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HISTORY

OF

WINONA COUNTY,

TOGETHER WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL MATTER, STATISTICS, ETC.

GATHERED FROM MATTER FURNISHED BY INTERVIEWS WITH OLD SETTLERS,  
COUNTY, TOWNSHIP AND OTHER RECORDS, AND EXTRACTS FROM  
FILES OF PAPERS, PAMPHLETS, AND SUCH OTHER  
SOURCES AS HAVE BEEN  
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## P R E F A C E.

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IN presenting the history of the County of Winona to the public, the editors and publishers have had in view the preservation of certain valuable historical facts and a vast fund of information which without concentrated effort could never have been obtained, but, with the passing away of the old pioneers, the failure of memory, and the loss of public records and private diaries, would soon have been lost. This locality being comparatively new, we flatter ourselves that, with the zeal and industry displayed by our general and local historians, we have succeeded in rescuing from the fading years almost every scrap of history worthy of preservation. Doubtless the work is, in some respects, imperfect; we do not present it as a model literary effort, but in that which goes to make up a valuable book of reference for the present reader and future historian, we assure our patrons that neither money nor time has been spared in the accomplishment of the work. Perhaps some errors will be found. With treacherous memories, personal, political and sectarian prejudices and preferences to contend against, it would be almost a miracle if no mistakes were made. We hope that even these defects, which may be found to exist, may be made available in so far as they may provoke discussion and call attention to corrections and additions necessary to perfect history. The main part of the work has been done by Messrs. Dr. L. H. Bunnell, Dr. J. M. Cole, Hon. O. M. Lord, Prof. C. A. Morey, Gen. C. H. Berry, Hon. W. H. Hill, P. G. Hubbell, Esq., and Rev. W. S. Messmer, and we believe that no corps of writers could have been found who could have done the subject more

ample justice. We are also largely indebted to Hon. Thomas Simpson for extensive criticism and correction of matter furnished by various persons, as well as to Elder E. Ely, for the use of notes covering the entire history of the county. All these gentlemen have put the citizens of Winona county under lasting obligations for rescuing this most valuable matter from oblivion, whither it was surely tending.

The biographical department contains the names and private sketches of nearly every person of importance in the county. A few persons, whose sketches we would be pleased to have presented, for various reasons refused or delayed furnishing us with the desired information, and in this matter only we feel that our work is incomplete. However, in most of such cases we have obtained, in regard to the most important persons, some items, and have woven them into the county or township sketches, so that, as we believe, we cannot be accused of negligence, partiality or prejudice.

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# HISTORY OF WINONA COUNTY.

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## CHAPTER I.

### ABORIGINAL HISTORY.

A HISTORY of the first settlement of Winona county, and especially that of the city of Winona, requires that some notice be given to the Indian tribes that have occupied the territory in which it lies, and of that adjacent, and also that some notice be given to the early efforts of missionaries and explorers to christianize and render the savages obedient to the wants of commerce and of French or English ascendancy. The fur trade was the most important element in the early explorations and settlement of the Northwest, as commerce generally has been in the civilization of the world.

The limited space allowed for this subject admits of but slight mention of the authorities drawn upon, but it is imperative that the aid afforded by the researches of the Smithsonian Institute, of Rev. Edward Duffield Neil, and of Judge George Gale, be acknowledged.

Absolutely nothing is known of the origin of the Indians; neither the mound-builders, nor the more modern tribes; and the naturalist is led to ponder over the suggestion ascribed to Voltaire, "that possibly, in America, while God was creating different species of flies, he created various *species* of men."

Be that as it may, their differentiations in languages and customs, forming different tribes from *more* original stocks, or sources, have been noticed by writers upon ethnology; but aside from the knowledge afforded by their various languages and traditions all is doubt and mystery. Their traditions, even, are so blended with superstitions and romances that the most critical judgment is required in giving credit to *any* portion of them; the more especially to times and distances that extend beyond the Indian's *present* capacity to realize. The territory between the lakes and the Missis-

Mississippi river seems to have been peculiarly fitted by its topography and natural productions for a grand nursery of savage tribes; and there are evidences still remaining in the languages and traditions of the aboriginal inhabitants of this territory, and in the remains of ancient tumuli, stone and copper implements, to warrant this belief. It is probable, as claimed by tradition, that some tribe of Algonquin origin was in possession of this vast territory, and were dispossessed by confederated Sioux, whom tradition says came from the New Mexican frontier. The Chippewa names for different localities, now corrupted, but familiar to us, warrants this belief, if it does not establish the fact. The Sauks and Min-o-min-ees, both of Chippewa origin, say they were the original owners of the whole territory, but they shed no light upon the origin of the mound-builders. Those people may have been drawn to this territory from the far south in search of copper, which to them, probably, was as the gold of California to modern adventurers, and been expelled again by wars, or have voluntarily abandoned their industrious mode of life to become engrafted into the new nations that were springing up around them. Such industrious people would naturally become the prey of more warlike tribes, and the more especially so because of their cranial development, indicating a lack of aggressive character. In support of the claim to have been the *oldest* of modern tribes to occupy the territory, the Chippewa race mention the names given by their ancestors to prominent localities. For example, Michigan, a word of Chippewa origin, is derived from Mich-e-gah-ge-gan, meaning the lake country, or "skye bound waters." Wisconsin is from Gy-osh-kon-sing, the name of its principal river, and means the place of little gulls. Chicago is from Gah-che-gah-gong, a place of skunks. Milwaukee is from Mim-wa-ke, meaning hazel-brush land, equivalent to good land, as upon good land only will this shrub grow. The astringent bark was used as a medicinal remedy, and hence the shrub was known as the good shrub by the Indians.

Galena was known as Ush-ke-co-man-o-day, the lead town; Prairie-du-Chien as Ke-go-shook-ah-note, meaning where the fish rest, as in winter they are still known to do. St. Anthony's Falls was called Ke-che-ka-be-gong, a great waterfall; the Mississippi as Miche-see bee, or Miche-gah-see bee, meaning the great or endless river, or, more literally, the river that runs everywhere; and Lake Superior was known as Ke-che-gun-me, or "the great deep." Only

a few Chippewa names have been given, and those simply to show the familiarity of the Chippewas with characteristics of the various localities named by them and now so familiar to us. It may be added that St. Paul, or its site, was known as *Ish-ke-bug-ge*, or new leaf, because of the early budding out of the foliage below St. Anthony's. It has been a custom of Indian tribes, as with other primitive peoples, to name persons and tribes from peculiarities, from resemblances and from localities.

This rule has been followed in naming the separate tribes of the great Algonquin, Iroquois and Dah-ko-tah nations, as well as of those of the Pawnee, Shosh-o-me, Kewis, Yu-mah and Apachee or Atha-pas-can nations. For many years the records of the early Spanish and French explorers were hidden from the researches of modern investigators, but those of Marco-de Nica and of Coronado, have come out at last from their mouldy recesses, and documents that had lain in the archives of France for long years have been copied and published to aid the modern historian. In these records of the early explorers, errors in writing and on maps have been made; but they are of considerable value to modern research, because of the light they shed upon the explorations of their authors, and upon some Indian traditions concerning them.

The Chippewa name for Lake Winnepec is *Win-ne-ba-go-shish-ing*, the meaning of which is a place of dirty water. The name *Win-ne-ba-go* was interpreted to mean "stinking water," and the Indians of the tribe were called by the early French explorers the "Stinkards," under the impression that they had come from a place of stinking water. Lake Winnebago, in Wisconsin, was supposed to be that locality, but it may be observed here that the water of that lake is not, or was not, before the advent of the white people, impure.

Another reason given for the name was, that they had come from the Western sea or ocean, imagined by the first French explorers to exist in the region of the Mississippi river; and as the Algonquin name *Winnebagoec*, for salt and stinking water, was the same, except in accent, their name was supposed by some to designate a people from the Western ocean. The traditions and legends still existing among the Winnebagoes render it probable that they once inhabited the territory adjacent to lake *Win-ne-ba-go-shish-ing* (modernly called Winnepec), and probably long anterior to the occupancy by the Sioux of the Mille-Lac country, as while acknowl-



edging their relationship to the Dah-ko-tah nation, they claim a more ancient lineage. Lieut. Pike refers to the statement of an old Chippewa that the Sioux once occupied Leach Lake; and Winnebago shishing, or the "Dirty Water lake," is but twenty-five miles distant from Leach Lake.

The Winnebagoes call themselves Ho-chunk-o-rah, meaning "the deep voiced people." The Dah-ko-tahs call them Ho-tau-kah, full or large voiced people, because of their sonorous voices being conspicuously prominent in their dance and war songs. Many words in Winnebago and Sioux are very similar. Wah-tah is the Sioux word for canoe; watch-er-ah, the Winnebago. Shoon-kah is the Sioux word for dog; shoon-ker-ah, is the Winnebago name. No-pah is nine in Sioux; Nope is the same numeral in Winnebago.

Numerous other examples might be given of resemblances in their respective languages, but these will suffice. The Chippewa language is wonderfully artistic in construction and rich in suggestions; hence we find many of their words accepted by other tribes as *classie*. Manito-ba, God's land, suggests the idea of a God-given country or Indian paradise. Superior in intellectual capacity to most other tribes, their names seem to have been accepted by others as something better than their own. It is believed by the writer that in this way, probably, the Chippewa name, Winnebago, was given and accepted by the Ho-chunck-o-rah.

The Northeastern Sioux claimed to have owned the Mille Lac country from time immemorial. It seems quite probable that before the "long war," and during some long era of peace, the Winnebagoes may have inhabited the shores of Lake Winnepec, perhaps while the Sioux were at Leech lake. The Kneesteneau, or Chippewas, would have been their neighbors, and from them the Winnebago may have acquired some of the tastes and habits that have so marked his character.

As is still customary with bordering tribes, intermarriages were no doubt of frequent occurrence, and in this way, it is conceivable, that the Dah-ko-tah progenitors of the Winnebagoes may have established themselves among some Chippewa tribes, and their offspring have been led to accept flag-mat wigwams, deer, fish and water-fowl in lieu of skin tents and buffalo meat. The Sioux language even differs in each band. Probably, soon after the Spanish conquest of Mexico, many of the red rovers of the plains, as their traditions tell, left for more northern climes. The inviting

prairies of Minnesota, with their countless herds of buffalo and elk, would for a time, at least, content the warlike Sioux, who, provided with some of the "big dogs" (horses) of the Spaniards, could roam at will over these boundless, beautiful plains. It seems also likely that reports of the more than savage cruelty of the Spaniard had gone out, with accounts of the destructive nature of his "deadly thunder"; and if so, a common dread would have kept a superstitious people at peace.

Friendly alliances would most naturally have sprung up among border tribes, and in but a few generations old tribes would have been multiplied into new ones, as appears to have been done during some long era of peace. It is true that the problem may be as readily solved by supposing a state of *civil* war to have existed, but in that case there still must have been long eras of peace, or the race would have become extinct. Be that as it may, the forests of Minnesota and Wisconsin limited the range of the buffalo in these states, and in doing this determined the character of the native inhabitants.

The Sioux soon asserted his savage sway over the whole prairie region west of the Mississippi river, and drove into the forests of Wisconsin his less formidable neighbors. In after years, by combined attacks with firearms, he was driven back by those he had dispossessed of their patrimony, and was content to plant himself upon the western shore of his watery barrier; keeping as neutral ground, for a time, a strip of territory along the east side of the Mississippi.

This region remained neutral but for a short time only, for we find by the accounts of the earliest French explorers that the Dakotah and Algonquin nations were in an almost constant state of warfare when first visited by them, and during the whole time of the French occupation of the territory.

The water-courses afforded ready access to the greater part of the region between the lakes and "Great river," and the dense forests concealed the approach of the wily foes. While the "battle-ground" presented opportunities for a surprise, it was no less serviceable for those who waited in ambush. Many a war party of both nations have been cut off by a successful ambush, and their people left to mourn and plot new schemes of vengeance.

Other tribes suffered by these national animosities, and abandoned the noted theatres of war for more peaceful localities.

The Winnebagoes, according to their traditions, suffered from the incursions of both nations ; and at the time of the first visit of the French at Green Bay they were found there and on Fox river, living in amity with the rice-eaters, or Min-o-min-nee, and other tribes of Algonquin origin, though known to be closely related to the almost universal enemy, the Sioux. During the summer months the Indians on Fox river appeared sedentary in their habits, living in bark houses and cultivating Indian corn and other products of Indian agriculture, or gathering the wild potatoes and wild rice that served them for their winter stores of vegetable food. During seasons of scarcity from frosts, or from disaster, edible nuts and acorns were secured against times of want ; and if famine came upon them in their extremity, they supported life by feeding upon the inner bark of the slippery elm, linden and white pine. Those were happy times for the peaceful tribes, and of sorrow for those in enmity with one another.

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## CHAPTER II.

### EXPLORATIONS.

THE Minominnees, Pottawattamies and the Foxes occupied the water-courses tributary to Green Bay, while the Winnebagoes and the kindred tribes of Iowas, Missouriis, Osages, Kansas, Quapaws, Ottoes, Ponkas and Mandans, possessed the country south and west, bordering upon the territory of the Sauks, the Illanois and the Sioux. This territory seems to have been visited by the French as early as 1634, and in 1660 Father René Menard went on a mission to Lake Superior, where the furs of that region and of Green Bay had already begun to attract adventurous Frenchmen.

Poor zealous Menard, the first missionary, never returned to civilization ; he was lost in the wilds of a Black river forest, separated in a swamp from his faithful follower and assistant Guerin, and all that was ever known of his fate was inferred from the agony of his companion and the priestly robe and prayer-book of the aged prelate found years afterward in a Da-ko-tah lodge.

In 1665 Father Claude Allouez, with but six French voyageurs, but with a large number of savages, embarked from Montreal for



Lake Superior, where he established himself for a time at a place called by the French La Pointe, because of its jutting out into the beautiful bay of Bayfield. Here at once was erected the mission of the Holy Spirit, and the good offices of the priest tendered to the untutored and savage tribes of that vast wilderness. The peaceful mission of Allouez was soon known among the warring tribes, and Sauks and Foxes, Illani and other distant tribes, sent messengers of peace or curiosity to the "Black Gown," and he was admitted to their counsels. In turn, "their tales of the noble river on which they dwelt," and which flowed to the south, "interested Allouez, and he became desirous of exploring the territory of his proselytes." Then, too, at the very extremity of the lake, the missionary met the wild and impassioned Sioux, who dwelt to the west of Lake Superior, in a land of prairie, with wild rice for food, and skins of beasts instead of bark for roofs to their cabins, on the bank of the Great river, of which Allouez reported the name to be Mississippi. To Father Allouez belongs the honor of having first given this name to the world. In speaking of the Da-ko-tahs, he says: "These people are, above all others, savage and warlike. \* \* \* They speak a language entirely unknown to us, and the savages about here do not understand them."

In 1669 the zealous Marquette succeeded to the mission established by Allouez, and his writings give a somewhat florid account of Sioux character. He says: "The Nadawessi (the Chippewa name of the Sioux), are the Iroquois of this country beyond La Pointe, but less faithless, and never attack until attacked. Their language is entirely different from the Huron and Algonquin; they have many villages, but are widely scattered; they have very extraordinary customs. \* \* \* All the lake tribes make war upon them, but with small success. They have false oats (wild rice), use little canoes, and keep their word strictly.

At that time the Dah-ko-tahs used knives, spears and arrow-heads made of stone. About that time, one band of Dah-ko-tahs were allied to a band of Chippewas by intermarriage and commercial relations, and for a time were living in friendly relations with a band of Hurons, who had fled from the Iroquois of New York. Hostilities breaking out between these people and the Sioux, they joined the people of their tribe at La Pointe.

To Nicholas Perrot is due the honor of having first established a trading post on the Mississippi below Lake Pepin, and according

to Neil's History of Minnesota, Perrot inspired the enterprise of La Salle, who sent Louis Hennepin to explore the Mississippi. Hennepin was first to explore the river above the mouth of the Wisconsin, the first to name and describe the falls of St. Anthony, the first to present an engraving of the Falls of Niagara, and it may be added, the first to translate the Winnebago name of Trempealeau Mountain into French. The Winnebagoes call that peculiar mountain Hay-me-ah-chaw, which is well rendered in French as the Soaking Mountain, as it stands isolated from its fellow peaks entirely surrounded by water.

After reaching the Illinois river, La Salle, in 1680, sent Hennepin on his voyage of discovery, with but two voyageur assistants. After reaching the mouth of the Illinois river he commenced the hazardous ascent of the "Great river," traversed before only by Joliette and Marquette, when they descended from the Wisconsin. Hennepin encountered war-parties of Dah-ko-tahs, and was taken a prisoner by them up the Mississippi to St. Paul, to St. Anthony's Falls, and to Mille Lac. While in the land of the Sioux he met Du Luth, who had come across from Lake Superior.

Du Luth obtained the release of Hennepin, and gave him much information of value. Du Luth seems to have been the real discoverer of Minnesota.

Owing to the war inaugurated against the English by Denonville, in 1687, most of the French left the Mississippi, and concentrated for defense under Du Luth at Green Bay.

In 1688 Perrot returned to his trading-post below Lake Pepin, and the year following, by proclamation, claimed the country for France. In the year 1695 Le Seur built the second post established in Minnesota, on an island not far from Red Wing.

During this year Le Seur took with him to Canada the first Dah-ko-tah known to have visited that country. The Indian's name was Tee-os-kah-tay. He unfortunately sickened and died in Montreal.

Le Seur hoped to open the mines known to be on the Mississippi, and went to France for a license. The license to work them was obtained, but Le Seur was captured by the English and taken to England, but was finally released. After overcoming great and renewed opposition, and making one more trip to France, he, in 1700, commenced his search for copper, which was said to be abundant on the upper Mississippi.

Some time in August of this year he entered Fever or Galena river, whose banks were known to the Indians to contain lead, but Le Seur was the first to mention the existence of those lead mines. After many incidents of interest, Le Seur reached the Blue Earth river, and established himself in a fort about one mile below the mineral deposits, from which the Dah-ko-tahs obtained their paint for personal adornment. In 1701 Le Seur took to the French post, on the Gulf of Mexico a large quantity of this mineral, and soon thereafter sailed for France.

At this time, according to Le Seur's journal, there were seven villages of the Sioux on the east side of the Mississippi, and nine on the west.

The Wah-pa-sha band was anciently known as the Ona-pe-ton or falling leaf band, and their village of Ke-ox-ah was upon the prairie now occupied by the city of Winona. Keoxa is difficult of translation, but it may be rendered as "The Homestead," because in the springtime there was here a family reunion to honor the dead and invoke their blessings upon the band.

The site of Winona was known to the French as La Prairie Aux-Ailes (pronounced O'Zell) or the Wing's prairie, presumably because of its having been occupied by members of Red Wing's band. The Americans called it Wah-pa-sha's prairie.

Under the impression that it drew from Canada its most enterprising colonists, the French government for some years discouraged French settlements among the Indians west of Mackinaw; but very soon the policy of the English in estranging the Foxes and other tribes from the French, compelled a renewal of the licenses that had been canceled by the French authorities.

The Foxes had made an unsuccessful attempt upon the French fort at Detroit (known as Wah-way-oo-tay-nong, or the Wy-an-dette fort), and smarting under defeat they made an alliance with their old enemies the Dah-ko-tahs. This alliance and the enmity of the Foxes made it unsafe for the French to visit the Mississippi by way of Fox and Wisconsin rivers, and for some years the Sauks and Foxes scalped the French traders, and waged war against their Indian allies. The Foxes were finally overcome by the French in 1714, and, capitulating, they gave six hostages as security for a peaceful treaty to be agreed upon in Montreal. Pemoussa, their greatest warrior, and others sent as hostages, died there of small-pox. One who had recovered with the loss of an eye was sent to

Mackinaw to treat, but he escaped and again stirred up the Indians to revolt.

The Chick-a-saws in the south and Dah-ko-tahs in the north made the country exceedingly dangerous to the French. They now became assured that the English were undermining their influence with the Indians, for in a dispatch written about 1726 it is stated that the English "entertain constantly the idea of becoming *masters of North America.*" Licenses to traders were once more abundantly issued, and the prohibition against the sale of liquors that had been established by the influence of the pious missionaries was removed. In 1718 Capt. St. Pierre was sent with a small force to reoccupy La Pointe, now Bayfield. The Indians there and at Kee-wee-naw had threatened war against the Foxes. During this year peace was established at Green Bay with the Sauks and Foxes and Winnebagoes, who had taken part against the French. An endeavor was now made to detach the Dah-ko-tahs from friendly alliances with the Foxes, and to secure a treaty of peace between the Chippewas and Dah-ko-tahs, with a promise of renewed trade with them if they remained at peace. To accomplish this purpose, two Frenchmen were sent to the Dah-ko-tahs, but it would appear were not entirely successful, and wintered among the Menominee and Winnebago Indians on Black river. In order to obtain a strategic point it was resolved by the French to build a fort in the Sioux country. On June 16, 1727, the expedition left Montreal, accompanied by missionaries and traders, and on September 17 of the same year reached their destination on Lake Pepin. A stockade was soon built on the north side near Maiden Rock that inclosed buildings for troops, missionaries and traders. The fort was named "Beauharnois," in honor of the governor of Canada, and the mission named "St. Michael the Archangel." The commander of this fort was De la Perriere Boucher, noted for his savage brutality and bigotry. This fort was overflowed in 1728 and its site abandoned. According to Sioux tradition, the prairie on which Winona is now situated was also overflowed at that time. During this year a large force of French and Indians left Canada with the intention of destroying the Sauks and Foxes. On August 17 they arrived at the mouth of Fox river. Before the dawn of day an attempt was made to surprise the Sauk village, but they escaped, leaving only four of their people to reward the French for their midnight vigils. A few days later the French ascended the rapid stream to a Winnebago village, but it also was deserted; still



pursuing their search, on the twenty-fifth they came to a large Fox village, but that too was abandoned. Orders were now given to advance the command to the grand portage of the Wisconsin river; but this move was as fruitless as those which had preceded it, and the expedition returned to Green Bay without results. The Foxes retired to Iowa, and, establishing still closer relations with the Iowas and Sioux, were allotted hunting-grounds to which have been attached some of their names. The Kick-ah-poops and Masco-tens were allies of the Foxes and their *congeners*, the Sauks, and took part with them against the French.

In 1736 St. Pierre was in command at Lake Pepin and regarded the Sioux as friendly, but they still remained objects of suspicion to the French Canadian government, as some of them had attacked an expedition under Veranderie, undertaken at that early period to open a route to the Pacific.

In 1741 the Foxes killed some Frenchmen in the territory of the Illinois, and this so aroused the authorities in Canada that they determined, if possible, to overthrow and completely subdue the Foxes. The officer selected for this purpose was the Sieur Moran or Marin, who had once been in command at Fort St. Nicholas near Prairie du Chien. With the cunning of a savage, Marin placed his men in canoes under cover, as if they were merchandise, and when ordered by the Foxes opposite or near the Butte des Morts to land and pay the usual tribute exacted from all traders passing their village, he opened fire upon the assembled multitude and killed indiscriminately men, women and children. Marin had anticipated the Foxes' consternation and flight, and before reaching the village had sent a detachment of his force to cut them off. There was great slaughter and but a remnant of the village escaped. These people were again surprised by Marin and his forces on snowshoes in their winter encampment on the Wisconsin, and were utterly destroyed.

The Dah-ko-tahs had during this period been at war with the Chippewas, but in 1746 were induced by the French to make peace. Many of the French voyageurs, and in some few instances French officers even, had taken wives, after the Indian method of marriage, from among the Dah-ko-tahs and other tribes, and by this means their influence was still great among their Indian followers. Yet, English influence had commenced its work, and soon after this period French power seems to have begun to wane. The French, however, still continued to make a struggle for existence, if not supremacy.

The Chippewas of Lake Superior showed a disposition to aid the English, and committed a robbery at the Sault St. Marie; "even the commandant at Mackinaw was exposed to insolence." St. Pierre was sent to the scene of disorder. His judgment and courage was undoubted. St. Pierre seized three murderers and advised that no French traders should come among the Chippewas. While the Indians, secured by the boldness of St. Pierre, were on their way to Quebec under a guard of eight French soldiers, by great cunning and daring they managed to kill or drown their guard, and though manacled at the time, they escaped, severing their irons with an axe. "Thus was lost in a great measure the fruit of Sieur St. Pierre's good management," as wrote Galassoniere in 1749.

Affairs continued in a disturbed state, and Canada finally became involved in the war with New York and the New England colonies. In the West, affairs were for some time in doubt, but the influence of the Sieur Marin became most powerful, and in 1753 he was able to restore tranquillity between the French, and Indian chiefs assembled at Green Bay.

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### CHAPTER III.

#### AMONG THE INDIANS.

As the war between the colonies became more desperate, the French officers of experience and distinction were called from the West to aid the Eastern struggle. Legardeur de St. Pierre in 1755 fell in the battle upon Lake Champlain, and Marin, Langlade, and others from the West, distinguished themselves as heroes. After the fall of Quebec the Indians of the Northwest readily transferred their allegiance to the British. In 1761 the English took possession of Green Bay, and trade was once more opened with the Indians. A French trader named Penneshaw was sent by the English into the country to the Dah-ko-tahs, and in March, 1763, twelve Dahkotah warriors arrived at Green Bay, and offered the English the friendship of their nation. They told the English commandant that if any Indians obstructed the passage of traders to their country, to send them a belt of Wampum as a sign, and "they would come and cut them off, as all Indians were their slaves or dogs." After this talk they produced a letter from Penneshaw, explaining the object of their visit.

In June Penneshaw himself arrived with most welcome news from the land of the Dah-ko-tahs, bringing with him for the commander of the post a pipe of peace, and a request that English traders be sent to trade with the Sioux of the Mississippi.

A tradition still exists among the Sioux that the elder Wah-pa-sha, or, as we might say, Wah-pa-sha the First, was one of the twelve Da-ko-tahs who visited Green Bay. Notwithstanding the English had conquered all the vast territory between the lakes and the Mississippi, and had the proffered friendship of the Sioux to strengthen their influence with all the other Indian tribes, the lines of trade between the territory of Louisiana and the newly acquired territory of the English were not closely drawn, and French influence was sufficiently potent to send most of the furs and peltries to their post at New Orleans. The cause of Indian preference for the French may be found in the latter's gaiety of character, and their ability to conform to the circumstances that may surround them. The Canadian voyageurs and woodmen displayed a fondness for high colored sashes and moccasins that was pleasing to the barbaric tastes of the Indian women, and many of them, joining their fortunes and their honors with those of the French, raised children that were taught to reverence and obey them.

In addition to the influences extended by these ties of blood, the kindness and devotion to their religious faith exhibited by the Catholic missionaries won upon the imaginations of the Indians, and many were won over to a profession of their faith. The tribes which came under their influences looked upon the priests as veritable messengers from God, and called them the "good spirits," believing that they were the mediums only of "good spirits."

All Indians are spiritists, believing implicitly that the spirits of departed human beings take an interest in mundane affairs.

The English, in contrast with French management, had a bluff and arbitrary way of dealing, that, however successful it may have been with eastern tribes, was for a time very distasteful to the Sioux. However, the English learned something in due time by contact with these Indians, and from French politeness; but some years were required before their success with the Sioux was established.

For some years the trade seems to have been abandoned west of Mackanaw, to the French. In the year 1766 Jonathan Carver, a native of Connecticut, visited the upper Mississippi, and his reports

concerning the beauty, fertility and resources of Minnesota aroused some attention to the value of these new possessions.

Carver was a man of keen observation and discernment, and some of his predictions regarding the "new northwest," though scoffed at by some at that time, proved almost prophetic. Carver died in England in 1780. After his death, a claim was set up to a large tract of land said to have been given him by the Sioux, and since known as the "Carver tract."

The claim was investigated after the territory came into the possession of the United States, but it was found to be untenable.

Carver found the Sioux and Chippewas at war when he arrived among them, and was told that "war had existed among them for forty years." Chippewa and Sioux tradition both make the time much longer. It was supposed by the English that the policy of the French traders fostered war between the Sioux and Chippewa nations. Whether this be true or not, it is certain that French influence continued paramount in the country for some years, but as the French that remained after the transfer of the country to the English were inferior in intelligence to those in authority while the French held possession, we are principally dependant upon Indian and mixed blood tradition for what occurred in this vast territory until after the revolution.

Tradition tells us that an Englishman, located near the mouth of the Min-ne-so-ta river, was killed while smoking his pipe, by an Indian named Ix-ka-ta-pe. He was of the M'de-wa-kan-ton-wan band of Dah-ko-tahs.

As a result of this unprovoked murder, no other trader would visit this band, which had already been divided by dissensions, and been driven by the Chippewas from territory formerly occupied east of the Mississippi.

In earlier times this decision of the traders would have been disregarded, but then it was of vital importance to their well-being if not their existence; for they had learned to depend upon guns instead of bows and arrows, and therefore suffered for want of ammunition and other supplies, and were at the mercy of their well-armed enemies. After a grand council it was determined to give up the murderer to English justice.

Accordingly a large party of Sioux, with their wives and the murderer, started for Quebec. In order to avoid their enemies the Chippewas, they took the usual canoe route by the Wisconsin and



Fox rivers to Green Bay. While on this journey, the ridicule of other tribes and their own dissensions caused a desertion of over half of their number, and upon their arrival at Green Bay, but six, of whom some were women, persevered in their intention to go on. When about to start, the murderer also disappeared ingloriously. The leader of the little band of six, then called Wa-pa "The Leaf," told his followers that he himself would go as an offering to the British commander, and if required, would give up his life that his people might not be destroyed. On arriving at Quebec, his motive and heroism were both appreciated by the English governor, and the chief was sent back to his prairie home, loaded with abundant supplies of the coveted ammunition and Indian trinkets; and as evidence of his gratitude demanded a British flag to wave over his territory. A gaudy uniform, which included a red cap, common enough in early days, was also given "The Leaf," or as Grignon calls him, the "Fallen Leaf," and as he represented the Daḡ-ko-tas as a nation of seven principal bands, he was given seven medals for the respective bands, the one for himself being hung by a tassel cord upon his neck by the English commander at Quebec in person. This noble band of Spartan Sioux wintered in Canada and had small-pox, though in a mild form, and when the navigation of the great lakes was fully opened in the spring they safely returned to their tribe.

Before reaching their village, which had been again divided during their absence, they dressed themselves in their finest apparel, and marching in Indian file at the head of his devoted companions, the chief entered his village with red cap and flag conspicuously displayed.

The chief was hailed, after Indian custom as Wah-pa-ha-sha, or "Red Cap," which, by abbreviation soon became Wa-pa-sha.

Wapasha's successful return and denunciation of the cowardly desertion by his comrades, created another division, which was made permanent by his leaving "Red Wing's" band and removing to the present site of Minnesota City, known to the Wah-pa-sha band as O-ton-we, "the village," probably because of its having been a very ancient dwelling and burial place of Indians.

There, at Gilmore and Burn's valleys, they had their cornfields and summer residences. The band also had a village near Trempealeau mountain and at Root river. At times, when not occupied with field work, they assembled upon the site of Winona (known as

Keoxa) and La Crosse, held their sun and other religious dances, played their games of "La Crosse," or wept over the remains of their dead. Nostrils and sight both reminded them of this sacred duty, as the dead of their band were placed upon scaffolds, and left to fester and bleach in the open air until whitened by time. The bones and burial garments were buried in some secluded spot, or placed under stones in some ancient ossuary. This custom was soon abandoned, and in later years their dead were at once buried. Wa-pa-sha was very proud of his success with the English, and during one of his visits to Mackanaw, stipulated that when visiting English forts, the British commanders should salute him and his staff with *solid* shot, *aimed a little high*.

For much of the foregoing tradition, and very much more of like character, the writer is indebted to Thomas Le Blanc, born in 1824, son of Louis Provosal, or Louis Provencalle, an old French trader, whose post was at or near the site of Pennesha's, on the Minnesota river, at Traverse des Sioux, and where, for a time, in ancient days, some of Wa-pa-sha's people were encamped. Thomas was related to Wah-pa-sha, to the Grignons and to Faribault, and was well versed in Indian and French traditions. He spoke French, English and Dah-ko-tah about equally well, and during the four months employed by the writer he was found singularly intelligent and truthful.

The first Wah-pah-sha was grandfather to the one removed from his Winona village by treaty in 1851-3. His memory is still held in great reverence by his descendants and the whole Sioux nation. His deeds of prowess and of benevolence are still preserved in traditions and songs that are sung by medicine-men or priests to the young of the tribe; and even the Winnebago members of the Wah-pa-sha family have learned to sing them.

As a specimen of these rude verses, compelled into rhyme, the following song is given:

#### SONG OF THE DAH-KO-TAHS.

Wah-pa-sha! Wah-pa-sha! good and great brave,  
 You rode into battle, made enemies slaves;  
 Your war-chief was strong in spirit and frame,  
 And many the scalps he hung on *his* chain.

Your "Red Cap" was known in the East and the West;  
 You honored the English, and hoped to be blessed;  
 You clothed your red children in scarlet and blue;  
 You ever were kind, devoted and true.

The skins of your Te-pee were brought from the plains;  
 Your moccasins dressed with Chippewa brains,\*  
 Your war-whoop saluted by British *real* shot,†  
 Gave peacefullest token they harmed you not.

Then rest thee, brave chieftain, our night has come on,  
 The light has departed from all thou hadst won;  
 Thy people lie scattered on hillside and plain;  
 Thy corn-fields, thy prairie, we cannot regain.

Notwithstanding the esteem in which his memory is now held, during his lifetime Wah-pa-sha became the subject of dissensions in his tribe, and leaving the cares of chieftainship principally to his son, he roamed at will with a small band of devoted followers of his own tribe, and a few Win-ne-bagoes, one of whom had married his sister Winona, and whose daughter Winona, called the sister of the last Wah-pa-sha (though but a cousin), played so important a part in the removal of the Winnebagoes in 1848. Old Wah-pa-sha finally died at a favorite winter encampment on Root river, and was taken to Prairie du Chien for burial. When news reached the Mississippi, in 1780, that Col. George R. Clark, of Virginia, was in possession of Illinois, and was likely to take possession of Prairie du Chien, a lieutenant of militia, twenty Canadians and thirty-six Fox and Dah-ko-tah Indians were sent with nine bark canoes to secure the furs collected at that post. Wah-pa-sha was in command of the Indians.

The canoes were filled with the best furs, and sent by Capt. Langlade, who had charge of them, out of danger from capture, and a few days afterward the Americans arrived with the intention of attacking the post. During this year, also, a squaw discovered a lead mine near the present site of Dubuque. During 1783-4 the Northwestern Company was organized, but some of the members becoming dissatisfied, an opposition company was formed by Alexander McKenzie and others. After a sharp rivalry for some time the two companies were consolidated.

In 1798 there was a reorganization of the company, new partners admitted, and the shares increased. The new management was thoroughly systematized, and their operations made very profitable.

\*The brains of *animals* are used in dressing deer skins.

†A stipulation at Mackinaw, required a salute to Wah-pa-sha of solid shot when he visited that fort.

In about the year 1785 Julien Dubuque, who had settled at "La Prairie du Chien," and had heard of the discovery by a Fox squaw of a lead vein on the west side of the Mississippi, obtained permission at a council to work those mines, and he established himself upon the site of the city that bears his name.

Dubuque was the *confreere* of De Marin, Provosal, Poquette and others who have prominently figured in the fur trade of that period. The principal traders, however, were Dickson, Frazer, Renville and Grignon. James Porlier, an educated French Canadian, was acting as clerk for Grignon, on the St. Croix, at this time, together with the pompous and eccentric Judge Reaume, afterward so noted at Green Bay.

Porlier, while with Dickson at Sauk Rapids, gave Pike useful information during his visit to the upper Mississippi in 1805, and afterward, moving to Green Bay, acted as chief-justice of Brown county for sixteen years. The treaty of 1783 failed to restore good feeling between England and the United States, as the British posts were not at once surrendered, and this fact served to keep the Indians hostile.

The English pretended not to have authority to give up posts on Indian territory. This excuse was set up in the interest of the English fur traders, but it was finally agreed by the treaty effected by Mr. Jay that Great Britain should withdraw her troops by June 1, 1796, from all posts within the boundaries assigned by the treaty, and that British settlers and traders might remain for one year with all their former privileges, without becoming citizens of the United States. The Northwest Company seized upon this opportunity to establish posts all over Minnesota. They paid no duties, raised the British flag in many instances over their posts, and gave chiefs medals with English ensignia upon them. By these means they impressed the savages with the idea that their power still remained supreme, and this impression was a fruitful source of annoyance, and even danger, to Americans, for years afterward. In May, 1800, the Northwestern territory was divided.

In December, 1803, the province of Louisiana was officially delivered by the French to the United States government, and in March, 1804, Capt. Stoddard, U.S.A., as agent of the French government, received from the Spanish authorities in St. Louis actual possession of this important territory, transferring it very soon thereafter to the United States.



It was now deemed expedient that this valuable territory, so recently purchased, should be fully explored, and the Indians be made to acknowledge the full sovereignty of the Federal government. Upper Louisiana, including a large part of Minnesota, was organized immediately after the transfer, and on January 11, 1805, Michigan territory was also organized. Gen. Wilkinson, placed in command at St. Louis, finding that the laws of his government were still unrecognized by the English traders in the new territory, in 1805 sent Lieut. Zebulon M. Pike to expel the traders and bring some of the prominent Indian chiefs to St. Louis. Pike was courteously received and hospitably entertained by the wily Scotch and English traders of that period, but they secretly resolved to disregard and circumvent the policy of the United States government in its proposed management of the Indians.

Pike visited the different tribes along the Mississippi as far up as Sandy and Leech lakes, and made a treaty with the Dah-ko-tahs for sites for forts at the mouth of the St. Croix and Minnesota rivers.

Wintering in the country of the Chippewas, he was enabled to induce them and the Sioux to smoke the pipe of peace, and in the early springtime started with representatives of both nations for St. Louis to conclude articles of friendship and commerce intended for the benefit of these hostile races.

Upon the "Aile Rouge," or "Red Wing," hearing of a secret attempt to shoot Lieut. Pike by a young Sioux, he spoke with vehemence against the character of some encamped at the mouth of the Minnesota river, and offered to bring the would-be assassin to Pike for punishment. Pike found at the Red Wing village an old chief known as Roman Nose, and who had been the second chief of his tribe, desirous of giving himself up for some instrumentality in the death of a trader. The Indian name of the chief was not given, but it was said he had been deposed in consequence of the murder of the trader. Pike thought it impolitic to tell the penitent chief that the matter was beyond his jurisdiction.

On his way down the river Pike speaks of Winona prairie by its French name of "Aile" or "Wing" prairie, and of Wab-pashas encampment below La Crosse, probably at mouth of Root river. He also gives Wah-pa-sha his French name of La Feuille, "The Leaf." La Crosse he calls De Cross, but when speaking of the game played at Prairie du Chien by Sioux, Fox and Winnebago



- contestants, he calls that "a great game of the cross," showing clearly that he did not know the French origin of the name. While at Prairie du Chien, Wah-pa-sha sent for Lieut. Pike, "and had a long and interesting conversation with him, in which he spoke of the general jealousy of his nation toward their chiefs," and wished the "Nez Corbeau," as the French called the "Roman Nose," reinstated in his rank as "the man of most sense in his nation." This conversation shows another noble trait in the character of Wah-pa-sha.

Before leaving Prairie du Chien for St. Louis, Pike established regulations for the government of the Indian trade, but his disappearance from "La Prairie" was the signal for Cameron, Rolette, Dickson and their subordinates to disregard them. Cameron and Dickson were both bold Scotch traders, who seem to have disregarded all regulations and laws, except those of hospitality and humanity. Cameron died in 1811, and was buried on the Minnesota river. Dickson lived to take an active part in the war of 1812, and have few but his ill deeds spoken of in history.

## CHAPTER IV.

### TROUBLES WITH THE INDIANS.

IN 1807 it was becoming evident that the various Indian tribes in the Northwest were forming a hostile league against the United States government. In 1809, a Nicholas Jarrot made affidavit that English traders were supplying Indians for hostile purposes. Indian runners and envoys from the "Prophet" were visiting the Chippewas, while Dickson, who was the principal trader in Minnesota, held the Indians along the waters of the Mississippi subject to his will.

Gov. Edwards, of Illinois, reported to the secretary of war that "The opinion of Dickson, the celebrated British trader, is that, in the event of a war with Great Britain, all the Indians will be opposed to us, and he hopes to engage them in hostility by making peace between the Sioux and Chippewas, and in having them declare war against us." A principal cause of the great influence of Dickson was his alliance by marriage with the noted Dah-ko-tah chief "Red Thunder," whose sister he had taken as his wife.

In May, 1812, two Indian couriers were arrested in Chicago, supposed to have letters for Dickson. The Indians had anticipated arrest, or else, for greater security, had buried their letters until they should resume their journey, and nothing being found upon their persons they were released. A Mr. Frazer was present when the letters were finally delivered to Dickson, who was then at "the Portage" in Wisconsin, and said the letters conveyed the intelligence that the British flag would soon be flying upon the fort at Mackanaw.

During this period, Cadotte, Deace and others were collecting the Chippewas of northeastern Minnesota on Lake Superior, and at Green Bay. Black Hawk was given command of the Indian forces to be assembled. Dickson gave him a certificate of authority, a medal and a British flag. Before it was known that war had been declared, the American commandant at Mackanaw was surprised by the landing of British troops and traders, and a demand for the surrender of the garrison.

With the British army came well known traders, prepared with goods to trade under the British flag.

An American, taken prisoner at the time, wrote to the Secretary of War: "The persons who commanded the Indians are Robert Dickson, Indian trader; John Askin, Jr., Indian agent, and his son," both of whom were painted and dressed in savage costume. Neill says: "The next year (1813) Dickson, Renville, and other fur traders, are present with the Kaposia, Wah-pa-sha, and other bands of Dah-ko-tahs, at the siege of Fort Meigs."

While Renville was seated, one afternoon, with Wah-pa-sha and the then chief of the Kaposia band, a deputation came to invite them to meet the other allied Indians, with which the chief complied. "Frazer, an old trader in Minnesota, told Renville that the Indians were about to eat an American." \* \* \* "The bravest man of each tribe was urged to step forward and partake." \* \* \* A Winnebago was urging a noted Sioux hunter to partake of the horrid feast, when his uncle told him to leave, and addressed the assembled warriors as follows: "My friends, we came here not to eat Americans, but to wage war against them; that will suffice for us." Trah-pa-sha said: "We thought that you, who live near to white men, were wiser and more refined than we are who live at a distance, but it must indeed be otherwise, if you do such deeds." Col. Dickson sent for the Winnebago who had arranged the intended

feast and demanded his reason for doing so disgusting a deed. His answer sheds no light upon his motive.

The fall of Mackinaw alarmed the people of the Mississippi valley, and they called loudly for the defense of Prairie-du-Chien.

In May, 1814, Gov. Clark left St. Louis for this purpose, and taking possession of the old Mackinaw House, found a number of trunks full of papers belonging to Dickson, one of which contained this interesting extract: "Arrived from below, a few Winnebagoes with scalps. Gave them tobacco, six pounds of powder and six pounds of ball."

A fort was built by the Americans, and named "Shelby." The Mackinaw traders, hearing of this, organized a force under McKay, an old trader, and started in canoes to dispossess the Americans.

The British force was guided by Joseph Rolette, Sr., and, landing some distance up the Wisconsin river, marched to the village and demanded its surrender.

The fort was unfinished and scarcely defensible, but its commander, Lieut. Perkins, replied that he would defend it to the last.

On July 17 the gunboat, under command of Capt. Yeiser, was attacked by the British and Indians. The boat moved to a commanding position above, but was soon dislodged by the enemy, who crossed to the island, where they availed themselves of the shelter of trees.

The boat was then run a few miles below, but was unable to do much execution. For three days Lieut. Perkins made a brave resistance, but was finally compelled to capitulate, reserving the private property of his command.

After placing his prisoners on parole, the British victor escorted them to one of the gunboats, upon which they had but about a month before come up, and, crestfallen at their discomfiture, they were sent back down the river, pledged not to bear arms until exchanged.

Some bloodthirsty savages followed them in canoes, but made no victims.

Lieut. Campbell came up from St. Louis about this time with a small force to strengthen the garrison, and, landing at Rock Island, held a conference with Black Hawk at his village near by. Directly after leaving, news came to Black Hawk of the defeat at Prairie-du-Chien. His braves at once started in pursuit of Campbell's command. A severe encounter was incurred, the lieutenant was

wounded and some of his men killed. During the fight a boat was captured, and the force was compelled to retreat back to St. Louis.

After the capture of Fort Shelly, it was named by the British Fort McKay.

In August, 1814, Maj. Zachary Taylor was sent up with a force in gunboats to punish the Indians who had attacked Lieut. Campbell, but to his astonishment found the British and Indians in possession of Rock Island.

Fire was opened upon Taylor from a battery, and the first ball fired passed through a gunboat commanded by Capt. Hempstead.

Taylor's boats were all disabled and he was compelled to retreat down the river a short distance for repairs. In that engagement one was killed and eleven wounded. With the Americans who came down to St. Louis after the surrender of Prairie-du-Chien was a "one-eyed Sioux," who had aided in the defense of Capt. Yeiser's gunboat.

During the autumn of 1814, in company with another Sioux of the Kaposia band, he ascended the Missouri to a convenient point above, and, crossing the country, enlisted a number of his people in favor of the Americans.

After these professions of friendship, most likely from Sioux nearest St. Louis, he went down to Prairie-du-Chien. Dickson, upon his arrival, asked his business, and snatched from him a bundle, expecting to find letters.

The Indian told Dickson that he was from St. Louis, and would give no further information.

Dickson confined the Sioux in Fort McKay, and threatened him with death if he did not give information against the Americans. The "one-eyed Sioux" was proof against all threats, and he was finally released.

The stubborn savage soon left for a winter sojourn among the river bands, and returning in the spring of 1815 he soon heard the news of peace having been restored.

As the British evacuated the fort they set it on fire, with the American flag flying as it had been run up, seeing which, the "one-eyed Sioux" rushed into the burning fort and saved the flag. A medal and a commission were given him by Gov. Clark, which he treasured and exhibited upon frequent occasions, while rehearsing his many exploits.

These interesting facts taken from Neill's valuable history, relate



to Ta-ha-mie, the "Rising Moose," mentioned by Lieut. Pike in his journal.

He was well known to the writer as the "one-eyed" medicine chief, or priest, of the Wah-pa-sha band of Sioux, though he seemed equally at home with other bands and with the Winnebagoes, all of whom revered him for his bravery and intelligence. His frequent boast of having been the only *American* Sioux during the war of 1812, made him quite famous among the American settlers of Winona county, while the pretentious cock of his stove-pipe hat and the swing of his mysterious medicine-bag and tomahawk-pipe gave him character among his Sioux and Winnebago patrons. His services were in frequent demand; and even now, in 1882, he is spoken of by the older Indians as a great hunter, a great warrior, and a good priest. His more modern name of Tah-my-hay, "the Pike," corrupted into Tom-my-haw by the American settlers, was probably taken by himself as the adopted brother of Lieut. Pike, after an Indian custom. His Winnebago name of Na-zee-kah, an interpretation of his Sioux name, shows clearly that he was known as "The Pike." In regard to the "Tomahawk," that so mystified Dr. Foster, whose interesting and elaborate article is quoted from by Neill, it appears probable, allowing something to imagination, that the father of Lieut. Pike had a tomahawk, the head and handle of which formed a pipe, and that Lieut. Pike had taken it with him on his mission to the Sioux and Chippewas as a calumet or pipe of peace. That, meeting with and forming a close tie of friendship with Ta-ha-mie, the "Rising Moose," he gave him a memento of his everlasting friendship, in peace or war, by presenting the "pipe tomahawk," in such common use along the Canadian border in early days. The writer's memory was in fault as to the *certainty* of its being Tah-my-hay who, of all the Sioux, was so expert in the use of the tomahawk, but R. F. Norton, a merchant of Homer, Minnesota, comes to his aid by relating the following incident :

During the early days, said Norton, my brother, the doctor, and myself, were listening to an old dragoon settler's account of his skill and prowess with the sabre. Flourishing a stick, he told how easy it was to defend himself against the assault of lance or bayonet. Tom-my-haw happened to be present, and understanding more than the valorous cavalryman supposed, or, as proved agreeable, asked the white warrior to strike him with his stick. This the dragoon declined to do, but, being urged, he made a demon-



stration as if intending to strike, when, with a movement of Tom-my-haw's tomahawk, the stick was caught, and whirled to a safe distance. Norton described the tomahawk as a combined hatchet and pipe.

In his youth, Tom-my-hay was a noted hunter, and after the disruption of the Me-day-wa-kant-wan band, joined Red Wing's subdivision, and afterward that of Wah-pa-sha. He told the writer that during one of his hunts, while following the game into a dense Tamarach thicket, a sharp, dry twig entered one eye and destroyed its sight. The vanity of Tah-my-hay was something remarkable, but his devotion to the Americans was vouched for by his tribe.

After the war had closed, Little Crow and Wah-pa-sha, by request of the British command, made a long journey, in canoes, to Drummond's Island, in Lake Huron.

After lauding their valor, and thanking them in the name of his king, the officer laid some few presents before them as a reward for their meritorious services. The paltry presents so aroused the indignation of Wah-pa-sha, that he addressed the English officer, as appears in Neill's History of Minnesota, as follows :

“My Father, what is this I see before me? A few knives and blankets! Is this all you promised at the beginning of the war? Where are those promises you made at Michilimackinac, and sent to our villages on the Mississippi? You told us you would never let fall the hatchet until the Americans were driven beyond the mountains; that our British father would never make peace without consulting his red children. Has that come to pass? We never knew of this peace. We are told it was made by our Great Father beyond the water, without the knowledge of his war-chiefs; that it is your duty to obey his orders. What is this to us? Will these paltry presents pay for the men we have lost, both in the battle and in the war? Will they soothe the feelings of our friends? Will they make good your promises to us?”

“For myself, I am an old man. I have lived long, and always found means of subsistence, and I can do so still!”

Little Crow, with vehemence, said: “After we have fought for you, endured many hardships, lost some of our people, and awakened the vengeance of our powerful neighbors, you make a peace for yourselves, and leave us to obtain such terms as we can. You no longer need our services, and offer these goods as a compensation for having deserted us. But no! We will not take them;

we hold them and yourselves in equal contempt." So saying, he spurned the presents with his foot, and walked away.

The treaty that soon followed at Portage-des-Sioux, won over to the United States the fealty of the Dah-ko-tahs, of Minnesota, and the disgust expressed by "Little Crow" and Wah-pa sha on their return to their people, for a time, at least, rendered any further serious difficulty with them improbable.

A period has now been reached in the early exploration and occupation of the territory of the Dah-ko-tahs, when the traditions relating to that era have been merged in the experiences of the writer. It is not merely the vanity of self-assertion that induces him to give his own personal experiences in early pioneer life, but, to connect the past, with the present mode of life in Minnesota, he thinks, may give a clearer impression of the character of the early pioneers than has generally hitherto obtained.

The writer's father, Dr. Bradley Bunnell, was born in New London, Connecticut, in about 1781, and his mother, Charlotte Houghton, was born in Windsor, Vermont, in about 1785. Soon after their marriage they came to Albany, New York, where the eldest sister of the writer was born, and where also was born her husband, Stephen Van Rensselaer. From Albany his parents moved to Homer, New York, where the eldest son, Willard Bradley Bunnell, was born in 1814. Ten years later, 1824, the writer was born in Rochester, New York.

While living in that beautiful city, his father conceived the idea of visiting the Territory of Michigan, and in 1828 went to Detroit. The writer is made sure of the time, by the date of a diploma of his father's membership in the Detroit Medical Society, signed by Stephen C. Henry, president, and R. S. Rice, secretary, and other papers in his possession.

In the autumn of 1831, Bradley Bunnell started for Detroit, with the intention of establishing himself in the practice of his profession, but, delayed by the inclemency of the season, and lack of secure transportation, was induced to open an office in Buffalo.

His practice grew into importance, and during the season of cholera, 1832, the calls for his services to relieve the distressed and dying were almost constant.

The writer had an attack of Asiatic cholera, and passed into what was supposed by consulting physicians to be a collapsed stage of the disease, but the heroic treatment decided upon caused a rally of

the vital forces, and the grim enemy was routed. Although but eight years old at the time of the Black Hawk war, that event, and incidents connected with it, he distinctly remembers. The passage through Buffalo of United States troops on their way to the scene of conflict made a vivid impression that years have failed to eradicate. In 1833 it was thought advisable by the writer's father to move up to Detroit, but meeting with what he thought a better opportunity to establish himself, after a short delay at Detroit, continued on up to Saginaw. There he purchased forty acres of land, that now forms part of that flourishing city. He also bought forty acres that forms the site of Carrolton. Soon dissatisfied with his purchase, and the felicity afforded by howling wolves and croaking bullfrogs in their gambols and songs of love, he left in the sweet spring-time for metropolitan life in the French village of Detroit. His family, on the score of economy, and most likely for want of ready funds, were left in Saginaw to care for the household goods and garden, and the children to cultivate their unfolding intellects at a country school. The writer was called "Pet" by his mother, and was allowed to run at large with Chippewa children (whose tongue was soon acquired), visit their camps, sugar-groves, hunt, fish, swim, skate and fight, to his unbounded satisfaction. His pride was to excel his dusky competitors in all things, and this was soon accomplished, to the admiration of an old Chippewa warrior instructor by his killing two immense bald eagles at the age of eleven. The writer was not then aware of the importance Indians attach to the killing of an eagle.

His mother soon became satisfied that her "Pet" was learning more of the camp than the school, more of the hi-yah, of Indian music, than of that taught by his sisters. After a few *written* notes received from his teacher (confidential), and a vain attempt to take *all* of "his hide off," after the most approved methods of that "*good old time*"(?). It was thought best, upon one of his father's periodical visits, to place the writer in a Detroit "classical school."

At about the age of twelve the *misguided* boy was placed in the Latin school of Mr. O'Brien, of Detroit, who has for many years taught the young ideas "to shoot," fitting many young men with preparatory instruction for useful lives. Mr. O'Brien had been educated for the Catholic priesthood, but discovering some peculiarity in his character (it was thought to be his temper) unsuited to so sacred an office, he opened his Latin school in Detroit.

There can be no doubt of the masterly ability of O'Brien as a teacher; but his *method* was the *old one* he learned in his bible, to "spare not the rod!" So, after a very short term at that school, receiving in the meantime a few *extra lessons* in the manly art of *self-defense*, the writer one day with a ty-yah! left the school and his books never to return.

A new method was then tried with the young savage, and his experiences at the "Bacon Select or High School," of Detroit, are cherished in grateful memory. The writer made rapid progress toward the goal of his ambition, a liberal education, but the "wild-cat mania" had seized upon his father, and as a consequence of losses, sickness and deaths in his family, the boy aspirant had to be made self-supporting.

He was placed in the drug store of Benjamin T. Le Britton, opposite Ben Woodworth's hotel, where he boarded for a time upon his arrival in Detroit, and with that kind and upright gentleman, and his successor in business, he remained until the fires that raged in the wooden buildings of that period had destroyed them. Before the destruction of the American or Wale's Hotel by fire the writer was boarded at that house by his employer, and while there remembers that Henry R. Schoolcraft boarded there also for some considerable time, engaged, probably, upon his Indian works. A Chippewa maiden in attendance upon his invalid wife (who was of mixed blood), though shy, seemed pleased when spoken to in Chippewa, which, boy like, the writer would do.

For a time, at intervals, though young for the work, he was sent by his employer to take orders and make collections in Ohio, Kentucky and Virginia.

It was now thought advisable to engage the writer in the study of medicine. This was distasteful to him, but finally, with his experience as a druggist to build on, in 1840 he went into his father's office in Detroit, and in winter, for want of other resources, attended private clinics and demonstrations.

The reading and confinement involved was too great a change from his former and accustomed habits, but nevertheless, in order not to disappoint the fond expectations of his parents, he worked against his inclinations. He had continued his studies, more or less regularly, when a most welcome letter from his brother, Willard B. Bunnell, decided him, in the spring of 1842, to go to Bay-du-Noquet, where Willard was engaged in the fur trade.



## CHAPTER V.

### PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS.

A POINT has now been reached in this paper where it will be more convenient to use the pronoun of the first person singular, and accordingly I will say that my recollections of the passage of Gen. Scott and his troops up the lakes, in 1832; my intimacy with Indians, annually renewed by their visits to Detroit and Malden, Canada, to receive payments; my acquaintance with all the old-time French fur traders and their offspring, at Detroit, and of the traditions told me by the Snelling boys of their father and their grandfather, Col. Snelling, all conspired to imbue me with a romantic idea of "*going out West*" into the Indian territory that has never yet been realized. At my father's table I had heard Col. Boyer, the Indian agent at Green Bay, speak in glowing terms of that beautiful sheet of water and its rock-bound islands and harbors; and I had also heard the Williams, of Pontiac and Saginaw, as well as my mother's cousin, Dr. Houghton, speak in my presence of Indian traditions relating to silver and copper mines upon Lake Superior. I asked myself then, with boyish fancies, why I could not find one. My dream of the conquest of fortune was at first rather rudely dispelled upon my arrival at my brother's house, but upon mature reflection I decided not to return to Detroit.

I found my brother in very poor health and about to move to the upper Mississippi. The climate of this lovely region, even at that early day, was extolled by the fur traders for its salubrity, and for persons suffering from any form of lung disease it was thought to be almost a specific. Exposures and excesses frequently incident to frontier life had left their marks upon Willard, and I at once decided to aid in his removal to a dryer atmosphere.

Will bought of the Chippewas and fitted out two of their largest bark canoes, and after selling to Mr. Lacy, of Green Bay, all of his stock of furs, and loading his sloop, "The Rodolph," with choice maple sugar, he closed out the remnant of his winter stock of goods to the Indians encamped on the shores of Green Bay, taking in payment their choicest furs and peltries.



Upon his arrival at the city of Green Bay all of the purchases made from the Indians were disposed of at enormous profits, including one of the bark canoes, capable of carrying about four thousand pounds. The other canoe Will loaded with the lighter fabrics of his trade, and, after a few days' delay in procuring a suitable pilot, or guide, started up through the rapids of Fox river.

My brother was accompanied by his wife, *née* Matilda Desnoyer, who was of the old French stock of Desnoyers, myself, a voyager, and an old Menominee Indian pilot, who spoke Chippewa well, and said he belonged to the band of Osh-kosh. The Indian went with us only to the head of the rapids, or foot of Lake Winnebago, as agreed upon, but gave us so clear a description of the route to be followed to Fort Winnebago, that we reached that ancient portage without assistance or difficulty.

At the Buttes du Mort (the mounds of the dead), we found a most intelligent mixed-blood trader, named Grignon, a descendant of the celebrated French officer Langlade, who offered us generous hospitality and inducements to remain with him. I think that the maiden name of my brother's wife, Desnoyer, influenced the old trader upon its incidentally becoming known to him, for he spoke in the highest terms of the Desnoyer family as personal friends of his in troubled times. Grignon told us that "the mounds of the dead" had no relation to the battle with the Fox Indians, fought on the opposite side of the stream, but were ancient tumuli, of which none but the most vague traditions existed.

After a day's rest, we pushed on up through the intricate windings of Fox river.

We were not very heavily loaded, our cargo consisting for the most part of calicoes, red, green and blue cloths, blankets, cutlery, beads, and other baubles, so that upon the whole our trip was a very pleasant one. Some of the Winnebagoes encountered on the way were at first inclined to be somewhat surly, and demurred to the prices fixed upon the goods, and no doubt our firm and non-chalant demeanor was all that prevented an attack from one encampment, where it was intimated a tribute would be acceptable. This intimation angered my brother, and in a choice vocabulary of *blank* Chippewa, which their association with the Menominees of Green Bay enabled them to understand, Will poured into their unwilling ears sounds that utterly silenced them. The Ho-chunk-o-raws, or "Sweet Singers," as some translate their name, changed their

tune and brought out their remaining furs, and would have loaded our frail bark at our own prices, to the top of the gunnels.

Willard expected to sell the furs collected on this journey at Fort Winnebago, but failed to do so, as the enterprising trader and commercial traveler of the St. Louis, or Choteau Company, had already made his annual rounds, and had started for Prairie Du Chien. However, by some unexpected delay, we met La 'bath after we had started from the Portage, and were assured of a sale at "La Prairie."

At the Portage, our canoe and its bulky cargo were transported by wagon to the Wisconsin, down which, after having been "pocketed" a few times in misleading channels, we journeyed triumphantly.

At Prairie Du Chien, we met Charles Le Grave, a merchant, whose family I had known in Detroit, and also the trader La 'bath, both of whom were willing to purchase our furs, but at reduced rates.

We did not quite realize expectations in the final sale of our Indian commodities, for the season had too far advanced for the profitable sale of furs. Consulting with Le Grave, after a long conversation with La 'bath regarding the upper Mississippi, we took their advice and decided to go to the "Soaking Mountain," known now as Trempealeau.

We were told that in the near future the site of the village would be the emporium of trade, and we were assured of a hearty welcome from a hospitable Kentucky pioneer named Reed. By the treaty of November 1, 1837, the Sioux and the Winnebagoes mixed bloods ceded to the United States all their territory on the east side of the Mississippi, and it was supposed by the old traders that town sites would become of great value. Francis La'bath, though a half-breed Sioux, had the energy, if not the business capacity, of a railroad magnate, and as a trader and collector of furs for the American Fur Company, he had become familiar with the Indian territory of the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers.

In addition to his trips of purchase for the fur company he had personal interests to supervise, for he had established small posts and wood-yards at several points for trade on the Mississippi between Prairie du Chien and Lake Pepin. La'bath's first post was at the head of the "Battle Slough," where Black Hawk was defeated, and it was generally managed by La'bath in person. He had another

small post on the east side of the river, about three miles below La Crosse, that commanded the trade of Root river and vicinity and was an important winter post. Root river was known to the Winnebagoes as Cah-he-o-mon-ah, or Crow river, and not the Cah-he-rah, or Menominee river, as stated by some writers. The Sioux also called Root river Cah-hay Wat-pah, because of the nesting of crows in the large trees of its bottom lands. In the winter of 1838-9 James Douville and Antoine Reed (Canadians) established themselves at Trempealeau in the interest of La'bath, but more to hold the town site than for the purposes of trading with the Indians. A wood-yard was established on the head of the island opposite Trempealeau, and some land cultivated by Douville, but nothing of consequence done to induce a settlement at Trempealeau. La'bath was a cousin of the last chief Wah-pa-sha, and as a half-breed was allowed to establish himself where white men were prohibited from settling.

In accordance with La'bath's privileges he was interested in the half-breed tract at what is now Wabasha, and had petty posts established at every point where trade might be secured. At or near what is now Minnesota City, on the Rolling Stone, Labeth placed his nephew, Joseph Bonette, to trade with the Wah-pa-sha band, and abandoning his lower posts, established one a few miles below the mouth of White-water, at a point known as the Bald Bluff. This post was known to the Winnebagoes as Nees-skas-hay-kay-roh, or White-water Bluff, while his Rolling Stone post was called Nees-skas-hone-none-nig-ger-ah, or Little White-water. The Sioux name for White-water is Minne-ska, and for Rolling Stone E-om-bo-dot-tah. Wat-pah, a river or creek, is sometimes added, though not often, as the creek, like many words in Indian, is to be understood. It should be understood that most of the petty posts established on Indian territory were temporary huts of logs for winter quarters, occupied and again abandoned when no longer serviceable to an ever-changing trade.

A short time previous to the breaking out of the Black Hawk war, a war-party of Sauks attacked an encampment of Dali-ko-tahs on Money creek. The young daughter of the Sioux war-chief Wah-kon-de-o-tah was captured and was being hurried from the camp, when her cries were heard by her father. With a spirit worthy of his name he rushed through the rear guard of the foe, and with his own war-club alone brained three of those who had opposed the rescue of his child. At the sound of his war-whoop his braves

instantly came to his support, and few of the Sauks were left to tell of their defeat. This attack, though so bravely repulsed, alarmed the Wah-pa-sha band, and after the fight they made their principal encampment in Wisconsin, near the Trempealeau mountain, until after the treaty of 1837. Their spring gatherings and dances were still held, however, at Keoxa. This statement was recently given me by a half-blood Sioux and Winnebago relative of Wah-pa-sha, who was in the fight of over fifty years ago on Money creek.

This statement is confirmed by the Grignons, who inform me that their uncle La Bath vacated many petty posts when threatened, and reoccupied them again when the supposed danger was past.

The post at the Rolling Stone was finally abandoned in about 1840. Joseph Borrette, who was then in charge of La Bath's trading post, built a small cabin near the site of the Green Bay elevator, at East Moor, which served as a winter post until about 1843, when it too was abandoned. During the winter of 1842-3 I attended a payment held in the oak grove below where the elevator now stands, and which, I think, proved to be the last one made individually to the Wa-pa-sha band. Mr. Dousman and others from Prairie du Chien were present to look after their interests, but with all their sagacity and experience there were transient traders enough with "spirit water" to gobble up a liberal share of the five-franc pieces then paid the Indians, to the no small disgust of the agent. All after-payments were either paid in goods, or if in coin, the payment was paid in bulk at Fort Snelling. La Bath's relationship to Wah-pa-sha gave him great personal influence, and by his advice James Reed was selected and appointed as their farmer and storekeeper. Soon after Reed's appointment he employed Alexander Chienvere, a son-in-law, to break fifteen acres of land at the Gilmore valley for the band, and Charles H. Perkins, who married Miss Farnam, Reed's stepdaughter, was soon after employed to break ten acres more for Wah-pa-sha on the east side of Burns' creek, on what is now Miss Maggie Burns' farm. When that work was done the chief declared himself well satisfied, and sent the workmen back to Reed.

La Bath himself was employed by the fur company for a number of years, but his nephew, Joseph Borrette, kept up the trade of his uncle, with varying success, until about 1844, when all of the petty posts were abandoned. Those old cabins served as stopping-places in winter for the old mail-carriers, Lewis Stram, Baptist and Alex. Chienvere, and others, and the one on the Prairie island above.



Winona was occupied by old Goulah, a French Canadian, who had been for some years in the service of La Bath, but, growing too old for journeyings in the wilderness, was placed in charge of a wood-yard established by La Bath on the island above the Wah-ma-dee bluffs, now Fountain City. But to return. We renewed our supplies of provisions and left "La Prairie" buoyant with hope, a south wind wafting our *bark* up the Me-ze-see-bee, or great river, of the Chippewas. We arrived at La Crosse in the delightful month of June, 1842, and were received by the trading firm of Myrick & Miller in a very courteous manner. They then occupied a mere shanty or small log cabin, but were at work upon the foundation of what afterward grew to a house of fair dimensions, though the architecture was somewhat of the *composite* order. To their original structure they afterward added a hewn block-house, Indian room, and frame addition, and this building, a warehouse, stable, and other outbuildings belonging to the firm, formed the nuclei of La Crosse. There has been some discussion between Mr. Nathan Myrick, of the old firm of Myrick & Miller, relating to the first settlement of La Crosse; and while I concede the possibility of a house having been erected on the prairie before that of Mr. Myrick's was built, I do not believe it, as no evidence of the fact was seen, or the event talked of, by any of the old traders. On the contrary, Reed, who as a soldier had camped on the prairie some years before 1842, spoke of Myrick & Miller as the pioneer settlers of La Crosse. Even though a small cabin had been built before Myrick's arrival, running fires or government steamboats, the crews of which had to provide wood while on their voyages, would have removed every vestige of the fact of the building's previous existence; and besides this, until the ratification of the treaty of November, 1837, the Winnebago Indians would allow no permanent settlement upon their domain east of the Mississippi without a special arrangement with them.

Upon landing at La Crosse, Miller was especially hospitable, and offered to wager us "the skoots" that we would not find another such a chance for settlement as La Crosse afforded, and urged us to remain and help build up a city. We were not then very favorably impressed with the advantages claimed for La Crosse, but thanked Miller for his courtesy and interest in our behalf. Finding us firm in our purpose of visiting the "Rattlesnake hills," as he and Dousman called the Trempealeau bluffs, he volunteered to aid us in



locating a claim, and to break up sufficient ground for a potato-patch should we return after seeing how *immense* the rattlesnakes were up at "Jim Reed's town."

Miller was a man of most generous impulses and strong attachment, but crosses rendered him as stubborn as resistance itself, and this quality subsequently marred his happiness.

After renewed assurances of good fellowship between Willard and Miller, mellowed, no doubt, by a few *private* interviews, we continued on up the broad river, resting in the shade of the forest-clad bluffs, while our light canoe ploughed its course at their base, or stopping at other times where a gushing crystal fountain invited us to blend its limpid waters with our midday lunch.

The Eagle's Nest (the remains of which may still be seen), now known as the "Queen Bluff," because of its surpassing beauty and perpendicular height, had living occupants, as we were informed, that had held possession for many years before. Subsequently they were dispossessed by Reed and some of his Dah-ko-tah friends to celebrate a war-dance. At Catlin's Rocks, now Richmond, we found the red paint discernible that marked Catlin's name; and had it been used to paint one of his savage chiefs, it would have rendered the canvas more imperishable than the rocks that still bear his name.

The wind rising up for a vesper breeze, we put on all sail, and in a short half-hour's run landed at Trempealeau.

James Reed, his son-in-law, James Dauville, Joseph Borrette, and others of the family, came down to the river bank to greet us, and after explaining our purpose in coming, and presenting a letter from Le Grave, Reed invited us to his house, and soon had his whole household interested in our welfare. We were invited to supper, and the manner in which it was done precluded a declination of the hospitality. We retired early, but not until a sheltered place for a winter home had been suggested for us by Reed.

Reed was at our camp early next morning, and leading the way to a most refreshing spring in a little valley above the present site of the village, Willard selected it for a temporary residence, until, as he said, he should be able to learn something of the country. We asked Reed in reference to danger from rattlesnakes, and were told that, to annoy him, or retaliate for disparaging remarks he had made about a miserably poor dog having been used in naming the "Dog Prairie" (Prairie du Chien), Dousman had retorted by calling

his Trempeleau village site "The Rattle-Snake Hills"; and the worst part of it is, said Reed, "he directs all his letters by steamboat in that way, and nervous people will scarcely land." It was evident to both Willard and myself that Dousman's name was not entirely a fiction, and we adroitly returned to the subject. Reed finally confessed that though he had been there but two years, having established himself in 1840, he had seen quite a number of rattlesnakes; but his hogs, he said, were fast exterminating them, and he hoped they would soon disappear, for, said he, "old hunter as I am, *I step high in going through the ferns and grasses of the bluffs.*" The Winnebago name of the locality, Wa-kon-ne-shauh-ga, means the place of rattlesnakes on the river. We were told by Reed that it was the westernmost peak of the range that was called by Hennepin La Montaigne, qui Trompe-a L'eau, and that the name was a translation (probably understood by signs) of the Winnebago name of Hay-nec-ah-chaw, which signified about the same thing, that is, that the mountain was "getting pretty wet." The Sioux called the mountain Pah-ha-dah, "The Moved Mountain." La Crosse was so named by the French, because during peaceful eras the most athletic of the Indian tribes in the surrounding country assembled to play Indian shinny-ball, called Wah-lin-lin-ah, staking horses, blankets, wampum, and sometimes even their squaw slaves, on the issues of their national game. The lower end of the prairie, near Michel's brewery, was the place of assembly; but the game of ball was so common among all Indians, that the name of their game was never given to a locality. At one time, along the foot of the bluffs, back of the sandy portion of the prairie, within the memory even of white settlers, that locality was famous for strawberries, and for this reason the Sioux called La Crosse Wah-zoos-te-cah, meaning the place of strawberries, when La Crosse was designated, but the Winnebagoes, more given to naming localities from peculiarities in the geological formation of their country, called the La Crosse valley to its junction with the Mississippi, E-nook-wah-zee-rah, because of the fancied resemblance of two prominent mound-shaped peaks north of La Crosse to a woman's breasts.

Coon creek was called Wah-keh-ne-shan-i-gah, and the mounds situated on Coon prairie were said to have been remarkable for the number of stone and copper implements found in and about them. Black river was appropriately called Minnesap-pah, by the Dah-ko-

tahs, and Ne-sheb-er-ah by the Winnebagoes, both names signifying black-water. The Trempealeau river was called Ne-chaun-ne-shan-i-gah by the Winnebagoes, and Wat-a-Pah-dah, both meaning the overflowing river. The Chippewa was called by the Winnebagoes Day-got-chee, ne-shan-i-ga, meaning the river of the gartered tribe, as they called the Chippewas, and the Sioux called it Haha-tone Wat-pah, meaning the river of the dwellers at the falls (as the Chippewas were known to the Sioux), as it was one of the principal routes of travel to the Chippewa country. Beef slough and Beef river were both called by the Sioux Tah-ton-kah-wat-pah, and by the Winnebagoes Te-chay-ne-shan-i-gah, because of the locality being the last resort of the buffalo east of the Mississippi, though some were seen on Trempealeau prairie at a very late date. The Winnebagoes called the site of Winona, De-cone-uck, and the whole prairie Ose-cah-he-atch-chaw, meaning the prairie village, or its equivalent. The Dah-ko-tahs called it Ke-ox-ah, translated to mean the homestead. The French called it La Prairie Aux-Ailes (pronounced O'Zell), or Prairie of Wing's,—for what reason I have been unable to learn, but as the Wah-pa-sha village was colonized from the Red Wing band, it would appear as if the Indians of the village of Ke-ox-ah might have been known to the early French traders as one of the Red Wing villages.

Ke-ox-ah seems to have a specific meaning, like Tee-pe-o-tah, or O-ton-we, both of which mean a village or collection of tents, but Reed thought "The Homestead" as good an interpretation as could be given the word. Reed was not a very good linguist, and said that he had been frequently misled like Gov. Doty, who, while mapping Fox river, supposed Ne-nah, or water, to be the Indian name of the river, and at once put it down on his map as Ne-nah, or Fox river, and for a number of years it so appeared on the official maps of the state. James Reed informed us that he had been in the United States army under Col. Zachary Taylor at Prairie du Chien, and that during trips to the pineries of the Chippewa, under command of Lieut. Jefferson Davis and others, the beauty of the site of Trempealeau, and the scenery of the river above and below, had so impressed him that he had resolved to settle there when his term of service should have expired. His purpose was delayed for various causes, as he came to Prairie du Chien when quite young, but finally, after many years, Reed had established himself and was in comfortable circumstances. At the time of our arrival Reed had a

large drove of cattle and young horses, which the Indians never stole, but would ride occasionally, to his great annoyance, as they galled the backs of his horses and thus exposed their brutality. The houses erected by Gavin, the Swiss missionary, and his associates, Louis Stram and others, in 1837-8, upon the land now owned by the Trowbridge brothers, east of the Lake of the Mountain, were used by the Winnebagoes and their Sioux relations to catch the horses, as in fly-time the horses would go into the dark log cabins to escape these pests. During the summer of our arrival Reed burnt up the cabins to abate the nuisance, saying that they would never be of further use for missionary purposes. By the treaty of 1837 the Sioux, and the Winnebagoes allied to them, had agreed to remove west of the Mississippi. This agreement was not fulfilled until 1840, the year of Reed's settlement at "Monte-ville," as he used to call his location at times, and this fact will account for the persistent efforts of the Swiss to establish their mission. The Sioux Indians, according to Reed, were very willing to have Monsieur Gavin, Lewis Stram, and others on the east side of the Mississippi, cultivate corn and vegetables to give them (all for the love of God), but they preferred their dog-feasts, sun and scalp dances, to the pious teachings of the missionaries, and after one or two years of hopeless work the missionaries left their Trempealeau mission and farm work in disgust.

Like most Kentuckians, Reed was very fond of horses, and had improved his stock by the importation of a young thoroughbred stallion. The brute was a very intelligent animal, and refused to be ridden by any of Reed's family of boys, who were then quite young. Reed bantered me to ride the horse, saying, "If you will subdue him you can use him as your own."

Reed himself was a good horseman, but thought himself rather old to ride the colt. I accepted the old Kentuckian's kindly offer, and so won upon him by subduing his stallion that a horse was always at my service. The stallion, a beautiful iron-gray, after a term of service, was sold to an officer at Fort Snelling.

James Reed was a remarkable man in many respects, and one of the best types of a pioneer hunter and trapper I ever knew. His first wife was a Pottawatomic woman, by whom he had five children, four of whom are still living; his son John, also a great hunter, died from a gunshot wound accidentally inflicted by his own hand while hunting deer. Reed's second wife was the widow of the trader



Farnam, a partner of Col. Davenport, who was murdered at Rock Island a number of years since. Reed's stepdaughter, Miss Mary Ann Farnam, married Mr. Charles H. Perkins, and is still living near Trempealeau. Reed's last wife was the estimable widow Grignon, mother of Antoine and Paul Grignon, of Trempealeau. Mrs. Grignon was the sister of Francis La Bath, the noted fur-trader, and a cousin to the younger chief Wah-pa-sha. She was first married to a French Canadian named Borrette, to whom was born Joseph Borrette, who so many years managed La Bath's post at the Rolling Stone.

To Mrs. Grignon-Reed and her intelligent family I am much indebted for interesting facts connected with the pioneer settlement of Trempealeau and Winona counties. Mrs. Reed's death was an irreparable loss to her family, and a subject of regret to all who knew her. For several years in succession Reed used the land cultivated by Louis Stram, the first Indian farmer, who had tried to act in concert with his countrymen the Swiss missionaries; and while thanking his stars for finding land already for his use, Reed said that the austere and industrious character of the missionaries rendered them unpopular with Wah-pa-sha and his band.

According to La 'bath, both Stram and the government blacksmith at the present site of Homer were somewhat afraid of the Sioux Indians. Francis du Chouquette, the blacksmith, removed his forge to the island opposite Homer, known as The Blacksmith's Island, and after a raid by a war-party upon the Wah-pa-sha village he left his forge and anvil upon the island and fled to Prairie du Chien. My brother Willard found the anvil, and it was in use for some years in Homer. Upon the site of Du Chouquette's shop in Homer I occasionally find fragments of iron and cinder, and the spring, walled up by him, was intact only a few years since.

The next attempt to proselyte the Sioux and establish in their village at Winona was made by the Rev. J. D. Stevens, who, according to my information, had an appointment of some kind as farmer and chaplain. His efforts were no more successful than had been his Swiss predecessors Louis Stram and Mr. Gavin. Reed used to regard the discomfiture of Protestant missionaries *with resignation*, and say that if the Sioux would not receive the Roman Catholics, with the influence of the French mixed bloods to aid them, it was simply out of the question for Protestants to succeed.

According to Reed and La 'bath, Stevens got lost in an attempt



to reach the camp of Wah-pa-sha, but was found and kindly treated by one of the band, and after an interview with the chief, in which he was told that no white man would be allowed to settle on their territory, Stevens crossed over to the Wisconsin shore opposite Winona and made a temporary shelter for himself and assistants, and then left for provisions and to confer with the authorities. He finally abandoned his attempt to make unwilling christians of heathen savages. La 'bath could probably have changed the ordering of affairs in Wah-pa-sha's counsels, but it was not his interest to do so, and besides, he believed that but one revealed religion existed upon earth, the Catholic, which he professed. The half-breeds were all Catholics; and although they exerted a most potent influence against any Protestant interference with the Sioux, they never interfered with the medicine-men, but joined, like Frontenac, in their scalp-dances and ceremonies. Hence their great influence with them.

In 1841 another attempt to settle upon the site of Winona was made by Thomas Holmes and Robert Kennedy and their families, but they were not allowed to establish themselves on the prairie. After several offers made to Wah-pa-sha, and his refusal to allow the establishment of those men among his people, they opened a trading-post at the Wah-ma-dee, or Eagle Bluffs. This point of trade was for some years known as Holmes' Landing, but is now called Fountain City, from the numerous fountain-like springs that supply its inhabitants. Soon after we arrived at Reed's village of "Monteville," we made the acquaintance of Holmes and Kennedy and their families, and a man in their employ named Smothers. Tom Holmes, the moving spirit of the trio, was the most persistent of pioneers, and had aided in the early settlement of Rockford, and other towns in Illinois, and after leaving the "Landing," commenced the settlement of Shockpay on the Minnesota river.

Holmes' first wife was the sister of Kennedy, who was from Baltimore, and both were accustomed to good living and knew how to prepare it, as they had kept a hotel in Maryland. My brother and myself took dinner at their house while aiding Captain Eaton (of the firm of Carson & Eaton) to drive cattle up the Chippewa. Eaton and a man named Darby had had their horses stolen from them by the Winnebagoes near La Crosse, and were left on foot to drive a large drove of cattle. Near the head of what is now called the Mississippi slough six shots were fired at us by a small party of

Sioux from Red Wing's band, one of which broke a leg of an ox, and the others cut twigs of trees over our heads. While this interesting target practice was going on I ambushed the Sioux riflemen, and but for Captain Eaton and my brother would have killed two of the *war party*, as I had them at my mercy. While relating our experience to Holmes, I observed a peculiar smile and glance of intelligence from his wife, and upon inquiry found that in our ignorance of Dah-ko-tah, Captain Eaton had offered a deadly insult to the Indians while trying to ask our way. However, the Red Wing band subsequently paid for the ox disabled by the Sioux, as I was informed, a year or two afterward.

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## CHAPTER VI.

### WINONA CITY IN EMBRYO.

AFTER considerable exploration of the country, charmed with the scenery and pleased with the soil and water, we decided to build a house in the little valley pointed out to us by Reed, and where we had before built a small cabin. When our determination was made known, Reed, his son-in-law Dauville, and a hired man and team, came at once to aid us, and we soon had raised up a comfortable log house. A year or two after Reed's appointment as farmer and sub-agent of the Wah-pah-sha band, I returned the favor in part by aiding Reed to construct the body of the first house ever built in Winona. The men who aided me in "carrying up the corners" were Joseph Borrette, Reed's wife's son, a nephew of La Bath, James Dauville, Reed's son-in-law, and a Canadian named Goulet, alternately employed by Reed as cattle-grazer, woodchopper and storekeeper. Goulet had been previously employed by La Bath at Minnesota City, knew Wah-pa-sha and his band thoroughly, and was quite a favorite with them. While in Reed's service at Prairie island, he was found by some of the Sioux in a state of intoxication, badly burnt from having fallen in the fire, and died soon after from the effects of his debauch. After the loss of his office by the prospective removal of the Sioux, Reed took down the building and floated the sawed lumber, the valuable portion of it, to Trempealeau, where it was used as an addition to his residence. When he settled upon his

farm at Little Tamarach, he sold his residence and lots in the village to Mr. Ben Healy, and some clear joists and other lumber that had been used in Reed's Winona building now constitute a part of the large wooden store building of Mr. Fred Kribs, the principal hardware merchant of Trempealeau. During a recent visit Mr. Kribs and Antoine Grignon pointed out to me some of the identical joists used in 1844 by us in the construction of Reed's storehouse for government supplies, and which was also used as a residence for himself and men while performing their duties. The body of the house was built of white-ash logs, cut by John La Point and Goulet, Reed's men, and floated from the islands above the present city, and it occupied a spot near the store of S. C. White. It has been supposed by some that the Rev. J. D. Stevens built a temporary abode upon the site of Winona, but there were no inducements offered him to do so, and after his decided repulse by the Wah-pa-sha band, it would have been foolhardy for him to have attempted it. Reed, the Grignons, and the Indians all agree in this, that no missionaries were acceptable to Wah-pa-sha, and when he made his final treaty, he insisted as a condition of the treaty that money alone should be paid him, and that he should be allowed to manage his own affairs without interference of any kind with his band. Some ash logs left by Reed were used in erecting a cabin which was pulled down by Capt. Johnson, and they were finally cut up for firewood.

My brother Willard was much pleased with the game the country afforded, and made frequent excursions with Reed for brook-trout and deer. Reed was a great hunter, but had been too long among Indians to needlessly offend them by slaughtering their game, but as he had a large family he needed large supplies of meat, and it was no unusual occurrence for him and my brother to return from a fire-hunt with three or four red deer in their canoes, or from a fishing excursion with a gross or more of brook-trout. A favorite resort for trout was the spring brook or creek upon which the Pick-Wick mills are situated, and which Willard named Trout creek. The east branch of the creek, where he caught six dozen in about two hours' fishing, he called "Little Trout."

As for deer, there was never a scarcity, for the whole range of bluffs on the Minnesota side, or right bank of the Mississippi, was a favorite resort for them. Here were acorns in plenty, and after they had eaten what satisfied them, the deer went out upon some promontory of bluff to watch their enemies, or descended to some breezy

sandbar to escape the stings of the deer-fly. At nightfall the merciless attacks of gnats and mosquitos drove the deer into the waters of creeks and rivers, and as the bewildering firelight of the hunter noiselessly approached them in the light canoe, the deer fell a victim to his curiosity. The flashing eyes of the deer reflected back the torchlight, and told with unerring certainty where to direct the murderous shot. Outside of the timber, on the borders of the prairies but a short distance from Winona, elk were abundant, and a little farther west buffalo were still to be found quite numerous. We were told by Reed that only a few years previous to our arrival buffalo were seen on Trempealeau prairie and on the big prairie slough at the mouth of the Chippewa river known as Buffalo Slough prairie.

Upon one of my numerous excursions to St. Paul and Fort Snelling I remember seeing Gen. Sibley return from a successful buffalo hunt, and he told me that in times past they had been seen from the knobs almost in sight of his establishment. The General was noted as an expert hunter and scientific rifle-shot, but upon the expedition referred to his delight in the chase was cut short by a sprained ankle received by the fall of his horse.

On the buffalo slough or channel of the Chippewa, around jutting points, deep trails were visible, where buffalo had repeatedly passed to water, and these were in common use by elk and deer at the date of our arrival in the country.

Willard's use of the Chippewa tongue for a time prejudiced his interests as a trader, and he did not embark in the business among the Sioux for some time after his arrival here. In the autumn of 1842 he and a Menominee Indian of great repute went up the Trempealeau river to hunt and trap, and in order to escape observation, and perhaps for convenience, he duplicated his Indian comrade's costume throughout. At that time there was some danger from raiding parties of Chippewas, and Will said that if any should be encountered, his knowledge of their language and his costume, unlike that of the Sioux, would be his safeguard.

Will made a very successful hunt, and as furs were quite high in those days, the skins brought in sold for a considerable sum of money. In an oak grove above the site of Dodge my brother killed three bears in one day. His dog, a very noted one, obtained from Capt. Martin Scott, brought the bears to a stand, and he killed them in quick succession. At Elk creek, named during his hunt, he killed a couple of elk, and the Indian killed some also, but how many I



have forgotten. The Menominee had, during the fall before, caught over fifty beavers, but while upon the hunt with Willard he had almost totally failed to trap that cunning animal. Finding himself outwitted by the beaver, and surpassed in skill as a hunter, the Indian became moody, and began a fast to propitiate the evil influences that he believed were assailing him. Will tried to reassure him, but to no purpose; so, after repeated successes on Will's part, and failures of the Menominee to catch the coveted beaver, they dried their meat, and taking the skins of the elk killed, they stretched them over a willow boat-frame, and thus equipped, their hunting canoes on each side of their skin boat, they descended the Trempealeau just as the ice was about to close the Mississippi. Will returned alone to that once noted resort of beaver, mink and otter, and as the warm spring branches were seldom closed by ice, he was able to catch those valuable furred animals in winter. The beaver skins were at that time worth about \$4 per pound. Game was quite abundant in those early days, for there were no vandal hunters to wantonly destroy it, or if they did the Indians were very likely to *destroy them*. Wild fowl and pigeons nested in the country and raised their broods undisturbed. As for myself, I was no hunter in its proper sense, and having repeatedly missed deer at short range, and standing broadside to me, I determined to learn the only art that would command the respect of the pioneer settlers, or instill a wholesome dread of my marksmanship among the warlike Sioux. My failure to kill deer was more a habit of preoccupation than a want of ability to shoot, for with my rifle, a target gun, I could pick off the heads of grouse or pigeons, and at a mark I had repeatedly excelled Willard and Reed, who were noted among the Indians even as the best hunters on the Mississippi, excepting, perhaps, Joe Rock, of Wah-pa-sha, and Philo Stone, of the Chippewa river. The grand climax, to my chagrin, was reached when Reed accused me of "buck fever." I repelled the accusation with scorn, and aiming at the eye of the next deer I shot at, it fell in its tracks, and for ever after I was able to kill elk, bear and deer, with about equal facility.

In September, 1843, in company with Tom Holmes, Wm. Smothers and my brother, I went up the Trempealeau river for the purpose of hunting elk, but our purpose was frustrated by almost incessant rain while we were on the hunt. A few deer were killed by my brother, who knew the ground hunted over, but I killed nothing but a few pinnated grouse, and a goose which I brought

down with my rifle as it was flying over our camp. Neither Holmes nor Smothers killed anything, but they caught a few beavers and muskrats, the skins of which were not prime. While at the mouth of Elk creek we saw an aerolite pass over our camp, which must have been of unusual size, judging from the attending phenomena. We were afterward informed that several had been seen within the memory of some old Indians, to their great bewilderment.

During the winter of 1842-3 we made some improvements, visited La Crosse, Holmes' Landing, Black River Falls, and made a few trading expeditions to winter encampments of the Sioux and Winnebagoes. Our commerce was carried on principally by the sign-language, sticks often representing numerals above the capacity of the fingers and memory of the Indians to carry. Although the Sioux still called my brother Ha-ha-tone, the Chippewa, he was rapidly gaining their esteem, and his success as a hunter commanded their admiration. As a consequence he was in demand as a trader. I made several trips with him that were very successful, and one with Nathan Myrick that was memorable. Upon one occasion, while Nathan Myrick and myself were attempting to reach Decorah's camp upon the "Broken Gun Slough," a branch of Black river, during an exceedingly cold night in winter, Myrick drove his horse into an air-hole that had been filled by drifted snow, and but for the well-known war-whoop of Decorah, who I had informed of the event upon running to his camp, the horse would have disappeared under the ice, for Myrick was nearly benumbed with the cold when I returned to him with the aid the war-whoop had instantly called to our assistance. A few minutes sufficed for the Winnebagoes to get the horse out of the Mississippi, but being unable to rise to his feet, the horse was dragged to the shore, blanketed and rubbed until warmth was restored, when he was taken to Decorah's camp and a fire built for his comfort by order of the chief. It is due to savage hospitality that the event be recorded.

The Indians of those early times were not always as humane and considerate as Decorah. Many times I have been fired at while passing them in a canoe, simply to gratify their innate dislike of white men. Sometimes my canoe would be hit, but as a rule they would direct their shots so as to skim the water at my side or just ahead of me. To vary their diversion, if they caught me pre-occupied, they would steal upon me and discharge their rifles so near as to give the impression that it was not really all fun that was

intended. Reed assured me that I was daily gaining in favor among the Sioux, and that if I would join in one of their sun-dances and go through the ordeal I might become a chief. He further informed me that I was called Wah-sheets-sha, meaning the Frenchman, a distinguishing mark of their favor, that most likely had saved my scalp from adornment with vermilion and ribbons. Partly to reciprocate their interest in me, and to confirm them in the good opinion Reed had facetiously said they were forming of me, against the advice of the old traders, I pitched two Winnebagoes out of the house when the next proof of their friendship was offered me, and giving the oldest son of Decorah (then head chief by inheritance) a deserved thrashing for a wanton display of his affection, I was not again troubled by any of their ordeals.

Previous to that time Willard and myself had been frequently annoyed, and sometimes angered, by the insults offered us, although aware that our nerve was simply being tested; but we had decided to put an end to all future attempts at Indian levity; and when soon after five rifles of a hunting party were leveled at me when I was unarmed, I told the Indians, who complemented me for not flinching, that it was well for them I had no rifle to aim at them!

Willard and myself were both able, in due time, to make the Indians respect us, but many white people had their traps stolen and their blankets appropriated by the young warriors anxious to win a reputation for bravery.

Early in the spring of 1843 Peter Cameron, a transient trader and fur buyer, came to La Crosse with a kind of keelboat loaded with goods, and after taking possession of an unoccupied cabin, and securing the services of Asa White to manage his affairs in La Crosse, concluded to make a trading voyage up the Mississippi in advance of any steamboat.

Cameron made me a proposition to go with him, allowing me pay for my services, and the privilege of taking, as a venture in trade, certain goods I wished to dispose of, and of a kind he had not in his cargo.

I had almost an intuitive perception of the draft of water, and had picked up considerable of the Sioux tongue. My prospective usefulness induced Cameron to make me a good offer, and I accepted it.

Cameron was a sharp, keen trader, and one of the best judges of furs that ever came up the river.

The boat selected for the voyage up the Mississippi was built for

a supply boat on Black river. It was about forty feet long, seven or eight feet wide, and eighteen inches deep, too low for safety, in Lake Pepin, but the trader was anxious and adventurous, and Dousman, Brisbois, Rice and Sibley had, by astute management, got possession of the trade, not only at Fort Atkinson, but of the entire upper Mississippi. Hence, if any furs were to be purchased by outside traders, they were required to be sharp and adventurous. It was rumored that the Ewing company of Fort Wayne, Indiana, were first crippled and then floored by Rice, who succeeded Dousman in the management of the Choteau company below, while Gen. Sibley had control of the trade at the mouth of the Minnesota river.

The great St. Louis company were also filling up the spaces between their largest stations with smaller traders in their interest. Therefore transient traders had to watch their opportunities, and pounce down upon the tidbits as occasion afforded.

Cameron and myself decided that if we could get safely through Lake Pepin in advance of the steamboat Otter, which it was understood would go through the lake as soon as the ice was out, we would be reasonably sure of making handsome profits on our ventures.

My packages were light, but Cameron piled in barrel after barrel of whisky, pork, flour and heavy articles that greatly endangered our safety.

We started as soon as loaded, taking as pilot an old French voyageur named Le Vecq, and a half-breed that had been employed by James Reed at times, and who was a most excellent hand when on duty. We rigged a large square-sail, and had a long line to run out ahead in swift water, but were so favored by the southerly spring winds that we ran up to the foot of the lake without having had to dip an oar. At the widow Hudson's (now Reed's Landing) we had a good trade, and by my advice Cameron was induced to sell a few barrels of pork and flour to lighten our boat through the lake. As the nights had been clear we determined to make an attempt to go through the lake by moonlight if the wind should go down with the sun. The night came on with weird stillness and gloom, but later on toward midnight the moon came through the clouds and all was changed to brightness.

Le Point had been given permission by Cameron to go down to Rock's, or Campbell's, a short distance below where we were to await his coming. Cameron's orders were imperative to be back



when the wind fell. The wind lulled to a calm, but Le Point did not come; so after many *benedictions* had been left at the camp we started through the lake. The upper air had given token by scudding clouds of fleecy vapor that the calmness of the lower stratum might be broken at any time, but my moral courage was not great enough for me to tell my fears. Cameron was very deaf, and unconscious of danger that did not appeal to him through his sight; and as for Le Vecq, he seemed to have no judgment, and I had lost all faith in him long before we had reached the lake. We coasted along near the north shore until nearing North Pepin we were forced out from the jutting point by ice lodged upon the coast. Here for some time we halted, uncertain what to do, but discovering a narrow opening in the floe, that seemed to extend up to open water, we ventured in, rowing most lustily. We had got almost through the icy strait when I heard a roar as if Dante's inferno had been invaded and the troubled spirits let loose. The noise came gradually nearer, and I was then able to comprehend its cause. It was the ice piling higher and still higher upon the distant point above us, and as the wind had veered around to the westward a few points, the ice was being driven down upon us with great rapidity.

Time is required to tell the story, but not much was needed for the crisis to reach us. I was steering the boat, while Cameron and Le Vecq were rowing. Cameron at first did not heed my warning to prepare for danger, and showed more courage than discretion; but when he saw that we had, as if by magic, become blockaded in front, and that no time was allowed us for retreat, he wrung his hands and cried out, as if in agony of grief, "My God, Bunnell! what shall we do?" I answered: "Face the danger like men; our goods, not ourselves, are threatened; we can run ashore on the ice."

The ice was thick enough to have borne up a horse.

Our worthy bishop (Le Vecq) seemingly was not of my opinion, for dropping upon his knees, he poured forth such a torrent of invective, or invocation, it was uncertain which, as would have moved anything less cold than ice. The ice, however, came crowding on, and I instantly formed a plan to save the boat. All appeals to the devout Frenchman were useless, so I motioned Cameron to my aid, and we drew the boat to the edge of the ice on the north side of the narrowing channel, where we awaited its close. My plan was to tilt up the shore side of the boat as the ice approached to crush it, and thus make use of the overlapping ice to carry us up the



*C. W. Berry*



inclined plane of ice that the pressure in tilting the boat would form.

I unstepped the mast and placed it in readiness for use as a lever. I placed one oar beside our pilot voyageur, for use when his prayer should end, but all to no purpose—he could not be aroused. I called upon him in most vigorous terms, but in vain. Cameron again offered his services, but I wished him to bale his valuables, and he had scant time to do it ere the floe I knew would be down upon us; besides he was too deaf to hear in the noise, and as the sky was becoming rapidly overcast, sight could not be entirely depended upon. Exasperated beyond further endurance, I jerked our paralyzed guide from his prayerful stupor out upon the ice, and having made him comprehend my intention, he took the oar, the boat was tilted up at the right moment, and all was saved.

We were swept toward the shore with great steadiness and power, but as the ice was smooth, without injury of any kind. Le Vecq was sent to sleep on the land, where we had transferred our lighter goods, but Cameron and myself returned to the boat and slept soundly until daylight, when a storm of wind and rain came to break up the ice, and we were able before nightfall to cross to Bully Wells' (now Frontenac) in safety. It was April, and the wind that had subsided with the fall of rain sprang up again. The lake above was all open, but we were held wind-bound to enjoy the pioneer stories of Mr. Wells, who had established himself with a native woman some years before. Cameron chafed at Wells' recitals, and as night fell upon us, insisted that the wind had died out and that we could go on. Wells told him that if we attempted it we would probably swamp or water-log on Point-no-Point, as we could scarcely clear that iron-bound shore with the wind beating on it as it did at the time. I was able to hold Cameron in check until about two in the morning, when, exasperated by his seeming forgetfulness of the danger we had so narrowly escaped, I told him that if we beached or water-logged, his, not mine, would be the loss, and we started out into the lake to clear the point.

We got well out into the lake and had made a good offing, before we caught the swell, when it was soon made manifest to me that a sail should be set to give us headway, or we would swamp before reaching the point. I proposed the sail, but Le Vecq said to Cameron, "Suppose you hist ze sail, you go to ze dev." Just then a white cap broke over the bow gunnel of the boat, and, taking a



wooden bucket in hand, Cameron gave it to the Canadian, telling him to bail, and without reservation gave me charge of the boat. I called him to the tiller while I bent on the sail, and in a few minutes we were skimming the water like a gull. Dropping a lee-board I had taken the precaution to rig, we crawled off Point-no-point, and rounding into the cove above, landed as daylight appeared. This second display of incapacity in Le Veeq ended his career as principal voyageur, and I was installed as captain and supercargo.

We run on up to Red Wing after breaking our fast, and had already disposed of a large quantity of our heavy goods, relieving our boat the better to encounter the more rapid current, when looking down the river we saw the Otter steaming to the landing. Le Point was on board, so we at once pulled out for the St. Croix. We made a rapid run to Still-Water and Taylor's Falls, and after selling out everything at high prices, Cameron commenced buying furs for cash, having ample supplies of coin for that purpose. Taking our way back leisurely, sometimes floating with the current, at others pulling enough for steerage way, we were able to see and stop at every trading post and Indian encampment on our way down to La Crosse. At Wah-pa-sha's Village, then situated on the high ground back of the river front, west of Main street, we stayed over night. Wah-pa-sha's sister, We-no-nah, (really a cousin) gave us a tent in which to quarter for the night, saying that it was better than our cloth tent, as there was a cold rain falling at the time. In recognition of the woman's hospitality and forethought, I gave her upon leaving in the morning, a six quart pan of flour from our scanty stores, as we had no goods of any kind left. Cameron's subsequent career in La Crosse was unfortunate.

Soon after my return to La Crosse I made a trip to St. Louis, and having an Indian's memory of localities, I was able to fix the course of the Mississippi as far as Galena in my mind. There were but two steamboat pilots in those days for the entire river above Prairie Du Chien, and the services of those were always retained by the American or Chouteau Company, or by the supply steamers of the United States contractors for the Indian and military departments.

Louis Morrow, one of the pilots, was in the full vigor of mature manhood, and a more noble specimen it would be difficult to find; but the other pilot, Lewis De'-Marah, was getting old, and his sight was failing him so fast, that, as he himself said, he would soon have to

leave the river to younger eyes. Finding me interested in the course of the channel, De Marah would point it out to me when traveling with him, and in a short time after our first acquaintance he offered to teach and retain me with him on the river. I declined the offer, but my taste and passion for beautiful scenery led me to study the river while traveling upon it. At that time there were but few boats running above Prairie Du Chien regularly, and those of the smallest kind, such as the Rock River and the Otter. The Harrises of Galena were so successful with the latter boat, that they soon brought out the Light Foot, the Time and Tide, the Senator, the War Eagle and others in quick succession. The demand for those steamers created a demand for pilots, and Sam Harlow, Pleasant Cormack, Rufus Williams and George Nichols came to the front and proved themselves as capable men as ever turned a wheel. Of the lower river pilots I remember Hugh White of St. Louis as one of the best, and his services were always in demand by the Falcon Cecilia, General Brooke and other boats of the lower trade. Although I was never a member of any legislature, I was as welcome to a free ride on any of the boats named, as a modern "dead head" on any of the subsidized railroads. As there was seldom but one pilot on a boat above Prairie Du Chien who knew the river well, my services were thought to be an equivalent for all the favors shown me, and I could go to St. Louis or St. Paul at will. Upon one occasion I saved De Marah from a blunder at night, similar to the one which happened him while on the Lynx in 1844. That new and beautiful steamer was run out in 1844 on the shore below the Keye's residence by De Marah. The night was inky black, and as the fast-running steamboat steered a little hard, the watchman was called to aid De Marah at the wheel. The Lynx was on her down trip from Mendota and St. Paul, and was running at a fair rate of speed. As they reached the shore at Keye's point, a thunderstorm burst upon them; and as the lightning flashed, the open sky of Pleasant Valley revealed the overflowing water at the lower end of the prairie, and it was mistaken for the Mississippi.

The annual fires had at that time kept down all arbol growths except at the water's edge, and the sandy ridge of prairie between the river and the open water beyond had been overlooked during the momentary flash of lightning. The shadows of the Min-ne-o-way bluffs joined with the dense foliage of the islands and shut out the view to the east. The Lynx was run out several rods upon the

overflowed land before "fetching up," and when she halted, no means at the disposal of Captain Hooper could get her back into the channel. The most of the men were discharged and with a few passengers left in a yawl for Prairie Du Chien.

A few days after, while at work upon ways to slide the boat into river, the Gen. Brooke came steaming up the channel, and was hailed for assistance. After landing and viewing the situation, Capt. Throemorton decided to go on to Fort Snelling and discharge his cargo, lest some accident might forfeit his insurance, but gave Capt. Hooper assurances of aid on his return. Capt. Throemorton's great experience suggested work to be done during his absence, and on his return he was enabled to at once pull the disabled boat into the river and take her in tow. The Lynx was docked and lengthened, but she never recovered her speed, and was soon disposed of by her builders. The brick and mortar thrown overboard on the prairie in taking out her boilers has been taken by some for the remains of an old building. A short time since, while strolling on the river bank near the locality of the disaster, I picked from the sandy shore an iron pulley-wheel that probably was dropped overboard by some one on the Lynx, as the deeply rust-eaten wheel indicated that it had been many years in the sand. It may be seen in the museum of the Winona Normal school.

On May 21, 1844, a few weeks before the misfortune happened to the Lynx, Robt. D. Lester, sheriff of Crawford county, Wisconsin, was murdered by a Sioux of Little Crow's band, named O-maunhaugh-tay. A fruitless search had been made for the body, which was known to be in the river, but as the boat from the Lynx was descending, on its way to Prairie du Chien, the occupants of the boat found the swollen body in a pile of driftwood, and towed it to La Crosse, where it was buried. Mr. Lester's successor in office, Mr. Loekhart, subsequently had it removed and buried at Prairie du Chien. The murder occurred within the limits of Winona county, opposite the "Queen Bluff," and not "six miles below Reed's Landing," nor "twenty miles from La Crosse," as the historian of La Crosse county has stated.

Mr. Lester was returning from an official visit to the Chippewa mills, and stopped at Trempealeau on his way down in a canoe. His old friend Reed offered him hospitality, which he declined, but accepted a lunch to eat on his way. Lester stopped at a spring rivulet just above the Queen bluff, and while eating his lunch, which

was scanty enough, O-man-haugh-tay, on his way up from La Crosse in a canoe, landed and demanded a part of it. Lester declined a division of his scanty fare, and soon after started on his journey to Prairie du Chien. He had proceeded but a few rods, his back turned to the Indian, when the report of O-man-haugh-tay's rifle, and the body of the sheriff seen falling out of his canoe informed La Bath, who just then came in sight, that a murder had been committed. O-man-haugh-tay jumped into his canoe and fled from La Bath's approach, but not before he was recognized by La Bath, who knew the Indian as a vicious member of Little Crow's band.

La Bath informed the authorities that though he did not see the Indian until after the shot was fired, there could be no doubt but that O-man-haugh-tay had committed the murder. After considerable delay and the use of an escort of troops to capture hostages, the murderer was delivered up and taken to Prairie du Chien. He was kept there in prison for some time, and then, for reasons best known to the authorities of that period, he was taken across the river *in the night* to a landing above McGregor, and was turned loose, as stated by himself to his listening auditors.

James Reed happened to be at Keoxa (Winona) when O-man-haugh-tay arrived. Wah-pa-sha and his band received the Indian with consideration, and while a repast was being prepared for him, Reed listened to the recital of the murderer, who, among his Indian friends, made no concealments of his motives or of the murder. O-man-haugh-tay's conclusion was that the white men of the prairie were good to him, but that they were afraid of him. During his recital, after the Sioux custom, a pipe of friendship was passed around the circle of the tent; and noticing that Reed declined the proffered pipe, O-man-haugh-tay offered it to Reed in person. The audacity of the Sioux fired the old hunter, and although Reed was the only white man present, he struck the pipe to the ground and told the Indian that there was one white man who was not afraid of a dog. That epithet applied to a Sioux was the greatest insult that could be offered, but it was not resented, and O-man-haugh-tay soon took his departure from the village.

Reed was a man of sterling integrity of character, hospitable, and devoted to his friends, and had the murderer of Lester but have made a movement of resentment, his life would probably have paid the forfeit. Reed was a bearer of dispatches in the Black Hawk war, and had good opportunities for observation. He took dis-



patches from Prairie du Chien to the commander of the American forces when no other messenger could be induced to incur the risk, and just after the slaughter at Battle-slough, found a young squaw whose father and mother had been killed. Reed took her with him on his return to Fort Crawford, from whence she was finally sent to her tribe in Iowa. James Reed had a personal acquaintance with all the historical personages of his time, and it is a subject of regret that his family and friends have not recorded more of his experiences in pioneer life. Charles Reed, of "Reed's Landing," should note down his recollections of early times, for the pioneers of Wapasha county have had interesting experiences.

From Reed I learned of the existence in Beef-slough of a large quantity of square timber and shingle logs that had been gotten out under direction of Jefferson Davis and other army officers for use in building Fort Crawford. This timber was said to have been run into the slough under the impression that it was the main channel of the Chippewa river, and as there was no outlet at that time, a large raft of flood-wood and trees obstructing the channel, the lumber was abandoned, and new material prepared and run down the proper channel of the Chippewa. Reed's statement was confirmed to me by one made by James T. Ruth, who had also been a soldier at Fort Crawford. In company with James McCain, a Pennsylvanian, we broke the drifts and opened the channel of the slough, and were well rewarded for our labor.

During the spring and summer of 1843 Philip Jacobs and Dr. Snow put up a trading-house in La Crosse, and the Doctor gave some attention to the practice of medicine. During the month of November of that year he attended my brother's wife at the birth of her son Porter, who was the first white child born in Trempealeau county. My brother's daughter, Frances Matilda Bunnell, now Mrs. Frank Hampson, of River Falls, Wisconsin, who was born at Homer, Minnesota, on February 22, 1850, was the first white child born within the limits of Winona county. There were eight children in Willard Bunnell's family, five of whom are still living.

In 1843 Nathan Myrick was married and brought his wife to La Crosse. Accompanying Mrs. Myrick, as companion and friend, was Miss Louisa Pierson, of Burlington, Vermont. Like most Vermont girls, Miss Pierson was rosy and bright, and as fearless as were "The Green Mountain Boys." If a horse had balked in the

sand of the prairie, her hand would soothe the stubborn brute into forgetfulness, and he would then do his duty. No saddle or bridle was needed to ride her favorite chestnut, and at her call, even the pacing Indian ponies belonging to the firm would amble to her feet. Such a woman among frontiersmen would command admiration, and for a time, at least, her conquests were numerous and her influence beneficial, but soon it became but too evident that her preference had been given to Myrick's partner, H. J. B. Miller, and her whilom admirers turned their inconstant devotion to the native daughters of the realm.

Among the traders of that early period there were some who took squaws for wives, either permanent or after the morganatic fashions of the highly civilized courts of Europe. The usual method of obtaining a help-meet from among the Indians was to pay court to the parents of the maiden desired, and after incidentally informing them of the esteem in which their offspring was held, obtain some approximate idea of her value.

It was also thought advisable to make a present to the medicine-man, with an intimation that if the spirits were friendly to your suit a larger gift might be expected. Two traders of my acquaintance, Asa White and Tom Holmes, formally espoused native queens, and remained faithfully with them and their children through all changes of fortune and civilization that drove them farther and still farther to the frontier. Others, not so true to the parental instinct, *because in higher life*, left their squaw wives, but their children remain in the tribe, cared for and reared by their mothers, vigorous emblems of the love once borne for their fathers.

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## CHAPTER VII.

### INTERESTING INCIDENTS AND CUSTOMS.

IN company with my old-time friend Maj. E. A. C. Hatch, who has quite recently gone to a higher plane of existence, I once attended a virgins' feast at Ke-ox-ah (Winona), presided over by Wah-pa-sha. The whole band was assembled, and after elaborate preparation and sanctification of the ground, by invocations and incense, and sacrificial offerings had been placed for the vestal at the

foot of the altar-pole, Mock-ah-pe-ah-ket-ah-pah, the chief speaker, came forward, and in a sonorous address lauded the virtues of chastity and warned "the denouncers" against the sin of bearing false witness. He also told the young braves that if they knew of the lapse from virtue of any virgin applicant for vestal honors, it was their duty, having in keeping the honor of their tribe, to denounce her. These young men were selected as the flower of Indian chivalry, and in addition to their duties as "denouncers," if occasion required, they guarded the sacred precincts of the assembly from defilement. In this respect Indians surpass white people, as seldom, if ever, has any police regulations to be enforced.

At the conclusion of the chief speaker's address, Wah-kon-de-otah, the great war-chief of the band, addressed his warriors in a quiet and affectionate manner, and told his braves to maintain the truth as sacred, and not offend the spirits of their ancestors. Wah-pa-sha then called for the virgins and matrons to come forth, after the manner still in vogue in Mexico, and for some time there was the silence of expectation. Again the call was made for any virgin to come forward and receive her reward. Two maidens came partly forward, but, upon reaching the line of denunciation, faltered and turned back from modesty or fear, when, at this crisis, We-no-nah, the wife of the speaker, and eldest sister (or cousin) of Wah-pa-sha, motioned to her youngest daughter, Witch-e-ain, a maiden of perhaps fifteen summers, and then in confident tones challenged the assembled throng to say aught, if they could, against the purity of her maiden child.

No answer was given to this challenge, and, after repeated calls by the crier of the assembly, Witch-e-ain came modestly forward and was crowned goddess of the feast that immediately followed. Her head was encircled with braids of rich garniture and scented grass, and presents of colored cloths, calicoes, yarns, beads and ribbons were lavished upon her as the tribe's representative of purity. Her fame went out among the traders, and soon after that vestal feast she became the wife of a distinguished trader. Like a caged bird, she soon pined for her prairie home, and died of consumption ere the leaves of spring bloomed to welcome her coming.

Her mother, We-no-nah, is still living,\* and visits me occasion-

\* Since writing the above We-no-nah has gone to her spirit-home. She died about November 1, 1882, and was buried near Trempealeau. It was she who gave the notice to my brother's wife, Matilda Bunnell, that so excited the war-spirit of the home-guard of Winona county.

ally, always referring to the good old times of the past, when she was young and Wah-pa-sha in power. Her age is not known with certainty, but it is probably at this time, 1882, not less than ninety years. Cho-ne-mon-e-kah, Green-Walk, a half-blood Winnebago brother of the girl, is still living, and the most expert hunter of his band.

Wah-pa-sha intimated, upon one occasion, his approval of any choice I might make of a wife from among his people; and finally, an unusual thing for an Indian maiden to do, Witch-e-ain herself told me of her dislike of the engagement made for her with the trader, and asked me to take her as a free-will offering, saying that as she was the niece of Wah-pa-sha she would be allowed to choose between the trader and myself. I was compelled, kindly, to decline her offer, but assured her of my high esteem and faith in the person chosen for her by her mother. Not Rachael herself, in her highest tragedy, could have thrown from her sparkling orbs such burning glances of hate as were shot forth upon me by Witch-e-ain at my refusal of her love. Such withering but silent contempt can only be expressed by a woman scorned.

Years have passed, and trader and girl are both in the spirit-world, or I would not speak of the incident; but in this article I wish to show that, however different in customs, the Indians still have universal feelings of nature, that make them akin.

At another feast Tom Holmes was so enchanted that he decided at once to make the damsel his wife. His offers were accepted, and, so far as I was able to trace his career, she appeared to have made him a good wife.

Upon another occasion Major Hatch and myself visited Wah-pa-sha's village in Indian disguise, and if our presence was recognized it was not noticed.

Major Hatch was a man of the finest perceptions and most practical judgment. To a stranger he was polite, though taciturn, but to his friends he was open and generous to a fault. The major's descriptive power was quite remarkable. As early as 1859 he gave me a description of the Yellowstone country, that I urged him to have published, as well as some of his experiences among the Wah-pa-sha, Sioux and Blackfeet Indians, with whom he had been intimately associated, as trader and agent, for a number of years. The major was not indifferent to his literary attainments, for he was a close student, but his reply was to the effect that no description



could do the Yellowstone valley justice, and that any one who deviated from Cooper's or Ned Forrest's model of the American savage would be laughed to scorn in the great republic of letters. In speaking of the true interpretation of the word Minnesota, the major said, "in that word you have a fair example of the extravagant taste for romance of Americans. The word is compounded from Min-ne, water, and Sota, smoke, and means literally smoky or clouded water, because of the clouded or smoky appearance the water of the river assumes in its course to the Mississippi." "Sky-tinted water," said the major, "is entirely fanciful, as any one may see by looking at the river at Mendotah."

Major Hatch served the Federal government long and well. He was postmaster at La Crosse in 1846; aided in the removal of the Winnebagoes in 1848; was appointed agent of the Blackfeet Indians in 1855, and served in that extremely dangerous position in the Yellowstone and Big Horn country for two years. At that time none but those well versed in Indian character, could by any possibility preserve their scalps among those war-like people. Major Hatch became almost an idol among them, and performed his duties to the entire satisfaction of the government.

On his return to St. Paul he was appointed, in 1860, deputy collector for that port, and in 1863, after again aiding in the removal of the Winnebagoes to the Missouri, he was commissioned major by the war department, and was authorized to raise an independent battalion to serve upon the Indian and British frontier. I was offered a commission by the major in his battalion. While in command of his battalion, he devised a scheme in which Little Six and Medicine Bottle were finally brought to the gallows. Thomas Le Blanc and an associate in daring crossed the British frontier, and while those Sioux murderers were boasting of their crimes, they were captured and brought into Minnesota, bound on a dog train, and turned over to justice and to death.

Major Hatch died in St. Paul of cholera morbus, September 14, last, aged fifty-seven years, loved and honored by his wife and six children, and esteemed by all who had the privilege of his acquaintance. As for myself, I regret his departure as a long-trying friend. I was one year his senior in age and strength of body, but not of mind, and in our youth had the good fortune twice to save him from assault where his life was endangered,—once by a vicious son of Decorah, and at another time by a no less vicious white man,

who had assaulted him unawares, and who afterward committed a murder. Those early experiences were remembered as a tie between us, that time nor distance could wholly sever, and now that he has left us, I wish to record my esteem and friendship for one of the noblest Romans of them all.

There are but few of the earliest pioneers left; James Reed died June 2, 1873, aged about seventy-five.

It would be useless to attempt the destruction of a popular idol, for there is too little of romance in this matter-of-fact age, but it is well to state here that the Indians laugh when the legend of the "Lover's Leap" is repeated to them.

A very casual survey of the ground at the foot of "The Leap" will show what a prodigious jumper the girl must have been, to have jumped into the lake, as many believe she did. If the legend had any foundation at all, it was most probably based upon the rebellion of some strong-minded We-no-nah (meaning the first-born girl) to a sale of her precious self to a gray-bearded French trader, as James Reed supposed, from a tradition said to exist concerning such an event. As there was an old trading-post, fort and mission established in 1727 on the north shore near the Lovers' Leap, it is more probable that some trader of that post made the purchase, than any at the foot of the lake, as Reed supposed from the Indian account of the affair.

It may be that the girl threatened to jump from the cliff, so near to the old post, but if she did, like Reed, I will venture the prediction that she was *cuffed* into submission to the will of her dear mother.

I have known of but few instances of rebellion of daughters to the wills of their parents, when sold into matrimony; hence submission may be said to be almost universal. Extremes will sometimes meet, and here we see the untutored savage, and the belles of Saratoga and of Paris join hands in sympathy.

The American Indians have distinctive customs and traits of character, but none perhaps more peculiar than belong to other barbarous peoples. The language of the Algonquin race may be regarded as the most manly in expression and in poetic beauty, but the character of the Dah-ko-tahs should be deemed the type of all that is possible in human endurance, craft and ferocity. Their sun-dance, or We-wan-yag-wa-ci-pi can only be endured by men of the most determined will, and that, too, sustained by the fanaticism of a heathen devotion. Their sacred dance, Wah-kon-wa-ci-pi, like the Winnebagoes' medicine dance, Mah-cah-wash-she-rah, is as close and

exclusive a communion of men of high degree, as one given by Knights Templars. None but the invited and initiated are ever allowed to be present during some of the ceremonies, but after the ground has been prepared and the dance has been inaugurated by its leader, the less favored barbarians are allowed to witness the splendor of the dresses worn on the occasion, and hear some of the laudations of valor, and the monotonous Hy-yi-yah that forms the burden of their songs.

The poetic element is not absolutely wanting in an Indian, but it requires a good degree of imagination in a white man to comprehend their efforts in song, and considerable ingenuity to connect their disjointed rhythms into rhyme.

For some days previous to any sacred dance the chief medicine-men, or priests, and their neophytes fast, or eat sparingly. If a dog is to be eaten at the conclusion of their fast, or if a beaver has been secured for the feast that will follow, they are both lauded for their respective qualities; the dog for his faithfulness, and the beaver for his wisdom. The dog is well fed and told not to be offended because of the intention of sending him to the spirit-world, as there he will find all that a good dog can desire, and that his bones shall be preserved in the medicine lodges of the band.

The bones of dogs, beaver, bear and eagles are often taken to the high priests for their blessings; and they are then preserved in bags or pouches and held sacred as charms against evil. These medicine-bags are a badge of membership in the sacred order, and are sacredly preserved from generation to generation.

Upon one occasion I witnessed what might be termed the agonized regret of a medicine-chief at the loss of one. While intoxicated his canoe and its cargo of household goods had escaped him, and was picked up by a wood-chopper named Johnson, who robbed the canoe of its contents and then set it adrift. I recovered for the learned priest all but his sacred pouch, which had been cast into the fire as a thing of no value whatever, containing, as Johnson said, nothing but a bear's claw, an eagle's beak, a filthy rag, and some bones that he supposed to have belonged to a human hand. The medicine-man was a half Sioux and half Winnebago, named Ke-rachoose-sep-kah, to whom Black Hawk surrendered after his defeat at Bad-axe, and who, in company with Nee-no-hump-e-cah, delivered him to the military authorities at Prairie du Chien. Big-nose, as the Indian was more generally known, after vainly searching for the



medicine-bag, offered me, if I would find it, all I had recovered for him, which, including coin, was of at least the value of three hundred dollars. I never told the chief that the bag was burned up, and advised the thief, after compelling restitution of all except the bag, to leave the country, which the rascal did at once. The son of the great chief Big-nose stayed at my house two nights recently, and referring to the loss of his father's medicine-bag, he regretted it, he said, because it contained powerfully-charmed relics of both tribes, besides a piece of cloth given him by Black Hawk as a memento of his friendship for having saved him from butchery. I thought it best to tell him the bag was burned, and he seemed relieved when told the truth, as now he knew that the bag had not fallen into the hands of an enemy to work his destruction, thus showing that he had faith in "his own medicine."

The only way in which a white man can fully understand an Indian and secure his full confidence is to join the tribe and be initiated into their medicine-lodges, like Frank H. Cushing, commissioned by the Smithsonian Institution to investigate the history of the Pueblo Indians as it may be traced in their present life and customs. Few men would be found fitted for such an office, and if a similar attempt were to be made among the Sioux, it would probably involve the taking part in a sun-dance, an ordeal that a white man, however brave, would not have fortitude enough to go through. A sun-dance is sometimes given by an individual who has made a vow to the sun, and in such cases, after having gone through the tortures of the ordeal, he gives away all his property and commences life anew. As a general rule the dance is given as a test of courage and faith in the religious belief of the Dah-ko-tah, that the sun is the all-powerful deity of the universe, who controls their destiny and deserves their worship.

The high ground near the present residence of Mayor Lamberton was the dancing-ground of the Wah-pa-sha band, and, strange as it may appear, the scaffolds for the dead were in the immediate vicinity. The dance or altar pole was erected on a level place, and various devices and totems were then cut upon it and figured in yellow ochre and vermilion. Conspicuous among the hieroglyphs was a central circle, with rays to represent the sun, and above all were flags and gay streaming ribbons. The ground was sanctified, after the usual Indian method, by incense, down, and evergreens of cedar or juniper, though the white cedar was preferred, and distance marks



set up to indicate which portion of the ground was to be regarded as sacred.

Sometimes young dogs were slaughtered and left at the base of the pole, with head a little raised and their legs stretched out as if to climb up. The blood of those innocent victims was sanctified by the great high priest of the band, and, soaking into the sacred earth, it was supposed to be a sweet savor in the nostrils of the spirits whom it was believed were present at the dance. To show the high estimation in which Christianity is held by the Indians, I will state that I was patronizingly told by one of them that the puppies were placed on the altar to call good spirits to the dance, "just like Jesus."

The final ceremonies, from all I could learn, were regarded as too sacred for the unanointed to witness, but I gleaned, from conversations at various times, that for the most part they consist of cabalistic utterances in dead or extinct languages, or perhaps that of some living but foreign tribes held to be more potent than their own. As morning approaches the camp is aroused, and the whole village moves *en masse* to the altar-pole. Here quick preparation is made to greet the rising sun with the dance of his votaries and the shouts of his red children. Incisions are quickly made in the skin in various parts of the body of those who are to be tested, and thongs of rawhide are passed through and tied securely to the pole, from which the victim is expected to tear loose during the dance.

As the sun appears a universal shout is given as an all-hail, and the dance begins. Drums are beaten by relays of vigorous drummers, while each dancer pipes a shrill whistle held in his mouth while dancing. At intervals chosen bands of singers shout their approval of the tortures endured, while the dancer is stimulated to frenzy by his family and friends to tear loose from his fastenings and join in the honored circle of the dance. After many plunges the brave neophyte breaks loose and dances until exhausted, when he is taken to the tepee of his family and cared for as a hero.

Should one of the poor martyrs to his faith fail to free himself, his friends reproach him, or throw themselves upon him, until their added weight tears loose the thongs, when, without a murmur of pain, he will join in the dance, and, without sustenance of any kind, continue to dance until exhausted. Should it happen that the terrors of the ordeal should overcome the courage and endurance of any who have aspired to the roll of honor, he is at once cast out from

among the braves and told to fish or work, but never to bear arms. One Sioux of the Wah-pa-sha band was degraded to the rank of a woman, and made to wear the apparel of a female. He left for a time and joined a western band, but his reputation for cowardice followed him, and he was driven back by the contempt of the squaws, with whom he was again made to associate. He finally settled down to his fate, and learned some of the industries of Sioux womanhood. The festival of the sun is held in midsummer, and lasts several days. During its continuance the whole band join in merriment and games, and the orators and medicine-men receive large donations as a reward for their most important services. The young graduates of the dance have medicine-bags presented them, made up, for the most part, of old relics of battles fought by their sires, together with anything most horribly disgusting that may appeal to the credulity of ignorance. With these sacks the medicine-men pretend to work spells that will cause the death of an enemy or chase sickness from their friends.

The sun-dance is one of the many evidences of the Dah-ko-tahs' southwestern origin, as the same torture is submitted to by the Indians of New Mexico, who are also sun-worshippers. The Winnebagoes are also sun-worshippers, and usually bury their dead at sunrise, with head to the west. As far as I know, no northern or eastern tribe submits to the torturing pain of a sun-dance, except in a few instances, when it was imposed upon the credulity of one tribe by fanatical emissaries of the Sioux.

The Dah-ko-tahs have many legends, and may be regarded as greatly given to romance. They believe themselves to be the very salt of earth, and that Minnesota was the center of creation. How else can it be, say they; when the water runs off from our land, are we not above all others? This idea gave them self-importance and arrogance in their dealings with other nations. The Sioux, though generous and hospitable, are yet quarrelsome, and the establishment of the Wah-pa-sha band was the result of a long continued traditional quarrel, first of the Isanti, and then of the Wah-pe-ton, or New Leaf bands of Sioux. According to this tradition, given me by Le Blanc, the chiefs of the Isanti, or knife band, quarreled about the jurisdiction of the chert, or knifestone quarries in the Mille Lac country, and to avoid bloodshed, the ancestors of Wah-pa-sha established themselves upon the Me-day-wah-kon, or Good Spirit lake. There they remained for a number of generations, until by magic the

spirits of malignant chiefs entered into the medicine lodges of the tribe, and again the band was torn asunder; the peaceful portion emigrating from their pine forests and rice swamps to a country of *earlier* and *different* foliage, and the band then took the name of Wah-pe-tou, or the new leaf band. It is somewhat remarkable that the Chippewas call the country and river immediately below the falls of St. Anthony, including the site of St. Paul, Ish-ke-bug-ge-see-bee, or the New Leaf river, because in the early spring-time the leaves shoot out earlier than above the falls. The Sioux tradition goes on to relate that there they established themselves in comfort, some going up the Minnesota, where buffaloes were plenty, others, as their numbers increased at the Wah-coo-tay village, spread themselves along down to the Cannon river and to Rem-ne-cha, or the Red Wing village, where for many, many years they fattened on the game and wild rice of the region about them.

Again they tell that in this paradise of hunters dissensions once more arose among them, and, disregarding the warnings of previous counsels to avoid strife, the great Red Wing and the noble Wah-pa-sha became involved in that quarrel. The friends and adherents of both were equally strenuous in the support of their respective chiefs, and after a prolonged council of the entire band, ending in an outburst of angry passion, the respective partisans seized their war-clubs and quivers and were about to fight, but before the war-whoop was given for battle Wah-pa-sha commanded silence by a wave of his red cap, and telling the assembled multitude to cease their strife, threw his totem or badge of authority, the red cap, into air. A whirlwind took it up and it instantly disappeared. At the same moment a convulsion of the earth was felt, darkness fell upon them, and in the morning, when all was once again serene, they found that a portion of the bluff containing the bones of their dead, had disappeared. A party of their principal braves were dispatched in search of the lost mountain, and as they descended in canoes they recognized what is now known as the "Sugar Loaf," as the red cap of their chief, transformed into stone.

The distant peak of Trempealeau mountain was soon discovered to be a part of their lost inheritance, and hastening on, the moving or moved mountain, or Pah-ha-dah, as it is called in the Dah-ko-tah tongue, was overtaken just as it made a vain effort to plunge into the lake of Me-day Pah-ha-dah. The other peaks of the Red Wing range had already caught upon the sandy point of the prairie, and

therefore, claiming their truant possessions, they made those peaks the dividing line between themselves and the Winnebagoes.

It only remains for me to say, *in proof of the entire authenticity of this tradition*, that until defaced by the growing wants of a city, the bluff resembled in shape a *voyageur* cap of *ancient* date, and the red appearance of the *face of the cliff* justified its Sioux name of Wah-pa-lia-sha, or the cap of Wah-pa-sha.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

### PREHISTORIC.

GOING back beyond tradition, we find in our midst evidences of a numerous people having once occupied the adjacent territory.

Judge George Gale, the founder of the university at Galesville, Wisconsin, in his very valuable work, "Upper Mississippi," says, "To us of the New World there is a 'Greece' that literally 'slumbers in the tomb.' A nation or people which for centuries occupied a territory nearly as large as all Europe, and had a population which probably numbered its millions, have left the graves of their fathers and the temples of their gods so unceremoniously that their very name has disappeared with them, and we only know of their existence by their decayed walls and tumuli, and by their bones, exhibiting the human form, although in a far-gone state of decay."

Judge Gale's book shows great research and critical acumen, and the calamity which befell the plates in the great Chicago fire should be repaired by a new imprint of the volume. My space will only admit of a reference to the work, but I cannot forego the justice to say that, so far as I know, Judge Gale was first to notice in print the mounds and other earthworks in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin, and at La Crescent in Minnesota.

Few persons have any adequate conception of the vast area covered by earthworks in the United States, or of the immense labor expended in their construction. A mound in Montgomery county, Ohio, according to Gale, contains 311,353 cubic feet of earth. One in Virginia is seventy feet high and 1,000 feet in circumference, and



the great Cahokia mound of Illinois is ninety feet high and over 2,000 feet in circumference, containing over 20,000,000 cubic feet, and one in the State of Mississippi covers an area of six acres.

In these mounds there are sometimes found pearls, sharks' teeth and marine shells, obsidian or volcanic glass, native copper and native silver, sometimes united unalloyed, as found only in Russia and on Lake Superior, where innumerable stone implements are still to be found that have evidently been used in extracting those metals. Lead has also occasionally been found, but not so frequently as copper. Stone implements are found in mounds and upon the surface, especially after plowing, wherever these ancient works appear. The implements are generally manufactured from syenite or some hard trap rock, and consist of stone pipes, hammers, axes, scrapers or fleshers, pestles, spinners or twistlers, still used by Mexican Indians. Obsidian, chert and copper, spear and arrow heads are quite common. About the mounds of the lower Mississippi old pottery is quite common, but among those of the upper Mississippi it is only occasionally found. The mound-builders must have possessed some mathematical knowledge, as some of their earthworks show a good degree of geometrical skill, as well as military ideas of defense against assaults of enemies.

Ten miles below La Crosse, on Coon prairie, there is a line of earthworks and mounds of considerable size and interest, and on the Clark farm, on the La Crosse river, the works all seem to be of a defensible character. At Onalaska they are also quite numerous, and about one mile above McGilvray's ferry on Black river there is an old earth fort and mounds that still remain quite conspicuous.

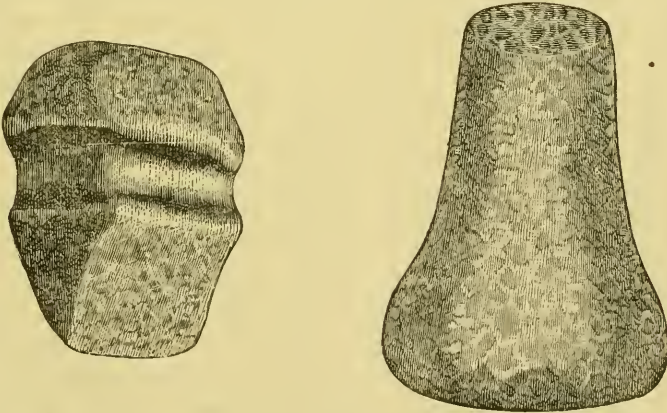
At Galesville and vicinity are quite a number of mounds, including some built in the shape of man, and many, according to Gale, in the shape of animals. The most conspicuous, because most accessible, are the mounds in and near the village of Trempealeau. One, west of Mr. Boer's residence, commands a fine view from its elevation above the surrounding surface. In the neighborhood of the Baptist church there are also several of an interesting character. Near Pine Creek station there are some very fine ones. At La Crescent and on Pine Creek, Minnesota, there are a number of mounds of small size; and coming up to Winona, on the south shore, at intervals they appear at Dresbach, Dah-co-tah, Richmond, La Moille, Cedar Creek, Homer, Pleasant and Burns valleys. Upon the farm of Miss Maggie Burns there are several mounds that still

remain undisturbed, but along the public road several very symmetrical mounds have been leveled in construction and repairs of the thoroughfare.

Upon the table of West Burns valley the Rheibeau boys plowed up some of the most elegantly-shaped stone implements ever dis-



covered in any country. To my chagrin, after a vain attempt to purchase them, I was told that a gentleman from Milwaukee had



induced Mrs. Rheibeau to part with them, and thus were lost to the museums of Winona a few celts not surpassed by any in the large collection at the Centennial Exposition.

My niece, Mrs. Louise Page, found a number of arrow and spear heads and a few fragments of pottery in Homer, and near the Keys

mansion she picked from the river bank a large stone hammer, which is now in the museum of the Winona normal school. The hammer was imbedded about two feet in the soil, and was most likely buried, like the silver ornaments found near it, in the grave of some dead warrior. The Catholic emblems in silver were those in common use among the Catholic Indians and half-breeds of Canada within my recollection, and most probably belonged to some Canadian voyageur, or perhaps was buried, after the Indian custom, with the body of some Indian (or squaw) convert to the Catholic faith. The high point at Keys' was a favorite burying-ground, because of its extreme height above the river during an overflow of the lower land of the prairie. The sites selected for their burying-grounds indicated to the old traders the Indian's anticipations of a possible overflow of the prairie.

Upon the farm of Myles Roach, in the town of Homer, a number of stone arrow and spear heads have been found by the sons of Mr. Roach, and one of copper was found which was purchased by R. F. Norton, now of the village of Homer. There have also been found along the river front in Winona copper implements, one of which, found by Geo. Cole, is in the possession of his father, Dr. James M. Cole, of Winona.

Most of the implements found on the surface have, no doubt, been lost while in use, but those found in mounds and in ossuaries have been placed there with the remains of the dead. The ossuaries of Barn Bluff and of Minnesota City were, no doubt, places of interment of the bones of the dead, which had been divested of their flesh by exposure upon scaffolds or trees.

In the early days of my first acquaintance with the Dah-ko-tahs, no other mode of burial would satisfy their ideas of a proper sepulture, but after a time the example set by the white people of burying their dead had its influence, and in modern times, except among the wildest bands, the Sioux began to bury their dead soon after their demise. The body of Chandee, son of Wah-kon-de-o-tah, the war-chief of Wah-pa-sha, was buried upon my brother's property at Homer by special request of his relatives. His sister, Shook-ton-ka, the champion girl racer of the band, and some children of Wah-pa-sha, were buried near the site of the Huff house. After the treaty was decided upon by the band, many bones of the dead were removed and buried in secret places at night, lest they should be disturbed by white settlers, whom the Indians knew would eventually occupy the

country. Some of the ancient mounds have been used by modern tribes as receptacles for their dead, but in such cases the fact is readily discernible, as no regard has been paid by the modern Indians to the strata of earth, clay and sand, or gravel, of which the burial or sacrificial mounds have been composed. It is believed by some that the circle of skulls found in an ancient ossuary at Minnesota City were the crania of victims to some religious sacrifice around the altar-pole, or else of captives slaughtered and left, as puppies are left in modern times, with heads to the pole, which might account for the position the skulls were found in. At Bluff Siding, opposite Winona, along the wagon-road to Galesville, a number of mounds may be seen, occupying an admirable position for defense.

The limits of my paper have been reached, and I must hasten to a close; but I crave my readers' interest in behalf of my brother Willard, in connection with his settlement in Winona county. As for myself, it will suffice for me to say that, dissatisfied with what appeared to me as time thrown away upon the frontier, I returned to Detroit and recommenced the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Scoville, an eminently successful physician and surgeon. Upon the appointment of Adrian R. Terry, uncle of Gen. Terry, to the surgeoncy of the 1st Mich. reg. during the Mexican war, I was given the hospital stewardship of that regiment, and served to the close of that war. While quartered in Cordova, Mexico, I was placed in full charge of the post hospital during the illness of Drs. Terry and Lembke, and returned to Detroit, Michigan, at the close of the war in medical charge of one detachment. Having acquired a taste for a free life when the gold discovery in California *became a fact*, I went overland through Mexico to Mariposa, where, compelled at first to fight Indians in self-defense, I finally became a member of the Mariposa battalion. While on duty in that organization I became one of the discoverers of the now famous Yosemite valley, the name of which was given by myself, as will appear in my book, "Discovery of the Yosemite," published by F. H. Revell, of Chicago.

During the war of the rebellion I served in the ranks as a private, and through successive promotions (having had conferred upon me a degree) reached the rank of major by a commission as surgeon of the 36th reg. Wis. Inf. Assigned to detached duty on March 27, 1865, with the 1st Minn., I served in that regiment as its sole medical officer until its return to Washington at the close of the war.



I will close this paper with an extract from a series of articles furnished the "La Crosse Chronicle," that I hope may be deemed a fitting close to my subject.

In 1848 and later, my brother Willard was employed in moving the Indians. Some of them, the Winnebagoes especially, were very much dissatisfied, and declared they would not leave for the home selected for them on the Minnesota river. Will's influence was great among them at that time, and he succeeded in collecting about three hundred of them. Having arranged with Miller for the use of the warehouse of his old firm, he quartered them in it. They seemed contented enough until a short time before the steamer came to carry them up the river, when they set up a most unearthly yell, broke through their guard, seized their ponies from an adjacent corral and disappeared. Other means were then resorted to, and they were removed in smaller squads or details; but they would return again and again to their native haunts as if drawn back by some occult force. Will's discernment would penetrate all disguises of paint, red, green or blue blankets, until at last they yielded to his persisted efforts and remained upon the new reservation.

My brother has assured me that many of the Indians receipted for by the officers at Fort Snelling he had removed over and over again. With Indian cunning they would assume a new name with each new disguise, and the officers were unable to discover or remedy it.

With the Indians went Asa White and Tom Holmes, both of whom had squaws for wives. Miller & Myrick had already dissolved partnership before the Indians were removed, and were virtually out of the Indian trade, but their influence was still more or less potent in Indian affairs, and they were advised with as to their management. My brother's persevering energy in removing the Winnebagoes was awarded by a permit to trade with the Wabasha band, and he settled upon their reservation.

This gave him great advantages, and obtaining the consent of Wah-pa-sha, rewarding him liberally, Will planted old Mr. Burns and his remaining family upon what has since been known as the Burns' farm, providing each member old enough with a claim.

Will was unable to choose as well for himself as he had for the Burns family. for being under the impression that the site of Winona was subject to overflow, he located at Homer, which he named after his birthplace, the village of Homer, New York state. Here he

built the first house in 1849, and in 1850-51 made a large addition to the building and moved into it. Peter Burns and himself became interested in a scheme to control the trade of the interior, by securing the nearest "high-water landing" below Winona, and for that purpose, in conjunction with Borup, an old trader and a brother of Senator Alex. Ramsey, of St. Paul, they laid out the village of Minne-o-way, building a large hotel and storehouses to accommodate the very large business destined to reward their enterprise. By some oversight they had neglected to comply with some provision of the law, and a keen-sighted man by the name of Dougherty, discovering their neglect, pounced down upon their claim, and in a suit that followed secured land, hotel and storehouses as his homestead. Burns was lucky enough, before the final decision was rendered, to sell his interests for \$4,000.

As to the site of Winona, known to the Dah-co-tahs as Keoxa, it was firmly believed by the old traders and lumbermen to be subject to overflow in the highest water. From the deck of a steamer passing at the highest stage, the space left dry really appeared very small. In very high water all of the low land of the prairie was submerged and a volume sufficient to run a steamboat ran down south of the city, before the railroad embankment was raised. The Indians laughed at the supposed folly of the white men in building on the "island," and it was an anticipated joke that Will would sometime be seen, pikepole in hand, rescuing the floating property of this embryo city and hauling it out upon his higher landing.

Poor Will! He had been out so long upon the frontier that he failed to realize what money and enterprise would do to improve and protect a city so advantageously situated as Winona. He and his brave wife are both gone now from the scenes of their early hopes and perils. He left in August, 1861, and she in 1868, leaving a family of two sons and four daughters.

## CHAPTER IX.

### GEOGRAPHICAL.

THE geographical position of Winona county is between parallels 43 and 45 north latitude, 44 passing through the center of the county, and between meridians 91 and 92 west, a small portion of the county lying west of 92. It is organized from townships Nos. 105, 106, 107 north, of ranges No. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 west, and contains twenty organized townships, fifteen of which are full townships, containing thirty-six sections. One is organized from half a township, and one is formed of townships Nos. 107 and 108, of range No. 8. Four are irregular in form on the northern boundary, and are fractional. The county is located in the southeastern part of the State of Minnesota, and is bounded on the north by Wabasha county and partly by the Mississippi river, and on the east by the Mississippi, which flows here in a southeasterly direction, and on the south by Houston and Fillmore counties, and on the west by Olmsted and Wabasha counties. In shape, nearly a right-angled triangle, longest on the southern boundary, being about forty miles or six and a half townships in length, and twenty-four miles or four townships in width from north to south. It is regular in form on the southern and western boundaries, the Mississippi river forming nearly the hypotenuse of the triangle from northwest to southeast.

The surface, within the distance of about twelve miles from the Mississippi river, is bluff or broken, the river being about five hundred feet below the general surface. Houston county is a trifle higher in altitude; with that exception this county is the highest on this side, and contiguous to the river from its source to its mouth. Bold perpendicular ledges of rock form the sides of the bluff in many places along the river, and a considerable portion of the south part of the county contiguous to the Root river is of the same character. Four townships of the northwest part of the county along the Whitewater are also rough and rocky. The remainder of the surface is undulating prairie, irregular in extent, comprising not far from six townships, and located in the central and western parts of the county.

When the altitude is reached there is great uniformity in the appearance of the surface, and any other highland may be visited without materially ascending or descending, the high lands being all connected by a series of ridges which form the divides between the streams which flow into the Mississippi and those which flow into the Root river on the south and the Whitewater on the north.

There are no swamp lands in the county, and not a regular quarter-section that would be benefited for agriculture by artificial drainage. There are a few acres in patches along the Mississippi and along the margins of some of the smaller streams of marsh or bog lands, liable to overflow, but producing excellent grass. The waters of the county all find their way to the Mississippi; those in the north part of the county furnish the south branches of the Whitewater. On the north and east each township contributes a stream to the Mississippi. The largest and most important of these is the Rollingstone, which drains nearly one hundred square miles of surface, and affords water-power for six large flouring mills. There are also several unoccupied powers on the different branches of the stream.

Each township of the southern tier also furnishes a stream to Root river. All these streams are formed by springs, and are nearly uniform throughout the year as to supply of water, and, having considerable fall, afford water-power which in the future may be developed.

The surplus water of the county finds its way to these streams through the ravines and small valleys reaching out toward the prairie in all directions.

Utica, or town 106, range 9, occupies the summit, being drained on the northeast into Rollingstone, on the northwest into Whitewater, and on the south into Rush creek; and this township is also nearly the center of the prairie surface.

The longest, largest, main ridge of the county begins in the southeastern part, on the divide between the waters which flow into the Mississippi and those which flow into Root river, and extends in a northwesterly direction through the townships of Dresback, New Hartford, Pleasant Hill, Wilson and Warren into Utica. From this main ridge branches innumerable extend in every direction. The most important ones are Homer ridge between Cedar and Pleasant Valley creeks, and Minneiska ridge between Whitewater and Rollingstone, both ridges leading to the Mississippi river.



In the south part of St. Charles in Saratoga, and the northwest part of Fremont, are to be found some broken ridges or hills, none of them rising above the general surface of the county. The valleys surrounding these hills are not so deep as the valleys along the streams in other parts of the county, and in some places they gradually rise and extend into broad upland prairies.

In this part of the county, or among these hills, there are several fine groves of timber. Cheaten's grove in the southwest part of Utica, Blair's grove in the northeast part of Saratoga, and Harvey's grove on the line between Saratoga and St. Charles, are the most notable. They contain a fine thrifty growth of oak, poplar and butternut, with a dense growth of underbrush in some places.

At the heads of all the streams, or along their margins, timber of various kinds is found. As we approach the top of the bluffs it consists mostly of white and red oak, with patches of white birch. In the valleys are found burr oak, hard maple, white ash, rock and red elm, basswood, hackberry, black walnut, butternut and poplar. The bluff lands, which include the parts of the county lying along the Mississippi, the Whitewater and the branches of Root river, and the ridges connecting them, are generally well timbered, especially on their sides facing the north, the fires of early spring burning the south sides before the snow has left the north sides, or before they become sufficiently dry to burn. Where the fire is kept out timber rapidly springs up.

As the line of the county extends to the middle of the channel of the Mississippi, and the channel sometimes passes next to the Wisconsin side, there is in the townships of Rollingstone and Winona a large amount of bottom-lands covered with timber. Oak, ash, elm, birch, cottonwood, willow and maple are most abundant.

In the two townships last mentioned, there is lying between the bluffs and the river a sand or gravel prairie six or seven miles in length and about three-quarters of a mile in width, which is a few feet above high water, and of nearly uniform level surface. Contiguous to this prairie, and next to the bluffs, is a series of terrace or table lands, which are timbered with the three kinds of oak before mentioned. The same character of table-lands also occur at the mouths of all the streams that flow into the Mississippi.

As we leave the timber and ridges approaching the prairie throughout the whole county, there is more or less grub or brush land, which is usually a small growth of oak, red and white. There

are also patches of brush land consisting of hazelnut, wild plum and crab-apple.

The bluff and ridge lands throughout the county, especially the part that is timbered, consist of a clay loam varying from one foot to twenty feet in depth. As the Mississippi and the larger streams are approached, the sides of the bluffs are in many places quite precipitous, the rocks cropping out to the surface. As the bluffs are descended, the soil changes in composition by an admixture of sand and lime from the decomposed rocks.

Lands lying close by the river at the mouth of the valleys have little or no clay at the surface, but the soil is underlaid by a stratum of clay or loess almost impervious to water before reaching the gravel or sand rock of the bed of the river.

As we ascend the streams that flow into the Mississippi, if the valleys are broad the soil is a stiff, tenacious clay of bluish cast, but darkens in color on exposure to the air.

This clay is evidently local drift, as it is stratified and does not contain any boulders, drift coal, nor other matter indicating true northern drift. Where the valleys have retained the wash of the bluffs, and the water-courses have not interfered, the clay is covered and mixed with vegetable mould, sand and lime, in some places several feet deep.

The soil of the upland prairie is a deep dark loam, and is underlaid by stiff clay or by rock. This soil does not materially change in color nor in texture by cropping. Among the broken ridges or hills of the south-central and west parts of the county the rocks come very near to the surface of the upland, and the lower ground, though gradually rising into upland prairie, is in places quite sandy. There is upon the surface of this sandy land an accumulation of decomposed vegetable matter very dark in color, indicating the presence of lime in its composition.

The soil of the brush or grub lands is similar in appearance to that of the timber lands, but contains a much greater amount of crude vegetable matter.

Spring wheat has been considered as the staple crop, but oats, corn, barley and potatoes in the order named are largely grown.

The timbered or ridge lands have produced good crops of winter as well as spring wheat for twenty-five years, and winter wheat was also grown in the valleys near the Mississippi for several years very successfully. It has not, however, succeeded on the prairie.

Though this county does not claim to be the banner county of the state in wheat-raising, it is entitled to its full share of the credit for the popularity to which Minnesota wheat has attained for quality and amount to the acre under cultivation. It is said to be a fact that any soil which will produce good crops of wheat will also grow good crops of any of the cereals adapted to the climate. Whatever failures may have occurred in the production of the common cereals in this county, in no case can the failure be attributed wholly to the character of the soil. For the production of these grains the average yield compares favorably with any portion of the state. One instance of the marvelous productiveness of the soil may be given. Upon the first farm opened in the Rollingsstone valley there was sown, in the first week in October, 1852, some winter wheat. It was harvested the first week in July of the next year, threshed upon the ground with a flail and cleaned with a sheet in the wind, and yielded thirty-seven bushels to the acre. The same ground produced nine successive crops of wheat, and the ninth was the best that had been raised. This ground has now been under cultivation for thirty years without any particular rotation of crops and without artificial manure, and is apparently as productive as ever for any crop except wheat, yielding large crops annually of corn, oats, barley or grass. The average yield of wheat has, however, materially decreased in this, as well as in other counties of the state for a few years past. It is believed to be owing entirely to climatic reasons, as there has been no diminution in the yield of other grains. The grass product ranks next to oats in acreage, being somewhat more than corn, and within the last few years stock of all kinds is receiving much attention, and so far no general diseases have appeared among swine, cattle and horses.

Of other productions than those already named there is found in our market rye, buckwheat, beans, flax-seed, timothy and clover seed, grapes, tobacco, onions and honey.

In the vicinity of the bluffs contiguous to the Mississippi, and along the margins of the smaller streams, crab-apples, wild plums and grapes are abundant.

In the timbered belt, about the groves, and in sheltered locations, several varieties of the cultivated apples are grown. As reported by the assessors, there are at present growing in the county about 51,000 apple-trees.

Of the smaller fruits, grapes, strawberries, raspberries, currants, etc., are grown in all parts of the county, and yield abundantly.

In character and variety of wild plants and flowers, this county does not differ materially from others similarly situated. The upland prairie produces grass mainly. There is, however, during the summer, a great profusion of wild flowers. Upon the warm hillsides, or on sandy land, in early spring, sometimes before the snow has disappeared, the well-known anemone is the most conspicuous; during May and June, blue or violet and scarlet are the predominating colors; in July and August, white and yellow adorn the roadsides and uncultivated places. In the fall the moist grounds are literally covered with purple and white.

In the whole timbered belt and along the margins of the streams the ground is loaded with a dense growth of rank vegetation.

Wild deer had been kept out by the Indians, but for a few years after the first settlements were made they gradually increased in numbers; a few are yet seen every winter.

The black bear, being somewhat migratory, has been occasionally seen. Both timber and prairie wolves were at first quite common; the prairie-wolf is still annoying the flocks, but the timber-wolf is rarely seen. Foxes, red and gray, stay about the rocky ravines and bluffs. Beaver were quite plenty in many of the streams. Several otters have been caught, also mink, weasel, and large numbers of musk-rats.

The badger, raccoon, woodchuck and polecat are common.

The large gray wood-squirrel and the prairie gray squirrel, the red squirrel, the chipmuck (the black squirrel has visited us, but is not at home), and both varieties of gopher are numerous.

Of the rabbit the gray is most common.

Of the migratory feathered species that remain here a short time in the spring, but do not nest, the wild goose, the brant, and several varieties of ducks, are the most plenty. These confine themselves mostly to the immediate vicinity of the Mississippi river. The curlew is occasionally seen, also the pelican. Of those that remain during the summer and nest here, the wild pigeon and blackbird are most numerous. The bittern, the sand-hill crane and bald-eagle are common. The mallard and wood-duck frequent the small streams and nest here, but not abundantly.

All the migratory birds common to this latitude are to be seen here.



Of those that remain all winter the prairie-hen is most general ; the partridge, the quail, the bluejay, and several varieties of owls, are usually about the sheltered places in the timber.

Speckled trout were in all the small streams of this county and very plenty. There are a few left in nearly all of them. The state fish commissioners have placed young ones in some of the streams. The water coming from springs and being rapid is nicely adapted to their habits, and some efforts have been made to propagate them. There are several fine springs well adapted to fish culture. The main difficulty seems to have been to guard against sudden overflow, as the streams are liable to rise very high and quickly. Fish common to the Mississippi river run up several of the streams in the spring and return to the river again. The Mississippi furnishes a large quantity of fish yearly, the greater portion being taken with the seine. The varieties generally caught are buffalo, catfish, pickerel, bass and wall-eyed pike. There are also sturgeon, sunfish, perch, suckers, and several other kinds.

The geological formation of the county is quite uniform in character. The appearance of the rocks at the surface, in St. Charles, Saratoga, and part of Fremont and Utica, is somewhat different from those lying along the Mississippi, the Whitewater, and the streams that flow into Root river. Here, also, the valleys are much broader, and the loam, or top-soil, thicker and more evenly spread. The highest lands are tillable and usually turfed all over.

The lowest visible rock along the Mississippi, and probably underlying the whole county, is the St. Croix sandstone. This sandstone varies somewhat in appearance and texture. In the south-east part of the county the quarries show a fine building-stone of superior quality for working, of a grayish color, that hardens on exposure to the air. In some places the rocks are of a reddish cast, probably owing to the presence of iron. Some of the layers are quite soft and are readily excavated. In the south part, Utica, St. Charles, part of Fremont and of Saratoga, the sand-rock cropping out of the hills or low bluffs is nearly white in color, loose in texture and disintegrates rapidly, forming a beautiful white sand. Overlying the sandstone is the lower magnesian formation, which also probably underlies most of the county. It is a hard, flinty, whitish or light gray rock, composed of lime and sand, with streaks of calcite along the larger streams. The upper portion only is visible, the lower part being covered with wash from the bluffs. This rock is not

available for use, being very hard and of irregular fracture, not easily quarried or worked. In some places along the Mississippi there is seen, overlying the lower magnesian, a sandstone loose in texture, crumbling rapidly and largely forming the soil of the sides of the bluffs. It is probably not more than fifteen or twenty feet in thickness. Corresponding with this sandstone, there extends through a part of the towns of Wilson, Hart, and part of Norton, a sandstone of similar texture, but deeper colored, more firm, and in some cases regularly and beautifully corrugated. Overlying this sandstone is magnesian limestone, its layers generally regular, but varying in thickness. This is the generally-used building stone of the county. This stone does not change on exposure, and large quantities are used by the railroads and shipped to Wisconsin. There are some small specimens of fossil remains to be seen in this limestone. In the vicinity of St. Charles the limestone is largely composed of fossil remains, trilobites and cretaceous shells of several varieties.

There are no evidences of northern drift in this county. Probably owing to its altitude no boulders are to be found. The clay generally exists in pockets, and is stratified. There are some small deposits of loess usually in the valleys, and mound-like in appearance. Where wells have been sunk in different parts of the county, upon the higher lands, the rocks are found to be of nearly uniform character, and water is not usually found till the sandstone is reached. The well of Mr. Clawson, in Saratoga, presents an unusual phenomena. At the depth of seventy-five feet the drill opened into a crevice or a cave, and the air rushed out with great violence. At the distance of four feet more the rock was again struck, and water obtained at the depth of one hundred and forty feet from the surface. The current of air in the well changes with the wind, the downward current in winter freezing the water in the pipe to the depth of the crevice, seventy or more feet, and again rushing out, so as to thaw all the ice about the well.

In numerous places along the Mississippi, especially upon the gravelly headlands, are yet evidences of the mound-builders. Where the mounds have been examined little has been discovered beyond stone implements, arrow-heads, and in some places skeletons, which are no doubt intrusive burials. Large quantities of clam shells and bones of various animals are also found, mixed with pieces of charcoal and with ashes. In one case a charred package of white birch bark was found of nearly a cubic foot in size, and scattered about the mounds is usually found much fragmentary rude pottery.

## CHAPTER X.

### RAILROADS.

BEFORE the ratification of the treaty by which the Sioux surrendered their lands for settlement, a party of three, headed by Robert Pike, was dispatched from Minnesota City to ascertain whether a practicable route for a railroad to Traverse des Sioux, on the Minnesota river, existed. Early in July, 1852, Mr. Pike made a favorable report, and urged the adoption of some plan for building the road, but he was then accounted an enthusiast, and his scheme dismissed as visionary and impracticable. Early in 1854, however, the project was revived, and, after several ineffectual attempts at organization, a charter was obtained from the legislature March 4, 1854, by Orrin Smith, Henry D. Huff, Abram M. Fridley, Lorenzo D. Smith, John L. Balcombe, Alexander Ramsey, W. A. Gorman, Henry H. Sibley, J. Travis Rosser, Andrew G. Chatfield, Henry McKenty, O. M. Lord, Samuel Humbertson, Martin McLeod, Benjamin Thompson, William H. Newton, James Hanna, G. Addison Brown and Robert Helm, under the name and style of the Transit Railroad Company, authorizing them to construct a railroad from Winona westward to the Minnesota river. In March, 1855, an amended charter was obtained from the legislature, and the incorporators met at St. Paul on the 25th of January, 1856, accepted the charter, and gave official notice thereof to the secretary of the territory. On the 12th of May the sum of \$240,000 had been subscribed to the capital stock of the company, the subscribers being the following named persons: L. D. Smith, H. D. Huff, Wm. Ashley Jones, Charles H. Berry, M. Wheeler Sargent, H. H. Johnson, E. H. Johnson, H. J. Hilbert, E. S. Smith, David Olmsted, M. K. Drew, A. P. Foster, Wm. H. Stevens, John Evans, Chas. Hamilton, O. S. Holbrook, Orrin Smith, John C. Laird, Wm. H. Laird, M. J. Laird, J. H. Jacoby, Royal B. Evans and L. H. Springer. All these, with the exception of Orrin Smith and L. H. Springer, were residents of Winona. The first officers of the company were H. H. Johnson, president; Wm. Ashley Jones, vice-president; H. J. Hilbert, secretary and engineer; H. D. Huff, treasurer.

The organization of the company was only the prelude to a prolonged and bitter contest with parties interested in other localities, and more particularly with the owners and promoters of the town-site of La Crescent. After various vicissitudes, among them the defeat in 1854 of H. D. Huff for the legislature by Clark W. Thompson on this issue, the conflict finally resulted in a victory for Winona and the Transit railroad. On the 3d of March, 1857, Congress passed an act by which the munificent gift of 1,200,000 acres of public lands was conferred upon the state for the benefit of the Transit road. An extra session of the legislature was at once called to consider this and other grants of lands, and on the 22d day of May, 1857, an omnibus bill was passed confirming the grants, and amending the charter of the Transit road so as to authorize it to construct and operate a railroad from Winona via St. Peter to the Big Sioux river. In February, 1858, what is known as the five-million loan amendment to the constitution was adopted by the first state legislature, and was ratified by a vote of the people April 15, 1858. By the terms of this amendment state bonds were to be issued and delivered to the various railroad companies at the rate of \$100,000 for every ten miles graded and bridged ready for the iron, the state taking a first mortgage upon the road-bed so graded, together with the lands and franchises of the company, as security for the loan. The Transit company at once filed their acceptance of the terms of the amendment, and proceeded to let the contract for the grading and construction of seventy-five miles of the line as surveyed west of Winona. In the letting of this first contract, as well as in the location of the line out of Winona, there was a most determined effort on the part of a few men to divert the road from Winona, and so build it as to eventually make La Crescent the eastern terminus. Selah Chamberlain, of Ohio, afterward the builder of several roads in the state, and the largest holder of the state bonds issued under the five-million loan amendment, was a bidder for the contract. It was understood that if he secured it work would be begun at or near Lewiston, and that the matter of the eastern terminus would remain unsettled, with a strong probability that the road would be diverted down the ridge back of Winona to La Crescent. DeGraff & Co., also bidders for the contract, were favored by most of the directors, who were desirous of beginning the work of construction at Winona, and thus at the outset fixing the terminus and settling that question forever. This



company was composed of Col. Andrew DeGraff, B. F. Barnard, Hernando Fuller and William DeGraff, Col. DeGraff being the head and sole manager of the concern. The contest waxed hot, but on the 8th day of June, 1858, the board of directors, after protracted discussion, awarded the contract to DeGraff & Co. Previous to this time there had been much strife between the various town proprietors as to whether the road should leave the city by way of lower town and the Sugar Loaf valley, or from upper town via the Rollingstone valley. The history of this feature of the matter more properly belongs to that of the city of Winona, and will not be further discussed here. The upper town interest won the victory, and on the 9th day of June, 1858, ground was broken at or near the present machine-shops, the event being duly celebrated by the delighted people.

DeGraff & Company were strictly loyal to Winona, although tempting offers were made them to carry out the plans of the La Crescent men, and the work of grading the road went rapidly forward during the following summer and winter, until fifty miles of grading and bridging had been completed, inspected and accepted by the state authorities, and \$500,000 of state bonds delivered to the company. Then came the financial crisis of 1858-9. These bonds were denounced as illegal and fraudulent. They became almost valueless in the market, and all work came to a standstill. DeGraff & Company were unable to pay their men for work and supplies, and much hardship resulted. Upon default in the terms of the mortgage given by the Transit company to secure the loan made by the state, a foreclosure was had, and on June 23, 1860, the road franchises, and other grants, including lands, were sold to the state for the nominal sum of one thousand dollars. March 8, 1861, the legislature granted and transferred all claim upon the property to Orville Clark, Abraham Wing, John W. Kirk, Robert Higham, W. H. Smith, Nelson P. Stewart and B. W. Perkins, and constituted them a corporation under the name of the Winona, St. Peter & Missouri River Railroad Company, upon condition that the road be fully equipped and trains running to Rochester and Owatonna at certain fixed times. No attempt having been made to comply with these conditions, the legislature, on March 10, 1862, made a similar grant to William Lamb, S. S. L'Homedieu, John W. Kirk, Herman Gebhart and H. C. Stimson, under the name and style of the Winona & Saint Peter Railroad Company, free and

clear of all claims and liens upon the property, and upon much more lenient conditions. Work was at once resumed by the new owners, and on December 9, 1862, a passenger train was run by Col. DeGraff from Winona to Stockton and back, the day being marked by another enthusiastic celebration. December 10, 1862, the first carload of wheat was shipped to Winona by L. Raymond and purchased by Asa Forsyth. From this time the work of construction proceeded rapidly. In 1864 the trains reached Rochester, a distance of fifty miles from Winona. In 1865 the road was completed sixty-six miles to Kasson; in 1866, ninety miles to Owatonna; in 1868, one hundred and six miles to Waseca; in 1870, one hundred and thirty-nine miles to Mankato and St. Peter; in 1871, one hundred and sixty-five miles to New Ulm; in 1872 two hundred and eighty-four miles of track were completed west of Winona, and the grading extended three hundred and thirty-one miles to Lake Kampeska in Dakota Territory. In 1879 another line, diverging from the old track at Tracy, in Lyon county, was begun and pushed with such energy that in two years trains were running to Old Fort Pierre, on the Missouri river, connecting with daily stages for the Black Hills. The entire property, save the land grant, had, however, in November, 1867, passed into the hands of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company and become a part of that great system, although still retaining its name and corporate existence. The lands thus separated from the general ownership of the company and its franchises became the property of A. H. Barney and a company of New York capitalists, and are still so owned, excepting those since sold to settlers. A branch from Eyota to Chatfield was opened for business December 8, 1878; from Eyota to Plainview October 22, 1878; from Rochester to Zumbrota November 2, 1878; from Sleepy Eye to Redwood Falls August 4, 1878; from Huron to Ordway November 20, 1881; from Watertown to Clark Centre June 18, 1882; from Volga to Castlewood September 29, 1882; from Clark Centre to Redfield October 22, 1882; from Ordway to Columbia October 22, 1882, making a grand total of 863 miles of this road now directly tributary to Winona.

The following named men, prominent in the railroad history of the West, have been connected with the Winona & St. Peter company: S. S. Merrell, now general manager of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, was general manager of the Winona and St. Peter railroad from February to May, 1865. Dwight W.

Keyes, now assistant general freight agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, came with Mr. Merrell to the Winona & St. Peter company as auditor, and was left in charge of the road in May, 1865. John Newell, now general manager of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad, was at that time superintendent and chief engineer. H. C. Atkins, now assistant general superintendent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, was superintendent of the Winona & St. Peter railroad during the years 1866 and 1867, being succeeded by J. H. Stewart, now superintendent of the Marietta & Cincinnati railroad. Gen. J. W. Sprague, late general superintendent of the western division of the Northern Pacific railroad, at the same time becoming general manager of the Winona & St. Peter railroad. April 20, 1874, J. H. Stewart was succeeded by Sherburn Sanborn as superintendent, a position which he still occupies.

The magnificent iron bridge across the Mississippi river used by this road was built during the winter of 1871-2. The draw-span of this bridge is said to be one of the longest in the world (363 feet). It takes the place of a combination wood and iron draw-span built in the winter of 1870-1, which fell on the 27th day of May, 1871, and was entirely removed. This bridge forms a connection with the La Crosse, Trempealeau & Prescott railroad, of which mention will be made hereafter. The bridge was constructed for the company by the American Bridge Company, of Chicago; the piling was done by Frank A. Johnston, and the stonework by Jones & Butler, of Winona. The shops of this company are located at the west end of the city, are large and fully equipped for the business of keeping the road-bed and rolling stock of the road in the best condition. They have been fully described among the institutions of the city of Winona.

*St. Paul & Chicago Railway.*—The corporate name of this company in the original charter, dated May 22, 1857, was the Minnesota & Pacific Railroad Company. By an act of the legislature approved March 2, 1867, the directors were authorized to change the name of the company or that of any of the branches of the road provided for in their charter. Accordingly, on the 19th day of March the board of directors gave the name of "The St. Paul & Chicago Railway" to that part of their line to extend from St. Paul to Winona and thence to the Iowa line. Work was begun upon this line at or near St. Paul in 1865, but nothing was done in Winona county until 1870, when

the road was built from Minnesota City to Weaver and put in operation by the Northwestern Railroad Company. In 1871 the roadbed was completed between St. Peter Junction and St. Paul, and in December of that year was sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, who immediately took possession, and began operating the road in connection with their line from Chicago and Milwaukee to La Crosse, making connection over the La Crosse, Trempealeau & Prescott road and the bridge at Winona when completed. In 1872, however, the road was extended from St. Peter Junction to La Crescent, on the west side of the Mississippi river, and thereafter all freight trains used this route, being ferried across the Mississippi to La Crosse. Passenger trains, however, continued to run over the Winona bridge and the La Crosse, Trempealeau & Prescott road until 1875, when the magnificent iron bridge between La Crescent and North La Crosse was completed and brought into use for all traffic over the Milwaukee & St. Paul line. As a bonus for the construction of this line the city of Winona, on the 21st day of April, 1870, voted and thereafter issued \$100,000 of its bonds, to be delivered upon the fulfillment of certain conditions by the company. The bonds having been prematurely delivered to the construction company, suit was brought by the city, in which, after protracted litigation, it was finally determined that the prescribed conditions had not been fulfilled, and that the city have damages equal to the amount of the bonds, with interest, which sum has been paid.

*The La Crosse, Trempealeau and Prescott Railroad.* — After the passage of the bill by congress, March 3, 1857, providing for certain land grants to aid in the construction of railroads in Minnesota, and among them the Transit railroad, with its eastern terminus at Winona, the next important project was to connect Winona and the Transit railroad with the railroads in Wisconsin and Illinois, and through them with the railroad system of the United States. It was also proposed by means of this connection to cut off La Crosse, Winona's most formidable rival, from the benefits of northern and western connections, as it was thought that but one road would ever cross the Mississippi river in this section of country. It was therefore resolved to keep the matter of this "cut off," or eastern connection, in the hands of Winona men. In the winter of 1858-9, in the midst of the pinching hard times brought on by the financial crisis of that time, Capt.



Sam Whiting, Thomas Simpson and M. K. Drew started out one severely cold day to look out a practicable route for a railroad east from Winona to a point of intersection with the proposed line of the Milwaukee & La Crosse railroad. They cut their way from Altoona, now Bluff Siding, through the swamps, and camped the first night in the heavy timber. The next morning, after eating frozen bread and meat for breakfast, they proceeded with their work, and in about half-an-hour came out upon a prairie covered with fenced fields and farm-houses. They had spent a night in the snow, which Capt. Whiting said was equal to any of his arctic experiences, within half a mile of a substantial and comfortable farm-house. The people of Winona had been so occupied with their own great prospects and those of the country west of them, that they had no knowledge of this well-settled country just east of them. The following spring Z. H. Lake and Thomas Simpson were again sent over the proposed route, and instructed to go to La Crosse to see if that city would not unite with Winona in building this connection, the extreme hard times having somewhat modified the ambitions and claims of Winona. A preliminary survey of the route was made by these gentlemen, which coincides almost exactly with the line as afterward built. They met with a very cool reception at La Crosse, being informed that that city would have nothing to do with the project, and that they would prevent if possible the granting of a charter by the Wisconsin legislature. Subsequent investigation, however, developed the fact that several years before a charter had been granted by the legislature of Wisconsin to some parties to build a railroad from a point at or near La Crosse to Point Douglas, opposite Hastings, to be called the La Crosse, Trempealeau, Lake Pepin & Prescott railroad, and that this old charter had been kept alive. Possession of it was obtained, the company reorganized, and Timothy Kirk, Thomas E. Bennett, M. K. Drew, William Mitchell, Thomas Wilson, Thomas Simpson, A. W. Webster, and five men from Trempealeau, were elected directors. Thomas Simpson was elected president; A. W. Webster, vice-president; J. H. Newland, secretary, and Thomas E. Bennett, treasurer. The company began at once to locate the line, obtained right of way, etc., in order to secure vested rights before the Wisconsin legislature could convene and repeal the charter. But no money was to be had. N. F. Hilbert was employed as chief engineer, to be paid whenever the company became able to pay. Others were employed

upon similar terms. To board the force, a subscription in provisions and supplies was taken up among the citizens of Winona. Upon this subscription being read at a large meeting of all interested, the following items appeared together: "P. W. Gaines & Co.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  bbl. whisky. Robert Clapperton, 1 loaf bread."

Wm. Lamb, who had been appointed superintendent of construction, rose and interrupted the reading with the remark that there was altogether too much bread for that quantity of whisky.

The company succeeded in holding their charter, and work was kept up until an agreement was made with parties interested in the Chicago & Northwestern company to complete it and make it a part of that great system, which was done in 1870. The road is still owned and operated by that company, but under the original charter and organization.

*Green Bay, Lake Pepin & Minnesota Railroad.*—In February 1873, a proposition was made by the officers of the above-named road to extend its line from Merrillan, Wisconsin, to Winona, provided the city would grant them a bonus of \$100,000. As the line would form a valuable connection with the lake system of navigation, and also furnish the city directly with many of the products of the Wisconsin forests, a very decided disposition to accept this proposition was manifested by the citizens of Winona. A series of public gatherings terminated in a large meeting of citizens, at which it was determined by a general expression to accept the proposition, President Ketchum, of the railroad company, being present at the meeting. A committee of eight leading citizens was selected and instructed to proceed to St. Paul and procure from the legislature then in session authority for the city to take the necessary steps in granting the required aid. This committee accordingly went to St. Paul and had the proper bill introduced for the purpose, but only one day remaining of the session it failed to pass from lack of time. The committee returned, and the company, learning of the failure to secure legislation, modified their proposition and suggested that the citizens should secure them the sum named by subscription or otherwise. Another meeting of citizens was held, and a committee appointed to wait upon and confer with the city council upon the matter in hand. As the result of such conference the city council, on March 14, 1873, adopted the following resolutions:

"*Be it resolved*, by the city council of the city of Winona, that

fifty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be practicable, shall be raised for the purpose of securing the terminus of the Green Bay & Lake Pepin railroad at the city of Winona, under and pursuant to the recommendation of the committee appointed by the city council to confer upon said matter, on March 12, 1873.

*“And it is further resolved,* that the city of Winona hereby pledges its faith to repay to each and every person, his heirs or assigns, all sums of money which said person or persons shall advance for that purpose, with interest on the sums so advanced not to exceed the rate of ten per cent per annum; *provided always,* that the obligation so made and taken shall in no event bind the city to such repayment unless the proper legal authority for such repayment be obtained.

*“Resolved,* That the recorder be authorized and is hereby required to have prepared, and to issue and deliver under his hand as recorder and the seal of said city, to each person advancing money for the above purpose, a certificate for all sums so advanced by each person respectively, bearing interest as aforesaid.

*“Resolved,* That as soon as practicable proper legislation authorizing and legalizing the present action of the city council, so far as such legislation may be necessary, or any other needed legislation, shall be obtained.”

Upon the basis of this action on the part of the city council a canvassing committee was set at work, and the sum of \$35,000 subscribed by the citizens for the purpose set forth above. The railroad company, upon being notified of the result, finally accepted the situation, and proceeded during the summer and fall of 1873 to build the road as proposed. An act of the legislature authorizing the city to make good its agreement with the subscribers, but unwisely providing for making up the amount to \$50,000 for the company, was approved February 5, 1874, the act providing, however, that the question should be submitted to the people at a general or special election upon five days' notice by publication. A special election was accordingly called for and held on February 23, 1874, which resulted in a defeat of the proposed bonds, largely on account of the provision for making up the sum to be paid the company to \$50,000, the vote standing 275 for to 785 against it. The citizens were justified in this vote for the reason that it was sought to make the city liable for \$15,000 more than the amount of the subscription, a provision in the bill insisted on by the representatives of the

company, but for which the subscribers, almost without exception, were in no way chargeable. Chagrined and disappointed at this result, and there being grave doubt of their legal liability, the subscribers refused to pay their subscriptions; but suits were instituted by the company in the United States circuit court against them, and a test case being carried to a final decision it was held that the subscribers were liable, and the several amounts were accordingly paid over, each subscriber receiving, according to the original agreement, stock of the company to the amount of his subscription, which stock was not and never has become of any considerable value.

There still being a widespread feeling that the subscribers to the bonus had suffered an injustice, another act of the legislature was obtained March 6, 1876, providing for a special election in April of that year to determine whether the city would indemnify the subscribers by an issue of its bonds in the amount of the subscriptions actually paid, the city to take the stock originally issued to the subscribers. Accordingly an election was called and held on April 3, but although every moral, if not legal, obligation rested upon the city to indemnify its public-spirited citizens for the money paid by them to secure a railroad connection of conceded value to the town, the proposition again failed to carry, the vote being 737 for to 1004 against the bonds, and here the matter rests. The road has since practically passed into the hands of John I. Blair, of New Jersey, and its name has been changed to the Green Bay, Winona & St. Paul Railroad Company.

*Winona and Southwestern Railroad.*—In February, 1856, the legislature of the territory incorporated the Winona & La Crosse Railroad Company, with authority to build and operate a railroad from Winona to a point opposite La Crosse, Wisconsin. February 9, 1872, the state legislature passed an act reviving this old charter and amending it so as to incorporate the Winona & Southwestern Railroad Company, composed of the following named persons, viz: William Windom, Thomas Simpson, Wm. H. Yale, J. C. Easton, John Robson, William Mitchell, H. W. Lamberton, M. G. Norton, E. S. Youmans, R. D. Cone, Thomas Wilson, M. K. Drew, E. D. Williams, Geo. P. Wilson, Thomas Abbott and Ignatius O'Ferral, and authorizing the building, equipment and operation of a railroad from Winona to the Iowa line east of range 14 and west of the fifth principal meridian, and also granting the right to extend the



line, by the most feasible route, from Winona to St. Paul and Minneapolis, the road to be completed and equipped within four years from the date of the act.

At a meeting of the incorporators held at Winona April 16, 1872, William Mitchell was elected president; E. D. Williams, vice-president; Thomas Simpson, secretary, and M. G. Norton, treasurer. William Mitchell, John Robson and H. W. Lamberton were made an executive committee, and E. S. Youmans, Ighatius O'Ferral and M. G. Norton were appointed commissioners to receive subscriptions to the stock of the company, to collect five per centum thereon for the expenses of a survey and for the purchase of necessary maps, profiles, etc., for the use of the company. Stock to the amount of \$67,500 was subscribed. At the same session of the legislature an act was passed authorizing the city of Winona and the towns and villages on the proposed line of the road to vote a five per cent tax in aid of the road. Under this authority the city of Winona, on April 9, 1872, at a special election voted bonds to aid in the construction of the road to the amount of \$150,000. Several of the towns in Winona and Fillmore counties, and the village of Chatfield, voted liberal bonuses to the road. Two or more surveys were made under the direction of N. F. Hilbert, one by way of Saratoga and Fremont, the other by way of the Money Creek valley. For a time there was every prospect that the road would be built. It would have furnished an invaluable outlet for the lumber and other products of the Winona manufactories, and would have been a potent element in the growth of the city. The severe financial crisis of 1873, however, and the subsequent hard times, brought delays and embarrassments which prevented the building of the road, and it still remains one of the "glorious possibilities." In 1875 it was voted by the company to accept the proposition of certain Iowa parties to build a narrow-gauge road from Hesper, Iowa, to Houston, Minnesota, provided the company would build a similar road from Winona to Houston. Money was raised and a preliminary survey made, but nothing further came of the project. The charter was extended by the legislature of 1873, and by reason of the surveys and other work done thereunder is considered to be still alive. Both the line to the southwest and the one from Winona to St. Paul are still feasible, and would be valuable to the builders as well as to Winona and the territory through which they would pass.

## CHAPTER XI.

### NAVIGATION.

THE "Father of Waters" forms the eastern boundary of Winona county, and with its various channels and sloughs constitutes the only navigable water in the county. Probably the first white man who traversed the forty-five miles of its length in which we are now interested was Father Hennepin, who in the month of April, 1680, explored the Mississippi from the mouth of the Illinois to the falls of St. Anthony. In the month of May, 1689, Nicholas Perrot, accompanied by Le Sueur, Father Marest and others, sailed up the Mississippi from the mouth of Wisconsin river to the mouth of the St. Croix, and formally took possession of the country in the name of the king of France. In September of the year 1700 Le Sueur passed upward with a party of Frenchmen to explore and work some reported mines near the mouth of the Chippewa river. In the year 1766 that enterprising Connecticut Yankee, Jonathan Carver, traveled extensively in the Northwest, and on October 29 of that year passed by the future county of Winona, noting in his journal some shrewd observations upon the numerous mounds which he saw along the shores and bluffs. In September, 1805, Lieut. Zebulon Pike visited this region by order of President Jefferson, to expel British traders, who were found violating the laws, and to form alliances with the Indians. In the summer of 1819 a party of officers and soldiers, with their wives and children, passed by our county in keelboats on their way to establish a post at the mouth of the Minnesota river, by order of John C. Calhoun, then secretary of war. The next year Gov. Cass of Michigan headed an exploring expedition by way of the lakes, and, descending the Mississippi in canoes, spent the afternoon of August 4 at Wapashaw village, the site of the present city of Winona.

Previous to the year 1823 it had been supposed that the rapids at Rock Island were an insurmountable barrier to the navigation of the upper Mississippi; but on the second day of May of that year the Virginia, a steamer one hundred and eighteen feet in length, left her moorings at St. Louis, destined for Fort Snelling. Successfully passing the rapids, this pioneer craft made her way slowly up

the Mississippi, producing the greatest terror and consternation among the Indians, who supposed that it was some enormous water-spirit, coughing, puffing out hot breath and splashing the water in all directions. This pioneer steamer passed Wabasha prairie toward the last of the month and reached Fort Snelling in safety. From this time occasional trips were made as the necessity of the government and trading-posts required. Among the great number of steamers which have passed and repassed the county in years gone by, all old settlers will remember the Minnesota Belle, Gray Eagle, War Eagle, Northern Belle, Nominee, Ben Corson, The Adelia, Frank Steele, Keokuk, Jeanette, Tishimingo, Annie Johnson, Addie Johnson, Phil. Sheridan, and many others.

Of the captains of all these and other unnamed steamers Capt. Smith Harris and Capt. Orrin Smith are most frequently mentioned. The latter was one of the earliest proprietors and admirers of the town site of Winona, and the former, being interested in Kasota, and other towns on the Minnesota river, was never tired of pointing out the disadvantages of Wabasha prairie. It is said that during the high water in 1852, in order to demonstrate the truth of his statement that Smith's town was on a mere sand-bar in the Mississippi, he ran his boat straight by Minneowah up into Lake Winona, and out across near the Denman farm into Crooked Slough and the river again. Captains Hatcher and Bryant, long in the service, afterward made their homes in Winona. Before the day of railroads great importance attached to the coming and going of these river steamers, which formed the only connection with the outside world. The familiar whistle of a steamboat would frequently cause a stampede even from the church service or prayer meeting, particularly if it was the first boat of the season.

The following table shows the arrivals of the first boat for a period of years commencing with 1856:

1856. Alhambra, April 8.	1870. Keokuk, April 5.
1857. Hamburg, April 2.	1871. Addie Johnston, March 18.
1858. Brazil, March 23.	1872. Belle of La Crosse, April 9.
1859. Grey Eagle, March 18.	1873. Union, April 3.
1860. Chippewa, March 13.	1874. Northwestern, April 6.
1861. Northern Light, March 26.	1875. Lake Superior, April 12.
1862. Keokuk, April 2.	1876. Dubuque, April 10.
1863. Keokuk, March 20.	1877. Red Wing, April 11.
1864. Union, March 16.	1878. Penguin, March 12.
1865. Lansing, March 30.	1879. Maggie Reaney, April 4.
1866. Addie Johnston, April 13.	1880. Belle of Bellvue, March 22.
1867. City of St. Paul, April 13.	1881. Josie, April 24.
1868. Diamond Jo, March 21.	1882. Robert Harris, March 1.
1869. Buckeye, April 6.	

The following table shows the dates of the closing of navigation for a series of years:

1856.....	November 27	1870.....	December 15
1857.....	November 19	1871.....	November 22
1858.....	December 2	1872.....	November 22
1859.....	December 3	1873.....	November 29
1860.....	November 24	1874.....	November 30
1861.....	November 27	1875.....	November 20
1862.....	December 1	1876.....	December 1
1863.....	November 27	1877.....	December 8
1864.....	December 4	1878.....	December 13
1865.....	December 5	1879.....	December 12
1866.....	December 9	1880.....	November 20
1867.....	December 5	1881.....	January 2, 1882
1868.....	December 8	1882.....	December 6
1869.....	December 18		

## CHAPTER XII.

### COURTS AND OFFICERS OF THE COURTS.

THE territorial courts of record were organized under the act of congress passed March 3, 1849, called the "Organic act," supplemented by acts passed from time to time by the territorial legislature. By the organic act three judges were provided for, which were appointed by the president, "by and with the advice and consent of the senate." One was styled "chief-justice," the other two "associate-justices." These together constituted the supreme court, one term of which was required to be held annually at the seat of government of the territory. It was also provided that the territory should "be divided into three judicial districts," in each of which a district court was required to be held by one of the justices of the supreme court, at such times and places as the territorial legislature might prescribe, and that "the said judges shall, after their appointment, respectively, reside in the districts which shall be assigned them." Each district court, or the judge thereof, was by such act empowered to appoint its own clerk, which clerk was to hold his office at the pleasure of the court. The supreme court and district courts were invested with chancery as well as common law jurisdiction. The extent of this jurisdiction of these courts was substantially the same as like courts under the present constitution of the state; that of the several district courts was general. By



act of the territorial legislature the territory now included within the limits of Winona county was made a part of the first judicial district, and so remained until the adoption of the constitution. Previous to February 23, 1854, what is now Winona county was a part of the county of Fillmore. On the day last above named Winona county was formed and organized for judicial and other purposes. Up to this time the writer is not aware that any term of the district court was held in Fillmore county, though all other county business affecting this section, such as filing plats of town sites, recording deeds and the levy of taxes, was done at the county seat of Fillmore county, then located at Chatfield.

At the date of our county organization Hon. Wm. H. Welch was chief-justice of the territory, to whom was assigned the first judicial district. He was therefore the first judge of the district court in and for this county. He resided at Red Wing, in the county of Goodhue. He continued to fill that office until January 1, 1858, when the territorial judicial officers were superseded by judges elected under the state constitution adopted at the fall election in 1857. Much of the good order of our judicial affairs in territorial times, and the ease and regularity with which our state courts were organized and went into effect, were due to this judge. While he was not a man of great learning or superior ability, as the world recognizes learning and ability, yet he had the rare quality in a judge of commanding universal confidence, a feeling among all that the judicial authority was reposed in proper hands. Judge Welch died at his home in Red Wing.

At the fall election in 1857 Hon. Thomas Wilson was chosen as judge of the third judicial district of the state, comprising the counties of Houston, Fillmore, Olmsted, Wabasha and Winona. With the beginning of the year 1858, pursuant to a provision of the state constitution, but before the formal admission of the state by congress Judge Wilson entered upon his duties as judge, and continued to hold until 1864, when, having been appointed to the supreme court, he resigned the office of district judge, and Hon. Lloyd Barber, of Olmsted county, was appointed to fill the vacancy so made. He was elected at the fall election in 1864, for the full term of seven years, and held the office until succeeded by Hon. C. N. Waterman, January 4, 1872. Judge Waterman held the office until his death, which occurred February 18, 1873, and was succeeded by Hon. John Van Dyke, who was appointed for the

remainder of the year 1873. At the fall election of that year Hon. Wm. Mitchell was elected for the full term of seven years, from the beginning of 1874. He discharged the duties during this term, and in 1880 was re-elected for another term, to commence with the ensuing year. At the session of the legislature of 1881 the number of judges composing the supreme court was increased to five. This made it necessary that two judges should be appointed to the supreme court until after the next ensuing general election. Judge Mitchell was selected as one of the new judges, and Hon. C. M. Start, then attorney-general of the state, but residing in the third judicial district, at Rochester, Olmsted county, was appointed district judge, to succeed Judge Mitchell. At the general election in November, 1881, Judge Start was elected for a full term, commencing with the year 1882. At this writing, January 1, 1883, Judge Start is in the discharge of his official duties.

Of the seven judges who have presided in our district courts, three, Judge Welch, Judge Waterman and Judge Van Dyke, are dead. All the others are still living within the district, and engaged in the duties of their profession.

*Clerks.*—As before stated, during our territorial existence clerks of district courts held by appointment of the judge and during his pleasure. The first clerk of the district court in and for Winona county was Martin Wheeler Sargeant. He was appointed by Judge Welch in 1854, and held until superseded by the appointment of John Keyes, on or about July 14, 1856. The record of Mr. Keyes' appointment cannot be found, but his first official act as clerk bears date on that day. Mr. Keyes continued to hold the office until after the admission of the state to the Union under the state organization, his last official act as clerk bearing date May 25, 1858. Under the constitution the office of clerk was made elective, and at the general election in October, 1857, Henry C. Lester was elected clerk, and entered on the discharge of his duties on the retirement of Mr. Keyes. He held the office until April 27, 1861. He resigned to enter the volunteer service of the United States in the war of the rebellion. He was succeeded by E. A. Gerdtzen, who was appointed in place of Col. Lester until the next general election, at which he was elected, and by subsequent elections held without interruption for nearly seventeen years. In November, 1877, John M. Sheardown was elected, has been re-elected, and still holds the office.

Of the five persons who have held the office, two, Mr. Sargeant and Mr. Keyes, are deceased; Col. Lester has removed from the state, while Messrs. Gerdtzen and Sheardown still reside at the city of Winona.

*District and County Attorneys.*—Under the territorial organization, the United States attorney, as he was called, usually attended at the sessions of the district courts, and performed most of the duties now devolving upon county attorneys. An officer called a district attorney was also provided for by territorial statute, and was elected in each of the organized counties. In the act organizing the county of Winona, approved February 23, 1854, such officer was to be elected at an election to be held in April of that year. The election was duly held, and C. F. Buck, Esq., then residing at Minneowa, was elected. We may say in passing that the village of Minneowa was a rival of Winona for metropolitan honors, and stood on the Mississippi river, about one mile above the present village of Homer. The curious in such matters may still find some traces of it on the river bank, and especially in the office of the register of deeds, where the plat was recorded. Its proprietors were Isaac Van Etten, William L. Ames, brother of Oakes Ames, of *credit mobilier* and Union Pacific railroad fame, Governor Willis A. Gorman, and S. R. Babcock, all of St. Paul. The fact is noteworthy as showing the confidence of shrewd and far-seeing men in the then future existence of the city of southern Minnesota at or near this point. Their selection was probably made more from an examination of the territorial map than of the respective sites of Minneowa and Winona. If not, time has demonstrated that, however close they shot to the mark in this their judgment was slightly at fault. But to return to the district attorney. Mr. Buck held the office until the beginning of 1856. Edwin M. Bierce had been elected in the fall of 1855, and held the office during the years 1856 and 1857. By the constitution adopted in that year it was provided that "each judicial district might elect one prosecuting attorney for the district." Under this provision San Cole, Esq., was elected "prosecuting attorney" for the third judicial district, comprising the counties of Houston, Fillmore, Olmsted, Wabasha and Winona. Although this office was wholly unknown to territorial laws, continued in force by the constitution, and no state legislation had been had to supply the deficiency, still Mr. Cole, as

an officer of the courts, qualified with the judges at the beginning of the year 1858. As no legislation was ever had upon the subject of the duties of this office, we shall probably continue in ignorance as to what they were. Practically Mr. Cole did about what the United States attorney had done in territorial times, and which comprised about all that was required under the statutes of the district attorney. The effect of it was in a large degree to supersede the last-named officer, and for two years no district attorney was elected in Winona county. In this county at least the constitution operated as an extinguishment of the office.

By act of February 6, 1860, the office of county attorney as now existing was created. Under this act the board of supervisors of Winona county, on the 15th day of March, 1860, appointed one A. S. Seaton county attorney, who held the office until the 1st of January, 1861.

At the general election in 1860 Hon. William H. Yale was elected, and held the office one term of two years. On the 1st of January, 1863, he was succeeded by Hon. William Mitchell, who was county attorney during the years 1863 and 1864. Mr. Yale, in the fall of 1864, was re-elected, and held during the years 1865 and 1866. He was succeeded at the beginning of 1867 by Hon. George P. Wilson who, by re-election was continued in office until the beginning of 1871, when he was succeeded by Norman Buck. Mr. Buck held during the years 1873 and 1874, and was succeeded by A. H. Snow, Esq., who by re-election held from the beginning of 1875 to the 1st of January, 1879. Mr. A. N. Bentley then succeeded for one term, followed by Mr. M. B. Webber, one term, closing with 1882. At the fall election in 1882 Mr. Patrick Fitzpatrick was elected, and now holds the office. Of the twelve persons who have held these offices, only one (Mr. Cole) is known to have died. Both A. S. Seaton and E. M. Bierce left this county about 1860, since which little or nothing seems to be known of either. Mr. Buck is now associate justice of the territory of Idaho. Hon. George P. Wilson is following his profession at Fargo, Dakota Territory. All others still reside in the city of Winona.

*Sheriffs.*—The first sheriff of the county was John James. He was elected on the first Tuesday in April, 1854. He was succeeded by Charles Eaton, who was elected in the fall of 1855, and held the office for two years. At the election in 1857 Mr. F. E. Whiton was elected, and held during the years 1858 and 1859. At the fall elec-



tion in 1859 Messrs. L. R. King and E. D. Williams were opposing candidates for this office. The canvass was close and spirited, and the register of deeds, whose duty it was "to canvass the votes," was unable to determine which had been the successful candidate. The greatest number of votes cast at the election for one office was 2,023. As allowed by the register, the whole number of votes cast for both candidates for sheriff was 1,970. In reaching this result votes were rejected as irregular, and the conclusion was arrived at that each candidate had received 985, making it "a tie." It thus became necessary to decide "by lot" which of the candidates was elected. Various stories were told as to how this "casting of lots" was performed—one to the effect that a game of "euchre" was played between two persons, each representing one of the opposing candidates. The writer cannot affirm that such was the fact, though the circumstantiality of the account, other things considered, gives it some weight. But, however the lot was cast, Mr. King was declared elected, and to him was awarded the certificate. The case was then taken by appeal to the district court, Judge Wilson presiding. After a long and patient hearing the decision of the canvassing officer was affirmed, and Mr. King was declared sheriff. By re-election from term to term he held the office without interruption for eight years. J. F. Martin was his successor, beginning with the year 1868. Mr. Martin was twice re-elected and held for six years, and was succeeded at the close of 1873 by Wm. H. Dill. Mr. Dill was re-elected three times in succession, and held the office in all eight years, ending with the year 1881. Mr. E. V. Bogart succeeded and is now (1883) in office. Ex-Sheriffs James, Whiton and King are deceased.

*Probate Courts.*—By the act of congress organizing the territory probate courts were established. A special election, to be held in April, 1854, was authorized for the election of county officers by act organizing the county of Winona. A judge of probate was one of the officers to be elected. Andrew Cole was elected. He held the office until January 1, 1855, when he was succeeded by Alfred P. Foster. Mr. Foster filled the office until October 10, 1856, when it was made vacant by the removal of Judge Foster from the territory, and on that date Sam Cole was appointed to fill the vacancy. E. H. Murray succeeded by election, and held during the years 1857 and 1858, followed by Warren Powers, who was elected in the fall of 1858. By re-election Judge Powers held until his death, which occurred in June, 1865. He was succeeded by Mr. Norman Buck,

who was appointed to fill the vacancy in July of that year. In the fall of 1865 Judge Buck was elected. He held the office until the fall of 1867, when he resigned, and was succeeded for the remainder of the year by appointment of C. N. Wakefield. At the general election in the fall of 1868 Jacob Story was elected to the office. Judge Story has been re-elected at the expiration of each succeeding term, and is still the incumbent of the office. Aside from Mr. E. A. Gerdtzen's tenure of the office of clerk of the district court, which was about seventeen years, Judge Story has enjoyed a longer official term than any other officer of Winona county.

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### CHAPTER XIII.

#### BANKING IN WINONA COUNTY.

As is generally the case in new towns, several branches of business are conducted by the same person or firm. It was so in Winona in the banking business. The United States land office for the Winona land district, having been opened in Winona in December, 1854, land agents, money loaners and speculators in real estate soon followed.

The first office of this kind was opened in June in 1855, by William Ashley Jones, Charles H. Berry and E. S. Smith, under the firm name of Jones, Berry & Smith. They were succeeded by Berry & Waterman, who added to their law business that of receiving deposits and selling exchange on different points. This was done more as a convenience to others than of profit to themselves. This was continued until others engaged in more exclusive banking business.

Early in 1856 Timothy Kirk and his brother had a banking office on the corner of Front and Main streets.

John Mobley opened a banking and exchange office near the corner of Second and Main streets in 1856, and did considerable business for some two years, and retired in 1858.

J. T. Smith had an exchange and loan office, in 1856 or 1857, on Center street, between First and Second streets. He was here about three years.

Voight & Bergenthal had a banking and loan office, in 1856 and 1857, on Front street, near where Krumdich's elevator now stands.

*Bennett's Bank.*—In the fall of 1855 Thomas E. Bennett opened a bank and loan office, and succeeded to the business of Voight & Bergenthal, in a building on the levee. In the winter following Taylor, Richards & Burden purchased Bennett's business, and in May, 1857, the firm was changed to Taylor, Bennett & Co., and in 1858 it was again changed to Burden, Bennett & Co., and in 1859 was dissolved and the business was continued in the name of Thomas E. Bennett until 1861.

*Bank of Southern Minnesota.*—The Bank of Southern Minnesota was organized in 1861. Lemuel C. Porter, Thos. E. Bennett, Wm. Garlock and others were stockholders and directors. L. C. Porter was made president and Thomas E. Bennett cashier. This bank was merged in the First National bank in August, 1864.

*The Bank of Winona.*—This bank was located on Center street, in the building now occupied by the Winona Deposit Bank. Bank of Winona commenced business in May, 1863, Samuel McCord and H. N. Peabody being the principal partners, and the manager was I. Voswinkle Dorselin. Subsequently the business was done under the name of McCord & Dorselin. In December, 1868, Dorselin, appearing to be the owner of the concern, closed business and went into bankruptcy. On the final winding up of business, in August, 1869, it paid its creditors about twenty-five cents on a dollar.

*The United National Bank.*—The United National Bank was organized in 1865, with Thomas Wilson, Otto Troost, Charles Benson, A. W. Webster and Thomas E. Bennett as stockholders and directors, with a capital of \$50,000. A. W. Webster was president and Thomas E. Bennett cashier.

This bank was located on Second street, in the building since used by the Savings Bank, and in January, 1871, was sold out by its stockholders to the First National Bank of Winona.

*The Winona Deposit Bank* was organized and commenced business in 1868. H. W. Lamberton was president and I. J. Cummings cashier. It was a private bank, and changed to a national organization under the name of Winona Deposit National Bank, in which name the business was conducted two or three years, when they discontinued the national organization and returned to the original

name of Winona Deposit Bank. Its present officers are H. W. Lamberton, president, and W. C. Brown, cashier.

*Winona County Bank.*—Zaphna H. Lake and A. W. Webster organized the Winona County Bank in 1859, and they filed their organization papers and deposited Minnesota railroad bonds with the state auditor to secure the payment of their circulating notes under the then existing laws of the state. This was the first and only bank having circulation in Winona. They did a straightforward, legitimate banking business for several years, and went out of business in 1865. Mr. Webster took part in the organization of the United National Bank, and Mr. Lake engaged in other business in Winona. Their banking office was near the corner of Second and Main streets.

*The Bank of St. Charles*, at St. Charles, Winona county, was organized as a private bank in the spring of 1869, with a capital of \$30,000. The stockholders were E. S. Youmans, of Winona; S. T. Hyde, J. S. Wheeler, J. W. Brockett, of St. Charles, and H. R. Heath, of New York city. The stockholders were directors. E. S. Youmans was president and J. S. Wheeler was cashier.

J. C. Woodard, in June, 1877, succeeded to the Bank of St. Charles, and the business is now conducted in the name of J. C. Woodard, banker.

*The First National Bank of Winona* (successor to the Bank of Southern Minnesota) was organized August 20, 1864, with a capital of \$50,000. The original stockholders were Thomas E. Bennett, Gabriel Horton, Lemuel C. Porter, George W. Neff, William Garlock, William Wedel, each of whom was elected a director. In October, 1864, at a meeting of the directors the following officers were elected, viz: L. C. Porter, president; William Garlock, vice-president; Thomas E. Bennett, cashier. L. C. Porter has been elected president at each annual meeting of the directors since the organization of the bank to this time, a period of eighteen years. The following persons have been elected cashiers at different times since 1866: I. J. Cummings, G. A. Burbank, Herman E. Curtis, C. H. Porter and E. D. Hurlbert, who is now filling that position. William Garlock resigned the office of vice-president in 1868. C. H. Porter was elected vice-president in 1881, and is at this time filling that office.

*Second National Bank.*—The Second National Bank of Winona was organized April 29, 1871, with a capital of \$100,000. The



incorporators were Thomas Simpson, John H. Prentiss, Joseph A. Prentiss, Henry Stevens, Mark Willson, Gustavus A. Burbank and W. H. Richardson. Each of the above stockholders was elected a director, and the bank engaged in active business in August, 1871, with the following officers: Thomas Simpson, president; G. A. Burbank, cashier. Mr. Burbank resigned in October, 1871, and Mark Willson was elected assistant cashier, and in February, 1872, E. H. Bailey became cashier.

In January, 1873, Joseph A. Prentiss was chosen cashier and Mark Willson vice-president. In January, 1875, Mr. Willson resigned and Lester R. Brooks became vice-president, and in 1876 was made cashier. In 1878 Thomas Simpson resigned his position as president, which he had filled from the first organization of the bank, and was succeeded by Joseph A. Prentiss. In 1880 William H. Garlock was chosen cashier and L. R. Brooks vice-president, who, with J. A. Prentiss, president, are the present officers.

*The Merchants National Bank of Winona* was organized May 18, 1875, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and at the first meeting of the stockholders the following persons were elected directors: Mark Willson, G. W. Bennett, N. F. Hilbert, H. D. Perkins, C. H. Berry, Conrad Bohn and C. C. Beck. Mark Willson, president; N. F. Hilbert, cashier; H. D. Perkins, vice-president.

The bank opened for business in July 1875. On April 9, 1879, N. F. Hilbert resigned his position as cashier, and was succeeded by J. M. Bell. July 1, 1879, it was voted to change the organization from a national to a state bank under the laws of Minnesota, and to transfer its entire business to the new organization.

*The Merchants Bank of Winona* succeeded to the Merchants National Bank, and was organized in August, 1879, with the following directors: Charles H. Berry, H. D. Perkins, J. M. Bell, Mark Willson, C. C. Beck, L. J. Allred and C. Heintz, and who proceeded to the election of officers, as follows: Mark Willson, president; J. M. Bell, cashier; H. D. Perkins, vice-president.

In December, 1879, J. M. Bell tendered his resignation as cashier, which was accepted, and Geo. F. Crise was elected in his place. The officers of the bank at this time are Mark Willson, president; Chas. H. Berry, vice-president, and Geo. F. Crise, cashier.

*The Winona Savings Bank* was organized July 1, 1874, and lasted five years. The depositors were notified to withdraw their

deposits July 1, 1879, and were paid in full, principal and interest. The trustees were William Mitchell, W. H. Laird, H. E. Curtis, F. A. Rising, Thomas Wilson, E. S. Youmans and C. J. Camp. The officers were Wm. Mitchell, president; W. H. Laird, vice-president; F. A. Rising, treasurer.

The bank was located on Second street, in the old United National Bank building.

The foregoing is believed to be a correct history of banks and of the banking business in Winona county since its early settlement. It is possible that other parties and facts have been overlooked, but the writer has endeavored to include everything pertaining to the subject.

From the time the first deposits were received and the first drafts on eastern banks were drawn by Berry & Waterman, in 1855, the banking business has grown with the increased mercantile and manufacturing business of Winona in proportion until this time. We have now in this city, in successful operation, four banks, two of which are working under the national banking laws, one under state organization, and one a private bank.

The whole amount of capital invested at this time in the banking business in Winona county aggregates \$250,000, not including surplus and undivided profits.

The amount of deposits in the banks in Winona is about \$900,000, and bills discounted are about the same amount. The rates of interest charged by the banks are from seven to ten per cent per annum.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

### GENERAL HISTORY OF WINONA COUNTY—ITS EARLY SETTLEMENT, PIONEERS, ETC.

THE local history of this county, as an organization, hardly extends beyond the personal recollections of the present generation. Many of its earliest settlers are yet residents of this locality. Less than a third of a century ago the country lying west of the Mississippi in the State of Minnesota was the almost exclusive domain of bands of savages—the possessions of the aborigines, occupied by the

same race and by the same nation of people who held it when the western continent was first discovered.

Its early settlement by the pioneer successors of this savage race was begun somewhat after the same general plan, although on a very much smaller scale, of that adopted by the Europeans in their first occupancy of North America. They made claims and held them by their rights of discovery. This part of the country was first discovered and held in possession by the French.

To maintain a proper connection with the past, a brief synopsis of historical events relative to this section of country, prior to the time this county was created, has been compiled as an introductory chapter to this record of events and incidents of more modern times.

After the discovery of the western continent, the maritime nations of Europe sent out expeditions to make explorations. The parts of the continent first visited in these voyages were taken possession of in the name of the government represented. When these explorations were extended inland the localities were claimed by the same powers. It was in this manner that the whole Mississippi valley became at one time a part of the foreign possessions of France, acquired by their rights of discovery and held by their power as a nation.

In 1534 Jacques Cartier, a French navigator, discovered the Gulf of St. Lawrence and sailed up the St. Lawrence river, supposing from its size and depth that he had found the western passage to the Indian ocean, for which he was seeking. He claimed the newly discovered country in the name of the sovereign of France. As an emblem of his first discovery, and as a symbol of possession, he erected a large wooden cross on a conspicuous elevation of land. This was the first claim mark of France in this part of North America.

The French afterward extended their explorations west to the great lakes, assuming possession in their progress. It was not until 1654 that they reached the region of Lake Superior. The real explorers of this part of the country were the fur traders. They advanced with their traffic as far west as Green Bay in 1659.

In these expeditions, from the time the cross was erected by Cartier, these adventurous explorers were usually accompanied by zealous representatives of different orders in the Roman Catholic church, apparently to maintain religious advantages coequal with the civil and military authority claimed over the extended possessions.

Father Joseph Marquette accompanied Louis Jolliet with five French or Canadian voyageurs up the Fox river from Green Bay. Crossing the portage to the Wisconsin river they descended it to its mouth and discovered the Mississippi river on June 17, 1673.

To Father Marquette has been given the honor of having been the first to discover the upper Mississippi. The river had, however, been visited by Europeans prior to this date. In 1541 the lower Mississippi was crossed by Hernando de Soto, a Spanish adventurer, in his exploration of that part of the country.

In 1679 Father Louis Hennepin accompanied Robert La Salle on his expedition along the shores of Lake Michigan to Illinois, where he spent the winter. In the following spring, 1680, he was intrusted by La Salle to make explorations. With two French voyageurs he went down the Illinois river to its mouth, and then ascended the Mississippi. On his voyage up this river he was made prisoner by a war party of Dakota Indians and taken into the Mille Lac region, on the headwaters of the Mississippi. He was here found by Duluth, who was exploring the country of the Dakotas by way of Lake Superior. Father Hennepin visited the Falls of St. Anthony, to which he gave its present name. He was the first to explore the Mississippi above the mouth of the Wisconsin, and the first white man that ever visited the vicinity of this country.

In 1682 La Salle descended the Illinois to its junction with the Mississippi, down which he continued until he entered the Gulf of Mexico. He took possession of the country through which he passed in the name of France, and gave it the name of Louisiana.

In the spring of 1683 Capt. Nicholas Perrot, a Canadian, with twenty men, established a fort or trading-post in what is now the State of Minnesota, below and near the mouth of Lake Pepin. This was the first location occupied by a white man on the west side of the Mississippi. It was soon abandoned by Perrot to carry on his traffic elsewhere. In 1688 he returned with forty men, and again took possession of his trading-post below Lake Pepin.

In 1689 Capt. Nicholas Perrot, in the name of the king of France, by formal proclamation took possession of all of the country on the headwaters of the Mississippi. Not long afterward the whole country from the Alleghanies to the Pacific ocean was claimed by the French and called the territory of Louisiana.

This territory remained in possession of France until 1760, when the country west of the Mississippi was ceded to Spain, and in 1763



all of the country east of the Mississippi claimed by the French was formally ceded to Great Britain.

In 1800 the country west of the Mississippi known as Louisiana was retroceded to France, and in 1803 the United States acquired possession of it by purchase from the French government.

By act of congress in 1804 Louisiana was divided; the southern part was called the territory of Orleans, the northern portion the district of Louisiana.

In 1812 Orleans was admitted into the Union under the title of State of Louisiana, and the district of Louisiana given the name of Territory of Missouri.

In 1821 the Territory of Missouri was divided; from the southern portion the Territory of Arkansas was formed, and the State of Missouri created and admitted.

The country north of the State of Missouri was left without territorial organization. In 1834 it was placed under the jurisdiction of the Territory of Michigan, and in 1837 under the judicial authority of the Territory of Wisconsin.

In 1838 the Territory of Iowa was created. It embraced all of the country north of the State of Missouri between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the northern line.

The State of Iowa was constituted from the southern part of this territory and admitted in 1846. The northern portion was left without territorial organization until by act of congress, March 3, 1849, the Territory of Minnesota was created.

The largest portion of this territory, that lying west of the Mississippi, was the northeastern part of the "Louisiana Purchase." The portion lying on the east side of the river was a part of the territory of Wisconsin not included in the boundaries of the State of Wisconsin when admitted in 1848.

The territory of Minnesota, when organized, was without divisions, except two or three counties on the east side of the Mississippi, which had been created while they were a part of the Territory of Wisconsin.

By proclamation Governor Ramsey divided the territory into three judicial districts. The country west of the Mississippi and south of the Minnesota formed the third judicial district, to which Judge Cooper was assigned. The first court was held at Mendota in August, 1849.

Governor Ramsey, by proclamation, made the first apportion-

ment of council districts. The settlements on the west bank of the Mississippi, south of the Crow village to the Iowa line, were included with a part of St. Croix county on the east side of the river and constituted the first council district. The settlements on the west side of the river were of half-breed Sioux.

The first territorial legislature held its session in St. Paul, the capital of the territory. It began on September 3 and adjourned on November 1, 1849. The members from the first council district were: James S. Norris, in the council; Joseph W. Furber and James Wells, in the house. David Olmsted, of Long Prairie, was president of the council; Joseph W. Furber, of Cottage Grove, speaker of the house.

James Wells was the first representative to the territorial legislature from the country along the west side of the Mississippi. He was an Indian trader living on the shores of Lake Pepin, twelve miles below Red Wing. Among his friends and associates he was generally known as "Bully Wells." He was elected by the half-breeds and a few traders and government employés at the election held on August 1. The total votes polled were thirty-three. At this election Hon. H. H. Sibley was elected delegate to congress without opposition.

The first territorial legislature, at its session in 1849 (October 27), created several counties, two of which, Dakota and Wabasha on the west side of the Mississippi, included all of the territory south of the Minnesota river—Wabasha in the eastern part and Dakota lying west along the Minnesota.

In 1853 (March 5) the county of Wabasha was divided by act of the territorial legislature and a part of the southern portion designated as Fillmore county. In 1854 (February 23) Fillmore county was divided, and from the portion along the river the counties of Houston and Winona were created—Houston next to the Iowa line and Winona between Houston and Wabasha counties. The boundaries given Winona county in the act by which it was created have since been maintained unchanged. These outlines of history generalize this county from the days of the advent of the first white man to the present time, a period of little more than two hundred years.

In this abstract of jurisdiction an omission has been made—the proprietary of this part of the country before it was so formally taken possession of by Captain Perrot. At the time France assumed control it was held by tribes of savage Indians. Of them, prior to

that period, but little is known with any degree of certainty. Having no written records their earliest traditions have long been forgotten, their more modern history only known by its connections with that of their successors, the white race.

Traditions, with mounds and relics antedating traditional lore, afford speculative study for the antiquary, and present corroborative evidence to the historian that in the unknown periods of the past this section of country was inhabited, and that its population was *probably* of the Indian race. Their first occupancy is veiled in dark obscurity. Their rights of possession have, however, been continuously acknowledged and recognized from the time jurisdiction was claimed for France in 1689 until the treaty by which their lands west of the Mississippi, in what is now the State of Minnesota, were purchased and ceded to the United States, when their title was formally transferred to their successors.

The Dakota nation, which held this country, was probably one of the largest warlike nations of the aborigines of North America. When first visited by Europeans their territory extended from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains. This Indian nation was composed of numerous general divisions and subdivisions or bands, having a language common to all (only varied by dialects), with manners, customs, etc., differing but little in different localities. Although united as a confederacy for common defense or warlike purposes, each division held a separate interest in the localities they occupied.

The eastern division of the Dakota nation was the Mdaywakan-tonwan, or Spirit Lake villagers. It was this division that made prisoner of Father Hennepin in 1680. At that time they were in possession of the country on the east side of the Mississippi to Lake Superior. The country south of the lake was held by the Ojibways, who were the first to hold communication with the traders. They were the first supplied with fire-arms, which gave them such an advantage over the more warlike Sioux that they drove them back and took possession of their homes in the Mille Lac region. The Sioux were forced to the southward and westward, but successfully maintained their lands on the west side of the Mississippi, and a strip along the east side, from about a hundred and fifty miles above the Falls of St. Anthony to about one hundred and fifty miles below.

There were seven bands in this division. The villages of three of them were on the Mississippi, below the falls; the others were on the lower part of the Minnesota river.

## CHAPTER XV.

### TREATIES WITH THE INDIANS.

By treaty in 1805, through Lieut. Pike, the first representative of our government that visited this part of the "Louisiana purchase," this division of Sioux made the first sale of any of their lands. For the establishment of military posts the United States purchased from them a section of country nine miles square, on each side of the Mississippi, which included the Falls of St. Anthony and the present site of Fort Snelling. A section of country nine miles square, at the mouth of the St. Croix, was also secured for the same purpose. It was not until several years after that this purchase was utilized by government. The corner-stone of Fort Snelling was laid on the 10th of September, 1820, but it was not occupied by soldiers until the following year. The site was first taken possession of by Col. Leavenworth with a company of soldiers in 1819.

The transportation of troops, supplies, material, etc., for the fort was principally by keelboats, which at that time, and for some time afterward, were used in the navigation of the Upper Mississippi. The trip from St. Louis to this point was a long and tedious one. The first steamboat that ever came up the Mississippi to Fort Snelling at the mouth of the Minnesota river was a stern-wheel boat called the Virginia, in 1823.

By treaty in 1830 government secured from this part of the Sioux nation the section of country known as the "Half-breed Tract," for the benefit or exclusive use of their descendants of mixed blood. This tract of land was on the west side of the Mississippi and Lake Pepin, fifteen miles wide, and extending down the river, from Barn Bluff, near Red Wing, thirty-two miles, to a point opposite Beef river, below the present village of Wabasha.

In 1837 a deputation of chiefs of this division of Dakotas was induced to visit Washington, where they made a treaty by which they "ceded to the United States all their lands east of the Mississippi river, and all of their islands in said river." This treaty was ratified by the senate on the 17th of July, 1838, when the Sioux removed all of their bands to the west side of the Mississippi.



Until 1851 the Mdaywakantonwan Sioux were the only division of the Dakota nation with whom the United States had made formal treaty stipulations for the sale of any part of their lands. They were the only branch of the whole Sioux confederacy who received annuities from the government. Under the treaty of 1837 they received annually, for twenty years from the date of the treaty, \$10,000 in money, \$10,000 in goods, \$5,500 in provisions, and \$8,250 "in the purchase of medicines, agricultural implements and stock and for the support of a physician, farmers and blacksmiths, and for other beneficial objects." In the first article of this treaty it was provided that a portion of the interest on the whole sum invested—\$5,000 annually—was "to be applied in such manner as the president may direct." This occasioned some trouble, as it was proposed to expend this sum for the purposes of education, schools, etc., which the Indians strongly opposed. This fund was not used, but allowed to accumulate until the treaty of 1851 before settlement was effected and the amount paid over to them.

At that time these seven bands comprised a population of about 2,200 in number. The nominal head chief of the division was Wabasha, who was also chief of a band. His village was at Wabasha Prairie, and had a population of about 300. The Red Wing band—chief, Wakoota—numbered about 300; the Kaposia band—chief, Little Crow—had about 400; the Black Dog band—chief, Gray Iron—had 250; Cloud Man's band, at Lake Calhoun, 250; Good Road's band, about 300; Six's band—chief, Shakopec—about 450. The last four bands named were on lower part of the Minnesota river.

By treaties made in 1851 the Sioux sold their lands in what is now the State of Minnesota. The Sisseton and Wahpaton divisions in the west, called the "upper bands," signed the treaty at Traverse des Sioux, July 23, 1851, and the "lower bands," the Wahpakoota and Mdaywakantonwan divisions, signed the treaty at Mendota, August 5, 1851.

These treaties were amended by the senate at Washington the following year. The amendment was ratified by the "lower bands" at St. Paul, September 4, 1852. The treaties as amended were formally ratified by the president's proclamation, dated February 24, 1853.

By this sale the Dakotas relinquished possession of their lands in this vicinity—their title to it, held from time unknown, was extinguished for ever. Prior to this, occupancy of these lands by

the whites was considered trespass, except by special permit or license from government.

After the treaty in 1851, and before its ratification, settlements were made or commenced by the whites, without action on the part of the government, and without much show of opposition from the Sioux. It was during this period that the first bona-fide settlements were made within the boundaries of what is now known as Winona county. Previous to this, however, Indian traders and government employés had located temporarily at different places along the Mississippi, some of whom remained and afterward became citizens of the county.

The Mississippi river is the eastern boundary of this county, and from time immemorial has been what may be called the grand highway between the north and the south, and, through its tributaries, the means of communication between the east and the west. Over its waters the savages paddled their canoes, and the Canadian voyageurs propelled their batteaux. It was the course over which the early traders carried on their traffic. Their goods, brought from the east by way of the great lakes, and down the Wisconsin river, were transported up the Mississippi to their trading stations in the north. The furs for which they were exchanged were returned over the same route. With the increase of this commercial business Prairie du Chien became the emporium of the fur-traders, and held its importance for nearly a century.

During this period French names were given by the traders and voyageurs to persons, places and things which were in common use, the names designative of localities which served as landmarks in their adventurous expeditions being the most important.

There are not more than one or two localities in this county that can now be identified by the names thus given, and in no instance has the name been preserved.

The most familiar, if not the only locality, is that of the prairie on which the city of Winona is now situated. This was designated as the "Prairie aux Aile," the literal translation of which is the "Wing Prairie." Its signification is unknown except as a matter of opinion.

This prairie and vicinity was the home of one of the most influential of the Dakota chiefs. It was the grand gathering-place of his once numerous warriors. The Dakota name of this chief was Wa-pa-ha-sa. It was hereditary. Besides being chief of his own

band, he was the head chief of the bands along the Mississippi. These official positions were also hereditary. The early voyageurs gave him the name of Wa-pa-sa. The more modern traders and river men called him Wa-ba-shaw, and gave the same name to the prairie on which his village was located. It was known as Wabasha prairie until the name was superseded by Winona, its present one. Winona (Wee-no-nah) is a Dakota name, signifying a daughter, the first-born child. It is a name usually given to the first-born child, if a daughter, and never conferred upon a locality by the Sioux. The name was selected by the early settlers on Wabasha prairie as the name of the post-office established there, and was afterward adopted by the town proprietors for the village. When the county was created the same name was conferred upon it.

The following story in Neil's History of Minnesota gives another name to Wabasha prairie. The story is apparently founded on the Dakota legend of Maiden's rock, on the eastern shore of Lake Pepin. This is the only instance known where the name of "Keoxa" has ever been given to Wabasha's village on this prairie. It is indeed a query whether it is a Dakota name.

"In the days of the great chief Wapashaw there lived at the village of Keoxa, which stood at the site of the town which now bears her name, a maiden with a loving soul. She was the first-born daughter, and, as is always the case in a Dahkotch family, she bore the name of Weenonah. A young hunter of the same band was never happier than when he played the flute in her hearing. Having thus signified his affection, it was with the whole heart reciprocated. The youth begged from his friends all that he could, and went to her parents, as is the custom, to purchase her for his wife, but his proposals were rejected.

"A warrior who had often been on the war-path, whose head-dress plainly told the number of scalps he had wrenched from Ojibway heads, had also been to the parents, and they thought that she would be more honored as an inmate of his teepee.

"Weenonah, however, could not forget her first love, and though he had been forced away, his absence strengthened her affections. Neither the attentions of the warrior, nor the threats of parents, nor the persuasions of friends could make her consent to marry simply for position.

"One day the band came to Lake Pepin to fish or hunt. The dark green foliage, the velvet sward, the beautiful expanse of



Respectfully Yours  
O. W. Lord





water, the shady nooks, made it a place to utter the breathings of love. The warrior sought her once more and begged her to accede to her parents' wish and become his wife, but she refused with decision.

"While the party was feasting Weenonah clambered to the lofty bluff, and then told to those who were below how crushed she had been by the absence of the young hunter and the cruelty of her friends. Then chaunting a wild death-song, before the fleetest runner could reach the height she dashed herself down, and that form of beauty was in a moment a mass of broken limbs and bruised flesh.

"The Dahkotchah as he passes the rock feels that the spot is Wawkawn."

The name of Wabasha rightfully belonged to this locality. Its alienation was not from premeditated design. Before Wabasha prairie was settled, or even a white settler had located in what is now Winona county, the settlement on the "half-breed tract" was called Wabasha. The first postoffice along the river was established there and given the name of Wabasha postoffice, although it was for a while at Reed's Landing. It having been thus appropriated, but little effort was ever made to reclaim it. But few of the settlers cared about preserving or adopting it in a second-hand condition.

When keelboats and steamboats took the place of the canoes and bateaux in the navigation of the river, the names conferred on localities by the Dakotas and French were quite generally dropped, and less expressive ones usually substituted. Where Dakota or French names have been retained in this state, they have in very many instances been so modified by "Yankee improvements" that it is difficult to trace their derivation.

In this county no distinctive name of locality or landmark given by the French has been retained. Neither is there a single instance where the name given by the Dakotas to mountain or stream, hill, valley or prairie, has been preserved and is now in use by the whites. Nothing designated by the Sioux, the immediate predecessors of the present generation, is now known by its Dakota name.

It is not so much a matter of surprise that Indian names have not been retained, or that they are now unknown to the present inhabitants of the county, if the abruptness of the change of occupants is taken into consideration. When the Sioux relinquished possession of their lands here they at once left this vicinity. The

white settlers found the country without a population. The two races were strangers—unknown to each other; no association or intercourse ever existed between them.

There are two or three instances where the English interpretation has been substituted for the original Dakota. White Water is the name of a river which runs through the northern part of the county. It is the translation of the Dakota "Minne-ska," signifying "White Water." The village at the mouth of that stream in Wabasha county is called Minneiska. The name of Rolling Stone is another instance. This is an interpretation of the name given by the Dakotas to the Rolling Stone Creek, "Eyan-omen-man-met-pah," the literal translation of which is "the stream where the stone rolls." Its true signification is not known. It was called by the French traders of more modern times "Roche que le Boule." These names were obtained from O. M. Lord, who acquired them from Gen. Sibley.

Wabasha and the most of his people left their homes on the Mississippi in 1852. Nothing marks the localities in this county as evidence of where, for so many generations, their race once lived. Even the old and deeply worn trails, over which they filed away toward the setting sun, are now, like the wakes of their canoes, obliterated and unknown. Some "old settlers" may perhaps from memory be able to point out the general course of these trails, over which they explored the country in their "claim hunting" excursions, and on which they were accustomed to traverse the country until the plow and fences of improvements debarred further use of them.

The Sioux were, by the conditions of the treaty, transferred to a reservation on the head-waters of the Minnesota river. Here they were taught and encouraged to adopt a new system of life and become an agricultural people. It was supposed that some progress was made toward civilization, but, as in many similar philanthropic efforts, the ultimate results proved a failure. The Sioux massacre of 1862 originated with the bands of Wabasha's division, which had given the most encouraging prospects of their becoming "good Indians." The first outrages were perpetrated by some of Shakapee's band. A war party was at once organized with the bands of Gray Iron, Little Crow and detachments from other divisions. The band of Wabasha and the Red Wing band were compelled to participate in the proceedings, and the whole Dakota nation was soon involved in the affair.

This chapter would perhaps be considered incomplete without mention of one of the chiefs of Wabasha's band who was more generally known to the early settlers of Winona county than any other of the Indians who originally claimed this part of the country. The most of the "old settlers" probably remember "Old To-ma-ha," the old one-eyed Sioux, who kept up his rounds of visitations to the settlements until about the time of his death, which occurred in 1860 at about one hundred years of age. When on his customary visits among the whites he was usually accompanied by a party of his own descendants and family relatives—from ten to twenty in number. His figure was erect and movements active, notwithstanding his advanced age. His dress on these occasions was a much worn military coat and pantaloons of blue cloth trimmed with red, and an old stove-pipe hat with the same color displayed. He always carried with him a large package of papers inclosed in a leather or skin pocket-book, and also a large silver medal, which he wore suspended from his neck in a conspicuous place on his breast. His large red pipe-stone hatchet pipe, with a long handle, was generally in his hands. It was his usual custom to attract attention by his presence and then allow the curious to examine his pipe and medal, when, if there appeared to be a prospect of getting money for the exhibition, he would produce his pocket-book and allow an examination of its contents, for which privilege he expected, and usually received, at least a dime, and perhaps from the more liberal a quarter of a dollar. This Indian was a historical character. His pocket-book contained his commission as a chief of the Sioux nation, given him by Governor Clark, of Missouri territory, in 1814, who at the same time presented him with a captain's uniform and a medal for meritorious services rendered the government as a scout and messenger. His papers contained testimonials and recommendations from prominent government officials and other persons. Mention is made of him in the reports of officials who had jurisdiction in the northwest territories, one by Lieut. Pike, who was sent by the government of the United States in 1805 to explore the northern part of the "Louisiana purchase," then recently acquired, and to make treaties with the Dakotas. In 1812, when the Sioux joined the English in the war with the United States, Tomaha went to St. Louis and gave his services to fight against the British forces. He had the confidence of the military officers, and in all of the frontier difficulties on the upper Mississippi, where fighting was done, he was employed as



scout and messenger. When his services were no longer required by government he returned to his Dakota home.

When the Sioux left this vicinity and went to their reservation on the Minnesota river, Tomaha remained to die in the locality where he was born and where he spent his youth. He sometimes visited his friends on the reservation, but never made it his home.

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## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE FUR TRADERS.

THE first white men to establish themselves among these Indians were the fur traders and voyageurs—the early pioneers of commerce. Of the hardy adventurers who in generations past engaged in commercial pursuits in this vicinity nothing is now known.

The earliest of these traffickers, who had a fixed place of business in this county, of which there is even a traditional record, was Francois La Bathe. His business location was in the northern part of the county, on the Mississippi. The date of his establishment of a trading station in this vicinity is not now definitely known. He had trading posts in other localities along the river at the same time—one at Bad Axe, below La Crosse. His more permanent stations were usually under the charge of partners and assistants or clerks. Mr. O. M. Lord informed the writer that Hon. N. W. Kittson, of St. Paul, was in the employ of La Bathe & Co. for a year or two, in 1840, or about that time, and had charge of a trading station above the Rolling Stone. The location of the station was described by Mr. Kittson as being above Minnesota City, at the foot of the bluff, where the slough leaves the mainland (Haddock's slough). The land in this vicinity is now owned by D. L. Burley, who has occupied it about thirty years. Mr. Burley says he has never seen any indications that would lead him to think the locality had ever been occupied for any purpose prior to his taking possession of it. Others say La Bathe's trading post was above that place. Near where the river leaves the mainland, about four miles below the mouth of the White Water, there is a bluff and a location that resemble the description given to Mr. Lord. At that place the early

settlers of 1852 found the ruins of a large cabin. The writer saw it frequently in 1854. There was a huge stone fireplace and chimney then standing entire, in a tolerable state of preservation, but the logs were a mass of ruins, and bushes were growing up among the logs where the house once stood.

It is said that La Bathe spent the most of his life with the Dakotah Indians; that though of French descent he was in some way related to them either by birth or marriage, or perhaps both. His influence with the Indians was an advantage to him in his commercial transactions. He was intimately connected in business affairs with prominent traders. His history is unknown in this vicinity. La Bathe went with the Sioux to their reservation on the head-waters of the Minnesota river, where he was killed by the savages with whom he had spent his life. He was among the first victims at the outbreak of the Sioux massacre in 1862.

Although there were quite a number of traders who lived on the Wisconsin side of the river, at La Crosse and at what is now Trempealeau and Fountain City, who traded with the Sioux on the west side of the river, there are but two or three others of this class to mention who were established in business and had a residence in Winona county. First among these were Willard B. Bunnell and Nathan Brown, both of whom came into the Territory of Minnesota after it was organized.

“Bill” Bunnell had been for five or six years prior to his coming here living on the east side of the Mississippi, at La Crosse and at what is now Trempealeau village, but the most of the time in what was called the Trempealeau country, hunting, trapping and trading with the Indians. His Indian trade was principally with the Winnebagoes who were living in that vicinity and in the Black River country. He had, before coming to the Mississippi river, been a trader in the vicinity of Green Bay, with the Menomines and Chippewas. From his fluency in speaking the language of the Chippewas the Sioux for some time after his arrival in this vicinity were jealous and suspicious of him as a friend of their hereditary enemies. He was unable to secure their confidence until he had learned their language and proved himself to be a “professional” hunter and their friend. He joined them in their hunting excursions, and for the time adopted their style of “undress,”—a breech-clout, buckskin leggings and moccasins. In this rig, with his rifle or fowling-piece and blanket, he spent weeks with them on Root river and its tribu-

taries. He was the first white resident of this locality to explore the country back of the bluffs.

Willard Bradly Bunnell located as a licensed trader with the Sioux of Wabasha's band, August 20, 1849. His house was on the bank of the river, in what is now the village of Homer. It was built of hewed logs, and had a shingled roof—the first shingled roof ever put on any structure in this part of Minnesota. This was the first permanent improvement made in the settlement of the county. To this place Bunnell brought his family. It was the home of an estimable wife and their three children. It was here that the first white child was born. Frances Matilda Bunnell was born February 20, 1850. She was the first white native resident of this part of the territory.

Mrs. Bunnell was the first white woman that came into this part of the Territory of Minnesota to live—the first to make her home within the boundaries of Winona county. She was a model representative of a frontier woman. Although remarkably domestic in her habits, and observant of matters connected with her household duties, which make home desirable, she was able to paddle her own canoe, and was a sure shot with either the rifle or fowling-piece. While in general appearance and manners ladylike and modestly feminine, she had remarkable courage and self-possession, and was decisive to act in cases of emergency, when danger threatened herself or family—qualifications that were respected by her dusky neighbors, the friends of the trader. Possessing good mental abilities, her experience in frontier life and intuitive knowledge of Indian character gave her an influence over the wild customers who visited their trading-post, that was as much a matter of surprise to herself as to others. The Indians respected and feared her although only a "woman."

Mrs. Bunnell was of French descent. Besides speaking French, she was able to converse fluently with the Chippewas, Winnebagoes and Sioux, and had some knowledge of other dialects. She was brought up in the Catholic faith, but in the latter part of her life she professed the Protestant religion, and became a member of the Methodist church. Mrs. Bunnell died in April, 1867, at about the age of forty-five. Some of her children are yet residents of this state.

The house, a story and a-half building, built by "Will" Bunnell in 1849, is still standing in the upper part of the village of Homer, at what was once called Bunnell's Landing. The building

and grounds are now the property of Dr. L. H. Bunnell, a younger brother of the trader. The house has been moved a little back from where it was originally built, and, to keep pace with the times, this relic of the first settlers' early home has been somewhat modernized by a covering of clapboards and painted. It is still a comfortable dwelling, and is occupied by Dr. Bunnell as his residence and permanent home.

Willard B. Bunnell took an active interest in the early settlement of this county, and was connected with many of the incidents of pioneer life which will be noticed in the progress of events. He died in August, 1861, at about the age of forty-seven. His death was caused by consumption.

Nathan Brown came into the territory as a trader September 29, 1849. His location was on the river below Bunnell's, in what is now the southern part of the county. Mr. Brown was then a young man without a family. His cabin in which he made his home was a one-story log building, 12×16. His storehouse, 12×16, was a story and a-half, of hewed logs. These buildings were covered with shingled roofs and substantially made.

Although Mr. Brown was a trader with the Indians, he did not hold his position through a license from government. He made a sort of miniature treaty with Wabasha and his braves, and purchased from them the privilege of occupying as much of the locality as he chose to carry on his business. For this permit he paid them \$50—making payment in flour and pork from his store. Mr. Brown states that “during the early days of his residence there, while engaged in trade with the Winnebagoes and Sioux, he never locked his cabin door, not even when absent from home, and never lost anything by theft, through either Indians or white people.”

Mr. Brown and Mr. Bunnell, as the last of the Indian traders, appear to constitute a connecting link between the past and present condition of this part of the country. Both settled here while the land was held by the Sioux. Both were residents of Winona county after its organization.

Following in the order of pioneer life, the missionaries have been among the first to venture into countries inhabited by the savages, and the first to attempt to improve their condition. Their zealous efforts entitle them to be called the pioneers of civilization. Foremost among these have been the missionaries connected with the Catholic church.



In the earliest explorations of this part of the country, the traders were accompanied by the priests. The early French traders and voyageurs were of that religious belief, and their descendants, for all of them intermarried with the Indians, were taught the same faith. These missionaries were the first to visit the Dakotas—the first to visit the west side of the Mississippi river.

From the days of the Rev. Louis Hennépin to more modern times they held a strong influence over the traders and voyageurs, and their descendants, and perhaps, to a limited extent, succeeded in influencing the savage natives by their teachings.

The first Catholic missionaries of more modern times, of whom there is even traditionary knowledge in this section of country, were at the half-breed village where now stands the city of Wabasha. There the first church in southern Minnesota was built in 1845. With the exception of the very Rev. A. Ravoux, the names of these missionaries are unknown.

The first attempt to establish a Protestant missionary station in this vicinity, of which there is any record, was in 1836. Rev. Daniel Gavan, a Frenchman, sent out as a missionary by the Evangelical Society of Lausanne, Switzerland, established a mission for the benefit of the Sioux of Wabasha's band. At that time the Sioux held possession of the east side of the river. Mr. Gavan located on the Wisconsin side, and built his cabin near Trempealeau mountain. He remained here until the fall of 1838, when he visited the missions on the Minnesota river, at Lac qui Parle, for the purpose of learning the Sioux language from the missionaries, who were then translating the Scriptures into that tongue. While thus engaged he became acquainted with and afterward married Miss Lucy C. Stevens, who had been a teacher in a mission school at Lake Harriet, near Fort Snelling. Miss Stevens was a niece of Rev. J. D. Stevens, a missionary. Mr. Gavan, after his marriage, removed to Red Wing, where he remained until 1845.

In 1838 the Rev. Jedediah D. Stevens came into this vicinity in the double capacity of missionary or teacher, and "Indian Farmer." Mr. Stevens was one of the earliest Protestant missionaries to visit the Dakotas on this side of the river. In the spring of 1835 he with his family came to Ft. Snelling, and shortly afterward removed from there to Lake Harriet, as missionary to "Cloud Man's" band of Sioux, where he remained until the fall of 1838, when he was

appointed "Indian Farmer" to the Sioux of Wabasha's band, at Wabasha prairie. Maj. Talliaferro, the Indian agent for the Sioux, aided some of the early missionaries by such appointments, with the design to benefit the savages by thus providing them with means of civilization.

Late in the fall of 1838 Mr. Stevens moved his family to his appointed field of labor, but was not favorably received by the Indians. He, however, located himself on the Wisconsin side of the river on the island, about opposite where Laird, Norton & Co's saw-mills now stand, where he built a comfortable log cabin for his family, and a stable for the team of horses he brought with him. He there passed the winter with his wife and children and a young girl, an assistant and companion of Mrs. Stevens. Mr. G. W. Clark says the ruins of this cabin were to be seen when he came here in 1851. Expecting to get his winter supply of provisions from down the river before the close of navigation, he brought only a small supply with him, and was seriously disappointed to learn that no supplies could be procured from that source. He was compelled to go to Prairie Du Chine for the provisions he had ordered. This trip, over one hundred miles distant, he made with his team on the ice, leaving his family alone. It was during this winter that Mr. Gavin, who had been living near Trempealeau, was visiting the missions on the Minnesota river.

Neither Mr. Stevens nor his family were in any way molested or disturbed by the Sioux during the winter, but he failed to secure the confidence or friendship of Wabasha or his people, although he was able to converse with them in their own tongue. They were dissatisfied with his appointment as "Indian Farmer," and from the time of his arrival had refused to recognize him as a government agent, or in his capacity as a teacher. In the spring, when he began to make preparations to build on the prairie, their dissatisfaction began to assume a threatening form of opposition. His perseverance excited their hostilities to the extent that he was ordered to keep on the east side of the river, where he was then living, and not attempt to locate on their lands. Deeming it unsafe to remain with his family, against the opposition exhibited, Mr. Stevens resigned his position and left the locality. He went down the river and found more civilized society.

The young girl (now Mrs. Griggs) who lived with Mrs. Stevens on the island during that winter, resides near Minneapolis.

This appointment of Mr. Stevens to the position of Indian farmer at Wabasha Prairie was the first special appointment made for the Sioux in this locality. It was made in accordance with the terms of the treaty in 1837, by which they sold their lands on the east side of the Mississippi, with all of their island in the river. This treaty was not ratified by government until the following year, 1838, only a short time before Mr. Stevens was assigned to the locality.

Although the Sioux continued to occupy the islands and lands on the east side of the river in common with others, during their stay in this vicinity, they never assumed jurisdiction over them.

The Sioux were jealous of the rapid advances of the white people, and firmly opposed any measures which gave them privileges on their lands. The trader was to them a necessity. The Catholic missionaries had for generations been mysteriously associated with the presence of the trader and tolerated. But the missionary Indian farmer they were not prepared to receive—they were indifferent as to what Mr. Stevens knew about farming or schools. It was supposed by some that the Indians were influenced in this matter by the traders and half-breeds, with a design to drive Mr. Stevens off and make a vacancy in the position. This may have been the case; but it was evident that Wabasha did not favor measures that tended to civilization. Afterward, when the treaty was made for the sale of their lands, in 1851, he opposed the sale until the treaty was ready for signature, and then acquiesced only because he feared the treaty would be made without his touch of the pen. He was opposed to the terms of the treaty, and in a speech in opposition to it, he said to the commissioners in council: "You have requested us to sign this paper, and you have told these people standing around that it is for their benefit; but I am of a different opinion. In the treaty I have heard read you have mentioned farmers and schools, physicians, traders and half-breeds. To all these I am opposed. You see these chiefs sitting around. They and others who are dead went to Washington and made a treaty (in 1837), in which the same things were said; but we have not been benefited by them, and I want them struck out of this one. We want nothing but cash turned over to us for our lands."

At about the time that Mr. Stevens was appointed Indian farmer, a government blacksmith was also assigned to this band. His name, the place where located, or the length of time he was here,

is somewhat uncertain. It is said by some that he was located near La Bathe's trading station. Of this nothing reliable is learned. About the same time a blacksmith was assigned to the half-breeds. Oliver Cratt, from Fort Snelling, was appointed to that position, and he located himself at the half-breed settlement, now Wabasha. Whether he also supplied Wabasha's band is not known.

Dr. Bunnell, of this county, says that he learned from some old Indians, Sioux and Winnebagoes, and from descendants of half-breed natives of this vicinity, that the first blacksmith appointed to Wabasha's band was a half-breed Sioux. That he located himself on the very site where W. B. Bunnell afterward settled, and which is now the property of Dr. Bunnell. He says that in cultivating his garden, in that locality, he has found cinders and scraps of iron that would confirm the statement. The tradition of the Indians is that the half-breed blacksmith did not stay but a short time on the west side of the river. To avoid threatened danger to himself he moved his blacksmith-shop onto an island opposite Homer. In this way he held for awhile his position of an employé under government.

The doctor also states that after W. B. Bunnell was located at his trading station, he found on the island an old anvil and evidence that a blacksmith had occupied the locality. The island was given the name of "Blacksmith Island" by the trader, and it is yet known by that name.

The Sioux of the "lower bands" along the river were all opposed to the payment of teachers or for the establishment of schools, etc., from their annuities. No schools were ever established with Wabasha's band. It was not until several years after the treaty of 1837 that the consent of any of this division was obtained. Little Crow, of the Kaposia band, was the first to ask for a school, in 1846. The mission schools were previous to this, and until after the treaty of 1851, supported at the expense of missionary societies.

In 1842 James Reed was appointed Indian farmer to Wabasha's band, and held this position under government for three years afterward. He built a log storehouse on Wabasha prairie, which he used as his headquarters when engaged in his official duties. This building stood about where S. C. White's store now stands, on the corner of Second and Center streets, in the city of Winona.

The lands cultivated by the Sioux, under the management and instruction of Mr. Reed, were in the mouth of what is now called



Gilmore valley, the bottom lands in front of the residence of C. C. Beck. Prior to this the same locality had been used by generations of Sioux squaws for cultivation after their primitive manner. This was the favorite planting-grounds of Wabasha's village, although other localities were also used for purposes of cultivation. The mouth of Burns valley was another favorite locality and the special home of the chief Wabasha and his family relatives. The main village of this band was on the slough at the upper end of the prairie, near where the railroad machine-shops are now located.

James Reed was a native of Kentucky. When a young man he enlisted as a soldier and was stationed at Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chine. After his discharge he adopted the life of a hunter and trapper, and spent the greater part of his life among the Indians along the upper Mississippi. As was common among men of his class, he took a wife or two among the people with whom he was living. His last wife, to whom he was married in 1840, or about that time, in Prairie du Chine, was a half-breed Sioux, a cousin of the chief Wabasha, and said to be a sister of Francois la Bathe, the trader of whom mention has been made.

The section of country fixed upon by James Reed as his favorite locality was the Trempealeau country, where he was successful in raising stock on the free ranges of government lands. He made it his home at what is now the village of Trempealeau. It was here he was living when he was appointed Indian farmer for the benefit of the Sioux on Wabasha prairie. He did not change his residence while holding this official position.

Mr. Reed lived in the Trempealeau country until his death, which occurred but a few years ago at what is called the "Little Tamerack," in the Trempealeau valley.

How much the Indians were benefited by the instructions of an inexperienced agriculturist it is now difficult to determine. The first settlers on Wabasha prairie found some parts of broken plows among the ruins of the old storehouse used by Mr. Reed. An old breaking plow was found and taken possession of by some of the settlers at Minnesota city. This was claimed and carried away by some of the squaws in 1852.

It is questionable whether the people of this band were benefited by agents of government or missionaries while they remained in this section of country. There is no evidence to show a single

instance where a missionary was ever permitted by Wabasha to locate within what are now the boundaries of this county.

The Catholic missionaries were the religious instructors of the half-breeds. To what extent they had influence with this band is now unknown. From several graves disclosed by the caving of the bank of the river, in the lower part of the city of Winona, a number of large silver crosses and other Catholic emblems were taken by some boys fishing in the vicinity. One of these crosses was purchased by W. H. St. John, a jeweler in Winona, who exhibits it in his store as a relic of the past. The graves were evidently those of females.

In the summer of 1848, the Winnebago Indians were removed from the reservation in the northeastern part of Iowa, which they had occupied for a limited time, to a reservation established for them by government on Long Prairie, on the east side of the Mississippi, about forty miles back from the river, and about one hundred and forty miles above St. Paul.

They were opposed to the arrangements, and objected to their removal to the locality selected for their future home. Military aid was required to induce them to move. After considerable delay a part of them were persuaded to start up the Mississippi in their canoes, under charge of H. M. Rice, accompanied by a company of volunteers from Crawford county, Wis., in boats. The other portion was induced to start by land, with their ponies, under the care of Indian agent Fletcher, with a company of dragoons from Fort Atkinson, and a train of baggage wagons. By agreement these two parties were to meet at Wabasha Prairie.

The party by water reached the prairie and landed near where Mrs. Keyes now lives, where they camped. The land party came into this part of the country by following up what is now called Money Creek valley, and arrived at the prairie by following the Indian trail on the divide between the Burns and Gilmore valleys. This trail led down a steep ravine back of where George W. Clark now lives. It was here necessary to let the baggage wagons down with ropes attached to the trees on the east side of the ravine. This trail over the ridge was afterward known to the early settlers as the "Government Trail."

When the Winnebagos reached Wabasha Prairie they revolted, and decidedly refused to go farther. With the exception of one small band, who remained on the bank of the river, they all went

round the lake to the mouth of Burns valley, where they camped with Wabasha's band, which had collected there, and with whom they were on friendly terms.

Finding it necessary to have more aid, reinforcements were sent for. While the government officials were waiting for help from Fort Snelling, the Winnebagos negotiated with Wabasha for the purchase of the prairie, and expressed a determination to remain here. Wabasha and his braves joined in with them—took an active interest in their proceedings, and encouraged them in their revolt against the authority of Indian agent J. E. Fletcher and his assistants.

A steamboat brought down from the fort a company of soldiers and two pieces of artillery, which were landed at the camp on the lower part of the prairie.

A council with the Indians was agreed upon, the day appointed, and the place selected. The location was above the camp and back from the river. To guard against a surprise the officers in charge made their strongest preparation for defense, in case an attack should be made. The teamsters and every available man of the party was armed and detailed for active duty. On the day fixed all of the warriors of the combined tribes of Winnebagos and Sioux, many of them mounted on their ponies, marched around the head of the lake from Burns valley and moved down the prairie. When about half a mile from the council grounds, where the Indian agent awaited them surrounded by his forces, a detachment rode forward as if to reconnoiter. The whole body of Indians then moved down as if at a charge, and began the wildest display of their capacity to represent demons, on foot and on horseback. Their manœuvres might indicate a peaceful display or represent a threatened assault. It was supposed at the time that an attack was designed by the wild devils.

One of the land escort, McKinney, pointed out the locations and described the incidents to the writer, and said that he certainly expected to lose his scalp that day. As he watched their wild evolutions, circling on every side, charging with fierce yells and firing of guns, his scalp seemed to fairly start from his head. His fear of attack was, however, second to his astonishment and admiration of the extraordinary and unexpected display.

The council was held without any attending difficulty, but the agents failed to secure the consent of the Indians to move on up the

river. After a delay here of about a month the Winnebagoes consented to go to Long Prairie. Many of them, however, went back to Iowa, or crossed the river to their old homes in Wisconsin.

Wabasha was arrested and taken up to Fort Snelling for the part he had taken in the affair. The sale of Wabasha Prairie to the Winnebagoes was never consummated, or agreed to by the Sioux. The negotiations for it were simply "talks" to delay any movements. The Winnebagoes were then desirous of going to the Missouri river country, instead of up the Mississippi.

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## CHAPTER XVII.

### EARLY LAND TITLES.

FOLLOWING the trader, the missionary and the government employé, the town-site hunters, the pioneer land speculators, crowded the advance of civilization. In this county the town-site speculators were in the van of settlers seeking permanent homes. In the selection of town sites the traders had some advantage in securing the first choice of locations; but their selections did not always prove to be the most successful speculations. The professional town-site operators were generally more than their equals in management after selections were made and the tide of immigration began its movement.

It may perhaps be truly said that the first town-site claimants—the first to secure locations for town sites in what is now Winona county—were the traders W. B. Bunnell and Nathan Brown. Bunnell's selection for his trading station was made more directly with a view of convenience for the special business in which he was engaged, but with the design of making it his future home. The Territory of Minnesota had just been organized, and he was aware that the time was not far distant when the Sioux would be compelled to move back and give way to the advance of the white race and civilization.

His selection was made in anticipation that when this part of the country should become settled it would be an important business point. Bunnell was familiar with the back country and with the



river, and took possession of his chosen locality with the impression and an honest belief that he was securing the best steamboat landing and town site on the west side of the river, between Lake Pepin and the Iowa line, and there waited the progress of events.

Nathan Brown's trading-post was a town site. B. W. Brisbois, a trader residing at Prairie du Chine, and F. S. Richards, a trader at the foot of Lake Pepin, made choice of this locality with the same ideas of the future development of the country that had influenced Bunnell. They selected Mr. Brown as a proper person, one in whom they had confidence and considered trusty, to join with them in this speculation, and hold the location by establishing a trading station. The location was not the choice of Mr. Brown. At the time this proposition was made to him he was at St. Anthony, where he had about decided to locate himself. He consented to become a partner, but not with the design of making it his future home. By agreement they were to take his share off from his hands whenever he should choose to leave, and to pay him for holding the situation. This they failed to do when required, and Nathan Brown became a permanent resident of that locality. Brisbois and Richards furnished Brown with goods for the Indian trade, and he here carried on quite a flourishing business, principally with the Winnebagoes, who lived across the river in the Trempealeau country. His trade with the Sioux was more limited. He also engaged in furnishing wood for steamboats, employing choppers during the winter for that purpose, paying them principally from his store.

Another town site was selected by Chute and Ewing about three fourths of a mile below Brown's, in which Capt. D. S. Harris had an interest for awhile. This was also a trading station. A Canadian Frenchman held the locality for about a year, when he left, and Jerry Tibbits took his place. Mr. Tibbits is still a resident of that vicinity, living in the town of New Hartford. This town site was, after two or three years, attached to the one held by Mr. Brown and its name of Catlin dropped.

This trading station Nathan Brown held for the company from 1849 to 1855, when it was duly entered at the United States land office as a town site under the name of Dacota.

As a speculation it did not prove to be a successful undertaking or a profitable investment for its proprietors. A few settlers made it their home for awhile, but were compelled to leave and earn a living elsewhere. Mr. Brown says he could not afford to support

the settlers who located there, and bought out all who had an interest in the town and converted the tillable land into a farm.

It failed as a steamboat landing, but the railroad station, Dakota, on the river road, marks the location of the *ancient* town site and trading station of Brisbois, Richards and Brown, Indian traders and town-lot speculators.

Nathan Brown yet lives on the same claim, and near the site of the cabins he built there in 1849. He has a large farm in that vicinity, and is now the oldest resident in the county or in southern Minnesota, having occupied the same locality about thirty-four years.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Bunnell came here about the same time. In conversation relative to early days Mr. Brown said: "The first time I ever saw Bunnell was in the spring of 1849. I was going down the river, footing it on the ice, on my way from St. Anthony to Prairie du Chine. Finding the traveling unsafe, I left the river at Holmes', now Fountain City, and took the trail along the bluffs. I got wet crossing the Trempealeau river, and as it was then dark I camped. In the morning, after going a short distance, I came to a cabin which I found occupied by Bunnell's family. He had been living there during the winter."

Aside from the trading stations already mentioned, there were no other settlements made or commenced in this vicinity until after the treaty with the Sioux in 1851, when the first settlement was made on Wabasha prairie.

This prairie had but little to recommend it to the attention of either the town-site hunter or settlers seeking choice locations for farms and homes in the new country which the Sioux were soon to relinquish to the whites. It was a sandy plain, apparently level as viewed from the river, and scantily covered with a stunted growth of wild grass. A few trees and bushes fringed the immediate bank of the river, while but a single tree stood on any other part of the prairie on which the city of Winona now stands. A striking contrast with its present appearance—covered as it now is with such vast numbers of lofty and beautiful shade-trees, giving it a resemblance to a forest, with varied thickets of undergrowth through which broad avenues and partial clearings had been made. The one lone tree was in the lower part of the city. It stood in the valley, between Third and Fourth streets, in front of where the Washington school building now stands.

In the time of high water, when the Mississippi seemed to disregard boundaries, this prairie was but an island, apparently so low and level that it was but little above the water which lapped onto its banks. A rushing torrent then flowed through the slough above, where now the embankments of the railroads form a dam. In the rear a broad current of water, three fourths of a mile wide, separated it from the mainland.

Bunnell, the trader, living three or four miles below, had learned through the traditions of the Indians from the Sioux, with whom he was intimate and had familiar acquaintance, that the whole of Wabasha prairie had been entirely submerged during some of the most extreme floods of the river.

No story was more current during the earlier days of the settlement of this locality, or told with more apparent candor and truthfulness, than that about the general overflow of high-water on this prairie. From the traditionary evidence first cited, it soon reached the stage where positive proof could be readily made. Many of the old experienced river men claimed, and positively asserted, that they had passed over the highest part of the prairie on rafts and with boats. Not to be behind in experience, steamboat men stated that they, too, had found there sufficient depth of water for any boat.

The story that steamboats had passed over may possibly have started from the fact that during the high water of 1849 a small steamboat did get aground on the lower part of the prairie. The pilot of the *Lynx* mistook the channel one dark, stormy night, and ran his craft out on the low land, just below where the house of Mrs. Keyes now stands. To return the boat to the river it was necessary to take everything out of her, even her boilers and the brickwork of the arches in which they were set.

It was said that during the high water of 1852 it was not uncommon to hear the raftsmen hail the residents of the prairie with, "You'd better get out o' there or you'll get drowned out. I've seen that prairie all under water." A raftsman was considered a green one if in his experience he had never seen Wabasha prairie covered with water.

Strangers—passengers on the steamboats—were commonly entertained as they approached the prairie with the stereotyped remark, "It looks like a nice place to build a town, but it overflows." The persistent repetition of such remarks was as annoying to the settlers as it was irritating to the proprietors of the embryo city plotted there.

The proprietor of a rival town site was holding forth on this subject to a crowd of passengers, as the steamboat approached the prairie from below, saying, "It is true it does look like a nice place to build a town, but, gentlemen, I have passed over the highest land on Wabasha prairie in a boat." He was here interrupted by a passenger, a resident of the prairie, the dignified and gentlemanly appearing Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who removed his hat as he stepped forward and gravely said: "Excuse me, sir, but can it be possible that your name is Noah? There is no record that any one has passed over that prairie since the days of that ancient navigator of the deep." The town-site blower was forced to retreat from the laughter of the amused crowd of passengers.

To Capt. Orin Smith belongs the credit of selecting Wabasha prairie as a location for a town site. He was the founder of the city of Winona. At that time he was a citizen of Galena, Illinois, and the captain of the steamboat *Nominee*, running between Galena and St. Paul. He had seen western towns spring up like magic, enriching the lucky proprietors. Land speculations and town-site operations were the most common topics of conversation among his passengers. From a desire to engage in some profitable speculation, should opportunity offer, he watched for a chance to secure a town site on the river. His observations convinced him that eventually, when the Indian title should become extinct on the west side of the river in the Territory of Minnesota, an important point must spring up, and he early comprehended that Wabasha prairie possessed the most favorable and decided advantages for the rapid growth of a large commercial town when the country should become settled.

The treaty with the Sioux in 1851 presented an opportunity which Capt. Smith at once took advantage of, although the treaty had not been ratified and the Indians were still occupying the country. He was familiar with the river, and was aware that there were but two locations suitable for steamboat landings on Wabasha prairie. One, the present levee—the other about a mile below. Capt. Smith was aware, from his own personal knowledge (he had navigated the upper Mississippi many years), that Wabasha prairie was not subject to an entire overflow, neither had it been submerged within the traditional recollections of the "oldest inhabitants" among the whites; yet he was to a certain extent influenced by the Indian traditions, by Bunnell's opinion and by the opinions of some of the old river men of his acquaintance in his first choice of location.



He selected the lower landing for his town site because the banks were higher, the shore bolder, with a good depth of water at all seasons of navigation. He was also aware that the upper landing was subject to overflow, although available and satisfactory at other times. He therefore decided to secure and control both landings.

In accordance with this plan he made his arrangements to take possession, and selected as his agent in this transaction Erwin H. Johnson, the carpenter on his steamboat, the old *Nominee*. He made a written agreement with Johnson to hold the two claims he had selected, for which Johnson was to have an undivided half of both claims. Capt. Smith also agreed to pay Johnson twenty-five dollars per month and furnish all necessary subsistence. Johnson was to engage in banking steamboat wood, which Captain Smith proposed to have cut on the islands opposite during the winter.

Capt. Smith landed Erwin H. Johnson from the *Nominee* at the lower landing on Wabasha prairie at about ten o'clock at night, on the 15th of October, 1851. He also left with him two men, employed as wood-choppers. One of these men was Caleb Nash. The name of the other is unknown; he left on the return of the *Nominee* down the river.

Johnson was furnished by Capt. Smith with a small quantity of lumber for a shanty, a yoke of oxen and abundant supplies of provisions and blankets. These, with Johnson's tool-chest, a few necessary tools, a bucket or two, an iron pot, a bake-kettle, an iron spider and a few dishes, comprised the entire outfit.

They camped for that night on the beach where they landed, and slept under a few boards which they laid against the bank above. The next day they built a small cabin on the same locality where they had passed the night. This structure was about 10×12, with a shed roof sloping toward the bank. The back end of this cabin was the bank against which it was built. A fireplace was formed in one corner, a hole above in the lower part of the roof afforded exit for the smoke. The material used for this fireplace was the brick thrown from the *Lynx* when aground about half a mile below in 1849.

This shanty, as it was called, was the first "claim shanty" put up on Wabasha prairie. It stood on the beach, below the high bank of the river, nearly in front of where the planing-mill of the Winona Lumber Company now stands. Johnson built a stable for the oxen

on the bank ten or fifteen rods back from the river. This was made of poles and covered with coarse grass from the bottoms. In the absence of any other means of conveyance a crotch of a tree was used as a sled to transport such things as the oxen were required to haul. Johnson afterward built a rough sled for his use in banking wood on the island during the winter.

Not long after Johnson's arrival on Wabasha prairie another town-site speculator made his appearance in this locality. On the 12th of November, 1851, Silas Stevens, a lumber dealer in La Crosse, landed from the *Excelsior* at the upper landing, about where the L. C. Porter flouring-mill now stands. With him came Geo. W. Clark, a young man in his employ, and Edwin Hamilton, a young man from Ohio, looking for a chance to speculate in claims, who had been induced to come up from La Crosse, where he had been stopping for a short time.

Mr. Stevens brought with him lumber for a shanty, a cooking stove, and a liberal supply of provisions, blankets, etc. It was about eleven o'clock at night when this party left the steamer *Excelsior*. Mr. Stevens was aware that Capt. Smith had made a claim here and placed a man on it to hold possession, and the party at once made search for his cabin. The night was intensely dark, and they were compelled to hunt for some time before they found Johnson. His locality was unknown to either of them. Mr. Stevens had a few days before been up the river as far as Bunnell's landing, and from the bluff above had seen some men and a yoke of oxen on the lower end of the prairie, but no cabin was in sight.

Fortunately, by following down the bank of the river, they discovered the shanty and were furnished by Johnson with the best accommodation the cabin afforded,—a bed of hay on the floor where all slept together, covered with blankets. Johnson had not then completed his shanty. He afterward improved the interior by putting up a shelf or two to hold his supplies and dishes, and two double berths, one over the other in one corner. These were made of poles, his supply of lumber was insufficient. For comfort these berths were filled with dry prairie-grass, covered with blankets.

This party took breakfast with Johnson before beginning the business of the day. Up to this time the question of boundaries to their claims had not been considered either by Capt. Smith or Johnson. Capt. Smith had simply proposed to claim the two landings, with at least 160 acres of prairie in each claim, and as much more as

they could control. It now became necessary to have their boundaries more accurately defined.

Mr. Stevens had come up for the express purpose of securing one of the landings, not being aware that Capt. Smith proposed to hold them both through Johnson, who he supposed was only an employé, without an individual interest in the matter. Mr. Stevens expected to take possession of and hold the upper landing through an employé of his own, Mr. Clark, who had come for that purpose. He was somewhat surprised to find that Johnson had already laid claim to it, with the approval of Capt. Smith, but no improvements had been made. Not being of an aggressive nature, Mr. Stevens hesitated to take advantage of this and take possession without Johnson's consent, which he could not obtain.

After a general consultation, in which the whole party participated, it was finally agreed that the land along the river should be divided into "claims" of half a mile square, and that Johnson should have the first choice of two of the claims, one for Capt. Smith and the other for himself.

Accordingly, on the morning of November 13, 1851, the first claim-stakes were driven on Wabasha prairie, and the first defined claims made within what are now the boundaries of Winona county. The stake agreed upon as the starting-point was driven on the bank of the river below the present residence of Mrs. Keyes. From this stake a half-mile was measured off with a tape-line up the river, where another stake was driven. This half-mile was chosen by Johnson for Capt. Smith and was called "Claim No. 1." The next half-mile measured off up the river bank was called "Claim No. 2." This was at once chosen and claimed by both Stevens and Nash.

Mr. Stevens expected that claim No. 2 would be awarded to him. He had been influenced by the recommendations and persuasions of Capt. Smith to come up and select a claim to hold possession, and he now supposed that after Smith and Johnson he was entitled to the next choice; but he was again disappointed, and again gave way to Johnson's decision in the matter. Nash, supported by and under the instructions of Johnson, claimed it by seniority as a settler. He had been a resident on the prairie about three weeks, and claimed the land by his rights of first discovery.

The next half-mile, claim No. 3, was assigned to Mr. Stevens. It could hardly be called his choice. Claim No. 4 was awarded to

Johnson as per agreement. The next half-mile, claim No. 5, was selected by Edwin Hamilton, who claimed precedent. He had seen the prairie some weeks before from the deck of a steamboat while on a trip up the river with Mr. Stevens. No farther measurements were made at this time, but the next half-mile was duly awarded to George W. Clark, the junior settler and the last of the party. No one disputed his rights to claim No. 6.

These claims, made as described, were afterward designated by the numbers then given and by the names of the persons to whom they were awarded by this party until after the government survey of the public lands in this part of the territory. The township lines were surveyed in 1853, but the subdivisions were not completed until 1855.

The following copy of a lease is presented as documentary evidence to show that these claims were generally known by the numbers given, and also as a relic of early days in this locality.

"WABASHAW, July 8th, 1852.

"Whereas I have this day moved into the shanty on Claim No. 5, called Hamilton's claim, on Wabashaw prairie, Minnesota territory; therefore I hereby agree with John L. Balcombe, Edwin Hamilton and Mark Howard, the owners of said claim, that in consideration of the use of said shanty, I will, to the utmost of my ability, prevent all other persons from occupying or injuring said claim, and that I will vacate said shanty and surrender the possession thereof, together with the whole claim, to said owners whenever requested to do so by them or either of them.

O. S. HOLBROOK.

"Witness: Walter Brown,  
"George G. Barber."

The original paper, of which this is a copy, is in the hands of Mrs. Calista Balcombe, the widow of Dr. John L. Balcombe, now living in the city of Winona. The shanty spoken of stood about where the present residence of Hon. H. W. Lamberton now stands, on the corner of Fourth and Huff streets. This shanty was never destroyed; the body of it is still preserved. When the Hamilton claim became the property of Henry D. Huff, the shanty was moved from its original site and attached to the cottage in which Mr. Huff lived for several years, and which is now the residence of Mr. Lafayette Stout, No. 52 West Fourth street.

On the same day that these claims were measured off and located, Mr. Stevens, with the assistance of Clark and Hamilton, built a shanty on claim No. 3. This shanty stood a little east of Market street, between First and Second streets. To move his lumber and



supplies to the place selected the services of Johnson's ox-team and crotch-sled were obtained.

Mr. Stevens went back to La Crosse the same evening on a boat which chanced to come down. Mr. Clark remained to hold possession of the claim for him. Clark was to receive eighteen dollars per month and all necessary supplies furnished. He was to occupy his time in cutting steamboat-wood on the island convenient for banking. Hamilton remained and lived with Clark in the Stevens shanty. He also chopped for Mr. Stevens. No one ever accused Mr. Stevens of having made a big speculation on steamboat-wood cut on government land that winter.

The last boat down in 1851 was the Nominee. About November 21 Capt. Smith passed Wabasha prairie without landing.

Mr. G. W. Clark says that on December 4 he with Johnson went down the river in a canoe to La Crosse. The weather was pleasant but cool. This was their first trip from *home*. After having accomplished the objects of their visit, they started back on the fifth and arrived at Wabasha prairie on the sixth. The river closed a day or two after.

While on this trip to La Crosse Johnson hired two men, Allen Gilmore and George Wallace, to come to Wabasha prairie with him and work for Capt. Smith cutting wood. To accommodate these men Johnson *secured* another canoe, in which he took one of the men while Clark with the other managed their own, the one in which they went down. The weather had become very cold, with the wind strong from the west. Soon after they started it increased to a fierce gale. The spray from the waves as they struck against the bows of the canoes soon covered everything about them with ice and chilled them through. Being unable to manage their canoes against such a strong head-wind they landed, and towed them along the shore until they arrived at Nathan Brown's trading-station, which they reached about dark, almost frozen. Mr. Brown was absent, but finding the door of his cabin unfastened the party took possession and soon started a hot fire in the stove with the abundance of dry wood provided. Finding a plentiful supply of provisions they made themselves comfortable for the night, and the next day safely reached the prairie. This was December 6, the date of the arrival of Allen Gilmore and George Wallace at what is now the city of Winona.

Brown's was then the only stopping-place below Bunnell's, and

it was often made a haven of rest to the weary traveler. Mr. Brown usually lived alone and he enjoyed these forced visits to his cabin, more for the company they afforded than for the profit of it. He seldom made any charge for his accommodations.

Bunnell's was a favorite stopping-place. It was the only place on the west side of the river where travelers could be comfortably accommodated with sheets on their beds and clean table-cloths. It was the only place on the west side of this river in the part of the territory where a white woman lived. Mrs. Bunnell was a good cook, and her guests usually appreciated her efforts to make them comfortable.

In connection with his business as a trader, Bunnell employed quite a number of men, cutting steamboat-wood and in cutting oak-timber for rafting. The following were living on the west side of the river during the winter of 1851-2, or afterward made it their residence: Harry Herrick, Leonard Johnson, Hirk Carroll, Henry J. Harrington and a man by the name of Myers, who came after January 1, 1852. They boarded at Bunnell's.

Two young men, Jabez McDermott and Josiah Keene, were in his employ until after the holidays, and "kept bach" in a small cabin on the banks of the river a little below Bunnell's.

Peter Gorr, with his wife and three children, and Augustus Pentler and his wife, lived together in a cabin on an island opposite Bunnell's landing. Gorr and Pentler worked for Bunnell until in February.

Soon after the river was frozen over, or as soon as it was safe to travel on the ice, Israel M. Noracong and William G. McSpadden came up from La Crosse. They brought with them two yoke of oxen and a large sleigh-load of lumber and supplies, which they took up Wabasha prairie to the mouth of the Rollingstone valley. They put up a shanty a little north from where Elsworth's flouring mill now stands, in Minnesota city. These men were engaged during the winter in cutting black-walnut logs. Black-walnut timber then grew plentifully along that stream.

About the same time John Farrell came up from La Crosse, bringing with him ox-teams and supplies and quite a number of men. He established a logging camp on the Wisconsin side of the river. His cabin and stables were at the foot of the bluff, about where the wagon-road across the bottoms strikes the mainland. He had selected his location and cut a quantity of hay early in the fall.

Some of the most valuable oak timber on the islands opposite the city of Winona was cut down during that winter by Farrell's gang of choppers. Many of the logs were never removed from the places where they were cut.

To aid in floating the heavy oak logs when they were rafted in the spring, almost an equal quantity of the finest ash-timber was also slaughtered and taken away.

The total number of white inhabitants living within the boundaries of what is now Winona county at the close of the year 1849 was six—W. B. Bunnell, wife and three children, at Bunnell's landing, and Nathan Brown.

The total white population at the end of 1850 was seven. This increase of one over the preceding year was from natural cause—by the addition of another child to Bunnell's family. During the winter of 1850-1 Bunnell and Brown had a few transient wood-choppers in their employ, who lived on the islands.

The total white population December 31, 1851, was twenty-one, all of whom, if the family of Bunnell is excepted, were engaged in the same occupation, cutting timber on public lands. It was then a common practice for people who chose to do so to appropriate the timber on lands belonging to the United States for individual use and for purposes of speculation. Such operations were not considered dishonorable. The choicest pine, oak, black-walnut, ash and maple timber was cut on public lands, rafted down the Mississippi and sold by men respected for their business enterprise and honorable dealings with their fellow-men as individuals. It will be safe to say that fifty per cent of the timber on the islands in the Mississippi was cut for steamboat wood and other purposes while the title to lands was in the United States.

Among the enjoyments of holidays observed by the bachelor settlers on Wabasha prairie was the Christmas dinner given by Clark and Hamilton December 25, 1851. Hamilton was chief cook, and made an extra effort for special dishes on this occasion.

Mr. Clark says that in addition to the best of their common fare, good wheat-bread, hot corn-bread, ham, good butter, syrup and strong coffee, Hamilton got up a most delicious squirrel pot-pie, and for dessert a splendid pheasant-pie. Neither vegetables nor fruit were on this bill of fare. They had already learned to dispense with such delicacies.

To this feast Johnson, Nash, Gilmore and Wallace were invited.

All without a single apology promptly responded to the alarm for help from the Stevens shanty.

This was the first special assemblage of the settlers on Wabasha prairie for social enjoyment. No rivalries or claim jealousies existed among them at that time. With this little party on the outskirts of civilization genuine friendship in the rough was the prevailing feeling exhibited, uninterrupted by the hilarities which accompanied. As a closing ceremony at this first reunion of the settlers on the prairie, Hamilton gave as the parting toast, "May the six bachelors here assembled be long remembered by each other." This was responded to by a shake all around as they separated.

The success of the Christmas dinner-party induced Johnson to return the "compliments of the season," and extend a general invitation to all to assemble around his *board* on New Year's day. This was marked as another of the really enjoyable days of that winter to the lonely bachelors of the prairie. The crowning dish on this occasion, the one most vivid in the recollection of Mr. Clark, was an unlimited supply of wild honey, which Johnson had secured from a bee-tree on the island.

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## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE PIONEERS.

QUITE a number of persons came up from La Crosse on the ice about the first of January, 1852, to see the country and select claims on Wabasha prairie. As everybody stopped at Bunnell's, he, too, became infected with the prevailing epidemic of claim-making from his guests. Although he had no confidence in the success of Capt. Smith's undertaking to build up a commercial port on "that sand-bar in the Mississippi," Bunnell had the shrewdness to surmise that there might be a chance for speculation in the attempt, provided he could sell out before it should be again flooded with water. He at once concluded to take a chance in the venture, and decided that he, too, would have a claim on Wabasha prairie.

At that time Capt. Smith's claim on the lower landing, claim No. 1, was considered the most valuable and the most desirable as a



town site. No. 4 was estimated as the next in value. Nos. 2, 3, 5 and 6 were valued in the order named.

Having determined on making a claim Bunnell went up to the prairie and looked the ground over. He found that the most desirable locations had already been taken. Notwithstanding this he fixed upon one of the unoccupied claims, and selected claim No. 4 for his purpose. This claim he considered really the most valuable.

To get possession Bunnell stated to Johnson that he had been looking for a claim, and had found one that suited him just above the Stevens claim that was not occupied, and he intended to take possession of it. Johnson replied by telling him that he could not have it; that he had already made a claim there and should hold it. Bunnell inquired how many claims he expected to hold; that he was already holding two at the lower end of the prairie. This Johnson denied, and explained to him that the one he was living on was Capt. Smith's and that the other belonged to Nash.

Bunnell then tried to convince Johnson that it would be to the advantage of all who had claims there to give him an interest on the prairie, for the Sioux were then talking of driving the whites away until the treaty was ratified; that with his influence over them he would be able to prevent trouble. Johnson replied that he would not give up that claim to any man, that he was not afraid of trouble with the Indians, that he should hold both claims as long as he staid there. Finding that Johnson could not be influenced by argument, he left with the threat that he would have it, even if he had to help the Indians drive them all off from the prairie.

Not long afterward Bunnell drove up to the prairie again and brought with him on his train two fine-looking young Sioux braves in their holiday attire. He saw Johnson and told him the Sioux were getting to be more dissatisfied with the settlers for coming on their lands without their permission; that there would soon be a disturbance unless something was done to keep them quiet; that he should not try to control them unless he could have that claim; if the settlers got into trouble they would have to go to some one else for help.

Although no serious difficulty was anticipated, the alarm was given as soon as Bunnell came on the prairie with the Sioux and the "boys" who were on the island chopping came *home* in a hurry. After explaining matters to the others, Bunnell told Johnson he had come up on purpose to have a talk with him about that claim, and

asked him what he was going to do about it. "Nothing," was Johnson's reply, and remarked that he did not believe such good-natured looking fellows as Bunnell had on his sleigh would do any harm if they were well treated.

Bunnell had taken a dram or two and was excitable. He lost his temper, talked loud and made a great many violent gestures. The Sioux sat quietly in their places on the train and indulged themselves with their pipes and some of Bunnell's tobacco. They were impassive and apparently indifferent spectators of the proceedings.

Johnson, believing that this was a ruse of Bunnell's to try and frighten them, told him that he "did not scare easy and could not be bluffed with a little noise." Bunnell was annoyed that his dramatic display was a failure, and as he got on his sleigh answered: "You will have to take care of yourself if the Indians get after you; I shall not interfere again." Johnson laughed and gave some derisive reply, telling him "not to bother himself about the affairs of others until he was asked."

The next trip Bunnell made to Wabasha prairie he brought with him two men, Harrington and Myers, and built a small log shanty or pen on Johnson's claim at the upper landing. The logs used in the construction of this claim shanty were once a part of Indian farmer Reed's old store cabin, the ruins of which furnished material sufficient for the body of the crib. It was covered with broad strips of elm bark brought from the Indian tepees in the mouth of Burns' valley.

In this little pen, not more than six feet square and not high enough for a man to stand up in, Bunnell left Myers to hold the fort and guard the claim, which he had now taken possession of in a formal manner. Bunnell furnished Myers with supplies and brought up some lumber and put up the framework of a board shanty, but did not complete it for want of material to cover it. Myers remained in quiet possession of the claim for about a week, when, considering everything safe, as he had not been disturbed or observed any hostile movements, the settlers on the prairie being absent on the island, he ventured down to Bunnell's for a little recreation and relief from his lonely and uncomfortable confinement.

Although no demonstrations had been made, Johnson had watched these proceedings and closely observed all of the movements

of Myers. It was a gratification to see the man with his gun leave the prairie. He at once took advantage of the absence of the occupant of the cabin and demolished the improvements. He leveled the structure with the ground, and then deliberately cut the old logs and the lumber into firewood.

Bunnell was enraged when he found that Johnson had destroyed his shanty, and threatened to whip him the next time he saw him. Myers did not return to Wabasha prairie. He was dismissed by Bunnell for neglect of duty and left the country.

Bunnell sent messages to Johnson warning him to leave the prairie, or the next time he came up he would whip him like a dog. Johnson sent back answers that he was prepared to defend himself and his claims; that if Bunnell came on the prairie again it would be at his peril.

Neither of these men were cowards, and serious trouble was anticipated. They were small men—hardly of medium size, Johnson a little larger and heavier of the two and of coarser make-up. Bunnell was firmer built and active in his movements, a dangerous antagonist for a much larger man in any kind of a fight.

Satisfied that "talk" would not win the claim and irritated by Johnson's successful opposition, Bunnell, in company with Harrington, drove up to the prairie one evening for the purpose of assaulting Johnson if a favorable opportunity offered. Both had stimulated to a fighting degree and were primed for the purpose.

Going first to the Stevens shanty, Bunnell there found Clark and Nash, who had called on a social visit. He inquired for Hamilton and learned that he was at Johnson's. Gilmore and Wallace were on the other side of the river at Farrell's. After a short visit they left without betraying the object of their evening visit on so dark a night.

They went directly down to Johnson's shanty. Bunnell knocked at the door. On being told to "come in" he entered, saying, as he rushed toward Johnson, who with Hamilton was sitting by the fire, "Get out of this if you want to live." Johnson sprang for his revolver, which was in his berth, but the attack was too sudden; he had no opportunity to use it before he was knocked down and disarmed.

Hamilton bolted from the shanty at the first clash of the combat and ran for help. He arrived almost breathless at the other shanty, a mile away, and gave the alarm by excitedly exclaiming, "Bun-

nell is killing Johnson ; come down quick as you can." Clark and Nash at once started back with Hamilton on a run for the scene of conflict. When about half way they were met by Johnson, who, although apparently injured, returned with them. They found that the shanty had been demolished, but the assailants had disappeared.

Johnson was taken up to Clark's shanty, where he was provided for and carefully attended. He was found to have been badly bruised about the head, chest and arms. His face and hands were badly swollen and covered with blood, but no bones were broken. It afterward proved that no serious injuries had been received. Johnson had been terribly beaten by Bunnell and was compelled to lay up for repairs.

When the battle-ground was visited in the morning the full extent of damages to the "pioneer claim shanty" was revealed. The first evidence of actual settlement on Wabasha prairie had been destroyed. The pile of brick and stone which formed the fireplace, with some broken dishes, marked the locality where the little cabin once stood. It had been turned over and with its contents thrown on the ice of the river.

Johnson's supplies and other traps were secured and carried up on the bank, where they were sheltered with the lumber from the shanty. The stable and cattle had not been disturbed. Johnson and Nash lived with Clark until their shanty was reconstructed. Johnson's revolver and double-barreled gun were carried off by Bunnell as trophies of his victory.

Soon after this affray, Peter Gorr and Augustus Pentler came over from the island to visit the settlers on the prairie. Mr. Gorr had his rifle with him, which he was induced to leave with Johnson after hearing the incidents of his quarrel. Johnson then sent word to Bunnell that he would shoot him on sight if he ever made his appearance on the prairie again.

Bunnell had no design to interfere with the occupancy of the claim at the lower landing. His attack on Johnson and destruction of the shanty was for retaliation and to intimidate him. He became satisfied that he would not be able to hold the claim at the upper landing without some serious fighting, and, having no desire to kill Johnson or be killed himself in the attempt, he decided to abandon his claim speculation on Wabasha prairie and turn his attention to what he thought was something better nearer home. The scheme



of building up a town along the bluffs above the present village of Homer was started about this time, in which Bunnell was for awhile interested. Bunnell returned to Johnson the revolver and gun he had taken from him, peace was negotiated, and the "little difference" that had existed between the parties "dropped" without further action. Bunnell, however, became more emphatic in maintaining and more free in expressing his opinions of "that sand bar up there," and more zealously advocated his theory that the "main land" was the only place for a permanent settlement.

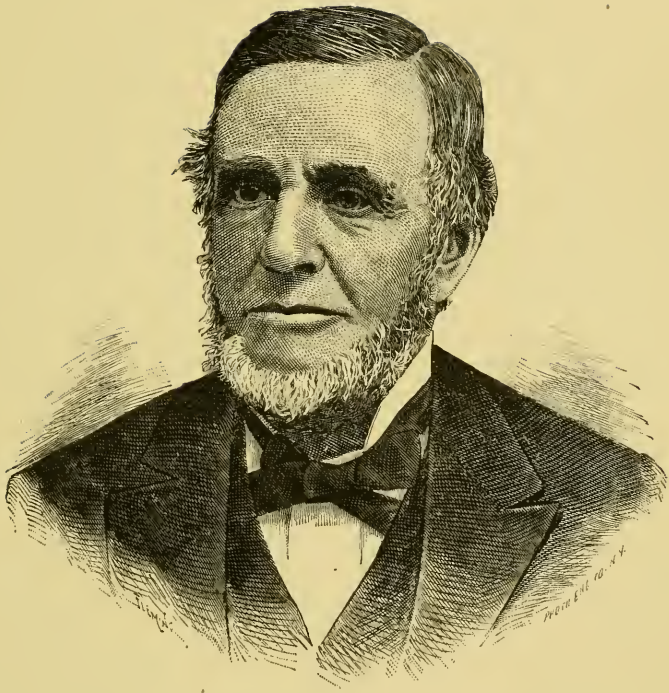
This was the first attempt at "claim jumping" ever made in the settlement of this county. It was afterward a common occurrence.

M. Wheeler Sargeant, an early settler, once gave a very appropriate definition of a claim in an address before the Winona Lyceum in 1858. He said: "A claim is a *fighting interest* in land, ostensibly based upon priority of possession and sustained by force." Many of the old settlers will readily recognize the pertinency of this description. The law of might, as well as the law of right, was often the means by which possession of claims were retained.

Soon after this first claim quarrel, a claim association or club was formed for the mutual protection of settlers in holding possession of their claims. The first meeting was called to meet at Bunnell's about March 1. The prime movers in the matter were some residents of La Crosse who had recently selected claims on the west side of the Mississippi. They came up prepared to complete the business and the organization was created at this meeting. It was called the Wabashaw Protection Club. The important matters of constitution and by-laws were duly discussed and gravely adopted, and officers elected with customary formality. The settlers from Wabasha prairie attended the meeting, but were in the minority and failed to secure any of the offices. The officials were residents of La Crosse. Mr. George W. Clark was a member of the club and was present at that meeting. He says from the best of his recollection the president was George G. Barber, the secretary, William B. Gere.

The Wabasha Protection Club was the first regular organization of any kind among the settlers ever formed in the county.

It was not entirely a fable coined by Bunnell when he represented to Johnson that the Sioux were dissatisfied with the manner in which the settlers were taking possession of their lands before the treaty was ratified. Whether Bunnell was aware of the fact or not



WILLIAM GARLOCK.



is not now positively known ; but it is very probable that he knew the Indians designed to demand a bonus from the settlers for the privilege of remaining undisturbed. It was supposed that the treaty would be ratified during that winter, but it was not fully confirmed by government until the next year.

During the winter some officious personages had given the Indians begging letters addressed to the settlers recommending that contributions be given to the Sioux of Wabasha's band to keep them quiet and peaceable until the ratification of the treaty. That the Indians were needy, and to prevent dissatisfaction the settlers were advised to contribute to their wants, and suggested that a barrel of flour, or its equivalent in money, be given for every cabin built on their lands.

Some of Wabasha's band came over from the other side of the river where they were camped and presented their written document. To avoid any difficulties or annoyance from them, Johnson agreed to give them the flour, but told them they must wait until the Nominee came up in the spring. To this they consented and went off apparently satisfied with the arrangement. Johnson supposed this was one of Bunnell's tricks to alarm them and that was the finale of it ; but in the spring the Indians returned and demanded the flour. This "shanty tax" assessed by the Sioux was paid by a few of the earliest settlers.

The Sioux and Winnebago Indians visited the settlers on Wabasha prairie frequently during the winter and were at all times friendly. There was not a single instance where it was known that they disturbed a settler or his property, not even in the absence of the owner.

Johnson rebuilt the shanty on Capt. Smith's claim, but put it on the bank a little way back from the river and a few rods below where it first stood. This was an improvement on the first structure. It was about  $8 \times 12$ . The fireplace so much valued by Johnson in his first cabin was omitted in its reconstruction. Johnson induced Augustus Pentler with his wife to occupy this shanty. He boarded with them and made it his home until he built a shanty on his claim at the upper landing. Mr. Pentler lived in this place three or four months and then made a claim on the river below Bunnell's along the bluffs, where he lived for several years. He is now living in the western part of the state.

Mrs. Pentler was the first white woman among the early settlers



to make Wabasha prairie her place of residence—the first white woman that settled in what is now the city of Winona.

About March 1, Silas Stevens and his son, William H. Stevens, came up from La Crosse on the ice. They brought with them a pair of horses, wagon and sleigh. This was the first span of horses brought into the county by a settler. There had been no demand or use for horse-teams. In banking wood and hauling logs ox-teams were the most useful and economical. Bunnell kept a saddle-horse, which in winter he drove harnessed to a kind of sleigh called a train, a kind of conveyance peculiarly adapted to travel over unbroken trails drifted with snow.

On the arrival of Silas Stevens Mr. Clark delivered up to him his claim and gave possession of the shanty and other property entrusted to his care. About this time, or not long afterward, Mr. Nash put up a small log cabin on claim No. 2. Clark and Gilmore occupied this with Nash as their headquarters until they built shanties on their own claims. This shanty stood about two blocks back from the river on what is now High Forest street. It was about  $10 \times 12$ , built of small logs and covered with bark. The bark for the roof and the lumber used in its construction was taken from the old Indian huts or tepees, which were standing on the prairie about a mile above the upper landing.

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## CHAPTER XIX.

### FIRST IMPROVEMENTS.

DURING the latter part of the winter and early in the spring of 1852 quite a number of claims were selected, and on some improvements commenced. These "betterments" were simply a few logs thrown together, forming a sort of pen and designed to represent the nucleus of a future residence. When the Indians assessed the settlers they did not consider these improvements sufficient to justify the levying of a tax, notwithstanding the importance attached to them as evidence that the land was claimed and settled upon.

The claim made by George W. Clark in the fall previous was staked off and possession indicated by a few logs. The half mile west

of it was taken by Jabez McDermott and the next by Josiah Keen. These two young men had been living at Bunnell's Landing, but about the time they made their claims they went up to the Rolling Stone, where they engaged in getting out black walnut logs with Noracong and McSpadden.

Clark also selected a location across the slough, which he held in the name of his brother, Scott Clark, then living in New York. This claim is now the farm on which George W. Clark resides.

Allen Gilmore made his claim next west of the one selected for Scott Clark. He built a log cabin in the grove west from where the Clark school-house now stands. It was from Allen Gilmore, and because of his living nearest, that Gilmore valley was given its present name. Mr. Gilmore occupied this locality until his death, which occurred March 29, 1854. It was purchased from the administrator of the estate, Dr. John L. Balcombe, by Orin Clark, a brother of G. W. Clark, who came into the county that spring. Mr. Clark occupied it for many years. He now lives in the city of Winona, but still retains possession of the grove. The other portion of the claim is owned and occupied by Mr. Celestial Peterman.

George Wallace made choice of a location back of the lake, where John Zenk now lives. It also included what is now Woodlawn cemetery.

Peter Gorr made a claim on the river just above Bunnell's. He here built a small log cabin, which he occupied with his wife and three children.

In narrating some incidents of early days, Mr. Gorr says that during the winter of 1850-51 Augustus Pentler worked for Bunnell by the month chopping on the islands. In the spring he returned to Illinois, where his wife was then living. During the summer Pentler and Gorr came up the river together and stopped off at La Crosse, where they remained for a few days, but not finding employment, they crossed the Mississippi and came up the river on foot over the trail along the bluffs. At Brown's they stopped to rest and get something to eat. Mr. Brown furnished them a luncheon, but, learning that they were going up to Bunnell's for work, he declined to receive pay for the refreshments provided.

In speaking of Mr. Brown he very emphatically remarked: "I have known Nathan Brown a great many years. He was the *whitest white man* among all the old settlers in this county. He always had the courage to do right and never wronged any man

willfully that I ever heard. He feared no man, but he treated everybody with decency and gentlemanly. That was the reason why he was respected by everybody. Even the 'cussed' Indians respected him and had confidence in his integrity. Strangers as well as acquaintances were always welcome to his hospitalities. No one ever left Brown's suffering from hunger if he made his wants known."

Gorr and Pentler worked by the month for Bunnell during that season. In the fall they built a comfortable log cabin on the island opposite Bunnell's and brought their families from Illinois, with the design of settling on the Sioux lands in the spring. They moved across the river about the last of February, 1852, and made their first settlement in this county.

About the time of the quarrel between Bunnell and Johnson, some difficulties occurred from business transactions between Bunnell and Gorr. These choppers took sides with Johnson against their employer. Johnson went down with his oxen and sled and moved them off from the island and drew the logs for the shanty.

Mr. Gorr selected this location as a temporary stopping-place for his family to live until he found a more suitable place for a permanent home. Bunnell objected to his occupying it. Anticipating trouble about the matter, Johnson and the settlers on Wabasha prairie went down and helped put up the cabin. Bunnell met them and strongly protested against their building a shanty on his claim. Gorr started toward him in a threatening manner and told him to "dry up and go home." Bunnell, being alone, considered discretion the better part of valor, and did not interfere with the house-raising.

When W. B. Bunnell and Timothy Burns, lieutenant-governor of the State of Wisconsin, with others, originated the scheme of making that locality a town site, they found Gorr an encumbrance. Lieut.-Gov. Burns offered him twenty-five dollars for his cabin, with a promise of further payment in lots when the town site was surveyed, provided he would abandon the locality. This offer Mr. Gorr accepted, and on June 6 made a claim in what is now Pleasant valley, about a mile above where Laird's flouring-mill stands. He built a log house on it and moved his family there on June 9.

The valley was for several years known as Gorr valley—until it was given its present name. Mr. Gorr was the first to settle in this valley, and among the first in this county to make farming a busi-

ness occupation. He settled here with the design of making it his permanent home, and occupied this farm about ten years, when he sold out and invested in other farming lands. Mr. Gorr is yet a resident of the county and is now living on the bank of the Mississippi, above the village of Homer. The locality was once the town site of Minneowah. His house is within ten yards of the site where he built the log cabin which he sold to Lieut.-Gov. Burns in the spring of 1852.

Henry J. Harrington made a claim in the mouth of Pleasant valley, of what is now known as "Hamilton's Farm." During the season of navigation Mr. Harrington was employed as mate on one of the steamboats running on the upper Mississippi. Early in the spring of 1852 he brought his family to Bunnell's, where they boarded until he had a shanty built on his claim. His first cabin was a low one-story structure, made of small logs or poles, roofed with bark from the Indian tepees in that vicinity. This shanty stood in a grove on the table east of the present farm buildings and on the opposite side of the stream. Here Mrs. Harrington, with a family by the name of Chamberlain, lived until Mr. Harrington built a more permanent house on the west side of the stream.

This second building was a very comfortable story and a half hewed log house, about 16×20, with a cellar under it, walled with stone. This building formed a part of the old farm buildings on "the farm." Mr. Harrington made some improvements. He had about ten acres of breaking fenced in with a rail fence, which he planted to corn. He also cultivated a garden and set out some fruit-trees. It was his design to open up a stock farm here, but he did not live to carry out his plans. He died in 1853. His funeral was on Sunday, June 12.

Mrs. Harrington leased the house and cultivation to Patrick Nevil, who came into the county that fall. She stored her household goods in a part of the house and went down the river among her friends to spend the winter, leaving the care of her property to her agent, George M. Gere, Esq. Early in the spring Mr. Gere sold the claim to M. K. Drew for \$400, giving a quit claim deed subject to the lease of Mr. Nevil. Some incidents relative to this claim will illustrate the uncertainty of real estate transactions while the title to the land was in the United States.

Mr. Nevil lived on the Harrington place through the winter, and in the spring made a garden and planted the enclosed field with



corn. During this time he made a claim in the valley opposite to Gorr's, where he had some breaking done and built a shanty. This is now the farm of his son, John Nevil. Having an opportunity to dispose of his crop to a cash customer, he sold his lease to John C. Walker, a recent arrival with a family, and moved on his own claim.

In this transaction Mr. Nevil gave Walker a quit claim deed and possession of the house. Walker then assumed to be the proprietor and real owner of the claim, and successfully resisted all attempts of Mr. Drew to acquire possession, even after the lease had expired or was declared void. He barricaded the house and with his family closely guarded the premises. Under no pretext was anyone permitted to pass the boundaries of the fence which inclosed the improvements.

Mr. Gere, justice of the peace and agent of Mrs. Harrington, with the constable, Harvey S. Terry, attempted to obtain entrance to the house by demanding the household goods of Mrs. Harrington stored in the dwelling. They were met at the "bars," by the whole Walker family. Mr. Walker, with his gun in his hands and revolver in his belt, Mrs. Walker, armed with a huge carving knife, the children carrying an ax, a scythe and a pitchfork. The officers of the law hesitated "to storm the castle against such an armed force," and called a parley for negotiations. Mr. Walker did not object to deliver up the goods, but would not admit them into the enclosure. He stood guard while Mrs. Walker and the children brought the furniture from the house and delivered it outside the fence. Walker refused to relinquish the claim to Mr. Gere, but sent word to Mr. Drew that he did not desire to be mean about the transaction, and would pay him \$400 for the claim, the amount he had paid to Mrs. Harrington, provided they would give a quit claim and leave him in peaceable possession of the property. Finding the speculation an unprofitable one, and glad to get his money back, Mr. Drew accepted the proposition and the claim became the "Walker Farm." Mr. Walker occupied this locality about ten or twelve years, when he sold out and went south.

Hirk Carroll made a claim in the timber below Harrington's, which he sold to Silas Stevens. He also made other selections along the river at various places, but did not locate on any until he made a claim on the head waters of Pine creek, in what is now the southern part of this county, where he made a permanent settlement and home for his family.

The sale made by Hirk Carroll to Silas Stevens was the first "real estate" transaction, the first sale of a claim ever made in the early settlement of this county. Mr. Stevens had such confidence in the development of the country and future growth of a commercial town on Wabasha prairie that he gave Carroll \$50 if he would relinquish the claim and let him have possession of it. It was held by Mr. Stevens for a year or two afterward in the name of his son, Wm. H. Stevens. It was the design of Mr. Stevens to make this locality a site for a steam saw-mill, expecting to use the slough for the purpose of storing logs brought down the river.

Mr. Stevens gave his claim on Wabasha prairie into the hands of his son, Wm. H. Stevens, to hold possession, and returned to La Crosse, where he continued to carry on his lumber business.

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## CHAPTER XX.

### WESTERN FARM AND VILLAGE ASSOCIATION.

ON February 26, 1852, William Haddock and Arthur Murphy arrived in this part of the Territory of Minnesota. They were agents of an organization called the Western Farm and Village Association, explorers and prospectors for a town site and farming lands. With packs on their backs, each carrying a buffalo-skin and some camp supplies, they came up the river on skates from La Crosse.

In a letter or report to the Association, published in the official organ of that body, "The Farm and Village Advocate," Mr. Haddock says: "After leaving La Crosse we pursued our journey slowly up the river on the ice, hugging as closely as possible the Minnesota side of the river, for the purpose of making observations. After traveling until about noon we stopped for dinner at a young trader's, who happened to have a smoking dinner just ready for consumption.

"Having no time to lose, we resumed our tramp. Without perceiving any cabin or other dwelling, we proceeded on our journey until the shades of evening began to gather round. Having brought up at the lower extremity of a sandy island, we doffed our

buffalo-skins, selected a spot for a camp, collected wood, lit up a fire, spread out our skins, and entered upon the full enjoyment of the dubious pleasures of 'camping out.' To camp out, however, is not a very agreeable thing to a person not accustomed to it, especially in a cold February night.

"A few miles of travel in the morning, after camping, brought us to a new town site, just developed, called Waubashaw, situated on a small prairie running out from the foot of a range of bluffs toward the river.

"According to the opinion of many persons at La Crosse, this place is destined to be the largest town below Lake Pepin. Although there are only four or five shanties on the prairie at the present time, yet the whole site is taken up, and already have the claimants begun to fight about their 'claims.' Waubashaw will yet furnish some rich examples of discord, and is destined, I fear, to become a prey to speculation, whatever may be its natural advantages. In our opinion it has not much to boast of except a good landing. The land is poor and generally low, and a portion of it subject to overflow.

"A few miles above Waubashaw we came to a quiet little opening in the almost endless range of bluffs, and hove to on our skates for the purpose of making observations. On reaching the shore we passed over an open, but rather a low and marshy prairie, for about half a mile, when we came to a most beautiful opening of comparatively high table-land, covered with oak.

"The extent of this opening is fully large enough for our entire village plat, exclusive of the low land on the river, which can ultimately be filled up and divided, as business plats among all our members, proving a source of great gain as business increases and the town becomes settled. There is considerable variety of surface in the town plat which settlement will remedy, but take it as a whole, I do not know that I have seen anything to surpass it. Indeed, I may say that it is beautiful, and throws Waubashaw and Prairie La Crosse entirely in the shade."

Haddock and Murphy, on their way from La Crosse, passed Wabasha Prairie and skated up Straight Slough, supposing it to be a main channel of the river. On their way up the slough their attention was attracted to the general appearance of the mouth of the Rolling Stone Valley. On examination of this locality these town-site hunters found, to their disappointment, that their ideal village

sight, so opportunely discovered, was occupied. Civilization had already sprouted on this part of the late "Sioux Purchase."

Israel M. Noracong claimed one hundred and sixty acres in the mouth of the Rolling Stone Valley, where he had built his shanty, his claim covering the present village of Minnesota City. They put up with Noracong and explained to him the object of their visit, the designs and advantages of the association represented by them, and the benefit the organization would be in the settlement of the part of the territory in which it was located. Mr. Noracong at once became interested in their plan of colonization.

Finding that he was willing to compromise matters with them, they made arrangements by which he was induced to relinquish all of his claim, except about fifteen acres of land where his cabin stood, which included a mill-site on the stream. This mill-site is the locality where the flouring mill of A. E. Elsworth now stands.

After satisfactory arrangements had been made with Noracong, and before any explorations of the surrounding country had been attempted, Haddock and Murphy, in the name of the association, made claim to all the lands in the valley of the Rolling Stone, and to all the country lying adjacent. This was the largest claim ever made in the county under any pretense whatever.

They at once commenced to lay out a village plat in accordance with a general plan, previously adopted by the association, which they had brought with them. This was the first town site surveyed and platted in southern Minnesota.

A rough plat of the locality was made, with which Mr. Murphy returned to New York city to report their discoveries. Mr. Haddock remained to *hold the claim* and continue his survey of village lots. The survey was commenced with a pocket compass; the measurements were made with a tape line belonging to Mr. Noracong.

This locality was the scene of many important events in the early settlement of this county, some of which will be noted in other chapters.

In the spring of 1852 the ice went out and the Mississippi was open in this vicinity on March 15. The first steamboat from below was the *Nominee*, which arrived at Wabasha prairie on April 1. This boat only went up as far as Lake Pepin on account of the ice. On its second trip it passed through the lake April 16, and was the first steamboat to arrive at St. Paul.



Capt. Smith brought up on the Nominee quite a number of passengers, who landed on Wabasha prairie, and also some lumber and supplies for the settlers. As soon as the material arrived, Johnson built a shanty on No. 4, his claim at the upper landing. This building was on what is now Center street, between Second and Front streets. It was  $12 \times 16$ , with a shed roof of boards, the eaves of which were about five feet from the ground. This was for awhile the hotel, the general stopping-place for all who got off at what was then known as Johnson's Landing. Every claim shanty was, however, the stranger's home, if application was made for shelter and food.

Jabez McDermott built a log shanty on his claim, a little southeast from where the shops of the Winona & St. Peter railroad now stand. The roof was a covering of bark. All of the material for this shanty was taken from the Indian tepees which stood near by. This locality was the site of Wabasha's village—the village of the band of Sioux of which he was the chief, and their general gathering-place. There were seven or eight of their cabins standing when McDermott made a claim of their village.

These Indian tepees were constructed with a framework of posts and poles fastened together by withes and covered with broad strips of elm bark. The roof was peaked, the bark covering supported by a framework of poles. For the sides the strips of bark were of suitable length to reach from the ground to the eaves. They were oblong in shape, about  $15 \times 20$  feet, the sides about four or five feet high. The bark covering was fastened by poles outside secured by withes. No nails or pins were used in their construction. Inside they were provided with benches, or berths, from two to three feet wide and about two feet from the ground, extending around three sides of the hut. These seats, or sleeping-places, were composed of poles and bark. Some sawed lumber was also used about these tepees. The lumber, boards and planks, found there by the early settlers was probably taken from the river, brought down by floods from wrecks of rafts.

There were two or three of these tepees in the mouth of Gilmore valley near the Indian cultivation. One much larger than the others was about  $20 \times 30$ . There were also two or three in the mouth of Burns valley. They were all of the same style of architecture and similarly constructed.

These cabins were but summer residences for the Sioux and were

but temporarily occupied in cold weather, when they usually fixed their hunting camps, of skin or cloth tents, in the timber on the river bottoms. The Indians sometimes halted in their migration and stopped in them for two or three days at a time after the first settlers came here in 1851, but they abandoned them entirely in the spring of 1852. These tepees were torn down in the forepart of this season. While the Sioux remained in this vicinity they sometimes visited the settlements, and were at all times friendly without being familiar or troublesome.

Soon after the opening of navigation another town site was discovered on the Mississippi below the mouth of the White Water. Two or three brothers by the name of Hall selected this location. It was known as Hall's Landing. No special effort was made to develop its advantages until the following year, when the town of Mt. Vernon was laid out, about two miles below the mouth of the White Water.

During 1851 and 1852 there was quite a rush of immigration to the country on the upper Mississippi. Among the localities in the western part of the State of Wisconsin which attracted considerable attention from this moving population was La Crosse. After the treaty with the Sioux in 1851 many of these immigrants made La Crosse a temporary halting place until opportunity was given to make selections of locations on the west side of the river. A very large majority of the first settlers in southern Minnesota were of this class.

With the exception of the colony that settled at Minnesota City, Winona county was first settled almost entirely by these temporary residents of La Crosse. During the winter some of these citizens of Wisconsin came up the river on the ice and selected locations on Wabasha prairie and in its vicinity. In the spring they, with others, visited this part of the territory to see the country, and made claims in a more formal manner.

These claims were usually marked by writing the name of the *claim-maker* on the stakes which defined the location selected, or, if in the timber, the trees were blazed and the name of the claimant conspicuously displayed. As the season advanced it became necessary to represent some improvements. A few logs laid up, as if a future cabin was contemplated, a few furrows with a plow, or a little corn or vegetables planted, gave evidence that the claim was occupied. These claims were usually acknowledged by the settlers and

mutual protection given, although the laws governing claims were not fully complied with.

Among those who came up during the winter and selected locations, and who afterward became residents of Wabasha prairie, was William B. Gere, commonly called "Beecher Gere." He made a claim south of and joining both of the claims of Johnson and Stevens. Although a settler could not hold, legally, but 160 acres, this claim was laid on a sliding scale, and for a while Beecher Gere's claim covered twice that amount of land.

Enos P. Williams, then in the employ of Silas Stevens at La Crosse, selected the location adjoining Gere's on the east. This is now known as Hubbard's addition.

Elijah Silsbee selected the one next west of that claimed by Gere, and a man by the name of Hobbs took that next to Silsbee's on the west.

Frank Curtiss discovered that there was room for another claim between that selected for Scott Clark and the claims of McDermott and Keene, and located himself there.

Walter Brown selected a location in what is now Gilmore valley, in the mouth of the ravine about where the brickyard of Mr. Bersange is now located.

George G. Barber made choice of one adjoining Brown's in the valley above.

Rev. George Chester, a Methodist minister—the first that settled in La Crosse—made a claim in Gilmore valley where the county farm is now located. The first sermon ever delivered to the early settlers of Winona county was preached by Mr. Chester on Wabasha prairie while on this visit to Minnesota. Mr. Chester never made any improvements on his claim, neither was he ever a resident of the county.

A colored man, a barber in La Crosse, by the name of Williams, made the first claim across the slough on the upper prairie. It is now the residence of George I. Parsons. The claim shanty was near the railroad.

Some of the early visitors from La Crosse who came up with Mr. Chester, Mr. Barber and others, returned without selecting locations, although they afterward became residents of Wabasha prairie. Dr. John L. Balcombe, John C. Laird and Abner S. Goddard were among this number. Mention will be made of them at a later date.

Henry C. Gere came up from La Crosse early in the spring, and

landed at what was then known as Johnson's landing, with his family, household goods, and lumber for a shanty. During the winter previous he visited the prairie and professed to have selected a claim, but refused to point it out,—none of the settlers were aware of his choice of location.

It afterward appeared that about the time of the "difference" between Bunnell and Johnson, a friendship, or rather an acquaintance was formed between Gere and Bunnell, and a plan laid to jump the Stevens claim. As Mr. Stevens was a non-resident, Gere was to locate himself on the claim with his family, and Bunnell was to aid him to keep possession of it. It was represented by Bunnell that he had selected this claim for H. C. Gere, and had made some designative marks on the back side of it, next to the claim selected by Wm. B. Gere. Until spring no boundaries were marked on any of the claims, except the claim-stakes driven along the bank of the river by Stevens and Johnson in the fall of 1851. After the frost left the ground in the spring these claims were marked by corner stakes in the rear.

Gere also pretended that he was a partner with Stevens in the lumber business at La Crosse when the claim was made,—that it was a joint speculation which Mr. Stevens ignored.

A day or two before Gere left La Crosse with his family, Silas Stevens learned that he professed to have an interest in claim No. 3 on Wabasha prairie, and that he was going there to live. Being well acquainted with Gere, and fearing trouble from him, Mr. Stevens came up to the prairie and there awaited his arrival.

With well-assumed confidence that he had an undisputed right to the Stevens claim, Gere secured the services of Johnson with his oxen and sled, loaded with lumber, and started with a friend or two to take possession of it. As he approached the west boundary of the claim with his load of lumber, he was met by Silas Stevens, Wm. H. Stevens, George W. Clark and Allen Gilmore. With the exception of Silas Stevens this party was armed, although no revolvers were in sight. Each carried a strong cudgel, except Wm. H. Stevens, who handled a gun and assumed the position of leader. He ordered Gere to halt and not attempt to cross the claim line with his lumber. This claim boundary was a line due south from the claim stake, which stood on the bank of the river about midway between what is now Walnut and Market streets. Meeting so firm an obstruction, Gere and his party with the load of lumber moved back on the



prairie along the designated line, escorted by the Stevens party, until the south boundary of the claim was passed. The escort then stood guard while Gere put up a shanty on the claim of his nephew, Wm. B. Gere.

The shanty built by H. C. Gere stood on the east side of Franklin street, between Wabasha and Sanborn streets, on the lot where Thomas Burk now lives. It was 12×12 when first built, and covered with a board roof, but was afterward enlarged to 12×18, and covered with a shingled roof, sloping the length of the shanty. Mr. Gere lived there until the spring of 1854, when he moved onto a claim in the mouth of West Burns valley. The writer occupied this shanty as his residence and business office in July and August, 1854.

This was but the beginning of Gere's efforts to get possession of the Stevens' claim. Other incidents relative to this claim will be given.

Among the earliest arrivals this spring were John Evans and S. K. Thompson. Mr. Thompson did not at once make a claim, but lived on Wabasha prairie, a passive looker-on for some time before he took an active part as a bona-fide settler.

Mr. Evans was an old pioneer, familiar with pioneer life and the settlement of a claim country. He at once commenced prospecting, and soon discovered that Clark was holding two claims. Considering this to be a favorable opportunity to secure a good location near the landing, he selected the one Mr. Clark had made and was holding in the name of his brother, and announced his purpose to make that his claim. Clark earnestly protested against this, but Evans asserted that he had a right to it, that Scott Clark had never been in the territory, and George W. Clark was then holding a claim on the prairie. Evans, with the help of Thompson, had already commenced cutting logs for a cabin, but seeing that Clark was extremely anxious to retain the claim across the slough, offered to let him take his choice of the two he was holding. Finding that Evans was determined in the matter, Clark very reluctantly decided to relinquish the first claim he had made, claim No. 6, provided Evans would abandon the other.

John Evans then took possession of the claim relinquished by Clark and commenced making improvements. This was afterward known as the "Evans Claim." Chute's and Foster's additions were parts of that claim. It was on what is now known as Foster's

addition that Mr. Evans placed his buildings. It was here that he lived while a resident of the county, and where he died. While living here Mr. Evans opened up a farm and inclosed the whole claim with a rail fence. He at one time had a field under cultivation which comprised about half of his claim, on which he raised several crops of wheat, corn, etc. He then disposed of a part of it (Chute's addition), and divided a portion into suburban lots, retaining what is now Foster's addition as his homestead.

Mr. Evans did not bring his family here until late in the summer of 1852,—not until he had built a house for them to move into. His house was covered with the first shingled roof ever put on any building on Wabasha prairie; the first shingled roof in the city of Winona.

The family of Mr. Evans, when he located here in 1852, consisted of a wife, two daughters and a son. One of the daughters married O. S. Holbrook; the other became the wife of Erwin H. Johnson. Another daughter, the wife of James Williams, came here about two years after. James Williams is yet a resident of the county. Mr. Evans and all of his family mentioned above are now dead, except his son, Royal B. Evans, who is a resident of the county, living in the town of Wilson.

When George W. Clark relinquished his claim, No. 6, to John Evans, he took possession of the land across the slough in his own name. When his brother came on he aided him in securing another location. Mr. Clark never speculated in city lots or suburban property. His choice of claims was undoubtedly the decisive point in his life as to his future business occupations and home.

Mr. Clark left the State of New York in 1851, with the design to secure to himself a farm somewhere in the western country. He first went to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he had relatives; but learning there of the rush to the upper Mississippi country, he with others started on foot across the state to La Crosse. He there sought employment and secured a situation in the lumber yard of Silas Stevens, where he proposed to remain until he should learn of a satisfactory location for a permanent settlement. Influenced by a higher rate of interest than he had been familiar with in the east, he placed what funds he had with him in the hands of his employer. Familiar acquaintance increased a mutual confidence of the two in each other, and when Mr. Stevens decided to make a speculative investment on Wabasha prairie, in the Territory of Minnesota, he

selected Mr. Clark as his agent. His arrival here on November 12, 1851, has already been narrated.

The force of circumstances compelled Mr. Clark to make selection of the farm for which he had left his father's house and come west. Having decided to locate on his claim across the slough, he gave his whole time and attention to its improvement and increasing his possessions by securing adjoining property by way of speculation.

The first rails used by Mr. Clark in his farming operations were the relics of a fence built by the Sioux to keep their ponies from ranging over their cultivation in the mouth of the valley above. This Indian fence extended from the bluffs to the lake or slough on the bottom, about on the west boundary of his claim, and nearly on the west line of his farm.

These were some of the circumstances of his first settlement here, which, with his determined purpose to locate on a farm, made George W. Clark, the pioneer farmer, the first practical farmer to settle on a claim held exclusively for farming purposes. He began his first improvements on this claim in March, 1852, using the horses of Mr. Stevens for his first team-work, to haul the logs together which he had cut for the purpose of building a claim shanty, before it was jumped by John Evans. Mr. Clark's original claim shanty was located about where his hay-shed now stands, in the meadow near where the lane leading to his present residence leaves the Gilmore valley road.

Mr. Clark has lived on the farm he now occupies about thirty-one years. The little log shanty and straw-covered sheds have been superseded by a large farmhouse and a commodious barn and sheds. He has been a prosperous farmer. Although others engaged in farming operations early in the season of 1852 and made as much improvement on their claims as Mr. Clark, he was the first to settle on any land now held as a farm in this county.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### THE ASSOCIATION CRYSTALLIZED.

THE association by which Minnesota City was first settled originated in the city of New York in the summer of 1851. This organization was never generally understood by the western public, nor its special objects clearly comprehended by the early settlers in this part of the territory. It is, indeed, more than probable that some of its members had but indifferent ideas of its operations and special design when practically demonstrated. The people generally considered the association to be a body of fanatical communists—a socialistic organization with such visionary and impracticable theories of colonization that failure was but an inherent destiny. These mistaken ideas and false impressions prejudiced other settlers against them from the first. The apparently clannish exclusiveness and mysterious manner of the colonists confirmed these vague opinions and excited a jealous rivalry with settlements in other localities. A mutual antagonism resulted, which time alone dissipated, but not until long after the association had ceased to exist as an organization.

This association was composed of persons of different nationalities, different religious and political opinions, and of different business occupation, united for a special object. It was an emigration society, designed to aid its members in leaving the city and forming a colony on government lands in the west. The organization was but a temporary one, and never designed for any other purpose.

That the plan of colonization was practicable under favorable circumstances, in the hands of practicable men and under the management of practicable leaders, there is but little doubt. That it was, to a great extent, a failure, that the results were not fully in accordance with that anticipated from its programme of operations, was evidently attributable to the incapacity and inexperience of the leaders rather than to radical defects in the plan. Justice to these pioneer settlers of the county exacts a brief sketch of the organization by which the colony was located.

William Haddock, one of the discoverers of the town site at the mouth of the Rolling Stone valley, was the founder and president of



the association. In July, 1851, Mr. Haddock, then a journeyman printer living in New York city, conceived the idea, and in a public lecture at a meeting of mechanics called by him for the purpose, presented the outlines of a plan whereby the mechanics of the city would be able to secure "homes in the west," to leave the city and locate on government lands, to go in a body and form a colony.

His audience manifested considerable interest in the subject of his lecture, and appointed a committee to take the matter into consideration and draw up a code of laws for an organization on the plan proposed. The committee made a report the following week, and a form of organization was effected, with William Haddock as president and Thomas K. Allen secretary. It was not, however, until about the middle of September that the association was considered fairly organized, although weekly meetings were held for the purpose of perfecting the laws and in many ways modifying the original plan proposed by Mr. Haddock.

That the plan adopted may be impartially presented, the following extracts have been copied from the "Constitution and By-Laws of the Western Farm and Village Association."

#### PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, We whose names are hereunto subscribed are desirous of locating ourselves advantageously on government lands in some of our western states or territories, and,

WHEREAS, We wish at the same time to avail ourselves of all the advantages of civilization which can be immediately secured only by emigrating in large companies and settling in close proximity, we do hereby adopt, for the more effectual attainment of our object, the following constitution and by-laws, to which each one of us subscribes and pledges himself to conform:

#### CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. SECTION 1. This association shall be styled "The Western Farm and Village Association, No. 1, of the City of New York."

(Sec. 2 enumerates the officers.)

ARTICLE II. Object and plan of action.

SEC. 1. The object of this association shall be the organization and settlement of one or more townships and villages on the public lands, in some of the western states or territories of the United States, with the view of obtaining, if possible, a free grant of the same from congress.

SEC. 2. The number of members which this association may embrace shall not exceed five hundred, and shall consist of a proportional number from each of the principal departments of industry.

SEC. 3. The condition upon which congress shall be solicited to make a free grant of land to members of this association shall be actual settlement and im-

provement; and no member shall be allowed to subscribe for more than 160 acres and a village plat of four acres.

SEC. 4. As soon as the funds of this association shall permit, an experienced and reliable member shall be commissioned to look for a site or sites for a township and village, who shall, while thus employed, act under the instructions of this association, and make such reports to the same from time to time as he may deem necessary, or may be required of him.

SEC. 5. When the member thus commissioned shall have performed the labor assigned him a competent committee shall be elected to re-examine such localities as may have been reported by him, or such other places as may be authorized by the association; which committee shall give a full and true account of each locality to this body.

SEC. 6. The sight of the township and village shall be determined by a vote of this association before any choice of land shall have been made by any of its members; such determination to be based upon the committee of examination, or upon such other facts, circumstances or information as may be deemed important.

SEC. 7. When the site of the township shall have been chosen by the association, the different kinds of land outside the village plat, such as timber, prairie and suburban land, shall be so laid off as to render all the landed advantages growing out of this association as equally available as possible. Maps shall be drawn representing the village, suburban, farming and wood plats, accompanied by a brief description of each and every lot. When this shall have been done and approved by the association, the order of choosing among the members shall be settled by numbers, after which each shall make his selection of lots according to the number of his choice.

SEC. 8. The village site shall be so surveyed as to allow each member of this association, after deducting liberally for streets and parks, to have a village plat of about four acres.

SEC. 9. The time of emigration for this association shall not extend beyond the 15th of April, 1852.

ARTICLE III. (Defines the duties of officers).

ARTICLE IV. Membership.

SEC. 1. The qualifications for membership in this association shall be good moral character, industrious habits, and a willingness to conform to the constitution and by-laws.

SEC. 2. Applications for admission into this association may be made through any member of the same, at any regular meeting; whereupon the application shall be immediately laid before the board of directors; if, upon investigation, he or she shall be found acceptable by a majority of the board, they shall report accordingly at the next meeting, when, if the candidate receive a majority of votes of the members present, he or she shall be entitled to a certificate of membership on payment of the initiation fee.

SEC. 3. Every person on being elected a member of this association, shall pay an initiation fee of one dollar. (This was afterward raised to five dollars).

SEC. 4. No member of this association shall be allowed to subscribe for, or hold more than 160 acres of land and a village plat of four acres.

SEC. 5. Any member of this association may be suspended or expelled for misconduct or neglect of official duties; but no member shall be expelled without a fair trial by a committee of five members.

SEC. 6. Should any member desire to withdraw from this association, he or she may transfer his or her interest to any person not already a member, subject to the approval of the association; the said person shall pay a transfer fee of fifty cents, which shall be an acknowledgment of his or her membership. But in the event of this association obtaining a free grant of the land, this section shall be rendered null and void.

SEC. 7. In the event of the death of a member of this association, all moneys paid by the deceased into the society shall, at the option of the association, be promptly restored to his or her legal representatives.

SEC. 8. Persons residing at a distance may, on being elected members of this association, remit their initiation fee and weekly dues to the financial secretary, in sums of one dollar for every eight weeks.

ARTICLE V. On the election of officers.

SEC. 1. All officers shall be elected by ballot, and shall serve until the objects of this association shall be attained, unless disqualified by misconduct or incapacity.

ARTICLE VI. Dues.

SEC. 1. The weekly dues of all members of this association shall be twelve and a half cents, commencing the first day of August, 1851.

SEC. 2. No dues or initiation fees shall be refunded to members of this association in consequence of their withdrawal from the same.

SEC. 3. If any member of this association shall neglect the payment of his or her dues for a longer time than four weeks, he or she shall be subject to a fine of twelve and a half cents for each succeeding week while in arrears.

ARTICLE VII. (Relates to drawing money on deposit).

ARTICLE VIII. On disbursement of moneys.

SEC. 1. All moneys paid into this association shall be devoted to the payment of such expenses as are necessary to the attainment of its object, and to no other purpose, and no moneys shall be paid out without a vote of the association.

SEC. 2. When this association shall dissolve, by its own mutual consent, the books of all officers shall be balanced, and if any funds remain on hand after settlement of all liabilities of the association, they shall be equally divided among the members that then exist.

ARTICLE IX. (Enjoins harmony among the members).

ARTICLE X. (Relates to altering or amending constitution).

#### BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I. (Time and place of meeting).

ARTICLE II. (Quorum for transaction of business).

ARTICLE III. (Fines of officers for non-attendance).

ARTICLE IV. (How discussions shall be conducted).

ARTICLE V. Rule of Order.—As this association is organized for a specific object, its rule of action shall be distinct, and no question shall be in order or

entertained, that does not apply clearly to the object specified in the constitution, and the means of carrying such object into effect; neither shall anything of a sectarian or political character be introduced into the discussions of this association.

The officers were: President, William Haddock; vice-president, Wm. Skinner; recording secretary, Thomas K. Allen; financial secretary, Charles E. Wheeler; corresponding secretary, E. B. Thomas; treasurer, John Brooks.

The board of directors were Augustus A. Gilbert, J. T. Caldwell, James Wright, James Potter, E. B. Tanner, Charles Bannan, John Hughes and D. Robertson.

As soon as the organization was effected the scheme was favorably advertised in the editorial columns of the New York "Tribune" and other papers. A few numbers of an official paper, called the "Western Farm and Village Advocate," was issued by the association, under the editorial management of Mr. Haddock. The association increased in numbers, but very many of the later members were from outside the city, in New York and other states.

About the first of November Ransom Smith was commissioned to select a suitable location for the colony. After exploring some parts of the States of Wisconsin and Iowa along the Mississippi without accomplishing his object, he resigned his position about the first of January, 1852. When Mr. Smith was appointed exploring agent, he was specifically instructed as to the kind of location that he was expected to make choice of. The city members of the association apparently desired him to make discovery of another garden of Eden, with all modern commercial advantages attached. Mr. Smith failed to discover any locality that very much resembled the one pictured in the written instructions furnished for his guidance. The local members who controlled the organization were nearly all mechanics, the most of them inexperienced in matters outside of their business occupations.

The leaders of the organization were aware that, to insure success and move on the opening of navigation in the spring, prompt action would be necessary in the selection of a location for the colony. Accordingly a locating committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Haddock of New York, Arthur Murphy of Hempstead, L. I., and A. E. Bovay, a resident of Wisconsin.

The discoveries and selection of Rolling Stone as a location for the colony have been related. This selection was made with-



out proper investigation of its fitness for the purpose designed. Their examination was but superficial, and their decision prematurely made. They assumed that the village site was on the Mississippi, but it proved to be six miles from a navigable channel. This selection was a serious mistake. It was not a proper location for the proposed colony. This very serious mistake was, unfortunately, the cause of its failure. It is true Rolling Stone was first settled by the members of the association, but the organization collapsed before its specific object was accomplished.

When the association was first organized it was supposed possible to secure from congress a free grant of public lands for the members to settle upon, but in case this failed the lands were to be purchased from the government by the members of the association, and each pay for the land he occupied.

Petitions numerously signed by members of the association and others were sent to congress, asking this appropriation for the benefit of the members of the colony. These petitions were presented by Hon. H. H. Sibley, the delegate from the territory of Minnesota. No action was taken, except that the petitions were received and disposed of by being referred to the house committee on public lands.

On the return of Mr. Murphy to New York city from Rolling Stone, the report of the locating committee was duly made to the association. It was received and approved without delay, such was the confidence of the members in the judgment of the committee. Rolling Stone was then formally selected as the location for the proposed colony.

A more elaborate plat of the village site was drawn from that furnished by the committee and lithographed for the members. It was numbered preparatory for the drawing, which took place March 31, 1852.

The following circular was then issued, and sent to each of the members of the organization:

WESTERN FARM AND VILLAGE ASSOCIATION OFFICE, }  
NEW YORK, April 3, 1852. }

DEAR SIR,—The association at length have the pleasure of informing you of their location. Mr. Arthur Murphy, one of our locating committee, has just returned to this city, having in conjunction with our president selected a spot which has been unanimously adopted as our homes. It is situated in the Territory of Minnesota, on the Mississippi river, about forty miles above Root river, and six miles above a place called Wabesha prairie, on a stream of water known as Rolling Stone creek; for a full description of which, with the report

of the committee, the corresponding secretary refers you to the forthcoming Advocate. In the meantime, he has been instructed to send you the following circular, embodying so much of the report of its last meeting as is herein contained.

After the adoption of the report of Mr. Murphy, the association, on motion, went into the choosing of lots; all members whose dues were not paid up to the first of January being declared by vote ineligible to participate. A committee, consisting of Messrs. Cauldwell, Potter and Bannan, were appointed to choose for country members. The names of all those eligible were then placed in one hat, and numbers to the corresponding amount of members in another. Messrs. Thorp and Stradling presided over the names, and Messrs. Gilbert and Fitzgibbons superintended the numbers. A number was then taken from a hat, and a name from the other, and the number so drawn was the choice of the member whose name was drawn with it. The entire list of drawing so made is herein contained, with a map showing the position of the lot up to 132. The reason of there being none higher than this is that the committee, deeming that sufficient, surveyed no more; and members who have drawn a choice over that number will be allowed to choose on the ground, from lots to be surveyed, or from lands forfeited by the non-settlement of members in July, in the order they run above the lots numbered. Mr. Haddock, who is now on the ground, has been telegraphed to survey 100 more; and persons joining now will choose in the order as admitted members.

In addition to the above, the corresponding secretary has to state that the pioneer squad will start from here on Wednesday, the 7th, and passing over the Erie Railroad, will probably arrive at Chicago on or about the 14th; thence by rail and team to Galena, and boat up the river. This will also be the route of the main body, and all members who live near the city, or who can make New York in their route, will meet here on April 14, to start on the 15th, so as to arrive at Galena by May 1.

Should the lakes not be open on April 15 the association will not start on that day, but wait until they are.

Those of our members who may not arrive at Galena by May 1, can learn full particulars of us by inquiring of Col. James Robinson there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

For. . . . .

E. B. THOMAS, Cor. Sec'y,  
102 Nassau street.

Accompanying this circular was a plat of the village site and a list of the names of 174 members, with the order of their choice and the number of the lot chosen by or for 132 of them.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### EMIGRANTS COMING.

It was designed that settlement on the lands selected for the colony should be made simultaneously by the members of the association, or as near so as practicable, to prevent intrusion from persons not belonging to the organization. As soon as the locality was formally decided upon a volunteer party already organized started west for the Rolling Stone, to hold possession of the "claim" made by Haddock and Murphy, until the arrival of the main body of the association. This advance guard, to which the name of "pioneer squad" had been given, was a party of eleven men who left New York city on April 7. On their way they were joined by three others, making the total number of this guard fourteen. All of these were young unmarried men except one. Mr. B. Mauby, of New York, was accompanied by his wife and seven children.

The pioneer squad of the Western Farm and Village Association came up the Mississippi from Galena on the steamboat Caleb Cope, and landed at Johnson's Landing on Wabasha prairie on April 14, 1852. The Caleb Cope was under the command of Capt. Harris, who had chartered her to run as an opposition boat against the Nominee, in place of the West Newton, which was not then ready for the early spring business. The fare, on this trip, was but fifty cents each, for passengers from Galena to Wabasha prairie. Freight was in about the same proportion of discount from regular rates.

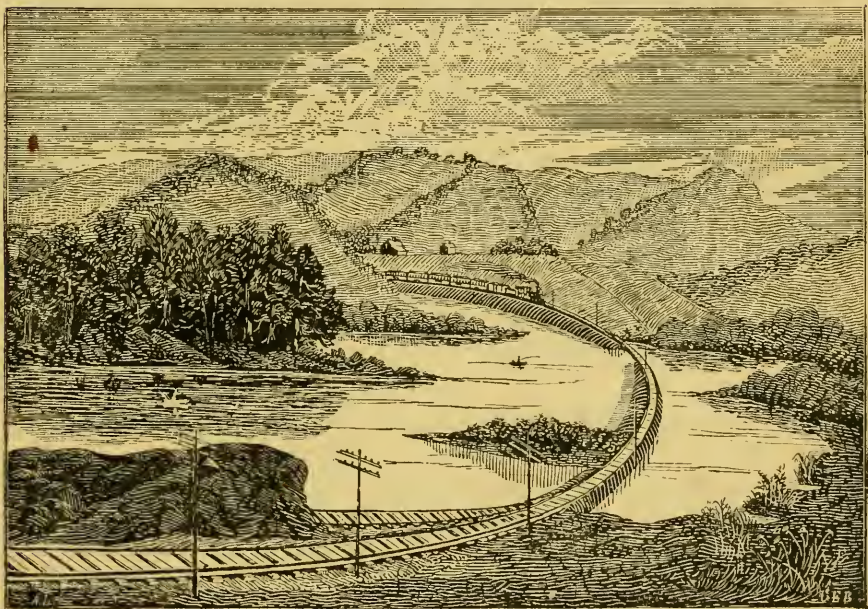
This party of immigrants were warmly welcomed at the landing by Mr. Haddock, who had been anxiously expecting them, and had come from Rolling Stone on purpose to meet and guide them to "the promised land."

The following names of this party were furnished by a member of the squad who yet lives in Rolling Stone, at Minnesota City. The names of some of his old comrades have faded from his memory. He is the only one of the "old guard" that is now a resident of Winona county. His name heads this list of names: Hezekiah Jones, Wm. Stevens, J. W. Viney, David Robertson, D. Hollyer,



R. H. Boothe, S. R. Schroeder, John Hughes. — Talmadge, — Randall, and D. Mauby and family.

They had with them quite a large amount of supplies and camp fixtures, including a large tent, household furniture, a cook-stove, tools, etc., and also brought with them two yoke of oxen and a wagon. The cattle, wagon and household furniture were the property of Mr. Mauby. The oxen and wagon were purchased for him in Illinois, by Mr. H. Jones, who came west in the fall before, and joined this party at Cherry Valley, then the terminus of the rail-



SCENE NEAR THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF ROLLING STONE.\*

road. The team and wagon were used in transporting their baggage from Cherry Valley to Galena, where their supplies were purchased.

This party landed at about the foot of Main street; their freight was piled on a mound on the bank of the river and covered with the tent. It was there left in charge of one of their number, whose name is now forgotten, but who was designated as the "cigar-maker." Leaving Mr. Mauby and his family here the others hastened on to their destination.

\* The above cut is from a sketch taken and kindly furnished by Austin W. Lord.



Mr. Manby engaged Johnson's shanty, at the upper landing, as a home for his family, until he could build a cabin for them at the Rolling Stone. He remained with them until they were settled in their temporary abode.

No provision had been made for the subsistence of the cattle. No supplies had been brought along for them, as it was supposed that hay could be readily procured, but none was to be had. There was an unusual rise of water in the river for the time of year, and a strong current was running through the slough, making it difficult for strangers to ford to the upper prairie, and no wagon trail had yet been opened along the bluffs. It was decided to leave the wagon with the freight, but to take the cattle along, as they might have use for them. The oxen were taken up to the Rolling Stone, where they were turned loose to procure a living for themselves, from the old grass on the bottoms, and such browse as they were able to get from the brush along the stream.

Temporary supplies were packed up by the party. They were ferried over the slough by the Indians in canoes. With Mr. Haddock as guide, they followed the trail along the bluffs to Noracong's shanty, where Mr. Haddock was living. Noracong and his party were then away rafting the black walnut logs they had cut during the winter.

Noracong's little shanty, about 8×12, stood about where the railroad crossing now is—north from Elsworth's flouring-mill. It was the headquarters of the pioneer squad. Finding their accommodations insufficient, some of the party constructed a kind of hut, to which the name of "Gopher house" was given. One of these "gophers" was built on the table, about fifty rods above where Troost's flouring mill lately stood. Another one was on the table, about forty rods west from where the school building now stands. These huts were of logs, placed in the form of a house roof, and covered with dry grass from the bottoms, over which was a layer of earth covered with strips of turf arranged to shed the rain. The earth inside of the hut was excavated to the depth of a foot or more to increase the area inclosed. These huts were filled with dry grass and used as sleeping quarters.

This advance guard had volunteered to come on for the express purpose of keeping off trespassers. Although designated the pioneer squad, no other duties were assigned to them or expected from them. They spent their time in explorations of the immediate

vicinity of their camp, and in hunting and fishing, furnishing plentiful supplies of ducks and trout. They all lived in common, each contributing from his own stores for general use. A cook was appointed to take charge of this department, who called for assistants when aid was required. Mr. Jones and one or two others assisted Mr. Haddock in his survey of the village plat, to which he was giving his whole attention.

In this survey, the base of operations was a straight line along the edge of the table on which Troosts' flouring-mill recently stood. It was there the first street was laid off, extending from the lower end of the table to the bluff at the upper end. The village lots and streets were laid off parallel with and at right angles to this street as a base line.

Mr. Haddock attempted to make the survey with his pocket compass, to which he affixed some sights of his own invention or construction, but was compelled to abandon this uncertain process, and rely on his guide poles and measurements. A long rope and poles superseded the tape-line and pocket compass. About two hundred acres were thus surveyed before Mr. Haddock procured a surveyor's compass and chain, with which the survey of village lots and farms were completed.

Mr. Mauby built a log shanty for his family. This stood near where the railroad station at Minnesota City now stands. It was about 12×16 feet in dimensions. The shed roof was covered with strips of elm bark, fastened to poles. This cabin was built on the village lot drawn by Mr. Mauby at the meeting of the association in New York city, March 31.

On May 1, 1852, O. M. Lord, Rev. William Sweet and Jonathan Williams landed on Wabasha prairie from the Dr. Franklin. They were left by the boat at the lower landing, at about ten o'clock in the evening. Applying for lodgings at Pentlers, they found the little cabin already full, densely crowded to overflowing. On looking about to discover what other chances were possible for sleeping quarters, they saw what in the darkness they supposed to be a haystack, apparently not far back on the prairie. As nothing more favorable presented itself, they started out from the landing with the expectation that they would be able to make a comfortable bed from the hay at the stack. After traveling a short distance they suddenly became aware that what they had imagined to be a stack was but the form of the bluffs—the outlines of which could be seen in the

distance—they were in front of the “Sugar Loaf,” the top of which, a mile and a half away, could be dimly seen above the horizon. Disappointed in their pursuit of lodgings in that direction, they returned to the river and passed the night on the sand, sleeping soundly wrapped in their blankets.

At daylight they prefaced their explorations of the country by taking observations of their surroundings. Except the broad river, then a raging flood overflowing the lowlands, and the general picturesque views extending in every direction from the landing, there was nothing in Capt. Smith’s town site to excite their admiration or arouse any practical interest. The barren, sandy prairie, recently burned over, was almost entirely destitute of any appearance of vegetable life, except that the few trees and bushes along the river bank were just beginning to exhibit a faint appearance of green. Wabasha prairie was of no apparent value to these practical men, prospecting for good farming land.

Without longer delay than to indulge a good appetite for breakfast, they started for the Rolling Stone, their point of destination. Following the trail along up the river to the upper landing, they took a straight course over the prairie toward the mouth of the Gilmore valley. They were compelled to ford the slough, which was then flooded from the high water in the river. The crossing place, on the trail which they struck, was about a quarter of a mile above where the bridge, on the Gilmore Valley road, now stands. To keep their clothing dry they stripped, and carried it over on their shoulders, with their packs. Following the trail along the bluffs they readily reached Noracong’s shanty, and found themselves on the grounds claimed by the Western Farm and Village Association, and were hospitably received by Mr. Haddock and such of the pioneer guard as were not absent on foraging expeditions to the trout streams in the valleys.

Mr. Sweet was the only one of his party who was a member of the association. Mr. Williams, although not a member, was a proxy representative, prospecting for his son-in-law, H. H. Hull, who belonged to the organization. Mr. Lord was not then in any way connected with the association. He was favorably impressed with its plan of colonization, but was desirous of exploring the surroundings of the locality before deciding to make it his home. He was, however, afterward prominently identified with the affairs of the colony.

Although the almanac plainly showed that the day of their arrival at Rolling Stone was Sunday, the Rev. William Sweet and Deacon Jonathan Williams accompanied the more liberal-minded O. M. Lord on a Sabbath day's journey into the wilderness back of the bluffs, to view the land. Proceeding up the valley of the Rolling Stone, they followed the trail leading out through what is now known as Straight Valley, onto the dividing ridge between the Rolling Stone and Whitewater. Following up this divide they came upon a beautiful prairie, on the edge of which they camped for the night. The next day they explored this locality, and each made choice of a claim. They gave it the name of Rolling Stone prairie, by which it was for a while designated. After selecting their claims they returned to the headquarters of the embryo colony, Noracong's shanty, and made report of their discoveries.

This party of three was the first of any of the settlers to visit the country back of the bluffs of the Mississippi. The claim made by Mr. Sweet was the farm occupied by him for many years afterward. The name of Rolling Stone prairie was, because of his residence here, changed and given the name of Sweet's prairie. Mr. Sweet is now living near Minnesota City. The claim made by Mr. Williams, adjoining that of Mr. Sweet, was for H. H. Hull, who was then living at Scales Mound, near Galena. Mr. Hull came on with his wife later in the season, and occupied the claim shanty of Mr. Sweet through the winter. In the spring he sold the claim made for him by Mr. Williams, and located himself a few miles farther south, in what is now the town of Utica. He lived there a few years, when he sold out and went back to Illinois.

After making this claim Mr. Sweet went back to his home and brought on a part of his family. About the middle of June, he with the aid of the settlers at Rolling Stone built a small log-house, and made some improvements on his claim. In the fall he returned home, leaving his son, a boy about twelve years, to remain and live with Mr. Hull, who, with his wife, was to occupy Mr. Sweet's shanty during the winter. It was made the duty of this boy to drive the cattle down into the Whitewater Valley to water. The boy was treated with a great deal of severity. During one of the coldest days of that winter, the boy without sufficient protection was sent to drive the cattle down into the valley—but he never returned. Mr. Hull found him a few rods from the house frozen to death. The body was put into a sink-hole, and not buried until the next spring.



The claim made by Mr. Lord on Sweet's prairie was never improved by him; some other settler had the benefit of his choice.

On the second of May a large detachment of the main body of colonists, about fifty in number, men, women and children, bound for the Rolling Stone, came up the river on the Excelsior from St. Louis. This party did not land at Wabasha prairie. Supposing it to be practicable for steamboats to go through Straight slough, if the officers of the boats were inclined to make the attempt, and on account of the extreme high water which made it difficult to get to the mainland from Wabasha prairie, Mr. Haddock had advised this party to make it a condition of their passage that they should be landed at Rolling Stone. Captain Ward, of the Excelsior, promised to land them anywhere they wished, provided it could be done with safety to the boat.

On arriving at Wabasha prairie, the pilot refused to attempt the passage through Straight slough, deciding that it was not a navigable channel. The party continued on, expecting to find a landing-place somewhere above. At Holmes' landing (now Fountain City), the boat stopped to replenish its supply of wood. They here found Thomas K. Allen, the secretary of the association, who, with Augustus A. Gilbert, one of the directors, had landed from the Dr. Franklin during the previous night. Mr. Gilbert had taken a canoe and crossed over to the Minnesota side of the river, leaving Mr. Allen in charge of their baggage. A cow and a breaking plow was a part of their freight.

Learning that there was no prospect of landing from the steamboat near their destination, they bargained with the master and owner of the wood-boat to transfer them to the other side of the river. The German agreed to undertake the trip for fifteen dollars, although he was unacquainted with the river in that vicinity, provided they would help him get his boat back to his woodyard again.

Taking Mr. Allen and his freight on board with the loaded wood craft in tow, the steamboat proceeded on up the river, unloading while on the way. The colonists with their freight and live stock were transferred to the empty scow, which was cast off when about a mile below the mouth of the White Water and near the Minnesota shore. From there they drifted down to Rolling Stone. It was late in the afternoon when they left the Excelsior. By carefully hugging the shore they fortunately succeeded in safely landing, about fifty rods above where Troosts' flouring-mill recently stood.

It was long after dark before the weary immigrants gathered around the camp-fire of the pioneer squad, which had been a beacon to guide them as they poled the sluggish craft across the overflowed bottoms from Haddock slough, down which they had drifted until nearly opposite their landing-place.

Noracong's little shanty was literally packed full of children, with a woman or two to care for them. The "gophers" were crowded to their fullest capacity. The colonists not provided with shelter bivouaced around the camp-fires. The night was a cool but pleasant one. None seemed to suffer from the exposure they were subject to on the first night of their arrival in their new home.

Among the party landed from the wood-boat were S. E. Cotton, wife and child; H. W. Driver and wife, Lawrence Dilworth, wife and four children; James Wilson and wife; James Hatton, wife and four children; Mrs. Charles Bannon; Dr. George F. Childs, wife and niece; David Densmore, John Shaw, M. Fitzgibbons, D. Jackson, William Harris, Horace Ranney, William Sperry, A. A. Gilbert, Thomas K. Allen and others—some families whose names are now forgotten.

It was under such circumstances and condition of affairs that this colony was settled, and some of the members of the association initiated into the mysteries of pioneer life. Many were greatly disappointed; the realities presented to view served to somewhat cloud the illusive fancies pictured in their imaginations, of comfortable homes in the west. Some were discouraged and homesick. Others, strongly dissatisfied with the location, decided to abandon the colony and return down the river. Some of the more courageous announced that they had come to stay, and notwithstanding the prospective hardships to be endured, they cheerfully set about making their arrangements accordingly.

At daylight the next morning the freight was unloaded from the wood-boat, and a party of nine, principally members of the pioneer squad, among whom were H. Jones and William Stevens, assisted the proprietor to land it on the Wisconsin side of the river. On their return the same day they brought with them a small flat-boat, which was at first hired and afterward purchased by the association. This craft was called the Macedonian. It was a roughly-constructed affair of sufficient capacity to carry about three cords of wood, and proved really serviceable to the settlers.

The following morning some of the pioneer squad started with

the Macedonian for Wabasha prairie to bring up their freight and baggage left on their arrival in charge of the "cigar-maker." Dr. Childs, William Sperry, and two other disaffected ones, who had decided to abandon the colony, embraced the opportunity and engaged passage with their families and all of their possessions and moved down to Johnson's landing. The flatboat was landed on Keen's claim, a little north from where the fair grounds were once located. From there the party walked to Johnson's and waited for a steam boat to take them back down the river. Dr. Childs remained in charge of the goods until they were hauled down by Johnson's ox-team, which, with Mauby's wagon, moved the freight of the pioneer squad up to the landing-place of the Macedonian. The flatboat returned with the goods of the pioneer party and also carried up the family of Mr. Mauby, who had been living in Johnson's shanty at the upper landing.

The Macedonian was used as a freight boat during the time of the high water and was most of the time under the control of Captain Jackson. On this first trip it was under the management of Mr. Jones. In speaking of the matter Mr. Jones said: "The wind was blowing quite strong from the east that day and we were heavy loaded both ways. The trip down was a hard one. Thinking to make the return trip easier, I tore off two or three strong poles from the Indian tepees, which we passed on our way up from Johnson's, and rigged a sail by hoisting a portion of the canvas of our tent. We went up at a good rate of speed, but kept in shoal water to please some who were afraid to venture out." This flatboat was usually propelled by oars and poles or was dragged over the flooded bottoms on the upper prairie by means of long ropes, the men who performed this service sometimes wading in the shallow water.

The large tent, which had been brought along by the advance party and used to shelter their goods at Johnson's landing, was put up at Rolling Stone as soon as it arrived at that place. Its location was about twenty rods east of where Stewart's hotel now stands. It afforded some accommodations for the houseless settlers, until they could build more comfortable places for themselves. With their cooking-stoves arranged under the trees, where they cooked and took their meals, the tent afforded shelter and sleeping quarters for several families, besides protection for some of their most valuable goods. They were abundantly supplied with provisions. Unaccus-





*Geo. W. Clark,*





tomed to pioneer life they hardly knew what to do or where to begin to make homes for themselves on the village lots apportioned to each member before he left New York. They were mechanics of different trades, and were willing to use any means in their knowledge to make their families comfortable, but they could not build houses without lumber, and none was to be obtained at any price. But few of the men were handy with the axe or understood how to build a log house.

Seeing the urgent necessity and imperative demand made for lumber, O. M. Lord, accompanied by Mr. Densmore, went up the Chippewa river and brought down a small raft of lumber, which he landed safely about where the wood-boat with its passengers reached the shore.

Mr. Lord here opened the first lumber yard ever in operation in this county. He readily retailed his lumber in small lots and soon exhausted his stock without supplying the demand. He was then engaged by the members of the association to go up to the mills on the Chippewa and purchase a large bill of lumber which they ordered. He was to attend to the sawing, rafting and delivery of the same. This raft was brought down from the Chippewa, attached to a large raft destined for some point on the Mississippi below, and cast off at the head of the slough. He made a successful trip and landed his raft at "Lord's Lumber Yard."

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## CHAPTER XXIII.

### OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

LATE in the evening of May 4, 1852, a party of immigrants, destined for the colony at Rolling Stone, landed from the *Nominee* at Johnson's landing. With this party were Rev. E. Ely, E. B. Drew, C. R. Coryell, W. H. Coryell, Jacob S. Denman, E. B. Thomas, Robert Pike, Jr., Ira Wilcox, Isaac A. Wheeler, H. Clary, D. Jackson, William Christie, and others whose names are now forgotten.

Rev. Edward Ely came up from La Crosse as a passenger on this boat. He did not belong to the association, neither was he

ever a member of that organization. It was, however, through its influence that he was induced to come to Minnesota.

Mr. Ely was at that time a Baptist preacher—a shepherd without a flock, a pastor awaiting a providential call to a ministerial charge. While in St. Louis with his family, *in transitu* from the State of Ohio to wherever the Lord in his wisdom might send him, he was accosted by Horace Ranney, an acquaintance of his boyhood, who was a member of the Western Farm and Village Association, and one of the party then embarking on the Excelsior for the colony at Rolling Stone in the Territory of Minnesota.

In a few words Mr. Ranney explained the object of the association, and readily induced Mr. Ely to put his family and effects, which were then on the levee, on board the steamboat and accompany them to the promised land. This party was the one that landed from the wood-boat on May 2, as already related. He accompanied them as far as La Crosse, where he stopped off with his wife and two children to afford them comfortable quarters while he visited the colony and acquired some knowledge of the country into which he had almost involuntarily drifted without any special information relative to its demands or resources.

Leaving his family with some kind Baptist friends, he came up on the Nominee to Wabasha prairie, intending to join Mr. Ranney and his friends at Rolling Stone. The disaffection exhibited by some of the members who landed with him, and the action of Dr. Child, influenced him to abandon his design to locate himself in the colony and perhaps decided his future course in life. He settled at Johnson's landing on Wabasha prairie and became a permanent resident of the county and of the city of Winona, where he yet lives.

The estimable qualities of his excellent wife endeared her to the early pioneers. Words will hardly express the high esteem entertained by the citizens of Winona for Mrs. Ely. Her remarkable talent as a portrait painter, duly appreciated by her many friends, has been for many years utilized as a source of income.

E. B. Drew and the Coryell brothers, C. R. and W. H. Coryell, were relatives—consins. They were also partners in their business transactions. These hardy young men were practical farmers and had previously had some familiarity with pioneer life. They brought with them three yoke of oxen and a cow. A large breaking plow and an assortment of farming tools formed a part of their outfit and

freight. The big covered wagon with which they came through from Chicago to Galena, where they took the boat, was one that had been constructed for them the year before for a proposed trip across the country to Oregon. The wagon-box was made water-tight, that it might be serviceable as a float in fording streams. This was liberally stored with supplies.

J. S. Denman was accompanied by his mother, wife and four children, and brought with him a team of four horses and a large covered wagon, which he used in transporting his family from Brooklin, Michigan, to Galena. He also had a breaking plow, farming tools and abundant provisions.

E. B. Thomas was from the city of New York. From the first organization of the association he had been an active official member, the corresponding secretary and a financial agent.

Robert Pike, Jr., and Elder Wilcox were on a prospecting trip, having left their families in Illinois. As soon as it was light, they, with others, went directly to the colony.

Mr. Pike had been engaged for several years in teaching and lecturing on a system of mnemonics, which he had cultivated and on which subject he had published a book of about one hundred and fifty pages. He joined the association in the fall previous, while living in the State of New York, and came to Illinois, where he had been lecturing on his favorite topic and teaching a school during the winter. After he came here he became prominently identified in the matters of the colony and in county affairs, and held official positions.

Isaac A. Wheeler, with his son John and H. Clary, came on with Mr. Drew's party. They each brought with them a yoke of oxen. These men remained at Rolling Stone until fall, when they left and went down the river to Indiana.

The reports brought down by Dr. Childs were somewhat discouraging to these members of the association. Mr. Denman and Mr. Thomas forded the back slough on horseback and went up to Rolling Stone. Having been previously prejudiced, they very promptly expressed their dissatisfaction of the selection made for the village site and at once abandoned all ideas of settling in that locality. Without delay they returned to the landing.

Greatly surprised at this abrupt and decisive action on the part of these members, Mr. Haddock accompanied them down. He did not like to lose the aid and influence of his ardent co-worker in the



organization and management of the association without some effort to reclaim him, but he failed by any arguments presented to induce him to reconsider his decision.

Learning that Mr. Thomas designed to withdraw from them entirely, Mr. Haddock made a formal demand for the funds in his hands. Mr. Thomas had in his possession a small amount of money, initiation fees and weekly dues, but he declined to surrender it until his accounts were properly audited and accepted. He was then denounced as a defaulter to destroy his influence with other members. This financial matter was subsequently settled at the first meeting of the association in Rolling Stone.

Mr. Drew and the Coryells were not satisfied with the reports made by Denman and Thomas, nor influenced by the opinions of Dr. Childs and his friends, who were then stopping in Johnson's shanty. They "proposed to go up there and look around for themselves." In the afternoon Mr. Drew and C. R. Coryell accompanied Mr. Haddock on his return.

At the crossing place on the back slough an old canoe was kept for the accommodation of the settlers. It would carry two persons comfortably but was unsafe with more. Mr. Coryell took the paddle to set Mr. Haddock across, intending to return for his partner. To save time Mr. Drew stripped and, throwing his clothing into the canoe, followed them over. The water was about four and a half feet deep on the trail, but deeper above and below. The current was strong, and a person was liable to drift into deep water.

By permission, the following entries have been copied from the diary and memoranda of E. B. Drew :

"Landed on Wabasha prairie, Minnesota Territory, Tuesday night after 11 o'clock, May 4, 1852.

"Wednesday, May 5: Went up to Rolling Stone this afternoon and visited the new settlement. Some are homesick and talk of leaving. Found O. M. Lord, from Michigan, there. He was helping to cover Mauby's shanty with a roof of elm-bark. He has been back twenty-five or thirty miles and reports a good country and rich soil, and says he shall settle in this part of the country. We have no women or children to get homesick, and we shall stop here too. Took the flatboat down to the lower prairie. Mr. Lord came down to our camp and staid all night with us.

"Thursday, May 6: Left Wabasha prairie. It is a barren, sandy, desolate-looking place, recently burnt over. Would not

give ten cents an acre for the whole of it. Forded the slough with our teams and cow; crossed without accident, although the water was deep with a strong current. Had to raise the wagon-box on the bolsters to keep the water out. All our traps are now at Rolling Stone."

Mr. Clary crossed the slough with his oxen at the same time and went up with Mr. Drew. Mr. Wheeler remained on the prairie for a day or two before he joined them at the colony.

When Mr. Lord was consulted relative to these incidents he assumed a reflective attitude for a moment and then with an almost audible smile, replied: "That is correct. Wheeler did not come up with Drew. I have reason to remember it. I went down to the prairie the next day and stopped at his camp, not far from where the road now crosses to the upper prairie. After the usual salutations, Wheeler remarked: 'I suppose you are hungry about this time of day.' I was hungry as a wolf, and I told him I would take a bite if it was handy. We were not very regular in our meals at that time, and I saw the coffee-pot and a few brands smoking where they had had a fire. He then took out two or three handfuls of hard biscuit, which he laid on the box where he had been sitting, and said to his son, 'Bring on that meat.' Just then he discovered that his cattle were straying off and started after them.

"The boy brought the meat in a frying-pan and put it on the box. I took hold and made out quite a hearty meal before Wheeler got back. When he returned he glanced at the empty frying-pan and called out to his son, 'Ho, Donald! didn't I tell you to cook some of that ham for supper?' 'Yaas,' replied the youngster, in a surly tone; 'I got a right smart chance on it, but that chap gobbled it all.' Wheeler saw the state of affairs almost as soon as I did, and said, 'Wal, wal, cut some more, can't you? there's plenty of it.' I was somewhat surprised and not a little chagrined to discover that I had eaten up the supper of two hearty and hungry persons, which they had just prepared for themselves. I supposed that they had just completed their meal as I came into their camp."

E. B. Drew's loaded wagon was the first to ford the slough and the first along the bluffs. No wagon trail had ever been opened. O. M. Lord was the pilot and guide on the trail. In crossing the slough Mr. Drew gave his special attention to the care of his cow. In his anxiety for her safety he was forgetful of self and got a "duck" or two. His clothing was in the wagon and did not suffer from his mishaps.

This loaded wagon was the first to make its entrance into the colony of the Western Farm and Village Association. They crossed the creek near Noracong's shanty, Mr. Noracong himself selecting the fording place and directing their movements. This covered wagon was used by Drew and the Coryells as their headquarters—their home for some time after their arrival.

The cow was an important item of their possessions. Bread and milk, mush and milk, and milk as a beverage, were staple luxuries. Fresh butter of home production was sometimes indulged in. Their cooking was done by their camp-fires. Bread was baked in a tin oven before the fire. Sometimes they used an iron bake-kettle, which they covered with hot ashes and coals. For boiling, a kettle was usually suspended over the fire from a pole supported on crotches. Mr. Drew says a heavy tin bucket made the best camp-kettle. It would heat quickly and economized time in cooking. These, with the frying-pan and coffee-pot, were the most important cooking utensils of their camp outfit. Their supplies furnished them a variety in the way of diet. Fresh brook trout were plentiful and common in their camp.

About daylight on the morning of Sunday, May 9, 1852, another large party, on their way to Rolling Stone, was landed on Wabasha prairie from the Dr. Franklin. Among these passengers were Robert Thorp and son, Robert Taylor, wife and three children, D. McRose, wife and three children, John Burns, wife and three children, James Gardner, wife and daughter, a young woman, and quite a number of others.

On account of the flood and insufficient means for transportation they were detained at Johnson's landing several days. They built a shelter on the bank of the river by piling up their boxes, forming a small inclosure which they covered with boards found near by.

One of the party, Robert Thorp, furnished the following incident. He is yet a resident of the county, a hale and hearty old farmer, living in the town of Rolling Stone. He has preserved his certificate of membership and a copy of it has been procured to show the form of this relic of the association :

No. 37. This is to certify that Robert Thorp has paid his initiation fee and has been elected a member of the Western Farm and Village Association No. 1 of the city of New York.

WILLIAM HADDOCK, President.

CHARLES E. WHEELER, Financial Secretary.

October 15, 1851.

These certificates are embellished with emblems of industry and civilization. But two of them have been preserved. The other is held by James Wright, of Minnesota City, to whom it was given. It is No. 15, and dated August 15, 1851.

When the association was first organized its members were mechanics of different occupations living in the city. Mr. Thorp was a blacksmith, and had worked at his trade in New York for about twenty years. He was born in England.

He left New York on April 15, 1852, with the members of the association who started at that date, taking with him his eldest son, John. The remainder of his family, consisting of his wife and three boys, Thomas, Robert and William, remained in the city about a month before they joined him in Minnesota. All except the last are yet living.

Mr. Thorp brought with him his blacksmith tools and all things necessary to start a shop in the new colony, and also some household goods. On account of delay in the transfer of his heavy freight at Dunkirk he was left behind his party. On reaching Chicago he shipped his own goods and the goods and baggage of William Christie, D. Jackson and others down the canal and Illinois river to St. Louis, taking passage over the same route.

At St. Louis Mr. Thorp bought his supplies in connection with Taylor, Burns, McRose and Gardiner, members of the association, who were there on their way to the colony. They took passage to Galena, where they were transferred to the Dr. Franklin.

To his great surprise and sorrow Mr. Thorp learned that William Christie, who left him at Chicago and whose baggage was with his own freight, had died but a few hours before and was then lying in Johnson's shanty. Mr. Christie had arrived a few days previous on the Nominee and had been up to Rolling Stone. On Saturday he came down expecting to meet Mr. Thorp at the landing. On his way he forded the back slough, and without changing his wet clothing lay down to rest, complaining of not feeling well. He was taken with what was supposed to be cholera, and died before morning.

Mr. Christie was a Scotchman—a large, strong and healthy young man when he landed here. He was highly respected by his acquaintances for his good qualities. He joined the association in New York city, where he was working at his trade as a machinist. For economy he, with others, walked from Cherry Valley to Galena



and came up the river as deck passengers. While at Rolling Stone he had been almost without shelter; the demand was much greater than the accommodation. Provisions of every kind were abundant and none suffered from want of sufficient food. The colonists were liberal in relieving each other when aid was required.

William Christie was buried on the Evans claim. His coffin was made by E. H. Johnson from the common unseasoned pine boards lying on the bank of the river. A short funeral service was held in the open air in front of the shanty by the Rev. Edward Ely. Mr. Thorp, with other members of the association, accompanied by the settlers and strangers on the prairie, followed the dead body to the grave and aided in depositing it in its last resting-place.

The occurrence was one long to be remembered. William Christie was comparatively a stranger. He had died suddenly, far away from the land of his birth and from his personal friends and relatives. His death was the first on Wabasha prairie, the first among the members of the association and the first among the settlers in the county. His funeral was the first, but before the summer was passed funerals were frequent both on Wabasha prairie and in the settlement at Rolling Stone. A young man by the name of Morgan, a stranger, died after a short sickness not long after Christie's death.

A fatal sickness attacked the families camped on the bank of the river. Robert Taylor lost two of his children here. He removed his sick wife to La Crosse, where she soon after died. Mr. McRose lost two children; one of them died on the flatboat while on the way to Rolling Stone.

Mr. Thorp stopped at Johnson's landing for a few days until he could get transportation for his freight and supplies. He then went to Rolling Stone to prepare for the arrival of his family. For temporary accommodation, which could be the most readily provided, he built a "gopher" on the lot drawn by him before he left New York. This location was in the field a little above where the barn of James Kennedy now stands. This hut was an improvement on the ordinary structures of the kind. It was about 12×12. The basement, or part below the surface, was lined with a framework of logs. It was here that the family of Mr. Thorp began housekeeping in Minnesota.

In the morning of May 12th another large party of immigrants for the colony landed from the Caleb Cope at Johnson's landing.

Owing to unfavorable reports in circulation down the river relative to the condition of affairs, some left their families at Galena and came up to explore the country. Among these were James Wright, John Nicklin, David Duryee, James Brooks and many others. Some who landed with their families were compelled to put up temporary shelters on the bank of the river to protect themselves from the drizzling rain while waiting for transportation.

Although the day proved to be stormy, a large number of the men went directly to Rolling Stone. As there was insufficient shelter, a company of nine built a "gopher" for their immediate use. This was constructed by digging a hold about  $8 \times 12$  and about eighteen inches deep, over which a cover was made. The body of this structure was of small basswood logs, about eight feet long and about eight or ten inches in diameter. These logs were split and placed on end close together along the sides and one end of the hole in the ground, with the tops resting on a ridge-pole supported on posts with a crotch at the top. This framework was covered with coarse, dry grass and a layer of earth, over which was laid a covering of sod. The turf, by careful arrangement, made a roof that readily shed the rain of ordinary showers.

In this "gopher hole," on a floor of dry grass, the nine men of this company slept the first night of their arrival, and occupied it as their lodging-place for a week or two afterward. This "gopher" was built on the land now owned by James Wright, and where he now lives in Minnesota city. It was afterward used as a stopping-place for the family of Mr. Wright. The most of this party of explorers decided to continue in the colony. Some sent for their families, others went down the river to escort them up. Mr. Wright and Mr. Nicklin were among the latter.

Mr. Charles Bannon came up the river on the Caleb Cope. He was one of the directors of the association and one of its earliest members. He, with his wife, started from New York with the party that landed from the wood-boat at Rolling Stone. While on the way up the river he left the boat at Davenport and, in company with M. A. Allen, stopped to buy cattle. Mr. Bannon purchased three yoke of oxen and Mr. Allen two yoke, which they drove through the country to Dubuque, where they took passage with their stock. These oxen were designed for use as breaking-teams and for general farm work.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### FIRST SETTLEMENTS AT WINONA CITY.

To catch the drift from the colony above, Johnson offered the choice of an acre of his claim on Wabasha prairie to each of the disaffected ones who would stop there, build a house, and make it their residence for one year. At that time the claim had not been surveyed or divided into lots and streets. This offer was accepted by several and a number of locations selected.

Rev. E. Ely made choice of an acre south of Johnson's shanty, about where the Ely block now stands, on the corner of Center and Second streets. Jacob S. Denman selected an acre adjoining that of Mr. Ely's on the east; Dr. Childs an acre on the south of Mr. Ely's; E. B. Thomas on the south of Mr. Denman's and east from that of Dr. Childs'; John Evans selected an acre west of Johnson's shanty; John Burns, a member of the association and one of the party who camped on the bank of the river from the Dr. Franklin on the 9th of May, accepted the offer of an acre from Ed. Hamilton on his claim on the same conditions as the others. The acre chosen by him was in what is now the front yard of the residence of Hon. H. W. Lamberton, on the corner of Huff and Harriett streets.

Mr. Burns planted a small garden and set out a few small apple-trees, which he had brought up the river. Some of these trees afterward grew to be of considerable size. These were the first fruit-trees, or trees of any kind, planted on Wabasha prairie by the early settlers. These fruit-trees were planted in a trench near together, as in a nursery. When Mr. Huff took possession of the Hamilton claim he built a fence around the few trees that had escaped the ravages of the cattle, and after two or three years transplanted them in his garden.

W. H. Stevens gave the use of his shanty on the Stevens claim to Mr. Denman until he could procure lumber and build a residence for his family. Mr. Denman found occupation for his team and plow by breaking the land selected for himself and others. They all made small gardens by way of occupaney and improvements. Mr. Denman enclosed his acre and that selected by Mr.

Thomas with a temporary fence and planted the field with corn. This was his first attempt at farming in Minnesota. It was not a profitable enterprise. The fence that enclosed this corn-field was the first fence built on the prairie by the settlers. It was put up by George W. Clark and his brother Wayne Clark. Mr. Denman paid them for it by breaking four acres of land on Clark's claim across the slough.

Neither Mr. Thomas, Dr. Childs or Mr. Burns ever made any other improvements on the lots selected. They abandoned them and made locations elsewhere. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Burns held claims in the colony, but left the territory in the fall. Dr. Childs remained on the prairie for several years after.

Mr. Denman built a house on his acre of prairie as soon as he could procure lumber. Mr. Ely built one in the fall. During the summer his family lived in Johnson's shanty after they came up from La Crosse, where they staid for a short time. He paid Johnson four dollars per month rent for the use of the "Hotel."

The house built by Mr. Denman stood on Lafayette street, between Second and Third streets. This was the first house built by the settlers on Wabasha prairie, not expressly designed as a "claim shanty." It was a balloon frame building of considerable pretensions for that date of improvements, about 16×32, one story high, the sides boarded "up and down" with rough boards and the cracks battened. The roof was of boards, and because of its peculiar construction the building was given the name of "car-house," from its fancied resemblance to a railroad car. The doors and windows were furnished with frames and casings—the first improvements of the kind. The floor was of dressed lumber, a luxury heretofore unknown. This building was divided into rooms by board partitions, and parts of it ceiled with dressed lumber.

Mr. Denman occupied this house as his residence until fall, when he moved on his claim. About the first of July he opened a store in the front room of this building. He brought up from Galena a small stock of goods suitable for the market, and here started the first store on Wabasha prairie for the sale of goods to the settlers. Jacob S. Denman was the first merchant to establish himself in business in what is now the city of Winona.

It was in the "car house" that the first white child was born within the limits of this city. While living here the family of Mrs. Denman was increased by the addition of a daughter on the 18th of



July, 1852. Mrs. Goddard, after consultation with Mrs. Ely, gave to this first native settler the name of "Prairie Louise Denman," the name by which she was afterward known. She has been dead many years. The oldest native settler, born in the city of Winona, who is now living, is Mason Ely, the second son of Rev. Edward Ely, born in 1853.

The primary object of all of the early settlers was to secure land for farming purposes on which to locate a future home. About the first thing done was to "make a claim." Mr. Denman began prospecting as soon as he landed, and on the 9th of May discovered and formally made a claim on the upper prairie. He and his mother there held 320 acres. The high water flooded the bottom lands, and their claims covered all of the land not overflowed, lying east from the Rolling Stone creek, to about where the highway now crosses the railroads, and extended south far enough to include the table next to the bluffs. It was on this table that he blazed the trees and inscribed his name as proprietor of the claim. It was on this table that he built a very comfortable log house, made other improvements, and moved his family there in September. The land selected by Mr. Denman had been previously claimed by Had-dock and Murphy for the Western Farm and Village Association. Mr. Denman was duly notified that he was trespassing on grounds claimed for the colony, but he persisted in holding it and making improvements, without regard to the protestations of the members of the association.

This was the first collision of a settler with that organization. The first person to encroach on the territory claimed was an ex-member. To get Denman off, the colonists tried "moral, legal and physical suasion, but he tenaciously adhered." He lived in this log cabin under the bluffs for about three years, until he built a more modern house and large barns near the center of his farm. This claim, or, more properly, the claims of Denman and his mother, are now known as the Denman farm. It is at present owned and occupied by Mr. George Fifield.

Mr. Denman sacrificed this large farm, which he had secured by honest industry and years of hard labor, in his mistaken zealous efforts to aid the "Grange movement" for cheaper freights, cheaper supplies and cheaper agricultural implements. He removed to Texas, but his good luck at farming failed him there. It is said that Mr. Denman is now a poor man, and in his old age again a pioneer,

looking for "a home in the west" in one of the territories. None of his family are now living in this county.

Dr. George F. Childs, with his wife and niece, lived for a short time in Johnson's shanty. While there his niece was taken with the measles and died after a few days' sickness. The remains were taken to La Crosse for burial.

About the middle of May Dr. Childs bought the east half of the claim made by Jabez McDermott. He paid McDermott eighty dollars for a quit-claim deed and possession of the eighty acres. This was the first claim sale on Wabasha prairie. Whether this deed was ever made a matter of record is now very uncertain, as at that time there was no county organization in Wabasha county, of which Winona county was a part. All matters of record were filed in Washington county, with which Wabasha was connected for all judicial purposes. Possession of land was then more important than title-deeds. The land still belonged to government and no surveys had been made.

The machine-shops and surrounding buildings of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, the Winona wagon-works and the Winona plow-works are on what was once the McDermott claim. This locality was a favorite camping-place of Wabasha's band. When Dr. Childs took possession there were about half-a-dozen of their large bark cabins, or tepees, yet standing, but in a somewhat dilapidated condition, the settlers having taken material from them for use in other localities. In the vicinity of the machine-shops was an old Indian burying-place. The graves were scattered over that locality; very many were exposed and destroyed in the excavations made. Relics of the past—stone hatchets, flint arrowheads and pipes of red pipestone—were found. Sometimes fragments of bones or a tolerably well preserved skeleton would be unearthed and used to help form a railroad embankment in some other locality.

Indian graves have been found in several places on Wabasha prairie and in the mouths of the valleys. Quite a number were exposed by the caving of the river bank on the lower part of the prairie. Two modern Indian graves were on Johnson's claim when the whites first took possession of the prairie. They were left undisturbed for several years. The covering of sticks which were placed over them by the natives marked their location until the ground was plowed by Johnson in the spring of 1855. These graves were on lot 2, block 17. When it was improved and buildings were erected,

the bones buried there were thrown out in excavating a cellar and taken possession of by Dr. Franklin Staples. These bones were the remains of young persons and were very much decayed. It has been stated that some of Wabasha's children were buried in these graves, but there is no evidence confirming this statement. Wabasha's special home was in the mouth of Burns valley.

The Indian village located on the McDermott claim, a part of which was purchased by Dr. Childs, was said to be the grand gathering-place of the Mdaywakantonwan division of Sioux. It was in this vicinity that Wabasha's bands met for their amusements, sports and games, as well as more serious and important affairs. From this village the Indian trails diverged as from a common center, some leading to the valleys, others up and down the bank of the river. The wild grass, common on every other part of the prairie, had almost entirely disappeared around this village or summer resort, and had been replaced by a fine turf of blue-grass found in no other place except along the bank of the river on the lower part of the prairie, where Mrs. Keyes now lives.

Mr. George W. Clark says "That on McDermott's claim there was a large flat stone, the center of a large circle of smooth, level ground, with well defined boundaries, plainly to be seen in 1851. This stone was taken away by some of the early settlers."

Dr. Childs lived during the summer of 1852 in the little cabin with a bark roof which McDermott occupied as his claim shanty. He built a comfortable cottage near by it, in which he lived for several years. The logs and poles of the Sioux tepees were used in the construction of sheds and as posts for his fences. The bark covering of the huts was carefully gathered and used as firewood for his kitchen stove.

It was the custom of Dr. Childs to date all of his correspondence and business papers from his residence on this claim, to which he gave the name of "Ozelle cottage." This name was derived from the one given by the old French voyageurs to Wabasha prairie. Ozelle was but the French pronunciation of *Aix Aile* anglicized by Dr. Childs in writing.

When Dr. Childs left New York he supposed that he would find the Indians occupying this part of the territory, and brought along an assortment of goods for the purpose of bartering with them, but found that the Sioux had forsaken their homes in this locality. He

after a time traded his Indian goods with the Winnebagoes for dressed deerskins and got rid of his goods without loss.

Dr. Childs was a botanic physician, but never practiced his profession in this vicinity, or only to a very limited extent. He engaged in mercantile business for a year or two after he sold his land. He moved to Minneiska, Wabasha county, where he lived for awhile. Dr. G. F. Childs is now a resident of the State of Maryland, where he has charge of a benevolent institution, a home for aged people.

Among the passengers who landed at Johnson's landing from the steamer Caleb Cope on May 12, 1852, were Abner S. Goddard, wife and three children, from La Crosse. They arrived at about four o'clock on a dark and rainy morning, and went directly from the landing to the shanty on the Stevens claim, in accordance with a previous arrangement made with Silas Stevens. On reaching the shanty they were surprised to find the table, benches and other furniture of the cabin, which they supposed to be occupied, irregularly piled outside. When the inmates were aroused they discovered that the furniture had been removed to afford sleeping quarters for the occupants. William H. Stevens and a young man living with him held one corner, while the family of Mr. Denman, seven in number, were in possession of the remainder of the little 10×12 shanty, not occupied by the cook-stove. To accommodate the newcomers, the future occupants of the cabin, Mr. Denman provided for his family by making a shelter for them with the lumber he had laid up loosely to dry for use in the house he was then building. While living in this manner the loose boards were blown from over their heads during a severe thunderstorm one night when they were all in bed. They were compelled to seek shelter in Johnson's shanty, but again occupied their lumber piles in the morning and continued to do so until their house was finished.

During the previous winter Mr. Goddard had been living in La Crosse. He there taught the village school—the first school ever taught in La Crosse, the first school ever taught on the Mississippi river between Prairie du Chien and St. Paul, if the Indian mission schools at Red Wing and Kaposia are excepted. His schoolroom was in the court-house, which was built during the fall and fore part of the same winter. To add to their income and to accommodate some personal friends, Mrs. Goddard opened a boarding-house. "Aunt Catharine's" table was then, as it is now, always full, without soliciting patronage. Silas Stevens became a boarder and made



it his home with them while in La Crosse. After the attempt of Mr. Gere to jump the Stevens claim Mr. Stevens offered to furnish Mr. Goddard a shanty of sufficient capacity to keep a boarding-house on Wabasha prairie if he would go up and live on his claim, and also promised him an acre of the claim on which to build a house if he would continue to reside there. Others, then living in La Crosse, who had made claims, urged him to accept Mr. Stevens' proposition. As Mr. Goddard had been up to the prairie with a party of claim-hunters early in the spring, and had been solicited by the settlers in that locality to come up, he was the more readily induced to change his residence.

Immigrants were landed from every boat, and the little shanty was crowded with hungry guests as soon as their arrival was known. Meals were provided for all that came, but they were required to look out for their own lodging-places. The beds of their guests were sometimes the soft sands of the prairie, the bed clothing their ordinary wearing apparel with the addition of a blanket.

Three or four days after the arrival of Mr. Goddard, another shanty was put up by Mr. Stevens to meet the increasing business and the demand for better accommodations. This shanty was a one-story building about 16×32. To increase its capacity an awning of canvas was stretched from one side, which served as a shelter for the cooking department. The two rooms were subdivided by canvas partitions. It was customary, however, for guests who lodged there to blow out the candle and go to bed in the dark. This was a rule of the house.

This shanty stood about where the "Davenport house" now stands, not far from the corner of Third and Kansas streets. The original shanty on the Stevens claim was torn down, and the material used in the construction of this second one.

"Goddard's" was the favorite stopping-place—the most popular and commodious "hotel" on Wabasha prairie. This shanty was the "home" of many of the early settlers of this county who came that season. It was here they gathered for social enjoyment, to get the latest news, to discuss the matters of claims and current events. It was the place of gathering for all public meetings, and the headquarters of the Wabasha Protection Club, of which Mr. Goddard was elected secretary. A select school was opened here by Miss Angelia Gere, a young daughter of H. C. Gere. This was the first school attempted on the prairie. It was kept in opera-

tion but a short time. Here the first stated religious meetings were held, with regular preaching on the Sabbath day. This history would be incomplete without some special notice of Mr. Goddard and his family, so intimately were the early settlers connected with this "settlers' home."

The summer of 1852 was known in the west as the sickly season. The extreme high water of the early spring was followed by another extreme of low water, with remarkably dry and hot weather. This occasioned a general epidemic of severe forms of malarial diseases, which were unusually fatal. These diseases prevailed extensively along the river. Wabasha prairie and the colony at Minnesota City were seriously affected by it. The settlement of this county was retarded through the loss of many of the settlers by death, and the removal of very many others to escape the threatened dangers of sickness in a locality where there was so limited accommodations, even for the healthy.

The settlers considered themselves fortunate, indeed, if in their attack of sickness they could get in at Goddard's. The accommodation was prized, for there they felt sure of kind attention and watchful nursing. There were no regular medical practitioners in the county who followed their profession—none nearer than La Crosse, and domestic management was an important consideration with the sufferers.

The following extract from a letter to "Aunt Catharine" (Mrs. Goddard), written a score of years afterward, will illustrate somewhat the general sentiments of the early settlers in connection with the occurrences of that year: "I cannot forget the many deeds of kindness and motherly care my brothers and myself received at your hands when your house was a hospital and you the ministering angel. With nine sick persons, including your husband; with but two rooms in which to lodge and make comfortable your sick household, how admirably and patiently all was managed."

In the latter part of this season Mr. Goddard and his two youngest children were prostrated with the prevailing diseases and died. Mr. Goddard's death occurred September 11. The loss of a citizen of such promising usefulness in the new settlement was a calamity seriously felt. He was a man of the strictest integrity and of correct moral principles.

In his native state, Pennsylvania, Mr. Goddard was honored with the office of justice of the peace, and held that position for

many years. He there acquired the title of "Squire Goddard," by which name he was generally known. He was appointed postmaster, and received his commission during his last sickness, but never qualified or attempted to serve in that capacity.

Mrs. Goddard, now known as Mrs. Catharine Smith, is yet a resident of Wabasha prairie. She is the oldest female resident of the city of Winona. Indirectly through her some of the best citizens of Winona became residents of this county. She is a sister of the Lairds'. Although the mother of many children, she has but one living, a son, Orrin F. Smith.

Aunt Catharine is a woman whose social nature, kind heart and real worth have secured to her hosts of sincere friends. Her Easter parties, birthday gatherings and social reunions of old settlers are annual enjoyments to herself as well as to her numerous relatives and friends. Mrs. Goddard was connected with many incidents of pioneer life which might be mentioned, some of which will be noticed.

Prominent among the settlers who located on Wabasha prairie this season was Dr. John L. Balcombe. About April 1 he came up the river on the Nominee and stopped at La Crosse. Being a gentleman of much more than usual general intelligence, with fine social qualifications, and also an invalid, he readily formed acquaintances and found friends among the best citizens of that place. Wabasha prairie was then attracting considerable attention from the residents of La Crosse, and not long after his arrival he was induced to join a party who proposed to explore the late Sioux purchase for farming lands. Their prospecting excursions only extended to the valleys along the river, where some claims were selected. It being too early in the season to attempt any very extended trip without a more suitable outfit than could be procured, they returned to La Crosse.

In the forepart of May Dr. Balcombe again visited Wabasha prairie. He brought with him a horse, or pony, and camp supplies. He here secured the services of Ed. Hamilton, whose robust strength and experience as a cook made him a valuable acquisition in the exploring excursion he proposed to make. After transporting their outfit across the slough they started for the back country, Hamilton leading the way on the trail with a heavy pack of supplies, the doctor following on horseback with the balance of their outfit, which included a sack of corn and a bundle of hay.

Following the trail to Minnesota City they went up the south valley and out on Sweet's prairie on a trail marked by the settlers of the colony. They spent three or four days in exploring the country along the branches of the White Water and Root river as far as the western part of this county. In the vicinity of what is now the town of Saratoga they saw a large herd of elk, the last that have been seen in this vicinity.

They returned through the Rolling Stone and arrived at Johnson's landing on the evening of May 12, and went directly to the shanty of Mr. Goddard, where the doctor was provided for as a guest with such accommodations as the place afforded, although Mrs. Goddard had hardly taken possession of the premises. The next day he returned to La Crosse.

About the last of May another exploring party was organized in La Crosse by Dr. Balcombe, Rev. J. C. Sherwin, Rev. William H. Card, and other prominent citizens. Provided with horses and necessary supplies for camping out, they took passage to Wabasha prairie. The services of Ed. Hamilton were again secured. As the grass had by this time become sufficient for the support of their horses, the trip was only limited by their inclinations or the extent of their camp supplies.

This party went out through Gilmore valley. Keeping on the divide between the Root river and the White Water and Zombro rivers, they explored the country as far west as the head-waters of the Cedar river. On their return they camped on the head-waters of the White Water, spending the Sabbath in the vicinity of the present village of St. Charles. Religious exercises were observed and Elder Sherwin delivered a sermon to his companions. This was the first religious meeting held in the country back from the river.

While on this excursion Dr. Balcombe made discovery of many choice locations. His habits of close observation, with a retentive memory, gave him a decided advantage over other explorers, which were afterward of pecuniary value. He could long afterward point out the choicest locations to the early settlers seeking farming lands. While on this trip he first discovered and located the present site of High Forest. It was not until a year or two afterward that he found sale for his rights of discovery.

This exploring excursion satisfied Dr. Balcombe that the resources of this part of the Sioux purchase, when developed, would amply



support a large commercial town on the river and that the outlet must be in this vicinity. He decided to locate on Wabasha prairie, and accepted Johnson's offer of an acre of ground on the same terms offered others. The acre selected was west of and adjoining that chosen by John Evans. He built a shanty on Main street, between Front and Second streets, near the alley. It was 12×16, one story, of little better style than common claim shanties. It had a gable roof instead of the ordinary shed roof. This was at first of boards, but was afterward covered with shingles.

Dr. Balcombe also bought an undivided one-third of the Hamilton claim, No. 5. Mark Howard, a gentleman residing in Hartford, Conn., purchased another third, Edwin Hamilton retaining one-third. Walter Brown, of La Crosse, was appointed agent for Mr. Howard. This property is now known as Huff's addition to the original town plot of Winona. The claim was valued at \$200. The shares were \$66.66 each. Mr. Hamilton then supposed he had made a good sale.

About June 1, Dr. Balcombe brought his wife from Illinois, where she was on a visit with her son. Stopping at La Crosse for awhile, she came to Wabasha prairie on June 13. They boarded at Goddard's until they commenced housekeeping in their own shanty in July. About July 1 he built a shanty on the Hamilton claim, which he leased to O. S. Holbrook, of which mention was made in earlier pages.

Early in July Dr. Balcombe went down the river and brought up some household furniture and supplies. He also brought back with him a span of horses and a colt, double and single harnesses, a lumber wagon and a buggy. This was the first buggy ever brought into the county and the only one for nearly a year afterward.

After spending the summer and fall in Minnesota, Dr. Balcombe sold his interest in the Hamilton claim, with his horses and wagons, to Edwin Hamilton for \$661, and with his wife went down the river on the last boat in the fall. He spent the winter with his only child, a son, St. A. D. Balcombe, then a druggist doing business in Elgin, Illinois. He returned the following spring. Further attention will be given him in the occurrences of that year.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### INCIDENTS OF THE EARLY TIMES.

AMONG the settlers who came into this county in the spring of 1852 were Wayne Clark and Scott Clark, brothers of George W. Clark. Wayne arrived about the first of May, Scott a little later in the season. Scott Clark was an invalid, and came on from the State of New York with the hope that the climate of Minnesota would prove beneficial to his health. He made a claim in the mouth of Gilmore valley. It included the Indian cultivation and extended onto the table where the residence of C. C. Beck now stands. His claim shanty, a small log house, stood on the same plateau but near the point next to the creek. He held this claim until his death, which occurred in June, 1854. He was buried on the grounds of what is now Woodlawn cemetery. His grave was the first in that locality. He was, however, buried there several years before the spot was selected as a public cemetery.

Wayne Clark did not come to Minnesota for the express purpose of making it a home as an actual settler. His principal object was speculation. He brought with him quite a number of land warrants, which he expected he would be able to use in securing lands on the "Sioux purchase" in the territory, but the lands had not been surveyed and he found that land warrants were not available property here. To preserve them, he carefully laid them away in his trunk, in which he also secreted other valuables. He brought with him from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, the trunk and "good clothes" of his brother, left there the year before, when George abandoned all superfluities of that kind.

These trunks were stored in Nash's shanty on claim No. 2, which they then occupied as their headquarters. Nash and Gilmore were away, rafting logs for Farrell that had been cut on the islands opposite during the winter. Although living in this shanty on the prairie, they were engaged in making improvements on the claim of George Clark across the slough, putting in a crop of potatoes, corn, making garden and building a cabin.

One day, while engaged in putting the cabin in a habitable

condition, they were alarmed by a messenger, William H. Stevens, crossing over in haste to inform them that the Sioux threatened to burn the shanty on the Nash claim, and that they had better come over and take care of their traps or their property would be burned up in it.

Startled by this report, they hastened to secure their valuables from threatened destruction. On arriving at the landing they found all of the settlers gathered at Goddard's shanty, with about half a dozen Indians as the center of attraction. They here learned that the cause of the alarm was from the neglect of Nash to pay the Indian tax which had been levied on the shanty by the Sioux, or to provide for its payment as he had promised the Indians. On this visit the Indians collected a barrel of flour from Gere, and another from Dr. Childs. There were but six inhabited claim shanties on Wabasha prairie at this time. All had paid their tax except Nash. Wabasha's "infernal" revenue collectors were somewhat irritated at not being able to secure the delinquent tax on the shanty of claim No. 2. The leader and spokesman of the party expressed his dissatisfaction forcibly and emphatic in the Dakota language. The settlers standing around readily comprehended what he meant, although they could not understand but a single word of all that he said. By signs used in his demonstrations he intimated that they had promised to give them the flour when the Nominee came up in the spring, but had failed to do as agreed. Gesticulating with his hands, he pointed down the river, then moving them slowly up until he pointed up stream. This he performed several times, each time repeating, distinctly, "Nominee," pointing toward the shanty, shaking his fist and giving strong expressions of dissatisfaction. The interpretation as understood was that the Nominee had been up and down a number of times and Nash had not furnished the flour. Apparently becoming terribly excited in his manner, the Indian rushed to the cook-stove of Mrs. Goddard, which stood at the side of the building, and drawing out a blazing fire-brand, started toward the delinquent shanty as if he was going to set it on fire. This the settlers comprehended as only a threat that they would burn it if the flour or its equivalent was not forthcoming. He was easily pacified and induced to drop the incendiary torch when assured he should have the flour. Johnson furnished it from his own supplies and settled the matter at once.

This was the only "Indian scare" ever attempted by the Sioux

with the early settlers in this county. The alarm was soon over and an amicable shake all around indicated a satisfactory adjustment of difficulties and a truce to all hostile demonstrations.

In transporting the flour collected by the Indians, the barrels were opened with their hatchets and the flour transferred to sacks. The barrels were then destroyed.

The only claim shanties on Wabasha prairie for which this tax was paid to the Sioux were on claims Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, and on the claim of Dr. Childs and for Henry C. Gere's shanty. John Burns paid them for his privileges in the mouth of Burns valley. Four barrels of flour settled all Indian claims on the colony at Minnesota City. These were all that paid the Indian tax that season. Finding the settlers were becoming too numerous to be easily alarmed, the Indians abandoned their compulsory plan of begging and let them remain undisturbed.

Notwithstanding the amicable adjustment with the Sioux in relation to the shanty they were occupying on the prairie, the Clarks removed their deposits and transferred all of their effects across the slough, where they were under their personal care. They commenced housekeeping in their own shanty, George W., Wayne and Scott Clark living together.

Wayne Clark spent that season in Minnesota, exploring the country looking for chances to speculate, but went down the river on the last boat in the fall without making a claim or investing his surplus funds in a country where securities (claims) were such uncertain property.

With the crowd of passengers brought up the river by the *Nominee* on the 19th of May, who landed on Wabasha prairie, were quite a number of immigrants for the colony. For convenience in discharging freight and live stock, Captain Smith landed them at the lower landing, his favorite claim and special preference for a town site.

Among the members of the association who stopped here were Hiram Campbell, wife and three children, Mrs. Thorp (wife of Robert Thorp) and three sons, H. B. Waterman, wife and son, Asa Waterman, Rufus Waterman, Andrew Petee, D. Q. Burley, H. Shipley and son, Mr. Hunt and others.

This party had quite a large herd of cattle—oxen, cows and young stock. The greater part of them belonged to Hiram Campbell. Mr. Waterman had two yoke of oxen and two cows, and Mr. Hunt



two yoke of oxen. As soon as the cattle were landed they scattered over the prairie in spite of the efforts of their owners to restrain them. The new-comers were not then aware that they were on an island, from which their cattle would not attempt to escape even if allowed to range over it. It was not until late in the day that all of the frisky herd were collected at the lower end of the prairie. The tents were pitched and the party remained at the landing until the next morning, when the wagons were loaded, the cattle collected, and all moved up to the upper end of the prairie, where they again camped near the landing-place of the Macedonian.

The following morning the cattle were again collected and after much trouble driven across the back slough at the crossing on the trail below where they camped. Mr. Campbell divested himself of all clothing and followed them over alone to aid his young stock if occasion required. The wagons, with the men, women and children, were transferred across the slough to the upper prairie by the Macedonian, landing about where the present road is laid. Several trips were made to carry them all over. From here they made their way along down the slough and then moved on up to the table-land along the bluffs above the mouth of Gilmore valley, where they camped for the night. The next day, May 23, they made their entry into the settlement and mingled with the crowds there collected. Some of this party are yet residents of that vicinity.

On account of the difficulties in getting to Rolling Stone from Wabasha prairie, and because of the strong feeling of jealousy and rivalry that began to be exhibited between the two localities, Mr. Haddock urgently requested the members of the association, by messages and letters sent to those on their way up, not to land on Wabasha prairie. If the boats could not be induced to land them at Rolling Stone by going up Straight Slough, they were advised to continue on up the river and land on the Minnesota side below the mouth of the White Water. From there he supposed it would be practicable to reach the colony by land, or they could be brought down by water on the Macedonian.

But one small party attempted to reach the colony over this route. They came up the river on the Dr. Franklin. At Johnson's landing, where the boat stopped, they were advised by O. M. Lord, who chanced to see them, that they had better land there with the other passengers, and assured them that it would be more difficult to get to Rolling Stone from above than from the prairie.

Mr. Wright, who had previously visited the colony, and who now assumed the leadership, had such unlimited confidence in the judgment and advice of Mr. Haddock in the matter, that he decided to follow the instructions of the president of the association. They continued on and landed on the morning of May 23 about three miles below the mouth of the White Water and about a mile below Hall's landing, afterward known as Mt. Vernon.

The members of this party were James Wright, wife and six children, John Nicklin, wife and two children, and S. M. Burns, wife and three children.

Mr. Wright was one of the directors of the association and one of its earliest members. He had been a resident of the city of New York, where he followed the occupation of a wood-turner. Mr. Nicklin was from the same place, where he was a lithographer. Mr. Burns was from eastern Pennsylvania, where he had been a hotel-keeper, or keeper of a restaurant. It was said that Mr. Burns brought more money with him than any other member of the colony.

With their freight they had a large supply of provisions and quite an amount of household goods. Mr. Burns brought with him a very fine pair of horses, a wagon and a general assortment of farming tools. The experiences of this party during their stay here are given as related by Mr. Wright to illustrate some of the incidents of pioneer life in the early settlement of this county.

When the horses of Mr. Burns were landed from the steamboat, they were not securely fastened by the deck-hands who had them in charge. Their halters were loosely tied to the brush that grew along the bank, and by their restlessness they soon released themselves. Attracted by the fresh grass, they quietly enjoyed their liberty by grazing in the vicinity. Thinking it safe, Mr. Burns indulged them while he was putting his wagon together, which had been taken apart for convenience in transportation.

After completing his task Mr. Burns attempted to secure his team, but the horses playfully eluded his grasp of their halters and kept just beyond his reach. Startled by some sudden movement, they sprang off as if for a race, but again halted to feed until he came near, when they again left him. At length, turning up a valley, they disappeared. He would occasionally get a glimpse of them on the sides of the ravine and then lost sight of them entirely. He followed their trail to the ridge on the top of the bluffs, where he lost

all trace and returned to the river at evening, tired and hungry, without his horses.

During the day, Mr. Wright and Mr. Nicklin arranged their goods in the form of a hollow square, and with poles and blankets formed a temporary covering over it. This provided a common shelter for the whole party. A cook-stove was adjusted for business near by, and as they had a variety of provisions and good cooks, their camp was comfortably established and well provided for, except protection from heavy rains. Plenty of dry grass and an abundance of blankets and quilts furnished them beds of which they had but little reason to complain. They had the material for tents in their boxes, but they did not consider it worth while to unpack them for the short time they proposed to stay there.

The following morning Mr. Burns resumed his search for the truant animals. As the flatboat was expected from Rolling Stone, Mr. Wright and Mr. Nicklin remained in camp. When at Wabasha prairie they had sent word to Mr. Haddock, notifying him of their arrival and asking to have the boat sent up for them.

In the afternoon Mr. Robertson and Mr. Woodcock came up from the colony with the report that an attempt had been made to bring up the Macedonian, but it was found to be almost impossible to manage it and the effort had been abandoned; that Capt. Jackson proposed to take them down in his small boat and would come up in the morning to begin the undertaking. They also reported that there was no roadway along the bluffs that was passable for wagons, although there was a well-worn Indian trail.

Mr. Burns returned without his horses. He was unable to trace them, and for awhile was himself lost and gave up his search. He was tired out and discouraged with his fruitless efforts to find his stray property. He had paid a high price for his horses in Chicago, and, being fearful that he would lose them without a chance for their recovery, he offered a reward of fifty dollars for them delivered in camp or at Minnesota City.

Stimulated by this liberal offer Robertson and Woodcock volunteered to hunt for the estrays. After a late but hearty dinner they took the trail at about four o'clock in the afternoon and found them before dark in the head of the north Rolling Stone valley and rode them to Minnesota City the same evening. The horses were returned to Mr. Burns uninjured by their frolic. He promptly paid over the reward.

Captain Jackson made the attempt to transfer this party with his small boat, and commenced with the family and freight of Mr. Nicklin. To accomplish this required several trips. He was successful except with the last, which was a valuable load in bulky boxes. The boat was capsized and the cargo a total loss—"no insurance." Some relics of the contents of the boxes were found the following winter in the brush on an island, but nothing of value recovered. This accident suspended that line of transportation.

Robertson and Woodcock, with an eye to speculation, offered to deliver the goods of Mr. Wright and Mr. Burns at Rolling Stone for fifteen dollars. A bargain was at once closed with them and they proceeded to construct a raft from some dead oak-trees standing on the bank of the river. After the logs were secured together and loaded with a barrel of pork, a barrel of beef, a barrel of vinegar and a cask of hams, but little of the raft was above water. Lashing the freight to the logs they added a cook-stove, shoved off into the current and safely landed it at "Lord's lumber yard" without accident and without delay.

After the raft had left the shore, Burns decided that he would not move down to the settlement. He had made an arrangement with the Halls for an interest in their town site and concluded to remain on the river. He immediately commenced to build himself a log house, and moved his family and goods up to the landing.

On Saturday Mr. Hunt and Mr. Shipley came up along the bluffs with two yoke of oxen and a wagon for the purpose of moving them down. This was the first wagon that ever passed between the two places. They met with no serious obstruction for the passage of an empty wagon, although the way was rough and uneven.

When they left Rolling Stone Mr. Shipley was apparently in his usual health. He had that morning parted with his son, a young man about sixteen years old, and sent him down to Galena to bring up his family, which he had left there two weeks before. While on his way up along the bluffs he began to complain of not feeling well, and soon became too sick to even follow on the trail. Mr. Hunt made him as comfortable as he could on a bed of grass in the wagon, and brought him through to Wright's camp. Here everything was done for his relief that they were able to do, but without avail. He died a few hours after his arrival, at about twelve o'clock at night. His disease was supposed to be cholera.

The remains of Mr. Shipley were buried the next day at about



12 o'clock, Sunday, May 30, 1852. The grave was on the bank of the river, near where he died. His coffin was a few pieces of slabs taken from the drift-wood of the river and arranged around the body, while lying in the grave. After the grave was filled, a piece of a slab was placed at the head and his name, "H. Shipley," marked on it. The last resting-place of this early pioneer is now unknown. The personal effects of Mr. Shipley were taken in charge by Mr. Wright and sent to his wife. The oxen and wagon belonged to Mr. Hunt. Mr. Shipley had no interest in them.

Mr. Wright now became anxious to leave that locality, and as soon as the rude burial was completed he loaded the wagon with some of his household goods and decided to attempt to go through by land, but the attempt proved a failure at the start. The wagon was upset within a few rods of where it was loaded, the boxes were smashed and their contents scattered as they tumbled and rolled promiscuously down the bank, almost into the river. A large looking-glass rolled on the edges of its frame for several rods and lodged in an upright position against a tree, without injury. The same mirror is yet in use by Mrs. Wright in Minnesota City.

At about the time the loaded wagon upset a steamboat appeared in sight, coming down. Mr. Wright abandoned his damaged property and devoted all his energies to attract the attention of the pilot. He hoisted signals of distress and hailed the boat most vociferously, and was actively seconded in his efforts by his family, one using a tin horn and another beating an accompaniment on a tin pan. Alarmed by these proceedings, the captain of the boat cautiously ran over toward the Minnesota shore, expecting to learn that the Sioux had risen against the settlers. He was, however, soon relieved of any anxiety on that score, and discovered as he drew near that they were some of the passengers he had landed there on his way up—that their noisy demonstrations were made because they were anxious to leave that locality and go down to Johnson's landing. He good-naturedly consented to take them on board. As the boat swung round to the shore the captain hailed Wright and inquired, "Where's your freight?" Pointing to the wreck of the wagon-load, Wright replied, "There is some of it, as soon as we can get it together." Observing the condition of affairs, the captain called to the men forward as the gang-plank was launched out, "Get ashore there, some of you, and bring them duds aboard in bulk."

To Mrs. Wright's extreme surprise, and before she could rally

from her helpless astonishment, her clean household stuff, bedding and clothing of every description, was carried off in the arms of the dirty roustabouts, and before she could offer even a feeble remonstrance they were piled promiscuously on the greasy, dirty deck.

All of Mr. Wright's goods were taken aboard except four barrels of flour which he had brought up for the association, designed to be used in payment of the Indian tax on the shanties in the colony. The flour was taken down by Mr. Hunt in his wagon, the first freight carried through by a wagon over that trail.

When Mr. Wright reached Johnson's landing he there found Willie Shipley, waiting for the down boat. He informed the astonished boy that his father, from whom he had parted not two days before, looking healthy and strong, was dead and in his lonely grave on the bank of the river. Mr. Wright gave him the property found with his father—his watch, a pocket-book with papers and a small amount of money—to be carried to his mother.

His family were not left without means of support. Mr. Shipley had left a considerable sum of money on deposit in Galena, under the control of his wife. The family returned to their former home. Their experience in the west was a sorrowful one.

At Johnson's landing Mr. Wright, with his family, was permitted by Mr. Denman to pass the night in the unfinished house he was then building. They reached Minnesota City the next day, June 1, and went directly to the "gopher" Mr. Wright had helped to build nearly three weeks before. It was near here that his provisions and cook-stove had been stored when landed from the raft. This gopher-house was their first home in the colony. Mr. Wright has retained possession of and lived continuously with his family on the same land and in the same locality ever since that period, about thirty-one years. They occupied the "gopher" and a tent until he could procure lumber and build a more comfortable place to move into. Soon after their arrival the whole family were prostrated with sickness in some form. Two of the children died with measles, then prevailing.

Like most of the members of the association from New York city, Mr. Wright's previous experience had but poorly fitted him to meet the demands of pioneer life. Many things were learned from practical experience. Incidents that may now be pleasantly related, and are amusing to listen to, which occurred in their acquisition of a western education, were once really serious matters with them.

The provisions brought down on the raft were jointly owned by Mr. Wright and Mr. Burns. The morning after his arrival Mr. Wright went out to inspect the condition of his supplies, and discovered that his cask of hams had been broken open and the contents carried off. The fact becoming known, the indignant colonists proceeded to investigate the affair. A careful examination of the matter was commenced, but the mystery of the transaction was soon revealed without a shadow of suspicion resting on any member of the association. The cattle of the settlers had been corraled in the bend of the stream near by to prevent their wandering off to parts unknown or trespassing in the settlement. In their eagerness to get salt, the cask had been broken open and the hams eaten by the ravenous bovine monsters. All of the cattle in the settlement were under suspicion as being implicated in the transaction, but the herd of Hiram Campbell were charged with being the principal and leading offenders. The fragments of partly eaten hams were found scattered over the ground in the vicinity of the empty cask.

To prevent any further loss to Mr. Burns, it was proposed by Mr. Wright that an equitable division of the pork and beef be made. In the absence of Mr. Burns, friends of both parties were selected to make the division. The meat in each barrel was taken out and accurately weighed. One half of each was then put into one of the barrels for Mr. Burns and the other half into the other barrel and turned over to Mr. Wright as his individual property. This was apparently a just dissolution of partnership, but Mr. Wright soon discovered that the mixing of the two kinds of meat did not improve the quality. It was soon understood that Mr. Wright and Mr. Burns had a surplus of meat, and some less fastidious persons purchased it at less than cost.

Although transportation had proved to be barely possible from Hall's landing to Rolling Stone without considerable expense in opening a wagon trail, there was to Mr. Burns more than a glimmer of a prospective landing-place for the colony, and he located himself where he could have the benefit of the river trade in the business in which he proposed to engage. Having money to invest, he built a large hotel. His bar was the main source of profit. He paid no license, for the law prohibited the sale of intoxicating drinks. His hotel became a favorite resort for the rivermen and traveling public, and was not entirely shunned by the settlers. The Indians resorted to Burns' for trade. During the years of 1852-3-4 there was

more liquor sold by Mr. Burns than in all other parts of southern Minnesota. He brought on quite a stock of general merchandise and opened a store. A postoffice was established and S. M. Burns was postmaster. He furnished employment for a large number of men cutting steamboat wood on government lands, on which large profits were made.

After a heavy expense trying to build up a business point at this place, Mr. Burns was forced to abandon the attempt, and the village of Mt. Vernon ceased to exist. The scheme to make it the landing-place for the colony did not prove practicable, although a wagon road was opened between the two places.

The town of Mt. Vernon, in the northwest part of Winona county, took its name from the village of that name at what was once known as Hall's landing, on the Mississippi. Not a trace of any of the improvements made by Mr. Burns are now to be seen. The village site is almost unknown.

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## CHAPTER XXVI.

### THE ASSOCIATION AT ROLLING STONE.

THE Western Farm and Village Association, as organized in the city of New York in 1851, was transferred to Rolling Stone in 1852 under the same officers and with the same laws governing its members. The mode of doing business adopted and practiced in the east was continued in the west.

The first regular meeting of the association held in the colony at Rolling Stone was on May 6. The officers present were Wm. Haddock, president; Thos. K. Allen, recording secretary; and a majority of the board of directors, Augustus A. Gilbert, James Wright, Charles Bannon, John Hughs and D. Robertson.

At this meeting fifty-two responded to their names when the roll of members was called. Some of these were young unmarried men, but a majority of the members present were men with families.

At a general meeting of the colonists on Sunday, May 9, the name of Minnesota City was given to the village of the colony. The name was unanimously adopted by a *viva-voce vote*. Prior to this



the locality was only known as Rolling Stone, and afterward it was the most familiar name to the early settlers.

At this same meeting, May 9, a Congregational minister from La Crosse, by the name of Reynolds, preached the first sermon ever delivered in Minnesota City. Elder Reynolds was a missionary sent out by the Home Mission Board of the denomination to which he belonged.

Business meetings of the association were called to consider matters relating to the common interests. At one of these meetings, about the first, Robert Pike, Jr., was elected surveyor for the colony, to establish the lines of claims designated as farms, which were to be assigned to the choice of the members of the association according to numbers drawn for that purpose. E. B. Drew and C. R. Coryell were Pike's assistants in these surveys, which were made under the general supervision of the president, Mr. Haddock.

At a meeting held on May 19 the question of making application for the establishment of a postoffice was considered and a choice for postmaster made by ballot. Robert Pike, Jr., received a majority of votes. A petition in proper form was drawn up and signed, soliciting the establishment of a postoffice at Minnesota City and recommending Robert Pike, Jr., as a proper appointment for postmaster. This petition was forwarded to the Postoffice department at Washington. In due time Mr. Pike received his commission and the office was established, but with the proviso and on condition that the mails should be transported to and from the nearest postoffice on the river free of charge to the Postoffice department. The nearest postoffice was then at La Crosse. The mail was dependent on chance opportunities or private enterprise. Even such postal facilities were considered of advantage to the settlement.

The family of Mr. Pike, consisting of his wife and two children and two of his sisters (afterward Mrs. H. Jones and Mrs. D. Kennedy), came on about the last of June. While on their passage up the river the postoffice keys were handed to Mrs. Pike at La Crosse by Brooks and Hancock, two members of the association there on a visit, to be delivered to her husband on her arrival at Minnesota City. This was the first knowledge Mrs. Pike had of the matter.

On May 20 a census of the colony was taken, when it was ascertained that there were ninety male members of the association on the grounds and about 400 women and children.

The first death in the colony was on May 25, that of David



C. L. Bonner



Densmore, a man about sixty years of age. He was from the State of Maine. He had no family with him. Mr. Densmore was buried in the grounds selected for a cemetery, a little above the forks of the Rolling Stone creek, near Minnesota City.

The first bridge built in the county was across the Rolling Stone, near where James Wright now lives in Minnesota City. Long logs, used as stringers, were laid over the stream from one bank to the other. Across these stringers logs were laid instead of plank. The colonists all united in this public improvement.

The next morning after this bridge was completed the settlers found that their engineering was not practicable in this structure. The long stringers of green timber, without central support, had given way and broken down from weight of the green logs by which they were covered. The middle of the bridge was resting in the center of the stream, the logs retained in their position across the stringers. Although not available as a wagon bridge, it was used during the season as a crossing-place by persons on foot.

The first bridge that was of any practicable use was one built by the colonists across the Rolling Stone just below the forks of that stream, above Minnesota City. The location is now covered by the mill-pond. This was called the "herd bridge" by the settlers. The cattle belonging in the colony were placed under the charge of a herdsman, who had the general management of them during the grazing season. Robert Pike, Jr., was the first appointed and acted in that capacity for that season. A fence was built running from the bluff on the south side to the stream, and the cattle were allowed to range above it in the south valley. The "herd bridge" was designed and built, under the direction of Mr. Pike, to serve as a crossing-place for the stock under his charge. It was, however, used as a wagon bridge for two or three years after a road was opened up through the south valley.

During that season the wagon trail leading to Wabasha prairie was on the south side of the stream, next to the bluffs, and the only practical fording-place of the stream was where Elsworth's mill now stands. Late in the fall, or early in winter, the settlers opened a road along down the table, on the north side of the stream, about where it now is, and built a bridge near the angle where the creek leaves the bluff and flows north, about a mile below the present village of Minnesota City. This was the first public bridge in common use in the county. It was maintained for three or four years until



the present road between Minnesota and Winona was opened and another bridge was built about fifty rods below, in the same locality where the present bridge stands.

The first store for the sale of merchandise to the settlers in the colony was opened about June 1 of this season by a Mr. Robertson. He closed out his establishment and left the colony early in the fall.

The first school opened in the county was a select school, started in Minnesota City in the early part of this season. The first district school in the county was established here later in the season. The district was organized under the general law of the territory and comprised the whole colony. Miss Houk was the teacher. Schools have been uniformly maintained in that locality from that time to the present.

The first blacksmith-shop started in this county by the early settlers was in the colony at Minnesota City. James and John Prosser, father and son, opened a shop and commenced business early in the season. Josiah Keene also started a shop. The Prossers left the colony in the fall. O. M. Lord bought their shop, tools and stock, and also that of Keene, and carried on the business for a year or two afterward. This was the only blacksmith-shop in the county until the spring of 1854, when a shop was opened at Winona, previous to which the settlers on Wabasha prairie were dependent on Minnesota City, or they were compelled to go to La Crosse for their blacksmith work. Sometimes jobs of blacksmithing were ordered by the boats from Galena.

The first horseshoeing done in the county was by O. M. Lord. In the fall of 1852 he shod a pair of horses for Hon. Wm. H. Stevens, of the city of Winona. The shoes were brought up from La Crosse. In the spring of 1853 he shod fourteen horses for Wm. Ashley Jones, a government surveyor.

From 1849 to 1853 the county of Winona was a part of Wabasha county. By act of the First Territorial Legislature, October 27, 1849, "all that portion of said territory lying east of a line running due south from a point on the Mississippi river known as Medicine Bottles Village, at Pine Bend, to the Iowa line, was erected into a county to be known by the name of Wabashaw."

The extent of territory included in the boundaries of Wabasha county by that act was what is now a part of the county of Dakota and the present counties of Goodhue, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, Mower, Fillmore, Houston and Winona.

Wabasha county was first created for the special purpose of affording certain political privileges to the settlers within its boundaries, nearly all of whom were half-breed Sioux, living on the "Half-breed Tract," who were recognized as bona fide citizens. The other parts of the county were then in possession of the Sioux.

It was made part of a council district, but was declared to be a representative district, entitled to elect one representative to the territorial legislature.

The first representative from Wabasha county was James Wells. He was also a member of the second and fourth territorial legislatures in 1851 and in 1853. In the third legislature, the session of 1852, Wabasha county was represented by Fordyce S. Richards, another trader, living at Reed's landing.

The fourth territorial legislature in 1853 (March 4) divided Wabasha county and created Fillmore county from the southern portion along the Mississippi, which included the present county of Winona. The same council and representative districts were, however, continued until 1855, when a new apportionment was made by the legislature.

At the election held in the fall of 1853, Hon. O. M. Lord, of Minnesota City, was elected, from Fillmore, representative of this district to the fifth territorial legislature, which held its session in 1854. At this session Winona county was created, February 23, 1854.

When Wabasha county was created in 1849 it was "declared to be organized only for the appointment of justices of the peace, constables and such other judicial and ministerial officers as might be specially provided for." It was attached to Washington county for judicial purposes and was entitled to any number of justices not exceeding six, and to the same number of constables, who were to receive their appointment from the governor and to hold their office for two years, unless sooner removed.

The first justice of the peace appointed by Gov. Ramsey in accordance with this act creating Wabasha county, was Thomas K. Allen, the recording secretary of the association at Minnesota City. Mr. Allen was compelled to go to the capital of the territory—to St. Paul, in order to qualify—to take the oath of office required. There was no one nearer who was empowered to administer it to him.

At a general meeting of the members of the association living in the colony at Minnesota City, held July 12, 1852, an election pre-

cinct was organized and the following officers elected by ballot: Thomas K. Allen, justice of the peace; Josiah Keen, constable; James Wright, assessor; and Augustus A. Gilbert, notary public.

These proceedings were without proper authority, and only designed to represent an expression of the wishes of the people in the colony. The governor was duly notified of this action of the settlers and the appointment of the officers selected formally recommended and solicited.

Gov. Ramsey confirmed the election by making the appointment accordingly. Mr. Allen took the oath of office on July 28, 1852. By vote of the association, O. M. Lord, John Iams and Hiram Campbell were elected road commissioners for the colony or precinct.

The first sermon delivered to the settlers in Rolling Stone was by the Rev. Mr. Reynolds, a missionary of the Congregational church. He kept up regular appointments and preached during the summer at Minnesota City and at Wabasha prairie. His audiences were representatives of all denominations, Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, etc. A general Sabbath-school was started in the early part of this season. The members of the association held to the religious faith or belief they had professed before joining the colony. If there was any change it was exhibited in a general feeling of toleration. The Protestants and Catholics shared with each other in their comforts and privations, and in their joys and sorrows, without question of religious opinions. All grades of liberalism, spiritualism and other "isms" had advocates.

The first church organized in this county was by the Baptist members of the association. This was the first Protestant church organization in southern Minnesota. The appropriate ceremonies were held on July 11, 1852. The pastor of this church was the Rev. T. R. Cressey, a missionary appointed by the American Baptist Home Missionary Society at a salary of \$600 per annum. He made Minnesota City his headquarters, but preached in other localities.

After remaining in this vicinity for two or three months, Mr. Cressey had a call to locate himself in charge of the Baptist church in St. Paul. As the failing condition of the colony in the latter part of the season offered less inducements to remain, he left this county and located himself in the capital of the territory.

Another Baptist preacher, Rev. Henderson Cressey, a brother of T. R. Cressey, preached to the settlers at Minnesota City and on

Wabasha prairie for about two years afterward, but did not reside in this vicinity. He held a claim for awhile on the upper prairie.

There was such a general immigration of preachers among the early settlers that about every settlement was represented by one or more of some denomination. It is now difficult to ascertain the names of many of those who for a time held claims in this county. The most of them apparently preferred the blouse of the settler to the garb of their profession.

The Rev. William Sweet occasionally preached, but made no regular appointments. The Rev. Mr. Henderson, a member of the association, living at Minnesota City, was, or had been, a Methodist preacher. It was said that he gave the settlers a most enthusiastic, patriotic sermon on Sunday, July 4, 1852. From many peculiarities of belief or opinions expressed in public, his influence among the Methodists, of which denomination there was quite a number, was not sufficient to induce them to acknowledge him as a leader or combine in a church organization. Mr. Henderson, with others holding different "isms," made an unsuccessful effort to create a society called "The Universal Church."

It is difficult to ascertain the exact date of the arrival of very many of the early settlers who, as members of the association, located in this county. The greatest number and largest bodies of them arrived in May, but they continued to come during June and until about the middle of July, after which but few if any of the immigrants in this part of the territory were members of that organization.

Among those who located in the colony in Rolling Stone whose arrival has not been specially mentioned were the following. The most of these came in May. The list might be largely extended by adding the names of those who remained so short a time that with propriety they should be classed as a part of the transient population of the colony. Prominent among the more permanent settlers were Wm. T. Luark, John Iams, S. D. Putnam, S. A. Houk, O. H. Houk, George Foster, Egbert Chapman, Harvey Stradling, P. D. Follett, Samuel Hancock, John Cook and *V. G. Wedon*. The last is but the nom de plume of Robert Pike, Jr.

The time set by the association for drawing numbers for the choice of farming lands was May 15. The drawing took place at that date, although the survey was not completed; neither was there a full representation of members present. The selections of claims



were afterward made as fast as the reports of the surveyor were received, which were almost daily. All of the available farming land in each of the valleys of the Rolling Stone were surveyed and assigned to the colonists. Some made choice of lands and made claims which they retained and still occupy as farms, but the most of the selections made by the numbers drawn were abandoned. The selections first made were not in all cases satisfactory, and exchanges were effected without disturbing the harmony of the settlement.

By special action of the association before they left New York, exemptions were given certain members who were unable to move in the spring, by which their rights and privileges were protected by proxy. These exemptions were, however, but temporary arrangements. The limit of this extension of time was fixed to expire on July 15, at which date a general meeting of the association was to be held for the purpose of determining which village lots and farming lands had been forfeited.

The following extract from the diary of Mr. E. B. Drew notes this general gathering: "Thursday, July 15, 1852. The Western Farm and Village Association all met at Mr. Lord's new house to transact important business pertaining to individual interests in city lots and farms. Some interesting times. The population is now over three hundred." "July 16. To-day O. M. Lord arrived with his family, bringing with him a horse-team and a cow."

Mr. Lord's new house, mentioned by Mr. Drew, was located on the same table, but about a hundred rods above where O. M. Lord now lives in Minnesota City. The "interesting times" was the scramble for forfeited village lots and farms. The horse-team brought by Mr. Lord was the first span of horses brought into the colony.

The village lots of the colony, which embraced over 1,000 acres, covered the land from below the farm now owned by Robert Duncan to the bluffs near the farm of D. Q. Burley and up the valley above the fork of the stream, including the Waterman farm. The bottom lands and a part of the Denman farm were plotted as suburban lots.

The most of the improvements on village lots were from where James Kennedy now lives to about half a mile above where Troost's mill stood. It was here that a large number of the settlers who wintered in the colony made their homes. Although all had claims, but few occupied them until the following spring.

Some members of the association made claims outside the jurisdiction assumed for the colony. In June Mr. D. Hollyer made a claim in what is now the town of Utica, which he abandoned in the fall when he left the territory. Dr. J. W. Bentley took possession and moved on it in the spring following. It was afterward known as "Bentley's." Dr. Bentley was not a member of the association, although he came to Minnesota City in the fall of 1852 and lived there during the winter with H. B. Waterman, a relative. While living at Minnesota City Mrs. Bentley increased the population of the colony by the addition of a daughter to her family. This was the first white child born in Rolling Stone. The first male child born in Minnesota City was the eldest son of Mrs. H. B. Waterman, January 5, 1854. This child was the first born in the colony whose parents were members of the association. George B. Waterman died in 1881.

S. E. Cotton made a claim near Hollyer's, a little east from where the Utica railroad station now stands. He had ten acres of breaking done on it by Charles Bannon. Mr. Burley was in the employ of Mr. Bannon and drove the team for this job. This was the first breaking done back of the bluffs—the first breaking done within the boundaries of the county back from the Mississippi, except in the valley of the Rolling Stone.

Robert Taylor made a claim of what is now the village of Stockton, on the east side of the valley. D. Q. Burley made a claim adjoining Robert Taylor's on the west. Mr. Taylor abandoned his location the following year, when Mr. Burley absorbed it by moving his claim to the center of the valley. Mr. Burley traded this claim for a house and lot in Minnesota City to S. A. Houk, who in 1854 sold it to J. B. Stockton, the original proprietor of the village of Stockton. Mr. Burley then made a claim of the farm on which he now lives. His family did not come here until the spring of 1854.

Above Stockton, on the south fork of the Rolling Stone, Mr. Hunt made a claim. He was a proxy or substitute in the employ of a wealthy member living in New York city, who furnished him with two yoke of oxen and all necessary supplies. Mr. Hunt did some breaking and put up about fifty tons of hay. This hay was cut with scythes by Mr. Burley and Mr. Thorp, who helped put it in the stacks. They camped on what is now the L. D. Smith farm while at this job, but made their homes in Minnesota City.

Mr. Hunt went back to New York in the fall and left the cattle

and claim in charge of Mr. Burley. A few days after he left the fifty tons of hay were burned by a fire which swept through the valley. Mr. Burley wintered the stock in Minnesota City. The following spring the oxen were taken up the river by a Mr. Bertram to another association colony in the vicinity of Lake Minnetonka. The claim made by Mr. Hunt was abandoned.

Egbert Chapman made a claim on Sweet's prairie and built a cabin, in which he lived with his family through the winter. He is yet a resident of the county, living in Minnesota City. His son, Edgar Chapman, is now living in Dakota Territory.

Harvey Stradling also selected a location on Sweet's prairie near Chapman's. He was then a young man. In June, 1853, he married Anna Chapman, a daughter of Egbert Chapman. The Rev. William Sweet officiated at this marriage ceremony. This was the first wedding among the colonists.

Mr. Stradling afterward located in the valley above Minnesota City. He died there many years ago. His widow (now Mrs. John Nicklin) is living in Dakota Territory.

In July, 1852, John Cook made a claim in the White Water valley about a mile above White Water Falls. He built a comfortable log house and lived here during the winter and for several years after. His brother, David Cook, also made a claim in this vicinity, which he occupied the following year.

S. D. Putnam selected his claim about a mile below Stockton and built a comfortable log house the following spring near where he now resides. This was on the farm owned and occupied by J. J. Mattison for about twenty years. Mr. Putnam occupied the log house about four years. It was a favorite stopping-place for excursionists, travelers, explorers and claim-hunters, and had the reputation of being the best "hotel" in the county. Mr. Putnam is a prosperous farmer, and quietly enjoys his comfortable home.

O. H. Houk made a claim next below Putnam's, which he held for a year or two. He built a log house on it. The location was long known as the Evans place.

Charles Bannon chose a location about a mile below Putnam's, and is yet living on the claim selected by him as a member of the association in 1852. He did not occupy or make any improvements on it until the following spring. During this time he looked with longing eyes on another claim in the valley about a mile below. The claim which disturbed his contentment had been chosen by a

member of the association for Miss Amidon on a number drawn by or for her. She was not a resident in the colony, and no improvements had been made to indicate that it was occupied.

Mr. Bannon, supposing that the claim had been abandoned, went on to it and took possession by cutting house-logs enough to build a comfortable log house, which he drew together preparatory to calling his friends to his house-raising.

A night or two before the contemplated "raising" was to have taken place, the friends of Miss Amidon, or Miss Amidon's claim, got together and cut each of the house-logs in two, and notified Mr. Bannon not to jump the claim of an *unprotected female*.

This was the first clash among "the faithful members," and to prevent a serious collision, which apparently threatened, the friends of the parties induced Mr. Bannon to abandon the idea of making a change of location and settle on his own claim. All parties united and moved the crippled house-logs up to his original choice of location by number, and there constructed an octagon log house for him as a compromise of the difficulty.

Having no desire to encourage contention, Mr. Bannon acquiesced in the movement, although satisfied in his own mind that he had a just right to the claim and could have held it without wronging any person. Suffice it to say of this matter that Miss Amidon never made her appearance in the valley. The disputed claim was afterward disposed of by the friend or agent of that lady to Henry W. Driver. Mr. Driver pre-empted it as a homestead, and after living on it for five or six years sold his farm and moved to Winona, where he resided for a year or two and then went south.

Mr. Bannon moved on his claim in the spring of 1853, and has occupied it as a farm for over thirty years. He has been a successful farmer. His comfortable buildings, fine stock and well cultivated fields represent that as a member of the Western Farm and Village Association he found that "home in the west" for which he abandoned his business as a carman in New York city and helped to form a colony in the Territory of Minnesota.

Lawrence Dilworth made choice of his claim in accordance with his number drawn as a member of the association, and selected the one next below and adjoining that of Mr. Bannon's. He moved on his claim in the spring of 1853, and has lived there from that time to the present. His good buildings and the well-tilled fields of his fine farm indicate the prosperous farmer and demonstrate that he too



secured the farm for which he came to Rolling Stone. Mr. Dilworth and family were of the party that landed at the colony from the wood-boat on the evening of May 2. They are Catholics. Religious faith was not a test of friendship in the Rolling Stone colony. The high respect entertained by the early settlers for Mr. and Mrs. Dilworth has never been dimmed by the years that have passed since their pioneer days as colonists. The writer hopes for pardon if trespassing on their private affairs, but a remarkable peculiarity in manner of doing business is worthy of mention as an uncommon incident in pioneer life. It is said by one familiar with his affairs that Mr. Dilworth has not during the past thirty years allowed an account to be opened against him. He has paid cash down for whatever he has bought or gone without articles required.

On a farm about a mile below Mr. Dilworth there is now living another member of the association, who, like his neighbors above, remained in the colony, and has secured the home in his old age for which he left New England and came west more than thirty years ago. This farm is now owned and occupied by S. E. Cotton. When the members of the association made choice of farms by their numbers, this locality was chosen by John Iams, and purchased from him by E. B. Drew. This was the first claim sale in the colony. Mr. Drew as assistant surveyor had taken a liking to the place, and when he learned that it had been selected by Mr. Iams he offered him \$10 for his number, or right to it. The offer was accepted and the claim given up to Mr. Drew, who held it and entered it at the United States land office when the land was surveyed. It was held by Mr. Drew until 1857, when he sold it to Mr. Cotton.

When Mr. Cotton first landed at Rolling Stone he built a log house on his village lot previously selected, and made it his home. After the collapse of the association he retained his location, and when the land was surveyed by government he made a claim of eighty acres and pre-empted the village lots as a homestead. He sold it in 1857 and moved to his present home. His claim in Minnesota City is now the farm of James Kennedy.

Between the "Drew claim" (where Mr. Cotton now lives) and Minnesota City a claim was made by Hezakiah Jones, who occupied the locality for several years, and then sold the homestead he there pre-empted. Mr. Jones is yet a resident of Minnesota City. He is the oldest settler in that part of the county north of the city of

Winona. He came here on April 14, 1852, as one of the "pioneer squad" (the only one now living), and was one of the first members of the association to locate in Rolling Stone. Mr. Jones has not been as fortunate as some who came later in the season.

North from the "Drew claim" and west from the present village of Minnesota City were the claims of T. K. Allen and A. A. Gilbert. These claims were parts of the grounds of the original village site. They held claims in the valley above, but when the survey of public lands was made they located themselves here, and each pre-empted a quarter-section of the land surveyed for the village of the colony. Neither of these men are now residents of the county. Both were successful in acquiring the homes in the west for which they helped to organize the association in New York city in 1851. The first grist mill in the county was started by Allen and Gilbert, one of Burr's horse-power mills, in 1853.

Mr. Allen was the recording secretary from the first meeting of the association in New York city, until its last meeting in Minnesota city. He is now a clergyman of the Episcopal church, living in Alexandria, Douglass county, Minnesota.

Mr. Gilbert lived for several years in the city of Winona. His present residence is unknown.

The farm now owned and occupied by Mr. E. B. Drew was held by Mr. Drew as a claim, but it was the choice of W. H. Coryell on his number drawn as a member of the association. It was on this claim that E. B. Drew, C. R. Coryell and W. H. Coryell made their camp when they first came to Rolling Stone. This was their homestead, where they lived and made their first beginning in farming operations in the Territory of Minnesota. By mutual agreement they worked together and held property in common.

When these men first came here it was not their design to settle in the valley. From the description given by Mr. Lord of the country lying west they expected to locate themselves on prairie farms back from the Mississippi. They selected this location to keep up their connection with the association and as their headquarters until they found claims that were more satisfactory.

They explored the country west and made selections of locations in what is now known as the town of Saratoga, in the western part of the county, in the vicinity of what has since been called the Blair settlement. With their teams and big wagon they spent about a week in prospecting and marking their claims with the customary

marks and a small pile of logs for each location, but never made any further improvements, their interests in the valley engaging their attention until their prairie claims were taken by others.

Mr. Drew broke about twenty-five acres, on the farm where he now lives, in the spring of 1852, and planted some corn and cultivated a garden. In the fall he sowed a small patch of wheat by way of experiment. The following year, 1853, he harvested the first crop of wheat ever raised by the settlers in southern Minnesota. From one sack of seed wheat, about two bushels, sown on about two acres of breaking, he secured seventy bushels of superior winter wheat, which he threshed and cleaned by hand-labor.

The following extract is copied from "The Democrat," published at St. Paul, August 3, 1853:

O. M. Lord, Esq., of Filmore county, a delegate to the late democrat convention, has deposited in this office a sample of winter wheat of the red chaff bearded variety, raised on the farm of Messrs. Drew and Coryell, in the Rolling Stone valley, which we regard as the finest specimen of this grain that we have ever seen. Messrs. D. & C. have harvested several acres of this wheat, and good judges estimate that it will yield at the rate of forty bushels to the acre.

This is the first winter wheat ever sown in that vicinity, but Mr. Lord informs us that a large quantity will be put in the ground this fall. There is little doubt that wheat is to become one of the great staple productions of Minnesota, and that flour of the best quality will soon form the most important item in the lists of our exports. Up with your mills, gentlemen.

In 1853 Mr. Drew increased his cultivation by another field of breaking, and raised a large crop of corn. In the fall he sowed about eight acres of winter wheat. In the spring of 1853 he sowed a sack of spring wheat, and harvested about fifty bushels. About thirty bushels of this he sold to Sanborn & Drew, in the spring of 1854. This was the first load of wheat ever sold in the city of Winona, or in southern Minnesota.

In the season of 1854 Mr. Drew harvested, from the eight acres sowed to winter wheat the fall before, about two hundred and fifty bushels. Some of this he sold to the settlers for seed, reserving enough for his own seed, and about eighty bushels which was ground into flour. The first wheat raised in southern Minnesota that was made into flour was a part of this crop.

During the winter W. R. Stewart and Albion Drew took two loads of this wheat, of forty bushels each, to a mill in La Crosse valley, about sixty miles distant, where they waited until their grist was ground, when they returned home with their flour. They were

about a week making the trip, the teams going on the ice to La Crosse and thence up the La Crosse valley. The loads were much lighter on their return, for one fourth of the wheat was taken as toll. The wheat was of No. 1 grade and the flour proved to be of superior quality, fully equal to the best now made by improved mills and more modern processes.

Mr. Drew increased the size of his farm, extended his breaking and cultivation, and increased his acreage of wheat, but at the same time growing large crops of other kinds of farm produce without making a specialty of any particular branch of his business. He has given his attention to the cultivation of fruit, and engaged considerably in stock raising, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. Although he has extensive ranges of fine pasturage on his large farm, he abandoned sheep farming, on account of the extreme care necessary to protect his flocks from the wolves that infested the vicinity.

Mr. Drew has been a prosperous farmer. He has given his personal attention to all of his farming operations and has made it a practical business occupation. He has held official positions in the town of Rolling Stone, in which he resides; has served as county commissioner, and was a member of the state legislature in 1875, and also in 1876.

C. R. Coryell remained with Mr. Drew for about a year and then went back east to live. W. H. Coryell staid with him about two years, when he married and settled on a claim on the upper part of Wabasha prairie, where W. L. Burr now resides. After a residence here of about a year he left the territory.

Robert Thorp is living on the farm chosen for him on his number drawn. It adjoins that of Mr. Drew. Mr. Thorp's family lived in Minnesota City about two years before they moved to their present location. To hold the claim, and prevent others from jumping it while Mr. Thorp was absent working at his trade as a blacksmith, he built a small shanty, which Mrs. Thorp sometimes occupied temporarily.

Mr. Thorp is now occupying his comfortable stone cottage and broad acres of cultivated fields, for which he abandoned his blacksmith shop in New York city. He has held the office of treasurer of the town of Rolling Stone, in which he lives, for the past fifteen years.

Although Mr. Thorp brought to the colony a large supply of material, stock and tools, he never opened a shop in Minnesota



City. He left his family there in a comfortable hewed log house about 14×16, and went down to Galena, where he worked a part of the years 1852 and 1853. When he moved on his farm he built a small shop in which he sometimes does blacksmithing for himself or to accommodate a neighbor.

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## CHAPTER XXVII.

### CRYSTALLIZATION.

FROM personal observations made during the extreme high water in the spring of 1852, and from the course of events and progress of affairs generally at Wabasha prairie, Captain Smith decided or consented to locate his contemplated town site on claim No. 4, at the upper landing, instead of on claim No. 1, as he had at first intended. Circumstances apparently compelled him to change his original plans. He did not, however, at once abandon his first impressions, that claim No. 1 was the most valuable on the prairie.

From letters now in the hands of the writer, correspondence between old settlers, who were then holding claims on the prairie, it is evident that for awhile Captain Smith was suspicious of his agent and partner in this speculation, and feared that he might attempt to appropriate the upper landing as an individual possession. With the rush of immigration into the territory, Johnson's ideas were considerably inflated, and he apparently assumed the entire control of affairs at Johnson's landing, but no evidence of treachery was ever developed.

About the first of June Captain Smith brought up a surveyor from Iowa, whose services he secured to lay out a town at the upper landing. To John Ball, United States deputy surveyor, he intrusted the business of laying off and plotting claim No. 4 into lots, streets, etc. The original survey of the town plat of what is now Winona was accordingly made by John Ball for the proprietors, Smith and Johnson.

No government survey of lands had been made on the west side of the river by which to locate the plat of the new town. Mr. Ball took its bearings from a point established by government surveyors

on the opposite side of the river. Its location was described by him as follows: "From the northwest corner of Block 9, the meander post in Wisconsin on the Mississippi river, between Secs. 1 and 6, T. 18 N., R. 10 and 11 W., 4th M., bears 35° east, 39 chains distant."

After due consideration of the matter it was decided to lay off the streets parallel with and at right angles to the river, which at this place runs a little south from an east course (21° south of east). It therefore became necessary that the boundaries should be established satisfactorily with the holders of the adjoining claims. Each of the claims along the river were half a mile square. The division lines between them were a direct north and south course.

The corner stake between No. 4, the Johnson claim, and No. 3, the Stevens claim, stood on the bank of the river, about midway between Walnut and Market streets. The corner stake between No. 4 and No. 5, the Hamilton claim, stood on the bank of the river about midway between Winona and Huff streets.

Several days were spent in general measurements and negotiations before the boundaries of the plat were established, extending on the river from the corner stake of the Stevens claim to the center of Washington street, and running back to the center of Wabasha street. The proprietors of the claims on the river were to retain their rights to their claims as originally made without regard to the survey and plat made by Mr. Ball.

The boundary line on Wabasha street was established by special agreement with the holders of the claims on the south. An agreement, made a matter of record, is as follows:

This article of agreement, made this fifteenth day of June, A.D. Eighteen hundred and fifty-two, Between Wm. B. Gere and Erwin Johnson, both of the County of Wabashaw and Territory of Minnesota, Witnesseth: That the said (*parties*) do hereby agree and bind ourselves to abide by the following specified stipulations in regard to boundary or division line between their respective claims on the Prairie of Wabashaw. The street designated on the Town Plot as Broadway shall be the division line between said claims as far as said Gere's extends, and furthermore the lots in the next Block or Blocks south of and bordering on Broadway shall be equally divided between said Gere and Johnson, and after said Gere has the same measurement of land south of said division Block as said Johnson has north of said division Block, the remaining strip of land bordering on the lake shall be equally divided between the said parties.

In witness whereof we have herewith set our hands and seals.

In presence of }  
John Ball. }

WM. B. GERE.  
E. JOHNSON.

[SEAL]  
[SEAL]

The boundaries between the claims on the river and those in the rear were irregular and "a great deal mixed." To illustrate their relation to each other: The original claims on the river began at a certain stake or starting point on the bank of the river, thence running south half a mile to a corner stake; thence west half a mile to a corner stake; thence north to the bank of the river to a corner stake; thence east along the bank of the river to the place of beginning.

As the line of the river bank is about  $21^{\circ}$  south of east, it is readily seen that the west line was much the longest, and that the boundaries described included more than 160 acres of land. The claim adjoining on the west, if defined in the same manner, will not extend as far south on its east line as the western boundary of the first described.

The irregularity of these boundaries on the south produced corresponding irregularities in the claims in the rear, which were sources of claim difficulties and contentions. In a matter arising from this peculiarity of claim boundaries Henry D. Huff narrowly escaped the loss of his life in the spring of 1854.

Mr. Huff was then the proprietor of claim No. 5, the Hamilton claim. The land in the rear of the east eighty acres was held by George H. Sanborn. The land south of the west eighty was occupied by Elijah Silsbee. With the consent of Mr. Sanborn, but in opposition to Mr. Silsbee's claim rights, Mr. Huff attempted to change the original line of his claim on the south, and make it parallel with the river, or with the line of the streets. To accomplish this, he proposed to mark his boundary by a furrow extending from the southwest corner of the Johnson claim, No. 4, to the southwest corner of his own claim, No. 5. He sent his team with a plow to mark the line, and take possession by breaking and cultivation.

Mr. Silsbee had previously marked his boundaries by a single furrow with a plow. When the team of Mr. Huff approached this furrow, Silsbee stopped them, and, threatening the driver with his gun, drove him off. He then stood guard to prevent any further attempts to trespass on his rights. The tract of land in dispute was but three or four acres. It was not so much the amount or value involved as it was what he supposed to be disregard of the rights of others that aroused the angry passions of Silsbee. It was not alone the protection of property, but an impulsive resistance of what he considered arbitrary oppression.

Learning the state of affairs from the teamster, Mr. Huff went back on the prairie toward where Silsbee had stationed himself. As he approached the furrow which marked the original claim line Silsbee ordered him to halt, and bringing his gun to his shoulder called to him not to cross the furrow, that he would shoot him if he attempted.

Fearless, and paying no attention to the order to halt, Mr. Huff continued to advance, and crossed the furrow. Approaching in a confident manner he said, "You do not intend to shoot me, do you?" Silsbee replied, "I do," and taking deliberate aim fired upon him.

The gun was a double-barrel fowling-piece, owned by M. Wheeler Sargeant, which Silsbee had borrowed. Both barrels were heavily loaded with fine shot and small gravel stones. The contents of one barrel were lodged in Mr. Huff's left side and arm. Fortunately, he had a large pocket-book filled with closely-folded papers in the breast-pocket of his inner coat, and both coats buttoned close. Nearly the whole charge lodged in the pocket-book. A part of the missiles were burrowed in the muscles of his chest and left arm.

Mr. Huff was knocked down and disabled by the shock and injuries received. He was taken home, and was under the care of a surgeon for several weeks. No serious results followed the injuries. He readily recovered.

Silsbee was immediately arrested, and after an examination before a justice of the peace he was bound over for trial at the next term of the United States court, and released on bail. On account of some informality no court was held that year. The following year the case was continued over on account of serious sickness of Silsbee. In the meantime Mr. Huff purchased the Silsbee claim, and the matter was permitted to pass without legal action in court.

With the proceeds of the sale of his claim Mr. Silsbee, with Charles S. Hamilton as partner, opened a store on the corner of Center and Front streets, where a warehouse now stands, and for awhile he was considered to be a respectable citizen, but for many years previous to his death, which occurred about ten or twelve years ago, he was an outcast in community.

It is said by an old settler that when the town plot was first made by John Ball the present levee was laid off into blocks, num-



bered from 1 to 6, and divided into lots, but that the plan was changed by the special directions of Capt. Smith and a public levee substituted. The high water of that season overflowed the bank as far as the south side of Front street, making the water-lots of less immediate value in the estimation of the proprietors. The landing was one of the important items of the claim with Capt. Smith, and he was desirous of making it available to its greatest extent.

It is to Capt. Smith that the city of Winona is indebted for the commodious levee it now holds. It was the pride of its citizens before it was deformed and crippled by railroad tracks and other modern improvements, and suffered to wear and waste away from neglect of attention by those whose duty it is to protect and care for it.

Blocks 1 and 6 on the river were reserved from the public levee and divided into lots as plotted. It is said that this was done by Mr. Huff before the plot was recorded. Block 1 contained but three lots belonging to Smith and Johnson; the other two, lots 1 and 2, belonged to the Stevens claim.

When the town site of Smith and Johnson was surveyed and plotted by John Ball, United States deputy surveyor, it was given the name of Montezuma, by E. H. Johnson. He was afterward extremely tenacious of the name, and strongly opposed the substitution of Winona. No record was made of the plot until the following year. Wabasha county had no county records. In 1853, when Fillmore county (which also included this county) was created and regularly organized, the plot was recorded.

Henry D. Huff bought an interest in this town site in 1853, and also had claim No. 5 surveyed and plotted as a part of the town. In a newspaper article, published several years ago, Mr. Huff said relative to this matter, "The town proper had been surveyed, plotted and named Montezuma by Smith and Johnson. With the consent of Capt. Smith I erased the name of Montezuma and inserted the name of Winona on the plot, and paid Mr. Stoll, of Minneowah, for recording the same as Winona. I found out afterward that the name Montezuma was retained on the record, and asked Mr. Stoll why he put in the name of Montezuma when it did not appear on the plot. He said Johnson wanted it Montezuma, so he recorded it Montezuma, adding a note that the proprietors had changed it to Winona."

During the early part of this season another town site was

located in this county. The location selected was along the river just above what is now the village of Homer—the claim purchased of Peter Gorr by Timothy Burns. This town site did not include Bunnell's landing, but extended from Bunnell's claim up the river along the bluffs. It was on the "main land," two or three miles below "that bar in the river," Wabasha prairie.

A stock company was organized. There were eight shares valued at \$200 each. The stockholders and proprietors were Timothy Burns, lieutenant-governor of Wisconsin, residing at La Crosse, Willard B. Bunnell, of Bunnell's landing, Isaac Van Etten, Charles W. Borup, Charles H. Oakes, Alexander Wilkin, Justus C. Ramsey and William L. Ames, of St. Paul.

This company was a strong and influential one, and with the exception of Bunnell they were all men of considerable capital. With them their investments here were wholly matter of speculation. It was supposed to be a "good thing," and strong efforts were made by them to build up a town that would successfully compete with Capt. Smith's claims for the business of the interior when the back country should become settled.

Soon after Smith and Johnson had their town site plotted the speculation began to be developed, and in July this rival town was surveyed and plotted by Isaac Thompson for the proprietors, and the name of Minneowah given to it. This name is of the Dakota language. It was selected by the proprietors of the new town, and not given to the locality by the Sioux. It is not now known whether the Indians had a name designative of this place or not. None was ever known by any of the settlers. The literal translation of the name Minneowah is "Falling Water."

In a description of the Falls of St. Anthony by the Rev. John A. Merrick, an Episcopal clergyman at St. Paul, published about the 1st of January, 1852, he says, "By the Dahcota or Sioux Indians they are called 'Minne-ha-hah,' or 'Minne-ra-ra,' (Laughing Water,) and also 'Minne-owah' (Falling Water)—general expressions applied to all waterfalls."

The historical address of M. Wheeler Sargeant, from which extracts have been made, says, "The town contained 318 lots; consequently at that early day looked quite imposing *on paper*—still more so *on the spot*; for at least one half of it was 400 feet above the river and of *nearly* perpendicular access; \* \* \* and for the

next year it was by far the most pretentious place below St. Paul. \* \* \* Except the unimportant items of locality, buildings and inhabitants, it had all the characteristics of a *great city*."

The plot was put into market at St. Paul and lots were bought and sold, without knowledge of their locality—whether on the table along the river or on the bluff above. Not much was done there by way of improvements until the following year.

In the spring of 1853 a large hotel was built by the proprietors—much the largest and best building on the west side of the river below St. Paul. For awhile Minneowah was truly a rival town, and strongly contested with Montezuma for public attention. Its advantages of location "on the main land," over that "sand-bar," liable to overflow any year, were loudly proclaimed, and its prospects were for awhile apparently promising.

The hotel was opened, and steamboats landed passengers who were prospecting for locations. Stores were built and goods brought on,—dwellings commenced, but dividends for the sale of lots were unknown; the expense column was much the heaviest. The original stockholders divided up their shares and generously allowed others to hold stock in Minneowah.

Among the new proprietors who became residents were Myron Toms, who, while living in St. Paul, purchased a half-share. H. B. Stoll purchased a half-share from Mr. Van Etten. James F. Toms, Charles G. Waite and others became proprietors. Peter Burns held an interest as successor of his brother Timothy Burns, whose death occurred about this time. He was the only shareholder who claimed to have made anything from the transaction. He says that when the prospects of success were the most flattering he sold his interest to the other proprietors for \$4,000, and went back to La Crosse.

An addition to Minneowah was surveyed and plotted for Bunnell, Stoll and John Lavine. This addition was principally suburban lots of from five to ten acres each for residence property. It was located above the original town, extending along the bluffs to the mouth of Pleasant valley. Mr. Lavine occupied this land and held it as a claim.

Among the early residents of Minneowah was the Hon. C. F. Buck, of the town of Winona, then a young lawyer just starting in business. Mr. Buck came here about the first of September, 1853, and remained until 1855, when he moved to Winona. Charles M. Lovel, of Fillmore county, was for awhile a merchant here and

carried on considerable of a trade. There were many others who were temporary residents of that locality. A man by the name of Dougherty remained there for several years.

The town plot of Minneowah was never recorded. It was placed on file in the office of the register of deeds of Fillmore county, while Mr. Stoll was register and had his office at Minneowah. In 1855 Myron Toms, holding power of attorney from the proprietors, withdrew the plot from the files for the purpose of entering the land as a claim. The town site of Minneowah was then unknown on any record. It was said that this was done to oust some of the proprietors and holders of lots, but the location was jumped by some of the citizens residing there who filed their claims in the United States land office as actual settlers on the land. The matter was contested, but the resident settlers held their claims as homesteads.

Mr. — Dougherty drew the hotel and a store with his share of the spoils. The stockholders and owners of lots lost all right and title to the locality. The commercial town "on the main land" vanished. Minneowah is now known only by tradition to the residents of the county.

Willard B. Bunnell, one of the original stockholders of Minneowah, the resident proprietor, was, in the beginning, the most zealous and active of the company in his efforts to build up this town, and gave most of his time and attention to the scheme, but later he learned he was but a tool in the hands of his more experienced and wealthy associates. The professional town-site speculators were "too much" for the little Indian trader. He became a silent partner in the concern for awhile, and then relinquished his share to the others.

No one intimately acquainted with Will Bunnell had reason to doubt the sincerity of his belief that Wabasha prairie had been entirely flooded, and was liable to be again submerged in extreme high water. This idea he imbibed from his belief at that time in many of the traditions and some of the superstitions of the Indians, although he was a man of intelligence and of some acquirements. Notwithstanding his active, restless temperament and impulsive manners, he was popular with his acquaintances. He was a genial, social companion, and a gentleman when frontier sociability was not carried to excess.

About the first of June, 1852, John Burns brought his family into the territory of Minnesota and settled in this county. He located



himself in the mouth of the valley to which his name was afterward given, and which is now known as "Burns Valley." His family then consisted of his wife, three daughters — Mary, "Maggie," Elicia — and his son William. Elicia died not long after she came here.

Mr. Burns had, prior to this, been a resident of the State of Wisconsin, living near Mineral Point, where he had been engaged in farming and stock-raising. On his arrival here, he landed at Bunnell's landing, with all of his household goods, farming implements, and a large herd of cattle, horses, hogs, fowls, etc., to transport all of which Mr. Burns used to say he had to charter the Nominee for the trip. He moved direct from the landing to his claim, where, instead of the ordinary claim shanty, the family found a home ready to receive them. They never had any experience of shanty life in Minnesota.

The claim on which Mr. Burns settled was selected for him by his son, Timothy Burns, lieutenant-governor of Wisconsin. The claim was chosen early in the fall of 1851, soon after the treaty with the Sioux for the sale of their lands, on the west side of the Mississippi. During the winter, about the first of February, Mr. Burns came up the river on the ice, with the mail carrier, to see the location in the Indian country, which he had been notified had been selected for him as a stock farm and family homestead.

After stopping a few days at La Crosse to visit his sons, Timothy and Peter Burns, he came up to look at the claim and found it to be a choice satisfactory to himself. He decided to secure it and bring his family on in the spring. Making his headquarters at Bunnell's, he took possession of the claim and proceeded to get out timber with which to build a frame house on it in the spring.

About the first of April he returned home, going down the river on the Nominee, then on her first trip. He left his claim in the care of his sons in La Crosse. The special charge of the claim was under the watchful eye of W. B. Bunnell, whose sister was the wife of Peter Burns. It was through the aid of Bunnell that the claim was first selected and held.

Early in the spring Timothy Burns had a house built on this claim for his father. It was at that time the best building in southern Minnesota. It was a commodious but rather old-fashioned farmhouse. The frame was of oak timber with posts and braces, covered with a shingled roof, the sides clapboarded and painted. It was

into this house, just completed, that Mr. Burns moved his family about the first of June. Its pleasant location among the large old oaks on the bank of the stream gave it a cozy and homelike appearance.

This house was occupied by Mr. Burns and his family for several years, until it took fire from some defect in the chimney and burned to the ground with the most of its contents. He then built another house on the site of the first, which it somewhat resembles in general external appearance, although its internal arrangements are of more modern style. This building is yet standing, and is used as the farm residence of the occupant of the land.

Mr. Burns opened up a farm on his claim, but gave his attention principally to stock-raising and the dairy. The early settlers were for many years greatly dependent on Mr. Burns for *good*, fresh butter, eggs and chickens, while Mr. Burns furnished them fresh beef from his herd. The claim and vicinity furnished an extensive range for his cattle, and afforded unlimited meadows of grass-land for their winter's supply of hay. His surplus of the farm always found ready sale on Wabasha prairie or with the immigrants that came into the county to settle.

When Mr. Burns first took possession of his claim he obtained permission of the Sioux to occupy the land, cut the timber and build a house on it. For this permit he gave the Indians two barrels of flour and a barrel of pork. This he paid under the impression and with the belief that he was purchasing their rights to the land. He always after maintained that he bought his claim from their chief Wabasha, and that no one had a better right to it than himself.

At the time he took possession there were two or three large Indian tepees standing in the vicinity of where his house was built. They were about 15×20, of the same style and structure as those found on Wabasha prairie and in the mouth of Gilmore valley. This locality was the special home of Wabasha and his family relatives when living in this vicinity. It was sometimes called Wabasha's garden by the old settlers.

Quite a number of Indian graves were on these grounds. Nearly in front of the farmhouse there were two or three graves of more modern burial lying side by side. These were said to be the last resting-place of some of Wabasha's relatives. The Sioux made a special request of Mr. Burns and his family that these graves should not be disturbed. This Mr. Burns promised, and the little

mounds, covered with billets of wood, were never molested, although they were in his garden and not far from his house. For many years they remained as they were left by the Indians, until the wood by which they were covered had rotted away entirely. A light frame or fence of poles put there by Mr. Burns always covered the locality during his lifetime.

For several years after Mr. Burns located here the Sioux who visited this part of the territory were accustomed to make it their camping-grounds. Although they were unwelcome visitors, and their arrival always dreaded by the female portion of the family, Mr. Burns was never annoyed by their presence,—they were never troublesome. To allay any demonstrations of timidity on the part of Mrs. Burns or her daughters, he would chidingly remark, “Sure ye have no cause for fear,—didn’t I buy the land from old Wabasha himself—and pay him his own price for it too—a barrel of pork and two barrels of flour? They will not harm ye—don’t be bothering about the Indians, now.”

Mr. Burns never lost anything by the Indians. His property was never disturbed, and in but one particular were they ever familiar or assumed possession of anything without permission. During the first season Mr. Burns had a field of corn and pumpkins on new breaking. The corn was a poor crop, but the pumpkins were plentiful. Thinking to make some contributions to them, Mrs. Burns gave the squaws permission to take all the pumpkins they desired. The squaws helped themselves liberally. Every season afterward the squaws made an annual visit and swarmed into Mr. Burns’ cornfields. They carried off “Mrs. Burns’ pumpkins,” but left the corn for the blackbirds to forage on.

Mr. Burns was appointed a justice of the peace, by Gov. Ramsey, not long after he came here. He was the second justice of the peace appointed in Wabasha county; the first was T. K. Allen, of Minnesota City. He held the position until his successor was elected in the fall of 1853.

“The rich Irish brogue” plainly revealed the Milesian origin of Mr. Burns. His quaint expressions are pleasantly remembered by his friends and acquaintances. As a justice of the peace his court was a session of comic drollery that was heartily enjoyed by the settlers. His rulings and decisions were given from an intuitive and impulsive feeling of right and justice, rather than from his comprehension of the law governing the cases. His honesty of purpose

was never questioned; as a citizen he had the respect of the early settlers.

Mr. Burns, his wife, and their daughter Elicia, died on their farm in the mouth of Burns valley,—on the claim where they settled in 1852. Mrs. Burns died in September, 1860, Mr. Burns in March, 1870. The homestead is yet in possession of one of the family. It is owned by Miss Maggie Burns, one of their daughters. Mary, the other daughter, is now known as Mrs. E. S. Smith, of the city of Winona. An interesting family of sons and daughters, young ladies and gentlemen, now call her “mother.” “Bill” Burns has gone west.

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## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### RESPECTABILITY. .

AMONG the settlers on Wabasha prairie during the early part of the summer of 1852 were the Rev. Hiram S. Hamilton and his son Charles S. Hamilton, who arrived about the first of June. After exploring the prairie in search of claims, without settling on any, they made choice of one across the slough at the foot of the Sugar-Loaf Bluff, where they built a small claim shanty and commenced pioneer life. Finding the location a lonesome and unpleasant one, they moved their shanty and housekeeping material over on the prairie, and put it up on the bank of the river—on a mound at about what is now the foot of Main street.

After living on the levee for a short time, they moved into the shanty on claim No. 2—the claim held by Caleb Nash. While living there, H. S. Hamilton acquired possession of the claim, and soon after built a house on the bank of the river, a little way above where the saw-mill of the Winona Lumber Company now stands. He here located himself with his family, consisting of his wife and two sons, Charles S. and Eugene, and made it his home for about ten years, when he sold his property on Wabasha prairie to Henry D. Huff and moved on a farm in the southeast part of Wisconsin, where he died a few years ago.

Rev. Hiram S. Hamilton, or, as he was most commonly called, “Elder Hamilton,” was a prominent and well-known citizen of this



county in the pioneer days of its settlement. Through his influence very many of the early settlers came into the territory, and a large number of his relations and personal friends, as well as strangers, were induced to settle in this county, many of them on Wabasha prairie, now the city of Winona.

Mr. Hamilton was a gentleman of liberal education, of fine personal appearance, pleasing and entertaining in his manners, but of quiet, unobtrusive habits. He was a Congregational minister, and had preached for many years before he came here. On account of poor health he resigned his position as pastor of a church in Dubuque and came to Minnesota, expecting to be benefited by the change of climate and locality. At Dubuque he was popular with his congregation and held in high esteem as a citizen. During his residence in Minnesota he was popular as a preacher and respected by the early settlers, among whom he had many warm friends who knew him personally, many who now hold pleasant recollection and retain that respect to his memory.

From the time he first landed on Wabasha prairie until after the society of the Congregational church was organized, of which he was the pastor, he preached quite regularly to attentive congregations of mixed religious ideas and beliefs. His well written and impressively delivered sermons were interesting and instructive, and were always listened to with respectful attention. Their influence helped to maintain a moral restraint over the community of unorganized citizens, of a locality in which uncertain public opinion was the controlling law. His services were gratuitously disposed, but were none the less valued or beneficial in the settlement.

Although Elder Hamilton lawfully came in possession of and lawfully held claim No. 2, the circumstances and manner by which the claim was secured caused a feeling of opposition from interested individuals, which, for a time, threatened to lessen his influence as a teacher or adviser, but public opinion indorsed his action in the matter. His popularity as a preacher was maintained, and his reputation as a citizen was unimpaired by the transaction.

The charges against him by his opponents were, that he had taken possession of and held the claim regardless of the rights of others; that in his proceedings in the matter he had laid aside his "Sunday clothes" and descended to the level of other settlers, and "jumped the claim."

Claim jumping was not considered as a criminal offense in public

opinion if sustained by the laws governing claims. The wrong, if any was committed, was generally forgiven and forgotten by the public if the attempt was successful, and particularly if the claim proved to be valuable. Some incidents relative to the change of proprietors of claim No. 2 will be given to show the circumstances under which it was jumped.

Charles S. Hamilton was about seventeen or eighteen years of age when he came here with his father. He was a reckless, dashing and rather fast young man, inclined to be inconsiderate and forward in his manners. He was brought here to withdraw him from the evil influences of "young America" in Dubuque. Although "gassy" and volatile, Charlie was not considered a vicious boy, and for awhile he was a general favorite with the settlers,— his restless freedom was more amusing than offensive. Many things were overlooked because he was Elder Hamilton's son. Without occupation he amused himself in hunting and fishing and in explorations of the country. He studied the mystery of claims among the groups of settlers who gathered to discuss this general topic of conversation.

Learning the history, condition and approximate value at which every claim was held, he became interested in the idea of forming a stock company and laying out another town site on the Nash claim. Nash had made his claim under the instructions of Johnson, and held it under his directions and patronage, hardly conscious that it was his own by right. Knowing this condition of the claim, Charlie proposed his plan to Johnson and W. B. Gere, who favored the scheme. Johnson readily induced Nash to enter into an arrangement with them and become one of the company.

The plan proposed was, that Nash should transfer his claim to the new company for a specified consideration, when it was to be surveyed and plotted for the company, composed of E. H. Johnson, W. B. Gere, Caleb Nash and Charles S. Hamilton. To secure equal rights and privileges to the proprietors, the services of a lawyer in La Crosse were secured, to draw up all necessary papers, by making him also one of the stockholders.

As a preliminary movement, a quit-claim deed was drawn up, transferring all of the right and interest of Nash in the claim to Johnson and Co. This deed was given to Charlie Hamilton, to procure the signature of Nash. Except a nominal consideration, the payment of the full amount agreed upon was postponed until the company was organized.

To get the signature of Nash to this quit-claim deed Charlie went to "Goddard's," where Nash was then stopping, laid up on account of sickness. On learning the object of his visit Mrs. Goddard advised Nash against signing any papers until he received the money down for his claim. Her advice was unheeded. Charlie Hamilton's representations that "it was all right"—"only to show that he meant business, so that they could organize the company"—induced Nash to sign his name.

In narrating this occurrence "Aunt Catharine" said, "I suppose the boys thought I did not know anything about business, but poor Nash was sorry enough afterward that he did not listen to me, when I told him he was giving his claim away."

The deed was given into the hands of the "attorney of the company," at La Crosse, for safe keeping. To secure the claim and prevent Nash or anyone else from attempting to get possession, it was proposed to allow Elder Hamilton to occupy the claim, and utilize him as a tool in the affair.

H. S. Hamilton and Charlie were then living in their shanty on the public levee. By "request of the company," he was induced to move into and occupy the Nash shanty until the necessary papers were made out and the company were ready for business. He accordingly took possession, sent for his family and made it his home. He thus became an actual settler on the claim, and its sole possessor in full conformity with the laws governing claims.

The "joint stock company" lost all right, title and interest in the claim they had induced Nash to transfer to them. Neither the company nor individuals of the company were ever able to dispossess Mr. Hamilton, or obtain remuneration for the losses resulting from this failure of their scheme, although several suits at law were brought to recover damages. Some effort was made to arouse sympathy for Nash, whose claim, it was reported, had been jumped by Elder Hamilton, but without avail. The settlers generally understood the matter and took sides with the elder.

H. S. Hamilton afterward obtained a quit-claim deed direct from Caleb Nash, giving him a reasonable compensation for it, although he had previously relinquished his rights to it to Johnson and Co. It is said of Nash, by those who knew him, that he was an industrious and well-disposed young man, of very moderate acquirements. He had unlimited confidence in Johnson, who really held the claim through him and actually controlled it. Caleb Nash left

Wabasha prairie and went down the river in the spring of 1853. It is not known that he ever returned to the territory.

Rev. H. S. Hamilton held quiet possession of claim No. 2, now known as "Hamilton's addition," until about the time of the public land sale, when he became involved in another "difference" relative to it, which eventually resulted in bringing about a division of the Congregational church, by the withdrawal of a part of its members and an organization of another society, the Presbyterian church.

When Henry C. Gere brought his family to Wabasha prairie he attempted to take possession of the Stevens claim, but was prevented by the decisive opposition of Mr. Stevens and his friends. Professing to have a just right to the claim, he was not satisfied to let the matter rest. Not daring to attempt a forcible entry on the land, and as there was no legal authority to appeal to, Mr. Gere made application to the Wabasha Protection Club for aid to secure possession.

A majority of the members of the claim club were non-residents, living in La Crosse. The constitution and by-laws of the club, to which every member was required to affix his signature, provided that all questions of difference relative to claims should be examined by a committee of three appointed by the club for that purpose, who were required to make a report of their action to that body for its final decision. Each party was entitled to counsel and allowed to present witnesses.

Mr. Gere's appeal was duly referred to a special committee for investigation. After numerous adjourned meetings, at which the parties appeared with their attorneys and witnesses, without arriving at a decision, it was agreed to submit the matter to arbitrators. The referees were Jacob S. Denman, of Wabasha prairie, and F. M. Rublee, of La Crosse.

Attorneys and witnesses came up from La Crosse two or three times to attend this arbitration court before an agreement could be effected. The case was finally settled by the parties consenting to divide the claim between them,—Silas Stevens to retain the west eighty acres, and the east eighty was to be given up to Henry C. Gere.

It was said that the sympathies of the members of the club and of the referees were on the side of Gere. Mr. Gere was a large, fine-looking man of social habits and pleasing manners, a smooth talker that could represent his own side of the question. He was a



poor man and had a large family dependent on his individual efforts for their support.

Mr. Stevens was supposed to have considerable capital which he was using in speculations. He was not a popular man with settlers in a new country. He was a rigid church member, a strict and zealous temperance man, and in politics an abolitionist from the old whig party. He was a man firm in his own opinions and in his own ideas of right, and was self-reliant in all of his business affairs. He discouraged familiarity and but few comprehended him as a man.

Silas Stevens was a native of the State of New York, born in 1799; in 1829 removed to Pennsylvania; in 1840 moved to Illinois, driving through with his own teams; in 1841 settled on a farm in Lake county, Illinois. In the spring of 1851, leaving the management of his farm to his son Wm. H. Stevens, then a young man living with his mother and sister on the homestead, he visited the upper Mississippi for the purpose of making investments. He stopped at La Crosse, where he opened a lumber yard and speculated in real estate, claims, etc.—moderately and carefully, never indulging in wild schemes.

It was through Mr. Stevens that Gere came to La Crosse, where he placed him with his family on a claim to hold until a sale could be effected. Mr. Stevens furnished the supplies, and, with the men employed in his lumber yard, boarded with the family. He also employed Gere in his lumber yard as salesman, where Gere's pretentious style led many to suppose that he was the responsible head in the business.

In Illinois both Stevens and Gere were zealous members of the same church. In La Crosse Mr. Gere found different society. The free and easy sociability and western style of speculation to which he was introduced, suited his active temperament and visionary style of business.

Early in the winter Gere attempted to secure the claim he was holding for Mr. Stevens, but was prevented by Mr. Stevens entering it at the land office before Gere could file his pre-emption papers. From this transaction Mr. Stevens lost confidence in Gere, and all friendship ceased. He dissolved all association, for Gere had represented that they were partners in their business transactions.

Mr. George W. Clark, who was in Mr. Stevens' employ at that time, says he never heard of a partnership between the two men. Gere took charge of business when Mr. Stevens was temporarily

absent. Mr. Stevens once bought a raft of lumber on which he was given thirty days' time. Being asked for an indorser, he, for form's sake, asked Gere to sign the note with him. The security was satisfactory and the note was paid by Mr. Stevens when due.

Mr. Stevens retained the half of the claim which he had made in good faith for himself, in the fall previous. The other half as justly belonged to him. He submitted to this division as a final settlement of all difficulties with Gere. The west eighty of the original Stevens claim is now known as Stevens' addition.

Leaving his affairs in Minnesota in the hands of his son, W. H. Stevens, Silas Stevens continued his speculations elsewhere for a year or two longer, when he made arrangements to locate permanently in Winona, but never accomplished this design. While on his way here from Galena with horses, traveling by land, he was taken with cholera and died after a few hours' sickness. His death occurred at Fayette, La Fayette county, Wisconsin, on July 20, 1854.

His wife and daughter had already moved to Winona, where they made it their home while living. His daughter was the wife of H. C. Bolcom, a well known citizen, who came here in 1854.

Wm. H. Stevens is the oldest settler now living on Wabasha prairie, the oldest inhabitant of the city of Winona. Norman B. Stevens, an older brother, came here in 1856, and is now living in the city of Winona.

After the death of Silas Stevens the Stevens claim passed into the possession of W. H. Stevens. He sold an undivided interest in it to Wm. Ashley Jones and E. S. Smith. It was surveyed into lots and streets on the same scale as the original town site of Smith and Johnson, and designated as Stevens' addition.

Wm. H. Stevens has been interested in many of the enterprises by which the city of Winona has been developed. He has held several official positions. In the fall of 1853 he was elected justice of the peace. He has served as deputy sheriff. In later years he was a member of the board of education. In 1872 and in 1873 he was a member of the state legislature as senator from the eighth district in Winona county.

Mrs. Stevens, the wife of Wm. H. Stevens, was an early settler in this county. She came here in 1852 and lived in the colony at Rolling Stone with her relatives. She is a sister of Mrs. S. D. Putman and of S. A. and O. H. Houk, who were members of the association. In the fall and winter of that year Mrs. Stevens (then

Miss "Hetty" Houk) taught the first district school at Minnesota city that was ever held in southern Minnesota; she also taught the first district school ever opened in the city of Winona, in the fall of 1854.

About July 1, 1852, Byron A. Viets came up from La Crosse with a small drove of cattle, principally cows and young stock. He landed them on Wabasha prairie, where he was successful in disposing of his entire herd to the settlers on the prairie and at Rolling Stone.

In a trade with Johnson he purchased two or three lots in the town plot. This was the first sale of lots after the claim was surveyed and plotted; the first sale of real estate in the new town or village of Montezuma, now city of Winona.

One of these lots, purchased by Mr. Viets, was lot 2, block 10, on Front street; another was lot 4, block 14. The quit-claim deeds by which the title to these lots was transferred from Smith and Johnson to Byron A. Viets, were placed on record in the office of the register of deeds of Washington county at Stillwater, the county seat.

Mr. Viets also bought a claim of eighty acres lying between the claim held by Wm. B. Gere and the one held by Elijah Silsbee. It was early discovered that the Beecher-Gere claim was an expansive one, covering more territory than allowed by law, and S. K. Thompson gave notice that he had selected a claim in that locality, but he failed to protect it by improvements.

It was in nominal possession of several different persons who jumped it one from another, while each failed to occupy it. Early in the summer Isaac W. Simonds came up from La Crosse and took possession of it. It was said that he was in the employ of Peter Burns. To show that it was a claim held by a bona fide settler, he planted a few potatoes and cultivated a small patch of ground. This garden spot was in the vicinity of where the State Normal School now stands.

It was generally understood among the settlers that this was Thompson's claim, although he had not occupied it,—he was living with John Evans at the time. In the absence of Simonds at La Crosse, where he made his home, Thompson took possession by building the customary log pen, and with the aid of John Evans held it for a short time. To settle this claim dispute, it was agreed that Thompson and Simonds should hold the land jointly or divide it between them.



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Without the knowledge of Thompson, Mr. Simonds traded off the claim to Mr. Viets, and gave him possession. Thompson lost his interest without realizing anything from the sale. Mr. Viets built a shanty on it, and on the 20th of July brought his family from La Crosse, and became an actual resident on the prairie.

Having some surplus funds, Mr. Viets at once made arrangements to improve his town lots. He decided to build a house for the accommodation of the traveling public on lot 2, block 10, fronting on the levee. He brought up material and carpenters from La Crosse, and put up a building about  $24 \times 28$ , a story and a half high — a low porch extended across the front. It was afterward, in 1853, improved by the addition of a long one-story attachment in the rear for dining-room, kitchen, etc. This was at first known as "Viets Tavern," then as the "Viets House," but was better known to the early settlers as the "Winona Hotel," and later as the old "Winona House."

This house was built in August. The roof was the second on the prairie covered with shingles. The first was on the house of John Evans, on the Evans claim, the third was on the shanty built by Dr. Balcombe, and the fourth on the house built by Elder Ely, on the corner of Center and Second streets. In October the rooms in the lower part of the house were plastered. The first plastered rooms on the prairie were in the house of Elder Ely. Mr. Viets occupied this tavern for about two months, when he leased it to David Olmsted for a private residence, and moved his family down to La Crosse to spend the winter.

Late in this season Hon. David Olmsted, accompanied by a brother, arrived at Winona from Fort Atkinson, Iowa. They came through the country on the same trail Mr. Olmsted had traveled before when he accompanied the Winnebagoes on their removal from Iowa to Long Prairie, Minnesota. The trail was up through Money Creek valley, and along the divide between the Burns and Gilmore valley, on the old government trail leading down the ravine back of George W. Clark's residence. They traveled on foot from Fort Atkinson to Wabasha prairie, packing their camp supplies on a pony which they brought along.

Mr. Olmsted then proposed to locate himself on Wabasha prairie and make it his home. He leased the Viets House for a residence, and had some furniture sent on and stored there, but his wife remained east on a visit, and did not return until the following spring.

In the meantime Mr. Olmsted changed his plans and located in St. Paul. This part of the territory was always a favorite locality with Mr. Olmsted. He came to Winona in 1855, and made it his home while he remained in Minnesota. On account of poor health he removed to Vermont, where he died of consumption in 1861. The memory of David Olmsted deserves more than this brief notice of one of the early settlers of this county, and if space permits farther reference will be made of his residence in this locality.

In 1852, when David Olmsted leased the house of Mr. Viets, he placed it and the furniture stored there in the care of Edwin Hamilton, who lived alone in it during the winter.

About the last of January, 1853, Mr. Viets learned that a stranger was occupying his claim on Wabasha prairie that he bought of Simonds. He came up with his wife to look after it. On arriving here, he found that a man by the name of Benjamin had jumped his claim, and was then in possession of it, professing to hold it as an abandoned claim.

Mr. Viets, accompanied by Wm. B. Gere, went immediately to his shanty with their revolvers in their hands and requested the claim jumper to vacate the locality as soon as possible. Not being able to resist so urgent a request presented for his consideration, he hurriedly left the claim and went back to La Crosse, where he had been living. It was said this man was in the employ of a Mr. Healy, for whom he had jumped the claim.

In the spring Mr. Viets sold out all of his interest on Wabasha prairie and moved back to La Crosse, where he settled in La Crosse county.

About the first of July, 1852, George M. Gere came up from La Crosse and settled on Wabasha prairie. He brought with him his wife and a very large family of children. He also brought up, with his household furniture, tools and material for a boot and shoe shop. He was the father of Wm. B. Gere, and brother of H. C. Gere.

For temporary accommodation they went to the shanty of H. C. Gere, where the two families lived together for a month or two. It was said that there were eighteen regular occupants of that little shanty, 12×16. The summer was dry and warm, and they found plenty of room outside without inconvenience.

In September, when Mr. Denman closed out his mercantile business and moved out on his claim, Mr. Gere leased his house on La Fayette street and occupied it with his family during the winter.

He was a boot and shoe maker by trade, and occupied the front room of his residence as a shop. He here started the first shop in the county for the manufacture and repairs of boots and shoes of the settlers.

The following spring he built a shanty on his son's claim. It stood on the south side of Wabasha street, back of where the high school building now stands. It was 16×32, one story with a shingled roof. He occupied this locality until he left Winona.

Not long after Mr. Gere came into the territory he was appointed a justice of the peace for the county of Wabasha, by Gov. Ramsey. After Fillmore county was created he was continued in the same official position. He was also elected justice of the peace at the first election, in the fall of 1853.

His shoe shop was his office and where he held his court. When he moved from the house belonging to Mr. Denman he built a small shop on the alley near the west side of La Fayette street, between Front and Second streets. His shop was a favorite lounging place for the settlers to while away an idle hour. His house was often used on Sundays for preaching and other religious exercises.

Mr. Gere was a large, dignified appearing man, about fifty years of age. His intimate friends speak of him with respect, as being an intelligent, consistent and exemplary christian gentleman; usually cheerful; a good-humored, companionable man, who enjoyed a harmless joke and innocent sport,—one who did not consider it a sin to smile when pleased.

Soon after Winona county was created Mr. Gere moved to Chatfield, then the county seat of Fillmore county. He left Winona about the first of July, 1854.

During the spring and summer of 1852 Andrew Cole, a lawyer, living in La Crosse, made frequent visits to Wabasha prairie. These visits were to acquire a knowledge of the country, to form the acquaintance of the settlers, speculate in claims, and also to attend to professional business.

Although there were no courts of justice, nor even a county organization, there was business for the lawyers in contesting the claim difficulties, which became frequent as soon as the settlers began to wrangle for what they considered to be the best claims or choicest locations. These claim disputes were sometimes brought before the claim clubs for settlement. It was important to have counsel who had some knowledge of claim laws. When justices



were appointed these claim disputes were for awhile tried before them, until it was discovered that, as matters relating to title in real estate, they were not under the jurisdiction of that court.

In the fall Mr. Cole brought his wife up from La Crosse and became a resident of Minnesota. He was the first lawyer to settle on Wabasha prairie—the first to settle in southern Minnesota for the practice of his profession. Being the only lawyer on the west side of the river, it was said that for the accommodation of his clients, he sometimes acted as counsel on both sides in the same suit, and at the same time acting as confidential adviser to the claim committee, or of the court, if matters of law were not clear to the inexperienced justices.

The house he occupied was one built by E. H. Johnson, which stood on lot 4, block 10, fronting on the levee. It was a small one-story building about 16×24, with a lean-to on the back part of the east side about 10×12. This was the third house with plastered rooms. The roof was shingled. There were seven buildings with shingled roofs at the close of this year.

Mr. Cole had his office in his residence. He occupied this place for three or four years, when he built a house on the corner of Fifth and Harriet streets, opposite the First Ward Park, where he lived during the remaining time of his residence in Winona. In about 1858 he went east and located himself in Poughkeepsie, New York, where he yet resides.

When Fillmore county was created Mr. Cole was appointed judge of probate by Gov. Ramsey. He was the first official in that position in this part of the territory along the Mississippi.

During the first three or four months after the settlement at Minnesota City was commenced, commendable zeal was exhibited by the members of the association at their meetings in providing for the general interest and future development of the colony. Matters of town organization, providing for public improvements—public buildings, roads, bridges, etc.,—were earnestly discussed and undertaken with a spirit of enterprise that was worthy of success.

They were ambitious and desirous of having a newspaper published in the colony. A subscription was circulated, and quite a sum promised as a bonus and for its support, provided a paper was started and a printing-office established at Minnesota City. Mr. Haddock was a practical printer, and from the encouragement offered decided to make the attempt and bring on material for starting a

small weekly newspaper, to be called the "Minnesota City Standard." While east after his family, then living in the city of New York, he procured a press and material for a printing-office, which he brought along as far as Dubuque, where he was compelled to leave it in store for want of funds to pay freight. He never brought his press up the river.

They decided to build a town hall: the lumber and material was purchased and brought on the grounds, but owing to sickness and its attendant misfortunes the project was abandoned and the material used for other purposes. The public spirit of the settlers of this colony would have made the association a success if the location had been a proper one.

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## CHAPTER XXIX.

### LOOKING AROUND.

EARLY in the season prominent individuals from St. Paul visited the colony and made considerable effort to induce the members of the association to abandon Rolling Stone and locate themselves on the Minnesota river above St. Paul. It was said that Gov. Ramsey himself visited the colony for that purpose. Mr. Haddock was opposed to any movement of this kind, and his influence was such that no propositions for a change of locality were for a moment entertained.

Mr. Haddock and the members of the association were under the impression that Minnesota City was on a navigable portion of the Mississippi, although the officers of the steamboats refused to go up through Straight slough and establish a landing place for the colony. They early took into consideration the advantages that would arise from making Minnesota City the terminus of a wagon-road into the interior, between the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers.

A committee was appointed to explore the interior of the territory and "find the most feasible route for a wagon-road from Minnesota City to the Great Bend of the St. Peters river at the mouth of the Blue Earth," with instructions to note the quality of the land, water and timber observed on the route over which they might pass. The committee were each allowed a dollar a day to defray their expenses while on the survey.

The committee consisted of Robert Pike, jr., Isaac M. Noracong and William Stevens. They left the colony on the 26th of June and reached Traverse des Sioux on the 3d of July, where Mr. Pike was compelled to lay up from disability to travel. Mr. Noracong and Mr. Stevens completed the survey to the mouth of the Blue Earth river. Mr. Noracong stopped for a few days at Mankato to consult with the proprietors of the new town then but just starting at that place, and returned by another route across the country, accompanied by D. A. Robertson, one of the proprietors of Mankato. Mr. Pike and Mr. Stevens took passage on the Black Hawk down the Minnesota river to St. Paul, and from there to Wabasha prairie, and thence by land to Minnesota City.

Mr. Pike drew up a report of the expedition, which was indorsed by Mr. Stevens, and presented it to the association as the report of the committee. It was formally accepted. Neither this report made by Mr. Pike nor a copy of it can now be found. It is said to have been a fair description of the country over which they passed, and recommended the route by way of Faribault to Traverse des Sioux as practicable for either a wagon-road or for a railroad at a comparatively moderate expense.

On his return, Mr. Noracong presented his report recommending a more southern route to Mankato. He found that the report made by Mr. Pike had been adopted, the matter disposed of and the committee discharged. The report of Mr. Noracong was listened to, but no action was taken by the association.

The report, in the handwriting of Mr. Noracong, has been preserved by the Hon. O. M. Lord. The following was copied from it :

Started June 26, 1852, and went to Mr. Sweet's claim on Rolling Stone prairie, a distance of about twelve miles; course south of west.

June 27, 7 A.M. From Sweet's took a south course one and a-half miles, and then a west course across a fine prairie to a grove of burr-oak timber, where we found a fine spring of water discharging itself in a sink; this place was claimed by Mr. Hollyer. From thence took a west course and at noon came to a spring brook, and thence, after going a short distance came to a branch of the White Water running to the north. Continued traveling over burr-oak openings until 3 P.M., when we came to the head branch of the White Water, a fine brook sixteen feet in width and an average depth of two inches, rock bottom, good cool water to drink; saw some trout. Went on three miles and crossed a tributary of the same. Here is a prairie eight miles wide east and west, and extending north and south as far as the eye can see. This prairie is in the valley of the White Water; the rise of land on either side is about thirty feet-

We rose on the upland and continued west on burr-oak openings. The upland here is not as good as that back of the valley we crossed, being more gravelly. Traveled on through openings sometimes thickly set with hazel and tall grass. At sundown came to a small ravine, where we found good running water, bearing to the northeast, and well timbered with maple, ironwood, basswood, white and burr oak, and some willows.

Monday 28, 6:15 A.M. Started, and at 7:20 A.M., after about three miles' travel, came to a small stream of pure water running to the north through a splendid burr-oak opening, good timber and land of good soil. To the view north, this brook seems to run through a splendid prairie valley of great extent. We here saw a wolf catching mice or frogs. At 8:10 A.M. the openings run as far north as the eye can see. At 8:40 A.M. we came on an elevated prairie of first-rate quality; cannot see the extent to the southeast; six miles to the south there is timber; north the openings continue about ten miles. Soon after, we came to an elevated prairie where we could see a large valley to the south of us. This valley lies east and west. We continued west along the high lands of this valley, supposing it to be the head source of Root river; traveling bad; the face of the country being much broken and thickly set with oak underbrush and hazel. The most of the ravines we crossed were dry, and we became very thirsty for water; after some trouble we found a spring. There are several high mounds or bluffs standing in the midst of the valleys that we crossed, surrounded by good grass lands; they make a very imposing appearance and look beautiful in the distance. We have crossed some red-top meadow lands that would cut from three to four tons of hay to the acre. At 4 P.M. came to a stream of water bearing northward, which I called at the first glance the Wassioshie; overhead, where I am writing, is floodwood and grass in a tree eighteen feet above the water in the river. The bed of this stream is about sixty feet wide, and an average depth of water of about five inches. The majority of the company being in favor of following the stream down (not being satisfied that it is the Wassioshie), we went down on the east side some three or four miles, forded the river and pitched our tent, while Stevens and Pike went north to an elevated bluff to reconnoiter; from their observations they were willing to proceed west and leave the river.

Tuesday, June 29. A very foggy morning. Through the heavy mist we could hear the distant roar of a cataract, to the northward. We went over the bluffs to the northwest, through the dew and hazel-brush, until we mounted an elevated place where we could see some distance. On the south there was a heavy and extensive grove of timber; also on the west—the greatest quantity we have yet seen. We here saw two deer feeding at a distance. From this point we diverged from our course to the north and east, in search of the cataract. We descended about two miles to the river, and found a heavy tributary coming in from the west, and at the immediate junction was the fall of water we had heard. The water here falls about eight or ten feet in thirty or forty. Here is quite a curiosity. The water at its highest pitch rises some sixteen feet above where it now is. Altogether, the scenery is romantic.

This stream proved to be the Wassioshie river. In these waters I saw the largest brook-trout that I have ever seen in the Western waters, and also some fine black bass. The bluffs are about two-thirds as high as they are in the rear of Wabasha prairie. We here saw the tepees of the redmen for the first



time, but they were of ancient date. Returned to where we left our baggage, two miles to the southwest; then took a west course, and traveled, over some rolling prairie and broken woodland, about six miles, when we came to a tributary of the north branch of the Wassioshie running north. This is also a fine stream of water—sufficient to do a large business. Forded the stream and pitched tent. We left this place on our regular west course; traveling bad, the lands being thickly set with different kinds of brush and tall grass found on prairies. Came into what we called second-growth timber, very thickly set with underbrush of the yellow oak, hazel, plum, crab-apple, whitethorn, blackberry, briers, etc. Not being of a disposition to bolt the course, we penetrated into them, and continued on for some time; but, finding such bad traveling, we made a halt and mounted a tree to reconnoiter. Nothing was to be seen south and west but the same that we had been in for two or three hours. On the north of the west branch of the Wassioshie saw a large prairie about two miles distant. We struck north for the prairie. In this valley is a fine stream of water sixty feet wide, with four to six inches depth. Camped for the night. Saw some large suckers and black bass.

Wednesday, June 30. Took our course northwest to a high mound and reconnoitered. Found that the stream we camped on came from the west of north, and that the south side was thickly set with second-growth timber. Having found, by experience the day before, that we had better keep clear of that kind of traveling, we continued on the north side. After following up this branch about ten miles we struck north about a mile and came on an elevated prairie, that we could not reach its eastern extent with the naked eye, and appeared to extend some distance north. On the west we could not see its limits; it was dotted with groves of burr-oak and poplar. Starting west, we encountered some large tracts of hazel-brush, but continued to travel on until sundown. We here found ourselves on a dividing ridge without water or wood, and could not pitch our tent. In the west we could see timber in the distance, about eight miles off; in the south the timber opened so that we could see through, and discovered that there was a large prairie in that direction. We continued west through grass on the prairie often as high as the brim of my hat, and scarce any less than to my hips. The rain was falling and wind blowing strong from the northeast. Traveling on, by wind and compass, we came to a swamp, where we found some *good swamp water*. Taking a bucketful with us, we reached the timber, and penetrated an *awful* thicket, to get out of the wind. When we had pitched our tent and made a fire the watch said 11 o'clock, in a rainy night. We then had our suppers to cook, for we had eaten nothing from the time we took our breakfast except dry bread and raw pork.

Thursday, July 1. We made a start west. The water here evidently runs to the west and north. We found bad traveling through hazel-brush, swamps and wet meadows, with very high grass of bluejoint.

At 11 o'clock A.M. we came to a small stream of water running to the north and west, that proved to be a branch of the Cannon river. Continuing west through thickets thickly set with underbrush, consisting of prickly ash, blackberry-briers, greenbriers, grapevines and nettles, we struck a small stream of water, the bottoms of which were covered with heavy timber. Following this down, we came to a large stream, which proved to be the eastern branch of the Cannon river. On the west side was a large prairie. A majority of the company

being in favor of following down this stream, we at once forded it, and after going about two miles struck an Indian trail, which we traveled on down to the valleys, where we found a Frenchman who could talk good English. From him we learned that we were forty miles from Traverse des Sioux, and from thence eighteen miles to the Blue Earth. We then set out on the Indian trail for Traverse des Sioux, the trail leading through a fine valley of bottom prairie, in which flows the north branch of the Cannon river. On the north of this branch the whole country is heavy timbered to its source; the east side of the south branch is also heavy timbered with elm, maple, black-walnut, butternut, ash, etc. Between these forks are extensive rolling prairies, frequently dotted with burr-oak groves.

Traveling until nearly sunset, we pitched our tent on the bank of a beautiful lake. There are three beautiful small lakes on this branch, with pretty generally bold gravelly shores and clear water. There were numerous dead fish lying on the beach,—suckers, mullet, bass, pant and pickerel. On the north of the lakes is heavy timber; some on the south.

Friday July 2. Took an early start expecting to get through today. We traveled over a very broken country; not so bad, however, as to be unfit for cultivation. The country over which we passed in the forenoon is better adapted for stock, there being extensive meadow lands on the shores of the lakes.

After dinner we came to the head of the lakes, where we were some troubled in finding the right trail; the trail diverging off in different directions and very dim at this place. Soon after we succeeded in getting on the right trail we found ourselves in a different country altogether; it was up hill and down, through a swamp, over a knoll, through the brush, into a swamp, and so on until 3 P.M., when we came to a lake on our left, or south side; following along this lake, winding our way through a swamp connected with it, then through an island of timber and another swamp, and so on until we camped for the night, on the bank of the lake, in an Indian tepee. The water of the lake was so full of particles of something, that we were obliged to strain it for drinking or cooking purposes.

The lake was on the south and a large watery marsh on the north, the outlet of which we forded a short distance from our camp. All the dry land, from the place where we struck the lake, is heavy timbered and of good soil. I think three-fourths of the face of the country here is taken up with lakes and swamps.

On the north side of this lake there were several swamps connecting with it, and there was a plain visible embankment of stone and earth thrown across them; the stone were granite boulders or hard head, of which there were an abundance of this section of country. These embankments could not be easily mistaken, for some parts of them were four or five feet high, where the rocks could be seen on both sides; they answered for a road to cross on. At one place, where it appeared the outlet of the lake was, there were two streams of water flowing out of the lake into the marsh; here the boulders could be seen peering above the water in a direct line, from one point of high land to another, on the opposite side.

These stone have evidently been placed there by artificial means—of this there is no doubt, but by whom is not known and probably never will be.

This lake is very likely the head fountain of the Vermilion river, that empties into the Mississippi, some distance above the Cannon. On the shores of this lake there were dead fish of different kinds, showing that these waters were stocked with fish.

Saturday, July 3. Traveled over islands of timber, and through brush and morasses — the timber was of good quality — saw several small lakes and some sugar-houses. It was a rainy morning, and although it continued raining we kept on traveling, and came out of the timber into brush from two to eight feet high, overhanging the trail; the only way to follow a trail in such a case is to go where the feet go the easiest. We crossed several morasses and at last reached a bank, and down a hill we soon came out into the valley of the Minnesota, opposite Traverse des Sioux. We followed the trail down a short distance and then struck for the buildings on the other side of the river. We soon found ourselves in a morass, or quagmire, which had the appearance as if there was sulphur or salt water in it; did not admire the place and did not taste of the water. This continued from the bank nearly to the river.

At the river an Indian boy came to us with a canoe, but no paddles; we managed to cross safely by using small round sticks for paddles. We proceeded direct to the house of the Rev. Mr. Huggins, at the Mission, and took dinner at a house for the first time in seven days. Mr. Huggins and lady appeared to be very accommodating and refined people; they were good and kind to us, and will be remembered by me in time to come. This place has been long settled by civilized people.

Our provisions having run out, we here got a new supply. Stevens and myself started for the Blue Earth (Mr. Pike having a boil on his ankle, which affected the nerve to the knee and upward). We fell in with two young men that were going to where a Mr. Babcock was building a saw-mill, and reached the place about sundown. It was on the east side of the Minnesota, five miles above Traverse des Sioux. We were kindly received and put up for the night with them. Here fell in with a company of men that came the overland route from Jackson, Iowa, with two wagons and sixteen yoke of cattle, some cows, one horse, breaking plows, etc. They were twenty-one days coming through.

Sunday, July 4. We shouldered our packs and wended our way for the Blue Earth. The trail led through a fine prairie descending toward the river; the high lands to the east are heavy timbered. We diverged from the trail to get a drink, and in the bed of the stream we found stone coal. A specimen I brought home and tested by the fire, and found that it burned well.

Arrived at the town of Mankato about noon. Finding that the *boys* of this place were dressing a large turtle, we held on and took dinner with them. After dinner, started for the Blue Earth, a distance of two miles above the town, and soon reached the long looked-for locality. Traveled up some distance and then returned to the junction and down the Minnesota to Mankato, where we put up for the night. Having accomplished our purpose, we resolved to make a canoe on the following day, and return home by descending the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers.

Monday, July 5. Slept late; soon after getting up, news came that a steamboat was within hearing; soon after, the Black Hawk made her appearance. We at once resolved to return on the steamer. The Mankato company came on this boat. Learning where I was from and the business I was on,



they wished me to stop a few days with them. I accordingly did so. Stevens left with the boat for home.

Mankato is pleasantly situated on the east side of the Minnesota, directly on the great bend of the river and two miles below the confluence of the Blue Earth, on an elevated rise of ground, sufficiently above high-water mark, but not so much so as to make it inconvenient of access at any place for some distance up and down the river. It is located on a prairie of good quality of soil, well watered and plenty of timber. It has been regularly laid out by a competent surveyor. This place, from the observations I could make, must eventually be the great western terminus of a railroad from Minnesota city on the Mississippi to the waters of the Minnesota river. Having traveled through the country on two different routes, mostly, I find no obstacles in the way of any kind of a road from the former to the latter place. My impression is, that Mankato is decidedly the place for the termination of roads of any kind. The face of the country farther north is so thickly set with lakes and swamps and marshes, that it will cost a vast amount of money to erect bridges and build roads. The route for a road from Mankato to the southeast waters of the Cannon river is mostly on a dividing ridge and principally on prairie of good soil, well adapted for farming purposes and the raising of stock.

From Mankato to the La Seur river, which empties into the Blue Earth about two miles from its junction with Minnesota, is about six miles. The land is good for a road and is well timbered. After crossing the La Seur there is timber for about three-fourths of a mile, then it is prairie and opening to the southeast waters of the Cannon, where there is a prairie extending east out of reach of the naked eye.

I. M. NORACONG.

The country over which we have traveled in the direction of Minnesota City is well adapted for roads, and I have no doubt, from what I have seen, that a good wagon-road may be made at a small expense from Mankato to Minnesota City. I also believe that the Mankato company would unite with the Minnesota City company in making the roads, and make, as their proposition, the western fifty miles.

D. A. ROBERTSON.

Mr. Robertson was one of the "Mankato Company"—one of the original town proprietors and first settlers in Mankato. It was through his influence that Mr. Noracong remained at that place to discuss the feasibility of opening a road. Mr. Robertson accompanied Mr. Noracong on his return across the country, and appended the above proposition to the report of Mr. Noracong to the association.

This committee was sent out by the association to explore the country and ascertain the feasibility of opening a wagon-road from Minnesota City to the great bend of the Minnesota river, and not for the purpose of making a preliminary survey for a proposed railroad route to St. Peters, as has been sometimes represented in newspaper articles. The real object was to establish a highway into the back country from the colony; to secure the advantages of a



main traveled route, when the country should be settled, and to make the terminus of the road at Minnesota City. The recommendation of the route for the purposes of a railroad was but an incidental part of the report.

The first mail route ever established across the country in the southern part of the territory was between Minnesota City and Traverse des Sioux, over nearly the same route traveled by this committee. The contractor was O. M. Lord, of Minnesota City.

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## CHAPTER XXX.

### REFLECTIONS.

THERE is no doubt but what Haddock and Murphy were conscientious in their acts when they located the colony at Rolling Stone. They reported to the association that their village site was on the Mississippi, and it was believed that such was the case. Mr. Haddock was the leading spirit of the organization, and apparently controlled it by a sort of mesmeric influence. For the first three months the colonists had almost unbounded confidence in their leader. He made a mistake when he assumed it to be a fact that Straight slough was a navigable channel; and, firm in his belief, he impressed the same idea on the settlers, and it was a year or two before they were fully convinced to the contrary.

Mr. Haddock assumed that the reason why Minnesota City was not made a landing-place for the steamboats was because the management of the boats was in the hands of men interested in rival town sites. This was believed by the settlers, because repeated applications had been made to have the boats land passengers at the colony during the high water, but without success; none would make the attempt.

When the flood in the river had subsided and the water was confined to its ordinary channels, and about the time that the report of the committee which had been sent to explore the back country was received, it was considered important that a landing should be established on Straight slough. The matter was freely discussed in the meetings of the association, and referred to a committee for investigation.

This committee, with other members equally interested in establishing the fact that navigation was practicable, made, as they supposed, a thorough survey of Straight slough, from its head, above Minnesota City, to its mouth, a short distance above Johnson's landing. A chart was drawn showing soundings, etc. The committee reported that there were no serious obstacles in the way, and that the slough was navigable for the largest boats running on the upper Mississippi.

At the time of this survey the slough next to the bluff, which empties into Straight slough nearly opposite Minnesota City, was given the name of Haddock slough, the name by which it is now known. Mr. Haddock had selected the shore next to the bluffs, above where Mr. Burley now lives, as a proper landing-place for immediate purposes. A landing-place on the slough below was selected for future improvement.

The committee were instructed to present the matter before the proprietors of the steamboat lines at Galena, by whom it was referred to Capt. Smith. Notwithstanding their chart demonstrated the feasibility of a free passage through Straight slough, Capt. Smith considered the route impracticable; and, as it was charged against him that his opposition to it was because of his holding an interest on Wabasha prairie, he consented to allow his own boat, the Nominee, to make a trial trip under the pilotage of the committee.

The success of the committee thus far was duly reported to the Association. So confident were the colonists of the arrival of the steamboat that many of them went down to the landing at Wabasha prairie to meet the boat, while the whole settlement prepared to give it a joyful welcome. For this trip the Nominee was given in charge of the first clerk, with instructions to go through the slough, if possible, without delay. The boat, with Mr. Brook as captain, arrived at Johnson's about noon on Sunday. As the trip was a holiday excursion the settlers on the prairie were invited to make a social visit to the colony.

The Nominee started up Straight slough under the guidance of the committee. After ascending for a mile or so the boat struck a bar and came to a sudden stop. By some oversight this obstruction had not been noted on the chart. After repeated attempts to pass this barrier without success, the officers of the boat decided that Straight slough was not navigable by the Nominee at that stage of water.

This failure was a great disappointment to the settlers, both at Minnesota City and at Wabasha prairie. The boat swung around and steamed back to Wabasha prairie, and, after discharging the excursionists, started up the river under the guidance of her own pilot.

The failure of the Nominee to go through Straight slough was a serious blow to the colony. The ideal maritime port of Mr. Had-dock was unfortunately at least six miles from any practicable steamboat landing. Still the colonists were not wholly disheart-ened. Many of them believed that the slough might be made practicably navigable by opening a passage over the bar, the only obstruction that was supposed to exist. During the following winter the colonists built a large log building on the bank of the slough opposite Minnesota City, which they designed for a warehouse and landing-place. A road was surveyed across the bottom, but never improved. No passengers or freight were ever landed there. No attempt was ever made to improve the navigation of Straight slough.

The extreme high water was followed by an extreme low stage of water in the river. The summer of 1852 was hot and dry, and the miasma eliminated from the sloughs and large marshes in the im-mediate vicinity of Minnesota City rendered that locality particu-larly unhealthy. Serious bilious diseases afflicted the settlers in the colony. They were mostly from the Eastern States, unacclima-ted, unprotected by suitable dwellings, and a large majority of them incompetent and unsuited for pioneer life. A few deaths occurred early in the season, and exaggerated accounts of the sickness and mortality at Minnesota City were put in circulation and prevented many from locating there. The most common disease was inter-mittent and remittent fevers.

There were no regular medical practitioners belonging to the association or living on the west side of the river; domestic treat-ment and patent medicines were generally depended on. Quinine was quite extensively relied upon in these malarious diseases. One of the colonists was attacked with intermittent fever, for which a neighbor recommended quinine. He sent for a pound or two of quinine by a friend who had business at St. Paul. From insuffi-cient funds only four ounces were procured. When the bill of \$20 was presented the exorbitant charges of the St. Paul druggist was strongly condemned. The neighbor who had prescribed the article

was called in to dose out the medicine, and he explained that it was a dram or two he had recommended him to send for instead of a pound or two. "The Squire" said, in relating the incident, "I knew nothing about the stuff—any way, it was no serious mistake, because it was needed in the settlement, and the neighbors took it off my hands without any pecuniary loss."

It was said that not a settler in the colony escaped an attack of fever and ague. Robert Pike, Jr., in a letter published in 1854, says, "Although most were prostrated by sickness, only fourteen deaths occurred (*in 1852*) and a majority of these were young children. The wonder is that the mortality was not greater."

Among the deaths which occurred was that of Mrs. Haddock, the wife of the president of the association. Mr. Haddock went down to New York city and brought her here to make her a home in the colony he had labored so hard to build up. She arrived on the 13th of July and died on the 24th of August.

After the death of his wife Mr. Haddock became disheartened and completely discouraged. Many of the settlers were compelled to leave because they could find nothing to do by which to earn a living. The most of them were mechanics from the city of New York, and they went down the river to find employment. Although the association maintained its organization, it was no longer attractive to Mr. Haddock. It had apparently accomplished all that could be expected from it. With a large party of his friends Mr. Haddock, left the colony on the 11th of September and went down the river. He stopped for awhile at Dubuque, and moved from there to Anamosa, Jones county, Iowa, where he engaged in publishing a newspaper, using the press and material designed for a printing-office in Minnesota City.

Although the organization was kept up in the colony during the next year, but comparatively few members of the association remained to become citizens of this county.

Quite a number of the members of the association lived on their village lots in Minnesota City until after the survey of public lands in this part of the territory. Several of them then made claims of the locality they were occupying according to the divisions made by the government surveyors, without regard to the previous divisions made by Mr. Haddock.

The town site of the Western Farm and Village Association was never made a matter of record. The whole village plot was ab-



sorbed by claims which were pre-empted as homesteads by their resident claimants. The plot of the original village of Minnesota City was thus wiped out—swept entirely away. The name has been preserved for the locality, and a more diminutive and modern village has grown up under it, on what was originally the claim of Israel M. Noracong.

The original village plot was pre-empted by T. K. Allen, A. A. Gilbert, H. B. Waterman, Robert Pike, Jr., James Wright, O. M. Lord, Hiram Campbell, S. E. Cotton and D. Q. Burley, all members of the association. Each of them had held claims in other localities, which were abandoned to enable them to share in the spoils of the dead metropolis of the colony.

H. B. Waterman and family have continuously occupied the same locality he settled upon in 1852, when he first came into the colony. When Mr. Waterman came to Minnesota City he built a very comfortable house, a part of it of logs and a part of frame and boards. This he inhabited for several years. After the government survey was made he selected this locality as a homestead, and claimed a quarter-section of land in the vicinity, which he pre-empted after the land-office was opened at Winona.

With the exception of a large and comfortable dwelling-house and a good barn, which stand in a beautiful grove on a slightly elevation, with a small field of cultivation, but little improvement was made on this claim until within a few years past. The table on which it lies was covered with groves of oak. As this timber is cut away and the clearing enlarged a fine farm is becoming developed.

Mr. Waterman was a lawyer by profession when he joined the colony, but he never practiced his profession in Minnesota. He had but little taste for agricultural pursuits, and but little inclination to make it an occupation. He made the farm his home without making the cultivation of the soil his business.

In November, 1852, Mr. Waterman was appointed by Gov. Ramsey one of the justices of the peace for Wabasha county. He was subsequently elected to the same office, and held the official position of justice of the peace over twenty years for Winona county, in the town of Rolling Stone, where he resided. He was also elected judge of probate at the election in the fall of 1853.

The first case on his docket in 1852 was Jacob S. Denman *vs.* individual members of the association. This was a matter which

grew out of the claim difficulty already mentioned. These members of the association went on to Denman's claim, destroyed his fences and burned his rails, with the intent to drive him off the claim. Denman refused to leave, and sued them for damages to his property. The matter had been commenced before Squire Allen, but when Squire Waterman received his commission the case was discontinued and again brought on before the new justice of the peace, where it was settled by the members of the association paying the costs of prosecution and the damages assessed.

Robert Pike, Jr., made a claim among the village lots of the colony on the same table on which the school-building now stands. He here used his pre-emption right and made a farm of part of the original village. A part of this claim is still in possession of Mrs. Pike, his widow.

Mr. Pike came to Rolling Stone early in May, 1852, and at once became prominently active in the enterprises of the association to develop the resources of the country and build up the colony. His eccentric genius and zealous efforts made him popular in the settlement. Soon after his arrival he was appointed surveyor for the colony, explored a road to the Minnesota river. He was chosen as a proper person to be appointed postmaster. He was elected justice of the peace, served as county commissioner and as county surveyor. During his whole life he was active in all of his public duties.

Robert Pike, Jr., died about the middle of April, 1874. At the time of his death he was interested in an effort to start a colony in the vicinity of Lake Kampeska, Dakota Territory. His widow is yet a resident of Minnesota City. One of the two children who came here with her in 1852 died many years ago. The other is the wife of Frank D. Stewart, living in the town of Rolling Stone.

Mr. Pike was in many respects a very remarkable man. Naturally ingenious, he made mechanical improvements a study. On most of the questions of the day, religious and political, he espoused the radical side. Among his many friends, his special peculiarities were overshadowed by the open-handed generosity of the man toward his fellow-man.

As a specimen of his eccentricity, his business card has been copied from the "Winona Republican," as regularly advertised in 1856, as follows :

“ROBERT PIKE, who writes this ditty,  
Lives at Minnesota City ;  
Is Postmaster, Magistrate,  
Buys and sells Real Estate,  
Conveyancer and County Surveyor,  
(The City's small and needs no Mayor).  
Sectarian rules he dares resist,  
And thinks Christ was a Socialist.  
Loving mankind and needing dimes,  
He waits to serve them at all times.”

When disaffected members of the association decided to abandon the colony, O. M. Lord purchased their interest in such of the village lots as were in the vicinity of where he resided ; and after the government survey, when the village plot was comparatively abandoned, he made a claim of the quarter-section on which he was living and pre-empted it. The village lots surveyed by Mr. Had-dock for the association, that were included in this claim, are a part of the homestead on which the Hon. O. M. Lord now resides.

The first claim selected by Mr. Lord was before he joined the association, while on the first exploration made into the country back from the Mississippi. This he abandoned for another about three miles above Minnesota City, in what is now known as Deering's Valley, where he then proposed to establish a stock-farm. On account of its isolated situation he did not move his family there, but located them in the settlement or village. Like many others, he also made other selections of good claims which were marked with his name.

From the time Mr. Lord came here in the spring of 1852 to the present time he has been prominently before the public, in very many instances intimately connected with events that make up the history of Winona county. Owing to his habitual modest reserve, no record of these instances has ever been compiled for reference. It is indeed questionable whether a connected biographical sketch of this pioneer settler has ever been given to the public. Advantage of a long-time acquaintance and personal friendship has been the source of the following memoranda of events in history with which he has been connected.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

HON. O. M. LORD was a native of the State of New York; born in Wyoming county in 1826. In 1837 he moved with his father's family to Michigan. He attended school winters until he was about sixteen, after which he attended a select school for about three months. His education has since that been acquired by private study in active life. His younger days were spent on a farm and in sometimes assisting his father in his blacksmith shop.

Mr. Lord was married in 1848, and settled on a farm. He was elected town clerk, and was *ex-officio* school inspector for two years. In the spring of 1852 he sold his farm in Lapeer county, Michigan, and came to Minnesota, where he arrived May 2. He brought on his family, a wife and two children, on July 16. He brought with him all of his household goods, a span of horses and farming tools, intending to make farming his exclusive business. His horses were the first brought into the colony.

Instead of settling on a claim, as he had at first designed, Mr. Lord located himself in the village of the colony at Minnesota City. He bought several village lots and built a house. Having acquired some knowledge of blacksmithing when young, he bought the tools of a blacksmith and carried on the business for a year or two, his shop being the only blacksmith shop in the county during that time. In 1852 he shod the first span of horses ever brought into this county by a settler, and the first horses ever shod here. The shoes were brought from La Crosse. They belonged to Hon. William H. Stevens. In the spring of 1853 he shod fourteen horses for Wm. Ashley Jones, government surveyor.

July 2, 1853, Mr. Lord was appointed coroner for Fillmore county. This appointment, unsolicited, was conferred by Gov. Gorman, who had recently assumed his official position.

At the election held in the fall of 1853 Mr. Lord was elected as representative to the territorial legislature from this district. The session was held from January 4 to March 4, 1854.

Among the acts of which he secured the passage were the original



charter for the Transit railroad, the division of Fillmore county and creating of Winona county, and the establishment of the county seat at what is now the city of Winona. The present boundaries of Winona county were defined by Mr. Lord, and submitted to Mr. Huff and other citizens of the village of Winona for their approval. He also secured the passage of a memorial for a post-route from Minnesota City to Traverse des Sioux.

In 1854 Mr. Lord built the first saw-mill in the county at Minnesota city. In 1855 he was awarded a contract for carrying the mail from Minnesota city to Traverse des Sioux, and carried the mails for about two years — a part of the time semimonthly. This was the first post-route across the country.

In 1857 or 1858 Mr. Lord was appointed by Gov. Medavy commissioner for selecting land for the Transit Railroad Company. He was also appointed by Gov. Medavy, October 12, 1857, as a notary public. These appointments were unsolicited by Mr. Lord. In 1859 he was a candidate for the legislature, but was defeated by Judge Orlando Stevens.

When questioned as to his war record, he replied, "I fought, bled and died for my country by able-bodied substitute during the war — price \$600."

Mr. Lord moved back to Michigan, and lived near Kalamazoo from 1861 to 1864, when he returned to Minnesota, and again took up his residence at Minnesota City. He was a candidate for the legislature in 1871, and was defeated by seven votes by H. A. Covey. In 1873 he was elected to the legislature, and served at the next session.

On September 28, 1875, Mr. Lord was appointed county superintendent of schools, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Rev. David Burt, who had been appointed state superintendent of public instruction. He has been elected continuously to the position of county superintendent of schools since that time, and is yet serving the people in that capacity. He was president of the last annual meeting of county superintendents, held at St. Paul about January 1, 1883.

Mr. Lord has always taken an active interest in popular education, and in addition to his other official positions has been almost continuously one of the school committee in Minnesota City since the first school was started there in 1852. He is at present director of the district. He has been a member of the town board of the

town of Rolling Stone for the past twelve years, and is now chairman of board of supervisors. Mr. Lord was made a Mason in 1862. He never united with any other organization. If circumstances permitted, he would take more pride and pleasure in stock-raising and cultivation of small fruit than in any other pursuit.

Hiram Campbell settled on his village lot and built a house, which he occupied with his family for several years. With this as his place of residence, he made a claim and pre-empted a homestead which included a portion of the village lots of the colony. This claim is now known as the "Campbell Farm." It joins the farms of O. M. Lord and James Kennedy. The present farm house is of brick.

Hiram Campbell has been dead many years. His widow, with his family, owned and occupied the farm until about two years ago, when she sold out and moved west. With other branches of farming Mr. and Mrs. Campbell took a great deal of interest in the cultivation of fruit, particularly of different varieties of apples, which they were very successful in growing.

When David Densmore and John Shaw came to Rolling Stone they brought with them a large supply of apple-seeds which they procured from the State of Maine. These seeds were planted on their village lots. The lot of Mr. Densmore was on the land now owned by O. C. Tucker. The lot of Mr. Shaw was on the Campbell farm. Both Mr. Densmore and Mr. Shaw died early in the summer of 1852, and their lots passed into other hands. Mr. Densmore left his nursery for the general benefit of the colonists.

Mr. Campbell assumed charge of the lot of Mr. Shaw and started a nursery of fruit-trees from the seed sown on it. From this little nursery, started by Mr. Campbell on his own claim, sprang some of the finest varieties of apples that have ever been known in Minnesota.

John Nicklin, with his family, settled on his lot selected by number in New York. His location was on the table above where Troust's mill recently stood. He built a log house, lived here two or three years and made a claim of forty acres among the village lots. He also had a farm claim in the valley about two miles above the village. To hold them both he pre-empted the farm claim, and his son pre-empted a part of the village property. He lived on his farm for a number of years, when he sold out and moved back to New York, where he died a few years ago. None of his family are now living in this county. A son resides in Dakota Territory.

George Foster pre-empted a forty of village lots; sold out and moved to Winona. He left there and moved south. None of his family are now living in this county.

Other members of the association besides Mr. Denman and W. H. Coryell made claims below Minnesota City. Nearly the whole upper prairie was at one time claimed by the colonists, although unimproved.

P. D. Follett made a claim adjoining the farm now occupied by Mr. Charles Vila. He built a log house and occupied it for two or three years, when he sold out and left the county.

William T. Luark made a claim along the bluffs below Mr. Denman's, where Mr. Colman now lives. He improved this by building a log-house and making some cultivation, and held it for several years. He moved to Winona, where he opened the first wagon-shop started in the county. The first wagon was made by Mr. Luark in the spring of 1855. About ten years ago he moved to Milwaukee, where he died after a residence there of a year or two.

John Iams also made a claim along the bluffs, the next below that made by Mr. Luark. He built a log-house and occupied this locality two or three years, and then moved to Winona, and after a few years' residence there left the county and went into the western part of the state to reside. Mr. Iams was the first sheriff appointed or elected to serve in that office in this part of the territory. He was the first sheriff in Fillmore county in 1853.

John C. Laird came to Wabasha prairie about the last of August, 1852, to attend upon Abner S. Goddard during his last sickness. After the death of Mr. Goddard, which occurred on the 11th of September, he decided to remain and make it his future home.

Mr. Laird was a citizen of La Crosse at the time he came up to help his sister in the care of her sick husband. It was on her account that he changed his place of residence and came to Minnesota, where he has ever since resided. He was deputy register of deeds for La Crosse county. The register elected was a resident of a distant part of the county, and, not wishing to change his location, Mr. Laird was deputized to act for him and receive the emoluments of the position.

In the winter and spring previous Mr. Laird had visited Wabasha prairie, but never selected any special location as a claim. After he had decided to settle here he explored the country until in October, when, observing that the east "eighty" of the original Stevens

claim was unoccupied, and without improvements of any kind, he was induced to take possession of it as an abandoned claim. Mr. Laird quietly procured the necessary material, and before the settlers were aware of his intention, they were surprised to see a snug and comfortable-looking shanty on "that lower eighty of Stevens's." This shanty stood about where Laird Norton & Co's stables now stand, — on the west side of Chestnut street, between Second and Third streets.

As soon as the circumstance became known, H. C. Gere made application to the members of the claim club for aid to remove the trespasser on the land relinquished to him by Silas Stevens. Some of the members of the club came together and called on Mr. Laird to learn why he had built the shanty and to ascertain if he really intended to jump Gere's claim.

Mr. Laird informed them that he had taken possession of "that eighty" because there was no one occupying it — nothing to indicate that any one had possession of it, and informed them that his shanty was the only improvement on the claim. This self-constituted claim committee decided to let Mr. Gere take care of his own affairs if he had got into trouble from his own mismanagement. He was then holding other claims.

Mr. Laird completed his shanty on Saturday evening, and, supposing that he had possession safe enough, stayed contentedly at Mrs. Goddard's, because it was Sunday and a day of rest generally observed by the settlers. It chanced to be the day on which Elder Hamilton had made an appointment to preach at Mrs. Goddard's shanty, and there the settlers assembled to listen to one of his best sermons.

Taking a great interest in the subject of the discourse, Mr. Laird for the time forgot about his recently acquired earthly possession, and gave his undivided attention to the sermon of the elder. After the service was over and the audience began to disperse, he cast his eyes toward his new shanty, not fifty rods away, and discovered Henry C. Gere on its roof. Accompanied by Wm. H. Stevens, and followed more deliberately by Elder Hamilton and his whole congregation, he rushed toward his unprotected claim improvement and found that Gere had jumped the shanty, if not the claim.

Taking advantage of the security from observation afforded while the attention of the settlers were engaged by Elder Hamilton,



Mr. Gere had taken a load of his household goods to the shanty and taken possession of it.

On reaching the locality Mr. Laird found the shanty occupied; a table with a few dishes and a chair or two were on one side of the room, and on the other a cook-stove, on which was a tea-kettle, a pot of potatoes, and a frying-pan with a slice of ham ready for cooking. Mrs. Gere was comfortably seated in a rocking-chair in front of the stove, waiting to touch a match to the kindling-wood as soon as the stove-pipe was put in place, and Mr. Gere was on the roof cutting a hole for it to pass through.

Mr. Laird called to Gere to come down, but he refused, replying, "You are too late, for I now hold possession." Laird and Stevens then tore off the boards from the roof, and notwithstanding Gere's resistance, caught him by the legs and dragged him to the ground. They then proceeded to carry the stove and other furniture outside, except the rocking-chair, which Mrs. Gere occupied, and very composedly maintained possession of the roofless shanty.

Elder Hamilton sedately seated himself on one of the chairs ejected from the cabin and calmly watched the proceedings. Occasionally a quiet smile would illumine his dignified expression as he observed the demonstrative movements of the noisy and excited settlers, who but a very few minutes before had been model representatives of a moral, intellectual and order-loving community. Feelings of partisanship were exhibited by loud expressions of opinion in emphatic language rather than by active participation. Men and women espoused the cause of one side or the other. Some threats were passed, but no serious collisions occurred.

Mrs. Goddard took a firm and determined stand in support of the rights of her brother to the claim. While Laird and Stevens were tearing or knocking the boards from the roof on which Gere stood, she observed a second load of Gere's furniture approaching from the east; they had gone down the prairie and come up along the river. Rushing toward the team and brandishing a cudgel, which she caught up on the first alarm, Mrs. Goddard ordered the driver to stop, and, taking the horses by the bridles, led them back across the line of the claim and told the driver to leave as soon as possible. Without a show of resistance the teamster drove off. The team belonged to John Evans. In speaking of the occurrence afterward, Frank Curtiss, the driver, said it was not the first time he had been

captured by a woman, and he did not propose to get into a quarrel with Mrs. Goddard.

It was charged that Elder Hamilton had a foreknowledge of Gere's design, and had selected one of his most interesting and lengthy sermons to give him ample opportunity to accomplish his purpose unmolested. "Aunt Catharine" says "that was not so. Elder Hamilton and John C. were always warm friends, but Elder Ely knew all about it, for he kept going out every few minutes as if to see if a steamboat was coming. I know Elder Hamilton was on John's side that day, because he beckoned to me, and when I went over to where he was sitting on one of the chairs he said, 'The boys had better tear the shanty down now they are at it.' I told the boys and they tore the whole thing down without disturbing Mrs. Gere, and left her sitting in her rocking-chair on the bare prairie."

As soon as the shanty was demolished the excitement subsided and all started for their homes, leaving Laird and Gere to watch each other and hold the claim. Mrs. Gere went to her own shanty and sent her husband his supper, while Mrs. Goddard bountifully furnished rations for John C., who stood guard over his promiscuous pile of lumber.

The night was a cold, disagreeable one; a chilly west wind swept over the bleak prairie and compelled the lonely, unsocial watchmen to keep in motion to preserve proper circulation. Although each had a blanket in which they wrapped themselves, Mr. Laird formed a windbreak of boards. Mr. Gere solicited the loan of a few boards for a like protection, but Laird objected to his lumber being used for such purposes.

Finding it impossible to get any rest while so uncomfortable, Gere called to Laird about midnight and said — "I have a proposition to make to you which I think will be of advantage to both of us. I have no more confidence in your honesty than I have in men generally, but I believe you will keep your word when you make a promise. Now, suppose we agree to let this claim matter remain just where it is, without either of us doing anything until tomorrow; we can then go home and get some sleep." Mr. Laird was amused at the proposition, but did not object to it. The two men solemnly pledged themselves to leave the claim undisturbed until the next morning, and bidding each other "good night" in more social tones than they had previously observed, they left the locality.

Both parties made their appearance at sunrise, and hostilities were resumed. Mr. Laird rebuilt his shanty, but moved to another location nearer the river and a little below, on what is now block 5 in Laird's addition. Gere tried for two or three months to obtain possession, but without effect, the cold weather interfering with any active measures. On the night of January 24, 1853, while Mr. Laird was temporarily absent from the prairie, his shanty was torn down and the lumber destroyed—chopped in pieces. Mr. Laird built another cabin on the same ground. It is said that this destruction of the claim-shanty was effected by a young man employed by Gere for that purpose, who received a hundred pounds of flour for his services.

Satisfied that it would not be possible for him to get possession and hold it against the opposition he had to contend with, Mr. Gere appealed to Justice Burns for aid to remove the trespasser, feeling confident that a select jury would award him his rights.

There were at this time two justices in this vicinity, George M. Gere, on Wabasha prairie, and John Burns, at the mouth of Burns valley. Jabez McDermott, of Wabasha prairie, was constable. In February, H. C. Gere sued John C. Laird before John Burns, Esq., for trespass, etc., to get possession of the claim. The trial by jury came off in March. This was the first jury trial ever held in this part of the territory—the first jury ever called in what is now Winona county. The court was held in the upper part of the "Viets House" (the old Winona House), which was then unfinished, Squire Burns having adjourned the court from his office at his house to this place to accommodate all parties interested. The trial was considered an important event by the settlers.

Mr. Gere engaged the professional services of Mr. Flint, a lawyer living in La Crosse, and of Andrew Cole, of Wabasha prairie. Mr. Cole was then the only practicing attorney living on the west side of the river. Mr. Laird had for counsel and management of his defense, a lawyer from La Crosse by the name of French. The jury impaneled to try the case was George W. Clark, Scott Clark, O. S. Holbrook, William Hewitt, W. H. Coryell and Hiram Campbell.

This being the first important case brought before Squire Burns, his inexperience in his official position made it necessary for him to seek advice as to his own duties. He selected as his confidential adviser the "home attorney." He was personally acquainted with

Mr. Cole, and had great confidence in his opinions of law. This peculiarity in the case excited some comment from outsiders,— Mr. Cole being attorney for the plaintiff, but no charges were ever made that any improper or unjust proceedings were entertained by the court. Notwithstanding the very marked eccentricities exhibited by the squire, his court and official position was duly respected. His comical expressions and blundering style of doing business afforded considerable amusement during the trial, and were subjects for many a hearty laugh for a long time afterward.

About two days were spent in the examinations of witnesses and speech-making by the attorneys before the case was submitted to the jury. After due deliberation it was ascertained that there was no probability of the jury agreeing, and they were discharged. The court adjourned until the next Monday, March 14, at which time another jury was impaneled and the trial of the case again repeated.

In the first trial the jury stood five for the defendant and one for the plaintiff. The one who stood out against his fellow jurors was Hiram Campbell. The jury on the second trial was John Iams, S. A. Houck, H. B. Waterman, Wm. L. Luark, S. D. Putnam, and Elijah Silsbee, all residents of Minnesota City except the last. After about the same amount of time consumed as with the first trial the case was given to the jury, and at about 11 o'clock at night, March 16, the jury decided unanimously in favor of the plaintiff, Henry C. Gere.

The next morning Mr. Laird and Wm. H. Stevens started for La Crosse, and took the lawyers home. The condition of the ice in the river would not permit of delay—even then traveling on the river was unsafe. The ice in the river appeared as if it might break up in a few days. It did leave the river in front of the prairie on the 20th of March.

Mr. Laird left the claim in charge of Mrs. Goddard to hold until his return, not supposing that any movement would be made before that time. Mrs. Goddard, with a young lady, Miss Salina Kellogg, of La Crosse, who was up on a visit, accordingly took possession of the shanty, with a firm determination to hold the fort.

The suit had been decided in Gere's favor, and he became anxious to get the claim into his possession before Mr. Laird should have an opportunity to appeal to a higher court, as he had given notice that he should do on his return. Under the management of



Mr. Cole, his attorney, judgment was entered up against Mr. Laird on the justice's docket, and an attachment issued to take possession of his property for the payment of the costs in the suit. A writ of restitution was also issued, under which it was supposed possession would be acquired and the claim held.

The constable, McDermott, was friendly and in full sympathy with Mr. Laird, and was also a boarder with Mrs. Goddard. Before the papers were placed in his hands, he notified Mrs. Goddard of the proceedings, and arranged with her a plan of defense. He aided them to procure material and barricade the building, so as to resist an assault if Gere and his friends attempted to take forcible possession of the shanty. It was supposed that they were provided with firearms. Being forewarned, they had the courage to believe that they would be able to resist the officer of the law, with his consent, and hold Gere and his friends at bay until the return of Mr. Laird from La Crosse.

Learning from McDermott that the yoke of oxen would be attached when they came across the river from their work, Mrs. Goddard sent for the cattle and had them brought over and chained to a post by the side of the shanty, while the constable had business elsewhere.

When the writ was placed in McDermott's hands he went down to the claim. As he advanced, Mrs. Goddard warned him that if anyone attempted to come near the shanty it would be at their own peril. The constable withdrew to a safe distance and apparently waited for a more favorable opportunity to perform his official duties. Neither Mr. Gere or any of his friends ventured within short range of the cabin where Mrs. Goddard and Miss Kellogg stood guard, and, to the surprise of the settlers, successfully resisted the execution of the law and boldly defied any one who should dare molest them.

These two women held the claim and retained possession of the oxen until Mr. Laird returned from La Crosse with the money to defray the expenses of the suit, which had been the principal object of his trip. He at once paid the cost and appealed the case to the United States district court. The writ of restitution was never enforced.

Of the proceedings in the district court, nothing official can be learned. It is said that, from some cause, judgment in the justice's court was suspended and the case dismissed. Mr. Laird was never

afterward disturbed in his possession of the claim. It is now known as Laird's Addition.

Although Mr. Gere never made any actual attempts to obtain possession of the claim, he several times threatened suits for its recovery. Mr. Laird soon found that a little money would stop all proceedings—less than the fee of a lawyer to defend the case. Gere consulted about every lawyer that located here for the next two or three years. He was among the first clients of Hon. Judge Wilson, when he came here in 1855. Mr. Wilson, then a young lawyer, became interested in the story of Gere, and, considering it an important case, at once commenced suit against Mr. Laird. He was greatly surprised a day or two after to learn from his client that, on account of a satisfactory arrangement with Mr. Laird, he wished to stop all proceedings against him. The lawyers never shared in these periodical settlements. When Gere again ran short of funds, he again called on his attorney to bring suit against Laird, but Mr. Wilson indignantly refused to have anything further to do with the case.

Mr. Laird became a permanent settler on Wabasha prairie, where he was prominently identified with public and private enterprises which tended to the development of the resources of the county. Although for many years Mr. Laird gave his attention to the cultivation of a large farm in the eastern part of Olmsted county, and lived there with his family a portion of each year, he has maintained an interest in Winona county and occupied his residence in the city of Winona.

John C. Laird now lives on the same claim he "jumped" from Henry C. Gere, on Wabasha prairie, in the fall of 1852. His present residence is within two blocks of where his claim-shanties stood while contesting possession with Mr. Gere. This is the only instance where any one of the original claimholders of land on Wabasha prairie, now the city of Winona, is living on the claim he held in 1852, and with one exception Mr. Laird is the only one in the city living on land which they held prior to the sale of public lands in 1855. A part of the original claim of Captain Smith, claim No. 1, was pre-empted by John Keyes. His widow and family are yet residents of that locality.

In the spring of 1853 Mr. Laird built quite a stylish and comfortable one-story house, with two wings, on his claim, and made it his headquarters. He brought up a breaking-team of three yoke

of large oxen and two large breaking-plows. His reason for having two plows to one team was, that he found it economical to send his plows to Galena by steamboat for repairs — to keep his team at work an extra plow was necessary. This team he kept busy breaking for the settlers by the acre during the season, under the management of A. B. Smith.

Mr. Laird started the first livery stable in the county of Winona. The heavy horses and wagons he furnished for hire in 1853 would hardly represent the business if compared with the dashing turn-outs now furnished from the "liveries" in the city of Winona.

Although not strictly the first man to deal in lumber, Mr. Laird was the first to commence the business and establish a lumber-yard for the retail of lumber as a regular business occupation. He commenced the lumber business a little above where the sawmill of Laird, Norton & Co. now stands. His little retail yard was the nucleus from which the vast lumber establishments and immense business of Laird, Norton & Co. has been developed. John C. Laird was once a member of this firm, but withdrew from it many years ago. It was through him and his influence that many of our best citizens came into this county.

In the summer of 1852 Enos P. Williams, who made the claim next east of that held by Beecher Gere, traded it to B. B. Healy for three or four village lots in La Crosse. Mr. Williams had made no improvement except a pretense of a garden. He was then living in La Crosse, where he remained for three or four years, after which he came up the river and settled in this county, in what is now the town of Utica, where he yet resides.

Mr. Healy built quite a comfortable house on the Williams claim and placed a man on it to hold possession. The claimkeeper neglected his charge and it was jumped by Rufus Emerson, who was employed by Andrew Cole. Mr. Healy contested the matter, and after a suit or two at law recovered possession of the claim and then disposed of it to Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who bought it for some of his relatives, John I. and Harvey Hubbard. It was then called the John I. Hubbard claim, and is now known as Hubbard's Addition to the plat of Winona.

But few claims were made in the southern part of what is now Winona county during the season of 1852. Two or three were selected on Pine creek, one or two along the river and in the valleys.

Hamilton McCollum settled on the river in the lower part of the

county. His house was for a year or two a favorite stopping-place for travelers by land on the trail between Winona and La-Crosse.

James Campbell, a Scotchman, settled in Cedar creek valley three or four miles from its mouth. William and Robert Campbell came not long after. Mr. Campbell now holds a large amount of land in that vicinity, where he yet resides.

Leonard Johnson lived with W. B. Bunnell for a year or two, and then with Frank Wilson started a wood-yard at Johnson's Point, below the present village of Homer. Mr. Johnson is yet a resident of the county, living in the town of Pleasant Hill, on a farm selected by him in an early day.

Harry Herrick, for many years a man of all work for Bunnell, made a claim in Burns valley, about two miles above its mouth, where the road crosses the stream. He built a small log cabin, which is yet standing and is a part of the old building on the upper side of the road, east of the bridge.

Mr. Herrick held this claim for a year or two, when he sold it and went back to live with Bunnell, where he died two or three years after. The claim was purchased by Rev. Edward Ely, and was long known as the "Ely claim." It is now a part of the farm of Mr. Henry Bitner.

William Hewett came into the county in the latter part of this season and made a claim in Burns valley, next above Herrick. He built a frame house near the big spring next to the road and settled there with his family. This house was burned down several years after. A log house now occupies the same site. Mr. Hewett occupied the locality for two or three years and then sold out and left this part of the country.

Joseph S. Wilson selected his claim in Burns valley, next above Hewett's, where Charles Miller now has a stock-farm. He built his claim shanty about where the present farm buildings stand, near the spring. His first shanty was only designed to show that the claim was "occupied by a settler." He left his claim in the care of Roderick Kellogg until the next spring, when he returned with his family, built a comfortable house and opened up a farm, which he cultivated for three or four years. He then sold his farm and moved into Winona, where he carried on the business of harness-making until about 1880, when he went west and located in the territory of Dakota. Mr. Wilson was a well-known citizen of the



county. The town of Wilson was given its name from him, he being one of its oldest settlers and the best known in that locality.

The same season that Mr. Wilson brought his family to live in Burns valley, a German by the name of Schabe, or Schape, made a claim above Wilson's. He built a log house near the spring by the side of the road and lived there until his death, ten or twelve years ago. This house was the last one in that direction until the spring of 1854.

The log house built by Mr. Schape was standing until within the past year. On Christmas day, 1882, the writer passed the locality and found the present owner of the property tearing down the old house. The timber of which it was composed was apparently sound; the oak logs were hard and dry; the oak shingles, or more properly shakes, were sound on the under side, but much worn on the outer side.

A man by the name of Blodgett made a claim in West Burns valley, where P. B. Palmer now lives. He brought with him a small herd of cows and lived on this claim during the summer. While here he lost two children from sickness. He sold out his stock and abandoned the claim in the fall and went back down the river.

In the fall of this year A. B. Smith came to Wabasha prairie, and for awhile had the west half of the McDermott claim—the eighty next west of the claim owned by Dr. Childs. It was said that he was holding this for Mr. Healey, by whom he was employed. It was difficult to tell who was the real owner of the claim; it was jumped several times by different individuals. It was sold by McDermott to David Olmsted. Mr. Smith did not reside on any claim, although he held several. Prior to his coming here he had been engaged in lumbering business, cutting and rafting, and as a pilot in running lumber down the Ohio and on the Mississippi rivers. He spent the winter as a regular boarder with Mrs. Goddard, and married the widow the following season.

A. B. Smith was well known to all of the early settlers as a hotel keeper,—as the landlord of the old "Minnesota House," built by him in 1853, on the corner of Center and Second streets, where S. C. White's store now stands. He was also the proprietor of the "Wabasha Prairie House," which stood on the corner of Front and Franklin streets, built by him in the summer of 1855. While living here he suddenly left home in the night, without the family or any



*Alfred G. Mowbray*



one connected with the house being aware of his intentions to do so. Nothing of a certainty was ever learned relative to any circumstances connected with his mysterious disappearance. It was known that at about that time he was accustomed to carry a considerable sum of money about his person. He sometimes indulged freely in intoxicating drinks. It was generally supposed that he had been foully dealt with—probably murdered for his money and his body thrown into the river. Suspicion rested on some with whom he familiarly associated at about that time, but no evidence was ever secured that appeared to justify making any arrests. There was no proof of his death.

During the latter part of this season Roderick Kellogg came up from La Crosse to do some mason-work for the settlers on Wabasha prairie. He was a competent mechanic in his line of business, and a man of more than usual abilities and general information, but his intemperate habits had isolated him from his family. He was readily induced to come here and work at his trade, although there was but little to do, because, as he expressed himself, he “would by so doing, get away from the temptation of the hell-holes where intoxicating drinks could at all times be procured.” Mr. Kellogg was, for a year or so, benefited by the change, but when the hell-holes opened in Winona he found them, although they were small ones.

The first regular mason-work done in this county was by Roderick Kellogg. His first job of work was on Wabasha prairie, where he plastered two rooms for Rev. Edward Ely, on the corner of Center and Second streets. This was the first plastered house in the county. His next job of plastering was the lower rooms in the “Viets House,” afterward known as the Winona House—it stood on Front street, on the levee. The first brick chimney built in the county was by Mr. Kellogg, in the Viets House. His third job of plastering and chimney-building was in a small one-story house of two rooms built by Johnson for Andrew Cole, on lot 4, block 10. Johnson’s original claim shanty, on claim No. 4, was torn down and used in the construction of this building. These three buildings were the only houses in the county with plastered rooms until the season of 1853.

Nearly all of the mason-work required by the settlers of this vicinity was done by Mr. Kellogg. He worked at his trade here for three or four years, and then went back to La Crosse. He



owned the lot on the corner of Franklin and Second streets, where Rohweder's meat-market now stands. In the spring of 1853 he built a small one-story house on the corner, about 12×20, plastered inside and outside. This he occupied as his residence—his family living in La Crosse. He also built the house which stands on the same lot next to the alley. It was at one time used as a hotel.

Roderick Kellogg was an industrious man, seldom idle if there was anything to do, except when intoxicated; then he was inclined to be quarrelsome. He was a handy man of all work, and when not engaged at his trade he was always ready to undertake any small jobs for the settlers, such as rough carpenter work, gardening, etc.

Mr. Kellogg always found a sympathizing friend in Rev. Mr. Ely, who had, from his first acquaintance with him, taken an interest in trying to bring about a reform in his life, but without success: the series of efforts were balanced by a like series of failures. After Mr. Ely engaged in mercantile business, in 1854, he sometimes found Mr. Kellogg's services about the store a convenience, and at times employed him. On one occasion Kellogg made his appearance when partially intoxicated. He was told that his services were not needed while in that condition. He attempted by argument to show that he was not drunk—that he knew what he was about, although he had taken a drink. His remarks became insulting, and Mr. Ely told him to leave the store—to go away and not come back again, for he would have nothing more to do with him.

Kellogg went outside and became noisy and abusive—attracting the attention of the idlers about (of whom the writer was one). Becoming excited in his harangue, he fairly jumped up and down, until suddenly he stopped, as if strongly impressed with a new idea of retaliation for the fancied wrong done him, and exclaimed, “D—you, Elder Ely! I'll get even with you yet—I'll go and jump your claim for this.” He at once turned and marched off down the street as if his determination was a fixed one. He did not attempt to carry out his threat, for when sober he respected the elder. The idea was a popular one, that the greatest wrong that could be inflicted on a settler was to jump his *claim*.

During the latter part of the season John and Rufus Emerson, brothers, came into this county and settled on Wabasha prairie. John Emerson had a wife and two or three children. After looking about for awhile he selected a location south of the Evans claim, toward the upper end of the lake. He built a shanty on it and made

it his home, with his family, for about two years, when he sold it to Edwin Foster. Taylor's Addition is a part of the Emerson claim. Mr. Emerson moved to the western part of the county, where he located himself on a farm.

Rufus Emerson was a single man. Without permanently locating himself, he speculated in claims by taking possession of some unoccupied land (jumping claims) and selling out his interest to other settlers. He was identified with several difficulties where claim-jumping was charged, either for his own individual benefit or as an employe of others. He pre-empted a claim on the bottom-land west of Gilmore's. Rufus Emerson built a house on the Stevens claim in the spring of 1854. This house is yet standing. It is on Second Street, between Market and Franklin streets, on lot 2, block 143. This building was constructed from lumber found floating down the river and picked up at different times. Emerson sold it before it was completed. It was afterward clapboarded and finished by W. H. Stevens, into whose hands it fell.

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## CHAPTER XXXII.

### POSTOFFICES.

DURING the season of 1852 there were two postoffices created in this county by the postoffice department, although there was but one in regular operation until about the beginning of the following year. The first was at Minnesota City, with Robert Pike, Jr., as postmaster. The other at Wabasha prairie, with George G. Barber as postmaster.

The office at Minnesota City was established with the proviso that the mails should be transported, free of charge to the department, to and from the nearest postoffice on the Mississippi. The mails were made up and received in regular form at this office, but no regular carrier employed. The special mail-bag provided, was usually carried by some of the colonists who chanced to go to La Crosse, the nearest postoffice on the river, or it was taken to Wabasha prairie and sent down by the boats. On certain days, about every week, the mail-bag was brought up from La Crosse by

the boats and left at Wabasha prairie, where some one from the colony awaited its arrival. Prior to this all mail matter belonging to the members of the association was usually carried and looked after by the settlers of the colony.

It was usual for the postmaster at La Crosse to deliver to some well known settler all of the mail matter of the settlement to which he belonged. Where parties were well known, their letters were sometimes sent to them by the clerks of the boats, to be left at their nearest landing-place. In this way Nathan Brown received letters at his landing. Bunnell took charge of all mail matter for Bunnell's landing, and in the early part of the season all letters for settlers on Wabasha prairie were left in the care of Johnson.

During the summer and early part of the winter the Rev. Edward Ely made frequent visits between Wabasha prairie and La Crosse. A portion of the time his family was living at the latter place. When he brought his family to Johnson's landing, he for awhile occupied Johnson's claim shanty on claim No. 4. His frequent trips between the two places were made the means by which the settlers on Wabasha prairie received and sent away their letters.

Mr. Ely always made it a duty to bring up all mail matter belonging to this locality, and was accustomed to carry it about with him until distributed to the settlers, who usually flocked around him as soon as his arrival was known. This was readily ascertained, for it was the usual custom for everybody to visit the landing on the arrival of a steamboat from below. All letters sent by the boats were then left in his care for delivery. It was from this matter of accommodation, and from his custom of carrying all letters about his person, the traditional story originated, that "in the early days of the settlement of this county the postoffice was in Elder Ely's hat."

The second postoffice in the county was on Wabasha prairie. It was called Montezuma; the postmaster was George G. Barber. The first movement toward making application for this office originated with the Wabasha Protection Club. Mention has already been made that a majority of the members of this organization were residents of La Crosse, who held claims on this side of the river, many of them never residents of the territory. The laws of the club allowed its members to hold claims for six months without making a residence on them, and with but nominal improvements. The members were pledged to aid each other in retaining possession during that time. This law conflicted with the United States and

Territorial claim laws, and led to frequent differences among the early settlers.

At one of the meetings of the club the necessity of a postoffice was discussed and action taken in favor of making application to the postoffice department. A *blank petition* was signed, but the drawing up of the necessary papers and forwarding the same was referred to Andrew Cole, a lawyer in La Crosse and a member of the club. It was then supposed, and generally understood, that the secretary, Abner S. Goddard, would be recommended in the petition for postmaster, and that the name of the postoffice would be Wabasha prairie.

When the papers were drawn up, the attorney, with the approval of some of the members of the club, inserted Montezuma as the name of the postoffice, and recommended George G. Barber as postmaster. Mr. Barber was a resident of La Crosse. He had made a claim in Gilmore valley early in the spring, but never improved it. The *blank petition* filled out at La Crosse was forwarded to the postoffice department and the appointment duly made. Mr. Barber received his commission about the middle of June, gave the required bonds and took the oath of office. He came up to make his arrangements for supplying the settlers of Wabasha prairie with their mail and offered the position of deputy-postmaster to Mr. Goddard, who indignantly refused to accept the position. Mr. Barber returned to La Crosse without being able to secure a deputy. The settlers on Wabasha prairie declined the honor,—the only instance in the history of this county where official position has been generally declined.

No improvements were made in postal facilities; “the elder” continued to carry the “mail in his hat.” About the 20th of July Byron Viets moved up from La Crosse and accepted the position of deputy-postmaster from Mr. Barber.

Mr. Viets did not open the office regularly. The mails were made up and distributed as before, at La Crosse. The only additional advantage afforded was that the mail was carried by the boats in a canvas bag without a lock. By request of Mr. Viets, the elder distributed the contents of the bag left in his charge as he had previously done.

The settlers were dissatisfied with the appointment of a non-resident as postmaster, who lived thirty miles away. The name of Montezuma was equally objectionable, although Johnson had



adopted it as the name of the town-site, then just plotted by John Ball on Wabasha prairie.

A public meeting was called to consider the matter and the question freely discussed. All united in a petition to the postoffice department for the appointment of Abner S. Goddard as postmaster in place of George G. Barber, a resident of another state. Nearly all petitioned to have the name of the office changed from Montezuma to Winona. In discussing this change several names were proposed, Winona, Wabasha, Wabasha City, Prairie and Ozelle. The name of Winona was adopted by a majority of one when the vote was taken.

It is now uncertain who first suggested the name of Winona. It has been said that it was proposed by Captain Smith. Some are equally positive that it was suggested by Dr. Balcombe. Others say it was Dr. Childs. Dr. Childs was noted for his peculiarity of giving names to localities, and to all animals in his possession. Gilmore valley was called by him "Winona valley," about the time the name of Winona was selected as the name of the postoffice.

Letters in the hands of Mrs. Calista Balcombe, the widow of Dr. John L. Balcombe, show that Dr. Balcombe, Mr. Howard and Ed. Hamilton, then the proprietors of No. 5, the Hamilton claim urged upon Captain Smith the propriety of calling the new town plot Wabasha. This Captain Smith consented to do, provided he could induce Alexis Bailey to have the name of the postoffice at Wabasha changed, but Bailey would not consent. They then proposed to call it Wabasha City, and adopted the name themselves for use in their correspondence. Dr. Balcombe was always anxious to have a Dakota name given to the town. Neither Captain Smith nor the proprietors of claim No. 5 were present when the name of Winona was adopted. The postoffice department promptly changed the name of the postoffice to Winona and appointed Mr. Goddard postmaster. When his commission arrived he was lying on his bed of sickness, from which he never recovered. He died before he was able to qualify for the position. The postoffice was without a legal postmaster. The boats, however, carried the mails between La Crosse and the prairie, where they were taken care of by the volunteer postmaster. Elder Ely obtained possession of the keys and acted in that capacity without taking the oath of office required from those who handle the United States mail. No mails were made up or officially received

at this office. This duty was performed at La Crosse. The elder was simply acting in the same capacity of messenger that he had been previously doing, except instead of carrying the letters "in his hat" he was accommodated with a mail bag. The faithfulness shown by Mr. Ely in his attention to this self-imposed duty was satisfactory to the settlers. Among the traditional anecdotes of the early days is one showing the zeal of the elder in the performance of his duties. He received the mail bag from the boat and also delivered it with the letters to be posted at La Crosse. It was his custom to preach here on Sundays when not engaged at La Crosse, where he had regular appointments, alternating with Elder Hamilton—one preaching on one Sunday and the other on the next. While holding forth eloquently to an attentive congregation in his own shanty, on one of his days to speak to the people, the settlers were suddenly and unexpectedly startled by the whistle of a steamboat approaching the landing. The elder brought his sermon to a close very abruptly, with the remark, "There's a boat from below," and hastened to the levee to receive the expected mail. The elder denies having any recollection of this occurrence. Those who are familiar with his eccentricities believe it. George W. Clark says it is true, for he was one of his audience—that the elder stopped short in one of the best sermons he ever heard him attempt to deliver, and left his astonished congregation to ponder on the finale of the discourse if completed, or to follow him to the levee and see if there was any one on the boat that they knew, and inquire for long expected letters when the elder had secured the United States mail bag.

To remedy all difficulties arising from the irregularities of mail facilities, a meeting of the settlers was called to take the matter under consideration and recommend a candidate to fill the vacancy of postmaster. The Rev. Edward Ely was selected for the position by an unanimous vote, and a petition, signed by all on the prairie, forwarded to the department in Washington.

At this meeting an effort was made to again change the name of the postoffice—to call it Wabasha City—but the matter was settled by a vote, and one majority for Winona. The elder says that his vote retained the name of Winona.

Elder Ely duly received his commission and became the lawful postmaster at Winona, on Wabasha prairie, where he had had the distribution of letters that came by mail about nine months unofficially. The first regular mail made up by him after receiving

his appointment was on the 8th day of January, 1853. The office was in his residence on the corner of Center and Second streets, where now the "Ely block" stands. Mr. Ely held this position until early in the spring of 1855, when he was superseded by J. W. Downer, and the postoffice removed to the "Downer building," which stood about midway between Market and Walnut streets, on the north side of Front street.

This change was a political movement. When the United States land-office was established at Winona and the little settlement at Johnson's landing began to assume some importance it was considered advisable that the postmaster should be one in sympathy with the party in power. The administration was democratic, and as the elder was of different political faith the services of the pioneer postmaster were no longer required.

The first marriage on Wabasha prairie, now the city of Winona, and the first marriage within the present boundaries of this county, was that of S. K. Thompson and Mrs. Sutherland, on the 9th of November, 1852. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Edward Ely at his own house, where the parties were stopping temporarily while waiting for a down boat to take them to LaCrosse.

S. K. Thompson was among the first arrivals here in the spring. Without locating himself on a claim he had remained on Wabasha prairie during the season and made his home with John Evans. He was about forty-five years old, a man of good general intelligence and of dignified personal appearance. Mrs. Sutherland was a widow about forty years of age. She came here with her brother, O. S. Holbrook, and kept house for him until her marriage, after which Thompson and Holbrook lived together for awhile on Holbrook's claim, which he had discovered lying south of and adjoining the McDermott claim, until Thompson made a claim back of the lake and moved on it.

The claim, back of the lake, made by George Wallace early in the spring of 1852, had laid during this season with but little, if anything, to show that it was claimed. Its exposed situation was a temptation for some one without a claim to watch. The Rev. Mr. Ely had not, as yet, taken a claim. On the 2d of December, 1852, he, with his axe on his shoulder, crossed the lake on the ice and jumped Wallace's claim. He took possession by chopping down some trees and blazing others, on which he conspicuously displayed his name.

Mr. Wallace was a nephew of Thompson's wife, the late Widow Sutherland. Considering the Wallace claim to be a family possession which should be guarded, Thompson jumped it from Mr. Ely on January 15, 1853, while the elder was at La Crosse holding a series of revival meetings for which he had been employed. The elder was too much engaged in his professional labors to devote his time and attention to the protection of his rights, and Thompson established himself on the claim by building a cabin on it, which he occupied with his wife. Mr. Thompson afterward bought the claim of George Wallace and built a comfortable frame house, a story and a half building, in which he lived for ten or twelve years, or while he remained in this part of the country. The house is yet standing, and forms part of the present farmhouse of Mr. John Zenk.

S. K. Thompson was a gentlemanly appearing man in dress and manners, and always seemed to have control of funds to engage in business. He held official positions,—was county commissioner, and for several years was justice of the peace. In his younger days he had been a merchant in Ohio. For about ten years before settling in this county he had been engaged in speculative investments along the upper Mississippi. He was for awhile in business as a merchant at Winona.

It has been already related that when Elijah Silsbee sold his claim in 1854, he, with Charles S. Hamilton, started a store on the corner of Front and Center streets. About January 1, 1855, they dissolved partnership, Mr. Silsbee retaining the stock of goods. Soon after this S. K. Thompson bought the goods and carried on the business for about one year. In the fall of 1855 he purchased quite a large stock of general merchandise, groceries, etc. During the winter he sold out to Burr Deuel and Luke Blair. The incidents of this sale are noted to show something of the manner of doing business at that date. When Mr. Thompson sold out to Deuel & Blair he gave possession at once, and was to receive the first payment as soon as the inventory was taken, and the balance in notes of the firm. The inventory was taken by Thompson and Holbrook. Before the inventory was completed enough was realized from sales to make the first payment. The notes for the balance at six and twelve months were paid before due, the firm buying their own paper through an agent, A. P. Foster, at a liberal discount of 3 per cent per month. A portion of the Silsbee stock had been damaged by the sinking of the barge in which it was brought up the river in



1854. To get rid of all of the unsalable goods, auction sales were held, at which "Uncle Luke" was himself the auctioneer and a popular salesman. It was a current report that D. & B. made about \$3,000 clear in this transaction before the opening of navigation in the spring, when they renewed their stock.

Two or three years before Mr. Thompson left this part of the country the community was somewhat startled to learn that he had two wives, a married daughter and a very affectionate adopted daughter living with him in his house across the lake back of Winona. Some inquisitive ones, whose sensibilities were shocked by the revelations, attempted to have the affair investigated by the grand jury, to whom complaint was made, but the harmony of the happy family prevented a full expose of the scandal. After remaining here about a year the wife with the married daughter moved to Nebraska. Thompson followed in a year or two after with wife No. 2 and the adopted daughter. It is rumored that Thompson and wife No. 2 died from the effects of poison in Nebraska.

The stores started by Mr. Robertson at Minnesota City, and Mr. Denman at Wabasha prairie, were closed out early in the fall. To procure their supplies for the winter, the settlers sent orders to Galena by the boats; some combined and bought their groceries and provisions at wholesale prices through Mr. Denman as agent. Mr. Johnson went down to Galena and purchased goods for the settlers on the prairie. These supplies were brought up by the Nominee on her last trip and left at La Crosse on November 15. Captain Smith was afraid to venture farther up the river against the ice that had begun to form in the river. A severe snowstorm occurred on November 11, followed by intense cold, the thermometer indicating several degrees below zero.

Mr. Burley says that he went down to La Crosse with Mr. Denman, and was there when the Nominee turned back down the river. They came up with Johnson the next day on foot, on the west side of the river; the snow was about six inches deep. They stayed all night at Brown's. The news that their supplies were stopped at La Crosse was not very cheering to the settlers, for the most of them had but a limited amount on hand, and the prospect was that they would be unable to procure more until the ice formed sufficient to enable them to travel on the river. The weather moderated, the snow melted away and the river cleared of ice. It was then expected

that the steamboats would again come up and bring their freight, but no boats ventured on another trip.

On December 9 a party of five men from the Rolling Stone, with half-a-dozen from Wabasha prairie, went down to La Crosse for the supplies left by the Nominee, expecting to bring them up on one of the Black River boats. Among this party were D. Q. Burley, S. E. Cotton, Wm. T. Luark, J. S. Denman and Charles Bannan, of Minnesota City; from the prairie were E. H. Johnson, A. B. Smith, John C. Laird, George W. Clark, Wm. H. Stevens and Peter Gorr. The weather became intensely cold and ice formed in the river, making the trip a laborious one. They reached Brown's the first day from La Crosse, and stopped all night. The following day they landed their freight on the lower end of the prairie late in the evening. The boat was at once unloaded and started back to La Crosse under the pilotage of A. B. Smith and an assistant. Elder Ely also took passage down. They landed at Brown's and stayed until daylight, when they safely reached La Crosse without accident, although the channel was filled with floating ice.

The settlers who remained in the colony and made their homes in Minnesota City during the winter of 1852-3 had comfortable cabins, in which they passed the winter. Some of these cabins were of logs, others were of boards. No cases of suffering from insufficient food or clothing were known in the settlement. Their principal employment was providing firewood for present use and laying in a supply for the ensuing year.

After the sloughs were frozen over they engaged in chopping on the islands, cutting and banking steamboat-wood, getting out logs, timber, posts and rails for use in claim improvements. Their social enjoyments were quiet visits exchanged with each other and occasional meetings of the association.

Among the incidents of the winter was the loss of the horses of S. M. Burns. On Christmas day he with his wife left their home on the bank of the river at what was afterward called Mt. Vernon, for the purpose of visiting the settlement at Minnesota City. He started down on the ice with his horses and sleigh. While on Haddock slough his horses broke through the ice and were drowned. Burns and his wife narrowly escaped the same fate. This team was the one Burns brought with him when he came to Minnesota. There was but one other team of horses in the north part of the county, that belonging to O. M. Lord, of Minnesota City.

Mr. Burns and his wife spent the day with their friends in the colony. In the evening Mr. Lord took them up to their home with his horses and sleigh, over the trail along the bluffs. He came near losing his own team while on this neighborly trip. In crossing the run in the mouth of Deering's valley he missed the trail and drove below, where the banks were higher and drifted with snow. The horses attempted to jump across, but fell head first into the little stream and were unable to rise. The long sleigh-tongue, which projected two or three feet in front of the horses, was driven into the bank and held them fast. Their bodies formed a dam and the water was soon pouring over their backs. Mr. Lord never traveled without his ax ; he was a natural pioneer and prompt to act in cases of emergency. Although it was dark he comprehended the difficulty, and with two or three blows with his ax severed the sleigh-tongue in the rear of the horses and set them at liberty, but not until they were nearly drowned. The tongue was soon repaired with cord brought along in the sleigh, and Mr. Lord made the trip without other accident. His team occupied Burns' stable until the next morning.

The following is a list of members of the Farm and Village Association who settled in the colony at Rolling Stone in 1852 with their families, and who in 1883 are yet residents of that locality: O. M. Lord and wife, James Wright and wife, Egbert Chapman and wife, Mrs. H. B. Waterman, Mrs. Pike (widow of Robert Pike, Jr.) and her daughter Emma, now Mrs. Frank D. Stewart, Robert Thorp and wife, E. B. Drew, S. E. Cotton and wife, Lawrence Dilworth and wife, Charles Bannon, S. D. Putnam and wife, William Sweet, D. Q. Burley and H. Jones. H. B. Waterman resides in the State of New York. Rufus Waterman is living in the city of Winona.

The settlers on Wabasha prairie, like others along the river, in the winter of 1852-3 engaged in cutting steamboat-wood, logs, timber, etc., on the island opposite. Among their social enjoyments was a general gathering and Christmas dinner held at the Viets House, then occupied by Edwin Hamilton. At the Christmas gathering held on the prairie twelve months before, Ed. Hamilton was the chief cook and general manager of the bachelor dinner. At this second affair he was general manager, but Mrs. Goddard had charge of the cooking department, although it is stated that Ed. Hamilton provided a roast coon of his own preparation for the table.

This dinner was got up by a general contribution of material from those interested. Each family provided a part; even the furniture and dishes were furnished for the occasion. It is said by one who enjoyed it that the dinner was a good one. About half of the settlers on the prairie attended this gathering. Charles Bannon and S. E. Cotton with their wives were present from Rolling Stone.

The following is a list of the settlers living on Wabasha prairie at that date: Rev. H. S. Hamilton, wife and two sons, Charles S. and Eugene; Rev. Edward Ely, wife and two children, "Charlie" and "Nellie"; Dr. George F. Childs and wife; Mrs. Goddard and son Charles; George M. Gere, wife and a large family; Wm. B. Gere, Edwin Gere, Mary Gere, Henry C. Gere, wife and a large family; Angelia Gere, Helen Gere, John Evans and wife, Abigail Evans, Royal B. Evans, John Emerson, wife and children; S. K. Thompson and wife, E. H. Johnson, Ed. Hamilton, George W. Clark, Scott Clark, John C. Laird, Wm. H. Stevens, O. S. Holbrook, Frank Curtiss, Rufus Emerson, A. B. Smith, Allen Gilmore, Caleb Nash, Jabez McDermott, — Roberts and Elijah Silsbee.

Of the settlers living on Wabasha prairie at the close of the year 1852 the following are yet living in the county of Winona in 1883: Mrs. Goddard, now known as Mrs. Catharine Smith, Elder Ely and wife, Wm. H. Stevens, John C. Laird, Royal B. Evans and George W. Clark.

Without the aid of an official census, it was estimated by M. Wheeler Sargent "that the population within the present boundaries of Winona county on the 1st day of January, 1853, was about 350, of whom a majority were or had been members of the Western Farm and Village Association."

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## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### INCIDENTS.

AMONG the incidents of this winter at Winona, noted by Dr. Childs in his diary, was the following — "Sunday, January 30, 1853: Attended meeting; Elder Hamilton preached. At night had the privilege of leading a prayer meeting at the house of Mr. Evans — the first prayer meeting ever held on the prairie; Elder Ely present."



The building of the first bridge across the Gilmore valley creek, the first bridge in this part of the county, is thus noted by Dr. Childs — “Monday, January 31, 1853: Very mild, snow fast disappearing. Engaged building a bridge on the Winona creek, aided by George and Scott Clark, Royal Evans, Edwin Hamilton and Allen Gilmore. Of all the men who voted at the meeting in favor of the work, pledging their assistance, from the village and lower end of the prairie, but one was present.”

The following is also copied from the diary of Dr. Childs — “Sunday, February 27, 1853: Thawing, with rain; Allen Gilmore immersed.” At a prayer meeting held at Mr. Evans’ on Sunday, February 20, “Allen Gilmore expressed a wish to be immersed, which was decided to take place next Sabbath.” This was the first instance of the observance of this religious ordinance in what is now the city of Winona. It is said that Rev. E. Ely officiated at this baptism.

An incident which occurred about the first of March of this year (1853) will illustrate the reckless impulsiveness of Charles S. Hamilton, of whom mention has been made. During the winter a party of Winnebago Indians were camped over on the Trempealeau bottoms, and for the purpose of selling venison and furs and skins they frequently visited the settlement on the prairie. Aside from being inveterate beggars, they were in no way troublesome. At the time spoken of, two of these Indians, who had been up to the village, stopped at H. S. Hamilton’s while on their way back to their camp. They asked permission to sharpen their knives on the grindstone which stood outside. This was readily allowed by Charlie, who, with his young brother Eugene, were the only ones at home. The Indians quietly used the grindstone and started across the river on the ice. When they were at full long range distance of his rifle from the house, Charlie, standing in the doorway, deliberately took aim and fired at them. One fell senseless. Fearing another shot, his comrade seized and dragged him beyond the range of the gun. The wounded Indian, after lying a short time on the ice, got up and, with the help of the other, went on over to the Trempealeau.

The Winnebagoes complained to Bunnell of the unjustifiable assault. Bunnell called at Elder Hamilton’s to learn the cause of the shooting, but Charley had no excuse for the cowardly act except that he only shot at them to scare them, supposing they were

beyond the range of his rifle. The ball struck the Indian on the head and glanced off, inflicting a scalp-wound. The force was sufficient to knock him down and render him senseless without producing serious injuries. Bunnell warned Charley to be on his guard and take care of himself, for the Indian might attempt to retaliate if he had an opportunity. Charlie was afraid of the Winnebagoes after this occurrence, but no hostilities were ever threatened that was known.

During the winter the matter of a county organization was a general topic of discussion among the settlers along the river. The counties of Dakota and Wabashaw had remained unorganized, as they were created in 1849. The territorial legislature, during its session of 1853, divided them and made provision for several counties from these divisions. While this matter was under consideration the question of the establishment of the county seats of the new counties became an important matter; almost every settlement presented claims for the location of the county offices. Every settlement along the river in this part of Wabashaw county had lobby representatives in St. Paul for the purpose of securing the location of the county seat of this division. Minnesota City, Winona, Minneowah and Brownsville were rivals for the honor. By a general act the legislature conferred the authority on the county commissioners to locate the county seats.

When Wabashaw county was divided and Fillmore county was created from the southern portion, March 5, 1853, its boundaries were described as "Beginning at the southwest corner of Wabashaw county, thence southeast to the Iowa state line, thence east on said Iowa state line to the Mississippi river, thence up the middle of said river to the mouth of the Minneska or White river, thence up said river on the south line of Wabashaw county to the place of beginning." The western boundary of Fillmore county was then supposed to include the present city of Rochester, in Olmsted county, and the present village of Chatfield in Fillmore county. Its northern and western boundaries were not clearly defined.

The act by which Fillmore county was created declared it to be an organized county, "invested with all and singular the rights and privileges and immunities to which all organized counties are in this territory entitled to by law," and that it was the duty of the governor "at so soon a time as possible to appoint all county officers, justices of the peace and constables, as said county may be entitled

to by law, who shall hold their offices until their successors shall be elected and qualified at the next general election."

Wabashaw county, before it was divided, had no county seat. The act creating Fillmore county provided as follows: "It shall be the duty of the first board of county commissioners which shall be hereafter elected in any county laid off in pursuance of this act, as soon after said board shall have been elected and qualified as provided by law, as the said board or a majority of them shall determine, to locate the county seat of the county, and the location so made as aforesaid shall be the county seat of the county, to all intents and purposes, until otherwise provided by law."

Under this act the governor appointed the following officers: Register of deeds, H. B. Stoll, of Minneowah; treasurer, Erwin H. Johnson, of Winona; judge of probate, Andrew Cole; sheriff, John Iams. The justices of the peace previously appointed for Wabashaw county were continued, viz, T. K. Allen, John Burns, Geo. M. Gere and H. B. Waterman. The county commissioners appointed were Henry C. Gere, of Winona, Myron Toms, of Minneowah, and William T. Luark, of Minnesota City.

The first meeting of the board of county commissioners was held at the "Winona House" on May 28. H. C. Gere was chairman and H. B. Stoll as register of deeds was clerk. The business transacted was the appointment of three assessors,—S. A. Houck, J. C. Laird and Jeremiah Tibbets. The approval of the bond of sheriff John Iams, with O. M. Lord and E. B. Drew as sureties.

The following names were ordered to be entered as a grand jury list for the June circuit court: H. B. Stoll, James F. Toms, Myron Toms, Nathan Brown, Willard B. Bunnell, H. Carroll, Henry C. Gere, George M. Gere, Wm. T. Luark, George H. Sanborn, Harvey Hubbard, Isaac Hamilton, O. S. Holbrook, Wm. B. Gere, S. A. Houk, S. A. Putnam, H. B. Waterman, E. B. Drew, O. M. Lord, T. K. Allen, Egbert Chapman, A. A. Gilbert, Robert Taylor and A. P. Hall.

The petit jurors for the same court were Edwin B. Gere, John Evans, Erastus H. Murray, Edwin Hamilton, William H. Stevens, John C. Laird, Alex. Smith, John Emerson, Erwin Johnson, John Burns, Frank Curtiss, George W. Clark, Scott Clark, Allen Gilmore, H. B. Thompson, Isaac W. Simonds, Jerry Tibbets, Asa Pierce. — Fortune, S. J. Burnet, H. J. Harrington, William E. Hewitt, Henry Herrick, Warren Rowell, James Kinkade, — Fletcher,

Squire Day, A. T. Pentler, James Campbell, — Thompson, — Webster, Peter Gorr, O. H. Houk, J. S. Denman, Charles Bannan, S. E. Cotton, H. Stradling, Wm. H. Coryell, H. Hull, J. W. Bently, D. Q. Burly, J. Nicklin, J. Wright, P. D. Follett, R. Thorp, Louis Krutzly, Henry W. Driver, C. R. Coryell and Alex. McClintock.

The second meeting of the board of county commissioners was held at the house of John Burns, in the mouth of Burns valley. Mr. Toms, Mr. Luark, and the clerk, Stoll, were present, but there is no record of any business except to approve the bonds of the assessors, Mr. Toms acting as chairman.

The next meeting was July 4, at Minneowah, at which no one was present except Mr. Toms and the clerk. "The chairman adjourned to meet at Winona July 5."

The next meeting was held pursuant to adjournment, and the following entry afterward made on the record by Mr. Stoll, who was not present. It was evidently designed as a squib at Wabasha prairie: "Winona, July 5, 1853 — H. C. Gere and Wm. T. Luark, commissioners, met pursuant to adjournment at the Winona hotel. Myron Toms, one of the absent commissioners, not being able to reach Winona on account of the high state of water and the then impassable gulf, the former commissioners adjourned to meet at the Winona Hotel July 9, 1853. Approved the bond of E. H. Johnson, county treasurer of Fillmore county. H. B. Stoll, clerk."

The office of H. B. Stoll, the register of deeds, was in the village of Minneowah. The first deed recorded was one from Isaac Van Etten to H. B. Stoll, dated January 4, 1853, and filed in the office May 11, 1853. This conveyed one half of Van Etten's interest in Minneowah. The consideration was \$300.

The first deed made in this county that was placed on record was a quit-claim from William B. Gere of part of his claim on Wabasha prairie to A. M. Fridley, of St. Paul. It is dated November 1, 1852, but not filed for record until the 29th of June, 1853. The consideration was \$150. The acknowledgment was before George M. Gere, justice of the peace, November 4, 1852.

The part of William B. Gere's claim transferred by this deed was eighty acres, on which the shanty of Henry C. Gere stood. The incidents of this transaction were given to the writer by Mr. Fridley many years ago. During the latter part of the season of 1852 Mr. Fridley made the acquaintance of Henry C. Gere, while on a steamboat between La Crosse and Wabasha prairie. Gere



then proposed to sell him a claim of eighty acres he held on Wabasha prairie. Mr. Fridley purchased the eighty acres where H. C. Gere was then living for \$150, receiving a quit-claim from William B. Gere. He also gave H. C. Gere \$50 to hold the claim for him until the following spring. Gere continued to occupy the shanty until the spring of 1854, drawing upon Mr. Fridley during that time, in consideration of his services as claimkeeper, until the sum total paid H. C. Gere by A. M. Fridley for that eighty was \$1,200. The claim was then placed in possession of L. D. Smith, who came here from St. Paul with his family in the spring of 1854. It is now known as Plummer's Addition to the plat of Winona.

During the season of 1852, and until the following year, the claim of Captain Smith at the lower end of the prairie—claim No. 1,—held by Smith and Johnson, had remained undisturbed, no attempt having been made to molest it. Johnson removed the shanty, using the lumber for other purposes at the upper landing.

Early in the spring, in April, 1853, the unoccupied claim was jumped by Isaac W. Simonds. As soon as this was known to E. H. Johnson, he, by direction of Captain Smith, commenced suit against Simonds in justice's court, before Squire Gere, to oust him from the possession he had assumed. The defense was under the management of a lawyer by the name of Stevens, from La Crosse. It was then learned that Simonds had taken possession of the claim for a stock company, composed of William B. Gere, Charles S. Hamilton, Isaac W. Simonds and — Stevens, the attorney in the claim suit. The suit was adjourned from time to time, from in April to about the first of June, without coming to trial. In the meantime the company had a town surveyed and platted covering 141 acres of the claim. It was given the name of Wabasha City. The claim shanty stood a little in front of where the residence of Mrs. Keyes now stands. This was occupied by Simonds and Charlie Hamilton.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### A BLOODY CONFLICT.

DURING the winter and spring Johnson had made his headquarters at the house he had built on Front street for the use of Andrew Cole, which he afterward sold to him. He, however, made his home with John Evans, whose daughter, Abigail M. Evans, he married later in the season. He usually spent his evenings at Evans' when on the prairie. Johnson became impatient at the delay in the trial of his suit against Simonds, and while at supper one evening he remarked that he would have to go down to the lower claim and "clean them out" himself if he ever expected to get possession. He soon after started for the village. This indicated another claim-fight. Johnson "cleaned them out" that night. The particulars of this fight were related to the writer by Royal B. Evans, a son of John Evans, who took part in the affray. Mr. Evans says: "It was about the middle of May or a little after that Johnson shot Simonds. I came home rather late that day and found that the rest of the family had been to supper; they were talking about Johnson, who had just gone down to the village. Father said Johnson would get into trouble if he attempted to drive Simonds and Charlie Hamilton off from the lower claim without he had some help. My sister wanted I should find him and tell him that father wished to see him.

"After supper I went down to the landing; a steamboat had just come up and almost everybody living on the prairie was on the levee. Simonds and Charlie Hamilton were conspicuous, but Johnson was not there. John McDermott told me he saw him going back on the prairie just after the boat landed. It was then dark. I expected I should find him at the lower claim, and went down there in search of him. As I approached the Simonds shanty Johnson hailed me and ordered me to halt. I answered him and he told me to come in. Johnson said he expected to have a fight and was ready for them. He had a Colt's rifle and an old 'pepper box' pistol. I had brought nothing with me, not even a club. He said that when he saw Simonds and Hamilton up at the village he

went and got his gun and pistol and started. We sat down in front of the shanty and examined them; they had not been used in a long time. The rifle was out of repair and would not work. Finding it was of no use, he took the barrel off and stood it beside the door, saying, 'That will do to use as a club.'

"About ten o'clock we heard some one coming down the prairie, and knew that it was Simonds by his loud voice. Johnson hailed them to stop, and threatened them if they advanced. He then snapped two caps on the pistol without a discharge. They came on to where we were standing, near the shanty, when Simonds pitched at Johnson and they two had a regular fist-fight, which lasted some time. Charlie and I looked on without doing anything. We were about the same age and size. Simonds was much the larger and stronger man, and was too much for Johnson. They clinched, and Johnson, finding that Simonds had the advantage, drew his pistol and shot him. The ball passed through the muscles of the forearm and broke the bone above the elbow. They continued clinched for awhile after, when Simonds called for Hamilton to take him off. Hamilton caught Johnson by the throat and tried to choke him. I then attacked Charlie with my fists and knocked him down."

"It was a still, clear, starlight night, and the noise made while the fight was going on was heard at Hamilton's house, where some one halloed in return. Simonds called to them to bring his shotgun. Elder Hamilton and Jake McDermott came up just after Charlie and I had had our set-to; Johnson kept back out of sight. Simonds complained of being faint, and asked the elder to take him over to his house. I had not received any very hard blows, but Johnson, as well as the other two, had been severely pounded.

"Elder Hamilton took hold of Simonds and supported his wounded arm, while I took hold of him on the other side to help take him to Hamilton's house. Just as we started, Charlie Hamilton attacked me from behind with a club — one of the oak stakes used in surveying the plot. He hit me once before I turned, and then struck me once or twice across the face, cutting me severely before McDermott separated us. McDermott then helped the elder take Simonds home. Not hearing anything of Johnson I went over to Hamilton's to see what was going on there. A steamboat chanced to be coming down and the elder signaled them with his lantern to stop at his landing, intending to send Simonds to La Crosse. A doctor on board examined and dressed the wounded arm, and word

was sent by the boat to La Crosse to have a surgeon come up from there. The elder washed the blood off from my head and face and bandaged up my wounds. The scalp-cut on the back of my head was the worst, but my face was badly cut and bruised. I then went back down the prairie in search of Johnson. While I was up at Hamilton's he had torn the shanty down, and thrown it and everything belonging to it into the river. We then went up home; Johnson was living with us. The next morning we were both arrested by McDermott, the constable. After we had had our breakfast he took us down to Squire Gere's office, where we were detained some time, when the justice decided that the examination could not go on without the testimony of Simonds, and adjourned the court to H. S. Hamilton's house. Johnson refused to walk down there. Squire Gere then sent the constable to find a conveyance. We walked down toward the river, when the justice called to us not to go away, but stay around where we could be found when McDermott came back. Johnson made no reply—I told him I was not going very far away. Johnson went over to Andrew Cole's house to change his clothes. Mr. Cole was then absent. I went home, had my wounds dressed and went to bed, where I slept until the next morning. I then came down to the justice's office and was discharged from custody."

Considerable excitement was aroused over the matter by the new town site company, and when Johnson failed to make his appearance Sheriff Iams was sent to find him and bring him before the court. The sheriff got trace of him at Minnesota City, and overtook him at Hall's landing, below the mouth of the White Water, where he was waiting for a steamboat to come along. Johnson left the river and went up the bluff with the sheriff after him. Johnson could outrun and outclimb the sheriff, and when beyond reach he stopped and told Iams if he came any farther he would send some loose rocks down on him. The sheriff went back to the trail and watched for Johnson to again make his appearance. He was compelled to return without his prisoner. Johnson succeeded in reaching the river without being observed. The steamboats at that time would land anywhere if hailed by a passenger. Johnson went to St. Paul, where he secured counsel and returned to have the case disposed of and settled in some manner. He delivered himself up, and no one appearing against him he was discharged from custody. Simonds had been detained on the prairie to await the examination,



but went to La Crosse two or three days before Johnson's return, which was on June 3.

As soon as Captain Smith learned of the shooting of Simonds by Johnson he sent his son S. J. Smith here to take charge of matters. By the advice of John Evans it was deemed necessary to put up a shanty on the lower claim to hold possession. Mr. Smith secured the services of Mr. Evans and his son Royal, and took a load of lumber down to build a cabin. He was met there by Mr. Stevens from La Crosse, one of the proprietors of the new town, who warned him not to attempt to occupy it, for they should defend their rights to the claim. Mr. Smith decided not to have any more fighting, but trust to the law for redress. He ordered the lumber taken back to the upper landing, notwithstanding the protests of Mr. Evans, who asserted that he could stand as much shooting as they could. Mr. Smith then remained quiet at the hotel where he was stopping.

As soon as Stevens returned to La Crosse he sent Asa Hedge up, who built a shanty and took possession of the claim. The next day after he was discharged from custody Johnson went down and put up a shanty about where the one stood which Augustus Pentler once occupied. This was held by John Evans and Johnson. No collisions occurred between the occupants of the two shanties.

About a week afterward Captain Smith brought up from Galena a house ready made for claim No. 1. It was put up a few rods above where the house of Mrs. Keyes now stands. The same day Mr. Hedge went to La Crosse and his shanty was torn down. It was done by the consent of Mr. Hedge, who sold the possession of the claim to Captain Smith for one or two lots on Front street, fronting on the levee.

Mr. Hedge at once built a small house on lot 1, block 11—brought his family from La Crosse and made it his home for many years. He here opened a restaurant and saloon—the first saloon or place where intoxicating drinks were sold in the city of Winona. His liquors were bought up by the citizens and destroyed. The ladies were the movers in this transaction. He afterward opened his saloon with a new stock, when they were again destroyed or seized by the sheriff. He afterward put up a better building and opened a grocery store, where he carried on quite a trade for two or three years. Frank D. Sloan was his clerk and salesman in the grocery business.

As an illustration of valuation of real estate and manner of

doing business, the following incident is noted relative to this property. In about 1856 or 1857 Mr. Hedge found it necessary to secure a loan to carry on his business. Gable & Werst, money loaners and dealers in real estate, advanced him \$5,000 and took a mortgage on the lot and store to secure the payment of his notes drawing two per cent per month. As a matter of course Mr. Hedge failed in business and the property was sold under the mortgage. How much Gable and Werst posted to profit and loss in this transaction is unknown. They held the property for many years.

Among the early arrivals this season were Ithael Hamilton, the father, and Enoch C. Hamilton, the brother, of H. S. Hamilton, and Erastus H. Murray, a brother-in-law. Harvey Hubbard and John I. Hubbard were also relatives of the Hamiltons.

Enoch C. Hamilton made a claim where the city hospital is now located. His claim shanty stood twenty or thirty rods south of the building now used as a hospital. While living here the house was struck by lightning, during a severe thunderstorm on Sunday, June 19, 1853, and his wife instantly killed.

Mrs. Hamilton opened a select school, which she had been teaching for a week or two previous to her death. This may with a great deal of propriety be called the first school on the prairie. The school opened in Mrs. Goddard's shanty, in 1852, by Miss Gere, then a girl of fourteen or fifteen, was hardly entitled to mention as an institution for instruction. Mrs. Hamilton was an experienced school-teacher. She left three children, Alvin, Alice and Julia. Previous to her marriage Miss Alice Hamilton was for many years a well known teacher in the public schools of the city of Winona.

Mr. Hamilton married again and pre-empted his claim as a homestead. It is now known as E. C. Hamilton's addition. Mr. Hamilton, with his second family, is now living at Minnesota City.

Ithael Hamilton and his son Otis Hamilton made claims on the lower end of the prairie. They have been dead many years.

Harvey and John I. Hubbard built two large dwelling-houses on what is now block 5, Hamilton's addition, which they occupied for several years. None of their families are now residents of this county.

Erastus H. Murray bought the Viets House, and improved it by putting on additions in the rear, finishing off the second story, and building a good frame barn on the rear of the lot. He made it a comfortable hotel, although limited in capacity, to accommodate the

traveling public. He gave it the name of "Winona House," and kept it until early in the spring of 1854, when he sold it to Charles Eaton, who came here at that time. The following June Mr. Eaton sold out his interest in the Winona House to S. H. Lombard, a recent arrival, and moved upon his claim, where George I. Parsons now lives. He is now a citizen of St. Paul. S. H. Lombard kept the Winona House a year or two, when he leased or sold it. The building was burned in the big fire of 1862. Mr. Lombard is yet a resident of Winona.

Mr. Murray built a dwelling on Fourth street, which is yet standing and is part of the New England House. In 1854 he built a dwelling on lot 4, block 14, and also a building for a boot and shoe shop on lot 5 of the same block, on the corner of Second and Lafayette streets, where "Mues' Block" now stands. He carried on business here for two or three years with his brother, W. H. Murray. His shoe-shop was afterward used for the postoffice. None of Mr. Murray's family are now residents of this part of the state.

Warren Rowell became a resident of this county in April, 1853. He landed on Wabasha prairie and staid there with his family for about a month. During that time he occupied a part of the shanty built by Mr. Stevens the year before for Mr. Goddard. Late in the fall Mrs. Goddard had built a house on the southeast corner of Franklin and Front streets, where she lived during the winter.

Finding no better accommodations, Mr. Rowell fixed up a part of the Stevens shanty as a place for his family to stay in for a few weeks, until he could select a location suitable for a farm. The other end of the shanty (a long building) was used as a barn, or place for the storage of hay and corn. This building was afterward burned by a prairie fire.

Mr. Rowell selected a claim next above Gorr's, in what is now Pleasant Valley, built a log house, and moved there about the first of June. Some of the settlers from the prairie went out and helped raise his cabin. The claim he made in the spring of 1853 he still occupies; it is the farm where he now resides, and has been his home about thirty years. The claim shanty — the log cabin of early days — has been superseded by more modern buildings. Large barns and outbuildings have taken the place of the pole sheds covered with wild grass.

Mr. Rowell was among the earlier settlers in this county to locate on farming lands as a home. By attentively minding his

own business he has made farming a profitable business in the valley where he lives.

In May, 1853, Dr. John L. Balcombe returned to Wabasha prairie from Illinois, where he had spent the winter. When he left, in the fall previous, he sold out his interest here, including his houses, to Edwin Hamilton, retaining his shanty on the acre given him by Johnson. During the winter Ed. Hamilton had used his dwelling as a stable. When the doctor resumed possession he found it more economical and agreeable to move the cabin to a new locality rather than attempt to remove the refuse and renovate the building as it stood. He occupied this temporarily.

Not liking his location on the acre he had first selected, he abandoned it, and purchased lot 3 in block 9 of Smith and Johnson, for which he paid *twenty dollars*. The deed, a quit-claim, was made September 29, 1853, and filed for record January 25, 1854. He had had possession of the lot for two or three months previous, and built a house on it. This building fronted toward the river, and was designed for a store. It was about 20×40, two stories high. The front of the lower story was finished with large windows and folding doors. On the east side of the building a lean-to was attached, about 12×24. Before it was completed Dr. Balcombe sold this structure to Horace Ranney, but did not deliver possession of it until the spring of 1854. It was afterward known as the "Ranney Building," and was used for quite a variety of purposes — as a private dwelling, for offices, as a hotel, and lastly as a tenement house for several families. It was burned in the fire of 1862.

Early in the summer of 1853 (July 11) Dr. Balcombe bought an undivided half of twenty acres of the Beecher Gere claim, east of the eighty sold to A. M. Fridley, and of twenty acres west of the Fridley claim. The other half of these two lots was purchased by Sanborn and Colburn. He also made a claim on the upper prairie, where Charles Riley now lives. This he afterward improved, and built the farmhouse now standing, which he occupied at the time of his death, September 24, 1856. Although poor health prevented Dr. Balcombe from being prominent, he took an active interest in the development of this part of the territory and in the political questions of his day. M. Wheeler Sargent says, in his historical address, "Dr. John L. Balcombe was a man of the most extended information of any among the early settlers, \* \* \* one of the *first* and *best* of our early citizens."



George H. Sanborn came into the county early in the spring of 1853 and settled on Wabasha prairie. Soon after Wm. H. Colborn came on and joined him here. About the middle of June these two young men opened the first store in the county, with a general assortment of goods. For temporary occupancy, the "car-house" of Denman was moved to lot 5, block 10, and covered with a shingled roof. They here commenced business as Sanborn & Colborn. During the summer they built a store on the corner of the same lot, about 20×40, two stories high, and continued in business until the spring of 1854, when Mr. Colborn withdrew and a new firm was formed, consisting of G. H. Sanborn and M. K. Drew. E. L. King became a partner the same spring. They carried on the business during that season and then sold their stock of goods to Dr. Childs, who continued business for a short time in the same location. In 1855 Sanborn & King started in the forwarding and commission and wholesale and retail grocery business at the foot of Johnson street.

Mr. Sanborn in 1856 built a very large three-story building on the river, at the foot of Washington street, which was known as Sanborn's warehouse. The third story of this building was used as a hall for public meetings. It was fitted up with a stage and scenery by the Philharmonic Society soon after it was first organized, and used by them until they moved to their present location. The building was torn down many years ago by the railroad company, into whose possession the property passed.

Soon after he came here in 1853 Mr. Sanborn purchased the Viets claim and subsequently had it surveyed and plotted. It is now known as Sanborn's addition. He built his first residence on this claim in 1855, a small story-and-a-half house, on the corner of Lafayette and Wabasha streets. It is yet standing, and forms a part of the present residence of J. L. Brink. Mr. Sanborn was engaged in business for several years in Winona. About 1859 he closed up his affairs here and went east to live. He is now in Northern Dakota, where it is reported that he has made some fortunate speculations as a pioneer in that locality.

As an incident of early days, an adventure of Mr. Sanborn's, brought to the mind of the writer, is thought worthy of notice. Mr. Sanborn was the owner of a pair of fine driving-horses. One of these was a valuable horse, which he used as a saddle-horse. Although broken to harness, he had nothing that he considered

suitable to drive him in during the winter. Having business in St. Paul, he adopted the idea of taking his horse with him and bringing back a stylish cutter. There was not sufficient snow to drive up, and he proposed to ride his horse to St. Paul.

On the first of January, 1855, he started on his trip, taking along a new single-harness, with blankets and a buffalo-skin, on which he proposed to ride, instead of a saddle, expecting to reach Wabasha that day. He went up Straight slough on the ice. When he reached Haddock slough, about where S. M. Burns lost his horses two years before, his horse broke through the ice, which was thin at that place, and took Mr. Sanborn into the water with him. With some difficulty he crawled out on the ice, which was brittle and gave way to his weight. He was within about twenty rods of the shore, for which he was headed when the accident occurred.

The day was intensely cold, with a piercing wind, and a cold bath was far from agreeable with the thermometer showing zero. His horse remained afloat and broke the ice in his efforts to climb out after his master. Mr. Sanborn hastened to the shore and procured some logs of wood and rocks, with which he broke the ice and opened a channel to where the water was less than two feet deep. The intelligent animal followed him closely, but was unable to climb out on the ice. He was chilled through by the length of time he had been in the water. Mr. Sanborn was completely exhausted from the fatigue and cold, he having slipped in several times while breaking the ice.

Feeling benumbed and unable to do more for his horse, he started off for help. When he reached Mr. Burley's, nearly a mile below, he was almost unconscious. His clothing was frozen stiff and solid, and he was compelled to crawl on his hands and knees to reach the house. He was taken care of, and men went up to help the horse, if he was not beyond help. They found him dead. Mr. Sanborn had loosened the harness and blankets while the horse was in the deep water, and they had floated away under the ice.

Mr. Sanborn recovered from his exposure with some frost-bites, but without any serious illness following. He returned to Winona as soon as he was able to be moved, which was, in a day or two after, and sent to St. Paul for his cutter, which was brought down by the mail-carrier. His second-best horse was promoted and became the pet.

William Davidson came into this county April 6, 1853. After

some time spent in prospecting and explorations in the western part of the county, he selected a claim at the head of a small branch of the White Water, in what is now the town of St. Charles, on Sec. 10, T. 106, R. 10. He returned to Clayton county, Iowa, where his family were then living, and made his arrangement to transport them with his household goods, farming implements and live stock, up through the country to the location he had selected in Minnesota as his future home.

Mr. Davidson started with four yoke of oxen and three wagons ; these, with his cows and young stock, and a saddle-pony used to collect the cattle, made up quite an immigrant train. They came into this county on the "old government trail,"—the trail over which the Winnebagoes were taken when removed from Iowa to Long Prairie in 1848, up through Money Creek valley and out on the ridge near the head of Burns valley. They then went west, keeping on the high land to avoid the ravines leading into the Rolling Stone, to Bentleys, now Utica, and reached their destination about the first of June. They were eleven days making this trip of about 125 miles.

Mr. Davidson was the first settler to come into the county by the "overland route." He immediately set his breaking team to work and put in a field of seed-corn and planted a garden. He built a commodious log house, making a trip to Winona in the latter part of June for lumber to complete it. Until their log house was ready for occupancy they lived in camp with but temporary shelter. He raised a good crop of corn and vegetables the first season, sufficient for his own use. The cornmeal used in his family was ground by hand in a large coffee-mill.

Mr. Davidson here opened up a large farm, and in early days was prominently active in public affairs relative to the development of the county. He was county commissioner and held other official positions. He is now a resident of the city of St. Charles.

L. H. Springer and Benjamin Langworthy landed on Wabasha prairie on May 31, 1853. They brought with them their families and four yoke of oxen, three horses, eight cows and other animals, and also two wagons. Mr. Laird gave them the use of his shanty for temporary occupancy until they found satisfactory locations. They made claims on the White Water, and moved there with their families about the middle of June.

L. H. Springer settled at what is now the village of St. Charles.

He built a large, substantial log house and comfortable stables, and opened up a farm in this locality. This log house was used as a hotel for two or three years. "Springer's" was a favorite stopping place for all who had business in that vicinity. These were the only settlers in the west part of the county in 1853.

In the fall of 1854 L. H. Springer, George H. Sanborn and M. Wheeler Sargent, laid out the land claimed by Springer as a town site, and gave it the name of St. Charles. It was advertised as being "on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19, T. 106, R. 10, twenty-five miles west from Winona on the south fork of the Meniska or White Water river, in the midst of as good farming lands as can be found anywhere." Mr. Springer was prominently active in all measures to promote the general good. He, with William Davidson, was the first to open a wagon trail from St. Charles to Winona. Mr. Springer lived at St. Charles for several years and then removed to Olmsted county, where he yet resides.

Alexander McClintock came into the county this season and settled on a claim in the south Rolling Stone valley, above Putnams. He built a log house, and pre-empted this as a homestead after, and lived here with his family for several years, until his death. None of his family are now residents of the county.

Henry D. Huff landed on Wabasha prairie Sunday, June 26, 1853. He stopped at the Winona House, then kept by E. H. Murray. It was supposed at the time that he came to assume charge of Capt. Smith's interest in the town, which his son, S. J. Smith, was then here looking after. He purchased an undivided interest in the original town plot of Smith and Johnson, and later in the season also purchased the claim of Ed. Hamilton—claim No. 5. Hamilton had previously sold undivided interests to others; Mark Howard held a third; David Olmsted and Orlando Stevens held an interest. Through an arrangement with Hamilton and the others the whole claim was transferred to Mr. Huff, who at once had it surveyed and plotted, and recorded with the plot of Smith and Johnson's claim as the "original plot" of the city of Winona.

Mr. Huff built the cottage now occupied by Lafayette Stout, near the corner of Fourth and Huff streets, and brought his family here. He lived in this cottage for several years, when he built the house on the same corner now owned and occupied by Hon. H. W. Lambertson, in which he resided until he left Minnesota. From the first of his coming here he was prominently active in all public enterprises.



Mr. Huff had been in mercantile business in Kenosha, and a dealer in real estate, before coming here. He had prior to that passed some years of pioneer life in Wisconsin and Illinois, and was familiar with early settlements in towns and country. His experience, with his natural sagacity and enterprise and his indomitable will power, made him a leader in all public matters or affairs in which others were associated with him. His interests were intimately connected with the development and prosperity of the county and city of Winona. There was no one among the pioneer settlers who accomplished so much by his individual efforts to build up the city of Winona as Henry D. Huff. To him more than to any other person this city is justly indebted for its early prosperity and many of its present advantages. It was by him that the name of Winona was substituted for that of Montezuma. It was through his efforts that Fillmore county was divided and Winona county created with the county seat at the village of Winona.

Mr. Huff started the second newspaper in Winona—the first was the “Winona Argus,” edited by Wm. Ashley Jones. The first issue was September 20, 1854. In April, 1855, Mr. Huff issued the first number of the “Winona Express,” edited by W. Creek. In November, 1855, Mr. Huff sold the establishment to W. G. Dye & Co., who started the “Winona Republican.” Soon after D. Sinclair became connected with it, and the paper has since been continuously issued under that name by D. Sinclair & Co. with the addition of a daily paper.

Huff's Hotel was built by Mr. Huff in 1855. In 1857 he built a large flouring-mill near Youmans Bros. & Hodgins' sawmill. It was built at a cost of about \$25,000, and was burned a few years after. He was one of the stockholders in the original Transit Railroad Company.

Mr. Huff sold out the most of his property here about ten years ago and went to Chicago.

The time set by Judge A. G. Chatfield for holding the first session of a district court in what was then Fillmore county was at Wabasha prairie, on Monday, June 27, 1853, but the judge failed to reach Winona on that day. On Tuesday, June 28, he arrived with quite a large party of ladies and gentlemen from St. Paul, among whom were two attorneys, L. A. Babcock and H. L. Moss. He opened court in the Winona House. Wm. B. Gere was appointed clerk of the court. The petit jury was dismissed. The grand jury

was organized and held a sitting on that day. On Wednesday, June 29. the grand jury made a presentment in the case of Erwin H. Johnson, for the shooting of Isaac W. Simonds, and indicted S. M. Burns, of Mt. Vernon (Hall's landing), for selling liquor to the Indians. They were dismissed at noon on that day and the court adjourned. This was the first district court held in southern Minnesota. In the afternoon Judge Chatfield, with the party from St. Paul, visited Minnesota City and the valley of the Rolling Stone.

John Iams was the sheriff in attendance on the court. It is said that the sheriff brought his dinner with him from home each day. On the first day, as he approached the crowd assembled around the Winona House, he was greeted by W. T. Luark, who, with a laugh of ridicule, cried out, "Here comes the great high sheriff of Fillmore county with his dinner pail on his arm!" At noon the same crowd saw the sheriff and Mr. Luark sitting on the bank of the river eating their dinner from the dinner-bucket of the sheriff, and washing it down with river water.

Grove W. Willis came to Wabasha prairie about the first of July of this year. Before coming here he had been promised the position of clerk of the court by Judge Chatfield, but on account of his failure to arrive in time to attend to the duties of the office, the Judge was compelled to appoint Wm. B. Gere to the place. When Judge Chatfield was notified that Mr. Willis was at Winona awaiting his order, he revoked the appointment of Gere and gave the position to Mr. Willis, who was appointed clerk of the district court about the 7th of July.

Mr. Willis brought his family here and rented the building on Front street built by Dr. Balcombe (the Ranney building), where he lived during the winter. He used the lean-to of the building as his office. The same room was also used as a schoolroom for a select school kept by his daughter, now Mrs. Gillett, living in the village of Chatfield. This school is really entitled to be called the first fully established school taught in Winona. It was kept three or four months with about twenty-five pupils.

Mr. Willis lived at Winona during the winter and moved to Chatfield in the spring of 1854. About ten or twelve years ago he returned to Winona, and has since made it his home.

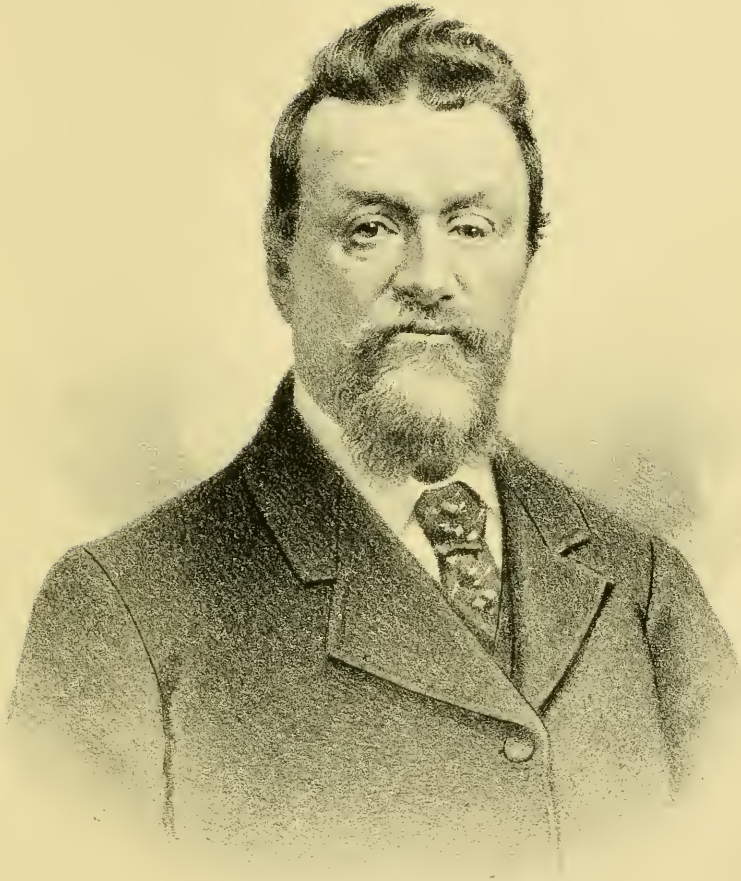
John Keyes came to Winona on September 12, 1853. He landed with his wife and two children at Hamilton's, on the lower end of the prairie. He bought an undivided one-eighth of H. S. Hamilton's

claim, and lived in a part of his house during the winter and following summer. While living here he procured timber and lumber to build a house on the upper part of the claim next below where the Hubbards built their houses. The following season he became dissatisfied with his investment with Mr. Hamilton, and having an opportunity purchased the interest of Captain Smith in claim No. 1, the lower claim. The claim had been divided between Smith and Johnson, Johnson taking the west part, leaving the eastern portion for Captain Smith.

Mr. Keyes at once put up a shanty and took possession. He moved his family there about September 1, 1854, and the same fall built the house in which he lived nearly a score of years before he built the brick house (to which the old one is attached) where his family now resides. John Keyes died in November, 1877. Mr. Keyes was a lawyer by profession, and held his office in his house when he commenced business here. In the fall of 1855 he was appointed clerk in the United States land office by L. D. Smith, the receiver, and continued in that position until the spring of 1857, after the land office was removed to Faribault. He then resumed the practice of law. His office was in a small building on the levee near the Winona House, owned and occupied by John A. Mathews as a real estate and loan office. In 1862 this office was burned. He was afterward one of the firm of Sargent, Franklin & Keyes, and at the time of his death one of the law firm of Keyes & Snow.

From an early day Mr. Keyes took a great interest in the public schools of the city of Winona. He was a director and clerk of the board from the time the first district school was opened until long after the present system was established. The city of Winona is more indebted to John Keyes for its present system of graded schools than to any other one person among the pioneer settlers or citizens of more modern days.

M. Wheeler Sargent came to Winona in this year. His arrival, given in his address, from which quotations have been made, is mentioned as follows: "I first saw this county August 1, 1853, carrying a chain northward between towns 105 of ranges 8 and 9. The first house I saw was that of Wm. Davidson, August 11. Town 105 of ranges 7, 8, 9 and 10 had no occupants. Town 106, of the same ranges, had no inhabitants except L. H. Springer, Wm. Davidson and families, in 106. range 10, and Hull and Bently in range 9.



BENJAMIN ELLSWORTH.





“Town 107, range 9, had Wm. Sweet and family—107, range 10, none—108, range 10, had John and David Cook. The other settlers of our county were on the Mississippi, or in the immediate valleys of some of its tributaries.

“On the 19th of September of that year the speaker first saw this prairie, coming in from the Gilmore valley. Fancy he made something of a spread that night, for, with a half-dozen others, he slept at full length on the ground, between his present office and the Mississippi, with his hat for a nightcap and boots for a pillow. His toilet he prefers giving in an autobiography when called for; it is not particularly allied to the history of this county.”

When Mr. Sargent came into this county he was in the employ of Wm. Ashley Jones, who was engaged in surveying the public lands in this part of the territory. On reaching Wabasha prairie he decided to locate there and establish himself in the practice of his profession as a lawyer. He was appointed district attorney before the county of Fillmore was divided, and after Winona county was created he was elected register of deeds and appointed clerk of the district court. He was the first mayor of the city of Winona; he was also a member of the legislature from this county. When he first came here he began the practice of law by himself; in 1855 he was of the law firm of Sargent, Wilson & Windom, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1866, he was one of the firm of Sargent, Franklin & Keyes.

More extended notices of these two prominent pioneer settlers (John Keyes and M. Wheeler Sargent) would be made if it were not that their biographical sketches will be given under another division of this history.

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## CHAPTER XXXV.

### A CELEBRATION.

THE fourth of July, 1853, was celebrated with a great deal of patriotic enthusiasm at Minnesota City. The settlers of Rolling Stone invited the citizens of Wabasha prairie to join them in the customary honors and hospitalities of “independence day.” The invitation was accepted, and many from the prairie were in attend-

ance. The occasion was said to have been one of unusual interest and gratification to the settlers assembled.

The celebration was held in "the public square," under the oaks. The introductory was the following song, written by Robert Pike, Jr., the poet of the colony. It was sung to the tune of "Baker's Farewell":

" We've left the homes our childhood loved,  
 The friends we never can forget;  
 The friends that long, long years have proved,  
 The friends who still in dreams are met.

We've come to make us other homes,  
 On Minnesota's garden lands,  
 Where ev'ry gen'rous heart that comes  
 Is met by loving hearts and hands.

What though the red-man roams the woods,  
 And wild and rude the landscape seems;  
 Is it not fairer than it stood,  
 As seen in fancy's brightest dreams?

What though our domes are all unrequited,  
 And labor in our pathway lies;  
 Labor is pleasant, when 'tis cheered  
 By helping hands and loving eyes.

No greener valleys meet the sight,  
 No purer fountains, gushing free,  
 No birds of song, or flowers more bright,  
 Bringing perfume and melody.

Hurra! then, for our chosen home,  
 While bound by friendship's silken bond;  
 Our feet no more shall seek to roam,  
 Our hearts shall never more despond."

The orator of the day was Egbert Chapman, who, it is said, gave an admirable and exceedingly appropriate address. He was followed by Robert Pike, Jr., who became really eloquent in his remarks, which were listened to with pleased expressions by the assemblage.

An elegant repast was furnished by the ladies, to which all were invited. The concourse then adjourned from "the park" to the tables prepared under the shade of the walnuts, where ample justice was awarded the good things provided. After all were satisfied, volunteer toasts were drunk from glasses filled with pure cold water plentifully furnished.

Toasts were given by Robert Pike, Jr., Edwin Hamilton, W. H. Colburn, R. Taylor, O. M. Lord, T. K. Allen, S. J. Smith, and others. Some of them are given to show the character of the entertainment.

The first was by Robert Pike, Jr.: "The ladies. May they ever be pure, as our own bright fountains; beautiful, as our wild flowers; as even of temper as our own delightful climate (except the thunderstorms), and as fruitful as the soil to which they have been transplanted."

The second was by Edwin Hamilton: "Superior cookery. The art that makes us happy, and that none better understand than the ladies of Minnesota City."

The third was by W. H. Colburn: "The motto of our glorious country, 'Union is Strength.' Minnesota City and Winona,—may they be ever thus united is the earnest wish of Winona to-day."

The sixth was by Robert Pike, Jr.: "Winona and Minnesota City. May all the rivalry which exists between them be the rivalry of good neighborhood, and the desire to excel in offices of kindness and humanity."

The eighth was by T. K. Allen: "Peace, prosperity and equality. May it long be enjoyed in Minnesota."

The twelfth was by E. Chapman: "The glorious 4th of July. May the remembrance of the day ever be in the hearts of the people."

The thirteenth was by O. M. Lord: "Winona. Like her namesake, wild and beautiful, may she prosper till the height of her aspiration is amply rewarded."

The eighteenth was by S. J. Smith: "Here is to Minnesota City from her eldest daughter, Winona. Although the Dark Water city, yet her waters are clear and sparkling; and to its men, who being Rolling Stone men, yet gather commercial moss; and to its ladies, who are blooming."

Another by O. M. Lord: "The Mississippi river, the highway of the nation. As long as the water flows in its channel may her valleys annually resound with the sound of cannon proclaiming the independence of the American people."

The day's enjoyment closed with another song written by Robert Pike, Jr. This was the first time the "Glorious Fourth" was ever celebrated in southern Minnesota.

July 9 the board of county commissioners of Fillmore county



met at the Winona hotel, and divided the county into precincts and appointed judges of election.

The part of the county north of a line west from a point five miles below the town plat of Mt. Vernon on the Mississippi river to the west line of the county was called Mt. Vernon precinct. James Kirkman and Louis Krutzly, living at the mouth of the White Water, and A. P. Hall, of Mt. Vernon, were appointed judges of election. This precinct had twelve legal voters.

The Minnesota City precinct was the next south of the Mt. Vernon precinct. The judges of election were H. B. Waterman, O. H. Hauk and E. B. Drew. This had the largest number of voters of any precinct.

The Winona precinct included Wabasha prairie only. The judges of election were Harvey Hubbard, O. S. Holbrook and George F. Childs.

The Minneowah precinct extended south to a line due west from a point on the Mississippi opposite the mouth of Black river to the west line of the county. The line between this and the Minnesota City precinct was not defined. The judges of election were W. B. Bunnell, of Bunnell's landing, James F. Toms, of Minneowah, and William Hewitt, of Burns valley. This had sixteen voters.

The Root River precinct was between the south line of the Minneowah precinct and a line west from the mouth of Root river to the west line of the county. The judges of election were G. W. Gilfillan, Joseph Brown and John L. Looney. It had ten legal voters.

The Brownsville precinct was all of the county lying between the Root River precinct at the Iowa state line. The judges of election were Charles Brown, Samuel McPhail and M. C. Young.

At this meeting of the board of commissioners a school district was established at Minnesota City, but no specific boundaries given. It was presumed to include the whole precinct.

A petition for a public road from Winona to Minnesota City was received and the following examiners appointed — Harvey Hubbard and E. B. Drew. These road examiners were to meet on Tuesday, July 19, at Minnesota City. C. R. Coryell, of Rolling Stone, was appointed county surveyor.

The next meeting of the board was at the Winona House, on July 22, 1853. At this meeting Gere and Luark were present. In the absence of Mr. Stall, the commissioners appointed Sylvester J. Smith clerk of the board pro tem.

“The examiners of the road between Minnesota City and Winona reported that they had located the road. The report was received, examined and fully accepted, and an order issued to the county surveyor to locate and survey the same.”

This was the first public road officially located in the county. The above copy of the record is the only documentary evidence of the fact. All books and papers relative to the proceedings of this board of county commissioners were taken to Chatfield, the first county seat of Fillmore county. Mr. E. B. Drew, one of the examiners, says the road was surveyed and located about where the present road from Minnesota City to Winona is now laid. It was resurveyed after Winona county was created.

The first general election held in the county was on the second Tuesday, the 11th of October, 1853. At this general election Hon. H. M. Rice was elected delegate to congress from the Territory of Minnesota. Hon. O. M. Lord was elected a representative to the territorial legislature from this representative district. In January, 1854, when Mr. Lord attended the fifth legislature to which he was elected, he walked from Minnesota City to St. Paul for that purpose.

At this election the following officers were elected in Fillmore county: county attorney, Andrew Cole; judge of probate, H. B. Waterman; register of deeds, William B. Gere; sheriff, John Iams; county commissioners, John C. Laird, Robert Pike, Jr., and W. B. Bunnell.

The justices of the peace elected were—for Wabasha prairie, George M. Gere and Wm. H. Stevens (Mr. Stevens had previously served as justice of the peace. He was appointed in July, 1853, by Governor Gorman); for Minnesota City, H. B. Waterman and Robert Pike, Jr.; for Mt. Vernon, S. M. Burns; for Minneowah, Mynon Lewis.

Among the settlers who came into the county later in this season were Mathew Ewing, Dr. Allen, E. S. Smith, A. C. Smith, James McClellan, Luke Blair, G. W. Wiltse, Lysander Kately, James Worrall, George Gay and T. B. Twiford.

Mathew Ewing settled on H. S. Hamilton's claim, where he built a comfortable frame house and opened a store with a fair assortment of goods. He sold goods during the winter and in the spring closed out his stock and gave up the business. He then located himself in the village and purchased two lots on the corner of Third and John-

son streets, and also a lot on the corner of Johnson and Front streets, where he built the building now standing on it. After two or three years here he sold out and left the county.

James McClellan brought a stock of goods with him and opened a store in the front part of the main portion of the residence of Rev. E. Ely, which was built this year. Mr. McClellan remained here until early in the spring, when he moved his family and goods to Chatfield.

Dr. Allen (his initials are unknown to the writer) came here and located himself as a practicing physician. He was the first to settle in the county to make that profession his special business. He remained here until the spring of 1854, when he moved to Chatfield.

E. S. Smith bought an interest in the Stevens claim, and for a year or two lived in Winona, dealing in real estate, etc. He married Miss Mary Burns, and settled in Burns valley, where he built the Glen Flouring Mill. He remained there several years and then sold out and moved to Winona, where his family yet resides. Mr. Smith went to Washington Territory, where he was for awhile connected with the western portion of the North Pacific railroad. Although he occasionally visits his home in Minnesota, he is yet engaged in business in Washington Territory, which requires his personal attention there much of his time.

Andrew C. Smith settled in Winona. In 1855 he started the first drug store ever opened in the county. After several years' residence here he moved to Stockton. He was a member of the State legislature from this county in 1869. He is now a resident of Rochester, Olmsted county.

L. D. Smith visited Wabasha prairie during the fall and winter of 1853, but did not bring his family here to live until the spring of 1854. He purchased the "Fridley claim" and built a house on it, where he lived several years. This house is yet standing near the corner of Franklin and Wabasha streets. He then moved to his farm in the south Rolling Stone valley about half a mile above the village of Stockton, where he lived at the time of his death. He was appointed receiver in the United States land office in 1854, and was one of the most active in securing the land grant for the benefit of the railroads in this state. Further mention will be made of him in other divisions of this history.

Wm. Ashley Jones was a deputy United States surveyor. During the summer of 1853 he was engaged in the survey of

public lands in southern Minnesota. In the fall of this year he visited Wabasha prairie, and in the spring following moved his family there and made Winona his home for about ten years, when he moved to Dubuque. He is now a resident of Dakota.

Mr. Jones held an undivided interest in the Smith and Johnson town plot, and also an interest in the Stevens claim (Stevens' addition). He opened up a large farm in the town of St. Charles. It is now known as the "Lamberton Farm." Besides dealing in real estate, Mr. Jones found time and means to start the first newspaper published in the county, "The Winona Argus."

Luke Blair came to Wabasha prairie in the fall of this year. He bought two lots on the corner of Center and Second streets, where the "Simpson Block" now stands. He brought with him a small drove of cattle, which he wintered in stables built on the back part of these lots. He made a claim in what is now the town of Saratoga, but did not occupy it until the following season. Early in the spring of 1854 he built a store on lot 4, block 16, and brought on a stock of general merchandise.

During the summer he moved his family out on his claim. In the fall he sold the two lots with his store building to W. G. Dye, who sold them to V. Simpson, the present owner, and sold his stock of goods to James H. Jacoby, who continued the business in the same locality under the name of Day & Co. The upper part of Blair's building was used as a public hall. Meetings were held here until it was used as a printing-office by Wm. Ashley Jones. This was where the "Winona Argus" was started, with Samuel Melvin as associate editor and foreman in the office. W. G. Dye set the first type for this paper.

Mr. Blair settled on his claim, which has been his permanent home. The vicinity was long known as the Blair settlement. Mr. Wiltse and Mr. Kately made claims in that part of the county, and wintered there in 1853-4.

George Gay made a claim in Burns valley, on what was afterward known as the Sailsbury Place. He remained here a year or two and moved to Wabasha county. James Worrall settled in Winona, and about two years after went to Wabasha county.



## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### CHATFIELD SETTLED AND WINONA COUNTY ORGANIZED.

IN the fall of this year, 1853, T. B. Twiford came into this county from Lansing, Iowa. In his prospecting excursions and explorations he discovered the present site of Chatfield, in the northern part of Fillmore county, and conceived the project of making it a town site. At Winona he formed the acquaintance of Grove W. Willis, and a scheme was concocted to form a stock company and make Twiford's newly-discovered town site the county seat of Fillmore county.

The plan proposed was to divide the stock into twelve shares. The shareholders were T. B. Twiford, G. W. Willis, H. C. Gere, Myron Toms, William B. Gere, Harvey Hubbard, John I. Hubbard, Robert Pike, Jr., James McClellan and W. B. Bunnell. It was designed that each of the members of the board of county commissioners should be presented with a share in the new town site—the proposed county seat, but Mr. Luark of the appointed board was absent from the territory, and John C. Laird, of the newly-elected board was too strongly interested in Winona to be utilized. Neither of these men were shareholders in the project.

Twiford and Willis put up a log shanty on the proposed town site, to which they gave the name of Chatfield, and placed a man by the name of Case in the shanty temporarily, to hold the locality for the company. It was generally known that the members of the old board of county commissioners, Gere and Toms, whose term of office expired on January 1, 1854, were in favor of locating the county seat in the locality selected by Mr. Twiford, but it was considered extremely doubtful if they had any authority to act in the matter. The law provided that it should be the duty of the first board of county commissioners elected to locate the county seat. The first board had been appointed by the governor as provided by the act creating Fillmore county.

In furtherance of the plan of Twiford and Willis the appointed board assumed the authority to locate the county seat, although it was generally conceded by everybody that this power belonged to the first elected board.

The following entry was made on the record of the proceedings of the county commissioners by the clerk :

Pursuant to agreement, the commissioners of Fillmore county, Minnesota Territory, on December 19, A.D. 1853, at the residence of Mr. Case, in Root River precinct, in the town of Chatfield—present Henry C. Gere and Myron Toms. The object of said meeting was to locate the county seat of said Fillmore county, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. It was then and there resolved that the county seat should be located at Chatfield, in the center of section 6, town 104 north, of range 11 west. Then the commissioners adjourned, to meet at the residence of W. B. Bunnell, in Minneowah, on Tuesday, December 27, A.D. 1853.

G. W. WILLIS,

Clerk County Commissioners, pro tem.

The commissioners Gere and Toms met at Bunnell's on the 27th of December, 1853, and appointed C. F. Buck clerk of the board. They here audited the accounts of county officers presented, and issued county orders to the amount of \$411.47. This was the last meeting of this board of commissioners.

At the time, the county seat of Fillmore county was located at what is now Chatfield. The nearest settler was at Springer's, now St. Charles. There was not even a claim shanty within ten miles of the log pen designated as "the residence of Mr. Case." It was then considered uncertain whether the county seat was located within the western boundary of Fillmore county.

It was estimated that on January 1, 1854, there were about 800 inhabitants within the present boundaries of Winona county. This is thought to be a liberal estimate and probably a large excess over actual numbers.

The board of county commissioners of Fillmore county elected October 11, 1853, met at the house of Robert Pike, Jr., in Minnesota City January 2, 1854. Robert Pike, Jr., John C. Laird and W. B. Bunnell were present. The register of deeds, W. B. Gere, clerk of the board, was also present. The board was organized by electing W. B. Bunnell chairman. This session of the board continued two days. It is evident from the records that considerable business was done.

The following extract was copied from the record: "The board then proceeded to ballot for the location of the county seat, which resulted in one vote for Winona, one vote for Chatfield and one vote for Minnesota City. As the board could not agree upon the location, they decided that the locating should be postponed until a future meeting."

Aside from the stock company, the shareholders, there was not a settler in the county that favored the location of the county seat at Chatfield. Meetings were held at Minnesota City, Winona and Minneowah condemning the action of the appointed board, but each locality instructed its representative commissioner to locate the county seat at his own home or place, and under no circumstances to give it to a rival town.

Mr. Sinclair says in his historical sketch in 1876: "At these meetings the commissioner from Minnesota City, Mr. Pike, was instructed by his constituents to vote for the location of the county seat at that place, and in no event at Winona; but if it became necessary for him to exercise discretionary power in making a second choice, to vote in favor of Chatfield. The reason is obvious: the location at Chatfield, upon the division of the county, would give Minnesota City another chance, whereas locating the county seat at Winona would forever debar Minnesota City from securing the coveted prize. The same reasoning led Bunnell, from his standpoint, to operate in like manner in favor of that other rival of Winona, the much-vaunted Minneowah."

While each of the rival localities was clamorous for the county seat, without a prospect of either securing it, there were conservative men in each locality who favored a division of the county rather than have the county seat located at Chatfield, as indications showed it would be. This was most strongly advocated at Winona. H. D. Huff assumed the leadership of this scheme for the purpose of securing the county seat at his town. It was found that Mr. Lord, the representative in the territorial legislature from this district, although a resident of Minnesota City, was in favor of a division of Fillmore county, and promised his aid. He gave Mr. Huff what he considered the proper boundaries for a new county—the same that are now the boundaries of Winona county.

Every means available was brought to bear to induce commissioners Bunnell and Pike to cast their vote for Winona. Friendship and diplomacy failed to win the desired vote. There was no compromise with Bunnell. It was said that a bribe of a block of land was offered to Robert Pike, Jr., from two prominent citizens of Winona, in consideration of his vote, which he indignantly refused to accept.

On January 7 the board met at the office of John C. Laird and accomplished considerable business, but failed to settle the county-

seat question. The following extract from record shows the financial condition of the county: "There being no receipts, the liabilities of the county at this date, by reference to the bills on file, is \$536.86."

M. Wheeler Sargent says in his address: "L. H. Springer and myself met H. D. Huff at his residence, where we agreed upon the outlines of a new county, to be called Winona, with exactly its present boundaries. Huff, having the most time and money, agreed to engineer it through the legislature. Upon this mission, armed with a petition having as many names as we thought the population would justify, and the other documents adapted to various supposable emergencies, he started for St. Paul.

On January 30, 1854, the board of county commissioners, pursuant to adjournment, met at the house of Robert Pike, Jr., in Minnesota City, at which meeting Robert Pike, Jr., John C. Laird and W. B. Bunnell, the chairman, were present. The register of deeds, W. B. Gere, was clerk of the board. At this meeting vacancies were filled by the following appointments: M. Wheeler Sargent, district attorney, and C. F. Buck, judge of probate. The clerk was ordered to notify them of their appointments. Robert Pike, Jr., had been appointed county surveyor at a previous meeting.

The all-absorbing topic of conversation, the vexed question of location of the county seat, was settled at this meeting. The following copy of the record of their proceedings shows their action in the matter: "In pursuance of and in accordance with the eighteenth section of the eleventh chapter of the session laws of Minnesota Territory, passed by the legislative assembly at the session commencing January 5, A.D. 1853, the county commissioners proceeded to locate the county seat of Fillmore county. It was decided by the board of commissioners that the county seat of said Fillmore county should be at Chatfield, in said county, on section 6, township 104 north, of range 11 west."

It was charged by some of the disappointed Winonians that John C. Laird sold out his constituents for a share in Chatfield. G. W. Willis, now living in the city of Winona, says this was not so; that Mr. Laird never held a share in the Chatfield Land Company. Although Mr. Twiford was the originator, Mr. Willis was the leader and manager, of the scheme to locate the county seat at Chatfield. He says: "Bunnell and Pike located the county seat



—a majority of the board could do it. I never knew that Laird voted for it, and doubt that he did so, for he always opposed us. None of the commissioners were bribed to vote for it, although everything else was done to influence them. Bunnell and Pike would have voted for Tophet rather than have given it to Winona.”

Mr. G. W. Willis went to St. Paul to procure a charter for the Chatfield Land Company, and to defeat the proposed division of the county. He was successful in securing the charter for the company from the legislature, then in session, but his influence there was insufficient to prevent the passage of the act creating Winona county.

The bill for the division of Fillmore county and forming of the present county of Winona was introduced and supported by Hon. O. M. Lord, in the house. He was strongly backed by H. D. Huff as a lobby member and general manager. Winona county was created by act of the territorial legislature February 23, 1854.

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## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS OF WINONA COUNTY.

WINONA COUNTY was formed by the territorial legislature of 1854, from a part of Fillmore county, which had previously comprised the southeastern portion of the state. The first permanent settlements were made along the Mississippi river in the spring of 1852. There was no school taught in what is now Winona county during that summer. A subscription school was opened for a term of three months in the autumn by Miss Ann Orton, with an attendance of about twenty pupils, at Minnesota City. July 9, 1853, a school district was formed by the county commissioners at Minnesota City, and organized under the territorial law, and Miss Hester A. Houck was employed to teach. The term began October 31 and continued thirteen weeks. The names and ages of the children that attended this term of school are given from the rate bill, by which the wages of the teacher were collected. The sum agreed upon was \$48. There were twenty-seven pupils, eighteen of whom are now living (1883). The list is as follows: Mathew Foster,\* age 11 years;

\* Dead.

George Foster\*, 6 ; Milo Campbell, 7 ; Thomas Thorpe, 8 ; Robert Thorpe, 6 ; John Thorpe, 13 ; William Thorpe,\* 3 ; Mary E. Cotton, 5 ; Randolph Wright,\* 12 ; Dan'l W. Wright, 9 ; John H. Wright ; Edith Pike,\* 11 ; Emma Pike, 8 ; Charlotte Denman,\* 9 ; Mary E. Denman, 5 ; James L. Denman, 7 ; Robert S. Denman,\* 3 ; Chas. Kellogg, 15 ; Rollin Hotchkiss, 13 ; Robert Hotchkiss, 13 ; Lycurgus Luark, 11 ; Achilles Luark,\* 5 ; Elbridge G. Lord,\* 4 ; David Imes, 13 ; Samuel Imes, 7 ; Herman Hopson, 6 ; Gerlana McClintock, 12. This school district was designated as No. 1. May 1, 1854, a petition was presented and district No. 2 was formed, comprising the town of Winona, and on June 5 following No. 3 was formed, comprising the north part of township 105 and the whole of 106, range 10. At a meeting of the county commissioners held July 3, 1854, the whole amount of tax authorized to be raised for school purposes for the current year was \$152.05. In October district No. 4 was formed at Dakota precinct. Schools were opened in Nos. 2, 3 and 4 before the districts were formally organized, and the wages of the teachers were paid by rate bill or by subscription. No. 1 was for this year the only one that reported a three months' term to the state department. At the January meeting of the county commissioners, 1855, the boundaries of No. 1 were designated. Voting precincts had at first been established by the governor, and were afterward so established by the county commissioners, and the first school districts embraced the election precincts which were not clearly defined. At this meeting No. 2 was divided. July 3 the amount of school-tax voted was \$632.34. At one of the meetings in this year a district was organized at Springers', or St. Charles, and one in Lanes' Valley, New Hartford township, one at Geo. Wiltzies' in Saratoga, and one in Whitewater at John Cook's. The school districts of the county now numbered eight. At the January meeting of 1856 they were increased to fifteen ; at the April meeting to twenty-three ; at the July meeting to thirty-five.

At the January meeting of 1856 the first record was made of the distribution of the school money. The amount collected was \$1,336.47, which was apportioned among thirteen districts.

At the meetings of 1857 the number of districts increased to forty-eight. January 9, 1858, the county treasurer reported as

\* Dead.

apportioned among thirty-five districts \$3,533.50. The largest sum to one district was \$662, the smallest was \$22.

The apparently unequal distribution of this fund gave rise to much dissatisfaction. The distribution was based upon the number of residents of each district between the ages of five and twenty-one. In many cases district boundaries were not definitely recorded, and it was claimed that the residents were more than once reported. It was also claimed that some districts, instead of revising the lists from year to year, simply added new names each year to the reported list, and consequently drew more money than they were legally entitled to. At the last meeting of the school board for the year 1858 the districts numbered sixty-two, an increase of fourteen for the year.

The amount of money apportioned among forty-seven districts for the year 1859 was \$662. There were some complaints in regard to this distribution, as the organized districts numbered sixty-five, and while one district drew \$90.75 another only received \$3.85; but as the county business was now transacted by the chairman of the township supervisors, and each town in the county was represented, there was no cause of complaint, except as to unfair reports of residents of districts.

The first record of the number of persons upon which the apportionment was based was made at the January meeting of this year (1859), the number recorded being 2,392. This was the number reported by the forty-seven districts, upon which the apportionment was made, although there were eighteen more organized at the time. During the year ten more were added to that number, making in all seventy-five, showing a remarkable growth for the two years.

The school tax, as reported by the finance committee of the county board for the year 1859, was \$5,346.37.

In 1860 the legislature changed the law in regard to county boards, and the commissioner system was again adopted, and the county treasurer, in his report to the board, February 1, 1860, reported as school money on hand \$2,967.72, and in March following an apportionment of \$4,480.96 was made among the districts, which reported 2,724 persons of schoolable age.

March 7, 1861, the school law was materially changed by the legislature in regard to forming school districts, etc. There was a revision of the whole code, which was framed from that of the

State of Michigan. In unorganized townships the county commissioners were authorized to form districts, but where townships were organized the supervisors had authority to change boundaries, to form new districts, to levy taxes, to appoint a town superintendent and to direct the collection of taxes through the town treasurers.

The legislature having neglected to provide for blank books, reports, records, etc., there was no uniformity of reports or records. In some towns the teachers were licensed and the school business transacted without regard to any particular form or system, and if any records were made they have not been preserved.

Although the law required that existing boundaries of districts should remain if practicable, the loose records and changes, and want of system, involved the district boundaries in great confusion. Township lines interfered with district authority, and under this law districts were divided and new ones created without regard to designation by numbers as recorded in the county auditor's office. Owing to this condition of things it was found difficult to properly and legally levy school district taxes and to collect delinquencies. The delinquent taxes were reported by the town treasurer to the county auditor to collect with the county taxes, which placed a part of the fund in the hands of the county treasurer.

When districts were without funds to pay their teachers, orders were issued upon the district treasury, whether the particular district was entitled to any money from the county treasury or not. If the county treasurer had no fund collected for that district the orders were usually sold to outside parties at a discount. The collection of these orders gave teachers a good deal of trouble. It was said that the county treasurer always stood behind outside parties in buying them at a discount, and that the district accounts were not properly adjusted. This system was not satisfactory to the people. Some of the local boards would not levy a sufficient tax to maintain good schools, and, owing to delinquencies, funds could not at all times be made available.

There are very few names on record of town superintendents. Among them are found Charles Heublin, A. T. Castle, William Murray and Milton Buswell.

From the years 1861 to 1866 there was no material change in the school work. The attention of the people was directed almost wholly to the war, and little or no attention was in some places paid to school matters. January 4, 1866, the county board appointed to



the county superintendency Albert Thomas, salary fixed at \$1,200 per year. Mr. Thomas had taught the village school at Stockton for several terms. He was the principal of the first high school in Winona City, and was known as a teacher of marked ability. A previous business engagement prevented him from accepting the appointment. May 22, 1866, the county was divided into five commissioner districts, and a school examiner appointed for each district, in lieu of township supervision. Geo. P. Wilson was appointed for No. 1, V. J. Walker No. 2, M. R. Lair No. 3, Thomas P. Dixon No. 4, and Henry Gage No. 5. Under the operation of this plan the experience was found to be dearly bought. Certificates of qualification to teach were obtained by asking for them. "There was no definite standard of examination and no uniformity among examiners. They were not required to visit the schools, or to exert any official influence for their welfare, and they felt no responsibility for the work of the persons licensed." There being no unity nor system, no reliable statistics could be gathered from the districts and no groundwork laid for improvement. The county board now consisted of J. J. Randall (chairman), P. P. Hubbell, Collins Rice, H. C. Jones and S. W. Gleason. After much discussion, and owing mainly to the influence of Mr. Randall, it was resolved to change the plan of school work, and at a meeting of the board, September 7, 1867, a resolution was adopted to organize the school work of the county under a provision of the school law of 1864, providing for a county superintendency, in lieu of the general law as specified in section 28 of the same act. In this resolution was also embodied the appointment of Luther A. West as school superintendent, to hold his office until January, 1868, at an annual salary of \$1,000. January 1, 1868, Mr. West was reappointed to serve until January, 1869. Mr. West entered upon the duties of his office in 1867. He was a good scholar, a teacher of large experience, and was well qualified to perform the duties of the office. A great deal of the work required was of the missionary order, as the teachers and the people did not clearly understand the duties of the superintendent. Mr. West met with considerable opposition at first.

Some persons supposed that the whole school authority was transferred from the district officers to the superintendent. Some were opposed on account of the large salary, and some regarded the office as entirely useless. Mr. West made his first special effort in the direction of improving the scholarship and methods of the

teachers, in which he was very successful, and as the people became acquainted with his plan of work his efforts were appreciated and cordially seconded.

The first teachers' institute held in Winona county was organized by Mr. West, assisted by Prof. Wm. F. Phelps and his corps of instructors of the normal school. It was held at St. Charles, in October, 1867, with twenty-three teachers in attendance, and was considered very profitable to those in attendance.

From the annual report for the year 1868 it is shown that ten good, attractive and convenient schoolhouses have been built this year, at a cost of \$11,000; also a building at St. Charles for the graded school, at a cost of \$15,000. During this year Mr. West made a strong effort to secure greater regularity of attendance on the part of the pupils, and to awaken a deeper interest in the schools on the part of parents. That he succeeded in doing a good work in this direction will be seen from the statistical reports to the state superintendent. The average daily attendance for the year 1867, winter and summer terms being 2,699, increased in 1868 to 4,393, though the enrollment of pupils in the last year, according to school population, had decreased from 52 per cent in 1867 to 48 per cent in 1868. Excellent schoolhouses were built at Pickwick, Saratoga and Witoka. A teachers' association was formed and meetings were held at four different places in the county. These meetings produced good results. The people became interested and took part in the discussions, and extended to teachers in attendance the hospitalities of their homes.

In October a state teachers' institute was held at St. Charles, with seventy-five in attendance. The exercises were conducted by an able corps of instructors, and diffused among the teachers a great deal of enthusiasm.

October 26, 1869, a county teachers' institute was held at the normal school in Winona, in charge of Prof. Wm. F. Phelps. The attendance numbered 118. The lessons were presented by the teachers of the normal school and of the public schools of Winona. Gymnastic exercises were introduced by Prof. McGibney. Prof. Carson gave instruction in penmanship. On Tuesday evening Dr. Guthrie, of St. Charles, gave a lecture on geology. Prof. Hood, of the city schools, participated in the discussions. On Thursday evening the Hon. Mark H. Dunnell, state superintendent of public instruction, addressed a large audience upon "Education." The

success of this institute was due mainly to the ability, activity and earnest supervision of Prof. Phelps.

In the report of Mr. West for the year ending September 30, 1869, he regrets that he is not able to make the financial part accurate, owing to the errors of district clerks. He reports having granted certificates to eighty-four teachers—twenty-three to males and sixty-one to females; fourteen of first grade, forty-five of second, and twenty-five of third, and in a comparison of the year's work with that of 1867 shows that great progress has been made, not only in the character of the certificates, but in the increased interest in school matters by the parents, as shown by the increase of teachers' wages, and in the discipline, order and conduct of the schools. This improvement he attributes to the institute work and to the influence of professional training of some of the teachers in the normal school. There were eleven new schoolhouses built, at an aggregate cost of \$9,227.

At the legislative session of 1869 the law was changed as to the term of county superintendents, and the county board appointed Mr. West again to serve until April, 1870. At the meeting of the county board in March the Rev. David Burt was appointed, and entered upon the duties of his office April 5, 1870. Mr. Burt had taught in the common schools of Massachusetts for ten years, when he entered upon an academic course to prepare for college. He graduated at Oberlin, Ohio, in 1848, and then spent three years in the theological seminary at Andover, Massachusetts. He removed to Winona in 1858, and took an active part in all educational work; he acted as member of the school board of Winona city, and served as superintendent of its public schools. In 1866 he assumed the duties of general superintendent of the colored schools of Tennessee, where he served for two years. Impaired health compelled him to return to Winona.

His appointment to the county superintendency was considered, and afterward proved to be, a fortunate and wise measure for the public schools. In addition to his great natural ability, he was fortified in the work by a useful and varied experience and untiring energy and faithfulness. He continued to hold the office until appointed by Gov. Davis to the state superintendency in 1875.

Mr. Burt's first public examination for teachers was held at Stockton, April 22, 1870, and before the close of the month others were held at Winona, Fremont, Elba and Witoka. For this year

there were issued 114 certificates ; ninety-three schools were visited and lectures given on "Our Common Schools" at Utica, White-water, Elba, New Hartford, Saratoga, Hillsdale, Lewiston, Stockton, Pickwick, Minnesota City and Dresback ; also in districts Nos. 9 and 74.

From his report to the state department of November 1, 1870, there were ninety-nine organized districts and eight unorganized. The schoolable population was 5,463 ; number enrolled, 4,059.

A teachers' institute in charge of Mr. Burt was held at St. Charles, October 3, 4, 5 and 6, 1871. The enrollment of actual teachers was sixty-five, and the institute was conducted on the plan of class recitations, and was pronounced by all in attendance a decided success. The instructors are named as L. T. Weld, J. R. Richards, E. Holbrook, Miss C. Harding, Miss F. Barber, C. Pickert, G. Olds, Miss E. Fisher, Geo. Wilson, Miss A. Bingham, Miss N. Taft and C. Boyd. There were three evening lectures : on Tuesday evening, on Reading, by Mr. Burt ; on Wednesday, Motions of the Earth, by Mr. Richards ; and on Thursday evening, Our Common Schools, by Hon. Wm. H. Yale.

At the fall examinations of 1874 sixty-one teachers were licensed. The schools, except ten, were visited during the winter following. In the spring of 1875 Mr. Burt, having accepted an appointment as state superintendent, was requested by the county commissioners to grant certificates to a sufficient number of teachers to enable the districts to go on with their schools for the summer terms, or until his successor could be appointed. The school law at this time required a county superintendent to hold a state certificate. Special examiners were appointed and held a meeting in Winona, at which there were only two or three candidates. The successful one was Mr. John M. Cool, of St. Charles, who was then appointed county superintendent by the board. Mr. Cool had received a common school education in Tomkins county, New York, where he had also taught two terms of school. He came to Minnesota in 1857, and taught in St. Charles seven terms of school. He was recognized as a very capable and efficient teacher. Mr. Cool issued two certificates of second grade, four of third and rejected two applicants. He visited a few schools in the beginning of summer, and was taken sick, from which he was unable to do any more school-work. At his death the vacancy was filled, at a special meeting of the county commissioners on the 28th of September, 1875, by the



appointment of O. M. Lord, who entered immediately upon the duties of the office.

Owing to the resignation of Mr. Burt and to the sickness of Mr. Cool, the summer schools received very little supervision.

The county superintendents' report to the state department was required to be made October 10, the school year closing September 30. The new incumbent found in the office teachers' term reports for the winter term, but some teachers did not report the summer terms, and several district clerks failed to make financial reports. There was only ten days of time in which to report to the state department, and no personal knowledge could be obtained of the condition of the schools in that limited time; the consequence was, that the county superintendent's report for the year 1875 was very imperfect, but, from observations subsequently made, there was probably no material growth or change in the condition or character of the schools from that reported for the year 1874.

The superintendent held five examinations in the fall, and spent the winter in visiting the schools and in becoming acquainted with the teachers and school officers. Examinations were also held in the spring and the schools visited during the summer. In this year, 1876, under the state supervision of Mr. Burt, a very important change was made in county school work by issuing a more simple form of blanks to school officers and to teachers, and by furnishing a better form of clerks' and treasurers' books, and of school registers. A change was also made in the law in regard to reporting persons entitled to appointment of the state school fund. Only those reported by the teachers as enrolled in the public schools, of schoolable age, were now entitled to the school fund, instead of the resident population of the same ages. Through these changes and by this system the school statistics may be considered as entirely reliable.

For the purpose of showing the extent of the growth of the schools of Winona, the following statistical tables, taken from the reports of the county superintendents of schools to the state department for the years 1867 and 1882 respectively, are given.

It may be mentioned here that the table of 1867, which was prepared by the then superintendent, Mr. Luther A. West, previously mentioned, is an especially valuable one, as it is the first on record of the schoolwork of the county combined as a whole. Attention is called to a comparison of the following items of both

tables, whereby some idea can be formed regarding the growth of the schools of the county for a period of fifteen years.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS OF WINONA FOR THE YEAR 1867.

Number of school districts 99 ; frame schoolhouses 71, brick 1, log 14—86 ; value of all schoolhouses and sites \$92.194 ; whole number of scholars, male 3,248, female 3,259 ; whole number of scholars in winter schools, male 1,475, female 1,218 ; average daily attendance in winter schools 1,721 ; length of winter schools in months 216 ; number of teachers in winter schools, male 42, female 41 ; average wages per month of each teacher in winter schools, male \$29.24, female \$19.24 ; whole number of pupils in summer schools, male 789, female 720 ; average daily attendance in summer 978 ; length of summer schools in months 229 ; number of teachers in summer schools, male 5, female 80 ; average wages per month of teachers in summer schools, male \$18.66, female \$16.92 ; whole number of different schools for the year 168 ; whole number of different persons in school for the year, male 1,833, female 1,661 ; per cent of aggregate attendance to the whole number of pupils in the county .53 ; whole amount of wages paid teachers for the year \$11,608 ; for building, purchasing, hiring, repairing or furnishing schoolhouses and purchasing lots \$6,500.12 ; amount paid as teachers' wages \$17,185.53 ; amount paid for other school purposes \$1,551.79 ; cash on hand in district treasuries \$718.45 ; number of new schoolhouses built during past year 11, value of same \$62,800 ; amount received from state school fund \$92,194 ; amount received by taxes voted by districts \$30,550.84 ; per cent of school money raised by tax on taxable property in county .0101.

## 1882.

Number of school districts, common school 111, special 2—113 ; number of frame schoolhouses 91, brick 7, log 7, stone 2—107 ; value of schoolhouses and sites \$58,210, of school libraries \$59, of school apparatus \$695 ; whole number of schools enrolled, summer 4,089, winter 5,351 ; average daily attendance in winter 3,677 ; average length of school in months  $6\frac{1}{2}$  ; number of teachers in winter schools, male 47, female 107 ; average monthly wages of teachers for the year, male \$35 $\frac{1}{2}$ , female \$28 $\frac{3}{4}$  ; average daily attendance in summer 3,082 ; number of teachers in summer school, male 18, female 114 ; paid for teachers' wages and board

\$21,465.09; paid for building, purchasing, hiring, repairing or furnishing schoolhouses, purchasing lots, etc., \$10,545.53; cash on hand at end of the year \$18,021.59; number of new schoolhouses built, frame 2, value of same \$1,100; received from school fund, liquor licenses, fines and estrays \$8,068.55, from one-mill tax collected \$6,978.98, from special taxes collected \$21,937.03, from bonds sold \$850, from all other sources \$914.56.

From the report of the county superintendent for 1867 it appears that there were sixty-three certificates granted, eleven of them to males and fifty-two to females. Of these certificates, three were of the first grade, fifteen of the second and forty-five of the third.

The superintendent complains of the parsimony of boards in hiring teachers, and in supplying the schoolhouses with comfortable seats, desks and other fixtures. The average wages for the year was \$19 per month.

From the report of Mr. Lord, the present superintendent, for 1882 we learn that one hundred and forty-two certificates were granted in the previous school year; of these, thirty-four were received by males and one hundred and eight by females.

The class of certificates issued were three only of the first grade, while there were ninety-four of the second and forty-five of the third grades. This, together with the fact that thirty-four applicants were rejected, goes to show that the standard of teachers' examinations in Winona under Mr. Lord is a high one.

From the year 1880 until the present (1883) there have been no marked changes in the condition and character of the schools, except such slight ones as might be expected in the natural growth of educational work. With the yearly development of the country, its increase in wealth and material prosperity, the expenditures for school purposes have been more liberal, tending to better schoolhouses and fixtures, and to the employment of a higher grade of teachers. At the close of this year, thirty years will have passed since the organization of the first school district in this county. As the present superintendent of schools for this county was one of the trustees of that first organized district, and for the past eight years has been engaged in active schoolwork, it affords us pleasure to give the following brief recapitulation, furnished by him, of some of the important matters connected with the schools of then and now: "Thirty years ago our only schoolhouse was a small, roughly-covered log cabin, furnished with one small window and a door

creaking upon wooden hinges and fastened with a wooden latch. This rude structure was, after a short time, superseded by a small but snug frame building, which, soon proving too small for the accommodation of the rapidly growing district, was enlarged by putting an addition to it. This enlarged frame schoolhouse in turn gave place to a substantial brick one, which Mr. Burt has described as having been built at Minnesota City. The teacher of that *first* school received \$48 for three months' work. The trustee made the rate-bill and collected the wages, and the text-books used by the scholars had been formerly used by fathers and mothers in nearly every state between the Atlantic seaboard and Minnesota.

"*Now* there are in Winona county (outside of Winona and St. Charles City) one hundred and eight schoolhouses, valued at over \$50,000, while the teachers' wages for a single year aggregate \$214,650. Besides this increase in the county schools, the school buildings and educational expenses of one independent district in the county aggregates a much larger amount than that above noted. *Then* (thirty years ago) there were about twenty children in that one school district of the county. *Now*, including those in attendance at the normal and parochial schools, they number nearly 7,000."

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## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

### HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE STATE NORMAL SCHOOL OF MINNESOTA, AT WINONA.

NEAR the close of the session of the first legislature of the state, August 2, 1858, an act was passed providing for the establishment of three state normal schools. This legislation was suggested by Dr. John D. Ford, of Winona, and secured by his untiring efforts through the legislature delegation from Winona county. Lieut. Gov. Wm. Holcombe, of Stillwater, gave the measure his earnest and cordial support, and became the first president of the state normal board of instruction. This board, consisting of Lieut.-Gov. Holcombe, Dr. A. E. Ames, Dr. E. Bray, of Carver, and Dr. J. D. Ford, of Winona, held their first meeting at the Capitol at St. Paul, August 16, 1859. After receiving and considering an application from the city of Winona, accompanied by a subscription of



\$7,000—\$2,000 in excess of the amount required by the act—the following resolution was offered by Dr. Ford, and passed unanimously :

*Resolved*, That the first state normal school be located at Winona, provided the subscription from Winona of \$7,000 be satisfactorily secured to the uses of said school, as directed by the board of directors.

And thus was located at Winona the first state normal school of Minnesota, and at that time the only state normal school west of the Mississippi.

The following named citizens of Winona were appointed as the first prudential committee: Sylvester J. Smith, Dr. J. D. Ford, Rev. D. Burt and Wm. S. Drew.

The second meeting of the board was held at Winona, November 9, 1859, at which meeting block 17, Sanborn's addition, was, after considerable deliberation, selected as a suitable site for the proposed school, the board wisely preferring a central location, in order that a model department might be maintained in connection with the normal school. On the evening of November 9, Lieut.-Gov. Holcombe, president of the board, delivered in the Baptist church an address on the subject of "Education with reference to the establishment of the first normal school of Minnesota." This address, which appears in full in the printed report of the board for 1859, was one of great merit. It is said to have made a deep impression upon the young community, and doubtless did much to elevate, if not to create, that sentiment of earnest support of educational interests which has marked the history of this city. In the closing paragraph of this admirable address the governor said: "I have in my hand a paper which contains the origin, the source and the earnest of the first normal school of Minnesota. It had its origin here in this city, and the names written on that paper are as pictures of gold, and should be handed down to future generations as evidence of their wisdom and benevolence. This paper subscribes about \$7,000 to the establishment of the normal school here, the most of which, over \$5,000, has been secured promptly to the state for that object. The duty I have discharged is every way an agreeable one; no circumstances could have occurred with respect to the interests of the state to afford me higher gratification than to meet you here on such an occasion as this. The city of Winona has distinguished herself in taking the lead in establishing for the benefit of the rising generation of this state [an institution] for all who shall yet call the state

their home. I think the normal schools should precede the common schools of the country, for then we should have trained teachers to conduct them. When this school shall be in operation it may be regarded as an auspicious era, whence to date in future the origin of many blessings, and the commencement of a perpetual course of improvement and prosperity to the people at large."

In the first annual report of the normal board to the governor, Dr. J. D. Ford set forth in a clear and forcible manner the claims of the normal school to generous support, and its vital relation to the common schools of the state. In addition to other recommendations to the legislature, he urged in behalf of the normal board that "a competent superintendent of public instruction be appointed," that "a general supervision of the subjects of schools, school teaching and school lands is absolutely necessary," and that "the school lands should be put into a condition to realize the largest possible annual fund for the support of schools." To the credit of this normal board, and its able secretary Dr. Ford, it may be said that the first state tax for school purposes was authorized and levied upon their urgent recommendation.

An appropriation of \$5,000 having been secured, it was decided to open the school on the first Monday in September, 1860. Prof. John Ogden, A.M., of Columbus, Ohio, was elected principal for one year at a salary of \$1,400, and William Stearns, a graduate of Harvard University, was chosen tutor.

The school was opened for the admission of pupils on the first Monday of September. A teachers' institute, the first ever held in this state, was convened at the commencement of the term. Teachers from various parts of the state were present, and a number of distinguished gentlemen, including Rev. E. D. Neill, chancellor of the university, ex-officio superintendent of public instruction, Ex-Lieut. Governor Holcombe, J. W. Taylor, Esq., Rev. Mr. Strong, and many others. On the evening of the first day Prof. Ogden gave his inaugural address. On the next evening superintendent Neill delivered an eloquent address on "Education," the closing paragraph of which we cannot forbear to quote: "Twelve years ago the Winnebago nation, by a treaty stipulation, abandoned their old homes in Iowa and commenced their long weary march to their new home near Sauk Rapids, in the northern part of this state. In the charming month of June, by mutual agreement, parties by land and water to the number of 2,000 arrived on this prairie. As they viewed the

vast amphitheatre of lofty bluffs, the narrow lake on one side, the great river in front, they felt that it was the spot above all others for an Indian's lodge, and purchasing the privilege of Wabasha, the chief of the Dakota band that then lived here, they drew themselves up in battle array, and signified to the United States troops that they would die before they would leave.

Twelve years hence, if the citizens who have taken the place of the rude aborigines will be large-hearted and foster the normal school, the public schools and the churches of Christ, Winona will be lovelier than the "Sweet Auburn" of the poet; and educated men and cultivated women, as they gaze on your public edifices and other evidences of refinement, will be attracted, and feel that here is the spot for a home, and, like the Indians in 1848, they will desire to tarry until they die."

The donation to the board of the use of the city building (now the Winona Library building) was another evidence of the friendliness of the citizens to this struggling institution. The use of this building was continued for eight years without charge to the state.

The \$7,000 subscribed by the citizens of Winona was not used for running expenses, but was reserved for the construction of the permanent building in 1867-8, at which time the subscription with its appreciated values amounted to \$10,000.

The first year was one of great promise throughout. Commencement exercises were held at the Baptist church on the last week in June, 1861, continuing the entire week. Mr. Allen, of Wisconsin, a distinguished educator, Mr. Hickock, ex-superintendent of schools in Pennsylvania, Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, and Gen. C. C. Andrews made addresses. A part of the literary exercises consisted of a colloquy between Miss Charlotte Denman, Miss Thorne and others, in which was set forth, in an amusing and graphic manner, the current opinions concerning the establishment of normal schools, an exercise which will never be forgotten by those who were present.

At the session of the legislature in 1861 a special act was passed creating the first board of education of Winona. This board was to consist of one school director elected from each of the three wards, the principal and such members of the normal school — at Winona as shall be residents of said city and qualified. The word "board" was left out of the law between the words "school" and "at," which made a very unwieldy board, or an intangible body.

The idea was to copy somewhat after the Oswego plan of uniting the jurisdiction of the normal and public schools of Winona, using the public schools as graded and model schools. At the municipal election held in April, 1861, Messrs. Thomas Simpson, Richard Jackson and John Keyes were elected members of the board of education, from the first, second and third wards respectively ; and these, with Prof. Ogden as principal of State Normal School, constituted the first board of education. Mr. Simpson was elected president, Mr. Keyes, recorder and John Ogden first superintendent of schools in city of Winona.

In the following year this law was repealed and the joint jurisdiction ceased.

The normal school opened in the fall of 1861, with an increase of students. Prof. J. G. McMynn had been engaged as assistant teacher. He remained, however, but a short time, resigning early in October, to take a position as major in a Wisconsin regiment. It may be noted that many of the students of the normal, during Prof. Ogden's principalship, entered the volunteer army in defense of the Union.

Prof. Ogden resigned the principalship of the school December 14, 1861, at the close of the first term of that year.

The following extract from his letter of resignation clearly reflects the spirit of those stirring times :

WINONA, Minnesota, December 14, 1861.

*To the Prudential Committee of the State Normal School.*

GENTLEMEN,—I hereby tender you my resignation of the principalship of the institution intrusted to my care, thanking you most sincerely for the generous support and counsel you have given me.

In taking this step, it is proper that you and the public should understand the reason that impels me to it.

1. My distracted and dishonored country calls louder for my poor service just now than the school does. I have, ever since our national flag was dishonored, cherished the desire and indulged in the determination that—whenever I could do so without violation of a sense of duty—I would lay aside the habiliments of the schoolroom and assume those of the camp, and now I am resolved to heed that call and rush to the breach, and with my life, if necessary, stay, if possible, the impious hands that are now clutching at the very existence of our free institutions. What are our schools worth? What is our country worth without these? Our sons and our daughters must be slaves. Our beloved land must be a hissing and a byword among the nations of the earth. Shall this fair and goodly land, this glorious Northwest become a stench in the nostrils of the Almighty, who made it so fair and so free? No,



not while there is one living soul to thrust a sword at treason. I confess my blood boils when I think of the deep disgrace of our country.

My brethren and fellow-teachers are in the field. Some of them—the bravest and the best—have already fallen. Their blood will do more to cleanse this nation than their teaching would. So will mine. I feel ashamed to tarry longer. You may not urge me to stay.

\* \* \* \* \*

With these feelings, I am with very great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN OGDEN.

Prof. V. J. Walker, principal of the Winona high school, was placed in charge of the school temporarily, during the second term, which closed March 2, 1862, and remained suspended until November 1, 1864. The reasons for this suspension of over two years may be inferred from Prof. Ogden's letter of resignation, and may be stated as follows: (1) The interest in the great struggle then pending for national life overshadowed and overwhelmed everything else, and, as a natural corollary of this, (2) competent teachers could not be found to take charge of the school. Such men were generally in the war. (3) The means for the support of the school was inadequate. The state had made no appropriations beyond the first \$5,000. The state was too busy in the war to care for its educational interests.

During the session of the legislature in the spring of 1864, at the earnest solicitation of the citizens of Winona, led by Dr. J. D. Ford, an act was passed renewing the appropriations to the school and re-establishing it on a permanent basis. This act provided that the sum of \$3,000 be appropriated for the current year, \$4,000 for the following year, and \$5,000 annually thereafter. At the annual meeting of the normal board in the following May Prof. John G. McMynn was elected principal. No movement was, however, made to reopen the school until the next meeting in the following September, when the resignation of Prof. McMynn was accepted, and Prof. W. F. Phelps, former principal of the State Normal School of New Jersey was unanimously elected. The principal-elect, being present, accepted the position in person and immediately entered upon the duties of his office. Professor Phelps' rare ability as an organizer and disciplinarian was at once apparent in the prompt and efficient measures taken to re-establish the school on a permanent basis. To the wisdom of these measures and the executive ability of their author is largely due the high standing which the normal

school at Winona has subsequently attained, and still holds, among the educational institutions of this country.

The location of the site on block 17, Sanborn's addition, was not favored by the citizens generally. At the meeting of the board held in June, 1866, the following communication was received:

*To the State Normal School Board:*

The city council of the city of Winona makes the following proposition to your honorable board: That if the board will erect the normal school building upon the present site, viz: block 4, Sanborn's addition, the city will purchase and donate to the state the east half of block 3, Sanborn's addition, and vacate and donate to the state that part of Johnson street lying between blocks 3 and 4; or, in case it can be procured, the city will purchase and donate to the state the whole of said block. This provided that the board will convey to the city block 17 in Sanborn's addition.

R. D. CONE, Mayor.

This proposition was promptly accepted by the board. Subsequently the city bought the whole of block 3, Sanborn's addition, and gave it outright to the state, waiving the condition stated in the communication of the mayor.

During the session of the legislature of 1866 the first appropriation of \$10,000 for the building was obtained mainly through the efforts of Hon. E. S. Youmans, then a member of the house, and Hon. Thos. Simpson in the state senate.

This appropriation was designed to secure plans and to supplement the contributions of the citizens and city of Winona, and was entirely used in constructing a foundation,—an important measure which committed the state fully to the erection of a building at Winona.

The plans for the building were drawn by the architect, G. P. Randall, Esq., of Chicago, and were adopted by the board at its meeting in June, 1866.

On the 19th of October, 1866, the corner-stone was laid with interesting ceremonies by Gov. Marshall, in the presence of a large and deeply interested assembly, citizens of Winona and surrounding country. Hon. Thos. Wilson, chief-justice of the supreme court of the state, delivered the address on this memorable occasion.

The foundation was erected under the direction of the credential committee, consisting of Dr. Ford, Hon. E. S. Youmans and W. S. Drew, Esq. Mr. Drew was appointed superintendent of the work, and gave it his personal and efficient supervision throughout the session of 1867, until the basement walls were completed and made ready for the superstructure.

In the spring of 1867 an appropriation by the legislature of \$50,000 for building purposes was secured, largely through the influence of Hon. Wm. H. Yale, then in the state senate. Only one half of this amount was appropriated for the first year. The citizens of Winona cashed the orders of the board for the other half, making the entire sum available for immediate use.

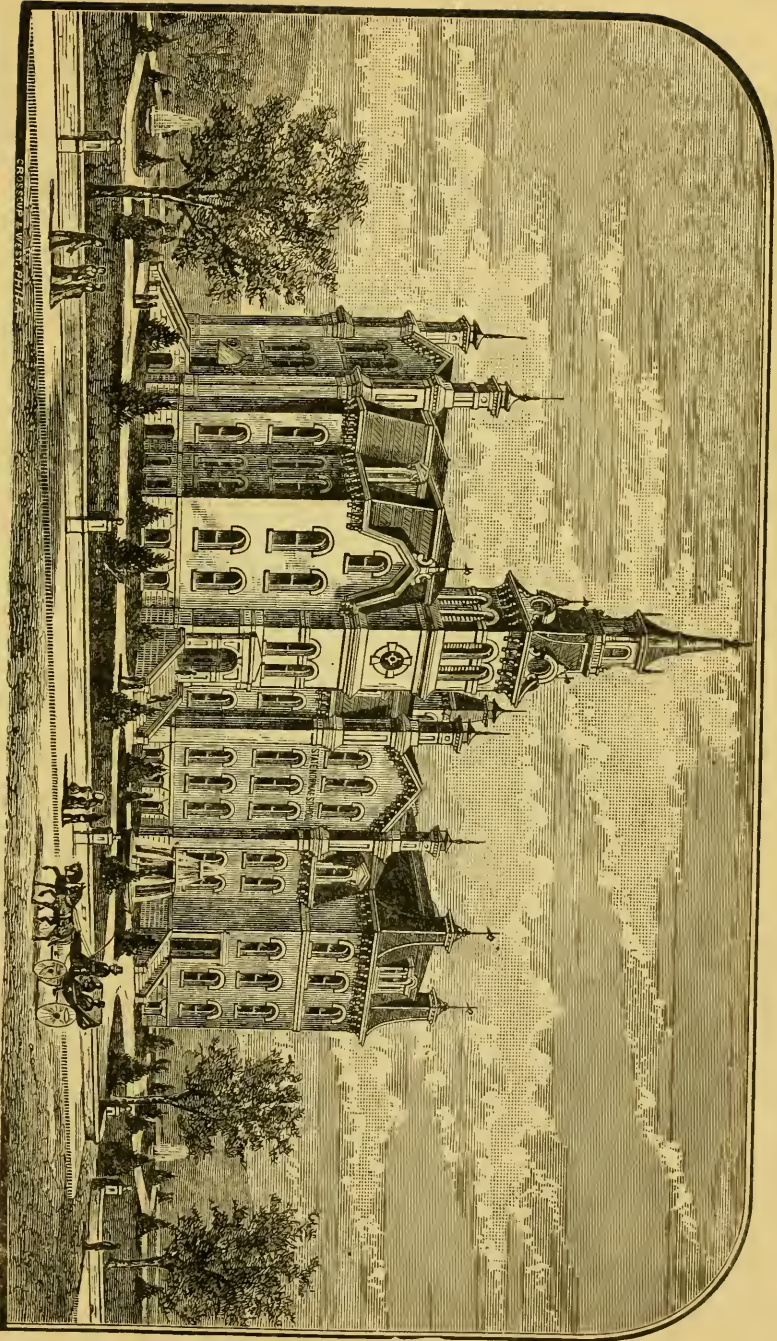
The contract for the erection of the superstructure was made with C. Bohn, Esq., of Winona, who had already demonstrated his qualifications as a builder in the construction of the high-school building of the city. In 1869 the sum of \$34,000 additional was appropriated "*to complete the building,*" and in 1870 nearly \$9,000 more was generously granted by the legislature to *liquidate the balance due the contractor.*

The building was occupied by the school September 1, 1869, and completed in the following December.

The following description of the building is taken from the report of the normal board for 1859 :

The general form of the building is in the form of a cross. The main edifice is 63×78 feet; the wings are each 50×75 feet. The basement story is 10 feet high; the first story is 13 feet; the second, 16 feet; the third, 19 feet, and the fourth story of the west wing is 28 feet to the crown of the ceiling at the base of the skylights. The southeast corner of the west wing terminates in a ventilating shaft 8×8 feet and 105 feet high; and the northwest corner of the east wing terminates in the main tower, 15×15 feet at base and 130 feet high. The building is of red bricks, with facings and trimmings of a drab-colored calciferous limestone. Its beauty is due not to superfluous ornamentation, but to the harmony of its proportions and its massiveness. Through the basement there is a corridor 10 feet wide running through the center from end to end. The first story has a main corridor 10×166 feet, running entirely through the building. This is intersected by cross-corridors extending from the front to the rear entrances. On the north side of the main corridor there are four large schoolrooms for the use of the model classes. On the right of the entrance of the main tower there is a reception-room 20×25 feet. On the opposite or south side of the main corridor the rooms above described are duplicated. Opposite the reception-room is a gentlemen's cloakroom. In the main building, in the second story, is the normal school "assembly-room"; its dimensions are 63×78 feet. In the east wing, beginning with the





MINNESOTA STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.



main tower, we find the principal's office, the library and two large recitation-rooms. In the west wing are two large recitation-rooms, one in each corner, and two large wardrobe-rooms for ladies, each 12×35 feet, communicating with corridor and assembly-room. In the third story of main building we have "Normal Hall," capable of seating 800 to 1,000 persons. In the west wing, and connecting with corridor and Normal Hall, are four recitation-rooms. The east wing is occupied by a suite of rooms connected by open arches, designed to be used for a museum. In fourth story of the west wing there are two rooms, 32×35 feet each, separated by a corridor, and with ceiling extending to the crown of the roof, 23 feet in height. These rooms are lighted by skylights, and are intended for a gallery of art. The steps at each of the five entrances of the building are of massive, solid masonry, and are of easy ascent. The corridors at each extremity are entered by spacious vestibules. The stairs leading to the several stories are easy of ascent, the risers being seven inches each, and the treads, which are very wide, being made of solid two-inch oak plank, finished in oil. The heating and ventilation of the building are upon the plan known as the Rutan system. There are seven furnaces properly located in the basement. Underneath the furnaces the cold air from without is introduced through ducts having an area of section equal to from eight to ten square feet each.

Space cannot be given to a further description of this beautiful structure, which is acknowledged to be, even at the date of this writing, in 1883, the most perfect building of the kind in the Northwest. The plans of this building were subsequently adopted, with little change, for the State Normal Schools at Buffalo, New York, and at Carbondale, Illinois.

It should be stated that the admirable adaptation of this building to the existing and prospective wants of the school, and its nearly faultless construction, are largely due to the experienced judgment, wise forethought and energetic management of the principal, Prof. Wm. F. Phelps, who was permitted to enjoy the fruits of his zealous labors, and to carry forward in this building his plans for the organization of a normal school of national reputation, until he voluntarily resigned this position in 1876.

The following is a summary of the contributions made by the citizens of Winona to the school and building :



*Yours Sincerely,  
Wm. A. Phelps.*



Original subscription of \$7,000 to secure site, with appreciation in values \$10,000	
Subscription for purchase of block 4, Sanborn's addition.....	5,000
Donation by city of block 3, Sanborn's addition.....	6,000
The vacation of street and alleys.....	2,500
Cash in bonds of city.....	15,000
Use of city building for eight years, and furnishing expenses.....	4,500
	<hr/>
Total contribution.....	43,000

In addition to the above the citizens of Winona have paid into the treasury of the school for the tuition of pupils in the model department the average sum of \$1,500 annually for twenty years, amounting to about \$3,000. The present valuation of the site of the building is \$25,000.

The state appropriations for building purposes at various times amount to the gross sum of \$115,837.

In accordance with a plan proposed by Principal Phelps, the legislature, in 1871, passed an act establishing in Winona the State Soldiers' Orphans' Home, and providing for the education of the children in the normal school. This plan proved to be a wise and economical one for the state, and of the greatest value to the children. Nearly one hundred of the soldiers' orphans received training for several years in the model and normal departments. A number completed the entire course, and are now filling important positions in the schools of the state. The growth of the school in numbers, in reputation, and in all the characteristics of an excellent training school for teachers, continued without marked interruption until the legislature in 1876, partly by design and partly by neglect, failed to make the usual annual appropriation for the support of the three normal schools of the state.

The normal board was called in extra session. During that meeting several propositions to close the schools at once were voted down by a bare majority. The opposition to these propositions was led by Hon. Thos. Simpson, the resident director at Winona.

Finally the board took action, which was intended merely to give the normal schools a chance for continuance if they could find any means of existing without involving the board or incurring a debt. It was really a life and death struggle with the normal schools of our state. Had they been closed then, they would have remained closed, perhaps for ever.

The action of the board availed little ; it said, " Live if you can, but don't involve us." Liberal-hearted citizens of this city offered



to advance money to carry on the school at Winona, but this could not be accepted under the action of the board. Gen. Sibley, the president of the board, and Prof. Wm. F. Phelps, the principal at Winona, resigned.

The resident director determined that the school should not go down. He made a temporary reduction of the teaching force, some abatements of salaries, and some extra charges for tuition. He appealed to the soldiers' orphans' board, who generously responded by paying tuition for the pupils under their care. By these means, supplemented by a cash contribution from his own pocket, the school was kept in vigorous operation until the following year, when the appropriation was not only restored, but was made permanent. The action at Winona had much to do with inspiring a like spirit and determination on the part of the local management of the schools at Mankato and St. Cloud.

Prof. Charles A. Morey, a member of the faculty and a former graduate of the school, was elected principal.

The following year saw the school restored to its former condition of efficiency. In 1878 Principal Morey inaugurated an important change in the organization of the school by extending the elementary course, and establishing an advanced four years' course of study designed to prepare teachers for the principalship of high and graded schools.

In May, 1879, Principal Morey resigned his position to enter upon the practice of law. On the 27th of June Prof. Irwin Shepard, superintendent of the city schools of Winona, was elected principal; since which time the growth of the school in numbers, in efficiency, and in the confidence of the citizens of the state, has, we believe, continued without interruption.

The following shows the increase of attendance during the past four years: 1878-1879, 302; 1879-1880, 342; 1880-1881, 388; 1881-1882, 439; 1882-1883, 485.

Hon. Thos. Simpson, the present resident director, has been a member of the state normal board continuously since 1868, and has served as president of the state board and resident director at Winona during most of that time.

The first state teachers' institute, in 1859, the first state convention of county superintendents, in 1866, and the first institute of normal instructors, in 1872, were all held at the Winona normal school.

The first class which finished the course of this school numbered sixteen members and were graduated June 28, 1866. Since that date to June 1, 1883, twenty-five classes numbering 480 members have graduated, while nearly 3,000 other students have received instruction for one or more terms. These students, as well as the graduates, have fulfilled their pledges to the state with singular fidelity and success. Many of the graduates have been called to important and lucrative positions in other states from California to Maine. Several have received appointments to leading positions in the normal schools of the Argentine Republic, S. A., at salaries ranging from \$1,200 to \$2,500.

Prominent among the causes which have contributed to place the State Normal School at Winona in the foremost rank of similar institutions in America should be mentioned the liberal enterprise and singular devotion to its interests on the part of the citizens of Winona, as shown by their munificent donations of lands and money, by their loyal and unwavering championship in the trying times of legislative inaction and indifference; by their establishment of an extensive museum and gallery of art for the free use of the students; by their continued patronage and support of the model school, and by their just and generous pride in the past history, the present prosperity and the future promise of this educational institution of the state.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ARTS, SCIENCES AND LETTERS.

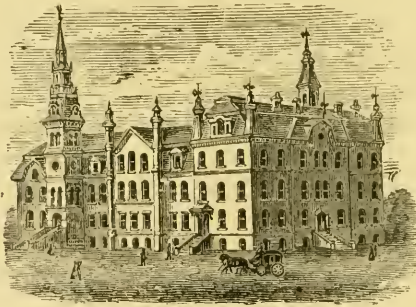
On May 24, 1871, a preliminary meeting was held in Normal Hall for the purpose of organizing a society for the promotion of a knowledge of art, science and literature.

At an adjourned meeting held June 12, articles of association were adopted. The corporate members were Wm. F. Phelps, Thos. Simpson, Abner Lewis, Mary V. Lee, C. C. Curtiss, O. B. Gould, Sarah L. Wheeler and C. H. Berry. The plans of the society provided for "the fitting of rooms in the First State Normal building for a museum of natural history and physical science, and for a department of drawing and the arts of design; the collection, classification and arrangement of specimens in natural history and archaeology, and of models in physics and the fine arts; the collection of facts and objects pertaining to local or general history; the establishment and support, on the grounds of the normal school, of a botanical garden; the arrangement and ornamentation of the

grounds; the gathering of a library of standard works in all departments of science, literature and art; the collection and preservation of all collections, and, by lectures and other appropriate means, the elevation of the public taste."

Previous to the organization of this society, citizens of Winona had placed in the normal school building, for the use of the students, private collections of minerals and other specimens. Principal Phelps had contributed a valuable collection, and the Hon. Thos. Simpson had donated his entire cabinet of mineral specimens, which he had been gathering for many years in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The proprietorship of these collections was vested in the new society. The collections were increased from time to time by additional contributions.

In 1875 the citizens of Winona, at the advice and solicitation of Professor Wm. F. Phelps, contributed about \$3,500 for the purchase



of the Woodman collection of corals, shells, minerals and fossils. This valuable collection, and those previously belonging to the society, were arranged in suitable cases in the geological hall of the normal building in 1878, under the superintendence of Principal Chas. A. Morey. The following contract was subsequently made with the state normal board:

1. The society agrees that its collections, apparatus, pictures, etc., shall remain in the rooms now occupied by them so long as the building shall be used for the purpose of a state normal school.

2. That said collections, etc., shall be forever free to the use of the normal school in said building, its teachers and pupils, and that said collections shall not be removed, either in whole or in part, for any purpose whatever.

3. That, to prevent interference with the operations of the school, the times of opening said rooms to the public shall be as the principal and resident director of the school shall from time to time direct, and not otherwise.

4. That the society shall bear all expense of classifying, arranging and

putting in position all specimens and objects, and of preserving the order and condition of the same: *Provided*, That the state normal board agrees: 1. To furnish to the society, rent free, the room now occupied by its collections; to heat, light and keep the same in repair as long as the building shall be used for the purposes of a normal school. 2. To give to the society the use of such cases, platforms and fixtures as are already placed in said rooms, and to build others as the acquisitions of the society may demand. 3. To furnish janitor's services for said rooms, as their use may demand.

This museum has become one of the most extensive and complete in the west. Three large rooms, connected by arches, are lined with cases which are filled with specimens of minerals, fossils, birds and animals. A large case in the center of the room contains the skeleton of a mastodon. Two spacious rooms in the fourth story of the building are devoted to the exhibition of art subjects. A curator devotes a large portion of his time to the care of the museum and to the collection, classification and arrangement of specimens in all departments of natural history.

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## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### BIRDS OF WINONA COUNTY.

THE following are the birds known to exist in this county: duck hawk, pigeon hawk (common), sparrow hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, marsh hawk, harrier or mouse hawk, red-tailed hawk (common), red-shouldered hawk (scarce), broad-winged hawk, bald eagle, great-horned owl, long-eared owl, screech owl, barred owl (summer), short-eared owl, snowy owl, saw-whet owl, hawk owl, day owl, black-billed cuckoo, yellow-billed cuckoo, hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, black-backed three-toed woodpecker, yellow-bellied woodpecker, pileated woodpecker, log cock, red-headed woodpecker, pigeon woodpecker, ruby-throated hummingbird, chimney swallow, night hawk, bull-bat, whippoorwill, belted kingfisher, kingbird, wood-pewee, olive-sided flycatcher, pewee, Phebe-bird, wood thrush, robin, brown thrasher, catbird, red-breasted bluebird, titmouse, chickadee, white-bellied nut-hatch, American creeper, long-billed marsh wren, short-billed marsh wren, house wren, skylark, shorelark, black and white creeper, Maryland yellow-throat, black-poll warbler, scarlet tanager, barn swallow, blue-backed swallow, eave swallow, bank swallow, purple martin,



wax-wing, Bohemian chatterer, cedar-bird, cherry-bird, great northern shrike, red-eyed vireo, purple-finch, red-poll linnet, snow bunting, snowbird, swamp sparrow, song sparrow, tree sparrow, field sparrow, chipping sparrow, fox sparrow (frequent), rose-breasted grosbeak, ring-rail (occasional), bobolink, ricebird, cowbird, red-winged blackbird, yellow-headed bird, meadow lark, orchard oriole (not common), Baltimore oriole (common), crow blackbird, crow (on the increase), bluejay, wild pigeon (never abundant), common dove, pinnated grouse (scarce), ruffed grouse, quail (nearly exterminated), woodcock, Wilson snipe, jack snipe, bittern, stakedriver, least bittern (on river bottoms), marsh hen, Virginia rail, coot (in marshes). Besides these, there are met occasionally the sandpiper, the great blue heron, the green heron, the wild goose and brant, the blue-winged teal, the hooded merganser, the widgeon, the pintail, the mallard, the butterball duck, the wood duck, and other ducks. The wood duck breeds here.

#### THE WINONA COUNTY PRESS.

The pioneers of Winona evinced a thorough appreciation of the power of the press as an important element in promoting the welfare of the young city, and in the development of the promising territory of Minnesota. The first newspaper established was the "Winona Argus," September 7, 1854. It was published by Wm. Ashley Jones & Co., weekly, democratic in politics. Wm. Ashley Jones, Captain Sam Whiting, M. Wheeler Sargent and Robert T. Hunter were among the contributors. Samuel Melvin, at the present time a merchant in Winona, was foreman in the Argus office. He purchased an interest in the paper in January, 1855, and continued about a year and a half, when he sold back to Wm. Ashley Jones, and the paper continued about a year and a half longer, during which Mr. Cozzens was for a time editor. After vicissitudes incident to a western town twenty years ago, it was compelled to suspend its publication in the month of September, 1857, not however, until it had accomplished a good work for southern Minnesota.

The "Winona Weekly Express" was the next venture in journalism. It was established about August 1, 1855, Wilson C. Huff, son of H. D. Huff, being the editor. The Express continued until after the election in November, when the office and material were purchased by a company formed to establish "The Winona Republican."

In the fall of 1855, some earnest republicans formed a joint-stock company, purchased the material of the "Winona Express," and on the 21st of November, 1855, issued the first number of the "Winona Weekly Republican." The names of these stockholders were Charles Eaton, E. L. King, C. F. Buck, A. P. Foster, H. C. Jones, A. C. Jones, E. H. Murray, J. B. Stockton, J. S. Denman, H. T. Wickersham, Rufus Crosby, O. S. Holbrook, St. A. D. Balcombe, John L. Balcombe, Matthew Ewing, W. G. Dye, J. H. Jacoby, L. H. Springer. The newspaper was a seven-column sheet and conducted with ability. The editor was Captain Sam Whiting. The business manager was Walter G. Dye, who continued to occupy that position, with slight intervals, for about twenty-five years. Messrs. Foster and Dye purchased the stock of the other shareholders and became sole proprietors. On the 19th of June, 1856, D. Sinclair purchased the interest of A. P. Foster in the establishment, and it thus became the sole property of Messrs. Sinclair & Dye. In the fall of 1856 Mr. Dye disposed of his interest in the concern to Messrs. Balcombe, Murray, Buck and King, who in a short time sold out to W. C. Dodge. The latter continued his connection with the paper only a few months, retiring on the 3rd of February, 1857, and being succeeded by Mr. Dye, who repurchased one half of the establishment. At this time the firm name was changed to D. Sinclair & Co., and has so remained ever since.

On the 2d of April, 1864, Sheldon C. Carey purchased one half interest in "The Republican" from Mr. Dye, who retired. Mr. Carey continued a member of the firm until his death on the night of December 28 of the same year he entered it, when he was drowned in the Mississippi river, Wisconsin, while out with a small party on a sleighing excursion. His death caused the most poignant grief in the community.

On the first of July, 1865, Mr. Dye resumed connection with "The Republican" as joint partner with Mr. Sinclair, and November 25, 1866, Mr. John Dobbs, an experienced practical bookbinder, became one of the firm, purchasing one third interest in "The Republican" establishment. In 1859 the proprietors of "The Republican" determined to try the experiment of a daily paper in Winona, and on the 19th of November issued the first number of the "Daily Review," a three-column paper somewhat larger than a sheet of foolscap. The publication of this little paper demonstrated the readiness of the people of Winona to support — not a first-class journal, but

one of respectable size, considering the times. Accordingly the "Daily Review" was stopped, and on the 19th of December, 1859, the "Winona Daily Republican" was started on its career. It was a five-column sheet, but was enlarged to a six-column sheet on the 8th of April, 1861, and on the 1st of July, 1865, it was enlarged to a seven-column sheet, its present form. The "Weekly Republican" has the honor of being the oldest republican newspaper in the state.

In 1867 the "well arranged three-story brick "Republican" building with basement was built. It was occupied in February, 1868. On the first of January, 1881, Mr. Dye retired, selling his interest to Mr. Sinclair. Mr. P. G. Hubbell, who had been connected with the office since 1864, was appointed business manager, and so continued until the first of January, 1883, when Mr. W. E. Smith bought a third interest in the establishment, and Mr. Hubbell assumed the duties of managing editor of "The Republican." Through a long established career "The Republican," under the superior editorial management of Mr. Sinclair, has wielded a potent influence on the affairs of the county and state, while for the city of its choice it has ever been the zealous advocate and faithful friend. It is entitled to great credit as one of the important agencies in the development of Winona.

Returning to the history of other newspapers in the early years of the county, "The Times" was started by a man who came from Fountain City, Wisconsin. The proprietor purchased the material of the "Argus," but continued only a few months.

"The Democrat" was started on September 9, 1858, by C. W. Cottom, who came here from Rochester. He published an eight-column paper. In the course of a year or two he sold out to the Democrat Printing Company.

On the 11th of December, 1860, the "Tri-Weekly Democrat" was started by the Democrat Printing Company, with J. L. Thompson, printer; C. W. Cottom, editor; Wm. T. Hubbell, city editor. This was a five-column sheet. In the following summer the paper was closed out and was succeeded by "The State."

"The Winona Daily State" was established by Massey & Wheeler, July 11, 1861. It was a six-column paper. The daily was a morning paper, but it existed only a few weeks. Mr. Wheeler retired and Mr. Massey continued the publication of the "Weekly State," which was first issued July 17, 1861. After an existence of a year or two the "State" suspended.

“The Winona Weekly Democrat” was established by A. G. Reed September 17, 1864. It was a seven-column paper and lived some two or three years.

The “Democratic Press,” which was issued by Messrs. Meservey & Pomeroy, was another venture, which appeared in the fall of 1865, but continued only about six months.

“The Winona Daily Democrat” was established January 8, 1868, by Green & Gile. It was a four-page, seven-column journal. It was afterward owned by Green & Dresbach, and then by the Democrat Printing Company. It suspended after a few months.

On the 7th of May, 1869, “The Winona Herald,” a democratic weekly newspaper, was established by Mr. W. J. Whipple. It is still in existence under the proprietorship of Mr. Whipple, though leased to Mr. T. A. Dailey in the summer of 1882.

On February 13, 1869, an amateur paper entitled “The North Star” was started by some young men, with Geo. T. Griffith, editor; Wm. F. Wortlington, publisher; H. G. Smith, treasurer; John N. Nind, subscription agent. The little journal subsequently passed into the hands of Fred. W. Flint and John N. Nind, by whom it was published for several months.

In 1872 another amateur paper, “The Novelty Press,” was started at Homer by R. F. Norton. It was afterward removed to Winona and conducted by Eber Norton. In 1879, November 28, it was bought by Geo. B. Dresbach and the name changed to “The Democrat.” In January, 1880, it was sold to Hiler, Busdicker and Dresbach, and was purchased in January, 1882, by Fred. W. Flint.

On the 9th of October, 1873, E. Gerstenhauer established a German weekly called “The Winona Adler,” which still continues under the same proprietor.

On the 4th of July, 1873, the “St. Charles Times” was established by H. W. Hill. It was democratic in politics and continued until January 1, 1883, when it suspended.

On May 24, 1875, “The Sunday Morning Dispatch” was issued by D. B. Sherwood. Only one number appeared, the proprietor returning to Michigan.

On the 24th of April, 1876, “The Monday Morning Bulletin” was started by John Seigler. It continued for a few months and was removed to Wabasha, Minnesota.

In 1877, August 11, “The Saturday Evening Postman” appeared



under the editorship and management of W. A. Chapman. It existed for only a short time.

On January 3, 1877, the "St. Charles Union" was established by Joseph S. Whiton. It is independent republican in politics, and a paper of general circulation in the western part of the county.



January 21, 1881, a German weekly newspaper, "The Westlicher Herald," was started by Leicht & Schmid. The firm changed to Leicht & Hunger July 1, 1881, and again to Joseph Leicht January 1, 1883, who is the present proprietor.

During 1881 the "Utica Transcript," a short-lived paper, was started at Utica by O. S. Reed.

On the 2d of July, 1881, "The Winona Daily Tribune" was established by F. W. Flint as an evening independent republican paper. About the first of July, 1882, it was sold to Morrissey & Bunn and changed to a democratic paper in politics, still retaining the name of "The Tribune." In January following the paper was sold to a stock company and changed to a morning paper. It continued until April, 1882, when it suspended.

The year 1883, therefore, finds the following newspapers in existence in this county: "The Winona Republican," daily and weekly, republican in politics, established in 1855; "The Winona Herald," weekly, democratic, established in 1869; "The Winona Adler," German weekly, democratic, established in 1873; "The St. Charles Union," weekly, independent republican, established in 1877; "The Westlicher Herald," German, weekly, democratic, established in 1881.

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## CHAPTER XL.

### WINONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

As introductory to the history of the public schools of the city of Winona, as they have existed since the organization of the "board of education of the city of Winona," April 19, 1861, some mention is necessary to be made of the early educational work of the territory now included within the city limits. The first attempt at school teaching that was ever made in this region was in the summer of 1852, by Miss Angelia Gere, a young girl of fourteen or fifteen years of age, who collected a few small children in the shanty of Mrs. Goddard (known through all this region for the past twenty-five years as Aunt Catharine Smith). As nearly as the memory of old residents can fix such matters, this school was only continued for a few weeks, the instruction was of the most primitive kind, and the number of little ones eight or ten. The following summer, 1853, Mrs. E. B. Hamilton opened a school in her own little house at the lower end of the prairie. This school had been in session about two or three weeks when it was abruptly closed by the death of the teacher, who was killed by a stroke of lightning, June 19.

In the fall of 1853 a private school was opened by Miss Willis, long since married and settled in Chatfield, and this was the first school, that really deserved the name, opened on the prairie. Miss Willis was followed in 1854 by Miss Hettie Houck, now Mrs. W. H. Stevens, of this city, who taught a subscription school in a building belonging to Aunt Catharine Smith, on the corner of Front and Franklin streets. The number of pupils in this school was about twenty-five; the teacher was engaged at a regular salary; no tuition fee was demanded; the funds were provided by voluntary subscription, and the school is really entitled to the name of the first public school of Winona.

During the winter of 1854-5 a school was opened by Mr. Henry Bolcom, in a small building on Second street, afterward known as Wagner's saloon. This school was supported largely in the same manner as that of Miss Houck's, the school-tax for the district never having been collected. The pupils in attendance during the winter term numbered about thirty.

In the summer of 1855 Miss Almeida Trutchell, subsequently Mrs. David Smith, taught school in the embryo city. The following winter, 1855-6, Geo. C. Buckman, now of Waseca, Minnesota, wielded the birch. Mr. H. C. Bolcom, who had been attending term at Oberlin College, Ohio, having returned to Winona, was employed as teacher during the winter of 1856-7, and his work in that line closed with the closing of the spring term. The original school district No. 2 had been divided in the spring of 1854, prior to which time there was but one school district on the prairie. No. 14, the new district, comprised that part of the town plat west of Lafayette street; but for particulars concerning these matters, see history of Winona county schools. In the fall of 1857 a union, by mutual agreement of the two districts, was effected, and the trustees of the separate districts became informally the board of the *quasi* united one. These trustees were for No. 2, Col. H. C. Johnson, Andrew Smith and H. C. Bolcom; for No. 14, Dr. J. D. Ford, Dr. A. S. Ferris and John Iams. Rev. Geo. C. Tanner was employed as principal for the union or grammar school, as it was called; commenced his work November 17, 1857, and before the close of the winter four schools were in operation. The teachers of these schools were: Rev. Tanner, his wife, Miss Wealthy Tucker, who taught the primary, in what is now ward 1 of the city, and John Sherman, who taught in the lower part of the city. Of the early

Winona schools, from 1856 to 1860, at which time his services were transferred to the normal schools, Dr. Ford was the mainstay, and pages might be written concerning the straits into which the *board* were often driven to maintain the schools. As an instance, we may note the concert held in the L. D. Smith building, with Dr. Ford and his daughter and W. S. Drew as principal fuglemen. The proceeds were applied to the purchase of a terrestrial globe, the first article of school apparatus purchased for the Winona public schools. This globe, which should have been preserved as a relic, was burned in the fire of July 5, 1862. Rev. Tanner was succeeded in the fall of 1858 by Mrs. A. W. Thomas, who was his assistant during the latter part of his schoolwork here.

There was a constant increase in the work of the schools from this time forward. In the fall of 1859 Mr. V. J. Walker was employed as principal, and his work continued long after the city schools were established upon a solid foundation. In this work his wife, a most excellent teacher, was associated with him, and their influence in the young life of the city and its schools cannot be told in words. For the eighteen months elapsing from the time of Mr. Walker's assuming charge of the schools until they were turned over to the city board of education at its organization, no record survives. The final report of the districts to that board are lost, and all we know is by the memories reviving twenty-four years of eventful history, in which so much relating to those early times has passed into forgetfulness that it is impossible to reproduce it even approximately. We only know that the schools had no permanent abiding-places, that accommodations were difficult to be found and good quarters impossible to be received, money scarce and times hard, yet out of all the schools emerged tried as by fire, to approve the wisdom of their early management.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

By special act of Minnesota state legislature, approved March 7, 1861, under the title "An act for the establishment and better regulation of the common schools of the city of Winona," all the school districts and parts of school districts within the corporate limits of the city of Winona were consolidated to form one district, the regulation and management of which was committed to a "board of education," for the creation and government of which the special act above cited made provision. By the terms of this act it was



ordered that at the time of holding the regular charter election in the city, one school director in each ward should be elected, who, in order to qualify, should take a prescribed oath of office, and that the directors thus chosen, together with the principal of the State Normal School at Winona, should form the city board of education. It was plainly the intention of the act, as indicated by its wording, to make all resident members of the normal school board *ex officio* members of the city board of education, but this intention was defeated by the omission of a material word in the engrossing of the act. Thus the school board of the city at its organization was constituted with but four members, one each from the three wards of the city, and the principal of the State Normal School at Winona. The special provisions of this act of March 7, 1861, it is not necessary to make further allusion to, as it was superseded by the act of legislature approved March 8, 1862, which latter act it was declared should be construed as of a public nature and subversive of the act of the previous year. By the terms of the new act the election of two school directors from each ward was provided for, the terms of office of such directors fixed at two years, and the directors thus chosen to constitute the "city board of education," thus effectually severing all connection with the normal school authorities in the management of the public schools of the city. By the act of March, 1862, provision was also made for the election of a superintendent for the city schools; members of the board of education were debarred from receiving compensation for their services as such; annual reports were required to be made to the county auditor and to the state superintendent of schools, and the board of education was invested with such powers as were deemed necessary to their existence, government and effective work as a corporate body entrusted with the onerous duty of providing the best possible educational facilities for the children and youth of a growing city. To preserve the homogeneity of the educational work throughout the state, the board of education was made amenable (as far as practically applicable) to the general school law of the state, and to the rules established by the state superintendent of public instruction. There was one provision of this act destined in the course of events to become a fruitful source of contention between the common council of the city and the city board of education, and for this reason, if no other, it must be specially noted. This was the clause by which the city council was empowered to pass upon the annual

estimates for school expenses presented by the board of education, and to accept or reject the same in whole or in part as they deemed best. The city treasurer was made the custodian of all school funds paid in under the tax levies ordered by the council or otherwise derived, and required under penalty to keep the same separate and distinct from all other funds in his hands. The act also provided for equitable payment of all judgment liens against the board without issuing execution against the school property of the city.

At the time the act of the legislature creating the "board of education of the city of Winona" became operative, March 7, 1861, the city was divided into three wards, and at the charter election in April of that year the several wards elected members of the board of education as follows: First ward, Thomas Simpson; second ward, Richard Jackson; third ward, John Keyes; and these gentlemen, with Prof. John Ogden, principal of the State Normal School at Winona, were the original board of education for the city of Winona. The "board" met April 13, 1861, for organization and elected Thomas Simpson president and John Keyes clerk; Prof. John Ogden was made superintendent of city schools, and the "board of education of the city of Winona" became a fixed institution.

Concerning these gentlemen, who twenty-two years ago composed the first board of education of this city, it may not be amiss to state that Prof. Ogden left the city in December, 1861, and is now in charge of a private normal school at Fayette, Ohio. Thomas Simpson is still a resident of the city, in active professional life, and president of the State Normal School board. Richard Jackson was several years in business in this city and died here early in 1875. John Keyes, justly entitled to the honor so generally accorded him as "father of the Winona public schools," died on the old Keyes homestead in the eastern part of the city, December 2, 1876, at which time he had been a resident of Winona a little over twenty-three years. The informal union of the two school districts within the city limits, and their harmonious working for nearly four years prior to their legal consolidation, were very largely owing to the disinterestedness, good judgment and abiding interest in educational matters displayed by Mr. Keyes. His work by no means ended with the formation of the school board. As clerk of that board during the first seven years of its existence, during which time the high school building was erected, he became so much an

integral part of the public school administration of the city during that early formative period, that his influence in the educational life of the city can scarcely be overrated. Appropriate resolutions bearing testimony to his valuable services as an officer and member of the city school board were spread upon the records of that body, and the memory of his labors will long survive his generation.

The great fire of July 5, 1862 (to which reference is so frequently made in this work) destroyed the records of the board of education, including the records of the schools which had preceded the organization of the board. It is therefore impossible to give any authentic statement concerning the condition of the schools at the time they passed under the control of the board of education. A general statement made by Mr. Keyes, as secretary of the board, shortly after the fire, appears among the records. From this we learn that April 13, 1861, the board of education, on assuming charge of public school matters in Winona, found themselves in possession, by transfer from the old school districts numbers two and fourteen, of some old school furniture, one terrestrial globe, one set of outline maps, some rented rooms in various parts of the city, some indebtedness, no school buildings or sites in fee, or money. The sum of \$285 was subsequently paid to settle the accounts of one of the old districts, and it is only a reasonable probability, from information obtained, that the board expended about \$500 in settling the affairs of the old districts. The public schools as then existing, April 13, 1861, were one grammar school, or high school, as it was called, of which V. J. Walker was principal, and five primary schools scattered through the various wards of the city, occupying such buildings as could be the most cheaply rented for that purpose. The systematic grading of the schools was immediately undertaken by the board and the entire schoolwork of the city reorganized. The schools as thus established were one high school, *one* grammar school, three secondary and four primary schools. The estimate made for the ensuing three months' expenses, at the expiration of which the school year as equally established would close, was \$1,000. This estimate was approved by the council and the schools opened as organized under the new arrangement. A report of the schoolwork for the fractional year ending August 31, 1861, gives the following figures: Number of children of school age in the district, 772; number of children enrolled in

the schools, 382; average attendance, 252. The total expenditures for the three school months were \$932.68, itemized as follows: Teachers' salaries \$703, repairs and furniture \$151.64, rents \$73.04, fuel \$5.

The estimated expenses of the schools from September, 1861, to close of the spring term of 1862 were \$2,175, which added to the amount previously levied, \$1,000, gives a total of \$3,157, to carry on the nine schools of the city from April, 1861, to the close of the school year, August 31, 1862. The work of grading the schools undertaken and partially accomplished the previous year was now completed. The number of schools remained as previously established and the several rooms occupied by them prior to the fire of July 5, 1862, were: primary — (1) Kenosha Ale House; (2) Hancock's building, upstairs; (3) Hubbard's Hall, second story; (4) Mrs. J. S. Hamilton's building, in the third ward. Secondary—(1) South room Hancock's building; (2) Cooper's, then Hancock building; (3) Hubbard's Hall, first floor. Grammar school was held on the first floor of the Hancock building, north room until April, when it was removed to the brick schoolroom on Front street.

The high school was first in the Hancock building, then in the "brick schoolroom," and from thence removed to the city building when the grammar school took possession of the brick room on Front street. The rentals for the year were \$293, exclusive of the Hancock building, the use of which had been generously donated to the school board by the proprietors.

The election for members of the school board in 1862 was under the act of legislature, approved March 8 of that year, requiring the return of two members from each ward. The members of the board as thus constituted were: first ward—Thomas Simpson; W. S. Drew, who did not qualify, and the board filled the vacancy by electing E. Worthington; second ward—T. B. Welch, R. D. Cone; third ward—F. Kroeger, John Keyes.

On the third Monday in April, as required by law, the board met and organized, with Thomas Simpson president and John Keyes clerk. The Rev. David Burt was elected superintendent of schools for the city, his compensation for services fixed at \$100 per annum, and a like amount voted the clerk as salary. The estimated expenses for carrying on the schools for the year beginning September 1, 1862, are not given in full, but the tax levy submitted to the council for approval was for \$2,945. The whole amount ex-



pended certainly doubled that sum. The public moneys of 1858 for districts numbers two and fourteen aggregated \$1,130, and at this time, 1862, there was not only a marked increase in the number of school age within the district, but also in the ratio of appropriation to each individual. The wages paid teachers by the board at this time were as follows: principal of high school, per month, \$55; teacher of grammar school, per month, \$35; secondary school, per month, \$22.50; primary school, per month, \$20.

The necessity of establishing the schools in permanent quarters had long been apparent to the friends of education in the city, and the question of building schoolhouses as the state of the treasury would permit from time to time was freely agitated. At some meeting of the board prior to July 5, 1862, a resolution to build a schoolhouse in ward No. 3 was adopted. Lots 5 and 6 in block 15, Hamilton's addition to the city of Winona, were purchased and the contract let for building a ward schoolhouse, at a cost, including lots, of \$1,760. As we do not intend to follow the history of the several schools through their temporary quarters to their final establishment in their present permanent homes, we state here that this first purchase of two lots in block 15 was subsequently followed by the purchase of the entire block, and upon it in 1876 the present Washington school building was erected, as will be more particularly noted hereafter. It was at this juncture, close of spring term of 1862, that the fire, before mentioned, swept away the brick schoolroom on Front street, and destroyed (among scores of others) the office of secretary John Keyes, obliterating every vestige of record concerning the schoolwork of the city, from the opening of Miss Angelia Gere's nursery school in 1852 to the latest minute of the board of education made in June, 1862. \* \* \*

The first meeting after the fire was held June 9, 1862, in the office of the secretary, and vigorous efforts made to provide accommodations for the schools to be opened the ensuing term. These efforts were eminently successful, and the work of the schools was systematically resumed at the opening of the school year. The school report for the year then ended, August 31, 1862, showed no change in the census returns of children of school age within the district from those presented for the previous year, but the enrollment had increased from 382 in 1861 to 419 in 1862. A reduction had in the meantime been made in the number of schools sustained by the board, one of the secondary grade having been discon-

tinued. In October of this year the clerk of the board, as required by law, took the census of children of school age, upon which census returns the division of public moneys to the schools throughout the state was based, and reported an increase of 188 over the census of 1861-2. No special change is to be noted in the schoolwork for the year ending August 31, 1863. The number of schools remained unchanged, and the old officers of the board were continued at the head of affairs, as was also the superintendent. Though no special changes occurred in the schoolwork the board itself was making progress. The school building in ward three was completed as per contract some time in December, 1862, and on January 1, 1863, this, the first school building erected for school purposes by the school authorities of Winona, was dedicated to the uses for which it was constructed. Thomas Simpson, as president of the board of education, presided at the opening exercises, and delivered an appropriate address, the manuscript of which lies before us as we write. Action was taken this year in the matter of purchasing school sites in wards numbers two and three; the salaries of clerk and superintendent were raised to \$150 each per annum; the clerk was instructed to advertise for contracts for a school building in the first ward; the Stearn's schoolhouse, in the second ward, was purchased at a cost of \$415, exclusive of ground rent, which was fixed at \$10 per annum; lots 1 and 2 in block 119, original plat of Winona, were purchased, and contract closed with Mr. Conrad Bohn to erect a school building upon them at a cost, including fencing, of \$2,200. This contract was entered into August 22, 1863, and with this action of the board closed the transactions of that school year. The building on block 15, Hamilton's addition (as also the one now under contract by Mr. Bohn), was a two-story frame, arranged for the accommodation of two schools, one on each floor. The building in the first ward, when completed, was occupied for school purposes by the board, and so continued until the erection of the Madison school building in 1875; since then the old house known as the Jefferson school building has been provisionally turned over to the city council for the use of the fire department.

The census returns for the new school year 1863-4 showed a material increase in the number of children in the city, 1,221 being the number reported by the clerk. The increased number of children demanded increased accommodations, and the school of secondary grade, discontinued in 1862-3, was reopened, making the whole

number of schools under the care of the board ten. January 15, 1864, Mr. Burt resigned his office as superintendent of Winona public schools, and Dr. F. H. Staples, a practicing physician of the city, was elected to fill the vacancy. Dr. Staples discharged the duties of superintendent until September 4, 1865, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Prof. V. J. Walker, who taught the Union Grammar School of the city from the fall of 1859 until the organization of the city school board, when he was elected principal of the high school, April, 1861. Mr. Walker continued to perform his double duties as high school principal and superintendent of city schools until the close of the school year in 1869, at which time he closed a very successful term of ten years as principal of public schools in Winona.

By the charter election of 1864 a change was made in the membership of the board of education, and upon the organization of the board L. B. Tefit was elected president; secretary Keyes still in office. The estimates for the year opening September 1, 1864, were for one high school, one grammar school, four secondary schools, six primary schools, all of which were opened with the exception of one secondary, the total number being eleven schools. To provide for maintaining these during a school year of ten months the estimated tax required was \$12,000, \$5,000 of that amount to apply to a fund for the erection of a suitable central school building, which the necessities of the schools demanded and the wisdom of the board was forecasting. The salaries of teachers at this time had somewhat appreciated. Wages were per month, high school, \$65; grammar school, \$35; secondaries, \$25; primaries, \$22.

The officers of the board were not changed in the spring of 1865, and the school registers bore the names of 806 pupils, the actual enrollment for that year. The estimated expenses for the year opening September 1, 1865, were \$16,500. The actual tax levy was \$9,632.78, with an item of \$5,000 for central school fund. At the close of school year, August 31, 1865, the city owned three wooden buildings, the total valuation of which, including furniture, was \$5,000, the buildings accommodating five of the eleven schools maintained by the board.

The school year 1865-66 was an eventful one. The board had previously selected block 37 of the original town plot, as the site of the proposed central building, and acquired title to several of the lots thereon. The work of receiving possession of the entire block was

pushed vigorously, and on May 15, 1866, title was perfected and the block secured. Bids for the erection of a suitable central school building had been advertised for in the meantime, and contracts awarded to Conrad Bohn, of this city, three days prior to perfecting title. The contract price of structure was \$36,700, the whole costing with furances and furniture about \$52,000. Ground was immediately broken, walls erected and roof put on that season, and the building was completed and accepted by the board September 7, 1867, named by them the High School, and the afternoon of September 13th set apart for its formal dedication, which was accordingly done, Hon. Mark Dunnell, of this state, delivering the dedicatory address. This building is decidedly an ornament to the city, a monument to the public spirit of the citizens, and a credit to the board of education under whose administration it was erected. The block on which it stands is in the very heart of the best residence portion of the city. The building faces north, the main entrance being on Broadway, with side entrances on Walnut and Market streets. It is a substantial, ornate structure, built of brick and stone, rising three full stories above the basement, in which are the furnaces and fuel rooms. The extreme length from east to west is 96 feet; from north to south, 82 feet; height of main walls, 32 feet; of gables, 48 feet; of main ventilating shaft, 72 feet; of minor ventilating turrets, 66 feet; with a tower rising 94 feet from the water-table to the finial.

The basement is nine feet between floors, the first and second stories each thirteen feet and the third story, in which is the assembly room, fifteen feet. A hall eight feet wide running the extreme length of the building, with double doors at each end, affords ample means for entrance and exit. The staircases are four and one-half feet each, and the rooms are fully provided with cloak closets. There are four recitation rooms, each 28×34 feet on the main floor, and also on the second. The north half of the third story is the high school room proper, the space on the south side being divided into recitation rooms for high school classes. The building is occupied by the following schools: one high school with three recitation rooms, two grammar schools, three secondary schools lettered A, B, C, four primary schools.

The city superintendent's office is in the tower on the main floor, a comfortable room 12×12, supplied with a small reference library and connected with the city telephone exchange.



The school census, taken in the fall of 1866, showed 1,952 children of school age within the city, an increase of 741 in three years. The census of 1867 showed a further increase 229, making a total of 2,181 for the latter year.

Henry Stevens became president of the board at the annual meeting in April, 1866, secretary Keyes still retaining office. At this meeting the salary of clerk was raised to \$250 per annum, as was also that of the superintendent.

No change was made in the officers of the board at their annual meeting in 1867. When the schools opened in September of that year the salary of high school principal was fixed at \$1,300, and the wages of female teachers \$40 per month.

At the annual spring election in 1868, secretary Keyes was not returned and the board organized with H. D. Huff, president, and John Ball, secretary. The following year, 1869, Mr. Ball gave place to J. M. Sheardown, who held the office of clerk to the "board" until his resignation in December, 1871. At the annual meeting in this year, 1869, the salaries of clerk and superintendent were raised to \$300 each per annum. At the close of this school year a new departure was taken and the office of superintendent of schools separated from the principalship of the high school. This position was offered to Prof. Varney, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum, but he declined the offer, and the office was not filled until October 4, 1869, when the officers of the school board were authorized to employ Prof. W. P. Hood, which was done as ordered. The new superintendent entered immediately upon his work and continued in office until the close of the spring term in 1871.

At the annual meeting in 1870 Gen. C. H. Berry, at present the senior member of the Winona county bar, was elected president of the city school board, and held that position by successive re-elections until he retired from the board in 1878. During these years the beautiful ward schoolhouses in the east and west ends of the city were constructed at an aggregate cost of \$60,000, and the educational work of the city advanced at every point.

June 20, 1871, Prof. F. M. Dodge was elected city superintendent of schools, and his salary fixed at \$1,500 per annum. December 15, 1871, Mr. M. Maverick was elected to the clerkship of the board of education, made vacant by the resignation of J. M. Sheardown, and held that office until the election of Dr. J. M. Cole, at the annual meeting in 1875. December 18, 1871, the board adopted

resolutions recommending the erection of a good three-story brick building in the first ward, and memorializing the city council to procure such legislation as would authorize the issue of \$15,000 of school bonds.

The report of the clerk, made October 1, 1872, showed an increase in the number of schools, census enumeration, enrollment in schools, expenditures, etc., the figures being as follows: One high school, four grammar schools, seven secondary schools, nine primary; 2,427 children of school age, an actual enrollment of 1,414 on the school registers. The total receipts from all sources were shown by the financial statement in August to aggregate \$25,336.68. The schools were maintained during a school year of ten months, and 22 teachers employed; average wages of teachers, gentlemen, \$100 per month; ladies, \$55 per month.

The reports made in 1874 show receipts for the year ending August 31, \$42,987; disbursements, \$28,987; children of school age in the city, 3,098; children enrolled in the schools, 1,339.

The annual election in 1875 placed Dr. Cole, as before said, at the clerk's desk, a position held by him for six years, during which he rendered valuable aid to the educational work of the city. During this school year the Madison school building was completed at a cost of about \$32,000, and in the annual report of the clerk, made August, 1876, the following exhibit appears:

Houses owned by the board, four (two brick and two frame); values of school sites, \$25,000; values of buildings, \$106,060; value of buildings erected during the year, \$31,306; seating capacity of buildings, 1,478; receipts for the year, \$60,891.28; disbursements for the year, \$44,926.40; teachers' wages, \$15,420; average wages, gentlemen, \$120 per month; average wages, ladies, \$50 per month.

The Washington school building a facsimile of the Madison building, was accepted at the hands of the contractor November 17, 1876, and the schools in the eastern part of the city transferred to their new quarters January 1, 1877. The purchase of block 15, Hamilton's addition, upon which the Washington building was erected, has already been noted. This block on which the Madison school building stands is the one adjoining that on which the old Jefferson schoolhouse was built in 1863. This new block, No. 118, was purchased by the board December 21, 1869, as the site of the prospective school building for the first ward. A description of the Madison building will answer for both, as one is almost the perfect

facsimile of the other. The building is a fine three-story brick, stone basement and trimmings, with mansard roof. The extreme length from east to west is 80 feet; from north to south, 77 feet. The main walls rise 30 feet above the water-table, and the gables 45 feet. The tower is 80 feet high, and height of the several stories as follows: Basement, containing furnaces, fuel and storage room,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet to joists overhead; first and second stories, each 13 feet; third story, 12 feet. Each floor is divided into four recitation rooms, each  $25 \times 30$  feet, provided with cloakrooms, all the modern appliances for comfort and convenience, and each room seated to accommodate from 40 to 56 pupils, according to grade. The several floors have each a main hall running the extreme length of the building from east to west, with a cross hall. The main halls are 8 feet wide, and the cross halls 6 feet 8 inches in the clear. The building fronts north on Wabasha street, upon which is the main entrance, with side entrances on Dakota and Olmsted streets. Free exit is afforded from the halls on the main floor, in three directions, by spacious doors and stairways, and there are two staircases, each four feet in the clear, leading from the upper stories. The Madison school building is provided with four wood-furnaces, and the Washington school with five. These buildings, with their twelve school-rooms each, and the high-school building with its nine school (and three recitation) rooms, make comfortable provision for thirty-three schools, thirty-two of them now running and, under the able management of superintendent McNaughton, doing efficient work. These three school buildings, each occupying a full block in well-chosen locations, with their ample walks, growing shade-trees, tasteful architectural appearance, and thoroughly furnished rooms, are a just occasion of city pride, the value of sites, buildings and improvements falling little short of \$175,000.

Early in 1877 the board of education recorded its emphatic disapproval of the attempt made in the state legislature to create a "state text-book committee," and dispatched one of their members, Dr. J. B. McGaughey, to St. Paul to express to the legislature the sentiments of the Winona board of education. The obnoxious measure became a law, but Winona schools were exempted from its provisions. The annual meeting in 1877 made no changes in the officers of the board. The reports of the clerk not only showed encouraging progress in school matters, but also a growing liberality on the part of the board in fixing teachers' wages, which were estab-

lished as follows: Principal of high school per month, \$130; assistant, \$60; grammar school teachers, \$60; secondary school teachers, \$55; primary school teachers, \$50. The enrollment for the year was 1,820, and the average attendance 1,260. The total receipts of the board for the year were \$60,243.69, and the year closed with \$15,968 in the treasury.

In the spring of 1878 Dr. J. B. McGaughey became president of the board; Prof. Dodge was followed by Prof. Irwin Shepard as city superintendent of schools; the financial exhibit showed receipts in excess of \$60,000, expenditures a little over \$45,000. There was a hitch in the city council over the authorization of the tax levy required by law, and clerk Cole reported his ability to carry the schools through the school year with the aid of a temporary loan, which was accordingly done, no school tax being levied for that year. In 1879 Dr. T. A. Pierce was elected president of the board, Prof. Shepard was followed by Prof. W. F. Phelps as city superintendent of schools, and the enrollment for the year showed a decrease of about 150 over the enrollment of 1877. This fact was due to the opening of several parochial schools in the city.

Matters were in statu quo during 1880, but in 1881 Dr. Cole retired from the clerkship of the board, after six years' consecutive service, and was followed by W. J. Whipple, who held that office two years. Dr. Pierce continued at the head of the board, and in the fall Prof. J. W. McNaughton, the present superintendent of schools, assumed educational control.

The annual meeting in 1882 was principally noted for the protracted contest for president, in which an adjournment was had to the following evening, after 130 ballots were cast. At the adjourned meeting Dr. J. B. McGaughey was elected president of the board upon the 187th ballot.

The election held the evening of April 20, 1883, continued Dr. McGaughey in the chair, and elected Arthur Beyerstedt clerk of the board.

A summary of the schools as now existing and controlled by city superintendent McNaughton is in brief as follows:

*High School Building.*—One high school, of which Thomas L. Heaton, graduate of Michigan State University, class of 1880, is principal. His assistants are Mr. J. J. Helmer, Misses J. Mitchell and Frances Elmer. One grammar school; three secondary schools, A, B, C; four primary schools. Total schools in high school build-



ing, 9; total enrollment, 564; number of regular teachers, 12. The curriculum of the high school is appended:

Class.	Term.	Time.	Required for all Courses.	Required for all Courses.	Third Study for Classical.	Third Study for Scientific.	Third Study for Business Course.
D	1	4 mo.	Algebra Com.	English Composition	Latin	German	Com. Arithmetic
	2	3 mo.	Geometry	Zoology	Latin	German	Essentials of Eng. Gram.
	3	3 mo.	Geometry	Botany	Latin	German	Civil Government
C	1	4 mo.	Geometry	Physiology	Cæsar	Lessing	Bookkeeping
	2	3 mo.	Physical Geography	Physics	Cæsar	Lessing	Industrial Drawing
	3	3 mo.	Physical Geography	Physics	Cæsar	Lessing	
B	1	4 mo.	Chemistry	General History	Virgil	Schiller	
	2	3 mo.	Chemistry	General History	Virgil	Schiller	
	3	3 mo.	Chemistry	Geology	Virgil	Schiller	
A	1	4 mo.	Rhetoric	Geology	Cicero	Goethe	
	2	3 mo.	English Literature	Mental Science	Cicero	Goethe	
	3	3 mo.	English Literature	Political Economy	Cicero	Goethe	

*Madison School.*—One grammar department, in charge of Miss Mary Youmans; three secondary schools; eight primary schools. Total enrollment, 623; total schools, 12.

*Washington School.*—One grammar department, under care of Alvin Braley; three secondary schools; seven primary schools. Total schools, 11; total enrollment, 636.

The entire educational force of the city comprises, for its public schools, 1 superintendent, 35 regular and 2 special teachers, the schools under their charge having a total enrollment of 1,823 scholars. This enrollment is about the same as that of 1877, to which is to be added the 700 pupils enrolled in the parochial schools. There has, however, been a most gratifying improvement in the average daily attendance, the reports showing an increase of 300 in the average attendance of to-day over that of 1877, under the same nominal enrollment. There is no longer a school census taken, and the number of children between the ages of 5 and 21 in the city cannot be given. The estimate is made of about 4,000; but if the proportion of enrollment to total number of school age was maintained now as in years past, the number would be considerably in excess of 5,000.

The work of the parochial school appears in connection with the history of the various parishes by which they are maintained.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### HISTORY OF WINONA CITY.

WHEN the county of Fillmore was created out of Wabasha county by special act of territorial legislature, approved March 5, 1853, the new county thus created was organized for judicial purposes and divided into electoral precincts. One of these precincts was called the Winona precinct, and included within its limits the territory embraced in the level bottom lands on the west side of the Mississippi river in latitude 44 degrees north, longitude 14 degrees and 30 minutes west from Washington, and known as Wabasha prairie. The life of Winona precinct as thus constituted was of short duration. By special act of territorial legislature, approved February 23, 1854, Fillmore county was in turn divided and the present county of Winona formed, its boundaries fixed as now existing, and Winona designated as the county seat. Under the provisions of this act, a special election was held April 4, 1854, within the several precincts as then designated by the county commissioners of Fillmore county, for the purpose of choosing county and precinct officers. These commissioners were Henry C. Gere, Myron Toms and Wm. T. Luark. The precinct officers to be elected were, two justices of the peace, two constables and one road supervisor. Under the Fillmore county administration the precinct officers were appointed by the governor of the territory, and for Winona precinct were, John Burns and John M. Gere, justices of the peace; Frank W. Curtis, constable; and Geo. W. Clark, road supervisor. These officers held their seats until the regular territorial election, on the second Tuesday in October, when Geo. W. Gere and Wm. H. Stevens were elected justices of the peace and F. W. Curtis, constable. The terms of office for which these gentlemen were elected expired by operation of the special act of February 23, 1854, ordering a special election to be held April 4 ensuing. The judges of election were appointed by the Fillmore county commissioners, the election held as ordered, and Winona precinct, besides casting her vote for the regular county officers, elected for herself as justices of the peace Wm. H. Stevens and Geo. H. Sanborn, and for constable,

Frank W. Curtis. No official record of this election is on file in the office in this county, as the returns were made to Fillmore county. The Winona county commissioners, elected April 4, 1854, met at Winona, the seat of government for the new county, April 28, of that same year, and the following day, April 29, 1854, redistricted the county. By this partition Winona county was divided into six electoral precincts; one of these was named Winona and described as township No. 107 north, range 7, west of the fifth principal meridian. As will be noted by the description, the precinct of Winona, as then formed, was identical in its boundaries with the present township of Winona, including the corporate limits of the city of Winona. The official term for which these offices were filled in April expired when the regular election for the territory was held the ensuing October. The official returns of this election—the very existence of which seemed unknown until they were unearthed for us by ex-county auditor Basford from among the musty archives of the county records—give the following as the result: justices of the peace, S. K. Thompson, A. C. Jones; constables, F. W. Curtis, A. C. Smith; road supervisor, Enoch Hamilton. It does not appear from any records in the office of register of deeds, or from any acknowledgment upon any instrument extant, or from the memory of any one familiar with those times, that A. C. Jones ever qualified as justice of the peace or exercised the functions of that office. There is abundance of parole evidence to show that G. H. Sanborn continued to exercise the authority of justice for months after the October election, and in connection with S. K. Thompson “preserved the peace” in Winona precinct.

The election of 1855 returned Henry Day and John Keyes, justices; Harvey S. Terry and W. H. Peck, constables; and Wm. Doolittle, road supervisor.

The officers elected in 1856 were: justices of the peace, G. R. Tucker, I. B. Andrews; constables, Harvey S. Terry, C. C. Bartlett; road supervisor, Asa Hedge. This was the last precinct election in which the residents within the city limits took part. The term of office for which the above election was held expired with the charter election held Monday, April 6, 1857.

From the formation of Fillmore county, March 5, 1853, until the charter election for the newly incorporated city was held, four years and one month later, the settlers on Wabasha prairie were subject only to such general laws and regulations as had been enacted

by territorial authority for the government of such communities as were uninvested with corporate rights and privileges. This day had passed by for Winona and she was now to enter upon the larger and more responsible work of creating a city government, and administering its affairs, answerable only to herself within the limits of her corporate franchises. Before entering upon this phase of the history of Winona, it is necessary that some idea should be given of the growth in population and the material progress made by the little community from the date of its planting to the eve of its incorporation, and for this purpose a brief reference to these matters will be all that is necessary.

The population of Winona county at the date of its organization is generally placed a little below 800 — a slow growth, and one not destined to be much accelerated during the year and a half that followed. The attractions of southern Minnesota, to which Winona has ever been the chief gateway, seemed generally disregarded, and the rush of settlement was farther north along the Minnesota river; the St. Paul press growing so eloquent in its descriptions of the beauty and fertility of that valley as to attract the attention of prospective settlers to that region. The protracted occupation of this section of Minnesota by the Indians, their final removal not having been effected until the autumn of 1853, had much to do in preventing the early settlement of southeastern Minnesota. But when the vast territory lying west of Winona was opened to settlement in the summer of 1855, and the government land office established here in November of that year, the change from the dull inactivity of the previous year was almost marvelous. The influx of population, the rapid increase in the number of business houses of all kinds, the activity manifest in every department of trade, the impetus given to all speculative movements, the number of buildings in course of erection, all testified to the fact that a new day and a better one had dawned upon the prospective metropolis of southern Minnesota. The condition of affairs at the close of the year 1856 may be summed up as follows: The population had increased from about 800 in December, 1855, to 3,000 in December, 1856. There had been erected during the year 290 buildings of all kinds, among them three good churches, a large four-story warehouse, a commodious hotel (the Huff House, now standing), a steam flouring-mill with five run of stones, a large three-story banking building, besides scores of others of less note, yet decidedly creditable to the young city. An idea of



the value of real property may be had from these specimen quotations of sales of real estate, taken from the columns of the "Winona Republican" of that date: "A lot on Second street, between Center and Lafayette, 40×100 feet, \$1,600 cash; two corner lots on Walnut street, \$1,800; a lot, 80 × 140 feet, corner of Second and Center streets, \$6,000." The manufacturing establishments were two steam saw-mills, one steam planing-mill, one steam flouring-mill, one cabinet manufactory with steam power. The river was open to navigation from April 8 to November 17, and during that time there were 1,300 arrivals and departures of boats. A tri-weekly line of steamers was maintained for greater part of the season between Winona and Dubuque, and the forwarding and commission business for that season aggregated \$182,731.96. There were fourteen attorneys-at-law and nine physicians waging war against crime and death, and about 150 business houses, stores, shops, etc., distributed as follows: Dry goods, 14; groceries and provisions, 16; clothing, 7; hardware and tin, 6; drugs, 5; boots and shoes, 4; furniture, 4; books, 2; hat and fur store, 2; wholesale liquors, 2; hotels and taverns, 13; eating-houses and saloons, 10; lumber yards, 5; blacksmith shops, 3; warehouses, 4; brickyards, 2; livery stables, 2; sign painters, 3; watchmakers, 3; butchers, 2; wagon and carriage shop, 2; fanning-mill maker, 1; gunsmith shop, 2; bakeries, 2; dentists, 3; gaugenean artist, 1; banking-offices, 6; real estate and insurance, 10; printing-offices, 2; harness shop, 2; barber shop, 3. To these may be added five churches and two schools, and you have a fair summary of Winona business at the close of the year 1856. The original plat of Winona, surveyed June 19, 1852, by John Ball, for Erwin H. Johnson and Orrin Smith, was so set apart and recorded under the revised territorial statutes of 1851, in accordance with the town site act passed by congress May 23, 1844. This original plat was bounded on the north by the Mississippi river, on the east by Market street, on the south by Wabasha street, and on the west by Washington street. It comprised a square, each side of which was six full blocks. This plat was enlarged from time to time by "additions;" until at the close of 1856 the platted area on Wabasha prairie covered a tract of ground fully two miles in extent from east to west and nearly half that distance from north to south. The principal of these additions was never recorded as such, and is generally known as Huff's survey of the city of Winona. This survey and dedication was made in 1854, and extended from the original town plat on the east to Chute's

addition on the west, a total length of seven blocks and a fraction, and covering an area considerably larger than the original plat itself. This addition does not now appear on the maps as such, and for years has been included and its blocks numbered as a part of the original town plat. The more important of the subsequent additions were Laird's addition and subdivision, immediately east of the original plat. These covered an area of about 80 acres in extent, fronting north on the river and extending some half-dozen blocks to the south. Hamilton's addition, lying east of Laird's, was the largest of any of the plats, original or additional. It comprised an area of 160 acres, extending westward beyond the macadamized road leading to Sugar-loaf Bluff, and running backward eight or ten blocks from the river. Within its limits are some of the most populous sections of the city. These, with Taylor & Co's addition, and Sanborn's and Hubbard's, all on the south, and Chute's addition on the west, were platted and dedicated before the close of the year 1856. Beyond the limits of these additions but little building has been done, save in the Polish quarter just east of Hamilton's addition, and in the vicinity of the wagon-works just west of Chute's addition. The latter of these settlements, in what is known as Evans' addition, is rapidly building up, and will some day be a populous portion of the city, lying, as it does, in the immediate vicinity of the manufacturing establishments recently located in west Winona.

That the county seat of Winona county was destined at no distant day to become a city of no mean proportions was very early accepted as a fact by her citizens, and preparations for investing her with corporate rights and privileges were not long delayed. As early as November 11, 1856, the "Winona Republican," in a brief editorial, called attention to the matter of securing a city charter, and suggested the necessity of taking definite action, alleging that the movement would be heartily supported by all the members of the territorial legislature from the southern Minnesota districts. A meeting of the citizens was accordingly called for Saturday evening, January 3, 1857. The response to the call was quite general. The meeting was held in Central Hall, and organized with Edward Ely, better known as Elder Ely, in the chair. W. C. Dodge was elected secretary, the business of the hour stated, the measure of incorporation approved, and after considerable discussion as to corporate boundaries, etc., a committee was appointed to draft a charter, and report the same at an adjourned meeting to be held on the following

Saturday evening. The members of that committee, three only of whom are now residents of Winona, were: G. W. Curtis, W. Newman, C. H. Berry, William Windom, M. Wheeler Sargent, John Keyes and Edward Ely. On Saturday evening, the 10th inst., the citizens met, pursuant to adjournment of previous week, to hear the report of their committee. Hon. C. H. Berry, on behalf of the committee, presented the report, which at their instance he had drafted, together with an abstract of charter. The only question upon which differences of opinion arose was as to the proper limits for the proposed incorporation. Some were in favor of quite extended corporation boundaries, others advocated a comparatively limited boundary. The report favored extending the boundaries of the city to include the causeways over the slough at the east and west ends of town, the following reasons being adduced: That, as the maintenance of good approaches to the city more nearly concerned the citizens of the corporation than those outside its limits, the control and repair of the roads over the sloughs, by which access to town was only possible, should be under the care of the city; that the vote of the county outside the city limits being in excess of that polled within the city, it would not be wise to allow the county vote, which might or might not approve the expenditures for maintaining these causeways in good repair, to control a matter so essential to the interests of the city; that as the city would certainly reap the most benefit, it was only just that she should incur the responsibility of the increased outlay; that it was a question whether the county had any right to appropriate moneys for a work so nearly sectional in its character; and that in any event the more liberal policy would be for the city to assume the burden, leaving the county authorities free to assist in bearing it if at any time they saw fit. It was also represented that by extending the corporate limits a larger proportion of property-holders whose lands would be increased in value by their nearness to a large city would be taxed to defray the city expenses. The reasons of which the above is a brief summary were approved, the report adopted, the abstract of charter commended and returned to the committee with instructions to complete the draft and submit it as a completed charter for the adoption of the citizens at a meeting to be held the following Saturday evening, January 17, 1857. This was accordingly done, and the accepted charter was forwarded to St. Paul, where it came before the



John B. Fellows.





territorial legislature, passed, and the act formally incorporating the city of Winona was approved March 6 of that same year 1857, and became law immediately after its adoption.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

By the provisions of this act the extreme southeastern limit of the city was established just where the western boundary of Winona township touches the south shore of the Mississippi river. From this point the boundary line of the corporation was run due west four miles, thence north two miles, thence east to the middle of the Mississippi river, thence in a southeasterly direction down the middle of the stream to a point due north of the place of beginning. The ground thus inclosed within the corporate limits of the city formed an irregular four-sided figure; its south boundary a right line four miles long, its west boundary a right line two miles long, its north boundary a right line running east about one and a-half miles to the shore of the river, from which point it followed the irregular shore line southeasterly to the west line of Winona township. The city was divided into three wards. The first ward embracing all that portion of the city lying west of Washington street. The second ward extending eastward from Washington to Lafayette streets, and the third ward including all between Lafayette street and the city limits on the east. The wards thus established were each to constitute an electoral precinct, the judges of election for which (at the ensuing charter election) were to be appointed by the county commissioners, as was the case in all precinct elections. The charter election was ordered to be held on the first Monday in April, polls to open at twelve o'clock and close at four o'clock, and the officers to be chosen were, one mayor, one recorder, one justice of the peace, one marshal, one assessor, one attorney, one surveyor and two aldermen for each ward. The mayor, aldermen and recorder to form the city council.

Tuesday, April 7, 1857, the first charter election for the city of Winona was held, when the following vote was cast.

OFFICE.	CANDIDATE.	VOTES POLLED.
Mayor*	R. D. Cone .....	291
	M. Wheeler Sargent .....	405
Recorder	E. A. Gerdtzen .....	331
	James White .....	323
Treasurer	J. V. Smith .....	401
	H. B. Upman .....	291

OFFICE.	CANDIDATES.	VOTES POLLED.
Marshal	E. A. Batchelder	293
	G. W. Horton	213
	N. Hudson	106
Attorney	P. B. Palmer	142
	H. W. Lamberton	439
	D. S. Norton	246
Surveyor	L. Pettibone	274
	H. B. Cozzens	417
Justice	Thomas Simpson	414
	H. Day	276
Assessor	First Ward, O. M. Lord	97
	“ “ C. H. Blanchard	41
	Second Ward, A. P. Foster	107
	“ “ V. Simpson	94
	Third Ward, I. Hubbard	109
	“ “ P. P. Hubbell	291
Aldermen	First Ward, W. H. Dill	94
	“ “ I. B. Andrus	81
	“ “ I. D. Ford, M. D.	58
	“ “ P. V. Bell	43
	Second Ward, Tim Kerk	124
	“ “ G. W. Payne	113
	“ “ Sam Cole	88
	“ “ Geo. H. Sanborn	80
	Third Ward, J. Bolcom	217
“ “ Jacob Mowery	205	
“ “ E. H. Murray	127	
“ “ G. Lautenslager	127	

From these returns it appears that the maximum vote cast was for marshal, for which office 754 votes were polled; the vote for recorder being the minimum, 654. The average vote was about 685 to 690. The third ward vote was equal to the votes of the first and second ward in the ballot for aldermen, and led those wards in the vote for assessor, 400 votes being cast in the third ward for that office and only 339 in both the others. The usual proportion of population to voters would have given Winona at this time a census of 3,770 souls, so that the estimate of 3,000 population for the city was probably not much out of the way.

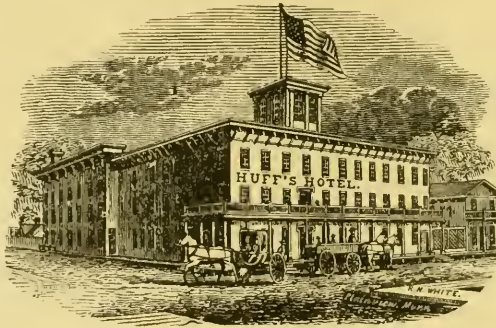
The city limits were not long unchanged. The following year, 1858, the act of incorporation was so amended as to change the city boundaries on the south and east. By this change, and an immaterial one made nine years later, the southern boundary was fixed to conform in some degree to the south shore of lake Winona, and some quarter-sections were taken off the western end of the corporation as originally bounded. By these acts about one and one-half square miles were taken from the area of the city as established by act of March, 1857. By act of February 10, 1870, a further curtailment of a quarter of a section was made, at which time the tract in

the extreme west end of the city, known as the fair-ground, was set outside the city limits, and these are the only changes made in the boundaries of the city since its incorporation. The ward changes have not been numerous. February 15, 1865, the boundary line between the second and third wards was removed two streets east of that upon which it was originally established and Market street made the division line. When the whole act of incorporation was amended, March 1, 1867, the boundary between the first and second wards was moved one street east and Johnson street became the separating line. February 28, 1876, a radical change was made. The city was divided into four wards, and their boundaries respectively were, for the first ward, that portion of the city lying westward between the center of Washington street and the city limits; second ward, that portion lying between Washington street on the west and Walnut street on the east; third ward, that portion extending from Walnut street on the west to Vine street on the east, and the fourth ward, that portion lying within the city limits eastward from the center of Vine street. These changes were all made by special act of Minnesota legislature and are the only ones made in the several ward boundaries to date.

Several changes, some of them quite important, have been made from time to time in the list of city officers, both as regards the nature of the office and the status of the officer. Under the original act of incorporation the elective officers of the city were: one mayor, one recorder, one treasurer, one marshal, one attorney, one surveyor, one justice of the peace, one assessor and six aldermen. Some misapprehension concerning the election of assessors must have occurred at the first charter election, as three assessors were returned, one for each ward, a thing not contemplated by the act. The term of office for aldermen and justice was fixed at two years, all other official terms one year. By the act of March 8, 1862, the number of justices was increased to two, and the recorder, though still an elective officer, was denied any vote or voice in the proceedings of the council, his duties being to keep a report of the council proceedings, to make an annual estimate in August of the current expenses for the year and of the revenue necessary to be raised therefor. A radical change in the list of elective officers was made by the act of March, 1865, which defined said officers to be a mayor, two aldermen from each ward, two justices of the peace and city treasurer. The offices to be filled by appointment of the council



were : recorder, marshal, assessor, attorney and surveyor, and the first regular meeting after the charter election was designated as the time and place of appointment. All terms of office, except those of aldermen, which remained unchanged, were fixed at one year, the rule to apply to offices filled either by election or appointment. By act of 1867 the original act was so amended as to virtually constitute a new one. By the later act the officers to be chosen by the people were : mayor, two aldermen for each ward, two justices of the peace, a treasurer and an assessor. The terms of office were as before established by act of March, 1865, with the exception of justices of the peace, whose term was fixed at two years. The officers to be appointed by the council were : recorder, marshal, surveyor, attorney and street commissioner. All persons otherwise qualified



to vote for county and state officers were made eligible to vote at any city election in the election district, of which at time of voting they had been for ten days resident, and were also qualified thereby to hold any city office to which they might be elected. All officers, elected and appointed, were required to take an oath of office, and bonds were to be given by the marshal and treasurer. The city justices were given exclusive jurisdiction over all cases and complaints arising under the ordinances, police regulations, laws and by-laws of the city; the powers of the council were fully set forth *in extenso*, and they were duly empowered to act in all matters pertaining to the peace, cleanliness and safety of the city, as also to the security and public conduct of the citizens. This "act," "virtually the one under which the city authorities now act," was declared to be of a public character and not contravened by any general law of the state conflicting with its provisions, unless so expressly stated

in the enactment of such general law. By act of February, 1870, council was restrained from incurring an indebtedness in excess of \$10,000 for any specific purpose without first submitting the same to the voters of the city and receiving the sanction of two-thirds of the votes cast, for and against the measure. By special act of April, 1876, aldermen were prohibited from receiving any compensation for their services, either directly or indirectly. A new departure in making up the official list of the city was taken in 1877, by authority of an act passed that spring. Under this amendment the officers to be elected were: a mayor, treasurer, recorder, assessor, attorney, marshal, street commissioner, surveyor, physician, two aldermen for each ward and two justices of the peace; the council, as heretofore, having authority to appoint such additional officers as in their judgment the interests of the city required. The term of all officers elected by the people was fixed at two years, and of those appointed by the council one year. The experiment did not prove satisfactory, and in 1879 this act was repealed by an amendment, making the officers chosen by the people to consist of mayor, treasurer, assessor, whose terms of office were for one year; and two aldermen for each ward, and two justices, whose terms, as before, remained fixed at two years. By this amendment city justices were clothed with all the rights pertaining to justices elected under the general laws of the state, as well as the exclusive jurisdiction before given them, over all actions and complaints arising under the laws, ordinances, by-laws and police regulations of the city.

THE LIST OF MAYORS, RECORDERS, ASSESSORS, TREASURERS, MARSHALS, JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND ALDERMEN, FROM THE DATE OF THE INCORPORATION OF WINONA, TO INCLUDE THE CHARTER ELECTION OF APRIL 2, 1883, IS AS FOLLOWS:

YEARS	MAYORS	RECORDERS	TREASURERS	ASSESSORS	MARSHALS	* JUSTICES OF PEACE	ALDERMEN, FIRST WARD.	ALDERMEN, SECOND WARD.	ALDERMEN, THIRD WARD.	ALDERMEN, FOURTH WARD.
1857-8	M. W. Sargent	E. A. Gerdtsen	J. V. Smith	P. P. Hubbell	E. A. Batchelder	Thomas Simpson	J. B. Andrews	Tim Kirk	Joseph Bolcom	
1858-9	Wm. A. Jones	E. A. Gerdtsen	Z. H. Lake	John Keyes	Lyman H. Buck	J. B. Andrews	W. B. Andrews	Tim Kirk	Joseph Bolcom	
1859-60	M. K. Drew	E. A. Gerdtsen	R. A. Hurxthal	W. S. Drew	Lyman H. Buck	Warren Powers	A. W. Webster	Jacob Story	C. F. Schroth	
1860-1	M. K. Drew	C. F. Schroth	Z. H. Lake	H. J. Hilbert	J. P. Holtzman	Samuel Cole	A. F. Hodgins	Wm. Mitchell	D. L. Miller	
1861-2	A. W. Webster	C. F. Schroth	J. J. Randall	W. S. Drew	J. P. Holtzman	Samuel Cole	A. W. Webster	Jacob Story	John Lauer	
1862-3	A. F. Hodgins	C. F. Schroth	A. W. Webster	V. Simpson	J. P. Holtzman	Samuel Cole	E. D. Williams	Sam'l Melvin	Daniel Evans	
1863-4	A. F. Hodgins	C. F. Schroth	A. W. Webster	W. S. Drew	H. B. Herrick	Samuel Cole	Thomas Simpson	R. Jackson	G. Lautenslager	
1864-5	A. F. Hodgins	C. F. Schroth	A. W. Webster	W. S. Drew	H. B. Herrick	Warren Powers	E. D. Williams	D. L. Miller	Jacob Smith	
1865-6	A. F. Hodgins	C. F. Schroth	V. Simpson	W. S. Drew	David Morrill	Warren Powers	Thomas Simpson	Wm. Mitchell	Wm. Garlock	
1866-7	R. D. Cone	C. F. Schroth	J. P. V. Dorslen	W. S. Drew	David Morrill	Warren Powers	J. J. Randall	W. S. Drew	D. L. Miller	
1867-8	R. D. Cone	C. F. Schroth	J. P. V. Dorslen	W. S. Drew	David Morrill	C. N. Wakefield	A. B. Youmans	Wm. Mitchell	W. H. Laird	
1868-9	Jno. A. Mathews	C. F. Schroth	H. R. Wedel	Daniel Evans	David Morrill	C. N. Wakefield	A. P. Foster	J. J. Randall	Charles Horton	
1869-70	Jno. A. Mathews	C. F. Schroth	H. R. Wedel	C. F. Schroth	W. H. Hill	C. N. Wakefield	A. F. Hodgins	M. Kalphe	Wm. Garlock	
1870-1	Wm. S. Drew	C. F. Schroth	I. J. Cummings	Daniel Evans	W. H. Hill	H. W. Jackson	John Ball	O. Wheeler	A. Hamilton	
1871-2	A. F. Hodgins	C. F. Schroth	I. J. Cummings	Daniel Evans	W. H. Hill	H. W. Jackson	George Tallon	R. D. Cone	Wm. Garlock	
1872-3	A. F. Hodgins	C. F. Schroth	I. J. Cummings	Daniel Evans	W. H. Hill	H. W. Jackson	W. S. Grant	E. D. Cone	Wm. Garlock	
1873-4	Jno. A. Mathews	C. F. Schroth	H. E. Curtis	Daniel Evans	Thomas Chappell	H. W. Jackson	Charles Butler	J. B. Brink	Daniel Evans	
1874-5	A. F. Hodgins	C. F. Schroth	W. J. Whipple	Daniel Evans	W. H. Hill	H. W. Jackson	J. H. Jones	J. R. Hatcher	W. H. Laird	
1875-6	A. Hamilton	C. F. Schroth	W. J. Whipple	Daniel Evans	J. C. Slater	J. M. Sheardown	Charles Butler	O. Wheeler	Daniel Evans	
1876-7	A. Hamilton	C. F. Schroth	W. J. Whipple	Daniel Evans	S. D. Van Gorder	J. M. Sheardown	Charles Butler	C. Deering	Wm. Garlock	
1877-8	V. Simpson	P. G. Hubbell	John Ludwig	W. S. Drew	S. D. Van Gorder	J. M. Sheardown	B. J. Grimshaw	J. S. Wilson	Wm. Garlock	
1878-9	V. Simpson	P. G. Hubbell	John Ludwig	W. S. Drew	G. W. Kidder	J. M. Sheardown	Daniel Leary	H. D. Morse	V. Simpson	
1879-80	V. Simpson	J. H. Jones	John Ludwig	W. S. Drew	G. W. Kidder	G. H. Mackay	E. A. Barrage	J. H. Jenkins	W. Rohweder	
1880-1	A. F. Hodgins	P. G. Hubbell	W. H. Garlock	W. S. Drew	Charles Butler	G. H. Mackay	Wm. Noonan	H. Stevens	A. Hamilton	
1881-2	H. W. Lambertson	P. G. Hubbell	W. H. Garlock	W. S. Drew	S. P. Van Gorder	Daniel Evans	H. V. Kohlman	J. H. Jenkins	Gustav Auger	
1882-3	H. W. Lambertson	P. G. Hubbell	W. H. Garlock	W. S. Drew	S. P. Van Gorder	Daniel Evans	Wm. Noonan	J. L. Brink	Gustav Auger	
1883-4	John Ludwig	P. G. Hubbell	E. D. Hulbert	W. H. Hill	W. W. Miller	Daniel Evans	C. H. Lambertson	A. W. Gage	John Latsch	

There were only three wards in the city prior to spring of 1876, as noted in statement concerning amendments to city charter.

\* Prior to 1862 there was only one justice. Since that time Jacob Story has acted continuously as the second justice of the peace.

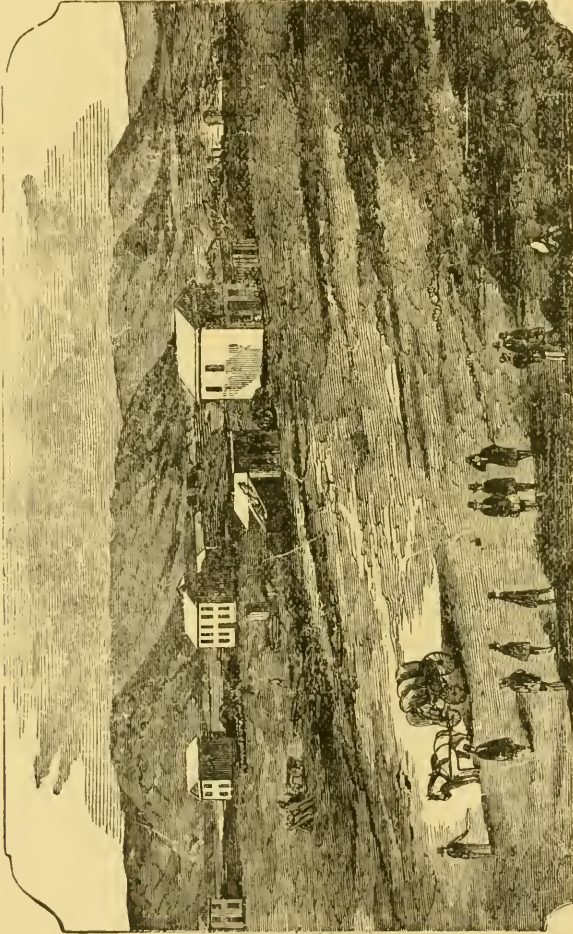
## CHAPTER XLII.

### ROADS.

ONE of the most vital needs of the young city—a need felt for some time prior to her incorporation as well as for years afterward—was that of better roads leading into the surrounding country, from which her local trade was to come. This want of good highways—a want in some degree common to all new settlements—was doubly felt in the case of Winona, owing to her peculiar topographical position. The long narrow stretch of low bottom land forming Wabasha prairie, and upon the lower end of which the city is built, is inclosed in a regular pocket by the Mississippi river bluffs, which back of the city are nearly two miles from the river bank. These bluffs, rising from 300 to 500 feet in height, gradually encroach upon the bottom lands above and below the city until they abut directly upon the river, thus forming the termini of Wabasha prairie. This entire tract of bottom land was at no distant day covered by the waters of the river, great portions of it at the present being subject to overflow during times of exceptionally high water. The whole river face of the prairie is seamed and indented by little creeks and bays wherever the low lands lie, and in these localities the sandy soil of the higher levels is displaced by a marshy, boggy soil which affords very insecure footing for man or beast. The springs which ooze out of the ground at the foot of the limestone bluffs in the rear of the city, together with those forming up the valleys, which are the natural outlets through the bluffs to the high table lands above and running down them to the river, are collected in a natural reservoir just within the city limits on the south. This reservoir or basin, usually called Winona lake, is a shallow sheet of water nearly 500 rods in length and about eighty rods wide, with extensive tracts of low marshy land at either extremity, particularly at the outlet on the east, where the marsh is fully a mile in width. At all times of high water these marshy lands have been subject to overflow, and at even the lowest stage of the river the approach to the city from the east and southeast was through a slough only rendered at all passable by the dense growth of bottom grass, which served as a mat to prevent teams from being hopelessly



mired. The approach from the southwest was much more favorable, but by no means such as heavily loaded teams would care to attempt. The road to the west and north along the tongue of higher land leading to Minnesota City was the only desirable road leading out of town, and in fact the only one possible during seasons of moderately high



WINONA IN 1854.

water. But even this road was frequently impassable, as was the case in 1852, and on occasions since that date, when Winona was actually an island, cut off from all communication by land with the surrounding country and approachable only by boat in any direction. This Minnesota City road, or the road to the Rolling Stone settlement, as it was

then called, was the first highway for which any survey was made in this whole region of country; and with this crude survey, made without special regard to anything save a practical wagon road to the Rolling Stone plateau, and reported to the county commissioners of Fillmore county without maps or field notes to accompany it, this crude survey marked the beginning of all attempts to improve the highways within the limits of the present Winona county. Settlement in the county was made rapidly in the late summer and fall of 1855, and the mouths of Burns and Gillmore valleys opened to receive the settlers that, passing through these gateways of the Winona bluffs, sought the level prairie lands lying back from the river. To connect these valleys with the little town on the river, and open up such roadways as would permit loaded teams to pass and repass from the river to the farms just being opened, became every week more and more a necessity. As early as 1855 a narrow trail, called by courtesy a road, with bunches of prairie grass and here and there a few poles, and in exceptionally difficult places a plank had been extended across the slough between the lower end of town and Sugar-Loaf bluff, or Glen-Mary as it soon afterward began to be called. In 1856, the year in which Winona made such rapid strides in population and in all material growth, a movement was made to construct a permanent roadway across this slough. E. S. Smith, then living at the foot of Sugar-Loaf bluff, headed a subscription for that purpose with a pledge of \$500. Others followed until the subscription amounted to about \$3,000, when the contract was awarded to Van Gorder & Mallory to grade the slough and put in a bridge. The contract price was \$3,500, and the stipulation was for a roadbed twenty-six feet wide on the bottom, twenty-four feet wide on the top, the embankment to be raised three feet above the slough level, and a bridge 150 feet long to be built above high-water mark. The embankment reached from the solid ground on the south side of the slough almost at the foot of Sugar-Loaf bluff to the solid ground, which was reached a few rods south of the present track of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. The extreme length of this embankment was not far from 1,500 yards, and the work was completed as per contract very much to the gratification of those who were compelled to find an entrance to the city in that quarter or make the entire circuit of the lake to find a poor road at best at the western extremity of the city. The work so satisfactorily begun by private subscription was continually improved under the street commissioner of the city un-

til 1873, when, under instruction of the council's committee on streets and alleys, street commissioner O'Day raised the embankment to an average height of five feet above the level of the slough, laid up the sides of the embankment with a good stone wall sloping one foot inward for each three feet of its height, and carried the embankment to about seven feet in height at the bridge. This work was prosecuted to the city limits on the south from a point a few rods south of Mark street, a total distance of about 100 rods. Near Mark street it reached the grade of the macadamized road constructed by James Burke for the city, down Fifth street and Mankato avenue toward Sugar-Loaf bluff as far as the north margin of the slough. This combined work afforded a good solid roadbed through the deep sand at the east end of town, as well as over the slough to the city limits on the south. From this point the county commissioners took charge of the embankment and raised it from the city limits to the foot of Sugar-Loaf bluff to correspond with the grade made by the city. The length of the embankment thus raised by the county authorities was nearly three-eighths of a mile, and the total cost of the work done by them there at various times has aggregated about \$7,500.

The road as now built, though not absolutely above high-water mark, having been completely submerged by the flood of 1880, is nevertheless practically fit for travel at all seasons of the year, and affords free access to the city for the residents in Pleasant valley, Gilmore valley, upper and lower Burns valleys, and the roads to Homer and the southeast quarter of the county in general.

In 1857 some improvement was made in the approach to town from the west, and about \$800 expended in grading and in building a bridge 150 feet long over the slough on the Stockton road. This work, embankment and bridge, was carried out by the high water of 1858, and in 1859 the county, acting in concert with the city, contracted with S. D. Van Gorder to put in a pile bridge 200 feet long and cast up an embankment about 600 yards long across the slough between town and the Stockton bluffs. The contract price for this work was \$3,500, of which sum the city paid \$3,000, the funds being raised as heretofore, by subscription. In the meantime the city's trade with that section of the county lying over and beyond the Stockton hills had so increased that the city deemed it advisable to prepare the way for its coming. The proposed route was over the Stockton bluffs, by which a saving of several miles would be



effected, as also travel through the deep sand of the Minnesota city road, along which the trade from the west was necessitated to enter Winona. Two contracts for grading the bluffs and making a winding roadway perfectly practicable for loaded teams were awarded. One to John Keator for constructing the road on the eastern slope, the other on the west, to Van Gorder & Mallory, the stipulated price in each case being \$4,000. Gullies were to be bridged, immense bowlders removed, the face of solid limestone cliffs blasted away, timber cut and stumps and roots grubbed out, the roadway carried for rods upon supporting walls of stone built up from some favoring ledge below, or shored up from the bluff sides, and such a grade established as would make the road practicable as a regular thoroughfare for loaded teams in either direction. The work was laid out by civil engineer N. J. Hilbert, and its difficulties can only be known and its magnitude appreciated by those who have the pleasure of a trip over it. It is a roadway fully four miles long winding up one side of the bluff and down the other, from the level bottom lands of the Wabasha prairie to the fertile valley of the Stockton, or conversely from the quiet Stockton vales to the bustling activity of the commercial center of southern Minnesota. The \$8,000 for the prosecution of this work was also raised in Winona by private personal subscription. To this amount the county has subsequently added the sum of \$10,000 in improving the road at various times, the outlay to date being, as nearly as can be ascertained, about \$18,000 to \$18,500. The result is a pleasant, safe and thoroughly picturesque road, affording a really delightful drive for any lover of nature, as during it some charming glimpses of wood and water are obtained, valley, bluff and river scenery alternating the view. The road over the bluffs, just east of Woodlawn cemetery on the south side of lake Winona, was not built without the aid of Winona citizens, who contributed about \$500 to that work. The roadways at the upper and lower ends of town, and the Stockton bluff work, was all done as early as 1861, the funds provided by private subscription of Winona citizens, their contributions for these several improvements aggregating not less than \$16,000. To this should be added the expense of macadamizing the east end of Fifth street, and commissioner O'Day's work on the Sugar-Loaf road, as these improvements were in the interest of public highways leading into the city. This would give a grand total of \$23,000 expended by the city in the single matter of highways leading out of the city



on the Minnesota side of the river. Creditable as this expenditure is to the liberal public spirit of the citizens of Winona, the expenditures of the corporation for a like purpose on the Wisconsin side of the river have been considerably greater. The country lying just across the Mississippi river in Wisconsin, and naturally tributary to Winona, only needed some means of communication with her markets to contribute its quota to the trade of the city rising on the Minnesota shore. Charters to establish ferries at this point had been granted in 1855 and in 1857, but nothing resulted from the grants in either case and the privileges expired by limitation. With the close of the war, and with active preparations for increased business, interest in the ferry project revived, and in 1865, A. DeGraff, under contract with the city of Winona — which had been authorized by legislative act to expend moneys in Wisconsin for that purpose — agreed to build a road from the Wisconsin shore of the river, opposite the Winona levee, across the bottom lands of Buffalo township in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, to the higher lands near the foot of the Wisconsin bluffs. The contract price of the work was \$5,500, but before it was completed the city had paid nearly double that amount. This road was always subject to overflow. The bottom lands were literally seamed with creeks and bayous, so that the undertaking was one of no light character. For some reason the result was not satisfactory. The high water of 1870 took out the bridges and cut into the embankment, rendering the road unfit for travel. In the meantime the state fair was to be held that season at Winona, and means of communication across the Buffalo bottoms became more and more urgent. S. D. Van Gorder, who owned and operated the Winona ferry, contracted to repair the embankment and rebuild the bridges. The sum of \$400 was raised by subscription; the work was done at a total cost of \$775. Some portions of the \$400 subscription remained unpaid and the balance came out of Mr. Van Gorder's pocket, who, during the ten years that he operated his ferry, paid out not less than \$1,500 in repairing the roads across the Wisconsin bottoms.

In the fall of 1882, the city having taken the management and operation of the ferry into its own hands, in order to reduce expenses of crossing, and if practicable to make the ferry rates merely nominal, if not to abolish them entirely, concluded to make a permanent improvement in the approach to the ferry. The contract was let to S. D. Van Gorder, and its stipulations called for a roadway thirty-

eight feet wide at the bottom, eighteen feet wide on the top, an average fill across the bottom to the high land of seven feet above the slough level, the streams to be bridged as indicated in the specifications, the embankment to be substantially riprapped on both slopes and the top of the roadbed covered with macadam to the depth of one foot. The contract with Van Gorder was for \$9,500, and only included earthwork and bridging. The contract for stone and stonework was awarded to H. J. Willis for \$10,252. The road, as now constructed under these contracts, is about 4,000 feet long, there are five bridges having an aggregate length of 1,200 feet, and in these are 1,160 feet of piling. The surface of the roadbed, as now standing, is one and a-half feet below the high water mark of 1880. To meet this expense in the Wisconsin bottoms, the city issued her bonds for \$30,000, payable in twenty years, and negotiated the most of them at five per cent interest per annum.

Thus it appears that the people and corporation of Winona, in order to improve the roadways leading to the city upon both sides of the river, have expended the sum of nearly \$55,000, and of this amount nearly one-half has been raised by private subscription. The city's expenditures in other directions have been no less liberal, as will appear in the history of matters more directly connected with the proceedings of her common council.

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## CHAPTER XLIII.

### SOCIETIES.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD-FELLOWS.

THE Independent Order of Odd-Fellows were the first of the secret societies to organize a lodge in this city, and so are justly entitled to head the list of Winona's fraternal associations. Early in the history of the city — during the winter of 1855-6 — the members of the order who had sought a location in the then village began looking one another up and comparing notes, when it was ascertained that there were five members of the I.O.O.F. in the embryo city. The names of the five, since become historic in the annals of the order here, were James M. Cole (a past grand), and scarlet-

degree brothers Wm. H. Keith, Daniel L. Miller, John Curtis and John Owens. During the January session of the grand lodge of the order in the State of Minnesota, in the year 1856, formal application was made by the above-mentioned fraters of the order for a lodge charter, which application was favorably considered, and on May 6 following

PRAIRIE LODGE, NO. 7, I.O.O.F. OF WINONA,

was duly instituted by Grand Master L. A. Babcock. The charter members of the new lodge were the petitioners above mentioned, who were elected and installed into the various offices as follows : Jas. W. Cole, noble grand ; Wm. H. Keith, vice-grand ; John Owens, secretary ; John Curtis, treasurer ; D. L. Miller, conductor. The place of meeting for the new lodge was in the upper story of the Downer building, at the lower end of the levee, which had been fitted up for lodge purposes ; and here, eight days later, May 14, 1856, the first initiations into the order occurred, the candidates being Thomas Simpson, W. G. Dye and Henry Wickersham. The lodge increased rapidly in numbers, and the following year, their hall proving inadequate to their enlarging demands, they arranged to occupy the third story of the newly-erected building on the levee, afterward known as the Riverside hotel, where they remained until 1859, when they leased the third story of the brick building which Thomas Simpson had just erected on Second street, between Center and Main streets, where Mitchell's block now stands. This location was chosen as affording more room and privacy, and as the lodge was then in a very flourishing condition it was fitted up most comfortably, the emblems and jewels of the lodge-room costing nearly \$150. Here the lodge worked and grew and prospered until the great fire of 1862 destroyed their beautiful hall, with its regalia, emblems, jewels, and most of its records—the latter an irreparable loss. During this period Prairie Lodge elected five unaffiliated members from Rochester, instructed them, entertained them, granted them withdrawal cards, and loaned them the regalia and fixtures necessary for the institution of a lodge of the order in Rochester, and donated them the entire work and service above rendered. From this it is evident Prairie Lodge, No. 7, is justly entitled to the honors of putative fatherhood in the case of Rochester Lodge, No. 13, I.O.O.F. of Rochester, Minnesota.

April 15, 1863, Prairie Lodge, No. 7, took possession of their new hall, which had been fitted up for them in the Wickersham

building (now Kendall's wholesale drug house), and which they occupied for five years. April 12, 1868, they removed to Simpson's block, corner of Second and Center streets, in the third story of which they had fitted up a commodious lodge-room, with ample reception and preparation rooms. Here they continued work, growing in numbers and influence, until the block was gutted by fire, January 13, 1877. In this fire the order were a second time rendered houseless and homeless, to which disaster was added the loss of all their records, so that most pertaining to the early history of the order has been gathered from personal recollections of members, and more specifically from the very interesting paper on the "Early history of Odd-fellowship in Winona," prepared for and presented to the order by W. G. Dye in 1874, and which has survived the general ruin of the records of the fraternity. After a temporary sojourn in Mill's Hall, during which time Simpson's block was being rebuilt, Prairie Lodge returned to their old quarters, which had been elegantly fitted for their reception, on April 15, 1877, where visiting fraters will find them sumptuously lodged in an elegant hall, fully equipped for work and hospitable entertainment.

Nearly ten years prior to this date, however, in 1868, the German-speaking members of Prairie Lodge had so increased that it was deemed wise to organize a second Odd-Fellows' lodge, working in the German language, and this was effected in due form October 6, 1868, the new lodge being known as Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, I.O.O.F. of Minnesota. For work and statistics of Humboldt Lodge, see article following. From the narrative of Past N.G. Dye, above referred to, it seems that up to date of April 27, 1874, 257 members had been connected with Prairie Lodge, and that there were 73 members in reorganized standing at that time. The destruction of the records three years later, 1877, renders it impossible to state the actual figures as we would were those records extant. But availing ourselves of all possible sources of information, we present the following statistics as substantially accurate. Whole number of members borne on rolls of Prairie Lodge 335; present number of members in Prairie Lodge 97; adding to this the whole number in Humboldt Lodge 174, and deducting the number demitted from Prairie to Humboldt, we have the total members of the fraternity from the date of the institution of the order in 1856 to the present time 485, and adding the present number in Humboldt Lodge to those already given for Prairie, No. 7, we find 205



the actual membership of the order in this city. The election of officers occurring semi-annually, it has not been deemed best to cumber the account with anything beyond the official register for the present term, which is : N.G., G. W. Greslin ; V.G., F. B. Newell ; Sec., A. Beyerstedt ; Treas., H. J. Willis ; Warden, John Berthe ; L.S.N.G., W. W. Miller ; R.S.V.G., E. Anderson ; L.S.V.G., E. Helder ; Cond., G. A. Terrill ; I.G., D. Trepus ; O.G., J. Duberry ; R.S.S., Wm. Berthe ; L.S.S., Thos. Laycock ; Trustees, W. G. Dye, D. Morrell, G. A. Terrill.

#### HUMBOLDT LODGE, NO. 24.

Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, I.O.O.F. (as indicated in the previous sketch of the history of the order in Winona county), was organized by members of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, October 5, 1868. The charter members, ten in number, were : H. C. Fuhrman, Wm. Wedel, J. Harlan, B. Neuman, J. Budwig, C. Houseman, H. Einfeldt, J. Einfeldt, E. Pelzer and W. Wosohoskai. These are all living, five of them still residents of Winona and prominent members of Humboldt Lodge. This lodge was organized for the purpose of working in the German language, and has had a most prosperous existence. The total number of members borne on the rolls since organization has been 174, and the present membership is 108. They share with Prairie Lodge the beautiful hall in Simpson's block and enjoy their share of the honors ; D.D.G.M. H. C. Fuhrman being general messenger of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Order in the United States, the first office of the kind ever held by any member of the fraternity in Minnesota.

H. C. Fuhrman, district deputy grand master and general messenger of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States, is a native of Germany ; came from there to Wisconsin in 1850, and to Winona in 1867 ; was engaged in business here until 1874, since which time he has been employed in the railway postal service of the United States. He is also a Master Mason, a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18. Mr. Fuhrman is married, has one child attending school in the city, and a son, A. W. Fuhrman, chief engineer of the city fire department.

#### WINONA ENCAMPMENT, NO. 10, I.O.O.F.

The two lodges of the order in this city having grown strong and vigorous, it was determined about ten years since to institute an encampment here. Accordingly, November 29, 1872, Alexander

Wilson, of St. Paul, Minnesota, grand patriarch of the state, assisted by several G. P's from Red Wing, Minnesota, and H. P's W. G. Dye, H. C. Fuhrman, J. M. Cole, B. Kirst, D. A. Briggs, W. Wedel and D. A. Bannister, proceeded to institute an encampment of the I.O.O.F., to be known as Winona Encampment, No. 10, of Winona, Minnesota, which was duly done, and the three principal officers installed were: G. W. Dye, C.P., H. C. Fuhrman, H.P., and J. M. Cole, S.W.

The destruction of the records leaves no accurate data for determining the number of deaths in the encampment, nor the whole number of members admitted; the present membership is 54. The three chief chairs of the encampment have been officered as follows since its institution.

DATE.	CHIEF PATRIARCH.	HIGH PRIEST.	SENIOR WARDEN.
1873.	B. P. Stoker.	W. Wedel	D.A. Bannister.
Jan. 1874.	D. A. Bannister.	W. G. Dye.	M. L. Mertes.
July 1874.	M. L. Mertes	B. Kirst	J. D. Coe.
Jan. 1875.	J. D. Coe.	B. Neuman	C. C. Astrup.
July 1875.	J. H. Hubbard	H. G. C. Schmidt.	G. E. Haskins.
Jan. 1876.	G. E. Haskins	C. B. Shepard	H. G. C. Schmidt.
July 1876.	C. B. Shepard	W. G. Dye	L. Bates.
Jan. 1877.	C. B. Shepard	W. G. Dye	L. Bates.
July 1877.	L. Bates	H. J. Stelter	H. Pfankuch.
Jan. 1878.	H. J. Stelter	W. G. Dye.	C. B. Shepard.
July 1878.	C. C. Astrup.	W. G. Dye.	W. A. Thompson.
Jan. 1879.	W. A. Thompson.	W. G. Dye.	J. D. Coe.
July 1879.	H. G. C. Schmidt	W. G. Dye.	C. B. Shepard.
Jan. 1880.	W. Wedel.	Aug. Munck.	H. Pfankuch.
July 1880.	W. Wedel.	Aug. Munck.	H. Pfankuch.
1881.	H. Pfankuch.	J. T. Gerlicher.	A. Beyerstadt.
1882.	J. Einfeldt.	A. Beyerstadt.	N. Schleiter.
1883.	A. Byerstedt	N. Schleiter	H. Hartmann.

The present officers are: C.P., A. Beyerstedt; H.P., N. Schleiter; S.W., H. Hartmann; J.W., W. Lucht; Treas., H. Einfeldt; Scribe, E. Hargesheimer; Guide, F. Rakow; O.S., S. Stark; I.S., Aug. Schladenske; 1st W., N. Munck; 2d W., Jos. Leicht; 3d W., John Lohse; 4th W., Phil. Feiten.

#### A. F. AND A. M.

All written record of the planting of the masonic order in Winona, and its history during the first five years of its organization, was destroyed in the great fire of 1862, in which so much that was pertinent to the earlier annals of this city and its institutions was irretrievably lost. At that time, it will be remembered, the whole people were turning their anxious faces southward and attempting to forecast the future of the Republic in the issues of civil

war. That closed, other matters of business, reconstruction policies, national and personal finance, engrossed the thoughts of people, and so it transpired that for various causes no attempt was made to rehabilitate the masonic records of the city for more than a full decade after their destruction. In 1874, at the close of Worshipful Master I. B. Cumming's tenth term of service as presiding officer of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., he presented the matter in his annual address. This was largely a résumé of the work of the lodge during the period he had been stationed in the east, to which was appended a most interesting narrative of the order here in so far as he had been able to collect the items of its earlier history. This paper lies now before us, and to it and verbal statements from Master Cummings and others we acknowledge our indebtedness for much that is valuable concerning the early days of Masonry in Winona. For matters of later date, the records of the lodge and orders and the courtesy of the secretaries, Bros. J. K. Ferguson and C. H. Porter, have been freely drawn upon.

#### WINONA LODGE, NO. 18.

In November, 1855, H. D. Huff as W.M. and John Iams and G. R. Tucker as S.W. and J.W. respectively, applied for and were granted a dispensation to open a masonic lodge in Winona. This dispensation issued from the office of the then W.G.M. of this jurisdiction, Moses Sherburne, and the lodge prospective was numbered 8, there being at that time but seven lodges of the order in this masonic jurisdiction. It appears that this dispensation must have expired by limitation or have been recalled, as another dispensation was subsequently granted. There is no record or recollection on the part of any of the old citizens of any masonic work under this dispensation of Grand Master Sherburne, and according to the general masonic belief matters remained in statu quo. The following May, 1856, upon petition of certain Masonic brethren in this city, a dispensation to open a masonic lodge here was granted by the then worshipful grand master, A. T. C. Pierson. In the following January, 1857, the grand lodge approved the dispensation and granted a charter, and on March 3 of that same year P. P. Hubbell (so well known to the masonic fraternity of Minnesota as Father Hubbell), deputized to act for the grand master, organized Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., duly consecrated the same and installed the following officers: W.M., G. R. Tucker; S.W., J. S. Camp-

bell; J.W., H. D. Morse; Treas., G. W. Horton; Sec., C. E. Voight. The records of this transaction being lost, it is impossible to say just what names appeared upon the original petition or what officers in addition to those already named were installed; but from the register of members, which was not burned, being in the lodge-room at the time, as will afterward appear, it is certain that the roll of charter members included, besides those already given, the names of Bros. H. D. Huff, John Iams, C. F. Buck and Geo. W. Curtis. The original lodge-room was in Laird's building, at the lower end of the levee, and here they remained, according to the best information attainable, until the formal institution of the lodge in the spring of 1857, at about which time they removed to the L. D. Smith building on the levee, afterward known as Riverside Hotel, and occupying very nearly the present site of Krundick's elevator. It was during their occupancy of these quarters that the disastrous fire of 1862 occurred, in which as before said, all their records and papers, save members' register, were burned. These records and papers were not in the lodge-room at the time the fire occurred, but in the private office of the lodge secretary, John Keyes, whose office, with all it contained, was swept away in common with scores of others. The Riverside Hotel escaped destruction, and the lodge was not called upon to bear the loss of its furniture and regalia, as well as its records—a misfortune which the I.O.O.F. fraternity did not escape. Early in the following year, 1863, arrangements were made for occupying the third story of what is now known as No. 4, Simpson's block, a lease executed for a term of years and possession taken June 3 of that year. These were commodious quarters as compared with those formerly occupied, or with any others in southern Minnesota at that date, and the order were not unreasonably elated at the comfort and convenience of their new hall. Here the formal dedication of the lodge-room occurred June 27, 1863, conducted in due and ancient form by W.G.M. Pierson, who delivered a most interesting oration (public) on that occasion. Here the lodge continued its beneficent work under enlarging opportunities for usefulness, and had so increased its membership that at the close of the eighth year of its existence its grand lodge dues aggregated \$110.

In ten years the craft had outgrown their accommodations in Simpson's block and new quarters became a necessity. Postoffice block, corner of Third and Center streets, then newly erected, was considered the most likely to afford the desired room and privacy.



Negotiations were entered into which resulted in the lease of the third story of the block for a term of ten years. Here on June 27, 1872 (the tenth anniversary of the dedication of the lodge-room in Simpson's block), the new lodge-room was formally set apart in due masonic form for the work of the craft. M. W. G. M. Griswold conducted the ceremonies, a pleasing feature of the occasion being the grand march of the subordinate lodges and the most worshipful grand master, escorted by a detachment of the Knights Templar. The lease of the hall now occupied nearly a decade, expires the ensuing June, but a new lease for ten years has just been executed (April, 1883), and as the fraternity may now be considered as settled until June, 1893, and particularly as they have arranged to expend \$1,000 in improving their lodge-room, a description of the finest masonic quarters in the northwest will not be out of place in this connection. Postoffice block is a full three-story and basement brick, with stone foundations and trimmings, fronting on the two principal streets of the city, with entrances on both. The building is 52×90 feet, and the entire third story is devoted to masonic use. The lodge-room proper is 28×52 feet with ceilings fifteen feet high, sloping to fourteen feet at the lower end of the hall. Adjoining this, and connected with it by folding doors, is the armory of the commandery, used also as occasion requires for a banquet hall. This room is 20×62, elegantly furnished with cabinets for the regalia and arms of the knights, and on the walls of which are displayed the richly emblazoned banners of the commandery. The reception-room is quite commodious, 20×24 feet, as are also the kitchen, examination, preparation and tyler's rooms. The kitchen is well furnished with all the necessary paraphernalia, including table furniture, for maintaining the record of the craft for generous cheer and good fellowship. These rooms are now being renovated, and walls and ceilings finished in the latest style of decorative art. This accomplished, and the new carpets laid and minor arrangements completed, the masonic bodies of Winona will be as sumptuously lodged, and as favorably circumstanced for effective work, as they could possibly desire. To avert the calamity so sensibly felt in the destruction of their records by fire twenty-one years ago, they have furnished their lodge-room with a magnificent fire-proof safe, amply sufficient for the records of blue lodge, chapter and commandery, each body having its separate compartment.

As matter of record, we append the names of those who have

successively been stationed in the east, west and south since the organization of the lodge.

DATE.	WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
1857.	G. R. Tucker	J. S. Campbell	H. D. Morse.
1858.	G. R. Tucker	J. S. Campbell	H. D. Morse.
1859.	J. S. Campbell	H. D. Morse	James White.
1860.	P. P. Hubbell	Jas. White	D. C. Patterson.
1861.	G. R. Tucker	H. D. Morse	Sam Fox.
1862.	G. R. Tucker	H. D. Morse	Sam Fox.
1863.	J. S. Campbell	Sam Fox	Maurice Nolan.
1864.	G. R. Tucker	Chas. Benson	D. A. Coe.
1865.	G. R. Tucker	I. B. Cummings	W. G. Dye.
1866.	I. B. Cummings	W. G. Dye	John Sherman.
1867.	I. B. Cummings	F. A. Searey	John Ball.
1868.	I. B. Cummings	F. A. Searey	W. S. Drew.
1869.	I. B. Cummings	J. C. Slater	R. B. Basford.
1870.	I. B. Cummings	J. C. Slater	R. B. Basford.
1871.	I. B. Cummings	J. C. Slater	Columbia Drew.
1872.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Stevens	O. B. Gould.
1873.	I. B. Cummings	O. B. Gould	N. F. Frary
1874.	I. B. Cummings	O. B. Gould	N. F. Frary.
1875.	I. B. Cummings	N. Staughton	W. H. Bennett.
1876.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Bennett	J. C. Palmer.
1877.	W. H. Bennett	N. F. Frary	R. M. Whitney.
1878.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Bennett	R. M. Whitney.
1879.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Bennett	Chas. H. Goodwin.
1880.	W. H. Bennett	Chas. H. Goodwin	Thos. A. Richardson.
1881.	Thos. A. Richardson	Chas. H. Goodwin	C. H. Lockwood.
1882.	Thos. A. Richardson	E. D. Hulbert	W. C. Brown.
1883.	E. D. Hulbert	J. C. Hillmer	C. C. Clement.

The other officers for the current year are : Treas., C. H. Porter ; Sec., J. K. Ferguson ; Chap., Rev. E. J. Purdy ; S.D., Thos. McDavitt ; J.D., E. G. Nerrus ; S.S., M. E. Frumer ; J.S., J. F. Gerlichen ; Marshal, O. B. Gould ; Organist, F. A. A. Robertson ; Tyler, L. K. Eastey. The trustees are O. B. Gould, Sam Fox, and C. H. Berry. The lodge has had but few changes in the office of secretary. John Keyes, of whose election there is no record, he having held that office prior to 1862, closed his labors as recording officer of the lodge in 1869. To him succeeded W. G. Dye, who kept the records until the close of 1878. R. M. Whitney was then elected and served one year, when the present secretary, J. K. Ferguson, was elected and installed.

It is but fitting that some mention should here be made of "Father Hubbell," who consecrated the lodge at its institution and installed its officers, as previously mentioned. "Father Hubbell" is a mason of sixty-three years' standing. His application was made as early as the law allows, on his twenty-first birthday, which occurred

February 1, 1820. His application came before Painted Post Lodge, No. 203 (old number), then holding its sessions in an upper room in the house of the applicant's father at Corning, New York. Father Hubbell was initiated in March of that same year, 1820, passed in April and raised in May. He is doubtless the oldest Mason in the state. Winona Lodge is just closing the twenty-seventh year of its history. During that time four hundred and eleven members have been borne upon its rolls; of these thirty-three have gone out from the earthly lodge-room to appear before the Supreme Master of the Universe and submit the designs upon their tresselboards. The present number of members is 158.

WINONA CHAPTER NO. 5, R. A. M.

No sooner had the members of the blue lodge become firmly established in their then commodious quarters in Simpson's block than they turned their attention to the formation of a chapter, rightly concluding that in a city of Winona's growing importance the craft should maintain labor in the higher as well as lower degrees of the order. Accordingly, on August 11, 1863, a petition was presented to A. E. Ames, G. H. P., of this masonic jurisdiction, asking for dispensation to open a chapter here, to be known as Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M. The petitioners were: Warren Powers, H. P.; Philo P. Hubbell, King; H. D. Morse, Scribe; and companions James Gwynn, James B. Stockton, David Barker, Isaac Benham, A. P. Hoit and R. G. Stevens. September 18, 1863, these companions assembled under direction of A. T. C. Pierson, acting as proxy for the G. H. P., who opened the chapter in due form. At the annual convocation of the grand chapter, held the following month, a record of the proceedings in the case of the formation of Winona Chapter was presented, the work approved and a charter granted, bearing date October 29, 1863. No election of officers was held until the close of the following year, the posts being filled as indicated by the petition and the officers therein designated installed. The annual election for chapter officers is held about the close of the civil year, late in December, and the roster of officers hereto appended is given for the year of their service, and not of their election. As in the case of Winona Lodge, No. 18, only the three ranking officers are given to date, but the full list for the current year appears.

YEAR.	HIGH PRIEST.	KING.	SCRIBE.
1865.	Charles Benson.....	James M. Cole.....	F. D. Hayden.
1866.	James M. Cole .....	G. R. Tucker .....	Orrin Wheeler.
1867.	James M. Cole .....	Orrin Wheeler .....	W. G. Dye.
1868.	W. G. Dye.....	James M. Cole.....	F. S. Buck.
1869.	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila .....	John Ball.
1870.	James M. Cole.....	I. B. Cummings.....	F. Staples.
1871.	W. K. F. Vila.....	F. Staples .....	I. B. Cummings.
1872.	W. K. F. Vila.....	F. Staples .....	J. C. Schoonmaker.
1873.	W. G. Dye.....	I. B. Cummings.....	James M. Cole.
1874.	W. K. F. Vila.....	R. B. Basford.....	I. B. Cummings.
1875.	R. B. Basford.....	W. K. F. Vila .....	N. B. Ufford.
1876.	R. B. Basford.....	W. K. F. Vila .....	N. B. Ufford.
1877.	N. B. Ufford.....	W. K. F. Vila .....	R. B. Basford.
1878.	N. B. Ufford.....	W. K. F. Vila .....	R. B. Basford.
1879.	N. B. Ufford.....	J. L. Brink .....	N. Staughton.
1880.	N. B. Ufford .....	J. L. Brink .....	N. Staughton.
1881.	I. B. Cummings.....	J. L. Brink .....	Charles Gilbert.
1882.	I. B. Cummings.....	G. L. Gates .....	N. Staughton.

The several offices of the chapter for 1883 are filled as follows : H.P., Geo. L. Gates ; K., Thomas A. Richardson ; \* Scribe, J. L. Brink ; C. of H., W. H. Bennett ; R.A.C., H. C. Shepard ; P.S., E. D. Hulbert ; Treas., C. H. Porter ; Sec., J. K. Ferguson ; G.M. 3d V., A. O. Slade ; G.M. 2d V., M. E. Trumer ; G.M. 1st V., V. A. Brink ; Sentinel, L. K. Eastey.

The total number of companions that have held membership in Winona Chapter during the almost twenty years of its existence has been 185 ; of these 14 have entered within the veil to return to the earthly host no more, and there now remain 80 regularly borne upon the record.

COEUR DE LION COMMANDERY, NO. 3, K.T.

The formal establishment of the chapter consummated, and its permanency assured, the organization of a commandery soon followed as a matter of necessity — there being at this time no asylum of the order in southern Minnesota. May 13, 1864, a petition to open and hold a commandery in Winona was presented M.E. Sir Knight B.B. French, at that time grand master of K. T. of U. S. The following month the dispensation issued, and was committed to M.E. Sir Knight A. T. C. Pierson, G.C.G. of K. T. of U. S. and E.C. of Damascus Commandery of St. Paul, who, as deputy for the grand master, proceeded to Winona bearing the dispensation. This dis-

\* Companion Thomas Richardson's throne, as king of Winona Chapter, was vacated by the summons of the pale horseman, February 14, 1883. At the time of his death Mr. Richardson was a member of the state legislature from this representative district ; a bright Mason, and recognized everywhere as one of the best workmen of the craft for his years which only numbered 27 when he was called to the grand convocation above.



pensionation, of date June 18, 1864, empowered Sir Knights Warren Powers, Rob. Urquhart, G. D. Bristol, M. Wheeler Sargent, H. L. Freeman, C. D. Sherwood, E. F. Dodge, Charles Benson and James M. Cole to open and hold a commandery of K. T. and Council of the Order of Knights of the Red Cross, to be designated by the name Cœur de Lion Commandery, of Winona, Minnesota, which was done as commanded, with Sir Knight Warren Powers, E.C., Rob Urquhart, G., and G. V. Bristol, C.G. There being at this time no grand commandery of Minnesota, the Winona Knights continued to work under dispensation from the grand master of K. T. of U. S. until the meeting of the grand encampment at Columbus, Ohio, September 7, 1865. The by-laws, records and work of Cœur de Lion Commandery were approved, after examination by the grand encampment, and a charter issued, bearing date September 13, 1865, fully habilitating Cœur de Lion Commandery with authority to elect officers, confer orders, and do all other things pertaining to the rights and powers of a loyal commandery of K.T. On October 19, 1865, a dispensation issued from H. L. Palmer, G.M. of K. T. of U. S., authorizing the organization of a grand commandery for the State of Minnesota. This work was prosecuted by the grand master in person, and on October 23, 1865, the Grand Commandery of Minnesota was created, Cœur de Lion Commandery transferred from the jurisdiction of the grand encampment to that of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota, and enrolled as Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3, of Winona. Sir Knights Powers, Urquhart and Bristol held the offices to which they had been elected at the organization of the commandery until the annual reports were returned to the grand master of K. T. of U. S., when another election was held, resulting in the choice of Sir Knight Rob. Urquhart, E.C., J. M. Cole, G., and D. A. Coe, C.G., who held office until the commandery obtained its charter, when a new election was ordered. This statement explains the apparent paradox of two elections having been held in 1865, as appears from the accompanying table, which shows the successive results of the annual elections of the commandery, so far as the three highest offices are concerned:

DATE.	EMINENT COMMANDER.	GENERALISSIMO.	CAPTAIN GENERAL.
1865	( Warren Powers .....	R. Urquhart .....	D. A. Coe.
	( R. Urquhart .....	J. M. Cole .....	D. A. Coe.
1865	R. Urquhart .....	J. M. Cole .....	D. A. Coe.
1867.	James M. Cole .....	A. W. Webster .....	B. H. Langley.
1868.	A. W. Webster .....	B. H. Langley .....	W. G. Dye.

YEAR.	EMINENT COMMANDER.	GENERALISSIMO.	CAPTAIN GENERAL.
1869.	A. W. Webster.....	B. H. Langley .....	W. G. Dye.
1870.	B. H. Langley.....	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila.
1871.	B. H. Langley.....	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila.
1872.	B. H. Langley.....	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila.
1873.	B. H. Langley.....	W. K. Vila.....	R. L. McCormick.
1874.	B. H. Langley.....	W. K. Vila.....	R. L. McCormick.
1875.	B. H. Langley.....	W. K. Vila.....	Isaac Slade.
1876.	W. K. F. Vila.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1877.	W. K. F. Vila.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1878.	B. H. Langley.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1879.	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.....	R. B. Basford.
1880.	N. Staughton.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	Isaac Slade.
1881.	Isaac Slade.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	A. W. Scott.
1882.	A. W. Scott.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1883.	A. W. Scott.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.

The other officers for the current year are I. B. Cummings, Prelate; S. Fox, S. W.; R. B. Basford, Treas.; W. H. Bennett, S. B.; F. A. A. Robertson, W.; A. O. Slade, 2d G.; W. K. Vila, J. W.; C. H. Porter, Rec.; E. F. Mues, Sw. B.; G. L. Gates, 3d G.; E. S. Nevius, 1st G.; L. K. Eastey, Sentinel.

The whole number of knights that have been enrolled in Cœur de Lion Commandery since its organization in 1864 has been 144. Of these, 61 still remain upon the rolls, 40 of whom are residents of this city. Of the 83 whose names no longer appear, eight have died as members of this commandery, leaving the courts of the earthly temple to enter through the more glorious gates of the upper, the sanctuary not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. The remaining 75 have scattered far and wide; no doubt many of them have joined the bannered host of the grand encampment above.

There are many items of interest that might be recorded concerning Cœur de Lion Commandery and the sir knights who compose it. We mention only a few.

March 17, 1865, Sir Knight P. P. Hubbell (Father Hubbell) was made an honorary member of the commandery, a distinction conferred upon no other during the nineteen years of its existence.

With the granting of the charter the name of the commandery was changed from the French form of the name, which it bore at its institution, to the English form of the words, "Cœur de Lion," as it now is. At the triennial conclave, held in Chicago in 1880, Cœur de Lion received general commendation for its arms and banner — its beautifully-emblazoned standard eliciting universal praise as one of the most beautiful ensigns in that immense host. This commandery has furnished three grand commanders for the state: Sir Knights

James M. Cole, B. F. Langley and R. L. McCormick, who are ex-officio members of the grand encampment. Of these James M. Cole was grand master of the grand commandery in 1868-9, and G. War-der of the grand encampment in from 1868 to 1871. B. F. Langley was eminent commander of Cœur de Lion Commandery for seven terms, grand commander of the state in 1874-5 and grand senior warden of the grand encampment from 1874 to 1877. R. L. McCormick was grand conductor on the state commandery in 1881. Father Hubbell was appointed to the grand prelacy of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota in 1874, the office being vacated by the death of V. P. Sir Knight A. E. Ames, and has held the office by successive election ever since — the action of the commandery being so unanimous in every instance as to approve the judgment of many that he will hold the office he so honors until called up higher by the Supreme Commander of the Universe. I. B. Cummings, the present prelate of Cœur de Lion, has held that office for thirteen consecutive terms, and magnifies it.

#### DRUIDS.

The Druids are divided into three separate organizations, namely : Winona Grove (German), Scandinavian Lund and Oak Grove (English). We will first take up the Winona Grove, No. 6. This branch was organized in September, 1871, the charter being granted the same year. The officers were : Christian Heintz, president ; Conrad Sherer, vice-president ; Henry Stelter, secretary ; Fred. Martin, treasurer. There were at first but twelve members. The object of the society, like other organizations of its kind, is benevolent. There are three degrees. Members having acquired all the degrees are called Druids, and when unable to work receive from the society \$5 per week. The second degree is given after the member has been in the association six months ; these members receive \$3 when unable to work. The first degree is received upon initiation. Such members, during sickness, receive but \$2 per week. On the death of a member the widow receives from the entire association throughout the state a sum of money varying as to the entire membership at the time. An assessment is made of \$1 upon every member in the state ; this is given to the widow ; but if the sum exceeds \$2,000, the excess over this falls to the widows' fund in the treasury. The society receives into its ranks only men of respectability and temperance. The members are liable at any time to be suspended

or expelled for misconduct. The Winona Grove have in their treasury at present \$750 in cash, besides property of various kinds valued at \$1,420. The officers are: Claus Nottelmann, president; Henry Kluver, vice-president; Hugo Enderlein, secretary; B. Howe, assistant secretary; Fred. Meyer, treasurer.

*Scandinavian Grove, No. 12*, was organized May 23, 1876; the charter was granted at the same date. The first officers were: N.A., O. M. Olsen; V.A., A. G. Steelhammer; secretary, L. Olsen; treasurer, Christ Christofferson; I.G., O. Hanson; conductor, L. O. Engelstad; O.G., M. C. Wahler; R.H.B.N.A., John Ereckner; L.H.B.N.A., M. P. Foss; R.H.B.V.A., O. Thompson; L.H.B.V.A., L. C. Olson. At first there were but eighteen charter members; the number has now increased to thirty-four. The names of the present officers are: D.D., L. Olson; N.A., H. U. Nelson; V.A., Otto Outzeer; secretary, Edward Anderson; conductor, H. L. Berg; O.G., G. P. Gillsbery; R.H.B.N.A., Issak Nilse; L.H.B.N.A., H. P. Hanson; I.G., B. Broderson; R.H.B.V.A., A. C. Larson; L.H.B.V.A., G. Christeanser.

*Oak Grove* was organized and had the charter granted August 10, 1877, with a membership of forty-four. The officers were: N. A., R. B. Basford; V.A., G. K. Adams; secretary, H. W. Posz; treasurer, H. R. Wedel. At present there are fifty-three members. The officers are: N.A., G. K. Adams; V.A., J. Seicht; secretary, H. W. Posz; treasurer, W. C. Pletke.

## A. O. U. W.

*Winona Lodge, No. 20*, was organized August 3, 1877, with thirteen charter members, and in the less than six years of its existence has grown to a flourishing beneficiary with 110 members and half a score of petitions for membership to be acted upon. Among the objects proposed to be accomplished by this organization, one of the leading features is the payment of \$2,000 at the death of a member to his family. This is effected through the grand lodge organization of the state. The financial standing of the lodge is most excellent, and under the management of its efficient officers is rapidly increasing in influence and members. The present board of officers is as follows: P.M.W., J. J. Hoffman; M.W., W. C. Pierce; F., P. W. Leach; O., George Paris; recorder, W. O. Kennedy; rec., J. M. Sheardown; fin., J. C. Parhyues; guide, Wm. Ehler; I.W. Wm. Ehmke; O.W., Wm. Petersen. The annual dues as estab-



lished by the lodge are \$4, payable in quarterly installments. The cost of carrying \$2,000 beneficiary being about \$18 to \$20 per annum.

#### KNIGHTS OF HONOR

were organized on May 30, 1877. The charter was granted the same date. At first there were but seventeen charter members. The officers were: A. H. Snow, dictator; W. H. Stevens, past dictator; N. Buck, vice-dictator; C. B. Maxwell, assistant dictator; S. Fleishman, financial reporter; N. Bufford, treasurer; L. D. Frost, guardian; W. R. Williams, chaplain; G. H. Ellsburry, reporter; J. F. Martin, sentinel. At present there are forty-two members, and the order is in a flourishing condition. The officers are: J. B. McGanghey, past dictator; S. Fleishman, dictator; Thomas Hill, vice dictator; W. C. Richardson, assistant dictator; J. Gertter, treasurer; Jacob Smith, guardian; W. C. Brown, financial reporter; L. D. Frost, reporter; H. Fraelich, guardian; Wm. Werner, sentinel; A. Walsworth, chaplain.

#### TEMPLE OF HONOR

was organized and chartered June 11, 1875, with a membership of nineteen. The charter members were: L. O. Stevens, W.C.T.; J. L. Furgurson, W.V.T.; C. A. Bierce, W.R.; R. M. Martin, W.A.R.; F. S. Quinsey, W.F.R.; John Bally, A.F.R.; R. M. McQuestion, W.C.; H. H. Wassen, W.H.; J. Manning, W.D.; Wm. H. St. John, W.S.; Louis Larson, W.G.; W. W. Wood, D.G.W.C.T. The present officers are: A. Thomas, W.C.T.; vacant, W.V.T.; L. O. Stevens, W.R.; B. Haverson, W.F.R.; Mr. Martin, W.H.; Mr. Niles, W.D.H.; Mr. Blood, W.G.; Ned Gallion, W.S.; C. Johnston, P.W.C.T.; L. O. Stevens, W.C.; G. A. Terril, D.G.W.C.T. The number of members at present is thirty.

#### GOOD TEMPLARS.

This society was organized and the charter granted November 15, 1882. The number of members in the beginning was thirty-nine; at present the number has increased to fifty. Although in existence but a short space of time the society is in a prosperous condition. the officers are: L. R. Stevens, W.C.T.; A. Thomas, P.W.C.T.; Mrs. E. Halbert, W.V.T.; Rev. F. W. Flint, W.Chap.; L. D. Schoonmaker, W.Sec.; Miss Lizzie Gage, W.A.Sec.; Fred. Wait, W.F.Sec.; C. A. Bierce, W.T.; G. E. Toumt, W.M.; Miss Ella

Tount, W.D.M.; Miss Libbie Maybury, W.T.G.; E. P. Wait, W. Sent.; C. G. Maybury, L.D.; Miss Wait, R.H.S.; Miss Sanford, L.H.S.; C. A. Bierce, E. P. Wait, A. W. Gage, trustees.

#### WOMANS' TEMPERANCE UNION.

This society was organized in 1875. The officers were: Mrs. Hollowell, president; Mrs. Bierce, secretary; Mrs. M. K. Drew, treasurer. The organization at first numbered but twelve members; at present the membership has increased to sixty. The officers at present are: Mrs. J. Swart, president; Mrs. Thompson, vice-president; Mrs. M. K. Drew, secretary; Mrs. Cosgrove, treasurer. The society is said to be in a prosperous condition.

#### THE WINONA EQUITABLE AID UNION.

This society was organized and charter granted June 22, 1880, with a membership of thirty-one. The following were the first officers elected: Prof. W. F. Phelps, president; W. W. Slocumb, vice-president; D. E. Vance, chancellor; John J. Myres, advocate; C. G. Maybury, treasurer; J. N. Maybury, secretary.

The officers are elected semi-annually. There has been in this society some withdrawals and suspensions, but it is at writing in a prosperous condition. There is a membership at present of 43. The officers for 1882 are: Thomas H. Shaw, president; John C. Brown, vice-president; C. G. Maybury, treasurer; L. A. West, secretary.

The operations of this union are, by virtue of a charter granted in conformity to the laws and regulations of the founders of the order, called the Supreme Equitable Aid Union. This was incorporated March 22, 1879, in compliance with a statute of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, under date of April 29, 1874. The incorporators were D. A. Dewey, R. N. Seaver, W. B. Howard, H. S. Ayer and W. H. Muzzy, all citizens of Columbus, Pennsylvania.

Objects of the order: 1. To unite fraternally all white persons, socially and physically acceptable, between sixteen and sixty-five years of age. 2. To give equal benefits to both sexes, striving to improve the social and moral bearing of each. 3. To give woman all the rights that social equality can bestow, and to grant her all the benefits secured to man by secret organizations. 4. To give all moral and material aid in its power to members of the order by

assisting each other in business, in obtaining employment and in sickness. 5. To establish a benefit fund, from which a sum not to exceed \$3,000 shall be paid at the death of a member to whom the member shall designate, or to his heirs. 6. To see that in sickness fraternal care is at all times given, and to advance the social friendship of the member in every manner possible. Besides the principal union, over 400 subordinate orders are in existence, with an entire membership of 15,000. In the last three and a half years 105 deaths have occurred, and \$196,331.45 has been paid out in insurance.

#### GERMAN PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

was incorporated April 11, 1866, with a membership of fifteen. The first officers were: G. Lautenoshlaeger, president; F. Kroeger, vice-president; N. F. Hibbert, secretary; R. Radke, treasurer; C. F. Schroth, Wm. Wedel, E. A. Gerdtzen, trustees. The charter members were as follows: G. Lautenoshlaeger, A. Putsoh, R. Radke, M. Rose, C. F. Schroth, E. A. Gerdtzen, F. Kroeger, W. F. Hibbert, Wm. Wedel, W. R. Schmidt, Jacob Scherffins, G. Erdmann, Peter Scherffins, F. Steinhagen, F. C. Kopp. At the present writing there are in all 115 members. The officers are: Eugene Gerstenhauer, president; David Fakler, vice-president; Jacob Girtler, secretary; F. Moebus, financial secretary; C. W. Anding, treasurer; G. Anger, E. W. Rebstork, J. Scherffins, trustees; Arthur Beyerstedts, steward.

#### GERMANIA BAND.

The Germania band was organized in 1857 by Herman Rohweder. The members were as follows: H. Rohweder, leader; Charles Ebert, Wm. Stark, Philip Simmer, Gottlieb Bughorz, C. Hill, G. S. Story, Henry Leor, Geo. Hazen, Wm. Ross. In 1879 the organization was enlarged; it now consists of a brass-band and an orchestra of stringed instruments. The members at present are Herman Rohweder, Henry Bentz, Jr., Henry Bentz, Sr., Fritz Bentz, Conrad Wolpers, Frank Votruba, Christ Clausen, Henry Clausen, August G. Miller, W. F. Becker, Wm. Becker, Fritz Ulrich, Julius Miller.

#### ST. ALOYSIUS YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY.

The charter was granted and the society organized in April, 1875. The organizers were N. Schneider, M. Smith, G. Schork and J. Smith. There were nineteen members at first. The names of

the officers are as follows : H. Schroeder, president ; N. Schneider, vice-president ; J. Armand, secretary ; J. Schumacher, assistant secretary ; B. A. Gernes, treasurer.

The society has two objects. The first is benevolence. Members physically unable to work receive from the society \$3 per week until recovery. This is secured by an assessment on each member of twenty-five cents per month. The second object of the society is mutual benefit and pleasure. The officers at present are : J. Hoffarth, president ; J. Smith, vice-president ; J. Semmer, secretary ; F. Winkels, assistant secretary ; A. Wirth, treasurer. The number of members at present is thirty-five.

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## CHAPTER XLIV.

### CHURCHES.

*Presbyterian Church.*—The First Presbyterian Society of Winona was organized July 15, 1856, and its articles of association will be found recorded on page 198, book F, office of register of deeds. The original board of trustees were Henry Day, D. C. Patterson, M. D., J. T. Smith, Daniel Wells and Samuel Moss. Of these, Mr. Day removed to Elkhart, Indiana, in 1861, and died there some years later ; Mr. Wells removed to La Crosse in 1859 ; Dr. Patterson has been a resident of Washington, D. C., for many years, and J. T. Smith has long since removed to Port Byron, New York, his present residence. Mr. Samuel Moss died in Winona, September 5, 1865. The church organization was effected about six weeks after the formation of the society, August 31, 1856, and numbered fifteen members. Rev. Daniel Ames was at that time supplying the pulpit of the recently formed society, and he was assisted in the church organization by Rev. Jacob E. Conrad, of Rochester, Minnesota. Of the original (fifteen) members who constituted the church at the time of its organization there is not one now residing in this city. The officers elected at the organization of the church were : Henry Day, Samuel Moss and John Morrison, elders ; Henry Day, deacon. The only surviving member of the original board of officers is Mr. John Morrison, now residing in



St. Charles, in this county. This church was organized under the auspices of the New School branch of the Presbyterian church, and was upon its organization attached to the Blue Earth presbytery. The first pastor of the church was Rev. Daniel Ames, whose pastorate extended from July, 1856, to April, 1858. The first communion of the church was celebrated September 6, 1856. The first baptism was that of Samuel Dean Moss, son of Samuel and Augusta B. Moss, September 6, 1856. The oldest resident members of the church are Mrs. Calista Balcombe, Mr. Dingman Spelman and Mrs. Amelia Spelman, admitted by letter January 18, 1857. The Rev. Daniel Ames having resigned the pulpit of the society in April, 1858, the church was without a regular minister until December of that year, when Rev. D. C. Lyon was called to the pastorate, accepted, entered upon his duties, and maintained his connection with the church until June, 1867, when he resigned to accept the post of synodical missionary. This position he still fills with great acceptability to the church throughout the entire state, by whom he is sincerely beloved and revered. His residence since his removal from Winona has been at St. Paul. Important changes transpired in the condition and relations of the church during Rev. Lyon's administration, who was familiarly known as "Father Lyon,"—a sobriquet well deserved, as he was literally as well as officially "father of the church." Soon after his acceptance of the pastorate the church severed its connection with the New School branch of Presbyterianism, and transferring its allegiance to the Old School branch united with the presbytery of Winnebago, Wisconsin. The first place of worship of the little church was a small rude frame building erected in 1856, on Fourth street, between the old Congregational church and the residence of the late Wm. Richardson. This building was materially altered, enlarged and improved soon after Father Lyons assumed charge of the church, and in that condition was occupied by the society until the completion of their present church edifice on the corner of Main and Fifth streets, fronting the park. The new church was taken possession of in the fall of 1866, at which time the old building was sold to the Unitarian society, by whom it was sold to V. Simson, Esq., and by him converted into dwellings. The new building was erected mainly through the efforts of Father Lyon. The building committee were Messrs. A. F. Hodgins, Wm. Richardson and Hon. Wm. Mitchell. The church edifice, which at the date of its erection was the finest house for religious worship

in the city, is of brick, fronting forty feet on Main street; has a total depth of sixty-two feet, and the audience-room proper a seating capacity of 300. To this structure, costing with grounds about \$14,000, has since been added a brick lecture-room facing twenty-six and one-half feet on Fifth street, with a total depth of fifty-two feet, and having additional accommodations for 150 persons. The lecture-room is connected with the main auditorium by folding doors, and as occasion demands the whole can be utilized at once, affording accommodation for 450 people.

The pulpit remained vacant after the resignation of Father Lyon, in the summer of 1867, until July 30, 1868, when a call was extended to the Rev. Joseph M. McNulty, who filled the pulpit until his resignation in March, 1871. The church was without a regular pastor until November of that year, when Rev. Rockwood McQuestin (now of Minneapolis) accepted a call as pastor and maintained his connection with the church until September, 1877, when he accepted a call to the Presbyterian church of Waterloo, Iowa, and severed his connection with the society here. The same fall Rev. W. D. Thomas was called to the church and continued as its pastor until December 15, 1880, when he resigned to accept a call extended him by the Presbyterian church of La Crosse, Wisconsin. During Rev. Thomas' administration the lecture-room and infant class-rooms for Sunday-school work were added at a cost of \$3,000, and a fine organ placed in the auditorium at an additional expense of \$2,400. The church was again without a pastor after the departure of Rev. Thomas until December 1, 1881, when Rev. F. W. Flint, the present incumbent, having accepted the call extended him, entered upon his duties.

The financial condition of the society is good. The maxim of the church management has always been "pay as you go," and with the exception of a small balance still due on the organ the society is without debt.

The present session of the church is composed as follows: Rev. F. W. Flint (ex-officio moderator); P. P. Hubbell, F. F. St. John, J. W. Thomas, W. R. Williams and C. O. Goss. The present board of trustees is as follows: A. F. Hodgins, Wm. Mitchell, J. W. Thomas, W. R. Williams, A. M. Dixon. Of these, W. R. Williams is treasurer and C. O. Goss, clerk. The number of members now upon the church rolls is 166, and the total revenue of the church for 1882, including benevolent contributions and Sunday-

school offerings, was \$3,486.47. There have been 103 baptisms since the organization of the church.

*Presbyterian Sunday School.*—The Sunday school, as first sustained by the church was a union school, and so continued until 1866, when the formal organization of a Sunday school under the immediate direction of the church was perfected. The school had at that time about sixty or seventy scholars, but so imperfect are the records that no specific data can be given. In October of that year, 1866, F. F. St. John assumed charge of the school, and was its superintendent until 1882, when C. O. Goss was elected to that position. This school now numbers about 175, including teachers, and is officered as follows: O. C. Goss, superintendent; W. H. St. John, secretary; H. Thompson, treasurer; Thomas A. Richardson, librarian; F. F. St. John, assistant librarian. Rev. F. W. Flint, present pastor of the church, is a native of the State of New York. He pursued his classical studies at Union College, Schenectady, in his native state, graduating from that institution in the class of 1856. Entering Auburn Theological Seminary, he completed his course of study there, graduating in 1859, and entered upon the work of the ministry immediately afterward. His first pastorate was in Silver Creek, New York. He first came to Minnesota about ten years since, and was in St. Paul prior to coming to this city. Rev. Flint is married, has two children attending school in Winona and one son in Princeton College, New Jersey.

*German Presbyterian Church.*—On February 10, 1864, according to the desire of the presbytery at St. Charles, Rev. D. C. Lyon and Jacob Kolb were appointed to organize the congregation at Winona.

For a year previous to this time, however, meetings under Mr. J. Kolb, who came as a missionary from Iowa, were held in a hall in Winona. Mr. Kolb's duty and desire was to collect and form a congregation, which he succeeded in doing, with the aid of Rev. D. C. Lyon, in 1864.

Jacob Kolb, the first minister, remained with the congregation from 1863 until 1869. A church was erected at the corner of Fifth and Franklin streets in 1864. The building was a frame structure forty feet long and twenty-eight feet wide. It cost \$1,800. Among the prominent members, some of which are residents in Winona to-day, may be mentioned J. Straub, Jacob Kissling, H. Wychgram, Fredrick Moebus, Julius Geise, C. Rohwerder,

J. Wettenberg, Edward Pelzer, Michael Kissinger, Conrad Bohn, George Bohn, Christina Bohn, Anna Pelzer and Margaret Wyckgram. From 1869 until 1870 the church was without a pastor. In 1870 Augustus Busch took up the work and continued it until 1872. From 1872 until 1875 Earnest Schuette had charge of the congregation. The church was once more without a minister for a period of one year. In 1876 J. Leierer came and remained until 1879. In 1879 Augustus Busch, the present pastor, was called the second time. The congregation at the present writing numbers seventy-five persons. The interior of the church was improved in 1881, at a cost of \$250. There is a Sabbath school connected with the church, with an average attendance of sixty-five pupils. Rev. Augustus Busch, the pastor, is the superintendent. He is assisted by ten teachers.

It might be of interest to mention, in connection with this, that this church and another small one situated at Frank Hill, ten miles southeast of Winona, are the only German Presbyterian associations in the state.

*The First Congregational church* of Winona was organized December 10, 1854. It was the first church formed in Winona, and, so far as is known, in southern Minnesota. It was the Third Congregational church in the state prior to its formation, and as early as the summer of 1852, when there were not more than twenty children on the prairie, a union Sabbath school was held in the house of Mrs. A. B. Smith. This school was more fully organized in 1853, with Beecher Gore for superintendent. Congregationalists, Baptists and Methodists supported it. Its sessions were held in a little schoolhouse situated on the south side of Second street, between Walnut and Lafayette streets. Here the Congregational church was organized with eighteen members. Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who was in Winona for his health, and who was engaged in secular business, was influential in organizing the church, and both before and after its formation preached as occasion required. The population of Winona at this time was small; its religious life was feeble. The church migrated from house to house, moving from the schoolhouse to a building on the levee, thence to Davidson's Hall, nearly opposite, thence to Hubbard's Hall on Second street, afterward to a room in what was called the bank building, at the corner of Lafayette and Front streets. Its first house of worship was erected in 1856 on the southeast corner of Second and Franklin streets.



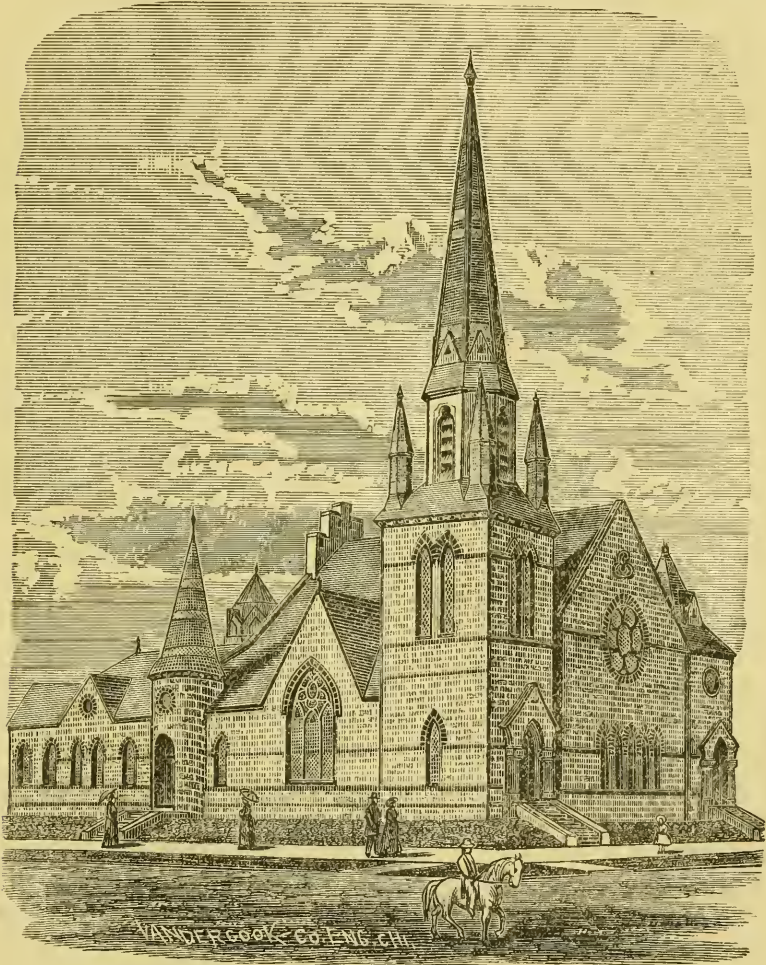
The first minister of the church was Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who preached at intervals until 1858. The second minister was Rev. T. T. Waterman, who supplied the church from August, 1856, to October, 1857. The third minister was Rev. David Burt, who commenced his labors May 1, 1858, and continued until August 23, 1866. Rev. J. F. Dudley succeeded him at once, and remained with the church until May 1, 1869. The church was without a regular minister until December 8, 1870, when Rev. H. M. Tenney was installed as its pastor. He resigned May 8, 1875. After an intermission of a year and a half, during which the church was supplied by various ministers, Rev. John H. Morley began his ministry, November 15, 1876, and was installed as pastor March 1, 1877. Of its ministers the first three are dead, and the church remembers gratefully the labors and the sacrifices of these ministers who served them during their weakness. Special mention should be made of the work of Rev. David Burt, under whose ministry the church was unified and took a commanding position in the community.

There have been connected with the church since its formation about six hundred members; of these over two hundred and sixty were admitted upon confession of faith. The present membership is two hundred and sixty-seven. The church is supported by weekly offerings, secured by pledges made at the beginning of the year. Pews are free, but, for the sake of the home feeling, are assigned to those who desire them, that each family may have a home in the Lord's house. The benevolent contributions are also made in weekly offerings secured by a pledge.

The Sabbath school has always been large and flourishing. A large number of children not connected with the families of the church have uniformly been identified with the school. It commonly has a library of about seven hundred volumes. It makes a weekly offering for its own expenses or for benevolent work. The superintendents of the school have been Messrs. H. C. Bolcom, J. C. Laird, W. H. Laird, Wm. Taylor, Wm. Bone, Franklin Staples, M. D., James G. Nind and Irwin Shepard, the latter of whom still continues in office.

Connected with the church and managing its secular affairs there is an ecclesiastical society, organized in 1857. This body is incorporated according to the laws of the state, and owns the church property. The women of the church have a woman's board of missions, devoted to foreign missions, and a ladies' benevolent

society which cares for home missions and for the poor of the congregation. The young people have a society called the Gleaners, which is interested in home and foreign missions. In addition, there are the various ladies' meetings without special organization.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The first house of worship, a frame building, was dedicated December 21, 1856. It cost, including lots, \$4,000. In the summer of 1863 it was moved to the southeast corner of Lafayette and Fourth streets, and was repaired. In 1868 it was enlarged by

lengthening. In 1870 a vestry was built in the rear. In 1882 it was sold and devoted to secular uses. In 1875 a site was selected on the corner of Broadway and Johnson street for a new church. In the autumn of 1879 a subscription was started for building; in the spring of 1880 ground was broken; August 19, the corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The building was completed in 1882, and October 8 was formally dedicated to the worship of Almighty God.

Prof. F. W. Fisk, D.D., of Chicago Theological Seminary, preached the sermon, and the pastor offered the prayer of consecration. The church, which was fully paid for prior to the day of dedication, cost, with the lots and furnishing, excluding organ, \$38,000. The cost of the building alone was \$30,000. It is built of a whitish limestone, trimmed with red sandstone. It has an auditorium seating six hundred and fifty, a chapel for the use of the Sabbath school, holding over five hundred, and various other conveniences. A much larger number can be accommodated, both in the auditorium and the chapel, if occasion requires. The style of architecture is composite. The chapel has a semi-circular room lighted by a dome, with class-rooms surrounding, all of which can be thrown together. For beauty and convenience, as well as for thoroughness of work, the house is believed to be one of the finest in the Northwest. Mr. W. H. Wilcox, of Chicago, is the architect.

This church, in common with other Congregational churches, lives in fellowship with the churches of its order, both accepting and giving advice; but it is independent of all ecclesiastical control, acknowledging only the supreme authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is democratic in government, all its affairs being controlled by the adult membership. It believes in evangelical religion, and requires of those seeking to enter its communion credible evidence of conversion and Christian character. In promoting the religious life of the community, and so building society in temperance, righteousness, patriotism and education; in securing the religious nurture of the young, both in its own families and in neglected households; in practical interest in missionary operations at home and abroad, this church is doing good work.

*St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church.*—This parish was organized pursuant to the territorial laws of Minnesota, under the direction of Rev. J. S. Van Lugen, secretary of the Protestant Epis-



copal church for Minnesota, May 13, 1856, as St. Paul's church in the city of Winona. At this time there was not a male communicant to participate in the organization, nor had any of the officers or incorporators made a personal profession of religion. The Rev. E. P. Gray was the first missionary of the new parish and continued his services here nearly one year, when upon the advice of the bishop, Rev. B. Evans, living at that time upon his farm in Rolling Stone township, officiated at morning services as his health would permit. In February, 1862, Rev. J. H. Waterbury was sent by Bishop Whipple to look after the interests of the parish, at which time there were two male and three female communicants. The following month Mr. Waterbury assumed charge of the parish as its rector, upon invitation of the vestry, and his salary was fixed at \$600 per annum. The society had been worshipping since its organization in the hall of the Huff house, then in the Lamberton warehouse, and finally in a hall over Wheeler's store on Centre street, which latter place was burned in the great fire of July, 1862, entailing a loss of \$500 upon the parish. During that summer afternoon services were held in the Presbyterian and Baptist churches, until at Christmas time the society took possession of a building they had inclosed on the corner of Fifth and Lafayette streets, upon a lot donated them by Asa Forsyth, Esq. This building was completed and consecrated June 10 of that year (1863), the total cost of building being about \$2,500. The church continued its services here until the fall of 1870, when the building was removed to the corner of Fifth and Broadway streets, and the lot it had occupied was sold. In the new location the removed building was refitted for worship, and occupied by the church until they took possession of their present beautiful and commodious edifice, Christmas day, 1874. For this new structure ground was broken in the summer of 1873, the corner-stone laid September 25 of that year, and the whole completed as it now stands, and occupied as above stated, December 25, 1874. The extreme length of the structure is 115 feet, main 80×48 feet, chancel 26×25 feet, width of nave 44 feet, seating capacity (500). The walls are of dressed stone, the porch and tower floors are handsomely tiled and the inside finished in white ash and black walnut woods. There are eighteen beautiful memorial windows, the richest of which is that at the south end of the building, opposite the chancel, commemorative of the pastorate of the Rev. T. M. Riley, rector of the parish from July, 1869, to October, 1872. The entire cost of



building and furnishing, including the bell and a superb organ, costing \$3,500, has been about \$35,000.

The successive rectors of St. Paul's have been Rev. Theodore Holcomb (Rev. Waterbury's successor), from April, 1865, to April, 1869; Rev. T. M. Riley, from July, 1869, to October, 1872; Rev. R. M. Laurie, from December, 1872, to June 30, 1877, when his resignation was rendered imperative on account of failing health; Rev. Charles W. Ward, from December, 1877, until April, 1879, and the present incumbent, Rev. E. J. Purdy, who became rector in June, 1879.

The original officers of the church were: Noah L. Smith, warden; Thomas E. Bennett, treasurer; R. H. Bingham, clerk. Their nomination was made at the Easter meeting of the society in 1857, and their appointment, which was duly made by J. W. Van Lugen, D.D., then secretary of the Protestant Episcopal church in Minnesota, bears date April 27, 1857.

The present parish officers are: W. H. Yale, senior warden; W. H. Hulburt, junior warden; W. J. Whipple, clerk, and Wm. Cunningham, treasurer. Messrs. W. J. Whipple, O. M. Wheeler, Charles Horton, L. B. Frost and Wm. Cunningham compose the vestry. The present number of communicants at St. Paul's is 175, and there are 105 families included in the parish. Since the organization of the parish in 1856 there have been 477 baptisms and 271 confirmations.

The first record of the Sabbath school connected with the parish bears date 1862, but there are no authentic minutes of its organization. The number of persons at that time connected with the Sabbath school was about 60, present number nearly 200. The officers of the school are: Rev. E. J. Purdy, rector; Wm. A. Cunningham, superintendent; E. S. Gregory, treasurer, and Harry Raymond, secretary and librarian.

Rev. E. P. Purdy, rector of St. Paul's, is a native of Connecticut and a graduate of Phillips Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire, class of 1853. Four years later, 1857, he took his degree from Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, and then entered the Theological Seminary of New York, from which he graduated in 1860. That same year he was invested with deacons' orders in Trinity, New York, and two years later was ordained priest in Louisville, Kentucky. His first parish was Washington, Arkansas, over which he was settled in 1860, and which he was still serving when the war broke out, was arrested

as a military spy at Memphis on his way north, and released through the representations of Military Bishop Pope. November 25, 1862, Rev. Purdy was commissioned chaplain in the regular army, and served until the close of the war. Since then he has been constantly engaged in pastoral work. He was at New Albany and Logansport, Indiana, prior to coming to Minnesota in 1869. He has three children, two in school in this city and one son in college at Fairbault in this state.

*The First Methodist Episcopal Church* of Winona was organized, April 22, 1855, by Rev. David Brooks, presiding elder of Minnesota district Wisconsin conference. Its first members were Joel Smith and wife, William T. Luark and wife, and Mrs. Mary Stockton. Rev. A. J. Nelson, F. A. Conwell and Esdras Smith, in the order named, were temporary pastors (supplies) for a few months each, by appointment of the presiding elder, from April, 1855, until August, 1856, when J. W. Stoddill was appointed, who served for two years. The first Sunday school was organized in March, 1856, and D. M. Evans and Thomas Simpson were appointed to superintend and procure money for a library. This year the first church building was erected, and dedicated November 16, 1856. It was a plain, substantial wooden house, dimensions 44×60 feet, and located just north of the site of the present building, corner of Lafayette and Fifth streets. The second session of the Minnesota annual conference was held in this house in August, 1857, Bishop E. R. Ames presiding.

The following ministers have filled the office of pastor in this church at the times and in the order named: Geo. A. Phoebus, 1858-9; John Quigley, 1859-60; Jabez Brooks, D.D., 1860-61; Lias Bolles, 1861-62; J. S. Peregrine, 1862-64; Edward Eggleston, 1864-66; William McKinley, 1866-69; Chauncey Hobart, D.D., 1869-70; Earl Cranston, 1870-71; Cyrus Brooks, D.D., 1871-74; William McKinley, 1874-77; Isaac Crook, D.D., 1877-80; William McKinley, 1880-82.

In 1872 the present church was built and dedicated at a cost (including ground) of about \$20,000. In 1874 Olive Branch mission was organized, and the chapel built by the Young Men's Christian Association, purchased for its use. Rev. L. Wright was its first pastor, 1877-8, followed by Rev. Wm. Soule, 1878-9, under whose pastorate Wesley mission, in the east end of the city, was organized. These two missions constitute one charge, now under care of Rev.

James Door, who followed Mr. Soule. A good substantial church was built at the east end in 1881, at a cost of \$4,500, and an equally good one in 1882, at the west end, at about the same cost.

The membership of first church has been reduced by numerous removals, and by transfers to the east and west missions. Its present membership is 250; mission churches, 120; German Methodist Episcopal church, 75; total Methodist membership, 445; First church Sunday school, 300; Mission church Sunday school, 250; German Methodist Episcopal church Sunday school, 150; total Sunday schools, 700.

*German Methodist Episcopal church.*—This congregation, organized in October, 1860, grew out of the English Methodist Episcopal church. The church building was erected on the corner of Fifth and Liberty streets in 1859, at a cost of \$3,000. The first pastor was John Westerfeld, who remained until 1860. After Rev. Westerfeld came a line of twelve ministers; they are as follows: Herman Richter, 1860-61; W. Traeger, 1861-62; Wm. Fiegenbaum, 1862-65; Wm. Schreimer, 1865-66; Geo. Hoerger, 1866-67; Edward Schuette, 1867-69; Fredrich Rinder, 1869-70; August Lamprechd, 1870-72; John Hansen, 1872-74; J. L. Schaefer, 1874-77; Geo. Hoerger, 1877-80; Wm. Koerner, the present minister, 1880-82-83.

In 1878 the church was remodeled and improved by the addition of a spire. There are now 75 members, some of whom reside in the country. A Sabbath school was organized with the church; it has 150 pupils, 28 teachers and a library of 220 volumes.

*Catholic Churches.*—The Catholic church as an organized body began its mission in Winona county in 1856. Previous to this time priests had traversed with zeal the entire county; but beyond a few emblems of the great mysteries of the Holy Trinity, incarnation and redemption found on the remains of early Catholic voyagers buried on the banks of the Mississippi, there are but slight traces of their zeal. As early as April, 1841, the Rev. A. Ravoux, now the vicar-general of the diocese of St. Paul, made the site of Winona a resting-place on one of his journeys from St. Paul to Prairie du Chien. In 1856 the Rev. Joseph Cretin, the first bishop of Minnesota and Dakota, visited Winona and organized the few Catholics into a parish, and in 1857 he appointed Rev. Thomas Murray to visit and attend the wants of the new religious settlement. Father Murray selected two lots in what is now the southwestern corner of the first ward as likely to be the very center of a thriving

city. He prepared to put up a frame building, suitable for church use and future residence or school purposes. The church received the name of "St. Thomas." Rev. A. Oster, then on mission duty throughout Minnesota, made occasional visits to the little congregation, and in 1857 succeeded in completing the church. In July, 1858, the Rev. Michael Prendergast succeeded him, and became the first resident Catholic pastor of Winona. His first work was to organize into an energetic band the Catholics about the country. Through his energy a parochial school was established and placed under the Sisters of St. Bridget. The purchase of three lots on Centre and Wabasha streets, and the removal of the church from its distant position to its present site on Centre and Wabasha streets were accomplished. Father Prendergast attended all the Catholics in Wabasha, Olmsted, Houston, Fillmore, Steele and Mower counties. In August, 1862, Rev. Theodore Venn was sent to assist him. Father Venn was given charge of the Germans, Bohemians and Poles. He organized the St. Joseph parish, built the frame church, and administered to the wants of the remainder of the flock throughout the county by visiting them and holding service from house to house. He remained until December, 1863. On the departure of Father Prendergast, early in 1864, Father Morris attended the above missions until the appointment of Rev. Wm. Lette as pastor in April of the same year. Father Lette had all the Catholics of the county under his charge until June, 1868. In his time, the present church buildings of St. Charles and Hart were begun, and the foundation of St. Thomas' church of Winona built. Rev. Alois Plut succeeded him in 1868. During his time the church of the Immaculate Conception in Wilson, of St. Aloysius in Elba, and the fine stone church of the Holy Trinity in Rolling Stone were built and dedicated. Besides this, St. Stanislaus' church of Winona was begun, portions of the St. Thomas' church of Winona completed, St. Charles' church of St. Charles built, and St. Joseph's church of Winona was enlarged.

A parochial school was built and maintained by him with excellent success in St. Joseph's parish. In the fall of 1871 this was placed under the Sisters of Notre Dame. During the year 1869 he was aided by Rev. C. Koeberl and Rev. M. Sturenberg. Father Sturenberg took charge of the Ridgway mission, where he built a neat chapel in 1874. Rev. W. Reirdon attended the St. Charles mission during part of the years 1870-71. In June, 1871, Father



Plut received much needed relief by the coming of Rev. J. B. Cotter, who had been assigned charge of the English-speaking Catholics of Winona county. The latter has remained in charge until the present day. During his administration some harassing debts have been removed. The churches of St. Thomas, of Winona, of St. Charles, in St. Charles, and of SS. Peter and Paul, of Hart, have been sufficiently advanced and furnished to fit them for dedication and use. By the generosity of Peter Peters, of Lewiston, a property of four acres for church and cemetery purposes was secured. In 1876 the church of St. Rosa, of Lima, was built upon this ground. In 1873 two lots and a two-story house were purchased by the St. Thomas parish, which then possessed an entire half block of



MADISON SCHOOL.

property with ample room for the parish house, school-buildings and hall, which were erected in 1877. The parochial schools of St. Thomas were established by Rev. J. B. Cotter, in 1874, and were immediately placed under the Sisters of Notre Dame. Each school has had since its organization an annual roll of 200 pupils, with an average attendance of about 130. The St. Thomas has a reputation for its work in the cause of temperance, through its Father Mathew T. A. and B. Society, organized January 28, 1872, and having branches in Hart and St. Charles, it has exercised a powerful influence in the morals of the people. In 1875 the church at Hart was enlarged and the altar replaced by one of an elegant design and finish. A wing addition 20×30 feet was also added for the use of the school and society. Since then an annual summer school

is held. Rev. J. B. Cotter assumed charge of St. Patrick's church at Ridgway, in January, 1877. He provided it with an altar and furniture. In 1878 he resigned it to Rev. P. Pernin, the present pastor. During a part of the years 1879-80 Rev. J. B. Cotter was assisted in the charge of St. Thomas, of Winona, St. Charles, of St. Charles, and SS. Peter and Paul, by Revs. E. Fagan and D. A. Reilley.

*St. Joseph (German), and Missions attached.*—After the departure of Rev. A. Plut, in the spring of 1876, the parish of St. Joseph, Winona, was assigned to Rev. R. Byzewski, who attended it in connection with Rev. Cotter until the appointment of Rev. F. C. Walters as pastor in May, 1876. During Rev. Walters' administration the church and parish house were renovated, and the latter enlarged. A much needed school building was also added before his departure in December, 1877. Rolling Stone and Wilson churches were also erected by him. The parish was attended until February, 1878, by Revs. J. B. Cotter and P. J. Gallagher. On February 11, 1878, the present pastor, Rev. Aloysius Heller, entered into charge of St. Joseph, in Winona, and the church of the Immaculate Conception, of Wilson. His first work in the St. Joseph parish was the removal of all debts, the purchase of the lot between the parish house and the convent, and the raising of a fund for the building of a new church. In the spring of 1881 the parish house and church were each moved one lot westward, and the foundation for the new church was erected on the site of the old, at the corner of Fifth and Lafayette streets. The corner-stone was laid on April 30, 1882, in the presence of innumerable people.

The church now nearly ready for service is a Gothic structure of red brick faced with white stone, with a massive tower and beautiful spire. Preparations are being made to put a large four-dial clock in the tower. The proportions of the church are 114×48 feet; nave 41 feet high and spire 172 feet high. The parish of St. Rosa of Lima, Lewiston, has been attached as a mission to St. Joseph's church since 1878, and in 1880 Rev. A. Heller improved the church by finishing it with brick veneering.

*St. Stanislaus' Church.*—The charge of the growing parish of St. Stanislaus, organized in 1872, for the Catholic Poles of Winona, by Rev. A. Plut, was given in 1873 to Rev. Joseph Juskiewicz. He remained until 1873, built the parish residence and completed the church. Rev. Romuald Byzewski succeeded in 1875. In the in-

terval the Poles attended the churches of St. Thomas and St. Joseph. Father Byzewski has purchased an additional lot, erected a substantial two-story school building, maintained a school, enlarged the church to double its former size and paid all debts.

*Catholic Societies of St. Stanislaus' Church.*—St. Stanislaus Kostka Society was organized in 1870 with a membership of thirty. The following officers were elected: President Nicolaus Triba; secretary, Martin Bambenek; treasurer, Tietel Sikorski. The society was chartered in 1874, with a membership of forty. The officers at present are: President, Jos. Milanowski; secretary, John Anglewicz; treasurer, Andreas Jaszdziewski. There are at present a membership of 104 persons. The society pays a weekly benefit of \$3 in case of sickness, and in case of death \$5 per month to the widow as long as she remains a widow.

St. Casimir's Society, organized in 1873 with a membership of twenty-five, and the following officers elected: President, Alexander Prochowicz; secretary, Theodore Wysocki; treasurer, Andréas Yezeswski. In 1878 the society was chartered with a membership of thirty-seven persons. The present officers are: President, John Bambenek; vice-president, Wm. Bambenek; secretary, Stanislaus Wyganowski; assistant-secretary, Robert Zuborowski; treasurer, Alexander Prochowicz. The society has a present membership of eighty-six persons. It pays a weekly benefit of \$3 in case of sickness; if death results, the widow or heirs receives \$2 per week.

*Catholic Societies of St. Thomas' Church.*—Father Mathew Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society was organized January 28, 1872, by Rev. J. B. Cotter, Wm. Noonan, R. Cavanaugh, J. McCrummish, Wm. Keyes, E. H. Condon, Jas. Flynn, John Rowe, N. White and J. Flynn. The first officers were: President, Rev. J. B. Cotter; vice-president, W. Keyes; second vice-president, J. McCrummish; treasurer, P. J. Kelley; recording secretary, R. Cavanaugh; financial secretary, W. Noonan; corresponding secretary, J. B. Rowe; board of managers, J. Morgan, J. Rowe, T. Burns, J. Cronin, and E. McDonnell; board of auditors were C. Harrigan, E. H. Condon and M. Gallagher. The present officers are: President, Rev. J. B. Cotter; vice-president, Wm. Keyes; recording secretary, John Flavin; financial secretary, Thomas Hunt; corresponding secretary, J. T. Rowan; treasurer, C. Harrigan; librarian, J. Rowan.

St. Thomas Benevolent Society, organized May 10, 1880. The

officers were : President, C. Harrigan ; vice-president, John Murphy ; secretary, James O'Brien ; treasurer, Tim Burns ; chairman and sick committee, P. English ; spiritual adviser, Rev. J. B. Cotter. • But one change has been made since then in the officers, namely, in place of P. English is J. Rowan. This society pays a weekly benefit to its members in sickness, and \$50 to the heirs in case of death.

Catholic Knights of America, organized October 16, 1882, with a membership of fourteen. The first officers were: President, C. Harrigan ; vice-president, T. Slaven ; recording secretary, J. O'Brien ; financial secretary, W. Keyes ; treasurer, P. English ; spiritual adviser, Father Cotter. Present officers : President, C. Harrigan ; vice-president, T. Slaven ; recording secretary, J. O'Brien ; financial secretary, W. Keyes ; treasurer, J. Keenan ; spiritual adviser, Rev. J. B. Cotter. This association is a branch of the C. K. of A., a mutual insurance society, which insures its members for either \$1,000 or \$2,000.

*German Catholic Church.*—In the year 1862 Father Theodor Venn came to Winona and founded the German St. Joseph congregation, which before that time had belonged to the Irish congregation. He built the St. Joseph church, on the corner of Fifth and Walnut streets. In the year 1864 Rev. W. Lette came to Winona and took charge of the church until 1868. In 1868 Rev. Alois Plut came to the St. Joseph congregation. During his administration the wooden church was enlarged, the School Sisters of Notre Dame introduced, and the churches of Phillipp Ridge, of Rolling Stone, and the new St. Thomas church were built. The above-named three pastors had charge of all Winona county and all the German, Irish and Polish people ; but in the last years of their administration, that is during Father Plut's term, the Polish St. Stanislaus and the Irish St. Thomas church were built, and both got their own pastors. St. Stanislaus secured the services of Rev. R. Byzewski—and St. Thomas, of Rev. J. B. Cotter. In the year 1876 the Rev. F. C. Walter came to the St. Joseph congregation and remained until 1877. During his administration a new schoolhouse was built. On February 11 the Rev. A. Heller took possession of this congregation. His first labor was to pay off the debt of the church, which amounted to \$2,000. After having been successful in this respect a new lot was bought from Mr. Maas, and on it were placed the priest's house and the Sisters house. The St. Joseph congregation was incorporated in the year 1879. On April 8, 1881, a meeting was held



in the church, and it was resolved that as the old wooden building had become too small a fine new brick church should be built. This building is now in a state of erection. In the spring of 1881 the moving of the old church was commenced. The priest's house was moved to the new lot and the church to the old site of the priest's house, in order to make way for the new church. C. G. Maybury & Son were chosen to act as superintendent and architect. The size of the church is 48×114 feet, with a tower 170 feet high, containing the first tower clock ever placed in Winona. The building committee were: T. B. Kouh, Joseph Schlingerman, C. M. Gerner, John Winkels, J. Braendle, Jacob Mawry and John Ludwig. In the summer of 1881 the contract for the foundation was given to Kratz & Co., who finished their work in the fall of 1881. In January, 1882, the contract for the main building was given out. The brickwork was given to Kratz & Co., and the carpenter-work to Noonan & Stellwager. On April 31, Right Rev. John Treland came to lay the corner-stone. The ceremonies were conducted with great solemnity, and were held in the presence of a large concourse of people. All the Catholic societies of the city were in attendance and paraded on the occasion. The procession was a large and imposing one.

*The First Baptist Church* of Winona was organized September 20, 1855, at which time the Rev. Samuel Combs commenced his ministerial labors with that society. He continued his ministry here until the early part of 1858, and it was during his pastorate that the church was built, 1857. It is a frame structure, 43×60 feet, standing upon the southeast corner of Center and Fourth streets, one block from what is now the principal business corner of the city, the lot fronting 60 feet on Fourth street, with a depth of 140 on Center street. Cost of original structure not known. In 1870 a lecture-room was added with an entrance on Center street, and the society has now a very comfortable house of worship, heated with furnaces, provided with good Sabbath-school room and furnished with an excellent pipe-organ. The seating capacity of the auditorium is 250, lecture-room 125. The present number of communicants is 117. The church officers are: Trustees, Messrs. Alonzo Holland, F. A. Robertson and A. C. Dixon, the latter of whom is church clerk. The deacons are Messrs. Curtiss Leary, W. G. McCutchen and N. C. Gault.

The church has not been noted for lengthy pastorates, and the suc-

cession has been as follows : Rev. Samuel Combs, whose pastorate commenced in 1855, terminating in January, 1858 ; Rev. O. O. Stearns from November, 1869, to January, 1863 ; L. B. Teft from January, 1863, to February, 1867 ; Rev. Geo. W. Stone, D.D., from August, 1867, to April, 1870 ; Rev. D. Read, D.D., from April, 1870, to October, 1872 ; Rev. J. F. Rowley from April, 1874, to October, 1877 ; Rev. Thomas G. Field from February, 1879, to December, 1881, and Rev. E. T. Hiscox, the present pastor, who assumed charge of the church March 1, 1882. The congregations are not large, but are steadily growing under the ministerial conduct of Rev. Hiscox, who is an earnest worker and as fearless a speaker within the sphere of his own convictions as can be found in any pulpit of the city.

The Sabbath school in connection with the church was formally organized about April 1, 1856, but the society had been maintaining a union Sabbath school in connection with the congregational and Methodist people since 1853. The present membership of the school is about 150. The officers are: Superintendent, H. W. Kingsbury ; assistant superintendent, F. A. Robinson ; secretary and treasurer, Cyrus Crosgrove ; librarian, Mrs. A. Holland ; yearly Sabbath school collections, \$100.

E. T. Hiscox, pastor of Baptist church, Winona, is a native of Norwich, Connecticut, a graduate of the college of the city of New York, class of 1869, and of the theological seminary at Rochester, New York, class of 1872. Was first settled over a parish in Massachusetts and remained there until 1876, when he removed to Iowa city, Iowa, having accepted a call to the pulpit of the Baptist church in that collegiate city. Commenced his labors with the Winona Baptist church in the early summer of 1882. Mr. Hiscox is married, has four children, two of them attending the city schools.

*St. Martin's First Evangelical Lutheran Church.*—This church was organized in the year 1856, it being the first Lutheran church in the county. The prominent members were : John Barthels, Tobias Leeb, Nicholis Wenk and C. Henning. L. F. E. Krause was the first minister officiating. Mr. Krause remained with the congregation from its organization in 1856 until the year 1859, when he was called away. From 1859 until 1861 the congregation were without a pastor. Rev. Krause returned to the church in 1861, where he remained until 1864. From 1864 until 1866 the church was again deserted, excepting that occasional visits were made by other ministers. Among these may be mentioned Rev. A. Brand, F. J.

Mueller and G. Wollaeger. In June, 1866, Rev. Philip Von Rohr, the present pastor, took charge of the church.

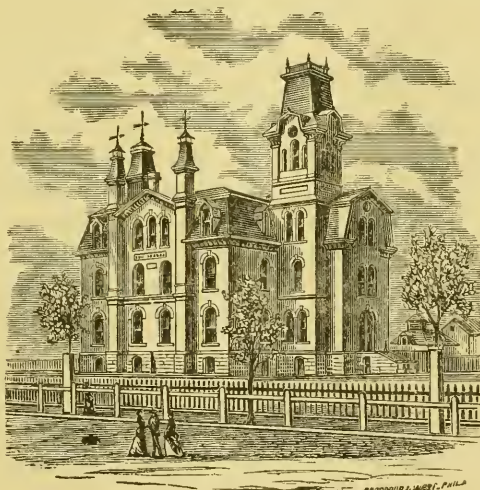
The first church was dedicated in December, 1856. It was a small frame structure, 18×30 feet. In 1866, when Rev. Philip Von Rohr made his appearance, the congregation consisted of nine members or families. In 1867 the building was enlarged by adding to it twenty feet and improving the inside. In 1870 the present church, a substantial brick structure, standing on the corner of Broadway and Liberty streets, was erected. The building is 40×70 feet. It has a spire ninety feet high, projecting ten feet from the main building. The congregation at present numbers about 225 members. A Sabbath school was organized in 1870, and is now in a prosperous condition. At present it consists of about 350 pupils, with 25 teachers. They possess a library of nearly 1,000 volumes.

*German Lutheran School.*—In connection with the church, a parochial school was established in 1866. It was taught the first four years by the present pastor, Rev. Von Rohr, the average number of attending pupils being 100. In 1880 the congregation bought two lots on Fifth street and erected a new school building, 50×60 feet, with a projecting tower fifty feet high. Two classes have been arranged, with two male teachers.

*German Zion (Evangelical) Church.*—Traveling ministers were at work some time before any church organizations were made; among these may be mentioned Revs. A. Farnutzer, A. Huelster, W. Stegner and C. Brill. Rev. A. Farnutzer made his appearance in 1858; he held meetings at the residence of Mr. Hesse. He remained until 1860. In 1860 A. Huelster came to Winona and remained one year, holding service in a hall in the town. Next came Mr. W. Stegner, from 1861 until 1862, then C. Brill, from 1862 until 1865. Finally Rev. J. Kuder came, built the church and organized the congregation in the year 1866. Then followed a line of six pastors; they are as follows: Rev. G. Knebel, 1869–70; E. H. Bauman, 1870–71; H. Bunse, 1871–74; A. Knebel, 1874–76; W. Oehler, 1876–79; J. Mantly, 1879–82; J. G. Simmons, the present pastor, 1882. The church is a frame building standing on the corner of Fourth and Franklin streets. The length is forty-four feet, the width twenty-six feet. It has a spire thirty-five feet high. The building was remodeled and enlarged in 1881 at a cost of \$800. The present membership is about seventy, part of which reside in the country around Winona. A Sabbath school

connected with the church has a membership of seventy-five pupils, twelve teachers and a library of 200 volumes. There also exists a missionary society; the leaders in this are Mr. F. Maas, John Thomsen and J. G. Simmons. The average collection is \$100 per year.

*The Second Advent Christian Church.* — Owing to the records of this church having been removed beyond our reach, or lost track of entirely, it has proven a difficult task to secure complete definite information. The following was furnished by Mrs. Elizabeth Wate, one of the earliest members, who clung to the church through all its vicissitudes. The congregation was organized in 1862, but some



HIGH SCHOOL.

time previous to this meetings were held in Pleasant Valley, and also in the court-house hall and Houseman's hall in Winona. This was before the church was built. The building is a small rough, unpainted frame structure standing on Broadway, between Washington and Winona streets. The members of the first organization are as follows: Warren Rowell, Samuel Bates, Ruth Rowell, Lucy Bates and Elizabeth Wate. Rev. T. K. Allen was the first permanent minister, the congregation having been visited by pastors from abroad before he came. When Rev. Mr. Allen left, the congregation were taken in charge by Mrs. Mansfield, who delivered a series of sermons. After Mrs. Mansfield came Elder Edwin T. Himes; his administration was cut short by his death. From 1879 until



1880 Mrs. Rowell had charge of the church. Since her departure in 1880 until the present writing, the church has been without a minister. The church at present is not in a flourishing condition, and its existence is rather doubtful.

*Bohemian Church.*—This church was organized from the congregation of the German Catholic church in 1879. The number of members is now about eighty. The congregation have had no meetings or pastor under their new organization as yet. A church building is under course of erection on Broadway. St. John will be the name given to this new church.

*St. Joseph's Catholic Benevolent Society.*—This society was organized in February, 1866. It was not chartered until February, 1869. The first officers and organizers were: President, N. G. Krieg; vice-president, Joseph Helle; secretary, Franc Trampont; assistant secretary, Wm. Schneider; treasurer, G. N. Schork. The direct object was to aid the members in sickness, and to defray expenses of interment and assist the family in case of death. When a member became unable to work he received from the society \$3 per week until his recovery. Since that time, however, this has been increased to \$4 per week. The membership fee has always remained the same—25 cents per month. If a member dies his burial expenses are paid and the widow receives \$25 in money. The society started out with but 17 members; it has increased since then to 116. The present officers are: President, John Winkels; vice-president, Andrew Seyfried; treasurer, F. P. Schumacher; secretary, Gottfried Strunk; assistant secretary, Alexander Prochowitz. The society is in a prosperous condition. During the year 1881 it distributed among the sick the sum of \$272.

*German Catholic Benevolent Association of Minnesota.*—In connection with the St. Joseph organization there is another society, having more of the aspect of a life insurance association. It is not confined to one locality, but has members all over the state, and includes on the whole twenty-five or twenty-six different branches. This society was organized in 1878. There are in all about 1,100 members. The society receives all persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. At the death of a member the widow and orphans receive within sixty days the sum of \$1,000 from the society. The assessment upon each member is from \$1.10 to \$1.30 at every death.

*St. John's Catholic (Bohemian) Benevolent Society.*—The charter of this society was granted July 2, 1871. This organization in

Winona is simply one of a large association throughout the United States. It comprises in all about seventy-two societies. When the branch in Winona was incorporated it numbered about fourteen members, but up to the present time the number has increased to eighty-two. The first officers were: President, Frank Votruba; secretary, Joseph Kasimor; treasurer, Frank Albrecht. Its object is to aid its members in sickness. They receive during their illness \$3 per week, and at their death the widow receives \$600 from the *entire* organization. At the present writing the society is in a prosperous condition, having over \$1,000 in the treasury. The officers at present are as follows: President, Joseph Kasimor; vice-president, Frank Lejsek; secretary, M. Ridel; assistant-secretary, John Cerny; treasurer, Frank Votruba.

*St. Ann's Ladies' Society.*—This society was founded in July, 1868, by the Rev. Alois Plut. Its object was the decoration of the church altar. It comprises about fifty members. The officers are: President, Mrs. Francesca Scheer; secretary, Mrs. Anna Hitzger; treasurer, Mrs. Johanna Braendle.

St. Rosa's Young Ladies' Society was founded by Rev. Alois Plut in 1869. There are about thirty members. The officers are: President, Miss Louise Hengl; treasurer, Miss Lena Schmidt; secretary, Miss Margaretha Schneider.

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## CHAPTER XLV.

### BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS.

*Winona Gas Light Company.*—Winona had grown to a city of over 7,000 population, and her industries and trade were assuming metropolitan proportions before any attempt was made to light her streets. This fact, seemingly incredible to the dwellers in lower latitudes, argues nothing against the enterprise of the city, as the moon and stars in this high latitude have a brilliancy unknown along the lower parallels, which, together with the lengthening twilight, materially decreases the necessity of artificial illumination. However, in 1870 it was thought by certain citizens possessed of cash and public spirit that the time had come for lighting the

streets of the growing city, and on August 1 of that year the Winona Gas Light Company was organized with a paid up capital stock of \$60,000. Of the original incorporators, ten in number, the following are still residents of the city: Hon. Wm. Mitchell, Hon. Thomas Simpson, F. M. Cockrell, V. Simpson, Hon. Thomas Wilson, J. J. Randall, H. M. Lamberton and R. D. Cone. The shares of the other two incorporators are now held, one each, by the First and Second National Banks of the city. The present officers of the company are: J. J. Randall, president; J. H. Jones, secretary; J. A. Prentiss, treasurer. Under the superintendency of James Russell, a practical gas manufacturer, who has had charge of the works since their construction, buildings were erected, apparatus supplied, pipes located,—and on April 9, 1871, the first gas was sent out to consumers. The consumption of gas, which at first was 3,450 feet daily, has steadily increased until the consumption averages nearly 30,000 feet a day, supplied to the city and private consumers through a series of mains aggregating a total length of eight miles. Gas is supplied to private consumers for \$3 per thousand feet; to the 106 city lamps it is furnished at a cost of \$25 per lamp per annum. Posts and lamps supplied to the city at cost. Their office is in room No. 6, Simpson's Block, where the secretary is always found ready for business. The works are at the intersection of Huff and Third streets, in block 69; fronting 140 feet on Third street and 200 feet on Huff. The manufactory covers about 2,000 square feet of ground. They have ample shed room for the year's coal consumption, which aggregates 800 tons, and the works give employment to a superintendent and four men. In addition to the lamps supplied by the gas company the streets are furnished with thirty coal-oil lamps in locations where gas-mains are not yet laid, and maintained at an average annual cost to the city of \$11 per lamp for oil and attendance.

J. H. Jones, secretary of the gaslight company since its organization, was born in Chatauqua county, New York. Educated at Westfield Academy in his native county and came to Winona in 1856. He was appointed deputy sheriff that same year and held the office until 1860; was bookkeeper for J. J. Randall thirteen years; has represented his ward, the first, in the city council, and during 1880 was city clerk. His business life has been spent in clerical work, and he has held a desk for the past five years in the real estate office of V. Simpson. Mr. Jones married Nettie Warner, October

22, 1861, and of their two surviving children, one is in attendance upon the city schools. In 1864 Mr. Jones became a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M. He is also a member of Winona Chapter, No 5.

James Russell, superintendent of the city gasworks, is a native of Scotland, from which country he emigrated to America in 1858. He had a practical experience of several years as a manufacturer of gas and in fitting up gaswork before coming to Winona in 1870 to assume charge of the works in this city.

*The Winona Mill Company.*—This company, one of the largest flour manufacturing concerns in the country, was incorporated as a joint stock company September 12, 1879, with a paid up capital stock of \$80,000, which was increased three years later to \$250,000. The original incorporators were L. R. Brooks, A. G. Mowbray, R. T. Doud, Chauncey Doud and C. L. Bonner. The present officers are: L. R. Brooks, president; A. G. Mowbray, superintendent; R. T. Doud, secretary. Their property lies between Front street and the river, with Market street on the east and Walnut on the west; a full block 300 feet square. The corner-stone of their mill, said by competent milling authority to be the largest steam flouring-mill in the United States, was laid on September 20, 1879, and the building completed in May of the following year, at which time milling operations were begun. It is a frame structure, iron sheeted, 75×100 feet, rising eight stories above the basement and amply supplied with all appliances for extinguishing fires and fire escape. A standpipe rises within the mill to the full height of the building, with sectional hose attached upon each floor; there is a fire-escape ladder in front and two knotted ropes on each floor at opposite sides of the mill, thus affording three avenues of escape in case fire should break out in the lower floors and communication with the stairways be cut off. The engine-room is of brick 25×90 feet, furnished with compound Corliss engines of 750 horse power, supplemented with Reynold's independent condenser and air-pump. The boiler-room, also of brick, is 40×55 feet, and there is a two-story brick coalhouse 40×45, the upper story of which is used for packing flour. The mill and engine room are lit by electric light supplied from seventy Edison burners. The offices are commodious, well-furnished, steam-heated, and connected with the city telephone exchange. The mill is a full roller mill, built as such from the foundation, furnished with 132 sets of rollers, cost \$250,000; has a



capacity of 2,000 barrels of flour a day, and is claimed to be not only the largest steam flouring-mill in America but the first full roller mill ever built. Their elevator, constructed in 1881-2, at a cost of \$15,000, is an iron sheeted frame structure 40×72 feet on the ground, rising 100 feet to the top of the cupola and has a storage capacity of 150,000 bushels. Wheat is received from their own elevators and warehouses, along the line of the Winona & St. Peter railway and its branches. Of these they have twelve, purchasing only for milling purposes. Grain shipments eastward are the exception and not the rule, and confined solely to such car lots as are unfit for manufacturing fine grade flour. Shipments of produce are made by river to all lower Mississippi ports, as far down as New Orleans. Shipments by rail are to the principal eastern markets of the United States, and to the Atlantic seaports for European export, principally to the British Islands. This immense industry, the growth of less than three years, furnished direct employment to a force of seventy-five workmen, and is a most valuable integer in the sum total of Winona's manufacturing and commercial enterprise.

L. R. Brooks, president of the milling company, is a native of New York. He came to Minnesota twenty-six years since, and was engaged in grain trade and banking previous to the organization of the company over whose affairs he presides. Since 1874 he has been a resident of this city, and for the five years prior to 1879 was cashier of the Second National Bank of Winona. He was the first treasurer of the board of trade and a member of its directory. He is also a member of the firm of Brooks Brothers, who do a general grain and lumber business, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the St. Paul & Manitoba railways. A Master Mason in good standing, he is a member of Winona Chapter, No. 5, and Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3.

A. G. Mowbray is a native of England. He came to America in 1856; settled first in Ohio and removed from that state to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1861; was engaged in milling in that city three years, then went to Minneapolis, remaining until 1867, when he bought the flouring-mill in Stockton, this county, which he ran until he came to this city in 1874 to engage in milling operations with S. C. Porter. The Stockton mill was the first gradual-reduction mill (so far as known) ever operated in America, having been so conducted since 1872. The same process was carried on in the Porter & Mowbray mill, and on the organization of the Winona

Milling Company in 1879 that mill was made a full roller-mill, the burrs being dispensed with entirely. The credit of the organization of the Winona Mill Co. properly belongs to Mr. Mowbray, who in 1879 broached the subject to some Winona capitalists, by whom, in connection with himself, the organization was speedily consummated. Mr. Mowbray was married in 1864, has three children in the public schools of this city, one daughter at school in Evanston, Illinois. He is a member of the Winona board of trade and a frater of the A. F. and A. M.

The engine-room is in charge of L. A. Pennoyer, assisted by his two sons, George and Fred, who take watch and watch about. There are two other children, L. A., Jr., who is second miller, and a younger child in the city schools. Mr. L. A. Pennoyer is a native of New York, a machinist by trade, and before coming to Winona in 1874 was engaged in erecting engines for the Jackson foundry and machine shops, Jackson, Michigan. He came to this state in their employ, and visited Winona to overlook the engines of the L. C. Porter Milling Co., erected by the Jackson firm. While here he accepted the position of engineer with L. C. Porter Co., and was with that firm until he came to his present responsible position upon the erection of the Winona mill in 1879. Mr. Pennoyer is a member of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, I.O.O.F., and also of the Royal Arcanum beneficiary. He has one child at school in this city.

*Winona Wagon Company.*—This industry, organized in 1879, though yet in its infancy, justly ranks among the most important manufacturing enterprises of the city. During the three years of its operations it has more than doubled its capital, its capacity, its force of operatives and its manufactured product. As virtual successor to the Rushford Wagon Company, of Rushford, Minnesota, it was organized as a Winona county industry, October 11, 1879, with a paid up capital stock of \$45,000. The original corporators were nearly ninety in number, and the management of the company's affairs was entrusted to a directory of nine. The original officers who still compose the official board (with the exception of the general manager, whose office was vacated by death) are: O. B. Gould, president; A. J. Stevens, general manager; John Albertson, superintendent; J. C. Blake, secretary and treasurer. January 22, 1881, the capital stock was increased to \$100,000, and since that time no new shares have been issued; all transfers of stock being to holders as preferred purchasers. By this means the number of stockholders

has been gradually decreased, until it is now less than one-half that of the original incorporators. In the spring of 1880 the company sustained a severe loss in the death of their general manager, A. J. Stevens, who died in April of that year. H. M. Kinney, elected his successor, still retains that office and successfully administers the affairs of the company. The present board of directors are O. B. Gould, I. B. Cummings, R. D. Cone, John Kendall, Thomas Wilson, W. A. Scott, H. M. Kinney, Henry Stevens, John Albertson. The works of the company are located upon a tract of eleven and one-half acres of land, just west of the city limits, at the intersection of the Chicago & Northwestern railway with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. No more perfect shipping facilities could be desired than are here obtained, as the works lie within the forks formed by the lines of both railways, whose tracks traverse the grounds in every desirable direction; including, as well as those already mentioned, the Winona & St. Peter and the Green Bay, Winona & St. Paul railways. Here, in 1879, the company broke ground and erected their buildings, consisting of a main manufactory,  $40 \times 120$  feet, two stories high; a blacksmith shop and a paint shop, each  $40 \times 70$  feet, and a warehouse  $40 \times 60$  feet. At this time the number of operatives was thirty, and 983 wagons were manufactured during the first year. In 1880-81 additions were made to the original structure, enlarging their capacity at least fifty per cent and swelling the amount of flooring-room in sheds and temporary structures to over 30,000 square feet. The enterprise proved a marked financial success from the beginning, and in 1882 it was determined to erect larger and more substantial buildings, to meet the growing demands of trade. These new works, just completed, are: a two-story manufactory,  $54 \times 182$  feet; a blacksmith shop,  $67 \times 90$  feet; an engine and boiler house,  $36 \times 37$ , with a smokestack rising 62 feet above the ground level. These buildings are all of brick, with good stone foundations, rendered as nearly fireproof as solid walls, iron roofs, and iron doors and shutters in all exposed situations can render them. The main manufactory has a fire-wall running from foundation to ridge, dividing it into two sections diminishing the danger from fire by just one-half. The blacksmith shop has a slanting truss roof, and has neither part nor dividing wall to impede operations. The engine-room is supplied with a new engine of 125 horsepower, displacing the old one of one-fifth that capacity, and furnishing ample power for driving their machinery. The buildings are

heated by steam, furnished with a steam elevator, and in all respects fully equipped for economical and efficient work. The number of operatives has steadily increased from thirty to one hundred, and the annual product from less than 1,000 to over 3,000 wagons, while the working capacity is double that amount. Wisconsin supplies their oak, Indiana and Michigan the ash and hickory timber. The product of this manufactory is marketed in twenty-four states and territories principally lying west of the ninety-second meridian.

H. M. Kinney is a native of Wisconsin, a machinist by trade, and was nine years in the employ of Fish Bros. & Co., wagon manufacturers, Janesville, during which time, as their agent, he visited all parts of the United States and formed an extensive acquaintance with its wagon trade. April 25, 1880, he resigned his place with that house to accept the business management of the Winona Wagon Company. He has extended the trade of his company until it embraces twenty-four states and territories, principally lying west of the eightieth meridian. He has a pleasant home on the North side, Washburn street, two doors west of Winona.

James C. Blake, secretary and treasurer of the company, was born at Winsted, Connecticut, July 12, 1849; was educated in the common schools and in the Winchester Institute of his native city, and was for seven years in the mercantile house of M. and C. J. Camp & Co., of that place, prior to coming to Winona in 1871. In 1872 Mr. Blake formed a partnership with E. F. Curtis, under the firm name of Curtis & Blake, wholesale and retail grocers, in which business he continued until he sold out to Mr. Curtis in 1876. He then became a member of the Winona Carriage Joint Stock Company, and was actively connected with its interests until the business was wound up in 1879, at which time he purchased the shops of the company, now rented to Lalor, McKay & Co. Concluding that Winona was a good point for a first-class wagon manufactory, Mr. Blake interested himself in the organization of such an industry, and when the Winona Wagon Company was successfully launched, the same year, he became its secretary and treasurer.

*Winona Plow Company.*—This young industry, which already gives evidence of a healthy and permanent growth, was only organized February 10, 1882, and has not yet closed its first year's operations. The authorized capital stock of the company is \$100,000; paid up capital, \$25,000. The original incorporators were J. M. Bell, F. S. Bell, J. K. Palmer and D. S. Kerr. Of



these, J. M. Bell is president and treasurer ; J. K. Palmer, vice-president and superintendent, and D. S. Kerr, secretary. Messrs. Palmer and Kerr are practical mechanics, and before coming to Winona were engaged in manufacturing at Waukegan, Illinois. The property of the company consists of three and a-half acres of ground on the north side of Fifth street, adjoining the Winona Wagon Company's lands on the east. Their shipping facilities are first-class, as their property is crossed by either the main or spur tracks of Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railways. Their buildings are, a main shop 40×120 feet, with a side extension 25×80 feet ; a warehouse and office 30×80 feet, and a paint shop 28×40 feet. The business consists in the manufacture of wooden and steel beam plows, both walking and sulky harrows, cultivators of all kinds, road scrapers and garden wheelbarrows. The business gives employment to a force of from twenty to twenty-five hands, and the manufactured product of the first year will be about \$20,000. An engine of twenty-five horse power supplies motor for the machinery, as also the pipes of the steam heating apparatus.

J. M. Bell, president and principal stockholder of the Winona Plow Company, is a native of Perry, Genesee county, New York, where he was born September 28, 1830. His business life has been spent in mercantile and banking operations, this being his first venture in manufacturing enterprises. From New York Mr. Bell removed to Iowa in 1857, locating in the central part of the state ; was treasurer of Hamilton county four years and organized the merchants National Bank, of Fort Dodge, Webster county, of which he was cashier six years. After a short sojourn in Illinois, Mr. Bell removed to Winona in 1878 ; became cashier of the Merchants National Bank of this city and held that office until the bank became a state institution, when he severed his connection with it, and soon afterward embarked in his present enterprise.

R. K. Palmer is a native of Ontario, born at Brockville in 1844 ; came to the United States in 1848 with his parents, who settled at Waukegan, Illinois, and still reside upon the homestead they took up thirty-four years since. R. K. Palmer learned his trade as a plowmaker with J. H. Ward, of Oshkosh, and was in business in Waukegan fifteen years before his removal to Winona in 1881. During the years 1863-64 he was in the employ of the United States government, having charge of the military repair and

wagon shops at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in which a force of 300 hands was employed, principally contrabands. After carefully examining the ground and comparing advantages Mr. Palmer concluded to remove his business from Waukegan, Illinois, to this city, and the move was accordingly made; a joint stock company formed, buildings erected and operations commenced in the spring of 1882. His oldest son "Fred," educated to business in his father's shop, is one of the employes of the firm, closely following his father's steps.

*Vienna Mining Company*; principal office at Winona. This is a joint stock company organized by consolidation of pre-existing companies March 17, 1882, with an authorized capital of \$15,000,000, of which \$10,500,000 is paid up, the balance in treasury stock. Officers of the company: C. L. Colman, La Crosse, Wisconsin, president; C. H. Berry, vice-president; B. H. Langley, secretary; H. J. O'Neill, treasurer. Operations are conducted in the Saw-tooth silver district of Idaho. Over 1,500 feet of tunneling has been done, and although operations have so far been conducted without reference to ore product, mainly for clearing tunnels and drifts, a large quantity of ore is already out and in sight. The company employ a force of 200 hands; have constructed roads to the mines; built boarding houses for their men, and other permanent structures, and have just completed a stamp mill costing \$160,000, having a stamp capacity of twenty-five tons daily, with power and shafting for double that product. Their expenditures are now \$20,000 per month, and the aggregate outlay has been about a quarter of a million dollars.

*Winona Building and Loan Association*.—The Winona Building and Loan Association, incorporated July 6, 1882, as a saving and loan institution in which all depositors and borrowers are stockholders, and all profits apportioned to stock, gives every promise of a most successful continuance. The authorized capital stock is \$500,000, in shares of \$200 each. Within thirty days from the date of issue 1,000 shares were taken, and an additional 500 within the next three months. The association is pre-eminently mutual, there are no preferred stockholders, and to the small capitalist it affords superior facilities for loaning and borrowing money on the most advantageous terms. Its organization is too recent to determine anything definitely concerning its operations other than that afforded by the rapid placing of its stock. The officers of the association are: O. B. Gould, president; J. B. McGaughey, vice-

president; C. A. Morey, secretary; W. C. Brown, treasurer; A. H. Snow, attorney.

*Gate City Carriage Company.*—This joint stock manufacturing establishment was organized as such November 15, 1882, with a paid up cash capital of \$25,000, and is but the enlargement and continuation under more favorable financial conditions of the business so successfully conducted by Messrs. Davis, Sawyer and Mead, as the Gate City Carriage Works. These gentlemen are practical mechanics, who, four years ago, almost without one dollar of capital, commenced business as a co-operative association, in a small wooden building on the alley in the block just north of their present location. Commencing business November 15, 1878, just four years prior to the organization of the stock company, in that time they had so increased their operations and created capital, that they owned a ten years' unincumbered lease of a real estate of 60×150 feet on Fourth street just east of Center, the entire lot under cover, and two commodious sheds for storing stock on rented property in their vicinity. At this time they were employing a force of nineteen men, almost exclusively in the manufacture of fine carriages and repairs. Their reputation for first-class work and fair dealing had created a demand for their work greater than they could possibly supply. This was notably the case with their "buckboard," a business wagon of their own design, especially adapted to the wants of the western trade, the demand for which has been such that at times during the past season they could only supply samples where carload orders were sent in. Rapid as had been their accumulation of capital and the increase of business facilities, these could not keep pace with the growing demands of trade, enlarging year by year with the rapidly increasing population and business of the northwest. In the summer of 1882 the necessity of increased capital was very sensibly felt, and after due deliberation they decided to organize their business into a joint stock company, and this was formally effected as above noted on November 15 of that year, with the following board of directors: W. K. F. Vila, E. S. Davis, O. B. Gould, H. H. Smith, E. S. Mead, F. W. Robinson and F. P. Sawyer. The officers of the company are: E. S. Davis, president; E. S. Mead, general manager; F. P. Sawyer, superintendent; H. H. Smith, secretary and treasurer. Within one week from the date of organization the company broke ground for their additions to the present works, by which, with

the motor and machinery introduced, the number of employes will be materially added to and the capacity of the manufactory increased at least  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. There is no doubt that a few years will see this company permanently established in quarters of which they will hold the title in fee simple, with buildings and machinery adequate to supply the demands of a trade of which at present they have themselves but a very meager conception.

E. S. Davis, president of the company, is a native of Westboro, Massachusetts. He learned his trade as a carriage woodworker in the manufactory of Coan & Ten Broeck, Chicago, and coming to Winona in 1868, was in the employ of the Winona Carriage Works until associating himself in business with Messrs. Sawyer & Mead. Mr. Davis is married, has five children, three are in school. He is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M.

E. S. Mead, general manager, is a native of New York city, and came to this city with his parents in 1855; his father having settled here in 1853. He learned his trade as a carriage trimmer in the carriage shops of Grant & Lalor, of this city, and on the establishment of the Gate City Carriage Works in 1878, became the business head of that co-operative industry. Married, has three children, two of them in the schools of this city. Wife died October 21, 1882.

F. P. Sawyer, superintendent, is a carriage blacksmith by trade, which he learned in the shops of C. P. Kimball, of Chicago. He is a native of Portland, Maine; came to Winona in 1878, and had worked for a short time in the Winona carriage works, with his old associates there, before he entered into the little co-operative association which has so rapidly developed into what promises to be one of the best paying industries of the city.

H. H. Smith, secretary and treasurer, is a native of this city, born in 1858, and lacked one term of completing his course in the high school here when he left his classes to accept a situation in the shoe-house of Cummings & Vila, with whom he remained eight years, only leaving to accept his present responsible position at the desk of the new carriage company.

*Winona Machinery Company.*—This industry was organized as a joint stock company, November 15, 1882, with a paid up cash capital of \$50,000. The business will consist of general machinery manufacture and repairs, and their piston packing and asbestos bearing for journals, for which they hold patents. The manufactory is



at present located in temporary quarters under the "Tribune" office on Third street, where they occupy a room 21×80 feet. At this writing, April 1, their machinery is being put in place. The officers of the company are: President, C. O. Goss; secretary, W. E. Smith; general manager and original patentee of the piston and asbestos bearing patents, G. W. Williams.

*Winona Carriage Works.*—Lalor, McKay & Co., southwest corner of Third and Washington streets. This business was founded in 1865, by Grant & Lalor, and so continued until 1874, when the affairs of the firm were wound up. Mr. Grant retired and the business was taken up by a joint stock company, who conducted it until 1878, when they ceased manufacturing to dispose of the stock on hand. In the spring of 1880 Messrs. Lalor & McKay, who had been connected with the manufactory almost since its establishment in 1865, the former as partner, the latter as foreman, took a five years' lease of the premises and have conducted the business with most gratifying results until the present. The property fronts 60 feet on Third street, 180 feet on Washington street, and has upon it a two-story manufactory 40×180 feet. They do quite an extensive business in the manufacture and repair of fine carriages, employing a force of twenty workmen, including the members of the firm, who are all skillful mechanics. Sales and repairs for 1881 aggregated \$9,321.18; for 1882, \$15,682.89; sales a little over eighty-five per cent of the sum total. The members of the firm are J. W. Lalor, George McKay and Milton Lalor.

J. W. Lalor, the senior member of the firm, was born in Rutland county, New York. In 1847 he went to Chicago, where he learned his trade, carriage-maker and woodworkman, and was for many years foreman of the extensive carriage and wagon works of Coan & Tenbroeck, of that city, before coming to Winona in 1867, and commencing business under the firm name of Grant & Lalor. Naturally possessed of a mathematical mind and a love of mechanical instruction, Mr. Lalor has paid considerable attention to carriage architecture, both as a science and an art, and this, taken with his thirty years' experience as a practical workman, has given him the mastery of his craft. The eldest son, Milton Lalor, is a member of the firm.

George McKay was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1843, and came to America with his parents when four years of age. They settled in London, Ontario, where George was educated and served his apprenticeship as a carriage blacksmith in the well-known manu-

factory of Mc Bride. From London he came to Winona in 1866; just after the establishment of the Winona Carriage Works, by Grant & Lalor, he assumed charge of their blacksmith shop, and was continued in that responsible position by the management of the joint stock concern until their operations were discontinued; then in 1880, in company with J. W. Lalor, leased the premises and continued the business as partner he had so successfully supervised as foreman.

Business increasing beyond the capacity of the firm, with its then capital, to profitably enlarge, a regular incorporated joint stock company was formed on February 12, 1883, under the name of Winona Carriage Company. The purpose of the company is to engage solely in the manufacture of fine carriage work. The paid up cash capital of the concern is \$25,000, with the following efficient board of officers: President, J. J. Randall; secretary, W. F. Phelps; treasurer, C. H. Porter; manager, George McKay; superintendent, J. W. Lalor. The work of the company has been put upon a new footing since the change above noted, and operations doubled.

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## CHAPTER XLVI.

### MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

THE manufacturing industries of Winona, which have nearly doubled their volume since January 1, 1879, may be said to date from the fall of 1855, at which time Messrs. James Wyckoff and James Hiland erected a small sawmill, not far from the present site of the Winona Mill Company's flouring-mill. As nearly as can now be ascertained, this first lumber-mill was started for business December 17, 1855, and ceased operations after the season of 1860 closed. In the early part of 1856 Mr. Wyckoff sold out his interest to Messrs. L. C. Porter and Wm. Garlock. January 1, 1857, Mr. Hiland disposed of his interest to S. D. Van Gorder, and the firm as thus constituted conducted business until the opening of the 1861 sawing season, when the mill was accidentally burned. In the meantime two new lumber-mills had been started, both in the fall of 1857, and within a very short period of each other, both now doing

business under substantially the same management as that of twenty-five years ago, and both of them grow, through successive changes in buildings and machinery, to the very front rank of lumber manufactories in the northwest. The winter of 1880-81 saw a worthy rival of these long established lumber-mills growing into place at the extreme eastern limits of the city, and in the spring of 1881 this mill, that of the Winona Lumber Company, began manufacturing.

LAIRD, NORTON & Co., manufacturers and dealers in plain and dressed lumber, lath, shingles and carpenters' material. This company, the oldest lumber firm now doing business in the city, though not strictly speaking the pioneer sawmill men of Winona, have been in successful operation as lumber manufacturers for over a quarter of a century, their sawmill having been erected twenty-five years ago last spring, while their first lumber-yard was opened in May, 1855, two years earlier. This yard was on the present site of the L. C. Porter milling company's mill, and was opened by Messrs. J. C., M. J. and W. H. Laird, the latter the head of the present firm, the others having long ceased all connection with its operations. The firm became Laird, Norton & Co. in the fall of 1856, by the admission of Messrs. J. L. and M. G. Norton, and the following spring ground was broken for their sawmill upon their present location, and building energetically pushed until it was completed, and the saws set running in September of that year. This lumber mill was 50×70 feet, furnished with one muley and one small circular saw, and having a daily capacity of 20,000 feet of lumber. Their original property fronted 300 feet on the river, running eastward from Kansas street. This frontage has been increased from time to time, until they now own a frontage of 1,500 feet on the river, running eastward from Franklin street, and extending an average width of two blocks backward from the river. Additions were made to this mill, and improvements introduced from time to time, until 1869, at which date two large double rotary saws were added, the daily capacity being increased to 75,000 feet, with a corresponding amount of shingles and lath. The old engines were still in use, and in the fall of 1870 the boilers exploded, and the whole were replaced by engines and boilers of about double the former capacity. Operations continued in the old mill, with its enlargements, until the close of the sawing season of 1877, when the old structure, which had been doing duty for twenty years, was taken down and the present mill built.

This change did not include the boiler-house, which was left standing, but furnished with additional engines and boilers, increasing its capacity to present estimate, 600 horse power. The new mill is ironclad with iron roof, 190×60 feet, 30 feet posts, with an addition 40×50 feet of equal height with the main building, and a brick boiler-house 26×80 feet. The capacity of the new mill, as demonstrated by actual work, is 234,000 feet per day, with an average product of 175,000 feet; the shingle-mill can turn out 150,000 daily, and averages 120,000; the lath-mill product about 33,000. The mill is furnished with two gangs, one forty inches wide, the other thirty-six inches, iron gangs of the most improved make; two double rotaries, steam feed, besides the saws for cutting, slitting, edging, etc. At the time this mill was built, it was the best sawmill on the Mississippi river; and even now, after all the changes of the past five years, it is much to be questioned whether, all things taken into consideration, it has any superior. For economy of space, smoothness of work, facility for handling logs and discharging lumber, and amount of cut, it stands A 1 in all lumbering circles.

The planing-mill, built in 1868, one-half of its present size, to which it was enlarged in 1882, is a two-story frame, 70×140 feet, 24 feet posts; the manufactory for sash, door, blind, frames, mouldings, etc., occupying the upper story. The boiler and shavings room is 68×28, the whole machinery driven by engines of 300 horse power. This mill is furnished with two Wood's planers and matchers, besides double surfacers and resawing machine, and has a capacity of 75,000 feet of dressed lumber daily. The manufactured product of the upper story reaches a weekly average of 500 doors, 1,000 sash, 500 frames, besides blinds, mouldings, brackets, etc. There are four dry kilns on the premises, Curran & Wolff's patent, each 17×72 feet, having an aggregate capacity of 30,000 feet a day. To man these mills, and do the necessary work of the yards, requires a force of 300 hands and 20 teams, notwithstanding labor is largely economized by piling the bulk of the mill product from tramways. The mills are thoroughly protected from fire, the mains of the city water-works traversing their yards from east to west. In addition to this, the firm have expended nearly \$20,000 in private water-works, and from these two sources they have forty hydrants in their yards, with 1,500 feet of hose on carts ready for use. They have also attached hose on each floor of both saw and planing-mills. They have also a most conveniently arranged office,



30×48, steam heated, with fire-proof vaults, private offices, telephone attachment, and all the conveniences of a first-class office. They boom their logs at Beef Slough, and rafts are brought down, as required by their own boat, the Julia. The firm are members of the Beef Slough Booming Company, the Mississippi River and the Chippewa River Logging Companies. They also own large tracts of private pine lands in the Chippewa valley, from which some supplies are drawn. Their lumber is marketed generally in the west and northwestern states, the bulk of it distributed along the lines of the Winona & St. Peter railway and its branches and tributaries. The present members of the firm are W. H. Laird, James L. and Matthew G. Norton.

W. H. Laird is a native of Pennsylvania, from which state he came to Winona in 1855 to engage in the lumber trade, and has been actively operating in that industry for over twenty-seven years. He is president of the Winona board of trade, a member of the Congregational church, married, and has a wife and three daughters — one married and residing in the city, one at home and one attending the state normal school in this city.

James L. Norton is also a native Pennsylvanian, and was a railroad contractor before coming to Winona in 1856, the same year he became a member of the present firm. His family consists of a wife and four children, all of whom are graduates of the Winona high school, and two of them recent graduates of the Northwestern University at Evanston. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Matthew Norton came to this city at the same time as his brother, entered the Laird & Norton firm at the same time, is a member of the same church and has the same number of children, all of whom are now attending normal school in the city. Matthew G. Norton is a member and director of the board of trade.

John Durham, foreman of sash, door and blind factory, is a native of Pennsylvania, a carpenter by trade, and came to this city with the Messrs. Laird in 1855. He has been more or less in the employ of the firm ever since their establishment in this city, and when not so engaged has been following his original trade as carpenter. When the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds was commenced in 1868, Mr. Durham was employed in that department, and six years later, 1874, became foreman of the manufactory. Mr. Durham is married, has one child, temporarily absent from school

on account of her health. He is a member of the A.L.H. beneficiary and an officer of the Congregational church, having been elected deacon in 1880.

Timothy Burns, engineer of the planing-mill, entered the employ of the firm May 1, 1858, the day after he arrived in Winona, and has been in their employ ever since; first as day laborer, then as fireman, and for some years past as engineer. He is a native of Ireland, and had been in this country eleven years before coming to Winona.

YOUMANS BROS. & HODGINS, manufacturers and dealers in lumber, shingles, lath, sash, doors, blinds, etc. This business was established in 1857 by E. S. & A. B. Youmans, under the firm name of Youmans Bros. The contract for their mill was let in April of that year, the foundations were laid the following month and sawing commenced the ensuing October. This mill, which stood substantially upon the same site as the one they now operate, at the foot of Grand street, was about 40×80 feet, and was furnished with one muley saw, the capacity of the mill being about 30,000 feet of lumber a week. In 1859 a small circular saw was put in, increasing the capacity to about 15,000 a day. In 1860 a shingle-mill, with a daily capacity of 15,000 shingles, was added, and two years later a large rotary by which the lumber cut was increased to 30,000 a day. This mill was operated until 1870, when it was taken down and the present one erected. The main mill as then constructed, and now standing, is 50×180 feet, iron roof, with an addition for shingle-mill 28×60; one engine and boiler-house 40×45 feet and an engine-room 18×50 feet, the aggregate capacity of the engines being about 350-horse power. This mill is furnished with one 42-inch gang saw, two double rotary saws, two shingle-mills and one lath-mill. The average daily cut of the mill for the sawing season is 140,000 feet of lumber, 90,000 shingles and 30,000 lath. The company's property, held in fee simple, fronts 150 feet on the river and extends south ward to Fifth street, having a width on Second street of two blocks and a half. Through leases from the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company they control a river front of 1,500 feet additional. Their booming facilities are not surpassed by any lumber-mill on the river. They boom a slough ten miles long, with good ingress for logs at its upper end, the lower terminating at the mill. In 1870 their planing-mill was built, and the following year Mr. A. F. Hodgins became a member of the firm. The planing-mill is a two

story frame, and, as originally built, was 60×80 feet, the upper story used for the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, frames, mouldings and carpenters' materials generally. This present season (1882) this mill was enlarged to double its former capacity, and is now 60×160 feet, furnished with four planers, some of Fay & Co's patent, others of S. A. Wood & Co's design, the whole having a capacity of 75,000 feet of dressed lumber daily. There are also on the premises four dry kilns, Curran & Wolff's pattern, with an aggregate capacity of 40,000 feet daily. The work of the sash, door and blind factory is almost exclusively upon specific orders, the daily product in such work being less and the prices higher than for the usual stock work. Connected with the planing-mill is the brick engine and boiler house and shavings room. There is also a two-story warehouse, 60×90 feet, for storing manufactured work, glass, nails, building paper, etc., and ample shed-room for dressed lumber. The pay-rolls of the company show a force of 275 men and eighteen teams constantly employed. The firm organized as a joint stock company in 1876 with a paid up cash capital of \$250,000, absorbing the stock within themselves. The company are members of the Chippewa River and the Mississippi River logging companies, and also Beef Slough Boom Company. Their supply of logs is mainly from the Chippewa river, but some strings are received from the St. Croix valley. Lumber is marketed principally along the lines of the Chicago & Northwestern railway in Minnesota, Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska. Excellent precautions have been taken against fire. Their own private mains are laid through the yards, pressure for which is supplied direct from their own pumps, which, in connection with those of Laird, Norton & Co., have hitherto supplied the city mains. Fifteen hydrants within their own yards and 600 feet of hose on carts ready for use, give ample security against fire, from which in the twenty-five years of their operations here they have been absolutely free. The present stockholders of the company are E. S. Youmans, A. B. Youmans and A. F. Hodgins.

E. S. Youmans is a native of New York, and had become somewhat familiar with sawing operations in a small way in his father's lumber mill before coming to Winona in 1857. Mr. Youmans is married and has two children: one daughter married and residing in Connecticut; one son, employed in the office of the company.

A. B. Youmans, also a native of New York, came to Winona at the same time as his brother, and like him has given his attention

strictly to business. He is married and has two children: one married, who is one of the engineers of the company; and one now attending the city schools.

A. F. Hodgins was born in Tennessee. Came from Galena, Illinois, to Winona in 1856, as agent for Carson & Rand, lumbermen. Was here in their interest some years, when, in company with H. Eaton, he bought them out and continued the business through several firm changes until 1871, when he became a member of the firm of Youmans Brother & Hodgins. He is married and has one child, a daughter, now attending the State Normal School in this city.

James King, foreman of sash, door and blind factory and carpenter's department, is a native of Pennsylvania. Learned his trade as carpenter at Pittsburgh, in that state, and came to Winona in 1879. He was one year in the employ of Conrad Bohn, and then entered the service of the firm of Youmans Bros. & Hodgins, working for them one year in the little factory attached to the sawmill, then superintended the construction of the planing-mill and sash factory in 1875, assuming charge of the manufacturing department upon its completion. He is married; has two children in school, and is a member of the A. O. U. W. fraternity.

B. S. Batchelor, foreman of the planing-mill, is a native of Michigan, and has followed his present business fifteen years, ten of them in the employ of the company with whom he is now engaged. Mr. Batchelor has been an inhabitant of the state since 1856, and a resident of the city since 1871. He is a married man and has two children in the city schools.

W. L. Raymond, engineer and machinist, with Youmans Bros. & Hodgins, is a native of New York. Came to Winona with his parents when three years of age, and has been a permanent resident since his ninth year, a period of eighteen years. He learned his trade with W. M. Hurbert, of this city, with whom he remained nine years, six of them in charge of the shop, before coming to his present position in 1881.

Wm. Rogers, engineer in the Youmans & Hodgins mill, has become of age in their employ, having been on duty with them for twenty-one years. He is a native of Cayuga, New York. Came to Winona in 1858, and was in the old planing-mill of Porter, Garlock & Co., before assuming charge of the engine in this lumber-mill. He is married, owns a pleasant residence on Grand street, and has one



child now in attendance in the public schools. He is a member of the A.O.U.W. fraternity, of this city.

WINONA LUMBER COMPANY.—This industry, one of the most important in the city, was organized as an individual enterprise, October 1, 1880, by Andrew Hamilton, who at that time owned a tract of land quite in the eastern part of the city, fronting 930 feet on the river and extending southward to Front street. Upon this property, during the winter of 1880–1, Mr. Hamilton erected his mill, E. White, as millwright, having supervision of its construction. This mill is  $60 \times 196$  feet, with an addition  $40 \times 50$  feet, and is provided with one 46-inch gang saw and two rotaries. The engine and boiler room is  $36 \times 84$  feet, furnished with engines of 680 horse-power, which will be increased to 1,000 horse-power before the sawing season of 1883 opens. The capacity of the mill, as tested by one day's actual cut, is 221,000 feet per day; the average daily product 50,000 feet less than that amount. The shingle-mill has a capacity of 160,000, with an average product of three-fourths that amount. Lath, about 30,000 daily.

May 1, 1881, this individual enterprise of Mr. Hamilton's was converted into a joint stock company, with a paid up capital stock of \$250,000. The officers of the company are: Andrew Hamilton, president; W. H. Laird, vice-president; Wm. Hayes, secretary and treasurer. Since incorporation the company have acquired additional lands from time to time, until they now (October 1, 1882) own a river front of about 2,500 feet, extending backward from the river a width of from one to three blocks. In the fall of 1881 ground was broken for a planing-mill on the southeast block of this property. The foundations were laid in November of that year and planing operations begun March 1, 1882. This mill is  $70 \times 116$  feet, 28 feet posts, with an engine, boiler and shavings room, of brick,  $50 \times 70$  feet. The planing-mill is run by a Corliss engine of 150 horse-power, and has a capacity of 60,000 feet of dressed lumber daily. The kilns for drying lumber are  $36 \times 84$  feet, and have a capacity of 120,000 feet. The number of hands employed in the saw and planing mills is about 125, with an equal number at work in the yards, the pay-rolls of the company showing a grand total of 275 men and twenty-six teams. Preparations are now making to start a sash, door and blind factory in the upper story of the planing-mill, and operations will commence some time next month (November, 1882). This branch of their business will give employment to an

additional force of from twenty to twenty-five hands. Their log supplies are drawn from the Chippewa river and its tributaries. Shipping facilities are good, the open tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern railway traversing their yards from east to west. The great bulk of their lumber finds its market in Minnesota, Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa.

The pipes of the city waterworks are laid through their yards, and there are nine hydrants upon their premises. These, with the attached hose in both mills, afford excellent protection from fires.

Andrew Hamilton, president of the Winona Lumber Company, is a native of Armagh, Ulster county, Ireland, from which place he came to America in 1846, and ten years later to Winona. In 1860 he formed a partnership with Charles Horton in the lumber business, which they conducted jointly until 1880. For the past ten years Mr. Hamilton has been quite extensively engaged in stock raising, and now owns a tract of 1,200 acres, just east of Sugar-loaf Bluff, upon which he has a flock of 1,000 merino sheep, seventy-five head of Jersey and grade cattle, from fifteen to twenty head of horses and 100 hogs. From nothing in 1856 to so considerable a financial and commercial standing in 1882 is its own comment upon Andrew Hamilton's business capacity.

Wm. Hayes, secretary of the Winona Lumber Company, is a native of Pennsylvania, and for seven years prior to coming to Winona in 1881 was at Beef Slough, in connection with the Mississippi River Logging Company.

E. White, millwright for the Winona Lumber Company, is a native of New York, learned his trade as a millwright in northern Ohio and came to Winona in 1857. With the exception of five years, from 1861 to 1866, when engaged as purchasing agent for the Winona & St. Peter Railway Construction Company, Mr. White has followed his trade. When Mr. Hamilton commenced constructing his mill in 1880 Mr. White was engaged as millwright, and upon its completion assumed charge, and the later buildings of the company have all been built under his supervision. Mr. White is married, has two children, one in attendance at the city schools. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., of this city.

R. H. D. Morrison, engineer of the planing-mill of the Winona Lumber Company, is as proud of his Corliss pet as a grandmother of her first grandchild. He was born an engineer and bred a farmer, coming from Vermont, his native state, to Houston county,

Minnesota, in 1859. From 1866 to 1876 was in the farm machinery business, the last three years of that time dealing in portable engines. From 1877 to 1879, inclusive, was engineer in the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul elevator in this city, and then took charge of the Corliss engine in the Empire Lumber Company, which he retained until assuming his present place in March, 1882, when the planing-mill was started. He is a Master Mason, member of Winona Lodge, No. 18. Married and has two children. One in business college, one in the normal school.

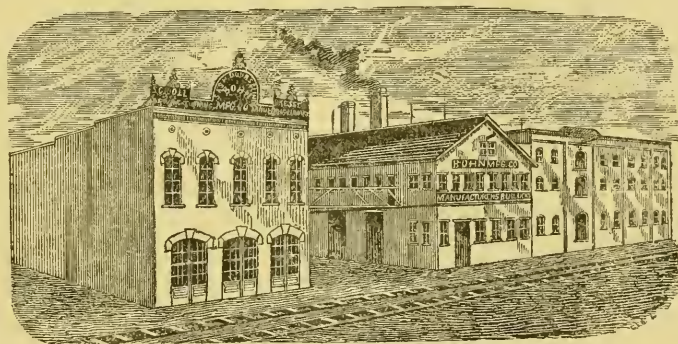
EMPIRE LUMBER COMPANY.—This is a joint stock company, organized under the laws of Wisconsin, in 1881, and has a capital stock of \$800,000. The officers of the company are: President, D. H. Ingraham, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin; vice-president, D. M. Dulany, Hannibal, Missouri; secretary, Charles Horton, Winona, Minnesota. The business of the company consists in manufacturing and dealing in lumber. Their mills are at Eau Claire, Wis., and Dubuque, Ia. Yards at Winona, Minn., Dubuque, Ia., and Hannibal, Mo. The Winona business at present is confined to dealing in lumber and the manufacture of dressed lumber, sash, doors, blinds, frames and carpenters' materials. The company's premises at this place front 1,200 feet on the river running eastward that distance from Vine street and extend from the river to First street. Here they have erected a planing-mill 60 × 80, an engine-house 24 × 50, a sash, door and blind manufactory 42 × 100, and a store-room 64 × 150. The engine-room is supplied with a Reynolds Corliss engine of 75-horse power, the planing-mill with two matchers, surfacers, resawing machines, moulders, etc., and has a capacity of 40,000 a day. The business is mainly contract work, but little being manufactured for the general market. The drykiln has a capacity of 10,000 feet a day, and the product is all used in the shop. Employés during the summer season number about 140.

Charles Horton, secretary of the company, and manager of its interests at this point, is a native of New York; came to Winona in 1856, and has been in lumber business here since that date, first in connection with L. C. Porter, and afterward with Alexander Hamilton, with whom he was in partnership as a lumber dealer from 1860–80. Mr. Horton is married and has five children, four of them in attendance at the city schools.

G. R. Adams, foreman of the manufacturing department of the Empire Lumber Company, is a native of Rome, New York, and learned his trade in the sash, door and blind factory of H. S. Crosby

& Co., in that city. He came to Winona in 1866, and was for eleven years foreman in the factory of Conrad Bohn before coming to his present position with the Empire company, which he did upon the completion of their sash, door and blind factory. Mr. Adams is married and has two children, one in the Winona high school. He is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and connected with the A. O. U. D. and A. L. H. beneficiary associations.

CONRAD BOHN, manufacturer of sash, doors, blinds, mouldings and dressed lumber. This house affords another example of Winona's growth in industrial enterprise, showing how, from small beginnings, mammoth enterprises have been successfully built up and a constantly increasing volume of business secured. Mr. Bohn came to Winona in 1857, very early in the history of the now thriv-



BOHN MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

ing city, and established business as a carpenter and builder. In 1866 he started a small planing-mill on the corner of Main and Sanborn streets; principally for the preparation of builders' material, and conducted operations there until 1873, when he removed to his present location at the corner of Front and Laird streets. His property lies principally between Front street and the river on both sides of Laird street. It has a frontage of 400 feet on Front street, of 300 feet on the river. Here, in 1873-4, Mr. Bohn erected a two-story and a-half frame manufactory 50×100 feet, and a brick engine and boiler house 45×60 feet. These buildings were burned in 1875, and immediately replaced by others, the new manufactory being ten feet wider than the old one. The following year, 1876, a two-story warehouse, 50×120 feet, was built. This building is used solely for storing and glazing, and is connected with the main manufactory



by an elevated gangway. In 1880 a three-story addition, 40×80 feet, was built to the main manufactory; and in 1882 the old engines of seventy-five horse power were removed and engines of double that capacity substituted. In addition to the buildings here enumerated are the drying kilns which have a capacity of 8,000 feet of lumber a day, and sheds and temporary structures covering an area of several thousand square feet. Some conception of the operations of the manufactory may be gained from a statement of the raw material daily used. From 20,000 to 25,000 feet of lumber are daily manufactured into doors, blinds, sash, etc., besides which they turn out from 20,000 to 30,000 feet of dressed lumber. The regular monthly product of the manufactory is, 4,000 to 4,500 doors, an equal number of glazed sash and from 2,000 to 3,000 pair of blinds, and their working force 125 men, of whom from 40 to 50 are employed in the manufactory. Their principal market is in the northwest, with a smaller demand from the southwest. The premises are well provided with shipping facilities, as the spur tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad extend along their entire front, and cars are loaded and unloaded from their doors. Their office is connected with the City Telephone Exchange, heated with steam, and furnished with all necessary appliances for the conduct of their constantly growing business. In 1880, in connection with Gebhard Bohn and Geo. W. Bohn, his brother and son, Mr. Conrad Bohn started a branch house in St. Paul; a depot of supplies for the immense building demand of that market. This establishment gives steady employment to thirty men and nine teams. September 15, 1882, the business was converted into a joint stock company with a capital stock of \$200,000, one half paid up. The officers of the company are: Conrad Bohn, president; Gebhard Bohn, secretary; Geo. W. Bohn, treasurer. The business of the manufactory had assumed such proportions that in 1882 Mr. Bohn determined to discontinue the business of contracting and building, in which he had been engaged for twenty-five years, and with the expiration of their present contracts his work as builder will be closed out. During the twenty-four years he has followed contracting and building Mr. Bohn has erected some of the notable structures of the state, among which may be mentioned the State Normal School, Winona, and addition to the State Insane Asylum in 1873. With the exception of a partnership with Wilse in 1880-1, Mr. Bohn

conducted business alone until the formation of the stock company last September.

Mr. Bohn was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, in 1836; came to New York in 1851; was in that city five years, following his trade as a carpenter and builder, and in 1856 came to Chicago; from there one year later to Winona, where he has kept pace with the growth of her industries, himself no inconsiderable factor in the sum total of her prosperity.

STROTH & AHRENS, planing-mill, sash, doors and blinds. This manufacturing establishment is located on the corner of Front and Franklin streets, on a lot 240×140 feet. The business was established in 1866 as Rose & Co., but was virtually the same establishment as at present, although it did not assume its present firm title until two years later. Their buildings are a main manufactory, 50×70 feet, with an addition 22×28 feet, the whole two stories in height and an engine-room 22×45 feet. The engines are of 40 horse-power, and the capacity of the planing-mill from 12,000 to 15,000 feet per day. Business consists in furnishing doors, frames, mouldings, cornice stuff and all carpenters' materials upon contract, as well as manufacturing general stock for which their principal market is Chicago. The manufactory employs a force of thirty-five hands on an average, and business for 1882 was about twenty-five per cent in advance of previous season. The members of the firm are C. F. Schroth & Henry Ahrens.

C. F. Schroth is one of the old residents of Winona, having taken up his residence here in 1856; has been engaged in business for himself since he was about sixteen years of age; is married, has two children in the schools of the city.

NOONAN & STELLWAGEN, contractors and builders, office and manufactory on the northeast corner of Third and Vine streets. This business was originally established by Wm. Rohweder, in 1863, and was conducted by him with some changes in the firm until 1877. John Stellwagen purchased an interest in the business, the firm becoming Rohweder & Stellwagen. The following year Rohweder sold his interest to Wm. Noonan, who had been taking small contracts here for several years, and the firm became Noonan & Stellwagen. Both members of the firm are excellent mechanics, and their business has rapidly increased during the four years they have conducted it, their contracts for the current year aggregating \$100,000. Their manufactory for the preparation of building materials,

is located on Vine street, between Second and Third. It is a two-story frame building, 30×50 feet, with a one-story addition, 18×50 feet, supplied with an engine of twelve-horse power, and fully equipped with such machinery as is required in their business. They own a frontage of 110 feet on Third street and 150 feet on Vine, with a comfortable office, sheds for storage, etc. They employ from fifteen to thirty hands, according to season and press of business. Among their more important constructions are the Winona Mill Company's mill, German Luther schoolhouse, Congregational church interior, plow factory, and have now under contract the German Catholic church, except the stonework, stained-glass windows and interior furniture. Outside of the city they have taken some good contracts, among them the Kasson school building, at a cost of \$14,000.

Wm. Noonan was born in Perth, Ontario, in 1839, learned his trade there, removed to Winona in 1866, and has worked as journeyman carpenter or contractor in this city ever since. Was elected a member of the city council in 1877, and represented his ward during two terms, retiring from office in 1881. Mr. Noonan is a member of the Catholic church, married, has four children, all in attendance upon the public schools of this city.

John Stellwagen is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, born in 1846, came to America with his parents when an infant, and in 1861 settled with them in Winona county. Learned his trade as a carpenter in Utica township, and in 1875 came to this city. Was foreman for Conrad Bohn when that contractor was erecting the first wing of the old Rochester Inebriate Asylum in 1876. Mr. Stellwagen is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and Druid fraternities, is married, and his children, six in number, are all in attendance upon the city schools.

A. W. GAGE & Co., contractors and builders, manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds. The senior member of this firm is one of Winona's pioneer business men, having continuously conducted operations in this city since the fall of 1855, a period of twenty-six years. After following his trade as a carpenter and builder, in this city, for nine years, Mr. Gage built his manufactory for sash, doors, blinds and building material, in the eastern part of the city, on lower Front street, near the present location of the Empire Lumber Company, to which corporation he sold his real estate in that location in the fall of 1882, after conducting business there for eighteen years. The

manufactory at this point was a two-story frame building, 42×76 feet, and the business of the firm employs a force of from fifteen to twenty-five mechanics. Some of the buildings erected by Mr. Gage are veritable landmarks, not only in this city, but in the state. The old Methodist Episcopal church erected by him in 1856, and still doing duty as a place of worship for the Scandinavian Lutheran church, was the pioneer Methodist Episcopal church of the state, and is so noted in the records of that denomination. The old frame courthouse, which all good citizens desire to see replaced by a new one, was built by Mr. Gage, twenty years ago, on the corner of Third and Washington streets. Among the more modern buildings erected by him are the present Methodist Episcopal church, the Episcopal church and the Presbyterian church, all of them substantial brick and stone structures; also the Madison school, the Republican block, Choate's, Mues', Wakefield's, and other business blocks, and many of the finest private dwellings in the city. His building operations outside of the city and county have been quite extensive. Among these may be mentioned the Caledonia jail, reputed one of the finest in the state, costing \$35,000.

The members of the firm are A. W. Gage and Daniel Gage.

A. W. Gage was born in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1832. Received such an education as the schools of his neighborhood afforded. Learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked during the summer, teaching school in winter, until 1853, when he came to Dubuque, Iowa, where he was foreman in the mill of C. H. Dickinson & Co. until coming to this city in the spring of 1855. Mr. Gage has always devoted his attention to business and declined any official connection with municipal affairs until the spring of 1881, when he was elected alderman of the second ward, and is the present chairman of the waterworks committee; a most important post in view of the erection of the new waterworks building and the completion of the water-supply system of the city. September 6, 1856, A. W. Gage was married to Miss Christie E. Gage. Of their three children, two only are living, Miss M. E. Gage, now teaching in the city schools, and A. John Gage, now in attendance at the normal school. Their eldest son, F. T. Gage, died in this city September 21, 1881, aged twenty-four years.

Daniel Gage is a native of Pennsylvania. Learned his trade in Binghamton, N. Y., and in 1856 came to Minnesota, settling in Belle Plaine, Scott county, from which place he removed to Winona



in 1858. Here he followed his trade, working in town and in the surrounding country until 1864, when he formed a partnership with his cousin, A. W. Gage, which has remained unbroken during a period of eighteen years. The first building erected by the firm was the Presbyterian church, now standing on the corner of Fifth and Main streets. Mr. Daniel Gage is married and has three children in attendance upon the city schools.

SAMUEL D. VAN GORDER, contractor, is a native of Chemung county, New York. At ten years of age he left home to try his luck in the world, and six years later was running a sash, door and blind factory on his own account, at Catharine, in his native state. He was engaged in this business and in canalboat building until he came to Winona, in 1856. That same season, in company with Joel Mallory, he built the first road leading into Winona, a road across the slough from the city to Sugar Loaf Bluff, and also the road over the Stockton Bluffs. In September of that year he went to Chicago, and purchasing machinery for a sash, blind and door factory that same fall, in company with Thomas Simpson and one Evans, commenced manufacturing. The following January the factory was sold out to Hamilton & Robinson, and Mr. Van Gorder bought out James Harlan's interest in the sawmill erected by that gentleman and James Wycoff in the fall and winter of 1855. This business was conducted until the spring of 1861, when differences of opinion concerning the management of affairs arising, it was mutually agreed to receive an order from the court for the sale of the property, which was accordingly done, and the property bought in by Mr. Harlan for Van Gorder, but before business was resumed the mill was accidentally burned. He was then in the lumber trade for eighteen months, when he sold out to Mr. Laird, and took the contract for driving the piles for the elevator and bridges of the Winona & St. Peter railway. In company with Joel and R. P. Mallory, he built all the small bridges along the line of the old transit road as far as Rochester, and graded one mile of its track. In the fall of 1863 he took charge of the lumber, wood and tie supplies of the railroad, holding that position one year. In 1865 he put a ferry-boat upon the river at this point, and there being no eligible landing on the opposite shore, was obliged to land at the old stone house four miles up the river. The first season eleven teams were taken across. This ferry was sold to the city in 1880. In 1869 Mr. Van Gorder opened a stone quarry across the river, and contracted to furnish and ferry

the stone for the railroad bridge over the river at this point. The city having built a road across the Wisconsin bottoms to the bluffs in 1867, he was interested in establishing a stage route into Wisconsin, and providing for its transfer over the river. In company with one, Jenkins, in 1879, he took a government contract of \$20,000 for river improvement. In connection with the waterworks improvements of this year, he laid about 1,800 feet of water-main for the city, and dug the well at the works, fifty-two feet diameter, depth of stone curbing twenty-eight feet. In October, 1882, he contracted with the city to build a road across the Wisconsin bottoms, one and a quarter miles long, bridged and graded above high-water mark. He was chief of city police during the years 1877-78-80-81. Is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M., and of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3. Mr. Van Gorder has never married, but since his fifteenth year has charged himself with the support of his parents and an invalid sister now living with him.

NICHOLAS MONK, contractor for stone and brick work, is a native of Germany, born in 1842. He learned his trade in Holstein, his native place, and came to the United States in 1867, settling in Winona the same year. The stone and brick work of the Postoffice block, the Stevens block, the Wakefield block, the Congregational Church, and the new waterworks building and stand-pipe, are specimens of his mechanical skill. During the building season he employs a considerable force of men, according to the demands of business. His waterworks contract, for building and stand-pipe moving, is \$22,000. Mr. Monk has a wife and two children living, one of the children now in the city schools.

DOUD, SON & Co., manufacturers of flour barrels, central office and main manufactory at Winona, branch manufactories at La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Hokah, Lanesboro and Isenourse, Minnesota. The business of this firm consists in preparing material for flour barrels and manufacturing them, and no better sample of a growing Winona industry could be given than the history of the operations of this firm affords. During the twenty years of their existence here they have grown from a small hand manufactory, employing two or three hands, to a giant industry, working extensive machinery and employing a force of 140 operatives. Business was begun in this city in 1862 by Chauncey Doud, who had previously been engaged in similar business in New York and Illinois. The name of the firm

was Doud & Son, the "son" being at that time in charge of operations in Wisconsin. Their first factory was located on Grand street, between Second and Third, and from there was removed to Wilson street, one block east of the original location, in 1864. Here they remained, gradually extending operations until they were burned out, in July, 1880, when a move was made to their present location. When the firm became Doud, Son & Co., in March, 1874, their manufactory had grown to include two shops, each  $22 \times 50$ , in which a force of twenty-five hands was employed, with a product of a little more than 300 barrels a day, no machinery being used. One of these shops was destroyed by fire in 1875, and a new one immediately erected,  $24 \times 100$  feet. In 1878 an addition of 40 feet was made to this building, and machinery put in for champering, leveling, crozing and tressing. By this means their capacity was increased to 800 barrels a day, with an actual product of about four-fifths that amount. When these buildings were destroyed by fire, July 17, 1880, Doud, Son & Co. removed to their present location on the north side of Mark street, just east of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul passenger depot, where they immediately rebuilt and resumed operations. Their property extends along Mark street a distance of 332 feet, runs to the alley in the rear, and fronts the tracks of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, with which they have ample switch connections. Upon these premises, in 1880, they erected a two-story frame manufactory,  $140 \times 28$  feet, and a storehouse,  $100 \times 26$  feet. They also erected, the same year, on ground leased from the railroad company, and along the main track of that corporation, a one-story stockhouse,  $24 \times 100$  feet. In 1881 an addition of 112 feet was made to the manufactory and of 100 feet to the storehouse, making these buildings 252 feet and 200 feet respectively. When the 1881 additions were made the firm duplicated their machinery, and they have now in operation two complete sets, with an aggregate capacity of 2,000 barrels daily, an actual product of 1,500 barrels a day, and a working force of 140 hands. The Messrs. Doud have largely manufactured their own staves from the beginning of their business, but prior to 1876 this work was done where their barrel manufactories were located. Since that date their stave factories have been in the woods. These factories were located at Doudville and Rudolph, in Wood county, Wisconsin, and gave employment to a force of eighty operatives and nine teams prior to the disastrous fire of May 28, 1882, by which

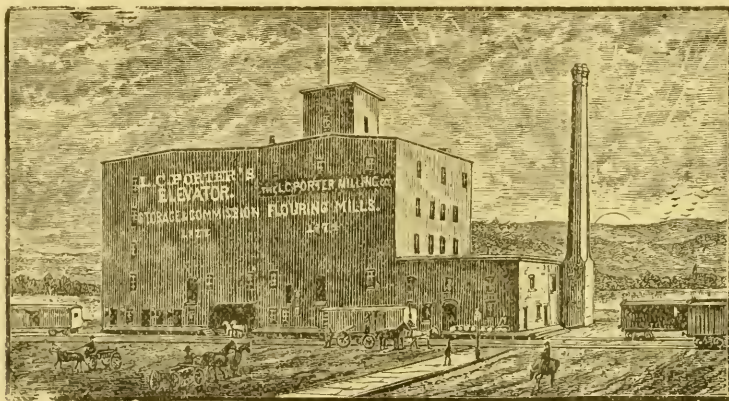
their Doudville factory and store were burned, and a loss of \$40,000 sustained. The location at Doudville was then abandoned and a new factory erected at Pittsville, in the same county. No statistics of the Wisconsin and other Minnesota barrel manufactories are given, these not being legitimately connected with Winona county industries. The product of the Winona manufactory is largely marketed at home; the other along the lines of the Minnesota Southern railroad. The present members of the firm are C. Dowd, R. T. Dowd, C. G. Doud and Geo. S. Doud.

Chauncey Doud, the senior member of the firm, was born in Turin, Lewis county, New York, August 15, 1809; was brought up on a farm, and followed that business from his youth until 1849, when he ceased farming and gave his whole attention to barrel manufacturing, a business in which he had been more or less engaged for some years. Leaving New York in 1837, Mr. Doud removed to St. Clair county, Michigan, farmed it five years, then located in Oswego, Kendall county, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming from 1842 to 1849, at which time he removed to Lockport, Will county, in the same state, and established his barrel manufactory, an industry he has now constantly followed for thirty-three years. March 7, 1834, Chauncey Doud married Sarah C. Comstock, of Philadelphia, Jefferson county, New York, with whom he has now been living almost a full half-century. They have six children: two sons, members of the firm of Doud, Son & Co., and four daughters, three of them married, and residing out of the state, and one unmarried, residing at home.

THE L. C. PORTER MILLING COMPANY was organized under the firm name of Porter & Mowbray in 1874, and so continued until 1879, when L. C. Porter bought out the interest of Mr. Mowbray and continued the business under the name it now bears. The property occupied by this industry extends along the river front eastward from Market street 430 feet, and runs southward one block and a half. Upon this property, in 1874, their mill was erected, a five-story frame building, 70×40 feet, provided with nine run of stone and having a capacity of 250 barrels of flour a day. Their engine and boiler house was a two-story brick, 36×70, built the same year. Three years later they built their elevator, 50×70 feet and sixty feet in height, having a capacity of 50,000 bushels. This was increased in 1882 to 90,000 bushels storage, and a handling capacity of 5,000 bushels per day. The capacity of the mill was increased from time to



time until in 1881 it had attained a capacity of 500 barrels a day, using both rollers and burrs. The mill was then completely remodeled, the number of rollers increased to twenty-two and the capacity enlarged to 600 barrels. The reduction is done on rollers, the pulverizing of the middlings on burrs, of which there are five run. The capacity of the engines in the mill are rated 300 horse-power, the elevator is supplied with a separate engine of 25 horse-power. Grain is supplied from their own warehouses and elevators along the line of the Winona & St. Peter railway. Of these they have now in operation about twenty, and will double that number next season. Of the grain thus received from points westward as far as the Dakota grain fields, only the choicest samples are used for milling purposes, the



THE L. C. PORTER MILLING COMPANY.

inferior grades being shipped to the eastern market. They also handle great quantities of salt and coal through their western warehouses. Shipments of flour are principally to the eastern home market and to the ports of Great Britain and Ireland. Sawdust is used exclusively for fuel, and their mill was the first one employing steam power exclusively in the state, such power being deemed too costly for profitable employment. The various departments of their business are officered as follows: O. L. Marfield, in charge of wheat department; W. H. Sims, head miller; F. A. Coons, chief engineer. The whole force of the mill is about sixty hands.

For a personal sketch of Mr. L. C. Porter, see First National Bank.

F. A. Coones, chief engineer of the Porter Milling Company, is a native of Ontario, Canada; learned his trade as a machinist in St.

Louis and came to this city in 1866. Was in the shops of the Phoenix Iron Works two years, the engineer for Youmans Bros. & Hodgins one year, then in the same position for Laird, Morton & Co. eight years, at the expiration of which time he entered the service of the Porter Milling Company. Mr. Coones is married and has one child. He is a member of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, I.O.O.F., and also a stockholder in the Winona Building Association.

O. L. Marfield, superintendent of grain department of the Porter Milling Company, is a native of Ohio; was bred a miller at Chillicothe, in that state, and conducted milling business there on his own account from 1860 until he came to Minnesota for his health in August, 1881, and assumed charge of the wheat department of this house.

W. H. Sims, head miller of the Porter Milling Company, is a native of England; followed the trade of miller, to which he was bred, for twelve years in his native country before coming to Winona in 1866. Was in charge of the mill of H. Miller, his brother-in-law, at Minnesota City, in this county, previous to accepting the position of head miller with the L. C. Porter Milling Company in 1879.

N. C. GAULT, manufacturer of Schoonmaker's patent copper lightning cable. This industry is of recent establishment, the letters patent under which the manufacture is conducted bearing date June 28, 1881. These letters patent cover both the idea and process of forming a hollow zinc wire, overlaid with sheet copper, and twisting the same into a continuous flexible cable. The advantages of the cable rod are its superior conducting properties, its unbroken continuation from the point above the standard to its ground termination, its indestructibility, and its absolute flexibility, by means of which it is capable of the most natural adjustment to all surfaces. The portion above the roof is strengthened by the insertion of a solid steel rod in the center chamber of the spiral, which gives abundant security against possible displacement. The manufacture is superintended by the patentee, who has assigned all his right therein to H. D. Morse and N. C. Gault. The manufactory is a two-story frame building on the alley between Second and Third streets, in the rear of the "Tribune" building, 20 x 70 feet. The manufactory has a present capacity of 5,000 feet of cable per day, with the hand machine now in use, but this capacity will be more than doubled by the introduction of some motor the coming season. Their cable coils are from 250 feet to 500 feet in length, of two sizes, one having

a diameter of nine-sixteenths of an inch, the other of five-eighths of an inch. They also manufacture gold and silver plated points, arrows and vanes, as well as the necessary standards. The manufacture is exclusively for wholesale trade, as the manufacturers are not engaged in putting up rods. Though yet in its infancy, the demand is rapidly extending, and already some fifty firms are handling the rod in the various northwestern states.

The proprietor, N. C. Gault, is a native of New Hampshire, born near Concord, in that state, in 1822; was brought up on the home farm, and followed farming until coming to Winona in April, 1856. He was engaged in the hardware trade here until 1863; closed business, and the following year entered the United States service with the 11th reg. Minn. Inf.; was soon after enlistment elected quartermaster of the regiment, and served with it until it was mustered out. Returning to Winona he was appointed United States gauger for the first congressional district of Minnesota, and served until 1875, during part of which time he was oil inspector under state appointment. Since 1875 was not actively in business until he engaged in his present industry. He is a prominent member of the Baptist church in this city, in which he has held the office of deacon twenty-four years.

James H. Schoonmaker, patentee and superintendent of manufactory, is a native of New York; came to Winona in 1869, and for the past ten years has been engaged in the manufacture of lightning rods, principally the old star rod, Chadwick's patent, for the firm of Morse, Miner & Co.

LAMPRECHT & KAISER, manufacturers of glue, soap, tallow and neatsfoot oil. This business was established in 1880, in its present location, block No. 23, Bauder's addition to the city of Winona. Their buildings are respectively 30×20 feet and 36×80 feet, and they employ an engine of fifteen-horse power in the manufactory. Their weekly product is 1,200 pounds of soap, 2,000 pounds of tallow, 400 pounds of glue, and one-half barrel of neatsfoot oil, to produce which they employ four workmen.

John Lamprecht was born in Prussia in 1843, was bred a machinist, came to America in 1867, and worked at his trade in Chicago until he came to Winona in 1880.

Emil Kaiser was born in Baden, Germany, in 1848; learned the trade of soapmaker in his native country, from which he came to America in 1868. In 1870 he settled in Winona, and conducted

business at the corner of Mark and Huff streets prior to establishing his manufactory in block 23.

SUGAR LOAF BREWERY, P. Bub, proprietor. This manufactory was established in its present location in 1862, by Jacob Weisbrod, at which time it had a capacity of about 500 barrels a year. This capacity was increased from time to time until 1872, when about 1,000 barrels a year were manufactured. In this year the old brewery burned, and Peter Bub, who had been Mr. Weisbrod's foreman for two years, purchased the property. This consists of a tract of about seven acres, at the junction of the old Sugar Loaf road, with that skirting the north shore of the lake. Here, in 1872, Mr. Bub erected his brewery, the main structure 48×52 feet, three stories in height, with a one-story addition 24×36 feet, and two icehouses, respectively, 60×100 feet and 20×80 feet. This brewery had a capacity of 4,000 barrels a year. In 1882 the whole was remodeled and a new three-story stone building, 52×70 feet, added, increasing the capacity of the manufactory to 20,000 barrels, with an actual product of about one-third that amount. The brewery proper as it now stands is a solid three-story stone structure, 52×118 feet, and cellars of 2,000 barrels storage capacity. An additional icehouse, 24×36, has also been built; he harvests his own ice crop, keeps a force of ten hands and three teams, at least two-thirds of his product finding a ready market at home.

Mr. Bub was born in Bavaria, in 1842, was bred to the brewer's trade, and at twenty-five years of age came to America, direct to Milwaukee, where he was for three years in the employ of the Best Brewing Company before coming to Winona in 1870. Here he was in the employ of Jacob Weisbrod, as foreman two years, then purchased the property.

THE REBUILDING AND REPAIRING SHOPS of the Winona & St. Peter and the Dakota division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway at this point take front rank among the great industries of the city. These shops are located upon a tract of forty acres, owned and occupied by the railway company, situated just within the corporate limits of the city on the west. Upon this property have been erected from time to time the principal machine and other shops of the above-named railway divisions; miles of side-track have been laid for siding cars, repairing same on track and giving ingress and egress to the company's own trains of coal, iron, timber and other supplies. The minor repair shops at Waseca, Sleepy-Eye, Tracy,



Watertown and Huron are only branches from this parent stem, drawing their supplies from this depot, reporting all work done and supplies furnished to these headquarters, upon whose time-rolls they are borne and upon whose pay-rolls they are paid. The seventy-five engineers and firemen along both divisions in like manner report to and are connected with this center, from which emanates the authority controlling 900 miles of track and a working force of 450 mechanics and laborers.

The buildings now standing upon this property are : Machine shop (main building), 175 feet long, sixty-four feet wide, with walls twenty-four feet high ; opening into this building is the shop for boiler repairs, 66×40 feet with eighteen feet walls ; the blacksmith shop, 80×40 feet, with twenty feet walls, in which a steam hammer has just been placed that can strike a ten-ton blow. These buildings are all of brick, solid stone foundations and truss roofs. The rail mill, a frame building 80×40 feet, in which with a 40-inch steel disk they saw cold rails and drill, punch, straighten and saw cold iron. The power for driving the machinery in these four buildings is supplied by an engine of eighty-horse power, stationed in an attached engine and boiler-house, 60×40 feet. The roundhouse, also of brick, has stalls for twenty-two engines. The water-tank has a capacity of 90,000 gallons, supplied by pumps for which the engine furnishes motor. Water is distributed through pipes to the several buildings with head sufficient to afford protection in case of fire, and is also utilized for washing engines. The clerks' office, 24×40, is a neat wooden building just between the main machine shop and the main track of the road which traverses the yard from east to west. These buildings are all on the south side of the main track, as are also the coal and sand houses. The house for Blossburg coal, used in blacksmith shop, is 20×60, eighteen feet high, with a lean-to for charcoal ; the soft coal house is 100×46 with twenty-foot posts, and the sandhouse 40×60 with eighteen-foot posts.

Upon the north side of the track are the main car shop, a two-story frame building 150 feet long and 80 feet wide, with a brick engine and boiler room on the northwest, 20×20, with iron roof, furnished with engines of forty-horse power. This car shop contains all the machinery for woodwork, the paint shop and the upholsterer's room. A second car shop, 40×120, with a lean-to for castings for car department, 20×60 ; a storeroom, 60×40, two stories for casting and supplies for machinery department and an oilhouse,

16×36, complete the buildings on north side of track, and, with the exception of the bridge shop, concludes the catalogue of the buildings at this point.

The office of the master mechanic is in the main machine shop, where with his telegraph operator at his elbow he has direct communication with every station along the lines of his double division. The number of men in the employ of the company at this point are: Machine shop, 50; boiler shop, 18; blacksmith shop, 24; rail mill, 16; roundhouse, 40; tin and coppersmiths, 5; carpenters and truckmen in main car shop, 25; laborers, 8; painters, 4; upholsterers, 1; car repairers on track and oilers, 15; engineers for stationary engines, 2; coal and wood men, 10; storeroom keepers, 3; a clerical force of 4 and 1 telegraph operator.

W. A. Scott, master mechanic, is a native of New York, and has been in the employ of the company for twenty-four years, gradually working his way up. In 1867 he was appointed foreman of the machine shops of the company at Belle Plaine, Iowa, prior to which time he had been a locomotive engineer of six years' standing and three years' shop experience. Was there nine years, then transferred to Kendall, Wisconsin, from which place, after one year's service, he was assigned to duty as foreman of the shops at Harvard, Illinois; remained there eighteen months, when he was appointed master mechanic of these divisions and removed to Winona in 1878. Mr. Scott was made a Master Mason in 1862, a Royal Arch Mason in 1863, and took the commandery degrees in 1864. He has held many positions of honor in the fraternity. Was grand treasurer of the grand chapter of Iowa in 1874; eminent commander of St. Bernard Commandery, Belle Plaine, Iowa, from 1872-5; generalissimo of Woodstock Commandery, Illinois, in 1876; captain-general of Cœur de Lion Commandery in this city in 1881, and its most eminent commander in 1882; is a member and director of the board of trade, Winona Mill Company, Winona Wagon Company and the Winona Silver Mining Company; is married, and has one child.

G. W. Williams, general foreman of the locomotive department of the Chicago & Northwestern railway shops at this point, was assigned to that position January 1, 1878, and has been in the employ of the company the greater part of the time since 1864. Mr. Williams is a native of New York; served an apprenticeship of three years at his trade as a machinist in the shops of the Delaware & Lackawana railroad at Scranton, Pennsylvania; entered the service of the

New York & Erie road at Susquehanna and Port Jervis, and was in their employ four years, when he came to Chicago and entered the service of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad in 1864. He came from the Chicago shops to assume charge of his department here in 1878. As an inventor, Mr. Williams has achieved success. In 1882 he took out letters patent for his "Piston-packing Adjuster." This invention consists of a volute or spiral spring so mechanically connected that it will adjust the packing as it wears and balance the piston in the cylinder. This invention has been sufficiently tested to prove its value as a force economizer. Its introduction in the Ewart's flouring-mill at Waseca enabled them to turn out twenty barrels of flour additional in each day's run. August 1, 1881, Mr. Williams took out letters patent for an invention destined in the opinion of competent judges to supersede all other journal bearings. This is the "Asbestos bearing," designed to prevent journals from running hot, as it sustains a heat of 1,800 degrees before burning. It consists of an asbestos filling compressed into a metal cylinder under a pressure of thirty tons, forming a cartridge of about one inch diameter. These cartridges are inserted into holes drilled in the bearing surfaces of boxes and journals and left flush, not only giving absolute security against hot journals, but greatly reducing the cost of lubrication, as the soapy nature of the asbestos constitutes it an excellent lubricator in itself. The bearing has already been introduced into Youmans Bros. & Hodgins and Laird, Norton & Co's sawmills in this city; into Troost's flouring-mill at Minnesota City, and ran 386 miles on the tender of a passenger engine over the Chicago & Northwestern railway without one drop of lubrication, giving no sign of overheating. It is a safety bearing, so far as danger from fire through overheated journals is concerned, and an economizer of force and oil, reducing, as it does, the amount of friction and the need of lubrication. Mr. Williams is married and has one child four years of age. He is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., and of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M.

Wm. H. Bennett, foreman of car works, has been in the employ of the company for the greater part of the last twelve years, with headquarters at Winona. He is a native of Maryland, a carpenter by trade, and in 1869 came west to Chicago, thence the same season to La Crosse, and finally to Winona. Has been in charge of car department since May 1, 1879. Mr. Bennett is a member of

Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., and of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M. Married and has one child in school in this city.

John McNally, foreman of the blacksmith shop, has been in the employ of the company since 1875, and since August 1, 1878, has been foreman in these shops. He learned his trade in the shops of the Cumberland and Pennsylvania railroad, in Maryland, and was with that company seven years; then from 1871 to 1875 was at work in Pittsburgh and St. Louis.

ENGINEERS' DEPARTMENT Chicago & Northwestern railway, for all divisions west of Mississippi river in Minnesota and Dakota, headquarters in depot building, Winona. John E. Blunt, chief engineer. This department has charge of all maintenance of ways and erection of buildings for the company within the territory above specified. The principal work now in hand is the construction of the Iroquois branch of the Dakota Central, from Iroquois to Callope, a distance of 127 miles. The buildings erected in Winona under the supervision of this department, not included among the shops under the master mechanic's charge, are notably the grain elevator, built under the management of the old transit company. Dimensions 60×450 feet, and the new depot building. This last structure, built during the season of 1880-81, and taken possession of in the spring of the latter year, is a two-story brick, stone foundations and basement, mansard roof, composite architecture, extreme length 150 feet, width 46½ feet. The exterior presents quite an ornate appearance, and the interior is conveniently arranged to meet the purposes of its construction. In it are the general offices of this division, ticket office, waiting-rooms, and depot hotel.

John E. Blunt, chief engineer, is a native of Tennessee. Graduated at Andover, Massachusetts, class of 1847, and from the mechanical school at Newburyport, same state, in the class of 1849. Leaving school, he attached himself to the engineering corps of B. C. Morse, and was with him in the south until 1857, principally in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, and was still in the south when the war of 1861-5 broke out. The following year, 1862, came to Chicago, and was in the employ of the old Galena Railroad Company (at that time the Chicago & Galena Union) when that road was absorbed by the Chicago & Northwestern system in 1864. Came, with the absorption of the Galena road, into the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern road, and was connected with the Galena division until he was transferred to Winona in 1878, in charge of the Western depart-



ment. Mr. Blunt is a member of the Congregational church, married, has three children in school in this city, one daughter pursuing her studies at Newburyport, Massachusetts, and one son, a physician, in practice at Clinton, Iowa.

C. C. Puder, assistant engineer, is a native of Portland, Maine, and came to Winona in 1878, when Mr. Blunt assumed charge of the department.

BRIDGE AND BUILDERS' department of Winona & St. Peter division Chicago & Northwestern railway; Alex. Doig, foreman. This department of construction employs a force of from 120 to 220 mechanics and laborers, of whom one-fourth are residents of Winona or tributary to its trade. The principal work of the past three years has been in the Stockton bluffs, where a large amount of labor, money and material has been expended. The accompanying statement will afford some idea of the work of this department within the county limits during the period above specified. Bridge No. 28, constructed in 1880, consists of a solid stone arch of 10 feet; No. 29, which was originally a wooden tressel-bridge 479 feet long, was replaced, in 1880-81, by a riveted iron bridge 85 feet long; No. 21, constructed in 1881 at Stockton water-tank, is a riveted iron bridge, single span of 64 feet; No. 26, originally a wooden tressel-bridge 720 feet long, was replaced, during 1881-82, by a two-span riveted iron bridge with piers and abutments, each span 55 feet in length. The tresselwork of the approaches to this bridge is being solidly filled to make a permanent roadway; No. 27, which was originally a wooden tressel of 732 feet, is being replaced by two 32-foot arches, work not yet completed; No. 30, recently commenced, is to consist of one 32-foot arch. The approaches to these constructions will all be made as substantially as possible, and as rapidly as may be a permanently solid roadbed established.

Mr. Doig, the foreman of this department, is a native of Dundee, Scotland. Came to America in 1856. Learned his trade as a housebuilder in Illinois and Minnesota, and commenced work as a bridge builder the same year that he came to this city, 1865. Was assistant under D. Leary, the first bridge foreman on the road, until Mr. Leary went into the service of the Southern Minnesota road in 1876, when the assistant became foreman. Mr. Leary, so well known to Winona county people, is at present the superintendent of bridges and building on the Canada Pacific road, so that the Winona & St. Peter division of the Chicago & Northwestern may be said to

have furnished bridge brains for two important lines of road besides its own.

S. Sanborn, superintendent of the Winona & St. Peter division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway, extending from Winona to Watertown, with branch; aggregate mileage of track 407 miles. Mr. Sanborn commenced his railroad career in 1856, at the very bottom of the ladder, first as depot employé and then as brakeman on the old Milwaukee & Mississippi railway, now the Prairie du Chien division of the Milwaukee & St. Paul. January 17, 1863, he entered the service of the Chicago & Northwestern road as freight agent. In 1872 was appointed general agent for the road at Milwaukee, and two years later, April, 1874, was assigned to duty as superintendent of the Winona & St. Peter division, with headquarters in this city. He is married and has one child, now in attendance at the State Normal School here.

Wm. P. Cosgrove, chief train-dispatcher Winona & St. Peter division of Chicago & Northwestern railroad, is a native of Michigan and a telegraph operator of twenty-seven years' experience. In 1857 he assumed charge of the first telegraph office opened for commercial purposes in the city of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. In 1858 he took an instrument in the general office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad at Milwaukee, and was chief train dispatcher there for twelve or fourteen years prior to assuming duties at their headquarters in 1874. He is married and has three children, one of them in attendance at the State Normal and one in private school.

PHOENIX IRONWORKS, corner Third and Winona streets; W. M. Hurlbert, proprietor. These works were established in 1866 by Mr. Hurlbert, who, after fifteen years' experience in the machine shops of the Vermont Central railway, came to Winona in 1863 to establish the machine shops of the Winona & St. Peter railways. The Phoenix Works were started on the second block west from that now occupied, on rented ground, and here in September, 1866, Mr. Hurlbert erected his first manufactory, 30×90 feet. This building, destroyed by fire in February, 1867, was replaced the same month by one 30×100 feet, business suffering interruption only for a short period. The lots upon which the manufactory stood not being in the market, in the summer of 1857 Mr. Hurlbert purchased one-half of the block lying between Winona and Huff, on the south side of Third street, along which it fronts 300 feet, having a frontage

of 150 on Winona. To this property Mr. Hurlbert removed his machine shop in 1867; built a two-story wood-shop 30×60 feet and a blacksmith shop 20×30 feet. The foundry, a solid stone structure, 40×65 feet, with iron truss roof, was erected four years later, in 1871. A general machine business is done, both repairing and jobbing, quite an extensive manufacturer of Minnesota seeders conducted and employment given to a force of from twenty-five to fifty hands, according to season. An engine of twenty-five horse-power supplies motor for the machinery, and steam for the heating apparatus. The works are furnished with lathes.

Mr. Hurlbert was born in Walpole, New Hampshire; removed early in life to Northfield, Vermont, and there learned his trade as a machinist in the shops of the Vermont Central railway. Was in charge of their work at that point when he accepted a situation as master-mechanic of the Winona & St. Peter Railway Company, and in that capacity came to Winona in 1863, established their shops and managed them two years, when he resigned his position and soon afterward engaged in his present industry, which he has managed successfully for over sixteen years. In 1867 Mr. Hurlbert patented his Minnesota seeder, which has quite an extensive sale throughout the northwest.

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## CHAPTER XLVII.

### ST. CHARLES TOWNSHIP.

ST. CHARLES is situated in the valley of the Whitewater river, in the county of Winona, on the Winona & St. Peter railroad, twentieth-eight miles west of the city of Winona.

#### GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.

The city of St. Charles is located in a triangular valley, through which, on the north side, flows the Whitewater river. This valley has been formed by the erosion and removal of the original layers down to solid magnesian limestone, and upon the bed of that layer the city is located, while upon every side are displayed the precipitous sides of those ancient layers which have remained protected by their cap of solid flags of Trenton limestone, and have withstood the forces of the destroying elements.

The Trenton limestone, which is the upper layer of rock in the bluffs around, is naturally of a blue color, but when near the surface and affected by light and water they are usually faded.

The lower Trenton formation here has been described by Prof. N. H. Winchell, state geologist, in the following language: "At a quarry near St. Charles, half a mile south of the city, the lowest portion of the Trenton appears as follows, in descending order: No. 1, hard, crystalline, calcareous layers, ringing under the hammer; of a light drab color, without shale; fossiliferous, fifteen feet. No. 2, bluish-green shale, about ten feet. Total, Trenton, twenty-five feet."

These Trenton flags, with the underlying beds of shale, are impervious to moisture, consequently the localities which they underlie are better watered than those of the lower layers, and the margin of this formation is usually marked by springs of water.

Next in the descending order we arrive at the St. Peter sandstone, which is about 100 feet thick, and is an almost pure quartz sand, containing but two-tenths of one per cent of foreign matter, which is alumina with a trace of carbonate of lime, not enough of the latter even to cement its grains. We have here an inexhaustible quantity of white, non-fossiliferous, and almost pure quartz sand, which is easily excavated, and is said to be fairer than the Linn sand used by the Scotch manufacturers of flint glass, and is every way equal to that sand for this purpose. Here it is used only for making common mortar, for which purpose it is well adapted. Says Mr. Hurlbut, in his valuable papers on the geology of southern Minnesota, "The thousands of escarpments of this formation which border the plains in as many convenient places offer in return, for but little labor, the indulgence in every fancy in subterranean architecture, from the cool and spacious dairy vault and brewer's cellar to the Mediæval Rhenish castles supplied with sparkling fountains at will."

Under the above we find a layer of magnesian limestone, which is found at the surface in some localities near the Whitewater river. This, as its name indicates, is not a pure limestone. It contains carbonate of lime with about one equivalent of carbonate of magnesia, with some insoluble silicates and traces of alumina, the largest percent being carbonate of lime. It was formerly believed that because of these impurities it was not adapted to the making of lime, and therefore people built kilns south of this city, where they obtained



the purer carbonate of lime in the Trenton beds. This was a blunder, for, although the magnesian limestone produces a large amount of insoluble cement and does not slack so easily and perfectly as the carbonate of lime, yet it is more economical, as it requires less heat in burning. It also throws out less heat in slacking, and is therefore called 'cool' lime. It is slower in setting, so that from fifteen to twenty bricks can be laid with one spreading of mortar, and a corresponding advantage is gained in plastering. This is a light colored and pretty stone, and, being hard and enduring, it is well adapted for building purposes.

A few miles north of this city is a quarry of magnesian limestone, which is of a light cream color, and homogeneous texture, and when first taken from the quarry is soft. It is easily cut into all desirable forms. It takes a polish and is therefore a marble. It has an abundance of calcareous cement, and hardens by exposure to the air. It is adapted to ornamental work as well as heavy masonry, can be cut into posts, sills, caps, water-tables, etc.

Clay abounds in the vicinity, which, for some years past, has been economized for the manufacture of brick. A few miles from the city are bogs of peat, some of which give promise of yielding a fair burning material, yet they have not been proved by sufficient test.

The quarries of the Trenton system abound in fossils peculiar to that age, many of which have been gathered to enrich the museums of institutions for educational purposes as well as of private collections. There are also boulders which have been transferred here during the past geological ages, among which are granite, agates, silicious limestone, argentines or lamellar calcites, jaspers, etc., some of which are susceptible to a polish and by their hardness are adapted to useful purposes.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWN.

In 1851 there were no white settlers in this part of the country. The buffalo had disappeared but the deer and the elk still pastured the prairies and sought shelter in the wooded valleys. Abundance of speckled trout played in the crystal waters. By an act of the legislature of the territory of Minnesota, passed February 23, 1853, so much territory as is embraced within the following boundaries, to-wit: Beginning at the southwest corner of T. 105 N., R. 10 W., thence north twenty-four miles to the northwest corner of T. 108 N.,

R. 10 W., thence east to the Mississippi river, thence down said river to the northeast corner of Houston county, thence west to the place of beginning, was established as the county of Winona. The county of Winona is on the eastern and northeastern slope of the State of Minnesota to the Mississippi river. The summit level of the country between Winona City and Mankato is at Rice lake, in the county of Dodge. The streams running easterly and northeasterly from that point are rapid, affording abundance of power for hydraulic purposes. Between these streams there are generally continuous ridges of land which break in grand, lofty and picturesque escarpments on the Mississippi shore. The height of these escarpments are not much below the summit level at Rice lake; the streams, in their rapid course to the Mississippi, seem to have worn down their channels through the solid lime-rock, and through the more friable Silurian to their present depths; hence on the shore of the Mississippi we behold such remarkable features in the landscape. The nearer these streams approach to the river the deeper are the gorges, and it was after much toil and labor that the early pioneer could ascend through these gorges to the elevated prairies above.

After the government survey St. Charles was known as T. 106 N., R. 10 W.

On April 29, 1854, the county commissioners divided the county of Winona into six election precincts. The precinct of Elba, in which was St. Charles, included T. 105 N., R. 8, 9 and 10 W., now Hart, Fremont and Saratoga; T. 106 N., R. 9 and 10 W., now Utica and St. Charles, and T. 107 N., R. 10 W., now Elba. E. Haws, William Davidson and L. H. Springer were appointed judges of election. At this session the county was divided into assessment districts. District No. one, embracing T. 108 N., R. 9 and 10 W., and T. 105, 106 and 107 N., R. 10 W. A. P. Hall was appointed collector. On July 3, 1854, the valuation of personal property in this district was \$11,318.

As the real estate belonged to the government, the improvements on the lands were taxed as personal property. The tax per cent. on the valuation this year was one and thirty-five hundredths per cent.

On May 1, 1854, a resolution was passed by the county commissioners constituting each election precinct a road district, and William Davidson was appointed road supervisor of the Elba district.

On May 19, 1854, school district No. 3 was organized, embracing T. 106 (St. Charles), and the north tier of sections in T. 105, R. 10 W.

In March, 1855, school district No. 5 was organized, consisting of sections 7, 8, 17, 19, (city of St. Charles), 20, 21, 30, and all of section 29 excepting the southeast quarter of T. 106 N., R. 10 W.

The first election in Elba precinct was held in the fall of 1854, at the house of William Davidson. Joseph Mixter and John T. Blair were appointed clerks of the election. Benjamin Langworthy was elected justice of the peace. William Davidson was elected one of the county commissioners.

The early records of Elba precinct while under the territorial government, and before the towns were organized geographically, having been lost, the writer has been under the necessity of supplying the history from the recollection of those who were the early pioneers of the precinct; hence it is not as complete as it might have been if the records could have been examined.

In the fall of 1856 the second election for the Elba precinct was held at the house of James Ball, situated on the premises now known as the "Summit Farm," in the town of St. Charles. At this election L. H. Springer and William Davidson were appointed judges, and Joseph Mixter, clerk. At this election Carter Fuller was elected constable. During this year the republican party in the territory was organized, and pitted against the democracy. C. H. Berry, now of Winona City, and Wm. Ashley Jones, were present at this election to sustain the democratic nominees. W. Thorne, residing near the southern limits of the precinct, came a distance of twelve miles and voted the democratic ticket. L. H. Springer was elected one of the county commissioners.

At the April session of the year 1857 the board of county commissioners organized geographically T. 106, N., of R. 10 W., into a separate precinct, denominated St. Charles precinct; and H. G. Rice, Benjamin Raynold and Wm. P. Wood were appointed judges of election, to be held at the schoolhouse in the village of St. Charles. On May 11, 1858, the first township election for the organized town of St. Charles was held for the purpose of electing town officers. A. G. Murray was elected chairman of the board of supervisors, and Franklin Langworthy and David Balcombe were elected supervisors; Harris Scoville, town clerk; J. F. Remore, assessor; Geo. P. Pratt, collector; Charles Elsbury, overseer of the poor; Geo. P. Pratt and Geo. Bartlett, constables; Harris Scoville and Wm.

McKnight, justices of the peace, and Wm. Hendee, overseer of highways. At this election L. H. Springer, Wm. Davidson and M. Grover acted as judges; John M. Cool, and Charles Brewer, acted as clerks.

Minnesota was admitted as a state into the Union by an act of congress passed May 11, 1858.

#### EARLY PIONEERS.

In the spring of the year 1853, William Davidson pre-empted on Sec. 10, T. 106, N., R. 10 W., upon which he built a log house into which he moved his family. He claims to be and is considered to be the first settler of the town of St. Charles, and entitled to be called "The Old Settler"; though about this time Hiram Hull, one of the famous Minnesota City Company, who emigrated from the city of New York and laid out Minnesota City, thinking that he was locating on the banks of the Mississippi river instead of a big slough; but becoming dissatisfied with that place, left and made a claim on section 12, in the town of St. Charles, upon which he erected a small log dwelling and made some other improvements; but sold out in the fall of 1853, and moved to the east. In the latter part of May, 1853, Lewis H. Springer and family, from the State of Illinois, after a short residence at Winona, moved and settled on section 19, in the now city of St. Charles, and erected a double log house on the south bank of the south branch of the Whitewater river, and near the foot of what is now Whitewater street. The family consisted of himself, his wife Adaline and his daughter Ella. With him also came Benjamin Langworthy and Mrs. Langworthy, the father and mother of Mrs. Springer, and Alonzo and Benjamin Langworthy, Jr. Alonzo and Benjamin, sons of Benjamin Langworthy, made their claims on section 18.

In the same year, and soon after Mr. Springer had settled on his claim, Robert Calhoun and Carter Fuller made their claims on the uplands, south of St. Charles city. James Smith, Mr. Kately and Mr. Russell made their claims and settled in the southeasterly part of the town, in the fall of the same year. About this time Wm. Hause made a claim about a mile northeast of Springer's, upon which he erected a claim shanty. He had formerly made and sold a claim in the now town of Saratoga. No other claim was made in the north part of the town until the year 1855, when David Evans made a claim and erected a small log house about a mile north of



the city of St. Charles. The government surveys of the lands of southern Minnesota were made in the fall of 1853 and the spring of 1854. A. M. Norris, of Dubuque, had the contract for the meridian and township lines, and W. A. Jones had the contract for the subdivision of the lands in this locality, assisted by A. M. Raymond. Some of the first settlers had staked out claims before the subdivisions had been made, and consequently were disappointed in not getting all that which they desired to locate.

In the spring of 1854 Mr. Salisbury settled on the southeast quarter of section 19. John Elsbury about the same time settled on the same section, and Harris Seoville on section 18. During this year Lewis H. Springer erected a small frame store a few rods south of his dwelling-house, and kept a small assortment of dry goods and groceries for the accommodation of the settlers. This was the first mercantile establishment and the first frame building in town. Mr. Springer was appointed postmaster in the spring of 1854, and kept the postoffice in this new building. He subsequently sold his stock of goods to Franklin Langworthy, and Langworthy sold to Hiram Rice. Mr. Rice soon after built a new store opposite where now stands the old Hall's Hotel. The old store which Springer built is now a part of the house occupied by Morgan Thomas. At the time Mr. Springer settled in St. Charles there was no settlement west on this route, and no public-house west of Winona to accommodate emigrants until Mr. Springer, in the spring of 1853, opened his dwelling as a public inn; and many of the early settlers will remember when, after a weary journey from Winona up the steep and rugged windings of the high bluffs that skirt the western side of the valley of the Mississippi, and crossing the prairie where little water was found, famished from hunger and thirst, they arrived at Springer's tavern, where their wants could be supplied.

At the present time not a vestige of Springer's tavern, where in former times so much comfort had been dispersed, now remains, save the old roof of oak shakes and a few logs, on the premises of Miss Sarah Birge, daughter of the late Col. Joseph Birge, used as a shelter for pigs and hens.

In the year 1854 a Mr. Wheeler settled on section 19 in the town, now city of St. Charles, adjoining the county line, upon which he built a log house and in the following year opened the same for a public inn. The skin of a wild cat stuffed with straw and elevated on a pole gave intimation that entertainment for man and beast

could be had. It was popularly known as the "Wild Cat Tavern." This was the second house opened for a public inn of the town. In the summer of 1856 James and Joshua Easton erected the first framed public inn, being the same building now owned and occupied by Henry Hall, situate on Winona street. Mr. Hall made his first location on lands east and adjacent to the platted portion of the city, now owned by Carlos Brewer. In the month of July, 1856, a violent tornado accompanied with rain, thunder and lightning, swept through the village, prostrating large and firmly-rooted trees in its course, taking off the roof of Mr. Hall's house and all the logs above the upper joists and landing them at a distance, and took up over the walls of the house beds, bedding, and furniture, exposing the inmates of the dwelling to the furious blasts, frightening them out of their senses and committing other misdemeanors against the peace and dignity of Mr. Hall and the people of the village.

Hiram Rice succeeded L. H. Springer as postmaster; Joseph Mixer succeeded Mr. Rice; Col. Joseph Birge succeeded Mr. Mixer; M. S. Weeks succeeded Mr. Birge; Simeon Harding succeeded Mr. Weeks, and John Pickert (present postmaster) succeeded Mr. Harding.

In the year 1858, M. H. Gates and H. C. Parrott erected a store building. After the closing of the mercantile business the building was used as a wagon-shop by H. C. Parrott, being the first wagon-shop established in St. Charles, and from which beginning sprang the present large and extensive wagon and sleigh manufacturing establishment of H. C. Parrott & Co. The first blacksmith shop, being a frame building near the southern confines of the original village of St. Charles, was erected by John Elsbury, in the Burr Oak grove, on the premises now owned by B. M. Cravath, near to which Mr. Elsbury built his log house on the precise site where now stands the beautiful mansion erected by S. W. Stone, and now owned by Mr. Cravath. In the blacksmith shop was held the first public dance in St. Charles, at which most of the settlers, young and old, attended.

In 1860 James H. Easton established the first art gallery in St. Charles. Washington Wendell established the first shoe shop, and Isaac Talbot the second. Dr. Wendell, the brother of Washington Wendell, was the first physician that settled in St. Charles.

## CLAIM TROUBLES.

During the year 1854, a land-claim society was organized of which Carter Fuller was appointed chairman and Joseph Wheeland elected secretary. The object of the society was to guarantee to each member the right to claim and hold possession of 320 acres of land, so that each one in taking this amount of land, might secure at least forty acres of timber. This liberal way of appropriating Uncle Sam's land, without his being a party to the affair, soon led to difficulty. Mr. Joseph Wheeland, a member and secretary of the society, had made his claim of 320 acres, upon which he had erected a log house and into which he had moved his family. He subsequently sold a portion of his claim, and then to make out his complement of land floated on to an adjoining piece of timber, claimed under the by-laws of the society by another person. Mr. Wheeland having been protected in his original claim of 320 acres, and being secretary of the society and therefore more sacredly bound to carry out the provisions and by-laws of the society, and having been the first one to violate the rules, the other members determined that he should suffer for it. Some time during the winter of 1854-5, and while Mr. Wheeland was at Winona on business, a party in disguise went to his house, and taking by force his wife and three small children in a sleigh to Carter Fuller's house where they were left (Mr. Fuller being the father of Mrs. Wheeland), then returning to the house and taking out everything that was valuable set the house on fire which was soon burned to ashes. The club gang then went out and cut down all the timber on the land, drew it away, dividing it, as was supposed, among themselves. S. B. Dickson, a resident of St. Charles, says that "he and Henry Woodruff were on their way to Saratoga and had stopped at a private house, when the gang were drawing the timber. The gang apprehending that they were spies, ordered them to go back and threatened to shoot them if they ever appeared in court against them." After the burning of the house, word was immediately sent to Mr. Wheeland, who came home immediately and getting a clue to some of the desperadoes, returned to Winona to get out a warrant for their arrest. In the meantime a large party of the members of the club appeared in the road in front of Mr. Fuller's house, where Mrs. Wheeland then was, and requested admittance into the house. Mr. Fuller apprehending a raid and evil intent had prepared for a vigorous defense. He had

at hand one double-barreled rifle, one single-barreled rifle, one shotgun and a brace of six shooters, all well loaded. He refused them admittance. He stood in his door with rifle in hand and threatened to shoot the first man who would dare to mount the fence to come into his enclosure. A parley ensued — there was a cessation of hostilities. It was finally agreed that three of the party might be admitted to explain the object of the visit. The delegation having said that they had come with no hostile intentions, their errand was a peaceable one, and turning to Mrs. Wheeland asked her, "what amount of money would satisfy her for the damage done in burning the house." Mrs. Wheeland replied, "All the law will give." These words had a magic effect upon the party for they soon scattered, and when Mr. Wheeland returned, accompanied with Sheriff Eaton with a warrant for their arrest they were *non est inventus*. Some of these persons, however, were subsequently arrested and brought before Justice Thompson, of Winona, for trial, and Messrs. Dickson and Woodruff, whom the gang had threatened, in case they should appear in court against them, were subpoenaed as witnesses against them, and gave their testimony. It was said that the evidence was conclusive, yet they got clear by some means. S. S. Beman was counsel for the defense. Mr. Dickson states that when he was building his shanty on his claim, he was forbidden to do so, and if he persisted in doing so he was threatened of being shot. He built his shanty, however, but while he was gone to Winona to enter his land his shanty was torn down and the boards taken away and never found. Mr. Dickson further states that at about the first of November, 1855, he was at Winona at the time of the land sales. There was there at that time an old gentleman who had made a claim of a quarter section of land, situate in Saratoga town, and a bona fide settler on the same and entitled to bid it off; another person bid \$1.25 per acre, and cried "settle." The old gentleman then raised the bid five cents and cried "settle," upon which one of the club society told him if he did not withdraw his bid, he would put him into the river. The old gentleman refused to do so. The ruffians seized him and were dragging him toward the river when he drew a revolver and shot one of them, wounding him in the thigh. Another man was wounded in the groin. In the affray the old gentleman had his thumb shot off. He was trodden down by the gang and severely injured in the breast. He finally succeeded in getting up and taking refuge in the land office, where the mob tried



to get hold of him, but was prevented by the officers. In about two weeks he died, probably from the injuries received from the mob.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The first schoolhouse erected in St. Charles was a frame building, in the year 1855, on the west side of Church street. A young lady from Chatfield by the name of Clarissa Mastick, taught the first school. The next person who taught the school was Miss Lucy Bolt, now Mrs. James H. Easton, of Rochester, Minnesota. This schoolhouse was used for all public gatherings, both political and religious. A debating club was formed that year, the meetings being held in the schoolhouse. The old schoolhouse is now occupied as a residence by Wm. Wheeler. A new and more convenient schoolhouse was erected during the year 1863, on the east side of Whitewater street, and a few rods north of Winona street, which was destroyed by fire in 1869, it being then private property, having been sold by the school district.

A special act of the legislature organizing the St. Charles school district was approved February 6, 1867. At the annual school meeting held in March, of the same year, a board of education was elected, consisting of the following persons: John M. Cool, chairman; H. C. Parrott, treasurer; John Pickert, clerk; J. W. Brockett, H. H. Guthrie and S. Y. Hyde. Also at this meeting there was appointed a committee to select a site for a graded school building, and report at some future meeting. A special meeting was called April 10, 1867, when it was voted to issue bonds to the amount of \$10,000, running from one to ten years, with twelve per cent interest, payable annually for the purpose of building a schoolhouse. At this meeting the committee appointed to select a site made their report. The site selected was what was denominated "Birge's Square," between Richland and Church streets, the site of the present school building, containing about two acres of land. The appropriation of \$10,000 not being sufficient to complete the building, a special meeting of the school district was held at the new schoolhouse on January 18, 1868, when the board of education was instructed to issue and negotiate additional bonds of the district to the amount of \$3,000, payable in four years. Subsequently the legislature legalized the action of the board of education. The new building was built of wood, two stories. The first story contained four schoolrooms, and the second story contained

two schoolrooms and one large assembly room. The four lower rooms were furnished, and the St. Charles graded schools commenced on January 16, 1868, with about 150 scholars in attendance. Sylvester Bedal was teacher and superintendent; Lavina Averill, Mary Tomlinson and Julia Bertrand were assistants. In the year 1878 this building was totally destroyed by fire. The fire caught from a tinner's furnace, who was repairing the tin gutters on the roof. The fire occurred a few days before the annual school meeting, at which time arrangements were made for building a new building of brick and stone. The new building was completed in December, 1878. It is a fine two-story and basement structure of red brick trimmed with cut stone and cream colored brick, and cost, unfurnished, about \$12,000. It contains eight commodious, well-lighted and well-ventilated schoolrooms, each with ample cloak rooms. It is in the form of a letter X, thus giving opportunity to be lighted by windows on three sides of each schoolroom. It is heated from furnaces located in the basement. In the High School department a course of study is taught preparatory to admission to the State University. At the present time there are six departments, with as many teachers. The school building and the management of the school is a monument to the energy, intelligence and progressive spirit of the people of St. Charles.

#### MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The first marriage in St. Charles was that of Mr. J. S. Olds and Miss Ellen Aldrich, of Clarksburg, Massachusetts, in the spring of 1856. They were married by Benj. Langworthy, justice of the peace, at the house of L. H. Springer. The next marriage was that of James H. Easton and Miss Lucy Bolt, by H. Thompson, a justice of the peace. This was in the fall of 1856.

The first birth was that of Philip, son of L. H. Springer, in the year 1854. The first death was that of Richard, son of John Elsbury. His death was occasioned by eating the flowers of some wild plant. The next death was that of Hiram Rice, merchant. The place of burial was then on land belonging to Alonzo Langworthy, on the north side of the Whitewater river, long since vacated as a burial place.

#### CIVIL AND CRIMINAL SUITS.

The first civil suit of record under the township organization was brought before Harris Scoville, justice of the peace, in which

Pangburn and Langworthy were plaintiffs, and M. S. Weeks, defendant, June 11, 1858. A jury was called but failed to agree. The parties agreed to submit the case to the justice who found no cause of action. Judgment was rendered against plaintiffs for costs amounting to \$24.92. Sam Cole, attorney for plaintiffs, and Moses W. Fay for defendants.

The first criminal suit of record was the State of Minnesota against Alfred Hawley (now adjutant general of the state), on a charge of an assault and battery upon the body and person of William Coon, March 15, 1860, in which the defendant was discharged.

#### RELIGIOUS HISTORY.

The first sermon delivered in St. Charles was by E. Ely, of the Baptist persuasion, at L. H. Springer's in the month of January, 1854. Mr. Ely now resides at Winona. He was one of the first settlers, and is the historian of Winona city. In August, 1854, the Rev. T. R. Cressey, of the Baptist church, preached at L. H. Springer's and organized a Union Sabbath school, being the first Sabbath school established in St. Charles. From this time to 1857 Father Michael Klepper, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, who had settled on a farm about four miles north of St. Charles, preached in the schoolhouse and formed the first Methodist class in this town. During this time preachers of other denominations occasionally preached at St. Charles and vicinity. A. M. Page, an adventist, occasionally preached. Union Sabbath schools were usually kept up during the summer seasons.

On April 18, 1855, the Rev. David Brooks, of the Methodist church, preached at the house of L. H. Springer, being the first sermon of that order delivered in St. Charles.

In the fall of 1856, Father Klepper formed the first class of the Methodist Episcopal church in St. Charles, composed of the following named members: George C. Sheeks, Mrs. Sheeks, Samson Sheeks, Lucinda Sheeks, Eliza Sheeks, Wm. Cunningham, Joseph Drake, Mrs. Drake, Nelson Wilson, Mary Wilson, Michael Klepper, Mrs. Rebecca Klepper, Martha Ann Klepper, Marietta Klepper, Wm. Hendee, Mary Hendee, Calvin Hitt, Mrs. Hitt, N. D. Mason and Mrs. Mason. The Minnesota conference was set off from the Wisconsin conference in the year 1856. The first quarterly meeting of the St. Charles circuit of the Methodist Episcopal church was held at the schoolhouse in St. Charles, on September 19, 1857. At this

meeting the Rev. D. Cobb presided. The society has a church building and parsonage in this city.

The Baptist church of St. Charles was organized in the year 1859 by the Rev. D. L. Babcock. A meeting was convened for that purpose at the schoolhouse in St. Charles, on March 3, 1859, and was called to order by appointing Rev. H. B. Slater moderator, and J. W. Denton clerk, pro tem. The following named persons became identified with the organization: Simpson Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Ebenezer Growt, Rhoda Growt, Emily Growt, Morris James, Catharine James, Ward Smith and Justus W. Denton. The declaration of faith and church covenant, as published by the Baptist convention of New Hampshire, was adopted as their rule of faith and covenant. In 1865 a church edifice was built at a cost of about \$3,000. On February 26, 1859, according to public notice previously given, the following-named persons assembled in the schoolhouse in St. Charles, for the purpose of organizing a Congregational church, viz: Hatsel Brewer, Daniel M. Evans, Palmer Carpenter, Isaac Hanks, Alonzo Rowley, John Davidson, Robert Robertson, Polly Brewer, Sarah Evans and Martha Carpenter. Rev. David Burt was chosen moderator. Henry Balcombe was elected scribe. It was then resolved that the above-named persons organize themselves into a church to be called the First Congregational Church of Christ at St. Charles, by adopting the articles of faith and covenant which were then and there presented. The articles of faith and covenant having been adopted, the church was duly constituted and organized. Hatsel Brewer and D. M. Evans were elected deacons. Hatsel Brewer was also elected clerk. A church edifice was constructed, being the first one built in St. Charles, which recently was sold to the German Evangelical society, an organization of recent date in this city. The Congregational society have now a church edifice of more architectural beauty than the original one. Their first church building was erected in 1859, without a spire.

The first services of the Episcopal church were celebrated by the Right Rev. Bishop Whipple, in the spring of 1864, and the next in December of the same year. In the forepart of January, 1865, Rev. J. H. Waterbury commenced holding regular services in the schoolhouse on each alternate Sabbath. At a meeting of the friends of the Episcopal church, held January 27, 1868, for the purpose of organizing Trinity Church, the following proceedings



were had: The Rev. John W. Shatzell, missionary in charge, took the chair, and Robert Stewart was chosen secretary. The following persons were elected wardens and vestrymen: Senior warden, Robert Stewart; junior warden, David Harris; vestrymen, H. C. Parrott, J. W. Brockett, Charles Wardner, Joshua Martin, George H. Clark, Albert Stansbury, Robert H. Cutter, Albert Richardson, Joseph Birge and S. W. Stone. The church being duly organized, services were held every alternate Sabbath, in Templar's hall. Subsequently a handsome church edifice was erected on St. Charles street.

A Roman Catholic church was organized in the year 1867, by Father Latte. In the year 1868, a stone edifice was erected, and dedicated in the fall of 1874, by Father Cotter, of Winona. The first services of the Roman Catholic church held in St. Charles were held at the residence of Patrick Donohue, in the year 1861 or 1862. Patrick Donohue, Joseph Wegeman and Father Latte were the first ones to organize the church.

#### SECRET SOCIETIES.

On February 15, 1864, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota granted a dispensation creating Rising Sun Lodge, U. D., of A. F. and A. M., designating Robert Stewart, W. M.; Benjamin Birge, S. W.; Geo. H. Clark, J. W. The charter members were Robert Stewart, Benj. Birge, Geo. H. Clark, Farnum Chickering, Joseph Birge, Geo. H. Brown, Wm. Cravey, Lauren L. Chamberlain, John Curtis and Charles Griswold. The first communication was held February 25, 1864. The next year a charter was granted under the name of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 49. Subsequently Orient Chapter, R. A. M., was organized. At present there are, in the city of St. Charles, organizations of Odd-Fellows, Knights of Honor, Royal Arcanum, United Workmen, and temperance lodges, and also a grange of the Patrons of Husbandry. The masonic fraternity in 1880 built a handsome lodge-room, with a large banquet hall connected with the lodge-room by folding doors, a commodious reception-room and other necessary rooms.

#### THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

St. Charles responded nobly to the call of the country for its quota of troops to sustain the Union in the war of the rebellion, and the names of those boys in blue who, Cincinnatus like, left the plow in the furrow and rallied in defense of the flag of their country, de-

serve not only honorable mention in the history of St. Charles, but a place in the heart of every liberty-loving patriot.

The following are the names of the soldiers of the war of the rebellion of 1861, credited to the town of St. Charles :

Bertrand, Isaac C.....	7th regiment.	Barker, Henry.....	7th regiment.
Barton, Allison.....	7th "	Colder, Alex.....	7th "
Bartlett, Alfred.....	7th "	Coolidge, David.....	7th "
Brewer, Charles.....	7th "	Bothrick, Andrew.....	7th "
Brown, Wm. G.....	9th "	Stage, Henry.....	7th "
Boyd, Robt. H.....	6th "	Otis, Stephen.....	7th "
Clark, Malcolm.....	7th "	Stone, Hialmer H.....	7th "
Carpenter, A. P.....	1st "	Miller, John N.....	7th "
Davidson, Thos.....	7th "	Parks, Wm. D.....	7th "
Dawley, R. L.....	2d battery.	Butterfield, David J...	7th "
Elsbury, Geo. H.....	7th regiment.	Latimer, Peter D.....	7th "
Fuller, Carter.....	2d battery.	Reed, Orrin S.....	7th "
Fuller, Judson W.....	7th regiment.	Smith, Albert.....	7th "
Fuller, Albert N.....	7th "	Hewitt, Edward.....	7th "
Growth, Orrin.....	7th "	Hill, Chauncy I.....	9th "
Growth, A. W.....	7th "	Harvey, Joseph E.....	9th "
Garver, Geo. S.....	2d battery.	Craig, John L.....	9th "
Hartley, Thomas.....	7th regiment.	Chamberlain, Joel D...	9th "
Huddleston, Thos.....	1st battery.	Carriff, Geo. B.....	9th "
Hawley, A. C.....	3d cavalry.	Lawton, Michael W...	9th "
Jenkins, Geo. O.....	9th regiment.	Murray, Warren.....	9th "
Lowden, S.....	2d battery.	Spencer, Anson.....	9th "
Morton, Thos. S.....	9th "	Stout, Johnson A.....	9th "
Pickle, Alonzo N.....	1st "	Christianson, A.....	9th "
Remore, Elijah.....	1st regiment.	Hall, Geo. W.....	7th "
Robinson, Martin.....	7th "	Boyd, Robt. K.....	11th "
Raymond, Lyman.....	9th "	Downing, John L.....	11th "
Richardson, Geo.....	7th "	Sweet, Hiram F.....	11th "
Smith, John C.....	2d "	Cook, Geo.....	11th "
Talbert, Thos. F.....	6th "	Ellis, Henry C.....	11th "
Thomas, Morgan J.....	7th "	Stewart, Charles C.....	1st infantry.
Wilmot, Edwin D.....	7th "	Boyd, Isaac D.....	1st "
Wiltse, Abram.....	9th "	Bourdon, Peter.....	1st "
King, James.....		Denton, Marion G.....	1st "
Johnson, Joseph P....	2d cavalry.	Harvey, Geo. K.....	1st "
Brewer, Ira C.....	2d "	Sweet, Albert.....	4th "
Smith, Calvin.....	2d "	Zrachte, August.....	4th "
Kimber, Wm. H.....	2d battery.	Ketyeback, Benj.....	4th "
Barklay, Wm. H.....	5th Iowa cav.	Johnson, Ben, United States	engineers.
Barklay, Hugh.....	5th " "	Griswold, Charles, 1st heavy	artillery.
Eves, Charles E.....	7th regiment.	Morton, Richard, substitute.	
Woodworth, John R...	7th "		

Many of the above-named persons were residents of towns adjoining St. Charles, but were accredited to the town of St. Charles in consequence of bounty received from the said town, the town at one time paying as high as \$300 bounty to fill its quota of soldiers called for by the government. Besides the above, T. D. Weeks and S. C. McElhaney, of St. Charles, enlisted in Col. Birge's regiment of sharpshooters. This regiment was raised at Benton Bar-

racks, near St. Louis, Missouri, in the fall of 1861, under the patronage and special favor of Gen. Fremont, who intended to make of it a model sharpshooting regiment, and one that would represent the whole West. With this view, recruiting officers were appointed in nearly all the Western states, to recruit for Birge's sharpshooters. Two companies were raised in Ohio, three in Illinois, one in Michigan, and three were organized at the barracks from squads sent by recruiting officers from Iowa, Minnesota and other Western states, thus forming a regiment different from any other in this, that it represented every state in the west.

In the spring of 1864 it was contemplated to raise a battalion, to be called the First Battalion of Minnesota Volunteers; but not succeeding at the time in raising the requisite number, the following-named persons from St. Charles enlisted into the 8th Iowa Cav., to wit, S. A. Johnson, G. H. Johnson, C. H. Taylor, Robert Butcher, John C. Strain, John Bourdon and David James, who were mustered into service at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, in May, 1864.

#### MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The names of those persons who have been members of the legislature from St. Charles are as follows: S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1857-8; Manly Grover, representative, session of 1857-8; Ebenezer Warner, representative, session of 1861; Thomas P. Dixon, of Saratoga, now a resident of St. Charles, representative, session of 1864; Charles Griswold, representative, session of 1865; H. W. Hill, representative, session of 1868; S. Y. Hyde, representative, session of 1869; John M. Cool, representative, session of 1870; John M. Cool and S. Y. Hyde, representatives, session of 1871; S. S. Beman, senator, and John L. Blair, representative, session of 1872; S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1873; S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1874; H. W. Hill, senator, session of 1875; H. W. Hill, senator, session of 1876; J. F. Remore, senator, session of 1877; J. F. Remore, senator, and F. C. Robinson, representative, session of 1878; H. W. Hill, senator, session of 1879. The constitution of the state was amended providing for biennial sessions of the legislature. S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1881; H. W. Hill, present representative for the session of 1883.

*St. Charles Methodist Church.*—This church was organized in 1857, the class being formed by Rev. M. Klepper in St. Charles, consisting of twenty-three members. The first quarterly meeting of

which there is any record was held September 19, 1857, when the following board of trustees was elected: Joseph Drake, A. D. Porter, G. C. Sheeks, William Hendee, N. E. Mason, Calvin Hitt and Samuel Latta. The first Sabbath school was organized in 1858. The date is not recorded. There were at this time forty-nine members. In April, 1858, B. B. Crist was appointed to this circuit. In 1859 Rev. J. Cowden became pastor. At this time the holding of the annual conference was changed from spring to fall. In the fall of 1859 Rev. J. M. Gossard became pastor, with C. G. Hayes as assistant. The estimating committee's report for 1859-60 is as follows :

Supplies to pastor, groceries and household .....	\$160.00
Quarterly claim .....	200.00
To Rev. Mr. Hayes .....	160.00
To Rev. Mr. Gossard.....	40.00
Total .....	\$560.00

The above is a perfect copy of the report. The first quarterly meeting for the years 1859-60 was held at St. Charles December 31. There was nothing of importance occurred during the years 1860-61. At the annual conference in the fall of 1861 the circuit was changed from Whitewater to St. Charles, and Rev. Alfred Welch became pastor. In the third quarterly minutes we learn that there were seven schools, with fifty officers and teachers, and eight hundred scholars. From 1862 to 1865 Charles Griswold was pastor. During the years 1863-4 lots were purchased and a parsonage built. In 1865 H. Webb was pastor. During this year the church was built, at a cost of \$3,000, added to the cost of parsonage, \$1,072.67, making a total of \$4072.67. In 1866 S. N. Phelps was pastor; in 1867, N. Tainter; 1868-9, Bartly Blain; 1870-1-2, Henry G. Bilber; 1873, William M. Bowdish, who was pastor three years. J. M. Liscomb then took the charge and retained it for three years; 1879-80 G. W. Barnett was pastor. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. John Watson. During the present incumbent's charge the church has been thoroughly repaired and painted, at an expense of \$266.25. The church is free from debt, and has an insurance of \$2,500, and the parsonage \$1,500, in the Continental Insurance Company.

*Association of Christians Opposed to Secret Societies.*—The first anti-secret association organized in this state was effected at the door of the Congregational church in St. Charles about June 1, 1872,



the inside of the building not being available for a business meeting. The organization was the result of two lectures delivered by Rev. Charles A. Blanchard, of Wheaton, Illinois, and it was made auxiliary to the national association, the objects of which, according to its articles of constitution, are primarily to expose and oppose all the secret associations of the age, inasmuch as they are regarded by the members as hostile to the Christian religion and the existence of a republican state. The new organization started with twenty-four members, and in 1873 its name was changed to the Winona County Christian Association, and a new constitution adopted. The original officers of the association were: Oren Cravath, president; E. S. Harvey, vice-president; P. T. Thurber, secretary and treasurer. An anti-masonic library is owned by the association, and meetings held to discuss the questions involved in the controversy between this society and those who oppose their views. The library is free to all. The present officers are: S. B. Patterson, president; P. Huller, vice-president; L. S. Downing, treasurer; W. H. Morrill, secretary and librarian. December 12, 1878, a state association was formed at St. Charles, and annual convocations are held from time to time in the interest of its declared objects.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL.

If the grade and efficiency of the public schools in any community are to be accepted as a true index of the general intelligence of such community, and the value it places upon thorough instruction in such branches of knowledge as may be included in a somewhat liberal curriculum, then may St. Charles honestly congratulate herself upon the record she has thus made. Nor is the ambitious little city on the western confines of the county at all unmindful of the record she is thus making for herself through the enlightened efforts of her educational board, fully sustained, as they are, by the intelligent liberality of that independent school district. This record extends over a period of about sixteen years, during which time discouragements of no ordinary character have been met and overcome, and out of which the public school of that city emerges with a reputation for efficiency, thoroughness and honesty of administration that commands the hearty approbation of all qualified judgments.

Prior to 1867 the St. Charles district was included in the general public school system of the county, and was known as district No.

60, being so borne on the rolls of the county superintendent and included in his regular reports to the state superintendent of instruction. By a special act of the Minnesota legislature, passed February 6, 1867, this district, No. 60, was created a chartered district, as such entitled to all the special privileges accorded such districts under the laws of the state. The district at this time included seven and one-half sections of land. By special act of legislature, of March 4, 1868, section 31 of St. Charles township, Winona county, and one and one-half sections from Olmstead county (formerly included in the independent school district of Dover), were added to the territory included in the old district No. 60, making the full complement of ten sections comprised in the chartered school district of St. Charles as thus constituted. The boundaries of this district remain unchanged since that date. The same year that the chartered district was created, 1867, a commodious school building was erected, and preparations were made for conducting schoolwork on a scale commensurate with the needs of the district. The new school building occupied a full block near the center of the corporation, one block east of the main business street of the village. It was a substantial frame structure with solid stone foundations, containing six spacious classrooms and a general assembly-room, and cost when complete \$16,000. Here the school grew and prospered for nearly eleven years, when it was destroyed by fire, August 31, 1878, the loss being about one-half covered by insurance. The school board immediately met, called for plans and specifications for a new school building, let the contract, and in just ninety days from breaking ground for the foundations of the new structure the keys were turned over to the board of education, the structure complete at a cost of \$11,475. To this should be added \$1,500 for furniture and furnaces. The new structure deserves more than a passing notice, as it is one of unique character, the plans for which were copyrighted by Langdon, of Winona, in 1877, and designated by him the Centennial School Building. The special features of this plan are, economy of construction, isolation of classrooms, so that no noise or confusion in one disturbs the others, three sides of each classroom fully exposed to light and air, and a complete system of ventilation. The plan itself is quite difficult of description, as it does not fall under any particular order of architecture, but may be generally stated as consisting of an irregular hexagonal center, from which extend four arms. The

passage-ways, staircases, entrances to clothes-closets and classrooms are into and from this center, four of the sides of which form the four unlighted ends of the classrooms that open out of this central hall. By this arrangement there will be as many sets of classrooms, four in each set, as there are stories to the structure. These radiating classrooms are all set diagonally to the cardinal points of the compass, so that the windows of each classroom give free access to sunlight upon three sides.

The St. Charles school building is a two-story brick, solid stone foundations and basement for furnaces. The solid walls of stone in the basement carried to the first floor are continued in brick to the ceilings of the second story, thus rendering the divisions complete and greatly enhancing the safety of the structure should fire break out in any part. A separate furnace supplies heat to each wing of the building, and capacious ventilating flues insure a constant current of pure air throughout the classrooms. No assembly-room is provided for in this arrangement. The classrooms, eight in number, six only of them occupied, are uniform in size, and fully provided with all modern appliances for schoolwork. The staircases leading from the second story to the main floor are amply sufficient for all purposes. Of these there are two, each five feet wide in the clear and arranged at opposite sides of a broad hall. The approaches to the street from the main hall are also fully adequate to the most rapidly necessitated exit. Besides the eight recitation-rooms there are eight cloak-rooms, eight teachers' closets and ample storage room for fuel below.

The presiding genius of this pattern temple of teaching is Prof. D. Steward, who is ably seconded by an efficient corps of five teachers, supervising one grammar, one intermediate and three primary departments.

The first secretary of the new school board, elected under the charter given in 1877, was John Pickert, present postmaster of the city.

Much of the efficiency of the school is due to the untiring efforts of the clerk of the board, E. Hill, Esq., who has held that position since 1873. The present board of education is as follows: E. M. Gallup, chairman; E. Hill, clerk; Chas. Gerrish, treasurer; H. C. Parrott, Dr. W. A. Chamberlin and R. L. Dawley.

As public money is paid only on the actual enrollment, and not upon the numbers of scholars of school age in the district, the number of legal school age within the district is not known. The

actual enrollment for 1882 was 403. While inspecting the premises and classrooms for the purposes of this work, we were given a specimen of the school's proficiency in combining numbers. A class of over twenty scholars, averaging less than eleven years of age each, were called before the blackboard and repeatedly added columns of figures, ranging from fifteen to twenty-one figures in a column, aggregating from 90 to 127 as the sum total, as fast as the numbers could possibly be written on the board by the teacher. Again and again, with the watch in our hands, we timed the process, in from seven to fifteen seconds. We were invited to say a word to the class, and in response promised to put them in Winona county history. Wishing to avoid all insidious distinctions, we make no mention of the particular class or teacher, but thus redeem our promise.

D. Steward, principal, is a native of Vermont and a graduate of Dartmouth College, class of 1875. Since leaving college Mr. Steward has been actively engaged in teaching, having adopted this as his life-work. Mr. Steward's first engagement as principal of St. Charles schools was for the school year 1880-1, at the expiration of which he took a trip through the west, and returning, assumed charge for the school year 1882-3, at an advance in salary of twenty-five per cent over first year's contract. Mr. Steward is recognized as a thorough-going teacher, of broad, comprehensive views, and thoroughly honest in his educational work.

Miss M. A. Buck, daughter of Hon. C. F. Buck, of Winona, has charge of the grammar department; Miss L. M. Glidden is teacher of the intermediate; Miss Mary Clarkson, "A" primary; Miss Helen F. Lathrop, "B" primary; Miss M. A. Gates, daughter of M. H. Gates, herself a native of St. Charles, and with Miss Buck, a graduate of the State Normal, is in charge of the "C" primary room.

On February 25, 1864, Rising Sun Lodge was organized under dispensation of the M.W. Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Minnesota, and Robert Stewart, Benjamine Birge and George H. Clark were designated as principal officers, and thus it continued to labor until October 26, 1864, when a charter was granted by the M.W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota: M.W. A. T. C. Pierson, G.M.; R.W. L. E. Thompson, D.G.M.; R.W. C. H. Lindsley, G.S.W.; R.W. W. T. Rigby, G.J.W.; George W. Prescott, G. Sec., under



the name and style of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 49, A. F. and A. M., with Robert Stewart, W.M. ; Benjamine Birge, S.W. ; George H. Clark, J.W. ; Nathan Novatus Pike, Treas. ; Joshua Martin, Sec. ; Allen O. Adams, S.D. ; Charles M. Lake, J.D. ; R. B. Bunce, Tyler. At the first annual election, held on December 22, 1864, Samuel Young Hyde was elected W.M., and by consecutive re-election held the office four years, presiding with rare administrative prudence and marked distinction.

December 17, 1869, Nelson Hardy Swift was elected W.M. At the sixth annual election, held December 16, 1869, Samuel Y. Hyde was again elected W.M., and at the annual election held December 15, 1870, was succeeded by Charles Griswold, who, being subsequently elected to the office of M.W.G.M., was succeeded by the election of S. A. Johnson, February 16, 1871, said election being held by virtue of a dispensation granted by M.W.G.M. C. W. Nash. At the eighth annual election held December, 21, 1871, Samuel Y. Hyde was again called to preside, and by successive re-election was continued as W.M. until December 28, 1875, having served eight of the eleven terms since the charter organization of the lodge. December 16, 1875, Alfred P. Stearns was elected W.M., and re-elected in the succeeding years, 1876-77. December 19, 1878, George H. Johnson was elected W.M., and re-elected at the annual election held December 18, 1879. Alfred P. Stearns was elected for a fourth term at the annual election, December 16, 1880, and at the annual election of December 15, 1881, was succeeded by E. Merrill Gallup, the present incumbent. From its organization under the wise guidance and guardian care of illustrious, worthy, administrative officers the lodge has maintained a steady, healthy and prosperous growth, aggregating since its organization a grand total of 194 members, of which it yet retains upon the roll fully one-half, notwithstanding the depleting processes of death, demission, and the many and various other causes and mutations inevitably incidental to progress in all human affairs. Inharmonies have sometimes lurked in its deliberations to confront the sagacity of wisdom, strength and beauty, and mar the loveliness and glory of friendship ; but mainly all its activities and deliberations have been characterized by a due admixture of prudence, patience, fortitude, and that noble forbearance which ultimately neutralizes every defection and harmonizes all infelicities. Its charities have been many and munificent ; seldom unworthily, and generally judiciously bestowed ; so that while

many suffering recipients have experienced a sweet satisfaction and happy relief by the gracious benefactions of its liberal almonry of the resources of many years of prosperity up to the year 1880, its treasury was never plethoric or groaning with idle accumulations.

To relieve the distressed is deemed not only as the highest and first duty of the masonic brotherhood, but it is hailed as a privilege and honor by every true craftsman. It is also the sacred privilege of every person in affliction or in want, to apply for such needed help or relief as may be in the power of a Mason to grant. Whenever such application for relief in calamity, distress or affliction has been made to Rising Sun, No. 49, whether by individual or community, it has always observed and enforced the masonic rule of brotherly love, relief and truth, not only in the interest of the craft, but in the interest of sweet charity itself in manner and form, never questioning whether its beneficiary objects be craftsman or profane.

Thus has Rising Sun lived and prospered in its charities, amassing no wealth, and scarcely ever with a respectable fund in its treasury; yet in April of the year 1880 it conceived and developed a scheme whereby in conjunction with Orient Chapter, No. 19, R.A.M., a large and commodious second-story hall, 54×80 feet, was erected and commodiously arranged into audience and banquet halls, with rooms necessary and ample thereto, together with a fair equipment of furniture and convenient fixtures at present owned and occupied conjointly by both societies; and now, Anno Lucis 5882, Rising Sun Lodge, No. 49, is blessed with peace and harmony of more than average unanimity, and with comparatively brightening prospects for future growth and usefulness, with foundations deeply laid in the solid experiences of the past; its standing is firm, compact and impregnable, its course is onward to the motto "Excelsior." In the present organization the officers are: E. Merrill Gallup, W.M.; Robert Mares, S.W.; Clarence V. Ferguson, J.W.; James C. Woodard, Treas.; E. Geo. Hill, Sec.; Robert F. Wahler, S.D.; Malcolm Clark, J.D.; Allen O. Adams, Chaplain; Geo. H. Johnson, Marshal; Henry N. Gage, S.S.; Thomas Clarkson, J.S.; William Davidson, Tyler.

*Orient Chapter, No. 19, R. A. M.*—Early in the year 1870, there being in St. Charles and vicinity several members of the masonic order who had taken the royal-arch degree, it was thought best to establish a chapter of the order, and accordingly on February 22 of that year a petition for dispensation to institute a chapter of Royal

Arch Masons in the city of St. Charles was presented to E. D. B. Porter, at that time M.E.G.H.P. of the State of Minnesota. The petition was signed by Robert Stewart, John Bullen, S. Y. Hyde, Truman Morse, Charles Greswold, T. T. Stevens, Charles H. Slocum, Robert B. Kellam, Alfred P. Stearns, Henry Talbot and Nelson H. Swift, and named companion Robert Stewart as M.E.H.P., Samuel Y. Hyde, K., and John Bullen, Scribe. The dispensation was duly granted, and on March 10, 1870, the first regular convocation of the chapter was held.

Companion Robert Stewart, who, by reason of age, zeal, ripe experience and ability was styled the "Father of Masonry in St. Charles." held the office of M.E.H.P. by successive re-election until his death, which occurred July 31, 1876, being then incumbent of the office.

At the next annual election, held December 14, 1876, companion John Pickert was elected H.P., and by consecutive re-election has held the office ever since, and under his efficient management and control Orient Chapter has maintained a steady, strong and prosperous growth, nearly doubling its membership during his administration of its affairs, having now, January 1, 1883, the grand complement of seventy members on its rolls. Its present officers are as follows: John Pickert, H.P.; Thomas P. Dixon, K.; Edwin Hill, S.; Samuel A. Johnson, C.H.; A. O. Adams, P.S.; Harlow Brown, R.A.C.; James C. Woodard, Treas.; E. George Hill, Sec.; E. M. Gallup, M. 3d vail; J. W. Scott, M. 2d vail; R. F. Wahler, M. 1st vail; Allen Gerrish, Sen.

*St. Charles Lodge, No. 64, I. O. O. F.*—Located at St. Charles, was instituted on the 28th day of May, 1878, under the direction of Past Grand Master I. M. Westfall, acting as Deputy Grand Master. The charter members were: Charles E. Kendall, John W. Zerwas, B. Neuman, I. M. Westfall and H. E. Doty.

The following officers were installed by O. E. Lawson, acting G.M.: Charles Kendall, N.G.; John W. Zerwas, V.G.; E. C. Johnson, Rec. Sec.; B. Neuman, Treas.; J. W. Burns, Conductor; A. W. Stebbins, R.S. to N.G.; I. M. Westfall, L.S. to N.G.; Jacob Wachter, R.S. to V.G.; H. E. Doty, L.S. to V.G., and B. Neuman, Warden.

The lodge was represented in the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in 1878 by I. M. Westfall, in 1879 by B. Neuman, in 1880 by John W. Zerwas, in 1881 by A. W. Stebbins and in 1882 by John W. Zerwas.

The officers for the last term of 1882 are as follows: T. D. See field, N.G.; George Miller, V.G.; Henry Maire, Rec. Sec.; John Cook, Treas.; E. D. Wilmot, Conductor; C. H. Tock, Warden; Julius Bussuitz, Guardian; John W. Zerwas, R.S. to the N.G.; C. A. Smith, L.S. to the N.G.; S. A. Keep, R.S. to the V.G.; Jacob Wachter, L.S. to the V.G.; C. Lane, R.S.S.; C. A. Demro, L.S.S.; A. W. Stebbins, Chaplain and Henry Maire, P.G.

The total membership at present is thirty-three. The lodge is in a flourishing condition financially, and its supply of furniture and lodge fixtures is equal to any of its numbers in the state.

*Germania Lodge, No. 22, A. O. U. W.*—Was organized at St. Charles nearly six years ago, its charter bearing date August 10, 1877. The original membership was sixteen; about thirty members in all have been obligated and the present membership is twenty. The decrease is entirely owing to removals and suspensions, no deaths of members having occurred since organization. Their meetings are held in Odd-Fellows' Hall, in common with which organization they are joint owners of the hall furniture and fixtures. The present officers of Germania are: J. T. Stewart, M.W.; W. Hasselgrave, F.; I. Bresler, O.; F. Blankenburgh, Rec.; F. H. Allen, Fin.; J. C. Woodard, Rec'r.; Jeremiah Dickenson, Guide; Ed. Pearson, I. W.; Louis Schnell, O. W.

#### CONCLUSION.

Up to the winter of 1863-4 there was no market in this place for wheat or other farm products, save what was required by the people for home consumption; but at this time Charles Wardner came here from Winona, built a store and grain warehouse attached, and put in a large stock of general merchandise, and received farm products in exchange for goods, or purchased the same for cash. The Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company were laying the iron track between here and Winona, and in the month of February, 1864, the road was completed to this place, and the iron horse for the first time entered the beautiful village of St. Charles. Warehouses, stores and other buildings sprung up as if by magic. Two lumber yards were opened here at that time, and all kinds of business began to prosper. Previous to this time the nearest market for the people of this place and vicinity, and for a long stretch of country west, was Winona, the roads being lined daily with teams, mostly ox-teams, laden with the produce of the land, going to Winona to sell,



and in return purchase such commodities as were necessary for the family and for opening up and improving the vast and fertile country tributary to Winona.

On February 28 the legislature passed an act to incorporate the city of St. Charles. The proposition was submitted to the people at an election held on March 1, 1870, and adopted. On March 8, 1870, an election was held for the purpose of electing city officers. At this election S. W. Stone, now of Aurora, Dakota Territory, was elected the first mayor of the city of St. Charles, and thenceforth it became a full-fledged city. The present city officers are as follows: C. W. Seeffeld, mayor; H. C. Parrott, W. R. Parr, C. N. Clark, S. C. McElhaney, aldermen; C. G. Bachelder, recorder; J. C. Woodard, treasurer; Joseph Bockler, assessor; E. G. Hill and E. M. Gallup, justices of the peace; A. H. Adams and G. T. Olds, constables; Miles Growt, city marshal; O. Potter, street commissioner.

At this time (December, 1882) the city of St. Charles has a population of about 1,200. Her public schools are of the very best in the state, being of a high standard, in which her citizens take a lively interest, employing at all times the very best of teachers. The terms of school aggregate nine months in each year. Six church edifices representing as many different denominations, viz., Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Baptist, Methodist, German Evangelical and Congregational, are established here, in which religious services are held in some or all every Sabbath. As a commercial and manufacturing place it has superior advantages, being surrounded with a rich agricultural district, the surplus products of which are yearly on the increase.

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## CHAPTER XLVIII.

### ROLLING STONE TOWNSHIP.

ROLLING STONE TOWNSHIP, as organized by the county commissioners, consists of parts of townships No. 107 and 108 north, of range No. 8 west, of Winona county, Minnesota. The Mississippi river flowing along the northern boundary in a southeasterly direction makes the town irregular in form. It takes its name from the

creek which flows through it from south to north, affording complete drainage, excepting a small brook in the northwest part, which drains five or six sections.

The surface consists of about seven sections of bottom lands contiguous to the Mississippi and subject to overflow, but producing wild grass and timber, and about 1,500 acres of terrace or table lands lying between the bluffs and the bottom lands and the remainder of bluff or ridge and of valley land.

The cultivated lands as reported by the assessor for this year (1882) number 5,134 acres, leaving 14,843 uncultivated. about 10,000 acres of which are bluff or ridge lands and 4,843 are along the Mississippi bottom. The inhabitants reside in the valleys, in which there are sixty farms, twenty of them reaching upon the bluffs where about 1,500 acres are cultivated.

NAME, FIRST SETTLEMENT, ETC.

This township, Winona and Whitewater are the only names in the county that relate to the Indian names. The Sioux name for the stream was E-yau-o-min-man. Rendered into French, Roche qu de Boule, meaning a good place to roll stone down the bluff.

[For this information the writer is indebted to the Hon. H. H. Sibley and also to Hon. Norman W. Kittson. Mr. Kittson spent two years near the mouth of the creek with an Indian trader by the name of Labothe, about the year 1840.]

The Sioux treaty which extinguished the Indian title to the land was not ratified till 1853, but in February, 1852, Mr. Israel M. Naracong made a claim for the purpose of securing a water-power on the Rolling Stone. This is now occupied by the flouring-mill of A. D. Ellsworth. Mr. Naracong remained here till July following, when he left for his home in Wisconsin and did not return. Mr. Naracong made no improvements excepting to build a board shanty 8x12 feet in size, which he occupied, in company with a man by the name of Josiah R. Keene. They spent part of the winter and spring in cutting black walnut timber, which was rafted and sold in Lacrosse. The first permanent settlement was made in the town by a colony which was organized in New York city in October, 1851, under the name of the "Western Farm and Village Association." Minutes of the organization and of the meetings were published in the New York "Tribune;" and the association also published a small paper devoted to its interests and called "The Western Farm and Village

Advocate." A fee of \$5 was all that was required to become a member, and in the spring of 1852 the association numbered nearly 400 from different places in the northern states, parties joining from all of the New England states and from Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. A majority were, however, from New York city, and of foreign birth. The objects of the association, as expressed by their paper, recognizing the difficulties and inconveniences of individually settling new countries, proposed to obviate them by organization to settle upon cheap lands, to secure cheaper transportation and by purchasing building material and supplies in quantities to get cheaper rates; and, also, to have the advantages of society, churches, schools, roads and bridges, and other things pertaining to civilization, without waiting for the country to be settled gradually.

It may be recorded here that, at the time of settlement, there were false and malicious statements spread in regard to the character of the colony. They were stigmatized as infidels, Fourierites, communists, etc. There was no foundation for these statements, but they had a tendency to bring the settlers into disrepute. The editor of the "Tribune," Mr. Greeley, took a lively interest in the association, but predicted a failure from what he considered a defective plan. The association as such was a partial failure, but many of its objects have been fully realized. The committee appointed to locate the colony selected the Rolling Stone valley for the farm lands, and the table lands near the mouth of the creek for the village, naming the village Minnesota City and the township Rolling Stone. A large majority of the association were dissatisfied with the location and would not remain, giving as reasons that the location was not immediately on the river, that the land still belonged to the Indians, and that the general character of the place was not suitable for settlement.

The real truth of dissatisfaction was probably owing to personal and individual considerations. It is well known that many of the artisans and professional men of the cities have what may be termed a land lunacy, supposing that to become a landowner secures independence and plenty.

This colony was composed of all manner of artisans, who were intelligent and industrious in their line of business, and were dependent on that for a living, and were without sufficient ready money to live. There was not among them all half a dozen prac-

tical, professional farmers, nor half that number practically acquainted with what we call western life.

It is true some things were not properly represented. The location was said to be on the river, and that building lumber could be bought from passing rafts at from \$5 to \$8 per thousand feet, and that steamboats could land goods very near the place, which was found to be untrue. If it had been true, these persons could not stay here. As soon as the place was selected, in April, the association sent a squad of men, twelve or fourteen in number, to prepare houses for shelter for those who were to follow in May, the 15th being the time set for the colony to be here. This pioneer squad, as they were called, if they had been well qualified for this work, could not have accomplished it, as they had no recognized leader and not a dollar in money for their use. The treasurer did not arrive till some time in May, and after paying some of the surveyors and other incidental expenses the association was without money.

But the colony came, and about the 30th of May there were ninety men and nearly 400 women and children on the ground without any shelter, except temporary tents and such shelter as could be made with poles and turf. The season was backward, cold, wet and windy, and considerable sickness prevailed. There were comparatively very few deaths, but at the beginning of winter only twenty families remained.

The first public meeting held by the settlers here was on May 6, 1852, and fifty-two responded to their names.

May 19 a petition was drawn and sent to the postoffice department for the establishment of a postoffice, with the name of Robert Pike as postmaster. Mr. Pike received his appointment and the office was established about the middle of June.

On the 25th of May occurred the first death, Mr. David Densmore, a tailor by trade, from Kennebec, Maine; he was here without a family and about sixty years of age. There were two or three deaths immediately after Mr. Densmore's, and some of the persons who left the colony spread exaggerated reports of the condition of the settlers. Gov. Ramsey and his secretary, Alex. Wilkin, came down from St. Paul to see if they could be of any assistance. The Governor expressed his confidence in the ability of the people to take care of themselves and gave them cheerful words of encouragement, but expressed the opinion that the colony should have located nearer to St. Paul.



The last week in May a committee was appointed to explore the country between here and the great bend of the St. Peter's river to ascertain if there was a feasible route for a railroad. The committee consisted of Robert Pike, I. M. Naracong and William Stephens. Two reports were made, both of them representing the route as entirely feasible and the country as a beautiful undulating prairie and well watered, with here and there fine groves of timber. It is interesting to note that in these reports the beauty and desirability of the present site of Rochester is well described.

On July 4 a census was taken and the population numbered 154. July 12 an election precinct was organized and Thomas K. Allen chosen justice of the peace, Augustus A. Gilbert, notary public; James Wright, assessor; Josiah Keene, constable, and Robert Taylor, collector. These officers were subsequently appointed by Gov. Ramsey. July 26 Messrs. John Iams, Hiram Campbell and O. M. Lord were appointed road commissioners.

Religious meetings were held in the forenoons and afternoons of every Sunday. The First Baptist society, the first religious organization in southern Minnesota, was formed here in the summer of 1852. In the fall of 1852 a school was taught by Miss Ann Orton. In the spring of 1853 a school district was organized under the laws of the territory, being the first and for some time the only organized district in the then county of Fillmore, and summer and winter terms of school have been continuously taught here since.

There was no election held here this fall, as a six months' residence was necessary to become voters; but the settlers sent John Iams to St. Paul as a lobbyist while the legislature was in session and paid his expenses. Mr. Iams was from Wabash, Indiana, a carpenter by trade, and was afterward chosen as the first sheriff of the county. He built the first log house erected here, covering the roof with shakes or long shingles split from the red-oak trees. Four more log houses were built, the others being made of rough pine boards, brought here in small rafts by Mr. Deansmore and Mr. Lord. In these houses the settlers spent the winter very pleasantly, with much social enjoyment.

The association had laid out a village of large dimensions, with wide streets and avenues and large public parks on the terrace land near the mouth of the creek, apportioning to each member four large village lots and also a claim of 160 acres of farm land in the valleys. So few remained that there was ample room for all, but

the claims were made before there was a government survey, and when these lines were made, claims often conflicted. This occasioned considerable discord, until the claim laws were well understood.

The summer season of 1853 was occupied in building and opening farms in the valleys.

Mr. E. B. Drew had broken thirty acres of valley land in 1852, and therefrom raised a small crop of sod corn, some potatoes and other vegetables, and in the fall he sowed some winter wheat. This was considered the first farm opened in 1852, though small patches of ground were broken in numerous places during the same season. The next season some of the settlers moved on to the valley farms, and continue to reside there. This year a large supply of sod corn, potatoes and a great variety of garden vegetables were raised. Wild grass was abundant, and though a good deal of hay was burned by prairie fires in the fall, the cattle, numbering about eighty head, did remarkably well. Fish were plenty and easily taken, and wild game also; flour was procured down the river at \$4 per barrel, and from that time to this there has been no want of the staple articles of food, and usually a large surplus.

Before the lands were offered at public sale pre-emption claims had been filed upon the valley farms and upon the village plat, and these lands were entered at the land office in Goot's subdivisions.

During the season of 1854 Mr. Lord put in operation a sawmill. Settlements were gradually extended and new farms were opened, buildings added, etc. A wagon road was established to Winona, and one up the South Valley and one up the North Valley, and bridges were built, but nothing occurred beyond the ordinary incidents of early settlement for several years.

In 1854 congress established a mail route, No. 14015, from Minnesota City to Traverse des Sioux, and semi-monthly service was ordered on the route in the fall of 1855. This was the first mail route established in the territory south of the St. Peters river. The route was afterward extended from Minnesota City to Winona and terminated at St. Peters instead of Traverse des Sioux.

#### SCHOOLS.

About the year 1860 the settlers had increased in numbers so as to form two more school districts, one in the west part of the town in what is now the village of Rolling Stone, and one in Middle or

McLaughlin's valley. In 1866 another district was formed in Deering's valley.

These districts have cheap frame schoolhouses. There are at present enrolled in the Rolling Stone school forty-seven pupils, in McLaughlin's valley thirteen, in Deering's valley fourteen and ninety-six in the Minnesota City school. The last named has a brick schoolhouse and two departments of school; the house, grounds, etc., being valued at \$6,000. There are three fractional districts united with parts from the adjoining towns, but the schoolhouses are in the other towns.

#### RAILROADS.

The Winona & St. Peter or Chicago & Northwestern railroad has now been in operation about twenty years. It enters the township near the southeast corner and passes out through the valley of the Rolling Stone, on the south side. It has at Minnesota City a spur track to Troost's mill of about 100 rods in length, and a side track to Ellsworth's mill and elevator, and a neat, convenient passenger depot and freight house used in common with the Milwaukee & St. Paul road, which passes through the town along the Mississippi river; the latter road has here two long side tracks and a grain elevator.

#### VILLAGES.

Rolling Stone village, in the western part of the town, is at the junction of the north and west valleys of the creek. The inhabitants of the village and of the vicinity are Germans. It contains three stores, two hotels, two blacksmith shops, a fine stone church and neat parsonage, a schoolhouse and two or three saloons. The church belongs to the Catholic denomination, and nearly all the people in the vicinity are members. A Catholic burial-ground is also established here.

The stream near here furnishes power for a custom-mill, which is largely patronized by the surrounding country. Minnesota City is situated at the mouth of the Rolling Stone valley, six miles west of Winona, near the east line of the township. It contains a railroad depot, two flouring-mills, two stores, two elevators, two hotels, a blacksmith shop, a butcher shop, a brick schoolhouse, a large brewery and a saloon. Population 200. A Baptist church is organized here and regular services have been held for several years. The society has no building.

## IMPROVEMENTS.

Troost's mill was built by Mr. Otto Troost in 1866. The mill is 50×80 feet in size, on the ground, and four stories high, and has a larger capacity of manufacture than any other mill on the stream. The power is partly supplied by diverting the creek, a distance of sixty rods, to the Mississippi bottom, making a fall of sixteen feet, while the natural creek flows two miles to reach the same level. A Corliss engine of 150-horse power is also used, the two enabling the mill to manufacture 400 barrels of flour per day. The wheat is taken to the mill by a spur or side-track from the Winona & St. Peter railroad and is obtained mostly in the western part of the state.

Ellsworth's mill was built in 1867. The power is furnished by a dam across the Rolling Stone, giving ten feet of fall. The building is a wooden structure upon a strong stone foundation, in size 54×72 feet and three stories high, with elevator next to the side track and a warehouse detached 40×70 feet in size. The capacity of the mill is 750 bushels of wheat or 150 barrels of flour per day. It has unusual facilities for the manufacture of good grades of flour; being connected with an elevator any grade of wheat may be selected for milling. The estimated value is \$35,000.

## FLOOD.

In February, 1876, Minnesota City was visited with a disastrous flood. The Rolling Stone drains a large extent of surface and at the village has a narrow exit. The ground was frozen hard and a heavy rain had filled the water-holes and covered the country with a sheet of ice. The snow then covered this to the depth of a foot when a warm heavy rain fell for twenty-four hours, and as the ground could not absorb any water, it raised higher than has ever been known. The mill-pond above the village was filled with ice four feet in thickness, and when the ice broke up and began to flow, within a few minutes it destroyed three dwellings, a store, a butcher shop, and was deposited in huge pieces upon the railroad bridges and track and in different places over the fields.

## PAST AND PRESENT.

It is now thirty years since the men who plow first came to this town. Railroads and wagon-roads have taken the places of the Indian trails. For the Indian the rich soil and the beauty of the scenery had no value; though fish were plenty, game was not so abun-



dant as farther away, and he had no desire to remain ; and to-day he looks with disdain upon the fields of grain and grass, the farm-houses, fences and barns ; if he is hungry he covets some of the plethoric stock for meat, and would like to possess some of the fine horses to ride. The schools, the mills, the factories are open to him, but he makes no sign of changing his condition ; when the plow comes in he must go out ; he has no ambition to manufacture ; a pipe, a canoe and bows and arrows exhaust his skill. To the settlers who came here the first few days seemed like a perpetual Sunday, now even the darkness does not hush the hum of active life. The cars, the mills and the steamboats during the night keep pace with the plow and harvester and thresher in the day. Thirty years ago our resources were limited, our numbers comparatively few ; now we have all the advantages pertaining to communities of civilized life. Of the persons who came here then, there are at present remaining in the vicinity twenty-three. Some of them have grown-up families and their grandchildren are going to school, and old and young are still ready to cheer to the sentiment of Robert Pike, given thirty years ago, " Hurrah, then, for our chosen home ! "

No greener valleys meet the sight,  
No purer fountains gushing free,  
No birds of song, or flowers more bright,  
Bringing perfume and melody.

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## CHAPTER XLIX.

### TOWNSHIP OF DRESBACH.

THE township of Dresbach lies in the southeast corner of Winona county. It is the smallest township in the county, containing 4,400 acres. The shape of the township is nearly a perfect right-angled triangle, with the acute angle on the bank of the Mississippi, just above Dakota. The township is five and one-fifth miles long from north to south, and about three and one-fourth miles wide on the southern boundary. It is bounded on the east by the Mississippi river, south by Houston county, and on the west by the township of New Hartford. The township was formed under the organization act of 1858, and was named Dresbach, after Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr.,

the founder of Dresbach village. The surface of the township is considerably broken by the chain of bluffs extending through the county along the Mississippi. The bluffs, from their abruptness and loftiness, in some parts of the township, form a very majestic appearance, and are much admired by the lovers of nature. The highest bluffs are found along the Mississippi, where they rise several hundred feet above the river. Mineral bluff (named from the mineral deposits found under its base) is the highest (405 feet) in the township. This bluff is just at the upper end of the village of Dresbach. It affords from its summit, one of the grandest views of any bluff along the Mississippi. One can see La Crosse, Onalaska, Kansas, Trempealeau, Galesville, and several other towns in Wisconsin, at distances of ten to twenty miles. There are other bluffs in the township, from the tops of which one never becomes tired of looking, or "grows weary and sick at heart."

The soil of the township is good, being a black sub-clay soil, and annually produces large crops of wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, potatoes, etc. It is also well adapted to grazing, to which many farmers are beginning to turn their attention. All, or nearly all, the township was once heavily timbered, the principal species being white and black oak. The timber cleared from the farms has been a source of great income to the farmer as it always brought him ready cash in the market. In fact, many farmers have relied too long on their timber for their incomes, until, as a result, their lands have become almost treeless. The township is well supplied with water. Living springs are found gushing from the bluffs all over the township, some affording sufficient water the year round for large farms. The springs are cold and clear as crystal, and free from all unpleasant tastes. There are no large streams in the township, but in every valley and from every bluff you will find a little rill with clear and cool water rippling its way to the Mississippi.

The population of the township is about 350, consisting of nearly every nationality of Europe. The native born rank first in population, and Germans in the foreign element. The township has good public roads running and intersecting each other at various places, thus affording the farmer an easy and accessible way to market with his produce. Most of the produce of the township is marketed at La Crosse, La Crescent, Dakota, Pickwick, and some at Winona. No other township in the county has so many and accessible markets as

Dresbach. The farmers find a regular market at Dakota the year round for all kinds of produce.

Indian mounds and relics are found in various parts of the township. Not long since, while some men were digging in Mineral bluff, one hundred and fifty feet above the river, a skeleton of an unusual size was unearthed. On measuring, the giant skeleton was found to be ten feet in length, with other parts in proper proportion. In the skull was found a copper hatchet, and a dart or arrow-head nine inches long. Another skeleton, nine feet long, was found in the village of Dresbach, while some men were digging a road or trench.

These skeletons were of an unusual size to those generally taken from Indian mounds. Their size, form and structure would lead those versed in paleontology to believe they belonged to a race prior to the Indian. In many of the mounds have also been found copper hatchets, chisels, various kinds of tomahawks, and other weapons of war; also these antique races seemed to have some process of hardening copper, unknown to any modern process. Where they came from, when they lived, and whence they have gone, is only conjecture and speculation. That they were mighty races, skilled in the mode of warfare, understanding the mechanical arts, for all these we have conclusive evidence. But of their end we know nothing. Whether they were swept from the earth by some deadly epidemic, or annihilated themselves by intestine wars, or died of inherent weakness, we have nothing to inform us.

The first permanent settler that came to the township of Dresbach was Nathan Brown, of New York, who settled in 1849 at Dakota. There was a man by the name of John Reed here a few years prior to Mr. Brown, but Reed was merely a trader and never became a permanent settler. All that now can be learned of Reed is, that he had a trading-post on the banks of the Mississippi at (old) Dakota. The ruins of an old chimney were seen for several years after he left, which were supposed to be where he had his trading-post. But Mr. Nathan Brown, now living near the village of Dakota, was the first to erect permanent buildings and become a regular settler. First buildings that Mr. Brown raised were two log cabins,—one for a dwelling, the other for a store. He also built a log stable—all 12×16 feet. The stock in his store consisted of corn, flour, sugar, meat, tobacco, etc. His trade for the first few years was confined to the Indians and rivermen. The log cabins built by Mr.

Brown have all been torn down and have entirely disappeared. He bought most of his goods at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. The following prices will show the cost of different articles in the early history of this county—tea, \$1.25 per lb. ; coffee, 5 lbs. for \$1 ; flour, \$6 to \$8 per bbl. At one time Mr. Brown paid as high as \$22.50 a barrel for pork.

The next permanent settler following Mr. Brown was a Frenchman, by the name of Peleau, who was sent here by Richard Chute & Co. in 1850. Peleau built a store and residence at (old) Dakota, and carried on considerable trade with the natives and scattering settlers. His buildings, as well as those first built by Mr. Brown, have all been torn down. In fact, the buildings known as old Dakota have all disappeared, and not even a relic left to commemorate the spot of the "Ancient City." The next settlers after Messrs. Brown and Peleau, were a colony of French, who bought land and settled where the village of Dresbach now stands. Of this colony Joseph Maynard bought 120 acres of land of the government in 1852. Lambert Robillard in 1852 bought 160 acres from the government. Joseph and Francis Trudell (1852) had 112 acres. Alfonso Warren (1852) bought 190 acres. He was the first to burn lime and manufacture grindstones. The above-described lands constitute the present plat of the village of Dresbach. The said lands were bought by Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr., in May, 1857. The village site was located and platted September, 1857.

#### VILLAGE OF DRESBACH.

In September and October, 1857, eleven houses were built, now a part of the present village. The first store of the village was built and run by Abram Warren, of Ohio, in 1857. A postoffice was also established that year with Mr. Warren as postmaster. Warren sold out his store to A. L. Jenks, who also succeeded him as postmaster. In 1863 another store was started by William Patton, of New York, who assisted Geo. B. Dresbach in building the present sawmill in 1862-3. The size of the building was 36 × 70 and cost \$8,400. Ed. Minor opened a general merchandise store in 1863 ; also the same year Mr. Caleb Inman started a store. Mr. Inman is still a merchant in the village. Geo. B. Dresbach opened a store in 1866, and Jesse P. Nevill a store in 1867, who was succeeded by Henry Becker, in 1869. Mr. Becker is still a merchant



in the village, and carries on a big trade. William Dickson started a grocery store in 1878. He still runs his store.

#### MANUFACTORIES OF DRESBACH.

The present owners and operators of the steam sawmill are Louis Blummintritt and Henry Blochik. They are also dealers in lumber, lath, shingles, etc.

William H. Sherwood and Gilbert Johnson, both formerly of New York, are the owners and operators of two large brickyards. They ship from three to four millions of brick annually. They employ from thirty to forty men.

W. B. Williams and L. C. Smith, of Red Wing, Minnesota, started a brickyard in Dresbach in the spring of 1882. They burned superior quality of brick, and will ship about one million of brick this year. Will increase the capacity of the yard for next season to three or four millions of brick.

In 1882 Geo. B. Dresbach, Jr., and John H. Moss organized the Northwestern Brick Company, under the firm name of Moss & Dresbach. This company will manufacture one million of brick this year, and increase their capacity for next season.

Joseph Ginther and John Schmeltzer, blacksmiths and machinists, have increased their line of business by building a steam-mill this year, for the manufacture of ground feed, turning lathes, laths and barrel hoops.

Winona County Mining and Stone Company, an incorporated company with capital stock of \$100,000, was organized in 1880, with John Gilman, of St. Paul, president; Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr., vice-president, and E. S. Burns, secretary and treasurer. This company is at present operating steam machinery in quarrying rock and mining mineral just above the village of Dresbach. J. F. Tostevin & Sons, of St. Paul, are now operating a stone quarry with steam machinery in the village of Dresbach. They also own and run a stone sawmill in connection with their quarry. They saw, dress and ship stone of sizes ready for use. Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr., and John Gilman own a stone quarry of fifteen acres now in operation; the stone of the above quarries being of the celebrated Berea, Ohio, sandstone in quality, now so extensively used throughout the United States for building purposes and grindstones.

The above quarries and the four brickyards now in operation make Dresbach a very lively and businesslike place.

## DAKOTA.

It is not known by the settlers how Dakota got its name, but is supposed to have originated among the Indians. The first houses that were built in (old) Dakota stood just above the present village. They were simply a few log cabins erected as a trading-post with the Indians and early settlers. The houses have all disappeared, and nothing remains to tell the story of the "ancient city." As this point had a good landing and outlet to the surrounding country, the early settlers had always labored to start a village here. The name is somewhat clothed in mystery, but the village itself was founded and started by Nathan Brown in 1849. In 1873 the site of the old village was vacated and that of the present Dakota located and surveyed. The location is most beautiful, being high and dry and free from inundations of the river. The soil is sandy and seldom wet or muddy. The first house was built in 1873. The building was moved one mile from above the village and put up on River street, between Rogers and Center streets, by Henry Becker, who opened a store in the part moved, and built on an addition for a dwelling. Mr. Becker carried on quite an extensive business for over a year, when he sold his building to J. W. Young and moved his stock to Dresbach.

The first hotel was built in the village in 1876 by Ellis Brown, deceased. After the death of her husband Mrs. Brown ran the hotel until 1880, when William Clow rented for two years. The house is now run by Dennis Sullivan.

In 1874 the postoffice of Dakota was established, with Nathan Brown as postmaster, which office he still holds.

## SKIFF FERRY.

March 31, 1873, Alex. C. Donalson began to make regular daily trips from Dresbach to Lacrosse with his skiff ferry. He ran three seasons between the above places, averaging 200 trips a season, of eighteen miles a trip, making 10,800 miles for the three seasons. In 1876 Mr. Donalson extended his trip from Dakota to La Crosse. He has averaged his regular 200 trips of twenty miles each every year, making 24,800 miles since 1876 and 34,800 miles since 1873. Mr. Donalson is the best oarsman that paddles the Mississippi. He is a large, tall, muscular man, and glides his boat over the water with as much ease and grace as the gentle current itself.

## SHOPS.

Mr. Peter Lee built and started the first blacksmith shop in Dakota in 1874. He formerly ran a shop in La Crescent and Dresbach. The first and only harness shop ever ran in Dakota was opened by Joseph Hoffman in 1874. In 1876 Mr. Leonard Helsaple opened a wagon-repairing shop. He sold out to Mr. W. H. Vance in 1878, who sold his building to Dennis Sullivan, who uses it as a sleeping-house for his boarders. In May, 1874, Charley Dalton started a merchandise and drug store in Dakota. Nathan Brown also owned and ran a store for some time in Dakota. In March, 1880, A. C. Brown started a general merchandise store. The latter is doing a flourishing business and at present he is acting postmaster.

## BURIED IN DAKOTA CEMETERY.

The first persons that died at Dakota and were buried in Bluff Cemetery were : Mrs. Eliza A. Brown, first wife of Nathan Brown, and infant of the same. Mrs. Brown died July 21, 1854, child August 16, 1854. The following are the names of some of the old settlers in and about Dakota who are buried in the above graveyard : Susan, wife of Caleb Inman, died July 21, 1880, aged 70 years ; Mary, wife of C. S. Guynnup, died December 16, 1876, aged 58 ; Reynold H. Brown, died March 30, 1870, aged 72 ; Charles Brown, died July 17, 1870, aged 79 ; Alvina, wife of B. J. Moore, died November 4, 1875, aged 47 ; Anna J. Cleveland died July 2, 1878, aged 67 ; Phebe A., wife of Simon Mott, died September 27, 1861, aged 77 ; Sarah, wife of Leonard Helsaple, died September 16, 1880, aged 66.

## SCHOOLS.

The first school of any kind was a select school taught in the township in the winter of 1856-7. The name of the teacher cannot now be ascertained. The school was taught where the village of Dresbach now stands. In the winter of 1858-9 was taught another subscription school by a teacher by the name of Charles Omsted. The first public district school was taught in Dresbach the winter of 1859-60 by Harlow Colsten at \$25 a month. The people had by private subscription built a schoolhouse, but the winter being very severe the house was too cold to hold school in it, so the school was taught in a private house. There were thirty-five pupils enrolled. School board—G. B. Dresbach and Rufus Reed. The first public school in Dakota under district organization was taught by Miss

Ellen Young in 1860. The school was held in Nathan Brown's trading shanty. There were eight scholars and the teacher. The latter received \$12 per month. The township has always been active in her educational interests. She has gone from her trading shanties and log cabins to large, commodious schoolhouses.

The first M. E. church of Dresbach township was organized May 25, 1856, by Rev. John Hooper, of Caledonia circuit.

The organization was effected at B. J. Moore's house, one-half mile west of Dakota. The names of those present, and who became members of the organization, were John Cramer and wife, James Fletcher and wife, and B. J. Moore and wife. As a number of the members of the above organization moved away, the meetings were discontinued for awhile. There were no churches then in this part of the county, so their meetings were conducted in shanties and private houses. Soon after the above meetings were discontinued the township became settled with a church-going people with no public worship. A new organization was formed in April, 1861, and called the Dakota and Dresbach class. The same organization is in effect yet, with a class at each of the above places. The organization has a membership of thirty-one, with B. J. Moore leader at Dresbach and Miss Lucinda Winters leader at Dakota. G. W. Barnette, of LaCrescent circuit, pastor at both places. The first Sabbath school of the township was organized by Rev. John Hooper, in a claim shanty, just below where Dakota now stands, with B. J. Moore superintendent. Here the children, now grown to manhood and womanhood, were gathered from Sabbath to Sabbath to learn those eternal truths taught their parents. The school was conducted by the Methodist Episcopal church, and had about twenty scholars. A union Sabbath school was organized in Dresbach in 1860, with E. G. Buck superintendent. The school is now under the supervision of the Methodist Episcopal church, with Godfreid Widmoyer superintendent. There is an attendance of about fifty-five. In 1879 a union Sabbath school was organized out of the old Methodist Episcopal Sabbath school of Dakota, by Rev. John Bally, with B. J. Moore superintendent. The school has an attendance of forty-five, and is in a prosperous condition.

November 18, 1881, a society under the name of the Dakota Mite and Church Society, was organized, with D. N. Gilliland president, Miss Lucinda Winters vice-president, Miss Mary Robillard secretary, and Miss Anna Eliza Lee treasurer. The society was



instrumental in many ways, bearing the pecuniary burden of the church.

The Sons of Temperance were organized in Dakota in 1878, with Peter Lee W.P., Alex. Necmiet secretary, Alfred Purdy treasurer, and Gardner Lee sentinel. The society flourished for three years, and accomplished a good work.

#### SICKNESS.

In May and June, 1882, the village of Dakota was visited by the most severe and alarming sickness that ever struck this healthy little town. Charley Dalton, while on a trip west of St. Paul, caught what was supposed to be the measles. After returning home he came down very sick. In a few days the whole town became helplessly prostrated. Physicians were called, who pronounced it the measles and a slight form of the scarlatina. For four weeks every family in town was so stricken there were not enough well to wait on the sick. The families most severely bereaved were Messrs. D. W. Peters and James Wilkinson's. Three of Mr. Peters' little girls — Carrie, Zolie and Hattie May, died within three weeks. Scarcely had the people returned from the grave of the latter of these little girls when the town was again thrown into mourning by the death of Joey Wilkinson, a little boy about four years old; and still another gloom by the death of a sister. The sickness spread to the surrounding vicinities, and was very severe in some families. The people had just recovered from the above when the death of Miss Sadie Sullivan, of Dakota, was announced. She had been sick some time with consumption. She was buried in the Catholic graveyard in Pine Creek.

Ashel Pearse was the first inhabitant to locate where the village of Dresbach now stands. He built his first log cabin in 1853, near the river, just where the Johnston and Sherwood's brickshed now stands. The log cabin has been moved just below the brickyard, and is now used as a cow-stable. While Pearse was building his cabin he was stopped by the Wabasha Indians, who looked upon the whites as intruders on their rights. After the Indians became reconciled, Pearse resumed his building and finished several log cabins.

#### FIRST ROAD.

The first road was built in the township by private parties, up and down the river. In 1854 a territorial road was surveyed through

the township, up and down the river. This was changed to a state road, soon after the admission of the state, and finally into a county road, under the county road statute.

## ACCIDENTS.

While Joseph Maynard, one of the original members of Dresbach, was hauling a load of corn-fodder, his team became frightened and ran away, upsetting the load on Mr. Maynard and breaking his leg. He lingered for several weeks, but died from the effects of his injuries, November 19, 1865. In April, 1878, Joseph Hoffman, a young man, accidentally fell off a log, at Dakota, and drowned in the Mississippi. In 1881, Jimmy McClane, while crossing the river at Dresbach, accidentally fell from his skiff and was drowned.

## GRAIN SHIPPED FROM DAKOTA.

The following figures show the amount of grain shipped from here annually since the railroad was built: 20,000 bushels of wheat, 7,000 bushels of barley, 4,000 bushels of oats.

The first schoolhouse in Dresbach was burned down in 1875. The present one was built the next year, at a cost of \$500. First cost \$300.

## DEPOT AGENTS.

The following persons have been depot agents at Dakota: Harvey Gates, J. B. O'Neil; D. C. Sheehan came in the fall of 1879, and remained until fall of 1881, when P. J. Sheehan, the present agent, succeeded him.

First marriage in the village of Dresbach was J. W. Tibbets and Catharine Isilla (Maynard) Tibbets. Marriage ceremony was performed by Elder Card, Baptist minister of La Crosse.

The first birth in the above village was that of Willie Morrison, son of William and Adaline Morrison.

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

The judicial history of the township begins with the election of Z. M. Caswell, first justice of the peace, in 1856. First court convened in Judge Caswell's office, in October, 1857. Next justice after Justice Caswell, and first under township organization act, was Terrence McCauly. He held the office twelve years. James Fletcher was also justice during part of the time McCauly held the office. Succeeding justices McCauly and Fletcher, William Patton,

formerly of New York, was elected to the bench, who occupied the seat six years, when he was succeeded by the election of E. S. Burns and G. B. Dresbach, Sr., to the honorable position which they have held for six years, and who yet occupy the tribunal bench of the township.

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## CHAPTER I.

NEW HARTFORD, RICHMOND, HOMER AND PLEASANT HILL TOWNSHIPS.

### NEW HARTFORD TOWNSHIP.

THE township of New Hartford was organized in 1858. Excepting a small corner of Sec. 1, the township embraces thirty-six entire sections. Its boundaries are, on the east, Dresbach township and the Mississippi river, on the west Pleasant Hill township, on the south Houston county, and on the north Richmond township.

The soil on the ridge land is a reddish clay, and in the valleys a black loam or muck. The surface is very much broken, high bluffs or hills and deep valleys and ravines follow each other in rapid succession. The products are wheat on the ridge land and corn, barley and oats in the valleys.

Pine creek enters the township in Sec. 18, flows southeast through New Hartford village, Secs. 19, 30, 29, and leaves the township in Sec. 32. Pine creek branch enters the township in Sec. 31, flows east and joins the main stream in Sec. 32.

Among the old settlers may be mentioned Nathan Brown, who came as early as 1849, and settled on what is now Sec. 1, of New Hartford township. Nathan Brown has lived, almost without any change whatever, in this one locality for thirty-three years.

H. W. Carroll came to the township in 1854, and settled on Pine creek. He now resides on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6.

Geo. Johnson came in 1854, and settled in Rose Valley, Sec. 27. He now resides in Lane's valley on W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 25. James Lane arrived the same year. He now lives on Sec. 35.

The year 1855 was noted for the arrival of the following: Helkiah Lilly, Jerry Tibbetts, Joseph Beach, Daniel Blankley, Myron Steadman and S. C. Dick. Helkiah Lilly entered the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 34, and has kept it until the present day. Jerry Tibbetts

settled on Sec. 4; Daniel Blankley secured the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 16; Myron Steadman entered the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, while S. C. Dick settled on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4.

There are ten district schools in the township: District 1 on Sec. 6, dist. 72 on Sec. 5, dist. 71 on Sec. 2, dist. 73 on Sec. 16, dist. 74 on Sec. 19, dist. 32 on Sec. 25, dist.—on Sec. 27, dist. 86 on Sec. 12, dist.—on Sec. 1, dist. 109 on Sec. 14.

The number of school-children in the township is said to be 250, but all are not in attendance.

The average crop for the year 1882 is as follows: Oats, per acre, 40 bushels; corn, per acre, 30 bushels, barley, per acre, 20 bushels; wheat, per acre, 12 bushels.

The first township meeting was held April 11, 1858.

Joseph Babcock, J. B. More and Joseph Goodyear were appointed as a board of supervisors.

The successive town clerks are: Elias Brickert, 1858-9; J. H. Leonard, 1859-62; Daniel Blankley, 1862-4; N. J. Wooden, 1864-5; Daniel Blankley, 1865-6; A. S. Dunning, 1866-73; L. Gerrish, 1873-4; Daniel Blankley, 1874-7; A. T. Bateman, 1877-81; W. H. Bateman, 1881-2; A. T. Bateman, 1882-3.

The board for 1882: Z. W. Nutting, John Shroeder, S. C. Dick, supervisors; R. D. Clow, Geo. Hiler, constables; Daniel Blankley, R. H. Sims, justices of the peace; O. D. Grant, assessor.

There are two cemeteries in the township, one on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, owned by Nathen Brown; another on Sec. 9, owned by Geo. Hiler. There are no churches in the township, services being held occasionally in the schoolhouses.

#### NEW HARTFORD VILLAGE.

New Hartford village lies on Sec. 19 of New Hartford township. It was laid out about 1856 by Henry Cushman, Daniel Clay and a man by the name of Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds owned the first house in the village. The first store was kept by Benj. Young.

No regular postoffice existed until about 1866, when a regular office was established, and H. Lilly appointed postmaster. He kept the office nine years. Henry Cushman built the first sawmill in 1856. Soon after, a gristmill was erected by H. Lilly and H. Cushman. This was about 1860. In one year H. Lilly bought out H. Cushman and run the mill three years alone. At this time it was purchased by Blumin Tritt, who has kept it ever since. Soon after



the village was laid out John Brodwell built a small shoeshop, but turned it into a schoolhouse and taught it himself. A log-school building was erected on Sec. 30 soon afterward. This was taught by Mrs. Tom Phelps. The present school was erected in the town about 1870. The first teacher was Lidia Basworth. Dimensions of the building 22×26 feet. This is used as a church. G. Lyon is the present postmaster; he also keeps the one store in the village. One blacksmith shop owned by I. Beach. One shoeshop run by G. A. Edin.

The town of New Hartford has an area of forty acres, and is traversed by Pine creek.

#### RICHMOND TOWNSHIP.

Richmond township lies in T. 106 N. and R. 5 W. Its boundaries are, on the east and north the Mississippi river, on the south New Hartford township, and on the west Homer township. Richmond is but a fractional township at most, being cut by the Mississippi into twelve complete and seven fractional sections. It was organized May 11, 1858. The members of the first board were: Town clerk, J. M. Dodge; chairman of supervisors, A. M. Gross; supervisors, Amos Shay, M. Dunning; assessor, J. M. Winn; collector, A. C. Dunning; constables, C. C. Willy, C. R. Howe; justices of the peace, B. F. Davis, N. D. Gilbert. There were forty votes cast at the first election. The following are the names of the successive township clerks: A. O. Gross, 1858-9; A. S. Dunning, 1859-62; J. Donehower, 1862-3; J. H. Davenport, 1863-65; O. Cram, 1865-6; C. A. Leach, 1866-69; Levi Brown, 1869-71; George Eagles, 1871-73; Edward Mott, 1873-75; J. P. Nevill, 1875-78; C. A. Leach, 1878-81; J. P. Nevill, 1881-2-3. The present township board: Chairman of supervisors, Amos Shay; supervisors, Henry Winter, Patrick Griffin; assessor, James Donehower; constable, A. B. Leach; justice of the peace, J. P. Nevill.

The surface of the township, like all the country immediately around, is very much broken; the soil is a clay loam. The products are wheat, corn, oats and barley. The average crop for the year 1882 was: Wheat, per acre, 15 bushels; corn, per acre, 60 bushels; oats, per acre, 40 bushels. Barley is raised in very small quantities. Richmond township is traversed by two creeks, Little Trout run and Richmond creek. Little Trout run rises in Sec. 32, flows northwest and leaves the township on Sec. 18. Richmond creek rises in Secs.

27 and 28, flows northwest, and empties into the Mississippi river near the village of Richmond.

M. Dunning was about the earliest settler in the township. He came to the village of Richmond in 1852; Amos Shay came in 1854; he remained in the village a short time and then removed to Sec. 27, where he has been engaged in farming until the present day. M. Dunning reached the village in 1852; in 1855 he removed to Sec. 28, where he may be found still. Edward Outhouse, in 1854, settled on Sec. 19. The farm is now in the hands of his children, he having died some time since. In 1856 Patrick Griffin settled on Sec. 18; he is still in possession of his farm. The N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19 is owned by J. M. Gates, who took possession in November, 1857.

There are but two schools in the township, namely, district 47 on Sec. 17; district 46 on Sec. 21; number of school-children in the township, 24.

There never was a regular church in existence, but divine service has been held in the schoolhouses since 1857. They had circuit preaching by ministers of both Baptist and Methodist denominations. J. M. Winn, a Baptist minister, had his residence in the old village of Richmond in 1857.

The first road through the township was the present river road. The first marriage was that of Austin Dunning to Sydney Yalton. The value of the personal property in the township, according to the late returns, is \$12,000.

A discovery of a very valuable blue sandstone was made in 1882 on Sec. 21. It is being worked by an Ohio stone company; also a white sandstone (resembling marble and susceptible of high polish) and red ochre have been discovered.

#### RICHMOND VILLAGE

was laid out in 1855 by Fredrick Cushman, John Fortune and Henry Cushman. The plat stood on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21, on the bank of the Mississippi river, and had an area of twenty acres. Among the old settlers in the village may be mentioned: M. Dunning, Isaac Nichols, H. Carroll, Thomas Gordon, Jacob Donehower, Andrew Mitchell and Amos Shay. John Fortune built a house in 1854, and his house was, without doubt, the first in the village. O. B. Dodge built a store devoted to general merchandise in 1855. He was soon followed by J. F. Martin, S. C. Dick and Jacob Donehower, each of whom owned a store of the same description.

Besides these, a Mrs. Jennings owned a small millinery establishment. Fredrick Cushman built the first sawmill in 1855. At the same time a blacksmith shop was run by Huttenhow. J. M. Winn was the village physician. The first school-building, the present district school, was erected in 1857. School has never been discontinued. "East Richmond," a rival to Richmond proper, was laid out in 1857 by A. Davenport and a Mr. Rodgers, just south of the first village on the same section. A few houses were built, but it was soon after abandoned. Richmond proper at that time was quite a town, but since then it has gradually decayed, houses have been torn down and removed entirely, until, at present writing, what once was a thriving little town, nothing remains but four shabby old dwellings and a small store kept by J. P. Nevill. Lamoille, a railway station on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, is on the Mississippi river; it is two miles from Pickwick, a small town in Homer township.

#### HOMER TOWNSHIP.

Homer township was organized May 11, 1858. It lies in T. 106 and 107 W. and R. 6 N. It is bounded on the west by Wilson and Winona townships, on the south by Pleasant Hill township, on the east by Richmond township, and on the north by the Mississippi river. It comprises thirty-three complete sections and five fractional ones. The Mississippi river strikes the township on N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, and flows southeast through Secs. 1, 2 and 3. The surface is very much broken; the soil on the ridge land is clay, while in the valleys it is a black loam. The products are wheat, corn, oats and barley. The average per acre for the present year (1882) is as follows: Wheat, per acre, 12 bushels; corn, per acre, 60 bushels; oats, per acre, 35 bushels. Stone quarries may be found all along the river, but they are only worked occasionally.

The number of votes cast at the first election in the township was eighty-eight. The names of the first township officers are as follows: Charles Griswold, town clerk; S. Britton, collector; Samuel Britton, overseer of the poor; Jarard Baldwin, chairman of supervisors; Daniel Daugherty, G. W. Grant, supervisors; J. C. Norton, Ferdinand Cox, justices of the peace; J. C. Crane, Albert Preston, constables; Samuel Alling, assessor.

The first regular postoffice was kept by John Torry in 1857; the first marriage in the village, and no doubt the first in the township,

was that of a servant girl of Willard Bunnell named Rachil to Harry Herrick. This was in 1856. The population of Homer at present is sixty-four. There is one store, owned by Robert Norton, a blacksmith shop, run by Jacob Myres, and a doctor, J. Q. A. Vale. Robert Norton is the postmaster.

The succeeding town clerks were : S. A. Alling, 1860-62 ; R. F. Norton, 1862-3 ; John R. King, 1863-5 ; C. Howard, 1865-7 ; J. Q. A. Vale, 1867-70 ; S. A. Alling, 1870-2 ; J. Q. A. Vale, 1872-4 ; J. Q. A. Vale, 1874-82-3. The members of the present board are : W. I. Lanson, chairman of supervisors ; John Hanson, S. Gardner, supervisors ; R. F. Norton, treasurer ; F. B. Martin, assessor ; S. F. Alling, G. W. King, justices of the peace ; Nelson Breed, J. M. Rutherford, constables.

The township is traversed by two creeks, Cedar creek and Big Trout run. Cedar creek rises in the southwestern part of the township, flows northeast, and empties into the Mississippi river on Sec. 1. Big Trout run is formed by numerous springs in the southern part of the township ; at Pickwick it broadens into a small lake, and furnishes water-power for a large flour-mill ; from Pickwick the stream flows northeast, and leaves the township on Sec. 13. It finally terminates in the Mississippi on Sec. 8, in Richmond township.

The first settler in Homer township, and also the first in the county, was Willard Bunnell, who came in 1849, and settled on the present site of the village of Homer ; he was an Indian trader. C. F. Buck followed soon after and settled near by. This place was then called "Bunnell's Landing." Leonard Johnson came in 1852 and started up a wood-yard on a place just below Bunnell's landing called Johnson's point. John Lavine made his appearance at Minneoah, then a mushroom village just above Bunnell's landing, in 1853. In 1855 he settled on Sec. 11, in Cedar Creek valley, and remained there ever since. Peter Gorr came to the township in 1853, and settled on Sec. 18, in Gorr's valley, now known as Pleasant valley. In 1881 Peter Gorr removed to the old site of Minneoah, on the bank of the Mississippi. R. F. Norton came to Minneoah in 1854 ; he keeps a store at present writing in the village of Homer. Wm. Lamson, another old settler, reached the township in 1855.

The first road in the township reached from Willard Bunnell's place westward to the township line. It was begun in 1853 by private enterprise and completed in 1854. The first house in the town-



ship was owned by Willard Bunnell and stood at Bunnell's landing. Willard Bunnell also kept the first postoffice in his own house as early as 1853. The first birth in the township was that of Louisa Bunnell—born February 22, 1850. This was also the first birth in the county.

There are but two churches in the township, the Free Baptists in Pickwick village, built in 1881, and the Norwegian in Sec. 32, built 1870. Divine service is held in many of the schoolhouses, however, by circuit pastors. There are eight district schools in the township, viz: District 14 in Sec. 30, dist. 15 in Sec. 12, dist. 12 in Sec. 33, dist. 19 in Sec. 24, dist. 13 in Sec. 18, dist. 94 in Sec. 29, dist. 18 in Sec. 16, dist. 103 in Sec. 8.

Pickwick village, and indeed all Homer township, was very much agitated over news received in 1862 that the Indians were planning an attack upon the settlement. People came flocking from all parts of the township to the stone-mill in Pickwick, intending to use it as a fort. It was a false alarm, however, caused by untrue statements and exaggerated reports. The Indians were at the time on the war-path at Mankato, but Pickwick had no cause for alarm.

#### HOMER VILLAGE.

Homer village was laid out in 1855, by Willard Bunnell. It lies on Sec. 33, T. 107, R. 6. Willard Bunnell, who came in 1849, and C. F. Buek, were the first settlers in the village.

The first house was owned by W. Bunnell. Frank Wilson built the first store in 1855. Before the town was laid out this place was called Bunnell's landing, and a postoffice was kept in Mr. Bunnell's house. Another village, called Minneoah, was laid out just above Bunnell's landing in 1852. This place was abandoned at the laying out of Homer, but for a time there existed quite a small community. Among the merchants in Minneoah were Thomas J. Hough, who kept a store there in 1854. He was bought out by John Torry. Charles and Royal Lovell also kept a store in 1854. A hotel existed, owned by Myron Toms. One doctor, J. C. Norton, had his office in the village. At the laying out of Homer this village was deserted. At the present writing nothing remains of it but two dwelling-houses.

Among the early settlers in Homer were Woodruff Griswold and Norton, who built a store in 1857. The same year they put up a warehouse. Ferdinand Cox had a small store in 1857. He sold

drugs and liquors. These stores were torn down and abandoned in 1860. In 1857 Jacob Myers built a blacksmith shop, which he has kept up until the present day. A sawmill was erected in 1868 by R. F. Norton, but was deserted in 1874. There was, however, a sawmill previous to this, owned and built by Hoxie Abel in 1860. A shoeshop was kept by a Mr. Ganes as early as 1859. A private school was in existence in the village from 1858 until 1860, but the first district school was built in 1857 on Sec. 33. The first teacher was Charles Smith.

## PICKWICK VILLAGE.

Pickwick was laid out in 1857. It stands on Sec. 13 of Homer township, at the head of a tiny lake formed by the expansion of Big Trout Run. It is almost surrounded by high bluffs, and is widely known for its picturesque situation. Big Trout Run flows northeast from the village, and its zigzag course can be traced for miles down the valley by the willows growing on its banks. The village was named after "Pickwick Papers," by Charles Dickens. Thomson Grant, who came in 1853, was the first settler in the village. The first store was owned by Ferdinand Cox, who came in 1855.

Thomson Grant and Wilson Davis were the principal land-owners in the village. Wilson Davis came in 1856. Thomson Grant owned the first house. There was at that time one wagon shop and one blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop was owned and built by John Cripps in 1858. The wagon shop was worked by Joel Morrison. A sawmill and gristmill combined was erected in 1854 by Thomson Grant. The present flourmill was commenced in 1856 by Thomson Grant and Wilson Davis. A small building owned by the mill company was used as a school as early as 1858. Miss Lou Grant was the teacher. In 1861 a school was put up by the district. Miss Sarah Shorey was the teacher for several years. The present school, a frame building 24×44 feet, was built by the district in 1863. Charles Sufferins kept the first postoffice in 1858. At present writing Pickwick has two stores, a flourmill, one blacksmith shop, a hotel and a church. The stores are owned by Charles Sufferins and J. W. King respectively. John Cripps works the blacksmith shop. The hotel, quite a large building, is three stories high, and owned by George Outhouse. The mill is built of stone, is 45×60 feet, six stories high, and has a capacity of 100 bbls. of flour

per day. It is owned by Davis & Grannis. Near the mill is a beautiful little waterfall of twenty-eight feet.

Services have been held occasionally in the schoolhouse since it was built, and a Sunday school has been in existence since 1863. The present church was built through the instrumentality of Judson B. Palmer, state missionary of the Free Baptist church. It was erected in 1881. The dimensions are 30×50 feet, and has a spire about fifty feet tall. The first pastor was Rev. Given, who came in 1881 and remained six months. The church was then without a minister until Rev. L. Kerr came in 1882. The congregation now numbers 100 members. The average attendance of the Sunday school is thirty-five, with five teachers. They are in possession of a small library of about fifty volumes.

Pickwick has one secret society, Masonic Lodge, No. 110. The officers are: W.M., J. L. Finch; S.W., Leonard Johnson; J.W., Calvin Berry; S.D., E. B. Huffman; J.D., Joseph Sinclair; secretary, J. M. Rutherford; treasurer, John Spurbek. The society was organized in 1874, and has a present membership of thirty-three.

#### PLEASANT HILL TOWNSHIP.

Pleasant Hill township, commonly described as No. 105 N., R. 6 W., contains thirty-six full sections of 640 acres each. It is situated on the ridge between the Mississippi and Root rivers. The old territorial road between La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Mankato, Minnesota, runs upon this ridge, entering the township at the southeast corner of section 36; thence pursuing a winding diagonal course it leaves the township about eighty rods south of the north line of section 7. The northeastern part of the township is drained by Trout creek, the northwestern part by branches of Cedar creek; both of these streams flow into the Mississippi river. The western part is drained by three branches of Money creek. The principal one is called Corey Valley creek, in honor of H. A. Corey, who settled just over the line in the edge of Wiscoy township. The southwestern and southern portions are drained by branches of Silver creek. The principal one of these streams is called Loony Valley Run. These streams flow into Root river. The eastern part is drained by the branches of Pine creek, known as north branch and south branch. They unite about one hundred rods east of Pleasant Hill township, at New Hartford post-office, and flow into the Mississippi river. This township was named

by Joseph Cooper, who came here in December, 1854, and made a claim. Some time in the spring of 1856 Mr. Cooper made application to the postoffice department at Washington for a postoffice, to be called Pleasant Hill. While awaiting the return from Washington, he and others organized a school district, and when asked by the county registrar of deeds at Winona for the name of the township, he turned to a neighbor, Mr. Reynolds, and asked what they should call the town. Mr. Reynolds said, "Call it the same as the postoffice." So he told the recorder it was Pleasant Hill.

The surface of the township is very uneven, the bluffs varying in height from 200 to 300 feet. Upon the crest of nearly every bluff can be found the well improved farms of the inhabitants, who are happy in the possession of their homes, and surrounded by all the comforts of industry, and the beneficence of an ever-merciful God. But it is by the views in the valleys that the eye is held as if by enchantment. Here upon the foot of the hills is seen the cozy farmhouse, built near some cool spring of water, surrounded by fruit and ornamental trees; while in the background are waving fields of golden grain, flanked with the deep green fields of maize, or still deeper shades of the woody heights covered with all the varieties of oak, elm, maple and hickory, interspersed with white birch and poplar, and clumps of shrub oaks, plum and crab-apple, draped with the heavily laden grape-vine, and beyond this the steep slopes covered with hazel-brush, while at every fence corner is found black or raspberry bushes,\* loaded with their ripening fruits. Turning the eye from the hillside to the dale, a more beautiful picture meets the view. Here is seen the babbling brook, sparkling in the sunshine as it pursues its winding course down the valley, rippling over its pebbly bottom at some steep descent, or tranquilly resting in some small eddy under a clump of alders or dogwood, inviting the spotted trout to a safe retreat from the pleasure-seeking angler, who, with jointed rod and horsehair line, is seen tossing his tempting bait into every available portion of the stream. While upon one side may be seen the beautiful pasture land, extending from the stream to midway of the hillside, covered with a smooth sod of bluegrass mixed with red and white clover, with here and there a stout old burr-oak or a magnificent elm affording ample shade to the white fleeced ewes as they quietly ruminates, surrounded by their sportive lambs, frisking about through sunlight and shadow, yet ever careful to keep away from that part of the enclosure where



the great, sleepy looking cows are cropping the juicy grasses, or stand chewing the cud in the shade of some of the little groves of alder, willow or plum-trees. Upon the other side the eye is charmed by the waving fields of redtop and timothy falling over the sickle of the mowing machine, while the spring-toothed horsrake gathers it into large windrows, ready to be put into the mow for winter use. The farmhouse and barns, orchard and woodland, golden grain and waving maize, stream, pasture and meadow land, all unite in the sunshine to form a picture which no brush can paint and no pen describe. And although the township was quite properly named Pleasant Hill, it will always exist in the mind of the writer as the township of Pleasant Valleys.

The history of Pleasant Hill township since the first white man settled in it is one that will undoubtedly interest the majority of its present inhabitants, and will also be of general interest to the people of Winona county. The first man to build a house inside of the present limits of Pleasant Hill township, was Mr. John Hooper, who is frequently spoken of as "High-low" Hooper, from the fact that he could not converse in an even tone of voice, but would start a sentence in a low, gruff tone and change to a high key and back to a low one without apparently noticing it himself.

Mr. Hooper came to Pleasant Hill township by way of the north branch of Pine creek, in the summer of 1854, and selected a site near a fine spring of water. Here he built a log house and erected a blacksmith shop. He made a lot of ox-shoes during the autumn, and in December he started down Pine Creek valley with his tools and ropes for shoeing oxen, and wherever he met a man who wanted his oxen shod, he would cast the oxen, put on the shoes and go on his way rejoicing. He soon sold out his claim and followed blacksmithing in various places in Winona and Houston counties.

The first man to make a permanent home in the township was Mr. Joseph Cooper, who came to the "ridge" at the head of the south branch of Pine creek in December, 1854. Here he exclaimed, "What a pleasant hill!" and immediately made a claim of 160 acres of land, lying on the ridge and embracing the heads of South Branch and Money Creek valleys.

He at once commenced to chop and hew logs for a house, and on March 20, 1855, he had completed and moved into a log house 22×24 feet and one and one-half stories high. He was followed the

same spring by Michael Burns, Andrew Finch, Calvin Grant, Alexander Stedman and others.

Soon the sound of the woodman's ax was heard resounding throughout the length of the ridge, and what once had been the hunting grounds of the red-man now began to assume the appearance of white habitation. The pioneers had nothing to fear from wild animals, as there were none more ferocious than the timber or large grey wolf, which never attacked any of the settlers, though it would frequently follow them when out at night.

There was an abundance of wild game in the woods, and the unerring aim of the chopper (who always carried his rifle with him) often brought down a fine buck as it bounded through his small clearing. As an instance, showing the plenitude of deer in the early days, it is stated on authority that two young men named Armstrong killed 360 deer in the winters of 1855-6.

#### ROADS.

This township was better provided for with roads than most adjoining ones. The territorial road was "blazed," and had been traveled a few times with wagons. The first road ever laid out by the township was from the center of the east side of section eight (8) due east through sections nine (9) and ten (10), thence north about eighty (80) rods, thence east and northeast in a winding course to the line of New Hartford township. The topography of the country is such that it is almost impossible to build the roads in any direct line; but such is the energy and determination of the people that they spare neither labor nor expense, but excavate roads in the steep hillsides at a cost of from \$500 to \$800 per mile.

#### SCHOOLS.

The people showed an early determination to supply their children with an opportunity to obtain an education; and as early as the spring of 1856 an application was made to form a school district in Pleasant Hill township, to be located near the center of the township, and a plot for the same was drawn by Mr. Joseph Cooper. The plot included the majority of the inhabitants on the ridge at that time. The logs for the schoolhouse were cut early in the summer of 1856, but owing to some misunderstanding the house was not built till the spring of 1857.

The house was built of hewn logs, covered with oak shingles.

The only pine about the building was a blackboard and teachers' desk. To accommodate the pupils a row of holes was bored around the inside of the room, and hardwood pins were driven into these and oak boards laid on the pins. In this rather discouraging looking room Mr. Wm. D. Murray taught the first school, and there are many young men in the township at this time (1882) to testify to his ability and kindness. He is invariably spoken of as "Uncle Billy," and no one holds any grudge against him on account of misuse or ill-treatment, but all proclaim him as the man who was invincible in mathematics. It is pleasing to state that the old log house has been replaced with a very comfortable frame building, and although "Uncle Billy" has ceased to teach, he is still living in the township, and still interested in mathematics.

#### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

The people who left the more prosperous parts of the east soon felt a need of spiritual as well as physical food. In the early part of March, 1856, several families in the northeast part of the township gathered at the house of Alexander Stedman for divine worship. Here Rev. Joseph F. Hamblen, a Free Will Baptist preacher, preached to them, and, assisted by his brother, Mr. Wm. B. Hamblen, an eccentric, self-styled missionary, he soon had a church organized, and regular services were held afterward. Soon after this a Methodist organization was formed in the northwest part of the township, but it soon united with members in Wiseoy township, and services were held at the joint schoolhouse, situated a few rods west of Pleasant Hill, in the town of Wiseoy.

In 1872 the people of Catholic persuasion decided to build a church in Pleasant Hill, and during the winter of 1872-3 a very neat building was erected on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 21. The land was owned by Mr. Cooper, who at first gave one acre for church site. The congregation afterward purchased one acre, and now have a fine cemetery in the grounds adjoining the church. The church was dedicated in the winter of 1873-4 and styled St. Patrick's church. The first person buried in the cemetery was John McCaffrey, of Pleasant Hill.

There are also two Protestant cemeteries in Pleasant Hill; one situated on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 11 is by far the finest one in the town. It contains two acres, and is pleasantly situated on the southeast slope of a beautiful hill and contains some very fine slabs and monu-

ments, designating the resting-places of the beloved departed. The first person that died in Pleasant Hill was a child of Geo. B. Nicholson. It died in the early part of December, 1856. Mr. Alexander Stedman took the coffin upon his horse, and followed by a few neighbors, also on horseback, carried it via of an old Indian trail, down the valley to Pickwick, where it was buried. It was afterward removed to this cemetery.

The other cemetery is in Sec. 22, but it is not so well cared for as the others, and is almost obscured by the small oak bushes which are allowed to grow in it. The first person buried here was Mr. Eddy, who immigrated to this country in 1855.

The first and only store ever kept in this township was in a frame building 18×24 ft.; moved in sections from Richmond, Minnesota, to the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section nine (9), where it was filled with dry goods and groceries by Martin & Banks in the summer of 1859, and was profitably run till the early spring of 1864, when the store and contents were consumed by fire, since which no attempt has been made to open another store.

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## CHAPTER LI.

### WISCOY, WILSON, WARREN AND HILLSDALE TOWNSHIPS.

#### WISCOY TOWNSHIP.

Wisconsin township lies in T. 105, R. 7. Its boundaries are, on the north Wilson township, on the east Pleasant Hill township, on the south Houston county, and on the west by Hart township. It comprises thirty-six complete sections. The surface, like that of the neighboring country, is very much broken. Money Creek valley, a deep valley running almost north and south, is traversed by a stream which bears its name. There are two branches of this creek, the east branch and west branch. The main stream enters the township on Sec. 35. The east branch flows north through Secs. 27, 26 and 24, while the west branch traverses Secs. 28, 29, 20, 16. This subdivides and flows north through Secs. 8, 9, 7 and 5. The soil is productive, raising wheat, corn, oats and barley. The average crop is said to be, wheat per acre, 15 bushels; corn 50



bushels; oats, 40 bushels; barley, "small quantities." Timber is plentiful throughout the township. There are but three district schools in Wiscoy, namely, on Secs. 12, 16 and 27. There are in all about 150 pupils in the township. The first school was the one now standing on Sec. 12, built 1857. The first teacher was Rufus Thomas. There is one cemetery in Wiscoy, standing on Sec. 16, laid out in 1866. A Methodist Episcopal church stands on Sec. 12. It has a very small membership, and its insignificant history is enveloped in comparative obscurity. Wiscoy has two flourmills, one standing on Sec. 29, owned by Judson Wells (a frame building erected in 1856, and having a capacity of fifty barrels per day). Another mill owned by L. J. Clark, built 1865, stands on Sec. 16, and has a capacity of forty barrels per day. The first postoffice in Wiscoy was kept by Benton Aldrich as early as 1857 on Sec. 36. James Clark took charge of the office in 1873, and has been postmaster since that time. The first settler in Wiscoy was Ira A. Boianton, who came in 1855 and settled on Sec. 12. Ira Boianton is now dead, but the farm is in the hands of his children and widow. A. F. Hill arrived the same year and took up a farm on the same section. H. A. Corey and Lemuel Abell came to Wiscoy the same year (1855). H. A. Corey settled on Sec. 24, in Money Creek valley. He is still living and in possession of his farm. Lemuel Abell settled on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 3. O. G. Morrison arrived in 1857 and entered a part of Sec. 27. Both Lemuel Abell and O. G. Morrison have kept their farms without changing hands. The township was organized and the first meeting held May 10, 1858. Rufus Thomas was appointed town clerk. The members of the first board were: Lemuel Abell, Joseph Brooks, supervisors; H. A. Corey, assessor; Franklin Vidits, collector; James Greenfield, overseer of the poor; Calmer Harris, Edward Taylor, justices of the peace; Esben Skinkle, A. B. Watsen, constables. The town clerks in order: Rufus Thomas, 1858-9; S. G. Jones, 1859-60; C. A. Fuller, 1860-62; C. A. Wheeler, 1862-65; M. S. Wood, 1865-67; C. A. Wheeler, 1867-8; D. W. Pickart, 1868-9; S. G. Jones, 1869-72; James Clark, 1872-82-3. Present board: E. Skinkle, Charles Waldo, B. C. Walling, supervisors; Daniel Cook, justice of the peace; Wm. Morse, Albert Warner, constables; Daniel Cook, treasurer.

#### WITOKA VILLAGE.

Witoka was laid out in 1855 by Geo. W. Morse, L. Thomas and David Parker. It lies on Sec. 35 and comprises an area of fifty-

eight acres. It was known at first by the name of Centerville, but was afterward changed to Witoka. L. Thomas came May 16, 1855, and built the first house in the village. He also put up a store for the sale of general merchandise. The same year Calvin Ford came and started a store also. A blacksmith shop was built at this time by Wm. Jones, who was followed by Harvey Bourne. The first postoffice was established in 1856; L. Thomas was the postmaster. During the first year he carried the mail at his own expense, but at the end of that time a mail route was established. The first marriage was that of Becky Smith to Wm. More in 1857. In 1856 a small dwelling-house was built which was turned into a school-house. This school was taught by Rufus Thomas. A district school was erected in 1857; the first teacher was Charlotte French. There was a doctor in the village at this time, Dr. Samuel Miller. Divine service was held as early as 1855, in the house of L. Thomas, presided over by Rev. Cogswill. The next year, 1856, a series of sermons were delivered every four weeks by Elder L. Babcock, in the same place. After this meetings were held in the schoolhouse; by both Methodist and Baptist ministers. The first hotel in Witoka, a large frame building, was owned by L. Thomas, and was burned in 1877. At present there are two towns, known respectively as West or Old Witoka and East or New Witoka. All the residence part of the village is in West Witoka, while the business part, stores, hotel, etc., lies in East Witoka. East Witoka lies directly on the line between Wilson and Wiscoy townships. When the Pleasant Valley road was laid out in 1878, all the stores, etc., left the old town and came over to East Witoka. At present writing there are two stores in East Witoka, kept respectively by O. Abell and George Yongs; two blacksmith shops, owned by Phillip Bourne and B. Bragg; two wagon shops, worked by B. Bragg and Walter Crandell; a large brick hotel two stories high, run by L. Thomas. The dimensions of the hotel are  $34 \times 24$  feet, with a wing  $26 \times 18$ . The postmaster is O. Abell. A fine graded school was built in West Witoka in 1868. It is a frame building with a dimension of  $80 \times 30$  feet. The school has two departments; the "principal" is W. Wilbur, with Emma Strayer as "assistant." J. Crandall is the village physician. There is one church in West Witoka, the Congregational. The building was intended for the use of a grangers' hall, but was sold in 1879 to the church. Rev. Elmer was the first pastor; he was replaced in 1880 by the present

pastor, H. A. Bushnell. A Sabbath school exists in connection with the church, with an average attendance of sixty-five pupils. Henry Kader is the superintendent. There is one society in Witoka, the "Witoka Grange." This association was organized in 1870, with a membership of 144. The officers for 1882 were: G. M. Riley, worthy master; J. E. Baleh, secretary; H. Neman, treasurer. Its object is mutual protection from monopolies and exorbitant charges for transportation.

#### WILSON TOWNSHIP.

Wilson township lies in T. 106 and R. 6. It is bounded on the north by Winona township, on the south by Wiscoy township, on the east by Homer township and on the west by Warren township. The surface is very much broken, and is divided by the bluffs into two valleys running north and south. These valleys are traversed by two creeks, West Burns Valley creek and East Burns Valley creek. West Burns Valley creek rises in Sec. 15 and flows northeast through the valley, and joins the east branch on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 3. East Burns Valley creek has its source in Sec. 9, flows north to Sec. 3, where the two unite and leave the township on Sec. 2. The soil is productive and wheat, corn, oats and barley are raised. In an early day this land was thickly covered with timber, which has now been to a great extent cut down. The township comprises thirty-six complete sections, and measures six miles in each direction. It was organized May 11, 1858, with W. W. Kelly as town clerk. The officers appointed at this first meeting were: J. S. Wilson (chairman), D. McDougall, Myron Toms, supervisors; M. W. Crittendon, assessor; Amos Shepherd, collector; William Jones, overseer of the poor; William Jones, Alvin Lufkins, constables; Renel D. Fellows, Dexter Shepherd, justices of the peace.

At this first meeting there were seventy-seven votes cast. The following are the town clerks in order up to the year 1882: W. W. Kelly, 1858-60; J. A. Gile, 1860-1; E. P. Wait, 1861-2; James Lynn, 1862-3; Mason Leet, 1863-4; J. C. Brown, 1864-5; James Lynn, 1865-6; Norris Grey, 1866-7; J. A. Gile, 1867-8; R. D. Fellows, 1870-2; Joseph Bockler, 1872-3; R. D. Fellows, 1873-4; Joseph Bockler, 1874-8; R. D. Fellows, 1878-81; J. E. Baleh, 1881-2-3. The board for the year 1882 were: J. Moran, Arnold Gernes, John Nevill, supervisors; J. C. Brown,

assessor ; Wm. A. Abell, Fred. Dobbblestein, constables ; Theodore Searle, Andrew Gerlicher, justices of the peace.

The average crop for the year 1882 is said to be, oats per acre, 45 bushels ; wheat per acre, 12 bushels ; corn per acre, 40 bushels ; barley per acre, 20 bushels.

Wilson township has seven district schools ; they stand on the following sections : 18, 13, 20, 28, 31, 32, 35. The county poor farm is in this township ; it lies on Sec. 6 at the head of Gilmore valley. There are four churches in Wilson township, namely, Congregational, on Sec. 35 (village of Witoka) ; Evangelist (German), on Sec. 28 ; German Catholic and Lutheran.

There are two postoffices in Wilson township, one at Witoka, O. Abell, postmaster ; another on Sec. 29 is kept by Henry Blaiser — this is known as Wilson postoffice. The first house in the township was built by J. Giles in 1854 on Sec. 29. Frank Brown was the first child born, in 1854. The postoffice now known as Wilson postoffice was first called Wayland postoffice, and was kept by John F. Giles. John Giles was no doubt the first man to settle in Wilson ; he came as early as 1853 and entered a part of what is now Sec. 29. He was, however, dissatisfied with his claim, and removed, but returned again in 1854. The year 1855 was marked by the entrance of a large number of land-seekers. J. C. Walker, Antone Schoebe, Joseph A. Hilbe, Joseph Heller, Wm. Bergman, Sr., Wm. Bergman, Jr., Louis Keller, Levi Winget, Jerry Moran, R. D. Fellows, Michael Koenig, Henry Benig, Lauren Thomas and Henry Heublin all were among the number.

John Nevill is said to have come in 1854, one year earlier than the above. J. C. Walker entered a part of Sec. 1 ; his farm has since been sold, and is known as "Hamilton's farm." Antone Schoebe and Joseph Hilbe took up land in East Burns valley. Joseph Heller entered land at the head of Rolling Stone valley. Louis Keller settled on Sec. 28, where he can be found still. Henry Benig settled on Sec. 30 and Michael Koenig on Sec. 21. The flour-mill now owned by M. J. Laird, of Winona, was the first and only mill in Wilson.

#### WARREN TOWNSHIP.

Warren township lies in T. 106 N. and R. 8 W. Its boundaries are as follows : On the north Hillsdale township, on the east Wilson township, on the south Hart township, and on the west Utica township. The surface in the north and northeastern part is



very much broken, while the remainder forms a level prairie. The soil is good and the products are wheat, corn, oats and barley. Warren is traversed by two branches of Rolling Stone creek. The east branch rises in Sec. 26, flows north through Secs. 23, 14, 11, 10, 3 and 2, leaving the township on Sec. 3. The west branch rises in Secs. 7 and 8, flows northeast through Sec. 5 and leaves the township on Sec. 5. Warren is also cut by the Winona & St. Peter railway, which enters the township on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4, runs southwest through Secs. 5, 18, 17 and 8, and leaves it on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 18. Warren has no village settlements whatever. There are two postoffices, each in the southern portion of the township. Wyattville postoffice is in Sec. 33; it was established about 1859, with Hiram Wyatt as postmaster. Frank Hill postoffice was established at the same time, with A. B. Dunlap as postmaster. About 1862 two other postoffices were in existence, one in Sec. 19 and the other in Sec. 20. The one in Sec. 19 was known as North Warren, and kept by L. C. Ferrin; the one in Sec. 20 was kept by Hiram Paris, and was known simply as Warren postoffice. Both of these were abandoned soon after their establishment. In 1856 a large hotel or tavern was kept for the accommodation of travelers by James McQuestion on Sec. 20. This hotel was burned some time in 1865. A store devoted to general merchandise was owned and run by Farrar & Russell in 1859 on Sec. 33. This has been abandoned long since. A flour-mill was built in 1857; this was at first used as a sawmill, but was converted into a gristmill in 1865. This mill stands on Sec. 4, and is owned by William Duncanson; its capacity is very small.

Leonard George kept a school in 1856 in a private house which stood on Sec. 21. The next school was kept by Margaret Grey in a little schoolhouse built on Sec. 31 in 1857. Susan Buswell taught the next in 1858; this was in Sec. 20.

William Duncanson came to Warren township in the spring of 1854 from La Crosse. The first wagon track was made by him through this section on June 5, 1854. He settled on what is now the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 20. In the fall of 1854 Theodore, son of Wm. Duncanson, was born: this was undoubtedly the first birth in the township. The first laid-out road was that known then as the territorial road, running from Chatfield through Rush Creek and Sec. 20 to Stockton.

Church service was first held in the various schoolhouses. At

present there are the following churches: Methodist, in Sec. 20; Presbyterian, in Sec. 36; Brethren, in Sec. 19. To each of these is attached a cemetery.

William Duncanson, of whom mention has been made, was the oldest settler in Warren. He came in June, 1854. He was followed in the fall by Jacob Duncanson, his brother. Jacob Duncanson, with his family, settled on Sec. 21; Oliver Panger and A. J. Ayers arrived at the same time and entered part of Sec. 19. The following made their appearance in 1855: Joseph Mixer, Lucius Brainerd, Frederick Hall, Moses Stickney, Hiram Wyatt, Sylvester Frink, E. B. Jewett, Mortimer Gage and H. P. Archer. The following came in 1856: Theodore Warnkan, Arnt Warnkan, John Demoung and Jessie Wheeler.

Warren township has six district schools. Sec. 8, district 40; Sec. 12, dist. 111; Sec. 19, dist. 36; Sec. 21, dist. 39; Sec. 32, dist. 6; Sec. 34, dist. 5.

The first meeting was held and the township organized May 11, 1858. G. W. Gleason was appointed town clerk. The board elected: Supervisors, A. P. Hoit, L. B. Terrin, T. Thayer; constable, W. P. Thayer; overseer of the poor, Sylvester Frink; justice of the peace, Jesse Wheeler; collector, I. N. Farrar; assessor, Lucius Brainerd. The town clerks in succession were G. W. Gleason, M. P. Thayer, E. B. Jewett, B. S. Gross, W. N. Buswell, E. M. Buswell, W. N. Buswell, E. M. Buswell, W. N. Buswell, E. B. Jewett, M. P. Thayer, H. C. Wilbur, J. A. Gintler, H. D. Gage, John Kenny, H. C. Wilbur (present clerk). Board elected in 1882 were as follows: Supervisors, E. M. Buswell, Edward Markle, Wm. Felzer; constables, Fred. Janzow, Edward Albert; justices of the peace, John L. Farrar, John Miller; assessor, J. L. Farrar; treasurer, Almon Sartwell.

A stone-quarry, on Sec. 3 of Warren township, employs from 200 to 400 men during the summer months. A variety of limestone, very valuable for building purposes, is taken from this quarry. It is owned by the Chicago & Northwestern railway, and has been worked for four years.

*Brethren Church of Warren township.*—This church was organized in the year 1855, with the following official members: Phillip Ramer, elder; David Whetstone, deacon, and Christian F. Wirt, pastor. The lay members were Stephen Thackery and wife, Solomon Ramer and wife, Peter Ramer and wife, Daniel Ramer and

wife, Andrew Reterman and wife. The membership at first numbered sixteen. It is impossible to give the complete history of this church, as the record has not always been kept. This much, however, is known. In the first three years of its organization four members died and several removed from the country, while a few deserted the church and united with the Advents. The church up to 1874 held service in the schoolhouse. In 1874 a building was erected to be used as a church. It was a frame structure, 30×50 feet. They possessed a plot of one and a half acres for church and cemetery. The new church cost \$1,600, and stands on Sec. 19. A Sabbath school connected with the church is in a good condition.

*Presbyterian (German) Church of Warren township.*—Regularly organized in 1873. Prominent original members: John Lafky, Peter Hertzwurm, Paul Loereh, John Lafky, Jr. The church is a frame building, put up in 1874. It is forty feet long and twenty-four feet wide, and stands on Sec. 36. Connected with the church is eight acres of land and a cemetery. The ministers in order are John L. Funk, Jacob Schaefer, John Leirer, August Bush. A neat frame parsonage is connected with the church. The membership is said to be twenty-four.

#### HILLSDALE TOWNSHIP.

Hillsdale is but one-half of an entire township comprising eighteen complete sections in all. Its boundaries are, on the north Rolling Stone, on the east Winona, on the south Warren, and on the west Norton. It is six miles long and three miles wide. On the north, east and south portions the surface is broken, while to the northwest there is a slight prairie land or "grubb land" as it is sometimes called. It has a limestone soil composed of a rich dark loam. One of the early pioneers, while breaking land on the present site of Stockton, dropped potatoes along in the furrows as he plowed and at the same time turned the sod over them. The land was not touched again until fall, when out of the one-fourth acre of land he dug 110 bushels of potatoes. (The richness of the soil can be imagined.) Timber was plentiful at first, especially along the streams. There were several kinds of oak besides hickory and butternut. Oak is plentiful still. Among the animals were deer, red-fox, prairie-wolf, badgers, woodchucks and beavers in the streams. The early pioneers, shut out almost entirely from the east except in summer, found it difficult to secure provisions. Deer and

prairie-chickens were numerous, and venison was a great article of food. Potatoes alone brought \$1.40 per bushel, and other things in proportion. Timber was plentiful, but lumber was scarce. J. H. Swindler says he built him a house in 1855, 14×16 feet, out of 1,200 feet of lumber; the dimension pieces and framework were taken from the neighboring woods. The earliest settlers were a few of the members of the "Western Farm and Village Association" of New York city. S. D. Putnam, Charles Bannan and Lawrence Dilworth all came in 1852, and were members of the above company. S. A. Houck, O. H. Houck and John McClintock came in 1853. In 1855 J. J. Matteson, John Hart, C. Hertzberg, Jabez Churchill and J. H. Swindler arrived. S. D. Putnam entered the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27 in June, 1852. Charles Bannan entered a part of Sec. 23 and John McClintock a part of Sec. 27. Lawrence Dilworth settled on Sec. 23, J. J. Matteson on Sec. 26 and John Hart on Sec. 23.

What is now known as district 31 on Sec. 23 is said to have been the first school in Hillsdale. It was built early in 1857 by private subscription, the districts not being organized at that time. The schools at present, with their section and districts, are: District 81 on Sec. 31, dist. 97 on Sec. 30, dist. 31 on Sec. 23, dist. 110 on Sec. 36, dist. 17 on Sec. 34. The average number of pupils in Hillsdale for 1882 is 203.

A grist-mill was built in 1865 on Sec. 26, by Benjamin Sherry. It was two and one-half stories high and had two run of burrs. It stood on Rolling Stone creek. At present writing it is owned by H. W. Jackson. The Winona & St. Peter railway runs through the township in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction. It has a station at Stockton. Hillsdale is also traversed by Rolling Stone creek, which enters the township on Sec. 34, flows north through Secs. 27 and 26, and leaves the township on Sec. 23.

The township was organized and the first board appointed May 11, 1858: J. B. Alexander, town clerk; L. R. King, James Gwinn, M. Collins, supervisors; J. B. Morehead, assessor; O. D. Hicks, collector; Henry Wiseman, overseer of the poor; T. Q. Gage, justice of the peace; S. T. Gwinn, J. Schmettyer, constables. Successive town clerks: J. B. Alexander, C. E. Gage, J. B. Alexander, A. S. Gregory, George Little, John A. Moore, J. N. Byington, Wm. H. Churchill, George S. Wiseman, J. N. Byington, H. W. Mowbray, B. Dripps, F. A. Thomas, James Mitchell (present town clerk). Present board: John Monk, W. H. Jackson, H. J. Krans-



key, supervisors ; S. T. Gwinn, John Midler, constables ; James King, Henry Kranskey, justices of the peace ; James King, collector ; George McNutt, treasurer.

#### STOCKTON VILLAGE.

The village of Stockton, in Hillsdale township, was laid out in the summer of 1856, although the land was pre-empted in 1855 ; J. B. Stockton, Wm. Davidson and Wm. Springer were the proprietors. The town was named after J. B. Stockton ; Stockton stands on the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 34. The plat is one mile long and one-half mile wide, and embraces an area of 320 acres. Rolling Stone creek enters the town plat on the west and flows northeast through the village. Stockton stands in the main Rolling Stone valley, sometimes spoken of as the "west branch."

In the summer of 1855 H. A. Putnam emigrated to this section with his family, and built a frame building, 24×18 feet, which was used both as a dwelling and as a store for general merchandise. This was undoubtedly the first house erected. Among the early residents may be mentioned : George Gregory and family, Rev. Wm. Poling, John Dacon (blacksmith), Andrew Miller (carpenter), Henry Parrot (wagonmaker), Robert Curtis (blacksmith), Henry Wiseman and John Alexander. Wiseman and Alexander owned a carpenter and wagon shop in 1857. The year 1858 was marked by the grading of the "Transit railway" (now Winona & St. Peter), which cut through the town. The population were pleased with the new venture and were anxious for its completion, but when the company failed and were unable to pay their bills for labor and goods, the enterprise was looked upon with disfavor. The road was then purchased by the Winona & St. Peter company, and completed in 1861.

J. B. Stockton was the proprietor of the first hotel in 1856. Wm. Dodge was the first postmaster in Stockton. The office was kept in 1856 just south of the town line. The present mill was built in the shape of a sawmill in 1855, by Wm. Dodge. In 1857 it was sold to Starbuck & Jones, who converted it into a gristmill with two run of burrs. In 1859 it passed into the hands of Hugh Sherry, who sold a half interest to Dr. S. B. Sheardown. It was run by the above for five years, when it was purchased by Mowbray & Sons, the present possessors. In 1879 the old burrs were abandoned and new patent rolling and crushing machinery put in. The capacity is

now 250 bbls. per day. Rolling Stone creek supplies half the power, the remainder is secured by steam-engines. The mill is a frame structure, three stories high, and doing a lively business. The first school, a frame building, 20×28 feet, was built in 1857, and was taught by Albert Thomas. The present school, a large frame building, was built in 1875. It has a dimension of 28×50 feet. There are two departments, a primary and intermediate department. Two teachers and an average attendance of 100 pupils. This school is doing some good work.

Present merchants are as follows: Thomas & Swindler, general merchandise, also drugstore; Sheardown & Sheardown, general merchandise and drugs; James Mitchell, hardware and boots and shoes; Simon Ramm, general merchandise. Two physicians, namely, Dr. S. B. Sheardown, Sr.; Dr. T. B. Sheardown, Jr. Two blacksmith shops kept by Christopher Lowerish and Geo. McNutt.

Stockton has two churches, the Episcopal and Methodist. The services of the Episcopal church were held at first in the schoolhouse at Stockton. The first minister was Rev. Benj. Evans. The congregation was regularly organized in 1859, and a church building was erected the same year. This structure is of frame, 32×42 feet, with a spire forty-five feet high. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bond, Wm. H. Bayard and family, J. A. Moore and family and John Monk and family were the prominent original members. For several years the church has been without a regular minister. Rev. Joseph Hilmer, of Winona, has charge of the congregation at present.

Methodist church meetings were held in Stockton's Hotel as early as 1856, Rev. A. J. Nelson presiding. These were continued until 1857, at the building of the schoolhouse, when it was used. Rev. Wm. Poling was appointed minister by the conference in 1857. A frame church was built in 1872; dimensions, 40×32 feet; tower or belfry, fifteen feet (above roof). Rev. Wm. H. Soule was the first minister appointed for the new church. Present membership, forty-four.

A Sabbath school was organized in 1856 by Mrs. H. A. Putnam, in her own house. The present school has a membership of fifty, with five teachers. Rev. W. A. Miles is the minister for 1883.

*Temperance Society.*—Refuge Division of the Sons of Temperance, No. 71.

This society was chartered in 1876, with twenty-five charter members. For quite a while this was a flourishing society and did

much good for the community, but at present it has fallen into decay. The officers are: W. H. Thomas, W.P.; Mrs. Mary Blair, R.S.; Lella McNutt, F.S.; Frank Mitchell, I.S.; Alex. Torrence, O.S.; F. E. Blair, Treas.; Geo. Rissinger, Chap. Charter members at present, forty.

*Lyceum.*—A literary and debating society, organized for mutual benefit. Officers: S. B. Sheardown, president; W. H. Thomas, secretary; R. H. Allen, treasurer.

Stockton cemetery, having an area of two acres, was laid out in 1860, at the north end of the town plat. The main streets are four rods wide, excepting Broadway, which is six rods wide. The alleys are sixteen feet. The population is said to be 383.

## CHAPTER LII.

NORTON, MOUNT VERNON, WHITEWATER AND ELBA TOWNSHIPS.

### NORTON TOWNSHIP.

THIS township when organized, May 11, 1858, was given the name of Sumner. It was afterward changed to Jefferson and finally to Norton, its present name. The town line passing through its center locates it in T. 107, while the range places it in 9 west. It is bounded on the north by Mt. Vernon, on the east by Rolling Stone and Hillsdale, on the south by Utica and on the west by Elba. The surface in the central and southern parts is what is known as rolling, open land, and contains some of the best land in the county. While in the eastern portion the land is very much broken.

Rolling Stone valley, traversed by a branch of Rolling Stone creek, is in this locality. This valley is said to be from 400 to 500 feet deep. The scenery is wild and romantic. The wagon road winds around, in and out along the edges of frightful precipices and under immense overhanging rocks hundreds of feet overhead. A great attraction in this valley or ravine is a large cave which reaches over a quarter of a mile underground, and is filled with stalactites and curious stones. Elm, ash, basswood, oak, hickory, and some maple, are found along this valley. On the high land water is very scarce. The water is hauled from the valleys and put in large

cisterns, or in some cases wells are drilled 500 feet deep through the rock, and the water drawn up with a windmill. When the early pioneers made their appearance in 1855 wolves were numerous, and black bears were seen occasionally. Deer have been known to come up and eat along with the cattle, and one old settler had a large flock of quail that he fed regularly near his cabin.

Out of a large number of pioneers that made their homes in this locality there are scarcely a half-dozen remaining. A large number have died, and a large number have sold their farms and emigrated to Dakota. Wm. Sweet entered what is now the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 32, in the early part of May, 1852. It will be of interest to note that this was the first claim made back of the bluffs from the Mississippi river in Winona county. John Van Hook is the next man supposed to have made his appearance. In 1854 he pre-empted what is now S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30. Allos Schwager, Adam Hick, John Monk, Wm. Ruprecht, Pardon Spooner, J. R. Warner and Michael Moore, all came the next year (1855). Allos Schwager settled in Rolling Stone valley on what is now Sec. 15. Adam Hick took up N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 28; John Monk the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 36; Michael Moore the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 22; J. R. Warner the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 33; Pardon Spooner the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 32, while Wm. Ruprecht settled on Sec. 25. Peter Epelding came in 1855, and settled on Sec. 24; J. P. and H. N. Hilbert came in 1855, and settled on Sec. 12. Each of the above were prominent among the early pioneers.

A postoffice was kept as early as 1864 by Fredrich Gensmer. Ely Turner succeeded him in 1866. The postoffice was abandoned some time in 1868. Since then Norton has been without a post-office. Wm. Ruprecht built a sawmill in 1860, on Sec. 25, on Rolling Stone creek. The water-power at that point was found to be excellent, so in 1875 it was turned into a gristmill with two run of burrs. This was a frame building, 34×20 feet, and two stories high. In 1882 the mill was enlarged and new patent rolling and crushing machinery was added. The mill has a custom business principally. Norton has no village organization, no physician, no lawyer, and above all no saloon.

There are five district schools, namely, District 28 in Sec. 28, dist. 127 in Sec. 27, dist. 26 in Sec. 13, dist. 101 in Sec. 17, dist. 100 in Sec. 8. Besides these there is one German Catholic school on Sec. 31. This school was organized by private enterprise. There are three churches in the township. German Lutheran on Sec.



27, Brethren church on Sec. 8, and the German Methodist Episcopal on Sec. 5 (now abandoned). The German Lutheran church is a white frame building with a neat exterior appearance. It stands on Sec. 27, and was built in 1878. It is 28×40 feet, and has a spire 60 feet in height. They have a school building 18×24 feet, and a parsonage, besides two acres of land. School has been kept since 1878,—a German district school in summer and an English school in winter. Congregation of the church numbers about fifteen families. They have circuit preaching at present. Rev. Otto Koch, of Lewiston, is the present minister.

There are two cemeteries in Norton, one attached to the Lutheran and another to the Brethren church. At present the population are mostly Prussian Germans. Some of these have been known to come in with nothing but a few head of cattle, and by hard work and perseverance have secured themselves large and valuable farms. Three hundred votes were cast at the last election in the township.

#### MOUNT VERNON TOWNSHIP.

T. 108, R. 9, was settled about the same time as the adjoining towns, more particularly Minneiska, in Wabasha county, which bounds it on the west. Some of the earliest settlers were Whiteman, Deacon Smith, Brizius and Patrick Murray, in Trout valley, Williams and Smith on the ridge, who were quickly followed by others, and all the available land was soon taken up. Not a section of the township but what is more or less productive and under cultivation. The Trout valley intersects it, running almost north and south, while the eastern and western portions are considerably broken by valleys, containing considerable timber, while on the ridges is to be found good prairie land.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The first town meeting was held at the house of S. N. Burns, May 11, 1858, and the following officers were elected: G. A. Whiteman, Patrick Murray, H. C. Jones, supervisors; G. A. Whiteman, chairman of supervisors; Charles Smith, town clerk; Samuel Bullard, assessor; Lyman Lovel, collector; M. Malmson, overseer of poor; John Montgomery, justice.

The following is the list of gentlemen who have filled the positions of chairman of supervisors and town clerk up to 1883:

YEAR.	CH. OF SUPERVISORS.	TOWN CLERK.
1858.....	G. A. Whiteman.....	Charles Smith.
1859.....	H. C. Jones.....	Charles Smith.
1860.....	G. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1861.....	H. C. Jones.....	Charles Smith.
1862.....	P. Murray.....	Charles Smith.
1863.....	P. Murray.....	Charles Smith.
1864.....	S. M. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1865.....	Joseph Taylor.....	Charles Smith.
1866.....	S. M. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1867.....	S. M. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1868.....	C. H. Molecha.....	Charles Smith.
1869.....	S. Speakman.....	J. H. Williams.
1870.....	A. Steavor.....	J. H. Williams.
1871.....	A. Steavor.....	N. W. Osborn.
1872.....	S. Bullard.....	N. W. Osborn.
1873.....	S. Bullard.....	N. F. Richards.
1874.....	John Valentine.....	J. H. Williams.
1875.....	John Valentine.....	J. H. Williams.
1876.....	Peter Speltz.....	J. H. Williams.
1877.....	Peter Speltz.....	J. H. Williams.
1878.....	S. Bullard.....	J. H. Williams.
1879.....	S. Bullard.....	N. Schell, Jr.
1880.....	S. Bullard.....	N. Schell, Jr.
1881.....	J. H. Williams.....	N. Schell, Jr.
1882.....	J. H. Williams.....	N. Schell, Jr.

ROADS.

Good roads are constructed on the ridges and in the valleys, and considerable money has been expended on the improvement. The first road laid out by the township was ordered July 5, 1858, four rods wide, commencing at Sec. 17 and running two miles through the Trout valley.

SCHOOLS.

There are four school districts with four good substantial school-houses; the first one built was at Oak Ridge. Previous to the erection of any schoolhouse, or opening of any public school, the wife of Deacon Smith, in Trout valley, was persuaded by a few of her neighbors to teach their children, which she willingly did, teaching gratuitously the few she could gather in the then almost unbroken wilderness. A few years have since rolled by, and now as good schools and as efficient teachers minister to the wants of the young as are to be found in the country.

## CHURCHES.

The township contains two churches, both German,—Catholic and Methodist. The Methodist was the first one erected, a plain frame building, at Oak Ridge. Religious services are co-equal with the advent of the settlers, services being held by pastors from adjoining towns in private houses. The Methodists have a large and thriving congregation. On December 5, 1875, a meeting of Catholics was held at the house of John Speltz, for the purpose of organizing a congregation and the erection of a church, which resulted in the building of a handsome brick edifice at Oak Ridge, at a cost of \$3,000, with a seating capacity of 400. The corner-stone was laid in May, 1876, and finished and consecrated in August of the same year. The parish is in charge of Father Lawrence. The erection and successful completion of the church is due, in a great measure, to the efforts of Peter and John Speltz, Casper Kriedemacher, A. Stever, M. Hitinger, Jacob Frisch, N. Reis, M. Sibenaler, N. Walch, N. Gidenger, P. Stever, N. Muller and others.

## CEMETERIES.

There are three burying-places in the township, two public and one Catholic. The first public one was ordered laid out May 27, 1873, near John Smith's, on the ridge. The Roman Catholics have theirs in connection with their church; the first interment in which was October 16, 1876, the wife of Peter Speltz. The other public cemetery is near the Methodist church at Oak Ridge.

## WAR RECORD.

The township then containing very few men that could be spared and but sparsely settled and with but recent comers, did all that was possible under the circumstances in defense of the country's flag. The town offered a bounty of \$125 on February 12, 1864, to volunteers, and increased it at a special meeting called for that purpose August 20, 1864, to \$250, and again at another meeting held January 23, 1865, agreed to pay \$137 additional to volunteers in service credited to the town previous to February 1, 1864, and also to men drafted and credited to the town under last call, \$300, and to those who might hereafter be drafted, \$300.

## CASUALTIES.

The township has been remarkably free from crime or casualties of any description. No murder or robbery sullies its record. Law-

- suits and their accompanying bitterness are almost unknown, and justices and lawyers do not thrive off the residents of Mt. Vernon. The majority of the settlers are steady, frugal Luxemburgers, who are not prone to lawlessness of any description. The first accident that occurred was the drowning of a young man, Mr. Dunston, a connection of J. H. Williams, who fell from a barge into the river. A man who was employed by John Smith (Christopher Schilsen) was kicked by a horse while hauling a thrashing machine up the ridge, and only survived a few days. In the spring of 1873 the community suffered a severe loss in the death of Patrick Murray, one of the pioneers, and very oldest settlers, who, while ploughing, was kicked by a fractious horse so severely that death very soon ensued. No other accident worthy of note has occurred.

## WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP.

The surface is generally very much broken. On the western part, however, nearly the entire length of the township skirts on Greenwood prairie, in Wabasha county. The township lies in T. 108 N. and R. 10 W. It is bounded on the north and west by Wabasha county, on the east by Mt. Vernon township, and on the south by Elba township. Whitewater lies in the extreme north-western corner of Winona county. There are two principal valleys—Whitewater valley and Beaver creek valley. Whitewater valley is six miles long, and runs directly north and south through the township. It is traversed by Whitewater river, which enters the township on Sec. 35 and leaves it on Sec. 1. This river attains an average width of forty feet and a depth of three feet. Beaver valley runs almost east and west; it is four miles long and traversed by Beaver creek. This creek rises in Sec. 19, flows east, and empties into Whitewater river at the village of Beaver on Sec. 15. Timber is abundant along the valleys, and trout plentiful in the streams. There have been two village settlements in the township, viz: Whitewater Falls, now gone to decay, and Beaver. The early history of these is in general the early history of the township.

## EARLY PIONEERS.

The following came in 1854: Stephen Covey, John Cook, F. C. Putnam, Wm. J. Dooley, Wm. Woods and Albert Scrivens. Stephen Covey took up a claim on Sec. 15, John Cook on Sec. 34, F. C. Putnam S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23, Wm. J. Dooley on Sec. 15, William



Woods on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, and Albert Scrivens on Sec. 15. The year 1855 was marked by the arrival of the following: A. J. McRay, J. M. Minnegar, Albert Hopson, Pliney Putnam, Lyman Young, S. A. Houck, Oliver Porter, Nathan Fisher, J. W. Hayes, Wm. Vilander, Louis Skidmore, Leonard Robinson, C. W. Buswell and Nathan Warner. A. J. McRay took up his residence on the site of Beaver; J. M. Minnegar settled on what is now N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23 and N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 22, Albert Hopson on Sec. 22, Pliney Putnam on Secs. 10 and 11, Lyman Young on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 2, S. A. Houck on W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 2, Oliver Porter on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 1, Nathan Fisher on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29, J. W. Hayes on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 15, Wm. Vilander on Sec. 15, which, by the way, he purchased from J. W. Hayes for the small sum of \$2.50, Louis Skidmore on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35, Leonard Robinson on Sec. 27, C. W. Buswell on Sec. 34, and Nathan Warner on the same section.

#### BEAVER VILLAGE.

Beaver village is situated on Sec. 15, at the junction of Beaver creek with Whitewater river. Beavers were numerous in these streams at an early day. A large dam was built by these animals in the creek near the village; from this came the names Beaver creek and Beaver village. The village was laid out in 1856, and covers an area of forty acres. The first house in this locality, and, indeed, the first in Whitewater township, was put up by Stephen Covey in 1854; the first store was built in 1856 by Wm. Dooley; it was a log structure, 14×20 feet, and devoted to general merchandise. Among the early residents were John Knowles, H. B. Knowles, Dr. Sheldon Brooks and J. W. Hayes.

The first blacksmith shop was built by Carl Pope in 1856; first death was that of Stephen Covey, who died in 1857, and was buried on his farm, S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 15; first birth was that of Cora Knowles, born February 16, 1856; first marriage was that of Laura Covey to John Cheney in 1856. A private school was kept in the house of Carl Pope in 1857; it was taught by Sarah Pope, and had an attendance of perhaps twenty-five pupils. A sawmill was built on Beaver creek, on Sec. 16, in 1856, by Carleton and Gardner Malindy; it was a very crude affair at first: a hollow log was pressed into service and used as a flume; in 1857 it was converted into a gristmill with one run of burrs; F. E. Beeker is the present owner. The mill has been much improved; it is now two stories in height, is 40×100

feet in dimensions, has two run of burrs, patent rolling machinery and a capacity of fifty barrels per day ; the water-power is excellent at this point. An hotel was built in Beaver in 1865 by David Jacobis ; it was a structure half frame and half log. Beaver contains a population of 125 persons. Two stores, kept by G. G. Knowles and Samuel Detamore respectively ; two blacksmith shops, owned by R. Young and S. Card ; one wagon shop run by Peter Neiheisel, and a feedmill owned by Adam Winters. This mill grinds corn, oats, etc., into feed for stock. In the fall it is converted into a sorghum-mill ; great quantities of amber cane are consumed and converted into sorghum molasses. Sherman Card keeps the one hotel in Beaver ; it does a small business, as travel has fallen off almost entirely. One school in Beaver, district 45, has an attendance of forty pupils.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This was built in 1868 through the exertions of Elder Clipper ; the church is frame, 40×60 feet, with a spire 60 feet tall ; the congregation was organized in 1858 ; they at that time held their meetings in the schoolhouse ; the prominent members were Pliney Putnam, Elder P. Richardson and George Stoning ; the first minister was Elder Wm. Sweet, now residing in Norton township ; Rev. J. Tisdale is the pastor at present writing ; they have a Sabbath school with twenty-five pupils and three teachers, and a small library of forty volumes.

#### WHITEWATER FALLS

Is situated on Whitewater river, on Secs. 26 and 27. It is so called from rapids in the river at this point ; it was laid out in 1856, but gradually fell into decay ; it has a population now of perhaps thirty people. There are six district schools in Whitewater township and two postoffices— one at Beaver, with Samuel Detamore as postmaster, and another at Whitewater Falls, with A. C. Randall as postmaster. ✓

#### ELBA TOWNSHIP.

Elba is situated in T. 107 N., R. 10 W. Its boundaries are, on the north Whitewater township, on the east Norton, on the south St. Charles, and on the west Olmsted county. The surface is very much broken, and is covered by three deep valleys, which in turn are traversed by three prominent streams. There are three branches of the Whitewater river, the north branch, the east branch and the

middle branch. These unite at the village of Elba, on Sec. 10, and form one principal stream, which flows north and leaves the township on Sec. 2. Whitewater river is formed by numerous springs arising from the bluffs, and furnishes excellent water-power for a number of mills along its course. The streams abound in speckled trout, and the country is much visited all through the summer months by fishing parties in quest of sport. The bluffs along the valley are from 350 to 400 feet in height, and form some of the most beautiful scenes in that section of the country.

Good farms are found in the valleys, and excellent "wheat tables" on the high land.

Floods, caused by heavy rains in summer, are frequent on the Whitewater and its branches, causing much annoyance by the washing away of dams and the injury of mills.

The timber found in the township is principally oak and elm, which is plentiful in the valleys.

Immigration into the township began as early as 1854. Robert Crooks was probably the first among the early pioneers. He came to that locality in the spring of 1854, and took up a claim on what is now part of Sec. 28. He was followed the same year by F. McCarty and a man named Southwick. F. McCarty settled on what is now Sec. 22, while Southwick made a claim on Sec. 3. The following came in 1855: A. E. Todd, D. J. Todd, D. R. Holbrook, L. U. Todd, W. Telugan, Peter Kiefer, Andrew Burger, Wm. Himmelberg, A. D. Nichols, Alva Philbrick, H. D. Bailey and Jerry Philbrick. A. E. Todd took up land on Secs. 6 and 7, D. J. Todd on Secs. 8 and 9, D. R. Holbrook on Sec. 9, L. U. Todd on Sec. 8, W. Telugan on Sec. 11, Peter Kiefer on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, Andrew Burger on Secs. 11 and 12, Wm. Himmelberg on Sec. 11, A. D. Nichols on Sec. 10, Alva Philbrick, H. D. Bailey and Jerry Philbrick, all on Sec. 10.

First death in the township was that of Mrs. Casper Kreidermacher, who died of cholera in 1856, and was buried on Sec. 3.

The first school was held in a little log schoolhouse, built in 1855 by Alva Philbrick, on what is now Sec. 10. The first saw-mill was built on the north branch of the Whitewater, on Sec. 8, by A. E. Todd, in the summer of 1856. It was washed out by a flood some time after, and was rebuilt on Sec. 7. The mill is now standing and does principally a custom business for the farmers in the neighborhood.

“Fairwater Flouring Mill” was built on Sec. 7, on the north branch of the Whitewater, some time in 1866, by W. Parr and W. R. Ellis. It was two stories in height and had a dimension of 35×40 feet. E. C. Ellis is the present owner. The mill has two run of burrs and a capacity of thirty barrels per day. The first laid out road in the township was the road running from Winona west to the county line. This road ran directly through the center of Elba township, and was laid out in 1857.

The postoffice in the village was the first and only one in the township. It was established in 1857, with H. D. Bailey as postmaster.

There are two churches, the German Catholic at Elba village, and the United Brethren on Sec. 21. The latter was built in 1876. It is 30×40 feet, with a spire forty feet tall. They have a congregation of perhaps seventy-five members, composed mostly of Germans. The first minister was Rev. Reissick, the present one is Rev. J. Gutensohn. Attached to the church is a cemetery and two acres of land.

There are five district schools in Elba in Secs. 33, 27, 10, 3 and 8.

The first meeting took place May 11, 1858, for the general organization. J. H. Dearborn was elected town clerk; J. W. Ireland, J. Philbrick, N. V. Crow, supervisors; John Bole, assessor; E. B. Barnes, collector; Thomas Barnes, G. E. Fisher, justices of the peace; David Duryee, overseer of poor; Hugh Barclay, Aaron Baker, constables. The following are the town clerks in succession: J. H. Dearborn, David Cook, A. D. Nichols, M. R. Lair, A. D. Nichols, R. Bullen, H. F. Denio, John Bullen, John Udell, Gregory Ritt, H. F. Denio, the clerk for 1882-3.

#### ELBA VILLAGE.

Elba village is situated on Secs. 9 and 10, at the junction of the three branches of the Whitewater. Although it has never been recorded as a village plat, there has been a settlement there since 1856. The first house was put up by C. Southwick. Among the early residents were D. R. Holbrook, Israel Messenger, Manoa Turner, D. J. W. Ireland, David Duryee, John Penson and A. D. Nichols. The first postoffice was established in 1857, with H. D. Bailey as postmaster. D. S. Loy kept the first store in 1862; John Bollen soon started another store. The first blacksmith shop was kept by Mr. Medcalf. The first school was a log house, built 1858.



Dr. J. W. Ireland practiced in the village and the surrounding country from 1860 to 1864. The flouring-mill in Elba was built in 1860, by John Rodgers. The water-power is furnished by the north and middle branches of Whitewater. The mill is 25×30 feet. In the first place they had two run of burrs and a much larger capacity than now. It passed through a number of hands and underwent considerable improvement. Another run of burrs have been added, besides a turban water-wheel, a stone wall and a new flume. The present owners are J. Hoffman and T. C. Udell. The capacity is seventy-five barrels per day. Elba contains, at present writing, two stores, two hotels, a blacksmith shop and a carpenter shop. The present school was built in 1866. It is a district school with an average attendance of fifty pupils. The German Catholic church was built in 1877, through the instrumentality of Ferdinand Kramer, Peter Geren and Nicholas Marnoch. It is a frame building, 40×60 feet, with a belfry fifteen feet high. The first minister was Father Plut, of Winona, who visited the congregation through a period of two or three years. The congregation consists of 200 members. Attached to the church is a cemetery and thirty-five acres of land.

The population of the village is now 100. It has a very healthy climate, and it is a noticeable fact that for thirty years it has never had a case of scarlet-fever or diphtheria.

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## CHAPTER LIII.

### HART, FREMONT AND SARATOGA TOWNSHIPS.

#### HART TOWNSHIP.

This township lies in T. 105 N., of R. 8 West. It comprises thirty-six complete sections. Its boundaries are, on the north Warren township, on the east Wiscoy, on the south Fillmore county, and on the west Fremont township. The surface is rough and broken — what is known as “grub land.” The soil, nevertheless, is very productive. The high bluffs divide the country into four valleys, Rush Creek, Dry, Pine Creek and Knapp valleys. All excepting Pine Creek valley run north and south; the latter runs east and west. Dry valley is so called from a small stream which disappears

in a subterranean channel only to reappear again in unexpected places. Rush Creek valley is the largest of the four, and is named after Rush creek; Knapp's valley, so called from J. R. Knapp, an old resident in that vicinity; Pine Creek valley named after Pine creek. This stream in an early day was heavily timbered with black walnut, maple, oak, basswood and scattering pine. The pine has now disappeared. Rush creek enters the township on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, flows southeast through Secs. 7, 13, 19, 29 and 33, leaving the township on Sec. 33; Pine creek enters township on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30, flows southeast through Secs. 31 and 32, and joins Rush creek on Sec. 33. Hart was organized May 11, 1858, under the name of Benton township; a year after it was given its present name. The first town clerk was John Pierce, appointed at the first meeting in 1858. The first board were: J. W. Young, John Knapp, justices of the peace; Liborius Kauphusman, Patrick Orourke, constables; George Bisset, assessor; Jesse Conner, collector; M. T. Doherty, Thomas Baily, F. M. Andrews, supervisors. The town clerks in succession: John Pierce, M. T. Doherty, J. M. Hitchcock, John King, Berend Bollmann, John King, Berend Bollmann (clerk for 1882-3). Board for 1882-3: Daniel McKay, M. Degnan, George Schaupp, supervisors; B. Bollmann, D. H. Otis, justices of the peace; John Millman, assessor; Herman Trester, constable.

## OLD SETTLERS.

Oliver Parmelee came to this section in 1854 and took up part of Sec. 2. Liborius Kauphusman came in 1855, surveyed land, and made a claim on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 16. He then left, and returned soon afterward with his family; he is now dead, but the farm is in the hands of his children. Thomas Heberer and M. T. Doherty came the same year (1855); Thomas Heberer settled on Sec. 2, while M. T. Doherty entered the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12. The following made their appearance in 1856: Henry Ronnenberg, Rev. A. Brand, John C. Brand, John Parmelee, Smith Thorington, Job Thorington and John Brammer. Henry Ronnenberg settled on Sec. 12; Rev. A. Brand came with a large herd of cattle and took up land on Sec. 24; John C. Brand entered part of Sec. 23; John Parmelee, Smith Thorington and Job Thorington settled on Sec. 10, while John Brammer made a claim of N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 1. A large hotel (or tavern as it was called), named the "Benton House," was kept by O. E. Fockens in 1857 on Sec. 2. At this time there was an immense

amount of travel through this section of the country, and the hotel did a thriving business. This soon fell off, however, at the entrance of railways, and the place was deserted in 1865. There is but one mill in Hart; it is a flouring-mill built on Rush creek in 1860 (Sec. 29) by G. M. Hitchcock. It is a frame structure of medium size, and has a "custom business" only. There is but one postoffice in the township, namely, Hart postoffice. It was established in 1872, with John Kiekbusch as postmaster. The present postmaster is Charles Wolfram, who also keeps a small country store. (This is on Sec. 26.)

There are five schools in Hart: District 11 in Sec. 8, dist. 37 in Sec. 12, dist. 50 in Sec. 10, dist. 48 in Sec. 25, dist. 49 in Sec. 20.

The population, which is mostly composed of emigrants from lower Germany, has decreased since 1870. This is said to be caused by emigration west, and the buying up of land by a few individuals. One farm, owned by the heirs of Laborius Kauphusman, on Sec. 16, comprises an area of 1,000 acres. Since the failure of wheat of late, the population have turned their attention to stock raising. The average crop for 1882 is said to be, wheat, 12 bushels per acre; corn, 35 bushels per acre; barley, 25 bushels per acre; oats, 40 bushels per acre.

There are two churches in Hart, Lutheran on Sec. 23, and Roman Catholic on Sec. 9.

*Lutheran.*—The present church building was erected in 1861, although meetings were held long before. It is a frame building, 48×30 feet, with a spire fifty feet high. There is a comfortable parish house connected, and also a parochial school. E. M. Buerger, one of the founders of the Missouri Synod at St. Louis, was pastor of this church from 1868 to 1880. The first minister was John Reiz; the present one, Frances Johl. The congregation, which is quite large, is composed of Germans. The school has an average attendance of fifty pupils. They teach both German and English. A cemetery of one acre is connected with the church.

#### FREMONT TOWNSHIP.

Fremont township lies in T. 105 N., R. 9 W. Its boundaries are, on the north Utica, on the east Hart, on the west Saratoga, and on the south Fillmore county. The surface of Fremont township is diversified. In the eastern and southern portions the land

is much broken, while in the central and western parts it is almost level. Rush creek flows through the northeastern corner, cutting Secs. 1, 2 and 12, while Pine creek flows through the southeastern portion, cutting Secs. 25 and 35.

The town was organized May 11, 1858, and E. B. Wells appointed town clerk. The first house built in Fremont township was erected by Isaac Arnold, in the fall of 1854, on what is now Sec. 2. It was a small log-house, perhaps  $14 \times 16$  feet in dimensions. In 1856 L. C. Rice built a small store on what is now Sec. 2. This was the first store known to have been kept in Fremont. In the same year (1856) "Captain" Hinkley started a blacksmith shop on Sec. 22. The first postoffice was established in 1857, on Sec. 2, at a village known as Neoca (long since abandoned), with L. C. Rice as postmaster.

In 1856 a sawmill was built by John Henry and John Du Bois, on Sec. 26, on Pine creek. Although a very crude affair, it was capable of sawing 1,000 feet of lumber per day. The water-power was not very good at this point. In 1870 this was converted into a gristmill. Since then it has been very much improved. It is now  $36 \times 20$  feet, is two stories in height, has two run of burrs, and a capacity of grinding fifteen bushels of wheat per hour.

Edward Porter was the first person that died in the township. He died in the winter of 1856, and was buried on what is now Sec. 5. The first birth was that of Charles Gates, born some time in 1856, on Sec. 14. The first marriage was that of Ann R. Arnold to John Du Bois, in the year 1856.

In 1857 the first schoolhouse was built. It stood on Sec. 8, and was  $24 \times 16$  feet. Malinda Joy was the first teacher. There were on an average forty pupils in attendance. Fremont has been honored by the presence of one doctor. Dr. W. S. Morrison came in 1867, and has been practicing in the vicinity ever since. The first hotel was kept by Isaac Arnold on Sec. 2 as early as 1855. The first road was built under the supervision of Phineas Gates in 1856. It was known as the Gates road, and led from the Du Bois mill on Sec. 26 to the territorial road in the center of the township. There are two churches in Fremont,—Scotch Presbyterian on Sec. 20 and the Methodist Episcopal church on Sec. 10. The Presbyterian church was built in 1865. It is  $38 \times 26$  feet, with a spire seventy-one feet from the ground. The first minister was Rev. Craven, from St. Charles. The congregation, which is composed entirely of



Scotch, number about fifty members. A cemetery, the only one in the township, is connected with the church. Rev. S. D. Westfall, the present minister, came in 1870. The Methodist Episcopal church stands on Sec. 10, and was built in 1874. It is 26×40 feet, with a belfry fifteen feet. The congregation is very small at present, although it was once quite a flourishing body. The first meetings were held in the schoolhouse as early as 1857. The first minister was Rev. Wm. Poling. There are two stores in Fremont, one on Sec. 10, kept by Kelley & Bro., at a place known as the "Corners," or Fremont postoffice, and another on Sec. 29, kept by H. Sennis. The three postoffices are: "Fremont," on Sec. 10, J. A. Kelley, postmaster, established in 1876; Argo postoffice, on Sec. 16, with John Henry as postmaster, established in 1866, and Clyde postoffice on Sec. 19, with Martin Schultz as postmaster, and established in 1873. There are six district schools, namely, District 104 on Sec. 29, dist. 67 on Sec. 26, dist. 68 on Sec. 20, dist. 66 on Sec. 14, dist. 96 on Sec. 10, dist. 64 on Sec. 3. The poll list at the election of 1882 numbered 210.

#### OLD SETTLERS.

The following came in 1854: Isaac Arnold, Phineas Gates and Phineas Gates, Jr. Isaac Arnold made a claim on what is now Sec. 2, while Phineas Gates, Sr., and Phineas Gates, Jr., settled on what is now Sec. 14. In 1855 the following named came: Noah Gates, Edward Porter, Samuel Arnold, E. Kelley, Mathew Ferguson, John Ferguson, John Jarman, Orsmus Joy, Lemuel Bartholomew, Porter Richards, John Henry, Duncan Ferguson, Donald Ferguson, John DuBois, Thomas Robertson, Reason Evarett, John Dobbs and Geo. Johnson. Noah Gates settled on Sec. 2, Edward Porter on Secs. 6 and 7, Samuel Arnold on Sec. 9, E. Kelley on Sec. 9, Mathew Ferguson on Sec. 15, John Ferguson on the same section. John Jarman on Sec. 17, Orsmus Joy on Sec. 4, Lemuel Bartholomew on Sec. 9, Porter Richards on Sec. 4, John Henry on Sec. 21, Duncan and Donald Ferguson on Sec. 17, John Du Bois on Sec. 26, Thomas Robertson on Sec. 20, Reason Evarett on Sec. 28, John Dobbs on Sec. 5 and Geo. Johnson on Sec. 8.

A party of young men came to this locality in the spring of 1855 and camped on what is now Sec. 4. Among these were "Jack" Earle, W. H. Joy and John Draper. The population is composed mostly of Scotch at present, while most of the early pioneers have disappeared.

## SARATOGA TOWNSHIP.

This township lies in the extreme southwestern corner of Winona county, having Olmstead county on the west and Fillmore county on the south. Though the face of the country is somewhat broken along its western front, it contains some of as fine farming land as is to be found in any state of the Union. Settlements were made almost simultaneously in the western portion of the township and along the northern ridge, adjoining the township of St. Charles. These settlements date back a period of nearly thirty years, and some of the claims then taken are still being farmed by the original pre-emptors. The soil upon the prairie is a deep vegetable loam, with a clay subsoil; but in the oak openings it is of a lighter character, a sandy loam intermixed with gravel. This latter is a quicker, warmer soil, and specially adapted to the growth of corn, as this cereal ripens quicker on the gravelly soil, a very material consideration in this latitude. All the valuable farming lands of the township may be included under one or the other of these classes of soil. The western portion of the township is well watered and quite a valuable water privilege exists at Troy. The volume of water, though not large, having its sources in unfailing springs, affords with its head of twenty feet sufficient power to maintain a very considerable milling industry. The staple of the farms in past years has been wheat, to which within the past decade the growth of barley has been added in quantities sufficient to dispute the palm. These grains, with clover and timothy seed (which are grown in large quantities), oats and corn, have been and still are the main dependence of the farmer throughout this whole region, little if any stock more than sufficient for farm purposes being raised. But as the wheat yield has decreased from time to time, more and more attention has been paid to the breeding of horses, cattle and swine for market, and now there are some valuable herds of these animals on well conducted stock farms within the area of the township. Dairying has also begun to challenge the attention of the farmers of this and adjoining townships, and some farms keep quite a number of milch cows, the number and quality of them increasing from year to year. Creameries are being established to manufacture the cream product of these dairy herds, and the industry promises soon to assume an important rank among the farm products of the western portions of the county.

Considerable settlements had been made in Saratoga township

as early as the spring of 1855, a few pre-emptions and actual occupancy of the land dating as far back as the fall of 1853. The settlements during 1855 were numerous, and the following season, 1856, it was quite difficult if not impossible to find any valuable lands unclaimed. The formal organization of the township was effected under the new state government, May 11, 1858, at Troy, a small village and postoffice in the southwestern part of the township, at which time the usual officers were elected. Luke Blair and Thomas P. Dixon were appointed judges of election, and J. P. Moulton and E. W. Day, clerks. The whole number of ballots cast was 146. Luke Blair, James Walker and Robert Nesbit were elected supervisors; J. C. Dixon, town clerk; E. S. Harvey, assessor; D. Durham, collector of taxes; Thos. P. Dixon and Oscar Kately, justices of the peace; L. M. Phelps and Alvin Durham, constables; Geo. W. Crain, overseer of the poor, and L. B. Smith, overseer of roads. The township was named Saratoga, on account of the beautiful natural springs in its western section, the vote standing eighty-six in favor of Saratoga and sixty in favor of Afton. The office of town clerk has been successively filled as follows: A. D. Trowbridge, elected as the successor of J. C. Dixon, in 1859, held the office three years; E. W. Day, elected in 1862, served one year; P. F. Thurbur, one year; Wm. H. Fry, one year. In 1865 E. W. Day was again elected and served until 1878, a period of thirteen years, when the present incumbent, E. B. Gery, was elected, and has held the office continuously until date, March 1, 1883. The town officers elected or holding over for 1882, are: J. D. Ball (chairman), Alexander Campbell and O. B. Sutherland, supervisors; N. M. Cross, treasurer; W. B. Hesselgrave, assessor; E. B. Gery, town clerk; G. French and Samuel Cary, justices of the peace; Ira Canfield and James Wise, constables. A comfortable and commodious town hall was erected in 1877. It is situated in the center of the township and cost \$800.

The military record of the township was never kept. The names recorded of the few men enlisted toward the close of the war, when the prospects of a draft were imminent, afford no proper data from which to calculate the number of men who volunteered from this township during 1861-65 inclusive. All that can be gathered on this point will be presented in the military records of the county as a whole. No township register of births, deaths, marriages was kept, by which to determine positively the actual date of the earlier

of such events, yet the following statement concerning early township matters may be taken as substantially correct. The first claim to United States lands under the pre-emption act made in this township was by one Hawes, some time in the season of 1853, but the date of his claim cannot be accurately given. The second, third and fourth claims were made by Luke Blair, on September 12, 1853, principally in Sec. 2, and were for himself and his two sons, Chas. L. and John L. Isaac Arnold and Fullerton also made claims that same fall, but date of claims is not ascertained.

The first white child born in the township was George N. Blair, son of Geo. W. and M. S. Blair (née Deuell), born July 20, 1855. Following him was a son of Gilman French, born in the year 1855, then Geo. D. French, son of John S. and Kate French, born February 6, 1856; John M. Blair, son of John T. Blair, born in 1856; Otto Phelps, born some time in the fall of 1856.

The first death and burial in the township was that of a non-resident, Rev. Angel Wright, who, following some horse thieves into this section from Iowa, was taken sick and died in Saratoga village, some time in the summer of 1855. The first death of an actual resident was that of Justen Braddock, early in August, 1856, and immediately following was that of Mrs. Dr. Gates, wife of G. L. Gates, M.D., now of Winona city, who died August 25, 1856. Harriet Warren died April 29, 1857; an infant son of George Blair's, July 1, that season; a child of Henry Olney's about the same time, and Kate Flannigan in the following September. These last four were buried in what is known as Worth cemetery, the others in Saratoga cemetery, but all within the bounds of the township.

On the night before Christmas, 1856, a brother of Mrs. William Reeves, traveling from High Forest, Olmstead county, passed through Saratoga village, warmed himself at the hotel of Moulton & Dixon, and notwithstanding the warning of Mr. Dixon, concluded to try and reach his sister's house, five miles distant, despite the severe storm and cold. This man was found frozen to death on Sec. 9, by Mr. Charles Gerrish, on Christmas morning, eight o'clock, one-half a mile from his house, one and one-fourth miles from Mr. Reeves'. Mr. Gerrish took charge of the body without waiting for a coroner, and finding from the deceased papers that he had come from Chatfield, took him to Saratoga for identification. And this act of Mr. Gerrish's in taking charge of the body without waiting for coroner, was made the occasion of an electioneering argument



against his election to the territorial convention of 1857, called to frame a state constitution.

The first marriage actually celebrated within the township was that of Lester Becker and Shuah Littlefield, December 25, 1855; but the marriage of William Smith and Jane Fullerton, residents of the township, was performed at Chatfield at least ten months earlier, about the middle of February, 1855. Following these was the marriage of Allen Whipple and Lois Harding, November 8, 1856, and that of Samuel Burns and Jane Flemming, at probably an earlier date than the fall of 1856, but nothing positive can be ascertained in relation thereto.

The first frame farm buildings in Saratoga township were erected on the claim of Luke Blair, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 2. These were a frame barn, 16×24 feet, with 14 feet posts, and a frame dwelling (now standing as the kitchen part of the farm-house), 16×24, with 8 feet posts. These buildings were erected in the spring of 1855. The frame dwelling of H. G. Cox, still standing in excellent repair, built of oak plank, was erected in 1857. The first sawmill was built in the winter of 1856-57 (by H. G. Cox and Vincent Hix) for George Hayes and Lewis Smith. It was situated about one and one-half miles southeast from the village of Troy, on Trout run. The first gristmill was built in 1857, by Joseph and Samuel Musser, who brought their millwrights with them from Pennsylvania. This mill is still standing at Troy, on the water privilege there, a most excellent one with about twenty feet head. The first crop of grain grown in the township, as nearly as now known, was on the Wheeler boy's claim, the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5, now owned by Lyman Cox.

As early as 1854-5, Harvey & Broughton, and the following year Broughton & Andrews, kept small stocks of goods, groceries and supplies principally along the ridge on the north line of the township. In the fall of 1856, H. M. Clark, now of Chatfield, Olmstead county, brought in a small stock of groceries and crockeryware, and started business in Saratoga village. This stock was sold the following spring to Dixon & Moulton and merged into the general store established by them in the spring of 1857.

Rev. Gardner K. Clark was the first minister to settle in the township. He came in the fall of 1866 (with his son H. M.) and the first church service (Congregational) was held in Gate's log-house, still standing, a monument of early pioneer times. The following season, 1857, the church was built and in the fall of that year was occu-

ped. This church, the only one ever built in the township, is still standing and doing duty as a place of religious worship.

The first hotel in the township was built and kept by Thomas P. Dixon, still a resident of the city, and J. P. Moulton, who at a later date represented Olmstead county in the state legislature, and for six years was receiver of the land office at Wellington, Minnesota. The first postoffice was established at Saratoga in the fall of 1856. Thomas P. Dixon was commissioned postmaster, and, with the exception of two years during the latter part of Buchanan's administration, held the office until he resigned in April, 1882, the date of his removal from Saratoga to St. Charles. His removal from the office in 1858 and the appointment of John O'Leary as his successor, the latter a man who could neither read nor write, was effected on political grounds and mainly through the influence of the Chatfield land office.

The first physician who located in the township was John C. Dixon, who taught school in the little settlement of Saratoga village during the winter of 1856-7, commencing practice as a physician in the spring of the latter year. Dr. Dixon is not now a resident of the county, having removed some years since to Candor, Tioga county, New York.

The first schoolhouse in the township was built by voluntary subscription in the summer of 1856, on the town plat of Saratoga, near the church, and was first occupied that fall, when Dr. Dixon was employed as teacher. The first school taught in the township was opened in Charles Gerrish's house, on Sec. 9. This was a double log-house, and in one of these rooms, the south one, the school was opened in the summer of 1856 for a term of three months. The teacher's name was Helen Hewitt, and there were twenty-seven pupils on her school register.

*Evergreen Lodge, No. 46, A. F. and A. M.*—Located at Troy, a small post village in the southeast corner of Saratoga township, was chartered December 23, 1864, upon petition of S. Y. Hyde, A. N. Rice, S. S. Armstrong, Vincent Hicks, J. C. Hopkins, E. J. Thompson, C. M. Lovell and D. S. Hackett. Mr. S. Y. Hyde, now of La Crosse, was the first worshipful master, and his successors have been Freeman Morse, R. B. Kellum, S. L. Draper, M. H. Fuller and H. H. Straw. The first secretary was A. N. Price, succeeded by Neil Currie, E. B. Gerry, W. W. Heyden, L. A. Gates, H. H. Heyden, W. E. Walker and W. B. Hesselgrave. The

present officers of the Lodge are: S. L. Draper, W.M.; M. H. Fuller, S.W.; R. McCready, J.W.; E. B. Gerry, Treas.; W. B. Hesselgrave, Sec; H. H. Straw, S.D.; R. Sutherland, J.D.; M. Campbell, Chap.; W. E. Walker, Tiler.

The total number of members connected with the Lodge since organization has been ninety. Of this number six have died, thirty-four appear on the list of present members, and the rest have demitted. Last year the lodge completed a new hall at a cost of \$1,200. and are now in comfortable quarters.

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## CHAPTER LIV.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### PIONEERS.

GEO. W. CLARK, the oldest pioneer settler of Winona county now living in its limits, was born in Denmark, Lewis county, New York, June 10, 1827. Brought up on the old home farm, he received the education commonly obtained in the schools of his section at that day, which was supplemented with two terms at the Lowville Academy, and in the spring of 1851 left home to take up a claim in the "far west." Journeying by steam or from Sacket's Harbor to Lewiston, New York; thence by rail to Buffalo, New York, and from that port to Detroit by steamer, he finally reached New Buffalo, now Grand Haven, Michigan, and embarked for Milwaukee. From that city he made his way by team to Dodge county, Wisconsin, remained there with relatives until October 5 of that year, when, in company with three young men, he turned his face westward, tramped across the county to La Crosse, arriving in that city when the second frame building ever erected there was in course of construction for the firm of Roublee & Smith. Mr. Clark remained there four weeks, then, joining company with Silas Stevens and Edwin Hamilton, started up the river for what was then known as Wabasha prairie, the plateau upon which Winona now stands. Bringing provisions and lumber for a shanty with them, they made their way up stream and finally landed on the bank of the Mississippi, near the present site of the big flouring-mill, at 1:30 A.M. November 13, 1851. Found Johnson, who had been on the ground ten days, asleep in his cabin, a mile down the river, and turned in

with him until daylight. The next day, November 14, they all went down to the extreme east end of the prairie, drove their stake for a starting point for claims and began locating homesteads. The claim taken by Mr. Clark was numbered six, and is included in what is now known as Evans addition to the city of Winona. This was a claim of 160 acres fronting one-half mile on the river. That winter he lived on Stevens' claim, and in the following spring, 1852, built a log shanty on the claim he had intended to locate for his brother, but which he actually located for himself, and on which he is still residing. This log house, still standing, he occupied three or four years, then selecting a location some eighty rods nearer the bluff, on the south side the flats, built a two-story dwelling, 22×25, which has since been enlarged to its present dimensions, and in which he has now resided for more than a quarter of a century. This original farm of 160 acres, Mr. Clark has added to by subsequent purchases until the tract embraces a full half-section. The brother, Joseph Clark, for whom the claim was originally taken, came to the prairie in 1852, located his 160 acres where Beck's brewery was afterward built, but only lived until 1854. He was buried at the foot of the bluff, where Woodlawn cemetery was located years afterward, and thus became the first dweller in that silent city. The property of Mr. Clark was included in the corporation of Winona when the city limits were first established, but was set off by act of legislature the following year. He is the only resident of the township who now owns the land he originally located, and resides upon it. February 11, 1857, Mr. Clark married Miss Jane Lockwood, of Waupun, Wisconsin, of the Connecticut branch of the Lockwood family, who was born December 4, 1837. They have seven children, all living at home: Frank W., born January 4, 1858; Adah L., born January 27, 1860; Jay Scott, born November 4, 1862; Florence E., born July 28, 1868; Alfred H., born March 26, 1870; Jennie A., born January 25, 1874; May, born September 13, 1878. The two eldest were in attendance at the normal school when obliged to discontinue study on account of health. Jay graduated at the high school class of 1881; in which were five native born Winonians, and it was the first class in which any such had graduated.

THOMAS JONES, farmer, is a Winonian by birth, and has spent all his life in this county, and may certainly be called an old settler. He was born in Winona December 20, 1850. His parents in the spring of 1852 took up a claim in Norton, and Thomas spent his



earlier years working on the farm. As he grew older he obtained employment among the settlers in the adjoining township, and worked for some years in Minnesota City. In 1877 he first rented then finally purchased the farm he now occupies in Whitewater. He married Miss Mary Pomeroy in 1876, and has two children: Thomas Albert and Eliza. He is independent in politics and a Methodist in religion.

WILLIAM T. WHITE, farmer, was born in Whiting, Vermont, in 1814. At the age of twenty-three he moved to Booneville, Oneida county, New York, where he remained until 1824, working at the carpenter trade. Here he married a Miss Eliza Cook, who has been his helpmate through life, sharing with him his privations and his prosperity. He moved west to Michigan, where he took up a claim near where the present city of Adrian now stands. He remained here until 1850, when he sold his farm and stock for a handsome figure and went farther west prospecting, and chose the Whitewater valley as his future home. He has now one of the finest farms in the town, and though well advanced in years takes an active part in its management. He is much respected by all who know him, and is looked upon as one of those men whose word is as good as his bond. Until the commencement of the war Mr. White was a strong democrat, but since that time has been a thorough republican.

ALEXANDER BROWN. Prominent among the early settlers of Winona county is the name of Alexander Brown. He was born in Perth, Perthshire, Scotland, August 29, 1814, and spent the earlier years of his life in that place. In 1838 he came to America, and almost immediately came west, settling near St. Croix Falls, which was then in the territory of Wisconsin. In 1851 he came to Whitewater, where he has remained ever since. Mr. Brown has held many local offices of position and trust, fulfilling their duties with rare tact and ability and to the satisfaction of the public. He was married to Clara E. Hughes in 1845 and has four children, two boys and two girls.

PETER GORR, one of the earliest settlers of this vicinity, was born in Norton county, Pennsylvania, February 23, 1814. His parents were Jacob and Elizabeth Gorr, and farmers by pursuit. Peter grew up on the farm and received a common school education. His wife, to whom he was married in 1850, was Lucinda Norton, daughter of Theodore and Mary (Waters) Norton. She is a native of Pennsylvania. The same year they removed to De Kalb county, Illinois;

the next they came to Winona county, settling near Homer. At this time there was but one family in the vicinity, that of George Clark. He first settled on Sec. 6, T. 107, R. 6. In the spring of 1882 he moved to his present place. He is a democrat in politics.

SAMUEL EDWIN COLTON, born in Ellsworth, New Hampshire, September 19, 1821. His father, Samuel Colton, was a descendant of Rev. John Colton, one of the first ministers of Boston. Mr. Colton was educated in a high school. His youth was spent on a farm until the age of eighteen, when he went to sea and spent seven years as a sailor, when he went into a foundry and learned the trade of moulder. In 1847 he married Miss Sarah A. Roberts, a native of Maine. Nine children have been born to them, seven of whom are still living, six sons and one daughter. In the spring of 1852 he joined the "Western Farm and Village Association" and removed to Minnesota, where they arrived May 3, 1852, near the present location of Minnesota City, where he has remained ever since engaged in farming. At the organization of Winona county Mr. Colton was elected judge of probate, justice of the peace and one of the assessors, and is one of the justices of the peace at the present time, and has served as a member of the school board about half the time since his arrival here in 1852. Mr. Colton is a member of the I.O.O.F., also chief templar of the I.O.G.T. Up to 1861 Mr. Colton was in politics a democrat, since that time he has been a republican.

DANIEL Q. BURLEY, born September, 1821, in Caledonia county, Vermont; parents born in New Hampshire; removed to New Hampshire with his parents when a child; received a common school education, and remained on a farm till the age of twenty-two years, when he went into a cotton-factory and worked three years. At the age of twenty-four years he married Miss Naomi Randlett, of New Hampshire; removed to Quincy, Massachusetts, in 1846 and learned the trade of stone-cutting, which he followed for five years; removed back to New Hampshire and remained there until he joined the "Western Farm and Village Association" and came out with the first colony to Minnesota City on May 18, 1852. His family remained behind, but joined him in about two and a-half years. Mrs. Burley died in 1856, when he married Ann Rowley, a native of England, who is still living. Mr. Burley, in 1863, enlisted in Co. B, 7th reg. Minn. Inf., and participated in all the battles in which that regiment was engaged until the close of the war,

when he was discharged. Mr. Burley has had eight children, five of whom are still living. Mr. Burley owns about 375 acres, which is in Sec. 35, T. 108, R. S.

HARRISON B. WATERMAN was born in Wooster, Otsego county, New York, January 2, 1820. After receiving a common school education he entered Hardwick Seminary, and afterward Cazenovia Seminary, where he graduated. Studied law with Gen. Burnside seven years, and was admitted to the bar of the supreme court in 1844, practiced law until 1852, when he joined the "Western Farm and Village Association" and removed to Minnesota, arriving at Wabasha prairie (now Winona City) May, 1852. Mr. Waterman was married to Miss Mary E. Fuller, November 1, 1851. Mrs. Waterman's mother was cousin to the late Hon. Salmon P. Chase, chief-justice of the United States at the time of his death. Mrs. Waterman was born in the State of New York, October 28, 1828. Nine children have been born to them; three boys and two girls are still living. The eldest daughter, Clara, is at present, and has been for the past four years, a teacher in the public high school in Winona. In politics Mr. Waterman is a republican, and is a member of the Episcopal church at Winona.

JAMES WRIGHT, one of the first settlers of Rolling Stone township, was born in England in 1818; removed to the United States in 1831; lived in New York city, working at his trade of wood turning, until 1852, when he joined the "Western Farm and Village Association," and came to Rolling Stone township in the spring of 1852, and settled on the farm on which he now lives. Mr. Wright was married in New York in 1840 and has had ten children, five of whom are now living, four sons and one daughter. Three of his sons enlisted in the war of the rebellion; one son, Randolph, was killed at the battle of Gettysburgh. Mr. Wright offered himself for enlistment, but was rejected on account of disability. At the organization of the township in 1858 Mr. Wright was elected township clerk, an office he has held ever since. He owns the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 2, T. 107, R. S.

EDWARD B. DREW was born in Steuben county, New York; received a common school education and remained on a farm until the age of twenty-two years, when he removed and settled on the Wabash, in the State of Indiana. After remaining there two and a-half years, enduring all the horrors of the ague, Mr. Drew set out in search of a more healthy location, and arrived at Minnesota City

in the spring of 1852, and from thence removed to the farm upon which he now resides, about two miles west of Minnesota City. Mr. Drew was married to Miss Sarah A. Meddie, who died in Rolling Stone township in 1868. Mr. Drew has been a very prominent man in the township, having held many county offices and represented the county twice in the legislature. He is a democrat in politics, but has always received the suffrages alike of all political parties, and, if he would only accept, could be elected to any public office in the gift of the citizens of the county. Mr. Drew owns about 700 acres of land, and can be counted as one of the successful farmers of Winona county.

ORVILLE MORELL LORD was born in the town of China, in what is now Wyoming county, New York, April 20, 1826. His father, Stephen Sherman Lord, was born in Saratoga county in 1778, and his mother (before marriage Caroline Badger) was born in Cayuga county in 1803. Their parents on both sides were from Tolland and Hartford counties, Connecticut. Mr. Lord's parents moved to Dunkirk, Chatauqua county, New York, in 1831. In 1837 the family moved to Lapeer county, Michigan, town of Metamora. Their father was a blacksmith, but they cultivated a small farm. Mr. Lord, the subject of this sketch, attended school winters in the district in which they lived until he was seventeen, when he went one term of three months to a select or private school in Pontiac, Michigan. He taught district school winters until he was twenty-two. He married in 1848, and has since been engaged in farming. His wife's maiden name was Martha E. Deming, of Oxford, Oakland county, Michigan. They have had seven children, five boys and two girls, three boys and one girl are now living. They removed to Minnesota in 1852. Mr. Lord was a member of the territorial legislature in the winter of 1853-4, and again in the winter of 1873-4. He was appointed county superintendent of schools for Winona county, September 25, 1875, and has held this office continuously since. In politics he has always been identified with the democratic party. He has never been connected with any organization except the Masons.

ROBERT THORP was born in Lincolnshire, England, December 31, 1809. Received a common-school education; worked on a farm in early youth, and learned the trade of blacksmith, at which he worked until his emigration to the United States in 1832, and followed his trade in New York city until he joined the "Western



Farm and Village Association" in 1852, and came to Minnesota with the first colony. Lived in Minnesota City about three years, when he removed to S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5, T. 107, R. 8, on which he has since lived. Mr. Thorp is a republican. Has held the office of county supervisor, township treasurer, and various other minor offices. Was married in New York city, in 1838, to Miss Elizabeth McCallister, a native of Ireland, whose parents were of Scotch descent. The fruit of this marriage were eight children, four of whom are still living; two of his sons enlisted, one in the 1st and one in the 11th reg. Minn. Inf.

LAURENCE DELWORTH, born in Ireland in the year 1815. He emigrated to the United States in 1841 and settled in Washington county, New York, where he engaged in farming. He joined the "Western Farm and Village Association," and removed to Minnesota City in 1852. Lived in Minnesota City about one year, when he removed to the farm on which he now lives, being in Secs. 21 and 22, T. 107, R. 8. Was married November 24, 1845, to Miss Mary Fitzgibbon, a native of Ireland. Six children have been born, five of whom are still living. Mr. Delworth and wife are members of the Catholic church. Politically Mr. Delworth is a democrat. He owns 200 acres of most excellent land. He has, from the first, attended strictly to farming and has made it pay.

MICHAEL MAJERUS' name should rank among the first of the old settlers who made a home in the beautiful Whitewater valley. In 1852 he landed at the mouth of the Whitewater on the Mississippi and followed the windings of the stream until he found a spot he thought would suit. There he built himself a shanty, and there he has since remained. The shanty gave place to a commodious log house, which has, in its turn, given place to one of the handsomest brick residences to be found in the valley. Mr. Majerus is a man of marked strength of purpose, and he has "hoed his own row" through life, and can look back at its struggles and triumphs with well-earned satisfaction. Mr. Majerus is a German, born in 1828, came to America in 1851, was married in Germany, and has a family of seven children. He is a Lutheran and a republican.

JOHN NEVILL, son of Patrick Nevill, was born in Sullivan county, New York, January 15, 1844. Patrick Nevill, his father, was born in Limerick, Ireland, A. D. 1794. Came to America when he was seventeen years old and settled in Montreal, Canada, where he was married; he then removed to the United States and settled

in Sullivan county, New York ; was naturalized in 1841, and while there the subject of this sketch was born; came to Minnesota in 1852, and was the first white settler in the town of Wilson. Died January 5, 1882. John Nevill was but a mere boy when his father landed in Minnesota, but has some vivid recollections of the hard times endured by the early pioneers. He had two brothers, James and Napoleon, who came to Minnesota, but both are now dead, John being the only survivor of his family. He enlisted in the army in 1861, joining Co. B, 2d Minn. Inf., under Capt. Markham, and participated in all battles in which his regiment was engaged. Was in the battles of Mill Springs, Nashville, Pittsburgh landing, Corinth, Kenesaw Mountain, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge; served over three years; went with Gen. Sherman to the sea; was in all the principal battles of that memorable campaign; lost only thirty days' duty during his term of enlistment; he was one of the soldiers who did actual service, prompt in the discharge of all his duties. After coming home from the war he settled down on his farm in Pleasant Valley. Mr. Nevill is married, but the union never having been blest with children, he has adopted two. Mr. Nevill is an active, hardworking man, taking a lively interest in all practical matters; has helped organize and develop the town, is now one of the town supervisors. He owns a beautiful farm five miles from the city of Winona in Pleasant Valley; is a democrat in politics and Catholic in religion.

JOHN VALENTINE (deceased) was born in Ireland, in 1799. He was early apprenticed to the shoemaker's trade and worked for many years at it previous to his emigrating to America. He landed at New Orleans in 1849, where he remained several years, then going to Galena, Illinois. In 1853 he pre-empted land in Rolling Stone. He came first, leaving his family in Galena, who followed him two years after. He was one of the very first in the township to take up land. He was married in 1834 to Miss Charlotte Jones, by whom he has had six children, five of whom are living. Though somewhat advanced in years when he took up his claim in the township, nevertheless he was considered one of the most energetic and enterprising of the pioneers. He belonged to the Episcopal body, and was a democrat in political opinion. He died after a prolonged illness, and is buried in the Protestant burying-ground at Minnesota City.

WILLIAM DAVIDSON, farmer, is probably the first man who settled

and opened up a farm in Winona county. He was born in Meiselsburg, Scotland, October 21, 1810. At six years of age he began work at the shawl looms, for which Paisley is so famous. His father was a soldier, and his mother died when he was but seven years old. He continued his labor in the manufacture of shawls until eighteen years old, and then came to America, arriving in Montreal in April, 1829. Proceeding to Lowell, Massachusetts, he found employment in the factories of that city, where his knowledge of weaving served him well. Here he was married in September, 1832, to Mary Stinson, born near Sterling, Scotland, January 25, 1805; she was a faithful helpmeet and mother till her death, which took place at St. Charles, May 27, 1873. In 1836 Mr. Davidson went to Thompsonville, Connecticut, and was employed fourteen years in a carpet factory there. Here his father, Walter Davidson, who had joined his son in the new world, died. In 1848 Mr. Davidson removed to Clayton county, Iowa, and engaged in farming. Early in the spring of 1853 he set off up the Mississippi on a prospecting tour, and landed on Wabasha prairie, now the site of Winona, on April 6. Setting out on foot with a compass for company, by the 10th he had selected his location on Sec. 10, in this township, and removed his family here the following June. He was prominent in the organization of the county, and was one of its board of commissioners from 1855 to 1857; was one of the delegates to the convention which nominated Gov. Ramsay. The first road in the county led westward from Winona, past Mr. Davidson's place, and was called the Davidson road, and many a tired and hungry prospector had reason to be grateful for "Mother" Davidson's hospitality. The first election in the county was held at Mr. Davidson's house in 1854. At this election but one democratic vote was cast; George Thorn walked twelve miles to deposit that. Mr. Davidson was one of the original republicans, having formerly adhered to the whig party. He was reared in the Presbyterian church, and was a member of that church while a society existed at St. Charles, being an elder therein. He is a member of the St. Charles Lodge and Chapter, A. F. and A. M. Six children were reared in this family, and have been a stay to their parents. Herewith is appended their record of births, etc: Elizabeth, March 17, 1834, married H. Lybarger, as elsewhere noted below, and with whom her father makes his home; Walter, May 12, 1836, married Annie Anderson and resides in San Francisco; William, July 18, 1838,

married Mary E. Varr and resides near Waseca; Robert W., January 25, 1841, married Ellen E. Jones, lives in Pipestone county, this state; John D., March, 1843, married Abby Vandewalker and is now living near Waseca; Mary G., July 21, 1846, married Charles Brewer and dwells at Atkinson, Nebraska.

WILLIAM PETHERAM, farmer, is one of the pioneer settlers of Winona county, having taken a claim in the Gilmore valley, near Winona, in July, 1853. He was born at Chapel Allerton, Somersetshire, England, June 25, 1822. He attended the rate school of his parish till sixteen years old, and was then employed as a laborer. In 1848 he came to America and spent one year in Canada at carpenter work; he then removed to Burlington, Wisconsin, where he was employed at building operations in that then-growing town, assisting in the building of two mills on Fox river there. In the spring of 1851 he went to Dubuque, Iowa, where he was still employed as a carpenter. He was married there April 16, 1853, to Miss Emily Day, who was born in Ware, Somersetshire, May 22, 1834. He came to Winona, as above noted, and lived the first year within the city, then a very small hamlet of six or eight buildings, where he labored at his trade. After spending a year on his first claim, where the Gilmore valley brickyard is now located, he came to St. Charles in December, 1855, buying 160 acres of land on Sec. 22. He now has 187 acres, of which all but thirty have been broken; also has a quarter-section at Wentworth, Dakota. Mr. Petheram is a democrat, and somewhat skeptical in religious matters. Six children are included in his flock, the eldest being the third child born in Winona. Their births date as herewith noted: John E., September 3, 1854, married Hattie J. Talbot and lives at Westport, D. T.; Elizabeth T., January 12, 1856, married Duane Wilmarth and resides at Wentworth, Dakota; Louisa J., August 15, 1859; Arthur C., March 6, 1861, now living at Wentworth; William W., March 4, 1865; Frank M., March 2, 1871. Mr. Petheram saw many of the hardships common to pioneer life. He came here with little capital and depended on his labor for a livelihood. During the first winter his potatoes were frozen, and the family were compelled to eat them or go without. In the winter of 1856-7 he spent four days and incurred an expense of nearly ten dollars in going to mill at Preston, twenty-five miles distant; his grist of twenty-five bushels was scarcely worth the expenses of the trip at the market rates of that time.



LUKE BLAIR, farmer, land located in Sec. 29, St. Charles township, and consists of 187 acres, principally oak openings. This farm was purchased by Mr. Blair in the fall of 1873, and the yield per acre for the season of 1882 was of barley thirty bushels, oats fifty bushels, corn fifty to fifty-five bushels, and hay two tons. Mr. Luke Blair is one of the pioneers of Winona county, and has been a resident of the state nearly thirty years. A native of Ware, Massachusetts, he came into Van Rensselaer county, New York, with his parents, at four years of age, and from there to Wisconsin in 1846. After residing for seven years in Racine and Columbia counties, in that state, Mr. Blair came into Minnesota, looking for more land upon which to settle his family, and on September 12, 1853, made his claim to three quarter-sections of land lying principally within what is now Sec. 2, Saratoga township. The one-fourth section pre-empted for himself by Mr. Blair was the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 2, and this claim was proved up and a deed taken from the government April 2, 1857. The other one-half section was taken for his sons Charles and John L. Mr. Luke Blair spent the winter of 1853-4 in Winona, dealing to some extent in provisions, and the following spring built a storeroom and opened business on the southwest corner of Center and Second streets. This business he sold the following fall to Jacoby & Co., and moving out to his claim in Saratoga township spent the winter there. The following spring, 1855, he built his barn, a frame structure 16×24 feet with 14-foot posts, and a frame kitchen 16×24 feet with 8-foot posts, and these were the first frame buildings erected in Saratoga township. In February, 1856, Mr. Blair returned to Winona, and, entering into partnership with Mr. Burr Deuel, opened a store on the levee at the foot of Center street. Continued in business here one year, then returned to his farm in Saratoga township, which he managed three years. Early in 1860 he again removed to Winona, built a store on the corner of Second and Center streets, where the Second National Bank now is; moved into it that same spring with a large stock of goods, and was in trade there at the breaking out of the war of 1861-65, when, fearing depression in business, he removed his stock of goods to Preston, Fillmore county, Minnesota, the more readily to dispose of them, which having done he returned that same fall, 1861, to his Saratoga farm, and remained there until his removal to his present property in 1874. The old homestead remained in his possession until the spring of 1882, when it was sold to Thomas H. Wilson, Esq., of Winona. October 17,

1830, Mr. Luke Blair married Margaret Wiltse, who died November 10, 1874. Of these three children, all boys, and residents of Winona county, Calvin is at home. Charles resides on his old pre-emption in Saratoga and John L. is a resident of St. Charles. February 15, 1876, Mr. Blair married Mrs. Mary S. Wooley, of Fremont township, Winona county, who pre-empted a farm there in 1857, and resided upon it until her marriage to Mr. Blair.

WARREN ROWELL was born in New Hampshire, December 28, 1818; was the sixth son of the Hon. Charles Rowell. He married in 1844, and landed in Homer township in 1853. Mr. Rowell belongs to the Advent Christian church, and is a democrat in politics. Warren Rowell took the claim where he now resides in April, 1853. He has a beautiful farm consisting of 240 acres of land, with pure spring water, which flows through the yard. He designs making stock-raising his principal business hereafter. He brought the first horse team, first yoke of oxen and first cow into the valley. Always at his post of duty, though not a leader, it can be truly said he was a worker actively engaged in all good work, faithful to his Master's cause, ever sustaining his wife in her ministerial life, contributing largely to the temperance and Sunday-school work, and, by his industry and frugality upon the farm, furnished the means to give his family a collegiate education, which he made not by speculation, but by the sweat of his brow.

MRS. RUTH M. ROWELL. In connection with the early history and settlement of the town of Homer, there is no name, perhaps, that figures more prominently than that of Mother Rowell. Born of illustrious parents, reared and educated in all that pertains to true womanhood, inheriting from her ancestors those great moral and religious traits of character which enabled her in after-years to wield such an influence in the wilds of the west that unborn generations will yet feel. Mrs. Rowell embraced religion at the very early age of nine years; joined the Advent Christian church; was married in New Hampshire, June 9, 1844, and removed with her husband, Warren Rowell, to the town of Homer in 1853, and commenced the ministry in 1856. Her father was the notable Judge Cogswell, of New Hampshire. Her mother was the daughter of Col. Anthony Peavey, and were both ministers of the gospel. It was said of her grandmother, Elisabeth Peavey, that she was a mother in Israel, as she had seven children who were ministers. She was the sister of the mother of Vice-President Wilson. The education of the people

in christian and moral principles has been the life-work of Mrs. Rowell; but few women, indeed, could stand to do the amount of missionary work that she has done, and nothing but a strong will-power, supported by sustaining influence of an all-wise Providence and the convictions of right could have sustained her in the performance of the amount of physical labor required of her in attending to her itinerant life's work; always ready at a little warning to go to the sick-room and soothe the dying with words of cheer, preaching the funeral sermon and attending the last sad rites of the dead, speaking words of hope and consolation to the living, then again in the rostrum or pulpit, explaining the great mysteries of salvation through Christ; and when we reflect that she has done all this at great pecuniary sacrifice to herself, we must conclude she is a sincere worker in the Master's cause. She has had the charge of the Advent Christian church in Winona, and now is in charge and the regular pastor of the church at Utica. Besides her ministerial duties, she has given birth and raised to honor five children, two of whom are now dead. The eldest, Mary Adeline, graduated in the normal school in Winona, taught three years in the district schools in the city, and also taught in the Collegiate Institute at Red Wing. She married an estimable gentleman of that place, and now resides there. Her second child, Fred C., is also a graduate of the normal school at Winona. He taught successfully several district schools. Married an accomplished young lady in Pleasant Valley, by the name of Anna M. Preston, and now lives upon the farm with his father. Her third child, Annie E., was also a highly educated young lady, was also a teacher, and for her amiable qualities was very highly respected. She married Mr. E. G. Lord, son of the county superintendent, O. M. Lord. But their earthly lives were soon cut short, she dying in a little over a year, leaving an infant son, and he soon followed, both dying of consumption. The fourth child died at the age of thirteen months. The fifth and last, Warren C., is now attending the city schools at Red Wing, and is a very promising boy, and expects to graduate next year. Who can say that Mrs. Rowell has not done her part in the christian work and development of Winona county, and in the education of the youth in all those virtues that adorn society and forms the palladium of our civil and religious liberties? May her life be spared to continue the good work.

GEORGE PERSONS, farmer, was born in Stoke, Somersetshire, Eng-

land, January 19, 1826. He was very early placed at service with farmers, and had no educational advantages. At thirteen years of age he was employed by a butcher, with whom he remained till twenty-two. In 1848 he crossed the Atlantic, and settled on a farm at Dyersville, Iowa. He was married there on July 9, 1851, to Eliza Day; she was born in Ware, Somersetshire, England, March 12, 1830. In June, 1854, Mr. Persons removed to St. Charles and secured 160 acres of land on Sec. 22, where William Petheram now dwells. This he shortly sold to its present occupant, and bought a farm on Sec. 4, which he has since sold, and bought other farms in the same neighborhood, living for some time on Sec. 3. He now has eighty acres on Sec. 15, where he has lived for the past five years. Mr. and Mrs. Persons were reared in the Episcopal church, to which they still adhere. Mr. Persons always votes the democratic ticket. Ten children were reared to maturity or are now living in this family, and one died in infancy. Here is the record of births, marriages and deaths: Edwin G., born May 12, 1852, married Lucy Hardwick, and is living on Sec. 5; Albert C., born October 24, 1853, married Flora Slater, and lives at Laverne, Minnesota; John F., born January 9, 1855, married Cora M. Gilman, and died at St. Charles, February 2, 1882, leaving two children; Ellen, born July 8, 1856, married Henry L. Green, and resides in the city of St. Charles; Matilda, born December 7, 1858, married Ossian L. Wilder, dwelling on Sec. 16; George D., born March 3, 1860, makes his home with parents; Laura E., born March 29, 1863, lives in St. Charles; Minnie, born January 17, 1865; Arthur A., born June 18, 1869; Bessie, born May 9, 1873.

WILLIAM TALBOT, farmer, was born in West Penard, Somersetshire, England, May 13, 1821. He was reared on an English dairy farm, and had few educational advantages. In 1849 he emigrated to America and spent two years in the dairy region of central New York. In 1851 he went to Dubuque county, Iowa, where he tilled rented land. In 1854 he came to Winona county and located 160 acres of government land on Sec. 14, where his home now is. Returning to Iowa in 1857, he was married there on October 1 of that year, to Miss Martha E. Baker; she was born in Burnham, Somersetshire, August 17, 1830. Mr. Talbot at once began house-keeping on his farm, and has ever since dwelt thereon; he now has 270 acres of land, of which forty acres are covered with timber, the balance being under the plow. In religious belief the family are



Second Adventists. Mr. Talbot has always voted the republican ticket in national and state elections. Five children of this family are now living; born as below indicated: Harriet J., July 2, 1860, married John Petheran, and lives at Westport, Dakota; Agnes M., February 2, 1862; Annie E., November 1, 1865; Jesse W., February 13, 1871; Cora E., August 9, 1872.

GEORGE B. TALBOT, farmer, is a brother of the above, and was born in the same place, October 15, 1846. He came with his parents to Dubuque county, Iowa, in 1852, and thence to St. Charles in the spring of 1855. He received no schooling till he was fifteen years old, after which he attended six winter terms of three months each, being one of the first pupils in the log schoolhouse which stood near his father's farm. He assisted his father till of age, and afterward tilled the land in partnership with an elder brother. In 1874 the property was divided between the two brothers, George taking 160 acres on Sec. 26, on which he has since resided. A part of his present residence was that year erected, and a part in 1882. He now has 240 acres of land, of which forty on Sec. 27 is timbered; he has a handsome farm and dwelling, and is prepared to enjoy life. He was married March 11, 1874, to Mary A., relict of G. W. Gibbs, daughter of Robert and Hannah Whitting; she was born in Somersetshire, August 20, 1841. Mr. and Mrs. Talbot are supporters of and attendants on religious services. He is a republican. Two children have been given to them, as follows: Hannah A., April 11, 1877; Ada M., May 30, 1879.

WILLIAM M. BARKER, farmer, is a grandson of Asa Barker, who emigrated from England at the outbreak of the revolutionary war to assist the colonists; he was present at the battle of Bunker Hill, and served till the close of the war, after which he settled in Maine. Here was born to him a son whom he christened William. Samuel Davis, a Scotch highlander, who served seven years under Washington, participating in fourteen battles, also settled in Maine at the close of the war; his daughter, Susan, was one of three children born in Fort Gorham during a war with the local Indians. On reaching maturity William Barker and Susan Davis were married and settled on a farm in Bridgeton, Cumberland county, where was born to them the subject of this sketch, on July 24, 1820. He attended the common school till fifteen years old and then spent a year at Gorham Academy. When sixteen he was apprenticed to a carpenter, and followed that trade till he came to Minnesota. In

1846 he went to Illinois, where he spent seven years in depot-building and other railroad work. He was a passenger on the first trip of the War Eagle up the Mississippi in 1853, and landed at Winona at three o'clock on the morning of April 7. His first claim to government land was made on Sec. 15, in the town of St. Charles; this he sold, and subsequently bought a farm on Sec. 36, Elba. He was married June 27, 1865, to Maria, daughter of Austin and Polly Raymond, of Oneida county, New York; she was born in Camden, New York, in June, 1823; at the time of this marriage she was the widow of Pierson Everton. Mrs. Barker died on January 31, 1878; after her death Mr. Barker sold his farm and purchased forty acres on the same section, which he now tills; he also tills adjoining land on Sec. 1, St. Charles, on which he resides. He never left the state after his first settlement here until December, 1882, when he went to the Wisconsin pineries and spent the winter. Mr. Barker built the first frame house erected in St. Charles for Henry Clipper, in 1855. In religious belief he is a Methodist; in politics, was a democrat till the war of the rebellion, and is now a greenbacker. Following is the record of Mr. and Mrs. Everton's children: Jane married James Annis, and lives in northern Minnesota; Henry resides in Winona; Janet is living in the town of St. Charles; Alfred is in New Mexico; Ida married George Raymond and lives in Kansas; Emma E. is married and lives in Winona.

THOMAS C. BARR, farmer, was born in Scotland, June 2, 1829. He was the youngest of a family of seven children. His parents died before he was thirteen months old, and at six years of age he was compelled to begin laboring in a shawl factory; here he remained till fifteen years old, when he went on a farm and remained till of age. On reaching his majority Mr. Barr emigrated to America and spent four years at farm labor in Illinois. In the fall of 1854 he came to Minnesota and took up a quarter of Sec. 5 in St. Charles township, on which he still resides. By subsequent purchase he has acquired 180 acres in the adjoining township of Elba, and tills over 200 acres of land; his farm is well improved with buildings and all that goes to make a comfortable farmer's home. On July 2, 1860, he married Phillis Talbot, who was born in Somersetshire, England, December 27, 1838. Himself and wife are members of the St. Charles Congregational church. Mr. Barr is a republican, but does not meddle in political affairs. He served his school district as treasurer for seven years. By patient industry he has made

himself financially independent. He has reared a large family, having thirteen children, born as here noted: Susan A., March 5, 1861, married John Drehr March 25, 1880, and lives in Elba township; Mary C., April 30, 1862; William R., December 8, 1863; Agnes S., March 22, 1865; Minnie M., April 11, 1867; Christian P., September 16, 1868; Alice P., February 13, 1870; Thomas A., September 21, 1871; Anna J., August 16, 1873; Phillis S., May 8, 1875; George H., December 18, 1876; Sophia B., February 9, 1880; Celia O., December 2, 1882.

HEZEKIAH LYBARGER, farmer, was born in Danville, Knox county, Ohio, February 18, 1821. His father was a blacksmith, and he was very early set to work in the shop and had no educational advantages. At nineteen years of age he set out for himself in the world and continued to follow his trade for three years, after which he took up farm labor. In 1848 he went to Alanakee county, Iowa, where he secured land and engaged in farming. Here he married Elizabeth Davidson, whose parentage is elsewhere given above; their wedding occurred March 17, 1853. During this year Mr. Lybarger visited St. Charles and the next year removed here with his family and took up 160 acres of government land on Sec. 9, where he has ever since resided. He is a member of St. Charles grange and a republican; religious belief corresponds with that of the Methodist church. Mrs. Lybarger was formerly a Presbyterian, but since the dissolution of that church at St. Charles has joined the Congregational church at the same place. Five living children are included in the family, born as herewith given: William D., May 12, 1854, married Urilla Davidson, and is now living at Watertown, Dakota Territory; Ellen K., November 9, 1856, married James R. Pringle, and lives in the adjoining township of Dover; Lewis H., August 23, 1859; Mary I., December 23, 1864; Fred H., January 5, 1871; Charles and Alice P., born in 1867 and 1875, respectively, died in early infancy.

LYMAN D. COX, one of the leading citizens, and a pioneer of the county, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, April 2, 1826. His parents were Benjamin and Mary Bowman Cox. His great grandfather was a native of Hardwick, Massachusetts, as was his father. The great-grandfather was an officer in the revolution, and the grandfather served as an aid to him. The latter in after-years had command of the forces stationed at Fort Defiance, Vermont. They are a race of farmers. The grandfather removed from Hard-

wick to Barnard, Vermont, and was among the early settlers in that vicinity. The father, Benjamin, was reared on a farm, and received a meager education. His mother was of Scotch descent. The father went to St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1818, at the age of twenty-one years, but soon returned to Barnard, and was married. Soon after his marriage he returned to St. Lawrence county, and took up his residence. Here Lyman grew up on his father's farm. At the age of twenty-six, he left St. Lawrence county and went to Indianapolis, Indiana, where, on June 3, 1853, he wedded Miss Esther Cox, a daughter of Aurin and Hortense Cox. She was a native of Windsor county, Vermont, having been born there January 3, 1832. Mr. Cox remained at Indianapolis for one year, where he followed the business of a butcher. In 1854 he came to Winona county on a prospecting tour, and laid claim to the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 8 in Saratoga township. He went back to Indianapolis and remained during the winter, and in the spring of 1855 came west again and began to improve his claim. In the autumn following his family came on, and the family were reunited. Here they have since lived and wrought. Mr. Cox owns a fine farm of nearly four hundred acres. He is a member of Evergreen Lodge of Masons, No. 46; a republican in politics, and was for a number of years president of the board of supervisors for Saratoga township.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox are the parents of four children: Franklin, born March 19, 1854; Benjamin, born August 15, 1861; Mary, born April 13, 1870, and Julia, born March 11, 1873.

ALEXANDER GILMORE, farmer, has been a resident of St. Charles since August, 1854, at which time he made a claim on 160 acres of land on Sec. 9. In 1860 he sold a part of his original claim and bought fourteen acres on Sec. 4, where his present residence stands. His farm includes 156 acres of finely improved land, graced with buildings such as one expects a tidy farmer to have. Mr. Gilmore was born in Nielston Parish, Scotland, September 27, 1825; he was reared on a farm and attended the parish school. On Christmas day of 1848 he married Susan Barr, who was born in Paisley, June 9, 1826. A brother of Mr. Gilmore, after whom Gilmore valley, near Winona, was named, having died there in 1854, the subject of this sketch came to America to look after his property, and settled here as above noted. He was reared in the Presbyterian church, but has been connected with no religious body since his residence here. Mrs. Gilmore is a member of the St. Charles Congre-



gational church. Mr. Gilmore has been either clerk or treasurer of his school district for over fifteen years, but would never accept any town office; he has always been a republican. The family includes nine living children, who came into it at dates here given: Allen, February 28, 1849, and Thomas B., September 21, 1850, both living at Dayton, W. T.; Elizabeth, August 22, 1852, married George Pike and lives in Utica township; Christina, June 13, 1856, resides with eldest brother; Maggie W., March 3, 1858, married George E. Masters and lives at De Smet, D. T.; Alexander, January 29, 1860, resides near two elder brothers; Agnes, October 19, 1861; William H., July 14, 1863; Susie B., April 20, 1866.

TERENCE, son of Thomas and Mary (O'Flannigan) McCauly, was born in northern Ireland, province of Ulster, County Donegal, on February 5, 1822. His father, Thomas McCauly, was born in 1786 in the same town and house. His (Terence's) grandmother on his mother's side, by name Anna McPhelim, was born in 1742. She was a highly educated woman, and accomplished much good in the country where she lived. Her father, Terence's great-grandfather on his mother's side, was Dennis McPhelim, who was born in 1697. He also was highly educated. His (Terence's) father, Thomas McCauly, was in the revolution of 1798 in Ireland. After the English took possession of Ireland he was banished to the hill country of Ireland, where he remained several years. After his term of banishment had expired he returned to his native county, and in the month of August, 1852, he embarked for America. He first settled in Vermont, eight miles from Burlington. He farmed here until 1854, when he left Vermont and came to Dresbach, Minnesota. December 20, 1854, he bought a farm here, on which he lived the remainder of his days. Terence McCauly, the subject of this biography, landed in the United States July 8, 1848. He lived at or near Burlington, Vermont, for six years and then emigrated to Minnesota. October 26, 1854, he landed at La Crescent. He bought land in McCauly's valley in T. 104, R. 5 W., Sec. 31. Mr. McCauly was a justice of the peace of his township for twelve years; was the cause of bringing twenty-two families to this state, many of them settling in this county. Mr. McCauly is a man of rare ability, both natural and acquired. Though accustomed to manual labor, he has always found time to read and acquaint himself with both past and present events. He is well informed on ancient and modern history. But few are better acquainted with the history of their church than

he with his (Catholic). His wife, Mrs. Bridget (Gillespie) McCauly, was born in the same town as her husband in 1810, being twelve years his senior. She came to America in 1849; brought up in the Roman Catholic religion, in which faith she has lived a firm believer. Mr. and Mrs. McCauly have no children. By industry and frugality they have obtained considerable property for their latter days, now owning a large and good farm in McCauly's valley. Mr. McCauly is a good substantial citizen, and has been well identified with his township since its early history.

ROBERT F. NORTON, of Homer, was born in Washtenaw county, Michigan, February 10, 1836. His father, H. B. Norton, was a native of Victor, New York; Margaret (Martin), his mother, was a native of Sligo, Ireland, and is of Scotch descent. In 1846 he went to learn the printer's trade at Ann Arbor, Michigan. All the education he ever had was received in the district school prior to this time. In 1852 his parents moved to Rockford, Illinois, where young Robert worked at his trade for some time. He came to this county in 1854, settling in Minneoh, where he followed various pursuits until the opening of the rebellion. August 17, 1862, he enlisted in Co. B, 7th Minn., and was on the Indian raid through the north part of the state. March 25, 1863, he was commissioned a sergeant. On account of disability he resigned August 17, 1863, and came home and worked for awhile as a wood workman. August 6, 1872, he opened at Homer a stock of merchandise, the cost of which was \$52.88. The business has since increased until he now carries a stock of general merchandise worth \$4,000. In the November following he issued the initial number of the "Novelty Press," devoted to home news. This was sold in 1876 to Norton and Trueman and merged into the "Winona Democrat." June 28, 1871, he was appointed postmaster at Homer, a position which he retains. January he issued the first number of "Bob's Own," a paper devoted to his own interests. August 25, 1881, he married Mrs. George Eagle.

JOHN C. BROWN, son of Eden Brown and Mary, whose maiden name was Squires, was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania; came to Wisconsin in 1844, and to Minnesota in 1854, and settled in the town of Wilson, East Burns valley; was married in 1852 to Miss Julia Haskins, daughter of John Haskins and Fanny, whose maiden name was Fanny Rodgers. John C. Brown and wife have had four children, whose names in the order in which they were born were: Mary F., Frank, Sarah L. and Calvin E. Mr. Brown has 173 acres

of land near the mouth of East Burns valley, where he resides now. He is of Scotch-Irish descent. John C. Brown took a very active part in the development of his town and county; was one of the judges of election in the notorious railroad bond swindled; has been assessor of the town of Wilson for fifteen years, and no man has taken a deeper interest in the town than Mr. Brown. Punctual and accurate in all his official business and demanding of others a strict account of their official conduct. He claims to have made the second pre-emption in this land district, D. L. Babcock's father making the first. By reason of a deformity of the feet he was not permitted to enter the army. Is a farmer by occupation and a liberal republican in politics. He lives yet upon his first claim.

AMOS SHAY was born June 7, 1817, at Brighton, New York. Until the age of fifteen he lived at Brighton and attended school. In 1832, at the age of fifteen, he removed to Branch county, Michigan, with his parents. For two years after his arrival he attended school in Branch county. In 1852 he came to Savannah, Illinois. He lived there until 1854, when he removed to Richmond village, Winona county, Minnesota. In a few months he left Richmond and settled on a farm which he had purchased in N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, where he has engaged in farming ever since. Amos Shay has been married twice. May 19, 1837, he was married to Elvira Perrin. The children by the first wife: William, born December 28, 1843, died March 17, 1869; Mary, born February 5, 1840, died, date unknown; Ellen, born January 4, 1842. His first wife, Elvira Shay, died July 5, 1845. January 13, 1846, Amos Shay was married to Alvina Liddle. The children by his second wife, four boys, were: Frederick V., born January 14, 1848; John, born December 18, 1850; Thomas, born October 15, 1852; Charles, born November 3, 1857. Amos Shay has always engaged in farming. He is a republican in politics. He was not in the war; is at present in very good circumstances.

JOSEPH COOPER was born in Fairfax Court House, Virginia, March 20, 1820. His father, Joseph Cooper, was a carriage maker in the city of Washington, D. C., and was also engaged in the wood trade, bringing wood up the Potomac for sale in the city. When only ten years old, after having attended the Calvinistic preparatory school for several terms, and having a taste for sailing, he went to sea, and for nearly fifteen years he followed the water, making several voyages from New York to London. He sailed around Cape Horn to California in 1836, also visited Juan Fernandez islands,

and came back and joined the United States navy, and was stationed three years on the coast of Brazil in the sloop of war Marion. After leaving the navy he made voyages to Trieste, Austria, and various ports of the Mediterranean sea, to London and Havre, then to Cardiff, Wales, for strap railroad iron. This proved to be his last ocean voyage. When about three days out from Land's End, England, the ship was dismasted; all three of the masts were swept from the deck by a sudden squall of wind; the ship being heavily loaded with iron, and rolling in the heavy seas, she sprung a leak, and for seventy-eight days they were compelled to work the pumps day and night. For forty-eight days they were on short allowance. After drifting about for two and a-half months they finally landed on St. Thomas island, one of the West Indies, in a most destitute condition. From St. Thomas island he took passage to New Orleans. Here he was very sick for some time, but finally took passage on a steamboat to Evansville, Indiana, and from there he went by stage to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he found his father's family. Here he married Ellen M. Gaither, July 12, 1844. Soon tiring of an inactive life, he went to Toledo, and there engaged in sailing on the lakes. Here he soon became master of a vessel, and sailed for one employer six years on the different lakes. He hauled the first vessel across the Sault Ste. Marie portage (one mile) upon rollers; this took about six weeks. He had for a cargo Indian goods to pay Indians at the Apostle islands. After arriving at destination he was surprised to find that a part of his cargo, belonging to a man from Chicago, and marked "mutton hams," was nothing else than whisky, which was contraband goods and laid him and his vessel liable for receiving and shipping the same. He notified the owner to come and take his mutton hams away, but upon his non-compliance, and the circulation of the fact that there was bottled whisky aboard the ship, he concluded to take his vessel away, and accordingly hoisted sail and started off. There happened to be a twelve-oared government boat in the vicinity, which immediately gave chase, and very nearly caught him in rounding a point. After baffling his pursuers he landed and gave up the whisky (two casks, filled with bottles of the fluid) to the Sioux missionary at Sault Ste. Marie. In 1851 he bought a half-interest in a vessel named General Houston and sailed it with success and profit till 1853, when she capsized one evening, near the American shore, at the head of Lake Erie; fortunately no lives were lost, and after escaping to Malden, Canada, he took his



first horseback ride to Detroit, where he hired a steamboat to search for his vessel. After hunting three days he found her on the Canada side and sold her, and after making a couple more voyages, in one of which he nearly lost his life by the falling of his foremast, he left the lakes. In the early winter of 1853 he bought an interest in a livery stable in Terre Haute, Indiana. In October, 1854, he and his partner sold out part of livery stock and he started for St. Paul, Minnesota, with six head of horses. He came with teams to La Crosse, Wisconsin, and finding it impossible to get his horses shipped to St. Paul that year, he came out to Pleasant Hill, Minnesota, in December, 1854, and made a claim, and began to get out logs for a house, 22×24 feet and one and one-half stories high. This house was completed and he moved his family into it March 20, 1855. Soon the travel on the Territorial road, from La Crosse, Wisconsin, to Mankato, Minnesota, became so great that he was almost forced into keeping a hotel and relay stables for the stage company. Politically speaking Mr. Cooper is, and always has been, a democrat, and as such he has filled all the different offices of his township, and represented his congressional district in the state legislature in 1879 and 1880. He was also the first postmaster of Ridgeway postoffice, established in 1856, and is at present filling the same position, having been postmaster of that office seventeen years, at different periods. Mr. Cooper and wife are still living on their original claim of 160 acres in Pleasant Hill, and their union has been blessed with seven children: Lizzie E., born in Detroit, Michigan, October 8, 1845; Lelia E., born in Toledo, Ohio, August 22, 1848; Sarah A., born at Ridgeway, Minnesota, July 20, 1857; Joseph B., born at Ridgeway, August 21, 1858; Willie J., born at Ridgeway, March 7, 1861; George B., born at Ridgeway, April 12, 1864; Jennie J., born at Ridgeway, June 26, 1868. Lelia E. died January 2, 1865. The three youngest are living at home, and with their parents form a cheerful family, enjoying all the necessary comforts of life.

STEPHEN COVEY, farmer, one of the first settlers in the White-water valley, was born in Rennselaer county, New York, about 1800, and about 1830 moved to Westfield, Chautauqua county, New York, and in 1854 to Whitewater, where he purchased a claim for \$360 from Albert Pomeroy, on which was built the third log-house erected in the valley, standing about twenty rods south of the present line of the village of Beaver. In 1822 our subject married Miss

Laura Collar, and by this marriage had nine children : Zamer, born 1823, died same year ; Louisa M., born 1825, died 1871 ; Caroline S., born 1827 ; Harrison R., born 1829, died 1882 ; Mary E., born 1831 ; James, born 1833 ; Stephen R., born 1837 ; Laura M., born 1840 ; Ester, born 1842, married W. H. Martin in 1862. Our subject had very liberal views on religious matters. Died in White-water valley in 1856, being the first death in the valley.

H. C. BALCOM, real estate, office on south side Front street, between Walnut and Market. Mr. Balcom has been a resident of Winona since the summer of 1854. In the fall of that year he was engaged to teach school in the little hamlet on Wabasha prairie, since grown into the third city of the state in population, wealth and commercial importance. This school was the first organized school within the limits of the county, and the territory it included formed the first organized school district in the present area of the county. This school Mr. Balcom taught during the winter seasons of 1854-5-6. In the summer of 1855 Mr. H. C. Balcom engaged in lumber business with his father, Jos. Balcom, who came that year to Winona from California and bought the warehouse on Front street, which for nearly twenty-eight years has continued to be the Balcoms' business headquarters. Here, in 1855, they also opened the first furniture store established in Winona, and in this business and his lumber trade Mr. H. C. Balcom was engaged until August 16, 1862, when he enlisted in Co. B, 7th Minn. Inf., attached to the third brigade, sixteenth army corps. His first year's service was on the frontier, afterward in the southwest, principally in the Gulf states, within the military department of Tennessee. After about eighteen months' service with his company, he was commissioned first lieutenant and detailed as brigade quartermaster, in which capacity he served until the close of the war. Returning from the service in 1865 he resumed lumber business with his father at the old office on Front street, and some years later transferred his attention to real estate. Mr. Balcom was for four years a member of the board of education in this city. He is married, has six children, one of them (Harry) in the First National Bank, of this city, and two others attending the high school.

MR. JOSEPH BALCOM, so long identified with the business interests of Winona, was a native of New York, and, as before stated, came to Winona in 1855, after having spent some years in California. He died in the Lake Superior mining regions, June 3, 1882, where he

was engaged in looking after his interests in the copper mines of that region. His widow still survives, and is a resident of this city.

W. G. DYE, United States revenue collector for the twelfth Minnesota district, is a native of New York State, and a printer by trade. He came to Winona in the early days of its history, 1854, and that same year assisted, as compositor, in getting out the first number of the "Argus," the pioneer newspaper of Winona. From that date until 1881 he was identified with the newspaper interests of this city, and is abundantly qualified to speak concerning them. In 1855 Mr. Dye started the "Republican" as a joint stock enterprise, and of this he was manager and publisher. The following spring, 1856, in connection with D. Sinclair, he bought out the stockholders' interests, became business manager of the journal (D. Sinclair conducting the editorial department), and so continued until he sold out to his old partner in 1881, having maintained a continuous connection with the "Republican" for over a quarter of a century. July 1, 1881, he received his appointment as United States revenue collector, and is still in office. In company with Thomas Simpson and Henry Wickersham, the latter, years since, removed from Winona. Mr. Dye was initiated into the mysteries of Odd-Fellowship May 6, 1856, and these gentlemen were the first initiates of Prairie Lodge, which at the time of their admission numbered five members. Mr. Dye is not only a representative member of the order in Winona and Minnesota, but is well known in the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Order in the United States. He has filled all the chairs of the order; was deputy grand master of the state; grand representative in 1865-6; and now for nine successive years has been grand representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. Mr. Dye is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, and an affiliate of Winona Lodge, No. 18, Winona Chapter, No. 5, and of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3. He is married, has two children in school, and one daughter graduated from the high school class of 1882.

LYMAN RAYMOND, flour-barrel manufacturer, south side King street, near Huff. Business is the manufacture of hand-made barrels, and has been now in operation a little over six years. His lots front 120 feet on King, are 150 feet deep, and upon them are erected the main manufactory, 120×30 feet, a storage-room 60×24 feet, and a building 120×24, used partly for manufacturing and partly for storage. The number of hands employed averages fifty, and two teams are constantly employed. Product is from 500 to 800 barrels

a day, all disposed of in the home market. Mr. Raymond was born in Camden, Oneida county, New York, September 4, 1820 ; was educated in the common schools of his native place, and followed the farm until he was eighteen years of age, and for the next five years was salesman in a lumber firm. In 1843 he started business for himself in Camden, and was so engaged until 1854, when he came to Winona county, took up a farm in Utica township near Lewiston, which he sold out the following year, 1855, and returning to Camden resumed his old business, which he conducted until 1863. He then returned to Winona county, and was engaged in farming in Utica township for five years, then removed to Lewiston, still interesting himself in farm operations. His first barrel manufactory was started at Lewiston in 1872, and two years later removed to this city. For the past ten years Mr. Raymond has been extensively engaged in grain-threshing operations, and during the season of 1882 had four steam threshers at work, employing a force of sixteen hands.

WILLIAM RILEY STEWART, born in Connecticut in 1817, removed with his parents while young to Steuben county, New York. Remained there until 1845, engaged in lumbering. He then removed to Lake county, Illinois, where he remained about nine years, and worked at blacksmithing. Removed to Rolling Stone township, Minnesota, November, 1854, and engaged in farming. Was married February 4, 1843, to Miss Helen Drew. The fruit of this marriage were four children, all of whom are living. Mrs. Stewart died in 1855. On May 20, 1856, Mr. Stewart married Miss Albina Drew. The fruit of this marriage were ten children, five of whom are living. Mr. Stewart has held the office of county supervisor and other minor offices. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are members of the Baptist church. The first sermon ever preached in Rolling Stone valley was preached at the house of Mr. Stewart, in the fall of 1856. Mr. Stewart owns about 350 acres. In politics, republican.

R. D. CONE, wholesale and retail dealer in hardware, Nos. 46 to 48 East Second street. This business has been in successful operation in this city since 1855, and the proprietor is not only the oldest hardware merchant, but the oldest merchant of any kind now doing business in the city. When business was started the house occupied the west twenty feet of the present lot, was thirty feet deep and gave employment to one tinner, Mr. Cone himself being sole salesman. This establishment was destroyed in the great fire of 1862, in which



the loss was \$10,000 above insurance. The same and following season the present structure was built. The lot upon which it stands fronts sixty feet on Second and has a depth of 140 feet; the building is a three-story brick and stone basement, 40 feet front, 125 deep, the whole four floors devoted to the business of the house, which gives employment to two traveling salesmen, nine clerks and book-keeper and two manufacturing tinsmiths. The house carries a full assortment of shelf and heavy hardware, tin and wagon stock. Sales for 1882 about \$175,000. R. D. Cone is a native of Shenango county, New York, and was in the stove and tinware business in Rochester, in that state, before coming to Winona, April 9, 1855. Mr. Cone was candidate for the mayoralty of this city when the office was first created, and defeated. He has since held the office two terms, and has several times represented his ward in the common council and on the city school board. He was born November 8, 1821; married July 3, 1848, and has four children surviving his wife, who died some years since. The family residence is on the corner of Fifth and Main streets.

V. SIMPSON, real estate and loan office, room No. 5, Simpson's block. Mr. Simpson is the son of B. F. and Eliza Simpson, of Lowell, Massachusetts, both of whom are now living; one aged eighty-three and the other eighty-two, after fifty-six years of married life. V. Simpson was born in Windham, and after some experience in dry goods business came west to Dubuque in 1852, and three years later to Winona, the date of his arrival here being April 12, 1855. On the 12th day of the following August he opened a general merchandising business in a building he had erected on the site of his present block, fronting on Center street. Continued in trade one year, and sold out, that he might devote all his attention to his agencies for freight and storage, which he held for all the transportation companies doing business on the river. In the spring of 1852 he connected the supply of provisions with his freightage and storage business, and so continued until two years after the great fire of 1862, which swept away his property, entailing a loss of \$60,000 and leaving him thoroughly cleaned out. In that year, 1864, he sold out his business to F. A. Scavey and established a real estate and loan agency. The Simpson block, built just after the great fire of 1862, is a solid three-story and basement structure, 68×120 feet, brick walls, stone foundations and basement, and cost \$16,000. January 13, 1877, this block was destroyed by fire, and immediately

rebuilt at a cost of \$15,000; loss about covered by insurance. In 1872 Mr. Simpson erected the Ely block, just across Center street from the Simpson block. This is also a three-story and basement and brick, solid stone foundations and basement, iron cornice fronts, eighty feet on Second street and 140 on Center, and cost \$45,000. Mr. Simpson is very largely interested in city property, and his books show a tenantry numbering 132. He has also quite extensive investments in farming lands in this county, and owns one stock farm of 400 acres in Dodge county. Mr. Simpson has served one term as alderman of his ward, was mayor of the city during the years 1876-7-8-9, holds stock shares in several of the manufacturing companies of the city, and is always interested in city improvements. He is married and has three children: one son, a civil engineer in the United States service, on duty with the Missouri river improvement corps; one daughter married to E. G. Nevins, of this city; one daughter now attending Winona high school.

GEORGE W. BLAIR, N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10, township of Saratoga. This claim was made April 14, 1855, by the present proprietor, and proved up by him October 1, 1860. Forty-five acres have been added to the original claim and the farm now includes 205 acres, almost exclusively prairie soil, which, in this locality, is a deep vegetable loam with a clay subsoil. There are now upon the farm thirty-five head of hogs, seven horses and eight head of cattle. The average yield per acre for the season of 1882 was as follows: Wheat, 14 bushels; oats, 42 bushels; barley, 35 bushels; corn, 40 bushel; timothy seed,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  bushels; hay,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and 2 tons. The first dwelling on the premises was erected in 1855, and was occupied until the present residence was built in 1870, a comfortable, tasty and commodious two-story frame. Mr. G. W. Blair is a native of Bennington, Vermont, but was for many years prior to his location in the county a resident of Albany, New York, where, previous to 1853, he was employed as clerk in both retail and wholesale houses. From 1853 to 1855 he was employed as keeper in the Sing Sing States prison, on the Hudson. His wife, Miss M. S. Deuel, came with him from Albany, and they have five children living, all born on the old homestead. They are, George N. Blair, born July 20, 1855, the first white child born in Saratoga township; Burr D. Blair, born May 11, 1858; Hattie E. Blair, born January 27, 1860, and Alice E. and Florence E. (twins), born December 27, 1865. The two sons are quite liberally educated, having supplemented such

teaching as the county afforded with some time at Ann Arbor, Michigan. They have both taught school, an employment in which Burr D. was engaged the past winter, and from which he has recently returned to his studies at the University of Michigan.

AMASA GLEASON was born in Half Moon township, Saratoga county, New York, September 25, 1825. He spent his youth upon a farm near Oswego, New York, receiving a very limited opportunity to educate himself. His stepfather moved to Michigan, and died there in 1847. In 1848 Mr. Gleason went to Michigan and took care of his mother's family. He lived there two years, then moved to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and lived about three years; then he moved to La Crescent, Minnesota, and took a claim and lived one year, but not liking his surroundings he gave it up and came to Pleasant Hill in April, 1855, and entered a claim in Sec. 10, built a log shanty and went to chopping, clearing and improving his land. He was married to Miss Harriet Spalding, March 31, 1856. Their union has been blessed with five children, the two eldest of which are married. One resides near his father in Pleasant Hill, and the other has taken a homestead of 160 acres in Moody county, Minnesota. Mr. Gleason has suffered from asthma since coming to Minnesota in 1852. He is, politically speaking, a democrat, and has twice served his township as supervisor. He was also a member of the Sons of Temperance, charter member of Pleasant Hill, Patrons of Husbandry, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is now very comfortably situated on 120 acres of good farming land, surrounded by all necessary comforts and many luxuries of life.

CHARLES HENRY BERRY, one of the lawyers who located at Winona at an early day, is still living. He was born at Westerly, Rhode Island, September 12, 1823, and is the son of Samuel F. and Lucy (Stanton) Berry. Both parents were descended from Huguenot emigrants, who left France on the repeal of the edict of Nantes in the time of Louis XIV. The grandfather of our subject, Samuel Berry, held the office of justice of sessions in the county of Kings, Rhode Island, under the Colonial government. His commission bears date May 7, 1774, is signed by Gov. Joseph Wanton, and is issued in the name of "His Most Sacred Majesty George the Third." He was known as a conservative at the beginning of the war of the revolution, but held his office until after the peace of 1783, and did efficient service in the cause of independence. Samuel

F. Berry, in October, 1828, removed with his family to Steuben county, New York, and settled in what was then a dense wilderness, about five miles from the present village of Corning. The journey from Rhode Island was over four hundred miles, wholly by emigrant wagon. The route crossed the "North River," as the Hudson was then generally called, at the village of Hudson, thence over the Catskill mountains to and down the Susquehanna and up the Chemung. The subject of our sketch has a distinct remembrance of this removal, and of the solemn and tearful farewells between his mother and her friends as she departed for the "up country," none of them expecting to meet her again. A removal was at that time a serious thing. The first to be done in their new home was to clear the land of its heavy forests of hemlock, pine and hardwood timber, a stern rugged task, in which parents and children alike joined. But however cheerless the prospects of the pioneer to the parents, it was not more promising to the children. Their communion was with nature, their pleasure in the pathless woods; schools, all the appliances of civilized life, were only what the hardy settlers could improvise. But the boy had health and strength, and played, with his companions, his part in the short winter school and the rougher labors of the year. When seventeen years old he went to reside at Maine village, Broome county, where he attended an excellent private school conducted by Rev. William Gates. Alternating between this school and other employments, he passed the time until the fall of 1843, when in his turn he tried his hand at teaching. In fact a school was at this time a common employment for the winter. In Prof. Gates' school, and from forced self-instruction, he acquired the rudiments of an education, which was continued at the Canandaigua Academy, where he completed an English and scientific course, graduating in July, 1846. At this time he had begun to read law in the office of E. G. Lapham, of Canandaigua (now United States senator), and after reading about one and a-half years in this office he entered the law office of Hon. Alvah Worden, in the same town. Here he remained until admitted to the bar; as soon as admitted he went to Corning. In 1849 he opened an office among the friends of his boyhood, and practiced alone until in May, 1851, he took as a partner the late Hon. C. W. Waterman. The firm of Berry & Waterman continued, first at Corning, then at Winona, until the close of the year 1871, when the junior partner retired, he having been elected district judge.



Mr. Berry came to Winona to make it his home in May, 1855, and on the 17th of that month secured an office. He dates his business life in Winona from that time, though he, in fact, returned to Corning to make final arrangements for removal, and did not get back to Winona until in June. Since that time, as member of the firm of Berry & Waterman, then alone, and now of the firm of Berry & Morey, he has here practiced his profession without interruption. He was attorney-of-record in the first judgment docketed in Winona county, Frederick S. Barlow *vs.* Charles S. Hamilton, for \$1,544.60, rendered and docketed August 7, 1855. Though an attorney, his desires have always been for peace, and not for controversy; and it is but just to say that he has rarely allowed a dispute to be litigated if in his power to secure a settlement. On November 14, 1850, at Corning, New York, he was married to Miss Francis Eliza Hubbell, who is also still living. They have one child, Kate Louise, born August 25, 1857, who is the wife of his law partner, Mr. C. A. Morey. Mr. Berry, with his family, attends the Episcopal church, to the establishment and support of which he has ever been a reliable contributor. Born and reared in the democratic faith, he has generally acted with that party, though from 1847 to the dissolution of the "free soil party," he was a zealous advocate of its anti-slavery doctrines. He, however, refused to go with the abolition wing into the republican party and settled back into the old line. He cannot be said to have sought office, and yet from time to time has held office. He has been state senator, was the first attorney-general of the state, and has held other offices, but the one we believe he attaches the most importance to was his connection with the public schools of the city. He was from 1870, for eight years, president of the board of education, during which time the "Madison" and "Washington" school buildings were erected, their grounds laid out and set with trees, and the schools themselves elevated to a high standard of excellence. With his equally willing associates in the board, he and they may long enjoy the pleasure of seeing these institutions growing in beauty and in power of usefulness; the product of the liberality and enlightened spirit of the people who furnished the means, as well as of the fostering care of the builders. He also rendered efficient service in securing the location of the first state normal school at Winona, and in the legislature in defeating the attempt made in 1874 to eliminate normal schools from the educational system of the state. In works of internal

improvement of the state, as well as in all things pertaining to the advancement of every real interest of the city and county, he has ever taken an interest, and generally given active and efficient aid.

THOMAS B. TAYLOR (deceased) was one of the early pioneers of Minnesota, having settled in the town of Dover in May, 1855, on the farm adjoining this town now occupied by William Smith. In the fall of 1874 he sold his farm and removed to the city of St. Charles, where he died in the following December. Mr. Taylor was born in Howard, Massachusetts, in 1807. He married Miss Parnell Murdock, a native of the same state. Three of his sons and one daughter also emigrated west. The eldest, Charles, is sketched below; Albert M. died at St. Charles, leaving a widow, now Mrs. Caleb Batchelor, and one child: Edward S. married Delia Woodard and resides at Mankato; he served three years during the war of the rebellion in a Vermont regiment; Laura P. married J. H. Gardner, now deceased, and lives in St. Charles city.

CHARLES H. TAYLOR, farmer, is a son of the above. He was born at Haverhill, Massachusetts, August 8, 1833. He attended the common schools till sixteen years old, then took up his father's occupation of combmaker; served some years as clerk in a store in Boston. On March 4, 1854, he married Miss Helen, a daughter of Ebenezer Burrell and Lucy Tucker, who were born in Canton, Massachusetts. In the fall of the following year Mr. Taylor came to Minnesota. After residing one year in the town of Warren he pre-empted land in Sec. 12, Dover, but soon sold and removed to this town; has bought and sold several times, and bought his present farm of 100 acres on Sec. 18 in 1876; previous to this time he resided in St. Charles city several years, keeping livery stable, billiard hall, etc.; is now quite extensively engaged in stockraising, giving attention to Jersey cattle, blooded horses and mules. Mr. Taylor enlisted in February, 1863, in Co. C, 5th Iowa Cav., and served till May 16, 1866. In the spring of 1864 his regiment was sent on service against the western Indians under Gen. Sully. He participated in two engagements on the Little Missouri, in one of which his horse received two arrows, and was in several skirmishes on the Yellowstone. Mr. Taylor is a republican; member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. and A. M.; was city constable in 1875. On January 25, 1866, he adopted a boy then ten days old, who was christened Clinton Taylor.

HENRY HYMEN STRAW was born in the town of Hayfield, Craw-

ford county, Pennsylvania, February 19, 1834. His parents were Philip and Leah (Gehr) Straw. His grandfathers, Jacob Straw and David Gehr, were natives of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania; the latter was in the war of 1812. They were both farmers. Henry grew to manhood on a farm and was educated in the common schools. At the age of eighteen years he commenced as a clerk in the general merchandise establishment at Sagerstown, Pennsylvania, which he followed for two years. Tiring of the employment, he concluded to go west, and, consistent with his conclusions, he left the scenes of his early days and went to Dubuque county, Iowa, where he worked on a farm for a year. In May, 1855, he came to Winona county and entered a claim in Sec. 17, Saratoga township, which he improved and on which he still lives. December 29, 1857, he married Miss Jane R., daughter of Henry and Mary (Bisbee) Ingalls, early settlers of the vicinity. They are the parents of four children: George H., born September 25, 1858; Clara A., born November 9, 1860, died May 15, 1863; Edward H., born October 17, 1868, and Alice R., born July 20, 1879. Mrs. Straw is a native of Erie county, New York, being born there March 1, 1841. Mr. Straw is a member of No. 46 lodge of Masons (Evergreen) at Troy, Minnesota. He is a democrat in politics, and was for a number of years supervisor of his township.

H. D. MORSE, real estate and loan agent, 39 East Second street, is a native of Vermont; took his preparatory course at Bakersfield, in his native state, but was obliged to intermit study on account of his eyesight, and instead of completing a collegiate course as intended engaged in business. He came to Winona in May, 1855, and has been engaged in financial operations ever since. He was a heavy dealer in grain in this market from 1858 to 1864. He is a large owner of farming property in this and adjoining counties, his largest operations being in Olmstead county, where he is running a model stock farm. Mr. Morse is married, has one daughter attending the State Normal in this city and one son at Shattuck's School, Faribault, in this state. He is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., and also of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M. The family are connected with the Episcopal parish of this city.

JOHN WONDER, florist, was born in Holstein, Germany, in 1832. Bred a florist in his native country, he came to America with his parents at twenty years of age, settling with his parents on a farm in Scott county, Iowa. Came to Winona August 25, 1855, and after

two years in the employ of the land office, established a market garden on the southern slope of Sugar Loaf Bluff, which he conducted in person until 1867, and an interest in which he still retains, though the active management is in the hands of his brother-in-law, C. F. Rohweter. In 1866 Mr. Wonder purchased three-and-one-half lots on Kansas street and commenced business as a florist. His greenhouses and hotbeds have been enlarged from year to year until he has now three thousand and five hundred square feet under glass, and over three thousand square feet of hotbeds. Mr. Wonder has just completed his arrangements for heating the greenhouses with hot-water pipes, and has already in place seven hundred feet of four-inch pipe, his boilers having an additional capacity of three hundred feet. He is married and a member of Oak Grove Lodge, No. 15, A. O. D.

SAMUEL FOX, dealer in clothing and furniture goods, No. 22-24 East Second street. This business was established September 7, 1855, on Johnson street between Second and Third, where the Commercial Hotel now stands, and was at that time the only clothing house in the city. Four years later business was removed to Centre street, between Second and Front, and shortly afterward to the present location, where the stock was destroyed in the great fire of 1862, loss about \$5,000. Immediately after the fire Mr. Fox erected his present building, of which possession was taken in 1863, although he himself did not occupy it until 1871. During these years, from 1863 to 1871, the premises were successively occupied by Charles Benson, drugs; Cushing & Cummings, boots and shoes; and Jackson & Potter, grocers. The building is a two-story brick, with stone basement, seventy-five feet front and seventy deep. Business, which was at first principally jobbing, changing with the demands of trade and growth of the city, is now exclusively retail. Mr. Fox is a native of Russian Poland, born in 1830; came to America at sixteen years of age; was bred a clerk from his thirteenth year, and was in New York city previous to coming to this city. He is a member of the Winona board of trade and a "bachelor by profession."

WINONA COUNTY ABSTRACT OFFICE; FELLOWS, REBSTOCK & CLARKE; office in fire-proof building adjoining court-house on the east. This office is furnished with the only set of abstract books now or at any previous time prepared in this county. It comprises the old Lester & Pettibone records, which came through them to



John Ball, and through him to his partner John B. Fellows, head of the present firm. These books are a perfect transcript of the county records, and, should these latter be destroyed, could be correctly restored from the abstract office. In 1873 an index set, for the purpose of checking up book and page of original abstract, was begun by H. W. Jackson, and afterward purchased and completed by Rebstock & Clarke. This index set is now included in the books of the Winona county abstract office. It consists of three volumes: one containing list of Winona city property, one with list of all village property, and the other the lands outside city and village plots.

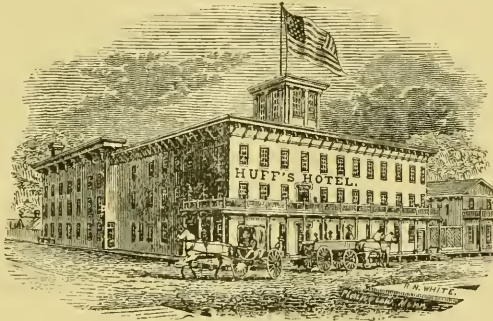
MR. J. B. FELLOWS is a native of New York, by profession a surveyor; came to Winona in 1855, remaining until 1857, when he removed to Rochester, in this state, returning to this city in 1866. During 1858-9 was in government employ in Stearns county; was county surveyor for Winona county from 1868 to 1878, and city surveyor during the same period. Since 1879 has not been in that profession. For the past two or three years has been dealing in Northern Pacific lands in the Red River country. Mr. Fellows is married and has one son attending the city high school.

LAUER & ANDING, druggists and dealers in paints and oils. Business of this house was established in May, 1877, on the north side of Third street between Market and Franklin, under the firm name of J. W. Lauer & Co. In 1881 they built their present drug house and took possession May 17 of that year. It is a two-story and basement brick, 22x70, and here they are doing a thriving business, sales to date of November 1, 1882, showing an increase of 85 per cent over corresponding period of last year. Members of firm are J. W. Lauer and C. W. Anding. J. W. Lauer was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; came to Winona with his parents in 1855, being then eighteen months old. His father, John Lauer, was a manufacturer of furniture in this city from the year of his arrival until his death, in 1861. Mr. J. W. Lauer was educated in this city and in the English-German Academy at Milwaukee. In 1867 he entered the drug house of Edward Pelzer, remaining five years; went to Milwaukee, and was for two years with a drug house in that city, then for two years more with a Rochester firm, at the expiration of which time he returned to this city and established business for himself. Mr. Lauer is a member of the Philharmonic Society of this city, and of Oak Grove Lodge, No. 15, A.O.D.

C. W. Anding, brother-in-law of J. W. Lauer, is a native of Wis-

consin; came to Lake City, Wabasha county, with his parents, when ten years of age, the family settling on a farm. At twelve years of age entered the drug house of James Crowley & Co., Wabasha, and was in their employ three years, when the firm sold out. Was engaged in farming and pursuing his studies until 1877, when he entered the drug house of Lauer & Co., and in December of the same year married Miss M. Lauer, sister of the senior member of the firm.

**HUFF HOUSE;** F. M. COCKRELL, owner and proprietor. This house stands on the corner of Johnson and Third streets, and is the oldest as well as the largest hotel in the city. The original hotel, 60×90, was built by H. D. Huff in 1855, and opened to the public on June 5 of that year, with Willis & Hawthorne as proprietors. In the fall



HUFF HOUSE.

of that same year Messrs. F. M. Cockrell and Williams bought out Mr. Willis' interest, and business was conducted under the firm name of Cockrell & Co. until 1861, when Hawthorn's interest was purchased and the house became Cockrell & Williams. The property was purchased in 1863 by the lessees, by whom it was owned until 1872, when Mr. Williams was accidentally killed and Mr. Cockrell became sole proprietor and owner. The dining-room addition was built in 1857, and the brick addition ten years later. The lots upon which the hotel stands front 120 feet on Third street, and crossing the alley in the rear give a depth of nearly 200 feet. The hotel structure, as it now stands, is 60×140 feet, three stories in height, and has comfortable accommodations for 100 guests. The billiard hall is furnished with four tables, and special provision is made for the wants of commercial travelers. The house employs a force of thirty-five servants.

Mr. Cockrell is a native of Kentucky, born in 1814, and has been engaged in hotel business for nearly half a century, having opened his first hotel in his native state in 1835. Was in hotel business in Cincinnati for some time, and came from there when he located in Winona. Mr. Cockrell is a member of the board of trade and one of the ten stockholders of the Winona Gas Light Company. He is also a Master Mason of forty-five years' standing.

CHRISTIAN DRINCHAHAN was born in Mickleburgh, Germany, in 1820, and came to this country in 1852, when he worked on a farm in Wisconsin, and afterward working on a railroad in Indiana. He went to California, where he remained three years, seeking his fortune in the gold diggings. In 1855 he came to Mount Vernon, taking up land by the river. He purchased his present farm in 1860. Mr. Drinchahan has been remarkably successful, and is one of the wealthiest citizens in the township and probably the largest landowner. He was married in 1855 to Miss Doris Flarot, and has a fine family of six children. He is an active republican and a Lutheran in religious opinions. There are few other settlers in the township that so thoroughly enjoy the respect and esteem of the citizens generally as does Mr. Drinchahan.

JAMES MONTGOMERY is of Irish descent, his father emigrating to this country in 1820. James was born at Rochester, New York, in 1830, moving west with his father's family in 1840 and settling in Illinois. During the winter months he attended district school, working on the farm in the summer. He remained with his father until 1855, when he married Mary, daughter of Isaac Pomeroy, of Illinois, and moved into Mount Vernon, on the place he now resides. Mr. Montgomery experienced all the vicissitudes and hardships of a first settler, and was often brought into rather disagreeable contact with the redskins. On one occasion, during the absence of himself and wife, they completely cleaned his shanty out, leaving them nothing but the clothes they stood in. He has two sons, James and John, who assist him in the care of the farm.

NICK BARTHOLME was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1824, emigrating to this country in 1849, visiting the states of Missouri and Illinois before finally settling in Minneiska in 1855, when he landed on the island opposite where the village now stands. Mr. Bartholme suffered every privation incident to first settlement. One year, owing to malarial affection, was only enabled to earn \$21, and that was by cutting twenty-one cords of wood, and he had to support

himself and family on that a whole winter. Mr. Bartholme is identified with the village of Minneiska from its first inception, engaging in every and any occupation that presented itself. He has a snug homestead in Mount Vernon, adjoining the village, and is now, and has been for many years, employed in the grain elevator of Brooks Bros. He was married in 1851 to Miss Mary Waggoner, and has a family of seven children.

ENOCH BROWN was born November 15, 1843. He does not know where, neither does he know the names of his parents or any of his family history. He was bound to a man by the name of Fenian Drake when he was very young, and came with him to Minnesota, where they landed in the fall of 1855, and settled in the township of Homer on Homer Ridge. On July 25, 1862, he enlisted in Co. A, 6th Minn. Inf., and served with his regiment in quelling the Indian outbreak in Minnesota. He then went south, in the spring of 1863, and served the term of his enlistment for three years and was discharged at Fort Snelling. He was wounded slightly in his right hand and severely in the left leg at the battle of Birch Coolie, the ball passing through one bone. He had several shots through his hat and clothing. He is now drawing half pension, and has applied for an increase, which will probably be granted, as his disability becomes greater as age advances. He was one of those honest soldiers who was always at his post of duty. In 1866 he was married to Miss Livina Downing, daughter of B. F. and Malinda Downing, by whom he had eight children: the eldest, Benjamin R., born January 27, 1867; Flora, born April 9, 1869; Fred O., born April 25, 1871, died August 2, 1872; Emma M., born August 17, 1872; Ora E., born July 22, 1874, died June 21, 1878; Warren L., born January 31, 1877; Goldie, born January 31, 1879; Clifford R. D., born December, 1880. Mr. Brown owns a small farm seven miles from the city of Winona; runs a threshing machine, and is an honest, well-meaning citizen, and a republican in politics.

CHARLES COLWELL WILLIAMS, a native of New York State, where he was born in 1830, and came west when quite a boy, his father settling in Iowa. Mr. Williams moved into Mount Vernon in 1855, purchasing the farm he now occupies. He was married to Eliza Plank in Iowa in 1854, and has two daughters.

CHARLES CLARK was born in Delaware county, New York, August 15, 1838, and received a limited common school education. His father moved to Wisconsin, and kept a dairy for several years, and



then to Pleasant Hill, Minnesota, in 1855, and bought out the claim of Hosea Raymond, and moved into the claim shanty 12×16 feet, without roof, floor, door or window. Here he lived with his widowed daughter and her three children (making a family of nineteen souls) from September 1 till November 1. While in this crowded and exposed condition no less than nine of the family had the ague at one time. Charles Clark was married to Eliza Johnson in 1861, and the next year he worked his father's farm, and in the early winter he moved to the city of Winona and followed teaming through the winter. In the spring he moved on eighty acres north of his father's and went to farming. He has cleared and improved his farm until at present (1882) there only remains four or five acres of unredeemed land upon his eighty. Mr. Clark has suffered considerable loss in stock; having lost seven or eight head of horses at different times, some of them valued at \$200 to \$300. He has a family of six children: the eldest, Olive M. is married to the only son of Samuel W. Spalding. The rest are with their parents in the enjoyment of peace and plenty.

CHARLES GERRISH, president of the St. Charles board of trade, is one of the old settlers of Saratoga township, where he was engaged in farming for over twenty years previous to his removal to St. Charles in 1876. Mr. Gerrish is a native of Canterbury, New Hampshire, and was engaged in farming there from his youth until the fall of 1854, when he came west; spent the winter of 1854-5 in New Buffalo, Michigan, and the following spring removed to Minnesota. June 19, 1855, he purchased the Whipple claim, N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 9, Saratoga township, and took up his residence there with his family, consisting of a wife and two children. In February, 1876, this farm was sold to its present occupant, J. D. Ball, and Mr. Gerrish removed to this city. Mr. Gerrish was prominently identified with all the early history of Saratoga township. The first school taught in that township, as also the first election ever held in that precinct, was held at his house. He was a delegate to the district convention assembled at Wabasha in 1857 to nominate candidates for the constitutional convention, was there put in nomination, and was afterward elected and served as a member of the constitutional convention; assembled at St. Paul that same year, 1857, to frame a state constitution. During the war period was township treasurer, the only township office ever held by him. He is at present a member of the city board of education, and on the

organization of the St. Charles board of trade was made its chairman. Mr. Gerrish is married and has three children, two of them born in New Hampshire, one in Saratoga. Two of the children are married and settled in the county, one resides at home.

S. A. JOHNSON & Co., dealer in shelf and heavy hardware, stoves and tinware, and jobbers in tin and sheet iron, North End, White-water street. This business was established in 1866 by Marshall Giddings, and at his death passed into the hands of Charles Wells, by whom it was sold to the present proprietor in 1877. At this latter date business was carried on in a storeroom across the street, and so continued until the erection of the present commodious brick in 1880. This building erected jointly by Messrs. Johnson & Co., and Gates and Wardner, and the masonic lodges of St. Charles is a substantial two-story brick, stone basement, fronting 54 feet on White-water street, and having a depth of 80 feet, the whole costing about \$7,000. The staircases, being exterior to the building, gives a clear front of 25 feet to each of the storerooms. Johnson & Co. have their warerooms and tinshop in the rear; carry a heavy stock of goods, employ four persons, and their books show an increased trade for the season of 1882 of 20 per cent in excess of the trade of previous year. The present members of the firm are S. A. Johnson and E. C. Johnson. S. A. Johnson is a native of Massachusetts, and previous to coming to Winona county, in 1855, was in the boot and shoe trade in the east. Locating in St. Charles township Mr. Johnson took his claim on Sec. 7 and farmed it there seventeen years before removing to the city. Has not been engaged in business here until he purchased his hardware stock, as before mentioned. Since coming here has been for several terms a member of the city government. His masonic record is good, and he is an approved member of both chapter and blue lodge. Mr. Johnson is married and has five children, all grown up.

## CHAPTER LV.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### PIONEERS—CONTINUED.

SAMUEL S. BEMAN (deceased).—The subject of this sketch was a son of Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D.D., who was forty years pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Troy, New York. The son was born just before the removal to Troy, at Mount Zion, Hancock county, Georgia, March 11, 1822. He studied law with David L. Seymour at Troy, and removed in 1843 to Alabama, where he engaged in practice in partnership with his brother, William L. Yancy. In 1846 he was a whig candidate for congress, in a district having 6,000 democratic majority, and was beaten by only thirty votes. He returned to New York in 1850, and was elected to the legislature two years later. Mr. Beman came to Minnesota in 1855 and settled on a farm in Saratoga township, this county; in 1864 he removed to St. Charles, where he continued to reside till his death, which occurred May 9, 1882. At this time he was a member of the state senate, in which he had previously served several terms. He was a member of the first state legislature, elected in 1857. During the latter year he married Caroline W., daughter of the late Ebenezer Whiton, of Elyria, Ohio. The family of the deceased includes three children. The eldest, Nathan, was born February 22, 1859, and is now living at Deming, New Mexico; Louisa, July 10, 1860, married J. D. Marston, and resides in Chicago, Illinois; Kate, March 9, 1865, is now a student at the state normal school in Winona. Mrs. Beman at present resides in St. Charles. At the age of seven years, Mr. Beman's spine was injured by a fall from a horse, and on account of this injury, combined with an attack of typhoid fever, his body was stunted and deformed, but his intellect continued to grow, and his was recognized as a master mind. His command of language was something remarkable. On his death, the bar of Winona county and the city council of St. Charles passed resolutions of respect to his memory and condolence with his family, and his funeral was largely attended by the bar of Olmsted county.

LEWIS SKIDMORE, farmer, son of John and Ruth Skidmore, was

born in Schoharie county, New York, in 1830, and there attended school till seventeen years of age, living with his father (his mother having died about 1853) till 1855, when he visited Whitewater and purchased eighty acres of good farm land in Sec. 35, T. 108, R. 10, and in the fall of same year (1855) returned east. In November, 1848, our subject married Miss Nancy E. More, daughter of T. More, of Schoharie county, New York, and by this marriage has had nine children, born as follows: Melvin H., born March 31, 1850, now (1883) living in Dakota; Cyremus A., born August 23, 1851, married in 1875 Jennie Sylvester, of Wabasha county, Minnesota, is also living in Dakota; John W., born March 4, 1853, married Maud Murdock, 1881; Elinor, born June 25, 1855, married in 1874 G. Mortimer Stoning, of Whitewater, Minnesota. All of above children were born in the State of New York, the rest being born in Whitewater: Franklin, born May 1, 1858, died May 29, 1863; Susan E., born October 9, 1860; Edward W., October 7, 1866; Mary E., May 11, 1870; Stella, October 31, 1873. In the spring of 1856 our subject returned with his family to Whitewater, and lived in a log cabin which was standing on the land bought the year before, John and Dave Cook having built it. During the month of April, 1858, our subject built the frame house which he now occupies. From 1868 till 1881 our subject held the office of town assessor, and for a number of years has been justice of the peace. In 1863, feeling that the country needed the services of every able man, our subject left his wife and family and enlisted in the 2d reg. Minn. Vol. Cav., Co. L., with which regiment he served three years, being mustered out in 1866. In the fall of 1880 was elected county commissioner, which office he still (1883) holds. Is a Mason, being a member of Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, of Plainview, Minnesota. Always votes the republican ticket. Has liberal views on religious subjects, and is connected with no church, but is much respected by all who know him.

HON. DAVID McCARTY, farmer, son of Seth L. and Rebecca (McCausland) McCarty, both born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, and married in 1833, by which marriage he had ten children: five boys and five girls. David McCarty, subject of our present sketch, was born in 1836, in Whitechurch, Ontario, Canada. In 1838 moved with parents to Port Huron, where he attended school until 1851, when moved to Stephenson county, Illinois, where he remained one year and again moved, this time to Winnebago county,



Illinois, and in the spring of 1855 moved to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and in the fall of same year to the town of Plainview. In the latter part of 1859 married Miss Cynthia C. Smith. In 1862 moved to the town of Whitewater, where he purchased his present farm of about 200 acres, situated in the extreme northwest of the town of Whitewater. Our subject has been four times elected supervisor. Was elected member of the state legislature in 1878. In politics he is a democrat, in religion a Freethinker. Is a Knight Templar and member of the Home Commandery, No. 5, Rochester, and member of Plainview Chapter and Illustrious Lodge, of Plainview. Joined the masonic order in 1865, at Oxford county, Maine, while visiting some friends. Mrs. Cynthia C. (Smith) McCarty is also a Mason, being a member of Eastern Star Lodge, of Plainview. Is also a Freethinker in religion.

PLINY PUTNAM, farmer, born in Vermont, November, 1801, and married in New York in 1823 to Flora Edgerton. She was born July 15, 1806, and died April 6, 1876. By this marriage he had eight children, as follows: Orilla, born October 14, 1824, died October 3, 1826; Daniel Simphronius, born September 20, 1827; Alvers Zebina, born October 1, 1829; Florilla, born September 13, 1831; Alonzo Davis, born September 7, 1834; Isaac Edgerton, born September 7, 1837, died February 6, 1877; Charles, born October 17, 1842; Worthy Adelbert, born May 26, 1845. Our subject moved to New York about 1822, where he remained till 1855, when he moved to Cook county, Illinois, and the same year moved to Whitewater valley, Minnesota, where he pre-empted 160 acres of land, and in 1856 built the frame house now (1883) occupied by his son Charles, in which he lived till his death in 1881. Was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

ALONZO D. PUTNAM, farmer, son of Pliny and Flora (Edgerton) Putnam, moved to Rolling Stone valley in 1854, and during the winter of same year assisted in laying out the village of Stockton. In spring of 1855 moved to Whitewater, where he purchased a claim of 160 acres from A. S. Hopson, and pre-empted it. The land is situated in Sec. 10 and 11, T. 108, R. 10. Our subject was born in Oswego county, New York, in the year 1834, and in 1865 married Miss Sarah J. Ford. In 1862, answering the call of his country, he joined Co. C, 10th Minn. Inf., and was chosen corporal. In December, 1863, had to return home to recruit his strength, and in the spring of 1864 again joined his company, but in the fall of same

year was discharged for inability induced by exposure during illness. In 1879 he built the house now occupied by himself and wife. Has three times been elected chairman of the board of supervisors for the town of Whitewater; has also been elected treasurer. Is a republican; in religion a close communion Baptist. Mrs. Sarah J. (Ford) Putnam, wife of our present subject, was born in the town of Poultney, Vermont, in the year 1835. In 1864 moved to Whitewater, where she married as before mentioned; is also a close communion Baptist.

ANDREW JACKSON McRAY, farmer, son of Orsemous McRay, was born in McKean county, Pennsylvania, in 1836, where for a few years attended school, and in 1843 moved with his father to Dane county, Wisconsin, where in 1852 his father died. In 1855 our subject moved to Minnesota and speculated in cord wood, selling to the steamboats. In 1861 bought a farm containing 110 acres in the valley of the Whitewater, and has subsequently added to this 230 acres, making in all 340 acres. In 1866 married Charlotte Crump, born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin. Has had by this marriage ten children, born as follows: Hattie, born February 7, 1867; Ella, born 1869, died 1870; Jane, born 1871, died 1872; Charles and Andrew (twins), born 1873, Charles died August, 1873; Frank, born 1875; Clarence, born December 13, 1877; Ellen, born 1878; Harry, born 1880; baby, born January 6, 1882. Has been three times elected town assessor; always has and always will vote the republican ticket. Is a Freethinker on religious subjects, as is also his wife, Mrs. Charlotte (Crump) McRay.

JOHN HAM, farmer, S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21 and N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 28, township of St. Charles. This claim was located in the fall of 1855, proved up the same season, became the family residence and has so continued since that date, a period of over twenty-seven years. The first house built by Mr. Ham on this property was nearly in the center of the claim, a log house still standing, built the same season he pre-empted, 1855. This house was abandoned for a small frame one built in 1862 now doing duty as a granary, and which ceased to be occupied as a dwelling in 1868 when the present commodious farm-house was erected. The original claim has been added to by purchase from time to time until the farm now includes 353 acres, part prairie and part bottom land. This latter is a sandy loam, a warm quick soil, well adapted for the growth of corn in so high a latitude as this. Mr. Ham's farming

operations include both grain and stock raising. His average crop per acre for season of 1882 was: wheat,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  bushels; barley, 40 bushels; oats, 45 bushels; corn, 40 bushels; timothy-seed, 7 bushels; the stock upon the farm numbers: horses, 12 head; cattle, 16 head; hogs, 28 head. Mr. Ham is a native of Somersetshire, England, from which country he emigrated to America in 1850, settling in Iowa in the western part of Dubuque county, where he remained until coming to his present location as before said in the fall of 1855. July 12, 1853, he married Miss Sarah Talbot, of Dyersville, Dubuque county, Iowa. They have five children, all born in Winona county on the old homestead and all still living at home, the eldest, Alva George, born July 19, 1857, is among the early natives of St. Charles township. Shortly after coming to the county Mr. Ham was present and assisted at the raising of the old Stockton mill in company with a man then of Gilmore valley, and with whom Mr. Ham stopped over night in coming to his claim with his family.

LEWIS B. FERRIN, farmer, is a son of Aaron and Phœbe Ferrin, who removed from New York in early life to Hebron, New Hampshire, where the subject of this sketch was born February 2, 1820; he was the youngest of twelve children, all of whom have passed away but two. Aaron Ferrin was a farmer, and gave his children such educational advantages as the common schools of their native town afforded. That the youngest made good use of his limited opportunities is evinced by his general intelligence and position in the business and social community. On reaching maturity he engaged in farming on his own account. He was married February 28, 1841, to Margaret D. Brown, whose parents were Deliverance and Mary Brown, all of New Hampshire birth. In 1855 Mr. Ferrin emigrated to the New West, landing in Winona with his family on June 10. He purchased a claim in the town of Warren, this county, and at once proceeded to open up a farm. In 1860 he built a hotel on his farm to accommodate the large travel then passing his door. For six years he continued to entertain man and beast, and then sold farm and all to the present occupant, Duncan McDougald. After visiting his childhood's home Mr. Ferrin took up his residence in Mankato, but one year's life away from the farm tired him of town life, and he came to St. Charles and purchased his present home on Sec. 18. This was the first land entered in the township, being taken up by L. H. Springer, founder of the city of

St. Charles. The estate now embraces 117 acres of farm land and two blocks (five and one-half acres) in the city. It has been highly improved by the present owner, who erected large and convenient buildings and has the ground under a high state of cultivation. Although now sixty-three years of age, Mr. Ferrin plowed eighty acres of land in the fall of 1882, his own age and that of the team employed made a sum of a hundred and fifteen years. His present farm is the third on which he has erected buildings and made all improvements. Mr. Ferrin was formerly a democrat, but now espouses the principles of the greenback party; he was a member of the board of supervisors in Warren for several years, being chairman a portion of the time. Since his residence here he has been a member of the St. Charles city council. In religion he is a liberal.

HATSEL BREWER, farmer, was one of Winona county's pioneers. He was born in Royalton, Windsor county, Vermont, in 1802. He married Polly Bloss, who was born in the same year in the same locality. (Their fathers were pioneers in Vermont, having removed from Connecticut.) He was one of the pioneer farmers at Watertown, Wisconsin, where he settled in 1846. His eight children settled about him there, and three sons came to Minnesota with him. He located in St. Charles in 1855, and remained here till his death, which occurred April 9, 1874. Mrs. Brewer survived her husband several years, passing away May 11, 1881. Mr. Brewer bought a farm one mile south of Dover, which he tilled for many years. He was a charter member of the St. Charles Congregational church, and served the town as justice of the peace.

IRA CARLOS BREWER, farmer, is a son of the above; he was born in Tunbridge, Orange county, Vermont, December 16, 1832. He received the training of an American farm lad, assisting in the labors of his parents and attending the district school. His father's removal to Wisconsin occurred when he was thirteen years old, and he attended a select school at Watertown a short time. He came to St. Charles in 1857 and bought his brother's claim to 160 acres of government land on Secs. 13 and 24 in the township of Eyota, Olmsted county, which he still owns, and to which he has since added fifty-four acres by purchase. He continued to reside in this city; since 1866 his residence has been on Sec. 18, where he owns eighty acres, at that time purchased in partnership with his father; this lies within the city. On December 26, 1867, he married Lizzie Evans, who was born in Utica, New York. (Mrs. Brewer's father,



Daniel Evans, was also an early settler in St. Charles. He was born in Wales in 1813. He married Sarah James and came to America at twenty-one years of age, settling in Utica, New York, where he pursued his trade, that of tailor. He removed to Winona in 1856, and to St. Charles in 1860. While here he owned a farm in Dover which he tilled. He removed to Lansing in 1866, and subsequently to Faribault, where he taught tailoring in the State Mute Asylum. Mr. and Mrs. Evans were charter members of the Congregational church societies at Winona, St. Charles and Lansing; Mr. Evans was a deacon in all of them, and also at Faribault. Both died at Faribault. From 1870 to 1875 Mr. Brewer kept a flour and feed store in St. Charles. During the last three years he has manufactured 3,000 gallons of amber cane syrup. He enlisted in November, 1863, in Co. A, 2d Minn. Cav., and served under Gen. Sully in the campaigns against the Indians on the frontier until April, 1866. Mr. Brewer is a member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. and A. M.; is also clerk of the Congregational society at St. Charles, of which he has been a member nearly ever since its organization. Two children have been given to him, as follows: Bertha E., born May 9, 1870, and Carlos W., born December 30, 1882.

ROBERT CROOKS, farmer, son of an Irish linen weaver, was born in County Tyrone, November 16, 1817. At a very early age he began to assist his father in his daily labors. At twelve years old he went into the Scotch coal mines. In 1849 he emigrated to the United States. The first two years of his residence in America were spent at the coal mines of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, and the next three in the Dubuque lead region. Mr. Crooks became a resident of Minnesota in the spring of 1855, having satisfied himself of its advantages during a visit made the previous fall. He took up 160 acres of government land on Sec. 32, in the town of Elba, which he still owns. In 1871 he bought 240 acres on Sec. 28, in the same town, on which he resided three years. During the same year he bought lots in St. Charles and built a store on the corner of Whitewater and Winona streets. In 1874 he built a residence adjoining the store, on Whitewater street, and has ever since dwelt therein. He now has 720 acres of land, of which 320 are in this township, and tills a part of it himself. He was married November 5, 1855, to Agnes, relict of John King, born in Paisley, Scotland, January 25, 1825. Mr. and Mrs. Crooks were reared in the Presbyterian church, with which they have always been connected till the merging

of the Presbyterian and Congregational societies at St. Charles, the members of the former uniting with the latter. Mr. Crooks was an Odd-Fellow until his residence in Minnesota. In politics he is a republican; was a member of the town board in Elba in 1864-5. He has one child, Elmer, born July 6, 1862; his home is with his parents. Mrs. Crooks has an elder son, Alexander King, born April 22, 1848. Her daughter, Maggie King, was born August 28, 1844; she married Samuel Stebbins, of Winona; died in Dakota, November 19, 1882.

SAMUEL T. HARRIS, farmer, was born in Blagden, Somersetshire, England, September 7, 1826. He attended the common school till fifteen years old, when he was apprenticed to a joiner. In 1849 he set out for America, and landed at New York on May 1. He at once proceeded to Burlington, Wisconsin, where he pursued his trade; thence he proceeded to Dubuque county, Iowa, and built the first houses in Dyersville, that county. In 1855 he proceeded to Winona and continued his building operations in that city. He became a resident of St. Charles, being employed in building houses and in the wagon factory. In 1860, with the savings accumulated since his arrival here, he purchased sixty acres of land on Sec. 15. By various subsequent purchases he has acquired a total of 320 acres, lying on Secs. 15 and 22. In 1875 he bought his present handsome residence on Richland street, in the city of St. Charles, and has occupied it since October of that year. He was married on May 23, 1863, to Elizabeth Day, who was born in Ware, Somersetshire, August 5, 1832; she died on February 19, 1883, leaving five children to mourn her loss, with the husband and father. Their names and dates of birth are as follows: Edward Samuel, February 6, 1866; John Arthur, April 6, 1867; Charles Henry, May 31, 1868; Hester H., January 18, 1871; Thomas, March 9, 1873. Mrs. Harris was a Congregationalist in religious faith; Mr. Harris was reared an Episcopalian, and still adheres to the faith of his fathers. He is a democrat in politics. He has attained success in life by industry and perseverance. His life has been a quiet one, and when it is done all will say, "a good citizen is gone."

JOB THORNTON, farmer, is a grandson of James Thornton, a native of Vermont, who served the colonies as a soldier during the war of the revolution, and is a pioneer in Winona county's development. Stutley, son of James Thornton, was born in Vermont and married Elizabeth Stitt, a Canadian descended from Irish and Dutch

parents. This couple settled on a farm in Oakland, Oakland county, Michigan, where the subject of this sketch was born April 14, 1829. He was sent to the common school till about fifteen years old. His father having died, at this time he was forced to shift for himself, and went to La Salle county, Illinois, where he engaged in brick-making till twenty-two years old; he then went to California, where he followed the same occupation five years. In 1855 he came to Minnesota and took up a quarter-section of land in the township of Hart, this county. This he afterward sold and bought 200 acres on Sec. 10 in that township, which he still owns. He was married on November 22, 1857, to Nancy, daughter of George Bissett, of Scotland; her mother was formerly Elizabeth Bullis, of Vermont. Mrs. Thornton was born in Bytown, Connecticut, December 26, 1833. Mr. Thornton is an atheist; he has taken an active interest in schools all his life, and has been instrumental in securing and fostering good schools in his own community. During his residence in Hart he was made chairman of the town board for several years, and also town treasurer for a long time. In October, 1877, he purchased 230 acres of land on Sec. 10, in St. Charles, and has lived thereon since December of the following year. His property has all been earned since his arrival in the state, by industry and steady application to his own business. He has never sued or been sued, but has suffered loss in some cases rather than pursue a debtor with the law. His children number three. The eldest, Lee, was born August 16, 1858, and is now in St. Paul; George, born August 9, 1859, married Margaret Simons, and has one child, Mabel, born February 3, 1883,—resides with his father; Susan, born June 23, 1864.

JOHN HOLLAND, retired farmer, was born in Ulceby, Lincolnshire, England, April 30, 1821. His father was a farmer, and the son assisted some in his labors, attending school during the winter till ten years old. At eight years of age he worked all summer in a brickyard. He came to this country in 1851, landing in New York April 28, and at once proceeded to Illinois, where he was employed as overseer of railroad construction, and subsequently in the coal mines. In 1855 he came to Winona and took up a claim near that city. He also engaged in brickmaking, and also took a contract for work on the Stockton and Winona wagon road. His brickmaking enterprise having failed, after exhausting his capital Mr. Holland returned to Illinois to recuperate his broken financial resources. In

January, 1860, he met with a terrible experience in a coal mine near Alton, being precipitated sixty-six feet down a shaft by the breaking of a rope. Both of his legs were broken and his nervous system received a shock from which it has never fully recovered; the effects become more annoying as age approaches. He was confined to his bed over six months, and could do no work at all for a year. He came to Minnesota the second time on crutches, and without any money. For the first day's work he received ten cents. By perseverance and prudence he has accumulated his present handsome property. In 1863 he bought forty acres of land in Quincy, Olmsted county; this he afterward sold. He now has 160 acres on Sec. 24 of that township, and twenty acres of timber in Elba. In October, 1879, his health having failed so as to prevent his laboring on the farm, he removed to St. Charles. He bought his present handsome brick residence at the head of Church street, with two lots, in 1882. Mr. Holland took a life partner August 8, 1865, in the person of Mary H. Densmore, who was born in Hancock, Addison county, Vermont, August 3, 1833. They have one son, Edward M., born September 21, 1866. Mr. Holland has no religious views; Mrs. Holland is a Freewill Baptist. In national and state issues, Mr. Holland has always supported the republican party.

DAVID HARRIS, farmer, was born in Buckinghamshire, England, December 16, 1835. His education was furnished by the farm and the common school. At seventeen years of age he crossed the Atlantic, and spent four years at Eaton, Madison county, New York, as a laborer. He came to Minnesota in April, 1856, and bought 160 acres of land on Sec. 23, in the township of Elba. The next fall he returned to New York, and was married there on April 4, 1857, to Sarah A. Firth, who was born in Leeds, England, July 14, 1837. Mr. Harris returned at once to Minnesota with his bride, who was his faithful companion till death took her away, January 31, 1880. She had been in poor health for many years, but remained cheerful under the consolation of the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. Beside her husband, there were left to mourn her one daughter, Mary E., born February 1, 1858, who married Thomas Selleck, and resides at St. Charles; also an adopted son, George Harris, born August 25, 1867. Shortly after returning to Minnesota Mr. Harris sold his land and pre-empted forty acres on Sec. 2, town of St. Charles, on which he has ever since continued to reside; at the same time he purchased adjoining land, and now has 131 acres, constitut-



ing an excellent farm. His residence is built of brick and surrounded by shrubbery and tasteful farm belongings. From his door-yard a fine view of the surrounding country for many miles can be had on a clear day. On March 5, 1883, Mr. Harris was married to Mary J. Cater, born at Walden, in Lincolnshire, England, January 4, 1830. Mr. Harris is a member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and is a republican. He was reared in the Episcopal church, with which he still sympathizes in belief, and of which organization his wife is a member. His house has always been open to the traveler, and none were ever turned away tired or hungry.

JOHN HANLEY is the sixth child of Thomas and Mary Hanley, and was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, November 25, 1836. He was educated in the common schools of that state and came with his father to Minnesota in 1855, and settled in the township of Homer. On January 10, 1861, he married Miss Rose Hogan, fifth child of James H. and Catherine Hogan, by whom he has had six children: James Francis, born October 23, 1861; Willie Norman, born June 1, 1867; John Eddie, born November 16, 1870; Thomas Eugene, born October 15, 1874; Joseph Earnest, born August 5, 1876; Mable Rose, born January 11, 1879. The last and only girl was born on the eighteenth anniversary of their marriage. Mr. Hanley enlisted in Co. D, 7th Minn. Inf., and served his country honestly and faithfully during his three years' enlistment. He was first engaged in quelling the great Indian outbreak in 1862 and afterward went south where he participated in the battles of Nashville, Tupelo, Mobile and all other engagements in which his regiment fought. Mr. Hanley by his honesty and industry, has acquired a good farm on Homer ridge, seven miles from the city of Winona. He has many warm friends and a loving and devoted wife. He has held many township and school offices, and the office of county commissioner. He is a democrat in politics and a Catholic in religion. Mr. Hanley was one of the early pioneers who helped organize the town and has done much toward the development of his own town and also the county at large. Rose Hanley, his wife, the fifth child of James H. and Catherine Hogan, was born in Bristol, Connecticut, September 18, 1844, and removed with her father to Iowa, in 1853, and to Minnesota in 1857, and settled in Pickwick, Homer township. Mrs. Hanley was educated in a common school and is a Catholic in religion, and a loving and devoted wife and mother.

JOSEPH S. PRESTON, son of Joseph and Nabby Preston, was born

in Oneida county, New York, July 30, 1825. His mother's name before her marriage being Nabby Colbourne. Mr. Joseph S. Preston came to Wisconsin in 1836. He was married November 4, 1837, to Miss Mercy A. Way, and started for Minnesota in 1855, and settled in the town of Pleasant Hill, and from there proceeded to the town of Homer in the year 1874. Mr. Preston was educated in the common schools. He was in the construction corps during the war, and is now living with his second wife; his first, Mercy A., died November 22, 1874, and he married his second, Elizabeth Langley, in 1875. Mr. Preston has held several of the town offices. By his first wife he had four children, Josephine, Eliza Jane, the third dying young, the fourth, Annie. Mr. Preston owns a beautiful farm in Pleasant valley. He is a farmer by profession and democrat in politics.

WILLIAM E. WALKER, farmer, N.E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 17, R. 10, township of Saratoga. This farm is part of the original claim, bought by James Walker (father of William E.) and pre-empted by him in 1855. William E. Walker was born in Brandywine, Delaware, and came into Winona county with his father's family when he was eight years of age. He remained at work on the home farm, receiving such educational advantages also as the county schools afforded, until he was sixteen years of age, when he enlisted as a recruit in Co. K, 9th reg., Minn. Inf., mustered into the military service of the United States at Fort Snelling, February 27, 1864, and the following month joined his company at Rolla, Missouri. In May was ordered to St. Louis, Missouri, and participated in the battle of Guntown, Mississippi, fought June 15, 1864. Three days later he was captured, with about three hundred men of the 9th regiment, thirty-two of them being members of his own company (K). He was taken to Andersonville prison-pen on the 20th of that month, confined there until September 13, 1864, when he was removed to Florence, South Carolina, in which stockade he was confined until November 28, 1864, when he was paroled and sent north to Annapolis hospital, Maryland. There he remained until December 15, of that year, when he was sent north on furlough, being disabled. His furlough was extended from time to time, he being still unfit for service, until April 4, 1865, when he returned to the South, joining his regiment May 20, at Marion, Alabama, having been detained in camp at Benton barracks, St. Louis. He returned north at the close of the war and was mustered out of service at Fort Snelling

August 20, 1865. Of the thirty-two members of his company captured with him, all of whom were able-bodied men, only eleven survived the starvation policy of the inhuman confederacy. Returning to his home in Saratoga township, young Walker remained there until January 3, 1878, when he married Miss L. Draper, of Saratoga, Winona county, and two years later removed to the farm he now cultivates. They have two children. Since his confinement in Andersonville stockade, though then but sixteen years of age, Mr. Walker has not grown a hairsbreadth in height or increased a pound in weight, and will never recover the effects of the barbarous treatment there endured. He is turning his attention to stock and dairying rather than grain growing. His 1882 crops averaged, per acre—wheat, 12 bushels; barley, 44 bushels; oats, 50 bushels; corn, 50 bushels.

The subject of this sketch, MARK CAMPBELL, the son of Mark and Elizabeth Campbell, was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, April 25, 1833. His father was in the war of 1812. He died in 1870. His business was that of a tanner and farmer, to which the younger Mark was brought up, and received his education in the common schools. He came west at the age of twenty-two and settled in Olmsted county. He was married June 9, 1862, to Miss Anna Hackett, daughter of Daniel D. and Mary E. (Morely) Hackett. She is a native of Massachusetts. They are the parents of five children: William Mark, born June 6, 1863; George, born August 6, 1865; Sidney, born March 3, 1867; Alice May, born December 3, 1876; Freddie, born January 6, 1878. For some years after coming here Mr. Campbell teamed between Winona, Chatfield and other places when he was not engaged in farming. In the autumn of 1863 he bought the stock of goods belonging to H. E. Broughten, of Troy, and was at the same time made postmaster at Troy by President Lincoln, a place which he still holds. This business was in connection with one Rice. When Lincoln was assassinated Rice made some unnecessary and impolitic remarks about it, and Mr. Campbell requested him to buy or sell. He sold. The business was continued until 1873 when he closed out his stock, rented the store and went to farming. He now owns a splendid farm of 800 acres. In 1881 he re-opened a store at Troy and has his son William in charge of the business. He is a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 46, of Masons, at Troy, and is a republican in politics. He and his wife are members of the church of United Brethren in Christ.

During the harvest of 1882 Mr. Campbell threshed upward of 7,000 bushels of grain, which was raised on his farm.

JAMES WALKER (deceased), one of the pioneers of the county and one of the best and purest of its departed citizens, was born in County Armagh, Ireland, near Port Morris, May 3, 1810. His parents, Robert and Ann Walker, were farmers. Here James grew to manhood, passing his early days among the sturdy yeomanry of the vicinity. At an early age he went to the trade of a woolen weaver. Tiring of the meniality of an Irish mill-hand in 1832 he came to America, where brains and muscle have more to do in shaping the destinies of men than does their birthright. He stopped first at Philadelphia, where he was superintendent of a woolen factory. Here he met and won Rebecca Anderson. They were married October 20, 1837. Rebecca (Anderson) Walker was born in the town of Borrah, County Tyrone, Ireland, August 3, 1822. Her parents were Wm. and Elizabeth Anderson; her father was a merchant of Borrah, and subsequent to his death in 1836 Rebecca, in company with her sisters and other relatives, came to America. They remained in Philadelphia until the spring following their marriage, when they went to Valley Forge on the Brandywine, where Mr. Walker superintended the manufactories of Col. Waters. In a short time the colonel went into bankruptcy, and Mr. Walker went to Norristown, but only remained here for a little while when he returned to Philadelphia. From here he went to Wilmington, Delaware, where he superintended woolen and cotton manufactories and kept store for ten years. His health becoming bad in 1850 he sold out and went to Dubuque county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm. He remained here for five years, when he sold out and came to Winona county. He bought out the claimants to half of Sec. 17 in Saratoga township for \$600. At the time of his death, on July 14, 1882, he owned a fine farm of 400 acres. At one time Mr. Walker was a member of the Congregational church. He was a republican in politics, and was for some time justice of the peace for Saratoga. He sent two of his sons, Wm. and James, to the war. Mr. and Mrs. Walker had born to them ten children: Robert, born December 28, 1838; Eliza Ann, born September 25, 1840; Willie, born August 15, 1843, died July 20, 1844; James, born May 24, 1845; William, born September 6, 1847; Rebecca Jane, born November 29, 1849, died September 10, 1855; Henry C., born June 25, 1852; Rachel E., born August 6, 1854; Jane Inez, born No-



vember 4, 1856; and Albert T., born February 21, 1859. Although Mr. Walker never attended school a day in his life, he was, through assiduous application in leisure hours, a well informed man.

JOHN E. BALCH, son of Andrew Balch, was born in Westmoreland county, New Hampshire, April 27, 1833. He was educated in a common school and emigrated to Minnesota in the year 1855 at the age of twenty-two years, and first settled in the town of Warren. He was married September 15, 1859, to Miss Lydia M. Reynolds. Removed from the town of Warren to Dodge county in 1861, and back to the county of Winona in 1869, and settled in the town of Wilson, where he now resides. John E. Balch's father and mother were married in New Hampshire, his mother's maiden name being Louisa Fuller. His mother's grandfather came from England and was a noted physician. Mr. Balch has been twice married; his first wife Lydia died January 1, 1859. In July, 1859, he married a Miss Margaret Wagner, his present wife. Mr. Balch has had eight children born to him, four boys and four girls. Has held several town offices. Is a practical farmer and an independent democrat in politics.

LAUREN THOMAS comes of an old and honorable family. His great-grandfather, Amos Thomas, commanded the forces who repulsed the traitor Arnold, after the burning of New London, Connecticut. His grandfather, Amos Thomas, was a captain in the revolution and war of 1812. His father, Rufus Thomas, was born November 13, 1776; he was a captain in the war of 1812. Lauren Thomas, our principal subject, was born in Herkimer county, New York, February 24, 1820. He was raised on a farm and received a common school education. In 1835, with his parents, came west, settling at Chicago July 9, where they lived until 1855, when they came to this county. With them they brought 105 head of cattle. He soon went into the mercantile business at Upper Witoka, then called Centerville, and followed it until 1861, when he sold out and went into a general mercantile business at Rushville, which was not successful. In 1867 he went into the general merchandise at Witoka, which he closed out in 1876, since which time he has been engaged in farming and hotel-keeping. At the time he lived in Centerville, now Witoka, he kept a hotel at which he could entertain a hundred men and beasts. Mr. Thomas was the first postmaster at Witoka, and the first justice of the peace of his township. He was married September 1, 1844, to Margaret Dennison, of Herkimer,

New York, daughter of George and Lucy Dennison, who was born February 2, 1821. This union has been blessed with three children : George Thomas, born in July, 1849 ; Amanzo, born October 22, 1855 ; Emily, born May 11, 1860. Mr. Thomas is a republican in politics.

HENRY A. YOUNG, farmer, was born in Lower Canada, where he resided with his parents, working on the farm and attending district school until his twelfth year, when his father purchased a claim in Whitewater township, and removed there in the spring of 1855. Henry remained working with his father until 1864, when he joined Co. H of the 11th Minn. regt., at Fort Snelling. He remained with his regiment doing patrol and railroad guard duty until their muster out of service in 1865. Henry, at the close of his military career, returned home, remaining several years, then going to Iowa for a short time, finally coming home again, when, his father dying, he, in connection with his brother, took the management of the farm. Mr. Young has prospered, and is one of the first farmers of the township. Some few years after his return from the army he married Miss Catherine Bigelow, and has a fine family of six children, all of whom are living. In religious opinion he is a Methodist, and a staunch republican in politics.

WILLIAM WOLCOTT, farmer, is an excellent example of what early training and inexorable perseverance will accomplish. Possessed of one of the best farms in the township, an extensive owner of real estate in adjoining towns, an assured competency for his declining years, respected by all who know him and beloved by his family and friends. He entered this township in 1855 with an axe on his shoulder and four dollars in his pocket,—his whole capital, four dollars and an axe. Inured to hardships from his early youth, knowing well the obstacles the early settler has to contend with, but with faith in his own abilities and a strong will power, he tackled his task and succeeded, and right well may he be proud of his success. Born in 1828 on the banks of the Ohio, of English parents, who came to this country a few years previous, and who, through a series of misfortunes, were almost reduced to abject poverty. Some three months after William's birth his mother died, and William was left to the tender mercies of an Indian squaw's care, with whom he remained until his seventh year, when his father also died, and William was adopted by a kind-hearted Kentuckian family, who were going to the western reserves in Ohio. It seemed fated

that William's good fortune was to be but of short duration, for two years afterward he was deprived of his friends' protection by death. It having been stated that he had an uncle in western Canada, some neighbors made up a small purse and paid his expenses across Lake Erie, and he was landed at a place now called Port Stanley, with a quarter of a dollar and a written card, stating he was looking for an uncle named John Wolcott. Christian people took charge of the little waif, and he remained some three years among different families in that locality. In his twelfth year, hearing that a man answering his uncle's name resided near Goderich, on the shores of Lake Huron he set out to find him. After a weary tramp of some 150 miles he arrived only to find his long-sought uncle dead. The aunt, however, took charge of the lad, he was sent to school and given all the advantages that that county, at such an early day, afforded. Here he grew up to manhood and married a country lass, Mary Whitney, who like himself was an orphan and lived out on the next farm. His aunt having died, William rented the farm where he remained until 1852 when he sold out and started west in a sailing vessel, landing at what is now Duluth. He had \$700 done up in a belt, and was robbed of it while asleep by a comrade. After undergoing many vicissitudes and hardships he settled on the White-water, and four years after sent to Canada for his bonnie bride. It would take a volume to narrate what Mr. Wolcott and his good wife suffered and went through before they had attained their present comfortable circumstances. Mr. Wolcott has a large family, four sons and three daughters, worthy branches of a worthy tree. Mr. Wolcott's views are independent in both religion and politics.

LEMUEL C. PORTER, long and favorably known as one of Winona's successful pioneer business men, and more generally known of late years at home and abroad as the head of the L. C. Porter Milling Company of Winona, is the son of Lemuel and Lucinda Porter, who removed from Connecticut early in the present century and settled in Scipio, Cayuga county, New York, where Lemuel C. was born April 14, 1823. At fifteen years of age the young man left home to begin life for himself, and entered a general merchandising house at Moravia, in his native county. In 1847, after nine years' experience as clerk and salesman, with a cash capital of \$750, Mr. Porter, then twenty-four years of age, started business as a general merchant on his own account, and successfully conducted it until the spring of 1856, when he sold out, having determined to remove

west. Leaving his native county in April of that year, accompanied by his family, he drove his team across the vast reaches that lay between the old homestead and the embryo city on the west bank of the Mississippi, which has now been his home for more than a quarter of a century. Arriving at this point in May, Mr. Porter looked the ground carefully over and on June 12, 1856, made his first investment in Winona property. This was the purchase, in connection with Wm. Garlock, of a half interest in the sawmill of Hilands & Wyckoff. The real estate of the mill property embraced a tract of land on the levee, block No. 1, Laird's addition. The valuation put upon this property, including the building, was \$7,000. The mill had been built by Luther Wyckoff the previous fall and some sawing done in the late winter and spring of 1856, but the old firm were cramped for capital, and on the arrival of Mr. Hilands from Pittsburg early in June of that year, a half interest was sold to Porter & Garlock, who soon afterward bought out Mr. Wyckoff's fourth interest, rebuilt the mill and pushed operations, having expended more in refitting than the original cost had been. Business was conducted under the name of Porter & Co. To the sawmill was added that same fall a planing-mill, adjoining the sawmill on the east, Thomas Simpson being a partner with Porter & Co. in this industry, which was sold the following year to Robbins. The whole business was run successfully until destroyed by fire in 1863. In 1858 Mr. Porter started a grocery house on Center street, to which the following year was added a stock of dry goods owned by Thomas Simpson and the business was conducted by them jointly until 1861, when they sold to Luke Blair. In 1859 the first warehouse for storing and shipping grain ever built in this city was erected by Porter & Garlock on the south side Front street, and in this they continued to do business until 1870, Mr. Porter still retaining his interest in the property. In 1863 (as will be noticed more particularly under head of Banks and Banking Institutions), the first bank of issue was established at this point, with Mr. L. C. Porter as its president, and when the following year the bank became the First National Bank of Winona, Mr. Porter retained his place as its financial head, and has so continued to date. In 1871 Mr. Porter established a flour commission house in the city, and having built up a large business successfully conducted it until 1874, when he furnished the capital for erecting a large steam flouring mill and turned his attention to milling business; with what success will



appear from the sketch of his mill and elevator which is given in connection herewith. In addition to his many Winona enterprises, Mr. Porter was successfully engaged in general merchandise and real estate at Kasson, Dodge county, Minnesota, from 1862 to 1882, at which latter date he sold out his interest there, which was appraised at \$40,000. March 4, 1852, Mr. L. C. Porter married Miss Adelea Horton, of Skaneateles, Onondaga county, New York; and the thirtieth anniversary of their wedding was celebrated by them in mid-ocean on their return from a winter's sojourn in Europe. They have three children: C. Horton Porter, vice-president of the First National Bank, of this city; Adelbert Porter, assistant manager of the mill business, and Miss Lillie Porter, now pursuing her studies in Dresden, Germany. Mr. Porter has recently been conducting some very interesting experiments to determine the quantity of gluten in various brands of wheat and the milling process best calculated to preserve the gluten from destruction. During his recent visit to the British Islands and the continent the subject was brought to the attention of prominent millers there, and the correspondence that has followed in the *Millers' Gazette* of London, England, has been of a most interesting character. Mr. Porter is emphatically a man of business, and while fully alive to all that makes for the interest of Winona, municipally as well as financially, has never burdened himself with the affairs of city government.

JOHN A. MATHEWS, real estate and loan office, No. 74 East Third street. This business was established by Mr. Mathews in 1855, in Dr. Sheardown's drug store on Front street, just opposite the old United States land office. The following year, 1856, Mr. Mathews built an office on the south side of Front street, in the rear of the lots on which R. D. Cone's hardware house now stands, and conducted business there until he was burned out in 1862. His office was then removed to the east side of Center street, between Second and First, where it was again destroyed by fire. Mr. Mathews then took up his quarters in Helbert's block, removing to the second story of E. F. Meus' block in 1871, and December 1, 1877, to his present location. Mr. Mathews is a native of New York; was bred to mercantile trade in his father's business house, and was ten years in trade at Tioga, Pennsylvania, seven of them for himself, before coming to Winona. Mr. Mathews has been mayor of the city three times, 1868-9, 1869-70, 1873-4.

HIRAM WEBSTER (deceased) was a native of New England, and

was one of the very first to take up a claim in the township of Plainview, Wabasha county, settling there about the year 1855. He subsequently removed to Whitewater, owning several farms. He had considerable dealings in real estate, buying and selling, as occasion offered, and was considered one of the best judges of farm property in Wabasha and Winona. His judgment was consulted by most new comers, and he was instrumental in settling a large number who are now the most substantial residents of the county. He was very frequently solicited to take public office, but invariably refused, giving as his reason, that no man could serve two masters satisfactorily, he would either have to neglect his own interests or those of the public, and he preferred to attend to his own. He received a liberal common school education in his native state, Vermont, and was always a warm supporter of the school system of the county. He married in 1860 Miss Mary Webster, a cousin to whom he had been warmly attached before he came west. When he had erected a home in the Far West, he returned to Vermont for his bride. But one child blessed their union, a daughter who is married to a gentleman named H. J. Cleaver, who is in business in Lake City. Mr. Webster caught a severe cold, and after a very short illness died September 26, 1876, aged fifty-seven years.

JOHN BOLE, farmer, was born in County Down, Ireland, on Christmas day, 1830. His father, Hugh Bole, was a forehanded farmer, and gave his son a better education than most of the youth of that land receive. After leaving the common school he was kept at a select school for some time. When twenty-two years old Mr. Bole emigrated to that land of promise to all oppressed people, America. After spending a short time in St. Louis he came up the Mississippi river, and landed at Winona in October, 1853. The following winter was spent in the township of St. Charles, where he erected a small cabin. In February, 1854, he made a government claim to 160 acres of land, where he has ever since made his home, on Sec. 34, in the town of Elba. By subsequent purchase he has acquired 120 acres more, and has a handsome farm, with handsome buildings and other improvements, as the result of his foresight and industry. Over 200 acres of the land is under cultivation. Mr. Bole was reared in the Presbyterian church, but was not satisfied with its teachings. He has spent considerable time and travel within a few years in investigating religious theories. He is now a Perfectionist, believing that God will come and dwell within the true

seeker on earth and make his life and being perfect. Unlike most of his countrymen in America, or his fellow townsmen, he adheres to the republican party in political issues. His intelligence and education were immediately called into use in the service of the town on its organization in 1858. He was elected assessor at that time, and filled the position for several successive terms. In 1865 he was chairman of the town board, and in 1872 was elected justice of the peace, which office he held for some time. Mr. Bole was married on the 16th of January, 1858, to Margaret Connell, who was born in Crooks, County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1835. Seven children out of twelve born to them still live to claim the parental affection of Mr. and Mrs. Bole. Their names and births are given below: Hugh, October 18, 1858, resides at Eldredge, Dakota; Mary, September 15, 1860, married Henry Cornwell, and resides near Hugh; Robert, December 29, 1862; Alexander, October 31, 1870; Maggie, April 22, 1876. John, born May 21, 1868, died October 8, 1882; and a twin brother of Hugh died in early infancy. Henry Connell, Mrs. Bole's first child, was born July 3, 1855; he married Etta Green, and is living at Clausen, Minnesota.

WILLIAM HENRY WILLIAMS, farmer, came to Winona county in 1853, and for two years lived in a tent pitched where now stands the city of Winona. During this time he assisted settlers in obtaining land and building claim shanties. In 1857 he started a stage line running between Winona and Rochester. In 1861 he married Miss Mary Sands, daughter of Joseph Sands, of Indiana, and has by this marriage six children: Abbie Lenora, born December 23, 1861; Willie H., born 1863, died the same year; Zemas E., born 1864; Lena Bell, born 1869, died 1870; Florence Josepha, born in 1876, and Jessie, born in 1879. In 1865 our subject joined the 11th Reg. Minn. Inf., and served one year. After his discharge he settled with his family in the town of Whitewater and pre-empted 80 acres of land on the Winona road, one-half mile east from Whitewater river, where he now resides. Our subject was born in 1835, in the town of Chester, New Jersey, where he lived with his parents until 1851, when he removed to New York for two years and then came to Minnesota. He has for the last four years run a stage between Elba and Minneiska and between Oak Ridge and Minnesota City. In politics he always votes the democratic ticket, and in religious views he is a Freethinker.

GEORGE H. CROW, farmer, is a son of W. V. A. Crow, of Dover,

Minnesota; he was born at Fennimore Center, Grant county, Wisconsin, May 10, 1848, and came to Minnesota with his parents in October, 1854. His father settled on a farm in the town of Elba, this county, where he received his schooling in the common schools. At fifteen years of age, with a younger brother, he ran away from home and enlisted at Minneiska in Co. K, 9th Minn. Inf. The date of his enlistment was November 12, 1863, and he was mustered out January 4 following. Soon after muster his father secured his release from the service on account of his youth, and brought him home. After spending the following summer at home, he again enlisted with his father's consent in Co. I, 2d Minn. Cav., December 12, 1864. This regiment served as post-guard most of the time. Company I, with H, K and L, served as escort for an emigrant train from Fort Snelling to Fort Rice; also as escort for the agent who settled with the Chippewa Indians at Lake Itasca in 1865. Mr. Crow was discharged from the service on November 22, 1865. After his return home he attended school at Quincy, Olmsted county, a short time. In 1868 he went to Pope county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming, taking up a quarter-section of public land. In 1870 he went to Mobile, Alabama, where he spent eighteen months; thence he went to Mexico City, and again returned to Mobile. In 1872 he went to Shreveport and thence to Clinton, Texas, between which point and Locust Grove he drove stage a year and a-half. Returning up the Mississippi, he proceeded to Centerville, Iowa, where he hired out to farmers. Here he formed the acquaintance of Miss Martha J. Congar, to whom he was married on January 7, 1875; she is a daughter of Elias G. Congar and Rebecca Patterson, and was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, October 22, 1845. After renting land some time in Iowa, Mr. Crow proceeded to Osborne county, Kansas, where he took up a homestead, of which he secured a deed, and returned in 1882 to Minnesota and settled on his father's farm of 320 acres on Sec. 3, St. Charles. Of this farm 280 acres are under cultivation. Mr. Crow is a republican in politics. His religious belief is in sympathy with that of his wife, who is a strong Methodist. They have three children, born as follows: Elias V. A., October 28, 1875; Mary R., August 20, 1878; Roxie V., March 10, 1883.

ADDISON E. TODD (deceased) was reared on a farm in the town of Charlemont, Franklin county, Massachusetts, where he first saw light on July 22, 1821. His father, Eli Todd, was born in New



Haven, Connecticut; he married Mary Legate, a native of Massachusetts, and settled in Charlemont, where the subject of this sketch assisted him in the tillage of his farm, attending the district school a part of the time. On reaching his majority young Todd struck out for the west, and was employed in the sawmills of Lenawa county, Michigan, for several years. Returning to Massachusetts, he purchased a piece of timbered land on Gilead Mountain and engaged in preparing "shook," or dressed staves, which were shipped to the West Indies to be used in barreling sugar. In 1854, with his brother Dexter, he came to Minnesota, and was employed for a time to assist in building and operating a sawmill on Rum river, near the mouth of that stream. Passing thence to Iowa, he returned in the fall to the east. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Todd again came to this state, arriving at Elba in April, and bought the claim to 160 acres of land on Secs. 6 and 7, where he made his home till the time of his death (September 14, 1878), and where his family now resides. In 1856 he built a sawmill on Sec. 8, opposite the present residence of his brother, L. U. Todd, which he operated for four years, and then removed it to Sec. 6, where it still stands and does duty. In the meantime improvements were made on the farm, and by various purchases the domain had increased at his death to 360 acres. Mr. Todd was a positive democrat; he was active in supporting the government in the suppression of the late rebellion. At one time he advanced one thousand dollars from his own pocket for bounty to volunteers; this sum was subsequently paid over to him by the town. During much of his residence here he was called upon to serve the town in some capacity; he was chairman of the board of supervisors in 1861-2-3-4, throughout the war, and again in 1871; he was also active in the support of schools, and was an officer of his district most of the time. On March 22, 1860, A. E. Todd was united in marriage to Miss Isabella Bass, who was born in Greenfield, Franklin county, February 13, 1833; her parents, Nathaniel and Mary (Holden) Bass, were also born in the same county. Besides his widow, five children mourn the loss of a kind husband and father; their names and dates of birth are as here given: Oliver S., August 14, 1861; Mary A., August 14, 1864; Charles A., November 8, 1866; Katie B., February 20, 1871; Addie E., May 25, 1878. The eldest two celebrated their freedom on the same day August 14, 1882.

DEXTER J. TODD, farmer, brother of the above, was born on

September 22, 1828 ; he experienced the same training and early life as his brothers, and left the paternal roof at Charlemont when about twenty-two years of age. From this time until he was twenty-five he worked in the timber most of the time getting out "shook." In the spring of 1854 he came with his brother, as above noted, to Minnesota, and was employed during the summer on a dam and mill on Rum river ; the following winter was spent in the pinery on the same stream, and in the spring he came to Elba, arriving soon after his brothers, and took up 160 acres of land on Sec. 8, where he now resides. He at once began to improve his farm, and in the summer of 1856 built the first frame house in the Whitewater valley. Returning to Massachusetts in 1858, he was married there to Elizabeth Elmer, who was born in Ashfield, July 17, 1835 ; she was a daughter of Zenas Elmer and Julia Smith, who were also born in Massachusetts. Mr. Todd and his bride at once settled down on his farm, which he continued to improve and add to till he now has one of the most pleasant homes in the valley ; the farm now includes 253 acres, on Secs. 5, 8 and 9 ; the present residence was enlarged and remodeled in the summer of 1883. Like his brethren, Mr. Todd was always a pronounced democrat, but took no active part in the management of public affairs. His family includes six children, all residing with their parents. They were born as follows : Jennie A., May 23, 1860 ; Edward E., March 29, 1862 ; Cora F., September 24, 1865 ; Hattie M., February 14, 1867 ; Roy M., September 7, 1869 ; Ida B., June 4, 1874.

LORENZO U. TODD, farmer, is a brother of the above. November 16, 1832, is the date of his birth. He had a little better educational advantages than his elder brothers, having finished his studies at an academy. He engaged in teaching for a short time, one term being in the west, after his removal thither. He came to Elba in April, 1855, with his elder brother as above noted, and made claim to one-fourth of Sec. 8, on which his home has ever since been. Various additions, since made by purchase, have enlarged his farm to 264 acres ; it is finely improved with good buildings, etc., and its proprietor diversifies his interests by raising stock as well as grain. His premises are admirably adapted for stock-raising, the north branch of the Whitewater furnishing abundance of living water and its valley a wealth of pasturage. Mr. Todd was wedded to Ellen Preston on March 3, 1859 ; she is a daughter of Hiram and Adassa (Wilson) Preston, of New York, and was born August 31, 1836.

Six children have been born to them as follows, and all still dwell beneath the parental roof: Herbert P., March 14, 1860; Adelia E., October 5, 1861; Frances L., January 8, 1864; Lena E., April 8, 1866; Electa E., January 7, 1869; Lorenzu U., November 26, 1870. In religious belief Mr. Todd is a Universalist; in politics he has always been a democrat; was elected justice of the peace in 1857, being the first in the township, and served till the state organization next year; he was town treasurer in 1859-60-1; overseer of the poor in early days; member of the town board in 1875 and chairman of that body and justice in 1883.

WINSLOW TALOUGAN, farmer, has been a resident of Elba since April 30, 1855, living at his present residence on Sec. 16, where he has 200 acres of land, since 1860. He was born in Prussia, May 1, 1824. He attended school, as required by the laws of his native country, and subsequently assisted his father in farming. At twenty-two years of age he came to America and settled in Erie county, New York, where he was employed on a farm and in the lumber woods. On the 5th of April, 1853, he married Theresa Maas, who was born in Prussia, April 28, 1828. On his removal to Elba he took up eighty acres of government land on Sec. 13; this he sold in 1860 and bought eighty acres where he now dwells. Subsequent purchases have made him an independent farmer. The family, numbering ten members, is connected with the Elba Roman Catholic church, and the voters with the democratic party. The names and births of the children are as follows: Mary, February 7, 1854, married Nicholas Steffen, and resides in Elba village; Joseph, December 15, 1856, lives at Elba; Josephine, February 20, 1859, married Adam Stolz, and lives at Manto, Dakota; Antony, December 13, 1860; Sophie and Elizabeth, twins, May 26, 1864; Louis, November 21, 1867; Theresa, June 20, 1871.

WILLIAM HEMMELBERG, farmer. The subject of this sketch is one of the pioneers who penetrated the untrodden valleys of the lower Whitewater basin, and has established a home which is a monument to his hardihood and industry, and where he may sometime end his days amid the comforts which his own toil has earned. Mr. Hemmelberg was born in Wesel, Prussia, February 25, 1830. He was bred after the manner of German farmers' sons, assisting in his parents' labors and receiving the practical education enjoined by German laws. When twenty-one years old he emigrated to the land of promise west of the Atlantic, and settled in Erie county,

New York, where he labored in the pinery, shingle mills and on farms. On the 19th of April, 1855, he was married to Catherine Klein. She was a daughter of Philip Klein and Josephine Kiefer, natives of Loraine and Alsace, Germany. She was born in Buffalo, New York, August 5, 1838. Immediately after their wedding Mr. and Mrs. Hemmelberg set out for the new west, and arrived in Elba on the 4th of May. They immediately selected their present location on Sec. 11, where he made claim to 160 acres of government land. Mrs. H. took her first ride after oxen in coming from the Mississippi river to Elba. She found the lonely life of a pioneer settler very irksome to reconcile with her city breeding, and as female companionship could not be had she returned to Buffalo after a stay of about three months. The next spring she returned, accompanied by her mother and several new families, and they were very soon surrounded by other homes. Mr. Hemmelberg now resides with his family in a large stone residence, and has a handsomely improved farm. Agreeing with his neighbors in politics, he is a democrat. His family are all communicants in the Elba Roman Catholic church, in which Mrs. Hemmelberg is very active in teaching the children. Five children were born to them, as herewith enumerated: William, March 30, 1856, now in Texas; Louis, February 20, 1859, died April 23, 1882; Louisa, May 10, 1863; Albert, January 19, 1870; Mary, June 19, 1876, died October 19, 1878. Mr. Hemmelberg enlisted, August 23, 1864, in Co. H, 11th Minn. Vols., and served till June 26, 1865, being stationed on guard duty most of the time at Nashville, Tennessee.

ANDREW BURGER, farmer, a native of Alsace, now part of Germany, was born June 23, 1821. At seventeen years old he came to America, and worked at farm labor in Oneida, Erie and Orleans counties, New York, for several years. When twenty-three years old he went to Canada, and thence to Hillsdale county, Michigan, where he worked on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad. In 1851 he went to Indiana and then to Louisiana, working at farm and plantation labor. In 1852 he went to California, and after losing his all two or three times in the mines, engaged in farming and threshing. Having secured a small capital, he left California in the spring of 1855, and arrived in Elba, where he had friends, on the 15th of May; he immediately entered a claim to 160 acres of government land on Sec. 11, and has ever since dwelt thereon. He now has 400 acres on Sec. 6, 7, 10 and 11, of which



over 200 acres are under the plow. On July 5, 1877, his large barn was burned by lightning, and has not been rebuilt. He lives in a fine large house, and has every comfort a farmer may crave, the product of his own industry. He is a member of the Roman Catholic society of Elba, which held its meetings in his house for many years. He was town supervisor in 1865; was formerly democrat, now independent.

DAVID R. HOLBROOK, farmer, is descended from an Englishman who was beheaded after the war for the kingdom of Scotland for espousing the cause of the latter country. His four sons were exiled for their part in the contest, and settled in America. The father of this subject (Peter Holbrook), was born in New Hampshire, married Amy Reed, of the same state, and settled on a farm in Swansea. Here D. R. Holbrook was born February 7, 1814; he attended the common school of his native town during the winter till sixteen years old. From twenty years of age till forty he worked at getting out staves for the West India trade; he bought timber and employed men in preparing "shook," as the packages of prepared staves are called. On December 17, 1846, D. R. Holbrook and Mary O. Todd were united in marriage; the bride was a sister of A. E. Todd, whose parentage is given elsewhere. After sharing her husband's toils and triumphs in the development of this country, Mrs. Holbrook died, from the effects of cancer, on October 4, 1869. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Holbrook came with his family to this township and settled on a quarter-section of government land on Sec. 9, where he still dwells. His domain now includes 220 acres of land, and he is reckoned among our prosperous and independent citizens. Notwithstanding his age, Mr. Holbrook continues to engage in the arduous toil incident to a farmer's life. He is a universalist in religious belief; has always been a democrat; served the town as treasurer in 1869-70-1-2-4-5. Of the five children given to him, but three are now living, and none of them are at home. Here is the family record: Edward T., born October 2, 1847, married Susan W. Drullard in California, January 11, 1878, and died in St. Charles on the 7th of April following; Frank, born November 10, 1850, lives in Olmsted county; Fred M., born December 2, 1854, died June 5, 1863; Peter E., born September 27, 1858; Jane E., born March 25, 1864, now in California.

JACOB WASEM, machinery agent, is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth

Wasem, natives of Prussia, who settled at Rolling Stone, in this county, in the year 1855. The subject of this sketch was born in Ragersville, Tuscaraugus county, Ohio, May 29, 1838. He was therefore seventeen years old when he arrived in Minnesota, and at this time had attended English schools but very little; two terms in the primitive schools at Rolling Stone completed his education, as far as school privileges contributed thereto. However, his natural talents led him to self-cultivation, and he is now numbered among our well-informed business men. He was soon compelled to engage in active life, in assisting his parents to develop a farm. He has probably broken up as much new land as any one in the state, having taken an active part in the breaking of over 1,500 acres. He broke up the sod on the site of the present village of Rolling Stone with eight yokes of oxen. He relates that during the first winter after their arrival here his father bought a barrel of cornmeal in Winona for which he was compelled to pay \$10, and then incur an expense of \$6 to get it hauled home. After working out among farmers a few seasons, young Wasem invested in land of his own, purchasing 40 acres in the town of Mount Vernon. On the 4th of October, 1864, he enlisted as a recruit in Co. K, 1st Minn. Heavy Artillery, and served as corporal till discharged on the 7th of July, 1865. This regiment was stationed most of the time at Chattanooga, Tennessee, where, for a period of forty-five days, each man was compelled to subsist on a ration of three hardtacks per day. On the 15th of November, 1865, Mr. Wasem was united in marriage to Miss Mary Amos, who was born in the same locality as himself February 2, 1850. After living on his land till 1871 he sold it and bought eighty acres in the town of Quincy, Olmsted county, which he tilled eight years and then sold. After carrying on the machine business at Rolling Stone two years he settled at St. Charles, where he has territory assigned to him and acts as a direct agent for several first-class farm machines. He is a member of the Evangelical church, and a republican, and was constable of the town of Mount Vernon eight years. His family includes seven children, born as follows: Jacob, November 2, 1866; Katy, March 9, 1868; Christie, July 15, 1872; William, June 15, 1874; Susan, March 1, 1876; Benjamin, September 7, 1879; Rosa, August 6, 1881.

WILLIAM GAINNEY (deceased) was a native of Ireland, being born in County Cork in 1823. Assisted his parents in farming till twenty-eight years old, and then set out for the refuge of all oppressed

nations, America. He at first settled in the State of New York, and married Nelly McCarthy on the 15th of December, 1854. Mrs. Gainey was born in Cork, October 16, 1835, and still resides with her children on the estate of her late husband. In 1855 Mr. Gainey came to Minnesota, and dwelt in Winona for two years. He bought 160 acres of land in St. Charles township, on which he lived a short time. In 1859 he sold, and bought a part of the present estate on Sec. 22. Subsequent purchases increased the estate to 280 acres, of which M. W. Gainey, the elder son, has 80 on Sec. 15, and Patrick 80 on Sec. 22. Mr. Gainey was a man of integrity and intelligence, and the esteem of his fellow townsmen was shown in 1879 by electing him a member of the town board of supervisors. His eldest son now fills the same position, and is in every way worthy to follow in his father's footsteps. William Gainey died of cancer of the stomach on the 10th of June, 1882. He was a communicant in the St. Charles Roman Catholic church, as are all his family. Beside the widow, nine children survive him, all living on the old homestead and unmarried. Here are their names and dates of birth: Michael W., September 25, 1856; Patrick, March 20, 1858; Mary, December 20, 1859; Ellen, March 28, 1863; Maggie, June 20, 1864; William, August 15, 1866; John, July 15, 1868; Eliza, August 1, 1870; Dennis, April 1, 1873.

DAVID FINLEY, farmer, settled in Whitewater in 1855, having purchased eighty acres of school land in Sec. 16, T. 108, R. 10. He was married in 1828, to Freanah Kiser, born in Switzerland in 1808, and by this marriage had seven children. Our subject was born in 1803, in New Jersey, and died in 1877. His wife, Freanah (Kiser) Finley, died in 1881. Sarah E. (Finley) Graff, the only child of our subject now living (1883), was born about 1829, and in 1870 married Jacob Graff, born in Germany in 1844, by which marriage she has had three children: Ella F., born 1872; George W., born 1873; Ada S. E., born 1875. Mrs. Graff now owns the farm bought by her father, also eighty acres in Sec. 21, T. 108, R. 10.

GEORGE WARNER, livery, feed and sale stables, corner of Third and Walnut streets. Mr. Warner, after residing at Woodstock, Illinois, came from that place to Winona on March 28, 1856. Here he at once established himself in the livery and stage business, in company with H. S. Terry, their stables being on Third street, between Main and Johnson, where the old Higgs' building now stands. Their stage route was opened to Rochester, Olmsted county.

April 8, 1856, and the route gradually extended to Faribault, with a branch mail route to Chatfield. This partnership was maintained until the summer of 1857, and when it was dissolved Mr. Warner's connection with the stage route ceased. He continued business at the original stand until 1861, when he bought the lot on the north-west corner of Third and Washington street, removed his livery buildings to that location and conducted the business there until 1871 when he sold out to D. J. Pettis. This sale included with the livery stable, the blacksmith shop on the rear end of the lot, which Mr. Warner built in 1862, and is now the front thirty feet of the blacksmith shop of Heller & Perrot. For the next ten years Mr. Warner was variously employed. Several years of that time in his old business at the old stand, which he rented, and also in Dakota. Returned to this city from Dakota in 1881, he opened business at the old stables for the third time, continued there one year and removed to his present location. Mr. Warner resides on the corner of Winona and Wabasha streets; has two daughters, both married. One to J. H. Jones, secretary of the city gas works, and one to Mr. Blake, commercial traveler.

E. A. GERDTZEN, real estate and loan agency, No. 53 East Third street. Mr. Gerdtzen is a native of Hamburg, Germany; was educated at Kiel and at Berlin, partially completed a course of legal study and then turned his attention to civil engineering and architecture, pursuing his studies in that department for two years. In 1849 he came to America, settled on a farm in Wisconsin where he remained but a short time, then, after a year's travel through the northwest, engaged in mercantile business at Davenport, Iowa, in 1852. Came to Winona just before the land sale of 1855, spent two weeks, returned to Davenport for the winter, and on April 28, in the following spring, made a permanent residence in this city. December 31 of that year, 1856, he was appointed notary public, and was engaged in conveyancing and real estate until 1857, when on the incorporation of the city he was elected city recorder, and held the office three years. April, 1861, he was appointed clerk of the district court, to fill a vacancy, Hon. Thomas Wilson on the bench, and the following fall was regularly elected to that office, which he continued to hold by successive re-elections until 1878, his whole term of office being nearly seventeen years. Was admitted to the bar at the spring term of court 1863, having passed his examination in open court. Is not in general practice, confining himself to probate



business. Mr. Gerdtzen is a member of the board of trade; married, has three children, two of them in attendance upon the city schools.

DANIEL EVANS, justice of the peace, office at 18 E. Second street. Mr. Evans was elected to his present office in 1880, re-elected in 1882. He is now serving his second term which expires April 1, 1884. Though not technically a police justice, most of the police business comes before Mr. Evans, and is transacted at this office. Mr. Evans is a native of Vermont; passed his early life in New Hampshire, and was in mercantile business in New York and collector of tolls before coming to Winona in May, 1856. Was in the United States land office at this point until its removal to Faribault in 1857, when he commenced dealing in real estate, in which he has been more or less interested ever since. From 1861 to 1864 was engaged in securing the right of way for the Winona & St. Peter railway and in locating town sites along the prospected line. Mr. Evans has been intimately identified with the city government since his residence here. Was for twelve years a member of the city council, his last term of service expiring in 1875.

WM. GARLOCK, capitalist. Mr. Wm. Garlock has been a resident of this city since June, 1856, and from that date directly concerned in its business enterprises. Immediately upon his arrival here, in connection with L. C. Porter, he bought the sawmill interest of Mr. Wyckhoff, of the firm of Wyckhoff & Hiland, and was interested in that business until 1860. In 1858 he traded lumber for the first load of flour offered in this market, the wheat for which was ground in Huff's old mill, and this flour was in turn traded for logs. That same year he built the warehouse in which he is now doing business, and old frame building on the south side of Front street, opposite the big mill elevator, and was for several years one of the heaviest grain operators in the city. Upon the organization of the Bank of Southern Minnesota in 1860, he became vice-president of that institution in which he was a stockholder to the amount of \$17,000. This interest he sold out some four or five years later. At present, Mr. Garlock is not very actively engaged in business other than in looking after the interests of his own property. He has always stood ready to encourage the manufacturing industries of the city, and holds stock in some of these enterprises. He is also a stockholder of the Second National Bank of Winona, of which his son, W. H. Garlock, is cashier. He has but one other child, a daughter, married and removed from the city.

C. HEINTZ & BROTHER, wholesale and retail dealers in clothing, hats, caps, trunks and gents' furnishing goods, 40 East Second street. This business was established in the spring of 1856 by the present proprietors, in a small frame building on Walnut street, between Second and Front, which they rented of H. B. Upman. The year following, they purchased property on Second street, between Walnut and Lafayette, removed their business to that location and there remained until 1861, when they took up their quarters on the south side of Second street, between Center and Lafayette, nearly opposite their present location. From this place they were driven by the disastrous fire of 1862, in which they suffered a loss of \$1,000. They then returned to their old location between Lafayette and Walnut, remained one year, and then in 1863, having sold that property, removed to 50 East Second street, one door east of R. D. Cone's hardware house. Here they remained eight years, until they were again burned out in February, 1871. Removing temporarily to the opposite side of the street, they purchased the property they now occupy and took possession of it that same spring. Their house is a substantial two-story and basement brick, stone foundations, fronting twenty feet on Second street, with a depth of 120 feet. The whole occupied with their stock. Trade has gradually increased until they maintain a branch store in Watertown, Dakota. Do quite an extensive jobbing trade along the railway lines leading westward from the city, and carry on a heavy retail trade at home. The operations of the house give employment to a force of twelve persons, besides the proprietors, who are always found on duty behind their own counters.

C. Heintz and brother are natives of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, were bred to the tailor's trade and followed that occupation prior to coming to America. C. Heintz left Germany for the United States in 1850, and worked at his trade in Milwaukee and Cincinnati before coming to Winona. His brother, L. Heintz, came to the United States in 1853, worked at his trade in Milwaukee three years, then came to this city with his brother in 1856, when they established their present business, which has had a successful career of over twenty-six years. The firm is represented in the board of trade, and both brothers are members of the Ancient Order of Druids.

WILLIAM PERSONS, farmer, has been a resident of this county since 1856. He was born at Blackford, Somersetshire, England, May 29, 1835. Sarah Meads was born at Mark, Somersetshire, June

13, 1835; she was married to William Persons on August 22, 1855. In the spring of the following year, they set out, in company with Mr. Persons' parents and family for America, and landing at New Orleans proceeded up the Mississippi to Winona. After paying for his first night's lodging in Winona, Mr. Persons had but seventy-five cents left. The party set out on foot in the morning and arrived at St. Charles the same day. Our subject at once engaged with W. A. Jones, a prominent farmer and capitalist of that township, and worked for him the first two years of his residence here. He also split a great many rails by the piece, and sowed many thousand acres of grain. On one occasion, on a wager, he sowed forty acres of grain in a single day's work, receiving a bonus of five dollars from the owner of the land sowed in addition to his regular stipend per acre. During one season he sowed 376 acres of grain. In the spring of 1866 Mr. Persons bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 1, Saratoga township, where his home has ever since been. He has now 162 acres of finely improved land, and is prosperous; he now enjoys the benefit of his pioneer industry. Mr. and Mrs. Persons were early trained in the Episcopal church, and still cherish the faith of that body; the former has always voted with the republican party, and served his school district as treasurer for five years. Seven children are living to bless the parents of this family, one having died at the age of seventeen. Here is the record of births, etc: Reve, July 12, 1856; resides with parents. Emily J., February 27, 1858; died February 15, 1875. Henrietta, April 15, 1859; married Perry Schermerhorn; lives in St. Charles township. Frank, February 26, 1861; home with parents. Celia, December 5, 1863; married Sumner W. Orr; resides at Marshall, Minnesota. Jesse, March 16, 1865. William Oliver, July 11, 1866.

THOMAS A. RICHARDSON, watchmaker and jeweler, No. 3, Richardson's Block. This business was established in 1871 by the elder brother of the present proprietor, into whose hands it came by purchase in 1879. He is a member of the Winona board of trade, and of the various masonic bodies of the city; is the present master of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., and a most efficient presiding officer. Mr. Thos. A. Richardson was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and was only an infant of three months when his parents removed to Winona early in 1856. His father, William Richardson, builder of the block which now bears his name, was for many years in the dry-goods business in this city, and for the

greater part of the time in the block where his own structure stands. His first location was facing Center street where the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul offices now are, from which he removed in 1862 to the north side Second street, where, in July of that year, he was burned out and returned to the old location. His business partnerships were principally with his own brother Alexander, and Dr. E. T. Clark, now deceased. The Richardson block, completed in 1871, is a two-story brick with stone basement fronting  $93\frac{1}{2}$  feet on Third street and 96 feet on Center. The first floor occupied by dry-goods, drug and jewelry houses, the second floor by offices. Mr. Wm. Richardson died May 31, 1874, leaving a wife and six children, five of whom reside in the city. Of his estate, still undivided, the Richardson block is a part.

JOHN DOBBS, member of the firm of D. Sinclair & Co., owners and publishers of the daily and weekly "Republican" of this city, and bookbinders and publishers. Mr. Dobbs is a native of Troy, New York, in which city and in Albany, New York, he learned his trade as a bookbinder, serving two and a-half years in the bindery of the "Albany Evening Journal," and working five years with Frazer, of Troy. In 1849 he left the east for California, and was there until 1852, engaged in mining operations. Returning to Albany he remained in that city until 1856 when he came to Winona county and settled on a farm in Fremont township, where he farmed three years and returned to fill his place in the bindery of the "Albany Journal," from which place he came in the spring of 1863, to take charge of the bindery in the "Republican" office in this city, then owned by Messrs. D. Sinclair and G. W. Dye. That same year he bought out the bindery department of the "Republican" and conducted it as a separate establishment until 1866, when the entire concern was burned out. He then took a one-third interest in the entire business, devoting himself as before to the management of the bindery, and this interest he still retains. Mr. Dobbs was long connected with the volunteer fire department of the city, and for five years of the time was its treasurer, serving also as assistant engineer for three terms. Mr. Dobbs is married, has six children living, all boys. Three of them are grown up, absent from the city in business for themselves, the others are at home, one in attendance at school in this city.

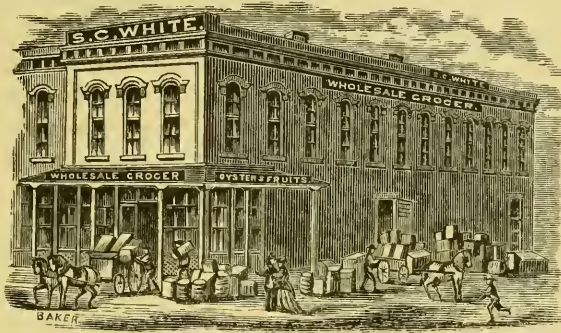
MAYBURY & SON, architects, rooms over No. 14 East Third street, Richardson's block. This business was started by the senior May-



bury in 1856, the same year that he came to Winona, who was then engaged as draughtsman and contractor. Since 1865 his business has been exclusively that of an architect. They occupy a pleasant set of offices and keep two assistants constantly employed. C. G. Maybury was born in Cortland county, New York, in 1830, where he served a regular apprenticeship of five and a-half years to the business of draughting and contracting. This business he followed for nine years after coming to Winona, during which time he had as business associates, at different times, C. D. Smith and A. W. Gage, both well known builders of this city. Since confining his attention to architecture exclusively Mr. Maybury was alone in business until January 1, 1881, when his son became a partner. During the past eighteen years Mr. Maybury has drawn the plans for a great portion of the work in southern Minnesota, and the firm is now extensively engaged on church and school plans for Dakota, in which they give special attention to the most perfect systems of ventilation. The house competes successfully with the best architects of the larger cities. The new Presbyterian church at La Crosse was constructed from their plans, as were some of the Minneapolis churches, and not less than forty to fifty school buildings and churches in this state. Mr. Maybury was an active member of the city board of education for four years, is a member and director of the board of trade, and treasurer of Winona Lodge, No. 117, Equitable Aid Union. Married; wife and five children living, all residing at home except the eldest daughter.

S. C. WHITE, wholesale and retail grocer, northwest corner Center and Second streets. This house was established in 1856, on Front street, opposite the present site of Porter's mill, under the firm name of White & Fuller, became S. C. White in 1858, and has so continued. In 1860 Mr. White removed to his present location, and two years later built his grocery house, 23×90 feet, which in 1868 was extended to 140 feet. The first business of the house was in flour, grain and provisions, their flour trade being exceptionally heavy, as no flour was manufactured at that time in this section. In 1858 Mr. White commenced buying wheat, which he carried on as a separate industry until 1865, since which time he has confined his trade to groceries, fruit and provisions. His trade has now become largely a wholesale one, and it is his intention to make it exclusively so. The business of the house employs a house force of five and two traveling salesmen. Trade extends west to Fort Pierre, north

on the St. James river branch of the Chicago & Northwestern railway to Ordway, about seventy-five miles eastward into Wisconsin, and annual sales are from \$250,000 to \$300,000. Mr. White is a native of Vermont, and was clerk in Whitehall, in his native state, prior to coming to Winona in 1856. He is a member and director of the board of trade.



S. C. WHITE'S STORE.

JACOB STORY, judge of probate court of Winona county, is a native of Massachusetts, a graduate of Yale College, class of 1844, and of the Dane law school, Cambridge, class of 1846. Was in the practice of his profession at Boston prior to coming to Winona in 1856. Has never been actively engaged in law practice in this city. In 1862 he was elected a justice of the peace and has retained that office by successive elections. In 1868 Mr. Story was elected judge of the probate court, a position he has now filled for the past fourteen years, and, judging from present appearances, seems likely to fill for years to come.

H. D. PERKINS, dealer in lubricating and illuminating oils, 20 East Second street. Mr. Perkins is one of the pioneer business men of Winona, having been in active business in this city for a little over a quarter of a century. He is a native of Chatauqua county, New York, and was there in business for the New York & Erie railway company, and, on his own account, for ten years before coming to Winona in 1856. In May, 1857, he opened a grocery store on West Front street, in what was then known as the Washburn warehouse, where the two saloons now are, just above the city waterworks. The following year he removed to the foot of Center street, remained until October 1859, when he took H. C. Haskin, his

brother-in-law, into partnership with him and removed his business to the south side of Second street, where S. W. Morgan now is. May 1, 1862, he moved into a one-story frame building which he had put up on lot No. 3, East Third street, which he had recently purchased. This building was destroyed by the great fire of 1862, after he had occupied two months and five days. A temporary location was obtained, and just thirty days from the date of the fire business was resumed at No. 3, in the new building they had erected. April 7, 1869, Mr. Perkins sold out his interest in the grocery to his partner, and opened an oil house, in which business he has now been engaged for over thirteen years. Sales from 1,000 to 1,200 barrels annually. Though not an affiliated member of the order, before coming to Winona, Mr. Perkins had passed all the chairs of the I.O.O.F., including the encampment, and had represented his lodge at the grand lodge session of 1852, in Buffalo, New York. He is a member of the board of trade of this city, though not actively concerned in its management. He has one son, born in Winona in May, 1859, and now associated with him in business.

G. F. HUBBARD, retired, is a native of Swanton, Vermont. In 1841 he went to Boston, Massachusetts, and was in the dry-goods trade there until his removal to Winona in 1856. Was in active business as a dry-goods merchant in this city from 1868 to 1875. The other years of his residence here he has been principally engaged in looking after his own personal estate and money loaning. In 1862 he commenced the erection of what is known as Hubbard's block, a block of four stores, brick with stone basements, the whole frontage 140 feet on Second street, just west of Main, and in 1865 the last store rooms of the block were completed. In No. 4 of this block, Mr. Hubbard conducted his dry-goods business during the eight years he was in trade in this city. Married in 1864; in 1875 Mr. Hubbard was wintering in the south for his health, his family being in Chelsea, Massachusetts, when his only children, two boys, aged eleven and four years, were suddenly cut off by diphtheria. Not of robust constitution, the northern winters are quite trying to Mr. Hubbard's health, and his winters are frequently spent in milder climates. Of these sojourns he preserves pleasant mementoes in the shape of sea-mosses and ferns in preparing which he is quite an artist. He is one of the prominent members of the Congregational society of this city, his connection with that denomination dating from his removal to Boston in 1881.



CHARLES N. WAKEFIELD (deceased) was born in Saco, York county, Maine, February 8, 1830, was educated at Thornton Academy in his native place, and at North Yarmouth Academy, and was ready to enter upon his classical course at Bowdoin College, when he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, and intermitted his studies and was in merchandise at Saco for some time before coming to Winona in 1856. He was never in trade in this city, but was employed with real estate and loan matters, at first in a small way, the last twelve years of his life to quite a considerable extent. Was one of the early judges of probate for the county, holding that office from spring of 1867 to January, 1869; was justice of the peace by appointment in 1865, and held that office by election from 1866 to 1868. He was appointed deputy by E. A. Gerdtzen, clerk of the district court, and so remained until Mr. Gerdtzen retired from that office in 1878. The friendship between these gentlemen fostered during the years of their association in the clerk's office was continued thereafter, and though never in business together, they occupied the same office until the sudden death of Mr. Wakefield, June 6, 1882, of apoplexy. The estate of Mr. Wakefield, largely accumulated during his residence in this city, was something in excess of \$50,000, consisting in great part of mortgages, business and residence property in the city, and farming lands in the county. The "Wakefield Block," the walls of which were not in place when the foundations of his own life were so suddenly moved, remains a monument to his spirit of enterprise, and his confidence in the future prosperity of the city which had been his home for more than a quarter of a century. The "block" is on the corner of Center and Fourth streets, a beautifully ornate three-story brick structure with stone foundations, dressed stone caps, sills and trimmings and iron cornice, the whole valued at about \$12,000. The first floor, covering an area of 4,000 square feet, is without exception the finest store-room in the city. Mr. Wakefield never married, and his property passes into the hands of an only brother and two sisters, all residing in the east. Personally the deceased was a man of kind disposition, pleasant and polished in social intercourse, though not seeking society, a steadfast friend, strong and unwavering in his convictions and of great tenacity of purpose.

JOHN NELLSON was born in Sweden, in 1821, coming to America in 1856. His parents were farmers, and he worked on his father's farm and among his neighbors. He married in 1846 Miss Sarah



Lewis, by whom he had three children, all of whom died before he left Sweden. In 1856 he settled and built himself a shanty on the present site of the village of Minneiska, where he has since remained progressing with the village. He was early to answer the call of his adopted country for defenders, enlisting in the 10th Minn., serving two years and eleven months, being with his regiment under Gen. Sibley to the west and participating in all of the engagements of this command.

CHRISTIAN LINDEMAN was born in Germany in 1832, and worked farming until his twenty-fourth year, when he came to this country, going direct to the then village of Winona. He obtained employment in the first lumber-yard ever opened there, continuing to work in the same and in the neighborhood for about ten years. He purchased a farm in Mt. Vernon in 1863, which he has occupied ever since. He married, in 1876, Miss Catherine Eggers, by whom he has had four children, all of whom are living. He is a republican and a member of the Lutheran body. He has filled the position of township treasurer and other offices, and bears the reputation of being a thoroughly reliable, straightforward citizen.

DAVID NISBIT was born in Madrid, New York, January 28, 1841. He received a limited common school education, never having had any opportunities of attending select schools of any kind. His youth, for fifteen years, was spent on a farm in St. Lawrence county, New York. Then his father moved to Saratoga, Winona county, Minnesota, and David ran a breaking team for four seasons, when his health failed him, and for several years he was unable to leave the house. As soon as he recovered sufficiently he commenced selling machinery. He followed this business two years and then went to selling fruit-trees. In 1872 he went to Rushford and bought a livery-stable, and took charge of it until 1875, when he sold out, and went back to the farm and kept an apiary for several years. In the spring of 1880 he bought a farm in Pleasant Hill township and has since been improving it. He was married to Dyantha Hesslegrave, August 24, 1876. They have two children, David Earl, born March 8, 1877, and Ray Ellsworth, born March 31, 1881.

SAMUEL W. SPALDING was born in Eaton township, Lower Canada, March 16, 1829. He received a common school education in the State of New York, where his father moved about the year of 1834. When twenty-two years old Mr. Spalding went to sea for two years, but tiring of the ocean he quit that business and went to Lockport,

Illinois, where he worked one year. He then went to Houston county, Minnesota, took a claim on Root river, built a claim shanty and lived there one year all alone, with no amusement but the ague, with which he suffered most of the time. He sold his claim on Root river and went to La Crescent and took a claim and lived on it one year. He then sold out and came to Pleasant Hill and bought a claim of eighty acres, with small shanty. He built an addition to the shanty, cleared and broke ground until the fall of 1856. He then went to Illinois, and January 15, 1857, he married Sarah J. Hatch, of Dwight, Illinois, and returned to his farm in Pleasant Hill, and has since been improving and adding to the same, till he now has 160 acres of good farming land. They have only one child: James F., born October 18, 1858, and married to Olive M. Clark and living on Sec. 3, of Pleasant Hill township.

GATES & WARDNER, general merchandise, Masonic block. This business, as at present conducted, was established in 1878, and the building occupied by them was erected two years later in common with E. S. Johnson & Co. and the masonic bodies of the city. The salesroom fronts twenty-six feet, has a depth of eighty feet, with a good stone foundation and basement under the whole. Business employs two salesmen. The members of the firm are M. H. Gates and E. S. Wardner. M. H. Gates is a native of New York, from which state he came to Winona county in the spring of 1856, settling in St. Charles, where he opened business with a general stock of goods and continued in trade about six years. From 1862 to 1866 he was engaged in farming, about three and a-half miles from St. Charles, and since the latter date has been in trade in this city. Mr. Gates was mayor of the city during 1879-80, two terms, and is a member of the present city council. He is married and has six children, one of them clerking in his father's store, one, a daughter, teaching in the city schools, and two others attending as pupils. Mr. Gates is a member of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 49, A. F. and A. M., and of Orient Chapter No. 19, R. A. M., both of St. Charles, and a member of Home Commandery, No. 5, of Rochester, this state.

H. C. PARROTT & Co., manufacturers of spring and lumber wagons. This business, at present the leading manufacturing industry of St. Charles, has been in successful operation about twenty-four years, during which time it has grown from comparatively small beginnings to its present proportions. Their location is on the east side of Whitewater street, the main street of the city, and adjoining the

tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad on the south. Their lot fronts 145 feet on Whitewater street and runs to the rear about 300 feet. Upon this lot they have erected the following buildings : one brick blacksmith-shop, 30×75 feet ; a two-story machine-shop, 38×75 feet ; a two-story wood-shop, 36×50 feet ; a one and a-half story wagon and carriage repository, 40×80 feet, a warehouse 26×50 feet, and paint-shop, 40×70 feet. These buildings are exclusive of sheds for stock and the engine-room in which a twenty-five horse-power Atlas engine supplies motor for the labor-saving machinery of the several departments. The operations of the manufactory employ about twenty-five hands, and the annual manufactured product, including repairs, about \$35,000, for which a market is found in southern Minnesota and Dakota. Business which had been gradually increasing, reached its maximum in 1878, since which date until the present season there had been a gradual decline. The orders received for the first three months of 1883 and the increasing demands for their goods foreshadow an increase of fully twenty-five per cent for the year 1883 over any former year of their operations. The present members of the firm are H. C. Parrott and Henry Talbott. H. C. Parrott is a native of Oxford, England, from which country he came to America in 1853, settling in Port Sarnia, Canada. Came to Winona county in 1856, and was variously employed until 1859, when he established his present business which he conducted alone one year, then associated with himself Charles Ellsbury and Henry Talbott. In 1865 Mr. Ellsbury retired from the firm and the business has since been conducted as at present. Mr. Parrott has been a member of the city board of education almost continuously for the past fifteen to twenty years, and has also served his fellow-citizens as head of their municipal government, having been twice mayor of the city. He is also an acceptable member of Rising Sun Lodge, A. F. and A. M. and Orient chapter, R. A. M.

JACOB FEIGERT, farmer, is a son of Frederick Feigert, who emigrated to America from Hamburg, Germany, in 1837, and settled in Elba in 1856. Jacob Feigert was born in Hamburg on February 24, 1831. He was reared on a farm in Tuscaraugus county, Ohio, attending the common school about a year in all. He was married January 18, 1853, to Sophia, daughter of Jacob Miller, of Pennsylvania ; she was born in Ohio, February 20, 1833. In the fall of 1856 Mr. Feigert came with his father to Elba ; they purchased 120 acres of land on Secs. 13 and 14. The elder now lives in the town

of Rolling Stone, this county. In 1866 the subject of this sketch bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 21, where he has since dwelt. By subsequent purchase he acquired eighty acres more, adjoining the first. He now resides in a large and handsome dwelling, and is one of Elba's independent farmers. He is a democrat in politics; was elected town supervisor in 1868, and also served one year by appointment subsequently. Mr. and Mrs. Feigert are Presbyterians. They have twelve living children, having lost three. Here is the record of births, marriages, etc: Catharine, born October 7, 1855, married Alexander King and lives in the village of Elba; Margaret, born May 12, 1857, married Albert Myers and dwells at Flandreau, Dakota; Jacob, born December 20, 1859, resides with parents; Elizabeth, born April 20, 1861, married James McCabe (now deceased), resides in Eyota; Mary, born September 17, 1862, married Isaiah Frey, now living on Sec. 21; Sophie, born March 24, 1864; William, born January 12, 1867; Henry, born July 17, 1869; Lucy, born February 18, 1871; Albert, born December 12, 1872; Edward O., born August 24, 1875; Annie C., born November 18, 1877.

HENRY G. COX, of Saratoga, is one of the early settlers and most substantial citizens of the vicinity. He traces the family history back to the time when four brothers, Benjamin, his great-great-grandfather, George, John Davenport, and another whose name is forgotten, came from Warwick, England, and settled at Hardwick, Massachusetts. These were stout, hearty, robust specimens of the hardy English yeomanry. The great-grandfather was a captain in the revolution, and Benjamin, the grandfather of Henry, was a waiter to his father. After the war he removed to Barnard, Windsor county, Vermont, where Aurin, the father of Henry, was born. They were among the earliest settlers in the place. His father was one of six children: Gardner, Nancy, Benjamin, Allen, Aurin and Lyman. His grandfather was a farmer and carried on the business of a cooper. Aurin Cox, the father of Henry, was raised on a farm and educated in the common schools. He learned the trade of a millwright with Joshua Tainge, at Barnard, Vermont. This he followed for a number of years until he lost his health, when he bought a farm near Barnard, Vermont, where he lived for the remainder of his days. Here Henry, the eldest of the family, had a severe trial carrying on the farm and making a living for the family. His mother was Hortense P. Chamberlain, of Royalton, Vermont,



to whom his father was married in 1828. Henry is the eldest of a family of seven children: Esther, Edna, Mary Jane, Aurin, Julia and Edna were his sisters and brother. Here on the farm he grew to manhood and received a common school education. In 1850, at the age of twenty-one, he left the parental roof and went to Pierrepont, St. Lawrence county, New York, where he worked in a starch factory for his uncle, Gardner Cox, for near five years. December 25, 1854, he married Miss Justina Stevens, of Parishville, New York. She was the daughter of Henry Stevens, a millowner of that place. They are the parents of one child, Henry Stevens Cox, born December 25, 1866. In March, 1855, Mr. Cox came west and stopped for awhile at Rock Island, Illinois, but on account of prevalence of cholera he went to Indianapolis, Indiana, and commenced work in the employ of Osgood & Co., where he remained for a year. Thinking to better his fortunes he came west in 1856 and settled on Secs. 7 and 8, in Saratoga township, where he has ever since carried on farming. He owns a splendid farm here and another in Martin county, Minnesota. He is a republican in politics, and his belief in religion is "to do all the good you can and as little harm as possible." Mr. Cox built a neat and comfortable frame residence in 1857, which he still occupies. Mrs. Cox died October 29, 1881, and lies buried at Saratoga burying-ground.

WILLIAM H. MORRILL, farmer, Saratoga township. Mr. Morrill's farm consists of 233 acres of land in Secs. 3 and 4, and its several parts were pre-empted by John Emerson, John B. Brown and Lysander Kately, the whole coming into Mr. Morrill's possession by purchase at various times between April, 1859, and 1866. Mr. Morrill had, however, been a resident of the county for two years prior to securing his present location, his first farm consisting of a forty-acre lot on Sec. 34, St. Charles township, purchased of Charles H. Alden, in May, 1857. Mr. Morrill's farm, crops and stock, the season of 1882, were as follows: Bushels of wheat per acre, 17; of oats, a small crop; barley, 35; corn, 50; hay, two tons per acre; 15 horses, 27 cattle and 12 hogs. William H. Morrill, is a son of Hon. David Morrill, now living in Canterbury, New Hampshire, aged eighty-four years, and long recognized as one of the representative men of that state. William H. is a native of the old Granite State and came to Winona county from the east in 1856. April 26, 1860, he married Miss M. M. Foster. They have two children: the eldest, Miss M. B. Morrill, is teaching school in a school district in

Saratoga township, and the youngest, Willie D., is at home with his parents. Mr. W. H. Morrill enlisted February 11, 1865, in Co. K, 1st Minn. Heavy Art., Capt. Hammond commanding company, was sent to Chattanooga, Tennessee, March 1 following, and was on duty upon the fortifications there until ordered north and mustered out at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, October of that same year. Mr. Foster had two brothers who gave themselves to the service of their country. Alonzo Foster, who enlisted in Co. A, 2d Minn. Inf., who served with that regiment until the close of its service, re-enlisting as a veteran, and participating in Sherman's march to the sea, and was finally mustered out at Fort Snelling when the war closed. The other brother, L. B. Foster, was a captain in the 26th Ohio, was several times wounded, and after suffering untold tortures and permanent disability of eighteen years through spinal disorder, the result of wounds in battle, died in 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Morrill are prominent members of the Minnesota Anti-Secret Society Association, and communicants of the Congregational church at St. Charles.

JERRY MORAN, son of Daniel Moran, was born in the county Tipperary, Ireland, February 2, 1846; came with his father to the United States of America in the year 1853, and settled in Connecticut, and from there proceeded to Minnesota in 1856, and settled in the town of Wilson. His mother's maiden name was Margaret Dwana; his father died in Minnesota in September, 1877, at the age of eighty-five years; his mother died the year following, at the age of seventy-two. There were eleven children in the family, two died in Ireland, two in Connecticut and one in Minnesota. Jerry, the subject of this sketch, has held the offices of district treasurer and supervisor of the town, owns a splendid farm of 160 acres, is a farmer by profession, a democrat in politics and Roman Catholic in religion.

GREGORY & Co., wholesale and retail dealers in crockery and glassware, No. 35 East Second street. This business was established in 1862, in the block east of that where now located; remained there until 1867, was then removed to the north side of the street, between Lafayette and Center, where business was conducted until 1872, when a move was made to the south side of the street, two doors east of present location, to which business was removed in 1882. Here they occupy three basements for heavy storage and packing, aggregating 6,000 feet of flooring; a salesroom 22×120, with an elevator in the rear and a storeroom overhead, 50×130 feet, with

side shelving, staging, galleries and every appliance for economizing space. The house employs a clerical force of three, two traveling salesmen and ten hands. Business extends west to the Missouri river, north to Lake City, to Fargo on the North Pacific railway and eastward to the Wisconsin river. Yearly sales are considerably in excess of \$50,000. The house is represented on the Winona board of trade. The members of the firm are A. S. Gregory, Geo. W. Gregory and E. S. Gregory. Mr. A. S. Gregory, the senior member of the firm, is a native of Frome, England, born February 15, 1820. In 1827 he came to America with his father, who was a manufacturer of woolen goods. In 1856 Mr. A. S. Gregory removed to Winona county, settling in Stockton, where he purchased the old frame sawmill on the water-power there, which had been erected by J. H. Hurd the previous year. This Mr. Gregory converted into a flouring-mill, the first built in the county, which he operated until 1860, when he sold out to Mr. H. Sherry, and two years later opened his crockery business in this city. Geo. W. Gregory is a native of Massachusetts, and removed to Wisconsin from his native state in 1852. Five years later Mr. Gregory removed to Winona and was in the drug and book house of Bingham, Benson & Co. until 1862, when he left this city for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Remaining there one year, he returned to Winona and entered the crockery house of A. S. Gregory, as a partner in that business. E. S. Gregory, son of A. S. Gregory, the founder of the firm, has been connected with the house for the past five years.

NATHAN HARRIS, son of Alpheus and Rebecca Harris, was born in King's county, Nova Scotia, February 22, 1813; was educated in the common school; came to the United States in 1845; landed in Boston, and from there went to New Hampshire, where he was married September 22, 1846, to Miss Martha W. Fuller, daughter of Capt. Edward and Patty Fuller, her mother's maiden name being Patty Upham. They emigrated to Minnesota in 1856 and settled in the town of Wilson. Have had three children: Lucilla, the eldest, was born November 25, 1847, and died May 15, 1872, at the age of twenty-five. She is spoken of by all who know her as a very amiable and highly accomplished young lady, the only girl, and the pride of the family; Edward F. was born March 28, 1850, and Orlando U. was born May 2, 1854. Mr. Harris owns a nice farm four miles from the city of Winona, in Pleasant valley, besides other lands. Mrs. Harris' father, Capt. Edward Fuller, served in the war

of 1812 ; was captain of a company ; came to Minnesota with Nathan Harris ; died in 1865, and is buried in the cemetery in Pleasant valley. Nathan belongs to the Congregational church, is a democrat in politics.

FRANCIS FARANSWOTH, farmer, is another old settler whose career is a good example of what industry, integrity and perseverance will accomplish. Coming into the township in 1856 with little or no capital except excellent health and a strong right arm, he has accumulated considerable property and one of the handsomest homes in the county. He is a native of Massachusetts, being born at Medford in 1826 ; his family moved into Michigan in 1846 and he came with them. He married in 1848 Miss Sarah Cobb, and remained in Michigan farming until the spring of 1856, when he came to Whitewater, where he has been a resident ever since. Few men enjoy the respect and esteem of the community in a greater degree than Mr. Faranswoth.

JOHN LAEMKUHLE, farmer, was born in Germany in 1806. He was brought up as an agricultural laborer, and worked at his occupation until he was fifty years of age, when he emigrated to America, arriving in 1856, coming direct to Rollingstone, where he purchased the farm he now occupies. He was married in Germany in 1853, to Sophia Brown, and two sons and two daughters have blessed their union. Mr. Laemkuhle, by frugality and industry, has accumulated considerable property, and is much respected by his neighbors. He is a Lutheran, and is independent in politics.

IRA CANFIELD was born in Tompkins county, New York, January 14, 1822. His parents were Herman and Unice Smith Russell. His father was a carpenter and joiner in his earlier business life, but latterly followed farming. Mr. Canfield was reared a farmer and has always followed it as a means of livelihood. January 1, 1843, he was married to Julia Ann Orway, by whom he became the father of five children, named respectively Hattie, George, Charley, Stella and Julia. From New York Mr. Canfield removed to Jackson county, Iowa, in 1852, where Mrs. Canfield died September 12, 1856. In the autumn of this year he came to this county and settled at Troy. Some time after coming here he was married to Miss Rebecca Dunkinson, by whom he has no children. He is a democrat in politics, and has held the office of constable for Saratoga township for five years.

ALONZO D. NICHOLLS (deceased) was born and bred on a farm in



Ware, New Hampshire; his father, Hiram Nicholls, was also born in Ware, as was his mother Sarah Dearborn. April 4, 1831, is the date of birth of the subject of this sketch. After attending the district school of his native town till sixteen years of age he entered a clothing factory, where he was employed as pressman, and this occupation he followed for nine years. He was married January 9, 1854, to Harriet M. Philbrick, who was born in Ware, December 11, 1834; her father, George Philbrick, was a native of New Hampshire, and her mother, Mariah Burnham, was born in England. In May, 1856, Mr. Nicholls came to Elba, and purchasing 100 acres of land on Sec. 10, engaged in farming; his family arrived the following November. Mr. Nicholls was possessed of more than the average ability, and soon took a prominent part in the management of public affairs. He was an adherent of the democratic party on political issues. He was town clerk from 1860 to 1868 inclusive, except in 1862; was assessor for the ten years succeeding 1869, excepting 1872. In 1860 he was appointed postmaster at Elba, but resigned two years later. In 1867 Mr. Nicholls sold his farm and bought a half-interest in a flouring-mill at Chatfield, removing to that place in September; after a year's residence there he returned to Elba and engaged in farming on Sec. 5. Here he died March 1, 1880, and the following year his family removed to Fairwater, where they now reside. Mr. Nicholls' religious faith was universalism, a belief also embraced by his family. His four children all reside together with their mother. Their names and dates of birth are as follows: Benjamin F., June 1, 1859; Clinton A., September 24, 1862; Hattie S., May 26, 1868; Charles H., August 17, 1872.

NICHOLAS ROBERTS, farmer, became a citizen of Elba in 1856, when he purchased 40 acres of land on Sec. 10. In August of that year he married Miss Josephine Klein, of this town, from whom he was afterward divorced. They had one child, Albert, who was born May 17, 1857, and is now living in the adjoining town of Quincy, Olmsted county. Mr. Roberts was born in Luxemburg, February 24, 1831. His father was a farmer, and he lived the youth of a German farmer's boy. At twenty years of age he emigrated to America, and spent five years in the State of New York, where he was employed in running a sawmill engine. Removing thence, he came to Elba, as above noted. He afterward bought 120 acres of land on Sec. 4, where his present home is located. His farm lies on the upland prairie, and is handsome and pro-

ductive. He was married April 18, 1865, to Elizabeth Neiheiser, who was born in Wittel, Prussia, August 10, 1842. They have four children, and are all members of the Roman Catholic church. The names and dates of birth of the children are as follows: Mary Louisa, February 26, 1866; Peter, January 8, 1868; Mary, April 13, 1871; John, April 10, 1874.

JAMES TIERNEY, farmer, was born in County Galway, Ireland. His father, Mark Tierney, was a farmer and gave his son a common school education. On arriving at majority, young Tierney emigrated to America; he spent his first year in the country in a woolen factory at Millville, Massachusetts; the next three years were spent in New York city. He was married there in 1852 to Mary Rodigan, who was born in County Galway in 1833. In the spring of 1856 Mr. Tierney came to Winona and worked for some time on the Winona & St. Peter railroad, then in process of construction. He afterward rented land, which he tilled in the town of St. Charles, and in 1858 bought 40 acres on Sec. 35 in Elba; twenty years later he purchased 120 acres on Secs. 26 and 35, and now has a fine farm. Mr. Tierney is a democrat, and a member of the St. Charles Roman Catholic church, as are all his family. He has eight living children, as follows: Mary E., born September 2, 1853, married John King and lives in Ripley, Dodge county; Martin, born November 5, 1855; John, Thomas, Catharine E., Margaret, Etta and Dora.

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## CHAPTER LVI.

### UTICA TOWNSHIP.

This is undoubtedly one of the richest agricultural townships in the State of Minnesota. With the exception of a few groves of limited area, it is entirely composed of gently undulating prairie, with a rich surface soil lying on a clay subsoil. The township extends nearly to the bluffs and valleys bordering the Mississippi river. It is bounded by Norton township on the north, Warren on the east, Fremont south and St. Charles west; and is described as T. 106, R. 9, W. of the 5th P.M. of the United States survey. Agriculture employs the attention of nearly every one of its citizens.

There are two small villages within its limits, one bearing the name of the township, and the other called Lewiston, in honor of its founder, Jonathan Smith Lewis. The latter village is incorporated. Both these hamlets sprang into life with the construction of the Winona & St. Peter railroad, on which line they are located. There is scarcely a farm throughout the extent of this township that is not marked by large and handsome buildings, many of them built of brick or stone. The number and size of farm barns is something remarkable. Utica was first settled by people from New York and Indiana, but most of the early residents have gone, and their places are mostly taken by emigrants from Germany. The eastern half of the township is now almost wholly occupied by these people, many of whom are recent arrivals, and they bid fair soon to possess the whole township. Many of them cannot read or speak the English language, but they are an industrious, peaceful class of citizens, and are fast developing the agricultural resources of the country. Schools and churches receive a liberal support, and the intellectual development of the community is not backward. The first permanent settlement in the town of Utica was made in the fall of 1854. During this year came Andrew Peterman and Peter Raymond, of Indiana, Henry and Lyman Raymond, of New York, Rev. William Sweet, E. H. Barrett, Dr. John W. Bentley, and two others named Hall and Malloy, all of whom spent the following winter here. Collins Rice came and took a claim and built a sod house thereon in the fall of 1854; the next spring he brought his family and lived a short time in this house. Mrs. Rice relates that one morning while washing her dishes she happened to look up and discover a snake lying close under the roof on a shelf formed by the sod wall, and surveying the scene with quiet contentment. The good lady's contentment was not so quiet, and the intruder was soon banished. A frame building was soon prepared and occupied, and Mr. and Mrs. Rice are still to be found in their pleasant home on the original homestead, one and one-half miles southeast of Lewiston. Another of Mrs. Rice's unpleasant experiences was with a weasel which captured two-thirds of her small brood of chickens; but his weaselship soon paid the penalty of his thefts; one night, while gorged with his ill-gotten feast, he was seized by the neck in Mrs. Rice's determined grasp and held a prisoner till her husband dispatched him.

During the fall of 1854 occurred the first birth of a white child in town, a daughter born to Dr. Bentley and christened Harriet.

In 1855 nearly all the land was taken up by settlers. In the spring of this year came Austin Raymond, father of the brothers above named, Luzon, his son, James Myers, William H. Dwight, Clayburn Cheatham, J. S. Lewis, David Whetstine, Philip Ramer, and numerous others. The first death was that of an infant child of Peter Ramer, which occurred in April, 1855. In the fall of the same year Mrs. Clayburn Cheatham died of consumption. In October, 1856, Daniel Ramer, a brother of Philip, died of the same disease, and about the same time Mrs. Perry Miller passed away. In February, 1857, Steward Cook, one of the pioneers, was killed by a landslide from the bluff while going through a valley on the way to Winona. Steps were early taken to secure postal facilities, and a postoffice was established on the northeast quarter of Sec. 23, the fall of 1855, at the house of William H. Dwight. The business of the office was transacted by Collins Rice. Soon after this a postoffice was also established at Dr. Bentley's house, on Sec. 17, with the doctor as postmaster. It is still related, as one of the examples of the style of business in those days, that the mail was kept in an old trunk, and anyone expecting mail was free to sort over the contents of said trunk, taking or leaving as he pleased. This was quite as "convenient" as Elder Ely's hat, in the early days of Winona. The two postoffices still maintained in the town are near the above original sites, namely, at the villages of Lewiston and Utica.

Among the settlers of 1855 were a number of Dunkard families, who sought to settle a community of their faith. They succeeded in so doing, and now have a neat and commodious church edifice, standing on the eastern side of the line dividing Utica from Warren township. Philip Ramer, one of these pioneers, was a preacher of this faith, and very soon after their arrival regular meetings of the sect were inaugurated. As early as May 20, 1855, Mr. Ramer preached at the house of J. S. Lewis. In July of the same year Rev. William Sweet preached in a grove in the central part of the town. In 1856 Mr. Ramer conducted religious services in the western part of the town, in a shanty built by Luzon Raymond on his first claim. The first school of which we can find any memory was taught in the summer of 1856 by Miss Elizabeth Sands, in Mr. Raymond's pre-emption shanty on Sec. 19. The next year a frame schoolhouse was built in the same locality, and a good-sized school occupied it.



The large number of men seeking locations in this section in 1855-6 made a large demand for hotel accommodations, and very meagre accommodations were satisfactory. The first hotel was probably that kept by A. and L. Raymond, father and son, in a log building on the southeast quarter of Sec. 18, in 1855-6-7. Dr. Bentley was the first justice of the peace in the town, being chosen at an election held at his house in the fall of 1855; E. H. Barrett was also chosen justice, but did no business. The other officers were: trustees, Collins Rice, D. Cheatham and Moses Pike; assessor, Philip Ramer; treasurer, J. W. Bentley; constable, L. J. Aldrich. As a sample of Dr. Bentley's easy way of doing business may be mentioned a marriage ceremony performed by him in 1857. The principals, Frank Gleason and Genevra Bruce, being ordered by the doctor to stand up and join hands, he said: "By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Territory of Minnesota, I pronounce you man and wife." This was, perhaps, the first marriage in town. In November, 1856, Edwin Pierce and Chloe A. Raymond, residents of this town, were married at Rochester. Most of the weddings in early days were performed by Esquire Rice, who was chosen at the second election as justice of the peace. In 1858 he married Moses George to Lucretia Lewis. Soon after this he joined A. P. Lovejoy and the widow of John Morehead. The latter was killed by falling from a wagon in 1858.

On the organization of the township, following the admission of the state, May 11, 1858, the town election was held at Dr. Bentley's house. The next year it was held at the house of Levi Matthews, on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 16, and continued to be held there for many years. Mr. Dwight very much desired to have the town named New Boston, but a majority of the voters coincided with Dr. Bentley's wish, and it was accordingly christened Utica. The first board of supervisors was composed of Clayburn Cheatham, E. P. Williams and William Elliott. Owing to the destruction of the town records by fire, in 1880, it is impossible to learn who were the other officers elected at that time; and no record can be given of subsequent elections, except the last four. T. J. Hammer has been town clerk for the last seven years. In 1880 the supervisors elected were James H. Perry, John Posz and J. B. Stebbins; the next year R. K. Holding took the place of Stebbins. The same board was elected in 1882; but Mr. Holding soon died, and John H. Firth was appointed in his place. At the election this year Henry Nusslock

was chosen instead of Firth, the others being re-elected. James H. Perry has been chairman of the town board fourteen years, and a member of that body sixteen years. John Posz has been supervisor or assessor every year since 1874 except one.

The total population of Utica township in 1880 was 1,335.

## LEWISTON VILLAGE.

The act incorporating this village was approved February 23, 1875. It includes Sec. 17. The organic act required that the first election be held on the first Monday of March, that year, which was the first day of the month. The following officers were elected: Trustees, L. J. Allred, William Elliott and Peter Peters; clerk, N. E. Kirch; treasurer, Peter Lewis; justice, I. C. Slade; constable, J. B. Lancaster.

The village is now in prosperous condition financially. The report of the treasurer at the last election showed \$510 in the treasury. Six saloons are licensed at \$75 per year. But little expenditure is required for streets and sidewalks, as the village has but limited population or business.

The census of 1880 showed a population of 241. Among its business establishments at this time are three grain warehouses, four general stores, hardware store, harness shop, wagon and carriage shop, meat market, and several blacksmith and shoemakers' shops.

The site of the village was chosen in 1863. The railroad company had contemplated the location of its station a half mile farther east, and a few farmers in that locality offered Philip Ramer \$50 per acre for the site in order to secure its location there, but he refused to sell at that price. J. S. Lewis, who owned the site of the present station, deeded the railway company an undivided half interest in fifteen acres of land, and secured the location of the station where it now is.

The first building was put up by Jonah Peterman and occupied by him as a store.

Considerable business is transacted in this small hamlet. The difficulties of the roads through the Mississippi bluffs to Winona drive a great deal of trade here from the prairie regions lying north and south; and its distance from St. Charles also contributes to its local importance as a trading center.

The present officers of the village are: Trustees, Henry Stock, M. Neuman, J. W. Rice; clerk, O. W. Hunt; treasurer, John Dorn;

justices, August Ogrosky, Peter Peters; constables, Jacob Posz, C. D. Jacobs; assessor, B. M. Seemann.

#### UTICA VILLAGE.

Utica village was laid out in 1866 by Benjamin Ellsworth, owner of the site. It is platted at right angles to the railroad, and is nearly all on the northwest quarter of Sec. 19, one corner lying on Sec. 18. The first building on the site of the village was a grain warehouse, erected by Mr. Ellsworth on the advent of the railroad in 1863, and for some years a portion of this structure was occupied as a depot by the railway company. The plat embraces fifty lots, 160×60 feet in area, and twenty lots, 132×60. The first building erected after the survey was a store on lot two, block two, built and occupied by Gideon Peterman; L. C. Bates soon built a general store on lot one, block two, and A. D. Ellsworth built the hotel on lot five, block three. There are now two warehouses, a general store, hotel, drug-store, tin-shop, harness-shop, shoe-shop, saloon, blacksmith-shops, etc. The village is not incorporated, and its exact population is unknown.

#### SOCIETIES.

At present there are four church organizations in the township and three church edifices. Others have been organized, but have gone out of existence. The first society which sprang into existence was that of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1858 Rev. Michael Klepper, of St. Charles, familiarly known as Father Klepper, began preaching in the little frame schoolhouse which stood a short distance east of the present village of Utica. During this year or early in the next a small society was organized, with J. B. Stebbins as steward and classleader, which office he now fills for the same organization. A union Sabbath school was soon organized; L. W. Rowley was chosen as superintendent, and has acted in that capacity nearly all the time since, still doing so; the school now numbers fifty members and is prosperous. Methodist preaching is still maintained in the schoolhouse at Utica, but the society has been much weakened by deaths and removals and no class is kept up.

In the fall of 1860 a Methodist class was organized in the northern part of the town at the "Red Schoolhouse." J. B. Jayne was classleader and J. B. Stebbins steward. The class numbered thirty-five members, and sustained a Sunday school of fifty members,

under the lead of Mr. Jayne. Rev. Zara Norton, of St. Charles, was pastor. This organization was six years later merged in that at Utica.

The second society was the Presbyterian, organized at Utica in 1860, by Rev. H. L. Craven, who then resided at La Crescent and visited this point once in three weeks. There were six members, viz: L. W. Rowley, Thomas Sloan and John M. Boyd, and their respective wives. Mr. Rowley was elder. No organization is now kept up, and but two families of this sect remain in the vicinity.

The Lutheran Society of Lewiston was organized under the name of St. John's church, in the year 1866. At that time the society consisted of seventeen members. The society built its first church, a building 24×40 feet, one mile west of the village of Lewiston. The first minister having charge of the society was Rev. L. Schmidt, who supplied the church for about two years. From the year 1868 to 1878 the field was occupied by five different ministers, in their order as follows: R. Weise, A. Blumer, L. F. Frey, H. Freese and G. Schaaf. In July, 1878, Rev. O. Koch took charge of the church, under whose pastorate it continues up to the present time. In the year 1879 the society built their present edifice, a veneered brick, 36×56 feet, 18 feet high, with steeple 83 feet in height. The present building is in the village of Lewiston, was built at a cost of \$3,000, and will seat five hundred people. The following year the old building was moved to near the site of the new church and is used for school purposes. In 1882 the society added a neatly built parsonage to its church property, making in all property valued at nearly \$5,000. At present the membership of the society numbers forty-five and it is enjoying a steady and healthful growth.

In 1865 Rev. B. F. Kelley, a Baptist clergyman, resided at Lewiston, where he attempted to organize a society, but did not receive sufficient support to enable the plan to succeed. He preached there about a year.

A Baptist society was organized at Utica, March 28, 1868, by Rev. Jackson, of St. Charles township, who had been holding services there at intervals. There were fourteen members; Joel B. Dewey was deacon of the class, Henry H. Cheathan, clerk, and Frank W. Curtise, treasurer. Preaching is still maintained by this sect at the schoolhouse, but no organization now exists.

The earliest Roman Catholic service was conducted by Father



Alois Plut, of Winona, at the house of John Kirch, near Lewiston, in 1868; seven families participated. In 1878 Peter Peters bought four acres of land in the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 14, which he fenced and planted, and subsequently gave it to the church for a building spot. The site is a beautiful one, the ground gently sloping from the center. In 1876 a society was inaugurated with thirty-seven families. John Hatreich, John Daley and Timothy Roeling were the trustees; the first was secretary and Mr. Daley treasurer of the society. In 1878 a veneered brick church was built on this site. It is 54x28 feet in area, with audience room twenty feet high, and will seat two hundred persons. Its cost was \$2,500. Forty families are now included in the organization, and services are regularly conducted by Father Smith, of St. Charles.

Harmony Lodge, A. F. and A. M., was organized at Enterprise, three and one-half miles south of Lewiston, but soon after removed to the latter place. The first stated communication was held June 1, 1863. It started out with eleven charter members. The officers were as follows: Orrin Wheeler, W.M.; N. B. Ufford, S.W.; S. W. Gleason, J.W.; A. R. Hoit, Treas.; Sebastian Giesreidter, Sec.; William Proteus, D.S.D.; Lucius Brainard, J.D.; John James, Tyler. The other charter members were S. D. King, J. W. Klepper and George McNutt. The lodge now has a membership of thirty-one, and is in a prosperous condition. It is free of debt, has \$125 in the treasury, and is well supplied with regalia and furniture. Following is a list of the present officers: I. C. Slade, W.M.; Henry Nusslock, S.W.; N. Turner, J.W.; Peter Fischer, Treas.; O. W. Hunt, Sec.; August Zander, S.D.; C. J. Sivly, J.D.; L. Siebenhuener, Tyler. Since the first formation of the lodge one hundred and twenty-nine persons have been connected with it.

Aurora Grove of Druids was instituted at Lewiston, February 2, 1878. This is an insurance organization, and started in with twenty-one charter members. After various additions and losses, the membership now includes the same number. Its officers at present are as follows: John Roth, Past Arch; A. Merker, N.A.; Fred. Suhr, V.A.; Henry Nusslock, Treas.; August Kessler, Sec.; B. M. Seemann, F.; John Fohl, J.W.; F. Schmutzler, O.W.

## CHAPTER LVII.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

THOMAS CHAPPELL, blacksmith; shop on Lafayette street, between Second and Third. Mr. Chappell established business in this city in May, 1857, on the lot adjoining the one he now occupies, on the north. These lots front forty feet on Lafayette street and have a depth of sixty feet. This is the oldest blacksmith-shop in the city, and business has been conducted at the present location since 1868. Mr. Chappell is a prominent member of the Episcopal church of this city, and enjoys the distinction of having been the first male communicant of St. Paul's church; was made warden soon after, and held that office until the erection of the new church edifice. He was marshal of the city in 1872-3, and five years later, 1878, was appointed deputy United States marshal, under Marshal McLaren. Holding his position as deputy until McLaren was superseded by R. S. Denny, Mr. Chappell was reappointed, and still holds that position. Mr. Chappell has resided for the past twenty-five years on the premises purchased by him on coming to this city in 1857, three lots corner of Sanford and Franklin streets. Mr. Chappell is an Englishman by birth, an affiliate of the I. O. O. F. fraternity and a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., of Winona Chapter, No. 5, and of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3.

S. W. HAMILTON, treasurer of Winona county, is a native of the county whose funds he keeps. He is the son of Andrew Hamilton, of this city, born October 5, 1857. He was educated in the schools of this city and graduated from the state normal school here, class of 1875. Kept books for the lumber-house of Horton & Hamilton, (the latter his father) and was traveling in the interest of that house when he was elected to his present office in 1879, being at that time but twenty-two years of age. Re-elected in 1881, he is now serving his second term.

F. L. COTTER, Treasurer Hamilton's deputy, is a native of Minnesota, born in St. Paul in 1856; graduated at St. John's College, in the northern part of Minnesota, in 1875; then went to Europe and

entering the University of Louvain, Belgium; pursued his studies there five years, returning in 1880 to his native state. The same spring he was appointed to the desk in the treasurer's office, which he now holds. Both treasurer and deputy are as yet in the ranks of bachelordom.

J. M. SHEARDOWN, clerk of district court, elected in the fall of 1877, re-elected in 1881; his present term of service will expire December 31, 1884. The successive clerks of district court for this county have been: John Keyes, clerk under the territorial administration; Henry C. Lester, elected in 1858, who resigned the office to enter the United States army in the spring of 1861; E. A. Gerdtzen, appointed to fill vacancy, then regularly elected, who held office until 1878; and S. M. Sheardown, present incumbent. Mr. Sheardown is a native of New York, came to Winona in 1857; was admitted to the bar here at the spring term of the district court in 1860; entered the United States service with the 5th N. Y. Cav. Reg. in 1862, served three years and returning to this city in 1865 resumed practice the following year. He was elected justice of the peace in 1874, and held that office until his election as clerk of court in 1877. Is married, and has two children attending normal school in this city.

EDWARD PELZER, druggist and dealer in paints, oils, etc. This business was established in 1867 by Mr. Pelzer, corner of Second and Market streets, and transferred to its present location, corner of Third and Market streets, September 27, 1872, at which date the building which he had erected for his business was completed. It is a three-story and basement brick 24×70, the first floor and basement devoted to business, the upper stories for dwelling. The business of 1881 footed up \$12,000, and 1882 shows a gratifying increase over that. Mr. Pelzer is a native of St. Clair county, Illinois; came to Winona with his parents in 1857, at which time he was twelve years of age. In 1860 he entered the drug house of L. Wienand & Co., with whom he remained four and a-half years, and was then in Chicago, Ill., Rochester, Minn., and in this city, always as druggist clerk, until he engaged in business for himself in 1867, at which time he had had seven years practical experience in his line. He is a member of Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, I.O.O.F., of the Druids beneficiary, the Philharmonic society and the board of trade. Was married in 1870, and has three children, two of them in school.

HON. WILLIAM MITCHELL was born on the old Niagara peninsula,

a few miles from the falls, on the Canada side, November 19, 1832. At sixteen years of age he entered Jefferson College, Pennsylvania; graduated in the class of 1853, and after spending two years in Virginia, teaching, entered the law office of Hon. E. C. Wilson, of Maynard, Virginia, and, completing his preparations for the bar, was admitted to the bar in the circuit court of eastern Virginia, at the spring term of 1857, and immediately located for practice in this city. Here he formed a law partnership with Hon. E. M. Wilson, now of Minneapolis. After the removal of his partner to Minneapolis Mr. Mitchell was associated in practice with the Hon. D. S. Norton, until that gentleman was elected to the United States senate. Mr. Mitchell then formed a partnership with Hon. W. H. Yale, of this city, which continued until 1873, when Mr. Mitchell was elected judge of the district court, for the third judicial district of this state, for the full term of seven years. Re-elected in 1880, Judge Mitchell resigned that position the following spring to accept the place on the supreme bench of the state, to which he was appointed by Gov. Pillsbury, on the increase of that judiciary from three to five members. This office he held until the election of 1882, when he was returned as associate justice of the supreme court for the full term. Though confining himself closely to the duties of his profession Mr. Wilson has frequently served as member of the city council; was county attorney one term, and a member of the state legislature session of 1859-60. Judge Mitchell's first wife dying in September, 1867, after ten years of wedded life, he again married in 1872. The judge's living children are three daughters and one son.

JOHN L. DOWNING, farmer, is a son of George W. and Sarah (True) Downing, of New Hampshire, and was ushered into the world June 25, 1844. He lived the life of a New England farmer's boy until thirteen years old, since which time he has been a resident of Minnesota. In 1855 George W. Downing took up 160 acres of land in the town of Saratoga, this county, and, returning to New Hampshire, died the following year. In 1857 his widow and children settled on this land, where one of the sons now resides. The subject of this sketch enlisted August 13, 1864, being then twenty years of age, in Co. H, 11th Minn. Vols., and served until June 25 following. His regiment was stationed in the vicinity of Nashville, Tennessee, guarding the railroad supply route to the front. Before departing for the south Mr. Downing was mar-



ried to Miss Rosilla, daughter of William G. and Mary West, of Vermont. She was born at Johnsburg, New York, October 31, 1842. August 19, 1864, is the date of their marriage. Returning from the south, Mr. Downing settled on section 33, in this township, where he has since remained. He has a handsome tract of 160 acres, and Mrs. Downing inherits 40 acres adjoining, making a farm of 200 acres under one management. Mr. and Mrs. Downing are members of St. Charles Grange and Methodist Episcopal church. The former has been clerk of St. Charles township since 1874, inclusive, his political opinions are republican. Two children have been given to him, as follows: Herbert W., April 26, 1868; Sarah M., July 26, 1873.

JACOB BRIZIUS, farmer, was born in Germany in 1812. He was apprenticed to the cooper trade, working at the trade for some years. He enlisted in the Bavarian army and served twelve years, raising to the rank of sergeant. In 1847 he came to America, settling in Ohio, where he worked at his trade for some ten years, when he came west to the Trout valley. With his wife he trudged his way through the valley, becoming lost and almost discouraged by the difficulties he experienced, but like the old soldier he was, he pushed on until he found the place he thought would suit him, which he settled on and where he has remained ever since. He has by dint of hard work and perseverance gotten himself one of the finest farms in the valley. He was married in 1848 to Miss Catherine Wasen, by whom he has thirteen children, three of whom are dead. Mr. Brizius has held the position of supervisor. He is Evangelical in religion and a republican in politics. He is a man of sterling integrity and is looked upon as one of the fathers of the settlement. He is still a hale, hearty old man and takes an active interest in public affairs.

PATRICK MURRAY was born in Ireland in 1824, and came to this country in 1842, going to Nashville, Tennessee, and working in a machine-shop until 1857, when he moved west settling in Trout valley, Mount Vernon township. He, with Mr. Woods, were the first to settle in the valley, which was a perfect wilderness. Mr. Murray lived to see the valley well settled, laid out in roads with schoolhouses and churches. He was a good type of the early pioneer physically, and much of the present prosperity of the township is owing to his efforts. He held most of the public offices in the gift of the township, and was identified with every public movement.

In the spring of 1873, while plowing, he was kicked by one of his horses, sustaining such injuries that death ensued on May 8. He was married in 1860 to Miss Bertha Miller, daughter of Charles Miller, of Wisconsin, seven children blessing their union, all of whom are now living, the eldest boys working the farm under the superintendency of Mrs. Murray.

GEORGE B., son of George and Catharine Dresbach, was born August 27, 1827, in Pickaway county, Ohio. His father emigrated from Pennsylvania to Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1802, where he bought 1,100 acres of land of the government at \$2.50 per acre. His father remained on his farm until his death, which occurred at the advanced age of eighty-five years. His mother, Catharine (Betz) Dresbach, died also in Ohio on the old farm at the age of seventy-five years. George B., the subject of this biography, was brought up on the farm, accustomed to all kinds of hard physical labor so necessary to the development of true manhood. He attended district school part of each year, until the age of twenty when he entered Greenfield Academy, of Ohio. Learning of the great advantages offered to the young in the west, he emigrated to Wisconsin in 1855 and to the Territory of Minnesota in 1857, where he founded the village of Dresbach in 1857, which bears his name. The township was named Dresbach under the "Township Organization" act of 1858. Mr. Dresbach has always taken a very active part in the development and building of the village and township. He has held various offices in both town and county. He was elected by the democratic party a member of the Minnesota legislature in 1868. Was again elected to the state legislature in 1878, by his party. Mr. Dresbach was married to Mary C. Nichols, daughter of Col. C. M. Nichols, Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Dresbach have five children, all living. George B., Jr., whose biography appears under the head of this township, resides in Dresbach. Minnie M., now Mrs. Moss, resides in Dresbach. Mr. John H. Moss, of Dane county, Wisconsin, her husband, is engaged in the manufacture of brick. Charles L. is now telegraph operator and agent on the Minneapolis and St. Louis railroad. The two youngest, Jessie and Nellie, are at home.

Mr. Dresbach has had a great deal of experience in various businesses of life. He is now the owner of over one thousand acres of land, including a part of the village where he now resides. He has done a great deal to the building up of the village of Dresbach,

and is now endeavoring, with others, to rush the valuable stone-quarries in operation in Dresbach.

GEORGE B., Jr., son of George B. and Mary C. Dresbach, was born in Wisconsin, April 18, 1857, at Onalaska, La Crosse county. His father emigrated from Pickaway county, Ohio, to Wisconsin in 1855, thence to the Territory of Minnesota in 1858. His mother was born in Albany, New York. George B., the subject of this biography, moved to Dresbach, Minnesota, with his father's family before he was a year old. He attended the village school part of each year for several years. His education, in so far as a perfect knowledge of text-books is concerned, is somewhat limited, but being a close student and observer he has acquired a great deal of information, and is conversant with the leading topics of the day. In the fall of 1879 he became editor of the "Winona Democrat," and was editor of that paper for two years. He sold out to F. W. Flint in 1881. The name of the paper has been changed to the "Winona Tribune." Mr. Dresbach returned to the village of that name in 1881 and began the manufacture of brick. He, with John H. Moss, organized the Northwestern Brick Co., under the firm name of Moss & Dresbach, reference to which is made in the article on the manufactories of Dresbach. Mr. Dresbach takes an active interest in the local affairs of his village and township, and is laboring earnestly to develop the valuable resources of his village. He is yet free from the burden of domestic responsibility, and can devote all his time to active business.

JOSEPH L. BIRGE, engineer. Mr. Birge is the son of Joseph and Sarah M. Birge, pioneer settlers of St. Charles township, who came to this locality in May, 1857, and died here, the father in the fall of 1879, the mother in August, 1882. The family came into Iowa from Connecticut in 1847, settled in Jackson county, a few miles southwest of Dubuque, and remained there until their removal to St. Charles ten years later. During their Iowa residence Mr. Birge, Sr., was a member of the Iowa legislature, during the session in which the state capital was removed from Iowa City to Des Moines. The old Birge farm embraced a tract of 240 acres, all lying within what is now the corporate limits of St. Charles, about 80 acres of which is laid off in town lots. The only members of the family living in this vicinity are Joseph L. Birge, the subject of this sketch, and his sister, unmarried, who resides on the old homestead. Mr. Joseph L. Birge is a native of Connecticut, and came west with his father's family to

Iowa in 1847, and to St. Charles in 1857. From the completion of the railway to this point he was engaged in buying and shipping grain, in company with his father, until about eight years ago, since which time he has been in the employ of C. W. Seefield, one of the heaviest grain shippers in southern Minnesota. Mr. Birge is married; has seven children, four of them attending the city schools. He is a member of the R. A. and K. and L. beneficiary societies.

JOHN W. LOCKWOOD was born in Florida, Montgomery county, New York, October 4, 1839. His mother died while he was only seven years old, thus depriving him of that maternal care and watchfulness so necessary to the proper training of the young. At the age of ten years he hired with Mr. John Van Huessen and worked for him three years, receiving a little schooling in the winters and working on the farm in the summers. After working in various places till 1856 he started west to find some of his family that had "gone west" some years before. He searched in several cities in Wisconsin and Minnesota, where he had heard they had gone, but without success, until his second visit to La Crosse, where he met his cousin Peter Murray, who told him that his folks could be found in Pleasant Hill township. After visiting them he went to Stillwater, Minnesota, and worked one summer on a farm. Returning home in the winter he was obliged to walk the whole distance and used to stay with the Indians at night. He worked for Mr. Joseph Cooper four or five seasons and chopped wood for steamboats several winters. By steady application of his time and talents he succeeded in getting a quarter-section of land, and December 4, 1862, he and Miss Elizabeth E. Cooper were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. They now reside on their farm, surrounded by the necessary comforts of life.

FRANKLIN C. BRYAN was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan, November 19, 1826. His father, John Bryan, was born in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, and his mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Babcock, was born on Long Island, New York. At the age of seven years Mr. Bryan removed with his parents to Constantine, St. Joseph county, Michigan, where he remained on a farm until the age of twenty-two years, when he learned the trade of machinist, which trade he followed about eight years, when he removed to Plainview, Minnesota, in 1857, and to Rolling Stone township in 1868, to the farm on which he now resides. Was married to Miss Mary E. Donaldson January 13, 1853. Mrs. Bryan was the daughter



of William and Eliza Donaldson, and was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, March 20, 1831. Eight children have been born to them, seven of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Bryan are members of the Congregational church of Winona. Mr. Bryan is of an inventive turn of mind and has invented several valuable improvements, not the least of which is a sulky-plow, designed for steep hillsides, but works equally well on level ground. He has also on his farm a mineral spring, said to possess very medicinal properties, a notice of which will appear in the proper place in this work.

HIRAM D. BAILEY (deceased) was a son of Daniel Bailey, who was born in Ware, New Hampshire, and married Sarah Buzzell, a native of the same township. The subject of this sketch was born there April 15, 1829. Daniel Bailey was a merchant, and sent his son to the district school and then to the academy at Francistown, New Hampshire. At nineteen he began teaching, and after three terms of this labor began to take work from a shoe factory. In Ware was born and reared one Hiram Nicholls, who married Miss Sarah Dearborn, a native of the same place; to them was born, February 15, 1833, a daughter, whom they christened Arvill J. October 20, 1850, Hiram Bailey and Arvill J. Nicholls were united in wedlock at Ware. In May, 1857, Mr. Bailey removed with his family to the village of Elba, and during the next winter built the first frame house in the village. This building still stands; it is on the east side of the river, near the bridge. Here he had purchased twenty acres of land. In August, 1858, Mr. Bailey received his commission as postmaster, and the first postoffice was opened in his house. In 1860 he sold this property, resigned his postmastership, and bought eighty acres of land on Secs. 2 of Elba and 31 of Whitewater, the dwelling being in Whitewater, and here he continued to reside till his death, which occurred July 26, 1876. His widow and two children still reside here. Mr. Bailey served the town as justice of the peace and as chairman of the board of supervisors in 1859 and 1860. He adhered to the democratic party in partisan elections. Four children, born as below, survive him: Elbridge O., May 14, 1852, married Rhoda Ellis, and resides at Fairwater; Hiram M., August 8, 1853, lives with his mother on the homestead; Lizzie E., August 26, 1858, married Charles I. Moore, and dwells near her mother, in the town of Whitewater;

Ira A., January 1, 1866 ; Josiah D. was born February 20, 1860, and died November 25, 1863.

ANTHONY HEIM, farmer, is a son of Bernard and Adelia Heim, who emigrated from Alsace, now part of Germany, to New York. Bernard Heim was a shoemaker, and settled on some land in Eaton, Erie county, New York, where the subject of this sketch was born, May 5, 1833. Anthony assisted his father in the tillage of his land and attended the rude schools of that pioneer region about three years in all. In April, 1857, he came to Minnesota, and, in partnership with Ferdinand Kramer, bought 140 acres of land on Secs. 11 and 14, Elba. He now owns all of this land, his mother having bought the interest of his partner and sold to him. In May, 1857, Mr. Heim was married, at Dubuque, to Miss Crescentia Hafner, who was born in Baden, Germany, January 25, 1836, and they immediately settled down in Elba, which has ever since been their home. By various purchases Mr. Heim has acquired a large landed estate, having 1,254 acres in this vicinity and 200 acres in Dodge county. He has occupied his present large residence on Sec. 27 for the last sixteen years. His political principles are democratic, and he has taken a prominent part in public affairs. He was a member of the town board in 1859, 1863, 1873, 1878 and 1880, being chairman of the board in the four last-named years. In the fall of 1874 he was elected to represent his assembly district in the state legislature, and served with satisfaction, notwithstanding the district has a republican majority. Himself and family are members of the Elba Roman Catholic church. There are six children, born as follows : Adelia, February 22, 1863 ; Louisa, July 22, 1865 ; Mary A., September 25, 1867 ; Carolina, March 31, 1870 ; Louis A., November 5, 1873 ; John E., February 15, 1877.

DAVID W. BROWN, farmer, son of Samuel Brown and Martha Prossor, of Baltimore, Maryland, was born at Skulltown, Salem county, New Jersey, October 28, 1821. Samuel Brown died when David was but three years old, and his widow removed with her family to Cincinnati, Ohio. The subject of this sketch, who was the youngest of eleven children, was put out with a farmer to be brought up. At sixteen years of age he took up the trade of hatter, which he followed many years. While living at Chapin, in 1835, Mr. Brown rescued Salmon P. Chase from a mob that was pursuing him with stones and rotten eggs for uttering abolition sentiments. It is a proud thought that the boy, who opened a gate and saved Lincoln's

secretary of war, lived to see the idea, then and there held in contempt, become the ruling sentiment and law of the land. Mr. Brown was himself surrounded by a mob one evening in Cincinnati, and, but for the intervention of friends, would have suffered violence, on account of his known abolition sentiments. The friends who saved him were politically opposed to him, but interposed for personal reasons. In November, 1850, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Rachael Johnson. She was born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, March 19, 1828, was daughter of Robert and Nancy Johnson, also natives of the same state. After farming several years in Indiana Mr. Brown removed to Minnesota, arriving in Utica in the fall of 1857. He bought the farm on which he still resides, being the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19, and removed here with his family the next spring. This was one of the first claims taken in the township, and is a beautiful farm, on which its owner has erected handsome buildings. Mrs. Brown is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and her husband sympathizes with her in faith. He is a republican; served as justice of the peace two years, and as school officer nineteen. Ten children have been born to them, of whom eight are now living, as follows: Martha J., October 12, 1853; Samuel W., September 10, 1855; William E., December 4, 1857; David M., September 12, 1860; Henry W., March 28, 1862, now station-agent at Utica; Irwin O., March 24, 1865; Benjamin F., November 23, 1871; Gertie B., April 3, 1875. All are at home.

JOSEPH KRAMER, farmer, was born in Baden, Germany, March 12, 1831. His father, Leonard Kramer, was born in Baden in 1801, and married Annie Mary Haaler, born in 1797. In 1851 they removed with their three sons, hereinafter sketched, to Hamburg, Erie county, New York, and engaged in farming, and in 1865 they removed with the elder son to Elba, where they both died, the latter having passed away October 26, 1871, and the former March 26, 1880. The subject of this sketch was in his twenty-first year when he came with his parents to America. He assisted his father in the management of his farm, and removed with him to another farm in Cattaraugus county, New York. In 1853 he married Carrie Lindenmiller, who was born in Wurtemberg, October 6, 1827. Ever since his arrival in Elba he has been one of her leading representative farmers. He at first purchased ninety-eight acres of land on Secs. 7 and 18, placing his residence on the former section,

near a fine spring of water, and where he still dwells. This land was in a state of nature when he purchased, but was speedily improved. There are now large and handsome buildings and other improvements thereon. Subsequent purchases have added 160 acres to the landed domain, of which over 200 acres are under cultivation. Mr. Kramer was a member of the board of supervisors in 1870 and 1876; he is a democrat. The family enjoys and profits by the teachings of the Roman Catholic church at Elba, in which all are communicants. There are seven of the children, whose record of births, etc., is here appended: Joseph, born April 25, 1854, married Ellen Sands, and deals in merchandise at Elba; Ferdinand, born January 20, 1856, resides with parents; Caroline, born February 3, 1858, married John P. Arnoldy and lives at Rolling Stone; Annie, born March 11, 1859; Charles, born May 3, 1861; Mary, born November 7, 1864; Louisa, born July 21, 1867.

FERDINAND KRAMER, farmer, the subject of this sketch, was one of the pioneers of this township, having come here in the spring of 1857, and has ever since made his home here. He was born in Baden on St. Valentine's day, 1832. On removing with his father to the United States, he assisted him in the tillage of his farm and also labored in sawmills and on neighboring farms. He was married in August, 1859, to Catharina Kopp; she was born in Prussia in 1832, and died at Elba April 1, 1875, leaving five children, namely: Mary, born March 4, 1860, married Gottlieb Lobitzka and now lives in Wisconsin; Charles, born November 16, 1865; Louisa, born August 7, 1868; Rosa A., born December 21, 1875, twin sister of Clara, who died when nine months old. On arriving in town Mr. Kramer bought a half interest in 120 acres on Secs. 11 and 14. After visiting the east in 1859, he sold this property and purchased 120 acres on Sec. 17, on which he resided for the next seven years. By various purchases he has acquired 1,500 acres of land, of which one section is in Steele, Dakota, and the balance in this vicinity. In 1867 he built his present large dwelling on Sec. 18 and has lived therein ever since. His large barns are a comfort to the eye of a tidy farmer, and his broad acres of prairie furnish a pleasant view for all who may pass that way. Mr. Kramer was the chief instrument in securing the building of a Roman Catholic church at Elba, and is still one of the pillars of that organization. In politics he is an independent democrat; was a member of the town board in 1866, 1874 and 1875, being elected chairman in the



latter year ; was clerk of his school district for twelve years. On the 25th of July, 1875, he was married to Louisa Marnoch, who was born in Luxemburg, May 22, 1842.

CHARLES KRAMER, farmer, was born in Baden, July 8, 1839. He attended school till thirteen years old, when his family removed to America. He attended an English school in New York during two winter terms ; assisted his father on the farm till eighteen years old, and then worked out among neighboring farmers. In 1862 he came to Elba and bought 160 acres of land on Sec. 18, where his home now is. This land was wild, and during the first year after its purchase a portion of it was broken up. In the meantime he was employed by farmers in the vicinity, and worked two winters in Todd's sawmill, near by. The second year a crop was harvested and a small dwelling was erected on the farm. December 22, 1864, he was married to Louisa Roesler, who was born near Berlin, Germany, February 13, 1845, and settled on his farm, which has ever since been his home. By perseverance and industry he added to his possessions, and now has 395 acres of land, with model buildings and improvements. About 340 acres of his domain have been turned by the plow. Mr. Kramer was a member of the town board of supervisors in 1868 and chairman of that body in 1881-2. In politics he is a democrat. All the family is connected with the Roman Catholic church at Elba. Five children are included in the number, all residing at home. Their birth dates are as follows : Leonard, October 11, 1865 ; Emma, August 1, 1868 ; Edward, November 3, 1870 ; Frank, May 27, 1875 ; Clara, November 27, 1877.

PETER HIDERSHIDE was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1842, arriving in America and coming direct to Mt. Vernon in 1857, when he purchased from Mr. Pomeroy the farm he now occupies in Trout valley. When he took up his residence in Trout valley there were very few settlers near him, and he may be considered one of the first to break ground in this fertile valley. Mr. Hidershide has never married. He is a Roman Catholic in religion and a democrat in politics. He enjoys the respect and esteem of his neighbors to a marked degree.

NICHOLAS ARTZ, gunsmith and dealer in guns, pistols, fishing-tackle and sporting goods, east side Lafayette street, between Second and Third. This is the principal depot of supplies for sportsmen in this city. The business was started by the present proprietor a little

over three years ago, in a small shop on the opposite side of the street, which proving too small for his business, a move was soon afterward made to the present location. Two persons are employed about the establishment, which does a constantly increasing business. Mr. Artz is a Winona boy, born July 20, 1858; his father, Nicholas Artz, having been one of Winona's pioneer grain buyers.

GUSTAF CARLSON is a native of Sweden, where he was born in 1835. He came to Minnesota in the spring of 1858, his capital only consisting of a few hundred dollars; he was accompanied by his wife and two children. He nor his family could not speak a word of English and knew nothing whatever of the customs of our country. He pre-empted some land and has since prospered to the extent that he owns a fine farm and home and is in very comfortable circumstances. He is a Lutheran and a republican.

JOHN VAN DYKE, farmer, was born in New Jersey in 1818, his father originally came from Holland, but his mother was German. He had very little opportunity to procure much schooling: as soon he was able to walk he was set to work on his father's farm, where he continued until his nineteenth year, when he set out for Pennsylvania, where he procured work as a coal miner. At this occupation he remained some five years, when he went to Ohio working at mining and farming. In 1858 he came to Elba, buying forty acres; since then he has added forty acres at a time until he now owns 160 of the finest wheat land to be found in the state. He married Miss Sarah Nelson and has but one son, who now mostly manages the farm.

JOHN SMITH, farmer, was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1833, and came to America in 1855, landing in Canada, where he remained several years, then coming to this township, where he purchased the farm he now occupies from his brother, who took the land up in 1854. Mr. Smith was one of the very earliest pioneers, and when he took up his residence there was not another family within twelve miles of him. He had considerable transactions with the Indians, knowing a number of those who were hung for participation in the New Ulm massacre. He has had his slumbers frequently broken by the war-whoop of the savage and the howl of the wolf. For miles surrounding him not a road was opened or a settlement made, and he had often to depend upon the chase for food. With but \$10 to start upon, Mr. Smith has by indefatigable energy and perseverance obtained a handsome competence, being one of the

wealthiest men in the township. In 1862 he married Abby Ann Ripley, by whom he has had eight children, five sons and three daughters. Ever since he was ten years of age circumstances forced him to earn his own livelihood, he managing in face of many difficulties to educate himself sufficiently to transact his business and hold his own with others. Mr. Smith is a staunch republican, and, though not taking any prominent part in politics, has always been an active worker.

C. C. BECK, farmer, lands lying two miles southwest of city, on Stockton Bluff road. Mr. Beck is a native of Wurtemberg, bred to the trade of brewer; came to America in 1857, and to this county November 11, 1858, at which date he bought out the interests of Brently & Sherer in the Gilmore Valley Brewery, the real estate included in the purchase being about two acres. In 1859 the firm bought sixty acres of G. W. Clark, and in 1862 enlarged the dwelling which he had with the original purchase, and in which he lived until he took possession of his new residence in 1877. In the fall of 1862 Mr. Beck bought out his partner's interest in the brewery, the real estate was amicably divided, and with the other purchases since made gives Mr. Beck a solid quarter-section as his homestead property. In 1872 he built his brewery saloon, a substantial brick  $32 \times 70$ , with eighteen-foot walls, the structure costing about \$3,000. During the season of 1876-7 he built his house on a natural ridge overlooking the city of Winona and commanding a magnificent prospect, extending for miles along the river. This house is one of the finest in this section of the state. It is of solid brick and stone, two stories, the main part,  $40 \times 45$ , with two additions, one  $22 \times 40$ , the other  $20 \times 20$ . The workmanship is most superior, the native wood finish very fine, the cost of building alone being \$15,000. The brewery, which at the time of purchase had a capacity of 600 barrels, was gradually enlarged, until its capacity was between four and five thousand barrels, with an actual product of about three-fourths that amount. In November, 1877, the same year his residence was completed, the brewery burned, entailing a loss of over \$8,000 above all insurance. In August, 1880, Mr. Beck lost his wife, with whom he had lived most happily for eighteen years. Mr. Beck is a member of the town board, fully alive to the interests of the growing county in which he has lived almost a quarter of a century, and in which he has considerable landed property other than that included in his home farm.

WESLEY HILL, farmer, is a grandson of Jonathan Hill, who, at the age of fourteen, stood guard during the battle of Bunker Hill, in the fort on Dorchester heights, and was only prevented by the rising of the tide from plunging into the fight. David, the son of Jonathan Hill, was born in New Hampshire; he married Keziah Franklin, of Vermont, and settled at Winchester, in his native state, where Wesley Hill was born, June 14, 1821. Alvin Twitchell, grandfather of Keziah Franklin, was killed in the memorable Indian massacre at Walpole, New Hampshire. At eight years of age Wesley Hill was bound for six years to a farmer, which term he served, receiving about one month's schooling per year. He then worked for a farmer and blacksmith till he was twenty. The four years were spent in lumbering on the Connecticut river. Subsequent to this he peddled tin and wooden ware several years, and again returned to farm labor. September 4, 1851, he married Sarah A. Nash, who was born at Gilson, New Hampshire, March 5, 1834. Her father, Charles Nash, was a native of the same state, and her mother, Eliza Gates, was a native of Massachusetts. On a dark and chilly morning in the fall of 1855 Mr. Hill landed at Minneiska, and began to search for a habitation. After an hour's search in the darkness, himself and companion were accommodated with lodging in a settler's log hut till daylight. Making his way up the White-water valley to Elba, he took up 160 acres of government land on Sec. 32 in the town of Whitewater, and after securing this returned to the east. In the spring of 1858 he returned to Minnesota, and his family followed the next fall. A part of the original claim was sold within a few years, and sixty acres purchased on Sec. 5 in this township, on which the residence was moved, and where it still stands. On account of a broken leg, caused by being caught under a rolling log in the spring of 1865, Mr. Hill was compelled to dispose of forty acres of land. His farm now includes 140 acres; there are two fine springs of water thereon, and it is supplied with good buildings and other improvements, and its owner is prepared to enjoy the fruits of his early labors. Much of the land was covered with timber where now are fruitful fields and a prime orchard. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are Universalists in religion. Mr. Hill has always voted the republican ticket. Four children are included in the family, and all reside with their parents. The dates of their nativity are as follows: Helen E., May 19, 1853; Kizzie M., September 4, 1860; David F., August 29, 1865; Lora E., June 13, 1868.



FRANK MARION WINTERS, farmer, born in 1853, at Ripley, Indiana, is a son of John D. and Juliette (Tryon) Winters. He came to Whitewater in 1858, when only five years of age; lived with his parents till 1875, when he married Harriet J. Stoning, daughter of Geo. B. Stoning, of Whitewater. He has had three children: Grace Aprilla, born 1876; George Earl, born 1878; Mark Ernest, born 1880. Our subject attended school at Beaver, and from 1875 till 1880 speculated in land. In 1880 he bought a quarter-section, N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5, T. 108, R. 10, on which he has since lived. He is a Wesleyan Methodist in religion, and in politics a republican.

J. J. RANDALL & SON, dealers in coal, office at 20 East Second street, sheds in rear of office and in the west half of block 69, the east half of which is occupied by the gasworks. J. J. Randall established himself in business in this city April 13, 1859, as a member of the firm of L. D. Randall & Co., dealers in leather, hides, shoe findings, saddlery, hardware and harness manufacturers. The original firm into which J. J. Randall came was established two years earlier, under the name of P. Voneschen & Co., L. D. Randall being a member of that firm. In 1859 the business was conducted on the east side of Main street, between Second and Third, and so continued until the great fire of 1862, in which their losses were \$15,000; insurance only \$2,000. The fire occurred on Sunday, and the following Monday, no carpenters being available, Mr. Randall put tools into the hands of his own workmen, and in five days had completed a one-story frame structure, 20×70 feet, just across the street from the old location. This building—the first erected and taken possession of after the fire—is still standing. The same fall they built upon the lot they now occupy a two-story brick, with stone foundations and basements, 23×140 feet, of which they took possession November 1 of that year, continuing the old business. In 1873 the business, which had been successfully conducted here for sixteen years, was discontinued, and a coal office opened. In addition to their city trade, which aggregates about 3,000 tons per annum, they supply coal-sheds for settlers along the lines of the Hastings & Dakota and Minnesota Southern railways. These supplies are furnished to actual settlers through local agents at cost, plus fifty cents per ton for handling, and the aggregate annual sales are from 25,000 to 30,000 tons.

J. J. RANDALL was born July 6, 1829, near Ithica, New York, and at eight years of age came into Illinois with his parents, who

settled at St. Charles, Kane county, in that state. His father was in the shoe, leather and harness trade, and Mr. Randall was engaged in this business in his father's establishment till he came to Winona in 1859. Appointed United States revenue collector for the first Minnesota district in 1866. Mr. Randall held that office until 1872. The following year he was appointed railway commissioner for the state, holding that position to the expiration of the term, eighteen months. He was also chairman of the board of county commissioners for twelve years—from 1862 to 1874—and city treasurer one term. One of the original incorporators of the Winona Gas Light Company, he is now president of that corporation; is also a member of the board of trade, and thoroughly identified with the industries of the city. Since November, 1872, has been president of the Woodlawn Cemetery Association. Of late years Mr. Randall has interested himself in farming operations, principally stock and dairy. His Lake View farm of 900 acres, near Tracy, Lyons county, has 500 acres under cultivation, is very pleasantly located, and makes a pleasant summer resort for his family.

C. S. RANDALL, the "son" of the firm, was born in St. Charles, Kane county, Illinois, May 14, 1856, received his education in the schools of Winona, and at twenty years of age entered the house of which he became junior partner, September 1, 1882.

C. MATZKE, wagon and carriage maker, shops at 118 and 120 Second street.—Mr. Matzke was born in Prussia, in 1847, came to America with his parents when eight years of age, the family settling in Dodge county, Wisconsin. From that place they came to Winona, in 1859, where young Matzke attended school, and when of sufficient age learned his trade as general and carriage blacksmith with Adam Killian, of this city. In 1870 he established himself in business in Lewiston, this county, which he conducted until he removed to his present location and opened shop, in the spring of 1882. He occupies 100 feet front, and his lots have a depth of 150 feet. He is a member of the Winona Sharpshooters Club, and of Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, I.O.O.F. His parents, Godfrey and Elizabeth Matzke, are still living on the old homestead they first took possession of on coming to the county, twenty-three years since.

LEVI C. WILDER, farmer, is a descendant of Thomas Wilder, whose widow emigrated with her two sons from England to America, in 1638. Levi Wilder, the father of this subject, was born in Massa-

chusetts; he married Berenice Bates, of the same state, and settled on a farm in Waitsfield, Washington county, Vermont, where the junior Levi was born April 30, 1824. He assisted his father in farming operations, receiving the limited education afforded by the district schools of his native town. On arriving at majority, he engaged in operating his father's farm in partnership with a brother. On November 2, 1853, he married Miss Orinda Holmes, who was born at Waterville, Vermont, August 21, 1820; her parents, James and Mehetable (Webster) Holmes, were natives of New Hampshire. The elder Wilder died in 1855 at the ripe age of eighty-three. On the settlement of his estate, L. C. Wilder removed to Richland county, Wisconsin, where he purchased land and engaged in farming. In 1858 he purchased 160 acres of land on Sec. 16, in St. Charles township, on which he now dwells, in partnership with a brother, whose interest he afterward acquired. Two years later he sold his Wisconsin property and removed here with his family, and has ever since dwelt here. Mr. Wilder has been an active, public-spirited citizen, and has been called upon to serve the town in some capacity nearly ever since his residence therein; he was a member of the board of supervisors in 1870-1, 1874-5, and was chairman of that body from 1878 to 1881 inclusive. In 1882 he resigned the latter office to accept the appointment of assessor, in order that the town might not be without such officer, and was elected to the same position this year. His political principles are republican, but of late he has joined the greenbackers, as has also his son. Mr. and Mrs. Wilder are members of the St. Charles Congregational church. They have one child, Ossian L., born February 18, 1855; he was married December 7, 1876, to Miss Tilla Persons, daughter of George and Eliza Persons, of this township. A daughter, christened Effie O., came to bless this union July 12, 1882. Father and son reside together on the farm, which affords a pleasant home and is one of the best in the fine agricultural town of St. Charles. One of the most interesting objects to be found in their pleasant parlor is a large and neatly printed volume giving the genealogy of the Wilder family from a very early period of English history.

REUBEN GATES, farmer, has been a resident of St. Charles since 1860; having purchased eighty acres of land on Sec. 23, in 1859, he settled here with his family the following year. He subsequently bought eighty acres more on Sec. 26, adjoining the first purchase; his farm lies half on either side of the St. Charles and Winona road;

is very nearly level, and is a sight with its neat buildings and other improvements, to delight the vision of a tidy agriculturist. Willis Gates, father of this subject, was born in Ackworth, New Hampshire, and married Miss Almira Hulett, of Weathersfield, Vermont. He settled on a farm in Elizabethtown, Essex county, New York, where Reuben Gates was born on July 28, 1826. He assisted his father on the farm and in the operation of a sawmill, attending the common school of his native town. At twenty-four years old he purchased a farm, and has always been a tiller of the soil. On March 11, 1851, he was married to Eliza Wakefield; her father, Johnathan Wakefield, was born in New Hampshire, and her mother, Rebecca Haven, was a descendant of Richard Haven, who emigrated from England to America in 1640, and was born at Newport, Rhode Island. Mr. and Mrs. Gates were members of the Baptist church in New York, and still cherish the faith of that sect. In public affairs Mr. Gates affiliates with the republican party, always has and expects to; he was assessor of St. Charles township in 1870, and supervisor one year. Two children complete the family circle. Erford E., the eldest, was born December 19, 1857; he married Eva W. Leonard, and is settled on a farm on Sec. 26, near his father. Lillie O. was born April 17, 1853; she married Dr. C. S. Dixon and resides at Somonauk, Illinois.

JAMES W., son of John and Eliza Young, was born in Canada West December 25, 1837. His father emigrated from Vermont and his mother from Maine. His father's family left Canada West when James was a mere child and moved to Detroit, Michigan. He lived in Michigan until his son was about twelve years old when the family moved to Aurora, Illinois, forty miles west of Chicago, on Fox river. He remained here with his father on a farm until he was eighteen years old. His time was divided, similar to that of most farmers' sons, working on the farm in summer and going to school in winter. He received nearly all his education in Illinois. He obtained only a limited education, such as the common schools of Illinois offered in those days, yet it was practical and well adapted to the common business of life. He left Illinois in 1855 and moved to Black River Falls, Wisconsin, with his father. The Black River country was but little settled then; a few bold pioneers had ventured to penetrate the forests of the Badger State; the Indian trail was the only passable route through the mighty forests, now so valuable. James having grown to manhood, and used to all kinds of manual



labor, was soon engaged as a teamster in the woods in the winter and rafting lumber during the summer. He remained at Black River Falls about two years, when his father died, at the advanced age of seventy-four years. Soon after the death of his father James was thrown upon his own resources and went forth to brave the storms of life. Having been brought up to all kinds of physical labor he readily found employment wherever he went. He left Wisconsin and returned to Illinois in 1858, where he was employed on a farm near Fulton City. He remained here a few months, when he went to Iowa. Here he again worked on a farm near Sabula. In 1859 he returned to Wisconsin and was employed in getting out logs on the Mississippi bottom, opposite the old village of Dakota. In the spring of 1860 he traded off some property belonging to his mother in Black River Falls for a house and lot in old Dakota. He remained here until the spring of 1861, when he moved to Dresbach. Mr. Young was married May 29, 1861, to Miss Maria Doughty, daughter of Richard and Lydia Doughty. From the time he was married to the 9th day of December, 1861, Mr. Young was employed in rafting lumber on the Mississippi river, at which time he enlisted in the war in Co. B, 2d Wis. Cav., commanded by the late C. C. Washburn, of Wisconsin. Spent the winter of 1861-2 drilling at Milwaukee. The spring of 1862 the company went to St. Louis, where they received their horses. While at St. Louis the company was ordered to march to Jefferson City, Missouri, thence through Arkansas to Helena. Eight weeks of this march the company was seldom out of their saddles day or night. The company had an engagement with the rebels at Cotton Plant; several lost on both sides. Remained at Helena, Arkansas, until the latter part of 1862, when the company was ordered to Memphis, Tennessee. In May, 1863, the company was called to Vicksburg to join the besieging army commanded by Gen. U. S. Grant. Remained there and took active part in the capture of Vicksburg, July 3, 1863. After the capture of Vicksburg the company went to Jackson, Mississippi. It was there a short time and from there was ordered back to Vicksburg. Stayed at Vicksburg and vicinity, scouting and doing patrol duty, until the winter of 1864. The following winter the company was again ordered to Memphis, Tennessee, where the company was discharged in January, 1865. After returning home Mr. Young lived on a farm one year in Dakota valley. Sold his farm and moved to Dresbach. Was postmaster at

Dresbach ; kept hotel, store, and was engaged in various other occupations in the village. His wife died of consumption September 7, 1881, in the village of Dakota, after an illness of over two years. She was buried in Bluff cemetery of Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Young never had any children. Mr. Young resides now in the village of Dakota, and is the owner of considerable village property.

THOMAS MAY, son of Dennis and Mary May, was born in County Sligo, Ireland, April 27, 1820 ; was educated in the common schools of that country and married to Miss Bridget Flannegan in 1846, by whom he has had ten children ; came to Canada and landed in Quebec in 1847, and from there to Rochester, New York, and then to Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, in 1848 ; lived there twelve years and came to Minnesota in 1860, and settled in the town of Wilson. Mr. May, although not one of the early pioneers, has, by his industry and frugality, done much to develop the county and town where he lives ; he is a good, practical farmer, and well posted in the history of his adopted country. His eldest child, Dennis, was born in Ireland, in March, 1847, and died in the United States in 1851 ; the second child, Bridget, was born in January, 1849, and died October, 1851 ; his third child, Mary, was born July 2, 1850, and died in October, 1851, all three dying of scarlet fever ; the fourth child, Bridget Ellen, was born April, 1852, and was married to Hugh Moran in 1874, by whom she has three children living ; the fifth, Dennis, born in 1853, was very highly educated for his years, was universally loved for his manly qualities, but death called him away in November, 1870 ; the sixth, Mary, was born in 1855, is now a seamstress and dressmaker ; seventh, Katie, born July 3, 1857, also a seamstress and dressmaker ; the eighth, Thomas Francis, was born May, 1859, is now at work at home with his father ; ninth, Hannah, was born December, 1860 ; tenth, Alice, was born in 1862. Both the last, Hannah and Alice, are graduates of the normal school at Winona, are teachers and attending the higher grade of instruction, preparing themselves for high grade teachers. Mr. May is a democrat in politics, and a Catholic in religion and a thrifty farmer by profession.

CLARK APOLLOS FULLER came to Minnesota in 1855 and settled in Freeborn county in 1858 ; he came to Winona county and settled on Sec. 12 (Wischoy), T. 106, R. 6. He is the son of Thomas and Muranda Fuller, and was born in Addison county, Vermont, June 28, 1846. Mr. Fuller's father came to this county in 1867, and

lived here until his death in 1879. Our subject was raised on a farm and educated in the common schools. For a number of years after coming to Minnesota, he worked in a saw-mill. In 1860 he was married to Betsey Montgomery, by whom he had one child, a girl named Delilah. Mrs. Fuller died in 1865. In 1867 he was married a second time to Julia L. Jenkinson, by whom he has seven children. Francis E., George C., Walt. S., Herbert, Chauncy, Louis and John. He is a member of Winona Lodge of Masons, No. 18, and a republican in politics. September 11, 1877, he was appointed county commissioner and has held the office ever since by election.

CHRISTOPHER PFEIL, farmer, was born near the Rhine river, in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, July 17, 1821. He was accustomed to farming from early youth, but received a good common school education, like all German children. In 1843 he came with his parents to Milwaukee county, Wisconsin. By his own industry he soon secured sufficient means to purchase eighty acres of land from the United States government in the heavy timber of Washington county, which he cleared up alone. This he sold and bought ninety acres in Milwaukee county. He was married at Milwaukee, January 14, 1849, to Elizabeth Wambold, a native of the same locality as himself. In 1860 Mr. Pfeil removed to Minnesota and bought 160 acres of land on Sec. 4, in this town, on which fifty acres were broken. Mr. Pfeil was the first German to settle here. By his attention to the proper tillage of his farm and shrewd business management, he has accumulated a large landed interest. His domain includes 380 acres on Sec. 4 and 9, thirty acres within the city of St. Charles, and 800 acres in the town of Elba. Six hundred acres of this is tilled by Mr. Pfeil, the balance being devoted to pasturing his large stock of horses and cattle. Immense quantities of manure are yearly applied to the enrichment of his farm, which is known as one of the most productive in this region. His farm buildings are the most complete and commodious in St. Charles township, and everything about his premises betokens thrift and care. Mr. Pfeil began life in America with his bare hands, clearing over 100 acres of timber land, and now enjoys the fruits of his early toil. He is independent in religion and politics. His family includes eleven children, all of whom are at home. Their names are Catharine, John, Jacob, George, Elizabeth, Maggie, Eva, William, Lina, Frederick and Caroline.

HENRY J. KEELER, general merchandise, Copps Hall, St. Charles. This business was established in St. Charles by the present proprietor in 1879, and was removed to its present location in 1882. The main salesroom fronts forty feet on the street, has a depth of 100 feet and the business occupies two floors, the basement being devoted to groceries and storage. His business includes dry goods, clothing, hats and caps, boots and shoes, notions, merchant tailoring, groceries, glassware, crockery, and all things else included under the head of general merchandise. His stock is large, the invoice for January, 1883, footing \$27,500, the business giving employment to seven clerks and two tailors, and the volume of trade 100 per cent over that transacted at the old stand. Mr. Keeler is a native of New York and commenced selling goods in Camden, in that state, when eighteen years of age. In 1850 Mr. Keeler came west and was a traveling salesman for a New York hosiery, white goods and notions house eighteen years, only leaving the road to establish himself in business here in 1879, although he has been a resident of the county since 1860. He was married in Will county, Illinois, in 1855, to Miss H. M. Sims, and they have two children. Miss Florence, who has quite a local reputation as a musician, and Miss Gertrude attending Winona city schools.

HENRY SWAYNE, third son of Samuel and Mary Swayne, born in the town of Southington, Connecticut, May 24, 1820. The Swayne family are of English origin and are descended from Abram Swayne, grandfather of the subject of our sketch, who came from Devonshire in 1790. At an early age Henry commenced the battle of life, leaving home when twelve years of age and finding employment choring around a store in New Haven. He had had little or no schooling while at home and he determined to make up the deficiency attending an evening school for some two years, costing him almost his entire wages. His energy and perseverance attracted attention, and kind friends were ready to assist the struggling youth. From chore boy he rose by successive steps until finally he became the owner of the store he commenced life in. Prosperity for a time attended his efforts, but a series of misfortunes ultimately forced him to close out business and he turned his attention to the west. Coming to Illinois in 1850, he pre-empted a farm in Will county, where he remained until 1860, when he came to Whitewater. He was married at New Haven, Connecticut, in 1842, to Miss Cora Whitley, and has a family of two, a son and daughter. Mr. Swayne



enjoys the reputation of a man of great force of character, honorable in all his dealings and of the strictest integrity.

GHEILART SIMON was born in Germany in 1801, where he lived on his parents' farm until he reached manhood, when he went out working at farm labor among his neighbors. In his twenty-seventh year he entered the Prussian army, of which he was a member for three years in accordance with the law of that country. At the expiration of his term of service he returned to the home farm until the year 1855, when he emigrated to America, going to the city of Milwaukee, residing there some five years. In 1860 he came west to Mt. Vernon, where he took up land. He married in 1831 Miss Elizabeth Weitz, by whom he had five children, all of whom are living. His wife died some three years ago at the ripe age of seventy-eight. Mr. Simon, by dint of perseverance and industry during his twenty-two years residence in Mt. Vernon, has accumulated a handsome competency, giving each one of his sons a farm of 260 acres on their reaching manhood. Mr. Simon is today a healthy, hale and hearty old gentleman of eighty-two summers and bids fair to live many years, yet universally respected by his neighbors and beloved by his sons, daughters and numerous grandchildren.

CHARLES SMITH was born in Carlton-road, Norfolk, England, May 1, 1817. His youth was spent at home on a farm in England, and although he was an extra good farm hand he was never sent to school a day in his life. The only education he ever received was picked up at Sunday school, and improved upon at every opportunity through life. On October 27, 1839, Mr. Charles Smith and Miss Sophia Arms were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. After working land in England for several years, they thought it best to emigrate to America, but owing to a scarcity of funds it was decided that Mr. Smith should first go, and when he could succeed in saving a sufficient amount to defray the expenses of the passage for his wife and family he should send for them. Accordingly, he came to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, May 31, 1856, and immediately found employment as a farm laborer at \$16 per month, for three months. After that he worked at job work, ditching, etc., and at the end of three years he had the satisfaction of having a little over \$400 in cash. He then sent for his wife, who arrived in Wisconsin in the winter of 1859. He then bought thirty acres of land, but not having any team, he worked a farm for another man for one-third of

the crop, the owner of the land to furnish team, feed and seed. During this year he built a log house on his little farm, and then sold out and came to Pleasant Hill, Minnesota, where he had taken a job of breaking 100 acres at \$3 per acre. He completed his breaking and split rails, and built one-half a mile of fence, and invested his money in the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 15, for which he gave \$400, paying \$125 down and twelve per cent interest on the balance. After paying for this farm he bought eighty acres in Sec. 22, where he now resides. He has also 320 acres in Faribault county, Minnesota. Mr. Smith and wife have long been connected with the Baptist church, but as there is no organization of Baptists in Pleasant Hill they are debarred from many church privileges which they would like to enjoy. They have a family of nine children, the youngest of which is living at home.

Among the prominent gentlemen of Pleasant Hill township who have taken an active part in the development of the country we may very properly name Mr. JAMES P. BERRY, who was born January 26, 1843. Though by no means one of the early settlers, yet by his sterling integrity he has succeeded in winning a fame second to none in the township. His intellectual training he received in the common schools of Dane county, Wisconsin, supplemented with one term at private school in the same county. His youth was spent upon a farm, where he developed a strong attachment for fine cattle. At the age of nineteen he enlisted in Co. D, 7th Minn. Inf., (General Sibly commanding), which was ordered against the Sioux Indians at the time of their outbreak, in August, 1862. He was wounded in his right shoulder by the accidental discharge of a musket at Fort Abercrombie, in the fall of 1862. After the surrender of the Indians his regiment went to St. Louis, Missouri, on post duty for six months, then it was transferred to the sixteenth army corps, first division, third brigade, General A. J. Smith commanding. He was in all engagements of the regiment until the middle of February, 1865, when he was sent to McPherson hospital. After languishing there until the last day of May, 1865, he was discharged and returned to civil life. He was married to Miss Emma J. Theyson November 5, 1870. To them have been born three children, only two of whom are now living. In politics Mr. Berry is a republican, and has served his township in nearly all of its various offices. He is at present serving his fifth consecutive term as justice of the peace. He served his congressional district

as representative in the sixteenth legislature. He has acted as collector and conveyancer for several years, and though residing on a farm in the interior of the county, he has built up a business which occupies the greater part of his time, and secures for himself hosts of friends all over the state. He is a member of the Pickwick Lodge, No. 110, A. F. and A. M., of which he was the first master.

McNIE & Co., booksellers, corner of Center and Second streets. Salesroom fronts forty-five feet on Second street, sixty feet on Center, and opens on both. This book-house is the legitimate successor of that established in this city in 1857 by Messrs. Bingham & Benson, and which a few months prior to the war of 1861-5 became Benson & Upham. This firm continued to do business until Mr. Upham sold out to his partner in 1861 and entered the United States service. At this time the business of bookselling was combined with that of drugs, the two branches of trade, however, being conducted in separate sales-rooms. In the fall of 1862 the booksellers' department was sold out to Andrews & Son, who conducted business until 1867, when they sold out to Alexander McNie. In the meantime the war had closed, and Mr. Upham returning home, opened trade as a bookseller and stationer, conducting business one year, when he sold out to Sherman & McNie, who dissolved partnership about one year thereafter, Mr. Sherman purchasing McNie's share of the stock. It was at this time, as before stated, that Mr. McNie purchased the stock of Andrews & Son, and thus became lineal successor to the old house of Bingham & Benson. This business, which at the time Mr. McNie purchased was quite moderate in its extent, soon improved under his management, until from 1871 to 1874 it took rank as the second book-house in the state. The hard times of 1873 and later on crippled the business of the concern, the firm name of which had always been Alex. McNie & Co., and in 1877 G. W. Hoyt was taken in as a partner, this business connection lasting one year. In 1879 another change was made, the firm became McNie & Co., with Alexander McNie as manager, and so continues. The musical department of the business was added in 1875, and the stock now includes books, stationery, fancy goods and musical instruments, and merchandise of all descriptions. The book transactions of the house have always been in works of a standard character, and it has always been the boast of the house that no literature of the least tendency to immorality has been allowed a

place upon their shelves. This fact we believe is equally true of the book trade of the city at large.

ALEXANDER McNIE is a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, from which country he came to New York at ten years of age, an orphan boy, seeking his fortune, a stranger in a strange land. After one year, spent as a newsboy in New York, young McNie came to Racine, Wisconsin, and from there in 1861 to Winona. Soon after his arrival here he entered the book-house of Mr. Benson, and when the stock was purchased by Andrews & Son transferred his services to that house, from whom he subsequently purchased their stock and engaged in business for himself. Mr. McNie is a prominent member of the Baptist church of Winona, and for several years one of the trustees of that society. He was deeply interested in forming the Winona Library Association, assisted at its organization and was one of its charter members.

BENTLEY & VANCE, attorneys-at-law; office west side Center street, over general offices of Chicago & Milwaukee railway; members of firm, A. N. Bentley and D. E. Vance.

A. N. BENTLEY is a native of Wisconsin, from which state he came to Minnesota in 1861. Was educated in the high school at Rochester, this state, and in the State University at Minneapolis; read law in the office of C. C. Wilson, Rochester; was admitted to the bar March 17, 1874, and immediately located for practice in this city. His first law partnership was formed with C. H. Myers in 1876, and continued until Mr. Myers retired from practice in 1878, on account of ill health. He then formed a partnership with his brother, A. J. Bentley, which was terminated by that gentleman's death, July 18, 1879. October 1, 1880, his present law association with D. E. Vance was formed. Was elected county attorney on the democratic ticket, fall of 1878, and held office two years; was renominated by acclamation at the close of his term, but was beaten with the entire ticket, polling the heaviest vote of any candidate of his party in the district. Mr. Bentley is captain of Co. C, 2d batt. M. N. G. Member of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, I.O.O.F., Oak Grove, No. 22, A.O.D. and of the A.O.U.W. and Royal Arcanum beneficiaries. He is married and has one child.

D. E. VANCE is a native of Vermont; was educated at Topsham Academy, in his native state; and coming to Chicago, graduated at Eastman's Business College, in that city, in 1866. Removing to Minnesota he located in Houston county, and was there principally



engaged in teaching until 1877, when he came to Winona, entered the law office of Judge Barber, of this city, and was admitted to practice at the spring term of the district court, held in 1878. Before coming west, June 13, 1862, he enlisted in the 9th Vt. Inf., was captured at Harper's Ferry, September 16, 1862, paroled, came to Chicago and was on duty at Camp Douglas for fifteen months as assistant commissary of prisoners. In January, 1864, he was returned to his regiment, then on duty near Morehead City, North Carolina, remaining in that department until September of that year, when his regiment was ordered to Petersburg, Virginia. He participated in the series of engagements resulting in the capture of Richmond, his regiment being one of the first to enter the city upon its surrender. Was with his regiment at Washington in the grand national review, and was mustered out at Burlington, Vermont, June 16, 1865. Mr. Vance was made a Master Mason in 1868, and is a prominent member of the A.O.U.W. fraternity. Having served as master of his lodge two terms and represented it in the grand lodge session of 1880. November 29, 1879, he married Miss Alice J. Maybury, who was only a little lady of two years when her father, C. G. Maybury, came to this city.

**BOTTLING WORKS, DAVID FAKLER**, proprietor, corner Broadway and Zimbro streets. This business was established in this city by Messrs. Flint and Kerry, in 1878, on Seventh street. In 1871 the business was sold to Mr. Fakler, and by him removed to their present location. His manufactory is a two-story frame, 40×48 feet, with a capacity of 400 dozen a day, actual product about half that amount. He manufactures soda water, ginger-ale, root-beer, Seltzer water, and supplies a regular trade in Lewiston, Ridgeton, Stockton and Minnesota City, as well as his own city. He keeps one team constantly on the road and is assisted in business by his sons. Mr. Fakler is a native of Wurtemberg, by trade a miller, came to America in 1861, and to Winona the same year. Was six years a musician in the German army before coming here, and after taking up his residence in this city, was for six years a member of the city band. Was married in 1868 and has five children, three in public school, two assisting him in his business. Mr. Fakler is a member of the Philharmonic society, and of the Ancient Order of Druids.

**W. WEDELL**, dealer in furniture, 10 and 12 West Second street. Business established in 1861 on north side of Second street, one door west of Lafayette, and was there conducted until moved

into its present location in 1866. Was burned out once, but loss was very slight, principally caused by removal of stock. His business house fronts 42 feet on Second street, is 60 feet deep, and his stock occupies two floors. No manufacturing is done and only one assistant employed. Mr. Wedel is a native of Leipsic, Germany, was bred to the furniture trade in that city, came to America in 1836 at twenty-two years of age, was in Baltimore four years, and then for twenty years foreman of the furniture manufactory of Mitchelor & Rommeley, before coming to this city. Mr. Wedel was married before his immigration to this country, and has two children, one of them Dr. W. H. Wedel, of this city.

LEMUEL HILL was born in Starksboro, Vermont, and received a good common school education. He spent his youth on his father's farm, where he learned economy and the art of farming. In 1861 Mr. Hill left Starksboro to seek his fortune in the west. After looking over the country and cities in Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota, he bought the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 9 and the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10, and engaged in farming. He has held the office of supervisor six years, of assessor two years, and is at present (1882) township treasurer. He has also taught several winter terms of school in this township, but at present is giving his whole attention to farming. He has accumulated property and invested in farm lands until he now has control of 560 acres of land, lying in the townships of Pleasant Hill, Homer and Wiscoy.

GEORGE VON GENTSKOW was born in Oldenburg, Germany, in 1826, of noble parentage. He was educated in some of the best schools in Germany. He was of very progressive ideas, and early in life incurred the hostility of the authorities and was forced, from political motives, to emigrate to America. He landed at New York in 1854, when, after a short residence with his brother-in-law, Carl Schultz, at Williamsburg, New York, he came west and settled on the banks of the Mississippi, at a place which is now known as the village of Buffalo City, on the Wisconsin shore, where he went into business as a general merchant. Some five or six years later he moved to Minneiska village, engaging in various occupations until the winter of 1868, when he went into the butchering business, which he has carried on very successfully ever since. His son Julius is now associated with him. He is also proprietor of and carries on a large saloon in the village. Mr. Von Gentskow enjoys the respect and esteem of the citizens of Mt. Vernon and Minneiska,

particularly of the Germans, as he is recognized as the scion of a good old family, and liked accordingly. He was married in Germany to Sophia Schultz and has had eight children.

JOSEPH L. LEONARD, farmer. Jacob Leonard, the father of this subject, was born in Canada, and marrying Mary Brown, of Massachusetts, settled on a farm in Charlotte, Chittenden county, Vermont, where Joseph, his son, was born, August 29, 1820. The father of Jacob Leonard was a ship-carpenter on board a French man-of-war. He deserted the vessel during its service against the English colonies, in what American history terms the "French and Indian war," and settled in Canada. Jacob Leonard served the colonies through the war of 1812, after which he settled as above noted. He was also a carpenter, and taught the trade to his son, the subject of this sketch, who followed that occupation in Clinton county, New York. The latter also bought a farm just over the Canadian border from his New York home, which he tilled six years. He had been reared on a farm, attending the common schools and Champlain Academy. He was married September 12, 1842, to Sophia Chidester, who was born in Maitland, Ontario, October 15, 1826. Her father, George Chidester, was born in New York, and her mother, Jane Byres, was a native of Ireland. In 1862 Mr. Leonard sold his eastern property and came to Minnesota, buying eighty acres of land in the town of Fremont, this county, where he lived one year. This he sold and returned to Canada, thinking to engage in farming there; but the east did not appear to him as before, and he again came to Minnesota, which has since afforded him a satisfactory home. In 1863 he bought a residence in Winona, where he dwelt a short time and was engaged in overseeing construction on the Winona & St. Peter railroad. During the fall of 1863 he bought and kept the hotel at Stockton, but sold it after a short residence there. During the following summer he kept hotel at Utica. In the fall of 1864 Mr. Leonard became a resident of St. Charles city, having purchased three lots on Winona street, where he still dwells, and 120 acres of land on Sec. 20. He has since purchased seven more city lots and forty-five acres of land, and is extensively engaged in farming operations. His home is an ornament to the city and a credit to himself. Mrs. Leonard is a member of the Advent church, and her husband sympathizes with her in religious faith. He has been assessor of the city two terms and street commissioner for the same period. His political affiliations are with

the democratic party. He is a member of St. Charles Lodge of the Royal Arcanum. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard have five living children, all of whom are married, as the following shows: Mary J., July 8, 1845, George Williams, reside St. Paul; Emma, May 9, 1851, Henry Gage, St. Paul; Eva, August 19, 1854, Erford Gates, live on Sec. 26, this township; Joseph P., January 12, 1857, Sarah Williams, dwell at Watertown, Dakota; Josephine, February 13, 1862, Henry W. Brown, reside with Mr. Leonard.

WILLIAM HARRISON MARTIN, farmer, son of Freeman Martin, was born in Cook county, Illinois, in the year 1838, where he attended school and remained with his father till 1861, when he moved to Whitewater, Minnesota. In 1862 married Miss Ester Covey, daughter of Stephen Covey (see sketch), and by this marriage had seven children: Lewis H., born 1863; Carrie E., born 1864; Hylon F., born 1871, died 1881; Harry E., born 1875; Hattie M., born 1867; Morton C., born 1881. In 1867 Freeman Martin, father of our subject, purchased S.W. and N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 2, T. 108, R. 10, containing about 287 acres, of which property our subject bought an even half. Was ten times elected supervisor and five times chairman of the board (see town record). In politics always votes the republican ticket; in religion a Methodist Episcopal. Is much esteemed and respected by all who know him.

REUBEN DRAKE was born in town of Redfield, Oneida county, New York, 1801, where he attended school and made his home till 1862, when he moved to Whitewater, Minnesota, having traded his property in Redfield for 160 acres land situated near Minneiska; also bought ten acres adjoining village of Beaver. In 1832 our subject married Sophronia Ranney, and has been blessed with four children, born as follows: Ellen, born 1832, married in 1857, G. G. Knowles, died 1863; Jennette, born 1836, married in 1857 to J. R. Martin; Brayton, born 1838, was married to Miss Emily Hayes in 1862; Margaret, born 1842, married W. Buckingham in 1862. Our subject was appointed postmaster during the administration of Gen. Jackson for the town of Redfield, New York, which position with but short intervals he held till he moved to Whitewater valley, when he was again appointed under President Lincoln and held the position till 1881, being the oldest postmaster in the United States. In religion is a liberal thinker, in politics a staunch democrat.

S. W. MORGAN, jeweller and watchmaker, 15 East Second street. This business was begun May 1, 1862, in its present location and has



so continued. At its establishment it was conducted in the first floor of three-story building, upper floors used for hotel purposes. This building was destroyed in the great fire of July 5, 1862, in which Mr. Morgan's loss was comparatively light, his whole stock not exceeding \$1,000 in value, and which was mostly saved by his own exertions. The next morning after the fire, business was temporarily established on Main street, in a building in process of erection for a warehouse, and conducted there for thirty days, when a return was made to the old location, where a temporary structure had been meantime erected. The following year, 1863, Mr. Morgan bought the lot he was occupying, and in 1866 erected his present structure, a two-story and basement brick,  $20 \times 53\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The store is furnished with a double compartment steel safe, positively fire-proof; the business employs three workmen besides the proprietor, and is one of the most elegant jewelry establishments in the state. Mr. Morgan is a native of Terre Haute, Indiana; came with his parents to Illinois; removed afterward to the county seat, where he learned his trade, and had resided eleven years before coming to this city. He is member and director of the board of trade, a stockholder in the Winona wagonworks, and fully identified with the city's commercial and industrial growth. A prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church; he has been for seventeen years secretary of its Sabbath-school.

PHILIP SPIELMAN, farmer, was born near Heidelberg, Germany, October 14, 1814. He attended school till eighteen years old, the last two years being spent at the famous university under whose shadow he was reared. On leaving the university he entered the army, in which he served seven years. In 1839 he came to America, landing at New Orleans, where he learned the carpenter's trade. He arrived at port seven dollars in debt, and paid this by two days' labor in unloading the vessel. From New Orleans he went to Portage county, Ohio, where he was married November 2, 1841, to Catharina Mohn, a native of Loraine, born January 23, 1823. In 1844 Mr. Spielman went to Washington county, Wisconsin, then a new region, and proceeded to open up a farm in heavy timber; for a short time after locating there his nearest neighbor was eleven miles away. Here he continued to follow his trade most of the time, his sons carrying on the farm work as soon as they were old enough. In 1862 he came to St. Charles and bought 160 acres of land on Sec. 5, where he lived until 1877; his health failing, he

bought a house and lot in St. Charles city, where he has lived ever since his removal from the farm. He now owns 260 acres of land, eighty acres being on Sec. 7, and the balance on Sec. 29, in Elba. Mr. Spielman is a member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. and A. M., in which he is now steward; he is a republican in politics and in religion a Methodist. He has reared eleven children, as follows: John, born October 8, 1842, married Katie Gim, died at Faribault, April 30, 1868; Catharina, born November 7, 1843, married Christ Busman and lives on Sec. 5; Henry, born November 8, 1847, died December 6, 1865, at St. Charles; Mary, born December 3, 1849, married John Henrich and is living in the township of Elba; Andrew, born October 8, 1851, married Tilla Kobler and lives in St. Charles city; Nathaniel, born September 16, 1853, married Amelia Bossewitz and lives at Curry, Minnesota; Philip J., born March 27, 1855, lives at St. Charles; Maggie, born August 20, 1857, dwells with parents; William, born April 18, 1860, resides on Sec. 7; Mina, born April 15, 1862; Sarah, born October 15, 1864.

C. L. BONNER, grain and commission merchant. Mr. Bonner has been a permanent resident of this city for the past twenty years, having come here to stay in 1862. His first visit to the place prospecting for a field of operations was made in 1857. From 1862 until 1881 Mr. Bonner was actively engaged in grain trade here. He was one of the moving spirits of the Winona Mill Company, one of the original incorporators and the first president of the company, taking charge of its affairs September 1, 1881. Mr. Bonner is a capitalist of considerable financial weight, and, in addition to his grain and mill interests, is a stockholder of the Second National Bank of the city. He is married and has one child now attending the high school in this city.

CHARLES L. TURNQUEST, born in Sweden, in 1828, came to America in 1852 and settled in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he remained until 1862, removing to Minnesota, settling in Winona county and buying the property he now occupies. He was married at Fulton, Illinois, to Mary Jonston, by whom he had ten children. He entered the army in 1864, joining the 11th Minn., and was under Thomas in Tennessee and at the battle of Nashville. He remained with his regiment until their muster out of service, when he had received the rank of a non-commissioned officer. Mr. Turnquest has always been an active sportsman and has experienced many adventures. He is now engaged in pursuit of the finny tribe,

and is shipping large quantities to St. Paul and Chicago, and is making preparations for the opening of a large canning establishment at Minneiska. He had his house and outbuildings swept away by the great storm of 1880, suffering a severe pecuniary loss. He lost his wife in 1879, and his sons have started out in business for themselves, one being in the drug business in Chicago and the other in a sash and door factory.

V. A. BRINK, grocer, 4 West Third street. This house is the successor of the old grocery house of H. D. Perkins, established in 1857 on West Front street, and of which Mr. Brink became sole owner in 1878 by purchasing the interest of his partner, W. R. Williams, with whom, seven years before, under the firm name of Brink & Williams, he had bought out the stock of H. C. Harkins, Mr. Perkins' partner and successor. Mr. Brink, prior to removing to his present location in 1880, was on East Second street, first at No. 2, afterward at No. 11. Business is gradually growing, and sales are slightly in advance of last year. The business gives full employment to three persons and one delivery wagon. Mr. Brink is a native of western New York; was brought up on a farm; came to Winona in 1862, and was eight years in the dry-goods house of his brother, J. L. Brink, before opening trade on his own account. Mr. Brink is married and has three children, one of whom is in attendance at the state normal school. Mr. Brink was made a Master Mason in 1868; became a member of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M., in 1881, and a Knight Templar in Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3, of this city, in 1882.

DANIEL BURKE was born in Ireland June 4, 1839. His father, Thomas Burke, was a very thrifty farmer, but suffered considerable loss from the famine of 1849, he having become surety for several families who were unable to pay their rent. His mother, Margaret Burke, died in 1852, and in 1855 his father emigrated to New York with the rest of his family, and he and the subject of our sketch went to work upon the Erie canal and worked there until it was completed. Then our subject hired out with a farmer and worked for him three years. When done work for this farmer he came to Minnesota, in company with his brother, in search of his father and the rest of the family that had moved to Sugar Loaf. After finding his family he looked over the greater part of Winona county, and finally, in 1862, bought the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6 in Pleasant Hill township, and in 1863 he bought the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6. He

was married to Bridget Moran January 18, 1863. He and his wife went to work with that energy which is always crowned with success, and at this time (1882) they have 320 acres of land, fenced into six fields and well stocked with horses, hogs, sheep and cattle. They have a very comfortable frame house, with modern conveniences, and good barns and granary. Their union has been blessed with seven children: Thomas, born November 20, 1863; William, born January 20, 1865; Daniel, born September 20, 1866; John, born March 2, 1868, and died March 2, 1869; Mary A., born December 2, 1869; Margaret E., born June 4, 1871, and Hugh James, born March 15, 1874. The children are all living at home, and, with their parents, form a cheerful and contented family.

JAMES ROAN, farmer. Lands located on S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27, and on the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 28, St. Charles township. This claim was made in May, 1855, by the present proprietor, and proved up by him in July of that year; but he did not reside upon it or farm it in person until the fall of 1862, since which date it has been his family's residence. Mr. Roan has added to his original claim of 160 acres until his farm includes 291 acres, mostly oak openings. His farming operations include both grain raising and stock, although, like most farms in this township, grain has been hitherto the staple of the farmer. The yield of grain per acre on this farm, for the season of 1882, was: wheat (winter), 24 bushels; wheat (spring), 19 bushels; barley, 30 bushels; oats, 45 bushels; corn, 40 bushels. Of stock, there are 12 head of horses, 2 cows and 6 hogs. Mr. Roan is a native of Gloucestershire, England; came to America in 1850, traveling that season as far westward as Dubuque county, Iowa, and being unmarried was not permanently located until he settled upon his farm here in 1862. During those twelve years he traveled over the Mississippi valley region quite extensively, southward as far as New Orleans, Louisiana, and northward into Minnesota. In 1861 he returned to his native country, England. The following year, 1862, he married Miss L. Candy, and the same fall, crossing the ocean with his bride, took up his permanent residence in Winona county. The following season, 1863, he built what now forms the kitchen of his comfortable farm-house, moved into it, and so became fully settled in his new western home. The main part of the dwelling was erected in 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Roan have five children, all inclined to intellectual and mechanical pursuits, rather than the home-work of the farm.



The eldest daughter is now pursuing her musical studies in Winona city, a branch of art for which she evinces a decided talent. The youngest child, a bright boy of six years, is at home. The others, one son and two daughters, are pursuing their school studies under the direction of Mr. Parsons, teacher of one of the district schools, and generally accepted as one of the most efficient teachers in the township. Mr. Roan is a man of gentle manners, but most positive convictions; a genuine reformer in temperance matters, and quite of the radical school. An air of genial hospitality and genuine home-feeling pervades the household which it is impossible not to recognize, even on casual acquaintance.

PETER FERDINARD BOYSEN, born in Schleswig, Germany, in the year 1841; received a common school education. His youth was spent on a farm. He emigrated to the United States in 1862, and removed to Rolling Stone township the same year, where he remained for six years, when he removed to Hillsdale township, where he has since remained. In 1865 Mr. Boysen was married to Mrs. Charlotte Hertsberg, widow of Herman Hertsberg, who died in Hillsdale township in 1862. Mrs. Boysen was born in Holstein, Germany, December 30, 1830. Mrs. Boysen emigrated to the United States with her first husband in 1853, and to Hillsdale township in 1856. Mrs. Boysen has four children living by her first husband, and four by Mr. Boysen. Mr. and Mrs. Boysen are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Boysen owns 340 acres lying in Sec. 15, in township 107 and Sec. 22, in Hillsdale township.

A. O. SLADE, druggist and dealer in paints, oils, etc., City Drug Store, 22 East Third. This drug house is the legitimate successor of that established by S. N. Wickersham, and which was discontinued upon the death of his wife, when part of the stock was shipped to Philadelphia and the rest disposed of to F. Patton, an old clerk in the Philadelphia drug house of Fahnstock, of which the Wickersham establishment was virtually a branch. The business under Patton soon came to an abrupt termination by his leaving the city, after placing the store in charge of his clerk, A. O. Slade, who notified the Philadelphia house of the facts. This brought Mr. Fahnstock again to Winona, and the drug stock was purchased by Messrs. F. C. Ewing and A. O. Slade, who reopened the house for business under the firm name of Ewing & Slade, October 16, 1872. This partnership continued until March 14, 1877, when Mr. Slade became sole proprietor and so continues. The drug house fronts twenty-two

feet on Third street, is seventy feet deep, one floor and basement being occupied with the business of the house, which employs two clerks, and is in a prosperous condition. Mr. Slade is a native of London, England. Came to America with his father's family in the summer of 1852, making a temporary residence of a few months in Brooklyn, and the same fall removed to Davenport, Iowa, from which city they came to Minnesota in 1859, locating in Fountain City. In 1863 the family came to Winona, which since then has been their home. Mr. A. O. Slade was educated in the public schools of Davenport and this city until 1868, when he commenced life as a druggist's clerk, and in which business he had had nearly five years' experience when he purchased an interest in the business he now exclusively controls. Mr. Slade is a member of the board of trade, of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., of Winona Chapter No. 5, and Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3, all of this city.

G. C. BOYNTON'S SONS, successors to G. C. Boynton, wholesale fancy grocers, 31 East Second street and 11 Center street. This business was established in 1863 by G. C. Boynton, as a candy manufactory, corner of Front and Zumbro streets, where he built the first candy factory in Minnesota, and started out his peddling wagons. To this business, in 1864, a stock of staple and fancy groceries was added, and the business removed to Hubbard's block, on upper Second street, thence to Holbrook and Webster's block, thence to Mues' block, upon its completion in 1871, where it remained nearly four years. Thence, in the spring of 1875, they removed to 62-64 Second street, where business was transacted until November 1, 1882, when the present more central location was taken. In the fall of 1874 the retail department of the grocery was discontinued, and in 1881 the manufacture of candy was abandoned, the business of the house being fancy groceries, cigars, and the agency of Joseph Schlitz' Milwaukee brewing-house. Their business house fronts on both Second and Center streets, has a frontage of 20 feet on Second, of 20 feet on Center, and a depth of 140 feet. Their basement for storage is the same size. Their refrigerator warehouse on Front street, just above the new waterworks building, has a capacity for six carloads of beer. They keep three salesmen on the road, employ a force of seven persons in the house, handle 3,000,000 cigars a year, and aggregate sales reach \$250,000 a year. Trade extends all along the lines of the Northwestern railway and its branches in Minnesota and Dakota eastward to Green Bay, and all

through southern Minnesota and southeastern Dakota. January 1, 1883, the grocery business of the house was entirely discontinued, the rapidly enlarging volume of their other trade determining their exclusive attention to its demands. Since this date the trade of the house has been exclusively in cigars and beer, and their salesmen now cover all the leading railway lines of the northwest as far as British Columbia.

The present members of the firm are H. P., O. J. & W. L. Boynton. G. C. Boynton was born in Canton, St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1824, died in this city May 13, 1875, and was succeeded by his sons. His father, Parker Boynton, born in 1799, still survives, was in this city until 1880 and is now living in Ohio, having almost reached his eighty-fourth year. G. C. Boynton was brought up in early life as a clerk in his father's store and on the lakes, starting business for himself in Ohio in 1840, when only sixteen years of age; was afterward in grocery business in Pennsylvania, and came from there to this city in 1863. The sons are all married and established in homes of their own in the city.

JOHN PICKERT, postmaster at St. Charles.—Mr. Pickert was appointed to this office in 1871, assuming charge of the office April 1 of that year, and holding it by successive reappointments until the present. When the office was first taken charge of by Mr. Pickert it ranked as one of the fourth class, and the commission issued from the then postmaster-general, Creswell. In December, 1874, the office was raised to one of the third class, and the commission then issued bears the autograph of U. S. Grant. The sales of stamps, stamped envelopes, etc., for the last fiscal year aggregated about \$2,400; and domestic money orders to the number of 2,300 were issued, the receipts for same aggregating \$30,000. John Pickert is a native of New York, in which state he was brought up on a dairy farm, and there followed the business until he was twenty-seven years of age, when he went into Kentucky, having accepted the superintendency of a large cheese dairy for the Marshalls, of that state. Was there when the war broke out, and remained two years after that event, removing to St. Charles, Minnesota, in 1863. Here he was engaged in farming, one-half mile north of the business center of the city, and in various other pursuits until his appointment to his present office, a little over twelve years since. He has been prominently identified with the educational interests of the city ever since his residence here, and has

been a member of the school board several terms. He was also chairman of the township board when the greatest number of volunteers for the United States army was raised in this township, by virtue of which enlistments St. Charles was practically relieved from military draft. As a Mason, Mr. Pickert has an enviable record at home and abroad, and the memory of his services as H.P. of Orient Chapter during seven successive terms was most pleasantly commemorated during the past winter by an elegant cane presentation. Mr. Pickert was married in 1849, to Miss S. A. Custer, of New York, and their thirty-fourth wedding anniversary was duly celebrated not long since. Of their nine children only one is now living, C. J. Pickert, at one time a teacher in the state normal school, and at present in Dakota.

DANIEL COOK was born in the town of Greene, Shenango county, New York, February 9, 1834. His parents were Daniel and Sarah Cook. His father was a native of Massachusetts, and his mother of Connecticut. Daniel grew up on a farm and received a common school education. In 1848 his parents removed to Steuben county, New York. From there in 1859 he came to Adams county, Wisconsin. August, 1862, he was mustered into Co. K, 25th Wis. Inf., at La Crosse. Was mustered out at the end of his term of service as a corporal. He was at the battles of Decatur, Resaca, and was one of the few who defended so nobly a train against a horde of rebels at Glendale. In 1863 he came to St. Charles, this county, and two years later to Homer township, and from there to Wiscoy in 1876, where he now owns a well improved farm of 120 acres. He was married May 19, 1867, to Mrs. Eunice (Greenman) Birch, of Wisconsin. They have had three children, one of which is dead: Oliver Morton, born February 22, 1868, died December 6, 1880; Ella Lou-ray, born March 3, 1874; Eddie, born September 15, 1879. Mr. Cook is a member of the Lodge of Sons of Temperance and of the Methodist church. He is a republican in politics, and in March, 1879, was the choice of the people for justice, and two years later was elected town treasurer.

A. O. ADAMS, dealer in clothing, boots and shoes, hats and caps and gents' furnishing goods, south end city, opposite Parrott's manufacturing establishment. This business was entered into by Mr. Adams in 1866, at which time he had been a resident of the city about three years, and the firm was known as S. Y. Hyde & Co. Mr. Adams' business operations had always been in company with



others until October 18, 1880, when he moved to his present location and opened business solely on his own account. Business is good and gives employment to two persons. Mr. Adams is a native of Ashtabula county, Ohio; was educated in his native state until he was sixteen years of age, when he came west to Minnesota. Two years later, May, 1861, he enlisted in Co. G., 2d reg. Wis. Inf., participated in the first Bull Run battle, and after seven months' service was discharged on account of sickness incurred in the army. As soon as his health was sufficiently restored to admit of his doing so, Mr. Adams returned to Minnesota, located at St. Charles, and entered the house of Hyde, Broughton & Co. as clerk, with whom he remained three years, and on the retirement of Mr. Broughton became a partner in the house. In 1870 he married Miss Nelia Z. Smith, of St. Lawrence county, New York. They have three children, two of whom are attending school in this city. Mr. Adams and wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church of St. Charles, holding the offices of steward and trustee respectively. Mr. Adams is also a worthy frater of the A. F. and A. M., being the present W.M. of Rising Sun Lodge and P.S. of Orient Chapter, No. 19, R.A.M.

GALLUP & THOMAS, dealers in general hardware and farm machinery. This business was established by E. M. Gallup in 1881, and became Gallup & Thomas in 1883. They employ three persons about the premises, and during the busy farming season keep four teams on the road. Business for 1882 was fully twenty-five per cent in excess of previous year. Members of firm E. M. Gallup, W. J. Thomas.

MR. GALLUP is a native of Vermont; came into St. Charles township in 1863 and was engaged in farming until he established his present business. He is married and has three children; one teaching in the county, two attending school in St. Charles. Mr. Gallup is one of the city justices of the peace, chairman of the board of education and a vice-president of the board of trade.

MR. THOMAS is a native of Pennsylvania, a carpenter by trade; came to this county at twenty-five years of age and worked at his trade in this city and vicinity until 1878, from which time, until the fall of 1882, he was principally at work in Tower City, along the line of the Northern railway. In January, 1883, he entered into partnership with Mr. Gallup, and may be considered a fixture in St.

Charles. He is married and has two children, both attending the city schools.

BENJAMIN F. DOWNING, son of Francis and Elisabeth Downing, was born in Franklin county, Ohio, January 24, 1816, and is of Scotch-Irish and English descent. When he was fifteen years old his father emigrated to Indiana, and settled in Tippecanoe county. He lived there five or six years and then removed to Laporte county, Indiana, where the subject of this sketch was married to Miss Malinda Baldwin, by whom he has had thirteen children. Sarah E., Mary Ellen, Cordelia L., Nancy A., Malinda M., Francis L., Oscar F., William A., Charles E., Jared A., Julia A., Gilbert P. and Isaac C., four of whom are dead; Charles E., Gilbert P., Mary E. and Cordelia L. The rest are all living. Mr. Downing moved from Laporte to Jasper county in the year 1850, and settled near Rensselaer (the county at that time being thinly settled, but full of wild deer and game of all kinds), where he found great sport in hunting, often killing three or four deer in one day. But his family being sick much of the time with the ague, he emigrated to Minnesota in the year 1863, and settled first in the village of Homer, but subsequently bought land on Homer ridge, where he yet resides. His mother and father both died at his house, she at the advanced age of ninety years and his father at the age of seventy-two. Mr. Downing had five brothers and four sisters. His father was in the war of 1812. Most of his ancestors were long-lived and religiously inclined, many of whom were ministers of the gospel, himself joining the Methodist church at the age of seventeen years. Mr. Downing has been a conscientious, hard-working, energetic and industrious man, believing that hard work is the only honest way of making a living. He is a good farmer and owns a nice farm near seven miles from the city of Winona, and is a republican in politics. Malinda Downing, his wife, the eldest child of Gilbert and Sarah Baldwin, was born in Gallio county, Ohio, March 12, 1822. She also descended from Scotch and Irish ancestors, some of whom lived to a remarkable old age, her great-grandfather Waddle living to over the age of one hundred years. None know mother Downing but to love her. She has devoted her life to the wants of others. In good works and in raising a large family she has done a mother's part, and for deeds of charity and kindness will long be remembered throughout her large circle of acquaintances.

REV. MICHAEL ZICKRICK is the son of a German farmer, and was

born at Grierade, near Berlin, Prussia, May 22, 1823. His education was completed at the age of fourteen, after which he assisted his father in his farming operations till he was twenty; at this age he went to learn the business of brickmaking, which he has followed nearly ever since. On March 12, 1846, he married Justina Seefield, and two years later emigrated to America, settling on a farm at Lomira, Dodge county, Wisconsin; here he also carried on the manufacture of brick. Mr. Zickrick was reared in the Evangelical church, and in 1851 began to preach its doctrines, and has ever since labored in this manner. In 1864 he came to Minnesota and purchased a farm in Elba township, this county, where one of his sons now resides. For the first two years of residence here Mr. Zickrick was constantly engaged in missionary labor and traveled from place to place. In 1869 he purchased thirty-nine acres of land on Sec. 29, now within the limits of the city of St. Charles, on which he began the manufacture of brick, and still carries on the same industry, making an average of nearly two hundred thousand bricks per annum. In 1870 he removed his family to the present residence, near the brickyard, and has since made his home here. He now preaches once a week in the Evangelical church of this city, and occasionally in Dover, Quincy, and other neighboring localities. He recently spent six months in Winona, supplying the pulpit of a sick pastor. He has taken little part in politics; has, however, served as judge of election in the city several times. He was a democrat until Lincoln's candidacy, since which time he has supported the republican party. Twelve children have been born to him, of whom eleven are now living. Their births, marriages, etc., are indicated below: Michael J., June 20, 1849, lives at St. Charles; Edward W. F., March 21, 1851, married to Hattie Bair, resides on the old homestead in Elba; Mary A., August 1, 1852, married to Gustav Gick, is a resident of St. Charles; Minnie D. W., March 8, 1854; Gustav R., May 2, 1855, home in Nordland, Dakota; Julius T., October 13, 1856 (now conductor on railroad), married to Alice Tuck, lives at Zumbrota, Minnesota; Lydia M., January 31, 1858; Sarah R., September 23, 1859, is teaching in Elba; Peter S., February 15, 1861, died before two years old; Jacob E., April 8, 1862; Richard B., September 14, 1863; Emma E., March 14, 1866. All are natives of Wisconsin except the latter.

## CHAPTER LVIII.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### EARLY SETTLERS—CONTINUED.

GODFREY WIDMOYER, son of Gottlob and Catherine Widmoyer, was born January 11, 1832, in Strempeleach, Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany. He attended school regularly eight years in Strempeleach. Left for America September 14, 1852, and landed in New York October 8, 1852. On landing in New York he worked nine months at the baker trade. Left New York city and went to Weisport, Pennsylvania, and remained there about five years, being employed at various occupations. Still anxious to come west, he came to Onalaska, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1858. Lived at intervals in Onalaska and La Crosse for the next four or five years. Moved to Dresbach in the spring of 1864. Worked in a sawmill three or four years; at the same time opened his farm where he now lives. Mr. Widmoyer was married to Mary Sold, daughter of Adam and Eve Sold. She was born in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Widmoyer have nine children, all living. The two eldest, William and Mary, are married; William, telegraph operator, lives in Dresbach; Mary, now Mrs. Dalton, lives in Dakota, this county. The other children, Fred, George, Dealia, Gertrude, Jessie, Guy, and Edward, live at home. Mr. Widmoyer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has always lived an upright and conscientious life, and is highly respected as a man and citizen. By industry and economy he has made a good living and accumulated means to support him in his latter days.

WESLEY MARTIN, of Homer, is the son of Asa and Elizabeth Martin. He was born in Stockton county, New York, June 24, 1818. His parents were natives of Connecticut, and farmers. His grandfather Martin was in the expedition which Arnold led against Quebec. His father Asa was in the war of 1812, and was present at the burning of Buffalo. The subject of this sketch was raised on a farm, and received a common school education. In 1822 his parents moved to Gallia county, Ohio. Here he experienced the vicissitudes of pioneer life. At an early age he went to learn the trade of a carpenter. In



1841 he removed to Boone county, Indiana, where he worked for a while at his trade. In 1845 he went into the mercantile business at Lebanon, Boone county, retiring in 1848. In 1855 he bought another stock of goods, which he closed out in 1859. He then bought a woolen and grist mill at Jamestown, Indiana, which he operated until 1864, when he sold out and came to Winona county, Minnesota, settling in Sec. 30, T. 107, R. 6. He now lives on Sec. 32. He has held several town offices, and was the nominee of his party for the legislature. December 6, 1838, he wedded Mary King, of Gallia county, Ohio. They are the parents of eight children now living, whose names, in the order of their birth, are: Henry M., Darius C., William F., Lineous L., Fares B., Elizabeth, wife of Smith Corben; Esther A., now Mrs. Caleb Bourn, and Olive E., now the wife of Oscar Downing. Fares B. was born in Boone county, Indiana, in 1853. He was reared mostly on the farm, and his early education was received in the common schools, and completed with a course at the Winona high school. He was married in the fall of 1877 to Miss Jennie A. Smith, a native of the State of New York. He is now residing on a farm in the township of Homer.

C. W. SEEFIELD, dealer in grain. This business was established by Mr. Seefield in 1872, at which time he rented an elevator of H. E. Broughton, and commenced operations as a buyer and shipper of grain. The following year, 1873, Mr. Seefield purchased the Broughton elevator, and since then, enlarging his operations from year to year, has become one of the heaviest buyers in southern Minnesota, owning ten elevators along the line of the Chicago & Northwestern railway, between Utica and Iroquois. In connection with this business Mr. Seefield does a heavy trade in coal, salt and flour, the latter the product of his steam flouring-mill at Nordlon, Dakota, with a capacity of sixty barrels a day. The capacity of his St. Charles elevators (of which he owns two, having a joint interest in a third) is about 45,000 bushels, and of the whole number about 130,000. To man these elevators he employs a force of thirty-one hands, and the aggregate bushels of grain handled the past season were about 900,000. Mr. Seefield is a native of Louisa, Dodge county, Wisconsin. He came to this county without capital in 1864, being at that time seventeen years of age, and was variously employed during the eight years that intervened before he commenced shipping grain on his own account. Three years of the

eight were spent in the grain-house of J. Hempstead & Co., at the expiration of which time, in partnership with Ed. Birge, Mr. Seefield commenced operating in grain, and the results of his eleven years' operations speak for themselves. As a member of the masonic fraternity, and of the city government, as well as of the business circles of the city, Mr. Seefield ranks well. He is a member of Rising Sun Lodge, A. F. and A. M.; Orient Chapter, R. A. M., and Home Commandery, K. T., of Rochester; a member of the city council during several terms, and mayor of St. Charles in 1881 and 1882.

LORENZO D. MEAD, was born in Illinois in 1826. He was raised on a farm near Galena, Illinois, working and attending school when opportunity offered. When he reached his twenty-fourth year he purchased a farm in Wisconsin, which he retained and worked for some years, then sold out and removed to Crawford county, Wisconsin, where he purchased another farm, remaining some six years. He removed west to Minneiska in 1864, where he has remained ever since, being connected with the elevators and obtaining such other employment as offered. He has been twice married, the first time in 1850, to Miss Gertrude Bruce, who died in 1852, leaving one child, who also died a short time afterward; the second time to Miss Ellen Owen, in 1854, by whom he has five children.

C. F. PUTSCH, watchmaker, jeweler, and dealer in small musical instruments and merchandise, 57 East Third street. This business was established by his brother A. Putsch, Jr., in 1874, on Center street, between Second and Third streets, and was removed from there to its present location in 1876. The following year A. Putsch, Jr., died, and the business passed into the hands of the present proprietor in 1878. He has one assistant in his business. C. F. Putsch was born in Portage City, Wisconsin, and came from there to this county with his father's family in 1864; has resided within its limits ever since, and, with the exception of three years, in the city of Winona, where he received his education. He is a member of Oak Grove Lodge, Ancient Order of Druids, and also of the Winona Gun Club.

J. BARRIE, merchant tailor, 16 Center street. This business was established in 1864, on the corner of Main and Third street, and was removed to its present location in the summer of 1882. He manufactures custom work exclusively, and has built up a more extensive trade than is at all common in a western city the size of Winona.

Two cutters are kept constantly employed, and the establishment furnishes work for fifteen tailors. Mr. Barrie is a native of New York, and has been in the business he now carries on since entering the shop as a tailor's apprentice nearly forty years ago, at which time he was thirteen years of age. Has been in business for himself thirty-five years. From the east Mr. Barrie came to Fall River, Wisconsin, in 1850, and six years later to Waseca county, in this state, his health at that time demanding change of air and employment.

FREDERICK DEUZER was born in Ohio in 1843, and was brought up on his father's farm, working during the summer and attending school during the winter months. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, when he came west, settling in the town of Whitewater, where he purchased a farm of 142 acres, which he cultivated for some years, when he sold and purchased another farm. Selling again he bought the farm he now occupies in 1876. He was married in 1866, to Miss Mary Hostetter, by whom he had three children. He is a Presbyterian, and a democrat in politics.

DOUD & THOMAS, boots and shoes, hats and caps, trunks and gents' furnishing goods, corner Third and Center streets. This business was started in 1879 at the corner of Second and Center streets, and removed to its present location in the spring of 1882. The storeroom fronts twenty-four feet on Third street, has a depth of one hundred and twenty feet, with a lateral extension in the rear 24×50, giving a little over four thousand square feet of flooring-room. They employ three persons and carry a stock of from \$12 to \$15,000. The members of the firm are R. T. Doud and W. W. Thomas.

R. T. DOUD was born in the State of New York, in 1835, came to Michigan with his parents when quite young, and five years later to Illinois. In 1857 the family removed to Trempelean county, Wisconsin, and R. F. Doud was there in business with his father under the firm name of Doud & Son (now Doud Son & Co., of this city) until his removal to Winona in 1865. Upon the organization of the Winona Milling Co. in 1879, Mr. Doud, who was a large stockholder in that concern, was elected secretary and still holds that office. In September of the same year, in connection with Mr. W. W. Thomas, he founded the firm of Doud & Thomas, which has had a growing trade since its organization. Mr. Doud is married and has three children, boys. He is a member of Winona Lodge,

No. 18, A. F. and A. M., Winona Chapter, No. 5, and Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3.

W. W. THOMAS, the junior of the firm, is a native of New York. Came to Winona in 1869, and was a clerk in the dry-goods house of his brother, J. W. Thomas, of this city, until he established himself in his present business. He is a member of the board of trade and its present treasurer.

J. P. SCHMITZ, collar and fly-net manufactory, north side Third street, between Walnut and Market. The building is a two-story brick, with basement, the basement and upper story devoted to manufacturing purposes. This business was established in this city in 1865, by P. J. Schmitz, brother of J. P. Schmitz, with whom the present proprietor learned his trade, and then in 1868 formed a partnership which lasted two years, when J. P. Schmitz left the city and spent two years traveling as a journeyman, during which time he visited California. On his return was for a short time in partnership with his brother, then bought out his interests here in 1874, and has since conducted the business, which is gradually growing. The product of 1874 was about five dozen collars a week, and in that year H. W. Cooper was admitted partner, this business association continuing until 1878, since which time Mr. Schmitz has conducted business alone. He now employs a force of from 8 to 18 hands, according to season and the demands of trade, turns out from 12 to 15 dozen collars a week, and from 300 to 325 dozen fly-nets a season. Sixteen different kinds of collars are manufactured, and trade extends into Iowa, Nebraska, Dakota and Wisconsin. In 1880 Mr. Schmitz took out letters patent for an improved collar cap, known as Schmitz's patent cap, which is meeting with much favor wherever introduced. By this invention a smooth bearing surface always rests upon the horse's neck, the collar top is stiffened so as to retain its shape, all seams by which the horse's neck might be galled are done away with, and water perfectly excluded from the collar top without the intervention of extra caps, either leather or metal. It is a common-sense contrivance sure to meet a practical want. Mr. Schmitz was born in Chicago, in 1848, and spent some years in Wisconsin before coming to Winona in 1865. He is a member of Oak Grove Lodge, No. 15, A.O.D.

E. S. MORGAN, bookseller and stationer, 9 East Third street. This business was established by the present proprietor in 1865, on



Second street, and removed to its present location in 1874. The business is both a jobbing and retail trade in books and stationery. The building he now occupies is 22×80, two stories above the basement, all devoted to his business. Trade extends along the line of the Winona & St. Peter division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway, and along the western end of the Green Bay & Minnesota railroad. Business gives employment to a force of six persons, and shows an increase of about twenty per cent over sales of last year. Mr. Morgan is a native of Indiana, came with his parents when quite young to Oquawka, Illinois, entered a bookstore in that place as a boy, and came from there to this city the same year that he established trade here, 1865. He is married, a member of the board of trade, also of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has one child in attendance at the high school of this city.

ARTHUR BEYERSTEDT, grocer and dealer in provisions and naval stores, corner Main and Second streets. This business was originally established in the spring of 1865, on the levee at the foot of Main street, as a boatstore, sales being exclusively to rivermen, and was there conducted until 1870, when it was removed to its present location. The business house is 48×60, employs a force of six clerks and two delivery wagons, and its transactions show a steady growth from year to year, the increase of this over last year's sales being ten per cent. Mr. Beyerstedt is a native of Hamburg, Germany; came to America with his parents when ten years of age. The family settled in Davenport, Iowa, in 1856, and the following year removed to Wisconsin, the parents being residents of this city.

PETER PESHON, farmer, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1842. When he was nineteen years of age he emigrated to America, landing in New York in 1862. He went to Wisconsin, where he engaged in the service of a man who was purchasing horses for the government, remaining with him during the continuance of the rebellion. In 1865 Mr. Peshon took up his residence in Minnesota, buying the farm he now lives on. In 1870 he married Miss Jane Piffer, by whom he has had four children. Mrs. Peshon died in 1880. Mr. Peshon is a democrat and a Roman Catholic. He cultivates a good farm and is well respected and liked by those who know him. He has never held political office, preferring to attend to his own affairs rather than those of the public, though often solicited to do so.

PETER SPELTZ, farmer, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in

1839, working on his father's farm and attending such schools as were in his immediate neighborhood until manhood. In 1864 he came to this country, joining a brother who was already settled in Iowa, where he remained a short time, when he came to Mt. Vernon, purchasing land and settling down. Mr. Speltz had but very little capital, but with perseverance and energy he has placed himself in the front rank of the many wealthy settlers of Mt. Vernon township. He erected and occupies one of the finest brick residences in the county, and his outbuildings are a model to his brother farmers. He is a representative German, and has always taken a very active part in public and political affairs. He was the democratic nominee for county commissioner, and has twice been elected chairman of supervisors, and has held other township offices. He married in 1866 Miss Anna Rivers, sister of Henry Rivers, Esq., of Rolling Stone, by whom he had five children. She died October 16, 1876, after a long and painful illness, universally respected and beloved, which was evidenced by an immense funeral, the settlers turning out en masse to do honor to her remains, forming a cortege of over one hundred teams. Hers was the first burial in the Catholic cemetery. Mr. Speltz was married again in 1878, to Miss Anna Geudinger, daughter of N. Geudinger, Esq., of Norton. He was the promoter of and very active in the erection of the Catholic church at Oak Ridge, and was one of the first communicants in the township.

TIMOTHY HESS, of Witoka, was born in Herkimer county, New York, September 8, 1816. He is the son of Daniel and Margaret Hess, both natives of New York. They are of German descent; his grandfather Hess was in the revolution, and his father was in the war of 1812; was at Sackett's Harbor under Brown. Timothy was raised on a farm, and educated in a common school. When he became of age he went to work on the canal, and soon had charge of a boat. Finally he bought a boat, and followed the business for twenty years. He was one of the men selected by the "F. and F." company to make the trial trip with a steam tug from New York city to Buffalo. September 8, 1848, he married Lucy Chapin, of Herkimer county, New York. They have six children, five of whom are living: Mary, Ellen, James, Cornelius, Daniel and Emma. Mr. Hess came to Minnesota in 1865, and settled on Sec. 2, T. 106, R. 7. Mrs. Hess is deceased.

JOHN GROESBECK, farmer, was born in Germany, in 1825. He was

brought up a farmer, working with his parents until his twenty-fifth year, when he came to America. He found employment at various occupations, farming, working on the railroad, and at day's labor, until 1865, and managed, by dint of economy, to save a few hundred dollars, with which he purchased forty acres of land in Mt. Vernon township. This he occupied and worked for ten years, selling out and purchasing a farm of 160 acres in Whitewater. He married, in 1860, a German lady, Miss Peshon, by whom he has had six children. Mr. Groesbeck has had many difficulties to contend with, and it has only been by dint of frugality and perseverance he has attained his present prosperity. He is a Roman Catholic, and has no decided political views.

GEORGE L. CAMP was born in New York State in 1830, and came to Minnesota in 1851, finding employment lumbering, he remaining in the vicinity of Minneapolis and St. Paul until the breaking out of the rebellion, when he joined the gallant 9th, and his regiment was one of the first to march to the relief of the settlers at the time of the Sioux outbreak, and was present with General Sibley's command in every engagement with the Indians, returning with his regiment in the fall of 1864. They were then sent to the front, and he took part in the engagements of Murfreesborough, Kingston, North Carolina, and the surrender of General Johnson at Raleigh. After the war was over he purchased some land in Norton, which he afterward sold, buying the farm he now resides on. He married, in 1866, Miss Bertha Stearns, and has two children. Mr. Camp is a prominent temperance man, and takes an active part in every temperance movement that has taken place in the town.

CARL FINK, farmer, is of German descent, having been born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1820, where he was brought up, and learned the trade of wagon-maker. He was married in 1842 to Miss Anna Heising, also a native of Pennsylvania. He followed his trade for some years at different points in Pennsylvania and Maryland. In 1848 he came west to Detroit, where he remained two years. His wife died here, leaving no children. In 1856 he moved to Wisconsin, purchasing a farm, which he worked up until 1865, when he sold out and removed to Whitewater, where he has since resided. He married a Wisconsin lady, Mrs. Bertha Felex, by whom he has had four children. Mr. Fink is a Lutheran and a republican.

ADDISON GARRISON, farmer, born in Ripley county, Indiana, in

1828, where he attended school and worked on a farm. In 1849 married Miss Martha Bennett. By this marriage has had five children : Charlotte, born 1850, married Jerry Rollings ; Rachael, born 1851, died September 21, 1856 ; Margaret, born 1853, married in 1875 Andrew Parker, of Big Stone county, Minnesota ; Theodore, born 1855, married in 1880 Ida Crantz, born in Sweden in 1855 ; Emaline, born 1857, died 1877 ; Mrs. Martha (Bennett) Garrison, died the same year (1877). Our subject in 1862 joined the 45th reg. of Ind. Vols., and was discharged the following year owing to ill health. In 1865 moved to Whitewater, Minnesota, where he purchased 200 acres of farm land in Sec. 5, T. 108, R. 10. Has been three times elected supervisor ; is a republican in politics and in religion favors the Methodist Episcopal church.

AUGUST DETRICH, farmer, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1830, and came to this country with his parents when he was five years old. They settled on the Western Reserves, Ohio, where Mr. Detrich remained until 1860, being employed mostly in farming. He enlisted in the army in 1861, joining the 67th Ohio Vols., and was with his regiment under Gilmore in the department of the south. He was slightly wounded at Fort Wagner, Charleston Harbor. He was made color-sergeant in 1864, and carried them through the fights of Bermuda Hundreds, Hatcher's Run, Fort Harrison and Dutch Gap. His regiment was part of the well-known 10th corps or Terry's fighting corps, which was subsequently consolidated with the 18th and made the 24th. He participated in all the fighting around Richmond and Petersburg, and came up with his corps just in time to fire a farewell shot at Appomattox court-house. His army record has been a grand one ; he bore his regiment's colors proudly aloft through seven engagements and never lowered them once to the foe. On the close of the war he moved west, purchasing land in Whitewater, where he still resides, enjoying the prosperity his labor has endowed him with, beloved by his family and respected by all who know him. He was married on the eve of his enlistment to a young lady whose patriotism was only equaled by her love, and who willingly surrendered him to his country's cause, and claimed him not again until rebellion's serpent-head was laid low in the dust. Mary Meyers, her name deserves to be recorded on the roll of those noble women who suffered so much that their country might live. Three sons have blessed their union, Abram, John and Sherman.



Mr. Detrich is a staunch republican, a member of the G. A. R., has held numerous local town offices, and is a Methodist in religious views.

CHARLES FRANCIS DUNKHOORN is of Prussian descent, born at Detroit, Michigan, in 1840, and spent his younger days on his father's farm in the neighborhood of Ypsilanti, Michigan. He was one of the first young men of his town to enter the Union ranks, becoming a member of Co. C, 8th Mich., and serving during the entire rebellion, mustering out in 1865 as orderly sergeant of his company. He was twice wounded at Petersburg and Hatcher's run, though slightly, and only lost ten days' duty from sickness or disability during his entire enlistment.

MARK WILLSON is the only son of John I. and Mary Willson; was born at Newmarket, Ontario, February 27, 1820. In 1824 his parents removed to western Pennsylvania and settled in Sugar Grove, Warren county, where the family resided until 1863. His father and mother both died and were buried at Sugar Grove. At an early age Mr. Willson engaged in the mercantile business, which he followed until his removal to the great west in 1863. At the age of twenty-one he was elected a justice of the peace, and continued to fill that office by re-election for a period of twenty-five years. He also filled the office of postmaster and various other local offices to the entire satisfaction of the community. In 1853 he was married to Elizabeth Hallock, of New York city. Disposing of his property in 1863, he came west and settled at Hastings, Minnesota, where he had friends then living, and re-embarked in the business of a general dealer in merchandise. Here he remained until 1866, serving one year as mayor of that thrifty city. In that year he removed his family and business to Winona, where he has since resided. In 1868 he disposed of his stock of merchandise and engaged in the banking business, taking an active part in the organization of the Second National Bank, with which he remained connected as an officer several years. In 1877 he resigned his position, and with others secured a charter for the Merchants' National Bank, of which institution he has been president ever since. Mr. Willson is a staunch republican, and an exemplary and public-spirited citizen.

W. L. NEVUS & BRO., livery and sale stables, city omnibus and hack line, office corner of Johnson and Fourth streets. The principal stables of the firm are at this location, and occupy a lot fronting 140 feet on Fourth street and 60 feet on Johnson. The business has grown from a comparatively small stable of fifteen horses in 1872 to

really metropolitan proportions. In addition to the premises above mentioned they occupy commodious stables on Johnson, between Third and Fourth streets, fronting the Huff House, and also on the northwest corner of Johnson and Third streets. Their livery stock consists of sixty head of horses, thirty-two carriages and buggies, three omnibuses and four hacks, to man which a constant force of twelve employés is required. To their enterprise is owing the establishment of a city omnibus line, which at the time it was put in operation was considered a decided risk financially. This omnibus line is maintained in winter as well as summer, and no city of its size is better provided with transportation facilities of this kind than Winona has been of late years through the enterprise of this firm. They are as fully equipped for winter as for summer business, and when occasion demands the whole outfit is put on runners, as was the case during the winter of 1882-3 just closed. The members of the firm are W. L. Nevius and E. G. Nevius.

Mr. W. L. NEVIUS is a native of Pennsylvania; married and has one child now attending school in this city. He was engaged in farming and live-stock operations until 1866, at which time he came to Winona from Knox county, Ohio, and opened a stable for the sale of horses on Washington street, between Second and Third, at that time known as the Bauder House stables. Having purchased the stables on the corner of Market and Third streets, now occupied by Mr. George Warren, Mr. Nevius removed his business to that location in 1869, and from there to his present stand in 1872. The business was exclusively a sale business until 1870, when the livery department was added, since which time it has been conducted as a joint livery and sale establishment. The sales of the first year, 1866, aggregated 200 head; from that date until 1870 the annual sales were from 300 to 400 head, and in 1877 reached a total of fully 500 head. The theater of operations has very materially changed since 1866, at which time purchases were from Indiana and Ohio breeders with sales to Minnesota farmers. Later purchases were from Illinois and Iowa, and sales were made to settlers in the Red River country of the north and the lumbermen of the northern pineries. Since 1880 purchases have been made quite extensively from the horse breeders of Winona and adjoining counties, while sales have been pretty evenly divided between the agriculturists of western Minnesota and Dakota and the lumbermen. During the months of November and December, 1881, Nevius & Bro. paid to

the farmers of Winona and adjoining counties about \$12,000 for horses, all of them purchased to supply the demand of the Eau Claire pineries. The purchases from the same sources during the corresponding months of 1882 were fully thirty per cent in advance of those above given for 1881. The firm also own considerable farming lands in the western portion of the state, from which, if necessary, they can draw supplies for the use of their stock at this point.

E. G. NEVIUS is a native of Ohio; came to Winona in 1870, took charge of the livery stables of his brother, W. L. Nevius, in 1872, and the following year entered into partnership with him. Mr. E. G. Nevius is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., Winona Chapter, No. 5, and of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3. He was married in 1875, to Miss E. Simpson, daughter of V. Simpson, Esq., one of Winona's pioneer business men. They have three children.

JAMES P. O'BRIEN, farmer, was born in Ireland, in 1832, and came to this country while very young. His father settled in New York city, and James learned the bricklayers' trade. When he was twenty-one he married Miss Kate Sullivan, and has a family of seven children. Mr. O'Brien followed his trade in different cities up to 1862, when he enlisted in 49th regt. N. Y. Vols.; was wounded in the battle of Gettysburg, for which he now receives a pension. He participated in the seven days' fighting around Richmond under McClellan, and was in other severe engagements. He left the service with the rank of sergeant; he came west to Elba in 1866, and has built most of the brick houses in the township. Mr. O'Brien also carries on farming to some extent, cultivating forty acres. Mr. O'Brien owns considerable property, and is much respected and liked.

PETER HANNBERG, watchmaker, was born in Sweden, February 11, 1827. He was early apprenticed to the watchmaking, and after learning his trade he worked for some years at Hellingsland, and other points in Sweden. In 1866 he came to this country, coming almost direct to Mt. Vernon. He was the first to erect a dwelling at Millville, Wabasha county, and has been closely identified with the prosperity of the township, in both Winona and Wabasha counties, lying adjacent to each other. He has been engaged in various businesses, carrying on limekilns, farming, mercantile, and now carries on his old trade of watchmaking. He was married in 1849 in Sweden, to his cousin, Anna Hannberg, and has had one

child. He is a Lutheran in religious convictions, and a staunch republican in politics. Mr. Hannberg resides on his own property, near to the town line of Minneiska, and is very popular with his countrymen in this and other townships.

E. G. HILL, justice of the peace. Mr. Hill is a native of Vermont; came to Wisconsin in 1866, and to St. Charles the following September; since coming here has not been in trade; was the first assessor of the city after its incorporation, 1870 and 1871, and has served several terms as such; has been justice of the peace over five years of that time, and is the present secretary of both the masonic bodies in the city.

LEANDER NORTON was born in Starksboro, Vermont, July 10, 1825. He spent his youth at home, working on his father's farm in the summer time and going to school in the winter. At the age of twenty-six he married Miss Catherine Hill, and bought a farm near Starksboro, and lived on it four years, and sold it and bought another near Huntington, Vermont, and worked it one year. He then sold out farm and implements and moved back to Starksboro, and bought a sawmill and 300 acres of timber (hardwood and spruce). After running the sawmill about three years he sold out and moved to Ripton, and bought a farm and kept a dairy for eight years. About this time he caught the "Western fever," and after disposing of his farm and stock he was carried off by it to Pleasant Hill, Minnesota, where he arrived in March, 1866, and bought the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 15, which he now owns and has under a good state of cultivation. Mr. Norton has six children: the eldest, Rollin, married Sarah A. Cooper, and now resides in the southwestern part of the township.

NICK BIEVER, postmaster, Oak Ridge, was born in Germany, 1846, and came to this country in 1852, going to Wisconsin, where he remained fourteen years farming. He then removed to this township in 1866, where he purchased land and engaged in farming. In 1876 he removed to Oak Ridge, and was appointed postmaster, which position he continues to fill. He also carries on business as shoe and general store. He married Miss Susan Becker in 1867, and has had six children, one of whom has died. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church. He was a member of the 2d Wis. Cav., and served under Banks, participating with his regiment in the numerous engagements of his command.

GOULD & SNOW, attorneys-at-law; office corner of Third and



Center streets, in postoffice block. Law partnership formed January 1, 1877. Members of firm, O. B. Gould and A. H. Snow. Hon. O. B. Gould is a native of Brantford, Ontario; received his early education in the common schools of Ohio, and at the outbreak of the war was preparing for college at the Seneca County Academy, Republic, Ohio. Leaving school, he enlisted on September 25, 1861, in the 55th Ohio Inf. reg., and served with the army in West Virginia, taking part in all the engagements fought there until the fall of 1862. He was then with Pope's command in the Shenandoah, taking part in the second Bull Run fight, and after that engagement was with the army of the Potomac until after the battle of Gettysburgh, though not in that engagement, having been wounded at Chancellorsville May 2, 1863, and taken prisoner after the battle. In about two weeks after being taken prisoner he was paroled, and as soon as sufficiently recovered was placed in command of the parole camp of prisoners at Washington, having been promoted second lieutenant April 22 of that year. The same fall (1863) he was exchanged and joined his regiment then on duty with Grant and Sherman's army in the southwest, taking part in the battles of Mission Ridge and Lookout Mountain. He marched with Sherman's army to the relief of Burnside at Knoxville, and the following spring took part in the great series of engagements lasting four months which resulted in the capture of Atlanta. Was with the army that "marched down to the sea," and participated with his regiment in the siege of Savannah, the battles of Averyboro and Bentonsville, and was at Raleigh when Johnson surrendered. After that event his regiment marched to Washington, where it participated in the grand review, and was then transferred to Louisville, Kentucky, where, with the rest of his command, Capt. Gould was mustered out, July 11, 1865, after three years, nine months and seventy-two days of hard service. His first-lieutenant commission bears date March 19, 1864; his captaincy was obtained November 9, same year. Returning home, Capt. Gould read law in the office of Lee & Brewer, of Tiffin, Ohio, attended law lectures at Michigan University, graduating in 1867 and receiving his parchment. The same fall he located in Winona, and was mostly in practice without any partner until his association with Mr. Snow, nearly six years since. In the fall of 1880 Mr. Gould was nominated for state representative by the republican county convention, and returned by a majority of 300 in a district confessedly democratic by at least 300

majority. Was in attendance at the sessions of the general assembly when the state capital was burned, and also during the bond bill excitement, recording his vote against that measure, which was afterward declared unconstitutional by the supreme court. Was in the extra session of assembly that same fall (1881), and was one of the committee of arrangements upon whom devolved the prosecution of a certain district judge of this state, which resulted in his impeachment and removal from office. Nominated by his party for state senator in 1882, he made the canvass against ex-chief justice Wilson. Mr. Gould's name appears in connection with many of the industrial and educational institutions of the county. A. H. Snow is a native of Michigan, a graduate of its State University class of 1865 and of the Albany Law School class of 1867. Located for practice in Albany, but two years later removed to California and was in practice in San Francisco for twelve years prior to locating in Winona in 1871. Here he formed a law partnership with John Keyes, which continued until Mr. Keyes' death in 1876. The following January his present partnership was formed. He was city attorney in 1874; the same fall was elected county attorney, holding the office four years. He is the present attorney of the Winona Building Association; married and has three children in the city schools.

J. KENDALL, wholesale and retail dealer in drugs, oils, paints and glass, 17 East Second street. This house is the lineal successor of the old drug-house of Charles Benson, established in this city over twenty-six years ago, and which was successively Benson, Benson & Upham, Benson & Bingham, Benson, Bingham & Co., Benson & Kendall, and since 1875 J. Kendall. The premises now occupied by this business were purchased by Mr. Kendall in 1870, from S. N. Wickersham, who had occupied it as a drug-house until the death of his wife, when he discontinued business, shipped part of his stock to Philadelphia and disposed of the remainder to F. Patton. The building is a three-story and basement structure, stone front, 20×100 feet, with an addition 40×20, fronting on the alley. The business of the house occupies two stories and the basement, and gives employment to a force of five clerks and one traveling salesman. The great bulk of trade is in lubricating, illuminating and paint oils, of which from 6,000 to 7,000 barrels are annually disposed of. The oil-house, corner of Second and Washington streets, has a capacity of 1,000 barrels. The house holds the agency of the Standard Oil Company, and extends its trade along the lines of the

Chicago & Northwestern railroad and branches in Minnesota and Dakota, and also along the Green Bay & Winona road in Wisconsin. Mr. Kendall was born in Ithaca, New York, in 1822, and was in the dry-goods trade in that city twenty-five years before coming to Winona in 1866. Mr. Kendall's whole time is given to business. He is a member and director of the board of trade and chairman of its city committee.

JOHN LATSCH, grocer, 103 East Second street, has been in business in this city since May, 1867, and in his present location since the fall of 1870, the same year in which he bought the property and built his stone building, a two-story brick, 25×80 feet, the first floor and basement occupied with his business, the upper story for family dwelling. The trade gives employment to a force of five persons and one delivery wagon.

Mr. Latsch is a native of Zurich, Switzerland; came to America in 1854: settled in Dakota, Winona county, but only remained a short time, removing to Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming until 1864. February 27th of that year he enlisted in the 25th Wis. Inf.; was mustered in at La Crosse, and the following spring transferred to the 12th reg., with which he served until mustered out at Louisville July 1, 1865, having served with Sherman's army and participated in the march to the sea. Since coming to America Mr. Latsch has twice revisited his native country, once in 1873 and again in 1882. He is married and has three children, two of them assisting in the grocery house and one in attendance at the city schools.

ROBERT BURNS, farmer, was born in Dundee, Scotland, in 1837, and came to this country when he was seven years of age, in care of his aunt, who had adopted him, his parents both being dead. She settled in Beloit, Wisconsin, where Robert received such education as the district schools afforded. When twenty years of age he struck out for the Pacific coast, determined to see as much of life as he could, and gain a fortune in the land of gold if possible. He wandered some four years, residing in different parts of California and in the Black Hills, Salt Lake City, Denver, and other western points. His health failing somewhat he returned home, where he remained a year. Regaining his former strength and vigor, he worked at farming in Wisconsin and Iowa, and finally, in 1867, he purchased the fine farm in Whitewater he now occupies from Mr. O. Medcalf. The farm was in a very poor condition, and Whitewater but sparsely settled, and Mr. Burns had many obstacles to overcome;

but naturally being possessed of great energy and push, he determined to become possessed of one of the best farms that the heart of a farmer could wish, and he has succeeded, for few stock farms in the town can rival it. He married in 1866 Miss Kate E. Ellis, of Ohio, who is a most estimable lady, and who has shared with Mr. Burns the privations of an early settler, and has ably assisted him in the acquisition of the handsome competency he now enjoys.

H. G. C. SCHMIDT, wholesale dealer and importer of wines and liquors, 77 East Second street. This business was established by F. S. Holleysworth some sixteen years, and purchased by the present proprietor in 1881.

Mr. Schmidt is a native of Nassau, Germany; graduated at the University of Bonn, and was for a season in the employ of the government there with the surgery corps of the mining department. Came from Germany to America in 1848, to Booneville, Missouri, from which point he made the overland route to California in 1850, remaining until 1862. The family settled in Booneville, and there Mr. Schmidt made his home, with the exception of the twelve years spent in California, until his removal to Winona in 1867. Here he was engaged in furniture manufacture from 1867 to 1870, and in the grocery business from 1870 to 1881. He has the agency for ten of the principal trans-Atlantic steamship lines, and, as notary public, having full acquaintance with the regulations of the German government, transacts business for German emigrants with European parties. He is a member of the I.O.O.F. fraternity, and for the thirteen years prior to 1881 was secretary of this lodge, his present business engagements compelling him to decline that office. He keeps one traveling salesman on the road and two employes in his store; is married and has five children, four of them attending school.

H. J. O'NEILL, grain dealer; office on west side Center street, between Second and Third streets. Mr. O'Neill is lessee of the C. & N. W. Railway Company's elevator at this point, and his Winona business consists solely in handling grain in transitu from western stations to the eastern markets. Grain is bought all along the lines of the road to its western terminus, and of the crop of 1881 700,000 bushels passed through his Winona elevator. But little wheat is handled, operations being largely in barley. The elevator has a capacity of unloading, cleaning and discharging 2,000 bushels per hour, employs a force of from ten to twelve hands, and is fur-



nished with engines of 100 horse power. Mr. O'Neill is also owner of the Minneiska elevator just beyond the county limits, in Wabasha county.

Mr. H. J. O'Neill is a native of New York State ; came to Minnesota fifteen years since, and during that time has been engaged in the grain trade at Minneiska and this point.

C. L. POTTLE, superintendent of the Ellsworth Flouring Mills, Minnesota City, Minnesota, was born in the State of Maine, in the year 1844, of American parents. Received a collegiate education at Kentshill College, Maine. His youth and early life was spent on a farm. In 1867 he was married and removed to Minnesota, where he taught school for a time, until he took charge of the Ellsworth mills, in which capacity he has remained ever since. Mr. Pottle is one of the most social and agreeable of men, and by strict attention to business has amassed a very handsome competence, and is one of the successful business men of the county. Mr. Pottle is a republican in politics and a member of the A. F. and A. M.

DANIEL W. STONE, capitalist, is a son of Joshua Stone, a teacher and lumberman, who was born on Long Island ; he married Chloe Morehouse, of Rhode Island, and settled on the St. John's river, in Douglas county, New Brunswick. Here was born the subject of this sketch on September 18, 1805. His parents soon moved across the state line into Maine, and here he received the limited education afforded by the common schools of that time and locality. On reaching manhood he purchased a farm, which he tilled during the summer, and spent his winters lumbering. He was married October 5, 1831, to Mary A. Harris, who was born at Machias, Maine, January 5, 1814 ; her parents, Samuel Harris and Mary Gallup, were also born in Machias. Mrs. Stone died at Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, June 18, 1856. She was a member of the Baptist church. Five children survive her, as follows: Samuel W., born January 14, 1833, married Harriet E. Pike, and lives at Aurora, Dakota ; Mary E., born May 14, 1836, married Jonathan Burrington (now deceased), afterward married James P. Duncan, and resides at Rich Hill, Missouri ; George W., born May 27, 1843, lives in Montana, a hunter by occupation ; Melvin L., born August 3, 1848, married Alice Barnett, and lives at Rich Hill ; Nehemiah, born September 1, 1850, also a hunter in Montana. Mr. Stone removed to Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, in 1845, and was one of the successful pioneers of that region. At forty-five years of age he began work

as a stonemason, and followed the occupation for some time; he also engaged in carpenter work, and built many houses complete from cellar to garret. In 1868 he sold his Wisconsin property, and after spending some time in prospecting, purchased his present home in St. Charles in the fall of that year, and has dwelt here ever since. He now owns three stores in the city, from whose rental a portion of his income is derived. On July 22, 1862, he married Attaresta, relict of Samuel R. White; she was born in Thompson, Connecticut, in January, 1816; her father, Asa Burgess, was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and her mother, Millie Town, was a native of Thompson. Three children of Samuel R. White are living: Ellis T., born October 12, 1843, married Desire Kearney, lives in La Salle county, Illinois; Millie A., born December 31, 1844, married Charles W. Hall, dwells in Alden, this state; Orman S., born January 3, 1847, married Dolly Terris, resides at Long Prairie, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Stone are members of the St. Charles Baptist church, in which the former has been a deacon for the last six years. He has always been a democrat in politics. He was a town supervisor during the greater part of his residence in Sun Prairie; has been alderman of this city four years, and in 1874 was mayor.

JOHN VON ROHR, druggist and dealer in paints, oils, etc., northeast corner Main and Second streets. The drug-house of which Mr. Von Rohr is the successor was established by L. Wienand & Co., in May, 1857, in an old frame building still standing on the north side of Second street, between Walnut and Market. After about six months the business was removed one block west and across the street, and there continued until 1867, when it was changed to its present location, and there conducted until the present. The original company were L. Wienand and H. R. Wedel, and so continued until Dr. Wedel sold his interest to his partner, and entered the United States army in the 4th Minn. reg., in 1862. L. Wienand continued the business until 1865, when he died and the stock was sold to Dohmen Schmidt & Co., who after one year's management of affairs sold out to Dr. Wedel, who had returned from the army. The new firm was Wedel & Netter, and so remained until Dr. Wedel bought out his partner in 1869, continuing business alone until January 1, 1881, when he sold out to John Von Rohr. The house does a good general trade, a fine

prescription business, and requires the services of three persons to conduct it.

John Von Rohr is a native of Niagara county, New York, where he was educated and partially fitted for business, having spent three years as druggist's clerk in the city of Buffalo prior to coming to Winona in 1868. He entered the drug-house of Benson & Kendall in the spring of 1869, and was with that house eleven years, one year as partner, before establishing his present business. Mr. Von Rohr is married and has four children. He is a member of the Philharmonic Society of this city.

LOUIS SCHNELL, dealer in grain, elevator situated south side Chicago & Northwestern railroad tracks; capacity, 15,000 bushels; erected in 1880, at a cost of \$5,000; size 26×66, with office 16×12. Mr. Schnell is a native of Berlin, Germany, from which country he came to America in 1867, and to this county one year later. From 1868 until 1870 Mr. Schnell was in this city handling grain for J. Hempstead & Co. He then removed to Winona, and until 1876 was with the grain-house of C. G. Miller & Co. (afterward Otto Sontag). In 1876 returned to St. Charles and was one year in partnership with C. W. Seefield & Co., at the expiration of which time he rented the horse-power elevator of C. E. Kendall & Co., which operated until it was destroyed by fire in 1878. Mr. Schnell then made arrangements to build an elevator for himself, which he completed and occupied in time to handle the grain crop of 1880, and in which he is now doing a successful grain trade. His elevator is worked by a steam-engine of about eight-horse power, gives employment to a force of from two to three hands, and shipments for 1882 were fully thirty-three per cent in advance of previous year. These shipments are principally of barley and oats to the Milwaukee and Chicago markets. Wheat shipments, owing to the short crops of the past two or three years, are comparatively light. Mr. Schnell is married, is a P.M. of the A.O.U.W. and also a member of Winona Grove, No. 6, A.O.U.D.

NICHOLAS SCHELL, Jr., teacher and town clerk, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1854, emigrating to America with his parents in 1869, when his father settled in Rolling Stone. Mr. Schell was a pupil of the high school, Winona, and also attended several terms at St. John's College, Stearns county, Minnesota. Finishing his education, he embraced the profession of teacher, moving into this township and taking charge of the school at Oak Ridge, which

he still continues to teach. He was elected town clerk in 1879, filling that position ever since. He married, in 1880, Miss Mary Kimmell, daughter of the late Nicholas Kimmell, of Rolling Stone. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and votes with the democratic party.

JULIUS F. BOSCHÉE, farmer, is German by nativity, and came to the United States in 1849, when he was about twenty years of age. He resided for some years in New York city, working in a brewery. He also worked for a year in Cleveland at the same business. He worked on a farm in Summit county, Ohio, until the breaking out of the rebellion, when he entered the service, joining the 19th Mich., serving with that regiment and being with them at the battle of the Wilderness. Having been detailed into the pioneer corps he contracted rheumatism while building a pontoon bridge, and was shortly afterward mustered out of service, under a disability discharge. He was married in 1865, at Akron, Ohio, to Miss Anna Blumenthal, by whom he has had five children. In 1869 he purchased the fine farm he now occupies in Whitewater. He has gone extensively into stock-raising and is considered an authority on all matters pertaining to stock. He is a Lutheran and a republican.

WINONA SHOEING SHOP, HELLER AND PERROTT, proprietors; Third street near court-house. This business was established in 1862, by George Warren, who was at that time in livery business, on the east end of the lot on which the shoeing shop now stands. The shop was at that time but half its present size, having been enlarged by the present proprietors in 1882. This property was sold by Mr. Warren in 1871, to D. J. Pettis, who sold to T. J. Heller, March 24, 1875. The present partnership was formed in 1882, when the shop was enlarged and an additional forge was put in, making three fires. The business of the firm is steadily increasing, gives employment to four men. They do a general blacksmithing business, but special attention is paid to horse-shoeing, and they now do the greater part of the fine shoeing done in the city.

T. J. HELLER has resided in this city since 1869. He learned his trade with George McNutt, of Stockton; came to this city and was two years in the employ of the Winona Carriage Works, and after one year's work in the city shops as journeyman blacksmith rented the premises he bought two years later and established himself in business. He is a member of St. Joseph's Catholic church, and of the St. Joseph's Benevolent Society as well.



Z. PEROTT is a native of France, and came to Canada with his parents when but eighteen months old. Removing to the New England states, he learned his trade in Providence, Rhode Island, and coming west settled in Winona in 1871. He is a member of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, I.O.O.F.

E. F. CURTIS, grocer, 15 East Third street. This business was established June 1, 1869, just across the street in Richardson's block, thence to the corner of Center, same block, and to its present location in 1879. This business was conducted as a retail trade until 1873, then in connection with J. C. Black as wholesale and retail until Mr. Black retired two years later. Since 1875 it has been principally retail, although some jobbing is still done. Six clerks and two delivery wagons are kept constantly employed. Mr. Curtis is a native of Connecticut; left the home farm at twenty-one years of age, and previous to coming to Winona in 1869 was traveling salesman for a New York boot and shoe house. He is a director of the board of trade, and quite extensively engaged in stock-farming.

F. FILITZ was born in Germany, 1839, coming to this country in 1864, going west to Wisconsin, where he rented a farm, working it for five years, when he moved up into Mt. Vernon, and purchased the farm he now occupies. He was married in 1872, to Miss Louisa Kuller, by whom he has had five children. She, after a long and painful illness, died December 6, 1882, aged thirty-eight years, universally beloved and respected by all who knew her. Mr. Filitz is a Lutheran in religion and a democrat in politics. He is thoroughly respected and liked by his neighbors.

SMITH BROTHERS, brass and iron founders, west side Walnut street, between Third and Fourth. This is a new enterprise, commenced in 1881 by two industrious mechanics with limited capital, who had learned their trade in the foundry and machine shops of W. M. Hurlbert, of this city, and concluded to establish business for themselves. They occupy a lot fronting 40 feet on Walnut street, with a depth of 120. Their casting house is 24×40 feet, with a small addition for engine and cupola. The engine for blowing purposes is of seven-horse power, and their cupola has a capacity of from 2,500 lbs. to 3,000 lbs. of metal. Ten persons find constant employment, and the contents of the cupolas are run off three times a week. Business is steadily increasing, and larger quarters will soon be required for their operations. The members of the firm are J. F. and M. M. Smith. They are the sons of Matthew and Mary

Smith, and came to this city with their widowed mother and their grandparents, all of whom form one household. The grandfather is still living, aged almost ninety-one years. The grandmother died in 1872, aged eighty-seven, after a married life of sixty-eight years. J. F. Smith is a native of Iowa; M. M. Smith, of Illinois.

ANTOINE FABRIE, farmer, is a native of the Province of Quebec, Canada, having been born at St. Hilaire in 1840. His parents were poor, and the small farm they tilled hardly gave sustenance to their large family. Antoine had to work early and late for a bare livelihood, and had no time to procure any schooling. He left home when he was sixteen and went lumbering up the Ottawa. This vocation he followed for a number of seasons. In 1862 he came west to Minnesota with a gang of other French Canadians to cut logs. In 1867 he worked among the farmers in Elba and White-water. In 1870 he rented a farm of forty acres, which he finally purchased and now occupies. He married, in 1870, Miss Bertha Jonson, and has a family of three, two girls and a boy. Mr. Fabrie is a Roman Catholic and independent in politics.

MARTIN HAGAN was born in Homer, Cortland county, New York, August 22, 1841, and was educated in the common schools of that county, and remained at home with his parents until 1862, when he entered the army with the 29th N. Y. Inf. He participated in the battles of Malvern Hill and Fair Oaks, Williamsburgh and Glendale. He returned to New York after the war and married Miss Jenne Judd. He came west in 1870, buying land in Whitewater, where he has remained ever since. Mr. Hagan is a very successful farmer, and one of the most extensive wheat growers in the county.

OTTO SONTAG, dealer in grain, hides and wool. This business was established in 1870, in an office and warehouse on the levee, on the present site of the Winona Mill Company's mill. Capacity of warehouse 15,000 bushels, with rented storerooms of double that capacity. Shipments were made by river to La Crosse, there being then no outlet by rail to the eastern markets. In 1873, on the completion of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad to this point, Mr. Sontag occupied a warehouse on the tracks of that company with a capacity of 20,000 bushels. This was one of the old-time warehouses, with an elevated bridge upon which teams were driven and the grain dumped into bins. In 1877, in connection with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, he built the

elevator which now stands on the track of that road just east of the passenger depot. It is a frame structure, 30×50 feet, modern style, with a handling capacity of 30,000 bushels and a storage capacity of 50,000 bushels. Originally shipments of grain were largely in wheat, but of late years shipments of barley have rapidly increased until they fully equal those of wheat, the 1882 barley crop being somewhat in excess of that of wheat. Of the 1881 crop Mr. Sontag handled 135,000 bushels of wheat and 100,000 bushels of barley; that was a short crop, however, as high as 500,000 having been handled by him in a single year. Prior to August, 1882, was largely interested in hides, in company with G. H. Krumbeck, of this city, sales of single lots rising as high as \$20,000. Is at present dealing only in local hides, the product of Winona butchers, of which the sales are about \$1,000 per month. Wool sales, which since 1875 have been quite heavy, were quite light for 1881, the business of that year's clip aggregating about 20,000 pounds. In 1878, when the Winona Mill Company bought the river front, Mr. Sontag removed his office to the west side of Walnut street, between Second and Third, in a brick structure 20×40, two stories and basement, the latter used for curing hides. He has connection by telephone with the City Exchange, and has also a private line communicating with his elevator. Mr. Otto Sontag was born in the Duchy of Brunswick, Germany, in 1841; came to America with his parents and located in Milwaukee in 1848. After some experience as a merchant's clerk, in 1862 he formed his first acquaintance with the grain trade as clerk in a grain house. This business he has followed for twenty years, twelve of them in this city. December 16, 1866, Otto Sontag married Miss Roselia Schorse. They have five children, four of them in attendance upon the city schools.

JACOB E. PETERSON was born in Sweden in 1841, and came to this country in 1860, coming almost direct to Minnesota. He used to work at \$4 a month farming in Sweden, and managed to save enough, with the aid of a little borrowed money, to pay his passage to New York. He found employment with different farmers between New York and Detroit, gradually working himself west. In 1864 he was working lumbering, and in 1870 he bought land in Elba. He was married at Winona in 1868, to Miss Johnson. He is a thorough farmer and is possessed of a great deal of energy and enterprise.

M. TOYE, plumber, steam and gas fitter and dealer in engineers'



supplies, at 14 West Third street. This house was established by the present proprietor in 1870, and his present location taken in 1877, in which year he built his present business house, a two-story and basement brick, 24×80 feet, the whole occupied by his business, which shows an increase of about thirty-five per cent over operations of last year. He carries a very complete stock of all goods required in his line, equal in variety to any house in the state, and employs an average force of eight workmen. His largest contract this season has been in connection with the new waterworks of the city. Mr. Toye is a native of Scotland; learned his trade in New York, and has now been a resident of the city over twelve years. Was elected county commissioner for the second district in 1881, and is now in office. Is married, and has one child in school.

J. W. DYCKSON, attorney-at-law; office southwest corner of Lafayette and Second streets. Practice established in this city about twelve years since. Mr. Dyckson is a native of New York; graduated from Allegheny City College, Pennsylvania, class of 1860; read law in the office of Thomas George, Newburg, New York; was admitted to practice in Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1862. Practiced in Newburg from 1862 to 1867, and for the following three years in New York city. Came to Winona in 1870. With the exception of one year as the partner of Chief-Justice Buck, of Idaho, and one year with George Robinson, Mr. Dyckson has had no law partnerships in this city. He was city attorney during 1881, and his criminal practice is equal to that of any attorney in the city.

JOSEPH RICHMOND was born in Alaska, La Crosse county, Wisconsin, October 4, 1856. His youth was spent on a farm with his parents, where he diversified his time with hunting, fishing and going to the common school. At the age of seventeen he hired out to work on a farm. He followed this for several years, chopping wood in the winter seasons. He has spent several winters in the pineries of Wisconsin with profitable results, and invested the proceeds in land in Pleasant Hill township. Mr. Richmond is a young man of sterling qualities, and will undoubtedly become one of the leading men in the township.

DAVID S. BABCOCK, farmer, was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, September 1, 1850, and was one of a large family. He did not enjoy many advantages as a boy, but had to help work a large farm as soon almost as he was able to walk. He managed, however, in spite of many obstacles, to procure a very good edu-



cation, and succeeded his own teacher in charge of the district school, which he taught some years. When he was twenty years of age he married in Wilkesbarre a young lady, Miss Mary Jane Kungle, and with a capital of \$1,500 the young couple struck out west, and after prospecting some months finally concluded to settle down in the beautiful valley of the Whitewater. He bought a fine farm and went to work, and succeeded in the comparatively few years he has been in the township in accumulating quite a snug fortune. Mr. Babcock is yet a young man, but he is rapidly making his mark, and will at no very distant day be in Winona's front rank of wealthy farmers and representative western men. He is an Episcopalian, and in politics a strong republican. He has a family of two sons, John and Alfred, bright youths, John being considered quite a musical phenomenon, while Alfred as a mathematician is only excelled by his teacher. Mr. Babcock is thoroughly esteemed by his brother farmers throughout the county.

ELMER & TENNEY, photographers, and dealers in frames and photographic and artists' materials, 18 Center street. This business was established by Howard & Tenney on the south side Second street, between Lafayette and Main streets, and was removed to its present location in 1874. The house became Elmer & Tenney in 1879, at which time E. S. Elmer purchased the interest formerly held by Howard. Their house fronts 24 feet on Center street and has a full depth of 150 feet. The basement is used for packing and storage, and the upper story for light storage, the operating rooms being all on the first floor. The firm employ a force of eight hands and do quite an extensive jobbing trade in frame and photographic stock. They are now making a specialty of Minnesota and Wisconsin scenery, and in this work are successfully rivalling the best competition of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Of their snow views for the exceptional winter of 1880-1 they have sold over 25,000, and their cabinets hold some of the most charming natural views to be found in the whole range of northwestern scenery. The present members of the firm are E. S. Elmer and C. A. Tenney.

Mr. E. S. Elmer is of Connecticut ancestry, was born in Whites-town, New York, and was connected with the Rand Ironworks, of Detroit, for ten years; eight of them as cashier of the house, before coming to this city, where for the past three years he has been the financial head of the house with which he is now identified.

C. A. Tenney is a native of New Hampshire, came to Chicago

in 1869, and there learned his trade as an operating photographer. In 1871 he removed to Winona, and in the same year established himself in business in this city. Mr. Tenney is a married man and has one child in the kindergarten department of the normal school.

OSCAR JACOBS, born in Sweden, 1840, came to this country in 1861. Mr Jacobs' parents were very poor, and when he landed in New York he was penniless, could not read or write or speak English, but he was a young man of nerve and push, and he tramped into New Jersey and worked several months for his board. At Somerville, New Jersey, he got work in a blacksmith shop, remaining there several years and learning the trade. He never used tobacco or drank, and saved his wages, employing a portion of them in paying a teacher to teach him reading and writing. In 1872 he came west, settling in Whitewater, farming and working at his trade. In 1870 he married Miss Christiana Linestrom, and has three children. In addition to his farm and blacksmith shop in Whitewater he has just purchased a large shop in Plainview, which he will carry on in connection with his brother. He is a Lutheran and a republican, and a prominent officer in the Good Templars.

THE JEWELL HOUSE, corner of Johnson and Second street, is owned by V. Simpson, and leased by S. F. Sherwood. The house as originally constructed, a three-story brick, 40×80 feet, was built by F. G. Siemers in 1871, and by him sold to V. Simpson in 1874, who the same season rebuilt, doubling the size of the structure. It now fronts eighty feet on Second, has an equal frontage on Johnson, and is most conveniently arranged for travelers with the office, reading-room, commercial travelers' sample rooms, dining-rooms, billiard rooms, all on the ground floor and opening directly on the street. The house contains fifty guest-rooms, is well furnished, employs twenty servants, and is growing in popularity with the traveling public as its increasing patronage attests. S. F. Sherwood, lessee and proprietor, is a native of New York, was in the hotel and livery business in Danbury, New York, from 1869 to 1872, then came to Winona county, where for three years he was engaged in running a supply store in connection with the brick yards of Sherwood & Johnson, at Dresbach. He then accepted a situation as traveling salesman for a wholesale grocery house in Chicago, and was on the road in that capacity for six years, when he leased the house he now runs, bought its furniture and took possession January 15, 1882. The lease is for five years, with a privilege

of ten. Mr. Sherwood is a man of family, and one of his children is attending kindergarten in this city.

CHAS. HILLE, jobber and retail dealer in hides, wool, pelts, leather and findings, 54 East Third street. This business was started by Mr. Hille in 1872, on Lafayette street, between Front and Second, and there continued one year. He then bought the lot he now occupies, fronting twenty feet on Third street, 140 feet deep, and erected a two-story and basement brick, 20×70 feet, into which he moved his stock in the same year, 1873. He employs three hands, and keeps one team constantly on the road. He handles in a season about \$40,000 worth of hides, pelts and furs; \$30,000 worth of leather and findings, and from 7,000 as high as 20,000 pounds of wool. His trade extends eastward to La Crosse and Merillan, westward to Dakota and along the Minnesota Southern to Houston. Mr. Hille is a native of Brunswick, Germany, from which country he came to America for a permanent residence in 1868, having spent the closing years of the late war, 1864-5, in the United States. He had an extensive acquaintance with continental Europe before coming to America, and after his arrival here from 1868 to 1870 was traveling for the "Herald" publishing house of Milwaukee. He then engaged in tannery business at Wabasha, coming from that place to Winona in 1872. He is married and has one son in the city schools. Mr. Hille is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., of Winona Chapter, No. 5, and of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3, all of this city. He is also affiliated with Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, I.O.O.F., is connected with the Philharmonic Society, and a member of the board of trade.

MAIRE & SHANK, harness-makers, carriage-trimmers and dealers in harness, leather trimmings, trunks and horse goods. Place of business three doors south of bank. This business was established by the present proprietors in 1878, under the firm name of Shank & Co. The proprietors are both skilled workmen, and the business has steadily prospered since its establishment. They own their storeroom and shop, a neat one-story frame, 22×46 feet, carry a good stock of goods, and the business constantly employs from three to five persons. The members of the firm are Henry Maire and J. G. Shank. Mr. Maire is a native of Dodge county, Wisconsin, learned his trade there, and came to St. Charles in 1872, and was a journeyman in John Welch's harness shop until starting his present business. Mr. Maire is a member of the I.O.O.F. fraternity and



warden of the lodge of that order in this city. Mr. Shank is also a native of Wisconsin, born in Washington county, learned his trade at Hartford, and came to St. Charles in 1877 to establish himself in business, which he did the following year, after working one year in the shop of N. H. Smith.

PETER, son of Christ and Christina Reinortze, was born December 14, 1844, in Kalln on the Rhine, Prussia. He went to school winter and summer from the ages of six to fourteen years. Learned the trade of shoemaker in Prussia, at which he has worked ever since. Lived in Prussia until he started for America in 1865, landing in New York April 15 in the above year. Worked seven months at his trade in New York city, when he left, November, 1865, for Chicago, where he continued to work at his trade one year and two months. Still more anxious to see and learn more of the great west, he left Chicago and arrived in north La Crosse, Wisconsin, January, 1867. Being a first-class workman, he readily found employment in the boot and shoe shop of a Mr. Grover, an Englishman. Mr. Reinortze was employed by Mr. Grover for two years, when he had a better offer tendered him in La Crosse. Here he continued to work at his trade for several years. He was married to Miss Apelona Hoffman, of La Crosse, in 1870. He opened and ran a boot and shoe shop in Dakota in 1873. In 1876 he moved his shop to Dresbach, where he has found constant employment. He is now building a shop in Dakota, preparatory to returning to this village again. Mr. and Mrs. Reinortze have had seven children, two of whom are dead and five living. Besides making a good living for his family, Mr. Reinortze has accumulated some property. The people of Dakota are glad to have such a skilled workman in their midst, and he may be assured that his skill and genius as a workman will be amply rewarded while in that village.

H. O. LARRABEE, dentist, East Third street, over Cummings & Vila's shoe-house. Mr. Larrabee is a native of Leicester, Vermont, born August 31, 1837. Left home at fifteen years of age, and was merchant's clerk in Albion, New York, until 1857, when he returned to Peru and was in business there until 1860. Leaving home a second time for Albion he entered the dental office of Briggs & Doolittle in that city, completed his studies, which he had previously pursued to some extent, and in 1861 removed to Delevan, Wisconsin, where he was in practice ten years. After the great Chicago fire of 1871 he opened an office in that city, at 348 Wabash avenue, and was



in practice there until the close confinement of years proving detrimental to health, he accepted a situation as traveling salesman for a drug-house, and was so employed until 1877, when he resumed the practice of his profession in this city, to which he had moved in 1873. Mr. Larrabee has three children: one daughter, wife of E. K. Tuttle, Berlin, Wisconsin; one son in the office at Byron, Minnesota, and one daughter in high school.

JOHN W. SHORT, hotelkeeper, was born in Union county, Indiana, in 1832, and his earlier years were mostly passed on his father's farm. Schools were scarce in Indiana in those days, and he only received one month's schooling; but being a youth of energy and ambition he managed to acquire, by self-tuition, a fair English education. When he reached manhood he rented a farm in Illinois, which he worked for some years. On the breaking out of the rebellion he enlisted in the 17th Ill. reg., participating in all of the engagements of his command, notably those of Belmont, Missouri, Fort Donaldson, Pittsburg Landing and Chickamauga. He consequently saw some of the most severe fighting of the war. He remained with his regiment until its three years of service had expired. There were but seventy-five men left of the full regiment that went into the service, and they to a man re-enlisted, and Mr. Short was one of the number of this gallant band. Mr. Short remained in the service while there was a gun to be fired, and was mustered out at the close of the war with a record that any patriot might be proud of. He returned to his farm, where he remained some years, and then he went to Hamilton, Illinois, where he was engaged in the hotel business for some time. He removed to Minneapolis in 1873, working at carpentering and warehousing up to 1880, when he became proprietor of the American Hotel. A year later he took possession of the National, which he now conducts. In 1861 he married Mary Short, daughter of William Short, of Kentucky, and has had two children. Mr. Short is a man of sterling integrity and much respected. He is very popular as "mine host," and is widely known throughout the adjoining townships.

WILLIAM C. BERRY was born in Elk Grove, Wisconsin, November 11, 1848. His parents moved to Dane county, Wisconsin, when he was but five years old. Here he went to the country schools until about twelve years of age, when his parents moved to New Hartford, Minnesota. Here he enjoyed the country schools winters and "grubbing" summers; and while he made decided progress in

the schools, there is no record to show that he made any progress in the art of "grubbing." In 1874 Mr. Berry bought a farm of 160 acres in Pleasant Hill. He married Miss Orilla Richmond and commenced to improve his farm. He has taught school nearly every winter and tilled the ground in summer, and by so doing, and practicing a fair amount of economy, he has succeeded in surrounding himself and family with all the necessaries of life. He has served his township two terms as assessor, and has been a Master Mason since 1873. He has four children: Mary Orilla, born June 13, 1875; Zoe Susannah Hannah, born September 22, 1877; Maud Beatrice, born October 28, 1879; Elsie Elizabeth, born June 1, 1882.

CHRISTOPHER BUSMANN, farmer, was born in Hanover, Germany, December 13, 1843. He came with his parents to Monroe county, Illinois, when ten years old. Here he received his training on a farm and in the common school. In 1870 his father died, and in 1872 he paid a visit to Minnesota. Three years later he removed here and bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 7, St. Charles, which has been his home ever since. He was married, March 4, 1873, to Catharine, daughter of Philip Spielman, of this township. Mr. Busmann is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His political principles are republican. He has held some public positions of trust and responsibility, and in Illinois he was deputy sheriff four years. He has been school director in his district for several years since coming here. Mr. Busmann's family includes six children, born as follows: William, May 14, 1874; Matilda, June 30, 1875; Katie, November 3, 1876; Henry, February 10, 1879; Frederick, July 16, 1880; Lydia, April 1, 1882.

M. B. WEBBER, county attorney, elected in the fall of 1880, term of service expires December 31, 1882, and was renominated without opposition by the republican convention of October, 1882. Office corner Maine and Third streets, over Hackley's drugstore. Mr. Webber is a native of Racine county, Wisconsin, received his early literary training in the schools of Racine and graduated from Hillsdale College, Michigan, in 1875, class of thirty graduates. Came to this city the same year, read law with ex-Gov. Yale, and was admitted to practice at the October term of the district court for 1877. In the spring of 1878 he formed a law partnership with Mr. Yale, which continued until he entered upon his duties as county attorney in 1881, to which he had been elected as the nominee of

the republican party by a majority of 180, in a district usually democratic by 500 majority. Mr. Webber married Miss A. M. Robertson, daughter of Mr. Robertson, of Hillsdale. He is a member of the lodge of K. of P. of this city, and its present prelate.

HENRY TAYLOR is of English descent, his father settling in Massachusetts in 1818, where Henry was born November 20, 1842. Mr. Taylor was engaged with his father on the home farm until he became eighteen years of age, when he went into the grocery store of Simmons & Co., Concord, Massachusetts, as clerk, where he remained several years. He came to Wisconsin in 1870 and engaged in agricultural pursuits, moving into this state in 1875, and went into the lumber business at Minneiska, in which he is now engaged. Mr. Taylor married Miss Julia Berry, of Keene, New Hampshire, in 1868, and has no children. He has never engaged actively in politics, though often solicited to do so.

SWAN PETERSON, farmer, was born in Sweden, 1814, where he remained until his thirty-fourth year working at agricultural pursuits. He came to America in 1848, settling in Michigan as a farm laborer. Several years later he came to Minnesota and purchased a claim in Watopa, Wabasha county, which he soon converted into a fine farm. After a twelve years' residence he sold out and purchased another farm at Sand Prairie, same county, which he also held for some ten or twelve years, when he again sold and came to Minnieska village, where he still resides. Mr. Peterson has accumulated a handsome competency. He has never assumed the matrimonial yoke, and prides himself on being a confirmed old "bach." Republican in politics, and is a member of the Lutheran church.

JOHN H. MORLEY, pastor of the First Congregational church of Winona, was born at Hartford, Connecticut, January 3, 1840; was the second son of Rev. S. B. and Mrs. Anna C. Morley. His mother was the only daughter of Selah Treat, of Hartford, and sister of Rev. S. B. Treat, of Boston, Massachusetts, for many years secretary of the American Board of Foreign Missions. She died May 9, 1881. Mr. Morley graduated at Williams College, 1863, and at Andover Theological Seminary, 1866. During the war he spent several months at the south in the service of the United States Christian Commission. He became acting pastor of the Congregational church, at Magnolia, Iowa, in December, 1866, where he was ordained, January 2, 1867, to the work of the ministry. In June,



1879, he resigned the pastorate of this church, and accepted a call to the Congregational church at Sioux City, Iowa. In November, 1876, he resigned at Sioux City and accepted a call to the Congregational church of Winona. He was married October 12, at Mendota, Illinois, to Miss Edith T. Johnson, daughter of George and Mrs. Edith (Baxter) Johnson. Miss Johnson had been a teacher in the Illinois State Normal University, and in Bonham's Ladies' Seminary at St. Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Morley have three children: Frank Johnson, born June 5, 1875; Edward Treat, born December 22, 1876, and Clara Edith, born October 12, 1879.

G. H. KRUMDICK, dealer in grain, hides, seeds, wool, cement, etc. Office and elevator corner of Front and Lafayette streets. His lot fronts 100 feet on Front street, 120 on Lafayette, and upon it, in the fall of 1882, he erected his elevator, a wooden structure 30×50 feet, with a handling capacity of 28,000 bushels a day and a storage capacity of 40,000 bushels; motor supplied by a twenty-five horsepower engine, and a force of four men kept employed. Cost of construction, including machinery, \$9,000. Wheat and barley are handled in about equal quantities, oats one-third the amount of these grains, and corn one-fifth. Business was established in 1876, corner of Front and Center streets, and there conducted until possession was taken of the elevator, October 10, 1882. The volume of business for the current year foots up, in round numbers, as follows: Hides, 15 car loads; wool, 1 car load; cement, 10 cars; stucco, 6 cars; salt, 30 to 35 cars. Of the 1881 grain crop the house handled about 70,000 bushels of wheat, 75,000 bushels of barley, 25,000 bushels of oats and 15,000 bushels of corn. Mr. Krumdick is a native of Hanover, Germany; came to America with his parents in 1854, the family settling at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1863. From that date until 1876 he was at Fountain city, Wisconsin, dealing in grain and agricultural implements, then came to this city. Mr. Krumdick is married, and has three children attending school in this place. His parents are still residing on the old homestead, near Sheboygan, where they have lived twenty-eight years and over, and where, on the 9th day of October, 1880, they celebrated their golden wedding. Of the eight children born to them all are now living.

NICHOLAS RITZ, a native of Germany, emigrated to this country at an early age and took up his residence in Mount Vernon township in 1876. Mr. Ritz cultivates one of the finest farms in the



county, and is also an extensive breeder of hogs. He was married to Miss Blumenthal, of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, in 1843, and has had a family of two sons and one daughter. He lost his eldest son, Herman, in the army, and he himself served in the 99th Penn. reg., participating in some of the most severe engagements of the war.

A. J. BYRNE, of Witoka, was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, March 31, 1850. His parents were natives of Ireland and came to America in 1848. They first settled at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, but soon after removed to Wisconsin. His parents were farmers, and he consequently spent his boyhood days on a farm, receiving at the same time a common school education. In 1868 he went to learn the blacksmith's trade with James Runton, at Schullsburg, but being apt he soon started a shop for himself at Monroe. In 1877 he opened a shop at New Hartford, which he continued with success until the first of January last, when he bought the saloon business at Witoka which he now carries on. August 20, 1872, he wedded Miss May Daacon, of Schullsburg, Wisconsin. She is the daughter of Theodore and Catherine Daacon. They have had one child, now dead: George, born June 14, 1874, died June 15, 1876. Baby lies buried at Schullsburg, Wisconsin. Mr. Byrne is a democrat in politics.

J. MARSLAND, dealer in furniture and crockery, 97, 99, 107 East Third street. This business was established by Mr. Marsland five years since at 108 East Third street, and removed to its present location in 1880, having leased the premises of A. Munch before the buildings were erected, of which he took possession as soon as completed. No. 107 was not occupied until the season of 1881. He occupies a total of over 8,000 feet of flooring-room in his storerooms, keeps the largest stock of furniture in the city, a heavy assortment of crockery and glassware, employing a force of five persons. Mr. Marsland was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1832; was bred a machinist, but for twenty years prior to coming to America was cotton-mill foreman in Rochedale, Lancaster, and had for some years as many as 1,100 operatives under him. He came to America in 1877, direct to Winona; commenced business in a small way the next day after his arrival, October 21, 1877, and has been steadily enlarging his trade ever since. Does quite an extensive jobbing trade, shipping as far west as Dakota.

JOSEPH E. WOLLSEY was born in Peoria, Illinois, in 1850, his

father carrying on the carpenter business which Joseph also learned. He received a good district school education, and early in life he struck out for himself, working at his trade in Chicago and Milwaukee. His health failing he was forced to give up working as a carpenter and obtained a position as clerk with the firm of Smith & Hotchkiss, La Crosse, Wisconsin. Remaining with them a couple of years, he then went traveling for a La Crosse commission house, purchasing produce, pickles, etc. He is now the representative of several agricultural establishments selling reapers, mowers and other farming implements. He is well and favorably known throughout this and adjoining counties. He married in 1878 Miss Eliza Stoner, the daughter of a well known resident of Whitewater, and makes his home at Beaver. He is an independent in politics and was brought up an Episcopalian.

L. F. VON WINPFEN, civil engineer and architect; room 5, Simpson's block. Mr. Von Winpffen was born in Alsace-Lorraine, April 26, 1841, was educated at the Grane-Klaster, Berlin, graduating there in 1858. He then successively attended the universities of Heidelberg, Jena and Geneva, completing his studies in 1862, at which time he entered the military service of Prussia as cadet in the 1st Dragoon Guards, Berlin. In 1863 he graduated lieutenant at the Military Academy, Potsdam, and was then transferred to the Queen's 2d regiment of Cuirassiers, in Pomerania, and served there until after the Austro-Prussian war of 1866, being wounded at the battle of Koeniggraetz. On the formation of the sixteen new regiments he was transferred as recruiting officer to the 11th Dragoons, then in Pomerania. In 1868 he was granted leave of absence to visit India and the outlying islands. While there, in the capacity of civil engineer, he was with the topographical survey in Sumatra, Celebes, Java and Amboyna, in which latter island he assisted in making the original surveys. Returning to Germany in 1871, he passed through the closing scenes of the Franco-Prussian war, with the engineer reserve corps, and then resigned the service with the rank of captain of engineers. The next two years were spent in England, and in 1874 the captain came to America. Was here employed in the United States coast survey in the department for compilation of maps, at Washington, District of Columbia. He was then transferred to the bureau of education, under Gen. Eaton, for whom he made all the map-work for the records of that board at the Centennial exhibit of 1876. Of these maps there were thirty-two.

During the Hayes campaign he served as assistant-secretary for the Union congressional committee of the republican party, under Edmunds, of Vermont. He was then transferred to the war department for construction of state war and navy department, under Col. Casey, and was there until he left the national capital for Winona in 1878. Since coming to this city he has served three years as city engineer, from 1879 to 1881 inclusive, and is now serving his second term as county surveyor. During this time he has made to date, October, 1882, 296 sectional surveys, chiefly for sub-sections and county roads. He is also successfully prosecuting claims for United States pensioners as pension agent; belongs to the Knights of Honor and Druid beneficiary associations.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN RICHARDS has but lately removed into Mt. Vernon, though identified with the county for many years. Mr. Richards was born in Vermont, in 1850, coming west in 1870, settling in Wabasha county. He was married in 1872, to Miss Eliza Dermoth, a young lady from Wisconsin. Mr. Richards will prove a great acquisition to the township.

WALTER S. CRANDALL, of Witoka, was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, October 2, 1853. He is the son of Dr. J. C. and Geraldine (Bogg) Crandall, both natives of Pennsylvania. Walter received a common school education, and, in addition, is a graduate of La Crosse Business College, La Crosse, Wisconsin. At the age of twenty he went into the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad as a brakeman, and subsequently as a telegraph operator. He was in the employ of this company and the Northwestern for three years. At La Crosse he learned the trade of a wagon and buggy builder, and subsequently, at Money creek, learned the trade of carriage and sign painter. August 15, 1881, he bought the shop in Witoka, where he now does a good business in buggy and wagon repairing.

KJOSTOL GUNDERSON was born in Norway, in 1812, where he grew up, married, and remained until his thirtieth year on a little farm that barely gave them sustenance. When he arrived in America he had but very little money, and could not read or write. He got as far as Ohio, where he worked out for some years among the farmers. He accumulated some money, and in the meantime had taught himself to read and write English. He came west and pre-empted a claim in Zumbrota township, Goodhue county, where

he remained some years. He then sold out and moved into the Whitewater valley, where he now resides.

F. DIXON, dentist, came to Minnesota from Canada in 1877, where he was born in 1852, in the town of Mount Forest, near London. Mr. Dixon, besides being a dentist, has charge of a stock of furniture the property of Mr. D. Bacon. He is a married man and officer of I.O.O.F.

FRANCIS DEMOTH was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1831, came to America in 1836 and settled in this county. Mr. Demoth was elected supervisor for a number of years for Elba, and has always enjoyed the esteem and respect of his fellow citizens. Mr. Demoth has never married.

JOHN WALTERS, born in Aurora, Illinois, in 1858, married in 1880, to Miss Jenny Minsky, of St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Walters is thoroughly versed in agricultural affairs, and is a typical young American farmer. He is so improving his estate that it will be at an early date one of the finest in the county.

GEORGE MILLER, butcher, was born in Bavaria, September 2, 1848. He received a common German education, and emigrated at sixteen years of age to America, coming direct to St. Charles. After working at farm labor two years, he went in partnership with a brother in a meat market on Whitewater street, this city, and in 1870 became sole owner of the shop and business. After several removals he built his present brick market on Whitewater street in 1880, which is a handsome and neat structure, 50×22 feet in area. He also owns the adjoining dwelling, in which he resides, and the original shop and dwelling at the north end of the street; also has a farm of eighty acres within the city limits, on section 30. His business is prospering, and he earns his good fortune by industry. Mr. Miller is a member of the St. Charles Odd-Fellows' lodge and Knights of Honor. He was reared under the Roman Catholic religion. On May 14, 1872, he was married to Anna M. Speeter, who was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, May 29, 1854. They have five children, born as follows: Mary K., April 27, 1873; Otto P., December 28, 1874; Rosa C., January 30, 1878; Edward J., April 2, 1880; Clara E., April 24, 1882.



## CHAPTER LIX.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### OTHER PROMINENT CITIZENS.

CHARLES G. BACHELDER, book-keeper, is of English descent. His grandfather, Nathan Bachelder, moved from New Hampshire to Hallowell, Maine, and built his house in the midst of thick woods, where now is the busy city. Here was born to him Charles G., the father of this subject; he married Susan M. Curtis, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, and engaged in mercantile business at Hallowell, where was born the person whose name heads this sketch, July 26, 1843. After, and in connection with his course at the public school and academy, he received some practical commercial training in his father's store. At fifteen years of age he went to Boston and entered the employ of an uncle in the fruit and produce business at Faneuil Hall market. From here he went to Chicago in the spring of 1863, and took charge of a storage warehouse for Seavens Brothers three years; was three years with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway Company as checking clerk and bookkeeper, and kept books a short time for a produce commission house. In the fall of 1869 he entered the employ of a live-stock commission merchant at St. Louis and remained there ten years. He was married in St. Louis March 26, 1873, to Rhoda C. Mumbower, who was born in Monongahela City, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1853. In October, 1879, Mr. Bachelder became a resident of St. Charles, having been employed to keep the books of C. W. Seefield, an extensive grain dealer, with warehouses in various parts of this state and Dakota. For the past two years he has acted as city recorder; in politics is a republican. He is a member of the masonic order and of the A.O.U.W.; was a member of the Unitarian church in the East and still cherishes that belief. Six children have been born to him, as below noted: Annie M., February 1, 1874; Maud, August 17, 1875; George, June 27, 1877; Charles G., April 16, 1879; Harry, August 27, 1881; William M., May 19, 1883.

WALTER M. ROSS, agricultural merchant, is of Scotch parentage.

His father, Allen Ross, emigrated from the Highlands to Canada when eighteen years old, and his mother, Isabella McKay, was about the same age at the time of landing in America. They were married in Canada and had seven sons and one daughter, all of whom are now living save two, three of them in the west, one in Oregon, one at Luverne, and the subject of this sketch at St. Charles. The latter was born in Burford, Oxford county, Ontario, February 17, 1841. He assisted his father on the farm till of age, and then worked among neighboring farmers. He soon became imbued with the spirit of enterprise which has developed the west, and spent the summer of 1864 in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in drilling wells. In October of the same year he removed to St. Charles, and has ever since been a resident here. He followed drilling for several years, and in the spring of 1873 opened a livery business in this city, which he conducted five years; at the same time he sold some agricultural machinery, and has ever since made a specialty of the J. I. Case threshers. After closing his livery business he engaged exclusively in the sale of machinery; has also dealt in horses and other stock to a considerable extent. He owns his present business location on Whitewater street and a residence on Church street, and also 160 acres of land near Redwood Falls. Mr. Ross is a member of the board of trade, and is one of the foremost of the citizens who are trying to develop the city and its interests. He has been a member of the board of aldermen for the past four years; is a republican. He was reared under Presbyterian teachings, but is a liberal in religion, affiliating most nearly with Universalism. Mr. Ross was united in marriage January 12, 1869, to Miss Martha J. Remore, who was born near Racine, Wisconsin, July 23, 1848. Her parents, Jacob F. Remore and Casendana Brown, were natives of New York. They have two children, whose births date as below: Mina E., May 1, 1872; Grace D., October 2, 1875.

JOHN MACOMBER, farmer, is a son of Joshua Macomber, who emigrated from Rhode Island to Granville, Washington county, New York, and married Hannah Watson, a native of Salem, in the same county. John, the subject of this sketch, was born here, July 28, 1828. He assisted in the labors of the farm and attended the district schools till seventeen years old. At this time he was apprenticed for five years to a carpenter and builder, and for twenty years after serving his time he followed this occupation. Decem-

ber 24, 1851, he married Lucretia W. Stewart, a native of the same town as himself. She was born March 8, 1829. Her father, Samuel Stewart, served through the war of 1812. After living on a farm in Fort Ann four years, he came to Minnesota, arriving in St. Charles in the spring of 1874. He had traded his eastern farm for one of ninety-six acres within the limits of this city, on Sec. 29, and found a better domain than he expected. The health of his family was very much improved by this removal, but Mr. Macomber has suffered a great deal of late from heart disease, probably the result of his hard labor. His life has been one of severe and constant toil, and he cannot be content when idle. Mr. Macomber is a staunch republican. He has been a member of the Methodist church since 1843, and his wife joined the same body fifteen years since. John S. Macomber, son of the above, was born in Granville, February 1, 1852. He attended the village school till twenty years old, working part of the time with his father from his sixteenth year. He came with his parents to this city, and has been in partnership with his father in business. For the last five years he has made a specialty of breeding fine blooded poultry, and has several varieties, doing a good business in the sale of chickens and eggs. He was married October 4, 1880, to Mary, daughter of David and Mary Jones, of Wales. She was born at Columbus, Wisconsin, August 15, 1860. They have one child, John, born November 14, 1881. Mr. Macomber agrees with his father in political opinions, but is not so well established in religious faith; his life, however, is an exemplary one, and he is reckoned among the promising young men of our rising city.

JOHN H. FIRTH, farmer, is a son of Vincent Firth, a native of Sheffield, England, who came to the United States, married Emily Briggs, of Pennsylvania, and settled near Philadelphia, engaging in mercantile business. The subject of this sketch was born here September 5, 1832. When four years old his parents removed to Switzerland county, Indiana, where he received his education in common and select schools. After graduating at the Cincinnati Commercial College he engaged in teaching, which he followed several years. He visited Minnesota in 1856, and settled permanently in Utica township in 1859. He bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 25, which he cultivated two years and sold after owning six years. He opened the first grocery store in Lewiston, in 1861, and sold it out in the fall of 1863. In January, 1864, he bought

the farm on which he still resides ; this embraces 160 acres of Sec. 12, and is one of the handsomest farms in the county, being finely improved through Mr. Firth's industry and sagacity. He was married November 9, 1862, to Miss Lucy Myers. Mrs. Firth's father, James Myers, was one of the pioneer settlers of Utica. He was born in Kentucky, November 15, 1815. His wife, Mary Elliott, was a native of the same state. Lucy, their daughter, was born in Decatur county, Indiana, February 20, 1846. Mr. Myers removed from Indiana to this town in the spring of 1855, and resided on Sec. 12 nearly seven years. He then returned to Indiana, and is now residing in Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Firth are Baptists in faith, the latter having joined a church of that denomination. The former is an ardent republican ; he was town clerk in 1866-7, treasurer in 1862-3, and served by appointment as supervisor in 1882. The family includes four children, whose births are thus recorded : Vincent H., October 24, 1863 ; Nellie E., May 28, 1866 ; Cora M., July 22, 1869 ; Ida M., October 5, 1871.

HENRY NUSSLOCK, farmer, son of Valentin Nusslock and Anna K. Heck, was born in Rheinpfalz, Rohrbach, Beilandan, Bavaria, April 10, 1840 ; he has always been a farmer ; his education in English has all been obtained by private study ; he attended school in his native land, and emigrated to the United States at seventeen, coming direct to Utica township. After working as a farm-laborer several years, he sent funds to his fatherland, brought over his parents, a brother and sister and aunt. In 1864 he bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 12, and next year bought forty acres more adjoining and built a residence thereon. He now has a finely improved farm. His parents have resided with him since he acquired a home ; the father died May 16, 1883, aged seventy-eight years ; the mother is still, at the age of eighty-two, a strong and rugged woman. Mr. Nusslock was married November 16, 1864, to Apolonea Posz, who was born in Billigheim, Bavaria, May 23, 1827. They are Presbyterians in religious faith. Six children have been born to them, as follows : Peter, September 5, 1866 ; Jacob, March 22, 1868 ; Amelia, January 15, 1871 ; Lucy, February 18, 1872 ; Henry, April 28, 1873 ; Emma, January 23, 1880. Mr. Nusslock is a member of the lodge of A.F. and A.M. at Lewiston, and Aurora Grove of Druids of the same place. He is a democrat ; has been treasurer of his school district, and was elected town supervisor in



1883. He is a man of intelligence and sagacity, and will yet be heard from by the public.

BERNHARD SEEMAN, farmer, was reared on a farm in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, where he was born August 16, 1831. After attending the common school, as customary in his native land, till fourteen years old, he was apprenticed at fifteen to a miller for three years; this business he followed about twenty years. At twenty-three he came to the United States, and was employed several years in a mill at Watertown, Wisconsin. He came to Minnesota in 1867, and worked in a mill in Warren township, this county; two years later he bought 160 acres of land on Sec. 34, Utica, where his home has ever since been; he has since made purchase and sale of land, and now has 120 acres, on which he is erecting new buildings; also has a house and lot in the village of Lewiston. His wife, Caroline *née* Hoebbe, was born in the same parish as himself, January 18, 1834, and they were united in marriage at Watertown, May 1, 1856. Mr. Seeman has cultivated a knowledge of English by private study, and is one of our representative men. He is a member of Aurora Grove of Druids, at Lewiston, a Lutheran and a democrat. His sons are educated and promising young men. There are four children: Bernhard M., born July 14, 1857, married Maggie Posz, June 14, 1883, and lives at Lewiston; Charles H., September 24, 1861, now teaching at Lewiston; William A., March 2, 1865; Helen H. September 18, 1872.

OLIVER W. HUNT, blacksmith, is descended from an English family of that name who settled at Weymouth, Massachusetts, in 1630. George Hunt was born in Canton, Norfolk county, Massachusetts, and married Polly Bryant, a native of the same town. He was a blacksmith and worked all his life here. The subject of this sketch, his son, was born on January 9, 1843. He attended the common schools till seventeen years old, and was then apprenticed to a blacksmith, and has ever since followed that occupation. He began business for himself in his father's shop in Canton, and continued several years in the vicinity. On September 5, 1864, he enlisted as a sailor on the United States gunboat Iuka, and served till June 15, 1865. His vessel belonged to the east gulf squadron, and cruised about the blocked ports in its beat. Mr. Hunt came to Minnesota with a colony in 1872, and after prospecting about Glyndon left the colony and returned to Winona, where he worked

a short time. After spending a year at Stockton he settled in business at Lewiston in September, 1873. He bought a residence and shop on the south side of the railroad, where he is still located. He has six lots, and in 1883 built a large two-story shop, where he makes wagons and does general repairing. Mr. Hunt is a member of Harmony Lodge, A. F. and A. M., at Lewiston, of which organization he is secretary. He is also village clerk, has been village assessor and justice, and clerk of the school district six years. In 1875 he was elected to the legislature, and served the following winter with credit to himself and the district. His political tenets are republican. His wife (Marcia Davenport) was also born in Canton, on August 7, 1846. Her parents (Jesse Davenport and Elnira Hill) were natives of the same state. She was joined to Mr. Hunt in holy matrimony September 30, 1863. They have four living children and have lost one. Here is their record: Almira, born July 22, 1864, married John Erion, and lives in this township; Dora E, October 18, 1867, married Joseph Posz, and lives at Winona; Louis O., July 24, 1871, died when eighteen months old; Emma W., March 20, 1875; Edith L., July 21, 1879.

JOHN FOHL, restaurant, was born in the town of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 15, 1848, his parents, Nicholas and Catharine Fohl, were born in Luxemburg, Germany. He was reared on a farm, and received very little schooling. He came to Minnesota in 1865, and worked six years on the construction of the Winona & St. Peter railroad. He was married on January 15, 1871, to Amelia, Kuhnert, who was born in Brandenburg, Germany, in the fall of 1856. They have five children: Louis, Julia, William, Linas and Benjamin. In 1870, while hunting, Mr. Fohl was accidentally shot through the right arm, which disabled him for some time; the mishap was caused by a horse starting while he was lifting his gun from the cutter to which the animal was attached. In 1873 he opened a refreshment saloon at Lewiston, and has continued in the business since. He soon bought the property, which he rented at first, and now owns a handsome brick residence and two business lots in Turner's addition, opposite the railroad depot, and is doing a prosperous business. In 1883 he built a new business stand, with public hall overhead, 46×24 feet in size. He is one of the enterprising men of the village. He is a member of Aurora Grove Druids, a democrat and a Roman Catholic.

JONATHAN LEWIS, farmer, son of Jonathan S. Lewis, founder of

the village of Lewiston, was born near Pennington, Ripley county, Indiana, September 11, 1841. In 1855 his father settled on Sec. 14 in this township, where he dwelt till his death. The subject of this sketch had but few school privileges, as the country afforded small advantages in that line, until he began to care for himself, and his services were required by his parents in developing their new farm. At twenty-one he worked out among neighboring farmers. In 1863 he went to Warsaw, Goodhue county, in this state, where he purchased eighty acres of land, that he tilled five years. In the spring of 1864 he married Marcia George, who died on Christmas day, 1870; one child of hers is now living,—Mary A., born December 15, 1866, now in the state asylum for the blind. In 1868, having sold his Goodhue county property, Mr. Lewis returned to Utica, and bought 160 acres on Sec. 35, and still resides thereon. He has since purchased forty-two acres more, and has an excellent farm with good buildings and improvements. On September 1, 1872, Mr. Lewis was united in marriage to Miss Melissa J. Whetstone, daughter of David and Nancy Whetstone, who removed from Indiana to Warren, 1855. She was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, January 10, 1852. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Dunkard church, and her husband sympathizes with her faith. He is a democrat in political principle. They have three children, born as follows: Jonathan Smith, May 20, 1876; David H., June 13, 1878; Hattie D., April 21, 1880. In 1869 Mr. Lewis' granary, machinery, etc., were damaged by a flood, which swept some articles half-a-mile from the foundation; and in 1870 his house was destroyed by fire, while uninsured, but he went to work with the energy which wins to repair the damages, and is now independent.

AARON LEWIS, farmer, brother of the above, was born at the same place, March 19, 1847. Ever since he was seven years old he has resided in this township. He began to care for himself at twenty years of age. He was married December 12, 1870, to Mary A. Stewart, who was born in Granville, New York, August 21, 1850. Her father, John Stewart, was born in New York, and her mother, Rosilla Kilbourn, is a native of Vermont, and they now reside in the town of Warren. Mr. Lewis operated a threshing machine several years. In 1873 he rented a farm in Warren, which he tilled until he purchased his present domain; this consists of eighty acres, on Sec. 34, Utica, which he acquired in 1882. Both himself and wife are members of the Dunkard church. He has

voted but once in his life, and then cast a democratic ballot. Four children have been given him, as recorded below: Nettie May, September 12, 1871; Cora A., February 10, 1875; Elizabeth A., March 21, 1877; John H., February 7, 1881.

CHARLES SCHATAN (deceased) was one of the pioneer settlers of Utica township, having bought a claim to 160 acres of land on Sec. 11, where he dwelt till the fall of 1882. He was born in Prussia, January 19, 1813, and married Mary Abel December 26, 1838. He emigrated to the United States in 1848, but becoming dissatisfied, returned to his native land. Returning again to America, he bought a farm near Muscatine, Iowa, which he tilled until his removal here. He sold his farm to his son-in-law in the fall of 1882 and removed to the village of Lewiston, where he died December 22, that year. He had three children, of whom one died in Colorado. The youngest, Elizabeth, was born November 29, 1842; married William Kramer, and lives on Sec. 11. WILLIAM C. SCHATAN, son of the above, was born in Saxony, Prussia, July 6, 1840, and was therefore eight years old on his first visit to America. Most of his education was received in our common English schools, and he has not disgraced his opportunities. Most of his life has been spent in this township. He went south early in 1864, and after serving the United States as a watchman at Nashville for six months enlisted, in August of that year, in Co. I, 40th Mo. Inf., and served about a year. He participated in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee, and capture of the forts about the harbor of Mobile. At the close of the war he was discharged and returned to Utica. In 1869 he purchased eighty acres of land on Sec. 2, on which he lived seven years. He was married, March 18, 1876, to Anna, daughter of Frederick Ogrosky; she was born in Lesing, Prussia, June 28, 1856. They have three children, whose births date as follows: Minnie, October 6, 1877; Edward, October 8, 1880; Charles, March 19, 1883. After selling his farm, in 1876, Mr. Schatan moved to the village of Lewiston, where he still resides, and took up carpenter work, his present occupation. He is a republican in politics and a Universalist in religion.

WILLIAM DEXTER BOSWORTH, farmer. The father of this subject, Constant D. Bosworth, was one of the force called out in what was called the "Aroostook war," to drive the Canadians from American timber on the Maine border. He was a native of Maine, as was his wife, Eliza Adkins. W. D. Bosworth was born in Sumner, Oxford



county, Maine, February 1, 1842. His father died when he was but a youth, and he was early compelled to care for himself. At sixteen he began to work out on farms during the summer. His education was furnished by the common schools, supplemented by three terms at Farmington and Kent's Hill academies. On reaching his twenty-third year he resolved to make himself a home in the west, and came to Minnesota, arriving in Utica in March, 1865. The next year he bought a half interest in 192 acres of land in the southwestern part of the town. At present he owns 185 acres of land in Secs. 20 and 29, and has his farm under a good state of cultivation, with fine buildings and other improvements. His wife, Maria E., is a daughter of Samuel A. Campbell and Emily Butterfield, both of whom were born at Campbell, Maine. Mrs. Bosworth was born in Farmington, same state, March 25, 1847. Mr. Bosworth is a member in good standing of Harmony Lodge, A. F. and A. M., at Lewiston; is a Universalist, and a republican. Three children have been given to him and one taken away. Following is the record: Nettie E., born February 7, 1874, died June 11, 1876; Roy D., April 1, 1877; Verne H., March 30, 1879.

DAVID H. and JOHN Q. WILSON, farmers, were born at Alton, Illinois, the former on September 9, 1830, and the latter August 13, 1837. Their parents, S. S. Wilson and Mary Hill, were natives of Kentucky. William Wilson, grandfather of S. S., emigrated with a brother from Ireland to North Carolina. The latter was killed by Tories during the revolution. James, father of S. S. Wilson, settled in Kentucky, whence he removed to Sinclair county, Illinois, of which region he was a pioneer, and where he died. David Wilson was reared on a farm and received a limited common school education. At sixteen years of age he went out to farm labor. He owned and operated a farm in Jersey county, Illinois, eight years. In September, 1861, he bought 120 acres on Sec. 20, Utica township, and brought his family here on April 13, following. Himself and brother are in partnership, and have been together since their advent here; they have a highly improved farm. D. H. Wilson was united in holy matrimony to Mary Cheatham on March 28, 1859; she was born in Marion, Crittenden county, Kentucky, January 24, 1837; her parents, W. W. Cheatham and Margaret Wilson, were also natives of that state. Six children have blessed this union, of whom three are living, born as follows: Etta M., March 18, 1864; Charles, September 21, 1868; Edson W., May 20, 1882. Messrs.

Wilson are believers in the second advent of Christ. In politics they affiliate with the republican party. The elder has been school treasurer eleven years, town treasurer two years and supervisor four years. John Q. Wilson enlisted February 20, 1865, in the 3d Minn. batt., and served till February 28, 1866, quelling Indians on the western frontier.

JAMES J. H. DICKSON, farmer, is a descendant of George Dickson, a Protestant, who emigrated from Ireland to the colonies and served in the continental army through the revolution ; he married Keziah, daughter of Joshua Harmer, a Quaker, and settled in Perry county, Pennsylvania. Here was born his son, George, who served the United States through the war of 1812 ; he married Fannie Garrett, and resided on a farm near Meadville, Pennsylvania. His son, the subject of this sketch, was born here August 14, 1819. James Dickson's early life was spent on a farm and in learning his father's trade, that of millwright, receiving some instruction in the common schools. On reaching manhood, he kept a grocery store a short time, bought a farm, which he soon sold. On May 25, 1842, he was joined in matrimony to Miss Sarah R. Jones ; she was a daughter of Nathaniel Jones and Lavina Tyon, of Vermont, and was herself born near Whitehall, Vermont, July 1, 1816. In 1843 Mr. Dickson settled at Northville, La Salle county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming and the manufacture of pumps. In 1861 he removed to Minnesota, and bought 230 acres of land in Saratoga township, this county, which he owned and tilled most of the time till 1871. While on this farm he made a great many pumps, and removed the business to St. Charles, where he carried it on nearly five years and again returned to the farm with it. He has made many hundreds of wooden pumps. While living here, August 28, 1869, his faithful life partner was taken away by death. She had become a member of the Methodist Episcopal church when a young girl, and lived and died a consistent christian. Six children survived her ; here is their record : Joseph H., born March 26, 1843, lives in San Bernardino county, California, having married Julia Harvey ; Dallas S., May 29, 1844, served nearly a year in the 11th Minn. Vols., having enlisted August 20, 1864, now living in Adams county, Iowa ; Harriet J., September 16, 1848, resides at Rhinebeck, Grundy county, Iowa ; Charles S., March 17, 1850, married Lillie Gates, is practicing medicine at Somonauk, Illinois ; Caroline R., September 8, 1851, married Thomas W. Hill, with whom she resides at

Rhinebeck, Iowa ; James F., March 19, 1857, lives at Lake Minnetonka. In June, 1881, Mr. Dickson bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 29, Utica, where is home now is. He was married on October 30, 1872, to Catharine W., relict of Louis Bearss and daughter of James Beatty and Elizabeth Bull, of Perry county, Pennsylvania, where she was born October 29, 1824. She is a member of the Congregational church at St. Charles, and Mr. Dickson is a member of the Utica Methodist Episcopal society. He was a democrat in early life, was present at the nomination of Abraham Lincoln for the presidency, and has voted the republican ticket ever since that time.

CLINTON DOOLITTLE, farmer, is a descendant of Eliasaph Doolittle, one of the pioneer settlers of Oneida county, New York, whither he emigrated from his native Connecticut ; he was a soldier in the war of 1812. Willard Doolittle, son of Eliasaph, was born in Oneida county and married Hannah, daughter of Charles and Abigail Forsyth, of Connecticut. She was born in Chataqua county. Willard Doolittle lived on a farm in Westfield, last-named county, where was born the person whose name heads this sketch, February 8, 1836. Clinton Doolittle received a common school education while helping his father on the farm. In 1854 he accompanied his father to Winona county, the latter settling on a farm below Minnesota City, where he died April 11, 1860. In 1862 the subject of this sketch became a resident of Utica, purchasing 120 acres of land on Sec. 30, his home ever since. His farm is a handsome one and well improved by Mr. D.'s industrious care. His marriage took place November 22, 1864, the bride being Miss Elizabeth C., daughter of Henry and Maria (Cheatham) Hilton ; she was born in Lexington, Missouri, January 22, 1844. Her parents were of Scotch and English descent, and born in Virginia and Kentucky respectively. Mr. Doolittle is a republican and a Congregationalist ; Mrs. D. is a Campbellite in belief. Their four handsome and interesting children are all at home. Their births date as here given : Myrtie M., November 5, 1866 ; Mary Frances, September 6, 1868 ; Willard E., June 2, 1872 ; Jay C., December 27, 1881.

WM. F. PHELPS, ex-president of the National Educational Association of the United States, and well known at home and abroad as one of the distinguished educators of the northwest, is a native of Auburn, New York. In 1846 Mr. Phelps graduated from the state normal school at Albany, with which institution he was con-



nected for several years as an instructor. He graduated from Union College, Schenectady, New York, in 1851, and had the degree A. M. conferred upon him by his Alma Mater three years later. In July, 1855, Mr. Phelps was appointed principal of the New Jersey state normal school at Trenton. This was a new institution to which the state was just giving form. The buildings for the school were planned by the new principal, who also organized the school and conducted it for nine years, at the expiration of which time he closed his educational work in New Jersey, having accepted the principalship of the state normal school at Winona, Minnesota. This institution has been given due place in the educational department of this history, and any particular mention is unnecessary here. Mr. Phelps remained at the head of its affairs during a period of twelve years, in which its foundations were enduringly laid, and its character as a training-school for teachers fully approved. Leaving Winona in 1876, Mr. Phelps took charge of the normal school at Whitewater, Wisconsin, and continued at its head for two years, during which time he edited the "Chicago Educational Weekly," the first weekly educational journal published in the west. In 1856 Mr. Phelps assisted at the organization of the National Normal School Association, in Worcester, Massachusetts, being one of its originators, and for five successive years its president. This normal association was afterward merged into the National Educational Association, still continuing its work, however, as one of the five original departments of the more inclusive organization. At the annual session of the National Educational Association, held at Minneapolis, in 1875, Mr. Phelps was elected its president, and in that capacity delivered the opening address at the session of 1876, held at Baltimore, July 10, 11 and 12 of that year. One week later the International Congress of Education was held at Philadelphia. This congress, the result of the presence of eminent educators from all parts of the world in attendance upon America's centennial celebration at Philadelphia, convened in the judges' pavilion on the centennial grounds, on the afternoon of July 17. Sir Redmond Barry, of Australia, was elected president, and of the two American vice-presidents Mr. W. F. Phelps was chosen one, and requested to preside over the deliberations of the congress. At this congress there were representatives from twelve foreign countries, and twenty-four of the states of the American Union. This was the first conference or congress of the kind ever held, and the position



of Mr. Phelps as its presiding officer naturally directed attention to his educational labors. At the Paris exposition the following year Mr. Phelps was awarded silver medal and diploma as an educational writer and *collaborateur*. In 1875 Mr. Phelps published through the house of A. S. Barnes & Co., of New York, his "Teachers' Handbook," a practical manual for the use of teachers, which has had a most extended sale. In 1878 he assisted in the organization of the "Teachers' Retreat" at Chautauqua, New York, and was director of this particular department. At the request of the Chautauqua management he prepared five small volumes to be used as handbooks for the work there prosecuted. In 1881, after nearly forty years' continuous service in the educational ranks, during which he had held the very chief seats of honor in the national and international associations, Mr. Phelps retired from educational work to devote his later years to business affairs. He is at present and for the past four year has been the efficient secretary of the Winona board of trade.

JOHN LUDWIG, mayor of city of Winona. Mr. Ludwig is a native of Luxemburg, Germany, from which place he came to America when sixteen years of age, settling in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Was engaged in clerking there until the early fall of 1861, when he enlisted in the 9th Wis. Inf. reg., and was sent to the department of Missouri. His command was attached to the seventh army corps, and their field of operations was in Kansas, Arkansas and Missouri, the service being largely one of fatiguing marches and semi-guerrilla warfare, in which there is more hard work than opportunity for glory. During considerable portion of the time he was in the service Mr. Ludwig was with the commissary department or on recruiting service. The hardest engagement in which he took part was that at Newtonia, Missouri, October 28, 1864. His first term of enlistment expiring, Mr. Ludwig re-enlisted, and served until mustered out in the fall of 1865, having been four years and four months in the army. In 1867 Mr. Ludwig came to Winona, and opened the Winona house, since which time he has been engaged in hotel business. He was for three years treasurer of the city, and had served one term as alderman of the second ward, when he was elected mayor of the city in the spring of 1883. (See official list.) Mr. Ludwig is married, and has seven children, four of them attending school in the city.

WINONA HARVESTER WORKS.—This, though the last, is by no means likely to prove the least of Winona's manufacturing indus-

tries. The company was organized May 27, 1883, the incorporators being J. D. Easter, L. C. Bonner, H. W. Lamberton, V. Simpson, J. H. Jenkins, T. T. Hayden, J. J. Randall, C. H. Porter, W. H. Garlock, J. Kendall, F. A. Johnston, W. K. F. Vila, and A. C. Tucker. The capital stock, all taken, is \$250,000, and the business of the corporation will be the manufacture of harvesters and binders and the manufacture of farm machinery and agricultural implements in general. Their location is upon a tract of twenty-seven acres, in the western part of the city, between the tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railways. Here ground has been broken, and their buildings are being erected, contract calling for their completion October 1, 1883. These buildings are a main manufactory, 260×50 feet, three stories high; foundry, 105×70, one story; blacksmith shop, 50×70, and an engine-house, 32×40, furnished with an engine of 200 horse-power. These buildings are all of brick with substantial stone foundations. When completed the works will give employment to about 400 men. The present officers of the company are: President, C. L. Bonner; vice-president, J. J. Randall; secretary and treasurer, C. H. Porter; general manager, J. D. Easter.

CUMMINGS & VILA, wholesale and retail dealers in boots and shoes, 17 East Third street.—This business was established in 1862, by Cummings & Cushing, on Second street, in what was then known as No. 3 Union block, the east storeroom of the two numbers now occupied by Saml. Fox's clothing-house. Business was carried on at this location until 1872, when it was removed across the street to No. 3 Simpson's block, from which place it was transferred to the present location, in 1875. The storeroom now occupied fronts 23½ feet on Third street, and has a depth of 90 feet, a basement of equal dimensions being used for packing and storage. The firm of Cummings & Cushing became Cummings, Cushing & Co., in 1863, by the admission of W. K. F. Vila to a partnership in the business, and on the withdrawal of Mr. Cushing, in 1865, became Cummings & Vila, and has so continued. The present firm are J. B. Cummings and W. K. F. Vila.

J. B. Cummings is a native of Kennebeck county, Maine. Left home when a young man, as sailor before the mast, and was on the open seas four years, voyaging around the Cape and to the Pacific coast. Was in California for four or five years before coming to this city in 1859, and was in grocery trade here until his present

shoe business was established, three years later. Mr. Cummings is a prominent member of the masonic fraternity, holding important offices in blue lodge, chapter and commandery, as will be seen by the records furnished for insertion in this volume.

W. K. F. Vila is a native of Boston, Massachusetts; left home at seventeen years of age, was for four years a sailor before the mast, in the same vessel as his partner, and made the trip around the Cape with him. Returning home, was in Boston from 1854 to 1859. Came to Winona in 1860, and was in grain business here until 1863, when he formed his connection with the shoe-house of Cummings & Co. Mr. Vila is a member and director of the board of trade; a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M.; of Winona Chapter, No. 5, of which he was high priest three years, and of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3.

A. D. ELLSWORTH, Minnesota City Mills, at Minnesota City; office, corner of Third and Main streets, Winona. The original mill, built by Miller & Ellsworth, on this mill site, was erected in 1867, about eighty rods west of the Union depot, at the intersection of the railway tracks at Minnesota City. The real property and water privilege includes 143 acres on the Rolling Stone river. This stream, being fed by springs, never runs dry, and at the mill there is a head of eleven feet, affording ample power for all purposes required. The mill, 70×72 feet, is built upon a solid stone foundation, above which the wooden structure rises three stories in height, and originally furnished with six run of stone, and having a daily capacity of 200 barrels of flour. The mill was run as a burr mill until 1880, when it was reconstructed as a gradual reduction mill, and has now a daily capacity of 240 barrels, the average product being about 140 barrels a day. The business done is a merchant milling one, the wheat supply being both local and from the western sections of the state, principal shipping points being Sleepy-Eye, Redwood Falls and Marshall. Besides supplying his mill, Mr. Ellsworth is an extensive shipper of grain to eastern markets, principally wheat, also barley, seeds and oats. Mill product is marketed both south and east. The mill gives employment to ten hands, the various shipping points six more, besides the bookkeeper in the central office, O. H. Clark. The last year's business aggregated from 250,000 to 300,000 bushels. Mr. Ellsworth is a native of Maine, which state he left in 1851 for California, where he remained five years, and then settled in Waupun, Wisconsin. Was there engaged

in grain trade till he came to Winona county in 1862, since which time, until 1882, he has been extensively engaged in farming as well as grain shipping and milling. Mr. Ellsworth has one child living, Amos D. Ellsworth, Jr.; his mother, Mrs. Lizzie C. Ellsworth (*née* Smith) having died May 7, 1881. The family residence is on the corner of Washington and Fourth streets.

COUNTY AUDITOR.—R. B. Bastford, present incumbent, was elected in 1880, and present term of service expires March 1, 1883. Mr. Bastford is a native of Maine; came to Winona from the east, where he had been engaged in merchandising, in 1856, and was here one year in the service of Indian agent Berly. Went to the Pacific in 1857, returning in 1859. Has been permanently a resident of the city since 1866, from which period until 1875 he was in real estate business. Elected county treasurer in 1875, he held that office two terms, and was then nominated and elected auditor. Mr. Bastford is one of the directors of the Building Association. He was made a Master Mason in 1860; two years later took his chapter degree, and in 1874 became a member of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3.

BENTON H. LANGLEY, division freight agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, was born at Andover, New Hampshire, September 28, 1841. His education was received in the schools of his native town, which he attended until his parents removed to the west in 1854, at which time Benton was thirteen years of age. Since then he has been educated in the school of personal endeavor. The family first settled in Elgin, Illinois, remaining until the spring of 1855, when they located in Hastings, Minnesota. During that spring and summer young Langley was employed in lathing and shingling, one of his jobs being the old Catholic church, the first church building erected in Hastings. That fall, 1855, he returned east, remaining until the spring of 1857, when he came back to Hastings, clerked in the postoffice there one year, and in the spring of 1858 went to Mankato, as agent for Thorne, Follett & Co., bankers, at Hastings, for whom he was purchasing and shipping ginseng. That same fall, 1858, he entered the commission and forwarding house of North & Carll, remained one year, and then took a similar position with the house of Davis & Van Auken. A few months later, March 4, 1860, Mr. Langley bought Davis' interest in the business, the firm becoming Van Auken & Langley, and so continuing until the fall of 1866. In the winter



of 1864-5, Mr. Langley, under the firm name of B. H. Langley & Co., established an agency for the Northwestern Packet Company, at Winona, and removed to this city with his family, February 27, 1865. The firm became Seavey & Langley in 1867, Langley & Hatcher in 1869, and the business discontinued two years later, when Mr. Langley became directly, as he had heretofore been indirectly, the agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. As agent of that road he held his position until 1879, when he was promoted to the post of division freight agent, with headquarters at Winona. May 12, 1862, Mr. Langley married Miss M. A. Chase, of Rochester, Minnesota. They have two children: Mary E., attending school at Wellesley, Massachusetts, and B. H., attending the model department of the normal school here.

N. F. HILBERT, civil engineer and surveyor, is a native of Luxemburg, Germany, from which country he came to America at twenty-two years of age, having pursued his studies until then at his native university. In 1853 he was employed as draughtsman under Col. Berien, chief engineer of Michigan Central railway survey and construction from Michigan City to Chicago, and in the following year was under the same chief engineer in Illinois, on the central military tract railway from Princeton to Galesburg, the profiles and estimates of these lines being prepared by Mr. Hilbert. His health failing in that work, Mr. Hilbert came to Winona in the spring of 1855, and, when the transit railway line was run between this city and New Ulm, assumed charge of the surveys under his brother, H. J. Hilbert, chief engineer of the road. N. F. Hilbert was railroad expert for the appraisement between this city and Janesville, Minnesota, for the Winona & St. Peter Railway Company. He was treasurer of Winona county from 1868 to 1874, and cashier of the Merchants National Bank from 1874 to 1878, when impaired health compelled him to desist from office work. The offices of county surveyor and city engineer he has held at various times, and there is scarcely a road in the vicinity or an addition to the city upon which his surveying skill has not been exercised. The beautiful grounds of Woodlawn cemetery were designed by him, and much of their attractiveness is due to his labor. His name is given to the brick block on the corner of Second and Lafayette streets, a substantial two-story structure, 60x80, the second story of which is his family residence.

M. K. DREW & W. S. DREW. These gentlemen (brothers) have

been residents of Winona, the former since 1854, the latter since 1855. Previous to making this city their home they were in dry-goods business for a number of years at Meadville, Pennsylvania. W. S. Drew, being officially connected with the financial board of Allegheny College, located there. M. K. Drew and his brother made extensive purchases of real estate on coming into Minnesota, and for the first twenty years of their residence here were in partnership in that business. Upon its discontinuance, W. S. devoted himself exclusively to city business, and M. K. to the management of his landed property, principally farms in the western part of the state. Mr. M. K. Drew was twice mayor of the city, and was also a member of the city council at various times as alderman. In the spring of 1856 he married Miss M. A. Lombard, of Boston, Massachusetts. Mrs. Drew is still living, but their four children all died in infancy. W. S. Drew was mayor of the city in 1870-71; was president of the Minnesota Soldiers' Orphans' Home during all the years of its existence; city assessor during at least half of the years of the city's corporate existence, and has always been actively identified with its interests. W. S. Drew married Miss Carrie C. Sanborn, in Meadville, Pennsylvania. Four children were born to them, three of them still living: one, married, resides in Minneapolis, and one son and a daughter at home.

MATHEW MARVIN, superintendent of Woodlawn cemetery, is a native of Madison county, New York, where he was born in 1838. He came to Winona in 1859 and entered the leather-store of J. J. Randall as clerk, remaining in that situation until the war of the rebellion broke out, in the spring of 1861. Mr. Marvin was one of the first to sign the volunteer enlistment paper which brought into existence the Winona company of the Minnesota regiment; volunteered, with most of his company, for the three years' service, and afterward was in some of the severest battles on the "peninsula." When the regiment was accepted for the three years' service Mr. Marvin was made fifth corporal, and was finally mustered out as sergeant. The service seen by his company appears in the military record of Co. K, 1st reg. Minn. Inf., U.S.V. Mr. Marvin participated in all the marches and battles fought by his regiment and company until he was wounded in the leg at Harrison's Landing and disabled for nearly three months, during which time the regiment was engaged at Vienna and Antietam. Recovering from his wound, he joined his command before the battle at Charleston,

Virginia, October 16, 1862, and was in all the engagements following, until severely wounded at Gettysburg by a musket-shot, which, passing lengthwise through his foot, so crippled him that he was on crutches for over a year thereafter, not being again fit for service until the term of his enlistment had expired. Leaving the service, Mr. Marvin settled in Illinois, and did not return to Winona until January, 1871, when he established himself in the harness trade here. This business he followed until April, 1873, when he accepted the position of superintendent of Woodlawn cemetery, a post which he proved himself eminently qualified for during the ten years he has held it. Mr. Marvin was married at St. Charles, Illinois, August 29, 1867, to Miss Angie A. Towle; they have one child, Mabel W., born, as befits a soldier's daughter, on Decoration day, centennial year.

W. E. SMITH, florist, south side King street, between Lafayette and Walnut. Business was established in 1879, is growing rapidly, and gives promise of constant increase. His lots, purchased four years since, front 150 feet on King street, and run to the alley in the rear 140 feet. Upon these premises Mr. Smith built his residence four years since, and the following year commenced the erection of his greenhouses and preparation of hotbeds, to which additions have been made from year to year, his last greenery, 15×36 feet, for carnation pinks, having been completed last fall. He has now about 8,000 square feet under glass, heated by hot air conveyed through brick flues. His gardens contain 100 hotbed frames, 3×6 feet, and the number was doubled the summer of 1883. Business is hardly established as yet, but sales of 1882 were more than double those of 1881, with good prospect of a very material increase for coming seasons. Mr. Smith is a painter by trade, a native of Binghamton, New York, and was born October 23, 1853. Ten years ago he came to this city, and has industriously followed the business of his trade ever since. He is a fine fresco painter, and has worked up a large business, and has found ample employment for a force of six painters, but inasmuch as his floral business is assuming such large proportions he intends in the future to devote all his time to that industry. March 18, 1873, he was united in marriage with Miss Elvira Hamlin, a native of Ohio. They are the parents of two children: May H. and William E.

W. M. G. McCUTCHEN, dealer in grain, seeds, salt, stucco and cement; office and warehouse on Front street, between Johnson and Main. Elevator and warehouse, 30×130, with a storage capacity of 25,000



bushels; boiler house, 17×30, iron sheeted, furnished with an engine of 25 horse-power. Business for 1881 aggregated nearly 300 car-loads of grain, two-thirds of which was wheat, thirty car-loads of salt, and about five car-loads of stucco and cement. Mr. McCutchen came to Winona in 1856, direct from New York city, where he was born, in 1829, and where he had been engaged in hardware trade. He embarked in general merchandising at this point, purchasing grain in connection therewith, and bought the first load of wheat offered in this market, winter of 1856-7. After the big fire of 1862 Mr. McCutchen engaged in grain commission business, with warehouses on the corner of Third and Center, which he built in 1860, and removed from there to the warehouse on Front, between Lafayette and Walnut, which he still uses for storage purposes. His parents, William and Eliza (St. John) McCutchen, were natives of New York and Connecticut, respectively. Mr. McCutchen was married November 7, 1866, to Miss Sarah Ridgway, a native of Paterson, New Jersey, and has a family of three children, as follows: Anna V., who graduated at the State Normal with the class of 1882; and Mary R. and William, now in attendance at the city schools.

JOHN B. KIRCH, dealer in agricultural implements, 82 East Second street. Warehouse, 20×70 feet, with basement, and an addition 18×45 feet. Business was established by present proprietor in May, 1871, at same location. Heaviest sales have been of Deering's twine binders and thrashers, manufactured by J. I. Case, Racine. During the busy season Mr. Kirch keeps a force of from seven and eight hands constantly employed, and his sales for 1881 aggregated \$45,000, all retail trade within the county limits. The trade for this season, 1882, will be fully equal to that of 1881. Mr. Kirch is a native of Luxemburg, Germany; came to America with his parents, John and Hellen (Guidinger) Kirch when in his infancy, the family settling in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, on a farm. Remaining there until 1867, they removed to Winona county. From that date until 1871 Mr. J. B. Kirch was grain inspector in the elevator there; then removed to Winona, and established trade in farm machinery. Business has grown from small beginnings until he has become the heaviest dealer in his line within the county limits. He is a member and trustee of St. Joseph's Catholic church, and also a member of the St. Joseph's Benevolent Society connected therewith. In 1873 he married Miss Sarah Remendeno, a native of Woodstock, Illinois. They are the parents of four children, one son and three daughters.



FRANKLIN B. ROWELL, of Homer township, is a native of Allentown, New Hampshire. He is a son of Charles and Mary (Davis) Rowell, and was born November 14, 1820. At the age of sixteen years he became an apprentice to the trade of boot and shoe maker, and soon after completing his trade, engaged in the business for himself. This he followed till 1855, when he sold out with a view to trying the realities of the famous west, and in May of that year arrived in Winona and at once made a claim on Secs. 6 and 7, in the township of Homer, where he permanently located and engaged in farming. For the last few years Mr. Rowell has made vegetables and fruit gardening a specialty, finding a ready market for his superior produce in the city of Winona. November 8, 1847, he was married to Miss Mary A. Jenkins, at Deerfield, New Hampshire, a native of Greenland of that state. They are the parents of three sons, Charles F., who was educated for the law, and is now engaged in agricultural pursuits in Brown county, this state; George W., of Winona, and Clarence M. at home. Mr. Rowell is now spending his declining years surrounded with the comforts of a pleasant home.

GEORGE F. STORY, the oldest resident barber in this city, first made his appearance here in 1855, and occupied a small space in the old Winona house on the levy. During his long residence here he has changed locations eleven different times, and has worked up and down the river among the boat and raftsmen, but has never lost his right of residence here. He was born in Galena, Illinois, in 1836, and early in life took a position on a river steamboat, as cabin-boy and worked his way up to steward. Mr. Story (more familiarly known as Prof. Story) is one of a family of natural musicians and has played with Prof. Rohweder, of the Germania band for the last twenty-five years. This fact is proof of his skill as a musician. As Prof. Rohweder has so many years retained him in his company regardless of some opposition on account of race and color.

FRANK W. SCHMIDT, proprietor of the Boston bakery of this city, established business here in the spring of 1868, at his present quarters, 85 East Third street. His first building was burned in 1870, and he at once rebuilt, though at first only one-story, but soon after raised his building one story higher and built a large addition to the rear of it, and in 1881 added another fine two-story brick addition fronting on Third street. His entire beautiful brick front is forty-four feet and, including his well arranged ice-cream gardens,

seventy feet. Mr. Schmidt is by nativity a Saxon-German, and was born in 1830; came with his parents to America in 1844, sailing from Bremen in the *Caroline*. Soon after his arrival in New York he entered a Brooklyn bakery as an apprentice, and after the completion of his trade followed that business in the vicinity of Boston and New York till 1854. He then went via the Isthmus to California, where he remained till 1867, and then returned to New York, and thence the same year to this city. He was married in 1870, and has five children, whose names in the order of their births are Paul W., Charles M., Frank E., Walter H. and Emma F.

KINGSBURY, HOLLAND & Co., grocers, 3 East Third street. This business was started by Keeler & Taylor, in 1865, on the northwest corner of Main and Third streets, and was the first store that did business on Third street, trade being confined at that time to Second street and the cross-streets nearer the levee. In September, 1866, Keeler & Taylor sold out to Kingsbury & Jones, who continued business until March, 1867, when A. Holland purchased Jones' interest, the house becoming Kingsbury & Holland. One year later, 1868, the business was removed to its present location. After ten years' successful management Mr. Kingsbury retired, his place being taken by his sons, F. E. Kingsbury and H. W. Kingsbury, the firm becoming Kingsbury, Holland & Co. In March, 1882, the firm purchased the property they had so long occupied, and at the same time A. Holland bought the property adjoining them on the west, at the corner of Main and Third streets. The building of the firm fronts 24 feet on Third street and has a depth of 82 feet. They have a growing trade; do a fine retail business, employing a force of six persons and two delivery wagons. W. F. Kingsbury, father of the Kingsbury members of the firm, is a native of Maine, where he was engaged in farming previous to his coming to Winona in 1865. Though no longer an active member of the firm, he is no disinterested observer of the growth of the business he assumed control of sixteen years since, and which he has now surrendered into the hands of his sons, who were trained for business under his own eye, in his own establishment. He is a prominent member of the Baptist denomination of this city. He is also interested in farming, owning a fine farm in Utica township. A. Holland is a native of Vermont; came to Quincy, Olmsted county, Minnesota, in 1861, and in November of that year enlisted in Co. K, 1st Minn. Inf. The first season he was in the field, saw little active service,

owing to sickness, but from October, 1862, was constantly with his regiment, until disabled at Petersburg in June, 1864, being severely wounded in the right arm and was pronounced unfit for duty, until he left the service at the expiration of his term of enlistment and returned to this state. Mr. Holland owns 560 acres of real estate in the county, including a dairy and stock farm at Homer, from which, during 1882, he made 1,200 pounds of butter; the other stock, principally cows and Cottswold and Leicester sheep. He married Miss Ella Kingsbury, the daughter of his old partner, in 1866. They have one child, Gertrude, a daughter, now in attendance at the Winona High School. Mr. Holland is a director of the Board of Trade and a member and trustee of the Baptist church of this city.

JAMES W. STOVALL, Winona, proprietor of the Stovall dining hall, at 4 East Second street, established business in this city in 1878. Mr. Stovall is a native of Decatur, Alabama, and in slavery times was the property of Mayor Wise. He is one of those who have been bettered by the abolition of slavery. In 1864, when the colored people became useless to their owners, and could no longer be provided for by them, by reason of the occupation and desolation of the country by federal troops, James left the old plantation and joined the 51st Ill. Vol. Inf., in the capacity of cook. After the close of the war he went to Chicago, and there engaged in civil pursuits till his removal to Winona in 1877. While in Chicago, and since his residence in this city, Mr. Stovall has, by honesty, sobriety and industry, made for himself many friends, and in these few years acquired enough to make himself comfortable, and also to enable him to give liberally to the worthy poor. The above facts were gleaned from an editorial in the Decatur (Alabama) "Weekly News," of May 18, 1883, a paper which rarely ever contained a friendly notice of a man of Mr. Stovall's race or color.

JACOB STIRNEMAN, proprietor of the steam bakery, Winona, manufacturer of crackers and jobber in confectionery, etc.—business on Third street, between Main and Johnson—is a native of Gränichen, canton Argau, Switzerland, and was born in 1826. At the age of fifteen he began an apprenticeship in a bakery, and after completing his trade began business for himself and followed the same till 1851, when he left his native land, sailing for New York in the ship Samuel Fox. The first three years in this country he spent as a hand in a bakery in Rochester, New York, after which he started in busi-

ness for himself in that city. In 1865 he sold out and removed to Springfield, Illinois, where he conducted a prosperous business till his removal to Winona in 1876. He is now occupying the first floor and basement, 24×100 feet, uses steam and all the modern appliances of a first-class bakery. He was married in 1845, to Miss Mary Luscher, also a native of Switzerland, by whom he has a family of three children, as follows: Mary, now the wife of Fredrick Bauer; Margaret, the wife of Martin Behner, and Jacob, who married Lizzie Franckle, and in 1878 engaged in merchandising in the grocery line at La Crosse, Wisconsin.

J. WINKLES, upholsterer and dealer in furniture, No. 42 East Second street. This business was established by the present proprietor in 1857, on Second street, two doors west of Lafayette, and after some changes in location, during which business was done either on Main or Second street, a move was made to the present number in 1876, when a partnership was formed with A. Thrune, which was dissolved in June, 1882, Mr. Winkles continuing the business alone. His storeroom is 20 feet front, 80 feet deep, and his business occupies two stories above the basement, the latter used for storage and finishing room. Previous to 1856 did a considerable undertaking business, but at that date it was discontinued. Mr. Winkles is a native of Westphalia, Prussia, learned his trade in Munster, in his native province, and came to America in 1852. Was engaged in business in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and in Dubuque, Iowa, previous to coming to this city a full quarter of a century ago. He is a member of St. Joseph's Catholic church of this city, and of the St. Joseph's Benevolent society. His first wife, to whom he was married in 1853, in Dubuque, Iowa, was Anna Klunke, also a native of Prussia; she died in 1873. Mr. Winkle's second marriage was in 1874, to Miss Anna Thrune. She is the mother of five of his eleven children, eighth of whom are sons and three are daughters, all of whom are receiving a liberal education.

OTIS C. TUCKER, capitalist, Winona. Prominent among Winona's many eminently successful business men, and indeed the peer of not a few, is the subject of this brief sketch, a man whose career has been marked by no sudden or unexpected rise, fame or fortune, but who has made his way slowly but surely from incipiency to manhood's ripest years. And as virtue and conscientious industry has its sure reward, Mr. Tucker is leisurely spending his declining years in the enjoyment of a substantial fortune. The history of



such men should stand as landmarks to the thousands of young men just entering upon the great arena of human life. Mr. Tucker is the fifth child and third son of Silas H. and Betsey (Crandell) Tucker, and was born March 12, 1822, in Hoosic, Rensselaer county, New York, but was reared in Broome county, in the same state. His father was quite an extensive farmer, and at the same time largely engaged in the lumber business, and hence afforded for his sons a hardy and healthy occupation, as well as a practical knowledge of the affairs of after-life. Our subject's early educational advantages were only as were afforded in the common schools of his boyhood days, to which was added two years' study under Prof. Wheeler, who was then teaching advanced branches at Union, New York. Soon after attaining his twenty-first year, Mr. Tucker engaged for himself in the lumber business, in Broome county, New York, and which he afterward extended into Pennsylvania. After a few years of hard work and faithful industry he had laid the foundation for a future competency, and in 1858 came to Minnesota, where he invested in real estate, but soon after returned to his old home. July 2, 1860, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda C. Rounds, a daughter of Benjamin Rounds, Esq., of Broome county, New York. In the fall of 1860 he again came west, with a view to better investments and a permanent settlement. For a short time he remained in Iowa, looking after a suitable location. While thus engaged an opening offered itself which led him to Winona, where he at once engaged in the lumber trade, to which he also added the purchase and sale of grain for a short time. In 1874 he abandoned the lumber business, as his large real estate interests and cash capital had accumulated to an extent sufficient to occupy as much of his time as he wished to devote to business. On the organization of the Second National Bank of Winona he became a stockholder, and is now a director of the same. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker are the happy parents of but one child, a beautiful and accomplished daughter, Ella, born in 1861. After graduating from the state normal school at Winona she took a two years' course at the University at Evanston, Illinois, and was, for a short time, a student at the Cooper Institute, of New York. She has won for herself some considerable distinction as an artist, having produced some very fine painting, both in oil and water-colors.

DR. FRANCIS J. TOURTELLOTE, capitalist, Winona, was born December 26, 1835, in Windham county, Connecticut. He is the

son of Jacob and Mary (Ballard) Tourtellotte, of Windham, Connecticut. His first paternal ancestor in this country settled in either Connecticut or Massachusetts. He had fled from France for religious liberty during the period of the persecution of the Huguenots. Dr. Tourtellotte first graduated from the normal school of Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Then began the reading of medicine, under Dr. John McGregor, of Thompson, Connecticut, and finally graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of New York. In 1863 he entered the medical service of the naval department, where he served as surgeon till 1868. Coming to Winona in 1869, he engaged in the business of loaning money. June 26, 1865, he was united in marriage with Miss Harriett A. Arnold, a daughter of William S. Arnold, of Windham county, Connecticut. They are the parents of but one child, a daughter, Frank, born July 28, 1874. Affable and courteous in manner, with strict business principles, are the characteristics of Dr. Tourtellotte.

EDWIN V. BOGART, sheriff of Winona county — office in county jail — had been deputy-sheriff of the county for more than ten years when he was elected to office in the fall of 1881, his term of service expiring December 31, 1883. There are three deputies connected with the office: Valentine Hengel, and John Bolton,—the last-named a resident of St. Charles. Mr. Bogart is a native of New York State; came to Wisconsin with his parents, Christopher and Rhoda E. (Smith) Bogart, at six years of age. Came to Winona in 1864, bought out the marble firm of Warren Powers, and conducted that business until January 1, 1882, when he sold out to assume charge of the office to which he had been elected. In 1867 he married Miss Euphema Lowe, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Winona with her parent, John Lowe. They have children — Benjamin F., Hiram V. and Earle V. The two former are attendants of the city schools.

JOHN L. BRINK, Winona, dealer in dry goods, carpets and notions, corner of Main and Third streets. This house was established in 1858, and has been successfully conducted for twenty-five years. Business was first opened in the fall of 1858, on Second street, between Lafayette and Center, where a thriving trade was carried on till the disastrous fire of 1862 swept this house, with the best business portion of the city, out of existence. Business was immediately resumed in the block just east of the original, and there continued till 1870, when he removed to the Simpson block, where,

in 1877, his entire establishment was again destroyed by fire. Soon after this last fire he opened business in the Ely block, where he conducted trade until July, 1882, at which time he took possession of his present quarters. Trade, which was at one time considerably in the jobbing line, changing with the growth and demands of the city and outside country, is now almost exclusively retail, a few of his old jobbing customers still securing their supplies from the house. Sales are about \$60,000 annually, and a force of seven persons is required in the conduct of the business. Mr. Brink is a native of Steuben county, New York, and was born in 1826; learned the blacksmith trade, and conducted that industry for some years in his native county, but had turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, following the business a few years before coming to Winona, in 1857. In 1848 he was united in marriage with Miss Abigail D. Palmer, a native of Binghamton, New York, by whom he has reared a family of five sons, as follows: James T., Charles T., John L., George H. and William E., three of whom are married and living outside of the state, while two yet remain with the parents. All are educated gentlemen. Mr. Brink is a staunch member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and for the last twenty years has been a member of the official board, and for twenty-five years a teacher and faithful worker in the Sabbath school. He is also a member of the masonic fraternity, and prominently connected with the business prosperity of the city. Was a member of the council, representing the second ward, at the time the erection of the present waterworks building was decided upon, and rendered efficient service in securing this valuable improvement to the city. Mr. Brink is one of those men who are indispensable to the best interests of a city.

AZARIAH THOMAS, Winona, is a son of Gilbert and Mary A. (Miller) Thomas, and was born April 8, 1837, in the State of New York, but principally reared in Pennsylvania. In 1857 he came to Winona, and for the next twelve years was employed by Mr. Malory and his son. March 2, 1861, was married to Miss Anna M. Campbell, a native of County Donegal, Ireland, who emigrated to this country when but a child. Mr. Thomas spent a short time in the volunteer service during the late war, as a member of Co. H, 1st Minn. Vol. Inf. In 1880 he united with the Methodist Episcopal church, though his wife is a member of St. Thomas Catholic church. They have three children living, whose names are Frank H., Mary

A. and Edward. In 1881 Mr. Thomas purchased the business of his former employer, and is now engaged in the pump and well business, making drive-wells a specialty.

GEORGE LANE HOLLOWELL, who established himself in the grocery trade in this city in 1871, is now located at 10 West Third street. In January, 1882, the firm became Hollowell & Co. by the admission of Cornelius Fookens to a partnership in its affairs. They occupy the first floor and basement, 20×60, and are conducting a prosperous trade. Mr. Hollowell was born in Yates county, New York, December 24, 1824. His parents, Joseph and Elenor (Smith) Hollowell, were natives of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Plymouth, Massachusetts, respectively, and were substantial Methodists of the old school. Our subject was first married in the State of New York in 1857, to Mary L. Clark, of the same state, and came to Winona in 1859, and for the following ten or twelve years was employed as bookkeeper of J. L. Brink, of this city. His first wife died and his second marriage took place in Indiana, to Miss Emily H. Snyder, in 1864. They are the parents of two children, Mary L. and John D. Mr. Hollowell and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, he is a member of the official board and a faithful worker in the Sabbath school.

WILLIAM WRIGHT SLOCUMB, son of Samuel and Polly (Beck) Slocumb, was born in White county, Illinois, October 30, 1822. His father was a Methodist missionary and a colleague of the venerable and historic pioneer preacher Peter Cartwright. W. W. Slocumb, more familiarly known as Capt. Slocumb, is a pioneer son of the great Mississippi valley, and began life on the river in 1843, and the same season navigated the Father of Waters as far north as Lake Pepin, and was one of the parties to move the first drive of logs from the waters of these upper lakes. It was at this time that the captain first met Father Hobert, then a Methodist missionary among the Indians, and relates an incident which occurred at Red Wing, where the raftsmen attempted one evening to tie up for the night. At this time a large number of Indians were camped near the place, and at once scores of them swarmed on and about the raft, and soon became so demonstrative that the chiefs, fearing a massacre, importuned the whites to move on, and to hasten their departure a chief cut the fastenings with a hatchet. The same night a battle took place between a band of the Sioux and Chippewas, in which many scalps were taken, and a few of them seen by the raftsmen the



next day. Capt. Slocumb says that only an occasional adventurer, some explorer or half-breed Indian trader was to be seen along the Upper Mississippi that year. September 22, 1847, Mr. Slocumb was married to Miss Margaret Stagg, a native of Ohio, by whom he reared a family of the children whose names, in the order of their birth, are Henry F., William F., Margaret Emma, the two former merchandising in the grocery line in this city, and the latter a teacher of music. In 1873 Capt. Slocumb removed from Reed Landing, where he had resided many years, to the city of Winona, with a view to securing better educational advantages for his children. He and his wife and daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of this city, and he is a member of the official board. He is also a member of the masonic fraternity. The captain has been for many years in the employ of the immense lumber firm of Laird, Norton & Co., of this city, as commander of their beautiful little steamer engaged in rafting logs from their Wisconsin pineries.

THOMAS WRIGHT, loan, real estate and insurance agent, Winona, is a native of Cayuga county, New York, and was born May 23, 1818. His parents were Anson and Lydia (Soule) Wright, the latter a member of one of the most remarkable families in the State of New York for longevity. In 1844 Mr. Wright emigrated west and established himself in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he continued to reside till he came to Winona, in 1856. During the last few years of his residence in Kenosha he filled the position of assistant cashier in a bank in which he had a considerable financial interest. On coming to this city he at once turned his attention to the loan and real estate business, and soon became the owner of 2,000 acres of land in this county. Mr. Wright is a man of a speculative turn of mind, and is ever ready to take hold of any enterprise that money can be made in. In 1857 he was married to Miss Mary Harlow, a native of Sackett's Harbor, New York. They are the parents of three children, namely, Will T., who is now a resident of Dakota, and Grace H. and Charles S. still residing at home.

ALFRED WELCH is a native of England. He was born in Glastonbury, Somerset county, November 12, 1822. When about eight years of age, the family consisting of the father, mother and nine children, of which Alfred was the fifth, removed to America, landing at Quebec after a tedious passage of nine weeks and one day. The family settled on a farm near Hammond, St. Lawrence county, New York. Two years later, in 1832, the family moved to

Watertown, where they lived until 1858. Our subject in the meantime had married Miss S. Fidelia White, and now, at the date last named, ill health caused a removal to Minnesota, and April 14 found them in Winona. The family then consisted of the parents and three children, Mary, Abraham and Lily. Four others had been left behind in Watertown cemetery. Other children were born to them after their residence in Winona, Gracie only of these surviving. Abraham Welch, the father of our subject, died in Winona, the mother, Mary Welch, having passed away in Watertown, New York. They were both from early life consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, he being a local preacher of that denomination until the close of his life. Alfred Welch prepared himself for the ministry, and engaged actively in the profession at different times, but loss of voice has prevented him from continuing in that calling. In his later years he has been engaged in the practice of dentistry.

PETER H. NEIHEISEL, mechanic, born in Bavaria, Germany, 1846, son of Belderser and Barbara Neiheisel, came with parents to America, town of Hudson, Walworth county, Wisconsin, in 1848. He there attended the public school and worked on his father's farm till the breaking out of the war in 1861, when he enlisted in the 1st Wis. Inf., Co. C. Was discharged the following year, owing to ill health, at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, re-enlisting in the fall of 1863, in 2d Minn. Cav., Co. L, and was mustered out in 1866. The same year (1866) Mr. Neiheisel settled on a farm of 160 acres in Sec. 1, Town of Elba. In 1868 he sold his farm and moved to St. Charles and worked at general carpentering. Married in 1872 Miss Susan Lehnerts, born in Luxemburg, Germany, daughter of Peter and Mary Lehnerts. By this marriage has five children: Lucy, born October 17, 1873; Willie, February 6, 1875; Frank, August 6, 1876; Joseph, November 15, 1877, and George Henry, July 1, 1879. In 1873 our subject moved to the village of Beaver, town of Whitewater, and built on block 14, which he had purchased from Fred Brooks, a hotel and restaurant. In 1874, in company with his brother, J. W. Neiheisel, built a wagon and general repair shop, and in 1876 built a commodious frame building, 30x50, for a public hall, and the same year a large blacksmith-shop. In 1880 bought from his brother his interest in the above property, and has since carried on business alone. In 1882 the hotel, having accidentally caught fire, was burned to the ground, and during the

same year Mr. Neihsel built one of the finest frame houses in the village of Beaver, which he now occupies. Our subject has shown considerable enterprise in his efforts to build up a business in the village of Beaver. In religion is a liberal Roman Catholic, and in politics always votes the democratic ticket.

FREDERICK E. BECKER, miller, born in Saxony, Germany, in 1836, where he learned from his father, John Becker, his trade of miller. In 1859 came to America and went directly to La Crosse, Wisconsin. In 1860 visited Missouri and Louisiana, but the war breaking out (1861) he returned to La Crosse, Wisconsin. In 1863 was engaged as manager of Smith & Lamberton's mill, in Winona, and in the following year rented, and subsequently purchased, a gristmill at Rolling Stone. In 1873 bought half interest in the mill situated on Beaver creek, from Dr. Sheldon Brooks, and the year following purchased the other half from W. M. Taylor. This is the only gristmill in the town of Whitewater. In 1882 our subject introduced into his mill the most improved machinery for the manufacturing of flour, and can now make as good flour as is made in the county. Married in 1871 Miss Anna Lehnerts, born in 1846, in Luxemburg, daughter of Peter and Mary Lehnerts. By this marriage has had five children: Lizzie, born 1872; Peter, born 1873, died 1880; Susie, born 1876; Ernest, born 1879, and Felix Morris, born 1881. In politics our subject belongs to no party, always voting for the best man. In religion is a liberal Roman Catholic.

WILLIAM H. FRY, head clerk in United States railway postal service, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, January 7, 1834. He came to Saratoga, Winona county, in 1857, and followed his occupation as a carpenter there until his enlistment in the 4th reg. Minn. Inf., in January, 1864. Was with the department of the Southwest, and was present at the battle of Altoona, the great march through Georgia, the battle of Savannah, and all the skirmishes and engagements participated in by his regiment after he joined them in the field. Returning home in 1869, he was appointed route agent in the railway mail service, on the Winona & St. Peter railroad, between Winona and Waseca. In 1862 was promoted head clerk and assigned to duty in the United States railway postal service between Chicago and St. Paul. The routes were all rearranged in 1882, and Mr. Fry was transferred to the service over the Chicago & Northwestern road, between this city and Chicago. Febru-

ary 6, 1861, Mr. Fry married Miss Eliza Walker, of Saratoga township. They have three children, all living at home.

HON. C. F. BUCK, farmer, has been a resident of Winona county since 1853, at which date he settled in Homer, and remained there until the fall of 1855, when he was elected a member of the territorial legislature and removed to his present home, just across Lake Winona, at the foot of the bluffs which overlook the city on the south. Here Mr. Buck has resided for almost twenty-seven years, and when not engaged in politics devotes himself mainly to horticulture. He has been continuously in political life since coming to the county; has been three terms in the house of representatives, and three terms in the senate of the state, and is at present one of the representatives of Winona county in the state legislature. He was also postmaster four years, during the second term for which Mr. Lincoln was elected president. In 1852, the year before he removed to Winona county, Mr. Buck married Miss N. C. Robinson, of Batavia, Illinois. They have had six children, all of them educated at the city and normal schools of Winona. Two of the children graduated from both the high school and the normal school, one from the normal school, and one, H. L. Buck, graduate of the Winona high school, takes his parchment this year from the law department of the University of Wisconsin, at Madison. The daughters have considerable musical talent, and one of them has quite a local celebrity, and is regarded as a young musician of more than average promise.

RHEINBERGER BROTHERS, dealers in dry goods, corner of Third and Center streets. These gentlemen established themselves in trade in this city in April, 1877, their location at that time being on Center, four doors north of Third. They removed to the corner they now occupy in 1880, and it is the most eligible dry-goods stand in the city. They front twenty-three feet on Third street; their Center street front is eighty-five feet. They have good entrances on both, and front the Postoffice block on the east and the Republican block on the south. The firm employs seven clerks. One of the partners superintends the salesroom and purchases the goods, the other has charge of the finances. Business has steadily increased from year to year, and they are acknowledged as the leading house in the city in their line of goods—fine stock for the best city trade. Sales of 1882-3 show an increase of twelve and one-half per cent over corresponding period of 1881-2. Rheinberger Brothers were



bred to business in Nauvoo, Illinois, and in Chicago, coming from the latter city to Winona, when they established trade here. Their names are A. J. and F. J. Reinberger. They are both married and reside in the city, the former corner of Wabasha and Lafayette streets, the other near the corner of Main and Wabasha.

S. FLEISHMAN, successor to S. Friend & Co., jobber and dealer at retail in clothing, gents' furnishing goods, hats, caps, etc., 34 and 36 East Second street. This house was established twenty-four years ago, in a small wooden building on the corner of Second and Center streets, where the Second National Bank now stands, and has never removed its location at any time more than a few doors from the corner upon which it was originally established. It was in the burned district of the great fire of 1862, and was doing business on the corner of Center and Second in January, 1877, when its growing trade and the burning of Simpson's block impelled it to seek larger quarters. S. Fleishman, who became sole proprietor of the business by purchase in February, 1883, entered the service of the house in 1865, became a partner in 1871, and has been manager of its affairs since the removal of S. Friend to Milwaukee, in 1876. Mr. Fleishman's location is central, his salesrooms commodious, fronting forty feet on Second street and running to the rear. Two floors are occupied with his stock, five salesmen are employed and business is steadily increasing from year to year. Mr. S. Fleishman, son of W. K. Fleishman and Esther, his wife, was born in Bavaria, Germany, January 7, 1849. He came from the continent direct to Winona in 1865, the same year that he entered the house of which he is now sole proprietor. January 11, 1882, Mr. Fleishman married Miss Fannie Cohen, a native of New York. They have one child, Minnie E.

JOHN CROOKS, farmer, was born in Tyrone, Ireland, in 1832. He was bred in the ordinary life of an Irish farmer's son, attending the parish school about three years. At sixteen years of age he left home and came to America, spending three years at Frostburg, Maryland, thence he went to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he spent nearly twenty years in the coal mines. On July 9, 1855, he married Jane Gallagher, who was born in Tyrone, June 16, 1829; she died on May 16, 1869, leaving one son, Robert J., who was born August 26, 1860, and now resides at Eldredge, Dakota. In 1872 Mr. Crooks abandoned mining and came west; he bought 240 acres of land on Sec. 15, in this township, and has ever since tilled

and dwelt on the same. At the time of this purchase there were but sixty acres of the land broken, but he now tills over 200 acres, and has a handsomely improved farm, with commodious buildings and all the surroundings of a prosperous husbandman. Mr. Crooks was married March 7, 1871, to Isabella, relict of James Dalzell, born in Milligan, Ayrshire, Scotland, August 26, 1834; she has two children: John Dalzell, born January 14, 1863, and William Crooks, December 21, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Crooks were reared in the Presbyterian church, to which they adhered while in reach. Mr. Crooks is a republican, was town supervisor in 1880-1, and is a representative citizen.

EBEN CHURCHILL, farmer, is descended from a long line of prominent men in England and New England. His father, Eben E. Churchill, was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire; he married a native of the same city, Miss Ann E. Gove, and settled on a farm in Newmarket, same state. Here was born the subject of this sketch on March 2, 1834; he lived the ordinary life of the New England farmer's boy, receiving his education in the common school and at Wakefield Academy. Early in the spring of 1856 he struck out for the new west, and arrived in Plainview, Wabasha county, this state, on May 6. Here he took up 160 acres of government land, which he at once proceeded to improve. In 1860 he married Miss Emeline R. Bowen; her parents, William Bowen and Roxana P. Nye, were natives of Vermont. In the fall of 1863 Mr. Churchill sold his farm and spent the following winter in the east. The next spring he returned to Minnesota and settled in St. Charles. He enlisted March 17, 1865, as a recruit in the 1st Minn. reg., and was assigned to Co. E; the immediate close of the war cut the term of his service down to four months. After leaving the army he resided one year on a farm in the town of Whitewater. In 1867 he bought 320 acres of land on Secs. 2 and 3, in the town of Elba; in 1870 he built his present residence on Sec. 2, and has ever since dwelt there. He now has 360 acres of land here, and one section near the Steele, Kidder county, Dakota. Mr. Churchill is a republican, and an active man in both private and public affairs. He was chairman of the board of town supervisors in 1869, 1877 and 1879, and also a member of the same body in 1874 and 1876; was assessor in 1880-82-3. In the fall of 1880 he was elected a member of the state assembly, and took his seat in the following January; he was a member of the joint committee on legislative apportionment and of

the committee on claims, taxes and tax laws. By his influence and vote he opposed the payment of the famous \$5,000,000 bond-loan in aid of railroads, because it was not demanded in full, and was therefore a confessedly unjust debt; he also opposed granting swamp lands to railroad corporations. Five children were given to Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, as follows: Edwin, October 28, 1860, lives in Viola, Olmsted county; Rowena A., March 28, 1862, married Cyrus C. Udell, and lives at Elba; Dora E., January 21, 1865, is teaching at home; Frank, August 11, 1867; Joseph P., September 17, 1874.

WILLIAM NIENOW, farmer, was born near Stettin, Germany, March 3, 1832. He attended school till fourteen years old, and then worked as a laborer on farms and in the city. In 1856 he came to America and spent four years in and about Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He came to Minnesota in 1861, and bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 28, in Elba, on which his home has ever since been. This he cleared entirely of the undergrowth which covered it, by his own labor, and afterward bought eighty acres adjoining it on the west. This has also been nearly all cleared, and he now has a model farm in appearance and productiveness. His buildings are ample and handsome, and he has all that a farmer can wish for. February 13, 1862, he married Augusta Schwanbeck, who was born in Brandenburg, Prussia, November 13, 1840. Mr. Nienow has been treasurer of his school district for nine years; was a member of the town board in 1869-70-1 and in 1880-1; is a democrat in principle. He was reared a Lutheran; was instrumental in building the Berea Moravian church, near his residence, paying the cost of an acre of ground for its site; has been a member of that body since 1870, and was an elder for several years.

FERDINAND LOPPNOW, carpenter and farmer, has made himself a comfortable home, and is reckoned among the prosperous representative farmers of Elba. He was born at Pomen, Prussia, October 7, 1825. He left school at fourteen, and was apprenticed to a carpenter, continuing at his trade continuously till two years after his arrival in Elba. March 22, 1852, he married Carolina Kroening, who was born in Pribbernow, Prussia, May 24, 1828. He emigrated with his family to America in 1870, and settled at once in this township. In 1872 he purchased 120 acres of wild land on Sec. 23, and at once took up his residence thereon and began to clear it of timber and undergrowth. Subsequent purchases have added 120

acres to his domain, and he now has 160 acres under the plow. In 1876 he built his present large and handsome dwelling, and is well situated in every way for a farmer. Mr. Loppnow is a democrat; is a member of Berea Moravian church, in which he is an elder, and whose edifice he assisted in building as a trustee. There are five children in the family, born as below: Gustav, January 2, 1855, married Minnie Nienow, and lives on Sec. 33; Otto, April 9, 1857, and Julius, July 15, 1859, are now in Dakota; Theodore, April 20, 1862, lives with his father; William, December 23, 1866.

MICHAEL F. DONOGHUE, farmer, was born on a farm near Kilarney, County Kerry, Ireland, September 19, 1819. He was educated in both English and Celtic. He was married February 3, 1845, to Margaret Collins, who was born half a mile from the birth-place of her husband. She died in Chicago, June 19, 1855, leaving one child, which soon after died. Mr. Donoghue came to America in 1851, arriving in New York April 28. He spent two years in Connecticut, being employed at farm labor and in a foundry. He removed to Illinois in March, 1853, and found employment in a lumber-yard in Chicago, and continued to sort and pile lumber till his removal to Minnesota. January 27, 1856, he married Johannah Costollo, who was also born in Kerry. Mr. Donoghue came to Elba April 27, 1864, and bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 35, which he has ever since tilled. He has reduced it from a state of nature to its present improved form. The present residence was built in 1874. He has been industrious, and abstained from incurring debts for the sake of acquiring more land, and is now independent. He has always been a democrat. Himself and family are communicants in the St. Charles Roman Catholic church. There are six children, all residing in this township, as follows: Michael, born September 22, 1858; Cornelius, September 23, 1860; Patrick, April 23, 1863; Catharine, September 15, 1866, married Thomas Lynch; Daniel, October 20, 1867; John, June 28, 1870.

WILLIAM R. PARR, millwright, is a grandson of Thomas Parr, who served in the war of 1812, after which he settled in Vermont. William H., son of Thomas Parr, was born here; married Catharine Babcock, a native of the same state, and located in Bombay, Franklin county, New York, where he engaged in farming. Here was born the subject of this sketch, on March 30, 1827. He attended the common school, and assisted on the farm till seventeen years old; he then took up his trade with an uncle, and has ever



since followed it. In 1849, moved by the spirit which everywhere actuates the young American, he set out for the west to carve out a niche for himself in the arch of progress. Coming to Wisconsin, he found ample use for his talents and experience in that growing commonwealth. He planned and built the first mill at La Crosse; built saw and grist mills at Madison, Fox Lake, Menasha, Clintonville, Neenah, and numerous other points. He was married July 8, 1852, to Ellen L. Armstrong, who was born at Erie, Pennsylvania, nineteen years previous to her wedding-day. Her parents, John Armstrong and Martha Stancliff, were born in New York. In May, 1860, Mr. Parr came to Minnesota, and, going into partnership with W. R. Ellis (for whom he had previously built a mill in Menasha), built and operated a gristmill at Elgin, Wabasha county. Five years later they removed this mill to the town of Elba, this county, where it is still operated, by a son of Mr. Ellis, and known as Fair-water mill. In 1876 Mr. Parr sold his interest there, and built and operated a mill at Quincy. In 1880 he removed to St. Charles, where he owns a handsome residence on St. Charles street. He served as alderman in 1882-3, and is a prominent member of the city board of trade. In politics he is a republican, and in religious belief a Baptist; is a member of Friendship Lodge, Knights of Honor, St. Charles. Two children of this family are now living: William E. was born October 15, 1855, married Dilla Hendee, is now marshal of the city; Jennie May, October 18, 1863, resides with parents; Katie C., August 31, 1859, died before reaching six years of age. William E. Parr has one son—Robert B., born August 7, 1882.

LORENZO W. ROWLEY, farmer, is a son of Abijah Rowley, of New York, who married Ruth Forward, of Connecticut, and settled on a farm at Painted Post, Steuben county. The subject of this sketch was born here January 15, 1811. He lived the life of a farmer boy, attending the common schools. On reaching manhood he engaged in farming and lumbering. Electa D. Hazelton, to whom Mr. Rowley was married, on March 28, 1833, was born at Argyle, Vermont, February 13, 1815. She was a daughter of Elisha Hazelton and Mary Kent. In the spring of 1850 Mr. Rowley set out to find a location in the west. He settled at Oswego, Illinois, where he engaged in the lumber trade for several years. He came to this county seven years later, and bought eighty acres of land on Sec. 19, Utica, where has always been his home since. His farm is just

outside the limits of the village of Utica, and now includes 144 acres. He has a fine location, convenient to school, railroads, etc. Mr. Rowley was made postmaster very soon after his arrival in town, and held the office till 1881. He was justice of the peace for five years; is a republican. At nineteen years old he joined the Presbyterian church, and was elder of the society of that sect when organized here. On its decline, and merging in the Congregational church at St. Charles, he became a charter member in the latter. Six children of Mr. Rowley are still living. The eldest, Ambrose H., was born March 5, 1834, and died May 16, 1878, leaving a widow (formerly Catharine Everton) and three children at Aten, Nebraska. Those living are as follows: William F., August 10, 1836, married Harriet A. Knight (now deceased),—married Isabel Leflar, lives at Winona; Orinda F., April 13, 1838, married William B. Allen, and lives at Hastings, Minnesota; Mary K., May 20, 1840, married Gerry Terry, resides at Eldorado, Iowa; \*Edward A., September 1, 1842, married Harriet B. Ebersole, dwells at Mitchell, Dakota; Erastus M., August 22, 1848, Alwilda Stackhouse, resides on father's farm; Brainerd K., August 15, 1851, married Mary McGovern (now deceased),—married Ida Knudson, and now resides at Athol, Dakota,—was conductor on the Winona & St. Peter railroad twelve years.

ISAAC MARTIN, farmer, born in Pike county, Missouri, in 1843. In 1848 he moved with parents to Galena, Illinois, where he attended the public school for nine years, when he again moved with his parents to Stillwater, Minnesota, and in two years to Taylor Falls, Minnesota, where he attended school for five years. He enlisted in the Minn. Light Art. in 1864, and was discharged in 1865, since which time he has suffered severely from the consequences of exposure while in the army. In 1870 he married Miss Mary E. Murphy, born in Wisconsin in 1851, daughter of N. W. and Maria Murphy. Our subject has had by this marriage three children: Katie Lea, born 1871; Stella Ray, born 1874; Blanche Minerva, born 1879. Mr. Martin removed with his family in 1871 to Chipewewa county, town of Montevideo, where he farmed for five years, but was in 1877 driven away by the grasshoppers, and in the same year bought a farm of 120 acres in Whitewater, on Sec.

\* Enlisted in 1861, in 1st Minn. Vols. Was wounded and taken prisoner at Bull Run, and discharged; re-enlisted, and served under W. T. Sherman till close of the rebellion.

18, T. 108, R. 10, on which he has since resided. He has been twice elected supervisor, and is this year (1883) chairman of the board. He is a republican in politics, and a simple believer in religion.

WILLIAM BUCKINGHAM, farmer, son of Samuel and Thankful Buckingham, was born in Hartford county, Connecticut, in the year 1828. In 1834 he moved with his parents to Ohio, where he attended school and assisted his father on the farm. In 1852, having a small attack of the "gold fever," our subject, with forty others, formed a train under the command of Parson Herrick, and went to California, making the trip in four months, meeting no Indians nor having bad luck of any kind on the way. In California our subject worked on a ranch and part of the time in a mine. In 1857 he returned to Ohio, where he was employed in mercantile business. In 1860 he moved to Beaver, Minnesota, where he engaged in business with G. G. Knowles, keeping a general country store, and in 1864 he farmed on shares. In 1872 Mr. Buckingham again opened store in Beaver, and in 1875 bought E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, containing about eighty acres, on which he at once built a commodious frame dwelling-house, in which he has since resided. In 1862 he married Miss Margaret Drake, who was born in Oswego county, New York, in 1842, daughter of Reuben and Sophronia Drake. There are four children of this marriage, born as follows: Willis P., January, 1863; Arthur A., May 13, 1866; Brayton S., August 9, 1868; Roy W., October 2, 1873. Mr. Buckingham is a republican in politics, has been twelve times elected town clerk and once as town treasurer. In religious views he is a Congregationalist.

JOHN PLOOF, farmer, son of Alexander and Charlotte Ploof, was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1834. When only fourteen years of age he left his home in Canada and went to Burlington, Vermont, where he remained only one year, when he moved to Northfield, Vermont, and in one year again moved, this time to Goshen, Virginia. In 1853, being then nineteen years of age, he married Miss Mary Alvina Allen, daughter of Noah Allen, of Addison county, Vermont, at which place his bride was born. By this marriage he has had four children: Alfred E., born 1862; George, born 1867; Waldo R., born 1872; Orris, born 1875. In 1860 our subject left Wisconsin for Quincy, Minnesota, and in two years moved to Plainview, Minnesota. In 1863 enlisted in the 1st Minn. batt., and served two years, being discharged in July, 1865. Owing to fever

and bad food our subject during his service in the army became almost blind, and has not since recovered his sight. In the fall of 1866 he moved to Whitewater and bought a farm of eighty acres, E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 31, T. 108, R. 10, from Mr. Mitchell, and subsequently purchased from A. B. McCarty, Sec.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, T. 108, R. 10, containing eighty acres, making in all a farm of 160 acres. This farm when bought was heavily timbered, but our subject has shown great perseverance in clearing and improving it, the land being now almost entirely under cultivation. Mr. Ploof is a republican in politics, and in religion a liberal thinker.

SILAS B. PATTERSON, retired farmer, is a son of William Patterson, a soldier of the war of 1812. William Patterson married Miss Charlotte, daughter of Silas Baker, of Maine (who served the colonies throughout the revolutionary war), and settled on a farm in the town of Freeman, Franklin county, Maine, where the subject of this sketch was born, January 15, 1826. On reaching maturity Silas Patterson engaged in farming. He was married October 21, 1854, to Mary, daughter of Jesse S. Burbank and Hannah C. Ames, all of the State of Maine; Mrs. Patterson was born in Freeman, December 24, 1827. Mr. Patterson came to this county in 1861, arriving in Saratoga, April 21; here he bought 300 acres of land on Sec. 11, which he still owns; he also has 160 acres near Marshall, this state, and eighty acres in Anoca county. He lived upon and tilled his farm in Saratoga, till December, 1882, when he removed to the city of St. Charles, where he had purchased a house and six lots the year previous; he also has four acres of land in another place within the city limits. Mr. Patterson pays little attention to public affairs, but deems it his duty to vote at least at every presidential election and for the republican nominees. Himself and wife have been for thirty years members of the Freewill Baptist church. They have had four children, of whom two are now living. Here is their record: Lieuprelett, born February 7, 1856, died February 25, 1880; Charles, August 24, 1858, died at ten years old; Joseph L., October 22, 1860, lives on his father's farm in Saratoga; Almira L., February 9, 1867.

EDWARD C. ELLIS, miller, was born in Acushnet, Bristol county, Massachusetts, September 15, 1846. His father, William R. Ellis, was a son of William Ellis, both being born in Plymouth county, Massachusetts, and descended from the early English settlers of that



region. W. R. Ellis married Rhoda A. Collins, of Bristol county, who died when the infant Edward was but fifteen months old. After building flour-mills in Sheboygan and Winnebago counties, Wisconsin, W. R. Ellis came to Minnesota in 1860 and built a mill, in company with W. R. Parr, at Elgin, Wabasha county, where he became prominently identified with town affairs, serving as assessor for two years; was also chairman of Elba in 1866. During the latter year Ellis & Parr removed their mill to Sec. 5, Elba, where it is still in operation and known as Fairwater Mill. In 1870 Mr. Ellis returned to Massachusetts, where he now resides. Edward C. Ellis was reared till ten years old by an aunt, and was then brought by his father to Menasha, Wisconsin, where he attended the city schools for four years. He then removed with his father to Elgin, where he worked on a farm during the summer and attended school in winter for six years. In 1866 he went into the mill at Fairwater, where he has been occupied nearly all the time since. In 1877 Mr. Ellis removed to Dover, Nebraska, where he engaged in farming for four years. During this time he served as postmaster at Dover; was also assessor one year, and took the census of two precincts in 1880. Owing to the need of attention to his father's mill property here, Mr. Ellis returned to Fairwater in 1881 and bought a half interest in the mill, also leased his father's interest and operates it for himself. Mr. Ellis is a republican, and has been postmaster at Fairwater since the establishment of that office in April, 1882. He was married August 2, 1868, to Emma E., daughter of Nathan B. Lewis and Cynthia B. Brown, of New York. They have three children, born as follows: William L., May 28, 1869; Ida B., September 21, 1870; Claude V., December 13, 1874.

REV. EDWARD ELY was born in Upper Middletown, Connecticut, September 17, 1812. His parents, Selden and Hephsebeth (Gibson) Ely, were both natives of that state. Mr. Ely received his early education in the schools of his native state, but attended the Madison University at Hamilton, New York, where he graduated, taking both the classical and theological courses, preparatory to engaging in the profession of a minister of the Baptist church. His first location in his profession was at Milton, Pennsylvania. Mr. Ely was married in Owego, New York, April 26, 1843. His wife, Jane Wellington Barker, was born in Utica, New York, November 8, 1817. Her father was Mason Barker, a contractor on public works.

After his marriage they moved to Lancaster, Ohio, where he preached for seven years. From there he went to Wheeling, Virginia, where he remained two years; and from thence he came to Minnesota. He landed at Wabasha prairie, now city of Winona, May 4, 1852, where he has since made it his home. As an inducement for him to locate here the town proprietors gave him an acre of land, on what is now the corner of Center and Second streets, where "Ely Block" stands. He here built a residence in the fall of 1852. This was the first lathed and plastered house in the city of Winona. During the years 1852 and 1853 Elder Ely preached to the early settlers in Winona county and also at La Crosse. In this latter place he was employed in the winter of 1852-3 to conduct a protracted revival meeting. His efforts were productive of good results. Among the numerous converts baptized by him was Mons Anderson, a prominent citizen of La Crosse. For his professional labors in Minnesota Elder Ely never received any pecuniary reward. The first funeral services held in the county were conducted by him at the burial of William Christie, in 1852. The first marriage ceremony in the county was pronounced by him at his house. The parties were S. K. Thompson and Mrs. Sutherland. Elder Ely abandoned his profession as a minister of the gospel not long after he came to Minnesota, and has never attempted to resume it as a means of support. He has, however, remained an active member of the Baptist church since its organization. He was for awhile in mercantile business and in insurance and real estate transactions, but has never been steadily engaged in any special branch of business. His buildings on the corner of Center and Second streets were all swept away by the "big fire" in 1862. Elder Ely's newspaper articles of reminiscences of pioneer life have for many years interested the readers of the city papers. From the frequency of these communications he has sometimes been designated as "the old settler," and quoted as the local historian of the county. His writings and lectures on this topic have been numerous, but have never appeared in any other form than as newspaper contributions. He was a popular speaker, and was usually called out for a speech on all public gatherings. He was always prompt to respond, on every occasion, in a humorous and entertaining manner. He was the first resident postmaster in the city of Winona. The first regular mail made up and sent from this office was by him, about the first of January, 1853. He held the office until the spring of 1855. He

was for a term or two coroner of Winona county. In 1872 he was sergeant-at-arms of the senate in the state legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Ely have four children living, but none of them are residents of this county. Charles E. is married and living in Dakota Territory; Helen M., also married, and residing in Dakota. Mason B. is in Texas; and Hattie E., married, is now living in Montana Territory. Mrs. Ely has for many years been a successful portrait painter. Her studio is in Ely block, on the same locality where her residence stood in her pioneer days of 1852. In all the years of his life he never used tobacco or intoxicating liquors in any form; never was sick a day in his life, nor had a physician to feel his pulse; neither has he ever used spectacles, as his vision is unimpaired.

FATHER JOSEPH B. COTTER, pastor of St. Thomas' Catholic church, of this city, was born in Liverpool, England, November 19, 1844. His parents, Lawrence and Ann M. (Perrin) Cotter, were natives of Ross Castle, County Kerry, Ireland, and Liverpool, England, respectively. In 1849 they emigrated to America, settling first in New York, but soon after removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where they remained till 1855, and where his mother died. In that year the father, with the remaining members of his family, removed to and permanently located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Father Cotter was primarily educated in the cathedral parochial school, in St. Paul, after which he entered, as a theological student, at St. Francis' Seminary, Milwaukee, and later completed a three years' course at St. Vincent's College, in Westmoreland, Pennsylvania. Three years more were spent at the St. John's University, in Minnesota, after which he was ordained for the ministry at St. Paul, May 21, 1871, and June 9, the same year, was assigned to the pastorate of the church at Winona. The testimony of very many of the best citizens of this city is that Father Cotter has done more to advance the cause of temperance here than any other man in the city.

FATHER ALOIS HELLER, of the St. Joseph's Catholic church, of this city, was born in Austria, October 28, 1835. By the death of both parents he was left an orphan at the age of five years. At the age of fourteen years he was placed in college at Prague, the capital of Bohemia, from which, twelve years later, he was ordained a priest by Cardinal Schwartzenberg, on August 2, 1863. The six years following his ordination he applied himself to the labors of his profession in his native land, after which, in answer to a call from Father Gardener, he came to America, and soon after assumed the pastorate

of a church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and three years later was transferred to Baltimore, where he remained till called to Winona, in February, 1878. Here, as elsewhere, his untiring and zealous Christian labors have been crowned with success, and the fine church edifice erected under his care will long stand a monument to his memory.

HON. W. H. YALE, attorney-at-law, office on north side Third, between Main and Johnson streets, practice established in this city in 1857. Mr. Yale was born in New Haven, Connecticut, November 12, 1831, and completed his school studies by a three years' course in the Connecticut Literary Institution, at Suffield. Read law two years in the office of Hon. Geo. R. Cowles, of Norwalk, Connecticut, came to Winona March 28, 1857, was admitted to practice by Chief-Justice Wech, of the territorial court, in August of that year. The following spring was elected justice of the peace, the only republican on the ticket, and held that office two years. In the fall of 1859 was elected probate judge, the term of office being for one year, and upon its expiration assumed the duties of county attorney, to which he had been elected at the general election, fall of 1860, holding that office two years, and was again elected county attorney, fall of 1864, for a further term of two years. In the fall of 1866 was elected to represent his district in the state senate, served one term, and in the fall of 1869 was elected lieutenant-governor, from which office he retired at the expiration of his second term, having been re-elected in 1871. Was returned to the state senate for the two years' term, 1875-6, and since its expiration has been engaged solely in the practice of his profession. Mr. Yale has had few law partners during the more than twenty-five years of his practice at the Winona bar. He was associated with Hon. Wm. Mitchel in practice from 1867 until that gentleman went upon the bench, in 1874, and this, with the single exception of a short association in business with M. B. Webber, has been the extent of his law partnerships. Mr. Yale is married and has two sons, one a child at home, and the other, Charles B. Yale, admitted to the bar of this county in 1878, and for the past two years attorney in the general office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, at Milwaukee, in charge of the personal injury department. The ex-governor is a communicant of the Episcopal church of this city, and a senior warden of its vestry.

H. STEVENS & SON, booksellers and stationers, store on East



Third street, in Stevens block. This business was established in 1877, in its present location, and gives employment to four persons. Members of the firm are Henry Stevens and H. C. Stevens. Henry Stevens came to Winona in the fall of 1862, and established himself in drygoods trade on Second street, 4 Simpson's block. This business was conducted until 1874, from which date until the establishment of the book-house in 1877 Mr. Stevens was not in trade. In 1875 he built "Stevens Block," a three story and basement brick, stone foundations and facings, fronting 48 feet on Third street, with a depth of 90 feet; the half of the ground floor occupied with his own business. Mr. Stevens was a member of the city council during 1879-80; has been president of the board of education for the city, and since 1864 has been one of the board of trustees for the Congregational church, and a member of its building committee for the erection of the new church just completed.

BENJAMIN ELLSWORTH, Utica, the model farmer of Winona county, was born in the State of Maine, in Franklin county, July 8, 1826. His parents, William and Polly (Dolbier) Ellsworth, were also natives of Maine, and were born toward the close of the last century, and are now buried in their native state. They were the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters. The former was of English ancestry, as his grandfather with two brothers emigrated to this country from England in the early part of the seventeenth century, and settled in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont respectively. Benjamin, the subject of this brief sketch, was reared on the farm and educated in the common schools of his native state. Soon after he became of age, ambition and an enterprising spirit led him and his brother Amos D. to California, where for five and a-half years they successfully engaged in mining, after which they returned to their old home. Soon after his return from California Mr. Ellsworth made a prospecting tour as far west as St. Paul, Minnesota, and the same fall (1857) went to Waupun, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the grain trade till 1863, when he removed to Winona, Minnesota, and continued to deal in grain here till the completion of the Winona & St. Peter railroad as far west as his farm in Utica township. The farm is located on Secs. 18 and 19, T. 106, R. 9, and was bought by Mr. Ellsworth in 1860. On his removal to his farm he at once built a warehouse, which has continued to be a market for grain at that point. It may be here stated that Mr. Ellsworth shipped the first carload of wheat in

bulk sent over the road. Mr. Ellsworth also platted the village of Utica, and a few years ago built his fine and stately residence a few rods north of the village, and has since his residence here been actively engaged in stock-raising and farming. In his pastures can always be found good grades (and some thorough-bred stock) of cattle, horses, sheep and swine. He is, no doubt, the most extensive and intelligent farmer and stock-raiser in the county, and a large land owner in and out of the county, all of which is the result of honest industry, good management and close attention to business. November 29, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Emma G. Campbell, also a native of Franklin county, Maine, by whom he has an interesting and healthy family of four children, whose names, in the order of their birth, are Frank W., Vesta E., Ethlin M. and Osman B.

ROBERT MORGENEIER, artist and photographer; reception-rooms and studio at 11 and 13 Second street, Winona, Minnesota. The business was established by the present proprietor and his then partner, Mr. Leopold Weiskopf lately deceased. The gallery has, as regards dimensions, appointments and equipments, few equals, and no superiors, that is, of galleries devoted entirely to private portraiture. The large and increasing patronage enjoyed is an assurance that fine work finds proper recognition everywhere. Photography has made such rapid strides toward the realm of high art, that the best results of a few years ago can in no way endure comparison with the brilliant productions of a thorough artist of to-day. To make photographs acceptable, to many is not a very serious matter, but to produce such work as will impress even a casual observer with their artistic beauty is another thing. The capability of producing such results emanates from a thorough knowledge of and training in the elements of high art. The rising and successful photographer of the day must be an adept with pencil and brush aside of his experience in practical photography. Mr. Morgeneier is fortunate in being one of a family of artists, and from childhood's years a pupil of his father, Mr. John W. Morgeneier, a gentleman prominent in art and photographic circles. Since in Winona, Mr. Morgeneier has, aside of attending his many sittings in gallery, found time to finish a number of brush pictures that merit universal approval. A constant contributor to the literature of his profession, he has been accorded the honor of being placed upon the list of authorities upon matters pertaining to photography,

(See "Wilson's photographic," Bennerman and Wilson, publishers, Philadelphia, 1881). In the regular gallery work he has five assistants, and everything moves with the regularity of clockwork. In a visit to this fine establishment ample recompense will be found in examining the work therein displayed. Patrons or visitors are assured of equal polite reception.

CHARLES GERNES, an early resident of this county first landed in Winona, November 9, 1854. At that time but few white settlers enjoyed what might be termed houses, but rather existed in shanties little better than the Indian tepees, which were then numerous where the gem city of Winona now stands. Mr. Gernes is a native of that part of Holland which, by conquest in later years, became a part of the kingdom of Belgium. He was born April 2, 1816, and early in life learned the trade of tanner. In 1840 he married Miss Mary Lebotec, a native of Holland, and conducted the business of his trade till 1850, when in the capacity of counsel or superintendent he brought to this country a colony of 160 families, all of whom he located at Green Bay, Wisconsin. The ocean passage was made in the sailing-vessel Tuskena, and occupied a period of sixty-two days. From his arrival in America till his settlement in Winona Mr. Gernes resided in Delaware county, New York, in the community of a French colony that had previously located there. For many years after his advent into Winona county Mr. Gernes devoted the most of his time to locating land-seekers, and early became acquainted with all parts of this and adjoining counties, passing many nights out on the open prairie. His first wife died in 1856, and his second marriage was in 1857, to Mary Millaerd. She was a native of Belgium, and for a time a governess in the family of Col. Benton, whose wife was a daughter of John C. Calhoun, well known in American political circles. She died in this city in 1873. Mr. Gernes has several times visited Europe, and looks back with much pleasure to the happiness these trips afforded him, and especially to the season of 1878, when he visited his old Holland home, accompanied by his children. That year he frequently met General Grant, while that distinguished American citizen was making a tour of the world. His children are: Theodora, born in Europe, and Anna F. and Bernard A., born in this country. The latter is now engaged in merchandising in the dry goods and clothing line, in his new brick business-house, on the corner of Second

and Market streets. He is also handling farm machinery, including self-binding harvesters.

PROFESSOR HERMANN ROHWEDER, leader of the Germania band of this city, is a native of Holstein, Prussia. He is a son of George Rohweder, and was born May 3, 1842. At the age of seven he began the study of music, and soon developed a taste and proficiency in music which gave promise of a bright future. Early in the spring of 1857 he, with his father, brother William and a sister Mary, sailed from Hamburg for America in the steamship Borussia, and landed in Winona late in May. Soon after his arrival here he made an effort to organize a band, associating with himself Prof. Story and a few others. Their first instruments were a harp and violin. The former was made here, and is still owned by Prof. Story, though he has since purchased an instrument of that kind at a cost of \$800. From this small beginning the Professor has succeeded in making the Germania band of Winona a permanent institution and the best organization of the kind in southern Minnesota. They first started as the North Star band, but some years later assumed their present name. The company contains fourteen expert players, and the estimated value of their instruments and fixtures is \$5,000. Prof. Rohweder is a gentleman who thoroughly understands his profession, and is a competent instructor on all horn and string instruments. He was married in 1863, to Miss Margaret Dickmann, also a native of Holstein, and has one child living.

MICHAEL HANLEY, street commissioner of Winona, was born in Tipperary, Ireland, and in infancy was brought by his parents to Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. His father, who was a carpenter by trade, died soon after their arrival in Canada, and four years later his mother died of cholera. In July, 1856, our subject, with a younger brother Martin and sister Maria, came to Winona. In 1867 he was married to Miss Margaret Carney, a native of County Sligo, Ireland, by whom he has five children, whose names are Mary A., Margaret, Elizabeth, Thomas and Genevieve. He and his wife are members of the St. Thomas Catholic church of this city, and he is a member and faithful worker in the Father Mathew Society, and a member of the Catholic Knights of America.

DR. JOHN D. FORD (deceased) was born at Cornish, New Hampshire, April 18, 1816. He graduated at Dartmouth College, and subsequently from the medical college of the city of Philadelphia, in 1843. Soon after he commenced the practice of medicine at Nor-



wich, Connecticut, and early attained a high position, ranking with the very first among his professional brethren. While a resident of Norwich he was warmly interested in the educational institutions of that city, and labored earnestly in behalf of its common schools. Excessive devotion to his professional labors, however, produced a sensible effect upon his delicate constitution, and after a successful practice of about eleven years he was compelled to seek a climate more congenial to his health, and he came to Winona, in 1856, while our young city was just emerging from the wilderness. He here assumed his practice, which soon became extensive and successful in the highest degree. But the same earnest devotion to his work, which was an eminent characteristic of Dr. Ford's, and which is indispensable to all who would lead in the development of great enterprises, soon began to tell upon his frail constitution, and he was compelled to relinquish the practice of his profession and turn his attention to pursuits better suited to the condition of his health. Accordingly he accepted the agency of several of the old and responsible insurance companies of the east; with his great organizing and executive abilities, his quick and clear perceptions, and good judgment, he within a short time established extensive and important business relations between these companies and the citizens of this state. Bringing with him to his western home the same earnest interest in the cause of education which he had felt in New England, he early identified himself with the history and progress of the common school system of this city and state. His work was a pioneer work, so to speak. It was undertaken at a time when there was no public sentiment to sustain such efforts, and when there were difficulties and prejudices to be encountered which often appal the stoutest hearts. But the crowning labors in the life of this great and good man are those which he has so unselfishly and nobly given toward the establishment of the great normal school system of this state. Dr. Ford was, no doubt, the first to propose this comprehensive plan for the preparation of teachers, without which all other efforts for the education of the masses must be comparatively valueless. Few men in our country yet appreciate the great idea symbolized and represented by these institutions for the training of those who were to become the missionaries and instructors of the masses. He believed, with Horace Mann, that "coiled up within this institution is a spring whose uncoiling may wheel the spheres." Hence his faith in its power for good

amounted almost to inspiration. It is a foregone conclusion that but for his labors the normal school of this state would not now be in existence. While others have despaired he has believed, when others were indifferent and inactive he labored, and not until he beheld it a fixed fact—not until he foresaw it clearly expanding into the fullness of its power and usefulness—not until he felt the premonitions of failing mortality, and a growing necessity for repose from the cares of life,—did he relinquish his place at the helm where he so nobly stood through the last eight dubious years. His work in the city of Winona will be through all the coming generations a monument to his farseeing intelligence, and to his generous regard for the future welfare and greatness of his adopted state. In his relations to it he belongs to the state, and the generous people of the state will ever cherish as one of its best friends and noblest benefactors. He died October 29, 1867, and was buried in Woodlawn cemetery, near the beautiful city he so much loved, and a few years later his devoted wife followed him to the same last resting-place. The normal school board and the board of trade both passed and entered on their files suitable resolutions of respect to their honored dead.

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## CHAPTER LX.

### WINONA AS IT IS.

THE substructure of Winona's prosperity was laid when she reached out her hand to the immense grain fields that were waiting to pour their golden plenty into the lap of commerce, and drew them within the circle of her distributive facilities. This act of wisdom was accomplished when she voluntarily laid tribute upon her own pocket-book, and made a highway across the sloughs and over the bluffs along which the grain wagons of the interior could reach the market she had opened on the shores of the great river. Like the Dakota of the present, the Minnesota of twenty-five years ago was the land of promise to the prospective wheat-grower. In 1850 the actual population of the state was but 5,350, and Winona had not received her first permanent settler. Five years later the estimated population was 50,000 souls, and Winona was becoming

known as the seat of the United States land office and an aspirant for future honors as the coming commercial capital of the southern part of the state. Two years later and the little city had taken on civic honors, her first charter election held, and it was manifest that her population was not less than 3,000. Two years more and the product of the grain fields of the state had outgrown the demand of home consumption, and the golden stream that poured across her eastern frontier to find a market in the older east began to be measured. The acreage of wheat that year was 124,792 acres, and the number of bushels harvested 2,374,415. To consume this product there was a population of about 170,000. At the usual estimate of nine bushels per head of the population, the home consumption would be, in round numbers, about 1,300,000 bushels, leaving for export of that year's crop a little in excess of 1,050,000 bushels, and of this amount Winona exported 405,000 bushels. The exports of the crop of 1858 were about one-third of that amount, and of this 130,000 bushels were forwarded by Winona grain-dealers. The returns from year to year show that Winona did not lose her hold on the grain trade of the state. The following carefully compiled table, made by the editor of the "Winona Daily Republican," D. Sinclair, Esq., shows the Winona wheat shipments for a series of years:

Years.	Bushels.	Years.	Bushels.
1859.....	130,000	1867.....	2,348,759
1860.....	405,000	1868.....	2,432,086
1861.....	993,133	1869.....	3,769,736
1862.....	1,203,161	1870.....	3,159,716
1863.....	1,251,830	1871.....	3,167,672
1864.....	1,854,795	1872.....	3,773,142
1865.....	2,543,146	1873.....	5,811,843
1866.....	3,256,482		

The last two or three years' compilation included the entire grain shipments over the Winona & St. Peter railroad, and as it was almost impossible longer to keep the run of the actual shipments from first hands, the compilation was discontinued. In 1868, when the grain shipments reached as per above table, the amount of 2,432,086 bushels, Winona rated as the fourth primary grain market in the United States, Chicago, Milwaukee and Toledo alone leading her in this respect. No pains were spared to center this immense grain trade at this distributing point, and this intelligent effort was crowned with such success that it soon raised Winona to the very front rank of Minnesota cities, and gave her an impetus in the way

of progress that has tided her over the shoals of two seasons of financial depression into the haven of assured prosperity. During the ten days ended July 24, 1875, the shipments of wheat from Winona were 100,000 bushels. Until railway communication was established with the eastern markets, that is, for about twelve years from the opening up of the export trade in wheat at this point, all shipments were by river, and the scene along the Winona levee during the months that navigation was open was indeed a busy one. This new industry came most opportunely to Winona, at a time when she was just recovering from the financial depression of 1857-8, and under its impulse and the returning prosperity her population almost doubled in the five years from 1860 to 1865, notwithstanding the nation was involved in bitter and protracted civil war during almost that entire period. During the next five years she more than doubled her population, and was conceded without question the third place in importance and population in Minnesota. As was natural, the growth of the little settlement on Wabasha prairie began along the front of the great river whose current, unused for ages by larger craft than the canoe of the aborigines, had of late years felt the ploughing keels of mightier craft, and borne the burdens of a growing commerce. The dedication of the original plat, among other reservations, for public use and pleasure, stipulated for a levee stretching along the sandy, gravelly margin of the river for about 2,000 feet, from Walnut street on the east to Washington street on the west, and running back from the river to Front street. The foot of Center street touched this public levee as nearly as possible in the center, as its name indicates. Fronting this levee, almost at its eastern extremity, the cabins of the pioneers and the shanties of the first merchants were clustered in the early days of 1852-3. Later, the warehouses of the grain-dealers clustered around the outskirts of the levee, and the whole face of trade was turned toward the Father of Waters, whose broad tide floated the commercial ventures of the growing metropolis of southwestern Minnesota.

The same year that saw the land office established here witnessed the erection of the first sawmill on the river bank east of the public levee, and the following year a planing-mill was added. Following these, in the same year that the city was incorporated, Laird & Norton's mill and Youman Bros' mill were erected, and the lumber manufactures of the city took form. These latter establishments are still in vigorous existence, each year, almost, adding to



their facilities and stiffening the financial backbone created out of comparatively nothing by the successful management of the business itself. This interest has grown with the growth of the city, and new enterprises of a similar character multiplied until the manufacture of plain and dressed lumber has attained a value over \$2,500,000 per annum. The manufacture of flour, a comparatively recent industry, was early begun by the building of the Fogg mill, at the extreme west end of the town plat, in 1856. The mill was not a success, and for nearly twenty years thereafter the great grain market of Minnesota did not manufacture flour for her own consumption. The building of the L. C. Porter mill in 1874 was the beginning of the milling enterprise of the city, which in the short space of eight years has reached a production of over half a million barrels of flour per annum. The new impetus given trade by the general interest taken in the establishment of manufacturing concerns of all kinds—as wagons, plows, carriages, machinery, agricultural implements, harvesting machines—has been most marked during the past four years, within which period the city has more than doubled her manufacturing capital and her manufactured products of all kinds, besides creating new channels for her industries and marvelously multiplying her resources. In all this the citizens, whose business energy and foresight have built up so prosperous a business, have not forgotten the arts of beautifying the city and rendering its exterior pleasant and attractive. As was to be expected, the wisdom that stretched its constructive hand over the bottomless sloughs and rugged bluffs that environed the city, and made over and across them a highway for the freightage of a vast inland district, that wisdom did not neglect the home necessities of broad streets, good crossings, sidewalks and shade. When the first settlement was made at this point there was one solitary tree on the great Wabasha flat. To-day, not thirty-two years later, the city of 13,000 population is literally embowered in shade, and her streets and public parks and private grounds are vast reaches and masses of vivid greenness, the luxuriant foliage rustling most pleasantly in the summer south winds, and shutting out the burning glances of the mid-day sun, so severely felt in this high latitude. The three parks, Central, First and Third Ward parks, as they are respectively designated, were dedicated to the city by the original owners of the town plat. Central park lies just to the east of Center street, and between Fifth and Broadway streets. It occupies a square of 300 feet,

crossed transversely by broad paths of hard gravel, the rest of the ground covered with a beautiful carpet of rich green sod, which is kept close shaven, and with the shade-trees preserved from the hand and foot of vandalism, without being denied a free enjoyment to all civilized beings. The band-stand is placed near the center of the park, and on Friday evenings the square presents a most enlivening appearance. On this evening, during the summer season, an open-air concert is given, and the broad, well-sprinkled streets surrounding the park are literally crammed with carriages, as are the sidewalks with camp-stools, promenaders, baby-carriages, bicycles and other indications that the city is taking its ease. These concerts are provided for at the public expense, privately arranged for, and are a delightful feature of the summer attractions of the place.

When the great fire of 1862 swept clean the business of the place, and so many presaged the death of the young city, it was in fact but the clearing away of the old wooden structures, that upon their unsightly ruins might be laid the substantial foundations of the solid blocks of brick and mortar that have risen in their place. This work of building has kept pace with the growing prosperity of the city, until to-day whole blocks of solid brick stretch along the main business thoroughfares of the city, and give an air of substantialness and permanency to the trade of the city, thoroughly in keeping with the confidence, everywhere felt by her capital and trade, that this permanency is real. The residence portion of the city is also most creditable to the taste of the citizens, and evidences the pride they feel in the city they have built. Elegant dwellings, spacious grounds, velvet lawns, charming beds of color in flower and foliage are found all along the principal residence streets; and outside these grounds the ornamentation is continued in broad borders of greensward, extending from the sidewalks toward the center of the street from ten to twelve feet, and rising above the driveway from ten to twelve inches. The sod on these borders is kept as closely shaven and well watered as the lawns, and the whole effect most grateful and cooling to the senses as one walks or drives along the thoroughfare in the delicious fragrance of an early summer evening. The public buildings (with the single exception of the court-house, which time will some day remedy) are a credit to the city. The state normal school, erected at a cost of \$165,000, occupies two full blocks in a charming situation, well back from the river, and its grounds are most delightfully laid out, unfenced, and always kept

green and fresh during the growing season. The high school building and the ward schools each occupy a full block, and the spacious grounds are kept in most excellent condition. The ample roominess of these grounds, and the provision made for the comfort of the children, as well on the play-grounds as within the school-rooms, are a noticeable feature of the Winona public schools. As in her schools, so in her churches Winona has taken a most commendable pride. The Catholics, Episcopalians, Congregationalists, Presbyterians and Methodists have all that could be required in this direction. The Episcopal and Congregational churches are built of solid stone, and the latter of these structures, erected in 1882, is really a poem in stone, an architectural gem in granite. The bend in the river at this point has placed Winona within a pocket in the bluffs, and looking out in any direction your eye rests on the surrounding heights, rising above the spires of the city and overlooking every object of interest. Across Winona lake lies Woodlawn cemetery, that beautiful city of the silent, than which no more quiet resting-place, in which to sleep after life's fitful fever is over, can well be found. It lies just within a little upland vale, and encroaching very perceptibly upon the rugged steeps that inclose the little valley on the west. Here the ground has been terraced and sodded, and broken into irregular forms, and in all things made to preserve its character as the dear resting-place for the weary when the dreamless sleep into which life sooner or later quiets itself shall come. The morning beams salute the faces of the terraces as the sun climbs the eastern sky and peers over the bluff in the orient. The midday sun warms the cool shadiness and penetrates each leafy nook and green retreat, the westering sun retires behind the height up which the terraced mounds are built, and his long shadows fall like the hovering wings of peace, regretful to depart, over the beautiful resting-place of Winona's dreamless sleepers. Turning from the quiet of Woodlawn to the bustling activities of the city, without more particularly noting the stages of her growth, her magnificent system of water-works, or aught else connected with her public spirit or private ways, leaving unsaid all so easily inferred, the growing wealth of her citizens, the superior character of her public schools, the intelligence of her people, the social culture of her homes, the healthfulness of her atmosphere, the beauty of her surroundings, and the charming views of natural scenery alternating in wood and water colors; we close this article

with the following summary of business improvements for the year 1882.

The erection of the pumping-works and standpipe for the water supply of the city, \$60,000; the Wisconsin Ferry road, \$15,000; churches erected and repairs made, \$35,200, of which amount \$22,000 was expended in the erection of St. Joseph's (Catholic) church, corner of Fifth and Walnut streets; school grounds, \$7,500; the state normal, \$5,000; city schools, \$2,000; business blocks, \$35,000, of which \$12,000 is for the erection of Wakefield's block, corner of Center and Fourth streets. It contains by odds the finest drygoods salesroom in the city. Elevators and warehouses, \$25,000; Krundick & Co. having expended \$15,000 for their new elevator, corner Front and Lafayette streets. The expenditures for improvements by manufacturers for buildings and machinery were: Youmans, Hodgins & Brothers, \$34,000; Laird, Norton & Co., \$21,000; The Winona Lumber Co., \$61,000; The Winona Wagon Works, \$27,500; The L. C. Porter Milling Co., \$14,000; The Bohn Manufacturing Company, \$9,000; The Winona Mill Company, \$5,500; Empire Lumber Company, \$8,000; Schroth & Ahren, \$4,000; The Gate City Carriage Works, \$3,000; The Winona Plow Works, \$2,000; Noonan & Stetwagen, \$1,000; to planing-mill and other manufacturers smaller amounts, the whole aggregating \$194,000. The number of dwellings erected and substantially enlarged was about 130, while many others were more or less improved. The aggregate expenditures for this work footed \$200,000. The finest residences erected being those of Charles Horton and William Garlock, the former costing \$10,000, the latter \$7,000. The sum of \$3,000 was expended in improving the gasworks and extending the mains; \$6,000 on railway improvements; \$21,000 on suburban, and about \$20,000 that it would be difficult to catalogue, making a grand total in building improvement for the year of \$622,000, a little more than double the volume of 1881. The bank reports for the same period, 1882, show loans and discounts, \$1,009,214; deposits, \$1,042,457; interests, \$83,581; exchange, \$8,754; giving a total of \$2,144,006.

The summary of the year's trade, and its increase over that of 1881, is as follows :



BUSINESS.	AMOUNT 1882.	INCREASE.
Agricultural implements.....	\$ 59,947	\$ .....
Boots and shoes.....	87,500	6,500
Books and stationery.....	85,000	28,440
Baking and confectionery.....	40,000	3,500
Barrels.....	105,000	35,000
Carriages and sleighs.....	41,682	.....
Clothing and furnishing goods.....	283,500	.....
Crockery.....	64,388	14,389
Coal.....	25,000	5,000
Cigars and tobacco.....	100,000	75,000
Drugs, paints and oils.....	105,320	.....
Dry goods, wholesale and retail.....	556,276	141,276
Drayage.....	17,000	2,000
Furniture.....	24,808	.....
Flour.....	2,200,000	320,000
Groceries, wholesale and retail.....	550,350	.....
Guns, ammunition, etc.....	7,000	.....
Hotels and restaurants.....	125,000	10,500
Hides, pelts, leather and findings.....	112,783	62,783
Harness, saddles, collars.....	53,000	41,600
Horses, livery, sale, exchange.....	71,600	.....
Hardware.....	246,000	13,000
Insurance premiums.....	51,888	.....
Jewelry, watches, etc.....	50,000	15,000
Lumber.....	2,574,229	1,450,395
Musical instruments.....	27,013	17,013
Millinery goods.....	24,000	500
Meats, fresh and cured.....	189,000	118,000
Marble works.....	9,500	.....
Printing and publishing.....	56,000	31,029
Photography and art goods.....	23,500	10,000
Sash, doors, blinds, etc.....	234,500	.....
Sewing machines.....	29,262	29,262
Variety goods.....	40,000	4,500
Wagons.....	135,000	85,000
Wines, liquors and beer, wholesale.....	184,000	69,500
Wheat, barley, oats, purchased in this market.....	1,433,000	1,193,451
Miscellaneous business.....	100,000	.....
Total.....	10,099,046	3,324,319

The summary for the whole—trade, banking business, buildings and improvements, given us for 1882—is \$12,865,053. Increase over 1881, \$5,097,251. These figures are supposed to be official and correct, being from the Board of Trade report for the current year 1882.

The number of bushels of grain handled here, shipped at or through this point by Winona dealers, or converted into flour for shipment, for the year ending with this summary, May 30, 1883, and estimated for the months of June and July, are :

Wheat.....	2,998,582
Barley.....	1,640,100
Oats.....	178,000
Corn.....	11,500
Total.....	4,828,182

## COUNCIL ACTS.

The proceedings of the city council in most matters of general interest connected with city affairs have been sufficiently indicated in treating of the various departments of this municipality. There are, however, some facts remaining unnoted, or cursorily alluded to, that are of sufficient historical importance to require a place in this record. On November 28, 1868, the city council, by an ordinance passed on that date, and duly published, contracted with the La Crosse, Trempeleau & Prescott railway to deliver to that company the bonds of the city of Winona, to the amount of \$100,000, rate of interest and time of maturity of bonds duly specified, as also the conditions upon which the bonds should become payable, with the stipulation that if these conditions were not met, the bonds should be returned to the mayor of the city and canceled. The material condition on the part of the company was made the construction of a railway from La Crosse, in Wisconsin, to a point on the Mississippi river opposite Winona, and the erection of a railway bridge at this point to unite the tracks of the La Crosse, Trempeleau & Prescott railway with those of the Winona & St. Peter railway in this city, thus affording an outlet to the trade of Winona by rail to the eastern markets. This accomplished, \$75,000 of the bonds were to be delivered to the railway company, and the other \$25,000 when the railway company should construct a track along Front street, from the depot of the Winona & St. Peter railway to Chatfield street, in the eastern part of the city. The franchises of this railway corporation subsequently passed into the hands of the Winona & St. Peter Railway Company, and on March 1, 1869, the city council passed an ordinance authorizing the Winona & St. Peter railway to lay down and operate the track on Front street, under certain conditions, which if fulfilled should be accepted as a performance of the previous contract between the city and the La Crosse & Trempeleau company. The time at which the track was to be laid and the bridge built having expired, and the work remaining undone, the bonds were forfeited to the city and returned. This ordinance contained the following section: "Sec. 10. The city council of the city of Winona shall have the right to amend this ordinance at pleasure, and from time to time make such rules and regulations regarding the mode of using and operating said track (on Front street) as they may deem necessary for the safety and good order of the city." Some immaterial amendments were made

to the ordinance that same year. The conditions as to time not having been fulfilled, November 4, 1872, the council revised the ordinance and indefinitely extended the time of constructing the track. August 25, 1873, the city council amended this railway ordinance by the addition of the following section: "Said track shall on such terms and for such compensation as may be reasonable and just, be subject to the use of any railroad company upon which authority for such use may hereafter be conferred by the city council." All subsequent amendments to this railway ordinance contain the same provision stipulating for use of tracks by any other authorized railway company. It would appear from this that the qualifying clause restricting the right of the Winona & St. Peter railway to absolutely control the track on Front street was not in the original ordinance of 1869, but in an amendment made thereto three and a half years thereafter. On this point there is a confliction of statement, the city attorney, who drafted the ordinance of 1869, declaring positively that the restricting clause, purporting to be made as an amendment, was in the original draft of that instrument, and was a material part of the ordinance of 1869. To determine this question, which is certainly one of possible importance, a search was made for the original transcript of the ordinance in the archives of the city council, but neither that document nor the book of ordinances, in which it should be found engrossed, can be discovered. For some reason the first volume of the ordinances of the Winona city council has disappeared from the council-chamber, and its whereabouts remains at present unknown.

This history is not as important in itself as it becomes taken in connection with the most important suit at civil law the city of Winona has ever been a party to, and on account of which the city of Winona has oftentimes been charged with repudiating her obligations. This suit, in which the city of Winona was plaintiff, was brought to secure judgment against the Minnesota Construction Company in the sum of \$125,000 damages sustained by the city on account of the construction company having unlawfully secured possession of the bonds of the city to the amount of \$100,000. These bonds had been voted at a special election ordered by the council, and held on April 21, 1870, as provided by act of legislature of March 2, authorizing the issue of \$100,000 bonds to aid in the construction of the St. Paul & Chicago railway. On April 23, of that same year, the council of the city contracted with the

Minnesota Railway Company to deliver to them the bonds of the city to the amount of \$100,000, conditioned in effect upon the following terms: Either in their own name, or that of their successors or assigns, or in the name of the St. Paul & Chicago Railway Company, the Minnesota Construction Company were to build and equip a good and substantial railway from the city of St. Paul to the city of Winona, put it into operation within three years from the date of contract, and connect at Winona by bridge or ferry with the La Crosse, Trempeleau & Prescott railroad. The agreement thus entered into expressly stipulated for the return of the bonds, which were to be placed in the hands of a depository, if the road was not built according to contract; it being further provided that "in no case shall the said bonds, or any part thereof, be delivered by said depository to the said Minnesota Railway Construction Company until a truss railroad bridge is constructed across the Mississippi river at Winona, connecting the said St. Paul & Chicago railway or the Winona & St. Peter railway with the La Crosse, Trempeleau & Prescott railroad, at the present terminus of the last-named railroad." This terminus was across the river in Minnesota, at a point north of the foot of Washington street in this city. The road was built by the construction company within the time specified in their contract, to a point just within the western limits of the city, where it connected by switch-tracks with line of the Winona & St. Peter railway, over whose lines it reached the terminus of that road near the foot of Washington street. From this point it crossed the river on a Howe truss bridge to the terminus of the La Crosse, Trempeleau & Prescott railroad on the Wisconsin side of the river. The tresslework over the street leading to the terminus of the railroad bridge from the Winona & St. Peter railroad was built by this latter road under authority of a franchise granted by the city council, May 8, 1871. The Minnesota Construction Company having accomplished their work as stated, made application to the depository of the bonds, H. Thompson, Esq. (cashier of the First National Bank of St. Paul), for their delivery, and, in order to secure immediate possession of them, covenanted to indemnify the depository for any loss he might sustain by virtue of their delivery. Upon this, without notifying the city council, the bonds were surrendered by Mr. Thomson to the construction company, and were by them negotiated and sold. The city council refused to pay the coupons maturing, and suit was brought against



the city by N. A. Cowdry, in the United States circuit court at St. Paul, in May, 1873, for the sum of \$12,000, Mr. Cowdry claiming to be a bona-fide purchaser of the bonds of city. The city defended the suit, Hon. Thomas Wilson, ex-justice of the supreme court, conducting, being employed as counsel. The verdict was for the plaintiff.

Pending the result of a rehearing of this suit in the higher courts, Judge Wilson advised the city to acknowledge its liability for the bonds, and bring suit against the construction company for damages in fraudulently converting the bonds to their own use; the city claiming that in no sense within the meaning of the contract had the road been built to make a continuous connection between St. Paul and Chicago, through the city of Winona, as was the understanding of the city when she issued her bonds as a consideration for such continuous railway connection. The suggestion of the counsel for the corporation was taken, and suit for damages to the extent of \$125,000 begun. The parties to the suit mutually agreeing to have the case tried where a more impartial hearing might be had than in either Winona or St. Paul, the case was called before Judge Samuel Lord, of the fifth judicial district of Minnesota, at Owatonna, Steele county, June 25, 1876. The case was argued before the court only, the counsel mutually agreeing to dispense with a jury, and the decision was for the plaintiff. Motion was then made by the attorneys of the construction company for a new trial. This motion was overruled, whereupon an appeal was taken to the supreme court. Case came before the supreme court October 17, 1877, and an opinion rendered by Judge Cornell, reversing the decision of the lower court and ordering a new trial. The grounds on which this decision was rendered not being considered fatal to a successful issue of the case, Judge Wilson prepared for a new trial, and asked leave to amend his pleadings. Motion to amend was granted, an appeal from that decision taken to the supreme court, who sustained the order to amend, and the case came up for trial before Judge O. P. Stearns, of Duluth, whom Judge Lord had requested to try the case, there being no jury empaneled. The trial began March 4, 1879, and as ably argued as it could be by the most distinguished counsel in the state. The case was taken under advisement by the judge, who rendered his decision on July 29 of that year, in favor of the plaintiff. Motion for a new trial was made by defendants before

Judge Stearns—motion denied, and appeal taken from the order of the court, denying new trial, to the supreme court, which affirmed the order. Plaintiff then entered judgment for the amount of damages with costs, and defendants appealed from the judgment. The supreme court affirmed the judgment. Defendants then moved for a reargument of the whole case before the supreme court. The motion was granted; the case argued before the supreme court, who reaffirmed the judgment of the lower court. The amount recovered by the city in this action was \$182,650, and included bonds, interests and cost of suit. By this decision of the supreme court all accounts for payment of bonds by bona-fide purchasers were rendered unnecessary, the city paying the bonds as they were presented, the Minnesota Construction Company having returned the greater part, which had never been negotiated. In the amended pleadings above alluded to the counsel employed by the city alleged additional non-fulfilment of contract by the construction company, in that, while the contract called for the building of a Howe truss bridge across the Mississippi river, to connect the railway tracks on the Minnesota and Wisconsin shores of the river, so much of the bridge as carried the railroad tracks above the sandbar in front of the city was built on piles. From after developments the conclusion seems justified that the Minnesota Construction Company were hardly acting in good faith with the city, and that the bridge contract was more in the interests of the Winona & St. Peter road, and the system of lines of which it afterward became a part, than in that of the St. Paul & Chicago road; or, if not that, that this latter road, having in prospect the bridging of the Mississippi river at North La Crosse, and a continuous road through that city from St. Paul eastward, had only availed themselves of the tracks of the La Crosse, Trempeleau & Prescott railway, and the Winona & St. Peter's lines within the Winona city limits as a temporary expedient for which the building of the bridge was a necessity. (For history of the railway construction see railway article.)

By act of the city council May 22, 1883, an ordinance was passed granting to T. T. Hayden, John A. Mathews, Royal D. Cone, C. H. Porter, Charles Horton, and their associates, successors and assigns, the exclusive right and authority, for a term of twenty-five years, from June 1, 1883, to lay down, maintain and operate lines of street railway within the corporate limits of the city, along such streets, alleys, etc., as the city should permit, and to operate

them by other power than steam, subject to certain conditions, the more important of which were, substantially, that the tracks were to conform to the street grades as now or hereafter established; that the rails should be laid in such manner as to offer the least possible obstruction to carriages crossing them, and the street crossings planked on both sides of the rails and between them wherever required by the council; that these rails should be laid as nearly as possible in the center of the streets and alleys traversed, and the track be of such width and laid in such manner as that ordinary road wagons and carriages could run upon them most readily; that over all bridges having double roadways there should be a track laid in each roadway, if required by the council; that over paved streets the track within the line should correspond to that on both sides thereof, and that the city should not be liable for damages on account of stoppage of travel during the repairing of streets, alleys, bridges, etc., construction of sewers, gas or watermains, unless the same was unreasonably delayed. A license fee, to be determined by the council, was to be paid into the treasury of the city on or before June 1 in each year, for every car put upon the tracks and operated by the company, and in case of non-payment a penalty was to attach. The company were furthermore required to place a sufficient number of cars upon their lines to accommodate the traveling public, the night cars to carry signal lamps and the animals used to have a bell attached. The maximum rate of speed was fixed at seven miles per hour, and the maximum cost of fare five cents over line and its extensions within the city, except when cars are chartered for a special purpose. The city guaranteed the company against obstructions and interference in running their cars, by giving them prior right of way over all their tracks, and imposing a fine of from \$5 to \$50 and costs of prosecution for every violation of this stipulation. It was also provided that in case the company failed to operate any of their tracks or extensions, or to lay down new lines on such streets as the council should require, then such failure of the company should be a forfeiture of the whole of the neglected line and its extensions, and the council might grant authority to others to build new lines or operate the neglected one, as the case might be. The company were given five days from the date of the ordinance to file their acceptance of the conditions, and a certain number of miles of track were to be laid before the close of the present year. The track to be laid this year was to be from the point where the

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad now crosses Fifth street to Chatfield street, and another line running from the present passenger depot of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road to the depot of the Chicago & Northwestern road. The first-named line will traverse the city from west to east, along such streets as the city council shall designate, that from the Winona Wagon Co's works in the extreme west of the city to some terminus one block east of the macadamized road leading to Sugar Loaf Bluff, a total distance of about two and a half miles. The line connecting the railway depots will intersect this first-mentioned line at right angles, traversing the city from north to south, a distance of one and a quarter miles. It will obviate all necessity for further reference to this matter to add that the day following the passage of the above ordinance the street railway company promptly filed their acceptance of the conditions and limitations expressed in the ordinance with city recorder, and entered upon the construction of their lines.

#### WATER-WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The Winona water-works, though of recent establishment, are a just source of pride to her citizens, and have called forth the most eulogistic approval from as competent authority on hydraulics as is to be found in the United States. The friends of the movement, however, had a hard up-hill fight, lasting for a period of ten years, before they were able to accomplish their object and secure the needed supply of water for fire protection and street and domestic purposes. A brief sketch of these efforts will very properly preface a description of the present water-works system of the city.

Early in the summer of 1869 the question of an adequate water supply for the city was a subject of general discussion, and in August of that year a joint committee of citizens and members of the common council had the matter committed to them for examination and report. This committee called into existence by act of the city council was formed August 13, 1869, and, having fully considered the whole question involved, made their report to the Winona city council January 3, 1870. The members of that committee on behalf of the council were John A. Mathews (mayor) and aldermen Ball, Ralphe and Garlock; citizens, W. H. Laird, E. D. Williams and J. J. Randall.

Their report embraced a consideration of the best means for fire extinguishing, as well as the best system of water supply for the city,



and after discussing the relative merits of the "Holly" and "Reservoir" systems, pronounced in favor of the former and recommended its adoption. In the meantime the Winona board of trade had been resuscitated, after three and a half years of practical non-existence, and while the question of water-works was under discussion in the city council, the board of trade throttled the project, and condemned it by a vote of thirty to ten. This action was followed by a resolution declaring as the sense of the board that "the city charter be so amended as to prevent the city council from incurring any indebtedness exceeding the sum of \$10,000 for any one purpose, without first submitting the question to a vote of the people." This quietus was rendered additionally effective by a further resolution of the board of trade, adopted two weeks subsequently, "That no system of fire protection other than that now in use is necessary." Buried under these accumulating resolutions the question of water-works died out of the public consideration at least for that time. A little more than three years passed, and on the 23d of February, 1873, the legislature of the State of Minnesota authorized the city council to issue water-works bonds to the amount of \$80,000, provided, of course, the requisite vote of the citizens could be obtained. By ordinance of the council of the city of Winona, passed May 18, 1874, the creation of a department of water-works for the city was declared, and the question of issuing bonds to establish pumping-works and lay water-mains was ordered submitted to the people at a special election to be held some weeks subsequently. This action of the city council was rescinded of their own motion, in so far as deferring the election indefinitely was concerned, the committee having the matter in charge reporting that the citizens were not prepared to vote upon the question. The agitation, however, continued. A committee of the city council, of which Prof. W. F. Phelps was chairman, was instructed to prepare a report on the advisability of constructing water-works for fire protection and other purposes, to embody in their report the approximate cost of constructing the same, and submit the report in full detail to the common council for their action. The committee reported, and their report was unanimous in favor of the Holly system of water-works. Elaborate speeches in support of the report were made by Prof. Phelps, Hon. E. S. Youmans and others, and the opinion expressed that there would be no opposition to the movement, once it was fully understood by the citizens. In the meantime the report was ordered

printed while awaiting action of council, and on the 17th of November of that year, 1874, the city council declared itself in favor of the prosecution of the work, and ordered a special election to be held December 7 next ensuing, at which time all who desired the establishment of the works should vote *yea* and those opposed *nay*. The day of election came; polls were opened, and the returns showed that the project had been literally snowed under by a vote of 775 *nays* to 141 *yeas*. Thus ended the second chapter in the history of water-works enterprise in the capital of southeastern Minnesota. This action of the citizens was most unwelcome to the more considerable property-holders of the city, particularly to those whose interests and possessions were in the business center of the city, as it was only too apparent that they were at the mercy of circumstances should a fire once break out and gain headway in the business portion of the city. The danger which thus threatened the commercial interests of the place was doubly menacing to the manufacturing industries, which were principally lumber, and specially liable to destruction by fire. To effect their own self-protection, the lumbermen on the levee had connected heavy force-pumps with their engines, laid water-pipes in their mill yards and provided hose ready to be attached at a moment's notice. Feeling comparatively secure on their own account, and seeking some way of turning this security to the advantage of the business circles of the city, the two principal lumber firms opened correspondence with the city council. This communication came before that body July 27, 1875, and was a proposition from Youmans Bros. & Hodgins and Laird & Norton and C. H. Bohn to connect the water-works of their several establishments by a water-main running through the business portion of the city down Third street, with a view of furnishing "better protection against fire to the business houses, sprinkling the streets and supplying water for domestic purposes. The proposition was laid before the council by his honor the then mayor of the city, A. Hamilton, and the assurance given that should the offer of the firms, as above cited, be accepted they would undertake to keep steady pressure in the mains and provide ample power for forcing water wherever desired along the proposed route. The proposition as thus submitted did not assume any definite shape, but was simply presented as a suggestion that might lead to practical results. The scheme appeared feasible upon the face of it, and the city surveyor, J. B. Fellows, was instructed to visit Clinton, Iowa, examine the recently-

erected water-works at that point and submit a carefully digested report to the city council. The visit was made in company with city recorder Schroth, and included an examination of the pumping works at Davenport and Rock Island as well as Clinton. The results of their observations were duly incorporated in a report and presented to the city council, together with the length and estimated cost of pipe necessary to connect the works of Messrs. Youmans Bros. & Hodgins, Laird & Norton and Conrad Bohn. From this report it appeared that the total length of pipe required to make the connections with various mills, including L. C. Porter's grist-mill, and lay the mains, would be 1,440 feet of twelve-inch pipe, 6,450 feet of ten-inch pipe. The estimated cost of pipe, weight and thickness of metal scheduled, was placed at \$9,970.74. This report was ordered printed (we have not been able to secure a copy of it) and the recorder directed to correspond with pipe manufacturers with reference to price of pipe. Bids for the supply of pipe according to specification were opened September 7, 1875, and contract for a limited number of feet awarded to Dullard & Hayes, of Buffalo, New York. This action taken, bids were solicited for digging mains and laying pipe, and the finance committee of the council directed to make a temporary loan of \$10,000 for water-works expenditures. Thus it was that after six years' working and waiting the first actual step was taken to supply this long-felt want.

Before the close of the year 1875 there had been laid one mile one hundred and thirty-nine rods and seventeen feet of pipe; of which 1,582 feet were 12-inch pipe, 4,000 feet 10-inch pipe, 2,000 feet 6-inch pipe, and 150 feet 4-inch pipe. These pipes were laid at a depth of seven feet, and through them connection was made between the water pipes of Youmans Bros. & Hodgins, at the intersection of Fourth and Wilson streets, and the pipes of Laird, Norton & Co., on Second street, also with the L. C. Porter Mill Co., on Front street. Thirteen Mohawk hydrants were set that year, and eight stop-gates. The work as done was quite satisfactory; there was no trouble from freezing that winter, and no friction other than was easily remedied in the working of the hydrant's shut-off. The entire cost of the work to the close of that year, 1875, was \$11,632.05. The work was finished so late in the season that no water-rents were collected. The pipes as laid extended through Fourth street from Wilson street to Laird street, through Franklin street from Fourth street to Porter's mill, and

through Kansas street from Fourth street to Laird and Norton's, on Second street. Work was resumed in the spring of 1876, and during that year there were one mile and one hundred and sixty-four rods of pipe laid; seventeen Mohawk hydrants and four new stop-gates set. The entire cost of construction for the year was \$13,881.03, and the water-rents collected aggregated \$443.02. The pipe laid during the season was distributed as follows: on Fourth street, 1,180 feet; Broadway, 740 feet; Second street, 1,826 feet; Laird street, 1,464 feet; Kansas street, 392 feet; Winona street, 320 feet; Johnson street, 708 feet; Wabasha street, 1,140 feet; Center street, 56 feet; and hydrant connections, 160. The construction of mains was rapidly pushed during 1877, during which season nearly five miles were put down. Of this amount 3,716 feet were of 12-inch pipe; 3,786 feet of 10-inch pipe; 5,425 feet of 8-inch pipe; 12,516 feet of 6-inch pipe; and 360 feet of 4-inch pipe connecting mains with hydrants. There were 35 Holly hydrants and 18 new stop-gates set during this year, the whole cost of construction for the year being, with interest on drafts unpaid, \$32,235.90. Water-rents received for the year, \$1,572.33. This work as thus scheduled was performed under the directions of city surveyor John B. Fellows, and the total length of pipe laid (mains and hydrant connections), during the years 1875-6-7, was seven miles three hundred rods and two feet, at a total cost of \$57,889.60, including repairs to that date. The connections between the pumps in the Laird & Norton and Youmans' Bros. & Hodgins mills, and the mains on Second and Fourth streets, proving insufficient, measures for increasing their capacity were adopted in the spring of 1878. The mains on Second and Fourth street were the leading arteries of the water supply at that time, and were constructed of 10 and 12 inch pipe, while their connections with the pumps were made through 6-inch pipes, thus entailing the disadvantage of working through small pipes into large ones instead of through large pipes into small ones. The work of remedying this defect was begun in April, 1878, city engineer John B. Fellows, under whose directions an 8-inch pipe was laid from the corner of Liberty and Front streets, connecting with Laird & Norton's pumps, south a few feet across the railroad track, thence west parallel to the railway tracks to Market street, thence south on Market until an intersection was made with the 12-inch pipe on Second street, thus affording an additional outlet of eight inches from Laird & Norton's pumps into the 12-inch main



on Second street. On this line was set one 8-inch valve in Laird & Norton's engine-room, and three Holly hydrants at various points. At Porter's mill the 6-inch main was intersected with a cross 6×6 and 8×8, and a 6-inch valve set to shut off the water from the mill in case of emergency, and turn the whole force of the pumps through the city mains into the hydrants. At the same time there was laid a 6-inch pipe from the west end of the 10-inch main on Fourth street, running north from Fourth on Wilson street to the north line of Second street, and thence through Youmans Bros. & Hodgins' millyard to the new pump in the sawmill of that firm. There was also a branch line from this pipe, extending westward along Third street to a 6-inch connection with the pump in Youmans Bros. & Hodgins' planing-mill. This gave the 10-inch main on Fourth street a double connection with the pumps of Youmans Bros. & Hodgins, through two separate pipes, and was considered to afford the city all the water they could possibly need for some years to come. The cost of the work for 1878 was \$4,851.53; water-rents for the year were \$1,689.30, and the additional number of feet of pipe laid, 2,987 feet.

During the years 1879-80 comparatively little work was done in the way of laying additional pipe, and no changes were made in the operation of the work of supply. The pumps were doing all that their capacity enabled them to do, and the water service of the city was performed as satisfactorily as it could possibly be under the existing order of things, but it had become apparent to those best acquainted with the situation of affairs that the employment of additional power at the pumps, and an independent system of water supply for the city were only a question of time. The city had now, 1881, about nine and a-half miles of mains laid in the streets, and ninety-two hydrants for fire purposes. To meet the expenses of this work the bonds of the city were issued to the amount of \$40,000. These bonds were to bear interest at seven per cent per annum, and run for a period of ten years. The actual cost of laying pipe and maintaining the water supply of the city to this date had been somewhat in excess of \$60,000, and this excess of \$20,000 had been met by drafts upon the city treasury. The new lease of life taken by the city in 1879, as evidenced by the rapid multiplication of her manufacturing industries, and the effective work of stimulation performed by the Winona board of trade since its recreation in 1879 had led the capitalists of the city to indulge in brighter hopes

of her future. The years 1880-1 gave promise of an assured growth, and under the new incentive thus given to trade and manufacturing industry, public spirit seemed to revive, and among other works of a public character the establishment of such a system of water-works as would effectually settle the question of adequate water supply for decades to come was seriously entertained. The project took form in the winter of 1881-2, under the administration of his honor H. W. Lamberton, mayor, and was put into immediate execution. The council's committee on water-works was at that time composed of J. L. Brink, Wm. Noonan, Wm. Garlock and John Dotterwick, the first-named gentleman chairman. Every conceivable system of water supply, that gave promise of answering the end designed, was duly considered, and after a thorough canvass of all, and careful examination by committees and experts into their practical workings, cost of construction, economy of service, steadiness of supply, etc. etc., the city council in February, 1882, decided in favor of the standpipe system. The issue of \$60,000 water bonds had been previously authorized, and the issue was made July 1 of this year, 1882. These bonds were negotiated at par, have twenty years in which to mature, and bear annual interest at five per cent. The character of the work having been decided upon, G. C. Morgan, manufacturer and mechanical engineer, of Chicago, was employed to draw plans, make specifications and superintend construction of the whole work, his salary for all services rendered being fixed at \$2,500. The plans presented by him and adopted by the council were for constructions as follows: one well, one boiler-house, one pump-house, one standpipe. The work thus begun by the city council was not intermitted when their successors came into office in April, 1882. H. W. Lamberton was re-elected mayor, and the water committee was constituted as follows: A. W. Gage, chairman; Wm. Garlock, C. H. Lamberton and Fred Bauman; Messrs. Brink, Noonan and Dotterwick being no longer members of the council. The supervision of the work from April, 1882, until the pumps of the new works were started on the first of the following December, at which time the city relieved the Messrs. Youmans Bros. & Hodgins and Laird, Norton & Co. from all responsibility in supplying the mains with water, was committed to the chairman of the council's committee on water-works, A. W. Gage, a prominent contractor and builder in the city. Mr. Gage devoted almost his entire time to the service of the city during the months intervening from April to

December, and the manner in which that work was performed is abundantly approved in the result. During the nine years that the firms of Youmans Bros. & Hodgins and Laird, Norton & Co. had been pumping for the city the cost to the corporation aggregated from \$3,000 to \$5,800 per annum, and the work was most satisfactorily performed; but, as before stated, the wants of the city had outgrown their capacity to supply, and the erection of the works had become a necessity. The well from which the pumps draw water is of solid masonry, fifty feet in diameter and twenty-eight feet deep. The walls are laid up with stone and cement, and are practically water-tight. All the water that comes into the well filters through the sand upon which the walls rest and rises to the level of the river surface through the well bottom. The excavation for the well is made thirteen feet below extreme low-water mark, insuring at least thirteen feet of water at all times. This water, creeping through its natural sand filter, rises in the well and reaches the mains as clear as crystal. Pure water being one of the ends sought, the well has been carefully protected against all filth or vermin from whatever source, and being covered with a fire-proof roof may be considered a permanent fixture. At a distance of twenty feet from the well on the east, at the foot of Johnson street, stands the boiler-house. This is a substantial brick structure, 34×34 feet, resting upon a solid stone foundation, with a chimney sixty-five feet in height, the stone foundation of which is twelve feet square. In the boiler-room are two non-explosive Firmanich boilers, with a Baragwanath heater and a Worthington duplex feed-pump for forcing water into the boilers. These boilers are the invention of Firmanich, whose name they bear, an old sugar-refiner of Buffalo, New York, and are rated at a capacity of seventy-five horse-power each. Adjoining the boiler-room on the east is the pumping-room, built of brick and stone, as is the boiler-room, both of them covered with a good slate roof.

The pump-room is 34×46 feet, and is supplied with two Worthington pumps—one high pressure and the other a low pressure pump. The high pressure pump, designed for fire use exclusively, is of duplex construction, with 29-inch steam cylinders, 16-inch water plungers, and a 24-inch stroke. This pump has a maximum capacity of 3,000,000 gallons of water in twenty-four hours. The low pressure engine for domestic purposes is a compound duplex, its low pressure steam cylinders 24½-inches in di-

ameter, its high pressure steam cylinders 14 inches in diameter, with 14-inch water plungers, and 18-inch stroke. This pump has a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons per twenty-four hours, and the two an aggregate of 5,000,000 gallons, or 160,000 barrels every twenty-four hours. The steam cylinders and chests of the pumps are handsomely jacketed with black walnut, oil finished, and banded with brass. The water cylinders are painted in lake colors, nicely varnished, and modernly ornamented with gold. The pump-room is very tastefully fitted up. The floors, where not covered with oilcloths and mattings, are painted in imitation of tessel work, and this, with the ornamental work of the cylinders, the bright chandeliers and the stands of flowers, gives a very pleasing variety of color and a cosy cheerfulness to the place, which make it quite an attraction. The credit of this adornment, in great measure, is due to T. H. Botham, chief engineer, and his assistant, H. C. Higgins. An electric fire-alarm connects this building with the headquarters of the fire department in the city hall. Still east from the pump-room, a distance of 70 feet, rises the standpipe to a height of 210 feet above the cast-iron base and collar on which it rests. The standpipe proper is a wrought-iron tube 210 feet high, 4 feet in diameter, and varying in thickness from seven-sixteenths of an inch at its base to three-sixteenths of an inch at the top. The sections of which it is composed were solidly riveted together as it lay upon the ground, and the whole raised to its place by Captain Woolverton, formerly of the United States navy, who achieved considerable notoriety in some gunboat operations on the lower Mississippi river during the late war. It was quite an engineering feat to raise that hollow tube of iron, 210 feet long, from a dead level to a living perpendicular; but the work was skillfully accomplished without accident and the great bore solidly anchored in its upright position September 29, 1882. The foundation upon which it rests is a solid substructure of wood, stone and iron. The excavation is made in the sand to a point below extreme low-water mark, and at this depth the first course of timber is laid. These timbers, 12×12, 6×8 and 3×12, are laid transversely, solidly bolted together, and being below low-water mark, will be constantly covered, air excluded and decay prevented. Upon this timber foundation the masonry of massive stone is built up. Some of these blocks of stone are of immense size, from 16 to 25 inches in thickness, and all nicely fitted and solidly bedded together. This stonework



is carried up a height of 17 feet 8 inches above the timber substructure on which it rests, and stands about 6 feet above the natural surface of the ground. Upon this massive stone foundation, and firmly anchored to it, rests the standpipe, from which the pressure upon the mains is supplied. From this foundation also rises the inclosing masonry work of stone and brick surrounding the standpipe, yet leaving a space of 2 feet and 3 inches between the inclosing wall and the iron tube. This space is filled with a spiral staircase of iron leading to the top of the standpipe, which is decked over and guarded with an iron railing. The extreme height from the ground to the railing above is about 218 feet, and the view from this elevation is one of the finest conceivable. The first 58 feet of the inclosing wall are of rustic rockwork with cut-stone trimmings, the balance of brick trimmed with cut stone. The standpipe is connected with the street mains by a 20-inch pipe, and by its steady, uniform pressure relieves both mains and machinery from the shock of the recoil caused by opening and shutting the hydrants when under great pressure. Of the 20-inch pipe there was laid in the fall of 1882 a total distance of 434 feet, and of 16-inch pipe a distance of 762 feet. This pipe was laid in Johnston street, and through it connection was made with the 12-inch pipes on Second and Fourth streets, which are the main arteries of the water supply to the east and west ends of the city. At the time this connection was made with the city's pumping-works, a 16-inch gate was put in on Johnson street, just south of Second street, and a 12-inch water-gate on Second street, east side of Johnson. During this year, 1882, there were laid, in addition to the pipes already mentioned, 3,333 feet of 8-inch pipe, through which connection was made along Fifth street to the wagon-works in the west end of the city. The entire length of the city mains as now constructed, April 1, 1883, is within a small fraction of 11 miles, and through them are supplied 102 hydrants belonging to the city, and 15 others, which, though considered private property, are under control of the city for fire purposes. The actual requirements of the city per day of twenty-four hours is about 500,000 gallons on an average, only one-fourth the capacity of the low pressure pump. A test of the standpipe pressure shows a force of about 96 pounds to the square inch in the vicinity of the pipe when it is full. At a distance  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the pumps the pressure drops to from 80 pounds to 85 pounds per square inch. This latter pressure is estimated to main-

tain from twelve to fifteen streams of water, if forced through an inch nozzle, to the height of from 100 to 125 feet. The entire cost of the pumping will be about \$54,000, and the expenditures of the city for all purposes of water-works construction will not fall much short of \$150,000. O. H. Clark is the present water commissioner for the city.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The administration of the department of police for the city as now conducted is of comparatively recent date, the very office of chief of police being one of which the city charter makes no mention, nor ever has. The office of marshal, created by the original act of incorporation, in 1857, and recognized in all subsequent changes, revisions and amendments of that instrument, is the only office to which is committed the execution of the orders of the council in matters pertaining to the public peace, good order and cleanliness of the city, and all other matters usually falling under the head of police regulations. Reference, it is true, is occasionally made in the charter to police officers, but only in the most general terms, although the city ordinances make frequent allusions thereto, and specially define their duties. From a careful perusal of the city charter and amendments thereto, and the various ordinances passed by the council bearing upon this subject, it appears that the city marshal is the sole responsible head of the police department of the city, and by virtue of the ordinance of September 12, 1872, is ex-officio "acting chief of police," with power to appoint a deputy chief of police, said appointment subject to the approval of the council. This ordinance of September 12 was supplemented with one bearing date October 7 of that same year, but in neither of these instruments is there any reference to the method by which the members of the police force are to be selected, whether by vote of council, or by appointment of chief, with or without the approval of council. The present mode of procedure is for the city marshal, acting as chief of police, to make such nominations from the several wards as are in judgment most fitting, and present the same to the city council for their approval or rejection, the vote of the council being final in that matter. The list of successive city marshals elected or appointed, just as the demands of the charter at any particular date required, will be found in the tabulated list of city officials given in a former chapter of this work. Tracing the police history of the city during the twenty-six years of

its existence—from that beginning in which one marshal had all the leisure necessary to health, to the establishment of the force upon its present basis as a department of the second class, there is nothing of general interest to demand record. The police department, like all others, has simply grown with the growth of the city, until a more perfect organization of the force was required, the patrol of the streets in regularly established beats, at least upon the more public thoroughfares, and in the vicinity of the saloons, having become a necessity. This, being determined upon by the city council in the spring of 1882, was effectively carried into operation by city marshal W. W. Miller, in his capacity as chief of police. As now existing, the police force of the city consists of a chief, a deputy, a captain, twelve patrolmen and six special policemen. The city is districted into eight regular patrol beats and a night patrol assigned to each. The special police are stationed one each at the Central, Madison, Washington and State Normal school buildings, and one each at the passenger depots of the Chicago & Northwestern and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railways. These special police are also employed as night watchmen, the expense of maintaining the depot watchmen being largely borne by the companies in whose interest they are employed. The headquarters of the police department is in the city building on Lafayette street, between Third and Fourth streets, and within two blocks of the center of the city. The rooms occupied by them are the chief's office and an outer office, 12×16 feet, out of which the chief's office opens on one side, the city station on another, and the engine-room of the city fire department on still another. The chief's office is a comfortable room, 11×12 feet, provided with two desks, gas-jets, carpeted, connected with the depots, school-buildings, telegraph-offices, and principal business-houses of the city, through the city telephone exchange, and with the pumping-room of the water-works by an electric fire-alarm. The station-room, for taking care of those run in by the police until duly disposed of according to law, is a solid brick room about 20×26 feet, has four cells and a corridor, and can accommodate from twenty to twenty-eight persons over night. The cells are of wrought iron, after the latest and most approved plans of construction. The work of the department of police for the twelve months ending March 31, 1883, may be summarized as follows: Arrests made during the year were 653, of which number 312 were tramps or

vagrants, who were given a night's lodging in the station-house and against whom no criminal complaint was lodged; the remaining 341 were drunk, disorderlies, criminals, *et id genus omne*. Of these latter about five per cent were what are usually termed the dangerous classes, and were subjects for state's prison, upon conviction of the crimes charged. The collections made for the benefit of the city treasury during the year by the police department, arising from licenses, fines, etc., aggregated \$9,800, itemized as follows: Fines, \$1,685; licenses collected for sale of liquors, \$7,200; hall licenses, \$265; auctioneer's license and per cent of sales, \$225; circus license, \$265; and peddler's license, \$160. The present officers of the force are: chief of police, W. W. Miller; assistant chief of police, L. K. Esty; captain of police, Louis Hoffenbecker. The salaries of the officers and men composing the department are: chief, \$1,000 and fees, equivalent to \$1,800 per annum; assistant-chief, \$65 per month and fees, equivalent to \$1,100 per annum; captain, \$60 per month; and patrolmen, \$50. The special police at the various school-buildings act also as janitors of the buildings, and receive from the city treasury the sum of \$55 per month each. The special police at the passenger depots of the railways are paid \$5 each per month from the city treasury, and the balance of their salary is paid by the companies employing them.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

At the time of the incorporation of the city, Winona was entirely unprotected against damage and destruction by fire. There was not at that time even a bucket brigade or an organized effort of any kind, or any volunteer association having for its object the prevention of loss by fire, although the population of the city was fully 3,000. The first attempt to afford the city the much-needed protection was made by the city council in the summer of 1857, a few months after the city was duly incorporated. Acting under the authority of the council, two companies were formed, and for their equipment engines were ordered from Boston, hose purchased, engine-house erected, reservoirs for water supply dug, appropriations for firemen's uniform made, and the fire department formally established upon a very respectable basis, the outlay of the city for fire purposes at that time aggregating about \$5,000. The first company organized was known as the "Fire King," of which C. S. Richardson was foreman, the other officers of the company being



J. C. Fuller, H. S. Terry, H. B. Cozzens, H. B. Upman, Sam. Melvine, J. E. Gable, R. A. Hoxthall, M. M. Barker, J. C. Laird, D. Redenour and M. S. Gordon. The organization of the second company followed hard upon the heels of the first, and it is not unworthy of note, that of the committee of three who drafted its constitution and by-laws, one (W. H. Yale) was afterward lieutenant governor of the state, and one (W. Windom) became United States senator and secretary of the treasury. The engines ordered for the fire department by the city council were of the well-known Hunne-man patent, and were considered at that time the best hand fire-engine manufactured, but they were heavy of draught, and by the time the firemen had lugged them a few blocks, through the heavy sands of the city streets, they had little strength or breath left for "manning the breaks" and keeping the pumps at work. The agent employed by the council for their purchase was Mr. C. L. Richardson, foreman of Fire King No. 1, and he was restricted to an expenditure of \$1,600 for the engines and \$1,500 for the hose, the terms of payment to be one-fourth cash upon the delivery of the engines in Winona, and the balance at the expiration of eight months. The engine-house built for their reception was located on north side Second street, between Center and Main, and was burned in the great fire of 1862, at which time the department had all its hose burned, and only saved their engines with the greatest difficulty. From Second street the engines were removed shortly after the fire to the old city building, corner of Fourth and Lafayette streets, now known as the Library building, and this was headquarters for the fire department until the present city building on Lafayette street was erected, in 1870. In 1857 the city council ordered the construction of a large cistern or reservoir at the intersection of Second and Center streets, which was followed not long afterward by the construction of several others in various parts of the city—one being located at the northwest corner of the high school grounds, another on the west side of the gasworks block, another at intersection of Winona and Broadway, another at the corner of Washington and Sanborne, and still others in the western part of the city. These have long since been superseded by the water-mains, as have the old engines by the new fire steamer and the hydrants of the water-works. The old engines themselves were recently sold, and the proceeds, \$275, turned over to the city treasury. One of them is now doing duty at Sleepy-Eye, having

been purchased by the authorities of Sleepy-Eye lake, in October, 1881, and the other by the city fathers of Waseca, in the following February, 1882. The organization of the fire companies was soon followed by that of the hook and ladder company, and these were supplemented in 1862 by the formation of bucket companies in the several wards. These bucket companies had quite a numerous membership, and that in the first ward had quite an elaborate drill. Each member was bound to provide himself with a bucket of a given make, so as to preserve uniformity in the brigade, and attend drill at specified times, and report with his bucket at the first fire-alarm.

These brigades were all formed early in 1862, but there appears to be no record of their services in the disastrous fire of July following. That calamity was a very unwelcome yet conclusive demonstration of the inadequacy of the fire department as it was then equipped, and its utter inability to stay the progress of any fire once it was fairly under way. It was, therefore, only a question of time for some more efficient means of protection against fire to be afforded to the city. This came in a measure five years later, in 1867, when the new steam fire-engine was procured, and more fully with the increased means of protection afforded by the city water-works so recently completed. The new steam fire-engine, City of Winona, No. 1, built by Silsby & Co., of Seneca Falls, is an engine of the second class, and cost at the time of its purchase, in connection with the three hose-carts then furnished, the sum of \$10,000. The fire department of the city as now conducted is in the main as it was instituted by the ordinance of 1872, and it will be sufficient for the purposes of this article to present the department as it now is. The present equipment is one steam fire-engine, five hose-carts (three of them two-wheeled carts, and two four-wheeled), all hand-carts; one hook and ladder truck, furnished with one sixty-five feet extension ladder, one forty-five feet, one twenty-four feet, one sixteen feet and one twelve feet; and about 4,000 feet of hose. There are six organized companies: Turner Hose Company, No. 1; Mystic Hose Company, No. 2; Live-Oak Hose Company, No. 3; Crystal Hose Company, No. 4; Alert Hose Company, No. 5; Excelsior Hook and Ladder Company. The Turner, Mystic and Live-Oak hose companies and the Hook and Ladder company have their quarters in the city building, which is the headquarters of the city government, containing the rooms of the city council, office of chief

of police, and the rooms of the fire department. This building is a substantial brick, 40×60 feet, with a tower rising eighty feet above the foundation, and furnished with a fire-bell weighing 2,500 pounds. The ground floor of the building is occupied with the engines, carts and furniture of the companies as above specified, and their hall for the transaction of business occupies a portion of the second floor. Crystal Hose Company No. 4 occupies what is known as the Jefferson school building in the first ward, and the Alerts are quartered in a building belonging to the department situated in the fourth ward. The hall of the firemen in the city building is 18×40 feet, and has been very tastefully fitted up by the department at an expense of about \$600. A rich brussels carpet covered with ducking to protect it, elegantly upholstered chairs and sofa, chandeliers, ornamental dais, walls adorned with engravings and paintings, together with the dress parade and presentation regalia of the officers, give the hall a most inviting appearance and speak volumes for the pride the firemen take in their surroundings. The officers of the fire department are a chief and two assistants, elected by the members of the several companies and confirmed by the council, and a secretary and treasurer elected by the board of directors, the board being constituted of one representative from each company and the officers of the department. Each company manages its own affairs, subject only to the general rules and regulations of the department. For some years past the department has received a stated sum annually from the city treasury. The amount at present derived from that source is \$1,500 a year, appropriated to the several companies, each of which receives \$250 per annum. Of this sum ten per cent, \$25 per company, goes into the general treasury of the department, the balance is the property of the companies, to be expended by them as they shall determine. All other revenues of the department are derived from the membership fees, which are \$3 per member per annum, and from fines and the initiation fees of new members. The department is purely voluntary, the members providing their own caps, shirts, some of which are individual property, some the property of the companies, and all maintained at comparatively trifling cost to the city treasury, from which special appropriations are occasionally made.

The report of the chief engineer of the department to the city council for the year just closed, April 30, 1883, shows the number of active firemen connected with the department to be 132. The engine

is reported in good order, with the exception of suction hose, and all other equipments ready for effective service. The department has 4,000 feet of hose, 3,000 in good condition, and the report recommends the immediate purchase of an additional 1,000 feet. Mention is also made of the necessity of the department owning a team for hauling the hook and ladder truck and engine, a want sensibly felt by the members of the department, and which if supplied would very materially increase its efficiency. This with an electric fire-alarm connecting the central station with the hose-houses in the first and fourth wards would very materially facilitate the prompt arrival of the hose companies at whatever point their services might be required, and also obviate the necessity of unnecessarily rousing the citizens by a general fire-alarm. The total number of fire-alarms responded to by the department for the year was twenty-six. Of these eight were false alarms, four fires that resulted in no loss of property, and fourteen with loss, aggregating \$7,750, upon which there was an insurance of \$16,000. The officers of the department for the year beginning May 1, 1883, are: Chief engineer, A. W. Fuhrman; first assistant engineer, Jos. Edwards; second assistant engineer, W. T. Gage; secretary, E. A. Ramm; treasurer, John Von Rohr; foreman of hose company No. 1, F. A. Moebus; foreman of hose company No. 2, L. Koelmel; foreman of hose company No. 3, T. Chappell; foreman of hose company No. 4, M. Hanley; foreman of hose company No. 5, M. Mackey; foreman of hook and ladder, W. T. Gage.

#### DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

Like all other cities, Winona has felt the effects of the ever-to-be-dreaded "fire fiend." And yet, notwithstanding that her entire business quarter was at one time swept clean, it is a question if she has not been on the whole much more fortunate in escaping loss by fire than the average city of her class and character of business. The lumber interests of the city have always been a leading consideration, and the mills of this class, with their yards for piling lumber stretching along not much less than two miles of river front, of which they occupy at least two-thirds, have rendered the city peculiarly susceptible to destruction by fire, and yet it is certainly no exaggeration to say that \$20,000 would cover all the loss sustained by the mills or to property in their vicinity from fire. For the first ten years of the actual settlement on Wabasha prairie there were no fires of sufficient magnitude to require specific mention, but the city had a



rude awakening on the morning of July 5, 1862. The previous day, "the glorious Fourth," had been celebrated with great enthusiasm; the concourse of visitors from the surrounding country had been immense; the streets were literally crowded all day; the fireworks display in the evening was brilliant, and the city laid down to rest at a late hour, congratulating herself on having had a really successful celebration. Shortly after 1 o'clock on the morning of the fifth the cry of "fire" rang out on the air, quickly followed by the ringing of the alarm-bells. The flames, doubtless caused by the fireworks of the previous evening, were found to proceed from the rear of Clapperton's bakehouse on Center street. This bakery stood on the east side of the street, just north of the alley between Second and



MERCHANTS BANK.

Third streets, where the Merchants Bank now is. The fire-engines were promptly on hand, but the compactly-crowded wooden structures, among which the fire originated, were dry as tinder, and before the engines could be brought into use the fire had passed beyond control. The wind was blowing freshly from the south and east, and the fire was swept rapidly down the wooden row of buildings toward the corner of Second and Center streets, the very business center of the city. In this vicinity there were a dozen families occupying rooms in the second and third stories of buildings, and many of these had barely time to escape with their lives, destitute even of sufficient clothing to properly cover them. The wind increased in strength as the fire spread, and despite all effort to confine the flames to the block in which they originated, they were

driven across Center street and the block on the west side was soon in flames. This occurred about half-past two o'clock, or a little over an hour from the time the fire was discovered. By three o'clock the fire had crossed Second street on both sides of Center, and the entire section of the city lying between Lafayette street on the east, Main street on the west, Third street on the south and the river on the south was absolutely swept clean of buildings. Within these limits were comprised four full blocks of the most compactly built structures in the city and fully nine-tenths of its business houses and stocks of merchandise. To the heroic exertions of the bucket companies was owing the preservation of that section of the city lying west of Main street. The fire was checked at Main street a little after daylight, and the morning broke upon a scene of utter desolation.

The smoldering ruins of the principal business houses of the city told their own tale of loss irreparable to the trade of the young city. The piles of goods and merchandise scattered on the levee and streets, some of it burning, much of it spoiled in the act of removal, told too plainly of ruined merchants and wrecked mercantile hopes. In the short space of from three to four hours 110 buildings were reduced to ashes and a much greater number of persons bereft of places of business, dwellings, goods, clothing, household effects, etc., and in their place was left a scene of desolation only to be imagined, not described. The office of the daily and weekly "Republican" was wiped out with the rest, only the subscription and account books saved. The losses reported and published in the "Republican" of July 9, four days after the fire, which was printed at the office of the St. Paul "Press," shows an aggregate loss, as scheduled, of \$299,875, upon which there was an insurance of \$78,200. This schedule, as was to be expected, was most incomplete, and after investigations showed that the actual computable loss was about half a million of dollars, upon which there was not more than eighteen per cent of insurance. No loss of life occurred, nor is it known that any permanent injury resulted from such minor accidents as happened. The heaviest loser was N. S. Wickersham, druggist, whose loss was placed at \$20,000, upon which there was not one dollar of insurance. The losses ranged from \$50 up to this amount, and was particularly disastrous in that so many small dealers were burned out, and those just commencing business totally broken up in trade, the losers of \$5,000 or upward only representing seventeen per cent of the whole

number reported. This fire is usually spoken of as the "fire of July 4, 1862, which burned up the city."

Some time during the following September (date not accurately preserved) the old sawmill built by Wyckoff & Hylands, afterward known as the Porter, Garlock & Van Gorder mill, caught fire from the smokestacks of the Laird & Norton sawmill, and was burned. The loss was \$5,000, no insurance, and its destruction is referred to simply because it was the first mill of any kind ever erected in this city, having been built in the fall and early winter of 1855.

Standing just alongside of this sawmill was the planing-mill of Grant & Stevens, which narrowly escaped destruction at the same time, Mr. Grant remarking afterward that the "greatest luck he had had in connection with the mill was saving it under such circumstances." This satisfaction was short-lived, and the planing-mill, also an old landmark, the first planing-mill built in the city, did not long survive the sawmill. This latter fire occurred July 27, 1863, at about half-past four in the afternoon, and in half an hour the mill and stock were totally consumed. The loss was about \$7,000, upon which, as in the former case, there was no insurance.

On Sunday morning, March 12, 1865, another destructive fire visited the business portion of the city. This fire was just west of the section burned over in 1862. It originated in the west end of the Hubbard block, corner of Main and Second streets. Three store-rooms in Hubbard's block and three other business houses with dwellings or offices overhead were destroyed. The progress of the fire was rapid, but the wooden building in which it occurred being flanked by brick structures on Main and Second streets, and the wind being in the east, not driving the flames across Main street to the wooden buildings there, the fire was circumscribed in its limits and burned itself out in about two hours, the disorganized condition of the fire department and the unserviceableness of the engines affording no relief in that quarter. The total loss was \$50,000, divided among nearly a score of people. One-half this loss fell upon S. D. Jackson & Co., who were damaged \$25,000, one-half covered by insurance. There were some narrow escapes, and some of the occupants of the upper rooms would doubtless have perished in the flames but for the timely assistance rendered; most of these escaped in their night-clothing, losing all their effects. The entire amount of insurance was \$22,100.

On August 19, 1865, another of the landmarks of Winona's early

manufacturing industries was destroyed; this was the old gristmill erected in 1856, at the west end of town, on the corner of the block, diagonally across Second street from where Youmans Bros. & Hodgins' lumber office now stands. The alarm was sounded early in the evening from the whistle of Youmans Bros' sawmill, and it was at first supposed that the fire was in that mill. The gristmill was originally erected by one Fogg, and passed into the possession of H. D. Huff shortly afterward. It was never a successful venture, and after several attempts to keep the stones running it was suffered to lie idle. It was a strongly built two-and-a-half story structure, and should have had a more kindly fate as the pioneer flourmill in a city since noted for its successful milling operations. The mill was valued at the time of its destruction at about \$12,000, upon which there was an insurance of about \$7,000. Youmans Bros' mill had a very narrow escape and was on fire several times, but the efforts to save it proved successful. On the afternoon of Sunday, June 20, 1875, a fire broke out in the shaving-room of Mr. Conrad Bohn's mill on the levee, foot of Laird street. The wind was blowing from the south across the river, and the water-works pipes connected with Laird & Norton's mills did splendid service, effectually preventing the spread of the flames to the piles of lumber in the vicinity, and avoiding what might very easily have become a general conflagration. The fire originated in the boiler-room, where the engineer and watchman had been engaged in cleaning boilers, and had just started a fire a short time before the smoke was seen by the watchman, who was at that time at work in the upper story. The engines were immediately tried, but as there was not a pound of steam up the mill was left to its fate, as the pumps could not be worked. The internal arrangements for quenching fire were admirable, iron pipes running all through the mill, and had the pumps been supplied with steam the extinguishing of the fire would have been easily effected. As it was, only the safe, patterns, books, accounts, and some stock in the way of glass, tools, etc., were saved. The building was new, had been erected the previous season at a cost of \$35,000, in addition to which loss there were several carloads of valuable lumber, among them some choice black-walnut, a large amount of finished work ready for delivery, and some expensive full glass fronts, glazed and stored in one of the upper stories. The entire loss footed up about \$45,000, upon which there was a small



insurance of \$6,000. The loss was more than personal; it effected building operations and threw a large number of persons out of employment. Early in the morning of April 28, 1876, quite a destructive fire occurred on the corner of Main and Second streets, in a row of wooden buildings erected there after the great fire of 1862, and which had such a narrow escape when the Hubbard block was burned in 1865. The fire was confined to the four buildings on the corner, and only made no further progress because a substantial brick firewall had been built in the rear of the buildings, and also on the east, in anticipation of just such a catastrophe, and pending the erection of brick structures. The entire loss was fully covered by the insurance, \$11,650. Here again the new water-works proved effective.

Three days later a fire broke out on the levee in an old building known as the Riverside Hotel, an ancient city landmark erected by Taylor, Bennett & Co. and L. D. Smith & Co. in 1856. It stood near the corner of Lafayette street, and at the time of its erection cost about \$6,500, and was the finest building the city boasted at that time. It had a history. Was at one time the headquarters of the Transit Railway Company, now the Winona & St. Peter, who had their general offices in the building; was the United States land office, when L. D. Smith was receiver of that office in the flush days of Winona's early prosperity. It was afterward used as a high school building; then was refitted as a hotel, in which latter capacity it was not a success. At the time of its destruction it was owned by Mr. John Kendall, the wholesale druggist, and was rented and occupied. As some attempts had previously been made to fire the building, the general voice declared the act incendiary by which it was finally destroyed. Mr. Kendal's insurance was about \$2,500, carried by companies for which he was himself agent. The wooden block on the southwest corner of Center and Second street, in the very heart of the burned district, had been replaced by a substantial three-story brick, with stone basement, known as the Simpson block. About 1 o'clock A.M. on Sunday, January 14, 1877, fire was discovered in the boot and shoe store of Mr. Blanchard, on the first floor of the block. The alarm was immediately given, but the fire had gained too great headway to be arrested, and the entire block was doomed to destruction. There being no brick partitions, the fire swept through the entire structure from front to rear and from basement to topstone. The first floor

was occupied by S. Friend & Co., clothiers; J. L. Brink & Co., drygoods, and L. F. Blanchard, boots and shoes. The second story was occupied by various parties, as offices, dressmaking and millinery rooms, etc.; and the third floor was fitted for society halls, and occupied by the I.O.O.F., Sons of Temperance and Temple of Honor. The principal loss fell upon the owner, V. Simpson, Esq., and the merchants on the main floor. Mr. Simpson's loss was \$25,000, insured for \$16,000; J. L. Brink, loss \$12,500, insured for \$15,000; L. F. Blanchard, loss \$12,000, insured for \$11,000, and S. Friend, insured for \$11,500, which will much more than cover all his loss, as most of his goods were removed. The entire loss was summed up at about \$70,000, upon which there was insurance to the amount of \$55,000. Damage was done some buildings on Center street, in the rear of the block, but not to any serious extent. The entire block, save the walls, which through the exertions of the firemen were preserved from injury, was immediately rebuilt at a cost of \$40,000.

Two years later a fire broke out in the block on the east side of Center street facing Second, also within the old burned district of 1862, in a brick building occupied by A. Moses as a billiard hall and liquor store, and owned by Otto Troost. Adjoining this building was the wholesale crockery house of A. S. Gregory & Co. The fire was discovered early on Tuesday morning, or about midnight of Monday, March 3, 1879, in the basement of the Troost building, where Mr. Moses had stored a large stock of wines and liquors. The effective work of the fire department saved the building from total destruction, but the damage by water, smoke and fire was so great that nothing of value remained. The loss to Gregory & Co. was largely from water and smoke, the floors being flooded and the roof burned away. Mr. Moses, loss was \$10,000, insured for \$4,500. Gregory & Co. were insured for \$14,300, and the loss was about thirty per cent of that amount. Mr. Troost was insured for \$4,000, which would probably cover the loss. Since this date there has been no fire in the business portion of the city of any magnitude.

Two fires that have occurred at the car and machine shops of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad must be briefly mentioned, and these will close the list. The first of these fires occurred in the car shop, a two-story brick building 140 feet long, 80 feet wide, engine-room  $25\frac{1}{2} \times 27$  feet. There were two planers, three saws, a matching machine, mortising machine, lathe, and some cars undergoing

repairs, on the first floor, and the upholstering rooms and pattern rooms and some choice lumber on the second floor. It originated in the attempt of the night-watchman to kindle a fire in the boiler-room with a too free use of turpentine, about six o'clock in the morning of October 21, 1881. The loss, as reported by master mechanic W. A. Scott, was about \$10,000, and he pronounced it the result of gross carelessness. The explosion which followed the ignition of the turpentine occurred so close to the fire apparatus that before water could be turned on or pumps started the fire had gained too great headway to be controlled, and the building with all its contents was a total loss ; no insurance.

The second fire at the Chicago & Northwestern machine shops occurred on the morning of April 11, 1883, at about three o'clock, and the cause of its origin is not accurately known. It was first discovered near the partition between the tinshop and the roundhouse, and spread with great rapidity. The size and character of the buildings are noted in article found elsewhere. The means at hand were insufficient to check the ravages of the flames, and the nearest fire-plug being at the wagon-works one thousand feet distant, some delay was experienced in getting the steamer to play upon the fire, the machine-shops lying outside of the district reached by the water-mains. There were seventeen locomotives in the roundhouse at the time the fire started. Six of these were run out safely, the rest were more or less damaged. The roundhouse, machine-shop, blacksmith-shop, engine-room, boiler-house and tinshop were burned. The railmill, office, storeroom and carshop (rebuilt from the fire of 1881) were all saved. The direct loss was about \$40,000. The indirect loss in patterns for shafting, etc., has no computable estimate. Before the fire the railway company had determined to make some changes, enlarging their capacity and increasing the number of their workmen. This work was promptly undertaken as soon as the fire occurred, and the preparation of plans begun. The improvements, which will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible, are, in brief, these: The old machine-shop will be rebuilt as a blacksmith-shop and boiler-shop ; the former blacksmith-shop will be rebuilt as a coppersmith-shop and engine-room. A new machine-shop will then be built on the south side of the main track, just west of the old machine-shop, one opening into the other. The new structure will be 222 feet long and 96 feet wide. There will be also a new oil and store room, 60×40 feet. The estimated cost of

these improvements, and the machinery to equip them, will be about \$80,000. When completed the mechanical force of the shops will be increased about thirty per cent.

## WINONA POSTOFFICE.

There is, perhaps, no one fact more significant of the almost immeasurable chasm that bridges the distance between the Winona of thirty years ago and the Winona of today than that which, according to "Nasby," is "postoffis." From the date at which Elder Ely was popularly said to have held the office in his hat, and which was perhaps much nearer the literal truth than is nowadays imagined, until today, is not quite thirty-one years, and yet what changes!

The first appointment of postmaster for the office, now known as Winona, was made in July, 1852, at which time the office was officially designated as Montezuma. The appointee was George S. Baker, who, being a non-resident, was ineligible, and never assumed the duties of the office.

On August 16 following, the appointment was conferred on Abner S. Goddard, and the name of the office changed to Winona. The notice of this appointment reached Mr. Goddard while lying very sick, and he refused to qualify. This sickness proved fatal, and the little settlement would have been without a mail had not Elder Ely cut the Gordian knot. The mail arrived, and as Mr. Goddard never had qualified for the office he did not deem it right to open the sack, and so refused. Elder Ely, who was present with his wife, considered the situation demanded a prompt action, and as the main thing, after all, was for each one to receive the letters addressed them, he broke open the sack and made the distribution. By this act the "elder" seemed to have appointed himself postmaster, and there seems to be no doubt that for some time he discharged the duties of postmaster of the new office very acceptably. Not long after the events narrated, the last steamer arrived for the season, and the mail was carried on foot from Prairie du Chien to Fort Snelling. There is no record of any appointment of postmaster in 1853, and the probability is that Elder Ely acted as mail distributor for the entire region for a period of about two years, making frequent trips to La Crosse, and bringing mail from the office at that point to parties in Winona. Just prior to the establishment of the land office here, in the fall of 1854, John W. Downer



was appointed postmaster of Winona, and opened the office in a small building on Front street, where the elevator of the Winona Milling Company now stands. This office Mr. Downer held until May 6, 1861, when he was succeeded by C. H. Blanchard, who was postmaster four years, and then surrendered his office to C. F. Buck, whose commission was dated July 21, 1865. Mr. Buck's services as Winona postmaster ceased when his successor, D. Sinclair, Esq., was appointed, May 16, 1869. Since then there has been no change, Mr. Sinclair having held the office by successive reappointments for a little over fourteen years. When the office was taken charge of by the present postmaster it was located on the east side of the alley on Third street, north side, where Orrin Drew's fruit and confectionery store now is. Prior to that time the office had been on its travels. It had been established in the Downer building; it was twice located on the corner where Mues block is; once on the corner of Third and Center, where Rheinberger's dry-goods house now is; then on Main street, between Third and Fourth, in the small frame building occupied by Bell as a bath-house; and once on south side Second street, between Center and Lafayette street, where it was burned out, and possibly in other locations. Mr. Sinclair maintained the office in the small building on the north side of Third street until the present post-office building was erected, in 1872, at which time (April 1, 1872) the office was removed to its present location on the northeast corner of Third and Center streets. This building was erected by Winona capitalists under a contract with the United States postal department to rent the first floor for postoffice purposes for a term of years, and was one of the first buildings erected under such contracts with the department. The building is (as stated elsewhere) a three-story brick with stone foundations and high basement. The floor occupied by the postoffice is 90×24 feet, and in the basement there is a mailing-room 24×40 feet. Upon the main floor is the office for the delivery clerks, most conveniently arranged for distributing mail and delivering it at call. The postoffice boxes, 1,500 in number, are ranged around the three sides of the parallelogram within which the clerks answer all calls for mail through the ample delivery windows. The outer floor room is ample, as the space between the boxes and the side-walls of the exterior office is fully six feet, while the space in front is four times as great. Double doors on Center and Third streets afford ample exit, and a well-supplied news and stamp

counter, in a recess on the right as you enter from Third street, accommodates the public demand for daily papers, and saves the delay of making change for stamps at the delivery windows of the postoffice. The money-order office and the postmaster's private office are in the rear of the main and delivery rooms, and a fireproof vault affords ample security against loss of valuable packages belonging to the department, as this is the depositing office for all the fourth-class offices in southern and central Minnesota. The work of the mailing clerk is exceptionally heavy for an office of this class in a city of this size, as it is not only a separating office, but makes up special pouches for delivery at stations along the entire line of the Winona & St. Peter and Dakota Central railways. When Mr. Sinclair assumed charge of the office it was one of the second class, but under the old system of classification it was raised to an office of the first class, and had so rated for a few months when the present law of classification was adopted by the department, and it became, as now, an office of the second class. The staff of the office: Assistant postmaster and clerk in the money-order office, two delivery clerks, mailing clerk and assistant. The amount of mail matter originating in this office, as shown by the official statement of the third week in December, 1880, was:

Total number of letters mailed .....	18,274
“ “ Postal cards .....	3,437
“ “ Newspapers and periodicals .....	6,049
“ “ Packages of transit printed matter.....	523
“ “ Packages merchandize.....	119
Grand total .....	28,402

The corresponding week of last year was estimated at an increase of twenty per cent throughout, which would make a grand total for that date of 34,082 letters, postal cards, etc., mailed at this office in one week.

The volume of business of the office is shown in the appended financial statement for the year closing December 31, 1882, and which the report made at that time affirms to be an increase in postal receipts over those of previous year equal to thirteen per cent of the full amount. A very large increase in the registration work of the office is also reported.

POSTAL BUSINESS.	
Stamps, envelopes, etc. sold.....	\$17,076.68
Waste paper sold.....	3.26
Received from box rents.....	1,939.25
	<u>\$19,019.19</u>
Deduct expense account.....	6,611.75
Net revenue to the department.....	<u>\$12,407.44</u>

## GENERAL ACCOUNT.

## RECEIVED.

Postal funds deposited by other postmasters.....	\$23,566.06
Net revenue of this office.....	12,407.44
Total.....	<u>\$35,973.50</u>

## DISBURSED.

Remitted United States treasurer.....	\$29,525.06
Paid railway postal clerks and mail messenger.....	6,448.44
	<u>\$35,973.50</u>

## MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

## RECEIPTS.

4,668 Domestic orders issued.....	\$50,018.30
Fees on same.....	541.20
15 Canadian orders issued.....	240.95
Fees on same.....	4.20
40 British orders issued.....	529.31
214 German orders issued.....	2,641.36
5 French orders issued.....	32.75
17 Swiss orders issued.....	202.45
Drafts on New York.....	29,700.00
	<u>\$83,910.52</u>

## DISBURSED.

4,614 Domestic orders paid.....	\$79,300.45
10 Canadian " ".....	260.75
9 British " ".....	282.62
102 German " ".....	3,542.89
11 Swiss " ".....	409.02
Balance on hand December 31.....	114.79
	<u>\$83,910.52</u>

Grand total.....\$167,821.04

## REGISTRY BUSINESS.

No. of registered letters received for delivery.....	3,844
"    "    "    dispatched.....	1,644
"    "    "    and packages received in transit.....	36,948
Total number handled.....	<u>42,436</u>

## SUMMARY OF GROSS RECEIPTS.

The following table exhibits the gross annual postal receipts of the office for a series of years, beginning with 1870. These figures accurately reflect the general business condition, the fluctuations and growth of the city during that time :

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
1870.....	\$9,382.83	1877.....	13,018.76
1871.....	10,065.34	1878.....	13,796.08
1872.....	10,813.12	1879.....	14,234.61
1873.....	12,362.46	1880.....	15,371.10
1874.....	14,174.32	1881.....	16,902.42
1875.....	12,778.14	1882.....	19,019.19
1876.....	12,649.07		

## BOARD OF TRADE.

The first attempt of which any record has been preserved, looking toward the organization of a board of trade at this place, was made nearly eighteen years ago, shortly after the close of the war of the rebellion. At a meeting held October 11, 1865, the draft of a constitution and by-laws was presented, read, and its further consideration postponed one week. These are spread upon the record-book of the "old board," but there is no minute noting their adoption, and the general impression seems to be that they were never either considered or acted upon. A president, vice-president, board of directors, secretary, treasurer, grain inspector and committee on arbitration were elected, and it would seem from the short-lived transactions of this body that its primal object was to regulate and facilitate dealings in grain and produce, Winona being at that time a very extensive wheat market, meetings for regulating grain deals being held daily from two to three o'clock. Railway discussions were also under way, a connection being desired with St. Paul on the north and Green Bay on the east. The extension of the Winona & St. Peter railway was also agitated at that time. There is nothing known to determine what influence, if any, these discussions had upon the projects mentioned, all of which were subsequently consummated, but it is a fair inference that the agitation in the "old board of trade" had some influence in requiring these results, so conducive to the prosperity and material growth of the city. After an existence of about six months the "board" ceased to be, at least there is no record of its meeting later than April 23, 1866.

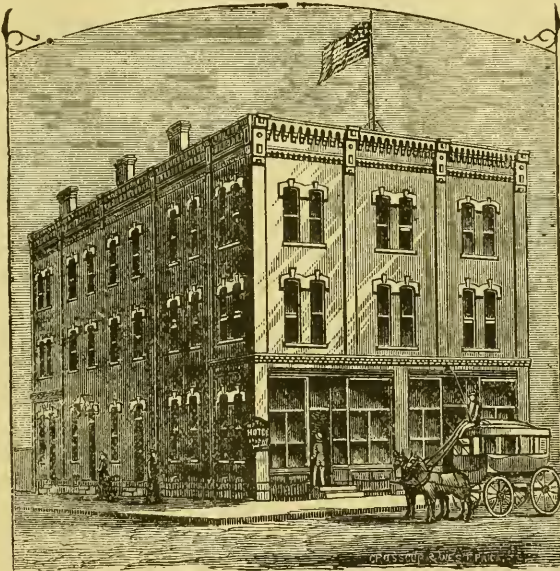
The second attempt to create a "board of trade" was made December 27, 1869, at which date the organization was partially effected, a constitution and by-laws being adopted, and the names of about sixty members enrolled. Four days later the organization was perfected by the election of officers, and the event duly celebrated by the action of the board emphatically disapproving of the establishment of the Holly system of waterworks by the city (see article on waterworks). Seven meetings of this "second board of trade" are recorded as being held prior to January 21, 1870, and these were devoted mainly to the consideration of railway projects. These were the Green Bay, Winona & St. Paul, the Chicago & St. Paul, and the Winona & Southwestern, the latter one of the most important railway lines proposed for the interests of the city,



but which was unfortunately allowed to fail of execution, after its success seemed positively assured (for particulars see railway article.) The last meeting held by this organization was on June 27, 1870, at which time there were but five members present to hear the reading of the treasurer's report, which seems to have wound up "Winona Board of Trade" No. 2, as no further record of its transactions appears. Like its predecessor the work of this "board," though only existing through a period of six months, discussed measures and helped to further measures that have been of lasting benefit to the city. There is scarce a doubt that a recognition of the really substantial results secured through the former "boards of trade" had no little bearing upon the question of making one more attempt to establish a board of trade and give it permanency. The subject was taken up by the daily press in the summer of 1879, and in a series of able editorials the "Daily Republican" urged the establishment of a board of trade as a necessary antecedent to a new era of commercial prosperity. Trade was stagnant, population certainly not increasing, manufactures at a standstill, and there was an urgent necessity for some revival of business enterprise such as had been experienced at an early stage of Winona's growth. These articles in the "Republican" brought forth fruit. They were of a practical character and very succinctly set forth the advantages of Winona as a receiving, manufacturing and distributing point, and a live organization of business men for the protection of the interests already centered here, and the inauguration of new manufacturing and commercial enterprises, was earnestly advocated. A call in accordance with the spirit of these articles was issued for a meeting of those interested, and after one or two preliminary gatherings the organization of the present Winona board of trade was formally effected, August 21, 1879. The name of the association is designated in the constitution thereof as the "Board of Trade of the City of Winona," and the object of its organization "to unite the mercantile, manufacturing, shipping and other material interests for the purpose of advancing and increasing the trade and business of the city of Winona; to promote just and equitable principles of trade; to discover and correct abuses; to support such means as may be deemed best to promote these ends; and to use their influence as a body to protect their rights and interests as citizens and business men." From this declaration of principles it appears that the board of trade has become to no small degree the sponsor of the city and the guardian

of its material interests, rather than an exchange for market quotations and grain, provision and stock deals. That the responsible duties thus assumed have not been lightly undertaken or carelessly esteemed seems evident upon a review of the transactions of the board and a résumé of the industries fostered and undertaken through its agency or under its stimulus.

Before we make this review, a word as to its management. This control is vested in the hands of the president, vice-presidents (2), secretary and treasurer (ex-officio directors), and twenty-four directors, all of whom are to be residents of the city of Winona,



MERCHANTS HOTEL.

and members of the board of trade. The annual meeting is held on the second Monday in January of each year, at which time the election of officers is held, their term of service being for one year. The term of director is for three years, eight of the twenty-four members of the board being chosen annually. The original officers of the board of trade were: President, Thos. Wilson; first vice-president, W. H. Laird; second vice-president, S. C. White; secretary, Wm. F. Phelps; treasurer, L. R. Brooks, who held office from the organization of the board until the annual meeting in 1880. The directors hold monthly meetings, and special meetings of both

the association and the directors are provided for. The fees for membership are \$5 or more per annum, and new members pay the same amount on signing the constitution, no further payments being required unless by regular assessment until the ensuing annual meeting. The standing committees of the board are on finance, manufactures, city affairs, wholesale and jobbing trade, legislation, transportation routes, and rates and membership. Including the regular and special meetings of both the association and its directory, fifty-six meetings were held prior to the annual election of 1883. The present officers of the board of trade are: President, O. B. Gould; first vice-president, W. A. Scott; second vice-president, John Kendall; secretary, Wm. F. Phelps; treasurer, W. W. Thomas. Secretary Phelps, in his last annual report, speaking of the work accomplished by the board during the three and a-half years of its existence to date of said report, at annual meeting of January 1883, says: "During this period a wholesome agitation has been kept up, and a considerable amount of important business has been transacted which has led to practical results. Among the more immediate of these results were the establishment of the Wagon-works, on a capital of \$45,000, and of the Winona Mill Company, with a capital of \$80,000. These enterprises have been followed successively by the erection of the planing-mills, and sash and door factory of the Empire Lumber Company, the mills of the Winona Lumber Company, with a capital of \$250,000, the re-establishment of the Winona Carriage-works, the erection of the Winona Plow-works, the organization of the Building and Loan Association, with a capital of \$500,000, three-fifths of which is already taken, the organization of the Gate City Carriage Company, and of the Winona Carriage Company, each with a capital of \$25,000, and of the rapid extension and development of all the manufacturing concerns in the city to the amount, in invested capital, of several hundred thousand dollars. For example, the capital stock of the Winona Wagon Company has been increased from \$45,000 to \$100,000, and that of the Winona Mill Company from \$80,000 to \$300,000. Since this report was submitted, the Plow-works, with a capital of \$25,000, has passed into other hands and its capital increased to \$100,000. The Winona Machine Company has been incorporated\* with a capital of \$50,000; the Winona Harvester-works with a capital of \$250,000, and such progress made toward securing a tannery and boot and shoe manufactory, with a capital of



\$100,000, as practically insures the success of that enterprise. More specific information concerning the manufacturing industries of the city, including location, dimensions of buildings, number of employés, etc., will be found in another department of this work. In addition to the work thus enumerated, and the results thus achieved, the influence of the board of trade is favorably felt in the city council chamber, and has manifested itself in a demand for better sidewalks, cleaner streets, better crossings a more efficient system of police, the erection and maintenance of one of the best system of waterworks to be found in any city east or west, in the direct control of the ferry and the building of a roadway across the Wisconsin bottoms, that insures access to this market at all seasons of the year, the passing of an ordinance granting franchise for a street railway, and in divers ways more readily felt than expressed. The financial management of the board of trade has been most admirable. Each year has ended with a very respectable surplus in the treasury, and the membership fee has been reduced from \$5 to \$2.50 per annum. The financial report for the year last closed showed a surplus of \$300. Since that report was submitted, and in accordance with its recommendations, very comfortable rooms have been fitted up on the east side of the hall in the second story of post-office block, and possession was taken in 1883. The board of trade of the city of Winona has not lived in vain, and having now secured a home in a central location, easy of access and well lighted, there is every reason to prophesy for it a life of increasing usefulness and activity as its work becomes approved in beneficial results.

#### THE CITY FERRY.

As has been elsewhere remarked, in nothing was the wisdom and forethought of the founders of Winona more clearly manifest than in their early efforts to establish communication with the surrounding country, by opening and maintaining practicable roadways, and thus make Winona accessible as a market at all seasons. In furtherance of this policy, an attempt was made to establish a ferry at this point as early as 1855, and render the adjacent sections of Wisconsin tributary to the trade of the city. The attempt then made, seen in the light of subsequent events, seems premature, there not being at that time any possibility of sufficient trade with the Wisconsin agriculturalists to maintain a ferry at this point. The fact that ferry franchises were secured at that early period, a year



after the formal organization of the county, simply proves how ready the early settlers of this section were to avail themselves of every means likely to increase the trade of the embryo city. The act of incorporation constituting the "Winona Ferry Company" was passed by the legislature of the state March 25, 1855, and the franchises conferred were for a period of twenty-five years from the date of the act, which became law immediately upon its passage. The incorporators named in the act were Lorenzo D. Smith, Wm. A. Jones, Henry D. Huff and John C. Laird. The capital stock of the company was \$3,000, with privilege of increase to \$10,000, and they were required to organize as a company within three months from the date of the passage of the act; to file a bond of \$1,000 for the proper performance of their contract, as carriers under the provisions of the act, within six months of its passage, and put their boat on the river within one year of said date of passage. Rates of toll were established, ferry landings designated, and all was in readiness for the filing of bonds indicative of the acceptance of the franchise. This was not done, however, and the privileges conferred expired by limitation. Two years later, in the spring of 1857, another attempt of a similar character was made by what, for the sake of distinction, may be designated as "Winona Ferry Company No. 2." This project was more ambitious than the original one. Its stock was placed at \$20,000, and a promise of successful business given in a clause empowering the city council of Winona to regulate the tolls of the ferry after it had been in operation for five years, the term of the franchise being fixed, as in the first instance, at twenty-five years. Owing to the business depressions of 1857 and subsequent years, this attempt also failed to materialize into a ferry *in esse*, and for eight years thereafter the quiet sloughs and lagoons of the Buffalo bottoms in Wisconsin were untroubled by any craft other than the punt of the sportsman or the skiff of the pleasure-seeker. Acting under the authority of a charter granted in the spring of 1865, by the legislature of the State of Wisconsin, and of a license issued him by the board of commissioners of Winona county, Samuel D. Van Gorder placed a ferry-boat upon the Mississippi river at this point, May 20, 1865. The ferry then established has been continuously operated during the navigation season ever since, but has passed out of the hands of the private parties by whom it was established and conducted for fifteen years, into the custody of the city of Winona, and is now operated by that corporation. To main-

tain the ferry, which, according to the terms of his Wisconsin charter, was to be operated to meet the necessities of the community, Mr. Van Gorder purchased a ferry steamer from Rymer, Dineau & Downer, of Wabasha, and commenced operations at the date above mentioned, May 20, 1865. This boat, named the "Turtle," was a small center-wheel steamer, 70 feet over all, of thirty tons register, and cost \$3,000. Trips were made the first season during two days of the week only, and the landing for teams on the Wisconsin shore was six miles above the present ferry dock, the Buffalo bottoms being impassable by teams. The rates of toll established by the Wisconsin authorities were: for double teams, \$1.00; single horse and carriage, 60 cents; stock (as horses, cattle, mules), 25 cents per head; sheep and swine, 5 cents each; foot passengers, 25 cents each, and merchandise, 10 cents per hundredweight. Ferrying was continued under these conditions until the spring of 1868, when Mr. Van Gorder received a charter from the legislature of the State of Minnesota authorizing him to establish and maintain a ferry across the Mississippi river "at a point in the city and county of Winona where Center street, if extended northwardly across the public levee, would intersect said river, and above and below said point at any place within the corporate limits of said city; and no other ferry shall be established within said corporate limits of said city during the period of ten years from the passage of the act." The bonds to be given were the same as heretofore, \$1,000, and the rates of toll about 75 per cent of those allowed under the Wisconsin charter. This latter charter, having expired by limitation in 1875, was extended for a further period of ten years by the State of Wisconsin. In 1869 the old ferry-boat "Turtle" was overhauled, new boilers and engines put in, and completely refitted, at a cost of \$3,000.

In the meantime a road had been constructed across the Buffalo county bottoms in Wisconsin, directly opposite the city and the ferry landing made at that place. In 1878 Mr. Van Gorder built his new ferryboat, the S. D. Van Gorder. This boat was ninety-five feet over all, twenty-six feet beam, was rated at sixty tons burden, and could accommodate sixteen teams besides passengers. Upon the expiration of Mr. Van Gorder's charter, received from the legislature of this state, it was not renewed, and two years later the ferry property was purchased by the city and is now operated by them, under charters from the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin. The consideration paid Mr. Van Gorder, who, after two failures by

other parties, had successfully established and maintained the ferry for fifteen years, was \$6,000 in money and the free use of the ferry for himself, his heirs, his executors and administrators, his property on the Wisconsin side of the river making this stipulation of free ferryage a very valuable consideration. During the first year that the ferry was in operation not more than a dozen teams were transported across the river. During the last year of its operations under the Van Gorder management the number of teams ranged from fifteen to twenty per day for the season, and the average receipts were \$19 a day for the period during which the river remained open. The Minnesota charter granting the ferry franchise to the city, bears date February 15, 1879, and differs in several essentials from the preceding ones, among others the following: the grant was perpetual; the rates of toll, if any, were to be established by vote of the common council of the city, to whom was also granted the power to maintain a free ferry if adjudged best for the interests of the city; the lease of the ferry by the council was permitted, but under such restrictions as amounted virtually to a prohibition. The purchase or construction of docks, piers, ferry-houses, etc., was permitted the council, and the building and maintenance of such roads across the bottoms in Wisconsin leading to and terminating at the ferry landing on that side of the river, as the wisdom of the council should determine; and finally the council was granted authority in its corporate capacity to execute bonds of indemnity to any town or board of supervisors of such town in the State of Wisconsin in which such roads may be located, in such penal sum as may be necessary; the city of Winona to keep such roads in good repair and indemnify such towns, as aforesaid, from all liabilities incurred by them on account of any failure to maintain said roads in good condition. The charter granted the city of Winona by the Wisconsin legislature bears date in 1881, and requires a bond of indemnity from the city in the penal sum of \$5,000 for the proper observance of its stipulations,—this among others, that the city of Winona shall designate some resident of Buffalo county, Wisconsin, as its agent; said agent to be held legally responsible for the acts of the city in the management of the ferry, his name to be duly registered for said county of Buffalo; said agent to personally represent said city of Winona, so as to accept service for and on behalf of the city that all legal process may be had against the city of Winona, the same as if said city was within

the limits and jurisdiction of said Buffalo county. It does not appear that this bond has as yet been filed.

But two accidents of a serious nature have occurred during the eighteen years that the ferry has been maintained, and both of these were in 1879. By one of these a horse was drowned and a wagon and load of wheat lost, the accident arising from the team backing off the boat. The other accident resulted in the death, by drowning, of a ten-year-old boy. The boy was on the ferryboat, and, while the boat was backing, attempted to climb into the yawl which hung from the davits over the stern of the ferryboat. The yawl upset and the boy was thrown under the boat as it passed over him, and drowned. The direct distance from landing to landing across the river at this point is 155 rods, but the actual course of the ferryboat is not much less than twice that distance, the sand-bar in front of the levee necessitating a deflection of the course to that extent.

#### WOODLAWN CEMETERY.

The early interments in the Wabasha prairie were not infrequently made in the private grounds of those who had lost friends and family relatives, doubtless awaiting the time when some suitable place of sepulture should be prepared. The mouth of the Burns valley, just beyond Sugar Loaf Bluff, was early utilized for burial purposes, but the ground was so low that it was always subject to overflow in high water, and on that account quite unsuitable for cemetery use. The open square now known as Central Park was also used for the interment of the dead at an early day, some twelve or fifteen persons at one time or another having been buried there. In 1862, several gentlemen in this city, who had been considering the matter of providing a suitable place for a city cemetery, took definite steps toward the accomplishment of that purpose, and, deciding upon the locality most eligible for their purpose, called a meeting for the avowed object of organizing the association. The meeting was held in the hall of the Huff House, and acting under the authority conferred by the revised statutes of Minnesota proceeded to the organization of "Woodlawn Cemetery Association." This meeting was held June 6, 1862, and on the 12th of the same month the organization was perfected by the election of the following officers and board of trustees: President, Ezekiel D. Williams; secretary, J. H. Jacoby; treasurer, Warren Powers. E. D. Williams, J. H. Jacoby and M. K. Drew were elected trustees for the one-year term, A. F. Hodgins,



Thomas Wilson and Warren Powers for the two years' term, and Thomas Simpson, R. D. Cone and John Curtis for the three years' term. Messrs. M. K. Drew, A. F. Hodgins and E. D. Williams were appointed a committee on grounds, to make survey, complete bargain and perfect title, the site as before said having been already decided upon. This was accordingly done and deed taken September 13, 1862, the contract price of the ground being \$630, and the tract as described in the survey—"commencing at the southwest corner of lot No. 4 in the southwest fractional quarter of Sec. No. 27, T. 107, N. R. 7 W. ; thence along the west line of said lot 4 northerly thirty-nine chains to the lake ; thence south fifty-four degrees twenty-eight minutes, east along the lake fourteen and eighty-three hundredths chains ; thence in a straight line southerly and parallel to the first-mentioned line thirty and eight hundred and forty-five thousandths to the south line of said Sec. 4 ; thence westerly along the south side of said Sec. 10 and forty-six hundredths chains to the section corner, place of beginning." The tract at that time purchased was about forty acres. January 1, 1883, an additional forty acres was purchased lying south of the original forty. For this latter tract the sum of \$200 was paid, the owner, Judge Mitchell, being one of the members of the cemetery association and quite moderate in appraising the value of the land sold. Mr. E. D. Williams continued to act as president of the association, and exercised such a constant supervision over its affairs that he was justly regarded as its putative father. His death, which occurred October 31, 1872, terminated his term of office, and he was laid away in the beautiful grounds upon which so much of his thought and loving care had been expended. Mr. Williams was succeeded by Mr. J. J. Randall, one of the original members of the association, who held his office until the January of 1883, when Hon. William Mitchell was chosen to succeed him. I. B. Cummings, the present efficient secretary, was elected about four years since, and the records of the association, which had become sadly deranged and neglected, were put in proper condition, regular entries of financial transactions made and a systematic arrangement of business introduced. The association as originally formed was not for profit nor personal benefit, but for the public good—a private corporation managed for the good of the people. This object has been steadily kept in view, and to the public spirit and wise disinterestedness of a few the many are indebted for one of the most picturesque and beautiful retreats for both living

and dead that can be found anywhere in the vicinity of the great lakes or the big river. The revenue of the cemetery is derived solely from the sale of lots, and two-fifths of all moneys received from this source is set apart as a reserve fund from which to maintain the cemetery when all lots shall have been disposed of and that revenue cut off. The number of lots disposed of to date, June 9, 1883, has been 773, the number of interments 2,356, and the amount of reserve accumulated about \$3,500.

Long before Woodlawn cemetery had existed, even in the thought of the dwellers in this vicinity, the first burial had taken place in the ground now formally set apart for the resting-place of the dead. This was the body of Scott Clark, brother of George W. Clark, the oldest Winona county pioneer now living within the county limits, who was buried in the little dell almost thirty years since.

The first regular interment after the grounds were dedicated to burial purposes, was that of the body of Benjamin Lowe, sometime in the summer of 1862. Woodlawn cemetery, is just what its name implies, woods and lawns. It lies south from the western portion of the city, across lake Winona, about two miles from the business center of town. The only approach by carriage is around the lake, a distance of about four miles, and affording one of the most delightfully picturesque drives imaginable. The cemetery grounds embrace a tract of eighty acres, in which are included two bold bluffs rising about 450 feet above the level of the river. The entrance to the grounds is quite level, and the main carriage-drive, running in a southerly direction, has scarcely a perceptible ascent until you near the center of the grounds, when you reach the foot of the south bluff, which protects itself into the little dell lying between the cemetery bluff on the west and another on the east, lying quite beyond the cemetery grounds. The lower slope of the south bluff does not rise precipitously, and the carriage-drive sweeps around the swelling U-shaped rise on either hand, to cross it some distance up the slope and afford a charming view of the valley below. To the west, as you enter the cemetery inclosure, the bluffs rise quite precipitously, and a succession of well sodded terraces make most sightly lots for burial use. The distribution of the ground is such that there is little choice as to location, save that near the cemetery entrance on the west the lot lies so near the mouth of the dell, that a long vista of river scenery opens to the view, with Trempeleau mountain some half-dozen miles away

rising as it were from the very bosom of the river. The whole cemetery is a succession of terraces and slopes, interspersed with here and there a plat that may be called level only by comparison, or because the hand of art has smoothed the rugged unevenness of nature. The dell contains many native forest-trees, as do the lower slopes of the bluffs, which are nowhere destitute of trees and shrubs. The most skillful adaptation of the ground to its destined use has been wrought, and the whole effect is incomparably beautiful. To the forest-trees, evergreens and ornamental shrubbery have added their attractions; flowers adorn the grassplats, and also spring in native beauty from the uncultivated grounds; a heavy carpeting of well kept turf covers the levels and sides of the terraces with a beautiful greenness, and therē is at all times a most refreshing sense of coolness, restfulness and deep peacefulness pervading the place. The superintendent of the grounds, Mr. Mathew Marrin, has taken a sincere pride in his charge, and the results of his taste and the wisdom of the cemetery management are seen in one of the most beautiful of all the silent cities of the northwest. Removed from the busy hum of city life in the quiet recesses of its own greenness, the towering bluffs sentinelng its everlasting repose. Wood-lawn cemetery waits to receive Winona's weary ones when life's last sleep has come.

#### CENSUS AND VALUATION.

The observation that figures won't lie is no more trite than true. We herewith present some figures showing the growth of the city of Winona from year to year, as evidenced by her census reports, and the returns of the taxable property of the city, real and personal. Not that these are to be taken as certain indices of actual values, but as actual indices of the rate of growth in the material of the city and its citizens. Population within the corporate limits of the city was roughly estimated at 3,000, in round numbers when the city was incorporated. This was in the spring of 1857, when matters had reached the utmost stretch of development for some years to come, the whole country being then on the eve of a great financial crisis. The first census taken of the city was under the provisions of the United States census law, and the actual population at that time was 2,900, a decrease of 100 from the estimate of 1857. The following years, from 1860 to 1865, were not so depressing to the business circles of the west, and by the state census returns, a very observable progress in population had been made, the figures for 1865

being 4,439. The increase was equally marked during the semi-decade, when the returns for 1870 gave 7,192, as the population of the city. The census report for 1875 still gave gratifying evidence of prosperity, and confirmed the good opinion formed by the citizens of Winona, of the future prospects of the city, the figures standing 9,501. The depressions of trade were sensibly felt during the next five years, and had the census of the population been taken in 1878 or 1879, it is the opinion of those who are best informed on these matters that a decrease would have been apparent. The year 1879 saw the revival of business and the opening of a new era of prosperity. When the enumeration was made, under the United States census law of 1880, the city had a little more than recovered its lost ground, and the population was returned at 10,187. Since then Winona has added millions to her manufacturing capital, every department of business has felt the impetus of a new life, and it is a very moderate and certainly an unexaggerated estimate that places the present population of the city at fully 13,000 souls. In the meantime the county had kept step to the march of the city in this respect. The population in 1857 was estimated at 8,000; in 1860 it had grown to 9,208; the next five years carried it 15,277, and when the United States census of 1870 was taken the county returned 22,319 population. The next five years were also years of increase, and 1875 the county was credited with a population of 27,385. The returns of 1880 give no increase, the figures being 27,268, a decrease of 115 in that semi-decade. The immense emigration to Dakota some three or four years since is accountable for this apparent retrogression. Since then emigration from this county has largely ceased, and the population has certainly increased to a little over 30,000. The figures showing the valuation of real and personal property within the city are equally demonstrative of Winona's steady growth in all material wealth. The returns on file with the county auditors give, for the various semi-decades of the city's life, property returns as follows:

1860 Real property.....	\$ 583,464	1875 Real property.....	\$2,223,019
“ Personal property....	151,168	“ Personal property....	1,469,250
1865 Real property.....	850,443	1880 Real property.....	2,649,564
“ Personal property....	291,887	“ Personal property....	1,231,511
1870 Real property.....	1,499,948	1882 Real property.....	2,833,010
“ Personal property....	695,535	“ Personal property....	1,256,386

This places the total valuation of the taxable property of the city at a little over \$4,000,000. In securing this valuation it must be



remembered that the valuation of property as it appears rated upon the tax lists is notoriously lower than its actual worth.

BONDS AUTHORIZED, ISSUED AND REDEEMED.

The history of a people's liberality or parsimony in matters of public expenditure is always of value in fixing the boundary between a wise expenditure of the public funds on the one hand, and a too lavish or a too niggardly outlay on the other. A detailed statement in the present instance will not be found necessary, and the following general presentation of facts concerning the authorized and actual issue of bonds, making of loans and redemption of pledges thus made, will be all that is needed. Our object is simply to show how far the credit of the city has been pledged, how wisely these pledges have been made, how carefully the monetary interests of the citizens have been guarded in making them, and to what extent these pledges have been redeemed. The actual results in the several enterprises thus cherished it is not our province now to consider, as these are more fully set forth in the special notices made of these several enterprises separately considered.

The first authorization of a loan by the city council of Winona antedates the admission of the state into the federal union, and was made by act of territorial legislature, approved August 2, 1858. The amount of this loan was fixed at a maximum of \$10,000, the rate of interest not to exceed twelve per cent per annum, and the purpose of the loan was to meet some outstanding obligations of the city and erect a suitable building for school purposes. No record of the city's action in the matter appears. Inasmuch as there was no school building erected in the city for years thereafter, and that the council was in straits for money wherewith to pay the expenses of engines and hose for her recently created fire department, it is a fair inference that the loan never was made. This inference is corroborated by an examination of the tax list, which shows no special school tax for that or years immediately following, and the then city recorder has no recollection of any vote of the city being ordered for the approval or disapproval of such loan. By an act of the legislature of the State of Minnesota, approved February 28, 1866, the board of education of the city of Winona was authorized to negotiate a loan of \$15,000, said loan to be made upon the credit of the city, by bond duly executed by the common council upon the wish of the citizens expressed at the polls. These bonds were required

to be issued at par, and the annual rate of interest was limited to ten per cent. The issue of these bonds being approved by the vote of the people, they were offered for sale and disposed of on or before December 26 of that same year. The proceeds, \$15,000, were deposited with the treasurer of the city, and used in aid of the building fund of the central school. These bonds were redeemed within six years of their issue and canceled; \$3,500 in 1869, the same amount in 1870, \$4,000 in 1871, and the remaining \$4,000 one year later. March 4, 1867, the state legislature authorized the city council to issue bonds to the amount of \$100,000, in aid of the La Crosse, Trempeleau & Prescott Railway and Bridge Company, a corporation whose objects are sufficiently indicated in the above title. The rate of interest was limited to six per cent. The scheme was not successfully prosecuted, and the bonds of the city were never issued. March 1, 1868, the legislature authorized the city council to expend the sum of \$10,000 in improving the approaches to the city on the north side of the Mississippi river, across the Wisconsin bottoms, directly opposite the city. For this purpose no bonds were issued, but special orders were drawn on the credit of the city for \$5,000 expended in this work, and it is but just to include that amount in this schedule. March 2, 1868, the city council was duly authorized by the state legislature to bond the city to the extent of \$15,000, in aid of the state normal school located here. The matter was approved, the bonds issued and negotiated, and the proceeds, \$15,000, were conveyed into the treasury of that institution. The bonds, as will be noted, were issued at par; they had ten years in which to mature, and drew interest at ten per cent per annum, payable semi-annually. These bonds were all paid at maturity, and canceled as follows: \$2,000 on the ninth day of March, 1877, \$8,000 in October, 1878, and the remaining \$5,000 on the sixth day of the following month. Their date of issue was November 1, 1868. The same year that the normal school bonds were issued the state legislature authorized the city council of Winona (act of March 4), upon the sanctioning vote of the citizens, as in such cases required, to bond the city to the amount of \$100,000 to aid in the construction of a line of railway from St. Paul through Winona to Chicago, known as the St. Paul & Chicago railway. The matter was submitted to the people, approved by them, and after some delay the bonds were issued and placed in the hands of trustees, to be by them turned over to the Minnesota Construction Company upon the completion

of the road as per schedule, the Minnesota Construction Company having the contract for building the proposed line of railway. The agreement of the construction company was not kept with the city of Winona in important particulars (see railway article), but the company succeeded in obtaining possession of the bonds. Suit was begun by the city to recover damages equivalent to the value of the bonds, and the view taken by the city in the case was sustained by the courts, and the bonds were finally surrendered. These bonds were negotiated at six per cent per annum, to mature in from twenty to thirty years.

March 3, 1869, an annual appropriation, amounting to \$1,000, for the maintenance of a public library in the city, but the vote taken on that subject resulted in defeating the project. February 27, 1871, by act of legislature of that date, the city council were authorized to issue the bonds of the city for \$150,000 in aid of the Minnesota and Southwestern railway. The proposed line was to connect with the Green Bay & Minnesota at its western terminus across the river, and run in a southwesterly direction, crossing the state line into Iowa at some point not definitely fixed. The proposition was received by the citizens with favor, the aid voted, and the city was ready to issue its bonds, but the project fell through after the line had been surveyed at an expense to the city of \$3,000, and the charter for the road secured. The bonds authorized were therefore never issued. The city treasury being at a low ebb, February 24, 1872, the city council were authorized to issue bonds to the amount of \$20,000 to pay the floating indebtedness. The vote approving the issue was polled, and the bonds were issued in denominations of \$1,000 each, bearing interest at ten per cent per annum, and were negotiated as follows, at the Deposit National Bank of this city: \$10,000 on March 21, 1872, \$7,000 on the 5th of the following June, and \$3,000 on the 7th day of April, 1873. The entire issue was made payable in three years from the date of negotiation, and \$13,000 were paid March 20, 1875; an additional \$3,000 was paid April 10, 1879, and the remaining \$4,000 on the following October 1. February 28, 1873, the legislature authorized the issue of \$80,000 water-works bonds, provided the requisite majority vote of the citizens could be obtained, but, as appears under the article (water-works), the citizens were not ready for the project, and no bonds were issued. February 5, 1874, the issue of \$50,000 in bonds in aid of the Green Bay & Minnesota railway was au-

thorized, the bonds to bear no higher rate of interest than eight per cent, and mature in twenty years from date of issue. These bonds, in reality, were intended to cover a private subscription amounting to \$35,000, made by private citizens of Winona in aid of the above-mentioned railway, which subscription had been made upon the tacit understanding that being for the general good the general credit of the city would be invoked to reimburse the subscribers. The citizens, nevertheless, refused to vote the issue of the bonds for that purpose, and the subscribers to the Green Bay & Winona railway had the meager satisfaction that their money had "gone where it would do most good" to somebody beside themselves. This was the last attempt made to bond the city for railway purposes. The board of education of the city of Winona, having in contemplation the erection of a creditable school-building in the western part of the city, applied for and secured the authority of the legislature for the issue by the city of school bonds to the amount of \$15,000, the bonds to run for a period of from one to six years, and bear interest at a rate not to exceed nine per cent per annum. The bonds were issued at various dates as the work of the board of education demanded—\$10,000 of them prior to January 1, 1875, and the remaining \$5,000 April 10, 1875. The proceeds were turned over to the building fund of the board of education, then engaged in erecting the Madison school building. These bonds have all been redeemed and canceled as follows: \$2,500 in March, 1876; \$1,500 in March, 1877; \$2,000 in March, 1878; \$3,000 in March, 1880; \$4,000 in March, 1881. The remaining \$2,000 were not canceled until 1883, the holder being a non-resident of the state, and careless in presenting them, but interest ceased at maturity, April 10, 1881. In the meantime the board of education had decided on building in the eastern part of the city, favorable legislation being secured by an act approved January 25, 1876, and the affirmative vote of the city obtained. The bonds of the city were issued in behalf of the board of education, for a further sum of \$25,000, interest at not more than eight per cent per annum; bonds to run from eight to fifteen years. These bonds were all issued, and none of them have yet matured. February 15, 1877, the issue of \$40,000 water bonds was authorized by the legislature of the state to meet expenses already incurred by the city in laying mains and meeting contract entered into with the mills to supply pumping power, as noted in article on water-works. The issue was approved by the vote of the city, and the bonds were



accordingly drawn and negotiated. The interest was not to exceed seven per cent, and the term for which they were issued was limited to ten years. By January 1, 1878, \$21,000 of the issue had been placed, \$5,000 more were taken by February 6 of that same year, and the remaining \$8,000 the following month. These bonds have still four years to run. On March 8, 1878, the issue of \$30,000 for ferry and bridge purposes, and for the construction of a permanent roadway across the Wisconsin bottoms to the ferry landing on the north side of the river, was authorized by the act of legislature of the above date, sanctioned by a vote of the citizens, and issued as follows: \$1,500 issued March 19, 1880, bearing interest at seven per cent; \$5,000 issued on 1st day of the following April, interest at six per cent, and \$23,500 negotiated January 1, 1883, at an annual interest of five per cent. These bonds mature in from ten to twenty years. The issue of \$12,000 to cover the floating debt of the city was authorized February 17, 1881. These bonds were drawn to mature in fifteen years, and bear interest at seven per cent per annum. Of these bonds \$7,000 have been issued to cover special orders cashed at Winona Deposit Bank, in anticipation of this enabling act of February, which was called for by resolution of the council. Bonds for the remaining \$5,000 never were issued. November 4, 1881, the issue of \$10,000 for macadamizing and paving the streets of the city was authorized but not issued.

At the same date the legislature authorized the council of the city to issue bonds to the full amount of \$60,000, for the erection of pumping-works for the city mains and the establishment of a system of water-works. These bonds were to bear six per cent interest at maximum, and run for twenty years from date of issue. They were negotiated as follows: August 11, 1882, \$20,000, at five per cent; August 15, 1882, \$20,000, at five per cent; and September 4, 1882, \$20,000, same rate of interest. These bonds will not mature this century. It appears from the above statement of the bond and loan transactions of the city that no funds of the city have been expended in aid of railway construction beyond the amount of \$3,000, for surveys in connection with the Winona and Southwestern: that the bonds of the city were never issued for railway construction save in the case of the St. Paul & Chicago, and that the city recovered the amount so conveyed. A recapitulation of the amounts authorized by the legislature, actually issued or borrowed by the city, as also the bonds canceled on loans paid, and outstanding bonds at this

date, are as follows : total amount authorized by acts of Minnesota state legislature, \$742,000 ; amount actually issued in bonds of the city, \$332,000, less the \$100,000 recovered by judgment from the Minnesota Construction Company—\$232,000. Amount redeemed by moneys paid out of city treasury, \$70,000, leaving a total bonded indebtedness, not reckoning interest, of \$162,000, distributed as follows : Water-works bonds, \$100,000 ; ferry, bridge and road bonds, \$30,000 ; school bonds, \$25,000 ; to cover floating indebtedness, \$7,000. These bonds have from two to twenty years in which to mature, and their average rate of interest is six per cent per annum. The entire indebtedness of the city as shown by the recorder's report, submitted to the city council at the close of the fiscal year, March 31, 1883, is placed at \$181,810.39. This is equivalent to a tax of one and four tenths per cent on the volume of business transacted for the year. It may not be amiss to say that of the \$100,000 bonds issued to the Minnesota Construction Company there are still \$8,000 unredeemed, the bonds never having been presented to the city treasurer. As the city recovered damages for the full amount, these \$8,000 should, strictly speaking, be added to the \$162,000, making a total of \$170,000, which is the amount upon the treasurer's books.

#### SOME WINONA NAMES.

Winona in serving herself has not neglected her duties to the state and the nation, her professional and business circles having sent forth from their midst those who have attained more than a local celebrity. Among these, as is eminently fitting, we note the two attorney-generals Winona has furnished the state, Hon. C. H. Berry and Hon. George P. Wilson. The supreme justices she sent to grace the highest judiciary of the state, Hon. Thomas Wilson, chief-justice of Minnesota, and Hon. William Mitchell, associate justice of the supreme bench ; Hon. W. H. Yale for two terms lieutenant-governor of the state ; Hon. Norman Buck, judge of the U. S. district court for Idaho ; Hon. Thomas Simpson, for many years president of the state normal school board, and Hon. D. S. Norton and Hon. William Windom, United States senators. These old Winona citizens were all members of the Winona bar, and to the article on the "Judiciary of Winona county" we refer for further particulars concerning them.

Of Hon. William Windom, it may here be said, that he is at the

present time the most prominent citizen of the State of Minnesota, a man of whom Winona may feel justly proud ; for the name of William Windom is widely known throughout the length and breadth of our country, is now a part of her history as well as being familiar to all those in other countries who watch the changes of government and the progress of American politics, in the latter of which Mr. Windom has taken a leading part for many years. Therefore it is, that not only from his identification with the political measures and reforms of his adopted state, or even from the fact of his being her representative in the legislative halls of both houses of congress at Washington for many successive terms, has Mr. Windom become familiarly known to the people of his country, but when at the republican national convention of 1880, which resulted in the nomination of the lamented Garfield for the office of president of the United States, Mr. Windom's nomination was strongly urged for that office by his party with the solid delegation from Minnesota at his back. Upon the accession of Mr. Garfield to the presidency he paid a just tribute to the statesmanship and sterling integrity of William Windom by tendering to him a place in his cabinet, entrusting him with the portfolio of secretary of the treasury, which position Mr. Windom accepted.

The well-known Maj. Ben. Perley Poore, of Massachusetts, clerk of printing records in the United States congress, thus refers to Mr. Windom in the congressional directory : "William Windom, of Winona, was born in Belmont county, Ohio, May 10, 1827 ; received an academic education ; studied law at Mount Vernon, Ohio ; practiced his profession in that state and in Minnesota until 1859 ; was elected prosecuting attorney for Knox county in 1852 ; removed to Minnesota in 1855 ; was a representative in the thirty-sixth, thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth and fortieth congresses ; was appointed by the governor of Minnesota, in July, 1870, to fill the unexpired term of Hon. Daniel S. Norton, deceased, in the senate of the United States ; was subsequently elected as a republican, and was re-elected in 1877. He resigned March 4, 1881, having been appointed secretary of the treasury by President Garfield, and was re-elected to fill the vacancy caused by his resignation, taking his seat December 5, 1881."

Mr. Windom's term of service in the United States senate expired March 3, 1883.

In addition to those already mentioned, Winona has furnished

two superintendents of instruction for the state, Hon. Mark Dunnell, also member of congress for the first congressional district of Minnesota, and Rev. David Burt, whose name was so many years a household word among the Congregationalists of this city.

Hon. Mark Dunnell, who had been United States' consul at Vera Cruz during the Maximillian invasion of Mexico, came to Winona during the later years of the war of the rebellion, and in 1867 was appointed state superintendent of public instruction, the first appointment under the law creating that office, the duties of which had been previously discharged by the secretary of state. This office was held by Mr. Dunnell until his nomination to congress in August, 1870, when he resigned his office as superintendent, and shortly afterward removed to Onatona.

Rev. David Burt was born in Munson, Massachusetts, August 2, 1822. His father being pecuniarily unable to afford him the advantages of a liberal education the young man determined to secure such education for himself, and after taking an academical course in his native state entered Oberlin College, from which institution he graduated with the highest honors in the class of 1847. His intention being to enter the ministry he pursued his theological course at Andover, graduating in 1851. During all these years he had largely maintained himself by his own exertions. After a four years' pastorate in one of the eastern towns, Mr. Burt ceased preaching on account of bronchial trouble, came west, taught school in Chicago a year, and in 1858, finding himself able to resume his work in the ministry, accepted a call to the Congregational church of this city. His pastoral connection with the church continued until his failing health admonished him to desist in 1866, when he resigned his charge and accepted the superintendency of the schools established by the Freedmen's bureau of Tennessee. During the eight years of his pastorate in this city Mr. Burt deeply interested himself in the success of the city schools, and was for some years of that time city superintendent of schools here. After a two years' residence in Tennessee Mr. Burt was necessitated to relinquish his labors there on account of the injurious effect of the climate upon his health, and returned to Minnesota. In 1870 he was made county superintendent of schools for Winona county, and five years later took a step higher, having been appointed state superintendent of instruction by his Excellency Gov. Pillsbury. This latter position Mr. Burt continued to hold, discharging the



duties of the office with efficiency until within a few weeks of his death, which occurred at Northfield, in this state, Saturday, September 24, 1881.

The other Winona notables that belong to this list are: Mrs. Mary Clemmer (formerly Mary Clemmer Ames); Prof. W. F. Phelps (whose biographical record is found elsewhere); Rev. Edward Eggleston and Capt. Sam Whiting.

Captain Sam Whiting was born at Hempstead, Long Island, in the year 1814. He appears to have received an excellent English education, was a natural, easy writer, and a poet of some little local celebrity. He was naturally of a roving disposition, and at an early age went to sea, rose rapidly in his chosen calling, and about the time Winona was receiving her pioneer settlers, was in command of one of the famous clipper merchant ships plying between New York and Liverpool. He was subsequently in the Mediterranean trade, and later still made several voyages to the East Indies. He came to Winona in 1854, having just returned from a voyage around the world, touching by the way at China and Japan. The following spring (1855) Captain Whiting volunteered to accompany the Hartstein Arctic expedition in search of Dr. Kane, and was absent from the city until the following October. This voyage furnished the materials for many interesting articles, some of which subsequently appeared in the columns of the "Republican." This paper was started the same fall that Captain Whiting returned from his voyage into the north seas, and for the first six months of its existence he conducted its editorial columns. Captain Whiting soon drifted eastward again, and in the winter of 1860-1 was in command of the steamer Marion, plying between New York and Charleston. On December 29, 1860, his steamer having been seized by the rebel authorities for state purposes, Captain Whiting steamed out of the harbor defying the authorities, and when opposite Fort Sumter ran up the stars and stripes, dipping his colors to the national ensign floating above the fort. In answer to a letter from J. M. Tuomey, of Charleston, challenging his action, Captain Sam replied that "he was born under the stars and stripes and had always sailed under them, and by the blessing of God would die under them." Not long after this event, which gave him a national reputation, Captain Whiting was appointed United States consul at Nassau, New Providence, where he remained four years. Soon after the close of the war he returned to Winona, remaining about a year, but not succeeding

in establishing himself in business satisfactorily, he again drifted east, led for many years a rambling life, until in 1880 he was disabled by a fall in Broadway, New York, and taken to Snug Harbor hospital, Staten Island, where, despondent and perhaps despairing of a change for the better, he put an end to his own existence, July 30, 1882.

Edward Eggleston was born in Indiana in 1837. His father, a prominent lawyer, dying when Edward was quite young, the family circumstances, as well as his own delicate health, prevented his securing the advantages of a collegiate training. He came to Minnesota in 1857; was that same fall admitted into the annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, which convened at Winona in August of that year, and was assigned a circuit which included St. Peter and Traverse de Sioux, on which he spent one year, during which time he married. The following year, 1858, he was employed as agent of the American Bible Society, and then served successively the Market street Methodist Episcopal church at St. Paul, the church in Stillwater, and the Jackson street church in St. Paul. When serving this latter church he was compelled to resign his pastorate on account of failing health, and for a season engaged in other pursuits. Recovering his health, he was assigned to the church in this city in the fall of 1864, and remained until the spring of 1866, when his health compelled him a second time to cease pulpit work, and he removed to Evanston, Illinois, where he was engaged in literary labors, as editor of the "Little Corporal," and of a Sunday school magazine published in Chicago. Acquiring some reputation in this field, he removed to Brooklyn, New York, in 1810, and took a position on the editorial staff of "The Independent." This position he held for a year or two, and then exchanged it for the editorial chair of "Hearth and Home," in which "The Hoosier Schoolmaster" soon afterward appeared as a serial, attracting much attention. This book was subsequently published in book form, and had a great sale. He has also published "The End of the World," the "Mystery of Metropolisville," a story of early times in Minnesota; "The Circuit Rider," "Roxy," and, in connection with his daughter (Mrs. Seeley), several volumes of biographical stories for the young. Early in 1875 Mr. Eggleston became pastor of the church of the Christian Endeavor, in Brooklyn, an independent church organization, with which he remained until 1880, when, broken down in health, he resigned his pastorate and

spent a year in Europe. With his health somewhat improved, he resumed his literary labors on his return, and has also engaged in lecturing, but has taken no regular pulpit-work. He is at present engaged in preparing a historical volume, designed to portray the domestic and social life and the manners of the early American colonists, a work expected to fill an unoccupied niche in the history of this country. He has also been a quite liberal contributor to the American reviews and magazines.

Mrs. Mary Clemmer, as she is now called, though known to early settlers in Winona as Mary Clemmer Ames, is a native of Westfield, Massachusetts, where she was born somewhere about the year 1830, removing in early life to central New York. At the age of fifteen years she began writing for the press, notably the Utica "Herald" and the Springfield, Mass., "Republican," contributing regularly to both of these papers until after the outbreak of the war of the rebellion, when she engaged her services exclusively to the "Independent," at a salary of \$5,000 per annum, a relation which she still sustains. She married Rev. Daniel Ames, and with him removed to Winona in 1856, where they remained about two years, Mr. Ames being pastor of the Presbyterian church here. They subsequently removed to Jersey City, and then to Brooklyn. In 1861 she commenced to write her well-known series of "A Woman's Letters from Washington," which have given her a more than national reputation. She was at Harper's Ferry during the siege of that place, and wrote a most vivid description of that event from her position between the hostile armies. Mrs. Clemmer's "Ten Years in Washington" was founded upon her Independent letters from the capital, and had a very extended sale. She has also written several works of fiction—"Victoire," "Irene" and others. A volume of poems from her pen, entitled, "Poems of Life and Nature," recently published, has passed to a second edition. Her separation from her husband, which occurred about eight years ago, was occasioned by his persisting in some visionary real-estate speculations at Harper's Ferry, in which he had squandered tens of thousands of her money, and which she saw no other way of preventing. It was simply an unfortunate necessity of the situation.

W. J. Youmans, M.D., at present the associate editor of the "Popular Science Monthly," was for some two years a practicing physician in this city. Dr. Youmans graduated from the medical department of the University of New York, taking special in-

struction under Professor Draper, and soon afterward went to England to pursue his physiological studies in the laboratory of Prof. Huxley. While there, in connection with Prof. Huxley, they jointly published Huxley's and Youmans' Physiology, the department of hygiene falling to Prof. Youmans. This work was simultaneously published in England and this country. Returning to America, Dr. Youmans soon after came to Winona, 1869, and remained here about two years, when, on the establishment of the "Popular Science Monthly," he was called to New York to assume the post of assistant-editor—under his brother, Prof. E. L. Youmans, editor-in-chief and originator of the journal. Dr. Youmans has been connected with the "Popular Science Monthly" since its first issue, and has now for some time been its associate editor.

For a small city, situated so far from the brain-breeding centers of thought and intellectual activity, in a new state, where the struggle for established institutions for higher education is only begun, Winona may well congratulate herself upon the record she has made through so many of her citizens, who have attained a justly earned celebrity. A celebrity that, overrunning the boundaries of the growing commonwealth, has brought her into favorable notice from the great river on her eastern border to the oceans that bound the continent on either shore.

#### SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME.

The Soldiers' Orphans' Home of Minnesota, located at Winona, has a somewhat peculiar history. It was not established and maintained by the board of trustees of the "soldiers' orphans" created by act of state legislature, approved March 4, 1869, and exercising authority in consonance with the provisions of that act, but by a corporation acting under contract with the "state board of trustees," created as above mentioned. The war of 1861-5 was drawing to a close when the legislature of the State of Minnesota, then in session at St. Paul, moved thereto by its own patriotic impulses, passed an act for the benefit of the orphans of such Minnesota soldiers as had died in the service of the United States, or from wounds received in battle, or from sickness incurred in the military or naval service of the United States. This act was passed March 3, 1865, and devoted to this purpose the proceeds of all the swamp-lands conveyed to the state by the general government and not otherwise appropriated for educational, railway and other purposes.



Inasmuch as it was generally accepted that the grants already made of these lands covered every acre that could, would or should ever be worth entering, the value of the grant was not very highly appreciated. In January, 1869, the Grand Army of the Republic, (a non-political non-sectarian society of such citizens as had served as soldiers in the late war of the rebellion), met in Winona, and, among other acts, passed a resolution requesting the legislature to provide for the maintenance and education of the orphans of the soldiers of the state. The Grand Army also appointed a committee to go before the legislature and urge the passage of such an act as would give the needed relief and care thus sought. The Winona member of that committee and its chairman was Gen. J. W. Sprague. This action of the Grand Army of Republic resulted in the passage of the act, approved March 4, 1869, providing for an accurate census of the soldiers' orphans within the state, with statistics of their condition, and appropriating the sum of \$10,000 for the temporary relief of such as were destitute. This act also created a board of trustees of the Soldiers' Orphans, composed of seven members and the adjutant-general of the state, who was ex-officio secretary of the board. The act of 1869 also authorized the placing of the orphans in certain designated orphan asylums and the payment by the board of trustees of the Soldiers' Orphans of the sum of three dollars per week for each orphan thus disposed of. The legislature of 1870 continued the appropriation for temporary relief. The first report of the board of trustees, made through its secretary, the adjutant-general of the state, is for the fiscal year closing November 30, 1870. The statistical return of orphans of soldiers for 1869 were quite incomplete, sixteen per cent of the counties, and some of these the most populous in the state, making no returns. From the returns as received the total number was 1,239, of whom 217 were reported destitute. Of the whole number reported 922 were the orphans of Minnesota soldiers, and of the 217 reported destitute 150 were the orphans of soldiers who had entered the service from this state. The report of November 30, 1870, also called attention to the necessity of establishing and maintaining an asylum exclusively for the care and education of soldiers' orphans, and this recommendation of the board was urged upon the broad ground that without such soldiers' orphans' home these wards of the state, made such by the patriotic devotion of their fathers, were compelled to become "the daily associates of foundlings, paupers

and the usual accumulations of charity asylums." The more thorough education of these soldiers' orphans was declared to be of paramount importance, and it was also stated that the citizens of Winona had in contemplation the establishment of a home of the desired character, without expense to the state. The expediency of increasing the grant from \$3 per week per child to \$4 per week was also set forth and the increase urged. Acting upon the suggestions contained in this report, the state legislature passed an act the following spring, March 4, 1871, authorizing the board of trustees to place in any soldiers' orphans' home any number of destitute soldiers' orphans, not to exceed seventy-five, and maintain them at an expense of not to exceed \$4 each per week, the provision to apply to all soldiers' orphans, who were bona-fide residents of the state, between the ages of four and sixteen years. This extension of the benefits of the home to include the orphans of other than Minnesota soldiers was made upon the recommendation of the board.

February 1, 1871, in anticipation of the act of legislature of March 4, 1871, above cited, articles of incorporation "of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home of Minnesota" were filed with the register of deeds of Winona county, and on the fifth of the same month were also filed in the office of the secretary of state at St. Paul. The incorporation was effected under the general statutes of the state, and the object of the corporation "the maintenance and education of children whose fathers have died in the military or naval service of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or from diseases contracted, or from wounds received in such service." "Its place of location shall be the city of Winona, in said State of Minnesota." The officers of the association were to be, president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and a board of thirteen directors, "composed of the mayor of the city of Winona (ex-officio), six female members of the corporation and six members of the Grand Army of the Republic." The original incorporators were sixty-eight in number. By act of March 4, 1871, the city of Winona was duly authorized to appropriate \$1,000 to the establishment and furnishing of a soldiers' orphans' home in Winona, and the appropriation was accordingly made upon due petition of the citizens. When the affairs of the home were closed out, in 1878, this appropriation of \$1,000, with an additional sum of \$500 as interest, was returned to the city by Mayor Gould, the financial head of the home and its manager from the beginning. The officers of the Sol-

diers' Orphans' Home were continued from year to year, by successive re-elections, and there are no changes to record. They were all of Winona. W. S. Drew, president; W. F. Phelps, vice-president and superintendent of instruction; O. B. Gould, secretary and treasurer; J. B. McGaughey, M.D., surgeon. April 13, 1871, the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, through its president and secretary, entered into contract with the board of trustees of the soldiers' orphans of Minnesota, through the executive committee of said board of trustees, to receive, maintain and educate soldiers' orphans as set forth in their articles of incorporation, under the provisions of the act of legislature of 1871. The trustees agreed, on their part, to place all orphans under their charge (if placed in any such home) in the Soldiers' Orphans' Home of Minnesota, and pay the sum of \$4 per week for each orphan so placed; the officers of the home agreeing, on their part, to provide the orphans under their care with a comfortable abode, wholesome food, medical attendance, decent clothing and admission to the state normal school on equal terms with the students of that institution. The home was opened March 30, 1871, in the State Normal School building, through the courtesy of the officers of that institution, and pending the securing of proper quarters elsewhere, and was removed, on the first of the following May, to the Tucker House, a large building in the western part of the city. The report of Secretary Gould, made September 30, 1871, showed a total of thirty-four orphans in the home, the maximum number they could accommodate at that time, and the report of their superintendent of instruction returns them all as enrolled in the classes of the state normal school. It was apparent, however, that many more children throughout the state, entitled to the benefits of the Home, could not be provided for unless the officers of the home should erect a building expressly for that purpose. The gross amount expended for the home to date of report was \$3,212, and there was an outstanding indebtedness of \$3,000. Applications for admission to the home came crowding upon the managers, and private homes were found for many at the expense of the institution. This was not in accordance with the benevolent designs of the managers, and a new departure was made. The state legislature, under act of February 29, 1872, entitled "An Act to enable the Board of Trustees of Soldiers' Orphans to rent a suitable building for a Soldiers' Orphans' Home," appropriated the sum of \$1,800 per annum for said rent, for a term of six years. March 1, 1872, Mrs. L.

D. Kempton, of New Bedford, Massachusetts, a woman of remarkable executive ability, was employed as matron of the home, and this position was maintained by her until it was closed six years later. To her able supervision and noble unselfishness the home was as much indebted for its successful administration as to any other one cause. On July 20 of that year contract was entered into with Conrad Bohn, of this city, to erect a suitable building for the home, and rent it to the officers of that institution for six years, at an annual rental of \$1,800. This building was at once commenced. The site chosen was the southwest corner of Center and Sanborn streets, and here a substantial stone and brick structure, fronting 72 feet on Center street and 40 feet on Sanborn street, was erected. The building rose two and a-half stories above the high basement, the upper stories used for dormitories and the basement for kitchen, laundry, play-rooms, etc. The home was completed that same season, and taken possession of December 15. The report of that year, September 30, 1872, showed an increase of twenty-five members in the number cared for; expenditures for the year, \$6,044.74, and unpaid claims to the amount of \$1,200. By act of February 20, 1873, the restriction limiting the number of orphans in any home to seventy-five was withdrawn, as the home could comfortably accommodate a greater number. The secretary's report for 1873 shows ninety-three members enjoying the privileges of the home during the year, and eighty-five resident there at the date of report. The superintendent's report shows eighty-nine in attendance at the normal school, and a commendable progress made in study. The physician's report is a most favorable comment upon the sanitary condition of the home—implied, not expressed. There were serious cases of erysipelas, pneumonia and influenza in March, and seven cases of malignant scarlet fever in August, with only a total fatality of two. The gross expenditures for the year were \$17,431, and the unpaid claims about \$1,800. For 1874 the total number of orphans under the care of the home was one hundred and five, at the close of the year, eighty-five; expenditures, \$15,500; outstanding claims, \$1,500. School statistics encouraging and surgeons report "no sickness." The reports of 1874 and 1875 are of no special significance. In 1876 there was a very perceptible diminution in the number of admissions and an increase in the number discharged, demonstrating that the Soldiers' Orphans' Home was nearing the end of its honorable and patriotic labors. This was



more plainly apparent month by month.\* The report of September 30, 1877, shows but forty remaining under the care of that institution. The trustees of soldiers' orphans report a further decrease of six at the date of their returns, November 30, 1877, leaving but thirty-four orphans in the home. The board of trustees of soldiers' orphans, knowing that a large number of those remaining there would leave the home at the close of the school year, in May, 1878, resolved, in view of the small number of orphans under their care, to close the home at Winona on or before June 15, 1878, as the numbers remaining would not compensate the local board at this place for the maintenance of the orphans as provided by law, and it was accordingly done. Four years prior to the closing of the home the legislature of the state authorized the board of trustees of soldiers' orphans to make further provisions for such of their wards as had reached the age of eighteen years. And under the regulations of that act at the time the home in Winona closed, some of the discharged members were pursuing their studies at the state university, and others serving apprenticeships to useful trades, both classes receiving some measure of aid from the board. The work accomplished by the Soldiers' Orphans' Home of Minnesota was as purely a philanthropic work, as faithfully performed, as efficiently managed, as necessary to be undertaken, and as far-reaching in its results, as can well be conceived. The exceptional method of its management confers lasting honor upon those to whom it was intrusted.

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## CHAPTER LXI.

### MILITARY RECORD.

The military history of Winona county is one of the difficult, it were better to say impossible, things to write. It is a history not of regiments; only in isolated cases is it a record of complete companies; it is in the main only a narrative, broken but brilliant, of the services of detachments, fragments of commands more anxious to serve their country and support the national government in its hour of peril than to be the recognized integers of some military brigade whose achievements should confer honor on Winona county, as the particular locality from which they came. The sparsely settled condi-

tion of the county and the intense loyalty of the citizens, responding in some degree to every call that emanated from the governor of the state for another regiment, are largely answerable for the fact that the enlistments from Winona county are so scattered over all the regiments sent out from the state, that to trace the movements of these detachments, or even to determine accurately the number of soldiers furnished by the county for the suppression of the rebellion, is simply impossible. We shall, therefore, confine ourselves to a history of such regiments as contained whole or fragmentary companies from Winona county, and only to such fragmentary companies as contained so large a percentage of Winona county enlistments as to justly entitle them to be regarded as Winona county companies. In accomplishing our task, rendered doubly difficult by the imperfect records of the adjutant-general's reports, we have searched every available record, all reliable memories have been invoked and no pains spared to make the history as full as there is material to write it from.

## FIRST MINNESOTA INFANTRY.

April 16, 1861, four days after the rebels opened fire on Fort Sumter, Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, governor of Minnesota, issued his proclamation calling for one regiment of infantry of ten companies, each company to consist of one captain, two lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals and sixty-four privates and one bugler, seventy-six men in all, to serve for the term of three months. The regular volunteer militia companies of the state, already organized, were given the preference in the formation of the new regiment, and several companies were at once reported ready to rendezvous at Fort Snelling. Winona had no militia company organized, but determined if possible to secure a representation in the regiment called for, and took steps accordingly. A public meeting was held in the hall of Huff's hotel, April 19, and ended its session in the open air, the hall being unable to hold the excited populace. The next morning the active work of enlistment began, and the following is a verbatim copy of the original agreement under which the Winona company was enlisted, and which was in the handwriting of Henry C. Lester, afterward elected captain :

“We, the undersigned, mutually agree to unite ourselves together as the Winona Volunteer Company and tender our services to the state adjutant-general for the purpose of making a part of the Minnesota regiment of infantry for the purpose of sustaining the

government of the United States in pursuance of the call of the government. The details of subsequent action to be arranged upon the receipt of proper instructions from the adjutant-general's office at St. Paul."

Active measures were undertaken by the citizens for the relief of such families as might need their care, on account of husband or son enlisting, and the work of recruiting was prosecuted so vigorously that the full complement of men was obtained by the 26th of April, and having been notified that it would not be too late for acceptance, left Winona on Sunday morning, the 28th of April, for the rendezvous at Fort Snelling. The steamer *Golden Era*, on which the company had taken passage up the river, arrived at Fort Snelling on Monday morning, and the same day, April 29, 1861, the 1st reg. Minn. Vol. Inf. was mustered into the service for the term of three months, the Winona contingent being designated as Co. K, and of which Capt. Lester was in command.

It was soon apparent that the war was likely to be more protracted than was at first deemed probable, and on May 3, 1861, a call came from Washington for 42,000 troops, to serve for a term of three years unless the war should sooner close. In response to this call the question of volunteering for three years instead of three months was submitted to the 1st Minnesota, and almost unanimously agreed to. Of the 76 men in Co. K who had enlisted for three months, over sixty agreed to the three-years term. Capt. Lester having obtained leave of absence for that purpose, returned to Winona, and the work of recruiting the company to the full standard required, 101 men, was rapidly and patriotically prosecuted. Forty-six recruits for the three-years service were enlisted, and reached Fort Snelling May 21, 1861, and this regiment, the Fighting First of Minnesota, was the first regiment accepted for the three-years service by the United States government. The company consisted of one captain, two lieutenants, five sergeants, eight corporals, eighty-two privates, one drummer, one fifer, and one teamster, as follows:

COMPANY K, FIRST REGIMENT, MINNESOTA INFANTRY VOLS.

Captain, Henry C. Lester.

Lieutenants: 1st, Gustavus Holtzborn; 2d, Joseph Periam.

Sergeants: 1st, John Ball; 2d, Horatio Bingham; 3d, John G. Merritt; 4th, Zuar E. Moore; 5th, Hiram A. Brink.

Corporals: 1st, Samuel E. Stebbins; 2d, David B. Dudley; 3d, George N.

Burgess; 4th, James E. Seely; 5th, Matthew Marvin; 6th, William Smith; 7th, Julian Fajans; 8th, Edgar Chapman.

Privates: Charles H. Andrews, John Anderson, W. H. Abell, Levi J. Albred, Henry Boysen, Baltaser Best, Charles Behr, Ephraim P. Burton, Stephen Brockway, John J. Badgley, Chardon Bourne, James M. Babcock, William Beales, Noah T. Berry, Charles B. Boardman, Joseph M. Crippen, Alfred P. Carpenter, William H. Churchill, Charles C. Countryman, Alfred Colburn, William A. Coy, Edward Carey, William B. Chase, John Day, David Drayne, George H. Durfee, Jason Durfee, Charles E. Ely, John Einfelt, John J. Evans, Jos. S. Eaton, James M. French, William H. Flemming, Charles Goddard, Fritz Grimm, Jacob Geisreiter, Andrew George, Hiram Harding, Joseph S. Hill, J. M. Kennedy, Timothy Kelly, William Kinyon, Byrou Knapp, John Lynn, Charles E. Lincoln, Origine B. Lacy, Malcomb McIntire, William Martin, Stephen E. Martin, John Moore, Oliver W. Moore, Henry Morton, John Mannings, Allen McDonell, Charles North, Samuel Nicklen, John Palmer, William Pfund, Joseph J. Reynolds, George Raymond, Elijah Remore, Ed. A. Rowley, James O. Richarson, Eldredge Smith, George C. Smith, Samuel Smith, William G. Sergeant, Alexander Shaw, Franklin Sheeks, John A. Southmayd, Moses J. Teeter, John Thorp, Aaron J. Thompson, David Taylor, Israel M. Terrill, Peter Vosz, Frank Woodward, Warren Warner, Randolph Wright, Henry C. Winters, Lucius T. Walden, William Winchell.

Teamster, John Dreibblebiss.

Drummer, Erick Iverson.

Fifer, Mathias Kinnon.

The whole number of recruits sent to the company cannot be accurately ascertained, but is usually placed at about seventy-five. The names of several of these—especially those who reached the company shortly after it took the field—have been preserved, and as far as known are as follows :

Alonzo Holland, Lewis Hansen, Cornelius Ketchum, Alfred Kenniston, Joseph Lincoln, William Patten, Alonzo Pickle, Augustus H. Smith, William M. Sherman, John W. Selley, Andrew J. Truesdale, Reuben Tennison, Samuel Tenney, James Turner, Israel Durr, Samuel W. Burgess, Chester S. Durfee, Joseph C. Chandler.

On the twenty-fifth day of May a flag was presented to the regiment by the ladies of St. Paul, with appropriate ceremonies. Three days later, May 28, a beautiful flag arrived at the fort, the gift of the ladies of Winona, who tendered it to the regiment through Capt. Lester, of the Winona company, by whom it was transmitted to Col. William A. Gorham. This flag was a beautiful national ensign, made by Genin, of New York. It was emblazoned with thirty-four stars, and bore on one of the stripes the simple inscription "First Minnesota." There were twenty-five printers in



the regiment, as it lay at Fort Snelling, and they formed a "shoot-ing-stick" association, of which S. E. Stebbins, of the Winona "Republican," was made secretary. The association served to while away time in camp, but soon had sterner work on hand. While lying at Fort Snelling, Charles E. Ely, son of the elder, who had been rejected at Winona on account of his age, being but sixteen years old, put in his plea so strongly for a chance to fight his country's battles, that he was accepted, mustered in and saw some hard service as will subsequently appear.

Some of the companies of the 1st had been sent to garrison frontier forts, in order to relieve the regular troops, who were rapidly sent forward to the seat of war, and the boys were grumbling at their not "getting a whack at the Rebs," when most unexpectedly the order for marching southward came, and all was rejoicing and confusion. Couriers were immediately dispatched for the companies that had been ordered to Fort Abererombie and elsewhere, and, in the language of a correspondent writing home, "the regiment fairly howled with joy."

About this time Dr. E. H. Patterson, of Winona, had received notification of his appointment by the war department as a member of the state medical board, and was ordered to St. Paul to assume his duties, arriving there on June 16. June 18 Rev. E. D. Neil was elected chaplain of the 1st, and four days later the regiment was under marching orders for Washington. The steamers War Eagle and Northern Belle had been engaged to transport the troops, who were to proceed to Chicago in two detachments—one by way of Prairie du Chien, the other by way of La Crosse. The latter detachment contained the Winona company, and was on board the steamer Belle for La Crosse. Leaving Fort Snelling on the morning of June 22, the transport reached the Winona levee at 6.30 p.m., landed, and the troops marched out upon the levee, where, with open ranks, they waited to receive the last farewell of friends. The leave-taking was short, and the boys, leaving sadder hearts behind than they carried in their own breasts, re-embarked for La Crosse, where they took the cars for Chicago. From Chicago to Pittsburgh the run was made in twenty-four hours, to Harrisburg in thirty-six, and from thence to Washington, after being uniformed, arriving at the capital on June 27. One week later they were posted on the road to Fairfax Court House, and the record of the First Minnesota henceforth becomes a part of the military history of the war of the

rebellion. The heroic achievements of the Fighting First can only be rapidly reviewed: July 21, 1861, in the first Bull Run battle they were ordered to the front to support Rickett's battery, a position most trying to well disciplined troops, and one which Col. Gorham says, in his official report, "two other regiments refused to occupy." The Minnesota regiment supported the battery in good style, and only retired when commanded, taking up their new position in admirable order. In this engagement all the color-guard, except the bearer of the flag, were wounded, and the flag itself bore ample testimony to the severity of the fight, having been pierced by one cannon-ball, two grape-shot and sixteen bullets. The loss was thirty-nine killed and about one hundred wounded. Of these Co. K lost three killed, six wounded and one prisoner. After this battle the regiment received eighty-four recruits to fill its decimated ranks. Before the close of the year eighteen recruits were enlisted for Co. K, and joined the command early in 1862. The battle of Bull Run had fully tried the temper of the regiment, and won for them a high reputation for bravery and steadiness, by virtue of which they were ever after assigned the post of honor, which is the post of danger. This fact is attested by the losses sustained during its three year's honorable service. When the regiment left the state it numbered 1,046 men; it was recruited up to 1,729 men subsequently, and of these only 416 remained on the rolls when it returned to the state. The regiment was present at the disastrous battle of Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861, where it was ordered to cover the retreat of the left wing, and sixty-five men were detached to man the boats at Edwards' Ferry, in which the crossing was effected. The casualties here were slight, only one killed and one wounded. The regiment went into winter quarters in the camps around Washington, and took the field early in the following spring to serve under Gen. MacClellan, in his bloody peninsula campaign. Commencing with the siege of Yorktown in April, 1862, the Minnesota First was engaged in all that series of hard fights which, though comparatively fruitless in results, forever established the reputation of the citizen soldiers of the North, and covered the participants in these several engagements with imperishable laurels. The rebel forces were successively encountered at West Point, Fair Oaks, Peach Orchard, Savage Station, Glendale, White-oak Swamp, the two battles of July 1 and August 5 at Malvern Hill. Closing the campaign upon the peninsula with the second Malvern Hill

engagement, the regiment returned to Washington, and, scarcely halting, on the following month, after a lesser fight at Vienna on September 2, took part in the terrible struggle at Antietam two weeks later, September 17, 1862. In this latter engagement the regiment again lost heavily, the casualties in the Winona company being four killed and six wounded, Captain Holtzborn being among the slain. In addition to the battles already mentioned, the regiment was in the fight at Charleston, Virginia. October 16, 1862, in both of the engagements at Fredericksburg, at Haymarket, and then in that most disastrous of all, the battle of Gettysburg, fought July 2 and 3, 1863, closing their brilliant record with the Mine Run fight, November 27, 1863. The battle fought by Meade, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, always accepted as one of the most stubbornly contested of the whole war, was that most particular occasion on which the glorious old First crowned a long series of brilliant achievements with the most dazzling of them all, and covered herself with imperishable fame. The first day's fight at Gettysburg closed with the advantages decidedly in favor of the enemy. Reynolds was killed, and the Union troops engaged were driven from the field and through the city, taking up a position on Cemetery Hill.

On the morning of the second days' fight, Longstreet massed his forces to crush the Union left under Sickles. A desperate struggle ensued, in which Gen. Sickles fell, and his troops were driven back with great slaughter, uncovering the left center of the Union army, which was to have been occupied by Hancock's corps, then rapidly approaching. Longstreet marched his victorious columns, 6,000 strong, directly upon this unprotected portion of Hancock's line, and would have penetrated it and won the battle, but for the First Minnesota, which was then, as she ever had been, in the front. Hancock saw that single regiment (some say 325 strong, Maj. Maginnis says 252) way in the front, and dashing up to Col. Colville, at the head of the First Minnesota, cried out, "Colonel, advance and take those colors!" It was a march to death. All knew it, all felt it. The desperation of despair was in Hancock's voice as he hoarsely cried, looking around upon the mere handful: "Great God! is this all the men we have here?" Five minutes' delay even would be of incalculable service. Could that victorious column only be stayed in its march until Gen. Williams' division could come into position on the right the day might yet be saved. "Forward!" shouted Col.

Colville, and the doomed regiment stepped down the slope toward the enemy as steadily as if on review. No excitement, no word or cheer escaped their lips. Five color-bearers are shot down ; five times the flag, proudly waving, goes on as before. As soon as the advance of the gallant First was noticed, the columns of the enemy halted and poured in a murderous fire at fifty yards distance. In the language of Maj. McGinnis, the rebel flanks lapped around the heroic First like water round a rock. "Charge, men !" ran along the line, and with a cheer, emptying their guns with the very muzzles at the hearts of their foe, the Minnesota boys were upon them with the steel. No ammunition was wasted. A clean swath was made in the rebel ranks, and the recoil upon their second and third supporting lines threw them into confusion. The time had been gained, a Union battery poured its fire into that confused mass and the astonished Minnesota boys, the few who were left, found no longer an enemy in their front. That rebel column had vanished from the field, and the hearty cheer of the Union reinforcements rose over the field. Maj. Maginnis says : "The almost fatal attack was repulsed ; but where was the First Minnesota ? Had they deserted the field for the first time ? This was the first idea that came to my senses, half oblivious of what had passed. But forty-seven men now gathered around the colors. Great heavens ! is it possible that the other 205 lie bleeding under there ? Yes, they are all there within a hundred square yards of crimson sward—205 killed, wounded, none missing." The colonel, lieutenant-colonel, major and adjutant were all wounded, and each severely ; out of twenty-one line officers only *five* were fit for duty.

The following letter from the lieutenant commanding the Winona company gives the list of casualties in his command :

BATTLEFIELD, NEAR GETTYSBURG, July 4, 1863.

*Editor Winona Republican :*

We are in the midst of a terrible battle, and what remains of our regiment is now for the third day in the front line. Co. K went into the battle with twenty-nine men, of whom twenty-two beside the captain are either killed or wounded. The casualties thus far are :

Mortally wounded—Capt. Jos. Periam.

Killed—Lester P. Gore, Randolph Wright, David Taylor, Augustus Smith, Henry C. Winters, Jacob Geisreiter.

Wounded—Sergts., M. Marvin, in the foot, and P. Carpenter, slightly. Corporals, Timothy Reily, severely, and John Einfeld and Charles North, slightly. Privates, Charles Behr, Chester L. Durfee, Israel Durr, Charles Ely and Peter Vosz, all severely ; J. S. Eaton, Charles Goddard, William Kinyon,



James Turner, Samuel B. Tenney and Louis Hansen, slightly. (Peter Vosz and Israel Durr died of their wounds soon after the battle). Col. Colville is severely wounded; Lieut.-Col. Adams, mortally; Maj. Downie and Adj. Peller, severely; Capts. Messick and Muller are killed, and Farrar mortally wounded; Lieut. Farrar is killed, and Lieuts. Sinclair, May, Boyd, Demarest, De'Gray and Mason, wounded. Two-thirds of the regiment are killed or wounded. We got the better of the enemy in the fight, and our regiment captured one stand of colors. WM. LOCHREN, *lieut. commanding Co. K, 1st reg. Minn. Vols.*

The regimental report was: Mustered for duty before the action, 325; killed, 47; wounded, 121; missing, 70; fit for duty, 87.

The regiment returned to the state the following winter, arriving at Winona February 12, 1864, where they were received as became the bravest of the brave, and then proceeded to the capital. Having completed its three years' term of service April 29, 1864, and the decision of the war department being to the effect that the regimental organization could not longer be preserved, the First Minnesota was mustered out early in May. Under the impression that they would not be again required to do service beyond the state limits, many of the old veterans re-enlisted, and these with the recruits formed the 1st Minn. Inf. Batt. This battalion, about 200 strong, was ordered to the front May 18, 1864, and, proceeding to Washington, arrived there June 2. Though contrary to their understanding at the time of re-enlistment the remnant of the old First were loyal to their colors, and met the enemy as they had ever done. Resuming their old work as part of the army of the Potomac, they were in the fight at Petersburg, June 18, 1864, at the Jerusalem Plank roads on the 22d and 23d of the same month, and at Deep Bottom only four days later. This was rather active work for a battalion impressed with the idea that they had veteranized for state service, that the later enlisted regiments who had not borne the burden and heat of war might have a share in the perils and glory of hot work at the front. But this was not the end of the battalion's services; August 14, 1864, they were again under fire at Deep Bottom, and before the month closed had again met the enemy—this time at Ream's Station. Hatcher's Run engagement was participated in by them October 27, 1864, making six encounters with the enemy since leaving their native state.

The campaign of 1865 found them in the field, and they opened their work of that year just where they closed it the previous fall—at Hatcher's Run—this second engagement occurring February 5, 1865. Shortly after this engagement Co. C, which consisted entirely

of new recruits, joined the battalion, and the command as thus constituted took an active part in the campaign commencing March 28, and which resulted in the capture of Petersburg April 2, 1865, and the surrender of Lee's army just one week later. Four new companies joined the battalion at Berksville, Virginia, in April, and all marched to Washington, District of Columbia, in May, where, after being joined by two more companies, they were ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, in June. They continued in service until mustered out at Jeffersonville, Indiana, July 14, 1865, and were finally disbanded at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, on the 25th of the same month. The number of men who joined this battalion as recruits from Winona county cannot be ascertained. The two companies forming the original battalion lost in killed, died from wounds, or other causes in the service, a total of forty-two men during the time they remained in service. By reference to the *Republican* files of 1861-5 it is quite certain that at least 150 men from Winona county entered the 1st regiment of infantry, and not less than forty-five the 1st infantry battalion, so that Winona is justly entitled to a credit of 195 men as her quota in furnishing the 1st regiment and battalion.

#### SECOND REGIMENT MINNESOTA INFANTRY.

This regiment was partially recruited under the first call for troops, and it was intended by those who first interested themselves in recruiting the men, who subsequently became a part of this command, to form a company for the first regiment. That regiment filled its ranks so rapidly that more men offered than were needed, and those who could not join the first naturally took their places in the second. For this regiment Winona county furnished men as follows :

Co. A—Corps.: Alex. H. Bolin, Zebediah W. Marsh; Privates: Ebenezer E. Corliss, William N. Corliss, Saml. W. Cox, Jacob Rose, George Hewett, George Rockwell, Chas. B. Rouse, Alonzo F. Worden, Wm. H. Boss, Justice B. Brainard, Alonzo Foster, Geo. L. Gates, H. J. Marsh, Nathan Marsh, Wm. T. Richards, Frank A. Van Vleet.

Co. B—Privates: Franklin Katlig, Arthur Wellington.

Co. C—Privates: John G. Ellis, Elpharen A. Parks.

Co. F—Privates: Erick Iverson, Thomas H. Brown, Rob. H. Chapman, George H. Page.

Co. G—Private, Nicholas Shierard.

Co. H—Privates: Lewis Erickson, Recharten Martin, Ole Oleson, Ole N. Oleson, Hans Thompson.

Co. I—Privates: Herman H. Stage, John J. Grindell, Sherburne Cady.

Co. K—Privates: John C. Smith, John Vreeland.

This regiment was organized under the call for three-years men, and was mustered into service in July, 1862. In the following October it was ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, and was there assigned to duty as part of the army of the Ohio. January 19, 1862, the regiment had its first encounter with the enemy, at what is usually called Mill Spring, on the headwaters of the Cumberland. The rebel forces, consisting of seven regiments of infantry, two battalions of cavalry, and six pieces of artillery, attempted to surprise the three Union regiments lying between the river and Somerset. The Union forces were prepared to give them a warm reception, and after a severe fight of two hours the battle was won for the Union forces by a gallant charge of the 9th Ohio, supported by the 2d Minnesota. The rebel loss in killed was 192; the Union loss 39 killed, 207 wounded. The 2d lost twelve men killed, or died from wounds received. This battle was followed by that of Corinth, Mississippi, in April, 1862, and were then transferred to the army of the Tennessee. September 18, 1862, Bragg made his famous proclamation to the Kentuckians, and entered the state, as he said, to stay. Buell delayed meeting Bragg for some time, but finally encountered him at Perryville, and after a hard fight, in which the greater losses were on the Union side, the rebels withdrew from the field under cover of darkness. In this battle the 2d Minnesota was actively engaged, and sustained the reputation they had gained at Mill Spring. This action was fought October 8, 1862. They were in the battle of Chickamauga September 19 and 20, 1863, and lost quite heavily in killed and wounded. The Mission Ridge fight of November 25, 1863, added another to the list of hard-won fights in which they had participated. In January, 1864, the regiment veteranized, and the following summer took part in the skirmishes and fights of the great Atlanta campaign, being engaged with the enemy at Resaca, June 14, 15 and 16; at Kenesaw Mountain, June 27; were with Sherman when he came through Georgia and down to the sea, through the Carolinas, their last engagement being at Bentonville, North Carolina, March 19, 1865. Returning home, they were mustered out at Fort Snelling, July 11, 1865.

The 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th regiments of infantry had so few members from Winona county that any particular mention of the service of these regiments seems unnecessary, only forty-two men from Winona county being enrolled in the four regiments named. These regiments were in the west, and the first two saw hard service in

the sieges of Vicksburg and Atlanta, and all the series of brilliant battles fought in connection therewith. The 5th was also at the siege and assault upon Vicksburg.

THIRD MINNESOTA REGIMENT INFANTRY (WINONA COUNTY) ENLISTMENTS.

Col. Henry C. Lester, originally captain of Co. K, 1st Minn. Reg. Inf.  
Co. B—Private, Samuel Neill.

Co. K—Privates: James L. Bundy, Abisha Thomas, John Delac, Hiram Ketchum, Walter Millett, James Okins, Wm. H. Rice, Jules E. Welkins.

FOURTH REGIMENT MINNESOTA INFANTRY.

Surgeon, W. H. Wedell.

Co. C—Private, Bernard L. Hamilton.

Co. E—Private, George Spies.

Co. H—Private, Henry Trachte.

Co. K—Privates: Geo. Carey, James Fullerton, W. H. Fry, John Hammer, Arthur Littlefield, Wm. Tripp, Hiram Van Buren, Dan K. Bishop, Eugene Oviatt, Thomas P. Baldwin.

SIXTH REGIMENT MINNESOTA INFANTRY.

Co. A—Privates: George W. Eagles, George Howard, Moses Bryant, Charles Bryant, Chauncey L. King, John R. King, John Quinn, Milton R. Seaman, Marvin H. Tolan.

Co. B—Private, John Jacobs.

Co. C—Privates: Charles S. Hall, John Johnson, John Maurer, Peter T. Nordeen, Abram Muisiner, John Malcolm.

Co. D—Private, Archibald Thompson.

Co. K—2d Lieut., Charles L. Gayle.

THE SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

This regiment contained two full companies of Winona soldiers, and part of a third. Cos. B and D were exclusively recruited in this county, and several men from Co. G. The whole number enlisting from the county in the regiment being 258, nearly double the number enrolled in any other regimental organization, as having enlisted here. The names of officers and men, as they appear upon the rolls of Cos. B, D, G, are :

Quarterm., Henry C. Bolcom; Serg. Maj., Alvah E. Dearborn; Com. Serg., Geo. L. Richardson; Prin. Mus., Henry H. Rogers.

Co. B—Capt., John Curtis; 1st. Lieut., Albert H. Stevens; 2d Lieut., Archibald A. Rice; Sergs.: Ermon D. Eastman, John W. Wilson, C. C. Chapman, John Hammond, James McDonald; Corps.: Geo. L. Coburn, Geo. E. Merrill, Henry G. Bilbie, Stephen Mills, Samuel H. Harrison, Henry H. Rogers, Myron Tomes, James T. Rammes; Mus.: Benj. B. Evans, John Pritchard; Wagoner, Jas. H. McFarland; Privates: Ethan W. Allen, Obed Averell, Geo.



Blackwell, Geo. E. Brown, H. C. Bolcom, Charles Billings, Emerson W. Bigelow, Alfred Bartlett, Wm. Burns, Hiram W. W. Bell, Jacob C. Beach, Geo. W. Buswell, Napoleon Chamberlin, Collens Corey, John Clears, Harry Clark, Robert Cully, Edward Dowling, Daniel Dana, Alvak E. Dearborn, James D. Daniels, Joseph Dalley, Jacob Deacondress, David Dubblebies, Benjamin Every, Maurice Fletcher, Geo. E. Fletcher, Oscar Gougins, John Hughs, Thomas Hanley, Barzelia B. Howe, George Holbert, Joseph Hazen, James B. Howell, John R. Harris, Albert T. Hough, Edwin C. Hinckley, David A. Kenedy, Watson Lamson, Joseph Larney, Richard D. Lefler, James Lynn, John Lighthall, James Moaks, Jerry Murphy, Henry Mountain, John W. Moore, Winborn S. Marsh, Noah D. Marsh, Isaac M. May, Edwin S. Metcalf, Robert F. Norton, William Newman, George P. Nichols, Zedekeah Neal, John B. Preswick, Douglas F. Pierson, Martin V. Post, Hiram Phillips, Philetias A. Phillips, David A. Penkman, William S. Patterson, Frank C. Richardson, Geo. W. Raymond, Wm. P. Rogers, William Stevens, Ernst Shuman, Leander Slade, Maurice W. Taylor, Ulrick Therman, Alanson Turner, Jephtha Turner, Samuel G. Wright, Anselius Wilgus, Levi Ward, Amos B. Watson, Charles E. Bradt, Francesco Burley, David Q. Burley, Jeremiah Biram, Wheelock Carpenter, John Debois, James L. Denman, Eugene Fadden, Harry Gray, Calvin V. Gray, John Ginney, Moses M. Haines, Peter J. Hammer, F. D. Joy, Thomas H. King, John Knible, William Lewis, Peter LeMay, Thomas C. Marsh, John W. Murphy, J. B. Norton, Martin V. Oliver, Geo. L. Richardson, Henry Sleinbeck, John F. Smith, Cornelius P. Turner, John W. Thackery, Jacob Turner, William Wright, William Watson, John N. Miller.

Co. D—Capt., Rolla Banks; 1st Lieut., Norman Buck; 2d Lieut., Zebedia W. Marsh; Sergeants: Martin Robinson, Malcolm Clark, Franklin Kideto, James M. Canfield, Chares J. Kenyon; Corps.: Mathew Monahan, A. S. Hagay, Helkiah Lilley, Franklin Webb, Louis P. Grout, Geo. A. Carsley, Thomas Davidson, Levi B. Whillock; Mus.: Alson Barton, Wm. Shay; Wagoner, John Morrison; Privates; Isaac Bertrand, Charles Brewer, Chas L. Blair, Geo. Bissett, Abert C. Buck, John B. Berry, John Bolin, John Bissett, James J. Berry, Charles L. Berghart, Jefferson Buthrick, Edwin Brown, Asbury B. Clark, Daniel M. Cooper, Dudley C. Cass, Gilbert C. Corey, Daniel H. Cherry, John Cripps, Albert J. Clark, Robt. W. Davidson, James Davis, John A. Dickson, Geo. H. Ellsbury, John Frederick, Eugene Fay, Judson W. Fuller, Geo. M. French, Albert H. Fuller, Arnold W. Grout, Orrin Grout, Oliver P. Gales, Edwin D. Gilbert, Fletcher C. Harvey, Henry C. Hitchcock, Henry W. Hughes, Irvin M. Hill, John Hanley, John K. Howe, Thomas Hartley, Melzar Hutton, Edward D. Jackson, Horace E. Jeffrey, George V. Jenkins, Levi D. Libbey, Benson Lee, Gardner W. Lee, John Leighton, Daniel G. Leighton, William Montgomery, Malcolm Mott, Samuel McCann, Ober Nelson, Arnold Newcomb, Stephen L. Northrop, Wm. O'Hara, Edgar A. Perkins, Daniel Phelps, George Richardson, Rufus Reed, Daniel Stedman, Benjamin F. Shaffner, William Small, Henry L. Small, Morgan J. Thomas, Mark Thompson, Calvin J. Vance, Jacob Van Slyke, Edwin D. Wilmot, John H. Whillock, Andrew Winget, Chas. F. Wegener, Edmund Wright, William Brown, David J. Butterfield, Elles Brickert, John L. Burton, Andrew Bathrick, Henry Barker, Alvan Canfield, Herman Canfield, William Edwards, Henry Ehrendreich, Charles E. Eves, Henry T. Hysell, Elmore D. Hysell, Wm. Lynch, Phileoman

Lee, Hiram W. Mallory, Wm. W. Parker, George Pinkham, Wm. D. Parks, Delos M. McReady, Philip Safford, Hjalmer Stone, Martin Schultz, Albert M. Smith, Joseph Robertson, John R. Woodworth, Christian Walker, William C. Sweet.

Co. G—Privates: Edward Hewett, Ole N. Holverson, Ole Larson, Olans Larson, Henry Murray, Wm. Nolan, Foster Peterson, Peter Peterson, Ole J. Skadson, John Weaver, Ole H. Wentzell.

This regiment was mustered into service in August, 1862, but instead of being ordered south, as the men so much desired, they were sent to the frontier in the expedition against the Indians, where hard marching, little fighting and no glory was the order of the day. In September, 1862, they had a brush with the Indians, at Wood Lake, in this state, and spent the winter of 1862-3 in the forts on the Indian frontier. In May, 1863, they were ordered upon a second Indian expedition, and were engaged with the hostiles during the latter week in July of that year, at the battle of Big Mound, so called by way of distinction, but the campaign soon ended, and on October 7, 1863, the regiment was ordered to St. Louis. In April, 1864, they were sent to Paducah, Kentucky, from thence to Memphis, Tennessee, and in June of that year were assigned to the 16th army corps. Under Gen. A. J. Smith they started from Salisbury, fifty miles east of Memphis, on the 17th of July, 1864, and skirmishing with Forrest's cavalry reached Tupelo, Mississippi, July 14, where the rebel general had concentrated his command, 14,000 strong, and where he had resolved to fight. Three times the assault was made upon the Union lines and as often repulsed, Forrest being finally driven from the field with the loss of as many killed as the Union army had in both killed and wounded. August 7 and 8, 1864, the regiment was in action at Tallahatchie, and were thence ordered into Arkansas to pursue Price. Took part in the chase from Brownsville, Arkansas, to Cape Girardeau, Missouri, thence by boat to Jefferson City, thence to the Kansas border, and finally to St. Louis. The regiment was also engaged in the battles of December 15 and 16, 1864, at Nashville, Tennessee, and at the siege of Mobile, in April, 1865. The war having closed and their term of enlistment having expired, they returned to the state and were mustered out at Fort Snelling, August 16, 1865, having been in the army at the south nearly two years.

The 5th Inf. regiment had only ten enlisted men from Winona county, and of these only five are known positively, they are :

Co. D—Serg., E. B. Gerry; Corp., Amos T. Crowl; Privates: Wm. Crowl, Jos. R. Maxwell.

Co. H—Private, Edwin S. Metcalf.

The 9th regiment was organized in August, 1862, under the same call that brought the 7th into existence, and like that regiment was stationed upon the frontier, and engaged in guarding the western borders of the state from Indian depredations, until ordered south in September, 1863. It was largely engaged in the same skirmishes, raids and severer engagements as the 7th regiment, and the history of the one is so near the history of the other that a recapitulation is unnecessary. The 9th regiment, however, or that part of it recruited from Winona county, Co. K, had a taste of Andersonville that did not fall to the lot of the more fortunate 7th. At the battle of Gunton, June 10, 1864, Gen. S. D. Sturges was completely out-generaled by Forrest, and his whole command routed and driven back, the pursuit continuing almost to Memphis. In this battle and retreat the 9th Minnesota lost heavily, 300 men being captured, most of whom were confined in the rebel pen at Andersonville. Company had thirty-two men taken prisoners, all of them strong, healthy, able-bodied men, and of these only eleven survived the terrible sufferings of that rebel slaughterhouse: one in three was the small proportion of the survivors. The prisoners reached Andersonville about June 20, and some of the few who survived the three months of barbarous cruelty and slow starvation were then sent to South Carolina, and released late in the month of November.

The names of Winona members of this regiment are:

Surgeon, Bingham.

Co. A—Privates: Wm. A. Lunt, Alexander Rice, Absalom Rice.

Co. K—Capt., D. W. Wellman; 2d Lieut., Charles Neidenhoffen; Sergs.: George Hayes, Hugh McAlden, Geo. Wheelock, Ditty Deirks; Corps.: William G. Brown, Francis Fletcher, Charles Abbott, Jerry G. Wood, George Gray, Patrick Murray; Mus., Jacob Inman; Privates: John Bauman, Miram Burrows, Hiram A. Buck, Ezra Chesrown, Samuel Donald, Albert T. Downing, Charles Deitrich, Henry Ehmke, T. Fenstemacher, John G. Frederick, William Gordon, John Gordon, John F. Guxthner, Charles H. Higby, Hans Jansen, George A. Jenkins, Franz Koelmel, John King, Hans Luthey, Samuel Mickel, Thomas Morton, Charles Newton, Peter Nemirs, Enoch Pike, George Reis, Daniel Rochester, Lyman Raymond, Charles Sprung, Chauncy L. Hill, Seth Hoag, Oregine B. Lacy, Johnson A. Stout, Martin Short, Charles R. Tuttle, Michael W. Lawton, Joseph Contune, Gustav Shatt, Wilhelm Stark, Benjamin F. Tanner, Jacob Wiltse, George D. Watcher, Alonzo F. Wheelock, Sayles Brown, James D. Chamberlin, George B. Coniff, Edwin Day, Allan Hilton,

Samuel Hackett, John E. Harvey, Christ Koller, James H. Sackett, Anson Spencer, Levi C. Taylor, William E. Walker, Myron A. Tower, Rob. H. Durham.

The 10th Minnesota had only thirteen men from Winona county, distributed as follows :

Surgeon, Saml. B. Sheardown.

Co. C—1st Lieut., Albert S. Hempson ; Corp., Alonzo D. Putnam ; Privates: Gilbert F. Hancock, James R. Pope, Wm. A. Miles, Robt. S. Rolph, Henry Southwick, Henry Snyder, Ebenezer L. Starr, Geo. W. Tenny.

Co. E—Private, Godfrey Huber.

The service of this regiment was practically the same as that of the 7th.

The 11th regiment, the last infantry regiment raised in Minnesota for the war of the rebellion, was mustered in the service in August, 1864, and was principally engaged in defending the approaches to Nashville, guarding bridges and railway lines. No record of the Winona enlistments can be obtained. The lieutenant-colonel was John Ball, of Winona, who was first sergeant of Co. K of the old 1st Minnesota, who was successively promoted second lieutenant, first lieutenant, and received his captain's commission May 6, 1863. The quartermaster of the 11th was Nathaniel C. Gault, of this city, who is authority for the statement that of the men composing companies I and K of his regiment at least one-third (he thinks more than that) were from Winona county, and, as he spent nearly two months in assisting to secure enlistments throughout the county, knows whereof he speaks. This would make the quota furnished by this county about seventy men.

#### FIRST REGIMENT HEAVY ARTILLERY

Was organized in April, 1865. There were in this regiment nineteen volunteers from Winona county, viz :

Chaplain, Chas. Griswold ; Surgeon, Milo M. Mead.

Battery A—Privates: Andrew Beran, Edwin J. Clark, James Finch, Abram Nelson, Saml. P. Marlett, Theod. E. Zielckoe.

Battery B—1st Lieut. ; Lon A. Abred ; Privates: August Cooper, James Gordon, Michael Gordon, Saml. C. Tomlinson.

Battery C—Privates: Lambert Miller, Monroe Ricker.

Battery D—Private, Cornelius C. Hinckley.

Battery F—Privates: Leonard Hoffman, Charles H. Lindsey, James Pepper.

The regiment was sent to Chattanooga, Tennessee, and was sta-



tioned in the defenses there until mustered out of service, in the September following their enlistment.

The mounted rangers, sharpshooters, Hatch's cavalry battalion, and Brackett's battalion of cavalry furnished, all told, thirty-six of their men from Winona county, only one name appearing among the sharpshooters — that of Thomas Donlon — whose name is not on the lists by commands herewith appended.

The mounted rangers were only on frontier duty, and were not sent to the army at the south.

Brackett's battalion cavalry was organized in November, 1861, and was ordered to Benton barracks, Missouri, the following month. Their first assignment was to a regiment known as "Curtis Horse," and they afterward formed companies C, D and K of the 5th Iowa. They were at Fort Henry in February, 1862, at the siege of Corinth in April following, and at Fort Herman, Tennessee, the next August. They became a veteran organization in 1864; were ordered to the northwest upon the Indian expedition of that year, and mustered out about June 1, 1866.

Hatch's battalion cavalry was organized in July, 1863, and was ordered to Pembina, Dakota Territory, in the following year. May, 1864, it was ordered to Fort Abererombie, and there remained until mustered out, in the early summer of 1866.

#### FIRST REGIMENT MOUNTED RANGERS.

Asst.-Surgeon, Bingham; Saddlery Sergt., George Parks.

Co. A—Privates: David Coulter, Patrick Hagerty, John H. Hicks, George Perath.

#### BRACKETT'S CAVALRY BATTALION.

Co. A—Privates: W. H. Barclay, Hugh Barclay, George Nelson, Duncan B. Stocking, Rob. C. Barclay, Christopher Beck, Augustus Jones, David W. James, M. W. Webber.

#### HATCH'S BATTALION CAVALRY.

Co. A—Private, Sylvester Bedal.

Co. B—2d Lieut., Stephen H. Miner; Corp., Frank A. Holtsman; Mus., Geo. B. Hazen; Privates: Henry J. Cook, Chas. H. Gogins, Wm. Holtzman, Alfred Miller, Jaehry Putman, G. J. Russell, Gilbert R. Tueker.

Co. C—Privates: John Currie, Jos. A. Hardwicke, Lewis Kopp, Christian Lohre, Ferdinand Wander.

Co. D—2nd Lieut., Wm. R. Ross; Privates: John S. Dilley, Lafayette Fisher, F. W. Gates.

Co. E—Private, Timothy Young.

2d Minnesota Cavalry was organized in January, 1864. The number of enlistments from Winona county were 128, as follows :

Saddler Sergt., Torger Swinson.

Co. A—Corp., James Walker; Privates: Ira C. Brewer, Austen Maxwell, Curtis Smith.

Co. B—Private, E. A. Pattee.

Co. G—Sergt., Seth B. Chase; Privates: Chittle Chittlerin, Geo. Dunn, Hans Jahnsen, James I. King, Wm. Marcy, Jas. Richardson, Michael P. Ryan, Swand Wilson, Hewit M. Yeomas.

Co. I—Capt., Isaac Bonham; 1st Lieut., Wm. L. Sherman; 1st Sergt., David G. Smith; Quarterm. Serg., Chas. E. Churchill; Com. Serg., George Little; Sergs., Bradford Welch, Nathan E. Sherman, Julius Williams, Sebastian Geisreiter, Ed. R. Green; Corps.: Thomas Brown, Jonathan Mosher, Morris M. Small, Rufus Gage, Charles Green, Van B. Burkitt, David Huddleston, John E. Kane; Farrier, Simeon Todd; Blacksmith, John B. Gerard; Saddler, Torger Swendson; Wagoner, Obed Andrews; Privates: Chas. W. Andrews, Abraham Anderson, John Adamson, John Berkers, S. C. Boardman, Geo. W. Bingham, Horace Barnes, N. Barker, Charles Bandy, Harvey Bartholomew, Lewis H. Bingham, Geo. H. Crow, John Carey, Hagen Christopherson, Albert E. Clark, John Carter, Ferdinand Cox, John W. Crow, Mark Downs, Austin S. Dunning, Geo. W. Donald, Jos. W. Emerson, Evan Evanson, Frank Eaton, Albert Eaton, Frank P. Field, George Ferris, John E. French, Andrew Galvin, Charles M. Gage, Wm. Grover, Nathan Green, Scott Hathaway, Byron F. Hathaway, David L. Jones, Alfred M. Jones, Phillip Kelley, John F. McCoy, Ole Nelson, John Oleson, Michael O'Hare, Pike Paine, Elijah W. Putney, Heber C. Palmer, Geo. Radabaugh, John Robash, Tobias N. Ryckman, Edward Ryan, Wm. I. Strawbridge, Wm. Streeter, David Traver, Peter J. Traver, David Van Alstine, Henry S. Williams, John Williams, Harry W. Warren, John H. Wright, Fritz Zander, Anton Artz, John M. Hazen, Benjamin Hazen, Tomlinson Pears, Lewis Gowdy, Nelson Breed.

Co. L—Capt., Horatio S. Bingham; Serg., Lewis Skidmore; Corps.: Hugh Callander, Geo. W. Brown; Farrier, Nelson D. Munson; Wagoner, William Hinds; Blacksmith, Arthur D. Ketchum; Saddler, John Franklin; Privates: Levi S. Elmer, Rob. M. Elliott, Renaldo S. Farrall, W. H. Jacoby, James Kitchell, Anson V. Kimber, Stephen Lawrence, David S. Lay, Johnson E. Myers, Montgomery Milford, Joseph M. Donald, John McMurdie, Saml. P. Reed, Jas. T. Smith, Gehiel Saines, Ole Torgeron, S. Burton, James Konkwright.

The regiment was ordered upon the Indian expedition of May, 1864, and were stationed at frontier posts until mustered out in 1865 and 1866, by companies. Very many of this regiment were men who had served their terms of enlistment at the south and had re-entered the service as veterans.

#### FIRST BATTERY LIGHT ARTILLERY.

This command received seventy-six enlisted men from Winona county. The battery was accepted for service by the government in

October, 1861, and the following December was ordered to St. Louis, and from that point to Pittsburgh, landing the following February, 1862. They took part in the battle of Shiloh, April 5 and 6, 1862; siege of Corinth the same month; battle of October 3 and 4, 1862; the march to Oxford, Mississippi, and thence to Memphis, Tennessee, and were then assigned to the 17th army corps. In January, 1864, became a veteran organization, and were afterward ordered to Cairo, Illinois, thence to Huntsville, Alabama, and from there to Altoona, Georgia, and to Ackworth in the same state. They took part in the battles of Kenesaw Mountain, the siege of Atlanta, July 22-28, 1864, and then took the route through Georgia and the Carolinas with Sherman's army in the great march. They were mustered out at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, June 30, 1865. The Winona county members of this battery were:

1st Lieut., Ferd. E. Peebles; SerGs.: William Z. Clayton, Jesse Connor; Corps.: Harison Washburn, Sylvester Fry, Phinneas Gates, Albert T. Rogers; Privates: Hiram Campbell, Henry Doly, Raizin Everett, Samuel Frothingham, Jacob Farner, William F. Gates, Thomas Gorden, George A. Greenfield, Solomon Hayden, Charles A. Johnson, William Koethe, George King, Davis King, Murray Kelley, William McGinnis, Ole Nesburg, Andrew O. Nelson, Joseph Noyes, Joseph O'Hara, Joseph Seigle, Cyrus Smith, Nicholas Shammel, Richard O. Tilton, John W. Torrey, Josiah E. Van Goden, S. Woodward, Charles F. Waile, William H. Wiltsey, William R. Wolbert, Lemuel Woodle, Marcus A. Wooley, Samuel Wooley, Marcus W. Watson, Daniel W. Wright, Philip H. Wilson, Noah Blanchard, James Bayliss, Charles Bayliss, James C. Burroughs, John L. Blair, Silas E. Crandall, Robert Cheatham, H. L. Church, John W. Church, Rob C. Eagles, James J. Folke, James C. Fisher, Albert C. Grant, A. O. Gross, Michael Hall, Elmore Hyrell, John W. Haviland, O. R. T. Kingsley, John H. Ledstrand, Peter M. Lee, E. D. Lathrop, John W. Mallarin, Benjamin W. Macomber, George W. Page, Alonzo Patchin, Ed A. Rowley, William T. Scott, R. Salisbury, E. Sheeks, Stephen H. Van Horn, Daniel W. Wright, George W. Winans, Henry S. Wood, Alonzo W. Young.

#### SECOND BATTERY, LIGHT ARTILLERY.

Winona county furnished for this organization a contingent of thirty-eight men, and for the 3d battery, four men.

The 2d battery was organized in December, 1861, and was not ordered from the state until the following April, when it went south to St. Louis, first, and afterward to Corinth, Mississippi. This command as well as the 1st battery saw hard service, and did effective work. They were at the siege of Corinth; upon the track of Bragg during his Kentucky raid, and then assigned to the army

of the Tennessee, were at the battle of Perryville, October 8 and 9, at Lancaster, October 12; Knob Gap, December 20, 1862, and ten days later, at the sharp fight at Stone River. Then followed Tullahoma, the march to Rome, Georgia, via Stephenson, Alabama, Caperton's Ferry, and finally to Lookout Mountain. September 19 and 20, 1863, they were in the Chickamauga fight; then at Mission Ridge, November 25; thence through Ringgold, Georgia, to the relief of Knoxville, Tennessee, and at Buzzard's Roost Gap. The battery veteranized in March, 1864, and were in the battle of Nashville, December 15 and 16, of that year. Returned to the state and were mustered out at Fort Snelling, July 13, 1865.

The following is a list of Winona's contribution to these two batteries:

SECOND BATTERY, LIGHT ARTILLERY.

1st Lieut., Richard L. Dawley; Serg., John S. White; Corps.: John C. Van Vleet, Horatio N. Joy; Privates: William Blake, George Crowsen, Perry Fisher, John Gibson, Silas Howard, Ottis M. Hunter, G. Hamilton, James A. Haggadown, James W. Boardman, John Decondress, Carter Fuller, John W. Hovey, Jerry A. Hovey, John I. Hopkins, George Hitchcock, Samuel Loudon, W. S. Hale, Ira C. Munson, Lauritz Oleson, John C. Phelps, Emil Solner, John M. Sisler, W. F. Silsbee, Gulbrand Toftner, Christopher Anderson, John H. Church, John A. Handy, Benjamin F. Joy, James P. Jackson, Andrew Main, Alonzo Mixer, Ole Oleson, 2d, George I. Rule, Charles M. Whitman.

THIRD BATTERY, LIGHT ARTILLERY.

Privates: William H. Billington, Henry Cheatham, George Herning, Joseph B. Wheelock.

The number of men killed, wounded, captured, missing, died in service of wounds or sickness, cannot be accurately given. The reports are too incomplete, and private statements too conflicting to be relied upon for a historical narrative. The men furnished by Winona county, whose names appear above, aggregate 801. Add to these the unknown recruits of the 1st regiment and battalion of infantry, the enlistments in the 11th infantry, and others whose names cannot be given in the 8th regiment, and it is certain that Winona county furnished not less than 1,000 men for national defense during the war of the rebellion. It must not be forgotten, however, that while Minnesota was thus loyally endeavoring to do her part in the great struggle for national existence, she was for a time seriously handicapped by an Indian war on her own frontier. To meet this incursion of the hostiles calls were made upon the various sections of the state for volunteers for this special purpose.



Among the responses made to this call was that of Winona, in furnishing and equipping a company of cavalry for the Indian campaign. This company, enlisted by C. F. Buck, left Winona for the frontier September 1, 1862, and are in no way included among the troops mentioned in the foregoing list. There were also several incidents connected with the "home army," the men who stayed behind and furnished the sinews of war; the women who gave time, and prayers, and tears, and means, and loving sympathies to the work of sustaining the courage, and ministering to the health of the sick, and the needs of the wounded in camp and hospital. A few of these incidents illustrative of Winona county loyalty and zeal are here given.

The Winona Soldiers' Aid Society was established in the fall of 1861. Some time in April, 1864, a communication was received from St. Paul requesting the Winona society to become a branch of a state sanitary commission which the people at the capital were then organizing, or had just organized. The reply of the secretary of the Winona Soldiers' Aid Society is a little too long for publication, but here are some of the points. The Winona society had contributed \$2,675.25, for the benefit of the soldiers since November 12, 1862; the St. Paul society had sent no sanitary supplies for two years, though the city was three times as populous as Winona; the Winona society was then shipping at the rate of fifty bushels a day; had recently pushed out for the organization of auxiliary societies, and had then thirty in active operation. Of the amount previously mentioned, Winona city had contributed all save \$150; the ladies also had a \$200 box ready for the Mississippi sanitary fair, and had just put in operation a plan by which they expected to secure a contribution of 6,000 bushels of wheat from the southern Minnesota farmers. The writer of the letter pointed the whole by declining to become tributary to a society located in a place three times as populous as Winona, and yet which, according to the published reports of the N. W. Sanitary Society, had not sent forward one dollar's worth of sanitary supplies in two years.

When the call for 500,000 troops was made by the government in 1861. John A. Mathews, of this city, offered a flag of the value of \$100 to the first company that would organize under that call in Winona county. The honors fell to Co. B, 7th reg. Inf., Capt. Curtis commanding; the flag was presented April 16, 1863, and consigned to the care of Capt. Curtis, then at home on leave of

absence. The flag itself was a beautiful national ensign, regulation size, manufactured to order by Tiffany & Co., of New York. The material was of heavy silk, the stars embroidered in white silk thread on a blue field. It was furnished with a jointed staff, surmounted with an eagle and tipped with silver. The silver plate on the staff bears the inscription "Presented by John A. Mathews, to Co. B, Capt. John Curtis, 7th reg. Minn. Vols. It is by no means necessary to record the patriotic work of the citizens of Winona county in supplementing the work of their fathers, brothers, sons and husbands at the front. No regiment, either of their own or neighboring states, passed through the city without experiencing the hospitality of the generous citizens, to whom a soldier was always a son of the country, and a regiment or company of them a most welcome guest. The frequent visits of citizens, on private account or commissioned by Soldiers' Aid or other societies to the front, will long be remembered by those who received their welcome visits in camp or in hospital. The letters sent home recounting the heroism of loved ones in the hour of danger, and the unselfish messages that came from the suffering ones will never be forgotten. But these are only the universal experiences, and these mementoes but the general possession of the nation, Winona being but one among the tens of thousands of such communities all over the north from April, 1861, to April, 1865. The amount of Winona's private benefactions, independent of the public moneys voted for bounty, and which were derived from direct tax levied upon the property, footed up about \$52,000, including private subscriptions for bounty funds. No draft was ever actually resorted to to fill Winona's quota; the enrollment was frequently made, and two or three times a draft was ordered, but a more careful enumeration of the actual enlistments within the county always showed that the quota of the county was either in excess or filled, or so nearly so that the actual conscription was unnecessary, and so it was to the end. Winona county met all demands upon her most nobly, and left in the record of her loyal sons a legacy of true devotion to government, and of deep attachment to the principles of the "fathers," and of abiding faith in the perpetuity of republican institutions that will enrich all after generations of her citizens.

## CHAPTER LXII.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTE.—The matter contained in this chapter was received too late for insertion in its proper order.—Ed.

BETHANY MORAVIAN CHURCH was organized by Rev. H. Reuswig, July 6, 1867. It was composed of people residing in the townships of Norton and Utica, and numbered fourteen adult members and three children. The first meetings were held at the house of Ferdinand Hans, on Sec. 4, and subsequently in the "Red schoolhouse," on Sec. 5. In a short time a residence and schoolhouse, in one building, were constructed on the northeast corner of the latter section, and meetings were held in the schoolroom. In 1872 a church building was erected adjoining the schoolhouse. This is 40×50 feet in area, and has a capacity for seating three hundred persons; its cost was \$1,500, and that of the other buildings of the society about \$900. A handsome and convenient parsonage was built near the church, on Sec. 32, Norton township, by Rev. Reuswig, and is now rented for the use of his successor; it will, doubtless, soon be purchased by the society. Rev. J. Peter Gutensohn took charge of the parish, on the withdrawal of Mr. Reuswig, in July, 1882. Although several communicants have gone away, there is still a powerful organization, including eighty-eight adult people; there is a Sunday-school of over sixty members, presided over by Julius Schattschneider. The elders of the body are William Buchholz and August Strehlow. There is a board of five trustees, of which William Benedit is president, Julius Schattschneider secretary and Ferdinand Hans treasurer; the other members are John Schwager and William Scheel.

The first Universalist sermon delivered in this township was at the funeral of Oliver Peabody, January 12, 1868, by Rev. S. A. Gardiner. Mr. Gardiner subsequently delivered several discourses here, and finding some encouragement, proceeded to the organization of a society. In 1870 this was accomplished, the membership then numbering forty persons. J. H. Perry, James Holt and Benjamin Ellsworth were the trustees, and Benjamin Peabody

secretary. A strong ladies' society was also a part of the church machinery. Shortly after the organization, Rev. I. M. Westphall took charge and preached in the schoolhouse at Utica once a month for five years. He was succeeded by a Mr. Marvin, who labored one year. Several of the members having died or moved away, there was not sufficient strength to maintain preaching, and it has occurred only at rare intervals since. Meetings are occasionally held in the schoolhouse near the residence of J. H. Perry, and there is still a strong leaven of Universalism in the township.

*Rescue Lodge, No. 128, I. O. G. T.*, was organized at Utica, November 16, 1882, with eighteen charter members. Following is a list of the first officers: W. C. T., H. S. Terry; W. V. T., Mrs. Anna C. Hammer; chaplain, J. S. Stofer; W. Sec., G. H. Geutsko; W. F. S., Miss E. L. Holt; W. Treas., Henry Brown; W. M., N. Reed; W. I. G., Miss L. Terry; W. O. S., S. Wilmot; lodge deputy, S. L. Stofer. The meetings are held every Saturday evening in their hall, over a hotel, and the lodge is growing steadily in numbers and prosperity. It now has a membership of sixty-three, with the following officers: P. W. C. T., H. S. Terry; W. C. T., C. M. Boyles; W. V. T., Miss E. L. Holt; W. S., E. M. Rowley; W. F. S., Mrs. A. C. Hammer; W. C., M. Brown; W. M., John Blair; W. T., T. J. Hammer; W. I. G., Mabel Blair; W. O. S., S. L. Stofer.

*Newspapers.*—During the year 1881 O. S. Reed began the publication of a democratic paper called the "Lewiston Index." Finding no support in that democratic stronghold, he removed his establishment to Utica, where C. M. Boyles, then teaching there, agreed to assume editorial charge and share the expense of publication. The first issue of the Utica "Transcript" was put forth on November 20, 1881. It was a five-column quarto, neutral in politics, and flourished for a season. Mr. Boyles withdrew from connection with it in April following, and soon the paper began to advocate the greenback idea, which proved its deathblow, and it was discontinued on July 1. These are all the journalistic ventures ever attempted in this town.

JAMES H. PERRY, farmer, was born September 26, 1827, in Dutchess county, New York, where his father, Samuel Perry, was born, February 26, 1794. His mother, Minerva, was a daughter of Dr. Mather, of Connecticut, descendant of the renowned Cotton Mather, of Salem, and was born September 24, 1798. Samuel Perry removed to Chautauqua county when the subject of this sketch



was but a small boy, and the latter was reared on a farm there, attending the common school, and spending a short time at Westfield Academy. At nineteen years of age he began teaching, and taught six terms. His father was a carpenter, and he early learned the use of tools, and soon became a valuable assistant in his father's labors. In 1854 he set out for the wide west. After working at his trade for two years in Johnstown, Wisconsin, he returned to New York, and in the spring of 1857, came to Winona, and again took up carpenter work. In 1859 he purchased 320 acres of land, lying in Secs. 29 and 30, Utica, and removed to his present residence on Sec. 29 in March, 1860. He now has 360 acres in this township, and is a prosperous and progressive farmer. He has been called upon to manage town affairs nearly every year since his residence here, having been a supervisor fifteen years, and chairman of the board all that time, save two years. He has been twenty-three years a school officer, and in the fall of 1882 was elected county commissioner for the term of three years. He was one of the active organizers of the Universalist society in his township, and has labored to sustain it from first to last. In political principle he is a democrat. On December 7, 1856, Mr. Perry was joined in holy matrimony to Miss Lucinda M., daughter of Amasa Morey, of Rhode Island, and Abigail Young, of Connecticut. She was born in West Winfield, New York, June 19, 1833. They have five children, born as here recorded: Fred L., January 14, 1858, married Ella M. Baker, and lives on Sec. 30, opposite his father's residence; Lillian E., February 13, 1860; Eva A., December 9, 1862; Edith E., March 11, 1865; James W., October 12, 1868. In 1863 Mr. Perry was drafted as a soldier, but supplied a substitute, as he could not leave his family.

JONATHAN MOSHER, farmer, has been a resident of Winona county since 1860, arriving here April 24, that year. He bought fifty acres of land in Norton township, on which he dwelt till December, 1862, when he sold it. On November 18, 1863, he enlisted in the 2d Minn. Cav., Co. I, and served till November 22, 1865, on the western frontier; he was stationed at Fort Snelling, Kasota, Fort Ridgely, Jackson and Heron Lake, at various periods of this time. In the spring of 1866 he bought a piece of land on Sec. 30, Utica, where he has continued since to dwell and till the soil. He has seventy-nine acres of level and finely improved land, and is an independent farmer. Mr. Mosher is somewhat skeptical about the divine authority of the bible, although a believer in and

supporter of religion. He votes the republican ticket. Mr. Mosher is a son of Richard Mosher, a native of Westchester county, New York, and was born in Bedford, in the same county, March 12, 1836; his mother's maiden name was Mehetable Jerman, and she was born in Connecticut. Jonathan Mosher assisted his father on the farm, and attended the common school till seventeen years old, after which he cared for himself, working out at farm labor. In 1858 he went west and located in Green Lake county, Wisconsin. Here he was married, in February, 1859, to Mary E., daughter of John Corbett, of Boston, and Abigail Hurd, of Harmony, Maine; she was born in Belfast, Maine, January 13, 1839. They have four living children, given them as below noted: Ernest, born December 21, 1861, now a student of the Winona Normal School; Eviah, born October 4, 1869; Laura, born December 1, 1871; Roy, born September 30, 1875.

JOHN POSZ, farmer, was born in Billegheim, Bavaria, May 19, 1827. He attended the common schools of his native land till fourteen years old, as there required by law, and so made use of his opportunities as to secure a large fund of general information. This, coupled with a naturally perceptive mind, enabled him to acquire a good knowledge of American ideas, customs and language on his arrival in this country, and he now ranks among the progressive and leading men of Winona county. Mr. Posz crossed the ocean in 1849, and was employed as a moulder for many years in a Connecticut four dry. In 1858 he came to Utica, and has ever since followed farming here. At first he purchased forty acres of land on Sec. 10; his next acquisition of land embraced twenty-six acres, the next forty, and so on till he now has 240 acres of prairie land and a forty-acre timber lot in Elba township. He was elected supervisor in 1869, assessor in 1874 and the three succeeding years; again chosen supervisor in 1879 and every year since. He is an independent democrat; in religion a Calvinist, and a member of Aurora Grove Druids, Lewiston. Mr. Posz was united in marriage, March 4, 1854, to Margaret Bickel, who was born in the same province as himself, April 7, 1833. They have ten children, as follows: Amelia, born February 15, 1855, married Bernhard Sackreiter, and lives on Sec. 22; George B., born August 24, 1856, married Bertha Ringel, and resides on Sec. 16; John H., born April 22, 1858; Frank, born March 14, 1860, now clerk in register's office at Winona; Joseph, born January 29, 1862; married Dora Hunt, and is now living at

Winona ; Maggie, born January 10, 1864, married Bernhard M. Seeman, and dwells at Lewiston ; Edward, born December 20, 1866 ; Julia, born December 5, 1869 ; Catharine, born January 16, 1872 ; Walter H., born March 26, 1875.

JONAS B. STEBBINS, farmer, was born in Brookline, Windham county, Vermont, February 12, 1827. His father, Rufus Stebbins, was also born in Brookline. Jothan, father of Rufus, was born in Massachusetts, and enlisted under Benedict Arnold, and served through the revolutionary struggle. Clarissa Blandin, who married Rufus Stebbins, and became the mother of this subject, was a native of the same township as her husband. Jonas Stebbins was reared on a farm, his education being finished by two terms at an academy. When nineteen years old he took up carpenter work, which he followed till 1856. In the fall of 1855 he became a resident of Winona, and in April, 1857, he bought 160 acres of land on Sec. 17, in Utica township, where his home has been since that time, and he became a tiller of the soil. He has a finely-improved farm, with buildings of his own construction. He made the doors and sash of his residence with his own hands. His domain now includes 210 acres. July 7, 1861, Mr. Stebbins became the husband of Mariah S., widow of Albert D. Randall, of New York, who died in Louisiana in 1859, and daughter of J. B. Jayne. (Mrs. Stebbins' father was one of the early settlers of Utica, where he died, May 5, 1881. He was a republican, and served as town supervisor; was a Methodist for fifty years, and active in church work. He left a reputation for honesty and upright life that will outlive him many years. He was born in Smithtown, Suffolk county, New York, December 8, 1804, and was therefore in his seventy-seventh year at death. January 15, 1829, he was married to Sarah Smith, a native of Connecticut. In July, 1856, Mr. Jayne became a resident of this town, buying land on Sec. 11, which he tilled until 1869, when he removed to St. Charles. After the death of his wife, which occurred October 22, 1876, he resided the remainder of his days with his daughter, Mrs. Stebbins. He was the father of eight children, two of whom are now living. One son died in the army in 1862. Austin, the only remaining son, has been a sailor all his life, being over twenty years master of a vessel. He resides in New York city.) Mrs. Stebbins was born in Smithtown, November 19, 1835. Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins have been prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church ever since its organization here, the former being steward and class-

leader all the time. He is a republican, and served as supervisor in 1878-9-80. Mrs. Stebbins is the mother of four children, the eldest — Eugene W. Randall, born January 1, 1859 — graduated from the Winona normal school in 1879, and is now editing a paper at Morris, Minnesota (married Dora Stone). Mr. Stebbins' children were born and christened as follows: Sidney J., August 7, 1862; lives in Rochester, Minnesota; Ida G., February 24, 1864, is teaching in Morris; Webster J., December 3, 1869.

RICHARD PATTERSON, farmer, was born near Hull, in Yorkshire, England, December 11, 1824. He received the benefit of the English common schools till nine years old, and was then employed at farm labor. At twenty years of age he emigrated to America, and lived at Lansingburg, New York, three years. After a visit to England, he again dwelt in the United States three years. Again returning to England, he was married there on January 2, 1850, to Mary Wallis, who was born within a mile of his birthplace, September 17, 1826. Mr. Patterson immediately came with his bride to America and engaged in farming at Dresden, New York, for five years. After spending a year in Jackson county, Iowa, he came to Winona county, settling in Utica in 1856. He took up 160 acres of school land on Sec. 16, to which he afterward obtained a deed. Here he dwelt ten years, then sold the property and bought 161 acres on Sec. 14, in St. Charles, and still lives thereon; he has also fifteen acres on Sec. 1, which he purchased for its timber. His farm is graced with excellent buildings, and his house is handsomely furnished. Mr. Patterson is a prosperous farmer, and a hospitable and genial man. He has been a republican since Lincoln's time. Five of his children grew to maturity, of whom four are now living. Here is their record: Amy C., born May 1, 1851, married N. C. Dell, died December 18, 1880, and left one child, Mary R., born July 9, 1872, who lives with Mr. Patterson; Frederick W., born September 17, 1854, married Maria Vowles, and lives at Wentworth, Dakota Territory; Joseph W., born July 4, 1861; Annie E., born September 19, 1864; Emma L., born August 2, 1867.

WILLIAM SMALL, farmer, was born March 17, 1844, in Tipperary, Ireland. At seven years of age he came with his parents to America, and was brought up on a farm in Green Lake county, Wisconsin. In 1858 he came to Minnesota, and resided some years in the town of Quincy, Olmsted county. On August 15,



1862, being then but eighteen years old, he enlisted in the United States service, serving just three years in Co. D, 7th Minn. Inf. He was under Gen. Sibley in several skirmishes with the Indians on the western frontier, and subsequently joined the western army. He participated in the battles of Tupelo, Mississippi, Nashville, Tennessee, Spanish Fort and Fort Blakeley, and numerous minor engagements. At the close of the war he returned to this locality, and was married January 27, 1866, to Miss Sophia Talbot, of this township. He bought ninety-five acres of land on Sec. 15, in 1871, and has since tilled the same. He also rented a half of Sec. 14, belonging to S. T. Harris, on which he dwells. Mr. Small was reared under Roman Catholic teachings, and is a democrat. He has three living children, born as follows: Charles W., January 28, 1867; Minnie S., July 28, 1869; Lillie B., February 12, 1870.

MARQUIS WALDO WATSON, farmer. John Watson, father of Waldo, was born in Coleraine, Massachusetts; he married Lucy Webber, a native of Springfield, same state, and settled on a farm in Caledonia, Racine county, Wisconsin, where the subject of this sketch was born, October 20, 1840. He attended the Racine city schools, and assisted his father in the tillage of the farm while out of school. In the fall of 1860 John Watson removed to Fremont, in this county, and bought a large farm on Secs. 9 and 16, where he died, May 27, 1882. Waldo Watson came with his father to Minnesota, and enlisted November 21, 1861 (a month after reaching his majority), in the 1st Minn. battery of light artillery, and served until July 3, 1865. He was an actor in the battles of Shiloh, siege of Corinth, second Corinth, Raymond, sieges of Vicksburg, Atlanta and Savannah, besides numerous smaller engagements and skirmishes, where Sherman's army went. Returning to Minnesota after the war, Mr. Watson has ever since dwelt here. He was married to Miss Sarah E. Schermerhorn, whose parentage is elsewhere given, November 23, 1867. They have been given two children, born as follows: Waldo E., October 20, 1868, and Nellie G., September 25, 1880. Mr. Watson coincides with the Methodist Episcopal church in religious faith, and with the republican party in political principle. In the fall of 1875 he bought 228 acres of land on Secs. 34 and 35, St. Charles, where he has since resided, and is now an independent farmer. He had previously owned and lived on several farms in Fremont and Saratoga for periods of two to four years.

WILLIAM SCHERMERHORN, farmer, was born in Schenectady, New York, August 6, 1824. His father, Jacob Schermerhorn, was born in the same city; his mother, whose maiden name was Eleanor Tubbs, was born in Bethlehem, New York. Mr. Schermerhorn was reared on a farm, and has followed the tilling of ground nearly all his life. In 1849 he went into the grain business in Albany, where he continued six years. January 17, 1847, he married Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilson) Blair, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont. She was born in Troy, New York, on Christmas day, 1826, and died October 13, 1877, leaving eight children, as follows: Sarah E., born June 22, 1847, married M. W. Watson, and lives on Sec. 35; William J., born December 7, 1849, and John S., born August 10, 1851, live together on a farm in Fremont township; Catharine J., born April 18, 1854, married Samuel West, and resides on Sec. 33; Perry E.; George W., born May 11, 1859, died June 20, 1878; Henry D., died when six years old; Anna M., born November 11, 1863, died at eighteen; Lucy, born July 13, 1872, lives with her sister, Mrs. West. In October, 1855, Mr. Schermerhorn came to St. Charles, and took up 160 acres on Sec. 35, where his home has been till he removed to the city of St. Charles, in September, 1881. He was married July 5, 1879, to Laura, daughter of Josiah and Belinda Gordon, of Maine; she was born in Franklin, Maine, June 8, 1843. They have two children: V. G., born April 2, 1880; and an infant son, yet unnamed, born August 21, 1882. Mr. Schermerhorn is a Methodist in belief, and his wife is a member of the Congregational church.

PERRY SCHERMERHORN, son of the above, was born on the farm where he now lives (his father's), May 13, 1856. His life has all been passed here, his education being imparted in the district school where he lived. He was married November 1, 1878, to Henrietta, daughter of William Persons, whose history is elsewhere given. Since his marriage Mr. Schermerhorn has operated his father's farm. He has one child, Albert, born August 22, 1879. He is a Methodist and a democrat.

JONATHAN F. TAYLOR (deceased) was a son of Josiah Taylor and Phoebe Butterfield, natives of New Hampshire. He was born in Hillsborough county, New Hampshire, May 29, 1814. At twelve years of age he went with his parents to New York State, where his father died when he was but sixteen, and the management of home affairs fell upon him. He remained at home till his marriage, which

occurred July 2, 1840. His wife, Betsey, who still survives him, was born June 5, 1814, in Richford, Tioga county, New York; her parents were Thomas O. Brown, born in Vermont, and Polly Burgit, of Massachusetts. After his marriage Mr. Taylor went on a farm in Broome county, New York, where he remained till his removal to Saratoga, in 1855. He arrived here in June and took up one-fourth of Sec. 11, on which he dwelt till he died, August 28, 1878; the estate at that time embraced 200 acres. Mr. Taylor enlisted in February, 1862, in Co. B, 9th Minn. Inf., and his first service was in the campaign against the Sioux Indians on the western frontier; he was in Fort Snelling when it was attacked by Indians, and narrowly escaped being shot. When the regiment went south he was rejected on account of poor health. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were members of the Congregational church; he was a staunch republican. Besides his widow, six children mourn his loss. Two other children died before the father. Levi E., the eldest, was born May 29, 1841; he enlisted in the spring of 1864, was taken prisoner at Murfreesboro, and died at Andersonville on the 24th of the following September; Philena F., May 13, 1843, married M. I. Davis and resides at Columbus, Kansas; Marion D., April 5, 1845, married Maggie Clawson, lives on Sec. 14; Melville J., October 7, 1847, married Maggie Gordon, now living at Houston, this state; Judson M., August 7, 1849, married Sarah J. Endersby, dwells at Curry, Minnesota; Daniel L., February 20, 1852, married Martha Matilda Donalson, and occupies the homestead; Julia G., October 23, 1854, married F. W. Davis, with whom she resides in St. Louis, Missouri; Zula B., September 4, 1857, died before six years old. There are now nineteen of Mr. Taylor's grandchildren living. His demise was caused by heart disease. He had performed a good day's labor in the harvest field, and dropped dead as he was going to feed his hogs.

SOLOMON HILTZ (deceased) was born in Herkimer, Herkimer county, New York, April 18, 1801. His grandfather, George Hiltz, served through the French and revolutionary wars, was captured by the Indians during the former and held a prisoner in Canada seven years, till released by treaty with the United States. John G., father of Solomon Hiltz, was born and reared in Herkimer. Jacob Folts, also of Herkimer, married Catharine Hayes of the same township; their daughter, Catharine, was born September 20, 1802, in Herkimer, and married Solomon Hiltz March 5, 1821. Mr. Hiltz

went to St. Charles, Illinois, in the fall of 1849, and engaged in farming in that vicinity twenty-five years. He came to Saratoga in May, 1864, and bought forty acres on Sec. 13, which he tilled until his death, which occurred March 31, 1882. He is survived by his wife, six sons and two daughters. Of the former one was a pioneer in the adjoining town of Fremont, where he now lives, and one resides here; one is in Illinois and three in Dakota; one daughter resides in Nebraska and one in Illinois. Mr. Hiltz was a member of the Congregational church and a democrat, as are most of his sons.

DAVID HILTZ, son of above, was born in Herkimer April 8, 1836. He engaged in farming in Illinois, where he remained after the removal of his parents hither. In 1871 he came here and bought sixty-four acres of land adjoining his father's, and cared for his parents since that time. He was married December 23, 1882, to Maggie, daughter of George and Elizabeth Erlein, natives of Germany; she was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, July 24, 1857.

JAMES ROBINSON, farmer, was born near Armagh, Ireland, November 29, 1826. His parents, John and Margaret Robinson, brought him to America when he was but two years old, and settled in St. Lawrence county, New York. Here he attended the common school till fourteen years old, and since seventeen has cared for himself. His present large domain is a monument to his industry and faithfulness. He now has 400 acres of land where he lives (Sec. 25, Saratoga), one section near Odelbolt, Iowa, and a quarter-section in Dakota. All of his home farm save forty acres of timbered land is finely improved. His buildings are models of completeness and comfort. When seventeen years old he went in the western part of Canada, four hundred miles from home, where he engaged in farm labor. He spent three winters in the Canadian pineries, and ran the St. Lawrence river with rafts. In 1848 he married Emma Bolus, who died within a year. On October 2, 1849, he was joined in wedlock to Elizabeth Braithwait, who was born in Madrid, St. Lawrence county, New York, February 7, 1833. After living seven years on a farm which he owned in Lisbon, St. Lawrence county, he set out for the west, arriving in Saratoga October 12, 1856. He took up the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 25, where his home is now, and at once began to make improvements. Mr. Robinson is a very early riser, and may still be found among his men doing his share of the work in the fields. He arrived in this



town with \$1,200 and a team, and by economy and judicious use of his means secured independence, and is a contented man. In 1859 he maintained a school at his own expense in his shanty, and again in the parlor of his present residence in 1867-8. He is determined that his children and those of his neighbors shall have opportunities for an education. It was largely due to his efforts that a public school was established in the vicinity. A handsomely furnished schoolhouse, 36×26 feet in size, now stands within half a mile of his home, and a large proportion of the tax required to build it came from his pockets. Mr. Robinson is a democrat and a Methodist. He has nine living children, two having died. Their record is here given: Margaret A., November 30, 1852, at home; John, December 14, 1854, married Jennie Hunt, lives at Odelbolt, Iowa; Robert S., June 15, 1856, married Hattie Whitney, lives near John; J. Duncan, December 17, 1858, married Isabella French, lives near John; Eli and Emma, died at six and twelve years old; Sidney H., December 11, 1865, with brothers in Iowa; George E., August 13, 1868; Charlotte E., September 17, 1870; Henry W., February 14, 1872; Pet, June 30, 1877.

SAMUEL W. OVIATT, farmer, is a son of Stephen Oviatt, born in Massachusetts, and Prudence Davidson, born in Pennsylvania. His birth took place in Trumbull county, Ohio, October 26, 1819. His parents died before he attained his majority, and he remained on the homestead where he was born until his marriage. This event occurred April 22, 1847. Miss Laura Salisbury, the bride, who is still his faithful helpmeet, was born in Medina county, Ohio, June 22, 1829; her parents were William and Laura Salisbury, of New York. Mr. Oviatt had removed to Medina county a short time before his marriage, and remained on a farm there fifteen years. In 1861 he became a resident of Minnesota, purchasing one-fourth each of Secs. 12 and 13, Saratoga, which he still retains, his residence being on Sec. 12. During the first winter after his arrival here, his log cabin with all its contents was destroyed by fire, and he had greater hardships to encounter than many of the earliest pioneers. At that time calico cost sixty cents per yard, and everything else was in like proportion. Mr. Oviatt was refused a bolt of cotton cloth in exchange for a 1,300-pound ox. Through the kindness of neighbors they were supplied with sufficient bedding to make them comfortable, and lived for some time in the second story of a granary; now have comfortable buildings and a pleasant home. Mr. Oviatt engages

quite extensively in the growth of amber cane and its manufacture into syrup, making 2,500 gallons per year. He has been a member of the Baptist church forty-two years. He was justice of the peace in Saratoga one term. His political preferences are with the republican party. Five children of this family are now living, born as follows: Frank, December 22, 1851, now living at Huron, Dakota; Walter, July 8, 1857, also at Huron; Delana, January 6, 1862; Sidney S., January 22, 1865; Alice C., April 18, 1871; Stephen C., born October 6, 1849, died July 13, 1878, Laura, born January 2, 1855, died November 14, 1863.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL, farmer, is a son of John Campbell, born in Edinburgh, and Marian Robertson, born in Glasgow. He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, November 11, 1833. At ten years of age he came with his parents to America, settling in Canada, where he was employed in assisting to open up a farm, and had very few educational advantages. He came to Saratoga in 1856, arriving May 26, and at once located on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 23, of which he secured a deed from Uncle Sam, and on which his home still is. He has a large and handsome residence thereon, and numerous extensive barns and other farm buildings. His domain now embraces the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 23, all but four acres of which is tillable. Mr. Campbell raises a great deal of stock, and therefore has need of his large barns. He "kept bach" in a log cabin for four years after his arrival, when his parents came and dwelt with him two years. They then moved to Fillmore county and left the poor bachelor alone again. At last becoming tired of single blessedness, he looked for a mate, which he found in Miss Cecelia Wood, to whom he was wedded September 11, 1871; her parents, George and Mary Wood, were natives of New York, and she was born in Cambridge, Washington county, New York, December 22, 1842. Mr. Campbell is a liberal in religion. He was once a democrat, but now classes himself with greenbackers. He came to Saratoga with \$300. Two-thirds of this went to pay for his claim. Perseverance and his own labor have made him independent.

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, brother of above, was born in North Sherbrook, Lanark county, Ontario, in June, 1843. He has always been a farmer, and came with his parents to this state in 1860, with them he went to Fillmore county, and lived on a farm, which he bought in Arndale, for fifteen years. He was married October 18, 1867, to Mary Coulter, who was born in Glasgow, June 4, 1842.

They have eight children, born as here recorded: Elizabeth, February 6, 1867; John W., March 18, 1871; Christopher G., December 14, 1872; Joseph, August 29, 1876; James, September 1, 1878; Ada, September 11, 1880; Thomas and Laura, twins, April 6, 1883. In 1875, Mr. Campbell sold his Fillmore county property, and purchased 244 acres on Sec. 14, Saratoga, where he is surrounded by everything to make the life of a farmer enjoyable. He is a Presbyterian and a greenbacker; has been clerk of his school district for seven years, and was elected town supervisor in 1882-3.

CHARLES ANSON MOREY was born in Vershire, Orange county, Vermont, August 9, 1851. His father, Royal Morey, and his mother, Jennette Ellen Felton, both came of numerous and long-lived New England families of Scotch descent. The subject of this sketch is their first child and only living son. In the spring of 1861 the family left the old homestead in Vershire and came to Illinois. In October, however, of the same year they came by covered wagon to the town of Chester, Wabasha county, Minnesota, where a farm was purchased and improvements begun. At the end of three years, during which time the children had attended school at the log schoolhouse, the farm was sold and the family moved to Lake City, in the same county, where they still reside; Charles attended the winter terms of the village school and worked upon a farm, or as a joiner or millwright when opportunity offered, until 1870, when he was engaged to teach the school at Gopher Prairie, near Lake City. So successful was he in this new field of operations, that the next year, in company with several young men from that vicinity, he came to Winona and entered the State Normal School to prepare himself more thoroughly for that work. He graduated at the head of his class, May 22, 1872, and was at once selected by the authorities of the school, and instructed to proceed with his preparations to take charge of the new department of natural sciences about to be established in the school. Accordingly, in September of that year, he entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in Boston, as a special student in the scientific departments. In the next two years he passed through the entire laboratory course of that advanced and practical institution. During the latter part of the last year he worked in company with Prof. A. Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone. At the close of the year he read a paper before the Society of Arts and Sciences of the institute, describing and illustrating his improvements upon the phonograph, an

important acoustical instrument. The paper was published in the "American Journal of Science," and the improvements upon the familiar piece of apparatus have been generally adopted. He was, in the spring of 1874, elected professor of natural science in the State Normal School, at Winona, and at once entered upon his duties. Under his direction laboratories were established, and the new experimental method of teaching the sciences put in full operation. A large amount of valuable apparatus was made on the spot by himself and by pupils under his direction. Upon the resignation of Prof. William F. Phelps, in 1876, Mr. Morey was appointed principal of the school. Under his administration the institution took many decided steps in advance. The course of study was rearranged upon the basis of a year instead of a term. The advanced course and the professional course for graduates of colleges and high schools were established. By his economical management of the affairs of the school, the authorities were enabled to supply the funds necessary to fit up and furnish the extensive museum and art gallery of the institution, which was done under his direction. He had, however, since a boy, determined to eventually make the law his profession, and had employed his leisure accordingly. In 1879 he resigned the principalship, was admitted to the bar and immediately entered upon the practice of the law at Winona, as a member of the firm of Berry & Morey. He was married November 28, 1877, to Kate Louise Berry, daughter of Gen. C. H. Berry. They have two children, Janette, five years of age, and Charles Berry, three years old. Mr. Morey is a republican, and an active participant in campaign work. He is a member of the school board, a director of the Merchants' Bank, of the board of trade, and is secretary of the Winona Building and Loan Association. In any movement to advance the interests of the city of Winona, he is always ready to join with heart and hand.

ALLEN G. WILMOT, of New York, was one of the pioneer settlers of Winona county, having located on government land in the northeastern part of St. Charles township in 1856. After six years' residence thereon, he removed to Sec. 36, of the same town, where he remained till the fall of 1881, and then removed to Iowa. His wife's name before marriage was Sarah Remore.

EDWIN D. WILMOT, son of above, was born in Rome, New York, May 23, 1844, and was not yet twelve years old on becoming a resident of Minnesota. All his life has since been passed here, his



education being completed in the Winona grammar school. He enlisted in August, 1862, in Co. D, 7th Minn. Vols., and served three years. The first year of his army life was spent under Gen. Sibley, on the western frontier, where he participated in a few skirmishes with the Indians. His regiment was then placed with the army of the Tennessee, and he passed through the battles of Tupelo, Nashville, and the forts above Mobile. In 1866 he bought a farm on Sec. 3, Saratoga, on which he lived four years. He then sold and bought 160 acres on Sec. 12, where he dwells now. His buildings are comfortable and on a superb location, commanding a view of the beautiful prairies for miles around. He was married on March 1, 1868, to Idella, daughter of John and Lucy (Webber) Watson, of Fremont township. They have four children, born as follows: Minnie A., February 1, 1869; Alfred W., July 24, 1870; Daisy, February 6, 1873; Pearl, May 25, 1880. Mr. Wilmot is a republican, and member of St. Charles Lodge I.O.O.F.

JOHN D. CLYDE (deceased) was born in Lyme, New Hampshire, January 2, 1828. His father, John Clyde, was a farmer of Scotch descent, and his mother was Esther Hovey. Mr. Clyde was accustomed to farming all his life. From twenty years old to twenty-six years he worked for one farmer in New Hampshire,—Major Franklin. He went to St. Charles, Illinois, in 1854, and kept a sale stable. He came to Fremont in 1856, arriving April 20, and secured a quarter of Sec. 30. This he sold in a few years and bought the present home of his family, the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 18, on which he dwelt till his death, which took place May 28, 1883. He also owned eighty acres on Sec. 7, which is still a part of the estate. He was married December 1, 1862, to Sarah A., daughter of Charles and Caroline (Robinson) Henderschott; she was born in Hornellsville, New York, April 20, 1844. Besides his widow, six children mourn his departure. Their names and births are thus recorded: John, September 1, 1863; Louisa, June 29, 1867; Kittie M., June 22, 1869; Emogene, May 25, 1872; Annabel, April 10, 1876; Gertie, July 7, 1879. Mr. Clyde was buried with masonic honors, being a member of Harmony Lodge, of Lewiston. His religion was the golden rule. In politics he was a republican, and he had served his town as chairman of its board of supervisors.

JOHN BLAIR (deceased) was reared to sixteen years of age in Ware, Massachusetts, where he was born May 26, 1799. At sixteen he went with his parents to Troy, New York. He married Betsey

Wiltse, of Hoosac, New York, and in early life was a farmer in the vicinity of Troy. Was several years in mercantile business in Troy and Albany, and also dealt in produce for the New York market. In the spring of 1855 he set out for the west, and arrived at Saratoga April 9. Here he took up a quarter-section of Uncle Sam's domain on Sec. 2, and dwelt thereon till the fall of 1873. He died in the city of Albany two years later. Mr. Blair was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a democrat; he served as justice of the peace in Saratoga two years. He had four sons and five daughters; of the latter, but one is now living,—Mrs. Dr. C. H. Smith, of Albany; of the former, two now reside in this town and one is in California.

JOHN T. BLAIR, son of above, was born in Pownal, the southwest corner township of Vermont, November 21, 1827. His youth was passed on the farm and in the city of Albany, in the schools of which city his education was finished. At fifteen years of age he went into a store and followed mercantile life till 1855, keeping a store at one time in Albany; was member of a fire company there seven years, being foreman. He was married, February 24, 1850, to Miss Eveline Clark, who was born near Schenectady, New York, September 15, 1826; her parents, William P. Clark and Catharine Truax, were also natives of that state. Mr Blair came to Saratoga in company with his father, and located on Sec. 1, where his residence has been ever since. Besides his original claim he has since secured ninety-six acres, a part of which is in St. Charles township. He is a member of Harmony Lodge, A. F. and A. M., at Lewiston, and of the St. Charles Methodist Episcopal church; votes with the republican party. He has been a member of the town board six times, part of the time chairman; was treasurer two years and justice of the peace four years. Is the oldest commissioned postmaster in the state, having been appointed in charge of Worth post-office in 1856, and held the office ever since. The wall of Mr. Blair's parlor is adorned with a painting representing the log cabin in which he lived and kept the postoffice in 1856. It was two stories high, and covered with butternut shingles shaved by Mr. Blair. In 1855, while finishing this dwelling, Mr. Blair went to Winona to buy lumber, and purchased all there was in the city—348 feet. In May, 1855, Mr. Blair was followed half a mile by four timber wolves, and would doubtless have been devoured had he attempted to escape by running. By retaining his leisurely gait and calm

demeanor, he kept them at bay till he reached home. This was in daytime. Four children remain in this family, two having died in New York. All are at home and date their births as below: John M., August 3, 1856; Frank C., September 5, 1858; Edward E., June 23, 1860; Mabel, January 22, 1864.

LEONARD M. SHELTON, farmer, was born in Raymond, Racine county, Wisconsin, March 17, 1843, and was therefore but eleven years old when (as elsewhere related) he came with his widowed mother to Minnesota. Most of his schooling was received in Wisconsin. He dwelt with his mother many years on the farm where his home now is (Sec. 1, Saratoga), and where still stands the picturesque log cabin which was their home, and a shelter for hundreds of travelers during the years 1855-6-7. This hotel was a pretentious structure, for this section, when built. An upright, 18×26, two stories high, was built in the fall of 1855, and the following spring a "lean-to" of boards was added; it ran the whole length of the main structure, and was sixteen feet wide. In after years another wing was added on the opposite side, for a summer kitchen. A large grape-vine ran over one end of the house and reached out to a tree near by, thus forming a pleasant arbor, where Mr. Shelton has pleasantly passed many an hour during the heat of summer. This farm is now owned by Mr. Shelton's uncle, and occupied by the former as a tenant. He possesses a farm of 120 acres on Sec. 3, which he bought in 1873, and on which he resided for six years thereafter. At the earnest solicitation of the owner he took charge of the farm where he is. The raising of hogs and pure Durham cattle is largely carried on here. Mr. Shelton also raises a great many horses on his own account. December 18, 1866, L. M. Shelton and Mary L. Bradt were united in holy matrimony. Mrs. Shelton was born in Albany, New York, February 2, 1846. They have been blessed with three bright and promising children, as below: Mary L., October 7, 1868; Minnie L., July 27, 1871; Lillian M., April 9, 1878. Mr. Shelton enlisted August 20, 1864, in Co. H, 11th Minn. reg., and served till the close of the war, being occupied in guard duty along a railway near Nashville, Tennessee. He "votes as he fought," under the banner of republicanism. In religious sympathy he is with the close-communication Baptists.

WILLIAM HENRY SHELTON, farmer, one of the pioneers of Fremont township, has secured a competency by his industry and



faithfulness. He was born in London, England, June 11, 1829, and came with his parents to America when six years old, receiving his education in the common schools of Racine county, Wisconsin. In the fall of 1854 he came with his widowed mother (elsewhere mentioned) to Winona county, and in the following spring took up 160 acres of government land on Sec. 6, Fremont, where he has ever since dwelt. He has a large and handsome residence, which is elegantly furnished, complete farm buildings, etc. His domain now embraces 300 acres of land, of which 250 have been broken up. Mr. Shelton attends to the details of his business as usual, and is himself found every day at work. He is now quite largely engaged in raising hogs and other stock. He is a free-will Baptist and a republican; has never mixed in public concerns, but given his whole attention to his large private interests. March 8, 1868, he was joined in holy wedlock to a daughter of Jesse Ingersoll, one of the pioneers of Raymond, Racine county, Wisconsin, and the widow of H. M. Bentley. She was born January 9, 1840, near Castleton, Ontario, and christened Julia. They have been given three children, as follows: William H., October 24, 1864; Ida M., February 7, 1869; Della M., June 13, 1873.

MRS. LOUISA SHELTON, widow of William Shelton, was one of the pioneers of this region, having taken up a claim on Sec. 31, Utica, in the fall of 1854, and now resides there with her daughter, Mrs. A. D. Trowbridge. Mrs. Shelton kept a hotel in a log building on the corner of Sec. 1, Saratoga, for some years in the period of early settlement. This was on the stage route traversed by the early pioneers, and was widely known as the "Widow Shelton House." Mrs. Shelton was born in Elliott, England, in 1806, and married William Shelton, in London. They came to America in 1834, and after a residence of over a year in Buffalo, New York, settled on a farm in Racine county, Wisconsin. Mr. Shelton's death took place here in January, 1845, and in 1854 his widow moved west, where land was plenty for her sons. There were three of the latter, two of whom reside near by, one in Fremont and one in Saratoga, on the land where his mother kept hotel; Stephen, the third son, is now at Flandreau, Dakota. There were two daughters, the one mentioned above, and the wife of Lewis Downing, residing in Saratoga township.

ALEXANDER D. TROWBRIDGE, farmer, was born in Tully, Onondaga county, New York, May 3, 1834, and was raised, to twelve



years of age, on a farm in Courtland county. His father, James Trowbridge, came of a very long-lived family; he married Hannah Van Caut, mother of the subject of this sketch, who was, like himself, a native of New York. When Alexander was twelve years old his parents removed to Oberlin, Ohio, from which point he came to Winona county at the age of twenty-one. He arrived in Saratoga in August, 1855. After spending a night with friends who had preceded him hither, he was on the ground where he located at six o'clock next morning, and by four in the afternoon had a shanty erected. By daylight next morning he was in Chatfield and filed his claim to the land. The location was on Sec. 22, and here he resided ten years. On April 10, 1860, he was married to Sarah E. Shelton, who was born in London, England, February 18, 1834; she was a daughter of Mrs. Louisa Shelton, a widow lady who was one of the pioneers of the vicinity and spoken of elsewhere. In 1867 Mr. Trowbridge removed to Missouri, where he engaged in farming. After nearly four years' residence there, he was compelled to give up on account of loss of health, and spent about four years under treatment in Ohio. He took up his residence where he now is, on Sec. 31, Utica, in 1881. Mr. Trowbridge is an orthodox in religion, and a republican in politics. He was the second town clerk elected in Saratoga, serving three successive years.

FRANK A. WEST, grain buyer, came to Minnesota when ten years old with his parents, who died before he was fourteen years old, since which time he has cared for himself. Elijah West and Amy Lewis, parents of Frank West, were natives of New York State. They were residents of Fulton, Indiana, on August 31, 1843, at which time and place the subject of this sketch was born. He attended school but three terms after he was eleven years old. After the death of his parents he resided two years with an elder brother in Illinois, and came with him to Rochester, this state. On June 26, 1861, he enlisted at Chatfield in Co. A, 2d Minn. reg., and served as a soldier till June 26, 1865. After nearly two years' service in the ranks he was transferred to the signal corps, in which he was promoted for bravery during the battle of Altoona Gap; by his daring, when all others of the corps gave up in terror, communication was kept up with the commanding officer of Kenesaw Mountain. The principal battles in which Mr. West was an actor were those of Chickamauga, Mill Spring, Resaca, Dalton, Kenesaw Mountain and the Chattahoochie river. He was in numerous

smaller engagements, his diary showing a total of over thirty fights and skirmishes. After the war he rented land in Olmsted and Fillmore counties, and followed farming. In 1876 he went to Melrose, Minnesota, where he bought grain for the Minneapolis Millers' Association three years. He then spent nearly three years in the Black Hills, and was one of the organizers and vice-president of the Garden City Hydraulic Mining Company. He sold his interest in this concern, but still holds shares in some of the mines there. In 1882 he became a resident of Utica, where he is engaged in buying grain for C. W. Seafeld. He is a skillful business man, and does not let past reverses interfere with his attention to business. He is a liberal in religion, and "votes as he fought," with the republicans. Mr. West was married March 27, 1870, to Miss E. M. Miller, who was born near Saratoga, New York, April 16, 1854. They have two children, given them as follows: John, July 23, 1873; Ettie, August 22, 1878.

GEORGE EVANS, merchant, was born in Herefordshire, England, September 17, 1842. His father died when he was an infant, and his mother brought him to America when six years old. Since ten years of age he has cared for himself, working in his earlier years at farm work during the summer and attending school in winter. He resided in the State of New York until fourteen years old, when he came west and dwelt in Wisconsin and Illinois. In 1864 he became a resident of Minnesota, locating at Centerville, this county. He subsequently dwelt at Northfield two years, and was for a period at St. Anthony and Duluth. For five years he peddled dry goods and notions with a wagon, making his home at Centerville. In May, 1876, Mr. Evans became a resident of Utica, opening a general store here; his is the most complete store in the village. In 1878 he bought his present residence south of the schoolhouse, and intends to make this his home. His mercantile business covers \$10,000 per year, and he last year did a business of twice that amount in buying hogs for market. Mr. Evans is a member of the Rochester lodge, I.O.O.F., and of the Congregational church; is a republican in national principle. He was married to Lucinda Hand, a native of the State of New York, on November 2, 1878. They have one child, Gertrude L., born November 30, 1880.



## ADDITIONAL MATTER.\*

JOSHUA MARTIN, dentist. The great-grandfather of this subject, John Martin, was a captain in the Continental army during the revolution. He was twice captured and taken to England, and died there during the second period of his imprisonment. Himself and brothers were pioneers in the settlement of the new colony of New Hampshire; the latter served as a captain through the French and Indian war. Samuel, a son of John Martin, lived and died in New Hampshire; his son Joshua was the father of the subject of this sketch; he married Azubah Burnham, also reared in that state, and engaged in farming in Grafton and afterward in Hillsborough county. Joshua Martin was born in Canaan, Grafton county, April 4, 1829. His education was completed at Pembroke and Andover academies. At twenty years of age he began the study of dentistry under the auspices of an association formed at Manchester for giving practical instruction in this line. Here he began the practice of his profession and continued there two years. He was married at Plattsburg, New York, on July 6, 1852, to Elvira M. Coombs; her father, John Coombs, ran away from his birthplace, Charlestown, New Hampshire, at fifteen, and served through the war of 1812 as private secretary to Gen. Scott; her mother was Florinda Miles, of the same town. In 1856 Mr. Martin came to St. Charles; he took up a quarter-section of government land in Dover township, near the city, on which he dwelt and made improvements, practicing his profession as opportunity offered. He was one of the organizers of Dover township, and served there six years as justice of the peace. Mr. Martin is a lifelong democrat; he has filled numerous public positions. He is now serving his third term as assessor of the city of St. Charles. While in New Hampshire his services were called in requisition as town superintendent of schools. He is a member of Rising Sun Lodge, A. F. and A. M., St. Charles; both himself and wife are members of the Episcopal church here. In 1865 Mr. Martin purchased his present residence on Wabasha street, and removed thither

\* This matter was received after the previous form had gone to press.



from the farm, which he has since disposed of. He now occupies an office on Whitewater street and devotes his time to dentistry. Nine children have been born to him, as follows: Rachel W., June 4, 1853, married Elias Franklin (now deceased) and resides at Wheatland, Dakota; Lucia L., October 3, 1854, married Adelbert W. Wheeler, with whom she dwells at Stockton, Minnesota; Isabella S., April 24, 1858, married Z. J. Wood, and now lives at Redfield, Dakota; Albert Maitland, June 27, 1860, resides at Redfield; Edgar L., February 14, 1862, Redfield; Josephine G., April 7, 1866; Willard L. and Walter L., twins, March 8, 1871; Mary L., June 14, 1873.

RICHARD L. DAWLEY, railroad repairer, son of Elijah Dawley and Esther Baldwin Dawley, of New York birth, was born in Galen, Wayne county, March 26, 1826. He lived on a farm and attended a common school until eighteen years old, residing with an uncle, his parents having died before he was two years old. At nineteen he came to what was then the west, and learned cabinet-making in Milwaukee. August 13, 1846, he enlisted in the regular army of the United States, and served five years, going through the Mexican war under Gen. Scott. On his discharge at Fort Ripley in 1851, he went to Plymouth, Wisconsin, and worked at his trade. In 1856 he became a resident of Winona, where he engaged in the manufacture of fanning mills, in partnership with another party. The business was removed to St. Charles three years later, and kept up till 1862. In January of the latter year Mr. Dawley enlisted in the 2d Minn. Lt. Art., in which he served till April, 1864, holding the rank of first lieutenant when he resigned. He was an actor in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, and numerous skirmishes and light engagements. His business and family affairs requiring his presence at home, he was compelled to resign. He engaged in farming, his land lying partly within the limits of this city, and followed that occupation till 1873, ever since which time he has been in the employ of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company. Mr. Dawley was at one time director of the city school board, and to him is due a large share of the credit for the establishment of the present graded system of their government and conduct. He was again chosen member of the same board in 1882, for the term of three years. He was chairman of the town board in 1860 and city councilor in 1881. His political principles are

democratic. In religion he is orthodox. In 1861 he organized a militia company here, and has ever since been known by the title of captain. Most of this company afterward entered the United States service. Mr. Dawley is a member of Rising Sun Lodge, A. F. and A. M., of St. Charles. In November, 1853, he was married to Mary J. Avril, who was born in Bellville, Canada, May 1, 1835. She was a daughter of Henry Avril, of New York. Mrs. Dawley was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at her death, which occurred April 4, 1874. Seven children survive her, as follows: William H., born August 4, 1854, now in Fargo, Dakota; Charles L., February 28, 1856, lives at De Smet, Dakota; Ida, April 18, 1858; Emma, November 26, 1859; Hiram A., August 20, 1865; Richard Starr, September 9, 1867; Frank M., March 30, 1872.

VINSON HICKS (deceased) was born in Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, New York, May 16, 1821. John and Sallie Hicks, his parents, were natives of Vermont. His early years were passed on a farm, and he early learned the millwright's trade, which he nearly always followed. He was married at Westport, New York, September 24, 1847, to Olive E., daughter of Adin B. and Anna B. Towner, of Connecticut; she was born in Ferrisburg, Vermont, January 29, 1823. In 1856 Mr. Hicks became a resident of Winona county, settling at Stockton. The following year he bought 120 acres of land on Sec. 31, St. Charles, where he resided till his death. He continued to work at his trade, leaving the labor of the farm partly to his sons. His latter years were passed in lighter occupations, owing to poor health. While visiting Beaver to sell machinery, he died there very suddenly of neuralgia of the stomach, on June 19, 1873. Mr. Hicks joined the order of A. F. and A. M., in New York, and was a charter member of Troy Lodge, organized in 1863; at the time of his death he was a member of Rising Sun Lodge, of St. Charles. His religious faith was represented by the Methodist Episcopal church, and his political ideas by the democratic party. Besides his widow, four children survive him, whose record is as follows: Darwin T., born May 16, 1851, resides St. Charles; Arthur V., August 13, 1855, tills home farm; Emma L., November 6, 1857, a teacher, now in Minneapolis; Marietta S., October 20, 1859, married Lester L. Babcock, dwells on Sec. 30.

RICHARD N. MILLER, merchant, is of Irish and English descent. Both his parents were born in Vermont. His mother, Dborah, was the second wife of Richard Miller, his father. Since Mr.

Miller's residence here, his mother took up her abode with him, and died here. R. N. Miller was born in the town of Minerva, Essex county, New York, December 4, 1836. He was reared on a farm, and received a common school education. He was married September 2, 1860, to Eliza L., daughter of Valentine and Huldah Kellogg, pioneers of Elizabeth, Essex county. For some time after his marriage Mr. Miller engaged in farming. In March, 1869, he became a resident of the city of St. Charles, and for seven years kept books for N. N. Pike. He bought a lot at the south end of Whitewater street, on which he built a residence. During the latter part of his service with Mr. Pike, he began to turn some attention to the sale of organs, and soon began to make the sale of musical instruments and sewing machines. A year was spent in Winona and another at Utica. In 1879 he opened a store for the sale of these goods on South Whitewater street, where he may now be found doing a successful business. Mr. Miller is a republican, and a member of the orders of K. of H. and Knights and Ladies of Honor. Himself and wife are members of the Baptist church, of St. Charles. Mr. Miller served a year in conquering the rebellious enemies of his country, having enlisted in August, 1864, in the 16th batt. N. Y. Heavy Art. He was soon detailed as a clerk in the quartermaster's department, and therefore saw no field service. He is the father of five children, four of whom are at home. Here is the record of their births; Richard T., at Pottersville, New York, May 16, 1862, now a resident of St. Paul; Mary G., February 15, 1864; Louisa G., September 10, 1866; Arthur C., at Utica, September 21, 1878; William Eugene, December 27, 1880. Mrs. Miller's mother came west with her daughter, and died here. Mrs. Miller's sister, Miss Mary Kellogg, is now a member of the family.

COLLINS RICE, farmer, is descended from Irish and English ancestors who settled in Connecticut. His grandfather located in Claremont, New Hampshire, where Stephen, father of the subject of this sketch, was born. Stephen Rice married Mary Barron, of Amherst, New Hampshire, and engaged in farming in Claremont, where Collins Rice was born, March 16, 1814. Our subject was reared on a farm and attended the common school till eighteen years old. By proper diligence then and since, he acquired a good fund of information, and was fitted to take the leading position he has since filled in the development of a new state. At eighteen

Mr. Rice was apprenticed to a hatter at Springfield, Vermont. At his majority, having become master of his chosen trade, he was employed as a journeyman in Lowell, and afterward at Boston. In 1835 he went to Cincinnati, and two years later returned to Springfield. He was married here September 11, 1837, to Lucetta L. Griswold, who was born in Johnson, Franklin county, Vermont, February 12, 1816; John Griswold, her father, was a native of Connecticut, and Hannah Heath, his wife, was born in New Hampshire. After Mr. Rice's marriage he resided four years in Lamoille county, Vermont. Subsequent to this he spent three years in Cincinnati and seven years in Indiana, in the hatting business. In the fall of 1854 he visited Minnesota and claimed 160 acres of government land (the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 24) south of the present site of Lewiston, and built a sod house thereon. May 1, 1855, he settled on this claim with his family, and lives there still, with his children comfortably settled around him. He subsequently bought the southeast quarter of the same section, which he divided equally between two of his sons; besides the original claim, he also has forty acres of timber in Warren township and 100 acres of land in Faribault county. Mr. Rice was a very useful man in the early years of this township, and in fact until he insisted on retiring from active life. He was chairman of the town board during the first half-dozen years of its existence, and served as town clerk for the same length of time; he was justice of the peace from 1858 to 1872, and has probably written more deeds and mortgages than any one man in the county outside of Winona; he was county commissioner from 1870 to 1873; was elected a member of the legislature in 1858, but did not serve, as the governor failed to call a session; was elected to the same position in 1873 and again in 1874, and served the two terms with credit to himself, the district and the state. Mr. Rice is a staunch republican, and has been a delegate to nearly every county convention of that party; was a member of the state convention in 1873. He was a member of the Patrons of Husbandry while the grange at Lewiston existed, and was master of that organization. In religion he is a Universalist, and Mrs. Rice also. They have five children living, having lost two. Mary E., born April 23, 1839, married William Z. Clayton, died May 10, 1864; Abby A., February 21, 1842, married C. H. Ramer, lives at Tower City; Stephen H., October 21, 1845, died September 22, 1869; John W., December 21, 1847, married Hannah Lysauka, is postmaster at



Lewiston, where he keeps a general store; George W., April 25, 1851, married Amanda Lund, resides on Sec. 24; Charles C., November 6, 1855, married Minnie Grethurst, lives on Sec. 24; James M., May 10, 1858, clerk in postoffice at Lewiston.

CHRISTIAN KRAMER (deceased) was born in Brandenburg, Germany, in 1799. He married Christina Koeppen, and had five sons, two of whom reside in Utica, one at Trempealeau, Wisconsin, one at Dodge Center and the other near Mankato, Minnesota. In 1856 Mr. Kramer emigrated direct to this township, and bought 280 acres of land on Secs. 1 and 2. He gave forty acres to each of his sons, leaving eighty acres in his own homestead. He died on December 26, 1867, and Mrs. Kramer died in December, 1881.

WILLIAM KRAMER, son of above, was born in Brandenburg, September 13, 1832, and was therefore nearly twenty-four years old when he came to America with his parents. On July 24, 1860, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Schartan, a deceased pioneer of this town, elsewhere mentioned in this work. After buying a share in his father's homestead he sold the whole of his land and bought the Schartan homestead of 100 acres, on Sec. 11, in 1882, and dwells thereon. He is a Lutheran and a republican; has served as school director. Eight children have been born to him, as here given: Mary A., March 12, 1862, married Frank Miller, now living near Bigstone City; Frank, June 12, 1863; Otto, July 22, 1868; Elmer, March 13, 1871; Elizabeth, April 25, 1874; Molly, June 22, 1876; Susannah, March 30, 1879; Huldah A., June 27, 1881.

ABRAHAM M. RAMER, merchant, was born in Ripley county, Indiana, July 30, 1851. When in his fourth year, his parents removed to this township, where most of his life has since been spent. Philip Ramer, father of this subject, was one of the pioneers of this county. He was born in Ohio in April, 1814, was a son of Peter and Sarah (Cook) Ramer, of North Carolina. He married Ruth Thackeray, daughter of Stephen and Sarah Thackeray, Quakers, of New York. In April, 1855, Mr. Ramer took up his residence in Utica township, taking one-fourth of Sec. 13 under the pre-emption law, and buying the claim to another quarter-section adjoining. He was at that time a member of the society of Dunkards, for whom he preached. The first religious service in the town was conducted by him. Subsequent to 1860 both himself and wife left the Dunkards and joined the Second Advent believers, and Mr. Ramer was

for several years pastor of a church of that denomination in Winona. He was many years assessor of the town of Utica, and was once elected to the legislature. In 1865 he sold his property here and removed to Winona. Here he lost his capital of \$17,000 in an unsuccessful attempt with other parties to manufacture gang plows. He is now a resident of Flandreau, Dakota, where he is engaged in farming. Mrs. Ramer died in December, 1872. Abraham Ramer received his education in the public schools of Lewiston and Winona. At eighteen he began mercantile life as clerk in a store in Winona, where he remained some years. After six months spent in Dubuque, he took charge of a store in Chicago one year. Returning to Lewiston, he was clerk for three years in the general store of J. W. Rice. On November 1, 1881, he opened a new general store on the main street of Lewiston, buying the building at the same time. His capital was very small, but by close attention to business he has built up a good patronage. His residence, which he built, is one of the best in the village. Mr. Ramer was married May 9, 1874, to Augusta Lasansky, who was born in Germany in 1853. They have two children, who were born as below: Gertrude E., February 16, 1875; George H., June 18, 1878. Mr. Ramer's religious views are most nearly represented by the Adventists. He is a republican, and has served as justice of the peace three years.

JOSEPH D. BALL, farmer, was born in the town of Illinois, Chautauqua county, New York, November 14, 1843. His father was James Ball, a native of New York, and his mother, Julia A. Medbury, was born in Connecticut. Mr. Ball was reared on a farm, and attended the common schools. His natural shrewdness and ability have placed him among the foremost farmers of his community. On April 21, 1861, just seven days after the firing on Fort Sumter, he enrolled his name among his country's defenders. The first enlistment was for ninety days, in McLean's Erie regiment; at the expiration of this time he re-enlisted for the war, and was assigned to Co. G, 150th Pa. reg., and served until June 29, 1865. He was wounded in the battle of Gettysburg; also participated in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness campaign, and numerous smaller engagements, of which the history of the army of the Potomac tells. In 1866 Mr. Ball became a resident of Saratoga, buying 160 acres of land on Sec. 23, on which he dwelt ten years. In 1876 he sold this and bought 400 acres, including the quarter of Sec. 9 where he lives. This is the original claim of Charles

Gerrish, taken in 1855, and from whom he purchased it. Mr. Ball raises considerable stock, largely Percheron horses. He is a republican, and served as supervisor of Saratoga in 1880-1-2. He came here with the savings of an army life — about \$300,— and has secured his present large property by his own industry and ability, assisted, of course, by his estimable wife. This lady was Miss Augusta F. Smith, born in Leon, Cattaraugus county, New York, July 21, 1849. She is a daughter of Thomas and Julia A. (Scott) Smith, also natives of New York, and was united in marriage with Mr. Ball on Christmas day, 1867. They have three children, born as below noted: Monroe J., December 28, 1868; Nellie, October 11, 1871; Dwight, January 13, 1878.

ALVANO B. DYER, farmer. Joseph Dyer, great-grandfather of this subject, was a sea-captain, who emigrated from England to Massachusetts before the revolution, and was married May 2, 1771, to Elizabeth Nickols, of Malden. This lady prepared the blacking which stained the faces of the famous "Boston Tea Party," in December, 1773, and her husband was one of the party who threw the tea overboard. He died at the age of thirty-five years. His son, John M., was also married in Malden, and settled in Freeman, Franklin county, Maine, in 1802. His grandson, Azor, now resides on the same farm which he cleared up in the then district of Maine, a part of Massachusetts. Azor Dyer, father of the last-named, and of the subject of this sketch, was born on this farm October 20, 1812, and was married in 1836 to Mary Davis, a native of Cape Cod. A. B. Dyer was born to them December 17, 1839, on the old homestead in Freeman. His youth was spent here, his education being finished at a select school in Phillips. His parents were Methodists, and his sympathies are with that faith. He is a republican, and has been supervisor of Saratoga two years. He became a resident of the township in the spring of 1865, and in June of that year purchased the quarter of Sec. 9, on which he resides. By proper management and close attention to business he has added to his possessions till they now include 356 acres of prairie and seventy of timber in this vicinity, and eighty acres of land in Redwood county. Mr. Dyer was married November 18, 1869, to Adah, daughter of Charles Gerrish, a pioneer of Saratoga, whose biography is elsewhere given in this work. Five children are included in this family, given to it as here noted: Charles A., November 20, 1870; M. Davis, Septem-

ber 7, 1872; John G., November 12, 1874; Burt Alvano, October 23, 1877; Mary O., October 30, 1879.

CHARLES ABBOTT, farmer, is a son of Quartras B. Abbott, a native of New York, a soldier in the Blackhawk war; his wife, Mary Atkinson, was also a native of New York. Charles Abbott was born in Fort Winnebago, Wisconsin, February 18, 1836. His father was subsequently a ship carpenter, serving on the Mississippi steamers, and he came with him to St. Paul, in 1850; his summers were afterward spent in Minnesota, and his winter life was passed on a farm in Illinois. He was married in January, 1859, to Melissa Fleming, daughter of Joseph and Nancy Fleming, of Ohio. In the spring of the latter year he removed to Saratoga village, where he resided four years. Here he began work at the mason's trade, which has occupied his time more or less since. He owns a piece of land in Mower county, which he purchased on his first arrival here. In 1863 he took up his present residence on Sec. 10, on land belonging to Mrs. Abbott. In August, 1862, Mr. Abbott responded to the call for troops to defend settlers against the belligerent Indians, enlisting in Co. K, 9th Minn. Inf., and served on the frontier until discharged on account of illness in July, 1863. He is a Baptist in religious faith, and a republican in politics; has been three years constable of his township. He has two children, having lost one by death. Their births are given thus: Nellie, March 22, 1864, married Burton Wood, home at present with parents; Clarence, April 11, 1876.

GEORGE L. WHEELOCK, farmer, is a son of Humphrey Wheelock and Sophia Le Seur Wheelock, of Massachusetts birth. The father, Humphrey, was a soldier in the revolutionary war. George Wheelock was born in Barnard, Windsor county, Vermont, February 22, 1834. At eighteen he left home, and spent five years in and near the city of Boston, being employed in Faneuil Hall market part of the time, and as a teamster. He was married March 11, 1857, to Mary J., daughter of Orrin and Hatherowe (Chamberlain) Cox, of Vermont; she was born in Barnard, October 10, 1839. In September of the same year, he became a resident of Winona county, taking up school land on Sec. 16, Saratoga, where his home was till 1865. Mr. Wheelock was one of those who volunteered to defend the white settlers from Indian attacks in 1862, being enrolled August 22, in Co. K, 9th reg. After serving a year on the western frontier his regiment joined the army of the



Tennessee. He was captured at Guntown, Mississippi, in June, 1864, and kept in various rebel prisons a year, the last five months at Andersonville. He was exchanged at the close of the war, and is one of three out of eleven Saratogans who survived an imprisonment at Andersonville. After the close of the war he sold his Saratoga property and removed to Elmira township, in the adjoining county of Olmsted, where he still owns 240 acres of land, tilled by his eldest son. In September, 1882, he bought the property on which he resides, being 240 acres on Sees. 3 and 4, Saratoga, the residence being on the latter. He is a republican, and served eight successive years as supervisor in Elmira, and six years as justice of the peace. He is the father of four children, born as here recorded: Frederick A., February 9, 1859, resides Elmira; Emma L., August 8, 1860, married James W. Rutledge, lives at Dundee, Dakota; Eva G., May 4, 1867; George Leroy, June 14, 1875.

NATHAN M. CROSS, farmer, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, November 9, 1835. His parents, Joel and Julia A. Medbury Cross, were also natives of that state. He has always been a farmer, having been reared on a farm. In 1859 he became a resident of Saratoga, buying one-fourth of Sec. 27, where his home has ever since been. By subsequent purchase he has acquired 200 acres more, and is one of the most successful and substantial farmers of this rich township. Mr. Cross is a skeptic on religious questions. His political principles are republican; he has been treasurer of his school-district fourteen years, and was elected town treasurer in 1883. On April 7, 1856, he was joined in holy wedlock to Miss Anna Lane, who was born in Utica, New York, November 14, 1848. They have two children living, given them as follows: William E., August 5, 1871; Cora B., October 12, 1873. Mr. Cross enlisted under the last call for troops, in April, 1865, and was gone a little over three months, but saw no active service.

IRA MURPHY, farmer, was born in Logansport, Indiana, August 20, 1852. He is a son of John Murphy, native of Tennessee, and Mary J. Murphy, of Indiana. In 1856 his father settled in Jordan, Fillmore county, this state, where he has become a wealthy man. He has 520 acres of land in this township. In 1876 the subject of this sketch began managing this property, and has resided since 1876 on a quarter of Sec. 22, which now constitutes his charge. He was married April 12, 1881, to Ella Griffin, who was born near Logansport, March 6, 1860. They have one child, Nora Sibyl, born March

22, 1883. Mr. Murphy is a member of Chatfield Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and a democrat. Although not a member of any church, he is a firm believer in the Christian religion.

JAMES WALKER (deceased) was born near Port Norris, County Armagh, Ireland, May 3, 1810. He was reared on a farm and subsequently engaged in manufactures. He came to the United States in 1833, and took charge of a cotton-mill at Philadelphia. He was married November 20, 1837, to Miss Rebecka Anderson, who was born in the town of Baragh, County Tyrone, Ireland, August 3, 1822. About 1840 he removed to Delaware, and during several years of his residence there, kept a general store near Wilmington. After five years' residence on a farm in Iowa he became a resident of Saratoga, buying claims to a half of Sec. 17, where he resided till his death, July 14, 1882. Mr. Walker was an active, intelligent man, and by giving close attention to business was prospered. At one time he owned over a section of land; after presenting each of two sons with eighty acres of land he left an estate of 400 acres, with complete buildings and other improvements. He gave little attention to public affairs, but voted with the republican party. He was several years a town supervisor, and also justice of the peace some time. He joined the I.O.O.F. in Pennsylvania, and was a member of the lodge at Winona at the time of his death. Mr. and Mrs. Walker were both Presbyterians. Beside his widow and many friends the following eight children mourn his loss: Robert J., who married Martha Burrell, resides on Sec. 22; Elizabeth A., William Fry, Winona; James J., Frances Van Aiken, Winona; William E., mentioned elsewhere; Henry C., operates farm; Rachel E., Jennie I., at home; Albert T., Lizzie Culbertson, Saratoga.

GEORGE CROWSON, farmer, was born in Broughton, Leicestershire, England, February 18, 1837. He was brought up in the country, and his mother being early left a widow, he had little opportunity for education; the only advantage he enjoyed in this line was that furnished by the Sabbath and night schools. His natural strength of mind and subsequent self-culture have stood him in good stead, and he is numbered among the representative men of which Saratoga township boasts so many. At eighteen years of age he emigrated to America, settling near Oberlin, Ohio, where he engaged in farm labor. Six years later he came to Saratoga and rented land. In the fall of 1861 he bought a farm on Sec. 8. This he soon sold, and has owned several farms for short periods. In

1870 he purchased one-fourth of Sec. 7, where his home has been ever since. Mr. Crowson was reared in the Episcopal church, and still gives his support to that sect. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and of Troy Lodge, A. F. and A. M. He is a republican, and has served as town supervisor one year; has been school director several terms. In 1855 Mr. Crowson was wedded to Mary A. Parmer, who was born near Broughton, August 26, 1830. She died September 14, 1875, leaving the following children: George W., born April 23, 1856, married Wealthy Gallup, resides in St. Charles; Elizabeth M., February 2, 1859; Sarah J., October 14, 1860; James E., October 24, 1862; Frank E., September 10, 1865. On May 1, 1876, Mr. Crowson married Sarah Wilson, born near Columbus, Wisconsin, July 28, 1856. The children born to the latter union are: Alice E., August 27, 1877; Ernest A., February 10, 1881.

ABRAM D. HESSELGRAVE, farmer, was born in Lisbon, St. Lawrence county, New York, July 22, 1827. His parents, James H. and Margaret (Holderness) Hesselgrave, emigrated from England to America. He has always been a farmer, being reared to that calling. He bought a farm in Parishville, New York, which he tilled many years. His marriage took place July 16, 1851, the bride being Miss Margaret Champyne, who was born in Cornwall, Canada, March 9, 1831. Her parents were John and Rosanna Champyne, and were born in Canada. Mr. Hesselgrave early responded to the calls of his native land for aid in suppressing treason in its midst. He enlisted August 25, 1862, in Co. E, 106th reg. N. Y. Inf., and served in the army of the Potomac through all its severe campaigns. The most important battles in which he was an actor were those of Martinsburg, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Culpepper, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor, Bermuda Hundred, Cedar Creek and Petersburg. At the latter contest he was shot through the right wrist, April 2, 1865. He was discharged in June of this year, and sold out his New York property and removed to the west. He arrived in Saratoga in the fall, and bought forty acres of land on Sec. 16, where he lived seven years. This he sold, and lived on rented land a few seasons. In 1878 he acquired his present domain, embracing 114 acres on Sec. 15. He is a Methodist in religious belief and a republican in political principle. Following is the record of his children: Jane, born June 22, 1852, married Charles Brackley, lives on Sec. 15; Margaret, July 16, 1853; Julius



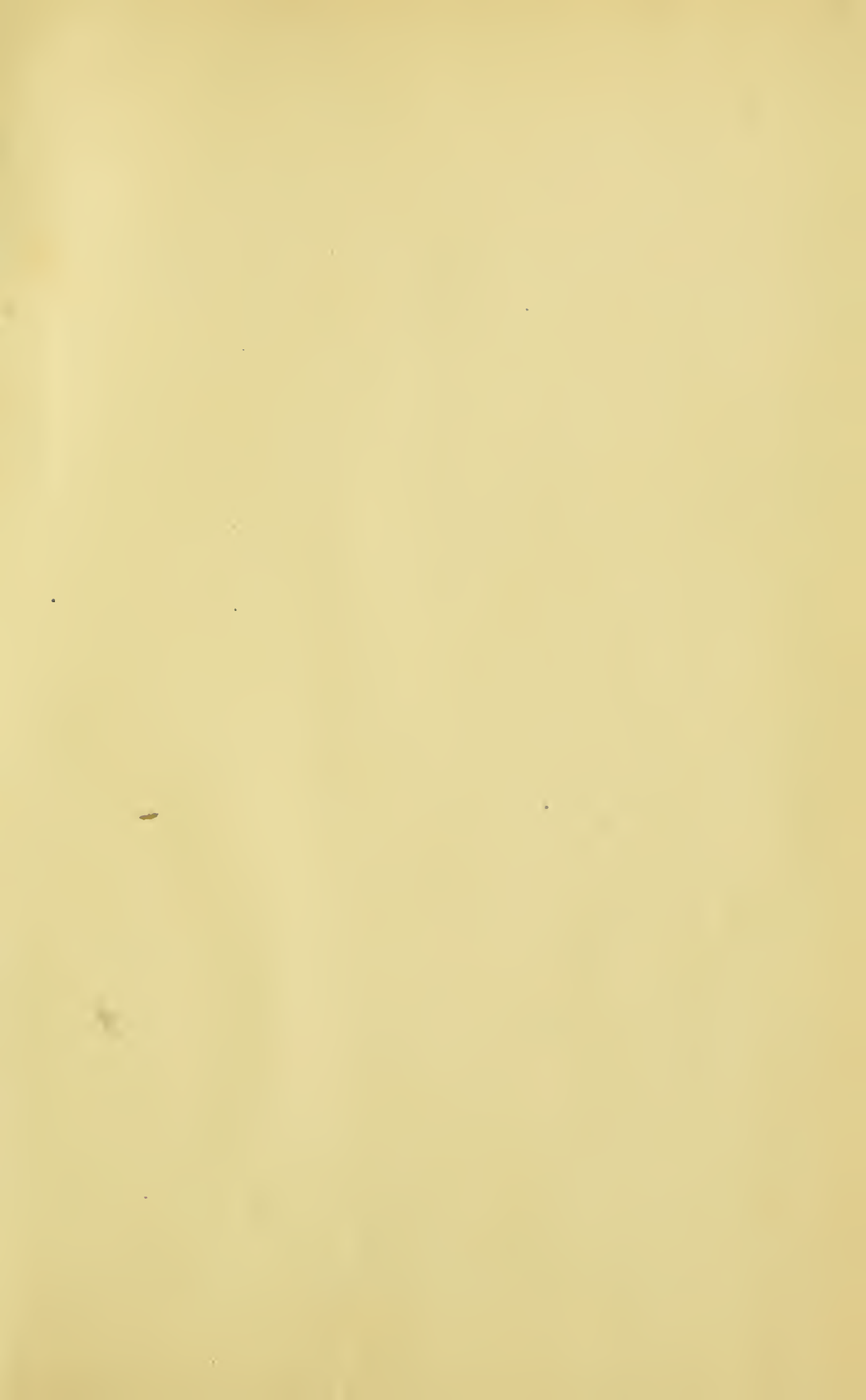
Beebe, Oporto, Dakota; Henry, March 16, 1855, Utica; John, December 11, 1856, at home; Emily, September 27, 1858; Jefferson Skinner, Oporto, Dakota Territory; James, July 8, 1861, at home; Fred, March 21, 1869; Ella, February 27, 1871; Albert, January 12, 1873.

JOHN GIBSON, farmer, was born in Leicestershire, England, January 19, 1834. Up to thirteen years of age his life was passed on a farm, and he was then apprenticed to a tailor, and worked at that trade eight years. At twenty-four he emigrated to America, and engaged in farm labor near Oberlin, Ohio, three years. In 1860 he moved westward and settled in Saratoga. He had been here but a short time when he responded to the call of his adopted country for troops to suppress rebellion. He was enrolled in January, 1862, in the 2d batt. Minn. Light Art., and served in the army of the Cumberland till April, 1865, taking part in twenty-one battles and nine skirmishes. Principal among the former were those of Corinth, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga and Sherman's Atlanta campaign. Two horses were shot under him, and he was internally injured, so that he never fully recovered, by the fall from his steed at Stone River. Mr. Gibson was married April 8, 1862, at Winona, to Miss Maggie Burns, who was born in County Kildare, Ireland, November 24, 1832. He now has 120 acres of land on Secs. 7 and 8, Saratoga, and is a happy and prosperous farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson are Methodists in religious faith. They are members of the order of Patrons of Husbandry. Mr. Gibson is a republican.

JOHN L. BLAIR, farmer, was born in Rensselaer county, New York, July 7, 1834. He is a son of Luke Blair, one of Winona county's pioneers, elsewhere mentioned. The subject of this sketch passed his early years on a farm, attending the common schools of New York. He was in his nineteenth year when he came with his father to this county. He afterward made claim to 160 acres of land on Secs. 1 and 2, Saratoga, which he retained and dwelt on till 1866. He was married April 16, 1859, to Miss Martha E. Cheatham, born in Woodburn, Illinois, January 7, 1835; her parents, W. W. and Margaret S. (Wilson) Cheatham, were born in Kentucky. Mr. Blair has seen active military service, having been mustered as a recruit in the 1st batt. Minn. Heavy Art., February 16, 1864. He was under fire over ninety days in all, this battery being in active service in the army of the Tennessee. He participated in the bombardment at Kenesaw, siege of Atlanta, of Savannah and the march



to Washington, by way of Richmond and Petersburg. After the close of the war Mr. Blair bought a farm on Sec. 35, St. Charles, and soon after sold his original claim and has ever since resided within this township. His landed property at present embraces 120 acres on Secs. 30 and 31, and a quarter-section near Ordway, Dakota. He has resided since November, 1882, on St. Charles street, in the city of St. Charles. He has been called upon several times since the war to fill various public positions. He was assessor for three years in the town of St. Charles, and supervisor for a like period; he served one term as justice of the peace, and on re-election refused to serve. In 1871 he was elected by the republicans to the fourteenth legislature, and served with credit to himself and his constituents. He is now independent in political matters. His religious views are most nearly represented by the Swedenborgians.

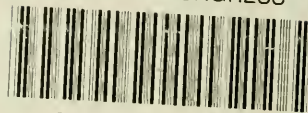








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