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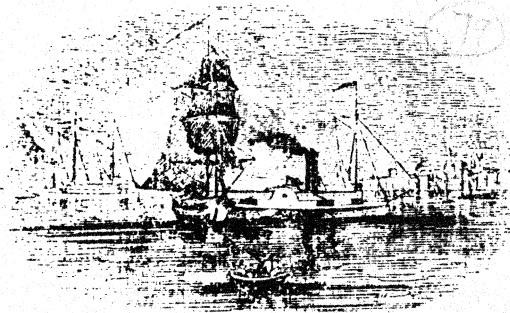
HISTORY

OF

SAGINAW COUNTY,

From the Year 1819 down to the Present Time.

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC RECORDS AND OTHER SOURCES:
TRADITIONAL ACCOUNTS, LEGENDS, ANECDOTES &c.



WITH VALUABLE

STATISTICS,

And Notes of its Resources and General Information
Concerning its Advantages:

ALSO, A

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Of each of the three Principal Towns in the County.

BY TRUMAN B. FOX.

EAST SAGINAW, - - - ENTERPRISE PRINT.
1858.

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As this work has been published by subscription, but a few extra copies have been printed. These can be obtained by applying to the author, or at any of the book stores in East Saginaw, or at the office of the *Enterprise*.

PREFACE.

It is not without many misgivings on my part, as to the manner in which this little pamphlet will be received, that I present it to the public, yet the happy reflection that where "little is given, but little is required," tends in a great measure to alleviate those misgivings and place me somewhat at my ease. I am well aware that in thus appearing before the public, I am throwing myself entirely upon its mercy, but I feel sure did it but know of the many hours of mental and bodily toil, research and heart sickness the few foregoing pages cost me to write, together with the great difficulties I have encountered in collecting materials and arranging everything in its proper place, it would conclude to take pity upon me and not

"View me with a critic's eye,
But pass my imperfections by."

I have long been impressed with the importance of a correctly written history of Saginaw County, together with a notice of its unbounded resources, its great advantages and facilities for business and trade—in short, a sort of book of reference to which all might turn for desirable information concerning the County, and I was in hopes that some one would take the subject into consideration. It is true, much has been written in the public journals about "Saginaw,"—much to its glorification—much to its shame, and a spirit of partiality too often seemed to dictate the writer. What we want is a correct and impartial history, and I have in weakness attempted to write one. I well know that the attempt was a presumptuous one, and the undertaking a hazardous one, yet with the aid and encouragement of friends, the work was commenced, and after many trials and difficulties, is placed before the public for its acceptance or refusal. To those friends who have so kindly tendered me their assistance, and have cheered me with words of hope, and smiles of encouragement, I most sincerely return my heartfelt acknowledgements. Did they but know how much happiness their words of kindness, and friendly wishes imparted to my heart, and with what renewed life and spirits I returned to my task after receiving them, surely they would never withhold them from any creature.

Hon. G. D. Williams, Levi Clark, Esq., Hon. Z. Pitcher, Hon. Norman Little, James L. T. Fox, Esq., and others who have furnished me with materials, will please accept my sincere thanks. I have endeavored throughout to treat candidly and impartially the various subjects pertaining to the interests of Saginaw County, and not to be in the least biased by local prejudices, or sectional feelings that are always found to exist to a greater or less extent in every community. In a great and growing country like ours, it is perfectly right that a spirit of emulation, or rivalry if you please, should exist, but it by no means follows that jealousy and enmity should also exist in connection, yet we are too often pained to find this the case. Instead of the envious and bitter feeling that in too many instances pervade the sister towns upon the Saginaw river, nothing but unity and perfect good will towards each other should reign, for the interest of one town is also the interest of the other, and an identity of purpose should actuate all.

Circumstances beyond my control, have delayed the publication of this work, yet I trust it may be none the less acceptable—if acceptable at all—on that account. Should it merit the approval of the public, then would my highest present wish be attained.

T. B. F.

HISTORY OF SAGINAW COUNTY.

INTRODUCTORY.

During the winter of 1819 the first white settlement north of Detroit was commenced at Pontiac, Oakland County, by Orison Allen, Esq. The September following, Gen. Lewis Cass concluded a treaty with the Chippewa Indians at Saginaw, which secured to our Government an extensive tract of territory, the southern boundary line of which passed near Springfield, Oakland County, running north-east to Lake Huron, west into Livingston County, then north to the head waters of Thunder Bay River, including a portion, if not all of Saginaw County.

In the year 1822, two companies of U. S. troops were stationed where Saginaw City now stands, for the purpose of protecting the fur trade, and of watching the movements of the Indians. We are indebted to the *Hon. Z. Pitcher*, of Detroit, for information concerning the troops, &c. He will pardon us if we transcribe his communication entire, as it comprehends everything pertaining to the arrival and departure of the troops, that is of any importance. He says:

“In June, 1822, having been appointed an assistant Surgeon in the army, I received an order to report to Major Daniel Baker, of the 3d Regiment of U. S. Infantry, then at Green Bay, who with two companies of that Regiment, I was informed, would arrive at Saginaw about the 20th of July—the troops to reach their destination by transports from Fort Howard, and I, by land from Detroit. Finding a guide in the person of the late Captain Knaggs, of this city (Detroit) who was then agent for the Saginaws, we made our way through the woods by an Indian trail from Williams’ mill* to the wigwam of the old chief † Kish-kaw-ko on the east side of the river, where we arrived just in time to see the troops pitching their tents on the other side of the river. The vessels by which this detachment was transported from Green Bay, I believe did not enter the mouth of the river, the men composing it, and their supplies, being conveyed from the Bay to the site selected for the Post, in

* This mill was situated where now stands the pleasant little village of Waterford, in Oakland county.

† See “Saginaw Indians,” page 8.

small boats. The officers of this detachment were Major Daniel Baker, Capt. John Garland, Lieuts. Edward Brooks, Otis Wheeler and Henry Bainbridge. Capt. S. H. Webb, Lieuts. Baker and Allen,* the last two of whom died there, joined a short time afterwards. John Dean, (the Suttler,) Thomas C. Sheldon, Chauncey Bush, recently of Owosso, and Elliot Gray, all had business connections with the command of Major Baker. These persons, with the enlisted men and the families of Baker, Garland and Brooks constituted the little military colony which laid the foundation of Saginaw City. Joseph Campau and family, Antoine Campau, Esq., now of Grand Rapids, Archibald Lyons, Indian Interpreter, Mr. Provensal, Indian Blacksmith, Mr. Corben, and a Frenchman whose name I have forgotten, Indian Farmer, made up the Civil community. The road from Saginaw to Smith's trading house † on Flint River, was cut in the winter of 1822-3, by a party of soldiers commanded by Lieutenants Edward Brooks and Bainbridge, the latter of whom served his country honorably from that time, including the Mexican War, and recently lost his life in the Gulf of Mexico, by the burning of a steamer upon which he was a passenger.

The winter of 1822-3 was very cold. Much snow fell.—When spring came on, the rapid solution of it caused a great flood in the Tittabawassie and other tributaries of the Saginaw, so that most of the prairie between the Post and Green Point, was under water. The succeeding summer was pretty warm. The troops became very sickly, as early as July, and late in the fall they abandoned the Fort, and moved to Detroit by water, in two schooners, one commanded by Capt. Keith, and the other by Capt. Walker. Before the military occupancy of the river, a Mr. Hudson ‡ had made an attempt to evangelize the Saginaws, but meeting with no success. he had left the place before the troops under the

* Brother and son-in-law of Major Baker.

† This trading house stood upon the north side of Flint River, where Flint City now stands, and in the vicinity of the Genesee House. A portion of the old house still remains upon the bank of the river, a short distance below the hotel.

‡ When the treaty was made with the Saginaw Indians, they were to have a Blacksmith and a Missionary sent to them. Accordingly Mr. Hudson came among them in the latter capacity. After a while the Indians became dissatisfied with the restrictions probably placed upon them by him, and sent back word that they wanted to "swap" off the Missionary for another Blacksmith. Shortly after which Mr. Hudson left. The Mission house was located upon the spot now occupied by the residence of *Hon. N. Little*, East Saginaw.

command of Major Baker arrived, leaving behind him an unfinished house on the east side of the river, some distance below the ferry."

The Doctor in the above, simply says the troops abandoned the fort, without entering into the particulars. After Major Baker lost his son-in-law and brother by death, and having encountered innumerable hardships and sufferings, he became disheartened and discouraged, and reported to the Department that the climate was so unhealthy that "nothing but Indians, Muskrats and Bull-frogs, could possibly subsist here." Nor was it to be wondered at that himself and those under his command, should yield to discouragement, and like the Egyptians of old, sigh for the flesh-pots and dumplings of their own firesides, for here they were, far from their homes, in the midst of a howling wilderness, surrounded by untamed savages, whose nightly whooping and infernal pow-wow orgies were far more appalling than even the cries of the wild beasts, and exposed to the rigidity of a northern climate, together with its vicissitudes. No wonder then that the order for their removal was hailed with delight.

The news of their removal spread like wildfire throughout the Union, and the western portion of our State having just then come into notice, every effort was made at the City of Detroit and elsewhere, to turn the tide of emigration from the north, to the western portion of the State, which efforts were successful for many years. Consequently this portion of the North for a long time, labored under all the difficulties and troubles incident to misrepresentation and detraction, and thus did one of the most fertile and at the same time, one of the healthiest portions of Michigan, lie in a state of wildness and neglect, while the barren sands, and "scrub oak openings" of the more southern counties, were literally swarming with emigration. Villages sprung up, as by magic throughout the aforesaid counties, thousands of acres were taken up and towns located by greedy speculators in some parts of said counties, upon lands wholly untillable, and surrounded by marshes and "cat holes." But it is not my purpose to dwell upon these things, as they do not particularly concern myself or readers. *Prior to the arrival of the troops, Saginaw was occupied as an Indian trading post, although by no regularly organized company, but by individuals who bartered with the Indians for their furs and pelts, giving in exchange, whiskey, blankets, beads, &c. In the fall of 1824, the American Fur Company established a

trading post here. Three years subsequently, the *Hon. Gardner D. Williams* purchased the interests of the company here and established himself as an Indian trader. There were here then beside himself, the families of Louis Campau and John B. Cushway.

At that time, but two white families resided between Waterford, (8 miles north of Pontiac) and Saginaw, and these belonged to *Rufus W. Stevens* and his father, who lived at Grand Blanc, Genesee County. Aside from the "clearings" of these two families, the whole tract of territory lying between the above named points, was one wild, unbroken forest.

SAGINAW INDIANS.

The Saginaw Indians, so called, to distinguish them from other tribes, were at this time very numerous and savage, and were governed by a Chief, (a usurper in power), by the name of *Kish-kaw-ko*, a miserable tyrant and a villainous coward. The early settlers of Oakland County were very much annoyed by this villain and his cowardly band, as they passed through that section of the country, on their way to Malden, to receive their annual presents from the British government. *Kish-kaw-ko* was in the habit of travelling with thirty or forty scoundrels, whom he called his warriors, and taking advantage of the sparseness of the settlements, would levy contributions upon the poor settlers. If his demands were not readily complied with, he would take what he wanted by force, such as cattle, hogs, &c., thus subjecting the poor settlers to great suffering and continual fear. Upon one occasion, after his arrival at Detroit which happened a few days before payment, his men being very hungry, he applied to some of the authorities for food, "for" said he, "unless my young men get something to eat, it will be impossible for me to restrain them from robbing the settlers along the rout." "Sir," returned General Cass, "if your young men commit any depredations upon the settlers, I will send *my* young men to punish them!" Notwithstanding this intimation, depredations were occasionally committed upon the settlers with impunity. *Kish-kaw-ko* at length came to his end in a manner strikingly in keeping with his wicked and cowardly career. One day while en-

camped at a place, a little above Detroit, known as Chaine farm, he got into a drunken row and killed an Indian. He was arrested by the proper authorities and imprisoned in the old Detroit jail, where he remained several months. Feeling assured from his past conduct that he need expect no mercy or lenity, from the hands of those he had so often outraged, and that his death was certain, he anticipated the law by taking poison, supposed to have been provided him by his squaws. His successor was *O-ge-maw-geg-e-too*, which signifies the Chief Speaker. This Indian was in every respect antipodal to *Kish-kaw-ko*, being a high minded and an honorable man—a great favorite with the whites and an eloquent speaker, but at times very much given to dissipation. He was not the head Chief by birth, but merely by promotion or appointment, on account of the loftiness of his style, the beauty of his expression, and his powerful and commanding eloquence, which always carried conviction with it. The spot upon which Saginaw City now stands, was called by the Indians *Ke-pay-sho-wink*, meaning the great camping ground.

Here it was that the natives all rendezvoused in the spring after finishing their sugar making and winter hunting. It was their custom to come in and settle up with the traders, and have a general, grand jubilee for two or three weeks, by employing themselves in their peculiar feats, war dances, &c., and in liquidating old grudges, disputes, and other difficulties. If an injury had been done one party by another, it was here settled at this time, either with property, such as horses, blankets, &c., or by the price of life. If the injury had been one of an exceedingly aggravated nature, a life was demanded, and stoically and unflinchingly yielded up by the doomed party. The Chief proper was *Miz-co-be-na-sa*, signifying the Red Bird. He was a quiet, unassuming man, and possessed no desire whatever for fame—no aspirations after greatness. Only give him his *paawahgun** and *samah*† pouch well filled, and place by his side a dish of *scootawahboo*,‡ and he cared but little about affairs of Indian state. He had however, been considerable of a warrior in his day, but the fire of youth had passed away, and with it all the energies of a youthful spirit. It is a melancholy and lamentable fact, that as the country becomes settled by the whites, the native energy and spirit of the red

* Pipe.

† Tobacco.

‡ Whiskey.

man grows less and droops, for he beholds the broad domains which his fathers possessed, in the hands of the pale face, he sees the graves of the chosen of his race desecrated by strangers, and the cherished hunting grounds which were his own, melting away before the sun of civilization. As society advances, the red man recedes, and degenerates, although efforts have been, and are being made to civilize and enlighten him. During the summer of 1838, the small-pox broke out among the Saginaw Indians, making fearful havoc among them, and taking about half, if not two-thirds of their number to the hunting grounds of the Great Spirit, which in their belief, are great white plains abounding in all manner of game, and beautiful streams filled with fish, all of which may be obtained without any exertion. This is unquestionably the reason why the Indian manifests so much indifference and stoicism in view of death. The whole number of Indians in the county at present, cannot exceed one thousand souls, and they are fast leaving for the north, to take possession of the land which Government has given them. Many of their villages are already deserted, and it will not be long ere they will all have passed from us. There are however, a few who are engaged in agricultural pursuits in the vicinity of the Bay, who will probably remain, at least for the present. In another portion of this work will be found several Indian legends and traditionary accounts of the Saginaw Indians.

LOCATION OF THE COUNTY, &c.

Saginaw County is bounded on the north by Midland county and Saginaw Bay, on the east by Tuscola, Lapeer and Genesee counties, on the south by Genesee and Shiawassee counties, and on the west by Gratiot and Midland counties. Its county seat is Saginaw City. This county was organized in the year 1835, and at present contains but eighteen regularly organized townships, namely :

Birch Run,	Frankenmuth,	St. Charles,
Bloomfield,	Hampton,	Taymouth,
Brady,	Kochville,	Thomastown,
Bridgeport,	Maple Grove,	Williams,
Buena Vista,	Saginaw City,	Zilwaukie,
Chessening,	Saginaw,	Tittabawassee.

Before another year there will probably be a large accession to the number. This county contains about 650,000 square acres, a portion of which are swamp lands. By reference to the map of Michigan, the reader will observe that this county occupies nearly a central position in the State, and is not, as many have idly imagined, an extreme northern county, and almost beyond the reach of civilization.—Indeed, but a few years ago, this portion of the State was considered almost unapproachable, and even after getting here, not fit to locate upon. But this opinion has been repudiated, as a perusal of the foregoing pages will show.

FACE OF THE COUNTRY.

The face of the country is generally level, though in some parts it is considerably undulating. There is, aside from several small "Hog-backs," or elongated knolls, a beautiful natural ridge road several rods in width, and extending nearly through the entire county. This ridge is covered with a splendid growth of Beech and Maple, or at least originally was, and affords most delightful sites for residences, &c. Upon either side of this ridge, the country is most lovely, and the lands finely adapted to farming purposes. The soil is of a dark, sandy loam, generally varying from fourteen inches to two feet in depth, of an exceedingly rich alluvial formation, covering a sub-stratum of blue and yellow clay, and almost entirely free from stones. In the northern, and some other portions of the county, are found some swamp lands and wet prairie. Many of these swamp lands can by drainage, be rendered tillable, and susceptible of a high state of cultivation, amply remunerating the settler for all his trouble. A goodly portion of the lands entered as swamp lands, are far from being swampy however, in the common acceptation of the term.

In the vicinity of the Bay, and along some of our rivers, are some wet prairie lands, which furnish the settlers with thousands of tons of very good hay, annually.

RIVERS.

SAGINAW RIVER.—This river divides the county nearly east and west, and is one of the largest and most beautiful streams in the State. It is formed by the union of the Cass from the east,—the Flint and Shiawassee from the South, and the Tittabawassee from the north-west. It pursues a north-easterly course, and empties into the head of Saginaw Bay. It varies in depth from fifteen to twenty feet, and its average width is about forty rods. Its waters are bright and sparkling, and are not, as many suppose, who never saw them, dead and sluggish. The length of the river, taken from its mouth to its confluence with the above named tributaries, is about 25 miles, although the river proper, followed the length of it, to its source, would exceed one hundred miles. A few miles below Saginaw City, one or two sand bars have until quite recently very much obstructed the navigation of the river, especially during some of the driest seasons; but through the united efforts of the inhabitants of the valley, these obstructions have been nearly removed, or at least to such a degree as to enable vessels and steamers to pass over in safety with their freight. No farther trouble is anticipated from these bars, as an excellent Dredging Machine is owned upon the river, and always ready to perform service. The banks of the Saginaw in some places are quite bold, while in others they are low and marshy. There are in many places diverging from the river large coves or bayous, which in some instances extend miles into the country, and are often deeper than the river itself. As these bayous are generally bordered with a plentiful growth of wild rice, they are consequently a great resort for all kinds of aquatic fowls, especially ducks, which during the fall of the year, when the rice is ripe, come hither in “clouds” to fatten upon it, thus affording rare sport for the sporting gentry.

TITTABAWASSEE * RIVER.—This is a beautiful stream rising in the northern portion of the State, pursuing a south-easterly course and emptying into the Saginaw river. Its

* The proper pronunciation of this, is Ta-ta-ba-wa-sia, signifying in the Indian dialect, parallel with the lake shore.

depth is from four to eight feet, and its width near its mouth is about ten rods.

This river is navigable for small steamboats, about thirty miles from its mouth, and passes through some of the best farming lands in the State. The banks of this river in many places rise from five to fifteen feet above the level of the river, upon which are finely cultivated farms, well stocked. Already the country along this river begins to assume an aspect really Eastern, and it is certainly cheering to behold the improvements that are annually being made in the section of country through which this river passes.

CASS * RIVER.—This river rises in Sanilac county, and pursues a south-westerly direction, emptying into the Saginaw about three miles above Saginaw City. The banks of this river are generally bold, although in some places during high stages of the water they are overflowed. Many fine bottoms are found in the vicinity of this river, as well as the other rivers in the county, which afford the most productive farms imaginable, being composed mostly of alluvial formation. This river passes through some of the most charming and beautiful country in the Union, and affords an outlet for millions of feet of pine lumber every year, the forests of which skirt it for many miles. Many finely cultivated farms are also found upon the banks of this stream, and a number of young and prosperous villages.

FLINT † RIVER.—This river takes its rise in the south-eastern corner of Lapeer county, pursues first a north-westerly, then a south-westerly course through part of the county after which it changes to a north-westerly course and empties into the Saginaw river about 30 miles from its mouth.—Pine is found in abundance upon the banks of this stream, of an excellent quality, as well as most every other variety of timber. This river passes through some rich and splendid intervals, and is boatable at certain stages of the water many miles from its mouth. There are a great many fine, and well cultivated farms upon the banks of this stream.—The banks in many places being bold and commanding, renders the situation of farms and dwellings delightful in the extreme. Many rich bottom lands are also found along

* The original Indian name of this river was Onottoway-se-be-wing, meaning the Ottoway river, as the Ottoways or Onottoways, resided upon its banks long years ago.

† This river still retains its original name, which in the Indian dialect is *Pe-wa-ne-go-ink-se-be*, which means Flint river.

this river. The river also affords a number of excellent mill sites, and is already being applied to a variety of manufacturing purposes.

SHIAWASSEE * RIVER.—This is a large tributary of the Saginaw, and a rapid and beautiful stream. It rises in the interior of Livingston and Oakland counties, and pursues a meandering, north-westerly course through the county of Shiawassee and joins the Flint to help form the Saginaw, a few miles above Saginaw City. Its banks near its mouth are low, and it is navigable for small steamboats about 20 miles. The lands along this stream are exceedingly rich and in many places alluvial. Upon this stream and its tributaries, are found many excellent mill privileges and water powers. Almost every variety of timber abound along this river.

KAW-KAW-LIN † RIVER.—This is a small stream rising in Arenac and Midland counties, pursuing a south-easterly course through Midland and Saginaw counties, then north-east into Midland, thence east, and empties into the south-western extremity of Saginaw Bay, near the mouth of Saginaw river. The banks of this river are low in many places, although the soil is very rich and productive, and susceptible of a high state of culture. This river affords fine mill privileges. About two miles from its mouth was, until quite recently, an Indian village and mission, but the Indians have mostly left for the north, to take possession of the lands donated them by Government. This river furnishes an outlet for immense quantities of pine lumber, which is manufactured upon its banks.

MICHESEBEE RIVER.—This river is a small one, and originated in the western part of Saginaw County. It pursues a south-east course, and empties into the Saginaw river about two miles above the mouth of the Flint river. Its length is about 30 miles. Upon the bottoms of this stream are found some rich lands mostly unimproved however at present.

MISHTEGAYOCK RIVER.—This stream rises in the southern part of Genesee and Shiawassee counties, pursues a northerly course and empties into the Flint river five miles from its mouth. It is about 45 miles in length, and runs nearly

* I think the signification of "*Shiawassee*," is beautiful or delightful.

† The correct Indian name for this river is *O-gah-haw-ning* signifying the place for pickerel, *O-gah* pickerel, *haw-ning* place.

midway between the Shiawassee and Flint rivers. There are in the vicinity of this river, some splendid farming lands and fine timber. Those wishing to purchase and settle, would do well to visit this portion of the county.

BAD RIVER.—This stream rises on the southern limits of Saginaw county, pursues a northern course and empties into the Hare river one of the tributaries of the Saginaw. The lands bordering on this stream are generally low, though exceedingly rich, and tolerably well timbered.

HARE RIVER, to which Bad river is tributary, rises in the south-west part of Saginaw County and empties into the Shiawassee river 12 miles above Saginaw City. It passes through occasional groves of good timber, and the soil along its banks, is rich and durable.

In addition to the above rivers are several smaller streams, which though in reality are nothing but creeks, yet are frequently dignified with the name of river. Among these are the *Maqua-na-ke-see*,* *Che-boy-gun*,† *Zaw-wis-haw-ning*,‡ and *Squy-haw-ning*.|| The first rises in Tuscola county and empties into the south-east extremity of Saginaw Bay. The second rises in Tuscola county, flows north-westerly, and empties into the Saginaw river about 8 miles from its mouth. The third rises towards the northern part of Saginaw county, emptying into the Saginaw river about 7 miles from its mouth. The fourth rises in the north-western part of Saginaw county, flowing nearly east and empties into the Saginaw river a short distance below *Zaw-wis-haw-ning*. The most of these streams are skirted with prairie, though timber is found in some places along their banks, and the soil is highly productive and durable.

T I M B E R .

This County furnishes an excellent and valuable variety of timber, including Oak, Beach, hard and soft Maple, Hickory, Black Walnut, Butternut, Cherry, Basswood, Ash, Elm, Hemlock and Pine. The Oak found here, is excelled

* I think the meaning of *Maqua-na-ke-see* is Bear Creek.

† I am not able to inform the reader the signification of this word.

‡ Place for Bass.

|| Last place, so called because near its mouth is an Island supposed to have been the place where the last, or decisive battle was fought between the Sacs and Chippewas.

by none in the Union, in point of flexibility, toughness, elasticity and durability, which properties renders it invaluable for Ship and Steamboat building. It has been pronounced to be equal, by competent judges, to the old English ship oak, and superior to most of the oak found elsewhere in the United States. It has been thoroughly tested by our ship builders here, who stand ready to vouch for the truth of my statement. This oak is found in great abundance throughout the entire county. There are however, several kinds of oak here, viz: white, or upland, black, red, yellow, swamp, and some scrub oak, though not in abundance. The white and swamp oak are the kinds mostly used for ship building and staves. Of late years the manufacture of Staves has been entered into with happy success, and the trade bids fair of rivaling that of the pine lumber. It is confidently affirmed by those, well informed upon the subject, that there is in the county and vicinity, sufficient stave oak to furnish an extensive trade for at least thirty years to come, and perhaps even a greater length of time. In another place will be found an article upon the Stave trade which may be of interest to some of our readers.—The Basswood is also found to be of great utility in ship building, and many other kinds of business where flexible lumber is required. The pine, aside from the lumber it yields, furnishes most superb spars for vessels.

The hard, or sugar Maple is a beautiful tree, and the pride and glory of an American forest. It is not alone its beauty and magnificence that renders it an object of pride, but the happy combination of the useful and ornamental which it possesses. While this tree is eagerly sought after for its shade, timber, lumber, and the superior fire-wood it makes, it is highly valuable on account of the immense quantity of excellent sugar which is annually manufactured from the rich saccharine sap that flows from it during the spring months. The usual sugar months are March and April, although sugar has been made in the months of January and February. The present winter, 1857-8, it has been manufactured in limited quantities during December, January and February, in this county. The soil upon which the Maple is found, is generally considered of a superior quality. The Black Walnut, Butternut and Cherry, are valuable on account of the excellent lumber they furnish for cabinet ware, &c.

The Butternut is generally found upon the rich bottom lands that skirt the rivers, while the Black Waluut and Cherry grow more abundantly upon the lands farther back, or uplands. OAK OPENINGS are found near the Cass river, and also in the vicinity of Saginaw river and Bay. These openings are covered with a small growth of Oak, white and black, and are beautiful to look upon; but the soil is light and porous, and generally covering a sub-stratum of quicksand. Some portions, however, of these openings produce bountifully, and are finely adapted to agricultural purposes, though by no means possessing the strength that the timbered land does.

WILD FRUITS AND BERRIES.

Wild, or native fruit, such as plums, cherries, thorn apples, crab apples, grapes, &c., grow in great abundance upon the bottom lands and along the margin of the rivers, while all manner of shrub fruits and berries are found in the greatest profusion here, including currants, gooseberries of several varieties, high and low whortleberries, billberries, mayberries, blueberries, high and low blackberries, red and white raspberries, strawberries and cranberries. The cranberry, which fills some of the marshes and wet prairie, to the exclusion of everything else, is an important article of export. Hundreds of bushels of this most luxurious berry are shipped annually from the port of Saginaw. For one or two years past, the amount of berries exported has fallen far short of the usual quantity in consequence of the marshes being burned, or flooded out. During the fall of 1856, hundreds of acres of cranberry marsh, as well as upland and lowland forests, were literally consumed and destroyed by fire. These marshes, or at least many of them which escaped the general fire, were, during the fall of 1857 so completely submerged with water as to render it impossible to gather the cranberries growing upon them. Consequently the demand increased, and with it of course, the price. The high bush cranberry which is an inferior berry, and which is not brought into market, is found in considerable quantities in most of the swamps and marshes. The grapes and wild plums, are, many of them, of an excellent quality, and might by domesticating, be rendered equal to the imported

fruit. The soil is in general well adapted to the rearing and cultivation of all kinds of fruit, and judging from the thriving manner in which the wild fruits grow, and of the great yield of domestic fruits in some of the older and more settled portions of the State, possessing a similar soil to our own, there can be no doubt that at no future day this County will be noted as a great fruit growing County. Already do those portions of the County that have been settled the longest, begin to show signs of this. Some of the farms upon the banks of the Tittabawassee, possess fine thriving orchards, while in Saginaw City may be seen several small, yet exceedingly productive ones. We would call the attention of the settler to the practicability of raising fruit here, and earnestly suggest for his consideration, the importance of planting young orchards, and cultivating shrub and vine fruits, for by so doing, not only the wealth, but the convenience and comfort of the County will be materially advanced, as well as his own happiness.

Strawberries, which are peculiarly indigenous to the soil, might be cultivated with the most happy result. When properly attended to, this vine yields in an abundance that is truly astonishing, and amply repays for all the attention and care which its delicate nature requires. This luscious berry might be made an article of export with us. Let some horticulturist turn his attention to this fact.

VEGETABLES.

The peculiar adaptation of the soil here, particularly in the vicinity of the rivers, and upon the bottom lands, to the production of all kinds of field and garden vegetables, has been generally acknowledged. Potatoes, turnips, beets, carrots, parsnips, &c., prove by their excessive yield, the extreme fecundity of the soil, while all manner of garden vines, such as pumpkin,* squash, water-melon and musk-melon produce to an astonishing degree.

The pumpkin here often grow to such an extent and size that were we simply to make mention of but one raised here which girted the modest number of *nine feet*, we

*So rapid is the growth of the pumpkin, and other vines in our locality, that a wag suggested the propriety of employing them to carry the mail, a hint which some of our mail agents would do well to observe.

should be set down at once, as infringing upon the truth.—Peas, beans, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce, &c., grow in our gardens to great perfection and flavor. The potatoe attains to a superior excellence with us, and one acre has been known to yield upwards of 300 bushels. Wild onions, leeks, &c., grow abundantly in our forests, and upon the margin of the rivers.

G R A I N S.

Wheat, barley, oats, rye, corn and buckwheat, are raised here, though of course not to that extent with which they are in the older and more settled Counties. Judging from the nature of the soil, and the general yield of the wheat and other grains, thus far, we feel no hesitancy in saying that this County must one day be noted as a great grain growing County. The oats raised in the vicinity of the rivers, as well as the corn, may, in point of quantity or quality, challenge any other County in the State. Rye, barley, hemp and flax are as yet but little known here, particularly the last two, although we see no good reason why they may not all be cultivated with happy success.—As a stock raising County, Saginaw cannot, with the facilities it possesses, be exceeded. Many kinds of excellent grass grow wild in the greatest profusion, and where the domestic and foreign have been introduced they have succeeded to admiration. As before stated, thousands of tons of very good hay are annually cut upon the praries and wild meadows, found in various portions of the County.

MINERALS.*

Many indications of the existence of various kinds of minerals in Saginaw County and vicinity, have recently been discovered. Along the banks of the Tittabawassee and Flint rivers, excellent specimens of bituminous coal have been found, which leads to the belief that rich beds must exist not far below the surface, while upon the Shia-

* A few specimens of native copper have been found near the head waters of the Tittabawassee river.

wassee river, in the vicinity of Corunna, in Shiawassee County, some very prolific beds are now being worked.

This river, it will be remembered, or about 25 miles of it, flows into Saginaw County. We venture to predict that in less than five years from the present time, coal beds will be worked in this County with good success, and with profit. In the north-west portion of the County, in the vicinity of Saginaw Bay, gypsum, or plaster of Paris, has been found in considerable quantities, and also grey colored limestone, which makes not only excellent lime, but likewise good building stone. Boulders, sometimes called "lost rocks," are found near the Bay shore, and in some of our rivers, though not to any extent. A very good species of *glass sand* exists in the neighborhood of the Bay, which might be turned to good account.

SALINES.

Our former State geologist, the much lamented Doctor Houghton, asserted that a goodly portion of Saginaw County rested on a bed of salt, and that by sinking shafts to a sufficient depth, anywhere along the Saginaw and its tributaries, strong brine in any quantities would be the result. "Salt licks" exist in various portions of the County, and many saline springs, although at present none are being worked. Attempts, however, have been made to improve some of these springs, but owing either to inefficiency of means, or want of skill in conducting operations, they have been abandoned.

In town 13, north, range 10 east, in the vicinity of Cass river, several salt marshes are found, varying in area from one to thirty acres. These marshes, or "licks," are covered with a short grass, and are a great resort for elk, deer, &c. During the driest seasons, by scraping away but a few inches of earth in these marshes, a clear, strong brine will make its appearance, to mock the thirst and tantalize the poor hunter in search of drink.

All the tributaries of the Saginaw furnish, upon their borders, the most numerous indications of the existence of salt, and from the limited examinations that have been made from time to time, of the various localities, happy results have been anticipated. About the year 1838 at-

tempts were made to work two or three springs situated upon the Tittabawassee, but the attempts proved failures in consequence of the great disadvantages under which the operators labored. These works were owned by the State. The average temperature of these springs was 48° Fahrenheit, and the analization of their waters has resulted as follows, showing the constituents of 100 grains of the solid contents :

Muriate of Soda,	- - - - -	83,94.
Muriate of Lime,	- - - - -	4,85.
Muriate of Magnesia,	- - - - -	6,48.
Sulphate of Lime,	- - - - -	3,93.
Carbonate of Lime,	- - - - -	,80.

Total, 100,00.

The water from which the above analysis was made, was taken, it will be remembered, from springs, and not the result of boring. Judging from this, there can be no doubt of the great advantages that must accrue from sinking shafts.

These saline resources are, without doubt, destined to become, at no distant day, sources of unbounded wealth to the County. We see no just reasons why salt works could not be established among us even now, for with the usual energy and perseverance that characterizes the inhabitants of Saginaw County, when enlisted in any enterprise, most happy results must inevitably accrue from their taking hold of an enterprise of this nature. We learn, by the way, that a company is about forming for the purpose of boring for salt in the vicinity of Green Point, and near the confluence of the Tittabawassee and Cass rivers with the Saginaw. We bespeak for it success.

A few years since, a well was dug in the township of Birch Run, for the purpose of supplying a steam saw-mill with water. After digging forty feet, water began to rush in with such rapidity as to prevent the workmen from proceeding with their work, and it was with some difficulty that they succeeded in getting their implements out of the well. When the water was first discovered, it was about six o'clock, P. M. The next morning at three o'clock there was thirty-six feet of water in the well—in fact it had risen until it came to a sub-strata of quicksand, a few feet below the surface, through which it percolated, and coming out a

short distance below formed itself into a running stream.— This water, which was clear as crystal, and very cold, proved to be highly impregnated with saline properties.

FUR TRADE.

Many years have elapsed since the first fur trading house was built upon the banks of the Saginaw, and many of those first engaged in the trade here have long since passed away and been forgotten. The exact date of the commencement of the fur trade in the County is not known, although it is certain that it was carried on here by trappers and traders long before thoughts of settling this portion of Michigan was indulged in. Those regions bordering upon the lakes and bays, were formerly considered valuable only in proportion to the amount of furs and pelts they produced, for the fur trade was then regarded as the only source of wealth afforded by those uncultivated wilds; therefore the possession of it was the principal "bone of contention" between the French, English and Yankee traders. There was, however, no necessity for indulging in jealousies on that score, for the almost impenetrable forests that extended from lake to lake, and covering an area of thousands of miles in extent, were filled with all manner of American wild beasts, while along the rivers, creeks and bayous were found myriads of small game, such as otter, martin, fisher, mink, muskrat, foxes, &c. Large colonies of beavers flourished and sent fourth their busy thousands to build dams and villages, and extend their dominion where the white man's foot had never, as yet, left its impress.

By degrees, the domain of these native *fur*-eigners began to be invaded by the trapper and hunter, and trading houses were erected amid the "eternal shades" of the forest. Then it was that the poor Indian first became acquainted with the accursed *fire-water*, which was exchanged with him for furs, the real value of which he was unacquainted with. A few quarts of *adulterated* whiskey or rum, would buy several dollars worth of furs, while everything he possessed would be bartered off for the "villainous mixture." So strong an influence did the trader (in many localities) exert over the untutored child of the forest, that all attempts to evangelize him, by the missionary, proved abortive, for many years.

During the year 1824, the attention of the American Fur Company was directed to that portion of country bordering Saginaw Bay, and the territory lying beyond. Selecting the spot upon which Saginaw City now stands, it established a trading post there, and commenced operations upon somewhat of an extensive scale. Thousands of dollars worth of the richest furs were annually obtained here and sent to market, from which were realized great profits and immediate returns.

The interest of the Company here was, after a few years, purchased by the Hon. G. D. Williams, who continued to trade with the Indians several years, and who still resides at Saginaw City. From the above mentioned period to the present, the fur trade of the county has been an exceedingly lucrative one. Although no regularly organized fur company exists in the county at the present day, yet the traffic is engaged in by individuals to quite an extent. This trade will undoubtedly be maintained in the vicinity of Saginaw for many years to come, owing to the fact of the country north and west of it being a wild, dense forest, stretching from lake to lake, and covering nearly the entire northern portion of the peninsula. Consequently, many years must necessarily elapse before a scarcity of game occurs in those parts, and as Saginaw is a point which will long furnish a market for the surrounding country, of course the trade must center here. The furs and pelts furnished at the various points along the Saginaw river, amount in value to upwards of \$30,000 annually. It is almost or quite impossible to arrive at a correct estimate of the actual valuation of the trade belonging to the county, for perhaps thousands of dollars worth of the furs that are yearly taken by the trappers and hunters, are sold to transient traders and those not connected with the business interests of the county, farther than to enrich themselves from its resources. The above figures we obtain from some of our business men upon the Saginaw river.

FISH TRADE.

For many years, this trade has occupied a promineny in the business of the Lakes and Bays that hem in our beautiful Peninsula, and in point of extent and profit it is excelled but by few other branches of trade. Fish have from

the earliest ages of the world, been used by man as an article of diet, in every portion of the Globe of which we have any knowledge, and they will probably continue to be used while the ocean rolls, the lakes exist, and the rivers flow to produce them. It would be a difficult thing for us to establish the exact point when this trade was first entered into upon our upper lakes, yet we know that for many years it has been engaged in with great success, proving a source of gain, if not wealth to those connected with it. Nor is it alone the Lakes and Bays that have acquired a notoriety for fish, for most of our rivers afford excellent varieties and in inexhaustible quantities. During the spring and fall months, myriads of fish known as *wall-eyed* * *pike* come into our northern rivers to deposit their spawn, and hundreds of barrels are annually taken by fishermen during these seasons. This pike is one of the most delicious river fish to be found, and in many respects may almost be considered as a rival to the white fish, particularly when it is in its prime. Although many other kinds of fish are obtained in our rivers, this is the only one they produce that is packed for market. There are numerous fisheries upon the Saginaw river for the purpose of taking this kind of fish, and one fishery alone has been known to take as many as ten hundred barrels during the fishing season.

Below we give the names of the principal kinds of fish caught in our Lakes, Bays and Rivers, together with their respective weight.

Sturgeon	from	70	to	120	pounds.
Trout	"	20	"	60	"
Muskelunjuh	"	15	"	40	"
Pickrel	"	6	"	15	"
Mullet	"	5	"	10	"
White fish	"	2	"	5	"
Perch				1	"
Roach				1	"
Black Bass	"	1	"	3	"
Bill fish	"	1	"	3	"
Cat fish	"	10	"	20	"

* Although this Fish is known as wall-eyed pike, its true name is pickrel. There is a kind of fish however, that frequents our rivers and smaller streams, which with some, bears the euphonious name of "snake eater," but is generally called pickrel. In contra distinction, the former is called *sand* or *wall-eyed* pickrel, and the latter, *grass* pickrel. In appearance, as well as in flavor, these two fish differ materially.

The Sturgeon is both a lake and river fish, and when properly served up, forms an excellent dish. Like the wall-eyed pickerel, the sturgeon comes into our rivers to deposit its spawn. During the early ages of the county, the flesh of this fish was called "Saginaw beef." The Trout is a lake fish, and is seldom, if ever found in our rivers. The White fish is indeed the prince of fresh water fish, and the principal fish of export, although great quantities of pickerel and trout are exported and some sturgeon. The lake and river fish, exported from the various points on Saginaw river amount in value to about forty thousand dollars a year.—The fish trade of the county probably exceeds that, owing to home consumption and the country trade, which is not inconsiderable, being added to the exports.

PINE LUMBERING BUSINESS.

The Saginaw pine lumber trade occupies a pre-eminency in the business of the County, and may with propriety be considered the basis or foundation of every other branch of trade with us. Within four or five years past, this business has increased to an astonishing extent, and in point of importance and magnitude has far exceeded the most sanguine hopes of those who first engaged in it. Although millions of feet of pine logs are annually converted into lumber and sent to market from the various mills in the county, yet instead of a diminution, there seems to be a continual and steady increase of pine in our rivers, and mills to manufacture it into lumber. The dark forests of pine that skirt the various tributaries of the Saginaw, or wave in primeval beauty upon the intervalles between, have, as yet scarcely felt the invasion of the lumbermen, and many years must necessarily elapse before some of these pineries are invaded at all by them, for thousands of acres of pine lands which the woodman's axe has never yet disturbed, lie far beyond us, and only wait the motion of the lumberman to be brought into notice. Every year, however, the lumberman is extending his operations and penetrating farther and farther into the deep recesses of the forest. A lumberman's camp presents an animated picture, full of busy life and stirring, restless activity. Every man has his part assigned him, and in a well regulated camp, everything moves along

like "clock work." During the day, work, work, is the order of exercise, but when evening comes, the axe and the saw are laid aside, the teams taken care of, and the men gather around the camp fires, where with jokes, songs and jovial mirth, the evening quickly and pleasantly passes away, while the music of the night winds as they sigh through the dark pine tops above them, lull them to sweet, delicious repose, made doubly so by the honest labors of the day.

A lumberman's life, though one of toil and often privation, is also a jolly one, and interspersed with many happy moments. Whether engaged in falling the tree—sawing it into logs—rafting or manufacturing it into lumber, he is always the same jovial, mirth loving being. Winter is generally the season for cutting and hauling the logs to the banks of the rivers—near which the camps are usually located—where they are "tallied" and branded with their respective owner's marks.

During the spring freshets they are rolled into the streams promiscuously, and after obstructing the streams with "booms" to prevent their escape, they are formed into rafts and floated down to the various mills upon the river, where they are converted into lumber for market, &c.

Below we give a list of the Mills upon the Saginaw river and tributaries in the County, kindly furnished us by *John S. Estabrook Esq.*, together with the quantity of lumber manufactured by each one during the year 1857, also the amount at the usual market prices. Commencing at the Kaw-kaw-lin Mills, we will place the location of all Mills below Bay City, at Bay City.

BAY CITY.

	Feet.	Dollars.
Clark, Ballou & Co., 2 Mills, -	4,000,000	35,000
McEwen & Bro., - - -	3,500,000	30,000
Moore & Smith, - - -	3,500,000	30,000
Bangor Mills, Copeland & Co., -	4,000,000	35,000
George Lord & Co., - - -	3,000,000	24,000
Drake Mills, Copeland & Co., -	3,000,000	24,000
Samuel Pitts, - - - -	3,500,000	30,000
Henry Raymond, - - - -	3,500,000	30,000

 BAY CITY—*Continued.*

	Feet.	Dollars.
Beeson & Wheeler, - - -	3,000,000	24,000
Catlin & Jennison, - - -	1,500,000	10,000
Beebee & Atwood, - - -	1,500,000	10,000
Miller & Butterfield, - - -	2,000,000	14,000
Henry Doty, - - - -	4,000,000	35,000
Frost & Bradley, - - -	4,000,000	35,000

PORTSMOUTH.

J. J. McCormick, - - -	1,500,000	10,000
Patridge Mill, James Fraser, -	3,000,000	24,000
Portsmouth Mill, John Drake, -	1,200,000	9,000
Bud's Mill, - - - -	2,000,000	14,000
H. D. Braddock & Co., - -	2,000,000	14,000

ZILWAUKIE.

Johnson Mill, John Drake, -	4,000,000	35,000
B. F. Fisher, - - - -	1,500,000	10,000

CARROLTON.

J. A. Westervelt, - - -	4,000,000	35,000
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EAST SAGINAW.

Cushing & Co., - - -	4,500,000	36,000
J. Hill, - - - -	2,500,000	21,000
L. B. Curtis, - - - -	3,000,000	24,000
D. G. Holland, - - - -	1,500,000	10,000
Whiting & Garrison, - - -	3,000,000	24,000
Gallagher Mill, W. F. Glasby, -	2,000,000	14,000
Copeland & Co., - - -	1,500,000	10,000
Atwater Mill, - - - -	3,500,000	30,000

SAGINAW CITY.

	Feet.	Dollars.
Gang Mill, - - - -	7,000,000	30,000
G. D. Williams & Son, - - -	2,500,000	21,000
Millard Mill, Curtis & King, -	3,500,000	30,000

The above are mills upon the Saginaw river, simply.—
In addition will be found the following mills situated in
different portions of the County :

Bradley & Co., -	St. Charles, Forks Bad River,
Wendal's Mill, -	" " " " "
Morley's " -	Chessening, Shiawassee River,
J. W. Turner's, }	(water,) " " "
J. L. Fuller's, }	
Shaddock's, -	Tittabawassee River,
Jessee Hoyt's, -	Birch Run,
R. F. Opdyke's,	" "
Hubenger's, 2, (water,)	Frankenmuth.

The amount cut by these mills is
about - - - - - 16,000,000 105,000

Making a grand total of - - - \$872,000

worth of lumber alone, cut in one year, in the County.—
When we consider that these mills ran not to exceed six
months during the year, we may rest assured that their
time was well employed. There are large quantities of
other kinds of lumber, such as walnut, cherry, basswood,
&c., manufactured in the County, of which we have no ac-
count. The average number of hands employed in and
about the above mills, is about twenty-five to the mill,
making an army of 1,100 hardy working men !

It will be observed that the above statistics are confined
strictly to Saginaw County. We make no mention therein
of the vast quantities of lumber manufactured in the
Counties of Tuscola and Midland, and rafted or hauled to
Saginaw for shipment.

The first saw mill* in the County, was built at Saginaw
City during the year 1832 by G. D., & E. Williams. This

* This mill was situated near the Saginaw City upper Ferry, and was de-
stroyed by fire during the year 1854.

A portion of the machinery belonging to the old *Walk in the water*, the
first steamboat that navigated Lake Erie, was used in this mill.

mill was built merely for the accommodation of the early settlers, as such a thing as shipping lumber from Saginaw was not then dreamed of. In connection with this mill, and impelled by the same power, was a small run of stone, which ground, or rather "cracked corn" for our Saginaw forefathers, for wheat was not known here in those days by "experimental knowledge."

This was, therefore, the first grist mill, also, in the County. The first shipment of lumber from the County was from the Emerson Mill, Buena Vista, opposite Saginaw City, in the year 1836. This mill was built during the year 1835, by a New York Company.

Its dimensions were fifty-five by one hundred and twenty feet. It contained three upright saws; one edging table and a butting saw, with an engine of 75 horse power, 4 1-2 feet stroke. Three boilers 18 feet long, and 42 inches in diameter, and flues 14 inch. Capacity of the mill was for sawing 3,000,000 feet of lumber per annum, running day-time, alone. This mill suspended operations about two years since. When in its prime it had few, if any equals in the State.

L A T H .

Many of the above mentioned mills are provided with lath machines, and much of the refuse lumber, and a goodly portion of the slabs are converted into lath, which finds a ready market at home at \$1 50 to \$2 00 per one thousand pieces. The amount of lath manufactured in the County, during the sawing season, is about 10,000,000 pieces, nearly 8,000,000 of which find their way to the Eastern and Western markets.

At an average rate of two dollars per thousand, this would amount to the snug sum of \$20,000 per annum for lath. This, it will be remembered, is made from slabs &c., which, were they not thus converted, would be given away and burned.

SHINGLES

The shingle business is carried on in the County quite extensively, and is fast becoming an important branch of trade. There are several Steam Shingle Factories in various portions of the County, in full and successful operation, although millions of shingles are annually manufactured by hand. This business gives employment to a vast number of men and affords support for hundreds who have settled upon new farms.

The number of shingles manufactured in the County and shipped annually, is about 10,000,000, which at the ordinary market price would amount to \$30,000.

STAVE TRADE.

This trade is beginning to occupy quite a conspicuous place in the business of the Saginaw Valley. The almost inexhaustable supplies of superior stave-oak which the County and vicinity afford, together with the facilities for shipping, renders the various points on the Saginaw river most admirable ones for this branch of industry. The staves for export are the hogshead, pipe and butt. A few "heads" have been exported, though not to any extent.—The stave trade furnishes employment for a vast number of men, and during the winter season when the sawmills have temporarily suspended operations upon the river, the hauling, assorting, or "culling," and piling of staves, occupies a pre-eminency in the business of the river towns. The first stave-yard in the County, was established at Saginaw City, during the winter of 1850, by *H. Shaw, Esq.* For a long time but little was done at the business, owing to the limited means of shipping in those days, yet, after a while as the business of the valley began to develop itself generally, of course vessels came in, to aid and share in the various branches of trade, engaged in along the river. Within the past three or four years the stave business has increased to such an extent, that the stave now forms one of the most important items of export we have. As before stated, it is confidently affirmed that there is stave-oak enough in

the County, and along the Saginaw and its tributaries, to furnish an extensive stave trade for at least thirty years to come, and perhaps even a greater length of time. The staves manufactured in the County, find their way, not only to various markets in the United States and the Canadas, but also to Liverpool and other European markets.—The facilities for shipment are increasing every year upon our rivers and lakes, and before three years elapse we may reasonably expect to have staves, and some other articles of export, shipped directly from the port of Saginaw to Liverpool.

From the year 1850 to 1855, the number of staves manufactured in the County, and shipped from the various points upon the river, averaged about 400,000 annually.—Since the latter date up to the present year, the average has been about 1,200,000 annually, showing considerable of an increase in the trade since 1850. The total valuation of these staves at the usual market price, is about \$30,000, making the stave trade an important auxiliary to the business of the County.

SHIPPING.

Below we give a tabular statement of the vessel and steamboat arrivals into Saginaw river during the years 1855, 1856 and 1857. Previous to the year 1855, no account had been kept of the number of arrivals at the Saginaw port, which circumstance we much regret; yet, we can safely affirm that up to the year 1850, the whole number of arrivals at the different points upon the river, could not possibly have exceeded, annually, twenty-five. Indeed, the number of vessels coming here would not, until quite recently, justify the keeping of a single Tug upon the river. What few vessels did stray off here, were borne upon the "wings of the wind," alone. The first Tug owned and run upon the Saginaw river, and its tributaries, was the BUENA VISTA, a stern-wheel "institution," built by a joint stock company in 1849. When we reflect that up to this year, there were but three or four sawmills upon the Saginaw river, where there are now near fifty, the increase in the river business will appear to us a legitimate and healthy one. A mere reference to the subjoined table

will alone be sufficient to impress the mind of the stranger with a sense of the amount of business done upon this river :

1855.	Barques.	Brigs.	Schooners.	Steamboats.
April, - -		1	2	2
May, - -	1	20	4	8
June, - -	3	17	25	12
July, - -	4	21	50	18
August, -	2	28	59	20
September,	9	26	49	19
October, -	10	31	50	18
November,	2	22	30	8
December,		10	8	4

Total, - 31 176 277 109.
 Navigation opened April 20th. Closed December 13th.

1856.	Barques.	Brigs.	Schooners.	Steamboats.
April, - -		2	6	4
May, - -	1	9	96	8
June, - -	2	10	80	8
July, - -	2	10	70	10
August, -	3	9	50	9
September,	2	5	23	6
October, -	1	3	30	4
November,		2	16	6
December,			4	2

Total, - 11 50 375 57.
 Navigation opened April 24th. Closed December 7th.

1857.	Barques.	Brigs.	Schooners.	Steamboats.
April, - -	5	11	35	10
May, - -	4	10	40	15
June, - -	2	12	45	15
July, - -	3	13	44	17
August, -	1	10	80	16
September,	1	8	50	12
October, -	6	3	26	11
November,	2	1	13	10
December,		1	7	1.

Total, - 24 64 330 107.
 Navigation opened April 1st. Closed December 20th.

In connection with the above, we would notice one fact which is worthy of remembrance.

During the early part of November, 1857, the navigation of the Saginaw Bay and river was completely obstructed by ice, and apparently closed for the season.— Teams crossed the river at all points, upon the ice, and everything indicated the approach and commencement of a severe and fearful winter. In a few weeks, however, from this time, the Bay and river opened, and many vessels and steamers that had been “caught outside,” came in, much to the joy of our merchants, and others who were particularly interested in their arrival. After a few weeks, navigation closed again, and remained closed until the 25th of January, 1858, when it again opened and our river for a number of days, was alive with steamboats passing up and down, as they were wont to do during the summer. The river remained open until the third day of February, when it froze over again, and continued frozen until the 17th day of March, when the ice began to float, and in a few days from that date, navigation opened and our river was once more covered with vessels and steamers.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

SAGINAW CITY.

This city is beautifully located upon the western bank of the Saginaw river, 23 miles from Saginaw Bay, 200 miles from Detroit by water, and 95 by land, *via*. Flint City and Pontiac. It is the County seat, and contains about 2,500 inhabitants. The land in part upon which the City stands, was located by *C. Little*, Esq., (father of Hon. Norman Little,) in the year 1822. As previously intimated, Gen. Lewis Cass concluded a treaty with the Chippewas here, in 1819, which secured to our government an extensive tract of territory. The spot upon which this treaty was held, is a beautiful rise of ground, near where you enter the City from the north, and in the vicinity of the residence of *Wm. H. Sweet*, Esq. Many associations of a highly interesting character are interwoven with the early history of Saginaw, for, as previously stated, this point was many long years ago,

the great camping ground and general rendezvous of all the Saginaw tribes. Saginaw, or more properly Sac-haw-ning, signifies the land of the Sac, who were the original lords and owners of this portion of Michigan. The fort and barracks, to which allusion has already been made, occupied a lovely and commanding point of ground and were surrounded by high palisades, or pickets. Some of these pickets, together with two or three block houses which helped form the barracks, were standing as late as 1850, and even now may be seen two old trading houses, whose dark time-stained walls and roof carry the mind of the beholder far back into other years. For many years after the first white settlers located here, the only means of communication with the great world outside (for Saginaw was then considered almost "out of humanity's reach,") were those afforded by the rivers, which were at some seasons of the year, particularly Flint river, navigable a portion of the way, for flat boats; and an Indian trail leading from near Green Point, two miles above the City, to Detroit, upon which the Indians took their march annually to Malden, to receive their presents from the British Government. Notwithstanding the great and serious inconveniences that attended a removal hither, emigration began gradually to come in, and after a little, quite a colony was formed here.

During the year 1830, Judge Davenport removed with his family from Flint, (although at that time there were but two families residing there,) to Saginaw. Packing his family and effects into one or two flat boats, he proceeded with them down the river. Every few miles he would find his progress impeded by flood-wood, which, owing to the narrowness of the stream, completely filled it up, and compelled him to hitch his oxen, with which he was fortunately provided, to the flat-boats and draw them over the land to where the river was clear again, and launch them. For seven long, tedious, days did he pursue his route, before reaching Saginaw, each day being fraught with difficulties that required no ordinary degree of perseverance and hardihood to surmount.

Some time after this, a kind of track was cut through the woods to Flint, which was passable only during the winter season. Occasionally a person would have the hardihood to try this route during the summer. One Captain S—— was fourteen days coming from Pontiac to this place, which route is now passed over in less than one day!

I have often thought that those daring and hardy pioneers who, in spite of every difficulty that presented itself to dishearten and discourage, were determined to make Saginaw their home, were gifted with a spirit of divination, for what visible inducement had they to leave their comfortable homes, and smiling farms in the east, and exchange them for the rude hut and wilderness of Michigan? It would certainly seem that they foresaw Saginaw, a great and flourishing country, teeming with life and busy animation, and her bright, proud river agitated with vessels and noisy steamers. If so, most assuredly have their anticipations been realized, and how amply have they been repaid for all their toil, trials and difficulties. The country continued to settle slowly until the year 1836. Then came a flood of emigration from the East, composed, however, mostly of those better adapted to the effeminencies and luxuries of city life, than to the hardships and stern realities of border life.

During this memorable year, the "plat of Saginaw City" was much enlarged, being regularly laid out and streets named. A map of the "City" was also drawn and engraved, and circulated through the Union. Operations were carried on here upon an extensive scale under the management of Hon. NORMAN LITTLE, who was then acting for a New York company. Several docks, warehouses, dwellings, a large and beautiful hotel called the "Webster House," were erected, and large sums of money were invested in other operations. At this time the population was about 900. All was life and activity here, and the sound of the axe, the hammer and the saw was heard ringing merrily o'er the waters of the Saginaw, or echoing in the green woods around. One or two steamers plied regularly between this place and Detroit, and everything gave promise of great things. But the terrible financial crisis and crash that followed the year '36, and which produced such a fearful reaction throughout the length and breadth of the land, frustrated the plans of the company and left everything in *statu quo*.

As much of the population at that time was a sort of floating one, it was not long after operations ceased here, before it became reduced more than one-half, and instead of the bustle and confusion that had prevailed, a sabbath-like quiet now reigned. The steamer forsook the river, and the Indian once more paddled his canoe in safety o'er its

bright, glassy surface. Truly might Saginaw have exclaimed with Othello, "my occupation's gone." From the year 1838-9 to 1845, but little or no emigration came into the county. During the year 1841, the territorial road, or as it was more generally known as the Saginaw turnpike, was completed.

This road had been chopped out and worked within 18 miles of Saginaw a few years before, when the work was abandoned. After its completion to Saginaw, it was far from being a good road, and at some seasons of the year was almost impassable.

The mail was carried from Saginaw to Flint once a week on horseback, as late as the year 1849, and I think even later, although in the winter season it would sometimes be brought through in a sleigh, in order that passengers might occasionally be accommodated. About the years 1849-50 the tide of emigration began to turn northward, as this portion of the State was considered, and prospects assumed a more favorable complexion. The "City" began to flourish, and business, which had lain dormant so long, renewed its age and increased. City lots were in constant demand, and everything began to assume an appearance akin to a *bona fide* city. Steamboats and vessels made their appearance at our docks, and again was heard the sound of the hammer and the saw. The forest around the city began to melt away, and lands that had previously been chopped off were now cleared up, fenced in, and dwellings or places of business erected upon them. The fine farming lands in the vicinity of the city were fast being located and settled upon, and it became evident that the world was at last awakening to a realizing sense of the growing importance of our young county.

The City now contains many beautiful buildings, several extensive warehouses, docks, &c. Nothing certainly can exceed the beauty and loveliness of its locality, especially during the spring and summer months when everything in nature is in bloom. The streets, which are regularly laid out, are, in many parts of the city, well shaded with locust and maple trees, and the residences of many of the citizens evince great taste and refinement. The city extends along the river about two miles, and the stranger in approaching it, is struck with its commanding and picturesque appearance.

This city was incorporated in 1857, and the following city officers were elected, viz.: Hon. Gardner D. Williams,

Mayor. Coe Garrett, Recorder. Aldermen, John Moore, G. W. Bullock, Jay Smith and David Hughes. Marshal, John E. Gibson. City Attorney, E. C. Newell.

Below we give a business directory of the city, which speaks volumes for its enterprise and prosperity.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

DRY GOODS.

- G. W. BULLOCK, Fancy Dry Goods, Staple articles, Groceries and provisions. Corner of Ames and Hamilton sts.
- D. H. JEROME & Co., Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Fancy Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries and Provisions.—Jerome's Block, Water st.
- G. T. ZSCHOERNER, Dealer in Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries and Provisions, Flour, &c. Woodruff Block, Water street, on the Dock.
- FERDINAND FLATAU, Dealer in Fancy Dry Goods, Furniture, Groceries and Provisions. Water street, on the Dock.
- P. C. ANDRE, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries and Provisions. Water st., on the Dock.

MILLINERY ESTABLISHMENTS.

- MRS. RICE, Milliner and Dress Maker, and Dealer in Fancy articles. Water st.
- MISS HAMILTON, Milliner and Mantua Maker. Corner of Ames and Hamilton sts.

MERCHANT TAILORS.

- F. A. LEASIA, Merchant Tailor, and Dealer in all Kinds of Garments, Hats, Caps, &c. Mitchell's Block, Water street.
- M. RATHKIE, Manufacturer and Dealer in Ready Made Clothing, &c. Water st.
- J. MULKAHAY, Dealer in, and Manufacturer of Clothing. Water st.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

- J. DOWLING, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions, Flour, Feed, &c. Water st.

- A. ANDRE, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions, Flour, Fruits, &c. Water st.
- M. BUTMAN, Dealer in Family Groceries and Provisions. Woodruff Block, Water st.
- GEO. STREBE, Dealer in Groceries and provisions, &c.— Water st.
- W. BINDER, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions, Flour, Salt and Staves. Water st., on the Dock.
- JACOB VOGT, Grocery and Provision Dealer. Water st.
- M. REDMAN, Restaurant. Corner Hamilton and Jefferson streets.

 HARDWARE.

- D. H. JEROME & Co., Dealers in all kinds of Hardware, including Iron, Steel, Nails, Stoves and Hollow Ware, and Manufacturers of Tin and Sheet Iron Ware. Corner of Water and Van Buren sts.
- N. GIBSON, Dealer in Hardware, such as Nails, Steel, Stoves, Hollow Ware, Mill Saws, Chains, Cutlery, &c.— Water st., in Gibson's Block.

 FURNITURE.

- A. FISHER, Cabinet and Chair Manufacturer. Water st.

 SHOE SHOPS.

- C. KULL, Dealer in, and Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. Water st.
- C. SHULTZ, Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. Water st.
- C. T. BRENNER, Dealer in, and Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. Water st.
- G. SANDERS, Boot and Shoe Maker. Water st.
- P. M. HALE, Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. Water st.
- C. FUCHE, Boot and Shoe Maker. Water st.
- G. WINKLER, Boot and Shoe Maker. Water st.

 TANNERY.

- C. WYDER, Tanner and Currier. Corner of Stevens and Water sts., towards Green Point.

 HARNESS AND SADDLE SHOP.

- JOHN W. RICHARDSON, Manufacturer of, and Dealer in Harnesses, Saddles, Bridles, Martingals, Trunks, &c. Water st.

 DRUGS AND MEDICINES

- A. O. T. EATON & BRO.**, Dealers in all kinds of Drugs and Medicines. Corner of Court and Water sts.
- D. F. MITCHELL, M. D.**, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines and Fancy Notions. Mitchell's Block, Water st.
- JAY SMITH, M. D.**, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Perfumery, &c. Corner of Van Buren and Water sts.
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LAWYERS.

- MOORE & GAYLORD**, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law, and Solicitors in Chancery. Office in Court House. Corner of Washington and Court sts.
- E. C. NEWELL**, Attorney and Counsellor at Law. Also City Attorney. Corner of Water and Jefferson sts.
- C. D. LITTLE**, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery. Corner of Washington and Madison streets.
- HIRAM S. PENOYER**, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery. Office in the Court House.
- SUTHERLAND & BENEDICT**, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law. Office, corner of Court and Water streets, up stairs.
- WILLIAM H. SWEET**, Attorney and Counsellor at Law. Office on Water st.
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PHYSICIANS.

- J. B. WHITE, M. D.**, Office on corner of Lyon's and Water sts.
- N. D. LEE**, Surgeon and Practitioner. Office on Jefferson street.
- D. F. MITCHELL**, Surgeon and Medical Attendant. Office in Mitchell's Block, Water st.
- M. C. T. PLESSNER, M. D.**, General Practitioner and Surgeon. Office on Water st.
- DION BIRNEY, M. D.**, Surgeon and Practicing Physician. Corner of Court and Water sts.
- S. FRANKE, M. D.** Corner of Franklin and Hamilton sts.

HOTELS.

WEBSTER HOUSE, kept by Lester Cross. Good accommodations, and finely located on the corner of Washington and Jefferson sts.

ETNA HOUSE, G. W. Beeman, Landlord. Corner of Van Buren and Water sts

SHAKESPEARE HOTEL, C. T. Brenner Landlord.— Corner of Adams and Hamilton sts.

SAGINAW CITY EXCHANGE, Horace Douglas, "mine host." Corner of Ames and Water sts.

SYLVAN RETREAT, C. F. Esche, Court st.

STAGE HOUSE, ———, Corner of Throop and Water streets.

LIVERY STABLE.

A. H. PAINE, always keeps on hand all sorts of *good* vehicles, with first class horses. Corner of Cass and Water streets.

SHIP YARD, M. Dougherty proprietor, Water st.

In addition to the above directory, there are in the city several blacksmith shops, one or two wagon shops, two or three bakeries, one or two paint shops, several cabinet and furniture rooms, one steam spoke factory, two gun smiths, and several grocery and eating establishments.

The "SPIRIT OF THE TIMES" is published here by Lans L. G. Jones. Many years ago a neat little paper was printed here, edited by R. W. JENNEY, now of the *Genesee Democrat*, Flint city. The name of the paper was "THE NORTH STAR."

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The Court House situated on Court street, adjoining the Public Square, is a beautiful and noble structure, and reflects much credit upon its architects. This edifice was commenced several years since, but owing to financial matters of an interesting character, it was not completed until quite recently. The County Jail which stands nearly opposite is a very modest and unassuming building, and a terror to evil-doers. It has been built within a few years.

 CHURCHES, AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

St. John's Church—Episcopalian. This society owns a beautiful church recently completed, which is situated on Washington street, near Court House.

First Presbyterian Church. Fine building situated on Court street. A good society.

Methodist Church. Situated on Washington street, near Public Square.

Dutch Reform Society. Good building located on Ames street.

Roman Catholic Church. Located on corner of Monroe and Washington streets.

 SCHOOLS AND LITERARY SOCIETIES.

There is an excellent Union School here, and a fine school building. This school has three departments, contains over two hundred scholars, and employs a Principal and two or three teachers. There are, also, besides the Union School, two Select Schools, kept by Miss M. A. Ripley, and Miss Mulholland, which are well attended.

There are in the district, which includes the corporation, 425 scholars whose ages range from three years to eighteen.

"THE SAGINAW CITY LITERARY ASSOCIATION." is the name of a society organized here January 11th, 1858. The object of this association is to promote literary interests, morals, and cultivate a taste for letters, the arts, &c.

Its officers are as follows: J. G. Sutherland, President; A. S. Gaylord, Vice President; O. L. Spaulding, Secretary; C. D. Little, Treasurer; W. H. Sweet, G. B. Benedict and J. B. White, Executive committee.

There is also here, a Masonic Lodge in a prosperous condition. Lodge Room located on corner of Cass and Hamilton streets.

 SAGINAW OR NORTHERN CANAL.

During the year 1837, the legislature at its session in March, appointed a board of commissioners, called the "*Board of Commissioners on Internal Improvements.*" The members of this Board were constituted overseers and supervisors, who were to have the general care and supervision of all State improvements, such as railroads, canals, &c.—

This board was authorized by the State legislature to make or cause to be made, several surveys for railroad routes across the State, as well as several canal routes, among which was that of the Northern or Saginaw Canal. Consequently, under their direction during the summer of 1837, competent engineers were appointed and surveys made of the various works designated by the State legislature, which surveys extended over two thousand miles. The reports of these surveys were favorable. The survey of the Northern or Saginaw Canal route was entrusted to the charge of *Charles F. Smith, Esq.* The object of this enterprise was to connect the navigable waters of the Saginaw and Grand rivers by ship canal. This canal was to commence at the Forks of Bad River, 15 miles above Saginaw City, and terminate at the Bend of Maple River, 32 miles from its juncture with the Grand River.

Its entire length was to be about fifteen miles. The total estimated expense of improving the navigation of Bad and Maple rivers, and the construction of said canal for steamboats and vessels, was \$238,240; and the appropriations made in 1838, amounted to \$62,000. During that year the work was commenced in good earnest. A host of workmen were employed upon it, great quantities of timber were got out for locks, &c., and everything gave promise of a speedy and happy termination of the enterprise.

But alas for the mutability of all things earthly! The fearful "wild-cat times," which shook everything to its center, of a public or private nature, completely silenced the work and left everything incomplete, while the State was obliged to foot the bill which was no small one, considering the crippled condition of the State treasury at that period. The great difficulty seemed to be, that the work was too prematurely conceived, for it is my humble opinion that at no distant day, this enterprise will yet be carried through. If the reader will take the trouble to examine the map of Michigan, he will observe that a very short distance intervenes between the head waters of the Saginaw, and those of the Grand River, and he will also be struck with the feasibility of connecting these two magnificent streams by ship canal, and thereby opening a communication through some of the finest farming lands in the State, and also of directing a trade that must prove a source of wealth to the State. When the work was commenced, Saginaw City was the only town in the county, and that contained but few in-

habitants, and little or no wealth, and the same importance could not have been attached to it that there is now. Towns and villages are now springing up almost daily in the county, and resources are developing that cannot fail, at no distant day, to place it far beyond its sister counties in point of wealth and importance. Could the valleys of the Saginaw and Grand rivers be thus connected by ship canal, the entire trade that is now forced through the lakes *via* Detroit, would seek a willing outlet here, while we would be favored with a reciprocal trade, and our intercourse with our Grand River neighbors could not be other than a happy and a profitable one. Instead of the tedious and perilous present route to Chicago by water, a safe and speedy communication would be afforded by a ship canal.

The amount of property annually lost upon the upper lakes by shipwreck, &c., would more than build a work of this description. I have conversed with Hon. G. D. Williams, Dr. D. H. Fitzhugh and others upon this subject, and there seems to be but one opinion entertained in regard to the feasibility of the enterprise, and the probability of its being carried into execution at no remote period.

To show the reader that Saginaw is a point which has for a number of years past attracted some attention, I will here cite him to several other enterprises with which it was identified as long ago as 1835-7, which, though at the time might have been rather premature, show at least the light in which the valley of Saginaw was regarded at that early day.

The first was the incorporation of a railroad company in 1835, with a corporate stock of \$1,000,000. The design of this company was to connect the Saginaw and Clinton rivers, commencing at Mount Clemens, in Macomb county, to pass through Lapeer, and terminate at Saginaw City. The whole stock was taken. It was to be commenced within four years after the charter was granted, and ten miles was to be completed in eight years, one-half in fifteen years, and the whole in forty years. Its length was to be about ninety miles.

The "*Saginaw and Genesee Rail Road Company*" was incorporated in 1837, and had a capital stock of \$400,000. This road was "to commence at Saginaw City and intersect the northern railroad from St. Clair to Grand River, at such point in the county of Genesee as was to be deemed practicable." Its length was to be about 40 miles, and the whole to be finished in six years from time of commencement,

which was one year from the granting of its charter. The last which I shall mention, was the *Owosso and Saginaw Navigation Company*, which was incorporated in 1837, having a capital stock of \$100,000. The object of this company was to improve the Shiawassee river, so as to make slack water navigation between Owosso and its junction with the Flint river, in Saginaw county, so that steamboats and barges might navigate it to this point. The whole was to be completed within five years after its charter was granted. I do not imagine that all these projects will ever be carried into execution, although in this age of electricity and steam, nothing is improbable or impossible.

EAST SAGINAW.*

This young and flourishing village is situated upon the eastern bank of the Saginaw River, about 20 miles from Saginaw Bay, and 95 from Detroit. It contains 2,500 inhabitants. Of the business and prosperity of the town, I would refer the reader to its business directory and statistics. In the year 1836, Charles Little, Esq., father of the Hon. Norman Little, of this village, entered the land upon which a portion of East Saginaw now stands. Having passed into the hands of the Farmer's and Mechanic's Bank, of Detroit, it was purchased of that institution in 1849, by Norman Little, agent for Hoyt & Co., New York City. A short distance below the present center of the town, was a small clearing, which had been made by the Hon. G. D. Williams, of Saginaw City, and which was called "the farm." This farm was purchased by Norman Little about this time for agricultural purposes, while that portion purchased of the Bank, was intended to be laid out into a village. Near where now stands a large brick block, a solitary log cabin reared its "shake" covered roof in 1850, apparently monarch of all it surveyed, shut in by the green woods upon three sides, while the broad Saginaw rolled in majestic beauty before the door. This log house was built I think, by the American Fur Company, many years since, and at the time of which I speak, was occupied by Captain Leon Snay, a French hunter and trapper. About this time, a

* East Saginaw is located in a portion of two townships, viz: Town 12 N of R 4 E, and town 12 N of R 5 E.

small clearing was made in the vicinity of this log house, and a steam saw-mill, a boarding house, an office, a rough building called "the store," and a barn, were erected, which, together with a few board shanties, formed the nucleus of the large and flourishing village of East Saginaw proper.— During the year 1835, however, a large steam saw-mill had been built by a New York company, at Buena Vista, nearly opposite Saginaw City, which mill is known as the Emerson mill. At that time about six acres had been chopped and partially cleared, upon which were erected a boarding house, an office, a few board shanties, and upon a beautiful eminence, commanding a fine view of Saginaw City and the river, stood, and now stands the well known, and I might add, storied "Halls of the Montezumas."* If those venerable walls could but speak, how many tales of the past might they unfold—how many scenes of jovialty, hilarity and wild fun might they recount! After the happy idea had been conceived of building a town upon the eastern bank of the river, this portion of the town was as a matter of choice and convenience taken into fellowship, and it is conceded by all, to be the most beautiful part of our village. On the first day of May, 1850, a town meeting was held at the house of *Curtis Emerson, Esq.*, the above mentioned "Halls," for the purpose of organizing the town of Buena Vista. This, be it remembered, was the first election and meeting of the kind, held in the town. *Stephen Little, Esq.*, was chosen chairman, *Messrs. George Oliver* and *A. K. Penney*, inspectors of the election, and *Alfred M. Hoyt*, clerk. *Curtis Emerson* was elected supervisor, *C. W. Grant*, town clerk, *Stephen Little*, town treasurer, *Andrew Grant*, *George Oliver* and *Stephen Little*, justices of the peace.— The whole number of votes cast was 19. It is generally supposed that no naturalization papers were needed, or demanded, on that memorable occasion.

About this time considerable improvements were being made at the new location above mentioned. Under the supervision of Norman Little, Esq., a village was rising as if by magic, out of the wilderness, and the scene that presented itself was one of busy life and animation.

The Indian, as he paddled his birchen canoe by the spot,

* For the benefit of the reader abroad, I would simply say in regard to the "Halls" spoken of, that *Curtis Emerson, Esq.*, having named the spot here mentioned, Buena Vista, facetiously called his residence the "Halls of the Montezumas," which name it continues to bear.

looked wonderingly on, and the wild deer as he came to take his morning plunge in the bright river, bounded back in affright to impart to his wild companions the news of this singular invasion of his favorite haunt! Still the work went on, and every day told of some new improvement. A large and splendid new steam flouring mill was soon finished, which drove four run of stones, was substantially built, and furnished with a magnificent engine. Many thought at the time that this operation was most a foolish one, and a rash and wild expenditure.

Does any person at the present day think so? Soon a large and commodious warehouse made its appearance, built upon an excellent and substantial dock. Nearly opposite, about the same time, a magnificent three-story hotel, covering nearly half a square, arose, which was called the "Irving House." By this time, a plank-road* to Flint village, thirty-two miles distant, was completed, and in good traveling order. Then a post office was established—a coach and four brought to it a daily mail, while every day the cry was "still they come." The demand for village property now became clamorous; and lot after lot was taken up, fenced in, and a house erected thereupon. Occasionally an old foggy attracted hither by the "excitement," would, as he viewed the busy scene, ominously shake his head—take an extra pinch of snuff, and exclaim—"mushroom growth—all excitement—soon die away—can't afford to lose *my* money here—reaction soon—can't be otherwise—nice location though—pity to have the town go to ruin—must however—no country to support it—all wilderness—must go down—no help for it—sorry though—ahem, landlord, I'll retire if you please—call me in time for stage—perhaps if I wait much longer stage company will fail—then have to go home afoot—good night"—then retire to dream of companies "smashing up," and large amounts of money foolishly expended and lost in new town speculations, &c., &c. Busi-

* It was only through the untiring and ceaseless efforts of Norman Little, that this road was made. He it was who applied to the legislature for a charter, and obtained one through much opposition, for the scheme was considered a visionary one by nearly every member. "There certainly can be no harm done in voting for a charter," said they, "for it will never amount to anything, one way or the other. The idea of building a plank road through that swampy country is ridiculously absurd—might as well talk of building a plank road to the moon!" He however succeeded in obtaining a charter, and in less than two years from the time of application, a fine plank road was completed through that identical "swampy country!"

ness continued to increase—inhabitants to flock in, and houses sprang up almost mysteriously, yet the anticipated “smash-up” and reaction came not!

Vessels and steamers began to visit the town—then came a demand for more docks. In every direction, steam saw-mills began to be visible, and the demand for lumber to increase. After getting business matters thoroughly under way, the citizens began to think that educational interests had been entirely overlooked—that with all the business pursuits and money-making schemes engaged in, not a syllable had been uttered, as yet, in regard to schools.—“This will never do,” said they, “for if we would prosper, we must not neglect that most important concomitant of advancement and happiness, the education of our children, and the establishment of schools among us.” So they set themselves at work, and in a short time a beautiful and commodious edifice was erected upon a high rise of ground, commanding a fine and extensive view of not only the village and river, but also of the City and vicinity. After its completion, excellent teachers were employed, and almost before the citizens of East Saginaw were aware of it, a flourishing school of near three hundred scholars was in full and happy operation. . . . Previous to the building of the Academy, the citizens had no suitable place of worship, for which reason we are willing to attribute the deplorable lack of divine service in those days, yet, they were by no means entirely destitute of preaching, for the Rev. Mr. —— held forth every four weeks in 'Squire W——'s office, to an attentive half-dozen hearers. But when the school-house was finished, and regular service held there, the appearance of the Sabbath assumed a far different phase than before, for the little town in the wilderness could boast of schools, and divine service upon the Sabbath.

After awhile an excellent and well selected town library was obtained, to which all had free access. Before the village had attained to its third year, it had so far transcended its original limits, or at least bid so fair of doing it, that it was found necessary to add to its already large territory, so the “old farm” was crowded “out of town,” and in its place more lots were surveyed out and eagerly taken up.—By this time the town had become so important, that it was found impossible to get along without a newspaper.—Accordingly, after the usual preliminaries, a neat looking sheet made its appearance, called “*The Saginaw Enter-*

prise”—edited and published by *F. A. Williamson* and *A. J. Mason*. This newspaper was established in August, 1853, and did much for the business and social interests of the county. During the early part of the summer of 1854, a fire broke out in town, destroying the steam saw-mill, previously mentioned, the printing office, a large hotel and several dwelling houses, all of which were situated near the business part of the village.

In addition to the above losses, over 3,000,000 feet of pine lumber was destroyed, together with considerable dock. This was a severe blow for our infant town, yet “never despair” was its motto, and again business went on as before. Scarcely, however, had the work of reparation commenced, ere another fearful and far more destructive fire than the other, broke out in the very heart of the village, which laid waste about two entire blocks of buildings, including the “Irving House,” a large and extensive wholesale warehouse and dock, occupied by *W. L. P. Little & Co.*, and several grocery establishments and dwelling houses. This fire was indeed looked upon as a public calamity. For awhile everything stood aghast, and men looked at each other in bewilderment, but not in despair.— Before the embers had fairly ceased smoking, workmen were employed in clearing away the rubbish, and not many months had elapsed ere an elegant brick block reared its imposing front, phoenix-like, from the ashes of the fated “Irving House,” and it was not long before all traces of the fire were obliterated, and the spot again covered with dwellings and places of business. The country around began to settle, and although scarce seven years have elapsed since the first improvement was made here, many small, yet smiling farms prove to the stranger, that Saginaw is situated in the midst of a fertile farming country, and that nothing is wanting to make it a rich and great country, but more inhabitants and a little more capital.

This village was incorporated during the year 1855, and the following officers, under the corporation act, were elected: President of the Council, Norman Little; Recorder, C. B. Mott; Trustees, W. L. P. Little, David Lyon, J. E. Voorhies, C. M. Curtis, A. H. Mershon; Assessors, F. R. Copeland, W. F. Glasby; Treasurer, S. C. Beach; Marshal, elected by the Council, A. L. Rankin.

The following Councilmen were elected during the year 1856: President, M. L. Gage; Recorder, C. B. Mott;—

Trustees, Wm. L. Webber, A. H. Mershon, Martin Smith, L. H. Eastman, W. F. Glasby; Attorney, W. L. Webber; Marshal, F. T. Hall; Street Commissioners, L. S. Keeler, A. Dann.

For the year 1857: Morgan L. Gage, President; W. H. Beach, Recorder; Trustees, W. L. Webber, W. F. Glasby, C. M. Curtis, J. A. Large, S. Beach, Wm. Gallagher; Attorney, W. J. Loveland; Marshal and Street Commissioner, L. S. Keeler; Clerk, W. T. Hoyt.

For 1858: John F. Driggs, President; C. B. Mott, Recorder; Trustees, S. C. Beach, W. F. Glasby, G. A. Lathrop, J. A. Large, S. R. Kirby, G. W. Merrill; Attorney, Wm. L. Webber; Marshal, M. L. Gage; Street Commissioner, G. F. Ball; Clerk, C. H. Gage.

Below we give a Business Directory of this town, which will give the reader abroad, some idea of its advancement during the past seven years.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

DRY GOODS AND GENERAL TRADE.

COPELAND & BARTOW, Wholesale and Retail dealers in Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Carpeting, Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Groceries and Provisions, Crockery, Cutlery, &c. Water street, on the dock, between Tuscola and Genesee* sts.

JOHN DERBY, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions, Boots and Shoes, and Rockingham ware Water st.

FRANKLIN COPELAND, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries and Provisions. Corner of Hoyt and Water sts.

WILLIAM WEEKS, Dealer in Ready Made Clothing and Furnishing Goods. Genesee street.

HARDWARE.

GEORGE SCHRAM, Manufacturer of Tin, Copper and Sheet Iron ware, and dealer in Stoves, Hollow ware, etc. Shop on Water street, between Genesee and German sts.

C. M. CURTIS, Wholesale and Retail dealer in Hardware, including Iron, Steel, Nails, Stoves and Hollow Ware, Tin and Sheet Iron Ware. Water st., near the Ferry.

* This street was formerly called Plank Road Street.

B. B. BUCKHOUT, Wholesale and Retail dealer in Iron Steel, Nails, Stoves and all kinds of Hardware, Farming Utensils, Cutlery, &c., Tin and Sheet Iron ware also manufactured. Brick Block, Genesee st.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

CURTIS & BLISS, Wholesale and Retail dealers in Groceries and Provisions. Water st., near the Ferry.

W. P. PATRICK, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions.—Water st.

J. S. WEBBER, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions. Water street.

J. A. WHITTIER, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions.—Water st.

PETER HILLER, (Agent,) Dealer in Family Groceries. Genesee st.

JACOB SCHOEN, Dealer in Groceries, Provisions, &c.—Also, Manufacturer of Vinegar. Corner of Lapeer st., east side of bayou.

J. GREENER, Dealer in Groceries, Provisions, Crockery, &c. Water st., near Durfee & Atwater's Mill

M. MINICK, Dealer in Groceries and Provisions, Ready Made Clothing, &c. Water st.

SANBORN & TUCKER, Wholesale and Retail dealers in Groceries and Provisions, &c. Genesee st., Corliss Block.

BROWN & MUMFORD, Dealers in Groceries and Provisions, Country Produce, Flour, &c. Washington st., near corner of Genesee st., south.

DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

HESS & BRO., Dealers in Drugs and Medicines, Paints, Oils, Perfumery, and various other articles. Physician's prescriptions attended to, with care and dispatch. Hess Block, Genesee st.

DR. J. K. PENNEY, Dealer in Drugs and Medicines, Perfumery and Fancy Articles. Water st., between Tuscola and Genesee sts.

BOOKS, STATIONERY AND JEWELRY.

A. FERGUSON, Dealer in Books, Stationery, Jewelry and Fancy Articles. Watches and Jewelry repaired. Genesee street, between Washington and Water sts.

SOL. LATHROP, Dealer in Watches, Jewelry and Fancy Articles. Watches Repaired. Genesee st.

FRED. N. BRIDGMAN, Dealer in Books, Stationery, Perfumery and Fancy Articles. At the Post Office, Hess Block, corner of Washington and Genesee sts.

MANUFACTORIES.

HOYT'S STEAM FLOURING MILL, Grinds up annually, over 56,000 bushels of Wheat, and 14,000 bushels of Corn. The manufactured products amounting to, Flour, near \$70,000, Corn Meal, \$11,000. Business still increasing. This mill has four run of stone, and a powerful and magnificent engine. Corner of Water and Carrol sts., on the dock.

WILCOX'S STEAM FLOURING MILL.—A large portion of the business of this mill is custom work. The total amount of work done, is probably 15,000 or 20,000 bushels of grain ground annually. Water st., near the Steam Ferry.

WARNER, EASTMAN & Co., Foundry and Machine Shop. Manufacturers and Repairers of Steam Engines, Mill Gearing, Poney Gangs, and other work in that line. Water st.

GEO. W. MERRILL, Foundry and Machine Shop. Manufacturer of Steam Engines, Threshing Machines, Mill Gearing, Plows, &c. Steamboat and Mill Gearing Repaired, and all orders pertaining to his business promptly responded to. Water st., on the dock.

Both of the above establishments are provided with the very best of machinery and workmen, and almost every variety of iron work and machinery can be manufactured at both shops.

FRED. KOEHLER, Blacksmith, and Repairer of Machinery, Steamboats, Vessels, &c. Tuscola street, between Washington and Water sts.

BIRDSALL & BRO., Blacksmithing and Horse Shoeing done to order. Genesee st., over the bayou.

I. E. GODLEY, Manufacturer of Horse Shoes, and Blacksmithing done to order. Washington st.

HOSEA PRATT, Steam Sash, Door and Blind Factory.—Franklin street, in the bayou.

E. FEIGE, Manufacturer and Dealer in all kinds of Cabinet ware, Upholstery, &c. Water st.

JO. A. LARGE, Furniture Wareroom, and Manufacturer of Cabinet ware of all kinds. Genesee st.

H. SCHWARTZ, Manufacturer of Cabinet ware, Chairs, &c. Genesee st.

CASPER BRADEN, Cabinet and Chair Manufacturer.— Washington st.

M. L. GAGE, Manufacturer of Harnesses, Saddles, Trunks, &c. Genesee st., between Washington and Water sts.

A. H. MERSHON & Co., Steam Planing Mill. Keeps constantly on hand, all kinds of Planed Lumber, including Siding, Flooring, Fencing, &c. Water st., on the dock, near the Ship Yard.

H. MARKS, Manufacturer and dealer in Hats, Caps, Furs and Furnishing Goods. Genesee st.

A. EATON, Manufacturer of, and dealer in Boots and Shoes. Genesee st.

HOTELS.

KIRBY HOUSE, By *John Godley*. Corner of Washington and Genesee sts.

FARMERS' EXCHANGE, *W. Wisner*, Landlord. Corner of Genesee and Washington sts., opposite Kirby House.

FOREST CITY HOUSE, kept by ———, corner of Water and Genesee streets.

FRANKLIN HOUSE, *John Leidlein*, Landlord, corner of Franklin and Genesee streets.

BUENA VISTA HOUSE, by *John Jeffers*, Water street, near Steam Ferry.

PHYSICIANS.

Dr. G. A. LATHROP. Office on Washington st., between German and William streets, west side street.

Dr. J. K. PENNEY. Office on Water street, between Genesee and Tuscola streets.

Dr. A. BRYCE. Genesee street.

Dr. CURTIS. Water street, north from Genesee street.

C. T. DISBROW, M. D. Washington street.

LAWYERS.

WM. J. LOVELAND, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery. Office in Hess Block, (up stairs) Washington street.

JAMES L. T. FOX, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery. Collections attended to in any portion of the State, or United States. Office in Jeffers' Block, (up stairs) Water street.

- WEBBER & WHEELER**, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law. Office in Brick Block, (up stairs) Genesee street.
- D. W. C. GAGE**, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery. Office in Gage's Block, (up stairs) Genesee street.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- W. L. P. LITTLE**, & Co., Bankers, and Dealers in foreign exchange, &c. Office in Hoyt's Block, (up stairs) corner of Genesee and Water streets.
- UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE**. W. L. P. Little, Receiver; Moses B. Hess, Register. Office in Hoyt's Block, corner Genesee and Water streets.
- SAGINAW ENTERPRISE**. Perry Joslin, Editor and Proprietor. Water street, between Genesee and Tuscola streets.
- TAX AGENCY AND SURVEYING**. G. G. Hess & D. A. Pettibone. Hess Block, Washington street.
- MILLINERY SHOP**. Mrs. Morrison, corner of Genesee and Water streets, (north.)
- C. B. JONES**, Dealer in lumber and shingles. Office in Gage's Block, (up stairs) Genesee street.
- J. S. ESTABROOK**, Dealer in, and Inspector of lumber and shingles. Office on Water street, opposite Printing Office.
- H. SHAW**, Dealer in, and Exporter of Hogshead, Pipe and Butt staves. Office on Water street, between Thompson and Hayden streets.
- JAMES LEWIS**, Manufacturer of Sash, blinds, doors, &c., at his Steam Factory, Water street, on his dock.
- WARD FOX**, Dealer in groceries and provisions, flour, etc., Gage's Block, Genesee street.
- ROBERT PIERSON**, Stave purchaser. Water st. (south.)
- O. L. GLOVER**, House, Sign and Ornamental Painter, Water street, (north.)
- HALL & LOOMIS**, House, Sign and Ornamental Painters, Water street, (north.)
- E. J. MERSHON**, Purchaser and Inspector of lumber and shingles. Office in Hoyt's Block, (up stairs) corner of Porter and Water streets.
- HENRY WOODRUFF**, Dealer in staves, for export.—Genesee street.

In addition to the above, we have two or three shoe shops,

one harness shop, (two in all), two bakeries, one or two paint shops, six carpenters' and boat builders' shops, two livery stables, two wagon shops, four meat markets, one ashery, one tannery and one cooper shop.

VESSELS AND STEAMERS.

The vessels and steamers built and owned here, (or by parties interested here,) are as follows:

Barque Sunshine,	516 tons,	cost	\$23,000
“ Jesse Hoyt,	472 “	“	21,000
Brig Starlight,	400 “	“	20,000
Schr. Quickstep,	300 “	“	16,000
Steamer Magnet, low pressure tow-boat, adapted to freight and passenger business, with an engine of 600 horse power, 10 feet stroke, and 32 inch cylinder, cost			30,000
Steamer Alida, passenger freight and tow-boat, cost			10,000

Total amount of capital invested, \$120,000

In addition to these, are the steamers Traffic and Comet; Propellers Coaster and Odd Fellow; Emerson's Steam Ferry; one Steam Dredge, and three Scows.

The amount of business done at the ship yard in this place, which is conducted by Captain Martin Smith, will average annually, about \$50,000. The grand facilities which the surrounding country afford for ship building, renders this one of the best points in the State for a ship yard.—The number of mills in this village, will be found by referring to the list of mills, in another portion of this work.

SCHOOLS.

This village boasts of an excellent Union School, which contains about 300 scholars, employing a Principal, and three subordinate teachers. There are three departments in one building. In connection with the school, and in fact belonging to the department, are three more schools, situated in different portions of the village, to accommodate localities. These schools are all in a fine, prosperous condition, and the citizens of East Saginaw may well feel gratified at the manner in which the cause of education is advanced among them by those to whom it has been entrusted.

The number of scholars in the school district, from the age of three, to eighteen years, is about 640. Beside the Union school, are three other schools—one German--two English. The Union school building is a beautiful, commodious and substantial structure, situated upon an eminence commanding a fine view of the town and river, and also Saginaw City. To A. L. Bingham, the present Principal, the East Saginaw Union School is indebted for its present prosperity and good repute.

CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.

There are four church organizations in this town, viz :—
METHODIST EPISCOPAL, (American) organized in the year 1852, Rev. Mr. Olds, Pastor—whole number of members then present, six. The present number is near 100. Pastor—Rev. C. Mosher.

CONGREGATIONAL, organized Oct. 7th, 1857. Rev. A. D. Kitchel, D. D., preached the sermon upon the occasion.—Rev. P. R. Hurd moderated the Council. Number of members, twenty-seven. Pastor—Rev. W. C. Smith.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL, (German) organized Nov., 1857, with six members. Present number, forty-two. Pastor—Rev. J. Krehbiel.

LUTHERAN, organized 1855. Pastor—Rev. Mr. Voltz. Number of members, about two hundred.

Three of the above denominations own very good houses of worship, viz: Methodist, (American) Methodist, (German) and Lutheran. The Congregational, at present—through the kindness of Jesse Hoyt, Esq.,—occupy a beautiful and well furnished Hall in the Hoyt Block. They have in contemplation, the erection of a church building, to be completed as soon as practicable. In connection with the above Churches, are excellent Sabbath Schools, well attended.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

There are two regularly organized Fire Companies in East Saginaw, viz: "Pioneer No. 1," and "Jesse Hoyt No. 2." These companies were organized during the year 1857, and

the present number of members in both, is 89. The respective dimensions of the Engines, are as follows:

	No. 1.	No. 2.
	Feet dec	Feet dec
Length of brakes	18 50	20 00
Distance between brakes	5 41	6 50
	inches dec	in dec
Average distance of fulcrum from center	7 50	8 00
Diameter of cylinders, each	7 50	8 75
Area of plungers	44 178	60 132
Average stroke of piston	6 50	6 00
Capacity of cylinders, each	287 157	360 792
Diameter of suction pipes	4 00	4 50
Area " "	12 56	15 90
Diameter of delivery " each	2 50	2 50
Area " " "	4 90	4 90
Diameter of nozzle " "	7-8 15-16	7-8 17-16
Capacity of each cylinder in imperial gallons, of 277.27 cubic inches, standard measure.		
Average working motion, 60 strokes per minute, will discharge, each	gall dec 62 10	gall dec 78 06
Ratio of capacity	1 00	1 25

The above table was arranged by S. R. Kirby, Esq., Chief Engineer of the department, and of course may be considered as correct. Below, we give a list of the officers and members of the respective companies:

PIONEER FIRE ENGINE COMPANY, NO. 1.

"Always Ready."

George J. Dorr, <i>Foreman</i> ;	George Schram,
T. W. Hawley, <i>1st Asst.</i> "	John Swift,
Jas. F. Brown, <i>2d</i> " "	A. L. Rankin,
Alex. Ferguson, <i>Secretary</i> ;	J. Hutton,
F. N. Bridgman, <i>Treasurer</i> ;	E. A. Moore,
Z. W. Wright,	B. P. Derby,
B. B. Buckhout,	M. Jeffers,
R. A. Eddy,	H. C. Burt,
D. G. Holland,	Jas. Hillier,
O. J. Quinn,	M. Wakeman,
J. H. Springer,	A. Dann,
W. C. Yawkey,	H. C. Sawyer,
J. L. Hayden,	G. C. Sanborn,
J. S. Estabrook,	W. H. Beatty,
G. W. Phillips,	F. T. Hall,

PIONEER FIRE ENGINE COMPANY, No. 1.—Continued.

T. P. Stimpson,	J. H. Humes,	
C. Merrill,	G. F. Corliss,	
James Lewis,	Jesse A. Burdick,	
G. C. Warner,	Moses Garner,	
A. J. Phillips,	Martin Smith,	
William Weeks,		Total 41.

PIONEER HOSE COMPANY, NO. 1.

J. E. Mershon,	<i>Foreman</i> ;	H. A. Pratt,	
S. Keeler,	<i>Asst.</i> “	S. A. Pratt,	
James Ruan,	<i>Secretary</i> ;	C. H. Gage,	
William J. Driggs,		H. Woodruff.	
F. A. Van Antwerp,		John Weller.	
C. H. Hayden,			Total 11.

JESSE HOYT FIRE ENGINE COMPANY, NO. 2.

“Rough and Ready.”

T. A. McLeese,	<i>Foreman</i> ;	Thos. Coats,	
J. E. Burtt,	<i>1st Asst.</i> “	Thos. Sofal,	
L. Newton,	<i>2d</i> “ “	Henry Marks,	
Chas. T. Harris,	<i>Treasurer</i> ;	Thos. Garry,	
Robert Haddon,	<i>Secretary</i> ;	Patrick Connor,	
D. D. Keeler,	<i>Steward</i> ;	Geo. Perkins,	
Chas. Allen,		Willis Abel,	
Dennis McDonald,		Chas. Blodget,	
Thos. Derry,		John Haggerty,	
C. Tebo,		Henry Horton,	
John Eavaw,		Hoses Pratt,	
Albert Bates,		Lewis Causley,	
Thos. Redson,		Geo. Bowell,	
Jasper Engelhart,		Aaron Ketrick,	
Samuel Allen,		James Perry,	Total, 30.

JESSE HOYT HOSE COMPANY, NO. 2.

Samuel Hewett, *Foreman*; John Connor,
 E. Bissell, *1st Asst.* " Edward McGunn,
 Thomas Abbott, Nickum McGraff.
 William Borden, Total, 7.

Each of these companies have a fine engine house, and each member is provided with a neat and appropriate uniform. Both engines are constantly kept in a state of readiness for action, and every fireman is promptly on hand to attend to his duty at the first sound of the alarum.

Long life to the gallant firemen of East Saginaw! May their lives always be devoted to the *cold water* cause, and that of humanity.

HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY, NO. 1.

This company was organized August 14th, 1858, and at present is composed of twenty-five members, to wit:

Wm. J. Bartow, <i>Foreman</i> ;	N. Whiting,
W. L. Webber, <i>1st Asst.</i> " "	Clark M. Curtis,
L. H. Eastman, <i>2d</i> " " "	John Sharp,
Charles B. Mott, <i>Secretary</i> ;	B. E. Brown,
Jay S. Curtis, <i>Treasurer</i> ;	P. Mumford,
S. B. Bliss,	Franklin R. Copeland,
Thomas Willey,	William Gallagher,
William H. Beach,	J. A. Whittier,
J. H. McFarland,	John F. Driggs,
Moses B. Hess,	William Finale,
J. C. Godley,	Charles O. Garrison,
Seth C. Beach,	R. H. Loomis,
Charles W. Grant,	Total, 25.

THE EAST SAGINAW SAX HORN BAND.

Was organized January 1st, 1858, and at present consists of ten members, to wit: Z. B. Osmond, *Leader*; C. B. Mott, Wm. Osmond, Sol. Lathrop, James Davenport, Willard A. Hubbard, Samuel Dickinson, Thomas Willey, G. F. Corliss, W. F. Glasby. In connection with it, is an excellent military band.

EAST SAGINAW GUARDS.

This is the name of a military company organized in the year 1858. The officers are as follows: John Erd, *Captain*; Wm. Kramer, *1st Lieutenant*; John Vertessy and Wm. Kern, *2d Lieutenants*. Whole number of members, forty.

TURNER SOCIETY.

"Germania."

This society was organized during the year 1856, and consists of 26 members. The following are the officers:— John H. Springer, *President*; Louis Baumgart, *Secretary*; Fred. Palm, *Treasurer*.

BAY CITY.*

Bay City is situated upon the east side of the Saginaw river, four miles above Saginaw Bay, and fifteen below East Saginaw. Its population is about 2,000. The land upon which it is located, was formerly an Indian reserve, known as "Riley's Reserve." During the year 1835, this reserve was purchased of the Indians, by an incorporated company, y'clept the "Saginaw Bay Company." Anticipating great things, the company had several hundred village lots surveyed out here, and commenced operations upon an extensive scale. In 1836, the following year, there were about fifteen families established here, one Store, one Hotel, and a Post Office. A building was also erected by the company, which was intended for a Bank, but owing to financial embarrassments, the "institution" was not used for that purpose, but was converted into a private residence. The cri-

* This village, by a recent decision of the Supreme Court of Michigan, sustaining the organization of Bay County, is the County seat of said County, and is therefore no longer embraced within the limits of Saginaw County. As said organization takes from the original territory of the County only the northern tier of townships, and inasmuch as this territory embraces so important a portion of Saginaw valley, we should regard our publication in any event, as incomplete without the same allusion to it we have made.

sis of '36, completely frustrated the plans of the company, and crippled its energies, yet it had commenced a work that was bound to tell in after years. For a long time after this company "suspended payment," everything of a business nature was entirely *in statu quo* here, as well as elsewhere, and although the point possessed many natural advantages, and excellent facilities for trade, yet that grand moving power, viz., capital, was wanting to develop its recourses, and bring it into notice.

Up to the year 1850, but little progress had been made here, yet from this time, settlers began to come in, and the town commenced awakening from its Rip Van Winkle state, and matters soon assumed a far happier aspect. One serious inconvenience which has been felt more than anything else, and which for a long time was considered as fatal to its prosperity, is the lack of communication with the world outside, by roads. During some seasons of the year, egress and ingress to the town was, and is now almost impossible, yet it is to be hoped that this difficulty will, ere long, be obviated. The Legislature at its winter session, in 1857, passed an act, changing its name from Lower Saginaw, (its original name,) to that of Bay City.

For a few years past, this place has improved beyond the most sanguine expectations of its well-wishers, and its present appearance indicates a spirit of restless enterprise and energy among its inhabitants, that laughs at impossibilities, and puts to flight all doubts of success. The location of the town is a beautiful one, the bank of the river here being, in many places, quite bold, and rising from eight to twelve feet above the level of the river. Situated, as it is, near the head of navigation, and in the heart of a fine farming country which is fast being settled, it must before many years become a place of considerable importance. Capitalists are already being awakened to this fact, and are now making large investments in the town and vicinity.—The subjoined Business Directory will show considerable of an increase in business during the past five or six years.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

DRY GOODS AND GENERAL TRADE.

- CURTIS MUNGER & Co.**, Dealers in Dry Goods, Clothing, Hardware, Groceries and Provisions. Water st., on the dock. One door south of Wolverton House.
- D. D., & J. F. COTTREL & Co.**, Dealers in Fancy Dry Goods, Groceries and Provisions, and Ship Stores. Also, Forwarding and Commission Merchants. Corner of Second and Water sts.
- J. WATSON**, Forwarding and Commission Merchant, and Dealer in Dry Goods, Ship Stores, Groceries and Provisions. Foot of Center st., on the dock.
- E. L. DICKEY**, Dealer in Ship Stores, Groceries and Provisions. Water st., on the dock.

HARDWARE.

- E. CUSHMAN**, Dealer in Stoves, Hollow ware, Iron, Steel, Nails, Chains, Cutlery, Mill Saws, &c., &c. Water st., north of Center st.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

- J. LONGTON**, Manufacturer of, and Dealer in Boots and Shoes. Water st., opposite C. Munger & Co.

BLACKSMITHING.

- H. CLARK**, Blacksmith, and Repairer of Machinery, Horse Shoer, &c. Water st.
- F. MONTEUR**, Horse Shoer, Wagon Ironer, and Repairer of Machinery, &c. Water st.

MACHINE SHOP AND FOUNDRY.

- JOHN PHILLIPS & BRO.**, Machinists and manufacturers of Steam Engines, and all kinds of Iron Castings. Water street.

CABINET SHOP.

- C. MAST**, Manufacturer of, and Dealer in all kinds of Cabinet ware, Chairs, &c. Water st.
- E. P. WELCH**, Manufacturer of, and Dealer in Sash, Doors, Blinds, &c. Water st.

 BOOKS, STATIONERY AND JEWELRY.

G. BROWN, Dealer in all kinds of Jewelry, Fancy Notions, and Repairer of Watches, Clocks, &c. Foot of Center st., and first door south of J. Watson's store.

 LAWYERS.

C. H. FREEMAN. Attorney and Counsellor at Law, Solicitor and Counsellor in Chancery. Agent for paying taxes, &c. Office over Watson's store, Water st.

W. L. SHERMAN, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery. Water st.

S. P. WRIGHT, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Commissioner for the State of New York, Tax Agent, &c. Water street opposite Birney Hall.

A. C. MAXWELL, Attorney and Counsellor at Law.—Water street, over Post Office.

JAMES BIRNEY, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, Solicitor in Chancery and Notary Public. Water street.

 PHYSICIANS AND DRUGGISTS.

G. E. SMITH, M. D., Druggist, Water street, opposite C. Munger & Co.

L. FUCHSIUS, M. D., Dealer in Drugs and Medicines.—Also, Practicing Physician, Water street.

R. C. NEWTON, Practicing Physician, Water street.

J. M. BLIGH, M. D., Druggist, and Dealer in Fancy articles, Water st., one door south of Center street.

 HOTELS.

WOLVERTON HOUSE, by J. S. Barclay, Water street, near Ferry.

UNION HOUSE, by A. E. Persons, opposite Wolverton House.

BAY CITY HOTEL, by F. A. Kaiser, Center street.

FRANKLIN HOUSE, by H. Latyskey, corner of Saginaw and Center streets.

FARMERS' HOTEL, by S. Dodge, Third street.

In addition to the above Directory, there are in town, two Shoe Snops, two or three Tailoring Establishments, three Blacksmith Shops, three Meat Markets, two Bakeries, several Steam Saw Mills, one extensive Steam Flouring Mill with three run of stones.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- M. FREEMAN**, Agent for Fire and Marine Insurance Companies. Office over Watson's Store, foot of Center st.
JOHN DRAKE, Fire and Marine Insurance Agent. Office on Water street.
C. MOULTHROP, Lumber Dealer, Water street.
-

SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

Nothing certainly evinces a greater degree of advancement in civilization and refinement, in any place, than the establishment of schools and churches. And we need no surer evidence of the prosperity and happiness of any community or people, than good school-houses and fine churches, for we feel assured that where these exist, and are well patronised, happiness must also exist. Considerable attention has been paid, in Saginaw valley, to the education of children, as the numerous school houses go to prove.

There is here, in Bay City, an excellent Union School, with a fine building. This school contains 350 scholars, and is well conducted by a Principal, and three teachers, in their three respective departments. The present Principal is Prof. Root. There are also three select schools in town, with an average of thirty scholars each.

There are also several church societies here, including one Episcopal Methodist, one Presbyterian, one Episcopalian, one Lutheran and one Roman Catholic. Two of these societies have fine houses of worship.

Just opposite Bay City, upon the western bank of the river, is found one of the most beautiful landscapes in the State. The land here gradually slopes to the river, from a height of about twenty-five feet, and is covered with a second growth of Oak, and is almost entirely devoid of under-brush, thus forming a delightful grove, which, during the vernal seasons, renders it most a charming and desirable retreat for the lover of nature. A natural ridge road rises in the background, which extends several miles, and finally loses itself in the vicinity of the Bay shore. This ridge is composed of light or yellow sand, which covers a sub-stratum of gravel and clay. Still farther back from the river, the soil is better adapted to farming purposes, being a dark, rich loam,

and covered with Beech, Maple, and some Pine. Between this point and Saginaw City, is a good road route, which leads through a fine farming country, well settled, and under a fine state of cultivation in many places. Frankenlust, which is situated upon this road, about twelve miles below Saginaw City, is a German settlement composed of 64 families. There is here a beautiful Church, belonging to the Lutheran order. The land here was purchased by the Pastor, and sold in parcels to his parishioners, for farms and homesteads. Everything here exhibits signs of thrift and industry, and it is a matter of great congratulation to see the accession to our population composed of so industrious a class. Many, and, indeed, a great majority of these German settlers, belong to families of high respectability and refinement. Of our German neighbors we purpose speaking again. To return to the point above alluded to. The land here, or a goodly portion of it, belongs to heirs,* the youngest of whom is yet a minor. Owing to this fact, the land is probably not in market at present. Were we allowed to predict, we would at no distant day, locate a flourishing and commercial town upon this very point. We would erect a long line of warehouses upon substantial docks, and fill them with grain for shipment, furnished by our German neighbors, and settlers upon the fine farming lands, not only in the immediate vicinity of the town, but also in the adjoining counties. We would build a plank road to Midland City, and another to Saginaw City, or make good roads without plank, as the state of the land would admit of them. These roads when built, would open the country many miles back, and furnish an easy access to a ready market. Midland, and other counties would seek an outlet here, and the whole wild territory far back in the country, would soon begin to "bud and blossom like the rose." Smiling farms and towns would usurp the wilderness' place, and the wild wolf and bear would flee before the light of day, let into their dark lairs by the woodman's axe. Founding our predictions upon the progress of the age, the unsurpassed resources, facilities and advantages offered by the surrounding country, we cannot be considered as Utopian in our remarks and ideas concerning it.

* The late *Hon. J. G. Birney* owned this property, and his children are the heirs alluded to.

PORTSMOUTH.

This is a scattering village in Portsmouth township, a short distance above Bay City, and about 12 miles below East Saginaw, upon the same side of the river. It is very pleasantly situated, and contains about 200 inhabitants.—The land upon which it is located, was entered by J. Tremble, Esq., in the year 1836. A short time after, it passed into the hands of an incorporated company, by whom it was laid out into village lots, and a town commenced. This company shared the fate of the other companies who had commenced operations in the valley; the same monetary tornado which swept other portions of the land in 1837, gave this place a slight “brush,” and left its traces here, also. The town which had been commenced, immediately relapsed into a quiet state, and soon became prematurely “antiquated.” The “company” disbanded, and the property here, after several years, became so completely buried up in tax titles, as to defy the ingenuity of a Philadelphia Lawyer to exhume it from the rubbish and restore to it a good title. In the course of time, the property here, or a portion of it, passed into the hands of another company, (tax titles and all,) who built a number of steam saw-mills and entered into the lumbering business upon a moderate scale. There are now here, one Store, one Hotel, six Steam Saw Mills, and a Ship Yard, which has turned out several staunch crafts. This place has improved considerably within the past two years, and nothing is wanting to make it a large town, but a good title to its property, a little energy and capital.

The plat of this village joins that of Bay City, and the two villages must eventually be united, and thereby form a continuous town along the river, about three miles in length. We predict for this portion of the county, a glorious future.

BANGOR.

This is a new village situated about two miles below Bay City, upon the opposite side of the river, and contains about 200 inhabitants. During the year 1849, Thomas Whitney, of the firm of Whitney, Coit & Co., of Buffalo, built a

steam saw-mill here, together with one or two boarding houses.

These formed the nucleus of the present town. The principal portion of the land upon which it is located, was purchased by Joe Tremble, Esq., and surveyed into village lots only a short time since, the greater part of the town having been built within the past two or three years.

ZILWAUKIE.

This village contains about 200 inhabitants, and is pleasantly located in Zilwaukie township, and upon the Saginaw River about seven miles below Saginaw City, upon the same side of the river. The land upon which it stands, was entered by C. Fitzhugh, in the year 1835. During the year 1847, Daniel Johnson, Esq., built a Steam Saw Mill here, without, however, any intention on his part, at that time, of making this anything more than simply a lumbering point. Subsequently, circumstances induced him to locate a village here, and under his auspices quite a flourishing town arose, and business assumed here, a lively aspect. The land in this vicinity is generally low, though exceedingly productive and durable, and susceptible of the highest state of cultivation. There are as yet not many cultivated farms in its vicinity, but a few short years will work a great change in the entire face of the country around it, and make it, with its commercial advantages, considerable of a point. The principal business of the place at present is lumbering, which is carried on here to quite an extent. There is a very good road from here to Saginaw City.

ST. CHARLES.

This is a new village situated at the Forks of the Bad River, about 18 miles above Saginaw City. It contains about 200 inhabitants, one Hotel, three Stores, one Steam Saw Mill, one School House, and a Post Office. The land about here is rather low, yet highly arable and productive. The river is navigable to this point, for small Steamboats, one or two of which, during ordinary stages of water, ply

regularly between this and Saginaw. The situation of this town is delightful, and its geographical position must make it a place of some importance.

CHESSENING.*

This village is located in town 9, N of R 3 east, and contains a population of 200. It has three Stores, a Post Office, one Hotel, two Saw Mills, one Grist Mill, and a School House. The greater portion of the lands in its vicinity were located in the year 1854, under the Graduation Act, and are being fast settled. The Shiawassee River passes through the center of this town, and is rapid, with good high banks. From the north line of Chessening to Owosso in Shiawassee County, a distance of sixteen miles, this river has a sufficient fall to furnish a water power, or mill site, every mile—only three of which have been improved.

The flats, or bottom lands along this river as well as the other rivers in the county, are deposits made during the spring and fall freshets, forming a deep, rich soil, equal to the far-famed Mohawk flats in the State of New York. The timber growing on these flats, is Oak, Ash, Basswood and Elm, with a large mixture of Black Walnut and Butternut. Back from the river, the land is somewhat rolling, with here and there a running brook. The soil is gravel and sandy loam. Coal has been discovered creeping out of the bank of the river in many places near this village. No attempt has yet been made to ascertain the depth or extent of the beds here.

Chessening was detached from the township of North Hampton, and organized in the year 1849, and J. W. Turner, Esq., was elected supervisor. The whole number of votes cast in the township was eleven. There were at that time no means of ingress or egress, save those offered by the river, and Indian trails, although during the winter season there was a sort of track leading to Owosso, upon which lumber and shingles were, to use a backwoods expression, "snaked out." The Amboy, Lansing and Traverse Bay Railroad line

* *Chessening* in the Indian tongue, signifies "Big Stone;" the town bearing this name from the fact of a large copper rock or "boulder" being found in its vicinity. The entire population of this township is 800.

is surveyed, passing through this village on its way to its point of termination. This town presents many inducements to those wishing to locate farms and become actual settlers.

BRADY AND MAPLE GROVE.

Two townships, viz: 9, N of R 1 and 2 east, were detached from Chessening in 1856, and organized into the township of Brady, which now contains a population of about 400. Township 9, N of R 4 east, was also detached from Chessening in 1856, and organized into the township of Maple Grove. Population, 250.

BRIDGEPORT CENTER.

This village, which is more generally known as the "Bend of the Cass," is located in the township of Bridgeport, town 11 N. of R 5 east, near the center, as its name indicates, and is very pleasantly situated upon the banks of the Cass river, and also upon the Saginaw and Genesee plank road, six miles from East Saginaw, and twenty-six from Flint City, Genesee County. It contains about 150 inhabitants, one Hotel, one Store, a District School, a Post Office, one Steam Shingle Factory, one Blacksmith Shop, &c. The land in this vicinity is considerably undulating, and the soil tolerably well adapted to farming purposes. There is an excellent plank road leading from this place to Saginaw City, Distance, six miles. C. A. Lull, Esq., proprietor of the "Bridgeport Center House," raised the first crop of wheat in the county, and also introduced some of the first sheep ever brought into the county. This was during the year 1834.

FRANKENMUTH.

This is a German settlement located in town 11, N of R 6 east, and beautifully situated upon both sides of the Cass river. The township contains about 1000 inhabitants, all Germans, most of whom reside in this settlement. The in-

habitants are an industrious and thrifty race of people, and a valuable acquisition to any community. This township was first settled in 1845 by a few Germans, who with their pastor, the Rev. George Cramer, commenced clearing the land and erecting dwellings, a Lutheran Church and a School House. They also made good roads and bridges, and many improvements generally. This township is one of the best in the county, and its selection evinces at once the good taste and judgment of those who first purchased here. It now contains, aside from its private dwellings, two Churches, two School Houses, two well supplied Stores, a Post Office, one Grist Mill, two Saw Mills, several Blacksmith, Wagon and other shops. The residents mostly own farms in connection with their places of business. The soil here is a rich admixture of clay, gravel and dark loam, and is most admirably adapted to agriculture, in point of which, it probably cannot be excelled. We are happy to see the great improvements that are annually being made by our German neighbors. The Cass river is crossed here at Frankenmuth by means of a good substantial suspension bridge, the execution of which exhibits much skill and ingenuity. The excellent facilities which this township affords, together with its nearness to market, must one day make it second to none in the county in point of wealth and importance. We would heartily recommend this township to those Germans who are desirous of locating among their brethren.

Frankentrost, Frankenhilf, Deerfield, Amelete, Bloomfield and Frankenlust, of which I have before spoken, are all flourishing German settlements in the county.

GREEN POINT.

This is a beautiful and romantic spot of prairie, situated near the juncture of the Tittabawasee, Cass and Flint rivers, and about two miles above Saginaw City. Perhaps a more delightful or appropriate spot for pic-nics and parties of pleasure, during the summer months, cannot be imagined. Formerly, and indeed until quite recently, the Indians occupied this point as their summer camping ground, leaving their families here while they hunted, fished, or "spreed it," as the case might be. Just opposite Green Point, during "wild-cat times," a city was laid out, which was called "Upper Saginaw," and we are not certain but

that some Eastern gentlemen were also "laid out" when they made purchases of "city lots" in that vicinity. During the sojourn of the Indians at Green Point, it was certainly worth one's while to pay them a visit. I remember one fine afternoon, some ten years since, of accompanying an old Indian trader there, while it was in full possession of the Indians. Seated in a light canoe, and each armed with a paddle, we started from Saginaw City, for the ostensible purpose of bartering with the Indians for furs &c.

For my part I was perfectly delighted with the idea, as I never had had an opportunity before of seeing the Indians "at home," at least during the summer season, and was also glad to exchange the monotony of a clerk's life for a paddle o'er the bright waters of the beautiful Saginaw. The river was sufficiently agitated to cause our tiny boat to rock dreamily, and as we sped from the shore, the rich waves leaped and sported against our canoe's prow and sides, like sportive kittens, ever and anon greeting our faces with a "damp paw," that was by no means unpleasant.

On, on we sped, now under the shadow of the green wood—now by the fringed, rich border of the prairie. We could readily discern in the distance, the white tents of the Indians fluttering in the wind, and hear the wild, joyous shouts of the dusky juveniles as they pursued their uncouth sports and games. As we approached their camp, what a busy and exhilarating scene presented itself to our view! I clapped my hands in the exuberance of my spirits, for never before had I witnessed a scene so full of real, unaffected, natural happiness as there greeted my senses. My companion did not seem to partake of my enthusiasm, for he had often witnessed similar scenes. Little Indian boys and girls, resembling so many cupids, (in one sense,) could be seen; some wrestling, some shooting with tiny bows and arrows, some paddling their little canoes, while others were bathing and splashing in the river, like so many amphibia—each striving to vie with the other in the manner and demonstration of its enjoyment. Superannuated Indians and squaws sat by the tent doors, looking on with a quiet, demure pleasure, or arranging some toy or trinket for some little *toddler*; while the more efficient were engaged in various, or no occupations at all. Oh, how I longed for an artist's skill, that I might sketch the wild and picturesque scene! Here, thought I, is human nature in its free, untrammelled state.

Care, to these children of nature seems to be a stranger—no thought of the morrow engrosses their mind, but the world with its vicissitudes and vexations, passes along apparently unnoticed by them. Buoyancy of spirit, under almost every circumstance, is a striking and prominent feature in the Indian character. As we drew our canoe out upon the beach, the Indians came out to meet us, with a hearty shake of the hand, and a cordial *boujou*. The *shady* urchins for awhile suspended their games and stood with gaping mouths and suspicious looks, gazing at the *Keche-mokomon*—then with a yelp and a bound, returned to their sports, more vociferously than ever, their wild cries and shouts merrily ringing over the prairie, and echoing in the green wood beyond. Situated upon the greenest and most beautiful portion of the camp ground, were a number of very white, and neat-looking tents, which I observed were closed and entirely isolated from the dingy, smoky tents of the encampment. My companion, who seemed a sort of privileged character in the camp, appeared perfectly at home, while I, considering myself among strangers, clung to him, and followed him wherever he went, not venturing to “throw myself upon my own responsibilities.” I was therefore pleased when I saw him start toward the white tents, for I was curious to know what they contained.

Drawing aside the canvas he entered, without ceremony, I of course following after. Seated upon beautiful mats of colored rushes, which served as carpets and divans, were some three or four good-looking squaws, very neatly, and even richly attired in the fanciful style of the native, busily engaged in embroidering and ornamenting moccasins, broad-cloth leggings, and blankets with variegated beads and porcupine quills.

Everything around evinced the utmost order, neatness and taste. No bustling *nichee*, or dirty urchin was allowed the freedom of these apparently consecrated tents, but all was quiet and calm within, or if any conversation was carried on, it was in that soft, musical tone so peculiar to them. So, so, thought I, here we have a sort of aristocracy, a set of “exclusives,” and a specimen of high life among the natives! Yet it was just that kind of “high life,” in many respects, after which their white sisters might, with the greatest propriety in the world, take pattern. No desecrating upon the merits, or *demerits*, more particularly, of their neighbors—no idle gossiping or scandal was indulged

in—no *la me's*—they do say—how you talk—of all things, etc., etc., were heard among them, but they quietly plied their needles and kept their counsels to themselves. If they had occasion to visit their neighbor's tent, it was done quietly and pleasantly, after which, business was resumed.—What a model, again thought I, for a first class sewing society! Truly a lesson drawn from nature! Yet a modern sewing-circle based upon the above principle would not only be an anomaly, but a moral impossibility. Forgive me ladies.

After wandering about the encampment and bartering with the Indians for furs etc., we again took to our canoe, and as the sun gently disappeared in the west, we found ourselves once more at home.

ANECDOTES, &c.

Many scenes and incidents of a rich character may be alluded to, in connection with the early days of Saginaw City. Notwithstanding it was said to have been "out of humanity's reach," and the sound of the "church going bell," yet the little handful of individuals who composed this community were those who were determined to observe the laws of the country, and see that they were properly maintained and respected. Although some of our Saginaw forefathers appeared at times somewhat seedy and threadbare, owing probably to the fact of their living so far from "market," they were, nevertheless, men of sterling integrity and worth, and to whose keeping one might with safety entrust his life, and his all.

It was during a certain term of the Circuit Court,* when the Hon. Judge M., of happy memory, was presiding, that an old man was indicted by the Grand Jury on a charge of grand larceny. After receiving an impartial trial, he was finally brought in "guilty" by the petit jury. As the Judge was in somewhat of a hurry to leave—this case having been the last one on the calendar—he proceeded to pass the sentence of the law upon the prisoner—the jury still remaining in the "box."

"Mr. B.," commenced the Hon. Judge, "it becomes my most painful duty to pass the sentence of the law upon you—a duty which I fain would escape performing, yet I often find myself obliged in the course of my judicial duties, to shut all the avenues of feeling leading to my heart, and forget for a while that I possess the sensibilities of a man. Mr. B., in this case I find my duty doubly painful, for I have known you for many years, and when you occupied a high and honorable position in society, and were respected by your fellows for your uprightness and integrity. But what do I see before me to-day! A man made in the image of his Maker, with his head silvered with age, found guilty of a great crime by a jury of twelve of his countrymen. Have you aught to say, Mr. B., why the sentence of the law should not be pronounced upon you?"

"Judge," blubbered the old culprit, "I know that I am guilty—that I ought to suffer—that I deserve all, and more too than the law can inflict

* This was long before the Court House was built, and court was held in a little School House, situated near where the County Jail now stands.

upon me; but, Judge, look at that *d—d jury!* To think that such a *mis-erable looking set of desperadoes* should find me guilty, is more than I can stand—but go ahead, Judge, don't let me interrupt you"

The reader may imagine the explosion that followed this speech, in the midst of which, it is said, the Hon. Judge lost a little of his "specific gravity."

MAKING A "LEVEL."

Among the first constabulary force of Saginaw, was one H., an old covey who imagined that what he *didn't* know, there was but little use of being informed of. Let any one venture to tell *him* he did not understand his business, and see what would happen. He was given to lisping, whether for the beauty of the thing, through misfortune, or what not, we are unable to inform the reader; but one thing is certain, he did lisp. Coming one day into the shop of Seth W., shortly after his election, he was accosted by Seth, with:

"Well, H., how do you get along—have plenty of business now-a-days?"

"Yeth thir-ee," rejoined H., "loths of it—made one "level" to-day, thir."

"Ah! what did you levy on to-day?" said S.

"Leveled on a yoke of steers."

"Where were the steers?" asked S., "who owned them?"

"They belonged to old Brown, up the Tittabawathoc—were on his plathe."

"You've not been there to-day, have you?—I've not missed you out of town," observed S.

"That isn't nethethary—I don't have to go there to "level"—can do it just ath well at home. The cattle are all thafe enough, and I know they are there—aint that enough? Do you thuppothe I don't know what I'm about? You don't fool old H. with any of your nonthenth, no thir-ee!" And the indignant official left the shop, cursing the stupidity of "thome folks." This is what our friend "Mose" would call making a "dead level."

INDIAN PAYMENT DAY IN OLD TIMES.

There is a vast sight of difference in the Indian payment day of the present, and that of the "olden time"—long before Saginaw had attained to its present importance and standing. The writer of this had occasion to visit Saginaw City many years ago, at which time he had an opportunity of attending an Indian payment. About twelve hundred Indians of all "sorts and sizes," from the toddling *papoose* to the swarthy *niche-nah-ba*, were assembled together in the morning, upon the beautiful lawn which gently sloped toward the river in front of the council house. It would be almost impossible to give the reader an idea of the hubbub and "confusion of tongues" that prevailed upon the occasion. Aside from the twelve hundred Indians, were a variety of other characters, including the chattering Frenchman, the blarneying Irishman and the blubbering Dutchman, all mingling their discordant jargon with that of the vociferous Yankee. Groups of Indian boys, some exercising with the bow and arrow, others jumping, running, wrestling, and making the welkin ring with their noisy merriment, were collected in the vicinity of their respective tents.

The river, too, was covered with canoes, and here the "dusky maid" in a more quiet and becoming manner, was enjoying the occasion; and it was really surprising to see the dexterity and fearlessness with which she managed the "light canoe." A list of all the names of the heads of Indian families, Chiefs, &c., was taken by the Indian Superintendent—each Indian being entitled to a certain amount. The money to be paid, was placed upon a table in the council room, in piles of ten and twenty dollars each, in American half-dollar pieces. Around the table sat the Indian Superintendent, Interpreter, Clerks, &c. Commencing at the top of the list, a crier called off the names, the owners of which presenting themselves, were paid off, and immediately made room for others. It was amusing to observe the great number of *friends*

that would gather around the Indian after he received his money from the paymaster. Here a trader suddenly recollects some debt of long standing against Mr. Indian—there a seedy individual with eyes and nasal promontory *couleur de pinque*, most seductively offering him a drink of river water *slightly tintured* with poor whiskey, while one or two *dear friends* are advising him to look out for sharpers, at the same time intimating that the Superintendent has been paying off in *bogus coin*!

In the evening, while the *drinking* Indians were rioting and carousing in the town, the *evangelised* natives were encamped upon the opposite side of the river, and the surrounding forest fairly resounded with their loud singing, preaching and praying. Instrumental music, from the fiddle to the Indian tattoo, might also have been heard arising above the "horrid din."

The scene that presents itself at an Indian payment now-a-days, is altogether a different one, at least at Saginaw City. We are happy to see measures adopted to prevent the sale of intoxicating drinks to the poor Indian upon such occasions—would to God it might be prohibited upon *all* occasions.

TRADITIONARY.

The valley of the Saginaw is rich in native associations, and legendary lore. Scarcely a foot of soil here, but is identified with some mournful tale or legend of the poor Indian, the original lord and owner; and every furrow of the plow brings to light some memento of this almost extinct race of mortals. But a few years have elapsed since the bright and beautiful waters of the noble Saginaw were undisturbed, save by the Indian, as he paddled his "light canoe" o'er its glassy surface, or, perchance, laved his dusky figure in it, beneath the shade of the forest tree that overhung it. Then it was that the Indian knew no sorrow, for the "pale face" had not yet appeared, nor his foot left its impress among them. The pure water of the limpid stream was his only beverage, and the wild deer that bounded in freedom through the green forest, was no less free and untrammelled than he.

We of course refer to their social being, for, since the creation, man nor beast has been without enemies and rivals. Thus it was with our natives, for in their social relations they were happy and joyous, yet a love of war and wild adventure was part and parcel of their nature; and often did the wild, dark woods around them resound with their fierce yells, as they met in deadly conflict and strife. Two tribes of Indians originally possessed this portion of the territory, namely: The Sacs and the Ojibways. The Sacs occupied the lands situated upon both sides of the Saginaw River, from Green Point to Saginaw Bay. Saginaw is from the Indian word *Sac-haw-ning*, signifying place, or home of the Sacs. Their principal village was situated upon the western bank of the river, nearly opposite the present village of Portsmouth. There were, however, several smaller villages along the river, all of which were subject to *Sac-haw-ning* government.

The *Ojibways* resided upon the banks of the Cass River, the original Indian name of which, was *Ojibway Sebewing*. These two tribes appeared to live upon amicable terms with each other, often interchanging civilities, so to speak, and participating in one another's festivities and hunts. The principal village of the Ojibways was delightfully situated near where Bridgeport Center now stands. Far to the north of Saginaw valley lived a tribe of Indians, supposed to have been a portion of the famous Chippeways. They were a fierce and warlike race, and were fond of conquest and spoils. They had heard of the Sacs and Ojibways—of the beautiful territory they possessed, and they longed to call it their own. The spies and scouts sent out by them returned with glowing reports in regard to the beauty of the rivers and

country, the abundance of fish and game found there and the unprotected and unguarded state of the occupants of the land.

The first account we have of the predatory incursions of the Chippeway, is of course traditionary, given us by the Chippeways themselves, as not a vestige of the Sac or Onottoway tribes remain in the valley of the Saginaw at the present day. It would seem that a grand festival had been given by the Sacs, in honor of the young chief "Raven Eye," who had that day been promoted for some daring feat of the chase. A large delegation from the various towns belonging to the tribes were present, and also a few young Onottoway braves who were kindly invited to participate in the festivities of the occasion. The day was a most delightful one in early autumn. The old chief threw aside his gravity—the young brave his fierceness, and all mingled together in gaiety, song and the dance. The dark-eyed *Mimi* was there, the Chieftain's daughter, to whom it was said Raven Eye was betrothed, yet be that as it may, many a young brave would have suffered torture, to have won from her even the tribute of a smile.

Evening came on, soft, still and beautiful. The full, laughing moon arose in splendor, and cast her mellow light o'er the happy scene, and the dim, wild wood around, resounded with notes of merriment. It was late ere the festival broke up, and all wearied with pleasure, sunk into peaceful, quiet slumber.—No precaution had been taken to guard against danger, for none had been anticipated. The night wind sighed through the dark pine tops in mournful cadence, and the gentle spirit bird hovered o'er the sleeper, with its low, gushing death chant; but its warning notes were unheard, and still the sleeper slept on. Suddenly a wild, unearthly yell broke fearfully upon the ear of night, and awakened a thousand echoes. Aroused by it, the Sacs sprang to their feet, but were met by the fierce Chippeway, who commenced an indiscriminate slaughter. Some were tomahawked—some leaped into the Saginaw and were drowned, while a few escaped to impart the death news to their brethren. The enemy followed up their conquest, but the Onottoways and remaining Sacs, banding themselves together, prepared to repel the lawless invaders. The whole valley of the Saginaw was in a state of wild commotion and fear, for the Chippeways had commenced a bloody war of extermination, and neither age, sex nor rank was spared. A fearful battle was fought near the village of the Onottoways, in which, it is said the bloody Chippeways came off victorious.

After this defeat, the Onottoways and Sacs, those who survived the massacre, fled to a small Island* situated near the mouth of a small stream which empties into the Saginaw a short distance above the village of Sac-haw-ning, which they fortified and placed in a state of defence, as far as their limited strength would allow. Here, with their wives, children and old people, the sad remnant of the two tribes determined to make a final stand.—They had now but little to live for, for their families had been broken up—their villages burned, and their fields laid waste by the ruthless invader. No more could they in safety paddle their birchen barks o'er the bright bosom of their own beautiful Saginaw, or pursue the timid deer through their own pleasant hunting grounds—those which they had inherited from their fathers. At every pass was stationed an enemy, and in every thicket lurked a stealthy foe, ready to hurl the death shaft to the heart of the doomed Sac or Onottoway. When, therefore, they sought this Island, it was as their last resort, and here they were determined to await the final issue. Nor had they to wait long. One dark and stormy night when the poor fugitives upon their own soil were nearly worn out with watching, and exhausted with hunger and privation, the bloodthirsty Chippeway came upon them "like a wolf on the fold," breaking through the feeble barriers that formed their only defence, and commencing a merciless slaughter upon them.

*This Island is known at the present day, as Skull Island, as skulls have been found among the long tangled grass that grows upon it.

Resistance on the part of the doomed Indians, was useless, and ere the morning arose, the enemy had completed their work, and were masters of the valley of the Saginaw. Only two of the Sac tribe were spared; a youthful couple, who after having been fearfully mutilated with knives, were placed in a canoe without food, weapons, or paddles, and set adrift by the villainous Chippeways. It is supposed that a few of the Onottoways either made their escape or joined the Chippeways, as we here lose all trace of them.

Assuring themselves that they were indeed sole masters of the beautiful valley, they set about making preparations for a permanent stay therein, at least, so permanent as the Indian disposition would admit of. Chippeway lodges arose from the ruins of the Sac and Onottoway villages, and maize waved in beauty o'er the graves of the disinherited and murdered original possessors of the soil. The Chippeway hunter pursued the wild wolf and deer through the beautiful hunting grounds of the Sac, without fear of interruption, and the young brave wooed his Indian maid 'neath the very trees under which the Sac or Onottoway had often reveled, or met together in council.

Years rolled on, and the invader grew in strength and power, and in the pride of his heart boasted of his conquests, and vainly defied the Great Spirit. For a long time the Great Spirit bore with him; but a day of reckoning was hastening on. The pale faces came, bringing with them the seeds of discontent and strife, which they scattered broadcast through the valley of the Saginaw. They learned the Indian to quaff the deadly fire-water, and to curse and swear in tolerable English. The beautiful hunting grounds their forefathers had wrenched so wickedly from the original owners, passed from their hands, and were converted into smiling fields; and villages sprung up where the Chippeway had often tracked the bear and the elk, and where he was now a homeless, wretched wanderer.

Many long years had elapsed since their ancestors had so cruelly taken possession of the land, and sent the two poor mutilated young Sacs adrift, without food, weapons, or paddles to guide their frail canoe. The Great Spirit had, however, watched over them, and directed their course, and far away from the valley of the Saginaw had they at last found a resting place.

* * * * *

One day the Saginaw Indians were surprised to receive a visit from a young Indian stranger, whose dialect, manner and dress were wholly unlike their own. By signs, he gave them to understand that he belonged to a powerful tribe of Sacs, living many miles north of the setting sun, where game was found in great abundance, and in whose rivers, streams and lakes all manner of excellent fish were found in plenty. He also gave them to understand that the whole valley of the Saginaw once belonged to his forefathers, and although they (his tribe,) did not expect to ever reclaim it, still they had by no means forgotten the great wrong their ancestors had suffered from the hands of the Chippeways, and they burned for an opportunity to avenge the murdered of their race. His present mission, he intimated, was to inform them of this fact, and to warn them to look well to themselves, for in an hour when they little expected it, the avenger would be upon them. After singing a wild, exciting song, in his own tongue, and giving a fearful parting whoop, he bounded into the depth of the forest like a wild deer, and disappeared, leaving his astonished auditors in a state of the greatest consternation and alarm.

At intervals, ever since this event, have the Saginaws, according to their story, received mysterious visitations from some source or other. Sometimes during sugar making, they will be seized with a sudden panic, and leave everything—their kettles of sap boiling—their mokuks of sugar standing in their camps, and their ponies tethered in the woods, and flee helter skelter to their canoes, as though pursued by the Evil One. In answer to the question asked in regard to the cause of their panic, you invariably receive a shake of the head, and a mournful "*an-do-gwane*," (don't know).

There may have been a legitimate cause for this panic, originally, yet not infrequently it is created by wicked white men, who resort to this method in order to rob the poor Indians of what little they possess, and also for the purpose of witnessing the *stampede*! Out upon such cruelty, we say.

During the year 1838, the small-pox raged *exclusively* among the Indians of the Saginaw Valley, sweeping off hundreds of them. Many dead bodies were found in the river, upon the prairies, and in the woods. Not a single white person was attacked with this fearful and loathsome disease, in the whole Valley, a circumstance which led the Indians to believe that the Great Spirit was visiting the sins of the fathers upon the children!

LEGEND OF THE "LONE TREE."

No person who has ever traversed the Valley of the Saginaw, but remembers the "lone tree," which stood upon the east side of the river, above Portsmouth, alone and isolated upon the prairie, far from its fellows. It looked like some lone misanthrope, who, having become disgusted with the vanities and foibles of human nature, had taken up his abode in the desert, where, far from the busy haunts of his fellow-man, he might pour out his heart's bitterness to the wild winds, and waste his spleen and discontent upon the "desert air." Alone it stood, majestic in its loneliness, like the last rose whose companions are gone. A spirit of romance certainly seemed to linger about it—a whisper of the past gently breathed through its desolate branches, and the question naturally arose, why is it that this tree thus stood alone?—A greater interest was imparted to it, by the fact of its having been for years the abode of a white owl, whose nightly dismal whoop fell mournfully upon the ear of night.

The Indians had a great reverence for this tree, and also for its occupant, which they believed to be a spirit-bird. There is a beautiful belief existing among the aborigines of our country, in regard to a guardian spirit, which they say is often seen, and which appears in the form of a bird—sometimes the dove, sometimes the eagle, but more frequently assuming the form of a night bird, though the disposition of the deceased, while living, has much to do with the species. For instance, a great warrior dies, whose disposition had been fearless, ambitious, and untamed, his spirit-bird personifies an eagle. A blood-thirsty chieftain's spirit-bird is a hawk. A gentle maiden passes away to the spirit land, and her friends know that she is hovering near them when they hear the mournful notes of the turtle dove at morn or at eve.

A legend, or tradition, concerning the "lone tree" exists among the Indians of the Saginaw Valley. Many, many long years ago, before the white man's foot had left its impress upon this valley, Ke-wah-ke-won ruled his people with love and kindness. He was a patriarch among them, and beloved for the gentleness of his manners, and the mildness of his government. He had been a great warrior in his day; but his youth had departed, and the languid pulse and feeble footstep told, alas, too plainly, that he would soon be treading the hunting grounds of the Great Spirit. The good old man felt that he was indeed passing away—dying—and he was desirous to see once more his tribes in council, and bestow upon them his last blessing, and impart to them his dying advice and admonition. The old chief lay upon his death-bed, and around him were gathered, in mournful silence, his beloved people, eager to catch the first and last words that would drop from the lips of their dying chieftain. It was a mournful and melancholy picture, that death-bed scene in the wilderness. At length the chief spoke, while the fire of his youth seemed to kindle again in his dim eye, and his voice, though weak, was calm and clear.

"My children," said he, "the Great Spirit has called me, and I must obey the summons. Already is the tomahawk raised to sever the last cord that binds me to my children; already my guide stands at the door to convey me to the hunting-grounds of my fathers in the spirit-land. You weep, my child-

ren, but dry your tears, for though I leave you now, yet will my spirit-bird ever watch over you. I will whisper to you in the evening breeze, and when the morning comes you will know that I have been with you through the night. But the Good Spirit beckons for me, and I must hasten. Let my body be laid in a quiet spot in the prairie, with my tomahawk and pipe by my side. You need not fear that the wolf will disturb my rest, for the Great Spirit, I feel, will place a watch over me. Meet me in the spirit-land, my children.—Farewell." And the old chief slept the sleep that knows no waking till the end of time.

They buried him in a lone spot in the prairie, near the beautiful river, with his face toward the rising sun. His remains were never disturbed by bird or beast; for it would indeed seem that so the Great Spirit had ordered it. Time passed on, and a tree arose from his grave and spread its branches over it, as if to protect it, and a beautiful white owl took possession of it. The Indians tell us that the "lone tree" marked the last resting-place of Ke-wah-ke-won, and that the white owl was the spirit-bird sent to watch over it.

The "lone tree" is no longer seen by the boatman, or the passer by, for vandal hands have cut it down, yet the spot is often pointed out upon which it stood, and where sleeps Ke-wah-ke-won, the beloved of his tribe.

OLD KISH-KAW-KO AGAIN.

The troops while stationed at Saginaw City, or where it now stands, suffered many privations and inconveniences, besides the petty annoyances and insults to which they were continually subjected by the Indians, who looked upon them as trespassers, not daring, however, to make any advances towards hostility, for they knew full well that the troops were prepared to meet anything of that nature with "promptness and dispatch." Still the "red skins" lost no opportunity in reminding them that they, (the troops,) were not at home, but upon grounds claimed by others than themselves. There was one old chief in particular, whose wigwam was nearly under cover of the Fort, who was exceedingly annoying, at least to the soldiers, but more particularly to the sentry, for every night as he, on his accustomed round, would give the hour, with the usual "all's well," this rascally chief would mockingly reiterate the watchword, together with a taunting shout and whoop, making the very welkin ring again, and startling the inmates of the Fort, who not unfrequently imagined, upon being so unceremoniously awakened, that an attack was at hand.

The scamp had repeated this trick a number of times, and our men determined to punish him a little, and at the same time enjoy some sport at his expense. Accordingly they loaded an old swivel to the muzzle, with grape and canister, and mounted it upon the pickets, pointing it in the direction of the old copper-colored gentleman's wigwam, in such a position, however, that the shot would merely rattle over his head, with no other effect than that of frightening him into silence if nothing else. Night came at last, and "all around was still"—not even a leaf stirred, and the heavy tramp of the sentinel as he paced with measured tread his accustomed round, and the distant howl of the hungry wolf alone were heard. The men were lying quietly behind the gun, though by no means asleep, while a match was ready to apply at the signal, which by the way, the old Chief himself was unwittingly to give. Hour after hour glided silently by, and twelve o'clock came, the hour usually selected by copper face for his *echo*. "Twelve o'clock—all's well," sang out the sentry. "All well" echoed the Indian, "*Ke-whoop-ke-kee-who-whoop*," making at the same time, a grand flourish after the war style of his forefathers—"ye-ye-ye-yeep-ke-who." At this instant a bright gleam of fire shot from the walls of the Fort accompanied by a report so loud, so deafening, that the very stars shut their eyes—the moon hid behind a cloud, and the ground and buildings shook with the concussion, while the grape and canister rattled fearfully over the wigwam and helter skelter through the

branches of the trees overhanging it. The old Chief thought his time had indeed come, and called lustily upon all the gods in his unlettered vocabulary, and medicine men of the nation to save him. * * * * After this salutary rebuke, no *niche* in the tribe was more courteous or deferential to the troops than this same Indian. Perhaps he thought it advisable to keep on good terms with beings who repaid insult with thunder, lightning and iron hail.

A SUMMARY.

Fur Trade, annually, - -	\$ 30,000	Shingle Trade, annually, -	\$ 30,000
Fish " " - -	40,000	Stave " " - -	30,000
Lumber Trade " - -	872,000	Ship Yard business, - -	50,000
Lath " " - -	20,000	Incidental & General Trade,	200,000
Total, - - - - -		-\$1,272,000.	

CONCLUSION.

The favorable geographical position of Saginaw County—its central location in the State—its facilities for commerce, afforded by the River and adjacent Lakes, and the vast resources to which I have alluded forming the basis of an immense trade to support that commerce—its excellent farming lands equalling, if not excelling in fertility, the far-famed valley of Genessee in the State of New York, all combine to render Saginaw River at no distant day, one of the most important avenues for trade in the Peninsula, and its business points, marts of enterprise, thrift and importance, second to none in the State, and therefore demanding corresponding means of intercommunication by *Railroad*, to meet the exigencies of its business, facilitate transit, and to aid in developing the immense latent resources of Northern Michigan.

These considerations have not escaped the attention of Capitalists, whom we find investing liberally in Railroad projects, having direct reference to Saginaw in their line of survey. The *Flint and Pere Marquette* and the *Amboy, Lansing and Grand Traverse Bay Railroads*, the Companies of which are duly organized and prepared to urge their work forward to an early completion—will be of incalculable advantage to Saginaw, in completing a chain of intercommunication with the important Cities of the East and West, and opening a direct outlet to Eastern markets by the way of Saginaw, for the immense trade and travel of Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and all that vast region of country West of Lake Michigan, and thereby diminishing the distance now traveled, at least five hundred miles, and at the same time avoiding the long, dangerous and circuitous route around the Lakes.

A mere glance at the map, and reference to the line and terminus of these roads, will at once confirm the correctness of the above observation. It will be seen that the two important points of terminus on Lake Michigan, of the roads communicating with Saginaw, are at Grand Haven, and Pere Marquette; the former opposite Milwaukee, and the latter opposite Manitowoc, two important and growing commercial cities on the western shores of said lake, and market towns for the trade, and surplus produce of a large portion of the great North-west. These points connected by Steam Ferry with the terminus of the above roads, will render their interests almost identical.

The above points of terminus, it will be observed, are about 70 miles apart,

and that Saginaw occupies an intermediate position opposite these places, across the peninsula, and therefore an equal distance from them, thus rendering it the natural converging point of transit from these places, for the vast trade accumulating at said cities seeking a more direct outlet to the Eastern market, as it must be remembered that a line of Steamers plying between Saginaw and Goderich, to connect with the Railroad at the latter place, will preserve a direct and uninterrupted communication between the East and West, and will be the great Western summer thoroughfare, traveled alike for business and pleasure, as the trip across Lake Huron to Goderich, will be an exhilarating and refreshing one.

Another important source of wealth to Saginaw, urging the necessity of a speedy completion of said roads, should not be overlooked. While Detroit, Cleveland and Chicago are loudly descanting upon their respective claims to the advantages of the great mineral trade of Lake Superior, and are inviting their capitalists to avail themselves of the advantages which their favorable geographical positions afford for securing that vast trade, by the establishment of manufactories for the working of the raw material, it is perhaps little dreamed that Saginaw possesses advantages far superior to any of these places, for the securing of that trade, not only in the abundance of its facilities for smelting purposes and the successful prosecution of all the details of the work, but in respect to its peculiarly favorable position, and is only awaiting the completion of these two roads to render it the most convenient point for that business in the State, being so easy of access to all the markets, East, West, North or South.

In alluding to Saginaw, it will be observed that we make no invidious distinction of localities in the valley, but speak of Saginaw as a unit, embracing all the business points on the river, as possessing an identity of interest, stimulated only by a laudable emulation, and together comprising one great commercial community, characterized alike by thrift, enterprise and brotherly feeling.

FINIS.

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