager was an early settler in the town of Eagle. In 1854 he came to Akan and located on the southwest quarter of section 21. He was a veteran of the Mexican War. He was a cabinet maker by trade and put up a shop, in which he manufactured chairs, bedsteads, etc. When the war broke out, he enlisted and served until its close. Having ruined his health in the service, soon after his return he sold out and removed to Excelsior, where he still lives.

Joseph Dunson came in 1854 and settled on section 23, where he cleared a farm and lived for some years. He afterwards removed to Richwood, where he died.

Horace Waite, from Ohio, came here in 1855 and settled on the northwest quarter of section 3. He cleared a small tract of land and remained here about three years, when he sold out and went to Orion, where he engaged in the mercan-

tile trade. During war times he went to Canada. He now lives at Muscoda.

Esec Spreig came from Illinois in the fall of 1854, and settled on the northeast quarter of section 4. Four or five years later he sold out and returned to Illinois.

Zenas W. Bevier, a native of New York State, came here in 1855, from Rock Co., Wis. He entered 120 acres of land on section 2, and lived here until the time of his death.

Frank Morningstar, a German, came here in the fall of 1855, and settled on section 2. He cleared a good farm and made this his home until he died.

Mathew Ryan, an Irishman, also came in 1855. He settled on section 3.

Jefferson Smith came here from Illinois in 1855, and settled on the northeast quarter of section 6. He cleared a small tract of land and remained here about twelve years, when he removed to Richwood. He is now dead.

Julius Jenks also came from Illinois during the same year. He settled on the northeast quarter of section 8, where he remained for some years and then went to the mountains.

William Percy came in 1855 and claimed the northeast quarter of section 9. He afterwards sold his claim and left the country after a short stop.

Jacob Lawrence purchased Percy's claim and improved it. He lived here until 1875, when he sold out and removed to the town of Eagle. He is now in the mercantile trade at Eagle Corners.

John Chitwood, a native of Tennessee, came from Indiana in 1855 and settled on the northeast quarter of section 5, where he lived until the time of his death. He raised fifteen children, and the widow and a number of children are still living in the county.

Patrick Hines, a native of Ireland, came in 1855 and settled on section 30, where he still lives.

William Dobbs, a native of Tennessee, came here from Lafayette Co., Wis., in the spring of



1855, and entered 360 acres of land on sections 5, 6, 7 and 8. He lived here for a number of years, and then went to the Black river country. He afterwards returned and settled in Richwood, where he died in 1876. Two of his sons are still living in the town.

Henry Bailey, a native of Rhode Island, came in 1855 and settled on section 7. He now lives in Nebraska. Two of his sons are still residents of this town.

David Clancy, a native of Ireland, came in 1855 and entered land on section 15 where he still lives.

James Bachtenkircher, a native of Ohio, came to this county from Indiana in 1855, and located in the town of Sylvan. In 1878 he moved into the town of Akan, and is still a resident.

Squire Shaffer, a native of Ohio, came here in 1856 and settled on the southwest quarter of section 1, where he still lives.

F. A. Harsha, a Kentuckian, came here from Iowa county in 1856, and settled on section 36, where he still lives.

John Kelly, a native of Ireland, came here from Madison in 1856 and settled on section 18, where he still lives.

William Core, a native of New Jersey, came here from Orion in 1856, and purchased land on section 24. He was the first settler in the locality known as Core Hollow, it being named after him.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first school in district No. 1 was taught, in 1856, by Martha A. Funson, at the residence of Zenas W. Bevier. In 1857 a temporary log school house was erected by the district, in which Sarah Wood was the first teacher. In 1868 this building was destroyed by fire, and the present house was erected upon the site.

The first school house in district No. 2 was erected in 1860, of hewn logs. The first term of school was taught by Charity Williams, on the subscription plan. She "boarded round." This school house was used until 1881, when

the district erected a frame building on the northeast quarter of section 9, about forty rods west of the site of the old building. Nettie Harris was the first teacher in the new house.

The first school in district No. 3 was taught by George Watson, in the winter of 1856-7, in a house belonging to William Dobbs. A few years later a log school house was erected on the southwest quarter of section 5. In 1869 the present school house was erected on the southeast quarter of section 6, of hewn logs. Cordelia Daggett was the first teacher in this building.

The first school house in district No. 4 was built in 1859, of logs, and covered with shakes. It was located on the southeast quarter of section 18. J. J. Brown was the first teacher. This building was used until 1880, when the present school house was erected near the old site. Alice Hallin was the first teacher in this house.

The first school in district No. 5 was taught in a house belonging to D. F. Coates, which was located on the southwest quarter of section 22. Mary Ann Fay and T. J. Ellsworth were among the first teachers in the district. The first school house erected was a log one, which was located on D. F. Coates' land. The present school house is located on the southwest quarter of section 15.

The school house in district No. 6 was erected in 1861. It is of logs, located on the northwest quarter of section 24. Amelia Van Alstine was the first teacher in this house. Belle Glass is the present teacher.

The first school in district No. 7 was taught by Annie Humbert, in D. D. Evans' house on section 36. In 1866 a log school house was erected on the northwest quarter of section 36. This house was used but a few years when a neat frame building was erected on the same site.

The first school in district No. 8 was taught by Susanna Bolton, in a little log school house located on the southeast quarter of section 33.

The school house is now located on the south-west quarter of section 27.

The first school house in district No. 9 was a log one erected on the northeast quarter of section 31, during the war. Maria Maroney was the first teacher. The first school house was destroyed by fire a few years after its erection, and the present frame house was built on the old site.

#### RELIGIOUS.

At an early day the Methodists held services in the northeastern part of the town, and a class was organized that flourished for several years. Prominent among the members were David Woodruff and wife, Mrs. Polly Crothers, Mrs. Esther Barnes, and Elijah Austin and wife. Rev. Prince was the first preacher, and after him Revs. Hafus, Walker and Elihu Bailey at different times officiated. The class only remained in existence for a few years, and then, as some of the members moved away, it was dropped.

The United Brethren organized at the school house shortly after the discontinuance of the Methodist class. Most of its members had belonged to the M. E. class. Rev. Potts was the first minister for the United Brethren class. Among the ministers who have filled the pulpit since are Revs. Young, Wright, Snell and Haskins. This class was continued for several years.

In 1873 the Christians organized a church in the school house of district No. 3, under the management of Revs. Jacob Felton and Lewis Himes. Among the first members of this church were Albert S. Bailey and wife, Mrs. Amanda Ross, Michael McMillan and wife, Isaac Ferguson, William Fosnow and wife, John Beaman and Wilson Slayback and wife. John Beaman was elected the first class leader. This class met at the school house for about two years, and then merged with the Harmony Church. Revs. Himes, Felton and Pucket were among the pastors of the church. A Sabbath school was organized at the same time as this church, with

John Beaman as superintendent. It met weekly and had a good attendance.

#### AKAN POSTOFFICE.

This postoffice was established in 1856, with Zenas W. Bevier as postmaster. The office was kept at his house on the northeast quarter of section 2, and was on the mail route from Muscoda to Viroqua. Mr. Bevier was postmaster until the time of his death in 1861. D. D. Woodruff was then appointed postmaster and the office was removed across the line to the town of Sylvan. He was succeeded by Perry Dayton, and then in order came Mrs. Zenas Bevier, Mrs. William Smith, Edgar Harvey and William M. Bevier, who was the last postmaster. He resigned in 1877 and the office was discontinued.

#### BRADY'S POSTOFFICE.

This postoffice was established in 1868. James Brady was appointed first postmaster and has kept the office ever since at his residence on section 19. At first the office was on the route from Richland Center to De Soto, and mail was received once each week. At present it is on the mail route from Muscoda to Sugar Grove, and mail is received once a week from each way.

#### SAW MILLS.

In 1856 Isaac Miles erected a saw-mill on section 30. A dam was thrown across Knapp's creek and the mill was equipped with an up and down saw. He ran the mill for a few years and then sold to A. Wright, of Muscoda, Grant county, who rented the mill to different parties. Anthony Tracy is the present owner of the property, but the dam has gone out and the mill is no longer in use. This mill was not a success.

About 1853 a man named Barnes settled on the southwest quarter of section 12. He here erected a saw-mill, deriving the power from Mill creek. It was furnished with an up and down saw. It was a small affair, and was only run for a few years. The old frame is still

standing, a monument to an unsuccessful enterprise.

During the war, William Osborne erected a flouring mill on the west branch of Mill creek, being aided in the enterprise by the citizens in the neighborhood. This was shortly after the Boaz mill had been burned, and Rodolf's was the nearest mill for this neighborhood. Mr. Osborne built a dam of brush and dirt, which set the water back and sent it through a race, which carried it to a spring under the bluffs. The outlet of the spring formed the tail race. A small frame building, boarded up and down with pine lumber was erected and one run of buhrs was put in. The mill did a good business until the mill at Boaz was rebuilt, soon after which Osborne traded the property to Edgar Harvey, of Richwood, for a farm. Mr. Harvey operated the mill for a time, and then disposed of it. Since that time it has changed hands frequently, and has not been running constantly. The present proprietor is William McRobbins, who has repaired the building and refurnished the mill. It still has one run of buhrs and the necessary machinery for doing good work. A saw-mill equipped with a rotary saw has recently been attached.

#### STORES.

At an early day, J. J. Brown, a school teacher, opened a store on section 7. He purchased his stock of goods of Pease & Baker, at Richland Center. His means were limited, and for a time he worked under disadvantages. He did a credit business, often trusting parties whom other merchants refused; but he was a shrewd business man and a good collector, and made money rapidly. In a short time he removed to Excelsior and opened a store there. He is still in trade there, and is one of the most substantial merchants in the county.

James Brady opened a store at his home, and for about ten years kept a general stock of goods and did a good business. At the end of

this period he closed out, and has since devoted his time to farming.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Akan was created by the county board of supervisors at the November session, 1855. It was organized at a town meeting held at the house of Martin Munson, April 1, 1856. The inspectors of the election were Zenas W. Bevier, Henry Miller and Julius C. Jenks. George Barnes was clerk. The following were the first town officers elected: Supervisors, Zenas W. Bevier, chairman, Rawley Crothers and Votany Butman; clerk, G. R. Barnes; superintendent of schools, Zenas W. Bevier; treasurer, William Anderson; justices of the peace, William Anderson and G. R. Barnes; constables, William Elder and Joseph Dunson; assessor, William Elder. There were twenty-eight votes polled at this election.

At the annual town meeting held at the Center school house April 3, 1883 there were 114 votes polled, and the following officers were elected: Supervisors, James Bachtenkircher, chairman; John Huffman, Levi Pierce; clerk, A. M. Turgasen; treasurer, George Armstrong (appointed); assessor, C. E. Clarkson; justices, James Bachtenkircher, J. L. Puckitt, A. D. Dennison and F. M. Shafer; constables, G. W. Hartman, Tim Kelly and W. H. Helm; health officer, Robert Webb.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

The following personal sketches will show who are the wide-awake, energetic citizens of this town, and of whom too much cannot be said:

John Turgasen became a pioneer of 1853, and, although then possessed of no means, has been very industrious, economical, and exhibited such excellent management, that he is now considered one of the wealthiest farmers of Richland county. He was born in Norway, Jan. 21, 1824. Like the greater portion of his countrymen, he passed his earlier life on the farm and at school. In 1849 he emigrated to America, landing at the port of New York. He started for Wiscon-

sin, going up the Hudson river to Albany, thence by the Erie canal to Buffalo, where he took a lake steamer for Milwaukee. From thence he went to Dane Co., Wis., and three weeks later to Dodgeville, where he obtained employment in the mines and at the smelting furnaces. In 1851 he came to Richland county, but did not then effect a settlement. He returned to Dodgeville, where he remained two years. He then removed his family to Richland county, and entered land on section 33, of town 10 north, of range 2 west. He has never removed from his first settlement, but during the years that have elapsed, has added little by little to his possessions and has been blessed beyond his earlier expectations. He has a beautiful home, and his family are surrounded by all the comforts of life. Mr. Turgasen was married, in 1849, to Annie Frederick, who died in May, 1857, leaving two children—Thomas L. and Anton M. His second and present wife was Helena Hanson, to whom he was married in 1858. Mrs. Turgasen is a very estimable lady, and highly respected by her large circle of acquaintances.

Lewis Dobbs, son of William and Mary (Helms) Dobbs, pioneers of the town of Akan, was born in Lafayette Co., Wis., March 14, 1850, and was five years old when he came to Richland county with his parents. Here he grew to manhood, assisting his father upon the farm and attending the district school. He was married in May, 1876, to Lucina, daughter of James and Eliza (Peters) McWilliams. She was born in Ohio. Soon after marriage they settled on their present farm on Knapp's creek, on sections 7 and 18. They have three children—Nettie, Ole and George.

John Kelly, an early settler of Akan, was born in the parish of Egles, county of Tipperary, Ireland, in 1821, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. In 1848 he left his native land and came to America, landed at New York, and from there went to Fort Washington, a point ten miles distant, where he obtained

employment on a railroad, then in process of construction. He continued working there eight months, then went to Ohio and engaged in farming a short time, then to Bedford, and worked on the Pittsburg & Cleveland railroad two years, thence to Akron where he was employed on the Clinton extension two years. He next purchased two pairs of horses and engaged in teaming at Hudson, three months. He then came to Wisconsin and was first employed in railroading near Waukesha. He continued in that business until 1856. By this time he had saved enough of his hard earnings to purchase a home. He came to Richland county in the fall of that year and bought eighty acres of timber land on section 18. He constructed a rude shelter of poles, and covered it with "shakes." Then commenced cutting logs with which to build a more permanent abode, into which they moved when completed. He brought two horses, a colt and seven head of horned cattle with him. The following winter being a very severe one, his horses, and all but two of his cattle perished, leaving him without a team. During the winter he had cleared some land, and the following season he chopped in seed and raised a crop of corn and garden vegetables which served to keep the wolf from the door during the following winter. For such provisions as he was obliged to buy, he had to go to Orion and Muscoda, and could hire them brought as far as Excelsior; the remainder of the distance, he packed them on his back. In spite of all these hardships he kept up courage, and worked away and his good judgment and industry combined have made him successful in life. He is now the owner of 240 acres, about 150 of which are under cultivation. A neat and commodious frame house has taken the place of the log cabin of pioneer time. He is engaged in raising grain and stock. He now keeps from thirty to forty head of cattle and 150 sheep, besides other stock. Mr. Kelly was married in 1850 to Sarah Monohan, also a native of Tipperary, Ireland. They have

seven children—Timothy, Bridget, Sarah, Maria, William, John and Francis.

John H. Rizer, a pioneer settler of Dayton, was born in Pittsburg, Penn., Feb. 10, 1830. His father was an edge tool maker in that city. In 1835 the family moved to Maryland and lived four years; thence to Tippecanoe Co., Ind., where his father purchased land and engaged in farming. Four years later his father died, leaving a wife and six children, the youngest an infant of six months. Six months after the father's death the mother died and the children became scattered. At the age of sixteen the subject of this sketch engaged with a tinner in Lafayette, Ind., to learn the trade. He served three years, then worked on a farm in Tippecanoe Co., Ind. He was married March 23, 1852, to Mary E. Berry, born in Warren Co., Ohio, Nov. 2, 1827. He then rented a farm in the same county until 1854. In that year they started for Wisconsin with an ox team, taking their household goods and provisions with them, and camping at night by the roadside. After traveling seventeen days they arrived in Richland county. He entered land on section 20, of town 10, range 1 west, now known as Dayton, camping in the woods till they built a log cabin. In 1860 he, like many others, became excited with the so-called gold fever and started for Pike's Peak, where he was engaged in mining and prospecting a few months. He then returned to Richland county and purchased timber land on section 12, town of Akan, where he claimed a farm and built a good frame house. In 1882 he bought a farm on section 11, moved there and engaged in the dairy business, which was a new departure in that town. His example has since been followed by some of his neighbors. In 1882 he milked nineteen cows; in 1883 twenty-five. His farm now contains 302 acres, 180 of which are tillage and pasture land. It is well supplied with good water from a never failing spring, and being good grazing land is well adapted for a dairy farm. Mr. and Mrs. Rizer have

three children living—Marquis D., Lorena and Clara, also an adopted son, Willie. Mr. Rizer is of a genial, pleasant disposition and generally popular in the neighborhood in which he resides.

James Brady was a pioneer of Crawford county, where he settled in 1854. He is a native of Ireland, born in the parish of Kilshere, county Meath, in August, 1826. Here his younger days were spent on the farm, and in the subscription school, where he received a liberal education. In 1850 he bid adieu to his native land and sailed for America. He landed at New York and engaged at work in the machine shops of the Empire Stone Dressing Company, and remained there until 1854, when he came to Crawford county as before stated. He came on the cars to Madison, thence by stage to Highland, then started on foot to seek a home. He crossed the Wisconsin river at Port Andrew, on the 4th of July. He entered land on section 24, town 10, range 3 west, now known as the town of Clayton. He then returned to Madison and remained until October, when he hired a team to convey him to his western home. He thus had transportation as far as Martin Munson's in the town of Akan, at that time, the end of the road. He then procured an ox team and proceeded on his way. He camped on Knapp's creek while he built a log cabin, moving into it as soon as possible, and commenced clearing, and the following year he planted four acres of corn, and in the fall sowed four acres of wheat on ground that never had been plowed. He worked his land without any team until 1857, when he bought a yoke of steers. He lived on this farm until 1861, then purchased land in Akan, on section 19, with some improvements, and lived on it until 1874, when he erected a frame house 20x30 feet, and two stories high. In 1882 he made an addition 20x30 feet, with a stone basement under the whole. He also has a frame barn 30x40 feet, with a stone basement. He now has 260 acres of land, 140 of which is cleared

and farmed. He is largely engaged in raising grain and stock. He has always taken a lively interest in town and county affairs. He has served as town clerk six years, as treasurer six years, and as chairman of the board five years. He has also been postmaster of Brady's office since it was established in 1868. He has been twice married, first in 1853, to Ann Torney, who was born in county Meath, Ireland. She died in 1861, leaving two children—Katie and Mary. His second wife to whom he was married in 1867 was Mary J. Hagerty, she was born in Honsdale, Penn. They have had nine children—Teresa J., James, Thomas F., Martha J., Margaret, Rosanna, John J., Louisa and Edward. The latter died in infancy. His second wife died July 28, 1883, and was buried in St. Philip's churchyard, in Crawford county.

C. E. Closson, the present assessor of the town of Akan, is a native of Sweden, born June 9, 1822. He attended school as soon as old enough, until fifteen years of age, then engaged to learn the trade of dyer, at which he worked until 1849, then came to America, landed at New York, and immediately started for Chicago, going up the Hudson river by steamboat, thence on Erie canal to Buffalo; thence by steamboat to Chicago, where he remained two and one-half years, then went to Kane Co., Ill., and remained until 1855, when he started with an ox team, accompanied by his family, for Wisconsin. They took household goods and provisions with them, camping out in true emigrant style. After three weeks of travel they arrived in Crawford county. He entered land on section 3, of town 9, range 3 west, now known as the town of Scott. The family lived with a neighbor until he could build a log cabin. He continued clearing land and farming until 1862. He enlisted in August of that year in company G, 33d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and went south, served until after the close of the war, and was then discharged with the regiment. Among the battles in which he participated are Nashville and siege of Vicksburg.

He was with Banks on his Red river expedition, and engaged in the battles of Pleasant Hill, Tupelo and Spanish Fort. While in the army he received a sunstroke, from the effects of which he has never fully recovered. He was promoted to rank of corporal in 1863, and to sergeant soon after. Upon returning, he resumed farming in Crawford county until 1866, then sold out and purchased his present farm on section 33, where he has since lived. He was married in 1848 to Martha Linsten, also a native of Sweden, born Jan. 19, 1822. They have had six children, five of whom are now living—Frank, William, Lizzie, Maggie and Andrew. The first child, called Elizabeth, was born on the ocean, Sept. 22, 1849. She died in Chicago Sept. 22, 1850. Mr. Closson is educated in English as well as in Swede, and has held offices of trust in the town. He has been a member of the town board, and is now serving his fourth term as assessor, twelfth term as district treasurer, and has always performed the duties thus imposed upon him to the satisfaction of the people.

Robert Webb came to the town of Akan in 1868, and purchased the northwest quarter of section 5, which was at that time timber land. He immediately began clearing, and now has seventy acres of cleared land, and one of the best farms in the town. The log cabin, in which the family lived eleven years, has been replaced by a good frame house. He was born in Oneida Co., N. Y., Sept. 5, 1825. When he was seven years old his parents moved to Ohio, and settled in Geauga county, where his father died two years later. At the age of sixteen he went to Cleveland, and was there employed by B. Harrington two years. Mr. Harrington was the possessor of a large library, to which the subject of this sketch had access, an opportunity for improving his mind and advancing his education which he did not fail to take advantage of. He returned to Geauga county and remained two years. He came to Wisconsin in 1845, and located in Rock county, pur-

chased land in the town of Magnolia, improved a farm and lived there until 1853, when he sold, and moved to Green county. He purchased property in the village of Albany and opened a livery stable; also practiced as a veterinary surgeon, in which he was successful. He dealt largely in horses and in real estate. In 1868 he sold his interests there and came to Akan. Mr. Webb is a man of intelligence, and is well informed. He served several years as special deputy sheriff of Green county, and as constable of the village of Albany. He has served four years as justice of the peace in the town of Akan. He has been twice married, first to Lydia A. Dunbar, a native of Oneida Co., N. Y. She died March 7, 1864, leaving three children—Sarah J., Elizabeth A. and Charles S. He was again married Dec. 31, 1866, to Elizabeth Mackey, who was born in Union Co., Penn. By this union there are two children—William E. and Cora A.

James Bahtenkircher, an early settler in the town of Sylvan, was born in Claremont Co. Ohio, April 15, 1835. When he was eleven years old, his parents emigrated to Clinton Co., Ind. His father was born in Germany, but was brought to America by his parents when only a year old. He grew to manhood's estate in the city of Philadelphia, receiving a good education in both English and German, and became a teacher by profession. The people in that part of Clinton county in which he settled were mostly of German descent, and he here engaged at his profession. The subject of this sketch received a liberal education, and remained with his parents until 1855. He then came to Richland county and located in the town of Sylvan. He did not, however, settle permanently, being at that time unmarried, but engaged in hunting and amusing himself generally. He killed many deer and other smaller game. At the end of one year he returned to Indiana and engaged with a carpenter and joiner to learn the trade, with whom he served two years. He then returned to Sylvan and

worked at his trade two years. In 1860, in company with Michael Snyder, he started for Pike's Peak, traveling in a wagon drawn by a pair of oxen. At Council Bluffs they purchased a supply of provision for a year. After fifty-two days travel, they reached Central City, Col., where he worked at his trade until November. He then yoked his oxen and started on his return to Sylvan. He was united in marriage in the spring of 1861, with Sarah A., daughter of Hezekiah and Hannah (Sayers) Slaback, early settlers of the town of Sylvan. She was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind. In 1862 he bought land on section 30, of Sylvan, and was engaged in farming during the summer and in teaching school in the winter. In 1864 he sold his farm and purchased land on section 29, where he lived until 1869. Then becoming excited by the so-called western fever, sold his land and removed to Kansas. He made a claim in Wilson county and engaged in farming, also worked at his trade until 1872, when he returned to Richland county and rented land in the town of Akan, until 1877. He then purchased his present farm, which is located on section 8. Mr. and Mrs. Bahtenkircher have four children living—Dolphus, Fred, Frank and Nettie. Mr. Bahtenkircher is a man who possesses the confidence and respect of the community. He has been, and is still prominent and influential in public affairs. He served as clerk, assessor and justice of the peace, in Sylvan, and has been justice of the peace in Akan, since his residence here, and is now chairman of the town board.

Edgar Ward, an early settler of the town of Sylvan, was born in the town of Underhill, Chittenden Co., Vt., Feb. 27, 1837. He was there reared to agricultural pursuits. At the age of seventeen he went to Worcester, Mass., and spent two years in farming. He came to Wisconsin in 1855, and lived in Grant county till 1860; then came to Richland county and settled upon land on sections 19 and 30, of the town of Sylvan, which he had purchased the previous year. Upon this land was a small log cabin,

into which he moved his family, and immediately commenced clearing. In 1863 he had cleared fifteen acres. He enlisted in December of that year, in the 33d Wisconsin, company B, and served until the close of the war, when he was discharged with the regiment Sept. 29, 1865. He participated in the following battles: Tupelo, Nashville, Spanish Fort, and other minor engagements. At the time of his discharge he was afflicted with sore eyes, which continued to grow worse, and at times he was obliged to confine himself in a dark room, and finally lost his sight entirely, but has since partially recovered it. He continued to occupy his farm in Sylvan until 1880, when he sold out, with the intention of going west, but changing his mind, he pur-

chased his present farm, located on section 10, town of Akan. He has since bought other land, and now owns 140 acres. In 1883 he built a frame barn 30x40 feet. He was married in 1860 to Amy Stevens, who was born in Pennsylvania, July 20, 1843, and died Aug. 15, 1863, leaving two children—Lincoln L. and Amy. Mr. Ward was again married in March, 1864, to Rosanna McCord, a native of Mercer Co., Penn., born June 14, 1833. She was formerly the wife of Madison Ward, who died in the United States service, Sept. 29, 1863, at New Orleans, leaving four children—Reuben, Laura, Susan and Rosanna. By the last union there are two children—Columbia and Edgar E.





## CHAPTER XX.

## TOWN OF BLOOM.

The town of Bloom embraces congressional township 12 north, of range 1 west, and is in the northern tier of Richland county's civil subdivisions. It is bounded on the north by Vernon county; on the east by the town of Henrietta; on the south by Marshall and on the west by Forest. The surface of the town is broken and hilly. One main ridge extends through the western portion of the town from north to south, while on each side of this are smaller, or connecting ridges, extending to the east and west. On the ridges the soil varies; in some places being a rich black loam, and again, a yellow clay; and all is very productive. In the valleys the soil is a rich dark loam. In seasons of high water the valleys are in places overflowed, and farmers often lose a portion of their crops. The town is well watered, making it a desirable and profitable locality for stock raising. The most important stream is the West Branch of Pine river which rises on section 5. On its way through the eastern part of the town it is joined by six spring tributaries.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement within the limits now comprising the town of Bloom was made, in 1853, by Isaac McMahan, who, during that year, came and entered 120 acres of land on section 23. He was followed, the same year, by Daniel Householder, who entered 320 acres of land on section 35. He owned this land until the time of his death in 1879. He was ninety-nine years of age.

Edward Morris came during the same year and entered eighty acres on section 26.

John Rogers came in the spring of 1853 and entered land on section 18. He improved the land during the following summer, and then returned to Indiana, where he died shortly afterward.

Israel Cooper came at about the same time and entered 240 acres, a part of which was on section 26. He erected his house on that section.

In 1854 Reuben Selby came and entered 160 acres on section 36. He now lives in Kansas.

Thomas Siers came at about the same time and entered 160 acres on section 25.

Isaac Pizer came in 1854 and bought land on section 26. He laid out the village of Spring Valley and remained a few years when he removed to Cerro Gordo Co., Iowa. In 1872 he sold out and started for Oregon; but when three miles from Sacramento City, he fell from the cars and was instantly killed. His wife went on to Oregon, married two years later, and now lives in California.

Thomas Borland came in 1854 and settled on section 2, where he still lives.

John Jewell came during the same year and located on section 1, where he still resides.

Josephus Downs came in 1854 and entered land on the northwest quarter of section 22. He was a lawyer. He remained here for several years, then moved to Dane county; but a few years later returned and died on the old homestead.

James E. Kidd, a son-in-law of Mr. Downs, came at the same time and entered the southeast quarter of section 15. He improved the

farm and made this his home until the time of his death, which occurred in 1881.

James A. Jones came in 1854 and settled on section 25. He now resides on section 35.

J. M. Hurless came at about the same time and entered 160 acres of land on section 5. He now resides on section 6. His brother, Henry, came the preceding spring and entered 160 acres on section 19.

Samuel Downs came in 1855 and bought land on the northwest quarter of section 14. He now lives in Kansas.

James A. Sellers came in 1855 and located on section 26. He erected the first mill in the town of Bloom. It is located near Spring Valley and is still owned by him.

Jonathan Jewell came in 1855 and settled on the northwest quarter of section 15, where he still lives.

David Griffin came from Indiana in 1855 and entered 182 acres of land on section 18. He still lives on the same section. His father, Ralph Griffin, came in 1856 and settled on section 18.

Friend Morrison came in 1855 and bought land on section 6. He now lives at Woodstock.

Nathan Ford, a native of New Jersey, came in 1855 and settled on the southeast quarter of section 10. He died Jan. 15, 1884.

Joseph Phippen came at an early day and settled on section 30, where he lived for a number of years. He is now a resident of the town of Forest.

M. R. Griffin came in 1855 and entered 120 acres of land on section 7. He has never been out of the county since.

N. M. Trubaugh came during the same year and entered 160 acres on section 21.

Jesse Harness at about the same time entered eighty acres on section 17.

John E. Snyder came in 1855 and located on section 27, where he bought 120 acres of land, which he still occupies.

In the fall of the same year Charles Peckham and his sons, Charles and Alexander, came and settled on section 26. William Peckham came at the same time and located on section 34.

William Pizer came in the spring of 1855 and entered 160 acres of land on section 26.

Joseph Householder came in 1855 and entered 160 acres of land on section 33.

The same year Henry De Hart and his two sons, J. L. and Daniel V., came. The father purchased land where the sons now reside.

Philip Almon came in 1856 and settled on section 7. He is now dead.

David Todd came in 1856 and bought land on section 6. In 1879 he sold out and went to California.

During the year 1856, and from that time until the war broke out, the settlement of the town was quite rapid, a great many of the incomers being from Ohio and Indiana.

#### FIRST THINGS.

The first house within the present limits of the town of Bloom was erected in 1853, by Isaac McMahan, on section 23.

The first school in the town was taught at the dwelling house of Isaac Pizer, in 1855, by William Barrett. There were two schools taught in 1855, in Rev. Crandall's house, by Lucinda Rollins.

The first marriage in the town was that of John Miller to Anna Barts, in 1855. The ceremony was performed by Henry Hurless, justice of the peace.

The first birth in the town was that of James, a son of John and Rhoda Crandall, in February, 1854.

The first sermon in the town was preached by John Crandall, in 1854, at his residence.

#### TOWN ORGANIZATION.

The first town meeting was held at the residence of Isaac Pizer, in April, 1856. The following were the first officers elected: Joseph Downs, chairman, Isaac Pizer and James E. Kidd, board of supervisors; William Pizer, clerk; John H. Crandall, assessor; Aaron Sut-

ton, treasurer; Josephus Downs and L. M. Stewart, justices of the peace.

The following is a list of the officers chosen in April, 1883: Elijah Allbaugh, chairman, W. Dowell, Thomas Burt, supervisors; J. W. Renick, clerk; Henry Hurlless, treasurer; Timothy Spry, assessor; William Dowell, J. T. Cook and Jeff M. Hankins, justices; J. W. Allbaugh, A. T. Carter and William Jewell, constables.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first schools taught in the town of Bloom have already been mentioned. In 1883 there were ten school districts in the town, all in successful operation and supplied with neat and comfortable buildings.

#### RELIGIOUS.

In 1868 a union church was built on the present site of the village of West Lima. It is a very neat frame building, and cost \$1,450. There is now but one religious organization at West Lima—the Disciples.

In 1877 a church edifice was erected, on section 18, by the Christian denomination. It is a log building, and has always been known as the Sugar Tree House. Rev. Jacob Mark is the present pastor of the Christian Church. Services are held once each month.

#### NEEFE'S MILL.

Neefe's mill was originally erected on section 36, in 1857, by James and Z. Jones. Then, as now, it was located on the west branch of Pine river. In 1879 Charles A. Neefe rebuilt the mill and still owns and operates it. It is equipped with an improved circular saw, planer, matcher, lath saw, ripper and cut-off saw. Its capacity is 7,000 feet per day. The mill does excellent work and is having a good business.

#### WEST BRANCH AND BON POSTOFFICES.

In 1855 a postoffice was established under the name of West Branch, with William Barrett as postmaster, and the office at his house on section 26. Mail was received once a week. David Barrett succeeded William Barrett as postmaster, and in turn was succeeded by William Pizer. T. K. Gray is the present post-

master, and keeps the office at his store. In 1883 the name of the office was changed to Bon, which it still bears. The office is on the mail route from Richland Center to West Lima, mail being received tri-weekly.

#### THE VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY.

The village of Spring Valley was laid out and platted in the spring of 1855 by Isaac Pizer. The name of the village was suggested by the numerous springs in the valley where the place is located. The village contained four blocks of lots on section 26. In 1856 an addition to the village of one block was made by William Pizer, and one of three blocks by Isaac Pizer. The first house and barn on the site were erected by William Pizer in 1856-7. The first store in the village was opened during the same year by William and David Barrett. They were succeeded by W. H. Downs.

The first wagon maker in the village was Reuben Selby.

The first blacksmith was William McMillan.

The first shoemaker was W. H. Rist.

The first mill at Spring Valley was erected in 1856 by James A. Sellers—a saw and grist mill, run by water power. Mr. Sellers still owns and operates the mill.

In 1883 the various lines of trade were represented in Spring Valley by the following:

Hardware and notions—T. K. Gray.

General merchandise—J. W. Bradshaw, J. W. Cass and Shambaugh & Householder.

Drugs—Adam Shambaugh.

Blacksmith and wagon shops—J. Hebert & Co. and G. T. Hall.

The first school in the village was taught by David Barrett in the winter of 1857-8.

The first school house in this vicinity was erected on section 26, in 1857.

The first religious services in the village were held at the residence of C. W. Peekham, by a Presbyterian minister, in 1856. There are now two church organizations in the village—the Methodists and Disciples.

The first physician to locate at this point was Dr. A. Shambaugh.

The first drug store was established by T. K. Gray.

#### THE VILLAGE OF WEST LIMA.

This village was platted on sections 5 and 6, in 1875, by Joseph L. and Daniel V. De Hart and David H. Todd. It lies just twenty miles from Richland Center and twenty miles from Union Center, the nearest railroad points. The village originally contained four blocks, or forty-eight lots. Three additions have been made to this one by J. L. and D. V. De Hart, in 1878, of two blocks; one by Job M. Hurless, in 1878, of two blocks; and one by J. L. De Hart of two blocks.

The first building upon the site was erected in 1874 by John G. Cook.

The first business building on the site was erected in 1874 by J. L. De Hart.

The first store upon the present site of the village was opened in 1874 by J. L. De Hart. Mr. De Hart, however, had kept a store in the vicinity of the village since 1855, and on the same site since 1859.

The first blacksmith in the village was H. D. Tillon.

The first shoemaker was A. B. Rundecker.

The first mill was one run by steam power, which was erected by J. L. De Hart & Co., in 1878.

The first hotel in the village was erected in 1874 by W. S. Bean.

The first physicians to locate in the village were Drs. J. Smith and J. H. Helm.

The first school on the site of the village was taught in 1857. Daniel Grey and John Getty were early teachers.

The first sermon was preached by Rev. Isaac Lepley.

The following is a directory of the business of the village in 1883:

General merchandise—J. L. De Hart & Co., T. P. Burt and Drake & Hankins.

Hardware—A. G. Jordan & Sons.

Drugs—H. D. Tillon. The first drug store was started in 1877 by R. J. Earley.

Millinery—Mantie Marshall. The first milliner was Nancy J. Early, who opened a shop here in 1878.

Butcher shop—Sabin Brothers.

Harness shop—James Stoops. The first harness shop was opened by A. J. Jacobs, in 1879.

Hotels—E. B. Butterfield and Thomas Griffin.

Blacksmithing—W. S. Bean.

Physicians—Drs. J. H. Helm and H. A. Cole.

A furniture store was opened at West Lima, in 1876, by H. B. Chapman and J. M. Hankins. It was only continued for a short time.

D. H. Todd & Son were in trade when the village was platted, keeping a large stock of general merchandise.

In 1882 a new school house was erected in the village, at a cost of \$1,850. Frank Fowler taught the first school in this building.

The post of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized March 15, 1883, with the following as its charter members and officers: G. W. Shattuck, commander; Henry Todd, S. V. C.; John Carter, J. V. C.; John Griffin, chaplain; J. H. Helm, sergeant; D. V. De Hart, G.; Frank Seeley, O. D.; Isaac Smith, O. G.; J. M. Hankins, O. T.; Lewis Long, S. M.; H. D. Tillon, Q. M. S.; John Gomig, James Granger, Robert Drake, T. W. Payne, Jesse Beatty, C. A. Neefe, M. R. Griffin, Willet Liple, C. A. Willey, T. R. Watts, August Zust and William Beatty.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows at West Lima was organized on April 8, 1876, with the following charter officers and members: H. S. DeHart, N. G.; William Rodgers, J. A. Sandmire, V. G.; George W. Drake, T.; Alma Ford, R. S., and Fred Cordes. The lodge now has a membership of fifty-two. The present officers are: J. L. DeHart, Jr., N. G.; Frank Poorman, V. G.; A. M. Deets, T.; Watson Telfair, R. S.

The Independent Order of Good Templars was organized June 5, 1883. The following is a list of the officers and charter members: J. H.

Helm, W. C. T.; Alice DeHart, W. V. T.; John Morrison, chaplain; H. P. DeHart, secretary; Dora Todd, A.S.; Joseph Lipley, W.T.S.; W. Lipley, treasurer; B. DeHart, M.; Hattie Hurless, D. M.; Eliza Morrison, I. G.; W. W. Bean, O. G.; Mary Bean, R. H. S.; Elizabeth Watts, L. H. S.; B. A. Cole, P. W. C. T.; G. W. Ammerman, N. W. S.; J. Ammerman, Anna Bean, B. B. DeHart, Mrs. E. E. DeHart, Freeman Lipley, Mary A. Lipley, Jane Lipley, J. Morrison, Ellis Outland, Daniel Sabin, E. D. Sabin, Etta Seeley, Emma Todd, J. F. Watts and Serepta Todd.

## WEST LIMA POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice at West Lima was established in 1855, under the name of Hoosier. The first postmaster was Jesse Harness. In 1869 the name was changed to West Lima. Succeeding Mr. Harness as postmaster, came David H. Todd, G. D. Hamilton and Miss Mantie Marshall. The latter is the present postmistress.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

The early pioneers and prominent citizens of the town of Bloom, deserving of mention, are as follows:

Jobe M. Hurless, one of the pioneers of Bloom, was born in Pendleton Co., Va., May 15, 1831. His mother died when he was but six months old. He remained in Virginia until 1833, in which year his father removed to Clinton Co., Ind., where he died in 1842. Our subject then went to Carroll county, and lived with Dr. Courier some years, and from thence to Howard county, same state, where he was married March 5, 1853, to Cynthia Trobough, a resident of Carroll county, but a native of Greene Co., Tenn., born June 20, 1836. Mr. Hurless then engaged in farming and on Sept. 17, 1854, departed for Wisconsin, and arrived in Richland county, town of Bloom Oct. 5, 1854. He there entered 160 acres of land on section 5, and was forced to cut his road through the woods three miles to get in with a team, and had to haul his provisions from Orion, a distance of thirty miles. He has since increased his land to 620 acres, of which 200 acres are under cultivation.

Mr. Hurless on his arrival in the town of Bloom possessed only \$300, but by hard labor and successful speculations has acquired a competence. Mr. and Mrs. Hurless have seven children—Martha M., John M., Henry M., Ivan M., Hattie A., Zettie and Orrin O. Martha was married in 1870 to T. P. Burt, and John M. was married in 1880 to Emma Stumbaugh. Martha has five children—Adie, Lulu, Etta, Elsie and Ivan M. John has three children—Odas H. and a pair of twins—Allen C and Bessie M. Mr. Hurless has also an interest in a general merchandise store in West Lima, but devotes the greater portion of his attention to stock raising.

James A. Sellers, one of the early settlers of Richland county, was born June 22, 1817, in Perry Co., Ohio, where his early life was spent, obtaining his education in the common schools. In 1844, he was married to Caroline Melick. They are the parents of nine children—Jonas M., Mary I., John W., William A., Naomi A., Lucy E., Emma A. and Bessie. Mrs. Sellers died April 7, 1882. Jonas is now married to Nora Downs; Mary is the wife of J. D. Allbaugh; J. W. is married to Mary J. Cushman, and Lucy E. to Marion Allbaugh. In 1855, Mr. Sellers moved from Knox Co., Ohio, to Green Co., Wis., wintering there in 1856 and 1857. In 1859, he came to Richland Center, and in August to the place where he now resides, town of Bloom, and entered 120 acres of land on sections 26 and 27, which he has reduced to ninety-two acres. He also owns a house, lot and grist mill in the village of Spring Valley. Mr. Sellers has been a deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1869.

W. R. Peckham, one of the leading farmers of Richland county, is a native of Jefferson Co., Ohio, where he was born in 1841, and there lived until 1855 when he moved to Richland Co., Wis., with his parents. They entered 160 acres of land on section 34, town of Bloom. Mr. Peckham now lives on section 23, where he owns 200 acres, is engaged in farming and buy-

ing stock for the market. He was married Oct. 26, 1865, to Catharine Allbaugh, who was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, April 20, 1847, where she resided until 1861, when she came to Richland county, town of Bloom, with her parents. They now have four children—John A. Logan, Milo E., Marian S. and Bertha M. Mr. Peckham was a member of the 25th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged in June, 1865. He was assessor of the town one year. His father, William Peckham, was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, in 1804, and died in the town of Bloom in 1881. His mother, Matilda, was born in 1809, also in Jefferson Co., Ohio, and died in the town of Bloom in 1883. Mr. Peckham has the respect and confidence of his fellow-men and may be classed among the best citizens of the county. He has always adhered to the principles of the republican party and is a pronounced member of that organization. Mr. and Mrs. Peckham are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Joseph Herbert was born in the town of Marshall, Richland Co., Wis., Dec. 25, 1855, and since his birth, has been a resident of the county, excepting three years spent in Vernon county. He is now engaged in general blacksmithing and the manufacture of wagons in the village of Spring Valley, and is the proprietor of the only hotel in that place. He was married in 1876 to Mary E. Stewart, who was born in Black River Falls, Jackson Co., Wis., in 1857. They have three children—Rena M., Mertie C. and Milton M. His father, Peter, was born in 1801, in Canada; emigrated to the United States in 1845, settled at Fort Clinton, Ohio, and in 1854 came to Richland county and located in the town of Marshall, early in the settlement of that territory. His mother, Elista, was also a native of Canada, born in 1803, and died in Viola, Richland county, in 1881.

John J. Jewell, one of the most prominent business men and farmers of the town of Bloom, was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, in 1828, where

his youth was spent, and he received such education as he was able to obtain in the district schools of his native county. In 1855 he moved to Vernon Co., Wis., settled in the town of Union, remained six months, then moved to the town of Bloom, Richland county, where he purchased 800 acres of land, which he has since reduced to 500, located on section 1, where he now resides, and is engaged in farming, merchandising, loaning money and buying and selling stock to a large extent in Richland and Vernon counties. He was married in 1854 to Catharine Borland, who was born in the State of Pennsylvania, in 1830. They have seven children—David W., R. R., Enoch, William K., Ezra, John J. and Mary E. William K. is now married to Sarah E. McBain and Mary E. to Lemon T. Smith. When Mr. Jewell came to this country, it was a wilderness; and pluck and energy were necessary elements for success. Remote from mill and market, without roads or easy methods of transportation, with little food and poor shelter, settlement in those days meant for a while almost hermitage, and all honor is due such men and women as Mr. and Mrs. Jewell, who by sacrifice and effort assisted in putting in motion a series of events, which have made possible the development of so goodly a land. Sometimes it would seem a place has thus been purchased at a cost beyond estimation, but they have lived to enjoy a home honestly gained, a competence fairly won, and are among the best class of Richland county citizens. Mr. Jewell has business qualifications beyond most men, which, combined with economy, energy and good judgment, have enabled him to outstrip others in the accumulation of wealth, until now he is in possession of a sufficiency for every enjoyment during his declining years.

Charles A. Neefe, a native of Germany, was born Jan. 1, 1834, and emigrated to the United States with his parents at the age of two years. They first settled in St. Louis Co., Mo., where they remained eight or nine years, then removed

to the lead mines of Grant Co., Wis., remaining until 1846, when he came to Richland county and settled in the town of Orion. Mr. Neefe has been a resident of the county ever since. He now owns 110 acres of land and a saw-mill, and is now doing a thriving business. He was married in 1857 to Nancy M. See, who was born Jan. 7, 1836, in New York city, and came to Richland county in 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Neefe are the parents of five children—Maria, Christina, Emma, Frank and Frederick. Maria is now the wife of Elliot Jones; and Christina, of Hughey Clark. Mr. Neefe enlisted in 1861 in the 6th Wisconsin Battery, and was discharged in 1864. While in the service he was injured by the premature discharge of a gun, of which he was first gunner. In 1859 he went on a gold hunting expedition to Pike's Peak, and was successful only in getting financially ruined. He, in company with three others, returned to Omaha, Neb., on foot. There, one of his comrades sold his gun for enough money to procure them passage to St. Joseph, Mo. At that point Mr. Neefe took a twenty-dollar piece, which he had saved, and paid their fare to Prairie du Chien, Wis., and having nothing to pay for food, he sawed wood for the cook of the boat, and so paid his own and his companions' board. On arriving at Prairie du Chien he tried to sell his gun to get his sick comrade home, but could get only \$3 and a glass of beer for it. He accepted the offer, however, sent his comrade home and returned to his home himself, arriving in Richland county a poorer but wiser man. He has never left the county since without money enough to bring him home. Mr. Neefe was formerly a democrat; since the war, however, he has been a republican, but is not so bound to party but that he can and does vote for the best man.

Mahlon Stewart, one of the pioneer settlers of the town of Bloom, was born Oct. 16, 1827, in Pittsburg, Penn. In 1827 his parents moved to Galley Co., Ohio, where he resided until

1852, when he removed to Jackson Co., Wis., where he remained until 1857, and then removed to Richland county and settled on section 35, of the town of Bloom, where he entered forty acres of land and engaged in farming until 1863, when he removed to the State of Minnesota and remained until 1864, when he returned to the town of Bloom and purchased eighty acres of land on section 35, where he now lives. In August, 1852, Mr. Stewart was married to Ruth Clark, who was born Oct. 16, 1830, in Jefferson Co., Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart have eight children—Rachel J., William, Mary E., James, Edward, Martha, John and Emmett. Rachel is now married to James Zimberlee, William to Emma Davis, Mary E. to Joseph Herbert, James to Ella Bailey, and Edward to Addie Barnhart. Mr. Stewart was a member of the 46th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, company H, having enlisted in 1864, and was discharged at the close of the war.

Thomas J. Edwards is a native of the State of Missouri, born in Cooper county, Feb. 16, 1817. In 1825 he moved with his parents to Davis Co., Ind., where he grew to manhood and learned the tanner's trade. In 1839 he moved to Clinton Co., Ind., and remained until 1854, then went to Orion, Richland Co., Wis., and purchased 190 acres of land in Eagle town, and engaged in merchandising as clerk for Rodolph & Graham. In 1861 he enlisted in the 5th Wisconsin, and was discharged in 1863, having been promoted to the rank of second lieutenant, company H. He now owns 104 acres of land in the town of Bloom, on section 32. He was married in 1844 to Hannah Gray, who died the same year. He was again married Dec. 7, 1845, to Abigail Hayes. They have had eight children—Hannah J., Asa J., Mary C., Joseph A., May, Ida S. and Edwina E. (twins), and Claribel. Hannah, Asa and Ida are now deceased. Mary C. is the wife of Benjamin Black; May is the wife of James Seeley; Edwina E. is the wife of Robert J. Drake; and Joseph A. is married to

Jane L. Guthrie. Mr. Edwards has held the office of town treasurer of Orion ten years.

F. G. Hills, a native of New York, was born in Lewis county, in 1827, where he spent his youth and learned the trade of a wheelwright. In 1855 he came to Richland county, and worked at his trade in Richland Center until 1875, when he moved to Nebraska, and there resided for six years. From thence he removed to the town of Bloom, and opened a blacksmith and wagon shop in Spring Valley, where he is doing a good business. He was married in 1852 to Miss C. J. Hubbard, born in Lewis Co., N. Y., in 1833. They have two children—Herbert and Nellie. Herbert was married to Emeline Peckham, and Nellie is now the wife of John Miller. Herbert is the father of four children—Charles, Delbert, Henry and Clara. Nellie is now the mother of three children—Eugene, Frank and Nora.

James H. Stewart was born in Richland Co., Wis., Feb. 15, 1859, and has lived in the town of Bloom ever since. Mr. Stewart is the son of Mahlon and Ruth Stewart, who came to Wisconsin in 1852, and now lives in Bloom on section 35. Mr. Stewart was married in the year 1880 to Ella Baily, who was born in 1861 in Williams Co., Ohio, and came to Richland county in 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart have one child—Evert A. Mr. Stewart now owns a house and two lots, and is engaged in the manufacture of wagons and general smithing, in the village of Spring Valley.

J. W. Bradshaw, one of the prominent business men of Spring Valley, was born in Wayne Co., Ill., in 1847, where he made his home until 1870, when he moved to Richland Co., Wis., locating in the village of Woodstock, engaging in the mercantile trade there, and continuing until 1876, when he sold his stock and pur-

chased a farm, which he managed until 1883, when he again engaged in merchandising, locating in Spring Valley, town of Bloom, where he carries a fine stock and has a good trade. He was married in 1870 to Lora A. Walser, a native of Edwards Co., Ill., born in 1854. They have four children—James E., Ines, Una and Walser. Mr. Bradshaw was a soldier in the late war, having enlisted in 1863 in the 61st Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged in 1865. His father, James, was born in Kentucky in 1800; went to Wayne Co., Ill., in 1830, and entered a farm, upon which he lived fifty years, and left a Christian record excelled by none in his county. His mother, Matilda, was born in 1804, and died in Wayne Co., Ill., in 1853. In addition to the care of his own business, he always finds time, and esteems it a great pleasure, to assist in bearing the burdens of building up Christian and benevolent causes of his place.

B. F. McCord was born in Mercer Co., Penn., in 1826, where he resided until 1842, when he moved to Grant Co., Wis., and engaged in general work until 1859, then moved to Lee Co., Iowa; remained one year, and returned to Grant Co., Wis. In 1866 he moved to Texas, remained two years, and returned to Grant county. In 1873 he moved to Des Moines Co., Iowa, remained two years, and came to Richland Co., Wis., and started a carding and spinning mill. In 1882 he moved to the town of Bloom, built a mill on section 4, where he had purchased forty acres of land and is doing a good business. He was married in 1859 to Lucinda Ayer, who was born in Rock Co., Wis., in 1842. They have seven children—Blanche, G. W., Jenette, Rebecca, Andrew, Mary and E. D. Mrs. McCord died in the town of Bloom, in June, 1882. Blanche is now married to Charles Knightman.



## CHAPTER XXI.

## TOWN OF BUENA VISTA.

This town forms the southeastern corner of Richland county and embraces portions of three congressional townships. Three whole and six fractional sections comprising this town, lie in township 8 north, of range 2 east; three whole, one-half and one fractional section of township 9, range 1 east; and twenty-four whole and six half sections of township 9, range 2 east. The town of Buena Vista is bounded on the north by the town of Ithaca; on the east by Sauk county; on the south by the Wisconsin river; and on the west by the town of Orion. The south and southwestern portions of the town, including in fact nearly one-fourth of the area, is made up of a level prairie. The soil is sandy and moderately productive. It is well adapted to growing Indian corn and sorghum. The soil being warm and light, melons grow in abundance here; and the production of water melons, particularly, has occupied a great deal of the farmers' attention for a number of years. The first in the town to raise and ship melons upon an extensive scale was Ezekiel Elliott. He began in 1863 and followed the business for a number of years, shipping from \$1,000 to \$1,500 worth annually and one year the shipments amounted to \$2,000. In 1872 J. W. Fuller engaged in the business and for four years his melon revenue was \$400 annually. He still devotes a good deal of his attention to the cultivation of melons. Others who are now raising and shipping this product are: Harvey Layton, John Smith, Isaac Fan and Aaron Lee.

The valley of the Pine river, in the western part of the town, is very fertile and contains

many fine farms. The northern part of the town is hilly but well adapted to grazing. The greater part of the eastern portion of the town is included in Bear creek valley, which, with its tributary, the Little Bear creek valley, forms one of the finest farming regions in the State.

The principal streams that traverse the town are Pine river and Bear creek. The former rises in Vernon county. It enters the town of Buena Vista by way of section 7, town 9, range 2 east, and flowing nearly due south, makes confluence with the Wisconsin river on section 31. Pine river is the most important stream that flows through Richland county. In this town its average width is seventy feet. Bear creek rises in Sauk county. It enters the town of Buena Vista from Ithaca, by way of section 11, town 9, range 2 east, and flows nearly south to the center of section 35, thence southwesterly to enter the Wisconsin river on section 4, town 8. One of its tributaries, Little Bear creek, enters the town on section 24, from Sauk county, and flows west to join Bear creek on section 23.

The ridges in the northern part of the town were originally heavily timbered; the principal varieties were white and black oak. West of Pine river there was a heavy growth of timber consisting principally of elm, basswood, oak, black walnut, butternut and ash. The valley of Bear creek was also covered with timber of the varieties mentioned, but the growth was not as heavy as that west of Pine river.

Two lines of railway pass through this town, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad and the branch to Richland Center.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement within the limits now comprising the town of Buena Vista, was made in the fall of 1845 by Robert and William McCloud. They emigrated to Wisconsin from Hardin Co., Ohio, in 1844, and stopped with their families in the village of Muscoda. In the fall of 1845 Robert McCloud located a farm on the east bank of Bear creek, the northeast quarter of section 35, now owned by Rev. S. B. Loomis. He began improvements at once. At the same time his brother, William McCloud, located a farm about one half mile further south. In the spring of 1846 they removed their families to the new homes, from Muscoda.

In the fall of 1846 Israel Janney and his brother Phineas came to this town. Israel located on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 34 on land which is now owned by R. L. Moore, James Moore and Leonard Button. Phineas Janney located on the west half of the northeast quarter of section 28, town 9, range 2 east, land now owned by D. B. Young.

The following, from the pen of Israel Janney, graphically describes their settlement :

"In the fall of 1846 my brother Phineas and myself, with our families, left Logan Co., Ohio, for Wisconsin, and on the 27th day of September we crossed the Wisconsin river with our families in an Indian canoe, about one mile above the mouth of Bear creek, at a point since known as Hurst's ferry. Before crossing the river, we found it necessary to send our teams back by the way of Highland and Dodgeville to Helena. At this point there had been a shot tower erected, and the company operating this tower owned a flat boat for their own convenience, and they were engaged to ferry our teams across the river. We were landed on the north bank of the river near where Spring Green is now located, and traveled across the prairie to Bear creek. I mention these facts to show the inconvenience of traveling in the early settlement of the county."

In the spring of 1847 William Janney, a brother of Israel, located on section 34, where J. W. Briggs now lives. The next settler in the town of Buena Vista was Amos Mercer, who also came in the spring of 1847. He was from southern Illinois. He settled on the west half of the southeast quarter of section 28, town 9, range 2 east, on the farm now owned by A. Harter. Mr. Mercer is a prosperous farmer of Sauk county.

In the summer and fall of 1848 there were a number of locations made in this town. Delos Matteson, J. W. Briggs, Samuel Long, Jonathan Ingram, E. B. Beason, Jonah Seaman, (Mr. Seaman came with the McClouds in 1845, but returned to Illinois, and came back again in 1848.) I. H. Wallace (proprietor of Richland city), C. W. Morris, George Reed, Nathaniel Wheeler, who bought out Phineas Janney ; J. W. Coffinberry, who settled on section 30, but soon after removed to Richland City. William and Cyrus Kline settled on the northwest quarter of section 23, and the north half of the northeast quarter of section 22, town 9, range 2 east, on what is now known as the Eaton farm. John P. Smith settled this year on section 22, on the farm now owned by Charles Daley. Emanuel Wallace, a brother of John Wallace, of Lone Rock, also came in 1848 and settled on section 14, on the farm now owned by Susan Halsey. B. J. Hopkins located on sections 24 and 13, on land now owned by A. Davis and Levi Runyan. Moses Brown and Sterling McKinney located this year on section 36, on land now owned by L. V. Loomis and Edmond Meade. Brown is in Chippewa county, this State ; McKinney is dead. Other early settlers, George L. Dyke, Stroud, Luther Evans, Holland Allen, Elias Thomas, George Woodard, Edmond Meade, on section 25, where he now lives, John Daley. A man named Perrine located on section 12, town 8, range 2 east, in 1851. He sold to the railroad company the plat of Lone Rock village. He had several grown sons, one of whom was Dr. Perrine. A singular fatality attended this family, five of

whom died soon after coming here. The family removed to Minnesota.

#### HISTORICAL EVENTS.

The first marriage in this town was that of Edwin Erwin and Elizabeth McCloud, the latter a daughter of Robert McCloud. The ceremony was performed in 1850 by Rev. Nathaniel Wheeler. The couple now reside in Texas.

The first death in the town was that of Philip H. Miller, which occurred Nov. 19, 1846. He was twenty-seven years of age, a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (McCloud) Miller. He died of fever induced by exposure in hunting. The remains were buried on what is now the farm of Hon. L. G. Thomas, but were afterward removed to the cemetery at Sextonville.

The second death in the town was that of Mrs. Sarah J. (Miller) Janney, a sister of Philip Miller, which occurred March 21, 1847. She was the wife of Phineas Janney.

Another early death was that of Adelbert H. Briggs, son of J. W. and Melissa Briggs, which took place March 7, 1849. The child was three and a half years old.

The first school in Buena Vista was taught by Mrs. Emily Matteson, wife of Delos Matteson, in the summer of 1850. The school was kept at the residence of Mr Matteson.

The first school house in the town was a log building erected on the northeast quarter of section 32, in 1849. Margaret Ingram was the first teacher here.

The first sermon was preached by Elder Nathaniel Wheeler, in the fall of 1848, at his residence.

#### POSTOFFICES.

There are four postoffices in the town of Buena Vista. The first established was at Richland City and a history of it will be found elsewhere. The history of the Lone Rock postoffice is also given in its proper place.

The second postoffice in the town was established in 1854, with Moses Brown as postmaster and the office at his house on section 36. It was on the mail route from Sauk City to Prairie

du Chien. This office was discontinued at about the time the postoffice at Lone Rock was established.

Dixon postoffice was established in June, 1880, with Mrs. Helen Eaton as postmistress. The office is located on section 22. It was named in honor of William Dixon.

Gotham postoffice is located at Richland City station. It was so named in honor of Capt. M. W. Gotham, who has been postmaster since the establishment of the office in July, 1882.

#### EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

The town of Buena Vista is well supplied with schools, and educational facilities here are equal to any of the towns in Richland county. There are five districts and two joint districts. The total number of children of school age in the town is 340; of which the average attendance is 272.

District No. 1 includes Richland City. It has fifty-eight children of school age. The building is a frame one in good condition.

District No. 2 is usually called "Young's district," and has thirty-four pupils. The building is a frame structure located on the southeast quarter of section 29, which was built many years ago. In early days this was known as the "Friendship school house."

District No. 3 includes the village of Lone Rock.

District No. 5 has a building located on the northeast quarter of section 19, and has a school population of thirty-seven. The building is an old frame edifice, which was erected a number of years ago.

No. 6 is a joint district; including territory in the town of Orion. The school house is a neat frame building located on section 28. That part of the district in Buena Vista has a school population of twenty-eight.

District No. 8 has twenty-five pupils. The school house is a small red frame building located on section 23.

District No. 10 has a neat frame building located on section 35. The number of pupils in the district is thirty-four.

No. 1 joint embraces but little territory in Buena Vista, only four pupils belonging to this town. The school house is located in the town of Ithaca.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are two public burial places now in use in the town of Buena Vista. One is located on the northwest quarter of section 34. This cemetery was laid out in the fall of 1853. The first burial was that of Lucius Tracy, who died April 6, 1854. There are others buried here who died in the town at an earlier date and were removed here from other burial places. Among the latter is Eliza, wife of John Seaman, who died Oct. 15, 1853. She was accidentally shot by William McCloud. The other public burial place is known as Lone Rock Cemetery, and is situated on the northwest quarter of section 12.

The first burial place in this town was on the farm of Robert McCloud, and the first burial was that of Philip H. Miller. This was used as a public burial place for some years, but most of the bodies have been removed to the two cemeteries mentioned. Another early place for the burial of the dead was at Richland City; but burials at this place have also been discontinued. Another place of burial was on the farm of Abijah Davis on the northwest quarter of section 3. L. G. Thomas has also a family burial place on his farm.

#### THE NAME OF THE TOWN.

The town of Buena Vista was so named at the suggestion of Mrs. J. W. Briggs. The name, Buena, had been suggested, it is said, by a returned Mexican soldier, who had probably become somewhat familiar with Spanish names during his army experience in Mexico. Mrs. Briggs suggested that the name would be incomplete simply as Buena, and thought that Vista should be added. Her suggestion was followed, hence the present name of the town.

#### BEAR CREEK VALLEY.

The eastern part of the town of Buena Vista includes Bear Creek valley, which is one of the finest sections of country to be found in the State of Wisconsin. From the point where Bear creek enters the town to its place of exit into the Wisconsin river, includes a distance of about six miles. The average width of the valley is about one mile. In the early history of the town wheat and other cereals were grown in great abundance; but for a number of years this valley has been devoted extensively to grazing and dairying.

There are two cheese factories in this valley, within the limits of the town of Buena Vista, which do an extensive business. L. G. Thomas is the pioneer in the cheese making business in the State of Wisconsin. He began in 1865, and for many years did an extensive business.

In 1867 George Carswell and his brothers, John H. and Nathaniel, began the manufacture of cheese, using that year the milk of about 100 cows. They ran a private dairy till 1873. The business was conducted for a number of years by George J. Carswell & Son, J. A. Carswell being associated with his father in the business. That is still the style of the firm, Fred E. Carswell being the junior member. The present factory was erected in 1882. This is one of the most complete factories to be found in the State. The size of the building is 24x45 feet; its full capacity of cheese is 1,500 pounds per day. It is furnished with all the modern improvements, and its facilities for rapid and excellent work is not excelled. During the year 1883 this factory manufactured into cheese the milk from 400 cows. The following is a statement of its product for three consecutive years:

1881—Cheese, 100,000 pounds, value \$10,500; butter, 3,000 pounds, value \$900; total, \$11,400.

1882—Cheese, 120,000 pounds, value \$12,000; butter, 4,000 pounds, value \$1,200; total, \$14,000.

1883—Cheese, 160,000 pounds, value \$17,000; butter, 5,000 pounds, value \$1,500; total, \$18,500.

The Eaton cheese factory was erected, in 1871, by H. L. Eaton. During the first year the factory used the milk of about 200 cows. The establishment now has a capacity of manufacturing 700 pounds per day. An unlimited amount of cold spring water runs through the factory from a spring a few rods distant. In the spring of 1878 the factory was purchased by J. M. Thomas. During the years 1882 and 1883 the milk from about 500 cows was regularly consumed. At present the greatest number of cows furnished by any one patron is sixty. They are kept on the factory farm. There are nine patrons who furnish from twenty-five to forty cows each. These are Messrs. Brace, Fredrickson, Van Arnan, Burnham, Ellsworth, Winterburn, Greenback, Wade and Thomas. Five patrons furnish from fifteen to twenty-five cows each—Runyan, Webley, Brainard, Dixon and Southard.

#### TOWN ORGANIZATION.

During the winter of 1848-49, the town of Buena Vista was organized by an act of the Legislature, and on the first Tuesday in April, 1849, the electors of the town met at the house of I. H. Wallace in Richland City, and organized by choosing J. W. Coffinberry moderator and C. W. Morris, clerk. The polls were opened and twenty votes were cast. The following officers were elected: Supervisors, J. W. Coffinberry, chairman, Israel Janney and Jonathan Ingram; clerk, C. W. Morris; assessor, Phineas Janney; treasurer, Samuel Long; justices of the Peace, N. Wheeler, J. W. Coffinberry, O. L. Britton and J. W. Briggs; inspector of Schools, E. B. Beason. The returns were taken to Mineral Point, Iowa county.

The town officers of Buena Vista in 1883 were as follows: Supervisors, J. Q. Black, chairman, William Krelmer and J. W. Southard; clerk, R. R. Eldred; treasurer, William Furguson; assessor, C. E. Braec; justices of the Peace, J. W. Fuller, L. D. Goodrich and W. E. Lewis; constable, A. S. Lee.

#### RICHLAND CITY.

The village of Richland City—once of considerable importance—is located on the southeast quarter of section 31, town 9, range 2 east. The original proprietors of the village plat were Isaac Wallace and Garwood Greene, who laid out the village in 1849. In 1851 A. C. Daley became an equal partner with Wallace and Greene in an addition that was made that year. This addition was laid out on the north side of the original plat, and was known as Wallace, Greene and Daley's addition to Richland City.

Wallace made the original claim as government land, and had erected a log house on the plat. Garwood Greene erected a house in the fall of 1849, which was purchased and occupied by Henry Clayman in the spring of 1850. Mr. Clayman used this as a dwelling house and a shoe-shop, he being the first shoemaker in the village. Ezekiel McIntyre was the first merchant. D. Osborne was the second. The latter coming here with a very small stock of goods. He was quite successful and built up an extensive trade. He is now in Tennessee. Mr. McIntyre kept the first store in the log house that Wallace had built, previous to the laying out of the village. He began in the fall of 1849. In 1852 he built the store building now occupied by D. P. Nichols as a store and postoffice.

Peter Haskins was the first blacksmith in the village.

The first physician was Dr. Hartshorn. Other physicians were C. B. Pierson and L. H. Nichols.

Samuel Tyler was the first wagon maker. He has long since died. Other early mechanics were Chester Goodwin, cabinet maker; John Hooper, blacksmith; Christian Spidel, now of Richland Center, was the first jeweler; Capt. Henry Dillon and John Wyker were the first tailors.

The school house in the village was erected in 1853.

In 1853 an academy was established at Richland City, Professor Silsby being the proprietor of the enterprise. The people assisted materially in the erection of a substantial building and were to receive their recompense in tuition. This school was in operation for about four years. The building has since been moved to Spring Green where it is now used for school purposes.

The postoffice at Richland City was the first in the town; it was established in 1854. Postmasters have been as follows: John Rutan, Dr. Pearson, Dr. Hadder, Mrs. Bangham, W. F. Lewis, Henry Eddy, T. E. Lewis and the present incumbent, D. P. Nichols.

The first hotel was kept in a log building, by Bangham & Co. This house was burned in 1855. Jacob Haanxhaurst built a hotel on the site of the log hotel burned. This building was erected in 1856, and was called the Valley House. It was afterward removed to Lone Rock where it is now known as the Haskell House. J. W. Coffinberry also erected a hotel here about 1855. This was afterward used as a boarding house for the academy. It is now used as a farm house near Spring Green. Another hotel was erected at about the same time by Joshua Simpson, which is also a dwelling house at Spring Green.

The first mill was a steam saw-mill erected in 1855 by Ephraim Brown. William Ketchum soon afterward bought one-half interest. They ran the mill for a number of years. It was afterward conducted by other parties but its use was discontinued in 1870. The pine timber which was used was rafted down the river from the pineries above, and an extensive business was done. This mill supplied the surrounding country, for a radius of many miles, with lath and lumber. The mill also was used to manufacture into lumber the oak and other timbers in the vicinity. A steam grist and flouring mill was erected in 1854 by Henry Rowell. This mill contained four run of stone and did an extensive business for a number of

years. Rowell owned the mill for about a year, when it went into the hands of other parties. This mill proved to be of too great magnitude to be profitable in this location, and was finally removed to Milwaukee.

Richland City was for a number of years an important point. Until the completion of the Prairie du Chien branch of the C., M. & St. P. Railroad, in 1856, steam-boats plied the Wisconsin river as far up as Portage, and Richland City was the most important landing on the route. But the completion of the railroad put an end to the traffic on the river, and from that time business in the village rapidly diminished.

Among the men who were engaged in business here, from 1849 to 1856, the following may be mentioned: G. Greene, land dealer and merchant; William Ketchum, milling and merchandising; Daniel Osborne, general merchant; J. C. Clark, general merchant; George Rowell, merchandising and milling; William F. Lewis, Horace Thompson, Thomas Lewis, William Carl and others. Some of the above, however, were engaged in business later than 1856. At present, the business of the village is represented by D. P. Nichols, merchant and postmaster, and H. M. Boek, wholesale liquor dealer.

#### LONE ROCK.

The village of Lone Rock had its origin in the advent of the Prairie du Chien branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and the decision of the railroad company to establish a station at this point. The railroad was completed to this place in October, 1856. The name of Lone Rock was given to the station because of the remarkable pile or mound of sandstone rock located just south of the eastern part of village, on section 13. It is not known positively by whom the name was first applied to this mound of Rock, but it was probably first so called by the early raftsmen on the Wisconsin river, who, impressed by the singularity of the lonely rock on the prairie, gave it the name to designate a point on the stream down which they floated, the rock being





*John H. Carswell*





Mary A. Carswell.



but a short distance from the left bank of the Wisconsin river.

In the fall of 1856 what is known as Lone Rock City was laid out by Ray, Dean, Burrell and Cook. This plat comprised the southeast quarter of section 12, town 8, range 2 east. At about the same time, what is known as Lone Rock village, consisting of eighty acres adjoining Lone Rock City on the north, was laid out by Dr. J. N. Cassell. Two other additions were made at about the same time—one of forty acres by A. C. Daley, on the west of Lone Rock City; the other by Daniel B. Allen, of forty acres joining Lone Rock village on the east. The latter is in Sauk county. At the time Lone Rock was laid out there was but one building upon the plat. This was a log house in what became Lone Rock village, occupied later by Mr. Calder, the first blacksmith. A number of buildings were erected in the fall of 1856.

J. O. Phelps, the first merchant of Lone Rock, erected a store building on the corner of Richland and Oak streets. This building, though remodeled, is now owned and occupied by J. C. Bancroft as a general store. Mr Phelps is regarded as the first merchant of Lone Rock, although Joseph Wade kept a few groceries for sale before Mr. Phelps had completed his building. J. O. Phelps was a native of Seneca Falls, N. Y. Before locating here he had been to California, where he had acquired some means. He kept a good general store, was an active, wide-awake business man, and generally liked, although somewhat eccentric. He removed from here to Sauk county, and died at Spring Green a few years ago.

During the same fall, 1856, Lorenzo Boronghs kept a store for A. C. Daley, in Daley's addition.

Samuel F. Honn was another merchant who started in 1856. He died at Boscobel a number of years ago.

Several new buildings were erected during that fall, and a number were moved from Hurst's Ferry.

Henry Paddleford opened the first hotel, in a building which he brought from the ferry. This was called the Union House. It was kept successively by Mr. Paddleford, J. W. Brooks and S. F. Honn. The building is now occupied as a dwelling house. Mr. Paddleford is now in Texas. In the early history of the village, hotels were also kept by Joseph Wade and Garrett Cruson; the latter kept what was known as the City Inn.

M. Waters built one of the early hotels here. He purchased a building erected by Flanders for a lumber office, to which he made an addition, and opened it to the public as the American House. He ran it for some time, and then sold it to Mr. Mullen and O. Malley, who ran the hotel for several years.

The present hotels are the Haskell House, the Commercial House and the Sherman House. The Haskell House was brought here from Richland City, in 1865. It was known at that place as the Valley House. It was built at Richland City in the early history of that village, by a man named Hauxhaurst. It was purchased, taken to pieces, brought here and re-erected by Eaton and Craig, and called by them the Sheridan House. It was run by Platt & Putnam, for some time and then by H. Brainard. It was also conducted at different times by Messrs. Page, Bell, Corbin, McDonald and Dyke. It was finally purchased by the Towsley Brothers, and by them run as the Towsley House. H. W. Haskell rented the hotel for a time, then purchased it and gave his name to the hotel, by which it is at present known. The present landlord of the Haskell House is A. B. Hill, late of the Commercial House.

The building used as the Commercial House was built at Point Boss. It was bought a few years since and removed to its present location. It was first used as a hotel by A. B. Hill, now of the Haskell House. It is still owned by A. M. Woodbury, who purchased and brought it to the village.

The Sherman House was built in the fall of 1856. The building is now owned and kept as a hotel by Mrs. Dudgeon.

The first school in the village was taught by Ellen M. Wesley, in the upper part of the building erected by Dr. J. N. Cassell, for a drug store. The school began in the fall of 1856 and continued for five months. Miss Wesley is now the wife of J. W. Fuller, of Lone Rock.

Garrett Cruson was the first carpenter. A number of others came at about the same time. Mr. Cruson now lives at what was Hurst's Ferry.

The first physician in the village was Dr. J. N. Cassell, who came in 1856. He remained here a number of years, when he removed to Chicago, where he died. His remains were brought here for burial. The second physician was Dr. R. L. Telfair, who is still a resident. Other physicians who have practiced here in the past are: Dr. McKinnon, Dr. Dodge, Dr. Stoddard, Dr. Pinkerton Dr. Charles E. Houghman and others.

The first drug store was kept by Dr. J. N. Cassell. Dr. R. L. Telfair opened the second drug store in 1857, and has been in the business most of the time since.

In 1857 Dr. R. L. Telfair erected the first warehouse in the village. At about the same time Charles Putnam, from Boston, erected a warehouse and commenced dealing in grain. He was in trade for several years, and then removed to Chicago.

The first jeweler was H. A. Harrison. The present one is Lorenzo Borroughs.

But few of the business men of Lone Rock, who started with the growth of the town in 1856-7, are still in trade. The following are the names of men and firms who have been in business here, but now removed or retired: Phelps Bros., Platt Bros., S. F. Honn, Daniel Osborn, Saul Hirstine, William Shafer, J. L. R. McCollum, John Litle, J. M. McDonald, W. G. James, David Dudgeon, who died here, and others.

The business of Lone Rock in 1883 was represented as follows:

Fuller & Foster,—general merchants.

John Wallace,—general merchant.

McWilliams & Martin, represented by J. C. Bancroft,—general merchants.

Tyler & Southard,—hardware dealers.

A. Wolf,—postmaster and druggist.

R. L. Telfair,—physician and druggist.

A. B. Hill,—proprietor Haskell House.

Mrs. D. W. Dudgeon.—proprietress Sherman House.

Guy P. Towsley,—proprietor livery stable.

Fuller, Foster & Runyan,—lumber dealers.

J. F. Beardsley,—farm machinery.

D. T. Beebe,—broom manufacturer.

John Frank,—meat market.

E. J. Aldrich,—blacksmith and machine shop.

J. L. Richison,—blacksmith and machine shop.

James Gilson,—saloon.

A. M. Woodbury,—saloon.

L. G. Thomas,—grain and produce dealer.

John Smith,—proprietor of Lone Rock & Ironton stage line.

W. W. Garrison,—dentist.

Laura Burnham,—millinery.

D. Hardenburgh,—surveyor and civil engineer.

A. W. Towsley,—agent C., M. & St. P. Ry.

J. W. Fuller,—justice of peace.

L. Burroughs,—jeweler.

M. Schlouch,—harness and saddle dealer.

A. S. Lee,—insurance agent.

J. K. Fries,—billiard room and confectionery.

A. Ray & Co.,—hardware.

The Lone Rock grist mill is located on Bear creek, on the northeast quarter of section 3. The mill site was originally owned by J. W. Briggs. In 1857 Henry Rowell purchased it and erected the mill in 1858. The mill is an important institution of the town and has done a large business for many years. It is a frame structure, three stories in height above the basement. It was run by Henry Rowell and his

brother Daniel until 1863 when they sold to B. and G. Harter who conducted it until 1877 when it went into the hands of Mr. Miller, of Madison. The mill still does an extensive business and is noted for the excellence of its work.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice at Lone Rock was established in the fall of 1856, with Henry Paddleford as the first postmaster. He held the office about one year and was succeeded by Zebulon W. Green, who held the office for several years, and was succeeded by R. S. Eldred; after Mr. Eldred came Dr. R. L. Telfair who held the office for several years. R. S. Eldred then again was postmaster and was succeeded by J. C. Baneroft early in 1869. In the fall of 1869 Abraham Wolf was appointed and has held the office since that time. The office was made a money order office in July, 1874. The first order, for \$8 50, was drawn by C. E. Brace. The first two orders were paid to Harriet Jenkins; amount of first order drawn, \$5.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first school house in the village was erected in 1857. It was a frame building and is still standing, in use by the primary departments of the school. In 1864 a much larger building was put up at a cost of about \$2,500. It was two stories high, 34x52 feet in size. On April 1, 1865, when the house was about completed, it was struck by lightning and entirely consumed by fire. In the spring of 1866 another building, somewhat larger than the one burned, was ready for occupancy. This, with the first house erected, afford the school building accommodations at the present time.

The school was graded in 1866 when the new building was first occupied.

In 1875, in accordance with the law then recently passed for the establishment of schools of a higher grade, a high school was established. The first principal of the high school was H. W. Hewett, who remained one year. Mr. Hewett's successors were: I. A. Sabin, who was here one year; Mr. Hill, one year; Thomas

Morrow, three years; W. S. Sweet, the present county superintendent; and A. Wood, who succeeded Mr. Sweet in 1882. For a number of years the high school was a decided success and secured a high reputation for its excellence, but the expense of supporting so high a grade of school proved to be too great a burden on the people and it was abandoned in 1882.

The present principal of the graded school is L. H. Baneroft. The present number of pupils is 116.

#### FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

There are four fraternal organizations at Lone Rock: The Masonic, I. O. O. F., Good Templars and G. A. R.

Palestine Lodge, A. F. & A. M. was instituted by dispensation at Richland City, Jan. 18, 1859. The first regular meeting was held Feb. 2, 1859. The first officers were—Ira Curtis, W. M.; D. B. Young, S. W.; W. F. Lewis, J. W.; A. C. Tracy, S. D.; O. Stowell, J. D.; G. L. Sargent, tyler; Henry Dillon, secretary. A charter was granted the lodge June 14, 1859, and it was duly constituted under the charter July 28, following, by M. L. Young, special deputy grand master. At a special meeting held the same day, the following officers were duly installed: Ira Curtis, W. M.; D. B. Long, S. W.; W. F. Lewis, J. W.; G. W. P. Hadder, secretary; S. Spidle, treasurer; A. C. Tracy, S. D.; O. Stowell, J. D.; D. R. Phillips, tyler. The following are the names of the worshipful masters who have presided over the lodge: Ira Curtis, W. C. Wright, H. L. Eaton, A. C. Tracy, H. L. Eaton, J. M. Thomas, J. C. Baneroft, J. M. Thomas, J. C. Baneroft and J. M. Thomas. The present membership of the lodge is forty-three. Regular communications are held on Wednesday preceding the full moon in each month. Communications were held at Richland City until 1861, when the lodge was removed to Lone Rock.

Langworthy lodge, No. 102, Odd Fellows. This lodge was instituted in 1860, as Cascade lodge, No. 102, by Z. W. Green, J. C. Baneroft,

Daniel Platt, R. L. Telfair and Henry Dillon. The lodge flourished for a time, but became so depleted during the war, from enlistments and other causes, that it was discontinued. It was resuscitated Jan. 17, 1868, by T. W. Fuller, J. C. Bancroft, Edward Cruson, James Finn, John Wallace, Timothy Maroney and C. C. Line. The above are the names that appear on the new charter, granted in 1868. Of the first organization, Z. W. Green was the first noble grand; and the first noble grand of the second organization was J. W. Fuller. The present officers are Edward Cruson, N. G.; Wm. Cramer, V. G.; L. H. Lee, R. S.; A. Wolf, T. The present membership is about thirty-five.

The Henry Dillon Post, No. 24, G. A. R., was organized March 1, 1882, by Phil. Cheek, Jr., of Baraboo, Wis. Twenty-two comrades were mustered at its organization. The following officers were elected: N. B. Hood, commander; A. Wolf, S. V. C.; J. M. Bowers, J. V. C.; W. A. Garrison, adjutant; J. W. Reyma, officer of the day; A. J. Harrison, surgeon; Wm. Knapp, chaplain; E. J. Burdick, officer of the guard; C. H. Pierce, quartermaster. The post is now in a flourishing condition, and numbers sixty-three members. It meets every Saturday night. The post was named in honor of Capt. Henry Dillon, late Capt. of 6th Wisconsin Battery.

#### PERSONAL SKETCHES.

Among the following personal sketches will be found those of the most prominent and representative citizens of the town of Buena Vista:

One of the earliest settlers of the town of Buena Vista is Samuel Long; his settlement dating from August, 1848. Mr. Long's residence is on section 29. He was born in Indiana Oct. 9, 1816, but was reared in Illinois, where his parents, Jacob and Katharine Long, removed when he was a child.

His father came here in 1853 and settled on section 20 where he lived till his decease in

1863; his mother died seven years later. The parents of Mr. Long had four children; one son, John, died in Illinois. There are two daughters, Elizabeth and Anna; the former is Mrs. Green McCaim, a widow who resides in Iowa. Anna is the wife of Alfred Kuykendall of this town. Samuel married Francis Ballew a native of Kentucky. They have four children—Katharine, wife of William B. Brown, Charles M., graduated at Rush Medical College in the class of 1878; he is now practicing medicine at Osakis, Douglass county, Minn. Albert is a student at the State University, and Alice lives at home. Mr. Long's farm contains 160 acres.

Leonard Button is one of the early settlers of this town, the date of settlement being July, 1849. He located on section 34, his present home. By energy and industry he has secured a good home.

D. P. Nichols was one of the early settlers of Richland City, and is the present merchant and postmaster of that once active and important village. He came here in 1850, a short time after the village was platted. He was born in Essex Co., N. Y., in 1827. His father, Amasa Nichols, removed with his family to Richland Co., Ohio, in 1835, where he resided till his decease. Mr. Nichols learned the trade of tanner and currier, which occupation he followed for five years. He afterwards engaged in the business of carpentry, which he followed for some time after he came to Richland county. He ran the Richland City ferry for eight years, and afterwards engaged in the grocery business. He enlisted in 1862, in the 19th regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in which he served eleven months, when he was discharged for disability. He re-enlisted in 1864 in the 4th Wisconsin Battery, light artillery, in which he served till the close of the war. After the war, he was variously engaged till 1880. In May of that year he engaged in mercantile business. He was appointed postmaster, Oct., 2, 1883. Mr. Nichols has been twice married. His first wife, Mary Clayman, was born in Ohio and died here

in 1865. His present wife was Sarah Bills. He has three children by his first marriage—Orilla, Bell and Nellie.

James D. Keyes has been a resident of the town of Buena Vista since May, 1851. He has resided where he now lives, on section 16, since the spring of 1856. He has 330 acres of land, most of which was school land, which he obtained from the State. He was born in Bedford Co., Va., in 1825, but removed to Ohio with his parents, when ten years old, where his father died soon afterward. Mr. Keyes was married in Ohio to Maria B. Miller, a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Miller. Her father died in Ohio, and her mother afterward married Jacob Krouskop, one of the well known early settlers of Richland county. Mrs. Krouskop is still living at an advanced age. Mrs. Keyes is a niece of the noted pioneers, Robert and William McCloud. She was born in Logan Co., Ohio, in 1822. Mr. and Mrs. Keyes have had seven children, four of whom are living—William McCloud, Charles B., James M. and Eliza A. Philip died in 1861, Jacob in 1854, and George D. in 1868.

William Krouskop resides on section 20, town of Buena Vista. He is a son of Jacob Krouskop, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. Krouskop was born in Logan Co., Ohio, in 1836, and came to this county with his father in 1851. His farm was entered by Philip Miller, whose death was the first that occurred in the town. It was purchased of Robert McCloud by the father of the present owner, Jacob Krouskop, in 1848, several years before the latter settled in the county. William Krouskop has owned the farm since 1857. It formerly contained 160 acres, but now has 310 acres. Mr. Krouskop now has an excellent place, and his improvements are among the best in the town. He is engaged quite extensively in feeding and shipping stock. He learned the trade of miller at his father's mill at Sextonville, and followed milling for a number of years. His wife was formerly Amanda Black, a native of Virginia.

Mr. Krouskop possesses the necessary qualifications for a successful business man, has accumulated a competence, and has a good reputation among his fellow men.

John Wallace, merchant at Lone Rock, came to Richland county in the spring of 1849, and has been a permanent resident since 1851, when he helped erect a mill at Richland City, which was the first mill built at that point. In 1854 he settled on his land in the town of Itbica, which he had entered in 1849. He has lived at Lone Rock since May, 1861.

Alfred Kuykendall settled on section 20, in 1853, where he still lives. He is a native of Illinois. His wife was Anna Long, a sister of Samuel Long of this town. They have four children—John, Mary C., Jacob and Elizabeth. John enlisted Aug. 9, 1864, in company I, 38th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Captain H. H. Coleman, and served until the close of the war. He participated in several important engagements in the vicinity of Petersburg, Va. From the spring of 1865, until the close of the war, he was on detached duty and was honorably discharged in July, 1865. John Kuykendall owns a farm on section 13, where he now resides.

Henry J. Morrison lives on section 17, town 9, range 2 east, where he settled in 1853, purchasing his farm of eighty acres of Israel Janney. He at once commenced improvements, breaking twenty-seven and one-half acres that season, and erecting a log house, in which he lived with his family during the summer of 1853; but he returned to Morrow Co., Ohio, in the fall of that year, where he taught school the following winter, returning in the fall of 1854. Mr. Morrison was born in Knox, now Morrow Co., Ohio, in 1824, where he was reared. He received a primary education at the common school, after which he attended the Martinsburg Academy, in Knox county, and was for a time a student of the Miami University, in Butler county. Much of his life has been spent in teaching, which he began in 1849, and taught

one term in his native State, before coming west four terms in Illinois. He has taught eleven terms of school in the town of Buena Vista, and six terms in other parts of the county, four in Waukesha county, one in Ozaukee county. In 1850 Mr. Morrison came to Richland county and spent some weeks, but felt that he should not like the place for a home. He wished to go to Bloomington, Ill., but on arriving at Hanover, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., his team gave out so he could go no farther. He then rented a small farm near Hanover, and took the village school for the winter, farmed in the summer, taught a six months' term the next fall and winter. He again visited Richland county in the spring of 1852, and seeing the great improvements that had been made in the meantime, and getting pretty well over the "blues" from which he suffered very much in 1850, he thought this county would do for a new home; so he returned in 1853, and purchased as before stated. He has added an eighty, and again a forty, and the farm now consists of 200 acres. In 1874 Mr. Morrison rented his farm and removed to Waukesha, for the purpose of giving his children the advantages of the school of Carroll College, of that city, where he lived with his family three and one-half years, and where four of his children graduated. He was married in June, 1848, in Ohio, to Sally Ann Fox, who was born near Mansfield, in that State. They have seven children, all of whom are well educated and promise to be useful and respected members of society. They have all gone out into the world from the paternal roof. The names of the children are—Walter L., Thomas G., Mary C., Robert T., Emma E., William H. and Ella J., five of whom are now teaching school.

Alfred Kuydendall resides on section 20, town 9, range 2 east, where he located April 20, 1853. He was born in Vigo Co Ind., Dec. 20, 1823. He lived in his native county and in Clark Co., Ill., until thirty years old. He was engaged for a number of years boating

on the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers. He came to Richland county as before stated in 1853. He went first to the State of Iowa in search of a location, visiting what is now some of the finest parts of that State, but finally came here and bought his first land, eighty acres, of Jacob Long. Like most of the early settlers he was poor when he came here. He soon erected a frame dwelling, which he still occupies. His farm at present contains 120 acres, nearly all of which is improved. His wife was Anna Long, daughter of Jacob Long, who was born in Clark Co., Ill., Dec. 19, 1823. They have four children, two sons and two daughters—John, Mary, wife of David Henry; Jacob and Elizabeth, wife of Milo Beekwith. Mr. Kuykendall's father died in Vigo Co., Ind, in 1834. His ancestors were from Holland. He removed to Indiana from Kentucky.

George J. Carswell has been a resident of the town of Buena Vista since 1853. In March of that year he bought of E. M. Sexton 160 acres of land on section 26, town 9, range 2 east, where he settled with his family the following September. Mr. Carswell was born in the town of Exeter, Otsego Co., N. Y., Dec. 5, 1823. He was a resident of the State of New York until he came to Richland county. His father, Benjamin Carswell, was a native of Massachusetts and died when his son was four years of age. Mr. Carswell married Louisa Matteson, born in Otsego Co., N. Y. She is a sister of Delos Matteson, one of the well known pioneers of Richland county. He settled in the town Buena Vista in 1848 and died in 1857. His widow now lives at Lone Rock. Few among the pioneers of Richland county have been more successful than Mr. Carswell. He began life poor, and by energy and industry has secured a competence. His farm contains 400 acres of excellent land, and his improvements are not excelled in the town of Buena Vista. Socially he is a genial, intelligent gentleman; he has an excellent memory and is well informed on the early and later his-



tory of Richland county. Mr. Carswell was elected town supervisor in the spring of 1855; he assessed the town at an early day; was chairman of the board for the years 1866-7 and again in 1879. For a number of years Mr. Carswell has given much attention to the subject of draining. For the past twenty years he has been engaged in raising the Devon breed of cattle. He has now a herd of 100 cows, sixty of which are thoroughbred Devons. Probably a finer herd of cows cannot be found in the State than is possessed by Mr. Carswell. Mr. and Mrs. Carswell have three children, all of whom were born in this town—John A., born Oct. 29, 1854, Fred. E., born February, 1861, and George A., born March, 1867.

James A. Bills resides on the northeast corner of section 30, where he settled in 1853. He came to Richland City the previous autumn, where he resided with his family the following winter. He purchased eighty acres of his farm from Jonah Seaman; eighty acres from A. C. Daley, and forty acres from C. C. Woodman. His farm now contains 210 acres. He was born in Berkshire Co., Mass., in 1819. When a boy, he removed with his parents to Genesee Co., N. Y., and thence to the State of Pennsylvania. He was married in Erie county, of the latter State, to Permelia Emerson. After his marriage, he removed with his family to Kane Co., Ill., where he lived seven years, coming here from that county. Like many other settlers, Mr. Bills came into the county a poor man, but by industry and economy, has secured a pleasant home and a competency. Mr. and Mrs. Bills have had twelve children, four sons and eight daughters. One son and seven daughters are still living—Alonzo, born in Illinois in 1846; Mary, wife of Wesley Southard; Emma, wife of Foster Teeple; Jane, wife of Philip Bixler; Clarissa, wife of William Gewalt; Ellen, wife of E. Davis, in Colorado; Etta and Hattie. They lost one son, William, in the army during the War of the Rebellion. He was born Feb. 28, 1848. He enlisted in company A, 36th

Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was killed at Cold Harbor, Va. He was but sixteen years old at the time of his death, and although so young had already proved himself a brave soldier on the field of battle. He was killed by a confederate sharp-shooter, while conveying water to his comrades.

Abijah S. Davis came to Buena Vista in the fall of 1853, where he purchased a quarter section of land of Mr. Coffinberry. He was born in Canada, Aug. 2, 1824, where he lived until he was sixteen years old, when he left his home and came to the then territory of Wisconsin, locating in Dane county, where he lived many years. He purchased and improved a farm in Sun Prairie, in that county, which he afterwards sold, and located in the town of Berry, in the same county. He went to California in the early days of the gold fever in that State, where he engaged in mining, and was quite successful. He came to Richland county soon after his return from the land of gold. Mr. Davis is one of the successful farmers in the town of Buena Vista. He was married to Thankful A. Bresse, a native of Canada. They have had four children—W. H., A. S., deceased; Walter J. and Sallie A., also deceased. Walter J. Davis, who now owns the homestead where his father settled in 1853, was born on the old homestead in 1854. His wife was Lizzie Winterburn. They have two children—Benjamin U. and Abijah N.

William McNurlen resides on section 18, where he settled in 1854, purchasing his farm of George Mathews, upon which he has since made all the improvements. He was born in Greene Co., Penn., in 1814, where he lived until twenty years old, when he went to Richland Co., Ohio, thence to this county in 1854, during the month of July. He was married in Ohio to Willomine Trumbo, born in Tuscarawas county. They have had twelve children, eight of whom are now living—Rebecca J., Thomas J., Hannah J., William Allen, Wilson S., Lewis C., Chapman and Preston. They lost two sons,

John and Andrew, in the army during the War of the Rebellion. The former was a member of the 19th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and died at Norfolk, Va., in 1862. The latter belonged to the 36th Wisconsin, and died of starvation in the confederate prison at Saalsburg, N. C., in 1865. Thomas also served in the army during the the Rebellion, in the 19th Wisconsin. Mr. McNurlen's farm now contains 200 acres.

John A. Carswell is the son of George J. Carswell, and was born at the homestead in this town Nov. 29, 1854. He resides on section 26. Forty acres of his farm was entered by E. M. Sexton and purchased by G. J. Carswell. He purchased eighty acres of his farm from N. Carswell, and 100 acres from Harry Pier, having, altogether, 220 acres. Like a number of successful farmers of Bear river valley, Mr. Carswell is giving his attention to dairying, and like his father, possesses a fine herd of Devon cows. He is a practical dairyman, having learned thoroughly the business of cheese manufacture. He was educated at the high school at Lone Rock, which, for a number of years, was an institution of high merit. After leaving school he had charge of his father's farm for five years. He settled on his present place in 1878. He was married to Abigail, daughter of V. Brainard. She was born in Virginia. Her father formerly resided on section 26 of this town, but has returned to Virginia.

Levi Runyan resides on section 13, town 9, range 2 east, where he settled in April, 1855. He was born in Otsego Co., N. Y., but was reared in Herkimer county, and brought up to the business of agriculture. He has made nearly all the improvements on his present farm. His father, John Runyan, was born in Otsego county, and came to Richland county with Levi in 1855. They purchased 160 acres and settled on the west eighty. The father died in Buena Vista, Dec. 24, 1874. His wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, died in New York. There were six children of the

family who came to Richland county, only three of whom are now residents. Mr. Runyan was married in New York to Maria Lane, who died in Herkimer county. They had one child—Aliee. His second wife was Susanna Shontz, a native of Pennsylvania, who died in Crawford county in 1863. They also had one child—John S. Mr. Runyan's farm now contains eighty acres.

L. G. Thomas, one of the well known settlers of the town of Buena Vista, is a native of Jefferson Co., N. Y., where he was born in 1807, but was reared in Otsego county, that State. He was brought up to agricultural pursuits, but previous to coming west was engaged in the mercantile business for a period of seventeen years. He has been a resident of Buena Vista since 1856, coming here directly from the Empire State. He purchased the farm on section 35, where he now resides, of A. C. Daley. Mr. Thomas was the pioneer in the business of cheese making, which has now become an important industry in Richland county. He began the manufacture of cheese in 1865, with the milk of about 100 cows, including those of his own and neighboring farmers. He continued the business for about ten years, increasing the amount of milk manufactured into cheese to the product of 200 cows, manufacturing during the last years of his continuance in the business, an average of 40,000 pounds a year. His factory was the first cheese manufactory erected in the State. Another industry in which Mr. Thomas has been largely engaged for many years, is the raising of broom corn and the manufacture of brooms, which he still continues. He is also engaged in grain buying at Lone Rock. Mrs. Thomas, formerly Dolly Catlin, is a native of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have had four children, two of whom are living—Henry C. and L. G. Jr. The former resides in Sauk county. The latter, who resides with his father, was born in the town of Winfield, Herkimer Co., N. Y., in

1839. Including his farm in Sauk county, Mr. Thomas has about 390 acres of land.

William F. Lewis has been a resident of Richland City since 1856. He was born in Rush Co., Ind., in 1824. His father, A. T. Lewis, removed to Vigo county in that State in 1828, where our subject enlisted June 12, 1847, in the 4th regiment, Indiana Volunteers, and served through the Mexican war; was discharged from the service in August, 1848. Mr. Lewis was married in 1850 to Miss E. B. Dufre and they came to Richland county, as before stated, in 1856. His wife died Aug. 31, 1881. He has two children—Mary E. and Frank E. His oldest son, John A., died in Brookings, Dakota, Sept. 9, 1881. Mr. Lewis has ever been highly esteemed as an upright citizen and a Christian gentleman. He has long been prominently identified with the M. E. Church of Richland City. After his removal to Richland county, he was elected a justice of the peace, and has served continuously for twenty-two years, and in 1884 was still in office.

Joseph H. Rhodes resides on section 17, where he settled in 1856, purchasing his farm of Israel Janney. He was born in the State of Virginia, where he lived until nine years old, then moved with his parents to Bellefontaine, Ohio. Mr. Rhodes owns 120 acres of land, upon which he has made a large part of the improvements. He was married in Ohio, to Sarah Jane Casebolt. They have six children,—Laura A., wife of J. N. Moore; Mary, wife of E. B. Taylor, of Topeka, Kan.; Isadora, wife of R. J. Miller, of Lincoln, Neb.; William G. at Topeka, Kan.; Earl E. and Bertha A. These children were all born in Buena Vista, except Isadora, who was born in Baraboo, where Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes were residing temporarily.

J. C. Bancroft, general merchant at Lone Rock, is a settler of 1857, coming here in January of that year. He was born in Chenango Co., N. Y., Oct. 5, 1829. When fifteen years old he removed with his parents to the town of Willet, Cortland county. When a young man he

learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, which business he followed for a number of years. He erected a number of the early buildings of Lone Rock including the present residence of A. H. Tyler, also rebuilt the store of G. W. Platt which was afterwards occupied by Platt brothers, merchants, who were in business at this place a number of years. They were formerly from Scranton, Vt., and are now in Iowa. Mr. Bancroft has been twice married; his first wife was a native of Marathon, Cortland Co., N. Y., and died in the village of Marathon, Cortland Co., N. Y. His present wife was Delia A. Reynolds, a daughter of F. C. Reynolds, who came to Wisconsin in 1846. They have one daughter, Grace Elvira, born in August, 1866. Mr. Bancroft has had considerable experience in the mercantile business, having engaged in that trade in 1862. For a number of years he was traveling salesman for Warren Hewett & Co., wholesale grocers of Milwaukee.

Jacob Bennett resides on section 33, town 9, range 2 east. He has been a resident of Buena Vista since March 13, 1857. He was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, Nov. 29, 1836, and came to the United States with his father, John Bennett, in July, 1851. The family settled in Washington Co., Penn. In 1854 Mr. Bennett went to Ohio, and came to Richland county in 1857, as stated. His farm contains 110 acres. His father came here from Pennsylvania in 1858, and died in 1868. His mother died in Scotland. Mr. Bennett married Mercey Ann Moore, a daughter of James Moore. She was born in Dane Co., Wis., in 1846. They have six children—Albert Henry, John N., Hettie Ann, Jane E., Lillie May and George F.

R. S. Eldred has been a resident of this county since 1853. He is a native of Madison Co., N. Y., where he was born in 1819. He came to Richland county from Ohio, where he went with his parents when a boy. His first residence here was in what is now the town of Ithaca. In 1855 he removed to Richland City.

He has lived in Lone Rock since the fall of 1859.

Andrew Harter resides on section 28. His farm contains 390 acres on sections 27 and 28. Amos Mercer made his first improvement on this place. A part of the farm was entered as early as 1846. Mr. Harter purchased the farm from Edwin H. Randall in 1876. It is a fine place for stock, and to that branch of farming Mr. Harter has given considerable attention. He has a bountiful supply of pure water conducted in iron pipes a distance of 273 rods to his farm yard. The spring from which the water is derived is about fifty feet above the place of issue. Mr. Harter is a native of Germany, was born in Baden in 1846. He came to the United States when but fourteen years old. He has been a resident of this county since 1863. His wife was a daughter of Leonard Button. She died in 1881. He has one daughter—Emma, born in 1876.

John H. Carswell has been a permanent resident of Buena Vista since the spring of 1864, but was in the county as early as Christmas, 1853. He is a native of Otsego Co., N. Y., where he was born in October, 1815. He was reared, in his native State, to agricultural pursuits. Mr. Carswell is one of the solid men of the town of Buena Vista. He was for four years president of the agricultural society of Richland county, and has done much toward promoting the interests of agriculture by his advocacy and support of advanced methods in farming. Mr. Carswell is a man of positive opinions, and is always found on the side which he believes to be right. Politically, he was an abolitionist, of the Gerrett Smith school, and knew well that advocate of universal freedom. He was also personally acquainted with John Brown, and was at the convention at Syracuse, in 1859, where, with Gerrett Smith and others, he contributed to a fund for the purchase of arms for John Brown and his sons to enable them to defend themselves against the border ruffians of Kansas. He has lived to see the extreme views

he advocated on the slavery question, prevail. He is as strong a foe to intemperance as he was to the institution of human slavery. His father died when he was twelve years of age, and he resided for many years with his mother and the younger children of the family; marrying quite late in life, Mary Lutin, a native of Germany. They have two children—Nathaniel and Elizabeth. Mr. Carswell's farm contains 240 acres.

A. L. Holcomb resides on section 26. His farm is on sections 26 and 27. He settled here in 1867. He made his first purchase, a quarter section, of George Paine, of Madison. His farm includes altogether 240 acres, upon which he has a fine brick residence and other valuable improvements, which he has put thereon. Like most of the farmers of Bear creek valley, he is engaged in dairying, keeping from thirty to thirty-five cows. Mr. Holcomb was born in Litchfield, Herkimer Co., N. Y. He is of New England ancestry, his grandfather being a native of Litchfield, Conn. His father, Albern Holcomb, was born in Litchfield, N. Y. Mr. Holcomb came to Richland county directly from the Empire State. He is the only one of his father's family who has emigrated to Wisconsin. His wife was formerly Cordelia D. Fish, born in the same town as her husband.

J. W. Haney resides on section 34. His farm, lying on sections 34 and 27, contains 227 acres. This farm includes the location of Delos Matteson, one of the pioneers of Richland county. Mr. Matteson settled upon eighty acres, but afterwards sold seventeen acres to Leonard Button. He came to Buena Vista in 1848, and resided here till his decease. Mr. Haney was born in Auglaize Co., Ohio, in 1846. He is the only member of his father's family living in Richland county. His father died in Ohio. He came to Buena Vista in 1867, and purchased his farm in 1876. Mrs. Haney is a daughter of Delos Matteson, and came to this county with her parents. She was born, in 1845, in New York. Mr. and Mrs. Haney are the parents of four children—Nellie, Orville A., Bertha I. and

Nina A. There were no improvements upon the farm at the time of his purchase, except upon that part owned by Mr. Matteson. Mr. Haney is engaged in dairying, to which his farm is well adapted.

Jefferson J. Reynolds resides on section 35, town 9, range 2 east, where he settled in the spring of 1867, purchasing his farm of George Green. He was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., and came here with his parents. His mother is now dead, and his father is still living, with his son. Mr. Reynolds has been twice married. His first wife was a native of New York. His present wife, M. Octavia Carr, was born in Palmyra, Jefferson Co., Wis. He had a daughter by his first wife—Mary, wife of J. Q. Black, of this town, and a son by his second wife—Orin C. His farm contains 160 acres, and he has upon it among the best improvements in the town of Buena Vista.

A. W. Towsley, station agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company at Lone Rock, has occupied the position since October, 1868. The road was completed to this place in the fall of 1856, when a small frame depot was built, to which, in 1866, quite an extensive addition was made, and all was burned in 1881, having caught fire from the sparks of an engine. The present depot building was commenced immediately and is one of the finest on the road. It is a frame structure, veneered with Watertown brick. But two agents have been in charge here since the completion of the road to this point; the first was William Craig, who remained until 1868, when he was succeeded by Mr. Towsley, who has been a resident of Wisconsin since 1835, when his father settled at what was then Southport, now Kenosha. Mr. Towsley's railroad experience commenced on this road in 1860. He began as brakeman, and in the fall of 1861 attained the position of conductor, in which capacity he acted until he assumed the duties of his present position in 1868.

Curtis E. Brace resides on section 23, where he settled in 1868. His present farm is on sections 23 and 24. He purchased eighty acres of Harry Eaton and 120 of Horatio Giles, and forty of Mr. Bacon. His farm now contains 300 acres. Mr. Brace was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., in 1831, where his youth was spent. He is the only son of his father's family who settled in this county. His father, Eleazer, is dead. Curtis Brace was married in the State of New York, to Maria Thomas, of the town of Columbia, Herkimer county. She died in July, 1870. His present wife was Mrs. Susan (Brace) Rork. He has one son by his first wife—Henry, born in the State of New York. Mrs. Brace has one son by her former marriage—Henry J. Mr. Brace has made many improvements on his farm since he purchased it. Like most farmers of Bear valley, he is engaged in dairying, and has a herd of the grade Holstein breed of cows.

Dr. R. S. Moore resides on section 34, town 9, range 2 east, where he settled in 1869. He purchased his farm of J. C. Foote. The land was entered by Israel Janney. He was born in Guernsey Co., Ohio, in 1825. When twenty-two years old he directed his attention to the study of medicine, which he practiced for twenty-two years in his native State, his residence being in the town of Antrim, Guernsey county. Since coming to Wisconsin, he has been engaged chiefly in agricultural pursuits, although he has practiced medicine to some extent. His farm contains 250 acres, and is very pleasantly located. His father died here, at the residence of his son, in 1882, at the age of eighty-seven years. He was a native of Maryland. Dr. Moore was married to Margaret McCartney. They have nine children—Dickson R. P., Galen, William H., Sarah L., George B. McClellan, Robert Edson, Charles B., Frank and Mattie.

Abraham Wolf, proprietor of drug store, and postmaster at Lone Rock, was born at Wurtemberg, Germany, in June, 1844. When he was

three years old, his father, Michael Wolf, emigrated to the United States with his family, and settled in the State of Michigan, where his wife died in 1850. He removed the same year with his family to Dane Co., Wis., and in 1857 came to Richland county. Abraham did not come to Richland county with his father, as at the age of eight years he was bound out to a man by the name of J. G. Walbridge, in whose family he was to reside till eighteen years of age. On Oct. 18, 1861, before he had attained that age, he enlisted in company G, 11th regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He continued in the army till March, 1863, when he was discharged for disability, occasioned by sickness. While in the service, he marched through southern Missouri and Arkansas, participated in the battle of Cotton Plant, July 7, 1862; was with the regiment at Helena, and at Oldtown Landing, on the Mississippi river, where so many of our troops sickened and died. Here he was taken sick, but returned with the regiment to Ironton, Mo., where he was sent to the hospital, and discharged March 24, 1863. He returned from the army to the town of Ithaca, where his father had settled in 1857. Recovering his health, he re-enlisted Aug. 24, 1864, in company I, 38th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, joined the army at City Point, Va., and was in the trenches in front of Petersburg during the following winter. On April 2, 1865, he took part with the regiment in the charge on Fort Mahone, where he was severely wounded, losing his left leg and the index finger of his right hand. He was discharged in the hospital at Washington, Sept. 6, 1865. After his return to his father's, in the fall of 1865, he attended school at Sextonville three terms. He then engaged in teaching school, taught five terms. In the fall of 1869 he was appointed postmaster at Lone Rock. In connection with the postoffice, he kept a book and stationery store. In 1877 he purchased the drug stock of Dr. R. L. Telfair. He was married April 21, 1872, to Helen A. Aldrich, daughter of A. A. and Helen C. Aldrich.

They have five children—Helen M., Lois C., Annie Rosa, Howard A. and Ruby D.

Hugo M. Boek, wholesale dealer in foreign and domestic liquors, established business at Richland City in the fall of 1869, where he has quite an extensive trade, amounting to upwards of \$30,000 annually. Of the stock sold, about two thirds is shipped from his store in Richland City, and the balance including principally the cheaper grades of goods are shipped to his customers directly from the distillers. He keeps constantly on hand a large stock of the best class of liquors, and handles a large amount of California wines. He also manufactures a very fine wine from the common wild grape. So extensive is his trade in this particular line of goods, that the amount manufactured depends only upon the amount of supply of grapes. When the season is favorable, he obtains a sufficiency to make from 1,500 to 3,000 gallons annually. This wine, on account of its actual intrinsic worth and purity, is obtaining quite a reputation, and is unquestionably a very fine article, and compares favorably with the very best California productions. Mr. Boek is making improvements in his business facilities as the growth of his trade demands. He has a fine residence, erected in 1879 at a cost of \$3,500. He is a lover of fine horses and has some excellent specimens of the Hamiltonian breed, of which family he makes a specialty. He is a native of the city of New York. When a young man, he went to the city of New Orleans, where he was engaged as a bookkeeper. His experience in his present business began in the south. He had charge for a time of a distillery at New Orleans and also at Mobile. His father was a tobacconist in the city of New York, and in early life, Mr. Boek learned that business, but going south he finally drifted into the liquor trade. His wife is a native of Mobile, Ala. They have five children—Edward, who is in Colorado; Joseph, at home; Hugo, a student at Prairie du Chien College; Sidney, at home, and one daughter, Mary, at home.

Wallace and Eli Ellsworth reside on section 10. The farm is owned by the former, and contains 295 acres. It was purchased by their father, Loring D. Ellsworth, in the spring of 1867, and by him sold to Wallace. Loring D. Ellsworth now resides at Spring Green, Sauk county. Wallace was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., in 1852. He came to Wisconsin in the spring of 1874. He married Eva Perkins, a native of Herkimer county, who died Oct. 3, 1880. Eli E. Ellsworth was born in Herkimer county, in 1857. He came to Wisconsin in the summer of 1874, and was for some time engaged as clerk, and afterwards as express messenger for the American Express Company, by whom he was employed until December, 1882. He married Alice Case, daughter of Mariner Case. She is a native of Connecticut.

George L. Sargent, of Richland City, was born at Charlestown, N. H., April 30, 1828. He removed when a child to Rochester, Sangamon Co., Ill., and came to what is now Lafay-

ette Co., Wis., in 1840. He was one of the early engineers on the upper Mississippi; in fact he may be said to have followed that occupation on the upper Mississippi river and its navigable branches from 1845 to 1875. He put in the machinery of the steam flouring mill, which was erected in Richland City in 1854, for Henry Rowell. In 1876 Mr Sargent went to Colorado and engaged in mining and erecting machinery. He returned in December, 1882. He is a thorough practical engineer of large experience. But few engineers are now living who navigated the upper Mississippi as he did nearly forty years ago. His wife was Sarah C. Robinson, born in Morrow Co., Ohio. She was a daughter of Hiram Robinson and a step-daughter of Henry Clayman. Her mother, Hannah (Ward) Clayman, lives with Mr. Sargent. She has reached the mature age of eighty-three years. Mr. and Mrs Sargent have one daughter—Viola E., wife of William A. McNurlen.



## CHAPTER XXII.

## TOWN OF DAYTON.

The town of Dayton embraces congressional township 10 north, of range 1 west. Although this was not the first settled town in Richland county, it contains some of the best farming land in this region. Much of the land is heavily timbered, except where cleared by the energy and industry of the settlers, and the surface contour of this town, like the balance of the county, is hilly and broken. There are many farms here under a high state of cultivation, and there are many good and substantial farm buildings. The soil here is a rich dark loam, except on some of the ridges where a tendency to clayeyness is visible. The ridges raise the best wheat. It is all well adapted to raising the cereals common to this latitude, and vegetables grow in abundance. The surface of the town is well watered by Mill creek, Fox branch, Horse creek and their tributaries. The first mentioned, Mill creek, is the most important stream in the town, and furnishes good water power.

There is only one village within the limits of the town, Boaz, which is located on sections 19 and 20.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement in the town of Dayton seems to have been made as early as 1852. During that year John Messingil and his two sons, Thomas and Benjamin, and John and George Mathews came and selected homes within the present limits of this town.

John Messingil entered the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 23. His son Thomas entered the southwest quarter of the

southwest quarter of section 14. Benjamin made a claim of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 15. In 1855 they all sold out and moved away.

John and George Mathews were brothers; natives of Illinois. They were here as early as the Messingils and settled on the northwest quarter of section 25, where they erected a double log cabin and made a small clearing. They remained about one year. John was the first sheriff of Richland county; he now lives in Arkansas. George is dead.

From 1852 until 1856 the settlement of the town progressed rapidly. The following named came during that period: John H. Rizer, A. J. Parish, John H. Noble, Edmund Davis, Reason Barnes and his son James T., William Akan, William Robinson, Henry Robinson, Levi Hart, L. M. Keepers, Archibald Benjamin, John Purcell, Lorenzo Woodman, Comfort C. Walker, Lyman Wood, Peter Fall, Benjamin B. Norris, Jacob Dix, Jacob Berger, Martin Shumaker, Charles Hurlless, Valentine Groh, John and Henry Wolf, Christian Tappy, C. C. Nevil, George Marsh, Alfred Durnford, Andrew J. Campbell, Levi Leslie, Martin Smith, G. W. Oglevie, Henry McNelly, Jacob Reed and Joel Berry.

John H. Rizer was a native of Maryland. He entered land on section 20. His home is now in the town of Akan.

A. J. Parish entered the southwest quarter of section 19. He has since removed to Oregon.

John Noble was a native of Ohio. He came here in 1853, and located upon the west half of



the northwest quarter of section 29, where he lived until the time of his death.

Seth Miller settled on the north half of the northeast quarter of section 29. He remained there about twelve years when he removed to Missouri.

William Akan was a native of New York city. He came here from St. Louis, Mo., in 1854, and entered land on section 14, which remained his home until the time of his death, Jan. 3, 1881. Mr. Akan was born in the city of New York, June 19, 1803. In 1805 the family removed to Philadelphia, and in 1814 to Pittsburg. Here he learned the stone-cutter's trade, and afterward worked on the construction of the first railroad in the United States. In 1830 he was married to Mrs. Catharine Gillmore, *nee* Hamel, and reared seven children. He was the third settler on Brush creek. Although he lived upon his farm, he spent the most of his time at his trade. At his death he left a wife and three children to mourn his loss. Mr. Akan was a member of the Masonic fraternity for many years, and his funeral was conducted under the auspices of the lodge at Richland Center. His wife and daughter now live at Nashville, Tenn.

William Robinson, a native of Kentucky, came here from Indiana in 1853, and bought forty acres of land in town 9, range 2 east. He lived there one year, and in 1854 came to Dayton and entered the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 34. In 1866 he bought land on section 26, where he improved a farm and lived until the time of his death. His widow lives with her sons on section 35.

Mr. Barnes was a native of Maryland. He had come to the county as early as 1848, and entered land in the southern part of the county. In 1849 he moved to the county and settled at Richmond (now Orion). In 1854 Mr. Barnes and his son, J. T., entered the present site of the village of Boaz. The father lived to see a flourishing village grow up here. James T. is still a resident.

Edmund Davis was a native of the State of New York. He entered the southwest quarter of section 29, and the east half of the southeast quarter of section 30. He was a resident of the town until 1877, when he sold out and removed to Hancock Co., Iowa, where he still lives.

Henry Robinson, a Kentuckian, came to Richland county from Indiana in 1854, and spent the first winter at Pleasant Hill, in the town of Eagle. In the spring of 1855 he came to the town of Dayton and entered the south half of the southeast quarter of section 28. He cleared a farm and lived here until 1871, when he sold out and removed to Boone Co., Neb., where he, his wife and two sons have since died.

Comfort C. Walker, a native of the State of New York, came to the town of Dayton in 1854 and settled on the northeast quarter of section 25, where he erected a log house and kept travelers. In 1857 he removed to Dayton Corners, and there erected a large house which he opened as a tavern. When the war broke out he went into the army and died in the service. His widow kept the tavern for some time, and still lives at Dayton Corners.

Lorenzo Woodman was a native of the State of New York. He settled on the southwest quarter of section 14, where he died in 1858. His widow and several of the children still occupy the old homestead.

Lyman Wood, a native of the State of New York, came here from Ohio, in 1856 and located on section 6. He lived there until the time of his death, and the family still occupy the old homestead.

Levi Hart, a native of New York State, came here from Ohio, and entered the north half of the southeast quarter of section 28, where he still resides.

L. M. Keepers came here from Ohio in company with Levi Hart, and entered the west half of the northeast quarter and the east half of the northwest quarter of section 32. He cleared a portion of the place and erected a small log

house. When the war broke out he enlisted, and died in the service. His widow afterward married a Mr. Marsh. She is now dead, while most of the children live in Nebraska.

Archibald Benjamin, a native of the State of New York, came here from the southern part of the county and entered the northwest quarter and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 28. He remained here five or six years and then removed to Richland Center, and engaged in trade. A few years later he went to Sparta, Wis., where he died.

John Purcell came to Richland county from Indiana, and located for a time at Orion, where he followed his trade, blacksmithing. In the spring of 1855 he came to Dayton and entered land on section 32. He lived there until 1883, when he sold out and removed to Missouri.

Peter Fall was a native of Virginia. He settled on section 13, where he cleared a portion of his land and worked at blacksmithing, remaining several years.

Benjamin B. Norris was a native of Ohio. He settled on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 14. He was a cabinet maker, and erected a shop in which he manufactured chairs, tables and other articles of household furniture. In 1860 he sold out to remove to the northeast quarter of section 14. When the war broke out he enlisted and died in the service. His widow still occupies the old homestead.

Jacob Dix settled on section 11, where he improved a farm. He is now dead and the family are scattered.

Jacob Berger, Martin Shumaker, Charles Hurless, Valentine Groh, John and Henry Wolf and Christian Tappy were Germans. Mr. Berger was a cabinet maker, and had been in the United States, since his twelfth year. He entered land on section 15, where he still lives. Mr. Shumaker first settled on section 23, but now lives on section 18. Mr. Hurless settled on section 5, where he still lives. Mr. Groh located on section 21, and now lives on section 7. The Wolf brothers settled on section 22. The

remaining one now lives on section 16. John sold out a few years ago and moved to Dakota, settling in Turner county, where he has since died. Mr. Tappy settled on section 10, where he still lives.

C. C. Nevil was a native of Pennsylvania. He settled on section 10, and is still a resident of the town.

Andrew J. Campbell was a native of Indiana. He entered land on sections 12 and 13, which place remained his home until 1881. He now lives in the town of Richland.

George Marsh settled on section 11. His home is now in Minnesota.

A. Durnford was a native of England. He located on section 1, where he improved a farm and lived for many years. He is still a resident of the county.

Levi Leslie first settled on section 6. He lived in several parts of the town for a number of years and finally settled in Marshall, where he died.

Martin Smith was a native of Ohio. He settled on the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 20. He is now living in Nebraska.

G. W. Oglevie came here from the southern part of the county and settled on section 22. He was a miller by trade and worked on different mills in the county. He remained here a few years, then moved away and is now dead.

Henry McNelly was a practicing physician—the first to locate in the town. He settled on section 28. He sold his land a few years later.

Joel Berry settled on section 23 and improved a farm which he occupied for several years. He is now in Kansas.

Jacob Reed was a native of Pennsylvania. He settled on section 10. He sold out several years later and moved away.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Prior to its organization the territory now comprising the town of Dayton was annexed to the civil town of Eagle. In 1857 Dayton was organized. The first election was held on

the 7th of April of that year, at the house of Henry McNelly. Archibald Benjamin and John H. Rizer were chosen inspectors, and J. S. Robinson and Alfred Durnford, clerks of the election. The town officers elected at this time were as follows: Supervisors, G. W. Oglevie, chairman, Lorenzo Woodman and L. L. Leslie; town clerk, James S. Robinson; superintendent of schools, Archibald Benjamin; treasurer, Edmund Davis; assessor, C. C. Walker; justices of the peace, Lorenzo Woodman, Collins P. Pratt, John Noble and Lyman Wood; constables, Elward F. Wait, Martin Smith, J. Wood and S. Gravatt.

In 1883 a town house was erected on the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 21, which cost \$400.

At the annual town meeting held at the Dayton Corners' school house April 3, 1883, the following town officers were elected: Supervisors, C. A. Burghagen, chairman, John Akan, W. Flamme; clerk, W. H. Miller; treasurer, Tom J. Hallin; assessor, John Bowen; justices, J. M. Adair, J. Vanderpool and Henry Bannister; constables, W. Smart, Noah McKy and Joe Brogan.

#### THE VILLAGE OF BOAZ.

This is the only village within the limits of the town of Dayton. It is located on sections 19 and 20, on Mill creek. The village is surrounded by an excellent agricultural and dairying country, and enjoys a good trade.

The village was platted in the winter of 1857-8 by R. and J. T. Barnes. The first store on the village site was started in 1857 by R. Barnes and M. Ripley. In 1861 Mr. Barnes purchased the store, and ran it until the time of his death in 1871. He was succeeded by J. W. Briggs and W. M. Barnes.

The first blacksmith shop at Boaz was opened in 1857 by Conrad Kierns, who remained about ten years. He was then succeeded by Stephen Bailey.

George H. Starr was the first harness maker to locate in the village. He established his shop in October, 1870, and is still in trade.

The first wagon maker in the village was Peter Kierns, who occupied the same building as his brother, Conrad.

The next wagon shop was established by W. J. Woodruff and E. S. Fessenden. They sold to Jerome Cross.

The first hotel at Boaz was opened by Lewis Berry in 1870. Charles Pierce was the second landlord.

The Boaz House was erected in 1859 by M. Ripley, who occupied it for a number of years as a store and dwelling. In 1874 the property was purchased by George H. Starr, and in connection with his harness shop he ran this as the Starr Hotel. In 1876 he was succeeded as landlord by D. J. Conklin. Then, in succession, came Ira Campbell, James Sheffield and W. M. Bevier.

The postoffice at Boaz was established in 1858 with M. Ripley as postmaster. The various postmasters have been as follows: M. Ripley, J. T. Barnes, John Ewers, J. T. Barnes, J. W. Briggs and F. O. Smith. Mr. Smith, the present postmaster, was appointed in 1881.

The first school in Boaz was a subscription school, taught in a building owned by Reason and James T. Barnes. In 1857 a log school house was erected, in which John Dunstan was the first teacher.

In 1883 a school house was erected at a cost of \$1,400. It is a fine two story building, 28x78 feet. Kittie Delaney has the honor of being the first teacher in this house.

The Boaz mills is the most important establishment in the town. The land upon which the mills are located was entered, in 1854, by Reason Barnes and his son James T. In 1855 they commenced the erection of a saw-mill which was ready for operation in September, 1856. It was furnish with an "up and down saw." In 1857 M. Ripley became a partner and in 1858 they added a grist-mill. In 1861 Mr. Ripley withdrew. In March, 1869, the mill was destroyed by fire, but was at once rebuilt. The saw mill has been furnished with circular saws

and machinery for the manufacture of wagon stock. The flour mill has two run of buhrs and all other machinery for making first-class flour. It is run as a custom and merchant mill, and has a liberal patronage. The power is derived from Mill creek, which at this point furnishes eight feet head of water. In 1871 Reason Barnes died, and the firm changed to Barnes Bros. & Co., *en personnel*, J. T. and W. M. Barnes and J. W. Briggs. In 1874 J. W. Briggs withdrew and the firm became Barnes Brothers. Thus it continued until 1883 when W. M. Barnes became sole proprietor.

The following is a directory of the business of Boaz as it stood in January, 1884 :

General merchandise, Briggs & Kepler, and Smith & Shaffer.

Mills, William Barnes.

Hotel, W. M. Bevier.

Millinery, Mrs. Henry Heidbrink.

Supervising Architect, James T. Barnes.

Wagon shop, Jerome Cross.

Blacksmiths, John Surrum and Frank Cosgrove.

Shoemakers, Alonzo Burnell and E. W. Bell.

Butcher, Lewis Cook.

Restaurant, William Howell.

Harness shop, G. H. Starr.

Physician, E. S. Garner.

In an early day preachers of different denominations paid frequent visits to Boaz. Among the number was Rev. Todd, a Presbyterian, from Sextonville. He did not organize a church here.

Elder Knapp, a Methodist preacher from Buena Vista, organized a class at the school house at an early day. He was well liked here, and the class flourished under his charge. Members moved away, however, and it was finally discontinued.

At the present time there is only one religious organization at Boaz, the German Lutheran. This society was probably organized as early as 1858. Rev. Wachtel was one of the first preachers. The society met to worship in dif-

ferent private houses until 1871, when they erected a church edifice. The society now numbers about thirty members. The present pastor is Rev. William Endeward, of Muscoda.

The Dayton Lodge, No. 213, of the I. O. O. F., was organized Oct. 12, 1872, the charter bearing the date of Dec. 5, 1872. The following were the charter members of the lodge: David D. Woodruff, William J. Woodruff, Hiram Gardiner, Timothy W. Woodruff, Harlow O. Walker and J. G. Barnes. The first officers were: David D. Woodruff, N. G.; W. J. Woodruff, V. G.; J. T. Barnes, treasurer; H. O. Walker, recording secretary. The following named have served as noble grand of the lodge: D. D. Woodruff, W. J. Woodruff, J. T. Barnes, J. A. Sheffield, E. Davis, E. S. Fessenden, W. J. Woodruff, J. A. Sheffield, J. W. Briggs, E. S. Fessenden, Jay W. Briggs, J. A. Sheffield, F. O. Smith, Frank Cosgrove, D. W. Core, F. M. Shafer and C. M. C. Bailey. The vice-grands of the lodge have been as follows: W. J. Woodruff, J. T. Barnes, J. A. Sheffield, E. Davis, G. H. Starr, D. W. Manchester, H. B. Wood, S. Shafer, C. H. Pierce, W. J. Woodruff, J. J. Shafer, F. O. Smith, Frank Cosgrove, D. W. Core, F. Shafer, C. M. C. Bailey and M. G. Berry. The secretaries have been as follows: H. O. Walker, J. T. Barnes, C. H. Pierce, E. S. Fessenden, J. A. Sheffield, Jay W. Briggs, M. G. Berry and L. D. Bailey. The treasurers of the lodge have been: J. T. Barnes, E. Davis, G. H. Starr and H. B. Wood. The lodge is now in good working order, has a membership of forty, and meets every Saturday evening.

#### VILLAGE OF DAYTON CORNERS.

In 1857 Lorenzo Woodman and James Hafus, laid out some lots and blocks on the southwestern part of section 14, and the northwestern part of section 23, to which they gave the name of Dayton Corners. During the same year a post-office was established here under the name of Ripley Postoffice, with Lorenzo Woodman as postmaster. Mr. Woodman served until the time of his death, and then C. C. Walker be-

came postmaster. He was succeeded by James Hafus and the office was finally discontinued after an existence of about two years.

At an early day Peter Fall opened a blacksmith shop on the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 13. During the war he sold out and moved away. He did general repair work, mostly sharpening plows and grub hoes. His son Samuel opened a shop soon after the old gentleman had sold out, on the northeast quarter of section 13, and remained for several years.

Edward Bassett came to Dayton Corners in 1857, and bought a lot of Lorenzo Woodman on the southwest quarter of section 14. He erected a frame building 20x30 feet in size, and put in a stock of general merchandise. He remained in trade about four years, when he closed out and moved to Ohio.

The first school at Dayton Corners was taught in 1857 by Eliza Bevier, in a house owned by C. C. Walker. During the summer of the same year a school house was erected in that village, which was used until 1881, when a frame house was built on section 15.

The Dayton Corner's Methodist Episcopal Church started with the organization of a class in 1856 at the house of Lorenzo Woodman, by Rev. John Walker, who was then located at Sextonville. Among the members of the class at its organization were the following: Lorenzo Woodman and wife; Simeon Gravatt and wife; Joseph Wheaton and wife, and Joel Berry and wife. Lorenzo Woodman was the first class leader.

A United Brethren class was organized at an early day at the house of Peter Fall, on section 13. The class met for worship at the residence of Mr Fall for a number of years. At present there is an organization that has a partially completed church edifice on section 23. Thomas Ewing is class leader.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

Francis M., son of Uriah and Christiana (Barnes) Patch, early settlers of Richland

county, was born in Licking Co., Ohio, in December, 1837. He came to Richland county with his parents at the age of fifteen. He was united in marriage in March, 1863, to Esther Thompson. They had one son—James F., born May 21, 1864. In 1864, Mr. Patch enlisted in the 8th Illinois Cavalry, company H, and joined the regiment at Washington a few weeks later. He served until the close of the war, and was discharged with his regiment at St. Louis in 1865. He then returned to Dayton and purchased land on section 2, which he has improved, and where he still lives. The death of his wife occurred while he was in the army. His second wife, to whom he was married Jan. 1, 1866, was Charlotte B. (Ladd) Harris, widow of Abraham Harris. Two children have blessed this union—Francis R. and Henry T. B.

Rev. Abraham Harris, (deceased), son of John and Mary (Short) Harris, was born in Devonshire, England, in August, 1832. He came to America with his parents. He was united in marriage to Charlotte B. Ladd, March 27, 1852. She was a native of Orange Co., Vt., and was born March 18, 1832. Soon after their marriage they united with the Baptist Church. His early education had been sadly neglected and he learned to read after his marriage. In 1855 they came to Richland county, town of Marshall, and located on section 28. At the organization of the Church of the United Brethren, both he and his wife became members, and he was soon after licensed as a preacher of that denomination, and devoted his time entirely to the Church. He had charge of Churches in Richland, Sauk, Vernon and Crawford counties. His death occurred Oct. 17, 1862. He left a widow and six children to mourn his loss. One of the children has since died. The five remaining are—Mary E., Martha J., J. Freeman, Sarah M. and Eldora J. Mrs. Harris is now the wife of Francis M. Patch and resides in Dayton.

Capt. Roswell R. Hamilton was born in Madison Co., N. Y., in 1826, and is the son of Tilley and Sarah (Orcut) Hamilton. He resided in

his native State until twenty-one years old, then, in company with a brother, came to Rock Co., Wis., where he worked upon a farm. In 1854 he came to Richland county, and in 1855 settled at Richland Center, where he served as town treasurer. In September, 1861, he enlisted in company F, of the 2d Wisconsin Cavalry, went into camp in December, at Camp Washburn, Milwaukee, and was mustered into service in January, 1862. His regiment first went to Camp Benton, Mo., thence to Jefferson City, from there to Springfield, and about the 1st of June started for Helena, Ark., where the regiment brigaded with the 5th and 11th Kansas regiments. He received a wound in the hand at Augusta, Ark. From Augusta they moved to Helena, Ark., and December, 1862, was at the taking of the Arkansas Post. In February, 1863, they removed to Memphis, and scouted in the southern part of Tennessee and northern part of Mississippi. In June, 1863, they moved to Snyder's Bluff, near Vicksburg, where they were placed between Grant's and Johnson's armies, and after the surrender of Vicksburg, followed Johnson's army to Meridian, after which they fell back to Vicksburg, and went into winter quarters at Red River. On July 1, 1864, they made a raid on Jackson, Miss., had seven days' fight, and were driven back, the confederate forces numbering 5,000 men, while the union forces had barely 2,500 men. They fell back to Black river, obtained reinforcements, with which they forced the enemy to retire. In December, 1864, they made a raid on Vaughn Station, Miss., destroyed a railroad bridge across Black river, and fell back to Yazoo City. On the 4th of December, while reconnoitering, they were overpowered by the enemy and driven back, during which time Capt. Hamilton was injured by the falling of his horse; thence from Yazoo to Vicksburg; thence to Memphis, where on Feb. 6, 1865, Capt. Hamilton was mustered out of service, his time having expired, and his injury unfitting him for further military duty. In 1881 he

moved to his farm on section 13, town of Dayton, where he owns eighty acres. He was united in marriage in Rock Co., Wis., in 1849, to Eliza Rose. Two children blessed this union—Ira J. and Albert S. Mrs. Hamilton died, and Capt. Hamilton was again married, June 4, 1865, to Mary Bailey. They are the parents of one son—D. Vance.

William Robinson, deceased, pioneer of Richland county, first settled near Sextonville in the year 1853. He bought eighty acres of land on section 4, town 9, range 2 east, now included in the town of Ithaca. He remained here but one year, then sold out and removed to town 10, range 1 west, now known as the town of Dayton. He entered the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 34, built a log house and leased a portion of the land. In 1866 he purchased unimproved land on section 26 of the same town. This was his home until the time of his death. He was a native of Anderson Co., Ky, born July 5, 1805. When a young man he emigrated with his parents to Indiana, and located in Washington county. This was at that time a new county, and here his pioneer life began. He was joined in marriage in February, 1828, to Nancy Menaugh. She was born in Shelby Co., Ky., Dec. 15, 1810. Soon after they removed to Carroll county, where he engaged in farming, but, like many others, the fever and ague troubled him, and after living there three years he removed to Kosciusko county. Here he purchased timber land, erected a comfortable log house, and cleared a farm. In 1852 he visited Richland county in company with Dr. Sippy, made a short stay, then returned to his home and remained until the following spring, then sold his farm, packed up his goods and started overland, accompanied by his family, and settled near Sextonville, as before stated. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson were the parents of eleven children, six of whom are now living—Eliza J., Elizabeth, James H., Francis M., Erasmus P. and Samuel Edwin. The youngest son now occupies the

homestead. James H. and Francis M. purchased 172 acres of timber land on section 35. They have ninety acres of it cleared and improved, and it is one of the best farms in the town. They have erected a large frame house, and other necessary farm buildings. Their mother makes her home with them. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson both joined the Presbyterian Church soon after marriage. As there was no Church of that denomination in Dayton, he joined the United Brethren Class, and was a member of Otterbein Church at the time of his death, which occurred in the spring of 1875.

Henry Robinson, deceased, an early settler of the town of Dayton, was born in Anderson Co., Ky., in September, 1805. He was joined in marriage to Sarah Farmer. In 1829, in company with his brother William and some others, he emigrated to Indiana and settled in Tippecanoe county, near the line of Clinton county, and was one of the pioneers in that section of the country. He remained there about ten years, then removed to Kosciusko county; he was also an early settler there. He then purchased timber land, cleared a farm, and made that his home until the fall of 1854, when he sold out and started for Wisconsin, traveling overland, bringing his family and household goods along. After three weeks travel he arrived at the home of his brother William, at Pleasant Hill, in the town of Eagle, and there spent the winter. In the spring of 1855 he removed to Dayton and entered land on section 28, as before stated, remaining here until 1871, then sold and moved to Boone Co., Neb., where he died two years later. His wife died in 1876. They were the parents of eleven children, six of whom are now living.

Their son, William F., now resides on section 29. He was born in Anderson Co., Ky., in September, 1828. He was but one year old when his pioneer life began in Tippecanoe county, and but eleven years of age when his parents removed to Kosciusko county, where he grew to manhood. He was joined in marriage in

1851 to Eliza J. Robinson. She was born in Washington Co., Ind. He purchased timber land in Franklin town and cleared a portion of it, remaining there until 1854, when he came to Richland county. He purchased land on section 4 of the town of Eagle, and lived there until 1862, when he came to Dayton and purchased eighty acres of land on section 29, in the portion of the town known as Fox Hollow. He has since that time purchased other land, and his farm now contains 180 acres. He has engaged in raising grain and stock. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have three children living—James E., Alfred M. and Adello M.

Zenas W. Bevier, in 1855, settled in the town of Akan, where he was engaged in blacksmithing and farming until his death, which occurred in October, 1881. Mrs. Bevier now resides near Dell Rapids, Dak. She reared seven children—Henry, William M., Charles, Caroline, now Mrs. I. N. Neher; Norman, George and Enarcha. Mr. Bevier was a native of New York, where he learned his trade and in which he became a first-class workman. He was married to Mary Ann Austin, also of New York. About 1847 they came to Rock Co., Wis., from whence they came to this county. It was through his influence that the first postoffice was established at Akan, he receiving the appointment of postmaster, which position he held until his death. He was a member of the Church of United Brethren. W. M. Bevier was born in Rock county, July 27, 1848, and came with the family to this county. He was brought up on a farm. In 1874 he was married to Sarah Shafer, daughter of S. Shafer. They left the State in March, 1877, and were absent four years, then returned and resided in Crawford county until March, 1883. At that date he purchased the Boaz House, of which he is now proprietor. Mr. and Mrs. Bevier have four children—Guy M., Ida May, Floyd Z. and Carrie B. In February, 1864, Mr. Bevier enlisted in company B, of the 36th Wisconsin, and served until July, 1865, when the regiment was

mustered out of service. He was wounded in the right arm at the battle of Coal Harbor. In politics he is a republican, and is a member of the I. O. O. F.

Jacob J. Miller was a pioneer settler of Richland county. He was born in Darke Co., Ohio, March 12, 1821, and there passed his earlier life. In 1846 he went to Indiana, and in 1850, in company with John Ewing, he started for the great northwest, and being pleased with the appearance of the land in what is now Richland county, resolved to make this his future home. He entered land on section 25, town 9 north, of range 1 east, now known as the town of Orion, upon which he erected a hewed log house, and cleared forty acres of land. Six years later (1856) he sold this land, and coming to town 10 north, of range 1 west, now called Dayton, purchased a tract of land on section 6, erected a log house and made various substantial improvements. He made that his home until his death, which occurred on Christmas day of 1863. Mr. Miller was married Feb. 16, 1853, to Angy E. Goff, daughter of George and Mary Goff. She was born Oct. 7, 1832, in Izzard Co., Ark. In 1833 her parents removed to Missouri, where they resided until the year 1859, then removed to Richland Co., Wis., crossed the Wisconsin river July 28, 1849, at the village of Orion, in the present town of Orion. They have had three children—G. M., born June 8, 1855; J. T., born Nov. 29, 1859; M. A., born June 25, 1862. The widow and family still occupy the old homestead. The sons have proven themselves industrious farmers and efficient managers; have cleared over fifty acres of the farm, and erected a neat frame residence.

Frank O. Smith, in company with J. W. Briggs, in 1875, established a grocery business in the village of Boaz. The name of the firm being Briggs & Smith. In 1878 they added dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes and hardware. April 1, 1881, they dissolved partnership and Mr. Smith succeeded J. A. Sheffield

in trade. He now has a general stock of dry goods, clothing, gents furnishing goods, boots, shoes, groceries and drugs. Mr. Smith was born in Chautauqua Co., N. Y., in 1852. His father, William J. Smith, came to Wisconsin in 1856, accompanied by W. H. Stewart, and both brought their families with them. They intended to make a hunting expedition and return after a time. They killed thirty deer the first winter. Being pleased with the country, Mr. Smith concluded to locate permanently and entered land on section 34, town of Sylvan, where he was engaged in farming until his death, in 1873. Mrs. Smith still resides at the homestead. They had two sons—Frank O. and Fred. Mr. Smith was a Mason and a member of the I. O. O. F. He was town treasurer ten years, but took little interest in politics. The subject of our sketch was educated in the county and taught school eighteen terms; after which he engaged in trade at Boaz, as before stated. In 1876 he was married to Flora E. Barnes, daughter of J. T. Barnes. They have two children—Lora C. and Leathy. He is a republican in politics; is a member of the I. O. O. F. and a notary public. Mr. Smith has been postmaster at Boaz since 1881.

Jacob Van Pool was born in Franklin Co., Penn., in 1837. He is the son of Anthony Van Pool, who is a native of Maryland, born in 1790. In June, 1844, the family moved to Steubenville, Ohio. The subject of this sketch resided with his parents until 1853, after which he traveled considerably through the southern States, and in 1855 settled at Freeport, Ill., where he worked at the carpenter and painter's trades. In 1856 he moved to Wisconsin, located near Richland Center, and there engaged in farming and working at the carpenter's trade. On Aug. 14, 1862, he enlisted, at Richland Center, in the 25th Wisconsin, company B. He participated in the memorable campaign against the Sioux Indians, leaving St. Paul, Minn., in September, 1862, and returning to Winona, in December of same year, hav-



ing made the trip almost entirely on foot. He also served with the regiment at Cape Girardeau, Lake Providence, Cypress Bend, siege of Vicksburg, Athens, etc. He was mustered out of service at Washington, June 7, 1865. He was married in February, 1860, to Annie Bolenbaugh. Seven children were born to them, four of whom are now living—J. A. W., E. E., H. H. and P. J. Mr. Van Pool moved to Crawford Co., Kan., in 1867, where he resided until 1875, when he returned to Richland county and has since remained. Mr. Van Pool has a farm of 136 acres on section 29, town of Dayton. In politics he is liberal, and in his religious views, is an Armenian.

Samuel Harlan is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal denomination of the town of Dayton, and has been a resident here since 1860. He was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, Aug. 6, 1825, and was reared to manhood among rural scenes. He attended the district schools in his younger days, and received as good an education as they then afforded. On Dec. 5, 1863, he was joined in marriage to Elizabeth Totten, who died April 22, 1855. Soon after his wife's death, he went to Jay Co., Ind., and was there married, March 18, 1856, to Phebe Stanley, also a native of Columbiana Co., Ohio, born Aug. 25, 1827, and taken by her parents to Indiana when quite young. After marriage Mr. Harlan remained in Jay county but a short time, and then returned to Columbiana Co., Ohio, where he lived one and a half years. Again settling in Jay Co., Ind., he bought eighty acres of land in Bear Creek, and remained there until 1860, when on account of poor health, he came to Richland county, and bought a farm on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 14, where he has since resided. Soon after coming to the town of Dayton, he became a class leader in the M. E. Church, and has served in that position almost continuously to the present time. Himself and wife have three children—James W., Henry F. and Phebe Emily.

E. S. Garner, M. D., is a son of Edom and Rebecca (Langley) Garner. He was born July 30, 1854, and came with his parents to Richland county in 1864. The family settled near Port Andrew, where the subject of this sketch worked upon the farm and attended the district schools. In the fall of 1878 he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa, and graduated in the spring of 1881. The July following he located at Boaz, and commenced the practice of his profession. He was married Feb. 21, 1877, to Carrie Kyle, and they have three children—Howard L., Albert C. and Carrie L. Dr. Garner is a member of the Southwestern Medical Association.

John E. Surrem was born near Christiana, Norway. He emigrated with his parents to America in 1868. They landed at New York city, immediately came west, and stopped at Muscoda, Wis., some years. At the age of nineteen the subject of the sketch commenced learning the blacksmith trade. He served two and a half years and then opened a shop for himself in the village of Boaz, where he is now doing an extensive business at blacksmithing and repairing. Mr. Surrem casts his vote with the republican party, and is a Lutheran in his religious views. His father, Nels J. Surrem, was born near Christiana, Norway, in 1828, where he lived until he came to America in 1868. His wife was Elizabeth Rudzer, and they were married in 1857. They now reside in this county.

Jay W. Briggs, of the firm of Briggs & Kepler, merchants at Boaz, was the son of I. Oscar and Mary (Frink) Briggs. He was born in Sauk county, in October, 1847. In 1851 his parents came to Richland county and settled at Sextonville. Here his father died one year later. The subject of our sketch made his home here with his mother, receiving his education in the Sextonville school. When he was fifteen years of age he engaged as clerk in A. H. Krouskop's store, remaining with him one and one-half years; then he engaged as clerk for

McCorkle & Thomas two years. Then he went to Richland Center and clerked for A. H. Krouskop six months. He then went to the home farm at Sextonville and tried farming one season, then returned to Richland Center and engaged with Baker & Pease as clerk. In 1873 he came to Boaz and engaged in the mercantile business in company with William Barnes buying the store of the late R. Barnes. He also bought a one-fourth interest in the flouring mill fourteen months later. He sold his interest in the mill while Barnes sold his interest in the store to A. H. Krouskop. The firm of Briggs & Krouskop continued in business about six months when Mr. Briggs sold to his partner and engaged to clerk for him in his store at Richland Center. At the same time he had started a small store in company with F. O. Smith. He remained with Krouskop one year, then returned to Boaz, and engaged in the store with Mr. Smith. In 1882 they dissolved partnership and he continued alone until January, 1884, when he sold one-half interest to William F. Kepler, his present partner. They are doing an extensive business and carry a stock valued at \$6,000. He was joined in marriage May 2, 1872, to Emma, daughter of Henry W. and Margaret (Wolf) Fries. Four children blessed this union—Ada Belle, Lelia Louise, Jennie Laura and Fay.

William M. Barnes, proprietor of Boaz mills, is a native of Indiana, born in Tippecanoe county in 1834. In 1849 in company with his

parents he came to Richland county and settled at Richmond, as it was then called, now Orion. Here he engaged with an older brother to learn the trade of carpenter and joiner. He followed that trade until 1861. During that year he enlisted in the 5th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered into the service on the 28th of June and served in Smith's division, Army of the Potomac. He participated in the battle of Williamsburg and many other minor engagements. He was discharged on account of disability at Philadelphia, in October, 1862, and returned home. He was joined in marriage Nov. 1, 1863, to Ida M. Fries, daughter of Judge Fries, of Richland Center. He continued to work at his trade until 1873 when he engaged in mercantile trade at Boaz, and at the same time bought a one-fourth interest in the mill and fourteen months later bought another one-fourth interest in the mill and at the same time sold his interest in the store. He continued to operate the mill in company with his brother until January, 1882, when he bought the other one-half interest, making him sole proprietor. The flour mill has a capacity of 100 bushels per day. The saw-mill a capacity to saw 5,000 feet of lumber per day. These mills do a flourishing business. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes are the parents of six children—Grace, Lee, Carl, Minnie, Guy and Scott. In politics Mr. Barnes is a democrat of the conservative order. In religion he favors the United Brethren Church.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

## TOWN OF EAGLE.

The town of Eagle embraces nearly all of congressional township 9 north, range 1 west. It is bounded on the north by the town of Dayton, on the east by Orion, on the west by Richwood, and on the south by the Wisconsin river. This is about the finest agricultural town in Richland county. While some portions of it are upon the rich bottoms of the Wisconsin river, much of it is broken and hilly; bluffs, interspersed with rich lowlands and valleys; the home of luxuriant grasses and golden grain. The surface of the town is well watered by Eagle creek and its numerous tributaries, making this an excellent stock raising region. Many of the farmers devote a good deal of attention to this branch, and the result is highly gratifying. The only village in the town is Eagle Corners.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first permanent settler in the territory now comprising the town of Eagle was Mathew Alexander, a native of Kentucky. He had been a sailor on the great lakes, and came from that region to this county in 1840. He entered lots 1 and 2, on section 33, and lot 4, on section 34, where he made some improvements, and remained until 1852, when he sold out and removed to Brownsville, Minn. The greater portion of the time which he spent here he was engaged in lumbering and rafting.

It is believed that the first claim in the town of Eagle was made, in 1839, by Robert Boyd and Monroe Fleming. During this year they came from Iowa county and claimed the southwest quarter of section 26, covering the excel-

lent mill privilege on what is now called Mill creek. They made no improvements except to cut four poles and lay them "claim fashion." They did not attend to their claim close enough and it was jumped in 1841 by Thomas J. Parrish.

In 1841 Hardin Moore, a native of Kentucky, came here from Grant county and made a claim of the southwest quarter of section 34. He was a single man; did not enter his land, but erected a log cabin and made a little clearing. A few years later he sold his claim, and boarded with Mathew Alexander for a time. He was a natural mechanic, and would often shoe horses for the settlers. He receives attention in the general chapters of this volume.

Thomas Palmer and his sons, Loreman and William, came here in 1848. The father entered the east half of the northwest quarter of section 32, where he lived until the time of his death. Loreman entered the east half of the northwest quarter of section 32, and lived there until he died. William entered the east half of the northeast quarter of section 32. He lived there for some years; then sold out and removed to Missouri; but returned after a short stop, and has since died.

George Goff, a native of Virginia, came from Missouri in 1848, and settled in the town of Orion. In 1853 he settled on the southeast quarter of section 26, where he died Jan. 4, 1858. His widow died in December, 1863. They were both buried in the Orion cemetery. Thomas Goff, a son, came with his parents and lived for a time in the town of Orion. In 1855

he entered the southwest quarter of section 15, in the town of Eagle, and made this his home until the time of his death.

Stephen Tinnell, a native of Kentucky, came here from Highland, in 1849, and claimed the northwest quarter of section 33. He remained here about three years and then removed to Missouri.

William Pickering, with his brother John, natives of England, came from Racine county in 1849 and entered 320 acres on sections 8 and 9. William located here in 1853 and is still a resident.

William Cooper, a native of Pennsylvania, came here from Indiana in 1849 and entered the east half of the northwest quarter of section 11. In the spring of 1850 he settled on section 26. He now lives on section 28.

Cyrus McGill, a native of Virginia, came here in 1849 and located on section 25. He lived there until after the war, when he removed to Kansas.

The first move toward a settlement in what is known as Hoosier Hollow was made in 1849, when William Miller, George D. Sharp and Preston Say came from Indiana and located here. Miller entered three quarter sections of land on sections 13 and 23; Sharp entered 160 acres on sections 14, 21 and 22; and Say selected 160 acres on sections 23 and 24. Miller and Sharp both erected log cabins, after which the party returned to Indiana for their families. In September, 1849, they again came, accompanied by their families. Mr. Miller settled on the southeast quarter of section 23. His son John, with his family, came at this time and settled on section 13, afterwards removing to section 23. Sharp located on the southeast quarter of section 14, where his widow still resides. In October, 1849, James and Andrew Miller, brothers of William, came to Richland county and located in the town of Orion. James was a bachelor. He bought land on section 29, which is now owned by Henry Hurless. He did not improve the land, selling out a few

years later. Until the death of his sister he remained in Orion, after which he made his home with William until he died. Andrew owned land on sections 29 and 30, now known as the Kite farm. He died in Orion and his widow now makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Abraham Beard.

William Robinson came with the Miller brothers to assist in moving their goods. He entered land on section 24, but did not settle at that time, returning to Indiana. In 1851 he came back and settled on his land.

Mrs. Sarah Perrin, a native of Kentucky, came here at the same time and bought land on section 25. She is now the wife of J. D. Fazel.

In 1850, George Slater, Abraham Beard and Joseph Hays came here from Indiana. Slater first settled on section 23; but a few years later moved to section 34. Beard settled on section 23, and made this his home until the time of his death. Hays settled on section 13. A few years later his wife died, and for some time he lived with his son-in-law; after which he returned to Indiana and died at the home of his son.

John Thompson, a native of Ohio, came here from Indiana in 1850 and settled on section 22, where he died in 1854. His widow still lives on the old homestead.

Charles G. Rodolf, a native of Switzerland, came from Iowa county in 1850 and first located in Orion, where he engaged in the mercantile trade. In 1852 he came to the town of Eagle and bought the mill property on section 26. He now lives in Muscoda.

Josiah Newburn, a native of Pennsylvania came here in 1851 and settled on section 22. He lived there for several years, then removed to Nebraska. He died in Missouri in 1882.

Jeremiah B. Newburn, a native of Pennsylvania, came from Illinois in 1852 and entered the northeast quarter of section 33. The following year he settled there and is still a resident.

Josiah and Richard Willey, natives of England, came here in 1852 and settled on sections 17 and 20. They remained but a short time then returned to Grant county, where Richard died in 1883, and Josiah still lives.

Abraham Dillon, a native of Missouri, came here from Grant county in 1852 and entered land on sections 7 and 8. He still occupies the place.

Newton Wells, a native of Virginia, came here from Orion in 1854 and located on section 10, where he still lives.

Martin Smith came from Indiana during the same year and entered land. When the war broke out, he enlisted and died in the service. The family are now scattered.

Holliday Peters, a native of Indiana, came here in 1854 and entered land on section 4. He cleared a small tract of land, then sold out and returned to Indiana. A few years later he came back and settled on sections 27 and 28. He now lives in Knox Co., Neb.

James H. Robinson, a native of Indiana, came here in 1854 and settled on section 4. He was a single man at the time, but married soon after. He lived here a number of years, then sold out and removed to Nebraska, where he holds the office of postmaster of his town.

Hubert Matthews, a native of France, came here from Ohio in 1854 and entered land on section 13. In 1859 he settled on section 22. When the Rebellion broke out, he enlisted in the army and died in the service. His widow still occupies the old homestead.

James Willey, a native of England, came from Iowa county in 1854 and settled on sections 17 and 20. He has since lived on section 20.

Thomas Hardy, a native of Virginia, came from Indiana in 1855 and settled on section 16, where he lived until the time of his death.

James Lucas, a native of Ohio, came here from Indiana in 1855 and purchased 320 acres of land on sections 4 and 9. He settled on section 9, where he still lives.

Samuel B. Goff, a native of Pennsylvania, came from Indiana in 1855 and entered land on section 6, where he lived until the time of his death.

In 1856 William Briggs, a native of Massachusetts, came from Illinois and bought the southwest quarter of section 3.

#### HISTORICAL EVENTS.

The first birth in the town was that of Rossanna, daughter of Delila (Alling) Hessler, born Feb. 19, 1847. She is now the wife of Albert Brenaman, and lives on Bird's creek.

Another early birth was that of Joseph, a son of Joel and Susanna (Bradbury) Doughettee, born July 5, 1850. He is now living in Missouri.

The first child in the town born of Norwegian parents was Jennie, a daughter of George and Annie Shelbern born Jan. 4, 1854.

The first marriage in the town was that of Mark Bird to Lucinda Alexander, in 1848. They settled in Oregon, where she died and he still lives.

Another early marriage was that of Daniel Bird to Maria Alexander, in 1850. The ceremony was performed by T. H. Doughettee, justice of the peace, at the residence of the bride's parents on section 33. They settled in Oregon, where they were still living when last heard from.

The first death in the town—or one of the first, at least—was that of John Richardson, in 1850. He was attempting to cross the mill-pond about a mile north of the mill, in search of deer, and was caught in the brush and drowned. His body was recovered in a short time, and buried on section 27. He was a single man, and had come from Massachusetts. In company with a man named La Rue, he had a claim on section 27.

The first election in the town, and some claim in the county, was held at the house of Mathew Alexander, in the southeast quarter of section 33, in the fall of 1848. There were nineteen votes polled.

## MONONGAUELA.

In 1844 (some claim 1845) the commissioners of Iowa county appointed James Murphy and two others to select a county seat of Richland county. They came and selected the northwest fractional quarter of section 2, town 8, range 1 west, now included in the town of Eagle, for the prospective seat of justice. About one year later Francis A. Hill surveyed a village here, laying out lots and blocks. It was named Monongahela. For a time Ambrose E. Parrish ran a saloon here, but everything connected with the village has long since passed away.

## ORGANIC.

The town of Eagle was organized in 1853. The first town meeting was held in April of that year, when the following named were elected officers: Supervisors, C. G. Rodolf, chairman, Josiah Newburn and Thomas E. Hesler; clerk, L. B. Palmer; treasurer, James Appleby; school superintendent, G. D. Sharp; justices of the peace, Thomas Palmer and Josiah Newburn; constable, William Sharp; assessor, L. B. Palmer; overseers of highway, David D. Miller and John Thompson.

At the annual election held at the Basswood school house, April 3, 1883, the following were chosen as town officers for the succeeding year: Supervisors, J. M. Craigo, chairman, Theodore Wheaton and William Hall; clerk, Horatio Cornwall; treasurer, Thomas Rummery; assessor, D. C. Doughhete; justices, J. M. Craigo, Horatio Cornwall, Frank Ward and John Bovee; constables, H. M. Hardy and John Dillon.

## EDUCATIONAL.

The first school house in district No. 1 was erected in 1856. It was built of hewn logs, and located on section 10. The first school was taught by Newton Wells, the term commencing Jan. 1, 1857. About 1868 the school house was burned and a temporary building was erected on the northeast quarter of section 9 which was used until 1876. At that time the present neat frame building was erected at a cost of

\$450. Mary Hamilton was the first teacher in the present building. Lillie Wood was the teacher in 1883.

The first school house in district No. 2 was erected in 1857—a frame building on the northwest quarter of section 32. Harriet Hunger was the first teacher. In 1870 the building was sold and is now used as a stable. During the same year the present school house was erected on the southwest quarter of section 29, the site having been donated to the district by George Kite for a term of ninety-nine years. Olive Craigo is the present teacher. This is known as the Kite district.

No. 3 is known as the "Eagle Corner's district." The first school house in this district was a log one located on section 28, erected in 1858. Frances Prevett was the first teacher. The school house was afterwards moved to Eagle Corners and was in use until 1868, when a frame building was erected in which Alexander Breneman was the first to teach. Frank Giles is the present teacher.

The first school house in district No. 4 was erected on the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 6, in 1858. Francis Gault was the first teacher. The old school house was used until 1882, when the present house was completed. Katie Dorgan was the first teacher in this building and Ida Allison is the present teacher. This is usually called the "Gault district."

The first school in district No. 5 was taught by L. M. Thorpe in a log building, erected by the neighborhood for the purpose, on section 23. The building was in use until after the war, when the present school building was erected on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 24. Mary Edwards was the first teacher in the present building. This is generally known as the "Pleasant Hill school house."

The first school house in district No. 6 was erected on the southeast quarter of section 11, in 1857. Frances Prevett, now Mrs. James

Sharp, was the first teacher in this building. The present school house was erected in 1880. It is a neat frame building located on the southwest quarter of section 12. Martha Potts was the first teacher in this building.

The first school house in district No. 8 was erected in 1856 [or 1857] on the northwest quarter of section 35. John Hendricks was one of the first teachers in this house. This building was afterward removed to Rodolf's mill where it was used until 1880, when it was destroyed by fire, and the present house was erected near the old site. Miss I. Rhodes was the first teacher in this building, and Henry Brenaman, the present.

The first school in district No. 9 was taught by Wilson Crandall in the winter of 1861-2 in a vacant log house located on section 21. In 1862 a school house was erected on the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 21. It was erected of Basswood logs, and it was from this fact that this locality took the name "Basswood." Enos Cornwall was the first teacher. The present school building was erected in 1867, and Alexander Brenaman taught the first school within its walls. Charles Cronwall is the present teacher.

#### MILLS.

In 1839 Robert Boyd and Monroe Fleming came here from Iowa county and made a claim of the southwest quarter of section 26, including the excellent mill site on what is now called Mill creek. This was probably the first claim taken within the limits now comprising the town of Eagle. They made but little improvements, and in 1841 the claim was jumped by Thomas J. Parrish. Boyd and Fleming were lumbermen and raftmen. Boyd afterward settled in Crawford county, where he laid out the village of Boydstown.

In 1841 and 1842, Thomas J. Parrish, in company with a Mr. Estes, erected a saw-mill upon the site—the first in the county. An old fashioned "up and down saw," together with one

run of stone for grinding corn, was put into the mill. In January, 1848, the mill was destroyed by fire. Mr. Parrish had died a short time previous to this, and the property was sold to Henry Moore. He rebuilt the mill and furnished it like its predecessor with an "up and down saw" and one run of stone. In 1852 C. G. Rodolf purchased a half interest, and shortly afterward a rotary saw was put in. Mr. Rodolf bought Mr. Moore's interest, and in 1857 and 1858 erected a substantial building, 30x40 feet in size, putting in two run of stone. It was run as a custom and merchant mill, flour being shipped to Milwaukee and other large markets. In January, 1869, the mill was destroyed by fire. Mr. Rodolf rebuilt immediately, erecting a building 30x40 feet in size, and two stories in height. Two run of buhrs were put into the mill, and all other machinery in use in that day. In February, 1874, this mill was burned. The interesting litigation which grew from this is treated at length in the chapter upon "courts." In 1877 Frank G. Rodolf, a son of Charles G., purchased a half interest in the property, and they erected the present mill, which is 34x46 feet in size, three stories in height, and stone basement. The mill is equipped with four run of buhrs, and all other necessary machinery for the manufacture of first-class flour.

In 1852 Simon Sharp and Henry Miller erected a saw-mill on section 13, and equipped it with an "up and down saw." The power was derived from Hoosier creek, a dam of brush and earth being constructed. In 1853 Sharp & Miller sold to Oliver Miller. He operated the mill until 1867, when he sold to Isaac Thompson and John McCormack. Mr. Thompson purchased McCormack's interest in 1870, and ran the mill until 1876, when he abandoned that mill, and, in company with S. C. McClintock, purchased a steam mill and set it up near the old water power. Mr. McClintock purchased his partner's interest in 1882.

## RELIGIOUS.

In 1854 John Crandall, a Baptist preacher, held services at John Thompson's house on section 23. He was a pioneer in the northern part of the county, and was instrumental in the establishment of a number of religious organizations in this region; but he did not organize a society here.

The first Methodist class was organized at the house of Josephus Cooper, on section 28, by Rev. Hyatt [or Rev. Schoonover, as some claim]. The following were among the members: Josephus Cooper and wife, Henry Miller and wife, Mrs. C. Thompson and William Cooper. Josephus Cooper was the first class leader. The class was in existence but a few years.

Preachers of different denominations have preached at the school house in district No. 6. Rev. Mathers, the pioneer Presbyterian, was among the first to preach here.

In 1857 a Methodist Episcopal class was organized here by Rev. John Walker. The following were among the members of this class: Gideon Miller and wife, James Lewis and wife, and Mrs. M. Young. Gideon Miller was the class leader. This class flourished for some time, holding meetings in the school house. During the war it suspended, as some of the members moved away. Revs. Knapp, Blackhurst and Barlingame were among the pastors who served this class.

Pleasant Valley Christian Church was organized at the Basswood school house in the winter of 1866-7. Rev. Jacob Mark was the preacher. The following were among the first members: Horatio Cornwall and wife, W. H. Cooper, Mrs. Keplogle and two daughters, William Briggs and wife, and son Marvin. During the summer of 1866 a successful protracted meeting was held at which fourteen were baptized. The society met at the school house for some years. In 1874 they erected a neat frame church at Eagle Corners, at a cost of \$650. The church now has about twenty members. J. B.

Newburn is the present clerk. Rev. James Keeper is the present pastor.

The Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church was organized in 1851 by Rev. William Smith, from Sextonville, at the old log school house on section 23. The following were among the early member: George D. Sharp and wife, Cyrus Sharp and wife, Mrs. Mary Sharp, William Robinson and wife, William Miller and two sons, George and John Miller and wives, Mrs. Sarah Perrine, Mrs. Abraham Beard and Henry Dawson and wife. The following were elected elders—George D. Sharp, William Robinson and Cyrus Sharp. Rev. Smith preached for the society one year. Among those who have filled the pulpit since that time are Revs. Overton, Laughlin, Conley, Smith, Pinkerton, Francis, Sherwin and Sparrow. Rev. Thomas Murphy is the present pastor. The society met for worship in the school house until 1854, when they erected a frame church on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 24. The society has flourished and now has about ninety members. The present elders are: William Robinson, William Irving McCoy, Monroe Robinson, Thomas M. Miller and D. W. Bear. Monroe Robinson is the clerk.

A sabbath school was organized in connection with the Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church at an early day, with George D. Sharp as first superintendent. He was followed by D. A. Hurlbert, who held the position until the time of his death. Monroe Robinson is the present superintendent; the school meets every Sunday.

United Brethren Church Humility Chapel. This class was organized by Rev. George Kite soon after the war. The following were among the first members: Alexander Shannon and wife, Clarissa Shannon, Sarah Evans, Sarah Endicott and Susan Dillon. Alexander Shannon was the first class leader. The following are among the pastors who have filled the pulpit here: Revs. Mebbit, Potts, Young, Whitney, Pound, Day, Taylor, Bovee and Giffen. Rev. Wood is the present pastor. In 1882 the



society commenced the erection of a church edifice which was dedicated Sept. 9, 1883, by Bishop Weaver, of Toledo.

## CEMETERIES

Dawson's cemetery was surveyed by James Appleby in September, 1881. It is located on the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 26, and contains eighty-eight blocks, eighty of which contain ten lots each, and eight five lots each. The first burial here was of the remains of Mrs. Henry Dawson, who selected the spot before she died.

Pleasant Hill cemetery, on section 23, is under the control of the Presbyterian Church. The land was donated by William Robinson and set aside for this purpose in 1851. The first burial here was of the remains of George W. Miller, who died Aug. 30, 1855.

## EAGLE CORNERS.

James Harvey was the first to engage in mercantile trade at Eagle Corners. He opened his establishment in 1879.

J. Lawrence and son opened their stock of goods in 1882.

C. C. Taylor was the first blacksmith, opening a shop in 1878-9. This branch is now represented by Jacob Stetler and William Ware.

William Smith was the first wagon maker, opening here in 1876. This was the first business established at the "Corners."

Eagle Corners postoffice was established in February, 1870, with J. B. Newburn as postmaster, and the office at his house. It was on the route from Muscoda to Excelsior, mail then being received once each week. John A. Lawrence is the present postmaster, keeping the office at his store.

Eagle Lodge No. 313, I. O. O. F., at Eagle Corners, was organized on April 18, 1883. The following were the charter members: James Richardson, Horatio Cornwall, James Lewis, Oliver Shepard, Cassius M. Collins, Jacob Stetler, James Tisdale, John M. Craig, John Goff, William Ware and Lewis Craig. The first officers elected were: James Richardson, N. G.;

John Goff, V. G.; Oliver Shepard, secretary; Horatio Cornwall, warden; James Lewis, conductor; C. M. Collins, treasurer. The lodge meets at Lawrence's hall, Eagle Corners.

## BASSWOOD.

Robert W. Peters was the first to engage in mercantile trade at Basswood. In 1869 he put a stock of goods in the one room of his dwelling, opening a country general merchandise store. A few years later he put up a building 18x26 feet in size, and took in John Blickenstaff as a partner. Six months later he sold out to his partner, and a few weeks afterward bought the establishment again. He continued the business until 1873, when he closed out his stock.

The next to engage in business here were McIntire & Eleston. Mr. McIntire soon bought his partner's interest. In 1883 Joseph S. Peters purchased an interest, and now runs the store. Mr. McIntire is in trade in Muscoda.

Norman W. Bennett established a blacksmith shop here in 1879, erecting a two-story building. He has since done a flourishing business.

In 1881 R. C. Brown and C. F. Wallace put in operation a steam saw-mill, which is still running.

The United Brethren Church was organized at the Basswood school house in December, 1865, by Rev. George Kite. The following were among the members: James Willey and wife, Charles Johnson and wife, William Warren and wife, Mrs. Thomas Goff and Mrs. William Briggs. Charles Johnson was the first class leader. Among the preachers who have held services here are the following: Revs. Young, Potts, Day, Taylor, Bovee, Whitney and Hood. At present no regular services are held.

The Basswood cemetery was laid out in 1861, on section 16. The land was donated by Thomas Hardy and Mrs. Francis Kepogle, each giving half an acre. The first burial was of the remains of a child of Thomas Hardy. The ground has never been surveyed, and the

cemetery is free to all citizens of the town. At a meeting held for the purpose, James Lucas, Charles Johnson and Thomas Rummery were elected trustees. Subscriptions were solicited and money raised to fence the grounds.

Basswood postoffice was established in 1869. Jacob Bear was appointed first postmaster, but before he got his commission he sold his farm and moved away. James Lucas was therefore appointed in his stead. Robert Peters was the next postmaster, keeping the office at his store. The next was Joseph Stanley, who kept the office at his house on section 9. Robert Peters succeeded Mr. Stanley. He has deputized his son Joseph, and the office is kept at his store.

#### PERSONAL SKETCHES.

Among the early settlers and the residents of to day in Richland county, there are none more noted for their energy, enterprise and thrift, than those in the town of Eagle.

Frank G. Rodolf was born at Centerville, Iowa Co., Wis., March 3, 1847. His early education was received in the public schools of Richland county and advanced by a two years term at the State University at Madison. In 1865 he, in company with A. Schmidt, engaged in the mercantile trade at Richland Center. In 1866 he purchased his partner's interest and continued the business there until 1868, then moved to Eagle and opened a store near the mill. In 1869 he purchased an interest in the water power of his father, erected a saw-mill and engaged in the lumber trade. In 1872 he closed out the mercantile business and devoted his attention to his mill and farm. In 1876, in company with his father, he erected the flour mill of which he is sole manager. He is also quite extensively engaged in raising stock and hogs. He has the largest hog house in the county. It is 24x100 feet, and two stories in height. He usually keeps about 150 hogs and fifty head of horned cattle. He was joined in marriage, in 1868, to Mary Riel. She was born in Sandusky, Ohio. They have five children — Winifred, Charlie, Frank, Idell and an infant.

Thomas Goff (deceased) son of George and Mary (Manear) Goff, early settlers of Richland county, was born in Randolph Co., Va., May 16, 1828. He was but two years old when his parents emigrated to the territory of Arkansas, where they lived three years, then moved to Missouri and settled in Washington county and remained until 1848, when they came to Wisconsin and located in Richland county, which was at that time a new country, and was attracting the attention of emigrants. The subject of this sketch lived with his parents until his marriage, June 12, 1855, to Sarah Wood. She was born in Randolph Co., Va., within two miles of the birthplace of her husband. They had never met, however, until after coming to Wisconsin. At the time of his marriage, he settled upon land that he had bought on section 15, town of Eagle. It was heavily timbered, and he has cleared a good farm, which is watered by Mill creek. It is well adapted to raising both grain and stock. His death occurred on April 5, 1881. He left four children — John, Adeline, Emmet and Andrew. Andrew was born Jan. 20, 1865, and died Aug. 24, 1881. Mrs. Goff and her son Emmet occupy the homestead.

William Miller, (deceased), the first settler of Hoosier Hollow, was a veteran of the War of 1812. He was born in Anderson Co., Ky., in January, 1795, and was married to Charlotte Dawson, a native of Anderson county. In 1829, with two or three other families, they started for Indiana, taking their household goods on flat boats, floating down the Kentucky river to the Ohio, down the Ohio to the mouth of the Wabash river. At that point their boats were attached to a steamer and towed up stream as far as Lafayette. From there they continued their journey over land to Clinton county, where they located and were pioneers. They purchased government land, improved a farm and resided there until 1849. In that year Mrs. Miller died, and Mr. Miller went to Richland Co., Wis., where he entered large tracts of land

in town 9, range 1 west, now known as the town of Eagle. He built a house on the southeast quarter of section 23, and returned to Indiana. In September of that year he came back to Wisconsin with his family. Some of his children who came with him were married, and he settled them upon land that he had entered for them. Mr. Miller and his family were members of the Presbyterian Church and assisted in the organization of the Pleasant Hill Church. He died in 1879. His son John was born in Kentucky in 1818. He was married in Indiana to Hannah J. Hayes, a native of Ohio. They came to Richland county with his father in 1849, and settled on section 13, where they lived a few years and then traded for a farm on section 23, where they lived until the time of his death which occurred in 1865. He left seven children, six of whom are now living—Thomas M., James L., Mary E., Leoma C., Jefferson H. and William H. Thomas M., the oldest son now living, was born in Clinton Co., Ind., Feb. 25, 1844, and was five years old when he began pioneer life in Richland county. He assisted his father in the clearing of a farm, and attended the pioneer schools. He was married in 1867 to Rebecca I., daughter of George and Rebecca Slater, pioneers of Richland county. She was also a native of Clinton county. They first settled on section 23 and later on section 34. In 1875 he bought a farm on section 24. A portion of this land was cleared and upon it was a frame house partly completed. He completed the house and has since cleared quite a tract of land, and is engaged in raising stock and grain. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have three children—Edith I., John L. and Joseph G.

William Cooper, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in Butler Co., Penn., March 21, 1801, where his youth was spent. He was married in 1823 to Martha Clark, also a native of Butler county and born in April, 1802. He purchased a tract of land and cleared a farm, living on the same for six years, when he sold

out and engaged in selling goods on the road for two years. He then worked on the Chenango canal three years, when he went to Ohio and was employed on the Maumee canal one year, then went to Indiana and engaged in farming one year in Clinton county. In 1849 he made his first visit to Richland county and purchased the east half of the northwest quarter of section 11. After a short time he returned to Indiana and remained until 1850. Then with a team, accompanied by his family, and taking their household goods along with them, started for their new home. At that time there was no settlement in the neighborhood of his land, and he purchased another tract on section 26, cleared a portion of the same and remained there until 1869, then sold out and moved to Muscoda, and made a contract with the Government to carry the mail between Muscoda, Readstown and Viroqua, and was thus employed four years. For the past few years he has made his home with his son William. He is now eighty-three years old and retains his faculties to a remarkable degree. His wife died in June, 1857, leaving twelve children, six sons and six daughters. Three of the sons served in the Union army—John Wesley enlisted in the fall of 1862, in the 20th Wisconsin, company H, and went south, and died while in the service, at Springfield, Mo., March 23, 1863. William H. was born in Mercer Co., Penn., June 25, 1836, and came to Richland county with his parents. He was married July 9, 1857, to Amy Eliot, who was born in Darke Co., Ohio, Oct. 17, 1840. In 1863 he settled on his present farm. He enlisted in February, 1864, in the 14th Wisconsin, company K, went south and joined Sherman at Big Shantie, Ga. He served until Oct. 9, 1865, when he was discharged at Mobile, Ala. The following are among the important battles in which he participated: "Big Shantie, Baker's Ridge, Atlanta, Ezra Church, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Nashville and Spanish Fort. While in the service he lost his health, and has never fully recovered, but has devoted his time since

his return in improving his land. He has three children—Isaiah L., Thomas W. and Lucy A. His brother, Thomas M., enlisted in 1861 in the 5th Wisconsin, company H. He was sixteen years old at the time, served sixteen months and was discharged on account of disability. He re-enlisted in December, 1863, in the 3d Wisconsin, company H, joined Sherman's command, and was with him on his march to the sea, through the Carolinas and thence to Washington where he was discharged in August, 1865.

George Slater, one of the early settlers of Richland county, was born in the State of Maryland. When he was quite young his parents emigrated to Indiana and settled in Clinton county. Here the subject of this sketch commenced pioneer life and spent his early days. He was married Feb. 7, 1847, to Rebecca Beard, a native of Washington Co., W. Va. In 1850 he visited Richland county and entered land on sections 22 and 23, and returned to Indiana. During the fall of the same season, in company with Abraham Beard and Joseph Hays he started for his new home accompanied by his family. They came overland with teams which was the usual mode of travel at that time, bringing household goods and provisions with them, camping out wherever night overtook them. Upon arrival, he at once erected a log cabin, and commenced clearing. A few years later he built a frame house. In 1861 he sold this farm and bought another on section 34, where he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred in January, 1862. Mrs. Slater died July 4, 1880. There are six of their children now living—Rebecca J., William J., Harriet M., Julia E., Sarah L. and George R. William J., was born in the town of Eagle, Feb. 21, 1852, and here grew to manhood, receiving his education in the district schools, advanced by two terms at Beloit College. He was married Sept. 11, 1877, to Endora Dosch. She was born in in the town of Richwood. They have two children—Della and Don Juan. George R. was born, also, in the town of Eagle, Feb. 21,

1860. He has always lived on the homestead which he now occupies, in company with his brother, William J.

Joseph Powell was one of the early explorers of Richland county, having come here in 1851, at which time he remained about ten weeks, and returned to his home in Indiana. He made the trip overland. At this time he purchased land on Blue river, in Grant county, and, having made up his mind to settle there, he loaded his household goods in two wagons, and taking seven or eight horses and a lot of stock, started for Wisconsin. After five weeks' travel, camping out on the roadside at night, he reached Richland county. He spent a short time with Alonzo Carson, in the town of Richwood, while he built a house upon his land, into which he moved on Christmas day. He cleared quite a tract of this land, and lived there five years, when he sold and bought timber land in Watertown, near his first farm, of which he cleared quite a large tract, and resided there until 1866, when he sold and came to Eagle, and purchased his present farm, which is now one of the best in the "banner town" of the county. It is located on section 30, and has seventy-two acres under cultivation. He has erected a good frame house and other buildings. He has been twice married, first to Rebecca J. Carson, Dec. 30, 1849. She was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind., and died in April, 1881, leaving five children—John C., Margaret A., Amy J., Mary C. and Asher T. He was again married Nov. 15, 1883, to Martha J. Sullivan, widow of Abram Elliott. She has one child by her former marriage—Bertha May. Mr. Powell was born in Gallia Co., Ohio, May 18, 1823. When he was eight years old his parents moved to Indiana, and were early settlers in Tippecanoe county. His father purchased land a few miles from Lafayette. He was a baker by trade, and opened a shop in that town. His father died when he was eighteen years old, after which he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits in Tippecanoe county until 1851.

William Robinson, a well known early settler of the town of Eagle, is a native of Kentucky, born in Franklin, six miles from the State capital, Oct. 23, 1808. Here his early days were spent. In 1829 he, in company with his parents, emigrated to Indiana and were among the early settlers of Tippecanoe county. His father purchased timber land in Tippecanoe and Clinton counties. The subject of this sketch returned to Kentucky in the fall of 1832, and was married in Anderson county to Rebecca Richardson, and came back to Clinton county and began clearing a farm. In 1850 he came to Richland county with the Miller brothers, to assist them in moving here. He was at that time favorably impressed with the country, and, although it was a wild, unsettled region, inhabited by Indians and wild beasts, he thought it must become settled at no distant day, and he entered 160 acres on section 24, the northeast quarter. In 1852 he sold his farm in Indiana, and started with his family for their new home. They took two wagon loads of goods and two pairs of horses. They reached their destination after traveling fourteen days and moved into a vacant log house near by until he could cut logs and build one on his own land. As soon as it was completed, he commenced the clearing of a farm. The next year he purchased land adjoining his, on the northwest quarter of section 24, and there, in 1855, erected the first frame dwelling in the town, the same that he still occupies. It is a commodious, two story building, and has always been kept in good repair. He has also built a good frame barn and other buildings. His farm is located in the neighborhood known as Hoosier Valley. Mrs. Robinson died May 18, 1860, leaving seven children—James, Silas, Sarah J., Benjamin, Monroe, Mary and Ann. He was again married in 1861, to Mary Shuler, a native of Lycoming Co., Penn. Two children have blessed this union—Robert and Edwin. Robert was born Dec. 26, 1862. His younger days were spent in school and on the farm. He was

married Nov. 15, 1883, to Mary, daughter of John and Eliza Mainwarring. He lives at home and manages the farm.

Jeremiah B. Newburn, a pioneer of the town of Eagle, first visited the county in 1852 and bought a claim of C. G. Rodolf, located on section 33, town 9, range 1 west, in what is now the town of Eagle. He remained a short time and returned to his home in Edgar Co., Ill. The following June he started, taking his family and a pair of horses and a wagon, which held their household goods, and camped at night by the roadside. His wife and oldest daughter drove the stock, while he attended to the horses. They were twenty days in making the journey. On reaching their destination, they remained at his brother's until he could build a cabin. The family lived in this cabin several years, when he built a frame house, which was consumed by fire in 1875. He then erected his present dwelling. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born Dec. 2, 1814. When but two years of age he had the misfortune to be bitten by a snake, and in consequence was a cripple for fourteen years, and not being able to work, he improved the time by studying, and thus obtained an education. When he was seventeen year old, his parents removed to Ohio and settled in Muskingum county, which at that time was attracting the attention of settlers, and there the subject of this sketch began his pioneer life. He was married in 1838 to Caroline Mapes, who was born in Perry town, Muskingum Co., Ohio; born Aug. 11, 1822. In 1840 they moved to Pike Co., Ohio, where he purchased timber land and partially cleared a farm, remaining there until 1845 when he sold out and again started westward, settling then in Edgar Co., Ill. when he again purchased timber land and partially cleared a farm. He lived there until 1852, the year in which he came to Richland county. Mr. and Mrs. Newburn are the parents of three children—Margaret, William and Mary E. Mr. Newburn was appointed postmaster at Eagle Corners, Feb. 28, 1870, and re-

mained in office until he resigned in favor of John A. Lawrence, Dec. 31, 1882.

William Pickering, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in Cheshire, England, Feb. 18, 1818. He emigrated to America in the fall of 1847, coming to Jefferson Co., Wis., in the spring of 1848, and hiring out as a farm laborer until the fall of 1849. Having purchased two land warrants for 160 acres each, he started out to find government land; came to Richland county and located timbered land on sections 8 and 9, of town 9 north, of range 1 west, now known as the town of Eagle. The same fall (1849), he returned to England to visit friends, coming back to Milwaukee, Wis., in the spring of 1850. He then purchased a team and wagon and engaged in carrying emigrants and merchandise from Milwaukee to different parts of the State. Mr. Pickering was married in the fall of 1851 to Mary J. Binks, also a native of England. He engaged in farming for one year in Racine Co., Wis. In the winter of 1852-3, he again came to Richland county, and erected a log cabin on his land and moved his family from Racine county into the same in the spring of 1853. He immediately commenced clearing land and raised a crop of corn and garden vegetables the same year. He has since cleared over 160 acres of land, built a good frame house, two barns and a store house, and is engaged in raising grain and stock. He feels a deep interest in good horses and cattle, and has taken many first premiums at the Richland County Agricultural Fair, of which association he is a life member. Mr. and Mrs. Pickering have two children—John W. and Charles R.; both have taught in the public schools of Richland county, and the latter is at present a student at (and will soon graduate from) the State Normal School at Platteville, Wis.

Hubert Mathews, one of the early settlers of Richland county, was born in France, Jan. 7, 1820. When quite young he learned the weaver's trade, and worked at the same until 1841, then left his native land and came to America. He

went directly to Ohio, and was there married in December to Mary A. Durrstein. She was born in France, April 6, 1823. He engaged in farming during the summer season and in the winter was employed in weaving, his wife assisting him. In a few years, by continuous hard labor, they saved enough money to purchase a farm of fifty-three acres in Tuscarawas Co., Ohio, where they lived until 1854, then sold out and started west to seek a home; coming to Richland county, they rented a farm in Hoosier Hollow until 1859, then purchased eighty acres on section 22, town of Eagle, where he commenced clearing a farm. He enlisted Feb. 25, 1864, in the 36th Wisconsin, company B, and went south; was taken prisoner at the battle of the Wilderness, June 1, 1864, and was confined in Andersonville prison until December, when, in a dying condition he was discharged. A few days later he died, weakened and reduced to a mere shadow by hunger and exposure. He left a wife with nine children, the youngest less than one year old, but his wife, with the assistance of the children, continued to clear away the timber and till the soil, and has since erected a good frame house and barn. Eight of the children are now married. The youngest son, Thomas, makes his home with his mother and manages the farm.

William Recob was an early settler of the town of Eagle. He came here from Indiana in 1854, making the journey by rail as far as Warren, Ill., and the remainder of the distance by team. He purchased the southeast quarter of section 11, town 9, range 1 west. Having left his family at Orion, he pushed on through the woods, chopped a road to a suitable location for a dwelling and built a log cabin. He then returned to Orion for his family. He was fond of hunting, and a good marksman. Game was plenty and he had abundant opportunities for displaying his skill. One winter he killed fourteen deer. He was engaged in clearing land and farming until 1864. He enlisted in

February of that year in company B, 36th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, joined the Army of the Potomac, and participated in many of the important battles of the campaign, from that time until the close of the war. He received an injury in his spine at Appomattox, the day before the surrender of Lee, being struck by a horse while crossing a ravine. It resulted in paralysis from which he was confined to his bed four years. He bore his sufferings patiently. Death came to his relief Sept. 9, 1881. Mr. Recob was born in Ross Co., Ohio, Dec. 17, 1820. His younger days were spent on the farm and in school, where he obtained a liberal education. When a young man he emigrated to Indiana, and located in Tippecanoe county, where he was married in 1845 to Mary A. Wilson, who was born in Butler Co., Ohio, April 2, 1826. Twelve children blessed their union, eight of whom are now living—Leonidas, Amanda A., Margaret E., Emily L., Lyeurgus, Mary S., Orlando B. and Effie L. Alvaretta was born March 16, 1854, and died in 1871; Zella A. was born Dec. 8, 1857, and died in March, 1876. Two children died in infancy. Mrs. Recob and some of her children now occupy the homestead, where they have a comfortable and pleasant home.

Henry H. Hurless, one of the pioneers of the town of Bloom, was born in Virginia, Oct. 15, 1824. His mother died when he was eleven years old. Two years later his father emigrated to Indiana, settled in Clinton county and purchased timber land, which the subject of this sketch assisted in clearing. When he was eighteen years old his father died, but he continued to live there until 1854. At that date he came to Richland county and entered land on section 19, of town 11, range 1 west, now known as Bloom. He erected two log houses and commenced clearing. He was an unmarried man then, and a part of the time kept his own house. He soon sold his land and bought again in the town of Forest, and again sold, and purchased a large tract of timber land which he

began clearing. In 1865 he came to Eagle and selected a farm on section 29, on which were about thirty-five acres of cleared land. He now has ninety-five acres cleared, with good buildings, including a frame house, barn and granary. His farm is considered one of the finest in Richland county. He was married July 20, 1856, to Eliza, daughter of Rev. John H. and Rhoda (Little) Crandall.

John Huston, an early settler in Eagle, was born in county Antrim, Ireland, and was there married in 1846 to Jane Thompson. In 1849 they emigrated to America and lived in New York city until 1854, then came to Richland county and bought land on section 12, town of Eagle, and have since made this their home. Their son William was born in New York city, Aug. 19, 1853, and was but an infant when his pioneer life began in Richland county. Here he grew to manhood. His younger days being spent much like other farmer's sons, assisting on the farm and attending the district school. He was married in 1875 to Emma Smith. She was born in Dane county, where her parents were early settlers. Four children have blessed this union—John L., Imogene, Sarah J. and Ida May. At the time of his marriage they settled on his present farm on section 12. He has erected a good set of buildings, including a neat frame house.

Samuel Ferebee, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born on the banks of the Gadkin river, in that part of Rowan known as Davie Co., N. C., Aug. 23, 1816. Here he grew to manhood and was brought up on a farm. He made his home there with his parents until 1838, when he went to Indiana and commenced pioneer life in Madison county. He purchased heavily timbered land and made a small improvement. In 1844 he was married to Elizabeth Ann Chitwood. She was born in Fayette Co., Ind., April 24, 1827. In the fall of 1844 they settled on the Miami reservation. He purchased timbered land on the Wild Cat river, erected a log house, cleared a farm and lived

there until 1855, when he came to Richland county and settled in town 9, range 2 west, now known as the town of Richwood. The next year he traded his property in Indiana for timber land on section 27 of the town of Richwood. He built a frame house, 18x24 feet to which he afterward made an addition. He cleared and fenced sixty-five acres of land, and in 1874 sold out, came to the town of Eagle and purchased land on section 28 and has since made this his home. He has purchased land adjoining until now his farm contains 200 acres, and is considered one of the best in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Ferebee have nine children—Thomas J., Francis, Nancy J., George B., William J., Samuel A., Matthias C., James M. and Franklin J. A daughter named Elizabeth, died at the age of nine years. Three others died in infancy. Mr Ferebee is a man of fair education, is a great reader, and thus keeps himself well posted on the topics of the times. He has given his children a good education.

Samuel B. Gault, an early settler of the town of Eagle, was born in Lancaster Co., Penn. In his youth he emigrated with his parents to Ohio, and settled in Butler county, where he was married to Mary B. Wilson, a native of that county. A few years later they removed to Tippecanoe Co., Ind., and lived until 1855. In that year they came to Richland county and settled in the town of Eagle. Here Mr. Gault died in 1870. His widow still lives at the homestead. Their son Francis was born in Butler Co., Ohio, in 1831. He came to Richland county with his parents, and worked at carpentering in the summer seasons and taught school during the winter. He enlisted in 1863 in the 72d Indiana regiment, and died in the service at Gallatin, Tenn. Henry Gault was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind., in 1845, and was ten years old when his parents settled in the town of Eagle. He enlisted in November, 1864, in the 37th Wisconsin, company H, and was killed at the battle of Petersburg, Va. Edward W., youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Gault,

was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind., in 1847, and came to Eagle at the age of eight years. Here he attended the district school and assisted his father in clearing a farm. He was married in 1872 to Susie Cook, a native of Ohio. He now occupies the homestead.

James Lucas, one of the most extensive farmers of Richland county, was an early settler in the town of Eagle. He came here in 1855 and purchased 320 acres of timber land on sections 4 and 9. He now owns 560 acres of land in the town of Eagle and 160 in the town of Richwood. He has engaged quite extensively in raising fine stock. He is also a lover of fine horses, and always drives a good team. He has traveled extensively and is well acquainted in different parts of the country. In 1861 he visited Pike's Peak and engaged in mining a few months. In 1880 he went to Texas, bought a pony and visited various parts of that country horseback. In 1882 he went to Nebraska and engaged in mercantile trade in the town of Cragton, but being confined indoors did not agree with his health, and he sold out and returned to his home. He is interested in real estate in that State, and now owns real estate in Knox and Pierce counties. His farm is well watered by a branch of Mill creek that flows through it. He has a good set of buildings, including a frame house and barn. He is a native of Ohio, born in Ross county, Nov. 3, 1827. When he was three years of age his father died, and he soon after went to live with an older sister in Tippecanoe Co., Ind., and there grew to manhood. In 1850 he went to California, where he engaged in mining a short time, then returned to Indiana. He was joined in marriage in 1851 to Mary Pelers. She was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind. He then rented a farm in Tippecanoe county until 1851, then came to Richland county, as before stated. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, two of whom are now living—Sarah O. and Olive E. Lillie, their youngest daughter, was born in April, 1864. She was married to T. S.



Shaffer. She died in 1883, leaving one child, now at home with its grandparents. He is a lively, good hearted man, hospitable and much liked. He is well known in the county.

John Shaffer came to Richland county in company with his mother and grandparents when but six years old. He made his home with them in the town of Forest, until seven years of age, when he came to Orion to make his home with Daniel Clingensmith, a prominent merchant of that town. Here he attained his majority, receiving his education in the district school. When not in school he was employed in the store and on the farm. He was joined in marriage in 1871 with Mary Cornwall, who was born in Ohio. Then he settled on the Clingensmith farm, which he now owns and occupies. It is located on section 36, now the town of Eagle, and is well improved, having a good frame house and two frame barns. Mr. Shaffer is an industrious and thorough farmer and always has everything in good order. Mrs. Shaffer died in 1875. Mr. Shaffer has held offices of public trust with honor to himself and satisfaction to the people, and to a remarkable degree has the respect and confidence of his fellowman.

George Hillberry, (deceased) one of the pioneers of the town of Sylvan, was born in Huntingdon Co., Penn., in December, 1807. Here he grew to manhood, being reared upon a farm. He was married in 1829 to Catharine Roberts, who was also a native of Huntingdon county, born in September, 1807. They remained in Pennsylvania about five years and then moved to Ohio and settled in Monroe county, where he purchased land and improved a farm, which was their home until 1856, when they came to Richland county and located in town 11, range 2 west, now the town of Sylvan. He bought land on section 21, built a log house and improved a farm. In 1864 he sold his farm and went to Colorado. He remained there but a short time, and returned to Richland county and purchased the northwest quarter of section

30, town of Eagle. He improved a farm, built a neat frame house, and made it his home until his decease, in May, 1878. He left a wife and seven children to mourn his loss. The children are—David W., Mariam E., George H., Laban, Elizabeth, Alfred and Melissa. Mrs. Hillberry, with her son David and daughter Mariam, occupies the homestead. David was born in Huntingdon Co., Penn., and has always resided with his parents. Alfred Hillberry was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, June 4, 1844, and was twelve years old when his parents came to Richland county. In 1873 he settled upon land that he had previously bought on section 29, and lived there until 1880. He then bought the John Crandall farm, located on sections 31 and 32, on which were comfortable buildings, including a frame house. He still owns his farm on section 29, and has since purchased other land. He is engaged in raising stock and grain. He was married in 1875 to Ella, daughter of Stephen J. and Emma (Ferris) Randall. They have four children—Melissa, Elizabeth, Myrtle May and John Wesley.

Thomas Gunnell, deceased, a settler of 1856, was a native of England, born in Lincolnshire, May 19, 1827. Here he was reared to agricultural pursuits. In 1850 he left his native land and came to America and located at Ripon. He was joined in marriage here in 1854 to Ann Baird. She was born in county Mayo, Ireland, July 12, 1821. A few weeks after marriage they moved to Platteville, Grant Co., Wis., and remained there until 1856, then came to the town of Eagle and purchased a tract of timber land on section 12, and commenced clearing a farm. He enlisted Feb. 26, 1864, in company B, 36th Wisconsin, and joined the army of the Potomac, going immediately to the front. He was killed at the battle of Deep Bottom, Aug. 14, 1864. He left his widow and three children to mourn his loss—Sarah A., Elizabeth J. and John Leeman. Sarah is the wife of Dighton Wright. Elizabeth J. married George Sharp. She died Dec. 29, 1882, leaving one child—Ida,

who now lives with her grandmother. John L. was married to Kate Salmon. He has built a frame house near the homestead which he now occupies. Mrs. Gunnell, at her husband's death, assumed the management of the farm until her son was large enough to take charge.

William H. Hall, a member of the board of supervisors, first came to Richland county in 1862. At that time he purchased a one-half interest in 270 acres of land on section 21. He was quite successful in farming and remained here eight years, then sold out with the intention of going to Missouri, but afterward changed his mind and went to Dane county and purchased a farm in the town of Windsor. Here his crops failed and after five years he sold out there and returned to the town of Eagle and purchased a farm of 170 acres, located on sections 10 and 15, and has since made this his home. He is a native of England, born in Somersetshire, July 7, 1834. When he was quite young his parents emigrated to America and located in Onondaga Co., N. Y., where he grew to manhood, being reared on a farm, getting his education in the public schools. In 1857 he first came to Wisconsin and spent a short time in Dane county, then returned to New York State and remained two years, then again returned to Dane county and was there married in 1860 to Keziah Burrington. She was born in Cuyahoga Co., Ohio. They remained in Dane county two years then came to Richland county, as before stated. They are the parents of two children—Virtue and Mabel. He has been elected three times to his present office; he has also served as constable.

Erasmus Darwin Manning first settled in Wisconsin when it was a territory, locating in Sheboygan county, where he lived until 1851 except one winter spent in Green Bay. In the spring of 1851 in company with five others he started for California, traveling by water to St Joseph, Mo., where they purchased ox teams and provisions. They were four months on the road. He engaged in mining

there until late in 1852, then returned to Sheboygan county and purchased timber land in the town of Plymouth, commenced clearing and there made his home until 1858 when he came to Richland county and lived one year on Knapp's creek. He then purchased seventy acres on section 30, town of Eagle, built a log cabin and commenced clearing his present farm. He has been successful and has since purchased additional land and now owns 190 acres, 100 of which is now under cultivation. He is a native of the Empire State, born at Saratoga Springs Oct. 12, 1827. He received a good education in the public schools and at fifteen years old engaged in a tannery to learn the trade, and worked at this business in his native State until he came to the territory of Wisconsin. He was married Nov. 20, 1854, to Elizabeth Shauger who was born in Morris Co., N. J. Her parents were pioneers in Sheboygan county, where they still live. Mr. and Mrs. Manning have had five children—William S., Mary Belle, Jessie E., Etta W. and Eugene, who died when four years old. Mr. Manning has always taken a commendable interest in town affairs, has been town clerk and chairman of the board. Politically he adheres to the democratic party, but will not vote for a dishonest man if he knows it. He cast a vote for Abraham Lincoln for President, and always prefers the best men regardless of politics.

James D. Weldy came to Richland county in 1858, and located in the town of Eagle, purchasing the east half of the northwest quarter of section 33. He cleared quite a tract of this land and then sold and bought the south half of the southeast quarter of section 16. He was not entirely satisfied with this farm and again sold and purchased the northeast of the northeast quarter of section 32, and twenty acres on section 29, where he made his home until the time of his death which occurred in May, 1882. He was a native of Virginia, born in Fluvanna county, March 4, 1813. When he was thirteen years old his parents moved to Ohio

and lived in Ross county where they were pioneers. Seven years later they again started westward and became pioneers of Tippecanoe Co., Ind. They lived in Indiana until 1858, then came to Richland county as before stated. He left a widow and three children to mourn his death—William, David and Ellen. The oldest son William lives in California. David owns and occupies the homestead; he was born in the town of Eagle in February, 1862, where he has always lived. He was married in January, 1883, to Lillie Kershner, who was born in the town of Orion. They have one child—Floyd. Ellen is now the wife of George Hunter.

Horace Cornwall, (deceased) was born in the State of New York, April 21, 1813, and there attained his majority, obtaining his education in the public schools. He was married in 1836 to Diantha Burrington, who was born in Cole-rain, Franklin Co., Mass., July 18, 1818. Soon after marriage they emigrated to Ohio and settled at Doane's Corner, which is now a part of the city of Cleveland. He there engaged in teaming about a year and then moved to the town of Royalton, where he purchased a farm, remaining there until 1863. He came to Richland county in that year and purchased land of James Appleby on section 34 of the town of Eagle. Here with the assistance of his sons, he cleared a farm of nearly 100 acres and made this his home until the time of his death which occurred Dec. 6, 1883. Mrs. Cornwall occupies the homestead. She has nine children living—Horatio, Matilda, Axsa, Horace, Irena, Albert, Mary, Martha and John. Their second son, Enos, was born in Royalton, Ohio, June 13, 1840. He lived with his parents in Ohio until 1860, when he came to Wisconsin and spent three years in Dane county, then came to Richland, and taught school in the Basswood school house, in the winter of 1863-4. In January, 1865, he enlisted in the 49th Wisconsin, company B, and went south. He died while in the service, at Rolla, Mo., July 28, 1865. Horatio, the eldest son, is the present town clerk. He

was born in Cleveland, Ohio, March 6, 1838. He grew to manhood in the town of Royalton, Ohio, obtaining his education in the public schools. In 1862 he came to Wisconsin and rented a farm in Dane county, where he was married, Jan. 18, 1863, to Sophrona Johnson, who was born in Huron Co., Ohio. He came to Richland county in 1864. On Feb. 8, 1865, he enlisted in the 44th Wisconsin, company H, and went south, and was taken sick at Paducah, Ky., in April, and in June was discharged from the hospital at Jeffersonville, Ind., and returned home. He was unable to do any work until the following spring when he settled on the farm which is now his home. It is located on section 16. He was first elected town clerk in 1877, and has held the office continuously except in 1878, when he was chairman of the board. He has held the office of justice of the peace for several years. Mr. and Mrs. Cornwall have two children living—Charles and Ella. Charles is a teacher in the public schools.

Thomas J. Rummery, for the last nine years treasurer of the town of Eagle, is a native of England, born in Sussex county in 1835. When he was six years old his parents came to America, and settled in Cuyahoga Co., Ohio. His father purchased a farm in the town of Royalton, and there the subject of this sketch passed his younger days, obtaining his education in the public schools. In 1863 he came to Richland county and engaged in teaching, soon purchasing timber land on section 16, town of Eagle. He has since cleared a farm of about seventy acres, and erected a neat frame house and barn. His place is pleasantly located in the neighborhood known as Basswood. He was married first to Rosaline Johnson, who was born in Huron Co., Ohio, and died in 1873, leaving one child, who died three months after the death of its mother. He was again married in 1878 to Mary, daughter of Hubert and Mary Mathews. She was born in the town of Eagle, where her parents were early settlers. They have one child—Martha Gertrude.

George W. Waller first settled in Richland county in 1863, about the middle of April, having at that time purchased, in the town of Sylvan, 360 acres of land, partially timbered, with about fifty acres under cultivation; cleared forty or fifty acres, erected good buildings, and lived there until the spring of 1882. He then sold out and moved to Mill Creek, in the town of Akan, where he remained until fall, then purchased his present farm in the town of Eagle, which is pleasantly located in what is known as the Bethel school district, and is well improved. Mr. Waller was born in Green Co., Penn., Sept. 4, 1812. When about four years of age his parents emigrated to Ohio, and settled in Monroe county, where they were among the first settlers. There he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the subscription schools, fitting himself for a teacher of the same kind of school—sitting on a slab bench or stool, and writing on planks put on pins drove in the walls slantingly, and windows covered with greased paper; a fire-place, with a rousing big log heap fire. He was married March 8, 1838, to Sarah Johnson, born in Monroe Co., Ohio, March 25, 1819. In that county he purchased 200 acres of land, cultivated about 100 acres, and made that his home until 1863, when he sold out and came to Richland Co., Wis., as before stated. Mr. and Mrs. Waller are the parents of seven children—Rachel, Sarah, Mary, David N., Deborah, Elizabeth and Susanna.

D. W. Bear started a blacksmith shop near Rodolf's mill in 1876. At that time he erected a building 20x31 feet. Since that year he has built on additions, until he has quite an extensive shop. Horse shoeing at first formed a considerable part of his business, but he has since given up that branch, and attends to general repair work in all its branches in wood and iron, and manufactures buggies. His shop is furnished with all the tools and machinery for this class of work. In 1883 he added to his business a stock of hardware, and later a stock

of groceries. He was born in that part of Marion, now known as Richland Co., Ohio, April 9, 1848. When he was but an infant his parents emigrated to Wisconsin and located in Spring Green, Sauk county, where they were pioneers. His father purchased 100 acres of land and improved a farm, and five years later died there, and his widow married again after fourteen years. The subject of this sketch lived with his mother until eleven years old, then returned to Ohio and made his home with an uncle three years, and then returned to Spring Green and engaged with a brother-in-law at carpentering a short time, then the two years following he was engaged in farming. He enlisted in February, 1865, in the 47th Wisconsin, company E, went south and served until the following October, then returned home and in company with his sister opened a photograph gallery in Richland Center. A few months later he embarked in the same business in Muscoda, where he continued a few months, then went to Spring Green, engaged in a harness-shop, where he worked one year, then went to Prairie du Sac and engaged to learn the blacksmith trade; there he worked for three years, then came to Richland county and opened a shop in Ithaca, remaining there until 1875, when he went to Richland Center and worked as journeyman for a time, then opened a shop and remained there until he went to the town of Eagle. He was married July 10, 1869, to Calinda Daniels. They have three children—Ulysses, Lillie May and Daisy May. In 1876 he erected a neat cottage house, to which he has since made an addition, and now has a pleasant home. He and his wife are members of the Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church, of which he is an elder.

George F. Roth was an early settler in Bear Den Hollow, town of Eagle. He was a native of Pennsylvania, born Nov. 22, 1818. When he was quite young his mother died, and his father with his family of six children emigrated to Indiana and settled in Blackford county. Here he was married March 12, 1846, to Bar-

bara Leffler. She was born in Perry Co., Ohio. He had previously purchased land in Blackford county, and at the time of his marriage they settled on that land. He cleared a farm and remained there until 1856, then came to Richland county and entered land on section 17, town of Eagle, and commenced clearing a farm. He enlisted March 12, 1862, in company I, 19th Wisconsin. He died the 27th day of the same month at Racine, Wis. His body was brought home and laid to rest in Basswood cemetery. His wife was left with six small children to provide for. She was equal to the emergency, and these children are now all grown to man and womanhood. Mrs. Roth has purchased additional land and now has a comfortable home. The names of the children are—Sarah E., Eliza J., Milton H., Rachel M., Daniel and Frances. Sarah E. is now the wife of Cassius M. C. Collins. He was born in Cameron Co., Penn., in 1847. When but five years of age his parents emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in Sauk county. Here he made his home with his parents until March, 1864, when he enlisted in company A, 37th Wisconsin, and with the regiment joined the Army of the Potomac and participated in a number of engagements, of which we mention the following: battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor, Petersburg; his brigade was the first to make a charge after the mine explosion before Petersburg; Yellow Tavern, Ream's Station, Hatches Run and Five Forks. He was discharged in August, 1865, and returned home. In 1868 he came to Eagle, and two years later purchased his present farm on section 17. He was married Dec. 30, 1871. His father, John Collins, was also a soldier in the Union army. He enlisted in 1862 in the 17th Wisconsin, but was soon after transferred to the 11th Missouri Light Artillery. He died while in the service, at Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 7, 1862, while on his way home. He was born at Williamsport, Penn., in February, 1808. When quite young his parents moved to Clearfield county, where he

grew to manhood. He was married in 1832 to Rosanna Jordan. They lived in Pennsylvania until 1852, then removed to Sauk Co., Wis., and purchased land in the town of Lavelle. Three years later he sold out and moved to Reedsburg, where he remained until the time of his enlistment. His son, Hugh, was born in Cameron Co., Penn., in 1845. He enlisted in 1861 in the 19th Wisconsin, company A, and joined the Army of the Potomac six months later. He was discharged on account of disability and returned home. He re-enlisted in January, 1864, in company D, 19th regiment, and served until the close of the war. He returned home sick, and died two years later. Mrs. Collins makes her home with her son, Cassius M. C. Collins, in the town of Eagle.

Theodore Wheaton came to Richland county in 1865 and settled. He was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, Dec. 11, 1846. His younger days were spent in school and on the farm. In the autumn following his sixteenth birthday, he enlisted in company D, of the 92d Ohio Volunteer Infantry, went south and joined Sherman's army at Chattanooga, was with him on his "march to the sea," and through the Carolinas to Washington, participating in many of the important battles of that noted campaign. He was transferred at Washington to the 131st Ohio, and was discharged with that regiment at Columbus, Ohio, in July, 1865. During the war his parents had moved to Richland county and settled in the town of Eagle, where he joined them soon after his discharge. He was married in 1869 to Abigail, daughter of Rev. John and Rhoda Crandall. He rented land on section 32 for five years, then purchased land on the same section, built a house, and lived there two years. He then rented the farm of his father-in-law, on sections 31 and 32. Six years later he purchased his present farm on sections 13 and 20. He also has forty acres on section 29, on which there is some improvement. Mr. and Mrs. Wheaton have four children living—Ida L., Mary R., Eliza and Ella. Johnnie, their

only son, was born Dec. 15, 1877, and died May 4, 1883. Mr. Wheaton has taken an interest in town affairs and has been several times a member of the town board.

T. A. Manchester, proprietor of the blacksmith and wagon shop at Muscoda Bridge, was born in Geauga Co., Ohio, in 1846. His younger days were spent on the farm and in attending school. When seventeen years of age he went into the army, and when nineteen was apprenticed to a blacksmith at Ravenna, Portage Co., Ohio, to learn the trade and served three years; after which he worked as journeyman in different places, including Cleveland, where he worked five years. In 1874 he opened a shop in Newbury, Geauga county, where he continued in business one year, then resumed work as journeyman. In 1878 he came to Richland county and located at Muscoda Bridge, where he built a shop 14x20 feet but business increasing, in 1880 he erected a building 18x50 feet to be used for a wagon shop. In 1881 he took possession of the building he now occupies, which is 20x48 feet. A. R. Moon has charge of the wagon shop. He doing the wood, and Mr. Manchester the iron work. He also does horse shoeing and general repairing. He is a skilled mechanic and is doing an extensive and prosperous business. He was married in 1879 to Nettie Dunston, who was born in Richland Co., Wis. They have one child—Frederick A. They

have a comfortable and pleasant residence, at a convenient distance from his place of business.

Alexander Barrett came to Richland county in 1870 and purchased a farm on section 5, town of Eagle, lived there a short time and then moved to Dayton and purchased a farm on section 32, where he remained nine years; then went to Akan and purchased a farm. He remained there only a short time when he returned to Dayton and purchased the McNally farm on section 28, where he lived until 1883, then purchased his present farm located on section 28, town of Eagle. It is pleasantly located in the richest belt of land in the county and is one of the best farms. It was formerly owned and improved by Alvin Pepein who built the frame house now on it. Mr. Barrett was born in Geauga Co., Ohio, in January, 1836, where he spent his younger days on the farm and attending school. He was married Nov. 22, 1856, to Jennett Manchester, also a native of Geauga county, where they lived three years, then came to Wisconsin and settled in LaCrosse Valley, LaCrosse county, where they were among the early settlers. He engaged in farming and lived there until 1863, then moved to Minnesota and lived in the town of Milton, Dodge county, until 1867, then went to Douglass county and took a homestead which he improved and sold three years afterward, and came to Richland county as before stated. Mr. and Mrs. Barrett have two children—Alanson and Walter.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

## TOWN OF FOREST.

The town of Forest forms the northwest corner of Richland county, being composed of congressional township 12 north, range 2 west. It is bounded on the north and west by Vernon county, and on the east and south by the towns of Bloom and Sylvan respectively. The surface of this town is very broken and uneven, the Kickapoo river traversing the northwestern portion. Some portions of the valley of this river is excellent farming land, having a soil of rich black loam, made up chiefly of washings from the surrounding hills. It is well adapted to raising all cereals common to this latitude, and being well watered it makes excellent pasturage for stock. The Kickapoo river enters the town by way of section 6, and passing through sections 6, 7, 18 and 19, leaves through the latter section. This stream furnishes splendid water power privileges, which have to a large extent been improved. South branch of Bear creek has its source on section 2, and flowing northward leaves the town by way of the same section. Camp creek enters the town from the east and flows across the center of the town to empty into the Kickapoo. These streams have many spring tributaries, some small, while others are of considerable size, which abundantly water territory more remote from the larger streams. Upon the higher and more uneven lands the soil is made up of a clayey loam; the original soil of black loam having by the action of the elements been largely washed into the valleys.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement in this town was made in April, 1854, by Daniel and William Bender,

two brothers who came together from Pennsylvania. Daniel entered 160 acres of land on section 32, where the first house in the town was erected and where he still lives. William entered 160 acres of land on section 29, where he still lives.

In the following June (1854) the Bender brothers were joined by Laal Cliff, who entered forty acres on section 7, where he still lives; and William Cliff, who selected eighty acres on section 8. William now resides in Minnesota. The Cliffs were natives of Vermont.

Jeremiah D. Black came during the same year and entered eighty acres on section 15. He is now dead.

On the 17th of September, 1854, quite a party of pioneers arrived, consisting of Cyrus D. Turner, Salma Rogers, Hartwell L. Turner, William Turner, J. L. Jackson and John Fuller. Cyrus Turner entered 320 acres of land on sections 18 and 19. He is now dead. Mr. Rogers selected the forty acres of land on section 19 which he still occupies. H. L. Turner entered 320 acres on section 19, but now resides just over the line in Vernon county. William Turner entered forty acres on section 18. J. L. Jackson entered land in the town of Liberty, Vernon county. John Fuller remained only a short time and then went to California, where he died.

John H. Crandall, a Baptist preacher, came here from Indiana in 1854, and entered 320 acres of land on sections 19 and 30. He lived here a few years, then removed to the town of Eagle. He is now dead.

E. P. Fay came in 1854 and entered land on section 18. He settled there in 1855. He is now dead.

Jacob Bennett came here in 1854, and the year following located on section 7. He is dead.

George Fruit and James Guthrie came at an early day and located on section 12, where they still live.

Levi Knable also came in 1854, and entered land on section 30, where he now resides.

David Johns came in October, 1854, and entered eighty acres of land on section 30.

He was followed the same year by J. K., II. W. and J. W. Ambrose. J. K. entered 120 acres of land on section 34, where he now resides. II. W. entered 120 acres on section 28, where he still lives. J. W. selected 120 acres on section 34, where he died in 1881.

J. P. Neher came in 1854 and entered eighty acres on section 34. He now resides in California.

Jeremiah Clark came in 1854 and entered 160 acres of land on section 26, where he still lives.

R. J. Darnell was also one of the settlers of 1854. He bought a farm of eighty acres on section 36. He removed to Kansas from here, but now lives in Illinois.

Levi Gochenour came in 1854 and entered 160 acres of land on section 27. He remained there until the time of his death, in 1861. His widow still lives there.

In 1855 George Croninger, Andrew Carpenter, John Booher, Isaac Phifer, James Rockwell and Mr. Todd all came. Mr. Croninger bought land on sections 8 and 17, erecting a house on the former section, where he still lives. Mr. Carpenter settled on the southeast quarter of section 10. John Booher located on section 11. Mr. Rockwell located on section 10. He is now dead. His son, H. L., who came with him, now lives on section 3. Mr. Phifer settled on section 11. He now lives in Iowa.

Alfred Loveless, a native of the State of New York, came here in 1856 and bought forty acres of land on section 18, where he lived until the time of his death. He was a prominent man in the county and held many positions of trust and responsibility. His son, J. A. Loveless, still occupies the old homestead.

#### VARIOUS MATTERS.

The first house within the present limits of the town of Forest was erected in May, 1854, by William and Daniel Bender, upon the farm that Daniel Bender now owns.

The first marriage in the town was that of George Croninger to Nancy Smart in 1855. The ceremony was performed by Oliver Guess, justice of the peace.

The first birth in the town was that of Viola M. Mack, a daughter of William and Julia Mack, born in May, 1856.

The first sermon in the town was preached by Rev. J. P. Neher, in 1855, at the residence of Cyrus D. Turner.

The first school in the town was taught in 1855 at the residence of Cyrus D. Turner by Helen Jackson.

The first school house in the town was erected at the village of Viola in 1856.

The first death in the town was that of Mrs. Margaret Bender, wife of Daniel Bender, who died in 1854.

The first saw mill in the town was erected by S. Rogers and Adam Shambaugh, on section 2 in 1857-8.

The first grist mill in the town was erected by Adam Shambaugh in 1860 on section 2.

The first bridge in the town was constructed by S. Rogers and H. L. Turner in 1855. It spanned the Kickapoo river, being 150 feet long, the covering being of poles. It was built by contribution, not a cent changing hands because of its erection.

The first road was laid out in 1854 by R. J. Darnell. It passes through sections 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36.



The first church edifice in the town was erected on the northeastern part of section 11, by the United Brethren denomination. This was prior to the breaking out of the war.

The first male child born in the town was Jasper, a son of Andrew and Lucy Hull. The birth occurred on the present site of Viola, Oct. 4, 1856. Jasper is still a resident of the village.

There is a Free Will Baptist church on Goose creek, which is of hewn logs and a substantial building.

The Baptists have a church building on section 22.

#### POSTOFFICES.

Bear postoffice was established at an early day with Adam Shambaugh as postmaster.

Forest postoffice was established in 1855. R. J. Darnell was the first postmaster. A few years later Jeremiah Clark was appointed postmaster and the office was moved to section 26. The office has been moved several times since.

#### SAW MILL.

In the fall of 1883 Blakely Sons & Rogers put up a steam saw-mill on section 4. A twenty-eight horse power steam engine was put in, and the mill was equipped with a circular saw. It does custom work.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Forest was first organized in April, 1855. For some time the town embraced congressional townships 11 and 12, range 2 west. In 1856 the town of Sylvan was created, embracing township 11, range 2 west, leaving the boundaries of the town of Forest as they are to-day. The first town officers of Forest were as follows: Supervisors, Jesse Harness, chairman, J. V. Bennett and William Mathews; H. L. Turner, clerk; Andrew Carpenter, treasurer; Levi Kuable, assessor.

The following is a list of the officers elected in April, 1883: Supervisors, J. A. Loveless, chairman, J. H. Shroader, J. M. Clark; Jonathan Turner, clerk; J. S. Kanable, treasurer;

J. W. Sellars, assessor; R. H. De Lap, and H. L. Rockwell, justices.

#### THE VILLAGE OF VIOLA.

The village of Viola was laid out in the summer of 1855, by Cyrus D. Turner and his brother Hartwell. The name was suggested by H. L. Turner, in honor of Viola Buck, who had been the teacher of the Turner boys in New York State.

The first house upon the site was erected by Cyrus D. Turner. He also opened the first store in 1854.

The first wagon maker was John Cummings, who located here in 1866.

The first shoemaker was John Gribble, who came here in 1861.

The first saw mill was erected in 1856 by H. L. Turner. It stood just across the line in Vernon county.

The first grist-mill was erected in 1857 by the same person. It contained one run of buhrs.

The first school was taught in 1855 by Miss Helen Jackson.

The first sermon was preached by Rev. Jacob Neher at the residence of Cyrus D. Turner in 1855.

The first child born was Viola May Mack, a daughter William H. and Julia Mack, born in May, 1856. Cyrus D. Turner gave the child a village lot for the privilege of naming her, and bestowed the name of Viola May, in honor of the village and month in which the birth occurred.

The first physician here was Dr. DeLap, who is still a resident.

The first hotel in the village was erected and opened by A. H. Hull in 1856.

In 1883 the village was doing a thriving business and had excellent prospects for the future. The following is a business directory of the village:

General merchandise, Burgor & Mathews, W. J. Waggoner, Cushman & Sons and G. H. Tate. Drugs, Burgor & Mathews.

Hardware, G. H. Tate and W. J. Waggoner.

Furniture, Jones & Gorsuch.

Blacksmith and wagon shops, A. W. Guess, Cleophas Pepeon and B. Osterout.

Grist-mills, Cushman & Sons and W. J. Waggoner.

Saw-mills, Cushman & Sons and Benjamin W. Lawton.

Physicians, Drs. R. H. De Lap and Joseph Goyer.

Veterinary Surgeon—N. D. Ward.

The village has organizations of the following societies : G. A. R., I. O. G. T. and I. O. O. F.

In the spring of 1883 a cheese factory was established at Viola by Peter Young, furnished with all the necessary apparatus for producing a first class article. The enterprise has been very successful. The productions are marketed mostly at Viroqua and LaCrosse.

The Viola postoffice was established in 1858, with Cyrus D. Turner as postmaster. He was succeeded by G. H. Tate, and then came W. J. Waggoner, the present postmaster. There are mail routes from here to Norwalk, Richland Center, Readstown and Viroqua. Those to Richland Center and Norwalk are tri-weekly; while those to Viroqua and Readstown are weekly.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized on the 23d of July, 1870, with the following as its officers and charter members : John Gribble, P. S.; J. A. Cummings, R. S.; Jonathan Turner, T.; Salma Rodgers, V. G.; Harley Trobridge, N. G. In 1883 the society had a membership of forty-two. The officers in the fall of 1883 were: L. R. Gribble, N. G.; M. A. Gill, R. S.; N. D. Ward, P. S.; W. J. Waggoner, T.; B. Robbitt, R. S. N. G.; William Clark, L. S. N. G.; C. W. Shultz, W.; R. H. De Lap, C.; G. W. Wilson, R. S. S.; G. Harris, L. S. S.; E. B. Waggoner, O. G.; J. Stonebrook, J. G.; R. H. Buchanan, R. V. G.; Peter Phippen, L. S. V. G. Trustees, Dr. R. H. De Lap and James Dowell.

The present Good Templars Lodge was organized Jan. 12, 1872. The following were the first officers and charter members: John A. Cummings, W. C. T.; Mrs. Lucy A. Tate, V. T.; Norman H. Stiles, chaplain; Perlle V. Bess, secretary; Dr. R. H. De Lap, M.; Civilian West, O. G.; Mrs. S. K. De Lap, P. W. C. T. The organization now has a membership of thirty.

JERRY TURNER POST NO. 85.

A post of the Grand Army of the Republic was instituted at Viola, May 23, 1883, by mustering officer A. P. Clayton, assisted by comrades Charles Pearce, Irvin Gribble, J. W. Liek and H. Allen, of Richland Center. The post was named in honor of one of Richland county's gallant soldiers who was killed in battle, Capt. J. J. Turner, of company H, 5th Wisconsin Infantry regiment, who fell while leading his men at the storming of Mary's Heights, at the battle of Fredericksburg, May 3, 1863. The following is a complete roster of the organization, which starts under very favorable auspices and a large membership :

Officers.—Commander, Salma Rogers; Senior Vice Commander, D. B. Summers; Junior Vice Commander, J. L. Simmons; Adjutant, M. V. B. Richards; Surgeon, Dr. R. H. DeLap; Chaplain, J. B. Snow; Quartermaster, W. J. Waggoner; Officer of the Day, E. B. Waggoner; Officer of the Guard, Jacob Benn; Sergeant Major, J. M. Clark; Quartermaster Sergeant, J. M. Saubert.

Charter members.—R. H. DeLap, Salma Rogers, W. J. Waggoner, J. B. Snow, D. B. Summers, M. V. B. Richards, Adam Barton, Joseph Goyer, S. D. Wiltrout, Jacob Benn, J. M. Clark, T. D. Risin, David Austin, J. M. Saubert, Thomas Morris, A. A. Wiltrout, E. C. Gill, E. B. Waggoner, G. W. Wise, James Morrow, Peter Fazel, Alonzo Clark, T. M. McCullough, J. L. Simmons, I. G. B. Ott, L. S. Kellogg, A. E. Clark, J. S. Kanable, J. R. Campbell and L. C. Gates.

In 1883 and 1884 the post erected a building at Viola, at a cost of about \$1,500. It is two stories in height, and about 24x48 feet in size. The upper story has been arranged as a lodge room, and the lower will be occupied with a store. Salma Rogers was the builder.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Viola, was organized in 1856, by Rev. James S. Lake, in the school house. Services were held in the school house until 1876, when the society erected a church building 26x36 feet in size, at a cost of \$600. The Church now has a membership of about forty. The officers of the Church in 1883 were: Pastor, Rev. Wooley; trustees, Dr. R. H. DeLap, R. A. Tubbs and Joseph Goyer.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

The following biographical sketches are of the representative citizens of this town:

Albert W. Guess, proprietor of the Viola House, Viola, Wis., was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, March 29, 1849. When five years of age, his parents, Oliver and Henrietta (Adams) Guess, removed to Wisconsin, and became pioneer settlers in Sylvan town. Albert W. passed his early life in Richland county, assisting his father on the farm and in the latter's mill, and attending the district school during the winter seasons. When seventeen years of age, he went to Richland Center, and served an apprenticeship of two years at the blacksmith trade. The two years following, he traveled in Minnesota and Iowa, working at his trade at various points in those States. Returning home, he erected a blacksmith shop on his father's farm, and there worked at his trade until the fall of 1869. He then came to Viola, and in the spring of 1870 rented a shop, and, in connection with his trade, engaged in the manufacture of wagons, buggies and cutters. In July of the same year he purchased the buildings, and the land on which they were located, which comprised lot 3, of block 1, Hull's addition to Viola. In 1881 he erected a large and substantial frame building which he opened as a hotel. He carried on the

blacksmith and wagon trade until 1882, since which time he has devoted his time to the patrons of the Viola House. This hotel is conveniently arranged, neatly furnished, and enjoys a fair patronage from the best class of travelers. Mr. Guess was married May 12, 1870, to Mary E., daughter of Isaac and Savilla Phifer, and a native of Indiana. They are the parents of three children—Georgie, Harry and an infant.

William Bender, who, with his brother, was the first permanent settler in the town of Forest, was born in Somerset Co., Penn. in 1824. He received a common school education, and at the age of thirty emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in Richland county, town of Forest, section 20. He and his brother, Daniel, built the first building in the town, which was a log house of small dimensions, and constituted the dwelling place for both families. Mr. Bender entered a farm of eighty acres, on section 20, where he now lives. He now owns 280 acres. He was married in 1848 to Mary Barnett, who was born in Somerset Co., Penn., in 1828. They have two children—Ephraim and Henry. The latter is now married to Rachel Taylor. Mr. Bender was a member of the 11th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted in 1865 and was discharged the same year. Mr. Bender's mother, Susan Bender, was born in 1795, and is now living in Forest. The family have experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life.

Daniel Bender, one of the pioneer settlers of the town of Forest, was born in the year 1813, in Somerset Co., Penn., where he resided until 1842. In that year he was married to Sarah Barnt, who died in 1851, leaving three children—Hiram, William and Sarah. Mr. Bender, believing it "not good for man to be alone," married again, in 1852, Elizabeth Wisner, who died in 1853, leaving one child—Mary J. His third wife was Margaret Reel. Her death occurred in May, 1851, and was the first death in the town of Forest. He was married to his present wife, Mary A. Fall, in 1855. Their union

has been blessed with five children, three of whom are now living—Samuel, John and Elizabeth. Hiram is now married to Minnie Wood. Sarah is the wife of John Morrow, and Mary J. of David Austin. Mr. Bender, on coming to Forest, entered 240 acres of land on sections 32 and 33, where he now lives. He now has 230 acres besides giving three of his children farms of eighty acres each. He has been chairman of the town board three years. He came from Adams Co., Ind., coming by team to Sturgis, Mich., then by rail to Vernon, Ill., thence by team to Muscoda, then crossed the river to Orion where he rented a house until he could build a log house on his land, and which was the first in the town. In about six weeks he moved into it, and commenced pioneer life. They lived here about four years then built a hewed log house and lived in it about three years; then built the commodious frame structure in which he now lives. Mr. Bender commenced pioneer life under difficulties. His wife died soon after his arrival, and he had considerable sickness in the family. He persevered, however. He could not get away, so went to work and has lived to see the county settled and developed. Mr. Bender adheres to the principles of the republican party, and votes with that organization. Mrs. Bender is a member of the United Brethren Church.

Salma Rogers, a pioneer settler in the town of Forest, was born in Wyoming Co., N. Y., in 1825, where his younger days were spent. He obtained his education in the common school, and in his youth, learned the joiner's trade. In 1854, he, in company with Cyrus D. and Hartwell S. Turner, emigrated to the town of Forest. He entered forty acres of land on section 19, where he now lives. His place now contains 165 acres. Mr. Rogers was united in marriage in 1847 with Mary J. Turner, who died Jan. 26, 1848, leaving one child—Mary A., now the wife of George Bews. They reside at the Black Hills, Dak. Mr. Rogers again married, in 1849, Harriet M. Brownell, who was born in Monroe

Co., N. Y., in 1828. Four children have been born to them—Frank E., Calvin N., Lilly B. and Orla A. The latter died Nov. 3, 1879. Frank E. is married to Bell Moody. They have one child—Nellie. Calvin married Elizabeth Syverson. They have one child—Homer. Mr. Rogers enlisted in 1861 in the 12th Wisconsin Infantry, company I, and was commissioned 2d lieutenant July 30, 1863. He held the office of town treasurer in 1865-6, and has been justice of the peace three years. He is now engaged in contracting, building and millwrighting.

Adam A. Wiltrout was born in Somerset Co., Penn., in 1840, where he lived until 1847, when his parents moved to Clinton Co., Ind. His mother died there the next spring, at which place he remained until 1854, when the family emigrated again to Richland Co., Wis., and were among the first settlers in the town of Bloom. His father lives in Green Co., Iowa, and Adam now resides in the town of Forest, and owns forty acres of land on section 16. He was married to Mercy E. Clark, of Allamakee Co., Iowa, July 4, 1871, by Ira B. Brunson, of Prairie du Chien, Wis. They have five children—Rosa R., James G., Charles W., Bertha B. and Iola R. Mr. Wiltrout enlisted in 1861 in the 14th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, company K; was promoted to corporal the 1st day of July, 1865. He participated in the following battles: Shiloh, April 7, 1862; Iuka, Sept. 19, 1862; Corinth, Oct. 3, 1862; siege of Vicksburg, 1863; Big Shanty, June 10, 1864; Baker's Ridge, to the left of Kenesaw mountain, June 17, 1864; near Atlanta, July 22, 1864; Ezra Church, July 28, 1864; Jonesboro, Aug. 30, 1864; Lovejoy station, Sept. 2, 1864; siege of Savannah, in December, 1864; Sherman's march through the Carolinas; battle at Fort Pocataligo, Salkehatchie swamp, Orangeburg, Columbia, Cheraw, battle at Mill Creek Bend and other skirmishes. From 1871 to 1875 he was a resident of Allamakee Co., Iowa; removed to Victory, Vernon Co., Wis., in 1875; removed from Victory to

Richland county; is officer of the day in Jerry Turner Post, No. 85, department of Wisconsin.

Isaac R. Lawton was born in 1829 in Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., where he lived until 1845, when he moved to Waukesha Co., Wis., and remained two years, then to Jefferson county where he lived until 1850. He then went to northern Minnesota and worked in the pineries of that region about four years, then removed to Vernon county where he remained one year. He came from there to the town of Forest, and entered 200 acres of land on section 6. He now owns 160 acres. Mr. Lawton was married Sept. 25, 1855, to Malissa Southworth, who was born in 1831, in Cattaraugus Co., N. Y. They have three children—Wallace A., James W. and May. Wallace is now married to Lizzie Reed and they have two children. James married Sarah Saubert. Mr. Lawton was a member of the 46th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving as corporal of company H. He enlisted in 1865 and was discharged the same year.

Jonathan Turner was born in Erie Co., N. Y., and resided in the western portion of the State until 1860. He received an academic education and engaged in teaching school and merchandising in his native State until he moved to Forest, Richland Co., Wis., and purchased forty acres of land in the town of Liberty, Vernon county. He now owns thirty acres of land in Liberty, also a house and an acre of land in the village of Viola. Mr. Turner has been engaged in farming most of the time since coming to Forest. He was married to Phebe Welker, daughter of John and Catharine Welker. They have two children—Una E. and Nora H., both living with their parents. Mr. Turner was a member of the 46th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry having enlisted in 1865 and was discharged the same year. Mr. Turner was chairman of the board of supervisors of the town of Forest for two years and clerk seventeen years. His mother, Lany Turner, was born in 1786, in Herkimer Co., N. Y., and came to Forest in 1860. She died in

Dane county at the advanced age of ninety-three years.

R. A. Tubbs, one of Forest's prominent farmers, was born in Oneida Co., N. Y., in 1816, where he grew to manhood and obtained a common school education, which he has greatly increased by industry and perseverance. In 1837 he moved to Kane Co., Ill., where he engaged in farming and blacksmithing twenty years. He then went to Jefferson Co., Wis., and followed the business of manufacturing wagons six years. He next removed to Richland county and settled in the town of Forest, where he purchased eighty acres of land on section 6, which he has since increased to 160 acres. Mr. Tubbs was married in 1840, in Oneida Co., N. Y., to Rachel Force, who was born in 1815. They are the parents of four children—Mercena M., Mary E., Richard A. and Clara. Mary is now the widow of J. F. Kelly, living at Decorah, Iowa. Mercena is the wife of W. P. Cliff. Richard is married to Mary A. Slayback, and Clara to W. H. Tenney. Mr. Tubbs has been town treasurer four years, a member of the town board four years, and justice of the peace seven years. During his residence in Illinois he held the position of town clerk and other local offices.

William J. Waggoner became a resident of Viola, Richland Co., Wis., in October, 1875. He was born in Springfield, Jefferson Co., Ohio, Oct 7, 1839. He is the oldest of four living brothers. His parents removed to Richland Center on July 2, 1854, being the eighth family to locate at that place. He mowed the first path through the hazel brush from the old hotel, east of what is now Bailey's corner, on the principal business street of the little city; and later, a path on the same street up to what has so long been the home of the Waggoner family. He grew up and remained a citizen of that town until 1875, when, with his wife, Alice, daughter of Capt. H. L. Turner, of Viola, and their son, George, and daughters, Lillie and Rosa, he removed to Viola, as before stated,

and engaged in farming, milling and merchandising. While in Richland Center, he was for eighteen months one of the proprietors and editors of the Richland County *Observer*. Buying a one-third interest in the paper, he entered the office, laid off his hat and coat, and in eight months was editor, foreman and pressman of the establishment. He served as town clerk in 1864, and district school clerk in 1874-5; also as county superintendent of schools from 1872 to 1875. He was town clerk of Forest in 1876, and elected justice of the peace in 1880. His wife dying that fall, adding sorrow to his already manifold cares, he felt constrained to resign this expression of confidence and respect. Being of a studious nature, he became an expert mathematician, excelled by few, if any, as a ready and correct accountant. He commenced teaching school at the age of seventeen, and during the succeeding eight years was engaged in teaching, studying and attending school, thereby gaining a thoroughly practical business education and a well disciplined, active business mind. He has been engaged in the mercantile business during his residence in Viola, and four years ago added to his business the Forest grist mills. He is a lover of agriculture, and his horses, Durham cattle and sheep are not excelled in the county. Mr. Waggoner was married to Mrs. M. E. Scott, of Richmond, Ohio, in 1883. He has held the office of village postmaster since February, 1876.

Cleophus Pepin was born in Canada East in 1841, and emigrated to the United States in 1857. He first settled at Chain of Rocks, Mo., where he remained until 1861, when he enlisted in the State militia, and was discharged in 1864. He returned home and resumed his former occupation, which was that of blacksmithing. He remained one year, then started on a trip,

going from place to place, working at his trade, finally coming to Viola in 1878, where he has since remained, still employed at his trade. Mr. Pepin was married in 1880 to Catharine Short. They have three children—Ada M., Clara and Cleophus. Mr. Pepin owns a house and lot and his shop in the village of Viola.

Amadens Muhler, Jr., was born in Beaver Co., Penn., in 1850, where he resided one year. His parents then moved to Grant Co., Wis. In 1879 he and his brother, John G., purchased ten acres of land and a flouring mill in the town of Forest, on section 2, at a cost of \$800, which property they have greatly improved, having now two run of buhrs and a capacity of 100 bushels per day. Mr. Muhler was a single man until his marriage in 1880 with Mrs. Sarge.

His brother, George Muhler, was born in Grant Co., Wis., in 1854, where he remained until 1879, then came with his brother Amadens to the town of Forest, and with him purchased their mill property. They are the sons of Amadens G. Muhler, Sr., who lives in Grant Co., Wis. In addition to their flouring mill, they are the owners of a saw-mill, which has a capacity of 3,000 feet per day. They are now doing a thriving business.

Isaac G. B. Ott was born in Clay Co., Ind., in 1835, and lived there till 1848, when he moved to Vermillion county, of the same State. He lived there till 1881, then came to Richland county, town of Forest, and purchased 160 acres of land on section 26, where he now lives. Mr. Ott was a member of the 43d regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry; he enlisted in 1861, and was discharged in 1862 on account of disability. He took part in the battles of New Madrid and Pilot Grove. He was married in 1869 to Jane Strain, of Vermillion Co., Ind.

## CHAPTER XXV.

## TOWN OF HENRIETTA.

Henrietta is one of the northern tier of Richland county's subdivisions, and embraces congressional township 12 north, range 1 east. It is bounded on the north by Vernon county; on the east by the town of Westford; on the south by Rockbridge; and on the west by Bloom. The surface of the town is well watered by Pine river and its tributaries, of which the principal is Melanethon creek. There are many fine farms in the town. The inhabitants as a class are intelligent and enterprising and are making permanent improvements. A large number of the farmers in the town devote a great share of their time and energy to raising stock—improved stock, both horned cattle and sheep receiving much attention. The population of the town is mixed, including American English, Bohemian and Irish. The greater part of Melanethon creek valley is settled by people of the latter named nationality.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first permanent settlement in the town of Henrietta was made in 1853 by William Garfield, a native of Vermont, who came here from Waukesha, in March, of that year, and entered the north half of the northwest quarter of section 35. He lived here until the time of his death.

Later in the same year Alexander Sires and two sons, William and Alexander, came from Indiana. They settled on the southwest quarter of section 32. Mr. Sires laid out the village of Siresville. He died here in 1869.

William Joslyn, a native of Michigan, came here in 1853, and lived for about one year on section 27, where he was engaged in making shingles. In 1854 he entered land on the southeast quarter of section 7, and remained there until elected sheriff of the county in 1859, when he moved to Richland Center. In 1861 he returned to his farm and remained until 1868, when he removed to the town of Richland.

Jonas Lockwood, a native of Vermont, came in the fall of 1853 and settled on section 27, where he lived until the time of his death.

Carlos Joslyn, a native of Vermont, came in 1854 and located on section 7. He now lives with his son-in-law, Latimore Renick.

Henry Simpson, a native of England, came in 1854 and entered land on section 36. He erected a house, cleared a farm and made this his home until the time of his death in 1862. His widow married again and now lives in Sauk county. His son Joseph still occupies the old homestead.

R. M. De Lap came from Illinois in 1854 and settled near Siresville. He remained there about two years when his cabin burned and he removed to Grant county. When the war broke out he enlisted and died in the service.

Quinton Nicks, a Tennessean, came from Illinois in 1853, and settled on section 31. He was a half owner in the village plat of Woodstock. He has always been engaged in farming and still lives adjoining the village.

Demas Wherry, a native of Pennsylvania, came here in 1851 and entered land on section

31. After entering his land he returned to Indiana where he remained until the fall of 1854, when he came and settled. He now lives on section 32.

William Collins, a native of Indiana, came from California in 1854 and entered land on sections 8, 17, 18 and 28. He built a log house on section 17 and during the summer kept bachelor's hall. In the fall of that year he married and settled on section 28, where he lived until the spring of 1855, when he sold out and returned to section 17. In 1856 he removed to Orion, and when the war broke out he enlisted and died in the service. His widow still lives in the county.

A. J. Slater, a native of New York, came here in 1854 and entered land on section 18. In 1857 he sold to Perry Brown and after living in different portions of the town for some time he removed to Minnesota.

Jabez Smith came from Illinois in 1854 and settled on section 26, where he improved a farm. In 1860 he removed to Green county.

Edward Pinick came here from the town of Marshall in 1854 and settled on section 6, where he laid out the village of Yuba. In 1869 he sold out and removed to Pottawatomie Co., Kan., where he still lives.

Heman B. Miller in 1854 came from Ohio, and settled on the northwest quarter of section 20. He made some improvement and lived here until 1869, when he sold out and removed to the town of Richland. He afterward went to Nebraska, but is now in Ohio.

Amos Carpenter, a native of New York, came in 1854 and made his home with A. J. Slater. He was a physician, the first to locate in the town. In 1856 he removed to Vernon county, where he still lives.

James Ghormley, a native of Indiana, came in 1854 and settled on section 34. He erected a flour and saw mill and lived here until 1882, when he sold out and returned to Indiana, where he died a few months later.

Michael Ghormley, a native of Indiana, and father of James, came at the same time and entered land on section 26, where he cleared a farm and lived for several years. He owned an interest in the mills in company with his son. He died in 1878.

Andrew Hughert came from Indiana in 1854 and settled on the southeast quarter of section 26. He lived there until 1873, when he removed to Richland Center, where he died.

In 1854 Milton Satterlee came from Illinois. He is now a resident of Woodstock. Mr. Satterlee has been quite a prominent man in the history of this town, holding many positions of trust, among which are clerk of the circuit court and register of deeds.

George Norman, a native of England, came from Jefferson county, in 1855, and located on section 20. He now resides on section 17. Four of his sons are well-to-do farmers in the town.

Henry Bristol came from Ohio in 1855 and settled on section 17. Two or three years later he sold out and went to Richland Center. His son, Samuel, located on section 18, where he lived a short time, then sold and moved away.

James Williams, from Ohio, came in 1855 and located on section 8. When the war broke out he enlisted, and contracted disease in the service from the effects of which he died at home shortly after his discharge. The family removed to Kansas.

A Mr. Rigby came in 1855 and located on the northeast quarter of section 6. He lived there a short time, when he sold out and moved away.

In the fall of 1855 William Richardson, a native of Ohio, came and entered land on section 21. He settled on the land in the fall of 1858 and still makes this his home.

Carlisle Tillow, a native of Herkimer Co., N. Y., came in 1855 and settled on section 34, where he cleared a farm and lived until the time of his death in 1870.



Cornelius McCarthy, a native of Ireland, came to Richland county in 1852 and entered land near the present site of Richland Center. In 1855 he sold out and removed to Melanthon creek, entering land on section 23, in the town of Henrietta. In September, 1861, he enlisted in company D, 11th Wisconsin regiment and went to Arkansas. He was severely wounded in July, 1862, at the battle of Bayou Cache, and in the following September was discharged for disability and returned home. In 1864 he re-enlisted in company I, 42d Wisconsin regiment and served until the close of the war, after which he returned home. He died in September, 1879, leaving a widow and seven children. The widow and son, Cornelius J., still occupy the old homestead.

Jonathan Dillon, a native of Virginia, came from Ohio in 1855 and entered land on sections 5 and 8, where he still lives.

Starr Titus, a native of New York, came here at about the same time and selected land on section 15, where he lived until the time of his death in 1859. The family are scattered.

Among others who came in 1855 were: George Askins, a Mr. Robbins, Peter Ward and John Manning.

George Askins settled upon the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 15. He was an old bachelor, and lived almost the life of a hermit until the time of his death in 1872.

Mr. Robbins located on section 21. He lived there but a few years; then sold out and left.

Peter Ward was a native of the Emerald Isle, and made his selection of land on section 26. When the war broke out he enlisted and died while in the service. His family removed to Green county.

John Manning was also an Irishman. He settled on section 10, where he cleared a farm and remained four or five years, then removed to Iowa county.

Jarvis Shipman came in 1856 and settled on section 6. He lived here a number of years, then removed to Trempeleau county.

Simon Harris, a native of Ohio, came in 1856 and settled on section 8, where he improved a farm. When the war broke out he enlisted in the 2d Cavalry; but after some time he contracted disease and was discharged for disability. He again enlisted and served until the close of the war. He afterward lost one eye, from the effects of disease contracted. In 1878 he sold his place and removed to Thayer Co., Neb.

Thomas Kinney, a native of Nova Scotia, came here in 1856 and located on section 22. He improved a farm and remained here about ten years, when he removed to Richland Center, where he has since died.

Others, who came in 1856 were: Charles Shields, Bronson Greaves, John Slaney, John Kennedy, Michael Doyle, John Whalen, John Welsh and James Kelly.

Charles Shields was a native of Ireland. He located on section 15, where he still lives.

Bronson Greaves was a native of the State of New York. He came here from Rockbridge and settled on section 17, where he lived until the time of his death. His family still occupy the old homestead.

John Slaney was a native of Ireland. He located on section 23, where he lived until the time of his death. His death was caused by an accident, a tree falling upon him while he was at work in the woods. The family still occupy the old homestead.

John Kennedy and his son, James, were natives of Ireland. The father located on section 22. He is dead, and the son now occupies the place.

Michael Doyle located on section 3. He remained but a few years, then removed to Chicago.

John Whalen settled on section 22, where some of the family still live.

John Welsh, was a native of Ireland and settled on section 23. He now lives in the town of Westford.

James Kelly was also a native of the Emerald Isle. He settled on section 10, where he still lives.

Among others who should be mentioned as early settlers of Henrietta are the following: Perry Brown, O. S. Welton, Henry Travers and Stephen McWilliams.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first school in district No. 3 was taught in 1854 in a log house on section 34 by Eliza A. Garfield, now the wife of Demas Wherry. The next school was taught by Daniel Garfield in a house belonging to Thomas Gillham, on section 27. In 1858 a frame school house was erected on the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 35, in which Eliza Garfield was the first teacher. She finished a term here which had been commenced in a private house.

The first school house in district No. 4 was erected of logs, in 1857, on the northeast corner of section 22. Caroline Kinney, now the wife O. S. Welton, was the first teacher in this house. In 1875 a frame building was erected near the center of section 15, in which Thomas Conway taught the first term of school.

The first school house in district No. 5 was erected in 1856 on the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 7. The neighbors turned out and made a "building bee" of the affair. They drew the logs, split puncheons for the floor and covered the building with shakes. Ann Andrews was the first teacher in this house. In 1865 a frame house was erected on the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 7, in which Emma Eastland taught the first school. Mattie Spyker is the present teacher.

School district No. 6 was organized in 1855. The first school house was erected in the fall of 1856. It was a log building with a dirt and stick chimney on the outside, and a fire place within.

Marion Kinney, now the wife of H. T. Hamilton, was the first teacher, holding a term in the spring of 1856. The old school house was in use until 1861, when a frame building was erected on section 20. Mattie Akan taught the first, and George Holsey the second school in this house. The district is preparing to erect a new school building in 1884.

Union school district at Woodstock. The first school in this district was taught by Demas Wherry, in 1855, in a small log house which had been erected for the purpose. The first school within the present village of Woodstock was taught by Julia Satterlee. In the fall of 1859 a petition was circulated by James M. Callaway, Thomas C. Clark and Milton Satterlee, which was presented to the Legislature, asking that the Woodstock district and a part of the town of Bloom be organized as the Woodstock Union district. The prayer was granted and the organization of the new district effected. A commodious frame building was erected, which was used until 1883. In 1882 a new and larger building was commenced which was completed during the succeeding year. It is a frame building, vaneered with brick, two stories in height and 30x40 feet in size. The building is a credit to the village and one of which they may well be proud.

#### RELIGIOUS.

In early days religious services were held in a building erected by Bronson Greaves for a grist mill. Rev. George W. Turner, a Second Adventist, was the first preacher.

In December, 1865, a society of this denomination was organized in the Norman school district, by Elder J. R. Preston. There were four members—Bronson Greaves, Benjamin Judson, Lizzie Hughart and Mary Renick. Bronson Greaves was the first deacon. Since the organization, among those who have preached here are the following: Elders Hitchcock, Wilbur, Huff, Wilcox, White and Greaves. The society continued to flourish, and met regularly for worship at the school house in district No. 6.

Oswald Palmer is the present deacon. There is a Sunday school organization in connection with the Church, which meets during the summer seasons. Oswald Palmer is superintendent, and B. Judson secretary.

As early as 1857 a Methodist Episcopal organization was effected at the school house on section 20, under the management of Rev. Thomas Mason. The class took and has since borne the name of East Pine class. Levi Mick was the first class leader. The class is still in existence, having a membership of seventeen, and meets for worship at the school house in district No. 5. John Fowler is the present class leader, Rev. Snodgrass pastor, and John W. Fowler steward. Since organization the following named have filled the pulpit for this class: Revs. Brainard, Hawthorn, Timby, Thurston, Brake-man, Olmstead, Hodgson, McMillan, Sackett, Brothers, Bradley, Kilbourn, Medd, Bryan and Wheaton. The class belongs to the West Wisconsin conference.

A Sabbath-school was organized shortly after the class, with Levi Mick as the first superintendent. The school still meets regularly during the summer months. The following have acted as superintendents of the school: Levi Mick, John Fowler, T. F. Ayers, B. Fowler and Mary Ayers. Levi Mick is the present superintendent.

In the fall of 1881 Rev. D. C. Young, a preacher of the United Brethren denomination, held meetings at the school house in district No. 3. Since that time various preachers of this denomination have held services here. In December, 1883, Rev. Cosper, from Vernon county, organized a class with the following members: C. A. Robinson and wife and son Albert, Daniel Long and wife, Mrs. Matilda Cockroft and daughter Mary J., Mrs. John M. Garfield and Mrs. John Dixon. Daniel Long was selected class leader. Services are held once every two weeks at the school house in district No. 3.

A Dunkard, or German Baptist, society was organized in the vicinity of Woodstock in 1878. Revs. Myers and Forney were the first preachers. Meetings are now held once a month at the house of Joseph Turner on section 4, in the town of Rockbridge, and once each month in the town of Bloom. Rev. George Turner is the present pastor.

At an early day a Wesleyan Methodist class was organized at the school house of district No. 3. The following were among the first members: Michael Ghormley and wife, Jonas Lockwood and wife, Mrs. John M. Garfield, C. A. Robinson and wife and Martha Cockroft. Michael Ghormley was the first class leader. Among those who have filled the pulpit for the class are the following: Revs. Camaek, Mullinix, Good, Wood, McMillan, Ryman, Van Dressen, Holcomb, Mann, DeLap and Bunker.

The Universalist society. In 1875 B. F. Snook, the State missionary, came to Woodstock and delivered a course of five lectures in the M. E. church. These were the first meetings of this denomination in the village. Since that time Revs. Eberhart and Critchet have preached here. The society is small but prosperous. The following are among its members: Demas Wherry and family, H. T. Walser, J. A. Mecker and Dr. J. B. Hitchcock.

The Catholic Church. The first mass in the town was said by Father Sthale, in the fall of 1855, at the house of Cornelius McCarthy. For several years meetings were held in Mr. McCarthy's. In 1867 a church was built near the center of section 15. Among those who have held services since Father Sthale are: Fathers Montague, Bean, Bernard and Metzler. The present pastor is Father Herman Groose. There are thirty-five families who attend here.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Henrietta was organized on the 1st day of April, 1856, at a town meeting held at the house of Heman B. Miller, on section 17. The officers of the election were: Inspectors, Henry Bristol, chairman, William H. Joslyn

and Alexander Sires; Allen J. Slater, clerk. The first officers of the town were elected at this time. They were as follows: Supervisors, William H. Joslyn, chairman, Milton Satterlee and John M. Garfield; A. J. Slater, clerk; Henry Bristol, treasurer; Jabez Smith, assessor; Latimore Rennick, Henry Bristol, A. J. Smith and A. Sires, justices of the peace; A. J. Slater, superintendent of schools; Stephen Howard, A. Ryan and John M. Garfield, constables. At the first meeting it was declared that \$150 be raised to defray town expenses for the ensuing year, and \$75 for the support of the schools. It was also voted that hogs be allowed to run at large.

At the annual town election held in April, 1883, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: Supervisors, John Dunn, chairman, R. M. Stockwell and O. Palmer; H. H. Walser, clerk; J. T. Pratt, treasurer; Wensel Hynek, assessor; Thomas Borton, and E. Johnson, justices; John Slaney, G. W. Weeden and S. M. Ferguson, constables.

In 1876 a town hall was erected on the northeast quarter of section 20. It is a frame building and cost about \$400.

#### HENRIETTA POSTOFFICE.

Henrietta postoffice was established, in 1857, with Heman B. Miller as the first postmaster. The office was kept at the residence of the postmaster, on section 17, and was on a mail route from Richland Center, mail being received twice each week. Mr. Miller's successors were Bronson Greaves, Thomas Kinney, O. S. Welton and Daniel Priest. The latter is the present postmaster, and keeps the office at his house on section 20. Mail is now received three times each week.

#### MELANTHON CREEK POSTOFFICE.

Melanthon Creek postoffice was established, in 1856, with Cornelius McCarthy as postmaster. The office was kept at the residence of the postmaster, and mail was received once each week from Rockbridge. The postmaster's sons, Thomas G. and Patrick, carried the mail. Two

years after its establishment the office was discontinued at Mr. McCarthy's request.

#### MILL.

In 1856 Bronson Greaves erected a building for a flour mill, on the northeast quarter of section 17. However, he did not complete it, and during the war Herman Stoddard purchased the building, and put in machinery for carding wool and pulling and finishing cloth. In 1868 he sold to Daniel Priest, the present proprietor. The power is derived from East Pine river, which at this point furnished six feet head of water. Originally a timber dam was built, but this has been replaced by a substantial stone and earth dam.

#### VILLAGE OF WOODSTOCK.

The village of Woodstock is located on the southwest quarter of section 31. It is pleasantly situated and is surrounded by an excellent country. The merchants are mostly young men who are enterprising, and the village bids fair to become a prominent rival for the larger portion of the trade of the northern part of Richland county.

The village of Woodstock was laid out in 1855 by Quinton Nicks and Milton Satterlee. The surveyor was Joseph Irish.

The first merchant here was James Calloway, who opened a general merchandise store in 1855. Since that time a great many have been in trade here for a longer or shorter period.

In 1883 there were four stores, kept by J. E. Mason, A. W. Travers, Samuel Ferguson and a joint stock company, of which A. S. Neff is president, and Ella Dickerson secretary.

The first blacksmith shop in the village was started by Daniel Storms. He now runs a shop at Richland Center. There are now two blacksmith shops at Woodstock.

In 1864 L. B. Madden started a small tannery here for the purpose of tanning skins for the manufacture of gloves and mittens.

In 1857 Chambers & Wilson, from Lacon, Ill., erected a wash and dry house for the purpose of drying ginseng. They brought bacon and

flour from Chicago, which they traded for ginseng, getting it by the wagon loads, and for some time doing an extensive business.

In the vicinity of Woodstock there is good material for making brick. H. N. Holbrook put up and burned the first kiln of brick.

The first death in Woodstock was an infant child of Dr. Byers, who located here in the fall of 1856, and remained during the following winter.

The second death was that of Elisha Satterlee, aged seventy-three years. He was living with his son Ossian at the time.

The postoffice was established at Siresville in 1854, under that name. Milton Satterlee was the first postmaster. In 1855 it was removed to the southwest quarter of section 31, and the name changed to Woodstock; Mr. Satterlee being re-appointed postmaster. At the present time Mrs. J. E. Mason is postmistress, her husband as deputy having charge of the office. Mail is received daily, the office being on the route from West Lima to Richland Center.

The Woodstock mills were built in 1857 by Stephenson & Calloway. The power was derived from the west branch of Pine river, a log dam being constructed. The mill stood upon the south bank of the stream. A Mulley saw was put in and common lumber was manufactured. In 1857 the firm erected a grist mill, near the saw mill, putting up a two story building 20x50 feet in size, and equipping it with one run of stone. The mill commenced operations in 1858. In 1859 John Meeker purchased Mr. Calloway's interest in the property. In 1864 Mr. Stephenson sold his interest to James Jones, who a short time afterward sold to Moses Meeker. In 1878 John A. Meeker purchased Moses' interest. At the present time the proprietors are Moses Meeker and his son R. D. Meeker. The saw-mill continued in operation until 1878. The old log dam was replaced by a frame one, which in turn has been superseded by a stone dam. Eight feet head of water is secured at

this point, and it is never failing. The mill does custom work.

In 1869 Henry T. Walser erected a grist-mill near Woodstock on the west branch of Pine river. The building is two stories high, 25x36 feet in size. A dam of stone was built which furnishes six feet head of water. The mill does custom work. It contains two run of stone, and all necessary machinery for the manufacture of first class flour.

The Methodist Church at Woodstock was organized in 1857 by Elder Brainard. The first members were Henry Travers and wife, James M. Calaway and wife, Alexander Sires, Sr., and wife, Thomas Mason and wife, Mrs. William Hook and William Sires and wife. Mr. Mason at that time was a local preacher and afterward joined the conference. James M. Calaway was the first class leader. Among those who have preached here since the organization of the class are the following: Elders Hawthorn, Brahman, McMillan, Sackett, Brothers, Bradley, Kilbourn, Mead, Bryant and Wheaton. A. S. Neff is the present class leader. The class has flourished and is now in good condition. In 1871 a neat church edifice was erected just east of the village, in which they now meet for worship.

A Disciple Church was organized here in 1856 by Elder Merrill, with about twenty members. Quinton Nicks and family were among the prominent workers in this Church.

#### THE VILLAGE OF YUBA.

This village is located on the southwest quarter of section 6. It was laid out in 1856 for Edward Pinick. Joseph Irish was the surveyor, and proposed the name of "Pinick," but "Yuba" was finally chosen. Mr. Pinick sold a number of lots but no business start was made until several years later.

The first business enterprise here was a saloon opened by Joseph Baranek in 1875.

The first store here was established by Burgess Fowler in August, 1880, in the same building that had been formerly occupied by the

saloon. In 1882 Mr. Fowler erected a building, 24x44 feet in size, two stories in height. The upper story is used as a tenement; and the lower is occupied by the general merchandise store.

The first blacksmith shop was opened by W. Wheden in 1881. H. A. Renick is the present blacksmith.

John Jewell started a general merchandise store in 1882.

E. E. and J. H. Potts erected a building in 1883, for the purpose of a hardware store.

In 1856 Edward Pinick erected a saw mill on section 6. The power was derived from Pine river, the water being carried to the mill by means of a race, half a mile in length, securing seven feet head of water. An old fashioned "up and down" saw was put in. Joseph Baranek bought this mill and ran it until 1879, when he erected a new mill a short distance below the old one. The new mill is furnished with a Mulley saw, and does custom work.

The Yuba flour mill was erected in 1882 by R. D. Meeker and Frank Baranek, on section 7. The power is derived from the east branch of Pine river. The race through which the water is carried to the mill is seventy rods long, and ten feet head of water is secured. The building is a frame, two and a half stories in height and 24x36 feet in size. The mill is furnished with two run of stone, two bolting chests and all necessary machinery for doing first class work. It does custom work and most of the time is run to its full capacity.

Yuba postoffice was established in 1857, with Edward Pinick as postmaster. The office was kept at the house of the postmaster on section 6. When Mr. Pinick moved away, John Fowler was appointed postmaster, and kept the office at his house on section 7. In 1880 he was succeeded by his son Burgess, who kept the office at his store in Yuba. The office is on the mail route from Rockbridge to Hillsboro, and mail is received three times each week.

#### VILLAGE OF HUB CITY.

During the summer of 1854 James Ghormley put up a saw-mill on section 34. He put up a frame building and threw a brush and dirt dam across Pine river. In 1855 he made an addition to the building and put in one run of buhrs for grinding corn and wheat, and a bolting machine for the manufacture of flour. In 1860 he erected a two story frame building, 20x40 feet in size, and put in one run of buhrs for making good flour. A few years later he added another run of stone, and about 1867 he put up a new saw-mill which he equipped with a circular saw. Mr. Ghormley ran the mills until 1876, when the property was purchased by Hon. George Krouskop. In the winter of 1881-2 he sold to T. G. Mandt, of Stoughton, Wis. The saw-mill has been enlarged and a planing mill added. A dry-house 60x200 feet in size has also been erected, and the enterprise has become one of the most important of Richland county's industries.

In 1882 a village was platted here under the name of Hub City. It now contains about twenty dwelling houses, aside from the numerous mill buildings.

A postoffice was established here in 1882 under the name of "Stalwart," but this has since been changed to "Hub City." The first postmistress was Mrs. Frank Pollard. Hiram Hernstein is the present postmaster. The office is on the mail route from Rockbridge to Hillsborough.

The first store in the village was started by T. G. Mandt in 1882.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL

Lattimore Renick was one of the earliest settlers of Richland county. He arrived in what is now the town of Orion, in a snow storm, on the 17th of October, 1848. That fall he commenced the building of a saw-mill on Ash creek, for William Thompson, and completed it in 1849. In 1852 we went to Richmond village, bought a piece of land and engaged in farming, and also worked at his trade, which was that of carpenter and joiner, re-

maining there until 1856 when he moved to Henrietta and purchased timber land on section 6 and immediately began to clear a farm. He broke his first two and a half acres with a hoe. He has since purchased adjoining land, and now has 120 acres on sections 6 and 7. He has built a commodious hewed log house with a frame addition, and has made it his home until the present time. Mr. Renick is a native of Kentucky, born in Barren county, Oct. 7, 1813. In his youth he was apprenticed to a cabinet maker to learn the trade. After serving three years he started on foot and alone for Louisville, arrived there and soon found friends and employment as carpenter, and being a good workman he was never out of work. He remained there till 1841, when he went to St. Louis, but stopped there only a few days and then made another move, this time toward the north, halting at Mineral Point where he worked for a time at his trade, and from thence to Madison, where he was employed to work on the territorial capitol, remaining there until 1844, when he returned to Mineral Point and was engaged to construct the fluted columns of the court house. In 1845 he went to work at mining at Mineral Point and continued in that employment until 1848, when he came to Richland county. He was married in 1845 to Lucy, daughter of Carlos and Mary (Bostwick) Joslyn. Eleven children have blessed this union, nine of whom are now living—Mary L., Henry, Margaret, James W., Francis A., Harry, George S., Addie and Susie. The oldest daughter, Mary, married Isaae N. Bingham, of this county. Emma married William F. Bingham, of this county. She died in October, 1880, leaving one child, Edith, who has since made her home with her grandparents. Margaret E. is the wife of John W. Fowler. Mr. Renick has an extensive acquaintance in different parts of the county, and is respected by all. He is a well read man and has a good recollection of past events. He has been prominent in town and county affairs, has been a member of the county board and has

filled nearly all the offices in the town in which he has lived, besides having served as an officer in the school district a great part of the time since its organization. He was also one of the first grand jurors of Richland county.

William Cratsenberg, one of the earliest settlers of Richland county, was born in Lewis county, town of Denmark, State of New York, in August, 1821. His father, Nicholas Cratsenberg, was a native of Montgomery county, York State, and one of the early settlers of Lewis county. The subject of this sketch was here brought up, receiving a liberal education in the public schools. When quite young he commenced to work in his father's tannery, learned that trade, and a few years later the trade of boot and shoe making. He was married in 1845 to Catharine Rich, also a native of Lewis county, where he purchased a farm of 100 acres, and engaged in dairying. In 1851 he sold out and started west to seek a home. He came on the lakes to Milwaukee, and then with one horse and a wagon started for Richland county, coming directly to the town now known as Ithaca, and entered land on Willow creek, on section 18, where he commenced building a log house. He harvested wheat on the shares and that same fall had to haul his grain to Iowa county to find a mill for grinding. The following spring moved into his new house, and raised his first crop of corn in 1852. In the fall of this year (1852) he went to mill at Black Earth, Dane county. The year following he sold this place and moved to Sextonville, where he purchased town property and engaged in the boot and shoe trade. Two years afterward he purchased the tavern well known as The Ark, conducting the same until 1858, then sold out and bought timber land on section 28, town of Henrietta; here he built a log house and stables and immediately commenced to clear a farm. In 1880 his stables were struck by lightning and destroyed, together with stock and farming utensils. The frame house in which he now lives was built in 1879. His first wife

died in February, 1849, leaving two children—Deett and Dowite. His second wife, to whom he was married April 10, 1851, was Louisa Burdick, a native of Lincoln, Chenango Co., N. Y., born June 15, 1827. By this union there were five children—Nicholas Leroy, Celinda E., James B., Adam A. J. and Eugene S. Mr. Cratsenberg assisted in the organization of the town of Ithaca, and proposed the name which it still bears.

Patrick H., son of Cornelius and Ellen (Galagher) McCarthy, pioneer settlers of Richland county, was born Dec. 5, 1845, in the province of Ontario, Canada. The next spring his parents removed to Milwaukee. When he was seven years of age, his parents removed to Richland county, locating in the town of Richland, where they remained until 1855, and then removed to the town of Henrietta, where the subject of this sketch grew to manhood, his time being employed in going to and teaching school and farming. In March, 1864, he enlisted in company D, 38th Wisconsin. His company formed a part of the Army of the Potomac and was immediately sent to the front, where it was engaged in many of the important battles from that time until the close of the war; including the charge of Petersburg, June 17 and 18, 1864, and the siege and capture of that city. He was discharged May 25, 1865, and returned home, where he engaged in teaching and farming. In 1867 he was united in marriage to Catharine Drea. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio. Nine children were born to them—Robert, Emmet, Catharine J., Cornelius E., Ellen L., William B., James F., John P., Francis A. and Mollie. In 1868 he purchased a tract of land on section 13, cleared up a farm and erected a nice lot of buildings, where he now makes his home. Mr. McCarthy has been quite prominent in town and county affairs. He has served as town clerk, chairman of the board and justice of the peace; the latter at the present time.

John A. Meeker, the present proprietor of the Woodstock flouring mill, is a native of Ohio, and was born in the city of Cincinnati June 21, 1823. When he was quite young his parents moved to Galena, Ill., where his father had received a land grant from the government and engaged in the business of smelting lead, and was the first person to establish an enterprise of that character at that point, which has since become an extensive and lucrative business. In 1834 his father moved to Wisconsin and located near Mineral Point, Iowa county. Here the subject of this sketch grew to manhood, making his home with his parents and assisting at the smelting works, until twenty-one years of age. At this time, 1851, desiring to make a start for himself, he concluded to leave the paternal roof and seek his fortune. Full of energy and enterprise he started for California, not as the trip is made in these latter days by methods of easy and comparatively safe transit, but by the tedious, dangerous journey across the plains with ox teams. This journey occupied 120 days, but at length he arrived at his destination and engaged in mining until 1853, when he returned home by way of Nicaragua. He then purchased prairie land and improved a farm which he sold in 1859. That same year he came to Woodstock and bought a one-half interest in the mill property which he now owns and has since made this his home, and milling has been his business except in 1863 when he went to Pike's Peak and remained until the fall of 1864. He has been twice married—to his first wife Matilda W. Stevens in 1848 who was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, and died in 1876, leaving three children—Robert D., Amy E. and Alice. His second wife was Amanda Biehl, born in Edwards Co., Ill. They have one child—Winifred W. Mr. Meeker's father's name was Moses, and he was born in Essex Co., N. J., in 1790. His parents were poor and he was obliged to work for himself and make his own fortune as best he might. When young he learned the potter's trade. He



was energetic and industrious, and devoted his leisure time to reading and study and afterward practiced medicine, and later engaged in the manufacture of white lead in Cincinnati. He was a leading Mason and assisted in the organization of the first lodge in the State of Wisconsin. He was a member of the territorial Legislature, and a delegate from Iowa county to the first constitutional convention in Wisconsin. He died in Lafayette county in 1865. Thus it may be seen the subject of this sketch is from a sturdy, energetic stock, and he retains those eminent characteristics to a marked degree. He is a man of generous impulses and pure motives, and has the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen, and can truly be classed among Richland county's best citizens.

William W. Garfield, deceased, the pioneer settler of Henrietta, was born in Windham Co., Vt., March 9, 1807, where his childhood and youth were spent. He was married April 1, 1830, to Fannie Willard, who was born in Weathersfield, Vt., April 16, 1804. Five children were born to them—William, John M., Eliza A., Addison and Caroline. They remained in Windham county until 1852, when they started for the west to seek a home. He left his family in Waukesha while he came to Richland county to select a location. He entered land on section 35, town 12, range 1 east, now in the town of Henrietta, and returned to Waukesha and spent the winter. In the spring of 1853 he took his family and started with an ox team for their new home in the then unbroken wilderness. They were about two weeks on the road, and on their arrival moved into a hunter's cabin, in which they lived one year. He then built a frame house, which was afterwards burned, when he built another, which was his home until the time of his death, Oct. 25, 1879. Mrs. Garfield died May 5, 1878. Their oldest daughter is the wife of Demas Wherry. The youngest daughter died July 11, 1865, at home, of small-pox contracted while teaching school at DeBello. Their oldest son, William, was teach-

ing school in New Jersey at the time of the removal of the family to Wisconsin, but joined them in 1854, and afterwards taught here. He died four or five years later. John M. was born in Windham Co., Vt., March 17, 1833. He came to Wisconsin with his parents and lived with them until 1861, when he was married January 20th to Nancy A. Judkins, daughter of Joel Judkins, an early settler of Rockbridge. He settled at the time of his marriage on his present farm, which he had pre-empted in 1854. He has cleared a good farm and built a frame house and barn. He enlisted on Feb. 14, 1865, in the 46th Wisconsin, company E, and went south, served until after the close of the war, and was discharged Oct. 6, 1865. He was a member of the first board of supervisors of the town of Henrietta. Addison was born April 24, 1838. He came to Wisconsin with his parents and remained with them as long as they lived, and he now occupies the homestead. He was married in 1876 to Julia, daughter of William and Bethany (Carey) Jordan, early settlers of Greenwood, Vernon county. They have two children—Frederick and James A.

Carlos Joslin, in June, 1847, pre-empted the southeast quarter of section 9, town 9 north, range 1 east, of the 4th principal meridian, now Orion, and in September of the same year removed his wife and three children from Mineral Point to this place. He resided on his pre-emption but one year, when he sold to Frederick Schurman, and then entered the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 10, in the same town. Here he toiled to improve the land, and, in common with the rest of the early settlers on Ash creek, endured the hardships and enjoyed the pastimes of pioneer life. In 1853 Mr. Joslin moved to the north part of the county and became one of the early settlers in the town of Henrietta, where he still resides, an aged and respected citizen. Mr. Joslin was born in Chittenden Co., Vt., Nov. 30, 1805. His parents died when he was but a small boy, and he subsequently resided with his guardian,

with whom, in about 1819, he removed to the State of New York. In 1825, near Rochester, he married Mary Bostwick, a native of Canada. In about 1828 he emigrated to Michigan, and in 1841, came to Wisconsin and first settled at Madison, where he resided until November, 1846, then removed to Mineral Point, whence he came to this county. Mr. and Mrs. Joslin have five children—Lucy H., now the wife of Lattimer Renick; William H., James W., Mary A., now the wife of O. Carl, and Albert E.

Thomas J. Leatherberry, one of the early settlers of Richland county, is a native of Ohio, born in Jefferson county, in January, 1829, where he made his home until 1854. In that year he came with his parents to Rockbridge. In 1855 he entered land on section 20, town 12, range 1 east, now known as Henrietta. He did not, however, settle upon this land, but soon traded it for property at Richland Center, and rented land on section 17. In 1860 he traded his village property for land on section 15, the east half of the southeast quarter. He has since purchased the south half of the southwest quarter of section 14, and his farm now contains 160 acres. He was united in marriage in 1858 with Maria, daughter of George and Mary (Welsh) Norman. Eight children have been born to them—Leroy D., George J., Henry W., Joshua S., Dora E., Mary J., Robert G. and Lillie J.

Demas Wherry, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in Washington Co., Penn., Nov. 14, 1824. When he was one and a half years old his parents moved to Ohio and settled in Carroll county, where his younger days were spent in going to school and working upon the farm. He first visited Richland county in 1853, and entered land on section 31, town 12, range 1 east, now known as Henrietta. He remained a short time, and returned to Indiana, where he lived until 1854, then came back to Wisconsin and settled on his land and began improving it. He soon sold it, however, and purchased other land on sections 5, of the

town of Rockbridge, and 32, of the town of Henrietta, where he has cleared a farm and built a large frame barn and a good frame house. He has been twice married, first in 1851, to Elizabeth Nickilson, who died a few years later, leaving one child—Elizabeth; and again, in 1858, to Eliza A., daughter of William M. and Fannie (Willard) Garfield. They have seven children—Irving L., Lillie M., Rose, Nettie, John, Bert and Alice. Mr. Wherry has been prominent in town affairs, and has held many of the different offices. He has been chairman of the board, assessor, superintendent of schools and town clerk.

Bronson Greaves, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in Fairfield, Franklin Co., Vt., Sept. 8, 1818. When he was young his parents moved to the State of New York and settled in Malone, where he grew to manhood's estate. He was employed in a saw-mill, where he learned to be a sawyer. In 1849 he started west to seek a home, came to Richland county and entered land on section 27, of town 11, range 1 east. He was then a single man, and did not settle upon the land at that time, but went to what is now the village of Rockbridge, and worked in Mr. Hazeltine's mill one year, then went to Black Earth, Dane county, and from there to West Bend, where he remained until 1851, when he returned to New York State. In 1852 he came again to Dane county, and rented a saw-mill at Black Earth. He was there married, in the fall of 1853, to Julia F. Hubbard, who was born in St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., July 20, 1830. In the spring of 1854 they came to Rockbridge, and settled upon his land. They built a frame shanty and lived there two years. They then moved to town 12, range 1 east, now known as Henrietta. He had previously entered land on section 17, of that town. The same year he commenced building a grist-mill, but, his health failing, he was obliged to abandon the project, and he devoted his time to his farm, where he lived until the time of his death, which occurred

March 10, 1874. He cleared a good farm and erected good frame buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Greaves were the parents of three children—Mary J., David E. and Norman D. Mary J. is now the wife of Oswald Palmer, and lives on section 21. Mrs. Greaves and her two sons occupy the homestead. Mr. Greaves was a good business man, honest in all his dealings, and much respected in the community. He had filled various town offices, and was known as a good citizen.

Albert S. Neff, one of the prominent men and pioneers of Richland county, is a son of Samuel and Mary Neff, and was born Sept. 9, 1821, in the town of Chaplin, Windham Co., Conn. Here his younger days were spent upon a farm, and in obtaining such instructions as opportunity offered in the public school. At the age of eighteen he commenced to learn the trade of plasterer, mason and brick layer, serving two years in Norwich and one year in Hartford. He then came to Milwaukee where he worked as journeyman three years. He then engaged as contractor and builder two years, after which he removed to Watertown, Jefferson Co., Wis., and there engaged in the same business until 1855, when he came to Richland county, purchased the hotel property in Richland Center, and named it the American House. He kept hotel six and a half years, and then traded it for land on section 31, of the town of Henrietta, where he has since engaged in farming. Forty-one acres of his land is south of the village, adjoining the plat, and seventy-one acres north of the plat. Mr. Neff has cleared quite a tract of this land. He has built a large frame house and barn and other buildings. Being neat and commodious, he has one of the pleasantest residences in the county. He has been prominent in both town and county affairs. He has served as under-sheriff, six years, and has also been deputy sheriff, chairman of the town board, justice of the peace, besides filling various other offices. He was married in 1845 to Mary, daughter of Andrew and Mary (Dillon)

Manning. Mr. Neff has the confidence and esteem of his fellow men and is numbered among the best class of Richland county's citizens.

Rev. Thomas Mason, (deceased) one of the pioneer preachers of Richland county, was born in Pennsylvania in 1818. He commenced preaching in Richland Co., Ill., and was married there in 1847 to Almira Bradshaw, a native of Wayne Co., Ill. He continued preaching in Illinois until 1855, when he came to Richland Co., Wis., and settled on section 30, of town 12, range 1 east, in the present town of Henrietta. He immediately joined the Northwestern Conference, and was appointed to the West Branch circuit. In 1857 he went to Salem, La Crosse county, and preached one year, then to Mendota, where he remained two years, then to Augusta, in Eau Clair county remaining there two years, next to Galesville in Trempeleau county. He then enlisted as private in the 14th Wisconsin, company D, and went to the front. He was killed at the battle of Corinth. He had been appointed chaplain of his regiment, but had not taken the position at the time of his death. He left a wife and six children to mourn his loss. The children are—Shadrach, Elijah, Sarah, Mahala, Maggie and James E. The two eldest sons, Shadrach and Elijah, were in the same regiment and company with their father. Shadrach was severely wounded in the same battle in which his father was killed. He was discharged on account of disability, and returned home. He soon re-enlisted and died in the service. Elijah served till the close of the war, and is now living in Illinois. Mrs. Mason is now the wife of Henry T. Walser, a resident of Woodstock.

James Edward, son of Thomas and Almira (Bradshaw) Mason, was born in the town of Henrietta, Feb. 28, 1861. He attended the district school, and later, the seminary at Elroy, and the high school at Sextonville. At the age of twelve he entered the employ of William Bradshaw as clerk. He continued in the same employment, excepting the time spent in school,

until 1881, when he purchased the stock and good will of William Bradshaw and has since been engaged in trade. He keeps a good stock of dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, glass ware and crockery, notions, etc. He was married in 1881 to Viola, daughter of Simon S. and Mary (Ambrose) Blake, who was born in the town of Orion. They have three children—Ray and Roy, twins, and Chester.

George Norman, Sr., one of the pioneers of Henrietta is a native of England, born in Somersetshire, July 17, 1811, where he spent his younger days. At the age of twenty-one he left his native land and came to America, and settled in the province of Ontario. He purchased land in what is now the town of Ora. Upon this land, which was heavily timbered, he built a log house and cleared a farm, and lived there until 1850. He then sold out and came to Wisconsin, settled in Jefferson county, where he brought property in Watertown, and lived there until 1855. In that year he came to Richland county and entered land on section 20, of town 12, range 1 east, now known as Henrietta. He built a log house and then began clearing his farm. He occupied the log house until 1859, when he built a neat frame house, in which he now lives, on section 17. He was married in 1834 to Mary Welsh. They have eight children—George, Robert and Maria, twins; Joshua J., Caleb H., James, Thomas and Mary J.

Their eldest son, George, was born in the town of Ora, province of Ontario, Jan. 22, 1837, and came to Wisconsin with his parents and assisted his father in clearing a farm. He enlisted in 1863 in the 11th Wisconsin, company D, and went south. He was in the Red river expedition under Banks, and afterwards went to Alabama and participated in the siege and capture of Fort Blakely. He was discharged with the regiment in September, 1865, and returned home. He was married in 1868 to Elizabeth, daughter of Quinton and Susan (Morrell) Nicks. Four children have been born

to them—Willie, Ephraim, Loretta and Leo. Mr. Norman settled upon his present farm at the time of his marriage. It is on sections 20 and 17, in the locality known as Norman valley.

Joshua J. Norman was born in Ora, province of Ontario, June 3, 1840. He came with his parents to Wisconsin and lived with them until 1862, when he enlisted in March, in the 12th Wisconsin Battery, and went south. He participated in the following engagements: Corinth, Iuka, Vicksburg and Chattanooga and was with Sherman on his march through Georgia to the sea and through the Carolinas, taking a part in most of the battles of that noted campaign. He returned home at the expiration of the time for which he enlisted. He was joined in marriage in August, 1869, to Margaret Householder, a native of Ohio. They are the parents of six children—James B., Daniel I., Elgin S., Mary L., Rollie R. and Arthur J. Mr. Norman's farm, where he settled at the time of his marriage, is located on section 32, of the town of Henrietta. He has a good frame house and a log stable 20x90 feet. Sixty acres of the farm are cleared and under cultivation.

Caleb H. Norman was born in the town of Ora, May 17, 1844, and came to Wisconsin with his parents. He assisted his father and brother in clearing the farm. In January, 1865, he enlisted in the 46th Wisconsin, company G, serving as fifer in the band. He was discharged in October, 1865, and returned home. He was married Nov. 10, 1867, to Angelina A. Bronhard, who was born in Marion Co., Ind. They have four children—Nettie J., Ettie M., Mertie E. and Mary Belle. His farm is in the Norman valley, where he settled at the time of his marriage, on section 20.

James Norman, also a native of the town of Ora, was born Feb. 8, 1846, and was four years of age when his parents emigrated to Wisconsin, where he grew up with the country, living with his parents until 1875. In that year he purchased the old homestead, and his parents moved to section 17, where they now reside.

He was married in November to Delia A., daughter of Perry and Sophronia (Blodgett) Brown. They have two children—Mary J and James Elmer.

Robert M. Stockwell, one of the early settlers of Richland county, is a native of Vermont, born in Chittenden county, March 7, 1829. When he was seven years of age his parents moved to Washington Co., Vt. and here he grew to manhood's estate, obtaining his education in the district school. He was married in 1855 to Amelia D., daughter of Benjamin and Amelia (Hazelton) Davis, who was born in Mooretown, Washington Co., Vt. They remained in Vermont until 1856 and then came to Wisconsin and first located on Fancy creek, where he rented a farm. In 1861 he purchased timber land on section 21, town of Henrietta, built a log cabin, into which his family moved, and he then commenced clearing his present farm. In November, 1863, he was drafted in the 37th Wisconsin, company H, and joined the Army of the Potomac in front of Petersburg, and served with the regiment until the close of the war, and was discharged July 27, 1865. He may well be considered one of the most successful farmers of Richland county. His farm now contains 260 acres. In 1883 he erected a neat frame house. Mr. and Mrs. Stockwell have five children living—Eli, Carlos, Ezra, Lelah and Abbie.

Henry Travers, an early settler of Henrietta, is a native of Indiana, born in Posey county, Dec. 22, 1827. At the age of eleven he removed with his parents to Wayne Co., Ill., where they were among the early settlers and the subject of this sketch began his pioneer life. His father purchased wild land, which he assisted in clearing. He was married in 1851 to Sabrina Bradshaw, a native of Illinois. He purchased land in Ramsey township, Wayne county, and lived there until 1857, when he sold out and started with two pairs of oxen and a wagon to seek a home in the far west. His family accompanied him, and he drove thirty

head of stock. After traveling twenty-one days they arrived at Woodstock. He purchased timber land on section 30, town of Henrietta, and immediately began clearing. The family lived in a log house until 1873, when he built a good frame dwelling. Mr. Travers has been three times married. His first wife died March 19, 1876, leaving seven children—Arthur, Mary, Ella, Orilla, Emma, Willie and Ina. He married again, in 1878, to Nancy Silbaugh, a native of Ohio who died in 1880. His present wife was Susan Esie. One child has blessed this union—Frederick.

His son, Arthur W., was born in Wayne Co., Ill., March 7, 1853. He came to this county, town of Henrietta, with his parents in 1857, where he grew to manhood. He was educated in the district school and at the seminary at Elroy, Wis. In September, 1875, he engaged in the mercantile business in the village of Woodstock, town of Henrietta, purchasing at that time the stock and good-will of Bradshaw Brothers. On Dec. 24, 1875, he was married to Rosa Hoyt, a native of Ohio. One child blessed this union—Harry, born May 30, 1878. In 1880 Andrew Snyder became his partner in business and the firm is now known as Travers & Snyder. They keep a general stock of dry goods, notions, groceries, boots and shoes, hats and caps and farming implements and repairs for the same. They are also produce shippers and live stock brokers.

Anson Stowell was an early settler in Rockbridge. He came there in 1857 and bought land on section 14, and built a substantial log house, 18x24 feet, which at that time was called Buck Creek mansion. He sold the following year to John Clarson, and moved to Henrietta, purchased land on section 32, and built a frame house. He cleared a portion of the land and lived there until 1861, when he traded for land on section 5, town of Rockbridge. He cleared some of this land, built a log house and frame barn, and remained here till 1867, when he returned to Henrietta and settled on section 17.

Here he erected another log house and a commodious frame barn. In 1881 he bought the Perry Brown farm on section 18, and now makes that his home. Upon this place there is a nice frame house, built by Perry Brown. Mr. Stowell has built a frame barn upon this farm making the fourth built by him in the county. He has some of the best improvements in the town. He is a native of the State of New York, born in Rensselaer county, March 3, 1830. When he was twelve years old his parents moved to Onieda county, where he attained his majority. He was married Dec. 29, 1849, to Martha R., daughter of Holsey and Sarah (Vannetar) Carpenter. They are the parents of ten children—James W., Mary A., Harland P., Miranda, Sarah E., Charles H., Dudley H., Fannie A., William E. and Samuel E.

Robert Douglas Meeker, part owner of the Yuba flouring mill and also of the Woodstock mills, is an only son of John A. and Matilda (Stevenson) Meeker, born in Iowa Co., Wis., Aug. 2, 1849. When he was nine years of age his parents moved to Richland county and he commenced learning the miller's trade in his father's mill at Woodstock. He was engaged in 1862-3 in brickmaking at Woodstock. In February, 1865, he enlisted in the 50th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, but was sent as a recruit to company D, 7th Wisconsin, and joined the regiment in front of Petersburg, remaining at the front until March 28, when he was taken sick and sent to the hospital. He lost his speech and did not regain it for three months. He was honorably discharged in June, 1865, when he returned home. In 1868 he went to Milwaukee and worked in a machine shop ten months, he then returned to Woodstock and engaged in milling two years and next to Richland Center, where he worked as sawyer in Parfrey & Pease's mill. He then returned to Woodstock and again engaged in milling, remaining there until 1882, when he built his present mill. Mr. Meeker is a natural mechanic and readily turns his hand to anything in that

line. He has been employed to quite an extent in the capacity of millwright. He was married in 1872 to Elizabeth, daughter of Demas and Elizabeth (Nicholson) Wherry. They have three children—Jessie R., Lee and Alice.

Jeremiah Koch settled in the town of Henrietta in 1861. He purchased land on section 36. He has since cleared a farm, and erected a neat frame house, a commodious log barn and also a saw-mill. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in York county. When he was eight years of age, his parents moved to Perry county and continued to reside there until he was eighteen years old, when he moved to Cumberland county. In the fall of 1834 he went to Ohio and spent the winter, and in the spring of 1835 he emigrated to Indiana and settled in Cass county, where they were among the early settlers. Here the subject of this sketch was married, in 1838, to Mary Shueya, a native of Pennsylvania. They remained in Cass county until 1852, and then came to Wisconsin and settled in Sauk county. He bought eighty acres of land in Spring Green, where he improved a farm and lived until 1861, when, as before stated, he came to Henrietta. Mr. Koch has taken an interest in public affairs, and has filled offices of trust in the town. Mr. and Mrs. Koch have been blessed with thirteen children, ten of whom are now living—John H., Catharine, Sophia, Jeremiah Mattison, William, Michael, Eliza, Rebecca, Jane and Amos.

John Fowler settled in Henrietta in 1861. He was born in Hancock Co., W. Va., July 25, 1812, where his younger days were spent upon a farm. In 1854 he visited Michigan for the purpose of finding a desirable place to locate. After remaining there a short time, he returned home without purchasing land. In the fall of 1855, taking his family, he started with two teams for Wisconsin. They carried their own provisions and camped on the way. After four weeks' travel they reached Sauk City, where they spent the winter. In the spring of 1856, he went to Sauk Prairie and engaged in farming,

remaining there until February, 1861, when he came to Henrietta, and settled on land on section 7, the south half of the northeast quarter, which he had purchased in 1857. He has cleared quite a piece of this land, and built a good frame house and barn. In June, 1856, he bought the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 18, driving the first wagon from Debello, Vernon county, to Yuba, that was ever driven down the valley, and now makes this his home. He, in company with his son John W., is engaged in farming and stock raising, making a specialty of Merino sheep, of which they have a large flock of full bloods. He was joined in marriage Sept. 3, 1835, to Sarah Allison, who was born in Hancock Co., W. Va., June 15, 1816. They have seven children—Richard J., Allison, James B., Mary, Burgess, Sarah S. and John W. He settled at the time of his marriage on a farm lying on sections 8 and 18, that he had bought in company with his brother in 1870. In 1880 he bought his brother's farm, the William Joslyn place, on section 7, the north half of the southeast quarter, and now makes this his home. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler are the parents of two children—David P. and Bertha A.

Their son Allison was born in Hancock Co., Dec. 12, 1838 and came to Wisconsin with his parents. In 1861, at the first call for three years men, he enlisted in the 6th Wisconsin, company A, and was killed in the battle of Hatch's Run, in February, 1865. Previous to this he had been wounded three times.

Their son, John W., was born in Hancock county, Oct. 31, 1850, and was in his fifth year when his parents came to Wisconsin. His younger days were spent on the farm and in school. He was married Oct. 18, 1874, to Eva M., daughter of Lattimore and Lucy (Joslyn) Renick.

Their son, Burgess, was born in Hancock county, Nov. 30, 1844. He came with his parents to Wisconsin, and continued to live there until 1863, when he enlisted in the 17th regi-

ment, Wisconsin Volunteers; went to Vicksburg, Miss.; came home on veteran furlough with the regiment; returned to the army in March, 1864; was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee; was in all the battles in which the 17th army corps was engaged—Resaca, Dallas, Kennesaw Mountain, siege of Atlanta, Lovejoy station, march to the sea, through South and North Carolina to Washington in May, 1865; to Louisville, Ky., in June, 1865; sent from Louisville, Ky., to Madison to be discharged, in July, 1865; arrived at home Aug. 5, 1865, and remained there until twenty-six years old. He was then married to May J., daughter of George and Mary (Welsh) Norman, and settled on a farm on section 7, which he had previously purchased of William Joslyn. In 1879, he went to Wone-woc, Wis., and worked at wagon making for fifteen months. He then engaged in mercantile business at Yuba, where he is now doing a good business. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have two children—Winnie J. and Willie A.

John W. Ferguson is one of the successful farmers of Henrietta. In 1866 he purchased the first land he ever owned. It was in the town of Bloom, consisting of forty acres. He did not settle upon it, however, but soon sold it and bought eighty acres on section 30, town of Henrietta. He cleared a part of this land, built a log house and lived there until 1870, when he sold it and purchased eighty acres on section 19, where he built a good frame house and a large granary, and he now makes this his home. He has since purchased his father's homestead, which adjoins his land, and his farm now contains 215 acres, 120 of which are cleared. He has a log barn, 20x60 feet, and a frame barn 30x40 feet. He first engaged in raising grain, but has lately turned his attention more to stock raising. He is a native of Guernsey Co., Ohio, born April 15, 1843, and is the son of John T. and Sarah (Robins) Ferguson. He came to Wisconsin with his parents in 1864. That year he joined the 16th Wisconsin, company G, went south and joined Sherman's army

at Atlanta; was in the famous march to the sea and through the Carolinas, and was discharged on June 2, 1865. He was married Jan. 15, 1875, to Jane Stout, who was born in Ohio. Three children have been born to them—Nellie May, George Francis and Della A.

Henry T. Walser, proprietor of the Walser mill, is a native of a southern State, having been born in Rowan Co., N. C., in April, 1822. He was eight years of age when his parents moved to Illinois and settled in Edwards county where they were pioneers. His father purchased timber land, cleared a farm and lived there until the time of his death. It was here that the subject of this sketch grew to manhood. When he was seventeen years old, his father built a saw-mill, in which he was employed five years. He then purchased the mill, and built a flour-mill, which he operated in connection with the saw-mill for six years. At the end of that time, he sold out and engaged in mercantile business. Three years later he sold the store, and built another mill in Edwards county, which he operated until 1866, when he came to Richland county and located at Woodstock and engaged again in mercantile business, which he continued until 1869. He then sold out and built the mill which he now operates. He has been twice married—first, in 1844, to Patsy Doty, a native of Indiana. They had nine children, six of whom are now living—Martin, Rebecca, Solomon, Harriet, Lori and Hiram. Mrs. Walser died in 1866. Mr. Walser's second wife was Almira Bradshaw, widow of Rev. Thomas Mason. One child blessed this union, but died in infancy.

His son, Hiram H. Walser, was born in Edwards Co., Ill., in October, 1860. He came to Woodstock with his parents and received his early education in the district school. At the age of sixteen he went to work in his father's mill. He has continued in the same business ever since, and now has charge of the mill. He was married in 1881 to Eva Simmons, a native Green Co., Wis. They have one child—Lewie.

Mr. Walser is town clerk, elected in April, 1883.

John Dunn, the chairman of the town board of Henrietta, is a native of Orange Co., N. Y., born March 2, 1854. When he was three years of age, his parents moved to Wisconsin and located at Madison, Dane county, where they lived four years and then removed to Middleton, in the same county, remained there six years and then came to Henrietta, where the subject of this sketch attained his majority, obtaining a liberal education in the district school. He was united in marriage, in 1879, with Mary McDonald. Three children have been born to them—James, Ellen and Frank. At the time of his marriage he settled upon his present farm on section 28. Mr. Dunn is a public spirited man and has taken an active part in town affairs. He has filled the offices of town clerk and side supervisor, and was elected to his present office in April, 1883.

Wensel Hynck, the present assessor of the town of Henrietta, is a native of Bohemia, born in 1847. When he was but eleven years old, his parents came to America and settled in Vernon county, town of Union, where he grew to manhood, obtaining an education in the district school. He was married in 1867 to Josephine Plachetka. They remained in Vernon county one year, and then came to Richland county and bought timber land on section 5, town of Henrietta, and immediately began clearing a farm. In 1883 he erected a two-story, hewed log house, in which he now lives. He has taken a prominent part in town affairs, and was elected to his present office in April, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Hynck are the parents of six children—John, Anna, Joseph, Francis, Josephina and Betty.

Oswald Palmer, a member of the board of supervisors, is a native of England, was born in Northumberland, in 1845, and was there brought up on a farm, receiving his education by private tuition. When he was twenty-one years old he went to Newcastle, and was there



employed as clerk in a store, remaining until 1869, when he came to America, and joined friends in Milwaukee. He remained there but a few days, when he formed the acquaintance of Perry Brown and came with him to Henrietta. He was married in 1870 to Mary, daughter of Bronson and Julia F. Greaves. He settled on section 17, where he lived until 1877, when he purchased land on section 21,

and moved on to it. He has been successful as a farmer and now has 350 acres of land. He was elected to his present office in April, 1883. He has served as justice of the peace, and held different offices in the school district; and as a public man, has proven himself worthy in every position he has been called upon to fill. He is also deacon in the Advent Church, and has the respect of his fellow-men.



## CHAPTER XXVI.

## TOWN OF ITHACA.

The town of Ithaca lies in the eastern tier of Richland county's sub-divisions. It comprises the territory of township 10, range 2 east, and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, and the north half of sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of township 9, range 2 east, and also section 1 and the north half of section 12, township 9, range 1 east. Unlike most of the towns in the county, originally there was but little timber in Ithaca. The Indians, when this was their home, set fires yearly that stripped the surface of its vegetation. What timber there was in the town was at the head of the smaller valleys, or "pockets," except quite a heavy body of timber on Pine river, and some scattered along on the banks of other streams. Since the advent of the whites a flourishing growth of timber has sprung up and now covers the unimproved lands.

The town is well watered by Willow creek and its tributaries. The creek enters the town from the north by way of section 4, and flows in a general southwesterly course across the surface of the town, to finally make confluence with Pine river. Little Willow, the main branch of the creek just mentioned, enters Ithaca from the north by way of section 6, from thence it passes through sections 7 and 18, a corner of 19, to section 20, where it flows into the Willow. Pine river touches but a small portion of this town. The celebrated Bear creek passes through the southeastern part of the town. It enters section 36 from Sauk county; takes a general southwesterly course through sections 1 and 11, and touches section 10 on its way to

the town of Buena Vista. There are several tributaries to this beautiful stream, fed by springs.

Ithaca is one of the best towns of Richland county. It was settled with an enterprising and thrifty class of people who took hold of such industries as the county seemed to them to be best adapted. An instance of this is found in the dairy industries, in which this town leads most of the towns in the county. Some of the best land in the town was first thought to be unfit for agricultural purposes on account of its wet and marshy appearance. Especially was this the case in the Little Willow and upper part of Big Willow and Bear valleys. These lands have been sufficiently drained by cultivation, and here, at the present time, are to be found some of the best farms in the town.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settler within the limits now comprising the town of Ithaca was Orrin Britton, a native of New Hampshire. He came here from Fort Atkinson, Jefferson Co., Wis., in the summer of 1848 and entered the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 8, town 9, range 2 east. E. M. Sexton came with him and entered a large tract of land including the present site of the village of Sextonville. Orrin Britton erected a log cabin on his land, using split puncheon for the floor and shakes to cover the roof. The party then returned to Jefferson county. In December, 1848, Britton returned, accompanied by his family, consisting of himself, wife and six children. The teams

then went back to Fort Atkinson for other goods and provisions, and upon their return to Richland county Jacob Essyltine, his son Roderick and Alonzo Britton accompanied them. This party had been employed by E. M. Sexton to build him a house. During that winter they boarded with Britton's family, who at that time were the only residents of Ithaca.

In the spring of 1849 E. M. Sexton and R. B. Stewart came from Jefferson county, accompanied by their families. Mr. Sexton moved his family into the house which had been erected for him on the northeast quarter of section 7. He made this part of the county his home for several years, then removed to Barron county. In 1876 he came back on a visit. He was sick at the time and told his friends that he had come back to die. He lived but a few weeks, his death occurring at the house of friends in the town of Buena Vista. His remains lie buried in Sextonville cemetery.

R. R. Stewart lived for a time in Sextonville, then settled in the town of Buena Vista. In 1853 he located in the town of Willow, where he still resides.

Orrin Britton soon bought and entered other lands in the neighborhood. He remained there for three or four years, when he sold out and removed to the LaCrosse valley.

James Bank, a native of England, came here in 1849 and settled on the southeast quarter of section 31. On the 19th of July, 1852, he sold this farm to Dr. Sippy and moved to Bear valley, where he located on the southwest quarter of section 2. In 1855 he sold out again and removed to Sextonville where he opened a hotel and also contracted to carry the mail. He died there a few years later.

A Mr. Whelpy was the first settler in that part of Bear creek valley now included in Ithaca. He came here as early as 1849, and settled upon the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 36. He erected a log cabin and covered the roof with sod. He re-

mained until 1857 when he sold to H. L. Burnham and left the country.

In the fall of 1848 Thomas Derrickson and John Walker came from Indiana. Mr. Derrickson located a land warrant on the southeast quarter of section 30, town 10, range 2 east, and still occupies the farm. John Walker entered the northeast quarter of section 31. He was a Methodist exhorter, and for a number of years he preached in the neighborhood and tilled his farm; then sold out and moved to La Crosse. He now lives in Dakota.

Samuel Metcalf also came from Indiana in 1849. He entered the northeast quarter of section 30. He lived there until 1853, when he sold to Anthony Thomas and removed to Illinois.

F. G. Robinson came here from Indiana at about the same time as did Metcalf, and settled on the southwest quarter of section 20. He made that his home for about one year, when he sold his place to Rolland Bush and returned to Indiana.

Joab Enos came here from Green county in 1849 and claimed the southeast quarter of section 17. He sojourned here but a few years, selling out at the expiration of that time and removing to California.

William Butler, an Indian half-breed, from the reservation in Onondaga Co., N. Y., came here in 1849 and claimed the northwest quarter of section 9. He soon sold this claim and entered the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29. In November, 1852, he traded this land to Isaac P. Welton, receiving therefor a pair of horses, harness and wagon, and \$45 in gold. In December, of the same year, he moved to section 16 where he spent a few months, and then moved to the town of Willow. In the history of that town will be found an account of the settlement there.

John Lawrence, a native of New York State, and a son-in-law of William Butler, came with Butler, and entered the north half of the northeast quarter of section 17. In the fall of 1851

he sold to Amasa Grover, and moved to the town of Richland. He lived there a few years, then returned to Ithaca and lived on section 18 for a time, when he went west. A man named Hademan came here at the same time as Butler and Lawrence, and lived with Butler until 1852, when he started with Enos for California, and died on the plains.

In March, 1850, Charles Devoe, a native of the State of New York and a blacksmith by trade, came and settled on the present site of the village of Sextonville. He entered land on section 5, town 9, range 2 east. He worked at his trade and followed farming, remaining until the time of his death.

Alfred H. Bush and James H. Boyd came with Devoe. They were both sons-in-law of Devoe, and natives of New York State. Bush bought land on section 20, and lived there for a short time, then moved to section 30. In 1872 he moved to Franklin Co., Neb., where he now lives. He was a school teacher by profession, and had served as superintendent of schools in Lewis Co., N. Y. After he had been here some years, he became a preacher in the Congregational Church. He was prominent in town and county affairs, and served as county treasurer. He has represented Franklin county in the State Legislature, and is now mail agent on the B. & M. R. R. Boyd took a claim on Little Willow creek and erected a board shanty. He spent the summer there, then disposed of the claim and afterward bought the south half of the northwest quarter of section 5, town 9, range 2 east, and lived here until 1881, when he sold and moved to Jackson county, where he now lives.

Joseph Post, a son-in-law of Charles Devoe, came here from Walworth county in 1850 and entered land on section 4. He made his home here until the time of his death. Some of the children still occupy the old homestead. He was well liked and had the confidence of the people. He filled most of the various offices in

the town and was chairman of the board for several years.

Lucius Campbell, a native Vermont, came here in 1849 and entered land on section 6. In 1852 he sold out and returned to Jefferson county.

In 1850 Peter Mickel, a native of New York State, came to Sextonville, and remained until 1853 when he went to the LaCrosse valley. In 1861 he returned to Sextonville, and has since made this his home.

In 1850 James Goodrich came here, with the intention of engaging in merchandising. He remained only a couple of years and then removed to Nebraska.

John Perry, a native of New York, came in 1850 and entered land on section 17, which included the mill privileges. He remained here about five years, when he sold out and went to Iowa, where he died a few years later.

William Beemer was also one of the settlers during 1850. He was a native of Ohio, and after looking around a little he entered the southwest quarter, and the north half of the northwest quarter of section 1, town 9, range 1 east; also the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 36, town 10, range 1 east. He erected a frame house on the northeast quarter of section 1, which at that time was the only house between Sextonville and Richland Center. Here he opened a tavern, and hung a sign bearing the words painted in black letters: "Pine River House!" This was a favorite stopping place among travelers for many years. Beemer remained there until 1861 when he went to Illinois, and the famous old Pine River House became a thing of the past.

In the fall of 1850 Mr. Rowley, an Englishman, came to the town of Ithaca and squatted on the northeast quarter of section 5. He made no improvements except putting up a log cabin; and in 1852, accompanied the Enos party to California.

Roland Bush, a native of Hampden Co., Mass., came here from the State of New York in 1850, and purchased 329 acres of land. He now lives on section 19.

Amasa Grover, a native of New York, came from that State in the fall of 1851, and purchased the north half of the northeast quarter of section 17, where he still resides.

At about the same time Dr. Asa McCullom, a native of Ohio, came from Massachusetts, and purchased the north half of the northwest quarter of section 8, adjoining the plat of Sextonville. He is still an honored resident of the village.

Robert Clement, a native of Ireland, came here from the State of New York in 1851 and bought land on section 10, town 9, range 2 east. He improved a farm and lived here until the time of his death.

In the spring of 1851 Jacob Krouskop came from Ohio and settled on section 6, town 9, range 2 east. He remained a resident of the town until the time of his death, Feb. 7, 1878.

William Cratsenburg, a native of the State of New York, came here in 1851, and lived for a few weeks on section 32, then entered land on section 18. In 1853 he sold this land and removed to Sextonville, where he opened a shoe shop. In 1855 he bought the building known as "the Ark" and kept tavern for a while. His home is now in the town of Henrietta.

William Richardson came in 1851 [or 1852], and settled on section 17. He lived here three years when he removed to La Crosse valley, and later to Ohio.

In 1851 Oscar Briggs, a surveyor, came here from Sauk county and located on section 6. He died there in 1852 and was buried upon the place.

Archibald C. and H. A. Eastland came in 1851 and located at Sextonville. Archibald was agent for his brother, David, for whom he purchased land. A. C. remained here for several years. He is now engaged in the practice of law at Muscoda. H. A. Eastland now lives in

Richland Center, and still follows the legal profession.

Samuel Simpson, a native of Delaware, came here from Illinois in 1851 and settled on section 29. He now lives in the town of Willow. His father, Joshua Simpson, also a native of Delaware, came here in 1850 from Carroll Co., Ind., and stopped for a time with his son. He bought land on sections 17 and 20; but did not settle here at that time. He went to Richland City and engaged in mercantile trade. A few years later he settled on his land, erected a set of buildings and opened a farm. He now lives at Spring Green.

Joseph Irish, a native of New York State, came to Sextonville in 1852. He taught school, was elected county surveyor, and while here, entered the ministry. He was a resident of the county until 1860. Since leaving the county he has served as senator from the St. Croix district. He now lives at Madison, and is financial agent of Lawrence University. In 1883 he was tendered the appointment of minister to France, but declined.

Phineas Janney, a native of Virginia, came here in 1852 and entered land on section 12. He erected a cabin and remained during the summer, when he sold to David Eastland.

Mr. Eastland was a native of the State of New York, but came here from Mississippi. His home is now on section 7.

Willard H. Thomas, a son of Anthony Thomas, paid a visit to this county in 1851, and the following year came with his family. He shipped his goods at Milwaukee, where he bought ox teams and came the rest of the way overland. He entered land on sections 8 and 9, where he lived until 1855, when he removed to Sextonville and engaged in trade. In 1858 in company with E. M. Sexton and R. C. Field he went to Trempealeau county and platted the village of Osseo. He was engaged in mercantile pursuits at that place until the time of his death in 1877. He was a prominent man in public affairs.

Isaac P. Welton, an Ohioan, came here on the 10th of July, 1852. The following fall he bought forty acres of land on section 21, and entered the south half of the northeast quarter of section 3, and the north half of the northeast quarter of section 10, and the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 21. He settled on the Butler quarter and lived there for two years. His home is now on section 1, town 9, range 1 east.

Joseph Sippy, a native of Maryland, came here from Indiana in 1852, and bought the southeast quarter of section 31, and also entered the south half of the southwest quarter of section 4, and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the same section. In addition to these tracts he bought land in the neighborhood amounting in all to 600 acres.

G. W. Mathews, a native of the State of New York, came to Richland county in 1852. In 1854 he settled on section 17, where he still lives.

William Hibbs came from Indiana in 1851 and entered land on section 30. He owned this place for several years; then sold out and went to Indiana.

Paul Andrews was the first settlers in "Simpson Hollow," taking up his residence there in 1851. Two or three years later he sold out and moved to Sextonville where he remained a short time.

James Beebe came in 1852 and entered land on section 2. In 1856 he sold out and went west, but has since returned east.

Elijah Nourse, a native of New Hampshire, came here from Rock Co., Wis., in 1852, and secured the south half of the northeast quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 6, town 9, range 2 east, and also bought the southeast quarter of section 2, town 9, range 1 east. He settled on section 6, and made his home there until the time of his death.

In the fall of 1852 James King came here from Watertown, and entered the north half of the southeast quarter and the south half of the

northeast quarter of section 5. He erected a log house which was soon afterward destroyed by fire and he at once erected another. In 1857 he sold out and removed to Trempealeau county, and later went to Minnesota.

In 1853 William Harris was one of the arrivals. He was a native of the State of New York. He settled on the northwest quarter of section 1, town 9, range 2 east, and made a "dug-out" in the side of the hill, in which he lived for two years, and then erected a log house. He lived there until 1864, when he sold out and removed to Wright Co., Iowa.

Peter W. Haskins, a native of the State of New York, came here from Richland City in 1853, and settled on the southeast quarter of section 25. He bought the south half of the southeast quarter, and the east half of the southwest quarter of that section. Here he laid out a village called Petersburg; started a blacksmith shop and built a saw-mill, in which he put one run of stone for grinding corn. He sold out several years later, and moved to the town of Buena Vista, where he started a blacksmith shop and worked at his trade for a number of years. He has since gone to Dakota.

William Atwood, a native of New York State, was also one of the arrivals in 1853. He settled on the northwest quarter of section 2, where he lived for a number of years, and then removed to Sextonville. He was a blacksmith, and followed his trade for several years at Sextonville, after which he removed to Orion.

Richard Woodcock, a native of New York, arrived during the same year. He settled on the southeast quarter of section 26, where he lived for several years and improved a farm. He is now dead.

John Smith, an Irishman, came here as early as 1853, and settled on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 18. He erected a board shanty, broke a few acres of the land and remained four or five years, when he sold to John Young and left the country.

John Jaquish, a native of New York State, came here in October, 1853, and entered land on section 15. He lived there until in March, 1882, and then removed to the village of Ithaca.

Joseph W. Jaquish, a native of Pennsylvania, came here at the same time, entered land on sections 10 and 11 and put up a shanty. He settled upon the place in 1854 and still lives there. His father, David Jaquish, came with him in 1854, and made his home here for several years. He died at Madison in 1875. He was a native of New York State; had served in the War of 1812, and was a pensioner during the last few years of his life.

Anthony Thomas, a native of Connecticut, came here in 1853 and bought land on section 30, where he remained until 1860. During this year he removed to Trempealeau county, where he lived until the time of his death.

Colby Cass, a Canadian, also came here in 1853 and settled on section 20. He lived there until the time of his death.

In the fall of 1854 William Stearns, a miner, came from Spring Valley, and settled upon the west half of the southeast quarter and the east half of the southwest quarter of section 1, town 9, range 2 east. In 1860 he sold his place to Hon. J. M. Thomas, and removed to White-side Co., Ill., where he has since died.

The first German settlers in the town were William Tunenschloss and Rudolf Grassman, who came from Dodge county in June, 1854. The former bought 120 acres of land on section 16, where he still lives. The latter bought land on the same section and lived there until 1871, when he sold out and removed to Monroe county, where he died. His widow and family still live there.

William Irish came in 1854 and made this his home for a number of years. He is now a Methodist minister and is presiding elder of the Portage district.

Daniel Earl, the first settler in Four Spring Hollow, came here in 1854 and entered the

southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 36. This is still his home.

Amos C. Williams came here in 1854 and settled on the northeast quarter of section 1, town 9, range 2 east. There he built a log house, cleared a small tract of land, and remained until 1858, when he sold out and moved across the line into Sauk county. He has since removed to Iowa. He was a cooper by trade, and was generally known as "Cooper Williams."

David Carpenter, a native of Herkimer Co., N. Y., also came in 1854. He settled on the southwest quarter of section 2, where he opened a farm and lived until after the close of the war, when he sold out and removed to Nebraska.

Chester Foote, a native of New York State, came here in 1854 and settled on the northwest quarter of section 11. In 1857 he sold to Benjamin Winterburn and removed to the town of Buena Vista, where he lived for a number of years. He is now a resident of McHenry Co., Ill.

William H. Davis was another of the arrivals in 1854. He was a native of Vermont, but came here from Canada in October of that year, and bought land on sections 28 and 29, town 10 range 2 east. This is still his home.

James Soules came here in 1854 and entered the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 6; but only lived there a short time. He is now a resident of the town of Richland.

During the following year, 1855, there were many valuable additions to the settlement in this town.

John Wallace, a native of Canada, came in 1855 from Richland City, and settled on the northwest quarter of section 12, town 9, range 2 east. He lived there for several years and then sold to Joseph Wade.

Jacob Handel, a native of Germany, came here from Waukesha Co., Wis., in 1855. He entered quite a large tract of land and settled on section 26. He was quite an elderly

man. After remaining here a few years he removed to Milwaukee, where he died.

Ira Davenport, a native of the State of New York, came here in 1855 and settled upon the northwest quarter of section 25. He sold out several years later and went to Dane Co., Wis.

William Simpson, a native of Ohio, came here from Illinois during the same year, 1855, and settled on section 30, where he still lives.

William Misslich, a native of Germany, came here from Waukesha Co., Wis., in 1855, and bought the south half of the southeast quarter of section 14. He improved the farm and made it his home until the time of his death. Three of his sons—Albert, Paul and Anthony, came here at the same time, in 1855. Albert entered the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter, and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 13, and the south half of the southwest quarter of section 14. Paul entered the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 14. Albert now lives on section 26. Anthony and Paul live on the old homestead on section 14.

Eberhard Wallpott, a German, also came with the Misslich party, and bought 200 acres of land on section 22. He lived there until 1881, when he sold out and moved to Cross Plains.

William Perrin came here from Sauk county in 1855, and settled on the southeast quarter of section 8. He lived there for two or three years when he sold out and removed to near Hastings, Minn., where he died.

John Short, an Englishman, came from the State of New York in 1855, and entered land on section 33, town 11, range 2 east, just over the line in the town of Willow. He now lives with his son Henry, in the town of Ithaca.

Christian Lasse, a native of Prussia, came here from that country in 1855 and bought land of Amasa Grover, on section 26.

David Hardenberg came in 1855 and bought the southwest quarter of section 2 from James

Banks. He sold out in 1866 and removed to Lone Rock.

William Dixon, a native of England, came here in 1855 from Buena Vista and settled on section 1, town 9, range 2 east, where he still lives.

Isaac Lawrence, a native of Dutchess Co., N. Y., came here from New York city in 1856, and bought the south half of the northeast quarter of section 2. He lived there until 1880, when he sold out and went to Nebraska, where he and his wife have since died.

James Carpenter, a brother of David Carpenter, a settler of 1854 came here in 1856, and settled on section 2. He lived there until after the close of the war, when he moved to Lone Rock, and has since gone to Nebraska.

David Lane, a native of New York State, came here in 1856 and settled on the southwest quarter of section 36. He improved a farm and lived here until 1875, when he sold out and removed to New Jersey.

Henry Emshoff was another of the pioneer Germans. He came here in 1856 and settled on section 14. He is now a resident of the town of Orion.

Elias Weston was also a settler of 1856. He was a native of the State of New York. He settled on section 10, and lived there until 1880 when he sold out and removed to Des Moines, Iowa.

Other early settlers were: M. M. Smith, Coleman Dupee, John Worth and Abel Ragles.

#### FIRST BIRTH AND DEATH.

The first birth in the town of Ithaca was that of James, a son of Thomas and Rachel Derrickson, which occurred Aug. 5, 1849. The child died Oct. 6, 1849. This was the first death in the town.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first mass in the town of Ithaca was held by Father Max Gardner, at the house of William Misslich, in November, 1856, and this finally resulted in the organization of St. Mary's Catholic Church. Father Gardner was at that time a



resident of Sauk county, and knowing there were people here in the wilderness without a spiritual advisor, he started out on foot and alone for this little German settlement. He was gladly welcomed and the people gathered at the house of William Misslich, as stated. There were four children baptized at this time—Agnes, daughter of Albert and Mary A. Misslich; Henry, a son of Peter and Mary Wertzel; Gertrude, daughter of Joseph and Barbara Bodendine; and Maggie, daughter of Jacob and Catharine Weitzel. It was decided to build a church, and subscriptions were solicited. There were but few families here at that time. The male members were—William Misslich and his three sons, Albert, Paul and Anthony; Joseph Oschner, Andrew Muller, Jacob Weitzel, Henry Axsenmacher, Peter Weitzel, Casper Brewer and Joseph Bodendine. Money was subscribed to the amount of \$139, and a small building was erected on the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 14. Father Max Gardner was the first to say mass in the church. Father Wendel Bernard was the first resident pastor. In 1864 a parsonage was built. It was an unpretentious frame building, with two rooms, and cost \$337, beside work done by the members. Father Bernard was succeeded on Christmas, 1865, by Father Theophilus Bean, who had charge until May, 1872. In 1869, through his influence, a commodious stone house was erected for school purposes and as a home for the sisters in charge. It is a two and a half story building, well furnished. There are two large rooms on the ground floor, which are used for school purposes, while the sisters occupy the upper part.

Father Bean was succeeded by Father Francis X. Heller, who remained until Oct. 17, 1874, when Father A. Mendl became pastor. In May, 1875, he was succeeded by Father Michael Heiss, who remained until 1878. In January, of that year, Father Henry Koenig, the present pastor, took charge.

The parsonage, as stated, when first built contained two rooms. A few years later an addition of two rooms was made. In 1883 Father Koenig erected a commodious two story frame house, adjoining the old part. To show how the Catholic Church has prospered, it is stated that Father Bean had charge of seven different Churches, beside several appointments at private houses. Two of these Churches were in Sauk county, one in Crawford, and the rest in Richland. St. Mary's Church started with eight families; it now numbers eighty-five families, and owns property valued at \$15,000. Father Koenig also has charge of the Church at Richland Center, being assisted in his labors by Father Joseph Bush.

Father Henry Koenig, the popular pastor of the St. Mary's Church, was born in the city of Heiligenstadt, Prussia, Germany, Oct. 7, 1835. He studied first in his own native city, and finished his education at the city of Rome. He went to Ireland and was ordained as a Catholic priest at Carlow College, on the 9th day of May, 1859. After a sojourn of a few weeks in Ireland he came to America, and was assigned to a Church at Mishawaka, St. Joseph Co., Ind. He remained there seven years, and then went to Wilmar, Pulaski county. From there he went to Kansas, and returning east located at Toronto, Canada, where he remained until taking charge of the St. Mary's Church, in January, 1878. Father Koenig's parents never came to America. His father died Jan. 29, 1882, at the ripe old age of eighty-three. His mother is still living in Prussia, seventy-five years of age. He has a sister that is teaching in Ursoline Convent, Jeffersonville, Ind.

The Bear Valley union church was erected in 1874, by the people in the vicinity. It is a neat frame structure and cost about \$2,400. It is located on the south half of the northwest quarter of section 11, town 9, range 2 east. The church is free to all denominations. There is no organization, but Rev. S. B. Loomis

preaches here. He is liberal in his views, and his sermons are listened to with interest.

Adjoining the church grounds is a cemetery, which was laid out in 1860. An association was formed in the neighborhood for the purpose. The first officers were: A. G. Burnham, president; J. G. Carpenter, treasurer, and J. M. Thomas, secretary. The officers of the association in 1883 were: Benjamin Winterburn, president; William Dixon, treasurer, and J. M. Thomas, secretary.

A Lutheran Church was organized in 1862 at the school house on section 30 by Rev. Simon Spyker. It had fourteen members, as follows: Samuel Davis and wife; Samuel S. Davis and wife; Samuel Stofer and wife; J. G. Marden and wife; Harriet Cass, Rosanna Spyker and O. V. Davis. Rev. Spyker has been the pastor of this Church since its organization. In 1869 it changed its form of government and became a Congregational Church. For several years they met for worship in the school house, but since the erection of the union church, services have been held there. The society now has forty-three members. The present deacons are: O. V. Davis, S. S. Davis and O. R. Jaquish. The trustees are: S. J. Freeborn, O. V. Davis and C. A. Hatch.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first school in the town was taught in The Ark in 1851 by Susan McCaw.

The first school house in this town was built in 1851 in the present village of Sextonville. The rafters and studding were made of hewn tamarack poles. Margaret Ingram taught the first school.

School district No. 1 embraces the village of Sextonville, and a history of it appears in connection with the history of the village.

The first school in district No. 2 was taught in a log house, owned by William Harris, on the northwest quarter of section 1, town 9, range 2, in the summer of 1855. The teacher was Mary Dyke. During the same summer a substantial frame house was erected on the

southeast quarter of the northeast quarter section 2. Isaac Peckham was the first teacher in this building. In 1859 the district was divided and a log school house was built on the southeast quarter of section 26, in which Jane Giles first wielded the ferule. Two or three years later the school house was removed to the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 36, where it remained several years and was then moved to the northwest quarter of section 36. It was in use here two years, when the territory was again attached to district No. 2. Arthur Ochner is the present teacher.

School district No. 4 is a joint district. The first school house in this district was erected in 1852 on the northeast quarter of section 30. Cordelia A. Bush was the first teacher. There were eight scholars in the district at the time. The old school house remained in use until during the war, when a larger house was erected on the old site.

In 1859 a portion of the district was set off and a school was taught in Joshua Crapser's granery, on section 28, Belle Britton being the teacher. In 1859 a school house was erected on the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 28. Sarah Telfair was the first teacher in this house. This district was known as No. 11, and its organization continued in existence until 1875, when the territory was attached to other districts and district No. 11 was abolished.

District No. 6 is also a joint district. The first school house in this district was erected in 1856. Dr. Sippy and Abel Reagles gave the lumber and all of the neighbors turned out and put up the building on the southwest quarter of section 4. Charlotte Smith and Rebecca McCloud, now the wife of Valentine Stoddard, were the first teachers. The old house was in use but a short time when it was replaced by a larger and more expensive building. Edward Long was the first teacher in this building. The present teacher is Johanna Stoddard.

In joint district No. 5 the first school house was erected in 1860, being located on the east half of the south west quarter of section 6. Mrs. Helen Smith was the first teacher. The school building has since been moved to its present location on the east half of the northwest quarter of section 7. J. W. Manley is the present teacher.

The first school in district No. 7 was taught in Amasa Grover's granary by Sarah Etta Perrin in 1855. There were less than a dozen scholars in attendance. The following spring the district erected a frame house on the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 17. Miss Perrin was also the first teacher in this house. This building was used for school purposes until 1877, when a new house was erected. Della Welton was the first teacher in the new building. Frank Smith is the present teacher.

The first school house in district No. 10 was a log one erected in 1861 on section 14. Milton Derrickson was the first teacher. This house was used until 1869, since which time the district has rented a room of the St. Mary's congregation at Keysville.

The first school house in district No. 12 was built in 1860. It was of logs, and located on the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 2. Olivia Hays was the first teacher. The house which was first erected was used for school purposes until 1880, when a neat frame building was put up near the old site. Libbie Ward was the first teacher in the new house. The present teacher is Francis W. Jaquish.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Ithaca was organized in 1856. At a meeting held on the 1st of April at the Thomas school house, the following officers were elected: Board of supervisors, William Harmon, chairman, J. C. Foote and S. H. Doolittle; clerk, Luther Irish; treasurer, James Boyd; superintendent of schools, D. L. Hubbard; justices of the peace, William Crutsenburg, S. H. Doolittle and D. W. Dodge; assessors,

(there were three elected) George Mathews, D. F. Carpenter and Joseph Post; constables, James Boyd, Stephen Reagles and John Wallace; inspector of weights and measures, George Richards. The clerk of the meeting was R. S. Eldred. The inspectors of the election were Jacob Krouskop, chairman, William H. Davis and D. L. Carpenter.

At the annual town meeting held in April, 1883, the following were chosen as town officials for the ensuing year: Supervisors, Albert Misslich, chairman, J. G. Lamberson and A. Grover; clerk, J. R. Shaw; treasurer, T. Sippy; assessor, George H. Turner; justices, L. Grail, William Dixon and A. H. Dow; constables, E. F. Howe, R. A. Hammond and John E. Schmitz.

#### RICHLAND COUNTY NURSERY.

This nursery was started in 1868 by S. J. Freeborn, at his home on section 20. In 1871 he was joined by A. L. Hatch, and a partnership was formed between these two gentlemen for carrying on the business. At this time the nursery was removed to sections 22 and 27, where sixty acres were purchased, forty of which were improved. Since that time other tracts of land have been purchased until they now have 160 acres, the most of which they use. Both of these gentlemen have separate orchards, aside from the nursery, Mr. Freeborn having 3,500 trees and A. L. Hatch, 2,000. The firm has been very successful in their business, and much credit is due to them for their energy and enterprise in the establishment and prosecution of this beneficial and much needed industry.

#### TWIN BLUFFS POSTOFFICE.

This office was established in June, 1883, with Charles Pierce as the first postmaster. He keeps the office at his house near the station. The office receives four mails per day.

#### KEYSVILLE POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice bearing this name was established in April, 1872, and Paul Misslich was commissioned postmaster. It was then on the Lone Rock and Le Valle route, and mail was received three times each week. It is still on

the same mail route, but mail is now received daily. Mr. Misslich is still postmaster and keeps the office at his house on section 14.

#### BEAR VALLEY POSTOFFICE.

This office was originally established in Sauk county at an early day, taking its name from the creek of that name. About 1860 the office was moved to the town of Ithaca, and John Price was commissioned as postmaster. He kept the office at his house, on section 36. The office at that time was on the mail route from Lone Rock to Ironton, and mail was received twice each week from both ways. Mr. Price in a few years was succeeded by John A. Shontz, as postmaster, who is the present incumbent. The office is kept at his house on section 36. Mail is now received every day.

#### THE VILLAGE OF PETERSBURG.

In 1855 Peter Haskins laid out a village on the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 25, to which he gave the name, Petersburg; suggested, it is presumed, by his first name.

Shortly afterward a Mr. Beard bought three village lots and opened a grocery store, and in connection made the sale of whisky a specialty. After he had run the business for a year or so, he was taken sick with the typhoid fever and died.

There was no other sign of business life here until after the close of the war, when A. Dederich opened the store, which is still in operation. He now runs a wagon, blacksmith and shoeshop, and also keeps a public house at this point.

In 1871 Joseph Ochsner, John Little and David Dudgeon erected a flour mill on the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 36, adjoining the site of the village of Petersburg. They put up a building, 26x38 feet in size, two stories high, and equipped it with three run of buhrs and other necessary machinery for making first-class flour. The dam was built of earth and timber and secured seven and a half feet fall of water. Joseph

Ochsner and Boorman are the present owners of the property and they rent it. It is now run as a custom mill.

#### THE VILLAGE OF NEPTUNE.

Dr. Joseph Sippy platted a village on the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 4, in 1855, to which he gave the name of Neptune. At the time there was a log house upon the site belonging to Daniel Gwin.

In 1854 Stephen Ragles opened a store here in a building that he had erected for the purpose. He soon made an addition to the building and opened a tavern called the Neptune House. In 1856 he closed up his business and went to Sextonville.

The Neptune postoffice was established in 1854, with Dr. Joseph Sippy as postmaster. The office was named by the authorities at Washington. It was on a route from Sextonville, and mail was received once each week. Dr. Sippy was succeeded as postmaster by R. J. Taplin, and then came John Sippy. The latter gentleman resigned and moved away, and as no one would accept the office it was finally discontinued.

In 1853 Dr. Sippy commenced the erection of a saw mill at Neptune, which was completed during the following year. It was furnished with an "up and down saw." A dam of brush and dirt was thrown across Big Willow creek, which secured six and a half feet fall of water. In May, 1866, Rufus Taplin bought the property and has run the mill since that time. The dam has been washed out several times since then, but the present substantial stone dam, which was built by Mr. Taplin, bids fair to be permanent. In 1883 he added a feed mill which is quite a convenience to the people in the vicinity.

In 1862 Rev. Thurston, a Methodist Episcopal clergyman, preached at the school house in Neptune and organized a class with about twenty members. Among them were the following: Joseph W. Jaquish and wife, David Jaquish, Mrs. Olive Dupee, Dr.

Joseph Sippy and wife, Nathan Jaquish and wife, and Julia Weston. Joseph W. Jaquish was elected class leader. Among the pastors who at times presided over the little society were Rev. C. Cook and Mr. Harvey. As time rolled by the members moved away and died, and finally the class dropped out of existence.

#### THE VILLAGE OF ITHACA.

This is a very pleasantly located hamlet on section 17. It has never been platted; but business houses have collected about the spot and it is now a good point for trade, being surrounded by a wealthy and prosperous class of farmers.

In 1865 James Spickard opened a harness shop on the present site of the village. This was the first sign of business life at this point. In 1865 Mr. Spickard opened the first store in the village, keeping groceries, dry goods and a general assortment of merchandise. He is still in trade here. Mr. Spickard only continued to run his harness shop for two years.

Samuel Stover, in 1867, opened the second harness shop and is still in business.

The first blacksmith was William Krouse, who opened a shop at this point in 1867. He was in business five or six years, when he was succeeded by D. W. Bear, a first-class workman. Mr. Bear was in business here about four years. He is now located at Rodolf's mill, in the town of Eagle, and is doing an extensive business, running a hardware and grocery store in connection with his blacksmith shop. The shop at Ithaca changed hands several times within a year, and then George Bear bought it and continued in business until the fall of 1883, when H. H. Spyker, the present blacksmith, purchased it.

In 1876 John H. Davis opened a shoe shop in Ithaca, doing custom work and repairing. In 1877 he purchased a building that had been used as a wagon shop and furnished and remodeled it for a shoe shop. In 1883 he put in a stock of

groceries, crockery, glassware and notions, and is still in business.

In 1881 William Morrison established a cheese factory in the village, which has been in successful operation since.

C. W. Davis commenced in mercantile trade here in 1872, and still continues.

The Ithaca postoffice was established in 1857. James McMillan was appointed postmaster, and kept the office at his house on the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 17. James Spickard succeeded Mr. McMillan as postmaster and removed the office to his house on the northeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 17, and later to his store. In 1871 he was succeeded by William Davis, and a few months later Mr. Spickard was again appointed postmaster. In 1874 he was succeeded by C. W. Davis, the present postmaster. The office is kept at Mr. Davis' store.

In 1853 Wyatt Perkins commenced the erection of a saw-mill on the southwest quarter of section 17. The power was derived from the Big Willow, a dam of grass and dirt being thrown across the stream, securing about five feet fall of water. The mill was equipped with a perpendicular saw. Perkins was a Vermont man. He had lived in Dane county, this State, for a few years, and had floated down to Richland county in a boat on the Wisconsin river. He had no money at all. When he started down the Wisconsin river an ax was the only tool which he possessed, and the boat being capsized, this was lost. When he arrived at Ithaca John Perry gave him the mill privilege, upon the condition that he would build a mill there. For some time Perkins and his family, consisting of a wife and two children, lived upon boiled wheat, they came to such straitened circumstances. But he commenced work on the mill, using borrowed tools, and completed it about two years later. After he had got out the frame, he mortgaged the privilege and so got the machinery. Even

after he got the mill in running order, he was not very successful, as he was inclined to be indolent, and did not attend to business closely. He ran the mill about five years, when he sold it to James R. McMillan. He then went to Columbia county, and, when the war broke out, went into the army and died while in the service. He was a great talker, was well educated and an intelligent man. He frequently preached in this neighborhood. Immediately after buying the property, Mr. McMillan erected a grist mill, adjoining the saw-mill, putting up a building 30x40 feet in size, and two and a half stories high. Two run of stone were put in and the other necessary machinery. He ran it as a custom mill until the close of the war and sold soon afterward to Alfred Parfrey. Five or six years later the property was purchased by James Black, who tore out the old dam, put in a stone one and erected a new building, two stories and a basement in height. Two run of buhrs were put in. In 1878 Frank B. Koleman bought the property and is the present owner.

#### THE VILLAGE OF SEXTONVILLE.

The village of Sextonville is pleasantly located in the southwestern part of the town of Ithaca, on sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, town 9, range 2 east. Being situated on Willow creek, and in close proximity to Pine river, water power sufficient to propel a vast amount of machinery can be easily obtained. The village is surrounded by some of the best and most valuable farming and stock raising territory in the county, which is a guaranty of permanent and ever increasing trade. The Richland Center branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad passes just west of the village. Twin Bluff station being located on the northeast corner of section 12, town 9, range 1 east.

The village was platted in January, 1851, by E. M. Sexton; the surveyor being Oscar Briggs from Sauk county. The plat as then drawn laid upon sections 5, 6, 7 and 8. There were five buildings upon the site at that time. The

first was a log house erected by Mrs. Marinda Lonsdale, and was located on lot 2, block 17. There was also a small frame house that belonged to the same party located on lot 4, block 8. The third was a small one story frame building which had been erected in 1850 by James Goodrich, located on lot 6, block 23. He put in a stock of goods and was in trade here a short time; then moved to section 7, where for some time he was engaged at his trade—carpentering. His next move was to Nebraska, where he became a prominent man. The building in Sextonville which he erected is still standing as part of the hotel. The fourth building upon the site was a blacksmith shop which had been erected by Charles Devoe. The fifth was located on lot 1, block 29. It was a frame building erected by Luther Irish, in which he opened the first permanent store in the village. He commenced business here in January, 1851, buying his goods in Milwaukee, and having them hauled here with teams. He was a good business man and made money as well as friends here. In 1855 he closed this store and was intending to build a larger store and carry on a larger business. He went to La Crosse valley that year on a visit and died while there. His loss was severely felt in the community. The new bell in the Methodist church first tolled for his funeral. He left a wife and infant son. His widow is now the wife of Peter Mickle. His son now lives in Barron Co., Wis.

Daniel Osborne was the next to engage in trade here, occupying the Goodrich building. He kept open for a few months during the year 1851, and then removed to Richland City.

The next to engage in business here was Henry Leonard, a native of New York State. He came here in 1852 and opened a tinshop in the Goodrich building, manufacturing tin-ware and selling stoves. He was a good salesman, and did well as long as he "stuck to his text"; but after a time he engaged in the cattle trade

and was not successful in this line. He now runs a tin shop in Trenton, Mo.

The next to engage in trade here was Henry Mitchell, a confectioner by trade. In 1853 he opened a general store and kept there about one year.

In September, 1855, Willard H. and Charles G. Thomas opened a general store in the Mitchell building, located on lot 2, block 29.

In 1856 N. A. Hawks opened a store here. In the fall of that year he sold to E. M. Sexton and Andrew McCorkle, who carried on the business until the spring of 1857, when William McCorkle bought them out. About the same time Willard H. and Charles G. Thomas dissolved partnership, Charles G. taking the goods. He and William McCorkle formed a partnership and put their stocks of goods together. They are still in trade here, and are probably the oldest firm doing business in the county.

The first drug store in the village was opened in 1854 by Martin Britton. He afterwards added groceries, and was in trade here until 1857, when he sold to Robert Essyltine, an estimable young man. On account of ill health, Mr. Essyltine was unable to attend very strictly to business. In 1858 he sold to Dr. Asa McCollum, who is still in trade.

Charles Devoc established the first blacksmith shop here, in May, 1850. He erected a frame shanty on what afterwards became lot 8, block 22.

The first harness maker in the place was Albert Shebly, who opened a shop here in about 1860. He continued in trade for about two years, when he entered the army and remained in the service until the close of the war. He then again opened his shop here and ran it a short time, when he sold to David Wood. Mr. Wood ran the shop here and at the mill until 1882, when he closed out and moved to Richland Center.

Henry Smith was the first shoemaker. He worked at cobbling in the winter and at carpenter work in the summer. Phineas Janney was

the first to open a shoe shop. He opened in 1852 and remained but a short time.

In 1855 George Krouskop erected a building near the mill and opened a general merchandise store. He was afterwards joined in the business by his brother, A. H. Krouskop, and they were in trade here for a number of years.

In the spring of 1882 J. L. R. McCollum, Joseph McCorkle and C. G. Thomas established a cheese factory in the building formerly occupied by the Krouskop brothers. It was furnished with all the necessary machinery, and the factory has been in successful operation since.

Sextonville cemetery was surveyed in 1852 by Joseph Irish on section 5. The land was donated by Charles Devoc. The first burial here was of the remains of Mrs. George Reed.

The first hotel in this part of the county was kept by E. M. Sexton in the building that was erected for him in the winter of 1848-9. He made an addition to it and had it raised, making of it a two-story building, seventy-five feet in length. This building for years went by the name of "The Ark," and was well known throughout this region. Mr. Sexton was a popular landlord, being of a jolly disposition and always cracking jokes. The hotel did quite a business; dancing and other parties were held here, which were largely attended. Mr. Sexton sold to Samuel Bristol, and he to William Cratsenberg. It afterwards changed hands several times, and was finally destroyed by fire.

The first hotel on the village plat proper was erected by Hiram Z. Britton in 1851. It was located on lot 7, of block 16. It was a small building at first, but he soon made additions, and kept tavern until 1856. Since that time there have been several hotels kept in the village. The Parker House, the only hotel in the village at present, is kept by George Hoke. It was first opened in 1873 by George Parker, who purchased the property at that time. He re-

built and added to the house and kept it until 1881, when he sold to the present proprietor.

## MILLS.

In 1851 E. M. Sexton erected a saw-mill on the southwest quarter of section 6, throwing a dam of brush and dirt across Willow creek, thus securing seven feet fall of water. The mill was equipped with an "up and down" saw, which for years awoke the echoes of the neighboring wood with its busy hum. The mill was built for Jacob Krouskop, who, in 1853, erected a three story grist-mill building adjoining the saw-mill. He put in two run of stone and all other machinery for the manufacture of flour. Jacob Krouskop sold to his son, George Krouskop, who added another run of stone and other machinery, making it a merchant and custom mill. He sold the property to Fleisher & Wolf, who ran a short time and then Wolf sold his interest to Mr. Turnutses. The latter gentleman, about one year later, sold to William Sherman. In 1870 C. G. Thomas purchased Fleisher's interest, and the firm became Thomas & Sherman. They immediately rebuilt both grist and saw-mills, and repaired the dam. In 1871 Thomas sold half his interest to William McCorkle. The firm is now Sherman, Thomas & McCorkle. The mill now has three run of buhrs and all the necessary machinery for manufacturing first-class flour. It is run as a custom and merchant mill. New machinery has been placed in the saw-mill, which now does a splendid business. It is equipped with three saws and a planer.

In 1852 David J. Eastland began the erection of a saw-mill on the northwest quarter of section 7, town 9, range 2 east. The mill was completed in 1853. The dam was constructed of stone, brush and earth. The water wheel was a screw wheel, fourteen feet in diameter. The power was derived from Pine river. The water was carried to the mill through a race sixty rods in length, and a tail race of the same length. They used an "up

and down saw." The mill was in operation for about twelve years.

## LODGES.

Ithaea Lodge, No. 93, I. O. O. F., at Sextonville, was instituted June 25, 1857, by David H. Wright, grand master, of Madison. The charter members were as follows: S. Bailey, B. W. Telfair, Albert Ghastin, M. Britton, N. A. Hawks and J. E. Irish. The first officers elected were as follows: J. E. Irish, noble grand; B. W. Telfair, vice grand; M. Britton, recording secretary; and Albert Ghastin, treasurer. The following, named in order, have served as noble grand of the lodge; B. W. Telfair, S. Bailey, George Richards, George Krouskop, Lemuel Akey, A. Ghastin, D. Williams, L. D. Hall, William McCorkle, D. L. Hubbard, J. B. Grew, T. P. Derrickson, Amasa Grover, H. W. Glasier, L. A. Taylor, J. Knapp, John Jaquish, D. P. Nichols, William Krouskop, H. H. Barnard, F. B. Hubbard, James D. Keys, John Kuykendall, F. D. Fowler, J. L. R. McCollum, J. H. Post, A. Ghastin, J. Knapp, William Krouskop, J. G. Lamberson, Alfred Kuykendall, Henry R. Howard, A. M. Stratten, G. N. Hill, Jacob Hoover, J. S. Stofer, George Parker, D. B. Ostrander, Clayton Bush, L. C. Taylor, George M. Hoke, J. L. R. McCollum, D. B. Ostrander, G. M. Hoke, E. E. Ostrander, A. H. Dowe, R. Gibbens, David Warner, J. W. Parker, E. Parker, D. A. Barnard and J. Warner. The officers of the lodge, in 1883, were as follows: J. Warner, N. G.; F. W. Turner, V. G.; W. A. Reed, R. S.; J. D. Keys, treasurer. At the present time there are thirty-three members, and the lodge is in good working condition.

Valley Lodge, I. O. G. T., was organized at the Methodist church in Sextonville, Dec. 5, 1883, with twenty-one members. The following officers were elected. W. S. Dupee, W. C. T.; W. V. T.; Franklin Nourse, chaplain; Charles McCollum, W. S.; F. Johnson, W. A. S.; Mrs. Dora E. Howard, W. F. S.; A. B. Grafton, W. T.; E. E. Craig, W. M.; Philip Kolfe, W. D. M.; F. T. Nourse, W. O. G.; Anna Lamson, W.



I. G.; Mrs. Kate R. Crosper, W. R. H. S.; C. J. Henry, W. L. H. S.; A. Van Dusen, P. W.C.T.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first religious meetings in the town of Ithaca were held in the old building known as "The Ark," by Rev. Chaffee, a Presbyterian minister. He organized a Presbyterian class here, the following being among its first members: Charles Devoe and wife, A. H. Bush and wife, Samuel Long and wife, Richard Struble and wife, Emanuel Allace and wife, John Ingraham and wife and Mr. Fox and wife. Charles Devoe was elected deacon. This class met for worship in "The Ark" until the school house was erected, and then met there for a few years. Some of the leading members moved away, and finally this class was united with the Congregationalists.

About 1859 a Congregational Church was organized at Sextonville. It included as members: Arvin Burnham and wife, Wareham Burnham and wife, J. C. Stockton and wife and Mrs. Susan Tapin. Arvin Burnham and wife were elected deacons. This class flourished but a short time. In 1867 it was reorganized by Dexter Cleary, agent for the American Home Missionary Society for southern Wisconsin. The following were among its members at this time: Arvin Burnham and wife, Wareham Burnham and wife, Franklin Hapgood and wife, Amelia L. Perry, Harriet K. Bush, William H. Davis, Mary A. Post, A. H. Bush and wife, Charles Devoe and wife and John C. Stockton. Arvin Burnham and J. C. Stockton were elected deacons. The class met for worship in the M. E. church until 1868, when they erected a church edifice on lot 8, block 24, in the village. Rev. A. H. Bush was the first pastor. He was succeeded after about a year by Rev. Simon Spyker, who is the present pastor. The present deacons are Arvin Burnham and E. E. Pratt.

A Methodist Episcopal class was organized in Sextonville at an early day, and in 1856 a church edifice was erected on block 31. Rev.

William R. Irish was one of the first preachers. Among those who have filled the pulpit for this denomination since are: Revs. William Harvey, G. W. Nuzum, A. D. Chase, C. Cook, William Hill, H. J. Walker, Thomas Mamiel, W. F. De Lap, D. W. Couch, W. R. Irish, W. J. McKay, Thomas Crouch, J. Trewathe and O. B. Kilbourn. Rev. J. D. Tull is the present pastor. Jonathan Knapp is the present class leader. There is a Sabbath-school in connection, of which Clinton Bush is superintendent.

#### SEXTONVILLE POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice at Sextonville was established in 1849, with E. M. Sexton as postmaster. It was then a special office and mail was received once a week from Highland, in Iowa county. The neighbors acted as mail carriers, oftentimes going on foot, carrying the mail sack on their backs. About 1853 a mail route was established from Madison, west through Sextonville, and a mail carrier was furnished by the government. A man named Ragers acted as mail carrier. In 1854 a route was established from Highland to Richland Center, by way of Sextonville. David McFarland was mail carrier. Soon afterward a route was established from Sauk City to Prairie du Chien, by way of this office, with James Banks as mail carrier. When the railroad was completed to Lone Rock, a route was established from that place through Sextonville to Richland Center and the other routes were discontinued. E. M. Sexton was succeeded as postmaster by Luther Irish, then in succession came Martin Britton, Robert Essyltine, William McCorkle, Edwin Devoe, William Irish, Mrs. Lamberson and Horace H. Barnard. Mr. Barnard was appointed in 1876, and is the present postmaster.

#### EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

The first school house in the town of Ithaca, as well as the village of Sextonville, was erected in 1851. The rafters and studding were of hewn tamarack poles. The first teacher in this house was Margaret Ingram. This house was in use until 1860, when a two story building

was erected. The citizens had resolved to have a high school and the services of Prof. Henry W. Glasier, then teaching in Richland Center, were secured.

In the fall of 1860 the first high school in the county was taught at Sextonville. Under the able management of Prof. Glasier the school was a decided success, and became established upon firm footing. Succeeding Prof. Glasier as principal, the following have served: David Parsons, Timothy Moroney, J. G. Lamberson, N. E. Carver, E. E. Fowler, Mr. Farnham, G. E. Marshall and R. J. Porter. In 1882 the district erected a building, 40x60 feet in size, two stories in height; with a front entrance, 10x20 feet, and back entrance, 10x16 feet. The grounds occupying six lots on block 21. The cost of site and building was \$3,500. In 1883 the corps of teachers was as follows: Prof. H. W. Glasier, principal; Della Welton, teacher of intermediate department and Anna Lamson in primary department. In 1883 a new move was taken, and special instruction is now given in languages and music, by Prof. Hemmersback. Much credit is due to the efficiency and energetic management of Prof. Glasier, in building up and making a success of the high school enterprise, and many of the best business men of Richland county received their education here.

FIRST EXHIBITION BY THE SEXTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL.

At the close of the first term of the Sextonville High School, Nov. 15, 1860, the first school exhibition was given at the Methodist church in that place. The church was crowded, and it was a decided success. As nearly all who took part in the exercises have friends and relatives scattered over the county, many of whom attended the exhibition, a verbatim copy of the programme for the evening is here presented:

PROGRAMME OF THE EXHIBITION  
—by the—  
SEXTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL  
AT SEXTONVILLE, WIS., NOV. 15, 1860.  
PROF. W. H. GLASIER, Principal.

Instrumental music.....	Miss Emma Burnham.
Prayer.....	Rev. Todd.
Singing.	
Introductory.....	Miss Jane Britton.
Song: " 'Tis Night! 'Tis Night!".....	by Miss Jane Essyltine, Mrs. C. G. Thomas, Laura Williams, Hettie Essyltine and Laura Briggs.
Declamation: "The destiny of the human race,".....	J. M. Derrickson.
Song: "A hundred years to come".....	School.
Essays:	
"What we live for".....	Miss Laura A. Williams.
"The Catacombs".....	Lelia A. Lamberson.
"Fashion".....	Laura Briggs.
Essay.....	Harriet Manley.
"Repinings".....	Louisa Pierce.
Essay.....	Hettie Essyltine.
"Passing away".....	Mary A. Eastland.
"The degeneracy of the age".....	J. L. R. McCollum.
"Gradual progress".....	Leander Kimball.
Instrumental music.	
Dialogue: "The secret of true happiness,".....	
Characters:	
Prologue.....	Miss Lelia Lamberson.
Enphelia.....	Miss Mary Holden.
Cleara.....	Miss Mary Walker.
Pastorella.....	Miss Laura A. Williams.
Laurinda.....	Miss Sarah F. Telfair.
Urina.....	Miss Laura Briggs.
Sylvia.....	Miss Addie Boyd.
Eliza.....	Miss Louisa Pierce.
Florilla.....	Miss Gertrude Hardenberg.
Instrumental music.	
Song: "The happiest time is now.".....	
Essays:	
"Angelic man".....	Miss Mary Holden.
"Angelic woman".....	J. M. Derrickson.
"Contentment".....	Josiah Ward.
"Farewell summer".....	Miss Eliza Krosskop.
"The best pursuit is knowledge,".....	Miss Gertrude Hardenberg.
Discussion: "Resolved that a peaceable reunion of the States can never be effected by coercion." Affirmative, J. M. Derrickson; negative, Timothy Moroney.	
Declamation: "The rattlesnake constitution and the star spangled banner cannot dwell together,".....	J. G. Lamberson.
Song: "Stand up for Uncle Sam, my boys".....	School.
The dialogue: "Mother and children.".....	Mother, Miss Lelia Lamberson. Children: Misses Hattie Caldwell, Char- lotte Rice, Hattie Hall, Addie Dodge, Ellen Boyd, Lydia Banks and Ada Briggs.
Charade: "There is no rose without a thorn.".....	Characters: William Telfair, as Jack Upson, a wealthy young law- yer; Miss Lelia Lamberson, as Rose Thorn, a young lady engaged to Jack; J. M. Derrickson, as Rose's father; Miss Laura A. Williams, as Rose's waiting maid, Kate.
Declamation: "Aunt Hattie's advice to young ladies,".....	Miss Mary A. Holden.
Dialogue: Characters—Albert Hall, as an Irishman, and Ragan, a lawyer.	

- Dialogue: "Widow Bedotte." Characters: Miss Addie Boyd, as Widow Bedotte; William Telfair, as Mr. Crane.
- Declamation..... Charles Ochsner.
- Charade: "Manage," by Josiah Ward, Miss Ellen Holden, Eliza Krouskop, William Eastland and J. M. Derrickson.
- A farce: Characters—Josiah Ward, as Ludviro, a down town clerk; Timothy Moroney, as Mr. Last, a bootmaker; J. M. Derrickson, as Mr. Buckskin, a lawyer; J. L. R. McCollum, as Dr. Tonrniquet; Miss Lanra Piercee, as Mrs. Johnson, a washer woman; Addie Boyd, as Mary Worthington.
- Dialogue: "Widow Bedotte, No. 2." Characters: Miss Mary A. Holden, as Widow Bedotte; J. M. Derrickson, as Mr. Crane.
- Dialogue: Characters—John McNurlen, as captain; J. M. Derrickson, as Patrick; Timothy Moroney, as a Frenchman.
- Essay: "Farewell"..... Miss Jane Britton.
- Charade: "Ma-tri-mony." Characters: Miss Mary A. Holden, as Mrs. Hamilton, a lady of fashion; Miss Eliza Krouskop, as Mrs. Hamilton's oldest daughter, Arabella; Miss Mary A. Eastland, as the youngest daughter, Ellen; Miss Ellen Holden, as Kate, the maid; S. J. Eastland, as Count de Vanrien; Josiah Ward, as Charles Harper; J. M. Derrickson, as Dennis, the Irishman who "does the waiting."
- Music and singing.
- Dialogue: "How to keep a secret," by Emma Eastland and Emma Briggs.
- Dialogue: "Philosophy," by Charles Lamberson and Charles Ochsner.
- Music.
- Declamation..... Lewis C. McCollum.

PERSONAL SKETCHES.

The following personal sketches represent the early pioneer and prominent citizens of the town of Ithaca :

Orrin L. Britton, the pioneer settler of Sextonville, was born in Westmoreland, N. H., in 1811. When he was twelve years old, his parents moved to Jefferson Co., N. Y. where they were pioneers. There the subject of this sketch spent his youth and was married in 1830 to Annie Pratt, who was born in Jefferson county in 1811. They continued to live in that county until 1844, then moved to Wisconsin, making the journey overland with a pair of horses and wagon. They were six weeks on the road, after which they arrived at the village of Jefferson, Jefferson county. He first rented land a few miles out of town. In the spring of 1845 he bought timber land in the Rock river woods, moved there and cleared a few acres, then sold

and hired to E. M. Sexton to drive a peddler's wagon from near Fort Atkinson, which he continued until 1848, at which date he came to Richland county. His wife died in 1857, leaving eight children. He was married again two or three years later to Mary J. Rice. They have one child, and now reside a few miles from Black River Falls, in Jackson county.

James Southard, deceased, a pioneer of Richland county, was a native of Vermont, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. He was married to Emily Pickett, also a native of Vermont. They removed to New York and settled in Chautauqua county, where he bought a farm. They lived there until 1850 and again started westward, coming then to Richland county, where he entered the northeast quarter of section 11, the southeast of the southwest of section 12, town 9, range 2 east, the northwest of the southwest of section 30, the north half of the southeast of section 25 and the northeast of southwest of section 25, town 9, range 1 east. He settled with his family on section 25 of the town of Buena Vista. He made the journey from New York with his family by canal to Buffalo, from thence by the lakes to Milwaukee, the remainder of the distance by team. He had built a log cabin into which they moved, and he immediately commenced to improve his land. In 1854 he met with a sudden and violent death. He was digging a well, assisted by his son Morone. They had reached the depth of twenty-five feet, when the banks caved in killing them both. He left three children—James W., Ransom E. and Florence A.; who is married and lives in Iowa.

Ransom E. Southard was born in Chautauqua Co., N. Y., in April, 1838; came to Richland county with his parents and here grew to manhood's estate. In 1867 he settled on his present farm on the northeast quarter of section 11, where he lived with his mother in a small frame house which he had moved from Richland City. He was married April 18, 1868, to Harriet, daughter of Ira and Mary (Cook) West, early

settlers of Richland county. She was born in Wayne Co., N. Y. Mr. Southard now owns 200 acres of land, 100 of which are under cultivation. He has erected a large frame house and barn, and is engaged in dairying and stock raising.

Hon. J. L. R. McCollum, son of Asa and Hadasap (Kingsbury) McCollum, was born in the town of Leicester, Worcester Co., Mass., Jan. 4, 1842. He was but six years old when his parents emigrated to Wisconsin, and nine years old when they came to Richland county. Soon after their arrival here he went to Wiotā, La Fayette county, to live with a brother-in-law, who was engaged in mercantile trade; in a short time he went with him to Elkader, Iowa. In both of these places he attended the public schools and assisted his brother-in-law in the store, and later attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College in Chicago, from which institution he graduated and received a diploma. This instruction was afterwards supplemented by a course of study in the Sextonville High School, of which he was among the first graduates. When twenty-one years old he engaged in the mercantile trade in company with A. H. Krouskop near the mill in the town of Ithaca. In 1865 he went to Lone Rock, following the same business, and dealing in live stock quite extensively. In 1877 he settled on his present farm, located in the Pine river valley, on section 12, town 9, range 1 east, now included in the town of Ithaca. This is one of the model farms of the county; is under a high state of cultivation, and has upon it excellent improvements. He is engaged in raising grain and stock and in dealing in live stock and railroad ties. He was married in 1864 to Eliza, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (McCloud) Krouskop. Three children have blessed this union—Charles L., Dock C. and Elmer E. Mr. McCollum is a prominent man among the best class of Richland county citizens, and was elected to the Assembly in 1875 and 1876, serving the people faithfully. He has the confidence

and esteem of his fellow men, and would be a desirable acquisition to any community.

His father, Asa McCollom, was the first doctor at Sextonville. He was born in that part of the northeastern territory, now the town of Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio. His father, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Scotland and brought to America by his parents when five years old, and settled in North Carolina, where he grew to manhood. He was a stirring patriot of that day and enlisted during the War for Independence in the American army. Was taken prisoner by the English forces and sent to Nova Scotia, where he remained for some time. After he was liberated he was married to Lucy Fordyce, a native of Massachusetts. Her parents were loyal to the Crown, and during the war had emigrated to Nova Scotia. After his marriage he returned to the States and immediately started for the northwestern territory. At that time there was considerable trouble with the Indians and they consequently stopped at Redstone, now Brownsville, east of the Alleghanies, three or four years or until the Indian difficulties were in a measure settled, and they were for a time more peaceable, when they moved on and settled in the northwestern territory as before stated. Asa, the father of the subject of our sketch, made his home with his parents until eleven years old, when his father proposed to give him his time summers, and he could attend school winters, to which he agreed. He remained in that section of the county until eighteen years old, then joined an older brother in Illinois, and engaged with him surveying and farming three years, when his brother built a tavern in Vandalia. He continued to live with him one year longer and then returned to Ohio and engaged with another brother in a cabinet manufactory. They carried on that business there three years, when he sold out and went to Massachusetts. He there located in Worcester county, and commenced to work as carpenter and joiner, and later as contractor and builder.

Here his health failed, and going to Boston, he entered an infirmary, and was there during the cholera epidemic. As soon as he was able, he was employed as an assistant, and here he commenced the study of medicine, not theoretically, under an M. D., but practically amid actual surroundings, which gave him an experience very valuable and superior to any school. Soon after his return to Leicester, a child in the neighborhood was stricken with that dreadful disease, cholera, and he was called upon to prescribe. This was his first case, and in it he was successful. He soon afterward erected a large building, opened an infirmary, and there continued the practice of medicine until 1848, when he came to Wisconsin and located at Fayette, in La Fayette county, practicing medicine there until 1851, when he came to Richland county and purchased land adjoining the village plat of Sextonville, and immediately commenced the practice of his chosen profession. In 1858 he purchased a drug store and has since followed that business, and at the present time is the oldest druggist in the State. He was married in 1828 to Hadassap Kingsbury, who was born in that part of Oxford, now known as Webster, Worcester Co., Mass., Sept. 10, 1802. They have six children—Lucy, now the wife of Spencer Ellsworth, now living in Lacon, Ill.; Lauraine, now the wife of Charles Schellenger; Van Buren, Curtis, Julien Lee Roy and Lewis Cass. As an M. D. he belongs to the reformed botanical school. Politically he adheres to democracy as it was, but has not voted for a President since Buchanan, and is not in sympathy with that organization as it at present exists.

Lucius Tracy (deceased) a pioneer of Richland county, was a native of the Green Mountain State, born in 1798, where he obtained a liberal education and became fitted for a teacher. He went to New York State and engaged in teaching. While there he made the acquaintance of Polly McDowl, who became his wife. She was born near Elmira, N. Y. They went to Penn-

sylvania and settled ten miles from Erie City, where he purchased a farm. They lived there until 1851, then started west to seek a home. Richland county was then attracting the attention of settlers and thither they came. He bought the northwest quarter of Buena Vista, built a frame house and commenced improving the land. His death occurred in 1854. He left a wife and eight children to mourn his loss. Mrs. Tracy died in 1878. Five of the children are now living—Arza C., Alexander D., John V., Jane and Flora A. During the short time that Mr. Tracy lived at Buena Vista he formed many acquaintances, and was respected by all who knew him. By his death Buena Vista lost one of her most honored citizens.

Amasa Grover, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in the town of Hume, Allegany Co., N. Y. When he had arrived at a seasonable age he was sent to the district school where he acquired a fair education. His father was a miller by trade but did not always have occupation at that business and at times engaged riving and shaving shingles, and Amasa when not in school assisted his father at such work. When he was thirteen years old his father rented a mill in Cold Creek village, and Amasa was placed in charge of it. He operated that mill one year when the family removed to Cold Creek village, when two years later his father died and the family removed to Erie county. The subject of this sketch was then sixteen years old and the oldest of six children, and the support of the family devolved to a great extent upon him. He engaged in farming three years and a half then returned to Allegany county with the family and engaged in teaming, drawing coal and iron from Rochester, a distance of sixty miles. He followed this business one summer then purchased a lot in Mixville and built a house for his mother. He then engaged with a blacksmith to learn the trade, and served two years, then bought the shop and carried on the business one year. About this time he joined a co-operative society,

remained a member a few months and then withdrew having lost all his property. He then went to the town of Pike, which was in that part of Allegany, now Wyoming, county, opened a shop at Patch Corners where he worked at his trade two years, then went to Loon Lake, Steuben county, and run a shop two years, then opened a shop in Cohocton where he remained until 1851, when he determined to go west and try farming. He started in September of that year for Wisconsin, departing with his wife and three children from Danville on a canal boat, going to Buffalo and thence on a steamboat to Milwaukee where he hired a team for \$25 to take his family and household goods to Richland City and they arrived there on the 17th of October. Then he rented a cabin, moved in, and with his rifle on his shoulder started on foot in search of land. He went up Pine river to Fancy creek, followed that stream up some distance and then went across the country to Roekbridge, and down the river to Sextonville without finding a place to suit him. At Sextonville he met James Goodrich, who informed him that he had a desirable piece of land to sell, and wanted him to go and see it. To this he assented and they started on foot. This was the Lawrence place located on section 17, the north half of the northeast quarter. There was a log cabin on the place and twelve acres improved. Mr. Grover was pleased with it and made the purchase, paying for it \$300. He was, however, obliged to go Beloit for the deed, and they hired a team together for this purpose, returning they stopped at Janesville and bought a stock of provisions for the winter. He then moved to his new home with his family and arrived in November. He immediately started a blacksmith shop, the first in that part of the county north of Sextonville, and engaged in farming and work at his trade. The family lived in the log cabin five years when he erected a small frame house. The commodious house now occupied by the family was built in 1881. He also built a frame barn thirty feet wide and ninety feet long with a shed attached sixty feet

in length. He has engaged in raising grain and stock. He also carried on the business of blacksmithing until 1880. He is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, a great reader and well posted on the current events of the day. He has filled offices of trust in the town, having been elected assessor for the town of Buena Vista in 1853 which at the time included territory extending from the Wisconsin river to Vernon county. He has since been elected to that office in the town of Ithaca. He is at present a member of the board of supervisors. He has been twice married, first in 1845 to Fidelia Tichenor. She was born in Genesee Co., N. Y., and died in 1848, leaving three children—Hiram, and twins, Fidelia and Amelia. His second wife to whom he was married in 1849 was Arvella Armstrong; she was born in the town of Cohocton, Steuben Co., N. Y. Twelve children blessed this union, eleven of whom are now living—Elizabeth, James, Madena, Alpha, Janett, Mary, Martin, George, Gilbert, Amasa and Evert.

George Hoke, son of John and Jemima (Antisdell) Hoke, was born in Otsego Co., N. Y., in August, 1840. When he was eleven years old, he came to Richland county with his parents, with whom he continued to reside until 1863. In November of that year he enlisted in company H, of the 37th Wisconsin, went into camp at Madison, and in the spring of 1864 went to Virginia, and joined the Army of the Potomac. He was severely wounded at the battle of Petersburg June 18, 1864, in consequence of which, he lay in the hospital eight months. He then joined his command and participated in the more important battles, before Richmond and Petersburg, until the close of the war. He was discharged with the regiment July 26, 1865, after which he returned home and engaged in farming. In 1866 Eliza Parker became his wife. She was born in the State of New York. He continued farming in Hoke Hollow until 1868, then removed to Sextonville and commenced to learn the cooper's trade. In 1871 he took a

contract to carry the mails from Sextonville to Cazenovia, which he continued one year, then sold out and again engaged in farming. In 1877 he opened a hotel in Sextonville, which he named the Sextonville House. In 1878 he went to Lone Rock and kept hotel one year, then returned to Sextonville, and in 1881 purchased the Parker House property, where he is now engaged in hotel keeping. Mr. and Mrs. Hoke are the parents of two children—Alma L., who is a teacher in the public schools, and Nettie A.

S. I. Freeborn, horticulturist and apiarist, first came to Richland county in 1851, with his brother-in-law, James M. Cass, with whom he lived, being unmarried at that time. Soon after his arrival he engaged in the lumber business, in company with a man named Barber. They went up Pine river, cut the timber and rafted it down the stream. They had at one time 2,200 logs upon the river. He was married in 1859 to Elvira Howe, a native of Canada. Two years later he settled on his present farm, on the northeast quarter of section 20, town 10 north, range 2 east. In 1856 he bought twenty colonies of bees of Green Mayfield, which were the beginning of the apiary he now owns. At present he has 320 colonies. He sold, in 1882, 28,000 pounds of honey. In the nursery business, he is the pioneer of this place. He has met with decided success, and has made large sales, for a new enterprise, and the stock being as represented, gives satisfaction and an increasing demand may be expected. In 1862 he associated A. L. Hatch in this business. They have at present, a nursery stock of 150,000 trees, an orchard of 4,000 trees and a general stock in proportion. Mr. Freeborn is a native of New York, born in Chautauqua county, April 30, 1833. His father died when he was ten years old. Soon after, his mother was married to Thomas Pound, and the family removed to Crawford Co., Penn., where they lived until 1847. In that year they emigrated to the territory of Wisconsin and located in Dane county, making the trip in thirty

days, traveling overland with teams. The subject of this sketch remained with his parents a short time, then went to Blue Mound, where his brother had charge of a stage station. He assisted him there in the care of the horses, two seasons. At the age of sixteen he went to Helena and engaged in ferrying on the Wisconsin river, two summers. During that time he ferried many persons across the river, who became settlers of Richland county. Mrs. Freeborn died in 1872, leaving three children—Arvilla, Elma and Ernest. In 1873 he was married to Hadassah Spyker. Two children have blessed this union—Simon A. and Lorena. Politically, Mr. Freeborn belongs to the republican party, having been identified with that organization since its formation.

James M. Cass, a pioneer of Richland county, was born in the town of Stanstead, province of Quebec, Canada, March 24, 1808. His grandfather was a native of New Hampshire, and had emigrated, in company with eight others, to Stanstead, then a wilderness. Here the subject of this sketch grew to manhood, obtaining his education in the common schools. He was married Feb. 19, 1829, to Mary Taplin, who was born in Stanstead county, Feb. 12, 1809. He built a house near his old home, where he lived two years, then moved to the homestead and remained till 1835, when he came to the States, located in Ohio, near the Pennsylvania line and there formed a partnership with a mill owner and operated a flouring mill three years, then moved to Wellsburg, where he engaged in the same business. From there he went to Crawford county, and in company with a cousin built a mill, which they operated about three years, successfully. He then sold his interest. In 1847, accompanied by his family, he started with teams, overland, for the territory of Wisconsin. After thirty days travel they arrived in Sauk county, and settled in what is now the town of Spring Green. He was chairman of the first board of supervisors of that town, and gave the town its

name. In 1851 he came to Richland county and purchased a claim on section 3, town 10 north, range 1 east, now in the town of Richland. He entered this land and then returned for his family. They started with two teams loaded with their household goods. There was no regularly traveled road in those days, and their progress was necessarily slow. They reached Beemer's Tavern in time for dinner, after which they again started, but had gone only a little distance when one load of their goods tipped over. They quickly re-loaded and started on, but before reaching their destination, the other load capsized causing another delay. They reached their cabin after dark, much fatigued by the day's journey. In one of the loads was some honey which, when the load tipped over, was spilled, rendering a number of household articles very sticky and sweet. The next day the wild bees scented the honey and came swarming around to gather it. I. S. Freeborn, who had come with the family, noticed them, and knowing something of the habits of bees, made up his mind that their abiding place was not far distant. He persuaded Mr. Cass to start with him in search of it. They soon found two swarms from which they gathered 150 pounds of honey. Not long after this, Mr. Freeborn started out in search of a shoat that had been missing for several days. He had not proceeded far, before he discovered a bear. He raised his gun and fired, but it was nearly dark and the bear was partly concealed in the brush. He hurried back for lights and assistance. On returning, they found the bear dead. A team was procured and the bear drawn to the house. As soon as Mr. Cass got fairly settled, he commenced building a saw-mill on Pine river. He constructed a stone and brush dam, procuring a fall of six and a half feet. The mill was furnished with an up and down saw. He operated it successfully four years, then sold to William Bowen, came to Ithaca and purchased his present farm, located on the northwest quarter of section 21. The place was first occupied by

William Butler, an Indian, who had built a log house upon it. They lived in that a few months, when they replaced it by the frame house they now occupy. Mrs. Cass died in 1840, in Pennsylvania, leaving four children—Osman, Almina, George W. and Walter T. Mr. Cass was married again in June, 1840, to Esther A. Freeborn, who was born in Niagara Co., N. Y., March 28, 1821. Mr. Cass is an enterprising intelligent man, and has filled offices of trust in the town.

William McCorkle, an early settler in Richland county and a member of the oldest firm now in business in the county, was born in New York city, Jan. 1, 1819. As soon as old enough he attended the city schools. During his school days here an incident occurred which has always been remembered. The occasion being a visit to this city in 1825 by La Fayette. The school children, desiring to do him honor and express their appreciation of his attention, arranged themselves in line, while the hero reviewed the ranks in soldier style, except that occasionally he would place his hand upon the head of some of the children expressive of his affection for them and indicative of a well formed physiognomy. The subject of this sketch was among those thus selected, and honored by the great La Fayette. Soon after this his parents moved to Long Island and settled in the town of South Hampton, Suffolk county. He remained here with his parents until about fifteen years of age when he went to New York city where he was employed as a clerk in a dry goods store three years, then went to Port Jefferson, L. I., and clerked there three years. He then concluded to go on a whaling voyage and made that his calling until 1855. During this time he sailed around the world six times and was once wrecked on the coast of South America. The vessel went to pieces on the rocks and about one-third of the cargo lost. He spent about four months in South America, viewing the country and having a good time generally. He then took passage



for New York on an English brig. Meanwhile his brother Andrew had come to Wisconsin and stopped for a short time in Sauk county and in the spring of 1851 had come to Richland county. William, accompanied by three other brothers, Samuel, Robert and Charles, concluded to give him a surprise in his new home, and started for Richland county. Andrew was at this time a single man, and boarded at the well known tavern called "The Ark." The brothers found on their arrival that he had gone out looking for land. They waited patiently several days. He was finally seen coming down the road and the brothers stood behind the door. As he came up William stepped out and greeted his brother, who was much surprised to see him. By the time he had partially recovered his surprise another brother stepped out, then another, and finally the fourth, "for God's sake," said Andrew, "is the whole family here?" William remained in Richland county for a short time, then removed to Long Island, and went on another voyage. He joined in marriage, Oct. 14, 1856, with Harriet F. Topping, who was born in the town of South Hampton, Suffolk Co., L. I., July 27, 1837. In the spring of 1857 he returned to Richland county, and located in Sextonville, purchased village property and engaged in mercantile trade. In 1857 the firm of McCorkle & Thomas was formed and is now the oldest firm doing business in the county. Mr. and Mrs. McCorkle have had two children—Eugene W., born July 15, 1857, and Lillian, born Nov. 23, 1861, and died Nov. 14, 1868. Andrew remained a resident of Sextonville several years. He was married to Rebecca, daughter of E. M. Sexton. He now resides in Webb City, Mo. Charles and Robert both settled in Richland county. Charles was a young unmarried man, intelligent and enterprising. He had filled offices of trust in the town and county; was at the time of his death, register of deeds. Robert lived here some years then removed to Lloyd where he is interested in a flouring mill. Samuel returned

to Richland county some years later and engaged in mercantile trade at Lloyd.

George W. Cass, son of James M. and Mary (Taplin) Cass, was born in Ohio, Feb. 19, 1836, and was fifteen years old when his parents settled in Richland county. He was married in 1859 to Margaret J. Beaver, daughter of Christian and Catharine Beaver, and a native of Mifflin Co., Penn. He then went to Spring Green and purchased a farm, lived there one year, after which he returned to this county, and settled in the valley of Little Willow, on section 7, land that he had bought in 1856. It was then in its natural state, mostly covered with brush. He now has 120 acres of the 160 under cultivation; has erected good frame buildings and has altogether a pleasant home. Mr. and Mrs. Cass are the parents of six children—Mary, Charles, Jennie, Frank, Nellie and Lucy. Jennie died March 7, 1883, of diphtheria.

Joseph Sippy, M. D. (deceased), one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born near Harper's Ferry, Va., in March, 1791. His father was a native of France and came to America with La Fayette during the War for Independence. He left home without the consent of his parents, and was not mustered into service until his arrival in America. After the declaration of peace he settled in Virginia and was there married to Lucretia Johnson, who was born in Fredericksburg, Va. When the subject of this sketch was seven years old his parents moved to Pennsylvania and settled in Beaver county, where he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the subscription schools. He was a stirring patriot and volunteered in the War of 1812, served a short time when he was honorably discharged, and soon after was married to Martha Cogswell. Her mother was a sister to Gen. Gates, of Revolutionary fame, and was born in March, 1796. In the year 1813 they emigrated to Ohio, making the trip with one horse, without a wagon, packing upon the back of the horse their household goods, including bedding and camp kettles.

Such a method of transportation at this day would indeed seem slow and irksome, and shows that these persons must have been of pluck and energy. They made their way to the Cuyahoga river in Cuyahoga county and remained a few months. It was at that time an unhealthy country and consequently he moved and settled in the town of Granger, Medina county, where they were early settlers. They lived there a few years and then moved to the town of Hinkley, in the same county where he commenced the practice of medicine, and also having purchased eighty acres of land carried on a farm. In 1836 he sold out and again started west and this time settled in Fulton Co., Ind., where they were again pioneers. A history of Medina county, published subsequently, makes particular mention of this pioneer, as he was a prominent representative man. In Indiana he made his chosen profession a business and had a lucrative practice. This country also proved to be somewhat unhealthy and in 1852 he concluded to again change location, and accordingly made a visit to Richland county, coming from Indiana on horseback. Thinking this would be a desirable, healthy country, he returned to Indiana, and in September of that year, returned with his family and settled on section 31. He was not well pleased with this place but bought it on account of the improvements. As soon as he was comfortably settled he started, accompanied by his son, Thomas, to explore the valley of Willow creek. There was no road and they went prepared to cut their way through. At night they camped under the protection of a shelving rock on section 9. The road now runs under this same rock. Isaac Welton had been following their trail and overtook them at this place, and the next morning, leaving the team, they started on foot. Mr. Sippy at this time selected three forties of land—the south half of the west quarter of section 4, town 90, range 2 east, and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 4; he afterward bought additional land adjoining land near by

until his place was increased to 600 acres. He lived on section 31 two years, then removed to section 4, and commenced improvements on his land. He laid out the village of Neptune, erected a saw mill and made this his home until the time of his death which occurred in September, 1870. His wife died in July, 1880. He had quite an extensive practice in the county, and was well and favorably known. Seven of his children are now living—Minerva, who married Menzies Manley (deceased), she now lives in Sanborn, Iowa. Hannah, widow of H. L. Welton now living in Kansas. Martha, wife of John Stockton now living in Richland Center. Lydia, wife of Daniel Dodge, now living in Kansas. Precilla, wife of Abel Ragles now in this town. Rebecca, wife of Valentine Stoddard now living in the town of Willow, and Thomas. The latter is the only son and now occupies a portion of the original homestead, where he has a farm of upwards of 300 acres and is extensively engaged in dairy and stock farming. He was born in the town of Hinkley, Medina Co., Ohio, April 3, 1835. The year following his father removed to Indiana, where his younger days were spent in school, on the farm and in his father's store. He came to Richland county with his parents and made his home with them until 1857, when he was married to Laura E. Welton. Her parents were natives of York State, but she was brought up in the State of Ohio. He then settled on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 4, where he lived until 1870, then moved to the southwest quarter of the same section. He has erected a good frame house, a frame barn with stone basement and now has a good farm well improved. He has been a member of the board and is at present town treasurer, and has been justice of the peace—the latter office he has held almost continually for eighteen years, and during all this time it is remarkable that none of his decisions have ever been reversed, or a change of venue taken or asked, which fact in itself speaks volumes

for the good judgment and honesty of this settler. Mr. and Mrs. Sippy are the parents of two children—Asher Francello and Bertram W; a daughter named Cora died when three years old. These people were true pioneers and endured the hardships and inconveniences of such a life. Remote from mill and market, various methods were devised to meet the necessities of life. In the absence of a mill Dr. Sippy's large mortar, with a wheel for a pestle, did the work of grinding for the neighborhood. Thus the people of that day met every difficulty, overcame every obstacle, and in consequence a goodly land with every convenience may here be found, where within comparatively a short time a wilderness prevailed.

Elijah Nourse, (deceased) a pioneer of Richland county, was a native of New Hampshire, born in Bedford, Hillsborough county of that State, in 1797, where he was brought up on a farm. His wife was Mehitable Towns, who was born in Hillsborough county Nov. 24, 1798. Soon after marriage they emigrated to Orange Co., Vt., and settled in the town of Topsham, and remained until 1836, then moved to Washington county of the same State, and located in Moretown where he purchased a farm, which he improved and lived upon until 1839. He then sold out and started for the territory of Wisconsin, traveling with teams to Buffalo, put teams and wagons on board steamboat for Detroit, where they embarked and completed the journey to Kenosha, (then Southport). Here their eldest son, William, was taken sick and died. They lived there one year only and then went to Ohio making the trip overland; remained one year and returned to Wisconsin, passing through Chicago on the way, which was then a mere hamlet. He located in Rock county, where he purchased a tract of land, now in the city limits of Janesville, on Rock river, upon which was a slight improvement, including a log cabin, the first ever built on Rock river in that county. The location proved unhealthy, and four of their chil-

dren sickened and died. In 1852 he sold his farm and came to Richland county; purchased the south half of the northeast quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 6, town 9 north, range 2 east, now included in the town of Ithaca, there improved a farm and erected a good frame house. Mr. Nourse was an industrious man, a good farmer, and in comfortable circumstances at the time of his death which occurred April 3, 1877. His wife died Feb. 23, 1877. Their son Franklin, the only one of their children now living occupies the homestead, and since his father's death has carried on the farm. He has built a large frame barn with a stone basement, and the place is now one of the best improved in the county. Franklin Nourse was born in Topsham, Orange Co., Vt., March 12, 1830, and was never separated from his parents for any length of time. In 1856 he visited his native town and there, February 25th, was married to Hannah Fellows, also a native of Topsham. They have five children—Ella, Dora, Lilla, Frank and Lulu.

Menzies Phelps Manley, one of the first settlers on Little Willow creek, is a native of Connecticut, born in the township of Tolland, Hartford county, March 6, 1829. When six years of age his parents emigrated to Ohio and located in Medina county, township of Brunswick, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving his education in the pioneer schools which at that time were very crude, compared with our present system of common schools. The school house itself being a rude log structure, with a fire place in one end. The benches consisted of split logs, flat side up, with four legs. When twelve years old, his parents removed to Indiana and located in the village of Akron, Fulton county. Here he remained with his parents for three years, when they removed from the village of Akron, on to a farm three miles east. On this farm he remained for three years assisting his father in agricultural pursuits. During these three years, at times the whole family of eight were stricken

down with ague. Phelps being the main stay of the family, was obliged to work, when weak nature said "go to bed." Plowing day after day, having no support save the plow handles. In the month of April, after he was eighteen years of age he hired out to Messrs. Kent & Elam, who were proprietors of a brick yard, which was located a mile and a half south of Rochester, the county seat of Fulton county. Here he worked until the 1st of October, off-bearing brick from the moulder. His regular days work being 5,000 brick. During the next winter, 1847-8, he was engaged in cutting cord wood for John Elam at twenty-five cents per cord. The next summer he attended masons on the court house at Rochester. In the fall of 1848, in company with a young man by name of John Shamp, he went to Niles, Mich. Not finding any work at that place, they went to New Buffalo, their only guide being the survey of the Michigan Central railroad. Their effect on this journey consisted of an extra shirt done up in a bandanna handkerchief, and \$1.50 in money apiece. Still they were proud to say they sponged not a meal of victuals or a night's lodging from any one. At New Buffalo they worked in a steam-mill until the 1st of June, when they returned to a point eight miles from New Buffalo, on the Michigan Central railroad. Here they worked for the railroad company until the following June, cutting cord wood, making ties and clearing track for the grade. In June, 1849, he returned to La Porte Co., Ind., and hired out to a farmer by the name of Charles W. Henry, who lived on Stillwell prairie. Here he worked till the fall of 1852, when he took his span of horses and went to Fulton county to see his parents, who were still living near Akron. While at home he purchased forty acres of land, paying the sum of \$1.25 per acre. This piece of land he sold after locating in Richland county. In September, 1852, he started for Richland Co., Wis., taking with his team a load of goods for Dr. Sippy, who emigrated to Richland county at that time. They

were a month on the road and brought forty head of cattle with them. Soon after his arrival he traded his team to I. P. Welton for eighty acres of land—the south half of the southwest quarter of section 32, town 10, range 2 east. This team consisted of two beautiful dapple grays, and were highly prized by Mr. Manley. Mr. Welton traded them to an Indian by the name of William Butler, who kept them for twenty years. They lived to a great age and till perfectly white. They were at one time owned by Berney M. Jarvis, of Cazenovia. Mr. Manley did not settle on this land, but sold it to his father, who settled on it in the fall of 1853. In October, 1852, Mr. Manley engaged with James Cap in his saw-mill as sawyer. Soon after going to work he injured his foot on the saw and was not able to resume until March following. He worked in the mill for Mr. Cap until the spring of 1854, when he rented the mill and operated it for one year. In June, 1853, Mr. Manley, in company with Daniel, Benjamin and Addison Rance, West Southard and a man named Page, started out to look for land. Leaving Dr. Sippy's place, they followed up Little Willow creek to the head, thence down the Alwood hollow, and camped for the night on the spot where Mr. McCorkle's flouring mills now stand. During the afternoon West Southard got lost. His companions remained up till late in the night, firing guns at intervals and keeping up a bright fire to attract his attention; but finally becoming discouraged with their efforts, they rolled up in their blankets and went to sleep. The next morning the lost one put in his appearance. He had chanced to find his way to Benjamin Smith's cabin, as had many other wanderers before him. The old pioneer gladly gave him the much needed advice and sent him on his way rejoicing. Manley did not select land on this trip, but was favorably impressed with Little Willow valley. The bottom lands of Little Willow at that time were wet and swampy, but he concluded that by a little drainage they could be made tillable,

and in June, 1854, he entered the south half of the northwest quarter, and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter, and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 6, town 10, range 2 east. In 1856 he sold the last named forties to his two brothers, Asa and Joseph Manley, who divided the two forties lengthwise the line, retaining the same to the present time. In the fall of 1854 he built a rude lumber shanty and lived in that till the following February, when he moved into the house in which he now resides. In 1869 Mr. Manley bought forty acres of land (the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter—remainder of description the same as before mentioned). Of this 120 acres, ninety-five are improved—the balance retained for wood and other purposes. Mr. Manley was married to Harriet (Hamilton) Tompson on March 26, 1854. They have seven children—George S., J. Willard, Flora L., Cora A., Dora J., David F. and Albert E. The oldest child, George S. is married and living on a farm at the mouth of Little Willow. For the greater part of the last five years Mrs. Manley has been confined to her bed with nervous prostration. Six of their children are now at home to take care of and assist their mother in her illness.

Mathias M. Smith, a pioneer of Richland county, was born in Litchfield, Herkimer Co., N. Y., Feb. 23, 1827, where his early life was spent in school and on the farm. When he was nineteen years old, his father sold the farm upon which he had lived for fifty-three years, and removed to Bedford, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, where the subject of this sketch remained until he was twenty-three years of age. He then started out to see something of the world. He visited the cities of Cincinnati and St. Louis, then went to Illinois, and engaged in farming in Greene and Jersey counties. From there, he went to Hancock county, in the same State, where he was employed by a Massachusetts firm to sell clocks in the States of Illinois and Iowa, in which business

he continued about a year. He then returned to Bedford, Ohio, and Dec. 24, 1852 was married to Elizabeth Thomas. She was born in Hamilton, Madison Co., N. Y., Feb. 20, 1831. In the spring of 1853, they started for Wisconsin. They came from Cleveland to Milwaukee on the lakes; from thence by team to Sextonville. Here they stopped for a time with Mrs. Smith's father, Anthony Thomas, and also with her brother, Willard H. Thomas, who lived on section 8, in town 10. He built a temporary frame building, 14x18 feet in size, in which the family lived until 1861, when he erected a good frame house which they still occupy. Mr. Smith, in company with James B. Smith, his brother, who came from Ohio in 1858, owns 265 acres of land, of which 120 acres are improved. They have engaged in raising grain and stock, and of late years have kept a dairy. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have five children—Frederick A., James W., Kate B., Frank M. and Annie E.

William Lunenschloss, the pioneer German settler of the town of Ithaca, was born in the city of Cologne, (which then belonged to the French Empire) Nov. 23, 1816. He obtained a good education in the schools of his native city, attending three terms at a high school. He then engaged in the grain trade. At the age of twenty he entered the army and served one and a half years, after which he resumed his former occupation. In 1852 he took passage in the steamship "*City of Glasgow*," bound for America, landed in Philadelphia and went directly to Milwaukee, where he remained two months. From there he went to Dodge county and engaged in buying grain and other farm produce until June, 1854; then, accompanied by his family, started with a pair of horses for Richland county. He bought 120 acres of land on section 16. The family moved into a vacant log cabin on section 22 and lived there three months. In the meantime he erected a small frame house on the northeast of the southeast of section 16. He commenced farming by raising grain and stock. In 1867 he engaged

in the culture of hops, and is the only man in the town who has continued that industry. He, however, has made it a paying business. He has erected a neat cottage house, enclosed the yard and beautified it by the planting of ornamental trees and shrubs. He has two stables, one log and the other frame, a hop house and granary. The latter is 20x50 feet. In 1875 he engaged in the hop trade, buying in Wisconsin and selling abroad. In 1878 he removed to Richland Center and bought grain until 1882, when he returned to his farm. He was married in 1852 to Eliza Thernes, also a native of the city of Cologne. They have four children—Frank, Charles B., Eliza and William.

John A. Shontz was one of the pioneers of Ithaca, having come here in 1854, accompanied by his brother, Loren Shontz. They purchased land on section 36, town 10, range 2 east, now included in the town of Ithaca. They erected a small frame house and commenced improving the land. They were both unmarried at that time, and a sister kept house for them. In 1856, John A. returned to his home in Pennsylvania and was there married September 23, to Rebecca McFadden, who was born in Crawford Co., Penn., Nov. 2, 1832. He then came back to Wisconsin with his bride. Loren then returned to his eastern home, made a short visit, then went to Missouri, where he was taken sick and died. Mrs. Shontz was very homesick, so, in 1857, they rented the farm and returned to Pennsylvania, where Mr. Shontz engaged in the lumber business until 1862. In that year they came back to his farm in Richland county, where they have since resided. He has built an addition to the house, and a frame barn with a stone basement. His farm now contains 200 acres, all fenced and improved. It is located in Bear Valley. Mr. Shontz was born in Crawford Co., Penn., Jan. 25, 1828, where he was brought up on a farm. He obtained his education in the common schools. At the age of eighteen, he engaged in the lumber business in company with his brother, buying

standing timber and having it manufactured into lumber and shingles. He was thus employed until the date of his coming to Ithaca. Mr. and Mrs. Shontz have four children—Lola, Kate, Clara L., Florence H. and George M. Mr. Shontz is postmaster of the Bear Valley postoffice.

William Misslich, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in the city of Cologne, Rhine province, Prussia, in 1795. Here he attended school in his younger days, and later, devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. He was married in 1823 to Agnes Heinen, who was born in Rhine province in 1793. In 1850 they came to America and settled first in Waukesha Co., Wis., where he bought forty acres of land. He improved this land and lived upon it until 1855. In that year he came to Richland county and settled upon section 14, town 10, range 2 east, now known as the town of Ithaca, where he lived until the time of his death in 1868. Mrs. Misslich died in 1878. His son Albert was born in Rhine province, Prussia, in 1831, came with his parents to America and remained with them until 1851. He then went to California, making the trip overland, with an ox team, and was five months and twenty-two days on the road. He returned in 1855 by water, crossing the isthmus at Nicaragua, joined his parents and came with them to Richland county. He entered land on sections 13 and 14, where he resided about fourteen years, then moved to his present location on section 26. In 1855 he was married to Mary Weitzel, a native of Rhine province. They have nine children. Mr. Misslich has taken a lively interest in town and county affairs. He is the present chairman of the town board of supervisors, which office he has held six years. Their son, Paul, was born in Rhine province, Oct. 14, 1834. He obtained a good education in the common schools of his native country and was seventeen years old when he came with his parents to America. He lived with them until his marriage, Nov.

27, 1858, to Elizabeth Bodendine, also a native of Rhine province. They are the parents of six children—William, Agnes, Albert, Margaret, Mary and Anna. Mr. Misslich has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits. His farm is located on section 14. He has been postmaster of the Keyesville postoffice ever since its establishment in 1872. He is also notary public, having been appointed by Gov. Smith, in April, 1880.

Isaac O. Smith was an early settler in the town of Buena Vista, having come there in 1855. He purchased 215 acres of land on section 10, town 9, range 2 east, upon which he erected a small frame house and made other improvements. He resided there until 1867, when he bought the "Lawrence" farm, located on the northwest quarter of section 2, town of Ithaca. He has built a large frame barn and frame house, and is engaged in raising grain and stock, also keeps a large dairy. Mr. Smith was born in Brook Haven, Suffolk Co., L. I., in November, 1823, where he spent his childhood, helping upon the farm and going to school. At the age of fourteen he went to sea, and sailed before the mast until he was twenty-one years old. He then became master of a vessel and followed the sea until 1855, then being tired of a seafaring life, concluded to become a farmer, and came to Richland county. His surroundings prove his success in that business. He has been twice married, first in November 1857 to Jane E. Lawrence, a native of New York. She was born in August, 1838, and died in Buena Vista, Sept. 4, 1858, leaving one son—Charles M. He was again married, June 19, 1867, to Flora A., daughter of Lucius and Polly McDowl Tracy. She was born March 22, 1841, in Erie Co., Penn.

J. G. Lamberson, dealer in real estate and live stock, came to Richland county with his parents when a boy. Here his younger days were spent in acquiring an education. He enlisted in December, 1863, in the 6th Wisconsin Battery, went south and served in Tennessee, Ala-

bama and Georgia, until the close of the war. He was honorably discharged at Madison, in July, 1865. He returned to Sextonville, entered the high school and graduated, after which he engaged in teaching in Sylvan, afterwards in Richland City and Sextonville. In 1868 he engaged in mercantile trade in the latter place. He carried a general stock and did a thriving business, which he continued until 1878. During the time he also dealt in live stock, which business he still continues. He was born in Elkhorn, Walworth county, territory of Wisconsin, Aug. 27, 1846, and came from there to Richland county. He was married in December, 1872, to Jennie Ward, a native of DeKalb Co., Ill. They have four children—Mabel, Albert, and Lelia Maud and Laura Blanche, twins. Mr. Lamberson is what may be called a self-made man. Starting in life with a good mind and sound body as capital, he has, by perseverance and industry, accumulated a considerable property, now owning 1,000 acres of land in the county, mostly worked by tenants, and is among the best class of business men. He early appreciated the advantage to be derived from securing a good education, and bent his energy to obtain the same, which, having secured, he put into practical use, and his indomitable energy, combined with good judgment, have made him a successful man in all his undertakings. Courteous and affable in his manner, he is deservedly popular among his fellow-men.

William Simpson, an early settler of Ithaca, was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, Jan. 4, 1827. When he was four years old, his parents removed to Carroll Co., Ind., where they were early settlers. His father purchased timber land which William assisted in clearing. He resided with his parents until 1848. In October of that year, he was married to Rachel Morrison. She was born Aug. 15, 1829, in Pennsylvania. They removed to Will Co., Ill., where he rented a farm and lived until 1856, then taking his family and his household goods loaded upon a

wagon, started overland for Wisconsin. After traveling nine days they reached their destination in the town of Buena Vista, now the town of Ithaca. His father several years before had laid out three patents, on one of which William moved. It comprised eighty acres of land on section 30, and his brother had built a small frame house for him, into which the family moved. Since that time he has built a commodious frame house and barn. His farm, which is well watered by Willow creek, is well improved and enclosed. Mrs. Simpson died May 16, 1858, leaving three children—Mary E., Sarah R. and Robert A. March 31, 1859, Mr. Simpson was again married to Lucinda McNamar, who was born in Lewis Co., Va., March 31, 1840. Eight children have blessed this union—William R., Joshua D., Marshall L., Elijah E., Frederick N., Harry E., Edward G. and George H. The second Mrs. Simpson died Jan. 6, 1881.

Abel Ragles is a native of Pennsylvania, born in what was formerly Mercer, but now Lawrence county, Jan. 23, 1824. When he was five years old his parents moved to what was then Medina, now Summit Co., Ohio. At the age of thirteen he went with a neighbor to Indiana to assist in driving cattle. He remained with this man in Fulton county one year, then engaged to work for his uncle, Dr. Sippy, with whom he lived until twenty-one years old. He was then married to Priscilla, daughter of Joseph and Martha (Cogswell) Sippy. His father-in-law gave him a tract of land in Wabash county, which he improved and lived upon until 1854. In May of that year he sold his farm and came to Wisconsin in search of a location. On the 10th of June he entered a tract of land on section 4, town 10, range 2 east, then returned to Indiana, gathered his crops and remained until fall, when he removed his family to their new home. They came overland with teams, bringing their household goods and provisions and camping on the way. They were sixteen days on the road. They first rented a small

shanty in which they lived a few days, in the meantime, with the assistance of the neighbors, he erected a rude log cabin into which they moved. During the following winter their supply of provision ran very low and it was necessary to do something to "keep the wolf from the door," so Mr. Ragles and his neighbor, Henry Short, whose stock of provisions was in about the same condition, started, each taking a load of lumber, to go to Sextonville, where they tried in vain to sell or trade their lumber for provisions. Mr. Ragles, however, bought two bushels of corn and a bushel of beans, and Mr. Short two bushels of corn. They returned, arriving at Mr. Ragles' about midnight tired and hungry, having eaten nothing since morning. The family had gone to bed hungry, but they got up and Mrs. Ragles hastily cooked some of the beans which they ate with a relish. In June, 1857, his corn crop was cut off by the frost and the prospect was gloomy indeed. About that time there became a demand for ginseng and he and his family went to work with a will to gather it. At this employment they soon earned enough to put them out of the reach of want for the time being. In fact it proved a turning point in their fortunes, from which they prospered and were soon able to build a small frame house, and later, a frame barn, which was destroyed by fire a few years afterwards together with all its contents, hay, grain and some stock. He has built another barn and a large frame upright part to his house. He is the owner of 202 acres, eighty of which are well improved, and is engaged in raising grain and stock, also keeps a dairy. Mr. and Mrs. Ragles have eight children. The eldest three, Martha, Thomas J. and Annie J. were born in Indiana; Hubert S., Clarence J., Robert B., Emma and William are natives of Richland county.

Samuel Jones came to Wisconsin in 1855 but did not immediately locate in this county. He was born in Greene Co., N. Y., July 13, 1820, where he was reared upon a farm, and obtained



his education in the common schools. He was married Aug. 24, 1845, to Mary A. Vantassel, also a native of Greene county, born Dec. 10, 1826. He purchased a farm in his native county, town of Cairo, where he lived until he came to Wisconsin. He then sold his farm, and, accompanied by his family, made the journey by rail, to Madison, where he hired a team to take them to Dover, Iowa county. He engaged to work upon a railroad bridge which was then being built across the Wisconsin river, near Spring Green. He was thus employed until the fall of 1856, when he came to Richland county. He purchased 120 acres of unimproved land on sections 5 and 6, town of Ithaca; erected a log house upon section 6 and immediately began improving his farm. A few years later he built a good frame house. In 1868 he bought his present farm, located on the south half of section 6. To this place he moved his frame house and built a frame barn. He has engaged in raising grain and stock, and, like many others, at one time tried hops. He has been successful in his undertakings and is now the owner of one of the best farms on the Little Willow. His wife died June 11, 1882, leaving five children—John W., George W., Samuel Eugene, M. Eva and Paul H. Their eldest child died at the age of three years, and another in infancy. Mr. Jones has since been married to Elizabeth Schoonover, widow of Elias Tanner. She is a native of Ohio.

Horace L. Burnham came to Richland county in 1856. He purchased the northeast of the southeast quarter of section 36, town 10, range 1 east; also eighty acres adjoining in Sank county. On the first was a log cabin with a sod roof, into which he moved, and soon after replaced the sod roof by one of shingles. He has since erected a neat cottage house and frame barn. He has resided here since that time, with the exception of the four years that he served as county treasurer, which he spent in Richland Center. He is a native of the Green Mountain State, born in Addison county,

July 12, 1828. He obtained his early education in the district school, and afterwards attended the academy at Bakersfield, Vt., one term, also one term at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill. After completing his education he engaged in teaching school winters, and farming the remainder of the year. In 1850, Susan C. Lowell became his wife. She was born in Orange Co., Vt., Feb. 13, 1830. They resided in Addison county until 1857. Mr. Burnham has been prominent in administrative affairs of both town and county, having been superintendent of schools of the town of Ithaca, a member of the town board, town treasurer ten years, and county treasurer four years. Mr. and Mrs. Burnham have four children—Alice, Frank W., John W. and Herbert F.

Benjamin Winterburn, an extensive farmer in the town of Ithaca, came here in 1857 and purchased the northwest quarter of section 11, town 9, range 2 east, upon which was a log cabin and some small improvement. He engaged in raising grain a few years, but of late, has been engaged in the dairy business. He is the owner of 440 acres of land, 260 of which are under cultivation; and has good frame buildings, including a commodious house, barn, granary and other farm buildings. Mr. Winterburn is a native of England, born near London, March 1, 1830. When he was five years old, his parents emigrated to America and settled in Pittsburg, Penn. At the age of ten years, he left home and went into the country to live upon a farm, where he grew to manhood, obtaining his education in the district schools. He was married Oct. 26, 1856, to Mary J. Phillips, who was a native of Alleghany Co., Penn., born Sept. 18, 1836. They remained in Pennsylvania until they came to Richland county in 1857. Mrs. Winterburn died Nov. 26, 1872, leaving six children—John H., Elizabeth J., Anna B., Benjamin F., Jennie and Ralph. In 1875 Mr. Winterburn was again married to Cynthia J. McKittrick, who was born in Oswego, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1838.

Hon. J. M. Thomas came to Richland county in 1857. He first lived in the town of Buena Vista, for three years, when he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, located on section 1, town 9, range 2 east, included in the town of Ithaca. There was a little improvement on this land at the time, consisting of a log cabin and stable, with thirty acres under cultivation. He has improved this place and added to it until his present farm contains 335 acres. The buildings are good substantial structures, and the grounds are made attractive and pleasant by shade and ornamental trees. This farm is situated in the justly celebrated Bear creek valley, which has been settled to a great extent by men, who, like himself, were reared in the dairy districts of New York State; came to this county and following the same business, have been successful, and made this valley the richest part of the county. This section of country seems admirably adapted to this industry, and those engaged in it, find it a profitable investment, and no one branch of trade tends more to develop the resources of the county. Mr. Thomas was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., Aug. 23, 1829, and spent his younger days at school and on the farm. As soon as he had obtained sufficient education, he commenced teaching, and followed that occupation during the winter season and farming in the summer. In 1855 he came to Wisconsin, traveled through the eastern and southern part of the State, and made his first visit to Richland county, after which he returned to his native county and remained until 1857, when, as before stated, he came to this county. He has been twice married, first in March, 1858, to Ellen J. Eaton, who bore him two children—Jennie and Libbie. Jennie was born April 12, 1860, and died Dec. 10, 1870. Mrs. Thomas was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., April 28, 1838, and died June 7, 1867. His second wife was Adelia E. Reynolds, widow of Cornelius Young, who was also born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., June 28, 1827. Mr. Thomas has been one

of the prominent representative men of the county, has been chairman of the board a number of terms, and was chosen in 1869 to represent his district in the Assembly, was elected again in 1878 and re-elected in 1879, serving with honor to himself and satisfaction to his constituency. His father, Henry Thomas, was born in Dutchess Co., N. Y., in 1795, and was there joined in marriage, in 1827, to Jane Mott, who was a native of the same county, born in 1794. Meanwhile he moved to Herkimer county and settled on a farm, where his wife died in the fall of 1860, leaving two children—Joseph M. and Maria. The latter was born Nov. 29, 1833, married C. E. Brace, settled in Bear Valley and died in 1870. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1861, was Dorcus Searing. She was born in Oneida Co., N. Y., in 1809. They remained in Herkimer county until 1867, then came to Richland county and make their home with J. M. Thomas. They are both members of the Society of Friends, and at an advanced age, are in good spirits and in the enjoyment of good health. The subject of this sketch is a republican politically.

Anthony Dederich was the first German settler in that part of Bear Creek valley lying in the town of Ithaca. He came here in July, 1862, and purchased two lots in the village of Petersburg. Upon one of these lots was a frame shanty, in which the family lived two months while a frame house was being built. He opened a wagon shop and worked at his trade. Two or three years later he established a blacksmith business, and about the same time opened a store with a general stock of goods adapted to the country trade. He also enlarged his residence and has, for some years, entertained travelers. He is also quite an extensive land holder, owning upwards of 400 acres and is engaged in farming. Mr. Dederich is a native of Prussia, born Sept. 17, 1822, in the village of Florsheim, Rhine province. He attended school steadily from the age of six to sixteen. He then commenced to learn the wagon maker's

trade of his father. At the age of twenty-one he joined the army and served three years in the engineer corps, building pontoon bridges, after which he resumed work at his trade until 1848, when he was again called upon to serve his country, but at the end of a month was discharged. In 1849 he came to America, landed in New York September 14, and came directly west, stopping at Milwaukee where he worked one year at his trade, then went to Madison and worked as journeyman six months. He then opened a shop and established business for himself, continued two and a half years, then went to Cross Plains and there opened a shop, and remained until he came to Petersburg. His wife was formerly Mary Schafer, a native of Rhine province, Prussia. They were married in 1851, and are the parents of ten children—Margaret, Gertrude, Peter, Adolph, Anthony, Dennis, Joseph, Francis, Gerhard and Remizius. Dennis has operated a shoe shop since 1853 with good success.

Joseph C. McCorkle settled in Richland county in 1862. He purchased a farm on section 6, town 9, range 2 east. In 1866 he bought timber land on section 12, of town 9, range 1 east, included in the town of Ithaca, erected a small frame house and immediately commenced clearing his present farm. He is now the owner of 300 acres, 150 of which are in a good state of cultivation. This is one of the choice farms of the county. He has erected a frame house 17x32 feet, and two stories in height. Mr. McCorkle is a native of the State of New York, born in the town of South Hampton, Suffolk Co., L. I., Sept. 7, 1834, where his younger days were spent. When eighteen years old he started on a whaling voyage. He made two voyages and was absent from home thirty-three months each trip. He was married May 14, 1862, to Letitia, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (McCloud) Krouskop. Five children have been born to them—Carrie Belle, William Stanley, Jacob Clark, Samuel Clyde and George Krouskop.

Hon. William Dixon was an early settler in the town of Ithaca and a native of England, born in Beverly, Yorkshire, Oct. 27, 1808. In 1817 his parents emigrated to America and landed at Philadelphia July 11th of that year, where they remained two years. In that city the subject of this sketch attended school a short time, and then engaged as errand boy in a map publishing house. From there he went with the family to Trenton, N. J. His father was a weaver by trade, and there William commenced to learn the business of his father. In 1827 they again moved, going to New Hartford, Oneida Co., N. Y., where he engaged to dress yarn in a cotton factory, remaining there until 1836, when he went to Lockport, where he set up 1,000 spindles in a cotton factory and afterwards took charge of a weaving room until 1840, when he worked on the Erie canal a few months, taking charge of a gang of hands; thence he went to Rochester and took charge of a weaving room in a factory there. Meanwhile he had purchased a farm in the town of Exeter, Otsego Co., N. Y., upon which he settled in 1841, making that his home until 1854, when he started for Wisconsin, coming by railroad and boat as far as Stoughton, thence by stage to Signet postoffice, in the town of Buena Vista. He rented a farm in that town and remained there until the spring of 1855, then moved to land he had purchased on section 1, town 9, range 2 east, now included in the town of Ithaca. He erected a small frame house and immediately commenced improving the land. This farm is pleasantly located in Bear Valley, where he now has seventy acres well improved, has built a large addition to his frame house, erected a good barn and other convenient buildings. Mr. Dixon has been a man of fine executive ability, and as a consequence has been prominently identified with the history of this county. The people, having confidence in his ability and integrity, have kept him almost continually in office. In 1856 he was elected justice of the peace, an office he yet holds. In

1858 he was elected chairman of the town board, and has been chosen for that position a number of times since. He was elected to the Assembly in 1858 and again in 1872. He was appointed notary public by Gov. Randall in 1859, and has held the position continually since. Thus it may be seen he has made an acceptable public man, and being in every way qualified for these positions, he has given general satisfaction. He was married in 1830 to Philea, daughter of Benjamin Carswell, who was born in the town of Argyle, Washington Co., N. Y., Jan. 24, 1810. Two children blessed this union—Benjamin and Adelina. Benjamin was born Oct. 28, 1830, and died June 21, 1845. Adelina was born Feb. 11, 1833, married Jacob Runyan and died in the town of Ithaca Feb. 6, 1861. Mr. Dixon was formerly a whig, but has been connected with the republican party since its organization. He went to Madison on foot to take part in the organization in the State, and has ever since been prominently identified with its history in this section of the country.

D. B. Ostrander opened a hardware store in Sextonville in 1880, the first in that village. He keeps a general stock of hardware and agricultural implements. A tinshop, furnished with the necessary machinery for making all kinds of tinware, is connected with the store. Mr. Ostrander is a native of Oneida Co., N. Y., born Aug. 12, 1823. When he was ten years old his parents removed to Cattaraugus Co., N. Y. There he attained his majority, spending his time working on the farm and in attending school. At the age of twenty-two he went to Oriskany Falls and worked in a woolen-mill. Three years later he became a partner in the business, and remained there, in all, seven years; then sold his interest and returned to Cattaraugus county, where he engaged in farming and afterwards at the carpenter and joiner's trade, remaining there until 1864. In that year he came to Richland county and purchased a farm in Little Willow valley, section 18, town

of Ithaca, which, four years later, he sold, and bought a farm in the town of Richland, where he remained two years, then went to Ithaca and engaged in mercantile trade two years, after which he purchased his old farm on section 18, of Ithaca, living there until 1878, when he removed to the village and sold his farm soon after. In 1880 he came to Sextonville, as before stated, purchased land and erected a commodious frame house. Mrs. Ostrander was formerly Margaret German, a native of Wales. They were married in 1848 and have three children—Eugene E., Edward G. and Cynthia M.

Levi J. Lincoln (deceased) settled in the town of Ithaca in 1865. He purchased a farm on section 5, on which he at first built a small frame house, and afterwards a large frame house and frame barn. He resided here until the time of his death, July 27, 1877. He was an industrious man and owned 280 acres of land. From an obituary, written by an unknown friend and published in the *Republican and Observer*, we extract the following: "He was a man of marked individuality, active and positive in his undertakings. For conspicuous virtues, he commanded the esteem of his fellows; as a teacher in the public school of his district, for five consecutive winters, he won the approbation and grateful recollection of his pupils; as a testimonial of their respect and affection, the children of the neighborhood marched in a band to the grave. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Loomis. His remains were consigned to their last resting place in Neptune cemetery, to which they were followed by a large concourse of people." The following letter appeared in the next issue of the same paper: "I would add this tribute to the memory of Mr. Lincoln, notice of whose death appeared in your last issue. He was one of the noblest of God's works, an honest man, and a useful one. He was always the first to lend a helping hand to those in distress. A man of first-class intellect, good heart, and great independence and force of character. His

views on all subjects were freely expressed. He had faults, like the rest of mankind, but they were overbalanced by his many virtues." He was a native of Connecticut, born in the town of Windham, Windham county, March 4, 1830, where he grew to manhood, spending his time in working upon the farm and in school. When he arrived at a seasonable age he began teaching school winters, being engaged in agricultural pursuits the remainder of the year. He was united in marriage with Fannie E. Allen Aug. 22, 1852. She was born in the town of Scotland, Windham Co., Conn., Nov. 3, 1829. He came to Wisconsin in 1856 in search of health. He located at Blooming Grove, Dane Co., Wis., where they remained until 1865, then came to Richland county and settled in Ithaca. They have four living children—Oscar B., born in Connecticut, Aug. 31, 1854; Abraham, born in Blooming Grove, Dane county. His birth occurred Oct. 19, 1860, in the midst of that exciting Presidential campaign, when Abraham Lincoln was first running for President, and he was immediately named for the future President, Abraham. The news at once spread, and the newspaper reporter, ever on the alert for items, heard that Abraham Lincoln had arrived in town, and that he was a relative of Levi J. The next issue of the *Madison Democrat* contained the following item: "Abraham Lincoln arrived at Blooming Grove, this county, Thursday evening last, on a visit to his friend and relative, Levi J. Lincoln, of that town." The youngest son, Pearl, was born in the town of Ithaca. Cora is the second child, and now the wife of Frank Bowen, of Richland Center. Abraham, although but seventeen years old when his father died, undertook the management of the farm, which he has since carried on with signal ability. Mrs. Lincoln is a lady of education and refinement, social and entertaining in conversation, and well fitted to shine in any circle of society. Edward L. was the fourth child, born at Ithaca, March 29, 1867, and died March 9, 1871. When Mr.

Lincoln was twenty-one years of age he sustained a fracture of the left hip joint, which impaired his health, and was the primary cause of his seeking a new location in the west. His death was the result of this fracture, although he regained his health so as to be able to labor most of the time.

Mrs. Mathias Joseph Schmitz came to the town of Ithaca from Fond du Lac county, in 1867. She bought the northwest quarter of section 1, town 9, range 2 east, upon which there was small improvement including a log cabin and stable. She has, since that time, with the assistance of her children, improved the land, erected a large frame barn with a stone basement, also a commodious frame house which is now occupied by the family. Mrs. Schmitz is a native of Prussia, and there grew to womanhood. In 1846 she left her native country for America and located in Fond du Lac county, where she was married in 1848 to Mathias Joseph Schmitz. He also was born in Prussia and came to the United States in 1846. He purchased land in Fond du Lac county, improved a farm, making his home there until the time of his death, which occurred Oct. 16, 1864. He left a wife and eight children to mourn his loss. The names of the children are—Katie, Annie Mary, John E., Celia, Gertrude, Margaretta, Helena and Susanna Eva. John E. manages the farm.

Alexander B. Grafton settled on section 6, town of Orion, in September, 1867. Upon this place was a small tract of cleared land, and a log cabin, in which he lived a few years and then erected a frame house. In 1882 he sold this place and bought the farm he now owns and occupies. It is located on section 8, town of Ithaca, and includes the "Britton" homestead, the first place settled in the town. The farm contains 155 acres, ninety of which are improved and enclosed. He has a good frame house and barn and other farm buildings. Mr. Grafton was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, Jan. 2, 1833. His early life was spent in his native State,

where he attended the common school and worked upon a farm. In 1860 he engaged with a photographer to learn the art. He was thus employed until 1862, when he enlisted, August 20, in company D, 126th Ohio Volunteers and went to Virginia and joined the Army of the Potomac. He served until the close of the war, participating in many engagements, among which were the following: Martinsburg, Manassa's Gap, Kelley's Ford, Loenst Grove, Winchester, Cedar Creek and the battle of the Wilderness, where he received a gunshot wound in his arm, May 6, 1864. He was sent to the hospital at Washington, D. C., where he remained a few days. He was there granted a furlough of thirty days, at the expiration of which, he returned to the hospital. On August 30th, he returned to his command and found the regiment in the midst of an engagement near Mine Run. After this he participated in several engagements, the most important of which was the battle before Petersburg, where he was again wounded, on April 2, 1865. He was sent to McClellan Hospital, Philadelphia, from whence he was honorably discharged, May 31, of the same year, and returned to his home. He first visited Richland county in 1866, and at

that time purchased the land upon which he afterwards settled, in Orion. He returned to Ohio and there, July 4, 1867, he was married to Catharine A. Morrow, a native of Jefferson county. The following September they came to Richland county and located permanently. They have one son, William M., and an adopted daughter, Martha May. Mr. Grafton is an earnest advocate of the temperance cause and a member of Valley Lodge of I. O. G. T.

Rev. Henry Koenig was born Oct. 7, 1835, in Heiligenstadt, Prussia, Germany. The home of his birth had about 6,500 inhabitants. His childhood days were spent in that city, and now it is only with fondest recollections that he thinks of those early days. After absolving the gymnasium in his birthplace, he went to Rome, Italy, to study philosophy and theology. Here he was ordained priest, May 9, 1859. He soon afterwards started for America, landing in New York city, Oct. 3, 1859. He labored in his ministerial duties in La Fayette and Mishawaka, Ind., for about twelve years. Then in Louisville, Ky., Rochester, N. Y., Leavenworth, Kan., Toronto, Canada and Cumberland, Ind., for about five years; and since Jan. 1, 1877, at Keyesville, Richland Co., Wis.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

## TOWN OF MARSHALL.

This town embraces congressional township 11 north, range 1 west. It is bounded on the west by the town of Sylvan; on the north by Bloom; on the east by Rockbridge; and on the south by Dayton. The town is inhabited by a purely agricultural population, and has no villages of any importance. In 1880 the census gave Marshall a population of 991. It has 167 farms, all in a high state of cultivation. The surface features here are very similar to those of the balance of Richland county's towns.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first permanent settlement within the limits now comprising the town of Marshall was made in 1852. During the spring of that year John G. and Simon Marshall, natives of Jefferson Co., Ohio, came here and entered 160 acres of land on sections 3, 4, 9 and 10. In the fall of 1852 their mother, then a widow, came, accompanied by two sons, Mahlon and George. They lived together until 1855, when Simon died, and soon afterward the mother was taken sick and went to live with her daughter, Mrs. John Hart, where she died Dec. 25, 1855. John G. went to the mountains and engaged in mining for a time; then returned and settled on the southwest quarter of section 6. He now lives in Tennessee. Mahlon died in 1879. George now occupies a portion of the old homestead.

A. P. Hyde came here from the State of New York in 1851, and claimed the east half of the northeast quarter of section 24. In 1853 he sold the claim and moved to Richland Center. He now lives in the town of Rockbridge.

Archibald Wanlass, a native of West Virginia, came here in the spring of 1852 and entered the southwest quarter of section 5. He settled here in the fall of 1854 and has since made this his home.

Robert R. Wilson came from the eastern part of the State in 1852 and claimed the northeast quarter of section 10. In 1853 he sold to Josiah McCaskey and removed to Vernon county, where he laid out the village of Kickapoo Center, and still lives there.

Josiah McCaskey entered the land Mr. Wilson had claimed, and improved the farm, remaining here until the time of his death.

Harvey Gillingham, a native of Ohio, came here in the spring of 1852 and entered land on sections 11 and 12. He erected a log cabin on the southwest quarter of section 12, and remained here until he died.

Louis and Nelson Muso, Canadian Frenchmen, came here in 1853. Louis located on the southeast quarter of section 13; and Nelson bought the claim of A. P. Hyde, on section 24. They remained here a few years, then sold out and moved away.

In the fall of 1853 William Minett and John Graham, natives of England, came from Rock Co., Wis., and made the first settlement on Horse creek, in the town of Marshall. William Minett entered land on section 35. John Graham, for himself and others, entered land on sections 34 and 35. The two then returned to Rock county and remained until October, 1854, when they came back accompanied by Thomas and Charles Graham and James Ward. Mr.

Minett settled on the land which he had entered and still lives there. John Graham settled on the east half of the northeast quarter of section 34, where he improved a farm, erected a stone house and lived until after the close of the war. He now resides in the town of Henrietta. Thomas Graham settled on the southwest quarter of section 35 and is still a resident. Charles Graham and James Ward both settled upon the farms on section 35, where they still live.

Thomas Knouse came from Ohio in 1854, and located on section 4. A few months later he sold to Jacob Ream and moved away. Ream came from Indiana. He remained here several years, then sold out and removed to Nebraska.

Martin Copenhefer, a native of Ohio, came from Indiana in 1854 and entered land on section 3. He improved a farm and lived here until 1880, when he sold his property and moved to Spring Valley.

Edward Pinnick, a native of Ohio, came here in 1854 and settled on the northeast quarter of section 6. Two years later he sold out and removed to the town of Henrietta, where he erected a saw-mill and laid out the village of Yuba. He has since removed to Nebraska.

R. Brewer, a native of Vermont, purchased the land which Pinnick had claimed, on section 6, in the town of Marshall. He cleared about twenty-five acres and lived here until 1866, when he sold out and removed to the town of Dayton where he still lives.

Jonathan Totten, a native of Ohio, came here in 1854 and settled on section 3, where he lived until the time of his death. His son Oliver now owns the homestead.

Arthur Cook, a native of Pennsylvania, came here from Ohio in the fall of 1852 and entered the southwest quarter of section 31, where he still lives.

Benjamin W. Queen, also a native of Pennsylvania, came at about the same time and entered land on section 8. When the war broke

out he enlisted and died in the service. The family still occupy the old homestead.

John Hart, a native of Ohio, came in the fall of 1854 and entered land on section 11. He improved a farm and lived there until the time of his death.

Daniel Noble, a Scotchman, came here from Ohio in 1854 and entered the northwest quarter of section 3. He still owns the land but lives with his son on section 24.

Henry Merrill, a native of Ohio, in 1854 entered land on section 15. In March, 1855, he settled upon the land, where he still lives.

Joseph Benton, Sr., a native of Scotland, came here from Ohio in 1854 and settled on section 12, where he lived until the time of his death. His son Joseph came the following year and located on section 14, where he still lives.

Richard Caddell, a native of the State of New York, came from Ohio in 1854, and bought land on section 22. He settled here in 1856, and remained until the war broke out, when he enlisted and died in the service. The family still occupy the old homestead.

The first settlement on what is known as English Ridge, was made by James Brightman, a native of England, who came here from Walworth county in 1854, and entered land on sections 27 and 34. He settled here in the spring of 1855, but a few months later sold to John McKy and moved to section 28. Mr. Brightman now lives in Richland Center.

In the fall of 1854 John Anderson, a former sailor, came here from Walworth county, and entered land on section 28. He shortly afterward sold to James Brightman and removed to Illinois. He now lives in Iowa.

John Donegan, an Irishman, came from Illinois in 1854 and entered a tract of land on section 34. After a time he was appointed postmaster of the Buckeye postoffice, he got into trouble, was convicted of robbing the mails and sent to the State penitentiary at Waupun. Upon his release he removed to Janesville.



Among those who came in 1855 and secured homes were the following: Daniel Slusser, Henry Kepler, Alanson Clark, Joseph Kerby, George Davis, William Coulter, T. Knapp, Joseph Moon, William Richards, John and Abraham Harris.

Daniel Slusser came from Indiana. He located on section 9, where he remained a few years, then sold out and removed to his former home.

Henry Kepler was a native of Pennsylvania, but came here directly from Ohio. He entered land on section 30, where he still lives. His son, William F., came at the same time and entered land on section 31. His home is now on section 30. Joseph, another son, lives in the town of Marshall, and Sylvester, another, resides at Boaz.

Alanson Clark, a native of Ohio, came here in 1855 and bought land of John Fogo, on section 12. There he lived until the time of his death.

Joseph Kerby was a native of the State of Maryland, but came here from Indiana. He entered land on section 30, where he still lives.

George Davis was a native of Virginia. He came from Indiana during 1855 and selected land on section 30, where he still lives.

William Coulter, a native of Ohio, came from Indiana in the fall of 1855 and entered the northwest quarter of section 7, where he still lives.

T. Knapp came here from Ohio in 1855 and settled on section 18. A few years later he sold that place and settled on section 31. He now resides in the town of Rockbridge.

Joseph Moon and William Richards were natives of England. Mr. Moon entered land on section 27, where he still lives. Mr. Richards also selected land on section 27. He remained there until the time of his death; and the family still occupy the old homestead.

John Harris and son, Abraham, natives of England, came here from Walworth county in November, 1855. The father entered 200 acres

of land on section 28, and is still a resident. Abraham remained here until the time of his death.

Joseph Conkel, a native of Pennsylvania, came in 1855 and settled on the southeast quarter of section 29. He improved the land and remained for a number of years; then traded the property for a farm in the town of Dayton, where he still lives.

William Ewers, a native of Ohio, also came in 1855. He settled on section 31. His present residence is in the town of Dayton.

Patrick Redington, a native of Indiana, came at an early day and settled on section 7, where he still lives.

William Hall, a native of Virginia, came here in 1856 and settled on section 4. He is now in business at Chicago.

Thomas G. Ewers, a native of Virginia, came from Ohio in 1856 and settled on the southwest quarter of section 29. He lived there until the time of his death.

Thomas Parsons, an Englishman, came here in 1856 and purchased land on section 28, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1876.

Abraham Elliott was another early settler. He came from the southern part of the county in 1859 and located on section 17. A few years later he sold to Joseph Berkshire.

#### FIRST THINGS.

The first birth in the town was that of Maria, daughter of Joseph and Margaret (McCannon) Marshall, born April 25, 1852. The girl grew to womanhood and married William Russell, of Carroll Co., Ohio. Her husband is dead, but she still lives there.

Probably the first death in the town was that of Simon Marshall, who died in the summer of 1855. On the 25th of December, 1855, his mother, Mrs. James Marshall, died. They were both buried on section 9.

Joseph McCoy, a native of Pennsylvania, was the first blacksmith in the town. He opened a shop here in 1856 and did horse shoeing, general repair work and manufactured plows. He re-

mained here until 1857, when he went to Vernon (then Bad Ax) county. When the war broke out he enlisted and died in the service.

The first mercantile business in the town was carried on by Joseph Marshall, who sold goods for George Kronsop, and also handled ginseng.

#### MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES.

In 1855 Thomas Marshall erected a saw-mill on the northwest quarter of section 14. The power was derived from the north branch of Fancy creek, the water being carried to the mill through a race a quarter of a mile in length. An old fashioned "up and down" saw was put in. The mill could only be run during warm weather, and did but little business in the five years of its existence.

In 1857 William Saltsman erected a saw-mill on the southwest quarter of section 19, equipping it with an "up and down" saw. The power was derived from Mill creek. The water was carried through a race 130 rods in length. The mill commenced operation in November, 1858, and continued until 1870, when it was destroyed by fire. Mr Saltsman rebuilt the mill and put in a circular saw. In 1880 he sold the property to William Kepler, who put in new machinery, built a log dam and changed the race so that it is now only sixty rods in length.

In 1868 Sylvester Kepler erected a carding mill on the northwest quarter of section 31. The power is derived from Mill creek, a dam having been constructed of logs and stone, securing six feet head of water. The mill is furnished with a carding machine and picker, and is operated during the summer seasons.

In 1871 [or 1872], John and J. G. Ewers erected a flour mill on section 31 of the town of Marshall. A two story frame building was erected, and the mill was equipped with one run of buhrs and the other necessary machinery for the manufacture of flour. Mill creek furnishing the power by which the mill is run, a dam of earth and lumber having been con-

structed which secures eight feet head of water. It is run as a custom mill.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first school in the town of Marshall was taught in 1855 by Susan Wanlass, now the wife of John Blair, in a small log building erected for the purpose by the people in the neighborhood. It stood on land owned by Joseph Benton, on the southwest quarter of section 14. The building was put up at a "bee." The floor was made of puncheons, the roof of bark and the building had no door. Only one term was taught in this building. In 1857 a house was erected of hewn logs on the northwest quarter of section 13, in which Mary Marshall taught the first school. This building was used until 1868, when a frame house was erected on the southwest quarter of section 13. J. H. Ewing taught the first school in this building. This is a "union district."

The first school house in district No. 2 was erected in 1856 on section 4. This building was also put up by a "neighborhood bee." The roof was covered with shakes. William McMillan was the first teacher. The house was moved to the northeast quarter of section 9, where it was in use until 1883, when a neat frame building was erected on the southeast quarter of section 4. Robert R. Benton taught the first school in this building.

Joint district No. 1 embraces territory in the towns of Marshall, Bloom and Rockbridge. It was organized in 1866 and a log school house was erected on the southeast quarter of section 2. John Mathews taught the first term of school in this house. In 1882 a large frame building was erected on the old site in which William E. Gillingham was the first teacher.

The first school in district No. 3 was taught by John B. Covil in 1866 in a small building erected for the purpose. This building was a primitive affair. Posts were driven into the ground and plank nailed to them; while the roof was covered with plank. But one term of school was taught in this building. The second

term was taught by G. W. Putnam in his log house. In 1867 a substantial hewn log building was erected on the southeast quarter of section 6, in which G. W. Putnam was the first teacher.

The first school in district No. 4 was held in the pioneer log cabin of William Saltsman, on the southwest quarter of section 19; the teacher being Benjamin Doudna. This was in the winter of 1860-1. During the following year a school house was erected on the southeast quarter of section 19, in which Elam Bailey taught the first term of school.

The first school house in district No. 8 was erected in 1857, on section 27. Amanda Creed was the first teacher. The old school house was in use until 1866, when the present school building was erected on the southwest quarter of section 27. Cordelia Daggett was the first teacher in the present school house.

The first school house in district No. 9 was erected in 1857. It was a hewn log building, located on the southwest quarter of section 29. Martha J. Clark was the first teacher. This school house was used until 1866, when a frame house was erected on the northwest quarter of section 32, in which Mary Ward taught the first term of school.

#### RELIGIOUS.

During the year 1857, religious services were held at the house of Joseph Kerby, by Rev. Thomas Mason, from Woodstock. A Methodist Episcopal class was organized here with about seventeen members, among whom were the following: Joseph Kerby and wife, and daughter Rachel, Lewis Huff and William Saltsman and wife. The class kept up their organization for a few years only, meeting at private houses and at the school house on section 29. James Lake and Elder Walker were among the preachers who served the class.

United Brethren Church of Pleasant Valley. Services of this denomination were held in an early day at the house of J. H. Hindman, on

section 2, and also at the residence of Richard Hampton. Among the first members of the Church were Joseph Benton, Jr., and wife, J. H. Hindman and wife, Richard Hampton and wife and Harvey Gillingham and wife. In 1859 a log church edifice was erected on the northeast quarter of section 2. A few years later this building was moved further south, but on the same section. Here the congregation worshiped until 1881, when a neat church edifice was erected on the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 13, at a cost of \$2,000. Rev. Nathaniel Smith was one of the first preachers for the society. Since then the following have filled the pulpit: Revs. Howard, Mabbitt, Sutton, Kite, Reed, Alderman, Pound, Bovee, Whitney, Elder Nickey and J. W. Reed. The latter is the present pastor. In 1884 Elias Gillingham was class leader and the society numbered 126 members. There is a Sabbath school in connection with this Church, which is in flourishing condition. Thomas Gillingham is the present superintendent.

English Ridge United Brethren Church. The first meetings of this denomination were held at the house of John McKy in the fall of 1857. Jeremiah Payne was the first preacher, and under his administration a class was organized with about nineteen members. Among the number were the following: Abraham Harris and wife, Mary Richards, Jacob Hoffman and wife, and John McKy and wife. A. Harris was the first class-leader. The class met in various private houses until the school house was built, when services were held in that. In 1879 they erected a frame church edifice on the southwest quarter of section 27. Among those who have preached for this class are the following: Revs. George Kite, James Howard, G. H. Mabbitt, Henry Smith, A. W. Alderman, L. Pound, E. Bovee, A. J. Hood, A. Whitney and G. G. Nickey. Rev. J. W. Reed is the present pastor and Joseph Moon is the class leader. The class now has a membership of about forty.

The Presbyterian Church of Fancy Creek was organized at the house of Alanson Clark, June 11, 1859, by Rev. J. H. Mathers. The following is a complete history of the Church from its organization. It was published in the *Republican-Observer*, Jan. 17, 1884:

“Through the assistance of Messrs. Angus Smith, L. T. Janney and P. M. Smith, who have compiled the same from the Church records and gathered from those living within the bounds of the Church at the time of its organization, we are enabled to publish the following history and incidents of the Presbyterian Church of Fancy Creek, from its inception down to the present, embracing a period of almost twenty-nine years. From a letter received by Mr. Angus Smith from Rev. J. H. Mathers, the first Presbyterian minister in this region, who organized this Church and preached to it for several years, and who is still held in grateful remembrance by the people, which was intended to be read on the occasion of the recent dedication of the new church, a full account of which was given in this journal last week, but which was not received in time, we make the following extract. He says: ‘In June, 1855, I heard of a family of Presbyterians on Fancy Creek by the name of Noble; I started in search of them. I went to the county seat and inquired of Israel Janney, register of deeds; he knew nothing of them but directed me to Mr. Waddell, near the mouth of Fancy Creek. He informed me that a man of that name had staid with him one time when on a trip to Orion for supplies. He directed me to ‘Squire Joe Marshall, of Fancy Creek, for information. He knew the family and gave directions by which I might find them. I wandered through the woods by a path, and my attention was attracted by a company of men raising a house. I then little imagined that in that log cabin which this more pretentious house was to supercede, the Presbyterian Church of Fancy Creek would afterwards be organized, but it was so. It was Mr. Alanson Clark’s house which the

neighbors were engaged in raising.’ We give these few extracts to show how new the country was at that time and the difficulties Mr. Mathers had to contend with. He found the family he was in search of, and who are now life-long friends. Rev. J. H. Mathers preached at Mr. Noble’s and Alanson Clark’s every three or four weeks until the year 1859, at which time, previous notice having been given, those friendly to the organization of a Presbyterian Church assembled at the house of Mr. Clark on the 11th of June, 1859, and adopted measures to secure such an organization. After a sermon preached by Rev. Mathers, the following persons united in the formation of a Church to be known as the Presbyterian Church of Fancy Creek, to be in connection with the Presbytery of Dane, now Wisconsin River Presbytery: Alanson Clark, Mrs. Elizabeth Clark, Nancy Clark, John K. Polk, Mrs. Catharine Polk, Daniel Noble, Mrs. Margaret Noble, Mrs. Jane Fogo, Mary Wanless, Mrs. Eliza Merrill, T. M. Ocheltree and Mary McDonald by letter; and Mrs. Ann Marshall and Mrs. Mary Caddell on profession of faith. An election of ruling elders was entered into, which resulted in the choice of Alanson Clark and Daniel Noble, who were set apart on the next day, being Sunday, June 12, 1859, to that office in the presence of the congregation. On July 16, 1859, the session met at the call of the moderator, Rev. Mathers, and Daniel Noble was chosen clerk of session, which office he held for many years. Mrs. Lilly Clark was admitted to membership by letter at this meeting.

Of the original fourteen members at the formation of the Church there are only five living. Their names are: John K. Polk, who is very old and feeble, not able to attend Church; Daniel Noble, Mary Wanless, who is now Mrs. Mary Clark, Mrs. Eliza Merrill and Mrs. Mary Caddell.

“The first persons baptized after the formation of the Church, according to records, was Mrs. Mary Caddell and her infant children, Sydney

and Rachel. The first communion was administered to the Church Sunday, July 17, 1859.

"On March 19, 1860, there was a congregational meeting held at the house of Alanson Clark for the purpose of electing trustees to take charge of the temporalities of the Church. Rev. J. H. Mathers was chosen president, and A. Clark was chosen clerk. The election resulted in the choice of Daniel Noble, T. M. Ocheltree and Angus Smith. The persons present at this, the first congregational meeting were: A. Clark, Elizabeth Clark, Nancy Clark, John Clark, Alexander Clark, John Fogo, John Hart, Daniel Noble, D. McDonald, Donald Smith, John K. Polk, Joseph Benton, Sr., Archibald Wanless, Mrs. Susan Blair, John Blair and John Wanless.

"Sometime during the spring of 1860 the question of the location of a church site and cemetery was taken into consideration, resulting in the choice of the present location. A meeting was held Jan. 28, 1861, at Marshall school house, to adopt measures for erecting a church. It was determined to build a hewed log church, 26x30 feet, and to meet on the 7th day of February to cut and hew the logs. On the day set, the people cut and hewed the logs and Messrs. Angus Smith, Harvey Marshall and Wallace Fogo-hauled them to the site. Sometime in June, 1861, it was raised and enclosed as fast as possible. Afterwards it was used for services during the summer and partly completed late in the fall, but was not fully completed for one or two years. Before the erection of this church services were held at the private houses of A. Clark, Daniel Noble, John Fogo, Henry Merrill, John Wanless, J. K. Polk, and sometimes in the barns of Joseph Marshall and John Hart, and later in the old log school house near where the United Brethren church now stands, on land then owned by Joseph Marshall."

The log church was located on the northeast quarter of section 14. This building was used until the summer of 1883. In July, 1883, the

society commenced the erection of a large frame church near the old site, which was soon completed. It is 30x50 feet in size, eighteen foot posts, and is valued at \$2,000.

The Church has had for its pastors since its organization, Revs. J. H. Mathers, who was its pastor for several years, J. M. Reid, Peter Dougherty, Lemuel Leonard, John Irwin, T. G. Pearce and H. G. Denison, who is now supplying the pulpit in connection with Richland Center. All the pastors are still living except the lamented Mr. Reid, who lost his life in a runaway accident in Ohio several years ago. The present elders are Angus Smith, Daniel Noble and L. T. Janney. L. T. Janney is clerk.

At an early day a Sabbath school was organized in connection with this Church. Carrie Morrow is the present superintendent.

The Ash Ridge Regular Baptist Church was organized Aug. 9, 1873, by Rev. N. L. Sweet, with six members. The following were the first members: G. W. Putnam and wife, Mrs. Mary E. Emery, Mrs. J. M. Marshall, Mrs. A. A. Hutton and George H. Putnam. G. W. Putnam was elected deacon, and George H. Putnam clerk. This took place at the school house in district No. 3. The society continued to worship at the school house until 1877, when a hewn log church, 20x28 feet in size, was erected on the southeast quarter of section 6. Rev. George D. Stevens was the first regular pastor. Succeeding him came Revs. N. H. Slater, E. J. Stevens, W. S. Sweet, Elder Chapin and Alfred Prouty. The latter is the present pastor. The class has flourished, and now has twenty-five members.

A Sabbath school was organized in 1871, at the school house, with G. W. Putnam as superintendent. He has since held that position. The school meets every Sunday, and has an average attendance of twenty.

In the fall of 1882 Rev. Elihu Bailey organized a class at the Lowry school house, on section 19. There were fourteen members, as follows: B. H. Thomas and wife, Francis

Harris and wife, Mrs. Joseph Berkshire, Martha Robbins, W. F. Myers and wife, William T. Blazer and wife, Francis Lowry and wife, and David Reid and wife. B. H. Thomas was chosen class leader, and Francis Harris, steward. Soon after organization the class erected a log church building on section 20. Rev. Bailey has been pastor since the organization of the class. There is a Sabbath school organization in connection with this class, of which Martha Robbins is superintendent.

#### MILL CREEK POSTOFFICE.

Mill Creek postoffice was first established in the town of Sylvan, with Thomas A. Merrill as postmaster. A few years later Henry Kepler was appointed postmaster, and kept the office at his house on section 31 in the town of Marshall. The office was on the mail route from Tomah to Muscoda, mail being received twice each week. R. H. Bond succeeded Mr. Kepler as postmaster and kept the office at his residence, on section 25, in the town of Sylvan. The next postmaster was Alvin S. Bailey, and the office was removed to section 34, in the town of Marshall. John Ewers succeeded Mr. Bailey and kept the office on section 36, in the town of Sylvan, at his residence. L. D. Bailey was the next postmaster, and again the office was removed to the town of Marshall. John G. Ewers succeeded Mr. Bailey and is the present postmaster.

#### FANCY CREEK POSTOFFICE.

This postoffice was established in 1856. Josiah McCaskey was appointed the first postmaster, but was succeeded very soon after his appointment by Joseph Marshall. Mr. Marshall received his commission in September, 1856, and was authorized to remove the office to "Marshall's Mill." Mail was received once a week from Richland Center. Since that time the following have served as postmaster or deputy-postmaster, of this office—Josiah McCaskey, Joseph Marshall, John Hart, Friend Morrison, Mathew R. Smith, M. C. Davis, William Gross

and M. C. Davis. The last named was postmaster when the office was discontinued in 1882.

#### BUCKEYE POSTOFFICE.

This postoffice was established in 1856. William Bailey was appointed first postmaster and kept the office at his house on section 20, mail at that time being received once each week from Muscoda. A few years later John Donagan was appointed postmaster, and moved the office to section 34. After a time the postmaster got into trouble. He was indicted and convicted of robbing the mails and was sent to the penitentiary at Waupun, and the office was discontinued.

#### GILLINGHAM POSTOFFICE.

This postoffice was established in 1881. Hugh Morrow was appointed postmaster and still keeps the office at his store, on section 13. The office is on the mail route from Richland Center to Viola, mail being received tri-weekly.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The town of Marshall assumed its present limits in 1856. The first town election was held on the 19th of April, 1856, at the house of Josiah McCaskey. The following were the first town officers elected: Supervisors, Archibald Wannlass, chairman, Henry Merrill and Abraham Harris; clerk, Andrew Wentz; assessor, John Ewers; treasurer, John Hart; justices of the peace, James Brightman, Andrew Wentz and John Fogo.

At the annual election held in April, 1883, the following town officers were chosen for the ensuing year: Supervisors, P. M. Smith, chairman, William Turnipseed and J. Truesdale; clerk, R. R. Benton; treasurer, J. B. Coulter; assessor, Isaac Doudna; justices, J. Benton, Elihu Bailey and G. W. Putnam; constables, E. Turnipseed, Frank Doudna and Joseph Jones.

#### CEMETERIES.

The cemetery in connection with the Presbyterian church was laid out by Rev. J. H. Mathers during the war. The first burial here was of the remains of a daughter of William Smith, who died in 1862.

In 1876 Thomas Borland surveyed an addition to the cemetery. A tax of \$2 was levied on each lot to raise money to fence the grounds and keep the same in repair. The cemetery contains seventy-four lots, each one rod square.

The present officers of the cemetery organization are: P. M. Smith, Alexander Smith and Henry Merrill, trustees; P. M. Smith, clerk.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

In the following biographical sketches are to be found some of the oldest pioneers of Richland county.

William J., son of Daniel and Margaret P. (Iregham) Noble, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, July 16, 1841. He came to Richland county with his parents, where he remained until November, 1862, when he enlisted in company F, 2d Cavalry. He was badly wounded at an engagement near Yazoo City, Miss., and was sent to Washington Hospital, at Memphis, where he remained four months. He was discharged with the regiment at Austin, Texas, Nov. 15, 1865, returned home and resumed farming. On Feb. 4, 1878, he was married to Deliah, daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Copenhefer. They have one child—Ella A. He occupies a portion of the old homestead on section 3.

Lot T. Janney, eldest son of Israel and Elizabeth (Miller) Janney, was born in Logan Co., Ohio, May 4, 1842. He came to Richland county with his parents, and here received his education in the pioneer schools. In 1864, he went with his father to Colorado, where he remained for three years, then returned to Richland county. He was married in April, 1869, to Maggie, daughter of John and Jane Fogo. They have three children, all of whom are now living—John, Mary and Wilburtie. Mr. Janney was engaged in farming until 1881, when he bought a steam saw-mill, which he put in operation in the town of Marshall. In 1883 he disposed of this property and engaged in mercantile trade in the same town.

William Janney, a pioneer of Buena Vista town, was born in Loudon Co., Va., Oct. 7, 1815. When he was but fourteen years of age his parents removed to Ohio. When he was seventeen years old he commenced learning the tailor's trade at Monroe, Mich., and served four years, and then worked at the trade as journeyman, in Logan Co., Ohio. In 1847 he came to Richland county, and made a claim in what is now the town of Buena Vista, and remained two years, then sold and returned to Ohio. In 1852, he again came to Richland county and remained until 1859; four years of this time he was a clerk in the register's office. In 1859 he went to California and spent a few months, then returned to Ohio and remained three years. He then came to Richland Center, and opened a tailor shop, which he run one year, then sold out and went west and spent several years in Colorado, Iowa and Nebraska. He now makes his home with his nephew, Lot M. Janney, in the town of Marshall.

Joseph Marshall, a prominent man of Richland county, and the pioneer of the town of Marshall, which territory bears his name, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, March 25, 1820. His father was a large owner of timber land, and the subject of this sketch spent considerable of his time clearing portions of the same, while his brothers were employed in farming. He was married in April, 1851, to Margaret McCannon, a native of New Brunswick. The day following they started west to seek a home, embarked on a steamboat at Wellsville and came to Muscoda, and the next day started in company with Alexander Bartley to seek a desirable location, but the land in that vicinity did not suit him. The party showing him the country inquired what kind of land he wanted, to which Mr. Marshall replied, "I want land where there is plenty of wood and water." "Well" said the man, "we will have to go back into Richland county, where you can not clear a farm in a life time." This remark, intended to deter him from going thither, did not have that

effect; he had cleared two farms, and freely understood all about it. So the following day, with Mr. Bartley, started on foot for the wilds of Richland county. They were informed that there were two men, Amasa Haskins and Jule Preston, living in the northern part of the county, engaged in bear hunting. Toward night they chanced to find a log cabin, roofed on one side only, and a place cut out for a door, the only evidences of an intended habitation. Mr. Marshall suggested that the night be spent at this place, but Mr. Bartley said "nobody lives here." "Then" said Mr. Marshall, "there will not be anyone to put us out," and they accordingly took peaceable possession. A few minutes afterward, Mr. Preston, the owner, returned in company with his wife. The travelers asked if they could stop all night, and found they were welcome, and soon they were partaking of a supper of corn bread and venison, with an appetite and relish known only to tired and hungry men. This cabin was located on what is now section 29, town of Rockbridge. In the morning Mr. Preston started out to show them land, and Mr. Marshall selected the north half of section 13, town 11, range 1 west, and the same day returned to Muscoda. Not wishing to lose any time, the next day he purchased a cow, and the day then following hired a man with a team to transfer his goods, while he and his bride trudged along on foot, driving the cow; arriving at Mr. Preston's cabin they remained over night, and the following morning he took an ax and started for his land, but could not find it and returned. The next morning a man by the name of Meeks, who was stopping at Amasa Haskins, hitched up his horses, loaded up the goods and provisions, and accompanied by Mr. Preston, they started for the land. Arriving at Amasa Haskins, and, finding the team too heavily loaded for the condition of the roads or lack of roads, they left the goods in a fence corner, covered them with shakes, and proceeded on their way, cutting a road as they went, and finally reached their destination.

Here a rude shelter of brush and poles was hastily constructed, and pioneer life commenced in earnest. Mr. Meeks fed his horses some corn brought along for the purpose, and what they did not fully clean up, was gathered by Mr. Marshall and used for seed. He immediately commenced clearing and chopped in the seed. He thus raised a small crop of corn, potatoes and garden vegetables. They continued to live in their improvised covering, if covering it could be called, until fall, then erected a log cabin with puncheon floor and shake roof. That same fall he went to Sextonville with George Hancock to purchase provisions, and on their way back discovered a pile of lumber on the site of the present village of Richland Center, which Ira Hazletine had left there to make good a claim to the land. At that time a few furrows ploughed were the only evidences of improvement.

Mr. Marshall was soon after elected justice of the peace. Among the law cases in his court one is referred to as indicative of primitive methods of administering justice. German Tadder had shot George Hancock's dog and the latter thought he must be made to suffer the legal penalty, and came to Squire Marshall for advice and methods of redress, insisting that he was the proper officer and must advise him accordingly. Marshall was not much learned in law and tried to have him drop the matter, but all such attempts to dispose of the case proved unavailing, and he finally asked Hancock if he was able to handle this disturber of the peace; receiving an affirmative reply, he summed up the case and gave the following characteristic verdict: "Then give him a damn good licking the next time you get a good chance," which disposition of the case seemed satisfactory, and Hancock went away. A few weeks after Mr. Marshall had a barn raising and the people for miles around came together, among them were Tedder and Hancock, meeting here for the first time since the advice had been given; they there and then settled the



matter with their fists, Hancock coming out victorious, and they were ever afterward good friends. In 1854 Mr. Marshall went to Galena with a load of goods for a family who were removing back to Illinois. Edward Pinnock sent by him to get a barrel of whisky, and having purchased the same he started on his return. Night coming on he applied at the house of an Irishman for accommodations, but they positively refused to entertain him—said they had nothing to eat and no place for him to sleep. Pleading was of no avail, he must go on. "Well," says Mr. Marshall, "have something to take with me," and he led the way to the wagon. He had already tapped the barrel and had a straw ready. The man and woman each mounted the wagon and took turns at the straw. It was then their hearts were softened and they asked him to spend the night, in fact, he was welcome as long as he had a mind to stop. Soon after this Mr. Marshall was called upon to marry a German who lived in the town of Forest, but refused to tie the knot, saying he did not know how. "Yes, you must," says the Dutchman, "because you vas a shustice mit der berce." "No," says Marshall, "I never attended but one marriage in my life and that was my own." "Vell," replied the Dutchman, "Mr. Darnell has been married couple of times, you come mit us to him and he tell you all about it." So they took supper and started on a tramp of nine miles. The road led them by Pinnock's and Mr. Marshall suggested to the Dutchman that he take along some whisky. "Yaw, by shiminy, if I had a schug," says the Dutchman. They called at Pinnock's and Marshall borrowed a coffee pot, which the Dutchman had filled with whisky and they proceeded on their way, calling at Mr. Darnell's for instruction. The wedding did not occur until morning, when the couple were made happy by being pronounced husband and wife. Mr. Marshall was an industrious, hard working man, and spent but little time hunting. He cleared the greater part of his 320 acres of land, lived there a num-

ber of years, and then purchased another place on sections 13 and 14, where he erected a frame house, and lived in it until 1882, when he built another near by, which he now occupies. He has lived in Marshall continuously since his first settlement, except nine months spent in Colorado in 1860. Mrs. Marshall died in August, 1865, leaving five children—Maria, Elizabeth, Lydia, Thomas and Josie. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1867, was Nettie Starrett; she was born in Washington Co., Vt. In February, 1865, he was drafted into the service, went to Madison, and performed guard duty until the close of the war.

George L., son of James and Maria (Gillingham) Marshall, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, Oct. 28, 1839. At the age of thirteen, he came to Richland county with his mother and settled in town 11, range 1 west, now known as Marshall. Three years later, his mother died, and the home circle was broken. He continued to live in the neighborhood, and was employed in farming summers, and attending school, winters. In May, 1861, at the first call for "three years" men, he responded by enlisting in company H, of the 5th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and with the regiment, joined the Army of the Potomac, serving until August, 1864, when he was honorably discharged. He took part in the following engagements: Williamsburg, seven days before Richmond, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Fredricksburg, battle of the Wilderness and before Petersburg. When discharged he returned to Marshall and resumed farming. He was joined in marriage in 1865 with Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Margret (Dreghorn) Noble, and settled upon the homestead on section 4. Mrs. Marshall died in 1869, leaving one child—Allen. In 1874 he was again married to Harriet, daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Copenhefer. They have two children—Clara and Ella.

John Fogo, Esq., one of the pioneer settlers, was born in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland,

in 1799. He received the elements of a good education, in the parish school, which he attended until twelve years of age. He was then apprenticed as a weaver, and while learning his trade he enjoyed, among other means of improvement, free access to the parish library, of which he made good use storing up its contents in a memory wonderfully retentive. Gifted with a mind of extraordinary capacity, which was thus cultivated to the highest degree, and in the broadest sense of education. At that period he laid the foundation of his great knowledge of history, both ancient and modern, which remained with him until the day of his death. He came with his parents to America, in 1820, and settled in Columbiana Co., Ohio, and was among the early pioneers in that section. At the time of his settlement in Ohio, it was a new and wild country—the foot-prints of the savage were barely cold. He removed to Wisconsin in 1853, bringing with him a large family of young children, and settled on Fancy creek, where he again passed through the labors and struggles incident to opening up a new country. He was preceded in his settlement on Fancy creek by only three or four families. From that time he was well known in the county. By his neighbors, he was honored and beloved, and was held in great esteem by all who knew him. He was repeatedly honored by his fellow-townsmen with many offices of honor and trust. He aided in the organization of the town of Marshall; was chairman, which office he held for sixteen years, consentively, all ways being elected without opposition. During his whole life he was a constant attendant upon the preaching of the Gospel, in the Presbyterian church, in which he was baptized. In this Church he was a member in full communion for a number of years. He always had a firm conviction in the divine inspiration and truth of the Scriptures, and believed in their inculcations, in order to sustain pure society and a prosperous government. At the close of life, by faith in God, through the Scriptures, he found sub-

mission to the divine will, with peace and joy. Mr. Fogo was remarkably genial in his disposition, and his society was highly prized by those who delight in conversation that is intelligent and full of information. Many persons enjoyed his company for an hour or hours, in a very pleasant and profitable manner. His death took place on Friday, Sept. 1, 1876, leaving to mourn his loss, a companion, with whom he lived nearly half a century. Also eight sons and daughters, all of whom, except one, residing in Minnesota, were around the dying bed. Mr. Fogo was a great sufferer for several years, but his final end was free from pain.

Thomas Graham, one of the pioneer settlers of Horse creek valley, is a native of England, born in Cambridgeshire, Dec. 8, 1831, and where his younger days were spent. In 1851 he was married to Elizabeth Martin, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Malpress. She had previously been married to William Martin, who died in 1850. Two children were born to them—Sarah and Mary J. Sarah died Dec. 24, 1854; Mary J. died Dec. 4, 1883. Thomas and Elizabeth Graham started in 1851 to America, in company with his parents. They landed in New York and immediately proceeded west. At the city of Buffalo they were obliged to stop, on account of the illness of his mother, who had been taken sick on board ship. She continued to grow worse and died in a few days. The bereaved family continued their journey to the west, until reaching Wisconsin, they stopped at East Troy, and remained a short time, and the subject of this sketch obtained work on the Chicago & Milwaukee railroad, then moved to Palmyra, and remained one year, and next to Rock county, living there till 1854. In that year they came to Richland county. He and those that came with him were obliged to cut three miles of road before they got to the farms which they now own. Mr. Graham entered land on section 35. He first built a log cabin, then set to work to clear the land. This part of the country at that time was a "howling

wilderness," but soon other settlers came in who like him set to work to clear the land and make for themselves homes. He has lived to see a well developed country, supplied with good schools and churches. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Graham—Maria S., Celina S., Alzena E., John T. and Alice L. All of whom have been well educated, some receiving their education in a district school, and some at college. Alzena was born May 13, 1856, and died at the home of her parents June 7, 1883. Mr. Graham has been an industrious, hard-working man, has cleared quite a large farm. His pioneer cabin is replaced by a two-story hewed log house, which is located on sections 34 and 35. His son, John T., was born in the town of Marshall, April, 1859, and has always made this his home. He was married in 1880 to Martha Bannister, a native of Milwaukee. They have one child—Oscar G. His farm joins his father's on section 35. On June 11, 1883, a cyclone passed through the farms of Thomas and John Graham, Jr., destroying a large amount of timber. Large trees were uprooted and torn to pieces by the storm.

Charles, son of John and Susanna (Poole) Graham, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, Jan. 16, 1834, and came to America with his parents. They at first located at East Troy, but remained there only a short time, going from there to Palmyra, Jefferson county, where he engaged in railroading for one year. They then removed to the town of Milton in Rock county, where his father rented a farm. In 1852 his father died, and in November, 1855, he came to Richland county and located on section 35. He was unmarried at the time, and boarded with his brother-in-law, James Ward, until 1858. He was married in that year, to Sarah E. Stanbaugh, who was born in York Co., Penn. He built a hewed log house, which four years later was consumed by fire with all of its contents. The neighbors generously turned out, and two days later, another hewed log house was erected, in which the family resided until 1882, when he

built the neat frame house which they now occupy. Mrs. and Mrs. Graham have six children—James C., Charles W., Lydia F., Arthur E., Lucy E. and Sarah E.

William Minett was born in Cambridgeshire, England, April 11, 1828. Here he grew to manhood and was reared to agricultural pursuits. At the age of twenty-one he left his native land and came to America. He went to Onondaga county in the State of New York, and there remained for ten months employed in teaming. He then came to Wisconsin and located in Walworth county, and was married in 1852 to Mary A., daughter of John and Susanna (Poole) Graham. He came to Richland county in 1853 and entered land in town 11, range 1 west, in the present town of Marshall, and then in the following year settled here. He at first built a cabin of round logs, which in 1869 was replaced by the neat dwelling which he now occupies. He also built a frame barn 30x45 feet, a granary 20x30 feet, with a stone basement and a sheep shed 16x72 feet. June 11, 1883, a cyclone visited this place and demolished the barn, granary and sheep shed, leveling them to the ground. Mr. Minett, with his accustomed energy, immediately set to work and rebuilt them. He has been a successful farmer. He has purchased land adjoining his farm until it now contains 300 acres, nearly 200 of which are cleared. Mrs. Minett died in 1863 leaving six children—Eliza, George, Charles, Sarah, Emma and Frank. Mr. Minett was again married in 1864 to Maria A., daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Richards) Moon, and widow of Albert Carlton. Six children have blessed this union—Joseph C., Josie, Irving J., Walter A., Minnie L. and Robert W. Mrs. Minett has one son by her former marriage—Albert V. He is now a student at Western College, Toledo, Iowa, where he is preparing for the ministry.

Benjamin W. Queen (deceased) was born in Luzerne township, Fayette Co., Penn., Sept. 11, 1823, and was one of the pioneers of Richland

county. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving a liberal education in the public schools. The account book which he used in school, such as was common in those days, is now in possession of his family, and is prized highly as a memento of the past. He was married in 1850 to Mena A. Barclay, who was born in Fox township, Carroll Co., Ohio, March 26, 1824. They settled in Fayette Co., Penn., where they remained until 1854. They then started to seek a home in the west, traveling by steamboat as far as Galena, Ill. They accomplished the remainder of the journey to Richland county by team. He had previously entered land on section 8, town 11, range 1 west, now the town of Marshall, and had a log cabin built into which the family moved immediately upon their arrival in the month of May. He commenced clearing at once, and that year raised a small crop of corn, potatoes and garden vegetables. He remained here and continued clearing and farming until 1865. In March of that year he joined the 11th regiment, company G, Wisconsin Volunteers, and died in the Marine Hospital at Mobile, Sept. 2, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Queen were the parents of eight children—Elizabeth G. and Mary S., born in Pennsylvania; Phebe C., James B., Sarah E. and Joseph B.; Virginia A. and Benina died in infancy. The four daughters now living are well educated, three of whom have been teachers in the public schools. The farm contains 240 acres and is carried on by the sons, who make their home with their mother and are engaged in raising grain and stock. Mr. Queen was a member of the democratic party, and up to the time of his death adhered firmly to its principles.

Archibald Wanlass, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in Wood Co., Va., May 12, 1823. When he was two years of age his parents moved to Wheeling where his father, who was a quarryman, worked at his trade, remaining there six or eight months, then removing to Guernsey Co., Ohio, where he worked for one year, and thence to Harrison

county, where his mother died. He was then seven years old. His father next removed to Carroll county, where he grew to manhood, obtaining his education in the district schools. When he was twenty-three years of age he went to Jefferson county, and was there employed in farming for two years, then went to Belmont county, thence to Richland county in 1851. After a short visit he went to Illinois, where he spent the winter. In the spring of 1852 he again visited Richland county and entered land on section 5, town 11, range 1 west, now known as Marshall. He was a single man at the time, and did not immediately settle here, but returned to Ohio, where he remained until fall, then, returning to his land, commenced clearing. In the spring of 1853 he put in his first crop of corn and potatoes. After planting he returned to Ohio. It was in the fall of 1854 that he came to Richland county and settled permanently. He was married in October, 1855, to Ruth A. Totten, who was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, June 13, 1836. Ten children have been born to them—George, William, John, Jonathan E., James, Archibald, Lona Belle, Nora Maud, Christina Mary and Winnie K. Mr. Wanlass has taken an interest in town and county affairs. He has filled offices of honor and trust in the town and county, and was chairman of the first board of the town of Marshall.

John Hart, deceased, one of the pioneers and representative men of Richland county, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, March 17, 1826. Here his childhood and youth were spent, his time being occupied in going to school and working upon the farm. He was married in 1844 to Eleanor Marshall, who was also born in Columbiana Co., July 2, 1824. They remained in Ohio until 1854, when they came to Richland county. He entered timber land on section 11, town 11, range 1 west, in the present town of Marshall. The first tree cut on the place was for the pioneer log cabin, afterwards replaced by a neat frame house. He also cleared a large

farm and erected a large frame barn. Here he lived until the time of his death, April 14, 1876. He had lived to see the wilderness in which he settled transformed into a finely improved and cultivated country, with good schools and churches. Mr. and Mrs. Hart were the parents of ten children, five of whom are now living—Maria, Thomas, Millard Fillmore, Caroline and Georgia. Maria is now the wife of James Truesdale. Georgia is married to Frank Doudna. Millard Fillmore occupies the homestead with his mother. He was born in 1855, July 15, and was married in 1877 to Olive, daughter of John and Elvina (Steele) Truesdale. They have one child—Julian G. Mr. Hart while living had the respect and confidence of his fellow men to a remarkable degree, and his death was a loss not only to his family but to the community and county in which he lived.

Daniel Noble is one of the pioneers of Richland county. He is a native of Scotland and was but ten months old when his parents left their native home and came to America, settling in Columbiana Co., Ohio. Here his childhood and youth were spent. His education was obtained in a subscription school, that being the only opportunity at that time. He was married in 1838 to Margaret Dreghorn, also a native of Scotland, born in Kelmarnich, March 21, 1814. They remained in Columbiana county until 1854, then came to Richland county and entered land in town 11, range 1 west, now the town of Marshall. They came by water as far as Galena, taking passage at Wellsville, Ohio, on the steamer *Minnesota Belle*. They were twenty-one days in reaching Galena, where they embarked with teams, for Fancy creek. On their arrival they stopped with a neighbor for a short time, while he selected his claim and built a log cabin. The first year he rented a small piece of cleared land and raised a crop of corn and vegetables. He raised the first crop on his own land in 1855, and sowed the first wheat in the fall of that year. He lived upon

the farm until 1878. In the month of September of that year, he met with an irreparable loss in the death of his wife. Since that time he has made his home with his son, Daniel L. He still owns his farm, which contains 320 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Noble were the parents of six children, two now living—William and Daniel L. His son Daniel L. was born Oct. 20, 1848, and was married Dec. 29, 1870, to Annie, daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth (McDonald) Smith. Three children have blessed their union—Daniel Alexander, Margaret E. and Mary L. After his marriage, he lived on section 3, for three years, then located upon his present farm on section 24, and lived in the pioneer log cabin until 1883, except two years, 1879 and 1880, when he was elected sheriff and removed to Richland Center, when he built a large frame house. He is an enterprising man and is engaged, not only in farming, but is dealing in stock. He has taken a lively interest in public affairs and has served as town clerk, and in 1878 was elected sheriff of Richland county, discharging his duties in a manner satisfactory to his constituents. William J., the older brother, now lives on the old homestead. He was married to Delilah Copenhefer, during the winter of 1879. They have had three children, one now living—Emma Alice.

William Richards, (deceased) one of the earliest settlers of English Ridge, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, Sept. 6, 1816. He was married Jan. 19, 1846, to Mary Minett, who was born in Cambridgeshire, July 11, 1823. In 1850 they came to America, landed at New York and came directly to Wisconsin and located in Walworth county, remaining there until 1855, when they came to Richland county and settled on section 27, of the town of Marshall. Here he cleared a farm and built a log cabin, which, a few years later, was replaced by a frame house, in which he lived until the time of his death. He was an enterprising and industrious man, respected by all who knew him. Mr. and Mrs. Richards are the parents of seven

children—William, John, Sarah, James, Ella, Harriet and Lucy. Ella died March 13, 1881, aged twenty-three years and five months. The family still live at the homestead.

Hon. J. B. McGrew, one of the prominent representative men of Richland county, was born near Smithfield, Jefferson Co., Ohio, Jan. 28, 1829. His education was such as could be obtained at that time in the district school, which he attended as opportunity offered until he was fifteen years old. Meanwhile his father had leased a flouring mill on Yellow creek, and Joseph at the age of fifteen years, was engaged therein, and, giving strict attention to business, soon learned the milling trade. Here he remained about four years; continued milling business until after twenty-one years old, when he rented a farm on Cross creek, in Jefferson county, and remained two years. During the time he formed the acquaintance of Maria E. Brown, a very estimable lady, and a native of Wayne town, to whom he was united in marriage on Dec. 21, 1854. Miss Brown was a lady of refinement and education, and was a teacher in the public schools. During the spring of 1855 they removed to Wisconsin and pre-empted land on section 30, town of Richland, Richland county, where they commenced pioneer life by building a log house and making preparations to "open up" a farm. In a short time he removed to Sextonville, where he was taken sick with ague. This had a discouraging effect, and after about four weeks of "chilling and shaking," a sensation known only to those who have had actual, personal experience with this disease, he sold his claim and returned to Jefferson Co., Ohio. Here his experience in his father's mill proved an available resource, and he rented Wood's flouring mill, on McIntire creek. This business was continued here until the spring of 1857, when he removed to Mereer Co., Ill. Meanwhile he was not altogether satisfied, a taste of the western country having given him an appetite for a larger experience. His thoughts continually wandered to the State he had vis-

ited, and consequently, in about a year, he returned to Richland county and bought eighty acres of the same land he had previously pre-empted, erected a house, and went to work putting the land in preparation for a farm. In the spring of 1861 he again removed to Sextonville, and was engaged in George Krouskop's mill for four years, then returned to his farm, having purchased an additional eighty joining. In 1880, having a good opportunity, he sold out and again returned to Ohio, with the intention of purchasing a flour mill, but, for some reason, the owner concluding not to sell, he immediately became a permanent resident of Richland county, and purchased a farm on section 8, town of Richland, which he sold in 1882 and bought the McKy farm, consisting of 200 acres, and has since added forty acres, all of which is located in the town of Marshall, where he now resides. Mr. McGrew has been a man of intelligence and sterling qualities, which could not but be appreciated in any community where he resided. He was not an office seeker, but on account of intrinsic merit and personal popularity, he was, in 1873, elected to the Legislature, and in 1879 was a member of the Senate. He has filled those places, and minor offices from time to time, with honor to himself and credit to his constituency. He was chairman of the town board nine years, was sheriff in 1868, was chairman of the county board in 1872, was under-sheriff in 1870, and assessor in 1866. Thus it may be seen he was eminently popular and successful as a public man. The people were unanimous in their wish to be represented by him in the Assembly, and so expressed themselves at the polls. Being careful and painstaking in all matters of interest to the public, perfectly free from egotism, and determined in his opposition to any measure calculated to abridge the rights of the people, his participation in public matters, earned for himself an enviable reputation, and, indeed, his entire action proved eminently satisfactory. Mr. and Mrs. McGrew have reared six children,

four now living—Ella S., Mary B., Lizzie K. and Jay B. Eva F., a twin sister of Ella, was born Sept. 5, 1857, and died Sept. 10, 1878. Maggie H. was born July 16, 1859, and died April 24, 1879.

Joseph Moon was one of the first settlers on English Ridge, having come there in the fall of 1855. He had previously entered land on section 27. He has cleared a good farm and erected a neat frame house, in which he is now living. He is a native of England, born in Cambridgeshire, in May, 1812. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and in 1835 was married to Sarah Richards, also a native of Cambridgeshire, born in June, 1815. In 1851 they left their native land for America, taking passage in a sailing vessel. They were six weeks in crossing the ocean, and landed in New York in December of that year. They spent the winter in Buffalo; and removed to Wisconsin in the spring. He rented a farm in Walworth county, where they remained until 1855, then came to Richland county. Nine children have been born to them, four of whom are now living—Maria, (now the wife of William Minett), John R., William and Arthur. Mrs. Moon died June 18, 1880. Their son, William, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, Aug. 7, 1845, and came to Richland county with his parents and lived with them until the time of his marriage in 1874 to Sarah McKy, who was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind. They have three children—Nellie Z., Jay W. and Louie C.

William Coulter, one of the early settlers of the town of Marshall, is a native of Ohio. He was born in Clinton county, Sept. 27, 1815. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812 and died while in the United States service, in 1815, four months previous to the birth of the subject of this sketch. When he was two years of age his mother was married to Amos Wilson, and continued to reside in Clinton county where he grew to manhood, obtaining his education in the district school. At twenty-two years of age he left home and went to Indiana and located

in Delaware county. He was married there to Barbara Babb, who was born in Clinton county, March 4, 1817. He purchased land in Delaware county and improved a farm. In 1855 he came to Richland county and entered land on section 7, town of Marshall. He then returned to Indiana and remained until August, 1856, then, in company with his family, started with a pair of oxen and a span of horses for their new home, taking their household goods and cooking utensils with them. They camped out upon the way and arrived at their destination after three weeks of travel. They first moved into a log cabin in Sylvan, while he could erect one on his land. The following winter, while Mr. Coulter was absent from home, one of the children informed Mrs. Coulter that there was a deer near by. She armed herself with the rifle and went out and shot it. When her husband returned he found her and the children engaged in skinning the animal. Mr. Coulter has since cleared a large farm and the log cabin has been replaced by the neat frame dwelling, which they now occupy. Mr. and Mrs. Coulter have four children—Calvin W., John B., Smith G. and Eli S. John B. is still living at home with his parents and he is the present town treasurer.

Joseph Benton, Sr., (deceased) one of the early settlers of Marshall, was a native of Scotland, born in Aberdeenshire, April 20, 1803. His wife, whose maiden name was Janet Davidson, was a native of Banffshire, born in 1806. In 1834 they emigrated to America and settled in Jefferson Co., Ohio, where they bought and improved a farm, living there until 1854. They then came to Richland county and purchased timber land on section 13, town 11, range 1 west, now known as Marshall. Here he improved a farm and lived until the time of his death, which occurred July 14, 1880. He left four children—Joseph, George, Robert and Margaret, now the wife of Olney Hoskins. His widow still occupies the homestead.

Joseph Benton, Jr., was born in Elginshire, Scotland, Nov. 19, 1826, and came to America

with his parents when in his eighth year. He grew to manhood in Jefferson Co., Ohio, obtaining his education in the public schools. In 1852 he came to Richland county and entered land on section 14, town 11, range 1 west, now known as Marshall. After entering this land he returned to Ohio, where he was married in 1854 to Jane Russell, a native of Jefferson county. In 1855 they started for their new home in the far west, traveling by rail as far as Warren, Ill., the nearest railroad station. The remainder of the journey was accomplished by team. He first built a log cabin, which by mistake was located on land that did not belong to him. Soon after he built a hewed log house upon his own land. In 1875 he erected the neat frame house in which he now lives. They have three children—Robert K., Rebecca J. (now the wife of Arthur Moon) and James. Mr. Benton is a man of sound judgment and has the respect and confidence of his fellowmen to a remarkable degree. He has been successful as a farmer, and now owns a good place in the fertile valley of Fancy creek.

Levi Peckham (deceased,) was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, Sept. 12, 1829. Here his younger days were spent upon a farm. In 1849 he was united in marriage with Mary Clark, who was born in Jefferson county, Nov. 12; 1830. They continued living in Ohio until 1855, at which time they came to Richland county, locating in town 12, range 1 west, now the town of Bloom, and living there until 1861 when he purchased a tract of land on section 2, town of Marshall, and immediately commenced clearing his present farm. March 17, 1865, he was drafted into the service, and went to Madison where he was taken sick and died May 16 of the same year, leaving a wife and seven children—Caroline D., Hugh C., William S., Orrin S., Matthew, John W. and Levi R. Orrin died at the age of eleven. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Peckham has carried on the farm successfully, and with the aid of her children cleared a large tract.

George Davis, one the early settlers of the town of Marshall, was born in Loudoun Co., Va., in August, 1823. When he was twelve years of age his parents moved to Ohio and settled in Knox county. Here he grew to manhood and was married in 1850 to Margaret Kerby, born in Knox Co., Oct. 25, 1827. In 1855 they started west to seek a home and came to Richland county, making the journey overland with four horses and a pair of oxen, bringing their household goods with them. They worked and camped on the way, and after four weeks travel reached their destination. He entered land on section 30 of the town of Marshall as before stated. Here he first erected a log cabin covering it with shakes, and split puncheon for the floor. He lived in this humble abode for several years, then erected a frame house in which he now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are now the parents of two children—Joseph E. and Harrison O. Joseph E. was born Jan. 7, 1852, went to Richland county and grew to manhood in the town of Marshall, receiving his education in the district school. He was married in 1877 to Mary L. Queen. He built a hewed log house on his father's farm and lived there until 1883, when he bought a farm on the northeast quarter of section 29. He has three children—Grace L., Myron C. and Minnie M.

Henry Merrill, a pioneer settler of Fancy creek valley, was born in Stark Co., Ohio, March 5, 1826. When he was five years old, his parents moved to Carroll county. His father, there purchased timber land and cleared a farm, in which the subject of this sketch assisted him. Taking advantage of the opportunities then offered, he received a fair education. He was married Aug. 25, 1847, to Eliza McNelly. She was born in Lancaster Co., Penn., Feb. 23, 1824. He bought land in Carroll county and remained there until 1855, when he settled on his present farm in Richland county. In coming here he traveled by rail as far as Warren, Ill., which was then the nearest railroad station. There he hired a horse and



sled and completed the journey. He first built a rude cabin of round logs, covered it with "shakes" and made puncheon for the floor. This humble abode was his home until 1866, when he erected the frame house he now occupies. Mrs. Merrill was one of the first members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Merrill, though not a member of the Church, lends willing aid, and was one of the committee in charge of building the new church. Henry McNelly, a nephew of Mrs. Merrill, was reared by her, she having had charge of him from the tender age of eleven months. He was married in 1875 to Salina, daughter of William and Mary (Thompson) Francis. They have two children—Lester Everett and Francis Clark.

Henry Kepler, one of the pioneers of Marshall, was born in Greene Co., Penn., in February, 1811. When he was ten years old, his parents emigrated to Ohio, and settled in Columbiana county, where he grew to manhood. While a young man he was engaged in a mill, and learned the trade of carding and cloth making. In April, 1834, he was married to Jane Patten. She was born in Beaver Co., Penn., Jan. 27, 1814. They lived in Pennsylvania until 1838, then moved to Ohio and settled in Columbiana county. They remained there three and a half years, then removed to Meigs county, remaining there until 1855, when they started west to seek a home, taking with them a yoke of oxen, a span of horses and two wagons; also household goods and cooking utensils. They camped by the way. After traveling forty days, they arrived at Mill creek, and settled on land that he had entered a few months previously. He at first built a round log house, and later one of hewed logs, which in a few years gave way to the frame house which he now occupies. Mr. and Mrs. Kepler have had three sons born to them—William F., Joseph and Sylvester. The oldest son, William F., came to Richland county with his parents and has always lived at the homestead, and is one of the most extensive farmers in the town. He built on this farm the

second frame barn erected in the town, which is still standing, and in good repair. He has since erected another frame barn, also a large frame house which is one of the finest residences in the county. He was born in Beaver Co., Penn., Dec. 18, 1834, and was three and a half years old when his parents moved to Ohio, where he received a liberal education in the district schools. When he was fourteen years of age he was engaged in a shop and learned to make spinning wheels. He continued to work there three or four years, then engaged in carpentering. In 1854 he went to Mississippi, where he spent the winter, working at building a cotton-gin and feed mill, returning in the spring, and in company with his father, came to Richland county and selected the site of their present farm. For a few years after coming to Marshall, he worked at his trade as carpenter. In the year 1860 he erected a barn and tannery for Judge Fries at Richland Center. Many of the spinning wheels in the county were made by him. In 1880 he purchased the saw-mill on Mill creek, of Mr. Saltsman, put in new machinery, and now operates the same as a business. He has been twice married. His first wife was Rachel Kerby, who bore him two children—Elmer and Almond. His second wife was Mariam Bailey, daughter of Isaac and Martha Doudna, who died in 1881, leaving one child—Isolla.

Thomas Parsons, the subject of this sketch, was born in London, England, May 12, 1812. His father died when he was but eight years old, and he was sent into the country to live, where he grew to man's estate. He came to America in 1841 and located in Canada, where he made the acquaintance of Mary Harris, who was the daughter of John and Mary Harris, and to whom he was married in the year 1843. In 1844 they moved to the State of New York and purchased a home in Onondaga town, Onondaga county. There he was employed on public works, remaining there until 1856, and then coming to Richland county. Here he purchased

a tract of timber land on section 28, built a house and continued to reside there until the time of his death, which occurred Jan. 25, 1876. He was a very industrious man, and had the satisfaction of leaving his family provided with a good home. Mr. and Mrs. Parsons have had nine children born to them, five of whom are now living—William, David, George, Jane and John. Mrs. Parsons was again married in 1876 to James Ward, who is also a native of England, born in Cambridgeshire in 1820. He had come to America in 1851 and located in Wisconsin, living in Walworth and Rock counties until the fall of 1854, when he came to Richland county and settled on section 35, town 11, range 1 west, in the present town of Marshall, where he still resides. He has been three times married. The first time, in 1841, to Maria Graham who died a few years after his settlement in Richland county. Three of her children are living—Edward, Alfred and Angeline. His second wife was Annie Dunford. She died in 1871, leaving five children—Alice, Rose, Carrie, Annie M. and Ellie.

William Saltsman was born in Knox town, Jefferson Co., Ohio, Dec. 5, 1810. He was among the pioneers of the town of Marshall, coming there in 1856. His early life, until he was seventeen years of age, was spent upon a farm, and he improved such opportunities as offered to gain an education. At that age he was apprenticed to a shoemaker to learn the trade, served three years, then worked as journeyman two years. He then engaged with an uncle, farming during the summer season, and in a saw-mill winters, which he continued eight years. In the month of March, 1835, he was married to Kesiah Maple, who was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio. He went to Iowa in 1842, and remained for a short time; returned to Jefferson county and purchased a farm in Salina town, which he sold in 1852 and went to Hammondsville, where he was employed in a warehouse until 1856, at which date he came to Richland county, as before stated, and settled

upon land on section 19, in the town of Marshall. He made the journey as far as Davenport by rail, thence by boat to Prairie du Chien, and from there in a wagon to Muscoda; at that place they hired a conveyance to take them to their new home. They stayed at the house of Samuel Groves, in the town of Sylvan, until a round log cabin could be built. The same year he commenced building a saw-mill on Mill creek, which he completed the following year. He continued to operate this mill in connection with farming until 1880, when he sold out there and bought his present home, an improved farm, and good frame house and barn, located on section 10.

Lyman Hart, a pioneer of the town of Marshall, came here in 1856 and purchased 160 acres of heavily timbered land on section 1. He first built a log cabin in the valley, and commenced with his ax to "hew out" a farm. In 1862 he erected a comfortable frame house, at that time considered quite elegant, frame houses being then the exception. It is pleasantly located on a ridge near the center of his farm. He has engaged in the raising of stock as well as grain, and been quite successful as a fruit grower. Mr. Hart is a native of Columbiana Co., Ohio, born July 24, 1824. He was brought up on a farm, and obtained his education in the common schools. In November, 1851, he was married to Sarah Clark, a native of Jefferson county. They resided in Columbiana county three years, when they removed to Jefferson county and lived there until 1856. They then came to Richland county, traveling by rail as far as Mazomanie, then the nearest railway station, where he hired a conveyance to take them to Richland Center. The remainder of the journey was performed with an ox team. They remained with the family of Alanson Clark until the cabin was completed. Mr. Hart is, and always has been, a republican.

Isaac Doudna, the present assessor of the town of Marshall, first settled there in 1861, having purchased land on section 28. In 1864

he rented his farm and went to Missouri, with the intention of locating there. His family were not satisfied, and consequently they returned in the fall of the same year. In the spring of 1865 he purchased land on section 21, which place has since been his home. He is a native of Ohio, born in Belmont county, Aug. 31, 1810, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving his education in the subscription schools. He made his home with his parents until twenty-two years old, when he was married to Martha Peebles. She was born in Prince George Co., Va., Nov. 19, 1814. He then purchased a farm in the town of Warren, where he made his home until 1861, when he came to Richland county and settled in the town of Marshall. They have eight children living—Deborah, John, Thomas, Euphemia, Isaac, William, Frank and Edgar. The eldest son, named Benjamin, was born in Belmont Co., Ohio, Nov. 20, 1840. He enlisted in the army in June, 1862, in the 20th Wisconsin, company K. He was transferred to company G, and was killed at the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., Dec. 7, 1862. Their son, John, who now has a farm on section 19, also did valiant service in the Union army. Their son Frank lives on the old homestead and carries on the farm. He was born in Belmont Co., Ohio, in July, 1856; was married Oct. 29, 1882, to Georgia, daughter of John and Elanora (Marshall) Hart. They have one child—Leon Hart. The youngest son, Edgar, was born in Missouri. Mr. Doudna had filled the office of assessor in Ohio, so the duties were familiar to him when called upon here. This office he has filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to the people for many terms. He also has held the office of justice of the peace. Politically he is a democrat. Religiously he may be called a Liberal, and has no connection with any Church.

John Truesdale was one of the early explorers of Richland county. He first visited here in 1852 and entered land on section 25, town 11, range 1 west, now known as Marshall. He

tarried but a short time and returned to Mahoning Co., Ohio. Two years later he moved to Pennsylvania and lived until 1858, when he returned to Ohio, and remained until 1863. He then came to Marshall and settled on his land. He was born in Beaver Co., Penn., Dec. 2, 1814. While he was quite young his parents removed to Mahoning Co., Ohio, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. He at first attended a subscription and afterward the public school, and acquired a fair education. He was married in 1842 to Elvina Steele, also a native of Beaver Co., Penn. She died in 1858, leaving five children—Joseph C., James R., and twins John O. and Olive, and Charles C. Olive is now the wife of Millard F. Hart. His present wife, to whom he was married in 1863, was Adeline Young, who was born in Ohio. They have two children—Emma Rena and William C.

W. O. Allison settled in Richland county in 1865. He first purchased land on section 10, where he lived until 1872. He then bought land on section 16. In 1880 he purchased his present farm, which contains 240 acres, located on section 4. It is watered by Fancy creek. He was born in Belmont Co., Ohio. His father was a carpenter and lived in different places, working at his trade, until 1850, when he went to California and spent two years, then returned and purchased a farm in Belmont county. In 1860 he disposed of this property and removed to the village of Fairview, where he resumed work at his trade. The subject of this sketch made his home with his parents until 1861, when, at the first call for troops, he became inspired with patriotism, and, his parents being unwilling, he ran away from home and enlisted in company K, 17th Ohio Volunteers. After serving four months and five days he was discharged with the regiment and returned home. The 4th of October, of the same year, he again enlisted in the 74th Ohio, company K, and immediately went to the front with the regiment and served until the close of the war. Among the many engagements in which he participated

are the following: Fort Henry, Nealy's Bend, Stone River, Tullahoma, Hoover's Gap and Missionary Ridge, all in Tennessee. He was with Sherman on his ever memorable march through Georgia to the sea, thence through the Carolinas to Washington, participating in the many hard-fought battles of that exciting campaign. He had veteranized Feb. 4, 1864 and was soon after appointed corporal, serving until the close of the war. He was not sick a day of the time and was discharged July 10, 1865. On his way home an accident occurred on the railroad, he was caught between two cars and held there for one and a half hours. His leg was broken and he was otherwise badly bruised, and in consequence was laid up for several months. Mr. Allison has been twice married. His first wife was Sarah Penter, who was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, and died in 1872, leaving two children—Ida and James. His second wife was Agnes Pippin, who was born in Tippecanoe Co., Ind. His parents were early settlers of the town of Bloom.

Hon. Philip Smith settled on his present farm in 1867. It is located on sections 13 and 24, in the Fancy creek valley. He was the son of Alexander and Elizabeth (McDonald) Smith, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, Sept. 23, 1836, where he was brought up to agricultural pursuits, obtaining what education he could as opportunity offered in the public schools. In 1855 he visited Richland county, remained a short time, and returned to his former home where he remained a number of years and then started for the mountains. He visited Colorado, Utah, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. After this extended trip, and considerable experience with much travel, in 1865 he returned to Ohio. The following year Janet N. Smith became his wife, she was also a native of Columbiana county. After this important event of his life he moved to Pennsylvania and engaged in mercantile business in the oil regions. Here he remained but a few months when he came to Marshall as before stated.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had seven children—Emma A., Eliza M., Elizabeth J., Maggie B., Edson A., Anna B. and Burkie Mabel. The first child, Emma A., was born Feb. 8, 1867, and died July 5, 1882. Mr. Smith is a public spirited man and has filled many positions of trust and honor in the county, and is at this time chairman of the town board. He has twice represented his district in the Legislature, being elected to that position in November, 1873, and in 1877. His second election was a public endorsement of his course and position, and was a well deserved compliment to a worthy man.

Wm. A. Balsley was born March 4, 1847, in Washington Co., Penn. When six months old his parents, John S. and Julian Balsley, removed to Fox township, Carroll Co., Ohio, in the year 1865. Mr. Balsley joined the Presbyterian Church of Mechanicstown and Jan. 3, 1872, was married to Annie K. Twaddle, by the Rev. H. Y. Seepeier, at the residence of Wm. Kelly, Jr., a resident of Jefferson Co., Ohio. His wife was a member of United Presbyterian Church, of Yellow Creek, Ohio, with which she united when fifteen years old. On March 24, 1872, they boarded the cars at Salineville, Ohio, and on March 28, 1872, arrived at Lone Rock, Wis. On the 26th they took the stage to Richland Center, and in April, 1872, both united by letter with the Presbyterian Church of Fancy Creek. They removed to an old house on H. Marshall's land and lived there till June 17, 1872, and then moved into a cabin on land which Mr. Balsley had purchased. It was located on section 21. They lived there till May 18, 1883, then removed to their present residence. They are the parents of five sons, four living—John K., W. L., Addie J., and C. B. The second son, J. M., died at the age of two months, and is buried in the Fancy Creek grave yard.

Edmund B. Looker came to Richland county in 1872, and settled in the town of Marshall. He purchased the northeast quarter of section 6, about twenty-five acres of which was cleared.

He has now seventy acres cleared. The farm has been rented the greater part of the time, while he has lived at ease. He is a native of New York city, born Feb. 13, 1811. When but an infant, he was taken in charge by his grandparents, who lived in the town of Orange, Essex Co., N. J., gaining his education in a subscription school. When he was eleven years of age his grandfather died, and he found a home among strangers. At the age of twelve he was apprenticed to a shoemaker to learn the trade. After serving six years, he worked as a journeyman until the age of twenty-one, when he went to Cumberland Co., Penn., and opened a shoemaker's shop and continued the business for twenty years. He then moved to Ohio and settled in Fulton county, upon land having

water power upon it, in the town of Gorham. Here he built a saw-mill which he operated. He also cleared a farm. At the end of eight years he sold out, removed to Indiana, and purchased a farm in Union township, Adams county, also a sorghum mill, and engaged in making syrup, living there until 1872, at which date he came to Richland county. In 1835 Mr. Looker went to New York city on a combined business and social trip, making the journey the greater portion of the way on foot. He returned by steamboat and rail, traveling on the only railroads in the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1853, he made a trip to northwestern Ohio by his own conveyance, being twenty days on the journey.



## CHAPTER XXVIII.

## TOWN OF ORION.

The town of Orion lies in the southern tier of towns the second from the east line of the county, and is bounded on the north by Richland; on the east by Buena Vista; on the south by Iowa county, from which it is separated by the Wisconsin river, and on the west by Eagle. It embraces the territory of congressional township 9 north, range 1 east, except the eastern tier of sections; and also that portion of township 8 north, range 1 east, which lies north of the Wisconsin river. The surface of the town is rather broken and inclined to be hilly; yet there are many fine farms here and an abundance of natural timber. A large part of the town is upon the rich bottom lands of the Wisconsin river, and no finer scenery, nor more fertile, fruitful land can be found. The census of 1880 gave the town a population of 733. There are 102 farms here in a good state of cultivation.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlers within the limits now comprising the town of Orion were: John R. Smith and his son-in-law, Thomas Mathews, the former a native of Kentucky, the later of Tennessee. They came from Grant county, in October, 1842, and claimed fraction No. 6, town 8, range 1 west, and fraction No. 5, town 8, range 1 east, entering the land two or three years later. After they had entered the land, they sold a half interest to Orrin E. Barber, and laid out the village plat of the present village of Orion. The plat then laid upon fraction No. 5, town 8, range 1 east, and contained fourteen blocks of eight lots each. This was

the initial step of founding the village. Its history is treated at length in the proper place.

R. J. Darnall, a native of Kentucky, came in 1843, and located in Orion, entering land on section 19. He engaged in mercantile trade and also improved his farm. In 1856 he removed to the town of Forest, and for some years kept a hotel. He now lives in Illinois.

William Thompson, a native of Kentucky, came here from Missouri, in 1846, and made a claim on sections 14 and 15. He did not prove up on this place, but entered land on section 2, where he erected a saw-mill. In 1858 he sold out and removed to Kansas. He now lives at Blue Rapids, Marshall Co., Kan., where he is engaged at farming.

William Mathews, a native of Illinois, came at about the same time as did Mr. Thompson. He entered land on section 32, where he lived for several years. He now lives in Missouri.

Green Mayfield, a native of Tennessee, came here from Iowa county in 1847, and made a claim on section 4, entering the land a few years later. He settled there in March, 1848, and still occupies the place.

David Mayfield, also a native of Tennessee, came from Grant county in June, 1847, and entered land on sections 3 and 10. He improved the farm and made this his home until 1883; when he sold out; he now lives at Richland Center.

Carlos Joslyn, a native of Vermont, came here from Mineral Point in 1847 and settled on the southeast quarter of section 9. In 1848 he sold this place and removed to the southwest

quarter of section 10, remaining a resident of the town until 1853. He now lives with his son-in-law, L. Renick, in the town of Henrietta.

W. H. Joslyn, a son of Carlos Joslyn, came here in 1848, and was a resident of the town until 1852. He now lives in Richland Center. He has held many positions of public trust and responsibility, and is a prominent man in county affairs.

In July, 1848, a party of Germans, consisting of Henry Sigrist and Henry and Frederick Scherman, came prospecting for land. After selecting land they returned and brought their families in August, of the same year. Henry Sigrist entered the south half of the southwest quarter of section 3. Henry Scherman selected land on sections 2 and 3, where he cleared a farm and lived until the time of his death. Frederick Scherman purchased land of Carlos Joslyn, on section 9, where he remained until the time of his death.

Walter Gage, a native of the State of New York, came here in 1849 and entered fraction No. 2, on section 34. He started a ferry there which, in 1850, he traded to James Law. Mr. Law erected a large frame house upon the land, which at that time was the largest house in the county. The place took the name of "Law's Ferry," and for years this was a land-mark to all settlers in this region.

Levi Houts, a native of Indiana, came here in 1849 from Muscoda, and entered land on sections 3 and 10, town 9, range 1 west. He now lives on section 31, town 9, range 1 east.

John Mainwaring, a native of Wales, in company with his two sons, Daniel and John, came here from England, in 1849. Daniel died in April, 1850. The son, John, bought a claim from John Mathews on the southeast quarter of section 33, and entered the land. He lived there two years, then returned to England. In 1865 he came back and bought land on section 27, where he now lives. The father settled on John's land, on section 33, where he lived until

1865 when he went to live with his son, where he died in 1876.

Charles N. Kneefe, a native of Germany, came here in 1849 and settled on sections 14 and 15, having entered the land previous to this time. He lived there for several years and is now a resident of Dane county.

Alanson Hurd, a native of the State of New York, came at about the same time and settled on the northwest quarter of section 3. He lived there a short time and then removed to the southeast quarter of section 10. He now lives in Vernon county.

Reason Barnes, a carpenter, by trade, came here in 1849, but in a short time removed to Boaz.

Dr. Jacob Brimer, a native of the State of New York, came here in 1851 and located on section 21. His home is now on section 2.

John Henry Demmer, a native of Germany, came here from Milwaukee in 1853 and purchased a claim of Alanson Hurd on section 3. He entered the land from the government and still makes it his home.

Peter Bobb, a native of Maryland, came here from Pennsylvania in 1854 and purchased land on section 32, where he still lives.

Hezekiah Jones, a native of Kentucky, came here from Indiana, in 1854. He selected land on section 10, where he still resides.

In the spring of 1854 Abram Miller, a native of Kentucky, came from Indiana and bought land of the Joslyns, on section 10. He still occupies the place.

Henry Wilson, a native of Butler Co., Ohio, came from Indiana in the spring of 1854 and bought land on section 9, where he still resides.

Frederick Schmidt came from Germany in 1854 and bought land on section 16, where he lived until the time of his death.

Simon S. Blake, a native of Pennsylvania, came at about the same time and entered 120 acres of land on sections 17 and 18. He erected a log house on the latter section, improved a farm and still lives here.

James Lewis, a native of Ohio, came in 1854 and located on section 7, where he still resides.

John Bobb, a native of Pennsylvania, came here in the spring of 1855 and bought land on section 32, where he cleared a farm and erected a neat house and barn. When the war broke out, he enlisted, and died in the service. The only child he left, a son, now lives in Nebraska.

John Hamilton, a native of Pennsylvania, came from there in the spring of 1855 and located in the village of Orion, where he still lives.

After this time the settlement became more rapid, and the vacant land in the town was soon taken by an enterprising class of pioneers who have all done their share toward developing the natural resources of the town. Many of these are noticed elsewhere, so it will be unnecessary to make further reference to them in this connection.

#### FIRST THINGS.

The first birth in the town of Orion, as well as the first in the eastern portion of the county, was that of Mary Mathews. She was born Nov. 13, 1843, and was a daughter of Thomas and Catharine Mathews. She married Sanford Miller, and remained in Orion for a number of years, then removed to the town of Forest, where she died in 1870. She left three children, two of whom are now living at Reedsburg.

The first child of German parentage born in the town, was Henry, a son of Henry and Caroline Sigrist, born April 24, 1849. He is now married, and is still a resident of the town.

The first marriage in the town was that of Joseph Parrish to Catharine McClellan, the ceremony being performed by J. R. Smith, a justice of the peace. They were a runaway couple from Muscoda. They lived in Orion for a time, then moved to Muscoda. The husband finally died in the town of Eagle, where he had been keeping a saloon.

One of the first deaths in the town was that of John Nipple, who died in about 1850. The remains were buried in the cemetery at Orion.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first school in district No. 1 was taught by Mrs. David Mayfield, at her house, in 1851. Mrs. Alanson Hurd taught the next term of school. In 1853 a log house was erected on section 10. This school house was in use for several years, and was then replaced by a neat frame building.

The school house in district No. 4, which is located on section 8, was erected in 1858. David Wacker was one of the first teachers in this building.

The first school in district No. 5 was taught in 1858 by Simon S. Blake, in a frame building erected during the same year on the eastern part of section 19. During the war the organization of the district was abandoned and the territory was attached to other districts. In 1865 the district was re-organized and a hewn log school house was erected, in which Sarah Gaston was the first teacher. In the winter of 1881-2 a new building was erected in which Julia Thompson taught the first school.

The first school in district No. 7 was taught by Lucita Law during the war. The district had purchased a building that had been erected for school purposes on section 34, but there were then but few settlers in the neighborhood, and they could not support a school, so the building was sold to district No. 7 to raise money to pay the teacher. The building was moved to the southwest quarter of section 32, where it was used for school purposes until 1880, when a neat frame building was erected a quarter of a mile east of the old site. Ada Bobb was the first teacher in the present house. Minnie Lawrence is the present teacher.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first religious services in the northern part of the town were held in the old log school house on section 10, by Rev. Mr. Pryor, but no organization was effected at that time.



Rev. Josiah Burlingame preached in the same building and held protracted meetings in an early day. He organized a Methodist Episcopal class, among the first members of which were: Green Mayfield and wife; Alanson Hurd and wife; Charles Frye and wife and David Mayfield and wife. Charles Frye was chosen class leader. For a time the class met for worship in a building on section 4, which belonged to Green Mayfield, and later in the school house on section 8. Revs. Hall, Cook and Chase were among the pastors who served the class. During the war some of the members went into the service, while others moved away and, for a time, meetings were discontinued. Some years later Rev. Brakeman re-organized the class at a meeting held at the school house on section 8. The following were among the members who joined at that time: Simon S. Blake and wife, Charles Bobb, Charles Frye and wife, Randolph Sandlin and wife, Andrew Crawford and wife and Andrew Shane and wife. Charles Bobb was chosen class leader. The class met for worship in the school house until 1871, when they erected a hewn log church edifice on the southeast quarter of section 7. Among the pastors who have filled the pulpit for the class are: Revs. Jackson, Smith, Crouch, Waldron, McGinley, Sackett, Burnett, Clifton and Med. The last named is the present pastor.

At an early day a Sabbath school of this denomination was organized at the school house on section 8, of which Charles Frye was the first superintendent. J. W. Shane is the present superintendent.

The first meetings of members of the German Evangelical Church were held at the house of Henry Sigrist, in about 1852. Rev. Riegel, from Sauk county, was the preacher. Rev. Schnake organized a class in the log school house, soon after it was built. Among the first members of the class were: Henry Sigrist and wife, Henry Scherman and wife, Charles Kneefe and wife, Fred Scherman and wife and William Scherman and wife. Henry Scherman

was the first class leader. Meetings were afterward held in a vacant log house on section 3, which was purchased. In 1869 the frame building which they now occupy was erected on the old site. Rev. Nesh is the present pastor.

A Sabbath school was organized at an early day, of which Henry Scherman was the first superintendent and held the position for many years. Henry Flemme is the present superintendent. The school meets every Sunday, and has a large attendance.

There is also a cemetery under the management of this society, which is located near the church.

The German Lutheran Church was organized in 1857, at the Ash creek log school house, by Rev. Rolock. Among the first members were: Philip Daniel Berger and wife, Henry Demmer and wife, and Frederick Smith and wife. Several others joined soon after the organization was effected, and services were held in the school house for a number of years. A substantial log church, however, has been erected, in which services are now held.

#### MILL.

In 1848 William Thompson erected a saw-mill on section 2. The power was derived from Ash creek, and the mill was equipped with an old fashioned "up and down saw." Machinery for grinding corn was soon added. It was a small affair, but was a great convenience to the settlers in those days. Caleb Merris, a resident of the town of Ithaca, once came to the mill to have some corn ground, and, on his return, he told the neighbors that it was the "smartest" mill he had ever seen. He said that "as soon as it got through with one kernel, it would go right to work on another." Mr. Thompson sold out in 1858 to Jacob Krouskop, who erected a carding mill, and in 1864 Jacob Brimer purchased the property.

#### OFFICIAL MATTERS.

The town of Orion was first called Richmond, the name being suggested by Thomas Mathews. In 1856 the name was changed to Orion.

The first election in the town of Richmond was held at the house of Mathew Alexander in the fall of 1848.

The town of Richmond was organized at a town meeting held at the house of Thomas Mathews in April, 1849, at which time the first officers of the town were elected. John R. Smith, Myron Whitcomb and R. J. Darnall were chosen inspectors of the election. The following officers were elected: Supervisors, John R. Smith, chairman, Adam Byrd and William Kincannon; clerk, John Nipple; collector, Stephen Finnell; assessor, Walter B. Gage; superintendent of schools, Marvin White; justices of the peace, William Thompson, E. H. Dyer, B. B. Sutton and Mathew Alexander; constables, Nathaniel Green, William White and Daniel H. Byrd; overseers of the highway, L. B. Palmer and William White.

At the annual town meeting held at the school house in district No. 1, on the 3d of April, 1883, W. M. Brimer, Abram Miller and Christopher Ford were chosen inspectors, and Levi Houts and William H. Dooley clerks of the election. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Supervisors, W. M. Brimer, chairman, Herman Bremmer and Henry Emshoff; clerk, Levi Houts; treasurer, W. H. Dooley; assessor, John Emshoff; justices, W. H. Palmer and John Flamme; constables, Chris Berger, Lewis Miller and Thomas Owens; sealer, W. H. Palmer. At this meeting it was voted that a town house be erected, but no money was appropriated for the purpose.

#### VILLAGE OF ORION.

The first settlers on the plat of the village were John R. Smith and his son-in-law, Thomas Mathews; the former a native of Kentucky, the latter, of Tennessee. They came from Grant county in October, 1842, and claimed fraction No. 6, town 8, range 1 west; and fraction No. 5, town 8, range 1 east, entering the land a few years later. After they had entered the land they sold a half interest to Orrin E. Barber, and they laid out the plat of the village

of Richmond, now Orion. It was then located on fraction No. 5, town 8, range 1 east, and contained fourteen blocks of eight lots each. About one year later Mr. Barber sold his interest to Smith & Mathews, and shortly afterwards Thomas Mathews purchased his partner's interest and became sole proprietor. In the fall of 1842, Smith & Mathews started a ferry. The first boat was a platform on two canoes, and for some time the only business the ferry had was the transportation of hunters. When it was necessary to convey a team across the river, the horses were made to swim and the wagon was loaded on the boat.

In 1843 they built a flat boat, and a number of years later, when travel increased, a more expensive boat was built by Mr. Mathews, which was run by horse power. He continued to operate the ferry until the bridge was built, in 1870.

The first man to sell goods on the site of the village was Ephraim Dyer, who kept a small stock of groceries, notions and whisky; the latter being a staple article in those days. Mr. Dyer had in 1849 erected a one story frame building for the purpose—the first store building in the village. He remained in trade about one year, when he sold his building and moved a small portion of his goods to Highland, Iowa county.

Molbry Ripley and Dr. D. L. Downs purchased the Dyer building. They made an addition to it and put in a large stock of general merchandise, including groceries, dry-goods, hardware, crockery, glassware, drugs, and, in fact, everything in general use in this region at that time. They continued in business for a number of years. Dr. Downs now resides in Richland Center, and is probate judge of Richland county. Mr. Ripley after leaving Orion engaged in trade at Boaz and died there.

The first building erected on the village plat was put up by Smith & Mathews in October, 1842. It was a log building about 16x18 feet

in size and stood on fraction No. 6. Main street is now located over the site.

The first frame dwelling house in the village was erected by Thomas J. Dayton in 1847-8. He opened the first hotel in the village and kept it for a number of years. The building is still standing, having been greatly improved by additions, and has been run as a hotel the most of the time since its erection. Jefferson Miller is the present proprietor.

The first blacksmith was John Nipple, who opened a shop in 1844. Thomas Mathews furnished him with a shop and the necessary tools. A few years later Nipple died and was succeeded by Thomas Palmer, who continued in business about two years, then sold out. Since that time there have been various parties here in this line, but at present the village is without a blacksmith.

About 1854 William Roush started a tin shop. He remained in business until the war broke out, when he enlisted, and later settled in Iowa.

The first school in the village was taught by Mary Melanthon (now Mrs. Joseph Elliott) in a log building erected for the purpose. The second school was taught by Levi Houts in the same building.

The first religious services in the village were held at the house of Thomas Mathews, as early as 1845. The first preacher was Moses Darnell, a Baptist clergyman from Grant county. He preached here but a few times and was followed by a Methodist preacher from Pedlar's Creek. The first organization was effected by the Methodists.

The inhabitants of Orion were at first supplied with mail from Muscoda until 1851, a messenger being employed to carry the mail and leave the same at Downs' & Ripley's store. In 1851 the postoffice was established with M. Ripley as postmaster. The following have served as postmaster since that time: Messrs. Roush, Byrd, Sims, Miller, Clingensmith and Dawson. The latter is the present postmaster.

The village was first named Richmond, but when application for the establishment of a postoffice was made it was found that there was another postoffice of that name in the State, and the name of Orion, which was suggested by Judge A. B. Slaughter, was adopted.

#### PERSONAL.

While the following personal sketches are not made up entirely of pioneers of this county, you will find among them some of the oldest settlers in the county.

Capt. John Smith was born in Kentucky, about 1790, and there grew to man's estate. While yet a young man he moved to Illinois. He there enlisted in the Black Hawk War and served as captain. He was married to Elizabeth Holliday, who was also a native of Kentucky. He worked at his trade, which was that of millwright, in Illinois until 1838, when he moved to Wisconsin and located in Iowa county, and there engaged in the lead mines, remaining there until 1841, then removed to Grant county, and settled in Muscoda, where he worked at his trade. He was employed on the first mill ever erected in Richland county, on Mill creek, to which county he came in 1842, remaining here till the time of his death, which occurred in 1851. He left a wife and two children—Catharine, the wife of Thomas Mathews, and Benjamin M., who now lives in the town of Forest. Mrs. Smith afterwards married K. J. Darnall, and died in the town of Forest.

Thomas Mathews, son-in-law of J. R. Smith, and with him the pioneer settler of Orion, was born in Tennessee May 7, 1814. When he was three years of age, his parents moved to Illinois and settled in Montgomery county, where they remained but a short time, then removed to Morgan county, and thence to McDonough county. Thus, as will be seen, his younger days were spent in a new country, where the opportunities for acquiring an education were very limited, yet such as there were he improved, and, being naturally studious, improved his evenings, which he spent at home,

and in that way acquired sufficient knowledge for practical purposes. He lived with his parents until 1836, then came to Wisconsin and worked in the lead mines in that part of Iowa now known as La Fayette county. He remained there two years, then to Platteville, Grant county, and engaged in mining one year, and from there to the Pickatonica diggings, Iowa county. In the year 1840 he was married to Catharine Smith, and moved to Muscoda. In company with J. R. Smith he took a contract to build a dam across Mill creek for Parish Mill. They continued to live at Muscoda till 1842, moving from there to Richland county, settling on the site of the present village of Orion, and built the first log cabin in the town. Their cabin, though an humble one, was where strangers ever found the "latch string out," and many procured food and shelter there. Mr. Mathews has been engaged in various enterprises. Among others he has kept a hotel for several years. He was the first white man to go up Pine river in a canoe as far as the natural bridge. He also, in company with J. R. Smith, cut the first road from the Wisconsin river to that place.

William Dooley was one of the first explorers of the Pine river valley. This was in the spring of 1845 and he was engaged at Galena by one Coles, to come to Richland county and assist in building a mill. At this time he was but eighteen years old, and was thus starting out in life, full of vim and energy and bent on securing if possible a fortune, or at least a competence. He was promised \$18 per month for his services, and faithfully performed his part for one year, when to his dismay he found himself cheated out of every dollar so honestly earned. This was discouraging for a beginning, but with characteristic pluck he commenced work in the woods getting out lumber and rafting down the river. By this sort of perseverance and with commendable economy under adverse circumstances, he succeeded in accumulating enough money, so that in 1848 he was

able financially to enter some land, and at once sought a location, making selection on section 32, town 9, range 1 east, now known as town of Orion. He continued at work in the lumber regions until 1852. When Mr. Dooley first landed in this section of country, it was indeed a wilderness, inhabited by Indians and wild beasts of the forest. A man's life was not always considered safe, particularly when offense had been given the "noble red man." On one occasion the Indians concluded to go to Muscoda, and stealing a "dugout" at Orion, crossed the river. The whites followed to the town and got into a quarrel with them which resulted in the killing of two Indians and wounding three others. The shooting was done by the McLoud boys from Richland Center. Mr. Dooley received information immediately concerning this unfortunate occurrence, and well knowing the nature of the Indian, was troubled as to the best course to pursue. Every settler except Dooley and Petty left their homes and went to Muscoda, remaining four or five days. These two parties, not knowing what moment a return might be made, or what time the Indians might proceed to wreak vengeance by destroying life and burning property, bringing desolation and disaster to the settlement, were not in a desirable situation, yet they "held the fort," and came out all right. In 1849 the Swinehart's, Hazeltine's, Hessler's, Hawkins and Waters brothers came, which made quite an addition to the settlement, making life more safe and pleasant. Mr. Dooley was married June 9, 1852, to Sarah, daughter of James and Lucinda (Calhoun) Laws, and settling on his land, devoted his time to clearing and farming. The same season he purchased more land adjoining, located on section 5, town 8, range 1 east, which had been previously entered by John Nipple. He now has a large, well improved farm, a commodious frame house, a large frame barn, and is in the full enjoyment of a nice home, honestly and fairly gained. He was born in Madison Co., Ky., May 9, 1827. When he

was six years old his parents removed to Missouri, where he remained until his eighteenth year, when he went to Galena and spent two months in mining, then came to this county as before stated. Mr. Dooley is a man much respected by the community, and his reputation for honesty and integrity is second to none. Mr. and Mrs. Dooley are the parents of eight children—William Henry, Lucinda, Mary Ella, Adella A., Eldred S., Ida A., Lu Etta and Gilbert E. Mary Ella is now the wife of Patrick Fay, a teacher in the schools at Richland Center. All the other children are still living at home.

David Mayfield and wife, on the 20th day of June, 1845, located on the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 3, town 9 north, range 1 east. They had just removed from Platteville. The only neighbors they had on Ash creek at this time were William Thompson and family, but they had chosen this as their future home, and concluded to make the best of it. It being late in the season when they arrived in the county, they could not raise any crop but potatoes, but this was a very important crop to the pioneers, as it furnished them a goodly portion of their winter supply of food. In the fall of 1845 Green Mayfield and family, a brother of David Mayfield, arrived from Platteville and settled where he now resides but there was no further increase in the settlement until 1847 when the Joslin family arrived. Mr. Mayfield continued farming until 1883, when as he found himself advancing into old age he sold his farm of 164 acres for \$2,500, removed to Richland Center and retired from active life. David Mayfield was born near Nashville, Tenn., in August 1807. In 1811 the family removed to Indiana and one year later to Illinois where the mother died in 1818. The subject of this sketch then came to Wisconsin, and followed mining until 1834 then engaged in farming at Platteville. In 1837 he married Martha Arterbury, she died in 1841. He subsequently married Almira Woods and by this union five children have been born,

two now living—Rosa, now the wife of August Larson and Delia Mayfield, now in Nevada.

Green Mayfield a representative man and early settler of Richland county began his pioneer life in infancy, his parents having emigrated to Illinois while he was quite young and when that was a new country. Here they remained but five years when they again took a journey westward locating in that part of the territory of Michigan since embraced in the State of Wisconsin and in Grant county, where he grew to manhood. In 1832 when he was fourteen years old he enlisted in the service of the United States and served through the Black Hawk War, returned to his home at the close of that conflict and engaged in mining. He was joined in marriage with Maria Keister Aug. 9, 1841. She was born in Posey Co., Ind., Nov. 9, 1823. They settled near Pedlar's creek and engaged in mining a few months, then moved to Bee town at which point he followed the same business, his wife assisting. Mining here not proving a remunerative enterprise they soon moved and settled on a claim he had previously made near Platteville. Here they were unfortunate in that both were attacked with fever and ague, and it took all their earnings to pay the doctor's bills, and he at last sold out to close up. In July, 1846, he came to Richland county in company with his brother David, being pleased with this section of the country he concluded to make a settlement and returned for his wife. The great trouble with him was a lack of money, and he hardly knew which way to turn to make necessary arrangements, finally he went to a merchant with whom he was acquainted in Platteville told him he was going to Richland county and wanted enough supplies to last him until fall when he would pay him with venison and honey. The merchant knowing him to be an honest man provided him with the necessaries of life and they started for a new home in Richland county, using his brother's team to move a few household goods, their only possessions. Arriving at the

ferry kept by Mr. Mathews he told him he did not have any money to pay his way over, "Never mind" said Mathews, "I will put emigrants across for nothing for we want this country settled." They then made their way to his brother David's where they spent the summer. He made a claim on section 4, did not immediately move to it; but made their home with this brother until the following March, when having erected a small log cabin they moved into it on their own place. Meanwhile he had been successful in his hunting expeditions, and had paid up his store bill, but as yet had no money with which to enter his land; therefore he continued hunting, killed large numbers of deer and bear, and for them found a ready market at Platteville, the saddles of venison bringing two dollars and a half and the pelts from fifty cents to one dollar. He tanned and dressed deer skins with which he made clothing throughout—coat, pants, cap and moccasins. Many incidents of thrilling interest are remembered in connection with the early experience here of Mr. and Mrs. Mayfield. Starting out one day for the purpose of killing a deer, his dogs started a large bear which ran up a hill the canines in close pursuit. When on the summit the dogs caught and furiously attacked "old bruin," and in the fight both bear and dogs came rolling down the hill together. At the bottom foothold was again secured and the bear and dogs seemed bent on getting away. Finally they drew near where Mayfield was standing, and one of the dogs caught the bear by the ear, when he raised up embraced the dog and began to hug as only a bear can. Finally they fell to the ground, when Mr. Mayfield approached and with a knife, having a blade twelve inches long, stabbed the bear on the opposite side, when he released his hold and started away with the knife in his side. The gun was empty and there was no other way than to use a club, which weapon was used with good effect, and securing the knife cut his throat putting an end to his existence. This is

one among the many similar adventures of this pioneer. In the course of a few years he had accumulated money enough to enter his land, when he devoted more time to clearing a farm. In August, 1862, he enlisted and joined company B, 25th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. The principal battle in which he was engaged was at Kinston, North Carolina. While he was in the service of his country, his wife, assisted by her two daughters and a small son carried on the farm raising good crops. He was discharged with the regiment in June, 1865, and returned home. His industrious family, had already planted the farm in corn, and in the fall he gathered 1,500 bushels. For some years he did not have a team of his own and used his brother's. At the present time we find him with a well stocked farm, comfortable frame house, large frame barn and 445 acres of land, besides other claims. He has always been enterprising, and among the first and most influential in establishing schools and Churches. Mr. and Mrs. Mayfield both joined the M. E. Church at the time of its organization in Orion. They are the parents of three children—Sarah M., now the wife of Jeff. Wilson, who lives in Crawford county; Maria A., now the wife of Joseph McMillen and Elijah G. The latter was born in the town of Orion, Jan. 16, 1853, and was married in 1875 to Dreatz Powells, and two years later settled on his present farm on section 9. They have three children—Cyrus L., Miles and one not named at this date.

Frederick Sherman (deceased) a pioneer of Richland county, is a native of Germany, and was born upon the banks of the Rhine, May 11, 1812. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, spending his younger days in school. On attaining his majority he joined the army and served in the cavalry four years. He came to America in 1848; landed in New York and came directly to Milwaukee and was there married to Carolina Banner, who was also a native of Germany. He immediately started with his

bride for their new home. He purchased eighty acres of land and entered another eighty on section 9, town 9, range 1 east, now known as Orion. Here they endured the hardships of pioneer life, and lived to clear a good farm and build a comfortable frame house. His death occurred in March, 1879. Mrs. Sherman died in 1856, leaving three children, two of whom are now living—Louisa and Herman. He afterwards married Maria Rilling. She has one son—August. Herman was born in the town of Orion, April 30, 1852. He received a common school education, and lived with his parents until 1870, when he enlisted in the 17th regiment, United States Infantry, and served on the frontier five years. He was in the campaign on the Big Horn river, in 1873. After his discharge from the service he returned home and resumed farming, and in 1876 was married to Leah Lewis, who was born in the town of Richland. He then settled upon his present farm, which is a portion of the old homestead. He has improved the place and built the frame house which they now occupy. They have one child—Jennie.

Henry Schuerman was born in Germany, upon the banks of the Rhine, March 22, 1818. His younger days were spent in school, where he acquired a liberal education, after which he engaged in farming. He came to America in 1848, landed at New York and came directly to Richland county, thus becoming one of its pioneers. He entered a large tract of land there on sections 2 and 3, town 9, range 1, town of Orion. In the spring of 1849 he went to Watertown and was there married to Sabilla Jorris, also a native of Germany, and started immediately with his bride for his new home in the wilderness, where he had already commenced clearing. The nearest point at which they could obtain provisions was in Iowa county, and also the nearest mill. He was obliged to cross the river in going there, and sometimes the water would rise while he was upon the other side, and he would be obliged to

wait several days before he could cross to return home. At times the neighborhood would become short of breadstuff and they were obliged to grate corn to make it into meal. Mr. Schuerman was an industrious man, and cleared a large farm. His pioneer log cabin, which was sixteen feet square, he remodeled by building an addition to it, and weather-boarding and painting it, so that it has the appearance of a frame house. It is probably the oldest building used for a dwelling, in the county. He built a frame barn, 40x60 feet, with a stone basement, and planted an orchard, and was one of the few successful fruit growers in the county. His death occurred April 26, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Schuerman were the parents of six children—Katie, Annie, Eliza, Emma, George and Henry. Mrs. Schuerman and her two sons now live at the homestead.

Henry Sigrist was a pioneer of Richland county, coming here in 1848. He entered land on section 3, town 9, range 1 east, in what is now the town of Orion. He built a log cabin 16x32 feet in which he lived till 1862, when he built the frame house in which he lives at present. He is a Prussian by birth, born Oct. 12, 1823. He attended school until fifteen years of age, when he engaged in a wholesale house to learn the business, serving two and a half years, at the end of which he received a certificate, showing him to be a proficient clerk. He then secured a situation in that capacity at a town 200 miles distant, where he was employed two years, then was employed upon a farm two years after which he entered an agricultural school, which was under control of the government. He studied there for two years. In 1848 he was married to Caroline Shulte, a native of Prussia, and immediately sailed for America, landed in New York and came directly to Milwaukee. Here Mrs. Sigrist was taken ill. He took care of her until she was convalescent and then started forth in search of a suitable place to locate. On reaching Richland county, he made a selection of land

and returned to Milwaukee for his wife who was sufficiently recovered to bear the journey, and they started for their new home in a wagon, and reached their destination at the end of five days. They have lived to witness a great change in the country. What was then a wilderness, is now a cultivated and prosperous neighborhood, occupied by an industrious and thrifty class of people. A good school house and church are close at hand. He at first built a log cabin, 16x32 feet. Sept. 28, 1861, he enlisted in the 6th Wisconsin Battery and the spring of 1862 went to the front. He took part in many of the most important engagements of the war. Among them were: Jackson, Champion Hills, Port Gibson, siege of Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, and Corinth. He was honorably discharged at the expiration of the time for which he enlisted. During his absence his wife had the frame house, in which they now live, built. Mr. and Mrs. Sigrist are the parents of six children—Henry, Eugene, Emma, William, Ida and Bertha. Since coming to America Mr. Sigrist has learned the English language and by extensive reading in that, as well as his own language, is enabled to keep posted upon all subjects.

James Laws, for many years proprietor of the well known Laws' ferry, was born in North Carolina in 1801. When he was seventeen years old his parents removed to Illinois, and were early settlers in Richland Co., Ill. He was there married to Lucinda Calhoun, who was born in South Carolina and was a relative of John C. Calhoun. Her parents moved to Kentucky when she was about one year old, and a few years later to Indiana, thence to Illinois. In 1845 Mr. Laws moved to Wisconsin and located in Iowa county, where he entered and improved land until 1849, when he traded it for the ferry he managed so long. His death occurred in April, 1865, while in Illinois on a visit. His wife died three years later at the home of her daughter, Mrs. William Doolley. They were the parents of eleven children,

six now living—Sarah, Henrietta, Ida, Gilbert L., Lucetta and Caroline.

John Mainwaring, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in the town of Swansea, Glamorganshire, South Wales, May 28, 1821. Here he attended the public schools until he was fourteen years of age, when his parents moved to Edinburgh, Scotland, where he was sent to an advanced school for some time. His father, who was a stone mason by trade, and master of the art, was engaged upon the Edinburgh, New Haven and Leith railroad, then in process of construction, as superintendent of the mason work, and the subject of this sketch was called from school to assist his father in his work. He was employed there for two years, when his parents moved to Caermarthen, South Wales, where his father, by the death of an uncle, had fallen heir to property, consisting of a stock of marble, a shop and tools, his uncle having been a marble engraver. The father carried on the marble business for a while, then, having a call from a railroad company, left the business in charge of his son, who continued it till he was twenty-five years of age. He then joined his father, who had taken a contract to construct a piece of railroad, which they completed in 1848. In the spring of 1849, in company with his father and brother Daniel, he left his native land and came to America, coming directly to Wisconsin and entering land on section 33, town 9, range 1 east, now the town of Orion. After remaining here two years, he returned to his native land and remained till 1861, being there employed as road master on the railroad that he helped to construct. In 1861 he started on his return to his western home, crossing the Atlantic in the noted steamer, *Great Eastern*, and making the trip in nine days. He left England May 1 and arrived in Orion on the 15th. He lived upon his land on section 33 until 1865, when he sold it and purchased 160 acres on section 27, upon which were about twenty acres of cleared land and a log cabin. He immediately began



clearing and putting out fruit trees, and otherwise improving. He has been successful as a farmer, has purchased adjoining land, and now has 320 acres, of which 125 are cleared. He has erected a frame barn and a commodious stone house. He was married June 4, 1854, to Eliza Rees, who was born in Caermarthen, South Wales, Dec. 13, 1831. Nine children have been born to them—John, Lillian, Edward, Mary, William, Thomas, Frank, George and Laura Eva. The older four children were born in England. Mr. Mainwaring is a man of intelligence, well educated, and well informed upon all subjects.

William Henry Dawson, the present postmaster of Orion, was a pioneer of the town of Eagle, where he settled in the woods in September, 1849, entering the northeast quarter of section 26. He was born in Switzerland Co., Ind., June 19, 1825. When he was four years of age his parents emigrated to Indiana and settled in Clinton county, where they were among the pioneers. Here his father purchased a tract of heavy timber land from the Government, with the intention of clearing a farm, but in one month after his arrival there he sickened and died, leaving a widow with five small children to maintain. She proved equal to the emergency, and, with the aid of her children, raised corn, wheat, oats and flax. The latter she spun and wove into cloth, selling what she did not need in her family. The subject of this sketch, as soon as he became old enough, assisted his mother in her laborious task. He took advantage of the time in winter by attending a subscription school, and acquired an education sufficient for the duties that have followed. His mother died when he was eighteen years of age. After that time he was engaged in the manufacture and sale of tobacco until the fall of 1849, when he was married to Sarah, daughter of William and Charlotte Miller. One week after marriage they started for their new home in Wisconsin with a pair of horses and wagon, taking with them household goods and provisions. They camped out by the way,

and after arriving at their destination, lived in their wagon until a log cabin could be built. That being completed, he immediately commenced clearing a farm. The following winter, provisions being scarce, he took a job of chopping and splitting rails, and split 2,000 for \$10 and paid the whole sum for one-half of a hog, the whole hog weighing 200 pounds, obtained at Avoca, or the site where Avoca now stands. In July, 1861, he enlisted in the 11th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, company D, and was mustered into the service as second lieutenant; went south and served nine months, then, on account of disability caused by an attack of pleurisy, he resigned and returned home and resumed farming. In 1865 he came to Orion, bought a small stock of drugs and commenced mercantile business. The following year he was appointed postmaster, and has held the office since that time. In 1873 he bought a store building 24x40 feet and two stories high, and having an ell 18x24 feet. The ell is used for a dwelling. He has greatly increased his stock of goods, and now keeps a stock of general merchandise. He still owns his farm in Eagle, which he rents. Mrs. Sarah Dawson was born in Kentucky, March 24, 1823, and died Jan. 13, 1880. He was again married in June, 1881, to Sarah Rebecca, daughter of Peter and Margaret Bobb.

Henry Emshoff, an early settler of Richland county, is a native of Germany, born in Hanover, June 26, 1826. He was sent to school until he was fourteen years old, then was engaged in tilling the soil of his native land until the year 1852, when he emigrated to America, coming directly to Waukesha Co., Wis. Here he hired out to work upon a farm, and remained till 1854. In August of that year he started with his hard earned money to seek a home for himself, and coming to Richland county, purchased timber land on section 14, in that part of the town of Buena Vista now known as Ithaea. He then returned to Waukesha county, and was married on the 19th of August to Mary Handel,

a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born Dec. 7, 1836. They started for Richland county immediately, traveling by rail to Hanover, Ill., where they procured a team and finished their journey. He moved into a vacant log house, in which they lived till spring, then upon his own land he erected a booth, in which they lived while he built a log cabin. He cleared a portion of his land and lived there until 1865, when he sold out and purchased land on sections 14 and 15, town of Orion, where he has since lived. As a farmer he has been very successful. On his arrival here, his sole capital consisted of good health and willing hands. He now owns 400 acres of land, 150 acres of which are under cultivation, also a large stock of cattle, horses, sheep and hogs. He has built two frame barns and a neat frame house, and made other improvements, and is one of the most extensive farmers in the town of Orion. Mr. and Mrs. Emshoff have six children—John H., William C., Emily L., Charles G., Henry A. and Matilda M. Mr. Emshoff is a member of the town board, and has been twice re-elected. Their son, John H., is the present town assessor. He was born in the town of Ithaca Dec. 11, 1857. His younger days were spent in assisting his father upon the farm and in attending school. He was married in 1880 to Etta, daughter of Hezekiah and Sallie (Marsh) Jones, and settled at that time on his present farm on section 11. He has built a good frame house and has a pleasant home. They have one child.

William A. Hitchcock, son of Jason and Polly (Hurd) Hitchcock, was born in Boone Co., Ind., July 14, 1844. When he was but six years old his father died. He came to Richland county, with his mother, in 1853, and here grew to manhood. He lived with his grandparents, with the exception of one year, until 1860, when he went to Texas and was there engaged in railroading and blacksmithing till 1866. In that year he was married to Zizina Edwards, who was born on Galveston island Oct. 2, 1846, and returned to Orion with his bride. They lived upon his

grandfather's place one year, then removed to his mother's farm on section 8, where he built a blacksmith shop and worked at the trade, and helped to carry on the farm. In 1874 he settled on his grandfather's place and has since made that his home. His farm is well improved and he has a good frame house and barn. Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock are the parents of four children—Nellie M., Myron L., Georgia E. and Jason W.

James Lewis, an early settler of Orion, was born in Preble Co., Ohio, May 9, 1820. His father was a native of Delaware and his mother of Kentucky. They were pioneers in Preble county. Here the subject of our sketch grew to manhood taking advantage of such opportunity as afforded in those days to acquire an education. His mother died when he was but fourteen years of age. Four years later his father married again and removed to Indiana, but he still remained in Preble county and was their joined in marriage to Anna E. Nelson. She was born in Salem Co., N. J., March 14, 1824, but for several years lived in Philadelphia. They removed to Illinois and settled in Mason county where they remained until 1854, then came to Richland county and bought land on section 7, town 9, range 1 east, now known as the town of Orion. Game was at that time quite plenty and included deer and bear. He was quite a hunter and killed many deer. One morning his two sons, John and Joseph, went out to look for the oxen and run across seven bears, one of which took after them. Their father had told them that a bear could not climb a small tree and so they made for a sapling and both made quick time in climbing it. The bear came to the tree and gnawed the bark. The children called aloud for assistance but did not attract attention for some time as danger was not apprehended; but as their cries continued their mother called the dogs and started. At the approach of the dogs the bears left, the mother running up in season to see them in their retreat. The children then came down from their lofty retreat

more scared than hurt. Mr. Lewis has since cleared a good farm, erected a good set of buildings and now has a comfortable home. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are the parents of three children—John M., Joseph W. and Sarah E.

Hezekiah Jones, one of the well known early settlers of the town of Orion, came here in the fall of 1854 and purchased land on section 10 of Carlos Joslin and his son William H. At this time there were two log cabins and a small clearing, which constituted the entire improvement. Since that time a great change has been wrought, a large farm has been cleared, a commodious frame house erected, a large frame barn built, and at this time Mr. Jones has one of the best improved farms in the town. He is a native of Kentucky, born in Harrison county, Sept. 26, 1815. When he was eighteen years old his parents emigrated to Indiana and located in Boone county, where in fact his pioneer life began. His father had purchased eighty acres of timber land on which they settled, but only remained there a short time when he purchased 160 acres near by and moved on to it. He made his home with his parents until of age, when he was married to Sallie Marsh, a native of Harrison Co., Ky. Her parents were also early settlers in Boone county. They settled on the land his father had first purchased. In 1849 he sold this farm and purchased improved land, consisting of eighty acres, upon which they made their home until 1854, when he sold out and started west with five horses and two wagons containing their household goods. They camped out on the way, and after three weeks on the road arrived in Richland county. They stopped with Robert Hurd a few days and then moved into a log cabin which was their home for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of thirteen children, eight of whom are now living—Eliza J., Louisa A., Lorinda M., Martha E., Mary E., Melissa A., William Jasper and Jonathan P. Mr. Jones is not a politician in any sense, but votes

the republican ticket when, in his judgment, good men are nominated.

Abram Miller, an early settler of Orion, began his pioneer life in infancy. When he was but one year old his parents moved to Marion Co., Ind., where they were among the pioneers. Here his early life was spent, and as soon as large enough, he assisted his father in clearing a farm. He lived with his parents until 1854 when he came to Wisconsin to seek a home, and purchased land on section 10, town 9, range 1 east, now in the town of Orion. He commenced immediately to fell timber preparatory to clearing a farm. He was unmarried at the time, but in 1856 he was married to Lonisa A., daughter of Hezekiah and Sallie (Marsh) Jones. He enlisted in 1862 in the 25th Wisconsin, company B, and went to the front, participating in many important battles. He was with Sherman in his "march to the sea," and through the the Carolinas to Washington. He was twice wounded at the battle of Atlanta, on the 22d of July, 1864, and was honorably discharged with the regiment. June 7, 1865, when he returned to his home and resumed his work at farming. A humble log cabin was their home until 1871, when he built the commodious frame house now occupied by the family. He has been largely engaged in raising grain and stock. In 1883 he engaged largely in raising poultry, building a henery at a cost of \$500 and enclosing a yard of four acres. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have four children—Martha J., Mary E., Elizabeth A. and Emma L. Mr. Miller always has been identified with the republican party.

Simon S. Blake, an early settler in the town of Orion, is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in that part of Bedford now known as Blair county. Until he was fourteen years old, his time was spent in school and on the farm. He then engaged with a merchant tailor to learn the trade, here he served three months, then part of the time went to school and part of the time worked with his brother at

the blacksmith business until about seventeen, then enlisted in the service of the United States for the Mexican war. His parents was opposed to this and as their consent could not be obtained he was sent back. He then engaged with his cousin to learn the trade of ax-making and was thus employed until twenty-one years old, when he engaged in teaching. In the fall of 1852 he went to Ohio and spent the winter in Ironton and vicinity, then went to Arkansas and engaged in the lumbering business for seven months, and then returned to Pennsylvania, and taught a four months term of school during the winter. In the spring of 1854 he came to Richland county and entered 120 acres of land on sections 17 and 18 of the town of Orion, and went to the village of Orion where he engaged as clerk in a store. He was married Jan. 18, 1855, to Mary Ambrose. She was born in Westmoreland Co., Penn. He left the store in the fall of 1855, teaching a three months school at Pleasant Hill, town of Eagle. The following spring they settled on his land and commenced to clear a farm. He early paid attention to fruit culture and now has a fine apple orchard, consisting of Tolman sweets, Golden russets, Snow apples and Red Astrachan. His farm is pleasantly located on Oak Ridge, and is well improved. He was a soldier in the Union army, having enlisted Aug. 20, 1862, in the 25th Wisconsin, company B, and going south spent his time in different places until May, 1864, when they joined Sherman at Resaca, Ga., and fought their way on to Atlanta. He was severely wounded at Decatur, Ga., the 22d of July 1864, was sent to the field hospital and later to the Harvey hospital at Madison. He was discharged March 20, 1865, and returned home. He has been elected to offices of trust and honor, at different times; has been chairman of the board, justice of the peace and was once elected assessor but refused to serve. He was United States census enumerator for the town of Orion in 1880.

John Miller settled in Richland county in 1854. He took a homestead on section 31, town

10, range 1 east, in the present town of Richland. Here he cleared a farm and resided till 1874, when he sold out and moved to section 5, now Orion. He is a native of Germany, born in Mecklenburg Swerin, and was reared to agricultural pursuits. He came to America in 1847 and located in Waukesha county, where he remained till 1854, when he came to Richland county, as before stated. He has been twice married. His first wife was Helena Bonsash, who died in 1874 leaving three children—Mary, Lewis and Sarah. Their son, Lewis, now owns and occupies a farm in Ash creek valley, section 6, town of Orion. He purchased the land in 1866. It was then heavily timbered, but he has now the greater part of it cleared and in a good state of cultivation. He built a large frame house which, with all its contents was burned in 1877. He then built another, two and a half story frame house, which is probably the largest house in the town. The family moved into this house July 4, 1878, and dedicated it with a party on that day. He was born in Mecklenburg Swein, April 18, 1841, and came to America with his parents, with whom he made his home until 1861. In August of that year he enlisted in the 6th Wisconsin Battery, and went south. He participated in the following engagements: Corinth, Jackson, Champion Hills, Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. After serving three years and one month he returned home and resumed farming. He was joined in marriage in 1867 to Catharine, only daughter of John Henry and Eva Demmer. He first purchased land on section 31, of the town of Richland, but did not improve it as he soon sold it and bought his present farm, which is one of the best on Ash creek. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of seven living children—Mary A. E., George F., Dora E., Clara H., William H., Ella M. and Jacob W.

Frederick C. Schmidt (deceased), was one of the pioneer settlers of Orion. He came here in 1854 and purchased land on section 16, and commenced clearing a farm, but his life was

spared only a few years and he died on the 19th of April, 1860. He was a German by birth and was reared to agricultural pursuits. In his youth he learned the milling trade, which he followed for some years. He was married Feb. 13, 1835, to Christina Kruger. Four children have blessed this union—Frederick C., August, Annie and Emily. Mrs. Schmidt occupied the homestead a few years, then moved to Richland Center where she bought property, and lived till the time of her death, May 28, 1883.

John Henry Demmer, a pioneer of Ohio, was born in Germany in May, 1808. When a young man he learned the trade of ship builder, in which business he was engaged until 1848, when he left his native country and came to the United States. He first located in Milwaukee where he was employed as carpenter and joiner. In 1853 he came to Richland county and purchased a claim of Alanson Hurd on section 3, entered the land and immediately began clearing. He has since devoted the greater part of his time to his farm, working occasionally at his trade. He was married in 1833 to Eva Engleman. She died in 1870 leaving five children—Herman, Frederick, Catharine, John and Jacob. Their oldest son, Herman, was born Nov. 14, 1835, and came to America with his parents and continued to live with them till 1861. That year he was joined in marriage to Annie, daughter of Frederick and Christiana Schmidt. He enlisted in September, 1861, in the 6th Wisconsin Battery, and served three years and one month. He participated in the following engagements: Corinth, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills, Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. After his discharge he returned home and settled on section 17, where he had purchased a tract of timber land. He cleared a farm and built a log house, which he weather-boarded and painted, giving it the appearance of a frame house. In 1882 he rented this farm and moved to his wife's parent's home on section 16, the place formerly owned by Frederick C. Schmidt. Here he erected a fine

frame house. Mr. and Mrs. Demmer are the parents of five children—Emma, Henry, Frank A., Mary and Ada. Mr. Demmer has held the office of treasurer in his school district since 1867.

Philip Daniel Berger, one of the early settlers of Orion, was born in West Baden, Germany, Aug. 24, 1815. He was united in marriage with Catharine Elizabeth Miller, in the year 1828. In 1848 they emigrated to America, and first settled in Wyoming Co., N. Y., and bought a farm in the town of Bennington, where they remained two years and then decided to remove farther west, so he sold his farm and came to Wisconsin, locating on Rock prairie, in Rock county. In 1855 he decided to make another change, and coming to Orion purchased land on section 10. On this place there was a log cabin, constructed after the most approved back woods fashion. The roof was covered with "shakes" fastened on with poles and withes, no nails being used. He cleared a farm and built a more substantial dwelling, and made this his home until his death, which occurred in 1871. Mrs. Berger died in 1867. They left seven children—William, Phebe, Christian, Sophia, Henry, Mary and Margaret. William was born in West Baden, June 14, 1829. He came to America with his parents and made his home with them until 1860. In that year he was married to Euphemia Laing, a native of Scotland, and settled on land that he had previously purchased and where he has since resided. He has good frame buildings, including house, barn and granary. Christian also was born in West Baden, May 22, 1829. He was sent to school in Germany four years, and at nine years of age came to America with his parents, with whom he lived till 1861, when he enlisted September 9th, in the 6th Wisconsin Battery, which was stationed at Racine until February, 1862, when it moved south. Among the more important engagements in which he participated are the following: Riddle's Shop, Champion Hills, siege of Corinth and Vicksburg. At the siege

of Corinth he was severely wounded in the knee and spent nearly six months in the hospital. He rejoined the regiment at Memphis. He was again wounded at Vicksburg, and in consequence suffered the amputation of his left arm and the thumb of his right hand. He was honorably discharged on the 29th of August, 1863, and returned home. In 1865 he was married to Elizabeth Brewer, a native of Highgate, Vt. Although unable to perform any manual labor, Mr. Berger has carefully and successfully managed the farm, and now has one of the finest improved places in the county. It is the homestead where his father first settled. He has built a nice frame house and a large frame barn. They have one child—Letha Annie. Christian Berger politically belongs to the democratic party.

John Flamme came to Orion in 1857. He purchased a tract of land on section 3, upon which there was a small clearing and a rude log cabin. Since that time he has cleared a large farm and erected a neat stone house and now has a comfortable home. He is a native of Prussia, born Feb. 3, 1823. He attended school until he was twelve years old, and was then apprenticed to a blacksmith to learn the trade; after serving three years he worked as journeyman till 1852, when he left the old country and came to America, and first located in Naperville, Ill., where he worked at his trade till 1857, when he came to Richland county. He was married in 1844 to Elizabeth Rassmiller. They have five children living—Henry, Gertie, Daniel, Mary and Eliza. Henry was born in Prussia, March 4, 1849. While a boy he attended the district school and assisted his

father in clearing his farm. When a young man he learned the carpenter trade, living with his parents until 1872, when he went to Nebraska, and worked at his trade for two years, then returned to Richland county. He was joined in marriage June 12, 1878, to Bertha Groth, and settled on the farm where he still resides, on section 2. From that time until 1883 he divided his time between the farm and his trade. Since that date he has devoted his whole time to the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Flamme have two children—Charles and Lydia Amelia.

Christian Burwitz is a native of Germany, born in Mecklenburg Swerin, May 20, 1829. He spent the time until the age of fourteen in attending school, and then assisted his father in herding his large flocks of cattle and sheep, which he continued to do until the year 1857, when he left his native home and came to America, landed at New York and came directly to Wisconsin and engaged in farming in Waukesha county for two years. He then moved to Milwaukee and bought stock two years, then returned to Waukesha and resumed farming. In March, 1865, he enlisted in company I, 48th Wisconsin Volunteers and went south. He was discharged in February, 1866, returned home and remained in Waukesha until the following April, when he came to Richland county. He was married in 1858 to Mary Niles, also a native of Mecklenburg. They have one child—Richard. Mr. Burwitz's farm is pleasantly located in Ash creek valley. He has comfortable buildings and altogether a pleasant home.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

## TOWN OF RICHLAND.

The town of Richland is all of that territory comprised within the limits of congressional township 10 north, of range 1 east, and is the second from the east line of the county, in the second tier from the south. Like the greater part of the county, the general physical features are high bluffs and wide valleys; the central part of the town being a beautiful long flat vale, lying on both sides of the Pine river. The extreme fertility of this and the contiguous valleys, early induced settlers to locate within its limits. The first man who made a settlement within its boundaries was a Mr. Bacon, who located his farm on the northeast quarter of section 20. Here he erected his primitive cabin, built of logs from the giants of the forest, who had waved their leafy arms in the face of the storms of centuries, and that had stood in serried ranks around the site of his humble abode. This cabin stood on the west side of the Pine river, near a spring of water, about a half mile southwest of the present court house. This was in the summer of 1848.

Mr. Bacon and his wife were from Massachusetts or New Hampshire, and were seemingly out of their element in the new country, among the hills and forests of Richland county. During their stay, some four years, their cabin was the stopping place of those hardy pioneers and emigrants passing up and down the river, then the only highway to the settlements on the Wisconsin river. They were the only settlers between the Rockbridge mills and Ash creek, and they seemed always glad to enter-

tain their visitors and guests. They were people of considerably high culture, and their good cheer, together with the violin, which Mr. Bacon handled with some skill, made their cabin a pleasant resting place for the weary traveler upon the way from the mill to the river. The Pine river men of that day will bear them in remembrance with much pleasure, and no doubt often think of them, when taking a retrospect of their lives. Mr. Bacon and his wife, however, being unaccustomed to frontier life, became restless, and finally after a stay of about four years he sold out their claim to Robert Akan, and returned to their native State and Richland county knew them no more.

Elisha Bovee was the second settler in the town. A sketch of his life appears elsewhere in this volume.

A Mr. Mederis was apparently the next settler in the town, he having located on section 8, near the spring on the west side of Pine river, about 1849. His cabin stood about a mile and a half north of what is now the business portion of the village of Richland Center. He had a wife and several children, and here he resided with them for about two years, when he, too, became dissatisfied and moved on westward.

In 1850 William Farlin and his wife made a settlement in the town of Richland, but in what part is not now accessible.

In 1850 James Blundell, Richard McMahan and Luman Thompson also located claims in the town, and in May, 1851, John Waddell settled upon the northeast quarter of section 5.

The latter gentlemen had come into the county the previous year, 1850, in October, but had stopped temporarily, at or near the site of the present village of Richland City. He relates that his only earthly possessions when he landed in this "neck of woods" was "seven children, a cow and calf, two pigs, a dog and twenty-five cents in silver." However he settled himself down and proceeded to hew out for himself an abiding place. He was a native of West Virginia, where he was born Feb. 23, 1811, but from a child of three years of age was raised in the State of Ohio. His endeavors toward providing himself and family with a home were crowned with success, and he yet lives upon the land on which he first located on his entrance into the town, a monument of the sturdy *avant courreur* of civilization, the western pioneer, who, with his ax in his hand and backed with no wealth but royal good health and indomitable courage, plunges into the western wilds and there conquers out the family roof tree and form the refuge and stay of his old age. After Mr. Waddell, the settlements were so numerous that it would be impossible to individualize.

During the fall of 1851 James Cass built a saw-mill on the site of the present one owned by W. J. Bowen, on section 4. A little settlement sprung up around, and in the early part of the year 1854 a postoffice was established here, the first within the limits of the town, and called Florence, and of which Mr. Cass was the first postmaster.

The population having by this time increased to such a number as to warrant such action, the board of supervisors of the county, by a resolution passed Nov. 15, 1852, ordered that the town of Richland be set off and organized as a separate township and election precinct. In accordance with this, the first election for township officers was held April 22, 1853, from which date may be dated the organization of the town. The officers elected at this time were: Asa G. Sheldon, chairman, David Bovee and Ira An-

draws, supervisors; John McManus, town clerk; Cornelius McCarthy, town treasurer; Hascal Haseltine, town superintendent of schools.

The election board was composed of the following gentlemen: Ira Andrews, John Waddell and Durfee Bovee.

After the announcement of the result of the election and the people had had time to settle after the arduous duties of election day, the new town officers came together, and among other ordinances passed, was one on ways and means, levying a tax of seven mills on the dollar, to be devoted to road purposes; this was the first act of the new board and was passed by them at their very first meeting. In May, 1853, the town board, feeling the need of controlling the sale of intoxicating liquors, granted a license to S. H. Austin, of Richland Center, allowing him to deal in the ardent spirits, but not permitting any other to do so within the town limits.

The first saw-mill erected in the town is believed to be that one erected by James Cass, in 1851, as no record exists of any prior to that date.

Among the first thing to be established by our forefathers, when planting their infant colonies in these western wilds, was the school house, and, as early as the summer of 1851, an institution of learning was opened in a room in the dwelling house of Mr. Blundell, on what is now known as the Elisha Bovee farm. This school was taught by Margaret Gillam, now Mrs. William H. Joslin, of Richland Center, and was the first in the town.

The present officers of the town were elected April 3, 1883, and are as follows: B. C. Hallin, R. A. Ross and W. B. Brown, supervisors; Kirk W. Eastland, clerk; Samuel C. Hyatt, treasurer; J. L. McKee, assessor; John Walworth and Richard Davis, justices of the peace; J. W. Liek, W. F. Fogo and Charles Hole, constables; Jesse G. Bunell, sealer of weights and measures.



## DISCIPLE CHURCH.

In about 1855 Elder Searholt, of Reedsburg, Sauk county, organized a society at what was then known as the log school house, near William H. Miller's residence. The first regular pastor of this society was Rev. Gray, and the following named were among the first members: James Snyder and family, W. H. Miller and family, Mrs. Marks and family, Campbell Miller and family and Thomas Snyder and wife. Rev. Gray was in turn succeeded by Revs. Martin, Colton, Hamilton, Hurd and Kidd, who is the present pastor. The society held its meetings at school houses until they erected their present church edifice, located on section 27. It is a wooden structure, 30x45 feet in size, and cost \$1,200. The society has been prosperous, and at one time its membership was nearly 100. The present membership is about seventy-five. There is also a good Sabbath school kept up by the society.

There is a cemetery located near the church. The ground occupied by it was donated for burial purposes by Hiram Welton. The first body interred here was Hiram Welton, who donated the land.

## BOWEN'S MILLS.

These mills comprise one of the most important of Richland county's industrial enterprises. The mills are located on section 4, the power being derived from Pine river. The property was first purchased by R. C. Field, but a man named Dart had a claim on the same. Neither of these men, however, made any improvements. In the fall of 1851 the property was purchased by James M. Cass and George Pound. They improved the water power and in 1853 had a saw-mill in operation. Mr. Cass then became sole proprietor, and in 1854 sold to William J. Bowen for \$3,100, which amount was paid in gold. Mr. Bowen soon associated himself with his brother, F. P. Bowen, and in 1855 the sash saw was taken out and a rotary saw put in. This was the first saw of this kind in the county. They also added a feed mill. In 1858

F. P. Bowen withdrew from the business, but in 1867 re-purchased a half interest, and they then erected the flour mill. It is a wooden structure, 30x50 feet in size, two and a half stories high, and basement. Three run of stone have been placed in the mill, and it does custom work. In 1872 W. J. Bowen again became sole proprietor, and has since operated the mill alone.

## RICHLAND CENTER.

This is the shire town of Richland county. It is situated not far from the center of the county, on sections 16 and 21, in the town of Richland, on the east bank of Pine river. The Richland center branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway connects the village with centers of commerce and affords excellent marketing facilities. The town is surrounded by some of the finest and most productive agricultural and stock raising lands in the southern part of the State, which is a guarantee of a permanent and ever-increasing trade. By all who have ever visited the place it is remarked as being an extraordinary business point, the streets being always crowded and the merchants ever busy. Besides other advantages, the Pine river, on the banks of which the town rests, furnishes a most excellent water power, which although improved to a considerable extent, has not been fully utilized. There are many substantial brick buildings to be seen upon the main thoroughfares, and the village site is dotted with many elegant dwellings, many of them costly and of considerable architectural pretensions. There are several neat church edifices, and a sufficient number of buildings for educational purposes, and county business. An abundance of shade trees adorn the streets and with the natural groves, in which each residence is embowered, add greatly to the beauty of the place. The location is exceedingly healthy, and the society is of the most refined and desirable character.

## THE BEGINNING.

During the month of July, 1849, Ira S. Hazeltine and his father, Orrin Hazeltine, arrived

at Sextonville, and on horseback continued their journey to Rockbridge. The country was then unsettled and entirely roadless; but by the use of a small pocket compass they found their destination. Here they found a saw-mill which had been erected on the northwest quarter of section 10. This quarter section was the only land that had been entered within the limits now comprising the town of Rockbridge. The Hazeltines purchased the saw-mill, and then leaving their horses at the mill, by means of a slab raft they floated down Pine river in search of water powers. They soon arrived at the point just west of the present site of Richland Center. They were well pleased with the water privilege at this place, and also the prairie near by, and decided that this would be an excellent place for the site of a future city. In October, 1849, Orrin Hazeltine brought his family from Black Earth, and Ira S. brought his family from Waukesha; both families settling at Rockbridge. They were accompanied by Luman Thompson and Henry Smith, with their families; the "men folks" intending to work at the mill. In the spring of 1850 Ira S. Hazeltine, leaving his father at the mill, took his wife and babe and visited friends in the eastern part of the State. Sometime during the same year Ira, in company with two brothers, went to view the water power they had discovered in the present town of Richland. They viewed the place from the hill side west of the present mills, and after Ira had portrayed the beauties of the small prairie, the value of the water power, and other natural advantages, and the probability that at no far distant day a flourishing village could here be built, which, from the fact that it was near the geographical center of the county, would become the county seat, he requested his brothers to purchase the land from the government. But his brothers replied: "Ira, you are so fanatical; this country is so rough that it cannot be settled, and there can never be a town at this point." "Well," answered Ira, "If you are afraid, I will take it

up and play it alone." Accordingly I. S. Hazeltine soon afterward purchased of the government a quarter section of land at this point. In June, 1851, he employed R. C. Field to survey the land into lots and blocks.

Thus were the initial steps toward the founding of Richland Center made. In 1853, Schoolcraft's addition to the village was laid out, embracing all of section 16. Ira S. Hazeltine made an addition in 1856. Orrin Hazeltine made an addition later, embracing all that portion of the village lying south of the court house square.

Prior to the platting of the village a "session law" had been passed defining the boundaries and authorizing the organization of Richland county, and providing further that at the general election held in November, 1851, the votes of the people should determine the location of the county seat. At this time the county business was being transacted at Richmond, now Orion. There were four voting precincts in the county—Richmond, Richland City, Richwood and Rockbridge. The number of votes polled at Richland City on the county seat question was 108; of which 103 were in favor of Richland Center and five scattering. At Richwood there were forty-eight votes polled, twenty-four being for Richland Center and twenty-four for Richmond; at Rockbridge sixteen votes were polled, all being in favor of Richland Center. The number of votes cast at Richmond is unknown; but it is claimed that in the whole county Richland Center received a majority of forty-eight votes. But here arose a difficulty. The session law provided that the place receiving a majority of the votes should be declared the county seat; but it did not state who should canvass the votes. However, John Rutan, clerk of the board of supervisors, by virtue of his office, called to his assistance two justices of the peace as canvassers, choosing A. B. Slaughter, of Richmond and O. L. Britton, who resided near Sextonville. These gentlemen met, and after receiving the returns from

the various precincts, canvassed the vote and made the following report :

“We have received the election returns of the different precincts—Richmond, Richland City, Richwood and Rockbridge—and they are so informal, both in form and substance, that we cannot ascertain the true will of the people, and we hereby declare that there was no election held pursuant to law.”

Such a report as this, as will be readily seen, did not please Mr. Hazeltine, so he requested John Rutan to get the returns from A. B. Slaughter and bring them to his residence, which he did. Mr. Hazeltine copied the returns and report of the board of canvassers in full, and had John Price, chairman, and John Rutan, clerk of the board of supervisors, certify that his copies were true and correct copies of the originals. Mr. Hazeltine then went to Madison and left his certified copies with William A. Barstow, secretary of State. These were presented to the State board of canvassers, with a request that they make a statement of the result, which they did. This statement was presented to the Legislature, and an act was passed, entitled “An act to declare the county seat of Richland county.” That became a law and Richland Center became the county seat. But the county supervisors, four in number, were divided in their opinion and only two could be persuaded to meet at Richland Center. As three was necessary for a quorum, no business could be transacted until a constable was sent after a third supervisor. After some delay, however, they all met and after viewing the location expressed themselves as highly pleased, and said the place had been misrepresented to them as a frog pond.

Before going to Madison, Mr. Hazeltine had made the proposition to the people that on condition that the county seat was located at Richland Center, he would deed to the county twenty-four village lots; twelve to be selected by the county and the remainder by himself. The county selected block 14, and the east half

of block 13. Mr. Hazeltine selected for the county twelve lots west of the mill pond. He also agreed to furnish a building for a court house for five years, and let the county have the use of the hotel, in compliance with his proposition.

Thus the county seat question was settled, and, although for a time some show of bitter feeling and envy was apparent, this has all died out long, long years ago, and to-day, all concede that the location could not have been better.

#### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.

The first store opened on the village plat was by S. H. Austin. He opened a stock of general merchandise in 1854 and remained in the trade about ten years. He was a good business man and was very successful.

In the fall of 1854 Charles Nelson started the second general store in the village, and remained in trade about two years.

The third store was started by A. H. Holden in the summer of 1855.

In the fall of 1855 G. H. James opened a general store which he ran for several years.

In 1856 Short & Downs opened a general store. They soon dissolved partnership and Short carried on the business for a time; then sold to August Smith. Mr. Short died shortly afterward.

The first business of any magnitude at Richland Center was established by J. W. Lybrand and J. L. McKee. They opened up in May, 1857, with a stock of general merchandise valued at \$4,500, which was soon increased to \$6,000. In 1859 they commenced dealing in ginseng, paying for the same with cash and goods. During the year 1859 they purchased upwards of 30,000 pounds. In 1860 Mr. McKee withdrew from the firm and Mr. Lybrand was joined in trade by his son, G. D. Lybrand. In 1861 G. D. Lybrand withdrew and J. W. Lybrand became sole proprietor. His stock of goods was increased to upwards of \$40,000, and he did quite a wholesale business, supplying

most of the country stores in the northern part of the county. Late in 1863 he sold to George and A. H. Krouskop. This firm carried on the business a few years when A. H. Krouskop sold to George Krouskop, but soon afterward purchased the business and carried it on alone for a number of years. Charles Craig is his present partner.

J. J. Shumaker started a mammoth store in 1857. He had purchased the goods on credit and after remaining to take charge of considerable money he fled to Kansas.

The first hardware store was established in 1856. The business was carried on until 1868 when it was closed out.

The second hardware store was opened in 1862 by G. H. James & Co. The firm afterward became James Brothers, and in November, 1881, D. G. James became sole proprietor and still continues the business.

D. O. Chandler established business in 1867 and Strang & Doudna have been in the hardware business since 1878.

The first drug store in Richland Center was opened by L. D. Gage. In 1858 he was succeeded by Dr. H. C. Priest who sold to Caleb Waggoner. In 1859 F. P. Bowen purchased the business and sold to D. L. Downs in 1861. In 1865 Mr. Bowen re-purchased a half interest and the business was carried on under the firm name of D. L. Downs & Co., until 1879 when F. P. Bowen became sole proprietor. In October, 1879, Mr. Bowen became associated with H. B. Allen, as partner, and in March, 1883, Mr. Allen became sole proprietor.

The drug business of Burnham & Burnham was established in 1874 by O. J. and W. A. Burnham. In October, 1881, W. A. Burnham withdrew from the business and in March, 1883, J. W. Burnham became a partner, since which time the firm has been Burnham & Burnham.

The drug business of I. A. Cleveland was established by him in May, 1881.

Dr. J. Brimer & Sons have been engaged in the drug business since 1873.

The first millinery business was established by Mrs. D. Rice in 1856. The receipts for the first two weeks were just ten cents. But Mrs. Rice did not despair and her trade soon increased to such an extent that in 1867 her purchases amounted to \$5,000. She continued in business until 1882.

The first wagon shop was opened in 1856 by O. H. Northrup, who put up the first wagon made at Richland Center.

Daniel Rice was the first man to export live stock from Richland Center. He commenced dealing in live stock in 1856, and continued for about four years.

The abstract books of Richland county were commenced in 1858 by L. D. Gage and A. Nudd. Mr. Gage afterward owned them alone until 1864 when he sold to Smith & Laws. In 1873 they were purchased by W. H. Pier, who still owns them.

The first tannery was built in 1857 by Jeduthan Jones. Mr. Jones sold to other parties and it was operated about six years when it was destroyed by fire.

The second tannery at Richland Center was erected in 1860 by D. L. Downs and H. W. Fries. In 1862 Mr. Downs sold his interest to F. P. Bowen and subsequently H. W. Fries became sole proprietor. In about 1867 Mr. Fries sold to his sons, A. S. and J. C. Fries, who operated the tannery until 1876, when it was destroyed by fire. In 1877 J. C. Fries rebuilt, and in 1882 he became associated with L. E. Brewer as partner. The firm is now Fries & Brewer, and their business is the largest of the kind in the county.

The first cabinet shop at Richland Center was opened in 1858, by William Wilson. After a time A. L. Wilson purchased an interest, and the firm was finally succeeded by William Hill and A. L. Wilson. In 1884 there were three furniture stores and cabinet shops in Richland Center. Henry Toms established his business in 1865; August Larson in 1880; and the

business of Dove Brothers was started in 1881 by E. A. Dove and J. A. Logan.

Pratt Brothers, in 1878, established their business of house, sign and carriage painting, paper hanging, etc. They also keep for sale, paints, oils, glass and wall paper.

William H. Downs established an ashery in 1857-8, and operated it successfully for several years, manufacturing potash, etc.

D. E. and D. G. Pease established an ashery the following year, which they ran for several years.

The first brick made at Richland Center was from a kiln burned by D. Rice, Sept. 20, 1856, at Richland Center, and from this small beginning has grown quite a large industry. John Waddell burned the first kiln of brick in the town.

The first brick edifice erected in the village was likewise a production of Richland Center hands, having been built in that interesting village by Samuel Wright, for his own use and occupancy, in the fall of 1857. He and a party by the name of W. A. Mason, laid up the walls themselves, and otherwise furnished the house, which was a small tenement. In the following year another house was erected by Mr. White.

The first celebration of the national anniversary, in Richland Center, was held July 4, 1854. The first unfurling to the breeze, in the valley, of our glorious "meteor flag," was at that date, and the first liberty pole erected in the Pine river valley was erected then that it could uphold the "banner of the free."

It has been said by one who helped to make that day's rejoicing a success, that "no fourth has seemed more grand since. A handful of people, comparatively, participated in the observances of the day; but they were nearer to each other, than now."

Among others who have been prominently identified with the business interests of Richland Center are the following: Dr. D. L. Downs, D. E. Pease, J. W. Lybrand, D. G. Pease, G. H. James, M. C. Pease, W. H. Downs,

William Short, William Nelson, S. H. Austin, William Baker, N. H. Langdon, James Holden, A. H. Floten, J. Jones, N. W. Bailey, G. Hill, George Matteson, Mr. Spooner, A. L. and W. H. Wilson, Daniel Rice, Dr. H. C. Priest, A. L. Dillingham, C. W. Huntington, A. G. James, J. J. Shumaker, Caleb Waggoner, James H. Waggoner, S. B. Patton, H. and J. C. McFarland, James Myres, August Smith, F. G. Rodolf, Charles Lawrence, J. M. Waggoner, W. A. Frank and W. S. Burnham.

#### BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

In 1884 the business interests of Richland Center were represented as follows:

General merchandise.—A. H. Krouskop & Co., Henry T. Bailey, Eichelberger & Lybrand, and M. C. Smith's, "Tom and Jerry store."

Dry goods and notions.—Mrs. V. L. Baker and A. B. Weigley.

Groceries.—R. N. McKay, H. W. Eastland & Co., and Warren Handy.

Hardware.—D. G. James, D. O. Chandler and Strang & Doudna.

Drugs.—H. B. Allen, Dr. Brimer & Sons, Burnham & Burnham and I. A. Cleveland.

Jewelers.—Charles Speidel and A. Bullard.

Furniture.—Henry Toms, Dove Brothers and August Larson.

Newspapers.—*Republican Observer*, Fogo & Munson; *Rustic*, J. A. Smith; *Union Democrat*, Flickner & Cook.

Bankers.—George Krouskop and W. H. Pier.

Abstracts.—W. H. Pier.

Boots and shoes.—J. L. Fogo, James Banister and E. J. Stiles.

Meat markets.—F. P. Bowen and Hare & Farkall.

Livery.—Frank Sanford and Obadiah Driscoll.

Harness.—D. G. James, John M. Shireman and Walworth & Sherman.

Bakery and restaurant.—Albert Herpel and John Boggs.

Marble dealers.—John Heeran and B. C. Hallin.

Tailor.—Thomas Brenden.

Photographer.—W. J. Hillman.

Millinery.—Mrs F. C. Pennell & Co., Mrs. A. L. Wilson, Mrs. W. H. Doseh and Mrs. James Martin.

Hotels.—Park House, S. J. Smith & Son; Central House, O. P. Peck.

Physicians.—Drs. Jacob Brimer, George Mitchell, H. J. Wall, F. P. Casey, B. F. Brimmer, Moses Lovering and R. L. Telfair.

Lawyers.—James H. Miner, J. H. Berryman, T. A. Johnston, H. A. & K. W. Eastland, O. F. Black, F. W. Burnham and Michael Murphy.

Grain dealers.—D. O. Chandler and A. H. Krouskop.

Lumber dealers.—N. L. James, A. H. Krouskop and D. O. Chandler.

Draymen.—V. G. Hyatt and H. M. Taylor.

Brick makers.—V. G. Hyatt and J. A. Ferguson.

Live stock dealers.—Isaac McCann, James Martin, F. P. Bowen, A. D. Lane, W. H. Doseh, G. W. Collins and W. J. Pickard.

Blacksmiths.—James Dove, Wertz & Vreeland, Storms & Leach, B. N. Smith and B. W. Clarke.

Wagon factory.—N. L. James.

Wagon makers.—James Dove, Storms & Leach and B. W. Clarke.

Tannery.—Fries & Brewer.

Flour mill.—A. C. Parfrey.

Saw mills.—N. L. James and A. H. Krouskop.

Dealer in farm products.—H. D. Millard.

#### HOTELS.

The second building erected on the site of the future metropolis of the county was built by the proprietor of the town, Ira S Hazeltine, and became perforce of circumstances the tavern of the district, and was christened by its landlord, Mr. Hazeltine, the American House; it became a general resort for citizens and travelers alike, and, for a long time, was the only house beneath whose roof the weary could find rest. Mr. Hazeltine continued the popular landlord

of this hostelry until he was succeeded in a couple of years by A. S. Neff. In November, 1862, after raising the general tone of the house, and after building large additions to the primal building, Mr. Neff sold out his interest to William H. Hook, of whom it is said that his vigilant watchfulness earned for the hotel and village a good name far and wide. Sept. 29, 1857, Mr. Hook was succeeded by G. H. Dyke and afterward by J. W. Smith, who removed to the newly built Park Hotel. Several changes now followed in quick succession, for, in consequence of the change in the location of the business center, and the erection of new hotels, the house ceased to be so lucrative as formerly. The name had been changed from the more pretentious American House to the more local one of Richland House. Around its hallowed walls clung many of the memories of pioneer days, and, to very many people in the county, it was the first resting place for their weary heads, the first shelter they knew, when they had newly arrived in Richland county. On the 22d of February, 1877, it was consumed by fire and then passed away one of the old landmarks of pioneer days. Mrs. Haskell was the last landlady.

In 1854 was built the Union House by Hascal Haseltine, who was its landlord for some time. Other landlords were: Amasa Haskins, Messrs. Greene, Ingalls and Ingram Rolf. In 1867 it was kept by T. C. McNelly. After many vicissitudes this hotel passed into the hands of Luckey & Co., who changed the name to the Center House. In 1877 Mr. E. Rolfe, the owner, repaired the building, made additions, transforming it into the building now known as the Central House. For three years after its transformation Mr. Rolfe played the part of the jolly host of this first-class hotel, and was well known throughout this and the adjoining counties. The building is large and commodious and is well fitted up for the benefit of the traveling public. In March, 1881, the present landlord, O. P. Peck, purchased the en-

tire property, and is now (1884) making large additions and repairs preparatory to a thorough refitting of the whole establishment, and a stronger effort for the patronage of the commercial travelers.

In 1873 the society of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows commenced the erection of a three story building on the southeast corner of block 5. The size of the building was to be 24x50 feet. The ground floor was to be used as a store, and the upper story to be used as a lodge room. Before the building was completed it was badly damaged by a heavy wind storm and as the society was not in financial shape to refit it, the property passed into the hands of D. O. Chandler and W. D. S. Ross. These gentlemen at once refitted the building, enlarged it to the size of 50x65 feet, and built it three stories high. In December, 1874, the spacious building was opened to the public for hotel purposes and christened the Park Hotel, on account of its close proximity to the court house park. The first landlord was J. W. Smith, who furnished the house and ran it about three years. He was succeeded by C. Tryon and in May, 1883, C. W. Slocum became landlord. In November, 1883, S. J. Smith & Son took charge and are the present landlords. The property is still owned by Chandler & Ross.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The inhabitants, wishing to have proper mail facilities, petitioned the general government to that effect, and instead of the postal department sending the commission to some party then a resident of the village, Leroy D. Gage, of Antioch, Ill., was appointed to the office, which was established during that year, 1854, literally "bringing the office on his back," as it has been expressed by some of the early pioneers. Mr. Gage held this position as postmaster until in the spring of 1861, when, upon the change of administration consequent upon the elevation of Abraham Lincoln to the chief magistracy, W. H. Downs was appointed his

successor. The latter gentleman held the commission for the transaction of the postal business of the town until 1866, when G. L. Laws was inducted into the office and held the position until 1876. He had for his immediate successor, J. H. Miner, so long identified with the interests of the village, and in fact, of the county. In 1881 the present postmaster, D. G. James, was appointed to fill the office. The latter gentleman has now for his deputies J. G. Bunnell and Carrie Sherman.

During the first few years after the establishment of the village, the growth was quite slow, owing, in some respects, to the mistaken policy of the proprietor, Mr. Hazeltine.

#### PUBLIC HALLS.

Chandler's hall is a fine large room 24x100 feet in dimension, and fitted with stage accessories and good scenery. The building was erected by D. O. Chandler, finished and ready for business in November, 1866. It is kept in good repair by that progressive citizen.

Bailey's Opera House was commenced in 1883, the first brick being laid on the 15th of August. It was dedicated on the 27th of December, 1883, by the Masonic fraternity, with a festival and dance. The building is 32x126 feet in size, and the opera room is fitted with a commodious stage and convenient drawing and side rooms. Much credit is due to the proprietor, Henry T. Bailey, for his energy and enterprise in carrying through the project, and giving to Richland Center an opera house second to but few in this part of the State; and the hall is justly the pride of the citizens as well as the owner.

#### BANKS.

The story of the banking institutions of Richland Center is but a short one and soon told, and commences in this wise:

The want of sufficient money in all communities has had a tendency to retard the development and growth of the country, and hamper many commercial transactions that would otherwise benefit the individual and society at large.

Therefore, very early in its history the business men of the incipient city attempted to initiate a bank. Dec. 16, 1856, witnessed the organization of such an institution, with the title of the Pine River Valley Bank, and the following officers elected to effect and perfect the organization and opening of the same for business: Israel Janney, president; D. B. Priest, cashier; Caleb Waggoner, J. J. Shumaker, Leroy D. Gage, Jacob Brimer, W. H. Downs, James H. Miner and A. J. Straight, directors. The bank was instituted under the State laws of that date, and was to be based on real estate as security. The books for subscription were opened at the office of the cashier, who was to receive the same and issue certificates of stock, and at whose office the constitution and by-laws of the association could be seen, and information in regard to it given. The financial panic of 1857, that followed so soon after its inception, however, blighted its prospects and the whole thing was allowed to collapse, and the bank never opened its doors for business. After this no regular banking house was opened in the county seat, or, in fact, in the county, although many of the merchants and others transacted in a small degree the business usually done by banks. Thus the town was without a monetary institution until the initiation of the banking house of George Krouskop. Krouskop's bank is one of the solid institutions of the county. It is the oldest bank at Richland Center, having been established by George Krouskop in 1870. The bank is a private enterprise, being owned and operated solely by Mr. Krouskop, and has a capital of over \$50,000. Its corresponding banks are: Milwaukee National Bank, of Milwaukee, and Merchants' National Bank, of Chicago.

The Richland County Bank is the outgrowth of the abstract and collection business of W. H. Pier, and became a fixed fact in 1883, in which year Mr. Pier erected his present bank building. This building is of brick, 28x60 feet, two stories high, and is one of the best constructed build-

ings in the county. The bank is still in its infancy but has good prospects. Its corresponding banks are—Merchants National, New York; Preston, King & Co., Chicago; and Houghton Bros., Milwaukee.

#### INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

In 1855 Ira S. Hazeltine, who then owned the water power, built a saw mill at the point where the present mill now stands, and the same fall erected a mill to grind corn and feed and some grist, but it was but a poor affair at best. He continued the proprietor of these mills until July, 1860, when the elder Parfrey rented them of him, together with the water power, and run them until in 1863. A. C. Parfrey and J. C. Nichols purchased the property and rebuilt the grist mill and built a new saw mill. In 1870 Parfrey and his partner, Pease, who had bought out Nichols' interest, commenced the erection of a new dam, and the present fine merchant and grist mill. This is a large structure, substantially built, 50x60 feet in dimension, four stories high, with a warehouse addition of 24x50 feet, having a storage capacity of some 18,000 bushels of wheat. The mill has nine run of buhrs and three sets of rollers, and all the most modern improved machinery and has a capacity of making 1,000 barrels of flour per week. This mill cost some \$26,000 to build and equip. They have also a fine saw and planing mill, which is in constant operation, and capable of making 10,000 feet of good hard wood lumber per day. The interests represented by this gentleman—for it is entirely owned and operated by A. C. Parfrey, at present—is one of the most important in the county. The flour from this mill enjoys a high reputation and the brand of "Parfrey's Choice" needs no recommendation to the careful housewife.

The first steam mill at Richland Center was that known as the Shumaker mill. It was formerly located in the town of Rockbridge. It was purchased by John Walworth and moved here in 1860. He sold an interest to Amasa Haskins, and a few years later the mill was



burned to the ground. Upon the same site another mill was erected by Smith, Laws & Walworth. Hattleberg & Johnson soon afterward purchased Mr. Walworth's interest and the business was conducted under the firm name of Smith, Laws & Co. They engaged extensively in the manufacture of lumber and furniture—principally bedsteads. They built flat boats and sent their goods to St. Louis by water. On one of these trips Mr. Laws purchased a steamboat and came back with it. Upon his arrival at Richland Center he met with a grand ovation, the citizens presenting him with a gold-headed cane, in honor of the occasion. The saw mill continued in successful operation until 1871, when it was destroyed by fire.

The saw mill on the west side of the river is now operated by Norman L. James. In connection with the mill Mr. James runs an extensive wagon factory, having furnished the mill with all the necessary machinery. The establishment furnishes steady employment for about thirty hands.

In 1865 A. C. Parfrey erected a bedstead factory. In 1868 he associated D. E. Pease as partner and operated the business until 1871, when it was discontinued. The factory, while it was in operation, furnished employment to from sixteen to thirty-five hands, and was an important industry in Richland Center.

In 1873 Parfrey & Pease established a stove factory, which was operated with good success by them for about four years, when the business was discontinued.

In 1876 William Hill erected a small planing mill near his residence. This proved to be too small, and in 1880 he erected his present mill, which is 30x50 feet in size, besides engine and boiler rooms. The mill does an extensive business in planing, turning, scroll sawing and joining work.

In 1883 A. H. Kronskop erected a large steam saw-mill near the Parfrey mill. It is equipped with all the latest patterns of machinery, first-class engine and other accessories.

#### ARTESIAN WELL.

The village board, as early as 1875, agitated the question of boring an artesian well for the purpose of increasing the facilities for extinguishing fires and for the supplying of good water generally. But nothing definite was reached until February, 1876, when a contract was entered into by them with Maurice O'Conner and Daniel Canfield, of Venango, Penn., who engaged to drill a well on lot 3, in block 8; the said well to be tubed its entire length, which was not to exceed 1,000 feet; and the price agreed on and put into the contract was \$3 per foot.

These gentlemen at once set to work and soon had a hole in the ground, but when they had reached the depth of 744 feet the drill encountered igneous rock, in the form of granite, and knowing that no water veins exist in that the matter was given up for the time. Water was reached long before that depth had been attained, but no flow. The well now stands with the water in it up to within a few feet of the surface, and a project is on foot to put up a system of waterworks, having for a base of supply this artesian well, as the supply of water is inexhaustible. One or two other attempts have been made in the county to get a flowing well, with like results.

#### VILLAGE GOVERNMENT.

In September, 1866, a movement was put on foot to secure the incorporation of Richland Center, as a village, under the statutes of the State. And was so incorporated in October of the same year. The first meeting of the trustees of the newly organized village was held Feb. 1, 1867, in the room over D. L. Downs' store. The officers who were present were as follows: D. L. Downs, president; D. E. Pease, G. H. James, C. Waggoner, John Fitzgerald, C. H. Smith and L. D. Gage, trustees; after the organization of the board, they proceeded to elect Fred. H. Tuttle, clerk; J. L. McKee, treasurer and Thomas Cholerton, marshal. The board then appointed a committee consisting of D. L.

Downs, L. D. Gage and C. H. Smith to draft by-laws and to make a design for the village seal. The first ordinance passed by this august body was one for the prevention and extinguishment of conflagrations in the village.

1867—The officers elected were: D. L. Downs, president; G. H. James, C. Waggoner, John Fitzgerald, C. H. Smith and L. D. Gage, trustees; Fred H. Tuttle was re-appointed clerk and J. L. McKee, treasurer. Joseph McMurtrey was also appointed marshal and R. R. Hamilton, street commissioner. In October, however, Fred. H. Tuttle resigning his position as clerk, and McMurtrey that of marshal, Gilbert L. Laws was appointed to the former, and Peter E. Brewer to the latter office. We have a report of the village finances for the year as filed by the treasurer March 23, 1868, by which we may find the following.

Cash received from various parties.....	\$233 80
“ paid out on orders .....	102 80
“ balance in treasury.....	\$131 00

1868—James H. Miner, president; D. E. Pease, Caleb Waggoner, A. B. Weigley, W. H. Downs, James Tuttle and Gilbert L. Laws, trustees; James H. Waggoner was appointed clerk; James L. McKee, treasurer; Peter E. Brewer, marshal; G. I. Morton, street commissioner, and W. H. Hook, pound-master.

1869—Gilbert L. Laws, president; Dr. A. W. Bickford, James Tuttle, G. N. Matteson, G. N. Mickle, M. V. Dustan and G. H. James, trustees; Samuel C. Hyatt was appointed clerk; J. L. McKee, treasurer; J. W. Leik, marshal and pound-master; Seth Bayse, street commissioner. In November the village board, by resolution, declared the office of marshal vacant, and appointed Erastus Rolfe to fill the vacancy. It was this board that succeeded in instituting the present fire department, and purchased the apparatus therefore.

1870—Dr. A. W. Bickford, president; W. H. Downs, G. N. Mickle, C. H. Smith, James Tuttle, A. Durnford and H. T. Bailey, trustees, who proceeded to appoint the following officers:

James Fogo, marshal; W. H. Downs, clerk; J. L. McKee, treasurer; E. Rolfe, pound-master.

1871—J. L. McKee, president; Norman L. James, W. H. Pier, G. N. Mickle, A. S. Fries, W. F. Tuttle and H. Freeman, trustees; who appointed W. H. Downs, clerk; N. L. James, treasurer; E. H. Liscum, marshal and G. N. Dyke, pound-master. During the administration of this board, a ballot was taken at the fall election whether the village should surrender its charter as an incorporated village, which was defeated by the vote of the qualified electors, there being 109 against such surrender, and sixty in favor of it.

1872—D. G. James, president; D. H. Burnham, H. Freeman, Henry Toms, G. N. Mickle, George N. Matteson, and A. B. Weigley, trustees; W. H. Downs was appointed clerk; Henry Toms, treasurer; A. Crosby, marshal and N. G. Leonard, street commissioner.

1873—D. G. James, president; Henry Toms, G. N. Matteson, James Tuttle, Samuel C. Hyatt, William F. Tuttle and James Lewis, trustees; W. H. Downs was appointed clerk, Henry Toms, treasurer; John Boyle, marshal; Seth Bayse, street commissioner.

1874—D. O. Chandler, president; A. C. Parfrey, Seth Bayse, Elihu Pease, John Wertz, James Tuttle and Thomas Cholerton, trustees; Gaylord Freeman, police justice and J. L. Fogo, village constable. Alice Pease was appointed clerk, (this being the first instance on record of a lady holding that position); Elihu Pease made treasurer; J. L. Fogo, marshal, and Seth Bayse, street commissioner.

1875—H. W. Fries, president; George Krouskop, J. L. McKee, N. W. Bailey, John Walworth, George N. Matteson and Warren C. S. Barron, trustees; E. H. Liscum, village constable; Kate G. Downs was appointed clerk; George Krouskop, treasurer; E. H. Liscum, marshal and J. L. Sweet, street commissioner. This board, in the interests of temperance, fixed the license for saloons at \$125 and for drug stores \$40. Permission was also given by the



W. M. Fogo.



board this year to the railroad company to use certain streets of the village for their tracks.

1876—H. W. Fries, president; George Krouskop, John Walworth, J. L. McKee, N. W. Bailey, George N. Matteson and Warren C. S. Barron, trustees; James Tuttle, police justice; R. D. Robinson, constable. Kate G. Downs was appointed clerk; George Krouskop, treasurer; E. H. Liscum, marshal; S. C. Carpenter was appointed to the office of street commissioner, but not qualifying, John Walworth was appointed in his stead.

1877—A. G. James, president; T. Hart, J. W. Lybrand, John Wertz, A. S. Fries, J. F. Walker and James Tuttle, trustees; W. H. Downs, police justice; R. R. Hamilton, village constable. Kate G. Downs was re-appointed clerk; F. Walker made treasurer; E. Stevens, marshal and street commissioner. During the administration of this board there was a second movement to vacate the incorporation of the village, and a resolution to submit the matter at a special election was passed by the board. In July, 1877, the election was held, in accordance with the above ordinance, and again defeated, the vote standing: For dissolution, 46; against dissolution, 137.

1878—Warren C. S. Barron, president; Jacob W. Lybrand, John Brimer, D. O. Chandler, Aug Schmidt, N. W. Bailey and John Walworth, trustees; Seth Pennell, police justice; A. D. Laws, village constable. William Wulfling was appointed clerk; Aug. Schmidt, treasurer; N. W. Bailey, street commissioner and S. C. Carpenter, marshal.

1879—D. O. Chandler, president; Daniel Storms, A. B. Weigley, J. L. McKee, L. B. Smith, J. W. Lybrand and M. C. Pease, trustees; Caleb Waggoner, police justice; Oliver G. Munson, clerk; W. H. Pier, treasurer; G. E. Moody, marshal; W. G. Hyatt, constable.

1880—A. G. James, president; D. E. Pease, H. L. Burnham, G. R. Mitchell, H. St. John, Daniel Storms and A. G. Saltsman, trustees; W. H. Pier, treasurer; Oliver G. Munson, clerk;

Wiley H. Waters, marshal; G. M. Clark, constable.

1881—Henry Toms, president; W. C. S. Barron, Norman L. James, H. T. Bailey, A. H. Krouskop, G. H. Strang and Frank Sanford, trustees; William Wulfling, clerk; T. M. Hart, treasurer; W. H. Waters, marshal; George Jarvis, police justice; George Spangler, constable.

1882—Henry Toms, president; Warren C. S. Barron, Norman L. James, G. H. Strang, Frank Sanford, George Krouskop and H. B. Allen, trustees; C. C. Fries, clerk; T. M. Hart, treasurer; George L. Spangler, marshal; George Bennett, police justice; John Houston, constable. Mr. Fries not qualifying, William Wulfling was appointed in his place.

1883—J. L. McKee, president; A. H. Krouskop, R. C. Lybrand, E. A. Dove, James H. Miner, D. O. Chandler and R. N. McKay, trustees; J. H. Yeaman, clerk; T. M. Hart, treasurer; L. Leonard, police justice; G. L. Spangler, marshal; W. F. Fogo, village constable.

The contest this year was one of the most exciting that has occurred for a number of years past, on account of the element of temperance in the matter. For the past two years it seems that there has been license granted to several saloons to deal out intoxicating liquors, and the friends of temperance determined to make a strong effort and turn the scale and have no licenses granted. A strong prohibition ticket was placed in the field and elected, as given above.

The ladies were out in force, and worked from early in the morning till the polls were closed, distributing tickets and soliciting votes for the no-license ticket. The effect of their labors was manifested in the result, and they felt highly elated over the success which crowned their efforts, as victors naturally do.

The majorities for the no-license ticket ranged from sixty-seven to eighty-nine, and were by far the largest given on either side of the issue in many years. Several of the gentlemen

whose names were on what was known as the license ticket, declared that they had not given consent to the use of their names, and would neither qualify nor serve if elected, and they voted the other ticket, thus swelling the majorities.

The first regular meeting of the new council was held May 14, 1883.

A petition was presented to the board, signed by a number of young men, requesting that no license be granted for the running of billiard tables, which, being read in full, was referred to the committee on judiciary, who, after a short deliberation, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

"We, the committee to whom was referred the petition and remonstrance requesting that no license be granted for keeping billiard tables, and remonstrating against such license and against the sale of intoxicating liquors, have had the same under consideration, and most respectfully report the following and recommend its adoption:

"WHEREAS, Considering the large majority of votes giving expression of their views at the recent election upon the issue well understood, whether license or no license should be granted, and in compliance with that expression and the large and respectable petition signed by the young men and others of the village, against the granting of license, therefore:

"Resolved, That the board grant the petitioners their request, and it is further

"Resolved, That no license be granted to any person for the keeping of billiard tables, pigeon-hole alleys or bowling saloons within this village."

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

At a meeting of the village board, held Aug. 16, 1869, a bill was brought up appropriating the sum of \$300 for the purpose of purchasing a Babcock chemical engine for the extinguishment of fires. Although this bill was then laid upon the table, from it may be traced the present efficient fire brigade that is always on hand

when the demon of destruction sweeps with fiery besom through this beautiful village.

Although the first attempt had failed, however, its friends did not falter but pressed the matter and on Nov. 23, 1869, succeeded in having the trustees pass the bill to purchase a United States chemical engine. At the next meeting thereafter held Dec. 13, 1869, the trustees, by ballot, elected Henry St. John, foreman, and William Tuttle, assistant foreman, with full power to raise and organize a fire company. At the same meeting measures were also taken that all the necessary fixtures should be purchased to run the engine and help the company in the discharge of their duty. It would seem from the records that the chemical engine was purchased and arrived, but for some reason it did not meet the wants of the community nor the wishes of the board, and it was returned.

Jan. 10, 1870, however, the village board passed a resolution to purchase as a substitute for it a second-hand Button & Blake's hand engine, in good repair, at a cost of \$750, and 300 feet of hose suitable for the use of the same and also a resolution to purchase of Richards & Herbert a hook and ladder truck, at a cost of \$120, and a hose reel to carry the hose to the seat of conflagration. This being done, in February, 1870, there was duly organized the Richland Center Engine Company and the Richland Center Hook and Ladder Company, and all the implements for the extinguishment of fires were placed in their hand, and for the safe keeping of which they pledged themselves and also agreed to drill in the use of the same. The town board thereupon appointed A. W. Bickford as chief engineer of the department and that gentleman has the honor of being the first to enjoy that dignity.

To the honor of the village board be it spoken that they took all measures to make this a most efficient department, and in furtherance of this in May, 1870, they signed a contract with M. D. Hankins, by which he agreed to build several cisterns at the intersection of such streets as were thought most advisable. Three were

built under this contract, but it seems from some later remarks upon the records that they had not prove quite as satisfactory as was desirable, as several more were afterwards built of brick or stone, one near D. O. Chandler's store being let under contract to G. A. Tuttle for \$225. This was in the summer of 1873.

In the early days of the new fire brigade the engine, trucks and reel were kept in various barns and buildings rented for that purpose but in December, 1870, and January, 1871, an engine house was built by the board for the use of the department at a cost of some \$300. In 1871 and 1872, A. W. Bickford was re-elected to the office of chief engineer. During this latter year some more hose was purchased and the engine house was removed to lot 3 in block 8, which had been purchased for the purpose by the village board of J. W. Lybrand for the sum of \$175.

The engine company by this time numbered some thirty members and the hook and ladder company fifteen. These were all, in consideration of their services in the fire brigade, exempt from paying poll tax or doing jury duty.

In April, 1873, the mode of choosing the officers of the department was changed, passing from the hands of the village board to that of the companies themselves, subject, however, to the confirmation of the trustees of the village. Under this rule the officers chosen were as follows: W. F. Tuttle, chief engineer; F. M. Ott, assistant engineer; H. Toms, treasurer; G. N. Matteson, secretary.

In 1877 J. M. Adams was the head of the fire department.

In the year 1878 the officers of the department were as follows: David G. James, chief engineer; Benjamin Brimer, assistant; Henry Toms, treasurer; W. H. Pier, secretary; George Jarvis, fire warden.

The year 1879 witnessed the re-election of the entire board. The officers above mentioned seemed to give such satisfaction that no change was made until 1881, when we find the follow-

ing as the list of officers of the department: D. G. James, chief engineer; George N. Matteson, assistant; F. P. Lawrence, secretary; H. Toms, treasurer; George Jarvis, fire warden.

At the annual election in May, 1882, the following officers were elected: W. H. Pier, chief engineer; H. T. Bailey, assistant engineer; H. Toms, treasurer; D. G. James, secretary; O. G. Munson, fire warden.

The department is a very efficient one and is well equipped with good apparatus and the "boys" are the pride of the village. The present officers were elected in May, 1883, and are as follows:

W. Harry Pier, chief engineer; David G. James, first assistant engineer; H. R. Brewer, second assistant engineer; George Jarvis, fire warden; I. A. Cleveland, secretary; Henry Toms, treasurer.

#### FIRE RECORD.

The village has but little cause to lament the usual large proportion of fires that occur in most communities, none that have occurred within its limits assumed any magnitude.

The first buildings burned in Richland Center were the dwelling houses belonging to Phineas Janney and Samuel Fries. They were both occupied by their families. The first fire of any importance was the burning of the court house, which occurred in April, 1859. Among other distressing fires that have occurred were the following: Burning of J. Thompson's house, Jones' tannery, Walworth's steam saw-mill, Smith, Laws & Co.'s saw-mill and furniture factory, Fries' tannery, American Hotel, Jones' shoe shop, Bayles' blacksmith shop, John Heeran's marble works, engine house, the Austin building, Daniel Rice's store, the railway depot and A. H. Krouskop's block.

The following is an account of the two most important fires that have occurred in Richland Center, as gleaned from the newspaper accounts published at the time. The first on the list was the

## BURNING OF THE DEPOT.

About 2 o'clock in the morning of Sunday, Oct. 8, 1882, two quick reports in succession, or as nearly together as to almost seem one, and loud as a cannon's roar, awakened every sleeper and shook every building in Richland Center. The startled citizens on being so rudely torn from their peaceful slumbers, in quick haste donned their clothing and sallied forth in hot haste to inquire the cause. Ere many of them had gathered and with pallid cheek and quivering lip had asked the momentous question, the sonorous peal of the great fire bell resounding through the trembling air, told the fast gathering throng that the red fire fiend danced in their midst, and his infernal altar smoked with the incense he delights in.

Excited crowds soon filled the streets, all hastening in the direction from which the lurid flames lit up the village, and made the surrounding bluffs look like the mythical hills of brass.

It took but a short time to make the discovery that the depot of the Pine River branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad was a prey to the devouring element. In the short space of time which elapsed between the reports and the arrival of the fire brigade the flames had got under such headway, that it was impossible to arrest their mad progress and save the building or any of its contents. The safe belonging to the express company was indeed pulled from the fire, owing to the exertions of the firemen, and its contents saved, but this was about all.

Investigation showed that the reports were caused by the ignition of two kegs of gunpowder that were in the depot at the time. The roof of the building was blown off by the force of the explosion and fire thrown in all directions.

The work of the flames was swift and sure, and in an incredibly short space of time the spot where the building stood was marked only by a mass of smouldering ruins. In addition

to the loss of the depot and its contents, the baggage car and one or two freight cars that stood near on the track were badly scorched and damaged before they could be removed. The passenger coach, however, escaped with but slight damage.

## CONFLAGRATION OF KROUSKOP'S PALACE DRY GOODS STORE.

Between the hours of four and five o'clock in the morning of Friday, Jan. 28, 1883, the village of Richland Center was again visited by the demon of fire, which with a flaming besom swept out of existence one of the chief ornaments of the city nestled among the hills.

At the hour mentioned above, the loud clangor of the fire bell broke upon the affrighted ears of the sleeping inhabitants of the village dissipating their little remaining slumbers. The wild alarm soon brought the whole town upon the streets. It was found, on inquiry, that a fire had been discovered, shortly before, in the frame grocery store of A. H. Floaten, on Center street, in close proximity to A. H. Krouskop's mammoth brick block, and by the time the fire department had arrived on the ground the fiery element had gathered such headway that it was plainly evident to all that all effort to subdue it was in vain, and that the edifice was doomed to destruction.

The extreme cold weather had frozen the valves of the engine and some valuable time was wasted by that unfortunate circumstance, upon their arrival upon the scene of action. While the firemen were making strenuous efforts to remedy this, and straining every nerve to get the apparatus to work, the flames spread to the frame building north of the one where the fire originated, also occupied by Mr. Foaten, and thence north to the building tenanted by W. H. Pier, as an abstract office. The main efforts of the hook and ladder company was directed toward pulling down the Pier building that endangered the remaining portion of the row. For some time it was feared that all their efforts were unavailing, and that the flames



would leap the narrow distance, to the next building, and the whole business portion of the town would be devoured by the insatiable monster.

But fortunately there was no wind to fan the fire and help it spread and this fact, added to the almost superhuman efforts of the firemen, and it might be said, the whole number of the inhabitants as well, and that the roofs of all the buildings were deeply covered with snow, kept the fire in due limits, and its further progress was arrested in that direction. All this time great volumes of flames, fed by the combustible nature of Floaten's store and stock, of which a considerable quantity of coal oil formed a part, rolled up against the side of Krouskop's block, heating the iron cornice and setting fire to the rafters underneath the roof, and joists of timbers running around back of the cornice. The engine, having by this time been put into good working order, stream after stream of water was poured directly upon the devouring element, but with very little visible effect.

Owing to the height of the building, the engine could not throw a stream up to the cornice with force enough to be effective. The fire still kept creeping insidiously onward at this point in under the roof. A number of men were inside fighting the flames with pails of water, and after the efforts of the firemen were found to be useless outside, the hose was taken up through a window in Black & Burnham's law office, and an attempt was made to reach the attic with it and turn a stream of water against the flames, but the attempt miscarried and the whole scheme abandoned.

Still being unwilling to give the matter up, the firemen went along the hall on the second story and extinguished the fire that had caught in the windows and casings, on the north side of the building. The fire in these rooms had been previously put out several times, but the heat was so intense that the wood-work rekindled almost as soon as they were cleared of the fire. Those inside finding how futile were

their puny efforts against this hydra-headed giant, and seeing no possible chance of saving the building, reluctantly retired, and left the magnificent structure to its fate.

Hushed now was the clamor, and all stood spell-bound, like the sailor as he watches the fast sinking vessel he has just left, watching the gradual triumph of the element over the boasted work of man. The flames now had an unmolested chance and their progress was swift, sure and deadly. With terrible steps the invader stole downward from the attic to the second floor, stair by stair, then onward to the first floor, devouring all on its way, and then as if deeming it still not enough went still downward in its irresistible march even into the cellar. As each floor, with its timbers and contents gave way and fell crashing to the one below, the flames rolled higher and higher and danced in infernal glee over the wreck and ruin below.

By seven o'clock the element had exhausted its force, and what was a few hours before a superb building was a heap of smouldering ruins and tottering, ragged, smoke scorched walls. Parts of the latter had to be battered down as their wrecked state imperiled the passers-by and some have since blown down, leaving an unsightly wreck, a blot upon the face of the fair village.

During the progress of the conflagration, the explosion of a keg of powder in the store of A. H. Floaten created a lively sensation, as there were people in the building at the time engaged in carrying out goods, and the proprietor was, even then, engaged in a search for the powder and was within a few feet of it when it exploded. The glass in the windows of the buildings opposite was nearly all shattered by the concussion. Much of the goods in both buildings were saved, but in a damaged condition.

Various conjectures as to the origin of the fire were rife, at the time, but it seems to be the general opinion that it caught from a defective flue in the Floaten store. The loss can

safely be put down as fully \$75,000, on which there was an insurance of \$48,700.

An account of this Krouskop block will not be out of place in this connection, as the structure was the pride of the citizens of the village and of the county generally, as well as of the owner, and was said to be the finest building of the kind in the State, west of Milwaukee. The block was 44x125 feet, with a wing 34x74 feet in dimension, all two stories high, and was built of pressed brick, with cut stone trimmings and handsome iron cornice. Large plate glass windows adorned and illuminated the front, and all the interior wood work was executed in hard wood, principally walnut. Mr. Krouskop commenced the erection of the edifice in 1876; the material he had been collecting for ten years previously. It was finished during the year 1877, and he moved into it in January, 1878, and occupied it at the time of its destruction.

#### THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

In May, 1857, Michael Carmichael opened the first saloon in the village of Richland Center, and which was known as the "Bowling Saloon," and shortly afterwards was followed by Patrick Meehan, who opened a rum shop in the midst of the town. At the time no licenses could be or were granted to these parties, who thus commenced their business in open defiance of the law. The wildest excitement now seized upon the law abiding portion of the community. The following call for a temperance meeting was conspicuously displayed all over town on small posters, early in July:

#### TEMPERANCE MEETING.

Those ladies and gentlemen of Richland Center and vicinity, who are in favor of using all legal means to suppress the liquor traffic in said village, will meet at the court house, this (Tuesday) evening, July 14, at 7 o'clock.

We quote an account of the affair from the columns of the Richland County *Observer*, of that date, as better reflecting the feelings of the

community, than can be shown from anything written at this distant day. Says the reporter to that paper:

"There was considerable excitement in this village on Wednesday and Thursday, of last week, on account of the continued unlicensed sales of spirituous liquors, which are constantly occurring in the Bowling Saloon, and in the house of Patrick Meehan.

"Notice had been given on Tuesday evening that there would be a meeting on Wednesday morning, for the purpose of considering what further policy should be pursued to suppress the traffic. This meeting was attended principally by women, and there was manifested by some of them a determination to do something rash, if no other means could be suggested whereby the curse could be stayed. Several gentlemen having been called to speak, and they having spoken, and contended that law only should be employed to abate the nuisance, the project of doing violence was put to rest, as in the exercise of good sense, every such notion ought to be.

"Why any body here has ever thought of mob violence, to suppress the unlawful sales of ardent spirits, is because our statute requires that the quantity and quality of the liquor sold, shall be set forth in the complaint; and the difficulty of obtaining this evidence here for the commencement of a suit is so great, that these grogeries have sold their drinks with impunity, until they have become "public nuisances, sources of filth, and causes of sickness," without exaggeration. This matter being perfectly plain to the observing mind, A. C. Eastland suggested that a complaint might be made to the board of health of this town, and that he thought they possessed sufficient power, by law, to remove all nuisances, which are sources of filth, or causes of sickness. This idea being perfectly reasonable to those assembled, it was determined to call a meeting of the members of the board of health and let them examine into

the matter, if one other movement would not effect the desired end. And that was to adjourn until four o'clock, P. M., and then meet in the court house, from which place, it was voted, that the citizens should proceed, in procession, to the whisky shops under the direction of a marshal and assistant, headed by a lady and gentleman, who were selected to speak in behalf of the citizens. The meeting then adjourned. As a committee had been appointed to go to every house in the village to notify the inhabitants of the design of the meeting, at four o'clock, and invite them to be present, almost every body turned out, though the thermometer indicated nearly 90 degrees, Fahrenheit. After the meeting had come to order, and the object of it stated, the procession was formed and it proceeded at once to the Bowling Saloon, under the charge of W. H. Downs as marshal and George H. James as assistant. On arriving at the saloon, Michael Carmichael, who asked them in to take something, was addressed by Mrs. Eunice Holden, and was followed by Alfred H. Bush. They remonstrated against the unlawful traffic and plead in behalf of humanity, amidst constant interruption. Without effecting any thing by persuasion, the procession left, well satisfied that kind words and good reasoning were of no avail. Arriving at the house of Patrick Meehan they addressed him, and found him but little or no more susceptible to the influence than Carmichael.

"As a meeting of the board of health had been called, on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, a great number of citizens presented a complaint against these houses as nuisances, and asked their action upon the same. These liquor shops being unlicensed, and it having been shown that the liquor dealt out was a cause of sickness and a source of filth, and that its effect produced both annoyance and damage to the citizens of the town, it was adjudged by the board, after a thorough examination, that the complaint was well grounded, and they have issued the following notice for its removal:

STATE OF WISCONSIN, }  
 RICHLAND COUNTY, } ss.  
 TOWN OF RICHLAND.

At a meeting of the undersigned, members of the board of health in and for said town, began and holden at the court house therein, a quorum being present, and it appearing to said board that the sale and use of intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage, within said town, is a public nuisance, source of filth and cause of sickness, therefore, it is ordered by said board, that no person hereafter sell, or in any way dispose of intoxicating liquor, within said town, to be used as a beverage; and that all intoxicating liquors now in said town, kept for sale as a beverage, be removed therefrom, under the pains and penalties of the statute in such case made and provided.

Given under our hands this 9th day of July,  
 A. D. 1857.

B. R. HOWLAND,

S. W. PICKARD,

E. P. YOUNG,

B. L. JACKSON,

Board of Health in and for the  
 town of Richland.

"This movement may be considered as something new under the sun—may be considered as a wrong construction of the intention of the statute; but so far as the letter of the law is concerned, it is fully in accordance with it; and, the law ought to be, henceforth, interpreted as our board of health have seen fit so to interpret it. It would then be better than the Maine law; and, on this subject the State would not soon need to have legislation for the further regulation or suppression of the traffic."

As has been said, these men were engaged in a nefarious business, without any license, and they paid no attention to the notification of the board of health. After waiting twenty-four hours for them to remove the offending liquors, the members of the board made a personal call upon the men, and made a request of them to remove them or cause them to be removed, to neither of which requests would they listen,

and showed an ugly spirit of resistance. Allowing the matter to rest over night, that it might sink into their minds, and finding in the morning no signs that they were making any preparations to obey the mandates of the law, a warrant was placed in the hands of the sheriff, and on Wednesday, July 15, the town board accompanied that officer and his *posse* to the saloon of Carmichael, and all the liquor found therein was taken out and poured upon the ground, which soon drank it up. No riot or resistance seems to have been met at this place, but all submitted with the best grace possible to the visit of the officer of the law, who but did his duty in executing the warrant. The nuisance being abated at this place, the procession, for it had swelled to that degree, proceeded to the saloon of Patrick Meehan, but did not find the man with any peaceable intentions. On perceiving them he ran up stairs, where he had conveyed the bulk of his stock of liquor, and, standing behind a barricade at the head of the stairs with his wife, presented at the approaching officer a gun, a revolver and a single-barreled pistol, and swore with terrible oaths that he would blow out the brains of, or do other deadly injury to, the sheriff or any other man who dared to attempt to storm his castle. The sheriff, finding that it might prove a dangerous job, evidently thinking discretion the better part of valor, incontinently left with all his *posse*, and Meehan was left victor of this bloodless field for the time being. A warrant was now issued for the arrest of the man for resisting an officer, and put into the hands of Constable Matteson, who, watching his opportunity, found him away from his house and brought him before Justice Young. William F. Crawford, who had been appointed court commissioner at the previous term of the circuit court by Judge Cothren, acted as Meehan's counsel. He demanded that his client should not be tried or examined before Justice Young, but at once offered to give a recognizance for his appearance at the next term of the circuit

court. This demand being denied by 'Squire Young, who betrayed no great willingness to be ousted of his jurisdiction, Crawford repaired to his office and issued the following summons:

STATE OF WISCONSIN, }  
RICHLAND COUNTY. }

To E. P. Young, Justice of the Peace of Richland County, Wisconsin:

Sir:—You are hereby notified that I have this day liberated Patrick Meehan, who was brought before you on the 16th day of July, A. D. 1857, on a charge preferred against him for resisting an officer while in the execution of serving legal process.

You are further notified to send, without unnecessary delay, the recognizance, and all the papers in the case, to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Richland County, Wisconsin.

Given under my hand, this the 16th day of July, A. D. 1857.

WM. F. CRAWFORD,  
Court Commissioner Richland  
County, Wisconsin.

But E. P. Young, on receiving this notice, could not find the authority for it, and therefore refused to deliver up the prisoner, and proceeded with the examination. After a hearing of the case, Meehan was required to give bail for his appearance at the next term of the circuit court. This he refused to do, and was committed to jail.

His attorney, Crawford, then sued out a writ of *habeas corpus*, before himself as court commissioner, for the liberation of his client, but the sheriff questioning Crawford's power or authority under the circumstances, refused to serve the writ. Crawford finding himself defeated in every move went to work writing out other mandatory documents, but met with no better success and finally seeing no better plan to liberate his friend and client, went security for his appearance himself, on which Meehan was liberated.

In the meantime it seems that the sheriff and town board, taking advantage of Meehan's absence, sent the deputy sheriff, Elmore, with

a *posse*, some of the board going with them, to his house, to destroy the obnoxious liquors. They proceeded to the place, but on entering the premises were met by the determined opposition of Meehan's wife, who stood at the head of the stairway with a gun in her hands, declaring that she would shoot any man who had the temerity to attempt to come any further, or try to ascend the stair. Elmore commenced to parley with her, while she stood, like Helen McGregor in her fortress, defying them. Finding remonstrance and entreaties were fruitless, and goaded on by the bystanders, he made a movement forward with the intention of storming the stronghold, thinking that there was more bluster on her part than that she would really shoot. But he had "reckoned without his host," for scarcely had he taken a few steps than the amazon presented her weapon and discharged it, causing considerable confusion and a masterly retreat on the part of all the lookers-on.

Her intention to hurt was good, but in the excitement and anger of the moment, her hand trembled and she had missed hitting the officer or any one else. As soon as she saw that her aim had been futile, she snatched up another gun, seeing which Mr. Howland, one of the members of the board, called for weapons, and a rifle and revolver were handed to him. Cocking the rifle, he told her to lay down her arms and surrender or he would shoot. The woman weakened and surrendered and the officers marched in and took possession. A wagon was procured and all the liquor found in the house was taken out and placed upon it and driven to the banks of the Pine river. Here had congregated quite a number of people, of both sexes, to witness the destruction of the stuff. Barrel, keg and bottle were taken from the wagon and emptied into the swift current of the river, mingling with its waters the fiery liquid. After this had been completed, Meehan's wife was also arrested and placed under bonds to appear by the side of her husband, at the bar of the circuit court.

As soon as Meehan had recovered his liberty, he laid in a fresh supply of liquor, but was arrested and fined some \$40, and the next day arrested and fined the same amount, and finding that it was likely to prove an expensive matter, he deserted the town, leaving Richland Center to enjoy the proud consciousness of having no saloon in its midst, as Carmichael had surrendered and given up his business.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

In the summer of 1853 the first school in the village was taught in the court house building by Sylvia Hazeltine. Calista Hazeltine taught a term of school in the same place during the summer of 1854. In 1855 Sarah Thomas taught in a building owned by Ira S. Hazeltine.

The first gentleman to teach in the village was James H. Miner, who began teaching a term in December, 1855, in the same building that had been occupied by the school taught by Sarah Thomas. The building was small and inconvenient, and without any lath and plaster on its walls, and as the winter was an unusually severe one, the scholars suffered from the inclemency of the weather. Mr. Miner informs us that in the middle of the winter, the supply of wood, for the stove, gave out, and rather than abandon the school, he with his own hands chopped up the pole fence that surrounded the lot on which the school house was built, and kept up the fire in that way. And even with this the stove was always surrounded by shivering urchins, who complained, that while their face was warm their backs were freezing. In the fall of 1857 the question of building a more comfortable and commodious school house came to the front, and the contest between the high tax and low tax parties displayed more acrimony than is usual in communities over the educational matters. However, owing to the personal exertions of D. B. Priest, Israel Janney, J. H. Miner and other well-known friends of education, the town voted a tax of \$3,000 to erect a suitable building. This tax was assessed by the regular assessor and placed

upon the tax roll, but, as it was well nigh impossible for many to raise the money to pay this tax, the building committee made arrangements to receive it in material or labor at a fixed price and their receipts were taken by the town treasurer on such tax at their face value. Under these conditions the present frame structure was erected during the year 1858. It is 36x52 feet in dimension and two stories high, and is a good substantial building, with three apartments, in which the three lower grades are taught.

Ira S. Hazeltine, one of the most prominent antagonists of the measure of voting the tax, refused for a long time to pay his assessment, but finding that he would have to, came to the committee after the building was all finished, and wanted to supply lumber, this, having no further use for, they declined and the matter rested for a time, when he went before the county board, and with the assistance of the then district attorney, persuaded that body to cancel the tax certificates and charge the tax back to the school district.

In 1868, this school having been outgrown by the wants of the district, a movement was put on foot to build a larger and more commodious one. Several meetings were held and at one of these town meetings the citizens voted to levy a tax of \$2,000 toward building the school house, and work was at once commenced on the structure. The edifice was finished during 1869, and is a large roomy building and complete in everything except room, for the ever-increasing population make it quite necessary to have more room, although both school houses are kept running. This building cost \$4,500, and is in two apartments, and is under the personal supervision of H. R. Smith, who is the principal of all the village schools. The roll of teachers in 1883 were: H. R. Smith, high school; P. H. Fay, grammar; Mary McKay, Mary Spyer, M. Lawrence and Miss Vedder. There are at present 362 children enrolled and the average attendance reaches 289, which is quite a re-

spectable figure when we take into consideration that 152 of the scholars are quite small, being in the two lower grades.

In 1879 Miss Peck, from Milwaukee, started a kindergarten under the supervision of the school board.

In this connection it would be well to say that the schools are of a high grade and a complete course through the high school prepares the pupil for entry into the State University at Madison without any further studies.

The high school was established by vote of the qualified electors of the district, in 1875, and the first pupils to graduate therefrom were Miss B. D. Miner and L. C. Thorpe. The former was a daughter of Judge Miner, and now the wife of J. H. Berryman, a lawyer of Richland Center. The present board of school control is composed of D. L. Downs, J. D. McKee and O. J. Burnham, clerk. At a meeting held in July, 1883, it was voted that \$15,000 be raised for the purpose of erecting a new school building, and a site containing five acres, located in the Schoolcraft addition, was secured.

#### RELIGIOUS.

For some years after the settlement of the village, adverse circumstances kept the erection of any church edifice from being consummated. But as early as March 27, 1857, some stir was made in the matter toward the building of a union meeting-house, where all could worship. Committees were appointed, but, for various reasons, the scheme was abandoned. In May, 1857, the Presbyterians, who had organized a society that month in the village, determined to take the matter in hand and put up a place of worship for themselves. But means were scarce, and some time was necessarily spent before the matter assumed a shape justifying the letting of the contract. But that day did at last dawn when the committee, of which Caleb Waggoner was chairman, we believe, that they could see their way clear to the end. William and A. L. Wilson took the contract of building

the structure, which was finished during the same year, 1857.

Services were held during the fall, under the ministrations of Rev. J. H. Mathers, the first pastor of this little flock. At the opening of the church there were but nine members of the society, but the attendance from the first was very fair and favorable. Mr. Mathers was succeeded by Rev. J. M. Reid, a faithful laborer in the "vineyard of the Lord," but whose health at last broke down and he was forced to retire in 1866. For some little time after his removal the fold was without a shepherd, but a Rev. Mr. White came and took temporary charge of them for about six months. Rev. G. J. E. Richards was installed as pastor in the summer of 1876, and remained in charge only about a year, when he, too, on account of poor health, was obliged to leave, and was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Winn for a short time. Since that time Rev. Mr. Benson has spent two years as a faithful laborer in this field, and was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Pierce, who took charge in January, 1880, and remained until January, 1883, when he terminated his connection with the society, and Rev. Mr. Winn, from Madison, supplied the pulpit until the summer 1883, when Rev. Dennison, the present pastor, took charge.

Possibly we may have made some omissions in the list of the pastors, or some little inaccuracies may have crept in, but the fault has been occasioned by the great difficulty encountered by us in our efforts in collecting the material for our facts, having mainly to rely upon the memories of those to whom we looked for the proper data. The church edifice is a neat frame structure and cost \$1,100, and is yet in use, and answers very well the purpose for which it was erected. When the building was erected a bell was secured through the exertions of J. W. Lybrand. He solicited aid from his merchant friends in the city of New York, and after raising the money, placed it in the hands of Rev. J. H. Mathers, who purchased the bell.

It weighs 402 pounds and cost twenty-nine cents per pound.

#### METHODIST CHURCH.

Although the Presbyterian society were the first to erect a church edifice, still they were not the first to be organized into a society. As early as 1855 the Methodists had organized a class, and had held regular meetings, thus being the pioneer Church of the town. The first pastors were not regularly stationed ones, but were of that itinerant class, called circuit preachers, and a Mr. Wheeler is believed to be the first to exhort this little band of Christian men and women who had determined to raise a Church in the wilderness. In 1859 the first regular pastor assumed charge, the Church being then made a station of the Methodist Church, having been heretofore only supplied by circuit preachers. Among those who have preached here since are: Revs. Brainerd, Walker, Nuzum, De Lap, Cook, Hill, Chase, Brooks, Manuel, Irish, McKay, Sturgis, Burnip and J. D. Tull. Rev. A. L. Tull is the present pastor. The church edifice was commenced in 1872, and was completed early in 1873, being dedicated on the 2d of March, by the Rev. Mr. Fal-low. W. H. Downs was the first class leader, A. B. Weigley is the present one.

#### THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

This society was organized in 1866, and for a few years worshiped in the court house under the ministrations of the Rev. W. C. Wright, who was the first pastor, to whom the society owed its inception. He was an able, energetic worker in the ripe fields of the Master, and was not afraid to put his hands to the plough. This little band of Christians determined to erect a building in which to worship and in the same year set about the task, digging the excavation for the foundation walls. There were not many moneyed men in the congregation and contributions came in slowly and the work on the church was suspended from time to time for want of funds, so that it was not until the summer of 1870, that it was finished. Sunday,

Nov. 1, 1870, the church was dedicated by W. C. Wright, formerly pastor, assisted by Revs. J. W. Fish, of Fox Lake, Rockwell and Phillips. Rev. G. D. Stevens was the pastor of this Church for some years and was instrumental in the completion of the church. The church edifice is a fine large structure, 36x60 feet in dimension, and built of brick on a foundation of stone, with a high, light and roomy basement, which is used for school purposes. Instead of having the building put up by contract, the board of trustees, the first the Church had, consisting of the following gentlemen: O. W. Gibbs, S. B. Pennell, J. S. Wilson, G. D. Stevens and G. L. Laws, determined to erect it themselves, which they did. The cost of the edifice was about \$6,000, and is the finest building of the kind in the county. The Church has been without a pastor for some time, but W. S. Sweet supplies the pulpit occasionally.

#### ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The first mass was said to be held at the house of Patrick Meehan, in 1858, by Father Manderger, from Linden. Services were not held regularly, and sometimes three months passed without meetings. Father Francis Stokes, from Mazomanie, Father Murphy, from Crawford county, and Fathers Corney, Walsh and Bernard, held services at different times in private houses. In 1866 L. D. Gage donated ground for a church and cemetery, and soon afterward Father Bean, then pastor at Keyesville, erected a small church. In 1872 Father Francis Heller had the building enlarged to its present size. Father Heller was succeeded by Father A. Mendl, Aug. 10, 1874. In November, 1874, Father Heiss became pastor, and on the 16th of January, 1878, Father Henry Koenig, the present pastor, took charge. The Church has flourished and is now in excellent condition.

#### CEMETERY.

In 1854 a committee, consisting of C. W. Huntingdon, Charles Nelson and others, was appointed to lay out a cemetery ground, and

they, for some unaccountable reason, selected a piece of ground on a rocky knoll, section 16, in Schoolcraft, which was seemingly the most unsuitable place in the whole valley for that purpose. A rocky, stony soil, into which the spade could only go for some three or four feet, and that only by the severest labor; exposed to all the elements in the worst shape imaginable. The site selected did not meet the views of the people of the village, who naturally wanted a more beautiful and convenient ground. In the spring of 1856 a meeting of the citizens was called to devise means to change the location of the burial ground. This subject for a while engrossed the whole population, and much deliberation and wrangling ensued. Some half a dozen public meetings were held, and at last an organization was effected and a committee was appointed to select the spot for the future cemetery. The committee reported that they had selected block 29, in the addition to the village known as Schoolcraft's, which was adopted and the necessary improvements made to secure the grounds and beautify the last resting place. The cemetery lies on the slope of a gentle acclivity facing the west, and is most beautifully laid out, dotted with evergreen and deciduous trees, and beds of lovely plants and flowers. The first officers of the association were: Caleb Waggoner, president, and James H. Miner, secretary and treasurer. The sale of lots and all business connected with the cemetery now lies in the hands of W. Harry Pier, who is the present secretary and treasurer.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY.

When in February, 1859, L. D. Gage gave to the Church of this communion the ground for a church, he donated sufficient land for the cemetery, which is attached and lies just north of the grounds owned by the Richland Center Cemetery Association, and is also beautifully laid out and well kept. Here in consecrated ground lie the bodies of those who have died in full accord with the Church. The cemetery is,



as usual, under the control of the priest of the parish.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Richland Lodge, No. 118, was instituted at the village of Richland Center, Jan. 17, 1861, with eleven charter members, as follows: George Krouskop, D. S. Hamilton, F. P. Bowen, J. H. Waggoner, James H. Haskins, W. M. Fogo, J. H. Harrington, Joseph B. McGrew, Henry T. Bailey, Oscar F. Black and A. H. Krouskop. George Krouskop was the first noble grand of the lodge.

The lodge now numbers fifty-two members, and is in a fine, flourishing condition. They have a hall, which is fitted up with the paraphernalia of the order, and holds a fine library belonging to the lodge. This latter is a pet hobby of W. C. S. Barron's, the grand patriarch of the State, who is a member of this lodge, who instituted the same by soliciting the members to each donate what books they could. They all entered into the scheme and a nucleus was formed; donations were also solicited from other grand officers, who all responded freely, notably J. B. Ostrander and John G. Clark; Hon. George C. Hazleton, the ex-member of Congress from the district, has also placed the lodge under obligations for donations of books. The present officers are: George Clark, N. G.; A. W. Maly, V. G.; John Brimer, secretary; Seth Butler, treasurer.

Richland Encampment, No. 40, was instituted Jan. 8, 1871, with the following charter members: J. M. Adams, D. G. James, J. B. McGrew, G. W. Jarvis, N. L. James, W. C. S. Barron and John Hazel. The first officers were: Norman L. James, C. P.; J. M. Adams, H. P.; George Jarvis, S. W.; W. C. S. Barron, J. W.; D. G. James, T., and J. A. Hazel, scribe. The encampment meets in the same hall as the lodge, as do all the lodges of the order in the village. A large average attendance and the interest betrayed in the work show a healthy state of the organization. The present officers are: A. W. Maly, C. P.; Seth Butler, H. P.; W.

Collins, S. W.; Monroe Vreeland, J. W.; J. Bass, scribe; J. H. Van Riper, treasurer.

Brasted Uniformed Degree Camp, No. 6, was instituted Feb. 7, 1883, with the following charter members: William Collins, Seth Butler, M. Vreeland, F. H. Tuttle, G. J. H. Van Riper, M. Brodwright, John Brimer, A. G. Tuttle, A. W. Maly, W. C. S. Barron and J. Bass. The officers are: W. C. S. Barron, commander; G. J. H. Van Riper, vice commander; John Brimer, officer of the guard; W. Collins, secretary; Seth Butler, treasurer.

Amanda Lodge, No. 75, Rebecca degree, was organized and instituted Dec. 1, 1882. The following are the charter members; Brothers, W. C. S. Barron, John M. Hennon, George M. Clark, William Collins, F. C. Pennell, Seth Butler, S. Penoyer, J. M. Brimer, M. Brodwright, W. F. Doudna and A. S. Hayes. Sisters, Amanda Barron, Josie Clark, Alice Collins, R. Pennell, Margaret Butler, Fannie Penoyer, Nancy Brimer, Mary Doudna, Sarah Hayes and Delphinia Hennon. The officers are George Clark, N. G.; Fannie Penoyer, V. G.; Seth Butler, treasurer; Josie Clark, P. secretary; S. Penoyer, recording secretary.

#### ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN.

As this is a comparatively new order, a brief account of its origin and object may not be inappropriate in this connection. On the 5th day of November, 1868, some fourteen gentlemen assembled at Meadville, Penn., and organized the first lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. The motive that prompted them was a pure and unselfish one, and their plan of operations is the very best to carry out the purpose for which the order is intended—that of "charity, hope and protection." From the date of organization the order grew slowly, until July 4, 1870, when the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was instituted at Meadville, in that State. The order then began to extend into all the different States and now is fully recognized in nearly every State and territory.

It is a benevolent order, not unlike the Odd Fellows, helping the widow and orphan and helping the sick. A distinguishing feature is the insurance, a payment of \$2,000 to the heirs of a deceased member at his demise. The money is raised by assessment on the members and the life insurance is thus furnished at the actual cost.

Center Lodge, No. 70, of this order, was instituted at Richland Center, in July, 1879, by A. H. Taisey, with the following charter members: Seth Butler, I. S. Hazeltine, A. S. Hayes, Cyrus Tryon, John Winn, Charles Speidel, B. Dodge Bailey, Robert Bailey, Jr., James Jones, Arthur D. Lane, James Kinney, Albert Schmidt, D. B. Sommers, James S. Smith, M. B. Burtch, W. C. S. Barron, A. W. Maly, Samuel C. Hyatt, A. G. Tuttle, Homer J. Clark, D. L. Noble, A. M. Stratton, A. P. Clayton, P. S. Brewer, S. St. John, Albert Herple, Arthur Culver, D. E. O. Bird, John Huston and W. H. Waters.

The following were elected the initial officers of the lodge: Warren C. S. Barron, W. M.; D. L. Noble, financier; Homer J. Clark, receiver; S. St. John, overseer. The present officers are: W. C. S. Barron, P. M. W.; A. S. Hayes, M. W.; Seth Butler, overseer; Samuel C. Hyatt, financier; John Winn, receiver. Meetings are held every second and fourth Friday's of each month, and a large attendance is noted. This lodge is in a fine flourishing condition, and is growing rapidly in the estimation of the general community and already numbers among its members, many of the very best citizens of the town.

#### TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The first temperance society in Richland Center was organized in the fall of 1856, and of its institution the following has been gathered:

At a gathering of the ladies belonging to the sewing circle of that village, Mrs. Israel Sanderson, the wife of the editor of the newspaper, introduced the subject of temperance and it was discussed in all its bearings, and it was determined to form an association for the pro-

mulgation of the doctrine of total abstinence. A meeting being soon after held, a large number were present and the organization was perfected and the following officers chosen: Mrs. Israel Sanderson, president; Mrs. James H. Miner, secretary. On the 26th of December the following preamble and resolutions were adopted in lieu of a constitution, which were signed by the parties whose names are appended below, as evidence of their membership:

#### LADIES TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

"WHEREAS, We, the ladies of Richland Center, knowing well the evils that result from the sale and use of spirituous liquors, and as this demoralizing traffic is becoming so very common in our midst, and as the temperance men of this community have so far found it impossible to sustain a prosecution against the sale of liquors, without license, we consider ourselves and families in personal danger, and as we feel that something must be done, for the present and future welfare of this community; therefore, we do hereby pledge ourselves to the following resolutions, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That we will not, from this date, trade at any establishment which is known to be directly or indirectly engaged in the traffic of spirituous liquors, as a beverage.

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to immediately call on the town board of supervisors and the district attorney and request them to prosecute every individual, to them known, who sells intoxicating liquors in violation of law.

"*Resolved*, That every female of the age of fourteen and upwards, in the village, be requested to join our league and sign these resolutions.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions, with our names, be published in the Richland County *Observer*."

Mrs. N. A. Hawkins, Mrs. M. Sanderson, Mrs. S. A. Price, Mrs. E. A. Wilson, Mrs. M. Statser, Mrs. J. L. McKee, Mrs. E. P. Yongg, Mrs. Sarah Straight, Mrs. Amelia Kifer, Mrs. Jane Nawthrop, Mrs. Mary Wilson, Mrs. Harriet

N. Pelton, Mrs. Jane Mears, Mrs. L. A. Nudd, Mrs. Eliza A. James, Mrs. Sarah A. Northrop, Mrs. B. A. Downs, Miss Josephine Price, Miss Sophia Garwood, Miss E. M. Strickland, Miss Sarah Short, Miss C. Fries, Miss Margaret J. Davis, Miss Emma C. Wilson, Miss Cassa Farrow, Miss E. J. Kinney, Miss M. N. Letson, Miss Maria Norman, Miss M. Ann Clagg, Miss Doreas E. Edson, Miss Maria Short, Miss Marian Fries, Miss Eliza E. Meehan, Mrs. Laura A. Bright, Mrs. Marian Thompson, Mrs. Laura Royce, Mrs. Augusta Hazeltine, Mrs. Anna M. Hamilton, Mrs. M. D. Clagg, Mrs. L. Morton, Mrs. Caroline Rose, Mrs. Phebe Hayes, Mrs. Elizabeth Fries, Mrs. Jane N. Wilson, Mrs. Eliza Marshall, Mrs. Margaret Adair, Mrs. Margaret Hankins, Mrs. L. E. James, Mrs. S. A. Miner, Mrs. Barbara Davis, Mrs. Cholerton, Mrs. L. Priest, Mrs. Mary J. Huston, Mrs. Nancy Waggoner, Mrs. Sarah Hoge, Mrs. Mary Neff, Mrs. Eliza Huntington, Mrs. L. Wright, Mrs. E. C. Arey, Mrs. E. Janney, Mrs. H. S. Wood, Mrs. C. D. Rank, Mrs. Mary B. Howland, Mrs. Sarah A. Gaston, Mrs. R. Hamilton, Miss M. S. Kinney, Miss S. Jane Clagg, Miss Nancy H. Drewet, Miss Mary J. Brees, Miss Pleasant J. Janney and Mrs. Sarah Hamilton.

#### GOOD TEMPLARS.

A lodge of this order was instituted at Richland Center, in February, 1857, by George Jarvis, of Richland City, acting as deputy for the district, assisted by Mr. Hawley of Madison. Dr. O. H. Wood was installed as worthy chief templar, and Mrs. Wood as worthy vice templar. The names of the charter members, so far as we have been able to obtain, are as follows: Mrs. Eliza James, Alonzo G. James, Mrs. Sarah A. Miner, Amos Nudd, Mrs. L. A. Nudd, Caleb Waggoner, G. H. James, Mrs. Eliza James, C. W. Huntington, B. R. Howland, William Wilson, Ira S. Hazeltine, Augusta Hazeltine, George Young, Mrs. Nancy Waggoner and A. H. Bush. This lodge ran until in 1862 or 1863 and was known as Excelsior Lodge, No. 36, I. O. G. T., it then gently expired and the town

was without an organization of the order until the organization of the present one, known as Fidelity Lodge, No. 237, I. O. G. T., and which was instituted in accordance with a charter, dated Jan. 23, 1877, with the following charter members: George Jarvis, Susan Smith, Eliza A. James, Josie C. Downs, Mrs. M. H. Shurtleff, Frank E. Smith, Maggie W. Lybrand, Emma Liek, Stephen J. Smith, Kate G. Downs, O. W. Gibbs, G. N. Mickel, Emma Tuttle, Charles F. James, Mary L. Bundy, F. H. Tuttle, Sarah Jarvis, A. G. James, Michael Murphy, W. S. Sweet, C. Waggoner, C. F. Walker, L. E. James, Rosa E. James, Jane Weigley, A. B. Weigley, Rosa E. Rouse, E. H. Burnham, Ella L. Pease, R. C. Lybrand, Fannie Jarvis, Edward Gibbs and W. J. McKay. The first officers chosen were: George Jarvis, W. C. T.; Maggie W. Lybrand, W. V. T.; O. W. Gibbs, P. W. C. T.; F. H. Tuttle, W. F. S.; Kate G. Downs, W. S.; Michael Murphy, W. A. S.; Eliza James, W. T.; W. J. McKay, W. C.; G. W. Mickel, W. M.; Mary L. Bundy, W. D. M.; Emma Liek, W. I. G.; Charles F. James, W. O. G.; Susan E. Smith, W. R. H. S.; Emma Tuttle, W. L. H. S. The lodge holds its meeting each week, in what is known as Templars' Hall, which is occupied, in common, by all the temperance organizations. There is a large membership and good attendance, and no doubt helps materially in the good temperance work done in the town.

There is also a juvenile lodge of temperance known as Star of Hope Temple, No. 71, which was organized March 15, 1878, and meets in the same hall as the other temperance organizations. P. H. Fay was instrumental in its institution, and remains at present the superintendent. Quite a lively interest is taken by the children, in the work, and under the head of "good of the order," much pleasant amusement is brought out.

A new lodge of good templars was organized early in May, 1883, at the Pine River church, which, although not in the town of Richland Center, lies but about two miles from it, and

in this township. It was named Pacific Lodge, No. 256. Meetings are held every Saturday evening and a pleasant time had. The following is a list of the officers: Edwin Glasier, W. C. T.; Mrs. William Starkey, W. V. T.; John Glasier, W. S.; Arthur Glasier, W. F. S.; Robert Clements, W. T.; R. Davis, W. C.; Ella Davis, W. M.; Elmer Davis, W. G.; Maud Miller, W. S.; Mrs. Phil Miller, W. A. S.; Mrs. R. Clements, W. D. M.; Ellen Cook, W. R. H. S.; Libbie Wilkins, W. L. H. S.; James Davis, lodge deputy.

Richland Temple of Honor, No. 192, was organized Aug. 3, 1878, with the following charter members: H. St. John, S. Sherman, F. E. Smith, M. L. Sherman, W. H. Waters, R. J. Wilson, C. Waggoner, J. M. Waggoner, Frank Walworth, W. W. Welton, A. B. Weigley, J. H. Weigley, E. A. Weigley, C. Weigley, Sidney Arnold, Samuel Arnold, Seth Butler, George W. Barry, Daniel Barry, F. W. Burnham, A. A. Bulard, George Clark, D. O. Chandler, C. Culver, E. M. Chandler, W. H. Cholerton, Victor Clark, H. A. Culver, H. W. Eastland, W. M. Fogo, O. W. Gibbs, E. T. Gibbs, J. W. Gibbons, H. Gaston, M. Healy, A. S. Hayes, S. C. Hyatt, A. Hyatt, J. H. Houghton, M. D. Hanks, R. R. Hamilton, Henry Lewis, George Jarvis, R. C. Lybrand, M. Lovering, F. P. Lawrence, J. W. Lybrand, J. W. Liek, E. H. Liscum, G. R. Mitchell, J. L. McKee, Oliver G. Munson, A. W. Maly, Fred McCormick, D. G. Pease, Philip Rolfe, E. Rolfe, W. Rouse, L. B. Smith, S. J. Smith, J. W. Smith and C. Speidel. This organization is in quite a flourishing condition, and it is but just to say, that, to the work of the order is due the present state of prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors in the village. A large membership gathers in the hall of meeting. The present officers are: Oliver G. Munson, W. C. T.; A. J. Kinney, W. V. T.; O. W. Gibbs, W. R.; George M. Clark, W. A. S.; N. H. Dillingham, W. F. R.; Charles Speidel, W. T.; Aaron Sharp, W. U.; O. H. Northrup, W. D. U.; M. Lovering, W. G.; S. Porter, W. S.

#### MILITIA.

During the latter days of the great civil war between the States, a strong effort was made to organize a company of what was then termed "home guards," probably because they stayed at home, and Aug. 26, 1864, a company was formed and organized, under the high-sounding and euphonious name of "Richland County Union Badgers." About sixty-four were enrolled in the organization. E. H. Liscum was elected captain, and George Jarvis and J. M. McMurtrey first and second lieutenants. From all that we can gather this company did not prosper very well, and Capt. Liscum resigning, Elam Bailey was elected in his stead. After a little time, however, the organization gave up the ghost and there has been no attempt to revive it as yet.

#### WOMEN'S CLUB.

This association was organized in June, 1882, by the ladies of Richland Center. The object of the society is, as laid down by the constitution, "to suggest and develop plans for social, intellectual, industrial, educational and philanthropic interests, to the end that we may have better homes, better health, better charities, better laws, better service for humanity and God." At the date of the organization the following officers were elected: Mrs. Julia A. Bowen, president; Mrs. G. N. Matteson, Mrs. M. McMurtrey and Mrs. Georgia James, vice presidents; Mrs. Laura James, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Victoria Layton, recording secretary. Saturday June 2, 1883, the first annual anniversary meeting and appropriate exercises were held in the Baptist church. The programme for the occasion was as follows:

Prayer—Rev. J. D. Tull.

Address of Welcome—Julia A. Bowen.

Letters of Greeting—Read by Members.

Essay, Woman in the Home—Lucy Pier.

Select Reading, "How the Women went from Dover"—Mrs. H. B. Allen.

Woman in Journalism—Jennie Lamberson.

Song—"New America."

Select Reading, Hagar in the Wilderness"—Mary Vedder.

Hygiene—Amelia Smith.

Woman's Work for Woman—Ada Lamsou.



*A. J. Clark*



Recitation, "Saving Mother"—Vira Pease.

Woman in Politics—P. H. Fay.

Woman in Temperance—Emma Pilling.

Song.

"Woman before the Law—H. A. Eastland.

Justice—Laura James.

Queries and Answers—Eva James.

Woman in the Pulpit—S. B. Loomis.

Comparative Merits of Collegiate and Business Education—  
Maria Fowler, Victoria Layton, Profs. Smith and Sweet.

Going to 'Lecture—Lillie Wood.

Song.

The interest in the club has continually increased and many members say that they "should" not know what to do without the club."

#### SOCIETY OF THE SIXTH WISCONSIN BATTERY.

Among the associations of the county, that of the 6th Wisconsin Battery must not be forgotten. This society was organized in its present shape Oct. 3, 1876, when the "boys of the battery held a re-union at Spring Green.

#### GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The W. H. Bennett Post of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized on the 26th of May, 1882, N. B. Hood, of Henry Dillon Post No. 24, assisted by comrades of the same post officiating. The following named were the first officers and charter members: D. G. James, commander; Irvin Gribble, senior vice commander; B. C. Hallin, junior vice commander; George Jarvis, O. D.; Christian Berger, quartermaster; A. J. Kinney, O. G.; H. J. Wall, surgeon; John Walworth, chaplain; J. G. Bunnell, adjutant; M. L. Sherman, sergeant major; Lewis Henry, Q. M. S.; Thomas B. Adams, Frank Hapgood, N. L. James, A. Lillybridge, J. W. Leik, Ira Monroe, O. H. Northrup, G. W. Putnam, A. S. Ripley, D. L. Downs and A. Hyatt. The following named have been mustered in since the organization: John Cassady, A. W. Robinson, Edwin Berry, M. Gorman, Henry Pauls, Lee McMurtrey, Hiram Freeman, Chris. Burwitz, Joseph Miller, E. Morris, John Akan, John Flamme, Lewis Miller, W. H. Waters, E. Dunston, D. Chismore, J. W. Webley, Anthony Braneman, Abram Miller, Jacob Marsh, S. C. Hyatt, Henry Sigrist, Isaac B. Reeve, J. W. Smith, Henry A. Culver, George

W. Miller, T. M. McCarthy, W. H. Joslin, Frank Patch and O. Klingler. In 1883 the officers of the post were: D. G. James, commander; Chris. Berger, senior vice commander; B. C. Hallin, junior vice commander; George Jarvis, O. D.; John Walworth, chaplain; H. J. Wall, surgeon; Irvin Gribble, Q. M.; M. L. Sherman, adjutant; T. B. Adams, O. G.; J. W. Smith, S. M.; Lewis Henry, Q. M. S. The post now has a membership of fifty-four and is in good condition. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

Henry Bennett was born Oct. 25, 1837, in the town and county of Medina, Ohio. He came with his parents in 1846 to the territory of Wisconsin, and settled in Dane county. He removed to Jefferson county in 1852 and to Richland county in 1855. In 1861 he enlisted in company H, 5th Wisconsin, as a private, from which he was promoted to the 25th for gallantry in action at the battle of Williamsburg, Va., and in McClellan's calamitous engagements in front of Richmond in 1862. His frankness, geniality and companionable qualities are well known by all his comrades and the citizens of Richland county. Mr. Bennett was one among many others who gave up his life in a southern prison that his country might be saved. It was in honor of this brave man and the kindly recollection of days gone by, that the G. A. R. Post of Richland Center was named. The name of no comrade will be longer remembered by the boys of the post than that of W. H. Bennett.

#### MASONIC.

Richland Lodge, No. 66, A. F. & A. M., was organized under a dispensation; and the first lodge met at the house of D. B. Priest on the 27th of March, 1856. There were present: D. B. Priest, W. M.; James H. Miner, S. W.; L. D. Gage, J. W.; Phineas Janney, S. D.; John Hazle, J. D.; William Short, treasurer; William Akan, secretary and David Barrett, tyler. The lodge was granted a charter on the 12th of June, 1856, and on the 1st of July, the first officers were installed by D. L. Downs, D. D. G. M.; as

follows: D. B. Priest, W. M.; James H. Miner, S. W., and L. D. Gage, J. W. On the 14th of August, 1856, the lodge elected the following officers: William Short, treasurer; G. W. Hawkins, secretary; John Hazle, S. D.; William Akan, J. D.; George Young, tyler, and W. F. Crawford and John Lawrence, stewards. Since the organization of the lodge the following named have served as master. D. B. Priest, L. D. Gage, James H. Miner, R. C. Hawkins, D. B. Priest, D. L. Downs, James H. Miner, D. L. Downs, W. J. Bowen, D. L. Downs, James H. Miner, G. L. Laws, D. L. Downs, G. L. Laws, D. L. Downs, W. C. S. Bickford, N. L. James, W. C. S. Barron and Jesse G. Bunnell. The lodge now has a membership of about sixty-five, and meets on the first and third Thursdays in each month. In 1883 the officers were: Jesse G. Bunnell, W. M.; H. B. Allen, S. W.; F. W. Burnham, J. W., W. H. Pier, treasurer; R. Sutton, secretary; W. C. S. Barron, S. D.; B. F. Brimer, J. D.; John Walworth, chaplain, and Ira Monroe, tyler.

#### HAY SCALES COMPANY.

The following report of a meeting explains itself, and will be an interesting article to all who participated, as the fact of the existence of the Hay Scales company has almost been forgotten:

“RICHLAND CENTER, July 28, 1860.

“The following stockholders of the hay scales met at W. H. Downs’ store, according to the notice which had been given. R. C. Hawkins, F. P. Bowen, D. G. Pease, W. H. Downs, J. L. McKee, H. C. Priest, S. H. Austin, W. Hill, A. B. Weigley, John Fitzgerald and J. W. and G. D. Lybrand. The meeting organized by the election of R. C. Hawkins as chairman, and W. H. Downs, secretary, pro. tem. It was voted that this association be called the ‘Richland Center Scale Association.’ On motion it was voted that the officers of this association consist of one president, one secretary, one treasurer, one weighmaster, and a board of directors composed of three members of the association.

Voted that we proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and after balloting, the following officers were declared elected: J. L. McKee, president; George D. Lybrand, secretary; William Hill treasurer and weighmaster; H. C. Priest, John Fitzgerald and F. P. Bowen, directors.

“Voted that the scales be located on the northwest corner of William Hill’s lot, with the beam facing the south, and the scales be placed far enough back from the sidewalk to place a gutter or sluice-way between the scales and sidewalk. Mr. Hill made a proposition to act as weighmaster as long as the scales remained where located, in consideration of one equal share. He to have an equal share of the dividends, if any, and share the losses if any. The proposition was accepted. Voted that the president appoint a committee of three to draft a constitution and by-laws. The president appointed W. H. Downs, John Fitzgerald and G. D. Lybrand. Voted that the weighmaster be authorized to charge twelve and a half cents for each draft. Voted to adjourn to meet at William Hill’s shop, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 1860.”

R. C. HAWKINS,

President, pro. tem.

W. H. DOWNS, Sec’y, pro tem.”

#### PERSONAL SKETCHES.

The subjects of the following personal sketches, are, for the larger portion, of those who came to the town and city of Richland at an early day, and have watched with tender care for many years the growth of their favorite town and city.

James J. Soule came to the county in June, 1848, and first stopped at Rockbridge, where he worked in a saw-mill. He also run lumber on the Pine river. About two years after settling in the county, in partnership with W. H. Joslin, he purchased of James Baxter a claim in town of Henrietta, and engaged in making shingles. Nov. 2, 1851, he married Fannie M. Thompson, daughter of Aaron B. and Lydia Thompson. On the 22d of the same month,



they went to Henrietta and made a settlement with the nearest neighbor three miles distant. Two weeks later, they were driven away by the Indians, and removed to Rockbridge, where they lived until the following spring. Then in company with another family, they moved back to Henrietta, and resided there till the fall of 1852, then moved down Pine river. In 1855 they settled on Little Willow, and there lived for one year. Then removed to Yellow river, and a year later to Pine river valley, where the family has since resided. The farm is located on section 10, and consists of eighty acres. Mr. and Mrs. Soule are the parents of eight children—Harriet E., David F., Emma A., Louisa E., George W., Mary E., Luella and William F. Mr. Soule was born in La Fayette Co., Wis., Feb. 1, 1828. His parents were John L. and Hannah Soule. He resided in his native county and in Jo Daviess Co., Ill., previous to coming to Richland. Politically he is a democrat. Mrs. Soule was born in St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., and accompanied her father to Richland county in May, 1851.

Major W. H. Joslin was born in Ypsilanti, Mich., on the 5th day of September, 1829. He came with his parents to Wisconsin, but did not come to Richland county until 1848, which was one year after the family had settled on Ash creek. In 1852 he married Margaret M. Gillan. She is a daughter of Charles and Clarinda Gillan, and was born in Illinois, but came with her parents to Wisconsin when two years of age. One year after marriage Mr. Joslin settled in the town of Henrietta, and engaged in farming until 1858, in which year he was elected county sheriff. He then removed to Richland Center and served the people one term, when he again resumed farming. He subsequently spent one year in Colorado, but his family did not leave the county. In August, 1862, enthused with the patriotism for his country, he raised a company of men of which he was chosen captain, and in September following, mustered into service as company B, of the

25th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. One year later Capt. Joslin was promoted to major, which rank he held until June, 1865, when he was mustered out of service and by brevet was given the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Returning from service he again engaged in farming, and in 1868 was elected county treasurer and served as such for two consecutive terms, then again returned to the farm, also followed milling at Bowen's mills. In 1880 he represented his district in the Assembly, and since January, 1882, has been assistant superintendent of public property at Madison. But his family resides at Richland Center. Thus it can be seen that Major Joslin has been prominently connected with the interests of the county for a quarter of a century. He was a brave soldier, an efficient officer, a good citizen and has a host of friends. In politics he has acted with the republican party since its organization. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the G. A. R. and a Knight Templar. The children are—Mary A., now the wife of John W. Bowen; Frank W., James G., Henry C. and Hattie C., twins, Susie B. and May.

Elisha Bovee, a minister in the United Brethren Church, was born in Boone Co., Ind., March 13, 1840, and was but nine years of age when his parents emigrated to Richland county. Here he grew to manhood, receiving his early education in the pioneer schools. At sixteen years of age he united with the United Brethren Church, and when eighteen years of age, commenced preaching. He remained at home with his parents until twenty years of age, assisting his father on the farm. In the meantime he was diligently pursuing his studies. When twenty-three years of age he was married to Victoria Potter. She was born near Toronto, Canada. When twenty years of age, with Elder Potts as his assistant, he associated on Rutland circuit in Dane, Green and Rock counties. In 1867 he and his wife entered Milton College where they studied three years. He then went to Elroy as missionary to build up a

cause which was then in its infancy. His work there was in Monroe, Juneau and Vernon counties. He labored there three years; during that time the Elroy Seminary was established and Millard's Prairie church was also built. From Elroy Mr. and Mrs. Bovee entered Western College, in Iowa, and studied there one year. They returned to Richland county and he was appointed in charge of Richland Circuit for three years. During this time there were about 500 conversions made and about 300 of this number joined the United Brethren Churches of this circuit. He was then elected presiding elder of the east district Wisconsin Conference. He had charge of Bird's Creek circuit one year. Since that time he has been engaged as an evangelist with marked success; laboring in Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. In his work he has been ably assisted by his wife. She is a lady of great natural endowment and refinement, well educated, is a graduate of Western College and of the Northwestern Business College. She is well known as an expert in penmanship and can show some of the finest specimens of ornamental flourishes and pen portraits ever produced in Richland county. While at Elroy she was, for one year, in charge of the commercial department of that school, and has served as a private tutor a great deal of the time. She is at present president of the Woman's Missionary Society for the United Brethren Church for the State of Wisconsin.

William Schurman resides on section 36, and his real estate comprises 400 acres, with as good improvements as can be found in the county. He is engaged in dairying, and keeps about sixty cows. He manufactures creamery butter and Sap Sago. Mr. Schurman is a native of Germany, born in Duisburg on the river Rhine. In 1849 he married Caroline Weegmann, soon after emigrating to the United States and became one of the pioneers of Richland county. He first resided on Ash creek, but his brother had entered a part of section 36, town of Richland, sometime

previous. Mr. Schurman also owns the only one-half share of Sextonville mills. It can truly be said that his life has been a success. Mr. and Mrs. Schurman have reared six children, five of whom are now living. Their eldest son, Henry, was killed in the Sextonville mill when about twenty-five years old. The family are members of the Evangelical Association. Two daughters have married clergymen, and one son is preaching the gospel.

William Wulfing arrived in Richland county on the 25th day of May, 1849, and soon purchased the west half of the northwest quarter of section 16, town 9, range 1 east, of the 4th principal meridian. Here he erected a log cabin and commenced pioneer life and continued tilling the soil with considerable success until 1876, when he rented his farm to his son, removed to Richland Center and has since given his attention to the office of justice of the peace. He is a democrat in politics, and while a resident of Orion served as town treasurer nine years and several terms as justice of the peace. Mr. Wulfing was born near the river Rhine in Prussia, was bred to mercantile life, and April 16, 1844, married Constance Sigrist. In 1849 he emigrated to the United States and settled as above stated. Mr. and Mrs. Wulfing have reared twelve children, ten now living—William, Eugene, Frank, Richard, George, Constance, now the wife of Charles Hoole; Mary, now the wife of M. L. Babb; Henrietta, now the wife of Clark Brown; Emily, now the wife of Norman Bennett, and Theodora.

Durfee Bovee, to whom belongs the honor of being the first settler in the territory which now comprises the town of Richland, made his first visit here in 1848, and at that time entered eighty acres on the southeast quarter of section 34. He then returned to Boone Co., Ind., and in June, 1849, removed his family, wife and three children, to Wisconsin and took up their abode on the land which he had previously entered. It was covered with thick brush and timber and they had an extensive experience of

pioneer life, before it was brought under cultivation, but Mr. Bovee was equal to the emergency, and persevered, until he now owns 240 acres, and a comfortable residence with good surroundings. Mr. Bovee was born in Rensselaer Co., N. Y., Feb. 27, 1812, and resided in his native State until 1836, when he emigrated to Indiana, when in 1837 he married Anna Duncan. He then followed farming in Boone county, until he came to this State. Mr. and Mrs. Bovee have reared five children, four of whom are now living—Elisha, Mary, now the wife of D. C. Wood; Samuel and David W. Their religious connections are with the United Brethren Church.

Hon. Ira S. Haseltine was born July 13, 1821, at Andover, Windsor Co., Vt. His ancestors were of English origin. He received a common school and academic education. At the age of sixteen he removed with his parents to Waukesha Co., Wis. After one year upon his father's farm he taught school three years, then studied law in Milwaukee with D. J. A. Upham. He taught school in Natchez, Miss., became a public lecturer upon scientific and reformatory subjects, and spent about ten years in this field of labor. He was married Jan. 1, 1846, to Augusta Thomas, in Waukesha Co., Wis. In 1850 he purchased land in Richland county where he surveyed and platted the village of Richland Center. In July, 1854, Mr. Haseltine was a delegate from Richland county to the first republican State convention held in the United States at Madison, Wis. In 1867 he was elected by the republican party to represent the county in the assembly. In the winter of 1870 he went south and located upon a farm near Springfield, Greene Co., Mo. His home is now at Dorchester, Mo. In 1876 Mr. Haseltine was a candidate for Congress on the Peter Cooper ticket and made the first canvass of the sixth congressional convention as a greenbacker. In 1880 he was made the nominee of the greenback convention at Carthage on the 27th of May, and was elected to the 47th

Congress. In 1882 Mr. Haseltine was again a candidate for Congress and was defeated by Robert W. Fyan, democrat.

John Waddell was one of the first settlers in the northern part of Richland county, coming in 1850 to Richmond City, where he bought a lot and erected a small house and spent the first winter. In the spring of 1852 he moved to the site of his present farm on section 5, town of Richland, at that time an unbroken wilderness, built a log shanty, which he covered with bark, split puncheons for the floor, and furnished with home-made furniture. The bedstead was made of poles and a bed-cord manufactured out of bark. The first season he cleared a small tract of land and chopped in garden seeds, thus preparing for the winter. The first three or four years he had no team and his breaking was all done with a hoe, and the most of it by his wife and children, while he was away at work, earning money with which to pay for his land. His industry has been rewarded and he now has a good farm and a comfortable, well furnished frame house, and can spend the remainder of his life in ease and comfort. Mr. Waddell is a native of West Virginia, born in Pocahontas county, Feb. 20, 1811. When he was two years old his parents moved to Ohio and settled in Gallia county, which was at that time a new country. Thus the subject of this sketch became a pioneer in his infancy. He grew to manhood there and Sept. 26, 1833, was married to Sarah Hughes. She was born in Gallia Co., Ohio, Dec. 15, 1816. He had previously purchased land in Perry township, of that county, and there he settled at the time of his marriage, where he remained three years, then traded for a farm in Raccoon township. In 1848 he sold his property in Ohio, came to Wisconsin and claimed government land on Sauk prairie, Sauk county, where he lived one year, then went to Baraboo woods and made a claim and erected a house. One year later he traded this property for a small tract of land on Sauk prairie, built a house, which was

burned a few weeks later with most of its contents. He then rented a house in which he lived until the fall of that year, 1850, when, as before stated, he came to Richland county. Mr. and Mrs. Waddell reared eleven children—Myron, Jane, William A., Margaret, Virginia, George A., John H., Thomas, Charles H., Mary and Nathan. John H. was born in Gallia Co., Ohio, in 1846. He enlisted in January, 1862, in the 19th Wisconsin and went south. At the battle of Fair Oaks he was taken prisoner and confined in Libby prison a while, then transferred to Salisbury, N. C., was taken sick while in prison, and died at the Marine hospital, at Annapolis, soon after being exchanged. George was born in May, 1844. He enlisted in the fall of 1861 in the 11th Wisconsin, company B, and participated in seventeen engagements. He contracted disease while in the service from which he died in 1868. Sept. 26, 1883, was the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Waddell. That day they were surprised by a large number of their friends, who assembled to celebrate their golden wedding, and congratulate them on account of such an extended and happy union, and wish them still a happy continued experience so much enjoyed. A celebration of their diamond wedding was a consummation devoutly to be wished. On this festive occasion were present forty children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The aged couple were the recipients of many valuable and useful gifts. A supper was served to which all did ample justice and the day will be long remembered by all present.

Henry Collins, a native of Ohio, was born April 27, 1827. When five years old he removed with his parents to Tippecanoe Co., Ind. He served as a soldier in the Mexican War. He afterwards resided in Clinton Co., Ind., where he became acquainted with Mary Dawson, who, May 6, 1846, became his wife. In December, 1851, he came to Richland county and became a resident, living near Orion two years, then moved to the town of Dayton. In

April, 1860, he went to Pike's Peak and remained until December, 1861, when he returned to his family. In the spring of 1862 he responded to the call of his country by enlisting, and was assigned to the 1st Missouri Light Artillery. At the battle of Corinth he was so injured as to be discharged, in October, 1862. He returned home and remained long enough to regain his health, then re-enlisted in company F, of the 43d Wisconsin regiment, and served till the close of the war, after which he lived upon his farm, but was unable to perform hard labor. He died Feb. 7, 1875. He was politically republican, and held the offices of justice of the peace and assessor. Mrs. Collins was born in Clinton Co., Ind. Her parents were Charles and Mary (Miller) Dawson. She married Mr. Collins, as before stated, and was his faithful companion through life. They were the parents of thirteen children, five of whom arrived at adult years. William F., John D., Calvin L. and Mary May are now living. Charles M., the eldest, enlisted with his father, Sept. 4, 1864, being at the time only seventeen years old. He served as drummer, and died at Clarksville, Tenn., Jan. 6, 1865.

Hon. George Krouskop, one of the pioneer settlers of Richland county, was born in Bellefontaine, Logan Co., Ohio, May 12, 1832. His parents were Jacob and Elizabeth (McCloud) Krouskop. He spent the early part of his life in Ohio, his father's family removing to Richland Co., Wis., in 1851. They located near the village of Sextonville, where his father built a grist and saw-mill, the grist-mill being the first one erected in the county. George Krouskop received a good education in the common schools of his native State, and supplemented this by a thorough academic course at the Geneva College in northern Ohio. His first trip to Richland county was in 1850, when only eighteen years of age. He spent the summer of that year prospecting in this region, but returning to his old home in Ohio in the fall, he became so favorably impressed with the ap-

parent natural advantages and then undeveloped resources of Richland county, which was at that early date in its wild and uncultivated state, that he resolved to make it his future home. When the family came here in 1851 he returned with them. For a year or two he was engaged alternately in teaching school and running his father's saw-mill. In 1854 he embarked in the mercantile business, and laid the foundation for a successful business career by establishing a store on a small scale near the Sextonville mills. Shortly afterwards he purchased the mills, and continued these enterprises until 1865, when he removed to Richland Center, where he also engaged in the mercantile business for a number of years. In 1870 he opened a bank. Mr. Krouskop has always taken a leading part in all public enterprises and improvements which would advance or develop the material resources of the town and county, and has aided them liberally both by his influence and ample means. He was one of the originators and projectors, as well as one of the principal stockholders in the Pine River Valley & Stevens Point railroad, an enterprise that was built wholly by home capital. He was president of the company for several years. Politically, Mr. Krouskop is a democrat. He has served two terms as State Senator in the Wisconsin Legislature, representing the district composed of Richland and Crawford counties, and was each time elected by a handsome majority over his opponent, and in a district that usually gave a large republican majority. Mr. Krouskop was married Nov. 25, 1855, to Elizabeth Black. They have two children—William E., unmarried, and Eliza A., who married J. Robert Coumbe, of Excelsior, Richland Co., Wis.

John Klingler, a native of Kentucky, born Nov. 28, 1810, came from Marion Co., Ind., and on the 23d day of June, 1852, settled on the southwest quarter of section 27, Richland, and there engaged in farming until his death, which

occurred May 6, 1874. He left a wife and five children—Orlow, Martha, now the wife of George W. Miller; Rachel, Frank and John. Mrs. Klingler and her son Frank still reside at the homestead. Orlow Klingler, oldest son of the above, was born in Marion Co., Ind., Aug. 10, 1833. He came with his parents to Wisconsin, and on the 6th of September, 1855, was married to Rachel J. Miller. Aug. 13, 1862, he enlisted in company B, 25th Wisconsin, and served until the regiment was mustered out of service. Since the war he has been engaged in general farming and now owns 235 acres, with first class improvements. Mr. Klingler votes the republican ticket, but takes little interest in political affairs. The only civic society of which he is a member, is the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. and Mrs. Klingler have one daughter—Sarah I.

John Fay is a native of Ireland, born in the town of Gort, county Galway, June 1, 1818, where his childhood and youth were spent. He came to America March 17, 1849, and first settled at Wyoming, Wyoming Co., N. Y. Then on the 16th day of February, 1851, he was united in marriage with Johanna Quinlin, born in Roscrea, county Tipperary, Ireland, June 21, 1823. On the 18th day of October, 1852, they emigrated to Wisconsin, and after living one year at Mineral Point, came to Richland county. On Feb. 16, 1854, Mr. Fay purchased the farm of John T. Higgins, which contained eighty acres, and is located on section 22, Richland town, where he now resides. His farm now contains 120 acres. He is in comfortable circumstance and free from debt. Mr. Fay has spent his life in tilling the soil. He takes a great interest in the education of his children, and is known as an honorable citizen. There are five children living—Thomas J., Francis, Mary B., Emma L. and Josie M.

Sidney Rose came to Richland Center in the fall of 1854, and purchased one-half of block 50, and one-half of block 51. There was a house upon this property, which was built by a

Mr. Hyde, of whom he purchased it. Mr. Rose was a mason by trade, and did the mason work upon the first court house of Richland county. In 1861 he enlisted and served in the regimental band of the 6th Wisconsin regiment eleven months, when that organization disbanded. He has since followed his trade. He was born in Oneida Co., N. Y., Jan. 20, 1818, where he learned his trade, and in 1842 was married to Caroline S. Hamilton, daughter of Fillery Hamilton. In 1844 they came to Wisconsin and lived in Rock county, from whence he came to this county. He now resides in Henrietta, where he owns a farm of 140 acres.

D. O. Chandler, a prominent and representative man of Richland county, settled in the town of Willow in March, 1853, and was there engaged in farming until 1858. He then established a general mercantile business at Loyd, and carried on the same with marked success. In 1865 Mr. Chandler in order to increase his business removed to Richland Center, erected his present store building, and since 1867 has been engaged in the hardware trade. He also owns a one-half interest in the Park Hotel property, and considerable real estate in town lots and farming land. As a business man he has been energetic and enterprising, and these characteristics, coupled with good judgment, have caused him to make good investments, and thus his business career has proved successful. As a gentleman although blunt, and speaking his mind freely when occasion requires, he is pleasant, affable and agreeable, and has many friends. He is a native of the State of New York, born in Hamburg, Erie county, on the 10th day of April, 1828. He was educated to mercantile business, and in 1852 married Hannah Van Vlack of Cattaraugus county, and the year following emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in Richland county as before stated. Mr. and Mrs. Chandler have eight children—Austin J., Eurotus M., Alice J., now Mrs. William Collins; Grace, now Mrs. F. P. Lawrence;

Grant, Lola, May and Gay. Politically Mr. Chandler is a republican, with radical temperance principles. He has often been elected to local offices and always discharged his public duties with honor to himself and satisfaction to the people. He has always been a public spirited man, and a citizen such as benefits a town and county in which he resides. The only society of which he is a member is the Temple of Honor.

Daniel Rice purchased property at Richland Center during the month of August, 1853, and the spring following removed his family from Logan Co., Ohio. For two years he was engaged in the manufacture of brick, then he dealt in live stock, making the first shipment from the county. He remained in this business until 1860, when he engaged in general mercantile trade, and pursued this avocation for twelve years, when he retired from active business life. Mr. Rice was born in France in 1822, but was brought to the United States by his parents when an infant. His early life was spent in Pennsylvania. In 1838 he went to Ohio and followed railroading, learning during his sojourn in that State the trade of machinist. In 1849 he was married to Delia Ladden. They have one daughter—Mollie, now the wife of F. G. Rodolf. Mrs. Rice was the first person to engage in the millinery business in Richland Center, an account of which appears in this volume elsewhere.

William F. Collins, son of Henry Collins, was born in the town of Dayton, Richland Co., July 13, 1854. He received a common school education. October 8, 1877, he married Lottie J. Bryant. She died, leaving one child—W. H. He was again married, Nov. 29, 1882, to Alice J. Chandler. His residence is just outside the village, on section 16, where he owns seventy acres. He is engaged in dairying and selling milk in the village. Mr. Collins is a member of the I. O. O. F.

J. L. McKee is numbered among the pioneers of 1854, having arrived in April of that year,

at Richland City. He was then an unmarried man, and worked the first season for \$14 per month. The next season he taught school for \$25 per month. In 1855 he was married to Mary Simons, daughter of Col. Royal Simons. He then removed to Orion, and in February, 1856, came to Richland Center. In 1857 he engaged in general merchandising with J. W. Lybrand, sold out in 1859, and in 1860 was elected clerk of the circuit court and served two years, then as county treasurer two years. In 1865 he established a general mercantile trade and continued the same until 1878, when he closed out to A. B. Weigley, since which he has lived a retired life. Mr. McKee was born in Beaver Co., Penn., Sept. 3, 1829, and resided in his native State until he came to Wisconsin. His wife died Dec. 13, 1861. Nov. 19, 1863, he married Mrs. Kate Casebeer *nee* Laden, and they have had four children born to them, but one of whom is now living—Frank W. Mr. McKee has been a member of the republican party since its organization. He is a Mason, and served as treasurer of Richland Lodge, No. 66, fifteen years. He was also treasurer of the company which owned the railroad before it was purchased by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company. He is a man of ability, and a good citizen.

B. C. Hallin made his first visit to the county in the summer of 1852, and purchased 160 acres, located on sections 17 and 18, in what is now the town of Akan. He built a log cabin and returned to Millville, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., and followed his trade, stone cutter, until 1854. He then removed with his wife to this county and thus became the first permanent settler of the town of Akan. They experienced many of the hardships of pioneer life. Their log cabin was without a floor for eighteen months, and Mrs. Hallin did not see a white woman for the same period. Their principal food was game, of which there was an abundance. This state of affairs did not long continue, however, for they soon raised vegetables and grain. Mr. Hallin would

go away from home and work at his trade, thus earning money to buy clothing for his wife and babies. In 1864 he enlisted in company A, 36th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, was wounded at the battle of Petersburg, June 18, 1864, and in consequence, had to suffer the amputation of his left arm at the shoulder. While still in the hospital he was nominated by the democratic party for the office of register of deeds, but was defeated with the remainder of the ticket. Returning home he was, however, elected to several town offices at one time, and thus did about all the public business of his town. In 1865 he sold his property and purchased 160 acres of land on section 18, Richland town, where he erected a neat stone residence and has good improvements. He spends most of his time in working at his trade. In 1880 he established a marble business at Richland Center. He is a famous joker, and on being asked how he could cut stone with but one arm, he replied, "I take the chisel in my teeth and strike my head with the mallet." Mr. Hallin was born July 15, 1826, in the county of Kerry, Ireland, on the same street on which the father of J. L. Sullivan was born. His father was a marble cutter. He was educated at Killarney, and at the age of seventeen emigrated to the United States and first followed his trade in the city of New York, for about five years. He subsequently went to Carrollton, Ind., where he assisted in building some large factories, and was married to Gwenny Davis, who was born in Wales, but came with her parents to America when only four years old. She is a woman of great courage and well adapted to the pioneer life which she has passed through. One example of her heroism is sufficient to illustrate her disposition. One day, while sitting in the door of the cabin, with her babe playing at her feet, she noticed a large bear drinking at the spring near the house. She at once bade her large New Foundland dog to "seek him," which he proceeded to do without delay, but the bear, being very powerful, was about to overcome the dog, when Mrs. Hallin

seized an ax and buried its edge deep in the flesh of the ferocious creature, killing it instantly. Just at that moment, W. H. Joslin, the county sheriff, drove up, and skinned the bear and Mrs. Hallin soon had a nice piece of the meat over the fire to cook for their dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Hallin have reared a family of twelve children, all of whom are living—Thomas J., Kate, Owen E., Oscar, Harry, Alice, John, Lucy, Bertha, Irene, Arthur and Emmett. Mr. Hallin is at present chairman of the town board and a member of the G. A. R.

J. C. Stockton settled in Richland county in 1854 and engaged in farming on Willow creek. In 1857 he removed to section 26, Richland town, and continued farming until 1881, when he sold out, moved to Richland Center and is now living a retired life. Mr. Stockton is a native of Ross Co., Ohio, born Feb. 24, 1815. His father died when he was six years old, and his mother, with her children, removed to Tippecanoe Co., Ind. The subject of this sketch was married in 1840 to Martha Sippy, and in 1854 came to Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Stockton are the parents of six children, three of whom are living—A. W., Lydia A. and J. W.

F. P. Bowen came to this county with his brother, W. J. Bowen, in September, 1854. They purchased the saw mill and water power, which is now known as "Bowen's mill." In the fall of 1855 they rebuilt the mill, put in a circular saw, the first in Richland county, and operated the same until 1858, when F. P. Bowen sold his interest to his brother, and in 1859 succeeded Dr. H. C. Priest in the drug business. In 1861 he traded the drug business to D. L. Downs for his interest in the Richland Center Tannery. This property he sold about two years afterwards, and in 1865 purchased a half interest in the drug business of D. L. Downs, and owned the same until March, 1883. In 1867 Mr. Bowen re-purchased a half interest in the mill property and, with his brother, built the flouring and grist mill, known as "Bowen's mill," with which he was connected for five or six years. In 1871

he commenced dealing in live stock, in which business he is now extensively engaged. F. P. Bowen was born in Vermillion Co., Ill., April 5, 1835. In 1836 the family removed to Green Co., Wis. The parents, William and Electa (Phelps) Bowen, came to Richland county in 1855. The father died in 1858, and the mother in 1871. Mr. Bowen, in 1860, was married to Margaret Turner. She died in 1866, leaving two children—Hellen and Mattie. In 1868 he was married to Mrs. J. A. Wait, *nee* Busby, and by this union there are six children, four of whom are living—Charles F., Alice, Dwight and F. P. Mr. Bowen took an active interest in building the railroad, as he does in all public enterprises. He is a republican in his politics, and a member of the A. F. & A. M.

W. J. Bowen, one of the prominent and representative men of Richland county, was born in Vermillion Co., Ill., July 8, 1825. He came with his parents to Wisconsin in 1836. In December, 1854, he was married to Mary Thorp, then of Green county, but a native of Pennsylvania. He then came to Richland county and purchased the property since known as Bowen's mills, and of which he is still the owner. A history of this mill and his connection with it appears elsewhere. Mr. Bowen has been an enterprising, successful business man, and now owns over 500 acres of land in one body, has a comfortable home and good improvements. He also has other property, among which are five dwelling houses occupied by tenants. Mr. Bowen is in politics a republican, and has held several local offices of trust, is a member of the A. F. & A. M. The children now living are—John W. and Frank. Edward H. died at the age of five months, in 1872. Mr. Bowen lived with his parents in Green county until 1850. In April of that year he started for California overland, and there remained until September, 1852, engaged in mining. Thence he went to Australia, where he landed in December, and remained about thirteen months, thence to Peru, South America, landing in the month of April, where



he remained until the following August, exploring for gold, but did not find it. He then came to New York by way of Panama, and thence in fall of 1854 to the farm where he now lives.

Jeduthan Jones is one of the early pioneers of Richland county. He settled at Richland Center in October, 1854, coming from the Western Reserve, Ohio, and was accompanied by his wife. He at once purchased 200 acres of land and commenced making improvements. He also worked at his trade, that of shoemaker. In 1857 he erected a small tannery, which he sold a few years later, and it was subsequently destroyed by fire. He continued work at his trade and resided in the village until 1865, when he removed to his farm, which is located on section 28, and has since given his undivided attention to farming. He now owns 120 acres, which are well improved. Jeduthan Jones is a native of Ohio, born Sept. 10, 1818. His parents resided on a farm. He was united in marriage in 1844 with Laura Graham, who was born in Onondaga Co., N. Y. They have reared two children—Hattie and Fred. Hattie died at the age of twenty. Fred resides with his parents.

Caleb Waggoner first became identified with the interests of Richland county in 1854. In the spring of that year he came from Ohio to Richland Center, and located on the corner now owned and occupied by H. T. Bailey. He brought with him a small stock of goods, which he soon closed out, and then purchased the drug business of Dr. H. C. Priest, which he sold several years subsequently to D. L. Downs. He was then engaged in general merchandise with his sons as partners many years, and then dealt to a considerable extent in real estate. He was the fifth son of William and Sarah Waggoner, who were pioneers in eastern Ohio, and was born near the village of Richmond, in Jefferson county, Sept. 18, 1813. He had seven brothers and four sisters, nine of whom are yet living, four of them older than he was. He died Oct. 16, 1883, at the residence of his

brother, Dr. Joseph Waggoner, in Ravenna, Ohio. He was among the best class of Richland county citizens, and the following, clipped from the *Republican and Observer*, is a brief account of his last days and death:

“The ten children had participated in a family reunion at the old home farm on the 19th of September, and the deceased was extending his visit among his numerous relatives and friends at the time of his death—reveling in the atmosphere of pure affection and pure friendships, from which he well knew he would soon be severed. He had not been in vigorous health for many years, and his friends observed with alarm his rapid decline the past two or three years. Only a short time before his departure for Ohio he suffered a severe and threatening illness, resulting from over anxiety and care for his unfortunate son, Joseph; but under the inspiration of once more greeting his brothers and sisters and other relatives at the old fireside and under the parental roof, he seemed to acquire a new lease of life, and none of the participants in that memorable occasion were more active or buoyant than he. Ninety-two of his kindred were there present, among whom were his son William J., and grand child Rena, of Viola, in this county, and his son James H., with his wife and two children, of Eau Claire. The latter had returned to their home, but the former were yet with their father, and William was at his bedside when he passed away. He complained first of distress about the heart and of being cold, but was soon relieved of uneasiness, slept well during the night, and was about as usual the following morning, but toward evening the messenger of death returned, and a little after midnight he breathed his last, among loving friends who did everything that could be done to prolong his earthly life. The immediate cause of his death was paralysis of the heart; but the ravages of time had prepared the frail body for the final summons, and his life went out calmly and peacefully as the sun recedes from sight.

His mind was clear to the last moment, and his last words were characteristic of the earnest, honest and thoughtful man he was: 'I have no regrets or censures. The end must soon come, and I am ready. Let all live so that we may meet above.'

"In the morning following his death his son at Eau Claire was telegraphed to meet friends who would accompany the remains to Chicago. This he did, and conveyed them home. A large number of the old friends and neighbors of the deceased had assembled at the depot, with carriages and hearse, to receive the body and convey it to the home on the hill side, in which he had spent the three last decades of his life. His funeral obsequies were in harmony with the tenor of his life—void of ostentation or display, and remarked for their singular appropriateness. The services were conducted at his late residence by the Rev. H. G. Dennison, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of this village, of which Mr. Waggoner was a ruling elder, and with which he was closely identified from the hour of its organization to the time of his death. By request of his friends the services were brief, but deeply impressive, and his remains were as quietly followed to the grave by many who had loved and esteemed him in life, and who would cherish his memory in death. From the moment of the announcement of his death to the hour of the performance of the last sad rites, his bereaved family were touchingly assured of the profound and almost sacred regard in which the husband and father had been held. Sympathy for the widowed was never more generously, yet delicately expressed, nor was it ever more sensibly appreciated. The survivors of the family of the deceased are the widow, to whom he was married on the 9th of February, 1839, and four sons—William J., James H., Edwin B., and Joseph M. all of whom are well known here, but are now residents of other parts of the State.

"The life of the deceased, as a citizen of Richland Center, was like an open book, and he was

personally known to nearly every citizen of the county. He came here when there were but a half dozen houses in the village, and when the population of the county was correspondingly small. Being a reticent, unassuming man, he was not always accorded the credit due him for promoting enterprises in which the public was interested, for he was ever generous and zealous in behalf of all of those interests which mark communities for moral worth and material prosperity. He was positive in his convictions, radical in his support or defense of them, and uncompromising with what he believed to be wrong. In all his relations with his fellow men he sustained the Christian character he professed, and left an example which will assert its influence for good upon the conduct of those who witnessed it, even to succeeding generations. The simplicity of his character was its grandeur. No epitaph could do mortal man greater honor than that. Truly a good man has gone from our midst, whose loss is reverently deplored, and who will not be forgotten so long as the sons and daughters of his friends and neighbors inhabit the earth. His rest in his eternal home should be all that his faith and hope had pictured—the joys and peace of one whose greatest aim was to do right and win the crown. The loved ones he left behind do not doubt that a blessed rest awaited him."

Thomas J. Whitcraft was born in Stark Co., Ohio, March 26, 1828. He received a common school education, and resided with his parents on the farm until seventeen years of age. He then formed a partnership with Frank Paul, purchased 600 head of sheep, took them to Kane Co., Ill., where they sold, making a good profit out of the transaction. Mr. Whitcraft then returned to Ohio and dealt in live stock for a period of seven years, and accumulated several thousand dollars; but he also entered into a contract to furnish a large number of hogs, and in fulfilling his contract lost the fortune he had saved. He therefore came to Wisconsin and in 1854 purchased eighty acres of land

in this county, located on section 27, town of Richland. He purchased the land on time, agreeing to pay \$240 with twelve per cent. interest, and thus commenced life anew. The land was unimproved, but he at once erected a log cabin and soon had his farm well under cultivation. Besides farming, he also dealt in horses, buying in this county and selling them in Minnesota. He now owns 260 acres and is in moderate circumstances. May 5, 1853, Mr. Whitcraft married Emma S. Miller. She died Sept. 24, 1881, leaving four children—Evangeline Edward, Jasper B. and Durell. Mr. Whitcraft is a republican, has held the office of town assessor, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Ammi Shireman was born in Virginia, in September, 1825. When a young man he went to Indiana and engaged in farming. In December, 1847, he married Jane Jones, daughter of John B. Jones, Sr. In 1854 he came to Wisconsin and was engaged in farming until 1861, when he enlisted in company H, 5th Wisconsin, and served thirteen months, when he was discharged on account of physical disability, since which he has been a resident of Richland Center, and is at present engaged in the restaurant business. Mr. and Mrs. Shireman have five children—John M., James M., Thomas A., Emma and Ella. J. M. Shireman, son of the above, was born in Indiana April 22, 1849, and came with his parents to Wisconsin. He learned the harness trade, and in 1873 established himself in business. In September, 1874, he was married to Harriet Durnford, daughter of Alfred Durnford, and they now have five children—Minnie L., William H., Charles, Rollin and Perey.

I. J. Wright settled in Richwood, town of Richwood, in 1855. He purchased about 300 acres of land and engaged in farming. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in the service and served as second lieutenant until mustered out. In about 1873 he sold his farm and removed to Muscoda. He afterwards spent

three years in the State of Tennessee, when he again settled at Muscoda. Mr. Wright was ordained as a preacher of the Gospel in the United Brethren Church, and for some time served as a circuit preacher, but later in life he only preached on special occasions. He was an influential citizen and served as chairman of the town board for several years. He had considerable knowledge of law and often served his neighbors as a valuable counselor. Mr. Wright was married three times. First, to Miss Toney; she died, leaving three children. He next married Mrs. Catharine David *nee* Miller; she died, leaving two children—Martha and J. C. His third wife was Mrs. Martha Hamil *nee* Miller, she being a sister of his former wife.

T. M. Hart was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, April 12 1851. He is a son of John and Eleanor (Marshall) Hart. In 1854 the family came to Wisconsin and settled in the town of Marshall, Richland Co., Wis., and engaged in farming. Here the father died in 1876. The mother still lives on the homestead. Of the seven children, five are living—Maria, now Mrs. James Truesdale, M. Caroline, Georgiana, now Mrs. Frank Doudna, T. M. and M. F. T. M. was educated in the common schools, also taught school. In April, 1874, he commenced keeping books for James Bros. and continued with them until the firm dissolved partnership, since which he has acted in a like capacity for N. L. James. Mr. Hart was married in 1875 to Abbie Draper, daughter of James Draper. She died in June, 1882, leaving one child—Mirah.

N. L. James, son of George H. James, was born in Rockingham Co., N. H., Nov. 29, 1840. He came with his parents to Richland county in 1855, since which he has been a resident. In 1861 he enlisted in company F, of the 16th Wisconsin. He assisted at the battle of Pittsburg Landing in carrying Col. Messmore from the field. The colonel then caused him to be detailed to go down the river where he was taken sick, and in the fall of 1862 was

discharged on account of disability. Returning home, he entered partnership with his father and engaged in the hardware business, which he continued until November, 1881, when he sold to his brother, D. G. James. When the railroad was projected Mr. James was called upon to lend a helping hand, and in 1872 was elected to represent the district in the Assembly. Not being successful in getting the necessary legislation, he employed a civil engineer to make the survey for the road, and assisted in organizing a stock company and, as general manager, proceeded to build the road. He had charge of the enterprise until 1878, when he sold out his interest. In 1879 he sold the road, for the stockholders, to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company. In 1879 he put in a side track and has since been engaged in furnishing the railroad company with lumber, wood and ties. He is also engaged in the manufacture of wagons. Mr. James is the owner of the best herd of Shorthorn cattle in the county, and of a creamery on Bear creek. He was married in 1865 to Georgina Lane, daughter of David Lane. They have four children—E. L., H. L., N. L. and Mabel L. Mr. James has served two terms in the Assembly. He is politically a republican and a Knight Templar. He is one of the most active and successful of the business men of the county, is enterprising and public spirited and generally liked throughout the county.

John Winn, one of Richland's prosperous farmers, resides just west of the village limits of Richland Center, where he owns a farm of 160 acres. He purchased his farm in 1865, at which date it was but little improved, but he has now an excellent farm on which is a neat frame house and good barns. He is engaged in dairying and manufacturing creamery butter. His cows are all full blood, or high grade Shorthorns. Mr. Winn was born in York Co., Maine, and resided in his native State until nineteen years old. He then went to Massachusetts and worked in cotton mills, and for ten

years was overseer in the weaving department of the Essex Corporation mills. At Newburyport, in 1848, he was married to Elizabeth J. McNeal, and it was on account of his wife's failing health that he came to Wisconsin. She died in 1856, leaving two children—John S. and Elizabeth J., now the wife of J. W. Houston. Mr. Winn after the death of his wife returned to New Hampshire, and there married Elizabeth J. Fifield, and by this union there is one daughter—Hattie A. Mr. Winn is one of the pioneers of the county as his residence dates from 1855, in fall the of which year he located on section 33, of Buena Vista, where he was engaged in farming until he settled on his present farm. He opened a fine stone quarry on his farm in 1866, from which large quantities of the best building stone are obtained. Mr. Winn is not a member of any civic society.

David Goodrich James, son of George H. and Louis E. (Hurd) James, was born in Deerfield, Rockingham Co., N. H., Aug. 3, 1843. He came with his parents to Richland county in 1855, where he helped to till the soil. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted as a private in company F, 16th Wisconsin Volunteers. In 1862 this regiment was consolidated into five companies and D. G. James was put into company C. July 22, 1864, at the battle of Bald Hill, near Atlanta, he was taken prisoner and kept as such at Andersonville and other prisons until the close of the war. He then again joined his regiment on their return in 1865, when he was mustered out of service with the rank of captain from date of capture by the rebels. Mr. James' weight was 168 pounds, and when mustered out of service, seventy-nine pounds. After the war he learned the tinners trade, and in 1866 became a partner in the firm of G. H. & N. L. James, and the name of the firm was changed to G. H. & N. L. James & Co. In November, 1881, he became sole proprietor, and now does the leading hardware business of Richland Center. He also deals in agricultural implements, machinery,

wagons, harness, etc. In politics Mr. James is a republican. He has held various local offices, and since May, 1881, has been postmaster. He has been twice married; in 1868 to Ada Briggs, who died in November, 1869, leaving one son—Oscar B.; and again in 1872, to Laura Briggs, a sister of his former wife. By this union there are two daughters—Ada and Beulah. Mr. James is an active and able business man. He was chief contractor in building the railroad to Richland Center, and has usually been identified with every public enterprise. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and commander of the W. H. Bennett Post of the G. A. R.

George H. James and his family were among the early settlers of Richland Center, having located here in 1855. In that year he purchased a large quantity of land in Richland and Vernon counties. He also purchased a large quantity of flour, and for several years supplied a large portion of the county with that necessary article. In 1862 he engaged in the hardware business, which he continued till 1881. He then withdrew from trade and followed farming until 1883, when he admitted N. L. James as a partner, and subsequently retired from active life. Mr. James was born in Deerfield, N. H., Sept. 6, 1815, and in his youth learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, also worked as a wheel and mill-wright. He was married at Lowell, Mass., June 20, 1838, to Louis E. Hurd, a native of Canada, born July 11, 1815. They have four children living and two dead. The living are—Norman L., David G., William G. and Lizzie, wife of George Strang. Mr. James is an energetic and industrious citizen, who does with all his might whatever he undertakes.

W. J. Pickard was born in Queen's Landing, N. Y., July 24, 1847. His parents were Luke and Margaret (Gray) McGay. The family came to Wisconsin and settled near the the Fox river, where, in 1849, the father was killed by a fall on the ice in crossing the river. This was in the pioneer days at that place, and the nearest white neighbor lived seven miles distant,

but the Winnebago Indians, being friendly to the family, took the body and carried it upon poles to the white settlement, where it was buried. In 1853, as stated elsewhere in this book, Mrs. McGay became the wife of S. W. Pickard, and her son, the subject of this sketch, assumed the name he now bears. He came with the family to Richland county, and March 20, 1873, was united in marriage with Sarah E. Richards, daughter of William and Mary Richards. They now have one daughter—Ada L. Mr. Pickard still resides on the homestead, and his real estate now comprises 285 acres. He is a good farmer and his land is well improved. In politics he is a republican, and has been a member of the town board several years. He is a member of the M. E. Church and of the I. O. O. F.

Nathan Ford, a pioneer preacher of the town of Bloom, was born Jan. 6, 1823, in the State of New Jersey. When he was three years old his parents moved to Allen Co., Ohio. In 1837 they went to Montgomery county and remained three years, then went to Clinton Co., Ind., where the subject of this sketch attended the common school and engaged in farming until 1855. In that year he came to Richland county and settled in the town of Bloom, on section 18, where he purchased 160 acres of land, which he has lately sold. Since coming to this county Mr. Ford has been constantly engaged in farming, preaching and working at the joiner's trade. He was married in 1851 to Catharine Rodgers, who died in 1872, leaving seven children—Almon, Sarah, Truman, John, George, Permelia and Charles. Mr. Ford again married, in 1874, Mrs. Sarah Seoles. Charles is now married to Harriet Kimble; John, to Margaret Shoemaker; George, to Mary Cook, and Sarah, to James Conar. Mr. Ford has held the office of chairman of the town board eight years, member of the side board four years, and justice of the peace twelve years.

L. E. Brewer, of the firm of Fries & Brewer, tanners, was born in Franklin Co., Vt., April

16, 1849. He came with his parents to this county in 1855, and since 1856 has resided at Richland Center. He learned the tannery business and afterwards the harness maker's trade. In 1877 he helped rebuild the tannery at Richland Center, and is now owner of the manufactured stock. In 1874 he was united in marriage with Hannah Dorgan. They have one child—Katie.

P. S. Brewer, son of Peter E. and Lucy Brewer, was born in Franklin Co., Vt., Jan. 28, 1847, and came with his parents to Richland Center in 1855. At the age of seventeen he learned the harness maker's trade, at which he worked thirteen years, since which he has been in business for himself. In 1869 he was married to Anna Rodefer, and they now have five sons—Harry M., Earl J., Frank P., Jay and Buford. Mr. Brewer casts his vote with the democratic party, and is a member of the I. O. O. F. also of A. O. U. W.

A. D. Lane, the present sheriff of Richland county, is a son of David and Ann M. Lane. He was born in the city of New York, June 6, 1853, and brought to this county by his parents at the age of two years. He helped till the soil until 1870, when he came to Richland Center and served in the employ of James Bros., until 1879. He then established a meat market, which he sold in 1883 to F. P. Bowen. He was elected to the office he now holds in the fall of 1882, and entered upon its duties Jan. 1, 1883. Sheriff Lane is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W. His wife was formerly Flora Crumbacker. They have one daughter—Minnie.

H. R. Brewer is a son of Peter and Lucy Brewer. He was born in Franklin Co., Vt., Aug. 8, 1851, and came with his parents to Wisconsin, in 1855, since which he has been a resident of Richland county. At the age of eighteen he commenced work at harness making, which he followed about ten years. He is now in the employ of D. G. James, as clerk. He

was married in 1875 to Maria Dorgan, and they have two children—Josie and Lucy.

Alfred Hyatt was born in Franklin Co., Va. His father died when he was five years old, when his grandfather took him to raise and removed to Madison Co., Ky., where he lived until twelve years old. His mother then married William Foster, and he accompanied them to Butler Co., Ohio, where his step-father died shortly after; he then moved with some friends to Henry Co., Ind., and lived two years with Samuel Turgerson. He then went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he learned the brick maker's trade, and in 1836 went to Carroll Co., Ind., and carried on the brick making business until 1838. He there met Christiana Clark, who afterwards became his wife. After marriage he resided in Indiana, from whence, in 1855, he came to Wisconsin and became a resident of Richland county. He first engaged in farming in the town of Bloom, where he also kept a small store. In 1858 he removed to Richland Center and manufactured brick. In 1861 he enlisted in company H, of the 5th Wisconsin, and served until discharged on account of physical disability. After regaining his health, he re-enlisted in the 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, Battery C, where he remained until the end of the war. Since the war he has not engaged in any particular business. Mr. and Mrs. Hyatt reared five children, two of whom are now living—S. C. and V. G.

S. C. Hyatt, son of Alfred Hyatt, was born in Carroll Co., Ind., Aug. 11, 1839, and came with his parents to Richland county in 1855, where he has since been a resident. In 1861 he enlisted in the United States service and served with a regimental band one year, when he was discharged. Returning home he commenced work at the printer's trade and afterward became part owner of the Richland County *Observer*. In 1864 he assisted Capt. Bailey to recruit company F, 41st Wisconsin regiment, and was commissioned orderly-sergeant and served as such until mustered out of service. Re-



*Ernst Ribbe*





turning home he worked for a short time at printing, then took a course at the Chicago Commercial College and afterwards assisted his father in manufacturing brick. In 1867 he began keeping books for G. & A. H. Krouskop, and continued until 1871, when he engaged in mercantile trade for two years, since which he has clerked for others. He was married in 1866 to Sarah C. Carpenter, daughter of H. C. Carpenter. They have four children—Charles H., Emory, Nealie and Josephine.

J. F. Walker first came to the county in March, 1855, and purchased land in the town of Rockbridge, but did not become a permanent resident until the spring of 1856, when he settled on section 14, of the town of Rockbridge, and engaged in farming until 1873. In the fall of 1872 he was elected county treasurer and served one term, since then he has dealt, to a certain extent, in real estate. Mr. Walker was born in Erie Co., Penn., Nov. 15, 1831. He was educated in the common schools and resided in his native State until 1854, when he came to Wisconsin and first resided in Dane county. Dec. 24, 1856, he was married to Harriet F. Austin, a native of Vermont. Two children have been born to them, but only one is now living—Charles F. Mr. Walker is a member of the A. F. & A. M.

Daniel Storms in 1857 settled at Woodstock, where he opened the first blacksmith shop in that town. He also purchased land, which he changed from a wilderness to cultivated fields, and resided in that vicinity until 1874, when he removed to Richland Center. He is now a member of the firm of Storms, Son & Leaseh. Mr. Storms was born in Vermont, Jan. 25, 1825. His parents, John and Olive (Whitecomb) Storms, were natives of New England. About the year 1836 the family removed to Orleans Co., N. Y., where the subject of this sketch learned his trade, and in 1851 married Charlotte Angus. He then came to Wisconsin, first residing in Rock county, in 1856 coming from thence to

Richland. Mr. and Mrs. Storms have two children—Fred and Edd.

S. W. Pickard was a native of the State of New York, born Sept. 24, 1795. On the 21st day of November, 1816, he was married to Effa Skeel, who was born Jan. 1, 1798, and reared a family of eleven children. They emigrated to Michigan, and thence to Stephenson Co., Ill. In 1853 he came to Wisconsin, and at Appleton, in 1854, married Mrs. Margaret C. McGay, *nee* Gray. She had one son by her former marriage—W. J., who after her marriage to Mr. Pickard, assumed the name of W. J. Pickard, by which he is now known. Mr. and Mrs. Pickard had one son, born Dec. 17, 1855, who in the third year of his age was accidentally killed by the fall of a tree, cut by his father. The subject of this sketch came to Richland county in August, 1855, and settled on section 29, Richland town, where he had entered land a few years previously. He was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred Oct. 18, 1874, while he was attending services at the Presbyterian church at Richland Center. It was occasioned by apoplexy. Mrs. Pickard died of the same disease, Oct. 2, 1875, dropping dead while standing in the door-way of her home. Mr. Pickard, in politics, was an active republican, and an ardent admirer of Abraham Lincoln. He had held the office of justice of the peace. He was a believer in the Christian religion, and at the time of his death a member of the United Brethren Church.

A. G. James came to Wisconsin in 1855 and located land in Vernon county. He then returned to New Hampshire and in 1856 removed his family, consisting of a wife and three children, to Richland Center, and settled where he now resides. He followed his trade, shoemaking, and also dealt in boots and shoes until 1870, when he purchased a farm and has since devoted his attention to tilling the soil. Mr. James was born in Rockingham Co., N. H., July 9, 1823. He learned his trade and in 1848 was married to Eliza Knowlton. They are the

parents of six children—A. K., Emma, now the wife F. H. Tuttle; Lewis, Charles F., Minnie and Anna Belle. Politically, Mr. James was at first a free soiler and since 1856 has voted with the republicans. On the temperance question he is a prohibitionist. He has been a member of the town board five years, and president of the village board two years.

A large portion of the insurance business in and about Richland Center is transacted by Capt. W. C. S. Barron, who took his first agency here in 1866, and now represents a number of companies, giving his entire attention to the business. He was born in Troy, N. Y., on the 3d day of August, 1830, his parents being Warren and Ruth (Purinton) Barron. The family removed to Providence, R. I., where the father died in 1834. The mother subsequently married Thaddeus Cook; she died in Massachusetts about 1869. The early life of Warren Clark Sherman Barron was spent on a farm, but he also learned both the trade of shoemaker and tailor. In 1850 at Billingham, Mass., he was married to Amanda Thayer, and was engaged in livery business until 1855, when he left the city and started for the western frontier, and soon arrived in Waukesha Co., Wis. In 1856 he came alone to Richland county, and in November of that year purchased the south half of the north-west quarter of section 35, in the town of Westford. Here during the summer of 1857 he had erected a log cabin, 18x20 feet, with a shake roof, removed his wife and child from Waukesha county, and on the 2d day of December commenced pioneer life in earnest in their new home. This was a disagreeable time of year to commence "roughing it." The house was comparatively not by any means a palace, and to one not accustomed to such surroundings, considerable pluck was necessary, an ingredient not lacking in the character of the subject of this sketch, and by dint of much stamping of feet and rubbing of hands he kept from freezing and came through all right. On the 12th day of August, 1862, he enlisted

as a private in company B, 25th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Soon afterward he was appointed orderly, and on the 25th day of August, 1863, was commissioned second lieutenant, was promoted to the position of first lieutenant, and on the 20th day of December, 1864, became captain of the company, with which rank he was mustered out of the service on the 15th day of June, 1865. Capt. Barron participated in all the engagements of his regiment, was a brave soldier and always had the respect and confidence of his command. After these series of events he returned to Richland county, and since 1868 has resided at Richland Center. Politically he is a staunch republican, having voted with that party ever since its organization. In 1858 he was elected town superintendent of schools, which position he held until the office was abolished. In 1868 he represented his district in the Assembly, and from that date until January, 1883, was connected with the office of sheriff, having twice been elected, once appointed to fill a vacancy, and at different intervals acting as deputy; he has also been president of the village board. The subject of this sketch is a large, well built man of commanding appearance, courteous and affable to all, has a large acquaintance and many warm friends. He is a Royal Arch Mason and was master of Richland Lodge, No. 66, four years. He is chief patriarch of the I. O. O. F. in the State of Wisconsin; past-master in the A. O. U. W. and a member of the G. A. R. Mr. and Mrs. Barron have one son—Frank O.

H. T. Bailey, a prominent business man of Richland Center, had a good situation in the city of New York, which he left in 1857, and agreeable to the advice of Horace Greeley started west to seek his fortune and grow up with the country, and in a short time, made a pause at Richland Center; here he found that money did not grow on the bushes, and desirable situations were not found every day. He was not of that sort, however, to sit down and complain, but determined to do something, even if

not so congenial to his tastes or advantageous to his pocket-book, he was bound to do something, even if it would pay nothing more than his board. Such persons are not long without employment of some kind, and his first position was that of "hostler" for Albert Neff. Having graduated here with honor to himself, he engaged in "sawing wood." In 1858 he concluded to return to his eastern home, and consequently started in that direction, but Milwaukee was the extent of his journey thither, for here he turned about and came again to Richland Center, and entered the employ of A. B. Weigley as clerk. Subsequently he held similar positions for different persons until 1869, when he formed a partnership with his brother, N. W. Bailey, purchased a small stock of goods of J. L. Brown and engaged in business. He became sole proprietor in 1878, and has since increased his trade to such an extent that he now carries one of the largest stock of goods in this part of the State. His present store building, erected in 1883, at a cost of \$15,000, is one of the best in the county. The subject of this sketch, Henry Thompson Bailey, was born in Connecticut, Jan. 27, 1838, his parents being Alvin and Lury (Neff) Bailey. They were also natives of the same State. His early life was spent on the farm, but when sixteen years old, he went to the city of New York, and commenced mercantile life as clerk in a grocery and provision store, from whence he came westward as before stated. Mr. Bailey is very much of a gentleman, affable, courteous and pleasing to all, and one of the best business men in the State, as his record abundantly testifies. Politically he is a democrat. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Richland Lodge No. 66, the chapter and commandary at Boscobel, and consistory at Milwaukee; he is also a member of the I. O. O. F. July 31, 1861, Mr. Bailey was married to Medora Huntington. She died Sept. 15, 1882, leaving two children—Henry T. and Milo H. Milo H. died Feb. 18, 1883.

James Martin, an early settler in the town of Buena Vista, was born in Guernsey Co., Ohio, Nov. 29, 1827. Here he grew to manhood, being reared to agricultural pursuits. In 1850 he went to California overland, with a party consisting of thirty-seven people and six teams. When about half way across the plains, the party divided in six squads. He remained with the party three days, when he, with two others, took a mule from the team, loaded their baggage on him, and thus finished their journey; having been on the road five months, and making the greater part of the way on foot. He engaged in mining until the following December, when he started on his return, this time by water and across the isthmus. After returning home he ran his father's farm for one year, then took a contract of quarrying stone for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company. He was thus engaged about one year, when he took a contract to construct a portion of the road, which took about one and one-half years. He then went to Barnesville, in Belmont county, where he purchased a flouring and saw mill, which he operated until 1856, when he removed to Richland county and bought land of Nathaniel Wheeler, on section 28, town of Buena Vista. He occupied this farm twelve years, when he purchased land on section 29, same town, and made that his home until 1883, when he removed to Richland Center. He still owns and manages his large farm of 600 acres, and which is well stocked and equipped with a good set of buildings, including, besides a large frame house, a barn 30x80 feet, with a stone basement. Mr. Martin has for several years been extensively engaged in dealing in live stock as well as farming. He was married in 1854 to Hulda A. Henderson, who was born in Belmont Co., Ohio. They have had four children—James W., Nellie, Mack and Hattie, the latter now dead.

H. W. Eastland is a son of H. A. and Isabelle A. Eastland. He was born at Sextonville, this county, Oct. 5, 1856. He was educated at Rich-

land Center. He spent one year in Dakota. In May, 1882, in partnership with F. S. Pennell, he established a grocery, provision and crockery business, in which he is engaged at the present time. In May, 1881, Katie Speidell became his wife.

William Hice located at Richland Center in 1857, and followed his trade, cabinet maker, until 1861. He then enlisted in company D, 11th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, was commissioned first lieutenant, and served as such eighteen months, when he resigned on account of disability, returned to Richland Center and worked at the carpenter and joiner's trade until 1876. He then built a planing mill and machine shop, which he has since operated. Mr. Hice was born in Holmes Co., Ohio, Oct. 5, 1827. He learned his trade and followed the same in his native State until 1854. He then went to Milwaukee, from whence he came to Richland Center. He was married in 1850 to Margaret Schoonover, who died in October, 1861, leaving three children—Mary (deceased), Maggie, now the wife of Charles Green, and Joseph W. In 1865 he was again married to Mrs. Sarah Williams, and they have one son—Junius. Mr. Hice in politics is a republican.

J. W. Lybrand is a native of Philadelphia, Penn., born Feb. 4, 1813. He removed with his parents to Mt. Vernon, Ohio, in 1823, spent his early life on a farm and in 1833 was married to Levina E. Simons, a daughter of Col. Royal D. Simons, who was in active service during the War of 1812. They had two sons—George D. and Franklin G., both now deceased. After his marriage, Mr. Lybrand engaged in general merchandising. In 1842 he changed to hotel business, continuing the same until 1848. He also served as county treasurer, four years. In May, 1857, he came to Richland Center, for the purpose of establishing his son in business, when he associated J. L. McKee as partner and established a general mercantile business. Mr. Lybrand did not intend to become a resident of

the place, and for three years claimed Ohio as his home, but he soon became attached to the country, and in 1859 purchased his partner's interest, took in his son as partner, and the firm became J. W. & G. D. Lybrand. This firm carried on a large jobbing trade, thereby supplying most of the stores in the northern part of the county. Mr. Lybrand also dealt largely in real estate. His son, George, accompanied him to Richland Center, in 1857. He was married to Maggie W. Lybrand of Philadelphia. They had born to them, two children, a son and daughter—Rollin C. and Cornelia D. Lybrand, both of whom are married and living in Richland Center. Rollin C., is engaged in the mercantile business and with John Echelberger (the present husband of Mrs. M. W. Lybrand), compose the firm of Echelberger & Lybrand. When the Civil War broke out G. D. Lybrand enlisted in the 5th Wisconsin, and J. W. Lybrand continued the business alone until 1866, when he sold out to George A. and A. H. Kronsokop, went to Chicago and engaged in commission business, and for a number of years his trade amounted to \$1,000,000 annually. After the Chicago fire in 1871, his family returned to Richland Center, and in 1873 Mr. Lybrand sold out and also returned. In 1878 he again engaged in general merchandise, and continued in the business until January, 1883, when he retired from active business life. When the railroad was built here Mr. Lybrand took stock to the amount of \$1,000, and afterwards became the principal stockholder. He was then chosen president and general manager, which position he held until the road was sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company. Mr. Lybrand was formerly a democrat, but when the Civil War broke out he joined the republican ranks, and has since voted with that party. He has, however, taken but little interest in politics since coming to Wisconsin. He is an active temperance worker, and a member of the Temple of Honor. He has been successful as a business man, and is a gentleman of many

good qualities. He is a member of the Chicago Board of Trade.

W. E. Pratt was born in Jericho, Vt., July 31, 1848, and is the son of Edwin and Hannah (Hapgood) Pratt. About 1855 the family came to Wisconsin and resided two years at Beloit, then came to Richland county and engaged in farming in the town of Willow. The parents now reside at Sextonville. The subject of this sketch, at the age of eighteen, commenced work at the painters trade, and has since given his attention to the same, and is now a member of the firm of Pratt Bros. In March, 1878, he was married to Fannie Goodrich, daughter of Lorenzo Goodrich. They have two children—Fred and Roy E.

W. D. S. Ross made a visit to this county in 1854, and selected his present farm, which was then owned by a man in Indiana. Mr. Ross seen returned to Marion Co., Ind., and after some correspondence succeeded in purchasing the land, which was the southwest quarter of section 28. In the spring of 1857 he removed his family to Wisconsin and commenced improving his property. He has since been engaged in general farming. He now owns 200 acres, a good frame house, and excellent barns. He also owns a half interest in the Park Hotel, at Richland Center, of which mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. Ross is a native of Fleming Co., Ky., born May 19, 1828. His parents were Alexander and Nancy (Arnold) Ross. In 1844 the family removed to Marion Co., Ind., where the parents died. April 25, 1850, the subject of this sketch was married to Rachel Jones. She died Jan. 4, 1877. They had reared eight children—Samuel T., Robert A., James A., Alilia Jane, Elmer E. (deceased), Virgil M., Ulysses Grant and Nora Ann. Aug. 28, 1878, Mr. Ross was married to Mrs. Indiana Wilson, *nee* McClelland, and by this union one son has been born—John M. Mr. Ross is a republican in politics, and has been a member of the town board several terms.

Joseph Knight was a native of England, born Sept. 29, 1828. April 11, 1851, he was married to Rose Anna Horan. They soon emigrated to the United States, and first settled in Altoona, Penn. He was there engaged in the construction of railroads. His faithful wife boarded men who worked with him. He continued this occupation at Altoona one year, then at Marietta, Ohio, three years, and at Roseville a short time. He came to Wisconsin in 1855, spent one summer at Elkhorn, the following winter at Madison, two years at Monroe, then went to Rosemount, Minn., from whence he returned to Wisconsin and settled on section 10, Richland, where he had previously purchased eighty acres of land. Here he spent the remainder of his life. He died Dec. 23, 1874. Mr. Knight was a firm believer in the Christian religion, and read his Bible daily. He took an active interest during the Civil War, and did all that was in his power to do by furnishing money to aid the cause, but did not enlist on account of his family of small children. He never sought worldly honor, and often refused to become a candidate for public offices. Mrs. Knight still resides at the homestead, and now owns 120 acres with good improvements. She reared eight children—Frances (deceased), Mary Ann, Sarah Ann, Johanna, Susan, Rose Ann, George E. (deceased) and Dora.

Rev. John Walworth was born at Big Sodus Bay, Wayne Co., N. Y., on the 28th day of July, 1804. His ancestors emigrated from London, England, about the year 1765, some of whom located in Virginia and others in Herkimer Co., N. Y. From these latter originated all of the name in the State of New York. His father was a pioneer in the early settlement of western New York, and took a very active part in the military operations of the time with the Indians and commanded a regiment of volunteers at the battle of Fort Erie, in the War of 1812. At the age of seventeen John was sent to Norwich, in Chenango county, for the purpose of

obtaining an education, where he remained about six years, and then returned to western New York, where he was for several years engaged in school teaching and other literary pursuits. During this time he was married to Sylvia Lambson, of Hampden Co., Mass. Soon after this, in company with a number of others, he emigrated to the then territory of Michigan, arriving there in time to take part in that ludicrous appeal to arms by the young Gov. Mason in calling out the militia of the territory to prevent the governor of Ohio from taking possession of a certain strip or piece of land lying along the Maumee river, which was subsequently named Lucas county, in honor of the governor of Ohio. Mr. Walworth chose the ministry as his profession. But in looking over the creeds and confessions of faith of the several denominations with a view of Church membership, he found it very difficult to reconcile them with each other, and still more difficult to reconcile them to the teachings of the Scriptures. His next effort was to find which of the creeds was the nearest or most like the Bible in its teachings. This earnest research for truth continued for several months and was quite perplexing for a while, but the question occurred, Upon what authority do these many confessions of faith stand? The answer was plain—they are but the opinions of uninspired men, a mixture of truth and error, and claim the credence of the world only by virtue of the votes of synods or the decrees of councils. These votes can not change error into truth, nor truth into error. With the confessions and creeds of ten or more of the largest and leading denominations in this country, and in Europe, before him, the thought occurred, why not leave all these formulas of human opinion and take the Bible alone for your guide? There was something satisfying in the thought, which soon culminated in a resolution to take the Bible as the inspired word of God, as man's best and only safe rule of faith and practice, which teaches us that in every Nation, and every age, he that fears God and

works righteousness is accepted by him. On this broad religious platform he commenced his ministerial labors and has continued them as health would permit for near fifty years. Mr. Walworth has never labored in the interest of any sectarian organization, but rather to lead and help men to lead an upright and pious life, and all true Christians to unite in charity and every good work. He has mostly lived and labored upon the frontiers, and endured the hardships of a pioneer life. As to the success or efficiency of his labors, the communities that have seen, and the thousands that have participated in them can best judge. In 1840 Mr. Walworth came to Illinois and traveled four years as a missionary, but the unavoidable exposure to cold and storm had so impaired his health that at the end of that service he was compelled to relinquish this arduous labor, and in 1846 he removed to Monroe, Green Co., Wis., when he subsequently became proprietor and editor of the Monroe *Sentinel*, a weekly county paper, of the democratic persuasion. By constant labor the *Sentinel* soon gained a large circulation, for that day of newspapers, in Green and the adjoining counties. At this time the encroachments of the slave power upon the courts of justice upon free territory, and the capture of both political parties in the enactment of the fugitive slave law, and the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, had thrust upon the people very grave questions in regard to the fate of freedom in this country, or under our government in the near future. The *Sentinel* was the first democratic paper in the State that came out emphatically against the aggressions of the slave power, and the legislation of both democrats and whigs in the interest of slavery. After consultation with many persons of all political parties it was agreed to publish a call for a people's convention, without respect to previous affiliation, to be held at the capitol in Madison, July 13, 1854. This call was published in the *Sentinel* and a good number of other papers, and was much more

largely attended by leading men from nearly all parts of the State than had been anticipated. Mr. Walworth was chosen president of the convention, and though there was perfect freedom of speech and expression of individual opinion, it was orderly and for the most harmonious. The convention proceeded to the full organization of the republican party by the adoption of a platform of freedom, and appointment of a State central committee and other officers. About two years after this Mr. Walworth had so far regained his health that he accepted a call to a pastorate in the cities of Lewisburg and Northumberland, Penn., but a few months of pastoral labor brought on the former complaint, the bronchitis, which prevented his continued labor, and though very pleasantly situated, he found it necessary to relinquish his charge. In 1858 Mr. Walworth located at Richland Center, having purchased the office of the Richland County *Observer*, which brought him again into politics, in which he advocated the principles of the republican party with fidelity. He took a deep interest in the cause of temperance, frequently lecturing on the subject, and in 1860 he was elected G. W. Chaplain of the order of Good Templers of the State. In 1862 he was elected to the Legislature, also again elected in 1863. As the repeated calls came from the President for volunteers, many of our citizens left their homes and families to defend the Union, and it was not strange that one who had so long, and so successfully advocated the principles of human freedom should, though somewhat advanced in age, be willing to go to the field of contest, to help his fellow patriots in the defense of freedom, and our national existence, and at the organization of the 43d regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers, in the fall of 1864, Mr. Walworth was elected chaplain of the regiment, and soon left the State for active service in the State of Tennessee. This regiment was first ordered on to Johnsonville on the Tennessee river, then to Clarksville on the Cumberland

river, then after the battle of Nashville to Elk river and Doehard near the city of Winchester, at the foot of the Cumberland mountains, on the Chattanooga railroad. At this place they received the intelligence of the surrender of Gen. Lee, which caused great joy, but it was soon changed to sorrow by the news of the assassination of President Lincoln. The mingled emotions of the deep sorrow, and determination to avenge his death, though visible upon the countenances of both officers and soldiers, could not be expressed in words. Orders were received that at every regular post a funeral service should be held on the day of the President's burial. Arrangements were accordingly made, and at the appointed hour the regiment, with many other soldiers and citizens, marched to a convenient place prepared for the purpose, led by the band rendering a most pathetic funeral dirge, when the chaplain, Mr. Walworth, made a very appropriate address founded on 1st Samuel 20, 3. A most reverent solemnity prevailed in the large assemblage. This discourse was, by request of the citizens, repeated on the following Sabbath, to a large congregation of citizens and soldiers at the Presbyterian church in the city of Winchester. There were perhaps 1,000 colored people, freed slaves, within the lines for protection. These people requested of the commanding officer to have this discourse repeated to them, to which he kindly assented, and arrangements were made. The band gave good music, but they requested to sing one of their own peculiar style, to the great gratification of the soldiers. As the discourse drew near the conclusion, these poor homeless creatures gave unrestrained utterance to their grief, which, though somewhat ludicrous in form, still showed evidence of being most sincere and heart-felt. Frequent exclamations of sorrow, such as "Massa Lincoln is dead, yes Massa Lincoln is dead, he is our friend, de Lor sent him to free us," swinging their hands, and weeping like

children. Since the close of the war Mr. Walworth has resided at Richland Center, except a few months devoted to a southern tour to Texas and the Gulf of Mexico. He has regularly supplied the pulpit of a congregation on the Sabbath, besides other frequent calls for his professional services. And now far advanced in age, and suffering from the effects of exposures and injuries received while in the army, is quietly endeavoring to fill up the remnant of a laborious and useful life, in hope of an honorable discharge, and the unfailing reward of fidelity to duty to God and his fellow man.

J. C. Fries, of the firm of Fries & Brewer, tanners, is a son of Judge H. W. Fries, and was born in Union Co., Penn., Oct. 2, 1849, and came with his parents to Richland county in 1858, and soon commenced work in his father's tannery, and has since been connected with the same. In 1874 he was married to Helen Buchanan, who died in March, 1881, leaving two children—Gerge A. and Henry W. He was again married in April, 1882, to Amelia Zimmerman. Mr. Fries, in politics, is a democrat, and in religion, a believer in the Baptist faith.

A. S. Fries, son of H. W. Fries, was born in with Union Co., Penn., June 30, 1844. He came his parents to Richland county, and has since been a resident. He learned the tanning business, and for several years was a member of the firm of Fries Bros. Since 1876 he has been farming. He was married to Flora Schneider in 1867. They are the parents of eight living children—William, Nellie, Carrie, Eddie, Mary, Mark, Scott and Jennie. Emma is deceased. Mr. Fries, in politics, is a democrat, and a Presbyterian in his religion. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M.

J. W. Burnham, druggist, is a son of H. L. Burnham, and was born in Richland county, Nov. 7, 1858. He helped till the soil until he attained his majority, then engaged as clerk for Burnham Bros., with whom he served in that

capacity for three years. He then engaged himself with Bowen & Allen until March, 1883, since which date he has been a member of the firm of Burnham & Burnham.

C. C. Fries, son of Judge H. W. Fries, was born in Union Co., Penn., Dec. 14, 1852, and came with his parents to this county in 1858. He obtained his education in the schools at Richland Center, and in 1872 entered the employ of Parfrey & Pease as bookkeeper, with whom he remained four years, after which he served A. H. Krouskop in a like capacity, for two years. He is now bookkeeper and head clerk for H. T. Bailey. July 4, 1874, he was married to Miss G. J. Buchanan. They have two children living—Jay C. and Isoline.

Capt. Henry Toms is a native of England, born Aug. 6, 1829. He resided in his native country till 1853, then emigrated to the United States and first stopped at Lyons, N. Y., where he worked at the cabinet trade. He subsequently removed to St. John's, Mich., from whence, in 1859, he came to Wisconsin and located at Richland Center. He was engaged in the manufacture of fanning mills until 1861, then enlisted in company D, of the 11th Wisconsin. He was at first commissioned corporal, but was soon promoted to the rank of captain, and served as such until the regiment was mustered out of service. Returning to Richland Center, Capt. Toms established the furniture business, which he has since conducted. He is the oldest cabinet maker and furniture dealer in the village. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., and a man who attends strictly to his own business, prompt in the fulfillment of his obligations and highly respected as a citizen. He was married in 1864 to Mary A. Parfrey, and they have seven children—Clara, Ada, Henry, Edwin, Josie, Emma and Arthur.

H. W. Glasier, principal of the Sextonville High School, has been a resident of Richland county since 1859. He was born at Factory Point, Bennington Co., Vt., May 25, 1828. When but five years of age his parents removed



to the town of Hebron, Washington Co., N. Y., and there resided for three years. They then removed to Ohio, making the trip overland. After three weeks' travel they arrived at Twinsburg, Summit county, where they located for one year, then removed to Franklin Mills, now called Kent, in Portage Co., Ohio. When fifteen years of age he accompanied his father and another man on a fruit tree grafting expedition to the south. They embarked on an Ohio river steamboat, and at Cincinnati took on board their scions, and then shipped for Mill's Point, Tenn., where they disembarked, and with a team that had been taken along, commenced the business part of their journey. They traveled through Nashville and Lexington; thence to Covington and Maysville (all in Kentucky), and from the latter point followed the Ohio river up to Wheeling, W. Va., where they crossed the river and drove toward Cleveland, ending their journey in June, after a profitable and pleasant trip. The following season the three duplicated the journey. In the fall after he was seventeen years of age, Mr. Glasier resolved to teach school, and started on foot in search of a situation. He walked twenty-three miles and made an engagement to teach in the town of Solon, Cuyahoga county, at \$12 per month and "board around." He continued teaching until 1859, with the exception of one year in the marble business. In 1853 he was engaged as principal of the Bedford (Cuyahoga county) school. In the spring of 1859, after coming to Richland county at the solicitation of the citizens of Richland Center, he rented a room in that village, furnished it with the necessary apparatus, and opened a select school. This movement proved a complete success, and the school was continued until the fall of 1860. At that time he was visited by the school board from Sextonville, and engaged by them to teach in that village, and immediately transferred his school to that point. Since his removal he has taught twelve and a half years' school in Sextonville, and has also

been professionally engaged at Lone Rock, Boscobel, Muscoda and Highland. Prof. Glasier believes that a man is never too old to learn, and for some years he has been a constant student. In April, 1851, he was married to Jane Elizabeth Bosworth, a native of New York. These parents have been blessed with nine children—Willis H., Fannie E., Cora A., Charles J., Edwin S., Johnson J., Arthur B., Gilson G. and Edith L.

W. W. Baker was born in Ohio in 1840, and resided in his native State until twenty years of age, then came to Wisconsin and settled at Richland Center. Here he at first clerked and subsequently was engaged in business, being a member of the firm of Pease & Baker. In 1863 he married Vira L. Pease. In 1868 he left Richland Center and engaged in the lightning-rod business at Columbus and Cincinnati, Ohio, New York, and still later at Chicago, where his death took place March 1, 1875. Mrs. Baker returned to Richland Center, and in the fall of 1879, in partnership with Mrs. Fidelia Pease, established a general mercantile business of which Mrs. Baker is now the sole proprietor, and is carrying on the same with marked success. Mrs. Baker is the mother of four children, two now living—Rena V. and W. W.

E. Pease settled at Richland Center on the 11th day of April, 1860. He had just arrived from the State of Vermont where he had been engaged in dairy farming, and, as he had about \$16,000 in cash, he loaned money, and for several years did quite a brokerage business. He now owns a large number of cows and sheep, which he has let on shares to farmers about Richland county. Mr. Pease was born in Bennington Co., Vt. in 1803, and in 1832 married Lucinda Glasier. He was a poor man but got a start in life by selling goods around Boston, and then engaged in dairy farming in Vermont, in which business he met with marked success. Mr. and Mrs. Pease have reared five children—

Dexter E., D. G., Vira L., Myron C., deceased, and Clarence N., deceased.

W. F. Doudna, of the firm of Strang & Doudna, was born in Belmont Co., Ohio, Feb. 22, 1854. His parents are Isaac and Martha Doudna. In 1861 the family came to Wisconsin and settled in Marshall, Richland county, where the parents still reside and are engaged in farming. In 1872 he entered the employ of James Bros., learned the tinner's trade, and in 1875 engaged in hardware business at Viola. In 1878 he removed his stock to Richland Center, formed a partnership with George Strang, and has since continued the hardware business under the above firm name. Mr. Doudna was united in marriage in 1876 with Mary Brewer, daughter of James Brewer. They have two children—Eddie and Oscar. Mr. Doudna is politically a democrat and is chairman of the democratic county committee. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

A. C. Parfrey, proprietor of the Richland Center mills, is a son of Edward and Elizabeth (Crane) Parfrey. He was born in England, Jan. 31, 1839. He learned the milling business in his native country, and in 1857, with his parents, emigrated to the United States, and came to Richland county. In 1863 he became interested in the mills of which he is now the owner. In 1864, in partnership with J. C. Nichols, he built an upright saw-mill on the opposite side of the river from the grist-mill, and in 1865 changed it to a rotary mill, and has since operated the same, or had it leased to other parties. In 1865 he built a bedstead factory, which employed from sixteen to thirty-five hands, but discontinued the business in 1871. In 1871, with D. E. Pease as partner, he erected a stave factory and the present flouring mills which they operated with good success four years; they then discontinued the stave factory business on account of the scarcity of timber. Thus it can be seen that Mr. Parfrey has been one of Richland Center's most enterprising and wide awake citizens. Before the

railroad was built to the village, Mr. Parfrey paid as high as \$9,000 in a year for hauling freight, flour, lumber and bedsteads to Lone Rock, and his business amounted to \$131,000 annually. He is unpretentious in his manners and a shrewd business man. In October, 1865, Margaret A. Fries became his wife. She is a daughter of Judge H. W. Fries. They have had seven children born to them, six of whom are now living—E. H., Rena, Jennie, Maggie, Charles and Henry.

Edward Parfrey came to this county in 1861, and leased the Richland Center grist-mill, and operated the same until 1863, when he removed to Dane county. In April, 1864, he returned to Richland county and purchased the Ithaca mill, which he operated until his death, which occurred in 1867. He left a wife and four children—Mary Ann, now the wife of Henry Toms, A. C., Youngs (deceased) and Fred. Mrs. Parfrey died in January, 1883. Mr. Parfrey was a native of England. He was a miller by trade, as was also his father. He married Elizabeth Crane. In 1857 they emigrated to the United States and spent the first winter in Milwaukee, then settled in Dane county, from whence they came to Richland Center.

Obadiah Driskill was born in Cayuga Co., N. Y., Nov. 8, 1840. His mother died in 1844, and his father subsequently married again. In 1848 the family moved to Michigan. The subject of this sketch, however, did not remain there, but returned to his native State, and lived there until 1855, then went to Illinois, and at Chicago in 1861 enlisted with "Barker's Dragoons" for three months. At the expiration of that time, he enlisted in company B, 8th Illinois regiment. He was wounded at the battle of Fair Oaks, and discharged from service, Aug. 2, 1862. In 1863 he came to Richland Co., Wis., and Jan. 18, 1864, enlisted in company A, 4th Wisconsin Cavalry, in which he served until April 15, 1866. Thus it can be seen that he was determined to serve his country to the best of his ability. Since the war he has been a resident

of this county, and has been extensively engaged in dealing in live stock. For two years he carried on a general store. In 1883 he established a livery business at Richland Center, and now carries on the same. He was united in marriage, May 26, 1866, with Mary Reed. They have two children—Luella and Benjamin. Mr. Driskill is a member of the democratic party, also of the I. O. O. F.

George E. Bennett, clerk of the circuit court, is a native of Scotland, born Oct. 25, 1828. His father was a farmer and George E. helped till the soil and resided in his native country until 1849, then emigrated to the United States, and first stopped in Washington Co., Penn. In 1852 he removed to Hickman, Ky, where he remained three years, then went to Henry Co., Tenn., manufacturing tobacco, and sometime subsequently to Memphis, where he was engaged in the commission business. He was commission clerk and tobacco inspector until October, 1863. He then came to Wisconsin, and in October settled near Lone Rock and engaged in farming, which he pursued until Jan. 3, 1881, when he entered upon the duties of his present office, and is now serving his second term. While a resident of Buena Vista he served as town clerk eleven years and justice of the peace two years. He is a republican in politics, a member of the I. O. O. F., and a member of the Congregational Church, being deacon of the society at Lone Rock. Mr. Bennett has been twice married. In 1856 to Ellen Tully, a native of South Carolina. She died in March, 1858, leaving one son—John E. O., who now resides at Britt, Hancock Co., Iowa. In 1865 he married Mrs. Harriet Turner *nee* Clark. They have an adopted daughter—Alice.

Lee McMurtrey came to the county in 1864, and, in partnership with his brother, established a meat market. In 1868 he purchased his brother's interest and continued the business alone until 1874, since which he has continued his trade and now has charge of the meat market of F. P. Bowen. Mr. McMurtrey was born

in La Fayette county, April 15, 1840, and has always been a resident of the State. In 1861 he enlisted in company H, of the 3d Wisconsin regiment, and served three years. Jan. 6, 1867, he was married to Maria J. Lindley, and they have two children—Amabelle Luena and Marvin Lee. Mr. McMurtrey is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and G. A. R.

M. L. Sherman was born in Wyoming Co., N. Y., Jan. 6, 1831. His early life was spent on a farm, and in 1844, he removed with his parents to Kane Co., Ill. At eighteen years of age he commenced work at the harness trade, and in 1852 went to the Pacific slope and remained six years. In 1861 he enlisted in company K, 52d Illinois and served three years. He then came to this county and has since been engaged in the harness business, and is now the oldest harness-maker in the place. In 1858 he married Miss C. S. Ellithorpe, a native of Vermont. They have seven children—Estelle, Carrie, Herbert, Edith, Eugene, Katie and Bertha. Politically, Mr. Sherman is a democrat, and an earnest temperance worker, being a member of the Temple of Honor, also a member of the G. A. R.

Jesse G. Bunell was born in the village of Manlius, Onondaga Co., N. Y., Jan. 15, 1817. His parents were Jesse and Eliza (Crawley) Bunell. When three years of age his parents removed to New York city, where he resided with them until June, 1861, when he took up his home with his aunt in Middlesex Co., Canada, until April, 1862, when he came to Richland county, and in August of that year enlisted in company B, 25th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the Rebellion. After his return he was engaged in agricultural pursuits in the town of Westford, in Richland county, until the fall of 1874, when he was elected county clerk and twice re-elected, his time expiring Jan. 1, 1881, since which time he has been employed as book-keeper and assistant postmaster by D. G. James, of Richland Center. He was married

Oct. 20, 1867, to Sophronia Moody, daughter of Joseph Moody, of Westford, Wis., and they now have four children living—Alice, Charles, Bessie and an infant daughter. Mr. Bunell is a member of Boscobel chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and at present master of Richland Lodge No. 66, A. F. & A. M. He is a republican in politics and identified with the G. A. R.

Major A. M. Crumbecker is not one of the pioneers but is one of the leading farmers in Richland county, having settled on section 34, Richland town, in the spring of 1865. He has given attention to tilling the soil and now owns 335 acres of land, with excellent improvements, and his location for a farm is one of the best in the county. Mr. Crumbecker was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, July 14, 1829. His parents, Isaac and Hannah Crumbecker, were natives of Maryland, but settled in Ohio many years ago and engaged in farming. The subject of this sketch, in 1853, was married to Mary C. Eakin. She died, leaving one daughter—Florence. In 1859 he was married to Hannah Pennock, and by this union five children have been born—Lenora, Estella, Mary, Harry and Winifred. In August, 1861, A. M. Crumbecker enlisted as a private in company A, 32d, Ohio Infantry. He was at once commissioned first lieutenant, and a few months later promoted to the rank of captain. In the spring of 1863 he became major of the regiment and served in that capacity until October, 1864, at which time a portion of the regiment re-enlisted, and Major Crumbecker, having served the full term of his enlistment, resigned his commission, after having participated in all the battles, marches and skirmishes of the regiment. He then returned to his home, and in 1865 came to Wisconsin, as before stated. He always votes the republican ticket, takes an interest in the welfare of the party, but does not aspire to office. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and highly respected as a citizen. During the war Major Crumbecker was a good soldier, and had the confidence and respect of his command. He

was among those who enlisted purely from a love of country and the right, and has always been actuated and governed in his intercourse with his fellow-men by honest and commendable convictions, and he is a worthy representative of the best class of Richland county citizens.

George L. Spangler, city marshal, was born in Adams Co., Ind., Feb. 11, 1853. His father died in 1857, and he then lived in the family of his uncle, James Essex, with whom, in March, 1866, he came to Wisconsin and settled in the town of Bloom. In 1873 Mr. Essex removed to Kansas. In the spring of 1872 the subject of this sketch was married to Eliza Allbaugh. He then purchased eighty acres of land and engaged in farming. He spent one season lumbering on the Mississippi river, and for several years operated a clover huller. This latter enterprise proved a great misfortune, for, on the 30th of January, 1880, while feeding the machine, his right hand came in contact with the cylinder and was so badly mangled that amputation above the wrist was necessary. After meeting with this misfortune Mr. Spangler left the farm and removed to Richland Center and for two years served as deputy sheriff. He has been city marshal since 1881, and is a member of the encampment of the I. O. O. F. Mr. and Mrs. Spangler have two children—Etta Lenora and Ira Leonard.

James Dove is proprietor of the oldest blacksmith business in Richland Center, having established the same in 1866. He is also a member of the firm of Dove Bros., dealers in furniture, etc. Mr. Dove was born in St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., Oct. 13, 1825. His parents being Charles and Mary Dove. He learned the trade of blacksmith and in 1854 came west, residing in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin until 1866, when as before stated, he came to Richland Center. In October, 1864, he was married to Anna Johnson, and they have one daughter—Hattie. Mr. Dove is a man who

attends strictly to his own business and is respected as a citizen.

Fred P. Lawrence was born at Bear Creek in the town of Ithaca, Richland county, March 4, 1860. His parents were C. A. and Maria (Carpenter) Lawrence; his father at that time being engaged in farming. In 1867 the family removed to Richland Center. Fred P. attended school at Bear Creek one year, and upon moving the county seat, continued in school until sixteen years of age. In 1876 he commenced work for A. H. Krouskop, and continued with him for three years when he went into the hardware business, which he still follows, now being in the employ of Strang & Dondna, at Richland Center. Mr. Lawrence was married on the 16th of February, 1882, to Grace A. Chandler, daughter of D. O. Chandler, of Richland Center. They have one child—Myra, born Feb. 7, 1883.

F. D. Fowler, in April, 1867, settled on section 36, town of Richland, having purchased the land in 1865. Here he resided (with his exception of three years when he rented his farm) until 1882. He however worked most of the time at his trade, carpenter and joiner. In 1882 he removed to Richland Center, where in 1883 he built for himself a spacious dwelling house, and is now well situated to enjoy life. He still owns his farm which contains 160 acres. Mr. Fowler was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., Jan. 3, 1825. His father was a tanner but also owned a small farm on which the family resided. In 1841 the subject of this sketch left home and followed a sea-faring life until 1848, sailing on the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans and visiting ports in all parts of the globe. Returning to his native State, he attended school and also taught school, and learned his trade. He was married in 1852 to Maria A. Cole, who was a native of Jefferson Co., N. Y. In 1855 they came to Wisconsin and resided in Dodge county until they came to Richland. In 1862 Mr. Fowler enlisted in company A, 24th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

He was wounded at the battle of Murfreesboro and disabled from service. He was honorably discharged in June, 1863. Returning to Dodge county, he sold his property, went back to New York and in July, 1864, enlisted in company E, 20th New York Cavalry, and served until mustered out of service at the close of the war. He then came again to Wisconsin and lived in Dodge county until 1867. Mr. Fowler has been identified with the republican party since its organization. In his religious views he is liberal. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have had five children born to them, four of whom are now living—Frank, Edgar E., Irwin S. and Chester A.

Frank Sanford came to Richland county in 1867, and purchased a tannery located west of Richland Center, and operated the same about three years, since which time it has been idle. Mr. Sanford was not engaged in any regular business until 1878, when he built a livery and feed barn and established a livery business, which he sold out in February, 1879, and re-purchased in 1884, and has since carried on an extensive livery business besides operating the stage lines between Richland Center and Viola, West Lima and Cazenovia. Mr. Sanford was born in Mercer Co., Penn., Dec. 14, 1830. The family in 1833 removed to Michigan, where the father died in 1845, and as the family were left in moderate circumstances, the subject of this sketch worked at various employments during the summer seasons, and attended school winters. He went to Galena, Ill., in 1848, and in 1851 came to Wisconsin and had charge of a lead furnace until 1856, when on account of failing eyesight, he spent a season in St. Louis. In 1857 he returned to Mineral Point and engaged in the livery business. In 1862 he went to Idaho and worked at mining four years, then again returned to Mineral Point, where he was employed in the tanning business, coming from thence to this county in 1867, as before stated. He was married in 1858 to Caroline Clems; they have five children—

George, Lewis, Ella, Caroline and Anna. Mr. Sanford is a Royal Arch Mason.

J. D. Harring was born in Waukesha county, Jan. 6, 1847. His parents were J. G. and Jane C. (Butler) Harring. His mother died in 1852, and his father then, with his children, emigrated to Michigan, where he married Mary E. Merrett. He returned to Wisconsin and in 1868 came to Richland county. The subject of this sketch was married in 1873 to Miss C. A. Derriekson, and now resides on section 12, town of Richland, where he now owns 200 acres. His farm at the time of his purchase was unimproved, and covered with timber. Mr. Harring is politically a republican, and has been a member of the town board, four years, and chairman one year. Mr. and Mrs. Harring are the parents of three children—Ismay, Nellie and J. G. Mr. Harring's parents now live in Juneau county.

George H. Strang was born in Janesville, Rock Co., Wis., Sept. 7, 1850. He is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Spoon) Strang. In 1854 the family removed to Sauk county and engaged in farming. In 1883 the parents emigrated to Charles City, Iowa, where they now reside. George H. Strang came to Richland Center in 1868, entered the employ of James Bros., and learned the tinner trade. In 1878 he went in partnership with W. F. Doudna, and has since been engaged in the hardware business, the name of the firm being Strang & Doudna. Mr. Strang was married in 1873 to Lizzie E. James, daughter of George H. James. They have three sons—Bert, Rupert and Scott. Mr. Strang is a republican in his politics, and has held local office.

J. A. Cleveland established his present drug business, in May, 1881. His residence, in the east part of the village, is one of the best in town. Mr. Cleveland was born in Chenango Co., N. Y., in November, 1846, and resided in his native State, until twenty years of age. He then went to Story Co., Iowa, from whence he came to Wisconsin. He was married in 1872 to Minnie J. Benbow, daughter of Benjamin

Benbow, of Ithaca. They have one son—Frank. Mr. Cleveland is a member of the Masonic fraternity, a shrewd business man, and a good citizen.

August Larson was born in Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 2, 1842. He learned his trade, (cabinet maker) and resided in his native city, until 1866. He then emigrated to the United States and first stopped at New York city, where he worked at his trade about eighteen months. He then worked one year in Chicago. He subsequently, at different intervals, worked at St. Paul, Minn., La Crosse, Ontario, and Milwaukee, Wis., Buffalo, N. Y., Windsor, Canada, and Detroit, Mich. He then returned to Ontario, Wis., from whence, in 1873, he came to Richland Center. Here he entered the employ of Capt. Henry Toms, whom he served (with the exception of six months spent in Dakota) until 1880. He established himself in the furniture business, July 1, 1881, in which he is meeting with marked success. Mr. Larson is a first-class mechanic, and a man who attends strictly to his own business. On Nov. 19, 1874, he was married to Rosa Mayfield, daughter of David Mayfield, and they now have one son—Albert, born Feb. 18, 1882.

Oliver G. Munson was born in Howard Co., Iowa, March 2, 1856. His parents being C. M. and M. R. (Taft) Munson. He was educated in the common schools, and in 1871 commenced newspaper work in the *Plain Dealer* office at Cresco, Iowa. He was subsequently in the *Times* office at said place. He served in every capacity, sweeping the office, setting type, doing job work and writing editorials, thus becoming a practical printer. In 1876 he came to Richland Center, and soon afterwards became associated as partner with W. M. Fogo in the publication of the *Republican*, afterward changed to *Republican and Observer*, Mr. Munson was married Dec. 15, 1881, to Josie C. Downs, daughter of W. H. Downs, and they now have one daughter. He is a member of

the A. F. & A. M., the I. O. O. F. and the Temple of Honor.

R. N. McKay was born in Ireland, Oct. 22, 1851. His parents were William and Margaret McKay. The family emigrated to the United States in 1852, and first settled in Ozaukee Co., Wis., and engaged in farming. They afterward moved to Dodge county, where the father died in 1860. The mother now resides in in Richland county. Six of the children are still living—Agnes, W. J., James, R. N., Sarah and Mary. R. N. McKay was married in 1875 to Laura Davis, a daughter of J. L. Davis, of Vernon county. In 1877 he came Richland Center. He had charge of the county poor farm for two years, and was engaged in farming until 1880, since which time he has been engaged in a grocery, provision and crockery trade. Mr. and Mrs. McKay have two children—Alice and Roxey.

B. N. Smith was born in Pennsylvania, March 20, 1838. In 1852 the family removed to Cattaraugus Co., N. Y. He here commenced work at his trade, that of blacksmith. In 1856 he went to Missouri, where he followed his trade, taught school and studied medicine. In 1859-60 he attended the medical department of the State University, at Keokuk, Iowa. In 1861 he enlisted in company B, 29th Ohio, was afterwards commissioned second lieutenant of company K, and still later was on the brigade staff of the second division of the 12th Army Corps. He was mustered out in 1864, but was in the quartermaster's department until 1865. After the war he spent some time, as well as money, in the oil regions of Pennsylvania, kept hotel in Ohio, constructed five miles of railroad in Illinois, manufactured mining tools in Indiana, and was subsequently in Chicago, from whence he came to Wisconsin. He is now engaged in a general blacksmith business at Richland Center. Mr. Smith is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Whitney Smith is not an old resident of the county, but there are so many historical incidents

connected with the history of his parents that a short sketch will prove of interest to all. Whitney Smith was born in the town of Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming Valley, Penn., July 14, 1804, his parents being Jonathan and Anna (Truesdale) Smith. His grandfather, William Smith, was a native of Connecticut, and a ship builder by occupation. He accumulated quite a fortune, married and reared a family of children, and then removed to Wyoming Valley, where he purchased property and soon had good improvements. But alas, one day they were surprised by the Indians, compelled to flee from their home, and before they were out of sight the buildings were in flames. The family suffered terribly, as it was obliged to pass through the swamp known as the "Shades of Death," and travel a distance of sixty miles before reaching a white settlement. They returned to Connecticut, where they resided until peace again prevailed in Wyoming Valley, when they again removed thither, but no sooner had they become nicely settled than the Indians again drove them from their homes and destroyed the property. None of the family were killed, but forty prisoners were taken, and among the number was Jonathan Smith, who was then a boy of fifteen years. The Indians soon commenced killing the prisoners, and as young Smith did not choose to be shot down like a dog, he started to run down the hillside, but he soon saw himself surrounded by Indians and so halted. Thrice the savages threw tomahawks at him, but he dodged the weapons. At last the chief of the tribe appeared, and stated that as the boy had been shot at three times, a gun snapped three times, and a tomahawk thrown at him three times, it was plain to be seen that he was protected by the Great Spirit, and it would surely be death to any Indian who would take his life. He was then taken with the tribe, and at last, on account of his bravery, was adopted as the chief's son. He remained with the tribe five years and six months, and the manner of his escape was thus: The In-

dians were about to hold a war dance, and on such occasions they partook freely of whisky, and it was their usual custom to kill a prisoner; therefore, as young Smith was the only captive, he was somewhat afraid that, notwithstanding his being a great favorite of the tribe, in a fit of drunkenness they might kill him, so he asked permission of his mother, the chief's wife, to go to Montreal, near which place the tribe was encamped, until the war dance was over, and was granted the permission. He went to said city, dressed and painted in true savage style, and passed along the streets without any one taking any particular notice of him. At last he met a negro, to whom he related his experience. The negro informed an officer, who at once laid plans to release Smith from his bondage. He accordingly had Smith appear sick, and when the chief's wife came after him, Smith pretended to be very sick and in great agony, whereupon the officer told her that the boy was sure to die, and that she had better make what she could out of him. She at last consented to release her claims for two gallons of whisky, which was granted her, and Smith returned to his friends, and afterwards again resided in the valley where he was taken prisoner. Whitney Smith served an apprenticeship at the tanning trade, and then engaged in the business. He subsequently carried on a mercantile business in his native town, where he was married. In 1836 he emigrated to Illinois, and settled in what is now Stark county. He gave the name to the town of Wyoming, in that county, and was postmaster at that place for several years. In 1844 he came to Wisconsin and located at Mineral Point, was at first engaged in mercantile, and afterward in tanning business. In the fall of 1876 he removed to Chicago, and in the spring of 1878 came to Richland Center, where he is now living a retired life. Mr. Smith has been twice married, the second time, Feb. 28, 1849, to Anna Maria Clemes. She is a native of England. They have reared four children, only one of whom is living—Frank C., who

is now assistant professor of chemistry and mineralogy in the university at Ann Arbor, Mich. Mr. Smith is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is one of the elders. William Smith and family were driven from their home in Wyoming Valley by the Indians three times. The family twice returned to Connecticut, and upon their return William Smith died before the Indians made the last raid.

H. B. Allen, druggist, bookseller and grocer, is a son of Harvey and Fannie E. Allen, and was born in Walworth Co., Wis., Dec. 20, 1846. He commenced mercantile life as clerk at the age of thirteen, and in 1862 went to Beloit, where he learned the drug business. In October, 1879, he came to Richland Center and purchased a half interest in the business of F. P. Bowen. In March, 1883, he became sole proprietor, and is now doing a leading business. In 1869 he was married to Neatie Shue, daughter of Ira T. Shue, of Beloit. They have two children—Frank H. and Lottie G. Mr. Allen is an enterprising citizen, a republican in politics, a Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity, and a member of the I. O. O. F.

L. W. Baxter represents the profession of dentistry at Richland Center. He located here May 18, 1880, at which date he opened his office in the Krouskop block, where he remained until the same was destroyed by fire. His office is now pleasantly located on the second floor of the Pier block, and is supplied with all conveniences to do first-class work. Dr. Baxter was born in Waukesha Co., Wis., June 15, 1853. He received a good common school education, and assisted his father in tilling the soil until 1879. In that year he commenced the study and practice of his profession under the guidance of Dr. G. A. Sinclair, of New Lisbon, with whom he continued until he came to Richland Center. He was married Jan. 8, 1882, to Alice Burnham, daughter of H. L. Burnham.

W. J. Hillman is permanently located and engaged in photography in Richland Center. He





A. L. Dowell



established this business in October, 1881. Mr. Hillman was born in the State of New York, April 17, 1849. The family soon removed to Massachusetts, and in 1856 went to Cannon Falls, Minn., where the mother still resides. The father died in 1861. Mr. Hillman enlisted at St. Paul, Minn., April 3, 1865, being scarcely sixteen years of age, and was assigned to the 2d Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, going south April 12 and joining the regiment at Washington. He was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 14, the war being over. He then returned to Minnesota, and spent the time in farming and going to school until twenty years of age, teaching school two terms. Since that time he has devoted his attention principally to the art of photography. He is a skilled artist and successful in his business. He was married in 1871 to Caro W. Barnes. They have two children—Mabel, born June 6, 1875, and Charles, born Aug. 14, 1878.

C. W. Slocum, the former landlord of the Park Hotel, became connected with the same in January, 1882, and served as its clerk until the following October. He then had charge of a hotel at Owatonna, Minn., four months, when he again returned to the "Park", and in May, 1883, became proprietor. Mr. Slocum was born in Windham Co., Vt., Oct. 22, 1857. He is the son of James and Margette (Robinson) Slocum. In 1856 the family emigrated to Wisconsin and settled at Mazomanie, where the parents still reside, and here the subject of this sketch helped till the soil until he embarked in the hotel business. He is courteous and accommodating, and under his management the "Park" became a favorite with the traveling public. His connection with said hotel ceased about Nov. 1, 1883, when he removed to Ipswich, Dak., and is there engaged in the same business.



## CHAPTER XXX.

## TOWN OF RICHWOOD.

The town of Richwood forms the southwest corner of Richland county, embracing township 9 and a portion of township 8, range 2 west. The southern portion of the town is comparatively level and the soil is somewhat sandy. This portion of the town includes what is known as Sand Prairie. North of this the surface is somewhat diversified, in some places being quite rough. As a whole, however, Richwood is among the very best towns in Richland county.

Knapp's creek enters Richwood by way of section 6 and traverses the entire length of the town on its way to the Wisconsin river. It furnishes numerous water privileges, several of which have been improved. The creek derived its name from a trapper of that name, who had a cabin a few miles from the mouth of the creek, and followed hunting and trapping through this region before the territory was inhabited by permanent settlers. He returned to the county once, after John Coumbe had settled within the limits of Richwood, for the purpose of getting some traps that he had buried on a former visit. This is about all that is known of the man. No one knew from whence he came or whither he went. Byrd's creek traverses the eastern portion of the town. These streams, with their numerous spring tributaries, furnish an abundant supply of water for farming and household purposes, as well as power for driving a vast amount of machinery.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settler within the limits now comprising the town of Richwood was John

Coumbe, the first actual settler in Richland county. Mr. Coumbe first came to the county in 1838 and erected a log cabin on section 35, town 9, range 2 west, but as the Indians were rather numerous and as Mr. Coumbe did not admire them as his only neighbors he returned to the south side of the Wisconsin river, and again the territory which now comprises Richland county was uninhabited by any white person. In 1840, however, Mr. Coumbe again crossed the river and took up his abode in the cabin he had erected two years previously, and here he gave his attention to agricultural pursuits until the time of his death. He was a good neighbor and an honored citizen.

Edward Coumbe came to the county shortly after his brother, John, and settled on Sand Prairie. He remained there until 1848, when he traded his property to Thomas Elliott, and returned to Grant county. He was elected a delegate from Richland county to the first State convention, called to draft a constitution for the State of Wisconsin, which assembled at Madison on the 5th of October, 1846.

John McKinney came in 1841 and selected land on section 27, bringing his family in the fall of the same year. Mr. McKinney was a valuable citizen and neighbor; for instead of hunting, fishing and trapping, he at once commenced improving his land and raising food upon which to subsist. He obtained a small set of buhrs, with which, by means of a horse power, he ground not only his own corn, but also that of his neighbors. He was a native of

Virginia, and came of an industrious and honest race, but he was an unsuccessful manager or poor financier. He resided in the county about eight years, then moved to the south side of the river for the purpose of educating his children. He afterwards returned to the county; but his death occurred at Muscoda in February, 1882.

Peter Kinder, a native of Kentucky, came here in 1844 and located on section 26, where he lived until the time of his death. He was a successful farmer, a good neighbor and gained a large circle of friends as well as the respect of all who knew him. In early days he was noted as a public benefactor. No one in need ever went to him in vain, and his uniform kindness and feeling for others became almost proverbial.

Adam Byrd was also one of the first settlers in the town. He was an Ohio man. He located on section 28 near the creek which bears his name, and erected the first saw-mill in the town of Richwood. He remained here about twelve years when he removed to Oregon.

Vincent B. Morgan and George C. White also came at a very early day. Morgan was a native of Georgia, and was a good natured, whole-souled fellow, weighing about 225 pounds. He took a claim on section 31, but never did much farming, preferring to hunt and fish. He died here in 1853.

George C. White was a Pennsylvania German, and had the usual good qualities of that class of people, industry and good management. He located on section 34, where he lived until the war broke out, when he and his only son enlisted in the 11th Wisconsin regiment and both fill soldier's graves. Mr. White was one of the first to fill the office of sheriff for Richland county.

D. M. Shore settled in Richland county on the 30th of August, 1846, and one year later came to the town of Richwood and settled on

section 26. Here he lived, following farming, until his death, which occurred in 1883. He was born in Kentucky in 1816; moved with his parents to Illinois, where he was married to Nancy J. Parker, and from thence came to this county as stated.

E. Ash came here in 1848 (or 1849) and located on the northwest quarter of section 27. He resided here about seven years when he removed to Iowa. He only improved about twenty acres of his farm here.

George Rea came at about the same time and lived with O. Carson until 1851, when he purchased the northeast quarter of section 20. This was his home for about thirty years when he removed to Kansas. He now lives at Springfield, Mo. -

Rev. William H. Hoskins was the first minister of the gospel to settle in Richland county. He represented the United Brethren denomination. In 1853 he came here and settled on Sand Prairie and preached at Crow Hollow, Sand Prairie, Spring Green, Lone Rock and Pea Ridge (now Sandusky), a circuit of sixty miles in length. He traveled on horseback, making each appointment every two weeks. In 1854 he purchased forty acres of land on section 17, erected a saw mill and thus laid the foundation of Excelsior. Later he became superannuated as a preacher and engaged in farming. Mr. Hoskins was born in Onondaga Co., N. Y., Sept. 11, 1817. In 1838 he was married to Mary Winton, came to Wisconsin and settled in Dane county, coming to Richland county in 1853, as stated.

After this time the settlement was more rapid. Many more of the old settlers are treated at length in other connections.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first death in the town was that of the wife of James Moore. Her remains were buried on the southeast quarter of section 53, on land afterward owned by G. M. Clark.

The first marriage in the town was that of Daniel Byrd to Harriet Parker.

The first religious services in the town were held at the house of Edward Ash on section 27. Rev. William Kanoyer, a United Brethren, officiated.

The first birth that occurred in the town was that of Melinda Morgan, whose nativity in April, 1843, entitles her to the laurels of being the first child born in the county as well as town.

The second marriage in the county also occurred here on this pioneer ground. This was the marriage of W. G. Parker to Emily McKinney, in the spring of 1848.

The first frame barn in the town was erected by Myron Whitcomb in 1852. The lumber was sawed at Rockbridge and the shingles were shaved and nearly one half an inch in thickness. New siding was put on the barn in 1883 but the roof was still in good condition. The barn is 40x50 feet in size with 16 feet post. The timber was framed by Noah Titus and consisted solely of pine.

The first house erected in the territory which now comprises the town of Richwood, was also the first in the county. It was the log cabin erected by John Coumbe, in 1838, on section 35.

The first horse team brought into the county were brought into the town of Richwood, in 1841, by Thomas Andrews.

The first brick residence in the town of Richwood was erected in 1855 by Henry Miller, on section 26. This building was enlarged in 1879, by S. B. Marsh, to a two story building, and in 1883 it was the only brick residence in the town.

The first mill in the town was built by Adam Byrd, on Byrd's creek. Its history will be found elsewhere in this volume.

The first postoffice in the town was established on Sand Prairie, in 1848-9, with Johnston Young as first postmaster. Several years later the office was removed to Port Andrews, and Dr. R. M. Miller was commissioned as postmaster. He was succeeded in turn by William

Harper, L. Janney, R. L. Carver and J. R. Carver, the latter being the present incumbent. Mail is received tri-weekly from Muscoda.

The first orchard in Richland county was set out by Myron Whitcomb, in this town, in 1851. The trees were purchased from Henry Conner, who had brought them from Indiana. This first orchard numbered fifty apple trees, but they soon withered and died. But Mr. Whitcomb did not despair, and the next year he purchased 800 trees, 100 of which he set out himself and the balance he sold to the neighbors. The majority of those set out by him lived and he now has a good orchard.

The first chestnut trees were set out by Edward Clark.

#### INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

Knapp's creek, on its passage through section 20, furnishes an excellent water privilege; eight feet head of water. Alonzo Carson was the first to utilize and improve this power. He purchased the property in 1855 and erected a saw-mill. In April, 1866, a freshet washed the mill away, and he at once rebuilt. In 1868 or 1869 he sold to Avery & Langdon, and in 1870, A. H. Avery became sole proprietor. In 1871 he built a grist-mill, at a cost of about \$5,000, equipping it with two run of buhrs. Mr. Avery died in 1879, and the property was soon afterward purchased by B. F. Washburn. Samuel Yeager owned an interest in this property for several years and operated a chair factory in connection.

The Ellsworth Mills are located on section 6. They were erected by J. S. Ellsworth in 1856, and are still his property, but since 1876 they have been operated by his son, M. D. Ellsworth. The mills do general sawing, planing, matching, and band-sawing, the principal products being material for wagons and agricultural implements.

In 1867 Thomas J. Ellsworth erected a tannery near Ellsworth mills, and operated the same for about ten years.

In 1848 Melendeth Whit settled on Byrd's creek, and put in shape a device for crushing hominy. It was so arranged that by the use of a water-wheel a weight would be raised and let fall into a wooden mortar. In the mortar about a peck of corn could be placed, and this would be crushed to meal in a day's time. The only trouble Mr. Whit complained of was that the crows would occasionally carry off the corn before it was ground.

Adam Byrd came to Richland county in 1844 and settled on section 25, in the town of Richwood, near the creek which bears his name. He erected the first saw-mill in the town, and had the same in operation in 1845. The property subsequently passed into the hands of John Coumbe, who in turn sold to Coleman & Carver. These gentlemen erected a new mill, but as they became somewhat financially embarrassed, John Coumbe again became owner of the property. In 1865 David Dewey, in company with two other gentlemen, purchased the property, but Mr. Dewey soon became sole proprietor. In 1875 he built a steam mill, using some of the machinery that had been used in the old water mill, which is now in disuse. The steam mill is driven by a twenty-horse power engine.

The first buhrs for grinding corn in the county were brought into the town of Richwood, in May, 1846, by John McKinney. They were run by horse power.

In 1879 H. B. Ellsworth leased the water privilege which Knapp's creek furnishes on section 17, and set a carding mill in operation. He afterward added a saw-mill and general wood-working department, manufacturing broom handles, table legs, sled runners, etc.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The Christian Church was organized at the school house of district No. 4, in 1878, with Revs. M. Sheffield and Jacob Felton, officiating. Among the first members were S. B. Marsh, wife and child; William Ritchie and wife; J. W. Jones and wife; Mrs. Jane Shores, D. Field,

Emma Richardson and Mrs. Howland. The church is in good condition, the pastors have been: Revs. Lewis, Hines, Martin and Buroker.

The Norwegian M. E. Church is located on section 12. It is a log building which was erected in 1862, but the society was organized sometime previous to that time. Among the first members were: H. G. Collier and family, George Sheldon and family, Andrew Anderson and family, Ole Paulson and family, Ole Johnson and family, A. Bergam and family and John Olson and family. The first pastor was Abe Knudtson.

#### CEMETERIES.

The first cemetery in the town was laid out on the southwest quarter of section 35, the land being donated by John Coumbe. The first body interred here was that of James Carson, whose death took place in 1851. The coffin was made by James Jones, or, as he was usually called, by English Jones.

Wright's cemetery is located on section 24, upon land which was donated by I. J. Wright.

Sand Prairie cemetery is located on section 34. The land was donated by Edmund Clark.

Shore's cemetery is located on section 26. Coates' burial ground is located on section 5. There is also one burial ground on section 5, one on section 2, one on section 11, and another on section 29.

#### FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL IN RICHLAND COUNTY.

The first school board elected in the county consisted of J. R. Smith, Thomas Matthews and Jackson Darnell, who, in 1848, took steps to erect a log school house at Orion. Mr. Darnell started out in search of a teacher and soon employed Mary F. Mulamphy, now Mrs. Joseph Elliott, of Highland, Iowa county, to teach a term of three months at \$23 per month. She, on the 5th of June, of said year, came to the county. The school house was not yet completed, but as it was necessary to commence immediately in order to receive the public money, Miss Mulamphy opened school at the house of J. R. Smith. In a few weeks, however, the school

house was completed, and the school then had more room. As the new building had seats around the edge of the room and the desks consisted of boards laid on pins driven into the wall, so that when the students were writing they were obliged to face the wall and thus turn their backs to the teacher; but the school progressed finely and the students, twenty-five in number, were greatly benefited by attending. The teacher gave good satisfaction and was thus employed to teach the second term in 1849.

#### RICHWOOD SCHOOLS.

The first school in this town was taught at the house of Peter Kinder in 1848-9. This was a subscription school. William Durren was the teacher.

The first public school in the town was taught during the same season in a log school house located on the northeast corner of section 35. Elizabeth Conner was the teacher.

At an early day a man named Hunter taught a subscription school on Sand Prairie.

In 1857 Richwood had four schools.

In 1884 there were ten schools in the town, all in successful operation, having comfortable school buildings. One of these is a free high school at Port Andrew.

#### OFFICIAL MATTERS.

The first election in this region was held at the house of Matthew Alexander in 1847, to choose delegates to the constitutional convention. There were thirty-eight votes cast, there being scarcely any restriction upon the right of suffrage.

On April 2, 1850, was held the first election for town officers in Richwood, it having just been organized as a separate town and election precinct. The meeting was held at the house of Peter Kinder and resulted in the choice of the following officers: Adam Byrd, William Kincaannon and Samuel Fleck, supervisors; Johnston Young, clerk; Myron Whitcomb, treasurer; George C. White, superintendent of town schools; W. R. Kincaannon, assessor; V.

B. Morgan, overseer of the poor. Johnson Young, Alvin B. Slaughter and Mark A. Byrd were elected justices of the peace, but only Young qualified and gave bond of \$500, having for sureties G. C. White and V. B. Morgan. At the same election Alonzo Cave and John Coumbe were chosen constables. Although no record exists of the number of votes cast at this election, at the ballot taken June 4, same year, we find twenty-six votes taken.

The present officers of the town, elected in the spring of 1883, are: Supervisors, L. M. Thorp, chairman, W. R. Garner and Chris. Peterson; clerk, E. J. Langdon; treasurer, John Brown; assessor, James Appleby; justices, Henry Conner, C. J. Moore, W. H. Haskins and N. B. Miller; constables, T. C. Wallace, Thomas Ellsworth and Orrin Jones. Since the organization nothing has occurred to mar the tranquility of Richwood's official career. Good men have been chosen to fill the offices and public matters have been efficiently cared for. Among those who have been prominent in town affairs and have filled town offices are the following: Thomas Ewing, Henry Connor, H. F. Coates, Levi Persinger, I. J. Wright, I. N. Miller, J. D. Doseh, Nathan Winton, L. M. Thorpe, R. S. Carver, John Coumbe, S. B. Marsh, J. H. Tilley, J. W. Jones, H. J. Clark, R. N. Young, J. S. Ellsworth, Robert Buchanan, B. F. Washburn, J. S. Clark and W. R. Garner.

#### PORT ANDREWS.

This village was named in honor of Capt. Thomas Andrews, who settled on the southeast corner of section 35 in 1841. He afterward kept a small store and succeeded in having the postoffice moved to this place from Sand Prairie. In 1850 he laid out four blocks of village lots. On the 14th of November, 1854, the plat was enlarged by what was known as the Andrews & Miller addition, which contained fourteen blocks, some of which, however, were fractional. In 1856 Port Andrews had grown to be a flourishing, wide-awake village, with several



stores, shops, groceries, saloons, schools, churches, etc; but the railroad was built on the south side of the river, steamboats ceased to ply the river, and the place gradually ran down, until in 1884 the place had almost become a thing of the past, containing only two stores, a blacksmith shop, shoe shop, high school and church.

The first school at Port Andrews was kept by Thomas Andrews.

The second store was opened in 1850 by R. M. and I. N. Miller in a small building which had been erected by William Kincannon.

The third general store was kept by Palmer & McClure.

The first blacksmith here was Hardin Morse.

In an early day every house was open to strangers and travelers. The first hotel was opened by Mr. Isham. He sold to Joseph Elliott.

The first school house in Port Andrews was erected in 1854.

The first religious society organized at Port Andrews was the Methodist Episcopal, which denomination effected an organization in 1854. Meetings were held in the school house.

Thomas Andrews, usually called Capt. Andrews, was born near Quincy, Ill., in 1823. His parents were natives of Ireland but were reared in South Carolina. The father died and the mother married again, and in 1830 came to Wisconsin and settled near Mineral Point. Here Thomas followed mining until 1841, when he crossed the Wisconsin river and settled at the port which afterward took his name. Capt. Andrews served as pilot on the river and afterward purchased the boat *Wisconsin*. He next built the *Zouave*, which he traded for the *Minnehaha*. He spent the most of his time upon the river until the time of his death, March 22, 1880. He was a man of but little education, and in after life often regretted the fact. He was a good citizen and was respected by all. On the 4th of June, 1848, he was

married to Charlotta Coumbe, a sister of John Coumbe. They reared three children—Mary, Christa and Elizabeth S.

#### EXCELSIOR.

The first man to cut brush for the purpose of improving in the vicinity of Excelsior was W. H. Haskins. In 1854 he purchased the southwest quarter of section 16, at which place Knapp's creek furnished an excellent water power, and here he erected a saw-mill. The place was named by W. H. Coates on the same day on which the frame work of the grist mill was erected. A postoffice was established in 1857 and Knowlton & Coates kept a general store, but there was not much of an impetus given to the growth of the place until 1867, in which year the village was platted. Myron Whitcomb and Samuel Noble laid out four blocks on the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 16, and C. C. Whitcomb and J. M. Craig laid out eight blocks on the southeast quarter of section 17. C. C. Whitcomb subsequently made an addition of two blocks. The village is pleasantly situated on the west side of Knapp's creek, which furnished two excellent water privileges at this point. It is surrounded by a good farming country, and its growth, although not remarkably rapid, has been steady. In 1884 the village contained four general stores, one grocery store, one drug store, one grist mill, one saw-mill, one carding mill, one harness shop, one shoe shop, two blacksmith and wagon shops, one furniture store, postoffice, public school, one hotel, one millinery store, lodges of I. O. O. F., I. O. G. T., and G. A. R. and a Methodist Episcopal Church organization.

The first store at Excelsior was opened by Knowlton & Coates.

R. P. & W. Matthews opened a store in 1866 and closed out in 1868.

William McKitrick opened a store in November, 1866. The year following he sold to Henry Henthorn, who closed out in 1869.

The first furniture dealer here was William Howell. He established business in 1881, and in 1882 was succeeded by John S. McKinney.

The first blacksmith at Excelsior was William Haskins, who opened a shop here in 1867. Henry Couey opened a shop in 1869. C. J. Moore opened a wagon and carriage shop here in 1879.

The first harness shop was opened by R. Buchanan, Jr., in 1870.

B. F. Washburn established a general mercantile business in September, 1870, T. P. Logan being his partner for about four months.

The general merchandise business of Logan & Coume was established by T. P. Logan and J. Robert Coume, in 1878. They are thorough business men and have a large trade.

J. J. Brown engaged in the general merchandise business in 1871.

In February, 1883, E. Dosh purchased the dry goods department of B. F. Washburn's store, and established business.

Dr. J. T. Coates was the first to open a store devoted exclusively to drugs. In February, 1882, he sold to D. M. & O. F. David. The firm is now David & Co.

B. F. Washburn opened a wagon shop in 1873 and employed men to run it. In 1876 he sold to Couey & Pearson. The shop is now owned by B. F. Washburn.

In 1878 a newspaper was started at this village by Ira D. Hurlburt. This paper was greenback in proclivities and was called *The Excelsior Press*. It was not a successful venture, and collapsed after running along for about ten months' time. Mr. Hurlburt is now connected with the *Prairie du Chien Union*.

In 1870 C. C. Whitcomb erected a dwelling, which he afterwards enlarged and opened it to the public as the Excelsior Hotel. This was the first regular hotel in the village, although this was not upon the village plat. Mr. Whitcomb was landlord for some time, then leased the property. In 1883 L. E. Atkinson was landlord.

The first school in the village of Excelsior was taught by Elder Harvey in the winter of 1867-8, in C. C. Whitcomb's hall. William Durren was the teacher. The following summer the first school house in the village was erected. Annie Fay was the first teacher in this house.

In 1880 the people of Excelsior, needing more school room, erected a two-story school house at a cost of over \$1,000, and have since employed two teachers. The first principal was Prof. Keys. He was succeeded in turn by Profs. Clark, Jacobs and Huff.

The postoffice at Excelsior was established in 1857, with D. C. Stewart as the first postmaster. Mail was received once each week from Orion. Mr. Stewart was in turn succeeded by William Coates, H. F. Coates, George Powell, Daniel Noble, R. P. Matthews, L. J. Harvey, B. F. Washburn and T. P. Logan. The latter is the present postmaster. The office became a money order office in August, 1882. The first order was drawn Aug. 9, 1882, by Robert Buchanan, Jr., in favor of Benjamin Young & Son, of Milwaukee, for \$20. The first order paid was to S. M. Buchanan. During the year ending Aug. 1, 1883, there were 234 orders issued and thirty-nine were paid. The income of the office was about \$200. Mail is received three times each week from Muscoda, and once a week from Sugar Grove.

In 1854 W. H. Haskins purchased the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 16, at which point Knapp's creek furnishes an excellent water power. Here Mr. Haskins erected a saw-mill, equipping it with an old-fashioned sash saw. He sold the property to Rouse & Chapman, and they sold to Knowlton & Coates. In 1856 and 1857 these gentlemen erected a grist-mill, and on the day the frame was raised Mr. Coates suggested "Excelsior" as the name by which the place should be known in the future. In 1864 Myron Whitcomb and Samuel Noble purchased the property and operated the same until 1871, when Mr. Whit-

comb sold his interest to W. G. Moshier, who, in January, 1873, became sole proprietor. In November, 1881, Mr. Moshier sold to A. M. Stratton, who improved the property so as to make it the best in this part of the county. The saw-mill is also owned and operated by Mr. Stratton. The old sash saw has been superseded by a rotary saw, and the machinery is in good order. The grist-mill has two run of stone, and is run as a custom and merchant mill.

Richwood Lodge, No. 276, I. O. O. F., was organized March 5, 1878, with the following officers and charter members: James Lewis, N. G.; James Bachtenkircher, V. G.; A. H. Avery, secretary; Levi Persinger, treasurer; H. F. Coates and W. B. Grass. The following members have served as noble grands: James Lewis, A. H. Avery, James Bachtenkircher, B. F. Washburn, R. Buchanan, Jr., J. C. Thorp, H. F. Coates, W. M. Buchanan and G. W. Buchanan. Those who have served as vice-grands are: James Bachtenkircher, B. F. Washburn, R. Buchanan, Jr., J. C. Thorp, H. F. Coates, E. J. Langdon, H. C. Kyger and G. W. Buchanan. The secretaries have been: A. H. Avery, B. F. Washburn, R. Buchanan, Jr., J. C. Thorp, W. M. Buchanan, J. T. Coates, H. C. Kyger, G. W. Buchanan and J. Brown. The treasurers have been: Levi Persinger and Robert Buchanan, Sr. The total membership of the lodge from its organization to Nov. 1, 1883, was sixty-one. The present membership is about forty-five. The lodge meets every Saturday night and is in good working condition.

William Wright Post, No. 51, of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Excelsior, was organized Oct. 27, 1882; but previous to this time there was a meeting held for the purpose of taking steps to secure the organization of a post at this place. The following named were present at this meeting: Malon W. Lewis, company G, 19th Wisconsin Volunteers; E. W. Pearson, company B, 25th Wisconsin Volunteers; J.

W. Garner, company G, 57th Indiana Volunteers; Ira T. Dille, company K, 12th Wisconsin Volunteers; Craton Kincaannon, company B, 49th Wisconsin Volunteers; H. S. Brown, company H, 11th Wisconsin Volunteers; A. Brennaman, company K, 3d Wisconsin Volunteers; Alex. B. Faith, company H, 44th Wisconsin Volunteers; W. J. Owens, company F, 44th Wisconsin Volunteers; Edward Haskins, company A, 59th Wisconsin Volunteers; Henry Gray, 4th Wisconsin Battery; Thomas Davis, company G, 33d Wisconsin Volunteers; W. S. Dyer, company A, 116th Ohio Volunteers; Thomas Elliott, company B, 49th Wisconsin Volunteers. The following names appear upon the charter: B. F. Washburn, A. M. Stratton, C. J. Moore, Samuel Yeager, William E. Morgan, D. G. Watters, H. S. Brown, Edward Smith, David Clark, A. B. Shannon, Lewis Craigo, William Gulliford, Edward Dosch and Alonzo Packer. The first officers were: C. J. Moore, commander; Lewis Craigo, senior vice commander; Edward Smith, junior vice commander; Edward Dosch, adjutant; H. S. Brown, surgeon; A. Shannon, chaplain; A. M. Stratton, quartermaster; William Morgan, officer of the day; William Gulliford, officer of the guard; David Clark, quartermaster-sergeant; Alonzo Packer, sergeant-major. The post in November, 1883, had a membership of fifty-three, and held its meetings on the first and third Saturday evenings of each month. William Wright, the gallant young soldier in whose honor the post was named, was a son of I. J. Wright, and was born in the State of Ohio. He came with his parents to Richland county and assisted in tilling the soil. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in company B, 25th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until mustered out of service. Returning home, he attended school at Sextonville. He united in marriage with Mary Barnes, and was subsequently engaged in farming until his death. Mr. Wright was a whole souled, good hearted fellow, surrounded by a large cir-

cle of friends. His name was chosen as the name of Post No. 51, at the suggestion of Edward Doseh, who was his "chum" in early life.

The Excelsior Cornet Band was organized Aug. 25, 1881. The following are the members thereof: C. S. Hamilton, E flat and leader; George Hamilton, 2d E flat; Myron Noble, B flat; Oscar David, alto; Myron Brown, alto; Homer Winton, baritone; Harry Ellsworth, tuba; J. Pierson, tenor drum; Velours Coates, bass drum.

The Pioneer Silver Cornet Band, of Sand Prairie, was organized Oct. 21, 1879, and is a live institution. The roster is as follows: J. S. Clark, E flat and leader; Luther Appleby, 2d E flat; V. Hubanks, 1st B flat and musical director; W. R. Gamer, 1st alto; Peter Eaton, 2d alto and treasurer; L. Brown, tenor; A. Hubanks, baritone; J. M. Appleby, E flat bass and secretary; Theodore Kincannon, tenor drum; C. Atkinson, bass drum.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

In giving biographical sketches of the early settlers and prominent citizens of Richland county, we find none more deserving of special mention than the following well known citizens of Richwood:

C. C. Whitcomb, son of Myron Whitcomb, was born in Jo Daviess Co., Ill., Oct. 3, 1843. When only a year old, he came with his parents to the town of Richwood, Richland county. His early life was spent in assisting his father to till the soil, and afterwards in learning the trades of carpenter and wheelwright. He was considered a good mechanic. In 1863 he enlisted in the United States service and served in the quartermaster's department until May 1, 1864, at which date he was discharged, on account of sickness. Returning home, he, in partnership with J. M. Craigo, purchased the southeast quarter of section 17, a portion of which they afterwards laid out in town lots, that now constitute the site of Excelsior. They were also engaged in merchandising from 1867 to 1868. Mr.

Whitcomb then purchased his partner's interest, and closed out the merchandise in 1869, to Thomas Andrews. In 1874 he built the Excelsior House, and kept hotel until June, 1882, then leased the property. He afterwards traveled in the west for about a year. He was married Dec. 25, 1868, to Mahala Engert. They had two children, both of whom died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Whitcomb live in Excelsior at the present time.

Peter Kinder deserves particular mention among the pioneers of Richland county, for no man was more beloved and respected than he. His home was ever a welcome retreat for the weary stranger, and many a settler has had occasion to thank him for kindly service in time of need. Strong and resolute himself, he seemed to impart those characteristics to persons with whom he came in contact, not only giving them encouragement by words of cheer, but without money or charge, assisting them in cutting roads, building cabins, securing food and attending to their every want. It may be truly said of him that he was entirely free from selfish motives in these acts of kindness. He came here at a time when some more selfish persons took advantage of the situation to assist themselves, when an opportunity offered, and might have made money through the misfortunes of others; but any such action was entirely foreign to his nature, and his life was one of unbounded liberality and kindness, extending not only among his neighbors and friends, but to all whom he might render assistance, in times of poverty, danger or affliction. He was a native of Kentucky, born near Louisville, Feb. 7, 1799. His father was a farmer, but he commenced active life as an engineer on boats, on the lower Mississippi river. He was married to Mrs. Sarah (Parker) Hartwell, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and then followed farming in his native State, whence he removed to Indiana, and one year later, to Jo Daviess Co., Ill., where he was engaged in mining until 1845, in the spring of which year, with his family, consisting of wife

and two children, he came to Richland county and purchased a claim on section 26, Richwood town, and was here engaged in farming until the time of his death, which occurred Feb. 7, 1873. Peter Kinder was twice married, first, to a Miss Meek, who died leaving five children. His second wife died in June, 1875, leaving two children—Julia, now Mrs. J. W. Jones, and Solomon, who was born in Jo Daviess Co., Ill., Nov. 17, 1844, but as his parents came to this county in 1845, he may be called a Wisconsin boy. He lived with his parents until their death and now may be found at the old homestead. He was married Dec. 10, 1863, to Mary E. Elder, a daughter of Frank Elder. They have had six children—William, Lissie, Alice and Ida, now living; Mary J. and Ora deceased.

Myron Whitecomb, in 1844, came to the county and soon selected land on sections 26 and 35, which was claimed by another man whom he had to pay \$150 to release his claim. In January, 1845, he brought his family, wife and three children. His personal property consisted of an old horse, an old cow, an old sow and three pigs and twenty-five cents in cash; thus he started his pioneer life. He was a good shot with a rifle, and in tramping over the hills he became well acquainted with the country, so that he proved a valuable assistant to newcomers who wished to enter land. The first year he raised five acres of corn, a few potatoes and a small amount of other eatables. He gave his principal attention to farming and as he was industrious and economical, he soon found himself in moderate circumstances. But this required toil and he was obliged to withstand numerous privations. June 12, 1852, he raised his barn, which was the first frame barn erected in the county. From 1864 to 1870 he owned a half interest in the Excelsior mills and is now one of the well-to-do farmers of the county. Mr. Whitecomb was born in Onondaga Co., N. Y., Aug. 30, 1817. At eighteen years of age he bid his parents good by and for several years traveled in various parts of the United States.

He hewed the first stick of timber for the capitol building of the State of Texas. In 1840, in Tippecanoe Co., Ind., he united in marriage with Margaret Ann Carson. He then followed farming one year in Jo Daviess Co., Ill., then came to Iowa Co., Wis., from whence he came to this county. In 1870 he visited his native State, which he had left thirty-six years previous. He is a democrat in politics and has served as township treasurer. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a man who does strictly as he agrees. He is not a large man, but well developed, strong and very active. He was one of the appraisers of the school lands in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Whitecomb have nine children—Margaret A., Charles C., Alonzo L., Rebecca, familiarly called Doll, Sarah E., Delia A., John M., George W. and William G.

William M. Kincannon was one of the early pioneers of Richland Co., Wis. He was born in Washington Co., Va., in the year 1800. When eleven years old his parents moved to Tennessee, where he learned the tanner's trade. He was united in marriage to Lucy B. Collinsworth of Knoxville, Tenn. He then moved to Alabama where he was engaged in the tanning business four years. He then moved to Frankfort, Ill., where he was engaged at his trade for eleven years. He removed from there to Alton, where he engaged in coal mining several years. He removed from Alton to Lafayette Co., Wis., in 1841, and followed mining for lead till 1847. He removed to the town of Richwood, Richland Co., Wis., where he intended to erect a tan yard, but finding the bark of an inferior quality, he abandoned the project and engaged in farming till the time of his death, which occurred Nov. 27, 1857. Mrs. Kincannon was born in Tennessee, in 1803, and in 1884 resided in Richwood town. They reared ten sons—George C., who preceded his father to Richland one year, went to California in 1849, and died in Placerville, Cal., in 1850; one son died when three years old; Louis C. died in 1855, aged twenty-two; Andrew I. died in

1858; James C., M. Crayton, Marion M. and the twins are still living, with the exception of James, in Wisconsin. William K. went to California in 1852, came back to Wisconsin in 1856, returned to California in 1857, was last heard from in Idaho in 1864. The Kincannon boy's grandfather's were both in the Revolutionary War.

Marion M. Kincannon was born in Alton, Ill., in 1839, and came with his parents to Richland county, in 1847, and has since resided in the town of Richwood. He is a farmer by occupation. In 1870 he was married to Ellen Stelle. They have five children—Calvin, George C., Manie, Archibald and William. In 1865 Mr. Kincannon enlisted in company B, 49th Wisconsin, and served until June 24, when he was discharged on account of sickness. He is a musician and often plays for dancing.

Joseph Elliott, a representative and prominent citizen of Richland county, was born in Sangamon Co., Ill., Nov. 1, 1829. In 1835 he removed to Lancaster, Grant Co., Wis. He came with his parents, Thomas and Sarah Elliott, to Richland county, in 1848, where he has since resided. In 1851 he was married to Mary Mulamphy. In 1859 he engaged in general merchandising at Port Andrews, which he continued until 1874, then settled on his farm, which contained 240 acres. His improvements are the best in the town. His residence is large and convenient, and surrounded by a natural grove of oak. He is engaged mainly in stock farming. He is a democrat in politics, but takes no interest farther than to vote. He would make a good public officer, but never places himself in the way of anything of that character. Of the eleven children, seven are still living—Jennie, Caddie, Adelia, Kansar, Gilbert A., Alice and Charles Elden. Mr. Elliott is a man who has the respect of his fellow-men to a remarkable degree. His reputation for honesty and integrity are undisputed and he has many friends.

Randolph Elliott was born in western Tennessee, Sept. 14, 1827. He came with his parents, in 1836, to Wisconsin, and in 1848 was married in Grant county, to Moramic Sperry. Then he came to Richland county, and settled on what is called Sand Prairie. In 1850 he removed to Crawford county and lived in the town of Scott twelve years. Returning to Richland county, he resided in the town of Richwood until 1874, then with his family emigrated to California and remained three years, then again returned to this town. The children are—William D., Ella, Mary Etta, Joseph W., Francis M., Gilmour W. and Reuben F., who was born in California in 1874.

H. B. Ellsworth is a son of J. S. Ellsworth, and was born in Licking Co., Ohio, in 1850. When quite young he came to this county with his parents. Exhibiting considerable ingenuity, he run his father's mill several years, when he went to La Crosse and took charge of a saw in a mill which he run two years. In 1879 he leased a power on section 17, and built a mill in which he is running a carding machine, saw-mill and general woodwork. He is also the inventor of the combination Ellsworth clothes rack, crib and table. Mr. Ellsworth has been married three times. His first wife died leaving two children—Amy and Cora. His second wife left no children. His third wife was formerly Maggie Winton. They have two children—Verne and Carrol.

Alonzo Carson, deceased, became a resident of Wisconsin about 1845. He lived about two years on the south side of the river, then came with his father to Richland county and purchased land, but soon returned to Indiana. In 1850 he came back to Wisconsin and settled on section 34, Richwood. In 1851 Eliza J. Armstrong became his wife. In 1855 he purchased a water-power on Knapp's creek and built a saw-mill which he operated about five years; he then leased the property. The mill was afterwards washed away by the floods, but Mr. Carson at once rebuilt and sold it to Mr.

Langdon. He then returned to his farm, but two years later moved to Boscobel, where he died in 1876. Mr. Carson was born in Ohio, Dec. 6, 1822. When five years old he moved with his parents, Lott and Margaret Carson, to Indiana, and resided in Tippecanoe county, from whence he came to Wisconsin. Mrs. Carson was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Armstrong. She was born in Muscoda, Grant Co., Wis., April 1, 1832, and came to Richland county in 1848. Mr. and Mrs. Carson were the parents of seven children—Carrie C., wife of Lysander Matthews; Maggie E, who died at the age of twenty-six years; Sarah, the wife of John Stoddard; Rebecca I., George L., Addie M. and Hubert K. Soon after Mr. Carson's death, the family returned to the homestead, where they now reside. Mr. Carson was a good citizen, enterprising, honest in his dealings, and respected by his neighbors. He left his family in good circumstances.

Nels Hanson was one of the first Norwegians to settle in the county, and as he has kept pace with the times, he is now one of the leading and influential men among the people of his nationality. He came here in 1850, and purchased forty acres of land on section 2, Richwood, erected a log cabin and a small shop in which to work at blacksmithing. He was the first and only blacksmith who located in this vicinity for many years. He was industrious and economical, and so was able, from time to time, to add acres to his farm until he now has 220, with first-class improvements. His religious connections are with the Lutheran Church. He donated land and it was through his efforts that a church of that denomination was erected. Mr. Hanson was born March 23, 1818. He learned his trade and followed the same in his own country until 1849, when he emigrated to the United States, leaving Norway June 9, and arriving in New York August 8. He immediately came on to Wisconsin, arriving at Highland October 8. He united in marriage with

Carrie Larson. They have four children—Magnus, Nettie, Guss and Charles.

Henry Miller (deceased) was a native of Kentucky. He united in marriage with Margaret Sharp, and in 1828 removed to Tippecanoe Co., Ind. He was a farmer by occupation. He came to Richland county in 1851, becoming one of its pioneers. He settled on section 26, where he died in 1860. Mrs. Miller died Oct. 10, 1883. They were the parents of seven children, four of whom are living—Mary Jane, wife of L. M. Thorp; Martha Ann, wife of Rev. J. J. Wright; Rebecca, wife of S. B. Marsh, and Andrew J. Mr. Miller was a consistent Christian, having been a member of the Presbyterian Church for thirty years. He was a charitable, industrious and honest man.

Hon. Henry Conner was the first man elected to represent Richland county in the State Assembly. He was the candidate of the democratic party, and his opponent was Sexton. He served the people one term and gave good satisfaction, but has since had but little to do with politics. He has, however, held the office of justice of the peace almost continually for thirty years, also served as chairman of the town board. Mr. Conner was born in Virginia in 1793, learned the tanner's trade, and in 1827 united in marriage with Jane Colton. In 1832 he moved to Ohio and one year later to Johnston Co., Ind., from whence he came to Wisconsin and has since been engaged in farming in the town of Richwood. He is a Presbyterian in his religious views, and a man who has the esteem of all who know him. His wife died Oct. 23, 1878. She had given birth to nine children, five of whom survived her in life—William H., Mary E., Margaret S., Rebecca C. and Nancy A.

L. M. Thorp first visited Richland county during the month of May, 1849, and spent a little time looking over the country. On the 2d day of June following he entered 160 acres on section 24, Richwood town, so that he was among the pioneers in making selection of a lo-

cation. He then returned to Indiana. In 1851 he brought his family, consisting of a wife and three children, and settled on the land he had entered, making the trip with teams. In 1854 he removed to section 6, where he accumulated a large body of land and became a well-to-do farmer. Upon his arrival in the county his earthly possessions consisted of one team and wagon, and \$100 in cash, so it may be concluded he was an industrious man and a good manager. After securing his provisions for the winter he found himself with but \$5 in money, and nothing coming in, as is always the case in a new country the first year, so he taught school and spent what time he could upon the farm, and thus made a start in life. At one time he was extensively engaged in the culture of hops, which promised large returns, but prices unexpectedly declined to such an extent as to involve him in serious loss. Discouraging as was the result of this enterprise, he did not falter or spend any unnecessary time in complaint, but with characteristic energy pushed forward and recovered himself from pecuniary difficulty. Mr. Thorp was a member of the first republican convention held in the county, and was prominently identified with that party until 1878. Being a man who thinks for himself, he was among those who could not be held by party ties, and since that time, governed by high and honorable motives, he has acted independently of party. He has held from time to time positions of trust, and in 1856 was elected county sheriff, and again elected to the same office in 1862. He was a candidate on the greenback ticket, in 1878, for member of the Assembly, and made a good canvass, polling a strong vote, but was nevertheless defeated with the rest of that ticket. The subject of this sketch was born in Connecticut, Dec. 24, 1816, where he received a good education and taught school thirty-nine terms. In 1840 he went to Indiana, where in 1847 he was married to Mary Jane Miller, a daughter of Henry Miller, who settled in the county in 1852. Mr.

and Mrs. Thorp have reared eleven children—Janette, Julius C., Henry M., Lawrence M., who died at the age of twenty-four years; Mary J., who died at the age of twenty-two years; Octavia, who married A. H. Floaten; James A., Louisa, Levina, Ida M. and Florence. In addition to other good qualities, Mr. Thorp is a temperance worker and a woman's rights man. He is not a narrow minded bigot. A man of his calibre and thought could not well be such, and his religious views are liberal. When the county seat removal question was agitated, Mr. Thorp, feeling that Richland Center was the proper and desirable place, worked for its location at that point, and through his influence one-half the vote of the town was cast in favor of such removal.

Levi Persinger settled in the county in 1851 and soon purchased land on section 17, where he made improvements, and in 1858 located on the same. He continued farming and now owns 240 acres. From 1861 to 1883 he acted as mail carrier, and although the country was rough and the roads bad, yet he never missed having the mail reach its destination at the appointed time. Mr. Persinger was born in Virginia, in 1816; moved with his parents to Cincinnati when nine years of age. From Ohio he went to Indiana and in Johnston county, in 1838, Christena Brunnemer became his wife. The children are—Margaret, Levi, died at the age of thirty-five years; Catharine, died at the age of thirty-three years; William, Joseph and Mary. Politically he is a republican. Mr. Persinger is a member of the I. O. O. F.

J. S. Ellsworth was a native of Vermont, born in August, 1808. He learned the shoemaker's trade, moved to Ohio and thence, in 1852, came to Wisconsin and settled in this county, and followed farming, also kept a small store at Independence, between Lone Rock and Richland City. In 1856 he purchased a water power on Knapp's creek and built the Ellsworth mills and operated the same until 1882, then moved to Benton Co., Mo. He was twice married, first



to Didama Buxton. She died in Ohio leaving two children—Diana and Oliver. He then married Amy B. Stockwell, and by this union reared three children—Thomas J., M. D. and H. B. Politically he is a democrat.

M. D. Ellsworth was born in Ohio in 1847 and came with his parents to this county. He assisted his father on the farm and about the mill until 1876, since which he has operated the Ellsworth mills, of which mention is made elsewhere in this book. In 1875 he was married to Miss A. L. Hodgins. They have three children—Fannie, Lelia and Mabel.

Thomas J. Ellsworth was born at Johnstown, Lieking Co., Ohio, April 20, 1842. He came to Richland county with his parents in the spring of 1851. He remained with his father until the summer of 1859, when he left home to seek his fortune elsewhere, taking the advice of Horace Greeley to "go west, young man." He brought up in Kansas and was at Fort Scott at the breaking out of the Civil War, engaged in carrying the mail from Fort Scott to Greenfield, Mo. He enlisted in August, 1861, in company B, 6th regiment, Kansas Home Guards. The company was mustered out of the service March 7, 1862, and on the 9th of the same month he enlisted in company F, of the 2d Ohio Cavalry, for three years or during the war. Becoming disabled in the right knee, while drilling on horseback, he was discharged at Columbus, Ohio, where the regiment had been sent to remount. He then came home, sick and a cripple, and with little hopes of getting well, but thanks to a good constitution not broken down by bad habits, and plenty of the article called grit, he did get well enough to be drafted in the fall of 1864, but he had broken his leg a few weeks before, while engaged in getting out saw logs for his father. As soon as the bone was healed sufficient to pass muster he again enlisted, this time in company H, 44th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Capt. Houtz's company, in which he served as corporal and was detailed as company clerk, but before he had served one month an-

other accident overtook him and his leg was once more broken, this time in a playful scuffle with a comrade, and he was again sent to the hospital where the surrender of Lee at Appomatax found him, and he was sent home under the general order discharging all men in hospital. In the year 1867 he started a tannery in the town of Richwood, in which he was fairly successful, but failing health forced him to quit hard labor so he quit the business, having by honesty, industry and fair dealing acquired sufficient of this world's good to be comfortably situated at present. In the year 1875, on the 30th of May, he was married to Mrs. Ellen (Cosgrove) Burns, by whom he has one child—Ada Augusta, aged eight years. In politics he is independent, having taken quite an active part in both the democratic and greenback parties, and in 1880 was the candidate on the tickets of both those parties for county clerk, but party spirit run very high and he could not overcome the large republican majority in the county; yet he had the satisfaction of running ahead of his ticket in both his own town and that of his opponent. He favors free trade, free schools, free religion and free men, and plenty of greenback legal tender money. In religion he is a pronounced materialist; his motto, "do good."

Jeremiah Dingman is another early pioneer, he having chosen Richland county as his residence in 1853. He was an unmarried man, and thus worked for various parties until 1861. He then enlisted in company H, 11th Wisconsin, and served three years and three months. Returning home, he purchased eighty acres on section 25, and in 1866 united in matrimony with Permelia Bergham, and has since followed farming as an occupation. The children are—Emmett F., Pearl and Edmund C. Mr. Dingman is a member of the G. A. R.

A. M. Stratton, on first coming to the county, located at Cazenovia, where he was connected with the mill for one year. He then had charge of the mill at Sextonville four years, and

Bowen's mill six years, after which he came to Excelsior, purchased the mill property and operated both grist and saw-mills. Mr. Stratton was born in Wayne Co., N. Y., July 8, 1843, and came with his parents to Berlin, Wis., in 1854. He enlisted in 1862, in company G, 32d Wisconsin, and served until the regiment was mustered out of service. Returning home, he, with H. Searles, raised a part of a company, which was assigned to the 50th Wisconsin, and served until June, 1866. After the war he engaged in milling at Lemonware, Wis., where he remained three years, then spent a short time in Iowa, after which he came to Richland county. Mr. Stratton was married in 1865 to Jessie Buck, and about a week afterwards returned to the ranks of his regiment. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Stratton are—Ella G., Cassius M., May Belle, Robert T. and Guy L. Mr. Stratton is a good business man, courteous to all, and highly respected.

David Dewey, one of the pioneers of 1854, settled on section 2, town of Richwood, where he entered eighty acres. One year later he removed to Sheboygan county and there engaged in operating saw-mills about three years, then went to the State of Ohio and continued in the same business. In 1860 he returned to Richland county and lived for a short time on the land he had entered, then removed to Port Andrews and served as engineer on river boats until 1865, when he purchased the mill property on Byrd's creek, of which mention is made elsewhere. Mr. Dewey was born in Rutland Co., Vt., May 5, 1833. When he was very young the family moved to Ohio. At the age of sixteen years he left his father's farm and commenced work in a saw-mill. He also served as fireman of a railroad engine. In 1854 he went to Iowa, and there was married to Ann Dudgeon. The same year he came to this county. Mr. and Mrs. Dewey have had three children, two of whom are living—Lydia and Zilpha. Mr. Dewey is politically a republican, and has

held local offices. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

E. D. Clark was born in Sullivan Co., N. Y., Oct. 12, 1813, and the winter following removed with his parents to Berkshire Co., Mass., where he lived until he was sixteen years old, when he moved to Steuben Co., N. Y. He was a natural mechanic and always performed his own carpenter work. Dec. 28, 1834, Mary Ann Clark became his wife. He came to Wisconsin in 1855 and soon purchased land on section 33, Richwood town, and turned his attention to farming, in which he met with moderate success. He is a man with many friends. Mr. and Mrs. Clark had three sons—Ansel H., who died at the age of twenty-seven years; George and Joseph S.

J. S. Clark was born in Steuben Co., N. Y., Sept. 17, 1848, and in the year 1855 removed with his parents to Richland Co., Wis., where he was raised on a farm, receiving a common school education. He is a natural mechanic, having inherited it from his father. March 28, 1868, he was married to Ellen S. Elliott, and in the following winter gave up farming entirely, and commenced learning the jeweler's trade in the village of Excelsior, but found that the man he was learning from was not thoroughly posted in all the intricacies of this trade, so the following winter went to St. Paul, Minn., and there took a thorough course of instruction in watch repairing, and the manufacturing of jewelry. After leaving St. Paul Mr. Clark went to Lansing, Iowa, and there took more thorough instruction in the art of making jewelry, and Oct. 12, 1871, he moved back to Richland county, where he now lives, and has established a business second to none in the county, for the repairing of watches, and manufacture of jewelry. He has all the work he can do, orders coming from a circuit of twenty-five miles around. Mr. and Mrs. Clark had seven children, five boys and two girls, four of which are now living—Emory J., Roy E., Myrtle E. and Glen; the other three died when quite small. Mr. Clark's

social standing is good, having a wide circle of friends, and he has been frequently honored with the small local offices, and is a member of De Molai Commandery, No. 15, Knights Templars, Boscobel, Wis.

J. Robert Coumbe, of the firm of Logan & Coumbe, is a son of John Coumbe. He was born in 1855. He received a common school education and helped till the soil until 1878, when he engaged in the general merchandise business. On Oct. 31, 1883, he was married to a daughter of George Krouskop.

Warrington Jones, in the spring of 1853, purchased land on section 7, but did not move till the spring of 1855, and thus became the first settler on the west branch of Knapp's creek. He engaged in farming, and continued the occupation. He was born in Georgia, May 14, 1811. He went to Tennessee, where he was married to Minerva Howard, and in 1847 came to Wisconsin. He first engaged in mining, after which he came to this county. His wife died in 1874. She had reared seven children, all of which are living at this time—Hannab, Sarah, James W., Miranda, Felix, John D. and Martha. He is a member of the Christian Church and of the I. O. O. F. He is strictly temperate in all of his habits; not using intoxicants, or tobacco in any shape. He is liberal in all his views.

J. W. Jones, son of Warrington and Minerva Jones, came with his parents to this county in 1855. In 1856 he was married to Julia A. Kinder, daughter of Peter Kinder. Mr. Jones was born in Tennessee, Nov. 3, 1836, came to Wisconsin in 1847, and followed mining until he came to this county. He is now a successful farmer, resides on section 27, and owns over 300 acres of land. His politics are democratic and although his party was greatly in the minority, he has been often elected to local office. He is a member of the Christian Church and of the I. O. O. F.

John D. Jones was born in Iowa Co., Wis., near Mineral Point, Nov. 4, 1819. He came to Richland county with his parents, Warrington

and Minerva Jones, in 1855, and has lived here ever since. In 1870 he was married to Libbie Turk, daughter of James and Sarah Turk, of Crawford county. This union has been blessed with four children—Charley P., Frank J., Sadie E. and John E. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are members of the Christian Church and of the I. O. G. T.

S. B. Marsh arrived in the county May 18, 1855, and as he was yet an unmarried man, he worked for other parties. Aug. 3, 1855, he chose Rebecca Miller, daughter of Henry Miller, as his wife. He then removed to land previously purchased on section 30, town of Eagle, where he resided until 1861, then purchased the estate of Henry Miller, located on section 26, town of Richwood, and he now owns 220 acres. He is a successful farmer and a highly respected citizen, ranking for honesty and integrity among the best. Mr. Marsh is a native of Indiana, born Dec. 8, 1830, and resided in his native State until he came to Wisconsin. Politically he is a republican. He is a member of the Christian Church and the I. O. O. F. Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have had six children, five of whom are living—James A., Lenora, Mary, Maggie and Albert. Alvin H. was born July 29, 1875, and died Aug. 29, 1876. Mr. Marsh received a limited education in the district school; attending school during the winter months and working on the farm in summer. He raises some stock, but his attention is principally given to grain farming.

Edmund Clark came to Richland county in the fall of 1856, and in the spring of 1857 settled on section 34, where he had purchased eighty acres of land. He was industrious, and soon his log cabin gave way to a large frame residence, and he increased his real estate to several hundred acres. He gave his entire attention to farming, and thus made a success of life. He is a native of Massachusetts, born May 12, 1817. When fourteen years of age he moved with his parents to Schuyler Co., N. Y., where, on Oct. 11, 1845, he was married to Sally

Benson. They reared three children, one of whom is living—Homer J. His wife died, and in 1854 he was married to Rosetta Ann Benson. By this union one child was born, but died in infancy. Mr. Clark is unpretentious in his appearance, honorable in his dealings, hospitable to strangers, and highly esteemed.

Nathan Winton, settled in the town of Richwood in 1856, and first purchased land on section 21. He continued farming in the town, and in 1875 settled on section 17. His residence was destroyed by fire in August, 1880, which was a severe blow to Mr. Winton, as he was carrying no insurance. Mr. Winton was born in Crawford Co., Penn., June 17, 1818. His father owned a saw mill about which young Winton assisted, also taught school. In 1846 he started for the far west, visited Iowa, and in 1847 came to Wisconsin and first stopped in Dane county. In 1848 he married Mary Otto. He afterwards resided near Reedsburg about three years, then came to this county. Mr. Winton is a good citizen, served as town superintendent of schools, town clerk, assessor and justice of the peace. Mr. and Mrs. Winton have six children—Viola, Omer E., David, Dora, John and Maggie.

H. F. Coates was born in Canada, Jan. 1, 1835, moved with his parents to Ohio in 1837, and to Grant Co., Wis., in 1851, from whence in 1856 he came to Richland county, and for thirteen years spent most of his time operating saw-mills. In 1859 he was married to Nancy Connor, daughter of Hon. Henry Connor. In 1860 he settled on section 18, where he at first purchased eighty acres, but has since made additions, until his farm now contains over 400 acres. He is engaged in raising stock. Mr. and Mrs. Coates have reared the following named children—Vellorus, Frank, Adny, Elmer, Nora, Myrtie, Clara and Lester. Mr. Coates acts with the republican party, has held local offices, and for a number of years was post-master at Excelsior. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

W. H. Coates, in 1855, formed a partnership with S. W. Knowlton and purchased the water power and mill property of William Haskins. They soon erected a grist-mill, and on the day they raised the mill Mr. Coates named the place "Excelsior," a full history of which appears elsewhere. He was instrumental in having the postoffice established, an active temperance worker, and an enterprising and influential citizen. In 1864 he sold out, moved to Iowa, and engaged in hardware and agricultural implement trade. Mr. Coates was a brother of Dr. J. T. Coates. He was born in Canada. His wife was a daughter of S. W. Knowlton.

J. T. Coates, M. D., is a native of Trumbull Co., Ohio, born June 18, 1840. His father, Francis Coates, was a native of England, and his mother, Eunice E. (Harvey) Coates, was born in Canada. In 1854 the family came to Wisconsin and settled in Grant county, where the father died in 1858. J. T. Coates first came to Richland county in 1857, and for some time had charge of the postoffice, also assisted his brother, W. H. Coates, about the mill. In 1861 he enlisted in the 1st Minnesota Volunteer Infantry and served three months. He then re-enlisted and was mustered into service with the 2d Minnesota Sharp Shooters. He was wounded at the battle of Antietam, which disabled him so that he was discharged in February, 1863. He afterwards served as first lieutenant of a company stationed in the northwest to ward off the Indians, but resigned his commission and returned to Excelsior. He soon went to Iowa and engaged in mercantile trade, which did not seem congenial to his tastes, he having from early boyhood had a desire to study medicine. He first entered the university at Iowa City, and afterwards graduated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Keokuk. He commenced practice in 1871 at Excelsior, was afterwards at Muscoda and Montfort, but in 1883 returned to Excelsior. In 1876 Sarah S. Kite became his wife. They have one son—J. Floyd. Dr. Coates is a democrat in politics, a

member of the I. O. O. F., the I. O. G. T., the G. A. R., the State Medical Society and the Southwestern Wisconsin Medical Association.

L. E. Atkinson was born in Minnesota, Jan. 22, 1858, and came with his parents to this county in 1859. At the age of twelve years he commenced work at the blacksmith trade, which he followed most of the time, until 1883. In April of that year he leased the Excelsior House and engaged in hotel keeping. Oct. 6, 1882, Rebecca J. Whitcomb became his wife. She is a daughter of Myron Whitcomb. Mr. Atkinson is a member of the I. O. O. F.

George H. Hillberry, son of George and Catharine (Roberts) Hillberry, was born in Huntingdon Co., Penn., Aug. 25, 1836. His parents moved to Virginia, when he was very young, and afterwards to Monroe Co., Ohio, where he attained his education in the common school. He came to Richland county with his parents, with whom he lived until 1863. In November of that year he was married to Mary, daughter of George W. and Sarah (Johnson) Waller. In the spring of 1864 they went to Colorado, and were absent from Richland county until the fall of 1865, then returned and purchased land in the town of Richwood, the southwest of the northeast and the northwest of the southeast of section 25. He erected a log house and began clearing. He lived there five years and improved quite a tract of land. He then purchased the northeast of the northeast of the same section, on which was a small log house. One year later he purchased the southeast of the southeast of section 24. He improved a farm and lived here six years. At the end of that time he bought the farm on which he now lives, on section 24. There was a frame house on this place, located on the northeast of the southwest quarter. He has since moved it to the southwest of the same quarter, and built an addition. In 1883 he erected a frame barn, 32x50 feet, with a stone basement. He is considered one of the best farmers in the town, and is largely engaged in

raising stock and grain. His farm now contains 425 acres, and is located on sections 23, 24 and 25. Mr. and Mrs. Hillberry are the parents of five children—David W., Sarah M., Philip A., John H. and Wade H.

James Logan was born in Knox Co., Tenn., and resided in his native State until after his marriage with Margaret McComas. He then removed to Ohio, thence to Illinois, and from there to Wisconsin, and settled in Rock county. In 1864 he came to Richland county and engaged in farming on Willow creek, in the town of Ithaca. His wife died Oct. 21, 1869, and he died July 23, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Logan were earnest Christians, and consistent members of the Baptist Church for many years. They reared twelve children, eight surviving them in life.

T. P. Logan was born in Illinois, Sept. 12, 1844. He came with his parents, James and Margaret Logan, to this county in 1864. He was educated at Sextonville and subsequently followed teaching. In 1870 he commenced mercantile life as clerk, and was afterwards in partnership with B. F. Washburn for a short time. In 1878 he became associated with J. R. Coumbe as partner, and established the business of Logan & Coumbe. Mr. Logan is a good business man, active in the cause of temperance, and a member of the I. O. G. T. He was married Dec. 23, 1874, to Elizabeth Andrews, daughter of Thomas Andrews. They have two children—Alta Lula and Clyde R. Mr. Logan was appointed postmaster in 1880, and has served as town treasurer.

Robert Buchanan is a native of Ireland, born Sept. 2, 1809. He emigrated to Canada in 1832, on account of cholera in the old country. He did not remain long in Canada, but went to Otsego Co., N. Y., and in 1835 to New York city, where he served an apprenticeship to learn the trade of mason, which he followed in the cities of New York and Brooklyn about twenty years. In 1855 he moved to Schoharie county, and three years later to McHenry Co., Ill.,

where he engaged in farming. In 1864 he came to Wisconsin and became a resident of Richland county, settling on section 8, of Richwood, where he accumulated 400 acres of land. Mr. Buchanan is a republican in politics; has served as chairman four years, and treasurer two years, of his town. He was a member of the fraternity of Odd Fellows over forty years, always taking an active interest in the work of the society. He was married in 1838. His wife, formerly Mary Shannon, was a native of the north of Ireland. They reared nine children—William M., Mary A., Robert Jr., Sarah J., James T., Samuel M., John, George W. and Edward H.

Robert Buchanan, Jr., the first man to engage in the harness trade in Excelsior, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 6, 1843. He resided with his parents until 1862, when he enlisted in company C, 95th Illinois. He was wounded at the battle of Vicksburg by a piece of shell striking him on the forehead, and also one year later at the battle of Yellow Bayou, where he received a gun-shot wound in the right arm. He served, however, until the regiment was mustered out of service. After the war he learned the harness maker's trade, and in 1869 established business at Excelsior. He was united in marriage in 1873 with Belle Hawkins. Their children are—Ella B., Frank and Albert. Mr. Buchanan is a member of the I. O. O. F., A. O. U. W. and I. O. G. T.

Samuel Noble arrived in the town of Richwood May 23, 1864, and soon afterwards purchased property of Stephen Knowlton, located on section 16, where he settled on the 16th day of July following. He also purchased a one-half interest in the Excelsior mills, which property he held until January, 1873, when he gave attention to farming and dealing in real estate. He served as town treasurer ten years, but takes little interest in politics, aside from casting his vote according to his own judgment. Mr. Noble is a native of Ohio, born Nov. 2, 1830. His parents were natives of the same

State, his grandfather having settled in Washington county in 1798. He was married in 1861 to Miranda Aekley, and followed farming until he came to Wisconsin. They have three children—Myron, Rebecca and Maria.

The first physician to locate at Excelsior was Dr. O. Ross. He was born in Lawrence Co., Penn., March 17, 1834. His father was a farmer and civil engineer. In 1837 the family moved into the State of Ohio, when, at the age of fifteen, the subject of this sketch commenced the study of medicine. During the winter of 1851-2 he attended school at Hiram, with James A. Garfield as school-mate. In 1856 he graduated at the Ohio State Medical School at Cincinnati, and in 1857 commenced practice in Hancock county of said State, but on account of poor health he afterwards located on a farm, and for two years dealt in live stock. In 1860 he resumed practice in Van Wert county, from whence, in 1864, he came to Excelsior, where he has since continued to reside, with the exception of one year, which he spent in the State of Missouri. Dr. Ross has had a large practice, in which he has treated a large number of cases of small pox, and is able to say that he never lost a patient by that disease, so much dreaded. The date of his marriage is 1853, in which year he chose as his companion for life Amanda Agin, and by this union nine children were born, six of whom are now living—Ransford, Milissa, Charlie, Levi B., Isaac M. and Emery H. Politically, Dr. Ross is a democrat, and has frequently stumped his district for other persons, but has never sought office himself. He is an active temperance worker, being a member of the I. O. G. T.

Edward Smith, the only man engaged in general merchandising at Port Andrew, in 1883, is a son of William and Matilda Smith, and was born in Jo Daviess Co., Ill., June 23, 1845. His father owned property in Port Andrew, where the family resided a portion of the time, and the remainder in Illinois. In 1858 the father died, and his mother afterward married T. J. How-

land, and now resides in the town of Richwood. In 1864 Edward Smith enlisted in company F, 33d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until July 17, 1865. He afterward dealt in live stock and followed farming until he engaged in merchandising at Port Andrew. He has been twice married, March 22, 1866, to Matilda Elder, who died leaving two children—Ann Nettie and Edward. Jan. 18, 1874, Maria Toney became his wife. They have four children—William T., George C., Fred C. and Ella M. He is a member of the G. A. R.

J. W. Garner was born in Delaware Co., Ind., Jan. 10, 1840. In April, 1861, he enlisted in company D, 6th Indiana regiment, and served three months, after which he re-enlisted in the 57th Indiana, with which he served until January, 1866. Mr. Garner participated in thirty-seven hard fought battles, and was never wounded, but of the 109 in company D, in which he first enlisted, only nine lived to return home. He was taken prisoner at Johnsonville, Tenn. He was a brave soldier, and his record one of which he may be justly proud. Returning home, on the 1st day of January, 1866, he was married to Mary Endicotte. He then came to Wisconsin, and has since followed farming in Richland county. His residence is on section 33, Richwood, where he owns 160 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Garner are the parents of the following named children—Nora, Laura, Becca, Emma, who died in infancy; Gertie, Luella and Carrie. Mr. Garner is a republican, politically, and a member of the G. A. R.

B. F. Washburn, in the month of March, 1869, purchased six lots on block 7, and Sept. 12, 1870, he established a general mercantile business. He had a partner for a few months, after which he continued alone. Mr. Washburn was born in Lake Co., Ill., Oct. 15, 1842. His father bore the same name and was a native of the State of Vermont. He was a farmer by occupation, and when the Civil War broke out he enlisted in company C, 20th Wisconsin. He

was wounded at the battle of Prairie Grove so as to cause death soon afterwards. His mother, Elizabeth (Ruth) Washburn, was a native of Pennsylvania. After the death of her husband she came to Richland county, and became the wife of Dempsey Field. The subject of this sketch came with his parents to Grant Co., Wis. in 1857. He resided on the farm until seventeen years of age, then went to Minnesota and clerked at Mazeppa for two years. He then returned to Grant county, where, in 1864, he enlisted in company I, 17th Wisconsin, and served until mustered out of service. Returning to Grant county in August, 1865, he united in marriage with Miss M. J. Hawkins. He was there engaged in farming until he came to Excelsior. Mr. Washburn is a thorough business man and the largest real estate owner in the town of Richwood. He is a strict republican in politics, served as postmaster at Excelsior for several years, and in 1875 represented his district in the Assembly. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., the I. O. G. T., and the G. A. R.

C. J. Moore, commander of William Wright Post, No. 51, is a native of Erie Co., N. Y., born July 30, 1840. His early life was spent on a farm, during which time he received a good common school education, and afterward taught school. He enlisted in 1862 in the 27th New York Independent Battery, and served nearly three years. Returning to his native State, he resumed teaching school and also read law, but his health failing, he was obliged to abandon his studies. In 1869 he went to Indiana, and two years later came to Wisconsin. He at first lived in Grant county and there, in 1877, he was married to Sophrona Sabins. He then came to Richland county, located in Excelsior, and has since followed the trade of carriage and wagon-maker. Mr. Moore is a believer in the Christian religion, and was formerly a member of the Baptist Church. He is a republican in politics and a member of the fraternity of Good Templars. In 1883 he was elected a justice of the peace.

O. F. David was born in Grant county, Nov. 26, 1858. His parents were Isaac F. and Cicelia (Rework) David. His early life was spent on his father's farm and attending district schools. When sixteen years of age he entered the high school department at Museoda, where he took a four years' course. He then followed civil engineering in Dakota two years, after which, in February, 1882, with his brother,

D. M. David, as partner, he established a drug business at Excelsior, the firm name being D. M. & O. F. David, which, in July, 1883, was changed to David & Co. Mr. David is a member of the fraternity of Odd Fellows, and is well qualified for the business in which he is engaged. Nov. 24, 1883, he was united in matrimony with Maria Noble. She is a daughter of Samuel Noble.





## CHAPTER XXXI.

## TOWN OF ROCKBRIDGE.

This territory comprises township 11 north, and range 1 east, and is bounded on the north by Henrietta, on the east by Willow, on the south by Richland, and on the west by Marshall. Like all towns in this section of the county, the surface is much broken, and hills, rocks and abrupt breaks are quite common. The scenery is varied and interesting. Among the more prominent natural features of interest is the rock bridge spanning the Pine river, an account of which appears in the general history of this work. Immense ledges of rock, forming sometimes a perpendicular wall of great height, rise abruptly from the highway; beautiful springs of pure, limpid water gush from the hills, and, playfully leaping from terrace to terrace, furnish ever-flowing streams, gratifying to both man and beast. The people of the town have, with characteristic benevolence, provided watering troughs near the roads and easily accessible, through which this sparkling water flows, affording an opportunity for the weary or heated horse to slake his thirst and the traveler to refresh himself. So abundant are these never-failing fountains that hardly a quarter section of land is without its unstinted supply. The soil is variable from a dark loam to a light sand in a small part of the town, but in most places there is a mixture of the proper consistency to furnish most excellent farming lands, so that agriculture is the main pursuit. However, the farmers in many instances are adding little by little each year to their herds, and in a short time the stock industry will be the leading feature among agricultur-

ists. In this respect Rockbridge already compares favorably with other towns, and a glance at the report of the County Agricultural Society will show a goodly number of premiums awarded Rockbridge citizens for superior stock. Formerly this town was abundantly supplied with a heavy growth of most excellent timber, but her forests have been reduced by the woodman's ax until good timber is becoming valuable. It is settled by a thrifty class of people, mostly American, a few of whom are of Scotch descent.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

This is the oldest settled town in the northern part of the county, the first move in that direction having been made by Samuel Swinehart in 1844, when he made a claim on the present site of the village of Rockbridge and built a cabin of poles. He sold this claim to Harry Coles, a resident of Galena, Ill. In the spring of 1845 he (Coles) hired some men at Galena to come to this place and build a saw-mill. The names of the men were: William Dooley, James Baxter, David Pettie and Mr. McCann, all single men, and David Currie, with his wife and two children. He was a cripple, and expected to board the men. The single men started with one team and wagon, and Mr. Currie and family with another. They drove to Muscoda, and crossed the river to the present site of the town of Orion. The following day, accompanied by Capt. Smith and Thomas Matthews, they started to cut a road to Rockbridge. They attempted to follow a ridge, thinking it would prove a continuous elevation, but in this they were disap-

pointed, and had proceeded but a few miles when they found themselves on the point of a bluff, where they camped for the night. In the morning Coles, with two or three others, started out to find a passage, but as none could be found they took the back trail, following the road they had cut the day before back to the river. They then concluded to leave the teams and make the trip by water, and accordingly embarked in canoes, as they were called, but, more properly speaking, they were "dug-outs." They thus proceeded up the Wisconsin river to the mouth of the Pine, thence up that stream to their destination. It took them a week to make the trip. Near the mouth of Rock creek the banks of the river had evidently been cut away, presenting the appearance of a ford, and upon inquiry they ascertained from the Indians that at that place the troops crossed when in pursuit of Black Hawk. The first thing done after their arrival was to build an addition to the Swinehart cabin, then work commenced on the mill. Capt. Smith and Thomas Matthews were employed to get out timbers for the frame, and a team being a necessity, the first road up the river to the natural bridge was cut. It was on the west side, and winding around the bluffs and swamps, was much longer than the present one. The mill was not completed for nearly a year, and soon after Coles sold to Moore & Akan. He then went away and his whereabouts were unknown. It is supposed that he went to the Mexican War. He was a dissipated man of ill-repute, and was generally considered a rascal. The men whom he hired by the month never received pay, and from some of them he borrowed money which he failed to return. Mr. Currie was determined to have his pay and sent a sheriff from Jo Daviess Co., Ill., to levy on property, starting himself on horseback to attend the sale and bid on the property. He was met at the Pine river ford by a band of "bullies" who would not let him cross, and as no one attended the sale it was not effected, and the men to this day remain unpaid.

This was aggravating and discouraging. The men had worked hard, and some of them even Sundays. They were, at the time of going into the woods, entire strangers, but soon became fast friends. Provisions would often run quite low, and then all would start out in search of game, which fortunately was abundant, and many deer and bear were killed and devoured by the little colony. Honey was plenty, but of milk and butter there was none. The first cow of the country was still in the future. In the spring of 1846 David Pettie was taken sick. One of the party went to Highland in Iowa for a physician, but he came too late, and Pettie was soon dead. A consultation was held to determine what should be done with his body. It was thought by them that this country would never be settled by white people, that as soon as the timber was stripped off the land would be left to the Indians, and it would be barbarous to bury him in such a place, so his body was taken down the river and interred on land adjoining the town site of Orion. At this time the Winnebago Indians were numerous in this section and made frequent visits to the camp. Like most Indians they were fond of whisky and ready to trade anything in their possession for "fire-water." This man Cole once traded with a squaw giving two pints of whisky for a good heavy Mackinaw blanket. She had a tin cup holding a pint, which he filled and passed to her, which she drank at once, taking away the other pint for a reserve, when she might again be thirsty. They never visited the camp, without going to the natural bridge for worship, as that was regarded by them as a work of the Great Spirit.

In 1849 Orrin Hazeltine and his son Ira came here from Waukesha county. They were natives of Vermont, and purchased the mill property and some land in this vicinity. Here Orrin made his home until the time of his death. Ira now lives in the State of Missouri.

It is frequently difficult to obtain satisfactory information concerning the early settlement of

a town. There is often a difference of opinion as to dates and events. As good a history of Rockbridge's early settlement as could be obtained in addition to that already given, is here presented, and the dates are mentioned whenever there is a good degree of certainty as to their correctness.

Francis M. Stewart was an early settler. He lived at Rockbridge a while and then settled on the southwest quarter of section 8. In 1854 he sold out and afterward lived in different parts of the county.

Isaac Talbot arrived in 1851, and located on section 32. He made his home here until after the breaking out of the war, when he enlisted and died in the service.

W. K. Smith came from Kentucky in 1854, and bought the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 30. He also enlisted and died in the army.

Thomas Gray and his son Daniel came as early as 1853, and settled on the southeast quarter of section 6, where they remained until the breaking out of the "Great American Conflict," when the old gentleman went to Minnesota, and Daniel, who was by profession a clergyman, returned east.

In 1850, Seth Butler, a native of New York, came here and made a selection on the northeast quarter of section 19. He remained about two years.

Buddington Kinyon, a native of Rhode Island, was first seen here in 1855. He settled on section 6, and still lives within the boundaries of that territory.

Donald Smith, a native of Scotland, came in 1854 and purchased land on section 18, and made it his home until the time of his death. His family still occupy the homestead.

Zenas and Ossian Satterlee were originally from Ohio, but came here from Illinois in 1851. Zenas entered land on section 20, where he made some improvements and remained about two years, then returned to Illinois. Ossian entered land on section 18, and lived here until

1854, when he sold to Donald Smith and went to Henrietta. The season that he made this move, J. H. Little came and entered the west half of the northwest quarter of section 6, where he improved a farm and remained until about the close of the war, then removed to the town of Marshall. He now lives in the town of Bloom.

The year following, Hugh Booher came, and settled on the northeast quarter of section 8. In 1860 he went to Pike's Peak and spent the summer. He then returned and soon after removed to Green county.

In 1854 James Coffin arrived and made settlement on the northeast of the southeast quarter of section 17. He remained until war times, then removed to section 16, and a few years later to "Steamboat Hollow," where he died in 1882.

Lyman Creed was an early settler, and made selection on the south half of the southwest quarter of section 30. He now lives in the town of Richland. The same season, section 31 received a settler by the name of Thomas Castello, who yet occupies the same place.

In 1855 Jonathan R. Fullington, a native of Vermont, entered land on section 3, which he sold one year later to Morris Freeman and took up his abode on section 1, where he now lives.

Robert Monteith came from Richland Center about the same time and located on section 3. He remained but a few years, then sold out and went north.

In 1854 another Vermonter made his appearance, by name of Samuel Coleburn. He selected a home on the northeast of the southeast quarter of section 9. He was noted for telling remarkably large stories. He remained a number of years, and at last accounts was in Iowa.

J. L. Spears was from New York, and came here during the fall of 1855, settling in the village of Rockbridge and later on section 10.

Amasa Hoskins was a prominent early settler, and came here as early as 1850, from Illinois. He located on the northwest quarter of section

29. He remained in the town several years and then removed to Iowa, and has since been reported dead.

Jules Preston, a native of York State, came the same year and settled on section 29, and remained two years. He was a very hospitable man, and travelers were always welcome. He sold this claim in 1852 to John Poole, and returned east.

In 1851 William Dary came from Illinois during the summer, and entered land on sections 28 and 29, where he cleared a farm and lived until war times, then he sold out and went to Sylvan, where he may now be found.

Daniel McDonald came from Ohio in 1852 and entered the northwest quarter of section 19, then he returned to Ohio. In 1855 he came again and made settlement. He started with a pair of horses on the 15th day of October and arrived the 15th day of November. Meanwhile a neighbor had erected a log house for him, into which he moved and lived until 1880, then built his present frame house.

Peter Waggoner, of Pennsylvania, came here from Ohio in 1854 and entered land on section 32, where he cleared a farm and lived a number of years. He died in January, 1883.

Alden Hazeltine, formerly from Vermont, arrived in Rockbridge town in 1853, and entered the northwest quarter of section 15 and bought four lots in the town of Rockbridge. He made his home in the village until the time of his death, which occurred in February, 1883. His widow now lives in Richland Center.

In 1854 John S. Scott, formerly of Pennsylvania, came here from Dane county and entered land on section 2, town 11, range 1 east. He then returned to Dane county and spent the winter. In March, 1855, he returned with the intention of settling on his place, but could only get as far as Rockbridge, as there was neither road or bridges. He therefore bought lots in the village, built a small frame house, where he lived until 1862, when he made settle-

ment on his present farm, on the northeast quarter of section 2.

Samuel Holloway was quite an early settler, and died in April, 1855.

John Poole, a native of Pennsylvania, came in 1852 and located on section 29, where in 1857 he died. His widow is now the wife of Hiram Tadder, and lives on section 21.

From Vermont in 1854 came Hiram Austin, and purchased land on sections 15 and 22, where he lived until the time of his death, which occurred in 1869.

Henry Waggoner, of Ohio, came from West Virginia in 1855 and made selection on section 32 and cleared a farm. He now resides on section 33.

During the fall of 1854 Richard L. White arrived from York State and entered land on section 3. He spent the winter in Avoca, and made a settlement on his place in 1855, where he now lives.

In 1851 Jacob Dury, of Virginia, came from Illinois and located on the northeast quarter of section 29, where he lived about ten years, then sold and removed to Sylvan, where he has since died. His widow is again married and still lives in that town.

The year following came among others Nicholas Pool, who was born in Ohio. He came direct from Illinois and bought land on section 29, town 11, range 1 east. He now lives on section 21.

The year previous (1851) also found Daniel Hoskins, a native of York State, on his way here from Ohio. Upon his arrival he stopped with his son Amasa. He is now dead.

George W. Hancock, a native of Pennsylvania, came here from Dane county quite early in 1850, and first lived on the southeast quarter of section 19. In 1852 he bought the northeast quarter of section 17, and cleared a part of the land. He continued to live there two years and then moved to the southeast quarter of section 8, where he lived a short time, then went to Vernon county where he has since died.

Reuben, a son of George W. Hancock, came here from California during the fall of 1852. He was not married and at first made his home with his father. In a short time he took unto himself a wife and settled on the northeast quarter of section 17, and built a log house and erected the first frame barn in the town, and probably the first in the northern part of the county. This was in 1853. He died the year following and was buried on the farm. His widow is now the wife of George Fogo.

In November, 1851, German and Hiram Tadder, natives of Vermont, came from Dane county. Hiram first settled on section 20, but now lives on section 21. German settled on the southeast quarter of section 17 where he cleared a small piece of ground, remained a short time and then sold out and bought land on section 28. He enlisted in the army where he contracted a disease in consequence of which he drew a pension. In 1867 he sold his farm and removed to Richland Center, where he died some years later.

Zenas Saterlee, a native of Indiana, came from Illinois in 1851, and located on the southwest quarter of section 20. He entered the land, made some improvements, remained two or three years and then sold out and returned to Illinois. Zadok Hawkins bought the farm and lived on it a few years, then purchased land on sections 29 and 32 which he occupied until 1875, when he died. The family are now scattered through various parts of the country.

In September, 1851, Abel P. Hyde of York State came from Dane county and first settled on section 24 of the town of Marshall. Two years afterward he removed to Richland Center and remained until 1855 when he made his first settlement in Rockbridge on section 21. His home is now on section 10.

The same year (1855) Morris Freeman, formerly of Herkimer Co., N. Y., came here from Waukesha county and settled on section 3. He died in the village of Rockbridge in 1879. In

1854 another settler came in who made a settlement on the southeast quarter of section 8, where he still lives. His name is Samuel Marshall and he is a native of Jefferson Co., Ohio.

Daniel Hinemon came from Dane county in 1855 and located on section 28. He now lives in Sauk county.

Henry Leatherberry, from Jefferson Co., Ohio, came in 1854, and located on section 20, where he lived two years. He then moved to Henrietta, where he had bought land on section 8. He died there on the 19th day of December, 1882.

Daniel and James Snow, natives of New York State, and Jefferson county, came here from Dodge county in 1857 and settled on section 1, where Daniel still lives. James moved to the village in 1868, where he keeps a hotel, and is at present agent for the Singer Sewing Machine Company. About this time others came in from various sections of the country, but enough has been given to show the general character of the early settlement.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Rockbridge was first organized in the spring of 1851. The first meeting was held at the village in a building owned by Orrin Hazeltine. At that time the following officers were elected: Jules Preston, Asa Sheldon and Amasa Haskins, supervisors; A. E. Decker, clerk; Julius Preston, Amasa Haskins and Orrin Hazeltine, justices of the peace; Robert Hawkins, assessor. The amount of tax raised from the levy of this year was \$20. Illustrative of the difference between an election held then and now, in point of number of votes cast, a complete list of all persons voting at the election held in September, 1853, is here given. This was two years after the organization of the town, and while it comprised a larger extent of territory than now: George W. Hancock, Samuel Haloway, John Pool, Reuben Hancock, John Marshall, John Jeffrey, Alexander Sires, Francis M. Stewart, Moses

Laws, Daniel Haskins, Alonzo E. Decker, Seth Butler, Abner Aiken and Orrin Hazeltine.

The town assumed its present boundaries in 1856. The annual town meeting was held at the house of Alden Hazeltine, April 21, 1856, and the following officers were elected: J. S. Scott, chairman, Daniel Hineman and Samuel Marshall, side supervisors; J. R. Fullington, justice of the peace; Gaylord Freeman, superintendent of schools; Hiram Austin, treasurer; Hiram Freeman, town clerk; Hiram Tadder, assessor; Joel P. Tadder and M. A. Davis, constables; Hiram Tadder, sealer of weights and measures.

At the annual town meeting held at the town hall April 3, 1883, the following officers were elected: Harvey Fogo, town clerk; James Washburn, chairman, Samuel Hendricks and D. W. Huntington, supervisors; George Hines, assessor; Augustus Hoskins, Noble Lieurame and James Washburn, justices of the peace; H. W. Cate and George Collins, constables; L. N. Herington, treasurer.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The schools of this town may be called in fair condition. Some improvements could be made to advantage, yet no person can complain that an opportunity is not here afforded for obtaining a good education. There has been some school quarrels and unpleasant dissensions, but as a rule, the "department of learning" has received its share of attention. As early as 1853 a school district was organized in the western part of the town, and a school taught by Jane Hazeltine in a house that was built by Zenas Saterlee, on the southwest quarter of section 20. Two or three years later, a school house was built on the northeast quarter of section 29. In this house John Lewis was the first teacher. There seemed to be considerable dissension among the citizens of this district, and in a short time the school building was burned; another was soon erected, but was not allowed to stand, and soon afterward went up in smoke. The territory included in this district is now attached to

other districts. A history is here given of the different school districts, so far as reliable information could be obtained.

In No. 1 the first school was taught by Adelia Hazeltine and Persis Hazeltine, in a slab shanty, on the village plat, in 1853. This was a subscription school. The only scholars in the district were the children of Orrin and Alden Hazeltine and Jacob Halloway. The teachers took turns, keeping the school one week each at a time. School was taught in private houses until 1856, when a frame house was built, in which Sarah J. Smith was the first teacher. The present school building was erected in 1879, and in it Delia Knapp was the first teacher. The school at this time, (1884), is under the management of Laura Jenkins.

During the winter of 1856-7 the first school house was built in district No. 3. It was located on the southwest of the northwest quarter of section 27. Gaylord Freeman was the first teacher. The district continued to use this building until 1872, when a frame house was erected on the old site, in which Jemima Menamar was the first teacher. This position is now held by Maggie Welsh.

In district No. 4 there was a log school house built in 1858, located on the northeast quarter of section 17, and that winter the first school was taught by William H. Lawrence. This building was in use until 1883, when a neat frame house was erected near the old site, in which John D. Fogo first taught a term of school.

In district No. 5 the first school was taught by Phebe Skinner in 1857, in a log house belonging to Peter Waggoner. It was located on the northwest quarter of section 32. Two terms were taught in this building. In 1858 a log school house was built on the northwest of the northwest of section 32, which was in use until 1882, when a frame house was built on the southwest of the northwest of section 32. Mary Kennedy was the first teacher there. The present teacher is Mamie Foley.

In district No. 7 the first school was taught by Wilson Saterlee, in a house belonging to Elihu Pease, in the town of Henrietta. This was in 1857. About 1859 a commodious building was erected on the northwest quarter of section 5, on the town line, but in Rockbridge town. In that house Joel Judkins was the first teacher.

In district No. 9 the first school was taught in a log house belonging to Bronson Greaves, in the northeast corner of section 22. This was in the winter of 1859-60, and the teacher was Lucy Smith. She is now the wife of James Snow. In 1860 a log house was built on the same quarter, and within its walls, Amy McMurtry first kept school. In 1881 a large frame house was built on the old site, in which Abbie Joslyn was the first teacher. In district No. 10 the first school was taught by Lucy Snow, in a log house belonging to J. S. Scott, located on the northeast quarter of section 2, in 1866. That same fall a school house was built on the northwest of the northeast quarter of section 2. Lucy Snow was the first teacher in the house. Bridget Kennedy is now employed as instructor in this district.

In district No. 11 the first school was taught in a log house belonging to Nathan Schoonover, in the winter of 1868-69, by Jemima McNamar. In the fall of 1869 a log school house was built on the northeast quarter of section 31, in which Florence Washburn taught the first school. In 1883 a frame house was erected on the northwest quarter of section 34, at a cost of \$460.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The actual first time when a religious service of any character was held in this town cannot be determined. If the first party of settlers who went up Pine river in 1845 ever held any religious meeting, they have not left a record of it. Prayer meetings were occasionally held years afterward in different places, but the pioneers of Rockbridge were without Church privileges for many years, and many of its inhabitants of the present day go outside the boundary lines of the town to attend Church.

A Methodist Episcopal class was organized at the house of Henry Leatherberry on section 20, in 1854, by Rev. Buck. Henry Leatherberry and wife, John Poole and wife, John Waddel and wife, Elizabeth and Margaret Leatherberry were among the members. Henry Leatherberry was class leader. Meetings were held in private houses until the school house was built. The society continued in existence a few years when some of the members moving away, it disbanded or "died out." In 1856 the first religious service in the village of Rockbridge was held in a slab shanty. The exercises were conducted by Rev. Hughart, a Methodist divine. Ministers of different denominations preached there from time to time, but no organization was effected until 1879 when a Methodist Episcopal class was formed by Elder J. T. Bryan. The following were among the members: Lyman Hazeltine and wife and R. L. White and wife. The society has not flourished and meetings are held only occasionally. During the winter of 1857-8, Rev. Timby, a preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held a religious meeting in the school house on the northwest quarter of section 29, and organized a class. Seth Butler and wife, John Waddle and wife, Israel Janney and wife, Mrs. John Poole, James Cofran and wife, and Solomon Pruner and wife were among the members. Solomon Pruner was the class leader. They were supplied by preachers from Richland Center, but during the war the organization became very nearly, if not quite, extinct.

#### POSTOFFICES.

Janney's postoffice was established in 1870, and Israel Janney was the first postmaster. He kept the office about one year, when upon his resignation Angus Smith received the appointment, and kept it at his residence on section 19 about three years, when at his request it was discontinued. It was on the route from Richland Center to Viroqua and mail was received three times each week.

Buck Creek postoffice was first established the same year and P. M. Clark appointed postmaster. The office was kept at his house on section 22. It was on the route from Richland Center to West Lima and mail was received every day. Two years later it was discontinued. In March, 1881, it was re-established with Mrs. Ann Clark, widow of P. M. Clark, as postmistress. She has the office at her store on section 22. There is a tri-weekly mail.

#### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

An early birth in this town was a son (Daniel) to Amasa and Jane (Murdoek) Haskins, born in January, 1850. He is now married and lives in Buena Vista.

Reuben Hancock was among the first to die, which event occurred in July, 1854. He was buried on his farm on the northeast quarter of section 7.

The first steam saw-mill in the county was put up in this town by J. J. Shumaker & Co., in 1856, and was located on the northwest quarter of section 29. It had a number of saws, and lathes, fence pickets and lumber were manufactured. In 1857 Israel Janney purchased this mill, and sold it in 1863 to John Walworth, who two or three years later moved it to Richland Center, where it was afterward destroyed by fire.

The first wedding united the destinies of Wallace Joslyn and Emeline, daughter of Luman and Mary Thompson. This occurred in May, 1851, in the village of Rockbridge.

In 1854 a grist-mill was built by Alden Hazeltine, on the west side of the river near the natural bridge. The power was derived from the west branch of Pine river. A dam was built at the mouth of the tunnel, and a head of ten feet was thus obtained. It was furnished with one set of buhrs for grinding corn and cracking wheat. The people came to this mill for many miles around and it did a flourishing business.

#### VILLAGE OF ROCKBRIDGE.

This is the only village in the town and was laid out by Ira Hazeltine in June, 1851. It is

located on the northwest quarter of section 10. The saw-mill and the first frame house were already built. The postoffice was established here in 1855, and D. E. Pease was the first postmaster. He kept the office in his store. He was succeeded by Alden Hazeltine, who held the office until the time of his death, when his son Lyman, the present incumbent, was commissioned. When first established it was on the route from Richland Center to Fancy Creek, and was carried horseback. At this time (1884) it is on the route from Richland Center to West Lima and has a daily mail. There is also a mail to Hillsborough three times each week.

Dester E. & D. G. Pease opened the first store in 1855; they kept a general stock and had a good trade. They continued in business three or four years, and then moved their goods to Richland Center. The village was then without a store for some years. M. H. B. Cunningham engaged in trade here in April, 1867, first keeping store in a building owned by D. G. Pease. In 1870 he put up a building 22x40 feet.

The first blacksmith was Abner Aiken, and his shop was built with poles, and his anvil placed upon a stump. He was engaged at work in the saw-mill and did not do much work in the shop. That business is now represented by George Collins and Orson Devoc.

The traveling public were for years entertained by Alden Hazeltine at his private residence. Ira Campbell opened the first hotel in 1876 and called it the Rockbridge House. In 1877 he sold to T. J. Smith who was landlord until 1879, when he left and the property fell into the hands of a party in Kansas. In 1880 Stephen Smith bought the property.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

Israel Janney, one of Richland county's pioneers, was born in Loudoun Co., Va., Oct. 17, 1820. When he was but four years of age, his parents moved to Logan Co., Ohio, and there purchased 250 acres of land. They lived there but three or four years, and returned



to Virginia, where they lived until 1830. They then moved to Detroit, Mich., and there his father died in 1833. His mother, with her eight children, returned to Ohio and settled upon the land which his father had previously purchased. Here the subject of this sketch grew to manhood. Taking advantage of the facilities then offered, he acquired a fair education. He was united in marriage on the 3d of December, 1840, to Elizabeth Miller, who was born at Fort McCarty, Hardin Co., Ohio, May 20, 1824. He then settled on land which he had inherited from his father's estate in Logan county. He lived there till 1846, and then came to Richland county, which was then an almost unexplored wilderness, inhabited by Indians and wild beasts. He located in township 9, range 2 east, now known as Buena Vista. He first made a claim on a quarter of section 32 or 33, of town 9 north, of range 2 east, now occupied by the cemetery, and to the west of the Matteson and Button farms, built a log house, broke and fenced about twenty-five acres. In the fall of 1848 he sold this claim and entered 160 acres on section 17, of the same town, built a log house, 18x22 feet, cleared forty-five acres, and three years later built a frame house and lived in it until 1854. That year he was appointed by the governor as register of deeds, to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Charles McCorkle, and moved to Richland Center. That fall he was elected to that position and afterward re-elected. In 1856 he was elected a delegate to the republican convention at Madison, the first ever held in the State. In 1857 he purchased a farm on section 29, town of Rockbridge. There was a saw mill upon this land, which he purchased and engaged in the lumber business as well as in farming. In 1860 he went to Colorado for his health, and engaged in mining, remaining there until 1867, making frequent visits during the time to his home in Rockbridge. In 1875 he entered the employ of A. H. Kronsop at Richland Center, selling goods for one year, then went to West Lima and remained one year,

then returned to his farm. He has cleared a large portion of his land, built a neat frame house and barn, and now, in this comfortable home, enjoys the fruits of his labor. Mr. and Mrs. Janney were the parents of thirteen children, nine of whom are now living—Lot T., Mary J., Jacob, Sophia M., Elibabeth, John F., Israel M., Abial K. and Josephine. Isaac M. was born Oct. 15, 1843, and died Jan. 15, 1844, in Ohio; William H. was born Feb. 15, 1845, and died June 18, 1849; George K. was born Aug. 17, 1852, and died July 14, 1853; Oscar was born May 21, 1854, and died Oct. 12, 1855. Both Mr. Janney and his wife united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in their younger days, but at the present time are members of the Church of United Brethren at Pleasant Valley.

Their son, John F., was born in Richland Center, Feb. 3, 1857, and received his education in the district schools of Rockbridge, except one year at Richland Center. He was married in December, 1879, to Eva, daughter of William and Mary (Thompson) Francis. They have one child—Wilford. He settled at the time of his marriage upon his present farm on section 29.

Orin Hazeltine, a native of Vermont, came here in 1850 from Dane county. He, in company with his son Ira, bought the northwest quarter of section 10. In October they moved here, starting from Black Earth with three ox teams, loaded with goods. They came by way of Sextonville, cutting a road up the east side of the river to their new home. The company consisted of Orin Hazeltine and his son, Allen, Dexter Carlton and two strangers, one named Talbot, who afterward lived on section 32. Mr. Hazeltine built the first frame house in the town in 1851. It was built of slabs which were stood on end with the flat side in.

A. P. Hyde, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in the town and county of Otsego, N. Y., and there attained his majority and was brought up on a farm. In 1845 he came to

Wisconsin and located in Lafayette town, Walworth county, where he was married in 1846 to Elvira Singletary. In 1848 he went to Dane county, purchased forty acres of land, and remained there until 1851, when, during the month of September, he came to Richland county, and settled in what is now the town of Marshall. He has been considerable of a rover and has lived in a number of places within and without the county since that time. In 1860 he went to Pike's Peak and engaged in mining a few months, then returned to Rockbridge. In 1882 he went to Dakota and made a claim in Miner county, remained one year, sold out, and again returned. His wife was a native of Grafton, Worcester Co., Mass. She died, leaving three children—Ellen Lucinda, Charles and Ira. His second wife, to whom he was married Nov. 7, 1853, was Sarah Dary, a native of Virginia. They have one child—Delila. He is a veritable pioneer, is well known as a hunter and a good shot, and even now is fond of the rifle. He has been prominent in town affairs and has filled many important offices. His present home is on section 10.

M. H. B. Cunningham, a merchant at Rockbridge, was born in Huntingdon Co., Penn., April 11, 1842. When he was but an infant his parents removed to Illinois, and lived in Adams county four years, then came to Wisconsin, and lived in Potosi, Grant county, five years, and in Wingville, eighteen months, then moved to Iowa county, where his father purchased a farm. Here the subject of this sketch grew up, making his home with his parents until nineteen years old. Then in December, 1861, he enlisted in the 18th Wisconsin, company B, and immediately went to the front. He was engaged in the battle of Shiloh, and taken prisoner. He was confined in the prisons at Tuscaloosa, Mobile, Montgomery and Macon, Ga. He was paroled from Libby prison after a confinement of six months, and thirteen days. He joined the regiment in April, 1863, in Louisiana. Among the more important battles in which he

participated the following are mentioned: Raymond, Miss., Jackson, Miss., Champion Hills and siege of Vicksburg. During this siege his regiment went to Mechanicsburg and participated in the battle there. After the fall of Vicksburg he was detailed to do guard duty at the depot two months. The regiment then went to Dixon's Station to repair the railroad; thence west to Chattanooga, taking part in the battle of Missionary Ridge and Allatoona Pass; joined Sherman at Atlanta, and was with him on his march to the sea. He was relieved from duty at Savannah in March, 1865, after having served three months more than his time. He returned to Madison and was there discharged. He then went to Blanchardville, Lafayette county, and worked at farming a few months, then opened a restaurant in Blanchardville, remaining there until 1867, when he came to Rockbridge, as before stated, where he has since conducted a successful mercantile trade. In 1883 he bought a steam saw-mill, which he put up at Rockbridge, and has been engaged in the lumber trade. He has been twice married. The first time, in 1865, to Hannah Cline. They had six children, four living—William, John, Frank and Fred. Two daughters died in 1877. Mrs. Cunningham died Oct. 24, 1877. His second wife was Luella Licurance. They have one child—Bernie.

George Fogo, son of John and Jane (Dreghorn) Fogo, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, June 14, 1837 and came to Wisconsin with his parents in 1853, where he made his home until 1859. In March of that year he was married to Caroline, daughter of Harvey and Mary (Ewing) Dillingham. He then settled on section 17, town of Rockbridge, and commenced to clear a farm. He has been successful, has purchased more land adjoining until now his farm contains 240 acres, about one half of which is cleared. He has built a frame house and stable, and is engaged in raising grain, sheep, horses and cattle. He has been prominent in town and county affairs, has been a member of the board, and filled

offices of trust in the town. Mr. and Mrs. Fogo have seven children—Harvey, John D., Etta, Ormsly F., Jennie, Alice and Georgia. Mr. Fogo is among the best class of Richland county citizens, is a good business man, and has deservedly been successful in his undertakings.

Hiram Austin, one of the early settlers of Rockbridge, was born in Franklin, Vt., May 9, 1822, and there grew to manhood. When a young man he learned the trade of blacksmith, at which he worked in his native State until 1854, when he came west to seek a home. He came to Richland county and purchased land on sections 21 and 15, of township 11, range 1 east, now known as the town of Rockbridge, and immediately commenced to clear a farm, and made this his home until the time of his death, March 14, 1869. He was a natural mechanic, and could do almost any kind of work. A great part of the time here he worked as carpenter and joiner. He met his death by accident. While teaming logs the chain broke and the logs were unloaded on him, crushing him in a frightful manner. He was conveyed to his home, and died a few hours later, surrounded by his family and friends. He was twice married. The first time, in 1842, to Laura Dassanse. She died March 3, 1849, leaving two children,—Herbert and Marietta. His second wife, to whom he was married Dec. 7, 1856, was Mary E., daughter of Michael and Catharine (Minnech) Statser. She was born in Washington Co., Va., April 12, 1831. When she was eighteen years of age her parents removed to Wisconsin and settled in Iowa county, where she married, at twenty-one years of age, William Ethridge. Her husband died after having been married three weeks. Eight children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Austin, seven of whom are now living—Charles L., Edward E., Irvin, Douglas, Florence, Minnie and Hiram. Mrs. Austin's mother lives with her. She has been so unfortunate as to lose her eyesight. She is now seventy-six years of age, and enjoys good health.

George Benton, son of Joseph and Janet (Davidson) Benton, pioneers of Richland county, was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, Oct. 25, 1841, and was twelve years old when his parents emigrated to Richland county, and settled in township 11, range 1 west, now known as Marshall. Here he grew to manhood, assisting his father in clearing land, and attending the pioneer schools. He enlisted in February, 1864, in the 11th Wisconsin, company D, and joined the regiment near New Orleans. For a time this regiment was detailed to guard railroads, after which they entered active service, participating in many minor engagements and skirmishes. The most important battle was Fort Blakely. He served until after the close of the war, and was discharged with the regiment in September, 1865, when he returned to his home. He remained on the homestead until 1870, when he came to Rockbridge and settled on a farm which he had purchased in 1867, located on section 16. He lived in a log house until 1879, when he built the commodious frame house which he now occupies. He has since purchased adjoining land, and his farm now contains 170 acres, 100 of which is cleared. He has been twice married. The first time, Feb. 22, 1866, to Mary E. Dickason, of Ohio. She died in April, 1867. His second wife was Keziah Robbins, to whom he was married Oct. 2, 1868. She was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, and has also been twice married. Her first husband was Hamilton Davis. They lived in Belmont Co., Ohio, where he died Oct. 14, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Benton have an adopted daughter—Mary E.

John Stayton, one of the pioneers of Richland county, is a native of Delaware, born Nov. 15, 1820. When he was five years of age, his parents removed to Ohio, and settled in Fayette county. They resided there seven years and then removed to White Co., Ind., where his father rented a farm and lived one year, then removed to Tippecanoe Co., Ind., and lived there one year, and then removed to Ful-

ton Co., Ind., where the father entered land, and they were among the early settlers. On that farm the subject of this sketch began his pioneer life. He assisted his father in clearing the land, and continued to live with his parents until the time of his marriage, July 7, 1849, to Nancy C., daughter of Isaac and Phebe (Lewis) McMahan. She was born in Champaign Co., Ohio, and her parents were also pioneers of Fulton Co., Ind. Mr. Stayton lived in Fulton county until 1854, and then, taking his family, started with a span of horses and wagon to join friends in Richland Co., Wis. They camped out on the way, arriving at their destination on the 4th of October. He entered land on section 23, town 12, range 1 west, in what is now the town of Bloom. The family lived with Mrs. Stayton's father until he could build a log house. He then began clearing a farm. In 1864 he enlisted in company G, 16th regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and went south and joined the regiment. He served until the close of the war, and was discharged in June, 1865. In the fall of the same year, he sold his farm in Bloom town and removed to Rockbridge, where he purchased a farm on section 21, town 11, range 1 east. Here the family lived in the pioneer log cabin until 1881, when he built his present comfortable frame residence. Mr. and Mrs. Stayton are the parents of eleven children, ten of whom are living—Margaret A., Phebe J., James H., Robert T., Elizabeth A., David S., Carson R., George M., Lilly M., Isaac E. and William A. Margaret married J. W. Cook, and is living in the town of Rockbridge. Phebe married D. W. Hutcheson, a resident of Berrien Co., Mich., and Robert is married and living in Day Co., Dak. David died May 10, 1861.

Stephen W. Chesemore, (deceased) an early settler of Rockbridge, was born in Rhode Island, May 10, 1799. When he was but ten years old his parents removed to Vermont, and became pioneers in Orleans county. His father purchased wild land in what is now the town of

Troy, cleared a farm and made this his home until the time of his death. The subject of this sketch was here brought up, and married Betsy Colburn, who was born in Rhode Island. Her parents were early settlers in the town of Glover, Orleans county. Twelve children blessed this union. They lived in Orleans county until 1854, then came to Wisconsin and located in Johnstown, Rock county. That same year he came to Rockbridge and purchased the south half of the southeast quarter of section 9. In 1856 he commenced to make improvements and built a house, into which, in January, 1857, he moved his family. Here he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred Sept. 4, 1877. His widow died in April, 1881. His son, Newton, was born in the town of Troy, Orleans Co., Vt., April 5, 1836. He was brought up on the farm, receiving his education in the common schools. He came to Wisconsin with his parents in 1854, and to Rockbridge with them in 1857, where he remained a few months, then went back to Rock county, remained until 1859, then came back to Rockbridge. He enlisted in August, 1862, in the 25th Wisconsin, company B, and went to Fort Snelling, spent a few months in Minnesota, then went south and was with Sherman on his grand march to the sea, through the Carolinas, and thence to Washington, participating in many of the important battles of that remarkable campaign. He was discharged with the regiment in June, 1865, and returned to Rockbridge. He then purchased the south one-half of the southwest quarter of section 10, and commenced clearing his present farm. He was married in 1866 to Mary Fogo, widow of John Tippin. They have two children—Genie F. and John Stephen Wheeler. His son, Dighton was also born in the town of Troy, Orleans Co., Vt., in December, 1837. He came to Wisconsin with his parents in 1854, and that year he visited Richland county, made a short stay, and returned to Rock county. In the fall of 1855 he went into the pineries and spent the

winter lumbering. The following summer he was employed rafting down the river and also each succeeding summer until 1861, when he enlisted in the 11th Wisconsin, company D, and went south. Among the many battles in which he participated, are mentioned the following: Siege of Vicksburg, Cotton Plantation, Jackson, Mobile, Fort Blakely and Montgomery. He re-enlisted in 1864, and served until after the close of the war, and was discharged in September, 1865, then came to Rockbridge. He was married in 1868 to Delia Hazeltine. He first purchased land on section 4, town of Rockbridge, cleared a small portion of it, and traded it for land on sections 4 and 5, where he cleared a farm and made his home until 1881. His wife died the 9th of September of that year, leaving three children—Lee, Guly and Pearl. He has rented his farm and now makes his home in Rockbridge.

Moses B. West, one of the pioneers of Richland county, is a native of the Empire State, born at Deerfield Corners, Oneida county, in 1814. When he was but one year old, his parents moved to Wayne county, where they were early settlers. His father was a land speculator and purchased a large tract of land and commenced to improve several farms. Here the subject of our sketch made his home with his parents until twelve years of age, then engaged on the Erie Canal as cabin-boy, and worked in this capacity until eighteen years of age, then took charge of a boat, and was thus employed until 1854, when he started west to seek a home. Coming to Richland county, he purchased 160 acres of land on section 21, and commenced clearing a farm. He first built a log house, but in 1883 erected the frame house in which he now lives. He has engaged in raising stock and horses. He is a lover of fine horses and always keeps a good team. He was married in 1846 to Nancy Tadder. They have eight children living,—Delphina, Ada, Emma, Moses, Augusta, Florence, Sarah and Ruth.

Morris Freeman (deceased), an early settler of the town of Rockbridge, was born in Herkimer Co., N. Y., in December, 1803. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Snell, was also a native of the same county. In 1846 they emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in Waukesha county, remaining there until 1855, when they came to Richland county and located in the town of Rockbridge, as before stated. He lived on a farm but a few years, when he moved to the village, where he remained until his death, which occurred Jan. 29, 1879. Mrs. Freeman died March 4, 1883. They were the parents of thirteen children, seven of whom are now living—Hiram, Gaylord, Elizabeth, now the wife of C. H. Smith; Marietta, now the wife of D. G. Pease; Charlotte, now the wife of E. P. Austin; Norman and Levi B.

Angus Smith, son of Alexander and Elizabeth (McDonald) Smith, was born in Yellow Creek township, Columbiana Co., Ohio, on Sept. 2, 1832. His younger days were spent in school and on a farm. In 1855 he paid a visit to Richland county, in company with his uncle, Daniel McDonald. He remained but a short time, and started on his return, going to Highland, thirty miles distant, on foot. He traveled from there to Warren, Ill., by stage, and the remainder of the journey by rail. He was married Jan. 3, 1856, to Matilda Hart, also a native of Columbiana county, and in 1859 started with his family for Richland county. His family then consisted of his wife and two children, his mother and sister. He purchased his present farm on section 19, town of Rockbridge. It contained 140 acres, the greater part of which was timbered. He has since purchased adjoining land, and now has 230 acres, 130 of which are cleared. He has paid considerable attention to the raising of sheep, of which he has a large flock, also to the raising of fine grades of horses and horned cattle. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of five children—Lydia Ann, John A., Elizabeth Alice, who died at the age of four, Maggie and Phila. Mr. Smith's parents were natives of

Scotland, and came to America in 1806. They were early settlers in Columbiana Co., Ohio, where his father bought land and cleared a farm, making it his home till the time of his death, in 1853. His mother is still living at the home of her daughter, in the town of Marshall.

Daniel McDonald, one of the pioneers of Rockbridge, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, in 1813. He is of Scotch descent, his parents having both been born in Scotland. They emigrated to America in 1806 and settled in Columbiana county, where they lived until the time of their death. The subject of this sketch was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving his education in the pioneer schools of his native county, where he remained until 1855, when he came to Richland county, as before stated. He had previously, in 1852, visited this county, and entered land on section 19, town 11, range 1 east, now known as the town of Rockbridge, and had employed one of the settlers to build a log house for him. His aunt and sister preceded him on the way, having come by cars and stage, and were at the log cabin to give him welcome. He immediately commenced to cut a farm out of the heavy timber, an undertaking of considerable magnitude and requiring energy and perseverance. His farm now contains 203 acres, one-half of which is cleared. At first he made a specialty of raising grain, in a few years added a sheep husbandry, and now raises horses and cattle. His aunt died in 1861, and his sister in 1868. He is a bachelor, has a good frame house and comfortable home.

Budington Kinyon, one of the pioneers of Rockbridge, was born in the town of Richmond, Washington Co., R. I., Aug. 19, 1800. He made his home with his parents until twenty years old, when he went to Connecticut and engaged in farming, stone-cutting and mason work in New London county until 1832, when he went to Illinois and purchased prairie and timber land in Edwards county, where he improved a farm, which he sold in 1855. The 1st day of May of that year, in company with his family,

he started with a team for Wisconsin. On the 3d of June he arrived in Iowa county and remained until August, then came to Richland county. He purchased the northwest of the southwest of section 6, town of Rockbridge, built a log house and cleared a part of the land, living there two years, when he bought his present farm—the south half of the southeast, and the southeast of the southwest of section 6. He has been twice married. The first time, to Mary Ann Price, in 1826, who was born in Long Island, York State. They had six children, two of whom are now living—Merey and James. She died in 1840. His second wife was Eliza Morrell, a native of the State of Maine. They had ten children, four now living—George, Jedediah, Elmond and Budington E. She died July 11, 1875. Mr. Kinyon, now in his eighty fourth year, is a hale, hearty man, with strong mind and good memory, a remarkable person for his age. His son, George, with whom he now makes his home, was born in Edwards Co., Ill., March 9, 1846; came to Wisconsin with his parents and made his home with them until twenty-one years old, meanwhile attending the pioneer schools and assisting his father in clearing a farm. He was joined in marriage with Alberta Braithwaite Sept. 12, 1874. She was born in Richmond Co., Va. They have four children—Clara Belle, Charles E., Lottie L. and Martha Eliza. In 1877 he settled on the old homestead.

Herman T. Hamilton, son of an early settler of Richland county, was born in the town of Stockbridge, Madison Co., N. Y., March 22, 1828. His younger days were spent in school and upon the farm. He came to Richland Co., Wis., in the summer of 1855, settled in Richland Center, bought four lots and built a house. In 1855-6-7, he was engaged in teaming from Madison and Galena to Richland Center, then the nearest railroad station. In 1859 he bought land on section 29, town of Richland, where he resided three years. He then sold and returned to Richland Center, where he remained one year.

In 1865 he bought the west half of the north-west quarter of section 13, town of Rockbridge, and engaged in farming. In 1872 his house with all its contents was consumed by fire. He then removed to his present farm, the east half of the same quarter. He has since cleared about twenty acres of the land, and built the house in which he now resides. Mr. Hamilton was married in 1852 to Mary J. Kimball, a native of Onondaga Co., N. Y. She died at Richland Center in April, 1856, leaving one child—Wilfred. He was again married in 1858 to Marian Kinney, daughter of Thomas Kinney and early settler of Richland county, who came to Richland Center with her father's family in February, 1855. In the summer of 1856, she taught one of the first schools in the town of Henrietta, receiving six dollars a month and "boarding around." She was born in Sidney Co., Nova Scotia, Feb. 21, 1838, and has four children—Jennie May, Orcutt S., Edward R. and Essie Bell.

O. S. Welton, one of the early settlers of Richland county, is a native of the State of New York, born Aug. 16, 1821. When he was eight years old his parents moved to Medina Co., Ohio, remained there eight years, then moved west and settled in Fulton Co., Ind., when he was nineteen years old. He afterward went back to Ohio and learned the trade of carpenter and joiner and followed the same in Indiana until 1855, when he came to Richland county and located at Richland Center, where he worked at his trade until 1858, when he went to Henrietta and purchased land on section 17. He cleared a part of this land and lived here three years, when he traded for land on the northeast quarter of section 22, town of Rockbridge and moved there. He enlisted in December, 1861, in the 2d Wisconsin Cavalry, company F, and went south. He re-enlisted in 1864 and served until the close of the war. After his return he sold the farm in Rockbridge, and went again to Henrietta and bought a farm on section 20, where he lived for about ten

years, then sold out and purchased his present place on the southeast quarter of section 22, town of Rockbridge. Since that time he has engaged principally in farming, occasionally working at his trade. He has a good farm containing 114 acres. In 1882 he built the frame house in which he now lives. He was married in 1858 to Caroline, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Stevens) Kinney. They have had six children—Eliza, Alvin, William, Ada, Clara and Millard.

Richard Wade Hampton, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in Richmond, Va., April 24, 1807. When he was a young man he learned the carpenter's trade. He was married in 1829 to Sarah Smith who was born in Goochland Co., Va., Dec. 26, 1800. They lived in Richmond until 1832, then when the cholera raged they fled the city, and went to Fluvanna county where he engaged in farming until 1849, then moved to Lewis Co., W. Va., and there worked at his trade until 1856, when he came to Richland county and settled in town 11, range 1 west, bought land on section 24 and lived here until the time of his death which occurred Nov. 18, 1862. His widow died in March, 1880, while on a visit to her daughter in Missouri. They had seven children, three of whom are now living—Elizabeth, now the wife of Samuel Schoonover, lives in Rockbridge; Sarah Ann, now the wife of Thomas Schoonover, now lives in Missouri; and Wade R., the only son, who was born in Fluvanna Co., Va., Feb. 21, 1837. He came to Wisconsin with his parents and made his home with his mother until 1865, when he purchased a tract of timber land on section 30, town of Rockbridge and commenced clearing a farm. He now has 183 acres of land, eighty-five of which is in a good state of cultivation. He was married in 1859 to Sarah Collins, who was born in Gilmore Co., W. Va. They have eight children—John, Richard, Nancy E., Alvaretta, William, James, George W. and Mary A.

Isaac Johnson, Sr., (deceased) a pioneer of Richland county, was born in Virginia, June 9,

1800. While he was quite young, his father died and he was apprenticed to a miller to learn the trade. At the age of twenty-one, he went to Fredericksburg, where he was employed in a flouring mill. In 1830 he was married to Elizabeth Calhoun, a second cousin of John C. Calhoun. She was born in Culpepper Co., Va., Feb. 19, 1810. They remained in Culpepper county where he was engaged in running a flour mill on the Rappahannock river, nine years. They then went to Ohio and settled in Logan county, where he bought a farm, and lived till 1856, then came to Wisconsin and settled on section 32, of the town of Rockbridge. He purchased timber land which he cleared and made his home till the time of his death, July 15, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had thirteen children born to them, ten of whom lived to attain their majority—Robert Calhoun, Mary, William, Martha, Enoch, Ann, Isaac, Hattie, Cleveland and Willis H. Their son William was born July 23, 1835, and came to Wisconsin with his parents. He enlisted in the 11th Wisconsin, company D, on Jan. 4, 1864, and went to the front. He died in Brazee City, La., in September, 1864. He had been married but two weeks when he enlisted. His widow is married and lives in Iowa. Enoch was born Aug. 5, 1840. He enlisted in 1864 in the 6th Wisconsin, company B, and died at Huntsville, Ala., in June, 1864. His widow now lives at Redwing, Minn. Isaac was born Oct. 2, 1845, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving his education in the district school. He was married in 1875 to Ida, daughter of John C. and Harriet (Stockwell) Davis. They have four children—Martha, William C., Harry and Isaac. He now occupies the homestead with his mother.

John S. Scott, one of the pioneers of Rockbridge, was born in Erie Co., Penn., July 5, 1806. When he was but one day old his father died, having been accidentally killed. When he was three years old his mother died. He then went to make his home with an uncle named John Shaddock, in Erie county. Here

he was well cared for and given an opportunity to obtain an education. When he was but fifteen years old he went to New York State and worked on the Erie canal, at Lockport, one summer. He then returned home and labored at farming for two years; then went east, labored and taught school one year in Herkimer Co., N. Y., then visited Philadelphia and other places and taught school in Northampton Co., Penn., and acted as book-keeper for a contractor on the Mauch Chunk & Schuylkill Railroad Company for over one year. After an absence of five years he returned home and engaged in the mercantile trade in Erie county, in company with his cousin, two years, then went to Erie City and clerked two years. He then engaged in an iron foundry as book-keeper and general manager until 1843, when he came to Wisconsin and visited different parts of the State. In the spring of 1844 he went to Walworth county and purchased land in the town of Hudson, where he built a house, improved a farm, and lived until 1848, when he sold out and removed to Dane county, purchased land in the town of Oregon, and improved another farm. In 1854 he sold out there and came to Richland county, prospecting as before stated. He has been twice married. His first wife was Ann Whitmore, and they were married in 1848. She was born in New York State, and died in Rockbridge, in December, 1860. His second wife, to whom he was married Jan. 1, 1862, was Martha Thompson, who was born in Bakersfield, Franklin Co., Vt. They had one child—Ida May. A young lad named George Handy has made his home with them since six years old.

Edward Murphy came to Rockbridge in 1856. Being an unmarried man at the time he did not immediately settle, but engaged to operate a steam saw-mill, on section 29. In 1858 he went to Iowa and spent a few months in Allamakee and Winneshiek counties, then returned to Richland. In 1864 he went to Colorado and engaged in mining at Pike's Peak, seventy-two



days. He spent two years in the territory prospecting and milling, then returned and went to West Virginia, where he remained one and a half years. At the end of that time he came back to Richland county and purchased forty acres of land on section 34. After completing a log house with a shake roof, he commenced to clear the land. He has, since that time, bought other land and now has 200 acres, sixty of which are cleared. He has a large frame house and barn. Mr. Murphy is a native of Frederick Co., Md., born Feb. 26, 1837. While he was very young his parents moved to West Virginia and settled in Lewis county, where he grew to manhood, obtaining his education in a subscription school, and living there till 1856. He was married in 1859 to Cynthia, daughter of Peter and Sarah (Oswalt) Waggoner. Ten children have been born to them—James William, Joseph Warren, Mary A., Margaret, Alice, Robert, Cora, Eldora, Lewis and Simon. Mr. Murphy is well known throughout the county and has served as a member of the county board.

Jacob Anderson, one of the early settlers of Richland county, was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, Feb. 1, 1822. When he was eighteen years old his parents moved to Indiana and settled in Allen county, where they purchased timber land, cleared a farm of 120 acres, and his father died. The subject of this sketch assisted his father in clearing this farm, and made his home there until 1853. On the 1st day of September, that year, he was married to Elizabeth M. Keever, who was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, Nov. 21, 1825. They remained in Allen county until 1856, then came to Richland county, bought a house and lot in Richland Center, and lived there until the spring of 1857, when he engaged in farming on rented land in the town of Ithaca. In 1859 he purchased timber land on section 36, town of Rockbridge, but did not settle on it until 1866, until which time he was in the employ of William Bowen. In 1866 he erected a good log house and commenced clearing his

present farm. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of four children—Hugh Wiley, Matilda C., Cyrus Newton and John M. Mr. Anderson has been a member of the town board, clerk of school district, and served a number of terms as school director.

Enoch Gray, one of the early settlers of Richland county, is a native of Maine, born in Waldo county, June 2, 1835. He received a common school education. When young he learned the cooper's trade. In 1856 he started west to seek a home, came to Richland county and rented land in Ithaca and commenced farming. In 1858 he took a pre-emption on section 35, town of Ithaca, but sold without making any improvements, and again rented land. He enlisted in August, 1862, in the 25th Wisconsin, company B, and went south. He served eleven months, and was then discharged on account of disability and returned home. He again enlisted in September, 1864, in the 43d Wisconsin, company F, and returned south. Among the more important engagements in which he participated were the battles of Johnsonville and Nashville, Tenn. He served with the regiment until the close of the war, and was discharged with them in June, 1865. While he was in the army his family settled on section 25, town of Rockbridge, where he had bought forty acres of land previous to his enlistment. Since his return from the army this has been his home. He has since purchased other land, and his farm now contains eighty acres. He was married in March, 1856, to Ruth Spaulding, also a native of Waldo county. They have nine children—John, Charles, Eben, Enoch, Steven, Frank, Burt, Lillian and Melvin.

Silas L. Carpenter, son of Halsey and Sarah (Vannetter) Carpenter, was born in Chautauqua Co., N. Y., April 8, 1839. He made his home with his parents in York State and the eastern part of Wisconsin, and came to Rockbridge with them in 1856. He was then but seventeen years old and started out for himself, and by energy, industry and economy has secured a

good home. He first went to Lone Rock and engaged in farming. He was married to Clarissa E., daughter of Stephen and Sarah (Glazier) Smith. She was born in Windham Co., Vt. They spent the winter in Rockbridge. In the fall of 1864 he enlisted in the 16th Wisconsin, company H, went south and joined the regiment at Marietta, was with Sherman on his march to the sea and through the Carolinas to Washington, where he was discharged with the regiment in June, 1865. In the fall he bought land on section 10, town of Rockbridge, joining the village plat. He built a log house, in which he lived until 1869, when he erected the frame house in which he now lives. His farm contains seventy acres, sixty of which are cleared and in a good state of cultivation. His wife died Sept. 29, 1879, leaving six children—Leroy, Alice, Fred, Elma, Nellie and Edith. His second wife, to whom he was married March 29, 1880, was Delia, daughter of Tilas and Hannah (McCann) Knapp, early settlers of Marshall.

Albert J. Straight (deceased), an early settler of Richland Center, was born in Dover town, Athens Co., Ohio, in 1829. He was the son of Benjamin Straight, who was born in Dutchess Co., N. Y., in 1797, and moved to Athens county in 1816, and in 1856 came to Richland Center, where he died, Oct. 27, 1874. His widow still lives there. Albert, the subject of this sketch, also came to Richland Center in 1856. He was married in 1867 to Mary, daughter of Daniel and Maria (Bristol) Mosher, and settled on his farm on section 32, town of Rockbridge, which was his home until the time of his death, Dec. 31, 1872. He left a widow and three children—Victor, Edward and Flavius. Mrs. Straight now carries on the farm, which is one of the best in the town, and is in a good state of cultivation. She has a good frame house and a large frame barn.

William Francis was an early settler of the town of Sylvan, coming there in 1856. He bought 280 acres of land on section 9, cleared about thirty acres, and lived there until 1860,

when he sold out and purchased his present farm, which contains 167½ acres, a part being in the town of Rockbridge, and a part extending over the line into Marshall. He has 145 acres of cleared land, making one of the best farms in the county. In 1883 he built a large frame house. He is a native of York State; was born in Essex county April 24, 1826. When he was five years old his parents moved to Erie Co., Penn. His father purchased timber land in the town of Girard, cleared a farm and made this his home until the time of his death. The subject of this sketch made his home with his parents until eighteen years old. He was married the August following to Mary Thompson, who was born in Swansy, N. H. He then located in Fairview, Erie county, and engaged to learn the shoemaker's trade, which having accomplished he went to Lockport, Erie county, opened a shop and carried on the shoe business until 1855, when he moved to Wisconsin, lived in Dane county and worked at his trade in the town of Rutland until 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Francis have had eleven children, ten of whom are now living—Orren, Saloma, Salina, William Rush, Alice, Ida, Evaline, Charles, Calvin and Prudence. One child, named Millie, died in infancy.

Abraham Anderson was born in Carroll county Nov. 24, 1828, and was thirteen years old when his parents moved to Allen Co., Ind. In 1854 he was joined in marriage with Rebecca Blythe, who was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, Feb. 9, 1836. They remained in Allen county until 1856, and then came to Richland county. They have had thirteen children, eleven of whom are now living—Jane, David G., Henry, Lina E., Ellen, Carrie, Mary F., Amanda, Eliza R., Charlotte and George E.

David Anderson, in 1856, with three brothers, named Jacob, Abraham and William, natives of Ohio, came to Richland county from Allen Co., Ind., starting from there with five horse teams and driving twenty-six head of cattle. They were twenty-six days on the road, and arrived in

Richland Center October 18. David was born in Carroll Co., Ohio, Aug. 21, 1834, and was six years old when his parents moved to Indiana; here he grew to manhood, making his home with them until 1856, when he came to Wisconsin. He was a single man at that time and made his home with his brothers until 1860, when he went to Colorado and engaged in mining and farming, remaining until the fall of 1864, when he returned east and spent the winter visiting in Indiana, Ohio and Richland county. In the spring of 1865 he settled in Champaign Co., Ill., and rented land until 1866, when he made a purchase and settled thereon. He was married in 1867 to Jennie Blaker, who was born in Logan Co., Ind. They had five children—Annie, Belle, William, Mary L. and Charles. He remained in Champaign county until 1880, when he sold his farm there and returned to Richland county and purchased a farm of 160 acres on sections 17 and 20, town of Rockbridge, where he now lives, engaged in raising stock and grain.

Richard Pratt, one of the early settlers of Rockbridge, was born in the city of Albany, N. Y., in November, 1815, where he lived until fifteen years of age, then went to Kalamazoo, Mich., and subsequently came to Wisconsin, locating in Iowa county, in November, 1837, where he was one of the early settlers. He was married there, in 1848, to Sarah Gray, who was born in Franklin, Warren Co., Ohio. They remained in Iowa county until 1856, then came to Richland county and purchased timber land on sections 5 and 6, town of Rockbridge, making his way here with horse and ox teams. He first erected a log house and commenced to clear a farm. That same year he purchased a saw mill and engaged in the lumber business. This was during the hardest times ever experienced in this county. People who wanted lumber were not in circumstances to buy, and the enterprise proved a failure. Then he again gave his attention to farming, cleared a good place, built a good frame house and made it his home until the time of his death, which occurred in March,

1880, leaving a widow and two sons. The eldest son, James T., lives in the town of Henrietta. He was married in 1873 to Emma, daughter of Thomas C. Clark. His farm is located on section 31, in sight of the old homestead. The younger son, George Benjamin, occupies the old homestead with his mother.

Daniel Snow, son of Horatio and Sarah (Cole) Snow, an early settler of Rockbridge, was born in Jefferson Co., N. Y., July 18, 1834. When he was but eight years old, his parents emigrated west and settled in Dodge Co., Wis., where they were among the pioneers. His father purchased land in what is now the town of Emmet, improved a farm and made this his home, until the time of his death. His widow is a resident of Watertown, Jefferson Co., Wis. The subject of our sketch here grew to manhood, receiving his education in the public schools. In December, 1857, in company with his brother, James, he started with an ox team for Richland county. After eight days of travel, they arrived at Rockbridge and entered land on section 1, of that town. They were both single men at this time and kept "old batch," in a log house with a "shake" roof, which they erected on the southeast of section 1, until 1859. That year, on the 4th of September, Daniel was married to Annie, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Robinson) Simpson, early settlers of Henrietta. They have six children—William, Victor, Paul, Vira, Scott and Frank. He now owns 165 acres of land, about thirty of which is cleared. He has taken pains to preserve his best timber, and now has some of the most valuable land in this section of the country.

John Clarkson first came to Rockbridge in 1858 and purchased land on section 14. At that time he was without a family and boarded with Hiram Austin a few months. In November of that year he went to England and there was married to Anna Cook. In February, 1859, he returned with his wife to their new home where he has cleared quite a tract of land, built a comfortable log house, and yet remains. He

was born in Tamworth, Staffordshire, England, Dec. 6, 1836. When sixteen years old he entered the employ of a draper and learned that trade, which in this country would be called the dry goods trade. He served until twenty-one years old and then came to America. He landed in New York and immediately came to Wisconsin, spent a few months in Waukesha county and then came to Richland as before stated. Mrs. Clarson was born in Weithestaky, Staffordshire, England, Jan. 17, 1839, and died in Rockbridge, Richland Co., Oct. 27, 1876, leaving five children—John Sidney, Robert Henry, Annie May, John and Charles Arthur.

Charles Stuart settled in the town of Rockbridge in the fall of 1859. He purchased timber land on section 17, built a neat hewed log house, cleared a farm and here made his home until the time of his death which occurred Oct. 31, 1877. He was a native of Scotland, born in Aberdeenshire, Aug. 5, 1820, and was brought up on a farm. He was joined in marriage in 1847 with Mary Brown, also a native of Aberdeenshire and emigrated to America in 1854. They had two children—Maggie and Mary. Mrs. Stuart and her two daughters now occupy the homestead.

William Wiley was a pioneer at Milwaukee, having settled there as early as 1835. At that time Milwaukee was but a small settlement, and people traveled from there to Chicago on foot, carrying their provisions on their backs. He remained there until 1859, when he came to Richland county and purchased land on section 20, of the town of Rockbridge, and commenced to clear a farm. He was joined in marriage, in 1862, to Mary, daughter of Israel and Elizabeth (Miller) Janney. They lived in a log house until 1871 when he built the good frame house in which they now live. He has engaged in raising stock and grain, keeps a dairy and has paid considerable attention to fruit growing. He is also a great lover of flowers and has more than 800 varieties of garden and house plants, all of which show the care of a skilled florist.

Peter Waggoner, one of the early settlers of Richland county, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Adams county, March 4, 1795. When he was twenty-one years of age he emigrated to Ohio and settled in Stark county, where he was an early settler. He was married there to Sarah Oswald. In 1835 he moved to West Virginia and lived there until 1851, when he returned to Ohio and lived there until 1854, then came to Richland county and settled in the town of Rockbridge, and purchased land on section 32. He improved a farm and made his home here until 1871. His wife died in July of that year. His latter days he spent with his son, Peter W., and died at his home Jan. 16, 1883. He was a man with a strong will and an iron constitution and retained his faculties in a remarkable degree until the time of his death. He left five children—Michael, Henry, Peter W., Elizabeth, now the wife of Henry Lint; and Cynthia, now the wife of Edward Murphy. His son, Peter W., was born in Stark Co., Ohio, May 13, 1833. He always made his home with his parents, never having been separated from them until the time of their death. He was married in 1871 to Harriet Warren, also a native of Ohio. They have three children—Minnie May, Cynthia and Mary Ann. His farm is on section 32.

Alexander Chisholm, (deceased) settled in Rockbridge in 1864. He purchased land on Fancy creek, on sections 19 and 30, in the town of Rockbridge, and adjoining land on sections 24 and 25 in the town of Marshall. He built a frame house on section 19, and unfortunately, located it too near the creek, so that when the water was high it was surrounded, and the family were obliged to leave in a boat. The house was moved to its present location on higher ground. Mr. Chisholm cleared a large tract of land and made this his home until the time of his death, Sept. 8, 1876. He was a native of Columbiana Co., Ohio, born in January, 1827. When a young man he learned the trade of stone mason, at which he worked some years.

He was married in May, 1859, to Marjory McBane, who was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, Aug. 14, 1835. Two children blessed this union—Daniel Alexander and Elizabeth Jennett. Mrs. Chisholm and the children now live at the homestead.

P. M. Clark, the first postmaster of Buck Creek postoffice, was born in Lewis Co., N. Y., April 5, 1819. When he was fifteen years old he went to Canada and there learned the carpenter trade; remained a few years, returned to York State where he worked at his trade until 1844, when he returned to Canada. He was married there in 1846 to Ann Kinney, who was born in Sidney Co., Nova Scotia, Aug. 3, 1829. They remained in Canada until 1863, then moved to Loekport, N. Y., where he engaged in his trade until 1865, when he came to Richland Center. There his health failed him, and in the spring of 1878, he moved to the town of Ithaca, where he died July 5 of that year. He left a widow and nine children to mourn his loss. The children are—Charles T., George M., Sarah M., Albert, James Victor, Hattie M., Lillian, Emma F. and Minnie. In the fall of 1878 Mrs. Clark with the family returned to Richland Center and lived until 1881, when they returned to Rockbridge, settled on section 22, and opened a store where she now keeps a good assortment of articles in general use. She is postmistress of Buck Creek postoffice.

Samuel Hendricks settled in Richland county in 1865. He first purchased eighty acres of timber land in the town of Henrietta on section 31, the greater part of which he cleared and fenced. In 1869 he sold this farm and purchased 120 acres on section 21, town of Rockbridge, where he moved and commenced clearing a farm. He has since purchased adjoining land and now has 240 acres, 118 of which is cleared. Here he has built a house, barn and granary, and is engaged in raising stock and grain. He was born in Westmoreland Co., Penn., Feb. 19, 1820. When he was three years old his parents moved to Ohio and settled

in Columbiana county, where his father purchased timber land and cleared a farm. Here his mother died soon after making settlement, and his father married again. When he was nine years old his father sold out here and moved to Michigan, settling in Kalamazoo county, where he was among the first settlers. When seventeen years old his father died, and he was obliged to look out for himself, and returned to Ohio where an uncle was living. The following winter he attended school in New Lisbon, and the next summer engaged in farming near Wellsville, attending school the next winter again. He afterwards learned the shoemakers trade. He was married in 1843 to Sarah Brande Bey of Columbiana county. He rented land and engaged in farming, and also worked at his trade in Ohio until 1849, then went to Michigan and purchased an improved farm of forty acres in Kalamazoo county. Two years later he sold this farm and bought 204 acres of timber land, and commenced to clear a farm. In 1857 he sold out and started for Iowa. He located at Iowa City and there engaged in teaming, remained until 1864, when he purchased some horses and started overland for California. He changed his mind on the way, and went to Virginia City, Idaho. There he sold his horses, bought a pair of mules and started for home bringing three passengers with him, arriving at length after an absence of six months. A few weeks later he made an overland trip to Leavenworth, Kan., returning to Iowa City he remained until the spring of 1865, when he came to Richland county. His wife died in 1857 leaving four children—Janie, Elizabeth, James Madison and James Monroe. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1852, was Levina Ream, also a native of Columbiana county. They have seven children—Nathan, Jacob, Adda, Annie, Samuel, Mary and Lettie. Mr. Henderson has been a republican in politics since the organization of that party. He cast his first vote for Harrison for President. He is a member of the town board, and has

been prominent in public affairs, and is a man to be relied upon in administration of affairs public or private.

E. P. Austin settled in Rockbridge in 1865. He is a brother of Hiram Austin, and was born in the town of Franklin, Franklin Co., Vt., Feb. 28, 1830. His education was obtained at the district school, and two terms at the Franklin academy. In 1852 he came to Wisconsin and located in that part of Marquette county, now known as Green Lake county, where he worked in a saw-mill and at farming until 1855, when he commenced driving stage and continued it until 1858. He then engaged to travel with a circus, which he followed till 1863, when he went to Dunleith, where he was employed by a transport company, engaged in transferring goods across the Mississippi river. He enlisted in 1864 in the 10th Illinois Cavalry, and joined the army of the southwest in Arkansas, serving until the close of the war. He was honorably discharged at New Orleans, in June, 1865, and returned to Dunleith, remained a short time and then came to Rockbridge. He was married in the fall of 1865 to Charlotte, daughter of Morris and Mary Freeman, who was a widow at this time. Her first husband, who was Loring Davis, had enlisted a few months after marriage, and died in the service. Mr. and Mrs. Austin are the parents of eight children—David Grant, Everett, Herbert, Hiram, Lena, Martha, Loring and Mary. At the time of their marriage they settled on the farm formerly occupied by Mr. Davis, on section 10. He has since bought and homesteaded other land, and his farm now contains 160 acres on sections 10 and 11. The frame house, in which they now live, was built in 1869.

Christopher Scholl settled on his present farm in 1866. He purchased timber land on section 34 town of Rockbridge. He first built a log house and stable of the same material. Since that time he has made great improvements, having cleared quite a tract of land and built the neat frame house which he now oc-

cupies. He was born in Oneida Co., N. Y., Dec. 25, 1839. When he was eleven years old he went to Madison county and lived until his eighteenth year when he returned to his home in Oneida county and lived two years. Then in 1859 he came to Wisconsin and located at Whitewater, where he engaged to learn the cooper trade. He enlisted in August, 1862, in the 28th Wisconsin, company D, and went south. His health failing he was discharged on account of disability in March, 1863, returned to Wisconsin and resumed work at his trade in Whitewater until 1866, the date of his settlement in Rockbridge. He was married in 1864 to Mary Balch a native of New Hampshire. They have three children—Hattie B., Emma May and Alice.

Philip Shookman settled on his present farm in 1867. It is located on section 25. There was a log cabin on the place at the time and but a small clearing. He has since cleared quite a tract of land and built a commodious frame house. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Franklin Co., Jan. 1, 1834. Here his younger days were spent in school and on the farm. In 1847 he emigrated to Indiana and located in Allen county and engaged in farming, living there until 1867, when he came to Rockbridge as before stated. He was joined in marriage in 1854 to Lydia Youse, a native of Ohio. They have four children—William M., Samuel F., Marshall E. and Eliza J.

Col. James Washburn came to Richland county in April, 1868. He there bought timber land on section 15, town of Rockbridge. He was born in the town of Manlius, Onondaga Co., N. Y., Aug. 15, 1821. He received a good education in the public schools in that county. When fourteen years old he went to work with his father, who was a carpenter, and from him learned that trade, which he followed in that State until 1853, when he removed to Monroe Co., Ohio, and there worked at his trade until the breaking out of the "great American conflict," when he enlisted in the 25th Ohio, company B, and served as captain until 1862, when

for gallant and meritorious conduct, he was promoted to the rank of colonel, and took immediate command of the 116th Ohio Volunteers. He was severely wounded at the battle of Snicke's Ferry, July 18, 1864, and was at home sixty days, when he joined the regiment, but was not again able to do active service. He was discharged July 7, 1865, and returned to Ohio, where he remained until 1868, when he came to Richland county. He has since cleared a large tract of land, erected a good set of buildings, and now enjoys all the comforts of an eastern home. He has taken a lively interest in the welfare of his adopted county, and is one of its best and most favorably known citizens. He has filled offices of trust, having been chairman of the board several years. He has also served a number of terms on the county board, and was a member of the Assembly in 1882. He was married in November, 1845, to Maria Jewett, who was born in Deerfield, Franklin Co., Mass. They have five children—Florence, Lucy R. Murray, Mary and Jewett.

John G. Sands came to Richland county in 1868, and entered the employ of J. W. Bowen, remaining with him two and a half years. In 1870 he purchased timber land on section 31, of the town of Dayton, cleared twenty-five acres, and lived there till 1881, when he sold, and bought his present farm on section 34, town of Rockbridge. He is a native of the north of Ireland, his family being of the Scotch Presbyterian persuasion, and was born in the county of Antrim, in 1846. He was there brought up upon a farm, and obtained a liberal education in the public schools. At the age of nineteen he left his native land and came to America; landed at New York and went to Ohio, where he spent one year in Mahoning and one in Trumbull county, coming from there to Richland county in 1868. He was married in 1870 to Mary A., daughter of Henry and Matilda (Panzer) Waggoner. They have six children—William H., Frank, Herbert, Julia, Peter and Nona.

F. M. Stevenson, proprietor of a steam saw-mill, was born in Champaign Co., Ohio, Jan. 3,

1830. When he was but an infant, his parents moved to Allen county, where he grew to man's estate, being reared upon a farm and obtaining his education in the district school. At the age of sixteen, he went to work in a saw-mill and learned to be a sawyer. In 1847 he was married to Maria Donel, who was born in Logan county. After marriage he engaged in farming in Allen county. In 1859 he went to California and spent four years, after which he returned to Allen county and remained until 1868, when he came to Richland county and worked upon a farm in West Lima until 1875. He then moved to Woodstock and worked in a saw-mill for a time, then engaged in farming till 1880. In that year he came to Rockbridge and went into the lumber business in which he is still engaged. Mrs. Stevenson died in 1855, and he was again married in 1864 to Elizabeth Spyker, widow of Frederick Boyd. Two children have blessed this union—Della and Edward. Della died at the age of thirteen. Mrs. Stevenson has two children by her former husband—Orrin G. and Zittie.\* Mr. Stevenson has built a large frame house and is clearing a farm as he takes off the lumber.

H. W. Cate settled in Rockbridge in 1870, and purchased land on section 22, a small part of which was cleared. He has since cleared quite a tract, built a neat frame house and other buildings and now has a pleasant home. He is a native of the Green Mountain State, born in Orange county in July, 1833, and was there brought up on a dairy farm. When he was eighteen years old he engaged with a carpenter and joiner to learn the trade. In 1854 he came west and spent three and one half years in Cleveland, Ohio, working at his trade, and on board boats on the lake. He came from there to Dane county and purchased land in the town of Verona which he improved and where he lived until 1870 when he came to Rockbridge as before stated. Mr. Cate was married in 1853 to Violette Annis, born in Orleans Co., Vt., Jan. 7, 1836. They have one child—Benjamin Freddie, born March 5, 1876.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

## TOWN OF SYLVAN.

The town of Sylvan lies in the western tier of Richland county's sub-divisions, and embraces the territory of congressional township 11 north, range 2 west. It is bounded on the north by the town of Forest, on the east by Marshall, on the south by Akan, and on the west by Crawford and Vernon counties. Like most of the county, the town of Sylvan has a pleasing and diversified surface, being made up of alternate ridges and valleys, both of which are very productive when brought under the dominion of the plow. The town is well watered. Mill creek runs along its eastern border, and the west branch of the same along the southern border. Elk creek rises near the center and traverses half of the town, running in a general northwesterly course. These water courses, together with the numerous rivulets and springs—and some of the latter are quite large—furnish an abundant supply of water for all farm, dairy and household purposes. Much of the town is quite heavily timbered, the principal varieties being white, burr and red oak, basswood, ash, maple, both hard and soft, and butternut. Of course, like all of Richland county, the town of Sylvan at the time of settlement was an unbroken wilderness, and the face of the earth was covered with the primeval forest of centuries growth; but the ax of the hardy pioneer soon cleared the place for his farm, and the improvements have kept pace with the rapidly increasing population.

George H. Babb, in a letter in the *Observer*, says of the natural scenery of the town:

“There are in some localities bold rocks cropping out from the points of hills, that have pillars of rock on them that rise to a height of twelve or fifteen feet above the level of the hill; upon which, if you take your stand, gives you a view of the surrounding country, which is delightfully picturesque.

“There is a locality known as the big rocks, on section 16, which is very singular. The ground rises gradually from the north for about thirty rods, when it abruptly breaks and forms a perpendicular wall of about 100 feet in height, then runs to the south in a gentle slope, forming quite a valley. There are, in the southern part of the town, several caves of considerable size, one of which has been explored to the distance of a third of a mile; and all are beautifully hung with stalactites, and have the floors covered with rising stalagmites of all sizes.”

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Early in the spring of 1853 the first attempt was made at settlement within the confines of this town, by E. B. Tenney and William Ogden, who came from Grant county. Mr. Ogden settled on the south half of the southeast quarter of section 18, where he still lives. Mr. Tenney located on the southwest quarter of section 18, where he lived until after the war, then went to Kansas.

William Wood, an eastern man, also came in 1853, and entered 120 acres of land on section 30. He remained a resident of the town until the time of his death. His widow still occupies the place.



Lyman Mathews came to Sylvan in 1853 from Kinsman, Ohio, and located on section 27. A number of years later he sold his place and went to Richwood. Later, he removed to Albert Lea, Minn., and he now lives in Minneapolis.

In April, 1854, Silas Benjamin, a native of New Hampshire, came, and entered eighty acres of land on section 20. He only remained a few years when he removed to Rock county. He now lives in New York State.

Asahel Savage came during the same year, and entered 120 acres of land on section 19, where he still resides.

Mathias Merrill, a native of Ohio, came here in 1854, and entered land on section 14, where he lived until the time of his death. He was a Disciple preacher and held the first services for the people of that denomination in the town.

His sons, Thomas and William, came at the same time, and settled on section 24. They lived there for some years.

Jacob C. Chandler, came a little later in the same year, and entered eighty acres of land on sections 19 and 20. Mr. Chandler is now a resident of Grant Co., Wis.

Aaron Shepard came here from Ohio, in 1854, and settled the 160 acres on sections 2 and 3, which he still makes his home.

John Guess, also came from Ohio, during the same year and entered an eighty acre tract of land on section 11. In 1857 he went to Ohio. When the war broke out, he enlisted and died in the service.

Isaac White, another pioneer of 1854, came from Ohio, and entered eighty acres on section 24. He lived in the town until his death.

Harvey Bacon, a Vermonter, came at about the same time, and entered eighty acres of land on section 19. He lived there a number of years and finally removed to Sauk county, where he died.

Hezekiah Slayback, came from Indiana, with his large family, in 1854, and entered 160 acres of land on sections 32 and 33. About 1872, he removed to Kansas, and has since died there.

Jacob Glick came in 1855, and entered eighty acres of land on section 33, which is still his home.

Oliver Guess came in 1854, and entered eighty acres of land on section 11, where he still resides.

George Aldrich came here from Keene, N. H., in 1855, and located on section 29. He was a man of fine attainments, and a school teacher; and for a number of years was identified with educational matters in this vicinity, as a teacher. He remained several years, when he sold out his place and returned to New Hampshire, where he is now engaged in the insurance business.

Joseph McDaniel came here in the fall of 1855, and settled on section 11, where he lived until the time of his death. His widow married again and is still a resident of the town.

George Hillberry, came from the southern part of Ohio, with his large family, in 1856, and settled upon a farm a short distance south of Sylvan Corner's. He remained there for some years, and finally removed to the southern portion of the county, where he died, in 1879. His family are still residents of the county.

George H. Babb came in the spring of 1856, and selected 160 acres of land on section 14. Mr. Babb still lives on the old homestead.

Nathaniel Grim came during the same year and purchased 120 acres of land on section 21, where he now resides.

James Twaddle came from the northern part of Ohio in 1857, and located on section 15, where he still resides.

George Ohaver came from Indiana in 1856 and settled in the southern part of the town, upon a farm now owned by Patrick Frowley. He remained here a number of years, then removed to the town of Eagle.

Emanuel Taylor came here from Indiana in 1856 and located on section 17. He lived in the town until a few years ago.

In June, 1857, Ephraim Williams came with his family from New Lexington, Ohio. Mr. Williams first came to Sylvan in 1853 and en-

tered about 320 acres of land on sections 22 and 28. He then returned to Ohio, and in the summer of 1857 again started for the far west, accompanied by his family, with ox teams. They were unfortunate on the way, one of the children being run over by the wagon near Chicago and some of the oxen took sick and died. The trip consumed six weeks. When they arrived in Sylvan they lived under the wagons until a log cabin, 12x14 feet in size, was erected on section 28. Mr. Williams remained upon this place for about fifteen years, when he moved about three miles east, and purchased the mill property now owned by Oliver Guess. He ran the mill about four years, when he sold the property and removed to Vernon county, where he was killed by an accident with a team. One of his daughters, Mrs. Henry Mathews, still lives in the town.

In September, 1857, Fred Mathews, a native of Pennsylvania, came from the town of Forest and settled on section 20, where he at once put up a dwelling house. In December of the same year he was married to Hattie E., a daughter of Ephraim Williams, and they settled on section 20. They remained there until 1873, when they removed to Richland Center, where they still live.

Simon Laffer came to the town at an early day and located upon a farm half a mile west of Sylvan corners.

#### VARIOUS MATTERS.

The first house in the town was erected by E. B. Tenney, in 1853, on section 18.

The first school house in the town was erected on section 18 in 1855.

The first school in Sylvan was taught in 1855 by Olive Mathews, now a resident of Minnesota.

One of the first sermons in the town was preached by Rev. Paine in 1856, at the school house on section 18.

The first child born was Jacob G., a son of Asabel and Mary Savage, born in 1856.

The first marriage in the town was that of Fred Mathews to Hattie E. Williams, which

took place Dec. 17, 1857. The couple lived in Sylvan until 1873, when they removed to Richland Center, where they still reside.

The first death in the town was that of an infant daughter of Hezekiah and Hannah Slayback, which occurred in 1855.

In 1855 O. Guess built a saw-mill on Eagle creek (Mill creek), which was indebted for its motive power to what is called a flutter-wheel. This mill supplied, to a large extent, the early pioneers with the requisite lumber for building purposes. It has long since been rebuilt and enlarged, and the old wheel replaced by an improved one, and the old-fashioned sash saw by a rotary.

In the same year a Mr. Nixon opened a general store at what was, that early, called Sylvan Corners. This store has since passed through the hands of several parties. Stephen Henthorn and son bought the store in 1864. The son, William, has been sole proprietor since the death of the father. He keeps a general stock of goods.

In the winter of 1856-7 William Hicks opened a store in a little log building.

Sylvan Lodge 164, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized in 1862, George Krouskop acting as D. D. G. W. M. The first officers of the institution were: O. H. Mallette, N. G.; Jacob Sandmire, V. G.; J. H. Hutton, secretary; William Hall, treasurer. The lodge organized with ten members, and held meetings in the hall of the Methodist church, which had been erected the same year.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first school taught in the town, as well as the first school house erected, has already been given. In 1883 there were nine schools in successful operation in the town, each district having a fair, and some an extra good school building, the total value of which was \$3,650. The school population of the town was 442.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are two cemeteries in this town, located respectively on sections 14 and 36.

## RELIGIOUS.

There are in Sylvan three hewn log church buildings of the Methodist, and one frame building of the Disciples.

The Disciples or Christian Church was organized in 1858 by Rev. A. Williams, Mathias Merrill and Rev. George H. Babb. The first sermon was preached by Abram Williams at the residence of Mathias Merrill. The first elders were Mathias Merrill and John Higgenbotham. Among the first preachers were: Revs. George H. Babb, Daniel Gray and A. Williams. The present membership of the Church is about forty. Rev. W. S. Kidd is the present minister.

## ORGANIC.

For many years the territory now comprising the town of Sylvan was an integral part of the town of Richwood, and later of Forest. It was detached from the latter in 1854. The first election was held on the 7th of April, 1855, at the residence of William Ogden. The following were the first officers elected: Supervisors, Horace Cook, chairman, Oliver Guess and William H. Stewart; clerk, Lyman Mathews; treasurer, William Ogden; assessor, Asahel Savage. The number of votes polled was thirty-two.

The following is a list of the present officers of the town, elected the spring of 1883: Supervisors, George Henthorn, chairman, J. H. Haggerty and Benjamin Starkey; clerk, N. Higgenbotham; treasurer, Calvin Hall; assessor, Thomas Cranson; justices, Joseph Rawson, Joseph G. Ewers and J. N. Porter.

In 1873 a town hall was erected on section 15. It is a neat frame building and cost \$250.

## SYLVAN POSTOFFICE.

The Sylvan postoffice was established in 1856, with Asahel Savage as postmaster; but it was over a year after the establishment of the office before any mail was received. The first postmaster to handle any mail was D. E. Clingensmith. The office is now located at Sylvan Corners and William Henthorn is postmaster.

The office is on the mail route from Muscoda to Viroqua; mail being received tri-weekly.

## PERSONAL SKETCHES.

William Ogden, the first settler of the town of Sylvan, was born in Onondaga Co., N. Y., in 1822. In 1830 his parents moved to Niagara county and there lived until 1837. In that year he enlisted in the regular army of the United States, remaining in the service until 1841, when he was discharged and returned to the State of New York. Soon after he went to Genesee Co., Mich., where he remained until 1848, then moved to Rock Co., Wis., and there engaged in farming until 1852, thence to Grant county, living there one year, and then coming to the town of Sylvan April 27, 1853. He entered 160 acres on sections 18 and 19, his present home. He has increased his farm to 187 acres. He was married in 1842 to Minerva F. Lyon. They had three children, two now living—Marian and Marette. Mrs. Ogden died in 1863, and Mr. Ogden was married again the same year, to Abigail Briggs, who is a native of Orleans Co., N. Y. Eight children have been born to them—William, Lewis, Naomi, Sheridan, Mary E., Charlotte, Helen and Malvina. Marette is now married to Josando Miller and Marian to Jane McKitrick. Mr. Ogden was a member of the 12th Wisconsin Infantry. He enlisted in 1861, and was discharged the following year, re-enlisted in 1865, in the 46th Wisconsin, company H, and was discharged the same year. Politically he is a republican and is a member of the Baptist Church.

Oliver Guess, one of the pioneer settlers of the town of Sylvan, was born in Columbiana Co., Ohio, in 1825, where he resided until the year 1854, when he moved to the town of Sylvan, in the second year of its settlement, and entered 160 acres of land on section 11, range 2 west, which he now owns. Mr. Guess was married in 1846 to Henrietta Adams, by whom he had four children—Albert W., John K., Betsy A. and George H. Mrs. Guess died in 1857. Mr. Guess again married, that same year,

Nancy J. Totten, by whom he had seven children—Margaret J., Henrietta, Oliver, Franklin, Elmer, Flora M. and William D. His second wife died in 1877, and he was again married that year to Mrs. Rachel McDonald. Albert W. is now married to Ellen Fifer; John K. is married to Miss S. E. Lawton; Betsy is married to Albert Carpenter; George to Lucinda Summers; and Henrietta to John McDaniels. Mr. Guess was a member of the 20th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, having enlisted in the year 1862, and was discharged the year following on account of sickness. He afterward re-enlisted in the 46th Wisconsin Volunteers, and served until close of the war. He was a member of the board of supervisors of the town for six years, and a justice of the peace about eight years. Mr. Guess was originally a whig, and drifted into the republican party upon its organization, but in 1862 made a change and now adheres to the principles of the democratic party.

Levi Millison, a son of George and Anna Millison, was born in Mercer Co., Penn., March 4, 1852, and came to Wisconsin with his parents in 1855, settling in the town of Sylvan, Richland county, where the year following, his father died. The family were left in very limited circumstances, and the older children were obliged to get employment where best they could, to gain a livelihood. Levi being only four years old, went to live with Chauncey Lawton, their closest neighbor. He remained with Mr. Lawton until 1861, when he started out for himself. He was employed by farmers and lumber men in Richland and Vernon counties for several years, and in the mean time tried engineering a while; could do any kind of work or anything that he ever tried. During this time he had acquired a fair education by going to school and working mornings and evenings for his board. In 1880 he engaged in the mercantile trade at Bowen's mills, Richland county, continuing in trade there until March, 1883, when he removed to Star, Vernon county,

where he is now engaged in trade. He keeps a good stock of dry goods, groceries, clothing, etc. In 1872 he was married to Mary Emma, daughter of Jacob and Anna Dosch, early settlers of Richland county. Four children have blessed this union—Ida, Nora, Eddie and Harry.

John Ewers, one of the early settlers of Sylvan, was born in the year 1823, in Knox Co., Ohio, and resided there only one year when his parents moved to Belmont county. After living there twenty-one years, they became dissatisfied and moved to Washington county, where they remained until 1855. In that year Mr. Ewers moved to Richland Co., Wis., and settled in the town of Marshall, and entered eighty acres of land on section 36, in the town of Sylvan, on which he now resides. He also owns a half interest in a flouring mill, situated on section 31, with two run of buhrs and a capacity of 100 bushels per day. Mr. Ewers was married in 1845 to Mary Thomas, by whom he had four children—Orlando, Almira, N. L. and Asa. Mrs. Ewers died in 1855 and in 1860 Mr. Ewers married Marietta Barnes. They have three children—Romeo, Orlen and Mary. Orlando is now married to Julia McKy; Almira to John McKy; and N. L. to Rebecca Briggs. Mr. Ewers has been assessor of the towns of Marshall and Sylvan, each one year, and justice of the peace eight years. N. L. Ewers was town clerk of Sylvan in 1878.

Samuel Groves, one of the prominent farmers of the town of Sylvan, was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, in 1828, where he resided until 1855, then moved to the town of Sylvan, and entered 200 acres of land on section 11, where he now lives. He now owns 160 acres. Mr. Groves was married in 1849 to Mary Blackledge. They have seven children—Peter, Martha E., Violet C., Rachel E., Victorene A., Samuel and William. Mrs. Groves died in 1878, and Mr. Groves married Mary Dovee. Peter is now married to Miss Saudmire; Martha to John Twadell; Violet to Russell Brown; Rachel to Joshua Buraker; Victorene to William Baxter;

and William to Barbary Sabin. Mr. Grove enlisted in 1863 in the 20th Wisconsin Infantry, and was discharged in 1864 on account of disability.

George H. Babb was born in 1815 in Clinton Co., Ohio, where he resided until the year 1840. He then moved to Delaware Co., Ind., where he engaged in farming and millwrighting, and remained there until 1856. He came to Richland county in that year, and settled in the town of Sylvan. He entered 160 acres of land on section 14, which he has since increased to 183½ acres, where he now lives. Mr. Babb was married in Delaware Co., Ind., in 1841, to Elizabeth Jordan, who was born in Wayne county in 1823. They have eight children—Nancy J., Timothy S., Margaret A., William H., Elisha C., John H., James D. and Ida B. Nancy J. is now the wife of David Smith; William H. is married to Laura Drake. Mr. Babb was one of the county commissioners, for three years; chairman of the town board, five years; assessor, one year; justice of the peace, one year; census taker in 1880. Besides farming, he has been a minister of the gospel for the past thirty years in the Christian Church. Timothy S., his son, was a member of the 14th Army Corps. He enlisted in 1861 in company F, 3d regiment, Wisconsin Veterans, and was discharged in 1865. Mr. Babb was formerly a democrat, but has been identified with the republican party since its organization.

N. Higginbotham, the present town clerk of Sylvan, was born in Delaware Co., Ind., in 1848. When he was two years old his parents moved to Illinois, where they resided until 1855, when they came to Sylvan and located on section 13, where his father entered land, forty acres in Sylvan, and 160 on section 18, of the town of Marshall. Mr. Higginbotham now owns 239 acres of land on sections 13 and 14. He was married in 1868 to Deborah Waller, who was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, in 1847, and came to Sylvan in 1863 with her parents. They have seven children—Francis O., George W., Daisy A., Lilly O., Ada,

Sarah J. and Clyde. Mr. Higginbotham has held the office of town clerk for two years.

Nathaniel Grim is one of the pioneer settlers of Sylvan town, as well as one of its successful farmers. He now owns 240 acres of land, 160 acres on section 21, forty on section 20, and forty on section 17. He now lives on section 21. His farm is one of the finest in the town. Mr. Grim was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, Sept. 6, 1826, where he lived until 1832. His parents moved in that year to Harrison county, where they lived until 1842, and then removed to Monroe county and engaged in farming until 1851. The subject of this sketch then went to Elkhart Co., Ind., and in 1852 returned to Monroe Co., Ohio, and remained there until 1856. In that year he moved to the town of Sylvan and bought a farm of 120 acres on section 21. He was married in 1850 to Sarah Allen, who was born in 1829, in Monroe Co., Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Grim have eight children—Emma, John W., Philip, Margaret A., Mary L., Horatio S., Oscar F. and Charles H. Emma is now the wife of A. W. Savage. John is married to Alice Mayfield; Philip to Mary Rowson; Margaret is the wife of John I. Shilts; and Mary of William Probert. Mr. Grim was a member of the 11th Wisconsin Infantry, entering the service in 1865, and was honorably discharged the same year. He has been chairman of the town board three years, and a member of the side board four years, and school clerk for twenty years. He came by railroad to Freeport, Ill., thence by team of his father-in-law. When he arrived he camped out one week, during which time he had built a snug log cabin, into which they moved. There they lived about eight years, then moved into a hewn log house, which was some considerable improvement on the old one, where he lived until 1872, when he erected a large frame house, in which he now resides. Like all farms in this section, this was covered with a heavy growth of large timber, which he commenced clearing at once upon his arrival, and continued to clear until he has now about

100 acres of good land under cultivation. This part of the country now presents an appearance of thrift and enterprise, which state of affairs is due to the industry and energy of such men as Mr. Grim during those early days, and all honor is due those men and women who thus contributed toward the development of this county. Politically Mr. Grim has always adhered to the principles of the democratic party. Mr. Grim is not a member of any Church, but believes that honesty and integrity is the sort of religion calculated to meet the wants of humanity, and he is an exponent of these characteristics, having a reputation for fair dealing among all men.

David Smith, one of the best farmers and a representative man in the town of Sylvan, was born in Jefferson Co., Ohio, where he resided until 1856, when his mother who was a widow moved to Wisconsin, Richland county, town of Sylvan, purchased 120 acres of land and gave it to David, her only son and sole support. In 1862 Mr. Smith was married to Nancy J. Babb, a daughter of George H. and Emily Babb, who are now their near neighbors. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have six children—Elizabeth C., Ulysses G., Anna I., Mary L., Nellie J. and George M. Mr. and Mrs. Smith by industry and economy have added to the original farm, until they now have 218 acres of land, finely improved, with good farm buildings, and everything desirable for a comfortable home, and have in a remarkable degree the confidence and esteem of their neighbors, and the entire community, Mr. Smith's father, Jacob, died in 1843. His mother died in the town of Sylvan in September, 1883. She was born Nov. 6, 1800, in Ohio. Mr. Smith is not a politician, but exercises the right of suffrage intelligently, and adheres to the principles of the republican party. He belongs to the Church organization called Disciples.

James Watt, one of Sylvan's most prominent farmers, was born in the year 1839 in Jefferson Co., Ohio, where he received an academic edu-

cation. After he had finished his schooling he engaged in teaching for some years, and then engaged in farming until 1861, when he moved to the town of Sylvan and purchased a farm of eighty acres of land on section 14, which farm he has increased to 240 acres. Mr. Watt was united in marriage in 1865 to Alma Brown, who was born in Grant Co., Wis., in 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Watt have nine children—James A., Franklin, Clara, Wilber F., Jennie, Agnes, Edna and Edith twins, and Carl W. Mr. Watt was a member of the 12th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, having enlisted in 1861, and was discharged in 1864. Mr. Watt was clerk of the town for eleven years.

William Henthorn, one of Sylvan's most prosperous men, was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, in 1837 and where he resided until 1864. He came to Sylvan in that year with his parents. His father bought 280 acres of land on section 17, where William now resides, and he now owns 799 acres, situated on sections 16, 17, 20 and 21. He is also engaged in the mercantile trade at Sylvan Corners, carrying a general stock of merchandise, valued at about \$2,500. He also owns a one-third interest in a portable steam saw-mill, situated on section 17. Mr. Henthorn was married in 1863 to Louisa B. Woodford, who was born in 1845. They have five children living—Clement A., Clara M., Loren L., William E. and Jasper O. Charles H. died in 1872, and Cora E. in 1879. Mr. Henthorn enlisted in the United States service in 1865, and was discharged the same year. Besides being extensively engaged in farming and mercantile trade, he is the owner of some of the best blooded cattle of the county, having two Short-horned heifers, two years old, weighing over 1,400 pounds each, and which cost him \$270; also the fine Shorthorned bull "Masterpiece, 46,577," bred by H. Y. Attrill, Goderich, Ontario, Canada, which cost him \$100 when a year old; also a Southdown ram "Lexington 449," which cost \$60 when a year old; two Southdown ewes "Miss Bundy 317, and "Belle of Sylvan 450"

which he values at \$50 each. Mr. Henthorn was assessor of the town for one year, and has been postmaster at Sylvan since 1866.

Calvin Hall was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, in 1842, where he lived until 1866. In that year he came to Sylvan and purchased eighty acres of land, in section 16, where he now lives. He has purchased more land, and his farm now contains 160 acres. He was married in 1865 to Mary E. Barrett, who was born in Monroe Co., Ohio. They are the parents of six children—Albert F., Adelbert A., James S., Emma M., Flora M. and William O. Mr. Hall enlisted in 1861 in the 36th Ohio regiment, and was discharged in 1865. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Curn's Town, W. Va., enduring the terrible hardships of rebel prison life for eight long months. Mr. Hall is the present town treasurer.

William Heal was born in Washington township, Delaware Co., Ind., Feb. 19, 1832, where he resided on a farm until the death of his father in 1847. He then went to Jefferson township, Grant Co., Ind., and lived with his brother-in-law, Joel Littler, on a farm, till the latter's death in 1853. He engaged in farming until 1856 and then commenced to learn the joiner's trade with his brother, James McDeed Heal, which occupation he followed until May, 1861. He enlisted at this date, in company H, 12th regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Thomas Doane. He was discharged at Washington City, in May, 1862, and returned to Wisconsin. In the spring of 1864 he returned to Indiana, and in 1867 came once more to Wisconsin, and bought eighty acres of land on section 7, town of Sylvan, Richland county, which farm he has increased to 177 acres. He settled on this farm July 4, 1867, where he still resided in 1884. He has improved the farm and built a saw-mill. He erected the first town house in Richland county. On the 14th of January, 1884, his house burned, with almost its entire contents. The house was rebuilt the same week, with the assistance of neighbors, who heartily

responded with cheerful and substantial aid. Mr. Heal was married, in 1856, to Martha Ann Nottingham, of Delaware Co., Ind., by whom he had one child, who died in infancy. Mrs. Heal died in 1857, near Muncie, Ind. Mr. Heal again married in Grant Co., Ind., in 1863, to Margaret E. Reeder, by whom he had two children—John F., and one child that died in infancy. His second wife departed this life in 1865, in Jefferson township, Ind. Mr. Heal married again in Richland Co., Wis., in 1868, to Mary E. Burt, by whom he has seven children, four now living—Harriet Alice, Effie Norene, George Eugene and William Ernest.

Thomas Harn, one of the prominent business men and pioneers of the town of Sylvan, was born in Tyler Co., Va., in 1820. He lived there ten years and then his parents moved to Monroe Co., Ohio, where he obtained a common school education, and learned the moulder's trade, at which he worked for three years. He was then obliged to abandon it on account of his eyes. He then followed boating, on the Mississippi river, first in the capacity of cook, then watchman, next as second mate, and finally as mate, until 1844, when he returned to Monroe Co., Ohio, and engaged in farming, which he continued till 1861, when he enlisted in the service of the 2d Virginia Cavalry, and was honorably discharged in 1864. In 1865 he moved to Washington county, and remained three years. In 1868 he moved to Wisconsin, town of Sylvan, and purchased eighty acres of land on section 4, on which he now resides. Mr. Harn was united in marriage with Catharine Dougherty, who was born in Monroe Co., Ohio, in 1821. They are the parents of four children living and three dead—Margaret, now the wife of James Lathram; John D., now married to Susan Bender; Rebecca, now the wife of Eugene Vincent; and Stephen, now living at home. Mr. Harn was a member of the 2d Virginia Cavalry, having enlisted in 1861. He was wounded three times, at Charleston, at Wytheville and at Loop Creek, West Virginia. He has been chairman of the town board, two years, and is now engaged in arming.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

## TOWN OF WESTFORD.

The town of Westford forms the northeastern corner of Richland county, embracing the territory of township 12, range 2 east. On the north and east it is bounded by Sauk county, while the towns of Henrietta and Willow lie to the west and south. The general surface of the town, in common with the rest of the county, is of a hilly nature, although but a small share of the land is unfit for cultivation. The town is well settled with a good class of people, who are well to do, thrifty and intelligent. The town is watered by the upper Willow and in part by the Little Baraboo river and its tributaries. Both of these streams head in this town.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The honor of the first settlement in this town belongs to Allen Perkins, a native of Madison Co., N. Y. He came here from Walworth Co., Wis., in 1848, and entered a large tract of land in Westford, including the present site of the village of Cazenovia. He settled here in 1853 and erected a house on the southeastern part of section 12. In 1865 he sold all his interest in the village of Cazenovia, and moved to Missouri. In 1867 he settled in Laeledge county, that State, where it is thought he still lives engaged at farming. Allen Perkins was an honest man, and held the respect of all who knew him.

Henry Fuller, a native of England, came from the State of New York, in 1853, and entered land in this town, claiming the south half of northwest quarter of section 12. He settled here in 1856 and remained until about 1880,

when he rented his farm and removed to Sauk county.

William Y. Barron, a native of England, and his father-in-law, Thomas Woodford, also came in 1853. Mr. Barron entered land on section 14. He sold out as early as 1867 and removed to Cazenovia, where he opened a wagon shop. Two or three years later he went to Lime Ridge. He is now a resident of Eau Claire, Wis.

Thomas Woodford entered the east half of the northwest quarter of section 14, where he erected a house and lived until the time of his death in 1856. He was buried at Ironton.

In 1854 there were many more arrivals than in the previous year. Cyrus Stowe came from the State of New York, by way of Dane county, early in the winter of this year, and settled on the present site of Cazenovia, erecting a house on what is now block 8. He was a blacksmith by trade and opened the first shop in Cazenovia. He now lives, retired from business, on Sun Prairie, Dane county, where he followed his trade for many years.

Levi and Asa Lincoln, natives of the town of Westford, Otsego Co., N. Y., also came early in the winter of 1854, and settled upon block 1, of the present site of the village of Cazenovia. Here they erected a log building and put in a small stock of merchandise. They continued in trade for about three years, when Asa went back to Dane county. Levi went to Sauk county and engaged in farming. Later he went to Dakota, where he died, in 1882.



O. L. Gleason was also one of the arrivals in 1854. He was a native of Massachusetts, but came here from Dane county, and entered land on section 13, taking the east half of the southeast quarter. He now lives in Cazenovia.

George Dennis came early in the spring of 1854 and entered the north half of the northwest quarter of section 12. In the fall he sold to Joseph Dann and moved away. Mr. Dann spent the winter here and then returned to Whitewater, Wis.

In the fall of 1854 four families of native Tennesseans, John Frye, John H. Clary, James French and William Smelier, came from Indiana. They came overland, with teams, bringing their household goods with them. Mr. Frye entered the southeast of the southwest quarter of section 36; Mr. Clary the west half of the southwest quarter of the same section, and Smelier and French located in the town of Willow. Mr. Frye still owns the land he first claimed; Mr. Clary joined the army toward the close of the war and died in the service. His son, Isaac M. Clary, is now living in Willow. The widow married again and now lives in Iowa.

N. R. Kline, a native of New York State, came here from Ohio, late in 1854, and bought the northeast quarter of section 15. In 1883 he sold his place and moved to Dakota. Another arrival of 1854, was William Davalt, a native of Trumbull Co., Ohio, who came from Dane Co., Wis. He settled on section 32, where he still resides.

Frederick Deitelhoff, a German, came here in 1854 and settled on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 11. He lived here until the time of his death, and his widow, having married again, still occupies the old homestead.

In the fall of the same year (1854) John Donahue, a native of Ireland, came from Ohio, and entered land on sections 22 and 27. He then returned to Ohio and spent the winter, returning the following spring with his family and

locating upon the place he had entered, where he still lives.

G. W. Montgomery, a native of New York State, came in 1855 and entered the southwest quarter of section 9. He remained there for about three years, when he sold out and removed to Sauk county. He now resides in Walworth Co., Wis. During the war he served in the 3d Wisconsin Cavalry.

Allen Tinker, also a native of New York State, came during the same year as did Montgomery, from Jefferson Co., Wis., and located on section 9. He now lives in Cazenovia, where he is following his trade, blacksmithing.

S. S. Moon, a native of Indiana, came here in 1855, and entered land. He lived upon the land about two years, then sold out and removed to the village of Cazenovia, where for a time he worked in Perkin's mill. He then went to Sauk county and purchased a mill. He is now dead.

Edward West, a native of New York State, came from there in 1855 and bought the northwest quarter of section 12. He improved the farm; but now lives Cazenovia.

Jesse Carpenter, a native of Ohio, made his appearance in the town of Westford in 1855 and entered the northwest quarter of section 21, and the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 28. He erected a house on section 21 and remained two years when he sold out and returned to Ohio.

In the fall of 1855 another batch of natives of Tennessee came. They were: Moses Bible, Zachy Clary and Jonathan Smelier. Like the former party they all came from Indiana, overland, with horse teams, bringing their families and household goods with them, and also drove some stock. They were about three weeks on the road. Moses Bible entered the southwest quarter of section 35 and the north half of the northwest quarter of the same section. The last piece was for his son, Rufus M. Bible. He erected his house on the southwest quarter of section 35 and still lives there. Zachy Clary

entered the east half of the southwest quarter of section 23. He made his home there until he died. His son, William, still occupies the old homestead. Smelier settled in Sauk county.

Ludger Phœnix, a Canadian, came here from the State of New York in the fall of this year and bought land on section 11.

Elijah Williams came at about the same time, in 1855, and entered the west half of the northwest quarter of section 23. He died there in 1867 and the family are scattered.

Cornelius Sweeney, a native of Ireland, came in the spring of 1855 and entered the north half of the southeast quarter of section 22, and the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 22. He erected his dwelling on section 23 and still makes that his home.

Peter Jax, a German, came here from Fond du Lac in 1855 and bought State land on section 15—the southwest quarter. He has improved the farm and still lives there.

William Duren, a native of Prussia, came from that country in 1856 and entered land on section 3. He lived there until 1866, when he bought land on section 14 where he still lives.

Theodore Moll, a native of Germany, came during 1856, and set his home stakes on section 2. He improved the farm and made it his home until his death in 1877.

William M. Beeson, accompanied by his brother and William Mann, came from Indiana at an early day. Beeson settled on section 1. The Mann family settled in Sauk county, and Lewis Mann located on section 2. The latter sold out in 1880 and removed to Nebraska.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

One of the first marriages in the town was that of William Burman to Eliza Russell. The ceremony was performed in 1856, at the residence of the bride's parents on section 14, by Frank Jones, justice of the peace. 'Squire Jones was "new at the business," and fearing he might have made some mistake, he afterward called on the parties at their home to rectify the mistake if any had been made.

The first birth in the town was that of George Barron, son of William and Charlotte (Woodford) Barron, in January, 1857. He was killed at Otter creek, Eau Claire Co., Wis., when about sixteen years old, by a stroke of lightning.

The second marriage that took place in the town, was that of Simeon Lincoln to Jane Kline, which took place in 1857, at the residence of the bride's parents. Rev. Augustus Hall officiating.

In the earlier days it was a great hardship to go within a mile of Baraboo to mill, a distance of thirty miles, and many tell of taking six and seven days to make the trip, having such poor cattle from want of fodder, that no faster time could be made. Wild grass, and that of a poor quality, would not make cattle strong enough for hard work, and it was all the hardy pioneers had to give them.

In 1858 breadstuffs became scarce in this region. Allen Tinker and Cyrus Stowe, members of the school board, took money from the school treasury, giving their notes for the same. They then employed a man to go to Spring Green for corn, which was then selling for eighty-seven cents per bushel. This relieved the wants of the people and all was settled up satisfactory.

Dr. J. M. Flautt, a native of Ohio, was the first physician to locate in the town. He came here in 1858 and located on section 15, where he remained until during the war.

#### ORGANIC.

The town of Westford was organized in April, 1857, at a meeting held at Lincoln's store, in the village of Cazenovia. The following were the first officers elected: William Burman, clerk; Allen Tinker, chairman of town board of supervisors; Moses Bible and John Russell, associate supervisors; Zachary Clary, treasurer; Allen Perkins and Frank Jones, justices of the peace.

At the annual town meeting held at Cazenovia, in April, 1883, the following town officials were elected: John Keane, clerk; Henry Mitchel, assessor; board of supervisors, B. M. Jarvis,

chairman, (he moved from the town and Allen Tinker was appointed) John Donahoe and Andrew Johnson; Converse Pierce, Allen Tinker, Andrew Johnson and John Frye, justices of the peace; Thomas Moody, constable; Converse Pierce, treasurer.

#### DUREN'S MILL

In 1868 William Duren erected a saw-mill on the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 14, on the Little Baraboo river. The mill is equipped with an up and down saw, a circular saw for cutting off, a rib saw and a felly saw, making three circular saws and a band saw. A turning lathe was also put in. The mill manufactures stock for wagons, sleighs, harrows, etc. A dirt and stone dam was thrown across the river, giving eight feet fall of water. Upon the completion of the saw-mill, Mr. Duren put in one run of stone for grinding feed.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first school house in the Woodman district, was commenced in 1857, and completed during the following year. Theresa Carr was the first teacher in this house. The old building remained in use until 1878, when the present structure was erected near the old site on the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 32. Lettie Smith was the first teacher in this building.

The first school in district No. 2 was taught in a log house belonging to John Donahoe, on section 22, in the winter of 1856-7. The teacher was George Flautt. In 1857 a log school house was built on the northeast quarter of section 22, in which James Brown taught the first school. During the war a frame house was erected upon the same site, and in this building Peter White taught the first school. A few years later this school house was moved near the church, and has since been moved to its present location on the southeast quarter of section 22.

The first school in district No. 8 was taught in Allen Perkin's log building across the stream north of Cazenovia, by William A. Perkins.

In 1857 a frame school house was erected upon block 4, in the village of Cazenovia, which is still in use.

In district No. 4 the first school was taught in 1856 by a Mr. Crisp, in a log carpenter shop belonging to N. R. Cline. In 1857 a log school house was built on the northeast quarter of section 15. In 1869 a two story frame building was erected on the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 11, at a cost of about \$1,500. This building is still in use.

About 1860 a school house was erected in district No. 5, on the northeast quarter of section 19. Kate McCarthy was one of the first teachers in this building. Several terms of school were taught in this house when the district was split up, and the territory annexed to other districts. In 1875 another house was erected in the southwestern part of the northeast quarter of section 20. Hugh Fitch was one of the first teachers in this building.

The first school in district No. 7 was held in a log house belonging to John Clary, on section 36, in 1865. Katie Krouse was the teacher. The next school was held in Mr. Bible's tannery. In 1867 a hewn log school building was erected on the northeast quarter of section 35. W. C. S. Barron was the first teacher in this house. This is known as the "block school house."

In 1864 a school house was erected on the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 7, in which James McVees was the first teacher. The house is still in use.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first mass for the German Catholic Church in Westford, was held at the house of Jacob Marts, and said by Father Gaertner, then a resident of Sauk City, who had charge of several counties in this part of Wisconsin. The first resident priest was Father Bernerd. He was succeeded by Father Beau, then came Father Metzler and finally Father Grosse, the present priest. For a time the German Catholics worshiped in the Irish Catholic Church; but in 1858 and 1859 they erected a church on section

14. In 1883 the society were making preparations to build a frame structure, with brick veneer, 40x90 feet in size, to cost about \$5,000. The congregation now numbers about seventy German families.

St. Bridget's Catholic Church, of Westford. Father Sthale was the first priest to visit the Catholics that form the congregation of this church. He was here first in December, 1855, and held mass at the house of John Donahoe. He induced the people to build a church. In 1856 the erection of a log church on the northwest quarter of section 22, was commenced which was completed in 1857. Father Sthale was the first to say mass in this edifice. The log church was in use until the present edifice was completed in 1881. It was dedicated in September, of that year. Father John B. Metzler was the first to hold mass in this church, and it was mainly owing to his exertions that the new church was erected. The congregation now numbers about fifty Irish families.

Near the church is the cemetery of this congregation. Dennis Murphy, who died in April, 1856, was the first buried here. His wife was interred near him in July, following. The land originally belonged to John Donahoe, who donated five acres to the church, and the cemetery was regularly platted in 1863. It was dedicated by Father Bernard a few years later.

#### CAZENOVIA VILLAGE.

The land upon which the village of Cazenovia is now located was entered in 1848 by Allen Perkins. The village was surveyed in February, 1855, by Solon Rushmore, for Mr. Perkins. The first frame house upon the site was erected by Samuel Colby, in 1854. The first log house was erected by the Lincoln brothers the same year. In this building they opened the first store in the village. They remained in trade but a few years.

Richard Mann was the next to engage in trade here. He remained but a short time, when he sold out and removed to Sauk county.

Alois Fiecks bought out Mann and carried on the business alone for one year, when he sold a half interest to Sebastian Wenker. They continued in trade five months, when Wenker bought the Stowe property. This was in 1866. Mr. Wenker took his share of the stock and set up the business on his newly acquired premises. In 1877 he erected a building, 22x46 feet in size, two stories high.

The first blacksmith in the village was Cyrus Stowe, who opened a shop here in 1855. He remained here but a few years, when he removed to Sun Prairie. Allen Tinker was the next blacksmith. He opened a shop here in the spring of 1858, and is still in business.

For many years Cazenovia was without a hotel, and the traveling public were taken care of very satisfactorily by Allen Tinker. In 1875 J. W. Thompson opened the first hotel. He was landlord until March, 1876, when he sold to Mrs. Carrie M. Atkins, who is still the proprietor.

Andrew J. Stibbins was the first shoemaker to locate in Cazenovia, opening a shop here in 1855. He remained but a few years. Henry Bushman, the present shoemaker, commenced business in 1868.

The first millinery establishment here was opened in 1867 by Addie Boyd, at the house of Allen Tinker. She ran the shop but a short time. This branch of trade is now represented by Ida Nuss, who opened her shop in 1881.

Dr. J. J. Worthy, was the first resident physician at Cazenovia, locating here during the war. He remained a number of years.

#### INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

Allen Perkins erected a saw-mill in 1853, the power being derived from the south branch of the Little Baraboo river. The mill was equipped with an "up and down saw," and for several years did a good business. The dam was built with log cribs, filled with dirt and stone. The first dam was washed out before the war. It was replaced by another dam, which soon followed the first dam down the

stream. Mr. Perkins then sold the power and mill to George Jarvis.

In 1854 Allen Perkins started a grist-mill, erecting a large building and equipping it with one run of stone. Mr. Jarvis bought this mill with the other property. While Mr. Jarvis owned the mills the dam went out once; but he quickly repaired it. In 1866 Mr. Jarvis completed the present mill. The building is 30x50 feet in size, two stories high. It is furnished with two run of stone, and all the necessary machinery for the manufacture of first-class flour, while the water power is one of the best in the State. B. M. Jarvis is the present proprietor.

#### CAZENOVIA POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice at this place was established in 1856, with Cyrus Stowe as postmaster. He kept the office at his house. It was then a special office, and the mail carrier was paid by subscription from the citizens. Mail was received once a week from Sextonville, and later from Ironton. In 1883 mail was received three times each week from Richland Center and daily from Le Valle. Allen Tinker succeeded Mr. Stowe as postmaster. Then in succession came: M. O. Tracy, George Jarvis, Edward Kimber, J. C. Spencer, B. M. Jarvis and Wenzel J. Hanzlik. Mr. Hanzlik is the present postmaster, and keeps the office at his store. He was appointed June 28, 1883.

#### RELIGIOUS.

Religious meetings were held at the house of N. R. Kline as early as 1856. Rev. Wood, a Wesleyan Methodist, was the first minister, but he did not organize.

The first Methodist Episcopal preacher was Rev. Augustus Hall, who, in 1857, preached at Lincoln's store. He organized a class there with twenty-six members. Among the members were—Ludger Phoenix and wife, Allen Tinker and wife, Andrew Tinker, John Russell, Mrs. Henry Fuller, Nathaniel Camp and wife, George Perkins, George Montgomery and wife, William Y. Barron and wife, Mary J. Russell,

Mary J. Tinker, W. C. Osborne and wife, Sarah J. Low, N. R. Kline and wife, Clara Perkins, Levi Lincoln and wife, and James Kinney and wife. Allen Tinker was the first class leader. Rev. Augustus Hall was the first pastor. He lived in Sauk county and had several charges in this region. The following named ministers have at different times preached for the class at Cazenovia, since Rev. Hall: Rev. E. Yocum, the first presiding elder; Revs. S. D. Bassinger, W. D. Atwater, R. M. De Lap, Mathew Bennett, M. F. Chester, W. W. Wheaton, J. T. Bryan, Mr. Conway, J. J. Walker, Mr. Dudley, George Tyacke, R. W. Nicholas and H. D. Jencks. Rev. Jencks, the present pastor, resides at Ironton and has charge of four classes: Ironton, Cazenovia, Sandusky and Washington. He holds services at Cazenovia once every two weeks. The Cazenovia class met at the school house for worship until 1878, when they erected a frame church on the southeast quarter of section 12. Rev. George Tyacke was the first minister to hold services in this building. Allen Tinker was the first leader of the class, and held that position for many years. Ludger Phoenix is the present leader. The class now has fourteen members. A Sabbath school was organized at about the same time as the class, with Allen Tinker as superintendent. The school meets every Sunday. Frank Phoenix is the present superintendent.

In 1857 a Wesleyan Methodist class was organized, at Lincoln's store, by the Rev. Mr. Wood. It had about twenty members, among whom were—Jonathan Wright and wife, Cyrus Stowe, Henry Fuller and wife, and Daniel Carr and wife. As none of the members of this class are now living in the town, a full history of it cannot be collected. The class only continued in existence a few years.

#### IRON INTERESTS.

In 1874 Joseph Culver, from Madison, came to Westford, secured the services of Joseph Moll, and leased land from him and also Joseph Dresen and John Cobbledick, on sections 2 and 3.

Mr. Moll was employed to prospect for iron ore, commencing first on the northwest quarter of section 2. They soon found ore sixteen feet below the surface of the earth. In the fall of 1875 a shaft was sunk on section 2, about forty-eight feet deep, and afterward several other shafts were sunk near by. In 1876 a company was formed, consisting of Joseph Culver, Gen. Lund and James Gunn. The company continued operating the mines, and piled up the ore upon the ground. The vein became larger as they progressed, and finally Culver, Lund & Gunn sold out their interests to the Iron Ridge Iron Company, of which Leonard Bean was president. This company built a furnace at Cazenovia, and during the the summer of 1877 erected a foundry. Numerous shafts were sunk on sections 2, 3, and 4, and large quantities of good ore were taken from these shafts. The Iron Ridge Iron Company carried on the business until 1879, when they stopped work, and about one year later sold the buildings to C. E. Bohn, of Ironton, who converted it into a stove factory, for which purpose the buildings are still used.

#### CAZENOVIA CEMETERY.

The cemetery at Cazenovia was laid out in July, 1862, by Josiah McCaskey, surveyor. It was laid out under the supervision of the town board of supervisors. The land was donated to the town by Allen Perkins. Mrs. Gad Pomeroy was the first person buried here.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Otis L. Gleason, one of the first settlers of Cazenovia, was born in Northampton Co., Mass., Oct. 26, 1811. When he was but four years old his parents emigrated to York State and settled in Ontario county, town of Ogden, making the journey thither with teams, in the winter. He made his home with his parents until eleven years old, when he started out traveling in company with an older brother, selling jewelry and notions, visiting several different States. At twenty-two years old he engaged at work on board a boat, and run the river two seasons.

He afterward went to Cleveland, Ohio, and there engaged to learn the mason trade. Here he worked until 1846, then went to Michigan and bought government land in Ingham county. Eight months later he sold this and went to Kalamazoo, and worked at teaming on the railroad, and thence to Chicago, where he engaged to go to "Big Bull" pineries, Wisconsin, making his way there with a team. In 1848 he went to Dane county and took government land in the town of Burke, remaining there until 1854, when he came to Richland county. He is a natural mechanic, and since coming here has worked as brick mason, and plasterer carpenter and joiner, etc. He is now living a retired life at Cazenovia. He was married in 1849 to Mila Butterfield, widow of David Fuller. They have one child—Effie May. Formerly Mr. Gleason was a democrat, but since the war has been a republican.

George Jarvis, an early settler in Richland county, was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1817. When a young man he came to America and settled at Columbus, Ohio, where he was married to Sarah Brockelhurst, and settled in Delaware county, where he was station agent at Orange station, remaining there until 1852, when he removed to Sauk county and lived until 1855, then came to Richland county and located at Richland City. In 1866 he removed to Cazenovia and made that his home until 1883. He is now at Redfield, Spink Co., Dak., where he has a land office. He was an attorney by profession, having been admitted to the bar in Ohio, and practiced in Richland county. He served as postmaster at Cazenovia. He has six children living—George, Birney M., Sarah, Martha, Emma and Fannie. Birney M., the owner of the flouring mill and water power at Cazenovia, was born in the town of Africa, Delaware Co., Ohio, in 1846, and was nine years old when his parents moved to Richland county. His early education was received at the district school and advanced at the State University at Madison. He enlisted in August,

1862, in company A., 23d Wisconsin, and served with the regiment until the close of the war, participating in the following battles: Arkansas Post, siege and battle of Vicksburg, Jackson, Miss., on the Red River expedition, and with Banks and Fort Blakely, near Mobile. He was discharged with the regiment at Madison July 25, 1865. The following fall he bought the mill property at Cazenovia, where he has since made his home. He has greatly improved the property by building a new mill. He was a member of the Wisconsin Legislature in 1881. He was married in 1869 to Janette Moore, of Michigan. They have five children—William, Birney, Moody Sankey, Carrie and Fannie.

John M. Jax, deputy sheriff, was born at Fond du Lac, Wis., Feb. 5, 1852, and was three years old when his parents came to Richland county and settled in the town of Westford. Here his childhood and youth were spent. His education was obtained in the public schools. He was married in 1875 to Annie Timlin, a native of Ireland. He settled in Cazenovia and engaged in farming two years, and then in the manufacture and trade of hoop-poles and hand shaved hoops, in which he is still engaged at Cazenovia and Lavelle, doing a business of about \$12,000 per year. He has served as town clerk of the town of Westford, and is now serving his second term as deputy sheriff, having been first appointed in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Jax are the parents of four children—Theodore T., John R., George P. and Joseph F.

John Donahoe, one of the pioneers of the town of Westford, was born in county Cavan, Ireland, Dec. 28, 1818, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving his education in a private school. He came to America in 1845, landing in Boston May 10 of that year. He there worked in a chemical factory till the fall of 1846, when he went to New Orleans, returning to Boston in the spring. He continued to spend the summers in Boston and winters in New Orleans until the year 1849, when he was married in the latter city to Mary Murphy, a

native of county Fermanagh, Ireland. He had a contract there to construct a levee and ditch, and employed men on this work until 1852, then removed to Perry Co., Ohio, and bought a farm, living there until 1855, when he removed to Richland county and settled upon the farm where he now resides. He immediately began clearing, and built the log house in which they lived until 1868. In that year he built the good frame house now occupied by the family. He enlisted Nov. 11, 1861, in the 3d Wisconsin Cavalry, company F, serving with the regiment until his discharge, Feb. 17, 1865. His regiment participated in many engagements and skirmishes. Among the more important are the following: Prairie Grove, Cabin Creek, Little Blue, Kansas City and Lexington, Mo. For the past few years Mr. Donahoe has devoted his attention to stock raising. Mr. and Mrs. Donahoe are the parents of five children—John J., Ann, Owen, Mary and Dennis. Mr. Donahoe has been prominent in public affairs, has held offices of trust, having served as assessor and supervisor, and has been clerk and treasurer of the school district.

Ludger Phoenix, one of the early settlers of Westford, is a native of Canada, born at Richelieu, province of Quebec, Sept. 29, 1831. When he was seventeen years of age he came to the States and engaged in farming near Troy, N. Y., for one year. Then for one season he was employed in running a ferry-boat across the Hudson, between east and west Troy. He then worked at lumbering till 1855, excepting one season that he was engaged in rafting lumber from Oneida lake to Albany. In the spring of 1855 he came to Wisconsin and engaged in farming with Richard Frost, near Madison, remaining there until September of that year, when he came to Richland county and purchased the southwest quarter of section 11, town 12, range 2 east, now known as Westford. He built a small log house and then returned to Madison, and was there married to Mary Tooley, and came back to his new home with his bride,

who shared with him the hardships of pioneer life, ever ready to assist him in every way that she could. She died in January, 1869. Seven children had been born to them, three of whom are now living—Franklin P., George E. and Alice E. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1870, was Eliza Lutz. She has three children—Charles E., Rosa N. and Lillie M. In 1865 Mr. Phoenix became agent for the Aetna Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn. He now represents the Home and Continental companies, of New York; Hecla, of Madison; Rockford, of Illinois; Boston Underwriters, and Northwestern Mutual Life, of Milwaukee, and is now farmer and insurance agent. Mr. and Mrs. Phoenix are members of the M. E. class at Cazenovia, as was also his first wife.

Moses Bible, one of the pioneers of Westford town, is a native of Tennessee, born in Green county, April 7, 1808. He was brought up on a farm. At twenty years of age he engaged with a blacksmith to learn the trade, with whom he remained five months, then followed that business one year with another party, when he resumed farming. In 1834 he erected a grist-mill, doing the work himself, which he continued to operate until 1846, when he sold out and removed to Indiana, taking his family, and traveling with a four horse team. They located in Clinton county, rented land and there remained until 1855, when he again started to seek a new home in the northwest, came to Westford and settled on the site of his present farm. He was married in 1830 to Catharine Clary, who was born in Jefferson Co., Tenn., Dec. 14, 1812. She died June 8, 1873, leaving seven children—Martha, Rufus, George, Joshua, Newton, Moses and Sarah. Francis, Darius and Susanna were also born to them, but are now dead. Mr. and Mrs. Bible were both members of the United Brethren Church, and were consistent Christian people. He was a member of the first board of supervisors for the town of Westford.

Edward West, an early settler of Westford, was born in Schenectady Co., N. Y., on the 17th of January, 1824. Here his childhood and youth were spent in going to school and working upon a farm. He was united in marriage with Sarah A. Fuller in April, 1848. She was a native of Oneida county. The same year he came to Wisconsin and located at Janesville, where he was engaged in farming and blacksmithing until 1850, when he started for California overland, and arrived at his destination at the end of six months. He worked in the mines there until 1853. In that year he returned to New York State by the way of the isthmus of Panama, remained five months, then went again to California and resumed working in the mines, which he continued until 1855, then came back to New York, and after stopping there a short time came to Richland county and settled on section 1. In 1863 he bought a house and lot in Cazenovia and moved his family there. After making them comfortable in their new home he enlisted in company I, 3d Wisconsin Infantry, went south, joined Sherman at Chattanooga, was with him on his march to the sea and to Washington, participating with his regiment in the many important battles of that campaign. He was discharged at Madison, Wis., at the close of the war, and returned to Cazenovia. Since that time he has worked as brick mason, and plasterer also as carpenter and joiner. Mr. and Mrs. West have three children—Thomas, Warren and Birtle.

Allen Tinker, one of the pioneers of Richland county, was born in Chenanga Co., State of New York, April 2, 1815. When he was but ten years old his parents died. He made his home in the same county until sixteen years of age when he moved to Otsego county and was there married in 1835 to Betsy Montgomery who was born in that county Dec. 29, 1812. Here he engaged in farming until 1843 then worked with a blacksmith at Cannonsville, Delaware county, to learn the trade and there continued until 1849 when he emigrated to Wiscon-



sin and settled in Jefferson county, erected a shop at Koshkonong, where he worked at his trade till 1855, when he came to Richland county and settled on section 9, township 12, range 2 east, now known as Westford with the intention of becoming a farmer. He built a blacksmith shop for his own convenience, but people came from miles around with work and he was kept busy at his trade. In February, 1857, he went to La Crosse and spent a few weeks. During his absence the town of Westford was organized and he was chosen chairman of the board. In the spring of 1858 he moved to Cazenovia built a shop and has since worked there at his trade. He has been prominent in public affairs and filled many offices of trust and honor, and is at this time justice of the peace. He has always taken a great interest in school and Church affairs, and was among the first members of the M. E. Church at this point and for many years class leader. Mr. and Mrs. Tinker are the parents of three children now living—Andrew M., Mary J. and William Henry. The oldest son, Andrew M., was born in York State, Feb. 24, 1839, and came to Wisconsin with his parents. When a young man he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. He was married in 1859 to Mary J. Russell and settled in Cazenovia. He served during the war in the 42d regiment, company I. He now lives in Eau Claire county. Charles M. was born in York State, Oct. 4, 1845, and made his home with his parents until 1861, when he enlisted in the 3d Wisconsin, company F, and went south. He died in the service at Fort Scott, Kan., Nov. 24, 1862. William Henry was also born in York State, March 27, 1847, and was eight years old when he came to Richland county with his parents. He commenced when quite young to learn the trade of blacksmith with his father. He enlisted in March, 1865, in the 50th Wisconsin, company H, and went south. He was discharged July 25, 1865, from the hospital, where he was sick. He then returned home and resumed work at his trade, which he has

since followed, excepting eight months in 1881, during which time he was in the employ of a Milwaukee firm selling groceries on the road. He was married Nov. 5, 1871, to Nellie Nichols, a native of York State. They have five children—Amasa L., William H., Fred A., Maud I. and Luella. They also have a daughter Mary J., the wife of Joshua Bible, who lives in Sank county, near Cazenovia. Allen Tinker politically belongs to the democratic party, but is not so bound by party ties, as to always vote for any candidate regardless of his personal fitness for the position, but is among those who exercise the right of suffrage intelligently, and always votes the democratic ticket, when good men are brought forward. He cannot be considered a politician in any sense, and never solicited man's vote, either for himself or other persons. Electioneering for office is a thing of which he never was guilty, although an honest public servant whenever entrusted with public office in any capacity.

Joseph Moody, an early settler in the State of Wisconsin, was born in Summit Co., Ohio, Sept. 12, 1821, where he received a common school education. When he was seventeen years old, his parents moved to Hancock county and he made his home with them until 1841, in which year he was married to Sarah Milledge, who was born in Franklin county. In 1844 he came to Wisconsin and settled in Waukesha county, purchased forty acres of land which he occupied until 1848, then he traded it for a land warrant, which he placed on land in Mt. Pleasant, Green county, which was at that time a new country. He improved a farm, which, in 1858, he traded for timber land in the town of Westford, on section 34. Here he cleared a valuable farm, planted an orchard, and is one of the few successful fruit growers in the town. He built a two story log house, a large frame barn and was engaged in raising both grain and stock. He enlisted Aug. 14, 1862, in company B, 25th regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, and went to Minnesota to meet the Indians, remaining there

until February, 1863, then went south and joined the 16th Army Corps. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea, and through the Carolinas to Washington, participating in the many battles of that ever memorable campaign. He was discharged with the regiment at Washington June 7, 1865, and returned home. He was an exemplary citizen and prominent in town affairs, filling many offices of trust—having served as assessor and chairman of the board. Mr. and Mrs. Moody were the parents of eight children—Sophronia, Elizabeth J., Lewis C, William B., Louisa V., James B., Thomas F. and Ephraim L. In the early part of December, 1883, Mr. Moody was stricken down with a complication of diseases, and suffered greatly from the outset, until the night of Jan. 25, 1884, when surrounded by many friends and relatives, the soul took its departure, and on the 27th, the body was conveyed to its final resting place, under the auspices of the I. O. O. F., assisted by the G. A. R.

Wenzel J. Hanzlik, postmaster at Cazenovia, received his appointment, June 28, 1883, which position he had filled, as deputy, for six years previously. He is a native of Bohemia, born in September, 1838. When he was twelve years years of age, his parents emigrated to America, and located in New York city, where he lived six years, then came to Hillsborough, Vernon county and worked upon a farm till 1861; then at the first call for three years men, enlisted in the 6th Wisconsin, company I, and with the regiment, joined the Army of the Potomac. He was discharged at Arlington Heights, Jan. 16, 1862, on account of disability. He returned to Ironton, Sauk county, and, as soon as able to work, engaged to learn the trade of moulder. Feb. 15, 1865, he re-enlisted in the 12th Wisconsin, company II, and went to Raleigh, N. C., to join Sherman's army, and served till after the close of the war. His regiment was discharged Aug. 9, 1865, when he returned to Ironton and resumed working at his trade as moulder. He remained there until 1877, when he came to

Cazenovia to take charge of a store for E. & N. G. Blakeslee. He has continued in the same business until the present time, and has built up an extensive trade. He was married on the 10th of February, 1861, to Kate M. Dressen, a native of Prussia. They are the parents of eight children—Joseph W., Annie T., Martin H., Frank W., Hattie E., Eva M., Katie M. and William A.

John Keane, town clerk of Westford, first came to Richland county in 1862, and purchased land on section 36. At that time much of the land of the town was owned by speculators, who employed him to act as agent for their sale. Being extensively acquainted, he soon disposed of considerable land, and in the meantime partly improved his own, which he sold in 1867, and purchased his present farm on section 25. Mr. Keane is a native of Ireland, born in county Clare, in December, 1829. Here his younger days were spent on a farm and in school. He spent two years attending the graded school, at the village of Kilkee. At the age of nineteen, he left his native soil and came to America, and at first located at Montpelier, Vt., where he engaged in farming. After remaining there four years, he came to Wisconsin and was employed for six years as clerk in the executive department at Madison, under Govs. Bashford and Randall, continuing there until 1862, when he came to Westford. He was married to Bridget Faren, in 1851. Eight children have been born to them—Mary, James, Kate, Jane, Margaret, John Edward and Simon. Mary is a native of Vermont; the other children of Wisconsin. Mr. Keane has been in office the greater part of the time since coming to Westford, having served as clerk several years, and also as assessor and chairman of the town board. Mrs. Keane is a native of county Clare, Ireland. They were married at Burlington, Vt., by the Rev. Father O'Caligan. Mr. Keane's parents always lived at the place of his birth. His father died April 22, 1883, at the age of eighty-seven. His mother is still living. The town of Westford

owes much of her prosperity and early settlement to Mr. Keane, through his earnest and upright manner in selling lands and bringing in settlers.

Sebastian Wenker, merchant at Cazenovia, came to this village in December, 1865, and purchased a one-half interest in the store of A. Fix. In March, 1866, they dissolved partnership, Mr. Wenker becoming sole proprietor. He is a good business man and has been successful in building up a large trade. He still continues business here and carries a good stock of goods. He was born in Alsace, when it was a part of France, Aug. 20, 1833. When he was twelve years old his parents emigrated to America and located in Dodge Co., Wis., where they were among the early settlers. His father took government land and he assisted him in clearing a farm. He was joined in marriage when twenty-four years old, with Eva Derr, a native of Bavaria. He then settled on the old homestead and remained until 1862, then removed to Dane county and engaged in farming in the town of Bristol, remaining there until 1865, then came to Cazenovia. Mr. and Mrs. Wenker have had six children, four of whom are now living—Mary, Teressa, Anna and Sebastian. A daughter, Ellen, was born May 5, 1861, and died Jan. 11, 1875. Eva was born June 3, 1862, and died Jan. 26, 1875. Mr. Wenker has always thus far adhered to the democratic party.

Converse Pierce, town treasurer and justice of the peace, came to Cazenovia in 1866 and engaged in mercantile trade in company with M. O. Tracy, continued in that business one year, then sold out and engaged in farming. In 1869 he purchased Perkins' addition, consisting of twenty-four lots, where he built the frame house he now occupies, and has also erected a good frame barn. He was born in the town of Hamburg, Erie Co., N. Y., Oct. 11, 1832, where he grew to manhood. His early education was obtained at the district school, supplemented by two terms in the Oberlin University, at Oberlin, Ohio. In 1859 he moved to Wisconsin, lived

in Green county one year, then moved to McHenry Co., Ill., where he bought a farm of 120 acres. In 1866 he sold out and came to Cazenovia, as before stated. He was married in 1855 to Ellen E. Coon, also born in Erie county. They have one child—Glen Irving. His father, Dryden Pierce, was born in Hartford, Conn., in 1805. When he was two years old his parents emigrated to York State and settled in the town of Hamburg. When a young man he went to Vermont, where he was married to Melinda Hamblin, who was born in Utica, N. Y. They now live with their only son, Converse, in Cazenovia.

James Moyes came to Richland county in 1867 and opened a blacksmith shop at Cazenovia. In 1870 he bought a lot in block 2, and built the frame dwelling in which he now lives. He sold his blacksmith shop in 1875 and purchased a farm of eighty acres, on section 7, of the town of Ironton, Sauk county, and has since that time engaged in farming. He was born in Devonshire, England, in 1842, and brought up on a farm. At the age of seventeen he engaged with a blacksmith to learn the trade, served four years, and then went to South Wales to work at his trade, remaining there till 1867, when, as before stated, he came to America and to Richland county. He was married in 1865 to Mary Marshall, also a native of Devonshire.

Mrs. Carrie M. Atkins, the proprietor of the hotel at Cazenovia, was born in the town of Orleans, Jefferson Co., N. Y., Dec. 7, 1842. She was joined in marriage in 1858 to Sanford Collins. He was born in the town of Orleans in April, 1839. Eight children blessed this union, six of whom are now living—Sanford, Chloe L., Sturgis F., Birney A., Burton and Lula M. He was a machinist by trade, at which he worked in York State until 1867, when he came to Wisconsin and purchased a farm on section 7, town of Ironton, Sauk county. Here he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred Nov. 30, 1874. Her second husband, to whom

she was married Oct. 11, 1877, was Thornton Lee Atkins. One child—Nellie May—was born. Mr. Atkins was born in the town of Garnavillo, Clayton Co., Iowa, in 1848. His father, whose name was Elial Atkins, was a native of Vermont, settled in Dubuque, Iowa, in 1845, and moved from there in 1848 to Garnavillo. In 1852 he went to California, and his wife, with her two children, returned to Vermont and lived there five years, then returned to Garnavillo, where the subject of our sketch grew to manhood. When he was sixteen years of age he engaged in the brick city machine shop at Claremont, Iowa, and there learned the trade. The past few years he has been engaged as engineer. In the summer of 1883 he run the engine of the steamer *Red Star*, at Minnetonka, in Hennepin Co., Minn.

Father Herman Grosse, resident pastor in Westford, was born in Saxony, Germany, April 24, 1842. He attended a common school until the age of eleven, then entered the college at Heiligenstadt, where he studied for nine years. He then passed examination and entered the university at Munich. After completing the course there, he attended at Vienna, and afterward at Munster in Westphalia, Paderborn. He was ordained by the Right Reverend Bishop Martin in 1865, and came to the United States, where he received the last ordination at Milwaukee, from Bishop Henni, and was sent to Kansas City, Mo. He remained there five years, then returned to Wisconsin to take charge of St. Mary's Church in Monroe county, remaining there seven and a half years. He was then at

Sauk City four and a half years, after which he came to Cazenovia. He now has charge of four Churches, including the two in Westford, one in Henrietta and another at Ironton. He is a gentleman of pleasing address and one who commands the respect of all.

Oscar B., son of Levi J. and Fanny (Allen) Lincoln, was born at North Windham, Windham Co., Conn., Aug. 31, 1854. He came to Wisconsin with his parents, a sketch of whom appears in the history of Ithaca town. Oscar B. remained at home until twenty years of age, alternately attending school and working on the homestead farm. He then went to Madison, Wis., and was employed by his uncle to assist him in well drilling. He remained there two years, and then procured a set of drilling tools and returned home, since which time he has made a business of well drilling in Richland, Sauk and Juneau counties. In 1881 he came to Cazenovia, July 1, and established the "Yankee" blacksmith shop, employing a man to attend to the custom. Since becoming a resident of Cazenovia, he has been engaged in selling agricultural implements, and in connection with the business of well drilling, keeps on hand a good stock of pumps and pipe. Mr. Lincoln is energetic and enterprising, and has been fairly successful in business. He was married at Muscoda, Wis., July 3, 1879, to Nannie Adams, a native of Crow Wing, Minn. Two sons have been given to them—Burr T. and Buford G. The former was born at Neptune, Sept. 8, 1880, and died in April, 1881. The latter was born at Cazenovia, June 5, 1883.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

## TOWN OF WILLOW.

This is a full congressional township, being 11 north, range 2 east of fourth principal meridian. It is bounded on the north by Westford, on the east by Sank county, on the south by Ithaca, and on the west by Rockbridge. It is well watered by Big and Little Willow creeks and their tributaries, which flow through the town in a southerly direction. It is principally an agricultural town, and has many good farms both in the valleys and on the ridges. There is considerable waste land on account of abrupt breaks, but in this particular it compares favorably with other portions of the county. Unfortunately the early records of the town have been lost, and a list of the officers could not be obtained. The following is a partial list: E. L. D. Moody, chairman, John Hake, side supervisor; Hiram Hitchcock, clerk; Hiram Britton and John Shaw, justices of the peace; Cyrus Stowe, treasurer; D. O. Chandler, superintendent of schools. The officers for 1883 were as follows: John R. Smyth, chairman, J. A. Mercer and C. C. McNamar, side supervisors; Antone Rollet, clerk; T. J. McNurlin, assessor; Albert Hake, treasurer; Marion Hart, Matthew White, Samuel Doolittle and J. O. Frye, justices of the peace.

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Many interesting features cluster around the first settlement of a country. Among the many difficulties, privations and hardships always attending the first development, there are bright spots along the pioneer life, standing out sometimes in bold relief against a background of darkness and distress. The mutual helpfulness, almost universal kindness, and interest in each

other's welfare apparent in those days, were things to be the more appreciated as time passed on. The social circle, although necessarily limited as to numbers, had not its present limit as to classification, and the disagreeable formalities of the present day were unknown. A treatise on etiquette was not a necessity in every family, and the peculiar twist of a handkerchief, or fold of a shawl, were not matters requiring especial thought and careful manipulation. Comfort and happiness were untrammelled by fashion and formalism. In such respects many in later days have had occasion to wish for the good old times.

The first settlement in the town was made in June, 1852, by John Hake, a native of York State, who came here from Rock county. Previously two of his sons had been here and entered land on the southeast quarter of section 4. This locality now bears the name of Hake Hollow. Here Mr. Hake cleared quite a farm, and lived a number of years. He died at Sextonville in December, 1883.

The next settler was Benjamin Smith, who came into the town for the first time when Mr. Hake moved here with his family. He selected land on section 23, where he still resides.

D. O. Chandler, now a prominent citizen of Richland Center, was among the earliest settlers of this town. He was a native of Erie Co., N. Y., and came here from Buffalo in 1853, and settled on section 9, where he entered 160 acres and cleared about forty. In 1859 he removed to Loyd and engaged in mercantile busi-

ness until 1865, when he removed to Richland Center and engaged in the hardware business.

Another settler of 1853 was Henry Cushman, from New England. He settled in Hake Hollow, remained a short time and went to Iowa.

Jacob Fellows and Byron Telfair came the same year and settled on section 2, where they erected the first cabin in the north part of the town. They made some improvements, and in 1854 sold to Ephraim Moody. Fellows moved to Loyd and bought an interest in a saw-mill, in which place he died a few years later. Telfair was a lawyer, and a brother of Dr. Telfair, of Lone Rock. He settled in Buena Vista, enlisted in the army and contracted disease, from the effects of which he died a few years later.

The next year (1854) Russell Carpenter came from York State and settled at Loyd. He was by trade a clock-tinker, and kept boarding-house. In 1864 he removed to Sauk county, where he was living at last accounts.

Another settler of this season was Ephraim Moody, a native of Ohio. He emigrated from Green county and settled on section 2. He was a land speculator, and was elected county sheriff; removed to the county seat, where he died in 1861.

From the same county, about the same time, came August Lampher and located on the northeast quarter of section 1. In 1859 he removed to the Kickapoo. In 1861 he enlisted in the army and served until the close of the war. At last report he was in Nebraska.

Section 10 received a settler this year in the person of Dr. Hitchcock, from Greene county. He was a practicing physician and quite an elderly man. He sold out to Joseph Stout, a native of New Jersey, and in 1855 removed to Reedsburg.

During the winter of 1854-5 Alonzo Burdick came from Dane Co., N. Y., and settled on section 2. He died in 1868. His widow now lives in Viola.

Edward C. Walker came from Greene Co., N. Y., in 1855, and bought land on the north-

west quarter of section 1. He has cleared a farm, which he still owns.

James French, a native of Tennessee, lives on section 2, where he settled in 1854.

Patrick Smlth, a native of Ireland, came here in 1855 and bought land on section 23, where he lived a few years, and moved west.

Valentine Stoddard, a native of Connecticut, came here from New York State in 1854 and bought land on section 31, where he settled the following year, and still lives.

Daniel Stoddard, also a native of Connecticut, came from New York in 1854 and settled on section 30. He was an old bachelor and by profession a school teacher. He died in February, 1868. His widow still occupies the homestead.

Philip McNamara was a settler of 1857. He was a native of West Virginia and came from Iowa and lived first on Mill creek, then, in 1857, he came to Willow and settled on his present farm on section 19.

The next year, during the month of September, Watson A. Hatch came from New York State and settled in the village of Loyd, where he now lives.

Amos Stafford also came in 1856 from Chenango Co., N. Y. He came in the fall and spent the winter in Loyd. The following spring he settled on section 26, where he lived a few years, then traded his farm for forty acres on section 15. He there built a mill, put in a turning lathe and manufactured household furniture. He was a natural mechanic, a good workman, and continued in that business some time and cleared a farm. He died here during the war.

John Rosenbaum and Aaron Bowman came from Ohio in 1856 and located on section 1, where they made a little improvement and remained a few years, then moved to Westford.

David Wildermurth, a native of Ohio, came from Iowa county in 1855 and entered land on section 7. In 1856 he settled and has since remained.

New York State furnished another settler this year in the person of Daniel Graves, who made settlement on the southeast quarter of section 10. He enlisted in the army and contracted a disease from which he died soon after his return. There is one son now living of this family who, at last accounts, was in New York State.

Edward M. Alward, a native of New Jersey, came here in 1853 and entered land on sections 18, 19 and 20. He did not settle, however, until 1857. He now lives on section 16.

Bartholomew Shea is a native of Ireland and came here in 1855 and located on the southeast quarter of section 20, where he still lives.

Samuel Fuller was from Ohio and came from Green county in 1855 and settled on section 5, where he now lives.

Ralph Ward, an Englishman, came to Willow as early as 1854 and selected a home on section 9. After a few years he removed to Iowa, but has since returned, and now lives on section 7.

Another early settler was William Butler, a half-blood Indian, formerly from Onondaga Co., N. Y. He came from Ithaca probably about 1853 and settled on the southwest quarter of section 31. He was quite an elderly man and had a white woman for a wife. He was a good farmer and quite industrious. He was, in common with all of his race, very fond of hunting, and among his exploits during one winter killed seventy deer. He cleared quite a farm and remained here a number of years. He was quite a character in his way and served in the War of 1812. He drew a pension during his declining years and lived to the mature age of ninety-nine years. He had but one child, a daughter, now dead. There are two grandsons now living in Dakota.

Another early settler was Jefferson Shaver, a native of Kentucky, and of African descent. He first came to the county in 1852 and lived in the town of Ithaca two years. In 1854 he came to the Little Willow valley. He had bought eighty acres of land, one-half of which was in

the town of Willow and the other in Rock-bridge. He first built a house on the town line. His present house is on section 31, town of Willow.

David Wood arrived here in 1854 and settled on the southwest quarter of section 29, where he died. Two of his sons entered the army and sacrificed their lives in the cause of their country. The rest of the family are scattered and their whereabouts unknown.

Harvey Wells and Henry Short came in 1855 and settled in Wheat Hollow, where they improved farms. They removed to Nebraska in 1870.

Preserved Wheat came from Michigan in 1855 and located on section 28. The valley in which he lived took his name and is called Wheat hollow. About 1870 he sold out and at last accounts was in California.

A man from New York State, Henry H. Butts, came here in 1856 and located on section 23, where he still lives.

Mrs. Jane Warren came from the same State the same year and died here in 1862.

In 1855 John Drought, a native of Ireland, came. He was from Jefferson county and settled in the village of Loyd. He had purchased land on section 15, which he still occupies.

S. V. Carpenter was a native of York State, and came here during the winter of 1854-55 and settled on section 11, which place is still his home.

In 1856 a Vermonter by the name of Joseph Marden, settled in "Marden Hollow" where he yet makes his home.

Charles Herzog, Sr., a native of Germany, a weaver by trade, settled in the village of Loyd in 1856, where he operated a small factory and died in 1881. His son, Charles, settled on section 27, where he cleared a good farm. In 1870 he removed to Nebraska.

In 1855 there was a settler came here by name of John Romack. He made his selection on section 25, where he cleared a farm and lived some years. He is now dead.

The same year Joseph Stout came from New Jersey and settled on section 10. He is now dead. His sons Merritt and Jonathan now occupy the homestead.

Myrus Ramsdale, a native of Vermont, was also a settler of 1855, and selected the southwest quarter of section 10. He was a blacksmith, worked at his trade and cleared a farm. He died about 1872, and the whereabouts of his family are unknown.

Another settler of this year was Romine Shaw, a native of Alleghany Co., N. Y. He located on the northwest quarter of section 15, and remained until 1864, when he returned to York State, and now lives in Cattaraugus county.

An earlier settler was I. A. Chandler, a native of Erie county, who came probably as early as 1853, and made a claim on the southwest quarter of section 9. In 1855 he sold out and worked at his trade of carpenter at Pike's Peak. He is now in Texas.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The citizens of Willow town have not been unmindful of the educational wants of the children within her borders, and have provided from time to time, necessary facilities for imparting instruction, and giving all an opportunity to receive a fair education. The town is now divided into school districts calculated to meet the wants of the people. Some changes might be made to advantage, which would better accommodate some sections, and in these matters the wants of the people being duly considered, changes will doubtless be effected in time. As early as 1857, a school was taught in a log house located on the southeast quarter of section 9, and owned by D. O. Chandler. This is called district No. 4 and Annie Fellows was the first teacher. A number of terms were taught in this building. In 1866 a log school house was built which is still in use. Margaret Larey was the first teacher in the new building. The same year a school was commenced in what is called district No. 7, and was taught by Jem-

ima Hake in a log building belonging to John Hake, located on the southeast quarter of section 34. The same year a school building was erected, and painted a bright red after the custom of those days. It was located on the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 34. Anna Fellows was the first teacher in this building. The house has since been sold and is now used for a wagon shop in Ithaca. In 1872 the present house was built, located on the southwest of the northeast quarter of section 34, and Clara Campbell taught the first school therein. The teacher at this time (1884) is Nallie Railton. Before these schools were organized, Mr. A. Hitchcock taught in what is known as district No. 1. This was in 1855, and the house was located on block 4, of the village plat of Loyd. The same year a frame building was erected on block 3. In this house Charlotte Smith was the first teacher. In 1876 a new house was built on block 10, in which Mary Cass taught the first school. The teacher for 1884 was Lizzie Markham. That same year (1855) in what is called district No. 2 a school was taught by Harriet Smiley in a log shanty owned by E. L. D. Moody, located on the southeast quarter of section 2. The year following the first school house was built in this district and Velisa Godfrey was the first teacher within its walls. She had previously commenced a term in Mr. Moody's barn, but completed it in the school building. In 1882 a more commodious house was erected and furnished at a cost of \$600. Margaret A. Anderson was the first teacher in this building. In 1884 a school was here being taught by James B. Moody. The first school taught in what is called district No. 5 was by Emily Grover in 1859, during which year the house was built, located on the southwest of the northwest quarter of section 23. This building was burned in 1867 and the present house erected on the old site. In the latter building Edward Long was the first teacher. District No. 6 was organized in 1859 and a school building erected the same



year, located on the northwest quarter of section 31. Mary Worth was the first teacher. In 1880 the district sold this house to Valentine Stoddard, and built a new house on the southwest quarter of section 30, where John Stevenson was the first teacher. This building is supplied with modern furniture, and the school in 1884 was under management of Hessie Railton. In 1858 a school building was erected in district No. 10, on the southwest of the northwest quarter of section 7. It was constructed of logs, and Cordelia Wood was one of the first teachers. Afterward another log house was built on the southeast quarter of section 6 in which Jemima McNamar was the first teacher. In 1879 this house was burned and two terms of school were taught in David Wildermuth's hop house. In 1880 a neat frame house was built on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 8, in which Lillie Wood was the first teacher.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The spiritual wants of the people of Willow have not been altogether neglected, although many, in an early day, very much desired Church privileges beyond what they were able to obtain, and as a consequence Churches were organized, societies formed, and the attention of the people directed toward matters which appertained to their spiritual welfare. Prayer meetings and occasional services were held in some of the houses of the early settlers, and as to the date of the first meeting of such a character, there is some difference of opinion, and it is uncertain at what place or by whom the actual first meeting was held. The historian ascertained dates, and facts, so far as they could be given, and the same are hereby presented: During the winter of 1857-58, revival meetings were held at the school house in Loyd, conducted by different preachers, and quite a number of the people were converted. The ministers were of the United Brethren order, among whom were: Rev. Frederick Outcalt, James Howard and G. G. Nickey. The latter was a presiding elder. At

the close of this series of meetings, a class was organized with about thirty members. The following were among the members: Amos Stafford and wife, W. A. Hatch and wife, Joseph Stout and wife, T. R. Rollins and wife, George Wright and wife, John Shaw and wife, Edward Long and wife, Levi Stafford and William Shaw. Edward Long was chosen class leader and W. A. Hatch steward. The following named preachers administered to the spiritual wants of this class: Frederick Outcalt, James Howard, Revs. Harrison, Smith, Sutton and Alderman. During the preaching of the latter meetings were discontinued.

In 1856 Rev. Kilbourne, of the M. E. Church held services in different parts of the town but did not succeed in effecting any organization. The first United Brethren society organized in this section of the county, was at the residence of Moses Bible, on section 35, town of Westford, in the spring of 1857, by Rev. Frederick Outcalt. The class contained fifteen members, among whom were the following: Moses Bible and wife, William Smelier and wife, James French and wife, John Frye and wife, John Clary and wife, William Thornburg and wife, Henry Trobough and William Carr and wife. James French was class leader. They met for worship in the Moody school house on section 2, town of Willow, for some years, but now hold meetings at the Block school house in the town of Westford. In January, 1884, they were making preparation to build a church to be located on the southeast quarter of section 2. The class now numbers about thirty members, and Ashbury Smelier is class leader. There was another organization of this denomination affected at the residence of David Wood, on section 29, in 1858, with eight members. Among the number, were: David Wood and wife, Moses Call and wife and Alpheus Smith and wife. David Wood was class leader, and during his life the organization was continued, but disbanded soon after his death. About the same time Rev. Outcalt organized another class in "Hake Hol-

low" with the following members: Cornelius Hake and wife, John Hake and wife, A. Vanallen and wife, George Hake and wife, and Mr. Romaek and wife. John Hake was the class leader. This society continued in existence about four years, by which time, most of the members had moved away. The Christian Church of West Willow, was organized about 1870, by Rev. William Cammick. The following were among the members: J. R. Davis and wife, Samuel Jones and wife, Enoch Gray and wife and Mary and Rachel Davis. J. R. Davis was elder and clerk. Enoch Gray was class leader. In 1881 the society purchased the school house in which it was organized, and continued to hold service in that building. Among those who have preached there are the following: A. Rogers, David Wood, John Walworth and James M. Keepers, the present pastor. George Jones clerk, and J. R. Davis deacon. They have preaching regularly once a month. In 1874 Rev. Thayer, a United Brethren preacher, organized a society at Ezra Reagles' house with five members, as follows: Ezra Reagles and wife, F. L. Smith and wife and Rosanna Beggs. Ezra Reagles was class leader and F. L. Smith steward. This society continued to hold meetings in private houses until 1877, when a log church was built, on the southwest of the southeast quarter of section 7. The following named pastors have preached to this society: Rev. Potts, McReynolds, Aldrich, Mabbitt, Young, Snell and Erwin, the present pastor. This organization has flourished, and now numbers seventy-three members. Jesse Hatch is the present class leader and Ezra Reagles steward. A Sabbath school was organized in 1875, with Harrison J. Kirkpatrick as superintendent. This school flourishes during the summer months only. In 1878 Rev. F. B. Moulton, from Ithaca came to Loyd and preached in Rollet's hall. He continued to supply the pulpit here from time to time, until 1880, without any organization. In February of that year, he held a series of protracted meetings, at which time considerable

interest was manifested, and a Free-Will Baptist Church was organized with fourteen members, as follows: J. W. Burnham and wife, with three children, A. Rollet and wife, with two children, J. W. Roberts, with his wife and son, and J. W. Bryant and wife. J. W. Burnham and J. W. Bryant, were chosen deacons, and J. W. Roberts, clerk. Mr. Moulton is still pastor of the society. In connection with this Church there is a Sabbath school, of which J. C. Hatch is superintendent.

#### HISTORICAL ITEMS.

The first birth in the town of Willow was that of Lucy Lorain Smith, a daughter to Benjamin and Phæbe (Price) Smith, born in December, 1852. She was married to Albert Tuttle, and died in Richland Center in November, 1876, leaving two children.

The first death was that of H. Z. Britton, who died at the village of Loyd in 1855, where he was buried, but has since been removed to the cemetery.

#### MILLS.

About 1867 Daniel W. Dodge built a saw-mill on the northwest quarter of section 34, having an "up and down" saw. The dam was built of timber and dirt. In 1871 he sold this property to Augustus Taplin, who operated it for four years, when it reverted to Mr. Dodge, and was burned the same year. He immediately rebuilt, and it is now owned by Davis & Poole. It is furnished with a muley and lathe saw, and the proprietors are doing a fair business. Earlier than this, in 1855, John Wood erected a saw-mill on section 15, on Willow creek. It was constructed on the old pattern, having an "up and down" saw. In a few years he sold this property to Mr. Sexton, who in 1868 sold it again to Samuel McCorkle, and he in turn to Robert McCorkle, who put in a circular saw. In 1879 he sold a one-half interest to his brothers, Samuel and William. The new firm built a grist-mill with two run of stone, and put in all necessary machinery for the manufacture of first-class flour.

## CEMETERY.

In 1860 a cemetery was laid out in this town by the United Brethren Church society, on the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 2. The site had been used as a place to bury the dead previously. The first interment on these grounds consigned to the earth the remains of Edeline Clary in 1859. At that time the land was owned by James French, who a few years later deeded it to the United Brethren society.

## VILLAGE OF LOYD.

This the only village in the township, and was platted in 1854 by R. B. Stewart and E. M. Sexton. Joseph Irish was the surveyor and gave the village its name. It is located on the northeast of the northwest quarter of section 22. There was at the time one log house within the limits of the plat, erected by E. M. Sexton, for the accommodation of the men at work on the saw mill, which was built by Stewart & Sexton in 1854. About two years later Stewart sold his interest in the mill to E. M. Sexton, who in turn sold to Samuel McCorkle in 1868, who tore down the old structure and built a new and better mill.

The first store in the village was opened by Nelson A. Hawks in 1855. He kept a general stock and had a good trade. He remained only about one year and removed to Sextonville. He was followed in business in Loyd by E. M. Sexton and he in turn by J. W. Lybrand. D. O. Chandler was the next to engage in trade at this place.

W. A. Hatch opened a blacksmith shop in 1856 and continued the business until 1873. Previously a Frenchman had put up a shop to make the irons for the saw-mill, which was closed about one year after the completion of the mill. This branch of business is now represented by Frederick Moyes, who commenced in April, 1876.

A man named Veard opened a blacksmith shop in 1855, and continued some years, when he removed to Fancy creek, and is now dead.

## POSTOFFICE.

Loyd postoffice was first established in 1855, with H. Z. Britton as postmaster. He was succeeded by R. G. Carpenter, then W. A. Hatch was commissioned who was followed by D. O. Chandler. In 1865 Antoine Rollet was appointed and has since held the office. At first, mail was received weekly from Sextonville. Now there is a daily mail, the office being on the route from Richland Center to Cazenovia.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

R. B. Stewart, a pioneer of Richland county, first settled here in 1849 when he entered land on section 19, of town 9, range two east, now included in the town of Buena Vista. He made some improvements and remained here until 1854 when he sold out and came to what is now known as the town of Willow, purchased land on section 22, and in company with E. M. Sexton platted the village of Loyd and erected a saw-mill. He operated this saw-mill two years then sold out and engaged in farming. His farm is located in Willow creek valley, on section 22, and contains 160 acres, and is well adapted to raising grain and stock, in which business he is engaged. He has erected a good frame house and barn. He was married in 1849 to Helen L. Sexton. They have four children—Laurentine, Charles, Robert and Edward M.

Daniel Murphy, son of Daniel and Elizabeth (O'Brien) Murphy, early settlers of Willow was born in county Meath, Ireland, Feb. 2, 1849. When he was eighteen months old his parents emigrated to America and located in York State for a short time and then came to Richland county, where he grew to manhood, obtaining his education in the public schools. He was married in 1874 to Nora, daughter of Bartholomew and Mary (Fahan) Shea. They have two children—Nellie and Winifred. At the time of his marriage he settled on his present old farm on sections 2 and 3, which contains 330

acres. He has given his attention to raising grain, stock and dairying. His wife has earned the reputation of being a first class butter maker.

James French was one of the pioneers of Willow, coming here in September, 1854, and entering forty acres of land on section 2, where he built a log house and commenced to clear a farm. He was successful, has since purchased more land and built a hewed log house with a frame house addition, 16x20 feet, also has a log barn 30x50 feet, and is now engaged in raising grain and stock. He was born in Greene Co., Tenn., Nov. 11, 1823, where he was married in 1842 to Margaret Lonas also born in Greene county, Sept. 29, 1823. They remained in Tennessee until Oct. 11, 1853, when the entire family consisting of six children started in one wagon drawn by one span of horses, containing themselves and household goods, to seek a new home. They went to Indiana and stopped in Clinton county until September, 1854, when they again loaded up and started for Wisconsin. They carried provisions with them and camped along the road arriving in Richland county in twenty days. His property then consisted of the team, one cow and \$40 in money. For the first few years they experienced many hardships, incident to this country at that time, but by energy and industry they at last secured a comfortable home, and are now well prepared to spend their declining days in comfort. Mr. and Mrs. French were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are now living—Stephen A., Martha, John W., Sallie C., Margaret E., James A. and Darwin P. These are all married except the youngest. Mr. and Mrs. French are both members of the United Brethren Church. Mr. French is not a member of any political party, but exercises the right of suffrage intelligently, voting for whom he considers the best man.

Jules Francois, one of the early settlers of Richland county, is a native of France, born in March, 1838. In 1853 he left his native land in company with an uncle and came to America.

They spent two or three months in Illinois, then came to Wisconsin and spent the winter in Janesville. In the spring of 1854 he came to Richland county. His uncle (J. B. Poinset) entered a large tract of land in town 11, range 2 east, now known as the town of Willow, on sections 19, 21, 22, 27 and 28. Here they built a log house and commenced to clear a farm. Mr. Poinset was a bachelor and a man of good education. He died here in 1875. The subject of our sketch was married in 1867 to Clara Sawyer, who was born in York State. They had two children—Josie and Kola. He now has a farm of 220 acres in Willow creek valley. In 1870 he erected a frame barn and in 1873 a large frame house. He has one of the best farms in the town.

John Wright, one of the pioneer settlers of Willow, first came from Ohio in 1844, and located in that part of Iowa now known as Lafayette county, where he engaged in mining until 1850, then went to Greene county, and settled on land which he had entered in 1846. Here he built a log cabin and improved a portion of the land remaining until 1855, when he sold out and came to Richland county. He purchased 500 acres of land, a part of it in Rockbridge, the remainder in Willow. He erected a log cabin on section 26, town of Willow, and has since made this his home. Here he has cleared a farm, built a frame house and barn, and is now engaged in raising stock and grain. He is a native of York State, born March 20, 1819. When he was six months old, his parents moved to Ohio, and settled in Richland county, where he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the district schools. In 1839 he moved to Illinois and lived in Jackson county until 1844, when he came to Wisconsin as before stated. He was married in 1863 to Rachel Smith, a native of Ohio. She died Sept. 7, 1883, leaving six children—James, Joshua, Mary, Katie, Francis and Jesse.

Valentine Stoddard, one of the pioneers of Willow, is a native of Connecticut, born in

Litchfield, July 25, 1810. When he was five year old, his parents emigrated to Ontario Co., N. Y. They made the journey in the winter season and took their household goods upon a sled drawn by two pairs of oxen, and were thirty-one days upon the road, a distance of 300 miles. His father purchased a farm in the town of Richmond, and here the subject of this sketch grew to manhood. He was married in March, 1833, to Joanna Davison, a native of Ontario county, and purchased a farm in the town of Canadice, where they lived until 1855. In that year they came to Richland county and settled on section 31. He first built a log cabin and then began clearing his present farm, which is situated in Little Willow valley. He has cleared and fenced seventy-five acres, erected a large frame house and other buildings. His wife died in February, 1859, leaving eight children, six of whom are now living—Jane, now the wife of George McCrossin; George, now living in Kansas; John, Harlow and Jesse live in Richland county; Jennette, the wife of Seth Frost, lives in Michigan. Mr. Stoddard was married the second time in 1860, to Rebecca Sippy, daughter of Joseph and Martha (Cogswell) Sippy. She was married in 1850 to Robert McCloud, who died in 1852, while on his way to California. He left one child—Laura, now the wife of Monroe Slater. There is one child by the last union—Frank.

David Wildermuth was one of the early settlers in Willow, having moved here with his family in the spring of 1856. He was born in Fairfield Co., Ohio, Jan. 17, 1803. He was the son of David and Elizabeth (Wagoner) Wildermuth, both natives of Pennsylvania, and early settlers in Fairfield county where they located in 1777. There were but thirteen families there before them. Here the subject of our sketch grew to manhood, receiving his education in a subscription school, as this was before the days of free schools. He was married in 1831 to Annie Newkirk, born in Fairfield county, March 3, 1814. In 1835 they started overland with

horse teams for the then far west, and located in Coles Co., Ill., which was at that time on the frontier. Here he purchased land which he improved, remaining until 1845, when he again loaded up his goods, and driving to Wisconsin settled in that part of Iowa county now known as Lafayette county. He purchased land in what is now known as Fayette town. Here he engaged in farming and mining and lived until 1855, then removed to the State of Iowa remaining till the fall of that year when he returned to Fayette and lived until the spring of 1856, when he started with ox teams for Richland county, where he had entered land. He has since cleared a farm, erected buildings and now makes this his home. Mr. and Mrs. Wildermuth are the parents of six living children—Edwin C., Eli M., Clarissa, Cordia, Louisa and Daniel.

John Salisbury, one of the early settlers of Willow, was born in Summit Co., Ohio, May 11, 1828, where he was brought up on a farm, receiving his education in the public-schools. He was married the 14th of March, 1850, to Rosanna Willey also a native of Summit county, born May 10, 1828. They remained in this county until 1856, then started west to seek a home. He purchased land on the southeast quarter of section 35, built a log house in the woods, took his ax and commenced to clear a farm. In 1864 he purchased land on the southwest quarter of the same section which had been entered by Henry Cushman. He moved on to this place and occupied the log house built by Mr. Cushman until 1883, when he built the large frame house he now occupies. He has been an industrious, hard-working man, and this, combined with good judgment, has now placed him in easy circumstances. He has 280 acres of land, a good frame barn and other needed buildings for stock and farming tools. In February, 1865, he was drafted in company D, 11th Wisconsin, and went south to Montgomery, Ala. In June he was taken sick and the following month taken to the hospital. As soon as sufficiently recovered he was granted a

furlough and came home. He was discharged at Madison September 29, and went to Ohio on a visit; returning soon after he resumed farming. Mr. and Mrs. Salisbury are the parents of six children—Nancy, Ida J., Laura, Adeline, Nellie and William S. Nancy died March 17, 1852, aged one year, one month and three days.

George N. Mickel first came to Richland county in 1856 and stopped at Neptune with friends a short time, then, leaving his family there, he went to Minnesota to seek a home and made a claim near Glencoe in McLeod county, erected a small house, and spent the winter there. In the spring he returned to Neptune for his family, but finding them in poor health delayed. Meanwhile, his claim in Minnesota was jumped, and he concluded to settle in Richland Center, where he engaged at Lis trade of boot and shoemaker until 1861, when he enlisted in company D, 11th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and went south. He was twice severely wounded at the battle of Cache river, in Arkansas, July 7, 1862. He was sent to the hospital at Jefferson barracks, near St. Louis, where he slowly recovered and was honorably discharged on account of gunshot wounds Feb. 3, 1863, and returned to Richland county. As soon as he was able he engaged in mercantile business, in company with his brother, C. G. Mickel, keeping a general assortment of dry goods and groceries, boots and shoes, leather and findings. His health was poor and two or three years later he sold his interest in the business and returned to New York State, visiting friends and relatives, remaining there nearly a year, when he again returned to Richland Center, where he lived until 1881. His business meanwhile was of a speculative nature. In 1881 he purchased a farm on section 27, of the town of Willow. This place is situated in the Willow creek valley and is well improved, having a nice frame house and barn. He is a native of New York State, born in Rensselaer county, in May, 1829. His father, Andrew Mickel, was also a native of the same

county, and was a volunteer in the War of 1812. When the subject of this sketch was twelve years old his parents, with their family of twelve children, six boys and six girls, moved to Lewis county, which, at that time, was but sparsely settled, the nearest school house being three miles. Here his father died and two years later his mother again married. He then started out for himself. Going to Collinsville he engaged with Dean Hoodly to work for his board and schooling. Here he remained one year, then went to Forestville, Chautauqua county, where he engaged with Dr. Sexton as clerk in his store, remained there one year, then worked with William Gardner, a boot and shoemaker, to learn the trade and remained with him two years, then returned to Lewis county and worked at his trade. In 1852 he opened a shop in Peach Orchard, Tompkins county, remaining in business there until 1854, when he sold out and removed to Illinois, spent two years in Livingston county, and from there came to Richland county, as before stated. He was married in 1853 to Maria Hodges. They have had five children—Adella, Edwin, Burt, Minnie and Gracie.

Edward M. Alwood, one of the early settlers of Willow, was born in Morris Co., N. J., in 1821. Here his younger days were spent in school and on the farm. While yet quite young he took charge of a boat on the Morris canal and engaged in freighting between the Lehigh coal mines and New York city and continued this business for some years. In 1853 he came to Wisconsin and entered land in township 11, range 2 east, now known as the town of Willow. However, he did not settle here until 1857, when he erected a log house and stables. He has since built a large frame barn and in 1883 erected a two and one-half story frame house of commodious dimensions and good appearance. His farm now contains 440 acres. He formerly engaged in raising hops, but of late years has turned his attention to grain and

stock. He was married in 1860 to Mary Stout. They have two children—Henry and Sarah.

Samuel Cline, one of the early settlers of Willow, was born in Marion Co., Ohio, May 22, 1825. When he was eleven years of age, his parents moved to Indiana when they were early settlers of Cass county. Here the subject of this sketch began his pioneer life. The family remained in Cass county four years, then moved to Illinois and settled in Coles county where they were again among the pioneers. He remained with his parents for a short time, then returned to Indiana, and was there married, in 1847, to Celia A. Gates, a native of Ohio, Darke county. They remained in Indiana until 1854, when they came to Wisconsin and spent two years in La Fayette county, coming to Richland county in 1856. He purchased land on section 6, of township 11, range 2 east, in the present town of Willow, and immediately began clearing a farm. He lived in a log house until 1870, when he built the frame house he now occupies. Eleven children have been born to them, of whom three are living—Edward, Henry and Stephen.

William Murray, another early settler of Willow, was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, Sept. 22, 1827. When a young man he engaged to learn the trade of stone mason, he served three years, then worked as journeyman one year, then in 1852 came to America and lived in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey until 1855, then came to Madison and worked at his trade until 1858 at which time he settled on his present farm on section 31, town of Westford and and section 6, town of Willow. This land he had entered in 1855. He first built a log house on section 31, where he lived until 1868 when he erected a neat frame house on section 6. He is now quite an extensive farmer, raising grain and stock. He was married in 1855 to Jane D. Rea, from Forfershire Scotland. They have eight children—John, William, Ella, Nora, Charles, George, Frank and Myron.

Ezra Reagles purchased the land on which he now lives, in 1857. He did not settle on it

however, until 1861. He then built a log cabin 12x14, with a dirt and stick chimney on the outside. This humble abode was his home until 1868, when he built a small frame house, to which, three years later, he built a large addition. He is a native of Ohio, born in Medina county, in 1834. When he was six years of age, his parents moved to Indiana and first lived at Wolf Lake then in Kosciusko county, and afterward in Wabash county. Here he was married in 1861, to Susline Mayewinkle, and two weeks later came to Richland county. Mrs. Reagles died in March, 1877. He was again married March 18, 1878, to Mary E. Lewis, a native of Pennsylvania. They have three children—Clyde A., Mary O., Tartar A.; also an adopted son, Hiram E.

John R. Smyth, the present chairman of the board of supervisors of the town of Willow, settled here in 1863, purchasing at that time his present farm on section 23. It had upon it then about twenty acres of cleared land and a small frame house. He now has 120 acres under improvement, has built two large frame barns and a commodious frame house. He has engaged in raising both stock and grain. His farm is one of the best in the town. He is a native of Ireland, born in county Cavan, Nov. 12, 1830. His family were believers in the Episcopal faith. His younger days were spent in school and on the farm. In 1849 he left his native land and came to America, located in Washington Co., N. Y., town of Argyle, and lived there two years, employed in farming summers and in attending school winters. He then went to Hadley, Saratoga county, and worked upon a farm summers, and at lumbering winters, until the year 1863, when he came to Willow. He has taken a lively interest in town and county affairs, and has served several terms as chairman of the town board. He has also been treasurer in the school district several years. He was married Nov. 27, 1860, to Eliza Brien. They have six children—William H.,

Maggie A., Joseph L., John R., Edward J. and Dora N.

Edward Markham first came to Richland county in 1868. He was directly from England, where he had been engaged in a bakery, and knew nothing about farming. He first rented land in the town of Rockbridge three years, then purchased forty acres in the town of Richland. Two years later he traded this land for his present farm on section 34, town of Willow, where he has since made his home. He was born in Buckinghamshire, England, Nov. 6, 1834. When quite young, his parents moved to Bedfordshire, where he was brought up and educated in the public schools. At thirteen years of age he was apprenticed to a baker to learn the trade and served seven years. He then established himself in that business, in the town of Ampthill, remaining there until 1868, when he sold the business and rented the premises, came to America and settled in Richland county, as before stated. He was married in 1863 to Lucy Brightman. She was born in Bedfordshire. They have had six children—Henry, Lizzie, Charles, Arthur, James and Kittie. Henry, the first born, died when fourteen months old.

James Johnston was a soldier in the Union Army. He enlisted Dec. 23, 1863, in the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry, company E, and went to Nashville, Tenn., and from there to east Tennessee, where he joined Sherman's command in February, 1864, and started with him on his march through Georgia, participating in many important engagements on the way to Atlanta. In a charge at Burnt Hickory, Ga., May 26, 1864, his horse was shot from under him and he was himself severely wounded, a rifle ball having passed through his right lung. He was in the field hospital for a time, and was then taken to Marietta, Ga., and from there to Nashville, Tenn., from there to Joe Holt hospital at Jefferson, Ind.; from there to Prairie du Chien, Wis., where, under skillful treatment, he partially recovered and was advised by the physi-

cians to join the invalid corps. This he declined to do, and went to the front and joined his regiment, although not sufficiently recovered to do active duty. He was with the command on the Wilson raid to Macon, Ga., and was discharged with the regiment July 19, 1865, and returned to his home in Sauk county. July, 1865, he purchased his present farm, which was then but little improved. He has since cleared quite a tract of land, erected a fine frame house, granary and log barn, and now has a comfortable home. He was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, Oct. 14, 1842. When he was very young his parents came to the United States and lived in York State two years, then came to Dane Co., Wis., remained there two years, thence to Rock county. In 1856 they went to Sauk county and settled near the county line of Richland county, and here he remained with his parents until the time of his enlistment. He returned to the parental roof at the time of his discharge, making it his home until the time of settlement in Willow. He was married in 1871 to Julia A. Wright, a native of Ohio. They have three children—William H., Florence, Adelle and James F.

John Leiber settled on his present farm in 1872. It is located on section 32. He is a native of Germany, born Nov. 10, 1829. He attended school until fifteen years of age, and then worked upon a farm. At the age of twenty-one he came to America and engaged as helper in a blacksmith shop in New York city, remaining there until 1853, when he went to St. Louis and lived one year, and from there to Chicago, where he engaged as blacksmith in the Illinois Central railroad shops, and has continued in that employment the greater part of the time ever since. He was married in 1855 to Elizabeth Perry, a native of Chillicothe, Ohio. She was first married, at the age of eighteen, to Thomas Dye, who died in 1852, leaving two children—Charles W. and Julia N. Mr. and Mrs. Leiber have eight children—Thomas Henry, Fredolin, Joseph A., Frances, Elizabeth H., Augusta J.,



Christina F. and John W. Since purchasing the farm, Mr. Leiber has continued to work in Chicago, leaving his family in charge, his eldest son taking the lead in managing the farm. They have erected good frame buildings, and have engaged in raising stock and grain.

Benjamin B. Brownell first came to Richland county in 1855, and entered land on section 3, town 11, range 2 east, now known as the town of Willow. He, however, did not settle here until 1872. He has since cleared thirty-five acres of land, built a two-story hewed-log house, a good stable and other out buildings. He was born in Monroe Co., N. Y., Feb. 24, 1831. When he was two years old his parents moved to Wyoming county, where his father died when he was eight years old. He remained with his mother four years, and then went to live with a neighbor, who agreed to board, clothe and school him in consideration of the work he could do. He remained there four years, and then came to Wisconsin with a friend who lived in Green county. He had no money, but his friend paid his expenses, he agreeing to work for him to pay it back. The second summer he worked at farming for \$10.25 per month, and out of his wages saved enough to enter forty acres of land. He remained in the west four years, three of which were spent in Wisconsin and one in Illinois. He then returned to New York, remained two years, after which he returned to Green county and rented his brother's farm one year. He next went to the pines and engaged in lumbering two winters, and building rafts on the river in the summer. In 1859 he started for Pike's Peak, but was taken sick at Leavenworth, Kansas, and came back to Green county and resumed farming. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the 31st Wisconsin, company F. The regiment went to Kentucky, where they performed garrison duty at Fort Halleck. In July, 1863, they were sent to Tennessee, to guard the railroad from Nashville to Tullahoma, where they remained till July, 1864, then joined Sherman at Marietta, Ga., and were

with him on his grand march to the sea and through the Carolinas participating in the many important battles of that noted campaign. He was discharged with the regiment in July, 1865, and returned to Green county, rented land and lived until 1872, when he came to Willow. He was married, Jan. 6, 1860, to Sallie Brayton, who was born in La Porte Co., Ind. Two children have been born to them—Frank E. and Mary P.

Jehiel W. Roberts settled in Willow town in November, 1875. He purchased timber land on sections 14 and 15, where he built a good log house and has cleared quite a tract of land. He was born in the town of Locke, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Jan. 2, 1815. He was there brought up on a farm, securing his education in the district school. At sixteen years of age, he was converted, and one year later joined the regular Baptist Church. When he was twenty years old, he commenced to learn the cooper's trade, and a few years later went to Steuben county in the same State. He was there married, May 18, 1841, to Sarah Ann Smith, born in Steuben county, Nov. 29, 1820. From there they moved to Otsego Co., N. Y., where they lived two years, thence to Delaware county, remaining there until 1853, thence to Wisconsin and settled in Koshkonong, Jefferson county, where the husband engaged in farming and worked at his trade. He there received license to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He remained in Jefferson county until 1875, when he came to Willow as before stated. At this time there was a M. E. class at Loyd, which he joined. When the greater part of the members had moved away, this organization became extinct, and he joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Ithaca, and was there licensed as a preacher in that denomination, Nov. 15, 1879. When afterward an organization of this character was effected at Loyd he took letters from Ithaca and became a member there. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts have six children—Edwin, Albert, Charles, Melissa, Wesley and George C.

John W. Willis settled on his present farm in 1879. It is located on section 13, of the town of Willow, and contains 160 acres, eighty of which are cleared and in a good state of cultivation. It was formerly occupied by Rev. Timby, and is considered one of the choice farms of the town. He is native of Missouri, born in Lincoln county, May 8, 1830. In 1839 his father, James Willis, with his family, consisting of a wife and five children, came to Wisconsin and settled in Grant county, where they were among

the pioneers. Here the subject of this sketch spent his younger days assisting his father in clearing a farm. He was married in 1850 to Mary Jordan, a native of Posey Co., Ind. One year later, his father died and he took charge of the farm. In 1879 he sold his interest there and came to Richland county and located as before stated. Mr. and Mrs. Willis are the parents of eight children—Mahala, Armilda and Serilda, twins, Castela, George M., Abraham, Melissa and John W.



## CHAPTER XXXV.

## EARLY EVENTS IN RICHLAND COUNTY.

BY JAMES H. WAGGONER.

A fervent "God bless you!" rings in my ears, and I again witness a leave-taking of thirty years ago, as I essay, hastily, to recall incidents and events of the intervening period for the selection of a few for the History of Richland County. It was near the close of a beautiful day in June, at the home of my grandfather, in eastern Ohio—where my father was born and reared to man's estate. Good-bye had been said to brothers and sisters and other relatives, and to the companions and friends of youth and manhood. The last good-bye of a dutiful son to an aged and honored father was to be said and the final farewell of the father to be uttered. As they lingered at the gate, with uncovered heads, hand clasped in hand for the last time, the silver locks and benign countenance of the elder and the reverent deference of the younger conspired with the glorious sunset and the beautiful surroundings of a happy and comfortable home to make a picture which none could witness and forget. To my boyish mind, and to my senses of maturer years, it expressed the full measure of paternal and filial affection, subordinated to implicit trust in the Most High.

## BIOGRAPHY.

Caleb Waggoner, the fifth son and one of twelve children of William and Sarah Jackson Waggoner, was born September 18, 1813. His father was a pioneer in Jefferson county, Ohio. The patent for the land, then covered with giant oaks, of which he and his sons in due time made a valuable farm and attractive home, was executed by President Madison, under date of

May 8, 1806. There were no schools in my father's childhood and only winter evening schools maintained in his advanced youth, and of books there were few; but he acquired a practical knowledge of the rudiments, which served him well in a long and useful life. When he attained his majority he had mastered the trade of wagonmaker, which was then more intricate and important than now, as every considerable village sustained a wagon and carriage factory, with a master mechanic at its head. He subsequently learned also the trade of watchmaker and jeweler.

In 1837, Feb. 9th, he married Nancy Jenkins, daughter of Solomon and Sarah Jackson Jenkins, also pioneers, and who still survive him. They made a home in East Springfield, erecting a dwelling house which yet stands as a land mark of the village, and for some years my father successfully conducted a wagon and carriage factory. Many of the older residents in that vicinity now proudly exhibit the work which came from his shop. Failing health however obliged him to relinquish his chosen vocation, and for a time before coming west he was engaged in merchandising in the village of Salem, a few miles from Springfield.

In the winter of 1853-4, a younger brother, who had been one of a small party to penetrate the wilds of Wisconsin to purchase government lands, returned, with glowing accounts of the western El Dorado. The glittering prospect was alluring to a man with growing family, for which he cherished fond hopes. My father at

once bought of his brother one of the two tracts of land in Richland county purchased by the latter, and a few months later looked over his new possession and bought more land and several village lots in the then new plat of Richland Center. On July 2, 1854, about a week after the incident depicted in the opening paragraph of this article—he returned to the Center, with his family and personal effects, and from that day until he was summoned to the Beyond, of which he entertained cheering hopes and joyful expectations, it was his home. Of his participation in the earlier and rapid development of the village and county, more will be said elsewhere.

My father was not a man who could seem to be what he was not—not a man who could be plausible in defiance of his convictions. While he was ambitious of the approbation of others, he could not subordinate the promptings of right or duty to the acquirement of favor or regard. Perhaps he was sometimes over-jealous of his convictions or too tenacious of the right; but if a fault, it is rare enough to be regarded as a virtue. It however served to disqualify him for that public recognition which waits upon fortuitous circumstances and happy combinations and defeated his aspirations—two or three times expressed—to become county treasurer. Nevertheless, he was frequently assured of the esteem of his neighbors—in both his old and new homes—by being called to the discharge of the duties of the town and village offices, such as supervisor, assessor, justice of the peace, trustee, etc.

In domestic life, he was a model of tenderness and consideration, and in social and business relations an exemplar of integrity and honesty. For half a century, he was a consistent professor of religion, most of that period a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, and for nearly thirty years one of its ruling elders. His active interest and participation in the affairs of the Presbyterian Church of the Center dates back to its organization and the

erection of the neat little edifice which stands as a monument to the zeal and liberality of its handful of founders. His diffidence and abhorrence of ostentation sometimes put him at disadvantage, but he never faltered in his aim to do unto others as he would be done by. I contemplate his whole life with reverential pride and profound satisfaction.

On the 13th of September, 1883, in company with his son William and the latter's little daughter Rena, he set out for a second visit to the relatives and friends still living in Ohio, and particularly to participate in a family reunion at the old homestead on the 19th of that month. There were present on that occasion seventy-five of blood kindred, of whom five were his brothers and four his sisters—the youngest of them being 54 and the oldest 78. My brother William and daughter and myself and wife and two daughters were among those so highly favored.

It was while he was yet enjoying the sweet communion with relatives and friends, but with the purpose of returning home the week following, that he was unexpectedly stricken down. He died at the home of a brother, Dr. Joseph Waggoner, in Ravenna, on the night of the 15th of October, with expressions of love for all and firm reliance in the promises of his Redeemer. He had passed the allotted three score years and ten by twenty-seven days—the last anniversary of his birthday having occurred the day before the ever-memorable family reunion. His son, William, was also present at his death, and nothing of which medical skill or fraternal affection was capable was wanting to prolong his days or contribute to the peacefulness of the flight of his spirit. On the evening of the following Thursday, as the sun was going down, his body was laid at rest in the Richland Center cemetery, which he had been active in providing for such sad uses, after appropriate obsequies, conducted by the pastor of the Church in the Center to which he had sustained much the same relations as did

his father before him to that which for so many years stood in the churchyard where his body was laid at rest soon after the removal of my father to Wisconsin, and which we together visited only three short weeks before he was called to his eternal home.

#### COMING WEST—RICHLAND CENTER IN 1854 AND AFTERWARDS.

##### THE PREPARATION AND THE JOURNEY.

The families of the pioneers in Richland county know what it was to "come west." Every member was an active participant in the preparation. The experience was almost universally the same. Sacrifices of property were cheerfully made; the auctioneer was permitted to sell, at any price, articles of greatest value in the new home, and persistently watched lest he should "knock down" a ponderous bureau or high-post bedstead; every available helper was employed in packing the reserved household effects, and the anguish of parting with aged parents and loved friends was assuaged by the bright expectations for the future.

The journey from Salineville, Ohio, to Richland Center, in 1854, was tedious and tiresome for my father and mother, with their four children—the youngest a babe and the oldest fourteen years of age. The railway was exchanged for the steamboat at Cleveland and resumed at Detroit, to be again exchanged at Chicago and again resumed at Milwaukee. A very rough track was then laid between Milwaukee and Madison, and from Madison the journey was concluded by livery. The midnight ride over the insidious corduroy, at Madison, between the depot and the old United States Hotel, at the east corner of the capitol park, was a new experience, and sufficiently aroused us all to pass the remainder of the night in vigorous defense against a new found enemy—the mosquito.

The journey from Madison afforded a succession of surprises. Wild as were the sights at the outset, they were tame in comparison with

those nearer the Center. The rude log houses and the breaking-plows to which four yokes of stags were hitched—the latter urged on by honest yeomen well up in the vernacular of "Big Jack Small"—were as evidences of advanced civilization, in comparison with the blazed and little-trodden track through the dense forest between Sextonville and the Center.

##### ARRIVAL AT THE CENTER.

The sun was receding from sight, behind the bluff which marks the western limit of the village, and the valley—with its half-dozen houses and profusion of hazel-brush and scattering diminutive oaks and poplars "arrayed in living green"—was a beautiful and impressive prospect. But there was an other sight in store for us, which surprised us most. It was Sunday evening, and we had left a land not only rich in its products and abounding with creature comforts, but had parted from a people indoctrinated in religious precepts, among whom reverence for the Sabbath was a cardinal virtue. Here was gathered all of the available force of the new settlement—a score of men, half a dozen yokes of stags, and a joiner's kit—employed in the construction and erection of a Liberty Pole, the first to bear our country's flag, two days later, on the seventy-eighth anniversary of American independence, in the political capital of Richland county.

##### AS IT WAS ON JULY 2, 1854.

A dozen structures in all greeted the eyes of the new comers. They were the two public houses, (one the original part of the American House which was destroyed by fire in 1874, and the other the original part of the now larger Peck's Hotel, the former then kept by Ira S. Haseltine and the latter by Hascal Haseltine); the little store and dwelling of S. H. Austin, near the site of the brick dwelling yet known as the Austin House, now one of Mr. Walworth's collection of tenement buildings across the street; part of the flouring mill, now used for other purposes, on the original or main channel of Pine river, and a

frame made to serve the purposes of a saw-mill, close beside it; a rude blacksmith shop nearly opposite Austin's store and a small dwelling on the east side of the same block (that in which the Krouskop buildings stand), belonging to Ralph Neff; the main part of the present Tom & Jerry store, then near the present site of Pier's wagon shop, used for county purposes; the log house not long since removed by H. T. Bailey, stood nearly in front of his new dwelling, then occupied by David Stickland; a smaller log house on the site of Mrs. M. C. Pease's residence, occupied by a hunter, by the name of Wilson, whose two children, after his death, some years later, were adopted by Albert S. Neff; the little cottage at the foot of the East bluff, until within a few years undisturbed, occupied by Dr. L. D. Gage as a residence, and from which he also distributed Uncle Sam's mails and dispensed physic; a smaller dwelling in the southwest, the home of Sidney Rose; and the dwelling opposite Hascal Haseltine's public house (lately moved a little south of its original site by Dr. Mitchell), owned and occupied by a Mr. Sheldon, a brother-in-law of the Haseltines.

#### A DISAPPOINTMENT.

When my father had decided to locate at the Center, he contracted with one Albert Standard to construct the building but recently removed by H. T. Bailey to make way for his new store. It was to have been completed before our arrival, but part of the material only was on the ground. Father at once brought to the aid of the contractor, in the capacities, respectively, of excavator, mason and joiner and plasterer, that never-to-be-forgotten patriot and politician of Irish birth, Cornelius McCarthy; R. C. Hawkins, whose pre-emption claim of a quarter-section east of the village father had bought; and Robert Akan, so long the owner of the fertile quarter-section at the mouth of Brush creek, and who was elected to the Legislature of 1856,—and the new home was soon made ready for occupancy. A couple of years later father bought

the improvement begun at the foot of the bluff by D. B. Priest, and completed it; and it was ever afterward his home, and is yet the home of my mother. The building first erected by him underwent little change, except from natural wear and decay, during the twenty-nine years it stood where Bailey's store now is.

An incident in house-furnishing in 1854 will illustrate the inconveniences of that period: The Casses, at the mills which soon afterward became the property of the Bowen's, and which bear the name of the latter, manufactured plain wood-bottom chairs. Father, William, Edwin and myself made the expedition on foot, returning with as many chairs as we could well carry. The rests were frequent, and particularly agreeable under the shade of the little trees in the vicinity of the Catholic Church site.

#### RAPID GROWTH OF THE CENTER.

Until the effect of the financial depression of 1857 became general, the population of "the little nest among the hills," as Amos Nudd described the Center, was rapidly increased by immigration, and its growth in buildings kept pace with the increase of population. Conspicuous among the settlers of that period were D. B. Priest, James H. Miner, Amos Nudd, B. J. Tenney, George H. James, Alonzo G. James, Rev. J. H. Mathers, W. H. and A. L. Wilson, William Hill, A. S. Neff, Israel Sanderson, Daniel Rice, John S. Wilson, G. N. Matteson, A. C. Eastland, W. H. Downs, C. W. Huntington, L. Dillingham, Charles Nelson, Patrick Meehan, James Holden, James Moroney, J. S. Thompson, and others. Each filled a place and performed a part in the growth and development of the village.

#### C. WAGGONER AS A PIONEER.

It was in the earlier days of the Center that my father erected, besides the dwelling houses already mentioned, the two store buildings on what is now known as the Hill corner, the smaller of which he occupied for several years for merchandising. He was also one of the largest contributors, if not the largest, to the

erection of the neat little edifice of the Presbyterian Church, which yet stands as a monument to the religious zeal and pecuniary generosity of the handful of Presbyterians who had become residents of the village as early as 1855-6. He was also actively identified with the efforts which resulted in the erection of the White School House—the crowning event of that period.

On leaving Ohio, it was his purpose to engage permanently in merchandising. With that view, the building he first erected was planned, and he forwarded a good assortment of dry-goods and notions for the trade of the new settlement. But my mother strenuously opposed that purpose, not without reason, and after disposing of the first stock, he bought and sold real estate for a time. As a merchant, in Ohio, he had been more generous to others than just to himself. A larger number of guests were seated at our tables than at the tables of the village hotel—a circumstance which imposed heavy burdens upon my mother, besides absorbing the profits of trade. He bought and sold lands at small margins, and helped many of the settlers north of the Center to the best selections. I well remember the advent of the Wagners, of Horse creek, between whom and my father's family—partly on account of the similarity of the names—perpetual good will has existed. They soon admitted into their name the additional letters, g-o, making it Waggoner, probably because it was so spelled by those who had become more familiar with father's name. I also remember the "flittings" of Elijah Barto, Moses West, and others, of whose services in the development of the county I would gladly make mention, but forbear, for want of time, and because others will probably discharge that duty. I must however remark that Moses West seemed to me so small in stature that I wondered what he could do with the monster trees that covered the eighty on which he settled.

The hard times of 1857 caught my father with a large amount of real estate—unimproved lands

and village lots—bought at the advanced prices made by the boom of the few years previous, from the effect of which he never fully recovered. With no productive property and little income from any source, he experienced for some years all that was meant by hard times. Money was scarce, taxes were high, and there was almost universal despondency. When buyers could be found at all, he sold from time to time tracts of land to pay taxes on what he had left until his holdings were materially lessened and of no greater relative value than when the hard times set in. In that crisis, the prudent and excellent management of household affairs by my mother was invaluable, and served to tide us over to better times.

#### AN HISTORIC BUILDING.

One of the first of the buildings erected after our arrival was that known as the Pease & Baker store. It was put up near the middle of the west side of the same block, by J. S. Thompson, and was the model for subsequent improvements. It was christened by a 4th of July ball, which was attended by a large number of the pioneers of the county, many of whom are yet living to enjoy the comforts obtained by the labor of their own hands. As I remember it, it was a fascinating and much enjoyed social party.

The next remarkable incident associated with it was a county convention of the republican party, over which the now venerable, but then as white-haired, 'Squire Dixon presided. The struggle for the party favors was protracted until midnight, and every boy in the village, as well as his father, was awakened to deep anxiety concerning its labors. That convention made politicians of many persons who were thereafter more or less prominent in the politics of the county.

A little later one J. J. Shoemaker opened in it—using every available nook and corner—a large and attractive stock of merchandise. His also was the genius which sent a steam saw-mill north of the Center, to a point he called

Marysville, afterwards Janney's Mills, on Fancy creek. But J. J. Shoemaker was too large for the occasion, so to speak. His career was brief—too brief for his creditors, but profitable, it was thought, for himself. He "vanished" between two days, and the Richland Center eye hath not since seen or its ear since heard of him. "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good." The wind which brought J. J. Shoemaker to Richland was probably not exceptional; yet no regret has been expressed that small shadows only of the genius he displayed have since darkened the horizon of the village. One of these appeared soon after his departure, and may be mentioned in this connection. That was Sam McCulloch, who figured as a grocer and dazzled the eyes of the girls. (Criminated by the "stubs" which he coaxed from George Lybrand, he was a stunner, and possibly the girls obliged him to neglect his business so that the sheriff soon took charge of it for him. He "kept store" in the front room of G. H. James' house.

#### TWO SCHOOL HOUSES.

The first public school was kept in the upright part of the present dwelling of Alfred S. Fries, and was taught by a niece of I. S. Haseltine. The room—neither lathed nor plastered—was used for Sunday schools, religious services, and other public gatherings. Not a few stormy discussions over religious differences, or the policy of the new community respecting affairs of Church, took place there; and it is possible that differences which divided the people for years afterwards were first manifested there.

The second school house was the upright also—and also without lath or plaster—of the present dwelling of Mrs. Maria Lawrence. Judge Miner, then a new-comer, at the threshold of his useful and honorable career in Richland county, was the teacher of the school of the winter of 1855-6. The room was crowded to its utmost capacity with restless, fun-loving boys and girls—the future men and women of the village and county. That winter was cold, and

piles of wood were required to make the room habitable. The James boys and the Waggoner boys, Henry Wood and his sister, the children of Ira Haseltine, P. E. Brewer, "Jimmy" Moroney and "Johnny" Agin, the Huntington girls and the Nelson girls, and Leroy and Josie Gage, "Melick" Hankins and Matt. Neff, and others, were there, with less interest in their books, perhaps, than in the frolics natural to the surroundings. But the teacher skillfully banded the incongruous elements and obliged each to drink from the fountains of knowledge. There were occasional rebellions, led by a daring captain—"a little but old-looking fellow," with irrepressible tenacity of purpose; not wicked, but persistently mischievous, often with painful results to others. Oft repeated entreaty and mild persuasion having failed, the schoolmaster at length summoned to his aid a bunch of well selected hazel brush, with the announcement that all should be sacrificed in the interest of good order. The belligerent bade defiance, and made fight; but he succumbed ere the bunch was half used up, and became one of the most obedient of the school. That use of the rod was timely and salutary. Thereafter it was much easier to control that school.

The upper floor, besides being used as a school room the next summer, was the lodge room of the Masons, faithfully patronized by William Short, Dr. Gage, W. F. Crawford, Miner, Priest, "Indian" Butler, and other old settlers.

The first floor was used for public meetings of all kinds. There Perry A. Dayton first revealed to the young ideas the beauties of his magic-lantern and discoursed to an awe-stricken throng upon the mysteries of the solar-system, by the aid of his well-worn planetarium. There the itinerant phrenologist examined heads and taught that the man as he should be could be made from the boy. There, too, the entertaining teacher of music chalked the long and short notes on the blackboard and taught the recep-



tive mind "John Brown had a little Injun," "Scotland's burning, etc.

Perhaps the most noteworthy of the notable events of that epoch, within those weather-boarded walls, was a lecture on woman's rights by Lucy Stone Blackwell, who was accompanied by her husband. Next in importance was a "lecture," one Sunday, by a colored man, for his oppressed race. Richland Center was positively anti-slavery in sentiment, and the colored man received a cordial welcome. Amos Nudd chaperoned him, and at the appointed hour tenderly introduced him to the waiting audience. That advance-guard of emancipation took a text from the Bible—"Faith, hope and charity; but the greatest of these is charity." He bounded like a quarter-horse over Faith, revelled a moment only in the realms of Hope, to find—with the apostle—that "the greatest of these is Charity," of which he himself was in particular and distressing need. Priest and Rice and Crawford "caught on," as the boys now say, and passed their hats, collecting a small amount for the crafty Ethiopian. His "lecture" was thus closed in less than five minutes, but he had accomplished his object, and the audience laughed heartily over the sell.

#### THE WHITE SCHOOL-HOUSE.

The "children of school ages" had outgrown the little red school house before another was provided. A protracted struggle preceded the erection of the White School-House—at the time regarded by some as many years in advance of the necessities of the village. The champions of the movement were Messrs. Priest, Miner, my father, Rice, and the James's, with Priest as chief spokesman. Several meetings were held and the forces on both sides were skillfully manipulated. Each successive meeting was an interesting and exciting debating-school, in which wit and humor, sarcasm and invective, were permitted full play. But the end came, and a little later the new school house, which proved to be none too large.

#### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The first church edifice erected in the Center was that unobtrusive little one still used by the Presbyterian society. The Rev. J. H. Mathers, a home missionary of that society, had been preaching in the hall belonging to Hascal Haseltine, and there organized the Richland Center Church, in the winter of 1855-56. The church building was erected the following summer, at a cost of about \$900, contributed in material, labor and money. The Wilsons and Mr. Hill did the carpenter work, and they and my father were among the largest contributors—half a dozen in all bearing fully half the expense. Mr. Mathers was also a liberal contributor of money as well as of time. He preached also to congregations at Richland City and on Fancy Creek.

#### A FEW PERSONALS.

None of the early settlers are more kindly remembered than the young Presbyterian minister and his much esteemed wife, and their return to Pennsylvania, ten years later, was deeply regretted by a circle of friends co-extensive with the boundaries of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Mathers were essential to the enjoyment of every social festivity, and Elder Mathers was an important factor in every public gathering. He was the first county superintendent of schools, and first and foremost in almost every public enterprise. His horse "Sam" was known all over the county, and respected for his own good qualities and those of his owner.

A writer of history is not permitted to speak of the living and present in terms of praise, but I will transgress the unwritten law so much as to say, that of the pioneers of the Center, no other has acquired a wider or better influence, or been more deservedly honored, than James H. Miner. The esteem and confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens, expressed through the ballot box and otherwise during his thirty years of active participation in public affairs, will sustain the highest commendation of which words are capable.

The removal of D. B. Priest, to Viroqua, soon after his settlement in the Center, was an irreparable loss. No man, in so short a time, acquired so strong a hold upon his associates, and no other has bequeathed to the political lore of the county so rich a fund of campaign anecdotes. One might disagree with Priest, but he could not dislike him. He was generous to a foe and unalterably faithful to a friend.

It would afford me much pleasure to extend this list—to include many other names to me known to merit particular mention for invaluable services in the development of the village. Indeed I would like to include also the names of many deserving friends in other parts of the county; but this I must forego, assured that the names of all such will be duly enrolled in this History by others.

#### ABATING THE SALE OF LIQUORS AS A NUISANCE.

At one time, in the early day, Pat Meehan, on the J. L. Fogo corner, and Michael Carmichael, at the bowling-alley near the Sid Rose house, as vendors of intoxicants, were persistently besieged by most of their neighbors to forsake their calling. Appeal and numerous legal prosecutions had been unavailing. At that juncture, A. C. Eastland came to them with a new doctrine, which he expounded with so much ability as to enlist the co-operation of almost the entire community. It was that of "abating the sale of intoxicating liquors as a nuisance," under the authority of the board of health. The then venerable E. P. Young, a Presbyterian elder, and the Rev. B. L. Jackson, pastor of the Methodist Church, at that time ex-officio members of the board, became his zealous coadjutors and trusted lieutenants. The lodge of Good Templars was also committed to the doctrine. A deputy sheriff (David Ellsworth) was armed with the proper order and fortified by an indemnifying bond. With a small posse, he laid hold upon Meehan's "spirits" and moistened the ground with them, but not without conflict. The ball of a rifle in the hands of the good-wife of the supposed offender against the peace and dignity of the State

of Wisconsin inflicted a flesh wound in the arm of the valiant deputy. I will leave it to others—perhaps to Mr. Eastland himself—to finish this story, except to say that the sale of intoxicating liquors was "abated as a nuisance" for a few days only.

Michael Carmichael was more diplomatic. He yielded to the entreaties of the ladies. One beautiful summer morning, followed by the brave men and flanked by the ever-watchful boys, the ladies of the village, led by Mrs. James Holden—a lady of fine presence and superior tact—marched upon his establishment. He received them with gracious courtesy and patiently listened to the address by Mrs. Holden—to quit the traffic and claim his place among the best and foremost of good and useful men, etc. In response, he declared his willingness to do and to be, according to the request, but protested that he could not, in justice to himself, make the proposed sacrifice of his stock. Negotiations were promptly concluded for its purchase, and the soil of the Hamilton settlement received a baptism of fire-water. But Carmichael's retirement from the unhallowed vocation was of short duration.

## THE PRESS OF THE COUNTY.

### RICHLAND COUNTY OBSERVER.

A thrill of delight pervaded the new village of Richland Center one day in October, 1855, when the material from which the *Observer* was to be printed was unloaded at the back door of Nelson's store, now the corner building of Walworth's collection of tenement houses. Only those who lived in that period can fully appreciate what a publication of a newspaper at home then meant. The inhabitants of a new-born town could not then read at breakfast the news of the preceding day, or at their suppers learn from the evening papers what had transpired in the busy world while they were employed in their pursuits of the day not yet ended. "Patent insides" and "plate" were yet

unknown, and newspapers could not be planted at every cross roads as easily as now.

The founder of the *Observer*—at first a six-column folio—Israel Sanderson, was a man who could overcome obstacles. I shall never forget a phrase in his salutatory. He “started the *Observer*,” he said, “without a bonus or the promise of one.” Bonus, short as it is, was a big word, but Mr. S.’s use of it furnished an index to his character. He was positive in his convictions, courageous and independent in support of them, and above all superior to that belittling sort of financial help which too often curses the press. An inventory of the printing material he bought and brought to the Center, rather than be under obligations to any one, will impart a knowledge of the man, besides being interesting in a specific way: The press for the paper was the only article which had not been cast aside by others. It was a first-class Adams, and is still in use, in Mineral Point. He had collected the type from a cast-off dress of the *Chicago Tribune*, and he produced as good work from it as has ever been shown in the county. His job press was a Ramage, of small size—an invention of long ago. It too had seen its best days, but Mr. Sanderson did good work on it. He was an excellent printer and a versatile editor.

In order to follow the Ramage—then as now an historic thing—to its present post of service, a digression will be timely.

The Ramage and much of the original outfit of the *Observer*—then part of the *Observer* newspaper office—became my property ten years later. About nine years after that (in 1874), I “retired” the Ramage, but subsequently intrusted it to a friend and former foreman—C. F. Trevitt, a justice of the peace at Blanchardville, LaFayette county, who is yet, I believe, printing on it justice court blanks, etc.

Mr. Sanderson sold the *Observer*, in the summer of 1857, to J. Walworth, with whom he had been associated in business in Monroe, who published it until November 19, 1863. By him

it was then sold to Gilbert L. Laws, Samuel C. Hyatt and William J. Waggoner—the latter my elder brother. Those gentlemen had been in the army. Neither was a practical printer, but they were fast friends and hard workers, and did well with the enterprise while they were connected with it.

On May 12, 1864, I purchased the interest of Mr. Laws, and a week later my brother and I purchased Mr. Hyatt’s interest. Thereafter, until July, 1865, the *Observer* was published by W. J. & J. H. Waggoner. At that time, by exchange of joint mercantile and newspaper interests, he became merchant and I the sole proprietor of the *Observer*. My first intimate knowledge of or personal interest in the newspapers of the county, however, dates back to January 14, 1857, when I entered the *Observer* office as “printer’s devil.” When Sanderson sold to Walworth, I remained with the latter a few months—climbing from “devil” to “foreman,” by the change. My contract with Mr. Sanderson will indicate something of the changes of a quarter of a century, particularly in the matter of apprenticeships to trades: For the first year I was to be “boarded” and clothed; for the second, to receive \$5 per month instead of clothing; for the third, \$7 per month instead of clothing. But at the end of six months Mr. S., who had voluntarily expended in that time four dollars for clothing for me, also voluntarily advanced my compensation to \$4 per month, for the remainder of the year, instead of clothing; and with Mr. Walworth’s advent, a month or two later, I obtained the remuneration per month promised for the third year! I should also observe here that at the time of acquiring proprietary interest in the *Observer*, in 1864, I was yet in the army (on duty at Madison as acting quartermaster for the then active recruiting service), and took little or no part in its vexatious responsibilities until I became its sole proprietor, the following year.

My first experience as editor and publisher of the *Observer* was destined to be brief. Octo-

ber 26, 1865, I sold it to W. M. Fogo and J. M. Hoskins, on account of the recurrence of inflammation of the eyes, which has twice since driven me from newspaper work. Those gentlemen admitted Mr. Walworth to the partnership, from which Mr. Hoskins soon retired, and Walworth & Fogo continued the publication until August 8, 1867, when the *Observer* was consolidated with *The Live Republican*—the two papers taking the name *Richland County Republican*.

#### RICHLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN.

The first issue of the consolidated paper, under the new name, was made August 15, 1867. The consolidation, owing to peculiar circumstances, entailed upon me a financial burden of which I did not see the end for five years. During that period I was the editor and manager and half-owner of the *Republican*. C. H. Smith and G. L. Laws were half-owners a few months, to be succeeded by Geo. D. Stevens, whose interest I bought November 28, 1872, and was again sole proprietor.

On December 11, 1873, I admitted W. M. Fogo into partnership, and Waggoner & Fogo conducted the business until September 1, 1874, when I was again compelled to relinquish newspaper work. I sold to G. L. Laws, who was succeeded a couple of years later by O. G. Munson. The *Republican* was published by Fogo & Munson until January 1, 1881, when it was consolidated with the *Observer*, the consolidated papers taking the name—the *Republican and Observer*.

#### THE REPUBLICAN AND OBSERVER.

Fogo & Munson became and have since remained the editors and proprietors of the consolidated papers, representing the only continuous publication in the county dating back to that cold November evening, in 1855, when Israel Sanderson issued the first edition of the *Observer*. The *Republican and Observer* is double the size of the parent, and is otherwise vastly improved upon the *Richland County Observer* of 1855. It is creditable alike to the publishers and the widely and favorably-known

commercial mart of which it is a faithful representative.

#### RICHLAND COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

The election of a democrat or two to county offices invested with printing patronage encouraged the founding, late in the fall of 1857, of the *Richland County Democrat*, by Wm. Pitt Furey, a zealous and able champion of democracy. The residence of the editor and the office of the democrat were in the main part of the Bulard dwelling-house, which then fronted north, on the same lot. But Richland county afforded poor picking for two papers; besides, it was radically republican in political sentiment, and the *Democrat* yielded up the ghost with the expiration of its lease upon the public printing. During its existence, however, a ferocious struggle was made for the county printing, which was two or three times afterwards imitated—with positive damage to the interests of the publishers and actual loss to the patrons of the local newspapers.

#### THE ZOUAVE.

Soon after the demise of the democrat, the material on which it had been printed was used in the publication of *The Zouave*, by a Mr. Godfrey. A lady whose pseudonym was Lisle Lester, and who had considerable reputation for literary work, was the editress. That paper was also short-lived.

#### THE RICHLAND PRESS,

by D. T. Lindley, was the next newspaper venture, with the same printing material for its basis. The initial number was issued November 1, 1860, and it was typographically neat and spicy in its local news. It soon surrendered, however, to the inevitable, and the printing material which was practically responsible for the inception of the two papers last named was thereafter sold to Prairie du Chien and Mineral Point parties, thereby abridging the opportunities of ambitious printers and others in Richland county to wield the pen, *pro bono publico*, for some years to come.

## THE LIVE REPUBLICAN.

A combination of circumstances conducive to mutual interest in the enterprise made Ira S. Haseltine and myself editors and proprietors of *The Live Republican*, the publication of which was begun December 13, 1866, and terminated August 8, 1867, by consolidation with the *Observer*. As the republican nominee for the assembly, in the fall of '66, Mr. H. was spoken of as "an unwelcome necessity" by the *Observer*—the avowed republican organ. That made him—notwithstanding his election—ambitious of a seat on the editorial tripod, and I was desirous of resuming newspaper work. After we had decided upon uniting forces, and when I was on the way to Mazomanie to purchase the printing material for the office, we chanced to meet under the little tree which yet stands, I believe, on the knoll in the Sextonville road near the Hiram Welton house, on either side of which a wagon track is maintained. "What shall we name our paper?" he enquired. I had not got that far, and replied accordingly. "What do you say to calling it *The Live Republican*?" he then asked. The name seemed to me to be at once appropriate and talismanic, and it was unanimously adopted! Mr. H.'s characteristic contributions to the paper, and his industry and zeal in canvassing for it, did much to establish it; but with the consolidation before mentioned, he went out of the newspaper business.

## RICHLAND COUNTY SENTINEL.

In 1869, (about two years after the consolidation of the *Observer* and *The Live Republican*), Walworth & Fogo began the publication of the *Sentinel*, of which Mr. Walworth retained control until the printing material of the office was transferred to Boscobel, two or three years later, when Mr. W.'s connection with the press of the county ceased. Mr. Fogo soon retired from the *Sentinel*, and his place as associate editor and manager was afterwards filled in turn by E. E. Pickard, C. B. Walworth, and perhaps others. The *Sentinel* was the oracle of

a local "retrenchment and reform" party and made a vigorous fight for the county printing and the county offices. It is within the recollection of the people of the county that the newspaper war of that period was not well calculated to promote the Christian virtues. I may say this because I was one of the combatants, and because I have long since forgiven and repented of what should have been left out of print.

## A LONE ROCK PAPER.

For some months in the years '75-6, Fogo & Laws issued from the office of the *Republican* a paper for circulation in Lone Rock and vicinity, called the *Lone Rock Pilot*, of which J. W. Fuller was the local representative. The enterprise was creditable to all concerned in it, but not remunerative enough to become a permanent thing.

## THE OBSERVER.

After two years of rest and restlessness, I again enlisted in journalism by founding *The Observer*, the first number of which was issued on December 21, 1876. The venture was a marked success. The *Observer* achieved a larger circulation, and did a larger business, the first year, than I had previously been awarded in my newspaper experience in the county, in a single year. It was published a little more than four years, when it was consolidated with the *Republican*, as hereinbefore stated. In its fourth year I admitted N. B. Burch to a proprietary interest, and he was the responsible publisher and the local editor. C. E. and C. J. Glasier were its printers and publishers the third year, and I the owner, as I had been from the first. I was the responsible editor throughout the four years; but having, at the end of its first year, been appointed to the position of chief clerk of the State land office, at Madison, to the duties of which I gave personal attention, I necessarily availed myself of the assistance of others in the local and business departments of the paper until the consolidation was made which re-

lieved me of a burdensome care and undoubtedly terminated my connection with the press of Richland county. Mr. Burtch and the Glasiers, and others, labored with zeal, in their several relations to the paper, for which those named were compensated by generous patronage. I have not forgotten that a few friends made contributions of labor and goodwill which placed me under life-long obligations.

#### LATER-DAY NEWSPAPERS.

Brief mention of the later-day newspapers will be required to complete this sketch.

The Richland *Rustic* of to-day, by J. A. Smith, as I remember the chain, is the successor to the Richland *Democrat* of '79 or '80, which took the place of Sat's Pine River *Pilot*, started in the spring of '79. Sat (M. Fletcher Satterlee) received his first lessons in the art preservative in the *Observer* office, in 1864-5, and was employed at various times in the newspaper offices in the Center. He is full of wit and humor, and a first-class pressman and printer. But the odds were against him and he was obliged to quit the field in a few months, leaving it to Otis H. Brand to publish for a short time the Richland *Democrat*. Mr. Smith gathered up the fragments and soon established the *Rustic*, which is abundantly able to speak for itself.

There was started, in Excelsior, in 1879, a small paper—*The Teacher's Press*, I think—by Ira D. Hurlburt. Its circulation was local and it did not long survive the vicissitudes of journalism. After a short time it wandered into the greenback fold, and died with its party.

The Richland *Union Democrat* is a recent and the last of the newspaper ventures of the county. As I have seen but a single issue, I can say only that it made a good appearance and gave promise of long life.

#### POLITICAL AND OTHER DISTINCTIONS.

Of course, every newspaper in the county, dead or alive, was and is "devoted to the interest of the people;" and that all have deserved well of the people, and have exerted a vast in-

fluence, is attested by the recognized industry, sobriety, intelligence and prosperity of the inhabitants of the county. But, according to the spirit of the age, each was and is more or less pronounced in political opinions. I have already indicated the political proclivities of most of them, but the value of the history of the past will be increased by a brief classification here. The Richland County *Observer*, *The Live Republican*, the Richland County *Republican* and *The Observer*, were advocates of the principles of the republican party, as is *The Republican and Observer* of to-day; the Richland County *Democrat* and the Richland *Democrat* were, as is the Richland *Union Democrat*, democratic in politics—the names indicating their political complexions. The *Zouave*, the Richland *Press* and *Sat's Pine River Pilot*, like the Richland *Rustic*, floated non-partisan flag, as did also the Lone Rock paper; the Richland County *Sentinel*, with republican predilections, championed certain local projects; and the *Excelsior Teachers Press* drifted into greenback company, as before stated.

#### UNRECORDED NAMES.

Mr. Sanderson was efficiently and ably assisted in founding the Richland County *Observer* by William Nelson, who, as a printer and counselor, rendered invaluable service. He was Mr. S.'s brother-in-law—a young man of enviable physical perfection and mental powers. His robust frame, his indifference to conventionalities, and his iron will, attracted favorable comment. Very soon after Mr. S.'s sale of the *Observer*, he also departed. He was also Mr. S.'s lieutenant in founding the Grant County *Witness*, at Platteville, in 1859, and in 1860 he and I published, for six months or more, the *Wisconsin State Rights*, at Monroe. He bore an honorable part in the war for the Union—being brevetted captain for heroic conduct; was a prisoner of war for eighteen months—enduring the privations which killed hundreds and even thousands of his fellow prisoners. After the Viroqua tornado, in 1865, he became

the editor of the Vernon County *Censor*, was elected to the state senate in 1871; became editor of the LaCrosse *Leader* (daily and weekly) in 1873, and was appointed United States marshal of Utah in 1875. He resigned that office in two or three years and has since been editor of the Salt Lake *Tribune*.

The connection of my brother William J. with the press of the county was not limited to the period heretofore mentioned. During two or three winters of my absence, when chief clerk of the State senate, at Madison, he had immediate charge of the *Republican* office. He has twice been county superintendent of schools, and for some years past has been merchant, miller, farmer and postmaster at Viola. My brothers Edwin B. and Joseph M. were also valuable helpers of the county newspapers. Edwin B. has also been interested in an Iowa paper, and in 1877-8 was editor and publisher of the *Whitehall Times*, in this State. He was also in his country's service—enlisting when eighteen years old. With a large number of fellow-soldiers, some of them also from Richland, he was made a prisoner of war at the battle of Atlanta, Georgia, and endured seven months of the cruelties and hardships of Andersonville and Florence. He was commissioned a lieutenant of his company about that time, but of course could not be mustered. Joseph M., when able to work, was a superior compositor and a faithful and zealous helper.

Jay Hamilton, who had learned the trade in the office of the *Republican*, was for a short time local editor of that paper and afterwards for a short time local editor of *The Observer*.

#### SUBSEQUENT CAREER AND PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF THE EARLIER-DAY JOURNALISTS.

Soon after leaving the Center, Israel Sanderson founded the Grant County *Witness*, at Platteville, employing the same industry, prudence and courage that served him so well in founding the Richland County *Observer*. A few years later, he established a job-printing office in the city of Decatur, Illinois; and when

next and last I heard from him, he was engaged in market-gardening in Du Quoin, Illinois. About that time, D. B. Priest, who had moved to Sparta, became the owner of the *Sparta Eagle*. He tendered to Mr. Sanderson such interest in the enterprise as the latter might desire. Mr. S. replied, in substance, that he "was not then and never expected to be again poor enough to resume journalistic work." Only those persons who have spent the better years of their lives as faithful and honest editors and publishers can correctly interpret and feelingly appreciate the sentiment underlying Mr. Sanderson's reply.

William P. Furey, of the *Democrat* of '57, afterwards published a paper in Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, and was two or three times an officer of the Pennsylvania assembly—democratic, of course. My impression is that he died some years ago. The "Lisle Lester" of *The Zouave* went to California, where she added to her reputation as a writer. I am unable to say more of her, or anything of Mr. Godfrey, the publisher of *The Zouave*.

D. T. Lindley has had a varied experience, always to his credit as a printer, and mostly in Northwestern Wisconsin. He is now and has been for some time the editor and publisher of the *Elroy Tribune*.

Of Mr. Walworth and the others who are yet living in the Center, or not far away, I will not be expected to make particular mention, as each is entitled to and will certainly be accorded due prominence elsewhere in the History of Richland County.

Several months prior to the expiration of my term of office at the state capitol, viz., in July, 1881, I bought some shares of stock in the *Free Press* Company, of the city of Eau Claire, with the purpose of becoming the editor of the daily and weekly issues of the *Free Press*. In due time, I moved to this city, to make it my permanent home, and for the last two years have discharged the duties incumbent upon the president of *Free Press* Company and the responsi-

ble editor of the *Free Press*. I have also largely increased my original interest in the *Free Press* property, and it seems more than probable that Time with his scythe will find me here, by the desk in the inner sanctum on which this contribution to the History of Richland County has been written by the hand of another, at my dictation.

I believe this sketch of the press and the other historical matter herewith contributed, under various headings—although drawn almost entirely from memory—to be substantially, if not precisely, accurate. In writing so much of detail, I have yielded to the urgent requests of many old friends, whom to serve is a personal gratification.







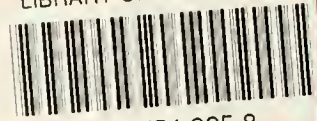








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