



INCIDENTS *and* ANECDOTES

OF EARLY DAYS

— AND —

HISTORY OF BUSINESS

IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF FOND DU LAC  
FROM EARLY TIMES TO THE PRESENT

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES

REMARKABLE EVENTS

ELECTION RESULTS

MILITARY HISTORY, ETC.

By A. T. GLAZE

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## TO THE READER

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**T**IME flies; days, weeks, months and years rush into the past with astounding rapidity. Half centuries pass over our heads and we hardly realize it. Every day of these rushing years we are helping, more or less, in the development of events which become history to those who are to follow us.

Rushing through the affairs of daily life, absorbed in business, we do not stop to consider the importance of collecting and preserving historical facts and relics, although we concede that simple justice to the old in years who have shaped the history of their time, as well as for the help, guidance and gratification of the young, that a record of important events should be made and relics collected and preserved. In the present condition, many of the interesting and important events in the history of the city and county of Fond du Lac, are practically lost to the people of today because of the widely scattered sources from which they can be obtained and the time requisite for the search. A few relics and curiosities of the early days of the city and county have been collected by private parties, and very many more might be obtained from old residents and the few pioneers who are yet living. Many of these, of peculiar historical interest, as the years pass, may be wholly lost or destroyed. To this extent at least, delay is dangerous and every active citizen unquestionably feels that no further time should be lost in this matter.

**IMPORTANT TO THE COMMUNITY.**—A true record of the time and place of important events, in a form of easy and prompt access, is almost a necessity; when noted enterprises originated and how developed; dates of individual and society efforts in public affairs; when public improvements were entered upon and when completed; dates and results of local elections, and a wide range in the histories of churches and societies. Is there one person in the city today who can readily and promptly answer the questions of how many and what regiments went into camp here at the time of the war of the rebellion and where their camps were located; what military companies were organized wholly or in part in this city or county and to what regiments were they assigned for duty; who of the Fond du Lac men returned from the war with military rank higher than first sergeant; what is the record of this city as to independent military companies; where is the ground upon which the first house in this city was built, and for whom; what was the starting point of our present public library, who was identified with it and what changes and vicissitudes has it passed through in reaching its present grand proportions; Lake Winnebago navigation—when, where and by whom was first steamboats built and the names of them; when were our railroads built; when, where

and by whom were first artesian wells drilled and from which we get the name "Fountain City"; the straightening of the river, together with hundreds of like interesting subjects.

IMPORTANT TO INDIVIDUALS.—Correct records place individuals in rightful positions in matters of local history, of which they are often deprived or regarding which they are more frequently misrepresented because of incorrect information.

There are now about 45 men and 12 women living in Fond du Lac who were residents in 1850 or earlier, and of those who have lived here 45 years and less than 50 years, there are about 120 men and 45 women, a total of but about 225 people in Fond du Lac today who have lived here more than 45 years. Of this total, only about 57 resided here in 1850 or earlier. In the natural course of things, these people must now rapidly pass away. Their memory cannot be depended upon much longer, and with them must go personal knowledge of events in pioneer days. Is it not important then, that means be adopted to preserve the facts and such relics as may yet be gathered bearing upon the early history of Fond du Lac. We have a State Historical Society, of which every intelligent citizen of the state is proud, and like local societies now exist in many of the cities of the state, among them Milwaukee, Kenosha, Waukesha, Janesville, Beloit, La Crosse, Eau Claire, Oshkosh, Green Bay, and even so small a city as Ripon has a prosperous society for this work. Such a society, with its collection of records and relics, is able to claim and prove what rightfully belongs to the locality and its citizens. And in after years, those who were at the front in shaping the destiny of Fond du Lac, will not be wholly lost to the memory of their successors.

At least five histories of the state and three of the county, have been compiled and printed by others, and may be readily consulted when desired, therefore for this work it is desirable to speak only of personal and city matters. Some errors will creep in though the most determined efforts are made to avoid them. The writer has been familiar with the scenes and with the people for nearly sixty years and has endeavored to avoid the provoking mistakes of those who have preceded him.

The pioneers who settled this county worked under disadvantages, but success followed hard work. They came, they saw, they conquered the land to the south of Lake Winnebago, and today we have one of the grandest sections of the great state of Wisconsin.

A. T. GLAZE.

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***Profit by the Past;***

***Live for the Present;***

***Hope for the Future.***



# MILITARY HISTORY OF FOND DU LAC

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Our Independent Military Companies and Part Taken in the War  
of the Rebellion. Company E and the Part it Took  
in the Spanish-American War.

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## Fond du Lac National Guard.

Few people residing in Fond du Lac today, have knowledge of the fact that at a comparatively early day of the city's history, there was a military company here known as the Fond du Lac National Guard, of which D. E. Wood was Captain, D. E. Hoskins, First Lieutenant, J. W. Partridge, Second Lieutenant, E. H. Jones, Orderly. It was organized in 1857, and with its beautiful uniforms and soldierly movements, was the pride of the young city. An incident of state historical interest, was the loss and recovery of some of the company's arms. T. S. Weeks was the company Armorer, and as such, kept and cared for the guns. One morning while the excitement was on in connection with the arrest of the negro Glover under the provisions of the fugitive slave law and rushing him from Milwaukee to Ripon for concealment, these company arms suddenly disappeared and immediately the question for investigation was, who took them and where were they? The feeling was high over the rescue of Glover from the custody of the U. S. Marshal, and the determination to hide and protect him shown by Booth, Rycraft and the anti-slave element at Milwaukee, and La Grange, Daniels, Pickett and their friends at Ripon. The U. S. Marshal and deputies, the latter including F. D. McCarty, then Sheriff of this county, and John S. Horner, of Ripon, were in lively pursuit, and it was feared by many that there might be trouble. The morning that Tom Weeks discovered the guns were gone, followed a night of considerable excitement at Ripon, and the evening of that day occurred the memorable gate-pin scene, a standing joke in the region for many years. The joke was perpetrated in this way: Glover was supposed to be and in reality was concealed on the premises of Armine Pickett, five miles northeast of Ripon, and McCarty, Horner and two other men, whose names are lost to history, proceeded in that direction. In front of the Pickett home was a gate of heavy proportions, and to hold it in place when not in use, a pin was used in a hole bored in the gate-post. Arriving at the scene in the dusk of the evening, the officers were met by Mr. Pickett, who led the way through the gate, but just as he passed through, he seized the gate-pin, and in a very determined manner threatened to shoot if they did not get out of there. And they got at a lively rate, for they imagined the gate-pin to be a revolver and knew Pickett to be a man of determination. It

seems Judge Horner was slow to run and was led away by an animal yoke around his neck.

But as to the guns—Lieut. Hoskins by careful and persistent detective work, found that Colwert Pier, young and full of political enthusiasm, led the boys who took away the guns, and explaining the penalty to them, the guns next morning were found in their usual place and the scene closed.

But as to the subsequent career of the National Guard, the beautifully uniformed and well equipped military company. Its ending was neither bright or pleasing. It went out because the men tired of it and did not come out for drill. Gen. C. S. Hamilton, a graduate of West Point and a Mexican war veteran, then a resident of Fond du Lac and known as Capt. Hamilton, agreed to drill the company, and faithfully did so when he could get enough of the men to come to make it worth while. Amory Hall was used for a drill room, and while some worked hard to become proficient, others were said to be too lazy for anything and especially so for military duty. Result—the company died in 1860 from neglect. There was a total of sixty-four men in the ranks, comprising many of the most popular young men in the city. Capt. D. E. Wood, afterward Colonel of the 14th Regiment in the war, was a remarkably fine appearing officer, as also were Lieutenants Hoskins and Partridge, and when they appeared on the streets, Fond du Lac people were proud of them. Capt. Wood was full six feet tall, well proportioned and as straight as an arrow.

For many years preceding the war, there was a great deal of pride taken in local military companies, and nearly all cities had them. Fond du Lac was not an exception. But the war came and the people had all the military side of life they cared for. Few such companies are in existence now outside of regular state authority. The National Guard is recognized by most of the states, but the companies are on a far different basis than those of ante-war times.

Of the members of this the first military company in Fond du Lac, E. H. Jones, Milt. Ewen, T. S. Weeks, Fred Kalk, C. L. Pierce, are the only ones known to be now living.

A full history of the S. M. Booth troubles before spoken of, may be found in the History of Wisconsin by Moses M. Strong.

### Hibernian Guards.

The Hibernian Guards was an active military company in existence in Fond du Lac in 1861 when the war of the rebellion started. It was composed of ninety-three of the active young Irishmen then living here. They had an armory at the corner of Johnson and Bannister streets, where they met for drill, but when the weather would permit drilled on a large parade ground where St. Patrick's church now stands. The officers of the company were:

Captain—James Maginnis.

First Lieutenant—Samuel Ray.

Second Lieutenant—Martin Curran.

First Sergeant—Edward Midgley.

Lieutenant Ray had seen service in the Mexican war as a captain

and was the drill master. When news came of the firing upon Fort Sumter and excitement was great, the young men in the ranks of the Hibernians partook of the feeling that prevailed and expressed themselves as ready to enter the army and take part in putting down the rebellion. Two days after the news came the men were called out by Capt. Maginnis and directed to meet at the court house at 7:30 p. m. to formally offer their services to the government. The boys were there almost to a man and after some patriotic speeches, Capt. Maginnis formally made the offer of services. But now came an incident that caused a row and broke up the meeting. S. E. Lefferts, holding a commission as Quartermaster General in the state militia from Gov. Randall, was present, and after the remarks by Capt. Maginnis, was said to have declared that "there are enough young Americans to put down this trouble inside of ninety days and we do not want any red faced foreigners." Mr. Lefferts soon discovered that this remark was a foolish one and disappeared, so that the men could not find him for punishment. The men then formed in company order, marched to their armory, stacked arms and voted unanimously to disband. The governor was notified and the guns and entire equipment returned to Madison. This ended the Hibernian Guards of Fond du Lac, after an existence of something more than two years. The company was under command of very competent officers and was well drilled. The uniform was quite showy and they made a most handsome appearance on the street. The war came along after the disbanding and it was found by examination of the muster roll, that nearly all the members became soldiers in other companies. The war gave the people enough of military duty and experience and there has not since been that desire for independent military companies that existed before.

It is proper to state here that Mr. Lefferts contended that he did not make the statement as charged, but what he did say was that there were enough active young men in this country to put down this trouble inside of ninety days, and made no allusion to Irishmen or foreigners.

### Fond du Lac in the War.

It is doubtful if there was a county in the state that showed more patriotism and showed it more promptly than Fond du Lac. On that bright April morning of 1861, when the news flashed over the wires that Fort Sumter had been fired upon, Fond du Lac people were fully aroused. There was no daily paper here then, but so eager were we for news that at noon of each day A. T. Glaze printed a dodger at Beeson's Job Office, containing the telegrams obtainable, and about two hundred of these were quickly sold at five cents each. Captain, afterwards General Hamilton, was sure to be on hand to get one of the first copies. When the call for troops was issued, Co. I, First Wisconsin, was filled to the maximum in less than two days, and the names on the muster roll were from Fond du Lac's brightest young business men. It was thought at Washington that "it would not be much of a shower" and the call was for three months'

service. Then came the enlistment for three years or during the war and nearly all of the Co. I boys put their names to this roll, but they were now Co. K. Capt. J. V. McCall had good reasons to be proud of his boys.

Capt. E. S. Bragg and First Lieutenant E. A. Brown organized Co. E of the 6th Wisconsin. The company was enlisted for the 2d Regiment but was assigned to the Sixth and Col. Lysander Cutler took a splendid body of men to the Army of the Potomac. Capt. Bragg was rapidly promoted and became the general in command of the renowned Iron Brigade, composed of the 6th and 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana and 24th Michigan. Capt. Brown was killed at Antietam, and disease thinned the ranks. Col. J. A. Watrous came to the company from Appleton. It was a sorry scene that September evening at dusk, as the funeral procession of Capt. Brown slowly moved through Main street to the Pier cemetery.

Col. D. E. Wood, Surgeon W. H. Walker and Chaplain J. B. Rogers were Fond du Lac men. Co. A, Capt. Lyman M. Ward, was mostly recruited here. There were some Fond du Lac men in other companies of this regiment, but the names are not now obtainable. Col. Wood came home sick and died at home, early in the war, and Capt. Ward became the colonel.

Lieutenant, afterwards Captain Martin Curran, took a goodly number of Fond du Lac men to Milwaukee to join the 17th or Irish regiment, Col. John L. Doran.

First Lieut. Edward Colman became Colonel of the 18th Regiment and former Lieut. Governor Beall, was Lieut. Colonel.

The 21st was a grand regiment, all of the men from this part of the state and in its ranks were many Fond du Lac county men. Capt. Alex White, Co. A, Capt. Edgar Conklin, Co. F, Capt. George Bentley, Co. H and their Lieutenants, Milt. Ewen, Fred L. Clark and T. F. Strong, Jr., together with Ed. Delany, of Co. I, and Surgeon S. J. Carolin, were all Fond du Lac men.

The 32d Regiment was one of the grandest that left the state. Capt. C. H. DeGroat, Co. A, afterwards Colonel, W. R. Hodges, Co. B, and Capt. W. S. Burrows, Co. H, and Lieutenants Thos. Bryant and J. K. Pompelly, were all Fond du Lac men. Captains G. G. Woodruff and M. B. Pierce were from Waupun. This regiment made a grand record at Memphis, before Atlanta and in Sherman's memorable "march to the sea." Their long march ended in the streets of Washington.

Col. C. K. Pier was transferred from the First and given command of the 38th Regiment, which did some rough work near Richmond, where Col. Pier was seriously wounded.

In the skeleton infantry regiments which followed to the end of the war, were many Fond du Lac men.

The 1st Cavalry was organized at Ripon by Prof. Ed. Daniels and O. H. La Grange. It camped on the college campus, but the feet of the horses so cut the ground that it required three or four years to get it smooth again. Col. Daniels had to quit the regiment on account of poor health and Col. La Grange was in command to

the end of the war. Maj. H. S. Eggleston, of Ripon, died of disease, but Maj. H. S. Town survived the war and died in 1897. Capt. Hugh La Grange died of disease before the close of the war. Col. N. Boardman belonged to the Second Cavalry.

The Fourth Infantry was reorganized for the cavalry service, and among its members was the late Capt. Elihu Colman.

The Third Wisconsin Battery had its origin at Ripon. Lu. H. Drury, the well known editor, was the Captain. This battery changed its light guns for four thirty-two-pounders, with ten horses each, and did tremendous work in several battles. Capt. Drury was shot through the lungs before Atlanta, but recovered.

When seven batteries were called for from this state, in 1862, Alex. White's Co. A, of the Twenty-first Regiment, was recruited for one of them, but failed to get ready in time and went into the infantry.

The draft of 1863 did not strike Fond du Lac hard, as the quota of men had been provided for. A few towns were struck pretty hard. In the draft of 1864, the same towns were struck, but in the last draft, in 1865, just before the close of the war, the wheel did not turn in this county at all. A few years after the war some very foolish falsehoods gained currency about the drafts and other events, and some of them found their way into an alleged history of the county. It is to be regretted that any of these stories got into print. Should the reader find one of them, let him reflect that it is a lie, told long after the alleged occurrence.

The amount of money paid by private parties for substitutes, could only be guessed at, but there were many of them and it must have been large in the total. The estimate was that the city paid about \$100,000 in bounties. The city paid \$30,000 at one time. Some of these bounty soldiers ran away from service, but the number that deserted was but a small fraction of the number that has been stated to be bounty jumpers. Many men were enlisted in Fond du Lac, Ripon and Waupun by men who aspired to commands, and taken to other places, some of them out of the state. These we often got no credit for on our quotas.

Capt. Charles S. Hamilton was an old time resident of Fond du Lac, coming here in 1849. He was a graduate of West Point and a Mexican war veteran. As Colonel he took the Third Wisconsin to the Army of the Potomac, but was soon promoted to command of a brigade in the western army. Other well known Fond du Lac men in the army were Gen. Roswell M. Sawyer, Surgeon H. M. Lilly, Capt. J. V. Frost, Col. Bertine Pinkney, Surgeon H. L. Barnes, Capt. Thos. H. Green, Capt. Thos. Bryant, Capt. W. S. Burrows, Capt. J. A. Watrous, Capt. Hiram K. Edwards, Col. Delos A. Ward, Capt. Milt. Ewen, Capt. L. H. D. Crane, Col. Geo. W. Carter, Surgeon W. H. Walker, Surgeon D. A. Raymond, Capt. J. O. Ackerman, Capt. C. H. Benton, Capt. Geo. E. Sutherland, Capt. Michael Mangan, Maj. A. E. Bovay and Maj. K. M. Adams.

In this list of commissioned officers should be the Lieutenants, but the names of many of them are among the things forever lost

by lapse of time. Besides these, Fond du Lac county had in the ranks as private soldiers, more than two thousand of as brave men as ever shouldered a musket or swapped tobacco, whiskey or bacon with a Johnnie on the picket line.

### Fond du Lac Guards.

In late years so well known as Co. E, had its origin at a meeting held at the law office of Geo. E. Sutherland, on Forest street, on the evening of March 25, 1880. Notice of the meeting was published in the Daily Commonwealth on that day, and pursuant to the notice, twenty-four men assembled in the evening to organize a military company as a part of the Wisconsin National Guard. The following named men signed the roll:

A. W. Starr.	Frank Wallace.	J. C. Murphy.	E. A. Hanks.
J. E. Sullivan.	J. C. Kenneally.	A. H. Rottmeyer.	J. J. Kunze.
Frank A. Flower.	Ed. Foulkes.	C. M. Cooley.	J. L. Martin.
Sumner L. Brasted.	J. D. Radford.	J. R. Libbey.	J. H. Morse.
George S. Burrows,	A. F. Starr.	A. D. Estabrooks.	C. L. Handt.
E. M. Moore.	F. S. Wiley.	J. B. Gibson.	M. L. Normile.

After appointing a recruiting committee, the meeting was adjourned one week, to meet at the council rooms. April 1st the men met and the following names were added to the roll:

A. A. Kelly	Fred. Eycleshimer.	E. A. Galloway.	Richard Purcell.
J. Q. Haas.	Lamont Hunter.	P. B. Haber	John Rogers.
F. A. Dawes.	Otto Petters. .	C. R. Boardman.	E. A. Little.
J. E. Kent.	W. H. Shattuck.	E. T. Tallmadge.	C. A. Erhart.
John E. Waters.	Lester Noble.	H. T. Sackett.	Harrison Pade.
C. J. Hunter.	F. A. Brasted.	Frank Sweet.	Fred French.
Waldo Sweet.			

Governor Smith having been applied to for a mustering officer to muster the company into the Wisconsin National Guard, notice was received that Jerome A. Watrons, of the governor's staff, had been appointed. At the meeting of April 7, the following additional members signed the roll:

C. E. Dickinson.	R. H. O'Meara.	John Magnussen	F. S. Lippett.
H. R. Potter.	Geo. B. Sweet.	W. T. Treleven.	E. A. Lang.
J. C. Hanson.	E. A. Adams.	C. T. Galland.	W. H. Olmsted.
O. C. Davis.	John Hamilton.		

The ten days' notice having been given by publication, the mustering officer met the company on April 21, but it was found that the company was two men short of the required minimum of sixty-five men, and an adjournment of twenty minutes was taken and the following named men signed the roll, bringing it to a total of sixty-eight:

R. M. Wilson.	F. F. Duffy.
H. W. Wilkner.	T. H. Shepard.
Joseph Carberry.	

The company having complied with all the requirements of law, was mustered into the service of the state April 21, 1880. The men were evidently very fond of band music, for on May 5, they incurred

a debt of \$57.00, and in August \$40 more, but the soldiers and sailors' reunion, at Milwaukee, donated \$100 to the company, which helped it out of debt for music. All through its early life the company had ups and downs of all sorts as all new organizations do. It required administrative power of a high order to keep the company on its feet. Jealousy crept in, of course, and some of the men were constant breeders of discord. But Capt. Brasted was a man of force and kept trouble at the lowest point.

After the company had been mustered in, the following commissioned officers were elected:

Captain—Sumner L. Brasted.

First Lieutenant—John C. Kenneally.

Second Lieutenant—Charles J. Hunter.

### Commissioned Officers.

Following have been the commissioned officers of Co. E from the organization of the company to the present time:

Captain S. L. Brasted, commissioned Captain April 7, 1880; Colonel May 21, 1883. Died 1886.

Captain C. J. Hunter, commissioned Captain August 1, 1883, promoted to Major February 24, 1892.

Captain E. T. Markle, commissioned Captain April 5, 1892, Commissary of Subsistence with same rank, July 5, 1899.

Captain Emil C. Plonsky, commissioned Captain December 2, 1899. Resigned October 30, 1904.

Captain Wm. J. Seeve, commissioned Captain December 2, 1904.

First Lieutenant John C. Kenneally, commissioned April 7, 1880, promoted to Quartermaster February 18, 1881.

C. J. Hunter, commissioned Second Lieutenant April 9, 1880, and First Lieutenant March 18, 1881.

C. E. Dickinson, commissioned Second Lieutenant March 18, 1881. Resigned April 7, 1882.

J. D. Radford, commissioned First Lieutenant June 2, 1882. Resigned March 13, 1883.

A. A. Kelly, commissioned Second Lieutenant June 2, 1882, First Lieutenant March 30, 1883, Major August 30, 1883, Lieutenant Colonel February 8, 1886. Resigned February 23, 1892. Died July 4, 1897.

Edward Foulkes, commissioned Second Lieutenant March 30, 1883, promoted to Adjutant with rank of Captain April 15, 1885. Resigned February 8, 1887.

Otto H. Petters, commissioned First Lieutenant July 30, 1883. Resigned March 17, 1884.

James M. Moore, commissioned Second Lieutenant July 30, 1883. Resigned January 28, 1884.

G. H. McNeel, commissioned Second Lieutenant January 24, 1884. Inspector Rifle Practice April 30, 1884.

Geo. S. Burrows, commissioned Second Lieutenant March 27, 1884. Resigned April 26, 1885.

E. T. Markle, commissioned Second Lieutenant June 11, 1885,  
First Lieutenant May 1, 1887.

S. H. Longdin, commissioned First Lieutenant May 5, 1892,  
Battalion Adjutant February 5, 1892.

L. H. Gillet, commissioned Second Lieutenant May 1, 1887. Re-  
signed November 1, 1889.

Otto A. Abel, commissioned Second Lieutenant November 14,  
1889. Resigned April 6, 1892.

Chas. H. Tripp, commissioned Second Lieutenant April 5, 1892,  
First Lieutenant December 15, 1895. Resigned December 14, 1898.

E. C. Plonsky, commissioned Second Lieutenant December 15,  
1895, Captain November 30, 1898. Resigned October 18, 1904.

J. F. Dittmar, commissioned Second Lieutenant December 10,  
1898. Resigned July 1, 1900.

W. F. Bruett, commissioned Second Lieutenant July 23, 1900.  
Resigned September 28, 1904.

A. R. Brunet, commissioned Second Lieutenant December 7,  
1904.

A. H. Trier, commissioned First Lieutenant December 7, 1904.

Wm. J. Seeve, commissioned First Lieutenant December 10,  
1898, Captain December 2, 1904.

The officers serving the company at the present time are:

Captain—Wm. J. Seeve.

First Lieutenant—Adolph M. Trier.

Second Lieutenant—Adelbert R. Brunet.

In the war of the rebellion and in infantry formation in the field of which we have knowledge until 1889, a regiment consisted always of ten companies of one hundred men each. In 1889 the German-French system was adopted for the National Guard in Wisconsin. This system increased the number of companies to twelve, divided into three battalions of four companies each and a major in command of each battalion. This system is much more efficient, and it is said by experts that it enables the officers to handle the men more effectively. The old Spanish officers in the Spanish-American war could not understand how the American troops were hurled upon them so rapidly and with such effective results. They found out later on. Previous to 1889 the Wisconsin National Guard had the old regimental formations of ten companies each, with a Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel and one Major, but they readily took to the new formation and drill and today are said by experts to be the equal of any troops in the country.

In 1882 the state fair was held at Fond du Lac, and the last day of the fair the Guards made a fine appearance in neat and new uniforms. Governor Smith was present and made a speech to the boys highly complimentary of their appearance and conduct. With full ranks and new uniforms they did look very nice.

In July, 1883, the regiment was formed and the boys had their first camp at Oshkosh. Here it was that the old name of Fond du Lac Guards was dropped and the company to be since known as



Company E. In forming the regimental line, this company was assigned to that place, and it has since been known by that name.

From the start the company has been very fortunate in having in its ranks young men who took readily to military drill and had pride in the work, hence the company always showed well in public and brought out good figures at inspections. The captains have been men of high character and great zeal and determination in bringing the command to the highest degree of proficiency. From the beginning the company has always been more or less handicapped by the loss of well drilled, active young men from the ranks by removals from the city, deaths and expiration of enlistment, yet at the inspections the company did not lose its standing. The skill and efficiency of the company officers, soon brings new recruits to the required proficiency.

The drill of military companies is not all for show in street parades in pretty uniforms. There may be troubles, as in the labor riots at Milwaukee and the military may be needed, and there may be war in which our border may need protection. Few people realize the value of military drill in the development of the physical powers of young men. Especially since the adoption of the setting up drill or exercises, has there been great development of the powers of the athlete and physical powers generally.

In the year 1886, there were three of the marked events in the early life of the company. On February 8, an order was issued for every man and officer to appear at the armory February 10, at 12:45, in full dress uniform to attend the funeral of Col. S. L. Brasted, and every man and officer was present prompt to the minute.

On May 5, 1886, came an order from Governor Rusk for every man to appear for duty at once and be in readiness to march at an hour's notice to aid in the suppression of the Milwaukee riot. The men were at the armory as ordered and were held until midnight, when a detail was made to give notice if needed. Next day notice was given that their services would not be needed. Subsequently Col. Patton in general orders thanked the company for its promptness and soldierly conduct.

In September the company had its first inspection at the hands of an officer of the state outside the company's own commanders. This inspection was made by Adjutant General Chapman, and was mostly in evolutions in marching. Even at this early day the boys were complimented. In 1895 the company won its position at the head of the Wisconsin National Guard, which it has continued to hold until 1905, excepting two years, when it lost by small fractions of a point. The inspections were mostly made by Gen. King, a West Pointer regarded as one of the most exacting officers in the service. The work of the company has been very successful from the beginning.

At the competitive drills at St. Louis in 1900, Co. E was awarded first place and won a prize of \$700. At the same place in 1904, the exhibition drills gave Co. E almost a world-wide notoriety. All of the drills of Co. E, competition or exhibition, were passed upon by

high grade U. S. Army officers. In this year of 1905, the company is twenty-five years old and has always ranked high. Today the muster roll numbers sixty-four men and the company has never been short but has often had more applications for membership than was needed.

When the company was organized the Helmer Hall, on Fourth street, was rented for a drill room, but in 1888 the Watke skating rink, on Second street, was purchased for \$2,700, and the present armory is the result. The improvements made by the company from time to time, at a cost of something over \$5,000, has resulted in one of the best armories in the state. The title of the property is in the name of the company and the boys are proud of it.

In the Spanish-American war, Co. E left home April 28, 1898, to join the other companies of the Second Regiment in camp at Milwaukee. They broke camp and left the state May 15, 1898. They were at Chattanooga, Tenn., nine weeks, and at Charleston, S. C., thirteen days, when they took transport for Ponce, Porto Rico. They left Ponce September 1st and arrived home September 9th. While in Porto Rico the boys had a brush with the enemy at Coamo. During the absence of the company Arthur McCourt died of disease and was the only death from the ranks.

The Co. E Athletic Association is an organization which shows something of the sort of men connected with the company. While this association has no part in the military work, all members of it must be members of Co. E. Organized in 1897 for company and personal amusement and benefit, it at once took high rank in the athletics of the city. In basket ball it acquired a state and even national reputation. The team was held in readiness to play any team in the United States, and did play many of the strongest, east and west. While Yale held the eastern basket ball championship in 1899, Co. E was anxious to meet Yale and expended \$1,000 to get that team to the west, only to send it back with bowed heads. In 1899 and 1900, Co. E achieved the wonderful results of winning 32 of the 36 championship games played. The team which brought these surprising results was under excellent management and the men gentlemen. Following are the names of the men in the team and their positions:

Wm. F. Bruett, Center.  
J. L. Rogers, Forward.  
August Buch, Back.  
Adelbert Brunet, Back.  
Albert Brunkhorst, Forward.  
Max Severin, Substitute.  
Carl H. Brugger, Manager.  
Eugene Bartlett, Trainer.

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Robert Jenkinson was elected Sheriff in 1852 and County Treasurer in 1854, but died in a few weeks after assuming the duties of the latter office, and W. H. Hiner served the balance of the term.

# FOUNTAINS AND WATER WORKS

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## Discovery of Artesian Wells From Which We Get the Name of "Fountain City." First Ones Drilled Here.

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From the earliest settlement of Fond du Lac until 1849, water for household and general purposes, was obtained as in most new countries, by digging wells. A man named Curtis, a practical well driller from the east, came here from Sheboygan with his outfit, and as J. C. Lewis and R. L. Morris were building the old Badger Hotel, corner of Main street and Western avenue, they employed Mr. Curtis to drill a well there. When the hole had reached a depth of eighty feet, all hands were discouraged, as a sufficient supply of water for even a small hotel had not been struck. But it was resolved to go a little deeper and in a few hours water gushed out of the top of the hole in such quantity as to overflow the surroundings and a ditch had to be dug to the Bissell sawmill race to carry away the surplus.

Here was the first of the celebrated Fond du Lac fountains, which gave us the title of "Fountain City." The next one sunk was at the home of George McWilliams, where the malt house now stands. It overflowed into the river and was for many years one of the most noted fountains in the city. Specimens of the water from it were sent to Chicago for analysis and was found to contain "valuable medicinal qualities," but it was never utilized as a health resort. It was nearly one hundred feet deep. The third fountain in Fond du Lac was sunk at Phinney's livery barn, located about where the gas holders of the gas works are now. This fountain was but about seventy feet deep, yet the water rose nearly four feet above the ground and discharged its surplus into the ravine.

John Sealy then went into the business and fountains went down rapidly all over the city. It was in 1853 that what was known for years as "the big fountain," was struck at the corner of Marr and Sixth streets. The water rose more than two feet above the ground and the stream was nearly the full size of the bore. It was fortunate that the ravine was near for the overflow. There has not been a drop of water from it in many years. The next big fountain was at the residence of Mr. Follette, on Follette street, now the home of Mrs. D. Babcock. The overflow swamped all the low places north of Arndt street, and the old Cotton street school house stood in a pond. It was necessary to carry the surplus water so far that it was difficult to get rid of it. In the winter when the drain was frozen, it gave the boys a beautiful skating park north of Arndt street. After a few years, however, it ceased to give trouble.

Next came the era of the deep fountains. Heretofore the depth

was 60 to 120 feet, but now they went down 230 to 250 feet. The first one of these was sunk by Mr. Wild, at his bakery and candy factory, on East First street, and was 256 feet deep. It was the belief that if the bore reached to the sandstone strata, the water would be comparatively soft, instead of being loaded with lime. The object of Mr. Wild was to obtain soft water for use in the bakery, but he did not fully succeed. The water is better but is not like rain water, by any means.

Dr. Bishop and Father Taugher put down a fountain somewhat later, and at a depth of 256 feet secured a splendid flow of water which continued a few years and has since been pumped. Since the advent of the deep wells, the shallow ones of former years are impractical, as pumping from them brings surface water only. It is therefore manifest that the water supply or head has been exhausted. The well at the laundry on East First street, sunk two years ago by Thomas Dobyns for N. R. Heath, is 286 feet deep but does not flow, yet yields an abundant supply of water by pumping.

Now comes the era of the water works which requires such a vast amount of water, but it is feared by some that the head of the deep wells will eventually be exhausted and Fond du Lac will be compelled to depend upon Lake Winnebago for its water supply. It is well, however, not to borrow trouble but wait in patience and hope for better results. But should this time come the lake will give us a better supply than many cities have.

The Fond du Lac Water Company received its franchise from the city of Fond du Lac in 1885. The original owners were Messrs. T. F. Flaggler, H. H. Flaggler, G. A. Gaskill and P. H. Linneen. The company now has seven wells. The shallowest of them is 475 feet in depth, and the deepest is 1,103 feet in depth. The remaining five of said wells have an average depth of 750 feet. Four of the wells are six inches in diameter. One is eight inches in diameter, and two of them are ten inches in diameter. The last one was drilled in 1900. The general pressure for domestic purposes is 30 to 35 pounds per square inch. Fire pressure is from 90 to 100 pounds per square inch, dependent upon the locality of the fire, although the pressure can readily be run up, if required, to 150 pounds per square inch and over. When the pressure in the central part of the city is 100 pounds, or over, it is very apt to burst the hose, and make the hose almost unmanageable. The first superintendent of the plant was Mr. Frank Barnes. He was superintendent during its construction in 1885. His successor was Mr. Fred Tenbrook. He was superintendent for two years. Since Mr. Tenbrook ceased to be superintendent, Mr. William Masson has continuously occupied that position. Mr. Masson has been connected with the company since the beginning, having been employed as a mechanical assistant in installing the engines in the plant of the company at the pumping station.

Two low pressure engines of large capacity do the pumping at the water works. They are perfect in construction and as handsome pieces of machinery as this city ever had. But one of the engines is

run at a time, so that if there is a breakdown or need for help the other one can immediately be brought into use.

That the water should be the best possible, it is provided in the franchise that all water above the sandstone shall be packed out of reach of the pumps with seed-bags. This was done and probably three better men than the men appointed to superintend this work, Col. James Ewen, ex-Mayor John Nichols and W. M. Phalen, could not be found in the whole city to guard the interests of the people. They watched closely every move. It is generally conceded by those who know about such things, that there is not a water system in the whole state that has given less cause for complaint than has ours.

The fairly well remembered Hunter Magnetic Fountain, was quite a noted place for a few years, but it long since passed away and today the exact location of it is unknown and cannot be found. In 1872 George Hunter built a paper mill on the west bank of the river about thirty rods south of Scott street bridge. For this mill Mr. Hunter needed a good supply of pure water and a fountain was decided upon. When the bore had reached a depth of about 120 feet a powerful stream was struck and it was soon found that some of the tools were magnetized. Rev. Dr. Barry, a somewhat noted scientist, examined it and declared it the strongest magnetic spring of which he had any knowledge. A moderate sized screw driver immersed in the water a short time, would lift a tenpenny nail. The fame of this fountain spread and people came with jugs and kegs for the water.

A large bath house was built and T. M. Bowen, the barber, went down there to run it, but after a year or two the bath house burned and was not rebuilt, as it had been found that the water held lime in solution to the extent that it was so hard that soap could not be used. The bath rooms at no time contained a cake of soap. Of course a great many people who desired to use it were disappointed and it was a severe loss to Mr. Hunter. The paper mill also burned and the fountain was left alone to go into decay, which it did, and noted as it was, no man today knows exactly where it was. The late C. R. Harrison told the writer he believed he could find it, but he did not have the opportunity to look for it. He was so familiar with the spot he no doubt could have found it if any one could.

Such was the origin, progress and history of Fond du Lac's noted artesian wells from the beginning. Our success with them has been phenomenal and the question now is, how long will they continue to serve us?

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### Caskets in Use But Few Years.

The caskets now seen at funerals have been in use but a few years. Before they came the flat and swell top coffins were in general use. The casket is less repulsive, hence was not long in getting into general use. The coffin is no longer seen anywhere, and it is well that it is not, for nothing is more repulsive to humanity.

### Foolish Forms of Speech.

Is it possible to give anything like a sensible reason for some methods of expressing thought? Is it not foolish in the highest degree to give a sort of smooth double grunt when you wish to say yes, and a spasmodic double grunt to say no? This grunt expression of yes and no cannot be spelled—they are not words at all—simply grunts that originated among the negroes. If you wish the repetition of something you did not understand, is there much sense in the use of a long drawn out "hay." And is not the constant use of "you know," almost idiotic? If you catch yourself in this form of speech, why not drop it if the person addressed really does know. If the person don't know, you are asserting that which is not true, and if he does know, where is the sense in telling him about it? It is simply a habit of speech and a foolish one. And in the use of adjectives, did you ever think how foolish it is to say "awful pretty," or "awful nice." Our language furnishes much better and far more appropriate words. These are very foolish habits of speech that we drop into but should stop.

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### Ben. Gilbert and His Cap.

In 1846 no matter how one worked, they did not expect pay in money, for there wasn't any in the country. All payments were in trade and dicker. Ben. Gilbert earned seventy-five cents and received an order on Moses S. Gibson's store, and bought a cap with it. On his way home with the cap on his head, a front wheel of his wagon struck a stump at Second street bridge, the yoke of young oxen jumped and Ben was thrown into a mud hole anywhere from six inches to two feet deep, head first. The cap remained in the mud, but Ben pulled his head and hands out, and after getting his hair, eyes, face and hands in usable condition, he fished out the cap and threw it into the wagon. At home his mother washed it, but the shine was all gone and Ben was disconsolate. He felt it all the more because he needed and wanted the cap and the price of it was the first seventy-five cents he ever earned away from home.

A. T. Glaze had a Russian Cossack fur cap which he bought of a Jew on the Indian pay ground, Lake Poygan, in 1851, which did not get into a mud hole, but did get into the hands of Mrs. Beeson, which was all the worse for the cap, for it was ripped and made into a collar.

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### Passenger Steamboats on the Lake.

It is only fifty years ago that steamboats carrying passengers, ran regularly on Lake Winnebago. Trips on them were not especially enjoyable, but they furnished the easiest and best means of reaching the northern region.

# LUMBER AND LUMBERMEN

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The Making and Handling of Lumber in Fond du Lac, From the Beginning. The Mills and the Men Who Have Taken Part in This Great Industry.

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Almost from the day of their arrival, the pioneer settlers seriously felt the need of lumber. The shelter they were able to provide for their families was made of logs, poles, brush and grass. Lumber was not obtainable, and for some time after there began to be mills it could not be supplied in sufficient quantity to meet the demand. Dr. Darling, in this as in many other things, very soon realized the situation, and looking around for relief he bought the then nearly completed structure on the west branch of the Fond du Lac river in the town of Fond du Lac. This mill was completed and set to work in 1845, and was the first lumber cut here. The mill was driven by water power and the output was by no means large, but it was a beginning. Other small mills were started at various places and in the meantime the hardy lumbermen from the east having penetrated the country from Green Bay westward to the Wolf river, mills were erected and lumber sawed, a portion of which found its way to Fond du Lac in rafts as early as 1847. Col. James Ewen and Curt. Lewis were the pioneers in this rafting business. Among the mills built here was the Bissell mill, a sash saw affair, built by Wheeler and Short, the dam for which was at Western Avenue bridge over the east branch of the river, and the mill was on the land now occupied by the Crofoot lumber yard now owned by Walter Wild. The mill was a lazy affair, but managed to cut considerable lumber when there was water enough. A frame was also erected for a flouring mill at what is now the corner of Macy and Court streets, where the plow shop stands, but was never completed, and after standing a number of years until it became dangerous, was taken down. The Bissell mill disappeared in 1855, when the water ceased to be sufficient to run it.

In 1849 Brand & Olcott established a lumber yard, and were soon followed by P. Sawyer, I. K. & W. C. Hamilton and others. In the meantime sawmills appeared with ample steam power and the lumber cut was sufficient for all purposes. There was now no trouble in obtaining lumber if the settler had the money to pay for it. The log houses and shanties began to disappear and frame houses and fine barns often graced the farms.

From 1850 onward there was a steady increase in the magnitude of lumber interests until the maximum was reached in the ten years

from 1868 to 1878, at one time during this period there being twenty-eight lumber and shingle mills at Oshkosh and twelve in Fond du Lac. The Wolf River Boom Company had its enormous works on the river, which included detaining booms between New London and Oshkosh and the large booms, sorting and rafting works at Lake Poygan, near Winneconne. Eight tugs were required to sort logs and handle them after they were rafted. Some of the mills had a capacity of more than an even million feet of lumber a year, and the product was shipped to all parts of the United States.

But while all this was taking place, the railroads were pushing their lines into the timber lands northward, with branches turning to the right and left into the heavy timber formerly reached by the streams and logs ceased to be floated downward. The mills now began to disappear from their old locations, being taken north to the timber, instead of the timber to the mills as formerly. This continued until in ten years more nearly all the mills had been moved, only enough remaining to cut the local supply of logs. The Winneconne boom has gone into ruins and work on the river has ceased. The logs are now made into lumber in the woods where cut, loaded on cars and taken to market, saving much time and expense. The situation now is three mills at Oshkosh and one at Fond du Lac. There is now an ample supply of lumber at Fond du Lac, but it is not cut here. This is the situation here after about forty years of forest slaughter. There is much timber yet, but railroads have made a great change of methods in handling it.

Dr. Darling, Edward Pier, John H. Martin, Reuben Simmons, Selim Newton and others of the pioneers, lived long enough to see the marked change in the lumber supply. They saw the mills increase in number and capacity, and the lumber supply become ample for all purposes, but not the subsequent local decline. But the local decline did not bring back the log house and shanty experience. Could they return and look the field over, they would doubtless be much surprised. Time works great changes and business methods are equally wonderful in results.

Persons without experience have little idea of the expense and difficulties of getting logs down the small streams on which they were banked from the woods, running them on the river to the boom, getting them through the sorting race and rafting them ready for the mills. During this work some of the logs became water-logged and sunk. A few of these were recovered by the use of tugs with barges and grapples, but it is thought that many thousands of feet now repose on the bottom of Lake Poygan and the river. Pine and cedar are the only logs that can be successfully rafted. Even hemlock have to be mixed with pine, and to get hardwood logs, such as oak, maple, ash and elm, it is needful to place three or four good sized pine logs by the side of each hardwood log, and even then they will be very nearly under water. Such rafts were sometimes brought to Fond du Lac, and it was found that T. S. Henry was the only man in the mills here, who could file a circular saw to successfully cut these hardwood logs. The circular saw was then universally used in



the mills here. The band saw was then practically unknown. The person who undertook to burn the slab wood from these hardwood logs was entitled to sympathy. The water took all the life out of the wood, and ashes the shape of the stick, with little heat, was left in the stove.

The local decline in the number and work of the sawmills is not wholly due to the building of the railroads, however, and the contention of practical men that the roads were built because of a demand, is no doubt true. The decrease in the water flow in the streams made the running of logs difficult and expensive and there seemed to be a necessity for cutting the lumber further north and employing railroad transportation. Hence the building of roads and moving of mills.

It will be remembered that there was a time that the flow of water in Wolf river, was ample at all seasons of the year for the running of such large steamers as the Tigress, Milwaukee, Tom Wall and W. A. Knapp between Oshkosh and New London as a daily line, and the Diamond and Badger State to Berlin. This was long since abandoned as impossible and as small a boat as the John Lynch can now reach only as far north as Fremont. Formerly the largest logs floated over the Mukwa bar, but at some seasons it is now hardly practical to float a canoe over it. This being the situation, logs were liable to be "hung up" for a whole year, and the risk was too great. The small tributary streams of the Wolf, that formerly floated out logs in the spring, are now almost destitute of water.

It will also be remembered by old settlers that there was a time that the east and west branches of the Fond du Lac river at some seasons of the year had so much water as to be burdensome and basements and streets in low places were flooded. This occurred almost every year, and at no time were these streams deficient in water as they are most of the time now. In early times the Soper and Bissell mills on the east branch and the Seymour and Clark mills on the west branch, were able to run with water for power. All of this long since disappeared, and oftentimes now there is hardly water sufficient to water a flock of geese. The mills are dead and gone into ruin long ago.

It is in place here to say that while Ripon had five water mills and one woolen mill in 1860, all run by the water of Silver creek, all but one have disappeared as water mills. No lumber was ever cut at that place, though Julius Eggleston at one time proposed to start a mill and bring logs from Winneconne by rail, but it was abandoned as impractical. Mills still run on the small streams in the county, but they are weak. It has been said that the Phalanx had a small water mill there at one time, but if so it was very short lived.

The following sawmills have had an existence in Fond du Lac and they appeared in about the order here given. As previously stated, there were some small water mills before the Davis mill was built, but these were steam mills capable of doing heavier work:

### The Col. Davis Mill.

Located on bank of the river midway between Arndt and Scott streets. Built in 1847, but not started until spring of 1848. This was the first steam mill in Fond du Lac.

### The Littlefield Mill.

Located on east side of the river near Johnson street. Started in 1849. Burned after a year or two.

### The Butler Mill.

On west bank of river near where the Wisconsin Central bridge is now. It also burned after two or three years' service. 1850.

### Henry & McKibbin Mill.

This mill was in the warehouse at the foot of Arndt street, erected by E. H. Galloway in 1848, for the use of steamboats, but was never so used. T. S. Henry and John McKibbin started it in 1850, and it was the first mill in Fond du Lac to use a circular saw. It was sold to Alex. McDonald, who run it several years.

### Second Littlefield Mill.

East bank of river south of Scott street. Built in 1851, after the first Littlefield mill was destroyed.

### The Scribner Mill.

West side of the river near Johnson street. Built in 1852.

### The Sawyer Mill.

West side of the river near Scott street. Built by James Sawyer in 1853.

### Leavitt Mill—Hunter & Jewell, Deacon Fuller, J. Q. Griffith.

On west side of river at Forest street bridge, where the Fond du Lac Implement Company's plant is now. Built by Mr. Leavitt in 1855.

### Asa Pierce & Leonard Bissell Mill—Merryman & Hunter, D. W. Smith, E. N. Foster, Chas. Chandler.

On east bank of river at the forks. Built in 1854 and the largest and strongest mill in Fond du Lac up to this time.

### Galloway & Hunter Mill.

On east bank of river below Arndt street, E. H. Galloway and George Hunter. Built in 1854.

### I. K. & W. C. Hamilton Mill—A. K. Hamilton.

At Luco and a very active mill. Started in 1856 and burned in 1884. Was rebuilt the following year and sold to A. K. Hamilton. After two or three seasons, it was again burned in an incendiary fire and the location abandoned.

### The Crain Mill.

Built in 1865, and in 1866 was bought by M. D. Moore and has for many years been known as the Moore & Galloway mill. It has burned three times and rebuilt.

### A. K. Hamilton Mill.

'Northwest of West Division street bridge. Built in 1879 by J. Q. Griffith & Sons and bought by Mr. Hamilton in 1884, after the burning of the Luco mill. He sold it in 1891 to Mr. Curtis, who took it north, Mr. Hamilton retaining the land.

### The Railroad Mill.

Below Scott street and the landing. Was built in 1857, mainly to cut hardwood for the car shops. Was run but a couple of years.

### C. J. L. Meyer Mill.

On the marsh near the Blast Furnace. Built in 1868.

### The Moore & Galloway Mill.

East bank of the river near Scott street. Built in 1866 and is the only sawmill now in Fond du Lac.

### The Second Littlefield Mill.

The second Littlefield mill was overhauled by G. W. Sexmith and run two seasons. He also remodeled the Railroad mill and run it. The Asa Pierce mill at the forks of the river, and the Leavitt mill at Forest street bridge, were given overhauls two or three times by different parties and did fair work for a time.

It is a fact perhaps not peculiar, that all of the Fond du Lac mills were destroyed sooner or later by fire. It seems to have been their fate to burn. The mills of a later period that were rebuilt, were burned. The Meyer mill, the Moore & Galloway mill and the Steenberg factory, are of this class. The Meyer factory was on fire two or three times but escaped destruction. We can truthfully say that the Fond du Lac mills went up in smoke.

A large proportion of the sawmills named here, also cut shingles and lath, but the following were distinct shingle mills:

### The Shingle Mills.

**The Littlefield Mill**—East bank of river near Scott street.

**Beaudreau Mill**—East side of river near Arndt street.

**Galloway & Hunter Mill**—East side of river below Arndt street.

**J. W. Lusk Mill**—East side of the river near the forks.

C. R. Harrison, T. S. Henry, Alex. White and a few others were recognized experts in mill management almost from the beginning in Fond du Lac, and were identified with it almost to the end. When anything goes wrong or changes are to be made, the services of such men are a necessity, and it was fortunate for the Fond du Lac mill men that they had such men to draw upon.

While the Henry & McKibbin, C. J. L. Meyer and A. K. Hamilton mills may be referred to as among the best Fond du Lac has ever had, it is doubtless true that the one until lately remaining to us was at least the equal of any of them. The last Moore & Galloway mill was built by M. D. Moore, C. A. Galloway and G. N. Mihills, under the corporate name of the Moore & Galloway Lumber Company, and besides the sawmill have a large factory where about everything is made that is needed for building purposes, whether for the modest dwelling or the most elaborate trimmings and finishing for the business structure. They also maintain three large lumber yards in this city, and furnish the lumber for yards in other places.

Besides the men above named in connection with these mills, were some financially interested more or less in some of them at different times, among them A. G. Ruggles, John Bannister, S. E. Lefferts, Col. N. Boardman, Orson Breed, B. Nightingale, J. C. Lewis, Geo. W. Weikert and others.

Shingle machines were invented and patented by Wm. P. Valentine, Dr. Wm. H. Walker, Kasson Freeman and L. Beaudreau. The Valentine machine had a wide sale and all were manufactured here by Peacock & White.

In 1850 A. G. Ruggles became interested in the Col. Davis mill and late in that year put in machinery for dressing lumber, but there being so much difficulty at that time in getting the knives of planing machines ground properly, the work was for a time abandoned and the mill closed. Later on C. R. Harrison arranged a machine to grind the knives and these and other machines were started to prepare lumber for all sorts of building purposes. These were the first planing machines here and were run for several years. John Bonnell started a planing mill on West Johnson street, in 1854.

The first mills all had sash or mulay saws, and the first circular saw in Fond du Lac was put into the Henry & McKibbin mill by T. S. Henry. The filing of circulars had to be learned by experience, and though the first ones were a quarter of an inch thick, there was much trouble with them. The idea of running a saw as thin as those of late years would have been thought foolish. The old saws with the set in them, took out about three-eighths of an inch of the log at each cut. The suspicion exists in the minds of some, that here originated the modern expression, "monkey with the buzz saw."

In 1863, U. D. Mihills started a sawmill and a large factory in which all sorts of lumber was prepared for building purposes, including sash, doors and blinds. This plant burned and was not rebuilt. In 1874 the Mihills Manufacturing Company was formed with G. N. Mihills at the head, but it also burned after a time and was merged in the Moore & Galloway Lumber Company.

The most successful of all our lumber firms, though passing through three fires, the Moore & Galloway Lumber Company, was started in 1866 by M. D. Moore. Mr. C. A. Galloway was the book-keeper, but in 1868 became a partner under the firm name of Moore, Galloway & Baker. In 1884 the firm was incorporated under the

name of Moore & Galloway Lumber Company, M. D. Moore, C. A. Galloway and G. N. Mihills being the owners. They make every sort of material for building purposes. Besides the extensive yard at the mill, the company has two large yards up town. Mr. Moore died in 1902 and his two sons have taken his place in the business.

### The C. J. L. Meyer Factory.

In 1854, C. J. L. Meyer and his brother, Herman Meyer, owned a business on Main street. Then, as in later years, C. J. L. Meyer sought something better through inventive genius and among other things invented a hollow auger for the use of wagon and carriage makers. With it he went east in 1856 and during his absence his brother Herman negotiated for the purchase of a small planing mill and sash factory on the old Bissell mill race, owned by C. O. & H. L. Hurd. It was built to run by water power, but water became so scarce that the outfit was moved to a barn-like shop on the south side of Western Avenue, opposite the present factory, built for the manufacture of land rollers. Here they installed their machinery and began planing lumber and making sash. Here let it be said, for the information of those not posted in manufactures forty and fifty years ago, that such articles as sash, blinds and doors could not be then bought at stores, but had to be made by the joiner who took the contract to build a home. Sash first came on the market, then doors and last of all blinds. During this time Mr. Meyer lost his brother Herman by death, and he continued the business alone. The power in the factory soon became too weak, and Peacock & White built an engine considerably larger. But as time went on, and new machinery was added, the new engine became too small and the factory building also. The business increased enormously so that in 1865 Mr. Meyer bought the property across the street and erected the big brick factory. Business still crowded and new machinery and new power were demanded. He opened a large warehouse in Chicago for the sale of the product of the factory and the sales there were enormous, but besides this he had large shipments every day to points on the Mississippi river and the west generally. The financial side of the business was in charge of H. Woodworth, a former well known dry goods man here, while Mr. Meyer looked entirely to the general management. And so things continued until about 1878, when a reaction began, caused by the establishment of so many similar concerns throughout the country. The demand continued to decrease until in 1881 it was determined to make furniture and the following year the large brick finishing rooms east of the factory, were built. In the meantime Mr. Woodworth died, Mr. Meyer was growing old and his great Hermansville plant required so much of his attention that the factory here was neglected. He now found it impossible to keep things going and in 1886 failed. The plant now stood idle until 1891, when Maj. E. R. Herren and C. V. McMillan, from Stevens Point, purchased the factory, organized under the name of "The Winnebago Furniture Manufacturing Company," and have run it with wonderful success ever since.

Mr. Meyer now made a tremendous effort, by aid of his friends, to save as much as possible from the great business at Hermansville. It is understood here that his ill success was due to the fact that some Michigan sharpers were successful in getting possession of his property.

In connection with the factory, Mr. Meyer built and equipped a fine machine shop mainly for the repair and building of his own machinery. The buildings erected for these shops still stand west of the court house. These shops were first started on the marsh north of Scott street near his sawmill. He also built the blast furnace but did not put it in blast. Mr. Meyer was an enthusiastic and able business man, but often his ideas were wiled.

### **The Steenberg Factory.**

This well known business was started by Lewis & Steenberg in 1868. In 1871 O. C. Steenberg bought out Mr. Lewis, and the only change made since that time, was to the title of the O. C. Steenberg Company, after the death of Mr. Steenberg in 1894. Since then the factory has been under the management of F. G. Steenberg, oldest son of O. C. Steenberg. In 1885 the factory burned and was a total loss, but in just six months a new factory was started across the street from the old one. In 1895 the large brick warehouse was burned, with a loss of \$12,000, in sash, doors and blinds. It was rebuilt at once. Fire has been a serious enemy of this factory, but it has continued in its work and is still running. O. C. Steenberg was principal of the Fond du Lac High school in 1863 and died May 17, 1894.

### **Stewart & McDonald Factory.**

Alex. Stewart and Alex. McDonald built a factory in 1869 at the corner of Arndt and Brooke streets. They bought the Henry & McKibbin mill at the foot of Arndt street, and cut the lumber there for the factory, besides much hardwood. The factory had been idle about three years when it was burned down in 1887, and was not rebuilt. The Cotton Street M. E. Church was burned at the same time.

A number of small factories were run at different times and in different parts of the city, but did not last long and their output was mostly on local orders.

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### **To Teach English to Indians.**

It was some years after the appointment of Gust. Bonesteel as Indian Agent in 1856, that the people got through laughing at his taking Squire Goldstucker north to teach the English language to Indians. The joke was in the fact that Goldstucker was at that time the crookedest talker of English in the entire community. His best talk was in slang dutch, hence the amusing feature.

# FOND DU LAC RAILROADS

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## A Brief History of the Railroads at Fond du Lac, Together With Some Personalities Connected Therewith.

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Fond du Lac's first railroad station was a small building set on blocks at the southeast corner of Forest Avenue and Brooke street. It looked more like a barn than a railroad station. The first trains went only to Oakfield, from whence a stage line was put on across to Woodland and a route opened to Milwaukee. But the road soon reached to Chester and remained there until the Milwaukee road reached Minnesota Junction, when our line was extended there and we had an all rail route to Milwaukee. In the mornings at about 8 o'clock, Ben Garvin brought the little locomotive Winnebago, the only one then here, with all the pride imaginable, to the first station, pulling one to four flat cars and a compromise passenger car. Jud. Remington, the first conductor, sang out "all aboard," and away they went for the terminus of the line.

But this small barn-like station house did not remain there long. The station was moved one block north, to Division street, where a very good building for the time, was erected and in one form and another was occupied for the purpose about forty years and until the present station house was built in 1893. If it had been able to see and talk, what tales that old depot could tell. Changes were made a number of times in arrangement and size of the building, but mainly it was the same all those years. The building was moved east from the track and is now used as a freight house. Who of the old timers do not remember the familiar faces of John Knicks as depot master and Tom Moore as baggageman, about that station at train time. Ben Garvin looked after the round house and Mr. Landerman of the yards. People under thirty-five years of age cannot remember the big smoke stacks of the wood burner engines then in use.

**Conductors.**—The first fares the writer saw collected on a car of the Northwestern road, was by A. D. Bonesteel, when the road was built to Chester only, but his service was temporary. The conductors on this end of the road were J. B. Clock and Jud. Remington. After the road was completed to Chicago, the trains brought A. A. Hobart, George Webber, Ben Patrick, John Barker, Cy. Cambridge and J. B. Clock as conductors, and a little later, but still pioneers in the work, came Lew Hall, Sam Gilford, Ben Sherer, George French, Lew Emerson and others, all of whom Fond du Lac people became familiar with. All are now dead and died in their beds. There were occasional accidents but none were killed. It was said of John Barker that he was more years on the road and passed

over more miles of track than any other man ever in the employ of the Northwestern road. He was also the most popular man.

**Engineers.**—Among the old time engineers were George Bentley, Al. Hobart, Ben. Garvin, George McNamara, Charles Webber, Steve Hotaling, Albert Selleck, Jake Adams, Will Barnes, H. Wellington and a little later, still veterans, came Jack Tripp, Lucien Smith, Gust. Brasted, Dick Moulton, Sam Davis, Amos Klingsmith. Of these old time engineers, Steve Hotaling, Ben Garvin, Jack Tripp, Gust. Brasted and Amos Klingsmith are still living. George Bentley was killed in the war and Sam Davis was killed in a wreck near Appleton.

George McNamara was on the engine, Perry H. Smith, attached to the excursion train of eleven cars that met with the terrible accident at Johnson's Creek, in September, 1858, and A. A. Hobart was the conductor of that train. Neither of them was seriously hurt. As Fond du Lac was for many years the division headquarters, the people here were familiar with all those old-time employes whose names are here mentioned.

Ground was broken in Fond du Lac for what is now the Northwestern road, on July 4, 1851, was running to Chester in 1855 and to Chicago in 1858. The road to Milwaukee, known at the time it was built in 1872, as the Air Line, was built mainly through the efforts of C. J. L. Meyer and James Coleman. The Sheboygan line, now owned by the Northwestern, was built from Sheboygan to Glenbeulah in 1868, to Fond du Lac in 1871 and to Princeton in 1874. Extended to Grand Rapids and Marshfield in 1900.

Judge Kinyon completed the narrow gauge road to Iron Ridge in 1874. It was known as the Fond du Lac, Amboy & Peoria Railroad. It maintained a sickly existence and was finally absorbed by the St. Paul road in 1885. The gauge was at once changed to the standard and new life was infused into it. The Midland track now owned by the St. Paul, were laid through the city by the efforts of Col. N. Boardman, Dana C. Lamb and others, in 1892 and the depots of the St. Paul were moved to the east side in 1897. The Northwestern has a contract for track rights over it at certain hours of each day, which makes it an important line for business men of the city.

The Wisconsin Central was extended from Neenah to Fond du Lac in 1881, and to Chicago in 1883, and track rights from Rugby Junction to Milwaukee, gives Fond du Lac first class lines to both cities. In 1896 C. F. Whitcomb became president of the Wisconsin Central and transferred the shops and division headquarters to North Fond du Lac and built the street railway line to that point. The following year the Northwestern located its shops there, thus adding to this city an important suburb.

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The office of Register of Deeds in the old court house was not a pleasant place, and it became dismal enough in the small stone building before it was moved to present quarters.



## DEALERS IN DRY GOODS

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Who Have Been the Dealers in Dry Goods From the Earliest Times  
to the Present. History of the Trade in  
Fond du Lac.

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When we say that the first dry goods sold in Fond du Lac were sold in the first building erected here, the Fond du Lac House, near the corner of Johnson and Brooke streets, we might also say that the first hats and caps, boots and shoes, hardware, groceries, etc., were also sold there, as the first store, that of Clock & Weikert, was a general store, as were also all of the first stores here, which means that they kept a little of everything needed in a new settlement. Their advertisements in the newspapers used to read dry goods, groceries, hardware, crockery, boots and shoes, hats and caps, tinware, cordage, etc. The sale of some of these articles was continued in the dry goods stores many years after special stores were established. A store with only dry goods in it was not known in Fond du Lac until Mr. Whittelsey came here from New York and went into business with John Sharpe. Until this time all of them kept a few staple groceries and ladies shoes. Before the special stores came, the customer could get about all he wanted at one store, yet the stocks were not especially large as the variety in any one line was so much less than it is now. The customer was content with what he could get, for he knew nothing about great variety. Of the dress goods now displayed in the dry goods stores for the ladies to select from, were wholly unknown—they were not in existence. The present status of the trade is a matter of growth, especially in the last thirty years. Of our present merchants, only Mr. Whittelsey and M. Wagner have had personal knowledge of the changes.

It was during and after the war of the rebellion that the people's wants became so great that the efforts of manufacturers and dealers were strained to meet them. During the war period and for some years after, money flowed freely and fortunes were made rapidly. As Josh Billings once said, "people bored holes with big augers." Enormous strides were made in the direction of extravagance, and we are hardly out of the course yet. In 1905 we may have made some progress in economy of living, but people of the pioneer period would look upon us of today as in the highest degree extravagant. We must admit that there is room for the practice of economy, es-

pecially in dry goods. Following are the dealers in dry goods in Fond du Lac from the beginning:

Clock & Weikert.	Charles Geisse.	O'Rourke Bros.
George Keys.	Moses S. Gibson.	Laughlin & Carey.
Geo. W. Gillet.	C. P. Weld.	H. K. Laughlin.
A. P. & G. N. Lyman.	Sewell & Brother.	E. C. Martin.
Wm. A. Dewey.	Smith & Chandler.	Haas & Wagner.
Brownson & Laughlin.	Rumsey Bros.	P. B. Clancy.
Carswell & Dee.	Sharpe & Whittelsey.	O. H. Ansted.
Hall & Hoskins.	Dormer & Green.	J. Goldstorm.
John Sharp.	C. J. Pettibone & Co.	Whittelsey Dry Goods Co.
John Sewell.	Hoskins & Serwe.	O'Brien Dry Goods Co.
E. R. Ferris.	H. Woodworth.	M. Wagner & Son.
Mumford & Tanner.	Erlich & Co.	J. F. Gruenheck.
Parker & Prettyman.	Lange Bros.	Strassel & Co.
Drummond & Co.	P. Brucker.	H. Yabroff.
Valentine & Olmsted.	Wagner & Sons.	

Those in the business here now are:

Whittelsey Dry Goods Co.	M. Wagner & Son.	H. Yabroff.
O'Brien Dry Goods Co.	J. F. Gruenheck.	
Haas & Wagner.	Strassel & Co.	

The first store, that of Clock & Weikert, in one of the rooms of the old Fond du Lac House, would not be a very desirable place for present day shoppers, but it served its day as a place to procure a few necessities. Fancy goods did not belong to that day. Fifteen years after this store ceased to exist, James B. Clock was a passenger conductor on the Northwestern road and George W. Weikert was postmaster of the city and lived at the southeast corner of Main and Fifth streets.

The second store here was brought in a little later by George Keys. It was located further up town, and while it also would fail the modern shopper, it served its purpose as a general store. The stock was much larger than that of Clock & Weikert and for a number of years was a popular place to trade.

The next store here, that of A. P. & G. N. Lyman, with W. A. Dewey in charge, was much more pretentious and gave Fond du Lac quite a business boost. The Lymans had ample capital, and with a large store at Sheboygan, were able to push business. They handled cattle and had a distillery at Sheboygan. About 1852, G. N. Lyman went to Ripon and lived there many years, handling cattle. He also started a distillery there but soon became impressed that it was not a respectable business, and quit it.

Next came H. K. Laughlin and G. F. Brownson, in 1849, under the well known firm name of Brownson & Laughlin, with the best stock of goods Fond du Lac people had yet seen. They were in business many years and the name of the firm became well known far and near.

But it was not until 1861, when J. C. Whittelsey came here from New York to join John Sharpe in business under the firm name of Sharpe & Whittelsey, that Fond du Lac had anything like a straight

dry goods store. Up to this time all the stores kept more or less of mixed stocks of goods. After Mr. Whittelsey became sole proprietor, everything except dry goods were cast out and it was Fond du Lac's first straight dry goods store. Mr. Whittelsey is now the veteran of the dry goods trade here.

M. Wagner ranks next in seniority in the trade. Mr. Wagner came to Fond du Lac in 1856, but has not been all the time in the dry goods trade. During his first twenty-two years here he clerked for different dealers and went into dry goods in his own name in 1878. He and his son Adolph now own the building in which they are doing business at the corner of Main and West Second streets, and have one of the handsomest stores in the city.

In this year of 1905, J. C. Whittelsey is the veteran of the dry goods trade in Fond du Lac. The large store which bears his name, had its origin here in 1858, in the name of John Sharpe. Mr. Whittelsey came from New York city in 1861, and the firm of Sharpe & Whittelsey continued until 1875, when ill health induced the withdrawal of Mr. Sharpe, who went to Florida and died there three years later. The dry goods trade was continued by Mr. Whittelsey until 1901, when the present organization was effected under the name of Whittelsey Dry Goods Co. Mr. Whittelsey was in the trade here just forty years when he gave up active management to the company. The ground on which the store is located, was bought in 1869, but the building was not erected until 1873. When Mr. Whittelsey came here the store was in the old Darling's block, but was afterward moved to the building which stood where the store is now.

Of the general reputation of the Fond du Lac dry goods stores, it is a well recognized fact that Laughlin's, in all the years he was in business here, stood at the head for the class of goods kept in stock. If an article came from Laughlin's, it was conceded to be the best in market. To go to Laughlin's meant to get the best.

On the other hand, to go to the cheap John stores that have been here, meant to get something cheap in quality as well as price. The general impression in the community seemed to be that good goods were not kept there, and it was probably correct. Dealers no doubt fully realize the fact that a reputation of some sort is sure to come to them. To use Abraham Lincoln's adage, "you may be able to fool all the people some of the time, some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time."

The busiest place Fond du Lac ever had in this line was Pettibone's. The object of C. J. Pettibone was to drive business, to push it to its fullest extent. On the street he went as if shot out of a gun. He was always in a hurry. The class of goods kept was not recognized as always the best, but his aim was to sell them, good or bad. To use a modern expression, he was a hustler.

Our dealers generally have been looked upon through many years as being fair and honorable and as having fine stocks, some

have drawn patronage from people long distances away. Good goods, large stocks and reasonable prices have been the rule.

The early days dry goods firm of Carswell & Dee was well known in the fifties. Mr. Allan Carswell, a tall, well proportioned and noble Scotchman, left here and went into business at Oshkosh, where he died in 1883. Thos W. Dee returned to Canada, where he died a few years ago. Fond du Lac never had more popular men personally, than the members of this firm. John Sewell and his brother Joseph Sewell, died a few years ago on the Pacific coast. T. Drummond died at Denver about ten years ago. His brother, Robert is still with us. Wilson Drummond died in Kansas. Daniel W. Smith, Charles Chandler, J. W. Valentine, Charles and Joseph Olmsted, A. P. Lyman, G. N. Lyman, W. A. Dewey, E. R. Ferris, G. F. Brownson, H. K. Laughlin, C. J. Pettibone, in fact pretty much all the old time Fond du Lac merchants have crossed the silent river of death. Very few of the old timers remain in any business here. But a few years more and the old names will be all gone.

Time works great changes and half a century obliterates the past like a pall. These now here in business will be the old men in a few years, like those of fifty years ago are now. The business men of today may flatter themselves that they do not have to meet the cares and privations of their predecessors. "Their yoke is easy and their burden is light."

### Dry Goods in Ripon.

Bowen & Beynon were the pioneer dealers in dry goods at Ripon. They opened their store when this bright and lively city was but a village of a few people and Capt. Mapes was getting in his best work. Then came Skeels & Hammond, Samuel Sumner and Olmsted & Miner. Later on were Hammond & Pinkney, J. E. Sebring, A. W. Pettibone and H. B. King. All these stores were there before 1876, all were well kept and carried large stocks of goods. Ripon has always had first-class dry goods stores, well managed.

It was Samuel Sumner, who early in the war believed the price of cotton goods must of necessity advance in price, and put all the money he had and all he could raise into cotton, with the result of reaping a big fortune. Mr. Sebring tried it afterward, but was too late.

A new feature in the sale of dry goods has come to us in the last few years. While the regular dry goods stores keep the same goods, there are stores which deal only in trimmings and the smaller articles which ladies shop for. In former times we had what was known as variety stores, but their stocks were not like the shopping stores of today. They handled a class of goods known as "yankee notions." We have these stores yet, but they ignore general dry goods and ladies' trimmings, furnishings and fancy goods are their stocks. The fact that the variety of these goods has so vastly increased has no doubt brought into existence stores for handling them. The merchant of the early days of Fond du Lac would no doubt have been

startled to have one-half the variety of the articles of today, placed upon his counters. And what would have been the thoughts of the lady of fifty years ago if her dressmaker had ordered so many yards of trimmings for her dress. During the period of hoops, it required many yards of material, but the trimmings were left out as compared with the dress of today. And in the making, when would the dressmaker complete a job but for the sewing machine.

The ladies and the dry goods dealers have to be fast friends. He supplies her demands and she is his best customer. With dry goods the average man has little to do except to pay for them.

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### First County History.

The first attempt at a history of Fond du Lac County was by Martin Mitchell, in 1854. It is a small book of ninety-six pages and sold for \$1.50. It was printed in the office of the Commonwealth, and treated mainly of the organization and settlement of the various towns. It is interesting as far as it goes, but no attempt is made to handle the vast fund of historical matters pertaining to early days, of which so many then living were personally cognizant. An edition of five hundred was printed, yet today, after the lapse of fifty years, a copy is found with much difficulty. The writer knows of but three, one of which he owns and is grateful for to Mrs. Spencer, of Racine, daughter of J. A. Smith.

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### Curious Records and Relics.

If one has time to search through the old records and files at the court house, he will find some queer relics or records. For instance, in the files in the office of the Clerk of the Court was found the complaint drawn in 1856, showing the beginning of a suit by one prominent lawyer against another for a "vigorous kick administered to the posterior portion of his body by the toe of defendant's boot, to the great injury of complainant's body and mind." It is narrated in the complaint that defendant followed complainant from the court house without his knowledge, and when opposite Darling's block, on Main street, administered the kick without his knowledge or consent, and asks for \$5,000 damages. What the offense was that led to the kicking is not stated, but is presumed to have been something that occurred in a law suit, of a nature common in early times among lawyers. It is not needful to give names here, but sufficient to say that both were prominent lawyers at the time.

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### Where Was Your Furniture Made?

It was since the starting of Fred. Sander's furniture store in Fond du Lac, that if you wanted a bureau, a cupboard, a bedstead, a table, anything in the furniture line, even to common chairs, you went to the shop and ordered it. It all comes from the factory now.

### Scripture or Not Scripture.

Any man who lifts his hand against a woman otherwise than in acts of kindness, it were flattery to call a heathen. Such was the remark Justice of the Peace J. J. Driggs once made to a man before him for whipping his wife. "Squire," said the man, "you are a member of the Methodist Church, and you ought to know that is not in the Bible." "I didn't say it was," replied Driggs, "and if it isn't in the Bible it ought to be." "But you have not quoted it right anyhow." "Never mind, it is good enough scripture for five dollars and costs."

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### Disliked Scandal Cases.

In the trial of cases in circuit court in which scandal was likely to be developed, J. M. Gillet was somewhat noted for his dislike to have women present. He thought it was not a proper place for them. And so in the noted Matteson-Curtis scandal case, from Rosendale, as a great many women from the city and some from Rosendale, were present every day of the long trial, he took occasion to talk about it in his address to the jury. In his address to the jury on the other side, C. A. Eldredge started in to defend them and talked graciously for a while, but drifted into a line of argument more severe than anything Gillet had said. Before leaving the court room some women took him to task for it. "Well," said he, "conscience choked me off and the old cuss set right down on me." It was long after this that the women ceased their talk about speeches of Gillet and Eldredge.

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### An Old Time Postoffice Clerk.

Who of the older citizens does not remember John Woodhull, for many years a clerk in the Fond du Lac postoffice. Always pleasant, always reliable and always ready with an answer to any foolish question. He could tell the caller when they got their last letter and when they would get another, could tell to a minute when a letter would reach its destination, or if another person of the same name lived in a place to which a letter was addressed, John knew on the instant, every detail of the business. He was a bachelor, but drifted back east in 1887, where he was married and died about six years ago. Few men in Fond du Lac had more friends and none could be more implicitly trusted.

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### The County Seat Contest.

Less than sixty years ago it was uncertain whether Taycheedah or Fond du Lac would be the county seat of this county. The harbor at the south end of the lake and the overflowing marsh to the northeast, won the prize for Fond du Lac.

# THAT INDIAN SCARE

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One of the Most Singular and Incomprehensible Events in the  
History of Fond du Lac County.

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This was one of the most remarkable and incomprehensible events in the entire history of Fond du Lac county. It started from the east side of the county, but where and how it originated has not with certainty been ascertained to this day. It seems to have been one of those foolish events which no one wants to talk about after it is all ended. It was ascertained that five Indian wood cutters, between Chilton and Manitowoc, got into a fight among themselves, which was all the trouble there was and all the Indians known to be in all the region. The scare spread from house to house, teams were hitched to wagons, the families hurriedly piled in and left for this city, the supposed place of safety. Early in the morning the streets in the east part of town were filled with teams and lined with refugees. All told the same blood-curdling stories of fire and murder, and that the savages were but a short distance away, they were coming hundreds strong, seeking for blood. Edward Beeson, Edward Pier, Curt Lewis, Dave Curran and other old residents familiar with Indians, ridiculed the scare and tried to reassure the people, but still they came. But no Indians appeared and shortly after dinner a company was organized on horseback to go out east and find out what was happening. In this company the writer remembers, Fred Kalk, Keyes Darling, Sile Gilbert and D. E. Hoskins. They went out twelve miles, but found no Indians or heard of any. Another party of eight or ten, among whom were Edward Pier, Edward Beeson, Ham Clark and others familiar with Indians, went out in a light buss by way of Lake deNeveu, ending their trip at the home of Egbert Foster, two and one-half miles east of the present Eden station, where they found the house surrounded by refugees whom Mr. Foster had induced to stop on their way to the city. The news had come to the city that Mr. Foster's buildings and crops had been burned and the family butchered, and when the party arrived there was loud cheering. Toward evening the refugees gained confidence and began to leave for home. So ended this remarkable scare.

In her paper on remembrances of early days, Madame deNeveu says:

### That Indian "Scare."

One day in September, 1862, my six children came rushing home from school, scared nearly to death. One of my sons, Arthur, was hardly able to articulate. They all told the same tale—the Indians were coming, and Mr. Germond was going to call for all and take us into town. He soon appeared with his family and was so

scared he did not wait for all my children, but with some of them, dashed off, the rest I sent by other neighbors. My husband and other son, Edward, had gone to the city early that morning and were surprised enough to see the children landed on Main street and hear the awful tales of bloodshed, of the mill burning and of troops of warriors just around the last bend or over the last hill when people had given their farewell looks (as they supposed) to their homes. I would not believe the tales I heard, for I questioned as to where the Indians had come from. This was just following the awful Minnesota massacre, so people were ready to be afraid. Well, finally, after refusing over and over to leave home, Mr. Haight came and forced me into his wagon, but before I had gone a mile I asserted myself and refused to go further. So, Mr. Haight let me go very reluctantly and home I came. My maid had been at the family washing and when she flew away she threw the clothes right and left, and these I began sorting, not knowing what else to do, keeping a sharp lookout for Indians in case there were some, which I did not believe for one moment, and there were none anywhere about, and before many hours had elapsed many groups of people went home, passing our house—many of them asserting they had only gone down town shopping.

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### Pencils Forty Years Ago.

Ten cents each for the Faber No. 2, the best pencil in the market, and three cents each for unvarnished basswood, the cheapest and poorest. But American made pencils came to the front and the Dixon and Star brought the best to five cents and the cheaper ones to two for a cent or five cents a grab. To swedge out a piece of metallic lead to use as a pencil in school, was the experience of many people on our streets today. A serious personal encounter occurred one day in front of George Henning's store, between a school teacher in the town of Taycheedah and the father of one of his scholars, relative to a part of a pencil which the teacher was charged with pocketing without consent of the owner.

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### Methods of Preserving Fruits.

Most ladies of today would laugh at the processes of years ago to keep fruits for future use. Ladies of the long ago knew nothing of modern methods of canning. The Mason jar was unknown and the old pound for pound preserves and drying methods had to be used. The flies had their full share in the work but maybe we were not quite so sensitive then. Canning factories are by no means establishments of pioneer days.

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Some of the finest elm trees in the city used to stand in the court house yard, but the burning of the old court house destroyed a number of them and the filling of the yard wiped out the rest of the old timers.



# THE HARDWARE TRADE

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Vicissitudes of the Hardware Business in Fond du Lac. Who Have  
Been in the Trade Here From the First.

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The hardware trade like most kinds of business, has had many changes since the pioneer days of Fond du Lac. Early in our history we had no hardware stores. A few nails of various sizes, a few bars of iron such as country blacksmiths use, some common locks and door latches, some screws, tacks, hinges, scythes and a few other things, were about all the goods needed in that line and they were kept in stock in the general stores, mixed with dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, etc. If more than this was needed, the order was given to John Denny, the freighter, who brought it from John Nazro, of Milawukee. As time went on, the population increased, the demand was larger and the men appeared with stocks to supply it. When the service of the general merchant ceased to be satisfactory, the hardware dealer came.

The hardware dealer has been compelled to enlarge his quarters very much and the number of articles in stock have multiplied, and are all the time increasing. Yet there are hundreds of articles missing that were formerly in the stock of every dealer. What the end of all this will be, no one can tell, but it must end somewhere. The stores are crowded with goods and if the increase in new articles is to continue, something must be cast out to make room. The remedy seems to be and has already been applied in the large cities—separate heavy and shelf hardware and make each a class of business by themselves. In early days there was no trouble in this direction. Keepers of general stores managed, in small rooms, to supply hardware to meet the general demand. The dealer of today cannot meet all demands on him.

The early settler used wood pins in place of nails or spikes, for many purposes, and the door latches were also of wood, home made, and the locks, if they had any, were of the same material, some of them ingenious contrivances. The writer saw one on a door in the town of Oakneld, that for ingenuity was a marvel. The key was made of a piece of telegraph wire, and it might bother a lock expert of the present to lock and unlock it, but worked nicely for one who knew how to handle it. The hinges of the doors to these rude houses were also often made of wood, warranted not to sag, and as to sash for windows, well, they often had none, a single pane of glass, if any, serving the purpose of a window. The people of today, who can drop into the hardware store any time, have little idea of the trade in pioneer days.

For many years the well known hardware store under the firm name of Hughes & Otis, has been in existence and has been one of

the heaviest dealers in hardware Fond du Lac has ever had. Both members of the firm came from the noted pioneer hardware store of K. M. Hutchinson, at Oshkosh. They came here in 1873 and began business under the firm name of Hughes & Otis. In 1878 they bought the stock of Hall & Hoskins, and in 1883, they bought the large stock of C. H. Benton. After residing here nearly ten years, Mr. Otis went to Chicago, where he engaged in business until the firm here bought the Benton stock, when he returned to Fond du Lac for two or three years; then returned to Chicago again: he died there in 1898. His father was for many years the collector for the great New York firm of H. B. Claflin & Co., and Mr. Otis followed him for a time, but the west was his field of work and he came here. He was one of the most companionable men Fond du Lac people ever knew. John Hughes comes from the sturdy Welsh race and few business men here, have more friends. He was elected mayor of the city in 1885 and again in 1904 without opposition. He has held many other positions of honor and responsibility. As a business man he is always reliable, as a citizen honorable. Mr. Hughes bought the interest of Mr. Otis in 1890 and the firm was dissolved.

The next largest stock of hardware in Fond du Lac was no doubt that of C. H. Benton & Co. The company of this firm was S. B. Amory, father-in-law of Mr. Benton. A fine building expressly for the business, was erected, but for some reason did not succeed and the stock was sold to Hughes & Otis.

The Benton store was started in 1868 under the firm name of Alley & Benton, by purchase of the stock of Alley & Bettis. In 1870, the firm became C. H. Benton & Co., and in 1876 took the firm name of Benton Hardware Company. The store was first opened in the north store of Amory Block, but in 1876 a fine building was erected expressly for the business, next door north. In 1887 the store was closed out to Hughes & Otis. Mr. Benton died in 1890.

In 1850 A. D. Ward & Co. opened a small hardware stock, and it was probably the first straight stock of hardware in Fond du Lac.

In 1852 R. R. Deacon opened a hardware store here, which was bought by Mr. Bettis in 1856, and this store continued until bought by Alley & Benton, in 1868.

In 1854 William Farnsworth opened a heavy stock of hardware, and a year later sold a one-half interest to I. S. Sherwood, the firm being Farnsworth & Sherwood. In 1864, having started the La Belle Wagon Works, he sold his interest in the store to his brother, James H. Farnsworth, and the firm was I. S. Sherwood & Co. In 1868 Sherwood sold to Capt. W. A. Knapp and the firm became Farnsworth, Knapp & Co. This firm went into bankruptcy in 1873 and the stock was bid in by Chapin Hall and F. B. Hoskins, the firm being Hall & Hoskins, who sold to Hughes & Otis in 1878.

In 1882 W. Wilkie and George P. Dana opened in the north store of the old Darling Block, under the firm name of Wilkie & Dana. Two years later Mr. Dana withdrew and the firm continued W. Wilkie & Son. Later on it was changed to Wilkie Hardware Co.

George P. Dana opened a stock in his own name in 1891. Rusch & Hirth opened a fine stock in the Odd Fellows' Block in 1898. Christian A. Lang opened opposite the Windsor House in 1889. J. F. Wegner, formerly with Alley & Bettis and C. H. Benton, opened in his own name in 1887.

Fond du Lac has six hardware stores, all of which keep stoves and tinware. The tin shops do not make tinware, as in old times, their business being confined mostly to jobbing. The stores in old times of K. Gillet, E. Perkins, W. J. Wallace, Stephen Oberreich and A. B. Taylor, have no counterpart now. Tinware is now made in large factories and bought, not made in the shops.

The huge hardware stock in the store of John Hughes of today, embraces iron and steel and wagon and carriage stock, and is doubtless the largest in the state outside of Milwaukee, and John Hughes himself, is no doubt, one of the most industrious merchants of his age, in the state.

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### Relics of the Past.

Things which seem commonplace now, in after years become interesting and valuable relics. As interesting a relic as one often finds is in possession of Hon. H. D. Hitt, at Oakfield. He has many such relics, but there is one of more than common interest. It is an arithmetic made in school by his great grandfather. At that time books were scarce and school instruction was imparted orally. In school there would be one arithmetic and that belonged to the teacher. He gave out the work and the scholar took it down on his slate. After it was completed, the example and work was all written out with a quill pen on fools cap paper. The latter comprises the arithmetic before alluded to. The work is all very elaborately enrolled and embraces much in mathematics that is now never heard of. Some of the processes we are now using may be superceded in a few years by better ones. Save your school books for interesting relics.

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### The Fountain City Herald.

Royal Buck came to Fond du Lac from Madison in 1851 with the Fountain City Herald, which he published for three years, but it was not a success and was sold to J. A. Smith, and with the Western Freeman, already owned by him, became the Commonwealth. At the time of the Pike's Peak gold fever, Buck started with his family for that region in a covered wagon, drawn by a team composed of an ox and a cow. That fall they reached Nebraska City, and while living in their wagon there they received supplies for the winter sent by Dr. Darling, Dr. Wright and other members of the Congregational Church of this city. Buck bravely entered upon the work of opening a farm, but later secured a position in the United States land office at Nebraska City. In 1861, President Lincoln made him register of that office, and he held the position a number of years, becoming quite well off. Royal Buck struggled against adversity and finally conquered.

### The Old Giltner Place.

It is very doubtful if there is a house in Fond du Lac that has gone through the vicissitudes of approaching destruction and been occupied by more families than the so called "Giltner House" on East Second street, opposite No. 1 engine house. In the fifty-eight years of its existence, it has suffered from fire, lightning and wind, but escaped destruction. It was twice enlarged after it was built, was occupied for a time by four families, including Jo. Kings and Steve Buckland. Father Bonseuil, the early Catholic missionary, held services there, the "Giltner girls" had a millinery and dress making shop there several years, a picture gallery was there, many transient doctors had rooms there, Mr. Kellogg, general agent for the New York Mutual Life Insurance Co., made his headquarters there, and W. H. Ebbets at one time had his law office in the building. Of the four Giltner girls, some or all of them lived there many years. At the time of the great Main street fire in 1852, the wind dropped burning shingles on the roof and it was on fire several times. Three or four times in its history the house was on fire on the inside and twice was struck by lightning. Its identity was changed in 1903.

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### Peat Fifty Years Ago.

The operations of Dr. Beebe in peat reminds the old settler in Fond du Lac, of the agitation of the same subject in the early fifties, by J. W. Whinfield, who had given some attention to it in England. If the claims of Mr. Whinfield for peat as fuel for domestic use and under boilers for steam could be half realized, it would be more valuable than the coal fields. In an article from him printed in the Fond du Lac Journal at the time, he claimed that iron had been smelted in England with peat fuel. He had evidently given the subject much attention, and among other things predicted that peat would be the fuel of the future and that we had enough in the peat beds of our marshes to last hundreds of years. Our wood supply was nearly exhausted at that time and transportation made coal too costly. Peat was the coming fuel and he urged the people to assist in developing this fuel so plentiful at our very doors.

Rush Lake marsh, near Ripon, is an almost inexhaustible peat bed, and an attempt was made in 1870, to utilize it, but without the proper machinery, buildings or money, was a failure.

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### A Laundry Not Thought Of.

It is now one of the singular facts of history that it is only twenty-five years since a laundry was first thought of for Fond du Lac. Up to 1870 the young men had had to look to a washwoman to launder their shirts and collars, and seldom got them well done. The Chinamen did the best work here in that line until the Ira W. Hughes laundry was opened, and a little later the Eureka.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## Origin, Development and Present Status of the Fond du Lac Fire Department. Some Men Who Have Been In It.

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In the early days of Fond du Lac, the fighting of fires was dependent upon the personal efforts of citizens with pails, and as late as 1850 there were but four or five cisterns for fire purposes in the town. As to fires, the village had been very fortunate, but in the winter of 1852, the citizens were awakened to the fact that something must be done to procure fire apparatus. The Davis block, nearly opposite Forest Avenue, burned, and four days later occurred the fire that burned the east side of Main from First to Second streets, and some around the corner of Second. Early in 1853 old No. 1 engine and hose cart were purchased, and a year later Nos. 2 and 3 were bought. Nos. 4 and 5 companies were organized considerable later. In the sixties, when the steamers came, we thought we were fixed for all time, but it remained for the waterworks to come and give us the perfection of fire service.

In the earliest days of the Fond du Lac fire department, engine old No. 1 and accompanying hose cart, were housed on the west side of Main street opposite Third and over the ravine. K. A. Darling was the first foreman of the company, and D. W. C. Wright was the first hose captain. The first steamer was also housed there for a time. The boys used to congregate there evenings and have a lively time. North of the engine house was J. L. Ault's shop, where he made lightning rods and made and repaired steel plows. Barnett had a cabinet shop on the ground where Blankenburg was so many years, but the store and shop of Mr. Blankenburg was then on the east side of Main street.

When Fond du Lac bought its first fire apparatus, old No. 1, which was given the name of Washington Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1, in the summer of 1854, Azro Taylor was chosen first fire chief, and held the office several years. He was succeeded by Allan Carswell, a dry goods man of the firm of Carswell & Dec, a stubborn Scotchman but a good fire fighter. Next came Alex. White, and since then numerous men have served in that office, but it is doubtful if any have been more efficient. In 1856 we got two Waterford engines, Fountain City No. 2, Foreman E. S. Bragg, located on Division street, and Winnebago No. 3, Foreman C. R. Harrison, located at Arndt and Brooke streets, where No. 3 is yet. We then felt competent to fight almost any fire, yet in 1860 we bought a steam fire engine, an Amoskeog machine, put it in charge of No. 1 company and Johnny Hardenburg as engineer to run it. Later on the self-pro-

PELLER Alex. White was bought and we have that machine yet, but not as a self-propeller—that feature was soon abandoned.

One night the engine house took fire and among the damages to be invoiced was the burning of two of the wheels of the steamer. George Pike, the engineer of the steamer, was mad beyond endurance, but he got over it after a few days. The engine house was then moved to West Second street, to about where the gas office is now. This building was not strong enough for the rough usage and weight it had to carry, and Chief Marshal A. B. Taylor, by direction of the council, at last provided quarters to be permanent, by sending No. 1 to where it is now and has been for more than thirty years.

In the meantime another steamer was bought and housed with No. 2, No. 1 still having the first steamer. Moses Nightengale was the engineer of the new machine. But not long after agitation began for the purchase of a self-propeller and a committee was sent to an Illinois city where one was in use, to inquire about it. This committee, with Alex. White at the head, reported favorably and the machine was purchased and Johnny Hardenburg was appointed engineer to run it. At its first fire on Portland street, it got stuck in the mud so tight that the self-propelling machinery could not pull it out and horses had to be used. In fact it was soon found that our streets were not sufficiently improved for such a machine and the self-propelling feature was abandoned. It was named Alex. White, and its main merit was that it could pump a very large amount of water. In this year of 1905, the city still owns this machine and No. 1 steamer. After the coming of the Alex. White, No. 1 was transferred to No. 3 house. Fire Company No. 4, located on Military street, afterwards at the five points, and it got the old No. 1 machine while No. 1 house took the Hook and Ladder apparatus. No. 5 Fire Company was also formed and located on Main street, where it is yet. It was composed of husky middletown young men, but lasted only a few years as a distinct volunteer organization. At the county fair in 1875, No. 2 and No. 4 competed for a silver trumpet in making a half mile run and laying 500 feet of hose. No. 4 won and the men of that company thought they were entitled to the care of No. 2 steamer, and as they did not get it, they disbanded. But the beginning of the end of the volunteer fire department was at hand. Jealousy had crept in more or less all around and culminated on July 4, 1877. Nos. 1 and 2 wanted Azro Taylor for Chief Fire Marshal, and Nos. 3 and 5 wanted George P. Dana. The latter was elected and the order for the department to turn out for the 4th July parade, came from him. Rebellion was abroad and when the parade reached Second street, No. 1 left the ranks and disbanded. In a year from this time all the old companies were disbanded. The council looked upon it indifferently, as horses were now in use to haul the machines and drag ropes were of little use. A paid department was then put into service and has continued ever since most efficiently.

When the waterworks came in 1885, there was practically an end of pumping by engines and our No. 2 steamer was sold, as well as the hand machines. The Alex. White is kept in repair and ready

for emergencies, but No. 1 would need overhauling if desired for use. For some years the Hook and Ladder house was on East First street, where the residence of Mrs. Payne now stands, but it has not been there since 1882. The No. 2 house is now and has been for some years a modest but neat dwelling on the north side of Division street, near Main. No. 4 house has also been a dwelling on Military street for many years. Nos. 1, 3 and 5 are in daily use by the department. They have been changed and repaired many times, but with the waterworks system there is less wear and tear. With forty to sixty men making the engine house headquarters for recreation as well as business, running out the machine every few nights for practice, and the general roughness which all this naturally brings, is suggestive of frequent repairs. But who will imagine that the old Volunteer Fire Department did not fulfill an important mission and do an important work. Complaints of inefficiency were sometimes heard, but they may have originated in the talk of croakers, while sensible people remembered the sort of appliances they had to work with and the many difficulties they had to encounter, and especially as to water supply. But there is another feature to be put into the credit side of the ledger in making up the account of the old fire department. The engine houses kept many men from loafing in saloons, barrooms and on street corners. The men were interested in their fire companies, and almost nightly could be found at their engine houses in association with their fellows. The department did fulfill a mission other than that of fire fighting.

From the time the Fond du Lac Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1853, until 1859, when the steamers came and the boys no longer "run wid der masheen," the firemen's dances were a marked social feature every winter. They had the earnest support of the best class of citizens and were under the control of men of high standing. Most of these firemen's dances were arranged and were under the control of Fire Company No. 1, but No. 2 had them occasionally. No. 3 still less frequent and No. 4 seldom or never. No. 1 seemed to be composed largely of dancing men. No. 2, with Gen. Bragg as foreman, was composed of business men who cared little for dancing. No. 3 was a lower town organization of leading men, headed by C. R. Harrison, Alex. White and B. F. Sweet, and No. 4 had a sort of sickly existence of a few years at the "five points." For foreman at different times, No. 1 had Geo. W. Sawyer, A. B. Taylor, J. V. McCall, Ed. J. Hodges and D. W. C. Wright. Among the hose captains were Milt. Ewen, Tom Green, Tom Weeks and Fred Kalk. Truly was old No. 1 a lively set of fellows. But in 1858 the city got its first fire steamer and the downfall of the old fire department began and the grand old firemen's dances ceased. The last one seems to have been in January, 1861, in Amory Hall.

Adelbert Coffman, present Chief Fire Marshal, has been a fire fighter in this city since boyhood, a period of about thirty-five years. He knows the department and its work, almost from the beginning.

### Death of Ira Schoolcraft.

News comes of the death of Ira Schoolcraft, one of the old time citizens and business men of Fond du Lac, who died May 14, at the residence of his son-in-law, Henry B. Fargo, in Chicago. Mr. Fargo was also a former well known citizen here. Mr. Schoolcraft came to Fond du Lac in 1853 and opened a shoe store and shoe shop. He resided for some years on the south side of Third street, near Marr, and was noted for the fine garden on his home lot. During his residence there an accident occurred which showed some christianity and brotherly feeling in Fond du Lac. One summer just as his garden was getting nicely started, Mr. Schoolcraft had a malignant frog felon come in the palm of his right hand. Of course he suffered intensely and it lasted two or three months. During this time the shoemakers of the town banded together and not only cared for his garden by work evenings and mornings, but also harvested and cared for his crop in the fall.

The family moved to Chicago in 1863, and Mrs. Schoolcraft died in 1901, after a married life with Mr. Schoolcraft of sixty years. Old time citizens well remember the family.

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### Water Was Let Out.

On a Sunday evening in 1862, when Elder Rogers was pastor of the Baptist Church in Fond du Lac, there was an unusual occurrence. There were to be some baptisms that evening, and the weather being very cold the chill was taken from the water in an adjoining room and then the water was run into the baptistry under the pulpit. Just before the service was to begin, Deacon Perkins looked into the baptistry to see that all was right, and to his horror he found that it was empty. Some one had pulled the plug and let the water out. It was too late to remedy it and of course there was no baptism, but at the close of the service Elder Rogers gave the perpetrator of the joke as severe a scoring as was ever heard. It was several years before it was known to a certainty who did it, and it is just as well not to mention names now. Elder Rogers was chaplain of the Fourteenth regiment during the civil war.

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### Gen. Hamilton a Veteran.

Gen. C. S. Hamilton came to Fond du Lac in the spring of 1850 and built and occupied the house on the east side of Sophia street next north of the Howie house. Mrs. Hamilton's name was Sophia and the street was named for her. Gen. Hamilton was a graduate of West Point and up to 1861 he was known to everybody in Fond du Lac as Capt. Hamilton. He was in the Mexican war of 1846 and 1847 as a captain in the regular army, but resigned his commission in 1849 to come west. He was made colonel of the Third Wisconsin Infantry in 1861, and later was promoted to brigadier general and finally to major general. He had an oil mill here which he moved to Milwaukee.



## BOOT AND SHOE TRADE

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### Early Shoe Stores and Who Owned Them. Peculiarities of the Trade to the Present. Busy Class of Men.

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The trade in boots and shoes from the early days to the present, has undergone greater and more frequent changes than any other. Changes in styles come with the seasons and methods of handling the trade come and go. In the early days of Fond du Lac all the stores kept boots and shoes, and a store handling only these goods, was almost unknown. The men wore boots almost without exception, and women's shoes were made of cloth or cheap leather. Thirty years ago we had Edwin C. Burt's shoes for women, no doubt the best grade of goods ever sold here and the highest in price. But this was one of the vicissitudes of the trade. Great as was the demand at the time, they went out of sight and Burt's goods have not been in the market in many years. And the pernella cloth shoes for ladies and sometimes for men too, disappeared about 1860, and have not been seen here since as a regular line of goods. Previous to that date all the dry goods stores kept them. A shoe store as we know them now, was almost unknown. Foot wear that could not be purchased at the general store, had to be made at the shop of the shoemaker, and these shops were numerous. The best shop Fond du Lac had was owned by John Hale and H. E. Stilwell, under the name of Hale & Stilwell. The shop was in a wood building that stood on Main street, about where Geo. P. Dana's hardware store is now. The men employed never numbered less than six and most of the time a dozen. Jack Cole and Henry Miller were the makers of men's fine French calf boots and both boasted that he made the handsomest and best fine boot in town. Charley Arlin, O. S. Leonard and Ad. Lovett worked on "bats," the nickname of the times, for women's and children's shoes. George Driggs and Fred Tyler held seats for kip work and Felix Rodgers, Pete Shoemaker, Herman Meese and others had the stogas—boots and other coarse work. That Hale & Stilwell shop was a lively place and the boys who worked there made it lively for a new comer. In the old fashioned shoe shops, when a new man unpacked his "kit," he was expected to "pay his block," which meant that he must treat all the hands. The treat need not necessarily be liquor, but anything he pleased. So rooted was this practice that a new man found it much cheaper to treat than to bear the burden of refusal. Almost all the villages and cross roads had their shoe shops instead of the one man cobbler of today. Mann & Hoyt, afterward F. E. & E. Hoyt, and McBride & Kellogg were the first stores that dealt exclusively in boots and shoes. But

the changes continued to come and finally we have come to the period when shoes are the only goods made and sold and the boot for men, is banished from sight and sale. The shoemaker's shop for the making of foot wear to measure is also well nigh banished, and those still existing are mainly devoted to fitting cripples and deformed feet, and neighborhood cobbling. The shoemaker has not much of a place in modern industries. The factory and the shoe store have compelled him to seek other employment. What the next change will be we cannot even guess, but we may be sure that it will not be a restoration of the shoemaker to his lost estate in the shop.

The veteran shoe dealer in Fond du Lac is M. Fitzsimons, now Fitzsimons & Sons, for many years well known to all who buy goods here. Mr. Fitzsimons began the business here in 1854, in a building that once stood near the corner of Main and East Second streets, on the land now vacant. He and Martin Sasse were partners in the business many years and when dissolved, Mr. Fitzsimons moved to the west side of Main street, a few doors south of First street, where he remained fourteen years and until 1896, when their present beautiful store was completed on the northwest corner of Main and West First streets, on the site of the old Darling's block, they moved their store to that place. It was fifty-six years on the 12th of July, 1905, since Maurice Fitzsimons entered the shoe business in Fond du Lac. Surely is he a veteran and a successful one. He has experienced the ups and downs of all sorts and especially in the shoe trade.

In 1867, twelve years later, W. H. Egelhoff opened the shoe business here and has been in it ever since. He also may be ranked as a veteran. His sons are now in charge of the business, but Mr. Egelhoff still gives it much attention. The building occupied by W. H. Egelhoff & Co., is owned by them and has been fitted to suit their trade. The first twelve years of his business here, Mr. Egelhoff made foot wear to order only. He carried on a shoe shop, and often employed six to ten men, but in 1879 he started a small store.

The store of the C. F. Youmans Shoe Company was started in 1875 by J. J. Odekirk, but in 1878 became the property of C. F. Youmans, and has thus remained ever since. J. G. Youmans, a brother, opened a shoe store here in 1863, but left the business in 1878, after fifteen years. C. F. Youmans is a full and complete Badger. He was born and raised in Wisconsin and was never in any other business.

Up to 1874 nearly all men wore boots, but in ten years the demand had so nearly ceased that many of the shoe stores ceased to have them in stock. The Stickney boot had a large sale, but Mr. Stickney said that in the two years, 1878 to 1880, the demand decreased to the extent that they closed the factory. And the shoe shops disappeared about the same time, so that there was only here and there a shop left, and maybe a solitary cobbler on his bench in the rear of the shoe stores. The explanation is all in the one word "factory." The question naturally arises, who will do even the cobbling in the future? No one is learning the trade.

C. J. Pettibone & Co. were dealers in boots and shoes from the opening of their store in 1860. It was a dry goods store, not a shoe store, but carried a stock of shoes to the time of closing out in 1893.

L. J. Venne and Peter Scholl opened a shoe store in 1871, under the firm name of Venne & Scholl. Some changes took place until 1893, when it was closed out. This store had a large and fine stock and a heavy trade. The sons of Mr. Venne have since had shoe stores.

C. W. Seaver was a heavy dealer in boots and shoes and had a large trade, but he failed in 1875 and the store ceased. Ill health caused it.

C. W. Haskell began the business here in 1874 and continued in trade many years. His stock was mainly of shoes for women and children, and he had a fine business which was closed out in 1890.

Leland & Alden, Barber & Kent and Frank Miller had shoe stores here, but were not long in existence. W. F. Georg was for several years with Mr. Youmans, but bought the Venne stock when it was closed out, and now manages as fine a store as there is in the city.

The shoe company organized by local capital in 1880, was prosperous for a time, and made a nice line of goods, but bad management brought it to grief. It was bought by C. M. Henderson & Co., of Chicago, who moved it to Illinois. The factory was in operation here about eight years.

But the grandest movement here in the shoe business, was the establishment of the large M. D. Wells factory, in 1902. The large and beautiful building occupied by it was erected with local capital and much of the stock is held by Fond du Lac citizens.

There are a few shoemakers' shops in the city that make foot wear to order, of which that of M. Herbert, on East Second street, is the principal one. All of the old timers, Peter Servatius, George Wright, W. H. Bischoff, Hale & Stilwell, Leonard & Arlin, Ad. Lovett, W. B. Tyler, Peter Shoemaker, Ira Schoolcraft, John Rottman, Pat. Caufield and others, have ceased to exist and their owners are all dead. Peter Scholl came here with his father, Jacob Scholl, in 1846, unable to speak the language of the country, and began making foot wear. Peter Scholl still sticks to his shoe bench and is the oldest shoemaker in Fond du Lac. Mr. Egelhoff has a man in his employ, Mr. Gerhard, who has worked for him thirty-seven years, and is there yet. Everett & Koerner and William Welch were old time dealers in shoes and the store now conducted by Whittaker & Cromwell, was established several years ago by Charles Meade.

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### Where Was Your Tinware Made?

Since the war of the rebellion there has been very little home-made tinware seen in Fond du Lac. It now comes from large factories and at nearly one-half former prices. It is needless to say that it is but about one-half the value. Except for dairy use and on special orders, no tinware is now made in Fond du Lac.

### Early Days Fishing.

There was a time when if the Fond du Lac boys went fishing or hunting they seldom returned empty-handed. Out in the country in any direction they would get prairie chickens and with net at the Bissell mill dam, or at First street bridge, or with hook and line below Scott street bridge, or at Luco, could be had a supply of fish. Prairie chickens are not obtainable and the realization of a nice string of fish belongs to the angler of long ago. Shoulder your fish pole some day and try your luck. It is possible, even probable, that you will come home without having had a nibble. Hunting and fishing are far from what they were. Game is scarce compared to former times. The laws protecting fish and game came too late for sportsmen.

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### Queer But Not a Fool.

A very peculiar character among the boarders at the Cottage in 1851 was a German named Yost, a parlor chair maker who worked in the cabinet shop of Charles Blankenburg. Yost was cordial with the boys, yet exceedingly diffident and remarkably peculiar in his motions. He was a very odd genius and very fond of the girls. One day Lon Blake, the circus performer, put on a dress and bonnet and took a seat in the parlor waiting for Yost to come to dinner. When he came one of the boys told him there was a lady in there waiting for him. He opened the door but almost instantly wheeled and went off up stairs to his room. When he was asked about the lady he replied: "He no girl, you can't fool me." Yost in some unknown way detected the trick, but how he would never tell. The joke was on the boys, not on Yost, and it was a long time before they tried any more on him.

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### Bullis Was a Practical Joker.

When a young man, N. L. Bullis began his business career in Fond du Lac as a clerk in the general store of Parker & Prettyman. He learned to speak French and became a valuable clerk, but after some years opened a store of his own, and still later entered upon the livery business which he continued until failing health compelled him to give it up. His sympathy for any one in distress was unbounded, yet he was a practical joker of more than ordinary keenness. When such a joke was to be planned the aid of Nels Bullis was sought. He was the genius of the town in that line, and if any one was severely sold it was regarded as certain that he was in it. Who of the older settlers does not remember N. L. Bullis?

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When the late Frank B. Hoskins was Register of Deeds, he did as much if not more than any other one man to further the work for the new court house. He was then a young man but a worker.

# THE EARLIEST SETTLER

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Of those Who Came to This County in 1836, is Entitled to the Honor  
of Being the First Settler.

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## The First Settler.

Gen. Albert G. Ellis came to Green Bay as the government surveyor in 1828. Jo. King came from Canada and met Gen. Ellis at Mackinaw. The latter desired to engage some hardy French voyageurs to assist him in his work, and Jo. King was one of them. In 1832 they meandered the east shore of Lake Winnebago, and in 1833 the west shore. Gen. Ellis died at Stevens Point in 1887, where the writer of this interviewed him a number of times. He asked about Jo. King and seemed to think a great deal of him. He remembered him well and told many stories about him, mostly jokes that had impressed him.

What is now the Ingall's farm, south of the city, was the first Fond du Lac home of Jo. King. His entry certificate of the land bears date of the Green Bay land office in 1836. He improved the farm some and in 1838 built a log house on it. In 1839 he was married to Mrs. May by Justice of the Peace John Bannister. He moved into his house at once, and here it was that Mrs. A. W. Chapman, of West Johnson street, was born February 3, 1840, unquestionably the first white girl baby born in this county. John A. Bannister was born in 1839, and was the first child born in the county. The writer has verified these as facts beyond question. The only way to get at the facts in these matters, is to ascertain and give dates of events. In the summer of 1839, Mrs. King visited relatives at Pewaukee, and was the first white woman to pass over the trail on horseback. Soon after this the Pier twins, the late Col. C. K. Pier and Mrs. Skinner, now in Chicago, were born, and were the first twins in the county. Later on Jo. King traded this farm for one in Eden, which his estate still owns. As he entered this land in 1836 and actually worked on it, built a house there and lived in it in 1838, Jo. King may be regarded as the first settler. After leaving the farm, about 1842, he came to the city and lived in what was known as the old Giltner house, opposite No. 1 engine house, on Second street, in 1903 made into a modern house. Only four families lived in it in the early forties. For many years Jo. King, Steve Buckland and John Denny did most of the freighting between Milwaukee, Sheboygan and Fond du Lac. When Edward and Colwert Pier first came through from Green Bay, they found Jo. King at Brothertown.

Mrs. May, whom Jo. King married and who was the mother of Mrs. Chapman, had a by no means pleasing pioneer experience when

she came to this county. She came in 1838 with the Darling family, in a batteaux from Green Bay, landing near the Fond du Lac House, at Brooke street and the railroad bridge. Mrs. Chapman can go to the spot, it having been pointed out to her by her mother. While Mrs. May came by water, Mr. May started overland, to view the country. Several days after he should have been here, a young half breed came and reported to Dr. Darling and John Bannister, the finding by him of a dead man sitting against a tree near Stockbridge. They went out with a team, but decay had gone so far, in the hot June weather, that the body could not be moved and was buried there. The supposition was that he died of exhaustion. Most of the papers taken from his pockets, including his marriage certificate, are now in the possession of Mrs. Chapman and have been shown to the writer. It is stated by some writers of Fond du Lac history, that the Darling family landed at Sheboygan and came here overland. This is surely an error, as the proof is clear that they landed at Green Bay.

From the facts obtainable there seems to be no doubt about Jo. King being the first individual settler. It is true that Edward and Colwert Pier were here in 1836, but they at that time only decided upon their land and did not enter it until later in the year. The date of the King entry certificate shows that his entry was first. At any rate they were so nearly together as to make it hardly worth while to quarrel over it. As the modern saying has it, "they came early and stayed late." Joseph King died in 1884, at the age of 69 years.

The great influx of population of Fond du Lac county was from 1850 to 1856, many came in 1848 and 1849, but the greater number of pioneer farmers came between 1842 and 1848. A few came from 1838 to 1842 and a still less number previous to that date. Those of the earlier period have now all passed away, but their successors are enjoying the labor of their hands.

It is pleasant to the writer of these facts, to remember that he was able to visit with Gen. A. G. Ellis several times at Stevens Point, in the last years of his life. He was surveyor general of the territory of Wisconsin under the administration of Gen. Jackson, and started the Green Bay Intelligencer, the first newspaper, in 1832. He loved newspaper work and continued to write articles for the Stevens Point Pinery, almost to the day of his death. His age we have forgotten, but it was not far from 90. He often talked about Dr. Darling, John Bannister, Edward Pier, Jo. King and others of the old timers in Fond du Lac.

Close and careful investigation reveals the fact that there are many errors in previous histories of Fond du Lac city and county, and perhaps there are good reasons for this, as it is often difficult to get at facts. No one knows this better than those who have undertaken to get them. People do not remember things alike, and unless facts are a matter of record, information is decidedly unreliable. In this work we have tried hard to get matters correct.

# THE BANKS AND BANKERS

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## Fond du Lac Banks from the Beginning and Who Managed Them. An Interesting Chapter of Business History.

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It is not legitimate banking to furnish capital for men to establish themselves in business, but when once a fixed fact, the banker has his field of work in assisting the business man temporarily. The assets of a bank in a measure belong to the business men where the bank is located, and of right cannot be denied them if the rules are complied with. Collaterals and short time paper of acceptable character, are a legitimate part of this transaction. The banker assists and the business man receives on the basis of this security. The banker has no right to make the terms unnecessarily hard, but only such as shall make the loan secure, for we must bear in mind that the banker is but the representative of those who own the money which comprises the bank's capital and assets. He must be honest with the owners of the bank and fair to the customer, all the time adhering to the legitimate rules of banking, founded on long experience. In this way only can there be success. Since the advent of our national banking law there has been little complaint except that occasionally a banker is found whose exactions are deemed somewhat rigid. But is it not better to err in this than in being too loose?

The local deposits in the banks indicate the condition of business and the confidence of the people, in the soundness and reliability of the banks. When money is required in large amounts to adjust the balances due by business men at the commercial centers, especially when business is slack, these deposits disappear and if the banks are short of money to discount paper, the people feel it. A bank is a business institution dealing in money. As in all other kinds of business, there are fixed principles which govern it, and if these are violated there is sure to be trouble, for the bank is the business barometer. It is sensitive to the situation and feels and shows the financial storm that is coming. It is good banking to see and protect the bank against disaster and at the same time inspire confidence in the business community. To say what paper may be safely discounted and what paper ought not be, often requires peculiar ability in such matters. Anxiety to do business must not prompt the banker to discount paper of doubtful character, or to make the amount too large on good paper. Either may make trouble.

The ability with which Fond du Lac banks have been managed from the beginning, is shown by the fact that but once, in our history, has there been mistakes of management that brought serious loss. The Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, under the management of Robert A. Baker and John S. Burrows, was for many years a sound financial

institution, but later on, in the anxiety to do business, unsound and insecure securities were accepted and the bank made a disastrous failure. C. H. Benton, as assignee, settled affairs as best he could, but there was bad management of the bank's affairs toward the last by Mr. Baker and Mr. Burrows. This has been the only instance of a Fond du Lac bank doing business outside of regular banking methods. The Exchange Bank of Darling & Co. failed, but it was because of bad habits rather than a violation of banking methods.

#### **Fond du Lac Banking Houses.**

In the early times of Fond du Lac, that is to say, previous to 1850, Dr. Darling seems to have furnished the money for business exchange. His oldest son, Keyes A. Darling, was associated with his father presumably in this as in other business. While Dr. Darling was in Congress, Keyes A. Darling and his son-in-law, John A. Eastman, looked after the details of his large business.

#### **Exchange Bank of Darling & Co.**

Dr. T. S. Wright, son-in-law and representative of Gen. Warner, came to Fond du Lac in 1849, and in 1850, Darling, Wright & Co. started the above named bank, K. A. Darling, President; T. S. Wright, Vice-President, and C. W. Whinfield, Cashier. Chas. Schaefer, afterward for six years State Treasurer of Minnesota, was for a time Cashier of this bank. The business was continued many years, and early in its history erected the stone banking house at the southeast corner of Main and East First streets, so long occupied in late years by the Wells Bank.

#### **Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank.**

In 1852 Robert A. Baker and his brother, Henry O. Baker, closed out their grocery business, the latter returning to New York city and Robert A. Baker opened a broker's office. In 1856 the above named bank was organized with S. B. Amory, President, and R. A. Baker, Cashier. It was a bank of issue under the state banking law. After a few years Mr. Amory withdrew from it and Mr. Baker and John S. Burrows, known as Cashier, were the only persons known to be connected with the bank. After the panic of 1873, land speculation was entered upon and disastrous losses followed. For many years the Baker bank was a strong and popular institution. The banking house of this bank was the conspicuous structure that until recently stood on the south half of the property of the Fond du Lac National Bank. John S. Burrows died by suicide at Marquette, Lake Superior, and Mr. Baker died in Chicago.

#### **McCrea, Bell & Butler Bank.**

This was a Milwaukee firm that owned the Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Plank Road and did an extensive grain and lumber business here. The firm built the one story stone banking office at the northwest corner of Main and Division streets. They never did much of a banking business here, and the office was used mostly for other



business, which was wholly closed out about the time of the war. The building has been used many years for a saloon.

### Bank of the Northwest.

This bank, now the First National Bank, was organized by Edward Pier, B. F. Moore, A. G. Ruggles and S. E. Lefferts, in January, 1855, B. F. Moore, President, A. G. Ruggles, Cashier. It was a bank of issue under the state banking law. Just ten years later it was changed to a national bank under the name of First National Bank of Fond du Lac, Edward Pier, President, B. F. Moore, Vice-President, A. G. Ruggles, Cashier. Directors—Edward Pier, B. F. Moore, A. G. Ruggles, John H. Martin, Orrin Hatch. One year later J. B. Perry became the Cashier, a position in which he faithfully served the bank for thirty-five years, and is now its President. A. G. Ruggles was President from 1875 until his death in 1887, when E. A. Carey was chosen and served until 1903. Since that date J. B. Perry has been the President, and Ernest J. Perry Cashier. Besides the names before mentioned who have been directors, H. D. Hitt has served more than fifty years without missing a monthly meeting, although he lives at Oakfield, nine miles away. C. A. Heth served many years and until his death. Maj. E. R. Herren has been a member of the board a number of years. Gen. Ruggles was also a director many years. B. Wild was a member of the board and A. G. Ruggles, G. W. Earle and J. C. Fuhrman are directors.

The first rooms occupied by the Bank of the Northwest were very modest ones on the south side of West First street, in the rear of the corner store. In 1857 the bank was moved to the corner of Main and Forest streets, where it has been ever since, though the old rooms are now a hotel, corner of Marr and Fourth streets. The present plain but substantial building was erected in 1873 and has been the business home of the bank for more than thirty years. In the half century of this bank, whatever of panics or business troubles came, no one for a moment suspicioned the soundness of the First National Bank of Fond du Lac.

### Fond du Lac National Bank.

This powerful financial institution was organized in 1887, with the following named officers: who also constitute the Board of Directors: President, C. A. Galloway; First Vice-President, Frederick Rueping; Second Vice-President, J. A. Merryman; John Hughes, Charles Schreiber, E. P. Sawyer and N. S. Gilson, Directors, and G. A. Knapp, Cashier. A little later Judge Gilson retired and G. A. Knapp became a member of the Board of Directors. The officers have been practically the same to the present. From the start it was shown by the reports that this bank had the confidence of the business public. The bank bought the former Baker bank property and thoroughly remodeled it before opening for business, but after a few years it was found to be too small and the bank bought the Bischoff property next north, the building on it was removed and in 1902 the bank went into its present

beautiful building, occupying both of the lots. The office of this bank and its equipment are not surpassed in the state.

### Wells Banking House.

This bank, which was the predecessor of the present Commercial National Bank, was opened in 1870 by William H. Wells, at the southeast corner of Main and East First streets, and remained there more than thirty years. Until his death in 1888, Wm. H. Wells managed the business, and after that date his brother, John C. Wells, was in charge, but in 1898 he also died, and M. T. Simmons succeeded to the management. Since he went into the bank in 1875, Mr. Simmons has been in active control, a period of more than thirty years. From the beginning it was the constant effort to secure the confidence of the people and was remarkably successful. Care and strict integrity marked every step from the beginning. In 1901 Mr. Simmons nationalized the bank, Messrs. Henry Boyle, John T. Boyle, H. R. Potter, Frank B. Hoskins, George Giddings, F. E. Hoyt, M. T. Simmons, D. D. Sutherland and A. G. Bechaud taking the stock and becoming the board of directors. The bank then bought the property at the northeast corner of Main and East First streets, and in 1902-3 erected the present fine building for its own use. The officers of the bank are: President, H. R. Potter; Vice-President, Henry Boyle; Second Vice-President, A. G. Bechaud; Cashier, M. T. Simmons. The Wells Bank was never a bank of issue.

### The Savings Banks.

The first savings bank in business in Fond du Lac, was organized by Edward Pier and E. H. Galloway. They were able to realize how desirable it would be to have a safe institution in which savings could be deposited, down to as small sums as half a dollar. In 1866 they organized the Fond du Lac Savings Bank and erected the fine building at the southeast corner of Forest Avenue and Macy street. The business of the bank was for a few years, conducted in a brick building west of the present First National Bank. During the time of Curt. Lewis as postmaster, the postoffice occupied the room afterward used by the Savings Bank. The bank started in business with Edward Pier, President; E. H. Galloway, Vice-President; Edward Colman, Treasurer, and C. K. Pier, Director. After the injury of Edward Pier and finally his death, and the death of Mr. Galloway, the latter's son, E. A. Galloway, became an officer, but as he preferred the farm and had no taste for banking, he retired, and Mrs. M. H. Galloway became President, C. K. Pier, Vice-President, and G. A. Knapp, Treasurer. Finally Mrs. Galloway found that she could not give attention to the business, C. K. Pier had gone into lumber manufacture at Merrill and it was determined to close the business, which was done in 1886, after a career of seventeen years. It was a train of circumstances that brought about the closing of this bank, and not a lack of business, and every dollar due was paid.

### The C. L. Encking Bank.

In 1878, C. L. Encking started a Savings institution which was named the German Savings Bank, of which little is known now. Since Mr. Encking died, no one seems to know much about it. It is quite sure, however, that it never did much business. At the closing everything was settled and paid and so quietly that little is remembered about it.

### Cole Savings Bank.

In 1878, William E. Cole started the Cole Savings Bank, and has built up one of the successful institutions of Fond du Lac. Naturally careful and conservative and realizing from the beginning that carelessness with the savings deposited in his bank would be unjustifiable, he has never allowed himself to depart from the policy of strict business integrity which was determined upon from the beginning. His conservatism especially fits Mr. Cole for this business, and a man better qualified would be difficult to find in this state. He has sometimes been charged with being too conservative, but all fair minded business men do not hesitate to declare that it is far better for him to be too conservative than too liberal. His business methods very soon gained the confidence of the people, and in the nearly thirty years of the bank's existence it has always retained it. This bank was incorporated in 1890 under the state banking law, as the Cole Savings Bank. In 1899, Mr. Cole bought the part of the Amory block owned by Mr. John Amory, and fitted it in nice shape for the use of the bank. For twenty years he occupied the rooms under the First National Bank, rather than risk any of the assets of the bank for a fine office elsewhere. He began on the bottom round of the business ladder and great care has marked his career.

### German American Savings Bank.

A bank bearing this name was organized in 1867, by R. Ebert and J. C. Perry, who were afterwards joined by Louis Muentner, but it never did a heavy business. After a few years Mr. Perry withdrew and in 1883 the bank was discontinued because of the ill health of Mr. Ebert. While it bore the name of Savings Bank, it did not do a regular business as a savings bank. The modest building erected by this bank for its use, still stands on Main street near the corner of the malt house lot.

These are all the banks Fond du Lac has ever had. There have always been men here with money to speculate in non-bankable securities, such as Chattel Mortgages, Judgment Notes, and cut-throat schemes of all sorts, and we have them yet. We have had but one bad failure in our history and our banks, as a rule, have smoothly weathered the storms of panics and financial troubles of every sort.

### CITY OF RIPON.

Ripon has never had many banks and those located there have been of the solid, substantial and reliable sort. The men managing them have invariably had the full confidence of the people.

#### Bank of Ripon.

This bank was organized under the state banking law in 1856, with H. H. Mead as President, and E. P. Brockway, Cashier, and ceased business in 1864 to give place to the First National Bank.

#### First National Bank.

Organized in 1864, with E. P. Brockway as President, Geo. L. Field, Cashier. In 1890, H. H. Mead became President, and in 1902 Mr. Mead retired and Geo. L. Field assumed the office, with F. Spratt as Cashier. In 1882 the fine banking house of this institution was destroyed by fire, but was immediately replaced.

#### Bowen & Wheeler Bank.

Began business in 1864, with J. Bowen as President and Chas. F. Wheeler, Cashier. Ceased business in 1876.

#### German National Bank.

This was one of a series of banks organized by L. D. Moses, a former Waupaca and Antigo merchant of large means. The German National at Ripon, was organized in 1889, with L. D. Moses as President, and I. M. Dakin, Cashier. C. F. Schloerb was afterwards cashier for a time, but in 1902 Mr. Moses retired and Charles Cowan became President, with J. P. Stone, Cashier. A neat banking house was erected on the organization of the bank, and which it still occupies.

These are all the banks Ripon has ever had and no more have been needed. The character of the men in charge of them and the liberal and safe policy pursued, has made them sufficient for all purposes.

### CITY OF WAUPUN.

Following have been the banking institutions of Waupun from the earliest days to the present time:

#### Bank of Waupun.

Organized in 1851 under the state banking law, by L. B. Hills, who was the manager until it ceased business three years later.

#### Corn Exchange Bank.

Established by William Hobkirk on the closing of the Waupun Bank, in 1854, and continued by him until 1875, when he absconded with most of the assets. After nearly twenty years of successful business, Mr. Hobkirk sacrificed the bank and himself to fast horses and other practices unsafe for a banker. David Ferguson, of Milwaukee, was for several years the President of this bank and it was looked upon as one of the leading and safe banks.

### C. W. Hennig's Exchange Office.

Charles W. Hennig, a former Fond du Lac boy, had been an employe of Mr. Hobkirk many years, and he now opened an exchange office, but continued it only a few months.

### Citizens' Bank of Waupun.

This bank, organized by Almon Atwood in 1876, continued in business only one year.

### Exchange Bank of Geo. Jess & Co.

A new building was erected for this bank and it did a substantial and safe business from its organization in 1876 until 1885, when it was sold to Geo. W. Mitchell, of Milwaukee, Geo. F. Wheeler, of Waupun, both of them former Fond du Lac county men and both former sheriffs of the county, and others of the stockholders, for the purpose of organizing the First National Bank of Waupun.

### First National Bank of Waupun.

Organized in 1885, with L. D. Hinekley as President, W. Caldwell, Vice-President, and B. W. Davis, Cashier. Geo. F. Wheeler at the time of his death was President of this bank, a position he had held many years.

### State Bank of Waupun.

Organized in 1903 with J. O. Henson as President, but S. M. Sherman is now at its head. These two banks are solid institutions and have the full confidence of the people.

These banks are on the side of Waupun's Main street which puts them in Dodge county, but they are so close to Fond du Lac and the people of our county do business with them, hence they are entitled to space here.

**Brandon.**—Foster & Son have a broker's office at Brandon, and do a legitimate banking business.

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### A Crooked Channel.

The belief has been acquired by many from some source that in the meandering of the old river channel, it found its way through the site of the new postoffice building. This is a mistake. The old channel swept around near the northeast corner of the Lange block, thence through the Tait wood yard, but did not touch the postoffice site. There was a slough which ran in there, in which the small frogs often peeped in the early spring time. The house of J. H. Clum stood on the site of the new government building and the next east was the Plymouth Congregational Church. Next to this was a vacant space and then came the old Darling block. Macy street was not opened from Forest to Second until in the sixties, and the old channel did not swing as far east as the present corner of First and Macy streets.

### Railroad Open to Chester.

The original Northwestern car shops were started in Fond du Lac in 1854 to build cars for the operation of the road then being built south and opened a little later to Chester. It was expensive and difficult to bring in cars and so it was proposed to build them here. The shops were enlarged at different times until they covered about a block of land on Brooke street and the bank of the river. It was long a busy place, building passenger coaches as well as freight cars, and there was also a machinery department for the repair of locomotives and other rolling stock. In 1862 the plant was entirely dismantled and moved to a suburb of Chicago on the pretense that the company had to maintain shops there and it would be vastly cheaper to do all the work there, but the truth seemed to be that the officers of the company had bought a large tract of land in this suburb and there was much money to be made by the sale of lots to employes and others. Fond du Lac lost heavily by the removal of the shops and the officials gained in similar proportion. For many years Fond du Lac heavily felt the depression consequent on the removal of the shops. All the men were removed from their positions, from Henry Hull as superintendent, to James Edmund as engine stoker. Pete Jones, the engineer, made a green house bower of the engine room, but it had to go when the removal order came. Ben. Garvin dropped his hammer in the machinery room and the big blowers were quiet.

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### Early Day Shingle Machines.

There was a time when Fond du Lac seemed to be headquarters for shingle machines and many of them were built in the machine shops of Peacock & White. The first kind, and the one of which the greater number were built, was the Valentine. This machine was patented by W. P. Valentine, for many years a resident here. Dr. Walker brought out a machine similar in some respects to the Valentine, and Kasson Freeman came next, but these machines were sold mainly to northern Wisconsin and Michigan lumbermen. The Beaudreau machine was very large and made shingles by the cutting process from steamed blocks. These machines were all built here, but they were used largely elsewhere. Occasionally other machines were seen, but these were the standard.

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### A Free Will Baptist Church.

Besides the First Baptist Church, Fond du Lac had a Free Will Baptist Church, organized in an early day by Elder Stanley, but as neither had a modern baptistry, they sought the primitive method of resort to water outside. The favorite and almost only place for baptism was a pool below the old Bissell mill dam, near the Western avenue bridge. All traces of the locality disappeared many years ago.

# THE FOND DU LAC POSTOFFICE

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## Postmasters From 1838 to 1905. Early Day Mail Service and Early Day Mail Carriers.

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Following are the names of those who have served as postmasters from the opening of the postoffice in 1838 to 1905:

1838—Colwert Pier.	1867—R. M. Lewis.
1838—John Bannister.	1869—James Coleman.
1839—Dr. M. C. Darling.	1873—James Coleman.
1842—Thomas Green.	1877—I. N. Hauser.
1845—John A. Eastman.	1877—Thomas W. Spence.
1849—Sam Ryan.	1883—Geo. E. Sutherland.
1850—E. C. Tompkins.	1885—Samuel M. Smead.
1852—George W. Weikert.	1889—James T. Green.
1857—George W. Weikert.	1894—Samuel M. Smead.
1861—John C. Lewis.	1897—Frank M. Givens.
1865—E. S. Bragg.	1901—Frank M. Givens.
1866—J. M. Gillet.	1905—Frank M. Givens.

Four times in its history there has been crookedness in the Fond du Lac postoffice, but not of much importance. In 1849, in 1862, in 1877 and in 1881 there was some trouble. Twice the office has been robbed by burglars and considerable money and stamps taken. In the early times the office was long located in the then Spink building, north of the Lewis House. Mr. Weikert moved the office to near the northwest corner of Main and Division streets, where Wagenknecht's harness shop is now. Curt. Lewis moved it to the rear of the First National Bank, Jim Coleman took it to Division street and thence to its present location. By the time the new building is occupied, the office will have been thirty-three years where it is now. Mr. L. M. Wyatt has been assistant postmaster continuously since 1878.

During the reconstruction troubles under President Andrew Johnson, he being at variance with congress, there was hesitancy about confirming appointments, and so it came about that in 1866 and 1867 that the appointments of Gen. Bragg and J. M. Gillet for postmaster at Fond du Lac, were held up and R. M. Lewis went in on a compromise appointment.

In the fifty-seven years that Wisconsin has been a state, Fond du Lac has had fourteen postmasters, though the terms of four of them were very short. Geo. W. Weikert, James Coleman, S. M. Smead and F. M. Givens held the office two terms or eight years each. When the office is moved into the new government building now being erected, it will have been moved six times in the same period. It is deeply regretted by all citizens, as it will no doubt be at no distant day by government officials also, that the new building is so small. It is said to furnish no more room than the present

quarters, while it ought to have been twice the size. It seems to most people that \$65,000, the cost of this structure, properly applied, ought to have furnished a building much larger and far more imposing in appearance.

About as foolish a thing as it is possible for a person to do, is to go crooked in a postoffice. They invariably get caught at it and have to pay the penalty, which is severe.

Free postal delivery was established in Fond du Lac in 1888, and rural free delivery in 1900, and have resulted very satisfactory to all concerned. When free delivery was begun in 1888, there were four carriers, but in 1905, the number has been increased to thirteen. From 1900 to 1905 the rural delivery has increased from two to nine routes.

### Mails at Fond du Lac.

On the 8th day of February, 1838, the first mail arrived in the settlement from Green Bay. It was brought through by Billy Lalone, a French-Indian half-breed, traveling on foot with the mail pouch and his supplies on his back. Billy carried the mail at first every two weeks, but a little later every week. Uncle William Stewart was the next mail carrier. He was a Scotchman and a deserter from the British army, partly swimming the river at Niagara Falls to get from Canada into the United States. He had to keep well out of Canada to avoid arrest. He afterwards became a farmer in the town of Byron and later in Eden, and was in every way a first-class citizen. He was for nearly ten years a member of the county board and every session was chairman of the committee on claims. Then came a semi-weekly service on horseback from Sheboygan, and when the Milwaukee road was opened and the stage line established in 1848, Fond du Lac had its first daily mail. From year to year the service has been improved ever since.

### Two Early Day Characters.

Two of the generally well known characters of early times at Taycheedah was Billy Lalone and Uncle Billy Stewart. The latter in after years became one of the most prominent and useful men on the county board of supervisors. Uncle Billy Stewart was for three or four years a mail carrier on foot between Green Bay and Fond du Lac, but later on opened a farm in Byron and afterwards in Eden, from both of which towns he was sent to the county board many years and was always chairman of the committee on claims. He was a deserter from the British army, escaping across the river into the United States at Niagara Falls. He was a Scotchman.

Billy Lalone was a French and Indian half-breed and was Fond du Lac's first mail carrier. He often prided himself on quick trips with mail pouch and bag of grub on his back to Green Bay and return. Bear in mind that Taycheedah was in the early times a town of far greater pretensions than it is now and Billy Lalone had something to do in making himself generally useful to the people. To go out to the farm of Col. Conklin on errands for B. F. Moore, or to



cross the prairie to Fond du Lac on some errand, was but a little walk for him. He was a favorite with the women as well as the men, for he helped them in looking after small children and playing with the larger ones. Among the boys he played marbles with, was Harry Whinfield, and Harry says he was a good player, too. Half-breeds of French-Indian stock could be lazy coots without difficulty, but there was not a lazy hair in Billy's head. He died only two years ago near Racine, and left many friends there as well as here. Uncle Billy Stewart died a number of years ago.

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### Patent Right Sharpers.

At least twice in the history of Fond du Lac, some of its citizens were badly bitten by patent right sharpers. The first time it was with a patent fanning mill. One day when Dan Rice was exhibiting here a man appeared on the street with a half-size fanning mill with which he did remarkably nice work. He mixed wheat, oats and all sorts of stuff and then ran them through his mill, separating each into different drawers. He worked it nicely and sold a right to half the state, claiming that he wanted to reserve the other half for himself. The purchasers, including E. B. Martin, a fanning mill manufacturer, got the material all ready in knock-down shape to put on the market about 250 full-size fanning mills. The first ones put up failed to work and all of the rest, so far as they were constructed, proved utter failures. The small mill did its work well, but it appeared that the larger size would not do it.

The next scheme was that of a fire-proof paint. At the Lewis house the schemer painted dry shingles with his paint and they refused to burn when put into the fire. The right to make and sell the paint was bought, such men as Edward Beeson, Dr. T. S. Wright, Keyes Darling, W. H. Hiner and a few others becoming interested in the proposition. The schemer made some of the paint to show them what it would do and it worked beautifully. The basement of the stone mill was fitted up for a factory and work began, but it was a complete failure. The paint was hardly better than common white-wash. It was ascertained afterward that the formula the sharper gave the purchasers was very different from the one from which he made his paint, that being altogether too expensive to be practical. The man had disappeared and work was abandoned.

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### Capt. Mapes and His Text.

One of the most remarkable men in the development of the west side of Fond du Lac county, was Capt. D. P. Mapes, in his early life a steamboat captain. He went to Ripon, then known as Ceresco, in 1846. He became the owner of considerable land there and in 1848 began the agitation in earnest for another village. Judge Horner also lived there and asked Capt. Mapes for the privilege of naming the new village, and the request was granted on the conditions that it should not be a long name, a common name or an Indian name.

The Horner family having come from Ripon, England, and that name complying with the conditions, it was chosen. An effort was made by citizens to name the place Marengo, but Capt. Mapes would have none of it. He was a good talker and though his speech was not always grammatical, it possessed the merit of being effectual, and the new town was named Ripon and prospered. In after years and to the time of his death, if there was any public enterprise on hand, Capt. Mapes was sure to be in the lead as a talker and worker. He published a history of Ripon, a small book well filled with amusing and interesting matter. In 1868, when Milwaukee made a vigorous effort to secure better commercial relations with eastern Minnesota, the Milwaukee Merchants' Association sent Capt. Mapes up the Mississippi river as a worker, but while working efficiently, he did not forget Ripon. One evening a gentleman got off the 'bus at the Mapes house at Ripon and made this inquiry of the proprietor: "Who is that old gentleman whom I met at all towns along the Mississippi river who is always preaching and his text is Ripon?" There was no question about its being Capt. Mapes.

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#### Sails on Lake Winnebago.

A respectable two-masted sailing vessel once stirred the waters of Lake Winnebago, doing business in regular transportation. It was schooner-rigged and with its sails spread looked very pretty. "Trader" was her name and she was sailed by Capt Steve Hotaling. Her trips were not frequent, but she put in an occasional appearance here with lumber, shingles, farm produce and other commodities. But getting her in and out of the rivers at the different lake ports was slow and she was sold to John Morse, of the well known Oshkosh machine shops, who took out the masts and put in machinery and she became the well known Fox river steamboat, "Diamond." But the "Trader" did not wholly end sailing vessels, for in 1877 a vessel considerably smaller was put on the lake used to transport farm products to market. She was also a two-masted vessel, schooner-rigged, but she was found not to pay and was sold to Judge Pulling, C. W. Felker, E. W. Viall and John Bauman, all of Oshkosh, by whom she was beautifully fitted up as a pleasure yacht, and was long known as the "Flora." Oshkosh Scandinavians occasionally had scows to assist in bringing in potatoes and like products from the east shore, but the above were the only real sailing crafts, except pleasure yachts that have in the past stirred the waters of Lake Winnebago and its tributaries.

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#### A Paradise for Hoboes.

Beginning about twenty-five years ago, the old coal sheds of the Northwestern road at the south end of Morris street, was a paradise for tramps and criminals, and the police picked them up almost nightly. A good thing for all concerned is that it has entirely disappeared.

# PRINTING AND PRINTERS

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## The Job Printers in Fond du Lac From Early Days to the Present Time. The Work They Did and How They Did It.

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Edward Beeson was the veteran and founder of job printing in Fond du Lac. He was a printer by trade and a printing office was a pleasure resort for him. He was connected with the trade here from the beginning, and ceased only when age required it. During the active part of his life it was about impossible for him to keep out of the business. When he sold an office it was only to engage in another, and he was never out of it long. To conduct a pioneer newspaper was a pleasure to him, and when we think of his genial character we cannot but wonder that in early life he delighted in newspaper controversy. In politics he was an old time democrat mainly on tariff issues, for he was a rock-rooted free trader. In the war there was no copperheadism in him. He first set type at Beaver, Pa., when he was fourteen years old and was a lifelong printer.

Mr. Beeson sold the Fond du Lac Journal to M. J. Thomas in 1853, and for a year was out of business. The following year he opened Beeson's Job Printing office, which very soon became one of the prominent and prosperous business places of the town. The building at the northeast corner of Main and Second streets had been erected after the great fire of 1852. by Ward & Windecker, and the second story, known as Ward & Windecker's Hall, was used for dances, theatres, lectures, etc., and on Sundays for religious meetings. But in 1856, Amory Hall was finished and the Ward & Windecker Hall did not pay, so it was rented to Mr. Beeson for a printing office and continued to be so used until in 1862, when the Reporter was started and the hall was found too small for both and Beeson's Job office was moved to the west side of Main street, in Warner's block, over the store now occupied by Schleyer & Ordway, where it remained until 1867, when the office became the nucleus of the afterwards widely known Star Printing Company.

Limited in capacity, with but a small amount of material and one-half of it very much worn, and with cheap presses, yet Beeson's Job Printing office managed to turn out some of the best work ever seen in Fond du Lac. Specimens of it may now be seen here which compares well with any printing of today, with all our boasted improvements. The only jobber the office ever had was an old Boston Ruggles, on which the form was upside down when in use, and was the first jobber brought to the state. The Milwaukee Sentinel brought it from Buffalo, N. Y., in 1848, thence it went to Racine or Kenosha, and Mr. Beeson bought it from C. L. Sholes in 1856, and

it came to Fond du Lac overland. Besides this jobber, there were two hand presses in the office, on which everything larger than a note sheet was printed. Until A. C. Stow and A. T. Glaze built a paper cutter, all paper used in the office was cut to the size for the job, by hand with a shoe knife. Cards were bought already cut, until a cutter was purchased about the same time. All circles were cut in wood and much wood type was used. When some particular line was needed for a poster, a board was planed to thickness and size and it was cut by hand. This is done in some offices now, P. B. Haber's for instance, but it is done on specially prepared material, while the early times people had hardwood from the cabinet shop, to work with. Rollers were made at home of glue and molasses, now the material may be bought ready to melt and cast, or the rollers will be cast and sent almost as cheap as cost of the material for them, and much better, for they will last much longer. The printer of today has little conception of the cares and tribulations of the early day worker. The latter had to fight his way and do the best possible with the material he had or could make to fill the bill for the job he had in hand. He could not send to Milwaukee or Chicago and get what he would like to use, almost at an hour's notice. Several days or a week was required for what can now be done in a few hours.

During the time the Northwestern road was being built from Fond du Lac, T. F. Strong, Sr., was superintendent, T. F. Strong, Jr., was the general passenger agent and D. Y. Selleck, for the last forty years financial manager of the great McCormack business in Chicago, was the general freight agent. Through these gentlemen, and especially T. F. Strong, Jr., who was a veritable genius as to printing, Beeson's Job office received orders for all the printing used, and it was no small affair for the facilities at hand with which to do it. But that it was well done is shown by the fact that the work was highly complimented by such Chicago offices as Dunlap, Sewell & Spalding and Rand, McNally & Co. Among the heavy jobs done was a full set of through coupon tickets in blue and red color on highly calendared forty-five pound straw colored medium paper. Those tickets varied in length from six to forty inches and carried from two to twenty coupons. On this job A. T. Glaze ran the press during the days and C. H. Benton nights for several weeks. The number of tickets printed of each form was not large, being 200 whole tickets and fifty halves, but they had to go through the press twice. It was the changes in the coupons that required time more than press work. To the credit of all concerned, it may be stated here that such experts as Mr. McNally and Mr. Spalding said these tickets and the accompanying book of forms, was the best job of printing in that time, seen in this country up to that time. But this was not the only large or neat job turned out of that office—there were many of them. Tim Strong wanted everything neat in that line and he got it. And so, as stated in the beginning of this article, Beeson's Job Printing office was one of the noted early day institutions of Fond du Lac. During the most of its existence, A. T.

Glaze was the foreman, and those who worked under him at different times were Charley Benton, Senator Dan Morrison, of Minnesota, Web. Henry, Hi. Morley, Johnny Cortelyou, Hugh Boener, Fon. Rockwell, Malcolm Graham, Jimmy Wright and possibly two or three others whose names are forgotten. All are believed to be now dead, except Mr. Glaze and Senator Morrison.

It is not out of place to state here, that Edward Beeson was a printer and newspaper man of the old school. He felt at home in a newspaper office, but was not much of a job printer. Mr. Glaze served an old fashioned apprenticeship in a printing office in Ohio. Mr. Beeson was his uncle, his mother being a sister of Mrs. Beeson. His delight was to do nice printing and to write for newspapers. The first printing he ever did was with a hand stamp with movable type, bought at a circus when a small boy. It was fifty-five years on the 24th of August last, since he came to Fond du Lac, and he has seen the city grow from infancy to its present proud position.

When Beeson's Job office ceased, the Star Printing Company came into existence. Homer G. Leonard, James Russell and T. F. Strong, Jr., were announced to the public as the owners, under the name of Leonard, Russell & Strong, but Edward Beeson held an interest in it. The office was in part of the second story of the Amory building on Division street, but later was moved to the post-office block on Macy street. At the latter location it did the printing for the Sheboygan & Fond du Lac Railroad and some for the Lake Shore & Western. This, with most of the Protection Insurance Co. and the general orders from the city, made the office a very busy place. After a time the railroad work went to Milwaukee and the insurance company failed, after which the Star Printing Company went into decline. This, with bad financial management, brought on a reorganization of the company, but it did not work well and the office was at last seized on chattel mortgage and landed at Marinette. A lively lot of boys were from time to time connected with the Star Printing Company, but nearly all have been lost to sight. Homer Leonard is in Chicago, James Russell has been at Marquette, Mich., many years, and Brown Caniff is now, 1905, as he has been many years, employed in the Reporter office.

About this time Thos. H. Bryant had a job office on Main street, over Whittelsey's store, but never made much of a stir. The Commonwealth also had a job office all this time, but neither Mr. Watrous nor Mr. Kutchin seemed to care much about pushing the business. Their specialty was the newspaper and they gave it excellent service.

Thomas Bryant sold his job office to John Lockin, who some time after took it to Brandon, and most of it found its way into the office of the Brandon Times.

In 1875, Spencer Palmer, another of the old time Commonwealth boys, started his job printing office in a very modest way. He canvassed the county for work, and no village escaped him. Wherever a job of printing was desired, "Spence" was on hand to see about it, and this has been his policy for more than thirty years. He has

never aimed at making a big stir, but has pursued a steady business course, increasing his facilities slowly, but all the time at work.

In 1885, Charles H. Swift and P. B. Haber started the "County Job Printing Office," under the firm name of Swift & Haber. Charley Swift came from the office of the former Star Printing Company and P. B. Haber from the Benjamin book agency. The firm existed but a short time, Swift retiring and Mr. Haber becoming the owner. In 1886 he negotiated the purchase of the Daily and Weekly Commonwealth and organized the Commonwealth Printing Company, which, while entirely separate as a business proposition, has yet been in the same building and rooms of the job printing office of P. B. Haber. With the Commonwealth came the jobbing department of that office, at the time of the purchase practically asleep, and in these first twenty years the business has been remarkably successful. Mr. Haber has made a specialty of show printing and especially of dates, and owns the local bill posting business.

Next came F. D. Edwards with the Trade Bulletin, a very moderate sheet at first, for advertising purposes, but W. E. Smith joined him and jobbing rooms were added. Like many other Fond du Lac enterprises, the business grew slowly but steadily. Now that the Daily Bulletin has been launched and domiciled in the same rooms, it also has a newspaper connection.

During all of the more than forty years since 1862, the Reporter has been doing job printing, but it was not until L. A. Lange became the owner, that job printing was pushed, and especially after A. H. Tuttle took charge of that side of the Reporter's business did it have the reputation of being one of the best equipped offices here.

The office of the Nordwestlicher Courier, since W. H. Weber has been proprietor, a period of about twenty years, has done considerable job printing, in English as well as German.

Ripon, Brandon, Waupun, Campbellsport and Oakfield have jobbing departments in connection with their local newspapers, but there is little effort to compete with the larger city offices.

### Contents of the Newspapers.

When the Saturday Reporter was started in 1862, attention was first given to local matters. Up to that time it had been the aim of the papers to deal with news, state and national, and to handle politics. The Reporter was started for the express purpose of dealing with society, personal and general local news, and it was a success. Previous to this time, if a prominent person came or went, it might be noticed and it might not. Weddings were noted under the general head of "Marriages," but it needed to be a big event to secure local mention, and a write up like those of the present day, was almost unknown. Clubs were far in the future and parties, except for dancing, were few and far between. Let any one look into the old newspaper files in the Public Library and note how different was the style of newspaper writing. The change came with J. J. Beeson and the Saturday Reporter. In personals it has now gone so far as to be ridiculed,

and justly so, as all who come or go expect a notice. Social functions have so multiplied that the printer's space is monopolized. Fifty years ago all this was unknown.

### **New Style of Type Stickers.**

In this year of 1905 we have hardly completed the first year of the Linotype Type setting machine. A year ago we were yet picking up type just as the practice had come down to us from the days of Faust and Scheffer, in the Sixteenth Century. We distributed the loose type into the cases and picked it out again, one by one, very much as the hen picks up corn. The case would "run out of sorts," that is, there would come a shortage of certain letters and figures, but all the annoyances of the type case has passed with the coming of the machine. Such a thing as "sorts" is unknown where it stands. If the old time printer set five to seven thousand ems a day, it was a fair day's work, but the machine drops that number of ems every hour in the day. The old time printer was often burdened with "pi," but nothing of the sort is known to the machine. The ingenious German Mergenthaler perfected this machine but a few years ago, now they are everywhere. Fond du Lac at this date has seven of them. Little did the type setter of even a year ago, dream of what was coming.

### **The Point System.**

The old time printers were content to name the sizes of type, as Nonpareil, Brevier and Long Primer, (the size used in this book) and many others, and to speak of them as six point, eight point, or ten point, would be Latin to him. One would have to go into an explanation to make him understand that it is a system now universal, to overcome the difficulties he used to have in the use of type from different foundries, is now happily gone forever. Use of the point system is a great improvement but the old time printer knew it not. The faces of the type now differ, but the bodies are the same from all type foundries.

### **Use of Plate Matter.**

This is another innovation on old time printing office methods. The old timer had to set all the matter he used in his paper, now he may buy it in plate ready for use and in any department of newspaper literature. There is even a daily news service from either of the many concerns devoted to the making of plate matter. The cost to the printer is much less, and the quality is often much improved. Thirty years ago plate matter was almost unknown to newspaper men.

### **Other Innovations Come to Stay.**

If the young printer of today was given the old beveled side and foot sticks, together with wood quoins, shooting-stick and mallet, what sort of work would he make in trying to lock a form, and what would the old time printer have done with the mechanical quoins now in general use.

How would the present day printer like it to "pull" a few "tokens" on a hand press or "kick off" a few thousand impressions on a jobber?

How would he enjoy cutting paper with a shoe knife or column rule? How would he like it to make his own rollers or put a business card or ball ticket to press on a big hand press? He would probably not enjoy it much, but these and other like things had to be done here in Fond du Lac in the past and it was not much more than fifty years ago either. Some of them much less than that.

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### Tommy Heil, the Mechanic.

Thomas Heil was a German who resided from early times on Brooke street, in a small house at the north end of the Gurney warehouse. Tommy Heil was a genius as a mechanic. He was for more than twenty-five years the designer and head pattern maker at the machine shops of Peacock & White, afterwards Union Iron Works. In 1874 went into the Allis shops at Milwaukee, as head of the engine drafting rooms, where he remained until his death in 1899. As a mechanic he had no superior.

At a state meeting of the German Turners, held here just after the war, numerous banners "Gut Heil" (good cheer) appeared along the streets, and the boys like Tim Strong, French Fuller, Tom Coneys and others started out with the declaration that if they were going to gut Heil they were there to see about it—they were not disposed to let Heil be gutted while they were about. It was a good play upon words and of course all laughed heartily.

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### Gibson Blacksmith Shop.

A blacksmith shop, doing all sorts of work in that line, once stood on the corner of First and Marr streets, on the ground on which the residence of J. W. Watson now stands. It was owned and run by Mr. Gibson. He once had an old fashioned log chain brought to his shop for a new hook which had been broken and part of it lost. To make that hook he said was the most difficult piece of blacksmithing he ever undertook.

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### From Church to Opera House.

The present Crescent Opera House was the original First Congregational Church, built in 1848, under the pastorate of Rev. L. C. Spafford. It was enlarged at the time Rev. Silas Hawley was pastor and afterwards sold to the Laborer's Benevolent Society. The ownership, after a couple of changes, went to P. B. Haber, who is still in control.

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### Old Time Home of A. H. Clark.

This house so familiar to all old timers, has entirely disappeared to give place to one of modern appearance. It stood on the same spot at the southeast corner of Marr and Fifth streets, since 1849. Mr. Clark was one of the early pioneers of the county.



## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

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### The Sale and Use of Pianos and Organs. The Development of Musical Talent in Fond du Lac Since 1850.

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Pianos are heavy to handle, therefore difficult of transportation into a new country over new and bad roads. And there are not many early settlers who are prepared to invest in costly musical instruments. The music of knives and forks and the rattle of farming tools have a far deeper significance to them than the piano or organ. In after years they got to an appreciation and ability to purchase the latter, but in the early years they can and do appreciate the violin that enables them to dance and at least temporarily forget about troubles and privations. So it was with the early days of Fond du Lac county people. They had A. H. Clark, Nat. King, Charles Bouton, A. W. Chapman, George Ferris and the Windecker boys to fiddle for them, but little was heard of the piano or organ. John F. Burger, the old time piano teacher, who is still with us, and E. H. Hawley, sold the first pianos here, about the year 1850. They were the Boardman & Gray, Emerson, Bradbury and Schomer make. The Boardman & Gray piano had the "Dolce Campana" attachment, which sold many of the instruments, but were so objectionable that after a little while there was hardly a writing table or desk in town that did not have one or more of the pretty discs in use for paper weights. The first melodeons here were those of Prince & Co., and George W. Sawyer was the agent. Mr. Hawley introduced an instrument called the "Melo-Pean," but it was short lived. Mr. Soule a little later sold various instruments, among them the Grovestein & Co. piano, the cheapest piano ever made. It was as worthless as it was cheap. "What becomes of all the pins?" is an old saying, and we may wonder what becomes of all the old pianos, melodeons, melo-peans, organs, etc. Who in many years has seen or heard one of those old time instruments? They in some way went out of existence long ago. The cabinet organ came in some years later as a successor to the melodeon. The first of the melodeons were portable—that is, could be folded so you could march off with it under your arm. But later came music stores with everything in that line. The early settler did not need them and the sale was slow.

In the years that have passed since Mr. Hawley sold the Boardman & Gray piano and Prince melodeons, and when a couple of years later George Soule sold Grovestein pianos and melo-peans, which began about 1851 or 1852, there have been numerous dealers here in instruments and musical merchandise, but the stay of most of them was short. Since Hawley's time early in the fifties, there have probably been not less than twenty dealers whose stay ranged from six months to three years. It was not until 1885, when B. H.

Anderson came into the trade, that Fond du Lac had a permanent dealer in musical goods. Mr. Anderson has been in the business twenty years. J. W. Trout was the next longest in the business, about twelve years. Mr. Voell is in the business, and two or three others who are late comers. S. J. Sherer, Robert Crosby, Reed & Co., H. W. Hitchcock and W. W. Graham, were here about two to four years. Several were here six months to a year.

John F. Burger was our first piano teacher as early as 1850. After him came Prof. Kumleau, Prof. Knerringer and Prof. Graves, all of them fine teachers. There were some lady teachers in later years. The conservatories have done much to break up the teaching by outside professors. Methods as well as the teachers have changed.

The first of Fond du Lac's noted singers was Abby Beeson Carington, now with her husband, Mr. Lewis, a resident of San Francisco. She for several years sang in opera and concert. Mrs. H. C. Moore, Mrs. L. A. Bishop, Miss Bessie Marie Mayham, Mrs. Chas. Geisse, Miss Marlea Bishop, Miss Korrer and others. Also Herbert Moore, Dr. D. B. Wyatt, Geo. W. Watson, J. E. Zahn, and others among the men. H. Cumberland Wilson, one of the most accomplished organists and teachers in the west, came here in 1902.

Fond du Lac has never been behind the times or its neighbors in musical culture or business. Most of the time it has taken the lead.

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### The Dr. Darling Homestead.

As late as the beginning of the year 1850, the parcel of land from Main street to the river channel and stage barn, and from First to Forest streets, was the homestead of Dr. M. C. Darling. His house stood in the center and was surrounded by fruit trees. During the year 1850 the old Darling's block, on the northwest corner of Main and First streets, was begun and finished in 1851. This was the first break in the land, and a couple of years later the trees began to disappear. The new house of Dr. Darling came, the old one was moved away, and still later Macy street was ordered to be opened from First to Forest streets, and the new house was moved to where it now stands, on Macy street. In the meantime came encroachments on the land on the Main street front, and was rapidly filled with business structures. The trees all went as did also the high picket fence on Forest street. One afternoon just before this fence disappeared, the fine bay team of horses owned by George McWilliams, started from in front of the home of Judge Flint, and ran on with great force, into this fence and were ruined. The scene was a wicked one and made the bystanders shudder. The horses were tenderly cared for, but one of them had to be killed. The carriage was empty at the time and no person was injured, but it was no doubt one of the most startling runaways ever seen in Fond du Lac. Macy street from First to the court house and from Forest street north, were opened long before this, although that from First to Second was little used, as the river slashed around in there.

## WAS A TALENTED ARTIST

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### Mark R. Harrison and His Dioramas. Some Noted Work of a Fond du Lac Artist.

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Few people now residing in Fond du Lac, know that one of the noted artists of modern times resided here many years and died only about ten years ago—1895. He did much skillful work in his time. He came here from Hamilton, Canada, with a brother in 1848, to engage in navigation on Lake Winnebago and Fox River. They owned the steamboats Manchester and D. B. Whitacre, but both were slow tubs and remained in commission but a few years. They were sold and Mark R. Harrison opened an artists's studio in the north end of the old Darling's block, and remained there several years and until he had erected one of the buildings on his Sixth street property, about the year 1860. During these years he painted some fine pictures which he shipped to New York, where some were sold at high prices and others taken to London, where they sold at enormous prices. A few found their way to Paris and to other noted capitals of Europe. Some one wronged Mr. Harrison and he never received proper pay for these works of art.

About 1858, Thos. H. Stevenson came here and joined Mr. Harrison in painting pictures for an Art Union. Mr. Stevenson was an inebriate, but a remarkably fine painter, especially of animals in motion. A large number of paintings were perfected and Miss Libbie Farnsworth wrote a poem for the art union, printed neatly in book form, entitled, "Voyage of Pere Marquette and History of Charles de Langlade." The tickets being all sold, the drawing took place with the result that many of the best pictures remained in Fond du Lac. "Heart of the Andes," the prize picture, went out of town. Some of those Harrison & Stevenson Art Union pictures are still in Fond du Lac parlors. The paintings were largely of rural scenes and very pretty.

Stevenson's habits now became so unreliable that he was given transportation and induced to return to his home in Cleveland, Ohio, but in 1859 he appeared here again and joined Mr. Harrison in the production of the noted Dioramas, one of the finest achievements in art ever witnessed in this country. The scenes were each the size of a theatre scene, the canvas for which was especially prepared by the making of opaque, transparent and semi-transparent places in it, so that by the application of colors on them and the proper placing of lights before and behind the scene, all sorts of effects could be produced. In the picture of Belshazzar's Feast, for instance, five beautiful scenes, all of them different, were produced by the mere placing of the lights. One scene would slowly fade away into darkness, and another, wholly different, would immediately begin to ap-

pear with a change only of lights. Bright, sombre and middle shades were produced readily and perfectly.

Just how the canvas was prepared and the dioramic effects secured, Mr. Harrison would not tell. Even his student, Edward Mascraft, the best friend he ever had, was kept in ignorance as to much of it. Mr. Harrison claimed that he and a student of his at Hamilton, Canada, named Jo. Dicey, worked it all out, but many doubted it. It was true, however, that the grandest of the Dioramas were painted, exhibited and destroyed there. One night while on exhibition at the Royal Amphitheatre, a camphene lamp exploded, starting a fire in which the pictures were destroyed and many lives lost.

The Fond du Lac Dioramas were painted in Darling's Hall. There were seven scenes, Belshazzar's Feast, Grand Canal of Venice, St. Mark's Cathedral, Venice, Garden of Eden and Destruction of Babylon and others. They were exhibited in Ward & Windecker's hall, with splendid effect, with Rev. I. W. Bowen, a Protestant Methodist preacher, as descriptive lecturer. Subsequently they were taken out for exhibition by Mr. Bowen and a company, and when in an Indiana city they took fire and were destroyed. An effort was made to have Mr. Harrison paint another set, but he never got to it. With the modern electric lights what magnificent dioramic effects might be produced. The pictures here described depended upon camphene, a very explosive article.

In the last years of his life, Mr. Harrison gave his attention to treating Indian scenes, in which he was remarkably successful. His "Gathering for the War Path," is one of the finest pictures of Indian life ever seen in this country. This was the last work of his life. A person who could not admire his "Looking for the Lost Trail," would be sadly deficient in the admiration of art. Of his many portraits in oil colors, those of Dr. M. C. Darling, Perry H. Smith, Gen. Harrison C. Hobart, and others, may be seen in the State Historical rooms at Madison. Among the archives in his home on Sixth street, was a remarkable clock which he found a number of years ago in Post's second hand store, and had repaired at a cost of \$16. The clock was made, as shown by a brand on the back board of the works, in England in 1769.

Mr. Stevenson became so much of an inebriate that he was sent back to Cleveland a second time, and died there. Mr. Harrison died in this city in 1894, and lies in Rienzi, where Mr. Powrie erected a beautiful portrait head stone. He was unmarried.

In early times Fond du Lac had an Englishman named Spink, who owned the property next north of the present Palmer House and had a paint shop there. He claimed the title of "Sir Richard Spink, artist to the Queen," and could talk fast, long and loud about art, but was more of a carriage painter than artist. He had a few specimens of canvas, but they were poor, very poor. The pupil and successor of Mr. Harrison, Edward Mascraft, is doing some excellent work. His portraiture in oil colors, is especially fine, and he treats animal life as well as his teacher ever did. He is in every sense a

true artist. A few individuals have worked oil colors in Fond du Lac besides those engaged in teaching, but they have not been noted or numerous. The photograph has done much to lessen the work in portraiture in oil colors, but still much of it is done by the artists of today.

The paintings in the art rooms of Mr. Harrison at the time of his death, embraced some magnificent specimens of art, but have been sold and scattered. "The Mount of the Holy Cross" is in the library building at Oshkosh, "Gathering for the War Path," his great Indian picture, is in the state library at Madison, "The Lost Trail" and "Cleopatra's Triumph" are owned by private parties. Had electric lighting been in use as it is today, at the time of the Dioramas, they could have been exhibited far more effectively and without danger equivalent almost to dynamite. But they are gone and Fond du Lac people, among whom they were produced, have but a limited remembrance of them.

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### We Had a Candle Factory.

It is now many years since Fond du Lac had a candle factory, and remember that it is now, in this year of our Lord 1905, less than fifty years since we knew anything about kerosene oil for lighting, and before that oil and fluid lamps and candles had to be depended upon. Fond du Lac had a candle factory and Francis Fritz was the candle maker. The factory was down on Main street and made better candles, it was said, than could be bought at the stores. They were warranted "not to run or sputter" and to burn clearer and give a better light than candles bought at the stores. But Mr. Fritz went out of the business because the people had something much better than tallow dips.

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### First Circuses to Come Here.

The first circus to come to Fond du Lac in the early days was that of E. F. & J. Mabie. It was one of the old kind that made eight to fifteen mile drives over country roads, and its stands were often at small villages to avoid too long drives. The home of this show was at Delavan, so it was a Wisconsin institution. E. F. & J. Mabie gave place to Older & Co., who came a few times, when Dan Rice and Yankee Robinson came. By this time we had railroads in the state and the railroad shows appeared, sometimes two or three in a season. Soon after the war, Forepaugh, Barnum & Bailey and the big shows came until now it must be something big to attract attention at all. And so it is with the small shows of every grade. The Winchell's, the Gibbs, the long bearded Woodman, trick performers, song singers, etc., have gone to the rear. There seems to be place now only for big things or something very nice. In old times people took what they could get.

### Henry Bush Lost His Chickens.

Many of the early day people tried hard to raise chickens, more especially for the eggs for food, but it was about an even fight between the housewives, weazels, minks, hawks and owls. It was not only provoking but exasperating to meet the depredations of these "varmints." Henry Bush at one time had a beautiful flock of about forty speckled Plymouth Rocks and fully as many more half grown chicks, and one night they were attacked and next morning Mr. Bush had not one left for seed. This ended Mr. Bush's efforts in that direction for several years. Others also suffered heavily, but the rule seemed to be general among the animals to stop with the killing of a dozen to twenty. Hawks and owls were more considerate, being satisfied with one at a time. Tight hen houses was the applied remedy when the settlers could get lumber.

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### The War Shinplasters.

At the beginning of the war of the rebellion in 1861, and after enlistments began in April, our gold and silver coin suddenly disappeared as by a stroke of the magician's wand. The small change as well as larger pieces, were all swept away within a few weeks and dealers were at their wits end how to make change. Due bills were used for a time, but these were very inconvenient and merchants felt compelled to have small cards printed representing 5c, 10c, 25c and 50c, which they gave out as change although a violation of law. They had to do it and no notice was taken of it by the authorities. After a while these change cards began to appear signed U. R. Sold, Ch. Icken, Amos Kraut and dozens of like names, when the city took the matter up and directed City Clerk A. H. Boardman to procure from Milwaukee some bound books of lithographed shinplasters representing 5c, 10c, 25c and 50c. These were issued by the city on deposits.

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### First Cedar Blocks Used.

There are few cities in Wisconsin that originally had as many streets difficult of improvement, as Fond du Lac. Our Main street at times has been almost impassible. Until the pavement was put down, Fourth street was a hideous thoroughfare. West First street twenty years ago, could hardly be called a street at all. Military and Union north of Forest Avenue, were places to be dreaded for many years. Harney street, now known as Park Avenue, was at some seasons a tough place for vehicles and the middletown streets were nearly all bad. But Fond du Lac had some fairly good streets even in a state of nature—they were not all bad. In a state of nature Linden was one of the best streets in the city. Fifth and Sixth streets were always fair, as also were East First and Second. Sheboygan and Division were improved early in our history with gravel and stone, Arndt and Scott were fair streets at an early time. Forest and West Division were the streets to the railroads and were improved early. The first cedar blocks in the city were put on these two streets.

# GENUINE MISSIONARY SPIRIT

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## Some of the Saints Who Preached the Gospel Here in the Pioneer Days.

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Who can for a moment imagine that the early day preachers through this section of country were not inspired with the genuine missionary spirit. Father Anthony Godfert and Father Ruehl used to go back and forth in canoes, in ox sleds and wagons and often walk many miles through mud and snow to get to appointments. In 1850 Father Godfert was pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in this city, while trying to recover from frozen feet, obtained one dark night while lost in Calumet. Father Ruehl was the first to come here, and he came as soon as there were people to come to. Father Bonseuil, a French missionary, was the first to do pastoral work, which he did in 1840. He said mass in one of the rooms of what was so many years known as the Giltner house, on East Second street, opposite No. 1 engine house, in 1902 rebuilt. In this house Father Bonseuil baptized the children, married the young people, heard confessions and said mass for the dead. He came from below but once in three months, and as the people waited for him he had much to do when he did come. There are people now living here who were baptized in this house. Father Godfert came later and was the first settled pastor. He was succeeded by Father Dael. Isadore Snow, father of Alfred Snow, our baker, assisted in building the old church on the ground where St. Joseph's Church now stands.

Rev. Dana Lamb, on his farm in Springvale, Rev. S. D. Darling, in Oakfield, and Rev. Safford, of the city, were earnest preachers in the Congregational Church, but their experiences were far from pleasant sometimes. They did not always have even a clean place, for the school houses were often very dirty. These preachers often did things that would appall the minister at this day. Tramps on foot were most frequent and all the difficulties of early days roads had to be met. About everybody in the county knew Mr. Lamb and Mr. Darling personally, for they had preached in most of the school houses. Mr. Lamb once went to the West Rosendale school house, where he had three women, three children and one Dutchman that couldn't understand English, for his Sunday congregation. He laughed away disappointment by saying the weather had been bad and the people must get in their crops. When these two men died, Fond du Lac county lost two of its saints.

Rev. Mr. Town bought a farm in Oakfield, in 1843. He was of the Free Will Baptist faith and was filled with remarkable missionary zeal for the work he had in hand, as well on the farm as in the pulpit.

Saturdays he walked from Oakfield to Brothertown, where he preached on Sunday and Monday made the return trip in the same way that he went. The other four days of the week were given to farm work, except an occasional funeral or week day appointment. A twenty-eight mile walk to an appointment for Sunday, and a twenty-eight mile walk home on Monday, and farm work the balance of the week, would probably overtax both strength and zeal of ministers of this day. But they don't have to do it now. Rev. Mr. Town left a son, Mr. P. E. Town, a member of the Old Settlers' Club, who was born and still lives on the old farm in Oakfield, where his father worked and preached.

The first Methodist preacher here was a missionary to the Brothertowns, in June, 1838. He preached in the dooryard at the house of Reuben Simmons, near where Calvary Cemetery is now. Rev. H. S. Bronson was the first pastor, in 1843.

Rev. W. H. Card, of the Baptist Church, preached here as early as 1844, but the society was reorganized a year later.

The coming of these and other early day preachers was not met with pipe organs, trained quartet choirs or cushioned pews. Nor were they in expectation of heavy pay, for the people had no money and but little of anything else. They were genuine missionaries, content to preach in private houses, in dirty school houses, in barns, in the woods, anywhere that they could get a hearing.

Nat. Waterbury put a pipe organ in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in 1850, and it was the first one here. Two or three years later Rev. Father Dael put a small one into St. Joseph's Catholic Church, and these were the only pipe organs here for many years.

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### Preceded the Lange Block.

The first structure on the land where the Lange block is now, was a moderate size residence built by A. M. Delaware. The east branch of the river swept around to within four or five feet of it and the bank at that point was very steep. Mrs. Overton and Dr. Raymond improved the Delaware house and made it what was so long recognized as the Overton boarding house. It now stands at the corner of Oak and South streets.

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### Hotel Brought From Taycheedah.

The date is not obtainable, but it was not far from 1860, that the building known in Fond du Lac as Knight's Hotel, had a skate on the lake. The building was known in Taycheedah as the Weston House, but it was wanted in Fond du Lac, and so one day was put on skids at Taycheedah, and behind eight or ten yokes of oxen, was brought here on the ice and placed near the corner of Scott and Juneau streets, where it took the name of Knight's Hotel, that being the name of the proprietor. The oxen slipped some on the ice, but so did the building, and it came all right. It did not pay as a hotel and after a few years it burned while empty.



## A FEW OF THE FIRSTS

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### A Few Remembrances of First Things in the History of the City and County.

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The first brewery in this county was a small one built by Mr. De Hass, on the shore of Wolf Lake, in the town of Marshfield. Ex-Sheriff Kunz knows something about it.

The first newspapers sold from a news stand in Fond du Lac, was in 1852, by Geo. W. Weikert after he became postmaster.

The first term of court in the old court house was held by T. O. Howe. The first term held in the new one was by N. S. Gilson.

The first stone sidewalk in Fond du Lac was laid by Joseph Stow in front of the bank of Darling & Co., late the Wells Bank, corner of Main and First streets.

The first farm machinery sold in Fond du Lac was by Lyman Phillips, at the corner of Main and Forest streets, in a long shed. H. P. Brown was afterwards in the same business at the same place.

The first type writing machine used in this county was doubtless the one brought to Ripon in 1864, by William Dawes. It was made by C. L. Sholes, of Milwaukee. It was a crude affair, but Mr. Dawes used it.

The first type set in Fond du Lac was in 1846, when Henning & Hooker unpacked the material for the Fond du Lac Journal, by Mood Case, an Ohio printer visiting Edward Beeson.

The first fountain pen worthy of the name, appeared here about 1883. Before this the miserable stylograph pen was used some, but is now gone out.

The first bread baked for the public in a bakery, was by William Chandler about 1848. He had a small bakery and pie shop on Main street.

The first carriage and wagon blacksmithing done here and making of steel plows, was by R. M. and Asa Pierce, who started their shop on Division street in 1846. They had a fine shop in later years on Macy street.

The first sale made at Curran's drug store, when it was opened in 1847, was a box of Brandreth's pills and W. A. Dewey was the purchaser. Dewey used to tell Curran that he opened his business here.

The first six wheel truck passenger car on the Northwestern road, was put out of the old car shops in Fond du Lac in 1854. The writer of this rode in it nearly to Oakfield with Mr. Strong, Mr. Hull, Mr. Manley and Mr. Peabody, to test its running. Previous to this the trucks had but four wheels. Ben Garvin ran the engine.

The first news stand was started by Geo. W. Weikert, when he was postmaster. The New York Ledger was the principal paper sold.

The first barber shop here was that of John Reilly, a negro with an Irish name. He came in 1848. The first white man barber was T. M. Bowen.

The first carpenter and jobbing shop was that of Esek Dexter, in 1848. Isaac Brown, John Beeson, the Ryders, Hurds and others, worked in the buildings under construction, in barns or out under the trees.

The first undertaker was Joshua Barnett, in 1847. Before his coming, coffins were made by any woodworker, the hearse was a farm wagon, and the funeral conductor the neighbors of the deceased.

The first weddings were in charge of John Bannister. The services of a clergyman was seldom available, and Mr. Bannister was the only qualified Justice of the Peace in the vicinity.

The first piano teacher was John F. Burger, and the first singing school teacher W. W. Robinson. These men sold the first pianos.

When Edward Pier and Colwert Pier came over the Indian trail from Green Bay in 1836, they found Jo. King as one of the French Voyageurs at Brothertown, and he informed them that he came up the Fox river in a batteaux as early as 1832, and that he was on the east shore of Lake Winnebago that year. It is therefore very certain that Jo. King came to this region pretty early. Gen. Ellis told the writer that he ran two lines as government surveyor, through this region, in 1828. Jo. King was with him part of the time in his surveys.

Mr. and Mrs. Colwert Pier were the first residents of Fond du Lac county, and the first year of their residence were here alone. And what will timid ladies of today think of the fact that Mrs. Pier was for some time here alone among Indians and wolves.

Mrs. Pier's death was the first in this county and hers the first funeral. This death of Mrs. Fanny Pier was greatly lamented by the settlers.

The marriage of Alonzo Raymond and Miss Harriet Pier was the first marriage in Fond du Lac county.

The birth of John A. Bannister, son of John Bannister, was the first birth in Fond du Lac county.

Miss Harriet Pier taught the first school in the county.

The first livery stable in Fond du Lac was owned by Mr. Finney, father of Ed. Finney, for many years as now, a resident of Oshkosh. He was for a time Steward of the Northern Hospital. The Finney barn existed as early as 1847 and was located near the present gas works, with a shanty office out on Main street.

The first bridge over the west branch of the river inside the present city of Fond du Lac, was at Western Avenue, in 1848. Previous to that time crossings were made by fording it above the present Wisconsin Central bridge.

The first bridge across the east branch was the bridge of the then military road, but now Military street as far as it remains. In 1846, when the bridge was built, and until 1851, Military street was straight from the five points to Forest and the bridge crossed the river diagonally at the Robbins' livery property.

The first resident of that part of the city east of Park Avenue and north of Third street, was Wm. J. Ransom, who lived at the present home of the Smead family. Old residents remember Mr. Ransom for his ability to talk. That part of the city was the Ransom farm in 1850.

The first bridge over the east branch at Forest Avenue was a log. A tree had fallen across the river south of the old home of Gen. Hamilton, and people crossed on it for about a year.

The first dancing hall was at the home of Reuben Simmons. When he built his house, Mr. Simmons put in a movable partition, and on occasions of dances, religious meetings, singing schools or other gatherings, the partition was taken out and the result was a hall 22 by 38 feet.

The first hall in the city for public use was the school house on Fifth street, near Main, which was built for a court room, for meetings of all sorts, as well as for a school house. It was built in 1848.

The first wagon shop in Fond du Lac was owned by William Mumby.

The first harness shop was that of Lyman Bishop, at the corner of Main and Third.

The first cabinet shop, Joshua Barnett.

The first shoe shop, Ernest Carpenter.

The first carpenter shop, Esek Dexter.

The first tailor shop, A. H. Clark.

The first stone mason, Joseph Stow.

The first insurance agent, W. T. Gibson.

The first bookbinder, Edward Sickles.

The first hatter, David Sickles.

The first milliner, Mrs. John Bonnell.

The first piano teacher, John F. Burger.

The first telegrapher, William Ellsworth.

The first singing school in this vicinity was in 1847, at the house of Reuben Simmons, in the town of Fond du Lac, and the late W. W. Robinson, of Ripon, was the teacher. He came from Sheboygan every two weeks for \$5.00 a trip.

The first 4th July celebration in this county was in 1844, at the home of Reuben Simmons. Settlers came many miles to attend it. The band was Alonzo Simmons' violin. The baskets were emptied on two long tables and the participants marched to their places to the tune of Washington's Grand March on the violin. It all ended with a dance and they had a big time.

The first regular preaching was by Rev. John Halsted (Methodist), and he came around the circuit every two weeks. He preached in school houses, dwellings, or any convenient place, receiving in payment flour, meal or anything the settlers might have. He received no money for they didn't have any.

The first reaper used in this county is believed to have been by J. Y. Westervelt, in Empire. It was an 1848 McCormick and was brought from Sheboygan.

It is believed that the first threshing machine in the county was owned by Col. Bertine Pinkney and H. G. Halsted, of Rosendale, in 1848. Previous to this time grain was threshed with flails or the tramping of horses or oxen. It was the primitive method and was slow, but it served the purpose.

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#### Metzgar in the Procession.

It will be remembered that in the fall election of 1858, John B. Wilber was elected County Treasurer by a majority of one. He was the democratic candidate and there were city and county anywhere from 100 to 1,000 men who said they were republicans and claimed to have cast that vote. J. J. Metzgar, then in the notion trade here, was a violent republican, had a wagon rigged for the 4th of July afternoon procession the next summer, on which was a giant figure of a man labeled "the man who cast the winning vote for John B. Wilber," and a big whiskey barrel on a pole, labeled "the barrel of whiskey that carried the Fifth ward for the democratic ticket." The Fifth ward was generally republican at that time. Another very small dummy was labeled, "the republican that got a dollar and glass of beer for voting the democratic ticket."

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#### Koehne and the Dutch Gap.

Few propositions ever before the common council of Fond du Lac, had a more spirited agitation than what is known as the "Dutch Gap." The water shed of the country south of the city, is northward over the farm of the J. H. Martin estate and the old fair grounds. The water swept down through the south part of the city and formed the ravine which crosses Fourth street, near Marr, goes through to Third street opposite the Lyman Bishop property, and sweeps down Third to Main, and across that thoroughfare, under a building north of the Windsor House, and down past the gas works to the river. In early days this was an open ravine and every spring a rushing torrent swept through and under the log bridge at Main street. But some years ago the city adopted the very sensible improvement of stone culverts and it has given little trouble since. But the "Dutch Gap" has helped some to dispose of the surplus water. About 1877, when William Koehne was a member of the common council, he began the agitation of a proposition to cut a wide ditch from the so called Martin road, westward to the river. Mr. Koehne owned property on that road and that part of the city was largely settled by Germans, and the ditch being styled a water gap, it came to be known as the "Dutch Gap." The cause of opposition in the council was mainly the cost. But after a couple of freshets, in which out-houses, sidewalks and fences were floated about, Mr. Koehne's proposition carried and the ditch was cut. It crosses Main street near the old fair grounds. That part of the city has been much less bothered with water since, and the ravine has not been wild, so it is evident that it did some good. It has lost some of its former efficiency by caving and needs attention. We may thank William Koehne for the "Dutch Gap."

# FIRST HOUSE IN FOND DU LAC

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A House with a True Pioneer History, and Though of Primitive Construction, was in Use Nearly Thirty Years.

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Previous to 1836, the bridge on the Military trail spanned the Fond du Lac river at what is now Brooke street and the North-western Railroad, and it may now be considered a fixed fact that the main part of the Fond du Lac House was built previous to that date by the soldiers for shelter. But in 1836, the Fond du Lac Company, having bought the land on which the city stands, needed shelter for settlers, and in that and the two following years built the three additions to it, so familiar in after years. It was long an important point in the settlement, as it was the hotel, the store, the postoffice, the general trading point and river crossing. The first family in it was that of Colwert Pier in 1836, and here it was that Mrs. Pier died and which was the first death in the county of a white settler. Wm. Carey, father of our well known citizen, E. A. Carey and Mrs. Laughlin and Mrs. Perry, also died in this house. At one time in the early forties there were four families domiciled in it, besides being a hotel, store, postoffice and general business resort. In after years many well known families had homes in it, among them that of John Kuicks, father of our present well known business man, H. P. Kuicks, and Henry has many boy recollections of the old house. Mrs. A. W.

Chapman passed most of her life near it and was in the place hundreds of times. George McWilliams was a member of the Fond du Lac Company, and as the local manager long had a room there. Along toward the last the old house, after use of nearly thirty years, went into decay and was torn away in 1864. The logs that were in it may yet be seen on the garden farm of Mr. Boulay, east of the city. For many years and to the time of the removal of the house, the property was owned by Robert A. Baker. The location of the house was east of the railroad track and between Johnson street and the river.

The Fond du Lac Company, that took such a prominent part in the early history of this region, was organized at Green Bay in 1835, the stockholders and the number of shares held by each was as follows:

J. D. Doty, 46 shares.	Henry S. Baird, 3.
Wm. Hathaway, 12.	M. G. Merrill, 10.
John P. Arndt, 40.	R. S. Satterlee, 20.
George McWilliams, 20.	Silas Steadman, 10.
B. B. Cluney, 10.	Samuel Ryan, 7.
R. B. Marcey, 4.	Alex. J. Irwin, 4.
F. F. Hamilton, 35.	David Jones, 15.
David Ward, 3.	W. Alexander, 4.
Bush, Reese & Co., 6.	E. Childs, 14.
C. C. Libbey, 12.	M. Scott, 3.
William Brown, 64.	

300 shares of \$100 each, a total of \$30,000.

James Duane Doty, President.

J. P. Arndt, Secretary and Treasurer.

David Jones, Geo. McWilliams, F. F. Hamilton, W. H. Bruce,  
Directors.

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### Threshing and Fanning Mills.

A few of the old fashioned grain cradles are still used in the potato regions of Waushara, Marquette and Portage counties. They are not used to cultivate or dig potatoes, but to cut the small amount of grain raised on the sand for food. Very few potato growers sow enough grain to pay the interest on the money to buy a harvester. In early days grain cradles were used in Fond du Lac county and Uncle M. Farnsworth made hundreds of them every year, but they do not belong to the farmer's outfit now and there are doubtless many farmers now who do not know what they are or what they look like. Well, they don't look like anything else on the earth or waters under the earth, yet they serve the purpose very well in a new country, or where the amount of grain raised is limited. The cradle was a great improvement on the sickle, but there are people still living who have seen grain cut with a sickle. Fanning Mills—the early day people didn't have any. They threshed the grain out with a flail, put it in a large pan and tossing it up, let the wind blow out the chaff.

# WAS NOT MANY YEARS AGO

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Referring to Back Dates Some of the Remarkable Years of the Past  
are Noted. Many of Them Forgotten.

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For the information of the young and the curious, it may be stated:

That seventy-five years ago there was not a mile of railroad in this country.

Sixty years ago the first telegraph line was put up in this country.

Thirty-five years ago the telephone was wholly unknown.

Twenty years ago the electric light was unknown to the people.

Twenty years ago there was not a gasoline engine in existence.

Thirty-five years ago there were no bicycles, and the first ones had one high wheel and one little one.

Six years ago there were no automobiles running on our streets.

Fifty-five years ago the first street cars in the world were started in London by George Francis Train.

Sixty years ago the first postage stamps were used in this country, and they were for five and ten cents.

Sixty years ago you could prepay postage or not on your letter, as you pleased. If the letter was to go 300 miles the postage was ten cents.

Seventy years ago, if your letter was in two pieces, ever so small, you must pay double postage on it

Sixty years ago postage on letters was  $6\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and 25 cents. The rate doubled if the letter went 300 miles or over.

Sixty years ago the first envelopes were used for letters. Previous to that time they were folded and sealed with a wafer.

Thirty-five years ago all letters were wrapped in the mailing postoffice, and

Fifty years ago letters were accompanied by a way bill from the mailing office.

Seventy years ago printers did not have rollers to ink their forms.

Eighty years ago there was not a cylinder printing press in the United States.

Twenty years ago all type for printing was set by hand and the Linotype machine has been in successful use less than ten years.

Fifty-eight years ago petroleum was discovered in Pennsylvania.

Fifty-five years ago there was not a gallon of refined kerosene or a kerosene lamp in existence.

Sixty-five years ago the only methods of domestic lighting was candles and lard oil lamps.

Thirty-five years ago the first flour was made by the roller process, instead of burr mill stones.

Sixty-five years ago the contest was on between Fond du Lac and Taycheedah for the location of the county seat.

Fifty years ago the pioneer business men were all here, now they are all gone.

Fifty-five years ago ground was broken for what is now the Northwestern road.

Thirty years ago the narrow gauge, now the St. Paul road, was opened to Iron Ridge.

Twenty-five years ago the Wisconsin Central was built from Neenah to Fond du Lac.

Twenty years ago the Fond du Lac Waterworks was started.

Sixty years ago the first reapers were made by the McCormicks, the first in existence.

Forty years ago the war of the rebellion ended, Gen. Lee surrendering to Gen. Grant.

Fifty-five years ago the old Darling block was the largest and best building in Fond du Lac.

Forty years ago there wasn't a foot of pavement in Fond du Lac, and 30 years ago there wasn't a sewer.

Thirty-five years ago the railroad was not built to Ripon, and a stage made three trips a week.

Fifty-five years ago Ripon had no existence even in the brain of Capt. Mapes, or of anyone else.

Forty-eight years ago there was thick woods where the Gurney plant is now.

Fifty-one years ago the Baptist Church took its position, corner of Forest and Union, where it is yet.

Forty-two years ago the Presbyterian Church was moved from Rees to its present location on Sheboygan street.

Twenty-one years ago the present court house was first occupied by county officers.

Fifty-six years ago the old court house was first occupied by county officers.

Thirty-three years ago the present jail and sheriff's residence were occupied by prisoners and the sheriff's family.

Forty-six years ago not a pound of coal was sold in Fond du Lac for fuel. The fuel used was wood and was sold on the streets from wagons.

Forty-eight years ago wagons were often stuck fast in mud holes on Main street.

Forty-eight years ago Charles R. Harrison, as the foreman, took Fire Company No. 3 to Milwaukee and won the silver trumpet at the State Firemen's Tournament.

Twenty-nine years ago the first Northern State Fair was held at Oshkosh and was a success. The third attempt was almost a failure and the northern fairs were held no more.

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It was a frequent occurrence for prisoners to escape from the old jail in the basement of the old court house, yet the Sheriffs of later days have lost as many.



# HISTORY OF ELECTIONS

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## Results of Village, City, County and State Elections from 1847 to 1904. Successful and Unsuccessful Candidates.

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The following compilation of election events, will pay well for the space used. It was not always easy to secure the names of the successful candidates in their order, but far more difficult to find and record the names of their opponents. All this fund of information of especial value for reference is here given and prevented from being forever lost.

In the lists of names, the first after the date is that of the successful candidate and the second is that of the unsuccessful candidate for the office.

In the elections for Governor of the state, there have been at times Prohibition, Greenback, Socialist, Labor Union and perhaps other candidates, but it is deemed sufficient to give here the names of those of the two leading parties.

### Village of Fond du Lac.

The village of Fond du Lac, separate from the town, came in 1847, with the following officers:

President—Dr. Mason C. Darling.

Clerk—William A. Dewey.

Treasurer—Erastus W. Drury.

Justices of the Peace—J. J. Driggs, A. Raymond.

Constables—Carmi Wright, F. D. McCarty.

Trustees—John A. Eastman, W. T. Gibson, T. L. Gillet, Isaac Brown, S. S. N. Fuller, J. J. Driggs.

The subsequent presidents of the village up to organization of city in 1852, were George McWilliams, John Bannister, Isaac Brown and D. R. Curran.

### Early Day Population.

Population 1847—519. In 1850—1,040. In 1855—4,000. In 1857—7,000. The increase of population in 1856 was believed to be the greatest in any one year in its history. In 1861 when the war came on and the car shops moved away, the population of the city was at a standstill for some years, if indeed, it did not go backward.

The votes polled in the entire county for Governor in 1848 were for Dewey, 640; Tweedy, 389; total 1,249. The total vote in the county in 1904 was 11,954.



## MAYORS.

1901—F. B. Hoskins.  
 1902—L. A. Bishop.  
 1903—L. A. Bishop  
 1904—John Hughes.

## CLERKS.

F. A. Bartlett.  
 F. A. Bartlett.  
 F. A. Bartlett.  
 F. A. Bartlett.

## Sheriff.

Below are the names of the elected and defeated candidates for Sheriff, since Wisconsin has been a state:

## ELECTED

1848—F. F. Davis.  
 1850—F. D. McCarty.  
 1852—Robt. Jenkinson.  
 1854—Edward Beaver.  
 1856—G. W. Mitchell  
 1858—Andrus Burnham.  
 1860—Geo. F. Wheeler.  
 1862—J. L. D. Eycleshimer.  
 1864—H. A. Francis.  
 1866—John Peacock.  
 1868—H. S. Town.  
 1870—M. B. Pierce.  
 1872—Peter Rupp.  
 1874—Nicholas Klotz  
 1876—Hazen R. Hill.  
 1878—Edward Colman  
 1880—John C. Pierron.  
 1882—Neil C. Bell.  
 1884—Fred Konz.  
 1886—W. E. Warren.  
 1888—Thos. Cale.  
 1890—David Whitton.  
 1892—Peter Brucker.  
 1894—Geo. W. Watson.  
 1896—Simon Schafer.  
 1898—Chas. W. Keys.  
 1900—B. Sheridan.  
 1902—T. G. Sullivan.  
 1904—J. C. Harcum.

## DEFEATED

S. W. Baldwin.  
 Jonathan Dougherty.  
 Fayette Brown.  
 D. V. L. Huntington.  
 C. V. N. Brundage  
 F. D. McCarty.  
 A. C. Robbins  
 H. T. Henten.  
 D. R. Curran  
 No opposition.  
 Aaron Walters.  
 J. L. D. Eycleshimer.  
 N. L. Bullis.  
 T. C. Lanham.  
 L. F. Green.  
 E. T. Effner.  
 W. A. Adamson.  
 G. W. Lusk.  
 Frank H. Bruett.  
 L. Manderscheid.  
 A. E. Austin.  
 Thos. Cale.  
 G. F. Brown.  
 Bernard Sheridan.  
 Albert Hasler.  
 A. H. Hobbs.  
 J. C. Harcum  
 Matt. Loehr.

Henry A. Francis died after serving a few months as Sheriff, and his deputy, Isaac Orvis, assumed the duties of the office. It was contended that the vacancy should be filled at the first general election, and in the fall of 1855, John Peacock was named as a candidate. But Isaac Orvis insisted that he, as the deputy of Mr. Francis, legally held to the end of the term, and so there was no candidate against Mr. Peacock at the polls. It was now contended that the election was for the full term and the courts so decided. The early days Sheriffs lost some prisoners from the basement jail in the old court house, but if they had had the present day slippery fellows to deal with, it is doubtful if they could have held any.

## Register of Deeds.

ELECTED	DEFEATED
1848—Nelson Wood.	N. T. Waterbury.
1850—Nelson Wood.	N. T. Waterbury.
1852—Rudolph Ebert.	G. deNeveu.
1854—William White.	Rudolph Ebert.
1856—N. H. Jorgensen.	S. M. Smead.
1858—Solon G. Dodge.	S. M. Fish.
1860—Solon G. Dodge.	John Boyd.
1862—M. W. Simmons.	A. P. Mapes.
1864—Dana C. Lamb.	S. M. Fish.
1866—Dana C. Lamb.	D. C. Richards.
1868—C. L. Encking.	H. T. Henton.
1870—J. L. D. Eycleshimer.	D. C. Lamb.
1872—J. L. D. Eycleshimer.	O. C. Bissell.
1874—C. L. Pierce.	J. L. D. Eycleshimer.
1876—C. L. Pierce.	M. J. Meisen.
1878—F. B. Hoskins.	M. J. Meisen.
1880—F. B. Hoskins.	James T. Green.
1882—J. H. McNeel.	H. J. Gerpheide.
1884—C. B. Bartlett.	S. G. Leland.
1886—C. B. Bartlett.	J. T. Tripp.
1888—S. G. Leland.	Chris. Serwe.
1890—Matt. Serwe.	S. G. Leland.
1892—Matt. Serwe.	A. L. Briggs.
1894—P. G. VanBlarcom.	J. P. Stone.
1896—John E. Holland.	P. G. VanBlarcom.
1898—John E. Holland.	J. P. Tundall.
1900—John W. Eggert.	J. T. Dana.
1902—James T. Dana.	J. W. Eggert.
1904—E. T. Markle.	J. T. Dana.

The record books were unsafe in the old court house, so in 1854, the county erected a small stone building north of the court house, into which the Register's office was moved and remained there until the new court house was occupied in 1884. It was well that this move was made, for the court house did eventually burn.

## Clerk of the Courts.

ELECTED	DEFEATED
1848—Isaac Brown.	L. B. Hills.
1850—Fayette S. Brown.	Isaac Brown.
1852—J. J. Driggs.	C. F. Hammond.
1854—J. J. Driggs.	J. M. Judd.
1856—John C. Bishop.	S. D. Stanchfield.
1858—Edward Beaver.	A. H. Boardman.
1860—David Babcock.	R. M. Sawyer.
1862—David Babcock.	Frank L. Ruggles.
1864—M. W. Simmons.	A. H. Boardman.
1866—Geo. W. Carter.	F. S. Haner.
1868—Geo. W. Carter.	M. McKenna.
1870—M. McKenna.	G. W. Carter.
1872—M. McKenna.	G. H. Francis.
1874—M. McKenna.	A. Maloney.

## ELECTED

1876—James Russell.  
 1878—S. G. Leland.  
 1880—S. G. Leland.  
 1882—A. E. Richter.  
 1884—J. W. Watson.  
 1886—J. W. Watson.  
 1888—T. K. Gillet.  
 1890—T. K. Gillet.  
 1892—J. L. Carberry.  
 1894—Henry Hayes.  
 1896—A. E. Leonard.  
 1898—A. E. Leonard.  
 1900—D. O. Williams.  
 1902—D. O. Williams.  
 1904—C. A. Worthing.

## DEFEATED

Wm. Blair.  
 James Russell.  
 E. Blewett.  
 James Bannon  
 A. E. Richter.  
 Thos. Cale.  
 F. D. Luther.  
 Thos. Cale.  
 A. H. Bassett.  
 C. L. Carberry.  
 J. J. Stratz  
 Peter Schrooten.  
 S. B. Tredway.  
 N. Lange.  
 J. W. Pinch.

The work of the Clerk of the Court was somewhat increased when the jurisdiction of the county court was extended, about 1878, by making him clerk of the county as well as the circuit court. The office of Clerk of the Courts was also moved from the stone building in 1884.

## County Clerk.

## ELECTED

## DEFEATED

1848—Eli Hooker.  
 1850—C. J. Allen.  
 1852—A. W. Paine.  
 1854—A. A. Armstrong.  
 1856—C. F. Kalk.  
 1858—J. V. McCall.  
 1860—A. B. Cary.  
 1862—C. W. Prescott.  
 1864—C. W. Prescott.  
 1866—C. H. DeGroat.  
 1868—C. H. DeGroat.  
 1870—W. H. F. Smith.  
 1872—W. H. F. Smith.  
 1874—H. I. Davidson.  
 1876—E. Blewett.  
 1878—E. Blewett.  
 1880—A. C. Jeleff.  
 1882—D. E. Whiting.  
 1884—Mark Crain.  
 1886—Mark Crain.  
 1888—Mark Crain.  
 1890—Owen Ferguson.  
 1892—Owen Ferguson.  
 1894—Owen Ferguson.  
 1896—C. E. Atkins.  
 1898—A. Schussler.  
 1900—A. R. Wilkinson.  
 1902—A. Schussler.  
 1904—A. R. Wilkinson.

P. V. Sang.  
 P. Meiklejohn.  
 O. S. Wright.  
 Chas. Willard.  
 J. A. Smith.  
 C. F. Kalk.  
 John Manel.  
 A. D. Bonesteel.  
 Chas. Geisse.  
 John Wormwood.  
 E. C. Sherwin.  
 H. R. Johnson.  
 Gust. Burghardt.  
 M. B. Pride.  
 J. A. Brundage.  
 J. W. Oliver.  
 Oscar Berry.  
 A. C. Jeleff.  
 D. E. Whiting.  
 J. F. Susan.  
 C. L. Ladwig.  
 G. W. Watson.  
 V. M. Weeks.  
 H. Stanwood.  
 Owen Ferguson.  
 C. E. Atkins.  
 A. Schussler.  
 A. R. Wilkinson.  
 A. Schussler.

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors was the title of this office until 1874, when it was changed to County Clerk. The only irregularity

in this office in Fond du Lac county to claim much attention, was during the official life of W. H. F. Smith in 1870 and 1872, and of Owen Ferguson from 1890 to 1896.

### The Commissioner System.

The commissioner system of county government was once tried in this state, but was short lived. It was thought by many that the county board was too much of a legislative system, and in 1866 was changed to commissioners. This county had five and their terms of office were so arranged that two went out each year. But it was unsatisfactory and the people soon began to petition the legislature for a re-enactment of the old law. D. W. Maxon, of Washington county, led the revolt, and as a member of the legislature in 1876, succeeded in retiring the commissioners. Petitions by hundreds came from the people of the state. That the county board system is expensive and cumbersome, had no influence, and Mr. Maxon got his bill through by a large majority. During the time the commissioner system was in force, the following named gentlemen served on the board in this county:

A. M. Skeels, Ripon.	E. H. Galloway, Fond du Lac.
E. P. West, Ripon.	Aaron Walters, Eden.
Wm. Hobkirk, Waupun.	C. D. Gage, Auburn.
E. L. Runals, Ripon.	Geo. Giddings, Empire.
J. Wagner, Marshfield.	

### County Treasurer.

ELECTED	DEFEATED
1848—K. Gillet.	S. Sanborn.
1850—P. V. Sang.	Nat. Waterbury.
1852—D. R. Curran.	C. J. Case.
1854—R. Jenkinson	T. S. Brown.
1856—A. J. Reid.	J. M. Judd.
1858—J. B. Wilber.	G. W. Sawyer.
1860—John Potter.	J. B. Wilber.
1862—C. C. L. Webster.	John Potter.
1864—J. A. Smith.	J. W. Hall.
1866—Thos. Bryant.	J. A. Smith.
1868—Thos. Bryant.	A. Cooley.
1870—E. Beeson.	H. C. Graffam.
1872—E. Beeson.	John Potter.
1874—John W. Hall.	O. H. Adams.
1876—J. C. Perry.	A. A. Loper.
1878—L. Manderscheid.	A. H. Bruett.
1880—L. Manderscheid.	A. H. Bassett.
1882—C. F. G. Wernicke.	Henry Bolens.
1884—Louis Muentner.	G. C. Hill.
1886—Louis Muentner.	G. C. Hill.
1888—Louis Muentner.	Ellis Whiting.
1890—Louis Muentner.	M. J. Althouse.
1892—Louis Muentner.	M. W. Simmons.
1894—F. J. Rueping.	S. Simons.
1896—David Thomas.	G. W. Jackson.
1898—H. R. Potter.	David Thomas.

## ELECTED

1900—A. C. Dallman.  
 1902—E. H. Lyons.  
 1904—E. H. Lyons.

## DEFEATED

H. R. Potter.  
 E. W. Clark.  
 G. H. Moore.

Irregularities have occurred twice in the history of the Treasurer's office of Fond du Lac county. The first during the term of Andrew J. Reid, in 1856. The books were so badly kept, or not kept at all, that the committee of the county board, E. S. Bragg, Capt. Wm. Plocker and C. D. Gage, reported a specimen of bookkeeping unsurpassed in the Fiji Islands. Fred Kalk and J. V. McCall, as experts, worked on the books and papers, and Reid's bondsmen paid what was said to be due.

For several years the county board levied a percentage of tax for a court house fund. In 1880, E. L. Rumals, a member of the board from Ripon, noticed that the court house fund had disappeared from the report of the clerk and he wanted to know where it was. He got a resolution passed to employ a first-class expert on the books, with the result that it was found that the lost fund had been used for general purposes and not charged to the general fund. It had not been stolen, but another startling fact was developed, that there had not been a correct settlement with the County Treasurer in sixteen years—a wrong system of figuring had been practiced by the inexperienced county board committees, and the county was the loser by many thousands of dollars. The amount found due from some of the treasurers was small and some quite large, and to their credit be it said, they all paid promptly. The expert found that the only correct settlements made from 1862 to 1878, was by J. C. Perry as the Treasurer in 1876 and 1878. It was all of wrong figuring in settlements, not dishonesty.

## District Attorney.

## ELECTED

1848—S. S. N. Fuller.  
 1850—I. S. Tallmadge.  
 1852—W. H. Ebbets.  
 1854—E. S. Bragg.  
 1856—I. S. Tallmadge.  
 1858—A. W. Paine.  
 1860—James Coleman.  
 1862—James Coleman.  
 1864—George Perkins.  
 1866—George Perkins.  
 1868—George Perkins.  
 1870—Geo. P. Knowles.  
 1872—S. L. Brasted.  
 1874—S. L. Brasted.  
 1876—N. S. Gilson.  
 1878—J. J. Foote.  
 1880—F. F. Duffy.  
 1882—F. F. Duffy.  
 1884—F. F. Duffy.  
 1886—J. H. McCrory.

## DEFEATED

W. C. Dodge.  
 J. C. Truesdell.  
 D. E. Wood.  
 Emerson Hodges.  
 J. J. Foote.  
 W. D. Conklin.  
 Jay Mayham.  
 J. Dobbs, Jr.  
 H. F. Rose.  
 A. P. Mapes.  
 H. F. Rose.  
 I. H. Hauser.  
 J. J. Foote.  
 J. J. Foote.  
 S. L. Brasted.  
 W. W. D. Turner.  
 W. W. D. Turner.  
 A. E. Bovay.  
 H. J. Parkhill.  
 J. F. Ware.

ELECTED	DEFEATED
1888—J. H. McCrory.	J. W. Hiner.
1890—J. H. McCrory.	G. W. Carter.
1892—J. H. McCrory.	S. J. Morse.
1894—H. E. Swett.	J. H. McCrory.
1896—H. E. Swett.	A. B. Schuchardt.
1898—M. K. Reilly.	T. J. Hoey.
1900—R. L. Morse.	M. K. Reilly.
1902—R. L. Morse.	J. G. Hardgrove.
1904—E. P. Worthing.	J. G. Hardgrove.

### County Surveyor.

ELECTED	DEFEATED
1848—H. W. Newton.	Edward Beeson.
1850—J. S. Dalman.	Lathrop Ellis.
1852—J. E. Tompkins.	E. Delany.
1854—J. E. Tompkins.	P. O'Laughlin.
1856—H. W. Newton.	P. O'Laughlin.
1858—Jas. Fairbanks.	T. W. Coneys.
1860—Lathrop Ellis.	P. O'Laughlin.
1862—Lathrop Ellis.	J. V. DeVry.
1864—Lathrop Ellis.	J. V. DeVry.
1866—J. DeVry.	P. O'Laughlin.
1868—H. W. Newton.	Jos. Haessly.
1870—Jos. Haessly.	J. V. DeVry.
1872—Jos. Haessly.	John Ross.
1874—J. W. Bowe.	E. Radford.
1876—Jos. Haessly.	E. Radford.
1878—Jos. Haessly.	Jas. Fairbanks.
1880—Jos. Haessly.	Jas. Fairbanks.
1882—Jos. Haessly.	Jas. Fairbanks.
1884—Jos. Haessly.	Jas. Fairbanks.
1886—Jos. Haessly.	H. W. Newton.
1888—Jos. Haessly.	H. W. Newton.
1890—W. H. Ferber.	H. W. Newton.
1892—Jos. Haessly.	H. W. Newton.
1894—B. K. Fairbanks.	Jos. Haessly.
1896—B. K. Fairbanks.	Jos. Haessly.
1898—B. K. Fairbanks.	Jos. Haessly.
1900—B. K. Fairbanks.	H. Van Derphide.
1902—J. R. Stewart.	G. W. Michael.
1904—F. L. Anders.	No opposition.

Joseph Haessly was nominated for this office fourteen times and elected ten times.

### Coroner.

ELECTED	DEFEATED
1848—John Bannister.	Carmi Wright.
1850—A. Raymond.	Carmi Wright.
1852—Isaac Cooper.	Lewis Crofoot.
1854—Jas. Hamilton.	Lewis Crofoot.
1856—J. Bassett.	A. S. Meader.
1858—Geo. Morse.	Lewis Crofoot.
1860—A. Armstrong.	H. Willard.
1862—J. W. Hall.	D. C. Lamb.



## ELECTED

1864—Isaac Tompkins.  
 1866—Z. L. Chapman.  
 1868—Z. L. Chapman.  
 1870—S. B. Taylor.  
 1872—James O'Reily.  
 1874—James O'Reily.  
 1876—P. V. Sang.  
 1878—H. W. Burnell.  
 1880—F. F. Parsons.  
 1882—F. F. Parsons.  
 1884—F. F. Parsons.  
 1886—E. B. Pride.  
 1888—F. F. Parsons.  
 1890—F. F. Parsons.  
 1892—F. F. Parsons.  
 1894—P. K. Pickard.  
 1896—G. W. Worthing.  
 1898—G. W. Worthing.  
 1900—J. H. Simmons.  
 1902—F. F. Parsons.  
 1904—H. H. Beeman.

## DEFEATED

Jas. O'Reily.  
 H. M. Fredericks.  
 Geo. Willett.  
 S. Valentine.  
 H. D. Parsons.  
 J. F. Steele.  
 J. F. Steele.  
 A. Armstrong.  
 H. D. Parsons.  
 H. D. Parsons.  
 H. D. Parsons.  
 J. T. Green.  
 W. E. Jones.  
 G. W. Watson.  
 John Meiklejohn.  
 F. F. Parsons.  
 F. F. Parsons.  
 F. F. Parsons.  
 F. F. Parsons.  
 J. H. Simmons.  
 G. B. McKnight.

## Superintendent of Schools.

## ELECTED

1864—E. Root.  
 1866—I. N. Cundall.  
 1868—I. N. Cundall.  
 1870—W. L. O'Conor.  
 1872—W. L. O'Conor.  
 1874—W. L. O'Conor.  
 1876—D. B. Lyon.  
 1878—E. McLoughlin.  
 1880—D. B. Lyon.  
 1882—D. B. Lyon.  
 1884—Thos. E. Lyons.  
 1886—Thos. E. Lyons.  
 1888—A. T. Blewett.  
 1890—A. T. Blewett.  
 1892—W. H. Ferber.  
 1894—Myron E. Keats.  
 1896—Myron E. Keats.  
 1898—Myron E. Keats.  
 1900—A. B. Adamson.  
 1902—A. B. Adamson.  
 1904—A. B. Adamson.

## DEFEATED

No opposition.  
 J. A. Davenport.  
 D. B. Lyon.  
 I. N. Cundall.  
 D. B. Lyon.  
 H. D. Akin.  
 J. J. Kelly.  
 W. L. O'Conor.  
 W. L. O'Conor.  
 W. L. O'Conor.  
 Kirk Spoor.  
 W. W. Pattingill.  
 John Moran.  
 John Moran.  
 Wm. Titus.  
 W. H. Ferber.  
 J. B. Conley.  
 G. B. Kelly.  
 G. B. Kelly.  
 Vincent Huck.  
 E. P. Crain.

The county school system went into effect in 1864. Previous to that time each town had its own Superintendent of Schools to examine the teachers and give advice, but most of them were very slack in the performance of their duties. To take the election of County Superintendent out of politics as much as possible, three years ago the law was amended making the election in the spring instead of in the fall.

### Fond du Lac Legislators.

The constitution of Wisconsin provides that the number of Senators shall not exceed thirty-three, and Assemblymen 100. For some years the number provided for was less than this, but as population increased the number was increased until the entire number was allowed. As the state develops, especially northward, we of the older counties suffer a diminution in legislative representation. Below is the names of the Senators from this county and their opponents in the election from the beginning of the state government:

ELECTED	DEFEATED
1848—Warren Chase.	J. A. Eastman.
1850—J. A. Eastman.	J. M. Gillet.
1852—B. Pinkney.	J. H. Powel.
1854—C. A. Eldredge.	Geo. D. Curtis.
1856—Edward Pier.	John Boyd.
1858—Edward Pier.	A. C. Robbins.
1860—E. L. Phillips.	D. E. Hoskins.
1862—G. W. Mitchell.	J. M. Gillet.
1864—G. F. Wheeler.	G. W. Mitchell.
1866—E. S. Bragg.	J. Bowen.
1868—E. S. Bragg.	Orin Hatch.
1870—H. S. Town.	J. K. Fairbanks.
1872—W. H. Hiner.	J. Dobbs, Jr.
1874—W. H. Hiner.	A. C. Whitng.
1876—W. H. Hiner.	James Russell.
1878—A. A. Loper.	G. W. Lusk.
1880—G. E. Sutherland.	T. K. Gillet.
1882—E. Colman.	David Whitton.
1884—J. F. Ware.	John Hughes.
1886—Ignatius Klotz.	L. W. Thayer.
1888—S. B. Stanchfield.	James Fenelon.
1892—S. M. Smead.	C. S. Lusk.
1894—L. W. Thayer.	Ignatius Klotz.
1896—L. W. Thayer.	B. F. Sweet.
1900—Elmer P. Morse.	L. A. Lange.
1904—C. H. Smith.	O. A. Piggott.

In the legislative apportionment of 1870, three of the eastern towns of Fond du Lac county were detached from the Eighteenth Senate District and added to Sheboygan county to form the Twentieth Senate District, and in 1876, Daniel Cavanaugh, of Osceola, was elected Senator for that district. In the apportionment of 1880, the three towns were restored to the Eighteenth District and no change was made until 1900, when Green Lake county was added to the Eighteenth District and Elmer P. Morse elected Senator. In 1904 C. H. Smith was chosen Senator.

### Members of Assembly.

William A. Adamson, 1880.	L. A. Lange, 1893-1895-1897-1899.
Frank L. Bacon, 1895.	James Laferty, 1874.
Ezekiel Babcock, 1882.	J. C. Lewis, 1859-1860.
John A. Baker, 1871.	R. M. Lewis, 1873.
James Bannon, 1891.	Querin Loehr, 1853.
S. K. Barnes, 1859.	Peter Loehr, 1889.

- M. S. Barnett, 1851-1857.  
 H. C. Bottum, 1868-1869-1879.  
 Frank Bowe, 1891.  
 J. Bowen, 1871.  
 John Boyd, 1855-1860-1862-1870.  
 Thomas Boyd, 1865.  
 W. T. Brooks, 1860-1877.  
 J. H. Brinkerhoff, 1865.  
 Isaac Brown, 1856.  
 Lambert Brost, 1876-1877.  
 J. Carberry, 1903.  
 L. H. Carey, 1867.  
 D. Cavanaugh, 1870.  
 Seth A. Chase, 1868.  
 James Coleman, 1866-1867.  
 Elihu Colman, 1872.  
 Jerre Dobbs, Jr., 1870.  
 Charles Doty, 1848.  
 W. H. Ebbets, 1855.  
 Wynn Edwards, 1897.  
 Louis Eudemiller, 1882.  
 Truman M. Fay, 1871.  
 James Fenelon, 1901.  
 Geo. H. Ferris, 1887.  
 James Fitzgerald, 1878.  
 Egbert Foster, 1865.  
 Chas. D. Gage, 1858-1867.  
 E. H. Galloway, 1863-1864.  
 James E. Gee, 1881.  
 Charles Geisse, 1864.  
 Philip Greening, 1879.  
 John W. Hall, 1861.  
 Irenus K. Hamilton, 1869.  
 C. F. Hammond, 1861-1862.  
 John Hardgrove, 1883.  
 B. R. Harrington, 1855.  
 W. W. Hatcher, 1862.  
 Chester Hazen, 1885.  
 H. D. Hitt, 1858.  
 George Hunter, 1875.  
 Wm. T. Innis, 1877.  
 J. Jacobs, 1903.  
 R. Katz, 1901.  
 Charles L. Julius, 1851.  
 Peter Johnson, 1856.  
 R. C. Kelly, 1868.  
 Ignatius Klotz, 1880.  
 Nicholas Klotz, 1868.  
 G. A. Krapp, 1887.  
 Fred Konz, 1881.  
 A. A. Loper, 1873.  
 S. C. Matteson, 1859.  
 F. D. McCarty, 1858.  
 P. McGalloway, 1895.  
 James McElroy, 1864.  
 C. McLean, 1862.  
 John Meiklejohn, 1882.  
 U. D. Mihills, 1870-1871.  
 B. F. Moore, 1852.  
 Selim Newton, 1861.  
 M. L. Noble, 1849-1850.  
 S. O'Hara, 1863.  
 G. W. Parker, 1855-1856.  
 H. O. Peters, 1859.  
 Wm. Plocker, 1875.  
 B. Pinkney, 1850.  
 E. A. Putnam, 1876.  
 H. A. Ripley, 1899.  
 E. L. Runals, 1857.  
 F. W. Spence, 1877-1879.  
 J. M. Stock, 1893.  
 S. B. Stanchfield, 1885.  
 H. Stanton, 1861.  
 Wm. Starr, 1863-1864.  
 A. A. Swaim, 1878.  
 I. S. Tallmadge, 1853-1854.  
 M. Thelan, 1879.  
 L. W. Thayer, 1893.  
 M. J. Thomas, 1854-1857.  
 G. T. Thorn, 1871.  
 D. D. Treleven, 1880.  
 W. W. D. Turner, 1883.  
 W. S. Tuttle, 1858.  
 D. C. VanOstrend, 1865.  
 Jos. Wagner, 1856-1858-1866-1867-1868-1871.  
 Aaron Walters, 1875-1872.  
 J. F. Ware, 1880-1881-1883.  
 W. S. Warner, 1869.  
 J. W. Watson, 1889, 1891.  
 T. S. Weeks, 1874.  
 F. M. Wheeler, 1863.  
 C. A. Whiting, 1867.  
 W. Whiting, 1859.  
 D. Whitton, 1874.  
 J. B. Wilbor, 1857.  
 E. Wilcox, 1864.  
 M. Wirtz, 1878.  
 Uriah Wood, 1878.  
 A. J. Yorty, 1872.

### Governors of Wisconsin.

1848—Nelson Dewey.

1851—Leonard J. Farwell.

1853—William A. Barstow.

John H. Tweedy.

Don Alonzo Juan Upham.

E. D. Holton.

1855—Wm. A. Barstow.	Coles Bashford.
1855—Arthur McArthur, Lieut. Governor and Governor during lawsuit.*	
1855—Coles Bashford, Governor after decision of the courts.	
1857—Alex. W. Randall.	James B. Cross.
1859—Alex. W. Randall.	Harrison C. Hobart.
1861—Louis P. Harvey, Drowned.	James Ferguson.
1861—Edward Salomon, Lieut. Governor and successor of Gov. Harvey.x	
1863—James T. Lewis.	Henry L. Palmer.
1865—Lucius Fairchild.	Harrison C. Hobart.
1867—Lucius Fairchild.	J. J. Tallmadge.
1869—Lucius Fairchild.	Charles D. Robinson.
1871—Cadwalader C. Washburn.	James R. Doolittle.
1873—William R. Taylor.	C. C. Washburn.
1875—Harrison Ludington.	William R. Taylor.
1877—William E. Smith.	J. A. Mallory.
1879—William E. Smith.	James G. Jenkins.
1881—Jeremiah M. Rusk.	N. D. Fratt.
1883—Jeremiah M. Rusk.	N. D. Fratt.
1885—Jeremiah M. Rusk.	J. M. Woodward.
1888—William D. Hoard.	W. B. Morgan.
1890—George W. Peck.	William D. Hoard.
1892—George W. Peck.	J. C. Spooner.
1894—William H. Upham.	Geo. W. Peck.
1896—Edward Scofield.	W. C. Silverthorn.
1898—Edward Scofield.	Judge Sawyer.
1900—Robert M. LaFollette.	J. M. Bomrich.
1902—Robert M. LaFollette.	David S. Rose.
1904—Robert M. LaFollette.	George W. Peck.

### Members of Congress.

Following are the names of our Members of Congress together with the years they were elected and names of their opponents:

1848—Mason C. Darling.	Henry S. Baird.
1850—James Duane Doty.	Harrison C. Hobart.
1852—John B. Macy.	James McM. Shafter.
1854—Charles Billingshurst.	John B. Macy.
1856—Charles Billingshurst.	Harrison C. Hobart.
1858—Charles H. Larrabee.	Charles Billingshurst.
1860—A. Scott Sloan.	Charles H. Larrabee.
1862—Charles A. Eldredge.	Edward S. Bragg.
1864—Charles A. Eldredge.	A. Scott Sloan.
1866—Charles A. Eldredge.	Orin Hatch.
1868—Charles A. Eldredge.	Leander F. Fresby.
1870—Charles A. Eldredge.	Jerome A. Watrous.
1872—Charles A. Eldredge.	Henry Baetz.
1874—Samuel D. Burchard.	Hiram Barber.
1876—Edward S. Bragg.	George W. Carter.
1878—Edward S. Bragg.	Hiram Smith.
1880—Edward S. Bragg.	Elihu Colman.

\*Gov. Barstow served unmolessted during his first term, but the returns canvassed in the election of 1855, were some of them so manifestly fraudulent that his re-election was contested and resulted in the seating of Gov. Bashford. Pending the contest, Lieut. Gov. McArthur was acting governor.

x Gov. Harvey was drowned at Pittsburg Landing early in the war. After the great battle of Shiloh, he was so anxious about the Wisconsin troops that he went there to look after them personally, and fell from a steamboat and was drowned. Lieut. Gov. Salomon completed the term.

1882—Daniel H. Sumner.  
 1884—Edward S. Bragg.  
 1886—Richard Guenther.  
 1888—Charles Barwig.  
 1890—Charles Barwig.  
 1892—Owen A. Wells.  
 1894—Samuel A. Cook.  
 1896—James A. Davidson.  
 1898—James A. Davidson.  
 1900—James A. Davidson.  
 1902—Charles Weise.  
 1904—Charles Weise.

John S. Rowell.  
 Samuel S. Barney.  
 Arthur K. Delaney.  
 Edward C. McFetredge.  
 Daniel C. VanBrunt.  
 Emil Baensch.  
 Owen A. Wells.  
 William F. Gruenwald.  
 Frank M. Stewart.  
 James W. Watson.  
 William H. Froelich.  
 Roy P. Morse.

### United States Senators.

1848—Isaac P. Walker.  
 1848—Henry Dodge.  
 1849—Isaac P. Walker.  
 1857—Charles Durkee.  
 1857—James R. Doolittle.  
 1861—Timothy O. Howe.  
 1863—James R. Doolittle.  
 1867—Timothy O. Howe.  
 1869—Matt. H. Carpenter.  
 1873—Timothy O. Howe.  
 1875—Angus Cameron.

1879—Math. H. Carpenter.  
 1881—Philetus Sawyer.  
 1881—Angus Cameron.  
 1885—John C. Spooner.  
 1887—Philetus Sawyer.  
 1891—William F. Vilas.  
 1893—John L. Mitchell.  
 1897—John C. Spooner.  
 1899—Joseph V. Quarles.  
 1903—John C. Spooner.  
 1905—Robert M. LaFollette.

### Presidential Candidates.

1789—George Washington.  
 1792—George Washington.  
 1796—John Adams.  
 1800—Thomas Jefferson.  
 1804—Thomas Jefferson.  
 1808—James Madison.  
 1812—James Madison.  
 1816—James Monroe.  
 1820—James Monroe.  
 1824—John Quincy Adams.  
 1828—Andrew Jackson.  
 1832—Andrew Jackson.  
 1836—Martin Van Buren.  
 1840—W. H. Harrison.  
 1844—James K. Polk.  
 1848—Zachary Taylor.  
 1852—Franklin Pierce.  
 1856—James Buchanan.  
 1860—Abraham Lincoln.  
 1864—Abraham Lincoln.  
 1868—Ulysses S. Grant.  
 1872—Ulysses S. Grant.  
 1876—Rutherford B. Hayes.  
 1880—James A. Garfield.  
 1884—Grover Cleveland.  
 1888—Benjamin Harrison.  
 1892—Grover Cleveland.

John Adams.  
 John Adams.  
 Thomas Jefferson.  
 John Adams.  
 Charles C. Pinckney.  
 Charles C. Pinckney.  
 De Witt Clinton.  
 Rufus King.  
 John Quincy Adams.  
 Andrew Jackson.  
 John Quincy Adams.  
 Henry Clay.  
 W. H. Harrison.  
 Martin Van Buren.  
 Henry Clay.  
 Lewis Cass.  
 Winfield Scott.  
 John C. Fremont.  
 Stephen A. Douglas.  
 George B. McClellan.  
 Horatio Seymour.  
 Horace Greely.  
 Samuel J. Tilden.  
 W. S. Hancock.  
 James G. Blaine.  
 Grover Cleveland.  
 Benjamin Harrison.

1896—William McKinley.

William J. Bryan.

1900—William McKinley.

William J. Bryan.

1904—Theodore Roosevelt.

A. F. Parker.

In the early days of the country, the number of candidates before the electoral college then were many. In 1789 there were twelve voted for, in 1792 there were five, in 1796 no less than seventeen, nearly all of whom received very few votes. Again in 1844 there were seventeen. The largest number in late years was nine in 1876.

Many of the campaigns had their noted features, but the most exciting was that of 1876, when congress created an electoral commission to settle the electoral tie. It came near plunging the country into another war.

The peculiarities of the election of 1860 are too lengthy for insertion here. A history of the time is readily obtainable and may be read with interest. The people are not allowed to know the inside workings of politics.

Five presidents died while in office, two by disease and three by violence. The first was W. H. Harrison, elected with the greatest enthusiasm, in 1840, but was in office just one month after inauguration March 4, 1841. Vice-President John Tyler became president, and as it was called at the time, "Tylerized." That is, he violated the pledges of the whig party that elected him.

The Mexican war made Gen. Zachary Taylor president in 1848, but died after fifteen months, when Vice-President Millard Fillmore became president. He signed the notorious fugitive slave law and did other things which exasperated the whig party that elected him.

Abraham Lincoln was shot in Ford's theatre, Washington, D. C., April 14, 1865, forty days after his second inauguration and died the next day. Vice-President Andrew Johnson became president and kept up a running fight with his party to the end of his term of office.

President James A. Garfield was shot in the Pennsylvania Railroad depot at Washington by Gitteau, July 2, 1881, and died at Long Branch, September 19th, six and one-half months after his inauguration. Vice-President Chester A. Arthur became president.

President William McKinley was shot by a Polish anarchist named Czgolsz, in one of the exposition buildings at Buffalo, N. Y., September 6, 1901, died September 14, funeral at Canton, Ohio, September 19th. Died six months and ten days after his second inauguration. Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt became president.

It is believed by some writers that the deaths of Presidents W. H. Harrison and Gen. Taylor were intentional on the part of some men interested in their absence, and that some sort of poison was used. At any rate there has always been more or less of mystery about them.

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When the late M. Van Dresar was a deputy sheriff in 1858 and kept the jail, he was struck at one evening by an escaping prisoner with a pair of handcuffs, which missed his head but left a half moon in the plastering of the stone wall.

## TWO REMARKABLE EVENTS

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Elections of 1876 and 1884—Electoral Commission and the Rum,  
Romanism and Rebellion Turning Point.

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The result of the election in 1860 brought a disastrous four years' war, but the election of 1876 came very near another disaster, the result of which all feared, but no one could foretell. The magazine was planted, the train laid and the match ready to be struck. Leading men of all parties trembled. The question of the hour was not what should be done, but what could be done. But the people rejoiced then and let them rejoice now, that there was a James G. Blaine to suggest a port of safety and a means of reaching it. There were apparent frauds on both sides and which made the electoral vote a tie. When the electoral votes for president and vice-president were counted, the returns from four states were attacked—Florida, South Carolina, Louisiana and Oregon. There was an apparent tie vote existing between Hayes and Wheeler and Tilden and Hendricks. The dispute could not be settled in the usual way and Congress must be appealed to. A majority of the judges of the supreme court and the House of Representatives were democratic, the Senate and national administration republican. After much discussion the creation of an electoral commission was agreed to. Five members of this commission was to come from the House, five from the Senate and five from the supreme court, the first four from the supreme court to choose the fifth. The commission when completed was as follows:  
Supreme Court—Judges Clifford, Miller, Strong, Field and Bradley.

Senate—Senators Edmunds, Morton, Frelinghuysen, Thurman and Bayard. Sickness of Thurman put Senator Kernan in his place.  
House—Messrs. Payne, Hunton, Abbott, Garfield and Hurd.  
Lawyers present for republicans—Messrs. Evarts, Matthews, Shallenburger and Sherman.

For democrats—Judges Black, O'Connor, Matt. Carpenter, Trumbull, Blair, Green, Campbell, Humphrey and Gorman.

The court so constituted, reviewed all the evidence, examined all the papers and listened to arguments by the eminent counsel on both sides and decided 8 to 7, that Hayes and Wheeler were legally elected. Feeling ran high among extreme partisans, but the better sense of the people prevailed, realizing as they did, that peace and prosperity was worth more than four years of the presidency or the personal pride of men or party. Here in Fond du Lac the democrats of the time were bitter talkers but peaceful workers, and there was no trouble. While the talk and feeling was bitter, it is pleasing to remember how soon the matter was forgotten.

Of the members of congress from Wisconsin at this time, but one, Judge Cate, of Stevens Point, voted against the creation of the electoral commission.

Of the fifteen members of the commission and twelve lawyers who appeared before it, all are now dead, although but twenty-eight years have elapsed since the sitting. The reason for this is that they were men well advanced in life at the time.

Who of those now living and were at all familiar with national politics in the campaign of 1884, fail to remember the noted alliteration of "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion." It had its effect on the election in the defeat of James G. Blaine, and Fond du Lac county was one of those that had a shaking up in consequence of it. In that campaign the candidates were Blaine and Logan against Cleveland and Hendricks. Cleveland had gained his prestige as Governor of New York from the office of Sheriff at Buffalo. Blaine had made his world-wide reputation as a diplomat and in the halls of congress. The campaign was a lively one and it seemed to be the general belief that Blaine and Logan were sure of election. Near the close of the campaign, and almost at the eve of election, a large republican meeting was held in New York city, at which an old minister named Burchard, was one of the principal speakers. Among other bitter things said by him in this speech, was the above alliteration of "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion," declaring these elements to be the foundation and strength of the democratic party. No man of the time had a stronger hold upon intelligent Irishmen than James G. Blaine, and this coupling of Romanism, meaning the Roman Catholic Church, with rum and rebellion, by a prominent speaker and at a large meeting in the interests of Blaine and the republican party, produced a most profound sensation. Thousands upon thousands of Irishmen, who had intended to vote for Blaine, threw away their tickets and became his active opponents. A strong effort was made to head off the mischief, but it was too late. Burchard himself denied evil intent, but it was ineffectual. The mischief had been done and there was no help for it. In Fond du Lac county, as in New York and other parts of the United States, it was looked upon as the utterance of one foolish old man, voted for Blaine and have since been loyal to the republican party. As a prominent Fond du Lac democrat expressed it, Blaine had Cleveland beaten to a finish, but at the last minute a foolish old preacher defeated him. The result of the presidential election depended upon New York, and it will be remembered that the official canvass gave the state to Cleveland by only 1,200. It was estimated by prominent politicians that but for the Burchard episode, Blaine would have carried the state by at least 40,000.

A remarkable feature of this case was developed afterwards, when it was found that a son played this trick upon his foolish old father. This son was a prominent democrat and connected with a band of New York schemers. He it was who prompted his father to the use of the obnoxious language. Every northern state suffered more or less on the Blaine side of the political ledger, but in New York the great mischief was done, as it placed the republicans in the



minority column and defeated Blaine and Logan. In Fond du Lac, no candidate for the presidency ever had a more enthusiastic following than James G. Blaine had in that great campaign of 1884.

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### Coming of Salvation Army.

In 1885, with their voices and a big bass drum for music, the Salvation Army first appeared on the streets of Fond du Lac. The movement was in charge of two Swedish women from Minneapolis, whose personality as well as work was most attractive, and these with the novelty of the work, drew crowds to the meetings. Their method of work took them out to street corners for a short prayer and exhortation service, and thence to their hall for a preaching and general service. Unfortunately, for the success of the meetings, the Minneapolis women became homesick and others were sent to lead from time to time, some of them quite noted people in the ranks of the army, but they could not succeed and the army struggled along until 1894, when its efforts were abandoned here. Hall rent, fuel, lights and other local bills had to be met from the collections and they finally became largely insufficient, and the Salvation Army ceased its work in Fond du Lac. Their charity boxes may be seen in most business places and the collections in this way are understood to be largely in excess of those received here before. These boxes appeal to the generosity of the people in places and at times that small change is at hand, and an empty charity box is not often seen. No one questions the sincerity of the Salvation Army people or have serious doubts of the good work they do among the poor and in the slums of the large cities. They do not make the noise and stir they once did, but who will say their work is not as efficient.

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### Frost Every Month in the Year.

Old timers who cultivate the soil, have not forgotten the year that there was a frost every month. It was 1860, but there have been years besides this that came very near the same result. In 1860, however, there was a frost every month severe enough for the people to know it. The lightest was the frost in August, but the work of that one could be seen on the leaves of tomatoes and beans. In June and July those who had gardens suffered unless they covered their vegetation. Farmers suffered severely. The writer had a nice garden in June, but not much in September. It was the year of killing frosts every month.

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### Known as the Big Fountain.

The Big Fountain, so long the pride of the people of Sixth and Marr streets. It threw nearly a full four inch stream of as clear water as ever came out of the earth. But after a few years it began to fail and in one year the stream decreased nearly one-half. In 1872 the stream was lowered three feet, and a few years later two feet more, and about 1890 it ceased to flow altogether and was filled. Not a drop of water has come from it since.

### One of the Railroad Engineers.

One of the earliest of the locomotive engineers on the north end of the Northwestern road, and who stuck to the throttle until age and infirmity compelled him to retire, was L. S. Smith. He began the work when the track was completed to Minnesota Junction, and was on duty nearly thirty-five years. When the Wisconsin Division was the through line to Chicago, for nearly thirty years Mr. Smith made the run every day between Janesville and Green Bay, and used to say he had made the personal acquaintance of every hill and hollow, every stone, tree and stump between those points. In all this time he never had an accident to cause loss of life. It is well remembered by those familiar with the locality, that the grade north of the Sheboygan Junction was very narrow and at one place the weeds and high grass came to within two or three feet of the rails. One beautiful morning in the summer of 1875, coming over from Oshkosh on the fireman's side of the engine, something white was noticed to flash and Smith stopped and backed the train to find a dead woman horribly mangled. The body was placed in the baggage car and brought up town to the depot, where an inquest was held and it was found from relatives of the woman that it was suicide. She had hidden in the high grass and when the engine wheels were nearest, threw herself under them. This was the only person Smith's engine ever killed, and it worried him greatly.

One morning as he approached Minnesota Junction, he found a St. Paul freight train across the track and as his brakes failed to hold he ran into it and made something of a wreck. Two days after, being summoned before the superintendent, he was asked if the result would have been the same if it had been a passenger train. Well, not exactly, said Smith. If it had been a passenger train, I should have shouldered my lantern and left for the woods and you would not have seen me here today. This reply so amused the superintendent that Smith got out of the trouble very easy.

Lucien S. Smith was a very efficient and faithful employe of the Northwestern road, and Fond du Lac frequenters of the station were lost when he ceased his work and his face was seen there no more. When he retired he bought a farm near Milton Junction, where he died a few years ago. He possessed a considerable degree of literary ability and wrote a number of poems of much merit while standing on his engine at the throttle.

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### The Old Home of Mrs. Arnold.

This old place at the northeast corner of Marr and Fourth streets, so familiar to all old time residents of Fond du Lac for more than half a century, of late the property of Geo. W. Denniston, a pioneer of the county, has lately dropped from sight on its old time location, by being turned and moved to the north end of the lot. The familiar house will be missed by old residents.

# STREET RAILWAY AND LIGHTING

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The Ups and Downs of Street Railroads in Fond du Lac. Early Efforts and Present Success. Electric Lighting Has Troubles.

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In 1888 an Indiana man, Mr. J. P. Burkholder, appeared in Fond du Lac and proposed to put down a first-class street railway line. He secured a franchise and laid a line with light tee rail, from the landing to the old fair ground on upper Main street, and on Fourth street to near the gates of the Kite park fair grounds. At the terminus of the latter line was the barn or power house, the power consisting of thirty Missouri rat mules. There was a long controversy about the rail used, but the tee rail got there and ruined the block pavement and many wagons and carriages. The quickest succession of the little bob-tail cars during each day was about every half hour. The line was not a success and Mr. Burkholder disappeared near the end of the first year. An eccentric Hollander here at this time, named Count Louis Nepein, bought up the indebtedness to the amount of \$18,000, and took possession. At the end of a few months he retired with an old white horse and big sorrel dog to show for his money. W. G. DeCelle next appeared in control of the street car franchise, but his means were not sufficient to equip the road as he had started out to do, nor could he raise money on his bonds. Mr. DeCelle had put electricity into use in place of mules and purchased new cars and was heavily in debt, as he had also acquired two electric lighting plants. It had become a load of debt too heavy for Mr. DeCelle and Elisha Colman signed his paper, but finding it unprofitable, organized a company under the name of Fond du Lac Light and Power Company, which took possession. The line did not pay and the company became the Fond du Lac Electric Company, which continued the lighting plant but took up the railway line and sold the rails for old iron. The city was now without street cars and the outlook was not very encouraging. But now came H. F. Whitcomb, who believed a street car line properly equipped and backed with sufficient capital, could be made to pay well, and through his influence the present Fond du Lac Street Railway and Light Company was organized. In 1899 the road was built and equipped in splendid shape and the following year extended to North Fond du Lac and to Lakeside Park. The power house was greatly enlarged and an ample supply of the best machinery that money could buy, was installed. And so it is that today we have one of the best street railways in the state. In 1903 the Fond du Lac and Oshkosh line, known as the interurban, was built, and we now have a service every hour over it. The same year the Eastern Wisconsin Railway and Light Company was organized to construct a line on the east shore of the lake. The late death of Frank B.

Hoskins, its president, may to some extent retard the work, but the time is not distant that its plans will be carried out.

Such have been the ups and downs of street railroads in Fond du Lac. At the beginning electricity for street car propulsion can hardly be said to have been in use anywhere, and the large cities also had the small Missouri mules. Mr. DeCelle's use of electricity was about as early as any. Since then the machinery for such use has been vastly improved. All citizens will rejoice that there was a man like H. F. Whitcomb, having faith in Fond du Lac and ready to come to the front with money and influence.

### Electric Lighting.

Aurora, Ill., was the first and Fond du Lac, Wis., second in the entire west to adopt electric lighting. It was mainly through the efforts of Lafayette Bond, then a member of the common council, that the poor man's light, as he termed it, was adopted by the city. Five lighting towers were erected on Main street in front of court house, on First, Division, Forest and Arndt streets, but were not fully completed in September, 1882, when the county fair was held and electric lights first appeared here. The towers were not completed until 1883 and the lamp trimmer had to climb. In 1886 the wind of a thunder storm played havoc with the towers, two being wrecked and all injured seriously, but they were rebuilt at a less height. For a long time the light was quite unsatisfactory. Then came the masts, holding one light each, and then suspended lamps. To make it effective here, was a struggle. For several years one quick motion engine was all the power the plant had to run its dynamos, and so it was not until the present ownership that there was ample power for even lighting purposes. Since the use of electric motors has become so general immense power is needed. Four quick motion engines and four large engines, with twelve dynamos, ranging from two to ten feet diameter to generate the electricity for railway, lighting and general purposes. W. G. DeCelle in 1891, tried to improve the plant but without much success. Of late years there has been little complaint of the quality of the light, the only trouble seeming to be the cost.

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### They Were Noisy Preachers.

In 1857, there was a Methodist Church on Arndt street, near Brooke, and for a time Rev. Mr. Robbins was the pastor. Not far from the same time Rev. Mr. Hollister was pastor of the up town church, then at the northeast corner of Marr and Third streets. It is well remembered by old settlers, that these men were the noisiest preachers Fond du Lac ever had. It was not uncommon to hear them a couple of blocks, and Mr. Hollister's family prayers could be heard nearly as far. Their physicians tried to stop the use of so much force, but they continued it and both died prematurely. These noisy preachers are not common now, and it is doubtful if the people would tolerate them.

# GREAT WORK OF BISHOP GRAFTON

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St. Paul's Cathedral One of the Finest in the Country. Grafton Hall  
Has No Superior. The Great Work Done in  
Sixteen Years.

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In 1872, the Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac was taken from the diocese of Wisconsin, now Milwaukee, and at the preliminary council in 1873, Bishop Welles presiding, Rev. Leighton Coleman, of Toledo, Ohio, now Bishop of Delaware, was elected for the first Bishop of Fond du Lac. He came here and looked over the field and believing the work too much for his strength, declined. Subsequently Rev. Dr. Shipman, of New York, was elected and declined. At the third council, Rev. J. H. Hobart Brown was chosen. After serving twelve years, the lamented Bishop Brown died May 2, 1888, and Rev. C. C. Grafton, of Boston, became his successor. He was consecrated on St. Mark's Day, April 25, 1889. Comparatively few people have a proper conception of the enormous amount of work done by Bishop Grafton in the sixteen years of his presence as Bishop of this diocese. One has but to step over to the location of the Cathedral and Grafton Hall, to see at once that he has not been idle. When he came to the diocese he found an unfinished cathedral church, burdened with a heavy debt. Besides this, St. Monica school, under the management of the Sisters of St. Monica, was in need of assistance and apparently plenty of work to do in all directions. Bishop Grafton went at the work with determination, and it is only needful now for those having knowledge of the conditions sixteen years ago, to recall them in comparison with those of the present, to appreciate the work he has done. But the work most appreciated by the Bishop himself, can be seen in buildings, as it is in a spiritual sense that he has sought for improvement in the entire diocese and has achieved it. He has expended no less than \$150,000 in the improvement of churches and church property in the diocese outside of Fond du Lac. He built a church at North Fond du Lac at a cost of \$4,000, together with other expenditures. But let us look at Grafton Hall. The home of the Bishop, on Division street, one of the finest in the city, together with the Mother House of the Sisters of the Holy Nativity, immediately north of it, has already become sufficiently noted to attract strangers in the city to view it. The Mother House, built in this year of 1905, will cost \$60,000. It is perfect in every detail. The former rectory on Bannister street, was overhauled for dormitories and other purposes of a choir school, at a cost of \$12,000, is perfect in every detail. The Cathedral rectory, now occupied by Bishop Weller, represents a cost of \$5,000. An expenditure of \$11,000 for land for Grafton Hall and \$4,000 for the Cathedral, the cost of retaining wall along the river, the garth wall, sidewalks, etc., all represent large expenditures of money.

St. Monica school was started by the Sisters of St. Monica and under direction of Bishop Brown. Mother Caroline Delano was in charge. The school was in a large wood building then on the site of the present Grafton Hall, but a part of it is now the Waukeshah Hotel, corner of Forest Avenue and Sophia street. The only Sister of St. Monica remaining here is Sister Anna Hobart, widow of Bishop Brown, in charge of the altars, and custodian of the vestments and silver in the Cathedral. Bishop Grafton came in 1889. The people had much sympathy for St. Monica School and its weakness being wholly of a financial character, talk for reorganization soon began in earnest. At a full meeting of the board of trustees early in 1893, it was determined to reorganize the school and to name it Grafton Hall. The old building was quite unsatisfactory and a new one was decided upon. In 1895 the new structure was begun and in 1897 the north half of it, together with power house, heating and electric light plants, went into use. But the work did not stop here, and two years later, 1900, the present magnificent structure was fully occupied by the school. The cost of it in round numbers was \$50,000, and the equipment and furnishing cost \$20,000 more. In 1894, when St. Monica School was formally transferred to Grafton Hall, Rev. B. T. Rogers was placed in charge and has been there ever since and has made it a school worthy of the beautiful building and surroundings; and an honor to the diocese and to the state. It has been the desire of the Bishop, of Warden Rogers and the board of trustees, to make this school for young ladies the equal of any like institution in this country, and they have succeeded. Those in control have had to face a great many difficulties, but they seem to have triumphed over all of them, and today the city of Fond du Lac and the diocese are able to boast of one of the best schools with the handsomest buildings and finest equipments in the entire northwest.

One of the early achievements of Bishop Grafton and showing his foresight, was the Parish House, at the Cathedral. This was built in 1892 at a cost of \$15,000, and it has been remarkably useful alike to the Cathedral parish and to the diocese. Its uses are numerous and in many directions. It may now be wondered how it would have been possible to get along without it.

The structure which will be remembered as the old parish school house, in which church services were held after the burning of the old Cathedral, was remodeled in 1899 at a cost of \$10,000, and named St. Andrew's Hall. It is a most useful place, especially for the clergy of the diocese who may be here temporarily. In the old time it was an eye sore—now it is a handsome building and a useful one. The choir school building at Follett and Bannister streets, was remodeled at a cost of \$12,000.

When Bishop Brown died, the Cathedral was not completed. Some of the furnishings were but temporary. After making visitations and posting himself more thoroughly in the affairs of his diocese, Bishop Grafton began to look more closely to work on the Cathedral. First of all the porch was to be built and the tower completed. The chancel was an architectural defect and was

changed, the cloister was built between the robing rooms and St. Andrew's Hall, the garth wall was constructed, new sidewalks put down and a great deal of other work done. As time went on new furnishings appeared, including the finest font and canopy in this country, carvings of St. Paul and the twelve apostles, pulpit in stone, one of the finest polished brass lecturns made, mounted on a Scotch granite column and supported by stone base, a fine rood screen, the furnishings of the two chapels adjoining the main portion of the church, and a great deal more that cannot be here mentioned in detail. The reredos at the altar in St. Augustine chapel is hardly surpassed in this country. Among the memorials are:

White Marble Altar in the chancel, presented by Mrs. M. H. Galloway in memory of her husband, Edwin H. Galloway.

Chalice and Paten, made of material in the pastoral staff and old family plate of Bishop Brown, presented by Mrs. Brown in memory of her husband.

Sanctuary Rail in Bedford stone, presented by Mrs. H. K. Laughlin in memory of her daughter.

Choir Screen in Bedford stone, presented by Mrs. W. W. Clark in memory of her parents.

West granite column in chancel, by Racine College in memory of Rev. Dr. DeKoven.

East granite column in chancel, by Mr. E. A. Carey in memory of his wife, Mrs. Mary A. Carey.

Font, presented by C. A. Galloway in memory of his wife, Mrs. Mary Galloway.

Five chancel windows, by Mrs. H. H. Rose, in memory of her father, Mr. A. G. Ruggles.

Three windows at south end of the nave, presented by Mr. B. Wild, Sr. Window at west entrance in memory of Mrs. B. Wild, Sr.

Porch at main entrance of Cathedral, erected through the efforts of Mrs. Mary Waterbury to the memory of Bishop Brown.

St. Augustine Chapel, equipped by Mrs. Mary Waterbury in memory of the Brown family, including the father and mother of the Bishop.

Window presented by Mr. Ed. Ewen, to the memory of his father and mother.

Two windows presented by Mrs. Laughlin, to the memory of her husband, H. K. Laughlin.

Two windows presented by Mrs. Wiley, to the memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Henning, and a sister.

Window presented by Mr. Geo. P. Lee, to the memory of a daughter, Mrs. Jenny Coleman.

Altar in St. Ambrose Chapel, presented by Rev. Mr. Batterson, to the memory of Bishop Knight, of the diocese of Milwaukee.

In the mortuary chapel has been placed a beautiful trefoil window to the memory of James Ewen McCall, son of Capt. J. V. McCall, killed in an accident at Milwaukee at the age of seven years.

In the same chapel is a memorial tablet from historical Westminster Abbey.

Besides these memorials there have been many presentations to Bishop Grafton and gifts by the Bishop to the Cathedral for beautifying the place and making the services more imposing. Among these are the Bishop's Chair, windows in the nave representing scenes in the life of St. Paul, one of the most beautiful Lecterns made; the Rood Screen; the grand new organ and motor; Litany Desk; Pulpit in Bedford stone, from friends in the Church of the Advent, Boston; Brass Lectern in St. Ambrose Chapel, from the vestry of St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn, through Mrs. Waterbury; Bust of Bishop Kemper, from R. Powrie; Statue of St. Margaret and the Dragon, or Victory of the Cross over the Dragon, one of the grandest pieces of marble statuary in this country, presented by Miss Grant, of London, the artist; Tubular Bells in the tower, from Mr. Clapp, of Providence, R. I.; Paintings in chancels, by Lawrence Kent and Miss Upjohn, on the frieze; white marble lining of chancel.

St. Paul's Church, Fond du Lac, was designated as the Cathedral church soon after the coming of Bishop Brown, and since then there have been a number of noted events connected with it. On the cold morning of St. Paul's Day, January 25, 1883, the Cathedral was burned, and it was on fire again in 1895, but escaped serious injury. The consecration of Bishop Grafton on St. Mark's Day, March 25, 1889, and the consecration of Bishop Coadjutor Weller, on November 8, 1900. The funeral of Bishop Brown took place from the Cathedral on May 4, 1888. The erection of the large building on Amory street, north of the Bishop's house, and its consecration to the use of the Sisters of the Holy Nativity as the Mother House, on September 8, 1905, may be looked upon as a marked event in the history of the Cathedral and of the diocese of Fond du Lac as well.

There are few citizens who can fully realize the significance of the coming to Fond du Lac of Bishop Grafton. In him we have not only an estimable and Godly man, of eminent social qualities, but one of remarkable activity and generosity in promoting the growth of the city. The amount of money he has brought here in various ways can never be known, but it is estimated to exceed \$600,000, and a large proportion of it has been expended in the employment of labor. The Cathedral debt of \$16,000 is not only wiped out but has an endowment that provides for the diocesan assessment. Missions and weak churches throughout the diocese have been aided to an amount that would be surprising to most people if it could be known. This is why it may be truthfully said that the full significance of Bishop Grafton's coming to Fond du Lac, can never be known.

#### Bakery Bread in Fond du Lac.

It was not until some time after Mr. B. Wild went into business here and began making the round cottage loaves, that bakery bread secured much patronage. People generally made their own bread, but the cottage loaves were so near like home made bread that hundreds of families gave up home baking.



# PIONEER FARMERS AND SETTLERS

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Some of the People Who Came to This County Early and Helped to Develop It. List of Names.

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Among the most remarkable men who entered upon this goodly land in the pioneer days were the seekers for homes—the men who did not fear to enter upon the work of developing farms. The fame of the country had gone back east and honest work only was needed to enable them to realize their expectations. The landscape was as attractive as had ever been seen by man and the soil most productive. Beautiful surroundings and abundant harvests for the industrious seemed to be sure. And so they came here, selected their farms and went at the work of developing them, with the result as we see it today. As a rule the owners were industrious, successful and happy, and they were able to turn over to their successors as fine an agricultural region as there is in the state. While it is true that this county possessed great natural advantages, it is also true that its attractiveness is in a very large measure due to the good judgment and hard work of the early owners. It was their good fortune that they entered upon a section of country possessed of a good soil and healthy climate, hence healthfulness and general prosperity.

The kindness and generosity of these people was proverbial. Refusal of neighborly courtesies was almost unknown and people overtaken by night or storm, were never denied shelter as long as there was room inside the house. The selfish and exclusive spirit, so often met today, was very seldom found. If a settler killed an animal for food, it was distributed in pieces among the neighbors and kindness was the rule everywhere. If the settler had a heavy job of work in the development of his property and needed the assistance of his neighbors, he was sure to get it, though some of those neighbors came several miles on foot. Mr. John Folts, a well known pioneer of the town of Byron, in 1844 had assistance come ten miles to help roll up the logs of a log house he was building. How many men could be obtained from half the distance now to assist in such work as an act of kindness only and without pay? Similar acts were by no means rare in Fond du Lac county at that time. A poor widow in the town of Forest, Mrs. Sanford, whose husband died and left her with three children, in 1848, had her crop harvested and cared for by her neighbors. That was pioneer christianity. How seldom it is found in our day.

During the eight years, from 1828 to 1836, there was a military post at Fort Howard and Gen. Ellis, Capt. Follett and a few citizens were there and Gen. Ellis started the Green Bay Intelligencer, the first Wisconsin newspaper. By 1836 the timber of the Fox and Wolf river country, the peninsula of Door and Kewaunee counties and the

Green Bay region, were becoming rapidly known and the magnificent agricultural lands to the south were beginning to be entered and farms opened. The years 1840 to 1848 brought a vast number of people from the east, in pursuit of homes and whose eyes were fixed upon this region. Until 1851 the railroads could not be used, not being completed, and water transportation to Wisconsin was compulsory. Every respectable vessel on the lakes, steam or sail, came loaded down during these years, with emigrants and their belongings. Most of these sought a landing at Sheboygan, some at Milwaukee and Green Bay, a few at Racine and Kenosha, then known as Southport. The stream of humanity landing at Sheboygan and Green Bay spread over the timber lands reaching from the lake and bay shores to the unsurpassed prairie and openings of Rosendale, Ripon and Green Lake, into Marquette county. Those who came first, while they doubtless got their choice of homes, assuredly did not get the best, as later comers, many of them, got as nice and valuable farms as any who preceded them. There was an occasional piece of land that was "a little off color," as the ladies sometimes say of dress goods, but such neglected land, oftener than otherwise, fell into the hands of the ingenious and expert farmer and was made to "blossom as the rose" and in after years to be as valuable as those with prospects more promising at the start. A section of country with a more productive soil cannot be found and barring occasional vicissitudes of weather, common to all agricultural regions, has and will abundantly reward the industrious and intelligent farmer.

Wheat in Ohio, corn in Iowa, cotton in Mississippi, peanuts in Tennessee and celery in Michigan, are specialties in the regions named, but for dairying, stock growing and average all round agriculture, Wisconsin is among the states at the head of the list, and the time is coming and it is not far distant, when Wisconsin will lead the world in dairying. The full figures pertaining to these interests it is not necessary to reproduce here. They will be found in detail in the annual report of the dairy and food commissioner, and will surprise many who examine them for the first time. The full figures with reference to other products of the farm, may be found in the report of Prof. Henry, of the agricultural department of our state university, and should be studied by every intelligent farmer. The state provides these reports at heavy cost, for the benefit of its citizens, and they ought not to neglect them. All now realize the fact that the times demand intelligent, educated farmers rather than plodders. To this end the state provides university education to all who will avail themselves of it. This is what the present seeks, what the future demands. The light was not as bright as this for the pioneer who preceded us and settled this region of country. The prospect was often dark, sometimes very dark, but they were intelligent men and how gloriously they worked out their destiny!

But it was not alone the agricultural region that so attracted emigration to Wisconsin from 1836 onward into the century for ten or twelve years, but our splendid pine and hardwood timber brought the lumberman from even as far east as Maine and as early as 1838

at least two mills were cutting lumber on the bay shore, and one in 1840, built by Elisha and John Beeson, brothers of the late Edward Beeson, of this city, while some even more venturesome, about the same dates, had penetrated westward from Green Bay to the Wolf river country, were cutting lumber and floating it down in rafts, some of which taken from the river, was used in Fond du Lac. Such was the lumber, dried in the sun, that Dr. Walker put into his house which he built and occupied several years, at the southeast corner of Main and Fifth streets, now used for a hotel. The lumber industry developed rapidly and by 1848, the puff of steam could be seen from mills at almost every town. As we approached the middle of the century, lumber was abundant for all purposes and at reasonable prices. In the next ten years the rivers had been vastly improved with booms, to the end that logs came down by millions to be cut into lumber and shingles, lath, pickets, etc., and manufactured into sash, doors and blinds, to the extent that it began to be felt that our forests were being depleted, and sure enough, long before the end of the century, after the railroads had taken the mills to the logs, instead of bringing the logs to the mills, our lumber industries practically ceased. Such was one of the vicissitudes of business here in about half a century.

But the farmer, he who went to work with a will on his land, dug out a comfortable living and found an anxious market for all he had to sell. They had their contentions, of course, and he might be troubled a little sometimes, to make both ends meet, but in the end he triumphed over all obstacles. Lumber may have been so scarce and high priced when he first came that a board shanty for his family was impossible and he had to be content with a hovel constructed of logs or poles, with a trough roof and puncheon floor, the logs chinked with split sticks and plastered with mud to make it habitable in winter. One of these early houses would be a marvel to the present generation, but they served their purpose. The material in these houses was not always of the best and often hauled long distances. Relative to the shanty of John Folts, in Byron, Martin Mitchell says:

"In the summer of 1844, Mr. John Folts, with his wife and four children, removed from the state of New York to Byron. He set up crotches, upon which he laid long poles, and covered it over with prairie grass, and having blankets at the sides, for his domicil, lived until he could build a log house, obtaining hands from about ten miles distant to help him roll up the logs."

In the pioneer days of the county and up to about 1860, comparatively little attention was given to dairying. Some stock was raised but the attention of the farmers was given largely to the small grains, wheat, oats, barley and rye. The exclusiveness of these crops is shown by the fact that Ripon had six large elevators and Fond du Lac had the same number, and as the railroads were built elevators appeared at almost every station, while mills increased in number and capacity and no inconsiderable portion of the annual crop was shipped as flour, the output of the mills being larger than the people

consumed. What a remarkable change in fifteen years! The crop season without frost was found to be too short for successful corn raising, but while much is planted, mainly for home consumption, it is not looked upon as a profitable crop.

During and immediately following the war, farmers began to realize the value of this part of the state for dairying and stock raising, and these have largely taken the place of the other crops.

Below will be found about 150 names of the oldest pioneer farmer settlers of Fond du Lac county. Their names will be familiar to all old settlers and it will be a pleasure to them to have their memory renewed and hundreds of incidents of the past called to mind. While most of them have now passed away, the old people have pleasure in their memory, recalling incidents in their lives and remembering what they achieved. All of them are well remembered, many of them became noted men in politics, religion, law and general business, while scarcely one failed in his work as a farmer. Speaking of individuals, let it be said with pride, that in the legislative investigation of the railroad land grant bribery of 1856, Fond du Lac county had the only two men, Edward Pier in the senate and Isaac Brown in the assembly, who came through it all without taint.

Here are the 150 pioneer hero farmers of Fond du Lac county. Take off your hat in their honor as you read their names:

Edward Pier.	Daniel Sabin.	John Beeson.
Colwert Pier.	Almon Osborn.	Joseph Stow.
Calvin Pier.	A. B. Beardsley.	Henry Spofford.
Norman Pier.	Hiram Morris.	Alfred Ward.
C. N. Kendall.	Dr. Cruthers.	John Case.
A. N. Kendall.	Alfred Bliss.	W. Hall.
John C. Bishop.	Jeff. Brayman	John Hall.
John H. Martin.	Paddy Miles.	J. R. Fisher.
Selim Newton.	George Parker.	Dan Trelevan.
J. J. Brayton.	Pat. Lyons.	Theodore Trelevan.
Isaac Crofoot.	P. Borderman.	John Trelevan.
Francis McCarty.	Michael Horey.	James Wright.
Pat. Kelly.	Peter Calahan.	L. B. Hills.
Henry Conklin.	Pat. Maloney.	N. M. Donaldson.
B. Nightengale.	Harry Sears.	W. J. Ripley.
Jasper Clark.	R. M. Harwood.	H. W. Hubbard.
O. J. Soper.	Sumner Sweet.	Henry Halsted.
Matt. Butler.	Daniel Brooks.	I. N. Woodruff.
Russell Wilkinson.	Emerson Fay.	H. W. Wolcott.
Robert Wilkinson.	Hiram Walker.	Wm. Plocker.
John Wilkinson.	Daniel Eggleston.	Edwin Reynolds.
S. Botsford.	R. Jenkinson.	Peter V. Sang.
C. Tunison.	H. C. Eggleston.	H. D. Hitt.
Isaac Orvis.	Joseph Scribner.	A. H. Clark.
W. W. Wheeler.	Warren Whiting.	Robt. Estabrooks.
B. J. Gilbert.	William Hayes.	Col. H. Tryon.
Henry Bush.	Warren Florida.	G. D. Ruggles.
A. Raymond.	W. C. Dodge.	H. R. Colman.
Reuben Simmons.	B. H. Bettis.	Chas. Colman.
Jay Roblee.	John Beirne.	John Fancher.
Edward Beeson.	Arthur H. Steen.	James Hersey.

S. N. McCrea.	W. R. Tallmadge.	A. C. Whiting.
F. Pelton.	M. S. Barnett.	Salmon Wedge.
Fayette Brown.	Harvey Wheeler.	J. C. Wedge.
Dr. Elliott Brown.	S. N. Hawes.	Lorenzo Hazen.
John Bannister.	Joseph Wagner.	Chester Hazen.
G. de Neveu.	Edward Ensign.	Sanford Hazen.
Harry Giltner.	G. W. Parker.	Loren Hazen.
John Boyd.	Dana Lamb.	John Hazen.
T. I. Burhyte.	Geo. D. Curtis.	Calvin Hazen.
Wm. Boehner.	Jerome Yates.	Sewel Hazen.
John Taylor.	Wm. Denniston.	T. F. Mayham.
Aaron Walters.	F. A. Kimball.	A. S. Wilkinson.
William Stewart.	John Irving.	Thomas Price.
Charles D. Gage.	C. F. Hammond.	Almon Atwood.
A. T. Germond.	E. P. West.	Mary C. Towns.
Seth Sylvester, Sr.	Abram Thomas.	Frank Furman.
Seth Sylvester, Jr.	Jacob Carter.	Mrs. Wilson.
James Sylvester.	Egbert Foster.	Leonard Bissell.
John Parsons.	Abner Baker.	Betsey Howard.
Joseph Kinsman.	Leonard Baker.	Sarah Rogers.
William Styles	C. D. Higley.	John Jackson.
David Lyons.	Chas. Bouton.	Geo. Jackson.
John Hobbs.	William Light.	F. W. Wells.
John Balsam.	C. P. Phelps.	P. E. Town.
D. P. Mapes.	Asher Armstrong.	Geo. C. White.
David Dunham.	David Worthing.	Henry Friday.
Eben Norton.	Wm. Worthing.	Thomas McCoy.
Henry Barnett.	Thos. Worthing.	John Leaty.
William Pool.	Henry Willard.	B. F. Strong.
Dr. S. G. Pickett.	Put Mason.	J. J. Gray.
G. W. Sexmith.	Norman Mason.	Gerrit Romain.
James McElroy.	Nathan Hunter.	

Colwert and Edward Pier were settlers who could tell all about the real hardships of pioneer life. From bitter experience they could tell of the unpleasant character of Indians and wolves as neighbors—how difficult it was to prevent the stealing of what they brought in and raised for food. Edward Pier's hardest experience was when the Indians stole and killed his cow on which he mainly depended for the support of his family during the winter.

The old Fond du Lac Company entered this land at the government land office at Green Bay, in 1835, and the following spring built the old log house. In June, 1836, Colwert Pier and wife went into it to live and were the only residents in the county. It was in February, 1836, that Edward and Colwert Pier first came here, and they slept on the ground on the banks of the river. Edward and his brother selected their land and Edward went to Green Bay for his family, returning in June, when he immediately began work on his farm south of the city, so well known to us all. In June, 1837, Miss Harriet Pier came from Vermont, and the following September Calvin Pier, with his wife and son, Oliver W., came from the same place, making a female circle of three and three families in the entire county. In March, 1838, John Bannister appeared with his family and the first year he was holding so many offices that one is reminded

on reading about it, of Pee Boo in the opera of Mikado. Among his offices was that of justice of the peace, and as such married Mr. Alonzo Raymond and Miss Harriet Pier, the first marriage in this county. In March, 1838, Mrs. Fanny, wife of Colwert Pier, died, which was the first funeral in the county. John A. Bannister, son of John Bannister, was born in June, 1838, and was the first birth in the county. He died in 1857, just as he was entering manhood.

When the pioneer settler of fifty years ago reached his land, his first obstacles were lack of shelter and of food. Lumber was scarce with which to erect shanties, and food very high in price. Our pioneers often went to Watertown and Sheboygan Falls with ox teams, to get grinding done, and over roads not much better than Indian trails. The streams had to be depended upon largely for power, as steam engines with accompanying boilers were heavy, cumbersome and difficult of transportation into a new country. Kerosene oil was unknown until well into the fifties and gasoline for power was more than a half century in the future. When his land was broken and his crop raised, it was no small job to gather and get it ready for use with the rude appliances then obtainable. Hay had to be cut with a scythe and small grain with the cradle, the latter an implement which many farmers in this day have never seen, but they were made in large numbers in Fond du Lac by M. Farnsworth, whose shop stood upon the ground now occupied by Mr. Cheney's stove store, on East First street. The pioneer threshed his grain by tramping it out with horses or pounding it out with flails, and when ready for the mill, the question was, where is the mill? To raise pigs, sheep or chickens, constant vigilance was required to save them from the Indians, wolves, dogs and other animals. And so the pioneer had a struggle for food. To obtain clothes for himself and family often required self-denial of the most rigid order and very close calculation from one year to another. They had little use for the silks, feathers and finery of our day, and tailor made clothing was not dreamed of.

The following exciting incidents in pioneer life, occurring in the town of Oakfield in 1840, two years after Dr. Darling had settled at Fond du Lac, are copied from Martin Mitchell's History of Fond du Lac County, printed in 1854:

"The first settlement was attempted in this town in 1840, by Mr. Russel Wilkinson, about one mile south of the present village of Avoca, at a place called the Wilkinson settlement. He purchased land, and removed his family from the county of Rensselaer in New York. The Indians had relinquished their title to the land, but still remained in the neighborhood, and were often committing various depredations upon Mr. Wilkinson, they finally burned his house, in the absence of the inmates; with his furniture and provisions. He concluded to abandon his farm for a season, got a pair of oxen and stoneboat (his wife in very delicate health) and removed his family to the house of Mr. Edward Pier in Fond du Lac. He remained in Fond du Lac until October, 1843, when he returned, accompanied by his brother Robert.

"They for a short time, were the only citizens of the town, but were soon followed by Mr. Botsford, Mr. Silvernail, Mr. Tanner and Mr. Hazen. The next year Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Ripley, Mr. Sykes and Mr. Westfall became their neighbors. There were no roads; Indian trails were the only thoroughfares, and the few settlers on many occasions, became acquainted with the hardships and privations of pioneer life. Provisions and groceries were only obtained at Green Bay, about seventy miles distant.

"Families were sometimes destitute of any kind of food, but potatoes, for four weeks in succession, and while the men were gone to Green Bay for provisions, women were frequently left entirely alone for three or four days and nights, surrounded by wolves and Indians.

"Mrs. Westfall was once left, not only alone, but destitute of any kind of food, but such berries or roots as the woods afforded, for three days and nights; and to make her condition more unpleasant, her fire became extinct, she had no means of rekindling it, and thus surrounded by wolves, Indians and innumerable mosquitos, she passed the night in total darkness. Mr. Westfall and his wife endured many hardships and suffered many privations; he was once lost in the woods forty-eight hours without food, in a severe rain storm; he finally reached his home with his clothes torn, his limbs swollen and lacerated, in a state of great exhaustion. He with his wife, endured the pinchings of poverty and misfortune, until January, 1847, when he was found frozen to death near what is now the village of Avoca, the first hamlet and postoffice in the town of Oakfield. When the railroad passed through Oakfield the site of the village was moved one mile west and called Oakfield. His widow was afterward married to Mr. Sherman Botsford, with whom she now lives, surrounded with all the comforts of life.

"Mr. John Wilkinson, who came into this town soon after his brothers Russell and Robert, was killed by the fall of a tree, about eighteen months after his arrival. He left a widow and four children. He had taken up forty acres of land, but had not paid for it. The neighbors, with that noble benevolence which is a peculiar characteristic of pioneers, in the midst of their own poverty and privations, raised the money, paid for the land and gave it to the bereaved family.

"Mr. Russell Wilkinson died suddenly of fever May 4th, 1847. His widow was afterward married to Mr. C. Tunison, with whom she now lives, on the same farm where they first lived in an Indian wigwam, till Mr. Wilkinson built a log house."

Hon. H. D. Hitt was also one of the pioneers of the town of Oakfield and knows of the struggles of the settlers by experience. And he knows the lay of the land from Milwaukee to Fond du Lac, having passed over the country more than once on foot.

The Sylvester family also know of country hardships by bitter experience. Meeting with misfortune, three dollars was the total family capital on arrival at Milwaukee. This was pooled for immediate use and nine months of hard work enabled them to start for

Fond du Lac, and on their arrival a shanty was erected on the well known Sylvester farm in Byron. They dug potatoes for Pat Kelly for one bushel in ten, and did other work for their neighbors to make both ends meet.

William Adams, who died recently at his home in the town of Eden, was one of the early pioneers of this county, and his face was familiar to most people of this city. He came to Fond du Lac county in 1847 and settled in the town of Forest, but afterwards moved to Empire, then to Eden where his home was for many years. Besides the homestead in Eden, he had long owned a farm in Eldorado. Mr. Adams was in many respects a remarkable man, capable, industrious, honest, he never failed in his undertakings. In his intercourse with his friends, he tried always to do his whole duty and few indeed will say he did not succeed. He was an honored member of the Old Settlers' Club and his death is greatly lamented.

At the beginning of this twentieth century, the pioneer of the west has but a slight realization of the obstacles encountered by the early settlers of Fond du Lac county. Railroad transportation is now obtainable to within a few miles of almost any point, while we had but miserable trails and not a rod of railroad in the state. All sorts of machinery and tools, including mills, may be had in a few days—they were not in existence when our pioneers struggled. All sorts of building material is now readily obtained, our pioneers were compelled to resort to logs and poles to build hovels to cover their heads from the storm. The western pioneer of today, of course meets with privations and annoyances, but the world in general has progressed too far for him to duplicate the experiences in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. A half century has brought remarkable changes. Will another half century leave any pioneers—will we have any frontier left for settlement—doubtful. The rapid rate of settlement the past few years, indicates an absorption of the country by settlers, long before the end of another fifty years.

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### The First City Directory.

The first city directory of Fond du Lac, that for the year 1857, was compiled by Bingham & Co., and printed in the office of the Fond du Lac Union. The entire book consists of 104 pages, forty-one of the pages being given to names of residents and sixty-three to summaries, notices and advertisements. The book contains about 1,700 names, indicating a total population of about 2,400. A. T. Glaze printed the book, assisted by two brothers by the name of Brown, who worked in the Union office. The copy now owned by Mr. Glaze, was found in the attic of the residence of Dr. T. S. Wright, on Forest Avenue, thirty-five years after it was printed. The ink used in printing the book holds its color and now, though nearly half a century has elapsed since it was issued, the book is in every respect as solid and perfect as when first given to the people forty-eight years ago. The condition and appearance indicate that it may last another half century if properly housed and cared for.



# EARLY DAYS FLOURING MILLS

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How They Were Built and Managed and Difficulties Encountered  
by Settlers in Getting Grinding Done.

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When the pioneers arrived in Fond du Lac county, among the first things inquired was, "Where can I get grinding done to feed myself and family, and where can I get lumber to cover ourselves from the storm?" The most important thing was food, for we must remember that the situation then was very different from that of the present time. Then the farmer's own wheat and corn as a grist must be taken to the mill and be ground by the miller, now the grain is sold readily and there is no waiting upon the motion of the miller or for the dam to fill with water to give power to his mill.

Flour, meal and feed for stock may now be had from dealers in extreme frontier towns. Our pioneers had to go to the mill, but where was the mill? Up to 1846 it was no uncommon thing to start out with oxen and wagon for Watertown and Sheboygan Falls with grists. The late Lyman F. Stow, J. C. Wedge, Seth Sylvester, Sr., E. A. Carey and others have been over these roads for this purpose. Cheap power except water, was many years in the future and steam engines and boilers are heavy and difficult of transportation into a new country.

The first mill within reasonable distance of Fond du Lac, however, was one driven by steam at Ball's Corners, Calumet, built in 1843, primarily for the Brothertown people by George W. Featherstonhaugh. It was located on a small brook, but the water was insufficient to drive it, so a small steam engine was obtained for it. It was of limited capacity, but was in use a number of years and when it burned, mills were more numerous and it was not rebuilt.

The experience of E. A. Carey at this mill may be related here. One morning in 1846, Ed. (as we all called him then) loaded his grist into his wagon and bright and early started for the mill. Getting there at noon the mill was silent and cold and no wood to get up steam. He helped to chop the wood and hauled it to the mill and got up steam, but his grist was completed so late he concluded to stay all night. In the morning his oxen were gone and he scoured the country looking for them, but not until in the afternoon did he find them leisurely pasturing on the prairie at Taycheedah. Driving them back to the wagon and the yoke, he loaded his grist and started for home at 10 o'clock at night. But soon another bitter experience came to him. At the foot of McClure's hill, this side of what is now Winnebago Park, the tire of one of the wheels of the wagon came off. He got it on in the darkness and managed to keep it on with a big stone in each hand, until he arrived home at 3 o'clock in the morning, without having had anything to eat since the morning be-

fore. Ed. says he was tired and hungry, for he had his boy appetite along with him. One can well imagine he would be very hungry and very tired, but to use a modern expression, "he got there just the same."

The Conklin mill in Empire was built in 1845, and did very good service for the settlers. It was of limited capacity, of course like all early day mills on small streams.

Next came the Seymour mill, on the west branch of the Fond du Lac river, near where Seymour street now crosses that stream. It was also limited in its capacity for work and during most of its existence was little more than a corn cracker and feed mill. It came into existence in 1848.

Capt. Soper originated his scheme for a mill on the east branch of the Fond du Lac river, just south of this city in 1849. Of course the water supply for power was small. It did very good work but was able to run only in the spring and fall when there was plenty of water. It has been out of existence many years.

The year 1850 brought a number of mills to this vicinity. The Ike Orvis mill at Avoca, near Oakfield, and the Conklin mill at Oakfield are still in use, but being located on a very small stream, are of limited capacity. The Allen mill, located on a small spring brook a short distance south of Winnebago Park, had the tremendous head of about sixty feet, but the water supply was so small that it never did much work. The Geisse mill at Taycheedah, was a steam mill, and the best and most reliable of its time. It was burned in 1854 and was not rebuilt. In 1857 T. S. Henry built a mill near the corner of Arndt and Brooke streets. It was run by steam, but was burned after a few years. In 1850 John Beeson, a brother of Edward Beeson, started a sawmill and turning factory at Waucousta, and in 1856 added a flouring mill to his plant there. Some later a mill was built at Dundee. Later on steam mills appeared at various places, but those had no part or lot in the pioneer days' experiences.

The Stone mill of Allen & Aldrich and Allen & Treleven had its origin at a much later period and for a long time was principally employed in grinding corn for Boyle Brothers' yeast factory. The Helmer mills came still later.

Silver Creek at Ripon, in the early days, was a fine stream for mills, and at one time there were no less than five flouring mills and one woolen factory on it within a distance of two and a half miles. Most of these long since disappeared and those left have steam for power much of the year. The water in the stream is now but about one-fourth of its former volume.

Waupun has had a water mill from about 1850, and like so many others was a very good one at first, but the water decreased in quantity to the extent that it became necessary to add steam.

In 1848 "it was proposed to erect a first-class three-story flouring mill in this city," and Messrs. Wheeler, Snow, Driggs and one or two others were interested in it. The timber for it was hewed and the frame erected at the corner of Macy and Court streets north of

the court house. That frame stood there many years and until weather beaten, when the structure was deemed unsafe and the city authorities ordered it removed. Just why the work was not proceeded with could not be ascertained, but it was believed to be due to a lack of the necessary capital.

Such were the mills of the early times and such the experience of the pioneers. After 1852 there was little trouble in getting grinding done and along toward 1860 an entirely new era set in, when the Minneapolis and other big millers began the work of distributing their product and it has pretty much wiped out the small mills; they being used now, if used at all, as mere corn crackers and feed mills. The railroads have reached out to even the small villages and the product of the large mills is thus distributed so readily that practically we have no frontier to need mills. The days of privation such as our pioneers experienced, have passed away forever.

Let the people of today try to realize the situation here in the winter of 1847-'48. when wheat, corn, buckwheat and rye were pounded in a big mortar made of wood instead of being ground in a mill. People now find fault with roller made flour if not in the perfection of milling and obtained at an hour's notice. Fifty years ago our predecessors were glad to get anything for bread—grain pounded in a mortar and unbolted was gladly accepted. Ask B. J. Gilbert, Jay Roblee, James and Seth Sylvester and others of that period, who experienced it. It is said of good natured Jo. Hall, that during that winter when everything was frozen and the mills could not run because of scarcity of water, Jo. went to Sheboygan Falls with a grist and the miller told him he could not get it in less than four weeks unless it rained or thawed. Jo. told him he did not dare to go home for his wife would kill him if he returned without the grist, and when supper time came Jo. offered to pay the miller a quarter to go into his house and see them eat bread, which would be a real curiosity to him. Jo.'s humor induced the miller to tell him if he would keep out of sight until after dark and would leave for home at two o'clock in the morning, he would run his grist through for him. Jo.'s fund of humor was used to some purpose that time.

Edward Beeson was at Geisse's mill at Taycheedah, the day his son, J. J. Beeson, founder of the Reporter, was supposed to be stolen by the Indians, but was asleep in a hen's nest behind a board leaning against a tree.

The old mills have now nearly all passed from existence and reading about them here is all the knowledge some people will have that they ever were here. People now living or in the future to come, will not have experiences such as our ancestors had in this important matter. The conditions are different, the way of doing things is different. Let us therefore read and reflect on what those pioneers did for us; how they endured privations and suffered for us and left this grand and beautiful country in shape for us to enjoy. Let us cherish their memory and give them at least an occasional thought.

### Forgot His Wife at Oshkosh.

During one of the winters of many years ago, a musical convention was held at Oshkosh, and many Fond du Lac people attended. Among the musical notables was Emerson Hawley, who assisted in conducting the convention. When ready to return home, two large sleighs and one cutter carried the party. They came over on the ice, and as they neared the mouth of the river, Mr. Hawley discovered that he had forgotten something—his wife. She was in that city and alone, so the only thing to be done was to go back after her, so the cutter was headed north and the balance of the party came on home. Annoying as the forced return was to Mr. Hawley, the annoyance by his friends for months about forgetting his wife, was much more so. It was a long time before he heard the last of it.

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### Council Wants Circus Tickets.

In 1858 the common council of Fond du Lac passed a resolution that in future all circuses must pay a license and furnish tickets for members of the council and city officers. When Yankee Robinson's show came there was a kick and the show put up its tent on Rahte's farm, south of the city and just outside the city limits. An old wagon and a pair of sorry looking horses now appeared on the streets with fife and drum and a large man with tremendous voice, declaring readiness to pay the license but stopped at the tickets. Between each of the announcements came rattling of the fife and drum that would scare an Indian out of town. The scene provoked much laughter and for ridicule it was a great success and no more was ever heard about circus tickets. In after years it delighted Jo. Serwe to tell of the affair.

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### An Albino Barber.

M. Wagner & Son now have a fine dry goods store at the north-west corner of Main and West Second streets, but there was a time that a small wood building stood on that ground and Horace Durand had a harness shop in it. In the rear for a long time stood the old building known as the Exchange Hotel, now a part of the Lewis House. For a long time one of the occupants of the old Exchange, was a full Albino, pink eyes, florid complexion and light hair, named Mitchell, who carried on a barber shop there. His wife was a negro of considerable ability and drew many a customer to the shop by story telling. Her use of the language was fine, but her husband was remarkable for the use of big words. He constantly kept in use the most remarkable words in the dictionary, without reference to meaning or place. He would work in several big words in succession and to the extent that his talk was unintelligible. The longer the word or the more infrequent in use, the better for him. His talk was laughable for the intelligent and perplexing for the ignorant. He was most remarkable and his peculiarity besides his wife's story telling, brought him customers.

## DRUGS AND MEDICINES

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Those Who Sold Medicines in Early Days and Who are Selling  
Them Now — Apothecary — Druggist — Pharmacist.  
Wonderful Developments in the Business.

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The business man now known as a "pharmacist," a few years back was universally known as a "druggist," but aged people now living remember that "apothecary" was the familiar name applied to the business of keeping medicines in a store. And how different the practice! The apothecary of former times was expected to gather and prepare domestic remedies for use. His sphere embraced the refining of crude articles, coming sometimes from foreign countries. He compounded and put up Godfrey's Cordial, Bateman's Drops, Macassar Oil, Golden Tincture and many other like articles, then generally used. He steeped, percolated and filtered his own roots and herbs and made pills. He was a busy man, though he had very few or no prescriptions to prepare, and found little time for "sitting around." He knew nothing of the alkaloids, tablets, sugar coated pills and fine tinctures now prepared in every desirable form at the city pharmacies, supplied with every known appliance for such work, and where these articles are furnished in almost endless variety and in doses sized to suit the physician. The crude remedy and big dose, so familiar to the apothecary, are now almost unknown. The prescription business now so common, is the growth of comparatively few years, and was almost unknown to the apothecary. In his day the physician bought his medicines and appliances at the store and dispensed them at his office or from his saddlebags.

The modern methods became known to some extent when the druggist was recognized. The name, as well as the improved medical methods, was a matter of growth. The druggist was supplied with many of the refined articles and the physicians gladly adopted them. New discoveries were constantly being made in the treatment of diseases as well as in the remedies used. In this as in most things, the march of improvement was onward.

But about the year 1880 the word pharmacist was recognized, and in 1882, when the Wisconsin legislature authorized the first pharmaceutical board, the word pharmacist came into use. The young practitioner of pharmacy today, has little conception of the work of the apothecary, though the druggist is not an entire stranger. The pharmacist of our day has everything in the highest degree professional and useful. His medicines come from pharmacies and drug mills known everywhere for the perfection of their product, hence prescriptions are put up with the greatest confidence as to efficacy and cleanliness. Errors are practically eliminated by the pharmaceutical law. There may be found in these stores a few articles

known to the trade as "commercial," but they are not used for medical prescriptions. The complaint that is heard most is that of a lack of cleanliness, something that should be practiced above all else by the pharmacist. The prescription case should be kept scrupulously clean, and graduated measures, knives, mortars, slabs and all appliances are carefully washed by the pharmacist every time they are used. Complaints are sometimes heard of in the matter, but it is pleasing to note that it is not often. Remedy this and there will be little to complain of in modern pharmacy.

Dr. T. B. Brigham, it is said by some, was the first Fond du Lac druggist, but the truth seems to be that he was hardly doctor or druggist. He was a missionary preacher, stopping on his periodical journeyings from Green Bay to Fond du Lac, at Stockbridge, Brothertown and other hamlets, to doctor the natives and preach to them. He had in one corner of Clock & Weikert's store, in the Fond du Lac house in 1846, a few bottles, boxes and bundles containing often used medicines, and this was styled a "drug store."

Dr. O. S. Wright established the first real drug store in Fond du Lac in 1847, and continued until 1851, when he sold out.

D. R. Curran came here the same year, 1847, and opened his drug store, which he continued many years. The store was located in the building of the New York store of A. P. & G. N. Lyman, in charge of Wm. A. Dewey, on the east side of Main street, between First and Second. The drug store was in the south end, on the land on which the Fonda restaurant now stands. Burned out with the whole block in 1852, it was re-opened on the west side of the street, where it remained many years.

Root & Partridge opened the next drug store in Fond du Lac, in the middle room of the old Darling block and it was the first business in that memorable structure, though the stores of Brownson & Laughlin in the south end and T. & B. Mason in the north end, opened close to the same time. J. R. & J. W. Partridge continued the business until 1856, when it was sold.

#### Here Since 1846.

Wright, O. S.	Kent & Durand.	Stiles, S. B.
Curran, D. R.	Krumme, F.	Wright & Hiner.
Partridge, J. R. & J. W.	Lowell, J. C.	Kalk & Kent.
Wright, T. S.	Miner, Jay.	Kendall & Co.
Krembs, Morritz.	Marshall & Dana.	Lange, Ed.
Blinkenburg, F.	Marshall, C. H.	Wright & Hamilton.
Brown, M. A.	Mitchell & Pfeil.	Wallichs & Dilts.
Baumbach & Jacobi.	Moulton & Griffith.	Dana, James T.
Curran & Kalk.	Root & Partridge.	Breed, Geo. N.
Curran & Son.	Rupp, L. & O.	Geisse, Chas.
Ditter, John.	Spence, S. B.	Geisse & Taugher.
Ditter & Mitchell.	Stiles & Givens.	
Huber, J. C.	Wright & Tucker.	

### In Business Here Now.

The Huber Bros.	Reeves & Son.	Pfeil & Kremer.
Remington Drug Co.	Frank V. Masilko.	B. Buchholz Co.
W. R. Plank Drug Co.	W. W. Breister.	Utter Drug Co.
Schleyer & Ordway.	Sallade & Ruh.	

The longest continuous business in this line in Fond du Lac, is that of the Hubers established in 1864, and it has been in the same store from the beginning, all the time in charge of Mr. J. C. Huber. His advancing age and poor health has caused him of late to put the business in the hands of his son, E. J. Huber.

J. R. & J. W. Partridge had what was doubtless the handsomest drug store Fond du Lac has ever had. The fixtures and furniture was a nice imitation of rosewood, the shelf furnishings were remarkably neat and the entire store was always kept clean and in order. Mr. J. W. Partridge, who was in charge, took great pride in the neatness of the store.

D. R. Curran and his son, Ed. S. Curran, when he came to manhood, were popular in the community and their store was always a prominent resort, and it was seldom during business hours that their store was empty of callers. Prominent men from out of town were sure to call at Curran's before leaving for home, and it was the place of all others in Fond du Lac to leave requests. Fred Kalk learned the business in this store and he and Mr. Curran were probably known personally to almost everybody in the county.

S. B. Spence, so well known here as "Sammy," was a graduate of the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy, and his store was a popular resort for young men. He possessed a remarkably genial disposition, but tuberculosis of the lungs brought him to an early grave.

Dr. T. S. Wright was for some years the only surgeon here for capital operations and he was a conscientious druggist, refusing to sell anything from his store on Sundays except medicine for the sick or to a physician.

Eleven drug stores now doing business in Fond du Lac, seems to be an abundant supply, but there was a time that we had fourteen and the population of the city was not as large as it is now. The number of physicians in practice here previous to 1850, was greater in proportion to population than it has ever been since. The number of physicians now here is believed by many to be large in proportion to population, but as near as can be ascertained the proportion has not varied much since 1850. The number of drug stores is now a little below the average. The proportion of drug stores to people in the state, is said to be less now than it was twenty years ago, and the reason for it probably lies in the pharmaceutical law which requires the employment of a licentiate in pharmacy, a registered pharmacist or a graduated physician to conduct the business, which many cannot afford. There are many general and village stores that keep a few articles on sale, together with patent medicines, but nothing of the nature of poisons and are not drug stores. We have in the villages of this county, some such stores.

In the early days when the apothecaries ruled in these things, many very useful articles were sold in large quantities that are seldom or never heard of now. The apothecary bought dye-stuffs by the barrel, such as madder, fustic, logwood, etc., and sold them to the housewives by the pound, but they are seldom heard of now. If home dyeing is done at all, it is with packet dyes. If the crude dyes are now kept by the pharmacist, it is in very small quantities, not by the barrel as required by the apothecary.

Another disappearance from the sales of the pharmacist, is the dry colors for paints. In former times dry white lead, chrome yellow and green, rose-pink, lampblack, etc., had a regular demand, but how changed is the situation in the sales of dry colors! Paints are prepared now at paint mills, ready for the brush and put up in kegs and cans.

It is not much more than a half century since varnish factories put in an appearance and the apothecary made his own copal and Japan varnish for the use of cabinet shops that had an existence. Many of the coach, carriage and piano makers bought the gums and made their own varnish. All this is now changed and all the varnish comes from factories.

But who that was familiar with the drug store of fifty or even twenty-five years ago, and looks at the contents of the show cases in a pharmacy of today, does not recognize the enormous increase in what is known as "druggists' sundries." These articles have increased at least ten fold and new ones constantly appearing. And patent medicines, known as "proprietary articles," have increased in about the same proportion. When we notice the fact that the book and stationery stores have all disappeared, and frequent attempts to re-establish such stores met with failure, we realize that it is due to the fact that the drug stores deal extensively in stationery and many of them in books. And so changes are constantly going on, not only in the drug stores, but in many other lines of business.

The pioneers of this county went to the cabinet shop for furniture, to the harness shop for harness, to the shoe shop for boots and shoes, to the plow shop for plows, to the wagon shop for wagons, to the fanning mill shop for fanning mills and so on, for such shops were here then, but all this is changed now. These articles are now made at factories, the mechanic with his shop has no show and has been compelled to abandon the field. The mechanic cannot compete with the factory.

### City of Ripon.

Following are the names of the pharmacists who have occupied the field at Ripon, David Greenway being the first:

David Greenway.	Sherwood & Kessler.	Wright & Brayton.
Isaac Cooper.	Sherwood & Marshal.	Brayton & Co.
De Frees & Eskew.	Frank Uhrlein.	O. U. Akin.
Wm. Gale.	J. R. Hunter.	E. J. Burnside.
Burdett Phelps.	F. R. Hanchett.	Ottmer Schallern.
F. D. Booth.	Jones & Brayton.	Cook & Hubbard.



### Now in the Business.

E. J. Burnside.

Ottmer Schallern.

Cook &amp; Hubbard.

The above is believed to be a complete list, though there may have been one or two overlooked. There is a less number of druggists there now than there were for many years, and it is noticeable that all the old occupants of the field have disappeared. Mr. Burnside and Dr. Schallern have been in the business there some years but do not belong to the old school. The druggist in the longest continuous business there was DeFrees & Eskew, but their firm disappeared some years ago. Mr. Eskew never resided in Ripon and Mr. DeFrees is dead. And so the older ones continue to disappear and new ones take their places.

### City of Waupun.

The following is a complete list of those who have been in the drug business at Waupun from the beginning:

W. C. Griffis.

E. B. Patton.

D. J. Turner.

Robert Hobkirk.

J. V. Preston.

R. W. Wells.

F. S. Keech.

H. McCourchis

### In Business There Now.

E. B. Patton.

D. J. Turner.

H. McCourchis

Brandon—W. A. Turner.

Campbellsport—Wm. Reinhart, Paas &amp; Hendricks.

Fairwater—Oliver M. Layton.

North Fond du Lac—J. E. Koepenick.

Oakfield—Burns Bros.

Rosendale—McKnight &amp; Co.

R. M. Wells, now dead, was the pioneer druggist at Waupun, and it is proper here to say, that in his lifetime, he was one of the most popular business men in that place. It was a noteworthy fact there, that Mr. Wells never refused medicine to any one because of inability to pay for it, and it would be furnished at any time, night or day. His widow still resides in Waupun.

But one of the above druggists belonged to Fond du Lac county—all the rest were in Dodge county.

Most of the villages in the county are without drug stores, for the reason that the pharmacy law requires that they be cared for by a graduated physician, a registered pharmacist or a licentiate in pharmacy, and the expense is too heavy. General stores often keep a few of the common domestic articles, but nothing in the nature of poisons can be lawfully sold without the above supervision. This has been the law since 1882.

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Two horse thieves who escaped from the county jail in 1857, when Geo. W. Mitchell was sheriff, were followed so close that they hid in the flues of a brick kiln near the present Bowen factory, when they were yet so hot that it was wondered how they ever stood it.

### Stone Yard Experiment.

Many years ago a stone yard was started in Fond du Lac and much of the stone to be seen in our buildings was dressed there. Most of the stone used was from quarries in the ledge below Taycheedah. The yard was not in existence very long, but it was demonstrated while it was here, that Fond du Lac has near at hand any quantity of splendid building stone, and all that is needed to make it available is capital. The ledge is twenty miles long and the stone is absolutely inexhaustible. The stone yard was located on the bank of the river and north of Division street to the grounds of the present malt house. The Bullis livery barn was put there since, but the place was far too small for the business. The place seemed more like a lot where stone was being made ready for a building than a yard for the preparation of a general stock. The stone was fine, but in the absence of proper machinery to dress it, the hand work gave it a rough look. In short, the work was not as neat and finished in appearance. Among the builders at that time and since, the impression was general that stone from the ledge, properly cut and finished, could be readily sold. To do this work as it ought to be done, machinery must be used, but to put it up and dress the stone in the city or at the quarries, is an important question. All these things belong to practical men to consider. Fond du Lac has at hand some of the best building stone in the state, and the only question is how to utilize it. That the one attempt made was a failure, ought not to hinder others and more practical men with capital. Transportation of stone is an important item by rail or team, and this was doubtless the reason for cutting the stone here by Henry Bannister in old times. With all this fine material at our doors, why should Fond du Lac not have a stone yard of modern appliances.

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### Amory Hall and the Peak Family.

When Amory block, opposite the Palmer House, was completed in 1856, the people of Fond du Lac were proud of the structure, the largest and best in the city, and were especially proud of Amory Hall. The dome was very neat and the brackets of the side walls were beautiful. They are yet, except that they are dingy from neglect and non-use of the hall. It has been suggested many times that it would not be a difficult or expensive undertaking to make that building into a beautiful modern opera house, but it more than filled the bill of wants in that line, for the people of Fond du Lac, at the time. The Peak Family of bell ringers are well remembered by all old timers, as they have been here many times, but they opened Amory Hall. They gave the first performance in it and the crowd present was very large—every nook and corner was crowded. They introduced the songs "Pretty Little Polly Perkins" and "Johnny Schmoker," so much sung here for many years.

# INDIANS AND INDIAN PAYMENTS

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## Some Interesting Information Relative to the Indians and the Ways of Government Officials in Paying Annuities.

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Up to 1852 the Menomonee Indians roamed over this section of country at will. Between Milwaukee, Theresa and Shawano, their visits were frequent. They were not as troublesome as were the Winnebagos, but all were glad when they were gone. The Menomonees were the last of the Indians here, and since they were moved to their reservation at Keshena, in 1852, an Indian in blanket has been a curiosity in Fond du Lac. Solomon Juneau was the guiding star of the Menomonees. They depended upon him for counsel and he settled their disputes. His home was in Milwaukee and they frequently traveled long distances to get his advice. He sometimes came to Fond du Lac and Oshkosh to set things right, and at such times these places had more Indians than they desired. At the time of the trial before the county judge at Oshkosh, relative to the ownership of a child claimed by the Partridges to have been stolen from them by the Indians while at work in a sugar camp, nearly the whole of the tribe was there and the feeling was bitter. Solomon Juneau was there and old Chief Oshkosh was there, holding the Indians in check and trouble was avoided.

The two years immediately preceding the removal of the Menomonees to Keshena, the camp for the payment of annuities by the United States government, was on the south shore of Lake Poygan and we are telling the story of the payments for the information of people who now know little about Indians from actual observation. The government Indian agent always had one or two companies of soldiers present to insure order. The tribe is divided into bands, each band having a leader. When ready to pay them, the Indian agent and clerk counts out the money on a table in equal piles for each man, woman and child of the band. This table is placed between two doors on opposite sides of the cabin, then as the names are called, each marches through alone and without stopping, holding up the corner of his blanket, into which the agent drops his share of the money. After all have been paid, and it includes all, children as well as older ones, the band is marched away to a vacant spot, where all are seated on the ground in a circle. The share of the band payable in supplies such as salt pork and beef, flour, salt, etc., is rolled to the center of the circle each Indian having bags receives his share under direction of the leader of the band. As the writer of this watched this part of the work, he was impressed that some received more than their share—possibly favorites—but there was no trouble visible. Implements for gardening and working patches of corn were not given to the individuals but bestowed upon the whole

of the band. Each band of the whole tribe went through this process. The payment was a rather slow process for the reason that the roll was verified and signed by each band separately as such before another was paid. The evident object of the agent was to have the work satisfactory as it progressed and not leave it to the end.

At the door of the cabin where the Indians came out with their money in the corner of their blankets, is where the agents of the traders got in their work on dishonest Indians who did not want to pay their debts. If one showed a disposition not to pay, the agents would seize him and take from him enough to pay the debt. To take more than this was not allowed by law. Once in a while an Indian would jump from the door and run and there would be an exciting chase, but the agents generally managed to capture him.

The camps generally lasted about ten days, and as the steamboats ran there every day and there were temporary hotels, a great many people went to see what was going on. But gambling was the great attraction. Every sort of game was played with cards, and there was keno, dice, wheels and all sorts of devices. The gambling tables were crowded every night and all night. The hotel men often had to drive the gamblers out to set the tables for breakfast. Few of the Indians seemed to gamble, so that feature of the Indian payments must have been brought there by others. There were several shows there including a theatre. The Indians had pet bears and other petted wild animals, some of them very interesting. In the evening the tom-tom playing and dancing and Indian flute playing attracted crowds of people at the camp. But all this long since passed away and interest in the red man belongs only to history. A wild Indian in paint and blanket is a curiosity in Fond du Lac now, but at the time of which we write, they were to be seen loafing around almost every day, sometimes singly, but oftener in companies of three to twenty. A favorite place for their wigwams was among the small trees and brush then existing plentifully east of Main street and between Merrill street and the lake shore. The wigwams were generally found in groups of two to five. The Indian boys were sometimes seen on the streets with bows and arrows to shoot at pennies set up by the curious on split sticks stuck in the ground, but candor compels the assertion that their marksmanship was poor. They would often shoot at a penny many times before bringing it down, though the distance was not great. The proverbial skill of the noble red man with his bow and arrow was seldom seen here.

It was fortunate for early settlers in Fond du Lac county, that the Winnebago Indians were moved to the Wisconsin river region before they came, but some stragglers would return, and sometimes in sufficient numbers to make trouble. It was undoubtedly these fellows who did the mischief in Oakfield at the Wilkinson settlement, for no one who knew the Menomonees believe they were guilty of such an atrocity. After some years these Winnebagos began to be troublesome to the people at Stevens Point, Grand Rapids and other places along the Wisconsin river, and the general government again

removed them, this time west of the Mississippi river. But Col. Moore, of LaCrosse, who had them in charge, could not make them stay there and most of them straggled back to the region of Black River Falls, and have since behaved themselves very well. In pursuing his work on Indian legends, Col. R. G. Thewaltz, of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, spent some weeks among them, and regards them as having made at least some progress in general civilization since they were here.

Wandering bands of Pottonwalomies and Chippewas were occasionally in Fond du Lac in early days, but were generally simply passing on their way and their stay was short.

The Brothertowns were civilized when they were brought from the east to settle on their lands on the east shore of Lake Winnebago, and soon after arriving here were made citizens by an act of congress. But as has been shown by other experiments, Indian blood cannot stand civilization and the Brothertowns have become almost extinct.

An "Indian party" and a "citizens' party" divided the Stockbridge tribe when it was brought here from the east to settle upon land on the east side of Lake Winnebago, immediately north of the Brothertowns. John W. Quinney, leader of the Indian party, and Mr. Adams, leader of the citizens' party, spent much time at Washington, harrassing congress and the government officials for relief from the annoyances of the situation. After some years the Indian adherents were moved north to Shawano county, and the citizen adherents remained here. But it was a mere matter of time with them and few are now left to tell the tale of the once great Stockbridge nation. John W. Quinney plead at Washington for the lives of his people whom he said would perish amid scenes of farm life, but they also died off in the woods and wilds of Shawano county.

These are the Indians that Fond du Lac county people were familiar with in early days, and whether good or bad Indians, no one cares to see them here again.

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### First Harness Made Here.

The first harness made in Fond du Lac county was by Lyman Bishop. He drove stage to Milwaukee to buy the material and brought it back with him. He worked in an attic room at Peebles, below Taycheedah, and sold them so readily that he continued there about a year. At this time one could not go to Milwaukee or Chicago and buy ready made harness, this practice not coming in until war time when the demand was great and harness makers hard to find. The demand by the blockade runners was so heavy that immense shops were started at the east and harness makers not in the army, went there. There was one shop at Newark, N. J., that worked 450 men on harness for the south, ordered by blockade runners, and this shop was but one of many. The price of harness leather was very high. Mr. Bishop moved his appliances to Fond du Lac in 1850, after building his shop at Main and Third streets, and continued it until his death.

### Early Theatre Methods.

Theatre methods were quite different in early times when theatres played in Darling's and Ward & Windecker's hall. A one night or even a one week stand would have been looked upon as ridiculous. Langrische & Atwater, G. J. Adams and others came to stay as long as they could make it pay, which was generally two weeks to a month. The plays presented were seldom new ones, the people being satisfied with Shakespeare, Scott, Kalzefal and other old timers, and a farce must always end the night's performance. Mid-night was the hour for people to get home from the theatre. And the Yankee character was quite different from the "Josh Whitcomb" of today. The Yankee drawl and the Yankee trick belonged to the specialist like "Yankee Miller," "Yankee Robinson," etc., the balance of the company having little to do. The Yankee character of that day is not here now. And the minstrel show was different. At that time the minstrel show was mainly minstrelsy. Singing and dancing, banjo playing and repartee by the end men, made up the performance. Dick Sliter, Tom Emerson, Tom Baker and others of the old timers, would have scorned the foolish attempts at fun in the negro performance of today.

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### A Holland Dutch Windmill.

Fond du Lac at one time had a windmill, not of the modern species, but one of the old Holland Dutch sort, with long arms and sails such as Don Quixote and Sancho Panza fought for the honor of Don's Dulcinea del Tobaso. The Fond du Lac specimen was never fought much even by the grain it was expected to grind. It may have run some but very few ever saw it going. It was located at the southwest corner of Western Avenue and Oak streets, and near the Western Avenue bridge. It was built and equipped by John Cavanagh, but not being efficient it was soon taken down and the premises used by him as a general cooper shop. Mr. Cavanagh is still with us and makes cisterns at his shop on upper Main street. He once had a shop on West Second street, where he bought pork for two or three cents a pound, some of which was packed, some tried into lard, spare ribs sold for one-half cent a pound and the rough grease made into soap.

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### Injury of Edward Pier.

It has probably been forgotten by the older people and not known to the younger, that Edward Pier met with a painful accident three years before his death, and it was believed by the family that it hastened his death. Riding in a two seat buggy on Western Avenue, near the five points, the rear seat of the buggy seems not to have been fastened, tipped over backward and threw Mr. Pier into the street, seriously injuring his spine and shoulders. He was laid up with the injury a long time, but finally got around though not as active as before.

# PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

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Doctors Who Came to the County in Early Days and Those Here  
Now, with Personal Characteristics of Some  
of Them.

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People generally expect much of the physician. Who has not heard the remark that if the doctor understood his business he could cure all ailments of his suffering patients. These people, many of them quite intelligent, seem not to remember that the human system is an exceedingly complicated machine; one far more intricate than anything human hands can build or the mind contrive, and subject to complications beyond the most active imagination. The physician himself is often unable to understand results largely because he is left in the dark relative to the private or inner life of his patient. He cannot penetrate the private character and discover the many little things hidden there, any one of which may give activity to numerous lesions, wholly different in different individuals. In other words, no two persons are exactly alike, nor do the same troubles run exactly the same course in any two patients, or who need the same remedies in the treatment of their maladies. One class of patients may be of strong bilious temperament, another class the opposite in lymphatic and still another in the sanguine or nervous. Some are nervous and flighty, others are peaceful and quiet, with peculiarities of disposition and inherited troubles almost numberless.

These are a few of the conditions which no one, not even the physician can always understand or successfully combat. Many things which the doctor ought to know are hidden from him by the patient and he must get at the truth as best he can, if he gets it at all. And besides these many complications is the fact that the patient is not always loyal to the doctor. Too often orders are not obeyed, resulting in probable injury to the patient and disgust and disappointment to his physician.

Medicine is not an exact science and never can be, and the physician can only make use of the best means at his disposal, based upon his best judgment. Friends of the different schools of practice claim a great deal for them, yet those who indorse them must all meet the same physical and professional tangles. The doctor's treatment may result quite satisfactorily and it may result disastrously, with little knowledge on his part of why it is so, in either event. He can only use the best means his school or his best judgment gives him and abide results.

## Experience a Wonderful School.

Experience is a wonderful school and in the last half century the physicians and surgeons have learned some interesting and important

lessons. They have become familiar with diseases and pathological conditions and learned methods of treatment that were practically unknown fifty years ago. Bright's disease of the kidneys, diphtheria, appendicitis, tuberculosis except as recognized in consumption of the lungs, and operation for tumors, now so frequently resorted to, were almost unknown and if the old physicians and surgeons of fifty years ago could return to their practice now they would be almost powerless to combat the new conditions they would meet. Wonderful progress has been made in surgery, and the remedies used in the treatment of diseases are now in the forms of alkaloids, tablets and refined tinctures, minimizing the dose to the extent that it is no longer necessary to use a tablespoon or teacup in the administration of a remedy. Bleeding, blisters, cupping, vomits and some other old heathen methods are almost wholly eliminated from the doctor's modes of cure. Homeopathic, hydropathic and electric systems have made great progress, while osteopathy and christian science have been known and practiced, but a very few years. The text books used in the medical colleges fifty years ago are now curiosities and the modern doctor, glancing through them, wonders at the crude methods of cure.

### What of the Next Half Century.

The advancement made especially in materia medica and diagnosis, which the practicing physician notes almost every day, causes him to wonder what the situation will be at the end of another half century. With the four years' course of training now required by all reputable medical schools, the remarkable chemical knowledge displayed in the preparation of remedies, the great care and discrimination in the use of them, and the acuteness of perception in diagnosis, ought at least to shorten the suffering and delay the ravages of death in a marked degree as compared with the present. Fifty years more added to the past, ought to bring wonderful results and be a lasting benefit to the race.

### Physicians of Fifty Years Ago.

Of the physicians here fifty years ago, all are dead. In fact the list seems not to have been made up of long lived men. Dr. Darling, Dr. Adams, Dr. Walker and possibly Dr. T. S. Wright, may have reached 70 years, but not much beyond the three score and ten of the Scriptures. Following is the list of Fond du Lac doctors from the earliest arrival to the present time. Only those who have compiled such lists can realize the difficulties to be encountered. There may be a few names omitted, but the list is as complete as it is possible to get it at this time:

#### Resident Physicians in 1850.

Dr. Adams.	Dr. Howard.	Dr. H. L. Wilkins.
Dr. Babcock.	Dr. Pantillon.	Dr. T. S. Wright.
Dr. Darling.	Dr. Tallmadge.	Dr. O. S. Wright.
Dr. Galloway.	Dr. Walker.	



## From 1848 to the Present Time.

Dr. J. O. Ackerman.	Dr. F. L. Foster.	Dr. F. H. Moll.
Dr. E. C. Allard.	Dr. B. E. Gifford.	Dr. Nye.
Dr. E. E. Atkins.	Dr. A. C. Gibson.	Dr. C. C. Olmsted.
Dr. F. M. Baker.	Dr. S. E. Gavin.	Dr. Ogden.
Dr. E. B. Beeson.	Dr. E. L. Griffin.	Dr. T. J. Patchen.
Dr. C. A. Beebe.	Dr. E. Gray.	Dr. U. R. Patchen.
Dr. F. H. Bell.	Dr. L. P. Hinn.	Dr. R. A. Palmer.
Dr. L. A. Bishop.	Dr. Hancker.	Dr. S. G. Pickett.
Dr. G. C. Bowe.	Dr. B. Holmes.	Dr. A. J. Pullen.
Dr. G. T. Boyd.	Dr. W. B. Hendricks.	Dr. D. A. Raymond.
Dr. S. S. Bowers.	Dr. W. H. Jenny.	Dr. Flora A. Read.
Dr. G. N. Brazeau.	Dr. Morritz Krembs.	Dr. F. J. Richter.
Dr. E. J. Breitzman.	Dr. S. A. Krumme.	Dr. M. T. Richie.
Dr. Elliott Brown.	Dr. Lilly.	Dr. R. W. Root.
Dr. Cantillon.	Dr. H. B. Lindley.	Dr. G. T. Scheib.
Dr. Amazi Cary.	Dr. A. Linsenmeyer.	Dr. T. J. Scheube.
Dr. Carolin.	Dr. P. E. Langdon.	Dr. A. Smead.
Dr. J. P. Connell.	Dr. G. B. McKnight.	Dr. S. S. Stack.
Dr. F. E. Donaldson.	Dr. G. T. McDougall.	Dr. Henry Twohig.
Dr. H. B. Dale.	Dr. J. H. McNeel.	Dr. Wm. Wiley.
Dr. K. L. DeSombre.	Dr. T. F. Mayham.	Dr. F. S. Wiley.
Dr. A. F. Deveraux.	Dr. S. L. Marston.	Dr. W. B. Wilson.
Dr. Dixon.	Dr. J. G. Miller.	Dr. F. A. Wright.
Dr. E. F. Dodge.	Dr. G. V. Mears.	Dr. D. B. Wyatt.
Dr. L. Eudemiller.	Dr. Wm. Minahan.	Dr. John D. Wyatt.

## Now in Practice Here.

Dr. J. O. Ackerman.	Dr. J. P. Connell.	Dr. Wm. Minahan.
Dr. E. C. Allard.	Dr. S. E. Gavin.	Dr. R. A. Palmer.
Dr. E. E. Atkins.	Dr. L. P. Hinn.	Dr. Flora A. Read.
Dr. F. M. Baker.	Dr. B. Holmes.	Dr. Pillsbury.
Dr. C. A. Beebe.	Dr. S. A. Krumme.	Dr. L. J. Rhoades.
Dr. L. A. Bishop.	Dr. G. B. McKnight.	Dr. G. F. Scheib.
Dr. G. C. Bowe.	Dr. Kehl.	Dr. Henry Twohig.
Dr. G. T. Boyd.	Dr. G. T. McDougall.	Dr. F. S. Wiley.
Dr. G. N. Brazeau.	Dr. J. H. McNeel.	Dr. F. A. Wright.
Dr. E. J. Breitzman.	Dr. T. F. Mayham.	Dr. D. B. Wyatt.
Dr. F. L. Foster.	Dr. G. V. Mears.	

## Dr. Mason C. Darling.

Dr. Mason C. Darling is conceded by all who knew him personally and by reputation, to have been a man above the average. Politically he served the people in every grade of usefulness from ditch digger to the halls of congress. Professionally his work showed he had few superiors in medicine and surgery, and as a manager of public enterprises he was a genius. Fond du Lac owes so much to Dr. Darling for the proud position it holds in the state that its people would be in one sense justified in canonizing his memory. We speak of that which we know from a long personal acquaintance, when we say he was a good man, an honest, honorable man. His ability to adapt himself to circumstances is shown by an incident in his surgical experience.

While on his way from Sheboygan in 1838, while coming here, he found a man badly frozen, and gangrene having set in it became necessary to amputate a hand or foot, it is not now remembered which, and no amputating instruments or even a proper knife being obtainable, he directed a blacksmith how to make a suitable knife and sharpened it on a grindstone, whetstone and razor strop. A tendon hook was made of a table fork, common saw was used for a surgical saw, and after the amputation was complete the wound was closed with a common needle and thread and the patient made a rapid recovery. The knife used is now in possession of Dr. John Darling, of St. Paul, grandson of Dr. Darling.

He was a native of Amherst, Mass., and came west in 1838 in pursuit of health, being an invalid on a mattress when he started. He gained rapidly, stayed here and became a well man. Besides being a graduate in medicine and surgery, Dr. Darling had more than the ordinary capacity of men in politics and the general affairs of life. He was our first member of congress under the state government, and at different times was sought for by his fellow citizens for official positions of almost every grade. He left here in 1864, it is said against his will, to reside in Chicago, but had he lived he would have returned. He died in December, 1866, and his remains were brought back for interment in Rienzi.

#### Dr. W. H. Walker.

Dr. W. H. Walker was the next in the line of physicians to locate in Fond du Lac. In March of 1847, Dr. Walker graduated from the Cleveland Medical College, Cleveland, Ohio, and immediately started for Wisconsin, landing at Sheboygan, thence to Fond du Lac. The first nights in their new home Mrs. Walker bunked in the old Fond du Lac House and the doctor sought sleeping quarters in sheds on hay. These were poor prospects for a newly graduated and wedded doctor, but bravery and hard work gave success.\* The building at the southeast corner of Main and Fifth streets, now a hotel, was erected by Dr. Walker, the lumber for it being taken from a raft in the river and dried by turning the boards over in the sun from day to day. At this date, March, 1905, Mrs. Walker is still a resident of the city, at the corner of West Second and Union streets. Dr. Walker died some years ago.

#### Doctor, Druggist and Missionary.

Dr. T. P. Bingham was said by some to be the first doctor and the first druggist as well as being among the early missionary preachers in Fond du Lac. He opened an office at Green Bay in 1842, and found his way to Fond du Lac in 1846. He made periodical journeys from Green Bay to Fond du Lac, stopping on the way at Stockbridge, Brothertown, Ball's corners, Pequot Village and Taycheedah, where the Indians and white folks were doctored soul and body. Dr. Bingham had a corner in Clock & Weikert's store in one of the rooms of the old Fond du Lac House, in which he kept a few bottles, boxes

\*It may be interesting to many to know that Dr. Walker officiated at the burning of our present Dr. Burns of Oakfield.

and packages, containing turpentine, camphor, castor oil, opodilloc, soda, salts, pills, etc., styled the drug store. What became of Dr. Bingham's drug store will be told when we come to speak of that part of business. The fact seems to be that the doctor preferred preaching to doctoring, the cure of souls to the cure of bodies and therefore never became noted in the profession. That he was a regularly graduated physician seems to be doubted.

#### **A Noted Doctor.**

Dr. D. A. Raymond was doubtless the most noted physician located in Fond du Lac since the half century period. He came from northern New York and was pretty well known in that state. His genial temperament and mirth provoking disposition, together with fine ability as a physician and surgeon, made him very popular and his office was seldom empty of people during business hours. When Dr. Raymond retired a few years ago, he was literally worn out by professional work. He died at the home of a daughter in Portland, Oregon, a few years ago, and his remains were brought here and laid to rest in Rienzi.

#### **A Popular Physician.**

Dr. E. L. Griffin was another of the energetic and popular physicians of Fond du Lac. Few faces were more familiar in the street than his. He was noted for promptness in responding to calls, for his earnestness in the care of his patients and for his efforts in promoting any good and moral work. Dr. Griffin seemingly never skipped an opportunity to do good. When Dr. Wiley went to Ripon during the war, Dr. Griffin was his successor here in Fond du Lac.

#### **Physician, Druggist, Banker.**

Dr. T. S. Wright came to Fond du Lac in 1848, not only as a physician and surgeon, but as a druggist, banker and agent for his father-in-law, Gen. Warner, whose investments in property here at that time were large. Most of the long row of brick buildings on the west side of Main street, between First and Second streets, were among the buildings erected by Gen. Warner and Dr. Wright. The surgeon mainly relied upon for some years after his arrival here was Dr. T. S. Wright. He had a drug store for some years before his return to the east about 1882 and died a few years later. The bank of Darling, Wright & Co., was the principal bank here from 1849 until the opening of the Bank of the Northwest, now the First National Bank, in 1855.

Dr. O. S. Wright was also a physician and druggist, but was not a relative of Dr. T. S. Wright. He was popular in the community, but remained here only a few years. The store was on nearly the same ground that the Huber Bros.' store of today is located, so there has been a drug store there almost from the beginning.

#### **Dr. Patchen a Remarkable Physician.**

Dr. T. J. Patchen was in some respects the most remarkable physician Fond du Lac has ever had. Coming here in 1855, he found

the homeopathic field almost wholly uncultivated. He lectured, taught, talked and drilled the people in the principles of his school of medicine. He was a teacher and wanted the people to know things, not guess at them, and so built up and for many years sustained a remarkably large practice. His manner was so cherry that he was always welcomed to the sick room. He was a thorough temperance man and never failed to take hold vigorously of any movement that promised to help the cause. He died in Florida but his remains were brought home and lie in Rienzi.

### Other Noted Doctors.

Dr. Wm. Wiley, Dr. S. S. Bowers, Dr. E. F. Dodge and Dr. E. Gray, were all noted doctors of their time. They were highly educated in the profession and were frequently called in consultations in dangerous cases. Dr. Wiley was in Ripon a few years but returned to Fond du Lac and died here. Drs. Bowers and Dodge also died here. Dr. Gray died in Colorado.

Dr. Babcock was an early arrival here, coming from Ohio, coming so soon after Dr. Darling as to be held as the first, but this was an error. He seems to have been a bright, active man, one to whom Dr. Darling took a special liking and was a sort of protege. When Dr. Darling found it difficult to attend a case, which he sometimes did because of his manifold duties, Dr. Babcock was sent with confidence. He was a pioneer doctor, second only to Dr. Darling, but by no means a quack. He remained here but two or three years and then disappeared and left no remembrance that has come down to our time. The cause of his going is unknown, as he was well liked by the settlers.

Dr. John Pantillon was the first homeopathic physician here, and of course had difficult work to make the people of this frontier town believe in the efficacy of the little pills then generally used by practitioners of his school. He was a man of considerable force of character and worked hard to introduce his system. He left here after a few years and soon after died.

### Ripon Physicians.

From the beginning Ripon has had its full share of noted and successful doctors, but not one has reached the half century of practice. Following is the list of those located there from 1853 to 1903:

Dr. H. L. Barnes.	Dr. Phelps.	Dr. Taylor.
Dr. E. C. Barnes.	Dr. J. Rogers.*	Dr. J. S. Foat.
Dr. Butler.	Dr. Reynolds.*	Dr. W. A. Gorden.—
Dr. Carnahan.*	Dr. B. Schallern.	Dr. Storrs Hall.*
Dr. A. Everhard.*	Dr. O. Schallern.	Dr. S. S. Hall.
Dr. F. A. Everhard.	Dr. R. Schallern.*	Dr. A. W. Hewitt.*
Dr. Hendricks.—	Dr. G. R. Shaw.*	Dr. Wm. Wiley.*
Dr. A. Mitchell.	Dr. F. L. Shepard.—	

\*Dead. —Moved away.

Of the twenty-two located there during the half century, nine have died and but few moved away, which indicates that it is a satisfactory place to stay when one gets there.

Ripon did not have a graduated physician practicing there until 1853. So the half century of medicine in that city carries it to 1903, but during the years since 1853 Ripon has had some remarkably able and popular doctors.

Dr. J. Rodgers was the first graduated physician and surgeon to locate there, which was in 1853. He continued in active and successful practice until his death a few years ago.

Dr. Aaron Everhard was one of the most successful physicians and popular citizens yet located at Ripon, having been nine times elected mayor of the city between the years 1871 and 1885. He was postmaster under Cleveland's administration and his advice was often sought in public affairs. He located at St. Marie, near Princeton, in 1850, and in Ripon in 1856 and continued there until his death in 1892.

Dr. Henry L. Barnes has from the beginning of his professional career been one of the bright, active and successful physicians and surgeons at Ripon. He came to Wisconsin in 1846, settled at Ripon, was graduated from the Cleveland Medical College in 1858. He served with distinction in the war as surgeon in the Twenty-first Wisconsin. He began practice in Ripon in 1858 and was the fourth physician to locate there. He is also an active and valued citizen in public affairs.

Dr. W. A. Gordon was one of the war surgeons and located at Ripon in 1866, but on account of poor health went to California after a few years, leaving a large circle of friends.

Dr. A. W. Hewitt settled in Ripon in 1855 and was the third physician to locate there. Some years later he went to Minnesota, where he died a few years ago.

Dr. Rainer Schallern, father of Drs. Bruno and Ottmar Schallern, two of Ripon's popular physicians, was a Belgian, noted in his native country as well as this, for his great scientific attainments. In nautical science he had few equals.

Dr. Storrs Hall from 1851 was a resident of Rosendale, but retired from practice at the age of 90 and became a member of the household of his son, Dr. Sidney Storrs Hall, in Ripon. He was a graduate of the medical department of Yale. For more than fifty years Dr. Hall was prominent not only in the practice of his profession, but also in public affairs of the county and especially of Ripon College. He died a few months ago.

#### Rosendale Physicians.

Dr. A. H. Bowe was the pioneer doctor at Rosendale, locating there in 1847. He was born in 1813 and graduated in medicine at Baltimore, Md. He continued in active practice until his death a few years ago.

Dr. Storrs Hall was another pioneer. Graduated from the medical department of Yale, located at Rosendale in 1854. S. S. Hall,

now practicing at Ripon, first located at Rosendale. The full list of Rosendale doctors from the beginning has been as follows:

Dr. A. H. Bowe.*	Dr. Storrs Hall.*	Dr. G. B. McKnight.—
Dr. De Voe.	Dr. S. S. Hall.—	Dr. J. W. Powell.
Dr. Dunning.—	Dr. J. C. LeFevre.—	Dr. Palmer.—

#### Eldorado Mills.

Dr. Hughes.—	Dr. Randall.—	Dr. Peterson.—
Dr. Jones.—	Dr. Morse.—	

#### Oakfield—Resident Physicians.

Dr. J. W. Burns.	Dr. Sherman Edwards.	Dr. Chas. H. Moore.
Dr. W. S. Alexander.		

#### Oakfield—Former Resident Doctors.

Dr. C. E. Armstrong.	Dr. W. H. Fisher.	Dr. S. G. Pickett.
Dr. Henry S. Beeson.	Dr. Gibson.	Dr. Geo. Pickett.
Dr. S. S. Bishop.	Dr. Hunter.	Dr. J. F. Pritchard.
Dr. Brice Dille.	Dr. Wm. Moore.	Dr. C. W. Voorus.
Dr. W. C. Duncan.	Dr. Wm. W. Moore.	Dr. Weaver.
Dr. G. B. Durand.	Dr. E. J. Orvis.	

#### Brandon.

Dr. J. D. Root.	Dr. Thayer.	Dr. Cody.
Dr. C. D. Shuart.	Dr. Gee.	Dr. Safford.
Dr. Dyer.	Dr. Turner.	Dr. F. E. Shaykatt.

Dr. Root has been in Brandon nearly twenty years, Dr. Shaykatt nearly as long.

#### Waupun City.

The physicians who have resided in that part of Waupun in Fond du Lac county from the beginning are:

Dr. P. D. Moore.	Dr. Eypers.*	Dr. Fisher and wife.—
Dr. Randall.—	Dr. Osmun.*	
Dr. Took.*	Dr. Osborne.	

Dr. M. W. Larrabee, Dr. M. P. Smith and Dr. W. S. Blunt are the physicians now residing there, in Fond du Lac county.

#### In Dodge County.

Dr. D. W. Moore.	Dr. Wadsworth.*	Dr. G. B. Durand.
Dr. Bowman.*	Dr. Harvey.*	Dr. G. T. von Henzel.
Dr. Hersh.*	Dr. Messer.—	Dr. D. H. Ballmeyer.
Dr. J. W. Brown.*	Dr. Reed.—	Dr. F. T. Clark.
Dr. Swayne.*	Dr. W. P. Smith.	Dr. J. F. Brown.
Dr. Butterfield.*		

Dr. Moore is the only surviving member of the pioneer physicians of Waupun. He is not in practice now, but is rugged and strong.

#### Campbelsport.

Dr. Eudemiller.*	Dr. S. L. Marston.—	Dr. Weld.
Dr. P. A. Hoffman.	Dr. Orvis.—	Dr. Zimmerman.—
Dr. M. A. T. Hoffman.	Dr. Russell.	

\*Dead. —Moved away.

Dr. S. L. Marston was the first physician to locate at Campbellsport. He went there in the early fifties, afterwards moving to Waucousta, thence to Fond du Lac and finally to Hartford, where he now resides.

Dr. Eudemiller died several years ago. He was a student from the office of Drs. Gray & Wyatt.

### Lamartine.

Dr. Elliott Brown was the first doctor in Lamartine, coming there in 1848. He moved to the city in 1877 and died in 1883.

### North Fond du Lac.

Dr. A. J. Pullen.                      Dr. P. J. Calvy.                      Dr. J. E. Heraty.—

St. Cloud—Dr. E. P. Crosy, Dr. C. W. Leonard, Dr. J. Waldschmidt.

Calumet Harbor—Dr. E. J. Bumker, Dr. Vander Horst.

Empire—Dr. Hanners,\* Dr. Lyons.

Eden—Dr. P. J. Oliver, Dr. Vandervoort.\*

Dotyville—Dr. Judson Morse.

Dundee—Dr. John O'Neill.

Mt. Calvary—Dr. John A. Bassen.

Johnsburg—Dr. John J. Shoofs.

Lamartine—Dr. Emile Roy, Dr. Elliott Brown.\*

Fairwater—Dr. Oliver M. Layton.

Taycheedah—Dr. Tallmadge,\* Dr. Wm. Wiley,\* Dr. E. J. Breitzman.

New Cassel—Dr. R. Zimmerman.

Ladoga—Dr. S. R. Randall (not in practice.)

Van Dyne—Dr. A. B. Hambeck.\*

Elmore—Dr. Wm. Hausman.

Marytown—Dr. L. H. Baldwin.\*

South Byron—Dr. W. H. Wilson (retired).

### Medical Organizations in Fond du Lac County.

BY DR. J. W. BURNS, OAKFIELD.

The first Medical Society in this county was organized about the year 1844 or 1845, while Wisconsin was yet a territory. The exact date cannot be ascertained. It embraced the territory now covered by the counties of Fond du Lac, Sheboygan and Calumet. It was organized in Fond du Lac, then only a settlement. Its members are all dead. Dr. Brainard, of Sheboygan county, was president, and Dr. Blodgett, of Calumet county, was secretary. This society was short lived. Embracing but few members scattered over a wide and unsettled territory, removals and deaths soon disintegrated it.

The next medical organization in the county was effected in the year 1853. Just fifteen years before this date, in 1838, the first medical gentleman settled in the county, the late Dr. Mason C. Darling. The medical organization of 1853 was called the "Medical Association

\*Dead.    —Moved away.

of the County of Fond du Lac." Its by-laws and constitution are the only records of its existence which are now extant so far as is known. From these we learn that the object of the society was to "elevate the standard of the profession by the diffusion of medical knowledge, and to promote unanimity of feeling and concert of action among the members thereof." The by-laws provided for two meetings a year. This association after the lapse of a year or two, is found to disappear from history. The cause of its going out and the manner of its extinction is mostly conjectural.

The third medical society in the county was organized at Waupun in 1866 and was known as the "Northwestern Medical Society," and embraced the eastern part of Green Lake county, the western part of Fond du Lac county, and it also had a few members from Dodge county. Its membership reached a maximum of fifteen or twenty. It held its meetings twice a year. Dr. Storrs Hall, of Rosendale, was elected president and regular meetings were held at Ripon, Berlin and Waupun. This society flourished for a little over a year when it also became extinct. The cause of its demise appears to have been the failure of its members to attend its meetings.

The fourth medical society in the county, known as the "Fond du Lac County Medical Society," was organized in 1868 and flourished for a number of years. Its membership was large and included nearly every regular practitioner in the county, and for many years it was considered one of the best county medical societies in the state. Owing to lack of interest and small attendance, it too, like its predecessors, became extinct.

The fifth and present county medical society, which is an affiliation with the Wisconsin and American Medical Associations, was organized about two years ago, and includes in its membership a large majority of the legal practitioners of medicine in the county. Its meetings are held bi-monthly in the city of Fond du Lac, unless otherwise agreed upon at a regular meeting. The officers for the present year are:

Flora A. Read, secretary and treasurer.

Several times in the past, the last time the last of March, 1905, the local physicians have organized to promote their interests in various ways, but the organizations were of brief duration, some of them the first meeting being the last.

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### The First National Hotel.

The wood building in which the First National Bank first did business at the corner of Main street and Forest avenue, is still in existence. When the bank decided to erect its present building, the old one was sold to M. Van Dresar, who moved it to the southwest corner of Marr and Fourth streets and it became the main part of the First National Hotel. Since then the name has been changed several times, being now the Tobin House. It is an old house, one of the oldest in the city. John Sewell had a store in it at its original location in 1850.



# DENTISTS AND DENTISTRY

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## Dentists Who Have Practiced Here from the Beginning. Wonderful Progress Since the Days of Turnkeys and Gold Plate.

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Dentistry as practiced now differs materially from that in the days of the pioneers. In their time sets of teeth were wholly upon gold plate and the teeth were soldered on it. The old turnkeys were mostly used for drawing teeth and many of the appliances now so handy in the dental office were wholly unknown. Impressions were taken of the mouth and the gold plate for the base was swedged upon it, a good fit, such as we now get, being rarely obtained. When artisans discovered how to work hard rubber, it was soon adopted as a base for teeth and it is still in use. The vulcanizer melts the rubber into the mold and a misfit is rare. Some years later porcelain was introduced as a base for teeth but was not a success and is now rarely seen. It was too heavy and noisy for such use and too easily broken. In the march of discovery some other material may be found for this use, but it is likely to be long before rubber is displaced. The use of anaesthetics in dentistry has been a matter of growth. First chloroform seemed to be the only article, but the danger attending its use frightened the people and it was abandoned. Then came ether, much of the same nature but far less dangerous, and then gas was introduced. These continued in use until cocaine appeared as a local anaesthetic, twenty-five years ago, and the muriate of cocaine has been in use ever since. Today it is about the only agent used for this purpose in dentistry.

In the olden time people had to bear their burden of pain as best they could; today they may have teeth drawn and not know it. The discoveries in dental science have been constant. New methods and new applications of the science have come rapidly.

Dr. L. Kellogg was the first regular dentist in Fond du Lac. He came here in 1848 and returned to Boston some time in the fifties. While here he erected the house on Main street opposite Fifth, now owned and occupied by Mrs. DeSombre, and established his office in the front room up stairs.

Dr. A. L. Hoyt was the next dentist in Fond du Lac, and following him came Dr. J. R. Cole. Both these men remained here many years.

Could the dentists of the olden times return here now, they would be surprised as to processes as well as material now in use. They would hardly know the uses of some of the instruments and appliances. They would doubtless gaze in astonishment at the bridge work, inlaid work and caps now in use. If informed that modern dentists had taken out teeth, filled the cavities and put them back to

stay, they would regard it as a prevarication of the deepest dye. Should Dr. Kellogg return to Fond du Lac now and take an order for work such as he had sometimes taken in former times, he would be handicapped in attempting to do it in a modern dental office by not knowing how to use the instruments and appliances he would find there, so great is the change.

The number of dentists in practice has largely increased in the last twenty-five years, due mainly to the fact it is now so easy to acquire a proper mental and mechanical equipment. The number of dental colleges has largely increased and departments added to all the universities. There is also a much greater demand for dental work. In former times most people went to the dentists only when the pain was no longer bearable, but now the teeth are closely watched and cared for to the end that they may be retained as long as possible. An increase in the number of dentists was needed and the demand has been met.

Dentists who have been located in Fond du Lac since 1850:

C. W. Barnes.	T. A. Hardgrove.	R. W. Sessions.
Henry Bennett.	G. A. Hildreth.	Arthur K. Steen.
J. L. Blish.	W. W. Johnson.	W. T. Taylor.
C. A. Cheney.	J. W. Madden.	W. E. Tennant.
W. A. Chamberlain.	Geo. M. Moore.	C. C. Trowbridge.
L. P. Coleman.	Andrew Patchen.	M. E. Underwood.
C. E. Dickinson.	Will Patchen.	J. B. Wade.
W. F. Doyle.	James J. Perry.	S. E. Wade.
Jesse Garvin.	J. H. Ridgeway.	W. C. Wise.
Alliene Gillet.	H. T. Sackett.	
H. E. Graves.	R. J. Serwe.	

#### In Practice Here Now.

J. L. Blish.	G. A. Hildreth.	Arthur K. Steen.
C. A. Cheney.	J. W. Madden.	W. T. Taylor.
W. A. Chamberlain.	Geo. M. Moore.	W. E. Tennant.
L. P. Coleman.	J. H. Ridgeway.	C. C. Trowbridge.
Alliene Gillet.	H. T. Sackett.	W. E. Underwood.
T. A. Hardgrove.	R. J. Serwe.	W. C. Wise.
Dr. H. C. Meusel.		

Dr. H. T. Sackett is now the senior practitioner in dentistry in Fond du Lac and has what is no doubt the largest, neatest and best equipped dental offices in this part of the state.

Dr. G. A. Hildreth is next in order of seniority among Fond du Lac dentists. He also has fine rooms and a large practice.

Next in seniority are Drs. Wise, Blish, Trowbridge, Gillett and Cheney, but they have not been here many years.

#### City of Ripon.

The earliest dentists in Ripon, all of them since 1852, were Drs. J. H. Callendar, C. B. Staples and Ed. Dodge. Following is the full list:

F. F. Barnes.	Luther & Lynch.	G. B. Shepherd.
H. H. Bush.	T. G. Luther.	C. B. Staples.
J. H. Callender.	Storrs A. Hall.	Well & Marshall.
L. M. Cleveland.	Patton & Clapp.	P. A. Well.
Ed. Dodge.	W. B. Safford.	

### Now in Practice There.

F. F. Barnes.	L. M. Cleveland.	W. B. Safford.
H. H. Bush.	Storrs A. Hall.	P. A. Well.

Dr. T. G. Luther was in practice in Ripon many years and in length of time might be called a veteran. He was a fixture there.

### City of Waupun.

Following is the full list of dentists who located in Waupun since the advent there of Dr. J. B. Wade, afterwards in Fond du Lac:

C. Gage.	J. Palmer.	H. A. Stiles.
A. H. Johnston.	J. Loomans.	Dr. Thorp.
E. Jones.	Dr. Perry.	J. B. Wade.
M. Lewis.	L. C. Stewart	T. M. Welch

### In Practice There Now.

A. H. Johnston.	J. Loomans.	T. M. Welch.
J. Palmer.	L. C. Stewart.	

Brandon—H. F. Grantveldt.

Campbellsport—J. C. Huecker, P. E. Helmer.

North Fond du Lac—N. W. Emory.

Oakfield—M. B. Spafford.

People in the villages of the county frequently have the services of city dentists as they sometimes visit them to take and fill orders for dental work.

In the early days of Fond du Lac, before the coming of Dr. Kellogg, it is said that Dr. Darling, Dr. Walker, Dr. Babcock and others raised aching teeth by using the old fashioned turnkeys, by the application of which the tooth or the head must come. The only dentistry they did was to ease pain by lifting out the aching teeth. The work done now is somewhat different.

### Francisco on a Slab.

One morning while making his trip north on Lake Winnebago with the steamer Menasha, Peter Hotaling overtook a man on a raft, and taking him on board found the man to be the Spanish barber named Miguel Francisco de Paula, whom everybody at Fond du Lac knew as Francisco, and his raft was a pine slab. When asked where he was going and what he meant by venturing out on a slab, he said he was bound for Oshkosh and that the whiskey suggested the means of getting there. His pint flask was nearly empty of whiskey and Francisco was full. Most of his life had been spent on shipboard, so the water had few terrors for him, and the difference between a slab and a boat as a method of travel, was of small consequence. The truth no doubt was that the whiskey had made him a greater fool than he was generally. Francisco was none too smart at any time.

### First Job Press Here.

The Boston Ruggles Job Press, used in Beeson's Job Printing office in Fond du Lac in early times, had a curious history and a provoking end. It was brought from Buffalo, N. Y., by the Milwaukee Sentinel and was the first job press brought to Wisconsin. It was a reversible form affair and a sorry thing compared to present day presses. A 9 by 12 form could be locked on it, but the press was not strong enough to print anything larger than a note sheet, yet in its day was a useful press. Mr. Beeson sold it to Freeman Sackett, who took it to Weyauwega. Sackett traded it to Judge Ogden, of Waupaca. Judge Ogden was afterward a partner in a foundry and machine shop at that place, and one day in 1880, A. T. Glaze was wandering through the premises and discovered that press standing under a shed among old iron to be melted down, which was its fate finally. It could probably have been bought at that time for \$5, and why it did not come into Mr. Glaze's mind to buy it and place it in the rooms of the State Historical Society, surpasses his comprehension. To use a modern expression, he has felt scores of times like "kicking himself;" that he did not think of it. When it did enter his mind it was too late. As the old press stood there it was intact, and Mr. Glaze felt as if he could put on a form and start it up as of old. Surely was it a reminder of past printing office days.

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### Making Sheet Iron Stoves.

The first stoves used in Fond du Lac were brought here overland, ready for use and it was not until we had through railroad transportation to Milwaukee in 1857, that the castings were brought and sheet iron stoves were put up here. In the fall of this year, Stephen Oberreich, working for Kirkland Gillet, known then to everybody as "Deacon" Gillet, put up some of the old Acorn stoves, the best stove of its class ever made here or elsewhere. The writer bought one of them and used it with great satisfaction for nearly twenty years. An improved Acorn came into market some years later, but they were an improvement in the wrong direction—they were inferior to the old. But the old Acorn was the first stove with cast top and bottom and sheet iron between, that were put up here. They were for wood, as we did not have coal here then except at a very high price.

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### The Wide Awakes of 1860.

This political organization in the campaign of 1860, was the brightest and most efficient in the political history of this country. It sprung into existence as if by magic. It developed without effort. It did not need to be pushed—it pushed itself. The Wide Awakes for Lincoln and Hamlin were wide awake. Almost every cross roads village had its turnout and the boys were in it for business as well as fun. The republican votes could be ascertained in a locality by counting the Wide Awakes enrolled.

# THE BENCH AND BAR

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The Lawyers and Judges of Early Days and Those Here Now.  
The Peculiarities of Some of Them.  
Personal Notes.

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It is doubtful if any other class of men in a community, in proportion to numbers, have as much influence in shaping public affairs, in bringing about business results or even in settling social conflicts as the lawyers. They are usually depended upon as public speakers on general topics and they are always on the move when politics rage; they come to the rostrum to discuss national, state, county and municipal affairs, and to their credit be it said, sometimes religion. The power of the legal profession is not alone in the court room or law office. This has become more noticeable of late years, since lawyers are employed in shaping private as well as public affairs and bringing about results between individuals and communities. If one wishes something done that he does not wish to do himself, he seeks the lawyers to do it for him, with the result that there are many attorneys whose business is largely of this nature and who seldom appear in the court room, but who do a large and profitable business. That some leading lawyers decline such business is by no means an indication that it is not legitimate; and that a lawyer's name does not appear frequently on the court calendar is not an indication that he is not a successful attorney in the court room.

## Four Veteran Survivors.

The writer has carefully looked up matters pertaining to the bar of Fond du Lac county during the half century from 1850 to 1900. The lawyers residing here during this period were all personally known to me, and I find that but four of those here in 1850 remain alive. They are Edward S. Bragg, now United States consul general at Hong Kong, China, Jerre Dobbs, of Ripon, James Coleman, of Washington, and E. L. Browne, of Waupaca. All the rest have passed to the other shore.

Alex. W. Stow, the first chief justice of our state supreme court, lived near Taycheedah, and Lieut. Gov. S. W. Beall lived in that village, but both had their offices in the city. The first lawyer who located in Fond du Lac was doubtless John A. Eastman, son-in-law of Dr. M. C. Darling, but S. S. N. Fuller, from the best information obtainable, was a close second. John S. Horner was the first lawyer at Ripon and Eli Hooker the first of Waupun.

### The Lawyers of 1850.

Following are the names of the lawyers who lived in Fond du Lac in 1850:

Bragg, Edward S.	Eastman, John A.	Reed, Amos.
Bissell, E. H.	Eaton, Myron C.	Stow, Judge A. W.
Beall, Samuel W.	Ebbetts, William H.	Stanchfield, S. D.
Brown, Edward L.	Eldredge, Charles A.	Swett, John J.
Brown, Edwin A.	Flint, Judge Robert.	Tallmadge, I. S.
Chapel, Jerod.	Fuller, S. S. N.	Tompkins, Judge C. M.
Coleman, James.	Gillet, J. M.	Truesdell, John C.
Davis, Alex. B.	Graham, Carson.	Tyler, O. B.
Dodge, William C.	Hodges, E.	Waite, Judge F. H.
Drury, Erastus W.	Paine, Albert W.	Wood, Judge David E.

### A Strong and Able Bar.

The bar of the county at this period was one of more than ordinary ability for a frontier town of less than 25,000 inhabitants. Judge T. O. Howe, circuit judge here in 1850, highly complimented the bar of Fond du Lac by declaring it one of the best in the state, not excepting Milwaukee. Of the early bar members E. S. Bragg, Charles A. Eldredge, J. M. Gillet, William H. Ebbetts, E. L. Browne, William C. Dodge and John C. Truesdell gained national reputation. And it is a notable fact that in the early fifties were tried here some of the most important and exciting cases ever tried in Fond du Lac county. There are few attorneys on the list now who were not fully up to the average in ability. Since 1850 we have had some noted lawyers and judges, but none to surpass the men of fifty years ago.

The lawyers at Ripon in 1853 were:

Bovay, Alvin E.	Hamilton, A. B.	Runals, E. L.
Dobbs, Jerre.	Horner, John S.	

The Ripon lawyers of 1900 were:

Carter, Geo. W.	Foote, J. J.	Rountree, J. S.
Dobbs, Jerre.	Pedrick, S. M.	
Dunlap, A. E.	Reed, Louis E.	

These lawyers were at Waupun in 1850:

Butterfield, Wm. H.	Hills, L. B.	Hooker, Eli.
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The lawyers in that part of Waupun in Fond du Lac county at the present time are:

Beach, E. M.	Murray, James.	Tillotson, Roy D.
Hooker, C. E.	Oliver, R. L.	

David Whitton is the Brandon lawyer and Rufus P. Eaton was a lawyer at Pipe village in 1850.

### Comers Since 1850.

During the half century from 1850 to 1900, the lawyers who located at Fond du Lac were:

Bass, James W. x	Babcock, David.*	Blewett, E.
Baxter, C. M. x	Brasted, S. L.*	Blewett, D. F.
Bissell, Edward.	Boland, W. T. x	Chadbourne, F. W.

Those marked \* are dead and those marked x left Fond du Lac, most of them many years ago. Those without reference mark, with seven at Ripon, five at Waupun and one at Brandon, fifty in all, constituted the bar of Fond du Lac County in 1900.

Conklin, W. D.*	Hurley, W. H. x	Sawyer, Roswell M.*
Colman, Elihu.*	Kelly, A. A.*	Schuchardt, A. B.
Daly, C. E. x	Knowles, Geo. P. x	Shepard, Chas. E. x
DeLaney, E. T. x	Libby, Hiram H. x	Seely, Z. W.*
Doyle, T. L.	Mayham, Judge Jay*	Smith, Chas. D.
Drury, Horton H. x	Martin, P. H.	Spence, Thos. W. x
Duffy, F. F.	Matthews, J. R.*	Stow, Judge M. K.*
Eastman, H. B. x	Matteson, C. S. x	Sutherland, D. D.
Ecke, O. H.	Morse, R. L.	Sutherland, Judge G. E.*
Eldredge, W. A. x	McLean, Judge C. x	Swett, H. E.
Eldredge, Arch B. x	McCrorry, John H.	Taylor, Judge David.*
Everdell, L. B. x	McKenna Maurice.	Thompson, John I.
Francis, Geo. H. x	McKenna, D. W. x	Thorn, Gerret T.*
Gerpheide, H. J.*	Perkins, Judge Geo.	Thorp, Fred O.*
Giffin, Judge N. C.	Phelps, E. W.	Turner, W. W. D. x
Gilson, Judge N. S.	Pier, Colwert K.*	Ware, J. F. x
Gillet, M. M. x	Pier, Kate Hamilton. x	Watson, J. W.
Glaze, A. T.	Pier Kate. x	Waters, John E. x
Gooding, J. M.	Priest, D. W. C.	Wells, Owen A.
Griswold, W. E.	Reilly, M. K.	Williams, L. A.
Hammond, Sam. H.*	Reilly, J. P.	Williams, O. T. x
Hayford, J. H. x	Richter, Judge A. E.	Wilson, A. A. x
Hauser, I. H. x	Rose, Henry F.	Worthing, E. P.
Hiner, J. W. x	Rose, H. H. x	
Hoey, T. J. *	Sallade, N. W.	

### Did Not Increase With Population.

The singular fact will be noted that in 1850, with a population of less than 2,500. Fond du Lac had thirty resident lawyers, thirty-nine in the county, and in 1900, with a population of more than 15,000 in the city and 50,000 in the county, there were but thirty-seven residing here and fifty in the county. During the half century there were 111 lawyers who located here, of whom forty-three have died and thirty-one have moved away, making a gain of but seven in the city and eleven in the county in fifty years. With these remarkable figures before us we may ask what has become of all the young lawyers turned out of the law schools and law offices in that time. The answer must be: "Gone west, sir, gone west."

### Many Noted Men.

In the list of Fond du Lac lawyers are many noted names, Alex. W. Stow, first chief justice and judge of the Fourth circuit, was an eccentric man and many stories are yet told of his peculiarities. He was an able lawyer and a careful judge. He died in 1854 in Milwaukee.

After being on the circuit bench several years, David Taylor became an associate justice of the supreme court, taking that position in 1878 and serving until he died in 1891. When he came to this city he associated himself with J. M. Gillet and afterward with George E. Sutherland.

Those marked \* are dead and those marked x left Fond du Lac, most of them many years ago. Those without reference mark, with seven at Ripon, five at Waupun and one at Brandon, fifty in all, constituted the bar of Fond du Lac County in 1900.

George E. Sutherland was at the time of his death, judge of the superior court of Milwaukee and was held in the highest esteem by the lawyers and business men of that city.

Campbell McLean and Norman S. Gilson were Fond du Lac lawyers upon the bench of the circuit court and their ability is shown by the fact that each held the position many years.

#### Came Since 1900.

The following lawyers have become members of the Fond du Lac bar since 1900:

Downs, T. C.	Husting, B. J.	Reed, Louis B.
Fairbanks, R. C.	Husting, B. A.	Reed, Roy.
Fellenz, Henry M.	Kinney, G. F.	Spitzer, Frank.
Hardgrove, J. G.	McKesson, J. C.	

The following have ceased to be members of the Fond du Lac		
Baxter, C. M.	Matthews, J. E.	Spitzer, Frank.
Kinney, G. F.	Reed, Louis B.	

#### The Pioneer Court.

Henry S. Baird was the pioneer lawyer of Wisconsin, coming to Green Bay in 1823, when he was appointed attorney general of this part of Michigan Territory. James Duane Doty was the judge, and the court being migratory, they for four years made trips between Green Bay and Prairie du Chien in a bark canoe to hold court. The lawyers were Henry S. Baird, Morgan L. Martin, James H. Lockwood and Thomas P. Burnett. A law library about this time consisted of one book of 140 pages, in which it was stated that it contained "a compilation of the titles, a digest or copy of all the laws of the territory which could be ascertained to be in force."

#### First Supreme Court.

In 1836, when the territory of Wisconsin was organized, a supreme court was created with Charles Dunn as chief justice and David Irwin and William C. Frazier as associate justices and they held their first term at Belmont in December, 1836. In July, 1838, Judge Frazier died and Andrew G. Miller became judge, holding the place until the state government was formed when he was made United States district judge.

In 1827 congress passed a peculiar law for this territory and for the government of the court presided over by Judge Doty. This court was not to entertain suits against persons for conjuration, witchcraft, sorcery or enchantment. Negroes, Indians or mulattoes could be punished for offenses corporally, not extending to life or limb.

It may not be known to many of our citizens that Fond du Lac was one of the applicants for the location of the state capital at the time Madison was chosen in 1836, and escaped by a no means large margin.

#### Military Records.

The patriotism and military ability of the members of the bar of Fond du Lac is shown by their record in the war of the rebellion.



Edward S. Bragg entered the army as captain of Company E, Sixth Wisconsin, and became brigadier general in command of the famous Iron Brigade.

D. E. Wood was colonel of the Fourteenth Wisconsin and a good officer. After the battle of Shiloh, where he was in command of his regiment, he came home ill and died.

George W. Carter was a lieutenant in the Fourth Wisconsin, and was seriously wounded at Port Hudson, the effects of which he will carry to his grave. He subsequently entered the service again as a captain in the Relief Corps under General Halbert E. Paine and served to the end of the war.

Colwert K. Pier was lieutenant colonel of the Thirty-eighth Wisconsin. He was seriously wounded at Petersburg, Va.

Norman S. Gilson was lieutenant colonel of the Fifty-second regiment of United States volunteers.

Colonel Roswell M. Sawyer was a lieutenant in the First Wisconsin, but was soon transferred to the staff of General Sherman, where he served until the close of the war, dying a few years later.

A. E. Bovay was major of the Nineteenth Wisconsin and became quite noted as provost marshal of Norfolk, Va.

Edwin A. Brown was captain of Company E, Sixth Wisconsin, and was killed at the battle of Antietam. His death was much lamented at home and in the army. The local Grand Army Post is named after him. He was a son of Isaac Brown, a son-in-law of Edward Pier, and the father of Mrs. Hattie Sackett.

George E. Sutherland was captain of Company B, Thirteenth United States volunteers.

Sumner L. Brasted was a lieutenant in the Thirty-second Wisconsin.

Elihu Colman was a member of the First Wisconsin cavalry.

### Circuit Court Judges.

Alex. W. Stow was the first judge of the Fourth judicial circuit, being elected in 1848 over Erastus W. Drury. When the circuit judges of the state drew lots for terms, Judge Stow drew the short term of two years.

Timothy O. Howe, of Green Bay, was elected in 1850 over Erastus W. Drury. He resigned in 1855, when he was elected United States senator and Governor Barstow appointed William R. Gorseline, of Sheboygan county, to the vacancy.

William R. Gorseline was elected in 1856 without opposition, but resigned in 1858 to go to Colorado.

David Taylor was appointed to the vacancy on the bench in 1858 by Governor Randall, was elected in 1859 for the unexpired term and again in 1862 for the full term without opposition.

Campbell McLean was nominated by a democratic convention in 1868 and defeated Judge Taylor. The latter went on the supreme bench in 1878 and died in 1891. Judge McLean was re-elected in 1874 without opposition.

Norman S. Gilson received the democratic nomination in 1880 and was elected over Campbell McLean, also in 1886, and in 1892 was re-elected without opposition. In 1898 Judge Gilson declined a fourth term, having served eighteen years with distinguished success.

Michael Kirwan, of Manitowoc, was elected in 1898 over A. C. Prescott, of Sheboygan, and was re-elected in 1904 without opposition.

### Succession of County Judges.

Dr. Mason C. Darling was probate judge in the territorial days.

John Bannister was elected county judge for one year in 1848 over John A. Eastman.

C. M. Tompkins was elected in 1849 for the full term of four years over M. C. Eaton and Alex. B. Davis.

David E. Wood was elected in 1853 over S. D. Stanchfield.

Robert Flint was elected in 1857 and again in 1861 over A. W. Paine.

M. K. Stow was elected in 1865 over Robert Flint.

Jay Mayham was elected in 1869 over William D. Conklin, but resigned six months before the close of his term on account of ill health.

N. C. Giffin, who had been elected to the office to succeed Judge Mayham, was appointed to fill the vacancy by Governor Washburn, and was elected again in 1873 over H. F. Rose.

George Perkins was elected in 1877 and again in 1881 over N. C. Giffin and in 1885 over W. D. Conklin.

A. E. Richter was elected in 1889 over F. F. Duffy and re-elected in 1893 and 1897 without opposition. In 1901 he was elected for a fourth term over O. H. Ecke, and at the end of the present term will have served sixteen years.

In the years that have passed the bar of Fond du Lac county has been composed of learned, energetic and courteous men, and let us hope that the lawyers of the future will be like them.

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### Marshall and His Liniment.

It was in 1860 that J. W. Marshall began the manufacture of Marshall's Liniment and two or three other articles. He was putting up bottled soda water at the time, but being a good and loud talker, he quit that business to introduce the liniment. He died soon after and his son, C. H. Marshall continued the business until his death a few years ago.

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### About Some Old Houses.

As the old resident stands on the L. F. Stow premises, southwest corner of Marr and Sixth streets, and looks at the other three corners, he may wonder if we really have passed into the twentieth century. The Dexter, the McCarty and Jo. Olmsted homes look to him as if he had not drifted far from 1860. They have been fairly well cared for and are not in dilapidation but they appear very much as they did at that period of forty-five years ago.

# GAS WORKS AND GAS MEN

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## The Beginning of Our Gas Works and Who Has Been Identified With the Business.

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The Fond du Lac Gas Works had their start in 1850, the franchise being procured that year from the city by John P. Hayes. The works were located where they are now, but under strong protest from the people who believed the smell from them would be offensive. Mr. Hayes did not push the work vigorously, and in a couple of years sold out to A. D. Bonesteel and James G. Miller, and the firm of Bonesteel & Miller went at the work vigorously, but while the plant was not large it was probably large enough for the place.

After an ownership of four years, both proprietors desiring to go to other fields, sold the works in 1865 to Jesse Beekeley, who continued in possession eleven years, during which time the works were extended but little. It was during this time that Thomas Murphy became connected with the works and was superintendent about twenty-five years, though handicapped much of this time by refusals to put money enough into them to make them efficient and what he thought they ought to be. In 1876 a syndicate composed of Joseph Andrews and his father-in-law, and three brothers of Mr. Andrews, acquired a title to the works, and held them more than twenty years. At first things moved smoothly and many improvements were made, but after a time difficulties and dissatisfaction crept in and by the time a sale was effected to the present owners, headed by President Whitcomb, of the Wisconsin Central railroad, the works were almost worn out.

The death of Joseph Andrews brought new difficulties and in the adjustment of affairs, and of course things were more than ever neglected. The present owners found it necessary to make improvements at once. New retorts, engine, pumps, purifying apparatus and a fine new gas holder double the capacity of the old one, were put in. The buildings were also much improved and a new floor put into the retort room. For more than thirty years there had been a manifest hesitation to put money into the works for improvement, or even for repairs unless absolute necessity compelled it. But a more liberal policy is manifested now and the Fond du Lac Gas Works are in more presentable shape than they have been in many years, and will be still further improved and extended.

The first gas holder of the Fond du Las Gas Works is still in existence and it will surprise many people to know that it is in its old pit under the floor of the gas building on West Second street. It is disconnected by removal of piping, but when the building was erected the old gas holder was left in its place and is there yet. It was in a pit by the side of this gas holder, that James Miller had the

explosion in which he so nearly lost his life. Miller was an Englishman and claimed to be a regularly educated gas engineer, but if so he must have been very careless, for he had a number of accidents of various kinds while in charge of the works here. In at least one of them it is a wonder that he was not killed.

The Fond du Lac Gas Works until now have not had a fair chance. They were cheaply put in at the start and when in need of repairs and improvements, the money to pay the cost was not forthcoming. The owners were too poor or too stingy to do the work needed, and the result has been that the works were not satisfactory to the people. The present owners are believed to have ample capital and that the gas works will be greatly improved and made what they ought to be.

When the gas works were started, gas was used for lighting purposes only, now the use has extended to heating and cooking, and who can tell to what other purposes it may be applied in the not distant future? The scientific genius may soon find other uses for it. At different times efforts have been made to cheapen the product at the works by the use of rosin, petroleum and even wood. At one time hundreds of cords of tamarack wood was used annually to adulterate or cheapen the product to the manufacturer but were abandoned. Gas can be made from such articles, but after all is but an adulteration and is satisfying to neither manufacturer nor consumer. Straight coal gas properly made, is the only product that is satisfactory to all concerned. That which is now made at the Fond du Lac Gas Works is understood to be of this character and the coal used is of a high grade. There is some complaint about the gas furnished consumers, but such complaints will come at times though the best material is used.

In this connection it is appropriate to speak of the lights in use when the gas works came into existence. Fifty years ago the people were using lights of which the present generation has no knowledge. The people now do know a little about candles, but what do they know about lard oil lamps, fluid lamps and camphene lamps? Practically nothing. Camphene was made of alcohol, turpentine and gum camphor, and fluid the same without the turpentine. Both were very explosive but generally used. The first kerosene oil brought to Fond du Lac was by J. R. and J. W. Partridge, the druggists, about 1855. They brought lamps to burn it which were very different from those of today. It was liked very much but after the first invoice of oil was sold, no more could be obtained for several months. Crude petroleum would not work in the lamps and Mr. Partridge could not get refined oil and the old lamps had to be brought into use again. Finally some refined oil was obtained along in the spring of 1856, and since then the refiners kept up with the demand.

The lamps given to us to burn the first kerosene, were as crude as was the oil, and would be amusing to the modern consumers, but after all were so much of an improvement in methods of lighting then in use, that they were gladly accepted. And the oil—well, it was

often straw colored, but was used because it was the best to be had. It was in this as in many other things of early times, it was accepted as all right because there was nothing better to be had.

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### First Yacht on These Waters.

The first yacht on Fond du Lac waters was named after the great hunter in Bible times, "Nimrod." It was of the Lake Michigan class of fishing and hunting boats, was about thirty feet long and five or six feet wide, sloop rigged. It was owned by M. J. Thomas, son-in-law of John B. Macy. It was first put into the water at the landing, but afterwards taken to Lake deNeveu, where Mr. Thomas built a neat boat house, but both were wrecked in a storm. One night a wind storm of great violence moved the house and partly turned it over, resulting in a general wreck.

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### Weather on January 1, 1854.

On the 1st day of January, 1854, Willard Edson, father of Solon W. Edson, of the five points shops, was working at the bench in the shop of William Mumby, on West Second street, and Solon was there and knows it to be a fact that the day was as bright and warm as a day in June. It was just ten years later, on January 1st, 1864, that we had the memorable cold New Year. It was just half way between these years, on May 15, 1859, that we had snow six inches deep. Five years after the cold New Year, in 1869, we had the hot summer. One day in July the mercury went to 104 in the shade, in Ripon, and business was suspended. 95 to 100 was not unusual.

The Edson shop at the five points is the veteran wood working shop, if indeed it is not the oldest continuously working shop of any sort in the entire city. The Amory gun shop was started in 1848, but the name has been changed three times—S. B. & J. Amory to T. S. Weeks, he to Weeks & Hurlbut, and they to Hurlbut & Harris. The Edson shop was moved to its present location in 1854, and has been in charge of Willard Edson and his son, Solon W. Edson, ever since. A son of the latter, Eugene Edson, was with his father a short time, but died in 1895. This shop has not been out of the hands of the Edson family from its beginning in 1854, therefore has been in continuous existence at this date of 1905, more than half a century.

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### Western Avenue Bridge.

The first bridge across the west branch of the river at Western Avenue, was built of logs and logs it has been much of the time since. A resident who has crossed and re-crossed that bridge frequently during the past forty years, says he thinks it is about time that the city had a decent bridge there and few people will dispute his statement. It has been tinkered and repaired many times, but never has it resulted in a bridge that at all compared with others in the city. Once or twice it broke down, but fortunately no one was hurt.

### A Cat Ready to Fight.

C. L. Alling was one of the early grocerymen of Fond du Lac. It was in Case & Alling's store that the fire started in 1852, that burned the east side of Main street, between First and Second. The year that he began business here is not known, but old residents know he was here some time before this fire and that he continued in it almost to the date of his death in 1890. After he had built the store now occupied by Robbins grocery store, some amusing events took place in which a cat played a conspicuous part. Mr. Alling's son-in-law, Wesley G. Curtis, clerked in the store and a large and powerful cat held a place there to look after the rats and mice, but he assumed the responsibility of looking after dogs also. This large and powerful store cat seemed to dislike dogs, at least would not allow them to rest in peace in the store. Jay Hall knew of this and one day borrowed a neighbor's large dog to shake the cat. On his way to town Jay had doubtless stopped at the Four Mile House, as he was well filled with booze. He slowly marched into Alling's store, the dog at his heels. Tommy was squatted on the counter, near the cheese box, apparently half asleep. Suddenly there was a scrabbling and commotion, the dog headed for the door, the cat on his neck and shoulders clawing, biting and squalling as only a cat can claw, bite and squall. Curtis threw the door open and the dog made a leap of eight or ten feet into the street, while small tufts of dog hair were wafted along the floor by the gentle breeze. Jay was not pleased that his borrowed dog was so quickly and easily cleaned out. To smooth his lacerated feelings and fasten the joke on some one besides himself, he told Hi Lindsley that Alling had a store cat that he believed could whip his brindle bull dog, and told him how to work it to get a fight. A few days later Hi went leisurely into the store with his brindle purp at his heels. Tommy was not on the counter, but he got there quick enough when he saw the dog, and in less than half a minute a lively and noisy fight was in active progress, with a result worse than in Jay Hall's case, for this time the dog broke one of the glasses in the doors, in his anxiety to get out. In a fight on the ground or floor, either of these dogs could have vanquished the cat, but he set up his fights in his own way and was always the victor. "Bowser," (that was Tommy's name), was a grand cat for what he was there for. Curtis used to say the stay of a rat or mouse in that store was very short. The stay of dogs seems to have been short also, hence Tommy in his lifetime was well cared for. What became of him finally, no one knew. He simply disappeared and was no more seen. It was a long time before Hi Lindsley ceased to hear about his fighting bull dog being whipped by a cat.

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Up to about 1860, the County Treasurer's tax list in the spring, filled one to two pages of the Journal, and the Clerk's list in the fall, about half as much. One has to look close now to find them in the paper at all. People pay their taxes and the newspapers get less revenue.

## DRY HOP YEAST BUSINESS

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Henry Boyle and John T. Boyle Have Remarkable Success in the  
Manufacture of Yeast in Fond du Lac.

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In the comparatively short business period of twenty years, Henry Boyle and John T. Boyle had the most successful career ever known in a manufacturing enterprise in this city. And their success was not reached through good luck, but was the result of hard work and constant mental effort. Night and day their business was looked to carefully and promptly.

Henry Boyle and John T. Boyle were born at Waterloo, N. Y., and at that place, in the employ of the Western Yeast Company, manufacturers of the National and Twin Brothers Yeast at that place, gained their first knowledge of the yeast business. In 1872 the brothers talked over the matter of locating at some other place and founding a business of their own. With this in view they went first to Pittsburg, but found rents and other expenditures so high as to be prohibitory, and came west to Milwaukee. While looking the ground over, they resolved to make a short visit to an uncle, Mr. Crosby, who resided a short distance west of Ripon, and it was during this short visit near Ripon, that their destiny was fixed. A man from Fond du Lac was there and when he learned of their search for a location suggested Fond du Lac. They came and arriving in the evening stayed all night at one of the small, lowertown hotels. In the morning the two young men wandered up town, looking and speculating as they went. At the corner of Main and Johnson streets they found the old Squire's building with broken windows and in a general condition of dilapidation. But they were not long in deciding what they would do, and rented the Squire's shop for \$8 a month. As soon as the building could be got ready they went into the manufacture of dry hop yeast, under the name of Yeast Foam, the name it has borne ever since. A little later they started a grocery store at the same place, and in two or three years had built up a trade not surpassed, if indeed equaled, by any store in the city except perhaps the Zinke Brothers.

But now came a marked period in the business experience of Boyle Brothers and of the manufacture of yeast in Fond du Lac. Up to 1877 all yeast was put up in ten cent packages. There were a dozen cakes in a package and few families could use them all before becoming unfit for use. There was too much yeast and too high a price, hence the sale was slow. Boyle Brothers now resolved to cut quantity and price in the middle and for the first time in the history of yeast making, there was a five cent package in the market. Reid, Murdock & Fisher, then the heaviest wholesale grocery house in Chicago, soon had large orders and the demand from country dealers

compelled other wholesale houses to buy it, and the result was that in 1886 the large factory on Main street was built, and which was largely increased from year to year, in size and capacity, until 1898, when it had become the largest factory of its kind in the United States or the world. Henry Boyle and John T. Boyle, associated with their uncle, Peter T. Crosby, in their spheres in the factory, made a business association unsurpassed for the work in hand. At first the name was American Dry Hop Yeast Co., but in 1877 the business name became the Northwestern Yeast Co., the title it still bears. The product is known as Yeast Foam.

In 1893 a consolidation took place, which brought together in one plant, two of the heaviest yeast concerns in this country, and since the consolidation the product has tripled. They have 150 men on the road and employ 400 in the factory. Since the consolidation, Mr. Henry Boyle has continued Vice-President and Director of the company and gives it much of his attention. In 1893 the factory here was using twelve tons of cornmeal per day in the manufacture of yeast cakes, but nearly five times that amount is now used.

Such has been the marked success of the Boyle Brothers in the manufacture and sale of Dry Hop Yeast, since their coming to Fond du Lac in 1873. Since the consolidation in 1893 they have shown an abiding faith in Fond du Lac and its business by investing large sums of money in almost every enterprise coming to public notice. In charitable work they have taken the lead. Henry Boyle built and equipped the Catholic Old Folks' Home at a cost of \$30,000 and endowed it at a cost of \$45,000 more. John T. Boyle bought the land, built and fully equipped the Sanitarium under the ledge east of the city. The surroundings of this place, especially the grand spring, makes it an ideal location which Mr. Boyle was willing to invest about \$40,000. The Public Library, the Commercial Bank building, the new Opera House and other enterprises represent the liberality and public spirit of the Boyle Brothers.

The remarkable success of Boyle Brothers induced others to engage in the yeast business here, but all of them ceased after a time. The most successful of these was the Diamond Yeast Co., under the management of T. H. Hastings. This was sold to the consolidated company, in 1894. The Wafer Yeast Company, of which Col. C. H. DeGroat was the leader, ceased business in 1895. Yeast Flakes was the name given to a product made on upper Main street by C. W. Pinkham, but was never a formidable competitor in the market. It lingered along until 1895, when it dropped out of the market. There were three or four other attempts at yeast making in Fond du Lac, but they were so weak and existed for so short a time that the names of the makers and their product cannot now be recalled. What is known as compressed yeast was never made here, as it comes from the settling pans and tubs in the manufacture of high wines. As no high wines are distilled here no compressed yeast is made. The Boyle Brothers and their product, Yeast Foam, are the names and distinctive features of yeast making in Fond du Lac. They originated the business and made a marked success of it.



# CLOTHING, JEWELRY, GROCERIES, ETC.

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Various Kinds of Business Begun in Early Days, Brought Down  
to the Present Dates and Names Also  
Remembered.

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## The Clothing Trade.

This line of business was almost wholly in the general stores until 1850. We had some tailors, John B. Wilbor, Kasson Freeman, A. H. Clark, Albert Becker, John Hecht, John Weber and a little later S. A. Dudley and others. As early as 1849 an old Jewish gentleman named S. Maddevitch, opened a stock of clothing here and others followed him for short periods of time. It was in 1857 that Seligman & Bro. opened the first large clothing store in Fond du Lac. They had a large stock and did a very large business for some years. M. Rehm was an early day clothier. He died in New York city a few years ago. H. Altpass was a dealer in hats, caps and gents' furnishing goods. Gielow & Son were also early day dealers. The coming of the war changed business methods and the clothing trade changed with others until things developed as we have them now.

## Watches and Jewelry:

Philo Smith was Fond du Lac's first watch repairer and jeweler. He was here in 1847. Then we had in 1849, Philip Odenbrett. In 1854 G. Scherzinger came, and in 1856 A. Kuenne and H. G. De Sombre. Charles Trowbridge & Bro. came a little later and were here many years. A. H. Furstnow has been the successor of Mr. Kuenne, with whom he served an apprenticeship at the business. Mr. Scherzinger and Mr. DeSombre have stayed with us. From the old times down to the present, we have had many others for greater or less periods of time.

## The Grocery Stores.

In 1850, Jason Wilkins started a store in which only groceries and garden products was kept, and it was the first grocery in Fond du Lac. Before this all the general stores kept groceries. The earliest grocers following Jason Wilkins, were J. W. Carpenter, T. & B. Mason, A. Pogue, C. L. Alling, R. A. & H. O. Baker, Case & Alling, Valentine & Olmsted, Smith & Chandler, and a little later E. H. Jones, Davis & Co., W. W. Clark, N. L. Bullis, J. E. Peabody, J. W. Conley, Robert Wyat and many others. No line of business increased so rapidly after 1870, as the grocery, until now they are to be found in every part of the city and their number is legion. The methods of doing business by the grocers has very much changed since the early days. Should an old timer be able to return now to do business with his grocer, he would be very much surprised to find the delivery

wagon at the door, with a boy to deliver his purchase if not of greater value than a nickel, and many other innovations. The old time grocery store was a very different place from one of today. Articles put up in glass, tin and paper were almost unknown and bakery goods, except crackers, were not kept. Bread was sold at the bakeries and vegetables were sold from the gardener's wagon.

#### Milliners and Dressmakers.

In the early times ladies were content if they could obtain the material of which to build a bonnet or construct a dress. They could arrange it for themselves, or find some neighbor to do it if they could get the material. Their ideas of style were not as elaborate as in later years, yet they got along very well. It is only since the war that there were several styles of hats and bonnets at the same time, as one or two styles would fill the bill in earlier years, and it is since the coming of many kinds and the active sale of sewing machines, that ladies' dresses required as much planning and as elaborate work as the construction of a modern printing press. Fifty years ago the Singer, the Wheeler & Wilson and Grover & Baker sewing machines had but just got into use to a very limited extent. Most families were confined largely to hard work and the modern dress was some years in the future. Mrs. Wilber, Mrs. Bonnell, the Giltner girls and others of the early milliners, did not have the troubles of their sisters of the present, in keeping up with the styles.

#### Florists and Gardeners.

In early days the people were concerned about things more substantial than flowers and house plants. Something eatable, something wearable, something usable, was needed most. The French Gardens and Zickerick's were here early and easily furnished all the flowers desired for funerals and social functions. The use of flowers and plants for funerals was not so common then as now, and parties where flowers were appropriate or desired, were few and far between. Something far more substantial than posies was looked for on such occasions. In war times the use of flowers became more general and Mr. Haentze came and soon became leader in the business, which has continued to this time. Most of the flowers now used here are grown at home, but on special occasions heavy drafts are made upon Chicago and Milwaukee florists. Others at times have grown flowers here in a small way, but Lallier, or the French Gardens, and Haentze have been the principal ones for many years. W. C. Green was the early vegetable peddler. Lallier also came early and at all times there have been private gardeners to distribute vegetables.

#### Tobacco and Cigar Trade.

To the younger people, meaning those who had not reached the stage of business activity at the time of the war, it is well to say here that it was not until 1862 that the government tax was levied upon liquor and tobacco. To that time the sale of these was free in every form. But the tax came and came heavy. Every manufacturer

must use stamps on his packages and every dealer must have a license. Such is the law now, though the rate is some lower. In old times the stamps and license were never seen. Fifty years ago fine-cut chewing tobacco was sold in three cent packages, and smoking by the pound from barrels. Older citizens will remember the tobacco store of Fromm & Wolf, the first of its kind in Fond du Lac. During its entire existence from 1849 to 1887, a period of thirty-eight years, the store occupied the place where Sun Woh's Chinese laundry is now. Mr. Fromm died in 1869 and Joseph Wolf in 1885, when L. A. Ehrhart bought the stock but discontinued the store after two years. There have been numerous such stores since, but From & Wolf was the only one for many years.

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### Draying and Parcel Delivery.

Teaming in the earliest days of Fond du Lac was done by Ed. Carey, Ben Gilbert and his father and one or two others, with their oxen. A little later Steve Buckland, John Denny, Jo. King and J. W. Oliver had horse teams ready to do this work when not on the road freighting to and from Milwaukee and Sheboygan. A wagon maker named Griswold, early in the fifties, put the first dray on the streets. Then came John Monahan, J. W. Hodges, Tom Toony, Oliver Tompkins, John Dana, John Hale, Bob Atkinson, William Druth, Henry Schlicher and several others. In 1870 all the old style draymen disappeared and the work was done with wagons. In the eighties A. Tait organized the first heavy freight line to the railroads, in late years so successfully managed by Petrie and O'Connor. Tait sold the business to go into coal and wood. In 1890 came a revelation in the street business by the appearance of Orson McIlvaine and his innocent appearing parcel delivery wagon. To this time the price had been 25 cents for all work, no matter how light. But now came a 10 cent price and ere long all the old draymen left the street and were seen no more. Some of them had become old men in the work, but the price for services was a knock out. The heavy freight lines remain because there is a necessity for them, but the old liners were all off the street within a year after the coming of the parcel delivery. Mr. McIlvaine, the originator of the parcel delivery, had a paralytic stroke in 1896, but recovered and went on the street again, but in the spring of 1905 had become so infirm that he went to the Soldiers' Home, at Milwaukee, where he died in August last. Such has been the evolution of the street teaming service in Fond du Lac from the beginning. What the future of it may be no one can tell.

T. S. Henry began the free delivery of goods from stores, from his flour and feed store. E. C. Tompkins, under firm name of Davis & Co., was the first grocery to take up free delivery.

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It was by giving the heavy bonds for County Treasurers elect and saving them this annoyance, that Robert A. Baker secured the control of county money so many years.

### Passenger Transportation.

The railroads, the number of them, running in every direction, has so stimulated travel that people of early times can only think and wonder. Fifty years ago with a population of about 6,000, the ordinary passenger business of Fond du Lac was easily managed by a small steamboat on Lake Winnebago, one stage coach a day to Sheboygan and a mud wagon stage to Milwaukee. The steamboat was never crowded, the Sheboygan stage might have six passengers but often one or two, while the normal condition of the Milwaukee stage was emptiness. A total of twenty passengers a day would be the average. There were occasions and seasons when the travel was much greater, but this was not far from the average up to the time that the railroads came. People of the present time may ask, what did the people do? The answer is they stayed at home or traveled with horses and ox teams. How enormous has been the increase by the coming of the railroads. In this year of 1905 we have twenty-three passenger trains going north and twenty-three going south, a total of forty-six passenger trains every day over our railroads. These trains have two to eight passenger cars each and the cars have seats for thirty-two to seventy-two passengers. A gentleman of this city connected with the railroads, estimates that 800 people are carried into and out of Fond du Lac every day in the local traffic alone. The trains carry many thousands. Fifty years ago two stages managed the entire passenger business between Green Bay, Fond du Lac and Milwaukee. How many would be required now? In 1850 the stages between Milwaukee and Fond du Lac, consumed twelve to twenty-four hours. Fifty years later the time required between the two cities was reduced to less than two hours. The fare has been reduced about one-third. To Milwaukee it was \$3.50, now it is \$1.90. The time used to be uncertain, now it is almost to the tick of the watch.

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### A Cow That Walked In.

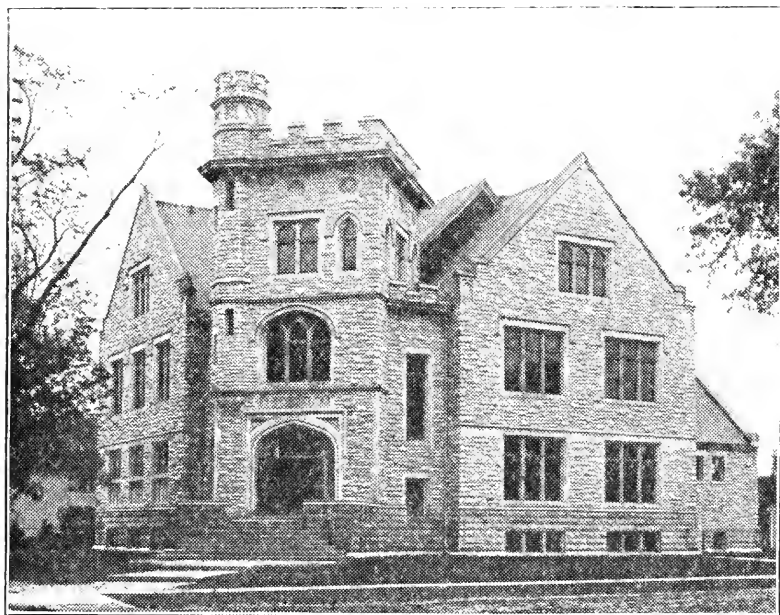
Up to nearly 1860, all domestic animals were allowed to run at large, including pigs, and it was a cow owned by J. C. Clunn that started the agitation that resulted in the passage of an ordinance requiring them to be kept off the streets. This cow owned by Mr. Clunn was a genius at opening gates, large or small, hooked or latched. She would patiently work at a gate with her horns until she opened it, no matter how fastened. She was seldom or never known to abandon a job when once undertaken, no matter how many hours it required. She had seen the fine pasture and garden truck inside the enclosure and she was determined to get to it. Driving her away was not effectual, for she promptly returned when the coast was clear, and went at it again as calmly as before. During the days she pastured along the streets and at night in the yards and gardens, and as the owner would do nothing, relief came only by the passage of the ordinance, ever since in force.

# FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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A Fond du Lac Institution Established in 1876. Now Occupies Its Own Beautiful Building and is the Pride of the City.

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The presentation of \$30,000 to the Fond du Lac Public Library by Andrew Carnegie in 1902, the raising of \$6,000 from citizens by the Woman's Club for the purchase of the Eldredge property at the corner of Sheboygan and Portland streets as a site for the building, the laying of the corner stone in June, 1903, in which the Woman's Club took conspicuous part, the completion of the building and moving the library into it in November, 1904, the dedication in January, 1905, and an address by Reuben G. Thwaites, are all interesting and important events in the history of Fond du Lac. During the time that the building was being erected, the library board consisted of F. B. Hoskins, President; John Heath, Vice-President; J. W. Watson, Secretary; C. A. Galloway, Treasurer, and E. R. Herren, O. H. Ecke, L. A. Williams, William Wilson, Miss Elizabeth Waters and Mrs. L. A. Bishop. The committee that had the work in charge

during the construction of the building, consisted of Maj. E. R. Herren, John Heath and C. A. Galloway. Mr. Hoskins is dead and five of the above named members having resigned, the library board at this date, October 15, 1905, is as follows: E. R. Herren, President; O. H. Ecke, Vice-President; William Wilson, Secretary; J. C. Whittelsey, Dr. G. T. McDougall, Harvey Durand, Maurice Fitzsimons, Jr., Miss Elizabeth Waters, Mrs. Waldo Sweet. Since organization in its present form as a Public Library in 1876, there have been but two librarians, the first Miss Augusta Ball and since 1882, Miss Emma Rose. The present operating force or employes are, Miss Emma Rose, Librarian, Miss Mamie Lamb, Miss Jean Dodd and Miss Mamie E. Bechaud, Assistants, John Preiss, Janitor. A. T. Glaze has quarters in the public document room, in behalf of the old settlers. Besides the \$36,000 above mentioned as contributed for building and site, the city added \$13,000, making the total cost \$49,000.

Exclusive of magazines and books with paper covers, the library now has 22,000 volumes on its shelves, and the number is constantly increasing. Every department of literature is represented and new books of interest are secured as fast as published. Current magazines and many leading papers are to be found on the tables of the large reading room. Few libraries are as well supplied with books for reference. In the second story of the building is a very nice assembly room, well furnished, for meetings, and on the Portland street front is an interesting museum in which is displayed the many curios collected by Mrs. Bass and others. In this year of 1905, the Public Library has become a place of great interest as well to outsiders as to citizens. It is open every day, except Sunday, from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m, and during the winter months is open Sunday afternoons from 3 to 5:30.

Since its organization, the library has had rooms in four places, but it is now anchored where it is hoped it will stay. In 1875 the Young Men's Association and the Neocasmian Society having seemingly tired of responsibility if not of existence, transferred their libraries to the city for a free public library. The Neocasmians gave up their lease of what is now known as P. C. A. Hall, and the library continued there a short time, when the rooms over Plank's drug store were fitted up for the library and it continued there seven years. Early in 1884, the library was moved to the rooms lately occupied on Main street. The building, now owned by Wm. McDermott, was erected in 1883 by Mr. John McDonald and Gen. Black, of Chicago, with the understanding that the entire second floor should be fitted up for library purposes. Here it remained just twenty years, when it was moved into the present building owned by the city, and one of the best of its class in the state.

The death of Mr. Frank B. Hoskins, September 18, 1905, is a great loss to the Public Library. He was long president of the library board and took an active interest in all its affairs. His influence was great and his judgment reliable.

The first attempt at a reading room in Fond du Lac was by Edward Beeson, Van B. Smead, Wesley Curtis, A. T. Glaze and Misses Fidelia Boardman and Delphina Cortelyou, and was in the upper room of the old John Marshall building, about where Chegwin's furniture store is now, on East Second street. Mr. Marshall gave the use of the room and newspapers, magazines and other reading matter were carried there from the Journal office. Books were lent by citizens. There was no librarian, but the door was open at all times for people to come and go as they pleased. Reading matter was by no means as plentiful then as now, and for a long time this cosy reading room was frequented by readers. The rooms were used two summers, but the people failing to contribute for fuel and lights, it was closed in winter and finally dropped or rather died from lack of interest in it by the people whose duty it was to help it.

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### A Few Remarkable Years.

The years 1851, 1867, 1885 and the present year 1905, were remarkable for rain and wet. In 1851 it was so wet that only oats was got into the ground successfully, and that fall oats was sold in Fond du Lac for eight and ten cents a bushel. There was an over supply. 1867 was very wet and in the fall stacking was so delayed that shocks of wheat were green with sprouts. The corn was drowned out and barley and oats ruined. In 1885 corn was planted two or three times but yet failed. Small grain also failed. The present year of 1905 we all know about. Floods and storms have ruled. There has been but very few weeks without storms. During these fifty years there have been other wet seasons, but these are on record.

The deep snows were in 1864 and 1882. In 1864, Ripon was at one time thirteen days without a mail. Fond du Lac had a like experience but not so long. In 1882 the snow was often banked twelve to fifteen feet high and railroad trains were stopped for days at a time.

In 1852, 1864 and 1897 we had the intense cold. The cold of 1852 had its worst demonstration at the time of the big fire between First and Second streets. There was not a thermometer in the town that could measure its intensity. The cold New Years was January 1, 1864. Garden shrubbery and grapes were frozen to the ground in 1897.

The winter of long sleighing was 1869. Beautiful sleighing lasted from the middle of November to the middle of March. In 1883 there was no sleighing at all. Mr. Alfred Robbins, then in livery business, said he did not hitch a horse to a cutter during the entire winter. It is remarkable that this came the next winter after the deep snows.

We have had a number of years of drouths, some of them serious. The worst was probably that of 1877, when almost everything dried out.

### Billy Ford, the Stage Man.

William Ford, known to everybody in town and immediate vicinity as Billy Ford, when the stage company was here, was the "barn man" and looked after everything connected with the barn. He had a number of workers, but Billy was responsible for everything. He was a very small man but could carry all the responsibility the company and M. D. Henry, the agent, could pile on him. He bought and traded horses, bought all supplies, gave out tickets to the men for meals, looked after repairs, etc., but would never handle a cent of money of the company. He sent all bills to Mr. Henry to be paid. He used to say he could stand almost anything except to handle other folk's money. And he seldom had a cent of his own, for he always sent it away as soon as received, so the boys could not borrow it. Yet the boys all stood by Billy every time and all the time.

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### First Jobs Printed.

The first job of printing Edward Beeson did in Fond du Lac was of tax certificates in 1848. The first job A. T. Glaze did was a prospectus for the Wisconsin Pinery started at Stevens Point in 1851, by Gen. Ellis. The first pamphlet job printed in Fond du Lac was the proceedings of the Wisconsin Conference of the M. E. Church in 1852. A. T. Glaze and Walworth Chapel did the work, binding as well as the printing. The first colored job was for the Globe Hotel in 1853. It was a fancy card eleven by fourteen inches in size.

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### Old Marr Street Cottage.

At this date, June 1st, 1905, the old cottage at the southeast corner of Marr and Third streets is disappearing to give place to a new residence. It was built by E. W. Drury in 1849 and occupied by him until he moved to the west side, on Western Avenue about 1865. It has stood there fifty-six years, and like all old things, has had to pass away and give place to something new. Through its fifty-six years it has been known as "The Cottage." It had been on fire twice but was not injured beyond repair, though each time became smaller in size.

### Astor Hall as a Saloon.

The place kept in the early time in Fond du Lac by Charley Johnson and known as Astor Hall, was the first of the saloons of modern style. It was a billiard saloon with a bar, and a back room for cards. The name Astor Hall had no significance except to locate the place. Johnson was a negro and himself had little to do in running the saloon. It was managed by a little German whom all residents knew as "Gottlieb." This German afterward had a saloon of his own, but was unsuccessful and finally left town to reside in Calumet, where he ended his life later with a revolver.



## PIONEERS IN 1874 AND 1904

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What Has Been Done and What It Is Aimed To Do by the Work  
of the Club. All May Take Part In It.

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On March 19, 1904, a meeting was held in the Supervisor's room at the court house for the purpose of organizing an Old Settlers' Club. Dr. J. W. Burns, of Oakfield, was elected chairman, and A. T. Glaze, secretary. F. B. Hoskins, with the president and secretary, were made a committee on constitution and by-laws. After this committee had reported, the following officers were elected:

President—H. D. Hitt, of Oakfield.

Vice-Presidents—F. B. Hoskins, S. M. Ingalls.

Recording Secretary—A. T. Glaze.

Corresponding Secretary—Dr. J. W. Burns.

Treasurer—W. A. Meiklejohn.

Executive Committee—Dr. T. F. Mayham, O. F. Lewis, G. N. Mihills and the President and Recording Secretary, ex-officio.

The next meeting was held April 16, in the court room at the court house. The constitution of the club was reported and adopted. There were many pleasing talks from members of the club and it was resolved to hold a midsummer picnic meeting in June, the date to be fixed by the executive committee, but subsequently the committee adjourned the meeting to September 2. The weather was unfavorable but the meeting was well attended and very interesting. It was held in the fine arts building at the fair grounds. Besides some talks by old settlers, there was an address by H. E. Swett, a paper by Miss Alice Stearns, recitations by Miss Marlea Bishop and Mrs. A. E. Lindsley, and music by Mrs. Bishop, Miss Bishop and Messrs. Pope and Magnussen. The occasion was very interesting.

The first annual meeting was held in the council rooms March 18, 1905, all of the officers present. All of the old officers of the club were re-elected unanimously.

Again it was determined to hold the midsummer picnic meeting in June and again the executive committee, on account of storms, floods and bad roads, adjourned it, this time to August 30, 1905. This meeting was held at the Kite park fair grounds and was a grand success in every way. A fine address was given by Col. J. A. Watrous, a beautiful paper by Mrs. Wilcox, of Oakfield, recitations by Miss Susie Hall, Miss Barbara Sweet and Mrs. A. E. Lindsley. Memorial notices were read of William Adams, prepared by Franklin Swett, of R. K. Satterfield by William Stearns, J. J. Lurvey and M. W. Merrill by Dr. J. W. Burns, and of C. R. Harrison, B. F. Moore, L. F. Stow, C. H. DeGroat and Mrs. Lyman Bishop by A. T. Glaze.

The managers of the Kite track put on a couple of races in the afternoon for the amusement of those present. This, with visiting, filled out the afternoon to the great enjoyment of all concerned.

An Old Settler's Club of this county was formed as long ago as 1874, and it is deeply regretted that it was not kept at work from that day to this. The work is most important, not to the old settlers only, but especially to those who follow them. The cost is trifling. It is to be deeply regretted that the club work of the members of 1874, could not have been effectively continued to the present and that the need of the present organization would not have been felt. At that time were living many of the old settlers who had personal knowledge of people, places and events that are now lost. Their memories reached back to the earliest periods of settlement which it is not now possible for us to reach. Suppose that we had the personal presence of Edward Pier, John H. Martin, Reuben Simmons, Edward Beeson, Henry Bush, Joseph Kinsman, Robert Estabrooks, Isaac Orvis, Peter V. Sang and others. They were all and more here in 1874, but are all gone now. The few that are left will soon be gone—there are left not exceeding fifty, all told.

Although we cannot now get at facts within the personal knowledge of these older settlers, we can and must perpetuate their memory. We must not allow all trace of these brave people to fade out. We as their successors, are reaping the benefits of their labors and privations and it were the vilest of ingratitude to allow them to sink in to forgetfulness when it is within our power to prevent it. To perpetuate their memory and show our gratitude is exactly the object of the Old Settlers' Club of 1904.

Will you help in the work?

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### Wheel and Seeder Company.

Who of the old residents does not well remember the manufacturing plant at the west end of Forest street bridge and known as the Wheel and Seeder Company. After the sawmill had disappeared, the location was too valuable to remain idle, so Milo Bushnell, D. Y. Sabin and others erected a building for the purpose and began the manufacture of the Fountain City seeder. Two or three years later, in 1861, they began the manufacture of a wagon wheel, which it was believed would supersede the Sarven and all other patent wheels in the market. But like many other patents, it proved a failure and the manufacture soon ceased. It was made long enough to give the plant part of its name of Wheel and Seeder Company, which it has borne ever since. In 1874, C. H. Weston bought the plant and it was thought would be a heavy concern. James H. Farusworth was made secretary and manager of the company, but Mr. Weston was unable to command the necessary capital to run it successfully, and it maintained a sort of risky life until 1891, when it was sold to a LaCrosse company and soon after moved away. A new company was formed with James H. Smith at the head and known as the Fond du Lac Implement Company, which has since continued,

# E. A. BROWN POST No. 130, G. A. R.

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## History of Edwin A. Brown Post No. 130, Grand Army of the Republic and of the Woman's Relief Corps From Their Organization.

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We are told by reliable historians of the war of the rebellion, that the organization known to us as the Grand Army of the Republic, had its earliest conception in the United States Senate, in the brain of Gen. John A. Logan. He was able to inspire others with an idea of its value in caring for the interests and shaping the social destiny of the old soldiers. They were a class of men who held the grateful homage of the people and had claims against a saved nation. A four years' and a half war, one of the most terrible in all history, left a vast body of men whose claims must be recognized, social as well as financial. What could do this better than a society formed upon the plan of the Grand Army of the Republic. And so it came into existence in 1869, and as predicted, has been a power in the land. There is some dispute as to where the first Post was organized, but it is quite generally conceded now that it was at Springfield, Ill., with Gen. Logan present.

Years ago there was some dispute about the organization of the first Post in Wisconsin, but it was settled that the first was organized by Griff Thomas, at Berlin, Green Lake County, but it was allowed to lapse and when started again had to take No. 4, which it still holds. While the Berlin Post was sleeping, E. B. Woolcott Post, at Milwaukee, was organized as No. 1. There have been 279 Posts in the state, but 33 have become extinct, leaving 246 now in existence.

One day in November, 1883, the late Ira P. Meisner appeared in the law office of Geo. E. Sutherland with a request that he draw up a petition to be signed by such soldiers as were willing to join in the organization of a Post of the G. A. R. The request was complied with and Mr. Meisner started out on his mission of getting signers. The first name on the petition was that of Geo. E. Sutherland. On the 19th of January, 1884, there were just fifty signers and the Post was organized. Following are the names of the charter members:

E. S. Bragg.	Elihu Colman.	W. M. Moore.
S. L. Brasted.	Frank Derusha.	James McMahon.
I. L. Hunt.	A. Demorras.	J. M. Marsh.
K. M. Adams.	David Dougherty.	George Perkins.
J. B. Tripp.	John Dougherty.	J. G. B. Palmer.
Wm. Zickerick	John Doud.	G. S. Roek.
S. E. Wade.	A. Fleischman.	David Pitcher.
Robert Powrie	Frank Gonia.	G. F. Stannard.
Frank N. Fox.	G. W. Hines.	A. A. Shepherd.
G. S. Stanton.	D. H. Henderson.	C. N. Skinner.

N. Boardman.	S. S. Johnson.	Geo. E. Sutherland.
Casper Buechner.	H. Jones.	S. W. Townsend.
H. M. Bullock.	M. B. Killam.	L. C. Trowbridge.
Max Brugger.	John Luhm.	Jacob Tautges.
D. S. Cole.	Michael Mangan.	Ferd. Meyer.
J. M. Crippen.	Ira P. Meisner.	
H. Chilcote.	J. M. Meyers.	

The charter is signed by Phil. Cheek, Department Commander, and J. H. Whitley as Assistant Adjutant General, and the Post is given the name of Edwin A. Brown Post No. 130, G. A. R. The meetings were held for a few years in the postoffice block, corner of Forest avenue and Macy street, but moved to more suitable rooms at the corner of Main and West Second streets. In 1899 the second story of the fine block, corner of Main and Fourth streets, was secured and fitted up at a cost of about \$700 and giving the Post most comfortable quarters and among the best for the purpose in the whole state. There is a fine hall, banquet rooms, kitchen, parlor, card room and storage room, all handsomely furnished. Here the veterans of the war and intimate friends meet every day and spend their leisure time visiting and playing cards. The Woman's Relief Corps takes charge of the banquets and socials, with frequent entertainments. A janitor looks after the rooms and it is always a neat and comfortable place for all uses intended.

The first Commander of this Post was Gen. E. S. Bragg, and he has been succeeded by Col. C. K. Pier, Robert Powrie, Isaac L. Hunt, S. E. Wade, Michael Mangan, Silas H. Cole, W. A. Reader, William DeSteele, E. D. Allen, Rev. H. W. Thompson, Hiram P. Thompson, J. F. Wegner and Dr. J. O. Ackerman. This Post has now on its rolls a total of 127 members in good standing. Since its organization in 1884, the Post has had a total of 409 members. Many of them have gone away, but the belief of those well posted in its affairs is, that fully over half of them have died. Of the charter members here in 1884, but fifteen are members now, twenty-seven have died and eight have gone away. What the changes will be in these figures in another ten years it is impossible to determine further than to say that there will be a far greater proportion of deaths. In this year of 1905 it is forty-four years since the war of the rebellion began and forty-eight years since it ended. Of those who took part in it, very few are less than 65 years of age, most of them have passed the three score and ten limit.

There was another and very similar organization brought here in 1892, known as the Union Veteran Legion, but it had a brief existence. It was believed by many to be more of a political than social side, and like all organizations of that nature could not last long. Its membership was never large.

### Woman's Relief Corps.

Only those who for special reasons have become familiar with it, have anything like a proper conception of the work done by this organization. Its charitable work alone gives it high standing in the

community. It is at work all the time in some part of the field covered by the G. A. R. While it gives aid to the Grand Army, its main effort is in charity and old soldiers and their families are the special objects of it. No matter how much labor is involved, the members are at all times ready to meet it. On April 28, 1886, Edwin A. Brown Corps No. 35, Woman's Relief Corps, was organized with the following charter members:

Ruth R. Harvey.	Lillie J. Killam.	Emeline L. Perkins.
Ella L. Adams.	Hattie B. Sackett.	Ellen Mangan.
Susie M. Dodge.	Alice M. Burrows.	Elizabeth Powrie.
Emma C. Wade.	Ellen F. Adamson.	Sedate S. McEwen.
Mary R. Fox.	Lottie H. Everett.	
Josephine DeGroat.	Theodosia A. Brasted.	

The Corps was instituted by Mrs. Ellen Rogers, Department President, and Mrs. Sophia Nelson, Department Secretary. Mrs. Ruth R. Harvey was the first President and at two different times held the office four years. Mrs. Josephine DeGroat came second and held the position seven years at two different periods. Then came Mrs. Helen P. Phelps, Mrs. Martha Hurlbut and Mrs. Amanda C. Wheeler with terms of two years each, and Mrs. Hannah Coffman will have served two years as President, on completion of the present year. The Corps has one important officer that the general public knows almost nothing about. This office is known to the members of the Corps as "Patriotic Instructor," and it is her special work to see that the United States Flag is placed in every schoolroom and to talk to the children about the flag, about our wars and the part taken in them by the old soldiers. In short her mission is to awaken a patriotic spirit in the minds of the young. Mrs. Helen Clock now holds that position and has done much work in the schools. It is the desire of the Corps to so familiarize the young with the flag that it shall be venerated more in the future than it has been in the past.

The Corps seems to be composed of women not only willing but anxious to work in every corner of the field of patriotic endeavor, and on the tenth anniversary of the Corps' a detailed report was made showing the charity work done up to that time, and it was a most creditable showing, but the relief work has materially increased since that report was made. This is but one item, however, in the work of this band of noble women. They have raised the money, bought and paid for the furnishings of their parlor, including a \$500 piano for use at entertainments, have put into the cupboards all the crockery and silver needed for their tables, furnished the kitchen with every appliance needed, besides much miscellaneous work and bearing the responsibility and expense in decorations every year. All this they have raised the money and paid for by their own efforts.

This is what the W. R. C. has done and is doing almost without the knowledge of the people generally. The organization is auxiliary to the G. A. R. and nobly does it work to carry out its objects. The members of the G. A. R. and W. R. C. are now rapidly passing away. Will their children come to the front and keep their memory green? Only the future can tell.

### The Railroad Was Extended.

When the proposition was made to extend the Sheboygan & Fond du Lac Railroad from Fond du Lac to Princeton in 1869-'70, it produced considerable commotion, especially at Ripon, because \$30,000 in city bonds was asked for and it was foreseen that Ripon would also have its share to pay of endorsed county orders demanded of the county, to double that amount. A number of prominent citizens of that city, among them G. N. Lyman, E. L. Northrup, J. C. Lightburn, Wm. Workman, D. F. Shepard, K. Lindsley, Wm. Starr and others opposed the proposition on the ground that it would ruin the western business of the city and their contention was correct as shown by subsequent experience. The proposition carried and in six months all could see the effect. Five elevators, all of them busy, were locked and windows boarded up six months after the road was extended. The effect produced was, that nearly all the produce that Ripon had before, from as far west as Germania, in Green Lake and Marquette counties, was now shipped at Princeton, St. Marie and Dartford, and Ripon saw none of it. All the buyers were out of the market but one or two. The vast amount of grain, wool, pork and other produce were no longer marketed at Ripon, and buyers of goods went to Fond du Lac or Oshkosh, where there were larger stocks to select from and possibly cheaper prices. It is certain that Ripon felt the effect for some years, until matters were adjusted by a sort of cause and effect. Before the extension an old gentleman named Card, a shoemaker, had his shop on the brow of the hill and all teams from the west must pass it. On his shoe bench he had little boxes into which he would drop a shoe peg for each load of grain, wool, pork, etc., from which Mr. Glaze each week gathered a local item for the Commonwealth. After the extension there was no further use for Mr. Card's boxes. No produce worth while, came up that hill from the west—it was all inside of cars on the railroad. No doubt the time was coming that this would have been the result anyhow, but it was tough on Ripon to have it come at that time. The "I told you so" gentlemen were correct for the time, but not for all time.

Princeton, Dartford and Fond du Lac of course profited at the time and for all time. The road could not be stopped at Ripon, as so many desired. It must go on west and the inevitable was just where it did go. It was not in the order of things to do anything else. One of the things for Ripon to be proud of is the settlement of all the bonded debts. Not only the \$30,000 of the Sheboygan road, the \$15,000 of the Oshkosh line, known at the time it was built as the Oshkosh & Mississippi, and the readjusted bonds of the St. Paul road. Mr. Geo. L. Field was early appointed financial agent of the city, and by good management wiped them out almost at the beginning and the annoyance ceased. Few cities in the state had their bonded debts so thoroughly and so smoothly wiped out as Ripon. The only feature more desirable would have been never to have had them at all.

## A FEW MURDERS

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A Few of the Noted Murders in the Past. Not Many Deeds of Violence Here, But Maybe Our Share.

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The murders here and in this vicinity in the earlier years were mostly perpetrated by Indians, but all through the years there were occasional crimes which John A. Eastman called "civilized murders." About 1868 a body was found on the then Lyman Phillips farm, now the sanitarium, east of the city, and a little later, one on the present Ingalls farm, but the perpetrator was never found. In 1870, a riverman named Nathan Young, was on his way north to assist in running logs on Wolf River. One morning his body was found in the Ingram woods near Linden street. The crime was traced to a colored man then here, named Fred Williams. He was tried in circuit court before Judge McLean, was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment. J. W. Bass was the District Attorney and Williams was defended by Col. C. K. Pier. The case went to the supreme court, resulting in a discharge, on the ground that the court in the information did not declare the offense to be against the peace and dignity of the state of Wisconsin, as directed in the constitution. Few doubted the guilt of Williams, and many charged the two previously mentioned murders to him. The body of a man with one wooden leg, was found in the west branch near the present St. Paul railroad bridge, but he may have been drowned. Williams froze his feet, it was thought, in pursuit of another crime, gangrene set in and he died from it.

But the murder to arouse the most feeling of any in this community, was the Prinslow murder in 1897. Mr. Prinslow was a policeman and was shot by a fleeing tramp, while he was on the railroad track west of the Buell Anderson machinery warehouse, on West Second street. On the afternoon of the murder, George Seitz, then proprietor of the Forest avenue livery barn, had indiscreetly exhibited a roll of money which three tramps resolved to get possession of. In the evening they assaulted Seitz near his office at the west end of Forest avenue bridge. Before the tramps could do effective work, he made so much noise and jumped the railing to the bank of the river so he could not be reached, and they ran south on the track without the money or any part of it. Officer Prinslow, on his way to the police station to go on duty, saw the running tramps and called a halt, but one of them fired a heavy revolver and the officer fell and died before morning. The most active efforts failed to capture the tramps, but a man named Lonergan was taken at Jefferson Junction and District Attorney Reilly succeeded in convicting him of the crime. He was sent to prison by Judge Kirwan, but in a subsequent revival of the case by the supreme court, it was

held that the evidence was insufficient and the prisoner was discharged. This was doubtless the most exciting murder in the history of Fond du Lac, and it is to be deplored that no one was punished for it. And it was all caused by a very foolish exhibition of a roll of money.

An event took place here in the early times which gave rise to much talk among old settlers. Two men came here with considerable money which they wished to invest in pine land. One of them went to Eau Claire, the other went north from here accompanied by a well known citizen. The skeleton and clothes of the one from here were found between Waupaca and Stevens Point, being recognized by a paper written for him by Judge Flint, before leaving here. The man who went with him was able to show that he left him at Weyauwega and went to New London, but of course there was much talk. The murderer, no matter who, got but little money, as he left most of it here in charge of Judge Flint. It was afterwards learned that the man who went to Eau Claire, lost his life in the woods of Chippewa county, at the hands of some one unknown.

In the past we have had several more murders, but not of much notoriety. In cuttings and slashings with knives and razors, we have had our full share and which bring the average to as high a mark as that of our neighbors. And of domestic troubles ending in poison and other quiet means, we have had our share. In the country, that is in the towns, there has been a singular freedom from violence.

The most noted shooting the city has had and that which produced the most feeling, was that in which Robert Baker shot Gen. C. S. Hamilton, in 1864. It was on the occasion of the election of officers of the Young Men's Association, at their rooms on the east side of Main street, between Second and Third, and occurred in the stairway. The men had not been friends for a long time, and tantalizing remarks were exchanged as they met. Baker said that Hamilton made a motion of reaching for his revolver and he did not propose to let him get the drop on him, and pulled his gun quickly and fired. Gen. Hamilton was laid up several months, so it is presumed Baker meant more than a scare. This is one of the Fond du Lac events that it was always difficult to get truth. Legal proceedings were begun but finally dropped.

In the presidential election of 1872, it was not generally known and there has been no occasion for it to be known since, that United States Senator Matt. H. Carpenter and the late Geo. F. Wheeler were bitter personal enemies. On the occasion of a big republican meeting in Fond du Lac, Carpenter was one of the speakers and the constant efforts of Dana C. Lamb, H. S. Town, Geo. D. Curtis and others were required to keep the men from meeting face to face. It was known that both were armed and trouble was feared. To the credit of both be it said, that in after years they became reconciled. But there was trouble in the air on the day above alluded to. The late B. H. Bettis had much to do in bringing this about.



## Success in Politics.

In times past Fond du Lac county has had many men noted for success in politics. Among them were:

M. C. Darling.	A. M. Skeels.	James Coleman.
John Bannister.	H. S. Town.	G. E. Sutherland.
Warren Chase.	T. W. Spence.	J. C. Lewis.
William Starr.	Joseph Wagner.	B. Pinkney.
Peter V. Sang.	F. D. McCarty.	G. W. Carter.
Geo. F. Wheeler.	Edward S. Bragg.	N. W. Thayer.
A. C. Whiting.	S. M. Smead.	E. H. Galloway.
B. H. Bettis.	H. C. Batterson.	F. B. Hoskins.
Dana C. Lamb.	David Whitton.	Chas. Bartlett.
Samuel W. Beal.	Elihu Colman.	E. Colman.
C. D. Gage.	Owen A. Wells.	C. K. Pier.
Jerre Dobbs.	Chas. A. Eldredge.	

These men all had much to do with state, congressional and county politics. The only state officer this county has had was Geo. F. Wheeler as State Prison Commissioner.

Dr. M. C. Darling was not a politician, but his position in the community caused him to hold many offices and to go to the legislature and to congress.

John Bannister was a good writer and very active, hence was often pushed into office by the early settlers, often holding many offices at the same time. It is said of him that he never refused an office.

Charles A. Eldredge held the distinction of serving six terms, or twelve years, in congress, and Gen. Bragg four terms, or eight years. Both had been members of the state senate and district attorney of the county. Gen. Bragg was Minister to Mexico and is now Consul General at Hong Kong, China.

S. M. Smead seldom went before the people himself, but he was distinguished for being the most sagacious politician and manager the county ever had. In a convention he generally managed to carry his point, and if defeat was likely he could smell it afar off. He was truly a political genius.

Hiram S. Town, Dana C. Lamb, James Coleman, Owen A. Wells, Jerre Dobbs and Jo. Wagner were recognized political bosses. That is, they took caucuses and conventions under their wings and flew away with them.

Fond du Lac has always had many strong and worthy men who could not be induced to take part in politics. Among them were such men as C. R. Harrison, B. F. Moore, H. K. Laughlin, J. C. Whittelsey, C. J. Pettibone and others.

There was another class of men who, though prominent in the community, seldom or never were seen at caucuses or conventions, and were not office seekers. Such men as these were Edward Beeson, J. A. Smith, Royal Buck, George Swift, Charles Blankenburg, Esek Dexter, Kirkland Gillet, J. H. Spencer, Benj. Wild, Mark R. Harrison, James Ewen and others.

### Trouble About Type.

In early times Eli Hooker had a small job printing office at Waupun, and as showing how important a few type are when difficult to obtain, it may be stated here that A. T. Glaze drove over to Waupun one night from Fond du Lac, to obtain a few figure ones, fives and ciphers of the size known to printers as brevier, with which to complete the setting of a tax list. We could now get those figures in two hours from Milwaukee and in five hours from Chicago, but time cut no figure then, as they were not on sale there then and could not be obtained at all. But worst of all, the Hooker figures were from another type foundry and not being cast in the same mold, did not, what printers call "justify," and had to be lined with card board and paper. Present day type setters might not know how to meet such an emergency, but the old timers were ready for almost anything. They could and did manage to meet emergencies of all sorts successfully. They just had to do it.

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### Not Anxious for Office.

The three men most difficult in the history of Fond du Lac to get to accept office were B. F. Moore, C. R. Harrison and H. K. Laughlin. Mr. Moore accepted the office of Member of Assembly in 1852, to beat Jo. Wagner, but could not be induced to run for any office after that. Mr. Harrison, after much solicitation, consented to allow his name to be used for Mayor in 1887 and was elected, but went back on office holding after that, and came near resigning as mayor before the end of his term. In the council and fire department he served once or twice in early times only because of local interests. Mr. Laughlin could not be induced at any period or for any reason to be a candidate for office. James B. Perry is another man who never allowed his name to be used in connection with office. Many people believe that every citizen should do his full share of the work in governing city, county and state, but there are more than enough anxious to assume the duties which are distasteful to others.

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### Edward Beeson as an Editor.

During all the years that he was the editor and writer for the Fond du Lac Journal, Edward Beeson was a democrat, but this does not mean that he was a copperhead or a defender of slavery. He did not object to a tariff for revenue, but a protective tariff he believed to be wrong in principle and bad in results. His democracy did not carry him into extremes and those nearest to him believed that he voted for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and again in 1864, because he believed him to be a man possessed of common sense. Although a tariff defender, Lincoln was regarded as a safer man for the country in the then pending emergency. Mr. Beeson was a great admirer of Stephen A. Douglas, but he was not a safe man although in some respects a brilliant one.

## THE LITERARY FIELD

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### The Noted Early Days' Writers and Their Field of Mental Effort. Some Fine Productions.

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In the early days of this county there was a far greater demand for something to eat and wear than for poetry or fine writing of any sort, yet there were a few people here with the mental capacity equivalent to real genius. With his weekly newspaper of very limited circulation in a new country, there was little to develop editorial genius, but the old files in the public library show some clever work. In the files of a court of record may be thought a queer place to look for literary ability, but it may be often found with pleadings on file before the adoption of the code practice in Wisconsin in 1856. Previous to that year Wisconsin had the old common law practice, which means a procedure and system of laws to which the memory of living men runneth not to the contrary. While the common law pleadings were often remarkably verbose and tiresome, they often possessed a high degree of literary merit. Some of the pleadings by Charles A. Eldredge, David E. Wood, Carson Graham, J. M. Gillet, W. C. Dodge, Erastus W. Drury and others, may be spoken of as of this character.

Joseph Stow was the first person known to have indulged in verse in Fond du Lac. He had a wonderful faculty for rhyming and could grind out verse after verse on almost any subject. It could hardly be called poetry—it was doggerel, though occasionally he produced pieces of some merit. If he became deeply interested in any local matter, doggerel poetry was pretty sure to follow.

Miss Libbie Farnsworth, under the non de plume of Nellie Wildwood, was first to produce verse here possessed of genuine poetical merit. She wrote many short poems of merit, her "Nil Desperandum" (never despair), being far above the average. Her "Voyage of Pere Marquette and History of Charles de Langlade," written for distribution to the patrons of Harrison & Stevenson's Art Union, and printed and bound in a neat book of one hundred pages, at Beeson's Job office, a copy of which the writer has, was her most pretentious work. She possessed poetical talent in a high degree and would have made her mark in the literary field had she continued in it. She married Mr. John Mears, of Oshkosh, and is now his widow, with two talented daughters in the field of sculpture and art. She was a daughter of M. Farnsworth and resided in Fond du Lac many years.

Miss Allie Arnold, (Mrs. Cranford), was one of the brightest minds of Fond du Lac, and her writings are possessed of more than ordinary merit—they are many of them brilliant. Unfortunately she was never strong physically and died at an early age, leaving a vast number of admirers and personal friends. She was the daughter of

Mrs. L. M. Arnold, who lived many years at the corner of Marr and Fourth streets and is remembered by old citizens.

Mrs. Van Dresar, wife of the late M. Van Dresar, did considerable literary work in Fond du Lac, in the years preceding the war. She used several assumed names and all of her work that she cared to print, found its way into the magazines and newspapers. She never printed a book. That her work was meritorious is shown by the fact that so much of it found its way into the magazines.

Mr. Maurice McKenna, Fond du Lac's well known able and genial lawyer, a number of years ago produced one of the most readable books ever seen here, but the crowding of his large law practice, prevents any continuation of the work. Mr. McKenna possesses true poetical talent and it is regretted that business prevents the use of it.

Rev. H. McNeal, a Universalist minister here in war times, wrote many patriotic poems of much merit. Some were printed and many read from his pulpit. One of them took the time of an entire Sunday evening service. He died a few years ago at Markesan.

Van B. Smead, killed in the great Northwestern railroad accident in 1858, and brother of the late Postmaster S. M. Smead, had one of the strong minds of Fond du Lac, in literary work. As editor of the Democratic Press, he did much editorial writing, but he found time to gratify his inclinations for other work. He wrote one poem of just one thousand lines, after the style of Byron's "Child Harold," but the title of it is forgotten. Besides many poems he wrote a number of stories which he printed in his paper. Had he lived, he would doubtless have become one of the noted literary men of his time.

Albert W. Paine was a Fond du Lac lawyer in the fifties, and while here did much writing for the press, principally in essays and stories, though some poetry was also produced. He went to Washington, D. C., from here, and resided there many years.

Spencer Palmer, our well known job printer, some years ago indulged in his fancy for rhyming and ground out some local hits which were not always as pleasing to those hit as to himself. But in late years "Spence" has not had time to indulge his fancy in that direction.

There are many others who have at times taken to obituary poetry and to the production of local hits in rhyme, to dining room stanzas, card party notings, etc., but the above are those possessed of literary talent.

If editorial work on a newspaper may be considered to possess literary character, we have had many worthy to rank high. Most of the editors were mere sticks, editing their papers mostly with shears and paste pot. Some have been educated men and possessed of natural ability and tact, but put down too much drink to succeed or were too lazy for anything. Among the newspaper editors in the past years worthy of the name, have been Edward Beeson, J. A. Smith, C. J. Allen, James Russell, Van B. Smead, H. M. Kutchin, J. A. Watrous, J. L. Thwing, L. A. Lange, A. T. Glaze, G. W. Peck.

About twenty years ago an Englishman possessed of much ingenuity and tact in writing frontier and Indian stories, came to Fond du Lac and remained a few years. He seems to have come to this country to familiarize himself with such scenes and wrote profusely, some poetry as well as stories. His name is not now obtainable. Most of his writings went to England, but some were printed at the east. How it was that he came here was unknown, but it was well known that he was in indigent circumstances and he and his family were assisted by the ladies of the city and especially of the Episcopal Church. In his line of work he was really a genius, and pursued it for the money that was in it.

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### Peculiar Political Contest.

Previous to the formation of the republican party in 1865, John J. Metzgar, an early day Fond du Lac dealer in notions and fancy goods, was what was then known as a free soiler, that is, was opposed to any more slave territory, and making free some that was already devoted to slavery. In 1856 he became one of the most violent republicans the town contained. In his judgment nothing politically good could possibly come from the democratic party. His extreme opinions often brought him into political quarrels and he would talk long and loud. One day he quarreled with ex-Sheriff F. D. McCarty and in the fight that followed, John tore Frank's clothes badly, resulting of course in a law suit before Squire Driggs, whose judgment was that Frank apologize and John pay for mending the clothes. Frank said he had the worst of it, for it was dreadful humiliating to apologize to John Metzgar.

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### Freedom from Storms.

Meteorologists tell us that the freedom of Fond du Lac from heavy winds and devastating storms is due to the limestone ledge east of the city which causes the clouds to rise high in the atmosphere and so pass over us. In the past we have had heavy rains and winds to break branches off trees, but a tornado to lift roofs, throw over chimneys and destroy trees, has occurred but once in our history. This was in 1858, when the Northwestern railroad was being completed to Appleton. The heaviest part of this storm passed over the town of Friendship and Lake Winnebago, north of what is now North Fond du Lac. The railroad track was so covered with blown down trees that a crew of men was sent down there to chop the way through for trains. In the city, sawmill property and barns were much damaged. Large store boxes were picked up by the wind and sent sailing—one of them crashed into the store window of K. Freeman, at that time three or four doors north of the present Commercial National Bank. This is believed to have been the nearest to a genuine tornado that Fond du Lac has ever had, yet it did not do a great amount of damage. Anything approaching a cyclone has never been known in Fond du Lac history.

### Greenbackers and Grangers.

These two noted movements were before the people at about the same time, 1868 to 1878. The Patrons of Husbandry, known as the Grangers, began some earlier, but was at its height in the early seventies. In 1873, William R. Taylor was elected governor of the state by the power of the grangers. A. P. Allis ran for governor as a greenbacker in 1876, but while there was much talk on the subject, no one could be elected on that issue. After 1878 both of these political fads began to fade from the public mind and nearly disappeared. There are a few localities yet where the granger work is kept up, but they are seldom found. Many of the bright financiers of the country, Peter Cooper, Sam Carey, J. H. Weaver, A. P. Allis, became advocates of the greenback doctrines, but after all the movement was short lived. Like the free silver theories of Wm. J. Bryan in 1896 and 1900, there is much to talk about but not much bottom. W. J. Bryan would flood the country with silver regardless of its real value, but the greenbackers wanted paper. In their judgment, if the government was behind the issue and declared a piece of silver or a piece of paper to be a dollar, that was all that was necessary to send that dollar afloat. Bryan had something of an advantage over Cooper, as the silver was worth something, but the paper was practically valueless.

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### Water for a Horn Blower.

The sax horn was a band instrument with the bell standing upward and was used in early times where the cornet is now. When Mumford & Tanner occupied the store corner of Main and Second streets, Mr. Tanner was learning to play a sax horn, and evenings after the store was closed, he would seat himself in the side door, on Second street and exercise his wind until midnight, much to the annoyance of the boys of Beeson's Job Printing office and the Democratic Press office, up stairs. The boys protested but Tanner continued to blow, so one dark night when the boys were all away, Fon. Rockwell emptied a pail of water on him from a window and ran out and hid. In some way Tanner found out who did it and layed for Rockwell in the dark, but unfortunately encountered Dr. Jesse Beeson, a brother of Edward Beeson, a tall and powerful man and something of an athlete, who could handle Tanner without trouble, and the result was bad for Tanner. The joke as well as the water was on him and nothing more was heard about it and the horn blowing was also ended. But what annoyed Tanner most was that the boys about town found out about it.

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In most of the states the office known with us as County Clerk, is known as County Auditor, and in many states our Register of Deeds is County Recorder and our District Attorney is Prosecuting Attorney and in some states, Public Prosecutor.

## A VERY EXCITING DAY

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Were Not Experts in Telegraphing, But Were Required To Take  
the News From a Disastrous Wreck.

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At the time the Northwestern road was completed to Chicago and the opening brought the terrible accident to the excursion train at Johnson's Creek, then known as Belleville, Jerome Mason was the express agent and telegraph operator at Fond du Lac. Mr. Mason desired to be one of the excursion party and arranged with Charles H. Benton to take charge of the office in his absence. Mr. Benton and A. T. Glaze had arranged a telegraph in Beeson's Printing office on which they sometimes practiced for recreation, and on that terrible September day, 1858, were so far as known, the only telegraph operators in the city. Paper was used on a recorder and under ordinary circumstances either could take a message, but under the excitement of that afternoon they became confused and sweat like butchers under the strain. It was about 1:30 p. m., that Mr. Benton came running into the printing office with the news of the accident and to get Mr. Glaze to go to the office and help him. So many had friends and relatives on the wrecked train, that the news spread with great rapidity and in half an hour the street in front of the office was crowded with people. All the news we could get had to be put on the line at Watertown, and had to be brought a distance of about four miles from the midst of the excitement, at the scene of the wreck, and the operator at Watertown, being a blind and very rapid writer of the telegraph code, the errors were not all at the Fond du Lac end of the line. Everything was new and the telegraph had not yet been installed at Johnson's Creek. It was but natural, perhaps, under the excitement, that the boys should be blamed for inefficiency, but they got all the news there was and presumably correct. The office was where G. A. Finger's store is now, and being crowded to suffocation from the start had to be cleared and the news sent out or posted on the windows. It was after four o'clock when the crowd in the street began to thin out, but hundreds remained there until six. Just before dusk in the evening, the relief train arrived, bringing such of the Fond du Lac wounded as could be brought, and the crowd of people was transferred to the railroad station, then at the corner of Division and Brooke streets. Benton and Glaze got through the day alive, but inexperienced as they were, it was a hard one. Jerome Mason did not return alive. He was thrown on a hot stove in the express car and was burned to death.

For the information of those who do not know about the accident, it may be well here to state that it was occasioned by the engine, drawing a train of eleven coaches and two baggage cars, running over an ox, about four miles south of Watertown, near the station

now known as Johnson's Creek, then called Belleville. The south end of the Northwestern road had for some years been working north and the north end going south, until a junction was made in September, 1858, and through trains were put on to Chicago. In the meantime the road had been also extended northward from Fond du Lac to Oshkosh, Neenah, Menasha and Appleton. The ill fated train was an excursion to celebrate the opening of the road, and was crowded with excursionists from these places. Fond du Lac had a large number on board, a few of whom were killed and many injured. Among the Fond du Lac killed were T. L. Gillet, M. J. Thomas, Jerome Mason and Ed. Sickles. Van B. Smead died six weeks later at Watertown. Judge Flint and his daughter, Miss Lillie Flint, and Mrs. R. M. Lewis were among the wounded. A most singular fact is, that about a year later, the mate to the ox that produced this disaster, was killed at nearly the same place by the same locomotive.

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### Founder of the Commonwealth.

Only those who were associated with J. A. Smith and knew him personally, could appreciate the integrity, candor and general worth of the man. He was never sought by his friends for brilliant social qualities, but because of his reliability and honesty. He never knew what equivocation meant in business or even in politics. He meant just what he said, in speech or in the columns of his newspaper. The sterling honesty of his Quaker ancestry was with him every day and to the day of his death. His father, a fine old Quaker gentleman, was a blacksmith by trade and at a very early day established a factory at Sheboygan Falls for the manufacture of steel traps, for which the quest for furs caused a large demand. All sizes of traps were made from the large bear and wolf traps to those for rats. His three sons, Hiram, Joseph and Paxton, worked in the factory with the father, but the time came that Joseph aspired to mental activity and he started a small abolitionist newspaper which after a time was moved to a larger field at Fond du Lac. In 1854 he bought the Fountain City Herald, which for three years had maintained a sickly existence under Royal Buck, and the Commonwealth was the result. A book bindery was added and the office was prosperous. In 1872 he sold out and went to Clinton, Iowa, where he had a newspaper, but drifted into the hotel business, which resulted unsatisfactorily and he sold out. A cheese factory was his next venture, but later went into the office of ex-Gov. Hoard at Fort Atkinson, as an editorial writer, where he died in 1892. His remains were brought to Fond du Lac and laid away in Rienzi. Mr. Smith was twice married, the first time before coming to Fond du Lac, and the last time to Miss Merrille, whom so many Fond du Lac people pleasantly remember as the founder of the Merrille Institute for young ladies. Mr. Smith's only child was Miss Kate, now Mrs. Spencer, wife of a Racine druggist.



# BIRTH OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

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This Great Event Took Place in This County and is Entitled to a Place Here. Some of the Men Identified with It.

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The first organized attempt to form what is now the Republican party, was made in Ripon. The gathering was held in the old Congregational Church, on College Hill. At this gathering held on the last day of February, 1854, and of which William Dunham was moderator and W. N. Martin, secretary, a preamble and resolutions were presented and unanimously sanctioned, condemning the Nebraska slavery bill.

March 20 following, in response to a call issued in a Ripon paper and signed by fifty-four citizens, comprising Whigs, Democrats and Free Soilers, a second gathering was held and by formal ballot the former committee was dissolved and another appointed consisting of A. E. Bovay, A. Loper, A. Thomas, J. Bowen and J. Woodruff.

## Fathers of the Party.

Without a questionable doubt these three Whigs, one Democrat and a Free Soiler were fathers of the Republican party. Other cities have laid claim to this honor, but when tested, their pretensions have invariably been found to contain too liberal qualities of emptiness. Ripon's claim, on the other hand, has ample proof.

The new political party was fathered by A. E. Bovay, who selected the name Republican party. His mind originally conceived the ideas which he afterwards promulgated and issued to the world.

In his Rise and Fall of the Slave Power, Henry Wilson says: "One of the earliest, if not the very earliest, of the movements that contemplated definite action and the formation of a new party, was made in Ripon, Fond du Lac county, Wis., in the early months of 1854. In consequence of a very thorough canvass, conference and general comparison of views, inaugurated by A. E. Bovay, a prominent member of Ripon, to remonstrate against the Nebraska Swindle. Come all.

(Signed)

MANY CITIZENS."

In the following week's issue appears the preamble and resolutions adopted at the meeting held on the night mentioned. At that gathering, which was largely attended by persons of both sexes living in the village and surrounding country, it was virtually agreed that in the event that the Nebraskan bill was adopted, old parties would be cast aside and an entirely new organization should be given birth.

At the second meeting, March 20, which was held in the little school house, since converted into a dwelling, Mr. Bovay spoke to the effect that the new party should, and in all probability would, be assigned the name Republican, but he advised against so naming it just then. He did, however, write to the New York Tribune's

editor, assigning reasons for adopting the name Republican, and solicited his aid in establishing such a name by liberal advocacy in the columns of that paper.

Unquestionably to Mr. Bovay is due the credit of forming and developing the idea of the new political party. As early as the latter part of January, 1854, he called upon Jehdiah Bowen, seeking an interview relative to an article published in the local paper, which contained some strictures upon the course of Senator Douglas. In the movement which followed Mr. Bowen was his chief helper. The latter was a merchant of high standing and superior learning. He was one of the first to lend himself to the new organization, but it is understood that his sympathies only extended to the slavery principle. He died in that city nearly three years ago.

Mr. A. E. Bovay, who deserves the name "father" insofar as that word applies to political organization, was in many ways a most remarkable man. All of the prime movers in the new organization have passed away.

### Sole Survivor at Ripon.

A. A. Loper, a son of A. Loper, one of the committee men appointed at the meeting forty-two years ago March 20 next, is the only surviving resident of Ripon, who attended that meeting. He was then a young man and he attended out of curiosity. Said he, in referring to the gathering:

"The predominant idea existing at that time in the minds of the prime movers was to prevent the farther extension of slavery. The matter was then quite favorably discussed, but no really genuine organization was formed; it was simply vigorously recommended. As I recall it, the evening was a severe one, a furious snowstorm raging at the time and the thermometer registering something below zero.

"So far as my knowledge goes, in Ripon was made the first move toward giving the Republican party life, and I believe this truth has been acknowledged by historians, who have looked into the facts. I have seen it stated that a town in Michigan has set claim to having taken the initial step, but this, so far as my knowledge goes, was incapable of proof."

### Michigan's Claim to the Honor.

Michigan's claim was held for years, but as Mr. Loper says, was not probable. Now, it is understood, that it would seem more natural that the movement originated in the east and that the New York Tribune set the idea a rolling in its columns. Admitted.

That paper, however, might have been, and without a shadow of doubt was, urged to lend its influence to the movement after fairly well-defined action had been taken in Ripon. There are quite a number of old settlers there who were living there at that time, who then thought the proposed plan of action too inconsequential to lend themselves to it. They, however, express themselves as holding the knowledge that Ripon's claim is positively correct.

Until it can be proven that the Republican party was organized longer ago than 1854, Ripon claims the honor of being its birthplace.

### As a National Party.

While the weight of the testimony is in favor of Ripon as the birthplace of the Republican party, it was not until Wisconsin had sent a delegation to congress made up of a majority of the new party, and the state itself had sent Charles Durkee as a Republican to represent her in the United States senate, that the Republican party gained national recognition. On February 26, 1856, two years after the Ripon meeting, a national convention was called to meet at Pittsburg, Pa. The issuance of this call was the immediate result of a conference between Salmon P. Chase and David N. White, the latter being at the time the editor of the Pittsburg Gazette. The call was as follows:

"To the Republicans of the United States: In accordance with what appears to be the general desire of the Republican party, and at the suggestion of a large portion of the Republican press, the undersigned, chairmen of the state Republican committees of Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, hereby invite the Republicans of the union to meet in informal convention at Pittsburg on February 22, 1856, for the purpose of perfecting the national organization and providing for national delegate convention of the Republican party, at some subsequent day, to nominate candidates for the presidency and vice-presidency to be supported at the election in November, 1856."

This was signed by A. P. Stone, of Ohio; J. G. Z. Goodrich, Massachusetts; David Wilmot, Pennsylvania; Lawrence Brainard, Vermont; Wm. A. White, Wisconsin.

### A Preliminary Meeting of Leaders.

A meeting of the Republican editors of the country was held in Pittsburg, February 20, for the purpose of consultation.

At the convention twenty-four states and the District of Columbia were represented. Lawrence Brainard, of Vermont, called the convention to order and John A. King, of New York, was chosen temporary chairman. The Rev. Owen Lovejoy, afterward killed by a mob at Quincy, Ill., on account of his anti-slavery principles, opened the proceedings with prayer, in which he modestly implored the Ruler of the Universe to "remove the present administration from power, that its unholy designs on the liberties of the free might be thwarted." Joshua R. Giddings and Horace Greeley had a tilt over the plan of procedure, the latter opposing the calling of a nominating convention and advocating that the matter be referred to a strong committee to act as their judgment should dictate, and the former ridiculing all attempts at delay.

### Men Who Became Prominent.

Zach Chandler, of Michigan, John A. Foote, of Ohio, the Rev. Joshua Brewer, of Connecticut, Mr. Hawthorne, of Iowa, George W. Julian, of Indiana, David Ripley, the saw-log and anti-rum man from

Jersey, took part in the proceedings, the last keeping the convention in a roar of laughter. A long discussion followed on the manner of nominating presidential candidates, and a national convention was finally agreed upon, to meet in Philadelphia, June 17, 1856. E. D. Morgan, of New York, was made chairman of the national executive committee. An address to the people was adopted which closed with the prophetic words, "If the government, by any authority it may assume, shall shed but one drop of blood in Kansas, that shall mark the beginning of the end of human slavery." This declaration caused so much applause that it had to be repeated, the convention rose to its feet, gave three times three cheers for the address, and the new party adjourned.

The first national convention was held June 17, 1856, and John C. Fremont was nominated for president and William L. Dayton for vice-president, and they would have been elected had not Pennsylvania stood aloof from the other northern states and given her vote to her own son, James Buchanan, which secured his election. The next nominee of the party, Abraham Lincoln, was elected.

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#### Watrous and Kutchin as Writers.

J. A. Smith founded the Fond du Lac Commonwealth in 1854, and A. T. Glaze made up the forms and helped to print the first edition on a hand press. Since then, Martin Mitchell, Tom Bryant, Ed. McGlachlin, Jimmy Lightbody, Myron Orvis, J. A. Watrous, Tom Reid, Sam Fifield, W. W. D. Turner, H. M. Kutchin, O. C. Steenberg, P. B. Haber, Col. Smith and two or three others have been part owners for a greater or less length of time. Of the men who have done editorial work on the Commonwealth, it must be conceded that H. M. Kutchin was the most prolific, able and polished writer who ever wielded pen or pencil for its columns. For variety of editorial work, J. A. Watrous has not been surpassed on its columns. His brain could grasp greater variety and his fingers jot it down on paper, than any of its editors. Turning over the files of the Commonwealth back in the seventies when Watrous and Kutchin were both there, and one can readily find as smooth and polished articles as ever appeared in a Wisconsin newspaper and as great variety. Others have managed to do the work, but they were not geniuses, as these were. Mr. Kutchin began his newspaper work on the columns of the Fort Atkinson Union, which he sold to ex-Gov. Hoard, and Col. Watrous began on the Black River Falls Banner, but both aspired to larger things and got there, before many years.

When Rev. W. L. Mather was the pastor of the old Plymouth Church, which once stood on West First street, on the grounds of the new postoffice, it was not customary to print notices of special services in the newspapers, as is done now, and so Mr. Mather, when he had something special, would go up and down the streets and notify personally. It would be thought undignified now to do this, but it wasn't then. He was a most industrious advertiser too, and his steps were by no means slow.

# NAVIGATION ON THE LAKE

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## When, Where and By Whom Early Days' Steamboats Were Built and Run and What Became of Them.

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Previous to 1848, navigation on Lake Winnebago was by barge, flat boat and canoe, but in this year came the first steamboat on the lake. In 1847, A. D. Patchen, the great steamboat owner on the lakes, gave to Peter Hotaling at Buffalo, an engine and boiler taken from an Erie canal boat. This he brought to Green Bay and transported overland to Brothertown, where he built in the winter and spring, the steamboat which he named Manchester. It proved so slow and unsatisfactory that it was abandoned, the engine sold and the hull made into a barge. At about the same time the late Capt. Ole Olson, long postmaster at Oshkosh in later years, put a horse power on a barge and used it as a tug to transport rafts of logs and lumber on Wolf river and the lake. These two boats came out so near together that it is uncertain which was first to stir the water of the lake with wheels. In 1849 a steamboat called the D. B. Whitacre, was built at Menasha. This was the boat partly owned by the late Mark R. Harrison, and in the running of which he became disgusted with western lake navigation, and quit it forever. After running one season, this boat was pulled out of the water at Fond du Lac and overhauled by Truman Shepard, originator of the Union Iron Works, and David Harris, when she was named Oshkosh. Still the boat was unsatisfactory and disappeared a year or two later. The next steamboat was the Peytona, built at Menasha by Capt. Estes, and was powerful and speedy. She could make the run from Fond du Lac to Menasha and return, from 7 a. m. to 6 p. m., if the weather favored. This was regarded as speedy and the Peytona was a favorite. She ran four years, from 1850 to 1854, when she was snagged and sunk in Lake Poygan and was abandoned. Her fine machinery went into the Tigress, one of the Neff boats on Wolf river. In 1851, Capt. Hotaling built the steamer Menasha, the largest and finest boat on the lake. She ran three years and was sold to Sam Neff, when she became the Wolf river boat Northwestern. Now came the steamer Badger State, Capt. W. A. Knapp, the best boat up to this time. She was not large, but was handsome as she sat on the water like a duck. After the railroad was running and there was no further use for boats on the lake, the Badger State went to the Fox river line and ran a number of years between Oshkosh and Berlin. After this Sam and Ed. Neff had several boats but they seldom came to Fond du Lac. Twice there have been efforts of our merchants to establish lines to the east shore landings, but they were failures. Our early boats were very slow and in later years they were not needed. All through the

years Oshkosh has had steamboats but Fond du Lac has had none, because there is no use for them. The above is the history of steamboating on Lake Winnebago so far as Fond du Lac is concerned.

In 1855, the Fox and Wisconsin Improvement Co. had so far progressed that two steamboats, the Appleton Belle and Aquilla, was brought to Fond du Lac from Lake Huron for the avowed purpose of running them between Green Bay and our lake ports, but the scheme did not work and in a year or two the boats were taken through to the Mississippi. Some of our soldiers in the early days of the war saw the Appleton Belle at New Madrid. Those boats could hardly be taken through to the Mississippi now.

### Sails on Lake Winnebago.

A respectable two-masted sailing vessel once stirred the waters of Lake Winnebago, doing business in regular transportation. It was schooner-rigged and with its sails spread looked very pretty. "Trader" was her name and she was sailed by Capt Steve Hotaling. Her trips were not frequent, but she put in an occasional appearance here with lumber, shingles, farm produce and other commodities. But getting her in and out of the rivers at the different lake ports was slow and she was sold to John Morse, of the well known Oshkosh machine shops, who took out the masts and put in machinery and she became the well known Fox river steamboat, "Diamond." But the "Trader" did not wholly end sailing vessels, for in 1877 a vessel considerably smaller was put on the lake, used to transport farm products to market. She was also a two-masted vessel, schooner-rigged, but she was found not to pay and was sold to Judge Pulling, C. W. Felker, E. W. Viall and John Bauman, all of Oshkosh, by whom she was beautifully fitted up as a pleasure yacht, and was long known as the "Flora." Oshkosh Scandinavians occasionally had scows to assist in bringing in potatoes and like products from the east shore, but the above were the only real sailing crafts, except pleasure yachts that have in the past stirred the waters of Lake Winnebago and its tributaries.

### Transportation on Wheels.

Previous to 1848 the only means of transportation to and from Fond du Lac city and county, now teeming with railroads, was by horses and ox teams, largely the latter. Lake Winnebago had not yet been stirred by the wheels of a steamboat. Davis & Moore's stages, known as the Wisconsin Stage Co., had hardly more than begun to wallow through the mud of timber and prairie. Leaving Milwaukee at 4 a. m. with the only mail for this region, arrived here at any time between 6 p. m. and 3. a. m. next morning. Distance sixty-one miles, time fourteen to twenty-three hours. Sheboygan stages came through when they could. Distance forty miles, time not counted. Stages north on both sides of the lake, via Pipe Village, Brothertown, Stockbridge and Wrightstown to Green Bay and via Oshkosh, Neenah and Menasha to Wrightstown. Distance sixty-eight miles, time whatever

it happened to be, twelve to twenty-four hours. Appleton did not then exist, except as the hamlet of Grand Chute. Most of the emigrants of that time came with their own teams via Watertown and Green Bay.

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### **Crook in Main Street.**

Very few of old time residents of Fond du Lac have failed of being asked at some time about the crook in Main street. Standing at Scott street or Twelfth, the crook is seen most effectively, and observing strangers are pretty sure to ask about it. Maybe they will get a correct answer, but more than likely nothing satisfactory, as few citizens including old settlers, know much about it. The crook is there, but how it came to be there, few know. Here is the correct explanation: The village plat of the Fond du Lac Company was made first and became a part of the records with reference to section and quarter section lines. When Dr. Darling platted his land he did it to suit himself and without reference to the close following of the Fond du Lac Company's plat. Instead of making the west line of Main street coincide with the other plat, he followed the old Milwaukee road and the south end was thrown too far to the west for a straight street. It was simply a matter of convenience and I don't care, on the part of Dr. Darling.

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### **Annual M. E. Conference.**

The Wisconsin Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, was held in the old church torn away two years ago to give place to the fine brick building now at the corner of Marr and Third streets. Bishop Ames presided and when the conference closed the job of printing the proceedings was given to the Journal office. With the small amount of type and its well worn condition, Mr. Glaze hesitated about it, but he and Walworth Chapel went at it and did all the work, including binding, and comparing it with the same proceedings now, it appears as well as any of them. It shows what can be done if one goes at a thing and tries. Surely the best efforts were put on that job with that old material.

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### **Teachers in the High School.**

Most of the time that O. C. Steenberg was principal of the Fond du Lac High school, the rooms occupied by the school were up stairs over the stores now occupied by Geo. P. Dana and the Wilkie hardware stores. Prof. Johnson was the first principal of the Fond du Lac High school and it was located in the building at the corner of Main and Johnson streets. Prof. Peabody, for many years since he was here, principal of a Chicago High school, succeeded Prof. Johnson here, and Prof. Steenberg was third, then Prof. Hutchins, Prof. Mitchell, Dr. McLaughlin, Prof. Williams and Miss Waters. Miss Everdell has been connected with the school the greater number of years, having been there nearly forty years as teacher.

### A Country Grindstone That Was Used.

G. W. Denniston, who now resides at the corner of Marr and Fourth streets, is one of the early pioneers of this county. He went into the town of Empire in 1846, and was a mechanic as well as farmer. He and his family saw much of the Indians and his grindstone under a tree was a favorite resort for them to sharpen their knives. Their association with them was far from pleasant.

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### He Had a Peculiar Habit.

W. C. Kellogg, of the early day dealers in boots and shoes, McBride & Kellogg, had the queer habit of swinging a foot rule. When not asleep or eating, that rule was generally in his hand and on the swing. He had learned every motion of which it was capable. He was a brother-in-law of Commodore Paulding, of the U. S. Navy, and on shipboard with him as his clerk, had visited most of the countries of the world, and being a good talker, Kellogg's presence was generally pleasing. During a trip east to visit his relatives in Brooklyn, N. Y., something occurred to upset his mind and he committed suicide. The firm then sold out, and closed the business here.

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### A Low Down Whiskey Shop.

Probably the worst whiskey dive ever in Fond du Lac, was that of Harry Jones on the west side of Main street, four doors south of Second. He was an old soak and people used to wonder where and how he got his handsome young wife. His bar was slovenly and the room always dirty. It was a tough place every day in the week and nights too.

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### Fay Brown, of Lamartine.

Fayette Brown was one of the early pioneers of Lamartine. He was a brother of E. L. Brown, for so many years and still a resident of Waupaca in 1905. Fay Brown was a politician of great activity, and few elections passed without his name on a ballot. He and Peter V. Sang used to have lively tussels, especially for town offices. Both were generally on the political war path, and generally stirred up a lively time. Pete Sang used to say that Fay Brown always wanted office and "wanted it the d—dest worst kind."

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### Some Queer Descriptions.

When H. W. Newton made the new survey and replatted Ripon in 1870, he found some queer descriptions in land and lots deeded by Judge Horner. For instance, one point was a notch in a log in a mill dam, which might have been obliterated in one minute with an axe. Another point was a pile of stones, which might have been moved in five minutes with a wheelbarrow. Another was the end of a ditch, and so on were others quite ridiculous.



# MEMORIES OF THE PAST

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Interesting and Amusing, of What Took Place in the Early Times  
of This County and are Worthy of Being  
Recalled Now.

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## Great Fire of 1852.

The great fire in December, 1852, that burned out the whole east side of Main street frontage, from First to Second streets, except the Keyes-Darling bank corner, was a serious affair. The concerns burned out were: Case & Alling's grocery, where the fire originated; M. Sasse's shoe shop, E. Perkins' tin and stove store, A. P. & G. N. Lyman's general store, D. R. Curran's drug store, Nate Lepper's paint shops, Carswell & Dee's dry goods store and the residences of W. A. Dewey and D. R. Curran, around the corner on Second street. It was Sunday evening and so cold that John Case came up to the store, filled the big stove full of grubs, rolled the barrels of vegetables up near the stove to prevent freezing, locked the door and went away. A few days before, the Davis block, located just north of where the Lauenstein store is now, was burned, and the city being wholly without fire apparatus, except a few leather buckets, it was necessary to watch the smouldering ruins to prevent it breaking out anew. Five or six young men, with headquarters in the Journal office, on the ground where Mason's crockery store is now, were on watch and at about one o'clock discovered a light reflected on the street and found the Case & Alling store was ablaze. The grubs, the stove and the vegetable barrels did the business. The weather was dreadful cold and all that could be done was to carry goods out of the stores and to a safe distance: much of it to be stolen. So cold was it that an empty pail from the stores, after going on top of a building a couple of times with water, would come thundering down into the street half full of ice. Men dipping water from the reservoir at the corner of Main and Second streets, would burn the backs out of their coats and freeze their cheeks, noses and ears, without knowing it. The cylinder of the pumps of fire engines and the hose would have frozen if the city had had fire apparatus and tried to use it. Next day fully one-half the men in town had peeling cheek bones and noses, from the frost. It was a night of dreadful experiences, as to the fire, the only thing that could be done, as George Weikert said, was to "let her burn." There was considerable wind and blazing shingles and boards were carried to roofs, and long distances away people had to work on their roofs to save their homes. What has for years been known as the "Giltner House" on Second street, opposite No. 1 engine house, repaired and altered last year, was on fire six times from those flying shingles, but was saved, Ed. Farnsworth staying on the roof until he froze his

hands. Soon after this fire a move was made toward procuring fire apparatus, and old No. 1 was bought in Milwaukee.

### They Were Strong Men.

Edward Beeson, C. R. Harrison and T. S. Henry were as strong men in their personality as Fond du Lac has ever held as citizens. Always truthful and generous, they could be depended upon at all times. Edward Beeson was a printer by trade, an editor from practice, politician from force of circumstances, and in every respect a first-class citizen, because he wanted to be. In his more than forty years as a newspaper man in Fond du Lac, he was never once tricky, even in politics. Unlike the politicians of today, if he promised to do a thing it could be depended upon. No matter what the service was, in politics or business, his promise was reliable. Mr. Beeson was uncle to the writer, who was an employe in his office many years, therefore knew him thoroughly. Mrs. Beeson was practically the only mother he ever knew. Mr. Beeson enjoyed a joke, but the practical joke he abhorred. He bore the reputation among pioneer settlers as being one of the most generous and self-sacrificing men in the country.

Charles R. Harrison has always been known in Fond du Lac as a man very much of the same characteristics. He had no enemies, the entire community was his friends. As a sawmill expert he had few equals, and when he went into the railway mail service, he was soon known to all the leading men in the service. The old distribution case in the mail cars and postoffices were a fright to Charley Harrison, and being a good mechanic he soon devised the Harrison Postal Bag Rack, the manufacture of which long since became one of the leading industries of Fond du Lac, and are used on railway cars and in postoffices not only in this country and Canada, but many have been shipped to Europe and Australia.

T. S. Henry was in personal characteristics very much like Messrs. Beeson and Harrison. He was a peculiar man in some things, one in particular, that what he set out to do he did for all there was in it. He also was an expert mechanic and few men ever did more to build up and help along the early day industries of Fond du Lac. When Tom Henry took hold of a piece of work it had to go. He was a strong and valuable man to the city.

### They Were Disappointed.

When the Third and Fourteenth regiments, Wisconsin infantry, went into camp in Fond du Lac for drill and to learn camp life, war was a new thing, and the men imagined they could have rations prepared much as they were accustomed to have their food at home and have better arrangements in camp. They changed their ideas after a while, especially after they got down south. Both these regiments were under command of colonels from this city, the Third under Col. C. S. Hamilton (later Gen. Hamilton), and the Fourteenth under Col. D. E. Wood. The camp extended north and south from Forest avenue to the marsh and east and west from Hickory street to the

city limits. Col. Hamilton was a graduate of West Point and drilled the Third, and Major John Hancock drilled the Fourteenth. It was beautiful summer weather when the Third was here, but the Fourteenth came in the fall, and sometimes the field was covered with snow and slush, but there was scarcely a day that Major Hancock did not assemble the regiment and put the boys through at least a portion of the manual. At this time there were long open spaces on Forest Avenue, and the drill ground north was almost without a building. Probably these two regiments were the best drilled of any of the Wisconsin troops at the time of leaving the state for the seat of war, as they had good drill masters, and once, often twice, a day were assembled and the men put through the manual. The people of Fond du Lac took great pleasure in witnessing the work, and every fine day appeared at camp in large numbers.

Rev. Mr. Robertson, at that time pastor of the Presbyterian Church, took much pleasure in preaching to the men, and while he often preached to the whole regiment at camp, he seemed anxious that the men should have church privileges, and influenced the colonel to have them marched down town. But as there was neither church nor hall large enough to seat all of them, one-half the regiment was brought at a time. There were many very amusing incidents at these camps, some of which may be mentioned hereafter.

### The Beet Sugar Factory.

That there was once a beet sugar factory in Fond du Lac is probably known to few people now. But there was such a factory here, of which A. D. Bonesteel was principal owner, and it was located in the basement of what was the stone mill, now a cold storage warehouse, on Forest Avenue. One day Mr. Bonesteel was offered inducements which took the factory to California, where it is said to still remain, but is much enlarged and improved. It was here in 1859, and remained a couple of years, making very nice sugar. But there was found to be one drawback here. Our black soil is not well adapted to raising sugar beets, and it required too much water and too much time to wash them in the preliminary process for sugar making. At Grand Island, Neb., and through the northwestern part of that state, especially along the Platte river, are many large sugar factories. The land is somewhat sandy and is said to be the best in the United States for sugar beets.

### Too Cold to Work.

In the morning of the cold New Year's day of 1864, A. T. Glaze went from Sixth street to the Commonwealth office, in the north end of the old Darling block, to complete the printing of the enrollment lists for the last draft of the war. He was compelled to stop on the way to warm himself, and when he arrived at the Commonwealth office, he and Mr. Bryant, his assistant, crowded wood into the large office stove all the forenoon, but could not get it warm enough to work, and were compelled to give it up, although the type cases were moved up close to the stove. In the morning the mercury froze in thermometers.

### A Very Popular Family.

It was in 1847 that John B. Macy came here from Buffalo, New York, and settled on what is now known as the Giddings farm, at Lake de Neveu. John Dana, who is yet living in this city at an advanced age, came with him and lived in the family until after Mr. Macy's death. The Macy home was long a society center, and many large parties were given there. In the summer of 1856 the grand steamer Niagara was burned off Port Washington, and Mr. Macy was drowned. He was a very large man, and while trying to board a boat already overloaded, he swamped it and most of those on it lost their lives. M. J. Thomas, son-in-law of Mr. Macy, lost his life at what is now known as Johnson's Creek, on the old line of the Northwestern road in 1858, at the time of the excursion on completion of the road through to Chicago. Mr. Thomas was thrown from the baggage car into a ditch at the side of the track. He built the first boat house at Lake de Neveu and put the first boat for pleasure on its waters.

Here we may appropriately give particulars of a peculiar incident connected with the death of Mr. Macy. On the afternoon that he was drowned, his daughter, Mrs. Thomas, suddenly became frantic, said that her father was dead and she could see his face. She was so distressed that she had the carriage brought out and she came to the city and sought out friends for information. The telegraph line to Sheboygan, the only one we had then, was not working and information of the disaster was not received until next morning. How did Mrs. Thomas get her first impression? Many would like to know about it.

### The First Wood Yard.

The first wood yard in Fond du Lac was owned by Hiram Lindsley, familiarly known as "Hi" Lindsley. Coal was not used here at that time in our history—the fifties. The wood supply came mostly from the country by teams and from the sawmills. Almost every day Main street was lined by wagons loaded with wood. But "Hi" sold considerable wood, especially when the roads were bad. One day he sold some to H. Olds, of the United States Cottage, now Windsor House. It was early in the fall of the year, when evenings were sometimes a little cool and a moderate fire in the office stove was desirable. "Late" Ellsworth was the hotel clerk and looked after things very well, so in the afternoon filled the wood box; at supper time started a fire. When the boarders came from the dining room and began to gather near the stove it was discovered that the wood box, floor and wall were alive with large black ants. Of course the boys got out of there. "Jack" Cole ran out doors with about a hundred of the insects on him, which he got from being seated with one arm on the wood box. The next thing was to rid the office of them, and in the search for where they came from, a half rotted stick of wood was found in the box that was alive with them. The fire had warmed them sufficient to send the black fellows out in search of fresh air. The stick of wood went into the stove and a couple of

brooms vigorously wielded, killed off the loose ones after a while. While this was in progress, "Hi" Lindsley came in and learning the situation, remarked to Olds that ants' nests in the wood were extra and he didn't charge him a cent for this one. Olds was not inclined to joke, but "Hi" ventured to remark as he left, "If you want any more live stock, come and see me."

### Are All Gone Now.

When we think of how plentiful the prairie chickens were here in early times, and how they were slaughtered without interference of law, we are reminded of the slaughter of the buffalo on our western plains without interference, until they are almost extinct. In both these cases it is like the old adage of locking the barn door after the horse is stolen. That magnificent game bird, the prairie chicken, was slaughtered and the state legislature gave it no attention until the mischief was done, and prohibitory legislation could do no good. After there were no more prairie chickens to kill, laws were passed protecting them. There was a time that a good hunter could find them within half a mile or mile of the city, and very seldom returned from a hunt empty handed. Many a time the writer has seen coveys of them inside the city limits.

### Clown and Trunk Maker.

Alonzo Blake was a performer and a couple of seasons also clown in Older's circus. He was a trunk and harness maker by trade and came to Fond du Lac to work for Lyman Bishop, when the circus was laid up for winter. Next door north of the harness shop, at that time was Bowen's barber shop. Mr. Bowen being a cripple, kept a dog team which he drove back and forth, between his home and the shop. Those dogs were noisy and cross, and being kept all day at the rear of the shop, were a great annoyance to Blake, who played all sorts of tricks on them. This made Bowen mad, but Blake didn't care for that. One day "Lon" melted a lot of shoemaker's wax in the sun and with a long paddle through a window, plastered it on the sides of the dogs. This the animals gnawed until they had removed most of the hair with the wax. Mr. Bowen was very mad, of course, and sought to sue "Lon" for damages, but Squire Williams thought he had better treat it as a joke, for he couldn't get anything from Blake if he secured a judgment. Soon after that the dogs disappeared.

### Elected by One Vote.

The canvassing board that went through the returns of the county election in 1858, consisted of Carlos A. Rider and J. J. Driggs, justices of the peace, and N. H. Jorgenson, register of deeds, and Fred Kalk, county clerk, and James V. McCall, clerk. When the returns had all been read, Fred Kalk got his figures added first and began dancing around the room in his excited way, declaring that John B. Wilbor was elected county treasurer by one majority, the figures being J. B. Wilbor, 2689; George W. Sawyer, 2688. Soon after McCall's figures gave the same result. The vote being so close,

the canvassing board determined to go over it all again, but the result was the same. Mr. Sawyer was urged by some of his republican friends to contest the election on the ground of irregularities in one or two eastern towns, but he said one majority was as good as a thousand, and refused. So John B. Wilbor held the office of county treasurer by virtue of a decided majority of one, Sawyer receiving 2688 votes and Wilbor 2689.

### **A Big Pair of Boots.**

One day in 1851, while passing the shoe shop of Peter Servatius, on Main street, near the Journal office, the writer was called in to see a pair of boots that were being built for a man living in the town of Friendship. Astonishment ruled the day on looking at them. To say that they were large does not meet the case—they were enormous. A measurement was made of the length and width, but a statement of the result is not made for fear that some one would say it was a d——d lie. He furnished his own lasts as no shoe shop had them big enough. The work was in the hands of a good natured German, named Miese, who suggested that the only remedy for those feet was to get a doctor to "gut 'em." Preposterous as it was, Miese built those boots on his knees, though Uncle David Knitel suggested that he fasten them on a bench, trim the edges with a hatchet and drive the pegs with a sledge hammer. When they were done, Mr. Servatius said they would make a couple of good fiddleboxes by cutting the tops off.

### **A Reaper and Mower Trial.**

If farmers of today could see such a reaper and mower trial as that at Ripon in 1869, they would doubtless be much amused. At that trial was the J. P. Manny, J. H. Manny, Cayuga Chief, Johnson Sweepstakes, Esterly, Wood and other reapers, all of them hand rakes—that is, the grain was raked off by hand and left behind for the binders. The Marsh harvester, in 1870, was the first of the binders, though the grain was bound by men who rode on the machine. A couple of years later the McCormicks brought out the self-binder which we still have, though very much improved. The agents for those early day machines were a noisy set of fellows and their competing trials were exciting. All this has passed away now.

### **Could Not Be Changed.**

It was about 1856 that a few Fond du Lac men got it into their heads that the steamboat landing could be changed from Scott street to Forest Avenue, where the Gurney Refrigerator plant is now located and Capt. Estes of the Leytona, was influenced to run his boat up the river to that point, but that one trip was the only one made. The flag staff was broken, some boards torn off one wheelhouse and the boat otherwise damaged. Some thought Capt Estes ran into a tree and did the damage on purpose. At any rate no further efforts were made to transfer the landing from lower town. It was one of those early day schemes that were constantly coming into men's minds.

### Was a Great Wrestler.

The great wrestler, Homer Lane, was long a resident of Fond du Lac. He was possessed of a remarkable peculiarity in that he seemed to have no bones to give stiffness by which a purchase might be obtained by an opponent, and his joints seemed to turn all ways alike. The writer took hold of him a few times but he might as well have taken hold of a suspended blanket, expecting to throw it. He became noted east and west as a wrestler and had bouts with the most noted men of the country in that line. My recollection is that he was beaten but once and that was after an illness from which he had not fully recovered.

### Was Not a Favorite.

A man named Warner, a carpenter and joiner, at one time in the early days, boarded at the Cottage. He was a very loud talker and a great boaster, and the boys getting down on him, set themselves to playing tricks on him, which became so annoying that he had to leave. One time they dusted a little cayenne pepper on his clothes, which set him to sneezing as if he would sneeze his head off. Another time one of the boys managed to slip some shoemaker's wax on his chair as he was sitting down, and when he got up he took the chair along with him. The boys said they had got rid of a nuisance.

### Were Not Fast Boats.

Suppose you were a new comer to such a town as Fond du Lac was in 1849, and going to the steamboat landing should find there two such steamboats as the Oshkosh and Manchester. Then suppose you undertook a trip as a passenger on either of them, to find that it took two hours to make the run to Taycheedah, seven to get to Oshkosh and twelve to fourteen hours to reach Neenah and Menasha. Wouldn't your opinion of Lake Winnebago navigation be rather poor? That was the situation, yet some people would imagine that a lighthouse was needed at the mouth of the river.

### Were in Favor of Seward.

Great was the disgust of Fond du Lac republicans one beautiful day in June, 1860, when news came from the historical "wigwam" in Chicago, that Abraham Lincoln was the nominee for president of the United States. The republicans of Fond du Lac were for William H. Seward, first, last and all the time. About all they knew of Lincoln was the notoriety gained in his debates with Stephen A. Douglas, while Seward's work in the United States senate stamped him as the man for the times. But they soon recovered from the disappointment.

### Once a Lively Place.

There was a time that Taycheedah was quite an important point. There was a pier there, where all boats stopped, and much freight was shipped north, coming from Sheboygan and saving the hauling to Fond du Lac. The Smiths had quite an extensive store, B. F. Moore

had his Indian supply depot there, Charles Geisse had a mill, Mr. Perry kept a hotel, and there were many shops. Such citizens as Lieut. Gov. Beall, J. W. Whinfield, Henry Conklin and others resided there.

#### **Was Soon Abandoned.**

The fire steamer, Alex. White, when first brought here, was a self-propeller, and the first run it made to a fire was on Portland street, when it went into a mud hole opposite the residence of F. Sander, so tight that it required four horses to pull it out. As a self-propeller it was not a success, and its greatest merit seems to have been that it could throw a vast amount of water in a given time. It has not been used as a self-propeller in many years.

#### **Was a Popular Man.**

During his married life and up to the time that he went to the war in the Sixth Wisconsin, Capt. Edwin A. Brown was one of the most popular men of his age in Fond du Lac. He was sought for by his fellow citizens for all sorts of positions, and in public movements, if Ed. Brown was not there something seemed to be left out. Just why this was so, no one could tell but that it was so, was well understood by everybody. Poor Ed. fell at Antietam.

#### **Was Sometimes Abrupt.**

Col. James Ewen was sometimes quite abrupt. One morning a guest at the hotel told a highly improbable story which it did not take Col. Ewen long to style a "d—d lie." The guest was indignant but the affair was soon settled by a proposition that he tell the story again in presence of a jury of six men, who should pass upon it. Nothing more was said. Col. Ewen was peculiar, but as honest a man as ever lived.

#### **The First Gunsmith Shop.**

In 1853, S. B. and J. Amory had a gun shop on Main street, where the Amory block now stands, and Tom Weeks worked for them. They made hunting rifles and did all sorts of repairing. The shop was down stairs and Mr. Amory lived up stairs. The building now stands second south of the public library, but has been much changed in looks since it was on Main street, fifty-five years ago.

#### **Much Cheaper Than Than Now.**

In the fifties board with room was readily obtained for \$2.00 a week and most of the boarders at the Lewis house paid but \$2.50 a week. When Ketchum appeared as proprietor of the Globe Hotel, now the Windsor, he vastly improved the board and raised the price to \$2.50, the boys thought it very high; compare these rates with today.

#### **Has Been Changed.**

The present end of Military street at Union and West Second, was not the original terminus. It continued through the block to Forest street and crossed the river with a bridge. The bridge was taken out at an early date and the street vacated from its present terminus—a very sensible work.



### Was a Useful Building.

There was a time that the old Marr street schoolhouse was used for many purposes. Schools, lectures, debating clubs, and the Methodist, Free Will Baptist and Universalist Churches all met there, and occasionally teachers' institutes and club meetings were held there. It was a very useful place for some years.

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### Presbyterian Church Steeple.

When the Presbyterian Church was built in 1859, at corner of Main and Rees streets, it had a well proportioned and very pretty steeple. The spire was a cone high and graceful. After the building had been moved to Sheboygan street, it was found that the timbers were weak when it was built, or had been racked in the moving, and the graceful spire was unsafe, especially in high winds, and the only thing to do was to cut it down. The steeple was then put in the condition we now see it. It is by no means lacking in neatness now, but originally it was very pretty.

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### The Brewery at the Spring.

People who have passed through Taycheedah and up the ledge on the Sheboygan road, have not failed to notice the ruins of a stone building near the road. The structure was erected for a brewery by Hauser & Dix, of Fond du Lac, with intent to use the water from a beautiful spring across the road, and was named the "Spring Brewery." The buildings now used by the Harrison Postal Bag Rack Co., at Sheboygan and Portland streets, were erected by the same firm as a place to store and handle the beer. But this business venture proved a failure, as the spring water at Taycheedah could not compete with the fountain water in Fond du Lac in making and selling beer.

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### Sam Ryan was Here.

Sam Ryan, identified with the press of Wisconsin since 1845, and continuously with the Appleton Crescent since 1853, was a resident of Fond du Lac in 1848 and was postmaster here at the time of the robbery for which Ambrose Barnard was convicted in the United States District Court at Milwaukee in 1850, before Judge Miller, and sentenced to ten years in prison, but was pardoned after two years. He was not the only guilty party but was the only one prosecuted. Sam Ryan returned to Green Bay and a little later settled in Appleton. He was an old school whig and the Crescent being democratic, the name of Rolla A. Law for a long time appeared as the editor. James Ryan, a brother of Sam, has been business manager of the Crescent, through all these years which number more than half a century. We speak here of Sam Ryan particularly, as he was a Fond du Lac pioneer.

### Our War Shinplasters.

At the beginning of the war of the rebellion, in 1861, and after enlistments began in April, our gold and silver coin suddenly disappeared as by a stroke of the magician's wand. The small change as well as larger pieces, was all swept away within a few weeks and dealers were at their wits' end, how to make change. Due bills were used for a time, but these were very inconvenient and merchants felt compelled to have small cards printed, representing 5c, 10c, 25c and 50c, which they gave out as change, although in violation of law. They had to do it and no notice was taken of it by the authorities. After a while those cards began to appear signed W. R. Gold, Ch. Token, Amos Kraut and dozens of like names, when the city took the matter up and directed city clerk, A. H. Boardman, to procure from Milwaukee some bound books of lithographed shinplasters, representing 5c, 10c, 25c and 50c. These were issued by the city on deposits of even dollars. But in 1863 the United States government began the issue of the fractional currency of the same denominations and the situation was relieved. In the redemption of the city's shinplaster currency, a large percentage was never presented and the city gained while the people lost by the scheme. Some was kept as souvenirs, but of that unredeemed, most of it was destroyed or lost. Of the cards afloat, no one could give a reasonable guess of the amount and of those issued by dealers, as near as could be ascertained, not one-half were ever redeemed. One dealer admitted that he was ahead over \$2,000. The cards were printed on poor board, the sizing peeled off, taking the names with it, so that the cards soon became so nearly worn out that no one could tell who they belonged to. It was a peculiar experience, but Fond du Lac was not alone in it.

The premium on gold and silver had so completely retired the silver change that along toward the close of the war, ladies bought the pieces at the bank and wore them for earrings, breastpins and sleeve buttons, as curiosities, at the time the change disappeared, much of that in circulation was of Mexican coinage, but none of it was ever seen again. By the time silver came to the front again, our silver mines had been developed, silver was plentiful and this Mexican coinage might possibly have been worth thirty cents on the dollar. Wisconsin people did not want it at any price. The United States treasury reports show that upwards of seventeen millions of the fractional currency remains unredeemed, but it is thought that nearly one-half of this is in the hands of the people as keepsakes, the balance was lost and destroyed.

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### No Residences Located There.

The nearest approach to a residence ever located on West Second street, from Main street to the bridge, was the old City Hotel that was once near the corner where Wagner's store is now. That street or part of a street, has always been the abode of shops and is yet. Lepper & Morse's big wagon shops were on it. West of the bridge the nature of the occupations has been very different.

# WHAT WAS SAID AND DONE

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What Pioneer Settlers of Fond du Lac County Did and What They  
Thought and Talked About at Home and  
Elsewhere.

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## Old Time Joke.

Darius Hooker was a moulder in the foundry of Peacock & White in the early fifties. He was generally known as "Dri" Hooker and among his peculiarities was a seeming constant desire to play tricks or jokes on his associates, and sometimes he got one from them. A moulder in the foundry, who got the nick name "Chub" fastened on him, was taken sick and his malady developed into a very severe case of inflammation of the bowels. He was a small man, quite popular with his associates, and when they were informed that "Chub" was in a very dangerous condition, the boys were active in caring for him. The doctor told them that the application of leeches was the only thing that could save him, and so some leeches were ordered at once from Chicago. The night that the leeches came and were applied, three of the men, one of whom was "Dri," were staying with "Chub." During the night "Dri" became very sleepy and the two others thought it a good chance for a joke; so took one of the leeches out of the jar and applied it to the back of "Dri's" neck. About the time the leech got well down to business, "Dri" awakened enough to realize that there was something on his neck, and began some active clawing. The boys looked to see what was the matter, and when they declared it was only a big bed bug, "Dri" declared it was a "d—d lie." But the boys got the vinegar on pretence of easing the sting, but really to make the leech "let go," which it did and was thrown out of doors without "Dri" seeing it. Sick as he was, "Chub" could not help laughing to see the success of the joke and afterwards declared he believed it was the turning point in his recovery. In later years Hooker became a prominent citizen of Milwaukee and was three or four times elected to the state legislature.

## A Fond du Lac Cannon.

Alex White manufactured a cannon at the machine shops of Peacock & White, in Fond du Lac, in the early days of the war, after the model of the Atwater rifle, which was said to have a penetrating power of twelve inches of solid pine at the distance of ten rods. The special feature of the Atwater rifle was, that one-third of the distance from the breech to the muzzle, there were six grooves and six lands, to give rotary motion to the projectile, and the remaining two-thirds had but three lands, to avoid friction. The cannon was a breech-loader and it required much experimenting to overcome windage in

the plan of the breech-pin. This was finally overcome and one cold day, after a snow fall, the cannon was taken to the lake shore, at what is now Lakeside Park, and fired, I think twice, when the breech-pin stuck and could not be removed to fire again. This trouble could not be overcome and Dr. Wolcott, of Milwaukee, who was the financial man of the affair, finally abandoned it. After the firing on the lake shore, a tramp of about two and one-half miles, revealed where the ball struck the snow and bounded. The gun carried well in distance, but the projectile went considerable to the left of a straight line. I was present at the test, and these are the results as I remember them. I think the cannon was about five and one-half feet long, and had a two and one-half inch bore. It was said here that the cannon was afterwards experimented with at the arsenal in Pittsburg, but nothing more was known of it in Fond du Lac; nor has the Atwater rifle been heard of in late years.

### They Got Drunk There.

John Reilly, a darkey with an Irish name, had the first barber shop in Fond du Lac, in 1848. His shop was a small frame building, with a wood house in the rear, and stood on the ground where the Reeves building now stands, on Main street. Next, south, was a one and a half story building on the ground now occupied by the Mason crockery store, in which was the office of the Fond du Lac Journal. Between the two was an alley, leading to Luther Swineford's blacksmith shop. Reilly's wife was an Indian and the wood house in the rear of the shop was a favorite place for pow-wows of the Indians. To get fire-water for these pow-wows, the law being very severe against selling liquor to Indians, Reilly or his wife would sneak out and get it for them. In about an hour after getting the liquor, all but two or three of the Indians who remained sober to look after the others, there would be as noisy a drunk as one often hears. The noise was very annoying to us, who worked in the Journal office, but we had to stand it until five or six o'clock, when the Indians would leave for their wigwams. One day Forbes Homiston, as constable, was influenced by us to go into the woodhouse and see if he could stop the outrageous noise. In less than one minute after going in, he came out on a dead run, and went out of the alley as fast as his short legs would carry him. He said afterwards, that there were too many bright butcher knives in there to suit him. Others might play with those fellows if they wanted to—he wouldn't.

### A Pigeon Hunter.

Some years ago, in the months of April and May, wild pigeons in flocks of thousands and in rapid succession passed over the heads of Fond du Lac people. Hardly a flock is now seen from one year's end to another. If we ask what has become of all these pigeons, who can answer? "Black Davis" was the Fond du Lac pigeon hunter. He used a net and caught them by hundreds, sometimes perhaps thousands. To thus catch pigeons, the net, about eight by sixteen feet in size, is set with a spring at one side of a raked-off patch of

ground, with some feed scattered over it. The hunter is at one end of the ground, hid in a booth of green boughs, with two "flyers," and a string, reaching to the "stool pigeon," on the other end. When a large flock is coming, the "flyers," with a string to their legs, are thrown up, and pulling the string of the stool, it goes up and down and the "stool pigeon" moves. This calls down the flock, and when they are on the ground the net is sprung and before the wild birds can rise they are forced back to the ground and captured. The hunter now kills them at his leisure by pinching their heads. The process is a cruel one, as the "flyers" and "stool pigeon" are made blind by having their eyes sewed shut with a needle and thread. Few men care to see it more than once or twice, but to "Black Davis" it was a delight.

### He Got Stung.

W. M. Lee, of Rosendale, about forty years ago, patented a movable frame bee hive, with which he made a considerable stir among bee keepers for a time, but the agitation ceased when the patent expired. A. T. Glaze was at this time one of the Commonwealth force, under J. A. Smith, where Mr. Lee had his printing done. Always anxious to show off his bee hive, he insisted that Mr. Glaze should go with him to J. C. Spencer's, next east of the laundry on East First street, and see how nicely he could change a swarm of bees from an old hive to one of his new ones. Mr. Glaze demurred on the ground that bees always stung him if they got a chance. But he went and was placed by Mr. Lee, at the corner of the house, where he would be safe. Mr. Lee was only well begun with the change, when a bee struck Mr. Glaze on the forehead, and he whirled and began a fair exhibition as a sprinter, when another bee became entangled in his hair at the back of his neck, and his speed was increased and kept up until he reached Curran's drug store and had ammonia applied. It is sufficient to say that Mr. Glaze did not return to see Mr. Lee complete the change of bee hives.

### Trouble Among Clerks.

After C. J. Pettibone and W. C. Pettibone had established the Pettibone store in Fond du Lac, near the beginning of the war, there was a lively bunch of clerks there. Among them was one of the political tribe, known as "Copperhead;" in other words a violent secessionist. One morning he was talking unpleasantly, when one of the other clerks told him he was "a traitor to his country." This brought on trouble with fists, but W. C. Pettibone coming in, put a stop to it. Not long after, C. J. Pettibone appeared and learning of the affair, told W. C. that as the young man was getting what he deserved, he ought to have let them alone. This again aroused the ire of the Copperhead and he threatened to give C. J. a trouncing. This, of course, the clerks resented. C. J. replied that if the young man was anxious for trouble, he would give him a chance. This raised a laugh and the young man left the store and the city about the same time. Mr. Pettibone said afterwards that his talk was what the boys call a "bluff."

### He Presided Well.

John A. Eastman, known to old residents as "Jack" Eastman, son-in-law of Dr. Darling, was in one respect at least, a genius. He had the faculty of maintaining a grave countenance under the most trying circumstances. This and his ready wit, made him one of the best presiding officers in the state for meetings of the gay humorous society, known as "The Thousand and One." The meetings were usually held at the opening of terms of circuit court, when lawyers and prominent men could be present. The court room was the place and the length of the session depended upon the capacity of the officers for fun and the willingness of the candidate to bear the burden of fun without a fight. Through it all, Eastman would maintain the gravity of a judge. Not a smile was detected on his countenance when he told "Little" Eaton that it had been discovered lately that soft soap was the best thing to grease boots, melted sugar and turpentine for a hair dressing and fish oil as a perfume for ladies' use. This ended the scene, for "Little" Eaton bolted.

### Bony Always There.

In the days of the old Fond du Lac fire department, when Nos. 1, 2 and 3 contended for supremacy, W. T. Gibson owned a large Newfoundland dog named Bonaparte, but became known to all citizens as "Bony." He was a very faithful and prompt fireman, being always on hand when the fire bells rang or when the machines were out for practice. He was a general favorite, and when he was hungry and appeared at kitchen doors, he always got something if the people were at home, or knew he was there. He did mischief just once at the residence of John Hale, on Fourth street, when he took the remnants of a beef roast, left near the door, and marched off with it. But "Bony" had a remarkable habit of looking for gloves, mittens, handkerchiefs, rubbers or anything lost on the streets and carrying them to one of the engine houses and so paid for all he got. And woe to any dog that showed a disposition to molest a child. He was injured while on fire duty and died from the effects. "Bony" was truly a remarkable dog.

### Was a Crude Affair.

Many people are not aware of the fact that there is a bridge across Main street at the head of Third, but there is. Until 1851 it was a crude log affair, and the ravine to the eastward was open and a mire of mud. It is now a covered stone ditch, which no one sees. The postoffice was robbed in 1849, when Sam Ryan, now of Appleton, was postmaster, and the money hidden among the logs of this old bridge. The young man who committed the robbery was sent to prison, but pardoned after a year or two. After his return here the mud of the old ravine, under the bridge, was stirred a number of times when all was quiet, in quest of a portion of the money, which he believed was still there somewhere. He told the writer that he believed that the money went down in the mud and water when the logs of the old bridge were torn out, but it was believed generally

that his partner in the crime, who escaped conviction, found and took the money while the young man was away in prison.

### Was a Great Whittler.

George Henning, father of John O. Henning, one of the founders of the Fond du Lac Journal in 1846, Benj. S. Henning, the noted civil engineer, and Mrs. Wm. Wiley, for a great many years had his boot, shoe and fur store at the southeast corner of Main and Second streets, now graced by a bill board. George Henning had his peculiarities. He was a great talker, a great joker and a great whittler. It was his custom to find some good whittling timber and lay up a stock of it in his store for the use of himself and friends. It was not an uncommon thing on a bright, nice day, in passing his store, to be able to kick the whittling shavings ahead of you. Everybody knew and everybody liked "Uncle George Henning." He died in this city in March, 1864.

### The Davis Tribe.

In early times Fond du Lac had a number of people by the name of Davis, whose peculiar first names came to them by peculiar adaptation from the people, and as none of them resented the names, but seemed to respond when so addressed, they became generally recognized. There was Pigsfoot Davis, Soapy Davis, Stoneboat Davis, Whiskey Davis, Black Davis, Grocery Davis, Sawmill Davis and Steamboat Davis. Because of business habits or looks the names were recognized. Pigsfoot Davis sold pigsfeet; Soapy Davis made and sold soap about town; Steamboat Davis worked on a steamboat for B. F. Moore; Whiskey Davis was noted for drinking his own whiskey freely and never treated anyone or allowed anyone to treat him; Black Davis was pretty dark in complexion; Stoneboat Davis used that implement as a vehicle; Grocery Davis had a grocery, and Sawmill Davis a sawmill. Only eight Davis' with peculiar names.

### Some Heavy Moving.

Many people who are now residents of Fond du Lac, do not know that when the Midland railroad track, now the St. Paul, came down through the city, it became necessary to do some quite unpleasant moving of buildings. When Fond du Lac was an important point of the Wisconsin Stage Company, the stage barn stood on the bank of the river where Tait's coal yard now is, and Robbin's livery barn was on the ground where the St. Paul passenger depot now is, and the Crippen residence stood on the ground of the present cheese warehouse, south of the Zinke store. All of those structures had to be moved across the river. It was not an easy job, but it was done and the barns placed as we see them now, and Post has made the Crippen house into dwellings on Sophia street.

### A Mutual Barber Shop.

In the fifties Horace Durand had a harness shop in Fond du Lac which became quite a resort and place for much fun, for nearly twenty young men of the town, who needed barbering done, but would not

go to either of the two low down barber shops then here. They barbered each other, but paid for it just the same as at the shops and the money thus obtained was used at intervals for a good time. Most of the boys became pretty good barbers, but K. Gillet, who recently died at Rosendale, was the best man with the razor, and "Hank" Swift the hair cutter. The shop was opened Sunday mornings at 6:30. If a man wanted a shave during the week he had to do it himself or pay double price for lights and fuel.

### Won the Silver Trumpet.

C. R. Harrison was foreman of Winnebago Fire Company No. 3, in 1857, and took his machine and men down to Milwaukee to the state fair and firemen's tournament, to win the big silver trumpet, and they did it handsomely. Of course the boys were jubilant and inclined to be noisy, but Mr. Harrison cautioned them that on their return home, of all things, not to give Fond du Lac people an impression that they were drunk. Result, a more gentlemanly or dignified lot of men were never seen than they were, when they unloaded their machine.

### There Was Lively Times.

Playing over the flagstaff of Amory block on heighth and down Sheboygan street on distance, old No. 1 fire company could beat No. 3, although the latter won the silver trumpet at the state fair in 1857. No. 2, under Gen. Bragg as foreman, put in no claims. No. 1 was a little larger than No. 3, and worked six more men.

### A Crooked Stream.

A person not familiar with the scenes of crookedness in the east branch of Fond du Lac river, between Western Avenue and Forest Avenue, before the straightening process was applied, can hardly imagine how outlandish it was. After making all sorts of twists and turns south of Second street, it took a sweep to the eastward, passing under the rear end of what is now Haas' wagon shop, swept by the corner of the Lange block and reached its present location through Tait's wood yard. At Forest Avenue it took a turn westward, to the Howie boarding house, and then to the east again. The straightening was done in the latter part of the sixties and was a fine piece of work. It was not necessary to molest the west branch at any point.

### Need of a Lighthouse.

There was a time that it was thought navigation on Lake Winnebago was sufficient to justify the erection and maintenance by the United States government, of lighthouses at the mouth of the Fond du Lac river and at Blackbird Island, near the entrance to the Neenah and Menasha channels. The gravity of the situation is shown by the fact that a bill for this purpose was introduced and gravely discussed in congress, but did not pass, of course. In the light of transportation at the present time, we cannot restrain at least a smile. There never was a time that more than one or two boats a year sought these chan-



nels in the night, and now we have scarcely more than this number, night or day. It was one of the early flights of fancy.

### The Signs Were Out.

When the big Main street sewer was put in, the contractor got far behind his contract time. A rainy season came on, the ditch caved in at many places and the street was next to impassable. Business men on the street were mad, but this did not restrain many of them from being funny and cards were stuck on the bank, throughout the length of the ditch. Some of them were quite laughable then and would be now if one could remember and print them. They made the contractor mad, but that is what they were intended to do.

### Largest Lodge in State.

At the time the Good Templars were a power in the temperance work in Wisconsin, Fond du Lac had a lodge of more than two hundred and fifty members and was the largest in the state. One lodge night, two well known men were to be initiated, and one of them suggested that they go over to Harry Bly's and take a last drink. They went, and when the time came for them to go to the lodge room, both were full of booze. They were not cast aside as unfit, but at the next meeting were initiated and made good working members.

### An Old Time Theatre.

Do you remember the hall in the old Darling block? If you do not, try to imagine a hall of moderate dimensions, without stage or scenery, yet used for the presentation of Shakespeare, and other heavy plays. Langrische & Atwater, and G. J. Adams used to come here with their companies and stay two or three weeks. Theatres, concerts, lectures, churches, all used Darling's hall and for some years were satisfied.

### The First 'Bus Line.

E. A. Carey, in 1846, hauled the logs from their farm to the Clark mill, where the lumber was cut for the house on Main street, opposite the court house, long used by Mrs. Carey as a boarding house. This house was afterward moved south and is now the home of Mr. Furstnow. Ed.'s oxen did a large amount of similar hard work about this time.

It may be a matter of interest to many to know that E. A. Carey started the first 'bus line in Fond du Lac. It was in 1854 and his route was between the old Badger Hotel, corner of Main street and Western avenue and the steamboat landing. He had three 'buses and made the trip every hour. It was a good business and Mr. Carey says he made money at it.

### Could Not Defeat Him.

As long as J. J. Driggs wanted the office of justice of the peace during his life time in Fond du Lac, he could get it. Organized efforts were made many times to defeat him, but he always came out ahead. He seemed to hold a lasting claim on the office which was surprising.

### Came in Flying.

On a beautiful May morning, in 1860, at 6:30, George Bentley, then an engineer of a passenger train running on the Northwestern between Janesville and Fond du Lac, was bringing his train into Fond du Lac late, and was running so fast that when the old fashioned brakes were applied, they gave off sparks like unto streaks of fire. Few trains have ever crossed Military street and Western avenue at a higher rate of speed. Near the Western avenue crossing the train encountered some horses owned by Mr. Goss and killed some of them. A long law suit followed, but the railroad company finally paid a heavy judgment. On the trial the facts as to speed of the train were testified to by several who saw the train come in. The engine was blowing off steam at the time and running with all the power in it.

George Bentley was always popular on the railroad and when the company of railroad boys was formed for the Twenty-first regiment, he was chosen captain. The Twenty-first went into camp at Oshkosh, but did not have a fair show in drill. They did not get their guns after being ordered south, until they reached Cincinnati, and two days later were put into the fight at Perryville, Ky., where Capt. Bentley fell dead almost at the first fire. It was rank injustice to the men of the Twenty-first, who had seen very little drill and had no knowledge practically of the use of their guns in war.

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### Occupied for Church Purposes.

Lots occupied for church purposes from early times and still occupied by church buildings are not numerous. St. Joseph's Catholic Church is still on land owned by the congregation since 1847. The church of the Evangelical Association, at Marr and Third, is on land occupied in 1849 by the Methodists. The Baptist Church went to Forest and Union streets in 1852. The location of St. Patrick's Catholic and St. Louis' Catholic, date from the latter part of the fifties. The Crescent Opera House stands on ground occupied by the Congregational Church in 1848 and until well along in the sixties. The Baptist is the oldest church building in the city but it will soon be the newest.

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### Six Stage Lines in 1849.

Advertisements of the Wisconsin Stage Company in the Fond du Lac Journal in 1849, indicate that the company at that time had six lines leading from here. They were as follows:

Fond du Lac to Portage via Waupun and Fox Lake.

Fond du Lac to Oconomowoc.

Fond du Lac to Milwaukee.

Fond du Lac to Sheboygan.

Fond du Lac to Green Bay.

Fond du Lac to Ceresco and St. Marie.

The latter, if advertised now, would be Ripon and Princeton.

# HAPPENINGS HERE AND THERE

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Matters Which Were Talked About in the Pioneer Days. Some of  
Then Interesting, Some Valuable from a Business  
Point of View.

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## Early Days' Ice Business.

It was not until 1858 that Fond du Lac people had ice delivered at their houses from a wagon, and the first man to do this work here was A. W. Chapman, who lives on West Johnson street. He delivered ice the first two years from an open, one horse wagon, and during the first year there was not an ice box or refrigerator in Fond du Lac. The first ice boxes he saw were made of two store boxes, one a little smaller than the other, put inside and the space filled with sawdust. The second year I. S. Sherwood, the hardware dealer, got a few refrigerators from the east and a German cabinet maker made a few here. The second year Mr. Chapman had a competitor, who bought him out at the end of the next year, paying him \$800 simply to keep off the street with ice.

His first year's sales were \$250 and the last year \$3,500. In 1857 M. Van Dresar had a meat market and C. B. Bartlett worked for him. In this market was the first ice box used for keeping meat in a market in hot weather. It was a very crude arrangement compared with the present, but it was not very long after this that Mr. Murphy, still a resident here, began to manufacture a sensible meat market ice box, and is making them yet. He has put some into markets in the Lake Superior country, that cost several thousand dollars. His ice boxes for this purpose have proven remarkably successful. The wonderful success of the Gurney and Bowen refrigerators in Fond du Lac is well known. The North Pole refrigerator, made here many years ago in large numbers, by E. Perkins, failed only because it had to give place to more profitable manufactures.

It is not regarded now as a difficult undertaking to keep ice through the summer, but fifty years ago it was thought necessary to excavate a resting place for it in the side of a hill, or resort to some other equally expensive method to preserve it from melting. Now a barn or shed and a little sawdust is all that is needed. Lake Winnebago and Lake de Neveu give us an abundant supply of pure ice and thousands of tons are cut here some winters by Chicago and Milwaukee dealers.

## Disobedience of Orders.

It is remembered by many who now reside here, that some years ago when Conductor DePue ran the passenger train daily between Fond du Lac and Milwaukee, his two children and servant girl were

stricken and died of black diphtheria. The children were promptly buried, but a brother of the servant girl was here and very anxious that her body be taken to her home near Kewaskum. The law prohibited its shipment by rail. Undertaker Reader prepared it and put on the box plain directions that it was not to be removed from the sleigh until ready to put into the ground. Under no circumstances was a funeral to be held. With this freight Jesse Ribble, from Paine's livery, started for Kewaskum. So bad were the drifts that he did not reach Eden until noon. Stuck in a drift soon after at the home of the pathmaster, that official summoned a gang of men and shoveled Jess through to the end of his road district. The next pathmaster, with another gang, shoveled him through to Kewaskum. Here he was met by the father and brothers, who took the box three miles into the country, under strict injunctions as to funeral and having their attention called to the directions on the box. But it was afterwards learned that not only were the remains taken into a church, but the casket was opened there, with the result that at least three persons took the disease and died, one of them a brother. Possibly more may have taken the disease, but those are known. Great credit is due to the pathmasters but some sort of punishment ought to have been given to the family of the girl. Ribble came back to Fond du Lac on the cars after the father took the box, but so bad were the roads that he did not get his team here for three days.

### We Forget About It.

Lapse of time causes us to forget things that made strong impressions on our minds at the time. Unless we have some record or something tangible to couple with them, we are liable to forget what we most desire to remember. For instance, it was but four years ago that we had a steady rain of seven days and the water in the river was very high—not quite so high as in our late experience, but high enough to flood Forest Avenue and run down Sophia street, yet very few people remember about it. At least twice before this, once in the fifties, once in the eighties, we had freshets at least equal to this last one. About 1875, the Saturday Reporter, then under the proprietorship of Thwing & Farnum, was driven out of the basement of the present postoffice building by high water. Alex White will have a lively remembrance of trouble by water in his foundry and machine shop, when the machinery was four days under water and the foundry floor flooded. Rob. Zinke can tell you of a time that out houses and fences floated in the streets but he don't know the year. In the early days a flood was expected every spring. Less water runs off into the streams now because more land is broken and cultivated and the ground absorbs more water. Had we memorandum records to go to for information, we should be surprised to find how many freshets there have been in the past. Without records we forget.

There was probably never a time in our history that so much water fell in so short a time as on one day in June, 1905. On the brick pavement of Main street it looked like waves and 2.57 inches of rainfall in twelve hours may be regarded as unprecedented.

### A Distressing Event.

It was in 1857 that a distressing event took place in the house now the third east of the Congregational Church and occupied by C. D. Smith. At that time George Smith, a millwright, occupied the house. His work often took him out of town and he would be away for a week or two. A man boarder slept up stairs and the servant girl in another part of the house. Mrs. Smith had a baby in bed with her, and left a lard oil lamp of the times, burning on a stand near the front of the bed. About midnight Mrs. Smith awakened by the bed being on fire. She tossed the baby out on the floor, fortunately without hurting it, and her cries brought the hired girl and boarder to her assistance. When the fire was extinguished and Dr. Adams had come, it was found that Mrs. Smith's back was burned to a blister from her neck to her heels. It happened in the early spring and Mrs. Smith lingered along until one morning in September, three women of the city called to see her and in their ignorance of the depressing effect of discouragement, told her how bad she looked and with many long sighs left the house and Mrs. Smith died that night. Of course the doctor was mad, as he had a right to be, when the hired girl and Mr. Smith told him about it, and there was great indignation among Mrs. Smith's many friends. She had been lingering a long time with that terrible burn, but Dr. Adams thought she had a fair chance for recovery until the coming in of those foolish women with their depressing talk and manner. How the fire originated Mrs. Smith could not tell, but it must have been from the lamp.

### Practice of Delivering Goods.

The practice of delivering goods at the homes of customers by dealers of whom they were purchased, is of comparatively modern date. It came about 1860, with the flour and feed men and the shipping in of their product by the big mills outside. People tired of taking along a wheelbarrow or sled when they ordered flour or feed, and to carry it home was dusty and unpleasant. And so it came about that the dealers in flour and feed delivered their goods, T. S. Henry being one of the first to do just what his two sons are doing now and in the same place. E. C. Thompkins, the grocery man, in business here under the name of Davis & Co., from 1854 until 1896, extended the delivery to groceries and from that time on it spread until now the practice is recognized by pretty much all sorts of business. Even the drug stores now keep delivery boys. Since the coming in of the telephone a few years ago, the parcel delivery man has been called into existence, and the streets are filled with them. The old fashioned drayman of twenty-five years ago, is now almost unknown. We now have a half dozen or so of freighters but no old time draymen. Before the introduction of the delivery system the purchaser had to carry home his goods or pay a drayman twenty-five cents to do it for him.

### An Old Time Fourth of July.

At one of the old time Fourth of July celebrations, it was determined to have a fun parade in the afternoon and Mr. Dormer, of the

firm of Dormer & Green, dealers in dry goods, was placed at the head of a committee to prepare a program. He was a man of infinite humor, and if one had a few of the half sheet programs now as Mr. Glaze printed them, they could be readily sold for a dollar each. The equal of it was never seen here or anywhere else. They called themselves Riff Ruffs. Many of the most prominent men in the city took part in this parade and enjoyed it. Mr. D. E. Hoskins, father of F. B. Hoskins, was the commander-in-chief and Dormer gave him a name suggestive of those we now get daily from Russia. Here is the name: Gen. Dolgorustnogrudnogorehakoffruffemoffpluffemoffheademoffpushemoffknockemoffprowsbiprisbiskisgi. Among the aides to Commander-in-Chief Hoskins were D. R. Curran, Thos. H. Green, Alex White, Ed. Farnsworth, A. H. Boardman and others, all of whom had startling names on the program. Tim Strong gave the address and D. W. C. Wright tried to sing a song. Fun was laying around loose everywhere that afternoon, and such a Fourth of July celebration as that, was never witnessed before or since, here or elsewhere.

### Storm in a Printing Office.

When Beeson's Job Printing office was doing the printing for the northern division of the Northwestern road in 1857 and 1858, an order was received for 100,000 dodgers, known to printers as one-twelfth sheets, or six by twelve inches in size. Such dodgers were all the rage among railroad men at that time. The office was far short of the facilities of today and Web. Henry was put to work on them on a Cincinnati hand press, which piece of machinery had but one recommendation for its existence—it was cheap. Web. worked about six weeks steady on the press work of that job. One day when the hands in the office went to dinner they left about 25,000 of these dodgers on the table, plain and printed, and without weights on the piles. During the noon hour a thunder storm came up, preceded as usual by wind, and when the boys returned they found the office in places about knee deep with those bits of paper, and it required the time of the afternoon to recover what had not been spoiled. The washing trough, lye kettle, ink slabs and rollers got fully their share of the ruined paper. But Web. Henry finally got the job completed, all the same. A modern office would print that job now in two days or less.

### Cruelly Shot Down.

When the Thirty-second Wisconsin regiment was called to the war, Ike Stinson was a printer in the Commonwealth office in the employ of J. A. Smith. Charley Jewell, of Eldorado was an employe there at the same time. Miss Mary Lawrence, wife of Edward McGlachlin, of the Stevens Point Journal, and Miss Emma Farr, were type-setters in the office. Mr. Smith had a job on his hands to keep the boys from annoying the girls and when the Thirty-second regiment was called to the field, Ike was encouraged to enlist. He went to the war and one morning early when the regiment was at Memphis, Ike had just come off duty, and was walking along a street, when

some one at an upper window of a business building shot him dead in his tracks. A rush was made for the coward who fired the shot, but he was not found. The confederate soldiers and people of Memphis denounced the cowardly act. Ike Stinson was naturally full of jollity from crown to toe and was the life of the company, wherever he was. Of the Fond du Lac boys who lost their lives in the war, none were more sincerely mourned by his friends than was Ike Stinson.

### Quickly Taken Up.

When Dr. Darling offered lots free to those who would build on them, and for \$25 to others, free as to location, the corner lots from First to Fifth streets, the lots on Main street, were quickly taken. Southeast corner of First and Main was taken by Keyes A. Darling; northeast corner of Second and Main, Col. Tryon; southeast corner of Second and Main, George Henning; northeast corner of Third and Main, Lyman Bishop; southeast corner of Third and Main, J. L. Ault; northeast corner of Fourth and Main, John Bannister; southeast corner Fourth and Main, Isaac Brown; northeast corner Fifth and Main, Mrs. Carey and the southeast corner, Dr. W. H. Walker. The lots between these were largely and almost immediately taken by builders for business purposes. When the county seat was fixed here and the location of the court house determined, these lots so near the court house were deemed very valuable, but Dr. Darling did not change his policy in disposing of them.

### Oats in a Church.

The old St. Paul's Episcopal Church, located on Follett and Bannister streets, was a neat and comfortable place of worship, but it was so far north that it was felt that a great mistake was made when it was built there. Some of the attendants frequently remarked that they were going to "Oshkosh to church," yet the Rev. Joshua Sweet and the Rev. G. B. Eastman held regular services there many years and J. H. Burger, the well known music teacher, was long the organist with an always excellent choir. But a change had to be made in the location of a church and the place decided upon was that of the present Cathedral. A Sunday school was for some time held in the old church, but finally it was left alone, even the old cushions in some of the pews remaining untouched and when the writer attended the funeral of Mrs. Ferris, which was held there, green oats six or eight inches high, had sprung up through some of the cushions from seed in the straw.

### Died in His Chair.

In 1858 there was a small man in Fond du Lac who went by the name of Danty Martin. He had a jewelry store and watchmaker's shop on the east side of Main street, three doors south of First street. He was a very pleasant old gentleman and all seemed to like him. One cold night he was at a church social on the west side. He slept in his store and took his meals at Charles Olmsted's. He left the social for home at about 11 o'clock, and as he did not come to

breakfast next morning, Mr. Olmsted went to the store and found him sitting in a chair dead. The surroundings showed that he had come in, lit his lamp, started a fire and sat down to read. The lamp was still burning and he was sitting apparently very comfortable in his chair. Little was known about him here, but a nephew or some relative turned up to claim what property he had, which was not much. His peculiar death, discovered at about 8 o'clock in the morning, made much stir on the street.

### Early Lecture Course.

It was in September of 1856, that A. O'Leary made his first appearance in Fond du Lac as a lecturer. He was here several times since and always drew a crowd. His first lectures were given in Darling's hall and were mainly on phrenology. His subsequent lectures were mainly on physiology and hygiene, probably because it paid better to doctor people than it did to read characters. He was a Boston Yankee with an Irish name, was a very good talker and a good reader of character. The last time he was here he seemed to ignore phrenology, but would read characters on the stage when requested. He talked what he thought, therefore at times made enemies. Yet it was a remarkable fact that every time O'Leary appeared here, he drew crowds to his lectures, even on nights when he charged an admission fee. He died a few years ago.

### He Forgot Himself.

In early times it was not an uncommon thing to see a wagon fast in the mud of Main street in Fond du Lac. Mud holes were frequent and some of them deep. One morning in about 1851, a farmer's wagon loaded with bags of grain, suddenly went down in a chuk-hole south of Forest avenue, and stuck there. After vainly trying to pull the wagon out, the farmer began carrying the bags of grain to the sidewalk to lighten the load. Standing among the men, looking on, was a young man who had been about town a week or two begging by playing the deaf mute trick. Advice and suggestions about what to do, were flying about, when suddenly becoming excited, our deaf and dumb friend began to tell what he would do. He had betrayed himself and left the scene suddenly.

### A Captive Bird.

It is said that the robin is not a desirable cage bird for the reason that he will not sing in captivity and is short lived. But in 1860, Miss Libbie Farnsworth, now Mrs. Mears, of Oshkosh, had one in a cage at her home in Fond du Lac, northeast corner of Marr and Fifth streets, that was a loud and beautiful singer. How long he lived in captivity is not now remembered with certainty, but it was more than two years. He certainly was a good singer and his voice could be plainly heard a block distant. They are migratory birds and it is very likely that they would not live very long in captivity. The one here spoken of was much admired by everybody in the neighborhood.



### It Was a Surprise.

The telephone was first introduced to Fond du Lac people only twenty-seven years ago. In 1878, Mr. Haskins and another gentleman came from Milwaukee to show us the new wonder, and with a temporary cross town wire, showed us that a message could be talked over it and the voice could also be recognized. How we all stared with wonder as we listened. But it was three years later, or twenty-four years ago, that the telephone came into practical use by an exchange. It was a new thing then, now it is old and we can well wonder how we could get along without it. But we did up to twenty-four years ago, and pretty well too.

### Darling's Gap, Oakfield.

What is known as "Darling's Gap," Oakfield, is entitled to at least historical remembrance of its early day condition. A gap at an angle north and south of about thirty degrees, occurs at a high point in the ledge and for many years was about the only place at which the ascent could be made without great danger. It was not a wagon road, yet wagons had been through it. It was a rough place but it served its purpose for the people to get up and down the ledge.

### Some White Indians.

Edward Beeson, A. H. Clark, Capt. Soper, J. B. Clock, C. N. Kendall, John Hale and Darius Hooker made up into as perfect a band of tom-tom beating and dancing Indians as one might wish to see. They were at the first masquerade of the German and English academy and at other entertainments after that, and a crowd was sure to surround them when they appeared.

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### Lawsuit for a Calf.

When David Babcock was Clerk of the Court, a lawsuit was begun involving the value of a calf less than a year old, but which was three years old when the suit ended and the two men had nearly sacrificed their farms in costs and expenses. Both men claimed the calf and brought proof so positive that it was difficult to get a jury to agree. The suit came from the southwest part of the county, and as Dave used to tell about it, was an exciting suit. It was first tried in justice court and came to the circuit court on appeal, where it was tried several times. On the last trial the jury disagreed and Judge Taylor, then on the circuit court bench, told the parties they must settle it themselves or he would settle it if ever it appeared on the calendar again. It did not come to trial again and few knew how it was settled. It was known, however, that the farmer in possession had long before sold the animal to the butcher but was responsible for its value. The case was one showing how persistent some men are in a lawsuit.

### Some of the Railroad Men.

Those people who have come to manhood and womanhood in the last forty years, have little conception of the tribulations incident to handling railroad trains in early times. Forty years ago the locomotive engineer had the sides of his boiler cumbered with pumps and the appliances for operating them, and in winter had to be on the alert constantly to keep them from freezing, and his method of oiling cylinders was quite different from what it is now. The pump had to be used to supply the boiler with water, now the injector is used so easy, quiet and sure that no trouble or anxiety is felt about it. To watch the water gauge is about all the engineer has to do.

And the brakeman, well that railroad employe as old timers knew him, is now wholly unknown. The air brake has left him out. Until well along in the 'sixties we were accustomed to see a brakeman rush out of the passenger coaches obeying the signal of the engineer to turn tighter or loosen the little brake wheels. The brakeman played a very important part in bringing the train to a stop at a station. Now the engineer does it all with his air brake. And on freight trains in old times, one could see a lot of men running about on top of the cars, stopping now and then to give the brake wheels a turn. We now see these brakemen only in switching yards and in making up of trains. The brakeman of today has little of the duties and responsibilities of the brakeman of early times.

This has been brought about by the air brake, the invention of which is credited by some to the Wisconsin state prison. In 1866, when Alex. P. Hodges was state prison commissioner, the writer one day while on a visit to that institution, was shown the drawings of a proposed air brake for railroad cars, made by a prisoner. It was ingenious, but at the time seemed wild, and little was heard about it, but in a year or two the ingenious Westinghouse people were announced to have applied air to the braking of trains on railroads. It was subsequently insisted by employes at the prison, that not only the idea but the principles of its application were obtained there by those in the Westinghouse interests. The idea at this time was air by pressure, but it was soon found that the vacuum principle could be made more effective and safer and was first applied by Westinghouse. The patent on it long since expired and is now used on all railroads. But Fond du Lac had an air brake inventor in Jo. Irwin, at the time master mechanic of the Sheboygan road. His patent was for the use of direct pressure, and for that principle is believed to be the best ever brought out. He applied it to cars on his road, most effectively, but the vacuum idea displaced it. The railroads still have brakemen but their duties are quite different from the early day brakeman.

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There have been close votes in Fond du Lac county a number of times in the election of county officers, but none quite so close as that of John B. Wilbor over George W. Sawyer in 1858, for County Treasurer, by a majority of 1.

# THINKING, TALKING, ACTING

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How the Pioneer Settlers and Business Men Thought, Talked and Acted in Pursuit of Business and in Social Life.

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## Franklin Fire Insurance Company.

The Franklin Fire Insurance Company was a Fond du Lac institution, organized in 1850, and for some years was quite prosperous. The officers were N. M. Donaldson, President; H. W. Wolcott, Vice-President; W. T. Gibson, Secretary; Allen Gibson, Actuary; E. Perkins, Treasurer. The company might be yet one of the strong financial institutions of Fond du Lac, if it had been properly managed. It was running along smoothly, when suddenly and to the surprise of all, it collapsed. The Gibsons were experienced insurance men and it was apparently their aim to build up a strong and popular company, but after a few years, like so many other men under like circumstances, they overstepped the boundaries of financial prudence in the hope of piling up assets more rapidly and failed. They began taking risks on hazardous property that was promptly refused at the beginning, but most disastrous of all, they began writing policies on mills, the rate on which had long been so high as to be almost prohibitory. For a long time it seemed that almost every mill the Franklin touched was burned and the pressure of losses became more than the company could stand. This was the great mistake in the management of the Franklin Fire Insurance Company. Had the same conservative management been continued that marked its beginning, who can tell what it might have grown to be in the business of Fond du Lac. W. T. Gibson also conducted an insurance agency and had a long list of the best companies, but abandoned it all after the collapse of the Franklin, and established himself in the insurance business at Indianapolis, Ind., where he continued to reside until his death, a few months ago. Allen Gibson died at Rockford, Ill., many years ago. He was the manager, if indeed he was not the organizer of the old Rock River Mutual Insurance Company that went up the spout after a limited career.

## Fooled Away His Money.

In the fall of 1855, a man well advanced in life, named Stephen Perine, appeared in Fond du Lac. He had plenty of money and retained S. D. Stanchfield as his attorney. He bought a couple of city lots but said he wanted to buy property that he could turn over rapidly and make money. He soon became known to the sharpers about town and those who had any old truck that they wished to get rid of, they were sure to work it off on Uncle Perine, and so in a few months he was loaded with moth-eaten furs, shoddy cloth, shop

worn boots and shoes, worthless groceries, dilapidated store fixtures, and so on ad infinitum. Mr. Stanchfield tried to stop him, but it was no use. In a couple of years his money was all gone, and all he had to show for it, besides the two city lots, was a lot of old truck that he could hardly give away. Mr. Stanchfield succeeded in getting his history and it was found that he had a family in Ohio that was wealthy and had sent him west to stay. In early life he was an active man and accumulated much money in handling, feeding and driving cattle, but in after life he became a burden, fooling away his money and doing many foolish things. His wife managed to get things into her own hands and finally told him if he would go west, where he said there were such grand chances for investments, and stay there, she would give him \$20,000 in cash. He accepted the offer and this was the money he brought to Fond du Lac and squandered so quickly. When it was gone, he importuned her for more, and she came here on his representation of the good chance for investment, but after looking the ground over, went back to Ohio without leaving a dollar. To cap the climax of absurdity, he now sold his city lots and married a little woman crippled with rheumatism, and he lived in a small house, a little better than a shanty, on Fourth street. He was soon compelled to do little jobs like sawing wood, hoeing gardens, cleaning cellars, etc., to the end of his life in 1863. He had very little education and the last years of his life little judgment in business matters. He said his family in Ohio had \$75,000 of his money, but he could not get any of it. Mr. Stanchfield tried hard to save for him some of his \$20,000, but he was so stubborn that he could do nothing and gave it up, leaving the old man to die a pauper.

### R. R. V. U. Railroad Company.

The first ground broken on the Fond du Lac end of what is now the Northwestern railroad, was on July 4th, 1851, and took place at lowertown. John B. Macy was there and made a speech. Waiting for the iron for the road to come from England, little was done for a couple of years. Robert J. Walker, then secretary of the treasury in Buchanan's cabinet, and Mr. Macy, were the chief promoters. The company was first known as the Rock River Valley Union Railroad Company, then changed to the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac, and on the re-organization was named the Chicago & Northwestern, the name it has borne ever since. The line was first built to Chester, and to operate it, a switch engine named Winnebago, was loaded at Sheboygan and brought across the country to Fond du Lac. The car shops were started here and built the cars used. In a couple of years the line was extended to Minnesota Junction to connect with the Milwaukee & La Crosse road and we had a through railroad line to Milwaukee. Fond du Lac people then felt that they were truly out of the woods. During this time two passenger engines, the Fountain City and Rock River, were brought from Sheboygan, and virtually wrecked the plank road. The road had a gauge of six feet, but to secure best results at junction points it became necessary to change the gauge of the road and rolling stock to the standard gauge

of four feet, eight and one-half inches, which was done quickly when all was ready. The line was now extended south from Minnesota Junction and the south end was built on northward from Woodstock, until in 1858 the two met and we had a through line to Chicago. The line was being also pushed north and Oshkosh, Appleton and Green Bay became near neighbors.

### Early Days of Spiritualism.

Spiritualism had its start in what was called the "Rochester Knockings" of the Fox sisters, in 1848. The phenomena brought investigation by some of the brightest minds of the country, including Judge Edmunds, A. J. Davis, Horace Mann and many others. Many able and interesting books were issued in its support, among them "Nature's Divine Revelations," by Andrew J. Davis, a most ingenious and attractive writer. The doctrines spread and between 1852 and 1860, Fond du Lac had its full share in the movement. In the midst of it, in 1857, circles were held almost nightly at the homes of citizens. Lectures were arranged for by eminent speakers, including Emma Frances Jay, Cora L. V. Hatch and Messrs. Finney, Wilson, Tallmadge and many others. It was in 1857 that the discussion took place in Amory hall between T. G. Kutchin and Mr. Finney, which occasioned much excitement. The following year the hall was built that is now the Division Street Methodist Church. As the feeling subsided over spiritualism, the hall was transferred first to the Unitarians, then to the Universalists, and finally to the Methodists, who changed it to what it is now.

The origin of spiritualism in Fond du Lac was at the home of Mrs. Fisher, in Empire, who produced the phenomena of a writing medium. Then a number of local mediums of varying powers were developed in rapid succession, including Mrs. Stow, Van Vleck, Holt, Fairchild, the Potter children, and others, test circles were held, socials arranged, services held Sundays and the faith seemed to be strong in all parts of the spiritualist work. But eventually nature's law, that "an excess is always followed by a corresponding reaction," prevailed and the faith took a downward turn, possibly aided by the excitements of the war, and slowly subsided and in two years little was heard of it. This condition of things has continued to the present and it is seldom heard of now. There are still some spiritualists, but they seem not to be demonstrative.

### A Well Known Pioneer.

Who of the early settlers fails to remember Jo. King, father of Mrs. A. W. Chapman, the latter still with us and an honored member of the Old Settlers' Club. Jo. King was one of the characters of early days. He was a Frenchman and came here in 1846. He was a natural born trader and was always ready to swap anything he possessed, from a jack knife to a house and lot. It was said of him that he could see the defects in a horse at a glance, therefore took delight in buying, selling and trading horses. He was very quick on his feet and would get a deal finished and be gone in the time many men would be getting

ready. He was also a good judge of the characters of men, and no doubt here was his great advantage in dealing with them. He was so well known to all classes of citizens and through so many years, that a history of Fond du Lac without a notice of Jo. King would be incomplete.

Louis Russell was another of the peculiar Frenchmen of Fond du Lac, whom everybody knew. He and Jo. King were as near alike as two eggs and it was a joke to get them together for a horse trade. They were sharp in any sort of a deal and each pretty sure not to let the other fellow get the better of him. Once Peter V. Sang fixed up a horse in good shape and beat Louis bad. He said nothing, however, and "laid for" Sang and caught him for what Sang said was the worst thing of his life.

### **Brought a Bear to Market.**

One day in the early fifties, a German, speaking very little English, appeared on the streets of Fond du Lac with a cart and a yoke of oxen, and in the cart was the carcass of the largest black bear ever seen here. The afternoon before, the bear came into a clearing where the German was at work, in the town of Calumet. He coolly picked up his smooth-bore gun and gave the bear a slug that disabled, but did not kill him, then deliberately loaded the gun again and gave him another dose, which also failed and the job was completed with an ax. Few men would have dared to do what that German did and it was very amusing to hear him in broken English, tell about it. The size of that bear's feet and the length of his claws made one feel that he would like to keep out of the way when the owner was out on a foraging scout. J. W. Partridge, the druggist, bought the bear for \$4.50 and the German went home well satisfied with his trip, although the skin alone was worth more. There was considerable oil which Mr. Partridge tried out and sold at a high price to H. Bosworth & Sons, the Milwaukee wholesale druggists. There were a few bears in the timbered regions in an early day, but they were never numerous in this part of the state. The Indians killed off many, as they also did the deer.

### **A Prominent Farmer.**

Another of the pioneer men whose acquaintance extended over the entire country was John H. Martin, whose farm south of the city is now partly within the city limits. Mr. Martin was an expert in handling stock, especially cattle, and buying, selling and holding so many, came to be known as "the cattle drover." The butchers bought most of their stock of him and so accurate was his knowledge of cattle that when a sale was made they were not weighed, as he could estimate the weight by sight within a very few pounds. He once estimated the weight of eight head of beef cattle, sold by Elisha Hall, Lamartine, to D. D. Cooper, the butcher, but Cooper, believing he estimated too high, had them weighed and Mr. Martin's figures were seven pounds too low. He possessed another peculiar faculty: he could correctly count a flock of sheep out in the field without the trouble of running them through a gap, as is generally done. It was

said of him that while he knew all the tricks of stockmen, he never practiced them. In business he was strictly honest, in social life genial and pleasant. All old settlers of the country remember J. H. Martin as a reliable and honorable citizen. He was born in Pennsylvania on the last day of the year 1806, came to Fond du Lac in 1846 and died in 1883. Before coming west he was for six years in charge of the great stock farm of Gen. Wadsworth, in the state of New York, and handled stock in Chicago and Racine before coming here. He was a director of the First National Bank from the time of its organization until his death.

#### **Elder Rogers and the Contrabands.**

Elder Rogers, pastor of the Fond du Lac Baptist Church in 1862, was appointed chaplain of the Fourteenth regiment. When the regiment arrived with other troops at Island No. 10, the question was under discussion what to do with the great number of negroes there, known as "contrabands." They were yet property at that time and were held by the government as contraband of war. So many of the younger men having gone to the war, Elder Rogers thought labor was very much needed here and proposed bringing some of the negroes here, thus relieving the government of the care of them and furnishing labor at the same time. He was given about three hundred of them and brought them to Fond du Lac, Beaver Dam and Fox Lake. This, as all know, is where our stock of negroes came from. Before this there were but about five or six colored people in Fond du Lac, and often less than that number. The habitat of the negro is a warmer country than this and it is not healthful for him here and never will be.

#### **Thought High Ceilings a Mistake.**

Charles Chandler, who died a few years ago, was a well known citizen and with Daniel W. Smith composed the early day firm of Smith & Chandler, who conducted a general store in Fond du Lac many years. At one time Mr. Chandler built three houses and himself lived in the one on Fifth street. He told the writer that in all three of his houses there was the same mistake that is so often found in buildings, that of making them so high between joints that it is difficult to warm them in winter. One of his houses was fourteen feet high in the first story and it was very difficult, without burning a large amount of fuel, to keep warm in cold weather. A family moved out of it because they could not keep warm. Some people build such houses because they think a high ceiling looks nice, and it does, but as Mr. Chandler said, "it makes a woodpile look sick." Perhaps it would be well for those building moderate sized houses, to remember Mr. Chandler's experience.

#### **Capt. Knapp and the Badger State.**

The steamboat, Badger State, Capt. W. A. Knapp, was in her day the handsomest appearing steamer that ever stirred the water of Lake Winnebago and Fox river. She sat like a duck on the water and Capt. Knapp took pride in her appearance. Her regular route for

years was between Oshkosh and Berlin, or Strong's Landing, as it was known in 1850. There was afterwards a steamer W. A. Knapp, which for one season was put on the lake between Fond du Lac and east shore landings, but was found not to pay. The steamer Tom Wall, Capt. Anson, was the largest boat ever known to these waters. So little attention has been given to navigation on the lake in the last thirty years that even the names of many localities along its shores have been forgotten. In former years those names were constantly in use, now they are seldom or never heard. The railroads did the mischief. Steamboats were too slow for this fast age, and when railroad transportation came, water transportation went.

### A Tedious Trip for Travelers.

Before the railroad was built between Fond du Lac and Ripon, it was necessary for traveling men to cross the country with livery rigs. The trip was sometimes a hard one, especially through the "Eldorado woods," sometimes a veritable swamp. On one of his many trips over this road, with two traveling men and four big sample trunks, The. Matson's spring wagon upset in the mud and he had a tough time of it. The two men went on to Rosendale on foot and "The" got three farmers, one of them "Big Fred," chairman of the town, to help get the trunks out of the mud and the wagon righted. It cost him three dollars and one dollar more at Ripon, to wash the trunks. The question now was, who should pay the bill of four dollars. The traveling men insisted that it was none of their affair and when "Big Fred" was asked to have the town pay it for having such bad roads, his reply was, "Sue the Almighty, for sending so much rain." The. Matson had already paid it and the result was never changed. Those "Eldorado woods" were the bugbear to travel for many years.

### Quick Answer to Call.

The first soldiers sent to the war by Fond du Lac, were enlisted in April, 1861, and became Co. K, of the First Wisconsin regiment, under Col. John C. Starkweather. The company was filled to the maximum inside of two days, and elected James V. McCall captain. The boys did not make a long thing of it. The enlistment roll was in Soule's music store, where Voell's music store is now, and the boys went in, put down their names and the whole outfit was in Milwaukee in camp inside of a week. That is the way the young men did things in 1861, after Fort Sumter had been fired on and the Union was in danger. The next company was enlisted by Gen. E. S. Bragg and Edwin A. Brown and was done about as quick. It was put into the Sixth Wisconsin regiment, as Co. E, and we all know its record.

### Fell Into the River.

In 1851, a large tree standing on the bank of the river near where the Howie house is now, blew over and fell directly across the channel. It was for a long time a favorite foot-log and the boys, and girls too, used it freely. It was largely woods over on the west side



then, and a favorite place to wander. One Sunday afternoon a young woman fell plump into the water from that log, and the current being pretty strong, she floated down stream. Her escort, afraid of spoiling his clothes probably, failed to jump in after her, but "Bill" Ellsworth hearing the cries and well filled with booze, was not afraid, and with little delay brought the girl out of the water. Bill got some new trousers for the job, anyhow.

### First Concrete Cellars.

The home occupied by Mrs. W. C. Hamilton, on Forest avenue, was owned in an early day by W. T. Gibson, the insurance man, but Mr. Hamilton changed the buildings so it is a very different place from what it was originally. It was in the basement of this house that Mr. Gibson tried the first experiments in Fond du Lac in securing a concrete or cement cellar. He tried the experiment in different forms five or six times, but was unable to keep the water and frost out more than one season. He told the writer that he believed it impossible to succeed in such an undertaking in Fond du Lac. But other methods did succeed and on the same premises too.

### A Dangerous Cannon.

For a long time there was a large field piece cannon at lowertown, wholly without fixtures of any sort. It was too large and heavy for small boys to handle and so was let alone by them. But on special occasion the men handled it and so on July 4, 1857, placed it on a pile of railroad ties to fire it. After a few rounds there was a premature explosion and a young man killed. The cannon had done mischief once before, but no one was killed, so it was deemed best to get rid of it and it was taken over to Peacock & White's foundry and melted down. That was the last of the lowertown cannon.

### Early Day Skating Trip.

One afternoon in the winter of 1851, a half dozen young men, among whom was the writer, put on skates at Forest street bridge, went down the river to the lake shore, thence east to Taycheedah and then across the marsh to what is now the corner of Division street and Park avenue, where we took off our skates. There was good skating all the way and we have wondered many times if there has ever since been good skating over that route. Doubtful.

### A Rotten Egg Dealer.

When you wish to buy eggs do not buy them from an adventurer from Waushara county, as some of our dealers did once. The man came here from the "Indian Land," saying his eggs were nice and fresh, but J. W. Carpenter first discovered that nine out of ten of them were bad, and followed the fellow nearly to Rosendale, compelled him to return and take them. It was afterwards learned that he sold them again at Ripon.

### Another Old Settlers' Club.

There are probably few people in Fond du Lac county now, who remember that an Old Settlers' Club was organized more than thirty years ago. In June, 1874, a meeting was held at the Patty House for the purpose of organizing such a club. Edward Beeson, Charles Olmsted and Wm. Stewart were appointed a committee to prepare a plan and draft a constitution and by-laws, but nothing further seems to have been done until the next year. In 1875 a successful picnic was held and organization effected. In 1876 another picnic was held but not as successful as the first one, and from this time the club was not heard of—it was forgotten by Mr. Beeson, who was the chief mover, and was finally forgotten by all to the extent that it is doubtful if there are twenty people in the county now who remember that there ever was such a club. The object was to collect historical facts and relics and preserve them, and especially to collect biographical notes and put them in such shape that the pioneers and their immediate successors should not be lost to memory.

It is quite unfortunate for the club of today, that no one appeared to take up the work contemplated by the club of 1874. Thirty years have passed and during that time pioneers have passed away rapidly and valuable historical facts have become forever lost. Every day of delay now but adds to the difficulties. Our predecessors realized the value and the necessity of this work, but it seems did not realize the necessity of personal effort in doing it. A few persons cannot do it all. Every one interested should do something. In no other way can it be a success.

A business and personal history is what is most needed. We must not let the different lines of business, the individual efforts of men in promoting manufactures, and personal matters of interest should not be allowed to drop into forgetfulness. All citizens of Fond du Lac, old and young alike, are interested in this work.

Nearly all the cities and counties of the state now have these clubs and societies, many of them places much smaller and of far less importance than Fond du Lac.

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### Manley Fell Into the River.

J. W. Manley was one of the old time employes of the Northwestern Road. He was a first-class mechanic in his line and a citizen whom everybody respected. He was here from the early days until he died in 1886. Engaged in repairing the Brooke street bridge, one of Manley's gang tumbled into the river, but in such a way that he got wet only to the waist. The affair was so comical that Manley could not get over laughing, but he got his pay, for not long after Manley tripped and went in all over—not a dry thread on him. Of course the men laughed and so did he. "Now see here, boys," said Manley, "I'm your boss, and when you do a thing I want you to do it right. What's the use of getting wet only to your knees, when you get a fall into the river. Why not make a good job and get wet all over, as I do." He said he didn't believe in half doing a thing.

# A LONG TIME AGO

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Incidents and Anecdotes of the Long Ago, But Were Interesting  
Then and are Interesting Now to the  
Old and Young.

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## Did Not Like Politics.

H. K. Laughlin, one of the most highly respected merchants Fond du Lac has ever had, was a native of the state of New York, but before coming here, held a high position in one of the departments at Washington, under the administration of James K. Polk. But in Fond du Lac could not be induced to touch politics. Twice when it was desired to run him for mayor, he not only declined, but seemed offended and said politics had become too nasty for him.

## First Methodist Church Here.

The old church building at the northeast corner of Marr and Third streets, which recently gave place to the fine brick structure of the Evangelical Association, was the first built here of any pretensions. The Congregationalists had a small building where the Crescent Opera House is now, and St. Joseph's Catholic was a small building where that church is now. The Baptist came two or three years later. Previous to the erection of the building at the corner of Marr and Third, the Methodist people held services at the court house, in school houses and in private houses, but as Bishop Ames was to hold a session of the Wisconsin annual conference here in 1852, they determined to erect a church, and this was the result. It had a bell in the steeple for several years which was rung at 7 a. m., at 12 m., 1. 6 and 9 p. m., at the expense of the city. The building occupied since the old one was vacated, known as Division Street Church, was built by the Spiritualists, afterwards used by Unitarians and Universalists. Soon another of the pioneer churches of Fond du Lac, the Baptist, will disappear as that congregation has its plans all ready for a new building. The old Episcopal, the old Methodist, the old Congregational, the old St. Joseph's Catholic, the old Plymouth, the old German Methodist, are all gone.

## Had a Blister to Fight.

In the fifties, when the Illinois Central railroad was being built from Chicago to Cairo, ague and bilious fever was so plentiful that it was customary for laborers and bridge builders to go home sick in about two weeks. So difficult was it to get and keep men that the railroad company furnished free transportation to all who would go, besides paying big wages. Among those who went from Fond du Lac was Charley McClanathan, as a bridge builder. He returned sick in the usual two weeks and took his old quarters in the Globe Hotel, now Windsor House. His malady was developed into congestion of the bowels and Dr. Raymond was called. The doctor put on a blister

in the evening, directing Charley and his room-mate to leave it on until it scorched the skin to a bright red. But both dropped off in sleep, Charley in a sort of delirium and his room-mate knew nothing more until daylight, when he awakened to find Charley sitting on the edge of his bed groaning and trying to pull on his trousers. The blister had burned him awfully, and the room-mate was so frightened at his neglect that he started at once for the doctor, who, when told of what had happened, laughingly remarked that he was glad of it. The room-mate felt very much relieved in his mind. The doctor came over and dressed the blister and Charley made a rapid recovery. Dr. Raymond afterwards told us he expected just that result from a sick man and a sleepy printer.

### Attempt at Street Improvement.

The first improvement of Fond du Lac's Main street was a "mud pike." That is ditches were made at the sides and the dirt thrown to the center but it soon slid back. The next effort was with gravel, but this mixed in with the black soil and soon disappeared. Then came two more coats of gravel with the same result. Now came the cry of plank roads and our Main street got a coating of two and one-half inch oak plank, but the under side of those being on the moist ground and the upper side in the hot sun, especially after a shower, the plank curled up at the ends like a rainbow and these were removed. Next came a coat of broken stone, which disappeared and with it another coat of gravel. Now stone eight or ten inches wide, set on edge end, and packed in sand, was tried but did not prove lasting and what could be found of it was removed for another coat of gravel and broken stone. All proved ineffectual for making a decent street. Our black soil could not be made to hold up any material. Now came the Nicholson pavement agitation. It had been used in other cities successfully and it was resolved to try it here. It was put down and lasted several years, the best street we ever had to that time. It consisted of a board bottom and pine blocks four by four and eight inches long. Now came the cry of cedar blocks with tarred boards and blocks, and have been a great success, but still the authorities wanted something better and the result has been the use of brick. Before many years some of the present streets will have to be repaved and by that time we shall probably be able to determine fully what system is the best. We have about three feet of outside material mixed with our black soil on Main street, and maybe the paving will now be lasting.

### The Hazen Martial Band.

Who of the old settlers does not remember the Hazen Springvale Martial Band? At fairs, 4th of July, political meetings and other gatherings, if the Hazen Springvale Band was there or to be there, the crowd was in the immediate vicinity. All the band were Hazens but one, Uncle W. Florida. Chester and Loren Hazen were the fifers, Sanford, Lorenzo and Calvin Hazen the snare drummers, and Warren Florida, the bass drummer. When they were in Fond du Lac at the Harrison political meeting in 1892, the statement came from them that

this was probably the last they would ever play together, and it was. All have died since then. The band was organized and first played in the Harrison campaign of 1840, in the state of New York, so they were together as a band, more than half a century.

#### A Successful Doctor.

Dr. T. J. Patchen used to say he didn't care much what the disease was, if he was called early enough to the bedside of the patient. He wanted a chance at it in the beginning. That he was remarkably successful, all admit, whether of his school or not. No doubt all physicians often feel that they ought to have been called earlier.

#### A Strong Union Man.

T. S. Henry, so well known to all residents as Tom Henry, was a violent abolitionist, and was ready to fight a "copperhead" any minute. Many a time when the feeling ran high, Tom gave such people warning to go slow on anti-union talk. He was a true representative of union sentiment.

#### He was a Spaniard.

One of the early barbers in Fond du Lac was a Spaniard, known as Francisco, but who, when he went to the polls to vote, gave the name of Miguel Francisco de Paula. Francisco had spent most of his life on shipboard and knew comparatively little of land life. Meaning a barn, he said he had never been in a horse's house but twice. It was quite amusing to hear him tell of his adventures, which he was always ready to do. His manner of telling a thing was as amusing as the story. He came here from Milwaukee on foot, but on the way got a ride with a peddler, who went into a house and told Francisco to drive on to the next house. He told the peddler that he never talked to a horse in his life and he couldn't, but he cuffed him and called him names and compelled him to get on the wagon and go ahead. "So I started," said Francisco, "I picked up the strings," meaning the lines, "took the whip and hollered gee ho, and the horse went toward the ditch, and the more I laid on the whip and hollered gee ho, the more the horses went toward the ditch and into the woods on a run. We struck a tree and broke the wagon so that it cost ten dollars to fix it. He took my three dollars and I went on foot. When he saw me on the street here a week after, he ran after me and cuffed me again." In his simplicity he thought horses were driven the same as oxen, and having seen the whip used on them and heard "gee" and "haw," he used the whip and hollered "gee ho," when he drove the peddler's team. So ignorant was he of law that he thought to get back a stolen razor he must find the thief and take it away from him. As Francisco was raised mostly on shipboard, even ignorant Spain was not altogether responsible for his crude ideas.

#### Fastest Steamboats on the Lake.

The steamers Peytona, Capt. Estes, and Menasha, Capt. Peter Hotaling, were the best and fastest boats ever on Lake Winnebago.

So near alike were they in speed, that in making the run from Taycheedah, they would enter the mouth of the river at Oshkosh, side by side, although both used fine split wood to get up a pressure of steam.

### Were Popular Pioneers.

Selim Newton and Esek Dexter, known to all as "Squire" Newton and "Uncle" Dexter, were early day celebrities and favorites. Who would think for a moment of saying anything against either? Squire Newton was the standard auctioneer, and his general wit and jokes kept his crowds good natured and generous. He was a quite noted checker player and in this ancient game was regarded as the champion of the town. He was fluent of speech and could talk rapidly and correctly, and on the auction block could make a speech that would capture the crowd.

Uncle Dexter was a carpenter and joiner, and carried on a shop for general repairing and all sorts of tinkering. He would undertake almost any job ordered, from a piano to a penny whistle. He, like Newton, was filled with stories, jokes and general wit, and his shop was always a favorite resort, but there were a lot of old men cronies, who were to be found there, almost night and day, among them Squire Newton, if in town and not busy. Squire Newton and Uncle Dexter were old gentlemen that the people honored.

### Disappearance of Five Pies.

At an early date an old gentleman named Chandler had a small bakery and restaurant next door south of the Journal office. One day Dr. Elliott Brown, noted as a tremendous eater, asked Mr. Chandler what he would charge him for what pie he could eat. The price of the pies was one shilling each and Chandler thought he would be safe at two shillings or twenty-five cents, as he was sure two pies would be the limit, but when Dr. Brown had finished five, Chandler was ready to compromise. Thirty cents paid the bill and the trouble over it ended.

### Kept Pies and Pop Beer.

Old settlers will remember the Kirk pie shop and pop beer stand, on the ground where the Kummerow & Menge liquor store is now. This place was not noted for neatness, and though a beer bottle sometimes broken, was found to be half full of slime and a cat could be seen sitting on a pie in the window, some folks would continue to go there and eat.

Another place, not so notorious, but bad enough, was up town, opposite the present Windsor House. It was here on a fair day that two men tried to make a bet on the number of hard boiled eggs they could eat, but were refused by the proprietor, as he was afraid of death of one or both.

### Was Hit with a Beer Glass.

In the election in the fall of 1852, when B. F. Moore was the candidate for the assembly against Jo. Wagner, of Marshfield, there

was much anxiety to learn the result, and the next evening when it was known that Mr. Moore was surely elected, a few of his friends could not restrain their hilarity and went out on a tour of rejoicing. They were in Chandler's beer and pie shop, next door south of the Journal office, making some noise, when A. T. Glaze stepped from the front door to see what was up. His face had but just reached the seeing point, when a large beer glass came crashing through the window, striking him on the chin, knocking him down and filling his neck and chin with fine glass. Dr. Walker happened to be passing and spent an hour picking out the glass, but all of the little fragments were not gone in six months. The glass was thrown by the young lawyer, O. B. Tyler, known to us all as "Ben" Tyler, who was very much ashamed of it and would not meet Mr. Glaze face to face afterward—he even avoided him on the street. He was full of booze when he threw the glass and did not know what he was doing. He went to California soon after and was drowned.

### Prominent Men of Ripon.

E. P. Brockway, Capt. D. P. Mapes, G. N. Lyman, William Starr, Geo. W. Mitchell, Almon Osborn, D. Greenway, D. P. Lyon, W. B. Kingsbury, J. Bowen, C. F. Dodge, G. W. Dellinger, H. S. Town, Wm. Taggart, E. Manville, Col. B. Pinkney, A. E. Bovay, A. M. Skeels, C. F. Hammond, Wm. Workman, W. W. Robinson, H. T. Henton and Byron Kingsbury were all prominent citizens of Ripon at one time. They all resided there in the sixties, and a few of them are still living. There were others in city and town. Few places the same size have produced as many noted men as Ripon or had as many residing within its borders at one time. One of the early pioneers of the town of Ripon was Ezekiel Babcock, who died a few weeks ago. He was twice a member of the assembly and many times a member of the county board.

George McWilliams, one of the original stockholders in the old Fond du Lac Company, became a resident here in the forties, and was still here at the time of his death, in 1866. His residence stood where the malt house is now, and the entire front of the block being unobstructed by buildings and the lawn well kept, it was a very pretty place. He was a bachelor and a most companionable man.

### They All Sold Liquor.

All of the early day hotels in Fond du Lac had bars and sold liquor, and Harry Blythe, Alex Gillies and Harry Jones kept whiskey shops. The only saloons after the style of the present were Charley Johnson's, Astor Hall, and the Meyer and Bischof places. The proprietors of drug stores, if disposed to sell liquor, otherwise than for medical purposes, were required to take out saloon licenses. Places where liquor was sold by the drink were not as numerous as now, but a man could get drunk without much trouble any day of the week.

### Very Slow Workmen.

It was said of William Mumby, an early day wagon maker on West Second street, that if he began a wagon with green timber, it would be thoroughly seasoned when he got it done.

And of a certain marble cutter it was said if he had an order for a tomb stone from a well man, he could go on with date of death by the time he was ready for it.

And as Squire McCarty said of Dr. Howard—a patient would have time to die and get to heaven by the time Dr. Howard would get to his bedside.

It is not very easy to understand why some people are so slow. Some mechanics seem to work busily but accomplish little. If he does not waste time, he surely lacks in ingenuity. Often this is natural to the person, but is most likely to be the result of education of the hands, for hands must be educated as well as brain. Professional men are too often afflicted with laziness and neglect.

### Early Telegraph Operator.

Until the fall of 1853, the only telegraph line Fond du Lac had, was the one to Sheboygan, and as it was a poorly constructed line and much of the way went through timber, where trees and limbs fell on it, the line was very often not in working order. Bill Ellsworth was the operator and he therefore had lots of time to fill up with booze, which he often did. One day some one had died and it was desired to send out a message, but where was Bill? After a long search, he was found asleep under a tree over where Cherry street is now. He came over and sent the message all right.

Billy Armstrong, for many years chief of the telegraph lines of the St. Paul railroad, was the first operator in Fond du Lac to take messages by sound. Up to that time paper was generally used on a recorder. The telegraph office was in the Commonwealth office and as boys used to wonder how in the world he could sit in the editorial room reading newspapers and yet read every word that passed over the machine out in the other room. He did not have a modern sounder so he put an oyster can on the machine to make more noise. It was a long time before all the old telegraph machines went out of use.

### Instructor at Gymnasium.

Johnny Reichert, I believe, was the first instructor in gymnastics of the Fond du Lac Turners. Johnny was very industrious and it was said of him that he didn't know how to loaf. Among many things he did at odd times were the training of a couple of doves or pigeons so that they would come to him and eat from his hands. These pigeons were the admiration of all who saw them. Often they would follow him about town like dogs, only higher up in the air. He had them a long time and finally when one of them did not return, Johnny's mourning lasted far beyond the usual time.

### Croft Would Not Pay Dog Tax.

The first dogs sacrificed to a dog tax in Fond du Lac, were the five or six owned by Geo. Croft, father of the well known Geo. Croft,



formerly of Oshkosh. Croft was a queer Englishman and when he appeared on the streets these miserable dogs were at his heels. The city passed an ordinance taxing dogs. Croft would not pay the tax and the city marshal killed them. The whole bunch was worth maybe a nickel and Croft declared that he could sue for damages, but never did. He went west to grow up with the country and where he could keep all the dogs he liked.

### Channel at Lakeside Park.

The channel leading into the Lakeside Park had its original conception in the brain of B. F. Moore, in 1853, at the time he lived at the northeast corner of Main and Scott streets, and owned most of the steamboats on Lake Winnebago. The boats so frequently stuck on the sand bar at the mouth of the river, that he thought it important to make some change. So he proposed to make a channel into which the boats could run and where there would be no current to make a sandbar. A dock on this channel would be the landing and with an improved road from Main street, would be far more convenient than the old landing. But in a year or two Mr. Moore sold all his boats to Capt. Fitzgerald, of Oshkosh, and of course the channel proposition was abandoned and soon filled with weeds. No dredges were obtainable at that day and the work of excavation was done with shovels and scrapers. Much work remained to be done to render the proposed new landing available for steamboats.

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### A New Judicial Circuit.

At the beginning of the year 1905, the work in the Fourth Circuit had become so heavy, that Fond du Lac county was detached and with Green Lake, Marquette and Columbia, was made the Eighteenth Circuit. Judge Fowler, of Portage, was elected judge over Messrs. Sutherland, Griswold and Pedrick. With Judges Taylor, McLean and Gilson on the bench, Fond du Lac county held the circuit judgeship over thirty-five years, and perhaps we ought not to complain at the loss of it. Judge Kirwan retains Sheboygan, Manitowoc and Kewaunee counties.

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### Ripon Convention Men.

At the local political conventions of the early days, if William Starr, H. S. Town, D. C. Lamb, A. E. Bovay, J. Bowen, E. L. Runals, Wm. Workman, Charley Bennett, J. C. Russell, or part of them, appeared in Fond du Lac at a republican convention, or Geo. W. Mitchell, Wm. Taggart, Ad. Mapes, D. F. Shepard, Jerre Dobbs, E. Manville, Dr. Everhard or D. Greenway in a democratic convention, it could be surmised that Ripon meant business. They were there to do work for the party and for the men they had decided upon. As a rule they got there and the balance of their conventions knew that was what they were there for.

### An Early Day Hashery.

In 1849 and for a few years subsequent, there was a place on Main street nearly opposite Forest Avenue, known to many of the working boys as "Gillies' Hashery." At the place indicated, for many years a well known Scotchman, Alex. Gillies, had a liquor store and in connection therewith, conducted a cheap boarding house, where working boys could get meals for eighteen cents a day or six cents each, and they were good for the price. When the "Gillies' Hashery" disappeared from Main street it was moved back to Portland street, where it remained as a liquor store until about 1898. Gillies always had the credit of keeping an orderly place. Unlike Harry Jones and some others of the old timers. Gillies never had loafers and never any fights. It was his delight to get a few cronies about him, and crossing their legs under the table, tell stories. His place was one of the old fashioned quiet Scotch resorts. We have no such places now.

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### First Appearance of Bicycles.

The first bicycles then generally known as velocipedes, to appear in this county, was at Ripon in 1873. Dr. Hubbard, of that city, had been in Boston and places in New England, where he saw some, and while in New York city on his way home, watched for and saw Charles A. Dana, of the New York Sun, ride one several times. Being a fair mechanic as well as a hydropathic doctor, on his arrival home at Ripon, went to work and made two velocipedes which he rode about town and taught some of the young men to ride. He had a school for practice in Greenway Hall, and among his pupils were ex-Gov. Geo. W. Peck, ex-Sheriff H. R. Hill, John Hill, A. W. Pettibone and others, and a high time they had of it. The machines used were very crude home made things, but they served their purpose. Very few had yet appeared elsewhere in the state. In a year or two after this the high wheel machines appeared, and about 1892 the present two wheel machines came under the name "safeties." ex-Gov. Peck could tell some amusing stories about the first bicycles in this county.

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### Early Building by Bonesteel.

The effort of A. D. Bonesteel at home building when he erected the house on the south side of West Division street, opposite Doty street, was laughed at. Cherry street as a street, was almost unknown, and the region of Cherry, part of the south side of West Division and part of the north side of Forest, were largely woods. The house stood in the woods. A large republican meeting was held in the woods there, at which Lieut. Governor Butler G. Noble spoke. after this house was built. After Mr. Bonesteel left Fond du Lac, he was thought to be very fortunate in being able to sell the property to Mr. Fredericks. In after years the people thought better of it.

# EXPERIENCES IN PIONEER DAYS

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A Paper Read Before the Old Settlers' Club, at Its Picnic Meeting  
on the Fair Grounds, September 2, 1904.

By Miss Alice Stearns.

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One of the most interesting features of the reunion held by the Fond du Lac County Old Settlers' at the fair grounds Friday, September 2, was a paper by Miss Alice Stearns, of the town of Springvale, on incidents connected with pioneer life in this county. It will be read with interest by the people throughout the county. The paper follows:

"We love and reverence the pioneers as we love and reverence all good men and women for what they have been and for what they have done. It is well for us who live in times of luxuries and conveniences, made possible by the toil, thought, courage and heroism of the early settlers, to turn aside from the engrossing pursuits of today and dwell upon the virtues and deeds of those who have formed from the wilderness and primeval soil, the county of which we are so justly proud.

## Dr. Miller's Arrival in the State.

"Many amusing and pathetic incidents are related of the ways and means of transportation in the early days of this state. Rev. Dr. Miller, of Methodist fame, who landed at Racine in June, 1844, says: 'The Madison, a crazy old steamer that could lay on more sides during a storm than any other water craft that I have ever seen, landed us on a pier in the night, and thence we reached the shore in a scow. At Racine we engaged a man to take us, six in all, with our trunks, to Delavan. The roads were almost impassable. The rains had fallen so copiously that the streams overflowed their banks, the marshes were full and the prairies inundated. We made an average of fifteen miles a day. Our vehicles stuck fast eighteen times between Racine and Delavan. Sometimes we found these interesting events would occur in the middle of a broad marsh. In such cases the gentlemen would take to the water, sometimes up to the loins, build a chair by the crossing of hands and give the ladies safe passage to the prairie beyond. To make the chair and wade ashore with its precious burden, involved a very nice adjustment of balances. If the three went headlong before they reached the shore, each received a generous coat of mail.'

## A Milwaukee Road Experience.

"The following is the experience of our worthy secretary, A. T. Glaze, in reaching Fond du Lac from Milwaukee, August 24, 1850. Accompanying his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Beeson, then editor and proprietor of the Fond du Lac Journal, he left the

American House, Milwaukee, at 4 o'clock in the morning, after payment of \$3.50 each, in Indiana uncertainty, believed by some to be money. The stage company agreed to land them at Fond du Lac with certainty and reasonable speed. The arrival at Menomonee Falls at 9 o'clock brought them to a glorious ham and eggs breakfast at Bancroft's, at 3 in the afternoon to dinner at Hall's 'half way house,' 10 o'clock to Theresa, and as the party walked into the old Beeson home on Third street, where Guse's wagon shop now stands, the hands of the clock pointed to exactly 3:30 in the morning. Please reflect that most people who now cover the distance by public conveyance, grumble grievously if the time limit exceeds two hours by a single minute, but in this case it was just a half hour less than twenty-four hours and it was by no means a long trip at that time. The early boyhood days of Mr. Glaze were spent in Ohio with his grand parents, on the edge of the notorious 'black swamp.' He crossed that famous bog many times, but never did he see a more interminable labyrinth of mud holes, water, bogs and brush than they ran into in the Rock River woods, between Hall's and Theresa. With as experienced a driver as the well known 'Long Sam' while endeavoring to avoid a bad looking mud hole, the leaders of the four-horse team jumped a brush fence and a bad upset was the result.

### Trip of the Hazen Family.

"In 1844, a company of twenty-four from New York state, among whom were the Hazen brothers of the famous martial band of Springvale, landed at Milwaukee in June. A team of three pairs of oxen was purchased, wagon decked, boxes and trunks loaded, when it was found that but three could ride. There were eight women in the company. Did they wait for a parlor car? No, indeed. They uncomplainingly took turns in walking. They left Milwaukee Monday morning and Saturday night found them within three miles of what is now Oakfield, the wagon stuck in the mud and the oxen too tired to travel further. One of the men remained with the team and the others bravely resumed their journey. Every rod seemed a mile to the weary, foot-sore company. After what seemed to be hours, the log cabin of Lorenzo Hazen came in sight and the company were gladly received. Too tired for supper, they took boots, bundles of clothing, foot rests, anything they could lay hands on for pillows, and with puncheon floor for feather beds, were soon oblivious to their surroundings. Three of the Hazen brothers were soon keeping house in single room shanties with puncheon floors and troughed roofs, which had the faculty of letting most of the rain find its way to the room beneath. Their furniture was home made and the good housewives did all their work for one summer out of doors by camp fires. Their bread was baked in a kettle. As the summer of 1844 was very rainy, such outdoor work was no light task. For this story and many other facts, I am indebted to Mrs. Sanford Hazen, of Ripon, lovingly known as 'Aunt Susan.' Her courage, her bright and cheery manner of today tell us she was the life of this little company. The

mud must not have seemed so deep, the bogs less numerous, the hills not so high or steep by the sunshine and cheerfulness of her presence.

### A Shopping Party's Trials.

"In 1852, Mr. Wedge took a party of young people to Fond du Lac for shopping. It was dark when they started for home. About a mile from town the heavy wagon stuck, the horses gave a quick jump and the result was a broken whippetree.

"This was rather a dark outlook for a party sixteen miles from home. The girls were carried to high ground, a lantern procured and the whippetree spliced, but the party had had enough mud ride for one night and remained at the Two Mile House until morning. In early times Fond du Lac and vicinity was truly a veritable mud hole. A joke was perpetrated at the Lewis House one morning, when the guests were horrified at seeing the toes of a pair of boots sticking out of the mud and Col. Ewen was appealed to without result, but later on 'ye hostler' admitted that in a spirit of mischief, he had placed them there.

### Riding Behind the Oxen.

"In the early days teaming, pleasure driving, racing and farm work were mainly done with oxen, and they were not to be despised either. On July 4, 1851, while many were returning from the celebration at Ripon, an ox team appeared on the scene and ran by every team but one. Those who knew my father in those days, well know he had a good team and headed the line. For miles he had to be on the alert to be sure that the oxen did not pass him.

"When Elder LeFever came to Rosendale, the family were invited to dinner at the home of Senator Bertine Pinkney. Mrs. LeFever was shocked at the idea of riding after oxen on her way to a senator's home to dine, but when once started she saw the amusing side and had a merry ride. They were received with all the courtesy due a coach and four. When Elder LeFever was a young circuit rider, near New York city, he was overtaken by a severe rain storm. Two young ladies were also overtaken by the rain and circuit rider. He bowed to the strangers who decorously returned the courtesy, and one quaintly remarked: 'Don't you think it looks like rain?' To make a long story short, she afterwards became Mrs. LeFever.

### Some Kitchen Experiences.

"The resourcefulness of the pioneer often proved true the saying that 'necessity is the mother of invention.' During the first year of Mrs. H. D. Hitt's life in Wisconsin, she gathered some wild gooseberries on the ledge, and having flour and lard, decided to have a pie. No rolling pin was forthcoming, but pie she would have. In the emergency, her eyes rested on the camphor bottle. Eureka! Pie she did have, the crust rolled out with a camphor bottle. This was too much for Mr. Hitt, and with fire in his eye he started for the wood pile. Selecting a fine stick of butternut of the proper size, he soon had a rolling pin which still remains in use in the family. I will pledge my word that it has rolled out crust for more good pies than any other family rolling pin in the county.

"July 4, 1852, mother thought she would have a pie for dinner, and going to the garden gathered all the currants and all the gooseberries, and yet they were not enough for the pie. But pie she must and would have, so she gathered rose leaves, which added to the fruit, made the best pie we ever ate. As a substitute for apples for pies in the early times, the housewife sometimes boiled pumpkins in vinegar and sliced them for pies. Pumpkin molasses was also made by many in the emergency for table supplies.

"At the first banquet held at Ripon College, Mrs. Tracy, the dear mother of the college, wished to hear the address, which was given at Pedrick's hall at 4 p. m. As she was matron she had to superintend serving the collation, as it was then called. She cut the cakes, put the cream into the twenty pitchers, locked all in the cupboard and hid away to the hall. After the address, she rushed back to serve, when, alas! the cream was sour. Filled with inventive genius, she sent one student to milk the college cow, which was then pastured on the campus, another to milk the cow owned by President Merryman and another to milk the cow owned by Mr. Mason. They certainly had plenty of fresh milk for coffee.

#### Wisconsin Phalanx and the Mail.

"Madam N. Hunter, of Ripon, the only living member of the Wisconsin Phalanx, is very interesting in reminiscences of pioneer life. She furnished the first mail sack in which the first mail was carried between Ceresco, now Ripon, and Fond du Lac. It was a pillow case and the lock was a tow string. The carrier did not have even a blazed trail to follow, but used a compass as a guide.

#### The Privation of Mills.

"It was difficult for early settlers to obtain flour. They sometimes had to team sixty to ninety miles and the trip required from two to four weeks. Joseph Fairbanks, who was county surveyor in early times, and of whom the people of Waupun always speak as Uncle Joe, on one of these milling trips was detained longer than he expected, and the supplies at home were running low. Finally Aunt Hannah used the last of her meal for a small Johnny cake, which she baked in a quart basin. Just as it was cool enough to eat, her sister-in-law came to see if she had any food to spare. She said her children were crying with hunger and she had not a morsel to give them. Aunt Hannah broke the cake in two parts, giving her the larger piece. Then she divided the remainder between her two little boys and sat down to cry, utterly discouraged. At midnight Uncle Joe returned and she did not wait until morning for the cooking of a meal which was to her breakfast, dinner and supper. On the trip Uncle Joe stayed one night with a pioneer family. The hospitable settler gladly made a bed on the floor for the children and Uncle Jo took the one vacated. He was congratulating himself on his good fortune, when right by his head a bell rang. The settler had tied his cow to that corner of the cabin and every time she moved the bell tinkled. About 11 o'clock the old chanticleer, roosting on top of the cabin, proclaimed that

morning was coming, and continued to proclaim until morning did come. There was not much sleep for Uncle Joe that night.

### The Rich and the Poor.

"George Russell, of Brandon, used to enjoy telling this story. When they first came to Brandon they were very poor, having just money enough to pay for oxen and wagon with which they made their wedding trip. Their house was a pole shanty without a floor. Mrs. Russell, faithful helpmeet that she was, drove the team and he held the plow in the farm work. One day they heard of a rich settler who had come into the town. He was so rich that he had paid the government price for his land and also had a seventy-five cent coffee mill. Now, Miranda, said Mr. Russell, you must make their acquaintance, and in doing so you must take along a pan of wheat and see if they will let you grind it. Miranda walked the three miles, ground the wheat and returned home in time to make a shortcake for supper, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

"Wild game was plentiful, but as a general diet, the people soon tired of it. In some localities pork was a luxury. Mrs. J. Amadon, of Waupun, invited her sister and family to spend Thanksgiving with her, and as a special inducement said to her: "We will have hot biscuit and the best milk gravy I know how to make."

### The Settlers and the Indians.

"As we read the history of the Pier and Wilkinson families, first settlers in the towns of Fond du Lac and Oakfield, we can but wonder at the heroism and fortitude of the early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wilkinson were the first settlers in Oakfield, their nearest neighbor being Edward Pier, of Fond du Lac. Crude log cabins, howling wolves at night, Indians constantly passing, peeping in at the windows or boldly walking into the house, and women of the family often left alone for days at a time, these were a few of the things it required courage to endure. Mr. Pier knew of their unprotected lives and always watched the Indians as they passed his place, to see if they had indulged in fire water. If such was the case, he sent a man to protect them. Once when Mrs. Wilkinson was alone she saw some drunken Indians coming. She quickly barricaded the door and windows, then waited in terror for them to fire the cabin. They were on the roof, pounding on the door, howling and yelling. Suddenly it became quiet and she heard the bark of a dog. Then she heard a white man's rap on the door which she opened to find that Mr. Pier had sent a man to her assistance. History tells us that the Indians afterwards did burn the cabin while the family were at Mr. Pier's home. Two other settlers came into the town and an agreement was entered into that if the Indians attacked them, the firing of a gun was to be the signal for all to meet at the Botsford cabin. One night Messrs. Botsford and Bierne thought it would be a good joke to scare the Wilkinsons, and fired the signal gun. The women jumped from their beds, grabbed their infants and in their night clothes made speed for the fort, only to find that the rumpus was the result of a

frolic. It is due the Indians to say that they were troublesome but not dangerous, unless they had taken an undue quantity of the white man's fire water, the same fire water that is still a disgrace to our country. We are glad to be able to say that public sentiment is stronger against the liquor traffic today than it was in 1850. May 1950 see every saloon, club house, every place where liquor is licensed to be sold, driven from our country by the irresistible force of public sentiment.

"Mrs. Lyman Bishop tells how her sister outwitted the Indians. Mrs. Bannister had just made some fried cakes when a squaw came in but did not stay. Mrs. Bannister knew, however, that she would soon return with others. Under her log house was a place for tubs which were put through a trap door in the floor. She quickly put the pan of cakes through this door and covered them with a tub. Six Indians soon arrived, as expected, and looking through cupboards and places where they thought they might be stored, failed to find the cakes. Mrs. Bishop was very much frightened and started for help. She fortunately met a teamster who soon put the Indians to flight.

"Three hundred Menomonee Indians at one time camped on the farm of Thomas Boyd, in the town of Calumet. Adam Boyd, of Waupun, well remembers playing with the Indian children. One day as he entered the camping ground he noticed that the Indians were very much excited. Then a squaw took him into a wigwam and covered him with robes and blankets, told him not to move or speak. After what seemed to him hours, she uncovered him and told him to go. The Indians had been drinking and the squaw knew there was danger.

#### **An Editor Lost in a Hen's Nest.**

"In 1847 Edward Beeson owned a farm in the town of Fond du Lac, in the Arthur and Crofoot neighborhood, and lived there with his family. The comparatively innocent Menomonee Indians were numerous in the neighborhood and there were also some of the dangerous Wimebagoes, always in mischief. One morning early Mr. Beeson left home for Taycheedah to have a grist ground, leaving at home Mrs. Beeson and her then little son, John J., in after years the founder and editor of the Fond du Lac Reporter. Early in the forenoon Johnny was missing. He was searched for all over the place but could not be found. Mrs. Beeson was alarmed, fearing he had been stolen by the Indians, and promptly sought the assistance of such of the neighbors as could be reached. While the search among the Indians was in active progress, Johnny crawled from a straw bed behind a board Mrs. Beeson had placed against a tree for a hen's nest.

#### **Sickness and Death Came Also.**

"Mrs. Lingenfelter, of Brandon, told me that in 1852, one hot summer day, she was resting on her bed, when whack! came something which struck her on the shoulder. She very soon found it to be a large snake that had fallen from the upper logs of the house. Privation, sorrow, loneliness, sickness and death were linked in the chain that bound these settlers very closely together.



"In 1846, William Galland, with his wife and family of six children, located in Lamartine. All looked bright to the family until the parents were stricken with typhoid fever. The care of the sick ones and the children fell upon the eight year old daughter. With the best she could have done the sick ones must have died, had not Mr. Storey, a new settler, taken them to his own home to care for them. Mrs. Lyman Bishop, who came to Fond du Lac in 1845, and made her home with Isaac Brown, gives an account of sickness in the families of two brothers by the name of Wright. They lived in quickly constructed shanties and three were stricken in one family and two in another. Mrs. Col. Tryon gave up her home to one family. Mrs. Bishop did sewing during the day and watched nights. When it rained the watchers held umbrellas over the sick, and put pans and plates on the beds to catch the water as it fell. Four of the five died, strangers in a strange land. Mrs. Bishop had the fever herself, but grit pulled her through and she still lives in her home on Third street, a hale and hearty old lady of about eighty years of age. Coffins for burial of the dead were home made. Many still remember the loving services of Elder Vaughn in times of bereavement. He not only made coffins for the loved ones who had passed away, but preached the funeral sermons and gave consolation to the surviving friends.

#### Education Not Neglected.

"Grateful ought we of this later generation, to be for the attention given by the early settlers to education. Primitive indeed, were the buildings, but the teachers were generally from good eastern schools. One student from an eastern college thought it belittled him to be examined by a town board, but in order to teach had to comply with the law. Elder Brown, of Springvale, conducted the examination. They got along nicely until they came to algebra. A question was asked and the student replied: 'I think you would not understand if I should explain it to you.' This was too much for the good elder, and question followed question until the young man did not know where he was at. Finally the elder told him he would give him a permit to teach if he would brush up on algebra. The primitive school buildings were also used for church services by the settlers who came sometimes many miles in the conveyances used at that time. Divine services were always well attended. One Sunday the school house at Rock River would not hold the people. They stationed themselves at the doors and windows, when a little girl was heard to remark: 'Oh, mamma, just see how full the school house is on the outside.'

#### Primitive Vehicles.

"Before our honored president had a box for his wagon, he had what they called a buckboard with a chain underneath for a footrest. As he was returning from church with Mrs. Hitt, who was holding a child in her arms, the board caught an obstruction and tipped, nearly throwing them to the ground; but Mr. Hitt did not intend leaving his wife in that fashion and seized her with one hand and

held the mettlesome colts with the other until the vehicle righted itself. Alas! her wedding dress had been caught by the chain and completely ruined.

### United States Senator Howe.

"United States senator and afterwards cabinet minister, T. O. Howe, was in his time one of Wisconsin's ablest and most popular men. In 1850 he was circuit judge and Fond du Lac county was in his circuit. While upon the bench he was noted for three things, knowledge of the law, clearness in his charges to juries and determination in maintaining the dignity of the court.

"The Fond du Lac county bar at this time consisted of Judge A. W. Stow, Judge C. M. Tompkins, J. M. Gillett, Robert Flint, C. A. Eldredge, Edward S. Bragg, D. E. Wood, F. H. Waite, John C. Truesdell, O. B. Tyler, W. H. Ebbets, I. S. Tallmadge, James Coleman, E. W. Drury, W. C. Dodge, A. W. Paine, Carson Graham, Jared Chapel, Amos Reed, Campbell McLean, E. Hodges, J. A. Eastman, M. C. Eaton, C. F. Davis, Samuel W. Beall, total twenty-five. With a population then of less than 2,000, now nearly 20,000, the difference is but about a half dozen. Ripon had Judge Seely, E. L. Runals, Jerre Dobbs, A. B. Hamilton and John S. Horner. Waupun had Eli Hooker, and the then noted litigant, Rufus P. Eaton could be found at Pipe Village, town of Calumet. Alas! of these thirty-two lawyers constituting the bar of Fond du Lac county, but two, Edward S. Bragg and Jerre Dobbs, remain here to recall legal events of the past, all the rest have passed on to the other shore.

### Calves in Court.

"A somewhat noted case found its way to the calendar of Judge Taylor's court, and it must have been an important one, requiring as it did, the talent of three lawyers on one side and two on the other, and involving the value of a two months' old calf. The frequent disputes of the lawyers and their earnestness about points of law that the judge thought to be trifling, aroused his anger and he suggested that possibly there might be present in court other calves than the one mentioned in the pleadings. This caused an audible smile, but a reply from the bar came that such might be the case, but there was not far away another domestic animal whose voice is not as musical but sometimes conveyed as much wisdom and wit as people more gifted and more pretentious. The laugh was long and loud and no one dared to show wrath.

"While we have dwelt upon so much of interest to us all, both old and young, we of the later generation rejoice to look into the faces of so many of you to whom belongs the name of 'old settler,' a name which, if worthily borne, is honorable indeed. May you long remain with us to gladden our hearts and see many returns of this happy day. With hearts full of grateful appreciation and affection, we say to each and all of you, in the beautiful words of Holy Writ, 'The Lord bless and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace.'"

## TO AND FROM OAKFIELD

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As a Member of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank  
of Fond du Lac, Hon. H. D. Hitt Did Not Miss a  
Monthly Meeting in Fifty Years.

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H. D. Hitt, of Oakfield, has a record of fifty years a director of the First National Bank of this city without a break, during which time he has attended every annual meeting of the stockholders. He was present at the meeting of the stockholders last March, though he had been in poor health three months, and could not have summoned courage to leave his home under similar weather conditions for any other purpose. Never having had a break in his record up to this time, he said that it was too late to begin and so he came forth with the thermometer nineteen degrees below zero when he set out for the city to attend the meeting.

For many years when the board of directors of the bank consisted of but five members, Mr. Hitt attended every meeting, as it was difficult at times to get a quorum, but of late years, the board having been increased to nine members, there has been no such necessity and he has passed some of the weekly meetings. Mr. Hitt was re-elected second vice-president of the bank at the meeting of the directors.

When the old Bank of the Northwest, the father of the First National Bank, was organized fifty years ago, Mr. Hitt was too late in making his application for a block of the stock which he wanted very much. He and Edward Pier, one of the founders of the bank, were firm friends and through their friendship Mr. Hitt's insistence was soon rewarded by an opportunity being provided for him to purchase a block of the stock amounting to \$1,000. This original block of stock he has always retained and in later years he had added considerably to his holdings.

Mr. Hitt is 82 years old and he has resided in Oakfield since 1848, or fifty-seven years. He has always been prominent in local affairs and was a member of the legislature in 1858. He was elected president of the Old Settlers' Club of Fond du Lac county when it was organized in 1904.

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### An Oil Mill Once Here.

In the early days of Fond du Lac, Gen. C. S. Hamilton, known to everybody here as Capt. Hamilton, had an oil mill here and made a large amount of linseed oil. It was located on West Division street, on a portion of the land now owned by the Gurney Refrigerator Company. Hydraulic pressure was used to press the oil out of the ground flax seed, and the amount of pressure was almost inconceivable, the material coming out of the pressure cylinder as hard as a board and as dry as baked sawdust. After the war the mill was moved to Milwaukee, where Gen. Hamilton afterwards resided.

### A Grand Masquerade.

The first masquerade given by the Fond du Lac Turners for the benefit of the German and English Academy, was in Amory Hall, February 21, 1858, and was one of the largest and most brilliant parties ever seen in this city. It was not wholly a German affair, but the people of all nationalities were there to the extent that Amory Hall was so crowded that dancing was impossible. A small space would be cleared for the dancers, but it would be filled again before the committee could get twenty feet away. About everything in society was there, from the low down Indian wigwam and negro hut, to the most brilliant court scenes of Europe and the high social circle of this country. Seemingly about every condition of people was represented. The hall was new and attractive, the music was the best to be obtained and the school was a very popular one under excellent management and was patronized by leading families of the city. The greatest care was taken that no objectionable person should be allowed to enter the hall at these masquerades, or that distasteful characters should appear. And so for many years these functions were very popular and largely attended. But like everything else the time came for a change. For some reason the school went into a decline and the attendance was so small that it could not be continued. Prof. Schmidt went to Appleton, where he was killed by the cars, and the grand days of the German and English Academy had fully passed away. It is understood that this was not the result of bad management of poor teachers, but on account of small attendance. It was a steady decline for more than thirty years. In its prosperous days, the school of the German and English Academy in Fond du Lac, was believed to be the best in the state.

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### Mr. Beeson as a Musician.

One of the boys at one time in Beeson's Job Printing office, was the possessor of that primitive little instrument known as a flageolet, and Mr. Beeson would sometimes amuse himself with it, though he could not play a tune. One day Jay Hall came along pretty full of whiskey, as usual, and offered Beeson a dollar to be applied to charity, if he would play as loud as he could, the tune he could play best. Beeson puffed his cheeks and went at it, making lots of noise but no tune. Jay refused to pay on the ground that it was not a tune, but after a long argument they compromised on the payment of fifty cents.

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### Old Fashioned Democrats.

In the early days of city and county, D. R. Curran, D. E. Hoskins, John B. Wilber, John Bonnell, J. L. D. Eycleshimer, Frank D. McCarty, E. W. Drury, Geo. W. Weikert, John B. Macy, Amos Reed, H. K. Laughlin, Geo. W. Mitchell, Capt. D. P. Mapes, S. M. Smead, Aaron Walters and many others, were democrats that never swerved from the old democratic path.

## ADDRESS BY H. E. SWETT

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Address Before the Old Settlers' Club, September 2, 1904, at the Fair Grounds in the City of Fond du Lac, Wis.

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"Ladies and Gentlemen: The subject which I have been given to speak upon before you today, is somewhat formidable in its phraseology. It was probably assigned to me in the spirit with which Johnny set thirty-five eggs under a pet hen. He reported the fact to his mother, who exclaimed, 'Why Johnny, you don't expect her to cover as many eggs as that, do you?' Johnny replied, 'Of course not, but I wanted to see the darned old thing spread herself.'

"The elements of civilization which have drawn so many of the best people of the world, who have made Fond du Lac county one of the best in the grand state of Wisconsin."

"That is the subject to which I invite your attention."

"The Creator endowed Fond du Lac county with a fruitful soil and blessed it with a kindly climate. True, the climate is rigorous and changeable, and the surface in places is rough, but the productions are varied and bountiful, and each year there has been a crop for harvesting. Then, too, a little more than fifty years ago, this land was free and unoccupied."

"These conditions were a standing invitation for the thrifty to come here and profit by them. Consequently, the more pushing and enterprising of those who were toiling for a bare livelihood on the niggardly slopes of New England came here."

"Tales of the richness of the great valley to which this county belongs, were carried even across the ocean to Europe and they inspired with hope many of those struggling there under the weight of poverty and lack of opportunity. It was the progressive ones who came here from those different places. They expended their energies in developing the new country, and the impress of their character still remains. They were courageous and industrious. They were ambitious and intelligent. They were temperate and moral. They were the best in the world as settlers. They made our country one of the finest of the richest agricultural belt within the territory of the United States. Our people are prosperous and their prosperity is evidenced by fine farms, fine buildings, fine stock, fine fields, fine carriages, fine horses, fine clothes and fine times, but this desirable condition was brought about by long years of grinding toil and pinching economy. The task of making farms, such as lie about us today, out of the forest which was here fifty years ago, was a Herculean one. To many of you this statement is freighted with meaning that words cannot express."

"Turn your recollections back to the light of the great log fires, where the riches of the forest which had been slowly accumulating

for you throughout ages, were dissipated in smoke in order that you might use the soil. To you, then, those magnificent gatherings of children of the sunlight and soil were but incumbrances and obstacles, but you have since learned to sigh for the treasure so wasted.

"Allusion to those log fires must arouse vivid recollections with those of you whose thatches have been whitened by the many snows that have fallen since the fires died away. You see the long strings of panting oxen, yoked in pairs, and straining under the lash while tugging the breaking plows. You hear the cracking of roots and the rasp of stones as the great plows tear through the soil. You see the blackened stubs and the thickly dotting ash heaps. You smell the odors that arise from the newly turned furrows.

"Things were different then from now. Life was all about you exuberant, impetuous and warm. Everything was young and vigorous, even the sun shone brighter. Your hearts were strong for work, and you did work; yes, work, work, work. In the season allotted for that purpose to all tenants of the soil, you planted, sowed, reaped, threshed and stored away. All life was busy then, but after the foliage had changed from green to gorgeous hues and then turned brown and dead, after the winds had frolicked with the leaves and had strewn them about carelessly; after the rains had patted them down on the ground and fastened them there, the frost embraced the soil and the growing things in it rested under a blanket of snow until springtime called them to activity again. But you did not rest. Day after day the ring of your axes echoed on the biting air, and one after another the great trees fell. You cut them into log lengths, you split them into rails, you made them into cord wood and you sawed them into lumber. You built them into houses and you built them into barns, and sometimes you wastefully burned them to clear the land for plowing. Those scenes will never recur. Conditions have changed. You have seen the evolution which has lifted almost all the labors of farming from the shoulders of men and put them upon the shoulders of horses. The sickle has been replaced by the self-binder, and the flail and husking peg by the steam thresher and corn shredder.

"What brought about these things? What is it that keeps the great ocean of humanity ever restless? It is the desire for gain, for improvement. Desire for improvement is the inspiration of progress. It brought our settlers here. And it, coupled with the exercise of industry, intelligence, courage and economy, accomplished the results of which we are so justly proud."

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### Some Straightening Done.

A crookeder stream than was the east branch of the Fond du Lac river between Western avenue bridge and Division street, in a state of nature could hardly be imagined. It twisted and turned and hardly was a straight rod to be found. A good job was made of it when the city straightened the channel as we see it now. The work done on it by the city was a necessity.

# TALES OF PIONEER DAYS

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Embracing Some of the Remembrances of People and of Interesting  
Events in the Pioneer Days of Fond du Lac County.

By Madame de Neveu.

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## Scout's Lost Dauphin Story.

Some of you, doubtless have heard of the pretended "Lost Dauphin" of France, whom Mrs. Catherwood made the hero of her novel "Lazarre." It is almost certain that the son of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette died in his infancy. I am confident that those of you who believe that Eleazar Williams was that son, would have changed your minds regarding his noble birth, had you seen him as many dozens of times as I. He was a little, black, half-breed Indian and looked more like an Indian than a full blooded one. His wife was named Jerdin before her marriage and was quarter Indian, her father being a white man and her mother a half-breed. If any of you care for proof of Eleazar's birth, let her read a book written by Arthur Little and called (I believe) "The Living Churchman." This book declares Eleazar Williams was the son of a daughter of an Episcopal missionary in New York. She was stolen, with the rest of the family, by the Oneida Indians and carried to the western part of New York, where they lived for years. After searching many years, Mr. Williams found his wife. His daughter was then married to a chief and had several children. She refused to leave her husband at that late day, but gave her oldest child to her father. He educated the boy for the ministry, giving him his own name. Eleazar, Jr., came to Green Bay as a missionary and when Prince de Joinville came to Green Bay he and his suite nearly died with laughter over Eleazar's pretensions. After bowing and scraping before "His Majesty," each man would rush from the room and fairly roll on the floor in convulsions over the calm way he accepted their homage. It stands to reason that had he been the true claimant to the throne, the Prince would never have come into the wilderness to seek him. All of these Frenchmen carried the farce to the end, giving him presents and making him think they believed in him.

## Indians Were Friendly.

Buena Vista was in the early days crossed by the Indian trail which led from Milwaukee to Lake Superior and almost daily Indians passed. Usually they stopped and asked for food which they would receive in a dish and would eat out of doors, sitting on the ground near the house. If the weather was stormy they ate in the house, usually squatting on the floor. If I had nothing cooked, I would give them potatoes, squashes and a kettle, and they would cook and eat the vegetables out of doors. In return for our kindnesses

to them the Indians would very frequently leave large pieces of bear meat, venison, fish, etc., for us and though many were the times they found no one at home, and they would enter and eat, yet never a thing did they ever steal from us, and later, when we saw them, they would always tell us whom we had entertained. Sometimes we would only be aware of their presence by seeing them peering in the windows and the next minute, always waiving ceremony, they would walk in the house and with many grunts, the sounds of which are unspellable, they would point to their mouths—that required no translation. Some of them could understand a little English. I finally grew to understand some of their words, but could not talk, while my husband, getting my halting translations, could talk to them but could not understand them. Another version of Jack Spratt and his wife.

One day a one-eyed Indian named Pe-nasse-cisse, walked in, took a cup from the table and after drinking some water accidentally hit the cup and broke it. I motioned it was nothing, but weeks later he brought me a beautiful piece of bear meat, thereby proving his keen sense of obligation, for it must have meant much to him to give the bear meat, as he was considered a dependent by the other Indians, living largely on their bounty, as when hunting he could not aim correctly, having but one eye. Bear meat was thought to keep best hanging out of doors against the shady side of the house, and there we hung this piece. It was seen by Messrs. Klock and Weikert, merchants in Fond du Lac, who happened to come to our house. Mr. Klock said he loved the meat and asked me if I would give him a piece. I told him to help himself and he cut off about eight pounds. The two men kept bachelor's quarters above their store and later reported to me a feast on the meat in their rooms for themselves and seven or eight friends. Mr. Klock was the father of Mrs. H. F. Whitcomb, of Milwaukee.

### Scorned the Tomahawk.

One fall my husband had gone to see how the Indians were paid at Lake Poygan (then called Poywaygan.) I was alone with the exception of my sister Kate and my baby girl about six months old, during his absence of ten days, he making the trip on horseback. One day while he was away, four Indians with bodies bare to their waists and hideously painted, passing on their way home to Milwaukee from the pay grounds, entered the house, after peering in the windows, and asked for food. I gave them plenty to eat, after which they begged for tobacco, pipes, soap, etc., which I, tired of hearing—as we shopped at this time in Green Bay—and refused to give them anything more. One man then calmly took his tomahawk and standing so close to me that his fringed leather leggings would touch my dress as I sat sewing, began to sharpen it, testing the edge frequently and looking at me to see how I was taking it. He soon saw, for I jumped up and told him to puck-a-chee and he, seeing wrath instead of fear, did puck-a-chee, and when outside the house, roared with laughter, each man fired a salute of one gun, mounted his horse and rode away. My courageous sister in the meantime, had run up stairs



implored me "for God's sake give them anything and everything." She had carried my baby up also and then had promptly fainted. Many were the threats she made of "telling mother" how fool-hardy I was, but I had a good laugh at her ever after.

Laughter was not always the order of the day, however, for one day I was badly scared—an Indian, Shus-ko-meen by name—a fearful man who boasted of his butchery and savagery at Fort Dearborn, and whom I had seen at Green Bay, walked in my house the first spring I was here and asked for the Witch-e-mo-com-on (Americans). I looked out of the window and pointed to the corner of the house. He simply flew out of the house, jumped on his horse and disappeared forever. My husband was some distance away, but I dared not let the man suspect this as he was such a fiend. He had evidently just robbed a clothes line, for his only garments were moccasins and a white suit of canton flannel under clothes, wearing no hat and with hair braided and tied with string, the braids starting from over the forehead on each side and joining in one braid at the back.

Another day Tot-on-a-wa and another Indian came and left a bottle of whiskey for safe keeping, motioning they were going away hunting all winter and when they returned would be very tired and then would want the whiskey; so I took them to my pantry and showed them where I put the bottle on a high shelf. Next spring I came home, after spending the day with friends, and found four fine mallards on the table and the whiskey gone.

The Indians while hunting deer, would frequently kill does with fawns and not having any use for the fawns, would always give them away. At different times they gave me seven. One I named Dickie. He was a smart little fellow and whenever I asked him to come and kiss me, would lick my face. When I told my husband Dickie would do this, he laughed at the idea, so one day as my husband was sitting in the doorway I called Dickie, and he not only came to kiss me but leaped over my husband's head in order to get to me.

Another fawn I had, while in its stable one day, was attacked by a wolf. I went to the rescue armed with a hatchet, but the wolf ran. I noticed that he limped and the next day our neighbor's dogs, three miles away, killed a wolf and as it had lost part of one foot. I knew 'twas my wolf.

I was always fond of pets and had many and it may interest you to hear of a tiny pet pig I had. I cared for and raised it, naming it Sally. She was sent away several times, being a great nuisance, but like a bad penny would always turn up. What do you think of a pig swimming the Fox river to get home? She was very clever and once thought she would do a little temperance work and went into a saloon in the village. The man in charge tried to eject her and she objected, attacking him savagely. Screams were heard and a crowd collected. Some one who knew her ran for my brother, who went in, finding Sally leaping for a man who had mounted a table. His wooden legs were within her reach and they were fairly well bitten. She followed John meekly away when he called her and scolded her. If I had her now I should change her name to "Carrie."

During our first years on the farm our calves were frequently attacked by wolves, but we always managed to rescue them, but our neighbors, Messrs. Platt and Vincent, were not so fortunate as they had some killed by bears and wolves. Occasionally at night on the hill where our house now stands, the wolves would gather, and many and blood-curdling were their cries. Sometimes my husband would take his French hunting horn and during lulls in their serenades, would play to them. They would listen in absolute silence until the music would again sound. His would be the solo, theirs the chorus. In these early days wild strawberries were very plentiful, and frequently I have picked a bushel on the stems in about two hours.

After some years my dear friend, Mrs. Everett Hoskins would come and pick berries with me. She always brought her son, then a creeping baby. The then baby is now known to you as your ex-Mayor F. B. Hoskins. One day while gathering berries, about a mile from home, I lost my bearings and as the afternoon was very cloudy I believe I would have been obliged to stay out all night had I not heard our cow bell in the distance. Knowing that calling was of no use, I followed the sound of the bell. When I reached the cattle I started driving them, and in a short time they had led me safely home. Our cows roamed everywhere for there was no fence between here and Milwaukee.

### When a Woman Will, She Will.

One day when I was about fifteen years old, my mother found she was "out" of tea. We were away from home in a sugar camp, and always being ready for anything that came up, I offered to go to Green Bay for some. This was in the early spring, and as the ice was still on the river and no snow on the land, my venturesome spirit made me induce my driver to take a sleigh and go the six miles on the ice. We covered the distance in safety, but I should not like to state how fast our pony had to trot, but trot it did and fast, too, for the ice swayed with us and the spot we were on the entire distance was bent down "V" shape. Returning home that night was an impossibility, so I remained with friends and walked back the next day under the escort of a boy a trifle older than I. When we reached what is now the first lock we had to cross the river, which was narrow at this point. The river was now entirely open and a raging torrent here where it was dammed. A mill at this spot was in course of construction and the frame only was up. On the river side the frame held discourse with the opposite bank by means of ordinary planks in some way fastened in a horizontal position. The boy with me insisted that he alone should cross, but I indignantly asserted my intention of crossing with or without him (when a woman will, she will, was true even then you see.) So I climbed up forty feet and then walked over on the beams, holding onto braces whenever I could get hold of one and all the boy could do was to keep shouting to me to "not look down." The water was foaming and boiling down below us and very deep, too, as you may realize when you remember that huge ships pass the place now. We finally reached the planks and then the land,

and if I did not confess to a sense of relief, it was because I would not—but mother received both her tea and daughter in safety.

Many were the rides I took during my life. The last one was when I was about 78. Regretting my refusal to go driving with the family one beautiful October morning, and being somewhat lonely, I decided to take a horseback ride. So I ordered the saddle horse brought to the door and I mounted and started away. When about a mile down the road I met Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hamilton, and from their laughter and surprise, I judged it advisable not to let my daughters see me. So I hurried home. I might not have done so if I had liked the saddle. I broke the news of my ride to the family by saying I wanted a new saddle, for I did not enjoy riding on that one. We did get the new saddle, but I never found the opportunity to ride again, but if my sight were good, you would some of you see me on horse back again even though I am 86.

Our lives through all these years were far from luxurious ones and were more than full of work, for help was scarce and we house-keepers had to be our own dressmakers and tailors and no sewing machines for years. All the clothes we wore our own busy hands had to cut and sew.

Gov. Tallmadge came four or five years after we did. Gov. Doty had a house built when we came but he was here very little. It was he who told my husband, in Detroit, of our little lake.

I so well remember in 1840 the numbers of tiny wild ducks there were upon the lake. We had only a dug-out canoe, one of the tippiest things in the world, but I would venture out in it and paddle in the midst of the ducklings, but where the duck had been I only found the water—they would give quick little dives and escape. I tried many times to catch them but never succeeded.

No human voices, save our own, disturbed the echoes of our little lake. Loons would call, ducks and geese would alight without fear and swim and dive with no one to disturb them. Can you imagine the beauty and serenity of it all? "My love for nature is as old as I," and I often live over in memory all that sweet time in the long ago.

### A Song of Long Ago.

A song of long ago:

Sing it lightly—sing it low—

Sing it softly—like the lisping of the lips

We used to know,

When our baby—laughter spilled

From the glad hearts ever filled

With music blithe as robin ever trilled!

Let the fragrant summer breeze,

And the leaves of locust trees,

And the apple buds and blossoms, and the wings of honey bees,

All palpitate with glee,

Till the happy harmony

Brings back each childish joy to you and me.

Let the eyes of fancy turn  
 Where the tumbled pippins burn  
 Like embers in the orchard's lap of tangled grass and fern,—  
 There let the old path wind  
 In and out and on behind  
 The cider-press that chuckles as we grind.

Blend in the song the moan  
 Of the dove that grieves alone,  
 And the wild whir of the locust, and the bumble's drowsy drone;  
 And the low of cows that call  
 Through the pasture bars when all  
 The landscape fades away at evenfall

Then far away and clear,  
 Through the dusky atmosphere,  
 Let the wailing of the killdee be the only sound we hear;  
 O sad and sweet and low  
 As the memory may know  
 Is the glad, pathetic song of Long Ago!

—Riley.

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### Some of the Ripon Pioneers.

Ripon in its earliest days had many men of note and some hustlers. A few of them were members of the Phalanx, but the larger number were settlers who came after that organization had practically ceased. Many of these settlers became noted in state and nation. Here are the names of some of these Ripon pioneers:

Capt. D. P. Mapes.	Geo. W. Mitchell.	H. B. Beynon.
Col. O. H. LaGrange.	A. B. Pratt.*	Samuel Sumner.
Col. Ed. Daniels.	Benj. Pratt.	L. M. Carlisle.
Maj. H. C. Eggleston.	J. L. Horner.	J. Woodruff.
Maj. H. S. Town.	A. M. Steels.	K. Lindsley.
Maj. A. E. Bovay.	Byron Town.	O. P. Reed.
Surgeon H. L. Barnes.*	Sam Fargo.	D. P. Imson.
E. L. Runals.	J. J. Foote.	Abram Thomas.
Jerre Dobbs.*	Col. B. Pinckney.	J. B. Barlow.
W. M. Taggart.	Dr. A. Everhard.	Geo. Bushnell.
Wm. Workman.	Dr. J. Rogers.	Thos. Ford.
O. J. Clark.*	David Greenway.	S. B. Fobes.
Put. Mason.	Nathan Hunter.	C. F. Hammond.
R. D. Mason.	D. F. Shepard.	Chas. Combs.
William Starr.	J. Bowen.	James Lambert.

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### Winnebago Furniture Company.

C. J. L. Meyer began making furniture at this well known plant but was not successful. In 1886, Maj. E. R. Herren and C. V. McMillan, of Stevens Point, bought the Meyer plant and formed the above company, which has been remarkably successful. As business men they have no superiors and the very large business is so managed as to be one of the solid enterprises in Fond du Lac. The plant is always a busy place. As to business reliability it has no superior in the city.

In this year 1905, all those are dead except the five marked \*

# QUAKER ABOLITIONISTS

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Something About These Peculiar People, of Which Fond du Lac  
Has Had a Few in Times Past.

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Speaking of J. A. Smith, founder of the Fond du Lac Commonwealth, as a Quaker Abolitionist, it occurs to the writer that there are many people now who do not know the real meaning of either of these terms. We have drifted away from these people and we now hear little about either. The Quakers are a religious sect who believe in keeping as near to Bible times and practices as possible. They use Bible language, ignore styles in dress, number the days of the week instead of naming them, believe the gospel to be free, hence do not pay ministers for preaching, invariably speak of churches as meeting houses and altogether are a strictly honest and truthful class of people. There are some of them left in Philadelphia, a few colonies in North Carolina, a large colony in North Dakota and a congregation in Minneapolis and a few other cities. In central Ohio a few country congregations are left, but the Quakers have largely disappeared and a great loss it is.

An abolitionist as understood in times ante-dating the war, was one who demanded the abolition of slavery as a great national wrong. The emancipation proclamation was issued by President Lincoln in 1863, since which time little has been known or heard of abolitionists. There was a time when it required considerable courage to be known by this term. Abolitionist speakers were egged and mobbed. An abolitionist was likely to have the doors of his house daubed with very offensive material, or any sort of trick played upon him personally. The democratic and whig parties were both pro-slavery, and the first serious move made by the abolitionists in politics was in 1840, when they ran James G. Burney for president. In 1844, in the Polk and Clay campaign, there was a great awakening and as the south seemed determined to extend slave territory, the people of the north stirred themselves to resist it. In 1848 came the free soil party and a man could with safety declare himself to be an abolitionist. In 1852 with the advent in congress of measures for the admission to the union of Kansas and Nebraska and the efforts of southern members to force slavery into them, the whig party had drifted somewhat toward freedom, but not strong enough to control the party and Gen. Winfield Scott met the opposition of the free soilers with John P. Hale, now the party of the abolitionists, who were much stronger than ever before in their work against slavery. But the whig party could continue no longer and was not heard from in 1856. In the meantime the democratic champion, Stephen A. Douglas, appeared with his doctrine of "Squatter Sovereignty," which meant to allow the people to vote out there, and vote slavery up or vote it down.

Here the whig party disappeared in 1856 and John C. Fremont marked the advent of the republican party. From 1840 the opponents of slavery increased in number and were now able to retire one of the great parties of the country. The democratic party was still loyal to the south, and so able to elect their candidate, James Buchanan, to the presidency, but were retired thereafter for a quarter of a century. The people arose in their might in 1860, elected Abraham Lincoln, and then came the war of the rebellion, an attempt to destroy the union to found a southern confederacy to save slavery. But after four years of the bloodiest and most gigantic war in history, the abolitionists and their freedom loving successes were the victors. President Lincoln did not issue the proclamation of emancipation until 1863, and after he had exhausted all efforts for peace that were honorable to all concerned. The old abolitionists bore their trials to the end with all meekness and fortitude. All this is what the term means as applied to national politics. We all rejoice now that there is no more of those troubles and that a man is now free to talk as he will in all parts of this great country, one of the most powerful and enlightened on top of the earth. He is no longer expected to make excuses for slavery or for anything foul that may come to nations.

The "underground railroad." No doubt you have often read about it and heard about it, but do you know really what it means? In the forties the writer lived on the main line of the great underground railroad, and hundreds of times did he in the night hear the wagons or cars go by his home in central Ohio. It was a means of help for worthy and persecuted negroes to escape from slavery in Kentucky to freedom in Canada. This line was run largely, in fact almost wholly by Quakers, who were abolitionists almost to a man. Transportation was almost wholly at night, the sidetracks for the day being in Quaker settlements, there being at that time several between the Ohio river and the lakes. The only secret about it seemed to be when the wagons would be upon the road. There might be intervals of several weeks or nearly every day. This practice gave ground for the main argument in congress for the fugitive slave law signed by President Fillmore in 1850, which caused great excitement, but in the end did the slave power far more harm than good.

The fugitive slave law troubles have a local application to Wisconsin and to Fond du Lac county, since we had a taste of it in the Glover rescue, the arrest of Booth and Rycraft for violation of its provisions, and the taking of S. M. Booth from the custody of the United States marshal and secreting him near Ripon. Guns were taken from the armory of the Fond du Lac guards in 1858, with which to defend Booth if necessary. The situation showed many earnest abolitionists here at that time and particularly at Ripon.

It is not out of place to state here that Edward Beeson came from Pennsylvania Quaker stock, and to the day of his death was a believer in Quaker practices, though he did not use their language. In religious thought he was more of a Quaker than anything else. The proper name is Friends, the word Quaker being but a nickname bestowed upon them.

There was another term frequently used half a century ago, but is seldom heard now. A person is now spoken of as honest or a thief, as truthful or a liar, as straight or crooked, right or wrong, genuine or a fraud. The word hypocrite or hypocrisy seems to have lost its old time significance. There is no middle ground now to give it the old time application. Extremes of character rule now. It is hardly known now what a hypocrite is, but there is no mistake about the modern designations of liar, thief and fraud. We cannot object to the words but only to the daily application of them to persons.

And the methods of expression and terms now used are not really the successors of those of a half century ago. Old ones have dropped out and entire new ones coined. The older people of today only know what some expressions mean by having been here during the period of manufacture of the new ones. Slang adjectives have appeared by scores and some of them have been forced into permanent adoption. Still it goes on and our children fifty years hence may be doing the same sort of work we have been at in the coinage of words in the last half century. The Quaker is almost unknown, the work of the abolitionist has ceased, the hypocrite is unknown by that name.

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#### **A Nephew of Gen. Longstreet.**

Gen. Longstreet, of confederate fame in the war of the rebellion, once had a nephew who was a resident of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. Our member of the Longstreet family resided in the town of Osceola, and while putting in a claim of being a farmer, was not much of a farmer after all. He was more of a schemer and speculator than farmer. He was a good talker and of course a strong pro-slavery democrat, preferring southern ideas to those of the north. He was proud of his uncle, Gen. Longstreet.

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#### **Alonzo Raymond's House.**

Alonzo Raymond, a very early settler here and the first man married in Fond du Lac county, built a house which seemed large at that time, at the corner of Marr and Eighth streets, and was often talked to about building so far out of reach of neighbors. He said he guessed it would be all right after a while, and so it was. How many can remember now of a time when there were not plenty of neighbors in that vicinity.

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#### **Imitation Stone Made Here.**

In 1876, imitation stone was first introduced in Fond du Lac by John C. Bishop, who accepted the agency of a factory where the stone was moulded to any size or shape desired for building or cemetery purposes. The material was colored to any color desired. Why it was not a success it is difficult to say, but such was the case. A like material is now made here.

### The Old Lathrop Ellis House.

Lathrop Ellis was a many years' resident surveyor and civil engineer in Fond du Lac. He was a number of times elected county surveyor and did a great deal of work in that line when not a county official. His home for many years was the small house that until a few years ago stood on Marr street, next north of W. W. Clark. Mr. Ellis moved to Nebraska and resided near Nebraska City until his death a few years ago.

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### Banks in the County.

First Wisconsin Bank, North Fond du Lac.—Capital \$27,500. S. D. Wyatt, President; Dr. D. J. Pullen, Vice-President; Fred Givens, Cashier.

First National Bank of Campbellsport, Wis.—Capital \$25,000. S. J. Barber, President; John Loeb, Vice-President; H. A. Bacon, Cashier.

Bank of J. R. Foster & Son, Brandon.—Capital \$50,000. J. R. Foster, President; J. W. Foster, Cashier.

Bank of Oakfield.—Capital \$20,000. F. J. Bristol, President; C. G. Morgan, Vice-President; W. E. Bristol, Cashier; Clara Orvis, Assistant Cashier.

Rosendale State Bank.—Capital not listed. A. Salisbury, President; C. L. Hill, Vice-President; Frank Bowe, Cashier.

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### The First Bookbindery.

Fond du Lac's first bookbindery was started by J. R. & J. W. Partridge, over their drug store in the centre of the old Darling block, in 1855. Ed. Sickles, killed in the great railroad accident on the opening of the Northwestern road, was the binder in charge, and his brother-in-law, the late Col. C. H. DeGroat, was his assistant. All of the binding for the Northern Division of the Northwestern road, was done there, and of course neatly and well done, as T. F. Strong, Jr., had charge of the work for the road, and "Tim" could not tolerate anything slouchy. After the death of Mr. Sickles, the bindery was sold to J. A. Smith, of the Commonwealth, and an Englishman named Aldred, was the binder several years. Much of his work is now in the Register's office at the court house.

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### An Early Door Factory.

In 1855, on the lot next east of the armory of Co. E, now occupied by the residence of Mr. Swett, was located a shop in which doors were made, and was probably the first door factory in Fond du Lac. Doors were made before this date, but not in a factory as a business. Though of small capacity, this was really a door factory. It was owned and conducted by Norman Whitacre, the early date groceryman, and it was one of the first places in which Solon Edson worked after he came here, and he can tell of many interesting and amusing incidents connected with the work there.



# THE PRINTER EDITOR

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## How the Early Days' Print Shop Men Had To Work Their Way. Difficulties They Encountered.

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When he came to Wisconsin in 1850, from Ohio, A. T. Glaze had already served time as a printing office apprentice. He was skilled in any and all departments of printing office work. A severe run of scarlet fever compelled him to abandon the course at Heidelberg after two and one-half of the four years, and thus equipped mentally and mechanically, he came to Fond du Lac and entered the office of the Journal, established by Henning & Hooker, in 1846, but at this time owned by Edward Beeson. The early day work, editorial as well as mechanical, of Mr. Glaze, may be seen in the files of the old Journal in the rooms of the public library. At this time competent printers were not numerous and material could not be obtained as now, so the services of Mr. Glaze were often in demand in the region round about, in starting new papers. He was called even to Oshkosh, more than once, to make rollers, cover tympon frames of hand presses, cutting rules and leads for first forms and adjusting them, and by no means a pleasant job, as we had no rule or lead cutter, the former being cut with a file and the latter with a knife. It may be of interest to many to state the fact that the present Oshkosh Northwestern was started as a weekly by the Messenger boys and Mr. Glaze made the rollers and helped them to adjust the forms. He made two or three sets of rollers for the old Oshkosh Courier, owned by Reed & Nevitt. He went to Berlin once, overland, to assist in putting the Marquette Mercury afloat. There was no Green Lake county then—it was part of Marquette county. After this he went there to help Uri Carruth with the Spectator, and made the trip on the steamboat Badger State, Capt. W. A. Knapp. Early in 1862, he made rollers and assisted A. P. Mapes in launching a paper that not long after was thrown into the street by some of the men of Ed. Daniel's First Wisconsin Cavalry for alleged disloyalty. He was once sent for to assist in putting afloat a paper at Kingston, but sent Walworth Chapel to do the work. The well known early day country lawyer, Rufus P. Eaton, by some means got hold of the idea that there ought to be a paper at Pequot Village, near what is now Winnebago Park, got his old press from Edwards, at Oshkosh, and maybe half enough type, and sent for Mr. Glaze to help him out. But before getting things in shape to start his foolish enterprise, sold the outfit to Flavius Josephus Mills, and it went to Sheboygan and into the office of the Lake Shore Journal. In 1852 Mr. Beeson sold the Journal to M. J. Thomas, son-in-law of John B. Macy, and resulted in the change to Fond du Lac Union to aid in the election of Mr. Macy to congress. The Journal was dormant for a while, but was put afloat again by Kingman Flint, son of Judge Flint, and S. D.

Stanchfield, uncle of our present S. B. Stanchfield. But its light went out again after a year or two, as did that of the Union, all of which was in the interest of Smead's Democratic Press. But the old Journal could not rest in peace, and was revived by Tim Strong, Jr., one of the best educated men Fond du Lac ever had. It drifted into the hands of James Russell and thence to Edward Beeson again. In his old age Mr. Beeson sold it to Jake Bloom and last of all it was absorbed by the Reporter, where it still rests. With many, indeed most of these changes, Mr. Glaze had much to do, editorially and mechanically, but the difficulties encountered were far less than those of the early days. The Fond du Lac Commonwealth, resulting from the consolidation of the Western Freeman and Fountain City Herald, in the hands of J. A. Smith, in 1854, the Saturday Reporter started in 1862 by J. J. Beeson, son of Edward Beeson, and the Ripon Commonwealth, founded upon the ruins of the Prairie City Record in 1864, by A. T. Glaze, all successful newspapers of today, each in their infancy had their clothing adjusted by Mr. Glaze.

The job printers really had more difficulties than the newspaper printers. The latter, when they had the forms once adjusted, had only to distribute the used type and make up with that newly set, lock the forms and go to press, but the job printer was constantly encountering something new, and being short of type he had often to cut lines of wood type, use home made borders, patch rules, cut rules with a file, and leads with a knife, use a piece of plank to distribute the ink on the rollers, make a paper cutter of a shoe knife and coarse stone and many similar things in all parts of the work, and though a very good printer, he may be horrified to find a hideous job, the result of his best efforts. All these troubles might come every day, but the newspaper man faced them but weekly. Yet how many of the printers of today would care to face either task. But fifty years ago it had to be done in Fond du Lac or not have a newspaper or printing office at all. It is not needful to face these troubles now, no matter how near the printer may go to the pioneer border. Conditions are different. Material is more plentiful, easier obtained, in greater variety and cheaper. The printer of the long ago was expected to be competent for every part of the work, today they are mostly pressmen, machine men, make-up men, and general utility men. Type setting is mostly done on machines, except headings and display, and it is daily becoming more general. Editors in the old times wrote up everything that came his way, no matter on what subject. Now they are divided into general, local, news, society, sporting, financial, etc. The old time fellow was expected to be up in all these. This is written, not to criticise present methods but to show the difference between old times and the present. Under conditions as they now exist, old methods would doubtless be impractical.

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After having served as County Treasurer, Gen. John Potter said that the humiliation of getting the nomination, the expense of the election and annoyance of giving the bonds, was too much to ask of an honest man.

# HELPED TO MAKE HISTORY

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History Making was Active in Pioneer Days and Here is Some of  
It to Interest and Amuse People in Our Day.

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## County Seat Contest.

Few people now living in Fond du Lac have remembrance or knowledge of the contest had in the forties to secure and hold the county seat. Taycheedah put up a strong fight. Dr. Darling sold lots for \$25, or gave a lot to anyone who would build on it. These lots might be selected anywhere on his land, and this liberal policy brought many settlers. But this did not settle the matter, although it helped much. Taycheedah owes its defeat to the river channel, now little better than a slough, from Scott street to the lake. Lake navigation was a great thing at that time, and the Fond du Lac river channel was deemed the natural harbor at the south end of the lake. It was argued that vessels must seek this channel for safety. The people were not able to foresee the fact that in just ten years the railroads would kill this lake navigation, and that our boasted Fond du Lac river would be almost valueless. But at the time of which we write, that channel served its purpose well for Fond du Lac. It was a harbor (please don't laugh), but how much of a harbor is it now? For more than forty years the harbor idea could be treated as a joke, yet it brought the county seat to Fond du Lac.

During the time of the controversy, Taycheedah was a prosperous village. There were two hotels, two or three stores, machine shops, carpenter shops, cabinet shops, harness shops, a mill, a brewery, a pier out into the lake for vessels, and various other things that go to the making of a prosperous village. The chief justice of the supreme court lived there, the lieutenant governor of the state lived there, and it had a number of prominent men as citizens. But all this soon changed when the county seat was lost. One hotel came to Fond du Lac on the ice behind eight yoke of oxen, several houses came overland, and since then many of the old houses have burned and others gone to ruin, and today, but for the summer resort homes, the village would be in very poor health. But who will venture to say that the location would not have been a beautiful one for a city. The views from the slopes of the ledge are grand, and the varying landscape most desirable for homes. Fond du Lac gained the day and prospered. Taycheedah lost and sank to ruin.

## Was a Close Contest.

Previous to 1856, the territory now included in Marquette and Green Lake counties was in one county under the name of Marquette, with Montello then, as now, the county seat. But trouble came over

the county seat question, which was only settled by dividing the county and creating the county of Green Lake. But now came trouble in the new county. Princeton, Berlin, Marquette, Kingston and Dartford were all in the field, but it finally went to Dartford. Ripon now came into the field. A bill to detach the towns of Ripon, Metomen and Alto from Fond du Lac county and add them to Green Lake, failed in the legislature, but a bill did pass authorizing the people of Fond du Lac county to vote on a proposition to detach the town of Ripon from this county and attach it to Green Lake. This proposition was voted upon at the fall election of 1859, and resulted in a majority against it of 107, the vote being 2,604 for and 2,711 against. But now came another contest. The legislature directed that the ballot should read: "For Detaching Ripon," or "Against Detaching Ripon." Some friends of Ripon had tickets printed reading "Against Division," and some of them were voted and returned as cast. In the canvass of the votes Ripon contended that the law fixed a specific form of ballot and that those votes could not be legally counted against the proposition. The canvassers contended that the statutes directed that the evident intention of the voter should govern, and that the evident intention of the voters in this case was to vote against the proposition, and so canvassed them. The case went to the supreme court and was so decided there. This ended the efforts of Ripon to become the county seat of Green Lake county, and the whole subject has now gone so far into the past that it is forgotten except by a few. Forty-five years of peace have now reigned on that subject, and it is likely to continue.

Looking at the matter candidly and fairly, no one can blame Capt. Mapes, E. L. Runals, Jerre Dobbs, Mr. Workman and others for their determined efforts in behalf of Ripon, for the lay of the land and conditions were such that if the effort had carried, Ripon would unquestionably have been the county seat of Green Lake county.

### Made Wood Type.

In 1849, Uncle M. Farnsworth had a shop on East First street, where T. O'Connell's carpenter shop is now, in which he made grain cradles and scythe snaths and did general tinkering. He had a great variety of tools and much bench room, and he being a very kind-hearted old gentleman, was free to allow others to use the tools and shop room. It was a favorite place of resort for those who desired to do work of their own. He seemed to be glad to have those developing patents or doing any sort of tinkering to come there. Wood type was then, of course, high in price and difficult to obtain, and so it came about that A. T. Glaze cut a large amount of wood type in the shop, made small cuts, and with the aid of A. C. Stow, built the first paper cutter used in Fond du Lac. It was a pretty good one, too, and was used many years in Beeson's Job Printing office. Mr. Glaze also made four banjos there, one of which was sold by William Harbaugh to an Indianapolis gentleman for \$16. The first one made, the "lone fisherman," Harvey Durand, helped him to string and tune in Philo Smith's jewelry store. Mr. Glaze was not a banjo player, but simply

took a notion to put in some extra hours making them. They were all good ones, and were traded or sold to good advantage. He made in that shop many things for printing office use, then not so easy to obtain as now. Uncle M. Farnsworth is held in grateful remembrance for his efforts in enabling the writer to spend so many pleasant hours in his shop.

### Oldest Continuous Business.

In this year of 1905, Mr. G. Scherzinger has the fact to his credit of being the oldest in continuous business in Fond du Lac. He began business here in 1854, and there is no business man now here who antedates him. F. Sander, the furniture dealer, opened in 1855, and is second. H. G. De Sombre began his jewelry business in 1856 and holds third place. In the dry goods trade, J. C. Whittelsey is the veteran, coming here in 1855, and M. Wagner is next, coming here in 1856, but did not enter the dry goods trade in his own name until 1878. In the drug trade, Huber Bros. are the veterans, dating from 1864. Reeves & Son are second, and L. J. Remington third. The veteran dealer in hardware is John Hughes, the second and third Wilkie & Son and George P. Dana. In groceries, Herman Zinke must rank first, the Zinkes being in business at the corner of Main and Sixth streets from the early fifties. Mason & Son sell groceries as well as crockery, and hold second place, and E. H. Jones still dealing in groceries, is third. The city is well stocked with groceries on all streets, some of them a few years old and some but a few weeks. The veteran shoe store is Egelhoff's, the second is Youmans and the third Fitzsimons. The oldest bakery is Snow's, the oldest meat market Coughlin's, the oldest tin shop Decker's, the oldest saloon Chapleau's, and the oldest wood-working shop S. W. Edson's, at the Five Points. The latter is probably the oldest shop of any sort in the entire city. In shops and business of almost every kind, the changes have been rapid and numerous in the last twenty years. The old-time business men have quit business or died.

### An 1848 Tin Shop.

The 1848 tin shop in Fond du Lac was owned by Eliab Perkins, afterwards Perkins & Williams, Perkins & Smith, then E. Perkins again. The hardware and stove store became the property of Mr. Smith and his widow conducted it until 1896, when she sold it and returned to the east. Mr. Perkins in 1864, began the manufacture of the North Pole refrigerator and made and sold many hundreds of them. Two years later he invented and began the manufacture of a fire-proof shutter, which for a time had an enormous sale. The brick building, now the south part of the Wilkins livery barn, was erected as a factory for making the shutters. Making the refrigerators was abandoned as less profitable, and in 1871, after the great Chicago fire, the shutter factory was moved to that city, and a little later to Sycamore, Ill., where it failed in competition with other and possibly better shutters. Mr. Perkins died at Minneapolis in 1899, and his remains were brought to Fond du Lac and buried at Rienzi. He was a remarkably active business man, but seemed to lack in proper man-

agement. He is believed to have made the great mistake of his life when he left Fond du Lac. He did not hesitate to say so himself.

### The Old Time Singing School.

How singular that the old fashioned singing school has disappeared and is no longer a part of our educational system. In the early times a winter would no more than fairly begin when the singing school came, not only as an educational feature, but as a source of enjoyment, and the young people especially found pleasure and profit in them. There were classes for adults and for children. Emerson H. Hawley, brother of Rev. Silas Hawley, the Congregational minister, had a music store here, and during the winter months had singing classes in city and country every night in the week except Sunday. He was an excellent teacher and so he was in demand for this work several years. O. B. Judd was a fine teacher for children's classes, and old residents will remember how the little folks came out to his school. But neither Hawley nor Judd could succeed in their work now. Singing schools are, to use a modern expression, played out. Why this is so it is difficult to say. Even the old time musical convention is heard of no more, and the professional conductor of them is out of business. It has been many years since Fond du Lac has had a regular singing school or musical convention.

### An Old Time Quarrel.

Ichabod Codding is a queer name, isn't it? Well, he was a queer man, too. He was a Unitarian minister, and also a decided, old-fashioned abolitionist, who used to make political speeches before the war. He abhorred slavery every time and all the time. One evening Mr. Codding spoke in Darling's Hall and Charles A. Eldredge was there to hear him, and at the close Mr. Eldredge denounced some things said about the democratic party as lies. Mr. Codding declared his readiness to stand by all he had said. The result was some bitter talk, something of a row and nearly a general fight. But Edward Pier, Edwin A. Brown and a few others stopped it. This incident shows how bitter the political feeling was just before the war.

### First County Surveyor.

Horace W. Newton, now doing daily service in the register's office at the court house, was the first surveyor of Fond du Lac county, being elected in the fall of 1848. He is a son of the pioneer, Squire Newton, and was 22 years of age when elected surveyor. As showing the perfection he has arrived at in the education of his hands as well as brain, it may be here stated that ten years ago he wrote the Lord's Prayer with a pen on a space the size of a ten-cent piece and had one-third of the space left, and if you would see some of the prettiest writing ever put in a record book, ask to see some of his work at the court house.

### Vote on Negro Suffrage.

In the fall election of 1857, a vote was taken on a proposition that shows something of the feeling then in the public mind on the

slavery question. The legislature of the previous winter directed that a vote be taken on the question of the extension of suffrage to colored people. The vote in Fond du Lac county was 1,931 for and 1,865 against, a majority of sixty-six for extension. The proposition was carried in the state by a large majority. But actual suffrage was not given the negro until the adoption of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution in 1863. The vote given here was taken merely to show congress the feeling of the people on the subject.

### A Mistaken Survey.

The reader has no doubt often noticed the jog in Marr street, between First and Sheboygan streets. This was occasioned by an error in the original survey. Until 1861, the street was closed, that north of the jog being known as Wingate street and that south as Marr. In 1861 the city ordered it opened as we have it now, and it became Marr street through to Merrill, Wingate street being abolished. The faulty survey also made the jog still existing at the corner of First and Portland street, and threw the Commercial National Bank corner five and a half feet into First street.

### Anniversary of a Printer.

Thursday, August 24, marked the fifty-fifth anniversary of the arrival of A. T. Glaze, one of Wisconsin's pioneer newspapermen, in Fond du Lac. He came to this city from Milwaukee in a stage coach pulled by four horses. The mail schedule called for the arrival of the coach at 8 o'clock in the evening, but the trip was made during rainy weather and Mr. Glaze did not arrive until 3 o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Glaze at once entered the office of the Fond du Lac Journal, following the printer's trade there for several years. In 1854, four years later, the Western Freeman, owned by J. A. Smith, a Quaker abolitionist, and the Fountain City Herald, owned by Royal Buck, were consolidated and the newspaper was called The Commonwealth.

Mr. Glaze made up the forms for the first issue of The Commonwealth and printed the paper on a hand press. He continued to work in the office until 1860, when he took charge of the job office of his uncle, Edward Beeson.

### Reporter Established.

In 1862, John Beeson, a son of Edward Beeson, found it impossible on account of his health, to continue his work in school and he sought employment where he hoped it would benefit his physical condition. His father had a large quantity of type in the office that had been used in supreme court work, and as there was little use for this at the time the son left school, they decided to start another paper. This new paper was The Reporter. Mr. Glaze made up the first form of this paper and the first issue was run off on a hand press by him. He also founded the Ripon Commonwealth in 1864, so it will be seen that he established three newspapers in Fond du Lac county by making the first forms and running the first issues. All three of these papers are now thriving, the first two being changed to dailies years ago.

He still continues to take an active interest in newspaper work and frequently visits the local plants. He has not given up writing, although his health does not permit him to keep at the grind as he did years ago.

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### Struck by Epidemics.

It is probably remembered by few people now living, that Fond du Lac had a short season of cholera. It was in the fall of 1856, and for the size of the city at the time, it may be said that many died, and many had it who recovered. Among the latter was C. H. Benton, E. Perkins, Thos. W. Dee and Geo. Driggs. A number of families suffered much. The disease was first recognized as Asiatic Cholera by Dr. Walker, and the physicians of the city held private consultation to determine what was best to be done, so as not to frighten the people and keep country people from coming to town to trade. Among other things the newspaper men promised to say nothing alarming. It first appeared in August and lasted until the weather became cold. Dr. Patchen and Dr. Raymond thought the disease was an aggravated form of Cholera Morbus, but the other doctors said it was genuine cholera. At any rate it was fortunate that it started in so late in the year.

In 1861, Fond du Lac had an epidemic of typhoid fever, and again was it fortunate that it started late and ended as the cold weather came on. It appeared in many prominent families. It was in a very aggravated form and the doctors had a hard time of it as well as their patients. We have occasionally had some typhoid fever since, but nothing like as many cases or so severe.

About the same time, but it is said by those who ought to know, that it was in 1859 that a spotted fever appeared, but was late and soon stamped out. There were not very many cases, but they all died but two, the survivors being Mrs. Jane Ann Ward and Mrs. A. T. Glaze, both young ladies at the time.

From earliest times Fond du Lac has been singularly free from smallpox. There have been a few cases at times, but not in any sense epidemic.

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### Large Number of Deeds.

It will interest some people and maybe surprise others, to learn that the late B. F. Moore, an 1841 pioneer of this county, during his sixty-four years' residence here, executed a greater number of deeds of real estate, which went on record in the Register's office, than any other man here. Abstract office books show a total of about 1,400. Besides other business he handled real estate almost from the beginning of his life here, and especially after moving from Taycheedah to Fond du Lac in 1846. He was very liberal with pioneers with small means, who desired to secure homes and sold much property to such people.



# OLD TIME RECORDS

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The Place to Find Interesting Records of Early Times is in the Old Record Books in the Vaults at the Court House.

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All of the county officers, except perhaps the District Attorney, carries in the vaults of his office, old books containing much that is interesting to the young as well as the old. In granting the request of a visitor to the county clerk's office at the court house a few days ago, County Clerk Alfred S. Wilkinson withdrew the book recording the meetings of the first county board from one of the shelves in the vault in his office. This is said to be the oldest book in the court house, but is remarkably well preserved in spite of its age.

The first pages in the minute book were written by M. C. Darling, one of the pioneer residents of Fond du Lac county and the first county clerk. Wisconsin was then a territory, the first board of "commissioners" organized Oct. 7, 1839, sixty-six years ago. Then letters "W. T." are written at intervals instead of the "State of Wisconsin," which is now seen on the county books.

## First Meeting.

The record of the first meeting of the county board reads:

"At a meeting of the county board of commissioners for the county of Fond du Lac, W. T., held at the Fond du Lac house Monday, October 7, 1839, present, Reuben Simmons, John Bannister and Edward Pier, commissioners elect. The board was organized by the choice of Reuben Simmons, chairman, and the appointment of M. C. Darling, clerk, the clerk having given bonds to the treasurer according to law. The said county commissioners then filed in the clerk's office their oaths of office.

"Ordered that the county treasurer give bond in the sum of \$2,000 with two sufficient sureties.

"Ordered that \$4.50 be allowed M. C. Darling for one ream of copy paper for the use of the county.

"Ordered that the sum of \$1.20 per day be allowed to Colwert Pier, Oscar Pier and M. C. Darling for services as judges of election on the first Monday of August, last."

The board at the first meeting made arrangements for holding the next election at the following places:

Calumetville, residence of George White; Fond du Lac, residence of M. C. Darling; Madrid, residence of Seymour Wilcox.

Alexander La Bord, Edward Pier, Colwert Pier, William Armstrong, Philo Norton, Lebbens Heath, B. F. Smith, S. Simmons and George White were the election clerks and judges at this election.

### Modest Bills.

One of the bills submitted at one of these early sessions was one submitted by M. C. Darling "for seven days self and horse in going to Bay to attend upon board of clerks, \$18." The "Bay" referred to was Green Bay, which was, as it is now, commonly referred to as "the Bay."

An application for a new road was signed by Oscar Pier, Albert Kendall, A. D. Clark, Milton J. Brainard, M. C. Darling, B. F. Smith, H. J. Peck, Joseph King, Alonso Raymond, Patrick Kelley, Alfred Williams, John Wallis, Luke Labord, G. deNeveu, John Clevis, William Labord, Alexander Labord, David Johnson, Alva Merton, Russell Wilkinson and A. L. Simmons.

### Another First Meeting.

The first account of the board meetings after Wisconsin became a state on May 29, 1848, reads as follows:

"The county board of supervisors for the county of Fond du Lac assembled at the court house in said county at the above date agreeable to the requirements of an act entitled: 'An act to provide for the levying and collecting state revenue,' and were called to order by the clerk reading the act requiring the meeting."

### The Members.

Those who answered the first roll call of the board of supervisors after Wisconsin became a state, were:

Calumet—George White.  
 Taycheedah—Charles Doty.  
 Fond du Lac—Selim Newton.  
 Forest—Henry Giltner.  
 Auburn—James Adams.  
 Eden—Peter Vandervoort.  
 Byron—William Stewart.  
 Oakfield—James Patterson.  
 Lamartine—Peter V. Sang.  
 Rosendale—Jonathan Daugherty.  
 Ceresco—David Mapes.  
 Springvale—Warren Whiting.  
 Metomen—H. C. Eggleston.  
 Alto—Samuel A. Carpenter.  
 Waupun—M. Campbell.  
 Eldorado—M. J. Barnett.

This particular book was used for a period of ten or more years before it was finally put away to become a part of the archives of the office. The binding is now in condition, and the reading is very plain, the chirography of many of the county clerks being above the average.

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### E. R. Ferris and Sheeps' Gray.

In an early day E. R. Ferris had a dry goods store in the Drury block, next north of the present Amory block. Among his goods he

at one time bought a lot of sheeps' gray cloth, then all the rage for substantial suits. The first suit sold from it was to William Hayes, sometimes called "Noisy Bill," because he seldom failed to fill up when he came to town. A. H. Clark made the suit for Hayes, but did not like to spoil Ferris' trade by telling him how poor it was, but he soon discovered it and sent word to Ferris that as soon as it was warm enough for him to get out of the house, he would be down to see about it. Other suits were sold, all of which showed the cloth to be the poorest shoddy, and it was returned to Chicago. But as to the Hayes suit—he had worn it at rough work, and when brought to Ferris was in rags. Just how the settlement resulted is not now remembered, but it was in a way to stop Hayes' loud talk, as Ferris made it part of the contract.

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### An Early Days' Worker.

Alexander Hamilton Clark, so well known to all the old settlers as "Ham Clark," father of L. H. Clark and Mrs. Ed. Kent, of this city, was in early times a farmer and land breaker from necessity, an inventive mechanic from innate skill, a tailor by trade, a fine violinist from taste and a gentleman by nature. He could put in his spare time on the farm, break land with six or eight yokes of oxen, work with tools at the bench, make a suit of clothes, play the violin for a dance, or attend a reception with equal facility. He, with his violin, Jerome Gibson with his clarinet and Hutchins with his horn, were favorites for dancing music, and they played for the club parties in the Marshall block several winters, where the contract was that if midnight came with a set off the floor, they were to quit, however strong was the teasing for just one more. If a set was on the floor at midnight, they were to complete it and then quit. Injurious late hours was thus avoided and the parties were a great success and satisfactory to all. Ham Clark was a favorite, as he deserved to be.

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### Lake deNeveu Outlet.

The outlet of Lake deNeveu, on the west shore, was not always the insignificant stream that it is now. The water once poured out in sufficient volume to form a lively brook. Sufficiently large, anyhow, to nearly drown Geo. P. Dana, the present day hardware merchant, when he was a small boy living with his parents on the Macy farm. He on that occasion, was pulled into the water by a pet deer.

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### An Early Planing Mill.

John Bonnell, assisted by C. Z. Gordon, late of Oakfield, had an early day planing mill not far from where the water works pumping station is now. This mill was of great assistance to the early house builders in the preparation of lumber for use. For that early time, the work was well done and the mill was kept going more than the usual number of hours per day. It could often be heard going at 10 o'clock at night.

### Period of Hoop Skirts.

It was early in the sixties that the women began to wear hoop skirts, but it was not until 1865 that the extreme in size was reached, of 117 inches in circumference or a little more than a yard in diameter for the average sized woman. And at the time there were extremists in this as there always is in other things, and women were often seen with skirts even considerable larger than this. To reach these extremes they used rattans and made their own skirts much larger than were kept in the stores. And they were often at the extreme too, in stiffness, and had to be tilted as the wearer entered a church pew. A lady would be horrified now with a stiff skirt more than a yard in diameter, but they were just the thing then. A skirt properly proportioned as to size with elastic steel springs, was very pretty and no one would object to their coming again, which they are liable to do at any time. The extremes is what one dislikes and is not slow to express the hope that they be permanently retired.

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### A Simple Matter of Sense.

Judge Campbell McLean and D. R. Curran were democrats, the latter of the old school and very rigid, but McLean was very much inclined to VanBurenize in 1848 and become a Free Soiler. The two men were very warm personal friends, but occasionally had disputes. McLean liked to say sharp things and to spring jokes and Curran's opinions when once formed, were as unchangeable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. In the election of 1852, Pierce and King against Scott and Graham, the free soil matter was much discussed. One evening in Curran's drug store, both men became impatient and McLean sang out, "Look here, Dave, why in thunder don't you get a little more sense in your head—you can if you try." Curran replied, "But you can't get any more into your head if you try ever so hard."

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### Macy Street Changes.

Macy street from Second street to the court house, was once a quite respectable street. On the west side of Macy were several quite respectable houses for the times. In the house on the corner where a shop is now, was the family of Mr. Wheeler, next north the family of Solon G. Dodge, while he was Register of Deeds, and Rev. W. L. Mather, pastor of Plymouth Church. A man whose name is forgotten, lived in the next house, then the largest on the street, but it was soon moved away to give place to a large shop erected on the corner by R. M. & Asa Pierce. Later all these gave place to the lumber yard. On the east side of the street were two houses, one of them occupied by William Hope, father of the late George Hope. These two houses and the barn of the Windsor House, was all there was on the east side and all north of the barn, in 1859, gave place to the gas works, and the houses on the west side were immediately vacated. North of Second street, Macy was no street at all.

## SUCCESSFUL EFFORT

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An Address Given at the Meeting of the Old Settlers' Club, August 30, 1905, by Mrs. Edgar Wilcox, of Oakfield.

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Ancestral worship is not greatly in vogue with the average American. The self-made, self-sufficient, and self-satisfied man is much more in evidence. Even the scanty and infrequent praise, which we bestow upon those, who earlier or later, bore the heaviest burdens and did the roughest work of founding a new nation, state, county or township, is apt to terminate with something of the Pharisee's form of gratitude. It may be only a mental reservation, but we are conscious of being glad that we are not as the pioneer.

The organization of which we are members or guests today, might be supposed to have in it at least an element of that reverence for the former things with the lack of which we are so often charged. And doubtless it has. But no mere recognition of results will be sufficient to inspire us with veneration. We must look deeper than this. Perhaps mere gratitude towards those whose privations, hardships and labors obtained for us not merely comfort and plenty, but abundance and luxury might be a sufficient motive for this effort to keep fresh the memory of them. The noblest of heroes are those who live and die unconscious of their heroism and the appeal of the noble dead is a strong and pathetic one. But one thinks of many things in these days when privilege is so great and self-questioning is inevitable. Their choice was limited; ours is greater. Are we choosing wisely? The main value of all praise or blame, even for the living, much more for the dead, lies in its reactionary effect upon ourselves. Therefore it is wiser for us to forget all that is base and worthless and remember only that which is noble and worthy.

From a material point of view, it is not difficult to make note of much for which we are primarily indebted to the pioneer. The wilderness has become a garden. The corduroy roads traversed by the clumsy oxen and clumsier cart, have been transformed into smooth highways, fitted for the automobile and pony carriage. Log cabins and board shanties have made way for many roomy and comfortable and some elegant and luxurious homes. The wretched animals crouching under straw stacks, through the bitter cold of a Wisconsin winter night, have been replaced by well-kept and high blooded cattle that scarce know a discomfort in their warm, clean, and well-ventilated stables. If we do not vie with the Holland dairymen by tying the cows' tails with blue ribbons and decorating the window sills of their apartments with pots of blooming geraniums, we can only say—the end is not yet.

While none of us would affect to despise any of these marks of progress, we should not forget that a yet richer legacy awaits our

acceptance. We possess not alone the dearly bought estates of our fathers, but we of this day, in any part of our favored land, are the heirs of the ages. The rapid march of civilization, and the legislation of a paternal government, have carried us close to the treasures of the past as well as of the present. A fraction of the energy, self-denial and privations which felled the forests, bridged the streams and made firm paths across our prairies, will unlock for us the world's storehouses of art, of science and of literature. Are we content with enough of material goods? Are we giving our leisure to the acquisition of mental and spiritual wealth? The old settlers were industrious and frugal, perforce, possibly. The get-rich-quick schemes and The Associated Charities are of later date. Are we practicing the same virtues because thus we may render our homes, our neighbors, our church and our country, the larger service. Circumstances do not so narrow our lives. Are we enjoying our liberty on making ourselves slaves to custom and fashion?

The pioneer had faith, at least, the faith of Columbus, that there was land west of him. And he pushed on, like the illustrious discoverer, in spite of discouraging words and often in the face of difficulties, scarcely less appalling than those which the early navigators encountered. Almost as trackless as the ocean were forest and prairie. All this is changed for us and the homeseekers in the yet untamed regions of our land, are transported in swift and comfortable coaches, with reduced rates as an inducement. But are there no social complexities, no waste moral regions, which puzzle and alarm? Do we ever turn away from the fascinating romance or charming picture words of the cultured and witty traveler to consider the horrors of child labor, the soul of black folk, and the grinding slavery of the unskilled workwoman? On having considered these things, do we at suitable times and in suitable places speak our convictions without fear of the consequent odium? Or are we more concerned about the cheapness of products or the question of personal popularity? If so, are we maintaining the faith of our fathers?

The courage with which the pioneer faced the red man, miasma, drouth and forest fires seems almost like the fearlessness of ignorance. But it will be remembered that few, comparatively, made voluntary retreat. The reservations hold the Indians now and the hard and patient labors of years have largely diminished the danger from fires and unsanitary conditions. But we have graft, the ward boss and the political machine, and who is equal to these things? We do exhibit fortitude worthy of a better cause under the exactions of the monopolist and the outrages of the stricken, but the courage which opposes, and, by opposing, ends them, is, mainly, (not altogether) conspicuous by its absence.

Unselfishness, pure and simple, is a virtue so rare that it is not safe to predicate it of any entire class. But those who lay the foundations on, while others may build, do in effect illustrate this most lovable quality. In truth they may have labored only in their own behalf, and in occasional instances may have enjoyed long the fruits of their labors, and if we know them by that most sincere of compli-

ments, imitation, we shall be mindful, in the superstructure which we rear, not only of ancestral worth, but of the highest good of coming generations. If their beneficence was in a measure forced, ours must be conscious and voluntary and greater. No man can live to himself alone, and we are not up to the standard if, with our enlarged opportunity and multiplied leisure, we are even trying to do so. The social life, the open-handed hospitality of the early settlers, has been much lauded. Surely in all but its spirit it left much to be desired. But it is the spirit which giveth life. If in the skillful entertainment of our guests we have lost that genuine love of their presence, we have missed the finest touch of the social act. If this becomes a mere exchange of pasteboard and bonbons, and social events shall be, aptly as they are hideously termed, functions, then surely we are progressing backward.

The pioneer was neither a mediaevalist nor an anarchist. He lived necessarily the simple life, and the rules pertaining thereto were often enforced without the consent of the ruled. As in other respects where he had no choice, the highest value of such a life may not have been his, but to some of its rewards he did fall heir. The educational and religious institutions of the more distant past were re-established in the earliest days of new settlements, and many of the philanthropic and benevolent enterprises of the present were given by him good countenance and substantial aid.

In many works we have today a far different outlook. Life is apparently a more complex matter; its necessary simplicity has vanished, and it may some time be our duty to disentangle ourselves from the conventional, to tear away disguises, to expose chains, to act upon the principle that in morals, as in mathematics, the shortest distance between any two points is measured on the straight line which joins them.

It has sometimes been said by the better natured of our foreign critics, that while we had neither art, literature nor history, we were partly excusable from lack of time. We were so new. But, fortunately, or unfortunately, that excuse is fast failing us—not because our critics have made any mistakes in their dates, but because, like that of the youngest child of a large family, our babyhood has been much enriched by the garnered wisdom of our elder brothers and sisters, and our wits sharpened by the conversation of those more mature. These, too, with rare discretion, deferred their petting until the youngest of the nations was fairly on its feet. We can no longer truthfully say that we fight for an existence. Are we aiming to put into the fabric of our state those principles of universal education, religious principle and strict equity which were once proclaimed as its foundation stones? Is the republic to be a republic or an oligarchy? Are we vigilant of the rights of others as well as of our own? Do we remember that Spartan fortitude was the result only of Spartan discipline? Are we giving to the stranger within our gates the freedom and the justice our revered ancestors claimed for themselves and for their posterity? If we are practicing the same virtue by which our heritage was won, we are making good our claim to all

its rank and power. But not for long can we make those principles a neglected factor, and yet call high heaven to witness that we are and of right ought to be, the most favored nation on earth. Have we any doubt of this? History repeats itself, and the panorama of the nations of all time is unrolled upon her pages. Some illustrations of what may be our fate are so familiar as to need but slight allusion.

The beauty-loving Greek has long been a theme for poets and rhapsodists, and his graceful marbles will never cease to be admired. But when he made gods of his graven images, neglected the discipline which had made him strong, and the careful self-culture which had made him master of craft and art, he fell from his high estate. When the spirit of caste had nurtured envy, and oppression hate; when luxury had enervated its votaries and drained the life blood of its victims, the work of the foreign foe was easy, and men said, "How strange." But we say it no more.

The Romans were a ruder race, but so long as they maintained even a rough justice toward their own countrymen, regarded as sacred the rights of Romans and fought for the common glory of the Roman nation, they were invincible alike against the cultured and powerful and the savage tribes and nations that hemmed them in on every side. But when Rome said, "I am mistress of the world," the canker of pride began to eat at her vitals. When her emperors and nobles maintained their state and splendor through her enslavement of her citizens and her laborers, she had yielded the secret of her power. Then Goth and Visigoth, Vandal and Hun might roam at will through her marble palaces, stable their horses beside her altars and pluck the beards of her haughty senators.

The great empire of Charlemagne fell to pieces in the hands of his degenerate sons, and probably today the average Frenchman could not name the territories where their great hero once held sway. Does the comparison seem a fanciful one, or the thought unsuited for consideration? Certainly not fanciful, unless the centuries have abrogated the law of cause and effect and it is no longer true that whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. Not irrelevant, if we are a part of the whole. "Mine is a divine right, and no man may gainsay me," said Charles I, of England. Not alone for his own arrogance, but for the accumulated wrongs of centuries he paid the penalty. "We are the state," said citizen and citizeness of France, and a howling frenzied mob cheered when the head of Louis XIV rolled into the basket. The world has been long in learning that no man—king or peasant, millionaire or day laborer—has any right which is not based on righteousness. The wisest of presidents, the most learned counselors, the most magnificent commerce, fleets and armies, cannot preserve the honor, the integrity and the power of a republic. We are the state. And such as we the state will be.

Not once in a thousand years, with blind and unreasoning fury, to burn, to tear down, to pillage and to murder, but always, by our individual worth, to build up, to guard, to cherish and to enrich.

We cannot be atheists. The wonders of creation forbid that. We cannot forget our fathers. Their lives are too closely interwoven



with ours for that to be possible. And if we are not loyal to our country—well, we could not discuss such a possibility.

I know of no finer epitome of a life than that given by Madame De Stael, near the close of her long and memorable career. A woman whose personal fascinations, intellectual brilliancy and political insight have seldom been combined in one person, summed up all she had been or done in the words, "I have loved my God, my father and my country." It was enough for her; it is enough for us.

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### An Honest Grocery Man.

It has often been said that all grocery dealers were not honest, but labored hard to sell what goods they had, regardless of customer and circumstances. This may have been true in the years past, but it was not true in all cases. There was at least one man in the grocery trade in Fond du Lac who had the reputation generally for being strictly honest and sold his goods for just what they were. He always told the customer of the situation as to quality. This man, when not much more than a boy, was employed in the grocery store of Robert Wyatt, then on West Second street. He learned the business there and afterwards went into business for himself on Main street, in the room now occupied by Miss Tambke and the Jenz candy store, and was in business there a number of years. This man was Dennis Conley, brother of our present well known grocer, J. W. Conley, who clerked for his brother. Dennis Conley died some years ago, and in the latter years of his life was in poor health. He at least left a reputation for being a strictly honest grocer.

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### An Unfortunate Shoemaker.

"That's what's the matter," was the characteristic utterance of John Rottman, and who of the old timers and many of modern times, have not heard it from his lips. John Rottman was the best natured German shoemaker ever in Fond du Lac. He had considerable means, had a very good business, but bad habits and carelessness, besides a bad marriage, ruined him. He had hosts of friends, but they could not overcome his bad habits and home troubles, and the result was that John was so frozen one cold night on his way home to the distant east end of Ninth street, that he died. For many years before he died, he occupied the little shop on East Second street, near Main, where he cobbled himself into old age. John Rottman was altogether too good natured. He signed paper for his friends that cost him much money, and from good circumstances went into poverty. Still he was always good natured and pleasant to callers. He was a historical character. He sat on his little shoe bench from morning to night, a most industrious citizen. Like many others, industrious but wrong guided.

### Dr. H. B. Dale Practiced Here.

The late Dr. H. B. Dale, of Oshkosh, was a nephew of Dr. T. J. Patchen, and began practice here. Dr. Patchen came to Fond du Lac in 1854 and Dr. Dale came a year later, and their professional card of that date reads, Drs. Patchen & Dale, Homeopathic Physicians and Surgeons. Three years later Dr. Dale went to Oshkosh, spending the remainder of his life there, becoming not only one of the most noted and successful physicians, but one of the most popular citizens. For many years he was superintendent of schools of that city. Mrs. Dale was Miss Augusta Olcott, daughter of Q. M. Olcott, one of the prominent early days' lumbermen of Fond du Lac. During his residence here, Dr. Dale became a very popular doctor and he was greatly missed when he went to Oshkosh.

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### Former Fond du Lac People.

J. H. Spencer will be remembered by all older citizens as a dealer in leather and shoemakers and harnessmakers findings. He was a noted talker and for many years was the leader of the spiritualists. What he did not know about that faith it was not worth while to try to find out. Mr. Spencer died in Chicago in 1897, at the age of 90 years. His son, DeWitt Spencer, has resided in Minneapolis many years. He will be remembered as manufacturer of gloves and mittens and of Brown's Blood Purifier.

Connected with the Spencer store was J. W. Hawes, so long there as to be almost part of it. He died here many years ago.

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### Fred May and Homeing Pigeons.

Fred May, son of E. M. May, well known to all old residents, now residing on the banks of Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis, has bred some of the most noted Homeing Pigeons in this country. On July 4th, 1905, he had nine birds in a flight of six hundred miles, and every one of them returned home safely, the first in thirteen hours and the last in eighteen hours and fifty minutes. Fred May is a native of Fond du Lac, being born here in 1870.

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### An Old School Darkey.

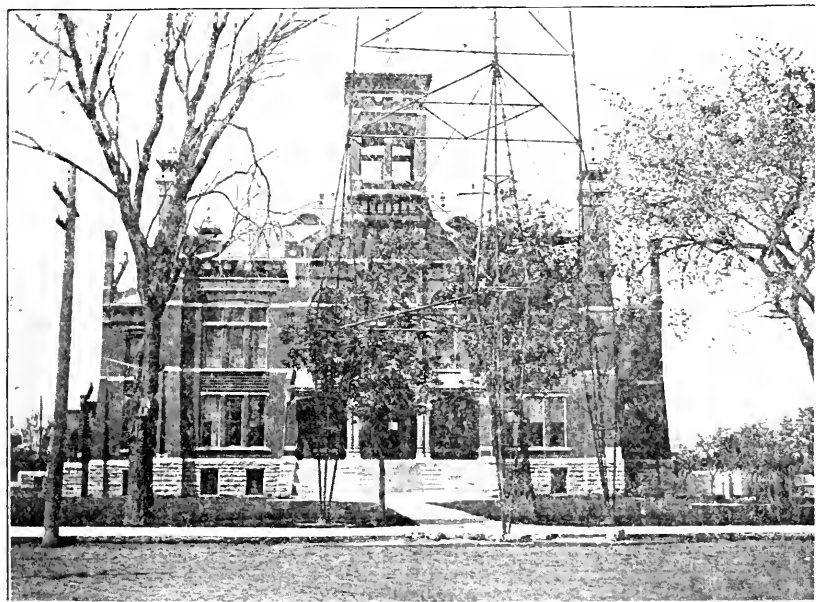
"I don't want to interfere to cause no interruptions," was a remark made by "Uncle Billy Jones," when Mrs. Overton asked him to call for her boarding house garbage which another darkey had neglected. At this time "Uncle Billy" had a horse and wagon and did odd jobs about town, but he traded himself out of about everything he had, and the last years of his life he was an indigent old beggar. He was one of the slaves brought here by Elder Rogers, in war time from Island No. 10. He died in 1900, and probably everybody within ten miles of the court house knew Uncle Billy Jones.

# COURT HOUSE TALK

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The Troubles of the Old Court House and Evolution of the Era.  
Some Incidents of the Time.

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## The Old and the New.

The first Fond du Lac county court house was built in 1848 and completed ready for use early in 1850, Isaac Brown being the contractor. It was a three-story structure, the first story being stone, the others wood. It was 40x90 feet in size and for that early day was a fine building. The lower story was divided by a hall, the north half being the jail and the south half was used as a dwelling place for the jailor. The second floor was made into rooms for the county officers, and the third floor was the court room, well seated and furnished. The building was surmounted by a modest steeple and flag staff. After a few years the county board, believing the records unsafe, had a small stone building erected on Court street, north of the court house, into which the offices of the register of deeds and clerk of the court were moved and remained there many years. About 1868 the agitation began for a new court house, but the supervisors from the west side of the county, fought those from the east

side on the proposition. Finally as if to silence the argument that a new and safer jail was needed, a new jail was conceded, the land was bought on Linden street and the jail and sheriff's residence erected as we see them today. But at last the end of the agitation was reached, for in 1881, after a service of thirty-three years, the court house burned down. The postoffice then occupied the building at the corner of Division and Macy streets, where the cold storage building now is. The rooms above were fitted up for county purposes and the court room continued there three years. At the session of the county board in the fall of 1881, a building commission was appointed to prepare plans for a new court house and attend to the preliminary work. In 1882 the plans were adopted and the contracts were let. The progress of the work was slow and it was not until 1884 that the building was completed and occupied. The little stone building on Court street was then torn away and a general improvement in appearance was begun, resulting finally as we see it today. The building and its surroundings are such that the people of the county are well pleased. The heat from the fire at the time the court house was burned, took away three or four of the beautiful trees. We were once proud of the old court house and we are proud of the present structure.

But three county officers, Sheriff, Register and Clerk of the Court, occupied offices in the old court house at the time of its completion, and afterwards these three moved out, the Register and Clerk of the Court into the stone building that was built for safety. Most of our county officers have occupied rooms about town.

Officers at time of completion of the old court house, were as follows:

Judge of Circuit Court—Timothy O. Howe.

Judge of County Court—C. E. Tompkins.

Sheriff—Francis D. McCarty.

Register of Deeds—Nelson Wood.

County Clerk—Chauncey J. Allen.

Clerk of Court—Fayette S. Brown.

County Treasurer—Peter V. Sang.

District Attorney—I. S. Tallmadge.

County Surveyor—Lathrop Ellis.

Coroner—Alonzo Raymond.

The county officers holding official positions in the new court house fifty-five years later, were:

Judge of Circuit Court—Norman S. Gilson.

Judge of County Court—George Perkins.

Sheriff—Frederick Konz.

Register of Deeds—Charles B. Bartlett.

County Clerk—Mark Crain.

Clerk of the Courts—A. E. Richter.

County Treasurer—C. F. G. Wernicke.

District Attorney—F. F. Duffy.

County Surveyor—Joseph Haessley.

Coroner—F. F. Parsons.

The north side of the second story of the old court house was divided into jury rooms, south side offices, of which there were but three. The third story, or court room, was used for all sorts of purposes besides court. Conventions, caucuses, church services, lectures, all sorts of gatherings were held there, especially in the first few years of its existence.

"The terms of court were held in the school house at Fond du Lac, until it was burned. The local paper, in speaking of the fire, said the court house had been burned, every church in the town has been consumed, and even the school house and all other public buildings here have shared the same fate. There is no insurance and the loss cannot be less than two hundred dollars.

### Old Court House Yard.

When the old board fence was built around the court house yard, it was thought to be a nice thing and quite appropriate to what was then regarded as a nice court house. Then the old sidewalk of boards was removed and a new one laid with the plank lengthwise. But this did not last many years and the Sylvesters furnished the flagging for a stone walk for the frost to heave and break into pieces, the size of your hand to a side of sole leather, which it proceeded to do. Then it was removed and thicker stone used, which lasted much longer. The county fairs came and assisted in making a dilapidated fence and a mud hole of the yard. But still we pointed with pride to our court house premises. Then the small office building began to need repairs, but at an opportune time the old court house took fire and was burned. Now something better was to come in the court house of today, a concrete sidewalk, a well kept lawn and no fence at all. Surely we have improved our county property.

### Court House and County Fairs.

County fairs were at one time held on the court house square and the old court house made use of for the exhibition of fruits, flowers, grain and fancy goods. Panels of board fencing were made to surround the square and after a fair had been held and the fence removed, it was a most sorry-looking place—didn't have much the appearance it has now. The last time it was attempted to hold the fair there, it was a failure on account of rain. The fence panels were piled up in the rear of the court house and disappeared one by one, so that at next fair time very few were left. "Ike" Orvis said they were put out there close to the street as an invitation to those going by with wagons to throw on one or more and help abolish a public nuisance. Anyhow it was done and no more county fairs were held on the court house square. The next fair was attempted on the Ingram property on upper Main street, then an open field for some distance. The day before the fair was to begin, a rain set in and the water came down in torrents steadily for three whole days. A more dismal scene was never witnessed on this earth than was that fair ground and it killed the county fair business for several years. No one had the heart to try it again until sufficient time had elapsed to

forget about that fair ground scene. O. W. Townsend had some pumps there and said he did not need to incur the expense of hauling water to exhibit them—there was plenty right there. Jay Roblee had some pigs there and had to remove them by another route on account of the deep mud. Surely it was one of the county fairs to beget lasting disgust.

#### Old Court House Offices.

When the old court house was completed and occupied in 1850, it was regarded as a quite sleek place. For proof of this, talk with J. B. Perry, of the First National Bank, who was one of the first in it with Register of Deeds Nelson Wood, or with E. A. Carey, who helped Isaac Brown in building it. But there was thirty years of service coming to it before it was to be wiped out by fire, and in that thirty years it became decidedly rusty. Its appearance, except the court room, was little better than any old rookery, unused and unusable. It was thirty-four years from the time of its being completed until a new structure had fully taken its place, and that is a long time to live and prosper for a building erected as cheaply as that was. It was not of the sort to last like the pyramids. It served its purpose and probably long enough.

#### Saved the Court House.

The county board of supervisors once voted one hundred dollars to the Fond du Lac City Fire department for saving the old court house from burning. The city would rather have paid the same amount to let it burn, for it had become an eye-sore. Once after that it was complained that the department was very slow in getting there because they wanted it to burn, and maybe it was true. The country members of the board did not want to build a new court house then.

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#### Something About Roads.

The first road through this settlement was opened in 1836, from Green Bay to Fort Crawford, known as the Military Road, though it seems to have small claim to the name of road. The streams which were otherwise absolutely impassable, were covered with poles laid upon fragile foundations, a little above low water mark.

Through timbered land there were some definite marks to inform the traveller of the road's locality; through openings, prairies and marshes, he had a wide field for selecting his route, provided he could find the bridge over the next stream.

This was the general state of the roads for many years. In 1837 and '38 there was a road opened from Sheboygan. In the fall of 1838 there was a road opened and bridged to Fox Lake. This road had been previously surveyed by Mr. Brower.

In the winter of 1839, there was a road opened by way of Waupun to Madison, and a settlement commenced by Mr. S. Wilcox, at Waupun, eighteen miles from Fond du Lac, and one at Taycheedah by F. D. McCarty and Reuben Simmons. In 1842 a road was opened from Fond du Lac to Milwaukee.

# IMPROVEMENT COMPANY

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## Great Expectations of Early Days' People Not Realized. The Fox and Wisconsin Rivers Improvement.

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The Fox and Wisconsin Rivers Improvement Company struggled along with the work, but the income was not sufficient to keep things going on the Lower Fox, and the dams and locks went into decay. On the Upper Fox almost nothing was done. At this time Fond du Lac lost interest in the work, as it was seen that it would never be of much value to us. In 1869, a scheme was arranged to sell the improvement to the United States government and it was announced that the sale had been effected, only to be learned later on, that the government had in reality bought, as the late Charles W. Felker expressed it, only the right to rebuild the rotted out dams and locks, and this it did between the years 1869 and 1879. Comparatively little has been done in the last twenty-five years. The Lower Fox is of some value, but the Upper Fox is of little account. The work on the Wisconsin river is of still less value. And so it was that the early days' expectations in regard to this water way, have proven almost a failure.

In the introduction to the first Fond du Lac city directory, printed in 1857, speaking of the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers Improvement, Mr. Bingham says:

Fond du Lac, from its location upon Lake Winnebago, commands a large extent of water communication. Being at the southern extremity of the lake, which extends into a fine agricultural country, it is a natural point for a large surrounding country to meet this water communication. It is connected with Lake Michigan and the eastern markets by the Lower Fox, which flows from the foot of Lake Winnebago into Green Bay, and with the Mississippi country by the Upper Fox and Wisconsin rivers, united by a canal of about two miles in length. This line of water communication has been known as a public highway since Father Marquette, a Jesuit Missionary, first passed over it, starting from Green Bay, to explore the upper Mississippi in 1763. This water course through a fertile and unsurpassed agricultural country, naturally attracted the attention of the first settlers of the state, for the facilities it afforded for commerce, and manufactures, and the first settlements in the state were made, one at Green Bay, at the mouth of Fox river, and the other at Prairie du Chien, at the mouth of the Wisconsin. At an early day it became apparent to the settlers of this country, that this channel of communication between the Mississippi and the Great Lakes might, without great expense, be so improved as to become a great highway for commerce through a rich agricultural country. In 1838, it attracted the attention of the general government, and Mr. Poinsett, Secretary

of War, called the attention of congress to its value as a route for military communication and transportation, and urged an appropriation for the construction of locks around the rapids of the Lower Fox, between Lake Winnebago and Green Bay, and a canal to unite the rivers at Portage. To effect this object, in August, 1846, congress granted to the State of Wisconsin alternate sections of land on each side of the Fox river, and in 1848, the state accepted the grant and appointed a board, which were charged with the execution of the work. The Constitution of the State forbids the creation of any public debts; the board were therefore limited in their expenditures to the receipts from the sale of lands granted by congress. As the population of Wisconsin was then comparatively small, and the public lands had not been taken up by settlers, their receipts were not sufficient for a vigorous prosecution of the enterprise.

On the 6th of July, 1853, the legislature transferred the remainder of the grant and all the works of improvement to an association, consisting of Mason C. Darling and Benjamin F. Moore, of Fond du Lac; Otto Tank, Morgan L. Martin, Edgar Conklin, Joseph G. Lawton and Uriah H. Peak, of Green Bay, and Theodore Conkey, of Appleton, and their associates, named and styled the "Fox and Wisconsin Improvement Company," allowing them all the benefits from the unsold lands of the grant, and all the profits of the work when completed (restricted only by a maximum price for tolls), on condition that they were to assume all the indebtedness and liabilities of the state incurred in the prosecution of the work, and were to complete the same within a given time.

We who have lived long enough to see results, can hardly suppress a smile when we read of the expectations of those who have preceded us. The active days of Captains Sam and Ed Neff, Capt. Crawford, Capt. Knapp, Capt. Golden, Capt. Anson, Capt. Morley, Capt. Ole Olson, Capt. John Lynch, Tom Wall and others, have gone from these waters forever. Nor can their places be filled by others, as there is no demand for their services. The water, as well as the men, have disappeared.

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### Born a Mathematician.

In the early fifties there was a young man named J. M. Sheffield in Fond du Lac and clerked in the drug store of J. R. & J. W. Partridge. He was a very quiet young man, whom few knew intimately, and he is spoken of here only to note a peculiarity possessed by him. He was a born mathematician and could work out questions in that science with remarkable ease. It mattered not how intricate the problem might be extending to geometry, trigonometry, or even to conic sections, it did not seem to bother Sheffield very much. Complicated problems in figures were often worked out by him without resort to slate or pencil and paper. Men about town often tried to bother him with problems, only to be astonished how easily and quickly he could solve them. He was here only three or four years.



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## Something About the Police Force of Fond du Lac from the Earliest Times to the Present. Some of Those Who Have Served.

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In the earliest times of Fond du Lac, the people had to look out for their own protection, and this was really the situation until after we became a city, as constables were of not much real use as public officers. When Fond du Lac was incorporated as a village in 1847, two constables were elected, and this continued until the city charter came in 1852. During this seven years we had George Williams Carmi Wright, Joshua Barnet, George Croft, F. D. McCarty, Milford Van Dresar, Charles Van Norder, Forbes Homiston and others as constables, but to do police duty was below the dignity of their office, therefore the people, as a rule, seldom called on them for protection. And our first officers under the city government were little better. Under the city charter this officer was known as City Marshal, but he had no assistants unless the council saw fit to give him help, which it seldom did, so that if he was fit for the office, he had to cover too much ground to be efficient.

During the fourteen years from 1852, when the city government began, to 1866, when the police force came into existence, we had the following City Marshals:

1852—C. N. Snell.	1860—B. F. Midgley.
1853—F. P. Homiston.	1861—Charles Van Norder.
1854—John Case.	1862—John Dobyms.
1855—I. W. Bowen.	1863—John Dobyms.
1856—Daniel Banks.	1864—John Dobyms.
1857—Charles Arlin.	1865—Phillip Zipp.
1858—Charles Arlin.	1866—Louis Ladoux.
1859—E. S. Hammond.	

The legislature abolished the office in 1866 and the police force came into existence. Following are the chiefs of police since that time:

1867—James T. Conklin.	1885—John Gill, served four months.
1868—James T. Conklin.	1885—Jos. Como, served eight months.
1869—James O'Connel.	1886—G. A. Kretlow.
1870—I. N. Welch.	1887—G. A. Kretlow.
1871—I. N. Welch.	1888—G. A. Kretlow.
1872—James Swineford.	1889—Barney McDermott.
1873—James Swineford.	1890—Barney McDermott.
1874—Timothy Hardgrove.	1891—Barney McDermott.
1875—G. A. Kretlow.	1892—H. W. Eaton.
1876—G. A. Kretlow.	1893—Thos. McGrath.
1877—G. A. Kretlow.	1894—Sealy O'Conor.
1878—G. A. Kretlow.	1895—Sealy O'Conor.

1879—G. A. Kretlow.	1896—Sealy O'Conor.
1880—G. A. Kretlow.	1897—Thos. McGrath.
1881—C. F. P. Clough.	1898—Thos. McGrath.
1882—C. F. P. Clough.	1899—Simon Schaefer, from Jan. 1st.
1883—G. A. Kretlow.	1900—Simon Schaefer.
1884—G. A. Kretlow.	1901—F. A. Nolan, to the present time.

During the entire period of the City Marshals, there was no headquarters other than the rooms where the common council met, which were also the city clerk's office. As previously stated, the Marshals had no assistants in their police work and everything was run on a cheap scale. When the police came matters were changed a little. The chief of police had two policemen with headquarters. The first police office was on Division street, without cells and other means of caring for prisoners. These had to go to the county jail, and about this there was trouble, as the county wanted pay from the city for care of their local wrong doers. Mayors Patchen and Foster, in the early seventies, were able to measure the situation, and the first of the police stations came, on the ground where the present station stands. Under the guidance of James Swineford, as chief of police, we began to have a force worthy the name of police.

In early days, a small wooden building, hardly large enough for a smoke house, located on Portland street, served as a city lock-up. It had no cells, or its single apartment might have been called one cell, and was made secure by weak, wooden shutters. It was used only for the incarceration of unfortunates, who had become so drunk they could not break out of a paper house.

In 1866, a more substantial structure of brick, with cells and apparatus for warmth, was erected near the corner of Macy, on First street. In 1878, this having become too small to accommodate the constantly increasing number of tramps, or wandering vagrants, and too dilapidated to secure criminals, the present brick and stone structure was built at a cost of \$2,300 on the same site. It is two stories high with six single and four double cells, and a commodious office for the chief of police and police headquarters.

In 1904, this structure was further improved by an addition to the south side, containing a private office for the chief of police and an examination room, and the station otherwise improved by various changes. This building is used merely as a detention prison and not for persons under sentence. It is probably not necessary to say that these rooms are not provided with downy couches or Morris chairs and a person so unfortunate as to get in there might possibly prefer the Erving or Palmer House.

In the old times when a political pull put a man on the force, no matter what his age or how infirm, the force could not be efficient. Some of the policemen of twenty years ago, would make sorry work of it now. Men who have passed to 55 or 60 years of age, are now cut out of the police service in most cities and under civil service rules look for young, strong, healthy men. Police service is very different from what it was seventeen years ago. In the detective service specialties are worked. There are safe blowing detectives,

bank robber detectives, train robbing, burglary, pickpocket and others, and they give attention only to their specialties.

Previous to 1885 the common council each spring elected the chief and policemen, but this process forced old and unfit men upon the force. A man who had a political pull strong enough, managed to get there, fit or unfit. In 1885, the law was changed by the creation of a Board of Police and Fire Commissioners to manage these departments. The force may now be changed at any time—it is under civil service rules, and while there is sometimes some friction, things go on better.

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### Well Known and Wealthy.

All citizens of Fond du Lac and vicinity, between the years 1858 and 1875, well remember E. M. May, who conducted a fancy bakery, ice cream parlors and fruit stand near the store of Henry Brothers, and erected the fine three story brick building in that locality. Mr. May plodded along here for about eighteen years, when he sold out and went to Minneapolis, where he entered the same business on a large scale and became wealthy, so well fixed that he retired with a fortune, although in business there but about fifteen years. He died in 1896. Mrs. May and her son Fred, reside in a fine home on the shore of Lake Calhoun, and she has many flats and other property from which to collect rents. Mrs. J. V. Frost, also well known in Fond du Lac, resides a close neighbor of Mrs. May. Fred May has one of the noted lofts of homeing pigeons in the United States, and his birds have made some remarkable flights. Dr. Cad May, so well known as a boy in Fond du Lac, died some years ago. The place kept here by Mr. May in the old times, was one much frequented for lunches, ice cream, fruit, etc., and few people had a more general acquaintance. He went to Minneapolis at just the right time in the city's business career, and pushing business prospered. The family still has many warm friends here.

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### Experiences of Early Dealers.

In the early days of trade in Fond du Lac, dealers had their troubles. The dry goods man knew nothing about rugs, made up white goods or department store notions; the hardware man knew nothing about wire fencing, building paper or coal stoves; the grocery dealer had no knowledge of cereal foods, canned goods or foreign fruits; the dealer in furniture was ignorant as to cabinet and spring beds, couches and willow chairs; the jeweler knew nothing about Waltham, Elgin and other American watches, but sold English levers, Swiss and French cylinder escapements; the druggist did not have the tablets, alkaloids and pills of the present; milliners were ignorant of the modern hat. These are but a few of the articles that old time dealers were ignorant of, and the number is increasing now from year to year. What will be the situation in fifty years more no one can foresee.

### Wild Bakery and Confectionery.

The late B. Wild came to Fond du Lac in 1858 and became proprietor of the bakery at the corner of Main and East First streets, in 1859, under the name Excelsior Bakery. In 1867 the property on East First street, near Marr, was bought, the old premises having become too small, a suitable building was erected and the bakery removed there. These premises also became too small as the business increased, and additions were made to it until at the time of consolidation, it had become one of the largest concerns of its kind in the state. In 1883, the buildings were partly destroyed by fire, but were at once rebuilt larger than before. At this time the product of the factory was mostly crackers and confectionery, though some other bakery stock was made. Mr. Wild introduced the round "cottage loaves" of bread and for many years was a by no means small part of the daily output. In 1896 the Wild factory was consolidated with the great American Biscuit Company and the factory in Fond du Lac was closed and dismantled, much to the regret of all citizens and of Mr. Wild himself, who consented to it because of advancing age and a more profitable business arrangement. It was Mr. Wild who put down the first of the deep fountains in Fond du Lac, at this factory. He was a man of the highest character, and was beloved by all citizens. He died in 1904.

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### The Rueping Tannery.

This is another of the grand business institutions of Fond du Lac, and which has grown to immense proportions. The business was started here in 1854 by the elder William Rueping and his two oldest sons. The plant was a small one at the start, but they were practical and pushing business men and there was rapid growth. The buildings were quite modest at first, but they were three times increased by the addition of brick structures, until they have reached the present very large proportions. It is now one of the largest and most complete tanneries in the state. The machinery and appliances used are of modern design and the process the best known to the business. No acids or destructive material is used in any form. The quick process for tanning has always been ignored. The tanning obtained from hemlock bark, is the best material and thousands of cords of hemlock bark is used every year. The output of this tannery is very large but finds a ready market. Only a visit to this large concern can give any adequate idea of its magnitude.

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### All is Not Possible.

In an experience of more than fifty years in a community like Fond du Lac, so much transpires that it is impossible to make note of everything in a book like this. The author would have been glad to note many things which he has been compelled to omit. Future efforts he hopes will bring all into line. If the reader is inclined to criticise, let him but bear all the facts in mind.

# NOW ALMOST UNKNOWN

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## Some Things About the Towns, Cities and Villages in Early Times, Now Almost or Quite Forgotten.

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In early times there was in the town of Ashford, a place of some notoriety under the name of Crouchville. L. Crouch had a water power there, which he improved and the village of Crouchville was well known and talked about. But the water decreased in quantity as in all other sections as the land was improved and the notoriety of the place ceased to the extent that few people now know where it was. Recently the writer had occasion to look the matter up and his inquiries reached to at least twenty old residents before he found one to give the location with certainty and that person was born there. What was in the early times known as Crouchville is now New Cassel. This incident shows how completely things will drop from memory.

Rising Sun and Tavern used to be talked of, but how many now know that it was in the town of Springvale near Wedge's Prairie. There it was, however, and all old timers knew the place well, but there are few, if any, now living who could go to the place.

Reed's Corners was another once well known locality, but now almost wholly unknown. Almon Osburn, Curt. Higly, George Goodfellow and Squire Raymonds have passed away and Reed's Corners, between Ripon and Brandon, in the town of Metomen, is almost unknown.

Pequat Village, in the town of Calumet. Who can tell just where it was in the palmy days of Rufus P. Eaton and John Boyd?

Arcade, just west of Ripon, once had several houses and the fine flouring mill had a large patronage. The mill is there yet, but the water of Silver Creek has largely disappeared, as have also most of the houses in Arcade. Most people have forgotten that there ever was such a place.

Black Hawk was the name of a proposed village at one time, in the town of Alto, but little is known now about it. Black Hawk postoffice was connected with it in very early times.

Avoca village, in the town of Oakfield, one mile north of Oakfield station, at what was in early days known as the Orvis mill, once gave promise of much more than has come to it. Avoca has been in decline many years. The mill is there yet, but the water is not sufficient for it to do much business. Decay is apparent.

Foster, at the Foster postoffice and home of Egbert Foster, two and one-half miles east of the present Eden station, a village was talked of but died out after Mr. Foster left the county.

New Fane postoffice in the town of Auburn, was an incipient village, but died an early death, together with the postoffice.

As if in need of a capitol, all the towns in this county possess villages as follows:

Alto—Village of Alto.

Ashford—Campbellsport.

Auburn—New Prospect and New Cassel.

Byron—South Byron. Allenton is little more than a railroad station and Hamilton is a stone quarry and lime burning village.

Calumet—Marytown and Calumet Harbor.

Eden—Village of Eden Station. Marblehead is a stone quarry and lime burning place.

Eldorado—Eldorado Village.

Empire—Eggersville. The homestead of the de Neveu family has been known as Buena Vista, but was never a village.

Fond du Lac—City of Fond du Lac. The prosperous young city of North Fond du Lac, is at the shops of the Wisconsin Central Railroad and the location of the Northwestern shops, near it, is sometimes called New Fond du Lac.

Forest—Dotyville.

Friendship—Vandyne.

Lamartine—Seven Mile Creek.

Marshfield—St. Cloud and Johnsburg.

Metomen—Brandon.

Oakfield—Oakfield Station, Oak Center and Rock River have little pretensions now as villages.

Osceola—Waucousta and Dundee. What was known as Armstrong's Corners was never much more than a postoffice.

Ripon—City of Ripon.

Rosendale—Rosendale Village. What is known as West Rosendale, was and is but a school house and postoffice.

Springvale—Rogersville, with little claim to the title of village.

Taycheedah—Village of Taycheedah. The name of Peebles' Corners is given to the railroad station just east of Taycheedah.

Waupun—North Ward of the City of Waupun.

Some of the old time postoffices now and for many years discontinued, were Nanaupa, Banner, Woodhull, Kirkwood, Empire, Armstrong's Corners, Foster, North Taycheedah and Metomen.

When Fond du Lac was set off from Brown county, all of the townships did not appear at the same time. When we appeared as a county we had but eleven of the twenty townships now on the roll, the others came later. The town of Marshfield was not sliced from Forest and made into a township until 1854. Lamartine lost the territory of Eldorado in 1853, and Auburn, Springvale and Friendship were first entitled to places on the map of the county in 1854. Joseph Wagner put in his first appearance on the county board from the town of Forest, but he subsequently had the chairmanship from Marshfield until he had attended a total of fourteen sessions of the county board. But S. B. Stanchfield holds the lead with an attendance of twenty-two sessions from the town of Fond du Lac, at six of which he presided as chairman. "Uncle Billy Stewart" comes next with nine sessions from Byron and Eden. A.

A. Loper attended seven sessions from the town of Ripon, Aaron Walters five from Eden and a great many were on the boards two to five times.

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### Ashford Bear Story.

In early times the timber country of the east part of Fond du Lac county was infested by bears, and in the fall of the year in particular, were numerous. Farmers often suffered much from their depredations. Pigs, sheep, calves and even cattle were destroyed by them. Few of them ever appeared on the prairies of the west half of the county, but in the east half they were numerous. Following is the Ashford bear story as told by Martin Mitchell:

Among the annoyances, with which the early settlers in this town had to contend, was the ferocity of bears: these were so numerous that they became very bold, and somewhat dangerous. On one occasion Mr. Alex. St. Mary, while looking after his oxen, was set upon by a bear, which had a cub near by.

He sought refuge by climbing a tree: but she was not to be foiled of her prey without further effort, and attempted to climb after him when his dog seized the bear by the thighs and pulled her back, the dog then retreated, and the bear after him a short distance, and then returned to the tree, and as soon as she attempted to climb, the dog would pull her down, St. Mary in the tree all the time hallowing for help: this was continued until several men, hearing the cry for help, arrived with guns, and bruin made her escape, though with the loss of her cub.

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### The Refrigerator Business.

The first refrigerator, or so called ice box, built in Fond du Lac, was the "North Pole," by Eliab Perkins, in war times, but a business worthy the name, was not opened here until 1890, by C. J. Medberry and M. B. Peck, under the name of the "Gurney." In that year they bought the real estate of the La Belle Wagon Works, and associated with a few local stockholders, began building the Gurney on a larger scale. So many were made that some believed they would be swamped, but every one was sold and the demand was for more. They went to eastern markets and many were shipped to foreign countries. The business has increased from year to year, yet none are left over. In 1901 the buildings were burned but were at once rebuilt larger than before. Mr. Peck died in 1903, but the business has been actively continued.

In 1892, George Bowen, till then superintendent of the Gurney, with a number of local stockholders, formed the Bowen Manufacturing Company and began making the Bowen Refrigerator. From the start they readily sold all they could make, and ever since the Bowen plant has been one of the largest and most active in the city.

### Wisconsin Phalanx at Ripon.

This organization was based upon the theory of Horace Greeley, of the New York Tribune, for the development of a new country. Some of the best men in this part of the state came here as members of it, but the old doctrines of disintegration asserted themselves and its light went out after a comparatively brief period. It came here in the early spring of 1844, and after six years, in the fall of 1850, ceased to exist. When they came the locality was known as Ceresco, but in 1849 was changed to Ripon. It may be truthfully said that the Phalanx was in a large measure a success, but individuality was the rock to cause the wreck. In after years the members did not hesitate to express their belief that the system was the best possible method for the development of a new country.

Among the early arrivals as members of the Phalanx, were Warren Chase, Lester Rounds, Jacob Woodruff, Wm. Starr, John Irving, Nathan Hunter, Robert C. Mason, Gib. Lane, David Dunham, M. Limbert and others. The Phalanx was organized at Southport, now Kenosha, and came thence to Ceresco, now Ripon. They brought their own teams and tools. They at once built a flouring mill and a small sawmill. Geo. W. Dellinger was the miller. They had their own store and their own shops. Liquor was not allowed in the settlement and there was never a case of drunkenness. The character of the men composing the Phalanx is shown by the fact that during the whole of the six years there was not one lawsuit.

At the time the Phalanx disbanded, it owned six hundred acres of the beautiful land in Ripon, and everything was divided and settled upon a basis that left no trouble or bitterness and not one quarrel. It is not at all probable that all organizations of this character would so fully demonstrate the theories of Horace Greeley, especially in regard to internal workings, as this one possessed members much above the average in honesty and intelligence.

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### The Drug Mill.

This is one of the important institutions of Fond du Lac, although the people generally hear very little about it. Started in 1844, it has slowly grown into a large concern. It was the object of the proprietors, Messrs. Huber and Fuhrman, to make it a reliable, rather than startling in its growth and reputation. They determined from the beginning to build up a reputation for their product, which should command the patronage of the wholesale trade east and west. At first they ground and pulverized only home grown articles, but later on they imported all products for which there was a demand. To properly care for these articles and meet the demand from wholesale druggists, they have from time to time enlarged the warehouses and the mill. All parts of the world are drawn upon to meet the demand. The mill of the early timers was a sorry affair compared with that of today. It is doubtful if there is any man in this country more skilled in his line of business than Mr. J. C. Fuhrman, of the Fond du Lac drug mill.



# PAPER MONEY SMELLS BAD

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When You Receive a Package of Paper Money from the Bank, Don't  
Put it to Your Nose for a Smell. It is Not White Clover.

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## Strength of Paper Money.

Picking up a bill of the paper money of the country, imagine, if you can, where that bill may have been, into what sort of places and into the possession of what class of people, since it was issued new and crisp. All this is conjecture, but there is no doubt about the smell. A package of money, much as we desire to possess it, is suggestive of nastiness in the highest degree. You are willing to pocket a package if you can, but you will not bring it to your nose more than once by free consent. A one dollar bill by its individual smell, may be suggestive of leprosy, smallpox, itch or other disease. Tellers in banks no doubt incur risks sometimes. But there is something besides smell in considering the strength of paper money. Bank notes stand much handling.

That Uncle Sam's notes stand a great deal of rough and careless handling is a fact that impresses itself upon any one who has ever chanced to note the manner in which the average cashier pulls and jerks the bills before he pushes them through the window to the waiting patron.

A single treasury note measures three and one-eighth inches in width by seven and one-fourth inches in length. It will sustain, without breaking, lengthwise, a weight of forty-one pounds: crosswise, a weight of ninety-one pounds. The notes run four to a sheet—a sheet being eight and one-fourth inches wide by thirteen and one-half inches long. One of these sheets lengthwise will suspend 108 pounds, and crosswise 177 pounds.

It will be observed that a single note is capable of sustaining, crosswise, a weight of ninety-one pounds, which is twice the amount by nine pounds, of the weight the note can sustain lengthwise: while in the case of the sheet, the crosswise sheet lacks thirty-nine pounds of double the sustaining power of the lengthwise sheet.

Notes of the Bank of England are never passed out a second time. A note issued this morning and coming in during the day's business, is not allowed further circulation, no matter how crisp and new. They are destroyed and newly numbered ones take their places, therefore a Bank of England note is not likely to carry or breed disease. These notes are not pretty, but they possess the merit of being clean.

Except that the notes are not destroyed but are filed away in

great vaults, the situation and practice in Germany is very much the same as in England.

Why has not our government put into practice some form of relief from the outrageously dirty and bad smelling paper money issued here? Not only bank tellers but all who handle money ask for relief.

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### Few Now in Existence.

The pennies which Fond du Lac dealers had made and circulated in war times, were for purposes of change in sums less than five cents. The nickle coins did not come until the close of the war. There was a three cent coin in use, but it disappeared with our other coins. All were glad that the three cent coins were retired, as they were so often mistaken for dimes as to cause trouble. Government interfered with the local war pennies and they disappeared so completely that the writer has seen but one in many years. They were plentiful at one time in our local history. In the first issue of the fractional currency, there was a three cent note, but it soon disappeared and no more were issued.

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### Matches Not in Use.

The family of today that goes out into the country for a while, is very sure not to forget the matches. What could they do—how could they get along without them. But remember that when the pioneer came to Fond du Lac county, there were no matches to forget. A friction match, as they were called, were not put on the market until about 1842. In the evening the candle was lighted with a splinter or shaving, lighted in the fire. The active housekeeper would have a bunch of dry splinters but no matches. If the family got up in the morning to find that the fire had gone out during the night, some one had to hike off to a neighbor's house to get some. Care was taken to cover the fire so it could not die out, yet it did sometimes. Old people well remember the "tinder box" on the kitchen mantle, in which were the steel, flint and punk, the latter a kind of rotted wood that would take fire from a spark. The writer has one of them now, but it is held as a curiosity instead of necessity, as in old times.

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### Level of Dr. Bishop's House.

Who would suspect when standing and looking at it, that the ground on which Dr. Bishop's house stands, is the highest in that part of the city. The corner of Marr and Sixth seems to be higher, but it is really a trifle lower. When he built the house Dr. Patchen had the levels taken by Col. Boardman and he found the location of the house higher than any of the surrounding country. Dr. Patchen informed the writer that Sixth street, near Main, was just the same as at his house. Localities are sometimes very deceiving.

## OLD SETTLERS IN 1905

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The Fall Meeting of the Old Settlers' Club, August 30, 1905, in  
Every Respect Most Successful.

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The pioneers of Fond du Lac county, who had laid the foundations upon which to build and to whom all credit is due for what has been achieved, gathered in Fond du Lac, August 30, 1905, the day of the annual picnic of the Old Settlers' Club.

The gathering was one of the largest in the history of the organization, and Fond du Lac might well feel proud of entertaining such a representative body. While the sturdy pioneer was there to listen to the exercises, close by sat the younger generation, taking equally as great interest in what was said and done. As the writer looked over the vast throng, noticing the men and women who were boys and girls fifty years ago, he felt that Fond du Lac county had been in loyal hands during the early stages, and this in the main brought about its success. It would have been interesting to have had the affair continue for several days and listen to each one tell of the early days; tell how the forests gave way to thrifty farms under the axe in the hands of the pioneer, and how the fitting helpmate endured the privations that fell to the lot of the early settler, uncomplaining by the side of her husband.

The younger generation drank in every word, and well they might. The lesson was one of more value than a sheepskin or diploma issued to a college graduate. Unless the young man or woman could face adversity as the pioneers had, then all would be of no avail. The college education would be of no value. The rising generation should attend these occasions annually and take an instructive lesson.

The people commenced arriving in the morning and at the noon hour fully five hundred were on the grounds to participate in the picnic dinner. There was a steady pour into the fair grounds, and when the hour arrived for the ceremonies to begin, fully 1,500 were on the grounds, completely filling the large building, and hundreds were outside.

H. D. Hitt, of Oakfield, president of the Old Settlers' Club, presided at the meeting, and shortly after one o'clock introduced the first speaker, Lieut. Col. J. A. Watrous, of Milwaukee. Col. Watrous is a pioneer of this state and at one time resided in Forest, this county. At the present time he has relatives residing in Taycheedah.

"My remarks to you today, my kind friends," said Col. Watrous, "will be from the heart, as I am here to talk to you as one of you, about the early days and some of the great developments which we have witnessed during the course of the past fifty years. We have seen a backwoods nation rise step by step until it has surpassed all

of the powers, and yesterday we were given to understand what prestige the United States has acquired. Our great president, Theodore Roosevelt, who can no longer be regarded as a party man, but a nation's pride, is now the man of the hour and the influential factor in bringing about a reconciliation between warring powers in the far east. I do not think any one can accuse a speaker of infusing politics when he speaks of Roosevelt in glowing terms. His great victory of yesterday is but another step in the advancement of the nation.

"I have not prepared any studied manuscript," continued Col. Watrous, "but I have come here to tell a few stories and look back with you over that great period of development in the nation's history which in my belief, has no equal. We were here to see the country before the war and here to witness its reorganization into a world's power. I came here to Wisconsin in 1844 from New York state, and to Fond du Lac county in 1847, so you see that I am as much a Fond du Lac county product as many of you. I took up my residence in the town of Forest, though I did not remain many years there."

Comparing the opportunities of today with those of the young man fifty or seventy-five years ago, Col. Watrous said: "We are often told that the young man of today has not the opportunity for success as those of the time when we were boys, but I will say that he has five times as much. There are greater and more avenues of development now than there ever were before. Every road to success awaits the young man of today, but he cannot travel with laziness in his bones or inactivity in his brain. He must be alive to every situation and have unbounded energy and courage. So equipped he cannot help but be a success.

"When I first came to Wisconsin the opportunities were rather limited. There were no railroads and the state was practically a wilderness and the accommodations and conveniences in every line were primitive indeed. But the pioneers had to make the best of them, and the hard and industrious workers have been rewarded, for they have done their share, as much as any one in building up the state and nation.

"I am a firm believer in old settlers' clubs," said the colonel, "for I think it is an excellent way for preserving memories of the day long past and giving them to the present generation, that they may know what has been endured for their good. I hope that the future of this society will be crowned with success."

### Old Settlers' Program.

Fall meeting of the Old Settlers' Club held at the fair grounds in the city of Fond du Lac, August 30, 1905.

At the annual meeting of the club the Executive Committee was directed to fix the time for the mid-summer meeting on some day between the 20th and 30th of June. Early in June a meeting of the committee was held, and because of the storms and floods and bad condition of the roads it was thought best to adjourn the meeting until about fair time. Another meeting of the Executive Committee

was held on August 2, all the members being present, and the time for the meeting was fixed for August 30, at 10 a. m., at the fair grounds.

The Executive Committee urged all old settlers to be present at this meeting, whether members of the club or not, and to request all their friends to come. The dinner was in the nature of a basket picnic banquet, under direction of the committee on entertainment.

The following program was arranged for the occasion:

Annual address by Col. J. A. Watrous.

Paper by Mrs. Edgar Wilcox, of Oakfield.

Select readings by Miss Susie Hall, Miss Barbara Sweet and Mrs. A. E. Lindsley.

Obituary notices were read as follows:

William Adams, by Franklin Swett.

R. K. Satterfield, by William Stearns.

J. J. Lurvey and M. W. Merrill, by Dr. J. W. Burns.

Charles Rodney Harrison, Benjamin Franklin Moore, Lyman F. Stow, Charles Henry DeGroat and Mrs. Maria Probert Bishop, by A. T. Glaze.

Short addresses and talks by Old Settlers.

The following committees were appointed for this meeting:

Program—President H. D. Hitt, F. B. Hoskins, G. N. Mihills, Mrs. Hattie Sackett.

Entertainment—Mrs. G. I. Susan, Mrs. G. N. Mihills, Mrs. Jane Ann Ward, Mrs. S. H. Cheney, Mr. O. F. Lewis.

Reception—S. M. Ingalls, B. J. Gilbert, Dr. J. W. Burns, Dr. D. B. Wyatt, H. A. Ripley, Mrs. L. F. McLean, Mrs. H. D. Hitt, Mrs. F. B. Hoskins, Mrs. L. A. Bishop, Mrs. A. T. Glaze, Mrs. M. E. Dudley.

Transportation—W. A. Meiklejohn.

An abundance of stable and shed room was provided for all who came in their own conveyances.

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#### A Fourth of July Fire.

In the old times when Fire Engine No. 1, located on Main street, No. 2 on Division street, No. 3 on Arndt street, and No. 4 on Military street, each with its accompanying hose cart decorated for a 4th of July turnout, there was a worth while demonstration and the boys who manned the drag-ropes took delight in it. On one 4th of July, the year is not remembered, but it was not far from 1860, a fire alarm started from the east side of Main street, north of Division, just at the close of the procession, and it would have been amusing, had it not been provoking to see the flowers, ribbons and bunting flying to get to work. Main street from Division to Merrill, was strewed with the ornamenting material that the boys and girls too, for they helped, had placed on the apparatus with so much care. No one, however, was disposed to cry about it, for they were always ready at a moment's notice to fight fire.

### Coming of Stephen A. Douglas.

In September, 1860, the democrats of Fond du Lac had what was doubtless the largest political meeting ever held here. The excitement in political circles was so great that all meetings were exciting, but on this occasion it was particularly so. Nearly all the democrats here were friends and supporters of Stephen A. Douglas, and he was to be here on the occasion referred to. That party really had three national tickets in the field in that campaign. Breckenridge and Lane were supported by the southern pro-slavery wing, afterwards the confederate or rebel side. Douglas and Johnson represented the squatter sovereignty or northern progressive side, and Bell and Everett claimed to be a sort of constitutional party. The feeling in the north was very strong for Douglas and Johnson, and when Douglas was announced to speak in Fond du Lac, the feeling ran tremendously high. A committee of leading Fond du Lac democrats, including Charles A. Eldredge, Edward Beeson, D. E. Hoskins, Aaron Walters, D. R. Curran, G. W. Weikert and others, was appointed to meet Douglas and party at Watertown, and escort them here. A torchlight procession of magnitude never before seen here, awaited the arrival of the train at the Northwestern station on Division street, and the appearance of Mr. Douglas from the train and in an open carriage through Main street to the court house square, was a continued ovation. Douglas had been speaking in the open air for two or three weeks and was very hoarse, but he entertained the crowd for more than an hour. The torchlight procession and excitement did not end until long after midnight. It is doubtful if this demonstration was ever equaled here except by that of the "Wide Awakes" for Lincoln and Hamlin the same fall.

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### Seemed Like a Long Job.

At the time the Northwestern railroad track was laid from the Crofoot bridge south to Oakfield, though but about three miles, seemed to be a long job. It took all the summer of 1856 to remove the dirt from the cut north of Oakfield station. It is not a heavy cut, but it was a formidable job at that time. It could be done now in a month or less. Contractors in railroad building are hustlers now, but at that time compared to today, they were short on appliances and in experience. They know all about it now.

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### Tallmadge and Mitchell.

Gov. N. P. Tallmadge was a very small man and Martin Mitchell, who wrote the first history of Fond du Lac county, was a very tall one. They were warm friends and were often on the street together, where they attracted some attention. One day as they were passing the corner of Second and Main streets, a number of people were gazing at them, when Gov. Tallmadge, becoming indignant, remarked, "we are not animals to be gazed at," when the reply came, "no, but you are a show, just the same."

# TO BE TRIED AGAIN

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The Use of Peat Coming to the Front Again and the Question as of Old, is How to Prepare It.

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## Assisting Dame Nature.

Dame Nature has furnished everything necessary to supply the needs of man, and leaves it for him to make use of her bounteous gifts. Man finds the supply for his wants at the proper time, directed to it by the Providence which always watches over him, adopts it and utilizes it to fit his needs. The forest was made for man, and he has converted it into various forms for his uses, making building material and fuel therefrom, pulp to convert into paper, and other things for which he has pressing need. Nature also supplied the coal measures from which he gets the coal and oil of commerce which gives heat and light to the world. She has also furnished another fuel supply in the form of peat to take the place of wood and coal, when they become exhausted or are too costly to give the desired results from the standpoint of economy. Man has used the forest for his fuel supply from time immemorial. For a much shorter period of time he has been taking coal and oil from the bowels of the earth for the same purpose. The forests are passing away. The coal mines and oil fields have for the most part passed into the hands of great corporations, which make the people pay the highest price possible for what they get. Perhaps peat is destined to be the coming fuel for a large portion of the American people for these reasons.

## Nature Solves the Problem.

Nature, which is but another name for Providence, seems to have furnished the solution to the cheap fuel problem. Peat in itself is not new, for it has been used in some parts of the world as fuel for centuries. Its use thus far, however, has been mostly in a crude way and on a small scale, furnishing the home supply of fuel to residents in the vicinity of the deposits, poor people who otherwise would have little or no fuel to supply heat for warming their bodies and cooking their food. Peat is Nature's simplest fuel supply, the rich, deep, black muck of the marshes, nothing but an accumulation of the vegetable growth of countless ages, and of the same general nature as the great coal measures, but existing under different conditions.

## The Development of Peat.

The development of this new fuel supply is yet in its infancy in this section of the world, though it has passed through the experimental stages in other localities. For many centuries peat has been practically the only fuel known to the poorer people of Ireland and some other countries. Nobody knows how the first peat burner learned its value, but reasoning from analogy it was probably brought

to man's comprehension by the burning of the "bogs" deep down into the earth in seasons of excessive drought, when the grass was set on fire. If the bogs would burn thus when set on fire, and continue to burn until saturated with water, why would not a dry turf burn.

Should the development of peat be successful and a desirable fuel be produced, surely it will be a grand discovery, as the marshes of the west half of Fond du Lac county, are peat beds of quantity and quality unsurpassed.

Readers of history will remember that it was but about a century ago that the people were ignorant of the use of hard coal for fuel and the discovery was an accident. Some workmen were trying to use it in a small furnace for melting brass, but after struggling several hours, went to dinner with the fire apparently "dead out." Returning they found a glowing fire and the secret of how to burn hard coal, came to them and has been in use ever since. So with peat, we have it in any quantity and we must learn how to use it. The first agitation of this matter in Fond du Lac, was more than fifty years ago, and Ripon men tried it thirty years ago, but all were failures. In this as in many other things, we must live and learn, and for profit "get there" as soon as possible.

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#### Another Indian Scare.

Miss Fanny Conklin recalls an earlier Indian scare than that of '62, when their home was on the Phillips farm. Her mother, with three children, was alone in the house, the older boys and men being in the hayfield some distance from the house. Suddenly a number of Indians in their feathers and paint, were seen outside. They took their positions in a circle and began what the frightened family supposed was a "war dance." Mrs. Conklin sent the oldest boy for help, a hired man who was familiar with Indian ways, soon pacified their fears, telling them it was a "begging dance" and that they were performing for something to eat. Mrs. Conklin, very much relieved, gave them abundantly of provisions and with hunger satisfied, they left as quietly as they had come. The worst Indian scare the writer ever saw was when Forbes Homiston came out of the back door of John Reilly's barber shop, with drunken Indians at his heels, when he, as an officer of the village, was trying to stop their noise. Forbes did succeed in reaching the street, but not in stopping the noise.

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The Erving Hotel, opened to the public on the evening of November 16, 1905, has a history not all its own by any means, but in location and building. It started as the United States Cottage in 1848, built by J. J. Driggs, became the Globe Hotel in 1854, by A. C. Ketcham, the American House in 1862, by Henry Shattuck, the Windsor House in 1886, by W. Bittinger, and the Erving in 1905, by C. E. Plum. There have been many landlords, some of long possession, some short.



## WAS A GRAND BIRD

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Wisconsin's War Eagle "Old Abe," One of the Famous Relics of the War, Has a Grand History.

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The Eighth Wisconsin Infantry, famous in the war as the "Eagle Regiment," was largely recruited in Sheboygan county but some of the men were from the east half of Fond du Lac county, hence it possesses some local claims. The company that brought "Old Abe" into the regiment, however, came from Eau Claire county. The veterans as well as their successors, feel a lasting interest in the noble old bird and are glad to read about him, and it is for this reason that we give space here to his history. He will not be forgotten as long as memory holds the war of the rebellion. The eagle is our national symbol and we will venerate the bird as long as he remains such.

The Eighth was known as the "Eagle regiment," from the fact that a live eagle was carried through all its campaigns up to the return of the veterans in 1864. This noble bird was taken from the parent nest in Chippewa county in this state by an Indian, who disposed of it to a gentleman of Eau Claire county, from whom it was purchased by the members of Captain Perkins' company, Eau Claire Eagles, by whom it was presented to the regiment while organizing in 1861. It is needless to say that it was instantly adopted as the regimental pet and was christened "Old Abe." A perch was prepared and the royal bird was borne with the regiment on all its marches and into every battle in which the gallant Eighth was engaged up to the time it was mustered out. Perched on his standard above the heads of the men, the bird was more than once the mark for rebel bullets, but luckily escaped unharmed, with the exception of the loss of a few feathers, shot away. He returned with the veterans in 1864, and was presented to the state, and placed in charge of the quartermaster's department, and every care necessary was bestowed upon him. At the great Chicago Fair, 1865, "Old Abe" was exhibited and his photograph disposed of, realizing the amount of about \$16,000. He was also exhibited at the Milwaukee Fair with profitable results, we are told that the sum netted to the charitable objects was about \$20,000. He occasionally broke from his fetters and soared into his native element, but he had become so far domesticated that he was easily recovered. Occasionally the music of a band or the noise of a drum would reach his ear, when he would instantly listen and would respond with his characteristic scream, probably recognizing the strain as one with which the battlefield had made his ear familiar. "Old Abe" was celebrated in our military annals and his history is inextricably interwoven with that of the brave and gallant regiment who bore him triumphantly through the field of strife.

"Old Abe" was taken from the nest in Chippewa county in the

summer of 1860, so he could have been but about one year old when he entered the army in 1861, and as he died in 1887, he lived to be twenty-seven years old. At the time of his death, the taxidermist art was brought into use and he was so mounted that he seemed alive and ready for a campaign as of old. But the grand bird wholly disappeared in 1903, when the fire took place in the capitol in Madison. He was not exactly cremated, but his remains were burned and he will be no more seen and admired. The Eighth Regiment did splendid service in the western army and "Old Abe" was a prominent feature in all its campaigns and was most conspicuous in all its fights. All citizens of Wisconsin, as well as soldiers, deeply regret that he is to be seen no more.

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### Early Days Hotels.

Following are the hotels that did business in Fond du Lac in early times:

Dr. Darling's log house, 1840, more a house of entertainment from necessity than a hotel, on West First street, near Main.

Eagle Hotel, Fourth and Ellis, 1845.

American House, at the landing, 1846.

Hibbert House, West Johnson and Doty, 1847.

Hibernian House, Bannister and Doty, 1848.

Gromme House, (German) Main and Arndt, 1848.

United States Cottage, 1848, afterwards the Globe, the American, the Windsor, now The Erving.

Lewis House, 1848, afterwards the Patty House, now the Palmer.

City Hotel, 1849, Main and West Second.

Badger Hotel, 1849, Main and Western Avenue.

Exchange Hotel, Main opposite end of Forest, 1850, now on Main opposite malt house.

Koehne Hotel, (German) Main and Fourth, 1850.

First National Hotel, Fourth and Marr, 1867.

Union House, Main and Fifth, 1874.

After 1860 the hotels increased rapidly, and from 1880 Fond du Lac has had more than was really needed. Of the old time hotels only the Palmer, the Windsor and Exchange remain.

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### Black Hawk Lived Here.

It is probably known to few people now living, that the great Indian warrior, Black Hawk, once lived in this county. What has of late years been known as Grand Prairie, in the center of the town of Alto, was in early times called Black Hawk Prairie, and it was here that the great Indian warrior of that name lived, and drifted from that region southward into Illinois, especially to the region of Galena and of Wisconsin's Grant County. In the town of Alto there was for some years a postoffice bearing his name.

## PUT INTO THE BOX

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### What Was Put Into the Box at the Time the Corner Stone of the Public Library Was Laid.

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The list as read was:

Name of the president of the United States and his cabinet.

The governor and lieutenant governor of Wisconsin.

Our United States senators.

Our member of congress.

Our state senator.

Our member of the assembly.

The mayor of the city of Fond du Lac.

Copies of all records of the library board, which relate to the new library building.

Under this head, President Hoskins said, in part:

"The first is a communication from Laura B. Williams and Anna G. Sweet, transferring to the library board a copy of Mr. Carnegie's letter, and tendering to us these lots on which the building is being erected. Mr. Carnegie's letter is next on the minutes, and is as follows:

"Mrs. L. A. Bishop, Fond du Lac, Wis. Madam: Responding to your letters: If the city of Fond du Lac will pledge itself to support a free public library at a cost of not less than three thousand dollars a year and provide a suitable site, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to furnish thirty thousand dollars to erect a free public library building. Respectfully yours, James Bertram, private secretary."

Mr. Galloway's resolution was then read, accepting the gift and thanking the Woman's Club.

"Under the minutes of March 4," said Mr. Hoskins, "is a communication from the Woman's Club, beautifully prepared and reading as follows:

"To the library board of the city of Fond du Lac: Greeting. The Woman's Club presents to you as library trustees for the city of Fond du Lac, this deed to a piece of land to be used perpetually as a site for a free public library. This gift from the citizens attests their appreciation of Mr. Carnegie's generosity to the city of Fond du Lac."

Attention was called to the few conditions named by Mr. Carnegie, and the president of the board read the following:

"Hoboken, N. J., March 3, 1902. Mr. F. B. Hoskins, president of Fond du Lac public library: Dear Sir:—In response to your favor of the 13th, inst., would say that I have been instructed by Mr. Carnegie to make payments to the extent of \$30,000 for a library building at Fond du Lac, and I will be pleased to make remittances to this extent in amounts of \$5,000 each from time to time, as needed to carry on the work of construction of the building. Requests for

remittances should be signed by the president and treasurer of your library board and the architect's certificate enclosed, to the effect that bills to the extent of \$5,000 are due on the building. Yours very truly, R. A. Franks."

The reading of the list of documents entering the receptacle was then completed:

Copy of minutes of proceedings of common council relating to new library building.

Copy of ordinance accepting Mr. Carnegie's gift.

List of all city officials.

List of members of common council.

List of school commissioners.

List of officers, employes and directors of library.

List of officers and directors of library for each year from organization to date.

Copy of a letter from Miss E. Rose, librarian, to Congressional library at Washington; a history of the library movement in Fond du Lac.

Standing committees of common council.

Standing committees of board of education.

Standing committees of the library board.

Copy of "Fond du Lac Illustrated."

Last edition of Daily Commonwealth.

Copy of Semi-Weekly Commonwealth.

Last edition of Daily Reporter.

Copy of Saturday Reporter.

Last edition of Northwestern Courier.

Rules and regulations of library.

Catalogues, finding lists of library books.

City directory.

Cathedral souvenir.

Woman's Club year book.

Names of officers, standing and special committees and chairmen of same of Woman's Club of Fond du Lac.

History of library work of Woman's Club.

Letter from Mrs. Waldo Sweet, secretary, to Mr. Carnegie.

Constitution of Woman's Club.

List of contributors to library site.

St. Agnes' Hospital, Souvenir.

Daily Reporter, March 7, 1903, containing history of St. Joseph's Church, its early missions.

Pictures of St. Mary's Springs Sanitarium.

Blanks and forms now in use at the public library.

### The Corner Stone Laid.

Following the reading of the list of articles consigned to the metal box, the corner stone was swung into place, President Hoskins wielding the trowel with which the mortar was applied. This trowel is to be plated with silver, appropriately engraved and presented to the Woman's Club as a souvenir of the occasion.

## COUNTY ORGANIZATION

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### Fond du Lac a Part of Brown County and Winnebago a Part of Fond du Lac County in the Original Arrangement.

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The division of Brown county, by which Fond du Lac came into existence, was long after such an arrangement had been talked of, in other words, it was known as Fond du Lac before it had a legal existence. And the same was true about Winnebago county, which was a part of Fond du Lac before its independent legal existence. A division of counties was a common occurrence in the early history of the state. In the division of the counties into towns, the process was similar—territory was divided and new names taken, as pleased the tastes of the people. The name Fond du Lac came from the French traders and existed as a tangible designation of territory long before the county had a legal existence. It was a county, however, early enough to be represented in all of the territorial assemblages but one, and took an active part in making the state constitution before our admission to the Union as a state.

When in December, 1836, a certain portion of territory of Brown county was designated as a new county and called Fond du Lac, no provision was made for its organization. It had not a sufficient population. There was, indeed, but one family residing within its designated boundaries. All that could be done was to say where its county seat should be, and that the county should be attached to some other county for judicial purposes. The county seat was "established at the town of Fond du Lac," and the county was "attached to the county of Brown for judicial purposes." Finally by an act of the Territorial Legislature, adopted March 11, 1839, the county was to be organized, but "for the purposes of county government only," it was still to remain a part of Brown county for all judicial purposes. An election was held August 6, 1839, resulting in the choice of John Bannister, Edward Pier and Reuben Simmons as Commissioners, A. Raymond, Treasurer, and J. Bannister, Register. The commissioners organized their board on the 9th of October following, by electing Reuben Simmons, Chairman, and Mason C. Darling, Clerk. Upon the entering of these officers upon their respective duties, the county of Fond du Lac was organized for all but judicial purposes, and began its onward career of prosperity. It was not until from and after the first Monday of March, 1844, that Fond du Lac county was fully organized.

Until 1840, the Indians in this county outnumbered the whites at least ten to one; they were generally friendly, bringing venison and other game, wild honey and skins for sale or exchange; but sometimes they would kill hogs that they never paid for, and had a way of setting the woods on fire while hunting deer, burning up fences

and pastures. In 1840, John Bannister took the United States census and the number of whites of all ages was 139, all told, in Fond du Lac county.

Being organized by law in 1844 for all purposes, including judicial, we had courts six years before we had a court house, but Judge Stow did not object to holding court in a school house. He would no doubt, have dealt out the law from his rickety old wagon on the street, if there had been no better place. He was not noted for having things very nice, even at his home, but he was a good judge for all that. The county courts did not have civil jurisdiction until many years later and did not need a court house for only probate business. The county officers were quartered in rented rooms in the village. The jail was of logs, from which a modern hobo could escape in from five to fifteen minutes.

The settlers generally brought with them clothing enough to last a year or two; but in spite of all the good wife could do in the way of mending and patching, it could not last forever. Everything is perishable in this world and somehow clothes have a wicked way of being most perishable of all; after a while the original garments would not bear the patches. What was to be done? Good looks will hardly pay for a new suit, especially in a country where there are no stores. So it came to pass that the settlers bought from the Indians buckskin coats, without being too particular about their being second hand articles and smelling smoky. Almost every one of the early settlers sported his Indian coat in those days, but they looked neither dandy nor very dignified. Even the grave old doctor, who founded the city of Fond du Lac, wore one of the things at times, he did not look like a learned doctor, but like an Indian doctor, the Indians called him Mushkiki-enini, the medicine man. The pants were often made of buckskin also, more frequently the latter garment was faced with buckskin over the front, which operation gave it a longer lease of life and usefulness and like charity, threw a mantle over many failings. Could you now see those courageous and worthy men, many of whom have reached their last resting places, leaving honored names and good deeds behind them, file down Main street on a busy day, it would no doubt provoke a smile, but with them it was the result of sheer necessity.

What about their fare? Milk and butter they had in abundance, and also pork and excellent potatoes. They had enough coarse food, but as you know, variety is the spice of life, and to eat constantly pork and potatoes and beans is apt to become monotonous in the end. George W. Featherstonehaugh, of Calumet, said that he had fed so constantly on pork, that he could not look a hog in the face without feeling guilty and blushing. Tea and coffee were quite scarce articles, as well as sugar, and were not used freely, although a little was kept for company. The country was ransacked for substitutes. Even such articles as wheat, barley, peas, beans, dandelion roots, crust coffee and many other substitutes were resorted to and dignified with the name of tea and coffee, but when you came to taste, especially without sugar, the fraud was too palpable and would

not go down, in spite of all assurances that the drink was very healthy indeed, far more so than the real articles, which as everybody knows are notoriously injurious to the system.

Every family knew pretty accurately the condition of the neighbors' flour or pork barrel and supply of groceries. In case of sudden emergencies, some youngster was dispatched to the neighbors with compliments and request of the loan of a cupful of tea or some sugar, a few pounds of pork or a pan full of flour for a few days.

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### Old Timers on the Board.

At each recurring session of the County Board of Supervisors, old time citizens do not fail to think of some men who were once there. He reads the list in the newspapers, but fails to see the names he was once so familiar with. Year after year the familiar faces appeared, the various towns deeming it prudent to return the same men to the board. Experienced as they were it was safer than to send new men without experience. At the present time a majority of new men appear on the board each year, but the old timers had a different policy. Among the old time members we could hear the roll call of the clerk on such names as:

Daniel D. Wilcox, Dr. S. G. Pickett, Henry Crownhart and Peter Johnson, from Ashford.

L. Crouch, R. F. Adams, Charles D. Gage and Harvey Parsons, from Auburn.

James McElroy, R. M. Harwood and Daniel Wilcox, from Alto.

William Stewart, D. C. Brooks and Benj. Nightengale, from Byron.

John Boyd, Rufus P. Eaton and George White, from Calumet.

Aaron Walters, Peter Vandervoort and William Stewart, from Eden.

M. S. Barnett, A. T. Germond and G. de Neveu, from Empire.

Edward Pier, S. N. Hawes and J. C. Lewis, from Fond du Lac.

Hestor Monroe, Joseph Kinsman and Theodore Herrling, from Friendship.

Harry Giltner, Joseph Wagner and J. W. Hall, from Forest.

Peter V. Sang, Fay S. Brown and Dr. Elliott Brown, from Lamartine.

Robt. Jenkinson, G. W. Parker, Capt. William Plocker, from Metomen.

W. J. Ripley, H. D. Hitt and Isaac Orvis, from Oakfield.

C. N. Prescott, John Beeson and J. W. Whiting, from Osceola.

Lester Rounds, Warren Chase, T. B. Robbins and A. B. Beardsley, from Ripon.

Jonathan Dougherty, Bertine Pinkney, Geo. D. Curtis and H. G. Halsted, from Rosendale.

Warren Whiting, Geo. F. Wheeler and A. C. Whiting, from Springvale.

O. R. Potter, J. Y. Westervelt and Chas. Geisse, from Taycheedah.

N. M. Donaldson, S. R. Vaughn and D. W. Whiting, from Waupun.

E. S. Bragg, Dr. E. Delaney, George Hunter, Henry Shattuck, H. P. Brown, S. B. Amory, C. O. Bissell and J. M. Taylor were among those from the City of Fond du Lac, frequently seen at the county board sessions in old times.

Among the earliest from the city of Ripon, were William Starr, W. R. Kingsbury, C. P. Dunning, Capt. D. P. Mapes, L. M. Carlisle, D. P. Imson and S. G. Dodge.

The towns of Eldorado and Marshfield did not have an existence until 1854. H. W. Wolcott was the earliest member from Eldorado, and Joseph Wagner represented Marshfield almost continuously from its organization as a town, until his death in 1874.

William Stewart was a member from Byron and Eden nine years, and was the longest in service except S. B. Stanchfield, of the town of Fond du Lac, who has served twenty-two years, and chairman of the county board six years.

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### Abstracts and Land Titles.

The first books in this county from which abstracts of land titles were made, were compiled by N. H. Jorgensen, our third Register of Deeds. He sold them to Dana C. Lamb, afterwards Lamb & Smead, and after some years they were sold to C. L. Encking. What became of them after his death, no one seems to know, but they had become so old and worn that they were of little value to anybody. James T. Green, "Sandy" Leland, and two or three others, made "skeletons" of abstract books. The last few years of his life, Mr. Green depended largely on the books in the office of the Register of Deeds. For many years W. E. Angel did the abstract work in the Register's office and was remarkably efficient in it. H. W. Newton has been doing this work a number of years and is at it yet. No man in the county has as thorough a knowledge of the real estate as Mr. Newton. Some years ago a set of abstract books was made by Wm. E. Cole, and the office of the Fond du Lac Title and Abstract Company is still at the Savings Bank. The books of the Fond du Lac County Title and Abstract Company, were made by Chadbourne & Sallade, and are now kept at the law office of Williams, Griswold & Chadbourne. There are a few others who furnish abstracts, but they rely mainly upon the books in the Register's office.

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### Not Made Here Since.

Alonzo Simmons was an early days' chairmaker in this city and had a shop just north of the present Erving Hotel, and the way he used to rattle out the plank bottomed, then called Windsor chairs, was astonishing. It is doubtful, however, if such a chair has been made here since "Lon" closed his shop, which was when he went to the war. The settlers took them away about as fast as he could make them.



## ABORIGINES FROM 1764

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Something About the Red Men of This Region More Than a Century Ago. Who Were They and Where Did They Live?

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It is a matter of much interest to know what tribes of Indians roamed this region more than a century ago, and where they lived. We often read about tribes before the days of the Winnebagoes and Menomonees, the tribes our pioneer families knew, and we see the tribal names, but that is about all we know. It is here attempted to give the reader some interesting information concerning these Indians. They are nearly all out of existence now. Like the trees of the forest, they do not bear civilization—they die when their habits are interfered with. The once powerful Winnebagoes are now nearly extinct, and the older tribes that roamed over what is now Fond du Lac county, are all gone. We can now only read about them as they once were, for they have no existence.

As early as the year 1615, Samuel Champlin heard of a tribe of Indians living many leagues beyond Lake Huron, called the Five Nations, better known at a later date as the Moscoutins. Their homes were upon the Fox river, at that time, as it is believed, and here they were visited by civilized men a little over a half century after. It is presumed that their village was located within the present limits of Green Lake county, somewhere on the Fox river between Berlin and Lake Puckaway, and that they claimed as their hunting grounds, among much other territory that now is included within the boundary lines of the county of Fond du Lac. The nearest tribe to the Moscoutins down the river was that of the Winnebagoes, whose home was at the mouth of that stream. To the south, extending perhaps well up Rock River, was the territory of the Illinois. In the immediate neighborhood of the Moscoutin (but in what direction is uncertain) were the Kickapoos and Miamis, the former is supposed to have at one time occupied the region around the head of the lake.

The Illinois, who lived in a country "where there was a quantity of buffaloes," were afterwards driven beyond the Mississippi, but subsequently returned to the river which still bears their name. Meanwhile there commenced an emigration of the Moscoutins and their kindred, the Kickapoos and Miamis, to the southward, as far at least as the south end of Lake Michigan. This place was taken by the Foxes and their relatives, the Sacs, and in time, these also emigrated, but not to the southward: the course taken by them was to the west and southwest. It is certain the Foxes claimed for a time the country now forming Fond du Lac county, as well as much other circumjacent territory. Then came the Winnebagoes from below, that is, from the head of Green Bay, moving up the Fox river

by degrees, having outlying villages within the present limits of Fond du Lac county and in the valley of Rock River. The Menomonees also occupied the Winnebago Lake country. This territory was on the east side of the lake, but did not extend very far south. The southeast portion of the present county of Fond du Lac lay within territory claimed by the Pottowottomies, whose homes were principally upon Lake Michigan. A small part of the county was ceded to the United States by the Menomonees. A much larger portion, however, was comprised in the land sold by the Winnebagoes in 1832. The residue was included in the Pottowottomies cession of 1833. In 1828, the Winnebago nation occupied the country immediately in the vicinity of the present city of Fond du Lac, and along the west shore of Lake Winnebago to what is now the city of Menasha. They then had large villages on each branch of the Fond du Lac river just above the forks. They also had a village at the mouth of the creek on the side of the lake near Taycheedah. The Menomonee village of Calumet ("Pipe Village") even as early as 1817, seemed to be anything but of recent origin. Its location was not identical with the village of the same name in the present town of Calumet. The exact time when these three villages were finally vacated by these Indian occupants, is not known with certainty, though in 1834, they were found by the government surveyors unoccupied.

In the last years of the occupancy of this region by the Indians, they were rovers. They seemed to have no fixed homes. Even the Menomonees, the last of our Indians, roamed back and forth between Milwaukee and Shawano county. What is now left of them have their home on the reservation at Keshena. The Winnebagoes are near Black River Falls. Only a few years more and there will be none left to recite the legends or tell of their former national glory.

### **Black Hawk Lived Here.**

For many years we have heard much about Black Hawk, without knowing much about him, where he lived or when or what was his career. It is probably known to few that Black Hawk once resided in the town of Alto, Fond du Lac county. He was the last of the great Indian warriors. About 1768, in a village of Sac Indians, on the Mississippi, near Rock River, he was born October 3. In 1838, Black Hawk died. In the war of 1812, Black Hawk, then a leading chief of the Sacs and Foxes, took the English side. After the war he resisted the encroachments of white settlers and provoked several paltry conflicts, but was subdued and captured in 1832. The tribe was removed, but Black Hawk and his sons and a few warriors were kept awhile as hostages, and brought as a show to eastern cities. Here it was that he made the reputation so well known to white people.

### **Early French Traders.**

Frenchmen from Canada trading with the Indians, were early visitors to what is now Fond du Lac county. The name Fond du Lac was applied by them as the remotest point in the lake from Green

Bay. There was a trading post established in 1787, at the forks of the Fond du Lac river by Jacob Franks, of Green Bay. It was occupied by Jacques Daltier, Frank's clerk, for a brief period. Franks, in 1791, sent his nephew, John Law, to this point. Augustin Grignon subsequently had a trading post on the West Branch, the spot where the shops of the Northwestern Railway, in the city of Fond du Lac and near what was afterward the Fond du Lac house. Peter B. Grignon, formerly a venerable resident of Green Bay, and a nephew of Augustin Grignon, passed one winter on the West Branch, just below First street, 1819. The cellar of his shanty, partially overgrown by willows, could be seen when the village was finally settled. It was situated not far from the Gurney Refrigerator plant, between Forest avenue and West Division street. It seems also, that at the Winnebago village near where Taycheedah now is located, white men came for the purpose of trading with the Indians. At this point the Menomonees, Pottowottomies and other tribes, came to traffic with the Frenchmen. The Indians, whose trade was then sought, were the Winnebagoes, who had a village where Taycheedah now is, three miles east of Fond du Lac city and had other villages. Mr. Law afterward spent several winters at different points among the Indian hunting bands between Green Bay and the Mississippi and up to the time when his uncle left the country and went back to Canada, which was about the beginning of the war 1812, leaving Mr. Law as his successor as a merchant and trader, and he continued more or less, in the Indian trade as long as he lived.

Sometimes the traders carried their packs of merchandise upon their backs from Green Bay. Solomon Juneau would occasionally leave his home where the city of Milwaukee now stands, with eighty pounds weight upon his back, going to Sheboygon and thence to Lake Winnebago, returning by the way of the villages at the head of the lake. This primitive mode of transportation has been improved upon between those points since that time.

These French voyageurs or traders were of a remarkable hardy race. Outdoor exposure and the rigors of winter were nothing to them. In making their trips to the Indian villages and settlements, they used boats if possible, but the Indian trail was their principal highway. These were but paths and vehicles could not be used. Sometimes ponies were brought into use and the packs were then transferred from man to beast. The main article of frontier commerce desired was furs, and to secure these, penetrated the west in the eighteenth century to the Missouri in our present North Dakota. Among those who came to this region in the early thirties, were Solomon Juneau, Joseph King, Louis Russell and others.

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After disposing of the Lewis House, the home of Col. James Ewen and family, was on the southwest corner of Forest avenue and Harrison Place, at that time known as Ewen street. Here the five boys, John, Milton, James, Frank and Edward, and his two daughters, Maria and Isabella, came to manhood and womanhood.

### Indian Took His Dog.

Mark Little cannot tell you from observation about the Indian taking his dog, for he was not present, but his brother, Egbert Little, was there and saw it all. These men were boys then and lived in the family of their father, W. C. Little, at the family home on Scott street, near Brooke. Mark had a dog which he provided quarters for in the back yard. James B. Clock, the afterwards well known railroad conductor and father of Mrs. H. F. Whitcomb, lived across the street. One day a tall Indian came along and seeing the way clear, sneaked into the back yard of the Little home and stole Mark's dog. Mr. Clock, across the street, saw the Indian's sneak and big as he was, went for him with vigorous kicks, which he kept up all the way to the old float bridge, where the Indian had his canoe. Egbert says the most laughable part of the affair was the Indian trying to turn while all the time talking Indian. Clock did not care so much for the dog as he did to punish the Indian for a back yard sneak, and so he got away with the dog. Egbert says he is not sure that the dog really belonged to Mark, anyway.

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### Fond du Lac File Works.

This is a plant which has existed here many years, at the southwest corner of Johnson and Doty streets. Though making little stir, the concern does a large amount of work. Henry Scherer, the proprietor, is a practical filemaker and turns out files of all the varieties in general use, but mostly those used in shops and mills, and the work done comes from neighboring places as well as Fond du Lac. Few new files are ground here. Old files have the teeth ground off, so that they are smooth, and then they are recut and tempered for use again. It is a busy place.

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### Stone Cutting by Air Pressure.

The cutting of hard granite for cemetery work cannot be done successfully with chisel and mallet, and as granite is now generally used in place of marble, as of old, other processes must be used. Robert Powrie opened here in 1867, and in his shop are the modern appliances. The polishing process is interesting, but the air pressure cutting is more so. Instead of thirty or forty blows a minute, it strikes 3,000. The air pressure is applied by a compressor run by a gasoline engine. In this way only can the hard granite be handled successfully.

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J. J. Driggs built the house still at the east corner of Western avenue and Linden streets, at a time when residences of that size and style were not numerous in Fond du Lac. Mr. and Mrs. Driggs both died there. During his life here, "Squire" Driggs had many buildings erected, including this one and the Cottage, now The Erving.

# THE MACHINE SHOPS

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Foundries and Machine Shops Not Numerous, But Most of Them  
Very Good Ones and Long Lived.

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## Manufacture of Machinery.

After the lake steamboat Manchester was overhauled and the name changed to Oshkosh, it was found that the machinery was inadequate and improperly adjusted. The boat was taken from the water at the foot of Arndt street, to be overhauled. At this time, too, there was some demand for machine work in connection with mills, and here it was that Truman Shepard, John B. Wilbor and T. S. Henry started the first foundry and machine shop. This was in 1848. Tools and machinery were added from time to time, the most of it second hand from different lake ports. In 1850, John Peacock and Alex. White acquired the ownership of the shops and continued it under the firm name of Peacock & White, until 1860, when W. H. Hiner became one of the proprietors and the name was changed to Union Iron Works, which continued many years and until bought by the Trowbridges and became a part of the Novelty Iron Works, which have continued until the present, but under the ownership of several firms, Col. C. H. DeGroat, George Giddings and O. F. Lewis being longest in possession, under the firm name of DeGroat, Giddings & Lewis. During their ownership of about thirty years, they very largely increased the plant in every detail. The buildings were doubled in size, and everything for the business supplied in great variety. They gave special attention to sawmill machinery, which found a market from Maine to Texas. To facilitate the handling of the heavy material and machinery, railroad tracks run into the yards and to the warehouses.

The illness of Col. DeGroat, which ended in his death in August, 1904, caused his withdrawal from the works and it was then incorporated under the name of Giddings & Lewis Manufacturing Company, a title it still bears, with C. E. Cleveland as President, and Henry Rueping, Secretary and Treasurer.

C. J. L. Meyer had a machine shop for some years which toward the last, was a branch of the great Allis Works of Milwaukee. During the half century, there have been a few small shops that did not last long.

Abel Brothers had a shop for a number of years at the corner of East First and Portland streets, now located on Third street. It is mainly for small work and repairs and especially on automobiles, bicycles, lawn mowers, etc.

L. H. Clark opened a machine shop for small work, in 1894, on East Second street, under the name of Clark Manufacturing Com-

pany, making metallic steam packings and a number of novelties which have had an enormous sale. After a time a style of gasoline engine designed at these shops, was perfected and made in large numbers. In 1900, the shops were moved to Forest avenue near the railroad tracks, and the facilities largely increased by the addition of machinery for making gasoline engines, novelties and doing repair work.

P. N. Quentin has a shop on West Second street, for doing repairing, locksmith and small work. The Quentin shop was first located on East Division street, in 1893.

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### A Good Pork Joke.

A joke is told by J. B. Tripp on the early days' habit of borrowing meat. Settlers sometimes borrowed pieces of pork to be returned at killing time. One of the settlers had borrowed so many pieces that when he figured it up found he would not have enough to pay his pork debts. A neighbor volunteered to tell him how to settle it and possibly have some pork left. "Let your meat creditors know the day you will kill," said he, "and that night hang your pig out to cool, and taking it in later, cut and pack it safely away from sight and tell them next day that your pig had been stolen. In sympathy for your loss, they will forgive the debt." The pig was out but a short time when the neighbor captured it. He was the first man to be informed next morning that the pig had been stolen. "That's right," said he, "stick to it and make 'em believe it." "But it has been stolen," he insisted. "That's right—that's the way to do it." "Why, you darned fool, I tell you the pig is gone—has been stolen." "Yes, I know it, but you must make the others believe it too." No sympathy or satisfaction was possible and there was no payment of the pork debts. On another occasion a settler had four chickens which he said he was going to bestow upon neighboring friends for Thanksgiving. When the time came around he visited the coup of a neighbor, lifted and dressed the four chickens to save his own. But next morning his were gone too. Some one else played the same trick he had. The early settlers were not all this sort of people, but there were some such.

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### A West Side Trail.

There used to be an Indian trail much used, on the west side of Lake Winnebago. This trail branched from the east side, or main trail and road near what is now Kaukauna and passing southwest came to the upper Fox river at Butte des Morts, where it crossed the river. Boats were used and the snubbing posts could be seen near the home of Mr. Hull, until a very few years ago. This trail followed the river much of the way to Fort Winnebago, at Portage. There was a cross trail from the Military road at Fox Lake, to Buffalo Lake. There were other Indian trails or paths, which were sometimes findable, sometimes not.

# THE FOND DU LAC "HOME"

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History of One of the Noble Charities of Fond du Lac, Founded in 1872. Has Been Ably Managed.

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The Fond du Lac Home.

This noble charity now thirty-three years old, was first known as the "Home of the Friendless," but was changed and is now known as "The Home." From its beginning it has been in charge of ladies who knew how to give it the highest possible efficiency with the means they had to work with, and they have never faltered, though the future was sometimes rather dark and vigorous and determined effort needed to properly carry on the work. Twice have these noble ladies been confronted with fires in the buildings, but still they did not falter, but kept up courage and met all troubles as well as to provide for the general wants of the institution. They are entitled to and it is certain that they will receive, the thanks of the entire community. Mrs. W. C. Hamilton and Mrs. W. H. Hiner are the only ones of the first members of the trustees, who are still with us, and to their honor be it said, they have all these years been active in work. Of the early members, however, Mrs. G. W. Lusk, Mrs. Julia Ruggles and Mrs. A. E. Walker are still living.

The Home, with its ample grounds and large, comfortable buildings, is an outgrowth and the exclusive property of the Fond du Lac Relief Society, which was organized by the ladies of Fond du Lac, during the great fires in Michigan and Wisconsin in 1871. Mrs. Julia Tallmadge Ruggles was the leading spirit in organizing the Relief Society. She was also mainly instrumental in securing a charter for the society, enabling it to hold property and in raising money to pur-

chase the building now owned and occupied as the Home. Her original idea was to have an industrial school connected with the Home, so that needy people might be provided with employment for wages.

Mrs. Elizabeth Fennimore Beall, until her death in 1879, was also an earnest worker in the Relief Society. The first annual report of the society was in April, 1875. It contained the original articles of association as required by law, showing that the following ladies were the founders of the society: Mrs. Elizabeth F. Beall, Mary W. Stow, E. B. Tallmadge, Mary L. Hamilton, Susan A. Perry, Mary Branshaw, E. A. Walker, Julia T. Ruggles, C. L. Spears, C. F. Townsend, E. A. Hurd, Mary L. Hiner, G. W. Lusk. A large number of other ladies afterward became members, the life membership fee being \$25. In 1876, the state made an appropriation of \$300, and until 1879 the county set aside \$300 annually for the Home. At its session in that year, the County Board refused to make an appropriation. Mrs. William B. Brand, at her death in 1878, bequeathed some real estate and \$200 in cash to the Home, and the citizens of Fond du Lac have given liberally to its support. George W. Peck delivered a lecture for the benefit of the Home, and various fairs, concerts, dramas and other entertainments have been given to replenish its treasury. These have always been liberally patronized. The building occupied as the Home is situated on the corner of Amory and Arndt streets, and was purchased by the Fond du Lac Relief Society August 30, 1873, of R. M. Lewis, for \$2,500. It is commodious and well arranged for the use to which it has been put, and is surrounded by a finely shaded yard and large garden.

The Home is the only non-sectarian benevolent institution in the city and has accomplished great good, extending aid to persons of all ages and shades of religious opinion.

In this year of 1905, the following named ladies are in charge of the Home:

President—Mrs. G. N. Mihills.

Vice President—Mrs. M. B. Peck.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. J. T. Green.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Martha Jacobs.

Treasurer—Mrs. George Perkins.

Trustees—Mrs. W. C. Hamilton, Mrs. W. H. Hiner, Mrs. E. R. Herren, Mrs. Henry Boyle, Mrs. D. B. Wyatt, Mrs. John Hughes, Mrs. J. M. Blish, Mrs. Alex. McDonald, Mrs. M. J. Peck, Mrs. J. C. Wells, Mrs. M. M. Gillet.

Miss McNaughton is the present Matron and a most efficient one. She is loved by the inmates and honored by all who have dealings with the Home.

Many prominent ladies of the city have been connected with the Home in years past, among them Mrs. J. M. Aldrich, Mrs. C. J. Pettibone, Mrs. G. W. Lusk, Mrs. J. C. Whittelsey, Mrs. J. C. Wedge.

#### Issued a Newspaper.

The ladies of the Home sought and obtained the privilege of issuing the Daily Commonwealth for July 4, 1904. Coming from such



hands, of course the paper contained much interesting matter and the following history is given:

In the year 1872, immediately after the great forest fires that destroyed Peshtigo and Marinette, a meeting was called by Mrs. Julia Ruggles and the "Fond du Lac Relief Society" was formed. The first purpose of this society was to relieve the immediate needs of the fire sufferers. Afterwards its work was among the poor of this city. There was left of the "State Relief Fund" about a thousand dollars, which was divided among three societies, Fond du Lac receiving over three hundred dollars. This sum was set apart and was the foundation stone of the "Home."

In 1873, it was decided by the society to build a "Home for the Friendless." Mrs. Julia Ruggles, Mrs. Beall, Mrs. Stow and others, solicited subscriptions from the business men, who responded generously.

In the fall of 1873, a fair was given extending through the week. From this entertainment twelve hundred dollars was cleared. At last with about thirty-five hundred dollars, the former home of Mrs. Ruggles, which had been partly destroyed by fire, was bought, repaired, paid for, and opened in January, 1874. The society started out of debt, but with an empty treasury. However, the citizens were generous, donations of furniture and food came in and the Home prospered.

In 1880, the society decided to publish a Cook Book. This was ably edited by Mrs. David Babcock, with the assistance of Mrs. Edw. Colman.

The "Fountain City Cook Book" proved a great success, and ten years later another edition was published which continues to sell, and has gone into nearly every state of the Union. The book has been of great assistance, and from its sale an addition was built in 1891, costing nearly five hundred dollars. In 1899, this part of the building was destroyed by fire.

The society, with the insurance received, and five hundred dollars of the "Mark Harrison bequest," immediately rebuilt. A large dining room, kitchen and laundry, with several bed rooms above, soon covered the ruins. Furniture for the dining room was given, and two of the bed rooms prettily furnished; one by the "Neighborly Club of Byron," the other by the Progressive Sisters of this city, and the Home was soon in running order again.

In the past twenty-seven years, the Home has been a refuge for many. Children, the middle-aged, but mostly the old and helpless, have been there cared for. A number have been there for many years.

The founders of the Home, those "who bore the heat and burden of the day," have nearly all passed to the "beyond," their places being filled by a younger generation. Only two of the first Trustees are now on the board of management.

As the Home has been so generously treated in the past, we anticipate a prosperous future. "The poor ye have always with you," and there will always be need of your help and sympathy. We know that the doors of the Home will never be closed to the unfortunate

from lack of your generous support, or for the need of willing workers, helping to lessen the pain and misery falling to the lot of the poor, the old and friendless.

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### An Exciting Trial.

In 1872, C. L. Pierce, then running a plow shop at the corner of Macy and Court streets, met with a distressing accident by which he lost an arm. It was caused by the bursting of a grindstone on which he was polishing a plow. Dr. Gray was called and amputation followed. This was held to be malpractice and suit was brought in circuit court. Some of the most eminent lawyers in the state were employed, including Harlow S. Orton, afterwards one of the judges on the bench of the supreme court. Depositions were taken from some of the most eminent surgeons in the United States. After a long and exciting trial, the jury believed the amputation to be a proper procedure and gave a verdict in favor of Dr. Gray.

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### Deer at Crofoot Bridge.

The Crofoot bridge is a small structure carrying the track of the Northwestern railroad across the east branch of the Fond du Lac river, in the town of Fond du Lac, about four miles south of the city. Near this bridge is where the last deer was killed that the writer remembers to have been shot within many miles of the city. It was when the railroad was completed only to Minnesota Junction, and so must have been about 1856 or 1857. Dick Beeson worked in the printing office in the city and often on Saturday afternoons went to the home of his parents, in Oakfield. He was a remarkable marksman and seldom made the trip without his gun. On this occasion he found a lone deer near the river and in the edge of the timber. He secured the deer and it was put into the Crofoot barn until Sunday morning, when Grandfather Crofoot brought it to the city, receiving part of the carcass for his services. This is the last deer remembered to have been shot within many miles of the city. Long after this they were often secured in the timber and openings of Osceola, Forest and Ashford. They were not numerous, but hunters were not always unsuccessful. Bears were never numerous, but their capture was occasionally heard of in the timbered parts of the county. Lynx and wolves were often shot as late as 1858. There are yet some wolves, but the other game has about all disappeared.

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It is about twenty-five years since the writer talked with an Oshkosh man about laundries. This man was just suited for that sort of work, but he ridiculed it. At that time it was believed that soft or rain water, was a necessity to laundry men's shirts, collars and cuffs. Said he, "Where or how could the water supply be obtained and the price of laundry work by washwomen, could not be made to pay." Things are different now, but that man is dead and cannot realize it.

# SOLOMON JUNEAU

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## A Frenchman of Wonderful Influence Among the Indians, Especially the Menomonees. Milwaukee's First Mayor.

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The first time the writer saw Solomon Juneau, was on the pay ground at Lake Poygan in 1851. After that he was in Fond du Lac several times and Edward Pier, Edward Beeson, John A. Eastman, Alonzo Raymond and a few others called on him at the Journal office on one of these visits. In the talk the writer was impressed that he was an honest and honorable man, and such he really was. He and Edward Pier were warm friends.

Solomon Juneau, the first settler at Milwaukee, died at the Menomonee Pay Ground on Wolf river in Shawano county, Wisconsin, November 14, 1856, aged about sixty-six years. Mr. Juneau came to Milwaukee in June, 1818, as an employe of the American Fur Company, accompanied by his father-in-law, Mr. Jacques Vieau; having selected this location, then an Indian village, for a convenient trading post, with no white settler in Wisconsin nearer than Green Bay and Prairie du Chien. He built here, in 1822, the first log house, and in 1824, the first frame building, erected in Milwaukee. Here he continued to reside, rearing up a family of fourteen children, thirteen of whom were born in the city. He was at one time the proprietor of a large portion of its territory. When, in 1835, a postoffice was established, Mr. Juneau was by common consent, appointed postmaster, which office he filled for nine years. In 1846, when Milwaukee became a city, he was chosen the first mayor. Shortly after, he removed to Dodge county.

Mr. Juneau was a man of excellent sense, of generous impulses, of a kindly and affectionate disposition, and of a lofty and honorable nature. He successfully maintained his reputation as an honest, upright, straightforward man. The Indians regarded him as a true friend and trusty counsellor. He died without enemies, and left thousands of friends to mourn the loss of a good citizen and a true man. His remains were carried to Milwaukee for interment.

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### Beeson House on Third Street.

The first house occupied in Fond du Lac by the family of Edward Beeson, was on Third street, near Main, on the ground now covered by the shops of Mr. Guse. The house itself disappeared in 1902 by the building of the present brick shops located there. It will be remembered that the house was not large, but it served the purpose of a home for the family of Mr. Beeson many years. Next west is the residence of the late Mrs. Lyman Bishop, which was occupied by her more than fifty years.

### Threshing Machines and Tables.

What has of late years been known as the Table Factory, on West Scott street, was established in 1881, by Geo. P. Lee for the manufacture of the "Pride of the West" threshing machines, but not proving successful, was sold to the McDonald Manufacturing Company for the building of threshing machines, but of another kind. When the western booms began about 1887, John McDonald was offered inducements which took the works to Minneapolis. The plant on Scott street now stood idle for some years, but in 1893, Edward Blasius came here from Juneau and organized the Fond du Lac Table Company, a concern that has since manufactured a great variety of tables besides doing much other work. It has not all the time been under the same management, but has been successful. The plant is now incorporated under the name of Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing Company, and is in charge of Louis Rueping, President, and C. E. Carstens, Secretary and Treasurer.

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### B. F. & H. L. Sweet Shops.

The shops of B. F. & H. L. Sweet were started here in 1850, on Arndt street, near where they are now. At first it was a blacksmith shop for general work in that line, but after a time they began the making of the "Common Sense Sleigh," of which large numbers were made and sold. The works were very prosperous, and after they took the shops vacated by the Union Iron Works, they began the manufacture of wagons also, with much success. Their output was far superior to that of factories generally and was in large demand. And so for more than half a century, these works have lived and prospered. Both of the original proprietors have passed away, leaving the shops to the sons of both, but F. Sweet having also died, they are now in charge of Mr. Waldo Sweet, one of the most energetic and popular business men of the city.

B. F. Sweet, one of the original proprietors, was a very popular man in the community, and besides serving his fellow citizens in various other positions, was three times elected mayor of the city.

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### Once a Chicory Factory.

How many people of Fond du Lac know that there was once a factory in their midst for the preparation of chicory as a substitute and adulterant for coffee. Such was the fact, however, but it lasted but a very few years. The enterprise was started by Morritz Krembs about the year 1850. The chicory was grown here, but our soil seemed to produce a poor quality of the root and the demand for it became so small that the business did not pay and was abandoned. It is said to require a peculiar soil to produce chicory, and that our northern soil was not adapted to it.

# OCCURRED SOME TIME AGO

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Talks About Things That Happened a Long Time Ago, but are  
Interesting and Amusing, Especially to the  
Old People and the Pioneers.

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## Cheese Factories and Grangers.

The Patrons of Husbandry, known as the Grangers, and the cheese factories, came into Fond du Lac county about the same time. Sheboygan county had made considerable stir in cheese making before Fond du Lac started in it, but this county preceded Sheboygan in the grange work. In 1877 and 1878, the cheese factories appeared one after another until the county was well dotted with them. The foreign demand for American cheese caused them to increase and dairy boards to profitably handle the product, were organized, and among them the Fond du Lac board. But the foreign demand slackened and there being less demand for cheese, more attention was given to butter and the creameries appeared, often displacing the cheese factories. The result has been that the creameries have displaced at least one-half the cheese factories. So much has the product of the latter decreased that many prominent dealers have gone out of the cheese business. And so with the Grangers. Very few of them remain. Some neighborhoods still have them but they are scarce. The cause of this is believed to be due mainly to the extreme to which the grange work was carried, and especially with reference to the purchase of goods by grange members. The cards presented to dealers to secure discounts, was regarded in the nature of a hold up and would not be tolerated. Not only this, but the whole grange movement came to be regarded in a bad light. Members as well as dealers and outsiders felt the objectionable features and disintegration followed. The Patrons of Husbandry was an organization based upon sentiment and personal interest, cheese factories and creameries are based upon public interest in manufactures and must continue as long as the national industry of dairying continues.

The first cheese factory in this county is believed to have been that of Chester Hazen, in Springvale. He made cheese there as early as 1872, but it was about 1876 when he adopted the cheese factory mode of taking in the milk of his neighbors. His cheese had a fine reputation and he sold all of his product readily to local dealers in Fond du Lac, Ripon and Waupun. There was a demand for it in Milwaukee which he could not supply. Then came the Jennings and Parsons cheese factories in Rosendale, with a demand for more than they could supply, and the factories multiplied until nearly every four corners had one. Before and during the war our cheese came mainly from the east, the best grades from eastern Ohio and

western New York, known as Western Reserve cheese. We also had domestic cheese, made by farmers, but it was of low grade generally. Dairying in butter was a matter of supply by farmers to families and grocers who retailed it to customers. At that time the customer carried his plate to the grocery and took his butter home on it, provided he could get any worthy the honor of being thus carried. Farmers who made good butter had no difficulty in disposing of it and it was the constant effort of the grocer to get it in large quantities. The butter trade has changed vastly.

### Where They Have Lived.

The Fond du Lac Commonwealth was born in the second story of the north one-third of the old Darling block, in 1854. 1865 J. A. Smith fitted up the old Darling Hall for living rooms and printing office. In 1868, he began the erection of a brick building next west of the First National Bank, and moved the office into it before completed, and here it remained until the office was bought by the Commonwealth Printing Company, when it was moved to the rooms over the American Express office, corner of Forest avenue and Macy street. In 1890, Mr. Haber erected his building, on the completion of which the Commonwealth was moved there and still remains. In 1869, Mr. Smith started the daily, using a patent inside from the office of a Chicago daily. Watrous & Kutchin made it into a full fledged daily in 1872.

The birth place of the Reporter was the second story of the Kalt building, corner of Main and East Second streets, then known as the Ward & Windecker hall. In 1863, it was moved to Warner block over what is now the Schleyer-Ordway drug store. In 1866, it journeyed to the south side of Division street, between Main and Macy. In 1873, it was moved to the basement of the postoffice, but being drowned out the following spring, took quarters over Coughlin's meat market. 1876 found it in the postoffice block, where it remained just twenty years and until Mr. Lange had the present beautiful block erected and where it has now been nearly ten years. These have been the homes of the Reporter during the forty-three years of its existence, and it is quite fitting that it should round out this long period of time in a building erected for it and so well adapted to its uses.

In early times a small wooden building stood on the ground now occupied by the Mason crockery store, and in it was born the old Fond du Lac Journal, our first newspaper. It went to a wooden building that in 1851 stood on the south half of the lot now occupied by the Fond du Lac National Bank, and the name changed to Fond du Lac Union. The Journal, revived in 1860 by T. F. Strong, Jr., was located over premises near where the G. Scherzinger jewelry store is now. Thence to Division street and finally to the rooms over Murphy & Murphy's plumbing shop, on Forest avenue, where J. R. Bloom closed out the business to the Reporter.

The Nordwestlicher Courier has had but two homes. Carl De Hass & Son put it into the south end of the postoffice block and

Mr. W. F. Weber took it to its present location, northwest corner of Forest avenue and Macy street, about twenty-five years ago.

The Bulletin still occupies the rooms in which it was born less than a year ago. We have had many other newspapers which have occupied many premises, but where they lived and also where they died, is of little general interest now.

### Money Not Reliable.

About the year 1849, Alexander Mitchell started a bank at Milwaukee under the name of Wisconsin Fire and Marine Insurance Company Bank. This money circulated well in Wisconsin, but elsewhere one could hardly buy a dinner with a \$5 bill. The bank issues of the Illinois, Indiana and Michigan banks were equally poor here. Much of it was also counterfeited and every business man had a book called a detector, but they got the counterfeits just the same. This was the sort of money struggled with until the issues of the greenbacks in 1862 and the national bank currency in 1863. These issues were strongly criticised at first, but it has proven the only reliable currency we ever had. True, the Wisconsin State banks in the fifties was much of an improvement, but still much of it was poor, or at least unreliable. "United States Banks" was a political issue in the Polk and Clay campaign of 1844, and such a bank or the issue of paper money by the general government, was strongly opposed by the democratic party. We have since learned something and have found that such money is the only means of saving the tribulations of early days.

### Chief Oshkosh, of the Menomonees.

Except Black Hawk, Oshkosh was the most noted of the Indians who have had a home in Wisconsin, but the characters of these two red men were quite different. Black Hawk was a great warrior, Oshkosh was a lover of peace and a genuine diplomat in the settlement of troubles, whether tribal or personal. He never quarreled with any one. The writer remembers him as a man of moderate size, really below the average of his tribe, was rather slow of motion and slow in speech. When from home, which was not often, he always appeared in silk hat and eagle feather, but never in paint. His home for a long time was on the east bank of the Wolf river, near the village of Fremont, but his permanent home was further north. When he visited the city of Oshkosh, it was his delight to stroll along the river as if to note the changes since his early life. He did not acquire the use of the English language so as to use it much, but his son, who followed him as chief of the Menomonees, not only speaks the language, but is a quite fluent public speaker. The tribe is rapidly growing less in numbers, and in a few years more all will be gone.

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Henry C. Moore was a city carrier for the Commonwealth at a time when the city edition was handled by one boy. Some city subscribers got their papers at the post office, and Henry took the balance.

### Sylvan Grove Cemetery.

Fond du Lac's first cemetery, known as "Sylvan Grove," was located west of town and was used for a number of years, but in 1852 the agitation began which resulted in the establishment of Rienzi. Gov. Tallmadge had made a generous offer of what was then deemed sufficient land, but it required some time and much argument to bring about an acceptance of the offer. The principal objection was the distance from the city, which would make funerals expensive and render it impossible for people to properly care for the last resting places of their dead. These objections had much force and the matter was for a long time under discussion. And there was another consideration which had much weight. Those who had friends buried in the old cemetery realized that it would be necessary to remove them if the new cemetery proposition was adopted. But that which outweighed these objections and was chiefly instrumental finally in bringing about the change, was the fact that the old cemetery ground was so wet that newly-dug graves would partly fill with water, which had to be dipped out and fresh grass put in the bottom of the grave just before the arrival of the funeral party to avoid seeming heartlessness. This had been a not unusual experience and the better class of citizens favored a cemetery where the ground was high and dry. And so it came about that beautiful Rienzi was made the cemetery of the city and has been two or three times enlarged by the purchase of more land. The trouble of distance still holds and the cost to the people in caring for their lots in considerable, but it is hoped that the time is not far distant when there will be a street railroad to Rienzi. Most of the bodies in the old cemetery were moved to the new one, but some remain entirely lost to memory or to any record in existence. It was mainly because of objections to the old burying ground that what is known as the Pier cemetery south of the city, was started. The oldest established cemeteries were in Taycheedah, Empire and Byron, and many old settlers were buried in them before Sylvan Grove was thought of more than as a country burying ground. The latter was never incorporated under state law, but the others were. Taycheedah and Byron cemeteries are sometimes used even to the present. Estabrooks cemetery, established some later, is still extensively used for burials from the city. Calvary, the cemetery consecrated to the use of Catholics, is becoming more beautiful every year, and it is located near enough to the city for people to look to their lots without much trouble. This cemetery is but about half the distance from the city as Rienzi and it is well cared for.

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"Deacon" Fuller built a nice residence near the river on the south side of Forest avenue, opposite the Gurney plant. To make place for his dry house, B. F. Moore moved it to where the Kuicks' grocery store is now, and it was called the La Belle House. After C. R. Harrison bought the property, he turned it around on Harrison Place and made it into the residence next south of the present Forest Avenue Hotel.



### Kutchin and Finney Discussion.

It was in 1862 that the exciting discussion on the doctrines of spiritualism occurred here between the Rev. T. G. Kutchin, father of H. M. Kutchin, formerly of the Commonwealth, and E. R. Finney, of Milwaukee. Mr. Finney was one of the leading advocates of spiritualism and as a lecturer had few equals. Mr. Kutchin was a Methodist preacher and a man of powerful mind. The discussion took place in Amory hall afternoons and evenings and lasted three days. I. S. Sherwood, the well known hardware dealer, was the backer, financial and otherwise, of Mr. Kutchin, and J. H. Spencer backed Mr. Finney. Toward the last of the sessions the feeling ran high and each side charged the other with unfairness and both vigorously denied the charge. Delays of one kind and another caused Mr. Finney to leave town before the discussion was completed, to fill lecture engagements, and it was arranged that he would return on a certain date, but the discussion was never completed and of course each side charged the other with a sneak. As a whole this discussion resulted as all such debates do, that is, in much bitter feeling and no good result to any one.

Mr. Kutchin was a man of powerful intellect, but very odd in his ways. He was sent to Fond du Lac by the Methodist conference, but failing to accept the religious thought of the time was in disfavor with the denomination at the end of the first year. He was in accord, however, with the liberal thought of Fond du Lac and a society was formed for him which held its services in Amory hall. Crowds of people flocked there to hear him preach and listen to singing by a choir under direction of Dr. Patchen. But in another year Mr. Kutchin became a Baptist and retired to his farm near Dartford. He entered the Baptist ministry, but his religious ideas being still unsettled, he went back to his farm to stay, burned all his sermons and religious writings and died there in 1871 at an advanced age. He left three sons, Horace, Howard and Victor, all of them men of great power and influence, Horace a Baptist minister, Howard for many years one of the strongest editors the Fond du Lac Commonwealth ever had, and Victor, a Baptist minister and physician.

### The First School House.

The first school house in Fond du Lac, located on the ground next north of Henry Brothers' flour and feed store, where Dahlem's bakery was so many years, and where Shaw & Grube's grocery store is now, was also the first court room. It was afterward moved to the south side of Fifth street, half a block east of Main, where it continued to be used for court sessions until destroyed by fire a short time before the old court house was completed.

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Those who were not here in war times, can have little idea of the anxiety of the people. Many would tremble as they opened the daily paper and were afraid to raise their eyes to flagstuffs for fear of half mast flags, indicating disaster.

### The Landing Warehouses.

What was for so many years known as the Bannister warehouse and dock for the landing of steamboats, was the pioneer landing at Fond du Lac. John Bannister was the owner and he did considerable business until the railroads came. The warehouse and dock were commenced in 1847 and completed in 1848. Another warehouse and dock, immediately north of this, owned by J. H. Clum, were built in 1849, and still another, owned by Judge C. M. Tompkins, was built the same year. The business done was forwarding and commission and the sale of coarse articles, like salt, lime, cement, etc. In 1866 this property was all destroyed by fire and for a long time nothing was done there except that the landing from boats was into the street upon a few planks. About 1874 Hugh Campbell improved the landing a little and put up a small building which still remains. Since that time it has been known as Campbell's dock. There is little use now for a landing there of any sort.

### The Lower Town Hotels.

But another feature of the landing locality in the pioneer days was the hotels. The American house on the corner of Scott and Brooke streets, opposite the Bannister warehouse, built and kept many years by Sam Hale, did a large business, especially during the immigration days of the fifties, when the Sheboygan road was almost kept warm by stages, buses and teaming. Next north and almost adjoining the American, Mr Joubert had a small hotel, and farther north still there was another hotel kept by Mr. Foster—three hotels in a row. When the railroads came and navigation practically ceased, the Joubert hotel was moved to another locality, the Foster hotel took a journey to the corner of Main and Merrill streets, where it became the starter for the well known Serwe house, and the American house was burned. At this time the once busy corners at the landing were without buildings, except a few small dwellings. Since then the American house corner has been occupied by a store. The coming of North Fond du Lac and Lakeside park have given more life to that part of the city and there has been considerable improvement on Scott and other streets in its vicinity, but the good days of the landing are gone forever.

### Concrete for Building.

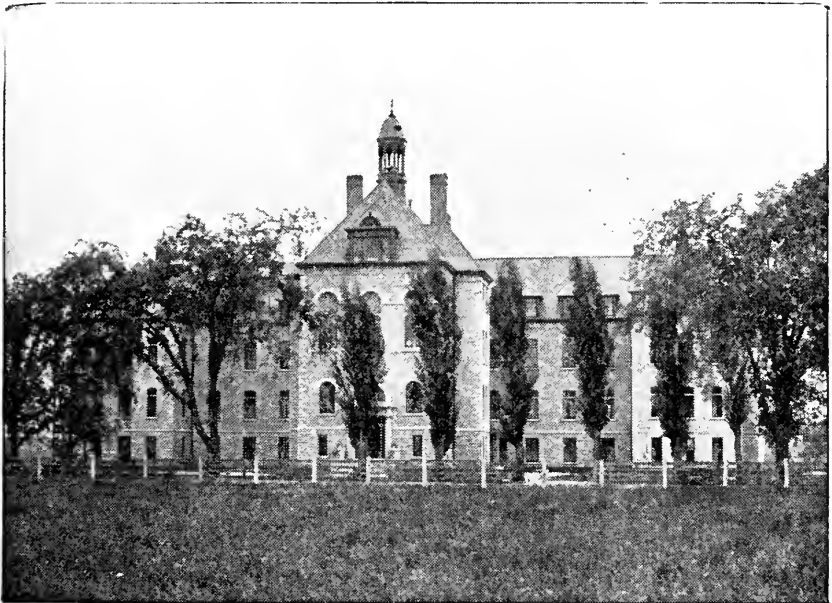
The first use of concrete for building purposes, was by John Marshall in 1854. His first efforts was for the building on the south side of East Second street, which property he owned. The same year he built the structure on the southwest corner of Main and West First streets, now owned by John Waters and occupied by the Treleven store. His next effort was the corner of Main and West Second streets, where Wagner's store is now. Marshall was a Methodist preacher with plenty of means. The buildings stand the weather strain very well.

# CONVENT AND HOSPITAL

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Educational, Benevolent and Hospital Work of the Sisters of  
St. Agnes Since 1871.

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St. Agnes' Hospital.

The Sisters of St. Agnes began their work in Fond du Lac in 1871, in charge of Mother Mary Agnes as Mother Superior. Success marked the efforts from the beginning. A small building was used at first, but in 1874 there was an enlargement and in 1877, a building was added, one hundred and twenty by forty-eight feet in size, four stories high and basement. The Sisters continued their work with these facilities, until in 1896, the hospital demands on them became so great that the present large and well arranged hospital was built. Since then, many things have been added to facilitate the handling and care of patients, until now it is regarded by physicians as one of the best in the state. People are not afraid to go there for treatment, or to send friends there, knowing as they do, that everything that science can suggest is provided at reasonable cost. The educational and benevolent work is continued as in former years.

Two of as fine ambulances as are made may be ordered at any moment. The first one was bought by the city on recommendation of

Mayor Hoskins, in 1901, and has until very recently, been quartered at the First Street Livery of J. K. Wilkins. The second one was purchased with the proceeds of baseball games between the lawyers, doctors and others, and has been kept at the Hastings Livery. In June, 1905, the care of both was transferred to the Forest Avenue Livery of John Gormican, who makes the run for each. These runs must be made at a moment's notice, on the order of any physician, druggist, policeman, railroad man or manufacturer in the city. Before the coming of the ambulances, Mr. Hastings and other liverymen had rigs arranged that could be used, and before that hacks were used because of necessity.

The baths given at this hospital extend to almost everything in that line, known to modern bathing, and are scientifically applied.

The Sisters of St. Agnes is an American Sisterhood of the Catholic Church, and exists mainly in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin, the Convent here being the Mother House of the order, and from which are sent out the workers in other fields.

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#### Dr. Patchen Lost in the Woods.

As showing the difficulties that old timers sometimes had to meet, it is interesting to note an incident in the medical practice of Dr. Patchen. He had been out to the neighborhood of what is now Marblehead, and seeking to return by a short route got lost in the Lake deNeveu woods, and he was not only out nearly all night, but a hard rain came on and he was drenched to the skin. Returning next day to look for something he had lost during the night, he found that he had crossed trails that would have taken him out of the woods and that before he tied his horse to a tree and had set down and leaned against another tree to wait for daylight, he had been wandering up and down and had neared the lake without seeing the water. This was long before there were any cottages there, and roads or trails through the woods were difficult to find, and if struck were not easy to keep. Passing over this region now, one has little idea of the difficulties encountered in getting about in early times.

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#### The Gillet Store.

Among the early stores in Fond du Lac was that of George, T. L. and Jabe Gillet, under the name of Gillet Brothers. It was in a wood building located where the hardware stores of the Wilkie Hardware Company and Geo. P. Dana are now. Up stairs were the law offices of Gillet, Truesdell & Tyler. T. L. Gillet met a most horrible death in the great railroad accident near Johnson's Creek, in 1858. He was a man generally known and his death was greatly deplored.

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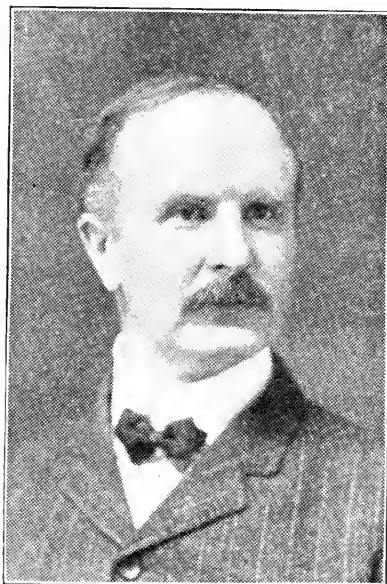
Only old timers remember that B. F. Moore resided for a number of years at the northeast corner of Main and Scott streets, and moved up town after selling his steamboats. It was a big sale, as he owned nearly all the boats.

## SUDDEN AND STARTLING

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Death of Frank B. Hoskins, on September 18, 1905, One of the Most Startling in the City's History, Wholly Unexpected.

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It was on Tuesday morning that the people were shocked to learn of his death.

The news of Mr. Hoskins' death, which was passed quickly around town that morning, came as a surprise and saddening shock to almost every citizen, for perhaps no man in the city was better known, but it was not generally known that he was even ill. He was in his office and attending to business as usual on Saturday, and but very few of his friends had been informed of his illness up to Monday night, and to the many who knew nothing of his serious condition, the news that he had passed away during the night seemed an utter impossibility.

On Saturday Mr. Hoskins put in a hard day's work at business. He was in his office in the Harrison Postal Bag Rack Company building during the forenoon, and in the afternoon he went to Oshkosh, where the work of constructing an interurban line into the city over

the Eastern Wisconsin Railway & Light Company's private right of way had been commenced. As president of the company, Mr. Hoskins was very much interested in this work and had been giving it much of his attention.

He returned to his office in this city at the close of the afternoon, and remarked to L. F. McLean that he was ill. He went to his home, ate a very light supper and retired soon after. He spent a very bad night, and Dr. L. A. Bishop, the family physician, was summoned. Later in the day he seemed somewhat improved, but Monday afternoon he began to fail rapidly and F. S. Wiley was called in consultation. It was then decided to send for a Chicago specialist, Dr. Sears, who arrived in the city at 11:54 o'clock Monday night and was on his way to the Hoskins residence with Dr. L. A. Bishop when Mr. Hoskins' death occurred.

### Autopsy is Held.

Tuesday morning an autopsy was held, and the cause of Mr. Hoskins' death definitely determined. The autopsy was conducted by Drs. Sears, Bishop, Wiley, McKnight, Mears and Bowe. It revealed a condition of acute appendicitis, with a rupture of the appendix as the immediate cause. An obstruction was found in the organ, resulting in inflammation and bloating. The organ was also affected with gangrene.

### Serious Condition Unrealized.

The seriousness of Mr. Hoskins' condition was not realized by the family or his closest friends until Monday afternoon. He had not been in robust health for several years, and two years ago he had a serious illness but had recovered from that and apparently was in his usual health up to Saturday afternoon. But he was a man who bore up under a great deal and it is probable that he was really ill before he admitted it to himself.

During the first part of his illness he was in considerable pain, and Monday he was delirious at times, but Monday evening he lost consciousness and the end was a peaceful one.

No resident of this city has been more closely identified with the history of Fond du Lac for a quarter of a century than has Mr. Hoskins. Born in Chenango county, New York, August 25, 1850, he came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Everett Hoskins, to Fond du Lac in December of that year. He attended the public schools here and after finishing his school work entered the First National Bank as a clerk. He left that institution to become secretary of the La Belle Wagon Works, which position he held during 1869 and 1870. For five years thereafter he was engaged in the hardware business with the late Chapin Hall, as a member of the firm of Hall & Hoskins. He was elected register of deeds of Fond du Lac county on the democratic ticket in 1878. For a number of years thereafter he served as a member of the board of education and a member of the common

council. In 1898 he was elected mayor of Fond du Lac and was re-elected in 1899.

As president of the library board of the city of Fond du Lac for many years, Mr. Hoskins had done a great work, and the present efficiency of that public institution is largely due to his labors.

Probably no other citizen had more business interests in the city than Mr. Hoskins. He was president of the Eastern Wisconsin Railway & Light Company, an office he had held for two years; he was president of the Harrison Postal Bag Rack Company and had been connected with that concern for about twenty years as secretary and president; he was secretary of the Fond du Lac Canning Company; vice-president of the Fond du Lac Improvement Company; secretary and treasurer of the Citizens' Building Company; a director in the Commercial National Bank; a stockholder in the Fond du Lac Land Company and the Nehrbrass Casket Company.

As an officer of the Harrison Postal Bag Rack Company, Mr. Hoskins became known all over the United States, having a large acquaintance with postoffice officials and railway clerks.

But Mr. Hoskins' chief prominence outside of Fond du Lac came from his conspicuous position in the order of the Knights of Pythias. He had been a member of Fidelity Lodge No. 19, almost since its organization and from the time he identified himself with the order took great interest in the work. He was made chancellor commander of his home lodge and afterwards was elected grand chancellor of Wisconsin. After that honor he was elected as supreme representative to the state supreme lodge. At the time of his death and for several years previous he was a member of the board of control of the Endowment Rank. The Frank B. Hoskins company, Uniform Rank, of this city, was so named in his honor.

Perhaps no man in the United States stood higher in Pythian circles than did Mr. Hoskins. He was looked upon throughout the country as a leader in Pythian lodge matters. He was in direct line of promotion to the office of supreme chancellor, it being generally presumed that at the next election or at the one following, he would be tendered the office, the only obstacle in the way of the honor not coming sooner being that the office had but recently gone to a Wisconsin man, Ogden H. Fethers, of Janesville, who, by the way, was one of Mr. Hoskins' closest friends.

Mr. Hoskins was also a Mason of the thirty-second degree, and a member of the order of Elks.

In addition to the large circle of friends within and without these orders who will mourn his death, Mr. Hoskins leaves a number of relatives. The immediate family consists of a widow and the two sons.

A mark of the esteem in which the ex-mayor was held in his home city was shown by the flying of flags at half mast from public buildings and business houses.

Business men and long personal friends of Mr. Hoskins were

ready to pay him the highest tributes as a man of sterling character and a public spirited citizen.

### The Funeral.

The funeral was held at 10:30 o'clock Thursday morning from the residence, 293 Fourth street. It was in charge of Fidelity Lodge No. 19, Knights of Pythias, with Past Grand Chancellor M. M. Gillett of this city, acting as prelate. Interment was at Rienzi cemetery.

It is doubtful that if in the whole history of the city, there has been a funeral as largely attended as that of Mr. Hoskins, on Thursday following his death. In addition to the large attendance from this city, many prominent people from other places were in attendance. In short, the funeral of Frank B. Hoskins was a marked event in the city's history.

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### Always Wanted Bread.

In 1851, when the last of the Menomonee Indians were taken to Keshena by the general government, the people of Fond du Lac had immunity from the clamorous demand of the squaws and children for bread. They were always as desirous for bread as the men were for whiskey. They were persistent beggars for bread, which they would eat without butter or grease of any sort, and it made little difference about the age of the bread or how dry it was. Mrs. Beeson once tried to teach the squaw of Big Soldier how to make bread and bake it in a skillet, but after four or five lessons gave it up in disgust. Her last baking was as bad as her first. At the last lesson Mrs. Beeson started a fire out of doors to make coals as the squaw would have to do it at her camp. But it was of no effect, as she could not learn, or did not want to. Many of the Brothertown and Stockbridge women were good bread makers, but these wild Indian women seemed to be ignorant of everything necessary and could not learn it.

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### Death of Mrs. C. T. Tracy.

One of the noted ladies of Fond du Lac county, and especially notable in the annals of Ripon College, Mrs. C. T. Tracy, A. M., passed away at the college on November 12, 1905, at the age of 87 years. She was with the institution forty-three years, coming to it as instructor in mathematics and botany, but soon became the matron and has ever since been venerated by the students as "Mother Tracy." For some years she held a regular professorship and had received the degree of A. M. Her specialty in educational work was botany and she did a vast amount of work upon the native plants in this state and especially in the region of Ripon. Brockway College was the name of the institution when she came to it, and it was under the presidency of Wm. E. Merryman. It was at that time little more than a preparatory school, but it rapidly advanced to take rank with the best in the state.



# THE HONORED DEAD

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Obituaries of Members of the Old Settlers' Club, Read at the Meeting Held August 30, 1905.

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It is a rule of the Old Settlers' Club, that on the death of a member, the President of the Club appoints some one to prepare an obituary notice to be read at the next meeting, and preserved in the records, to the end that at least the members of the club shall not be forgotten. The following memoirs were read at the meeting August 30, 1905. A few have died since this meeting, including Frank B. Hoskins, but their club memoirs have not yet been prepared.

## Benjamin Franklin Moore.

The late B. F. Moore was not a member of this club, but expressed himself to the writer as ready to do his full share to support it, financially or otherwise, but sickness, deaths and absence from the city caused the neglect.

He was born in Maine in 1819, of English Puritan stock, and came to Wisconsin in 1841, landing at Green Bay. He brought a stock of goods for the Indian trade, which he loaded on a flat boat and was eighteen days making the trip to Taycheedah, from which place he conducted the Indian trade on Wolf river. John Beeson worked with him, receiving large amounts of furs and maple sugar from the Indians. He had a store for the goods at Fond du Lac, where the Indians came in large numbers to trade. During this time he operated a farm two years quite successfully. For five years he handled lumber extensively and in 1846 entered the business in company with Curt Lewis. In 1846 he moved to Fond du Lac from Taycheedah, closed his Indian trade and began buying and selling real estate, in addition to lumber. In 1851 he bought the steamboats running on Lake Winnebago and Wolf river, and at one time owned wholly or in part seven steamboats, which he continued to run until their work was not remunerative, when he sold out to Capt. Fitzgerald, of Oshkosh, taking in the trade the well known Colvin dock property, below the Main street bridge in that city, which he continued to own until a few years ago. From this time he dealt in real estate until 1874, when he and A. G. Ruggles bought the LaBelle Wagon Works, but a year later Mr. Moore became the sole owner. In 1887, the year of the great booms, Mr. Moore sold the wagon works to a Minneapolis syndicate for \$180,000, for removal to Superior. The real estate of the great plant was bought by the Gurney Refrigerator Co., who still own it. The old factory buildings were burned in 1898 and rebuilt. Mr. Moore and his son, Herbert, aided by James H. Farnsworth, made this factory one of the greatest of Fond du Lac's business enterprises.

He was elected a member of the Wisconsin legislature in 1852,

but could not be prevailed upon to enter politics again. Two or three times he was sought for mayor of the city, but each time positively declined, as he did also for county treasurer. In politics he was always a staunch republican and in religion an agnostic. His kindness of heart is shown by the fact that during the war he relieved the pressing wants of families of men at the front.

On the 24th of October, 1843, in the log cabin of Henry Conklin, in the town of Empire, occurred the marriage of B. F. Moore and Maria Mary Conklin, and nine children were born to them. Mr. Moore died at his home in this city, February 18, 1904, Mrs. Moore preceding her husband by only a few months through the silent shadows.—A. T. Glaze.

### Charles Rodney Harrison.

Another highly honored member of this club has passed over the dark river of death since our last meeting. C. R. Harrison was a native of Connecticut and came west in 1840, landing at Sheboygan and thence came to Fond du Lac, where he spent the balance of his life. Mrs. Harrison came the following year, coming around the lakes in the steamer Niagara, the boat from which John B. Macy afterwards lost his life. Mrs. Harrison landed at Milwaukee and came to Fond du Lac in a mud-wagon over corduroy roads.

He was a mechanic of more than ordinary ingenuity and his presence was of great value among the early manufacturers of lumber. If a new sawmill or shinglemill was to be built, or an old one overhauled or altered, Mr. Harrison was sure to be consulted. Of the early day mills probably not one was without machinery arranged after his plans. If a mill failed to work properly, he was called in to make it run right, and he seldom failed. In his general character Mr. Harrison was a man of remarkable force and tenacity. He never gave up anything he believed to be right. He was so earnest in what he undertook, so determined in his work, that some called him stubborn, but this is hardly the proper word—he was simply earnest in his efforts to accomplish an end.

When Mr. Harrison entered the postal service as route agent or mail clerk on the Wisconsin division of the Northwestern railroad, he was not long in making the discovery that there was need of great improvement in the distribution of the mails. At that time postal cars and offices had huge piles of lumber made into boxes in which mail was thrown, and when necessary to lock out, a pouch or sack was taken to the box and it was emptied into it, being a slow and bungling process. The plan of Mr. Harrison was to hang the pouches on a rack and distribute mail into them direct. In locking out it was only necessary to take the pouch from the rack and lock it, thus saving much time and space in the car or office, for the racks were also used in postoffices. Of course the old lumber piles of boxes were displaced. The Postal Bag Rack Co. soon began the manufacture of the racks in Fond du Lac, and Mr. Harrison died in the full consciousness that he had been the means of establishing here, one of

our most successful industries. As the means came into his hands, Mr. Harrison early began the improvement of real estate and the erection of houses, and it is doubtful if any other man in the city did as much in this direction. And he seldom failed to put money into the manufacturing enterprises as they appeared. In his early days here he lived on Arndt street and at lowertown, but for many years past the family has occupied the gem of a house on Union street, where Mr. Harrison died on the 19th of May, 1905. He had not been well for two or three years, but his last serious illness began in the fall of 1904, and he was seldom out of his house after it. He leaves a widow and one daughter, Mrs. L. F. McLean.—A. T. Glaze.

#### Robert Kennedy Satterfield.

Robert Kennedy Satterfield was born in Berkley county, West Virginia, June, 1830. He died November 4th, 1904, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lillian Reinhart, in the town of Byron, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin.

At the age of fifteen he went from West Virginia to the home of two maiden aunts, Jane and Sally Robenson, in Urbena, Ohio, where he remained until coming to Wisconsin in the spring of 1850. The first work he did in Wisconsin was grubbing in the town of Fond du Lac for Lewis Crofoot, receiving fifty cents a day. In the fall of that year he engaged in the logging business with his brother-in-law, John Austin, at the place where Manawa is now located. They were offered one hundred and sixty acres of land where the town now stands, for one horse. They banked the logs in the Wolf river, running them down to Fond du Lac where they had them sawed, and disposed of the lumber which was used in erecting some of the first barns built near Fond du Lac. One on the asylum farm, then owned by Mr. Todd, was the largest in the vicinity.

The following summer they worked the land now known as the McNeal farm south of the city, and in the fall ran a threshing machine in the town of Byron. The next year, in addition to this farm, he worked eighteen acres of the farm belonging to the estate of Henry Roblee. He afterward married Mrs. Roblee. Many years of his remarkably strong manhood were spent in clearing and improving the one hundred and sixty acres of the Roblee homestead.

In 1873 he purchased a farm in the town of Waupun. His kindly genial nature won him many friends in his new home, and when in 1902 he sold his land and purchased a residence in the city of Waupun, his going was regretted by all.

The remaining years of his life were spent with his son, K. L. Satterfield, of Waupun, and his daughter, Mrs. Lillian Reinhart, of Byron.

He had suffered much for many years, but the end came painlessly and one of the pioneers of Fond du Lac county went peacefully to sleep.—William Stearns.

#### Lyman F. Stow.

In the death of Lyman F. Stow, this club lost one of its most earnest and active members. He had suffered about two years from

disease of the kidneys, but his familiar face was seen among the people upon the streets until within a few weeks of his death. He was a son of Joseph and Priscilla Stow, well known Fond du Lac pioneers, and was born in New Hampshire in 1825, came to Wisconsin when eighteen years of age, landing at Milwaukee in 1843, where he engaged in a pail factory and in the manufacture of barrels and cooperage generally. In 1846 he came to Fond du Lac, worked on a farm near Waupun, and with his father, in the handling of flagging and other stone work. In 1851 he took up carpenter work and followed it a number of years. In 1861 he began the erection of elevators at points along various railroads in Wisconsin and Michigan, a work which he followed many years.

Lyman F. Stow was one of the most active and efficient members of the old Fond du Lac fire department. He was one of the organizers of the department and stayed with it as a member of Washington Volunteer Fire Company, No. 1, until disorganized in 1878. He served as a fireman more than twenty years. He was for a time treasurer of the State Firemen's Association. During nearly all of his life here he was a resident at or near the corner of Marr and Sixth streets. He was married at Milwaukee in 1847, to Miss Martha Lee, and besides the widow, he leaves one daughter, Miss Ella Josephine. His brother William, so well known here when a young man, was a prominent Methodist minister in the Wisconsin conference, and died a few years ago while presiding elder of the Oshkosh district, and had been presiding elder of the Milwaukee district. He leaves three brothers still living. Lyman assisted his father in building one of the first respectable residences in Fond du Lac, a two story house still standing at the northwest corner of Marr and Third streets.

This club honors the memory of Mr. Stow as being one of its most active and efficient members. He fully appreciated the desirable character of the work it has in hand and was ready at any time to work for its growth and promote its prosperity. The death of Mr. Stow took place at his home on Marr street.—A. T. Glaze.

### Charles Henry DeGroat.

Col. DeGroat was not a member of this club, yet is entitled to some notice here. He was born in the state of New York in 1839, and came to Fond du Lac in 1852. In 1856 he began the bookbinders trade with his brother-in-law, Edward Sickles. In 1861, he was one of the young men to enlist in Co. K, First Wisconsin Infantry. After one year he was promoted to captain of Co. A, Thirty-second Wisconsin, going to the war with that grand regiment, of which he became colonel. He was through all the campaigns of the Twenty-third, ending in the streets of Washington at the close of the war in 1865. After his return home he was twice elected county clerk of this county, and then was engaged in the foundry and machine shop business many years. He was married in 1862 to Josephine Allen, daughter of Capt. Allen, and four children were born to them. Col. DeGroat had long been a sufferer with kidney troubles and died at his home in this city, August 14, 1904. When once formed, Col.

De Groat's opinions were not likely to change. They were rock-rooted and stayed with him. He could always give good reasons for his faith and did not hesitate to do so. He was a good friend, a good neighbor, a good citizen.—A. T. Glaze.

### William Adams.

William Adams was the son of Abram and Louisa Adams, natives of Connecticut, who after their marriage moved to Rutland county, Vermont, where William was born in 1819.

He had a common school education and spent his early life in his native county at farming. In 1847 he came west to the county of Fond du Lac, where he selected a farm and after a period of time returned to Vermont, where he was married to Miss Martha Peck, of his native place. In 1849 he came with his bride and settled in the town of Forest, where they lived seventeen years. He was surrounded at first on all sides by Indians, whose camps were not far from his pioneer home. They often came to trade their venison for corn and other desired articles.

In those early days, before any apples were raised in this county, when a company were assembled for an evening's visit, the good wife would pass around for a treat cracked butternuts, hickory nuts and hazel nuts, and sometimes a plate of nicely peeled, snowy white turnips, which they laughingly called Wisconsin apples.

Mr. Adams sold his Forest farm in 1865 and bought the James H. Haight farm in Empire, where he lived continuously until he sold the farm about two years before his death, March 11, 1905, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

Mr. Adams was a successful farmer, a keen, shrewd business man, honorable and straight forward in his dealings. He had amassed a large property; he was selected for many positions of honor and trust, being elected to several town offices at different times. He was president of the Fond du Lac Insurance Company for many years, he was a prominent and active member of our County Agricultural Association and always did his best to make our Fond du Lac county fairs a success. In politics he was a republican; he was strictly temperate in his habits, never drinking spirituous liquors or using tobacco in any form.

Mr. Adams was all his life a man of remarkable vigor and activity. When he was about sixty, the boys and younger men of the neighborhood used to meet and play ball on Saturday afternoons in summer and Mr. Adams played quite as well as the best of them.

Mr. Adams was a worthy descendent of those hardy New England pioneers, who overcame the obstacles of a bleak and rigorous climate, a rocky and sterile soil, savage and treacherous Indian foes; a protracted struggle with the mother country for very existence, those pioneers of New England and New York, active, energetic and resourceful, with their descendants, notwithstanding the difficulties encountered, have produced the greatest number of useful inventions,

the finest sheep and cattle, the fastest horses, and, last but not least, the finest race of men and women the world has ever seen.

Mr. Adams was one of the earliest settlers of this county. Nearly all of them are gone—soon they will live with us in memory only.—Franklin Swett.

### J. J. Lurvey, of Oakfield.

J. J. Lurvey, a member of the Old Settlers' Club of Fond du Lac county, whose death occurred August 21, 1904, was a son of Jacob and Susan (McKnight) Lurvey, natives of Connecticut. After their marriage they went to Livingston county, N. Y., where they remained until 1845, when they came west and settled in Waukesha county, where the subject of this sketch was born March 20, 1846. A year later the family moved to Oakfield and pre-empted 160 acres of land in section 34.

Mr. Lurvey's education was received in the common schools of Oakfield. He remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he began life for himself. He was married in 1867 to Jane Newton, of Lomira, Dodge county, Wis. The young people began their domestic life in a log house on the old homestead, where four children were born to them, three of whom are still living. Ada, the eldest, is the wife of C. A. Worthing, the present clerk of the courts of Fond du Lac county; Myrtie, now Mrs. George Hansen, of the Consolidated Highland Creamery Company, and Eugene, who lives on the homestead. Mrs. Lurvey died in June, 1874, and a year later Mr. Lurvey was wedded to his first wife's sister, Miss Julia Newton, of Lomira.

The immediate family consists of Mrs. J. J. Lurvey, Lawson E. Lurvey, a rising young attorney who has recently located in Fond du Lac; E. J. Lurvey, a promising young business man, who is largely interested in the Consolidated Highland Creamery Company, and Miss Vida Lurvey, a recent graduate of the village High school, and a popular young lady.

Mr. Lurvey was a warm friend of higher education, and at the time of his death was a prominent member of the board of education. He was also president of the village board, a director of the bank of Oakfield and president of the Oakfield Telephone Company.

Mr. Lurvey was a very successful farmer and business man. He left a property estimated at \$75,000, consisting of a beautiful home in the village, besides nearly 600 acres of land in Fond du Lac and Dodge counties, and large interests in three skimming stations and three creameries. He had always taken a prominent part in the progress and advancement of the best interests of the town and village, and was known as one of Oakfield's solid and substantial business men. It is safe to say that no man in the village was more respected and esteemed than the deceased.

Such men as Mr. Lurvey have done much to develop Fond du Lac county and make it what it is today, the best known and most prosperous in Wisconsin.—Dr. J. W. Burns.

### William Merrill, of Oakfield.

William Merrill, one of the oldest members of the Old Settlers' Club of Fond du Lac county, died at his residence in the village of Oakfield, February 5, 1905, after a short illness, of pneumonia.

Mr. Merrill was born in Seneca, N. Y., in 1836, where he remained until young manhood, attending the common schools of his native town during the winter months, and working on the farm and on the Erie canal during the remaining months of the year. He was married to Miss Martha Avery of the same town, in 1854, and a year later the family moved to Illinois, where they remained two years and then came to Fond du Lac county and located on a farm a short distance west of the present village of Oakfield. Here they remained until 1865, when the farm was sold and a larger one purchased in the western part of the town, near Rock River. The family resided there until six years ago, when Mr. Merrill became tired of active life, rented his farm to one of his sons and moved to the village, where Mrs. Merrill and her daughter reside.

The deceased is survived by a wife and daughter, Sedate, of the village of Oakfield; Clarence, of Spokane, Wash.; E. D., of Waupun, and J. W., who resides on the old homestead.

Mr. Merrill was widely known in Fond du Lac county as a successful farmer and a prominent member of the M. E. Church, with which he had been affiliated for many years. He was honest and industrious, and a man highly respected by all who knew him. He was a very large man, standing six feet five inches in his shoes, and was known for many years as the "Prairie Giant." Besides being large of stature, he was big hearted, and was ever ready to contribute freely to those in distress.

In the death of Mr. Merrill, the community has lost a valuable citizen and this society a worthy member.—Dr. J. W. Burns.

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### Pete Rupp and the Rats.

Peter Rupp, afterwards sheriff of this county, with his brother, Louis Rupp, in an early day had a liquor store next north of where G. Scherzinger has had his jewelry store many years. After a time Peter got into the habit of putting down more booze than was pleasing to his friends and they resolved to try an experiment. In the conspiracy was his brother, Louis, Tommy Heil, Jo. Wolf and Mr. Fromm. Tommy Heil, the mechanical genius, made a lot of wooden rats, painted them the right color, attached strings to a few of them, and when all was ready, took them into the store and placed them on the floor and on the barrel where Pete went for his morning drink. Louie was on the watch for him, hid in the store. Three or four of the rats moved a little but all the rest stood their ground. Pete was frightened and left in a hurry and Louis gathered up the rats. When Louie told him he saw no rats there, Pete was sure he had delirium tremens and quit drinking then and there and not long after sold out the liquor store and went into grain and politics. Tommy Heil told the writer about it and declared it to be a good job.

### An Early Picture Maker.

The best picture gallery in Fond du Lac in 1857 was that of Geo. B. Green, and the best pictures made were called Ambrotypes and Pearltypes. Up to this time we had various changes upon the old Daguerreotypes. O. E. Wilkins, J. W. Taylor and one or two others made these sun pictures, and the photograph did not get its start until 1860, and then in crude form. The photograph as we have it now, has been a growth. A vast number of changes have come and gone, as well as of operators in the business.

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### Early Day Waterworks.

Our present waterworks dating from 1885, were not the first proposed for the city of Fond du Lac. As early as 1850 a company was formed to lay a pipe line from the spring on the then Phillips farm, to the city, but it was found that the line would be useless in winter from freezing, or the pipe would have to be laid so deep as to be expensive, and nothing further came of it. And about that time the discovery of the artesian wells was made, by which abundance of clean water could be had at 80 to 120 feet and there was need of nothing more.

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When Judge David Taylor was on the bench of the circuit court for this county, he had a peculiar abhorrence of trivial cases, and many a time prevailed upon parties to settle them without trial. The attorneys were sometimes displeased, but he cared little for that.

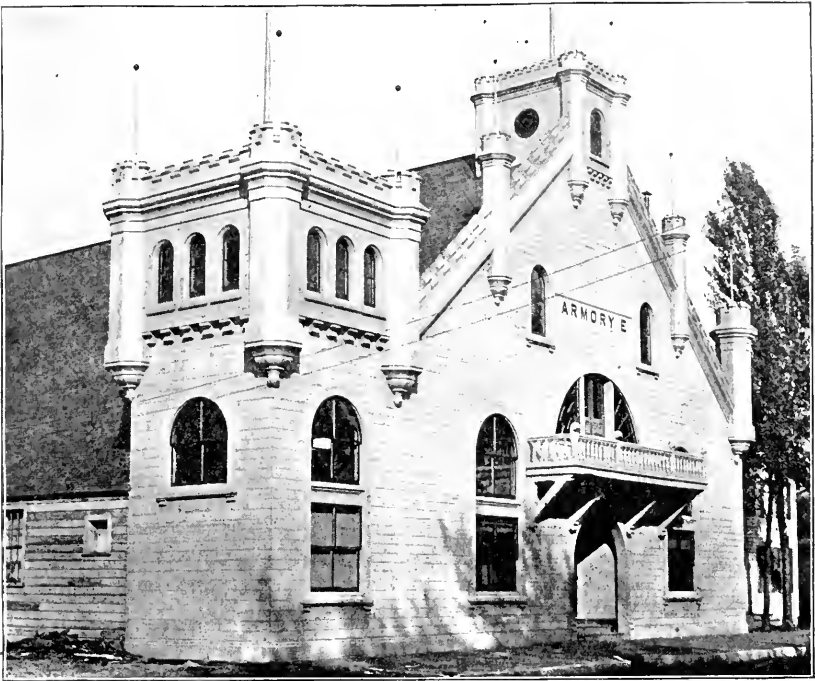
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The names of Reuben Simmons, F. D. McCarty and his father, Francis McCarty, Joseph Stow and some others, were often linked together in early day building operations. Many early day structures as far back as 1841, were erected by them, here and in Taycheedah. The remains of a few may yet be seen, but they are becoming very scarce. In a little while none will remain.

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Edward Pier used to say at the time our money was very poor and bank discounts very high, that no business man could pay twelve to twenty per cent for money. When asked how those with money and the banks could secure interest, his reply was, they can better afford to go without it than the business man can afford to go to the wall. Who will say that Edward Pier's head was not level?





Armory E.

Located on north side of East Second street, near Main. Built in 1888 and 1900.

#### Full Roster of Company E.

After Company E was ordered into service, it was recruited up to the maximum and left the state with full ranks. The service of the Company in the Spanish-American war may be found elsewhere in this work, but the following is the complete roster of the Company when it left the state:

Edwin T. Markle, Captain.	Wheeler, Frank J., Corp.
Emil C. Plonsky, First Lieut.	Cleveland, Charles C., Corp.
Adolph E. Kliemchen, Second Lieut.	Langlois, Noah V., Corp.
Egelhoff, August C., First Sergt.	Crippen, George A., Corp.
Brugger, Carl H., Q. M. Sergt.	Skinner, Frank L., Corp.
Seeve, William J. H., Sergt.	Krebs, Fred C., Corp.
Jaffke, Herman C., Sergt.	Hass, Albert, Corp.
Bruett, William F., Sergt.	Bechaud, Rudolph A., Corp.
Lubitz, Frank J., Sergt.	Zinke, Carl R., Mus.
Trier, Adolph M., Corp.	Zinke, Alfred R., Mus.
Lee, Jay L., Corp.	Clark, Edwin W., Art.
DeSombre, William E., Corp.	Vandervort, Frank, Wag.
Dittmar, James W., Corp.	

## PRIVATES.

Abel, Louis A.	Estarbrook, Robert C.	Panger, Alfred.
Allen, Ellsworth H.	Floody, Edward.	Quambush, William.
Arnold, Oscar.	Galvin, Joseph F.	Raidy, Michael K.
Arthur, George A.	Groesbeck, Garrett.	Riese, August.
Babcock, Benjamin F.	Groesbeck, John W.	Roberts, Berrez A.
Ballanz, William H.	Guhl, Ferdinand.	Rodgers, Arthur.
Bettac, William.	Haberkorn, Albert H.	Rouse, Albert M.
Birr, Paul.	Heath, George W.	Ryan, Patrick.
Bodle, George.	Hornig, Frank W.	Sampson, Avery.
Born, George.	Huelsmann, Oscar A.	Scherzinger, Henry.
Born, Jacob.	Hughes, Robert L.	Schwartz, Abraham.
Breitzman, Arthur W.	Jaeger, Charles W.	Simcosky, Frank.
Brunet, Adelbert R.	Jesmier, Frank.	Small, Adam H.
Brunkhorst, Albert G.	Keilberg, Ernst.	Small, Robert B.
Burnton, Carroll R.	Kempf, Frank H.	Smith, Edward J.
Cady, Arthur Bertine.	Kreger, Charles L.	Taylor, Frank C.
Calvert, Frederick W.	Kroll, Gustav.	Tiffany, Claude A.
Caunniff, Ralph E.	Kuhlmann, Louis.	Van Dorsten, Paris R.
Carney, J. Edward.	La Rose, Charles.	Van Scooter, Lester.
Carney, John F.	Lubitz, Christ. F.	Voell, Frank.
Caselton, William C.	Markow, Frank H.	Werner, Edwin.
Cavanagh, Lawrence P.	McCourt, Arthur.	Wetzel, Ferdinand.
Christenson, Henry.	Mead, Richard.	Wheeler, Oscar N.
Clark, Peter.	Mentch, William.	Wickert, Jake H.
Conway, William R.	Miller, John A.	Wilbert, Joseph.
Derusha, Edward.	Molitor, John M.	Williams, Robert S.
Dircks, John.	Monahan, Michael J.	Wirtz, Robert H.
Eiteneuer, Peter.	Pagel, Albert.	



Fond du Lac High School.

Located on Amory and Merrill streets. Built in 1875.



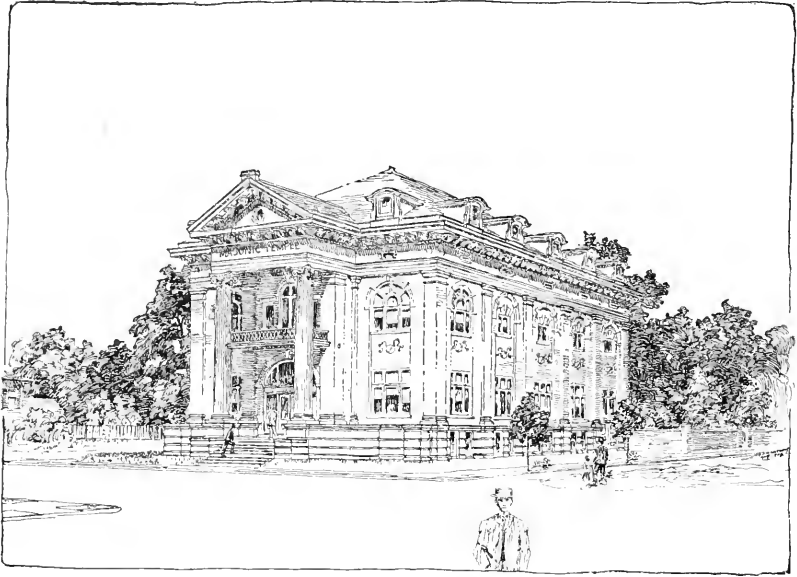
Henry D. Hitt.

Entered his farm in Oakfield in 1847, and has lived on it ever since.



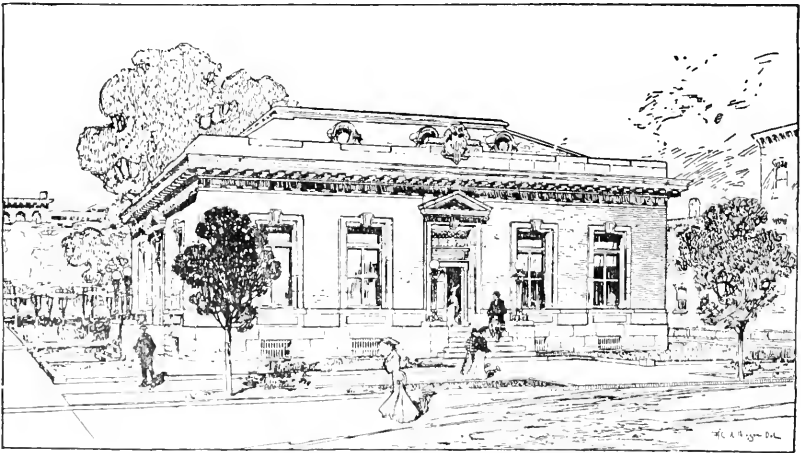
Madame de Neveu.

Came to Wisconsin in 1838 and has lived at her Empire home continuously to the present.



Masonic Temple.

Located at the northwest corner of Sheboygan and Marr streets, Fond du Lac, Wis.



Fond du Lac Postoffice.

Located at the northeast corner of West First and Macy streets. Erected in 1905 at a cost of \$65,000.

# WHITTELSEY'S

The Pioneer Store    ✨    An Attractive Place for Veterans

*Prices Always Satisfactory*

This business was established by John Sharpe in 1856 and Mr. Whittelsey came from New York and joined Mr. Sharpe in 1861. Pioneers of city and county are pleased to call at this Pioneer Dry Goods Store.

In the not distant future this business will be transferred to the corner of Main and Forest Avenue and into the finest building the city has ever had.

## *O'Brien Dry Goods Co.*

*Main Street,       -       Opposite Palmer House*

*FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN*

*Latest Styles and Great Variety in Dry Goods, Latest  
Novelties known to the Trade. Almost Endless  
List of Notions, Furs, Rugs, Etc.*

When shopping, do not fail to call at O'Brien's and save money.

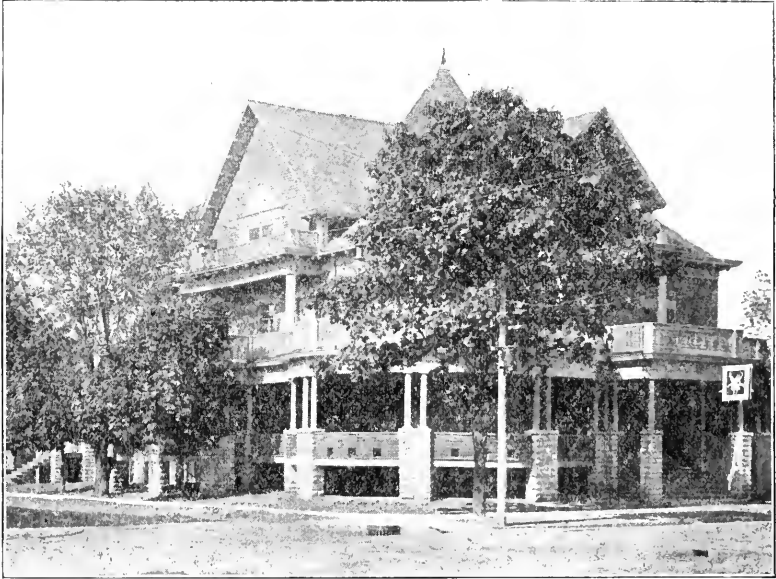
## THE BIG WHITE STORE

THE PEOPLE'S FAVORITE SHOPPING PLACE

For Dry Goods, Cloaks, Suits, Millinery, Carpets, Crockery, Etc.  
Fine Dress Making to Order.

Best Treatment and Lowest Prices has made this the  
Popular Store.

**J. F. GRUENHECK**



*Elks' Club House*

Located Northeast Corner Sheboygan and Portland Streets.  
Erected in 1903 and 1904.

---

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## ARMORY E HALL

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Largest and best Hall in Fond du Lac for  
Conventions, Parties and all Large Assemblies. Located on East Second Street, less  
than a block from Main Street.

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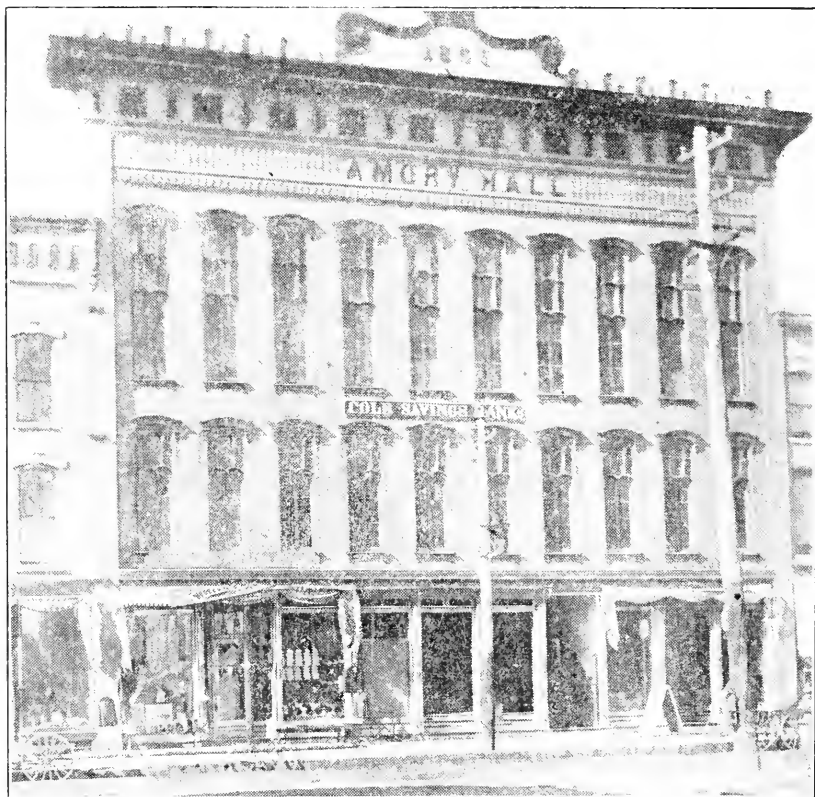
IN EVERY RESPECT FIRST-CLASS

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Apply to CAPT. W. J. SEEVE, Manager





### *Amory Block and Hall*

Located at the head of Sheboygan Street. Built after the prevailing style of architecture of the time in New York. Originally the floors were five steps above the sidewalk. In 1869 the floors were lowered to their present position. The Hall was opened in 1857 by the Peak Family of Bell Ringers with the largest crowd present that ever was in it.

The Savings Bank of W. E. Cole occupies the south one-third.

## The Holland Dutch Remedy

A prescription by Dr. Haltemann, a Holland physician and unquestionably the Best Remedy Known for all Troubles of the Bowels, Liver and Kidneys.

**Wholly Vegetable and Harmless**

Prepared by A. T. GLAZE

 FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS



**COLE SAVINGS BANK**

INCORPORATED

*Deposits of \$1.00 and upward received**Interest Paid Semi-annually*

WM. E. COLE, PRESIDENT

WM. I. COLE, CASHIER

ESTABLISHED 1875 —————

**The Anderson Vehicle Company**

Dealers in all kinds of Vehicles, Automobiles, Fur Coats and Robes, Cutters and Sleighs, Binders, Mowers, and Hay Rakes, and anything else required on a farm. Give us a call.

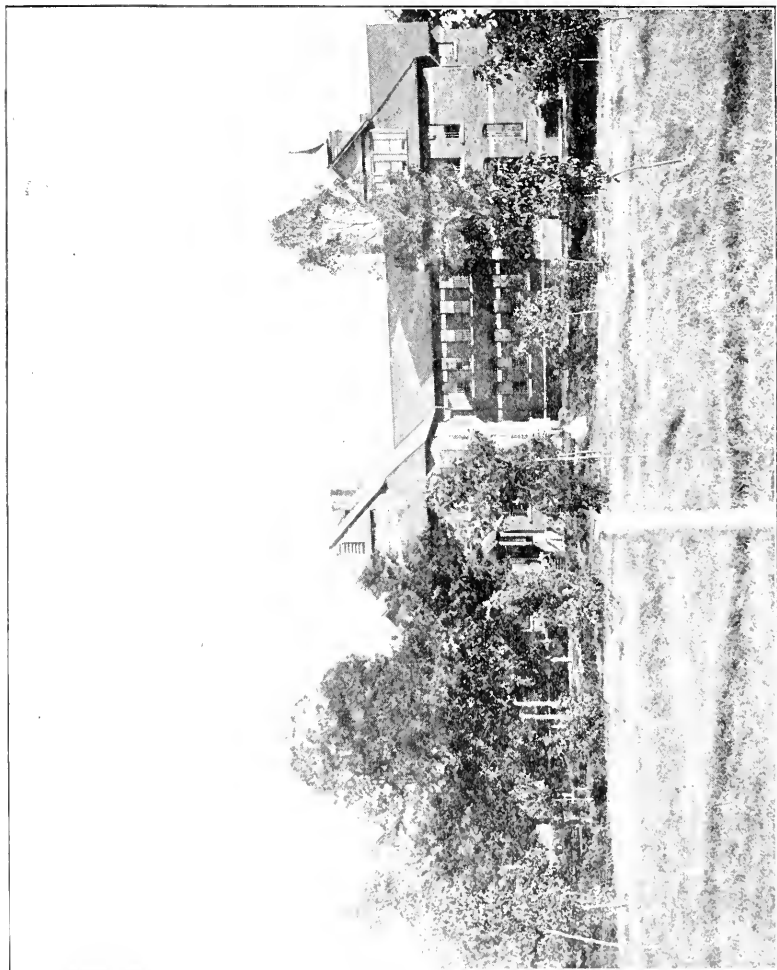
**West Second Street** ===== **Fond du Lac, Wisconsin****W. J. CHEGWIN****Furniture and Picture Framing****No. 20 East Second Street****Fond du Lac, Wisconsin****HENRY BROS.****FLOUR, FEED, GRAIN, SALT  
CEMENT AND BUILDING MATERIALS****FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN**For a Stylish Suit or Overcoat go to**TRELEVEN BROTHERS****102 SOUTH MAIN STREET****FOND DU LAC, WIS.**

ESTABLISHED 1893

**CLARK MANUFACTURING COMPANY****L. H. CLARK**

Finest machinery in the city for building Gasoline Engines and the manufacture of Novelties and Models. Repairing done neatly and promptly.

Shops on Forest Avenue near the Wisconsin Central Station  
**FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN**



***County Insane Hospital***

Located on Military or Waupun Road, Two and One-Half Miles Southwest of the City.

## DR. H. T. SACKETT

### DENTIST

Established 25 years



OFFICES 59-61 MAIN STREET  
(Opposite Forest Ave.)



EQUIPPED WITH ALL MODERN  
APPLIANCES



COMPETENT ASSISTANTS ARE  
CONSTANTLY IN ATTENDANCE

FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH AND THE  
ARTISTIC RESTORATION OF FACIAL  
CONTOUR, GO TO . . .

## *Dr. G. A. Hildreth*

Whose improvements in the methods  
employed in restoring contour, youth,  
tone and expression to the face are  
such that it is possible to ward off  
the appearance of age by ten to  
fifteen years.

### *The Hildreth Dental Parlors*

134 S. MAIN, CORNER SECOND

### MODERN DENTISTRY

## Dr. C. C. Trowbridge

### DENTIST

150 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

### A Word of Instruction

There is no time after birth that a  
child should not be under the watch of a  
competent dentist. Many of the so-called  
disturbances of teething are not the re-  
sult of teething at all, but of improper  
and unsanitary feeding. Just so are  
many of the inflammations of the soft  
tissues, and if a proper diagnosis were  
made and proper instructions given, they  
would speedily disappear. It is possible  
for any person to reach adult and even  
pass through their entire life without  
decay of the teeth, if only the advice of  
a competent dental physician were  
heeded.

A PRACTITIONER

## J. K. WILKINS

## First Street Livery



The equipment of this barn unsurpassed  
by any in the city. Everything first-class  
and prices reasonable

HACKS RUN TO ALL TRAINS

## L. A. BISHOP

HOMEOPATHIC  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON

MARR STREET  
Between First and Second Streets

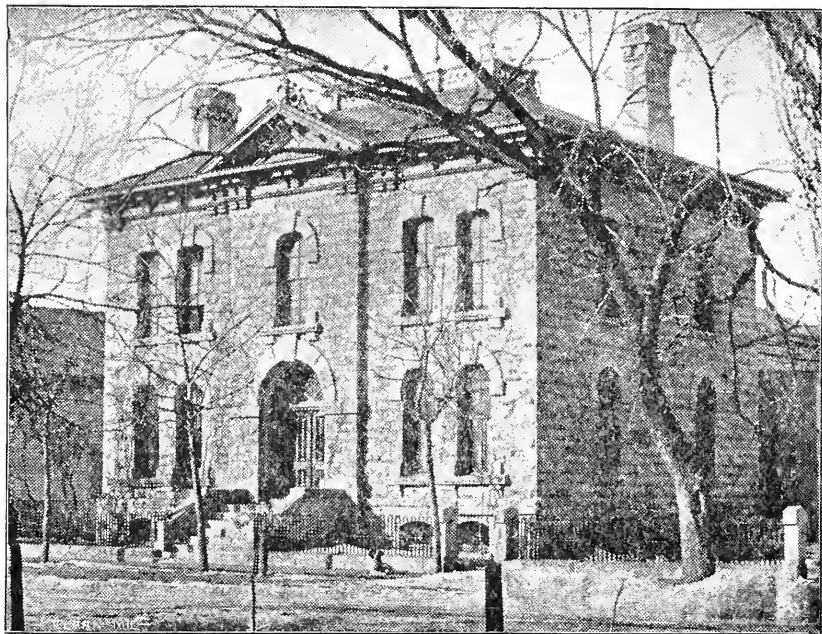
FOND DU LAC, WIS.

Office Hours

7:30 to 10 a. m.

1:00 to 3:00

7:00 to 8:30 p. m.



*Sheriff's Residence and County Jail*

Located on Linden Street, South of the Court House.  
Built in 1870 and Improved at Various Times.

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# ALBERT HAUER

... DEALER IN ...



Paints, Oils, Wall Paper  
Glass *and* Window Shades

173 SOUTH MAIN STREET

Wheeler & Wilson  
New Home  
and Other Standard  
Makes of  
Sewing Machines

Pianos Tuned  
Pianos Repaired  
Pianos for Rent  
and Sold on Easy  
Payments



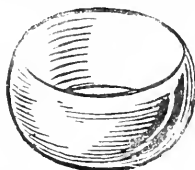
## Voell Music House

*Wholesale and Retail*

104 South Main Street      Fond du Lac, Wis.

Telephone 306

## C. A. FURSTNOW



Is the Largest  
Dealer in

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Diamonds  
Silverware, Fine Cut Glass, Umbrellas  
Edison, Victor and Columbia Talking  
Machines and Records, also All Kinds of  
Musical Instruments at Lowest Prices

77 SOUTH MAIN STREET

When you want *Hard*  
*Coal* free from dust and  
dirt, place your order with  
the

## A. TAIT FUEL CO.

*Best Work at Reasonable Prices*

## JACOB BRENNER

MANUFACTURER OF

Galvanized Iron  
Sheet Iron and Tin

SHOP ON THIRD STREET  
FOND DU LAC, WIS.

*Roofing and House Trimmings a  
Specialty*

## M. Fitzsimons & Sons

MAIN AND FIRST STREETS

BOOTS *and* SHOES

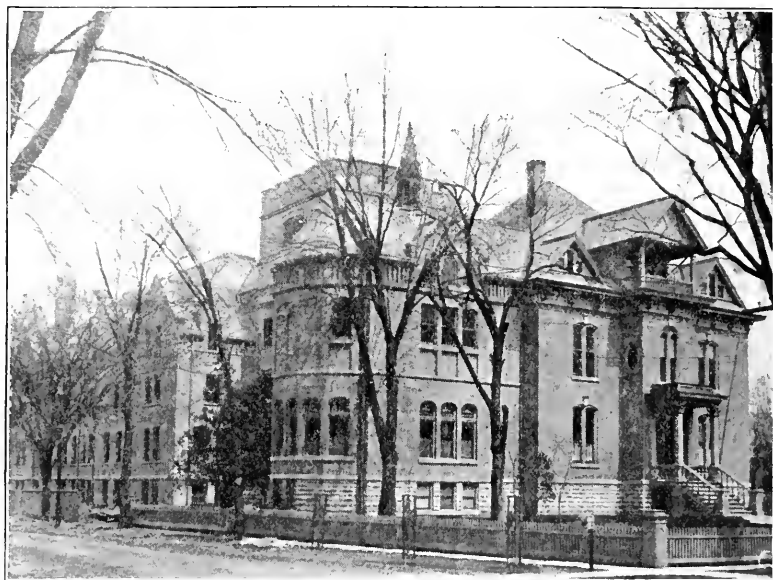
## Thos. H. Hastings

*Livery and  
Undertaking*

Livery Phone 92  
16 Sheboygan Street

Undertaking Phone 86  
139 S. Main Street

FOND DU LAC, WIS.



*Bishop's Residence and Mother House*

Located on East Division Street, Corner of Amory.  
Mother House Built in 1905 at a Cost of \$60,000.

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FRANKLIN SWETT  
ARCHITECT



Plans and Estimates Prepared  
on Short Notice . . .

Rooms First House East of Armory E

. . . FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

Established 1873



# JOHN HUGHES

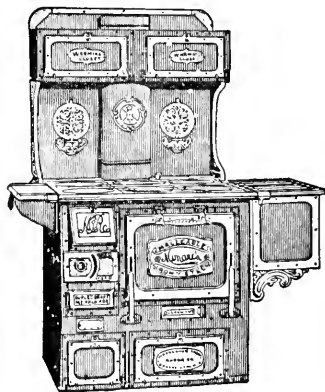
DEALER IN

Shelf and Heavy Hardware  
 Iron in Great Variety  
 Heating and Cooking Stoves  
 Tinware, Nails  
 Blacksmiths' Supplies  
 Wagon Stock, Cordage, etc.



FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

## *Monarch, Malleable Iron and Steel Ranges*



## *Rusch & Hirth*

*Hardware*

142 S. Main St.

Fond du Lac, Wis.

## J. F. Wegner & Co.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

Hardware  
 Stoves and  
 Tinware

Nails, Saws, Axes, Tools, Milk Cans  
 Rope, Chain, Iron, Steel, Etc., Etc.



Good Goods!

Small Profits!

Quick Sales!



'Phone, Red 925  
 Main Street

## *Wilkie Hardware Co.*

SHELF AND HEAVY  
 HARDWARE

BUILDERS' HARDWARE  
 A SPECIALTY

108 South Main Street  
 Fond du Lac, Wis.



*Landing at Winnebago Park*

Located Eight Miles North of the City on East Shore  
of Lake Winnebago.

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# JOHN P. HESS

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UP-TO-DATE JEWELER  
AND OPTICIAN    ✎    ✎

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88 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN



ESTABLISHED 1870

## Bowe & Van Blarcom

The Oldest Established  
Real Estate Agency in  
Fond du Lac County

If you wish to Buy, Sell or Ex-  
change Real Estate, call on us

Auction Sales of all sorts of  
Property a Specialty

*Oldest Music House in the City*

## B. H. Anderson

DEALER IN

Pianos and Organs

Violins, Guitars, Mandolins

Small Instruments

Sheet Music

and all sorts of

Musical Merchandise

FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

SEE

## Anderson & Watson

FOR

REAL ESTATE

INSURANCE

AND LOANS

136 SOUTH MAIN STREET

## *Old Settlers Young Settlers*

In fact every one can be  
suited with Furniture  
at

## *Kremer Bros.*

*The New Furniture Store*

36-38 No. Main Street  
Reinig Block

## S. H. CHENEY

MANUFACTURER OF

Galvanized Iron, Tin and Sheet  
Iron Work of All Kinds

Roofing and House Trimming  
a Specialty

EAST FIRST STREET, NEAR MAIN  
FOND DU LAC, WIS.

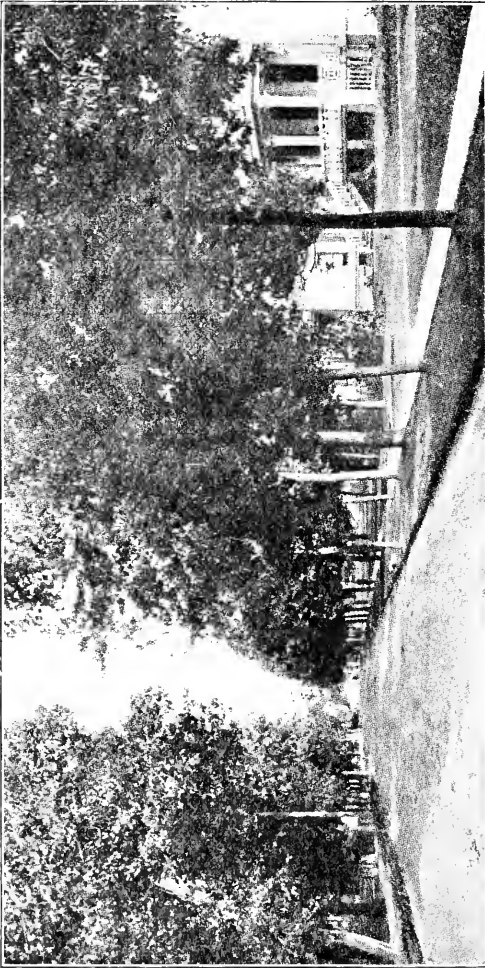
## *Spencer Palmer*

JOB PRINTER

Main Street, near Second      Fond du Lac, Wis.



Business Established More Than  
Thirty Years + Work Always  
First-class and at Fair Prices



*Sheboygan Street Looking East*

The Grand Henry Boyle Opera House, Free Public Library, Elks' Club House, and the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches are Located on this Street.

## G. Scherzinger

Has been continuously in business for fifty years. This is the best proof of honest dealing, good work and reasonable prices.

16 South Main Street



Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

# *Wagner Dry Goods Company*

*122-124 Main Street, corner Second*

Dry Goods, Notions, Carpets

Cloaks, Rugs, Lace Curtains, etc.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED \_\_\_\_\_

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**STRASSEL'S** 90-92 MAIN STREET  
Opp. Commercial National Bank

*Always Something New*

Dry Goods, Notions, Suits, Cloaks and Furs

*The Store that Keeps the Prices Down*

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RICHARD HAAS

GRAND CENTRAL

FRED WAGNER

**HAAS & WAGNER**

DRY GOODS, CARPETS, RUGS AND LINOLEUM

NO. 22 FOREST AVENUE

FOND DU LAC, WIS.

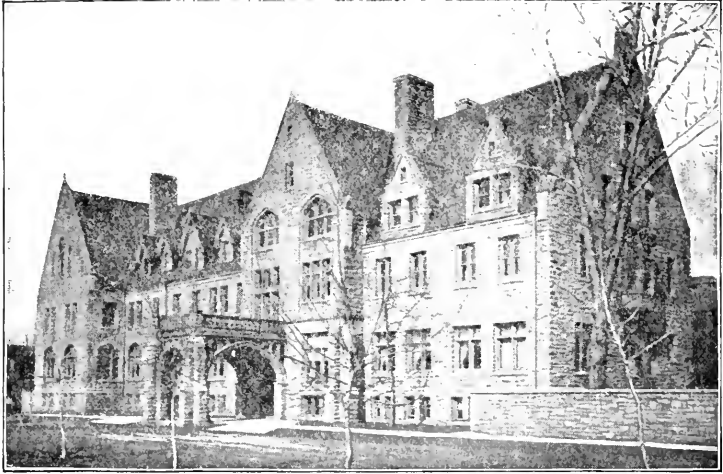
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**T. E. AHERN CO.**

CLOTHIERS

51-53 South Main Street



*West Front of Grafton Hall*

On Sophia Street North of The Cathedral.  
Built in 1900.

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N. W. SALLADE

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ATTORNEY AT LAW

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FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

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FOND DU LAC. WISCONSIN

# GRAFTON HALL

---

## *School and College for Young Ladies*

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*College of Music & School of Decora-  
tion & Designing & Domestic Science  
and Library Courses*

*Rev. B. T. Rogers, Warden*

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*Established 1864*

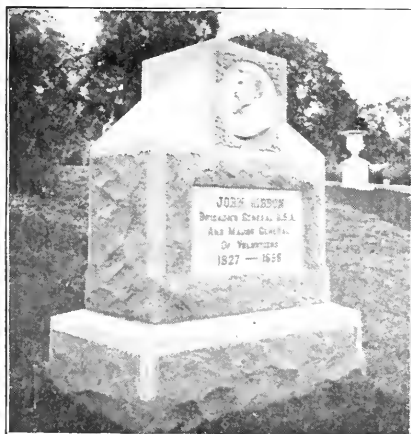
### *The HUBER BROTHERS*

*Largest Stock of Drugs and Medicines in the City*

Books and Stationery in a Great Variety, Notions, Paints  
and Oils, Mixed Paints, Wall Papers, Curtains and Ev-  
erything in the line of Druggists' Sundries ❄ ❄

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*PRESCRIPTIONS A SPECIALTY*



## R. POWRIE

Manufacturer of and Dealer in

**FINE MONUMENTS  
AND STATUARY**

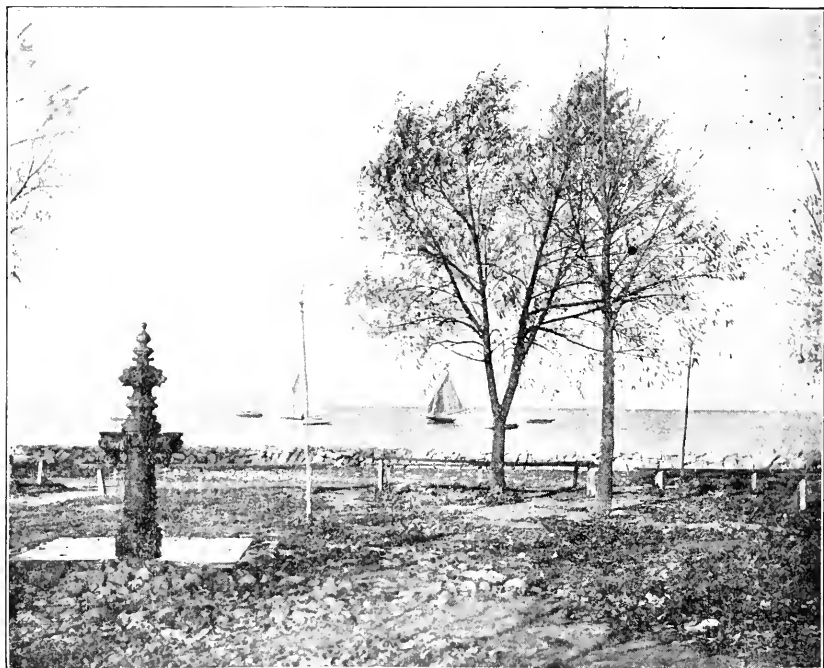
MARBLE, GRANITE AND STONE

Pneumatic Tools for Carving and Lettering

30 EAST FIRST STREET

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Cut shown is of Monument Designed and Executed  
for *The Iron Brigade* by R. Powrie. Erected in  
Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D. C.



*Lakeside Park and Fountain*

Located on Lake Shore, One Mile North  
of the Court House.

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GIFFIN & SUTHERLAND

*Attorneys*



FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

E. G. HEATH, MANAGER

**Fond du Lac Steam Laundry**

34 EAST FIRST STREET



TELEPHONE 21

*Equipped with very latest machinery  
Do the most stylish and up-to-date work***REMINGTON DRUG CO.**

L. J. REMINGTON

JAS. T. DANA

Our Drug Experience of over a quarter  
of a century at your service

72 S. MAIN STREET



FOND DU LAC, WIS.

**Dr. Reed's Cushion Sole Shoes for Ladies and Men**

THE EASIEST SHOE ON EARTH

We make shoes to order. We take your measure and  
guarantee a perfect fit. Up-to-date shoes at popular  
prices.**GEORG, THE SHOE MAN**

70 S. MAIN STREET

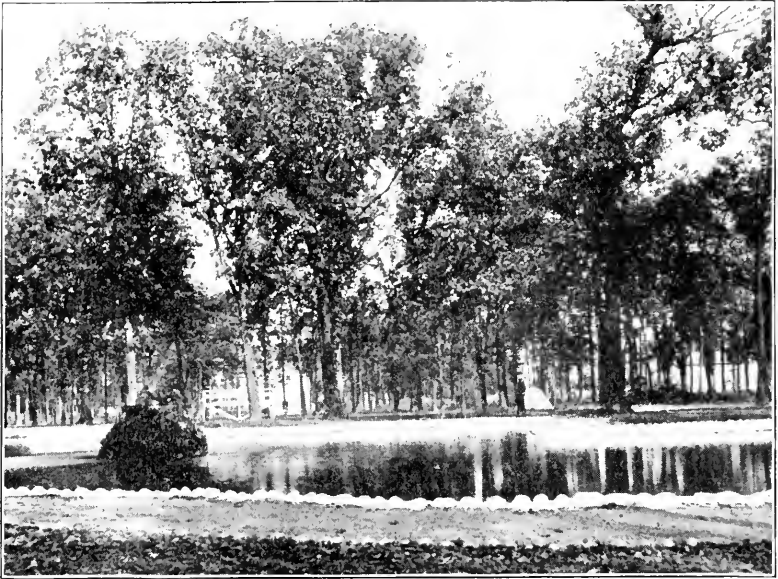


FOND DU LAC, WIS.

**Martin Herbert**PRACTICAL  
SHOEMAKERShoes made to order on Short Notice.  
Repairing done while you wait.  
Prices Low and Work Up-to-date.  
Hand-sewed Work a Specialty.  
Give me a call.

10 East Second St.

Fond du Lac, Wis.



*Taylor Park*

Located on the West Side of the City  
and Near Forest Avenue.

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## FRANK O. PRINSLOW

DEALER IN

Farm Implements, Wagons, Carriages

Double Disc Drills and Seeders, Gasoline Engines  
and Threshers, Wind-mills, Sewing Machines,  
Twine, Grass Seed, etc. . . . .

TELEPHONE 702

19-21-23 E. First Street

FOND DU LAC, WIS.



PRESIDENT, L. A. WILLIAMS  
 TREASURER, W. E. GRISWOLD  
 SECRETARY, F. W. CHADBOURNE

## FOND DU LAC COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Owners of the Original Abstract Books and Records of Fond du Lac County  
 supplemented by a Complete New System of its own. . . . .

OFFICE IN FOND DU LAC NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

WM. McDERMOTT

J. P. McDERMOTT

G. L. McDERMOTT

### *Wm. McDermott & Sons*

**INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE  
 LOANS AND COLLECTIONS**

LOCAL LAND AGENTS OF CHICAGO &  
 NORTH-WESTERN R. R. CO.'S LANDS IN  
 NORTHERN WISCONSIN AND MICHIGAN

PROPERTY OF NON-  
 RESIDENTS RECEIVES  
 PROMPT ATTENTION

. . . CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED . . .

24 SOUTH MAIN STREET

FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

## The Commonwealth

Is intimately associated with the history and progress of Fond du Lac. The Weekly Commonwealth, being now in its fifty-third year, enjoys the distinction of being the oldest paper, not only in the city, but in the Sixth congressional district. The Daily Commonwealth is in its thirty-sixth year.

There are certain distinctive features about The Commonwealth. Unlike many newspapers of the present time, it does not strain after sensationalism. The policy is to get the facts and print such of the news as is decent to print. It is a paper that can be and is read in the family circle—not one that the parent should seek to keep from the children.

In addition to giving a complete city and county news service, The Commonwealth maintains special service at Madison, Milwaukee and Oshkosh. From the former, the doings of the state legislature and other matters pertaining to the state government are reported; from Milwaukee, the metropolis and news center of Wisconsin, comes a great deal of special news of the state; and from Oshkosh, Fond du Lac's closest neighbor, comes much news that is of particular interest to the residents of Fond du Lac.

The United States and foreign news service is furnished by the Scripps-McRae Press Association, of which The Commonwealth is a member. This association, co-operating with the Publishers' Press Association, covers all parts of the civilized world.

The P. B. Haber Printing Company, publishers of the paper, operate in connection a modern show and job printing establishment, where practically anything from a label the size of a postage stamp to the largest theatrical bill is printed.



*Lakeside Park*

Located One Mile North of the Court House  
on Shore of Lake Winnebago

---

J. THOMSEN

J. H. THOMSEN

J. THOMSEN & SON

DECORATING AND PAINTING

Wall Paper, Painting Materials, Etc.

18 SOUTH MAIN STREET

FOND DU LAC

...

WISCONSIN

## The Erving Hotel

AMERICAN AND  
EUROPEAN PLAN



EXCELLENT CAFE  
IN CONNECTION



*Fond du Lac Wisconsin*

## The Palmer House

E. A. CAREY, Owner  
G. A. ALEXANDER, Manager

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL  
REASONABLE PRICES  
FINE EQUIPMENT

Everything desired in Modern Improvements, including Elevators, Gas and Electric Lights, Bathrooms, Closets, Billiard Rooms, Sample Rooms, Barber Shop, Telegraph and Telephone Service, Buffet, etc

First-Class in All Respects

COR. MAIN AND SHEBOYGAN STS.

FOND DU LAC WISCONSIN

## FOND DU LAC... NATIONAL BANK

OF FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

Capital \$200,000  
Surplus 50,000

### DIRECTORS

C. A. GALLOWAY, OF MOORE & GALLOWAY LUMBER CO

FRED'K RUEPING, OF FRED RUEPING LEATHER CO.

J. A. MERRYMAN, MERCHANT

JOHN HUGHES, MERCHANT

CHAS. SCHRIBER, V-PRES. OLD NATIONAL BANK OF OSHKOSH, WIS.

E. P. SAWYER, CAPITALIST

G. A. KNAPP, CASHIER C. A. GALLOWAY, PRES.

ESTABLISHED 1870

## COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK

OF FOND DU LAC, WIS.



H. R. POTTER, President

HENRY BOYLE, Vice-President

A. G. BECHAUD, 2d Vice-President

M. T. SIMMONS, Cashier



### DIRECTORS

JOHN T. BOYLE

GEORGE GIDDINGS

F. E. HOYT

D. D. SUTHERLAND

H. P. PHELPS

J. W. WATSON

## Phelps & Watson

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

DEALERS IN

REAL ESTATE

Fond du Lac Wisconsin

*In Business Over Fifty Years*

## First National Bank

Of Fond du Lac



J. B. PERRY, Pres. ERNEST J. PERRY, Cashier

Directors

H. D. HITT E. R. HERREN A. G. RUGGLES

G. W. EARLE J. C. FUHRMAN



*The Henry Boyle Home for Aged Catholics*

Located on Park Avenue. Erected in 1903 by Henry Boyle  
at a Cost of \$75,000 for Building and Endowment.

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W. A. MEIKLEJOHN

E. C. MARTIN

## ***MEIKLEJOHN & MARTIN***

FINANCIAL AGENTS

INVESTMENT BROKERS

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL PAPER

MORTGAGES, STOCKS AND BONDS

SECURITIES OF ALL KINDS BOUGHT AND SOLD  
MONEY TO LOAN ON LONG AND SHORT TIME

*First National Bank Building*

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*Fond du Lac, Wis.*

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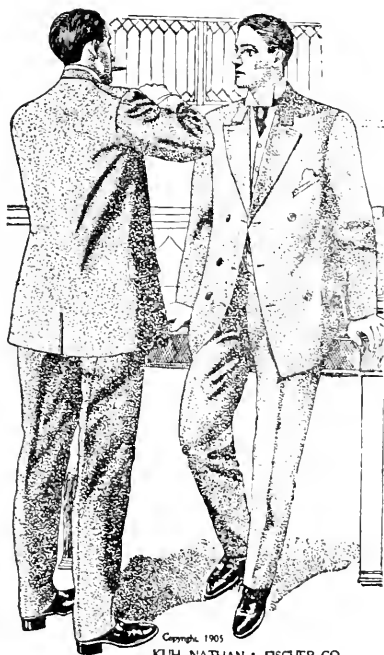


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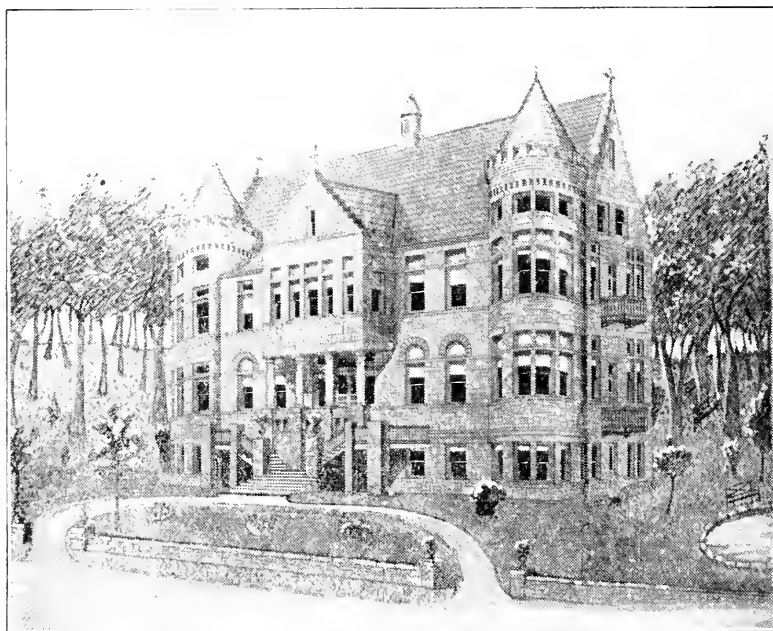
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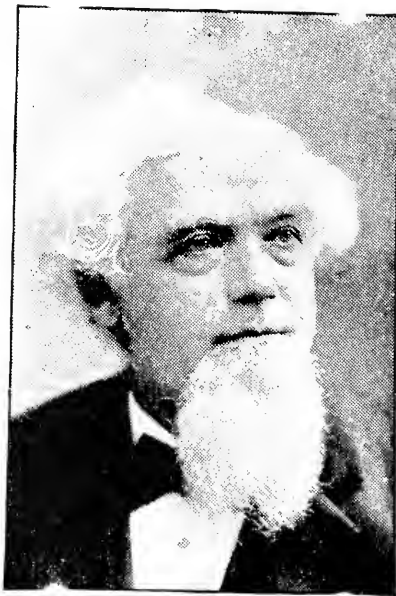
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U. S. Consul General to Hongkong, China.



JUDGE NORMAN S. GILSON  
President of State Tax Commission.



CHARLES R. HARRISON  
Died May 19, 1905.



CAPT. M. MANGAN  
Died Sept. 26, 1901.



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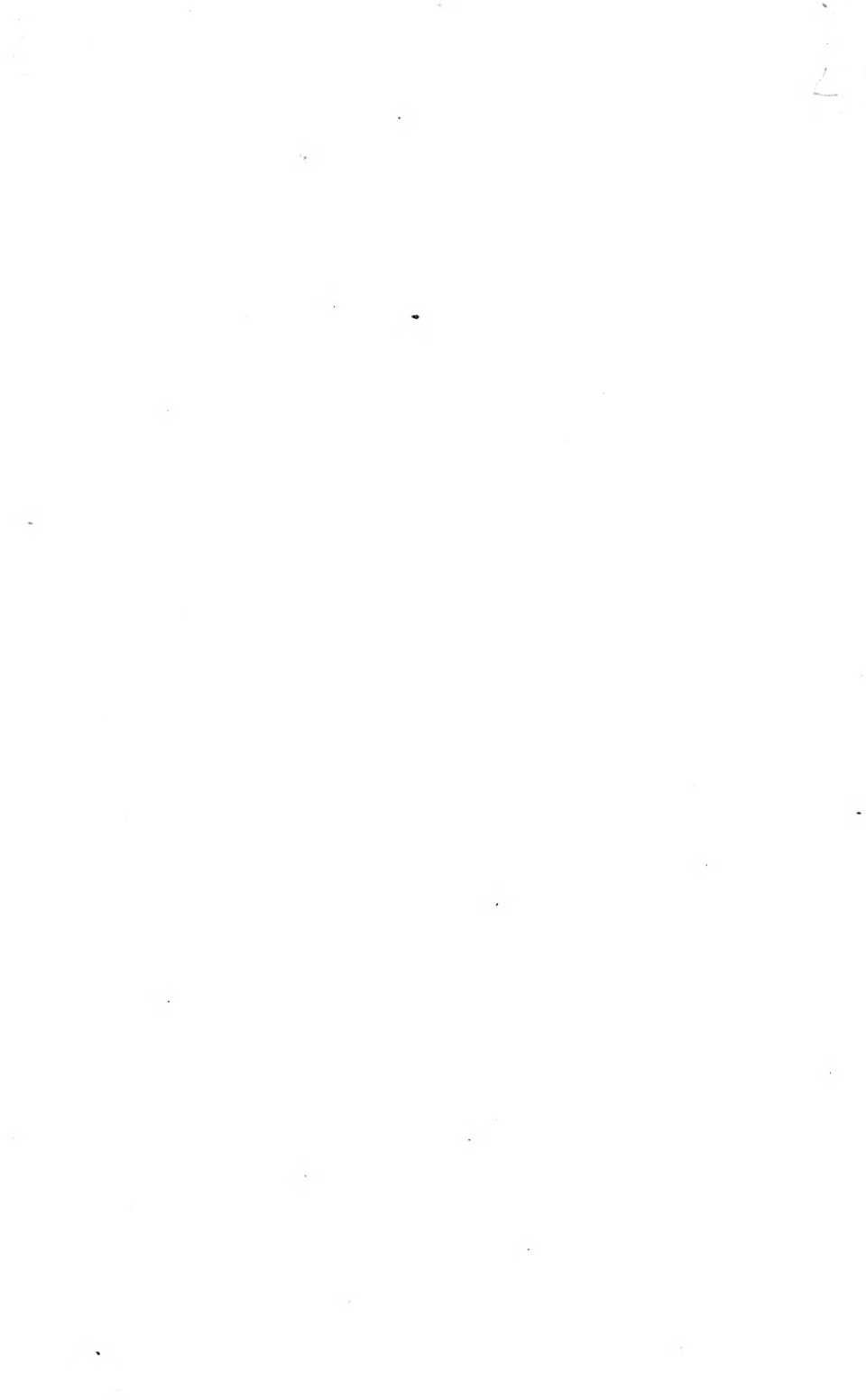
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