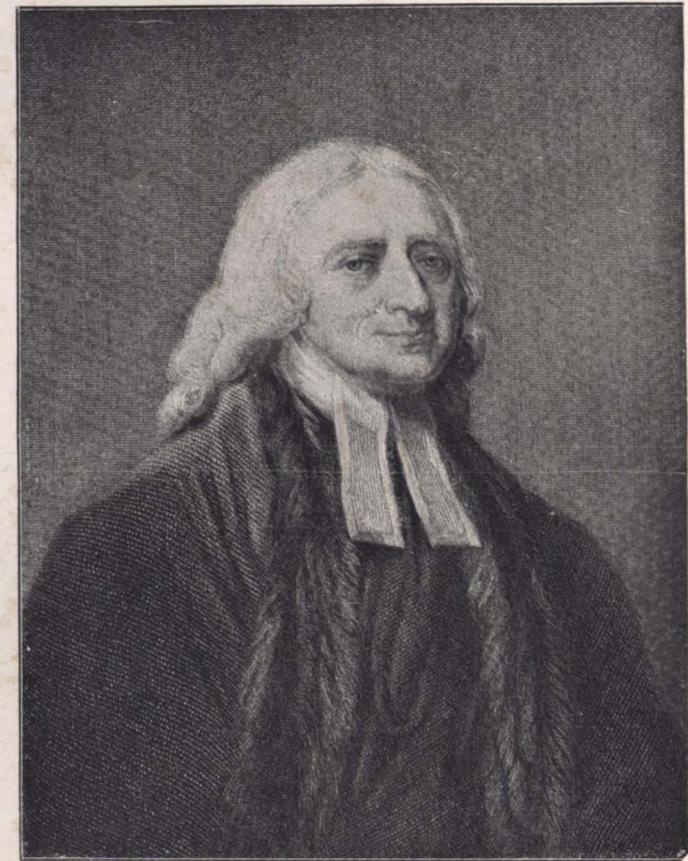


THE · METHODIST · CHURCH  
AND · EARLY · RACINE



JOHN WESLEY.

Courtesy of the  
Northwestern Christian Advocate.



**HISTORY · OF · THE  
FIRST · METHODIST  
EPISCOPAL · CHURCH  
RACINE · WISCONSIN**



**WITH · A  
PRELIMINARY · CHAPTER  
DEVOTED · TO  
THE · CITY · OF · RACINE  
1836 · TO · 1912**



**BEAUTIFULLY · ILLUSTRATED  
WITH · HALF-TONE · REPRODUCTIONS**

**· 1 9 1 2 ·**



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## Preface

IN compiling this volume we have not observed the rule, often followed in writing history, which is to record all events as they have occurred, year by year, in chronological order, but have divided it into chapters covering different phases of the church work, in an effort to make it more valuable as a book of reference, and more interesting to the casual reader. We are not sure that we have succeeded completely, but the prospect looked promising enough to invite, if not to warrant, the venture.

This book contains a history of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Racine, Wis., or so much of it as we have been able to gather from records, documents, correspondence, and conversations with people whose memory goes beyond the records we have. It is a fact to be deplored that, so far as we have been able to discover, there are no records covering the period from the organization of our church in 1836 until the year 1855; for the first nineteen years, therefore, we have been obliged to depend upon the minutes of the annual Conferences; upon the memory of the very few people who were here during those years; and upon the meagre items of information contained in some published historical sketches of the church, in histories of Racine, to which we have had access.

The disappearance of our records is attributed to the fire which destroyed our church building in 1882.

While there are very few people now living, who were members of our church in pioneer days, it is a remarkable circumstance, that two of its founders should still survive—Mr. Alanson Filer,\* 1719 Orrington Ave., Evanston, Ill., and Mrs. Lucy Foxwell, of Yorkville, Racine Co., Wis. We have talked repeatedly with these people, and the information we have gotten from them, is important and interesting, if not voluminous.

It is also a remarkable fact, and worthy of mention, in passing, that Mr. Filer and Mrs. Foxwell are the only people now living, so far as diligent inquiry can establish, who were residents of Racine in 1837, and it is interesting to us, however it may strike others, to know that the only survivors of that early day in Racine should be two Methodists. We refrain, however, from taking any advantage of the opportunity to moralize.

There is some evidence, nevertheless, that the importance of this matter of records has not been overlooked entirely by those charged with responsibility in the church affairs.

\*Since writing the above Mr. Filer has been laid to rest in Mound Cemetery, Racine, having died at Evanston, Ill., December 19, 1911, at the age of 99 years, 9 months and 9 days.

At the annual session of the Wisconsin Conference held at Janesville, Sept. 26, 1860, the following resolution was adopted:—

“Resolved, that each preacher be, and hereby is requested to write a history of his circuit or station, during the present conference year.” There is no evidence at hand to show that the Racine preacher responded to that request.

In 1894, at our quarterly conference held April 18, “Peter Du Four was appointed a committee to collect data concerning the church history, for future reference.” It is not known that Brother Du Four ever did collect anything of value along that line, although he may have done so.

At other different times our official boards have appointed committees, and in other ways have endeavored to have something done toward the writing up of our church history in something like a permanent form, but without success, and the lapse of years has only made it increasingly difficult to perform that duty.

On Feb. 6, 1911, by the authority of the official board, the pastor, W. P. Leek, appointed the following committee to compile a history of the church:

E. W. Leach, chairman; E. W. Rapps, E. B. Funston, J. C. Lunn.

This book has been compiled under the supervision of that committee.

The drawings with which the book is illustrated, have been contributed by Lillian Delia Whiteley, an artist, and granddaughter of one of the founders of our church.

Beside the history we are printing some illustrations, biography, memorials, reminiscences and portraits, that we believe will add materially to its interest for the members and friends of the church.

The chapter on Racine has nothing to do, directly, with the church's story, but deals chiefly with people, and places, and scenes, that in the early and later days, were the accompaniment and the back ground of its activities. It is believed that every member of our church, save perhaps the very latest comers, will find this an interesting chapter, and it is our expectation that it will arouse some interest in those who have no special concern in our church affairs, but have a very natural and lively curiosity in whatever relates to the city itself.

Very considerable pains have been taken that the facts stated herein, shall be authentic and accurate. It has been found necessary in some cases to indulge in conjecture, but we have attempted to draw a line between established fact and surmise, so that the careful reader may make the distinction without difficulty.

The writer has been assisted very materially in the preparation of this book by a great many people, who have responded with surprising unanimity and promptness, to requests for photographs, books, papers, pamphlets, addresses, and other documents and information. And this assistance has been rendered, and often tendered, in such an evident spirit of helpfulness as to lighten a good deal the labor involved.

We wish to express our appreciation to all of these people, and to in-

dulge the hope that the finished work will not be a disappointment to those who have contributed so materially to whatever success it may have.

We wish to acknowledge indebtedness also to the authors of the following publications from which we have quoted more or less freely:

“History of Methodism in Wisconsin”; P. S. Bennett 1890.

“Thirty years in the Itinerancy”; W. G. Miller 1875.

Field's “Memorials” of Methodism in Illinois.

Charles E. Dyer's “Historical Address,” 1871.

“History of Racine and Kenosha Counties,” by the Western Historical Company, Chicago, Ill., 1879.

“Landmarks and Early History of Racine, Wis.” Mrs. D. H. Flett, 1905.

“Columbian History of the Racine Public Schools”; H. G. Winslow, 1893.

We make no pretension to literary ability, and must beg the indulgence of the critical for what lack of quality or of style they find in the book. So far as this phase of the work is concerned, we hope only to place in orderly array, and in language as lucid as we may, the facts we have gathered, with some conclusions arrived at, and commit the finished work to the favorable consideration of its readers.

But from another point of view this is serious business for us—this setting down of the record of the Church of God on the earth, as represented by Methodism in Racine; and if we succeed in it, so that those who read may come to have a more reverent respect for the organized church of which we are a part, and for the “fathers and mothers in Israel” who have acted sometimes like heroes, and at all times, with few exceptions, were true christian men and women; if they may come to realize that they too are making a record, the full import of which will some day be known, and because of this realization, and exalted respect, be more zealous and earnest and devoted in the work today, we will be content.

*E. W. Leach*

## Introduction

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**C**HURCHES, like people, have individuality. They have an interest all their own. We follow the story of their growth with an ever increasing attention, and find ourselves glorying in their progress and achievements.

The Historian necessarily labors under certain limitations. He is confined to facts, and bound by logical sequence. The essayist is privileged to think in any one of the thirty-two points of the compass, provided always, that he thinks to a purpose. The Historian must be content to speak only of such things as obviously contribute to the development of his chosen theme.

The author of this story has been true to the historical conscience. He has traced the development of the church in a fair and impartial manner.

Under his discriminating treatment it unfolds consistently from an unpretentious beginning, to its present commendable strength.

This church was not built. It grew. It is no matter of discredit today that it was once weak and struggling. Its ultimate success is sufficient evidence of its worthiness to survive.

Through the medium of the author's clear and concise statements, we are privileged to see behind the printed page, and to recognize the spirit that dominated the founders, and which has descended upon their successors through all the intervening years.

The story of seventy-five years; nearly three generations in this church! What does it not comprehend? It is so full of heart-throbs and heart-aches, joy-bells and funeral dirges, that one is almost afraid to gaze upon its pages. As we think of it, out of the past come crowding the faces of Fathers and Brothers who were local preachers and class-leaders, of Mothers and Sisters whose prayers and testimonies still linger sweetly in the ear, and whose gentle ministrations to kindred and friends, and strangers as well, were often more potent for good than any pulpit utterance.

The author has diligently searched every available record, and has culled with rare discrimination from all sources, incidents and data bearing upon his subject. His zeal has enabled him oftentimes to accomplish seemingly impossible tasks.

His own enthusiasm has aroused the interest of many others, so that an army of people have been set to rummaging through the annals of the past in order to bring to him such material as might be used in this volume.

The result is a substantial credit to his untiring zeal, and undaunted courage.

As to the story itself: The completed work reveals the fact that, like most churches of Methodism, it is but a plain and homely tale the records have to tell. But between the lines, for those who understand, there are stories that thrill and throb with romance and adventure, with self-sacrifice and love, with gentleness such as the Master's was, with bold courage, and a faith that was not known to shrink, "Though pressed by every foe."

Every word in this history of Old First Church will have a special interest for every Methodist. But there are chapters here that are of universal interest. Especially will the residents of Racine enjoy the Chapter on "Pioneer Days and the Pioneer". "Our Church and the War" will awaken in patriots and Veterans alike a responsive chord.

This volume is bound to become one of the chief treasures in the City Archives in the years to come.

The author well deserves, and will be accorded the gratitude of the residents of our beautifully situated city for the task he has so well accomplished.

*Wm P. Leek*



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Preliminary Chapter

Pictorial and Descriptive

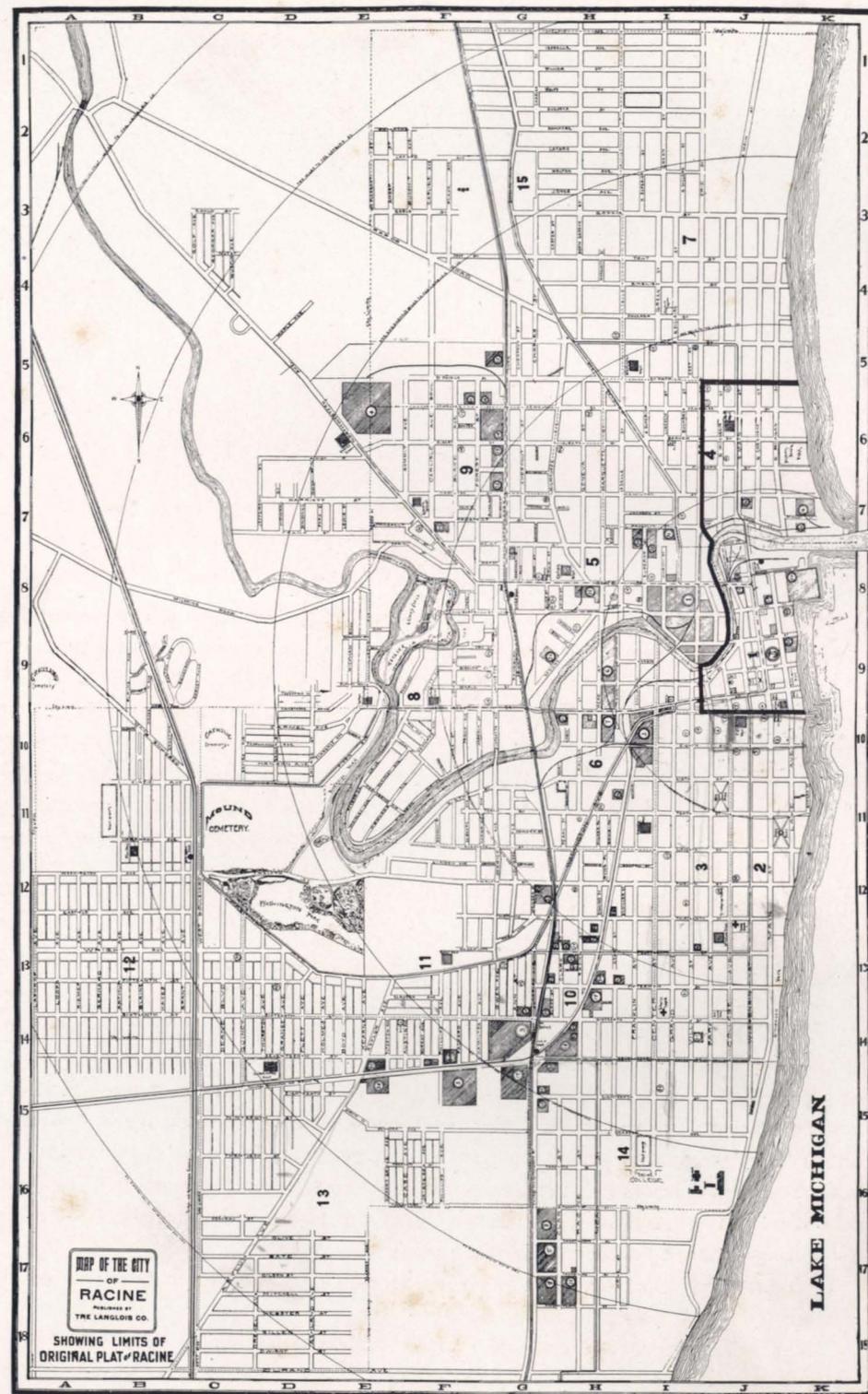
DEVOTED TO

The Early History

of the

City of Racine





Map of Racine showing latest extension of city limits, and limits of the original plat of Racine—By permission of The Langlois Co.



## RACINE

Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. Psa. 127:1.

This is not a history of the city of Racine, but in as much as the beginnings of the First Methodist Episcopal Church were co-temporary with the founding of the city itself, we have thought it not out of place to have here, in a preliminary chapter, brief sketches and portraits of some of the pioneers, a few characteristic pictures of early Racine, and a very brief recital of some of the important and interesting facts in the early history of the city which has sheltered and nourished our church and people during three quarters of a century.

And it will be noted that a majority of those who played a leading part in the business and political life of the city, and assisted materially in its up-building, were members of the Methodist and other churches, and it is a fact beyond question, that the saving influence of the religious spirit, as exemplified in the private lives of these sturdy and upright pioneers, and as concentered in the vigorous church organizations well rooted at that time, has been a potent factor in making it possible for Racine to be what it is to-day—one of the best cities of its size anywhere.

There is something of the seer and the prophet in the pioneer. He is no mollycoddle who can go into the wilderness, see its possibilities, brave its terrors and hardships, and wrest from it the realization of his early vision. It takes foresight; it takes courage; it takes stamina; and these are the qualities in a man that command and receive the respect and the admiration of all of his fellows, whose respect is worth having.

And so it is that we have peculiar pleasure in naming over a few of the men and women who pioneered Racine.

But before proceeding with matters directly concerned with the city's settlement and building, it is believed that a very brief outline sketch of the history of the domain included in the present limits of the State of Wisconsin



This picture of Racine in 1841, from the corner of Main and Seventh Sts., graphically illustrates the distance we have come in the last 70 years. The old court house, erected in 1840, is seen in the left center of the picture, the fact that there was no building on the corner of Main and Sixth Sts. making it possible to see it from the library site. Of the two-story houses at the left, the right hand one represents the house owned and occupied by H. J. Smith. This house was built by Mr. Ira Dean, uncle of Frank Redfield. The other one was the house that stood until recently where the St. Luke's parsonage now is.

The two-story house on the right hand side of the picture is believed to be the house of Paul Kingston, father-in-law of Alanson Filer, where Mrs. Foxwell, and W. G. Miller in his book, say the early Methodists held their meetings. The Racine House is seen on the corner of Market Square and Fifth Street.

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Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord. Psa. 33:12.

---

sin, together with a statement of what we have been able to find as to the origin of the names of the state and of the city, may very properly be introduced here.

#### THE DOMAIN.

By virtue of the discoveries of Juan Ponce de Leon in 1512 the territory included in the present State of Wisconsin, with all of that from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico came under the dominion of Ferdinand, King of Spain, and was called Florida. France secured jurisdiction in 1627, however, and held it for one hundred and thirty-five years.

It was during this period that the French Jesuits began their explorations, and in 1634 M. Nicollet reached Green Bay, and penetrated the interior as far as the Wisconsin River, and was doubtless the first white man whose foot trod our soil.

In 1670 two Jesuits,—Pere Claude Alloues and Claude Dablon, established the mission at old St. Francois Xavier, on the south side of the Fox River, supposed to be where the city of De Pere now stands.

Other missions were founded, also, by similar agencies among the various Indian tribes scattered throughout the northwest.



SOME PIONEERS OF RACINE.

The picture shown above was made by Billings, June 12, 1879, at Roberts Grove, Franksville, at the first picnic of the then recently organized "Racine County Old Settlers Society." The people composing it were some of those who settled in Racine county in 1835, the first year that settlement was made here. They were rallied into line at the picnic by Simeon Whiteley, and while he did not get all of those present who were eligible to a place in it, the picture is a valuable and interesting contribution to our pictorial history.

From left to right their names are: Lucius S. Blake, Alvin Raymond, Nelson Gatliff, Albert H. Blake, Nelson Walker, Mrs. James O. Bartlett, Mrs. Alanson Filer, Alanson Filer and grand-daughter, Elsie Wentworth, Gilbert Knapp, Benjamin Pratt, James Walker, Alfred Cary, Sheridan Kimball, Stephen Campbell, Thomas Place.

---

Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. Prov. 14:34.

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In 1763, England obtained civil jurisdiction over all this territory, by treaty stipulations, and occupied it, until the Revolutionary War brought it under American rule.

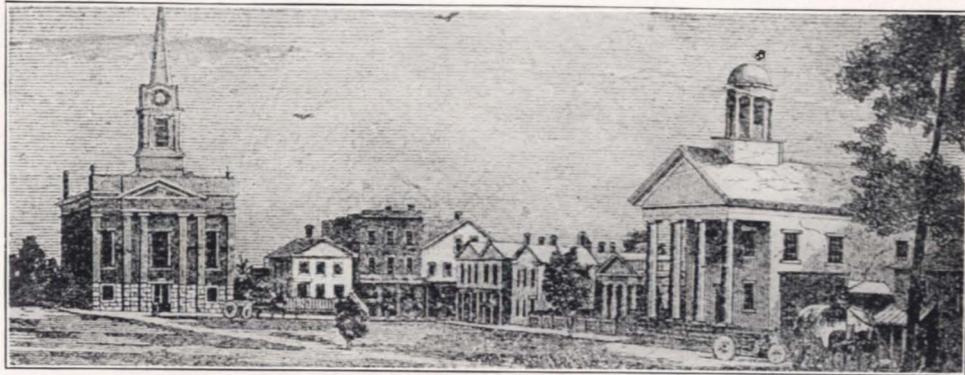
The Northwest Territory was organized in 1787 and included all north of the Ohio River, and west of Pennsylvania as far as the "Great River"—the Mississippi. Within this territory the domain of Wisconsin continued until 1800, when it became a part of the Territory of Indiana, formed that year, and so remained for nine years.

For nine years more, it was a part of the territory of Illinois, and for 18 years, of the Territory of Michigan, which included also the present State of Iowa. In 1848 it was admitted into the Union, as the thirtieth star in the galaxy on our banner.

#### WEES-KONSAN.

Following is Alfred Brunson's account of how Wisconsin came to be so named. (From Wisconsin Historical Collections.)

"The state derives its name from the principal river which runs cen-



This picture of the Square in 1860 is given room because it contains the best representation of the old Baptist church that we have seen, though not satisfactory

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. Prov. 16:25.

trally through it. The Chippewas upon its headwaters, call this river Wees-Konsan, which signifies, "the gathering of the waters." They gave it this name, as an Indian trader informed me, on account of its numerous branches near its head concentrating into one stream, which afterwards runs so great a distance with but comparatively few principal branches to swell its current."

"The French voyager called it "Ouisconsin," the first syllable of which comes nearer to the sound of the Indian than does "Wis." The second syllable of the French, if you give the c its hard sound, is more like kon than con; but the last syllable (sin) is evidently a deviation from the Indian, both in the English and French. An attempt was made a few years since, to restore the second syllable of this name to its original indian sound, by substituting k for c, but this would not restore the first, or the last."

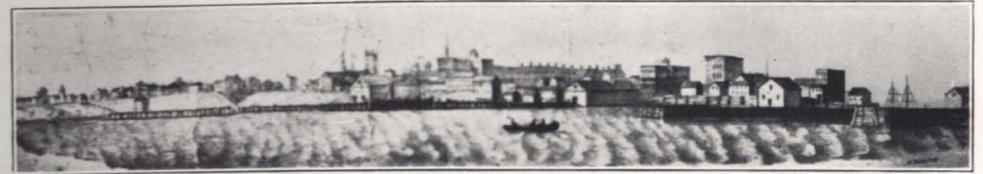
"The attempt, however, was unpopular, and the legislature solemnly decreed that the name should be spelled Wisconsin, and this probably more from opposition to the individual who attempted the restoration, than from correct literary taste, or any regard for the original indian name."

#### SCHIP-I-COTEN—ROOT—RACINE.

There seems to be nothing of record with reference to the time or the circumstances connected with the naming of the city; neither have we been able to get any exact information concerning it. There are, however, a few well established facts, which have a bearing on the matter, from which may be deduced a reasonable theory as to how Racine received its name.

It is well established that the name, "Root River" is of Indian origin.

When the early settlers arrived here in 1834-5-6 and for very many years before that time, the Indians called the river "Chippecotton," the meaning of



This view of Racine from the lake, in 1857, shows the Root River light house at extreme left, the tower and steeple of the Episcopal and Universalist churches, the Court House, the bridge piers on the lake front, and many warehouses and other prominent buildings of the time.

He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord. Prov. 19:17.

which is "root." It is a fact that in those days, the river covered a great deal of the low lands along its banks, and was choked in many places with roots; a hint of this condition is seen yet, in some places in its upper reaches. It is likely that this latter fact is what led the Indians to call it "Chippecotton" or "Root" river. The fact that they did so call it, is of more importance, however, than any surmise as to their reasons for it.

Samuel A. Storrow, in Wisconsin Historical Collections, Vol. 7, relates how, in 1817, he swam across Root river, which he describes as "a dark and sluggish stream \*\*\* too deep to be forded," and which was called the Schip-i-coten.

In the recollections of John T. Kingston, also in the Wisconsin Historical Collections, Vol. 7, he states that "In the November following, (1834) William See, Harrison K. Fay, and Richard Carpenter of Chicago, and Edmond Weed of Plainfield, made an excursion as far as the mouth of the Chepekatawsebe—Root River, the present site of the City of Racine. See and Fay in company made a claim at the Rapids, two and a half miles above the mouth of the river."

It is not difficult to trace in these Indian names for the river, the origin of the anglicized name, as we have used it.

For a year or two after the first settlers arrived the place was called "Root River." Mr. Stephen H. Sage told his daughter, Miss Emma Sage, that when his household goods were shipped from the east in the spring of 1836, they were billed to "Root River."

The first Methodist preacher who came here, Samuel Pillsbury, was sent to Root River Mission in the fall of 1836; the following year, Otis F. Curtis was sent to Racine. Both of these men came from the Illinois conference, within whose jurisdiction we were at that time, and from whose records these facts were gleaned.

Antoine Ouilmette came from Gross Point in 1834 with his Indian family, and settled a mile west of Racine. This statement is found in an historical sketch of Racine, on an old map of the city, published in 1858, and in the possession of John Knight.

The same statement may also be found on page 6 of the first Racine directory, published in 1850 by Mark Miller; the further fact is added that Ouilmette settled on the site of Kinzie's mill, which was just north of where Kinzie

## \*Root River Light House

The entrance of thy words giveth light. Psa. 119:130.

The older citizens of Racine—those who have lived here more than 35 years, will recall the old government light-house, which stood on the lake bank, on the south side of Seventh St., about 20 feet from the fence or street line, and almost exactly at the edge of the bank as it is at present; for at that point of the shore line, the bank has not receded more than about 20 or 30 feet.



\*We could find no picture of the light-house, and the one shown here was made up from blue prints of the original drawings, secured from the Light House Board at Washington, through the courtesy of Congressman H. A. Cooper, and is acknowledged by old residents a correctly proportioned and accurate representation.

The old Root River Light House was established by the United States Government in 1839; it was raised six feet in 1858, and was discontinued Sept. 10, 1865. It was built of brick, which were made by Benjamin Pratt, who was the first brick manufacturer in Racine. The walls were two feet, ten inches thick at the bottom, and two feet at top; the outside diameter of the light-house was sixteen feet, eight inches at the base, and nine feet at the top; it was forty feet high over all, and thirty-four feet one inch to the light. There were three windows along the spiral stair case.

The light keeper's house was back of the light and fronted on Chatham Street, now Lake Ave. It was of one story, twenty by thirty-four feet in size, with a wing on Seventh Street fifteen by thirteen feet, and was also made of brick, with very thick walls. Both buildings were kept whitewashed.

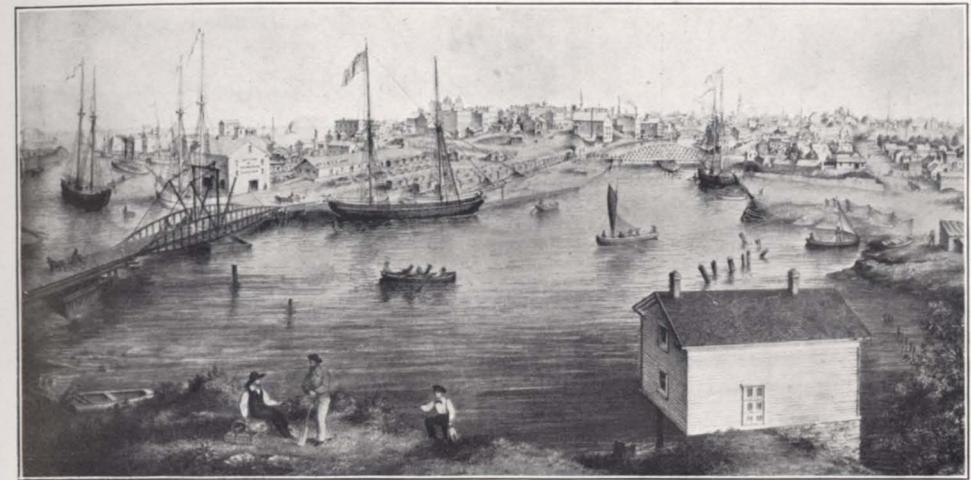
The lot on which these buildings stood, approximating one acre, was purchased from the State of Wisconsin by L. S. Blake and James T. Elliott in 1870, for \$1,625.00. Subsequently Mr. Elliott became the sole owner, and in 1876 he demolished the light-house buildings and put up the house that stands there now, all of the brick that was in the light-house buildings being utilized for the foundation and walls of the present structure.

The present owner and occupant of the premises is Mrs. Louise Deacon, daughter of James T. Elliott.

At the time the light house stood there, the lake bank was very precipitous, but the boys cut a path with their heels to the lake shore, where there was a government pier extending a short distance into the lake, consisting of cribs built of timber, and filled with stone, and sunk, which made a fine swimming place.

Following is a complete list of the keepers of the Root River Light:

1. Aug. 31, 1839, Amaziah Stebbins.
2. Feb. 2, 1846, Capt. John T. Trowbridge.
3. May 8, 1849, Abner Rouse.
4. Apr. 1853, Isaac B. Gates.
5. Mar. 1857, John Fancher.
6. Mar. 1861, Milton Moore.



This harbor view of Racine is an interesting picture, and is a faithful reproduction of its appearance about 1860. The first bridge was nearly on a line with Wisconsin instead of Main street as now.

The old Racine and Mississippi Railroad depot is seen at the south end of the bridge, and some of the warehouses and other prominent buildings in this part of town show up distinctly. The wooden bridge at Second street is a prominent feature of the picture. The docking conveniences of the river have been improved somewhat since this drawing was made.

For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come. Heb. 13:14.

avenue bridge now is, on the west side of the river. This man was probably one of that quite numerous company of French adventurers, who trapped and hunted over Wisconsin in the early days, keeping just ahead of civilization and the settlements. When Ouilmette arrived he heard the Indians calling the river "Chippicotton"; undoubtedly he knew their language, and its significance, as well as English, to some extent, and giving the name its French equivalent, he called it "Racine" river, the exact meaning of which in English is "Root" river. It is altogether likely therefore, that the first time the name "Racine" was heard on the banks of Root river, was when Ouilmette, or some compatriot of his, was alluding to that stream, in his talk. It is no doubt true also, that when the settlement came to be called Root river, the Frenchman called it Racine River. Speculation from here on is easy, for between the two there is no doubt but that we have the better one.

There seems only one alternative to the above or a similar explanation of the matter, and that is that the town may have been named after the French poet and dramatist, Racine; but we have met no one, who ever heard of any one, with imagination enough to conjure up a reason for such a conception.

It is possible that the early settlers took some formal action in naming the city; if so it is unfortunate that no record of it has been preserved; it is probable that no such thing was done, but that the name came gradually to be adopted by tacit consent, until not later than in the fall of 1837, it was generally known and accepted.

It would be pleasant and satisfactory to know just how, and when, and

LETTER OF GILBERT KNAPP.

Chicago March the 30, 1835

Dear Sir

on my arrival at this place I enquired my friend Col G. S. Hubbard, that you wished an interest in our improvement at Port Gilbert, on Root River, which includes the mouth of the River, the Lower Falls, and a Mill Seat at the Fall 4 miles above at which point we have contracted for the erection of a saw mill which we presume well an in operation by 1<sup>st</sup> May for the purpose of giving you an interest Col H. purchased Jacques Lencamp undivided equal interest being one third at \$1200. which he says he will let you have at same price

There are persons here who would be glad to get it at the price he gave I should be unwilling to take \$2000 for my 1/3 I presume he would not sell at that price but for my promise to procure an interest for you if possible he will procure an interest for you give you all the information you may require

Your friend Gilbert Knapp

ONE THIRD OF RACINE FOR \$1200.

This reproduction in facsimile, of Gilbert Knapp's letter to Jacob A. Barker, of Buffalo, in March 1835, offering one-third interest in the enterprise of the new town for \$1200, cannot fail to be of intense interest to every citizen of Racine. It is perhaps the most interesting and valuable single exhibit which the book contains.



THE FIRST RACINE NEWSPAPER.

The above is a facsimile of part of the front page of the first number of the first volume of the first newspaper published in Racine. Mr. David Janes has in his possession a complete file of this paper, the first number of which was published February 14, 1838, and the last Oct. 6, 1838. The proprietors were J. M. Myers, Alfred Cary, Gilbert Knapp, Stephen N. Ives, Lorenzo Janes, and Marshall M. Strong. It was a four page sheet, fully as large as any of our present Racine papers, and was a credit to the town at that early day.

Its publication was begun just four years and two months after the first number of the "Green Bay Intelligencer" was issued, which was the first newspaper published in the territory included within the present limits of the State of Wisconsin. Its date was Dec. 11, 1833.

The husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits. 2 Tim. 2:6

why, Racine was so named, but in the absence of knowledge, we submit the above conjectures for what they are worth.

Since writing the above, Mrs. Albert G. Knight tells me that she remembers hearing her husband say that the settlers did not like the sound of "Root River" as a name for the town, as well as the French version of it, and that they gradually adopted the latter, dropping the "River."

The mention of the Indian name for the river, recalls the fact that the street now called Mound avenue, running along the left bank of the river, from West Sixth to Marquette streets, was at first very appropriately named Chip-pecotton street; Park avenue was once called Chippewa street, another Indian name.

The people of this generation living in Racine, may be surprised to learn that when these changes were made, it was considered an improvement by the people living on these streets. It seems a pity at any rate, that these old Indian names should have been entirely eliminated from our street nomenclature.





R. M. NORTON.  
1878

H. BRYAN.  
1870

E. R. COOLEY.  
1870

W. H. WATERMAN.  
1871



J. W. CARY.  
1872



W. W. VAUGHAN.  
1870



GEO. C. NORTHROP.  
1867, 1867



ALVIN RAYMOND.  
1867



REUBEN DOUD.  
1872, 1873, 1875



R. H. BAKER.  
1871



J. G. MEACHEM.  
1876, 1877, 1878



ERNST HUEFFNER.  
1879



D. A. OLIN.  
1880, 1882



F. L. MITCHELL.  
1880



ADOLPH WEBER.  
1880



JACKSON I. CASE.  
1881, 1882, 1883, 1884



A. J. HORLICK  
1907-8-9-10



W. S. GOODLAND  
1911-

MAYORS OF RACINE.



W. T. RICHMOND.  
1877

D. McDONALD.  
1833, 1851

GEO. WUSTUM.  
1833

J. I. CASE.  
1830, 1838, 1860



THOMAS FALVEY.  
1871



JOSHUA W. HART.  
1863



G. A. THOMSON.  
1860, 1867, 1868



M. B. ERSKINE.  
1860, 1870, 1871, 1880



W. P. PACKARD.  
1881, 1887



T. G. FISH.  
1883



M. M. SECOR.  
1884, 1888



JOSEPH MILLER.  
1883



DAVID G. JANES.  
1884, 1886



FREDERICK GRAHAM.  
1887 and 1888



MICHAEL HIGGINS, Jr.  
1889, 1890, 1901, 1902



PETER B. NELSON.  
1889, 1892, 1903, 1906

MAYORS OF RACINE.



**THE RACINE HOUSE.**

The old Racine House, shown above, was the first hotel of importance, that was built in Racine. It was erected on the corner of Market Square and Fifth Street, now number 500 Monument Square, in 1837, Alfred Cary being the builder, at a cost of over ten thousand dollars. Albert G. Knight hauled the lumber for its construction, from the sawmill of William See at the Rapids. Lucius S. Blake burned part of the lime necessary, on a log heap in the woods, and got 50 cents a bushel for it. The bricks for the chimney were made by Benjamin Pratt. The plastering was done by Tom O'Sprigg. John M. Meyers was the first landlord.

While this building was in process of erection, the builder suffered the loss by fire of his carpenter shop, which contained the window and door frames for the hotel, which he had made by hand.

The love of money is the root of all evil. 1 Tim. 6:10.

at Melwarik (Milwaukee). On the 10th of October, they reached \*Kipikawi (Racine) "which is about eight leagues from Melwarik."

They were led by some Indians, to believe that they could ascend by the river Kipikawi, and after making a portage of about nine leagues, descend by another river, called the Piftrui—the Fox—and reach the Illinois about twenty-five or thirty leagues from Chikagu. They found the river shallow, however, and gave up the attempt, following the lake route to Chikagu. These were undoubtedly the first white men whose feet trod the soil on the banks of Root River.

#### FOUNDING OF THE CITY.

The city of Racine was first conceived in the mind of Gilbert Knapp, when previous to 1828, as Master of a United States revenue cutter, he visited Root River in the course of his duty, and was strongly impressed with its desirability as a site for a town. In November, 1834, after quitting the service, he visited and explored this region, and being satisfied with the outlook, made

\* It is easy to see also in this Indian name the root of our Chippecotton.



#### CONGRESS HALL.

Congress Hall was one of the very early, and one of the best hotels in Racine, and was built by Lorenzo Janes in 1849, for a home. He was later induced to put on the additions and make a hotel of it, and for many years aristocrats from St. Louis and other southern cities made Racine their summer residence and boarded at Congress Hall. Many Racine people also lived there. Marcus Weed was the first landlord.

It was located at the south west corner of Lake Ave., and Third Streets, on the east end of the present City Hall lot, and faced the Lake.

The two boys sitting on the roof of the hotel when the picture was taken, were Simeon Dutton and Slater Daggett.

At the time it burned in 1882, Seneca Raymond was its proprietor.

claim to about one hundred forty acres, lying on both sides of the river. He put up a shanty, and left two men, William and A. J. Luce, in charge of his affairs, until he should return in the spring of 1835. During the winter he interested Gurdon S. Hubbard, of Chicago, and Jacob A. Barker, of Buffalo, in the enterprise, with the result that these two men, with Mr. Knapp, became the owners of the land comprised in the original plat of Racine.

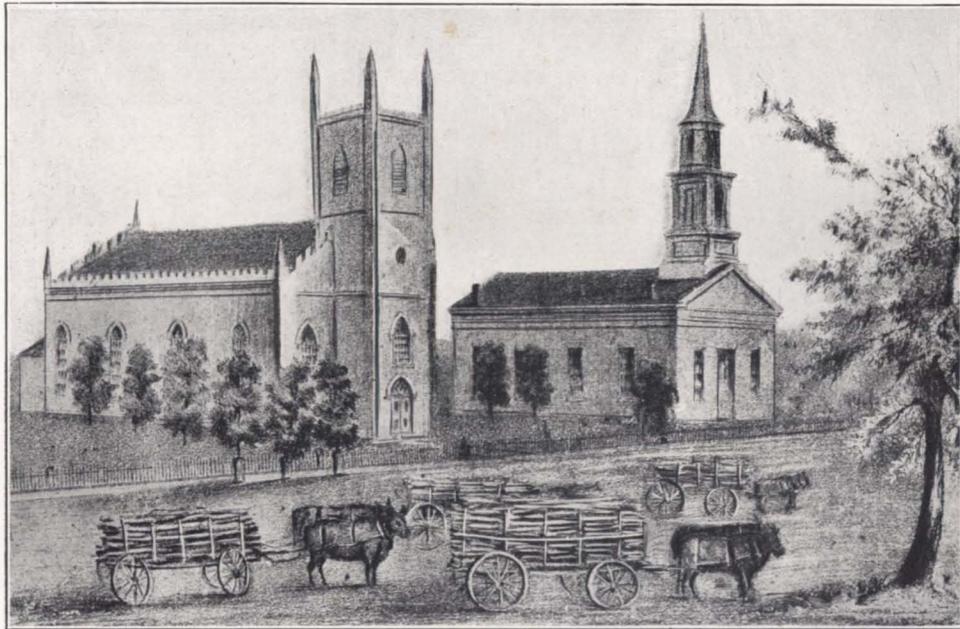
Mr. Knapp took up his residence in the village, and remained a citizen until his death in 1887. The latest, and perhaps the finest public school building in the city, which is only just now completed, in the southwest part of the city, has been named the "Gilbert Knapp" school, an appropriate if belated recognition of the city's founder.

With the advent of 1835, settlers began to arrive at the site of the new town. A treaty with the Indians had been negotiated in 1833, by which the government was to come into possession in 1836, of all the land in the southeastern part of Wisconsin, and it was to be subject to claim and settlement

#### THE FIRST COURT HOUSE.

The first Court House was started in 1839 and finished in 1840. It was built at the expense of the owners of the original plat of Racine in fulfillment of an agreement with the county commissioners, by which the latter were to assure the former of the validity of their title. On their part the county commissioners secured title from the U. S. Government, and then transferred it to the owners of the plat, and Gilbert Knapp deeded to the county the lot on which the jail stood, and the adjoining lot.





The east side of Market Square in 1857, shows the Episcopal and the Universalist churches, with several loads of wood on the Square waiting for buyers. At that time the trees had not been entirely cleared from the Square, and they furnished shade for man and beast in hot summer days. There were from two to a dozen loads of hay and wood to be seen here almost any day, and ox teams were frequent.

It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone. Matt. 4:4

after that date, on the same terms as other government land. Immigrants in large numbers were attracted to this section, by the glowing reports of its fertility and promise, which had been published in the east, and regardless of the treaty rights of the Indians, squatted on and claimed the land before they had a legal right to do so. The Indians made no trouble, however, having evidently become reconciled to their fate. The title\* of the settlers to the land was later made good by the government, as is explained in another paragraph.

Aside from the statement of J. T. Kingston in his "Recollections," that Stephen Campbell, Richard Carpenter, Harrison Fay, William See, and Paul Kingston, were settled here in Dec. 1834, we have seen no evidence that any one beside Gilbert Knapp located on the site of Racine previous to 1835; the facts probably are, that the five men named above, with Edmond Weed, were the first settlers after Gilbert Knapp, and that they came not later than the first week in January, 1835.

Joel Sage and Norman Clarke came in the spring. In the summer E. J. Glenn, Levi Mason and James Beeson arrived, and in the last months of this year Alfred Cary, Dr. B. B. Cary, Alanson Filer, Amaziah Stebbins, Dr. Elias Smith, Sarah Milligan, Samuel Mars, Benjamin Pratt, Eugene Gillespie, Joseph Knapp, Henry F. Cox, Mr. Stillwell and Wm. Saltonstall and some others, reached the new town.

Some log shanties were put up that year, and five or six frame buildings,

\* It is our purpose to give only a general idea of the difficulties confronting the pioneers in establishing their claims, and their way out, and not to attempt any technical or extra-legal explanation the matter.

### RACINE HIGH SCHOOL.

The Racine High School, erected in 1853, from which was graduated Dec. 24, 1857, the first class completing a high school course in Wisconsin, consisting of ten young men and women. Those composing this first class were as follows: Christia A. Sinclair, Horatio G. Billings, Julia G. Wheldon, Anna Byrne, Antoinette J. Russell, Elisabeth S. Butterfield, Lucy A. Cather, Angelina Wells, William H. Myrick and Marion F.

Clarke. The last named was the daughter of Norman Clarke, and became the second wife of John G. McMynn, and now lives in Milwaukee. The building was fifty by seventy feet in dimensions, and cost six thousand dollars. The elm trees which still adorn the High School premises, were set out by Rev. M. C. Kinney, the second superintendent of schools.



MARGARET CARSWELL, wife of Sam'l K. Knight, was born at Salem, Washington County, New York, January 23, 1817. She was the first teacher in the public school building erected in 1844 on the southwest corner of Wisconsin and Seventh streets. It is claimed for Mrs. Knight that she was the first lady who taught in the public schools of Racine. Margaret Knight and Mrs. Near, her daughters, taught for many years, and until very recently, in Racine schools. Julia Knight, another daughter is now matron at Taylor Orphan asylum. A son, Samuel Knight, lives at Oakland, Oregon. Mrs. Knight died in Racine, June 18, 1903.

JOHN G. McMYNN was born at Palatine, N. Y., July 9, 1824; educated at Williams College; came to Racine in Sept. 1853; first principal of Racine High School; colonel of 10th Wis. regiment of volunteers. He died at Madison, Wis., June 5, 1900.

The picture of Mr. McMynn shown here with Eleanor Wiley McMynn, his first



wife, represents him as he appeared at his graduation from Williams College. It is related of Mr. McMynn that he started for Chicago from the east, by boat, seeking his fortune in the west. On the same boat was a man from Southport—Kenosha—who became acquainted with him, and was so impressed with his character, that he induced him to stop at Southport. He stayed there for four years, and in 1853, Racine made a bid for him, and he came here and for many years was a dominant factor in the development of our educational system.

ELEANOR WILEY McMYNN, wife of John G. McMynn, was preceptress of Racine High School, during the first five years of its history, 1853 to 1858. She died in 1858.



#### THE GRAIN ELEVATOR.

The grain elevator shown on this page was built in 1867 by a stock company, Homer Glass, being supt. of construction, and was destroyed in the great fire of 1882.

The other building in the picture, seen in the distance, is the Goodrich warehouse, which occupied the same location then that it has now.

The fire had its beginning in the Goodrich warehouse, just east of the elevator, and swept through the lumber yards of Kelly, Weeks & Co., to Lake Ave., and Main Street, leveling everything on those streets up to, and including Congress Hall, on the south west corner of Lake Ave. and Third Sts.

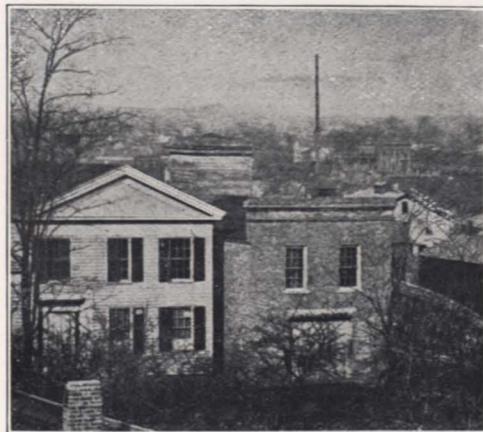
the lumber for which was sawed at the mill of William See, at the Rapids. One of these buildings was a two story tavern. Amaziah Stebbins and John M. Meyers were the tavern keepers.

In 1836 there was a large influx of settlers, among whom were, Wm. H. Waterman, Sidney A. and Stephen Sage, and Bethiah Sage their mother, wife of Joel Sage; Rev. Cyrus Nichols, Presbyterian minister; A. G. Knight, M. M. Strong, Norman Clarke, Jonathan M. Snow, Stephen Ives, Enoch Thompson, Seth Parsons, Lorenzo Janes, Samuel G. Knight, James O. Bartlett, and Samuel Pillsbury, Methodist preacher.

It was during this year, and the succeeding winter of 1835-6 that the settlers experienced deprivation and hardship, to an extent not known by those who came later. Those who were here then, constituted the front rank of the pioneer army, and took the brunt and shock of the battle with nature in her wildest mood, far from bases of supply, without roads, and with only primitive means of communication or transportation.

#### FIRE ENGINE HOUSE.

The fire engine house shown here was located on the west side of Wisconsin Street, just south of Fourth Street, and for many years housed the old hand pump fire engine No. 1, which was later moved to the North Side, and called No. 4. The building was used later for many years as a blacksmith shop. The fine frame house at the left is the Graves-Hurlbut dwelling.



This view of Racine College in 1857 was reproduced from an old map. It is not a good picture, but is interesting, and gives some idea of the appearance of the institution in its infancy.

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice. Prov. 29:2.

In those first years of Racine's history, the only method of transportation was by boat. There was no harbor, and ships anchored in the lake, and goods were lightered and brought to shore on rafts, and small boats; later bridge piers were built along the lake front, extending five or six hundred feet into the lake, at the shore end of which were warehouses for the receipt of freight. Tracks were laid on these piers, with band rails, and cars for the transport of freight were run upon them between the ships and warehouses. A. P. Dutton had a pier at the foot of Third street, and Waterman's pier was at the foot of Fourth. Later still, in 1844, the harbor was built, without government assistance, and it was a happy day for Racine when the first ship entered between the piers.

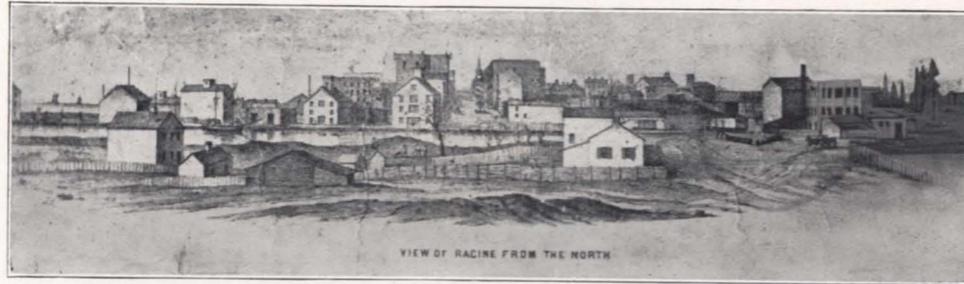
In the winter season, communication with the outside world was practically cut off, by lake, and the walking between Racine and Chicago was not good, at that season, for either man or beast.

Several times there was threat of famine, and the first few winters there was considerable suffering; but the need for desperate and heroic measures, always brought the man for the crisis, and several times a man on horseback, or with a team, was dispatched in mid-winter for needed provisions. Albert G. Knight performed this service more than once, as also did L. S. Blake.

But pioneers are hardy folk, and if you talk now with some of those who endured the hardships of early days, they will tell you that the happiest days of their lives, were those in which they, with their few neighbors, had to struggle with and conquer, those adverse conditions inseparable from life in a new country.

If you would visualize the city of Racine, as it appeared from 1835 to 1838, the picture must show timber covering almost all of the present business section, excepting where a few trees had been cut to clear a space for a warehouse, or store, or dwelling. Mrs. Foxwell told the writer in Feb'y 1912, that the first hotel built on Main street in 1835, chanced to be in the street, when the lots and blocks were laid out the next winter.

A few log dwellings, and infrequently frame houses, will be seen here and there in the woods, with quite a collection of them near the river at the



This is a view in 1857, and is taken from the north side of the river, looking directly up Main Street, where may be seen the spire of the old Baptist church, at Main and Sixth, and the outlines of the ware-houses and other prominent buildings.

Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Gal. 6:7.

foot of Main street, where the settlement was. Anybody living as far off as where Fifth and Sixth streets are now, was considered way out of town.

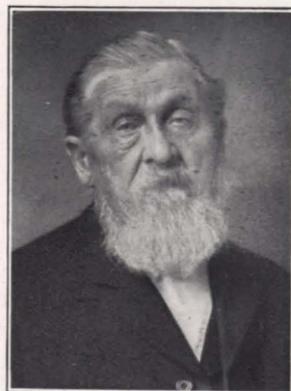
On the north side of the river are fewer buildings. Get a scow, and cross the river where State street now is, and five minutes' walk west through the woods will bring you to the log house of Joel Sage. If it is later than 1838, you will see a frame house here, and you may see the same house today, if you care to go to 913 State street, for it stands there little changed, after seventy-four years of wind, and weather, and wear. Joel Sage was the founder of Sagetown, and was the father of Sidney A., and Stephen H. Sage; his grandchildren, Mrs. Fannie Stone, and Miss Emma Sage, children of Stephen H., are still living in the old homestead at 938 Superior street.

#### L. S. Blake's Experience.

The following sketch by Mr. L. S. Blake, a well known old settler of Racine, written for the State Historical Society in 1857, is an interesting exhibit of some of the hardships willingly endured by the pioneers in their eagerness to get into the promised land.

Racine, May 17th, 1857.

To the State Historical Society—A little sketch of my first visit to Wisconsin Territory.



In February 1835, in company with my father, and two elder brothers, C. H. and E. S. Blake, I left what was then called Beedsley's Prairie, 10 miles east of Niles, in the territory of Michigan.

With two strong horses and a wagon we traveled across the Western Reserve, to Michigan City, on the Lake Shore.

ALEXANDER HOOD was born in Chester County, Pa., 55 miles south of Philadelphia, April 5, 1827; came to Racine, May 19, 1838; he is the earliest settler in Racine who still lives here. His residence is 931 Geneva St.



#### THE OLD CIRCUS GROUND.

Circus on Market Square in the old days. In the picture may be seen the old court house, with the Register's office and the Knight building to the right of it, and the frame buildings running to Sixth St., on the left. The old Baptist church building, at Main and Sixth St.; the Episcopal church, without a spire, and the roofs and bell towers of the old high school and Catholic church buildings, are also easily distinguishable. This picture was taken about 1873 by Billings. The circus is Forepaugh's.

Then following the beach of the lake, we arrived at Chicago, where we had spent the previous summer.

Here we remained a day or two, to fill our wagon with supplies for a journey to the then N. Western Territory.

Accordingly we left on the 11th of Feb. 1835. The weather being somewhat cold, and fearing that we might perish in the wilderness, we took a Mackinac blanket, which was to shelter four of us.

The first night we brought up at Gross Point, 18 miles north of Chicago. Here at an Indian Trading Post, we were well cared for by the traders.

Although the next day was much colder, and knowing that we must be under the necessity of lying out at least one night, as there was no house or settler between Gross Point and Skunk Grove, where there was another trading post, we, like all other western bound people, were impatient to be on the way.

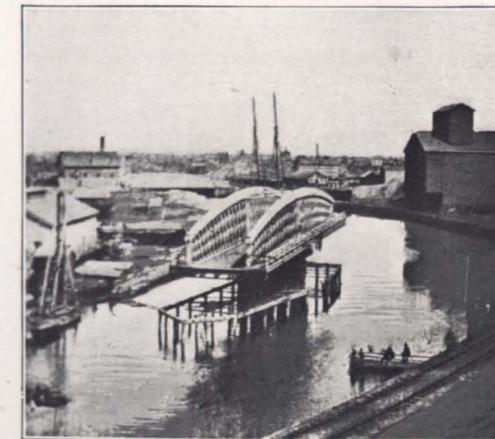
We early left the Point, and traveled all day until evening came on; as we proceeded north we found the snow much deeper, and it was almost impossible to get along with our wagon.

We stopped in a grove, about three miles west of what is now called Waukegan, and the night being very cold, we were compelled to stand up around the fire, which we had much difficulty in kindling. Every match in our possession, except the last, had failed to light the fire.

#### FOURTH STREET BRIDGE.

Before the age of steel, bridges were built of wood; this illustration is of the old Fourth street bridge. The early Main and Second street bridges were of the same construction.

Before State Street was straightened, Second Street bridge was the means by which the river was crossed in that locality. This bridge was on a level with Wisconsin Street at that point, and crossed the river on a line with Second Street, some little distance north of the present State Street structure.





This picture represents the old number four hand pump fire engine, and company. In the early days the city's protection from fire depended upon three or four of these hand machines, manned by volunteer firemen. Number four was the Fourth ward engine company, and they were hard to beat when it came to getting to a fire early, and putting a stream of water on it. In those days the water supply consisted of large cisterns built underground in the streets, at strategic points about the town; they were filled by the fire companies, from the lake and the river. On another page in this chapter will be found the roster of officers and members of No. 4 Engine Company.

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Ye cannot serve God and Mammon. Luke 16:13.

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How anxiously we watched father as he carefully struck that last one, as that was the only match within thirty miles of us, and if that failed we must surely perish.

Fearing to lie down my father suggested the idea that we make a sled, and leave the wagon in the grove until our return, and as we were all mechanics, and fortunately had an ax and an auger, we sat about making a sled.

At sunrise the next morning, Feb. 13th, we were ready to proceed on our way with good courage, although the weather was very cold. We traveled until twelve o'clock, when we stopped to feed our team, and eat our dinner.

The place of our camp was at Hickory Grove, about four miles west of what is now Kenosha. While waiting there the United States Mail Carrier approached. He was on the way from Chicago to Green Bay. The mail was carried upon a pony, which was led or driven by a Frenchman by the name of Pilkey, who resides at this time in the city of Racine.

It was with great pleasure that we learned, from him, some land marks that enabled us to reach the trading post at Skunk Grove; for the wind was blowing a gale from the southwest, and it was impossible to follow the trail.

Frenchman and pony were soon out of sight, and the tracks all filled up directly, and prospect ahead looked rather hard, as night would soon come, with nothing to strike fire, and the weather so extremely cold.



#### THE IVES HOUSE.

The first brick house put up in Racine was built about 1840 by Ira Dean, who was the first brick mason in Racine, for Henry F. Cox, who was the first clerk of court of Racine County. At his death Mr. Cox left the property to his sister, Mrs. Stephen Ives, and she with her husband occupied it for many years.

It is located on the south side of Sixth street between Park avenue and Villa sts., now No. 513 Sixth. Ira Dean was an uncle of Frank Redfield; he came to Racine in 1836, and about 1851 went to California and since 1853, nothing has been heard from him.

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Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise. Prov. 17:28.

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But there was no time to be lost. We wished to reach the Post at the N. W. end of Skunk Grove. We pushed on until near sun down; our horses were nearly exhausted, and my father so overcome by the cold that he could not manage himself, so my elder brother held him in the sleigh, while E. S. and I mounted the horses and applying whip and spur, and with nothing but the white prairie around us and darkness fast setting in, we traveled on. The natural instinct of the horses, or an over-ruling Providence, brought us safely at the Post about 8 o'clock in the evening.

Through the kindness of the Trader Jambau and his Indian wife, we were made comfortable for the night.

If ever a wigwam or shanty looked like living, that place did, as they had a great fire and plenty to eat and drink, in their own way, which at the time seemed better than anything I have enjoyed since.

The night passed. The morning came and about ten o'clock we left for the river about three miles N. W. and there found a man by the name of Davis, holding a claim, and through his kindness we were invited to stop with him and look at the country, and on the 15th we made a claim for each of us, as we supposed, but when the land was surveyed, they were found to be too close, and the consequence was that we had but two claims instead of four.

But, as I was about to say, we stopped with Mr. Davis a day or two and satisfied ourselves that this was the country even if it was cold, and I think it was colder at that time than I have ever seen it since.

One of our horses was frozen so badly that he was of no use. So when the weather moderated a little we started out on foot and traveled to the Rapids on Root River, where we found the Reverend Mr. See putting up a mill frame and getting out timber so as to set the mill running in the spring. This mill was a great benefit to the country afterward.

We returned to Michigan and father, taking his family, started the last



#### THE SAGE HOUSE.

In 1838 Joel Sage, with his sons Sidney A. and Stephen H., built this frame house a little south of the present junction of State and Huron Sts.; they cut the timber on their claim in "Sagetown," hauled it to William See's mill at the "Rapids," where it was sawed into planks and boards, and re-hauled to their claim. The timbers under the house were of oak, about 8x8, and were hewn out on the ground. We have recently inspected these timbers, and find them in first-class condition, after 74 years of service. There are six of them running length-wise of the building, and they constitute a floor base that is calculated to stand ten times any strain likely to be put on it. This house is still in excellent condition, and stands now at 913 State St. It would not be suspected, from its appearance, of being a pioneer Racine building.

of March for Chicago, where they remained for two years. In the meantime it fell to me and one of my younger brothers to go to Wisconsin to hold the claims, and after plowing and fencing we put in an acre of crop the first year, which amounted to nothing, but served to hold the claim.

During the summer and spring there came in several families, from LaPorte and Michigan, and among them the Burlers, and Joseph Adams, and one Shintarfer, who was a rare specimen of a man; he had about as much refinement as a border ruffian, according to all accounts of them; but thank Providence, as the country settled the wolves left, and the first settlers, except Adams and the Butlers, followed; as they have done since the first settlement of Michigan, and I suppose they are still pursuing the wolves and Indians.

Hoping this little sketch may be of use to you, I remain,

Yours truly, LUCIUS S. BLAKE.

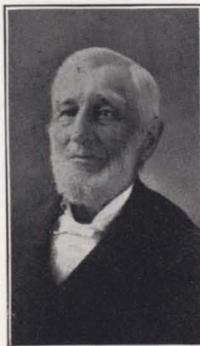
#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

The following very interesting sketches of Roswell Park and of Marshall M. Strong, are the contribution of Mr. Charles H. Lee.

Sketches of other pioneers will be found in the chapter on "Pioneer Days."

Dr. Roswell Park, D. D., former and first president of Racine College, and sometime rector of St. Luke's church, was born at Lebanon, Connecticut, October

STEPHEN H. SAGE, son of Joel Sage, was born at Sandisfield, Mass., Aug. 1, 1818. Came to Racine Feb. 1836, and died June 28, 1905. Married Helen M. Carpenter, who was born at Virgil, N. Y., May 18, 1833, and died at Racine, Wis., Nov. 20, 1904.



#### THE CHADWICK HOUSE.

At 416 Lake Avenue stands the old Chadwick house, shown here, named after its builder, a carpenter, who put it up about 1840. It was at one time a handsome and substantial cottage but stands now, in defiance of the new order of things, a ruined and discredited representative of other and better days.

He that is slow to anger, is better than the mighty. Prov. 16:32.

1st, 1807, and died at Lakeview, Chicago, July 16, 1869. He was laid to rest from St. Lukes, Racine, on the 19th of the same month, and his remains repose beneath the Chapel wall of the College to which he gave so much of loving service and self-sacrificing devotion.

It is said that every man has the defect of his quality, and it is probably true. In the case of Dr. Park "his very goodness made him great" and sometimes led him to entertain much too favorable opinions of his fellow-men, often to his sorrow, sometimes to his pecuniary loss. His loving heart overflowed with charity for all and his "failings leaned to virtue's side." The writer, who was brought up under his ministrations at St. Luke's church, and who was for some time a member of his bible class, holds in affectionate remembrance his great learning, humility of soul, fervent but unostentatious piety and ceremonious, old fashioned politeness. He was a model of a christian gentleman of the old school. He came to Racine in 1852, and immediately set about the work of founding Racine College and Grammar School, which were to be the crowning of his life's work, as well as a lasting monument to the energy, intelligence and foresight of the early citizens of Racine. So promptly was this foundation accomplished that he graduated his first class in July 1853. From 1853 to 1856, in addition to his college work, Dr. Park served as rector of St. Luke's church, and during this time, or soon after, gave the land for a church and rectory on the North Side, and virtually founded Immanuel church, on North Wisconsin street. He removed to Chicago in 1863 and established a school of his own, where his labors in the cause of christian education ended only with his life. Few men have done so much toward the promotion of learning and piety in the early history of the middle West, or labored more earnestly with tongue and pen to fit boys and young men for the life that now is, and for that which is to come. He is survived by a son and a daughter, the former a distinguished surgeon of Buffalo, New York.

Marshall M. Strong was born at Amherst, Mass., and educated at Amherst College and at Union College, Schenectady, N. Y.; studied law at Troy, N. Y., where he was admitted to the bar. From thence he came to Racine in 1836. In 1838 he was elected a member of the territorial council, or legislature, and was one of a committee on revision of the laws. While serving in the council at Madison in 1846, he was informed of the destruction of his entire family, together with his dwelling-house and contents, by fire. The scene of this



This picture illustrates the appearance of the northeast corner of Main and Sixth streets before the building of Hotel Racine. The Universalist Church is seen, and the old Thomson house that was torn down to make room for the hotel.

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unaware. Heb. 13:2.

appalling calamity was at the lower end of what is now Park Avenue, just north of 7th street. He afterward married a daughter of Isaac J. Ullmann, the pioneer banker, by whom he had two sons and a daughter. He returned to the practice of his profession in which he achieved eminence, and at the time of his death, he was one of the most distinguished and successful lawyers of the State, and admitted by common consent to be the leader of the bar of the First Circuit.

Outside of the law he was a man of wide reading, and took great interest in the foundation and success of Racine College to the promotion of which of the duties and dignity of his chosen profession, was liberal and kindly to his juniors at the bar, and always ready to counsel or assist them. He disliked noise or bombast, and while no one in his day was more successful with juries, his arguments were always addressed to their reason, their common sense, their spirit of fairness, never to their passions or their prejudices.

#### THE FIRST WHITE WOMAN SETTLER.

Mrs. Sarah Milligan was the first white woman settler in Racine. She was the daughter of John and Sarah Knapp, and was married in New York to James Milligan of Saratoga Springs. After her husband's death in 1835, Capt. Gilbert Knapp, her brother, wrote to her of his home in Port Gilbert, now Racine, requesting her to come and make her home with him. He met her at Buffalo, New York, and they took passage on the Steamboat Monroe, Capt. Whitaker. The Monroe was the first steamer from Buffalo to Chicago that stopped at all of the ports around the lakes. They landed in Racine, Aug. 4, 1835. Mrs. Milligan and her three young daughters occupied a log shanty, and Capt. Knapp and his son Robert used a log warehouse for their sleeping room. Mrs. Milligan lived in Racine until 1874, and then moved to Shawano, Wis., and died there June 10, 1877, aged 85 years, 6 months. She was one of the first members of the Baptist church in Racine and retained her membership there until her death.



COURT HOUSE IN SQUARE.

At the time of the building of the second Court House, the first structure was moved out into the square, and was utilized for offices until the completion of the present building. This picture gives a good idea of the dimensions and appearance of the building from a side view, which justifies its insertion here.

Dr. B. B. Cary was the first physician in Racine, and used to go forty miles to treat patients. He also was the first Racine Postmaster, and held that office for twenty years all told. Racine Postoffice was established May 8, 1836. Dr. Cary built first, just above Fourth St. bridge, and was advised to come into the village, or the bears would carry him off. He had a quarter section over near the water tank, which extended back to the river, but being a doctor had to live nearer the town. Mrs. Harry Morris of 49 Ninth street, Racine, is a granddaughter of Dr. Cary.

A. Constantine Barry was born in Delaware county, New York, July 15, 1815. Soon after his birth, his family moved to Ontario county, where he lived until 1836. In the fall of the latter year he was married to Adelia Robinson, who died at Elkhorn in 1877. His second wife was Helen Peterson, of Fond du Lac.

He received a liberal education, and prepared himself for the ministry in the Universalist faith. He began his ministerial career at Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y., thence to Homer, Courtland county, where he remained four years, then he preached at Ft. Plain five years.

He came to Racine in 1846, and was pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd until 1853; at two other times he served this church as its pastor; 1860 to 1861, and from 1867 to 1870.

About 1850 he edited a temperance paper here called the Old Oaken Bucket, which was published by Sterling P. Rounds.

Mr. Barry was appointed to fill out the unexpired term of Hiram A. Wright, as superintendent of public instruction, who died in June 1855, and was elected to the same office for a full term in the fall of that year.

Mr. Barry was chaplain of the 4th and 19th regiments, and hospital chaplain during the war of the rebellion. He represented Kenosha county in the legislature in 1864.

Socially Mr. Barry was a very agreeable man. He was well educated, an extensive reader of the current literature, well versed in science, and a very fluent and pleasant conversationalist. While a resident of Racine he had the respect of the whole community.



The old town pump stood near the corner of Fifth street on Market Square, and which was replaced about 1890 by a drinking fountain for horses at the south end of the square.



Another view of Market Square, showing the hay market and the Baptist church building, at Main and Sixth, the audience room of which was over the American Express Co's. office. Here the Methodists worshiped in 1882-3, while their church was rebuilding, after the fire; the R. H. Baker residence at the left, the Teegarden house, now occupied by W. H. Lewis, and the Hall house, built by Lorenzo Janes, on the site of the library building, may also be seen in this picture.

Lorenzo Janes was one of the men who contributed largely to the progressive and substantial upbuilding of the city, from almost the very beginning. He was one of the proprietors of the Argus, the first newspaper. He was associated in 1839, with Gilbert Knapp and Gurdon S. Hubbard in the ownership of the original plat of the city, and was indented with most of the large public enterprises of his time.



The second court house shown above, was built in 1876, at a cost of \$39,450, the furniture costing about \$5000 additional. The architect was H. C. Koch, of Milwaukee, and the builders J. Bentley & Son. It is to be torn down this year—1912—and a new court house erected on the same site.



The third Racine County court house, which is to be erected this year—1912—on the site of the old building, was designed by Bell, Tyrie, and Chapman, of Minneapolis, and is to cost \$165,000. The picture shown here is a photograph of the architects' drawing. The contract for the building has not yet been awarded.

#### A FEW FIRSTS\*

- The first settler in Racine was Gilbert Knapp, Nov. 1834.
- The first woman settler was Sarah Milligan, Aug. 1835.
- The first building erected on the site of Racine was the hut of Gilbert Knapp, in November 1834.
- The first wedding was that of Alfred Cary & Mary Knight, Dec. 29, 1836.
- The first white baby born in Racine county was Emma Cary, daughter of B. B. Cary, who was born at Pike Creek, Aug. 31, 1835, and brought to Racine in November of same year.
- The first magistrate elected was Joel Sage.
- The first hotel was built on Main street, near Third, in 1835, by John Pagan.
- The first large hotel was the Racine House, 1837.
- Its first landlords were Amaziah Stebbins and John M. Meyers.
- The first white boy born in the town was Henry S. Meyers, son of J. M. Meyers.
- The first bridge was built at Main street, in 1838; it was carried away by high water in 1843.
- The first newspaper was the Racine Argus, Feb. 14, 1838.
- The first store was opened by Glen and Mason.
- The first lawyer who settled in Racine was Marshall M. Strong, June 1836.
- The first postmaster and physician was B. B. Cary.
- The first brick house was built by Ira Dean in 1840, at 513 Sixth St.
- The first brick mason in Racine was Ira Dean.
- The first brick maker was Benjamin Pratt in 1836.
- The first court house was built in 1840.
- The first jail was built of hewn logs, in 1838.

\* We have been very careful in this compilation to avoid error, but it is very likely that some mistakes have been made. As a general statement, however, it is safe to say that as far as it goes, it is a fairly true list of "first things" in Racine.



**MONUMENT SQUARE IN 1912.**

In contrast with the pictures of Market Square shown in the preceding pages, is this latest picture of Monument Square, improved and ornamented by the Park Commission in 1911. While the work was in process there was considerable objection to the expenditure of so much money for that purpose, but on its completion, there was expression of general satisfaction with the result, and its cost.

The first president of the village was Dr. Elias Smith, 1841.

The first mayor of the city was Reuben M. Norton, 1848.

The first railroad in Racine was the Racine, Janesville and Mississippi, which was finished to Burlington in 1855.

The first church organized in Racine was the Methodist Episcopal church, 1836.

The first preacher regularly stationed and settled here was Samuel Pillsbury, 1836, the Methodist minister.

The first sermon preached in Racine was by Rev. Mark Robinson, a Methodist minister, in 1835.

The first shoemaker in Racine was Samuel Lane.

The first blacksmith was William Chamberlain.

The first foundry was owned by Wilson and Burgess in 1844.

The first steamer to enter the harbor of Racine or any artificial harbor of Wisconsin, was the Chesapeake,—Kelsey, master,—on July 14, 1844.

#### **THE SCHOOLS**

The first private school in Racine was conducted by Mrs. Gilbert Knapp in 1838. Mrs. Frances Gibson, now living at the Old Ladies' Home, and Mrs. Mary Murray, attended this school. It was a select school for girls.

Mrs. Lucy Foxwell, of Yorkville, who lived in Racine from 1837 to 1841, states that her sister, Harriet Briggs, taught a public school at Main and Fourth Sts., in 1840. If this is true, and she is confident that it is, then Miss Briggs was the first public school teacher in Racine.

The first school house was erected on the northeast corner of Main and Third street. It was sixteen feet square, and was presided over by a man named Bradley, who was the first school master in Racine. This was a private school.

On the 5th of April, 1842, M. M. Strong, Eldad Smith and Lyman K. Smith at the first annual town meeting, were elected the first school commissioners for Racine.

The first public school building was a one story brick structure, and was



This picture of the first mail carriers in Racine was made in 1882, on the occasion of the first wearing of the uniforms. From left to right they are William Weinecke, Thomas Buckley, Erastus Packard, Elias Pritchard and George Covert. Seated, Richard Thronson, Asst. Postmaster. Norton J. Field was Postmaster at that time.

built on the corner of College Avenue and Seventh Street, on the present High School lot, in the summer of 1842. The first teacher was Samuel W. Hill, and the second Simeon C. Yout.\* In 1844 another frame building was erected on the corner of the same lot, at Seventh and Wisconsin Sts., and Miss Margaret Carswell was the teacher.

The first High School was built in 1852 on the site of the present building. It was of two stories, with a high basement, 50x75 feet.

John G. McMynn was the first principal, in 1853.

Rev. A. C. Barry, the Universalist minister, was the first city superintendent of schools, being elected in 1849. He served for four years and was succeeded by Rev. M. P. Kinney, the Congregational minister, who held the position until 1857.

#### **ADMINISTRATION.**

The first governor of the Territory of Wisconsin, was Henry Dodge, who was commissioned by President Andrew Jackson, April 30, 1836.

Racine was laid out in lots and blocks in the winter of 1835-6.

The first owners of the original plat of Racine were Gilbert Knapp, Gurdon S. Hubbard and Jacob A. Barker.

On the 20th of April 1836, the act of congress was passed establishing the territorial government of Wisconsin. Severed from Michigan it embraced all of its present territory with that of Minnesota and Iowa, and a portion of Nebraska and the Dakotas. There were then six counties in the territory: Milwaukee, Brown, Dubuque, Iowa, Des Moines, and Crawford.

\* Mrs. Nellie Wright, of Chicago, a daughter of S. C. Yout, was the first cash subscriber for this history



1. GILBERT KNAPP was born at Chatham, Cape Cod, Mass., Dec. 3, 1798; came to Racine in November, 1834; was the founder of the city, and its first settler. He died in Racine, Sunday, July 31, 1887.

2. SARAH MILLIGAN, sister of Gilbert Knapp, was born at Chatham, Cape Cod, Dec. 1, 1791; came to Racine Aug. 4, 1835, and was the first white woman settler here; died at Shawano, Wis., June 10, 1877.

3. BUSHNELL B. CARY was born at Shoreham, Vt., Dec. 22, 1801; came to Racine Aug. 15, 1835; was the first postmaster and first physician in Racine; died in Racine Feb. 13, 1860.

4. MARSHALL M. STRONG was born at Amherst, Mass.; came to Racine in June, 1836, and was the first lawyer to locate here. Died Mar. 9, 1864, at Racine, Wis.

Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set. Prov. 22:28

The first Territorial election was held on the second Monday of October 1836, and Gilbert Knapp and Alanson Sweet were elected from Milwaukee County, to the first territorial council.

Racine was made a chartered village on the 13th day of Feb., 1841, and an incorporated city on the 5th of Aug., 1848.

The first village election was held in April, 1841, and the following village officers were chosen:

Elias Smith, president.

Consider Heath, Alanson Filer, Marshall M. Strong, Sidney A. Sage, trustees.

L. S. Cary, clerk.

The clerk's salary was \$10 per year.

The first judge of the District Court was Judge Frazier, 1838.

The first clerk of court for Racine County was Henry F. Cox.

The first board of aldermen in Racine was elected in 1848, and was composed as follows: William K. May, Roswell Morris, Moses Vilas, S. A. Sage, George D. Fellows, Alanson Filer, S. C. Yout, L. Bradley, S. S. Hurlbut, H. L. Allen.

The first officers of the City of Racine were elected in 1848, and were Reuben M. Norton, mayor; Isaiah G. Parker, clerk; C. G. Collins, treasurer and collector; William L. Utley, marshal; S. S. Dickinson, chief engineer.

Mound cemetery was dedicated June 5, 1852. This was the third cemetery location, the first being the block where the Winslow school now is, and the second, south of Racine College. The first sexton of Mound cemetery was Owen Roberts.

The first fire company was formed in 1843.

The first meeting of the Racine County Old Settlers' Society convened at Belle City Hall, June 1, 1870. The first picnic of the society was held at Franksville, at Robert's Grove, June 12, 1879.

The first president of the Old Settlers' Society was L. S. Blake.



1. LORENZO JANES was born in Washington Co., Vermont, Sept. 18, 1801; came to Racine in 1837; the second lawyer to locate here; one of the owners of the original plat of Racine. He died June 13, 1873.

2. BETHEA SAGE, wife of Joel Sage, was born at Westhampton, Mass., Aug. 1, 1785; came to Racine in 1836; died at Racine Aug. 16, 1867.

3. ALFRED CARY was born at Shoreham, Vt., Jan. 21, 1804; came to Racine in the fall of 1835; carpenter and builder; justice of the peace 12 years; one of the founders of the Presbyterian church. Died in Racine Jan. 6, 1887.

4. MARY KNIGHT CARY, wife of Alfred Cary, was born at Dummerston, Vt., Mar. 7, 1816. Came to Racine, June 1836. Was a sister of Albert G. Knight. Died in Racine, Nov. 13, 1889.

Children's children are the crown of old men. Prov. 17:6

The first bank organized in Racine was the Racine County Bank, now the First National, November 15, 1853.

The J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company was started by its founder, J. I. Case, in 1842.

The Mitchell-Lewis Motor Co. had its inception in Racine, in the Mitchell Wagon Co., which began its Racine career in 1855, piloted by Henry Mitchell, father of Frank Mitchell, and grandfather of Wm. Mitchell Lewis.

Free postal delivery was inaugurated in Racine, September 1, 1882. The first mail carriers were Elias Pritchard, Thomas Buckley, George Covert, Erastus Packard, and William Weinecke.

The earliest settler in Racine who is still living, is Lucy Foxwell, of Yorkville, who came March 2, 1837; she is 93 years old.

The earliest settler in Racine who is still living in Racine, is Alexander Hood, of 931 Geneva street, who came in May, 1838, and who is 84 years old.

On December 1, 1842, the trustees of Racine village caused to be prepared an exhibit of the population, trade and commerce of the town for that year, of which the following is an abstract:

The population was 800. In 1839 it was 300, and in 1844, it was 1,920.

Buildings erected during the year, 85.

Immigrants landed during the year, 3,500.

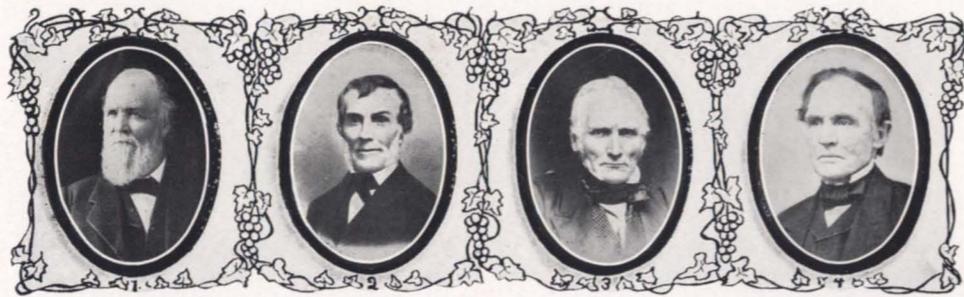
Total value of imports \$414,288.

Exports:—

Bushels of wheat, 38,000; bushels of oats, 5,000; barrels of flour, 800; barrels of pork, 350; barrels of beef, 100; dried hides, 20,000 lbs.; tons of lead, 10; tons of shot, 5.

There were three forwarding houses, eleven general stores, one auction and commission house, two stove stores, two copper and tin factories, four groceries, two drug stores, two shoe stores, three cabinet stores, eight lumber yards, two markets, four public houses, one printing house.

The total business done amounted to \$216,300.



1. LUCIUS SAWYER BLAKE was born at Burlington, Vt., Mar. 14, 1816; came to Racine in the fall of 1838; one of the early members of the Baptist church. Died in Racine, Nov. 4, 1894.

2. ELDAD SMITH was born in Granby, Mass., Oct. 16, 1797. Came to Racine County Sept. 1835, and to Racine in 1841. Postmaster under Polk and Fillmore; Lumber and grain exchange, and later insurance. Member St. Lukes church. He died Dec. 25, 1875. His daughter is the wife of Dr. John G. Meacham.

3. DR. ELIAS SMITH was born Jan. 3, 1798, in Vermont. Came to Racine in 1836; was first president of the village of Racine. Physician, retired for many years. Died April 24, 1881, at Racine, Wis.

4. REUBEN M. NORTON was born at Greenwich, Washington Co., New York, Sept. 1796; came to Racine in 1842; First Mayor, in 1848; was in grain and provisions, railroad, and lumber; left Racine in 1860; died in Chicago, Ill., April 24, 1884.

So then everyone of us shall give account of himself to God. Rom. 14:12

### THE IMMIGRATION.

Racine has a world-wide reputation for the diverse nature, as well as the high quality, of its manufactures.

More than sixteen old-world countries are represented, in substantial numbers, in the statistics of our population.

There may be—probably is—some relation between these two facts.

For many years the Scandinavians—Danes, Norwegians and Swedes—and the Germans, have predominated, in numbers, in the city, and they are still in the lead. In the last five or ten years, however, the people from Southern and Eastern Europe have been pouring in here in ever increasing numbers, and it will likely surprise the average native to note, in the census report presented herewith, the numbers of Austrians, Russians, Hungarians and Italians who have settled here recently.

We have been to some pains to prepare a table showing the foreign born population of Racine in 1910, in comparison with 1850.\* Some of the facts disclosed by these figures are startling, but their significance and the problems they present, will be left for consideration and solution to wiser heads than ours.

Foreign-born white population, by country of birth:

Country	1910 Number	1850 Number
All foreign countries.....	12,509	1223
Austria .....	1,126	
Canada .....	175	
Denmark .....	3,145	
England .....	364	466
Germany .....	2,888	503
Greece .....	118	1
Holland .....	119	
Hungary .....	507	

\*The figures for 1850 were taken from a table in the first Racine City Directory, published in 1850; those for 1910 are from the United States Census Report for that year.



1. A. CONSTANTINE BARRY was born in Delaware County, New York, July 15, 1815; came to Wisconsin and to Racine in 1846; was first sup't. of city schools; Universalist minister; died at Lodi, Wis., March 26, 1888.

2. ACHAS PERRY DUTTON was born at Batavia, New York, June 22, 1822; he came to Racine in the spring of 1841; was converted about 1893; and united with the church; died in Racine, Oct. 31, 1901.

3. ELIHU D. FILER was born January 12, 1814, came to Racine in the 30's, and was closely concerned with the city's early history; a brother of Alanson Filer; he died Oct. 11, 1882.

4. ROSWELL PARK was born at Lebanon, Conn., Oct. 1, 1807; he came to Racine in 1852; was the founder of Racine College, and rector of St. Luke's church. He died at Lake View, Chicago, July 16, 1869.

Better is a little with righteousness, than great revenues without right. Prov. 16:17

Country	1910 Number	1850 Number
Ireland .....	235	198
Italy .....	449	
Norway .....	770	27
Russia and Finland.....	1,552	
Scotland .....	154	
Sweden .....	320	
Switzerland .....	39	19
Turkey in Asia.....	208	
Wales .....	227	
All other countries.....	113	
France .....		1

In the following pages we are presenting some scraps of information that have been gathered, bearing on the beginnings of emigration to Racine from European countries, with portraits of some of the earliest settlers from each country. There is no pretense of any exhaustive or exact treatment of this subject, and the scope of it is limited, from lack of time and space, but we are persuaded that the statements made will be found approximately correct in every case, and they may furnish a suggestion of what might be done in a serious effort to write up this phase of the story of the peopling of Racine.

### THE DANES.

John Bangs, who came here in 1839, was the first of a line of scouts who heralded the coming "invasion" of Racine by the Danes. Although there were a few Danish men and women here in the forties, and a few more in the fifties, it was not until 1863—'4 and '5 and beyond, that they began to arrive in such numbers as to warrant the use of the above term in connection with their coming. Denmark has sent more of her sons and daughters to swell the present population of Racine than any other country. Germany is her only near rival.



1. JOHN BANGS was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1812; came to Racine in 1839 or 1840; first Dane to locate in Racine; was local preacher in Scandinavian Methodist church, and gave them their first building lot; alderman in 1851; went to Holland, Mich., in 1857, and died there Sept. 9, 1861.

2. ANTHONY HANSON was born in 1815 in Sackjibing, Denmark; came to America, and to Racine, May, 1850; worked for Tuckerman & May; grocer on North Side; alderman 4th ward; father of Mrs. W. G. Barker; died in 1869.

3. FREDERICK NELSON was born in Denmark and came to Racine in 1857; blacksmith; volunteer soldier in the Rebellion, killed in 1863; member of Norwegian Methodist church; brother of Mrs. James Rasmussen and brother-in-law of Mrs. Anna Knight.

4. PETER CHRISTIAN LUTKIN was born in Kolding, Denmark, Nov. 16, 1812; he came to America and to Thompsonville, Racine County, in 1844; moved into Racine in 1859; grocer; moved to Chicago in 1863, and died there in the spring of 1872; member of the Episcopal church.

A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. James 1:8.

We recently had an interesting letter from Mrs. George W. Warvelle, of Chicago, a daughter of John Bangs, in which she says—"I don't know when he came to Racine but in 1850 he lived there with his three brothers, Alexander, Lawrence, and Nelson, and his sister Octavia. In 1851 he was elected an alderman; Jan. 15, 1852 he was elected trustee of the Scandinavian Evangelical Congregation. February 13, 1852, he was married to Margaret Handly of Milwaukee, by the Rev. Abram Hanson, my uncle, in Kenosha. They had four children, Lydia, William, Mary D., and John. I was the oldest. We lived a short distance from the church, and next door to Mr. J. I. Case, but one. During the panic of 1857, my father lost his home and property and went to Holland, Mich., where he died." John Bangs and Abraham Hanson, our pastor in 1850, married sisters.

Peter Christian Lutkin was born in Kolding, Denmark, November 16, 1812. He came to America and to Racine County in 1844, settling at Thompsonville, where he went to farming in true pioneer style. He was at one time a member of the state legislature. In 1859 he came to Racine, and engaged in the grocery business with Mr. Heidenheim until 1863, when he went to Chicago, and died there in the spring of 1872. Mr. F. M. Knapp was at one time a partner in the above mentioned grocery business. Mr. Lutkin's son, Peter C., who will be remembered by old residents, as a pianist of talent, is at present Dean of the Music School of Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill.

There are seven thriving Danish churches in the city, in two of which the Trinity and Bethany churches, they are associated with the Norwegians, though the latter predominate.

There are also two large secular societies among the Danish residents of Racine—The Danish Brotherhood, and the Dania Society; the former numbers about 840 members, and the latter 600. These societies are housed in large buildings of their own.



1. CATHARINE DAVIS, mother of Margaret Lewis, was born in Montgomeryshire, Wales, in 1801; came to America and to Racine in August, 1841; died in Racine, Aug. 15, 1868.

2. MARGARET LEWIS, mother of John H. Lewis, was born in Montgomeryshire, Wales, Aug. 1, 1829; came to America and to Racine in August, 1841; lives at 915 College Ave.

3. JAMES PUGH was born in Merionethshire, N. Wales, in Dec., 1820; came to America in 1841, and to Racine in 1842; died in Racine, May 30, 1890.

4. JEANNETTE PUGH, wife of James Pugh, was born in Merionethshire, N. Wales, July, 1821; came to America in 1841, and to Racine in 1842; died in Racine in 1892.

Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith. Prov. 15:17.

#### THE WELSH.

The Welsh emigration to Racine began in the summer of 1841, with the arrival of Thomas Davis and Catharine, his wife, Griffith Richards, Thomas Jehu, and a considerable company of others, in August of that year. All of them except Mr. Davis and family scattered into the surrounding country and further, some to become farmers, and some to settle in other communities to the west of us.

Beside his wife, Mr. Davis' family consisted of a daughter, Margaret, 12 years old, who later married Evan Lewis, a mason contractor; and two sons, Thomas R. and David W., 3 and 5 years old respectively. In their seventy years residence here, these three have never been separated for a single week, the brothers not having married, and always living with their sister, at 909 College avenue, who is the mother of John H. Lewis, ex-alderman of Racine.

Thos. Davis is with the Porter Furniture Co., in whose employ he has been for over sixty years.

In the winter of 1841-2, the members of the Davis family were the only Welsh people in Racine, but in the spring of 1842, James Pugh and his affianced bride, Jeannette Hughes, arrived, and were the first Welsh couple married in Racine, the ceremony being performed during the summer of 1842. Mr. Pugh and Miss Hughes came over on the same ship that brought the Davis family, but spent the winter of '41-2 in Newark, Ohio. William Hughes, father of Jeanette Hughes, and Humphrey Thomas, walked from Newark, Ohio, to Racine.

John, George, and William Pugh are sons of James Pugh.

Since 1842 there has been a steady immigration of Welsh people to Racine, until at this time, as for many years past, they constitute an important factor in the business, social, political and religious life of the community.

#### THE NORWEGIANS.

In October, 1841, a company of twenty-one Norwegian immigrants arrived in Racine, only one of whom remained, the others going out into the country west of here. Ann N. Sellem, a young unmarried woman, got work



1. ANN N. SELLEM was born at Voss, Norway, March, 1812; came to America, and to Racine in October, 1841; the first Norwegian settler; married Nelson Johnson in 1843; mother of J. W. Johnson, 2321 Washington Ave., Racine; died at Decorah, Iowa, May, 1883.

2. TORBJORN GUNLENSON was born at Seljord, Norway, April 6, 1806; came to Racine County in 1845, and to Racine in 1846; boarding house keeper. Died at Racine, Sept. 4, 1880.

3. THORA GUNLENSON, wife of Torbjorn Gunlenson, was born at Seljord, Norway, Aug. 17, 1803; came to Racine County in 1845, and to Racine in 1846; died in Racine Sept. 4, 1882.

4. BETSY TORBJORN, daughter of Torbjorn and Thora Gunlenson, was born at Seljord, Norway, March 4, 1844; came to Racine in 1846, and has lived here continuously since; for 18 years has been seamstress at Taylor Orphan Asylum.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Gen. 1:27.

in the family of Joel Sage, over near State and Huron Streets, and some months later with the family of Roswell Canfield, grandfather of Mrs. F. R. Kelley, who lived in a house on the lot at 723 Main Street. In 1843 Miss Sellem was married, at the Canfield residence, to Nelson Johnson, and they moved out to Raymond, Racine Co., to live. In 1850 they moved to Decorah, Ia., and Mrs. Johnson died there. J. W. Johnson, ex-chief of police of Racine, is the son of Nelson and Ann Johnson.

The Norwegians who have emigrated to America, have taken largely to farming, and few, comparatively, have settled in the cities. A census of Racine county would doubtless show more Norwegians outside the city, than in it.

In 1845 Torbjorn Gunlenson came to America, and to Racine the following year. In the old country he followed the occupation of tailor, but he and his wife kept a boarding house when they lived in Racine. They had a two-story house on the south side of Fourth street, east of Lake avenue, where the Secor Trunk Factory now is.

The Norwegians kept coming steadily after 1850, and in 1854, they organized a Scandinavian Methodist church, and put up a building at the south end of Huron street, on the river bank; Rev. C. C. Wildrup, the first Norwegian-Danish Methodist minister west of New York, organized the church. Trinity church on La Salle street, is the outgrowth of this first Scandinavian Society.

The census of 1910 shows 770 foreign born Norwegians in Racine. They are law-abiding, industrious, progressive; a desirable and a welcome addition to any community.

#### THE GERMANS

The Germans began coming to Racine in 1842, the first three arriving a month or six weeks apart in that year, and in the following order: George Hyde, who did not remain here long; Peter Hettrich, or "Dutch Pete" as everybody called him, who is conceded to be the first real settler here among



1. JOHN C. SMITH was born near Frankfort Bavaria, Germany, Feb. 23, 1819; came to America in 1840, and to Racine in 1842; was a baker and confectioner; one of the founders of the German Evangelical Church in Racine; he died Dec. 8, 1895.

2. GEORGE WUSTUM was born Feb. 24, 1815, in Bavaria, Germany; came to America in 1838; lived in N. Y. City, and in Troy, N. Y., and came to Racine in 1844; mayor of Racine in 1855; died at Racine April 14, 1892.

3. BARBARA ORTNER WUSTUM, wife of George Wustum, was born in Bavaria, Germany, July 19, 1817; came to America in 1839; married Aug. 2, 1840; came to Racine in 1844; died at Racine, Oct. 27, 1884.

4. JOHN KRANTZ was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Oct. 8, 1819; came to Rochester, N. Y., in 1842, and to Racine in 1844; began the paper business in 1850, and continued it until his death, April 11, 1904.

So God created man in his own image. Gen. 1:27.

the Germans; and John C. Smith, the baker, who was an honored resident for 53 years.

There were perhaps other arrivals between '42 and '44, but we have been unable to learn of any. In 1844 many German immigrants settled here; John Krantz, George Wustum and wife, and Jacob Esser, are among those who came that year.

Mr. Krantz was in the paper business in Racine for 54 years, or until his death in 1904. Wm. Krantz, his son, continues the business.

Geo. Wustum, mayor of Racine in 1855, was a butcher, and for 48 years was a man of standing and of force in the community. Charles A. Wustum, of Northwestern avenue, is his son.

Jacob Esser was a stone-mason, a musician, father of Mrs. J. A. Bernhard, 1300 Villa street; he died Feb. 14, 1887. Other Germans who came in the forties were M. Ahrens, Joseph Miller, Ernst C. Hueffner, Peter Hilton, John Niebergal and Peter Soens.

There are at present about 3000 foreign born German residents of Racine, and probably a great many more than that number of American born Germans. It is no doubt true that counting the American born, the Germans outnumber all other nationalities in this city.

#### THE BOHEMIANS.

Anthony Kroupa, one of the earliest Bohemian settlers in Racine, was a woolen weaver in his old country home, and came to Racine without means; he could not find profitable work at his trade here, and got a position with John Conroe, a pioneer hardware dealer, as general utility man. He attended to business so well that before many years he owned a large store of his own, and retired in old age, after a prosperous career as a merchant.

Frank Korizek was the founder of the first Bohemian newspaper in the United States, the "Slovan-Amerikansky," its first number being issued Jan. 1, 1860; the name was later changed to "Slavie" and it is still published here, and is the most influential and widely circulated Bohemian newspaper in



1. CHARLES JONAS was born in Malesov, Bohemia, Oct. 30th, 1840; came to America and to Racine in 1863; journalist, author; diplomat; Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin; died Jan. 15, 1896, while consul general to Crefeld, Germany; buried in National Cemetery at Prague, Bohemia.

2. ANTHONY KROUPA was born in Vlasim, Bohemia, in 1816; came to America in 1848, and to Racine in spring of 1849; hardware dealer; died in Racine, Oct. 30th, 1900.

3. FRANK KORIZEK was born at Letovice, Moravia, 1820; came to America and to Racine, in 1854; founder of "the Slavie"; died March 12, 1899.

4. MARTIN M. SECOR was born in Strakonitz, Bohemia, Austria, Feb. 4th, 1841; came to Racine in 1852; trunk manufacturer; twice mayor of Racine; died in Racine, Jan. 5th, 1911.

Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established. Prov. 16:3.

the United States. Mr. Korizek sold his interest in the "Slavie," in 1868, to Fred Jonas, brother of Carl Jonas, who conducted the paper successfully for 30 years.

Martin M. Secor is one of the early Bohemian settlers, who, starting at the bottom, made a financial success in business. He was chief owner at the time of his death, of one of the largest trunk factories in the country.

Charles Jonas, although not among the earliest settlers in Racine, was one of the most distinguished of his countrymen who came to Wisconsin, and it is fitting that he should have a place in this sketch. Banished from Prague in 1860 for opinions sake, he went to London, and in 1863 came to Racine, and took charge of the "Slavie" with which he was connected until his death.

Mr. Jonas was an author with a prolific pen, his chief work perhaps, being a "Dictionary of the Bohemian and English languages, in Both Parts," published in Racine, in 1876.

In politics he was a Democrat, and has served Wisconsin as assemblyman, state senator, and lieutenant governor. He has served his adopted country as consul to Prague, and consul general to St. Petersburg, and later as consul to Crefeld, Germany, where he died.

His countrymen are erecting at this time an imposing statue to his memory in the park on the lake front at North Chatham and Barker streets.

Other early Bohemian settlers in Racine were Joseph Novotny, Ignatz Shouba, Joseph Stransky, Joseph Welfl, and John Liegler.

### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The first fire company was formed in Racine in 1843, and Chester W. White, Amaziah Stebbins, and Elias Smith were appointed fire wardens.

In 1849 the fire department was organized as follows:

- Elijah N. Aiken.....Chief Engineer
- M. G. Armour.....First Asst. Engineer
- C. A. Lathrop.....Second Asst. Engineer

### Fire Wardens.

- George S. Wright.....First Ward
- O. A. Stafford.....Second Ward
- Moses Vilas.....Third Ward
- Geo. D. Fellows.....Fourth Ward
- Mark Miller.....Fifth Ward.

### Engine Co. No. 1.

- C. W. Spafard.....Foreman
- S. S. Dickinson.....First Asst. Foreman
- E. W. Smith.....Second Asst. Foreman
- Wm. K. May.....Clerk
- A. Stewart.....Treasurer
- Edwin Gould.....Trustee Committee
- P. W. Wheeler.....Trustee Committee
- Alex Bishop.....Trustee Committee

### Members

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. C. W. Spafard.   | 24. S. S. Dickinson.  |
| 2. Wm. K. May.      | 25. James Tomlinson.  |
| 3. M. G. Armour.    | 26. S. F. Heath.      |
| 4. Edwin Gould.     | 27. R. Chadwick.      |
| 5. Wm. S. Rice.     | 27. James Fleming.    |
| 6. Orrin S. Taylor. | 29. Ira Dean.         |
| 7. J. I. Case.      | 30. Oliver Deardorf.  |
| 8. E. W. Smith.     | 31. D. McGillicuddy.  |
| 9. E. Putnam.       | 32. P. B. Lamb.       |
| 10. A. J. Redburn.  | 33. A. Stewart.       |
| 11. Wm. Buckingham. | 34. Samuel G. Knight. |
| 12. Chauncey Hall.  | 35. J. M. Killup      |
| 13. Gilbert Tate.   | 36. J. M. Burbeck.    |
| 14. E. Foster.      | 37. R. B. Lefler.     |
| 15. John Ramsdell.  | 38. J. H. Hines.      |
| 16. L. J. Bangs.    | 39. Wm. J. Turnbull.  |
| 17. David McDonald. | 40. Edmond Canfield.  |
| 18. N. D. Fratt.    | 41. John E. Schoby.   |
| 19. E. Q. Wallace.  | 42. Erastus Ramsdell. |
| 20. H. S. Norton.   | 43. S. S. Hurlbut.    |
| 21. P. B. Wheeler.  | 44. James Nield.      |
| 22. H. H. Watson.   | 45. E. A. Roby.       |
| 23. Alex. Bishop.   |                       |

There were three engine companies in 1849, and a hook and ladder company. The hook and ladder company was constituted as follows:

### Protection Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1.

- Thos. W. Wright.....Foreman
- J. O. Bartlett.....Asst. Foreman
- W. M. Goodwin.....Secretary

### Members.

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. I. N. Parker.   | 6. Harvey Smith.  |
| 2. William Cowles. | 7. S. Bradley.    |
| 3. Martin Clancy.  | 8. John S. Eaton. |
| 4. F. W. De Berard | 9. Nahum Bangs.   |
| 5. S. D. Clough.   | 10. F. W. Fratt.  |

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 11. A. B. Tyrell.   | 18. Frederick Fafer. |
| 12. J. C. Botsford. | 19. Michael Truggo.  |
| 13. John Leroy.     | 20. Robert Hamilton. |
| 14. J. H. Carlton.  | 21. Wm. Jones.       |
| 15. H. S. Durand.   | 22. Lawrence Laliar. |
| 16. E. Raymond, Jr. | 23. N. Mulford.      |
| 17. J. W. English.  | 24. L. S. Blake.     |

Number two engine company was officered as follows:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Sterling P. Rounds.....                   | Foreman              |
| H. T. Taylor.....                         | First Asst. Foreman  |
| K. R. Olmstead.....                       | Second Asst. Foreman |
| J. H. Sutherland.....                     | Secretary            |
| S. G. Collins.....                        | Steward              |
| Geo. I. Reed, H. S. Cary, A. R. Gray..... | Trustees             |

Engine company No. 3 was composed entirely of Welshmen, and was officered as follows:

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Evan Lewis.....                                  | Foreman              |
| Thomas Evans.....                                | First Asst. Foreman  |
| John Jones.....                                  | Second Asst. Foreman |
| W. W. Vaughn.....                                | Clerk                |
| John James.....                                  | Treasurer            |
| John H. Evans, Owen Roberts, David Prichard..... | Trustees             |

Number 4 company was located on the North Side—in Canada—and the engine house was on the south end of the block on which the Janes school now is, and faced on Barker street. The roll of the charter members of this company is almost equivalent to a census of the male adult residents of that side of the river at that time.

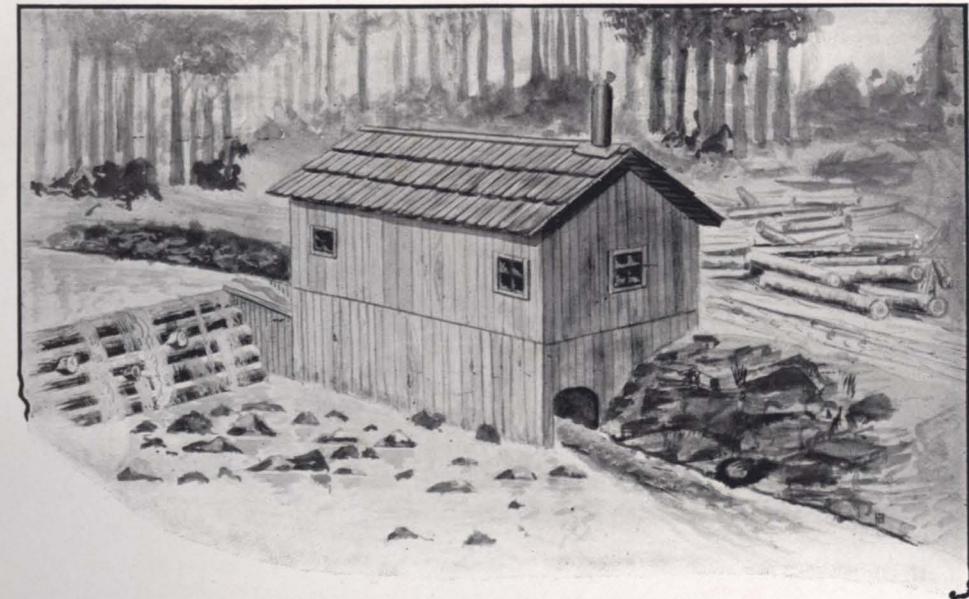
It was organized Dec. 14, 1868, with the following officers and members:

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A. B. Finch.....               | Foreman                     |
| Joseph Bohn.....               | First Asst. Foreman.        |
| Nicholas Beffel.....           | Second Asst. Foreman        |
| C. P. Haas.....                | Secretary                   |
| C. L. Hass.....                | Treasurer                   |
| C. G. Racine.....              | Steward                     |
| Paul Bohn, Jacob Sebastin..... | Trustees                    |
| Michael Bohn.....              | Foreman of hose             |
| Fredrick Haas.....             | First Asst. Foreman of Hose |

Members.

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. A. B. Finch.     | 15. Dan. McGehan.      |
| 2. Patrick Coen.    | 16. Henry Hoenschnetz. |
| 3. Ben. Sebastian.  | 17. Chas. Haas.        |
| 4. C. S. Brearley.  | 18. Fred Malsch.       |
| 5. C. G. Racine.    | 19. Philip Racine.     |
| 6. J. T. Coeby.     | 20. Fred Racine.       |
| 7. P. Beffel.       | 21. J. E. Debauffer.   |
| 8. Paul Bohn.       | 22. Edgar J. Cole.     |
| 9. Jacob Sebastian. | 23. Asa D. Finch.      |
| 10. Michael Bohn.   | 24. H. M. Wentworth.   |
| 11. Joseph Bohn.    | 25. Oren White.        |
| 12. Joseph Fischer. | 26. H. Sebastian.      |
| 13. L. Racine.      | 27. Henry Grey.        |
| 14. H. Racine.      | 28. James Easson.      |

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 29. Larry Easson.      | 52. James Kinney.          |
| 30. Jacob Haas.        | 53. Thomas K. Fullum.      |
| 31. Francis Underhill. | 54. M. H. White.           |
| 32. John Benning.      | 55. John Fredricks.        |
| 33. Wm. Kelley.        | 56. Warren Churchill.      |
| 34. Adam Eifler.       | 57. G. H. Weifenbach.      |
| 35. Frank Billinger.   | 58. C. Bettray.            |
| 36. Edward Weifenbach. | 59. Anton Elmlinger.       |
| 37. Christ. Wustum.    | 60. F. Haas.               |
| 38. George Avard.      | 61. R. White.              |
| 39. J. I. Klein.       | 62. C. Wheeler.            |
| 40. Tyler Curtis.      | 63. C. P. Haas.            |
| 41. Patrick Rowan.     | 64. George Gondert.        |
| 42. James Brearley.    | 65. John Brown.            |
| 43. Henry Hankin.      | 66. James Follin.          |
| 44. Thomas Forbes.     | 67. Patrick Devine.        |
| 45. James Hendrie.     | 68. Nicholas J. Beffel.    |
| 46. Chas. C. Finch.    | 69. D. S. Abessor.         |
| 47. Martin Judge.      | 70. John Conners.          |
| 48. John Shaw.         | 71. Anthony Duffey, No. 2. |
| 49. William Higgie.    | 72. John Duffey.           |
| 50. William Jones.     | 73. Michael Seatz.         |
| 51. Daniel Sullivan.   | 74. J. Underhill.          |



WILLIAM SEE'S SAW MILL.

There have been many allusions in this Racine chapter, and in the chapter on Pioneer Days, to the saw-mill of William See, which he built at the Rapids in the early spring of 1835; we have not seen anywhere in print, anything with reference to its exact location, its appearance, or its equipment. In a recent

conversation with Mr. Alexander Hood, the oldest living settler of Racine who lives here, he gave us a description of the mill, which was probably the first saw-mill in Wisconsin.

Mr. Hood says that this mill was put up on the East side of the river, almost directly opposite the present grist mill. It was a one story building, with gable roof, about 24x30 ft. in dimensions, with about 10 ft. studding. The bottom timbers were laid on a level with the river bed, the bank being dug out to accommodate them; upright timbers or posts were attached to these to bring the mill floor proper on a level with the river bank; a log dam was built across the river, with a flume on the left bank, in which was fixed a large undershot mill-wheel, about 20 or 25 ft. in diameter. Attached to this wheel was a wooden shaft 2½ ft. in diameter, and about 30 ft. long, which extended into the mill, and by means of gearing, applied the power to the mill machinery, which at the beginning was simply one large "frame" saw, which worked on the same principle as a "jig" saw.

This shaft was made of one of the finest specimens of black walnut trees that was ever seen, Mr. Hood says, and was the result of a search of the woods for miles around.

About 1840, the south end of the building was partitioned off, and Artemus Walker, a brother of James Walker, put in a lathe and circle saw, and did cabinet work there, using the water power for his machinery.

At that time the timber grew heavy, quite close to the banks on both sides of the river, except in the immediate vicinity of the mill. The log-way was to the East and South of the building, the East side of it being open from the ground up about 8 ft.

North of the mill, at a distance of about 50 rods was the grove where was held the first camp meeting in the state of Wisconsin, in the summer of 1838, a full account of which is found in the chapter on pioneers.

The accompanying picture of the saw-mill is made up with painstaking care, from the description furnished by Alex. Hood and C. A. Wustum. In the spring flood of 1864 the mill was dislodged from its foundations and floated down the river, as far as the farm of George Wustum, where it stayed.



## Pioneer Days and the Pioneers

The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad.

It used to be said that "When a new town is started in the west, a Methodist minister will be found riding in on the cow-catcher of the first train."

This expression was a picturesque attempt by an outsider, to describe or illustrate the alertness of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in caring for the religious needs of new communities.

Literally interpreted, it does not do justice to the situation: for as a matter of fact, the Methodist minister is more apt to be a prominent member of the committee of arrangements to celebrate the arrival of the first train, than to be a passenger on it.

But as a figurative expression, intended to depict the Methodist minister as in the van-guard of the extension work of our civilization, it is a fairly accurate appreciation of the facts in the case.

It was almost twenty years before the railroad reached Racine, that the first Methodist minister was regularly appointed to this station. In the fall of 1836, Samuel Pillsbury was sent by the Illinois Annual Conference of our church, in whose bounds we were at that time, to Root River Mission, which was identical with Racine. He was the first preacher regularly stationed here, and lived on the east side of Main street, near Seventh. (See chapter on church buildings.)

But about twenty months before his arrival, there were loyal and devout Methodists on the ground, for the first four men to settle in Racine after Gilbert Knapp located his claim in Nov. 1834, were Stephen Campbell, William See, Paul Kingston, and Edmond Weed, who arrived from Chicago Jan. 2, 1835. These were Methodist men; devout christians, as well as sturdy pioneers.

Harrison Fay and Mr. Newton arrived about the same time, and for the first few months in the life of the settlement these six men constituted its Methodist community.

Wm. See settled at the Rapids, and Mr. Weed made a claim on the lands which later became the homestead of Nicholas Fratt, just west of Mound Cemetery; technically therefore these two men did not locate in Racine at this



1. DANIEL SLAUSON was born April 25, 1798; came to Racine in company with William Bull, in September 1837; local preacher, trustee, and steward of the church until his death May 12, 1865.

2. LUCY FOXWELL, wife of John Foxwell, was born in Zanesville, Ohio, Aug. 30, 1820; came to Racine Mar. 2, 1837; moved to Yorkville in March, 1856, and still lives there.

3. ALANSON FILER was born in Herkimer Co., New York, Mar. 10, 1812 and came to Racine Nov. 22, 1835; one of the founders of our church; chairman of first board of trustees; steward; died at Evanston, Ill., Dec. 19, 1911; buried at Racine, Wis., Dec. 21, 1911.

4. MARIA PILKINGTON FILER, wife of Alanson Filer, was born in 1810, and died in Racine, Wis. July 7, 1888; one of the founders of the church; a daughter of Paul Kingston.

Lord, thou has been our dwelling place in all generations.—Psa. 90:1.

time, but their relations with the town, and with the church, were so close and intimate, as to make them really a part of them; especially was this true of Wm. See, whose saw mill was a great convenience to the settlers, during the first few years.

Wm. See was a local preacher, a member of the Illinois Conference since 1825, and had traveled the Peoria circuit; he used to preach occasionally in Racine, as is testified to by Alanson Filer, and by Stephen Campbell.

Jonathan M. Snow is another man who came here early in 1836, and who became a Methodist preacher in 1838, joining the Illinois Conference at that time.

#### The First Sermon.

It has been claimed for Rev. Cyrus Nichols, a Presbyterian clergyman, that the first sermon preached in Racine was delivered by him on the first Sunday in September, 1836.

In his "Historical Address" to the old settlers of Racine County, published in 1871, Charles E. Dyer says: "This is a mistake. Mr. Stephen Campbell tells me that the first sermon was preached by a Rev. Mr. Robinson, who came as a missionary. Jonathan M. Snow and William See also preached occasionally before the arrival of Mr. Nichols. Rev. Mr. Nichols was undoubtedly the first clergyman of the Presbyterian denomination in Racine and vicinity."

From Kingston's Recollections in the Wisconsin Historical Collections, we quote the following:

\*"Rev. Jesse Walker, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, preached the first sermon in Racine; this was in the month of June or July, 1835."

\* Father Walker was born in Virginia, preached in Tennessee and Kentucky until 1807, and in Illinois and Missouri from 1808 to 1824, and was later a missionary to the Indians. In 1830 he was a Missionary at Chicago, and came to Port Gilbert, (Racine) in 1835 as stated. He died in the fall of that year, at the house of his son-in-law, Edward Everitt, twelve miles west of Chicago.



1. ALBERT G. KNIGHT was born at Brattleboro, Vt., May 28, 1808; came to Racine in the spring of 1836; steward; trustee; loyal church supporter all of his life; died in Racine, Jan. 5, 1886.

2. DELIA GAZLEY KNIGHT, first wife of Albert G. Knight, was born Dec. 14, 1813; was married Nov. 12, 1832, and came to Racine in 1836. She died in Racine, April 18, 1858.

3. WILLIAM BULL was born in Orange County, N. Y., Sept. 5, 1806; came to Racine in Sept. 1837, in company with Dan'l. Slauson, pioneer member of church; trustee; steward, farmer. Died in Racine, May 23, 1891.

4. LUCETTA SEELEY BULL, first wife of Wm. Bull, was born Mar. 1, 1813, and died at Chicago, Ill., April 4, 1891. Mrs. Bull's mother and Mrs. Daniel Slauson were sisters.

Godliness with contentment is great gain. 1 Tim. 6:6.

Stephen Campbell and J. T. Kingston came to Racine in December, 1834, or in January, 1835, though not in company, and Gilbert Knapp is the only settler who preceded them. The testimony of these two men should, therefore, be conclusive in so far as it relates to the claim of priority in the matter. There is no doubt that three or four regular Methodist ministers held religious services with preaching, months before Mr. Nichols appeared on the scene,—some of them more than a year, and the only uncertainty is as to which Methodist preached the first sermon.

Alanson Filer, who came in 1835, also says that Mr. See used to preach occasionally.

Mark Robinson was the Methodist preacher in charge of the Milwaukee Mission in 1835, and undoubtedly visited Racine and preached to the people in the fall of that year, and in the spring of 1836, as stated by Stephen Campbell. The first regularly stationed Methodist preacher was sent to Racine in the fall of 1836.

There is no desire to deprive Mr. Nichols of what credit or honor is due him, which is considerable, but Methodist preachers have usually been pioneer missionaries in new communities, and there was no exception in the case of Racine.

#### First Campmeeting in Wisconsin.

The first recorded or published account that we can find of a Methodist meeting being held in Racine or vicinity, is that contained in the Racine Argus of Aug. 15, 1838, and is a description, quite in detail, of the first camp-meeting ever held in the Territory of Wisconsin. Notice of this camp-meeting was printed in the Argus of July 25, 1838.

The following is a verbatim copy of the notice, and of the account of the meeting:



1. STEPHEN CAMPBELL was born Feb. 28, 1808; he was one of the founders of the church, and of the city; steward and trustee for many years. Came to Racine Jan. 2, 1835; he died in Milwaukee, Feb. 18, 1887.

2. FANNIE CAMPBELL, wife of Stephen Campbell, was born Aug. 5, 1822; was one of the founders of our church; died March, 1898.

3. THERON H. KIDDER was born at Weathersfield, Vt., Feb. 12, 1805. Came to Racine 1848; class leader and steward in the church, was a merchant in business. Left Racine in 1866 and died in East Orange, N. J., Apr. 6, 1891. Great-grandfather of Ralph Dean, a young member of our church.

4. PERMELIA A. LEE, wife of Alanson H. Lee, and mother of Chas. H. Lee, was born in the State of New York about 1817; came to Racine in 1840; devoted member of the church until her death, Aug. 3, 1853.

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. Col. 3:2.

Racine Argus—July 25, 1838.

**CAMP MEETING.**—We are requested to give notice that a camp meeting will be held on Root river, nigh the Rapids, in the town of Racine, commencing on Thursday, the 2nd day of August next.

Lumber is offered to all who wish to build tents on the camp ground, free of cost.

Racine Argus—August 15, 1838.

“A camp meeting was held in this town, nigh the rapids on Root river, which commenced on the second inst., and continued four days. The place selected was a beautiful grove on the land of Mr. See. The weather, with the exception of one rainy night, was pleasant. The congregation was large for a country as new as this. It was estimated that 1000 people were present during a part of the time. Many attended from a great distance.

We were happy to see the first camp meeting held in the Territory conducted with so much decorum and propriety, and that there was no disposition manifested by any one who attended, to make disturbance, which is too often the case in meetings of this kind. Many sermons were delivered by the different clergymen, which breathed the spirit of deep devotion and fervid eloquence; the simple truths of religion were enforced in a manner that impressed solemnity on all, and conviction on the minds of many of the hearers. We have no doubt that the first camp meeting in this territory will be long remembered by many

“Who came to scoff, but remained to pray.”

We were present on Friday evening. The service was peculiarly sublime and solemn. The congregation were seated in an area in the midst of a beau-



1. WILLIAM HANSON was born in England in 1785. Came to America and to Racine in 1849; was a class leader; a tailor by trade; Abraham Hanson, our pastor in 1850, was his son. He died in Racine, May 27, 1874.

2. MARY BUCKLEY was born at Stockport, England, in 1814; came to America and to Racine in 1843. Died in Racine in 1888, after a life filled with good works.

3. WILLIAM LUNN was born in England, Apr. 18, 1812. Came to America and to Racine July, 1849. Was S. School teacher and local preacher; harness maker by trade. Father of John, William and Mary E. Lunn. Died July 27, 1870, in Racine, Wis.

4. JEMIMA B. LUNN, wife of Wm. Lunn, was born in Sheffield, Eng., Jan. 21, 1812; was local preacher of Wesleyan Association in England. Came to America and to Racine in July, 1849. Preached occasionally in Racine. Mother of John and Mary E. Lunn, and Wm. E. Lunn. She died in Racine, Wis., Aug. 17, 1889.

Abstain from all appearance of evil. 1 Thess. 5:22.

tiful grove, canopied by the green foliage of the trees, and brilliantly illuminated by fires on platforms elevated five or six feet from the ground. In the front was the stand of the clergymen. The still silence of the evening was broken by the song of praise from the lips of the congregation. That at length ceased, and the officiating clergyman offered up an earnest and impressive prayer.

The song again echoed through the grove. The sermon was then delivered, and as the speaker became warmed and animated by his subject, portraying in a feeling and impressive manner the divine truths of the gospel, he seemed to touch a responsive chord in the breast of every hearer. It was a scene which no one who witnessed it can soon forget.

We are glad to learn that the Conference have resolved to hold a camp meeting in the same place on June next.”

It will be noted that no mention is made of any particular church or preacher in either of the items, but when it is remembered that Methodists were the only people in those days who held camp meetings;” and that Methodists had the only church organization and regular preacher at that time, in Racine or vicinity; and that the camp meeting was held on the grounds of an old Methodist local preacher and circuit rider, Mr. Wm. See, it would seem to establish beyond question, the fact that it was under Methodist auspices that this meeting was held.

There is no doubt, either, that the invitation to the meeting included everybody within a hundred miles of Racine, of any and every or no shade of religious opinion.



1. JAMES LANGLOIS was born in the Island of Guernsey, June 18, 1816; came to America in 1832, and to Racine before 1840; steward; trustee; S. S. supt.; died Sept. 2, 1897 in Guernsey.

2. MARY B. CONROE, wife of John G. Conroe, was born at Barry, Mass., Feb. 19, 1814; she was the donor of the present pipe organ in our church; died Apr. 7, 1895.

3. SIMEON C. YOUT was born at Hoosick, Renselaer Co., N. Y., Nov. 3, 1814. Educated at Genesee Wesleyan Univ.; came to Racine June, 1844; school teacher; merchant; insurance; city treasurer 6 years; city assessor 6 years; class leader; S. School Supt.; steward; trustee; died in Chicago, Aug. 7, 1890.

4. MARY PHILLIPS YOUT, wife of S. C. Yout, was born at Ashfield, Mass., Jan. 12, 1823. Came to Racine in 1844; united with the church; S. School teacher; choir singer; active in social and devotional meetings; married at Clifton Springs, N. Y., Sept. 19, 1843. Nov lives in Chicago.

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. Heb. 4-9.

It is quite likely that some of the conservative church people of today will find it difficult to credit the estimate that "1000 people were present a part of the time:" but settlers in the territory were widely scattered, and their opportunities for social intercourse, and for religious worship were meagre, and it is not surprising that they would make an event of importance, out of what might today be esteemed an incident of little note.

It was doubtless true that "many attended from a great distance," and if there were not a full thousand there, it is also doubtless true that it was a notable gathering, and a large one.

So far as we are aware, this is the first account in a Methodist history, of this first camp-meeting on Wisconsin soil, and it is of historical importance, not only because it was the first meeting of the kind, but as showing the live, energetic character of the Methodist pioneers in the city, and in the state, and their determination to preserve and strengthen their religious organization and life.

I asked Mr. A. Filer in September, 1911, if he remembered this camp-meeting, and he said "O, yes, I remember it very well." Mrs. Lucy Foxwell also talked with me very interestingly in February, 1912, about it; she said that her father had a tent there, and the whole family lived on the grounds during the four days of the meeting. She says that Elder Stebbins (Salmon Stebbins) and Mr. Curtis (Otis F. Curtis, our pastor at the time) were the only preachers she remembers as being in attendance, though there may have been others.

Alexander Hood, of 931 Geneva street, who came here in May, 1838, also remembers attending the camp-meeting with his parents, who were Methodists.



1. SIMEON WHITLEY was born at Huddersfield, England, March 18, 1831; came to Racine August 29, 1842; Sunday School superintendent, trustee and steward; died January 13, 1890.

2. JANE WHITELEY, wife of S. Whiteley, was born Mar. 5, 1836, in Wayne Co., N. Y. Came to Racine August, 1836; S. School teacher; Pres. of W. F. M. S. for 20 yrs.; died at Racine, July 11, 1907.

3. JOHN LUNN was born in England, Nov. 30, 1836. Came to America and to Racine July, 1849. Joined the church 1856. Sunday School secretary and teacher. Steward; trustee; organ blower; organist and chorister 30 years; piano tuner. Lives at 724 Villa Street.

4. ANNE GREAVES GERRY was born at Staningley, near Leeds, Eng., May 25, 1832. Came to America in 1849, and to Racine same year. Joined the church at once. Married Thos. Gerry in 1855. Niece of Abram Hanson. Moved to Chicago in 1862, where she now lives.

How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation. Heb. 2-3.

He describes the platform fires as being made by driving four forked saplings into the ground, and laying poles across to make a platform to hold the fire, about five or six feet above the ground. These were used to light the premises.

He relates also that during one evening when he was present, some rough fellows attempted to break up the meeting with a large dinner horn which they blew incessantly, keeping just out of the circle of light, and shifting position frequently. They disturbed the meeting though they did not break it up, and were soon "persuaded" to desist.

#### PIONEER CHURCH LIFE.

Of the intimate life and activities of the pastors and church members in the earliest days of our church in Racine, we have little knowledge. We know that the preachers had certain circuits to care for, which kept them on the move most of the time: they had not only the church at the town or settlement where they made their home, to look after, but from three or four, to a dozen other stations, within walking or riding distance, which they were expected to visit periodically, and preach the gospel, minister to the sick, bury the dead, comfort the sorrowing, and in every possible way attend to the spiritual interests of the settlers.

In those days there were, of course, no railroads, and scarcely any roads worthy the name, and the circuit rider, astride his horse, with his saddle bags containing his equipment, had to make the best of the track and the weather, as he found them; and the job was a test of stamina and of character, equal to that which fronted the pioneer in any other capacity. The circuit rider was



1. HENRY DEAN was born at Kertin, England, May 29, 1825, and came to America to 1848, and to Racine in 1851. Was S. School teacher; steward; trustee; died at Racine, Jan. 8, 1906.

2. MARY L. DEAN, wife of Henry Dean, was born in Vermont, Feb. 4, 1836, and came to Racine in 1848. Active in Sunday School and devotional work of the church. She died in Racine, Aug. 30, 1889.

3. PETER B. DU FOUR was born in St. Pierre, Du Bois, Island of Guernsey, 1826; came to America and to Racine in 1844; steward and trustee for many years; died in Racine June 29, 1908.

4. CATHARINE PALMER DU-FOUR, wife of Peter B. Du Four, was born near Montreal, Canada, in 1833; married in 1852; a gentle spirit of deep piety; she died in Racine, June 4, 1905.

But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly. Heb. 11, 16.

an institution that was peculiar to the Methodist church, and that was especially adapted to conditions surrounding a new and sparsely settled country.

All of our early preachers were circuit riders, and were obliged to leave the home church for from one to three weeks at a time. In their absence, the interests of the church were in the care of the local preachers and class leaders.

Under this arrangement, Daniel Slauson, a local preacher, was frequently in charge of our church, in the 30's and 40's, and used often to occupy the pulpit. There are quite a number of people still living who can remember hearing him preach, and the testimony of all who knew him, is that he was a good man, of strict integrity; if he had a fault, it was impatience with, or intolerance of, any lack of integrity in others.

He came to Racine in company with William Bull, they traveling in their own conveyance from Detroit, in September, 1837, and purchased a claim from a sister of the wife of Samuel Mars, upon which he planted fruit trees the same year, and where he lived until his death. Mr. Slauson erected a frame house in 1838, on his property, where the brick house of Thos. M. Kearney now stands, the lumber being made at the mill of Wm. See, at the Rapids. This house is now used as a barn or garage by Geo. Teal.

Daniel Slauson was the father of James and George Slauson, the former of whom died but three or four years ago. George Slauson died many years since. Mrs. Fred Platz of Girard, Ohio, Mrs. Lewis J. Evans of Racine, and James Northrop, son of Eugene Northrop, of Racine, are great grandchildren of Daniel Slauson.

A life size bust portrait in oil of Daniel Slauson, the work of Alfred Payne, was presented to the local church in 1911, by Mr. John Knight, who had it



1. JOHN LANGLOIS, born Mar. 1 1815, in the Island of Guernsey. Came to America and to Racine, May, 1856. Joined the church soon after. Was a merchant; paints, oils and wall paper, from 1860, until his death, Mar. 10, 1904, at Racine, Wis.

2. SOPHIE LANGLOIS, wife of John Langlois; born June 4 1816, in the Island of Guernsey. Came to America and to Racine in May, 1856. Joined the church soon after. A faithful member until her death in Racine, Wis., Apr. 26, 1889.

3. JOSEPH DU FOUR was born in 1836, in the Island of Guernsey, Feb'y. 26, 1836; came to America in April, 1854, and to Racine Nov. 26, 1855. Blacksmith by trade. Joined the church Dec. 1855; steward, trustee, class leader, S. School teacher. Now living at 1524 Boyd Ave., and is a member of Grange Ave. church.

4. ANGELINE HARROWER ORD, wife of Christopher L. Ord, was born in the town of Berne, Albany Co., N. Y., July 20, 1824, and died at Racine, Wis., April 18, 1871. Daughter of William and Bathsheba Harrower.

"We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." 2 Cor. 5:10.

elegantly reframed for this purpose; it now hangs in the board room of the church.

It is interesting to note that two of the men who were members of our first class had also been members of the first church in Chicago, and had assisted in its building—Wm. See and Alanson Filer, the latter only recently having died. Beside these men, the preacher who supplied our pulpit in 1841, Henry Whitehead, in association with a Mr. Steward, had the contract for building the first Chicago church, which was put up on the north side, and during the next winter was skidded across the river to the corner of Clark and Washington streets, forming the nucleus of the present First Church on that site. Mr. Filer told me that he worked for the contractors in the erection of this church.

#### WILLIAM SEE.

Mr. See was a man of considerable force of character, and we feel warranted in quoting from "Field's Memorials of Methodism in Illinois," a somewhat extended sketch of him: "Of the members of this first Chicago Christian Church, Rev. Wm. See, for many reasons deserves the first mention. Himself and wife were the first resident Methodists of Chicago. We have not been able to fix the date of Mr. See's arrival in Chicago, but his name occurs as a voter on the poll book of a general election held in the home of James Kinzie, August 2, 1830."

"Mrs. J. A. Kinzie, who heard him preach in 1831, says: 'He has recently come to this place.'

"David McKee was the first blacksmith, in 1821, and he was succeeded by Wm. See in 1830, under a treaty of the government with the Pottawottamie



1. JAMES ROBILIARD was born in the Island of Guernsey, July 12, 1839; came to America Sept. 21, 1865; joined the church about 1866; lives at 527 Lafayette Ave.

2. JAMES H. MORGAN was born near Bristol, England, in 1809. Came to America in 1841 and to Racine in 1848. Married in 1848; class leader. Died Oct. 21, 1888; great-grandfather of Elsie Pottinger, a young member of our church.

3. HESTER COOK MORGAN, wife of James H. Morgan, was born in Bath, England, and came to America in 1846, and to Racine in 1848; she died Oct. 2, 1871.

4. PETER ROBILIARD was born in the Island of Guernsey, Feb. 22, 1832; came to America and to Racine May, 1848; steward; trustee; treasurer; a founder of the firm of Langlois and Robilliard; died Jan. 19, 1869.

The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God. Psa. 53:1.

Indians in 1821, in which the government agreed to furnish them a blacksmith and school teacher for ten years.

"William See was born in Charleston, Va., in April, 1787. Admitted into the Illinois Conference in 1825, and appointed to Peoria Circuit. He traveled this circuit two years. At the conference of 1827 he was elected and ordained a deacon, and then at his own request, was discontinued, probably for want of support for his family. He was a blacksmith, and a gunsmith; in fact could turn his hand to almost every thing, from building a mill, to tinkering a clock.

"In 1835 (Jan. 2) he went to Wisconsin, and built a mill on Root river about two miles from its mouth at Racine, where he staid until about 1840.

"He was about five feet ten in height, dark hair, bald on top, dark whiskers on chin, beetling eyebrows, and square chin. He was impulsive and full of energy; went for everything with his whole soul. He made a good deal of money, but lost it again in unprofitable speculations.

"William See was, to say the least, an average preacher; his practical and theological attainments were above the average, and if he murdered the King's English, as some said, the best of all, thank God, he murdered sin also."

Mr. See came to Racine only two months after Gilbert Knapp first settled here; built the saw mill at the Rapids, and made the lumber used in many of the early buildings in the town. He was a man of force and of sterling christian character. He moved to Dodgeville, and died there in 1859.

Another view of William See, that might, perhaps, be called a reverse of the picture, is given by Field as follows:

"In 1831, all the society in and around Chicago was made up of backwoods and unlearned people. Mrs. Kinzie was a young married lady just from the higher circles of the East, where she had seen little but the high style



1. CLARK C. BRIGGS was born in Franklin, Vermont, Jan. 4, 1827. He came to Racine in the winter of 1854. Joined the church; was member of choir for 17 years, and chorister several years; steward, and Sunday School. Carriage maker by trade. Died at Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 24, 1903.

2. MRS. HARRIETT A. BRIGGS, wife of Clark C. Briggs, was born in Caledonia, Wis., Jan. 7, 1838. Joined the church in 1863. Teacher in Sunday School. Married Mr. Briggs Sept. 20, 1855, Rev. C. D. Pillsbury performing the ceremony. Now living at Los Angeles, Cal.

3. CHARLES W. BREWER was born in the Island of Guernsey, Nov. 20, 1822; came to America Apr. 8, 1852, and to Racine June 14, 1852; organ builder and piano tuner; chorister, choir singer; steward; died in Racine, Wis., Nov. 16, 1910.

4. JANE MATTHEWS BREWER, wife of Chas. W. Brewer, was born on the Island of Guernsey, Apr. 28, 1823; came to America with husband on wedding trip, April 8, 1852; now living at 1436 Wisconsin St.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." Romans. 1:16.

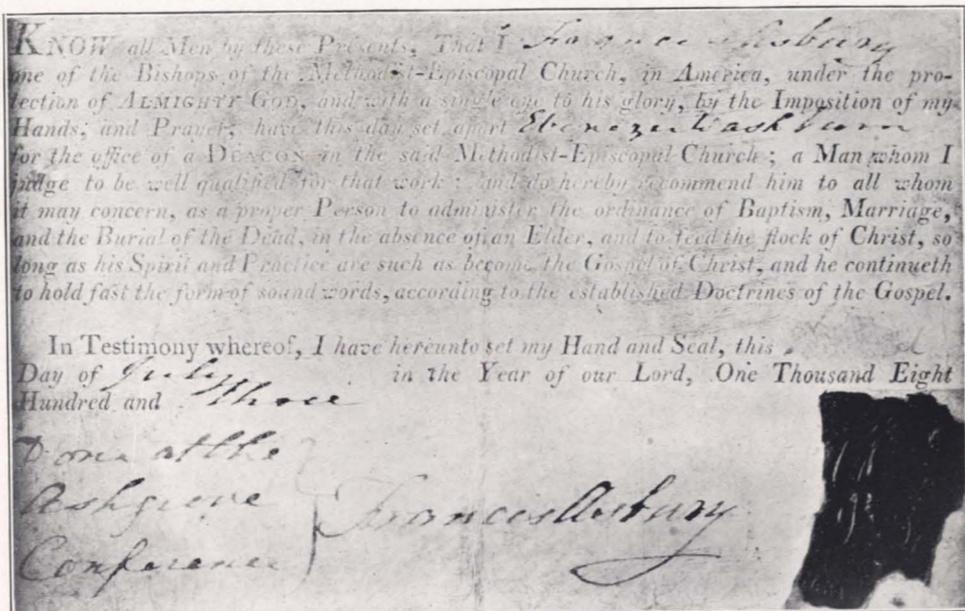
services of the Episcopal church, of which she was a member. She says: 'There was a certain kind of holding forth by a very illiterate, untidy sort of person, named See, who called himself a Methodist. Once upon a Sunday we rowed up to the Point to attend a religious service by Father See, as he was called. We saw a tall, slender man, dressed in a green frock coat, from the sleeves of which dangled a pair of untidy hands; he stepped briskly upon the little platform, behind a table, and commenced his discourse. His subject was "The Fear of God." There was a kind of fear, he told us, that was very near alienated to love; so nearly that it was not worth while splitting hairs for the difference. He then went on to describe this kind of fear; becoming a little bewildered he paused and exclaimed,—'Come, let's stop a little, and clear away the brush.'

"At last, closing, he said, 'which fear may we all enjoy, that together we may soar away on the rolling clouds of ether, to a boundless and happy eternity, which is the wish of your humble servant.'"

This sounds to the writer as though Mrs. Kinzie was drawing upon her imagination, or a defective memory, in this sketch, or else that Rev. See was considerably embarrassed by the presence in his congregation of so cultured an auditor.

#### THE FIRST CLASS.

Bennett, in his History of Methodism in Wisconsin, says of the Racine church: "The names of those forming the first class there so far as known were, Paul Kingston and wife, William See and wife, A. Filer and wife, and



Facsimile of ordination parchment of Ebenezer Washburn.

#### FATHER WASHBURN.

Ebenezer Washburn, or Father Washburn, as he was called, whose picture is shown on this page, was born in Worcester County, Mass., in October 1776; was admitted to the New York Conference in early life, ordained a deacon, in 1803, and continued his connection there until 1843, when he was superannuated, and came west to live with his daughter, Electa Washburn Kellogg, who was the wife of Seth N. Kellogg, one of the founders of Kellogg's Corners at Sylvania, Racine Co., Wis., who settled there in May 1837. Two brothers of Kellogg's were Chauncey and Thaddus, and they were all thoroughbred Methodists, and through-going christian men, who left their stamp on the civil as well as the religious life of southeastern Wisconsin.



EBEN-ZER WASHBURN

Father Washburn built a home for himself at the "Corners," where he lived with his wife until 1850, when they moved to Racine, and continued to reside here until his death, Dec. 29, 1857.

The facsimile of the ordination parchment shown with the picture of Father Washburn, was made out in the handwriting of Bishop Asbury, the second bishop of the church, and is esteemed a very interesting and valuable document. The original is about 4½x6 inches in size.

Stephen Campbell and wife. From this small beginning has grown a strong and influential church. It used to be said, 'go where you will in Wisconsin, you will find some one who was converted in the Methodist Church in Racine.' "

In the absence of records, there will probably never be an entirely satisfactory answer to the question of who did constitute the first class formed. Mrs. Foxwell says that there was a class as early as 1836; she arrived in Racine, with her father's family, March 2, 1837, and a well organized class was in existence at that time, which she joined, being 17 years of age, and already a member of the church in Ohio.

If this be true—and her testimony is credible—it is quite certain that the original class, started in 1836, had a restricted membership, and that those mentioned by Mr. Bennett, with perhaps A. G. Knight, Jonathan Snow, Harrison Fay, and Nathan Joy, and their wives, who were well settled in the town in the fall of 1836, were the ones and the only ones who composed it.

#### HENRY WHITEHEAD.

In 1841, no preacher was sent to Racine, but the station was left to be supplied. There is no record of anybody occupying the Racine pulpit that year, but we have good evidence that Henry Whitehead was our supply.

Lucy Foxwell of Yorkville, who lived in Racine from 1837 to 1841 or 1842, says that Henry Whitehead was a carpenter, a very earnest man in prayer, who later became a preacher, and traveled a circuit; she remembers hearing him preach here.

W. H. Whitehead, of Evanston, Ill., a son of Henry Whitehead, recently sent us a picture of his father, with an outline biographical sketch of his life, and the accompanying letter says: "from investigation, I think Racine was the first place where father took regular work."

The above evidence seems to me to be enough to warrant the belief that Henry Whitehead was the Racine supply in 1841.

#### LUCY FOXWELL.

Mrs. Lucy Foxwell is the only survivor of our church membership in 1837; she is quite a remarkable woman; born in 1820, she is now in her ninety-second year, but her interest in what is going on in the world seems quite unabated. When I called at her home in Yorkville in the summer of 1911, she had been sick for seven weeks and was out of bed that day for the first time; all of which was unknown to me until I got to the village. Having been told she was desperately ill, I drove to the house to inquire after her, and was unprepared for the very evident interest and pleasure which she took in my mission; and there was such a twinkle in her eye, and such a quick and ready response to questions, as betokened no lapse of memory, or failure of intellect or of mental force.

When I asked for a picture she looked at me with a quizzical expression, and remarked that she "had not had one taken recently; not since she was 88 years old." She was assured that that would answer perfectly, when she called, in a tone a little peremptory, to her niece, Mrs. Shepard, a lady of about 70 years, who was caring for her, "Elizabeth, go to my trunk and bring me that

bundle of photographs in the southwest corner;" there was evidently a perfect understanding of the 'points of the compass in a trunk' between the ladies, as there was no delay in the production of the bundle. We visited for an hour and a half, and she assured me that she was not at all wearied. She said "they tell me that I am a great talker." This may be true, but she talks unusually well.

I learned from her that she had been a member of the Methodist Church for 81 years; that on January 31, 1837, her father and mother, with nine children, left their old home in York, Ohio, in a wagon, and reached Racine on March 2, following, having been a full month on the road in the dead of winter. Her father's name was Ansin Briggs. Having been 17 years of age when she came to Racine, she remembers with remarkable accuracy, the names and peculiarities of the men who were preachers and presiding elders of our church while she lived here, as well as many happenings.

Mrs. Foxwell is a woman of deeply religious character, and her presence in the homes of her family and friends, and in the community, is a benediction.

Mrs. Foxwell has recently written a letter detailing a few of recollections of those remote days of our early church, and as she is the only survivor of that time, a message from her should prove of unusual interest to all.

John, Thomas, Guy, Dan and Alice Foxwell, of this city, are grandchildren of Lucy Foxwell.

#### Letter of Lucy Foxwell.

Yorkville, Feb. 14, 1912.

My father and family left Medina County, Ohio, on the last day of January, 1837, and arrived in Racine on Saturday, the first day of March, 1837, after a long journey of five hundred miles in February.

About the middle of March my sister and I had a sleigh ride in Racine for the first time. We remained for some months with Mrs. A. G. Knight; formed an acquaintance with many people.

The first sermon I heard was from C. Nichols, in Dr. Cary's house—a Presbyterian minister.

The next was in J. Snow's house, by S. Pillsbury, a Methodist preacher; I think he came to Racine in 1836. Paul Kingston's was a place where religious services were often held.

The Methodists that came to Racine first, I think, were Paul Kingston, A. Filer, A. G. Knight, J. Snow, S. Campbell, H. Fay, Wm See and Ed. Weed. William See was a local preacher; I think that Henry Whitehead came in 1838; he was a local preacher; a powerful man in prayer.

Daniel Slauson and William Bull came to Racine in the autumn of 1837. D. Slauson was a local preacher. I heard Mr. Slauson preach that fall somewhere on Wisconsin street, near where the first Methodist church was built. William Bull was a Methodist; he lived near my father's the first year, then bought a farm opposite Mr. Fratt's—south.

Daniel Slauson bought a second hand farm with some improvements, and in the spring of 1838 brought his family onto the place. They came from New York.

The Methodists and Congregationalists held a protracted meeting in a building that was not in use at the time—on Main street, I think, about Third street. Upstairs was two rooms; Mrs. Knapp had one where she taught her select school for girls. My sister, Harriet Briggs, taught the first public school that I have any knowledge of.

At the camp meeting that was held in 1838, that you referred to when here, some good was done, especially to boys. One was a brother of A. Knight; Timothy was his name. I was living with Mrs. Knight; she had been sick; we were talking about the camp meeting. He said, "I am going to that camp meeting, and I am going to get religion," and he did. He arose up, gave his experience without fear or timidity; the next spring he had measles and died; he was about 18 or 19 years of age.

The other was a boy in his teens; his parents were there from west of Burlington; he was the happiest soul I ever saw in my life—shouting and praising God.

LUCY FOXWELL.

#### PAUL KINGSTON

Paul Kingston, one of the constructive and conserving factors in the early life of Racine, and of our church, was born in the county of Cork, Ireland, in 1783, with English blood on one side, and French Huguenot on the other.

He emigrated to the United States in 1805, came west and settled at St. Genevieve, Missouri, in 1807, engaging with his brother in the mercantile business, and freighting to and from New Orleans; also making occasional trips up Red River, the Ohio and other tributaries of the Mississippi. He settled near Kaskaskia in the Territory of Illinois in 1811, and finally removed to the Territory of Wisconsin, and to Racine, in January, 1835.

He died at the home of his son in Necedah, Wisconsin, in 1864, at the age of 81. His daughter married Alanson Filer.

The only persons whom the writer has met, who knew Mr. Kingston, are Mr. Filer, Mrs. Foxwell, and Alex Hood, and the testimony of all concerning him, is that he was a Godly man, full of good works, zealous for the church.

#### PERMELIA A. LEE.

Mrs. Permelia A. Lee (nee Gaylord) wife of the late Alanson H. Lee, one of the pioneer merchants of this city, was born in the State of New York about 1817, and died at Racine, August 3, 1853. She was married to Mr. Lee at Silver Creek, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., about 1839 and they came to Racine in the fall of 1840, taking up their home in a little cottage standing near the present location of the street railway power-house, and from about 1845 till her death the family resided in Barnstable St., now College Avenue, at the head of 5th St., where the Commercial Press building now stands. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lee, two of whom died in infancy, and one, Charles H. Lee of this city, survives.

Mrs. Lee was a devoted member of the first Methodist Church, and though for the last five years of her life a constant invalid, was an attendant whenever possible at all its services, and gave all the strength, time, and money at her disposal, to promote its welfare.

### THE DONATION.

In the pioneer and middle history of our church it was found, oftentimes, a difficult matter to pay the pastor the total amount of his salary in cash, and in making up the estimate of the amount necessary for the support of his family, a certain sum was put down as the probable value of a donation which the members of the church were to give him at some time during the year.

In those days a large portion of our members were farmers and working men and women, and cash was a scarce article, though provisions were generally plentiful, and they were worth just as much as cash to the preacher.

The donation party was an annual affair, and was looked forward to by the whole church with pleasurable anticipation, and they were not disappointed in the event. The ladies of the church would always prepare an unusually fine supper, with the best of everything to eat, and plenty of it. Previous to the supper there would be a little entertainment of a musical and literary character, and the nature of the gathering, with its appeal to the friendship and the generosity of the people toward their preacher, was such that unrestrained good feeling and good-fellowship was the rule on these occasions.

Sometimes, of course, the penurious instincts of people would crop out, and a farmer would bring a big pumpkin worth five cents, as his donation, while his family of four or five would come along and eat a dollar's worth of supper; but those were exceptional cases, and not numerous enough to affect the generally beneficent result of the function.

As the country became settled, and money easier to get, the donation came into disuse, but for many years the "pound party" took its place, except that it was not figured in as part of the pastor's salary; the writer can remember attending one of these parties in the old Park Avenue parsonage during A. P. Mead's pastorate.

### A MOVING TALE.

The following extracts from "Thirty Years in the Itinerancy" by W. G. Miller, one of our pastors, will no doubt prove interesting reading, and will serve to illustrate the prevailing conveniences or inconveniences of travel in Wisconsin in the '50s.

He says—"During the session of the conference, (1855, at Racine) a meeting of the principal members of the church and congregation at Racine was held, to take into consideration the condition and wants of the charge; the deliberation had resulted in laying before the presiding bishop a request for the appointment of the writer. The appointment was accordingly made. But a removal to the charge was attended with no little difficulty."

During the latter part of the year at Appleton, Mrs. Miller had suffered from a severe attack of typhoid fever, and was convalescent at the time of his appointment to Racine. He says further:—"Unable to walk, I was obliged to carry the invalid from the house to the carriage, and from the carriage, at Menasha, to the steamboat. We reached Fond du Lac in the evening, and tarried for the night. The following morning we took the stage for Sheboygan. The roads were excellent and the coach comfortable, but it was necessary to carry the invalid, literally, in my arms the entire distance. On arriving at the shore

end of the pier at Sheboygan, the steamboat at the other end gave a signal for her departure. Hastily leaving the coach, and sending the family forward with all possible dispatch, I chartered a common dray, the only conveyance at hand, placed a trunk upon it, took the invalid in my arms, seated myself on the trunk, and bade the driver put his horse on his best speed. The race was a most creditable one, and before the boat had time to get away, we were nicely on board, to the great merriment of all concerned.

"But out of one trouble we were soon into another. We had hardly reached the open lake before the boat encountered a heavy sea, which brought sea-sickness to all of the company for the balance of the journey. But in this misfortune we were not alone. Rev. E. S. Grumley, the newly appointed Presiding Elder of the Racine district, and his family, had also come aboard at Sheboygan, and were now our companions in travel, as also in misery. Tossing amid the waves, the progress of the steamboat was slow, and we did not reach Racine until after midnight. We were happy to gain a landing, but we found ourselves without a conveyance to the hotel. Not even the common dray was at hand. But, nothing daunted, we groped amid the darkness until we came upon the buggy of the Presiding Elder, which fortunately had been landed from the same boat.

"The invalid was soon placed in it, and adopting a style of travel that might have seemed unusual by daylight, in due time we were at the hotel.

"The following morning we were sought out by the good people and kindly cared for, being assigned to quarters with my late host, and his obliging family."

### PIONEER ROADS.

In illustration of the difficulties to be encountered and overcome in Wisconsin in pioneer days, the following extract from the report of the Sunday School committee of the Wisconsin Conference in 1851, is illuminating.

"The committee appointed at the last session of this conference to visit and form a part of the joint board of that institution, (Lawrence University) respectfully report:—"That owing to almost unavoidable circumstances, only four of the nine appointed, were able to meet in the joint board in the annual meeting on the 4th of June, 1851.

"Three of the committee who commenced the necessary journey, were compelled by the state of the roads to desist; one was in ill health and one, the lamented Springer, had gone to his reward."

### THE USE OF TOBACCO.

The following resolution on the use of tobacco was adopted by the Conference of 1850:

1st. Resolved, that we regard the smoking, chewing, or snuffing of tobacco as an inconvenient, wasteful and filthy practice—one which is destructive of health, which pollutes the person of him who indulges in it, causing him to defile the house, and furniture of the house, where he may abide; and often so to bespatter the floor of the house of God, as to render it unfit for use with cleanliness, in the attitude of devotion.

2nd. Resolved that we will discountenance its use in any form, both by precept and example, from this time forward.

The conference of 1860 also declared, "that the rule prohibiting any minister in the habitual use of tobacco from admission into full connection in our conference, unless he pledge himself to give it up, shall still be enforced; and the presiding bishop is requested to interrogate all candidates for such admission, upon this subject, before the conference."

#### PIONEER CHURCH BUILDINGS.

The report of the committee on buildings and parsonages to the conference of 1851, was an interesting document. It was evidently prepared with great care, and dealt, in considerable detail, with the proper location, topographically, and with reference to the population, with the general plan, seating, lighting, and other interior fittings and furniture; the arrangement of aisles, altar and pulpit floor; the height of ceiling and wainscotings; the number and size of windows and their height from the floor, etc. They advised that in choosing a location a gentle eminence is very desirable, but a high and steep hill, a low, wet place, a back street, or any other place of difficult access, should be avoided.

The slogan furnished by the bishops to the Wisconsin Conference preachers was—"Build your forts, and God will man them."

#### OUR MEMBERS FROM THE ISLAND OF GUERNSEY.

In the decade between 1850 and 1860, there were large numbers of people came to Racine from the Island of Guernsey, many of whom became members or attendants of the Methodist Church, and have been an important factor in its activities ever since.

A partial list of these people will include the following and their wives:

Joseph DuFour.	James Robilliard.	Chas. Brewer.
Peter B. DuFour.	Geo. DeGaris.	James P. Tostevin.
Peter C. Du Four.	Thos. DeGaris	Jacob Near.
Hillary DuFour.	Peter Ozanne.	Abraham Gallienne.
James Langlois.	James Ozanne.	James Guilbert.
John Langlois.	Chas. DeGaris.	John Tostevin.
Peter Robilliard.	Henry Roissy.	



### THE PASTORS

How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? Rom. 10:14, 15.

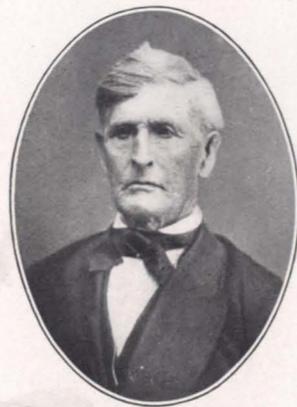
There are no better men anywhere than christian ministers. There are no better ministers than Methodist ministers, and if any Methodist church has been better served than First Church, Racine, it is to be congratulated. The high standing which this church has always had in the community, is a commentary on the ability, the integrity, the fidelity and the zeal of its pastors.

From the beginning of its history, until this year of grace 1912, our church has had forty pastors; we are presenting in this chapter, outline biographical sketches of them all, but one or two, and portraits of thirty-one of them. We believe that with a little continuous effort, the missing nine pictures may be gathered within a few months, and thus our gallery of preachers be completed. Twenty-seven of our former pastors have passed to their reward. Thirteen are still living, A. C. Manwell, 60-'61 being the oldest. Concerning the first few pastors of our church, there is very little in the way of reminiscense to be had; nearly all of those who know them have passed, and the few who remain, have but scant recollection of their personalities. We have gathered some few facts, however, from the memoirs in early minutes of the conferences, from newspaper clippings which we have unearthed, and from some church histories. Our personal recollection of the preachers begins with William P. Stowe, whose pastorate ended in 1870, and since that time we have had a more or less intimate acquaintance with each of them.

Some recollections of the pastors will be found in the chapter on "Reminiscences."

**SAMUEL PILLSBURY**—Fall of 1836 to Sept. 1837—was born in St. Johnsbury, N. Y., July 12, 1802. Was converted at 18 years of age, at once uniting with the church; came west in 1835, and joined the Illinois Conference the next year. By nature and grace he was fitted to be companion of Cartwright, Brunson, and the Mitchells for frontier work. He organized the first class in Kenosha, Troy, Hart Prairie, Delavan, Elkhorn, Janesville, as well as Racine, (presumably). He married Ann Eliza Latta in 1829, in Monroe Co., N. Y. His death occurred at Milford, Ia., Oct. 29, 1888.

**OTIS F. CURTIS**—Sept. 1837 to Sept. 1839—was a quiet, amiable and deeply pious man, who had joined the New Hampshire Conference from the Congregational Church, won by the doctrine of entire sanctification, but wanting in that controlling energy demanded by the times; in a year or two he withdrew and returned to the Congregationalists. Mr. Curtis' sister married C. D. Pillsbury.



**SALMON STEBBINS**—September 1839-1840, was born in New Hampshire in 1795, entered the ministry in 1817; was sent to Wisconsin as a missionary from the Troy Conference, in 1835; was Presiding Elder of Milwaukee district from Sept. 1837, to Sept. 1839; faithfully traveled Illinois and Rock River conference circuits, for many years, riding an Indian pony. Elder Stebbins was a typical—an ideal, representative of the church of Christ; self denying, courageous; sympathetic, true to his convictions; earnest, able and energetic, the effective champion of every right cause. The last seven years of his life were spent in Bristol, Kenosha Co. He died in Kenosha, Wis., July 27, 1882.

**LEONARD F. MOULTHROP**—August 1840 to August 1841—entered the traveling connection in 1840 in the Rock River Conference, Racine being his first field. He traveled large and laborious circuits for four years, and had "glorious" revivals on each, with large accessions of new members. In 1844 he took a location but was admitted to the Wisconsin Conference in 1859, where after a few years of further service, he was superannuated and remained in that relation until his death in April 1876, at the home of his daughter at Rome, Jefferson Co., Wisconsin.



**HENRY WHITEHEAD**—1841 to Aug. 1842—was born in Chatham, England, June 17, 1810; came to America in 1831, with a Local Preachers license, having been preaching since he was twelve years of age; lived in New York a short time, and came to Chicago in 1832; was a carpenter, and associated with a man named Steward, had the contract for building the first Methodist church in Chicago; was admitted on probation to the Rock River Conference in 1840. Racine charge was left to be supplied in 1841, and it is presumed that Henry Whitehead was sent here by the elder. He died in Chicago, Ill., April 10, 1885.

**JAMES MITCHELL**—Aug. 1842 to Aug. 1843—is one of our pastors of whom we have been unable to find any vital statistics. In the chapter on Reminiscence, however, will be found an appreciation of him by A. W. Kellogg, who knew him as a boy.

**MILTON BOURNE**—Aug. 1843 to July 1844—was converted in early life and united with the church in Vermont, within the bounds of the Troy Conference. He was selected by John Clark as a teacher in the Indian Mission under his charge in Wisconsin. He joined the Rock River Conference, and served 8 years as Presiding Elder.

In 1863 he was superannuated, and died a few years later at Macomb, Ill.

**G. L. S. STUFF**—July 1844 to August 1845—was born at Cincinnati, O., April 21, 1822. Was admitted to Rock River Conference in 1841. Was appointed teacher at the Oneida Indian Mission in 1843, and boarded with the missionary, H. R. Colman, father of Henry Colman, of our conference, who attended the school; as a preacher he was earnest, instructive, and eloquent. He died at Elgin, Ill., May 11, 1893.

**JULIUS FIELD**—Aug. 1845 to August 1846—was born at North Madison, Conn., April 2, 1799; was educated in the common schools, and entered the ministry before marriage. Was stationed at New York City, Glens Falls, and Fort Auer, N. Y. In 1839 he was sent as a Sunday School Missionary to Wisconsin, and built the first frame church in the territory, at Sylvania (Kellogg's Corners.) Was Presiding Elder of Milwaukee District, Rock River Conference and then stationed at Racine, and built the first Methodist church here, on College Ave., between Fifth and Sixth. In 1846 he returned to New York Conference, and was active there for many years being superannuated in 1871.

He died at Durham, Conn., Sept. 22, 1884.

**WARNER OLIVER**—August 1846 to July 1848—was born in Miami County, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1815; converted at fourteen years of age, and joined the Methodist church at once; became an exhorter and local preacher, being known as the "boy preacher" at seventeen years of age; admitted into Illinois Conference, and stationed at Chicago, Quincy, Kenosha and Racine, among others.

In 1850 he located and went to California; joined the conference there later and preached until 1871, when he moved onto a farm in Santa Clara County, where he lived until Feb. 7, 1908, at which time he went to his reward, aged 92 years.

**MATTHEW BENNETT**—July 1848 to June 1849—was a scholarly man for those days. He left our church in 1870, and joined the Wesleyan Methodists, becoming president of their conference; he returned to our church later, but did not preach any more. He was a good, kindly man. (H. Colman.)



**ABRAM HANSON**—June 1849 to about Jan. 1851—was born near Bromley, Yorkshire, England, and educated in Bromley College; member Rock River Conference; pastor at Aurora and Chicago. Transferred to Wisconsin Conference; pastor at Milwaukee and at Racine. Early in 1851 his health failed, and he left the ministry and moved to Kenosha, Wis., where he was elected city treasurer for several terms.

In June 1863, he was appointed by President Lincoln, U. S. Consul to Monrovia, Liberia; was confirmed by the Senate, Jan. 12, 1864; he went to his post, and died there in the service of his country, July 20, 1866. He was buried in Monrovia, but a stone was erected to his memory in Mound Cemetery, Racine.



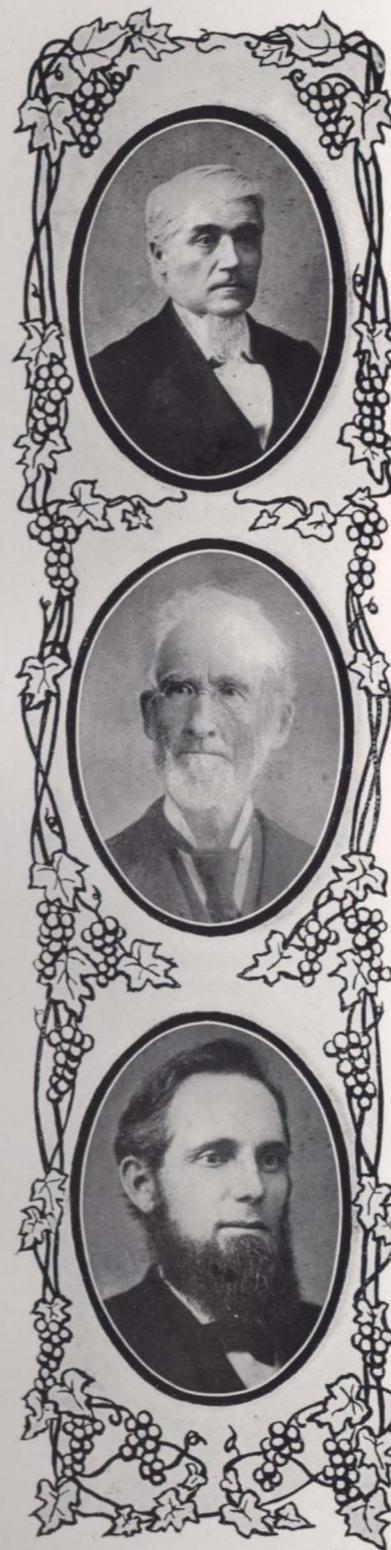
**ALEXANDER POPE ALLEN**—June 1851 to Sept. 1852—was born at Auburn, New York, May 22, 1816; no educational advantages, except home study; was a man of rare native judgment and strict integrity; married at 19; in 1835 admitted to bar in Illinois; practiced law until 1844, when he entered the ministry in the Rock River Conference, where he served for 16 years; among his charges were Monroe, Janesville, Elkhorn, Kenosha, Fond du Lac, and Racine; Presiding Elder of Racine district. In 1860 he moved to Colorado, and continued to preach until his death, at Valmont, Colo., Apr. 12, 1880; was elected County Judge, County Commissioner of Boulder County, and to other positions of trust and honor. Was an eccentric preacher, with the genuine oratorical instinct.

**JONATHAN W. PUTNAM**—Sept. 1852 to Aug. 1853—was born in Leyden, N. Y., July 31, 1815. He was converted at 12 years of age, and immediately joined the church. Was made an exhorter in 1835, and licensed to preach in 1836; admitted to Rock River Conference in 1840; in 1856 was transferred to Genesee Conference, where he remained until his death.

**C. C. MASON**—August 1853 to August 1855—preached the dedicatory sermon at the installation of the first pipe organ in 1852, and, made so good an impression that our people desired him for a pastor, and he was sent to Racine the next year. He was a cripple requiring the support of crutches during the preaching service. On account of illness he was obliged to leave his pastorate at Christmas 1854, and the balance of the conference year the pulpit was supplied by a Rev. Mr. Foster, concerning whom we have been able to learn but little.



**WESSON GAGE MILLER**—August 1855 to August 1857—was born in Otsego Co., New York, Feb. 8th, 1822; converted at age of 18. In 1844 he came to Wisconsin and engaged in business. Admitted on trial in Rock River Conference in 1845, on recommendation of Fond du Lac quarterly Conference. His first circuit was at Waupun, with twenty appointments. He has been stationed at Watertown, Waukesha, Grand Ave., Milwaukee, Racine, and Janesville; Presiding Elder of Fond du Lac and Milwaukee districts. In 1879 transferred to Nebraska Conference; appointed Presiding Elder of Omaha district, and later to the York and to the Lincoln districts; altogether twenty years as Presiding Elder. He died at University Place, Nebraska, December 20, 1893.



**CALEB D. PILLSBURY**—August 1857 to April, 1859. Was born Dec. 13, 1817, at Kingfield, Maine; converted at 23 years of age; educated in the public schools and at Farmington Academy; received into West Maine Conference in 1840, and was married the same year to Orpha M. Curtis.

He served seventeen years in Maine.

For eleven years he was a Presiding Elder in Wisconsin, four on the Racine, three on Janesville, and four on Milwaukee district. Some of the best charges in Wisconsin were also served by him as pastor. He was chaplain of the 22nd Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and was a prisoner of war. He died April 22nd, 1897, at Duluth, Minn., and was buried at Minneapolis.

**PHILO S. BENNETT**—April 1859, to September 1860. He was born March 13th, 1817, at Richland, Oswego County, New York; converted March 25, 1833, under the preaching of Bishop Ninde. Educated at Oneida Conference Seminary, and Rensselaer Oswego Academy; licensed to preach May 6, 1837; married June 13, 1838, to Calphurnia Chase, with whom he lived happily for forty-nine years; joined the Black River Conference in 1838; the Wisconsin Conference in 1849; except for seven years of superannuation, he was active until 1888, when he became again ineffective. In 1890, collaborating with James Lawson, he wrote a History of Methodism in Wisconsin.

His last charge was Union Church, Racine. He died April 5, 1895, at the home of his daughter, at Appleton, Wis.

**A. C. MANWELL**—September, 1860, to October 1862. He was born August 29, 1832, in Crawford County, Ohio; converted at Warsaw, Indiana, in 1852; brief educational advantages at Indiana Asbury University; joined North Indiana Conference in 1853; appointed Junior preacher on Pendleton Circuit, twelve to sixteen appointments. Joined Wisconsin Conference in 1856, where he had seven appointments. In 1873 transferred to Upper Iowa Conference. Served five charges as pastor and four years as Presiding Elder on Davenport District. In 1891 was granted a supernumerary, and in 1894 a superannuated relation, which he still holds.

His present address is 245 So. Euclid Ave., Pasadena, California, where he and his wife are spending their declining years in comparative comfort.



J. C. ROBBINS—October 1862 to October, 1863—was born July 16, 1822, in Adams County, Ohio; licensed to preach in 1842; united with the North Indiana Conference in 1855, where he was a member until Almira Allen; transferred to Wisconsin Conference in 1855 where he was a member until his death. In 1887 he moved to Los Angeles, California, and became dangerously insane, being confined in a hospital for two years, when he was released, and his death followed the next year, 1890.

RUFUS H. STINCHFIELD — October 1863 to October 1864—was born in Phillips, Maine, July 1, 1819, and died December 18, 1870. He was converted at the age of fifteen, and became a student at Maine Wesleyan Seminary. He joined the Maine Conference in 1838, where he labored faithfully and successfully until 1863, when he was superannuated. The next year he was made effective, and transferred to the Wisconsin Conference by Bishop Scott.

In 1868 he was again superannuated, his health failing. He moved to Macon, Mo., and served as agent of Johnson College at Macon, until his death. He is remembered as a quiet, ordinary man and preacher.

WILLIAM H. SAMPSON—Oct. 1864 to Sept. 1866—was born Sept. 13, 1808, at Brattleboro, Vermont; converted in May, 1829; educated at Ovid Academy and Genesee Wesleyan Seminary; joined Indiana Conference on trial Oct., 1838, and admitted into full connection with Michigan Conference in 1842; 1844 to 1848 was Presiding Elder of Green Bay district; from 1849 to 1858 was connected with Lawrence University as principal and as professor. His wife was a daughter of Rev. Julius Field. He died at Tacoma, Washington, Feb. 5, 1892.



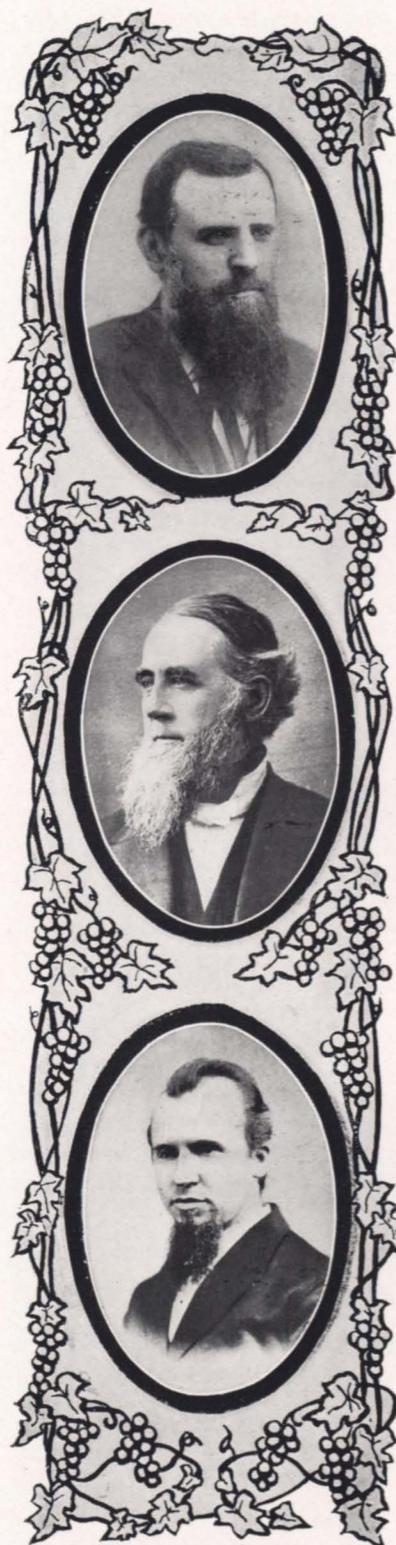
WILLIAM PAGE STOWE—September 1866 to October 1868—was born September 1, 1831, at Haverhill, New Hampshire; came to Wisconsin in 1843; converted at seventeen years of age; was a member of the second class graduated from Lawrence University in June 1858; united with the Wisconsin Conference in same year.

He married Grace H. Bond in 1859. Was chaplain of 27th Reg. Wis. Vol. Inf.; served as pastor at Beloit, Racine, Oshkosh, Summerfield, Milwaukee; was Presiding Elder of Milwaukee and Oshkosh districts; was agent of Book Concern from 1880 to 1892; chosen six times as delegate to the General Conference.

He died January 4, 1896 in Chicago, Ill.

O. J. COWLES—Oct. 1868 to Oct. 1871—was born in New Haven, Vt., Oct. 31, 1836; converted in Dubuque, Ia., in 1855; and joined the Methodist church; licensed as exhorter in 1857, and to preach in 1859; educated at Cornell college, graduating in 1860, and at Garrett Biblical Institute, graduating in 1863; in 1860 married Minnie Matthews, who died in 1897; taught school in Cascade, Ia., and in Evanston, Ill.; entered Wisconsin Conference in 1863, where he had eight appointments; in 1880 transferred to Kansas Conference, and later to St. Louis, Pittsburg and N. Y. East Conferences, where he served large churches. His last appointment was Derby, Conn., where he died suddenly, Aug. 23, 1898, in his second year there.

J. W. CARHART—October 1871 to October 1874—was born at Coeymans, Albany Co., N. Y., June 26, 1834; educated in the common schools and at Charlotteville Union Seminary, in Schoharie County, N. Y.; was converted and joined the church at thirteen years of age. He joined the Troy Conference in 1855, had several circuits and stations in his native state until 1871, when he was transferred to the Wisconsin Conference, and stationed at Racine. He was pastor of First Church, Oshkosh, for three years, and Presiding Elder of the Appleton district for four years. He is now a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, at San Antonio, Texas, where he resides and practices medicine.



**GEORGE CHANNING HADDOCK**—October 1874 to October 1875—was born at Watertown, New York, Jan. 23, 1832. He received his education at the Black River Institute, Watertown, N. Y.

He learned the printers' trade when a young man. Feb. 4, 1852 he married Cornelia B. Herrick. Joined the Wisconsin Conference on probation, in 1860. His first appointment was as "supply" at Port Washington. Was Presiding Elder of the Fond du Lac district for one year. He served the church at Oshkosh, Ripon, Appleton, Fond du Lac, Racine, and Asbury, Milwaukee, in the Wisconsin Conference; Burlington, Ft Dodge, and Sioux City in the Iowa Conference.

He was assassinated in Sioux City, Iowa, Aug. 3, 1886, by a man hired by the liquor interests of that city. He was buried in Mound Cemetery, Racine, Aug. 7, 1886.

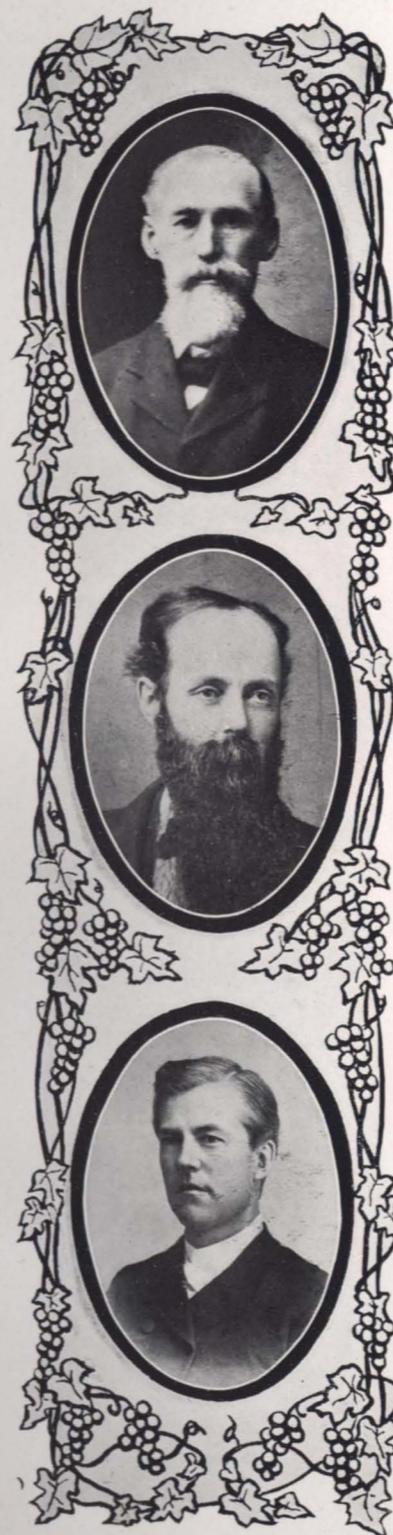
**A. P. MEAD**—October 1875 to October 1877—Was born August 27, 1829, at Genoa, New York; joined the Oneida Conference in 1850; in 1862 he became a member of the Rock River Conference, and in 1875 was transferred to the Wisconsin Conference. Among the charges that he served were Racine, Appleton, Waupun, and Waupaca. He was a man of fine presence, good thought, and broad sympathies. In 1883 he was given a supernumerary relation. He died December 14, 1886, at Omaha, Nebraska.

**F. S. STEIN**—October 1877 to October 1879—was born in Alsenz, Bavaria, Germany, March 1, 1846; came to America in 1856; was converted and joined the Methodist Church at Seclerville, Wis., in 1860. Attended Galesville and West Salem Seminaries, and worked his way through Wisconsin University, graduating in 1868.

Licensed to preach in 1867. Married Frances E. Ainsworth at Prattsburg, N. Y., in 1871. Joined the Wisconsin Conference in 1876, and served seven of the largest churches in the conference.

Transferred to the Nebraska Conference in 1889, and became pastor of St. Paul's church, Lincoln.

On account of Mrs. Stein's health he gave up the active pastorate some years ago, but is still a member of St. Paul's Church, Lincoln, where he resides.



**SAMUEL NEWELL GRIFFITH**—October 1879 to October 1880—was born at Pike, Wyoming Co., New York, March 12, 1833. Educated in the district schools, and at Appleton University, where he graduated in 1861, and at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., graduating in 1868. For four years after 1861 he was head of the department of mathematics at Lawrence, and during this period was married to Ruth Ann Carr, of Portage, Wis. He served some of the best churches in the Rock River, the Michigan, and the Wisconsin Conferences.

The last ten years of his life were spent in the south, on a private enterprise, and incidentally in educational work, and in February, 1911, he died in Mobile, Alabama.

**THOMAS CLITHERO**—Oct. 1880 to Oct. 1883—was born at Preston, Lancaster Co., England, Dec. 4, 1844; converted in 1867; graduated A. B. 1870, A. M. 1873; made Deacon at Conference at Racine in 1875, and Elder at Whitewater in 1881; served the church at Janesville 3 years; Geneva Lake 2 years; Racine 3 years; Waupun 1 year; Appleton Agt. 2 years; Ft. Howard 2 years. His present occupation is mail carrier, at Portage, Wis. He is not now a member of the Methodist church. When brother Clithero was our pastor he was put to unusual stress because of the burning and rebuilding of our church, which occurred during his pastorate, and his untiring labor, and wise counsel, contributed largely to the success of the rebuilding and the rededication of the church free from debt.

**E. G. UPDIKE**—October 1883 to October 1886—was born in Thompkins Co., New York, Nov. 18, 1850. Came with parents to Dodge County, Wis., in 1854, where he got the education a farm provides; graduated from Lawrence University in 1875; attended Garrett Biblical Institute. Married in 1876 to Clara P. Faville of Lake Mills. Was pastor of Methodist churches at Monticello, Delavan, Lake Mills, Racine, Summerfield, Milwaukee, and Englewood, Chicago, a total of 14 years. In 1890 he accepted a call to the First Congregational church, at Madison, Wis., where he has served continuously for 21 years.



**HENRY FAVILLE**—September 1886 to September 1888—was born in Milford, Jefferson Co., Wis., July 7, 1847. He was educated in the district school of Faville Grove, a private school at Lake Mills, and at Lawrence College, where he graduated in 1871. He then entered Boston School of Theology, graduating in 1876. He was principal for one year each, of the Sun Prairie, Wis., and the Mitchell, Ia., high schools. He joined the Wisconsin Conference and served the churches at Delavan, Janesville, Evansville, Oshkosh and Racine. Twenty-three years ago he accepted a call to the Congregational Church at La Crosse, Wis., and is still their pastor.

**D. C. JOHN**—Sept. 1888 to Sept. 1890—was born near Bloomsburg, Pa., Feb. 14, 1835; raised on a farm; educated in public schools, Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, Pa., and Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., where he graduated June, 1859. Was a local preacher in 1854; deacon 1859; elder 1861. Has served important charges in the Baltimore, Minnesota and Wisconsin Conferences. Was President of Hamline University for three years. Taught school seven years. Dr. John taught one year in Clark University, Ga., and was its president from 1893 to 1896. Was Presiding Elder of Milwaukee district six years, and of Oshkosh district three years. From 1905 to 1910 he took a supernumerary relation and was then superannuated. His present residence is Omaha, Nebraska.

**JOHN E. FARMER**—Sept. 1890 to Oct. 1895—was born near Toronto, Canada, Mar. 25, 1857; graduated at North Western University, Evanston, Ill., in 1886; ordained deacon in 1885, and elder in 1889; member of Rock River Conference in 1885; transferred to Wisconsin Conference in 1886.

He served some of the best charges in our state and then rejoined the Rock River Conference, and while stationed at DeKalb, Ill., Sept. 30, 1909, resigned from the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**EPHRAIM L. EATON**—Oct. 1895 to Sept. 1896—was born in Jefferson County, Wis., Mar. 27, 1846; educated at the district school at Milton Academy and at Garrett, Biblical Institute, where he graduated in 1877; ordained a deacon in 1873 and elder in 1876; has been a member of the Wisconsin, West Wisconsin, Des Moines, Pittsburg, and the Rock River Conferences, and has served large churches in each; was a member of the General Conferences of 1888, 1896 and 1900, each time from different conference; he is now Conference Evangelist of the Rock River conference, and lives at Madison, Wisconsin.

**J. S. LEAN**—September 1896 to September 1897—was born in the town of Eagle, Waukesha Co., Wis.; was educated in the common schools, and at Garrett Biblical Institute, where he graduated in 1887. His early manhood was spent on the farm and in teaching; was converted and joined the church at 23 years of age; at 27 was received on trial in the ministry, and four years later was ordained elder.

He has served ten charges in the Wisconsin Conference, and was Presiding Elder of the Milwaukee District from 1902 to 1908. He is now located at Trinity Church, Milwaukee.

He has been twice elected delegate to the General Conference, 1900-1904, and served on the General Conference Book Committee for three years.

**HENRY P. HAYLETT**—September 1897 to September 1902—was born in Menominee Falls, Wis., October 4, 1852; he was the son of Theophilus and Harriett Haylett, early settlers in the state, devoted christians, and loyal Methodists. He married Sarah A. Howard, of Oshkosh, in 1879. His education was obtained in the district school, at Lawrence University, and at Boston Theological Seminary. He was pastor at Union Grove, Asbury, Trinity, Algoma St., Oshkosh, and Waukesha. Then for two years at Superior, West Wisconsin Conference. After returning to Wisconsin Conference, he preached at Appleton, Racine, and Waukesha, was financial agent of Lawrence University, and Presiding Elder of Fond du Lac District. He died in Racine, Wis., April 5, 1905.



R. K. MANATON—Sept. 1902 to Sept. 1906—received his education at Hacketts-town, New Jersey, and at the Boston Theological Seminary. The first part of his ministry was in the East; he was some years in Michigan, and in 1898 joined the Wisconsin Conference. He has served the church in Delavan, Summerfield Milwaukee, Racine and St. Paul's Green Bay, and is pastor this year at Ripon and Green Lake. He was pastor at Shopiere, Janesville and Stoughton, before joining the conference, acting as supply.

WILLIAM ROLLINS—September 1906 to September 1908—had his early training on a farm near London, Ontario; he taught school two years, was converted and united with the Wesleyan Methodist church; was married in London, Ontario, to Emma Priscilla Parish, June 13, 1883. Entered Garrett Biblical Institute in 1884, uniting with the Wisconsin Conference the same year; graduated in 1887, with degree of B. D.; transferred to Oregon Conference for three years, then for reasons of health to Montana Conference, where he served Helena, two years, and Butte three years.

Returned to Wisconsin Conference in 1896; served several charges and came to Racine in 1906; in 1908 Bishop Neely appointed him to the Milwaukee district, which position he now occupies.

WILLIAM PRESTON LEEK—September 1908 to ————was born in Uxbridge, Ontario, Canada, Dec. 17, 1862. At the age of 12 he began to support himself. At 18 he was converted, and began at once to preach, often walking twenty miles on Sunday evening. At twenty-one he was Missionary at St. Joseph's Island, Canada. He came to United States in 1886; educated at North Western University, and at Garrett Biblical Institute, graduating from the latter in 1891. On Nov. 27, 1887, he married Elizabeth Austin Hill, a graduate of North Western University. He joined the Wisconsin Conference in 1889, and has served but five charges in twenty-three years.



## BUILDINGS

"Take heed now, for the Lord hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong and do it." 1st. Chron., 28:10.

The church building holds an important place in the economy of the church; for the kind of building to which the people come regularly to worship, has its own peculiar influence on the religious experience and character of the worshipers, and also is in some sense an expression of their spiritual aspirations.

No building in the community bears so vital a relation to the material, no less than to the moral well-being of the whole people, as does the church building. Every citizen is a beneficiary of the wholesome, healthful, life-giving moral atmosphere emanating from the house of worship, whether he is a member and supporter, or whether he is not.

The matter of providing a proper house for the worship of God, should therefore receive the prayerful, serious consideration and self-sacrificing support of every member, and is entitled to the sympathetic interest and assistance of every other citizen.

In the seventy-five years of its existence, the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Racine, has been housed in but two buildings; the church on Pearl St., now No. 520 College Ave., which was built during the pastorate of Julius Field, 1845-6, and the one at Main and 8th Streets, which we occupy at present.

Our conversations with Mr. Alanson Filer, have, however, raised the faint probability that the very early society did erect a small building in which to hold religious meetings. Several times, when asked whether there was any place of worship owned by the church previous to 1845, he has each time hazily recalled a log structure, about 12x20, which contained benches made of split logs, and that was put up and used for that purpose. But we have not been able to get any corroborative testimony as to this, and it will probably remain in the realm of conjecture.

There is good evidence, however, in the very positive and clear recollection of Mrs. Lucy Foxwell, as to some places where the early church services were held, and as to the location of the building that was first occupied as a parsonage; Samuel Pillsbury, the first preacher sent to Racine, 1836, lived on the east side of Main St., near Seventh, about where the Wisconsin Telephone Exchange building now is. It was a one room house about sixteen feet square. Mrs. Foxwell has peculiarly distinct impressions of this house, from

the fact that she was cared for there for several days by Mrs. Pillsbury, after dislocating her knee in a street accident, Mr. Pillsbury being absent at the time on his circuit.

She says that Otis Curtis, the second preacher, did not live in this house, but on a small Caledonia farm, outside of town, at first, and her brother Floyd Briggs, worked for him there, taking care of things while he was on his circuit. Mr. Curtis later lived over a store in town; he had quite a family.

Mrs. Foxwell also says that Joseph Knapp, a brother of Gilbert Knapp, built a forwarding house on the west side of Main Street, near Second, and when finished, there was nothing to forward for a time, and the Methodists and others rented this building for religious meetings. She has distinct recollections of Daniel Slauson's preaching in the forwarding house. In the winter of 1840-41 a union protracted meeting was held in this place for two or three weeks, by the Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians. Previous to its erection, the Methodists met and worshipped in the houses of Jonathan M. Snow, who became a traveling preacher, and of Paul Kingston, a Godly man, whose daughter became the wife of Alanson Filer.

Dr. W. G. Miller, in his book, "Thirty Years in the Itinerancy," has this to say about meeting places in Racine in the early days, on the occasion of his passing through the city in June, 1844:

"As before stated, the meetings were at first held in a private house, but as the congregations increased, a public building was rented near the foot of Main Street. After the school house was built, the meetings were removed to it, and it was at this latter place the writer attended a service during his first Sabbath in the State."

After the old court house was finished in 1840, it was made use of by all of the church societies for meetings, and Mr. Filer retained in his memory the recollection of some glorious revival occasions enjoyed by the Methodists there. In the winter of 1841 and 1842, the meeting lasted for six weeks, the weather being clear and very cold, and not one stormy or disagreeable day during the whole of that time.

A full list of all the buildings that have been in the possession, or in the charge of the officials of our church, would necessarily include at least four churches, and two parsonages.

#### THE PARSONAGES.

The first parsonage property was located on Chippewa St., now 504 Park Ave., and was a gift to the church from Daniel Slauson, and was conveyed by deed April 24, 1863, "by Daniel Slauson and wife, to Daniel Slauson, Theron H. Kidder, William Bull, Simeon C. Yout, Elias Jones, Peter Robilliard, Stephen Campbell, Henry Dean and James Guilbert, trustees, in consideration of his affection for the church, in trust for a parsonage, etc." and recorded April 28, 1863. It remained in possession of the church until Feb 10, 1892, when it was sold for \$2,000, and a lot bought at 932 Lake Ave., and a new parsonage built thereon. The old Park Ave. house was not used by all of the preachers in the later years, however, as some of them considered it unhealthy, and rented houses elsewhere for the use of their families.

Following is an abstract of the terms of sale of the old Park Ave. parsonage property, which was effected Feb. 10, 1892.

Whereas, E. C. Peck has been appointed by the Circuit Court of Racine County, Special Guardian of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, on their application to sell their right, title and interest in the south half of lot No. 1 in Block 23, in the original plat of Racine; and also a strip of land 3 feet wide of the entire northerly side of lot No. 2, of block 23, it being hereby the intention to convey the aforesaid north 3 feet in width of lot No. 2, and the south half of lot No. 1, in said block 23, the center line of the double house in said lot

1, and thence extended to the East and West lines of said lot to be the north line of the premises hereby intended to be conveyed. \* \* \* In consideration of the premises and \$2,000.00, to Thomas Morgan.

Following is an abstract of the deed of conveyance of the new parsonage lot at 932 Lake Ave., on Aug. 21, 1891.

Helen Dickson, widow, and John Dickson, in consideration of \$1,000.00, north 1/2 of lot 9 in Block 16, of school and university lands

Subject to a perpetual right of way over and across the south 5 feet to the above granted premises, and conveying and granting to the said parties of the second part, a perpetual right of way over and across the north 5 feet of the south 1/2 of said Lot 9, which right of way and the conditions of its use are fully set forth in a certain agreement dated the 21st day of August, 1890, executed by B. B. Blake, Elizabeth Blake, J. Hocking, Alice Hocking, and Helen Dickson.

#### BUILDING OF NEW PARSONAGE.

The parsonage building was erected in 1892; it is quite a commodious dwelling of ten rooms and bath, and cost \$3,500. J. E. Farmer was our pastor at the time. He and the ladies of the church, had secured quite a sum, on sub-

scription, for a new pipe organ. About this time Mrs. Mary Conroe made the church a gift of the present pipe organ, and stipulated that "all subscriptions previously made to that fund should be paid to a parsonage fund," which was done. It was not, however, until the pastorate of H. P. Haylett, that the parsonage was entirely paid for.



The First Parsonage at 504 Park Avenue; the Left Half of this Double House.

#### THE CHURCH BUILDINGS.

The erection of our Pearl street building was accomplished during the pastorate

of Julius Field, who was sent here in August, 1845, and remained but one year.

The sources of information with reference to the details of that enterprise, are limited, almost exclusively, at the time of this writing, to the recollections of Alanson Filer. He was made chairman of the board of trustees against his protest, as he thought that Daniel Slauson should have held that position. He does not recollect the names of those on the board, other than Daniel Slauson, Wm. Bull, and himself; but the names of Edwin W. Smith, and Albert G. Knight appear also on the deed.

Daniel Slauson and A. Filer were the building committee, the former being the prime mover and the financial backer of the movement, as well as a strong supporter of the devotional meetings of the church.

The timbers for the floor beams and under-pinning of the church, as well as the frame and roof timbers, were of oak, which were hewn out near the



First Methodist Church in Racine at 520 College Avenue.

far west, at that time, and travel was limited.

We have recently made a personal examination of these timbers still in the building, which is being remodeled at the time of this writing, and they are all perfectly solid, and hard, almost, as iron.

The contractor on the present work dryly made the remark, that "The men who hewed those timbers were not paid for their work," which is probably the truth. It is very evident to all who have had occasion to know about the construction of this building, that conscientious, skillful work was put into it, and much of it, doubtless, was a labor of love.

The time and the circumstances under which the lot on which this church stood, was acquired by our people, was as follows:

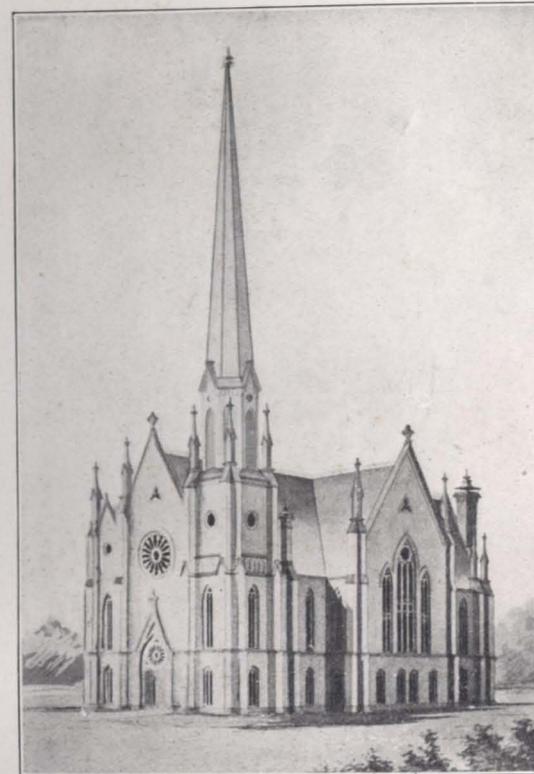
Under date of Sept. 26, 1842, Benjamin B. Jones and Nancy, his wife, conveyed by deed to Alanson Filer, Daniel Slauson, William Bull, Edwin W. Smith, and Albert G. Knight, in trust for the purposes hereinafter

mentioned, in consideration of \$75.00 in specie, lot 6 in block 24, of the original plat of Racine, in trust that they shall build thereon a house or place of worship for the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



The Present Parsonage at 932 Lake Avenue.

Rapids, and sledged down the river, Mr. Slauson and Mr. Knight having a personal hand in this part of the work. Mrs. Anna Knight relates of hearing her husband tell of breaking through the ice with a load of these timbers, near the big rock at Kinzie Avenue Bridge, onto which he clambered, and yelled lustily for help. It was some time before help arrived, as the residence district had not extended so



The Second Methodist Church Building; Erected in 1871.

cost in the neighborhood of \$5,000. After it was enclosed it became necessary to borrow \$1,200 to finish and furnish it. When it came to making the slips, a man named Turnbull, put in a bid at \$6.00 each. Mr. Filer considered that too much to pay, and being a cabinet maker himself, proposed to Mr. Slauson that he would make them himself at day's wages, and without profit, and he did so, the final cost being \$3.75 each. They were plain seats made of pine with rather high backs, with a black walnut roll top, and little doors opening out into the aisles from each; and they were rented at so much per week, as the seats in our church continued to be until Nov. 15, 1897, when that system was discarded. These doors were taken off and the ends remodeled, just after the war.

Meetings were held in the basement for a time, before the main room was finished. The fittings were primitive; on the pillars about the room were attached tin candlesticks, and wooden candlesticks stood on the pulpit, and candles furnished the light. The people sat on benches, common wooden affairs with a rail for a back rest; cast iron wood stoves radiated the heat.

Everything was plain, but substantial, and this fact was no hindrance to the enjoyment by the people of the devotional exercises held there.

The basement was fitted out for the Sunday School and class meetings, as well as prayer meetings. The Sunday School continued to meet there for a number of years after the church was completed, but it finally became too small to accommodate its members, after which its sessions were held in the main room upstairs.

Bennett, in his "History of Methodism in Wisconsin" gives 1844 as the year in which the church was built. It is possible that work was started during that year, but we think it unlikely. Alanson Filer says that Julius Field built the church, or was pastor when it was built, and relates stories of his own dealings with him, that put it beyond question that it was finished, at any rate, in his pastorate, which began in the fall of 1845.

Pastors are not taken from a field in the midst of a building enterprise, except their term limit has expired, or in the event of some unusual exigency. G. L. S. Stuff had been here but one year when Julius Field was appointed, and we believe that the presumption is fair that the church was begun and completed during the pastorate of the latter. There seems to be hardly enough "stuff" to support the other assumption.

The building was 36x52 feet in size, and would accommodate about three hundred people. It

## GROWTH AND PROGRESS.

The Wisconsin Conference held its annual session here in the fall of 1855, and W. G. Miller was appointed to Racine. These two facts seem to have marked the beginning of larger and better things for our church. Dr. Miller, in the opinion of good judges, was one of the ablest men who has served our church, besides being a man of spiritual power, and a strong preacher; his two years here were made notable by large accessions to the membership through conversions at revival meetings, and it was found necessary during his second year to put a twenty-foot addition on the west end of the church, which added very considerably to its capacity.

It was at this time also that our church began to have an important standing in the Conference, and throughout the state, as well as here at home, for it was true that many of our citizens who were without any church connections, and members of other churches, with no place of worship, were regular attendants and supporters of the Methodist church.

We do not boast of it; it was only the fact that ours was the popular Racine church at that time, and so far as we are able to learn, the old Methodist doctrines, repentance of sins, salvation by faith, an actual hell to be shunned, and a real heaven to be gained, were consistently preached from its pulpit.

A new pulpit put in, all at a total expense of about \$500. The fence in front of the church is in process of repairs. The value of the property is—two churches, \$7,500; parsonage, \$3,500.

Our church building is now in comfortable repair, and will for the time being accommodate our wants, but we feel that the day is not distant, when for the good of Methodism in Racine, and the glory of God, we should lay sufficient gifts upon the altar to erect a house of worship such as shall be commensurate with coming wants, and an honor to the church to which we belong.

ALBERT G. KNIGHT.  
Secretary

WM. P. STOWE.  
President.



*You are cordially invited to attend our*

### Dedication Services,

*To be held on Sunday July 16th, 1871.*

10.30 A. M.  
*Sermon by Rev. B. I. Ives, D.D., of New York*

7.30 P. M.  
*Sermon by Rev. J. M. Reid, D.D., of Chicago, followed by the*

#### DEDICATION SERVICES.



The First Page of Dedication Program

At the quarterly conference held Sept. 5, 1868 the trustees submitted a report, as follows:

"In reference to the condition of property held by them in trust for the church, we have in charge two houses of worship: the edifice on Pearl St., and the one on Ninth St., known as the Welsh M. E. church, and also one parsonage, all of which is free from debt. The basement of the church has been finished during the year, the church re-car-

This was the first move that was made looking toward the erection of our present church.

We come now to the record of the official action taken by the trustees with reference to the new Main St. church.

At a meeting of the board of trustees held Feb. 28, 1870, at the office of Whiteley & Durand, there were present Elias Jones, S. C. Yout, William Bull, John F. Goold, A. G. Knight, and the pastor, O. J. Cowles.

At this meeting it was resolved to sell the old church property and erect a new church: A. G. Knight, S. C. Yout and J. F. Goold being appointed a committee to negotiate the sale.

It was also decided at this meeting to "purchase lot 11, of Block 2, in the second ward for the purpose of erecting thereon a new church," O. J. Cowles, J. F. Goold, and S. C. Yout being appointed a committee to negotiate such purchase.

A building committee was also appointed consisting of Geo. W. Slauson, Simeon C. Yout, John F. Goold, William P. Lyon, and A. G. Knight.

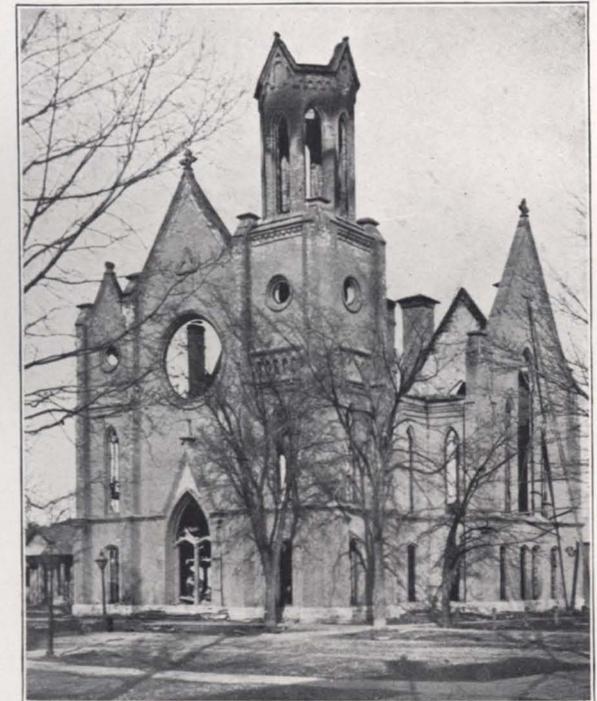
At a meeting held in June the same year, Alanson Filer and Simeon Whiteley were added to the building committee by unanimous vote.

At a quarterly conference held April 2, 1870, Presiding Elder C. D. Pillsbury in the chair, the trustees were authorized to sell the church on Pearl street, and invest the proceeds in other church property. They were also authorized to sell the buildings on the new lot purchased the day before.

In pursuance of the above action, the old church property at 520 Pearl street was sold Nov. 5, 1870, to Frank Schneider, Samuel Ritchie and Bernard Lichtenheld, trustees of the Racine Social Gymnastic Association, in consideration of \$4,800.

The satisfaction felt with the sale of the old building and the prospects for a new and better one, was not un-mixed with discomfort, and some discontent, at the thought of the irreligious character of the new owners. There was discordance in a situation that placed such a society in control of a house that had been dedicated to the worship of God, and our old members have not yet entirely recovered from the inquietude it produced.

The society which purchased the property was known as "The Turners," and the members had no particular respect for religion, or religious institutions. One of them who owned a dry goods store, said to a lady member of our church, who was his customer, a few days after the transaction: "Well, we found the devil in a corner of the church yesterday." "Is that so," she replied, "I am surprised that he found out so quickly that his friends had taken possession."



After the Fire, February 5, 1882.



The Present Church Building at Main and Eighth Streets.

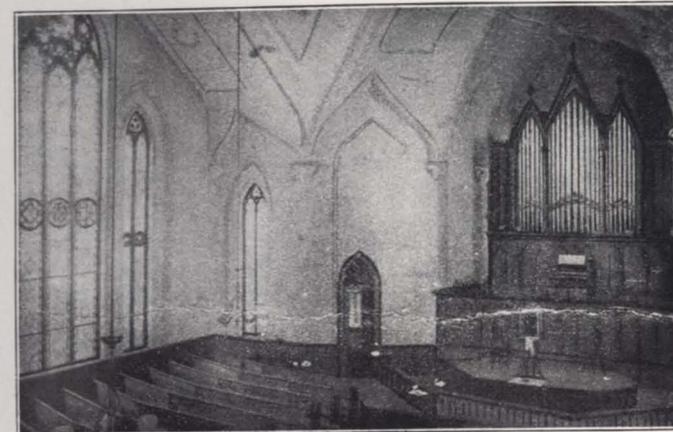
The lot on the corner of Main and Eighth streets was purchased April 1, 1870, of Geo. Q. Erskine, for \$3,000.

Building operations were begun without delay on the new church, and on June 25, 1870, the cornerstone was laid, and on July 16, 1871 the church was dedicated; it was without question the handsomest church building in the city, and the tower was crowned with the most beautiful and shapely spire to be seen in the west. Mr. A. Filer, a member of the building committee, relates that the contractor, in beginning the spire got the pitch a little too steep, and the result was that it went up 19 feet higher than the plans called for, which only enhanced its beauty.

The church cost a little less than \$40,000 and when it was finished there remained a debt of a little more than \$15,000; which was not entirely wiped out until the fire on Feb. 5, 1882, put us again on the ground, in position for a fresh start. The church was rebuilt and rededicated Feb. 4, 1883, out of debt.

It cost a little less than \$20,000 to restore the church. The society got into considerable difficulty, financial, and some other kinds, in the first building of this church in 1871, because of unwise management, the details of which it will be unnecessary to go into here. In the rebuilding the officers of the church profited by that experience, and the work was carried on and completed quite to the satisfaction of all concerned, and to the credit of the building committee, and the pastor, Thos. Clithero. Perhaps it would be but just to add, that to Albert G. Knight, more than to any other one person, was due the successful prosecution of that work. The pastor had, however, ideas of his own as to the uses to which a church building should be put, and frowned on church sociables, and suppers, and all kindred activities, with the result that the room which in the original building, had served as a kitchen, was transformed into a coal-hole, and has been used for that purpose until this day.

According to a report of the trustees dated Oct. 31, 1873, the general financial situation of the church was stated to be as follows:



Interior View—1880.

Value of church property	\$43,000.00
Cost of new church including lot and furniture, exclusive of interest	.. 42,128.37
Amount paid, exclusive of interest	.... 26,017.98
Amount of debt outstanding	..... 15,831.43
Funds actually in the treasury	..... 914.70

When the church was burned in 1882, there was still about \$5,000 of this debt remaining to be paid.

#### LATEST BUILDING PROJECT.

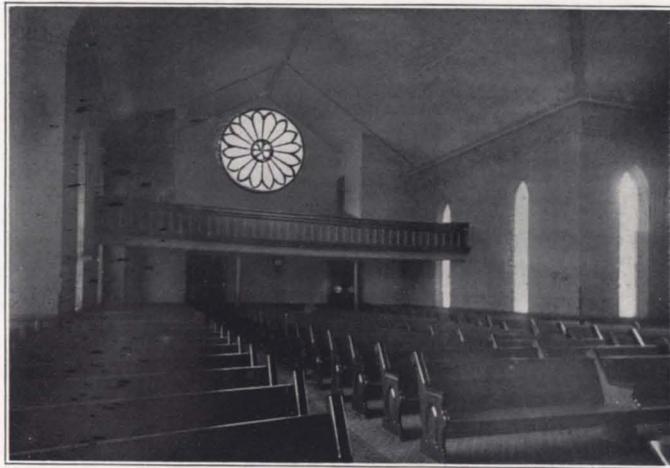
In the spring of 1909 a movement was started among the official and other members, toward the building of a new church. At the same time the Methodists living in the southwest part of town, began agitating the matter of a house of worship or Sunday School building in that neighborhood. It was thought that the two proposals could be carried along as one enterprise by first church, to the advantage of both. Things moved slowly, too slowly for the outlying district, and the people in that community, on March 3, 1911, decided that they would build a church, and organize an independent society, and the Grange Avenue church is the fruition of that resolution. Their church is built, and dedicated, and their work is in full swing.

First church has not given up the idea of a new building, however, though its officials have not yet summoned the resolution necessary to definitely begin the project. It is an enterprise that will require the sympathetic and active co-operation of every member of the church when it is begun, to assure success, and with this co-operation it can be done, in good season, and with credit to the church.

In the fall of 1909 the old windows in the church were taken out, and replaced by new stained glass windows of late design. Several of these windows were memorials of members of the church who have passed, as follows: William Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Simeon Whiteley, Albert G. Knight, Estella Shepard,



Interior View—1912.



Interior View, showing Rear of Audience Room.

had been held the evening before, in the primary class room, with F. H. McAdow, chorister, in charge. We were awakened early Sunday morning by the fire bells, and lost no time in getting on the scene. There was no wind, and when we got there the building was entirely in flames, but they were confined within the walls, and were reaching toward heaven almost as high as the spire itself. There was considerable speculation as to which way the spire would fall, but its supports on the inside burned out first, and it fell entirely within the walls. It was found after the walls cooled that they were not seriously damaged, and were marred scarcely at all by smoke. It cost only about \$550 to repair the walls.

In the interval of one year between the fire and the dedicating of the rebuilt church, services were held in the old Baptist Auditorium on the second floor of the building on the corner of Main and Sixth streets, where the Robinson building now stands. We rented this of the First Baptist church society, which had only recently moved into their new house of worship on the corner of Wisconsin and Eighth streets.

In the chapter on Racine, the picture showing Market Square with loads of hay, also shows this building.

#### THE WELSH METHODIST CHURCH.

In the early days there was a thriving Welsh Methodist church with a building located on the rear of the lot at 845 Villa street, and fronting on Ninth between Park and Villa, at 514 Ninth street. It was a small frame structure about 25x30 feet in size, and is now located at the northeast corner of Villa and Thirteenth streets.

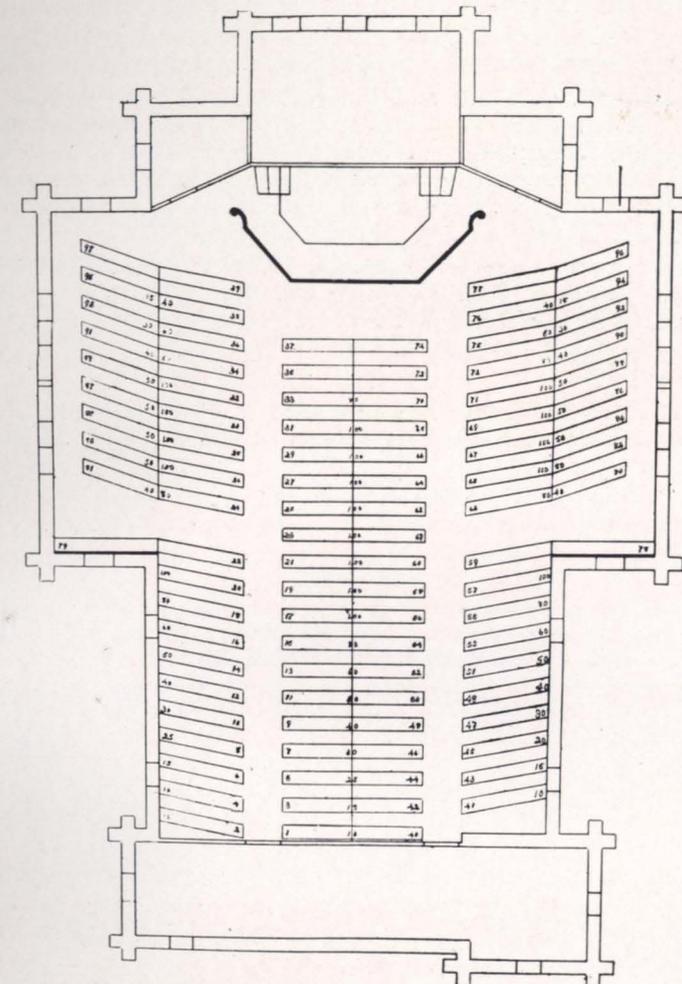


Sunday School Platform, Christmas 1910.

Mrs. Eva Lunn, Eli Shupe, Henry and Mary Dean. The total cost of this improvement was \$1,086, of which \$300 was contributed by the individuals who placed the memorials.

#### THE FIRE.

The burning of the church on Sunday morning, Feb. 5, 1882, was a spectacle that will not be forgotten by those who witnessed it. The writer was a member of the choir at that time, and practice



Present Seating Plan of Church.

It appears that during and right after the war, interest in this church began to wane, and some of its members joined the larger society of Welsh people, constituting the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church. It continued to dwindle until its membership reached the vanishing point, and our possession of the property is explained by the following extract from the proceedings of the trustees of our church at a meeting held Jan. 12, 1867.

"Whereas, it appears from the following notice from the Presiding Elder, to-wit:

Rev. Wm. P. Stowe,

Dear Brother:—

By direction of Rev. Bishop Clark, the Welsh Mission of the M. E. Church of Racine is hereby connected with your charge, and you will regard it as under your supervision, and see that the Board of Trustees take control of the property.

S. C. THOMAS.

Racine, Jan. 12, 1867.

Presiding Elder of Milwaukee District of Wis.,  
Conference of the M. E. church.

That the Welsh Mission in Racine has become a part of this charge—  
Therefore, Resolved that a committee be appointed to take charge of the property, collect rents, settle claims and keep the property insured.”

A. G. Knight, S. C. Yout, and Peter Robilliard were elected such committee. In the itemized report of this committee a year later, \$10.00 is shown to have been paid to Hugh Edwards for possession. The church was rented during the next two years to the Scandinavian Baptist Society, and for five weeks to the Second Advent Scandinavians, and judging from the reports, was a source of some little net income to the church, about \$200.

This property was conveyed Sept. 12, 1859 by Hugh Edwards, to Hugh Edwards, David Morgan, Edward Rowlands, Morris B. James, and Lewis T. Williams, trustees of the Welsh Methodist Church, in consideration of \$5.00.

It is described as the East 32 feet, of Lot 11, Block 7, Section 16 of School and University lands.

At a meeting of the Quarterly Conference of our church held May 5, 1869, A. G. Knight was appointed a committee to sell the Welsh Mission Church on Ninth street.

We can find no record of what disposition was made of it, but the probability is that our trustees never had a deed to the property.

The following well known Welsh people among others, with their families were members of the church: Hugh Edwards, David Morgan, Edward Rowlands, Morris B. James, Lewis T. Williams, David Owen and Owen Roberts.

**THE LAKE SHORE CHURCH.**

It appears that the Lake Shore church property at Berryville was at one time in the charge and possession of our church, for at a meeting of the trustees held August 20, 1873, a report to the quarterly conference was agreed on, from which the following extract is taken:

“The trustees of said church respectfully report: that the property held by us in trust for the church is as follows:

Lot 11, Block 2, Section 16, on Main street, with church edifice and furniture of the value of .....	\$40,000.00
Church lot and building on the road to Kenosha, in the town of Somers .....	500.00
Parsonage in Racine .....	2,500.00
	\$43,000.00

How our quarterly conference or trustees became dispossessed of this property does not show in the records.



**MUSIC**

“Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:  
Sing forth the honor of his name: make his praise glorious. Psa. 66-1.

The music of our church in its pioneer days was not a prominent feature of the public services; not from any lack of melody in the hearts of the individual worshipers, nor of harmony in their relations with each other; but rather because the conditions of the wilderness life, and its demands upon their time and thought, together with the lack of instruments, and of books, and of leaders in singing, contributed to create a situation not conducive to the cultivation of song. There was singing, of course, for there will always be music in the heart of the true christian, and an effort to express it in vocal praise will surely be made.

When the Pearl street church was built, and even before that time, while we worshipped in the old court house, the singing began to assume its rightful place in the program of worship. “At the first it was without instrument and without choir, but the man who was considered the musician of the church, stood before the congregation as precentor, with baton and tuning fork;” he would read a few lines of the hymn, and give the pitch and lead the people in singing the lines read, when he would read a little further, and the program was repeated until the song was finished. The reading was called “lining the hymn,” and the practice was quite general in early days, and was not confined to the Methodist church; and while it may appear to the singers of this generation a cumbersome if not an impossible method of expressing the music in the soul, it is probably true that considerable satisfaction was gotten from the exercise, notwithstanding.

**The Choristers.**

The name of any leader of the church singing before 1849, is undisclosed to us, but in that year James T. Manchester assumed charge of the music; he was a musician of prominence and standing. Just how long he was our leader is not known, probably two or three years, and after an interval he was again our chorister in the 60's for a short time.

In those days there was no congregational singing; when the organ and choir were in the back gallery, the audience, during the singing of the hymns, would rise and turn around so as to face the performers, but took no part in the performance. A little later, however, they were persuaded that the singing was a part of the worship, and slowly came to take their rightful place in the service of song.



1. CHARLES W. BREWER was born in Guernsey, Nov. 20, 1822; came to America April 8, 1852, and to Racine June 14, 1852; was chorister, choir singer and steward; died Nov. 16, 1910.

2. SHEPARD D. CUTTING was born at Keene, New Ham., June 18, 1812; came to Racine in 1857; chorister between 1870 and 1880. Died in Racine Dec. 6, 1897. Taught singing classes in the East and in Racine. Chorister at Congregational and Methodist churches.

3. CLARK C. BRIGGS was born in Franklin, Vt., Jan. 4, 1827; came to Racine in 1854; he was chorister and choir member for seventeen years; died at Los Angeles, Cal., Feb'y. 24, 1903.

4. P. S. LITZENBERGER was born Apr. 18, 1836; converted and joined the church under W. P. Stowe; was church chorister; steward; father of Mrs. Ray O. White, Milwaukee. Died at Clinton, Ia., Dec. 29, 1874.

Let the people praise thee, O, Lord, let all the people praise thee. Psa. 41:10.

Chas. Brewer succeeded Mr. Manchester as chorister for a short time, and in 1853, when the new pipe organ was installed, Oren S. White was leader of the singing. Other choristers in the old church were Wm. Humason, Shepard D. Cutting, C. C. Briggs, P. S. Litzenberger and A. B. Tyrrell. Following are the names of some of the singers in the choir in those days.

Mrs. Adeline Jillson  
Mrs. S. C. Yout.  
Mrs. C. Tickner.  
Sarah Luna.  
Jemima Lunn.  
Phoebe Copeland  
Eliza Sampson.  
Maggie Pugh.  
Roxanna Sisson.  
Addie Yout.  
Grace Bond Stowe.

Mrs. Deberard.  
Miss West.  
Mary Slauson.  
Margaret Henry.  
Hattie Holmes.  
Belle Fuhrman.  
Chas. Brewer.  
James Gilbert.  
C. C. Briggs—17 yrs.  
P. F. Litzenberger.  
Daniel Clark



JAMES T. MANCHESTER was born Aug. 7, 1815 in Cayuga Co., New York, and came to Racine in 1846. Merchant and grain dealer. Was chorister two terms of two years each. Was also chorister of First Baptist and Presbyterian and Universalist Churches. Prominent in musical circles in Racine. He died Apr. 3, 1900, at Auburn, N. Y.



1. JOHN C. LUNN was born in England, Nov. 30, 1836; came to America and to Racine in July, 1849; joined the church earlier than any other living member.

2. FINLEY H. McADOW was born on a farm, Adams Co., Ohio, Dec. 31, 1851. Came to Racine in 1877. Married Ella Nims, Mar. 26, 1885; steward; trustee; teacher and ass't supt. of school; chorister; sec'y. and treasurer Staver Carriage Co., Chicago, Ill.; Pres. Nat'l Asso. of Credit Men. Residence, Chicago, Ill.

3. MRS. M. JENNIE TALBOT WINSHIP was born in Peabody, Mass.; acquired her musical education under the best American and foreign teachers; came to Racine in 1878, and left in 1893; lives in Los Angeles, Cal., where she has a studio; also church choir.

4. GEORGE SKEWES was born at Ives Grove, Racine Co., Wis., June 26, 1844; steward; treasurer; S. School Supt. and teacher; died at San Fernando, California, Feb'y. 19, 1897.

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Psa. 150:6.

After we moved into the new church on Main street, the following persons served the church as choristers and in the order given, as nearly as we can determine. Chas. Brewer, J. C. Lunn, F. H. McAdow, M. Jennie Talbot Winship, George Skewes, William E. Lunn, Walter Tostevin, Lewis Evans, T. S. Lovell, Lillian Watts. Our present chorister, Miss Lillian Watts, bids fair to have the record for continuous service in that position, as she has already equalled Mr. W. E. Lunn's term for ten years, and is still the leader. Mr. Lunn's choir, however, is unquestionably entitled to the honors for longest service.

Mrs. Talbot Winship, who was one of our choristers in the 80's, a lady of fine musical training, with an alto voice of unusually good quality, and a passion for her work, writes that she is still engaged in teaching music at her home in Los Angeles, Cal.; her letter closes with this cheerful refrain:—

(Guess I'm only a musician, and shall be till I die.)

*I'm only a musician; & shall  
be till I die :/ Mrs. Talbot-Winship.*



*and shall be till I die. And shall be till I die.*



CHOIR 1885 TO 1895 W. E. LUNN, LEADER

Left to right

Top row—George W. Leach, Racine.  
 Eva Davis, now Mrs. Philo Driver.  
 Lottie Grisinger, now Mrs. Chas. Harmar, Akron, O.  
 Herbert Clemons, Racine.  
 E. W. Rapps, Racine.  
 Charlotte Heroy, Racine.  
 Mrs. W. E. Lunn, died May 6, 1902.  
 Mary Hardy, Racine.  
 Maggie Beck, now Mrs. W. J. Pountain, Milwaukee.  
 Walter DuFour, physician, Chenoa, Ill.  
 E. A. Tostevin, Mandan, N. Dak.

Second Row—Walter Tostevin, Racine.  
 Carrie Phillips, now Mrs. Chas. Inman, Warren, O.  
 Mary E. Lunn, Los Angeles, Cal.  
 Nellie Osborn, died June 19, 1898.  
 Nellie Bramow, now Mrs. Herbert Clemons, Racine.  
 Wm. E. Lunn, leader, died June 19, 1896.  
 Millie Litzenger, now Mrs. Ray White, Milwaukee.  
 Charles DuFour, Racine, Wis.  
 Minnie Clemons, now Mrs. Ralph Bennett, Minneapolis, Minn.

Third row—Mary Gebhardt, now Mrs. H. B. Hall, Racine.  
 Sarah Wilhelmi, Racine.  
 Pearl Clark, now Mrs. Charles Willey, Springfield, Ill.  
 Elizabeth Whiteley, Racine.  
 Florence Clemons, now Mrs. E. A. Tostevin, Mandan, N. Dak.



THE PRESENT CHOIR

Top row—Harvey Nelson, Harold Johnson, Elliott Orberg.  
 Second row—Ethel Smith, Ruth Jones, Clara Jones, Ethel Benedict,  
 Gertrude Biehn.  
 Third row—Amy Lewis, W. A. Lunn, Lillian Watts, leader, Henry Oneson,  
 Eva Lewis.  
 Bottom row—Burton Welch, William Piggins, George Akin.

The chorister and the choir which saw the longest continuous service was William E. Lunn, and the singers under his leadership, shown in the picture on another page; of course there was some change in its personnel, but the membership remained largely the same during the ten years of his work. Mr. Lunn had unusual success in maintaining good feeling between the singers, and in bringing out the best that was in them, and only relinquished his leadership when forced to do so by ill health, to the great regret of the church. At the time of Mr. Lunn's resignation, Sept. 23, 1895, the official board passed resolutions of regret for its necessity, and of appreciation of his long, faithful and efficient service.

The choir under the leadership of F. H. McAdow, was only second to that of Mr. Lunn in years of service; Mr. McAdow became chorister in 1877, and led the singing for about seven years, and the choir kept well together most of that time. In a recent letter he says: "As nearly as I can recall dates, I had charge of the music and choir from 1877 to 1883. Our friend, Will H. Kranz, was organist for almost that entire period. The singers during my connection with the choir included Miss Eva Roberts (who afterwards became



1. WILLIAM E. LUNN, was born Nov. 25, 1849, in Racine, Wis.; chorister and trustee. Harness maker by trade. Died at Racine, June 19, 1896.

2. WALTER J. TOSTEVIN was born at Racine, Wis., Sept. 16, 1867; was church chorister two terms of one year each; 1895 and 1897; choir singer; S. School pupil and chorister; resides at 1140 Park Ave., Racine.

3. LEWIS EVANS was born Mar. 28, 1844, at Dyffryn, North Wales. Came to America and to Racine, Oct. 28, 1866. Was choir leader in church in Wales, and in Welsh Cong., St. Lukes Epis., First Pres., and First Methodist churches in Racine. Led Methodist choir in 1883-4-5 and in 1897-8.

4. LILLIAN WATTS was born at Oshkosh, Wis., and came to Racine in 1895. Received her musical education at the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston; pupil of Sauvage, N. Y. Member of faculty at Marquette University Conservatory of Music. Chorister from March, 1902, to date; now living at 1304 Park Ave., Racine, Wis.

"Whoso offereth praise, glorifieth me." Psa. 50:23.

Mrs. E. W. Leach), soprano, and one of the most faithful of choir members; Mr. Brewer, Sr., whose initials I cannot recall:—possibly they are C. F.; Miss Emma Sproat, Mr. and Mrs. Fred S. Pooler, Misses Effie and Millie Litzenburg, Miss Allie Kranz, Miss Jennie Briggs, and Messrs. E. W. Leach, Frank M. Roberts, and Ed. Hoernel. There may have been some others for short periods, but I recall that all of the above were faithful, loyal and dependable—qualities which lightened the duties of the chorister, and promoted **harmony** both musically and otherwise."

Mr. McAdow is now Secy. and Treas. of the Staver Carriage Co., of Chicago, Ill., where he resides. He is also president of the National Association of Credit Men, and Vice President of the Big Four Implement Co., of Kansas City, Mo.

Our present choir is organized as follows: President, Eva Lewis, Vice President, Henry Oneson, Sec'y-Treasurer, Geo. Akin, Librarian, William A. Lunn, Chorister, Lillian Watts, Organist, Amy Lewis. The singers are: soprano—Clara Jones, Ethel Smith, Gertrude Biehn, Loretta Crabb; alto—Eva Lewis, Ethel Benedict, Ruth Jones; tenor—Henry Oneson, Harvey Nelson; bass—William A. Lunn, George Akin, Burton Welsh, Elliott Orberg, Harold Johnson.

#### The Organists.

Previous to the building of the pipe organ in 1853, there was no musical instrument in the church, and of course no organist; Miss Helen Tapling was the first person in charge of the new organ; Prof. Carl Otto Heyer also played for our people for a time, but they could hardly afford to pay for his services. Miss Deberard, Miss West, Miss Stone and Miss Martha Hopkins are others who officiated as organists for brief intervals. In 1855, John Lunn first became organist, and served the church then, until he enlisted for the war. In 1866

he resumed his playing and again in 1889 to 1895. The sum of Mr. Lunn's terms as organist for our church is about 30 years.

Eliza Sampson, daughter of Wm. H. Sampson, one of our pastors, and who later married John T. Fish, was organist in 1864-5. At the time of the burning of our church on Main St., W. H. Krantz was the organist, and had been playing for us since 1875. He resigned just before we got into the rebuilt church.

About the year 1880, a talented Danish organist, named Sebastian Simonson, served the church for a few weeks, and his music was much enjoyed; but he was erratic and unreliable, and his engagement was cut short.

When the church was rebuilt, there was a cabinet organ in use for about nine years, and E. A. Tostevin, Eva Roberts, Mary E. Lunn, and John Lunn, officiated at its keyboard. When the new organ was installed in 1892, John Lunn took charge, and continued to play until 1895 when Ida Diehl succeeded him. Miss Diehl was a sweet natured young woman, and a good musician, and her premature taking off, by disease, a few years later, in the midst of her usefulness, was a great sorrow to the whole church.

George Shurr, Mrs. Geo. H. Dickinson, Luella Lockwood, now Mrs. Dr. Geo. Mason, Edith Wheeler, now Mrs. J. S. Baughman, and Amy Lewis, are the remaining organists. Miss Lewis is in charge at this time, and has been organist since October, 1905.



The First Pipe Organ.

#### The Organs.

In the fall of 1852, James H. Morgan began to agitate the matter of the purchase of an organ for our church; Chas Brewer had come to Racine from Guernsey, in the spring of that year; he was an organ builder, and was anxious to get to work at his business. The official board of the church authorized Mr. Morgan to solicit and collect subscriptions for this purpose, which he did with complete success, keeping the money in his own hands until the work was done, and then paying for the same. Mr. Brewer had a man named DuFroc associated with him in his business. They built an organ for St. Mary's Catholic church, also. After our organ had been in use but a little time, it was concluded that the home made pipes were not satisfactory, and it was made over in that respect, and new pipes put in in 1854. The organ had six stops,

and did good service until we moved out of the church in 1871, when it was sold to the German Evangelical Church on Park Ave., where it is still in use. When our church building was sold to the Turners, the trustees did not exempt the organ in the bargain, and the purchasers claimed it, and secured it, and it was from the Turners, that the Germans bought it.

Until 1856, the organ was located in the gallery in the east end of the church, but during that year the building was enlarged, and room made for the organ and choir behind the pulpit, which was esteemed a great improvement.

#### The Second Pipe Organ.

At a meeting of the trustees of the church held Tuesday, Aug. 30, 1870, the following trustees were present: S. Campbell, William P. Lyon, A. Filer, S. C. Yout, J. F. Goold, and A. G. Knight; O. J. Cowles, pastor, in the chair.

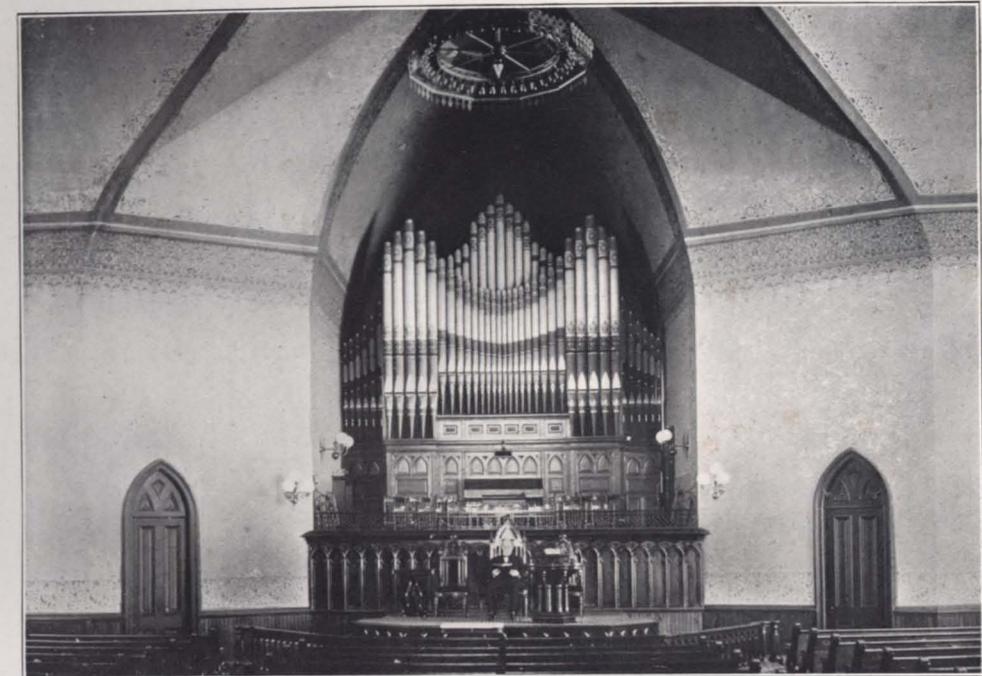


The Second Pipe Organ.  
Pastor F. S. Stein in the Pulpit.

“It was voted that the proposition of W. A. Johnson to furnish organ be accepted, said organ to be built according to specifications furnished, for the sum of \$3,000 and freight. S. C. Yout, C. W. Brewer, and J. C. Lunn were appointed a committee to carry into effect the above resolution.”

J. F. GOOLD, Secretary.

In accordance with the above action the organ was purchased of Mr. Johnson, and the ladies of the church undertook to pay for it. It appears that the organ manufacturers had suffered from a recent fire, and made an offer of a substantial reduction for cash; the ladies made a desperate effort to collect the money, but after doing their best, there was still \$1,600 to be raised; they



The Third Pipe Organ.  
Pastor Wm. P. Leek in the Pulpit.

borrowed this amount and settled with Mr. Johnson, being obliged to pay 10% interest on their loan, which was not entirely paid off until May 3, 1879. A facsimile of the check which finally settled this indebtedness may be seen in the chapter on Auxiliaries, under the head of Ladies Aid Society.

#### The Present Organ.

The present fine organ in our church was the gift of Mrs. Mary Conroe, in October, 1891, during the pastorate of J. E. Farmer. It is beautiful in design, and a fine toned instrument costing \$3,000, of Johnson manufacture.

#### Sunday School Music.

Music in the Sunday School is a more important factor in the training of the children than is realized, oftentimes by those in charge. The influence of good hymns, set to high class, appropriate music, in control of a competent and a conscientious leader, is very great in any company, but is magnified when the singers are children and youth with impressionable minds and hearts. Considerable attention has always been paid to our music, but oftentimes with indifferent results, because of lack of appreciation of its importance; but if we haven't reached the ideal, we believe it a fact, that in a comparative sense, we have been as good as the best, in this respect.

The average Sunday School song book is not a credit to our composers, or song writers, but our church, under the supervision of the Bishops, has just completed a Sunday School Hymnal, which it is believed will answer the question that is a standing trouble to choristers, namely: “What shall we sing?”

In the beginning, the singing in the Sunday School was conducted without instrumental accompaniment, but later a cottage organ was secured, and

used until the school felt able to purchase a piano, which was about 1889, since which time that instrument has always had a place in our services.

Several times in our history we have had Sunday School orchestras that have succeeded in arousing enthusiasm and interest in the school. Perhaps the most notable instance was of that organized by David and William John, sons of Dr. D. C. John, during his pastorate here in '89 and '90. David John was the leader, and there were about fifteen players, of whom the following are now recalled: David John, 1st violin; William John, 2nd violin; Frank Martin, trombone; Geo. Harris, clarinet; Samuel Skewes, cornet; Fritz Eckhardt, bass viol; Henry Wiegand, viola; Geo. Mead, 2nd violin; Chas. Rapps, tuba; Frank Swetz, flute; Nellie Sarles, now Mrs. E. Hoernel, piano; and part of the time Nellie Bramow, now Mrs. H. A. Clemons, piano. These young people were enthusiastic musicians, and spent a good deal of time in regular practice, with the result that their performances on Sunday came to be a creditable musical event, as well as of great help in the singing.

We remember also, that somewhere in the 70's, Jerome Fuller, an old army bugler, whose picture is in the war chapter, led the Sunday School singing with a cornet, in a masterful way, as he was an expert.

There was a Sunday School orchestra also in 1905 and 1906 composed of the following players: John Adamson, conductor; Russell Armstrong, violin; Ira Hanson, violin; Bertha Gerlat, violin; Edward Elsner, violin; Thomas Foxwell, violin; Elmer Smith, violin; Frank Elsner, bass viol; Henry Hall, cornet; Leon Fink, trombone; Herbert Tosteson, piano.

They disbanded in the latter part of 1906.

In the winter of 1910, 1911 an attempt was again made to organize an orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. E. E. Simmons, but its existence was comparatively brief.

At the time of this writing—February, 1912—an orchestra has again been organized, under the leadership of Mr. W. W. Cochran, and performed for the first time on Sunday, February 11.

#### Mrs. Stowe's Vocal Class.

Of considerable interest in connection with the pastorate of William P. Stowe, if not directly in line with the purpose of this chapter, is the fact that Mrs. Stowe organized and maintained a class in vocal music during her stay here. She was the first voice teacher in Racine. Before coming west, and before her marriage, which had but recently transpired, Mrs. Stowe had had the benefit of first class vocal culture, according to the then latest ideas in voice placing and training, and was enthusiastic in her desire to impart her knowledge to the young ladies of Racine, and she succeeded in interesting quite a large class, and in developing some very superior vocalists.

Among those whom she enrolled were Miss Jennie Hoy, now Mrs. Wm. Henry Miller; Miss Mattie Raymond, now Mrs. F. W. Starbuck\*, Miss Addie Yout, who married James Pettit, and Miss Carrie Kelley, now Mrs. Col. M. Doyon.

At the close of the term, a concert, or recital, was given in the Methodist Church, when the pupils had an opportunity to display their vocal ability in public—some of them for the first time.

Miss Jennie Hoy was accompanist. The concert was a decided success, and so pleased Mrs. Stowe, that she presented every vocal performer with a silver napkin ring, and the accompanist with a gold finger ring, which latter had an interesting subsequent history. Some of the napkin rings are still in use, and cherished as souvenirs of those early and happy days.

\* Since the above was written, Mrs. Starbuck has been the victim of a distressing accident, which caused her death March 16, 1912.



## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life. John 5:39.

It is a true as well as a trite saying that "the Sunday School is the nursery of the church;" it is here that the church looks for its recruits, and more and more will it come to depend upon the Sunday School to maintain and to increase its numbers. Especially is this true since evangelism in the form of revival meetings is coming into disuse.

The Sunday School is assuming a position of increasing importance in the larger councils of the church, and there is manifest there a growing disposition to give to it the best that the church has in brains and equipment; and it is a satisfaction to know that no church has responded more quickly and more effectively than our own, to the needs of the time in this respect.

#### The Superintendents.

A serious effort has been made to learn when the Sunday School was first organized in our local church, but I have not been able to fix the time even approximately, further than this—there was a school in operation when the first church was built in 1845, and Mr. Filer says that there undoubtedly was a school before that time.

We have also made diligent inquiry in every direction that promised results, in the effort to get the names of all of our Superintendents; some have undoubtedly been missed; what few Sunday School records we have are of little value, and the data previous to 1871, that we have secured, is the result of personal inquiry among our oldest living members, largely by correspondence. The names that we have, make a respectable showing, however, although the dates of their incumbency are somewhat conjectural, as well as the length of their terms; this latter statement applies only to those who held office prior to 1871; for the years since that time the data is fairly accurate.

We have not been able to get the names of the first few superintendents, but in 1849 Mr. S. C. Yout held that position, and for several years thereafter. Mr. Yout was the second teacher in the city schools, a well educated man, capable of attending to the duties of the superintendency with credit to himself, and to the advantage of the school. He later served the church effectively for many years as steward and trustee.

Somewhere in the early '50s a Doctor Wilcox was superintendent for one year, but this bare fact is all that we have learned of him.

The next three superintendents were Elias Jones, James Langlois and C. C. Humphrey. Just how long these men held office, I have not been able to learn, but the time was about as has been indicated in the statistical



S. C. YOUT.

SIMEON C. YOUT was born at Hoosick, Renselaer Co., New York, Nov. 3, 1814; educated at Genesee Wesleyan University; came to Racine June, 1844; Sunday School Supt.; Steward; Trustee; died in Chicago, Aug. 7, 1890.



ELIAS JONES.

ELIAS JONES was born Feb. 12, 1813; was a class leader and steward for many years. Mrs. Geo. Conroe is his daughter. He died at Racine, Wis., Oct. 27, 1897.

Prove all things: hold fast that which is good. Thess. 5.21.

table; Elias Jones was a steward, trustee, and class leader in the church for many years; James Langlois was a faithful supporter of the church in all of its interests, financial, social, and spiritual; he was one of the founders of the paint and oil firm of Langlois and Robilliard. He returned to his native land, Guernsey, many years ago, and died there. In 1864, Joseph DuFour was elected superintendent, and held the office for one year, declining further election.

James Guilbert was another Guernseyman who gave to our early church the best that was in him in the way of service and loyalty, while he was with us; he sang in the choir for several years, but he left Racine about 1863 and did not return; he was a cousin of Joseph DuFour. He was at the head of the school for about three years.

Hillary DuFour, a brother of Joseph DuFour, was superintendent about the middle sixties; he also left Racine many years ago, and died quite recently.

About 1868 a man named Walton whose first name I do not know, had charge of the school; little is known of him.

In 1871 we moved into the new church on our present location, and Simeon Whiteley was the first superintendent there. I think he held the office for two years, though the records are silent as to 1872. Mr. Whiteley was a good organizer and a capable administrator, and did good work while at the head of the school.

The second year of J. W. Carhart's pastorate, he had charge of the Sunday school himself, but in 1874, Geo. Skewes assumed the reins, and was kept in control of the school for the longest consecutive term in its history.

Geo. Skewes was a choice character; he was a clean and true man; with unlimited patience, an almost infinite charity, sweet spirited and sympathetic, with good executive ability, and exceptional training for such work, he gave to the school, and to the church, the best of it all, with a willing heart; and the memory of his good counsel and unselfish labor is a pleasant and a wholesome recollection.

H. C. Staver, our superintendent for the next longest consecutive term, was a pusher; he wanted to see things moving, and he made them move for five years, at the end of which period he left the city, and E. W. Leach took up the work for two years. It was during this period that S. C. Johnson moved



1. JAMES LANGLOIS was born in the Island of Guernsey, June 18, 1816. Came to America in 1832, and to Racine before 1840; Steward; trustee; S. S. Supt.; died September 2, 1897, in Island of Guernsey.

2. JAMES GUILBERT was born in the Island of Guernsey, Aug. 23, 1829. Came to America in 1852, and to Racine shortly after. Choir singer; S. School supt.; steward. He died at Norwood Park, Ill., Feb. 20, 1910.

3. C. C. HUMPHREY was born at Owego, Tioga Co., N. Y., Jan. 13, 1823; was S. S. Supt.; joined the church Nov. 1866; died at Bourbon, Mo., Jan. 7, 1892.

4. JOSEPH DU FOUR was born in the Island of Guernsey, Feb'y. 26, 1836; came to America in April 1854, and to Racine Nov. 26, 1855; joined our church in December 1855; Steward, trustee, class leader, S. School Sup't. and teacher; lives at 1524 Boyd Ave.

Children, obey your parents in all things. Col. 3:20.

to Racine from Kenosha, and at once became interested in our Sunday School. Mr. Johnson was first elected superintendent in 1889. He had had charge of the Kenosha school for many years and came to us an experienced worker, and proceeded to put his ideas into effect, with the result that there was soon manifest an increase in enrollment, attendance, and in general interest, following an improvement along all lines in the conduct of the school. During 1889 and 1890, Mr. Johnson being superintendent, E. W. Leach was first asst.; In 1891-2, E. W. Leach was superintendent and Mr. Johnson first assistant; and they alternated in this way for several terms of two years each, working in entire harmony, throughout all of their association. It was during this period that the average attendance of the school reached the highest point in its history. The items of average attendance are not given in the statistical table, for the reason that they could not be secured for any long term of years, not having been printed in the conference minutes, from which the figures were taken; what figures we could get would therefore be of little comparative value.

Mr. Johnson continued to serve the school as assistant and as superintendent until 1908, when the encroachment of the years warned him that he had better conserve his strength, and let the heavier burdens fall on younger shoulders. His interest in the school and church is undiminished however, and he is always ready, with counsel and with financial assistance, to further every good work.

In 1898, Geo. H. Dickinson, one of our city school principals, was placed in charge, and carried the work along in good shape. In 1900, Forest E. Field, another city school principal, shared with H. P. Haylett, our pastor, the labor of directing the Sunday School work. About this time Mr. Field was afflicted with a serious attack of facial neuralgia, or some kindred trouble, and was obliged to leave his work here; he removed to Indiana, where he has since lived.

For the three years ending in 1904 Edward W. Rapps was the superintendent; previous to this he had been a very efficient officer of the school for



1. HILLARY DU FOUR was born in Guernsey, Feb'y. 1, 1841; came to America in 1854, and to Racine about 1857; he died at Chicago, Ill., May 29, 1909; a brother of Joseph Du Four.

2. SIMEON WHITELEY was born at Huddersfield, England, Mar. 18, 1831; came to Racine Aug. 29, 1842; S. School supt.' steward; trustee; journalist; Indian agent; insurance. He died at Racine, Wis., Jan. 13, 1890.

3. GEORGE SKEWES was born at Ives Grove, Racine Co., Wis., June 26, 1844; chorister and choir singer; steward; S. School teacher and supt.; church treasurer; Pres. Y. M. C. A.; he removed to California in the fall of 1891, and died at San Fernando, in that state, Feb. 19, 1897.

4. HENRY C. STAVIER was born at Loganton, Clinton, Co., Pa., Dec. 19, 1844; came to Wis. in 1854, and to Racine in 1879; steward; trustee; S. School supt.; manufacturer; Staver Carriage Co., Chicago; died in Chicago, Nov. 7, 1907.

Fathers, provoke not your children to anger. Col. 3:21.

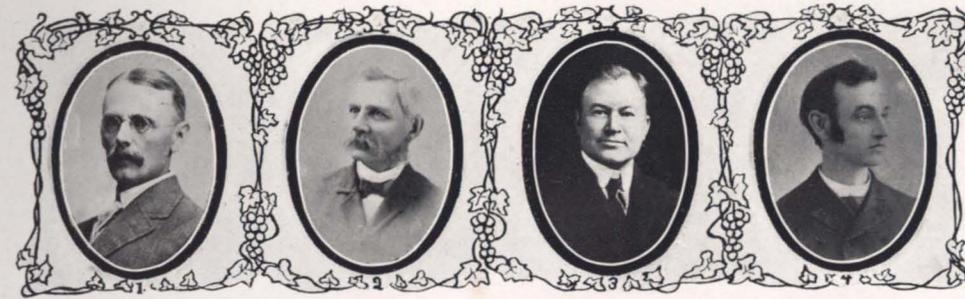
nineteen years, having been either secretary, treasurer or assistant superintendent all of this time. Mr. Rapps was a hard worker, who looked carefully after the details of the work; methodical, painstaking and conscientious, he labored always for the school's best interests, expending himself and his means generously in the effort, and effacing himself in the process.

During the first six months of 1906, the school was without a leader, but in May of that year E. W. Leach was again elected to that position, and carried the work until the fall of 1909; it was during this year that the change in our course of study to the graded system, was begun in the primary class; the change has been extended until now it covers the entire school.

In the fall of 1909, Glenn D. Adams, Boys' Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association was elected superintendent, and entered upon the work with enthusiasm, organizing some very important new work for boys and girls, which had hardly got started when he was taken seriously ill and was sick for four or five months.

He had been recovered but a few weeks when he was called to Chicago to a larger Association work, which forced his resignation as superintendent here. While Mr. Adams was sick, the assistant, Mr. A. F. Grimm, assumed the responsibility, and when Mr. Adams left the city, Mr. James Clay was elected in his place, took charge and carried the work through successfully. He declined a re-election in 1910, and James Skewes, the youngest man ever elected to the office, was given the reins, and handled a difficult situation with energy and with good judgment.

At the close of the year, in October, 1911, Mr. Skewes also declined a re-election, on account of the transfer of his church membership to the new Grange Avenue church, and Mr. C. F. Moore, a trained teacher, and a seasoned Sunday School worker, was elected our superintendent, and his acceptance of the office has been received with general satisfaction as giving promise of experienced and efficient supervision of this important branch of



1. EUGENE W. LEACH was born Sept. 15, 1857, at Excelsior, Minn.; came to Racine in 1859, and lived here since; choir singer; Sunday School librarian, sec'y., teacher and supt.; steward; now living at 736 Wis. St., Racine, Wis. The compiler and author of this book.

2. SAMUEL C. JOHNSON was born at Elyria, O., Dec. 24, 1833. Came to Elkhorn, Wis., in 1842, to Grafton near Milwaukee in 1843, to Kenosha in 1858, and to Racine in 1887. Steward, trustee and S. School supt.; now lives at 1737 Wis. St., Racine, Wis.

3. GEO. H. DICKINSON was born in St. Joseph Co., Mich., July 26, 1868. Came to Racine about 1895. Taught school 7 years, 5 in Racine; became a dentist and a physician. Now living in Milwaukee, Wis., and practicing medicine.

4. FORREST E. FIELD, was born in Indiana, Dec. 11, 1860; educated district school, Fort Wayne M. E. College, and Ind. State Univ.; came to Racine 1890; principal of Washington school eleven years; now mayor of Kendallville, Ind., where he practices law.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge. Prov. 1:7.

our church work; his administration has but just begun, but his businesslike methods, and his enthusiasm and industry, have secured to him the approval and co-operation of all of the workers in the Sunday School.

#### The Workers.

Scattered along through the years of our history as a Sunday School, there has always been, beside the superintendents, a corps of faithful teachers and officers, who with loyalty and enthusiasm, not unmixed with sacrifice often, have devoted themselves to the work of instructing the children, and youth, and the adults as well, in the truths of the Word of God; to them not less than to the leaders, are due the rewards of faithful service. It would be pleasant if space permitted, to illuminate these pages with pictures of them all, but that of course, is impossible; and it will be equally impracticable to name them all, but it seems to us that this chapter would be incomplete if mention is not made of a few of those who have given much time and labor during many years to our Sunday School work.

The oldest living teacher in point of consecutive class leadership is Joseph DuFour, who has had a class in our school for 54 years, and only very recently relinquished it because of a growing infirmity of deafness, caused by his advanced age. In point of years of service, the honors belong to Mr. DuFour. Our church has profited beyond computing, by the example, the counsel, the prayers, and the testimony of his lips and of his life. It amounts almost to a personal sorrow to us, as it must be also to him, that he finds it expedient to transfer his membership now to Grange Avenue Church. Previous to that transfer he was the oldest member of our church who survives. May God's richest blessing be with him.

Mrs. Henry Dean was, until her death, an earnest active teacher and officer of the school; in the early days she did much to recruit its membership, as well as to make its work effective. It was Mrs. Dean who induced John



1. E. W. RAPPS was born in Racine, Wis., Aug. 16, 1864; Sunday School pupil, teacher, sec'y., treas., supt.; steward; cashier Manfr's. Nat'l. Bank; lives at 1605 West Sixth street.

2. GLENN D. ADAMS was born in Boone Co., Ill., June 19, 1883; lived in Clinton, Wis.; graduated from Lawrence College in 1906. Four years Boys' Work Director, Y. M. C. A., Racine. Now Dep't. Sec'y. of North Side Boys' Club, of Y. M. C. A., Chicago.

3. JAMES CLAY was born in Manchester, England, April 15, 1877; came to America in 1887, and to Racine in 1910; Steward and S. S. Supt.; left Racine in summer of 1911; now lives in Indianapolis, Ind.

4. JAMES H. SKEWES, born in Cornwall, England, Feb. 2, 1888. Came to America and to Racine in 1891, educated in public schools and high school, Racine; Whitewater and Milwaukee Normal; Sunday School Supt. Now living at 1312 Grant Ave., Racine, Wis.

Take fast hold of instruction—for she is thy life. Prov. 4:13.

Lunn, who is now the oldest member of our church who survives, to join our Sunday School, when his father's family first came to Racine in 1849. She was assistant superintendent during the writer's first term as superintendent in 1887, and he can testify that in the quality of her work as teacher and officer she has been excelled by no one. George K. Dean, one of her sons, has been for many years, superintendent of Grand Avenue Methodist Sunday School, in Milwaukee.

One of the earliest Sunday School recollections of the writer, when a very small boy, is as a member of Henry Dean's class in the old church; we occupied a slip on the south side of the church and near the back. Mr. Dean was another of the pioneer teachers of our school, whose consistent life, and loyalty to the church will be remembered with gratitude.

Mr. Albert G. Knight is another teacher, who for many years was found in his place in the Sunday School just as regularly as the day arrived. He was one of the founders of our church, and beyond the memory of any living member, he was always a teacher in the Sunday School, until within a year or so of his death; a student of the Word, a wise counselor, a steadfast friend,—the influence of his life and labors remains with us. Mr. Knight was many times elected superintendent, but always declined to serve, with the explanation that he did not esteem himself fitted for the position.



Chas. F. Moore, our present Superintendent, was born at Montmorenci, Indiana, Nov. 4, 1857; graduated at Purdue Univ. in 1887; Trustee; came to Racine June 1902; lives at 922 Lake Ave.

Mrs. Anna Knight joined our church in 1864, and the same year began teaching in the Sunday School; her first class was composed of the following boys, all but two of whom are living at this time: John Kranz, Charles Brewer, Frank Jillson, Wright Chadwick, Geo. Langlois, William Tostevin and James Knight, the two last named having died. Those of our readers who knew these boys will understand that her introduction to the business of Sunday School teaching was a severe test of fitness; she was with them for a term of years however, and ever since, until very recently, has been a teacher or an officer in the school; for many years she was assistant superintendent, and was the first superintendent of the Home Department, and has always been a hard worker and a wise and loyal supporter of the Sunday School. She is at present a member of the Home Department.

The following elect women were also among the company of loyal hard-working Sunday School teachers who carried on the work in the old church building on Pearl street, some of whom were with us also for many years in our present church: Mrs. Simeon Whiteley, Mrs. Peter Robilliard, Mary Knight, now Mrs. Jewett of California; Mrs. Alonzo Jillson, Miss Jane Lawrence, Louise DuFour, Henry Roissy, Wm. Lunn, Jemima Lunn, Mrs. Jas. H. Morgan, Mrs. Jas. Langlois, J. C. Lunn, Mrs. Jas. Gilbert, Bessie Moore.

There are many others who deserve mention here, and we cannot refrain from naming a few of them, although for reasons not obvious, perhaps, but which have to do with consideration of the writer's comfort, we will omit mention of the length of service. The following persons have been consistently dependable factors in the work of our school for many years, at different periods: Mrs. Geo. Skewes, Mrs. John Lunn, Mrs. E. W. Rapps, Mrs. Eva Lunn, Mrs. Henry B. Hall, Charlotte Heroy, Elizabeth Whiteley, Lulu Lunn, Jennie Lobdell, Ada Johnson, Will. Lunn, F. H. McAdow, Mrs. E. A. Bishop, E. A. Bishop, Mrs. W. H. Dean, Mary E. Lunn.

The present officers of the Sunday School are as follows: C. F. Moore, superintendent; F. B. Swingle, assistant superintendent; Mrs. W. H. Gebhardt, assistant superintendent; Harold Johnson, secretary; Geo. Aiken, assistant secretary; Will Lunn, treasurer; Eva Lewis, pianist; Irving Oneson, chorister; Mrs. Herbert Jillson, superintendent Cradle Roll; Charlotte Heroy, superintendent Home Department; Edna Hinderman, superintendent Primary Department.

#### The Home Department.

In connection with every church society will be found many people who, because of infirmity, or because of household or other duties, find it inconvenient, and oftentimes impossible, to attend the sessions of the Sunday School with any degree of regularity. In order to give this class a connectional interest in the school, and to encourage them to study the bible, the Home Department was formed in 1894, and has been maintained since. It now has an enrollment of 118, and its members are furnished with literature, are visited periodically by the superintendent of this department, and are entitled to all of the privileges of the regular members.

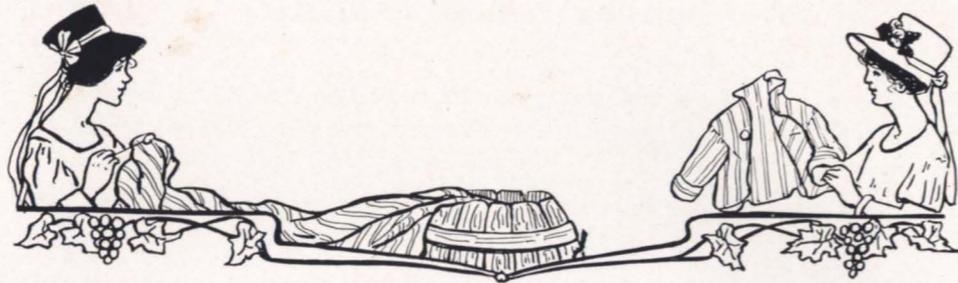
#### The Cradle Roll.

A cradle Roll in connection with the Primary Department, was organized in 1901. It is composed of the infants of the church, who may be enrolled at any age, from birth until able to attend the school regularly on Sunday. There are now 92 members in this department.

#### CHANGE OF TIME.

With the exception of two or three occasions when attempts have been made to change the time of meeting to early morning, or to later in the after-





## AUXILIARIES

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words, shall not pass away. Matt. 24:35.

The history of the auxiliary societies of the church will have a special interest for many, and is not without its appeal in some measure, to all. We have asked a member of each one of these societies to prepare a brief historical sketch for this chapter, and they are presented herewith.

We wish that we were able to pen a fitting tribute to the devotion, the fidelity, the piety, and the potency for good of the women of the First Methodist Episcopal Church; were it not for their labors, and their faith, and their constancy, the history of our church would have been a different, and a less creditable story.

### WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The first Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the M. E. Church of Racine was organized in the church building on College Avenue, in the year eighteen hundred sixty-nine. Owing to the lack of knowledge necessary to keep up the organization, and also to the fact that the new church was being built on Main Street, the society finally ceased to exist.

The spark of inspiration, however, was not dead and on January second, eighteen hundred and eighty the Society was re-organized, Mrs. S. N. Griffith, wife of the pastor then in charge, was elected President, Miss Mary E. Lunn, Corresponding Secretary, and Mrs. A. G. Knight, Treasurer. Mrs. Knight afterward resigned and Mrs. A. J. Douglas was elected to fill the vacancy. This meeting is especially noticeable because of the decision to invite the District Convention to meet in Racine the following April, a little more than three months following the re-organization of the Society.

The average attendance during this year (1880) was ten members. Tho' few in number the devotion of the members seems to have been unusual. Mite boxes were distributed among the families, teas were served and anniversaries remembered, showing earnest endeavor to help in every way the great society of which Racine Auxiliary was but a part.

It is worth our while to note the time of service of some of the officers. Mrs. Eva Lunn was elected Recording Secretary in 1885, and held that office until the time of her death, seventeen years later. Mrs. Jane Whiteley was elected President in 1887, and was re-elected every year for twenty years, when she, too, was called Home.

Others whose names appear most frequently in the records are Mrs. Henry Dean, Mrs. A. G. Knight, Miss Charlotte Heroy, Mrs. P. DuFour, Miss Mary E. Lunn, Mrs. Burbeck, Mrs. Lobdell, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Skewes, and the

wives of the pastors who served in Racine during those years. Mrs. Knight is the only member still with us who was a member of the first organization in 1869.

One of the present results of the efforts of those faithful workers is the support of one of our three Bible Women by Miss Elizabeth Whiteley, in memory of her mother, who worked so earnestly for the cause.

Many of the early meetings were held in the church, but as times went on, homes were opened, and at the present time nearly every meeting is held in the home of members, with an average attendance of thirty members.

The annual thank-offering service was formerly held on Wednesday evenings taking the place of the prayer meeting. In these years this service is held on Sabbath mornings and made one of the important events of the year.

The membership for the year 1910-1911 has been sixty-three active members and seventeen honorary members. The building of the new Grange Avenue Church has reduced our membership to fifty-nine active members and eleven honorary members.

Our apportionment of three hundred dollars has been raised during the year, including the sum necessary to the support of the three Bible Women in the Foreign field.

The officers for the year 1911-1912 are as follows:

President, Mrs. Julia Jillson.  
 First Vice President, Mrs. Lottie Dietzman.  
 Second Vice President, Mrs. Elizabeth Leek.  
 Recording Secretary, Miss Charlotte Heroy.  
 Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Emma Ne Collins.  
 Treasurer, Mrs. Nellie Moore.

The outlook is bright and with so worthy a cause the women are being blessed in their service for their Master's needy ones in heathen lands.

Following is the list of Presidents of the Society, so far as the records disclose them.

1869—Mrs. O. J. Cowles.	Sept. 1886—Mrs. Jane Whiteley, who served 20 years.
1880—Mrs. S. N. Griffith.	1907—Mrs. Cora Rapps.
1881—Mrs. S. C. Yout.	1908—Mrs. Julia Jillson.
1882—Mrs. Thos. Clithero.	1909—Mrs. Pira V. Case.
1883—Mrs. Henry Dean.	1910—Mrs. Pira V. Case.
1884-5-6—Mrs. E. G. Updike.	1911-1912—Mrs. Julia Jillson.

PIRA V. CASE.

### THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY.

Owing to the absence of records, it is impossible to give a complete history of this society. However, it is known that as far back as 1843 a "Mite Society" was in existence, of which Mrs. Dollie Knight, mother of the late A. G. Knight, was president. During the Civil war, the ladies of this Society not only aided the church in its work, but scraped lint and made bandages for the wounded soldiers.

At the time the new church on Main Street was built, the ladies of the church assumed the payment of \$3000.00, the cost of the Johnson organ. By dint of hard work, collecting the dimes as well as the dollars, by fairs, sociables, concerts, etc., etc., toiling all day on Independence days and other holidays, when people generally were enjoying themselves, these faithful women worked and gradually gathered together the principal and 10% interest on this \$3000.00, and on May 3rd, 1879, they had the pleasure of giving



to Mrs. J. B. Lunn a check for \$1076.39, being the last payment on the organ. When the church was burned in 1882, the insurance of \$1000 on the organ was handed over to the official board, to help pay for the new church.

During the pastorate of F. S. Stein the women of the church were organized into a "Ladies' and Pastor's Union," the pastor being president, and an executive committee of ladies attended to the business of the society.

When H. P. Haylett was pastor, the name of the society was changed to the "Ladies' Aid Society," the business being managed entirely by the ladies.

Previous to the time of R. K. Manaton, the meetings were held at the church, but since then the society has met at the different residences, refreshments being served and a collection taken at each meeting for the benefit of the benevolent department.

At the present time the work of the society is to raise funds to keep the parsonage in repair, and to aid in every good work which may further the interests of the church.

#### THE LADIES' AID.

We've put a fine addition on the good  
old church at home,  
It's just the latest kilter, with a gallery  
and dome,  
It seats a thousand people—finest  
church in all the town,  
And when 'twas dedicated, why, we  
planked ten thousand down;  
That is, we paid five thousand—every  
fellow did his best—  
And the Ladies' Aid Society, it promised  
all the rest.

We've got an organ in the church—  
the finest in the land,  
It's got a thousand pipes or more, its  
melody is grand.  
And when we sit on cushioned pews  
and hear the master play,  
It carries us to realms of bliss unnum-  
bered miles away.  
It cost a cool three thousand, and it's  
stood the hardest test;  
We'll pay a thousand on it—the Ladies'  
Aid the rest.

They'll give a hundred sociables, can-  
tatas, too, and teas;  
They'll bake a thousand angel cakes,  
and tons of cream they'll freeze.  
They'll beg and scrape and toil and  
sweat for seven years or more,  
And then they'll start all o'er again,  
for a carpet for the floor.  
No, it isn't just like digging out the  
money from your vest  
When the Ladies' Aid gets busy and  
says, "We'll pay the rest."

Of course we're proud of our big church  
from pulpit up to spire;  
It is the darling of our eyes, the crown  
of our desire,  
But when I see the sisters work to  
raise the cash that lacks,  
I somehow feel the church is built on  
women's tired backs.  
And sometimes I can't help thinking  
when we reach the regions blest,  
That men will get the toil and sweat,  
and the Ladies' Aid the rest.—From  
the Reformed Church Herald, Lis-  
bon, Ia.

CHARLOTTE HEROY.

#### WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Woman's Home Missionary Society was organized by Mrs. J. S. Davis, of Milwaukee, in June of 1906. Of the twenty or more members, the majority were members also of the Foreign Missionary Society and of the Ladies' Aid. At first the meetings were held in the afternoon, but in order to make attendance by employed women of the church possible, it was proposed to hold the meetings in the evening. The suggestion was acted upon, and then it was decided that the work of missions would be better distributed if the Home Missionary Society should be given over completely to the employed women. The women in their houses could then be responsible for Foreign Missions only.

The plan worked well. In order that members might go directly from their work and be free to go home early, supper was served at each meeting just before the program. There was an average attendance of twenty to thirty. The programs consisted of music and studies of Home Mission work. The first year was given to a general sweep of the whole work; the second to a history, and the following years to a study of text-books published by the national organization.

The society has collected clothing and raised money for definite work in poorer communities. During the past two years it has made itself responsible for a fifty dollar scholarship for a girl in a school for mountain-whites, at Boaz, Alabama—the Rebecca McCleskey Home.

HARRIET A. HARVEY.

#### THE STANDARD BEARERS.

It was on a beautiful October morning in 1907, that several Racine ladies attended the Branch convention of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in Summerfield Church, Milwaukee.

At all the meetings of the convention there was a strong appeal made for more workers, more money, more prayers, and finally the work of the young women and girls was presented.

The speaker said: "There are 320 Standard Bearer societies in North Western Branch—an army of young ladies who are maintaining their own missionaries in the field."

Representatives from most of these societies were present at the convention, and conducted the evening meeting October 10th, 1907.

As our Racine ladies looked into the faces of these earnest young women, engaged in so noble a work, they instinctively thought of their own beautiful girls in Racine, and how much it would mean to them to be able to help in this cause.

Consulting together, they decided they would present this matter to their home society.

At the October meeting of the Racine Auxiliary, it was decided to organize a Standard Bearers Society and Mrs. E. W. Rapps was elected superintendent.

A meeting was held at the church, October 14th, 1907, there being 25 young ladies in attendance.

The Standard Bearers Society was duly organized and the following officers elected—1907-1908:

President, Alice Foxwell.  
First Vice President, Mrs. E. W. Rapps.  
Second Vice President, Mrs. G. N. Case.  
Third Vice President, Mrs. William Rollins.  
Recording Secretary, Blanche Jagers.

Corresponding Secretary, Bessie Piper.  
Treasurer, Jessie White.  
Superintendent of mail boxes, Ruth Semmes.

The charter members are as follows:

Bessie Piper.	Wilma La Blonde.
Margaret Piper.	Ruth Semmes.
Hattie Beach.	Rena Piper.
Charlotte Hinderman.	Evelyn Stanfield.
Edna Hinderman.	Florence Olson.
Ethel Downs.	Ina Du Four.
Jessie White.	Bessie Mann.
Mrs. E. W. Rapps.	Alice Foxwell.
Mrs. G. N. Case.	Eleanor Crawford.
Mrs. Wm. Rollins.	Grace Crawford.
Blanche Jagers.	Ethel Benedict.
Edith Leach.	Pearl Lloyd.

1908-1909:

President, Charlotte Hinderman.  
Secretary, Ruth Semmes.

1909-1910:

President, Charlotte Hinderman.  
Secretary, Blanche Jagers.

1910-1911:

President, Ruth Semmes.  
Secretary, Loretta Crabb.  
Supt., Charlotte Hinderman.

1911-1912:

President, Clara Jones.  
Secretary, Jessie White.  
Supt., Charlotte Hinderman.

CORA RAPPS.

#### THE EPWORTH LEAGUE.

The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church came into being on May 15th, 1889, at Cleveland, Ohio, in the Central Methodist Episcopal Church. The old building in which the historic meeting took place has been removed, and a modern structure, known as the Epworth Memorial Church, has taken its place.

The Epworth League is an outgrowth of the following young people's organizations in the Methodist church: The Oxford League, the Young People's Methodist Alliance, the Young People's Christian League, and the Methodist Young People's Union.

The Epworth League as an organization in our local church made its appearance November 10th, 1890. It came into being through the personal activity of Rev. J. E. Farmer, who became the first president of the local chapter. A number of young people met in the church on the above mentioned date, and, after discussion, decided to organize an Epworth League Chapter in our local church. The following are the names of the first officers of the organization, who were elected for a term of six months:

President, Rev. J. E. Farmer.  
First Vice President, Miss Tillie Thorkelson.  
Second Vice President, Miss Sarah Coggsell.  
Third Vice President, Mr. J. C. Ne Collins.  
Fourth Vice President, Miss Jennie Dutton.  
Secretary, Mr. George Talbert.  
Treasurer—Miss Ada Johnson.

Most organizations in their formative years are comparatively weak. The contrary was true with the Epworth League. The average attendance

during the first year was 118. In 1892, the second year of the League, the average attendance was 126.

Every live organization soon begins to make its influence felt outside of itself. In October, 1892, the local chapter furnished a room in the parsonage, which has been maintained ever since as the "League Room."

Lack of space prevents giving details regarding each year's activity. The banner year of the chapter was 1895 and is especially worthy of mention. The league that year was under the guiding hand of William H. Gebhardt as president. The present toilet room in the church was put in by the league at a cost of \$120.00. The old gas-lighting system was taken out and the entire church lighted with electricity, at a cost of \$150.00. But the influence of the Mercy and Help Department, which cannot be estimated in dollars and cents, is worth more to the church than any improvements to its property. During the year 1895, this department made 712 sick calls, presented 127 bouquets of flowers, gave 28 garments and \$13.00 in cash; held 24 meetings outside the church for shut-ins, furnished singers for several funerals, and provided 13 families with complete Thanksgiving dinners.

In 1896, the local chapter entered a contest with other leagues in the State for a scholarship at Lawrence College, offered by its president, Dr. Plantz. As a result of this effort, Mr. Albert Phillipson, one of our most active members, entered the college.

In 1897, the league raised \$90.00 to pay the funeral expenses of one of its members. Also during this year, \$15.00 was voted annually for a scholarship in one of the schools in India. This made it possible for the league to assist every year some needy resident of India to get an education. The subscription has been paid annually ever since.

All these years, the Epworth League has been actively associated with the District and State Epworth League work. District conventions were held here four times; in 1891, 1897, 1905 and 1909. A County Rally was held in Racine in November, 1893. In June, 1899, the Milwaukee District Missionary Rally was held here. In 1894 devotional meetings were held at Racine Junction.

Among the league members who have consecrated their lives to larger service are, Miss Lillian Hulett, and Miss Nellie Olson, members in 1894, who are now deaconesses in our church; Mrs. Effie Collier Ford, at present a missionary in China; Mr. Raymond Piper and Mr. J. H. Griffith, who are preparing for the ministry. Mr. Chester Shepard who is engaged in Y. M. C. A. work, and Miss Harriet Harvey, who is in Y. W. C. A. work, at Waterloo, Iowa.

The following list contains the names of the presidents of the local chapter of the Epworth League since its inception in November, 1890, to July, 1912:

Rev. J. E. Farmer.	Mr. Frank P. Mathews.
Mr. E. A. Bishop.	Mr. A. S. Barker.
Mr. Wm. J. Bull.	Mr. M. M. Link.
George Kirwan.	Miss Tillie E. Thorkelson.
Mr. F. Kitchingman.	Mr. L. A. Nelson, Jr.
Mr. Wm. H. Gebhardt.	Mr. C. C. Mortenson.
Mr. A. D. Mortenson.	Mr. D. C. Heffley.
Mr. J. A. Perham.	Mr. C. E. Thorkelson.

The Epworth League has a large place in the present day organization of the church. It provides a method of development for the young people, that no other form of church organization can give. It is a powerful assistance to the pastor, for, if properly handled, it is the skirmish line of the church's battle front, where, because of its high efficiency and practical aggressiveness, it takes a leading position, and develops its young people for service.

C. C. MORTENSON.

### THE JUNIOR LEAGUE.

The Junior League was organized in the spring of 1891, during the pastorate of J. E. Farmer, and Mrs. E. A. Bishop was its first superintendent, and continued in that position until 1903. During these twelve years the enrollment at one time was 175, and the average attendance during the latter term was from 75 to 100. The league contributed from 15 to 25 dollars to missions every year, and at one time during Mr. Haylett's pastorate they raised, by special effort, \$100 to assist in paying for some needed improvements in the church property.

In 1903 and 1904 Mrs. R. K. Manaton, wife of our pastor, was the superintendent, and did very efficient and valuable work for the children during her incumbency of that office.

During Mr. Rollins' pastorate Miss Hattie Beach, was in charge, and was an enthusiastic and capable leader for three years.

The present superintendent is Miss Bertha Gerlat.

### THE BROTHERHOOD.

Meetings of the nature of a Brotherhood were held in this parish during the pastorate of Rev. H. P. Haylett. Several of the gatherings at that time were of benefit as a means of furthering the acquaintance and fellowship of the men of the church.

The present organization is a still more active force in the life of the church, and has for some years been felt as such. Men of the parish have become better known to each other, young men have joined hands with older members, and those outside the active work of the Methodist Episcopal Church have begun to look with more interest at what is being sought after—a truer brotherhood among all men of the Christian Church. Such is the aim of this association.

The first meeting for the organization of the present Brotherhood was called December 3, 1908. Rev. Wm. P. Leek was chosen chairman of this meeting, and Mr. Wm. A. Lunn, scribe. The number of charter members present at this initial meeting was 26.

The first duly elected president of the Brotherhood as now organized was Mr. Wm. Crawford, and the first secretary was Mr. E. J. Harvey. Later presidents have been: Judge Max Heck, Dr. John Ehrlands, Mr. Milo Griffith, and Mr. F. B. Swingle. Secretaries who have served the brotherhood are Mr. Henry Hall and Mr. R. M. Beeston.

F. B. SWINGLE.



88 Members of the Junior League, 1899.

- |   |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| 1 | Mrs. E. A. Bishop.<br>Clara Freudenberg.<br>Marion Haylett.<br>Carrie Rapps.<br>Olga Ehn.<br>Nia Wilcox.<br>Katie Groeling.<br>Clara Haidle.<br>Minnie Smith.<br>Edith Wheeler.<br>Mamie Kiddle. | Maggie Williams<br>Lillie Hanson.<br>Bert Welch.<br>Frances Skow.   | Charlie Guilbert<br>Erving Peck.<br>Wendell Phillips.<br>Andrew Anderson.<br>Ray DeDiemar.<br>Alfred Clark.<br>Lorin Clark.<br>Erving Mosher.<br>Frankie Groeling. |  |
| 2 | Hattie Harvey<br>Laura Mortenson.<br>Burnett Bishop.<br>Alice Leach.<br>Sarah Anderson.<br>Laura Arenz.<br>Erma Buelow.<br>Lillie Peterson.<br>Mamie Lunn.<br>May Welch.<br>Eva Skow.            | Harry Harvey.<br>Leon VanValkenberg.<br>Minnie Guilbert.<br>Maud Gulbranson.<br>Lelia Mills.<br>Bessie Edwards.<br>Lottie DeDiemar.<br>Florence Haidle<br>Mamie Haidle<br>Emma Moshier.<br>Beatrice Skow. | 7  | Lillie Johnson.<br>Ralph Field.<br>Percy Williams<br>Rachel Jones.<br>Herman Christian.<br>John Anderson.<br>Lee DeDiemar.<br>Ethel Smith.<br>Charlie Smith.<br>Wallace Bauman.<br>Charlie Morgan. |
| 3 | Howard Haylett<br>Herman VanValkenberg.<br>Ethel Strong.<br>Mabel Ehn.<br>Ellen Ehn.<br>Edna Hinderman.<br>Charlotte Hinderman.  | 5   | 8  | Ralph Kingsley.<br>Lorene Olson.<br>Hattie Olson.<br>Percy Allen.<br>Rosamond Geddes.<br>Caroline Anderson.<br>Dewey DeDiemar.<br>Gladys Siver.<br>Ralph Siver.<br>George Bauman.<br>Clara Morgan. |
|   |  | 6   |  |  |
|   |  | Samuel Harrison<br>Alice Harrison   |  |  |



## THE OUTPUT

In Preachers, Missionaries and Deaconesses.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations. Matt. 28:19.

It is part of the unassigned duty of every pastor, and officer, of every church, to be on the lookout for young men and women of promise, in the Sunday Schools, and young peoples' societies of the church, and in our educational institutions, whose religious experience and educational equipment, would seem to make them fit candidates for the ministry, the missionary field, both home and foreign, or for work as deaconesses.

Not only should these persons be discovered, but the needs of the work and the call of our God, and of the church for workers, should be tactfully urged upon them, on every proper occasion.

Whether or not this duty has been realized and properly performed, by the Methodist Episcopal Church of Racine, and its pastors, may be judged by a study of this chapter. So far as we have been able to learn, it includes all of those who have gone from us into the work. The character and quality of the workers and their work may atone, perhaps, to some extent, for any lack of numbers.

John L. Hewitt was the first young man to enter the ministry from our church; he was born in England, and came with his parents to America and to Racine. He was converted at a camp-meeting at Union Grove, the night that the steamer Lady Elgin burned in Lake Michigan, immediately uniting with the church.



He was educated at Brompton College, London, and at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis.

Married Miss Catharine Richardson, of Omro, in 1866, and joined the Wisconsin Conference the same year; ordained deacon in the old Racine church by Bishop Ames, in 1868, and elder by Bishop Clarke, in 1870. Has served the church at Kenosha, Waukesha, Washington Ave. and Grand Ave., Milwaukee, and was Presiding Elder of Milwaukee District; also conference treasurer for several years.

He was pastor of a Congregational Church at Green Bay for six years. Is now retired, after preaching the Gospel for thirty-five years, and is living in Milwaukee, Wis.

John Krantz was the second member of our church to enter the ministry. Born in Racine, the son of John and Elizabeth Krantz, old and respected residents.



Mr. Krantz received his education in the public schools of Racine, Beloit College, and Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill., where he graduated in 1876. Soon after graduation he married one of our choice young women, Carrie Roberts, daughter of David and Martha Roberts, all of whom were members of our church; they have had seven children, four of whom are living.

On graduation Mr. Krantz went to New York as manager of one of our denominational papers, "The Methodist," which position he held for two years.

He was admitted to the Newark Conference in 1878, and was pastor at Boonton, Somerville, Mariners' Harbor, Lighthouse, Newark, Centenary and Trinity churches, Jersey City, and Market Street, Paterson. Then for four years he was Presiding Elder of Paterson District, after which he was elected general representative and sales agent of the New York Book Concern, where he is now beginning his

eleventh year. During his connection with the book concern, he has devoted his Sundays largely to church dedications and debt lifting, and he has been instrumental in raising over two million dollars in this way.

Mr. Krantz has also received unusual recognition from his church in being chosen as a delegate to the General Conference in 1900, 1904 and 1908, and was appointed by the Bishop a delegate to the Ecumenical Methodist Conference recently held at Toronto, Canada, and was also Fraternal Delegate to the General Conference of the German Evangelical Association, in Cleveland, Ohio, in October last.

Henry Roissy is another native of Racine, and member of First Church, who became a Methodist preacher. He is the son of Henry W. Roissy, one

of our early members, who was a class leader for many years. Mr. Roissy attended the public schools of Racine and got his theological training in Boston. He supplied a pulpit while pursuing his studies there. Later he was assistant pastor of the Hanson Place Church, Brooklyn, New York, of between two and three thousand members. He had three pastorates in New York City, and while there, was married by Bishop E. G. Andrews.

His next move was to southern California, on invitation, to the Fullerton M. E. Church, where he spent several years, and in 1909, he moved to Wilson, Kansas, almost the geographical center of the United States, where he is now pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Roissy was always serious minded and conscientious, and whatever he undertook to do, had his whole hearted attention, and we can well believe that he has left the impress



of an earnest heart on all who have come within range of his influence. For some years he has been greatly interested in the movement for world-wide peace, as exemplified by the American Peace Society, and is active in his propagation of that gospel.

George Krantz is the fourth member of our church to enter the ministry, although he preached but one year. He is a brother of John Krantz, and was born in Racine, educated at McMynn Academy, Racine; was at Northwestern University one year; graduated at N. Y. University in 1883, with degree of B. A.; became a local preacher, and entered Drew Theological Seminary, at Madison, N. J., and graduated therefrom in 1886, with degree of B. D.



Entered the Newark Conference, and stationed at Dunellen, N. J., for one year, when he resigned from the ministry, honorably, to enter fully into the publishing and advertising business in New York City, in which he had been more or less engaged while acquiring his education.

He was married in 1890, has one son, and lives at East Orange, New Jersey.

Mary E. Lunn was born in Racine, in 1854 and got her education in the public schools. Her parents were William and Jemima Lunn, both of whom were local preachers, the former in the Methodist Episcopal, and the latter in the Wesleyan Church, before coming to this country.



In her youth and early womanhood she was active and efficient in all forms of christian work, and was especially successful as a Sunday School teacher, doing personal work with all of her pupils, in the effort to bring them to a knowledge of Jesus, and a consecration of their lives to him.

Miss Lunn studied at home for deaconess work, but before the first year was finished left for Boston, and took charge of the training school there as its first superintendent; Miss Thoburn, sister of Bishop Thoburn, had carried the work there for six weeks before the arrival of Miss Lunn. She remained at Boston for twelve years, during which time the work had enlarged to include five houses, one of which was a fine hospital.

After repeated urgent solicitations she went to New York to take charge of the work there, but her health failed in two years, and she could not remain.

Miss Lunn does not remember when she was converted, but she joined our church in Racine in 1867, during Wm. P. Stowe's pastorate.

Since 1904 Miss Lunn has lived in Pasadena, California, unemployed in active work, until Jan. 1, 1912, when she accepted the superintendency of the Los Angeles Deaconess' Home, and her present address is 511 Westlake Avenue, Los Angeles.

Nellie Olson Noon is another of the young women of our church who took the Training School course for a deaconess and spent some years in that work.



She was born in Racine, was educated in the public schools, became a member of our church and Sunday School, and developed a sweet christian character.

In her young womanhood she felt the call to christian work, and entered the Chicago Training School for Home and Foreign Missions, and in May, 1894, after two years schooling, was graduated.

She at once entered upon her work of a visiting deaconess at Fall River, Mass., in the great cotton mill districts. Her ambition, however, was to work among children, for which work she was especially fitted, and leaving the Fall River field, she did some visiting work for Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, while waiting for such an opening.

In the fall of 1896 she went to New York City as Deaconess kindergarten teacher in an institutional church on the East Side. After one year of very happy, hard work in this field, her health failed, and she was obliged to give up her deaconess work.

On January 1, 1900, she was married to Philo Gates Noon, who is sub-master of Harvard Grammar School, Boston, Mass., where they now reside.

The only missionary who is in active service in the foreign field from our church, is Effie L. Ford, nee Collier, who was born at Sullivan, Racine



County, of Methodist parents, and grandparents. She was educated at the Oshkosh Normal School, and at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis., where she graduated in 1903. She taught school two years in Racine, and was married June 26, 1906, to Eddy L. Ford, an old schoolmate at Lawrence, and on August 6, 1906, they sailed for Foo Chow, China, where they have since lived. She is teaching beginner's English, in the Anglo-Chinese College at Foo Chow, and introduced the phonetic system there, which has been much appreciated. Her boy, shown in the picture, was born April 7, 1907. A daughter, Alice Louise Ford, was born in Foo Chow, Oct. 22, 1911.

Mrs. Ford, in addition to her regular duties in the college, assists in the Woman's school, and also in the Anglo-Chinese Ladies' Aid Society, where papers are read with the pur-

pose of broadening the views of the Chinese women; they are also taught sewing, crocheting, and whatever work is exigent.

Mrs. Ford is a sister of J. Z. Collier of Union Grove, and of Mrs. Edwin Skewes of Ives Grove, and Louise Collier, of Racine.

\*Eddy L. Ford is the son of James L. Ford, of West Wisconsin Conference, and was born in Wisconsin; educated at Lawrence University, where he gradu-

\* See last page of chapter.

ated in 1904, and at W. W. White's Bible Training School, New York City. During his senior year at Lawrence, he filled the pulpit at Iowa, Wisconsin, and for one year after graduation, did Sunday School Missionary work in the West Wisconsin Conference. June 26, 1906, he was married to Effie L. Collier. They were both college volunteers for missionary service, and fulfilled their pledge by sailing for China, Aug. 6, 1906. Mr. Ford teaches the Bible, at the Anglo-Chinese college at Foo Chow.

Joseph Harry Griffith is one of the young men from our church who is studying for the ministry. He was born in England, of Welsh parentage, in 1889; his parents were Wesleyan Methodists, and his father was a preacher in that church at one time. When thirteen years of age his father died, and from that time he has had to work his own way, largely.



In 1909 he came to America, locating at E. Liverpool, O., and nine months later to Racine, Wis., where he lived until Sept. 1911, when he left for Taylor University, Upland, Ind., where he is now pursuing his studies for the ministry. While in Racine he became a member of our church, and commended himself to his associates, as a young man of clean life, clear religious experience, and high ideals; before leaving for college, he was granted a local preachers license by our quarterly conference.

Jonathan M. Snow was born in Vermont, October 30, 1809; came to Racine in 1836 and was a member of our church soon after its organization, and until he joined the Illinois conference as a circuit preacher, in 1838. He is remembered by Mrs. Lucy Foxwell. It was from him that Mr. William Bull bought his homestead in Mt. Pleasant, when he came to Racine.

His appointments in the Illinois Conference were Elgin, Princeton, Mount Morris, Geneva, Washington, Sylvania, Troy, Janesville, Mineral Point, and Madison. He retired from active work in 1852, but was readmitted in 1859 and granted a superannuated relation. He died April 30, 1862, at Chicago.

Dr. W. G. Miller says of him: "Brother Snow was a decisive man, earnest, energetic and persevering. He performed his full share of pioneer work, and deserves an honorable mention among the fathers of the conference."

Another man who deserves mention in this chapter, is John Harvey (Johann Judisian) who came to America from Armenia to escape persecution and probable death at the hands of the 'unspeakable Turk,' in 1892, and to Racine in 1894; he immediately became connected with our church, and identified himself with all of its interests with unusual enthusiasm for a foreigner having imperfect command of our language.



Mr. Harvey is a christian with a clear experience of the saving and keeping power of God, and early during his stay here, became possessed with a desire to fit himself to return to his native land as a missionary; in pursuit of this idea, he worked his way through a several year's theological course at Taylor University, at Upland, Ind., where he finished in 1907. He was licensed to preach in 1906. In 1908 he was pastor at Bowden and Hurdsfield, N. Dakota. His present home is Racine, where he has a license as a local

preacher, from the Quarterly Conference of First Church.

John Harvey was born at Harpoot, Turkey, Asia Minor, Dec. 28, 1871. He lives at 1217 Reed's court.

Raymond F. Piper is a young member of our church who is preparing himself thoroughly, for work in the ministry. He was born June 10, 1888, on



his father's farm, four miles south of Racine; attended Berryville district school; graduated at the Wisconsin Business College, Racine, 1904; completed the classical course at Racine High school in 3 years, being valedictorian of his class in 1908; during that year he entered the State University at Madison, where he graduates in 1912, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, for which he is preparing a thesis on "Pragmatism and Religion." In the fall of 1912 he enters the school of Theology of Boston University.

In the fall of 1910 he supplied for six weeks in the Dodgeville Circuit; was received on trial the same year in the West Wisconsin Conference, and appointed to Lone Rock,—Highland charge, with four preaching points. During this year he preached three times every Sunday, with few

exceptions, traveled four thousand miles by train, and two thousand by team. In the fall of 1911, he was returned to the same charge.

While in school at Madison, Mr. Piper says that he was for some time undecided as to his vocation; but after beginning preaching, he very "quickly found that the ministry was going to be delightful to him," and that he "should be satisfied to do no other work."

Mr. Piper is a young man of unusual quality of intellect and heart, and a hard worker. It is safe to predict for him a career of broad usefulness to the church and to the communities where he may minister.

Beside those who have gone from our church into christian work under Methodist auspices, there are two young people who have entered the Association field, which is no less christian, though interdenominational. Chester C. Shepard, son of Gaylord Shepard, is a young man who has prepared himself for Young Men's Christian Association work, and is now Boy's Secretary at Aurora, Ill.



He was born at Somers, Kenosha County, Wis., May 21, 1887, and was educated in the public schools, Racine High School, and Lawrence College. He also took two terms at the Lake Geneva Summer Institute. He taught district school one year, and then was Boy's Secretary of the Fremont, Nebraska, Association, from which place he went to Aurora, Ill. There is promise of great success for him in his chosen field.

Harriet A. Harvey, daughter of W. J. Harvey, was born on a farm near Franksville, Racine County, Wis., and was educated in Racine primary and secondary schools, and at the University of Wisconsin, where she graduated in 1904.



She taught six years in High School—two in Horicon, and four in Racine. In 1910 she took a thorough course in an eastern Young Women's Christian Association Training School, after which she accepted a position as General Secretary of the Association at Waterloo, Iowa, which she now holds. The Association there has a membership of 2,700, and evidently includes about every woman of eligible age in the city. The management of a society of that size is certainly a test of the administrative capacity and the strength, of anyone, but Miss Harvey is a young woman of unusual ability, of consistent christian

life, and of devotion to her work, and is sure to prove a blessing to the young women who come within the range of her influence.

\* Mr. E. L. Ford is the only one mentioned in this chapter who was not a member of our church, but we felt sure that a few words with reference to him and his work, would not be deemed out of place here, and would prove interesting to many.

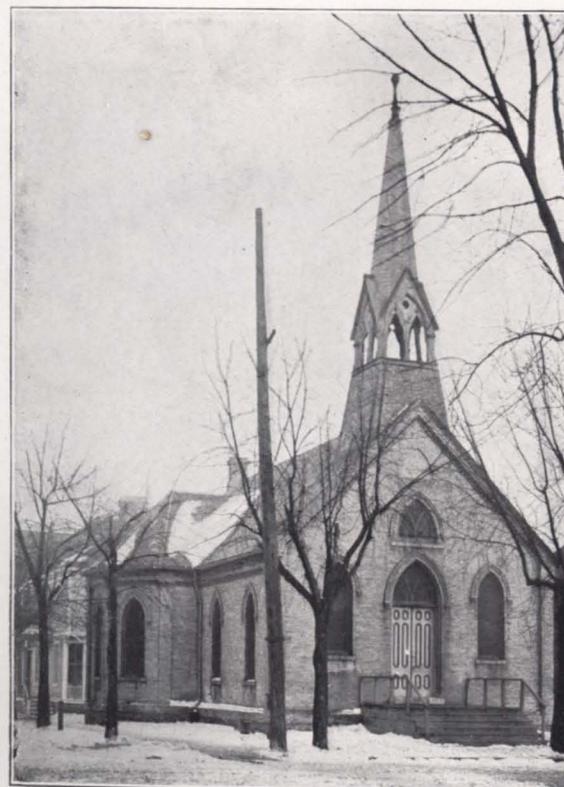


## THE OFFSPRING

"If it be possible—live peaceably with all men. Rom. 12, 18.

### THE UNION METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Union Methodist Episcopal Church, Racine, was the out-growth of a Union Sunday School Association, which was begun and maintained by members of the Methodist and other Protestant churches of the city, at the corner of North Wisconsin and St. Patrick streets, in a building which they purchased May 3, 1858.



UNION CHURCH, N. WIS. AND ST. PATRICK STS.

The deed of conveyance of the property recites that in consideration of three hundred dollars, Albert G. Knight and Martin Clancy, with their wives, and Eliphalet Cram, conveyed the above mentioned property to Moses Adams, Thomas B. Talcott, Aaron C. Lyon, John Bull, William H. Jenks, and Thomas Driver, trustees of the Fourth Ward Union Sabbath School Association.

There was occasional, though infrequent, preaching in this building, by various protestant clergymen and others, and the Sunday School was successfully maintained there until the

spring of 1881, when the building took fire and burned to the ground.

The following communications printed at the time of the occurrences narrated are self-explanatory.

















1. CASSIUS C. PILLSBURY, first Sergeant, Company F, 39th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; a son of Caleb D. Pillsbury, a former pastor.

2. ROBERT E. JONES, Private, Company A, 22nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; born at Watertown, N. Y., Aug. 14, 1843; died at Portland, Oregon, July 11, 1898; son of Elias Jones, and brother of Mrs. Geo. Conroe.

3. JEROME FULLER, Bugler, 1st Wisconsin Battery, Field Artillery; uncle of Fred Wright, photographer.

3. HENRY L. BULL, First Sergeant Company K, 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; enlisted Sept. 5, 1861; made adjutant of 8th Wis. Jan. 6, 1865; mustered out Sept. 5, 1865; son of William and Lucetta Seeley Bull; now lives at Waupaca Soldiers' Home.

Let not him that girdeth on his harness boast himself as he that putteth it off  
1 Kings, 20:11.

### THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

Our church was also well represented in the company that was organized in Racine, and enlisted for the Spanish-American War, in 1898. There were seven young men who were connected with us, either as members of the church or Sunday School, or whose parents were life-long members, or who have since become members themselves.

They all belonged to Co. F. 1st Wis. Vol. Inf. Of the seven, Albert Bauman and John Cooper were members of the church; Edward Phillips, William Smale and Ward Clemons, were members of our Sunday School; Daniel Casterton's parents were loyal and devoted Methodists, and Max W. Heck has since joined the church on profession of faith.



## REMINISCENCES

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Prov. 25:11.

We are printing in this volume the pictures of ten of the founders of our church, and some scores of other pioneer members, with a few letters in this chapter from former pastors and others, that cannot fail to be of absorbing interest to some, and of some interest to all. Their effect must be to stir, in the minds of the older members, reminiscences of their own experiences, and recollections of the pastors and people of the days long gone, that are precious memories.

Our church has come to its present high place through struggle, and battle, and sacrifice, and its continued occupancy of this position of honor and of usefulness, will be justified and maintained only by the same means. But the recollection and rewards of victories won, remain long after the scars and the memory of what they cost have faded, and it is worth while putting all that we can into the building up of the Kingdom of God on the Earth.

### SAMUEL PILLSBURY.

Of Samuel Pillsbury, our first pastor, very little is known, beyond what is contained in his biography. Mrs. Lucy Foxwell remembers him in the summer of 1837, as a short, stout, man. She recalls seeing him later in Racine, in 1888, at the session of the Wisconsin Conference, when Bishop Taylor was also here. She greeted Mr. Pillsbury at that time, and insists she is not confusing him with C. D. Pillsbury, another and later pastor.

### OTIS F. CURTIS

Otis F. Curtis, our second pastor, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for but two or three years, returning to the Congregationalists, from which connection he came to us. We have learned very little about him, but it may be interesting to state, that in the first number of the Racine Argus in Feb., 1838, there is notice of two marriages performed by Mr. Curtis, one of which was that of "Mr. James Van Wagoner, to Miss Nancy Ann Walker." Mr. George Van Wagoner whose picture is shown in the "War" chapter, was the fruit of this union, and is now living at Owatonna, Minn. He was a member of our Sunday School when he enlisted, at 16 years of age.





1. BENJAMIN PRATT was born in Greenwich, Hampshire Co., Mass., Jan. 8, 1813; came to Racine Feb. 15, 1835; farmer; first brick manufacturer in Racine. Died Mt. Pleasant, Racine Co., Aug. 30, 1888.

2. FANNIE KIZER PRATT, wife of Benjamin Pratt, was born at Montpelier, Vt., April 6, 1822; died at Racine, Oct. 14, 1906.

3. ELI SHUPE was born in Burford, Canada, in 1832; came to the U. S. and to Racine in 1882; class leader; steward; patternmaker; died in Racine, April 16, 1911.

4. EVA HEROY LUNN, wife of William E. Lunn, was born at Ellenville, N. Y., August 31, 1845; a devoted, dependable worker in the church; wise in counsel; faithful in service; died in Racine, May 6, 1902. Sister of Charlotte Heroy.

"Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered." Psa. 32:1.

Corners, that on one occasion he returned to the Corners, on a visit and preached for them, and during his sermon some of the brethren had difficulty as usual, in keeping awake.

After the service he was shown about the building, which had been repaired and remodeled somewhat, and was asked how he liked the improvements. "Well, he replied, you seem to have the same old sleepers here."

#### WESSON G. MILLER.

The following extract is Wesson G. Miller's own account of his pastorate in Racine, in 1855, '6.

"Finding that there was no parsonage, I proceeded to rent a respectable house in a pleasant part of the city, paying for the same an additional one hundred dollars out of my salary. Having settled my family, I adopted my usual method, of devoting my mornings to my study, and afternoons to pastoral visiting. I soon passed over the entire membership of the station, making it a special point to secure, as far as possible, a faithful attendance upon the means of grace; the effort was successful beyond my expectations.

The congregation soon filled the church, and as the interest continued to increase, the aisles and doors were thronged, while large numbers were utterly unable to obtain admission. With this manifestation of interest it was deemed advisable to enter upon a protracted meeting without delay. We did so, and I preached every night for two weeks, but the result was not satisfactory. We found the spiritual condition was not on a plane with the demands of the work. The vast throng of people had brought upon us a tide of worldly influence that we were unable to withstand. Additional moral force was necessary, and to secure it, we deemed it better to go into the lecture room, and rely upon the social meetings to develop the requisite spiritual power."

"With this change there came to the membership the spirit of consecration and a remarkable baptism of the Holy Ghost. Before the end of two weeks we were compelled to return to the audience room."



1. JOHN RUNDLE HEROY was born at New Rochelle, Westchester Co., N. Y., Oct. 23, 1815; of French Huguenot ancestry; came to Racine in 1871, and united with the church; father of Mrs. Eveline Lunn and of Miss Charlotte Heroy. He died at Racine Sept. 12, 1882.

2. ANNA MANDERSON was born in 1840 in the Island of Guernsey; brought to America and to Racine the same year. Joined church July 20, 1879. President Ladies' Aid Society many years. She died Aug. 15, 1910, at Racine, Wis.

3. ALONZO JILLSON was born at Booneville, N. Y., June 22, 1821; came to Racine in fall of 1854; died at Chicago, Feb. 3, 1910.

4. ADELIA JILLSON, wife of Alonzo Jillson, was born at Utica, N. Y., May 15, 1831, and came to Racine in the spring of 1855; now living with her daughter, Mrs. Nellie Tinsley, at Englewood, Chicago, Ill.

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. Psa. 46:1.

"The place was again thronged with people, but the good work went forward. I continued to preach nightly for four weeks. One hundred persons were converted and added to the church."

"With this large increase of members, and a corresponding increase of attendants, it was necessary to enlarge the church edifice for their accommodation. Accordingly the work was undertaken. The rear end of the building was opened, and the edifice was lengthened so as to accommodate one-third more people. In doing this, it was thought advisable to still increase the length, by adding twelve feet more for an orchestra, thereby providing for the removal of the organ from the gallery to the rear of the pulpit."

"The enlargement, besides furnishing the necessary accommodations for the people, laid a broader financial basis to the charge, by bringing into the congregation a number of families who were able to take the new seats at a good rental. The year passed very satisfactorily."

"The conference of 1856 was held Sept. 17, at Appleton, Bishop Simpson presiding. As expected we were returned to Racine. We retained the same house, and found our social relations with the people exceedingly pleasant. With not a few families a life long friendship was established, and to the present hour the mention of Racine revives many pleasant recollections. Judge Lyon, who came into the church this year, and his good lady, and Messrs. Knight, Yout, Adams, Langlois, Jones, Lunn, Slauson, Bull, Lees, Conroe, Kidder, Ord, Jillson, Brewer, Lawrence, with their families, and many others, will never be forgotten."

"The labors of the year would afford many pleasing incidents were they permitted to appear in these papers, but their recital would unreasonably swell the volume."

"The usual protracted meeting was held, continuing five weeks. The work was very satisfactory, strengthening the converts of the previous year,









**MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD.**

Top row, left to right—Charles F. Moore, trustee; Joseph Cooper, trustee; C. C. Mortenson, pres't. Epworth League; John Harvey, local preacher.

Middle row—Mrs. C. F. Moore, pres't. of Ladies' Aid Society; George L. Buck, trustee; John C. Lunn, trustee; Samuel C. Johnson, trustee; Bertha Gerlat, pres't. of Junior League.

Bottom row—Edmond B. Funston, trustee; Gaylord Shepard, trustee; Milo Griffith, pres't. Brotherhood; M. O. Senseny, trustee.



**STEWARDS; MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD.**

Top row, left to right—George N. Case, Herbert E. Jillson, Wilbur H. Dean, Harold Smith.

Middle row—William H. Gebhardt, Charles Crabb, Edward W. Rapps, James A. Perham.

Bottom row—Henry B. Hall, Frank B. Swingle, Eugene W. Leach, John C. Ne-Collins.

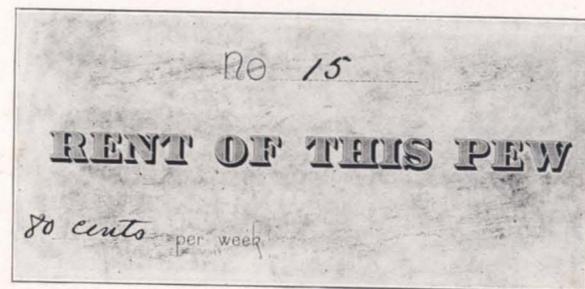


Certificates of appointment of trustees by J. C. Robbins in 1863, and by Wm. P. Stowe, in 1866, are also on record. We could find no others.

The financial plan of our church, or the method of raising our current expense, was, until 1897, by pew rentals. A price would be put at the beginning of the year, upon all of the pews, and the amount of the rental fixed was supposed to represent the relative desirability of the seatings.

It was quite the usual thing for a number of people who were not members of our church, to rent sittings. There were some arguments in favor of this scheme as a financial plan, but there grew to be a strong sentiment in favor of the proposition that church seats should be free, and on Nov. 15, 1897, the official board by a formal resolution, presented by J. C. NeCollins, discontinued the renting of seats in the church.

A reduced facsimile of one of the old rent cards is reproduced in this chapter.



In 1850 there were five districts in the Wisconsin Conference—the Platteville, Minnesota, Fond du Lac, Milwaukee and Racine districts. The following appointments were in the Racine district: Racine, Southport, Sylvania, Honey Creek, Geneva, East Troy, Elkhorn, Eagleville, Delavan, South Grove, Beloit, Spring Valley, Janesville, Union, Rock Prairie and Whitewater. There were at this time on the Racine district, nine churches, six parsonages, 30 local preachers, 1548 white members, and two colored members, with 302 on probation.



The Following Six Pages

Contain the

## Record of the Episcopacy

From the Organization of the Church  
to the Date of this Publication.

























