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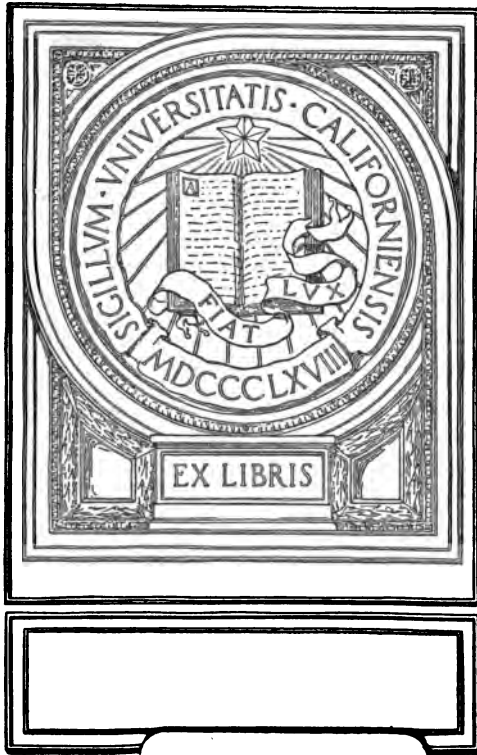
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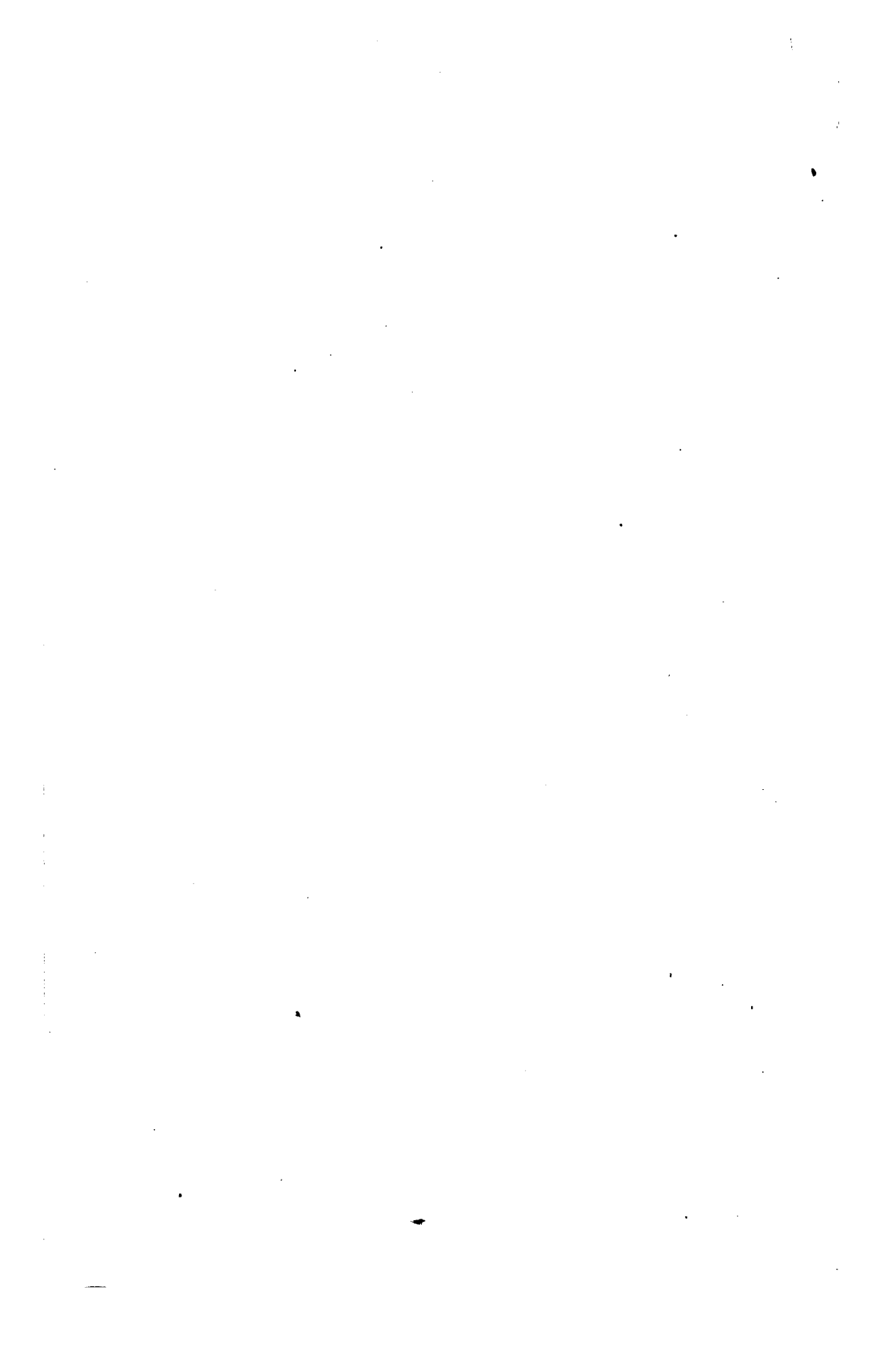
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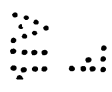


*Abraham C. Bird*









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At a regular meeting of the Old Settlers Club, held at the Court House January 7, 1878, the following preamble and resolutions were offered by Maj. Rufus Cheney, and unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, The perpetuation of the names, together with brief histories of many of the members of this Club, has been secured by James S. Buck, one of our esteemed members, in his "Pioneer History of Milwaukee;" and,

*Whereas*, Said History contains much that is interesting and valuable, both to the members of this Club and the old settlers generally; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this club be and hereby are tendered to the author for its production, refreshing and reviving as it does early recollections, and bringing to life many early events, which would otherwise sleep the sleep that knows no waking.

*Resolved*, That we endorse the general correctness of the work, and cheerfully recommend it to the purchase and perusal of all who feel an interest in the early settlement of the metropolis and commercial center of the State of which we are all proud to be called citizens, namely, Wisconsin.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this preamble and resolution be presented to Jas. S. Buck, as our appreciation of his valuable history and revival of the early reminiscences of Milwaukee.

ALEX. MITCHELL,  
RUFUS CHENEY,  
WM. P. MERRILL,  
WM. A. PRENTISS,

ENOCH CHASE,  
W. S. TROWBRIDGE,  
DANIEL WELLS, Jr.,  
HORACE CHASE.

Mr. Buck thanked the Club for this manifestation of their appreciation of his work. The task had been an arduous one and the publication of the work had entailed additional labor. He had been rewarded so far as dollars and cents were involved, but now, after the History had been generally read and opinion had fully matured, he had received a reward far above any he had ever dreamed of.



1000

1875



THE MESSING & FORD ENGRAVERS

*J. S. Buck*



**PIONEER**

**HISTORY OF MILWAUKEE**

FROM THE

FIRST AMERICAN SETTLEMENT IN 1833, TO 1841,

WITH A

**TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION,**

AS IT APPEARED IN A STATE OF NATURE, ILLUSTRATED, WITH A  
MAP.

BY JAMES S. BUCK.

11



MILWAUKEE:  
MILWAUKEE NEWS COMPANY, PRINTERS.  
1876.

F589

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TO  
DANIEL WELLS, JR., PRESIDENT,  
THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS,  
OF THE OLD SETTLERS' CLUB,  
IS THIS BOOK MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,  
BY THE AUTHOR.

M160053

*Civilization westward rolls*

*Like a sea, in its march to glory,  
And we who came on its pioneer wave,  
Will now relate our story.*

## AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

---

The writing of books has become so common in our day, that there would seem to be no call for, or material left, from which one more could be compiled, every field of literature having been so thoroughly plowed and its soil exhausted, so to speak, by previous writers, as to make it impossible for the imagination of the most versatile scribbler in the land, to produce one more which would interest the people of this fast age; but the author has concluded to make the attempt, *and if he fail*, will, of course, lay the blame where it properly belongs (and his readers can easily guess where that will be), but he hopes not to fail; in fact, he is not going to—and, cheered by this hope, has spent much time *and gas* in putting this work into the hands of the public, believing that it cannot fail to both interest and amuse them.

The author does not expect to put all that was done in these first eight years, into a work of three hundred pages, or three thousand, even; neither does he wish it understood that he knows all about Milwaukee's early days; nevertheless he has seen some of it. Neither has he told all that he knows, and is not going to, having too strong a regard for his brother pioneers for that, and does not intend to expose their weak points any further than is absolutely necessary, in order to make his readers understand the spirit that brooded over Milwaukee in those early times, and to portray the true character of the early men, some of whom have done noble work, and who to-day, at three score and ten, are as active as boys; men with healthy bodies and healthy minds. What he has written, is a small part of the great whole, and if every old settler will write as much, which many of them can do, their writings will no doubt prove as interesting, and perhaps more so, than will what is contained in this book. Many will no doubt ask why he did not state this and

that. To this his answer will be, that he is human, and of course liable to forget many things, particularly as no record was ever kept of many of these events at the time of their occurrence; the place of historian being one that the author never contemplated occupying, until within the last fifteen years.

It is not considered necessary to give a full and complete history of the first settlement and occupancy of Wisconsin, by the Jesuit Fathers, and their companions and successors, the traders, in this little work, and, with the exception of one or two short articles, and a short chronological record to appear in the appendix, it will not be attempted; that work having not only been already done, but well done, in the early pioneer histories, on file in the rooms of the State Historical Society, at Madison; but simply to give a short and concise epitomized history of the early settlement of Milwaukee, from 1833 to 1840, inclusive, with the historical part. The Biographical and Incidental is, however, brought further down.

Nothing beyond that is attempted, neither is anything stated that is not known or believed to be strictly true, for it is the intention to make this book a foundation upon which future historians can build, who were not eye witnesses or participants in any of these scenes, and who never saw Milwaukee when all was new and wild. And he looks, with confidence, to a generous public, to remunerate him with a goodly "shower of ducats." Books cannot be written wholly for "fame, or honor," particularly such a work as this, the compilation of which has cost so much labor.

What is stated in this book, is not only true, but in nearly all the incidents described, the author was a party or an eye witness; and with this allegation, will close his preface with an acknowledgment of thanks to Daniel Wells, Jr., Dr. Enoch Chase, Horace Chase, Geo. Reed, Wm. P. Merrill, Henry Williams, Joseph Cary, William Sivyver, Henry Sivyver, Geo. D. Dousman, John H. Tweedy, R. G. Owens, Wm. A. Prentiss, Henry W. Bleyer, Narcisse Juneau, Mrs. Theresa Juneau White, and others who have given valuable information; and particularly are they due to Messrs. Seaman & Kitchel, attorneys and abstractors of titles, for the draft of the lithographic map annexed.

J. S. B.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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It has long been my purpose to prepare for publication, some of the principal events of my life, more particularly those connected with my residence in Wisconsin, believing that they would prove interesting to the reading public; and as, in the course of nature, I, with the rest of the early settlers of this queenly city, must soon pass away, and be known here no more, except in memory, I have, at the request of the Old Settlers' Club, as well as many of our prominent citizens, not of the Club, concluded to put in book form, a series of reminiscences, descriptive of the city and its early men, with the work they have performed; also to describe its original topography, as it appeared in a state of nature, with some of the changes made therein in the last forty years, as well as the part we all have had in making these changes, and offer them to the public through the proper channel, viz: the Old Settlers' Club, hoping that their perusal will be both a pleasure and a benefit to the people of Milwaukee, to whom many of the facts here related, were, before this publication, *a sealed book*, known only to the initiated.

At the early age of seven years, the author saw his first geography and atlas, with a map of the United States and Territories (then mostly Territories), upon which map, all that portion west of the Great Lakes and north of the Ohio, was described as the Northwest Territory. Too far away at that early day to be seen (except in a vision), it was, to him, as much of a *terra incognita*, as is the moon. Entirely out of the reach of civilization, and likely to remain so during his day; filled with savage beasts and still more savage men, little did he then expect that it would ever become his home, although often the wish of his young heart that it could be, the very thought of its impossibility lending enchantment to the view.

But the rapidity with which civilization has advanced in the last forty years, has brought this youthful wish to pass, and he finds himself with many others, in his autumnal years, one of the land-marks in the old Northwest Territory. But what a change! The red man has disappeared before the advance of the whites, as doth the grass before the scythe of the mower; his loved haunts are all obliterated, leaving no trace of his former possession or occupancy, except in the name of some lake or river; his rude wigwam has been supplanted by the costly dwelling of the white man; the river where floated his light canoe of bark, is now filled with the ships of the merchant; where was then heard the savage war-hoop, we now hear the whistle of the swift running locomotive; where was then held the war-dance, is now heard the sound of the church-going bell. The crooked places have been made straight; the high places brought low; the rough made smooth; and all this in forty years!

The State of Wisconsin is one of the fairest of Columbia's fair daughters. Upon her eastern side, roll the blue waves of Lake Michigan; upon her western flows the Father of Waters; she laves her giant head in the cooling depths of Lake Superior, and warms her feet upon the sunny prairies of the south; her northern half is clothed with the grand old pines, beneath whose roots lie concealed those metaliferous veins, whose undeveloped wealth would enrich an empire. From her southern portion are the nations of the orient not only supplied with bread, but here, also, lie those veins of rich galena, the present and prospective wealth of which are beyond all computation.

What she is to Columbia, Milwaukee is to her, viz: The brightest jewel in her crown! Her geographical position is good; her harbor is the best upon the lake, and easy of access; her people are industrious and prosperous; and she is financially, the soundest of any city in the West. If such is the history of her infantile days, what may be expected of her manhood? The man that shall write that, and write it well, is yet to be born.

## AUTHOR'S GENERAL HISTORY.

---

### HOW I CAME TO MILWAUKEE.

I first heard of Milwaukee in the month of October, 1836, while in the city of Boston, where the ship *Trescott*, Capt. Joseph Lindsey, to which I then belonged, was owned; I having made a voyage in her the year previous, to Calcutta. At Boston I met Mr. James H. Wheelock, then a young man, who was purchasing goods for Milwaukee, where he contemplated locating himself, as a merchant. Mr. Wheelock and myself were school-mates, and very much attached to each other. Therefore, he was not long in persuading me to accompany him to the West. We reached Detroit in November, on the last boat for that season, the *Old Columbus*, Capt. Walker, where I remained until Mr. Wheelock came to Milwaukee and returned, which he did, going by lake in a vessel called the *Mississippi*, and returning by land; a Mr. Harmond, who afterwards settled in Chicago, making the trip with him. The passage around the lakes was very dangerous at that season of the year; but as that was the only way in which the goods could be got through, it was finally undertaken and accomplished in safety. Mr. Wheelock had a brother at Milwaukee, B. F. Wheelock, now living at Green Bay, and an uncle, the late Col. Jonathan Wheelock, who kept a hotel at Green Bay for many years. Many of the old settlers will remember him, for his great personal strength, he being, probably, the strongest man in the State. He was one of four brothers, who were all, with one exception, men of immense personal strength, all born and raised in Vermont. Col. Wheelock kept the first hotel in Green Bay, coming there from Ogdensburg, in 1832, at the request of Mr. Whitney. He died in 1868.

I have often thought, how small a thing will sometimes change the whole current of a man's life. My meeting with J. H. Whee-

lock, in Boston, took me from the sea, for which I had prepared myself by learning navigation, and made me a pioneer on the frontier, as Wisconsin was then called; a life I had never contemplated. But mark how he and I changed places: He returned East in 1838, went to sea, himself, in a whale-ship, a life he certainly had never contemplated; rose to the command of a vessel, and died in Tahiti, Society Islands, in 1848, while I have lived to see what was then a vast wilderness, over which the red man had for ages roamed at will, subdued and filled with a highly civilized and enlightened population; and Milwaukee, from a small village, become a city of one hundred thousand inhabitants, who, for learning, enterprise, wealth and refinement, have no superiors west of New York, not excepting that small village at the head of the lake. Her commerce has grown from one vessel, the Solomon Juneau, to thousands of tons; her wheat market is the best in the country, if not in the world; her railroads traverse the State in all directions, like a net; her churches are numerous and prosperous; her public schools are not only the joy and pride of her own people, but the envy of her sister cities; her water-works are both extensive and grand, although, as yet, incomplete; her whisky men have made "Rome howl" for the last few years, on account of the manufacture of this national beverage, both straight and crooked, in consequence of which, some of them are, at present, under a slight cloud; in the manufacture of lager beer, also, is she unexcelled. But her crowning glory is the Court-house! Happy indeed, are the people who have been so fortunate as to become the owners of one of these little toys. True, many of the nations and cities of old were renowned for their wonderful works of art; Pisa has her Leaning Tower, the use of which has not yet been discovered; Egypt can point to her pyramids; Rome can boast of her Coliseum. And yet these people were not happy. Alas for them, they had no Court-house, simply because they had no supervisors. The highest officers known in their day were kings and emperors. That was as far as they had advanced. Had they possessed supervisors, then indeed, would their cup of joy, like ours, have been full. But, joking aside, it is to be hoped that this stupendous elephant will not wholly bankrupt the people in their efforts to *board it*, for it is certainly a good feeder, eating freely everything it can get.

But I will end this digression, return to Detroit, and endeavor to describe some of the incidents connected with my journey from that city to Milwaukee.

As previously stated, I remained in Detroit while Mr. Wheelock came to Milwaukee and returned; which he did, I think, on the 20th of December. The year of 1836 had been one of great prosperity, *i. e.*, one of inflation. Just such a state of affairs existed throughout the country, particularly in the West, as would to-day, if the advocates for an increase of currency should succeed in carrying their measures through Congress. The stream of emigration had been like a tidal wave all that year, into the present States of Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois. These new States that were and were yet to be, were fast filling up with men from all parts of the East and South, whose pockets were full of paper money, alias wild cat, not worth, in many cases, the cost of the paper upon which it was printed, with which lands for town sites were purchased, in which lots here sold for fabulous prices, in many cases, double the amount the same lots would bring to-day. The whole country was literally covered with town sites; and schemes for swindling the people, were as common as the prairie *itch*, and that almost every one had. This continued until the close of navigation, when the bubble burst, and these men, who, in 1836, had counted their wealth by the million, were, in the spring of 1837, so poor, that the sight of a one hundred dollar bill would make them cross-eyed.

Detroit was, at that time, on account of her geographical position, the New York of the Northwest, and therefore, constantly filled with strangers and speculators, on their way to the far West or their return to the East, among whom, I met a Mr. Cowdry, of Logansport, Ind. This gentleman, who was a lawyer, and a very talented man, had spent the previous summer in Saginaw, locating pine lands, and was on his return to Logansport, when I met with him. With him I made an arrangement to come as far as South Bend, Ind., where we were to part, he going south to Logansport, leaving me to make the rest of the journey by stage. Our rig consisted of a *juniper*, drawn by a large and powerful horse. We were also well provided with blankets and robes, some provisions, and if my memory is correct, a curiously shaped stone vessel, filled with *eye-*

*water*, to kill Indians with, if we saw any. [N. B.—This eye-water has killed more Indians than gun-powder.] At Saginaw, Mr. Cowdry obtained two Indian ponies, and one of them (a stallion), I think, had more devil in him than any horse I had ever seen, up to that time. The mare was tied to the shafts by the side of the horse, while I rode the stallion, or was to ride him. In this manner we left Detroit, on the first day of January, 1837, for Milwaukee, Mr. Wheelock remaining at Detroit until spring, when he came around the lakes, in the schooner *Napoleon*, Capt. Langley, joining me in Milwaukee in the month of June.

The winter of 1836 was exceedingly cold and snowy, and the consequence was, that my feet were badly frozen the first day, which put an end to horse-back riding, and gave me a seat in the jumper. My gallant steed was fastened to the rear of the jumper, with a rope halter, and he made it lively for us the first two days. If he upset us once, he did twenty times, and the way he managed to do it, was this: He would get the slack of his halter under the end of the jumper, when, with a jerk, he would land us in the snow in the twinkling of an eye. Mr. Cowdry thought perhaps he did this in order to examine the bottom of the jumper, or break our jug of eye-water, or something of that sort; but I think it was simply out of pure cussedness. But whatever his motive was, he kept it to himself, looking on while we were putting things in shape again, with his wicked little eye full of mischief, which said, as plainly as though he had spoken it, "Why can't you fellows keep right side up?"

But this sort of thing got to be monotonous, after the novelty had worn off a little, and I fixed upon a plan to conquer him, that proved entirely successful, which was to fasten him to the end of a double wagon, loaded with stone-coal, that was going our way, where he found his match. After that we had no more trouble with him, but he did make it lively for us the first two days, and no mistake.

Michigan, even at that early day, was quite thickly settled, principally from New York and the New England States, and a finer looking country than we passed over, I certainly had never seen before. Many of the farmers had large improvements, good build-

ings, and everything in good shape. Game was also abundant, particularly quail; I had never seen so many before, and certainly have not since, as I saw on that journey from Detroit to Milwaukee. The road was, so to speak, literally alive with them.

We were eight days coming to South Bend, where Mr. Cowdry and I parted, he going south to Logansport, leaving me to make the rest of the journey by stage. I remained at South Bend four days, when the proprietor of the stage line, a Mr. Hartshorn, with whom I had formerly been acquainted, in Vermont, came along, going express to Milwaukee, after some friends of his. He at once gave me a seat in his cutter, and away we sped, day and night; changing horses at every station; sleeping and driving by turns. What an exciting ride was that! The sleighing was splendid, and as neither of us had ever been over the road before, of course all was new.

Our route lay along the beach of the lake, for a long distance, east of Chicago, passing inside of one vessel, that was at least, four hundred feet from the water. She must have been running at a tremendous rate to have gone up as far as she did. She was called the North Carolina,\* and was got off all right the next spring.

Chicago, at that time, was but a small village, and had not a very inviting look. We left there and reached Gross Point about daylight the next morning, where we stopped for breakfast, at the only house in the place, and the first one north of Chicago, kept by Mr. Patterson, the father of Mrs. Morgan L. Burdick. This family was from Woodstock, Vt., and, as I had formerly known them, our meeting here in this new land, was, of course, a pleasant one. The ruins of the old house are still visible; and last summer I made a visit to them. We left there for Sunderlands, the next house north, distant some thirty miles, which we reached at noon; and to Willis' Tavern, six miles south of Racine, at dark, where we met the parties Mr. Hartshorn was in search of, with whom he at once returned. I remained at Willis two days, then came by stage, among whose passengers was D. H. Richards, to Racine. We

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\*In looking through the Advertiser of October, 1836, I saw a notice of the beaching of this vessel.

stopped for breakfast at Vail's Hotel, who prepared for us a splendid breakfast. Reached Milwaukee at 11 A. M. same day, and was set down, safe and sound, at the Milwaukee House, then called the Belle View, and kept by Hosmer & Starr, January 17, 1837, after an almost continuous ride of seventeen days.

As the name of J. H. Wheelock will appear but once more in connection with Milwaukee, I will say a few words of him *in memoriam*.

He was, like Solomon Juneau, one of nature's nobleman. Manly in form, courteous and dignified in manner, possessed of great bodily strength, and as fearless as a lion, he was such a man as would command respect and attention in any place or position. Thirty-eight years have passed away since last I saw his manly form, and took his last farewell; yet, in memory, he is ever present with me.

Sleep on, thou truest friend of my early years, in that far off seagirt island grave, where green is the foliage, and the flowers ever bloom, emblematical of that bright world where now dwelleth thy spirit; while the thunder of old ocean's rolling waves, as they beat upon its rock bound shores, shall be thy requiem ever.

J. S. B.



# HISTORY OF MILWAUKEE.

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## CHAPTER I.

1833 and 1834.

Discovery of Wisconsin and Milwaukee, by the early French Missionaries, 1674—Arrival of Gorrell, 1762; Vieux and Mirandeau, 1795—Settlement of Juneau, 1818—Morgan L. Martin's Visit, 1833; makes first sketch ever made by an American—Arrival of Albert Fowler, Nov. 1833—G. H. Walker, Byron Kilbourn, Horace Chase, Deacon Samuel Brown and others, in 1834—Letter of M. L. Martin.

There have been two histories of Milwaukee, or, as its Indian name implies, THE BEAUTIFUL LAND, placed in the hands of the public.

The first, called "Wheeler's Chronicles," came out in 1861, and although containing some valuable information, is, as a Pioneer History, very imperfect, and in many instances incorrect. The second is in German, and of course, the American population are not benefitted by its publication; *as to its correctness*, I have no knowledge, but am informed that it is a very valuable work in many respects.

It has been the intention of the author of these pages, to make as perfect a book, as his own knowledge, and that of his brother pioneers, will enable him to do, and to this end, he has bent all his energies for some months past.

The aborigines of this country, who, as well as the white race, have an eye for the beautiful in nature, seem to have had a great love for Milwaukee, and as a natural consequence it was the site of an Indian village far back in the past, as the earliest explorers found them here.

The first white man who is supposed to have seen this beautiful spot, (I quote from Dr. I. A. Lapham's Chronology of Wisconsin,)

was Father Pierre Marquette, who stopped here while on his way from Green Bay to Chicago, Oct. 26th, 1674; Father Claude Allouez following two years later.

The next was John Buisson de St. Comes, who was storm-bound at *Milwarck*, Nov. 10, 1699. No farther mention seems to have been made of it until 1762, when Lieutenant James Gorrell, of the 80th Royal American Regiment stationed at Mackinaw, visited the place.

The first trader who established himself here was Alex. Laframbois,\* from Mackinaw, in 1785, who remained six years; when he returned to Mackinaw, sending his brother to supply his place. He was killed by the Winnebagoes on the Rock River, after which the place was without a trader until 1795, when Jaques Vieux and John Baptist Mirandean came from Green Bay.

Mr. Mirandean remained permanently; Mr. Vieux coming annually, until Sept 14th, 1818, when Solomon Juneau came and made a final settlement.

There appears also to have been a trading house at the foot of Chestnut street, sometime between 1800 and 1812, kept by John Baptiste Bawbeal, a brother-in-law of Laframbois.

It has been supposed by many, that J. B. Kenzie, of Chicago, had a trading house here about the time mentioned; if so, it is probable that Bawbeal was simply his agent, and not a trader himself. This with the occasional visit of Joseph Shaunier, John Baptiste LeTontee, Stanislaus, Chapeau, Lawrence Filley, John B. Beaubien,† and perhaps some others whose names are unknown, who spent the winter here occasionally, as trappers or "*courier du bois*," for the American Fur Company (John Jacob Astor), both before and subsequent to the advent of Solomon Juneau, seem to have been all who visited the place until the spring of 1831, when Messrs. Lee and Kaniff,‡ merchants at Detroit, came to Chicago; from which place they sent out a wagon loaded with Indian goods, upon a trading

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\*I quote from Dr. Enoch Chase's Address to Old Settlers Club.

†D. W. Fowler's address before the Old Settlers' Club.

‡The notice of the death of Mr. Kaniff, was published in the Detroit papers, in August, 1876, the reading of which, by Mr. Loomis, brought out this history of that expedition.

expedition, in charge of Mr. Lee, with L. G. Loomis, our veteran pawn broker, as an employee and driver. This was, without doubt, the first wagon ever seen in "the town" of Milwaukee. This expedition reached here some time in June, but as the hostility of the Indians was too great to warrant their remaining, they at once returned to Chicago; Mr. Loomis going into the employ of Gen. Forsyth, where he remained for several years. This makes Mr. Loomis the oldest pioneer, now living, in Milwaukee.

*En resume:* No doubt the manifest destiny portion of our race, always upon the frontier, ever kept their watchful eyes upon Milwaukee; for we find a few of them at the treaty held in Chicago, in 1833, ready to take possession as soon as the Indians should remove, which, according to the terms of the treaty, would be in 1836. Among them were Albert Fowler, Rodney J. Currier, (or Cousin) Andrew J. Lansing,\* and Quartus Carley, who left that place for Milwaukee in November, 1833. Col. Geo. H. Walker had previously left, but stopped at Skunk Grove, where he remained until the spring of 1834, when he came also. This makes these four above mentioned the first Anglo-Saxons who ever settled in Milwaukee. Besides Col. Walker, they were joined in 1834 by Byron Kilbourn,† Horace Chase, Samuel Brown, Dr. A. Bigelow, Geo. F. Knapp, Skidmore L. Lefferts, William Burdick, D. W. Patterson, Richard M. Sweet, and perhaps others, of whom no record can be found.

Mr. Fowler went into the employ of Mr. Juneau. Currier and Lansing went to Jefferson, on Rock River, in 1838, where Lansing died, in August, 1876. Currier, as far as I know, is still living. Albert Fowler is yet living in Rockford, Ill., and is one of its most distinguished citizens, having been elected Mayor three times in succession, by the people of that beautiful city. Of the fate of Carley, I have no knowledge.

But we will let Mr. Fowler relate his own story, after which we will let Horace Chase relate his:

\*Lansing was called by the nick name of "Dad," by which cognomen, no doubt many of the Old Settlers will remember him. He was at Jefferson in 1839.

†Mr. Kilbourn was here first in 1834, but as he did not remain, (he having a contract from government to survey a part of the district,) his actual residence did not commence until 1835.

## ALBERT FOWLER'S NARRATIVE.

Having acquired a few hundred dollars by speculating in corner lots, and trading with the Indians at Chicago, during the summer and autumn of 1833, I left during the early part of November, of that year, in company with R. J. Currier, Andrew Lansing and Quartus G. Carley, for Milwaukee. The journey passed without further incident than the difficulty experienced in getting through a country with a team, where neither roads nor bridges existed, until the evening of the 12th of November, 1833, when we were encamped on the banks of Root River, and on which occasion the great meteoric display occurred, which so alarmed the Indians, and has become a matter of historical remark to this day.

We pursued our journey the day following, I being compelled to swim Root River no less than three times in getting over our baggage and team, although the weather was so cold as to freeze our water-soaked clothing. At Skunk Grove we found Col. Geo. H. Walker, who had a small store of Indian goods, and was trading there. We reached Milwaukee on the 18th day of November, 1833.

Col. Geo. Walker remained at Skunk Grove during the winter of 1833 and 1834, and did not come to Milwaukee until March of the latter year, at which time he came up on a visit to Mr. Juneau, and the other white men in the place. He did not make his claim on Walker's Point, so-called, until the month of June following. Mr. Walker spent his winters in Chicago until after 1836.

After our arrival in Milwaukee, my three companions and myself took possession of an old log cabin, where we lived during the winter of 1833-34, doing our own cooking; amusing ourselves as best we could, there being no other white men in the place during that winter, excepting Solomou Juneau.

In the early part of the month of January, 1834, Mrs. Juneau was taken exceedingly ill, and there being neither medicines nor physicians nearer than Chicago, I was started off by Mr. Juneau, on an Indian pony, clad in Indian moccasins and leggins, and with a spare blanket, for medical aid. The journey in mid-winter, through eighty-five or ninety miles of wilderness, was one of great

hardship, and one which I have never desired to undertake again. The Indians predicted that I would perish; but, thanks to a vigorous constitution, and a physique already inured to frontier life, I succeeded in reaching Chicago, obtaining the desired aid, and was rewarded with the double satisfaction of having assisted in relieving a most kind and noble-hearted woman, besides the gift of a new suit of clothes from Mr. Juneau.

In the spring of 1834, my companions went up the river to the school section and made a claim, upon which they afterwards built a mill, and I went into Mr. Juneau's family to live, and with whom I remained until the summer of 1836. I went into Mr. Juneau's employ in the spring of 1833, kept his books, and accompanied him in his trading expeditions among the Indians. I soon learned to speak the Pottawotamie and Menomonee languages with considerable fluency, dressed in Indian fashion, and was known among them as *Mis-kee-o-quoneu*, which signified Red Cap, a name given me because I wore a red cap when I first came among them. I remained in Mr. Juneau's employ until 1836. After he was appointed postmaster, I assisted him in the post-office, and made out the first quarterly report ever made out at that office.

During the latter part of the summer of 1835, James Duane Doty and Morgan L. Martin went as delegates from the territory of Wisconsin, to a session of the council, which was held at Detroit. They brought me, upon their return, a commission as justice of the peace; also as clerk of the court, but of what court was not very clearly defined, there being none organized at Milwaukee at this time. The commission I still have in my possession; it is signed by Stephen G. Mason, Governor of the territory of Michigan.

My commission as justice of the peace, is the oldest in Wisconsin, outside of Brown and Crawford counties. Its jurisdiction extended over nearly one-half the State—that part lying east of Rock River.

R. J. Currier and Andrew Lansing afterwards removed to Jefferson, on Rock River, and settled, where they remained until a few years ago, when Lansing removed to northern Wisconsin, and Currier to Minnesota. Quartus G. Carley was living in the vicinity of Kenosha, not many years ago, but whether he is still living I cannot say.

The question has often been asked me, "How much was Mr. Juneau reported worth in those early days?" It would, perhaps, be impossible to answer it with a great degree of correctness, but he was reported worth from one to two hundred thousand dollars, which was a much larger fortune then than now. I have myself seen him the possessor of a sum of money which he stated to be fifty thousand dollars. His wealth was exceeded, however, by his generosity and public spirit. The pressure of the times, together with the ill-timed advice of his numerous interested friends, dissipated his fortune almost as rapidly as he had gained it; and a few years found my friend and patron almost as poor as when first I knocked at the door of his hospitable log cabin in the fall of 1833.

Fifty-five years ago I was a "Western emigrant" from New England, and journeyed through the then vast wilderness of the State of New York, settling in Chautauqua county, where I remained eighteen years. Thirty-seven and a half years ago I landed at the then hamlet of Chicago, and it is now something more than thirty-six since I reached Milwaukee. Behold the wonderful changes and progress made in this our common country, during my short life time experience! How pregnant of happiness to humanity, and the future welfare of mankind! I am thankful to Almighty God that I am privileged to be one of his humble instruments in subduing the Western wilderness, and have endeavored to perform faithfully my allotted part, humble though it be, that when I have finished the pilgrimage of life, no stain of dishonor shall attach to the name of one who was a "Western pioneer."

ALBERT FOWLER.

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#### HORACE CHASE'S NARRATIVE.

The following account of the first journey made by Horace Chase, Deacon Samuel Brown and William Burdick, to Milwaukee, is inserted here as an illustration of the hardships endured by the early pioneers, in order to reach this new found El Dorado:

We started, says Mr. Chase, from Chicago on the 4th day of December, 1834, in the morning; Mr. Brown and Burdick having a one horse wagon, in which our tent and baggage was placed, and in

which they rode, while I was mounted upon an Indian pony or *mustang*. We made the first day twenty-four miles, and camped in the edge of a beautiful grove of timber. The night was clear and fine. We were prevented from sleeping much, however, by the wolves, who kept up an incessant howling throughout the night. This camp was about equi-distant between Chicago and Waukegan (then called Little Fort), and had the appearance of having been at some time a favorite resort of the Indians, the ground being strewn with the debris of their dismantled lodges. With the dawn, however, we were up and away, reaching Hickory Grove, west of Kenosha, then called Southport, at dark; distance traveled, thirty-four miles. No sooner had we made camp, than it commenced to snow and blow from the southeast, making the night a very unpleasant one. We pushed on in the morning, and at night reached Vieux's trading house, at Skunk Grove, west of Racine, December 6th, where we remained until Monday, the 8th, when we again set forward, and reached Milwaukee that night. This last day's journey was a very severe one, on account of the snow and wet. The country was well watered, as we found to our cost, having crossed twenty-four streams (big and little), getting mired in most of them, when we would carry our baggage ashore and pull the wagon out by hand, the horse having all he could do to extricate himself. Our route was the old Indian trail, which came out at the present cattle yards, where Paul Vieux had a trading house, built by his father in 1816; from there the trail led along the bluffs to the point, where we found Walker, in the log store built the previous summer.

We found at Milwaukee, besides Solomon Juneau, his brother Peter, White and Evans, Dr. Amasa Bigelow, and Albert Fowler. Solomon Juneau's claim was the present Seventh Ward; Peter Juneau's, the present Third Ward. Albert Fowler's claim was upon the west side, the frame of his claim cabin\* standing a little north of

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\*This frame was never enclosed (Mr. Fowler having been floated by Mr. Kilbourn), and was, in the summer of 1838, sold to Iiram Farmin, who removed it to Wells, west of Second, and finished it for a dwelling; Mr. Kilbourn having arranged the matter with Mr. Fowler, by a deed of one undivided eighth part of fractional lots five and six, in section twenty-nine, Solomon Juneau joining in the deed. This is the sale spoken of further on as the first one made on the West Side.

Spring street, in West Water, in the present Fourth Ward. John Baptiste LeTontee had claimed what is now Milwaukee proper. This was bid off at the land sale in October, 1838, by Isaac P. Walker, who sold it to Capt. James Sanderson, for one thousand dollars. He sold an undivided one-half interest to Alanson Sweet. The way this came to be called Milwaukee proper, was on this wise: Sanderson and Sweet were sure the town would be there, or ought to be, and therefore, when the plat was recorded, insisted on recording it as Milwaukee proper, meaning that here was where Milwaukee ought properly to be.

Juneau sold, while at the treaty held in Chicago, October, 1833, one-half of his claim, which comprised what is now the Seventh Ward, to Morgan L. Martin for five hundred dollars, in which purchase Michael Dousman was an equal partner. This, though a verbal agreement, was faithfully kept by Mr. Juneau, notwithstanding, the land had increased in value a thousand fold before a title was perfected; and had he wished he could have sold for a much larger amount any time, as no writings were ever made between himself and Mr. Martin.

The following letter from Mr. Martin to the author will better explain this transaction. This letter is not only of interest in explaining how strictly honest Mr. Juneau was in all his dealings, but it also confirms the statements of others as to the appearance of Milwaukee in 1833. Mr. Martin was one of the early men in Milwaukee, and although he has never resided here permanently, yet has always taken a deep interest in its prosperity, and, as his letter states, spent his money freely to give it a start in its infancy. What a contrast between him and W. W. Gilmer, who, although owning a large amount of property in the city, the rise of which made him a millionaire, has never spent a dollar in improvements. The following is the letter:

GREEN BAY, Wis., Sept. 1, 1876.

*J. S. Buck, Esq.:*

DEAR SIR: I first visited Milwaukee and spent there the 4th of July, 1833. There were no claims or improvements of any description, save the trading establishment of Solomon Juneau, and a small log cabin occupied by his brother Peter. The land was still owned by the Government; had not been



surveyed, nor was there any law of Congress under which claims for pre-emptions could be made.

The Indian village was located upon the Menomonee, a short distance from its confluence with the Milwaukee River. The only cultivation was by the Indians, except that Peter Juneau had a small enclosure for the purpose of a garden, connected with his dwelling.\*

My visit was one of exploration, and my observations were limited to the examination of the outlet of the stream, to ascertain whether a harbor could be constructed at this point. Having ascertained the character of the entrance from the lake, the contemplated information was obtained, and I returned to my home at Green Bay. Previous to my tour of observation, Michael Dousman had agreed to share with me any purchase I should make, with a view of laying out a town at the point where Milwaukee now stands.

At my visit in July, I did not find Solomon Juneau, nor did I meet him until October of the same year, when he and all others interested in Indian trade, were attending a treaty held in Chicago. The gathering at the latter place commenced September 5th, and continued five or six weeks. While there, all the purchase ever made by me of Solomon Juneau, was agreed on verbally, and no memorandum in writing ever existed between us. He sold me one-half interest in his claim, cabin and improvements, for \$500; I sharing with him in the expense of obtaining, by subsequent legislation of Congress, a pre-emption of the lands, on which they were built. On the 10th of June, 1834, an act was passed extending the pre-emption law of 1830, under which a pre-emption was secured to the lands occupied by Solomon Juneau, and in '35 the proper entries were made at the land office. The one-half was afterwards sold to me, and I shared equally with Mr. Dousman; but this was but a small part of what is now the city of Milwaukee. I purchased Peter Juneau's claim, which was entirely distinct from Solomon's; also several floating rights, which were located on adjoining lands. My purchase included all the lands on the east side of the Milwaukee River, south of Division street, and one or two sub-divisions of sections on the west side.

After my first purchase of Solomon Juneau, in '33, he was beset on all hands to dispose of his remaining interest, and would have done so long before the lands were secured and platted into lots, but for his verbal agreement with me, in which it was expressly stipulated, that if he sold, I was to have the preference on giving as much as he was offered by others. He was a strictly honest man, whose word was as good as his bond, and I never hesitated to place implicit reliance upon his verbal agreement with me.

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\*This log house was some two hundred feet south of Wisconsin street in East Water, the garden extending south from the house to Michigan. The plow to break the ground for this garden was brought from Ouillimette's at Gross Point, and was done by Albert Fowler, with Ouillimette's team—one yoke of oxen and one span of horses; being probably the first potato garden in the place.

We acted in concert in laying out and building up the town; erected the Court-house, Milwaukee House; opened and graded streets, and, in fact, expended together nearly \$100,000 in improving the property, and contributing to the public convenience.

I have a little sketch of the river and surroundings in 1833, made of course, without survey, which ought to accompany a history of the present magnificent city.\*

Very respectfully yours,

M. L. MARTIN.

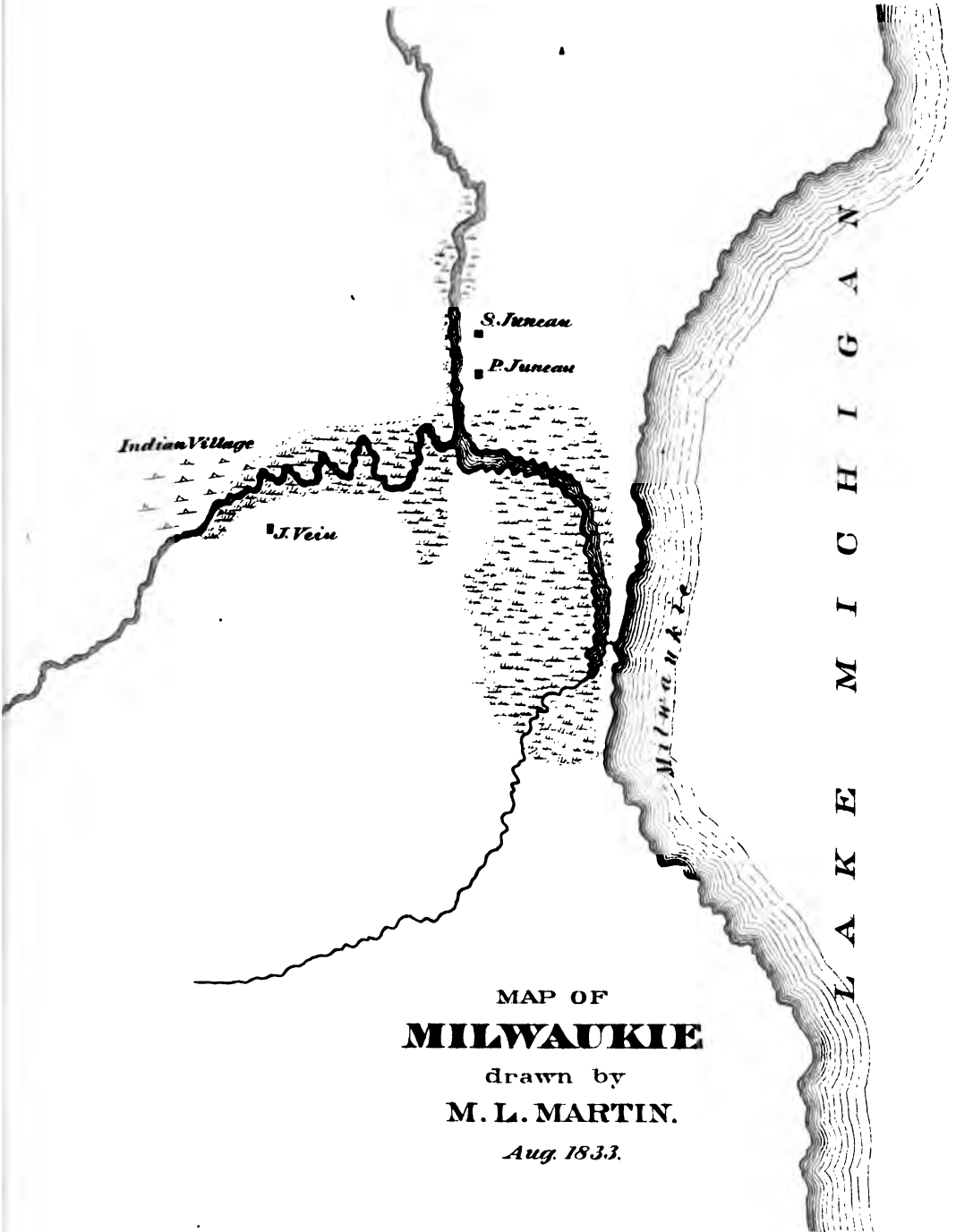
Such is the history of what may properly be called the laying of the corner stone for Milwaukee. This sale being the entering wedge, so to speak, that opened up the whole country, and in place of the founders of Milwaukee being limited to Juneau, Walker and Kilbourn, Morgan L. Martin and Michael Dousman should be added thereto—in place of a *triumvirate* there should be a *quintette*.

*En Resume:* As our business here was to secure claims, we of course lost no time in making them. Mine was made upon the s. w.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of sec. 4, town 6, range 22, upon which I built a log cabin. This cabin stood where the present Minerva Furnace does. Dea. Samuel Brown's was where the Sixth ward school house stands. This claim was, however, subsequently floated, and the deacon made a new one in the present Ninth ward, where he lived and died. Burdick's claim was upon the east side, where the present German market stands.

Having secured our claims, we all started on our return to Chicago, on the 14th, reaching there on the 17th; after which I spent the time, until the middle of February, in exploring the country south and west of Chicago, but finding nothing that suited me any better, I returned to Chicago, closed up my business, and, in company with Joseph Porthier (alias Purky), left that place for Milwaukee, February 27th, 1835, reaching there March 8th, when, wishing to secure the lands at the mouth of the river, I made a new claim upon the s. w.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of sec. 4, my log house standing where the foundery of Geo. L. Graves now does, just east of the tannery of the Wisconsin Leather Company, after which I returned to Chicago

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\*The annexed sketch is an exact copy of the one made by Mr. Martin. The site of the Indian village is the same as the one seen by Kilbourn, in '34, mention of which is made by Wheeler in his Chronicles.



MAP OF  
**MILWAUKIE**  
drawn by  
**M. L. MARTIN.**  
*Aug. 1833.*

Vertical text on the left margin, possibly a page number or reference.

Small cluster of characters at the bottom center, possibly a signature or stamp.

for means, with which to erect a warehouse. Left there again on the 21st, reached Milwaukee on the 23d, and commenced a final and permanent settlement.

Joseph Porthier's claim was a part of the n. e.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of sec. 5, town 6, range 22, his house being built with the logs from my first one, which was taken down and put up again on his claim.\*

HORACE CHASE.

As a further illustration of the way things were done in those days, I will state the following:

J. and L. Childs entered in 1835, a  $\frac{1}{4}$  section, just north of Lueddeeman's, upon the present White Fish Bay Road. In 1836 they were offered \$35 per acre, which they refused. In 1840 they were compelled to sell for \$2.50 per acre, and take their pay in flour and pork, which was consumed in less than one year. This land is worth, to-day, \$600 per acre, and take the entire tract.

But the greatest mistake made in those days, if it ever was made, was by Aaron Parmalee. Mr. Parmalee informed me that Mr. Juneau offered him forty acres of his claim, all in the present Seventh ward, in the spring of 1836, for \$600, which offer he declined, although he had the money all in half-dollars. I have never heard of a more foolish offer being made, *or made to a bigger fool*, than this was. Parmalee is living in California now. This statement would seem incredible from the reading of Mr. Martin's letter, but that Mr. Parmalee so stated to me, is certainly true.

It will be readily seen by these two sketches of Fowler and Chase, that nothing was done in '34 beyond selecting claims and

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\*This claim of Joseph Porthier, twenty-eight acres, more or less, was offered me in 1837 and '8, for \$400, but the state of my bank account was such at that time, as to make its purchase an impossibility. I went east in '38 to get means to buy it, but on my return it had been sold to the late Abram D. Smith, for \$800. The old log house stood in what is now Maple street, at its intersection with Kinnickinnic avenue.

I state these little things as explanatory of the way the foundations of the fortunes of some of Milwaukee's solid men were laid. The heirs of James H. Rogers, Dea. Samuel Brown, and perhaps one or two others, who have passed away, still hold a part of the original purchase, but the most of these first estates have passed into other hands.

I wanted this place of Porthier's then very much, as I could see a large fortune in it. Real "estate" is the basis of all the wealth in the country, and those who could and did secure a homestead in those early times, are to-day, all right, pecuniarily, that is, if they kept it.

J. S. B.

arranging for future operations, as soon as the Indians were removed, which, by the terms of the treaty made at Chicago, in 1833, would be in 1836. This removal was not fully accomplished until '38, only the Potawatomies and a part of the Menomonees being removed in '36.\* Therefore, except north of the Milwaukee River, where, by the land sale at Green Bay, in October, '35, the whites acquired their first ownership in the soil, no occupation, except by floats† could be truthfully claimed before that year.

This short chapter, therefore, comprises all the history of 1833 and 1834. The improvements consisted of Col. Walker's log house at the Point; White and Evan's store at the foot of Huron street; Albert Fowler's office at the southwest corner of East Water and Wisconsin streets, and his claim cabin north of Spring street.

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\*By the treaties made with the Menomonees at Washington, February 8th, 1831, (I quote now from Lapham's Chronology of Wisconsin,) the government obtained all the land north and east of the Milwaukee River, and at the one held at Chicago, September 26th, 1833, with the Potawatomies, all south of it; the Indians to remain upon the latter until 1836, or for three years longer. Consequently, the coming south of the river, in order to get a full township for Milwaukee, during the survey made by Wm. A. Burt, in '35, caused much dissatisfaction, the Indians claiming the land as theirs; that the whites were interlopers, and should not occupy it before the expiration of the time specified in the treaty, carrying their hostility so far, in fact, while the men were mostly attending the land sale held at Green Bay, October, '35, as to plot the massacre of all the whites in the settlement, which they certainly would have done, had they not been prevented by Mrs. Juneau, who remained in the streets all night watching over them. Such was the power of this noble woman over these wild Bedouins of the wilderness, and such was the skill with which she managed this difficult matter, that many of the whites were unaware of the danger which had environed them, and the fate from which they had been rescued, until the following day. For the account of this contemplated massacre, I am indebted to Mr. U. B. Smith, who was in Milwaukee at the time. This land was, as before stated, liable to be, and was, floated with scrip, by Kilbourn and others. Kilbourn, however, knowing the uncertainty attending these titles, proceeded at once to Washington, and obtained his patent by a present of one hundred dollars (it has been said) to the Chief Clerk. Walker, unfortunately, was not so successful, the float upon his not being removed until '45.

The first survey of lots was made this year by Wm. S. Trowbridge, who, with Mr. King's party, was wind-bound here, November 9th. He surveyed blocks 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the present Third and Seventh wards, being the first local survey made in the place. This information I had from Mr. Trowbridge himself. To these 26 blocks were added in 1835, making 30 in all, by B. H. Edgerton, who subsequently surveyed the whole of the east side, all within the present Seventh and Third wards.

†Mr. Kilbourn was not alone in these floats. Micajah T. Williams, John McCarty and Archibald Clybourn were supposed to have an interest in them. They were purchased of a half-breed, named Clark, in Chicago.

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## CHAPTER II.

1835.

Dr. E. Chase's Narrative--People begin to flock in--First Frame Dwelling and Warehouse Built--Vieux's Hotel Built--Commencement of the Belle View--First Mills Built--First Election Held--D. Well's, Jr.'s Letter--List of Names--Killing of Ellsworth Burnett--Amusing Incident--Cat Soup, or Feeding the Hungry--Close of 1835.

The spring of 1835 brought a change. Immigration began to pour in quite freely, giving indications of an encouraging character, showing that the beauties and advantages of Milwaukee had obtained among the people. Improvements of a permanent character were commenced by Clybourn and Chase, at the mouth of the river, in the erection of a warehouse, the first ever built in the city.

The month of April brought us Dr. Enoch Chase, and as the journey from any of the Middle and Western States, was no pleasure trip in those early times, we will let this worthy old pioneer relate his own story:

### ENOCH CHASE'S NARRATIVE.

I first settled, says the Doctor, at Cold Water, Michigan, 1831, but finding the country much too unhealthy for my use (if I was a doctor), I made up my mind to go further west, if I fared worse, and, in 1834, hearing that my brother Horace was at Chicago, concluded to make a journey to that place, which resulted in our agreeing to go to Milwaukee or St Louis together; whereupon, I at once returned to Cold Water, closed up my business, which was both extensive and lucrative, and started for Chicago, reaching there early in April, 1835, where I remained until the 6th.

On the 6th day of April, 1835, in the afternoon, in company with James Flint and Gordon Morton, I left Chicago for Milwaukee, to join my brother. The first night we stopped at Gross Pond (Gross Point) twelve miles north of Chicago, reaching Sunderlands, back of Waukegan, the next day. We intended to stay at Louis Vieux's trading house at Skunk Grove, the third night, but finding the place

filled with drunken Indians, concluded to push on, which we did, reaching Root River, which we crossed upon a pole bridge before dark; but upon reaching the creek, a short distance beyond, we found the whole bottom overflowed with water, in which we were soon floundering and swimming by turns, being compelled, finally, to carry our wagon to the other side, piece-meal. By this time it was dark, cold and dismal in the extreme, and we finally, after traveling a short distance, went into camp, being, I believe, the first whites that ever slept in the town of Oak Creek. The following day we reached Walker's Point\* about noon; the road leading by the old Tiffany place, across the Indian fields at the Layton House to the Menomonee, which it struck at Burnham's brick yard, thence east to the Point, and was the only road at that time in use from Chicago to Milwaukee and Green Bay. Leaving my team at the Point, I got an Indian to carry me over the river in a dug-out, he landing me at the present foot of Detroit street, from where I walked up to Juneau's, who informed me that I would find my brother at White & Evans' store, upon the beach of the lake at the foot of Huron street, to which place I at once proceeded, where I was informed that my brother was upon the south side, for which I at once started, following the beach to the mouth of the river, where I was again ferried across in a dug-out, and found my brother near the present tannery of the Wisconsin Leather Company, engaged in the erection of his claim shanty, which was done by driving stakes into the sand, and surrounding them with bass-wood lumber. This was, of course, a most miserable apology for a house, as the sun would warp off the boards nearly as fast as you could nail them on (metaphorically speaking), giving the snow and rain such free access, as to make the outside dryer than the in, in a storm.

I returned to Walker's Point that night, and the next day started with my team for the Kinnickinnic, and was the entire day in cutting my way through, following nearly the present line of Reed

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\*This was the fourth wagon ever in Milwaukee, and the second to enter Juneau town, Albert Fowler's being the first, his team consisting of one yoke of oxen and one span of horses; that of Messrs Lee and Kaniff coming no further than Vieux's trading house on the Menomonee, and Dea. Brown's only to the Point.

street,\* getting mired at the foot of Walker, Mineral, Scott and Railroad streets, so deeply as to be compelled to take my wagon to pieces four times and carry it ashore by hand before reaching it, which was, I think, without exception, the hardest day's work I ever performed in my life. But at length that classic stream was reached and crossed, near where the present bridge stands, and a junction effected with my brother, after which I was glad to enjoy a few day's rest.

I found on my arrival, besides Solomon Juneau, Albert Fowler, B. H. Edgerton, White and Evans, Horace Chase, Joel S. Wilcox, and a young man in the employ of Geo. H. Walker.†

ENOCH CHASE.

*En resume:* As the season advanced, however, vessels began to arrive quite often, and one steamboat, the United States, came on June 17th, bringing, among others, Mr. and Mrs. U. B. Smith and Mrs. Joel Wilcox, whose husband had come in advance to prepare a place for her. Mrs. Dr. Enoch Chase came in May, and was the first Anglo-Saxon woman to settle upon the south side. These, with Mrs. J. Childs, Mrs. Hiram Farmin, Mrs. Geo. D. Dousman, Mrs. Capt. James Sanderson, Mrs. Thomas Holmes,‡ and Mrs. P. Balser, who came later in the season, gave to the young city quite a civilized character, for it is a fact beyond all dispute, that men left wholly to themselves, without the restraints which the gentler sex hold

\*See map.

†The hardship endured in these three journeys of Albert Fowler, Dr. Enoch and Horace Chase, and their companions, from Chicago to Milwaukee, although severe, were no more so than were those of hundreds of others, who came as did they, but they enjoyed it, nevertheless, severe as it was.

Neither do the gay and costly turnouts that are to be seen daily upon the White Fish Bay Road, contain as happy or healthy occupants, as did those plain, springless, unpretending wagons, often drawn by oxen, used by the pioneers. They had an objective point in view, viz: a home for themselves and their children; that, when reached, was worth all the hardship and privation it had cost. Neither had they any time to waste upon the fashions and follies of the day, and it is a fact worthy of note, that not one of these costly equipages are owned or occupied by these old pioneers, or their descendants, although many of them are abundantly able to do so; this sort of extravagance being practiced wholly by a class that came later, and to whom the hardships of a pioneer life are a sealed book. But so it is ever. A few seek for and enjoy the solids of life, but the mass prefer its follies.

J. S. B.

‡Balser and Holmes came from Michigan City, in an open boat drawn by a horse, following the beach, the whole distance.

over them, descend to barbarism rapidly. Their presence, therefore, in every new settlement is as necessary to its healthy growth, as is the food to the body. There were, perhaps, other women who came during the year, but if so, their names cannot be ascertained at this late day.

Horace Chase, as before stated, lived at the mouth of the river, keeping a warehouse, store and ferry, as that was the only point for crossing the river previous to 1836. This point was also called Sandy Hook. He also erected a frame dwelling at that point. In '39, he removed this dwelling across the bay to the site of the present Minerva Furnace, where he resided until '42, when the rear part of his present residence was built (the writer working upon it), into which he removed. Subsequently he built the brick part, in which he has continued to reside to the present time.

A two-story frame building was also erected by Dea. John Ogden, late in the season, a little east of the warehouse of Clybourn and Chase, in which Harry Church kept a tavern and boarding house in 1836. This house was, however, so nearly undermined by the lake, as to necessitate its removal, which was done, I think, in '38. It was brought up town and placed a little north of the Cottage Inn, and was, with Juneau's house, burnt in the fire that swept over that block in April, 1845. The warehouse of Clybourn and Chase, was, in 1840, purchased by Dr. L. W. Weeks, put upon a scow, brought up the river, and placed a little south of E. H. Broadhead's block, southwest corner of East Water and Mason, where, after during duty as a store for several years, it was also burnt. Such is the history and fate of these two pioneer buildings.

Dr. Enoch Chase settled first upon the n. e.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of sec. 4, town 6, range 22, his log house standing upon the beach a little south of his brother's. He afterwards removed to his present residence, Wilcox just south of him, his heirs yet being in possession. Dea. John Ogden south of Wilcox, where Bay View now stands, while Williams, Estes and Douglass are yet occupying the same farms they first selected. So much for the south side.

Upon the east side Thomas Holmes erected a small frame dwelling the east side of East Water street, upon the north  $\frac{1}{2}$  of lot 5, third lot north from Michigan. This was the first frame dwell-

ing erected in Milwaukee. U. B. Smith built his shop and dwelling upon the rear of the south  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; John Corse subsequently purchasing and building upon the front. This store was for many years known as Uncle Ben's, hats and caps.

Solomon Juneau built a two-story frame dwelling where Hon. Alex. Mitchell's new block is being erected, southeast corner of East Water and Michigan; Geo. D. Dousman one upon the lot now occupied by the Custom-house,\* and a warehouse† at the foot of Detroit street, west side of East Water, which, as far as I know, comprises all the improvements made upon the east side in '35, except the building afterwards known as the Cottage Inn, built and occupied by Jaques Vieux, where he kept tavern, as he said, "like hell," and he did. Work had also been commenced upon the Belle View.

J. and L. Childs kept the first tavern in the old log house then standing where Miller's block‡ now does, northeast corner of Broadway and Wisconsin, near the alley. This miserable apology for a hotel was a home, however, for some of the most distinguished of our early men, D. Wells, Jr., Geo. Reed and others.

This hotel of Vieux's was a famous house in those early days. It was called by the Americans "The Triangle," on account of having an instrument of that shape upon its roof in place of a bell.

Vieux was succeeded in the Spring of '36 by J. and L. Childs; they, in the fall, by W. S. Nichols; he, in '37, by Levi Vail, who was its landlord for several years, when a Mr. Harriman became its landlord and proprietor, changing its name to the Harriman House.

Many were the wild scenes enacted there in the days of Vieux and Childs. Inconvenient and miserable as it was, it was always full. Under Vieux it was of course a common rendezvous for the half-breeds and Indians, (Vieux's wife being part Indian,) and under Childs, of wild, *harum-scarum* Americans. The food was of necessity plain and cheap, "hash" predominating.

\*This house is now standing upon Astor, north of Oneida.

†This warehouse is now standing upon Milwaukee street, south of Huron, and used as a carriage factory.

‡Old Milwaukee House lot.

Henry Miller relates the following dialogue between himself and a boarder, as occurring at the table, in June, '36 :

Mr. Miller, wishing for some of the contents of a platter standing directly in front of this man, but out of his own reach, said : "Stranger, will you please hand me that platter ?" "Did you speak to me, sir ?" "Yes, I want that platter of hash." "This hash ?" "Yes, that hash." "Well, take it," at the same time reaching it to him, "and you will find it's *hash!* hash as hell."

There were no doubt some terrifying mixtures placed before the hungry boarders at times, but they enjoyed it nevertheless, and grew fat upon it ; *parsimony* not being one of Mrs. Childs' faults ; consequently her boarders got plenty of food, *such as it was*. But the completion and occupancy of the Belle View reduced this pioneer hash factory to about B. 4. It was rebuilt twice, first in '41, then again in '43, *i. e.* it was enlarged, but although a good house under both Vail and Harriman, it never again rose to the rank of a first-class caravansary. Its successor, however, the United States, built by the late James H. Rogers, in 1844, was more fortunate, being at one time, when under Messrs. Taft and Spurr, the most popular hotel in the city.

Dea. Samuel Brown also erected a log (or block) house, upon the west side of Cherry, between Second and Third Streets, which burnt in December, '36 ; and Dr. Bigelow erected a saw mill\* where Humboldt now is, which comprised all the improvements, with the exception of claim cabins, upon the west side.

There was also a saw mill built by Otis Hubbard and J. K. Botsford, near the present dam, in 1835, all traces of which have disappeared long ago. This was the mill spoken of in Albert Fowler's reminiscence, as having been built by Currier and Lansing ; *i. e.*, the work was done by them and Quartus Carly, who brought his wife in May, '34, which makes her the first white or Anglo-Saxon woman to settle in Milwaukee, her arrival ante-dating Mrs. Samuel Brown's several months. This information was given me to-day, September 6th,

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\*This mill of Dr. Bigelow's was, as I am informed by both Horace Chase and Albert Fowler, commenced in '34, but was not completed until '35. It was, as the writer well remembers, a small concern, the dam being built like a letter A. The mill disappeared long ago ; the ruins of some of the log shanties built near it, are, however, still to be seen.

by Albert Fowler himself, and explains why Dr. Endoch or Horace Chase made no mention of seeing them. They both knew that men were working up the river, building mills, but did not go up themselves, and consequently did not see them.

There was considerable pine growing upon the bank of the Milwaukee River at this time, from which the lumber for the floors in the house now occupied by Hon. G. H. Paul, on Hanover street, between Pierce and Elizabeth, were made, it being cut in this mill. The pine, however, has all disappeared long ago, except a few trees yet standing in the vicinity of Cedarburg.

Thus, it will be seen that the log house of Dea. Brown, Hubbard and Bigelow's mill, on the west side; the frame dwellings of Holmes, U. B. Smith; the Dousman warehouse and dwelling; and Juneau's new house upon the east side; the warehouse of Clybourn and Chase, and Ogden's house, at the mouth of the river, with the shanty of H. Chase, and the log houses of Wilcox, Dr. F. Chase, and perhaps one or two others, were all the improvements made in 1835.

Besides those already mentioned, the following are known to have come this year: Daniel Wells, Jr., Alanson Sweet, Alfred I. Castleman, Geo. H. Wentworth, Joseph Porthier, A. O. T. Breed, William, Henry, and Samuel Sivyver, Cyrus Hawley, Frank Hawley, Geo. D. Dousman, Patrick D. Murray, Samuel C. Stone, Jacob Mahoney, James McNeil, Matthew Cawker and brother, Nathaniel F. Hyer, John and Luther Childs, Geo Reed, Harvey Church, James Murray, Daniel Bigelow, Dr. Wm. Gorham, John Noel, alias Christmas, a servant of Geo. D. Dousman; Alexander Stewart, Parker C. Cole, Daniel H. Richards, Dea. John Ogden, Garret Vliet, Owen Aldrich, Andrew Douglass, Loren Carlton, Wm. Bunnell, E. Wiesner, Philander W. Dodge, Frank Charnley, Wilhelm Strothman, the first German in the county; Hiram J. Ross, E. S. Estes, Hiram Bigelow, John C. Howell, Morgan L. Burdick, Henry Shaft, Hiram and Uriel Farmin, Andrew Ebel, Jonas Folts, Hiram Burnham, Worcester Harrison, Capt. James Sanderson, Edmond Sanderson, Chancy Brownell, William Woodard, Wallace Woodard, P. Balser, Ellsworth Burnett, Thomas Holmes, Paul Burdick, Zebebee Packard, H. H. Brannon, William Piper, Wm. H. Chamberlain, Capt. John Davis, Joseph Williams, Samuel Burdick, Martin Delaney, Wm. Baum-

gartner, N. Eseling, Wm. Clark, Enoch Darling, Barzillai Douglass, William and Robert Shields, James McFadyen, Walter Shattuck, Benjamin Church, Geo. Sivyer, first Anglo-Saxon male child born in Milwaukee, Talbot C. Dousman, Geo. S. and Henry West, James Clyman, Joseph Tuttle, E. W. Edgerton, Lucius I. Barber, Luther Cole, Joshua Hathaway, Sampson Parsons, John Bowen, Thomas D. and Henry H. Hoyt, Alfred Orrendolf, Benson Brazee, Thomas M. Riddle, Wm. O. Underwood, David Morgan, James Flint, Gordon Morton, Geo Furlong, David Curtin, Daniel Brown, Wm. Clark, William H. Skinner, and perhaps others now forgotten.

Roads were cut into the country this year to some extent, particularly, one south to Sees's, on Root River, but aside from that, the amount of road building was very little in '35.

The first contract for lots, was written by D. Well's, Jr., and was from Juneau and Martin to Capt. James Sanderson, for 4 lots, viz: lots 5 and 6 in block 4, and 7 and 8 in block 7, in consideration of \$100 each, made August 1845. This contract, Mr. Wells claims, was the first one written in the place.

The first sale, however, was made by Morgan L. Martin to Albert Fowler, of lot 4, block 4 (the old John W. Lace lot), August 4th, 1835; consideration, \$100. This lot is in the present Third ward. This is the first recorded sale upon the east side.

The first recorded plat of the West side, was the one made by Garret Vliet, (then the town of Milwaukee,) of a part of the present Second, Fourth and Sixth wards, lying along the river; Recorded Oct. 9th, 1835.

The first sale was from Byron Kilbourn and Solomon Juneau, to Albert Fowler, August 4th, 1835, of one undivided eighth part fractions 5 and 6, of Sec. 29. This property was in the present 4th ward.

The first lot sold upon the West side, was from Kilbourn, to the late Dea. Samuel Brown, of lots 1 and 5, in block 22, Oct 16th, 1835.

The following record of the election for 1835, was furnished by Doctor E. Chase. The election was held, Sept. 17th, when the following officers were elected. Number of votes polled, 39:



Supervisor.—Geo. H. Walker.

Town Clerk.—Horace Chase.

Assessors.—James Sanderson, Albert Fowler, and Enoch Chase.

Commissioners of Roads.—Benoni W. Finch and Solomon Juneau.

Constable.—Sciota Evans.

Inspectors of Schools.—Enoch Chase and Wm. Clark.

Path Masters.—Enoch Darling, Barzillai Douglass and U. B. Smith.

Fence Viewers.—Paul Burdick, U. B. Smith and G. H. Walker.

Pound Master.—Enoch Chase.

These men of '35, seemed to have brought all their customs with them, and elected a full ticket. There was, probably, not a mile of fence in the county, yet they elected Fence Viewers, and a *Pound Master*.

For the following incident connected with this election, I am indebted to T. C. Dousman :

In order to make as big a show as possible, every one was solicited to vote, *i. e.*, every white man, and among the rest, our friend Talbot, who in answer to their solicitations, replied, that he was not eligible, being only 19 years old, but, if they would let "Nigger Joe" vote, he would, claiming that Joe was as good a voter as himself. To this they agreed, and Joe cast the first colored vote in Milwaukee, if not in Wisconsin.

Joe was cook in the old schooner *Cincinnati*, (now lying in the mud in the rear of Burnham's block,) in '37, and also upon the *C. C. Trowbridge*, in '40 and '41, when Capt. Porter sailed her.

As an illustration of what Joe was, I will relate the following incident, which occurred while he was on the *C. C. Trowbridge* :

Capt. Porter was an old sea captain, and like most of his ilk, somewhat of a martinet.

While at Green Bay, I think in the summer of 1841, one of the crew, a boy, happened to do something that he did not like, for which he undertook to chastise him. Joe at once interfered, which so enraged Capt. Porter, that he threatened to flog him also, whereupon Joe walked up to him and seizing him by the collar of his jacket, with one hand, and the basement of his pants with the other, lifted him into the air as easily, apparently, as an ordinary man would a four months baby; held him in that position a moment, after which he *dashed* him upon the deck, as he would a pumpkin that he wished

to break, at the same time exclaiming: "Lie there, you dog." Capt. Porter told Joe, afterwards, that if he had him out side, meaning upon the Ocean, he would tame him. "If you had me outside," said Joe, "and attempted to lay a hand on me, I would throw you overboard, you bloody old tyrant." *And he would.* Capt. Porter never attempted to flog Joe after that.

Joe was a gigantic and powerful black and tan specimen of Western manufacture, a very "Son of Shitan," as the Mohammedans would say, being a mixture of Indian, Negro and DEVIL, *principally devil.* He died of small pox in 1842.

Capt. Porter is in command of a ship on the Pacific, or was a short time ago.

Wisconsin was at that time a part of Michigan, and a proclamation had been made by Gov. Mason for a territorial Legislature, to convene at Green Bay, to which G. H. Walker and B. H. Edgerton were elected. But, on their arrival at that place, no Governor came, and therefore no session was held. Messrs. Walker and Edgerton returned without accomplishing anything in the way of legislation.

Provisions were very high, as nothing was as yet raised in the place, coming mostly from Ohio and Indiana. Game was of course abundant, but the settlers had not much time to devote to hunting, it being taken up in clearing and fencing, in order to be self-sustaining next season. In this employment the summer of '35, with all its hopes, labors, and excitements, passed swiftly away. Winter came, shutting out this little band of pioneers from the eastern world, leaving them to run their horses upon the river, and enjoy themselves as best they could, until Old Sol should break winter's icy chains, and put them in communication with their fellow men once more.

The following letter, written by Hon. Daniel Wells, Jr., to a friend, in August, 1835, is inserted here as showing how the beauties of the country struck him as well as others at that early day. The letter reads as follows :

GREEN BAY, August 30, 1835.

*Friend Kimball:*

The mail has just arrived, and I am much disappointed in not getting a letter from you.

I returned last Friday from an exploring expedition through the country, having

been out ten days, camping out nights. The country south of here is generally good, soil fully equal to New York. After leaving here, my route was up Fox River, some 40 miles, to Lake Winnebago. The land along the river has been considerably cultivated by the Indians, (Stockbridges,) who appear to be as well civilized as the whites, and have good crops of wheat and corn growing. June 21st there was a frost, damaging the corn; also August 23, which killed the vines.

After leaving the lake, our course was easterly, to the head waters of the Manitowoc River, which we followed to its mouth, riding in its bed a good part of the way.

Some good farming lands on this river, but not well watered. I traveled twenty miles in one direction, without finding any brooks that contained water; their beds being all dry. Some good pine and mill sites, however, which I may possibly buy. I have purchased considerable real estate, at Milwaukee, mostly village property.

The land about Milwaukee is the best in the Territory, and as Milwaukee is the only harbor for some distance, either way on the lake, it must of necessity become a place of great importance. It is now laid out in lots, for two miles north and south, and one and a half miles east and west, which lots will, I think, sell immediately for from \$100 to \$1000, and much money has been made, speculating in lots already.

I think money can be made here in the lumbering business, if one had capital, as all kinds of lumber sell readily, and for high figures. The winter is the same here, as in New England, or nearly the same.

The settlers will all get their claims for \$1.25 per acre, as it is considered very mean to bid against them; some of them have already sold their claims at high figures, in one case, for \$8000. I have also entered a few lots of land at ten shillings per acre.

There is a mill at the mouth of the Menomonee, owned by Farnsworth & Brush, which they wish to sell, together with a large quantity of pine land of the best quality, for \$40,000; have been offered \$30,000. But I must close this letter, as the mail is about leaving.

Respectfully yours.

D. WELLS, JR.

The lumbering business here spoken of, did become Mr. Wells' life business, he having been engaged in it for the last 30 years, and from this same region mentioned, has his vast wealth been mostly drawn. It has been a Bonanza, truly, to him and his partners, neither is it by any means exhausted as yet.

#### KILLING OF ELLSWORTH BURNETT.

In the fall of 1835, Ellsworth Burnett and Col. James Clyman went to Rock River, hunting land, and, while making camp near

the present town of Theresa, in Dodge county, Burnett was shot dead, and Clyman badly wounded in the left arm, and his back filled with small shot. This occurred about dusk. Holding his wounded arm in his right hand, Clyman, who was a noted woodsman, made a bee-line for Milwaukee, fifty miles distant. He traveled all that night, the next day and night, and at noon the second day came out at the Cold Spring, having eaten nothing for fifty hours. Col. Clyman was tall and wiry in form, and capable of enduring great fatigue, as this journey fully demonstrated. This killing was done by two Indians, named Ashe-ca-bo-ma and Ush-ho-ma, *alias* Mach-e-oke-mah, (father and son,) for some fancied wrong. They were promptly arrested, confined in the fort at Green Bay, until June, '37, when they were brought to Milwaukee, and tried before Judge Frazier, convicted, and the old man sentenced to be hung; but both were finally pardoned by Governor Henry Dodge, as an offset to the escape of the two white men, Scott and Bennett, the murderers of Manitou, the Indian killed, as stated, in '36, these villains having escaped from the jail in April, '37, no doubt by the aid of friends, and were never retaken. I was present at the trial of these Indians. Clyman is now living in Oregon.

The following amusing incident, which occurred in the winter of '35 and '6, I will relate, as showing that the white man is not the only one that can play a practical joke, or enjoy one.

#### CAT SOUP, OR FEEDING THE HUNGRY.

Among those who came in '33, was one whom, for the sake of illustrating this incident, we will call Smith. Now, it happened some time in the month of January, 1836, that Smith, who had just come in from the woods, too late to get a supper or a bed in any hotel or private house, they being all closed for the night, entered the wigwam of an old Indian, standing near where J. M. Lawrence's block now does, and, seeing a kettle upon the fire in which some meat was cooking, the smell of which was like the perfume of Araby the Blest, to a man as hungry as Smith was, he having fasted since the previous day, he at once, by signs, intimated to his red brother, that one of those things philosophers tell us nature abhors, viz: a vacuum existed within him, that nothing short of the en-

tire contents of that kettle could fill, at which the old Indian smole a smile, so child-like and bland, as to at once gain the entire confidence of Smith; at the same time he, with a twinkle of his coal-black eye, motioned to him to help himself, which he at once proceeded to do, the old rascal watching him, attentively, the while. When, at length, the contents of the kettle had all been safely deposited in the stomach of the hungry Smith, his host asked him, in pantomime, if he knew what he had eaten. He replied, in the same manner, that he did not, but in order to ascertain, he at once made a sound, in imitation of the lowing kine, to which the Indian said "*cowin*" (no). Smith, in the same manner, asked if it was venison, pork, horse, mule, bear, and finally dog, to all of which the answer was "*cowin*." Smith then intimated to his red brother, that he held no more trumps, and would have to pass, whereupon the old vagabond ejaculated, "me-ouw, me-ouw." This at once caused Smith to liquidate, by turning over the contents of his stomach to the underwriters, making a total loss for the benefit of whom it might concern, recreating a vacuum that would have held all the cats in Juneau's town, after which, he went out from the presence of his astonished host, his heart too full for utterance; his stomach as empty as the head of a circus rider; and with a mental vow, that if that Indian ever lived to die (as the Irishman said), and he found it out, he would leave any business that he might have on hand, and attend the funeral, *in a body*. No more cat soup for him.

This was an actual occurrence. The old Indian had taken a frozen cat, cooked it, and was about to get outside of it himself, when Smith came in, and he, seeing his white brother's need, played the part of good Samaritan. He was, no doubt, much amused at the result, but Smith wasn't.\*

I am indebted for the following advertisement and sale of lots in Milwaukee, at auction, to Mr. Wm. B. Brown, the secretary of the Board of Local Fire Underwriters of this city, for which he has

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\*Since the above was written, the author has seen the notice of the death of the party upon whom this practical joke was perpetrated, and as concealment of the real name is no longer necessary, will state that the person meant was Andrew J. Lausing, who himself related it to the author, in 1837.

my thanks. The ground where these lots are located was not then platted:

THE FIRST SALE OF LOTS IN MILWAUKEE.—The following is a copy *verbatim et literatim* of a handbill announcing an auction sale of lots in the then very unpromising village of "Millwalkee." The original is in the possession of Dr. Lapham, of this city:

AUCTION.—200 MILLWALKÉE LOTS will be sold at A. Ganett's auction room on the second, third and fourth days of November, 1835. Terms liberal, and made known at the time of sale.

N. B.—The mechanic and working man is on equal footing with the capitalist. A few hundred dollars here, in the course of two years at farthest, will make him worth thousands. The chance here for speculating is still better than it was at the Chicago sale. I do not deem it necessary to say anything of this important place to those that are acquainted. Foreigners are particularly invited to go and examine the premises prior to the day of sale, as that was the object in publishing the bill, that strangers should have sufficient time to examine for themselves.

A GANETT, Auctioneer.

CHICAGO, Oct. 8, 1835.

## CHAPTER III.

1836.

Description of its Opening—Names of the Men of '36--Location and Number of Buildings Erected—How and by whom Occupied—Claim Record—Roads and Cemeteries—Surveys—Platts and Sales—Memoriam.

1836 was a memorable year for Milwaukee. The tide of immigration had now commenced to flow into the embryo city like a river; speculation was rife; every man's pocket was full of money; lots were selling with a rapidity, and for prices that made those who bought or sold them, feel like a Vanderbilt. Buildings went up like magic, three days being all that was wanted, if the occupant was in a hurry, in which to erect one. Stocks of goods would be sold out in many instances, before they were fairly opened, and at an enormous profit. Every one was sure his fortune was made, and a stiffer-necked people, as far as prospective wealth was concerned, could not be found in America. Nothing like it was ever seen before; no western city ever had such a birth. People were dazed at the rapidity of its growth; all felt good. The wonderful go-aheadativeness of the American people was in full blast; neither was it checked for the entire season. Some sixty buildings were erected, many of them of goodly dimensions. Streets were graded; ferries established; officers of the law appointed; medical and agricultural societies formed; a court-house and jail erected; and all in five short months.

The following are known to have come this year: Increase A. Lapham, John Julien, Rufus Cheney, Sr., Levi Blossom, J. W. and Maurice Pixley, Joseph Carey, Sylvester Pettibone, Robert Davis, Daniel D. Sibley, E. S. Fowler, Wm. S., Elisha M., and Luther Trowbridge, Joseph Keyes, Ebenezer Harris, Byrom Guerin, Leverett L. and W. A. Kellogg, Wm. Furlong, Geo. Bowman, S. R. Freeman, Louis Francher, Gen. John Crawford, Jon. E. Arnold, Henry Miller, Wm. Brown, J. C. Howard, Joseph R. Thomas, Benj. F. Smith, Geo. Hahn, Geo. A. Trayser, Capt. H. White, John H.

Tweedy, Elisha Starr, Sidney Hosmer, John B. Everts, Josiah A. Noonan, Lawrence Robbins, Thomas Horner, Chas. H. Larkin, Henry Williams, William P. Merrill, Eliphalet Cramer, Allen W. Hatch, Arther Aldrich, Chas. James, Capt. Geo. Barber, Smith Northrop, Wm. B. Sheldon, Nelson, Thomas H. and Chancy C. Olin, Samuel Robinson, Giles Brisbin, Wm. Hall, G. Cady, John Hanaford, J. G. Belangee, Simon B. Ormsby, C. M. Young, Isaac H. Alexander, Mark Robertson, John Hustis, Alvin Foster, Dwight Foster, Edwin S. Foster, John S. Boyd, Geo. McWhorter, Sr., Matthew R., Andrew, and Geo. McWhorter, Jr., Wm. R. Hesk, Geo. Abert, John Furlong, Levi J. Colby, Isham Day, J. J. Brown, Reuben Strong, Hans Crocker, Bigelow Case, James H. Rogers, Jacob M. Rogers, Samuel D. Hinman, Lemuel W. Weeks, Geo. O. Tiffany, Ezra Dewey, Chas. C. Dewey, Wm. A. Prentiss, Thomas Peters, John Corse, Byron Corse, Wm. Payne, James Lee Smith, Hiram Smith, Israel Porter, Capt. John Masters, D. J. Wilmot, Isaac Atwood, T. Wainwright, Pleasant Fields, Geo. P. Deleplane, S. H. Martin, Pliny H. Young, Capt. Josiah Sherwood, Daniel Keltner, S. A. Hubbell, Sylvester W. Dunbar, A. S. Tucker, Benjamin F. Wheelock, David S. Hollister, John Corbin, Jeremiah B. Zander, Archibald Robinson, C. D. Fitch, Wm. A. Rice, Elah Dibble, Leland Crocker, Jesse Eggleston, F. and H. Harmeyer, John Ruan Marvin C. Curtis, B. J. Gilbert, R. B. Raymond, Hiram Stoddard, James Buckner, William and Henry Shew, Lucien Zander, John C. Smith, Wm. N. Gardner, Joseph K. Lowry, M. W. Higgins, John Guile, Dr. Wm. H. Manton, John Gale, Dr. Hubbell Loomis, Frederick Wardner, B. Chapman & Co., Peter Lyon, J. C. Holmes, Lot Blanchard, Aaron A. Herriman, Benjamin Mofatt, F. W. Heading, Edward West, Lyman Burlingame, Samuel E. Hull, William Caton, Onslow Brown, Leonard Martin, William Flusky, Felix McCauley, Matthew Martin, William Cross, Hiram Persons, Elihu Higgins, Wm. Fowle, Asa Kinney, Egbert Herring Smith (the poet), Jas. McMartin, A. Ferguson, Thomas Orchard, Jacob Brazelton, Thomas Eggleston, Charles P. Everts, John B. Everts, Eli Webber, Charles, Joseph, Benjamin and Thomas Single, Thomas Hughes, Patrick and David Coyne, Wm. Treadwell, L. J. Higby, W. C. Winslow, Nathaniel F. Prentiss, Alex. McDon-



ald, Oliver Maliby, J. C. Schermerhorn, Harrison Reed, Orson Reed, Aaron Parmalee, R. H. Benton, Richard Hadley, John Y. Smith, Curtis Reed, Herbert Reed, Dr. S. H. Graves, B. S. Gilbert, Jeremiah Noble, Mark Noble, Elisha E. Lee, Geo. W. Thurston, Hendrick Gregg, Augustus A. Bird, Washington Bird, Frederick A. Wingfield, Clinton Walworth, W. B. Raymond & Co., Wm. Croft, Obed and Salomon Warren, George Wilmot, Chas. E. Savage, John T. Haight, Isaac Dewitt, Hugh Wedge, Wm. M. Mayhew, Jas. Y. Watson, John S. Rockwell, Leister Rockwell, D. H. Beardsley (Longstreet & Beardsley), S. S. Derbyshire, Geo. P. Greves, Hobart & Pratt, Alex. F. Pratt, Wm. Noble, Ivy Stuart, Thomas Sanborn, Tobias G. Osborn, Lyman Wheeler, Joseph Scott, Cornelius Bennett, A. H. Nichols, Brown Perry, Everson P. Maynard, W. S. Nichols, Geo. Goodman, Luther and Bradford Churchill, Sidney Evans, Daniel Langdon, Chester Ellsworth, John Ellsworth, Justin Clark, Francis D. Weld, James D. Wells, James Larkin, J. Dooley, Miles Burlingame, Benjamin Hunt, Thomas Brock, J. B. Ball, Silas Brown, Benjamin Hart, Robert Curran, Samuel Sanborn, Noah Prevo, Milton, Chester and David Johnson, Wm. Howard, Galusha Odell, Sumner A. Bigelow, Francis Metcalf, James P. Moore, Orlando Ellsworth, Joseph Langdon, Cephas Howell, Cyrus Howell, Capt. Thomas Duffee, Geo. W. Hay, Geo. Howell, Merrick Palmer, Andrew E. Dibble, Samuel Dexter, Rufus Parks, Wm. A. Webber (W. A. Webber and Geo. W. Starks), Milo Jones, J. Currier, Hoosier John (alias Calomel), P. and J. Rogan, James and Frank Devlin, Horatio N. Wells, Eben and John Cole, Augustus Story, Wm. M. Dennis, J. D. Everts, Robert Legg, Richard Hardell, S. D. Cowles, Henry M. Hubbard, Dr. Wm. P. Proudfit, Wm. P. Cully, Wm. R. Longstreet, Jonathan Brown, Geo. James, Chancy H. Peak, Frederick, B. Otis, Silas Griffith, and no doubt others, of whom no record can be obtained. This being the *entrepot* for the State, of course, many would simply land and go at once into the country.

The location of those named, as coming this year, was as follows: Commencing upon the south side, we find J. and L. Childs in a small three-story frame, southeast corner of Pierce and Hanover, where John Rugee now lives. This house is yet standing, west side of Hanover, between Pierce and Elizabeth. I spent my first night

in Milwaukee in that house, and it was my home, in fact, for two years. D. S. Hollister had built the frame now standing south of John Bentley's, where he lived; Zander on southwest corner of Florida and Hanover, old house yet standing upon rear of lot; Martin on Madison, west of Hanover; Dibble, northeast corner of Hanover and Walker; Keltner, on Florida, west of Greenbush; Crocker, southeast corner of Hanover and Elizabeth, in a small frame, afterwards owned and occupied by myself; Thomas Eggleston a small frame and brick, where Wm. Howard now lives; Sanderson, south of Railroad street, between Greenbush and Grove, house yet standing; Dr. Hubbell Loomis, upon the northeast corner of Hanover and Florida; August and Francis Harmeyer, northwest corner of Hanover and Walker, Pliny Young in a log house, corner of Railroad and Third avenue; J. C. Smith had built a small frame, corner Elizabeth and Sixth avenue, where a printer by the name of Bryant lived. A brick yard had also been opened at or near that place, at which the bricks used in the erection of the present residence of Col. J. Jacobs, were made. A new store had also been erected at the Point for Zander and Corbin; the Churchills were also at the Point; Wheelock lived with Childs; Metcalf, S. A., Bigelow and J. P. Moore lived with Hollister; L. Zander with his brother; H. S. Tucker with Childs. While in the adjoining towns of Lake, Greenfield and Wauwatosa, upon claims, were Wm. and Henry Shew, who had a mill where J. Arnold now lives, upon the Kinnickinnic; Sidney Evans, Walter Shattuck, Daniel Langdon, Chester, John and Orlando Ellsworth, Alfred Orrendolf, Justin Clark, F. D. Wells, Geo. Goodman, T. M. Riddle, Geo. McWhorter, M. R., Andrew and Geo. McWhorter, Jr., Wm. S., E. M. and L. Trowbridge, Samuel Sanborn, Milton and Chester Johnson, J. C. Smith, Reuben Strong, William H. Skinner, Loren Carlton, Thomas Duffee, G. W. Hay, Lucius Peck, Israel Porter, Merrick Palmer, Joel Hinchman, Joseph Tuttle, Geo. S. and Henry West and Galusha Odell. J. Corbin had built a small frame where Hon. C. H. Larkin now lives, in which S. W. Dunbar then lived. This house was removed to the Point in '38, and occupied by J. and L. Childs, as a hotel, standing where Drake's drug store now does.

There were also three families of Creole French, viz: Jaques Vieux, the old Cottage Inn landlord, who was upon his claim, west of the Shew brothers' mill, afterwards known as the Tiffany place. His brother Paul who lived in what is now the Twelfth ward, near Horace Chase's present residence, and Jaques Chapeau, who with his Indian wife, lived upon what is now a part of Forest Home Cemetery, in a log house yet standing. This man was killed in a drunken brawl, in July, '38, by an Indian named Te-con. The Vieuxs are yet living, Jaques at Council Bluffs; Paul in Kansas.

#### CLAIMS.

The number of claims entered in the towns of Lake, Greenfield, Wauwatosa and Milwaukee, as appears from the old claim record of Prof. I. A. Lapham, up to January, 1838, were as follows:

Lake, 119; Greenfield, 148; Wauwatosa, 154; and Milwaukee 8. This fact, taken in connection with the number of settlers that were actually here, may seem incredible. But the explanation is this: Many of these parties had made from one to four claims, selling out to others, and making new ones; many had gone away and never returned; many were young men, living in town. Some appear in the list for Lake, Greenfield and Wauwatosa; others, who were married, were away after their families, with which they did not return until '37, '8 and '9. This made the number of actual residents much less than the record of entries, while the fact that so few claims were in the town of Milwaukee, was in consequence of the land having all been purchased (or nearly all) at the Green Bay land sale in 1835, or entered after the sale, leaving none upon which claims could be made.

#### ROADS.

The old Point road, after it struck the bluff at Oregon street, followed the present Reed street, to about midway of Florida and Virginia, where it turned directly up the bluff into Hanover, which it followed to Mineral, from there it bore southwest, coming into Third avenue at Railroad, and thence south into the country. This was the old Chicago road. While the one leading west, turned off at Florida, then west to Greenbush, then southwest to Fourth avenue, or near there, then south to Elizabeth, and west on Elizabeth

into the country. This was the old Mukwonago road. There was also a cut-off at Oregon, called the Keltner Trail. That ran along the bluffs to First avenue, where it turned south and connected with the one up Florida. This cut-off was quite a convenience to teams going west. A road had also been made across the marsh in '36, by Mr. Kilbourn, striking the south side at what is now Eighteenth avenue, which has been in general use since that day. This was known as the Kilbourn road, the old Muskego road connecting with it at the Indian fields, as Forest Home Cemetery, the W. P. Merrill and Layton farms were called at that time. And the old Chicago and Green Bay trail came out at the present cattle yards of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, coming down the bluffs a little southeast of the cut-off, crossed the Menomonee just above there, and turned up the hill, crossing the old Breed farm, and thus on to Green Bay.

#### FIRST SURVEYS\* AND SALE OF LOTS.

The first survey and plat of the south side, was upon Walker's Point addition, signed D. Wells, Jr., district deputy surveyor. This plat was received for record, August 18th, 1836, at 6 P. M., and recorded March 7th, 1854, at 9 A. M., making an interval of seventeen years, seven months, nineteen days, and fifteen hours, between its reception and recording. Fast work, that.

The first lot sold upon the south side, was lot 7, block 22, Walker's Point addition, by Geo. H. Walker to Mark Noble, Jr., June 6th, 1836. These sales are the first entries upon the record, if there were any earlier, there is no record of them.

The first cemetery on the south side was on that block lying between Grove, Florida, Virginia and First avenue. Quite a number were buried there, and afterwards all removed. This block has been cut over its entire surface, an average of twenty-two feet, including the west one-half of the adjoining block on the east. The second was where George Burnham's brick yard now stands. These bodies have all been removed to Forest Home. I have assisted at a great number of burials in these early cemeteries. There was also an old Indian cemetery at the extreme end of the old Point,

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\*Seaman and Kitchel, abstractors.

which was graded off in 1838, I doing the work for D. S. Hollister, to make room for a warehouse. A large quantity of relics were taken from the graves, consisting of beads, silver ornaments, brass and copper utensils, coins, etc.

## THE EAST SIDE.

Upon the east side, East Water street had been built up during the summer, with small frame buildings, from Huron to Mason, upon both sides, a few of which were dwellings; the most, however, were stores and saloons. Commencing at the foot of East Water, upon the east side, we find from there to Huron but one small building, viz: a one-story frame, owned by the late George Bowman. That stood near the corner of Buffalo; from there to Huron all was marsh. Upon the northeast corner of Huron and East Water, was a small frame, built, says Albert Fowler, by Capt. James Sanderson, and occupied at that time by Hon. Wm. A. Prentiss, and where he remained until November, '37. Next above him was the Cottage Inn, before mentioned. Col. Morton lived near the center of this block at that time; then came Juneau, as before stated.

Crossing Michigan, we come first to Jona. Brown's restaurant, then Geo. Peter's saloon, then the dwelling of U. B. Smith and Holmes, before mentioned. North of them was the shoe shop of Benton & Parmalee (R. H. Benton and Aaron Parmalee). J. Rowell also had a shop near Benton & Parmalee; then came the grocery store of little Hayden, as he was called (a dwarf), upon the rear of the lot, and at Wisconsin were two two-story frame stores, in one of which (the corner one) the late Levi Blossom was at that time plying his vocation as auctioneer.

Crossing Wisconsin, we come to C. C. Dewey's harness shop, Harrison Reed's store, near Juneau's old root house, in the rear of which, upon the alley, was the carpenter shop of Lee & Thurston. Above Reed's came Balser's bakery, F. B. Otis' cabinet shop and J. L. Smith's grocery, which brings us to Mason. Above Mason was the paint shop of the late James Murray, which completes the improvements in this direction upon East Water street. There may have been one or two omitted, perhaps, but there could not have been more.

Upon the west side, from Detroit south, all was marsh and water. At Detroit was the warehouse of Dousman, before mentioned; from there to Huron all was vacant. At Huron was a frame wagon shop, occupied by Hiram Smith. Above Huron was Finch & Winslow's store, general merchandise; Higby's drug store, Wm. Payne's clothing store, George Bowman (Bowman & Green), and at Michigan the store of Wm. Brown (Brown & Miller\*); then (in the street) the shanty, kept by a man called old Treadwell, a low rum hole. This man was a dirty old villain, and was, in the fall of '38, rode out of town upon a rail, for attempting to commit a beastly crime upon an idiotic girl, twelve years old. He never returned.

Crossing Michigan we come first to J. Stoddard's grocery, then J. C. Schermerhorn's store, a small one-story frame, with what was called a battlement front. This old pioneer store was removed to the south side, Ferry street, where it is still to be seen, with the word, Schermerhorn, yet discernible upon its front, or at least it was a short time ago. Above Schermerhorn's was the boot and shoe store of Wm. M. Dennis, then Richard Hadley's shoe shop, then John Gale, general merchandise; Webber & Stark, Washington Coffee House, standing where C. Shepard's store now does; then G. Cady's tin shop; then A. O. T. Breed's pioneer store, and upon the corner of Wisconsin was the office of Albert Fowler,† where the law was administered unto the people daily, and occasionally, some other things.

Crossing Wisconsin, we come first to the new store of Solomon Juneau, occupied first by B. Chapman & Co.,‡ then by McDonald &

\*The store named as being occupied by Jonathan Brown, was first occupied by Henry Miller, July, '36, he not associating himself with Wm. Brown until November.

†This building, which is the one before spoken of as having been built in 1834, for Albert Fowler, stood, when built, in East Water street, a little south of Wisconsin, but when East Water was filled in '36, it was removed to the southeast corner of East Water and Wisconsin, and used as stated.

‡The firms of B. Chapman & Co., Bowman & Green and Harrison Reed, were the three great houses upon the east side in '36, as appears from the files of the Advertiser for that year, and Dr. Wm. Gorham & Co., Wm. R. Longstreet and S. D. Cowles upon the west; but they were quickly surpassed by Brown & Miller, M. & J. W. Pixley, and others. It is amusing as well as interesting to examine these old records, as it brings to mind all the events of those early days, with a vividness that is pleasant to the old settler. Neither will any of Milwaukee's coming generations ever be able to look back, in their old age, upon as happy and joyous a life as can the old settlers, the hardy sons of toil who broke the first ground, and performed the pioneer work.

Maliby. This firm failed in the winter of '36, went away in '37, when Mr. Juneau occupied the store for a short time; then D. S. Hollister, and lastly Ludington & Burchard;\* next Dr. L. W. Week's store, Maurice and J. W. Pixley's (general merchandise), M. W. Cawker's saloon, D. W. Patterson's blacksmith shop, and Prentiss & Bird's carpenter shop. This shop stood where Hon. E. H. Broadhead's block now stands, corner East Water and Mason. Thus much for East Water street in 1836.

Returning now to Huron and Broadway, we find upon the northeast corner a two-story frame, occupied as a furniture store by C. D. Fitch, now living in St. Louis. This was the most southern house on Broadway, and from there to Wisconsin, as far as I can remember, all was vacant. At Wisconsin upon the southwest corner was the residence of Wm. N. Gardner; upon the southeast, first lot south from the corner, that of Albert Fowler; upon the northwest that of J. K. Lowry, tailor, and upon the northeast the Belle View. Upon the west side above Lowry's was the cabinet shop and dwelling of T. Wainwright, A. F. Pratt's store (Hobart & Pratt), and the old land office now occupied by Mr. Justin Kirby, as an office below and a dwelling above.

There was an attempt made to rob this office in 1842, which was prevented by the boldness and presence of mind of the clerk, young Meigs, who shot the man, wounding him severely, but not fatally. He was never caught.

Then came the old log house, which stood at or near the present police station and jail, after which all was vacant to Martin street, where there was a two-story frame built by Capt. Geo. Barber. This was the lone house in that direction.†

Returning to Wisconsin, we find upon the southeast corner of Broadway and Mason the homestead of Joshua Hathaway; and upon the northeast (second lot from corner) a small frame, built by Henry

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\*This famous old building is now standing upon East Water street, Nos. 525 and 527, and used for a hay barn.

†This famous house, known as the red roof house, on account of its roof being painted that color, was long the residence of Dr. L. W. Weeks, who sold it to E. B. Dickerman; he to Horace Belden, who removed it to Wisconsin, corner of Milwaukee, where it finally passed into the hands of H. E. Dickinson, who sold it, in 1874, to make room for his new and elegant block. It is now somewhere in the First ward.

Miller; and upon the southeast corner of Broadway and Oneida, one built by Dr. S. E. Graves (the old Arnold homestead); and upon the northeast one built by Joseph Keyes (the old Maurice Pixley\* homestead). Both of these last mentioned are yet standing. D. Wells, Jr., occupied the Pixley house in '37.

Going east upon Oneida, we find upon the northwest corner of Oneida and Jefferson a small frame built by Joseph Cary;† upon the southeast, one built by Dr. S. E. Graves, occupied at that time by Daniel Wells, Jr., and east of that, one built by Curtis Reed, in which lived Dr. T. J. Noyes, but now owned and occupied by Clarence Shepard; and upon the southwest corner a small frame built by Enoch Darling, occupied at that time by Jacob M. Rogers. James McNeil was on the southwest corner of Mason and Van Buren. Old house removed last year.

This man came near being killed by two gamblers, July 25, 1837, named Charles Blake and Matt. Smith, who entered his house during one of the worst thunder-storms ever witnessed in this city, after his money. They were discovered and a desperate fight ensued, in which Mr. McNeil was severely cut with a knife. They finally escaped from the house, but were the next day driven from the city, and never returned. Blake was a regular Mississippi blackleg, and Smith a New Orleans desperado. His body was covered with scars from cuts received in his lawless banditti life.

There was also a frame dwelling on the northeast corner of Bidle and Jackson; removed this year to make room for Mrs. Levi Blossom's elegant block. That was built in '36, by John Y. Smith, where he lived. This was the lone house in that direction.

Returning to Wisconsin, we find upon the east side of Milwaukee, south of Wisconsin, Cyrus Hawley in a small frame dwelling (afterwards the Aldrich homestead), and upon the west side, B. H. Edgerton, his house standing a little north of the Academy of Music, known as the old Treat homestead. North of Wisconsin we find Geo. Bowman, where his block now stands. Above him was Nelson and Thomas H. Olin, in the old yellow house, afterwards owned and occupied by the late Levi Blossom; A. W. Hatch in the one

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\*Afterwards Dr. Luening's.

†The nucleus of his present home.



now occupied by A. L. Boynton; Samuel Robinson came next; old house removed last year to make room for Siddle's new store, and upon the corner was Norman D. Clinton, which completes the improvements in that direction, except the Cabbage Hollow house, built by George Smith, midway between Biddle and Martin. Many of the old settlers lived in this house at various times, among whom were E. Cramer, J. H. Tweedy, F. A. Wingfield, A. W. Hatch, and others.

Returning to Wisconsin, we find upon the northwest corner of Wisconsin and Jefferson (the old Dr. Wolcott homestead), a small one-story frame occupied by James H. Rogers, and upon the southeast, one built by Peter Juneau, the Dr. Perrine homestead, and upon the northeast corner of Wisconsin and Jackson, was Dea. Samuel Hinman, in a two-story frame, now a part of the Judge Miller estate, yet standing. Upon Jackson street, William Sivyver had also erected a small brick cottage, upon the alley in the rear of St. Paul's Church. This was the first brick dwelling built in the city; and upon Wisconsin, between East Water and Broadway, south side, was the dwelling of Owen Aldrich (afterwards the residence of L. L. Lee), in which Robert Davis had a tailor shop in '36. Opposite was the post-office, upon the north side of Wisconsin, in a small frame, afterwards removed to southeast corner of Broadway and Wisconsin, for a real estate office. This building was burnt in the fire that swept that corner about ten years ago.

There were also a few families of French Creoles and half-breeds living in the upper part of the Seventh and First wards, near Division and west of Market. There were no doubt some others that I cannot now call to mind, but I do not think there could have been many.

Among those living at that time on the east side, not already mentioned, were the following: Andrew Vieux, Charles Vieux, John G. Belangee, Peter Brown, Jesse Eggleston, Joseph Shunier, Thomas Mason, T. C. Dousman, Rufus Parks, Milo Jones, Henry Sivyver, Samuel Sivyver, Job Miller, Byron Corse, A. J. Lansing, J. Currier (or Cousin), Wm. A. Rice, J. A. Noonan, Geo. A. Trayser, Hans Crocker, Hoosier John (him the boys gave the calomel), Geo. O. Tiffany, Peter Rogan, J. Rogan, Lawrence Robbins, James and

Frank Devlin, H. N. Wells, Geo. P. Deleplane, Luther, Eben and John Cole, B. F. Smith, Augustus Story, J. D. Evarts, Louis Francher, Robert Legg, Edwin and Alvin Foster, Henry Hosmer, Worcester Harrison, Dr. Wm. H. Manton, Thomas Orchard, Henry Williams, Paul Juneau and Narcisse Juneau. There were no doubt others. Many of these were upon claims and some were boarding.

#### ROADS.

The only roads leading from the east side, were one north to Port Washington, the present White Fish Bay Road, and one up the river to Humboldt, and on into the country, and these were little better than trails.

#### THE WEST SIDE BUILDINGS.

The principal part of the buildings that had been erected upon the west side, up to the fall of 1836, were nearly all in the immediate vicinity of Chestnut and Third streets. Third street had been opened into the country, and was called the Green Bay road, then, as now. Chestnut was opened to Winnebago, Winnebago to Vliet, and Vliet into the country. This was known as the Western or Madison road, as well as the Watertown, and is the one in general use to-day.

This was mainly due to the energy of Mr. Kilbourn, who was not only a very smart, but a good executive man, also, and having the faculty of infusing his own spirit into others, his town had grown to quite a respectable hamlet in '36. Every one upon that side believed in Mr. Kilbourn, and were not only ready and willing to do all that he desired, but also to bet their last dollar on the ultimate success of anything that he undertook, and were to a man, sure that the future MILWAUKEE would be there.

Kilbourn lived on the southwest corner of Chestnut and Third, in a two-story frame (removed long ago); S. D. Coles had a store on the first floor, general merchandise; Dr. I. A. Lapham, in a small frame just above Chestnut, house yet standing; then came George Knapp, then Wm. P. Cully, both restaurants. Wm. R. Longstreet kept a warehouse where the elevator now is; George Abert was where he is now, corner of Fourth and Poplar; Dr. William Proud-

fit lived on Third, above Cherry; Chancy S. Peak had a grocery corner Third and Poplar. John Noyes was his clerk. F. McCausliffe, on Chestnut, west of Fifth; Otis and Henry Hubbard, on Third, south of Chestnut; W. P. Merrill, a small frame on Third, above Cherry. This was the first house built north of Cherry, and was, when built, surrounded by woods; Benjamin Church, on Fourth, above Cherry, where he now lives; Paul Burdick, corner of Second and Cherry; Silas Griffith kept the Washington House, corner of Third and Vliet; R. N. and J. R. Messenger, a house on Third, above Vliet; Longstreet on Third, above Galena, afterwards the residence of J. T. Perkins. This was also the residence of James H. Rogers, in '37. S. A. Hubbell with Charles, Benjamin, Joseph, Thomas and James Single, were on Chestnut, above Seventh; Thomas Hughes at same place; Patrick and David Coyne, on Third, south of Chestnut; John Guile, on Third, above Poplar. John Furlong also had built a house between Third street and the river, near the present engine house; F. Burns a house near the corner of Fourth and Vliet. Upon the east side of West Water, north of Spring, was a large frame set upon posts over the water, in which Juneau, at that time, kept an Indian trading house, in which Geo. P. Deleplane was clerk; then came Jerry Noble's house (also upon posts), and across the alley was the old Caleb Harrison house, built by Isaac H. Alexander, from Tennessee, while across the street, above Wells, was the residence of D. Neiman and Pleasant Fields; and at the intersection of Second and West Water (west side of Second), was the store of Dr. William Gorham and W. R. Longstreet,\* the largest at that time on the west side. Leveret S. and Wm. A. Kellogg, Joseph E. Howe, Rev. Wm. S. Crissy (a local Methodist preacher) and Ebenezer Harris were also living somewhere along there in '36. Benoni W. Finch had built the old brick house yet standing at the foot of Fourteenth street, which was the second brick building erected in Milwaukee. This ancient relic is now the elegant esidence of H. M. Colclough. The bricks for this house were made upon the spot, by Benoni W. Finch, he having opened a yard

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\*Longstreet was first at the northeast corner of West Water and Spring, the firm being Longstreet & Beardsley, where they kept a large stock of general merchandise.

there this year. This was the first brick yard opened in Milwaukee. He was not a little disgusted when he saw his brick were not red, thinking they were, of course, worthless.

Upon Wells, west of Second, was a small Presbyterian Church, and the dwelling of Hiram and Uriel Farmin. Mr. Crawford was the minister in charge of this church; his house is yet standing upon Sycamore, just west of Fifth. The Lelands kept the Shanty Tavern, afterwards the American, where the Second Ward Bank now stands, at the intersection of Third and West Water, Doct. S. E. Greves had built a two story building with battlement front, yet standing upon West Water, a little south of State.

The Republican House, now standing at the intersection of Third and West Water, was built by A. Clybourn, in '36; it stood when built, upon Cherry St., between Second and Third Streets.

The contract for putting on the cornice was sub-let to Wm. P. Merrill, who performed the work in a good, workman-like manner, forty years ago last June. Benjamin Church was the contractor.

There were also upon claims north of the Cold Spring, Byrom Guerin, Patrick D. Murray, Thomas Hoyt, George and Charles James, and upon the present race course, a man by the name of Hall, who had a half-breed wife.

Hiram J. Ross had built a mill where the stone quarry is in Wauwatosa, and Hart one at Wauwatosa. Alanson Sweet was upon a claim south of Spring and west of Thirty-Fourth St., and in the winter of '37 I purchased twenty bushels of ruta-baga turnips of him at this farm, that were actually counted out to me, many of them being 12 inches and more in diameter, each of which counted for one half bushel. They were by far, the largest turnips that I have ever seen, and some may not believe it, but it is true, nevertheless.

Among those not already mentioned, that I can remember, at that early day, living upon the west side, were William, Jerry and Fred Noble, Morgan L. and William Burdick, Henry Cole, Doc Jennings, (a printer), Daniel Proudfit, Ezra Dewey, Daniel D. Sibley, William P. Merrill, J. H. Tweedy, F. A. Wingfield, John Hustis, J. J. Brown, J. Bowen, John Wren, A. A. Bird, George Hahn, Lucius Barber, C. H. Larkin, John Hanaford, Timothy Wooden, John Parker, Samuel E. Hull, Hendrick Gregg, William Caton, Hiram

Burdick, James Clyman, S. R. Freeman, Onslow Brown, Wallace Woodward, William Furlong, Capt. John Masters, Uriel Farmin, Leonard Martin, William Flusky, and perhaps others, whose names can not be ascertained at this late day.

The first cemetery on the west side, was upon that block lying between Spring, Sycamore, Eighth and Ninth Streets, upon that portion lying west of the alley. St. James Church, stands upon this spot. I have helped to bury quite a number there. No burials have taken place, however, for many years, upon that ground, and all who were buried there, have been removed. The second was on Thirteenth above Chestnut, also abandoned for many years. The third was the old Catholic cemetery, on Spring street, above Twenty-Second. This was also abandoned long ago, many of the bodies being removed to Rose Hill.

This was Milwaukee in the month of December, 1836, the whole population not exceeding, probably, 700 souls. That more than half of this was a floating, and not a permanent one, the subjoined list of published letters, December 31st, fully proves, and as many of these letters were also in the list in '37, it is evident that more than one half of these same people never returned.

The following post office list for December, '36, is inserted here as being a part of the year's history. Many of these parties, perhaps, were never here, and it is certain that not one half of them wintered here. It is also useful as a reference, to show in coming years, who they were who came, or were expected to come in '36, not mentioned in the record:

## LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Post Office at Milwaukee, Dec. 31st, 1836.

Ackley, Mrs. Jane,	Blanchard, Joseph,	Bass, Thomas,
Alvord, Nelson,	Bruce, W. H.,	Baldwin, Philander,
Allen, Augustus L., 2,	Boyer, Chas. E., 2,	Botsford, Lucius, 2,
Atherton, George O., 3,	Bowell, Emily,	Brown, E. P.,
Archey, Richard,	Brown, William,	Bryant, R. H., 2,
Andrews, Sewall,	Burt, Heman,	Bailey, Joel,
Arnett, S.,	Bailey, W. H. H.,	Blair, Lyman,
Abert, Geo.,	Barnard, David,	Brown, Rev. Daniel E.,
Ackley, Charles,	Bowman, Henry,	Bryant, Zephaniah,
Andrews, Daniel,	Burnet, B.,	Bates, James M.,

Boyder, John,	Ensworth, August L.,	Johnson, Wm. B., 2,
Bötsford, Luther,	Edwin, Eaton,	Keeler, John,
Bishop, Harry,	Ellsworth, Orlando,	Kemp, George,
Baker, Nathan,	Ellis, Richard,	Keyon, Wm.,
Bean, James L.,	Ellison, Samuel,	Kimberly, E. C.,
Cutler, A. R.,	Fowler, Albert,	Lathrop, Jones, 2,
Cross, Charles H.,	Fox, Truman,	Lord, William,
Church, Harvey,	Flynn, John, 2,	Loyd, John,
Clyman, James, 2,	Fisk, Edw. W., 2,	Mathe, Thomas,
Clement, Lambert,	Fletcher, Lorenzo,	Moench, Augs.,
Cleveland, Alva,	Flint, Miss Mary,	McConnell,
Clemens, Horace,	Frazer, Saml.,	Miller, Datus,
Camp, Henry,	Griswold, Keere,	McMeal, Alex.,
Clinton, E. D.,	Gardner, Rolzamona,	Miller, Henry,
Coals, William,	Gould, Archibald,	Martin, Mahlin,
Clark, Danl. S.,	Green, Genl. Abbott,	Mc Knabb,
Carpenter, Morgan,	Gifford, Job,	Miller, Wm., 2,
Currier, R. C.,	Gilbert, Jonathan,	Mendell, Ezra,
Campbell, James L.,	Green, Pliny P.,	Morgan, F.,
Crawford, Susan,	Hath, Alton W.	Martin, M.,
Clinton, Edward,	Hurd, Mr.,	Morgan, John F.,
Coykendall, B. F.,	Harmon, Calvin,	McCarty, Col. John,
Drake, Saml.,	Hodson, John,	Moore, John D.,
Doolittle, Lewis,	Hubbell, W. B., 2,	Mulholland, Saml.,
Dibble, Lewis,	Hawkins, Harvey, 2,	McLan, Geo.,
David, Susan,	Huyck, Henry,	Moffat, James, 2,
Doyle, John, 2,	Herrema, Aaron,	McKitric, Robt.,
Dubois, Louis M.,	Hall, Edwin, 2,	McWhorter, George,
Dimick, Abel,	Hinckley, Redcalf,	More, John,
Desnover, Jos., 3,	Hazeltine, Orin, 2,	Murry, Orren,
Derbyshire, Isabella, 2,	Hart, Charles,	Miller, Harry,
Derverno, Francis,	Hill, Lyman,	Newton, Daniel,
Dille, D. B.,	Haight, Thomas,	Nichols, Joseph,
Drake, Saml.,	Horton, Alonzo, 3,	Nichols, Enos,
Denny, John M.,	Harmon, Wm. B.,	Noonan, J. A.,
Dalsen, James, 2,	Harlet, George,	Olin, Nelson,
Delay, William,	Hildreth, J. H.,	Porter, Israel W.,
Daris, Samuel, 2,	Harkin, Danl.,	Pratt, Elliott,
Daily, Miss Anna,	Hall, Stephen,	Potter, John, 2,
Dodge, John,	Judd, Thomas,	Peters, Joseph,
Davis, Daniel,	Jordan, Dolly,	Palmer, C. G.,
Davenport, Geo. M.,	Jones, Cezar, 3,	Parker, H. S.,
Eberman, John F.,	Jambo, Jock,	Patterson, M.,

Putnam, Worthey,	Stiles, John A. Cock,	Tryon, David,
Pierce, D. W.,	Spirgin, James,	Todd, T. W.,
Putney, Moses,	Stone, Robert,	Tuttle, J. E.,
Parker, John,	Scott, David, 2,	Vail, J. S.,
Parks, Osmond,	Small, Daniel R.,	Vaughn, J.,
Parker, Asa,	Stevenson, L. C.,	Vanderen, H. W.,
Patterson, Rachel,	Stowell, J. A.,	Vinton, Edward,
Peck, Stephen,	Seward, Nathan,	Viele, J. J.,
Philips, E. D.,	Shaw, E. P.,	Vickle, A. C.,
Paine, A. W.,	Shaler, J. U.,	Warren, Obed Dr.,
Richards, Ralph,	Sawyer, H. F.,	White, H. D.,
Reer, David,	Specht, Michael,	White, Ambrose,
Robinson, Mr.,	Strothman, Wm. S.,	Woodbridge, H.,
Roberts, John G.,	Sands, S. C.,	Williams, Israel, 2,
Rush, Doct. John,	Stockman, Charles,	Webster, David B.,
Robinson, Henry,	Smith, Lowell,	Whorter, McC., 4,
Rogers, James H.,	Thurston, G. W.,	Wriley, H. D.,
Robinson, Ikey,	Thompson, E. O.,	Walker, Mr. J.,
Rosbrook, Dexter,	Thompson, Horace, 3,	Woodman, Aaron,
Sweet, Alanson, 3,	Tillery, E.,	Wells, J. M.,
Smith, John,	Taylor, Cunningham,	Webster, Lery,
Smith, Uriel,	Thompson, Wm.,	Whorter, McM.,
Sacid, W. W.,	Thurber, Martin,	Woodworth, C. E.,
Shaw, John,	Thorp, John F.,	Warner, Nath. P.,
Simson, C. B.,	Taylor, T. W.,	Wheelock, James H.,
Strong & Armsbee,	Turrell, A. D.,	Yates, Jerome Y.,
Stevens, Cyrus,	Thomas, John W.,	

## SOLOMON JUNEAU, P. M

Persons calling for any of the above Letters, will please say they are advertised.

## IN MEMORIAM.

-Of those mentioned as living here in 1836, the following have passed to their rest:

Solomon Juneau, Geo. H. Walker, Byron Kilbourn, Dr. I. A. Lapham, S. D. Coles, Wm. P. Cully, Geo. F. Knapp, Dr. Wm. P. Proudfit, Meyer, McCausliffe, Otis and Henry M. Hubbard, Horatio N. Wells, Jon. E. Arnold, Paul Burdick, Griffith, Byrom Guerin, Onslow Brown, R. M. and J. R. Messenger, Hubbell, P. Coyne, J. Guile, B. Finch, D. Nieman, U. Farmin, Dr. L. Brown, T. Hoyt, F.

McCauly, Lucius I. Barber, Wm. Caton, Lawrence Robbins, S. Pettibone, A. J. Lansing, Robert Legg, S. W. Dunbar, P. Juneau, Dibble, Doct. H. Loomis, J. Childs, Hollister, Martin, Young, Tucker, A. Herriman, J. B. Zander, J. Corbin, Tuttle, Porthier, Wilcox, A. O. T. Breed, Shaft, L. Churchill, O. and J. Ellsworth, J. P. More, Metcalf, Delaney, Zeb Packard, Bunnell, J. and Cyrus Howell, Geo. S. and Henry West, Aldrich, Payne, Bowman, Wm. Brown, M. and J. Pixley, N. Prentiss, Wm. N. Gardner, J. K. Lowry, A. Hosmer, Pratt, Hathaway, Gale, Himnan, C. and F. Hawley Dr. T. J. Noyes, E. Cramer, J. Shaunier, S. Robinson, F. B. Otis, S. Sivyer, E. Darling, Jas. H. Rogers, J. Corse, Wm. A. Rice, J. and F. Devlin, L. Blossom and Levi Vail.



## CHAPTER IV.

1836.

### Milwaukee in a State of Nature—The South Side, or Walker's Point.

The reader will, by this time, have seen that Milwaukee, when I first saw it, in the winter of 1836; was as yet, mostly in a state of nature.

The ever ceaseless march of civilization had not changed its appearance materially, the era of the "pick and spade," not having fully come.

And notwithstanding that Juneau and Martin had filled East Water street, from Michigan to its foot, and Huron to the Lake, the previous Summer, built a courthouse and jail, (those distinguishing marks of civilization,) yet was the place but a small village, divided into three sections, called respectively, "Walker's Point," "Juneau's Side," and "Kilbourn Town," in honor of the three distinguished claimants, who had entered the land, and commenced each for himself, to found a city thereon, and over which, for a season, they exercised almost kingly powers.

And as it is my purpose to describe the original topography of the city, as it appeared in that early day, as near as I can, and the changes that have been made therein, I will commence with the South Side, or Walker's Point, as it was then called, where I first made my home, and lived for fifteen years.

There has been an immense amount of grading and filling done in this part of the city, changing its appearance very materially. What is now Reed street, was formerly all water and marsh, except where it cut the old point, which was about midway between Lake and Oregon Streets. This point ran in a southwest direction, \* from the foot of Barclay Street, to the bluff, which it struck at or near the corner of Reed and Oregon streets.

It was about twelve feet high, in the center, and from four to six

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\*See Map.

rods wide; sloping each way, from the center, to the marsh and river. It was not only used for a roadway, but the first house built by a white man, on the south side, (if we except Jaques Vieux's trading house,) stood upon its terminal point, the old log house built by George H. Walker, in 1834; and it was subsequently built up like a street, nearly its entire length. On its southern side, all was marsh and water; on its northern, all marsh and river, over which I have sailed in a small boat many times. Where the St. Paul R. R. yard now is, there was, at least, ten feet of water, and where the present elevator stands, I have passed in a steamboat, often. And there is an old vessel, the *Cincinnati*, now lying buried in the mud in the rear of George Burnham's block, southwest corner of Reed and South Water streets, that I helped to put there. The water at that place was at least eight feet in depth, with a hard, pebbly bottom. The side walk in front of House's Bakery, on Lake street, crosses the old shore line, and underneath it can be found the stump of a willow tree, to which S. H. Martin used to fasten his canoe, "The Green Mountain Boy," in 1836.

This description will, I think, give future generations some idea of how that part of Milwaukee looked in a state of nature, as well as the changes that have been made in forty years. Where now stands the best business portion, then all was water and marsh.

The west side of Reed street skirted the bluffs, or hard ground, with one or two exceptions, from Florida to Railroad street. These bluffs were from ten to twenty-five feet high, *i. e.*, they reached that height between that and Greenbush street, from Oregon to Mineral. At Mineral was a ravine, as now, but from there to Railroad the bluffs were lower.

Oregon street runs along what was originally, in part, their northern face. This face was quite steep and abrupt, until it terminated near Fourth Avenue, where the Wunderly and Best property still show their original height.

At that point there occurs a *fault* or set-off in the bluffs; it retreating south to Park street, from where it continues west at its original height, until merged in the main high lands. This bluff is now being cut from Elizabeth to Park, an average of twenty-five feet.

These bluffs upon Oregon street, were covered upon their north

ern face from Reed Street west to Second Avenue with a growth of poplar and hazel, a great resort for black, gray, and fox squirrels, great numbers of which have been shot there by John Corbin and myself; and all that portion lying between Florida, Virginia, Grove, and Second Avenue was also covered with a thick mat of hazel, interspersed with a few black and burr oaks.

All that block lying between Florida, Oregon, Hanover and Reed, was the homestead of Doctor Hubbell Loomis, the father of Mrs. George G. Dousman and Mrs. H. K. Edgerton, who with their aged mother, are yet living. This block has been cut from twelve to twenty-five feet over its entire surface.\* While in front of L. H. Lane's, northwest corner of Virginia and Hanover, in Hanover, was a sharp hill, fifteen feet in height; from there to Pierce street, the ground descended to about its present grade, where it commenced to rise again, and at Elizabeth street has been cut at least twenty-five feet; from there it again descended to Mineral street, to about its present level. This can be seen by comparing the present grade with Mrs. Pierce's property, between Pierce and Elizabeth streets, which is yet, in part, in its original state, as to grade.

Where St. John's Church stands, was a pond hole, in which the water stood nearly all the year. And all that part lying between Pierce, Virginia and Greenbush streets, and First Avenue, or the most of it, was a tamarack swamp, where the water was knee deep; while the grade on Elizabeth street, is nearly as it was then, except where it cuts the hill from Greenbush to Elizabeth street, which was at least twenty-five feet, and the cut on those two blocks lying between Hanover, Greenbush, Walker and Pierce streets, has been an average of twenty feet over their entire surface, except that part of Mrs. Pierce's property, which as before stated, is as yet in its original state, as to grade.

That block bounded by Reed, Clinton, Elizabeth and Mineral streets, known as the old Weeks Garden, was a low point extending into the marsh, and so thickly covered with wild plum trees, as

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\* Many of our oldest citizens can well remember the old Red House and the orchard, once standing upon that block. The Doctor used to raise some splendid apples there. The old house is now standing on South Water, east of Barclay street.

to be impassable, except in one place, and then it could only be done in a stooping position.

The cut on Reed street, through or past this garden, was at least fifteen, and I think twenty feet, a round point, so to speak, extending into it from about the center of block 100, at least eighty feet, upon the terminus of which the Doctor built his famous "Swiss Cottage," that no doubt many of the present inhabitants can remember. I put a fence around that block in 1846, and the Doctor had a fine garden there for many years.

The cut has also been heavy from Hanover to Reed street, on Elizabeth street, on the south side, the whole distance, including block 100, and on the north about half way, a piece of bottom land ending here, that extended from there north to Virginia street.

This bottom was, in form, a crescent, and bounded on the west by Hanover, from Virginia to Pierce street, where the bluffs again approached Reed street. The west half of this block has been cut about fifteen feet, upon an average, from Pierce to Elizabeth street as well as that between Florida and Virginia street, which has been both cut and filled, upon an average, at least fifteen feet.

A small brook came in at the foot of Mineral street, which had its rise in the marsh in the rear of Clark Shepardson's farm, that flowed the year round, in which I have shot suckers and pickerel as far west as Grove street. This brook has long since disappeared, and its fountain head is now a hard meadow, upon which are standing several houses. The fish used to go up this brook to the meadow, lying just south of the present Muskego road, and great numbers have been taken there in the spring of the year, with a spear, by Horace Chase and others.

And all that portion of the present fifth and eight wards bounded by Elizabeth, Hanover and Railroad streets and Eighteenth Avenue, was thickly covered with hazel brush, interspersed with a few black, burr and white oaks.

This part has not changed so much, although the changes there are to an old settler quite apparent. The grading upon this point has been more uniform, but will, I think, amount to an average of eight feet, over its entire surface, the cutting and filling being about equal.

All the marsh proper, was covered with at least two feet of water in every part, and would, in the spring, be literally alive with fish, that came in from the lake, great numbers of which were caught in the following manner: We used to wade out beyond Clinton street and shoot them, the report of the gun stunning them, when they could be easily taken out by the hand, before they recovered from the shock. This was fun for us, but not for the fish. And the number of ducks that covered the marsh was beyond all computation. Thousands of young ones could be seen in the breeding season, apparently not a week old, swimming around as happy as need be, wholly unconcious of the fate that awaited them, from the hands of the sportsmen.

But all is changed now; their ancient haunts are covered with the dwellings of the white man, and they, like the fated Indian, whose congeners they were, have gone toward the setting sun. Their day in Milwaukee is over.

So much for the topography of the South Side. We will now cross the river, and describe the East, or Juneau's Side.

#### THE EAST, OR JUNEAU'S SIDE.

The East, or Juneau's Side, as that part of our city was called in 1836, was much the largest part of Milwaukee, the reason for which can be easily accounted for. All its upper portion was high and dry; but aside from this, and its position between the lake and river, it had got the first start. Juneau lived there, and being in a position so to do, had offered inducements to emigrants and speculators, that Kilbourn and Walker were, at first, unable to do. Walker's title having been rendered imperfect on account of a float, was held in abeyance by the government, and not until 1845 could a clear title be secured. This misfortune had kept the South Side back, until the East had stolen all their "thunder" and beaten them.

Juneau's log house and store stood in or near the center of East Water street, a little north of Wisconsin, but in the summer of '35 he built a frame house, southeast corner of East Water and Michigan, as previously stated, where Hon. Alex. Mitchell's bank now stands, where he lived when I first saw him.

In his front yard were two posts, about twelve feet high, to each

of which a bear was chained; and I have spent many an hour in watching the gambols of those bears. They would climb to the top of these posts, place all of their feet close together, and from thence survey the crowd of loafers and idlers that were watching them, with the greatest complacency. They were killed and eaten at a feast Juneau gave the Indians in 1837.

But to the topography. The amount of cutting and filling that has been done on the East Side in the Seventh and Third wards, is very great, and would, to a Milwaukeean born fifty years hence, seem perfectly incredible; neither could he be made to believe it, except the written proof was before him. It is for that purpose, in part, that this has been written, the present generation not requiring it; but in ten or twenty years all these early men will have passed away, and no one then living could do this. But thousands will read this in years to come, and wonder at the magnitude of the work that was done in Milwaukee in the days of its founders.

Beginning at Michigan street, which was the southern limit of the high lands, and from whence the ground descended gradually to Huron, I will first give a description of the present Third ward.

All that portion lying between these two streets, was soft and boggy, or mostly so, made so by the numerous springs which came from the bluffs. From Huron south all was marsh and water, except two small islands, and the strip along the beach. One of these islands, the largest, was bounded, or nearly so, by Jefferson, Milwaukee, Chicago and Buffalo streets, and was called Duck Island by the boys, probably on account of the numerous *duckings* they used to get in trying to reach it. The other was on that block bounded by Menomonee, Broadway, Erie and East Water, and was the same place where Nelson Soggs had his blacksmith shop some twenty years ago.\*

Where the Chamber of Commerce now stands, southwest corner of Michigan and Broadway, the ground was soft and spongy. From Michigan to Wisconsin the ascent was rapid, and at Wisconsin the cut has been at least twenty-five feet in Broadway; from there to

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\*Joseph Shaunier, the old first city marshal, wintered upon that island in 1816, two years before Mr. Juneau's arrival, the snow being four feet in depth on the level. This was told to me by Mr. Shaunier himself.

Division, on Broadway, it has been from ten to twenty feet, as can be seen by looking at the present residence of D. A. J. Upham, and others, between Martin and Division, also of M. Medbury, north of Division, this property being in its original state yet as to grade; and there is now a brick house standing on Broadway, in the rear of M. Medbury's, between Division and Knapp, that has been lowered forty feet, which shows what the grade has been in that locality. The bluffs at this place were originally very steep, and the cut has, of course, been correspondingly large.

From Broadway east on Wisconsin the cut has been eight feet, on an average, to the ravine at Van Buren, as can be seen by looking at the northwest corner of Jefferson, where the ground yet retains its original height.

From Wisconsin south to Michigan, on Milwaukee, Jefferson and Jackson, the cut has been from eight to eighteen feet, running out at Michigan, as the bluffs here were quite steep; while from Wisconsin north to Mason it has been very little, just enough to make it level and uniform.

And all that part lying between Wisconsin, Division, Milwaukee and the lake was mostly covered with a thick growth of small bushes, interspersed with black, burr and white oaks, many of which are yet standing.

From Broadway to East Water the descent was rapid, *i. e.*, East Water bounded these bluffs on the west, from Michigan to Mason, where they commenced to trend east a little on Market.

From midway, or near there, of Wisconsin and Michigan, on the west side of East Water, the ground was low and wet to Detroit. This low point did not exceed four rods in width, the west line of East Water not touching it, and was in fact, the terminal point of the bluffs along the river south. From Detroit to the foot all was marsh, and from midway of Michigan and Wisconsin, north to Mason, it was hard, sloping and grassy. At Mason was a hill, from which dirt enough was taken to fill East Water from there to Division. The cut there must have been at least forty feet, while all that part north of Oneida and west of Market was low and wet, a bayou extending the whole length of River street, in which the water was from four to ten feet in depth.

All along the east side of Market to Oneida, the cut was heavy, and in fact to Division, as can be seen by the cross streets, the bluffs being nearly uniform the whole distance, and thickly covered with bushes.

The east side of Market street skirted the hills, which reached their full height between there and Broadway; *i. e.*, the deepest cutting was there, it being on the Market street front at least thirty feet.

These bluffs terminated on the east side of Broadway, in a series of small sand dunes, some of which were standing in the vicinity of St. Mary's Church, as late as 1846.

The fountain from which the pump now standing on the square is supplied, was originally a spring coming directly out of the bank, called the Ball Alley Spring, a ball alley once standing in the ravine just above it. Many of the first settlers got their water from this spring, even coming from the west side for it; and I have lain down and drank from it often.

Many of the present inhabitants can remember the old frame row, once standing opposite the Newhall House, and the cutting there, when the present block was built, it having been done within the last twelve years. There was also an excellent spring coming out of the bank at that place, about the center of the block, to which many of the people used to come for water. From Broadway to the lake on Michigan street, the hills were steep, on their southern face, and as before stated, full of springs, their entire length. Returning to Wisconsin street, we find all that block lying between Wisconsin, Van Buren, Cass and Mason streets, or the most of it, was a quicksand hole, in which grew a few tamaracks, and in which the water was four feet or more in depth; the old Waterman House, now the eye infirmary, standing partly in and partly out of that hole, and fish have often been caught there by Henry Sivyver, and others. And all the east half of that block bounded by Van Buren, Jackson, Wisconsin and Michigan streets, was a ravine, whose northern terminus was in the next block north, now a part of the Judge Miller estate, (and yet unfilled,) its southern in the marsh, at Michigan street. And from Van Buren street to the lake, and from Wisconsin to Huron it has been cut, an average of fifty feet over the entire



tract, it being forty feet at Van Buren, and seventy feet or more, at the lake; and from Wisconsin, north, and Cass, east to the lake the cut was nearly as much, running out on the north, at Oneida street. This bluff terminated at Huron street, and upon its terminal point, was an Indian cemetery, where Manitou, the Indian killed by Scott and Bennett in 1836, as hereafter stated, was buried, and over his grave, was waving the little white flag, as late as 1838.

From Huron street to the mouth of the river, the lake beach was at least ten feet in height, and from one to two hundred feet wide, upon which was the road-way up to the city, and it was the only way that teams could reach the town from the south, in '35 and '36, or goods be got up from the boats, and was in general use up to '38. This beach was quite thickly covered with white cedar, balm of Gilead, crab apple and oak timber, many of the trees being eighteen inches and some were over two feet in diameter. What a change! And incredible as this may appear to a person seeing the beach now for the first time, yet it is nevertheless true. And in addition to this, the whole bluff from Mason street north, has worn away, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred feet; *i. e.*, the old road-way along the bluff was that much east, or out from the present edge of the bank then, than now. This is an average wear of five feet per annum.

And all that part lying between Oneida, Biddle, Astor and Cass, or the most of it, as well as a portion of the block on the northwest corner of Biddle, now owned and occupied by R. Elliot, was a swamp hole, and has been filled from two to four feet over its entire surface. A small ravine also ran along here in a northeast and southwest direction, a small brick dwelling fronting on Cass, owned by George Ellis, now standing in that ravine.

There was also a large hole in Court-house square, in which I have seen the water four feet deep, where John B. Merrill, Hiram Merrill and others, have been in swimming often; also a low place northwest corner of Jackson and Biddle, and northwest corner of Jackson and Division—the one on Biddle extending to Jefferson, and is yet partly unfilled; one where the Union Baptist Church stands, and one northeast corner of Milwaukee and Oneida, yet partly unfilled; but the largest was known as Cabbage Hollow,

upon which quite a history could be written. So much for the topography of the Third and Seventh wards.

The changes in that portion of the present First ward, not already described, have not been as great, and what there are, have mostly been made in the last fifteen years.

The bluffs overlooking Market street, were, as before stated, extremely bold, and from there north to the ravine, from whence flow cool Siloam's healing waters, the ground was covered with oak bushes, commonly called scrub, from six to twelve feet in height, and so thick as to be almost impenetrable. This was a great resort for rabbits, great numbers of which have been shot there. It was also a hiding place for lynx, a number of which have been killed there within the last ten years. This portion is now being improved, however, very fast, and will soon be as thickly settled as any part of the city.

#### THE WEST SIDE, OR KILBOURN TOWN.

The West Side, or KILBOURN TOWN, as it was called in 1836-7, did not present a very inviting aspect to the eye, whereon to build a city, compared with the East, or Juneau's Side, and the only advantage its founder, or his friends did or could claim for it, over the East, was that it held the key to the beautiful lands beyond the timber, and that the East being merely a narrow strip of land lying between the river and lake, twenty-five miles in length, and in no place exceeding four in breadth, and is, (in fact an island,) its future inhabitants must, of necessity, pay tribute to them, instead of receiving it. This was what decided Mr. Kilbourn to make his stand upon that side, and the rolling years have fully shown his wisdom and sagacity in so doing.

But to the topography: Although the changes upon the West Side do not show as much to the eye as do those upon the East or South, yet they fully equal them in magnitude, and a stranger seeing our city *to-day*, for the first time, could not comprehend the amount of filling that has been done here.

Commencing at the Menomonee, we will describe the low or swamp land first:

All that portion of the Fourth ward bounded by the Menomonee

on the south, the Milwaukee on the east, Spring street on the north, and to a point about midway between Fourth and Fifth streets, on the west, where the hills commenced, was a wild rice swamp, covered with water from two to six feet in depth; in fact, an impassable marsh. The amount of filling that has been done upon this portion is immense, averaging twenty feet over the entire tract. There was a small island near the corner of Second and Clybourn streets, upon which was a large elm tree. This tree disappeared long ago. All else was a watery waste.

At Spring street, the ground commenced to harden, and from there to Chestnut, with the exception of West Water, from Spring to Third, which (was also marsh,) the whole was a swamp, upon which grew tamaracks, black ash, tag alder and cedar, in abundance. Here was where Nat. Prentiss used to get his sawed stuff, as he called it, before sawed lumber became plenty, (meaning hewn studding and floor timbers,) and many of the oldest buildings standing to-day, have hewn tamarack studs and floor joists that came from this swamp. From Spring to Third, on West Water street, as before stated, the ground was covered with at least two feet of water, and where the sidewalk now is, crotched stakes were driven into the mud, upon which cross-pieces were laid, and upon them a plank two feet above the water, for a sidewalk, which was in use up to '38. From Third to Chestnut streets, the ground was soft and difficult to pass over with a team. Some work had been done upon it in '36, but it was as yet, nothing but a mud hole. At Chestnut street, the ground was hard enough to build upon, and it was there that Kilbourn commenced his city.

From Chestnut to about midway between Vliet and Cherry, it was nearly the same. This was the northern terminus of the low land. From this swamp, between Spring and Chestnut, I have obtained cedar for funerals, as late as 1852.

The bluffs, or high land, had a uniform front, along the line mentioned, from the Menomonee river to about midway between Spring and Wells streets, or nearly so. Here occurred a *fault*, or set-off, to the west, to a point midway between Eighth and Ninth streets,\* as can now be seen in the unfilled lots upon the west side of Eighth,

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\*See Map.

(that street having now an average fill of fifteen feet from Wells to Chestnut.) From Wells to Chestnut, their course was north. Here occurred a second *fault*, to the east, to about midway between Sixth and Seventh; from there to midway of Vliet and Cherry, their course was north, then due east to Second street, then north on Second to Walnut, then east to the river, along which they ran to the Dam, their termini being the crown upon which stands the Reservoir.

This will, I think, describe the original direction of these bluffs for all time, whatever changes may come upon them to the contrary, notwithstanding. This I say, because I well know great changes are yet in store for them in coming years.

These bluffs were exceedingly beautiful, in a state of nature. Their fronts were bold and round, and from Spring street to the Menomonee, and from Seventh to Twenty-Fifth streets, were covered with a young and thrifty growth of oak, mostly, being what is termed "openings," many of which are yet standing upon the Rogers and Kneeland property.

From Spring north to Chestnut, and from Eighth west to Seventeenth, it was much the same; but, from these streets west and north, it was heavy, including all of the present Ninth Ward. But, alas for these beautiful hills:

The white man came with pick and spade,  
And soon our hills were brought to grade;  
Those hills, so round and pretty—  
Our river front was lined with docks,  
Canals were built, with gates and locks,  
And soon we had a city.

These bluffs have been cut from ten to forty feet, in order to make the streets running west and north from the river practicable, and will, I doubt not, be cut in future years as much more. I think the cutting on Winnebago, Poplar, Vliet and Mill streets, west of Seventh, and on Fourth, Fifth and Sixth, north of Cherry, has been more than forty. But the deepest, as yet, was on Spring, it having been cut in some places as much as sixty feet, or more; and, no doubt, there are many now living who can remember when Joseph Sprague had a house the north side of Spring, near Sixth

street, that was as much as sixty, and Mr. Benjamin Bagnall says seventy feet above the present grade.

Incredible as this statement may appear to many, yet it is nevertheless true.

Where the Congregational Church stands, southwest corner of Sixth and Spring streets, was a quick-sand hole with tamaracks growing in it, which had its terminus at Fifth street, where the M. E. Church now stands. This may seem incredible, but it is true, and fish have been caught in that hole.

Many will no doubt remember the old Goodall place south of the Congregational Church, and some eighty feet above it, also of the next block south, once the residence of the late James H. Rogers.

The amount of earth taken from the bluffs along Fifth street, from Spring south to Fowler, and West to Eighth street; and along Fowler, west to Ninth and north to Clybourn street, to help fill the marsh, is immense, and would, I think, average twenty feet, over the entire district, Eighth street being the point of minimum, and Sixth street of maximum grade, upon the east or Fifth street front; and Clybourn street the minimum, and Hill street the maximum, upon the south or Fowler street front. But from Eighth, west to Tenth street, and from Spring south to Sycamore street, the average has been about eight feet, as can yet be seen by looking at the southwest corner of Eighth and Spring streets, (north side of Spring street,) where the ground is yet in its original state, or nearly so, as to grade.

The cut upon Spring street, from Seventh to Eighth street west, and south to Sycamore street, has been at least fourteen feet on an average, being at the corner of Eighth and Spring streets, as much as twenty feet. Many of the present Milwaukeeans will no doubt remember when the old frame, now standing upon the rear of that lot, stood upon the front, and at not less than twenty feet above the present grade. Sand enough was taken from that lot in 1857, to pave Broadway from Wisconsin street to the foot. From the north side of Spring street, the ground descended toward Wells street, quite rapidly.

Many now living, will no doubt remember the great change made by the opening of Tenth street, to Clybourn street, through the

Kneeland property; and the beautiful ravine that was spoiled in consequence. This beautiful place will be remembered by us and our children, but beyond that there will remain no track, trace or remembrance of it. A great mistake was made when this ravine was filled. This whole tract, from Eighth to Twelfth street, and from Spring to Clybourn street, should have been reserved for a park.

There was also a large ravine between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets, now partly filled, whose northern terminus was at Sixteenth and Cedar streets, its southern in the marsh at Clybourn and Thirteenth streets. This was the drain for the swamp, then existing between State, Vliet, Sixteenth and Twentieth streets. This swamp is now dry, and being rapidly covered with buildings.

There was also a circular, basin shaped depression, filled with surface water, six feet in depth, and was up to 1869, a swimming place for the boys, upon that block bounded by Spring, Wells, Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets, that is now all filled up. There was also a deep ravine, filled last year, now the park of J. Plankinton, in the rear of his present residence, formerly the homestead of the late James H. Rogers, and a ravine now partly filled, extending from the southeast corner of Spring and Nineteenth streets, in a south-east direction, whose terminus was in the marsh at the foot of Sixteenth street. These last ravines were both surface water channels.

I state all this so minutely, because I well know that the march of improvement will in a few years more totally obliterate all traces of these original water courses.

This description will, I think, give a very correct idea of the appearance of Milwaukee, in a state of nature. To say that it was simply beautiful, does not express it; it was more than beautiful—those bluffs, so round and bold, covered with just sufficient timber to shade them well, and from whose tops could be seen the lake, extending beyond the reach of human vision, while between them ran the river, like a silver thread; not the filthy sewer it is to-day, but a clear stream, in which the Indian could detect and spear fish at the depth of twelve and even eighteen feet, and upon whose surface sparkled the rays of the morning-sun, as upon a mirror. No wonder it had received the appellation of the Beautiful Land. I certainly

have never seen a more beautiful spot upon the entire lake shore. Yea, and it is beautiful to-day, but its beauty to day, and in '36, are different. The former was the work of God, the latter of man.

Neither was this beauty confined to Milwaukee alone. The whole country was the same; but it was not until after passing the belt of timber extending along the grand old Lake, and which concealed the beautiful country beyond, as the veil concealeth the features of the youthful maiden, that the full glories of the land burst upon the sight.

If the timber was grand, what pen can do justice to the prairies? Certainly mine cannot. Think, ye readers of this sketch, of those almost boundless oceans of country over which nature had spread her carpet of emerald green, thickly interspersed with the wild rose, the blue bell, the tiger lily, and numberless other beautiful flowers, and over which roamed, in countless herds, the red deer, the more stately elk and the bison,\* while in the distance could be faintly seen the dim, hazy outlines of those magnificent groves of timber with which these vast plains were dotted, here and there, like an archipelago in mid ocean.

No man, or woman, with any poetry in their nature, or love for the beautiful, could ever tire of gazing upon those boundless plains, or divest themselves of a feeling of awe at their grandeur, and immensity, and of reverence for the Being who had created them. But with the advent of the white man came a change. These prairies, so old and so hoary, over which the red man and his congeners had for ages roamed at will, were quickly covered with the golden grain. In place of the red deer, the elk and the bison, we see the lowing herds and the bleating flocks. Nature has given place to art, and all the primeval glories of those grand old prairies in Wisconsin, have passed away, forever.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS,

MILWAUKEE, August 22d, 1876.

I certify that I have read the above "Topographical History of Milwaukee in a State of Nature," together with the changes that have been made therein, by the author, J. S. Buck, and believe the same to be correct in all its details.

THEODORE D. BROWN,

1st Ass't City Engineer.

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\* It is about one hundred years since the buffalo left the east side of the Mississippi.

## CHAPTER V.

### History of 1836 Resumed.

Formation of a Territorial Government—Appointment of State Officers—County Government Organized—First Caucus—Election of Members of Council and Assembly—Spicy Correspondence—Conventions—Gen. Jones elected Delegate—Rail Road Charters—The Old Bellevue—The Exchange—The First Murderers.

This year witnessed the organization of a Territorial Government for Wisconsin, (which at that time included all of the present states Iowa and Minnesota,) Congress having passed a bill for that purpose, to take effect July 4th, 1836, thereby taking her from under the control of the Wolverines, and starting her in life for herself, and over which the following officers were appointed by the President, and confirmed by the Senate:

Governor—Henry Dodge.

Secretary—J. S. Horner.

Chief Justice—Charles Dunn.

Associate Justices—Wm. C. Frazier and David Irwin.

Attorney General—W. W. Chapman.

Marshal—Franklin Gehon.

The appointments by the Governor were as follows:

Aide de Camp—Paschal Parquette, with the rank of Colonel. Peter Hill Engle, Colonel of Militia.

Adjutant General—James P. Kingsbury.

Private Secretary—Hans Crocker, with the rank of Major.

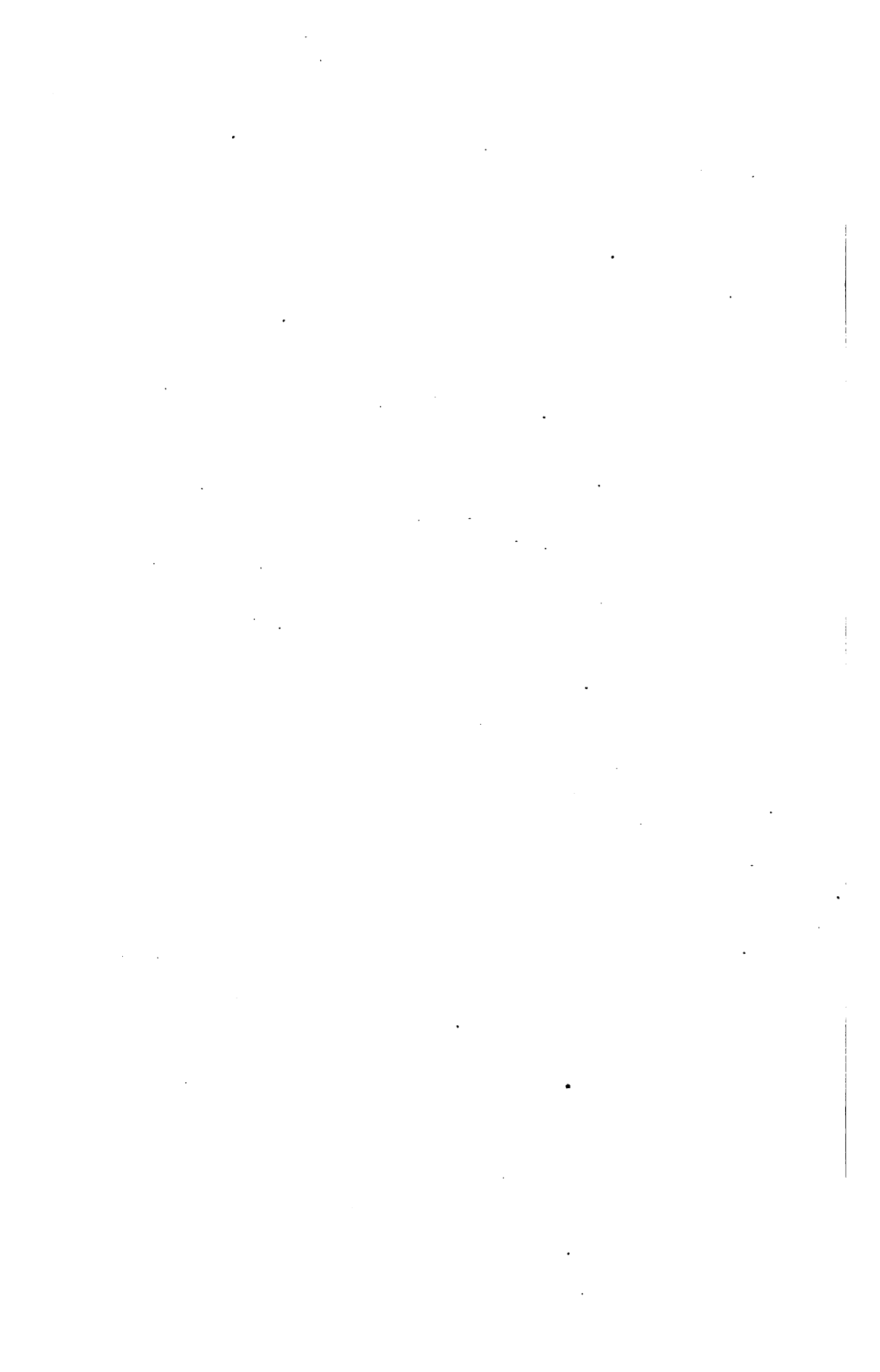
Attorney General—Henry S. Baird.

District Attorneys—Iowa, Daniel C. Fenton; Dubuque, Wm. W. Corvielle; Crawford, Thos. P. Burnett; Milwaukee, Wm. N. Gardner; Racine, Marshall M. Strong.

As one of the natural results of such an assemblage thrown together, from all parts of the country, would be more or less lawlessness, especially in the wilderness, and although as little was perhaps exhibited in Milwaukee, as in any other frontier settlement, yet the people soon began to feel the need of the restraining influences







of the strong arm of the law, as the following notice published in the *Advertiser* of July 14th, will show.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the citizens of Milwaukee will be held at the Bellevue, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning the Governor to appoint two or more Justices of the Peace, a Judge of Probate and a Sheriff, for the Township and County of Milwaukee. All good men and true are requested to attend.

July 14th, 1836.

VARIOUS PERSONS.

This seems to have been the first attempt made to organize under the Territorial Government, and resulted in the following appointments:

Sheriff—Henry M. Hubbard.

Justices of The Peace—D. Wells, Jr., John A. Messenger, S. W. Dunbar, Barzillai Douglass, and Elisha Smith.

Judge of Probate—Nathaniel F. Hyer.

Auctioneers—Wm. Flusky and C. D. Fitch.

Notaries—Wm. N. Gardner, Cyrus Hawley and Geo. Reed.

District Surveyor—Joshua Hathaway.

These appointments were made August 2d, with the exception of Hathaway and Reed, whose commissions dated July 8th, all however, to hold until the first Legislative Council should convene.

CENSUS RETURNS.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN,  
September 9, 1836.

Returns of the different Sheriffs of the census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the Territory of Wisconsin.

	Pop.	Reps.	Councilors.
Des Moines County, .....	6,257	7	3
Iowa " .....	5,234	6	3
Dubuque " .....	4,274	5	3
Crawford " .....	850	2	0
Brown " .....	2,706	3	2
Milwaukee " .....	2,893*	3	2

\*Of the 2,893 inhabitants at that time, in Milwaukee County, 1,328 are set down as living within four miles of the mouth of the river.

Summary of votes polled at the election of October 10th, 1836, in Milwaukee County:

Milwaukee precinct,.....	449
Pike River " .....	108
Louis Vieux " .....	60
Moses Smith " on Fox River,.....	36
Upper Fox Riv. " .....	13
Racine " .....	92
Rock River " .....	23
	<u>781</u>

The apportionments that this census gave us for Council and Assembly, held at Belmont, Iowa, October 25th, of this year, were as follows:

	Council.	House.
Brown County,.....	2	3
Crawford " .....	0	2
Des Moines " .....	3	7
Dubuque " .....	3	6
Iowa " .....	3	5
Milwaukee " .....	2	3
	<u>13</u>	<u>26</u>

The notice for an election upon the basis of this census was issued September 15, 1836.

Signed, HENRY M. HUBBARD,

Sheriff Milwaukee County.

A full copy of all the proceedings had at these first conventions is given, in order that the readers may understand the political status, at that time, and as will be seen, Racine and Walworth counties were then a part of Milwaukee, joining in the election:

At a meeting of the Democratic electors, of the Town of Milwaukee, friendly to the General Administration, convened according to previous notice, at the Bellevue House, September 15th, Wm. B. Sheldon was called to the Chair, and Giles S. Brisbin appointed Secretary. The notice for the call of the meeting, having been read by the chairman, and several gentlemen having exchanged views, it was *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this meeting, it is expedient that a County Convention be called, to make nominations for the candidates to be supported at the coming election.

*Resolved*, That said convention be called at Godfrey's, on Fox River, Saturday, October 1st, at ten o'clock A. M., and that the different precincts be requested to send delegates as follows, viz: Racine three, Pike River (Kenosha) three,

Skunk Grove one, Fox River one, Upper Fox one, Rock River Rapids one, Prairie Village one, and Milwaukee ten.

*Resolved*, That the Democratic Electors of this town, are requested to meet at the Bellevue House, on Saturday, the 24th inst., at two o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of choosing delegates to attend the county convention.

*Resolved*, That the chairman appoint a committee of five, for the purpose of circulating the proceedings of this meeting, and of conferring with our Democratic friends generally; whereupon the Chair appointed the following gentlemen, viz: Byron Kilbourn, Solomon Juneau, A. O. T. Breed, H. M. Hubbard, and Wm. N. Gardner.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting, be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and be published in the Milwaukee *Advertiser*.

WM. B. SHELDON, Chairman.

GILES S. BRISBIN, Secretary.

At a meeting of the Democratic Republican Electors friendly to the present General Government, held at the Bellevue, in the Village of Milwaukee, on the 17th of September, 1836, pursuant to public notice, for the purpose of reconsidering the subjects acted upon, at the meeting held at the same place, on the afternoon of the 16th, S. Pettibone, was called to the Chair, and Dr. S. H. Greves, appointed Secretary.

After a long and spirited discussion, in which many gentlemen participated, it was, on motion of J. Hathaway, Esq.,

*Resolved*, That the subjects acted upon by the meeting held on the 16th, be reconsidered.

When the following resolution submitted by E. Cramer, Esq., was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Democratic Republican electors of Milwaukee County, be, and they are, hereby invited to meet at the Court House, in the Village of Milwaukee, Saturday, October 1st, at nine o'clock A. M., to make nominations for the ensuing election, and transact such other business, as may be brought before the meeting.\*

On motion of D. Wells, Jr., Esq., it was,

*Resolved*, That the chairman appoint a committee of five, to circulate information of the proceedings of this meeting throughout the county.

Whereupon the chairman appointed the following:

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\*There is evidently some mistake here, and instead of October 1, the date should be September 24th, the previous Saturday, for if the meeting was called for the appointment of delegates to the convention at Godfrey's, October 1, then would their attendance be an impossibility, as they could not be chosen in Milwaukee and reach Godfrey's the same day. It is probable, if the date of the call is correct, that no nominations were made by the Democratic Republicans, as they were all friendly to the then administration, and therefore, nominally all Democrats.

Daniel Wells, Jr., J. Hathaway, B. W. Finch, Wm. Payne and Wm. N. Gardner. On motion of Geo. R. Dyer, Esq, it was,

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and published in the *Milwaukee Advertiser*.

The meeting then adjourned sine die.

S. PETTIBONE, Chairman.

SAMUEL H. GREVES, Secretary.

The election for delegates to attend the convention at Godfrey's, held at the Court House, was as follows:

Samuel Brown, .....	121	Votes.
Isaac Dewitt, .....	121	"
Byron Kilbourn, .....	121	"
Robert Love, .....	121	"
Wm. P. Proudfit, .....	121	"
Albert Fowler, .....	121	"
D. H. Richards, .....	121	"
Leonard Brown, .....	121	"
N. F. Hyer, .....	116	"
Scattering, ..	15	"
From Racine—B. B. Cary, John M. Meyers, and Wm. Luce.		
From Pike River, (Kenosha)—Samuel Resiquie, E. D. Woodbridge and E. R. Hugunin.		
From Skunk Grove—Levi Blake, and Isaac Butler.		
From Prairie Village—Isaac Stuart, and Madison W. Cornwall.		

This Convention at Godfrey's, resulted in the election of Alanson Sweet and Gilbert Knapp as members of the Council, and Wm. B. Sheldon, Charles Durkee and Madison W. Cornwall, as members of the Assembly, to convene at Belmont, Iowa, October 25, 1836.

This election, also resulted in sending Gen. Jones, of Iowa, as delegate to Washington, the vote standing as follows:

Counties.	Jones.	Meeker.
Brown, .....	314	11
Crawford, .....	56	10
Des Moines, .....	860	8
Dubuque, .....	930	49
Iowa, .....	612	617
Milwaukee, .....	750	0
Totals, .....	3,522	695
Majority for Jones, 2,827.		

Henry S. Baird was elected President of this Council, and P. H. Engle, of Dubuque, Speaker of the House.

The following appointments were made at Belmont, by Governor Henry Dodge, with the approval of the Council, for Milwaukee County:

December 2, '36, James Clyman was appointed Colonel of Militia, Isaac Butler, Lieutenant Colonel, and Alfred Orrendolf, Major.

December 5th, for Justices of Peace, for three years—Isaac H. Alexander, A. A. Bird, Sylvester W. Dunbar, Barzillai Douglass, and John Manderville.

For Sheriff, three years—Owen Aldrich.

District Attorney—Wm. N. Gardner, three years.

Supreme Court Commissioner—John P. Hilton, three years.

Master in Chancery, and Judge of Probate—Wm. Campbell, three years.

Notaries Public—Cyrus Hawley, Joseph R. Ward and Wm. N. Gardner, three years.

District Surveyor—Geo. S. West, four years,

Auctioneers—Geo. S. Wright and Wm. Flusky, two years.

Inspector of Provisions—A. Peters, two years.

The course pursued by Mr. Sweet, at Belmont, in relation to the location of the Capital at Madison, the Charter of the Bank of Milwaukee, and the division of the county, at this session, caused great excitement, when known in Milwaukee, and a very bitter newspaper warfare was the result, much too voluminous for insertion here, in full, but the following will show its animus:

#### TO THE VOTERS OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY.

A meeting will be held on Saturday, February 11, '37, at the Court House, at two o'clock P. M., for the purpose of taking into consideration the acts and doings of our Representatives, in both houses, during the recent session. It is believed by a great many, that one or two of our Representatives, Sweet and Knapp, betrayed the trust confided to them in the matter of dividing the county.

The question that will naturally arise, in such an event, will be, whether the present officers can hold their places or not. These are matters of the gravest importance to Milwaukee, and it will be well for the people to be on the alert.

MANY VOTERS.

For the Milwaukee Advertiser.

Mr. Editor:—Some gentlemen from Belmont, say that Mr. Sweet represents Mr. Kilbourn as being an *interloper*, at Milwaukee, and when Mr. Juneau's name was mentioned for Bank Commissioner, he said the same of him. MY CONSCIENCE! who, pray, is Mr. Sweet? he must have been born and raised in the

Territory; he must be a Badger by nature. But this is not all; Kilbourn wants to force the town out of its natural place, and Sweet, poor soul, has enough to do, to keep it where it belongs. But the most curious of all, is, that JUNEAU is an *interloper*.  
QUERY.

The first settlers of Milwaukee certainly meant to be in season in applying for railroad charters, as we find a call for a meeting for that purpose, as early as September 15, 1836. This call was to obtain a charter for a railroad to the Mississippi, terminating at Du-buque. Also a notice in the *Advertiser*, of that date, that a bill would be presented at the next session of the Legislature, held at Belmont, for a charter for one from Milwaukee to the City of Superior, then an Indian trading post. This meeting adjourned to meet on the 22d, when the following proceedings were had:

Capt. Samuel Brown was called to the chair, and Byron Kilbourn appointed Secretary, when after due consideration, it was on motion,

*Resolved*, That it is expedient to petition the Legislature, at its next session, to pass an act, incorporating a company, for the purpose of constructing a railroad by the nearest and best route, from the town of Milwaukee, to the Mississippi river, making Mineral Point a point on said road, if practicable; if not, then so near that place, as a feasible route can be found.

*Resolved*, That a committee consisting of fifteen members, including the President and Secretary of this meeting, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to correspond with the people of other parts of the Territory, upon this subject, and to draw up a petition, circulate it for signatures, and present the same to the Legislature, and in general to take such measures as they may deem proper and needful, to carry into effect, the objects of this meeting.

*Resolved*, That in addition to the President and Secretary, the following named persons shall constitute such committee, viz: N. F. Hyer, Hans Crocker, S. Juneau, Wm. A. Prentiss, D. S. Hollister, S. W. Dunbar, Horace Chase, Wm. R. Longstreet, Colonel A. R. Morton, Jas. H. Rogers, B. H. Edgerton, Wm. N. Gardner and Thomas Holmes, and that a majority of said committee may transact business.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the President and Secretary, and published in such papers as are friendly to the project.

SAMUEL BROWN, Chairman.

BYRON KILBOURN, Secretary.

This was, no doubt, the time when the present Milwaukee & Mississippi railroad was conceived, our friend Hans Crocker being present, and taking part, in both its conception in '36, as well as at its birth in '49. And he is the only one of all that committee, alive,



who had any thing to do with its organization and construction, when it was finally built. At that time, 1836, there was no railroad west of New York, except from Albany to Schenectady the present New York Central, which reached Utica in '38, and Buffalo in '42. But here was a city not a year old, in the midst of an Indian country, asking for a charter for a railroad to Superior, where, at that time, and for long afterwards, not a white man resided, and is not much of a place to-day, although every effort that speculation could devise, to make it a prosperous place, has been exerted in that direction, for the last sixteen years. Money can do much, but it cannot make an unnatural location for a city successful, or divert trade from its legitimate channels, for any great length of time, as the people of Duluth and Superior have found, to their cost. Water will not run up hill, *naturally*.

The resources of Milwaukee were great; she was the natural market for a large and rich agricultural region, and her success has fully demonstrated the truths of the laws of trade and commerce. She did not need to labor much, to become a great city, and she has not, compared with some of her compeers. Her growth has not been as rapid as has that of Chicago, but she has a healthy body. Her solid men *are* solid; neither is there a city in the country, that stands as firm under the commercial cloud now hanging over it, as ours. Such is Milwaukee.

The following notice, taken from the Milwaukee *Sentinel* of September 18, 1838, shows that the idea of a railroad to the Mississippi had not been abandoned. The notice reads as follows:

#### LAKE MICHIGAN & MISSISSIPPI RAILROAD.

Three government engineers arrived here last evening, with the necessary apparatus, and will immediately commence the survey of a route for a railroad, from this place to the Mississippi river, for which purpose the government made an appropriation of \$2000, at the last session of Congress. Of the vast importance of this work, to the Territory, as well as the whole Northwest, we have before spoken, and are pleased to see this early attention paid by the government, to this important work.

A Land Office was first opened at Milwaukee Sept. 15th for pre-emptions or private entry; Col. A. D. Morton, Register; Rufus Parks, Receiver.

The following is the official notice of the Receiver:

LAND OFFICE NOTICE.

The Receiver's Office will be opened in this place for the receipt of money for the sale of public lands in the Milwaukee land district on Monday, the 19th day of September next, at 10 o'clock A. M. The funds received will be gold and silver, and in proper cases Virginia land scrip, and no draft, certificate or other evidence of money or deposit, though for specie, will be received unless signed by the Treasurer of the United States in conformity to the act of April 24, 1820; but until the 15th of December next the bills of the Bank of Michigan, and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, of Michigan, at Detroit, will be received for any quantity not exceeding three hundred and twenty acres to each purchaser who is an actual settler, or bona fide resident in this Territory.

RUFUS PARKS, *Receiver of Public Moneys.*

Milwaukee, Sept, 13th, 1836.

THE BELLEVUE.

The Bellevue (afterwards the Milwaukee House) stood, as before stated, upon the northeast corner of Wisconsin and Broadway. It was commenced in '35, occupied in '36, and finished in '37. It was built by Juneau and Martin. Its first landlords were Sidney A. Hosmer and Elisha Starr, '36; its second, Willis and Noyes, '37; its third, H. Williams and B. H. Edgerton, '37; its fourth, George E. Myers; its fifth, Childs and Cotton; its sixth, Myers and Hurley; its seventh, Geo. P. Greaves; its eighth, D. Wells, Jr.; its ninth, Hurley and Ream; its tenth, Whitney and Wall, 1842; afterwards Caleb Wall, who sold in '44 to Col. Jones, of Waukesha, who was, as far as I know, its last landlord. This old pioneer house was famous in its day, being to Milwaukee in those early times what the Astor was to New York forty years ago; and to have stopped at the Bellevue or the Milwaukee House was a big thing. It was a "big bug" house and no mistake: *i. e.*, the bugs were larger there than elsewhere. But all that is past now. I ate my first meal in Milwaukee in that house on the 17th day of January, 1837, and many of the early settlers, with and without families, were boarders there for years; and even up to the day of its removal. No other house that has or will be built in Milwaukee will ever have such a record. The whisky drank there would float a steamboat. It was a high-toned place. But alas! its glories have departed. It outgrew its

usefulness, and was removed to make room for a business block, I think in 1849. *Sic transit!*

The compeer of the Bellevue was the shanty tavern built in '36 by the Lelands at the intersection of Third and West Water, afterwards called the American.

The Republican House, before-mentioned, was never occupied where built. It is now, however, the best German hotel, perhaps, in the city, the St. Charles being the most aristocratic.

The Milwaukee hotels have, geologically speaking, had three eras, or epochs—the Cottage Inn, the Bellevue, and Ieland's Exchange, representing the first, or Eocene period; the United States, Holmes Hotel, and Kane's American House the second or Miocene, and the Newhall, the Plankinton and the Kirby the *present* or Pliocene.

The history of all these first dwellings, could it be truthfully written, would of itself be quite a book. For the first five years after the writer came, he made the attempt to keep a record of their travels as the city began to grow, but at last he gave it up as a useless, as well as an impossible undertaking.

The wanderings of Schermenhorn's old store, the Dousman warehouse and dwelling, together with the old Bellevue, and several others, have already been given, but their history would comprise but a small part of the great whole. Some of these first buildings were removed several times; several were removed from the east to the west side, and *vice versa*. In one instance, one building crossed the river three times, before finding a permanent home, which it did at last, upon Wells street. Many were rebuilt, and a few, not mentioned yet, occupy their original sites; but the most of them are now in the third ward, being sold cheap when no longer suited to the increasing wants of trade. They were all low in ceiling; seldom over six feet, seven and a half being in that early day, as aristocratic as thirteen is now. They were also mere shells, not one of them being sheathed before the siding was put on, unless Mr. Dousman's was, as is the custom now; the scarcity of both lumber and money, compelling the people to build as cheaply as possible. The chimney seldom if ever came below the first floor, resting in most cases upon the ceiling joists overhead—a prolific cause of fire. They had, as a

rule, no foundation, in consequence of which they soon became hogged in the middle, giving them an unsightly appearance. Mr. Mitchell's first bank was in one of those small one-story frames upon Wisconsin street, and he was for several years, where the insurance building now stands. The old yellow house on Jackson street, now a part of the Judge Miller estate, was the best one upon the hill, when built in '36, by Deacon Samuel Hinman. And the old John Y. Smith House, had a style of finish that would be called elaborate, although not modern, to-day. But the old Cabbage Hollow House, before mentioned, was the wonder of the town in '36. It stood where the the double brick now does, east side of Milwaukee street, between Martin and Biddle; it was a double two-story house, with basement and veranda. It was built by Geo. Smith. It was the aristocratic house, in that early day, being, as before stated, the residence at various times, of some of the most wealthy, as well as the most cultivated of Milwaukee's early men. What became of it, I am unable, at this late day, to ascertain. If in existence, its location is unknown, but its form often comes to mind. Neither do I ever pass the Badger State Hotel, in the Third ward, without the inner life of the old Bellevue, of which it was once a part, and the wild scenes I have witnessed within its walls, in the days of "Auld Lang Syne," passing in review before memory's eye.

But a few years more, however, and all these early landmarks will have disappeared, leaving no trace. Their day of usefulness, like the men who built them, is over.

Mention should have been made of the meat market of Owen Aldrich, the first in the place, opened in '36. It stood in the rear of his house, on Wisconsin street, but fronted on East Water, about one hundred feet south of Wisconsin. Peters also had a market upon the West Side, in '36-7, at or near the corner of Wells and Second streets. Dr. L. W. Weeks, also kept one in the summer of '38, in the old Schermerhorn store, on East Water street, for a short time. Fresh meat, however, except game, was the exception and not the rule in those early times, in Milwaukee.

Mention was made in the descriptive history of the South Side, of the quantities of fish that came on the marshes, and that were shot there. They would go up the Milwaukee, Menomonee and Kinnic-

kinnic rivers in the spring, by the million, remaining about a month, covering all the marsh as thick as they could lay, where, as the water was clear at that time, they could be seen a long distance. I have waded out often and shot them as they lay upon the grassy bottom, and a cart or wagon could be loaded in a few minutes, and has often been done under the old dam at Ross' mill in Wauwatosa, near the old stone quarry. But that will never be done again in Milwaukee. Their day, like that of the ducks, is over.

#### THE OLD COURT-HOUSE AND JAIL.

I cannot close the history of 1836 without giving a short sketch of this famous building. It was (I quote now from McCabe's Directory) a plain frame building of the Tuscan order, surmounted by a Belvidere of one section. It was fifty-one feet in length by forty-two in width, two stories in height, with a pediment front extending nine feet from the wall of the building, supported by four Tuscan columns. The court room was in the second story, the first floor being divided into four jury rooms. It faced the south. This pioneer Temple of Justice was built by Juneau and Martin at an expense of \$5,000, and with the jail, was presented to the county as a free gift from these generous-hearted men, together with the lots and the square upon which it stood. What a history could be written upon that old building. What trials it has witnessed! How often in the early history of the city have its walls echoed back the ringing words of H. N. Wells, J. H. Tweedy, D. A. J. Upham, James Holliday, J. E. Arnold, H. L. Palmer, Jas. S. Mallory, Wm. P. Lynde, Asahel Finch, and, in later years, those of Matt. H. Finch, O. H. Waldo, Matt. H. Carpenter, A. R. R. Butler, E. G. Ryan, J. G. Jenkins, and others of Milwaukee's distinguished pleaders, who so ably defended the rights of their clients in days of gone by. Here sat Judge Wm. C. Frazier, in 1837, for the trial of the Indians who killed Burnett. Here was also held the famous Bass murder trial. Here, too, stood David Bonham for his life. Here, also, was held the trial of Ann Wheeler for the murder of John W. Lace, and the famous impeachment trial of Judge Hubbell. Here was where Judge A. G. Miller also held his first court, in 1838. What a record has that old building left as an inheritance for Milwaukee's

coming generations. What legal wisdom has emanated from its bench in the days of Frazier, Miller, Hubbell, McArthur, Smith, and May. It was there that Reycraft, Mason and Bingham were tried for participation in the rescue of the fugitive slave, Glover, and acquitted, the writer being one of the jurors. The new one may stand longer, but will never have such a record as did the old one.

Its adjunct, the jail, has also been rightly called by McCabe twin cousin to the black hole of Calcutta. It was a loathsome place in its palmy days, and those who had endured its horrors once, even for a brief period, were not apt to scare much when the pains and penalties of Tartarus were set before them in Moody's best style. *They had been there.* Nevertheless, it has been the home of many an unfortunate criminal while waiting for the slow-moving wheels of justice to bring him liberty or Waupun.

This modern Bastille disappeared, however, long ago, a new one being built by the politicians, who, knowing the uncertainties of their vocation, were fearful that its hospitalities might some day be extended to them, and were anxious, if such an emergency should ever arrive, to have a more artistic residence, if it *was* a forced one. So it is ever in this changing world—mankind desire improvement, even in jails.

#### THE FIRST MURDERERS.

Perhaps no new city has ever been founded in which a murder was not committed. At least Milwaukee cannot claim to be an exception. Among those who came in '36 were two hard cases, known as Joseph Scott and Cornelius Bennett. These villains killed an Indian named Manitou (or the Spirit), in the month of November, in front of Wm. Brown's store, southwest corner of East Water and Michigan streets.

This murder was wholly unprovoked, and the excitement growing out of it among the Indians (some three hundred of whom were camped here at the time) was intense, so much so that it required all the courage and influence of Solomon Juneau to prevent them from killing every white man in the place. The murderers were at once arrested and confined, first in the office of Albert Fowler,

southwest corner of East Water and Wisconsin, until the jail was completed, when they became its first occupants, where the writer saw them in the month of January, '37, while awaiting their trial, which they were not destined to get in Milwaukee, for in April they escaped from the jail, assisted, no doubt, from the outside, and were never retaken.

Scott was hung afterwards at Laporte, June 15th, 1838, for the murder of his own uncle. Bennett was never heard from. Scott was the most villainous looking rascal for a white man that I have ever seen.

By an omission in Chapter III, no mention was made of the first cemetery on the East Side. It was upon that block bounded by Astor, Racine, Kewaunee and Brady streets. I have helped to bury quite a number there. The bodies, however, have all, or nearly all, been removed long ago. With the exception of the Potter's Field, near the Hospital, there is now no cemetery on the East Side. There was an old Indian cemetery upon the bluffs at Huron street, where, as has already been stated, Manitou, killed by Scott and Bennett, was buried.

## CHAPTER VI.

1836.

Agriculture, Samples of—Ferries—Rates Established—Vessel Arrivals—First Vessel built—Opening of the Straits, and first Arrivals from 1836 to '71—First Newspaper Established—First Religious Services held—Letters, &c.

### VEGETABLE PRODUCTIONS.

The writer made mention in the history of the West Side, of the enormous growth of the vegetable productions of Wisconsin, particularly turnips. But here is one that compares well with it, that I find recorded in the *Advertiser* of November 17, 1836, which appears to be in answer to a previous notice, being headed "Still Larger," and reads as follows:

Mr. Editor:—Our agricultural productions and resources being a subject of great interest to the country, I take the liberty of offering, through your columns, an account of such articles as have been brought in since those that were noticed by you a few weeks since. I have received from Sylvester Pettibone, Esq., two turnips, ruta-baga, one weighing twenty-two and the other twenty-three and a half pounds; also sixty potatoes, weighing sixty-eight pounds and twelve ounces, the heaviest ten of which weighed thirteen pounds and fourteen ounces; also a carrot eighteen inches long, which demonstrates the depth as well as the richness of our soil. These potatoes were raised at Prairieville, on sward ground, broken up last Spring, early, and I am assured by Mr. P., that they were not hoed during the season, or, to use his own language, a hoe was never in the field, not even to dig them, that having been done with a shovel.

I also received from the farm of Mr. Douglass, at Kinnickinnic, a turnip, common English, twenty-two inches in circumference, weighing eight and a half pounds; also a radish, fourteen inches round, weighing four pounds and five ounces.

Also from Mr. Isham Day, four miles up the Milwaukee river, ten potatoes weighing fourteen pounds; the seed was planted in June. Can Dubuque beat this?  
BYRON KILBOURN.

### STILL LARGER.

In the *Sentinel* of November 6, 1838, we find the following:

#### MILWAUKEE AGAINST AMERICA.

We were this day presented with a turnip, ruta-baga, raised by Doctor Enoch Chase, of this town, (meaning Lake) which measured three feet ten and a half inches in circumference. Who will beat this?



At the fair held December 25, 1836, the following awards were given:

To S. Pettibone, of Prairieville, for the heaviest bushel of oats, weighing forty-four pounds and four ounces. For the largest Ruta-baga, weighing twenty-three pounds and eight ounces.

To John Douglass, for the largest English turnip, eight pounds and eight ounces. For the largest radish, four pounds four ounces.

To Isham Day, for the ten largest potatoes, eleven pounds.

BYRON KILBOURN, President.

FERRIES.

The first ferry was at the mouth of the river (Chase's Point), established by Horace Chase in '35, the Chicago mail crossing at that place. Charge for a team, fifty cents.

A ferry was established at Spring street in '36 by James B. Miller; also at the foot of East Water by S. W. Dunbar, as a speculation, but no regular charge seems to have been fixed upon, as the following would indicate:

MR. EDITOR:—Would it not be well for our citizens to take some measures to establish a free ferry over the Milwaukee river at Spring street? A. B.

To which the reply was: "The ferry is already free. Any person has a right to row the boat across the river, if he is able, free of expense."

The Legislature, however, held at Belmont (or Burlington) in 1836, passed a bill authorizing the establishment of a ferry at the foot of Wisconsin to connect with Spring street, and at the foot of East Water to connect with the South Side; and in accordance with this law they were established by James K. Orrendolf at Wisconsin street, and S. W. Dunbar at the foot of East Water, with the following table of rates to apply to all three:

Single person.....	6¼ cents.
Person and horse.....	12½ "
Each additional horse.....	6¼ "
One-horse wagon or cart. . . . .	18¾ "
Two horses, oxen, wagon or cart . . . . .	25 "
Each head of horned cattle.....	6¼ "
Each hog, sheep, or goat.....	3 "

July 29, 1837.

C. HAWLEY, Clerk.

FIRST VESSEL ARRIVALS.

The first vessel that ever landed goods at Milwaukee, of which there is any record, was the Chicago Packet, a schooner of thirty

tons, Capt. Britton, in 1823. The second was the Virginia, one hundred and thirty tons, Capt. Wilson, same year. These vessels brought goods for Mr. Juneau, and took away his furs :

## ARRIVALS AT THE PORT OF MILWAUKEE—1836.

April 14, Sloop Westward Ho,	May 30, Schr. Cincinnati,
“ 17, Schr. John C. Spencer,	“ 30, Miami,
“ 17, John Grant,	“ 30, Amaranth,
“ 22, John C. Spencer,	“ 30, Thomas Hart,
“ 24, Ariadne,	“ 31, Llewellyn,
“ 29, Hiram,	June 1, Grampus,
“ 30, Sloop Westward Ho,	“ 3, Savannah,
May 2, Brig John H. Kenzie,	“ 4, Illinois,
“ 8, Schr. Hiram,	“ 4, Van Buren,
“ 10, North Carolina,	“ 4, Essex,
“ 10, Illinois,	“ 5, Wisconsin,
“ 10, Elizabeth,	“ 5, Amaranth,
“ 10, Ariadne,	“ 9, Sloop Clarissa,
“ 10, Sloop Westward Ho,	“ 9, Westward Ho,
“ 10, Schr. Llewellyn,	“ 9, Hiram,
“ 11, John Grant,	“ 12, S. B. Chicago,
“ 11, Bolivar,	“ 13, Michigan,
“ 12, Constitution,	“ 13, Schr. Florida,
“ 13, Celeste,	“ 14, Llewellyn,
“ 13, Wisconsin,	“ 15, Sloop Westward Ho,
“ 14, Nancy Dousman,	“ 16, Schr. Cincinnati,
“ 15, Grampus,	“ 16, Van Buren,
“ 16, North Carolina,	“ 17, Wave,
“ 17, Sloop Westward Ho,	“ 18, S. B. Columbus,
“ 17, Schr. Harrison,	“ 19, Daniel Webster,
“ 17, Jes. Smith,	“ 19, Schr. Rochester,
“ 17, United States,	“ 19, Hannah,
“ 18, Mississippi,	“ 19, Jesse Smith,
“ 19, S. B. New York,	“ 21, Victor,
“ 20, Schr. Hiram,	“ 22, Hiram,
“ 21, Savannah,	“ 22, North Carolina,
“ 21, Wave,	“ 23, Sandusky,
“ 25, Illinois,	“ 29, St. Joseph,
“ 25, S. B. Pennsylvania,	“ 30, Virginia,
“ 25, Schr. Grampus,	“ 30, Ship Milwaukee,
“ 29, Harrison,	July 1, Schr. Wave,
“ 29, Jesse Smith,	“ 1, Rochester.

July 1, S. B. New York,	July 30, S. B. New York,
" 3, Schr. Van Buren,	" 31, Sloop Clarissa,
" 3, Gerard,	" 31, Schr. Grant,
" 3, Sloop Westward Ho,	Aug. 1, Gerard,
" 3, Schr. Guest,	" 1, Sloop Western Trader,
" 3, Ceres,	" 1, S. B. Columbus,
" 3, Grampus,	" 4, Schr. Victor,
" 6, North Carolina,	" 4, Jesse Smith,
" 6, Jesse Smith,	" 5, Brig Illinois,
" 7, Hiram,	" 5, Cincinnati,
" 7, Guest,	" 6, Gerard,
" 9, Ceres,	" 6, Bolivar,
" 9, Gerard,	" 7, Sloop Westward Ho,
" 10, Sloop Westward Ho,	" 8, Llewellyn,
" 11, S. B. Michigan,	" 9, Agnes Barton,
" 11, Schr. Jesse Smith,	" 9, Margaret Helen,
" 12, Pacific,	" 10, Sandusky,
" 12, Victor,	" 14, Ocean,
" 12, Guest,	" 14, Buffalo,
" 13, Sloop Westward Ho,	" 14, S. B. Michigan,
" 13, Nancy Dousman,	" 17, Schr. Grampus,
" 13, Ship Julia Palmer,	" 17, Virginia,
" 14, Schr. Lewis Goaler,	" 19, Illinois,
" 15, Rochester,	" 20, Ceres,
" 15, Mariner,	" 20, Jesse Smith,
" 15, Bolivar,	" 21, North Carolina,
" 19, Sloop Clarissa,	" 24, Llewellyn,
" 19, Schr. Cincinnati,	" 25, S. B. D. Webster,
" 19, Erie,	" 28, Schr. Margaret Helen,
" 19, Sloop Westward Ho,	" 28, Sea Serpent,
" 20, Schr. Savannah,	" 29, S. B. Chicago,
" 20, Guest,	" 29, Schr. Antelope,
" 20, Ceres,	" 29, Illinois,
" 22, S. B. Monroe,	" 29, Toledo,
" 23, Schr. Pacific,	" 30, S. B. Com. Perry,
" 23, Jesse Smith,	" 30, Schr. Thomas Jefferson,
" 24, Thomas Jefferson,	" 31, Oregon,
" 28, Llewellyn,	" 31, Ship Milwaukee,
" 28, Wave,	Sept. 1, Brig Indiana,
" 28, Ocean,	" 1, Schr. Delavan,
" 29, Panama,	" 2, Erie,
" 29, Celeste,	" 7, Sloop Western Trader,
" 29, Rochester,	" 8, Schr. Jesse Smith.

Sept. 8, Schr. Victor,	Oct. 4, Schr. Justice Marshall,
“ 8, Commerce,	“ 10, Wave,
“ 8, Sloop Clarissa,	“ 12, Victor,
“ 9, Elizabeth Mary.	“ 12, Lexington,
“ 9, Huron,	“ 12, Cincinnati,
“ 9, Martin Van Buren,	“ 12, Llewellyn,
“ 9, United States,	“ 15, Balance,
“ 10, Black Hawk,	“ 16, Mississippi,
“ 11, Ocean,	“ 16, Sloop Westward Ho,
“ 11, Allegan,	“ 17, Agnes Barton,
“ 14, S. B. Michigan,	“ 17, Cincinnati,
“ 16, Barque Detroit,	“ 25, Illinois,
“ 18, Schr. Bolivar,	“ 25, Grampus,
“ 18, Atlantic,	“ 25, Oregon,
“ 18, Virginia,	“ 27, Mississippi,
“ 18, Rochester,	“ 27, Lion,
“ 19, Ohio,	“ 27, Bolivar,
“ 19, Wave,	“ 28, Ohio,
“ 19, Martin Van Buren,	“ 30, Ship Milwaukee,
“ 23, S. B. New York,	“ 31, Schr. Llewellyn,
“ 24, Schr. Allegan,	“ 31, Allegan,
“ 24, Geo. S. Weeks,	Nov. 3, Neptune,
“ 24, Lexington,	“ 5, Bolivar,
“ 25, St. Josephs,	“ 12, Benj. Barton,
“ 26, S. B. New York,	“ 12, Nancy Dousman,
“ 26, Sloop Western Trader,	“ 14, Navigator,
“ 30, Schr. Ocean.	“ 14, Cincinnati.

## FIRST VESSEL BUILT.

The first vessel ever built in Milwaukee, was the Solomon Juneau, in the winter of '36, on the river, above Division street, by Capt. Geo. Barber. She was ninety tons burden. She was run upon the beach, south of the old harbor, in the spring of '39, and got off, the writer assisting in the work. She was lost on Lake Ontario many years ago.

## OPENING OF THE STRAITS AND THE FIRST ARRIVAL OF BOATS.

I find it stated in Wheeler's chronicles, that the first large steamer we had, was the James Madison, which came in 1845. Whether this date is intentional on the part of Mr. W., or a misprint, I cannot tell, but where he could have obtained such data, I cannot imagine,

as correct. The James Madison came in '37, May 28th, and was the first boat to pass the Straits, that year, as the following will prove :

## STEAMBOAT ARRIVALS.

On Sunday last, the splendid steamer, James Madison came into port, six days out from Buffalo, being the first arrival of a steamboat from the lower lakes, this season. She brought up a great number of passengers, over 1000, and about 4000 bbls. bulk of freight: Nearly one-half of her passengers, were destined for this place, the freight being mostly for Chicago. She proceeded to the latter place on Monday, and on Tuesday left this place for Buffalo. The Madison is a beautiful boat, the largest we believe, on the lakes, built last Winter by Mr. Reed of Erie.—*Advertiser of Saturday, June 3, 1837.*

This, if nothing else, should forever put this disputed question at rest.

In '38 our first boat was the Pennsylvania, April 26, '39, the Columbus, April 30; and '40, the Chesapeake, April 11th. These boats being in each case, the first ones through the Straits.

The following list of arrivals up to '71, furnished by D. G. Fowler, Esq., is inserted here more as a reference than a part of the History proper.

1841, April 28, St'm'r	Great Western,	1857, May 1, St'm'r	Lady Elgin,
1842, Mar. 26, "	Chesapeake,	1858, April 6, Sch'r	Fred Hill,
1843, May 8, "	Bunker Hill,	1859, " 2, St'm'r	City of Cleveland,
1844, April 10, "	Missouri,	1860, " 13, Prop'r	Prairie State,
1845, " 3, Propeller	Hercules,	1861, " 25, "	Nile,
1846, " 10, Steamer	Bunker Hill,	1861, " 25, "	Free State,
1847, " 29, "	Louisiana,	1862, " 18, "	Queen of the Lakes,
1848, " 13, Propeller	Manhattan,	1863, " 20, "	Badger State,
1849, " 12, Sch'r.	Petrel,	1864, " 22, "	Bristol,
1850, " 4, "	Republic,	1865, " 21, "	Montgomery,
1851, " 4, "	"	1866, " 29, "	"
1852, May 9, Propeller	Wisconsin,	1867, " 23, "	"
1853, April 13, "	Forest City,	1868, " 20, "	"
1854, " 10, Brig	Globe,	1869, " 27, "	Dominion,
1855, May 2, Sch'r	Republic,	1870, " 17, "	City of Cleveland,
1856, " 2, "	David Todd,	1870, " 17, "	New York.

## INTEMPERANCE.

Milwaukee, like all new places, was not exempt from the curse of intemperance, in 1836, as the following will show:

At a meeting of the citizens of the village of Milwaukee, held at the Bellevue Hotel, on Thursday evening, August 18th, 1836, for the purpose of adopting such measures as might be deemed expedient to prevent the evils resulting

from the excessive use of Ardent Spirits, A. S. Hosmer was unanimously called to the Chair, and William N. Gardner appointed Secretary. The object of the meeting having been lucidly explained by the Chairman, and the subject discussed by the meeting generally, on motion of E. Easterly, it was

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Six be appointed by the meeting to seek out and report to the proper authorities all the violations of the laws regulating the sale of ardent spirits that may hereafter occur in this Town; whereupon, the following persons were appointed said Committee: Solomon Juneau, Isaac H. Alexander, J. K. Lowry, W. R. Longstreet, Dr. William P. Proudfit and S. W. Dunbar.

On motion, it was resolved that the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and published in the *Milwaukee Advertiser*.

The meeting then adjourned, sine die.

A. SIDNEY HOSMER, *Chairman*.

WM. N. GARDNER, *Secretary*.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter, published in the *Milwaukee Advertiser* of July 14, 1836, is inserted here, as an indication of what the first settlers thought of Milwaukee:

Milwaukee is situated on the Milwaukee River and Bay, about 90 miles north of Chicago, and directly west of Grand Haven, Michigan. The land in the district was sold August last, (1835,) and a town laid out. Milwaukee is very beautifully situated upon both sides of the Milwaukee River, about 2 miles above its mouth, and was formerly the site of a French village, and a resort of the once powerful Indian tribes that inhabited this country.

It is called by the Indians, the Beautiful Land, and by the early French, "*La Belle Terre*." The river is the largest upon the western shore of the lake, joining with the Menomonee two miles above its mouth, and although nothing has as yet been done to improve its harbor, the largest vessels can enter the river, and have, at different times, discharged their cargoes at the various wharves in the city, and when a harbor is built, it will be one of the safest on the Lake.

A year ago Milwaukee had no existence, the land being owned by the government; but there are now from five to six hundred inhabitants. A year ago there was not a frame building in the place. Now there are from fifty to sixty finished, and double that number would have been built if material could have been procured.

Clay, of the finest quality for brick, has been found in great abundance, along the Menomonee and Milwaukee rivers, from which a kiln has been burnt. Lime is also abundant.

Success to La Belle Terre, soon to become La Belle City.

The following letter from a gentleman in Milwaukee, to a friend in Kentucky, dated September 6, '36, shows the feelings then prevalent as to the future of Milwaukee. After some desultory remarks, he writes as follows:

The City of Milwaukee enjoys such decided advantages, that, according to my judgment, it will become, in a few years, not only the most important town in this Territory, but likewise in all this region of country, not excepting the far-famed Chicago, over which nature has given it a marked superiority in every particular essential to the growth of a great city. It has the best harbor on the lake, is surrounded by a timber country, of very rich land, and of great extent. A stream empties into the Milwaukee River, the Menomonee, at the town, running directly west, into the country. The springs are of the best quality, and its healthiness is unquestioned.

This city had its commencement about fifteen months ago, and has at this time a population of 1200, which is increasing daily; and its mechanics are busily engaged in the erection of new houses, for the reception of those who are daily flocking to it. Next year it will count at least 2500 inhabitants, and in five years its population will out-number Chicago's. Lots are selling readily now, from \$1000 to \$5000, and the prices still advancing. You never knew a people more enterprising and public spirited. They are fully advised of the advantages of their situation, and are determined to make the most of it. Mr. Juneau is the principal proprietor of the east, and Mr. Kilbourn of the west side of the river, that being the part that is connected with the country. They have one hundred and fifty men now at work grading and improving the streets, which they are laying out in the best possible style, and upon which they will expend this year, \$40,000. Each has built a large three story tavern, and Mr. Juneau has built a spacious Court House. One is also to be erected on the West Side, when the people will decide where the Court shall be located.

I think the West Side will become the most important for business, and of course the most valuable. Its water advantages are equal to those on the East Side, and it has the advantage of being directly connected with the country, from which the East Side is cut off by the river.

The river runs about twenty miles from north to south, parallel with the lake, and within a mile or two of it; it then makes a sudden bend, and empties into the lake; the water upon the bar being seven feet in depth, and for three miles up, it is sixteen feet in depth. It is clear and beautiful, never varying in depth more than three feet, the banks being nearly level with the water, upon which, up to its edge, the storehouses are built, the wharves extending a few feet into the river, up to which the steamboats and schooners come and discharge their cargoes at each merchant's door.

In a few years each side of the river will be built up for a mile and a half, with stores, receiving and sending off the products of the country. Even now they

contemplate building a railroad to the Mississippi, which, if done, will greatly advance the growth of Milwaukee.

It would surprise you to see what excellent houses they build in this new place, and the character of their improvements generally. I saw here for the first time a wooden pavement (plank sidewalk), such as they use in St. Petersburg, and it makes a most delightful walk, laid down by that most enterprising gentleman, Byron Kilbourn. Every thing is wonderful. But I must close.

YOUR FRIEND.

This letter but expresses the opinion of many distinguished men who visited Milwaukee in 1836, men who "knew of what they spake," and if the same unanimity and concord had obtained at that time, between its founders and business men, as at Chicago, the prediction in this letter would have certainly been verified, and Milwaukee would have, to-day, been larger than Chicago. Her natural advantages were vastly superior, and one-half the money spent in the right way, that has been spent at Chicago, would have made her the largest city upon the lake.

But such was not the case. There might have been some excuse for Mr. Juneau, on account of his ignorance of civilized life and the laws of trade, but for Kilbourn or Walker, there was none whatever.

#### CHURCHES.

It has not been thought best to go into a history of the Milwaukee churches in this work, but simply to state when and where the first service of each denomination was held, as near as can be done, that being as much as would be proper to do in a work of this kind, and although the matter is yet somewhat in the dark, yet the statement given here as to when the first public worship took place in Milwaukee is believed to be correct. No earlier record can be found. True, my friend, John W. Hinton, claims to have earlier data, viz: That of some army chaplains, who may have passed through on their way from Chicago or Green Bay; but, if that was so, it could not be called religious service in the sense we mean; as the only hearers would be the soldiers, no white settlers being there at that time, from which a congregation could be gathered. Neither did these army chaplains come here expressly for that purpose. We shall, therefore, leave this matter as it is, believing it to be correct.



The Methodists seem to have been the first to break the bread of life to the spiritually hungry, holding service in Doctor Enoch Chase's log house in May, 1835, which continued at stated intervals, throughout the year, Bishop Clark visiting the young settlement, occasionally, during that year and the next. This information is from Doctor Enoch Chase.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SERVICE.

The first Presbyterian service (I quote from McCabe's Directory,) was held in the old Pioneer Store, East Water street, in August, 1835, Rev. A. L. Barber officiating.

## EPISCOPAL.

The first Episcopal service was held in a small frame house, opposite the old Milwaukee House, in July, 1836, Seth W. Beardsley, of Oswego, New York, officiating.—*Ibid.*

## CATHOLIC.

The first Catholic service was at the house of Solomon Juneau, corner of East Water and Michigan streets, August 1837, Rev. Fleurimont Blondell officiating.—*Ibid.*

## BAPTIST.

The first service ever held by this society, in Milwaukee, was in November, 1836, Rev. R. Griffith officiating, D. S. Hollister, elected Deacon.—*Ibid.*

## THE ADVERTISER.

The first newspaper ever published in Milwaukee, was a weekly, called *The Advertiser*, by D. H. Richards, who issued the first number July 14th, 1836. It was, from the start, a wide-awake and spicy little sheet, and had for its editors and correspondents some of our most talented men, such as H. N. Wells, J. H. Tweedy, Hans Crocker, Byron Kilbourn and others.

It soon became the champion of Kilbourn Town, its owners living upon that side, and such was the influence it exerted that the East-siders were fain to get hold of it, which they did, in 1841. Josiah A. Noonan became its owner, who at once changed its name to *The Courier*.

Mr. Noonan sold out to John A. Brown and Wm. H. Sullivan, in

1844, and they, two years later, to Cramer & Curtis, who changed its name to *The Daily Wisconsin*.

This pioneer sheet has had a varied history. It was, in its infancy, a Democratic paper. In fact, its political status was never changed, until ten years after it came into the possession of its present owners, when it became Whig, and lastly Republican.

Under the control of William E. Cramer, it soon became a great favorite, and an influential party journal, gaining rapidly in circulation. It is ably edited, and is the most popular of all our evening papers to-day. Its present proprietors are Messrs. Cramer, Aikens & Cramer.

The press upon which this pioneer paper was printed, went from Milwaukee to Madison, and thence to Manitowoc. It is now doing duty in the office of the *Record*, at Ahnepee.

JOHN PICKLE.

While writing the history of *The Advertiser*, now *The Wisconsin*, the following incident, in which the present chief editor took a hand, came to mind.

At the time referred to, the office of *The Wisconsin* was directly over Mr. Mitchell's bank, and was reached by a long flight of stairs from the Michigan street front, and upon the opposite corner, was the jewelry store of Samuel M. Gardner, where the old State bank now stands. In this store the late Herman L. Page had an office, which was a great resort for the fraternity, and many were the plans for mischief that were concocted in that old building.

While sitting there one cold winter's day, talking with Mr. Page, I think in 1852, there came into the store, a tall, lank specimen of the genus homo, about eighteen years old, who looked as though he might be a cross between a shingle shaver's horse and a fireman's ladder, (who ever got him up must have worked by candle light, anyhow.) Upon his bushy head was an old slouched hat; his pants were patched upon both knees; his coat was, at least, four sizes too large for him, giving him more the appearance of a last year's scare-crow than anything else, while upon his shoulder was an old flint-lock rifle, covered with rust. He stood a moment or two, staring about him, with a curious expression upon his boyish face, as though

he was uncertain whether he was in a police court, or a class meeting; but he was not long in finding out. Mr. Gardner finally broke the silence that his entree had caused, by asking what he could do for him. His reply was, that he wished to sell that rifle, at the same time bringing the breech of the old relic to the floor, with a thud that made the windows rattle. At this, Page, who had been quietly watching him all the while, with fun in his eye, asked him where he came from and what his name was; to which he replied, that he came from West Bend, and his name was John Pickle. This answer caused us all to look him over more closely, never having seen any of the Pickle family before, especially so green a one as he was, after which Page said, in his quiet, dry manner, and in his blandest tone, "You look like a good boy, although not thoroughly pickled yet; but, we will see what can be done for you. What do you ask for your rifle?" He answered that "she were worth eight dollars," but that as money was wanted bad to bring the Pickle bank account up to grade, five would buy her any time during the day. "Is she sound?" asked Page. He answered that she was, with one exception. "What is that?" "W-e-l-l, she are a leetle breach-burnt." "Well," said Page, "if that's all, I know a man that just wants that rifle."

At this announcement, Mr. Pickle's face brightened, and he at once asked to be put in communication with him.

Page then led him to the door, and pointing across the street, said: "Do you see them stairs?" Mr. Pickle answered that he did see them stairs. "Well, you go up them stairs, turn to the right, and in the first room you enter you will see a small man with glasses on. He is the man that wants that gun; don't you think so, Buck?" Thus appealed to, I hastened to assure Mr. Pickle that I fully agreed with Mr. Page; in fact, I was sure he could effect a sale the moment Mr. Cramer saw the rifle, as he was a great sportsman.

Now, as we knew that a rifle was of about as much use to Wm. E. Cramer as an eight-day clock would be to the King of Dahomey, we naturally expected to see some fun—and *we did*.

Pickle went up "them stairs," entered the sanctum, and approaching Mr. Cramer, said; "Good morning sir; Buy a gun?" "Buy what?" "Buy a gun!" "No, you fool. Who sent you here? what's

your name?" "My name is John Pickle; but the gun is all right, only a little breech burnt." "Breech burnt?" said Billy, "you get out of here, or I'll brain you, you nincompoop." Mr. Pickle *left*, and from the circular form of his body, when he appeared upon the landing, his abdomen being well advanced, we inferred that Billy had helped him. He came slowly down the stairs, putting his hand behind him, every two or three steps, to be sure he was all there, and looking thoroughly disgusted. At length he reached the sidewalk, looked across at Mr. Page and myself, who he saw were watching him, shook his clenched hand at us, and was gone. He was pickled. Shortly after that I met Mr. Cramer in the barber shop, and asked him if that rifle shot well. This remark posted him, as he was not in any wise ignorant of the mischief that was plotted in that old store, or who were the plotters. He looked at me a moment, and exclaimed: "You sent that fool up there, did you? Pretty good, Buck, pretty good. Nice boys, you and Page."

## CHAPTER VII.

1836.

Non-Parallelism of Streets—Changes in the Marsh and River, and the Author's Opinion of the Purpose for which many of the Tumuli were Built—The Pioneer Women of Milwaukee.

### NON-PARALLELISM OF STREETS.

One of the first things likely to be noticed by a stranger visiting our city, is the want of a parallelism between the streets upon the East and West Sides, *i. e.*, they do not approach or abut upon the river, in parallel lines. That this is so, is greatly to be regretted, for if any one thing can add to the beauty of a city, more than another, it is in having its streets and avenues parallel. This fault can be mainly, if not wholly, accounted for as follows:

As stated previously, blocks one, two, three and four, upon the East Side, were surveyed in the fall of 1834, by William S. Trowbridge, who commenced upon the quarter section line at Wisconsin street, the government having made a survey of a part of the East Side that year, these four blocks being, no doubt, considered by Mr. Juneau, as sufficient for business purposes, a small village being all that he expected to see Milwaukee become, and the thought that any considerable settlement, if indeed any, would ever be made upon the West Side, never entered the inexperienced mind of honest Solomon Juneau. From this first starting point, the subsequent ones were all made, *i. e.*, upon the East Side.

Kilbourn, from the first start, never intended that any communication by bridges should exist between the East and West Side, and acting upon that principle, made his survey in such a manner as to prevent the streets upon the two sides from matching each other, always insisting that the West Side did not want, and, if he could prevent it, should never have any communication with the East, except by boats. It was a great mistake, marring the beauty and symmetry of the city, for all time, as it is too late now to correct it.

Mr. Juneau did attempt it from Oneida north, and did to some

extent effect it, so that at Division, the non-parallelism does not exceed 40 feet. This, for a man of Mr. Kilbourn's ability, was a most stupendous piece of folly.

#### HIGH WATER.

Much has been said and written upon the subject of the rise and fall of the water in the lakes, and upon that, I will say this much, as the result of my own observation: As before stated, East Water Street had been filled from Michigan to its foot, in '36. But in '37, the water came up over this street to the depth of 16 inches at its foot, running out at Detroit, and remaining so all summer. This could not be on account of the settling of the street, for in '38 it was all dry again.

I am certain that the water was higher then than it has been at any time since, until this year.

Mr. William S. Trowbridge informed me that the lowest water he has ever seen, was in '34, and the highest in '39. If that is so, it must have risen very rapidly to have reached the height that it did in '37 and '9, for you could sail all over the marshes then, in a boat or scow, whenever you wished.

My recollection is, that the highest water was in '37, '39 and '59, until this year; and July 5th, of this year it was higher than I have ever seen it before, at least, such is the appearance of it. The lowest was in '47.

Duncan C. Reed has informed me, that in 1834, he came here in the steamer Michigan, on her trip to Chicago, and that the Indians were camped all along the bank of the river, from the straight cut to the old mouth, upon the West Side. If that is so, it would substantiate Mr. Trowbridge, as to when was the lowest water. They certainly could not have encamped there, however, in '35, or '6 or '7, which leads me to think that Mr. Reed is mistaken, particularly, as Horace Chase, who came first in '34, does not confirm it. He does say, however, that the Indians were encamped along the line of Reed street, which is undoubtedly where Mr. Reed saw them. September 6th, of this year, Mr. Albert Fowler informed me, that in '34, the Third ward marsh was all dry, the Indian ponies feeding and racing upon it all summer, and that hay

was made upon the Fourth ward swamp below Spring street; and yet, in '36, the water was from two to four feet in depth all over it. Corn hills were also visible upon the narrow strip of mud lying between the river and the bayou, in the First ward, in '33, showing that the Indians had formerly cultivated it. The cause of the rise and fall of the water in the lakes, it is not the province of the author to discuss, that being a matter for the savans of science to determine.

#### THE CHANGES IN THE MARSH.

As much speculation has existed in regard to the former condition of our marshes, I will here state what was told me by Mr. Juneau and others concerning them.

Mr. Juneau informed me in 1838, that twenty-five years previous to that time, the lower marsh from Walker's point to the mouth of the river, was hard ground, and used by the Indians as a race ground for their ponies. This will appear incredible to many, but it is no doubt true, and although, as before stated, it was, when the whites first came, covered with, at least, two feet of water over its entire surface, yet, in 1847, I think it was, all that portion east of Clinton, and south of Oregon to Mineral, was dry enough for pasture, the cows of the South Siders feeding upon it all summer, and you could, in fact, go upon it with a team; but that cannot be done to-day. The cause for this change just spoken of, is probably to be found in the fact, that the three previous years had been unusually dry; at least, that is my theory and recollection about it. It has certainly not been as hard since; neither have the cattle ever attempted to go upon it.

I do not recollect of ever hearing Mr. Juneau speak of the upper, or Menomonee marsh, but Mr. Jean Baptist le Tendree, a French Creole, whom many of the old settlers will remember as Le Tontee, gave me the following information about this marsh, also, in the summer of 1842, while standing with him upon the bridge, upon the old Kilbourn road, near the present railroad crossing. He stated, that thirty years previous that marsh was all hard and dry. This I can the more readily believe, as its upper portion was then covered

from Twentieth avenue to the cut off, with a heavy growth of black ash.\*

This man had lived here for many years, as a trapper and *courier du bois* for the American fur company. He is now living at Topeka, Kansas.†

#### CHANGES IN THE RIVER'S MOUTH.

There have been four changes in the mouth of the river, in the last fifty years viz: In 1822, it debouched near the present elevated ore track, opposite Wolf & Davidson's ship-yard; in '36, it was at the old harbor; in '37, it cut for itself a new channel, near where the present harbor is, where it discharged all the summer, when it returned to its old mouth. It is very evident, however, that its oldest mouth is Deer Creek, at the Rolling Mill; but that was many years ago.

#### PRE-HISTORIC.

The bluffs or high lands upon the East and West Sides, must have been a favorite resort with the old Mound Builders, particularly the West Side; many of their works standing there when the whites first came, both upon the high and low grounds. But as these have all been fully described by Doctor I. A. Lapham in his *Antiquities of Wisconsin*, I shall speak of them no further than to say that the mound in Quentin's Park is in my opinion, an artificial work, there being no other way to account for it in such a locality. The view from there, of the lake and city, is very fine, and no doubt one of the greatest pleasures enjoyed by that pre-historic race, was the view from the summit of this mound.

There is also one ancient work not yet spoken of, which is upon the farm now occupied by Mr. G. D. Dousman, southwest quarter of Section twenty-three, Town seven, Range twenty-one, in Wauwatosa.

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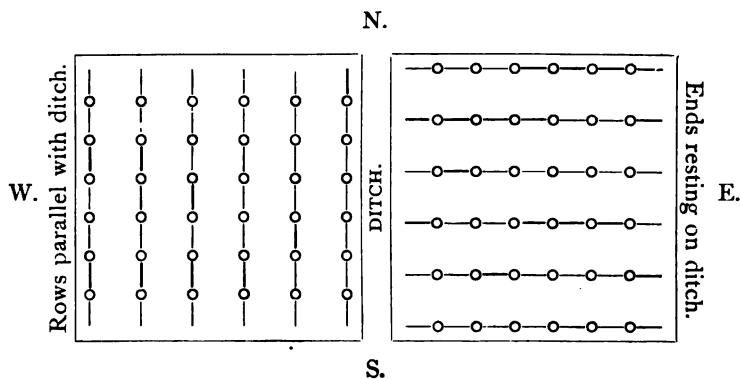
\*This timber was all killed by the water in '37. Many of these trees were six and eight inches in diameter, showing that the water had not been as high before in many years. The existence of this timber is a strong argument in proof of Le Tontee's statement.

†Baptist le Tendree was the most noted guide in the Northwest, and was in almost constant employment as such, in the early days of Milwaukee. He had also carried the mail for the government, from one frontier post to another, for years before the advent of the whites.



This was originally the claim of B. F. Wheelock, and in the winter of '36, I camped upon it, cut five acres of timber, cleared it, split the rails to fence it, and put up a good block house for Wheelock. The timber was heavy, and when that and the thick coating of leaves was removed, rows of corn hills were plainly visible. And to our astonishment we saw a ditch, at least 1000 feet in length, running north and south, upon the east side of which, the ends of these rows rested; while upon the west, they ran parallel with it, and oak trees were standing in that ditch, that were three feet in diameter, whose consecutive rings would indicate an age of at least one thousand years.

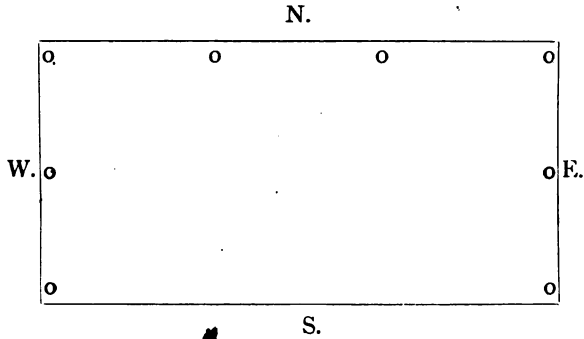
This was the most wonderful of all the ancient works that I have ever seen, as it illustrated the high state of civilization to which these old Mound Builders had attained, particularly in agriculture. No modern field was ever laid out with more regularity, than was this. Below is a rough sketch of this old corn field:



Those upon the east or right hand, represent the rows with their ends resting upon the ditch, and those upon the west, or left hand, those that were parallel with it. These hills were as well defined as though made the previous year, yet they must have been at least one thousand years old.

There were also upon that part of the South Side, lying between Elizabeth and Park streets and Fourth and Eighth avenues, origi-

nally eight mounds or tumuli, about twenty feet in diameter at their base, and twelve feet in height, arranged in the following manner :



These have long since all disappeared; and in Elizabeth street, above Twenty-Second avenue, was a gigantic lizard, at least two hundred feet in length, upon which stood oak trees three feet in diameter. All traces of this have also disappeared.

Perhaps no one thing in America, has been the subject of more thought and research among the savans of science, or the antiquarians, than have these curious earth-works, scattered over this continent, that we call the New World, although, geologically, it is the Old. And why may it not have been peopled first? Old as is Egypt, her history is well-known, as well as the manners and customs of her people, and she is, beyond all doubt, the oldest of the historic nations. Neither can the history of the Cave and Lake Dwellers of Europe be said to be a mystery any longer. But these Mound Builders—who are they? Shall we ever know? I fear me not. No Rosetta stone from which some future Champollion can decipher their history, has yet been found, and we are to-day as much in the dark as ever. That they were warlike and highly civilized, we know, but that is all.

But what I wish to say is this: Between Waukesha and Pewaukee, there is, as is well-known, an elevated plateau. This plateau the writer saw for the first time, in the month of March, 1837, when himself, B. F. Wheelock, A. S. Tucker and C. C. Olin, crossed it in going to Pewaukee Lake, and were, perhaps, the first white men

who ever saw or examined it. We quickly saw that we were in the midst of vast numbers of curious earth-works, in the shape of lizards, turtles, birds, serpents, etc., which covered the ground as thickly as do the monuments of to-day, in our cemeteries, and extending over an era of some two miles in length, by one in breadth; and it was, in fact, a pre-historic grave yard. We rear marble monuments to our dead; they reared earthy ones; and it was my firm belief, then, and is now, that this plateau was a pre-historic cemetery.

That the whole valley along the Fox River, was once thickly settled, we know, and there is much to indicate that a large and populous city existed, at or near the present Waukesha, in pre-historic times, the inhabitants of which died, and were, of course, interred in some way, and as all of these earth-works that have been examined, or nearly all, contain human bones, the fact is patent, that what Greenwood is to New York; Mount Auburn to Boston, or Forest Home to our own Milwaukee, this beautiful spot was to them, viz: a cemetery. It was pure sacrilege to disturb this sacred spot; but alas! the plow has long since obliterated all traces of these works.

The following lines have been suggested while thinking of this ancient race:

Far back into the misty past  
My thoughts will often flow:  
Who built these ruins in our land?  
Is what I'd like to know.

Whence came the race of men, who reared  
These mounds, so round and high;  
Crowned with old oaks, ten centuries old,  
That in our valleys lie?

Thousands of years have passed, since first  
That nation found its way  
To this fair, goodly land of ours—  
Long before Adam's day.

That giant race, with faces stern,  
And forms so straight and tall;  
Whose heads were decked with feathery plumes,  
Found on Palenque's old wall.

PIONEER HISTORY

Old are they? yes, so very old  
Are these deserted halls,  
That mighty oaks have pushed their way  
Up through their massive walls.

O, what a pleasure 'twere to know  
Who built these cities old,  
And of what race of men they were,  
So war-like and so bold.

Perhaps from old Atlantis came  
These warriors decked with plumes ;  
That fabled land, by earthquakes sunk  
Into an ocean tomb.

O, that the secrets of this land  
Would open to our sight,  
And we behold that ancient race  
In all their power and might.

But much I fear, we'll never know,  
Who built these ruins grand,  
That reach throughout the length and breadth  
Of this most ancient land.

Their history, God alone can tell,  
It's hidden from our sight ;  
Ages ago it passed into  
A pre-historic night.

THE WOMEN.

The first white or Anglo-Saxon woman, to make Milwaukeee her home, was Mrs. Quartus Carley, who came in May, '34, with her husband, accompanied by a Miss Cleveland, from Chicago. Neither of these women, however, remained permanently, Miss Cleveland returning to Chicago, in the Fall. Mrs. Carley remained, I think, until '39, when she and her husband removed to Kenosha county. Whether they reside there now, or have passed away, I cannot tell. Such, however, is their history.

At the head of the column of noble women who came to stay, the purity of whose lives and example has had so powerful an influence in softening the manners of those early times, stands Mrs.

Deacon Samuel Brown, who came in '35, being the second American woman to settle in Milwaukee. This is no small honor, and right worthy is Mrs. Brown to enjoy it. Her life and example have been noble. Such a woman is a crown to her husband, and the glory of her children.

She was joined during the Summer and Fall, by Mrs. Dr. Enoch Chase, Mrs. Joseph Williams, Mrs. Joel Wilcox, Mrs. U. B. Smith, Mrs. Paul Burdick, Mrs. John Childs, Mrs. B. F. Wheelock, Mrs. Capt. J. Sanderson, Mrs. Geo. D. Dousman, Mrs. Hiram J. Ross, Mrs. H. Farmin, Mrs. P. Balsler, Mrs. Thos. Holmes, Mrs. Wm. Sivyver, Mrs. A. Sweet, Mrs. A. O. T. Breed, Mrs. Andrew Douglass, Mrs. E. S. Estes, Mrs. John Ogden, Mrs. James McNeil, and perhaps others whose names are now forgotten.

At the head of the column for '36, stands Mrs. Daniel Wells, Jr. She was quickly joined, however, by Mrs. Jas. H. and Mrs. Jacob M. Rogers, Mrs. D. S. Hollister, Mrs. Byron Kilbourn, Mrs. I. A. Lapham, Mrs. S. Pettibone, Mrs. W. S. Trowbridge, Mrs. L. S. and Mrs. W. A. Kellogg, Mrs. Joseph Cary, Mrs. T. J. Noyes, Mrs. Henry Williams, Mrs. Henry Miller, Mrs. C. H. Larkin, Mrs. J. G. Belangee, Mrs. Geo. Barber, Mrs. Samuel Hinman, Mrs. L. W. Weeks, Mrs. John Corse, Mrs. Stoddard H. Martin, Mrs. Hubbell Loomis, Mrs. Elah Dibble, Mrs. Pliny Young, Mrs. John Gale, Mrs. Wm. N. Gardner, Mrs. Wm. A. Prentiss, Mrs. Daniel Keltner, Mrs. M. W. Higgins, Mrs. Geo. O. Tiffany, Mrs. Elisha Starr, Mrs. B. H. Edgerton, Mrs. J. DeBow, Mrs. Owen Aldrich, Mrs. John Furlong, Mrs. J. B. Zander, Mrs. Luther Churchill, Mrs. Ebenezer Harris, Mrs. August Harmeyer, Mrs. L. H. Lane, Mrs. S. W. Dunbar, Mrs. Thomas Hoyt, Misses Betsey, Christina, and Mary James, Mrs. Horace Chase, Mrs. Albert Fowler, Mrs. Cyrus and Mrs. Frank Hawley, Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Samuel Sivyver, Mrs. E. H. Sabin, Mrs. Geo. Guile, Mrs. Wm. P. Proudfit, Mrs. Wm. R. Longstreet, Mrs. W. P. Merrill, Mrs. D. D. Sibley, and perhaps others.

While '37, 8 and 9 brought in Mrs. Geo. Reed, Mrs. David Merrill, Mrs. Richard Hackett, Mrs. Henry Bleyer, Mrs. J. E. Arnold, Mrs. J. S. Buck, Mrs. Morgan L. Burdick, Mrs. Garret Vliet, Mrs. Clinton Walworth, Mrs. Lindney Ward, Mrs. Clark Shepardson, Mrs. James Larkin, Mrs. A. G. Miller, Mrs. C. J. Lynde, Mrs. H.

Ludington, Mrs. Alex. Mitchell, Mrs. John Hustis, Mrs. J. H. Tweedy, Mrs. E. Cramer, Mrs. Ransom Rice, Mrs. Samuel Luscombe, Mrs. Doctor E. B. Wolcott, Mrs. Rufus Cheney, Mrs. James Murray, Mrs. D. A. J. Upham, and perhaps others, who have all been more or less prominent in the building up of our fair city, sharing all the privations incident to a pioneer life, with a fortitude equal to, and in many cases, superior to that exhibited by the men. Of those now living, many are yet active, and useful; and of those who have gone to their reward, it can be truthfully said, that for the works they have performed, future generations shall bless their name.

To remember the names of all who came during these years, would be simply impossible; and should any pioneer woman, who may read this history, find her name omitted, she will please consider the omission unintentional.

## CHAPTER VIII.

1837.

Year opened with General Gloom—Financial Depression—Year Compared with '36—Improvements—Claim Organizations—Organization of a Village Government—Trustees Elected—Gen. Crawford brings the Detroit—Kilbourn Builds the Badger—Description of—Capt. Hubbell—The Sentinel Started—Judge Frazier opens Court—Its Results—Organization of Agricultural and Medical Societies—Conventions—Elections—Incidents—List of Prices—How the Author spent the first Winter

The reader has now seen Milwaukee as it appeared in the fall of 1836, both topographically and statistically, which may, with justice, be called its natal year. True, the first marks were made and the first stakes driven in '34 and '35, but '36 was the great opening year, more having been done that year than in the two previous, and four subsequent ones. The sound of the hammer and saw, with the ring of the mason's trowel, were heard from early morn to dewy eve, throughout the entire working season; but with the close of navigation, came a change. The speculators and capitalists, like the birds, had departed for their homes in the East and South, to enjoy the coming winter with their families, leaving those who had come to stay, to spend the winter in speculating upon their present and prospective wealth; racing horses upon the river; getting up shooting matches, and amusements of various kinds; all of which they did with a vim, while anxiously awaiting the coming year, in which, they firmly believed, the growth of the young city would surpass '36, as much as '36 had '35. But in place of that came the crash. A great financial embarrassment convulsed the whole country, putting an end to all improvements, particularly in the West, leaving Milwaukee hard and fast, for a season, upon the rocks of commercial bankruptcy and despair, to whose waiting inhabitants the Spring brought no relief. The speculators and capitalists came not with the birds; the emigrants were few and far between, and a wave of disappointment rolled over the little hamlet, filling the hearts of the people with sadness, blasting all their hopes, and leaving them to live, as best they could, upon their own resources, and to prey upon

each other. The wealth that many of them supposed they possessed, took to itself wings and flew away. Lots and lands for which fabulous prices had been paid in '36, were now of no commercial value, whatever. The great desideratum that year was bread and clothing, and the man who could procure these, was lucky.

Many a lot for which the owner had paid \$500 or even \$1,000 in '36, was, in '37 and '8, given in exchange for a barrel of pork and flour, or a suit of clothes; and there are parties now living in the city, who hold and occupy lots, worth from \$6,000 to \$12,000, which they got in exchange for a suit of clothes, that could be purchased to-day for \$35.00, in any clothing house in the city.

But notwithstanding the stagnation all over the country, the following are known to have come during the Spring and Summer: Fennimore C. Pomeroy, L. Flusky, Richard Reynolds, with his sons, James, William and Hugh P. Reynolds, David Merrill, John B. Merrill, Hiram Merrill, D. A. J. Upham, David Knab, Matthew Keenan, Geo. D. Weston, Edward and Edwin Rogers, Street & Thomas, harness makers; Asa Clark, Mosely and Lyman Clark, Silas Lyman, Henry Bleyer, Henry U. Bleyer, G. G. Bright, Wm. M. Mayhew, E. Bates, S. S. Conover, Geo. Munn, Wm. Golden, Linas N. Dewey, E. W. Strasburg, M. Stine, Ed. Hackett, Richard Hackett, Wm. Jewel, R. G. Owens, J. B. Peck, Geo. Adams, Gilbert and Dean J. Adams, C. Berry, J. K. Botsford, John Vosburg, Norton Vosburg, J. D. Parker, Adam Hinchman, Loring Doney, Egbert Mosely, A. H. Gardner, C. C. Savage, Jared Thompson, E. S. Cosgrove, David Worthington, John Thompson, M. C. Frary, David Brownell, J. T. Fordham, A. L. Monroe, Sanford Wheeler, S. Sackett, Emery Swan, H. L. Maynard, Benedict Barber, C. Schwartzberg, Joseph Porter, Capts. James and William Porter, Joseph Porter, Jr., C. Latham Sholes, Walter S. and C. R. Evarts, Jr., Benjamin Hunkins, J. C. Putney, A. F. Parker, Luzerne Ransom, Wm. S. Watrous, Michael and Theodore Childs, Alex. L. Monroe, Rufus Childs, Peter Turck, and no doubt others who are forgotten.

There was, however, in that dark year, some little progress made. The 28th of May brought us, as previously stated, the good steamer James Madison, Capt. C. H. Bristol, seven days from Buffalo,



her first trip, and our first boat for that season. She had a large freight, mostly, however, for Chicago. The arrival of this boat was a great event, and nearly half of the population spent the entire day, it being Sunday, upon the beach, at the mouth of the river, watching her.

Some new buildings were also erected, that year, viz: upon the South Side, J. and L. Childs built a front to their house, which is yet standing, as before stated, upon the west side of Hanover street.

Capt. Josiah Sherwood built a two-story frame, east side of Hanover, between Florida and Virginia streets, he having previously occupied the old log house on Clinton street, first occupied by Capt. James Sanderson.

S. W. Dunbar, also built a two-story frame, upon the hill, then called Mount Zion, principally, I suppose, on account of the wickedness of the people, where the Fifth Ward school house now stands. The old house is yet standing upon Greenbush street.

Silas Lyman built a two-story frame, at or near the intersection of Greenbush and Walker streets. This, as far as I can remember, comprised all the improvements upon the South Side, in '37.

The East Side, also, made some little improvement in '37. Henry Williams built one or two small frame dwellings upon the northeast corner of Van Buren and Mason streets; James McNeil, a second one upon the Southwest corner, old house yet standing; Wm. A. Prentiss, one upon the southeast corner of Wisconsin and Cass streets; John Furlong, one upon Broadway, between Martin and Biddle streets; Henry Bleyer one upon Jackson street, below Michigan, yet standing; Geo. O. Tiffany, a livery stable on the alley north side of Wisconsin street, between East Water and Broadway; Mathew Stien one, his old gun shop, on Market street, above Mason, removed last year to make room for Nunnemacher's new block; John Julien one upon Market street, above Biddle; and there may have been, and no doubt were, some others now forgotten. Some grading was also done on East Water street, above Wisconsin, and on Mason, Broadway, Jefferson and Wisconsin streets, this year. A small Methodist church was also erected on the southeast corner of East Water and Huron streets.

Some few buildings were also erected upon the West Side, in the vicinity of Chestnut street, and one on Second street, above Cherry. Andrew Vieux opened a store on West Water street, just above Spring, with a stock of general merchandise, including paints and oils, and Lee & Thurston, a cabinet shop on the northeast corner of Spring and West Water streets. Some filling was also done on Spring, West Water and Wells streets, but the amount was very little.

#### CLAIM ORGANIZATION.

There had been some understanding about the right of claimants in '35, but the great meeting was at the Court House, March 13th, 1837. At that meeting, a code of laws were adopted, that gave effectual protection to the squatter, until his land could be purchased from the government.

This meeting, at which I was present, was without doubt, the most complete organization that has ever existed in any country, for mutual protection, the leading spirit of which, was Byron Kilbourn.

The meeting was organized by electing Dea. Samuel Hinman, President; S. Pettibone and Samuel Sanborn, Vice-Presidents; A. O. T. Breed and I. A. Lapham, Secretaries of the meeting; which meeting elected A. A. Bird, President; Byron Kilbourn and S. Hinman, Vice-Presidents; Wm. A. Prentiss, Clerk, and A. O. T. Breed, Register of Claims, and A. A. Bird, Solomon Juneau, N. F. Hyer, Samuel Brown, Albert Fowler, D. H. Richards, A. O. T. Breed, Samuel Hinman, Wm. R. Longstreet, Henry M. Hubbard, James Sanderson, Chancy H. Peak, D. Wells, Jr., Byron Kilbourn and Enoch Chase, Central Executive Committee. Upon the resignation of Mr. Breed, April 10, same year, Mr. Lapham was elected to fill the office of Register of Claims which he did, until the land sale, when the organization became extinct.\*

This year witnessed the organization of a town or village government, each man having been a law unto himself, to a great extent, up to this time, a bill or act of incorporation having been passed the previous year, at Belmont,† and an election ordered, the preliminary proceedings for which, taken from the *Advertiser* of December 24th, '36, were as follows:

## NOTICE.

The citizens of this town some time ago addressed a memorial to the legislature, praying for the incorporation of all the points into one town, to be divided into three wards, with equal representation in each. The bill, however, did not pass, agreeably to the petition, but a general law of incorporation did pass, under which we can incorporate and obtain the same results, as under that act.

Let the voters in the different towns on the river, meet in their respective limits, and adopt the law by incorporating themselves, agreeably to its provisions. Each will then possess the same privileges that they would have done if the act of incorporation had extended over the whole, and divided it into different wards, as was proposed by the memorial. The law only admits of two miles square being incorporated under one organization, and it would, therefore, be impracticable to organize all the points for which our memorial prayed, under one system, they comprising more than two miles square. It is, therefore, deemed best by many of our citizens, that each point should organize separately, and we therefore give

## NOTICE

That a meeting of the citizens of the town of Milwaukee, on the east side of the river, will be held at the Court-house, on Saturday, the 11th day of February next, at two o'clock P. M., to take into consideration the propriety of organizing and incorporating said town, under the act of the Legislative Assembly, for such cases made and provided.

MANY VOTERS.

A similar notice had already been published in the *Advertiser* of December 24th, for a preliminary meeting, at Leland's Exchange, for the West Side, to be held on the 3d of January, '37; which meeting was held, and an election ordered, as the following notice will show:

## NOTICE.

Agreeably to a resolution of the citizens of Milwaukee, situated on the west side of the river, assembled in a general meeting, on the 3d inst., and in pursuance of the act, to incorporate such towns as may wish to be incorporated, I hereby give notice that an election will be held, on Saturday, the 4th day of

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\*The book in which the records of this meeting were kept, with the date of the entry of each claim made under its authority, and the name of the claimant, is now in the possession of the Old Settlers' Club, having been presented them by S. G. Lapham, May 10, 1876.

†The first notice that a township government was contemplated, was by a call from some one, published in the *Milwaukee Advertiser*, October 13th, 1836, but no meeting appears to have been held, or any steps taken to organize, previous to '37.

February, next, at Leland's Exchange, commencing at ten o'clock, A. M., and continuing until four o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of electing five trustees of said town, to serve during the ensuing year.

I. A. LAPHAM, Clerk.

Milwaukee, January 27, 1837.

On February 4th, the following appeared in the *Advertiser* :

#### TO THE VOTERS OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY.

A meeting will be held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at two o'clock, P. M., at the Court-house, for the purpose of taking into consideration the acts and doings of our representatives in both houses of the Legislature, during the recent session of that body. It is believed by a great number of our citizens, that at least *one* or *two* of our members betrayed the trust reposed in them by the people, and that it would be well for the people to revise their acts and decide upon their merits.

The Legislature passed an act, dividing the old county of Milwaukee into several counties, with two distinct organizations, and it is questionable whether our present representatives can properly hold their offices to which they are elected by people, who have, since that election, been set off into a separate county.

These are matters of general interest, and it is hoped that a general attendance will be given. It was thought necessary, by many, to hold such a meeting at an earlier period, but not knowing the precise boundaries of the county, as fixed by the late law, it was deemed best to defer it until that law was received. The county now consists of townships five, six, seven and eight, in all the ranges as far west as range thirteen, embracing Rock River.

SEVERAL VOTERS.

Milwaukee February 4th, 1837.

At the meeting on the 11th, the people upon the East Side decided to organize, and an election was ordered, as the following will show :

#### ELECTION OF TRUSTEES.

The inhabitants of Milwaukee, are hereby notified to meet at the Court-house, on Tuesday, February 14th, 1837, at ten o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of selecting five suitable persons to serve as Trustees of said town, the year ensuing.

WM. A. PRENTISS, Clerk.

Milwaukee, February 8th, 1837.

On Tuesday, Solomon Juneau, Wm. A. Prentiss, Geo. D. Dousman, A. A. Bird and Samuel Hinman, were elected Trustees of the

East Side. The Board of Trustees was subsequently organized, and the following officers elected:

President—Solomon Juneau.  
 Clerk—Horatio N. Wells.  
 Assessors—Henry Miller, Wm. Brown, and B. H. Edgerton.  
 Marshal—Enoch Darling.  
 Surveyor—D. Wells, Jr.

The West Side, elected:

President—Byron Kilbourn.  
 Trustees—Wm. R. Longstreet, Lucius I. Barber, Benoni W. Finch, and S. D. Cowles.  
 Clerk—N. F. Hyer.  
 Assessor—Wm. P. Proudfit.  
 Marshal—Paul Burdick.  
 Surveyor and Engineer—I. A. Lapham.

This organization did not, however, in any wise, mollify or soften the spirit of jealousy, existing between the two sections; but, on the contrary, had a tendency to increase it.

The boundaries of the corporation, were also fixed upon both sides of the river, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE, fixing the corporate boundaries of the "Town of Milwaukee, on the west side of the River."

Be it ordained by the President and Trustees of the town of Milwaukee on the west side of the River, That the following lines shall be fixed and established as the corporate limits of said Town:

Beginning on the north line of section twenty-one, in the center of the Milwaukee River; thence running down the middle of said river, to the south line of section twenty-nine; thence west along the south line of sections twenty-nine and thirty, to the west line of township seven, range twenty-two east; thence north, by said township line to the quarter post on the west side of section nineteen; thence east to the center of said section nineteen; thence north to the quarter post on the north line of said section nineteen; thence east along the north line of sections nineteen, twenty and twenty-one, to the place of beginning.

Passed February 6, 1837.

BYRON KILBOURN, President.

N. F. HYER, Clerk.

AN ORDINANCE, fixing the corporate boundaries of the Town of Milwaukee.

Be it ordained by the President and Trustees of the town of Milwaukee, on the east side of the river, That the following lines shall be fixed and established as

the corporate limits of said town:—Beginning on the shore of Lake Michigan, on the south line of lot one, in fractional section number thirty-three, in township number seven north, of range number twenty-two east, of the fourth principal meridian; thence running northerly by the shore of Lake Michigan to the quarter section line of fractional section number twenty-one; thence due west on said quarter section line to the center of Milwaukee River; thence southerly, following down the center of said Milwaukee River, to the south line of said lot number one in said fractional section number thirty-three; thence due east to the place of beginning.

Passed February 17, 1837.

SOLOMON JUNEAU, President.

H. N. WELLS, Clerk.

The following is the ordinance for grading Spring street:

AN ORDINANCE for grading a part of Spring street.

Be it ordained by the President and Trustees of the town of Milwaukee on the west side of the River, that the grading and filling up of Spring street, from the first high ground west of Water street, to the River, be immediately put under contract; and that the President have full power to let the same.

Passed Feb. 6, 1837.

BYRON KILBOURN, President,

N. F. HYER, Clerk

The reader will no doubt ask why trustees were not elected for the South Side also. The answer is this:

The title to the land upon the South Side was, as before stated, clouded by a float, put upon it by Ebenezer Childs and others; consequently the South Siders had no status in law, except that of squatters, an appellation, that, if applied to them personally, would breed what our Celtic citizens would call a *ruction*, any time. Consequently they could not organize a ward or village government, but were a law unto themselves, submitting to the jurisdiction of the county, by whom they were taxed for highway, and other purposes, very lightly, however, in comparison with the east and west wards.

In this way they lived, maintaining their rights as best they could, until 1845, when, after a long contest with the government, the floats were raised, and a patent for the land in dispute, issued to Dr. L. W. Weeks; both Walker and those claiming under him, either by deed, contract, or squatter's rights, consenting thereto, the Dr. in turn, deeding to each of the parties in interest, his claim, at the nominal price of \$2.50 per acre.

Such is the early municipal history of the South Side. Neither had they any voice in public affairs, until the adoption of the city charter, in 1846, when they became a part of the great whole; electing for their first Aldermen, Dr. L. W. Weeks, Giles A. Waite and James Magone; Robert Allen, from the South Side, being the first City Treasurer. Since that time her march has been onward and upward, both in wealth and population.

Her natural advantages are not inferior to either the East or West Sides, and in many respects they are superior; and it is self-evident, that the competition for both the business and wealth of the city, will ultimately lie between the West and South Sides. May the best man win.

The notice for the April election, was as follows:

*To the Democratic Anti-Bank and Settler's Rights Party:*

Notice is hereby given, that a meeting of the Democratic Anti-Bank Party, of the town and county of Milwaukee, will be held on Wednesday, the 29th inst., at the Court-house, in Milwaukee, at one o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of nominating candidates for town and county officers.

MANY VOTERS.

Milwaukee, March 25, 1837.

The official notice is as follows:

#### TOWN MEETING.

Notice is hereby given, that the annual town meeting will be held at the Court-house, in Milwaukee, on the first Monday in April next, at nine o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of choosing township and county officers. Officers to be elected are three Supervisors; one Town Clerk; five Assessors; one Collector; two Directors of the Poor; three Commissioners of the Highways; three Commissioners of Schools; one Coroner; one County Treasurer; one Register of Deeds; seven Constables and Fence Viewers; one Pound Master; as many Overseers of Highways, as there are Road Districts, and three School Inspectors.

A. O. T. BREED, Town Clerk.

Milwaukee, March 25, 1837.

It was upon this call and official notice, that the following ticket was put in the field by the Democrats:

Supervisors—S. D. Cowles, Wm. Brown, and Wm. Shew.

Coroner—Henry M. Hubbard.

County Treasurer—G. D. Dousman.

Register of Deeds—Albert Fowler.

Town Clerk—Wm. A. Prentiss.

Assessors—T. H. Olin, Pleasant Fields, Samuel Brown, Jonas Folts and N. Whalen.

Collector—John B. Miller.

Directors of the Poor—S. Hinman and Wm. P. Proudfit.

Commissioners of Highways—S. Juneau, B. Kilbourn and A. Orrendolf.

Commissioners of Schools—Samuel Brown, S. Sanborn, and J. H. Rogers.

For Inspectors of Schools—Jacob M. Rogers, Wm. Burdick and Elihu Higgins.

Pound Master—William Woodward.

Constables—J. R. Robinson, Jesse Eggleston, Elihu Higgins, H. H. Brannan, John Willard, H. White and R. J. Currier.

GEO. REED, Chairman.

N. F. HYER, Secretary.

At the same time the Democratic Republicans met at the Bellevue; S. W. Dunbar, Chairman, J. T. Haight, Secretary, and made choice of the following ticket:

Register of Deeds—Cyrus Hawley.

Coroner—Pleasant Fields.

County Treasurer—H. Miller.

Supervisors—J. B. Zander, A. O. T. Breed and S. D. Cowles.

Treasurer—G. O. Tiffany.

Assessors—Alvin Foster, J. Manderville, Barzillai Douglas, E. W. Edgerton and Lucius I. Barber.

Collector—A. J. Vieux.

Commissioners of Highways—S. Juneau, Enoch Chase and B. W. Finch.

For Directors of the Poor—S. Hinman and D. S. Hollister.

Commissioners of Schools—S. Sanborn, J. Folts and I. H. Alexander.

For Inspectors of Schools—Eli Bates, E. D. Phelps, Worthy Putnam, Geo. S. West and L. I. Barber.

For Constables—H. H. Brannan, D. H. Sargeant, Horatio Higgins, M. L. Burdick and Jesse Eggleston.

Committee on Election—Wm. M. Gardner, A. F. Pratt, C. E. Thurber, H. A. Hinkley and J. T. Haight.

S. W. DUNBAR, Chairman.

J. T. HAIGHT, Secretary.

As will be seen, many of these candidates were upon both tickets, but the Democratic ticket was mainly successful.

In the *Advertiser* of March 25th, 1837, is the following notice:

Jacob M. Rogers is appointed Marshal and Collector to the Board of Trustees, of the town of Milwaukee, in place of Enoch Darling, resigned.

From which it appears that Mr. Darling soon laid down his new



found honors. He left, about this time, for Jefferson, where he settled, which was the probable reason.

An ordinance was passed by the Trustees, May 4th, to levy a tax of fifty cents upon each \$100 valuation real estate, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of one per cent., upon all personals; also:

At a meeting held on the fifth, G. D. Dousman was authorized to contract for the grading of Main street (Broadway,) from Wisconsin to Oneida; East Water street from Wisconsin to Mason; Jefferson street from Michigan to the Public Square; and Mason street from East Water to Main.

G. D. DOUSMAN, President pro tem.

H. N. WELLS, Clerk.

Sealed proposals were received this year, for the construction of a draw bridge at the foot of Oneida street, resting upon piles, with draw in center, said draw to elevate and not swing. To be finished by the first of September. A. A. Bird, Rufus Parks, Pleasant Fields and Solomon Juneau, Commissioners.

An ordinance was also passed April 11th, to fill Clybourn from the Menomonee river to Finch's bridge, Sycamore street to Sixth, Spring to Sixth, Tamarack and Prairie to Fifth, Vliet to the Six Points; and to grade Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth streets, from Spring to Chestnut street. Very little of this work was done, however, that year or the next five, but as ordinances were cheap, they passed them, *ad infinitum*, of every kind and nature.

This year, also brought us our first steamboat, *i. e.*, one that we could call our own, to run between Milwaukee and Chicago, viz: the Detroit, Capt. John Crawford. She came in June. She was lost, however, off Southport, now Kenosha, in October, in consequence of not having a supply of wood. The following is her advertisement.

#### NOTICE TO PASSENGERS.

The steamboat Detroit, Capt. John Crawford, will run for the remainder of the season from Michigan City, in connection with a daily line of Stages from Toledo and Detroit, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory. Leaving Michigan City on Mondays at eight o'clock A. M., Wednesdays at two o'clock P. M., and Fridays at seven o'clock P. M., touching at Chicago, Pike River, Root River, and arrive at Milwaukee the day after leaving Michigan City. She will leave Milwaukee on Tuesdays at eleven o'clock A. M., Thursdays at six o'clock P. M., and Saturdays at nine o'clock P. M., on her return to Michigan City. She will, wind and

weather permitting, make a trip to Washington, at mouth of Sac River, once a week.

For Freight and Passage apply to T. J. Field, Michigan City, Ind., D. S. Hollister, or S. D. Cowles & Co., Milwaukee, W. T., or to the Captain on board.

Milwaukee, June 22, 1837.

She used to come inside and land at the foot of Wisconsin street, where I have sat upon the grassy bank, and watched her, often. This was a favorite spot with Crowing Joe. Aboard the Detroit, was a Herculean rooster of the old barnyard breed, as full of fight as a hornet, and whenever the old boat came in, Joe would take his stand upon the bank and crow, at which the one upon the boat, no doubt thinking it was a challenge from some farm yard, would answer. For this Joe was arrested, as will be hereafter stated, and discharged.

Mr. Kilbourn also built his famous boat, The Badger, the first steamer ever built in Milwaukee, this year.

She was simply a scow, her upper works being just sufficient to support her wheel house, and keep the engine dry. This engine was about seven mule power. She was commanded by Capt. Hubbell, a large and powerful man, with a squint eye. She had an immense helm, to which she, however, as a rule, paid very little attention, her course, at times, being as giratory as are those of a hen that has eaten salt.

Capt. Hubbell's orders were not always given in strictly nautical language, but would, when landing his boat, be something like this: "Give her a turn ahead." This would send her too far, upon which he would yell: "Half a turn back!" This would probably send her as much too far astern, and further from the boat or dock, as the case might be, when, with a stamp of his enormous foot, would come the stereotyped order: "Give her a lick sideways, G-o-d d-a-m-n you!"

She was very useful, however, as a tender or lighter for the large boats, as they could not come inside, then. But she, and her Herculean commander, have long since passed away. The day for such as she was, in Milwaukee, is over

She went ashore near the present harbor, and was lost, in the fall of '39 or '40, I do not remember which, but think it was '40.

The advent of this boat, was a new source of trouble between the

East and West Sides, she refusing to land her passengers upon either the East or South Sides, carrying them to Kilbourn Town, *nolens volens*. Remonstrance or objection was of no avail with Captain Hubbell; he had his orders, and right well did he execute them.

This was also the natal year of the present Milwaukee *Sentinel*, started by Mr. Juneau, to defend the rights of the East Side. Its first editor was Mr. J. O. Rouke, who died in '38, when Harrison Reed became the editor. Mr. Reed was followed by Elisha Starr, who had just started a small paper called the *Herald*, which was merged in the *Sentinel*; then David M. Keeler became its chief, and in 1844 issued its first daily. In 1845 it passed into the hands of J. S. Fillmore, Jason Downer being its editor, who, the same year, vacated the editorial chair, in favor of General Rufus King. In the fall or winter of the same year, William Duane Wilson started the Milwaukee *Daily Gazette*, which, in '46, was merged in the *Sentinel*, under the name of the *Sentinel and Gazette*. It was, however, soon changed to the *Sentinel*, Mr. Wilson retiring from the editorship, General King becoming editor and proprietor. Mr. King finally sold to Messrs. Jermain & Brightman, who, in their turn, sold it to the present Company. This pioneer sheet has changed its owners and editors oftener than any other paper in Wisconsin. In political faith, it is Republican, and claims to be the leading party journal in the State.

It has had many able men as editors, since its birth, the most renowned of whom was Rufus King. Its present chief, though young in years, is a very able writer; his leaders and editorials having a terseness not often found in the writings of so young a man as Mr. Botkin.

The paper has a very large circulation, and a little more capital would make it a powerful competitor for its enemies to contend with. May its shadow never be less.

This year was also made memorable on account of the holding of the first United States District Court, Judge William C. Frazier, and for the trial of the two Indians for the murder of Ellsworth Burnett, November, '35.

Judge Frazier was, what is termed in military lore, a *martinet*, and he made it lively for the boys, as the lawyers were called.

They at once joined issue with him, making his court anything but a paradise. Such was the feeling against him, that they all joined in a letter missive, asking him to resign, which called forth such a flow of blasphemy as probably never came from the mouth of a judge, since the days of Jeffreys. If, as the Bible says, it is what cometh forth of a man, that defileth him, then was Judge Frazier internally, exceedingly unclean. He refused to resign; but death came, if not to his, to our relief, in 1838, and Judge A. G. Miller succeeded him.

The following *personale* of this noted pioneer jurist, will not be out of place in this history: He was fully six feet in height, compactly built, large head, red face, the result of his intemperate life; had a strong, powerful voice, sharp and rasping in its tone; was of a very irascible and violent temper, and was as unsociable as a bear. His dress consisted of drab pants, white vest, green coat, with brass buttons, then the style; bell-crowned white hat, white gloves, and a ruffled shirt. He was, without exception, the most expensively dressed man that came to our city in 1837.

A Medical Society was also organized this year, February 14th, at which Dr. Thomas J. Noyes was elected President; Sullivan Belknap, Vice-President; S. H. Green, Secretary, and Wm. P. Proudfit, Treasurer.

A County Agricultural Society was formed this year. President, Byron Kilbourn; First Vice-President, Solomon Juneau; Second Vice-President, S. Pettibone; Third Vice-President, Hugh Wedge; Secretary, I. A. Lapham; Corresponding Secretary, Wm. A. Prentiss; Treasurer, S. Hinman; Directors, James H. Rogers, G. D. Dousman, J. Manderville, John Ogden, D. S. Hollister, Wm. R. Longstreet and Henry M. Hubbard.

This year also witnessed the formation of the first Temperance Society. President, S. Hinman; Vice-President, W. P. Proudfit; Secretary, F. Hawley; Directors, Wm. A. Kellogg, Robert Love, Geo. H. Dyer, H. W. Van Dorn, Daniel Worthington and Daniel Brown.

The following notice will, to some extent, show that the prices asked for real estate, in '36 and '7, were high enough:

## FOR SALE.

Three acres in fraction six (6)\* at eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) per acre. One-fourth down, balance in one, two or three years.

L. BLOSSOM, JR.

June 7th, 1837.

The following were the appointments by the Governor for Milwaukee County for 1837:

Justices of the Peace—Wm. A. Prentiss, Asa Kinney, N. F. Hyer, Lot Blanchard, Thomas Hart, Samuel Wright, Thomas Sanborn and Ivy Stewart.

Notary Public—N. F. Hyer.

Inspector of Provisions—B. W. Finch.

Auctioneer—C. D. Fitch.

To hold until the next Legislature shall assemble.

In the *Advertiser* of February, 18, 1837, is the report of a meeting called the 11th, at which some severe resolutions were passed in regard to Mr. Sweet's public acts at Belmont, and calling upon him, in strong language, to resign the office he had disgraced, by betraying the liberties of the people into the hands of a heartless bank monopoly, and other heinous sins; but he didn't resign. Prominent at this meeting were D. Wells, Jr., A. Fowler, S. Hinman, who was Chairman, and N. F. Hyer, Secretary.

Also in that of the 25th, five very spicy articles, signed respectively, X., T. G., Q. in the Corner, Lector, and Timothy Tickle, all bearing upon the same matter, and the eligibility of Mr. Hawley for the office of Register of Deeds, for which he ran, and to which he was elected.

These articles are much too lengthy for insertion here, and are mentioned simply to show the strong partisan feeling existing at this time, which made the April election, previously referred to, a very exciting one, principally, perhaps, because the people had not much else to be excited about.

It was a beautiful April morning; the voters marching to the polls in procession, with music and banners, under their respective ward captains. H. N. Wells, G. D. Dousman and J. A. Noonan, were very active and prominent at the polls. But the fun was in the evening, when a barrel of liquor was rolled into the street, in front of Martin's

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\*See Map.

iron block, corner of Wisconsin and East Water, the head knocked in, some tin cups procured, and the crowd told to help themselves, which, being mostly Democrats, they needed no second invitation to do. Every man of them seemed anxious to examine the bottom head of that barrel, and were not long in bringing it to view, a barrel of liquor standing as poor chance then as it would now.

It was amusing as well as instructive, to watch the effect that liquor had upon the crowd. Many of them when full, seeming to forget that the election was over, commenced at once to repeat, showing that they had been there before; others commenced to sing something about not going home 'till morning, and if my memory is correct, they kept their word, in that respect; in fact, some of them did not go then, having forgotten where they lived.

The election over, the people settled down to their regular business, *i. e.*, watching for the boats, which came occasionally, in which profitable employment, the Summer passed slowly away, navigation closed, and Winter came again, bringing the usual pastime of target and turkey shooting matches, racing horses upon the river, and dancing parties at the old Bellevue, in the enjoyment of which, the Winter passed swiftly away, and 1837, with all its hopes, labors, and pleasures, was gone.

#### FIGHT WITH THE RED SKINS.

There was a little affair in which I took a hand, in the Winter of '37, with the Indians, which commenced in fun, but came near causing the death of one of us boys, which occurred in the following manner:

Myself, B. F. Wheelock, and a Frenchman named Garvey, were in the old store on the Point, in company with six Indians, one of whom was the brother of Manitou, who was killed by Scott, the previous Summer. This Indian got playing with the clerk, young Bird, now living at Madison, which continued until the Indian got mad, and springing upon Bird, he threw him upon the floor, and raised his knife to kill him, which he certainly would have done, in a moment more, if we had not interfered. There were some ax handles in a cleat, over-head, which I went for, and with these we quickly put the whole of them to sleep, threw them out of doors, and not until

the following day were some of them able to walk away. This was the only trouble I ever had with Indians that ended in blows.

I knocked one of these Indians on the head, and pitched him out of doors into a puddle of snow water some four inches in depth, that had settled into a small depression in front of the door, it having rained the previous day, where we left him. During the night it turned cold, froze him in, and when he came to the following morning, he broke out, came up to the house, nearly dead with cold, and with pieces of ice attached to his blanket, a full half inch in thickness. We gave him some hot coffee, and a good breakfast, and sent him on his way; but the shape of him remained in the ice for several days.

#### PIGEON SHOOTING.

The author cannot close 1837, without making mention of the vast number of pigeons, with which the woods were filled, all the Spring and Summer, and the splendid hunting they afforded, as well as a description of the hunters, particularly of John Nowel, alias, Christmas, Mr. G. D. Dousman's old servant, before mentioned.

After the ground was cleared of its coating of leaves, by the fire, mention of which was made in the pre-historic sketch, it would be covered with pigeons in search of the mast, (acorns,) their glossy blue coats forming a beautiful contrast with the blackened earth. Nowel used to come out upon the farm now occupied by Mr. Dousman, where I was then working, armed with an old Queen Ann musket, that if over-loaded, would kick worse than a mule, with which he would slaughter them by the thousand in the following manner: The old man would sit down under a tree, with the breech of his miniature cannon placed upon the ground, not daring to hold it against his shoulder, for fear of being kicked across the Menomonee, where he would sit until the tree became filled with pigeons, which would be as often as every ten minutes, when bang, would go the old gun, the report of which could be heard a mile, the discharge covering the ground with pigeons, as thick as they could lay, the noise of their fall resembling that of apples when knocked from a tree with a pole, (mixed with leaves and small twigs,) some badly wounded; many would be completely denuded of feathers, others

would be blown all to pieces. But the best of all was to see the smile of satisfaction stealing over the old man's wrinkled visage, at the effect of his fusilade. I shall never forget it while life remains.

#### WHISKY.

As a proof of what whisky can do for a man, I will relate the following incident:

Two drovers with cattle from Indiana, were camping on the South Side, in '37, and one of them, Philip Bensel, was drowned in the Menomonee, at the foot of Fourth Avenue. A jury was summoned, of which I was one, to inquire into the cause of his death, which we found to be whisky, a flask of which was in his pocket. This was taken out, and while we were rendering the verdict, his comrade, who was sitting near, took a hearty drink of that whisky. The scene often recurs to my mind when passing that locality.

#### THOUGHT IT WAS THE DEVIL.

While building the new part of the house for J. and L. Childs, in 1837, some very laughable incidents occurred, which I will relate:

The small part, before spoken of as being where I spent my first night in Milwaukee, built in '36, and yet standing next north of the present residence of Hon. Geo. H. Paul, was full of men, some eight or ten workmen being employed upon the new, all of whom slept in the third story of this small part, which was all in one room, and reached by two flights of box stairs. The plates were, at the sides, about four feet from the floor, and the roof about sixteen inches from the top of the beds, which were ranged along the wall, six in number. This miniature black hole was like an oven in the Summer, there being but one small window in each end.

Among those who slept there, was an Irishman, named Mike Connor, who, like most of his race, had a hereditary hatred of the negro. Mike's bed was the middle one, he sleeping at that time alone.

Coming up to bed myself, one hot July night, I found Mike alone, sound asleep, and while thinking what I could do for him, Parker came up. Parker was a Yankee, and as full of mischief as a tame monkey. To him I proposed to have some fun with Mike. "All right," says Parker, "let's come the nigger on him." Whereupon, he at once returned to the kitchen, blacked his face with soot, came back,



took off his clothes and got quietly into bed with the unsuspecting Mike, motioning me to wake him up. When all was ready, I woke Mike, and asked him where that nigger came from. He gave one look at Parker's face, and sprang from the bed, his head striking the rafter overhead, with a thud, like a ram butting a barn door, the force of the blow sending him to the floor the back side of the bed, from where he attempted to escape by crawling underneath it, in doing which he cut a gash in his scalp, two inches in length, besides nearly knocking out what few brains he had, against the sharp edge of the bed rail. He, however, at last regained his feet, gave one look at Parker's face, and exclaiming, "Holy Jasus!" was down stairs in the twinkling of an eye, and we saw no more of him until morning, when he came after his clothes, having laid, as he said, under work-bench, in the new part, all night. In answer to my *kind inquiries*, as to how he had passed the night, Mike, who had got posted, replied, "To hell wid yee's! A foin thrick yee's played, wasn't it?" To which I replied, "Why Mike, I hope you don't think I had any hand in it." "Hand in it, is it?" said Mike. "Be gob, yee's ware the father of it, yee blatherin Yankee! Yee's are as full of the divil, as an egg is of mate. Warsn't it yoursel' that planned it? Of course yee's had a hand in it. Who but the loikes of yee's would have thought of it?" Seeing that Mike was posted, and further evasion useless, I replied apologetically, "Well, Mike, you should have got up quietly, and then you wouldn't have been hurt." "Quietly, is it?" he replied. "Be gorra, I jist though it was the divil, shure, and no mistake." Mike carried his head in a *sling* for a month, during which he often assured me that he would pay me for that *thrick*, but he never did.

Mike Connor's wounds were not fully healed, before my bed fellow, also, came to grief, in the following manner:

This gay and festive young Knickerbocker, contracted the very unfortunate habit of staying out nights, coming in at ten, eleven, and twelve o'clock, the noise of which would wake us all up, and when remonstrated with, he told us to help ourselves if we could; and I thought we could. Well, the next night he remained out, I fixed things in such a manner as to cause him to not only wake us, but the whole neighborhood as well, which was as follows:

Our chamber was, as previously stated, reached by two steep flights of box stairs, the doors at the foot of each flight, opening into the room from whence they started. Against the door at the head of the first flight, which opened directly into the room occupied by Mr. Childs and wife, I placed two chairs, bottom up, one above the other, and upon the upper one placed about half a bushel of broken crockery, some tin-ware, the shovel, tongs, and several other sonorous articles, all calculated to make a noise if upset. I then got a log chain, fastened one end to the inside of the door, at the foot of the second flight, carried the other to the top of the stairs, where I secured it in such a way as to have it roll down if disturbed; after which I retired, my mind as clear as a mountain spring, to await the arrival of the victim. At length the young gent came in, ascended the first flight, opened the door, and was greeted with a crash that could have been heard a block off. Things were working.

This so frightened him, that instead of opening the next door carefully, he opened it with a jerk, that brought about eighty pounds of old iron down upon him, with a noise like the dumping of a load of stone. By this time, however, he was mad, his breath coming in short puffs, hot enough to burn his teeth, and with a heart thirsting for vengeance, he came quickly up the stairs, intending, no doubt, to whip every man in the room, took two steps, when his foot came in contact with a rope stretched across the floor, (accidentally, I suppose,) which brought him to grass with a force that knocked all the fight out of him, as well as pretty much all the cuticle from his nose. This misfortune caused him to beat a hasty retreat, in search of bandages and arnica, after which he came up again, and got quietly into bed without any comments upon the roughness of the road, where he continued to sigh, like a grieved child, while we slept on in apparent unconsciousness of all that had happened. It was more than a week, however, before he would speak to any of us, for not knowing who to lay it to, at first, he was, of course, mad at all hands. The most wonderful part of it all was, that he should suspect a poor, innocent youth like me, of having any hand in it; but he did. It cured him, however, of staying out nights.

## DOWN SHE CAME.

There was one more amusing incident connected with the building of that house, *i. e.*, amusing to all but the victim; he was not much amused; which was this: In order to get the siding upon the back part of the house, I built a scaffold some eighteen feet from the ground, strong enough to sustain the weight of one man, but not two, upon which I was working, when the contractor, Silas Lyman, who was always in a hurry, came up on the inside, jumped down upon the scaffold, which at once gave way, causing him to take a seat, *a la Turk* (I saving myself, by clinging to the studs), upon a hard gravelly knob, with a thud like a hammer driving piles, sending the gravel flying in all directions, making his basement story resemble Marshal Shuney's face after his third battle with the small pox, \**i. e.*, he was badly pitted in that locality. At the same time, a keg, half-filled with nails, drove his old bell crowned hat down over his shoulders. He, however, got quickly upon his feet, and after considerable effort, succeeded in *coming to light*, a work of some difficulty, on account of his head being larger than his hat. This was an unfortunate fall for Silas, as the keg of nails nearly broke his head, while, owing to the hardness of the gravel where he struck, and the softness of the parts that struck, the only comfortable position for him, for many days, when he wished to sit down, was to stand up; but it cured him of jumping upon half-built scaffolds.

## SMOKING OUT THE BOYS.

Silas had not fully recovered from his bout with the gravel bank, before the following occurred: Going up to bed late, one hot night in August, I found the boys all asleep and sweating beautifully, filling the room not only with nasal music, pitched upon nearly every key in the scale, from the martial tone of C to that of G flat minor, but rapidly consuming all the oxygen it contained, as well; and as Dr. Johnson's health office had not yet been established, I con-

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\*In the winter of 1841, I think it was. Shuney had the small pox for the third time, after which, his claim as the beautiful man, was not recognized, generally. He was, without exception, the most pitted man I ever saw, his face resembling a piece of honey-comb, more than anything else; but he was as honest and good as before.

cluded to operate upon the boys myself, and cool them off a little; neither did it take me long to fix upon a plan that would do it. Returning to the kitchen, I got a tin plate, upon which I placed a paper of fine cut tobacco, sprinkled a little snuff over it, carried it up stairs, first telling Mr. and Mrs. Childs what I was going to do; placed it in the center of the room, shut both windows carefully, after which I set it on fire, and crept under the bed to watch the result. It was not long before the chamber was filled with a perfume not in general use as a breath sweetener. Every one in the room was awake in less than two minutes, coughing and sneezing at a terrible rate; but not one of them seemed to have the least idea what was the matter. I knew, though. At last, Mike Connor got his eye upon the plate, saw the dull glimmer of the burning tobacco and thinking it was some invention of Satan, gave one unearthly screech, and was down stairs like a shot, followed by every one in the room, in full dress, *i. e.*, in their shirts, passing through Mrs. Child's sleeping room to the new part, where Mike, who had got his breath somewhat, exclaimed, "Holy mither, boys! Did ye iver schmell the loikes of that? Phat the devil is it, at all, at all?" This was a question not one of those frightened men could answer, each being too busy clearing his lungs of the fumes of the tobacco, sneezing all the time, with a noise that reminded me of an old fashioned hand loom when working, for, at least, five minutes, giving me ample time to remove the plate and air the room, which I did.

By this time the mosquitoes had found a bonanza, and at once commenced prospecting, causing the boys to jump round quite lively, making them wish themselves safely up stairs again; but not one of them seemed willing to lead the way, or sacrifice himself, for the good of the crowd, and find out why things were thusly.

At length I put my head out of the window, and in my blandest tones, asked what the matter was, and if any thing was wanting down there, or could I do any thing to add to their comfort; if not, would they please come to bed, or should I pass down their clothes, in order that they might make a presentable appearance at the Police Court, in the morning?

This brought a laugh from all but Mike Connor, who exclaimed: "Sould again, by Jasus! Not five weeks since, I nairly broke mee

head in thrying to escape from a bogus nager, put in mee bed by that divilish Buck; and now, bee gob! he's druv us all out in the middle of the night, in light marching order, to be eat up wid mis-katees, wid a stink that would make a dog commit shueside. I wonder what the hell he'll be doing next!"

The boys now came up stairs, creeping through Mrs. Childs' room upon all fours, she laughing heartily, all the time, at the joke, and the ridiculous figures they cut, their gait being about as graceful as that of a spancelled mule, where, after a good laugh, they were soon asleep again, and all was lovely.

It was more than a week, however, before any of them fully understood what it was that cleaned out that room so quick, and Mike Connor always insisted it was some invention of the devil, and that I was in league with him. Poor Mike! A better hearted boy never lived, but sharper ones have.

#### SPEEDING A RED SKIN.

A laughable incident occurred at the celebration of the Fourth of July, 1837, at Kilbourn Town, which I will relate:

There were a large number of Indians at that time, hanging around the city, several of whom were looking on to see the boys fire crackers. At last, one of these boys, bolder than the others, fastened a bunch to the dirty old blanket of one of the young braves, and set fire to it. At the first discharge, he got off without any preliminary scoring. Down Third street, for Spring, he went as though h—ll was after him. We were too much amused to time him correctly, but his time has certainly never been beaten, and the track in no condition for a race. He would make leaps of twenty feet or more, land in the mud, when a new discharge would set him going again. He spoilt all his good clothes.

When he turned the angle at the intersection of Third and West Water streets, one of his companions exclaimed: "Waugh! che-mo-ko-man papoose heap d—n rascal," after which they all faced to the west, probably expecting to see him come from that direction, in a few hours. His race, however, came to an end at Spring street, not being able to proceed any further without a boat. For a long time after that, no boy could get an Indian to look at any thing red,

no matter if it was a painted nail, and whenever you wished for an Indian's room, in preference to his company, let a small boy creep towards him, with his hands behind his back, and your wish would be immediately gratified; he would be off like a shot. The medicine was too big.

#### PERSONAL.

The condition in which I landed in Milwaukee, will be best understood by the following statement of my finances: My entire capital, at that period, consisted of the clothes upon my back, and eleven dollars in money; consequently it would not answer for me to remain idle, and as no work was to be procured, for wages, I was compelled to work for my board or go in debt, which I did not like to do, even if I could; and in order, therefore, to come out even in the spring, I went upon the claim of B. F. Wheelock,\* slept in a shanty eight by ten, and seven feet in height, with no floor, my bed consisting of a bundle of straw, one Mackinac blanket, and a blanket overcoat; chopped five acres of timber, cleared it off, split the rails to fence it, put in a crop, built a good log house, and all the compensation I ever received, was my board, while performing the work. My mind often reverts to that winter and its labors, my first in Wisconsin. Neither is there any other that my hands have done, the recollection of which, calls up so many pleasant memories as does the clearing of that five acres, and the erection of that log house, in the winter of '36 and '7.

#### PRICES.

The price of hay, grain, vegetables, pork, flour, groceries and labor, in '36, were substantially as follows: Hay, per ton, \$40.00; wheat, per bushel, \$2.50; corn, \$2.50; oats, from \$2.50 to \$4.00; potatoes were \$2.50 by the vessel load; sugar, per pound, 25 cents; butter, 50 cents; eggs, per dozen, 75 cents; pork, per barrel, \$40.00; flour, \$20.00; labor for man per day, in '36, from \$3.50 to \$5.00; in '37 and '8, from \$3.00 to \$4.50; team, per day, in '36, \$16.00; in '37, and '8, \$8.00; and not withstanding all this, we got good

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\*This farm is now occupied by George D. Dousman, he having purchased it from Mr. Wheelock, many years ago.

board in private houses for \$5.00 per week. But the highest prices paid for potatoes were in the Spring of '38. That Spring \$6.00 was paid, and in one case, \$10.00 for one bushel of potatoes, for seed, and carried to Rock River upon a man's back. What would the young men of the present day think, if compelled to do that.

These prices were maintained, with little or no reduction, until the fall of '38, when the country began to be self-sustaining.

## VESSEL ARRIVALS.

It has not been thought best to continue this list in tabular form any further, as the space it would occupy could be filled with matter of more interest to the public. We shall; therefore, simply epitomize it.

The following list of vessel arrivals for 1837, was furnished me by Horace Chase, who has the original, and the only record in the city: Whole number of arrivals, 320, of which, 297 were sail vessels of all classes, and sixty-one were steamboats, viz: James Madison, Pennsylvania, Peninsula, Detroit, Michigan, Columbus, Thos. Jefferson, Bunker Hill, United States, DeWitt Clinton, Constellation, Constitution, Cleveland and Monroe, which altogether made us sixty-one visits, during the season, the Madison being the first, May 28th, and the last in the fall, leaving November 9th. This list exceeds in number that of '36, showing that if the country did not improve very rapidly, they kept the vessels moving.

The first vessel to arrive, was the schooner Thomas Jefferson, from Chicago, March 27th, and the last one to leave was the Oregon, December 8th.

The whole number of arrivals in 1835, was fifty-two, fifty of which were sail vessels, and two were steamboats, viz: The United States, which came, as before stated, June 17th, and the Michigan, July 16th. The first vessel was the Westward Ho, March 30th.

## PERSONAL.

MEN NOTED FOR THEIR PECULIAR TRAITS OF CHARACTER, OR FOR THEIR PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

## OTIS HUBBARD.

This man was noted for his profanity, in which vice, he certainly surpassed all the men I ever knew. He was a very smart man, and

could, when he would, be a perfect gentleman; but when his passion was roused, he would go through the street for hours, pouring forth such a torrent of blasphemy, as was awful to hear. The boys would stand in silence, until he had passed; even the dogs gave him the sidewalk, and men who made no pretensions to godliness, would flee his presence. These fits of passion would sometimes last for a week. Many thought him insane. He has been dead for many years.

WILLIAM BAUMGARTNER.

This man was noted for his personal ugliness. Short in stature, with an immense head, face large and flat, short, thick ears, and a mouth, that when open, would have fooled a king-fisher or a sand martin. But his chief deformity was his eyes, these organs being like those of the trilobite, placed nearly in the side of his head. He properly belonged to the olitic period, when monsters were the rule; and in addition to all this, he was cross-eyed. The only way to approach him unseen, was to come directly in front of him. He was, without exception, the worst looking human being that it was ever my fortune to see. His very presence caused a chill wherever he went, and no child could be induced to approach him. Even strange dogs eyed him askance. Where he came from or where he went to, I never knew; he disappeared in 1838.

TIMOTHY WOODEN.

This man was noted for his laziness, in which he surpassed all the white men in Wisconsin. He was of medium height, heavy moulded; walked with a half-swinging gait, with his head moving from side to side, much as does the ox. He would eat anything that came in his way, but would not work if he could help it. The last time I ever saw Tim, was at Mequan, thirty years ago, where he had a claim. It was a matter of necessity for him to keep in advance of civilization, as in a city like this he would have been run over every day. No man that ever lived in Milwaukee, was the victim of more tricks, by the wild young men of '36, than Tim Wooden, except Hoosier John, and I very much doubt if as much calomel as they gave John, would have had any effect upon him. It might have rolled him over, but it certainly would not have



drove him up. When he got planted in a comfortable position, nothing short of gun-powder or nitro-glycerine would ever have started him. Poor Tim! he died of cholera, in '49.

## HOOSIER JOHN.

Hoosier John, as he was called, was a curious specimen of humanity. He was one of those waifs, so to speak, often found floating around the frontier, that like Melchisedec, would seem to have had neither father or mother. He had arms of great length, feet of immense size, and a head soggy enough for a supervisor; he was also slow of speech and movement, except upon the occasion referred to, when his movements were quick enough.

Some of the boys had given him thirty-six grains of calomel, as the Irishman would say, "unbeknownst to him," one-half of which would have killed any common man, the operation of which created quite a sensation in his immediate vicinity. The joke of it was in his not knowing that he had taken anything, and that, when asked what was the matter, replied that he had the overflow of the gall. Well, I think he had, and a bad one. He left in the Spring of '38, the country having got too thickly settled for him.

## JOSEPH REVAIS, OR CROWING JOE.

There was another curious mortal, a Frenchman, called Crowing Joe, whom many of the old settlers will remember, for the singular propensity he had of crowing, in imitation of chanticleer. This at last became such a nuisance, that he was arrested, and brought up before the police justice, but as no law was in existence which would prevent a man from playing rooster, if he wished to, he was, of course, discharged, and when told that he was free, he immediately gave such an exhibition of his powers, as to fairly shake the windows, which was replied to by every cock within hearing. He was a worthless vagabond, and disappeared long ago.

## NATHANIEL C. PRENTISS.

This man came to Milwaukee from Rochester, N. Y., in 1836, and at once became noted as a builder and contractor.

In person, he was of medium height, thick set, large head, brown hair, coarse and shaggy, dark eyes, a voice that could be heard half

a mile, rough and harsh, its tones resembling the subdued growling of a dog, more than anything else; and a mouth that, when open, resembled the entrance to Mammoth Cave. For profanity, no man in the army of Flanders, could have surpassed him, and in lying, he was the compeer of Cady. His word was as good as his bond, and that was a thing no man wanted, unless he wished for a keepsake to remember the giver by. His hegira from Rochester is said to have occurred between two days, on account of the number of these same keepsakes, the constant reminder that the holders of them gave him, being too much for so sensitive a nature as his to endure. The first impression his blustering way of talking would give to a stranger, was that of fear of his prowess; but a further acquaintance would dispel all that. He was the biggest coward in the place; any boy twelve years old could make him run like a scared hound. The cognomen by which he was best known, was old "By Jesus." But with all these imperfections, he was one of the best mechanics that ever came to this city. He left many years ago, the place getting altogether too civilized for him, going to St. Paul, Minnesota, where, after running pretty much such a career as he did here, death came, and took him over the Styx.

## CHAPTER IX.

1838.

Its Opening—Outlook—List of those who came—Improvements—Dousman Builds his Warehouse at the foot of East Water Street—Election of Trustees—Appointments by the Governor—Newspaper Warfare—Convention at Prairie Village—Its Amusing Incidents—Election—Other Conventions—Bill for Uniting the Two Wards—Its Results—Tax Levy—Census—Removal of the Indians—Opening of Road to Madison by Government—Light House Built—Eli Bates, Keeper—Boys Visit Eli—Its Result—Toads—Bull Baiting—County Expenses—Vessel List—Close of Year—Biographical Sketches of Joseph Shuney, Te-pa-kee-nee-nee (*alias* Capt. Morgan), O-not-sah, his son Kow-o-set, Mrs. Solomon Juneau, and Jean Baptiste Mirandean.

The outlook at the opening of navigation in 1838, was much brighter than in '37. The great financial cloud which had covered the country was broken, and the sun of prosperity began to shine once more upon the western shore of Lake Michigan. People began to take courage. The hard winter was past, and a new lease of life seemed to have come to all, and an unusual cheerfulness and vivacity of spirit was exhibited throughout the whole community; hope in the ultimate success of the young hamlet grew stronger, causing all to feel sure that the night of commercial disaster was past, and the dawn of the morning of prosperity had come. Every one was at work; new buildings were commenced in all the different parts of the city; immigrants began to flock in; new farms were opened, here and there, by the hardy sons of toil, who quickly made the wilderness to blossom like the rose, all of which helped to make the country self-sustaining. Roads were opened west and south; new locations for town sites were selected, to the building up of which the owners put forth all their energies, each claiming for his particular location, advantages superior to any possessed by the others; and all was bright and fair.

Among those who came this year, was Judge A. G. Miller, His Excellency, Gov. Harrison Ludington, Lewis Ludington, Harvey Birchard, Nelson Ludington, Tully H. Smith, T. Mower, Wm. Clemens, Wm. Coates, H. W. Chubbuck, J. and G. Sercomb, J. Turton, Joseph and Lindsey Ward, Clark Shepardson, Loton H. Lane, Benjamin Ackley, Acley Carter, Caleb Harrison, Sr., Caleb

Harrison, Jr., R. L. Edwards, D. S. Ordway, Wm. W. Graham, Geo. H. Chase, A. N. Phelps, John Vliet, Wm. and Jasper Vliet, Warren S. Churchill, J. M. Warren, T. Boyd, — Field, — Carpenter, Albert James, A. Schofield, L. W. Ryckman, J. Larkin, Geo. Q. Pomeroy, L. P. Creary, Jared Thompson, Jr., Hayden M. and William B. Thompson, Plummer Brownell, Thomas Boyd, J. B. Hart, H. W. Blanchard, Silas Brown, Geo. G. Dousman, Seth Reed, Charles J. Lynde, and no doubt there were many others whose names are unknown.

The following are some of the improvements made this year: Upon the South Side, D. S. Hollister commenced and finished a large warehouse, at the foot of Barclay street, the timber for which had been framed by Lee and Thurston, upon the East Side, in 1836; U. B. Smith built the old Clinton House yet standing upon Clinton street; John McCollom built a blacksmith shop near him; Benjamin Ackley and Acley Carter, a store where J. Burnham's block now stands, or near there; Richard Hadley, a shoe shop upon the north side of the old Point, about where Tainsh's shop now stands; D. S. Hollister also erected the house where Col. Jacobs now lives, that Summer, and I think a small frame dwelling was erected at corner of Sixth avenue and Elizabeth, but of this I am not quite certain; all of which gave to the South Side a healthy look, notwithstanding the cloud upon their title, before spoken of, showing that the natural advantages were largely in their favor, and the prediction of its founders, that *there* was to be the future Milwaukee, bid fair to be realized.

Upon the East Side, Henry Williams erected an additional frame dwelling upon Mason, adjoining his first, then called Williamsburg, and J. McNeil also built a third one upon the southwest corner of Mason and Van Buren; old house yet standing upon Van Buren. Clark Shepardson put up his famous blacksmith shop where the Newhall now stands, upon Broadway, where the sound of the hammer upon his ringing anvil, could be heard daily as late as 1842. Two frames were erected where Pfister's block now stands; one or two upon Jefferson, south of Wisconsin, and there were also three or four small frames erected in the upper part of the present Seventh Ward, one on Milwaukee, one on Jefferson, and I think,

one upon Marshall and one upon Astor, but by whom built, I have forgotten. Several small buildings were also erected upon Wisconsin, north side, by Mr. Juneau and others; two small frames upon East Water, between Michigan and Wisconsin, and three between Wisconsin and Mason, by whom, I cannot now remember, but I think John Gale built one, Balser one, and F. B. Otis one, which were all the improvements made, as far as I can recollect, upon the East Side, in '38, except the old house built at the mouth of the river, by Dea. Ogden, mention of which was made in history of '35, which was, as before stated, placed upon East Water street, just north of the old Cottage Inn, between Huron and Michigan, and used as a store.

The West Side made some little advance this year, two or three small frames being built upon Wells street, west of Second. Jacob M. Rogers built the small part of what afterwards became the residence of his brother James H., upon Sixth street, between Sycamore and Clybourn, and a few were erected at Kilbourn Town, in the vicinity of Chestnut street, the exact location of which, is now unknown. Mr. Vliet also erected a part of his old residence this year, which, as far as known, completes the buildings upon the West Side, in '38. If there were more, their location is now forgotten.

This year also witnessed the erection of Mr. G. D. Dousman's warehouse, at the foot of East Water street, the sills for which were laid January 1st, and the building occupied May 1st. This was a famous warehouse in its day, it having the honor to receive and ship the first cargo of wheat that ever left the city, viz: the one shipped in 1841, and will be more fully spoken of hereafter.

At the election of Trustees this year, two tickets were put in nomination, viz: the Frazier and anti-Frazier party, one party disliking the course of Judge Frazier, which was very arbitrary. The following is the vote:

## ANTI-FRAZIER.

S. Juneau,.....	134	Votes.
D. Wells, Jr.,.....	135	“
Wm. A. Prentiss,.....	128	“
Wm. Brown,.....	129	“
Geo. D. Dousman,.....	130	“

## FOR FRAZIER.

A. W. Hatch,.....	40	Votes.
John Gale, Jr.,.....	34	“
Geo. Bowman,.....	35	“
J. S. Rockwell,.....	40	“
Wm. B. Sheldon,.....	34	“

It appears by this vote, that the course of Judge Frazier was not endorsed by the people. He was a bad egg, Judge Wm. C. Frazier.

The roster for this year, for the East Side, stands as follows:

Trustees—Solomon Juneau, D. Wells, Jr., Wm. A. Prentiss, Geo. D. Dousman and William Brown.

President—Wm. A. Prentiss.

Treasurer—Albert Fowler.

Assessors—Henry Miller, Henry Williams and Henry S. Hosmer.

Surveyer and Engineer—B. H. Edgerton, Esq.

Marshal—Geo. McIntyre.

Collector—Geo. S. Vail.

Clerk—Horatio N. Wells.

The West Side elected as Trustees, Byron Kilbourn, H. M. Hubbard, P. G. Leland, F. A. Wingfield and D. H. Richards.

The officers of the Canal Board were B. Kilbourn, President; F. A. Wingfield, Secretary and Solicitor; Chancy H. Peak, Treasurer, and I. A. Lapham, Engineer.

The following appointments were made by the Governor this year:

## FOR JUSTICES, MILWAUKEE COUNTY.

Milwaukee—Wm. A. Prentiss.

Summit—Samuel C. Leavitt, Curtis B. Brown, and Homer S. Finley.

Mequanigo—Boswell Andrews and A. Balser.

Muskego—Waterman Fields.

Lisbon—Morris L. Burnett, Samuel Dougherty and Augustus Story.

## WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Washington—J. W. Taylor, Geo. E. Greves and John Woodworth.

Jefferson—Thomas Brayton and Levi Drake.

Watertown—Lyman E. Boomer.

Joshua Hathaway was appointed Public Administrator of Milwaukee County, in place of C. H. Larkin, removed, and William Brown, Inspector of Provisions.

Two tickets were put in the field this year, for county officers, previous to the March election, the first one causing great excitement, for the reason that no convention had been held, the nominations having been made by some interested politicians, as it will appear by the following newspaper article, in which those who made them are styled an **IRRESPONSIBLE MONOPOLY OF POWER**, against whose encroachments the people are urged to defend themselves, by coming to the polls *en masse* :

#### NOMINATIONS.

As the shortness of the time between the receipt of the act calling an election, and the time for holding that election, prohibits the possibility of calling a convention for the purpose of making nominations, the following persons have been recommended as candidates, by political meetings held at Milwaukee and Prairie Village, and we understand they are acceptable to the people of Rock River. We hope, therefore, that the voters of the county will lay aside, as far as possible, all private or sectional prejudices, and unite in sustaining their rights against an irresponsible monopoly of power.

Milwaukee, Tuesday, Feb. 20, 1838.

The following is the ticket referred to as having been put in nomination by this irresponsible monopoly of power.

#### COUNTY TICKET.

For County Commissioners—Wm. A. Prentiss, E. Churchill and Alvin Foster.

Assessor—W. R. Longstreet.

Treasurer—G. D. Dousman.

Coroner—Charles Leland.

#### TOWN OF MILWAUKEE.

For Constables—Geo. S. Vale, James H. Wheelock, Geo. S. Wright and I. T. Brown.

Previous to the election, however, the two following conventions were held:

At the first, held at the house of Henry Bowren, February 15th, David Jackson was appointed chairman, and I. D. Turrell, Secretary; when on motion of E. D. Clinton, it was resolved to support for County Commissioners, the ticket headed by Wm. A. Prentiss, in preference to that by J. B. Zander. And on motion of John Manderville, E. Churchill was also nominated for County Commissioner.

What is meant by a ticket headed by J. B. Zander, for County Commissioners, I cannot tell, as no record of any ticket, for 1838, with J. B. Zander at its head, can be found.

The second, held on the 26th, was prefaced with the following editorial remarks:

We last week presented a ticket for county officers, sanctioned by the people of a few towns only. Since then it has been thought advisable to hold a county meeting, the proceedings of which we give below. The ticket is changed to some extent. We think the nominations, however, very judicious, and have little doubt but they will be approved by the voters of the county.—EDITOR.

#### PUBLIC MEETING.

At a large and respectable meeting of the inhabitants of Milwaukee County, and the counties thereunto attached, for judicial purposes, held pursuant to public notice at Prairie Village, on the 26th inst., Solomon Juneau was called to the chair, H. S. Finley and Geo. S. Vail, Secretaries.

When on motion of L. W. Weeks, three persons from each town, consisting of the following individuals, were appointed a committee, to report to the meeting the names of suitable persons to be supported at the coming election, when the following were appointed:

Milwaukee—Albert Fowler, W. R. Longstreet, and J. H. Tweedy.

Muskego—J. Manderville, A. R. Cutler, and M. McWhorter.

Mequanigo—L. W. Weeks, A. Balsler, and Delos Wright.

Lisbon—David Bonham, Augustus Story, and J. DeWolf.

Watertown—Eli Broughton, P. Rogan, and P. V. Brown.

Jefferson—J. L. Thayer, and M. Dunscombe,

Lake—O. Harrington, and Mr. James

Summit—H. C. Skinner, Orson Reed, and J. C. Schuyler.

On motion, T. J. Noyes, Rufus Parks, D. Wells, Jr., H. N. Wells, and H. S. Finley, were appointed to draft resolutions, expressive of the sense of this meeting, who reported as follows:

For County Commissioners—Wm. A. Prentiss, Henry C. Skinner, and John Richards.

Assessor—Wm. R. Longstreet.

Treasurer—G. D. Dousman,

Coroner—Charles Leland.

*Resolved,* That we are opposed to all secret societies, or combination of men for political effect.

*Resolved,* That we recognize in conventions of the people, giving to the several towns equal representation, the only proper mode of bringing candidates before the people.

*Resolved,* That as citizens and freemen, claiming for ourselves what we are



willing to allow to others, equal rights and privileges, we will not submit to dictation from any one town or set of individuals.

*Resolved*, That having full confidence in the ability, integrity and honesty of the candidates this day put in nomination, we pledge ourselves to use all fair means in our power to secure their election.

G. S. VAIL, Secretary.

S. JUNEAU, Chairman.

The author well remembers this convention and its amusing incidents. Never was Dr. L. W. Weeks so excited as upon that occasion. He placed himself upon the old Turtle Mound,\* where, with all the strength of his powerful voice, as well as the eloquence he was master of, he endeavored to convince the dear people that their only salvation was in placing themselves upon that prehistoric base at his side, he continuing to exclaim, "All that love their country, come up here! *All that love their country* come u-p h-e-r-e!! H-e-r-e is the only place of s-a-f-e-t-y!" While at his left, standing upon the head of a barrel, was Dr. T. J. Noyes, blowing for the other side, the gas escaping from him at a fearful rate. This, together with his immense weight, was too much for the barrel, it going down with a shock that made the Doctor's head snap. At the same time, Levi Blossom, from the top of a sleigh, was endeavoring to make the dear people understand why things were thusly, when right in the middle of one of his loftiest flights of eloquence, Capt. J. Sherwood gave the board, upon which he was standing, a tilt, that sent Levi to the ground, spoiling his speech and plans. The noise and confusion, for a short time, was equal to a camp meeting, and more like one than an orderly convention. The scenes of that day, are vivid and fresh in my mind, as though made yesterday. Prairie Village was a noted place for the politicians of those days. They always went out there to work off their superfluous gas, there being more room on the prairies than in Milwaukee.

At the election, however, March 6th, the following were elected:

Commissioners—Wm. A. Prentiss, H. C. Skinner and John Richards.

Assessor—Wm. R. Longstreet.

Treasurer—Geo. D. Dousman.

Coroner—Charles Leland.

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\*The famous Turtle Mound mentioned in Lapham's Antiquities of Wisconsin.

Constables for the town of Milwaukee—Geo. S. Vail, James H. Wheelock, Geo. S. Wright and I. T. Brown.

The official return were as follows:

#### THE ELECTION.

The following are the returns from the election for county officers, as far as they have been received.

	Commissioners.						Assess.		Treas.		Coroner.	
	W. A. Prentiss.	H. C. Skinner.	John Richards.	D. S. Hollister.	Robert Masters.	A. F. Pratt.	W. R. Longstreet.	A. W. Hatch.	G. D. Dousman.	William Payne.	Charles Leland.	H. M. Hubbard.
Milwaukee, ,.....	250	248	246	167	154	142	247	159	251	151	239	165
Lake, .....	17	5	4	34	35	22	5	35	5	35	5	35
Wedge's, .....	17	20	20	17	14	14	20	14	20	14	17	17
Lisbon, .....	23	25	26	22	22	22						
Walton's, .....	21	21	21	31	30	29						
Mequanigo, .....	37	15	15	24	23		17	21	38		11	27
Washington, .....	13	13	13				13		13		13	
Summit, .....	24	24	24	6	6	6						

A strong effort had been made for several months, to have a new deal this year, as the following articles, published in the *Sentinel* of Feb. 20, 1838, will show, and to defeat this ticket nominated at Prairieville, in particular. But it was not successful. The men referred to as blowing their own trumpets, were elected, or at least some of them, the county being Democratic then as well as now. But let the articles speak for themselves:

MR. EDITOR:—The election of County Commissioners, and other county officers will take place one week from Monday next, and its importance should call out every voter in the county. The office of County Commissioner, has now become one of great importance, requiring men of ability and integrity. The Commissioners will have the control of all money collected in the county, the locations of roads and bridges, as well as the appointing of several town officers. It is, therefore, we repeat, of the utmost importance, that we select competent men, to guard our interests; men of correct principles; men who will regard the interests of the people, as of more value than the favor of designing politicians; men who will not bend the knee to gratify the wishes of any set of men, at the sacrifice of the interest of the county. Such men we can, and shall elect, if the voters

will turn out, and come to the polls, notwithstanding the deception that is now being practiced by a faction who are determined to rule the county at whatever hazard.

Let the people come out on the day of election, and the overthrow of these self-constituted oracles, will be as complete in the county, as it has been in the town.

Secret meetings have been held by a few office seekers, in town, and nominations made for county officers, and these self-nominated men,\* panting for office, are now riding through the county, endeavoring to gull the people into the belief that they are the voice of the people of Milwaukee. We first heard of them at Prairie Village, and since at several other places, on their way west, where they were loud in their professions of regard for the people—the dear people. They don't want office. O no, they merely suffer themselves to run, because the people wish it so. This is for what they are trumpeting their own praise. None other than themselves are competent for the task; therefore are they going it at their own expense. Lord save the county from the tender mercies of such benevolence!

John Gale wishes us to say that the constitution of the Frazier party, was abandoned some time since, and that they, as a party, are no longer known by that name. If that is so, we wish they would display their new colors, then, so that we may know what to call them, for we still find them acting together.†

The following are the proceedings at the convention previous to the Fall election for delegates to Congress, Legislature, and other offices:

#### MILWAUKEE COUNTY CONVENTION.

At a convention of delegates from the several towns in the county, held at the house of Geo. P. Golding, in Prairie Village, pursuant to public notice, on Friday, the 27th day of July, 1838, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for delegate to Congress, James Y. Watson was called to the chair, and J. A. Messenger, appointed Secretary.

The following gentlemen came as delegates:

Milwaukee—Rufus Parks, James Sanderson, H. M. Hubbard, D. S. Hollister, E. Cramer, and A. Orrendolf.

Lisbon—Thos. H. Olin, F. B. Otis, Mr. Porter, and David Bonham.

Summit—Henry C. Skinner, Curtis Reed, J. C. Schuyler, and A. Campbell.

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\* Meaning D. Well, Jr., Wm. A. Prentiss, Wm. Brown, Win Payne, and Wm. N. Gardner.

†The party here referred to, was, I presume, that afterwards known as the Calathumpians, the fundamental principles of which were first explained by John Gale. If he was correct, then the party is certainly not dead, but holds the balance of power to-day, and always will.

Muskego—J. Y. Watson, E. Churchill, D. Jackson, A. F. Pratt, and S. Barney.

Lake—John Sheldon, and Mr. Philips.

On motion, Rufus Parks, D. S. Hollister, H. C. Skinner, Thos. H. Olin, and David Jackson, were appointed a committee on recommendations, who reported as follows, viz:

That a committee of five be appointed by this convention, whose duty it shall be to correspond with such other committees of the same character, in other counties of this Territory, and particularly from Racine and Brown, and if they think proper, to meet in general convention to select such individual from either of said counties, as in their estimation will unite the most strength in opposition to Geo. W. Jones, and that, as union is strength, we will cheerfully unite on that man, whose qualifications and popularity will be most likely to make him successful.

J. Y. WATSON, Chairman.

J. R. MESSENGER, Secretary.

The part taken by Mr. Jones, in the Wise-Cilley duel, had made a great excitement in Wisconsin, and to re-elect him was simply impossible.

The committee appointed at this convention, consisted of Rufus Parks, H. M. Hubbard, D. Jackson, James Sanderson, and D. S. Hollister.

#### DEMOCRATIC.

The county convention held at Prairieville, August 18th, to nominate candidates the the coming election, to be held September 10th, was made up of the following delegates:

Milwaukee—T. J. Noyes, Wm Underwood, Clinton Walworth, J. Corbin, and S. W. Dunbar.

Lisbon—J. P. Story, Wm. Payne, T. C. Horner, N. S. Burnett, and H. H. Brannan.

Summit—Orson Reed, A. F. Pratt, Jonas Folts, J. Hildreth, and Onslow Brown.

Lake—H. Johnson, J. C. Howard, Asa Kinney, J. Sheldon, and E. E. Lee.

Muskego—L. Martin, Q. Parker, D. Jackson, Ivy Stewart, and A. Herriman.

Mequanigo—D. Orrendolf, Wm. Cross, A. Schofield, H. N. Wells, and L. W. Weeks.

Washington—O. D. Norton, J. Judd, H. P. Wescott, Peter Turck, and C. Larkin.

When the following nominations were made:

For Council—Alanson Sweet, and Geo. Reed.

House—Augustus Story, E. Churchill, J. T. Haight, David S. Hollister, and  
and D. A. J. Upham.

Commissioner—Ivy P. Stewart.

Assessor—Samuel Sanborn,

Treasurer—A. O. T. Breed.

Coroner—Henry M. Hubbard.

D. JACKSON, Chairman.

S. W. DUNBAR, Secretary.

The following were, however, elected : Daniel Wells, Jr., and Wm. A. Prentiss were elected to the Council; Augustus Story, Ezekiel Churchill, Wm. Shew, Lucius I. Barber and Henry C. Skinner, to the House of Representatives; F. B. Otis, Commissioner; J. Y. Watson, Assessor; G. D. Dousman, Treasurer, and Henry Miller, Coroner.

The contest for delegate to Congress, in '38, was very bitter, as much recrimination and personal abuse being published in the papers, as is done to-day. Mankind are the same by nature, and as grace did not much abound then, each candidate, of course, was furnished with a family tree. The three candidates were Doty, Burnett and Jones. Doty was elected by a handsome majority.

The hostile feeling between the two sections, was abated somewhat this year, both Juneau and Kilbourn having become satisfied that its continuance would work irreparable injury to the interests of the young city, and a better feeling began to show itself between the inhabitants of both sides, as well as between the respective chiefs; the South Side being left out in the cold, both the East and West uniting against it. This feeling resulted in uniting in a memorial to the legislature, asking for a charter or bill to consolidate the two sides under one head, to be hereafter known as the East and West wards, of the town of Milwaukee, which was granted; the first election under it to be held May 1st, 1839, and all subsequent ones on the first Monday in January of each year.

This consolidation, it was hoped, would in a measure, if not wholly, eradicate the feeling of hostility existing between the two sections, by bringing the leaders as well as the people more together, causing them to feel that their interests were one, at the same time it made the machinery of government less cumbersome; which hope was in a measure realized, but not fully. The question

of bridges, then in its inception, was soon to become a new *casus belli*, in which both sides acted the fool in turn. Neither would give up, and neither alone could prevail.

The trustees of the East Side, voted September 15th, to levy a tax of five mills, upon all real estate, and two and a half mills upon all personal property, for improvements. The people also voted to borrow \$15,000 for public use, eighty votes being cast for, and none against, it being the first loan ever made by the town. The following is the advertisement:

#### NOTICE.

Whereas, by an act of the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin, approved January 3d, 1838, the President and Trustees of the Town of Milwaukee, are authorized to call a meeting of the qualified voters of said town, for the purpose of deciding by ballot on the propriety and expediency of authorizing the President and Trustees to borrow a sum of money, not exceeding Twenty Thousand Dollars, on the credit of said Town, to be expended in making streets, and such other improvements as the interests of said town may require.

Therefore, Notice is hereby given, to the qualified voters of the Town of Milwaukee, that a meeting will be holden at the "Milwaukee House," on Saturday, the 10th day of March next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of deciding, by ballot, on the expediency of authorizing the President and Trustees to borrow on the credit of said town, a sum of money not exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars, to be expended for the purposes mentioned aforesaid. The Polls will be opened at two o'clock P. M., and close at five o'clock P. M., on said day.

By order of the Board of Trustees.

WILLIAM A. PRENTISS, President.

H. N. WELLS, Clerk.

Milwaukee, February 20, 1838.

At the same time the Trustees of the town of Milwaukee, upon the West Side, levied a tax of twenty cents upon each one hundred dollars valuation, upon all the property within the town. The ordinance authorizing this levy, was signed by James H. Rogers, as President, and J. H. Tweedy, as Secretary; why, I cannot tell, as the names of these gentlemen do not appear upon the roster for that year. Neither was signed, *pro tem.*

The following census of Wisconsin, taken from the *Territorial*

*Gazette* of July 3, 1838, is inserted here as a reference, more than as a part of the history of Milwaukee:

It appears by these returns, that the aggregate population of Wisconsin, as constituted by the act of division, was 18,149 souls. But it must be recollected that this enumeration was taken early in the season, while very considerable of our citizens were at the eastward and southward, and before the influx of immigration into the territory had scarcely began for the season, and we have no doubt that if the census had been taken over again in July, the population would exceed 25,000 souls:

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, BURLINGTON, Iowa, June 15, 1838.

*To the Honorable, the President of the Council:*

SIR:—I have the honor herewith to transmit to the Council, an abstract of all the returns which have been made to my office in conformity with the law, passed at the last session, providing for the taking of the census of the Territory.

WM. B. SLAUGHTER,  
Secretary of Wisconsin Territory.

HON. A. B. INGRAHAM,  
President of the Council.

EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

Counties.	Population.
Crawford, .....	1,220
Green, .....	494
Iowa, .....	3,218
Dane, .....	172
Milwaukee, .....	3,131
Jefferson, .....	468
Dodge, .....	18
Washington, .....	68
Racine, .....	2,054
Rock, .....	480
Walworth, .....	1,010
Grant, .....	2,763
Brown, .....	3,048
Total, .....	18,144

## WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

Counties.	Population.
Louisa, . . . . .	1,180
Jackson, . . . . .	881
Jones, . . . . .	241
Linn, . . . . .	205
Des Moines, . . . . .	4,605
Muscatine, . . . . .	1,247
Clinton, . . . . .	445
Scott, . . . . .	1,252
Dubuque, . . . . .	2,384
Johnson, . . . . .	237
Cedar, . . . . .	557
Van Buren, . . . . .	3,174
Henry, . . . . .	3,058
Clayton, . . . . .	274
Slaughter, . . . . .	283
Lee, . . . . .	<u>2,839</u>
Total, . . . . .	22,872
East, . . . . .	<u>18,144</u>
Grand Total, . . . . .	41,016

The census of 1836, gives the population of the then Milwaukee county, which included what is now Jefferson, Washington and Dodge, at 2,802. It is now 7,230, being a gain of one hundred and fifty per cent. in less than two years. Of this number, Milwaukee county, as now constituted, has 3,681; while Racine, including the new counties attached to her for judicial purposes, has 3,550, being 131 less than Milwaukee county alone. Brown county, in '36, had 2,706, and in '38, 2,947, being an increase of 241 in two years.

Such was, it seems, the population of what is now Wisconsin and Iowa, in 1838.

- These facts are stated for reference merely.

## REMOVAL OF THE INDIANS.

Among other notable things done this year, was the removal of the Indians west of the Mississippi, which occurred in the month of June. They were collected at the old Indian fields, near the Layton House, where they were fed at the expense of the government, until preparations could be made, teams procured, and supplies collected, in compliance with the treaty, made at Chicago in 1833.



The contract was given to Jaques Vieux, who was compelled to press into the service, every available team in the country, in order to accomplish their removal.

This removal cleared the country of all the Pottawatomies and Menomonees, with the exception of the Shawano band, and a few who, on account of inter-marriage with the Creole French, were permitted to remain at Theresa, Horicon, and other places along Rock River, leading the wandering nomad life they so much love. These are now, however, mostly gone, and an Indian of the Menomonee or Pottawatomie race, is rarely seen in the streets of Milwaukee—the beautiful land their fathers loved so well.

I often think of these Bedouins of the West, all doomed to pass away; and the manly forms and smiling faces of Saukie Par-a-moo, Kow-o-sett, and others whom I saw daily, in '37, often rise up before me, and are plainly seen in memory's eye, all of whom have gone to the happy hunting grounds long ago, they being old men in '38. Peace to their memory.

JOSEPH SHUNEY OR SHAUNIER.

This man, of whom so much has been said, was, like Jean Baptiste Le Tendree, a *courier du bois*. He was about five feet and ten inches in height, heavy moulded, large features, spoke sharp and quick, always carried a smile upon his frank, open countenance was strictly honest and trusty, had been upon the frontier for forty years, and wintered, as before stated, upon the island in the Third ward, corner of East Water and Menomonee streets, in 1816, snow four feet in depth on the level. He often spoke of that winter as being remarkable for its continued cold. Large quantities of quail, prairie hens, deer, and wild turkey, were frozen, as well as many of the Indians.

Could this man have been educated, he would have, no doubt, attained a high position among men, as nature had been lavish of her gifts in his organization. He was the first village or city marshal, in which office he was both efficient and useful, and was killed while in office, in the attempt to stop a run away horse, belonging to Allen W. Hatch, December, 1848. He left a wife and family, some of whom are yet living in the city.

## TEE-PA-KEE-NEE-NEE, (ENGLISH, MAN OF THE NIGHT).

This Indian, a full blooded Menomonee, known among the whites as Capt. Morgan, was a remarkable man. He was of medium height, weighed about 140 pounds, with a face, thin and sharp, Roman nose, an eye like a basilisk, and was the only Indian I ever saw, who would speak English, which he spoke fluently, having learnt it at the old fort, at the Portage, where he spent his time when a boy. He was a great favorite with the officers, particularly Captain Morgan—hence the name. He was much in Milwaukee, not going to Council Bluffs, from '36 to his death, which I think occurred in '42 of typhoid fever. He was buried somewhere in the First ward—where, I cannot now remember.

Many of the old settlers will remember him as the white man's friend, which he certainly was; and his funeral was attended by many of the whites. He was a famous hunter, and would often come up the river, standing upon the gunwales of his canoe, which would be filled with muskrats, ducks, and fish, his spear held lightly in his hand, scanning the river for pickerel, which could be plainly seen at that early day, as they lay upon its bottom, from which he would bring them with his spear—a sight that will never be witnessed again in Milwaukee. The day for both has passed away.

## O-NOT-SAH, (FRENCH, LA FARRINEE, ENGLISH, THE FLOWER).

This man, a noted Menomonee chief, was at least 100 years old, when the whites first came. He was the great-uncle of Mrs. Solomon Juneau, upon her mother's side. The writer will never forget the last time he saw this aged warrior, which was at the farm of Jaques Vieux, in May, 1838. He was totally blind. Some of the family had helped the old man out of the house, and seated him upon a bench in the warm sun. He was perfectly nude, except his breech-cloth, and two young squaws were amusing themselves by tickling him with straws, he thinking it was flies. The coal black eyes of these Indian belles were glistening like beads, at the futile efforts of the old chief, to rid himself of his imaginary tormentors. Their fun, however, was soon terminated by the appearance of Vieux, upon the scene, causing them to flee to the woods. A playful smile stole over the old chieftain's wrinkled visage at the sound of Vieux's

voice, as it at once made him aware of the kind of flies he had been fighting. He seemed to enjoy the joke hugely. He went to Council Bluffs, that year, where he died, aged 112 years.

He was the head war-chief of the Milwaukee band, and was, when too old, succeeded by his son, Kow-o-sett, or Kow-o-sott, who was the acting chief when the whites came, and who died at Theresa, Dodge County, in August, 1847.

For this information I am under obligation to Narcisse Juneau, of Topeka, Kansas, for which he has my thanks.

MRS. SOLOMON JUNEAU.

This lady was of mixed French and Indian blood, being what is termed a quarter breed. She was the daughter of Jaques Vieux, Sr., a French trader before spoken of, as coming here first with John Baptiste Mirandean, in 1795, and lastly with Mr. Juneau. Mr. Vieux was of that pioneer race who over-ran this country in the seventeenth century; a cotemporary of LeFrambois, Leclerc, Robedeau, DeLanglade, and others, the companions and associates of the Jesuit Fathers.

In person, Mrs. Juneau was tall and stout, clear complexion, showing the Indian blood very little, and was, like all her race, very reticent, particularly in the presence of the whites. She was among women, what her husband was among men, one of the noblest works of God. Honest and true; a fitting wife for the noble-hearted man, with whom she lived so long, and to whom she bore sixteen children, one of which, the eldest daughter, Mrs. Theresa Juneau White, is yet living in this city.

Many of the first settlers were indebted to this brave-hearted child of nature, for she was truly one of that class, for their personal safety, more than once, in 1836, when the Indians were anxious to destroy them, which they certainly would have done upon one occasion, had she not interfered to protect them, upon which occasion she stood guard over the whites all the night long.

She was the grand-niece of LaFarrinee, the old Menomonee king, who died at Council Bluffs, as before stated. Four of her brothers are still living. Andrew lives at Green Bay, Amable, at Muskego Lake, Paul, in Kansas, and Jaques at Council Bluffs. Mrs. Juneau died in November, 1855, at Milwaukee.

## JEAN BAPTISTE MIRANDEAU.

The true history of this man, for the first mention of which the public are indebted to Dr. Enoch Chase, and from whose address to the Old Settler's Club, July 4th, 1872, I now quote, appears to be this:

"Mirandea came to Milwaukee from Green Bay, in 1795, with Jaques Vieux, the father of Mrs. Juneau. Vieux had a small trading house upon the hill near the present cattle yards, upon the South Side, that he visited yearly, but did not become a permanent resident until he came with Solomon Juneau, in 1818.

"Mirandea remained. His house stood in front of the Custom House, on Wisconsin street. He was, by trade, a gunsmith; was of pure French blood, tall and stout in person, black hair, which curled slightly, black eyes, of a kindly disposition; and much liked by the Indians. He married a half breed Chippewa woman, by whom he had eleven children, one of which, the youngest, is the widow of the late Joseph Porthier, *alias Purkee*, not Pettier, as the Milwaukee county Atlas has it."

Mr. Mirandea died in 1820, and was buried at the crossing of Wisconsin and Broadway. He was never a trader. This information came from Mrs. Porthier, and is no doubt correct, as she was born here, and has lived here the most of her life. His shop was at the crossing of Wisconsin and East Water street.

## OLD GUNPOWDER.

Pre-eminent among the Nimrods of 1838, '9, and even up to 1844, was our distinguished fellow citizen, Dr. E. B. Wolcott; and in fact, no man has ever lived in the city, who surpassed him, either in love for, or whose hunting expeditions were crowned with better success than were his. The report of his trusty rifle, announcing the death of some unlucky deer, turkey or wolf, could be heard almost daily in those early years; and the last wild turkey killed in the county, as far as known, fell by his hand, in the winter of 1839, near the present hospital in the First ward. But deer hunting was his favorite sport.

The doctor owned at that time, a very celebrated horse, called Gun Powder, why thus called, I do not know. In color, he was a

light bay, and at least thirty years old, when first brought to the city; knee-sprung, spavined, and ring-boned, throughout his entire underpinning; but notwithstanding all these imperfections, he was the best hunter in the west, and the doctor seldom or ever went out for deer without him. When a deer was once sighted, and brought within range, Gun Powder would erect his head, upon the top of which the doctor would rest his rifle, the old veteran standing like a statue, while the game was shot, in this novel way, from the saddle. The doctor would then dismount, fasten the game, if a deer, to the old horse's tail with a rope, or a strip of bark, if no rope was at hand, after which he would remount, and start for home. It was a common occurrence in 1838-9 to see him trotting up Wisconsin street in this manner, with a deer dragging behind him, in the snow.

But at last there came a time when Gun Powder could hunt no more, on account of age and infirmities; but for him there was no rest, his last days being spent in a water cart. It was a sad sight to see the old veteran, who, in his youth, must have been a very Bucephalus, condemned in his old age, to the ignominy of a water cart. But such was the end of old Gun Powder.

#### ROADS.

This year witnessed the opening of a road to Madison, a government appropriation having been made for that purpose. Several of the streets, Spring street among the number, were also improved; Wisconsin was also graded in part; and a light house built at the head of the street, James H. and Jacob M. Rogers, being the contractors; which was the first government money spent in Milwaukee. With the completion of this, and the installation of Eli Bates, as the keeper, at a salary of \$300, the season came to a close; the last boat took her farewell of Milwaukee; winter again came, and '38, like its predecessor, '37, was soon numbered with the past.

#### THE BOYS VISIT ELI.

This light house at the head of Wisconsin street, has a famous history. It was kept by Eli Bates, as previously stated, known as the mischievous man. He was, originally, a school teacher, but, upon the erection of the light house, he applied for and obtained the position of keeper, with a salary of \$300 in gold, and his place was a

great resort for the boys. He was commonly called Cork Leg, on account of having one of that material. Many of the old settlers now living, have probably not forgotten the practical jokes to which they were often subjected, by the fun-loving Eli. But like everything else in this vain world, Eli's plans sometimes worked the wrong way, and he became the victim, as the following laughable incident will illustrate:

His place, as stated above, was a great resort for the boys, not only on account of the mischief plotted there, but Eli also kept wine, cakes, pies, tobacco, small beer and cigars, which helped to replenish his not too plethoric purse. For these luxuries, the boys, when short of change, would play Old Sledge or Seven Up, a game which Eli was not only very fond of, but in which he was an expert. But it came to pass one day, after drawing his quarter's salary of \$75, that, feeling in an unusually generous mood, he gave an invitation to some few of the boys, among whom were H—y W—s, J. E. A—d, E—t C—r, and Dr. Wm. H. Manton, all men of renown, to come up that night, and have a game. Now Eli's den could only be reached, at that time, by climbing a fifty foot ladder, on account of the grade on Wisconsin street, the whole bluff being then in process of removal; but it was soon reached, and the fun commenced, lasting until midnight, and resulting in the boys not only winning his quarter's salary, but they also won, ate, drank and smoked his entire stock of cakes, pies, wine, beer and cigars, leaving his place as bare and empty of anything useful, as the head of a politician; when, thinking it about time to seek their virtuous couches, they started for the ladder, with light heads and uncertain steps, and, feeling wholly incompetent to make the descent to the street in the dark, were compelled to call on the vanquished Eli, to come out in the wet, it raining hard at the time, and light them on their downward way. This he did, with great disgust, standing until all had landed in safety. But when told that all was right, in that half incoherent manner, common to those whose tongues are thickened with whisky, his pent-up wrath found vent in the following classic expressions: "O y-e-s, i-t-s a-l-l r-i-g-h-t, you d—d blacklegs! You come up here and win all my money, drink all my wine, eat all my cakes, smoke all my cigars, ask me to come out in the rain and

hold the light while you get your whisky tanned carcasses in safety to the ground, and then tell me 'i-t-s a-l-l r-i-g-h-t, E-l-i !' You go to hell."

It was a long time after that, before Eli recovered his accustomed equanimity, or was able to get his revenge out of the boys. He is now, however, a millionaire in Chicago.

#### TOADS.

There was an extraordinary display of batrachians or small toads, in the month of August, 1838.

There had been no rain for at least four weeks, in consequence of which, everything was dry and dusty, and during this drought, I saw East Water street, from its foot to Detroit, literally alive with young toads, not larger than a dime. They covered the whole street as thick as the grasshoppers on the prairies. This show lasted for about an hour, when they all disappeared as mysteriously as they came.

This I consider the more singular, as toads are not plentiful in Wisconsin. Where they came from, and where they went to, no one could tell. This singular display was witnessed by many others. Will some Cuvier explain this ?

This same phenomena was witnessed in '36.

#### BULL-BAITING.

A laughable incident occurred this year upon the South Side, which I will relate:

I lived in the Summer of '38, with D. S. Hollister, who, although a deacon, was as fond of a joke as I was; but on this particular occasion, he got the worst of it.

Some drovers, who came up from Illinois, with cattle, had left a bull on the South Side, which they could not sell, who roamed around at will, taking in for his circuit, the towns of Lake, Greenfield, and Wauwatosa also. He came along one evening, to the old ferry at the Point, and intimated in some way to the Deacon that he would like to cross to the East Side. This seemed to be an opening for some fun, and the deacon went in, drove the gentleman on to the boat, and pulled out to the middle of the river, where he stopped the boat, and attempted to make him go the balance of the

way by water, or in other words, tried to make him jump overboard. This he not only refused to do, but he quickly hoisted the deacon into the river, eyed him for a few moments, as he came up from the bottom, gave a snort, and took to the water himself, and swam ashore, where, in plain bovine, unabridged, he intimated to the deacon, that he would be happy to see him a few moments, upon the land, on business. The deacon, however, declined, thinking the safest place for him, was in the river. Taurus was finally persuaded to go away, and the deacon allowed to some ashore, a wetter, if not a wiser man.

The discomfiture of the deacon made the boys laugh for a long time.

#### VESSEL ARRIVALS.

The whole number of arrivals this year, were 260; of which 141 were vessels, and 119, steam boats. The names of the boats are as follows:

Jefferson, Pennsylvania, Madison, DeWitt Clinton, New England, Michigan, Columbus, Constellation, United States, Rhode Island, Anthony Wayne, Illinois, G. W. Dole, Marcy, Erie, Taylor, Buffalo, and Constitution. The first was the Pennsylvania, April 26th, and the last, the Madison, November 21st.

The first vessel arrival this year, was the schooner Jefferson, from Chicago, March 30th; and the last to leave, the Western Trader, November 30th.

#### EXPENDITURES.

The following statement of the receipts and expenditures for the county of Milwaukee, and the counties thereunto attached, for the year 1836, '7, '8, and up to and including January 12th, 1839, will not be deemed out of place in this history, as showing the small amount of expenditures at that time, compared with the present:

Statement of the expenditures and receipts of the county of Milwaukee, and the counties thereunto attached, for the years 1836, 1837, 1838, and up to and including January 12th, 1839:

Amount of orders drawn on the Treasurer by the Board of Supervisors, previous to the first Monday of April, A. D. 1838, when the Board of County Commissioners was organized, ..... \$ 5,359 32



Amount of demands against the county, which accrued previous to the organization of the Board of County Commissioners, and which have been allowed by said Board.....	1,782 81
Making the county debt, which accrued previous to April, 1838....	<u>\$7,142 13</u>
Amount of expenses which have accrued since April, 1838, for the support of Paupers, Elections, District Court, Commissioners' and Clerk's services, Assessment of Property, Collection of Taxes, Treasurer, District Attorney and Sheriff's services, and for books and stationery for Commissioner's, Treasurer's and Register's offices, up to and including January 12, 1839.....	2,215 54
	<u>\$9,357 67</u>
From which deduct amount of orders on Treasurer, drawn by the late Board of Supervisors, and cancelled in the settlement with Henry Miller, former Treasurer of the county, April, 1838.....	\$2,939 84
Amount received for licenses during past year.....	435 00
Amount received for fines during past year.....	27 50
Amount received for jury fees in District Court, during past year.....	24 00
Amount received from A. J. Vieux, on tax of 1837....	82 19
Amount received on delinquent returns of the tax of 1837 .....	157 67
Amount received on tax list of 1838.....	<u>4,234 23</u>
	7,900 43
Leaves this amount of orders outstanding against the county.....	<u>\$1,457 24</u>
From this amount, deduct cash in hands of Treasurer, Jan. 11, 1839.....	221 76
Making the county debt, January 12, 1839.....	<u>\$1,235 48</u>

WILLIAM A. PRENTISS, )  
 JOHN RICHARDS, ) County Comm'rs.  
 FREDERICK B. OTIS, )

Milwaukee, January 12, 1836.

## CHAPTER X.

1839.

Improved Appearance of the City at its Opening—List of Names—Bridge War Inaugurated — Improvements — Newspaper Articles — Settler's Meeting — Conventions—Opening of the Milwaukee and Rock River Canal, Ceremony of—Author goes to Jefferson—Life at Jefferson—Bee Hunting—Indians—Allen's Leap—Author Returns to Milwaukee—Duelling—Tax Levy—New Cure for Rheumatism—Arrival of the Germans—Close of Year.

At the opening of navigation this year, a marked improvement was visible all over Milwaukee. The previous Winter had been unusually cold and snowy; but the Spring was pleasant,

And to behold

The woods and fields, that through the wintry months,  
Had worn their snowy garb so cold and white,  
Put on anew their suits of emerald green,  
With flower and leaflet glancing in the light;  
To hear the soft wind o'er the hills and vales  
Once more career, drying the dampened earth;  
While feathered songsters filled the balmy air  
With notes of joyful praise, so round and clear,  
To God, from morn to eve, was joy supreme.

Money, also, that lever which moves the world, began to circulate once more quite freely, and labor could not be procured for store pay wholly,\* as was the case in '37 and '8. Building went on quite extensively. Docks were built; streets graded; new stores opened;

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\*The custom of paying in orders upon the store, was almost universal from '37 to '40, and to a large extent, up to '43, as the writer well remembers. There was very little or no money in the country from '37 to '39, except wild cat, and in order to make what little there was go as far as possible, the plan of paying at the store was adopted, and managed as follows:

A wants to build a house; C contracts to do the work. B, who has a store, makes C an offer of twenty per cent. off, if he will pay his men in orders at his store; often adding this twenty per cent. to the already ruinous price charged for the goods, which of course all came out of the workmen. This would enable a laboring man to carry his week's wages home in a market basket, Saturday night, and the basket not very well filled at that. At the same time, it enabled the merchant to get his full price for his goods in money, and the contractor a large percentage, also, upon his men. Under this system, the writer worked for D. S. Hollister, in '38, for twelve dollars per month, and paid fifteen dollars for a pair of pants, working one and one-fourth months to earn them. It is easy to see that such a state of affairs, would quickly clothe a man in rags, and keep him so.

confidence in the future was greatly strengthened; the people worked willingly, and everything went with a rush.

The Milwaukee and Rock River Canal was opened in due form, the ceremony of which will be spoken of more at length, further on.

This year also witnessed the opening of the bridge war, a bill for the building of one at Chestnut street, having been passed by the legislature, the previous Winter, which continued with more or less fighting, until 1845, when the last great battle was fought between the East and West Sides, after which peace once more spread her white mantle over the city.

The two wards were also, this year, united under one head, a bill for which had passed the previous Winter, its object being to bring about peace between the rival towns. But there was no peace.

This year brought us Hon. Alex. Mitchell, whose history will be found in the biographical appendix; also Haskell Wheelock, L. J. Farewell, Linas R. Cady, J. A. Warren, L. B. Potter, L. L. Gridley, William Bonniwell, Geo. Bonniwell, Harmon Sanderson, Henry Crawford, B. K. Miller, J. M. Miller, Galbraith Miller, Daniel W. Fowler, Leverett T. Rice, Ransom Rice, Romanzo B. Rice, Thomas H. Brown, Giles A. Waite, Daniel Waite, Rufus Cheney, Jr., Solon Johnson, Geo. A. Tiffany, Dea. Moses Ordway, and no doubt many others now forgotten.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

Prominent among the improvements upon the East Side, was the erection of St. Peter's church, (Catholic,) upon Martin street, the land having been donated for that purpose, the previous year, by Mr. Juneau. This was the first Catholic church erected in Milwaukee. It was enlarged subsequently, and is standing to-day, occupied as a school-house.

Wm. Sivyer, also erected a brick dwelling, his present residence, upon Jackson street, it being the third brick one erected in the city. Several stores were built on East Water street, and quite a number of frame dwellings erected in the First and Seventh wards, the exact locations of which I cannot remember, with the exception of the second house above Oneida street, east side of Broadway,

which was built this year for a Wesleyan Methodist church, now known as the old Larrabee House.

The West Side also commenced to go ahead, quite rapidly, this year, some twenty buildings being erected in various localities upon that side. The old American, (Leland's Exchange,) was refitted, and opened anew, streets were graded to considerable extent, giving to that part of the city a healthy outlook.

Several dwellings were built upon the old Point, at the west end, and some filling done. The roads leading into the country were improved, vessels were built, and launched, and a stage line established to Madison.

J. and L. Childs opened a hotel upon the Point, and I. Churchill built a frame store and dwelling, upon the present site of the Ax-tel block.

S. L. Corbin came this year from Whitehall, New York, with a heavy stock of hardware, and located upon the South Side, in company with his brother John.

#### NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENCE.

The following, taken from *The Advertiser* of January 26, 1839, is inserted here as an indication of the spirit which had been fostered by the canal and anti-canal factions, against each other, in '37-8-9, and which was very bitter at this time.

#### OBITUARY.

DIED:—At the Court House, in this town, on Friday, the 26th instant, at two o'clock P. M., of a lingering illness, Anti Canal. It had been for some time in a decline, and its friends had almost despaired of its recovery, since the last election. It appeared to be peculiarly sensitive upon the words "faith of the Territory, heartless corporations, settlers' rights," &c. Its death was supposed to have been greatly accelerated by the unskillful medical treatment it had received during the last two weeks. We have not yet learned whether a post mortem examination has been decided upon. The funeral will take place at the office of its god father, *The Sentinel*, on Tuesday next, where its friends generally, and particularly *A Democrat*, are requested to attend. An interesting lecture may be expected from some of its friends, unless their grief should be too poignant for utterance.

It cannot be supposed that in the ephemeral columns of a newspaper, full justice could be done to the memory of the deceased. Abler pens than ours, must chronicle the disinterested philanthropy which could prompt it to persevere in

endeavoring to wrest from the hands of a heartless corporation, the lands of the poor settler, which the canal bill was about to place within their grasp; or which could induce it to encounter the ridicule which was heaped upon it by those whom it was generously intending to serve, and whose neglect finally obliged it to give up the ghost. Peace to its ashes.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

For Sale, to *close a concern*, A set of Resolutions, opposing the Canal *and the West*. Also, a Speech upon the Canal Bill, and various subjects, too numerous to mention.

The subscriber, intending to retire into private life, will dispose of his stock from the vast storehouse of his ideas, at a moderate rate.

## ANTI-IMPROVEMENT.

## ALSO, WANTED,

Some person, to write a continuation of articles in the *Sentinel*, signed "*A Democrat*." From the difficulty experienced last week, in getting a person to write a second communication, it is suggested that applications be made early. None need apply except those who can stretch the truth and understand the English Grammar. To such a person, a copy of the *Sentinel*, (bound in calf,) together with sundry resolutions never offered, and speeches never made, will be given.

Some twenty articles had appeared in the *Advertiser* and *Sentinel*, of a very virulent character, too lengthy to copy, of which the above was the *finale*, by whom written is perhaps well known to Messrs. Tweedy, Crocker and others, and the only object in inserting this much, is to show that the Canal interest entered largely into, and, in fact, controlled the local politics of the day.

The first election, under the Act of Consolidation, was in May, and resulted as follows :

Trustees, East Side—Elisha Starr, President; W. A. Prentiss, Lindsey Ward, W. N. Gardner and B. H. Edgerton. Trustees, West Side—D. H. Richards, Chauncey H. Peak, J. Hustis, W. M. Mayhew and H. M. Hubbard. Clerk.—J. E. Arnold.

Joseph Shaunier was appointed Marshal, his duties consisting in not only looking after things generally, the town bull\* included, but he was the health officer also, and was, in fact, the man of all work, attending faithfully to every duty. The city may have had a more competent, but it certainly never had a more faithful officer,

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\*The corporation at that time owned the bull.

since its foundations were laid, than was the old *courier du bois*, Joseph Shaunier.

The Directors of the Canal Company were, Byron Kilbourn, J. S. Rockwell, James H. Rogers, W. R. Longstreet, S. D. Cowles and Garrett Vliet. President—B. Kilbourn. Secretary and Solicitor—F. A. Wingfield. Engineer—I. A. Lapham. Treasurer—C. H. Peak.

#### SETTLERS' MEETING.

At a meeting of the Settlers on the Canal Reservation, held in pursuance of public notice, at the Court House, in Milwaukee, on the 13th of April, 1839, Daniel Wells, Jr., was called to the Chair, and W. M. Mayhew appointed Secretary.

When, on motion of L. W. Ryckman, a Committee of one from each Town, was appointed to take into consideration the propriety of making such alterations or amendments, and to suggest such modifications to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations adopted by the people, March 13th, 1837, as the exigencies of the Settlers on the Canal Lands may now seem to require.

Whereupon, the following were chosen by their respective towns :

Town 7,	Range 17,	.....	Lieutenant Hagner.
" 8,	" 17,	.....	M. Frisbee.
" 5,	" 19,	.....	M. Flint.
" 6,	" 19,	.....	J. C. Jackson.
" 8,	" 19,	.....	T. H. Horner.
" 5,	" 20,	.....	L. Blossom.
" 6,	" 20,	.....	W. B. Sheldon.
" 7,	" 20,	.....	M. Morgan.
" 8,	" 20,	.....	W. Hesk.
" 6,	" 20,	.....	L. W. Ryckman.
" 7,	" 21,	.....	A. Orrendolf.
" 8,	" 21,	.....	S. Wheeler.
" 6,	" 21,	.....	E. Chase.
" 7,	" 22,	.....	W. A. Prentiss.

This Committee made a report, recommending the appointment of a Central Executive Committee of Five, when the following gentlemen were appointed such Committee :

Peter N. Cushman, George Manderville, A. Sweet, L. W. Ryckman and F. B. Otis. After which the meeting adjourned.

D. WELLS, JR., Chairman.

W. M. MAYHEW, Secretary.

This committee then organized by appointing P. N. Cushman, chairman, and L. W. Ryckman, secretary, after which it was

*Resolved.* That the meeting for the election of a Judiciary Committee, in the several precincts of Milwaukee county, be held as follows:

Town 6, range 22, at the house of M. L. Burdick.

Town 6, range 21, at the house of M. Fuller.

Town 7, range 21, at Hart's Mill.

Town 8, range 21, at the house of C. P. Everts.

Towns 5 and 6, range 20, at the house of R. Bruce.

Town 7, range 20, at the house of R. Currin.

Town 8, range 20, at the house of Wm. Hesk.

Town 5, range 19, at the house of M. Plum.

Town 6, range 19, at the Prairieville Hotel.

Town 7, range 19, at the house of Van Vleck.

Town 8, range 19, at the house of S. Dougherty.

Town 5, range 18, at the house of R. Smart.

Town 6, range 18, at the house of L. W. Weeks.\*

Town 7, range 18, at the house of J. C. Schuyler.

Town 8, range 18, at the house of Mr. Warren.

Town 5, range 17, at the house of M. Schofield.

Town 6, range 17, at the house of T. C. Dousman.

Town 7, range 17, at the house of I. W. Edgerton.

Town 8, range 17, at the house of R. Hardell.

By order, L. W. RYCKMAN,

Secretary of Executive Committee.

April 13, 1839.

There were several meetings held by the settlers during '38, '9 and '40, principally to protect themselves against the encroachments of the Canal Company. The feeling, which had gained strength yearly, was at this time very bitter against Mr. Kilbourn and his adherents.

#### LAND SALES.

The following statement of the Milwaukee land sales, from the *Sentinel* of Tuesday, March 19, 1839, is inserted here as a part of this history:

Through the politeness of a gentleman in the Receiver's office, we have been furnished with the following statement of the amount of moneys received for lands, at the land office in this place, during the sale which ended on Saturday:

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\*At the doctor's farm in Genesee.

For lands purchased under the pre-emption act,.....	\$70,112 80
For lands sold at public sale from Feb. 19th, to March 7th, . . . . .	243,891 77
For lands sold on the 7th of March, . . . . .	15,179 84
For lands sold on the 8th of March, . . . . .	20,581 44
For lands sold on the 9th of March, . . . . .	32,573 29
For lands sold on the 11th of March, . . . . .	18,306 99
For lands sold on the 12th of March, . . . . .	36,419 19
For lands sold on the 13th of March, . . . . .	40,999 80
For lands sold on the 14th of March, . . . . .	42,476 99
For lands sold on the 15th of March, . . . . .	39,840 96
For lands sold on the 16th of March, . . . . .	8,956 30
Total amount received, . . . . .	\$567,339 37

## MILWAUKEE LAND DISTRICT.

The Land Sale has terminated, and the sales of land amount, in the aggregate, to more than half a MILLION OF DOLLARS. Nine tenths of the land, at least, has been purchased by *actual settlers*. It has been sold, too, with the exception, perhaps, of half a section, at the *minimum price* of the government, *one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre*. The quantity of land sold at the sale, has exceeded our most sanguine anticipations. Well done, we say, for the *Milwaukee Land District!* After this our eastern friends may be assured, that what has been said of the rapid growth of Wisconsin has been the language of sober truth—not the fiction of the imagination. The settlers in this district are a hardy, enterprising, intelligent class of citizens—men who are of the right sort to advance the prosperity of a new country.

## POLITICAL.

The following is the call, issued July 19th, for a meeting on the 27th, to elect delegates to the county convention:

## ELECTION NOTICE.

The electors of the county of Milwaukee are desired to meet in their several towns, at the usual places of township meetings, on Saturday, the 27th inst., at two o'clock, P. M., to choose delegates to a convention, to be holden at Prairie Village, at the house of James Buckner, on Monday, the 29th inst., at two o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of nominating suitable candidates for the several county offices, to be filled at the coming election.

It is recommended that each town send at least three delegates, and that the citizens of every town should take care to have themselves fully and fairly represented.

Let the *bone* and *sinew* of the people, who *can* and *will* think for themselves, and who will not submit to the dictation of any cabal of office seekers or political demagogues of Milwaukee—let all those in favor of prosecuting our works of



public improvement already begun, or about to be commenced, with *economy* as well as *vigor*, and of creating no more public offices than we want, and of paying them no more than they earn ; let all those in favor of reducing our county expenses and county taxes, and of expending the county revenues impartially for the benefit of the whole people and tax-payers generally, and not for the particular benefit of any one place or its inhabitants ; let the *mechanics*, and above all, the *farmers* of our county, the *now freeholders*, who will henceforward have to bear the burden of taxation, and have the best right to direct how and where the revenues thereof shall be applied—let all such take care to send good men and true to serve them faithfully at the convention, and be themselves at the ballot-box to finish the work, on the first Monday of August.

July 19th, 1839.

This convention met at the house of J. Buckner, in Prairie Village, on the 29th, and nominated the following ticket :

For Delegate to Congress—Byron Kilbourn.

For Representatives—Wm. R. Longstreet, Asa Kinney and Waterman Fields.

For County Commissioner—L. Parker.

Collector—J. B. Zander.

Treasurer—Wm. M. Mayhew.

Register of Deeds—C. Hawley.

Assessors—Charles P. Everts, Jared Thompson, P. Marlett.

Coroner—I. A. Lapham.

E. D. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

C. A. BROWN, Secretary.

The Democratic Republicans also held their convention at Prairie Village, the same day, and put in nomination the following ticket :

Assembly—Adam E. Ray, Milton B. Cushing, H. N. Wells and Wm. R. Longstreet.

Register of Deeds—Cyrus Hawley.

County Commissioner—H. W. Van Deerin.

Assessors—H. A. Hinkley, David Bonham and Henry Miller.

Treasurer—Wm. M. Mayhew.

Collector—J. B. Zander.

Coroner—I. A. Lapham.

Sheriff—Owen Aldrich.

F. B. OTIS, President.

J. C. SCHUYLER, Secretary.

The following was the result of the election :

Collector—S. W. Dunbar.

Assembly—Ray, Longstreet, Wells and Shew.

The balance of the Republican ticket was also elected.

The following was the result for Delegate to Congress:

Counties.	Doty.	Kilbourn.	Burnett.
Milwaukee.....	379	362	54
Racine.....	381	82	13
Walworth.....	159	51	8
Rock.....	110	8	7
Jefferson.....	72	13	36
Brown.....	385	45	21
Dane.....	49	27	6
Green.....	59	83	35
Grant.....	250	171	411
Iowa.....	145	295	221
Crawford.....	135	2	21
	<u>2,115</u>	<u>1,139</u>	<u>830</u>

Doty's majority, 146.

The contest for delegate, this year, also, was very bitter, the sectional feeling existing between the East and West Sides, entering largely into it. Mr. Kilbourn was exceedingly anxious to go to Congress, but his course with the people upon the canal lands, had worked against him materially, besides having two opponents to contend with; one of whom, at least, (Doty,) was "a foeman worthy of his steel," which was too much for a man of Mr. Kilbourn's ability, even, to overcome. Mr. Doty's majority, however, was much less than when running against Jones and Burnett, which showed that, although the people were not willing to send Mr. Kilbourn to Washington, yet he had their confidence and respect, to a much greater degree, than the duelist, Jones.

#### THE CANAL.

This year was, also, memorable for the celebration had at Kilbourntown, on the Fourth of July, when the act of breaking ground, as it is called, for the opening of Mr. Kilbourn's famous Milwaukee and Rock River Canal, a charter for which had been granted the previous year, accompanied by a grant of lands from the general government, was performed, with grand and imposing ceremonies; the orator of the day being the Hon. John Hustis.

When the eventful day came, a procession under Marshal L. H. Cotton, was formed at Chestnut street, corner of Third, headed by

a bass band, from whence they marched to the place selected, which was upon the triangular piece of ground, lying between Third and Cherry streets, and west of the present canal, just south of Cherry street. When the precise spot had been selected, upon which the incision was to be made, Mr. Kilbourn at once placed himself upon it; his first assistant *spade holder*, and chief *barrow knight*, Felix McCauley, an Italian from Cork, standing just forinst him, his eagle eye steadily fixed upon his chief, anxiously awaiting the order to begin.

The implement first selected with which to perform this important ceremony, was a common grain scoop; why, I cannot say, unless considered emblematic of the grain that it was expected would pass over, or be carried through the contemplated canal, in the coming years; but so it was.

When at last the auspicious moment arrived, Kilbourn, in anticipation of the severity of the labor to be performed, divested himself of his coat, standing before the assembled multitude, the very personification of a sinewy son of toil, seized the treacherous scoop, placed its point upon the virgin soil, so soon to become historic, placed his foot upon its heel, and like the Indian upon the lake bluff, so graphically described by the poet, Egbert Herring Smith, in his epic,

“He took a good look, at the village and town,  
With its thousands of houses and people,  
And cast his bold eye up and down,  
O'er many a mansion, and steeple,”

gave the fatal thrust, and all was over, *i. e.*, with that scoop, it doubling up like a piece of tin. The look of mingled disappointment, mortification, rage, and disgust which came over the face of Mr. Kilbourn, at this *faux pas*, I shall never forget while life remains. He threw the treacherous and disabled scoop upon the ground, with an exclamation that sounded like profanity. His assistant, however, quickly placed in his trembling hands, a tool suitable for the work, with which the ground was at once broken, the barrow filled with earth, wheeled off, and deposited at the spot selected; after which the procession was re-formed, marched to the old American, corner of Third and West Water streets, then kept by James Ward,

where a dinner suitable for the occasion, had been provided, of which all partook, and at which toasts were given with champagne, speeches made, and all was lovely.

To discuss the merits or demerits of Mr. Kilbourn's canal scheme, or the benefits the city would have derived from its construction, is not the province of this little book. Its history is fully recorded, in Smith's History of Wisconsin, where the curious reader can examine it at his leisure. The canal, however, was, as is well known, with the exception of the present water power, never built. But the grant of lands, known as the canal grant, was, for years, the subject of legislation as well as litigation, resulting finally, as do nearly all such grants, in enriching the few, at the expense of the many.

AUTHOR AT JEFFERSON.

This year being considered a good time to commence business, the Messrs. Corbin concluded to open a store in the country, and selected Jefferson as the place. I was accordingly sent out there with a small stock, to make the trial; but the place was yet too small, there being but three buildings in it, Enoch Darling's, in whose house my goods were, P. Rogan's and William Sanborn's.\* This store was the first one opened in Jefferson. It was abandoned however, in the Fall.

Doctor Lucius I. Barber, A. J. Lansing, R. J. Currier, Charles Allen, from Lancaster, N. H., and a Mr. William Ball, were all the young or unmarried men at that time in Jefferson.

The journey from Milwaukee to Jefferson, was made on foot, and the sufferings on account of heat and thirst, during a part of it, were the severest that I have ever endured in my life. The weather was extremely hot; no rain had fallen for a long time, consequently there was, besides the heat, plenty of dust. Between Silver Lake, in Waukesha county, and Johnson's Creek, sixteen miles, lay a heavy belt of timber, through which ran the road, cut out the previous year by government, four rods wide, into which the sun sent its burning rays, heating it like a furnace.

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\*The notice of the death of this man, was in the Milwaukee *Sentinel* of April 26th, '76, aged 75 years. He was one of the early and prominent men in Jefferson.

This miniature Sahara, I entered at three o'clock, P. M., and until seven o'clock P. M., at which time I reached the creek, my sufferings were awful. So badly was my tongue swollen, and my throat parched with thirst, that I was unable to speak, and my face was covered with blood from the bites of the gad-flies.

My appearance frightened Mrs. Johnson, at first; but by pointing to my mouth, she quickly understood what was wanted, seized a pail, ran for the spring, and soon placed in my eager hands, the life-giving water; a good draught of which soon enabled me to speak. I have passed through some dry places, in my life; having been on the short allowance of one quart of water per day, for four months at a time, beneath the burning equator; but my sufferings during that time, although severe, were nothing compared with that July afternoon. I often think of that journey, at this late day; and although thirty-five years have passed since then, the recollection of it is as vivid as though made yesterday.

There are two important incidents with which I have been connected, and in which I feel a just pride. One was, being one to help ship the first cargo of wheat that ever left Milwaukee, which I did in connection with Lotan H. Lane, Duncan C. Reed, William Howard, George G. Dousman, and Capt. Josiah Sherwood. This is the cargo spoken of by the Hon. E. D. Holton, in his speech at the organization of the Milwaukee Board of Trade, in 1858. This wheat was shipped in 1841, from the old Dousman warehouse, at the foot of East Water street, on the schooner Illinois, Captain Jonas Pickering. The vessel was owned at Oswego.

The other incident was the opening of the first store in Jefferson, previously mentioned.

#### BEE HUNTING.

Trade was of course dull, and much of our time was spent in amusements, among which was bee hunting; and in which there occurred many amusing scenes, one of which I will relate:

This Mr. William Ball, before spoken of, was a noted bee hunter, and would find from one to three swarms per day, and at night we would all turn out and take them up; and fifty-two swarms were taken up by us, upon the town site alone. Honey was plenty with

us, *so were stings*. The place of advance guard, to stop the door and prevent the bees from escaping, after their house was down, was not always a sinecure. Many a prod would we get, while performing this duty, from the plucky little warriors; but it was fun, this bee hunting, and we kept at it.

Coon hunting was also good; *i. e.*, coons were plenty, and for this business, we had a large pack of dogs. These dogs would always accompany us in our forays upon the bees. They soon learned the difference between a coon and a honey bee; and although always ready to go in when the tree fell, they were always as ready to go out and refresh themselves in the river, for which they usually ran after the first round with the bees. But at length our pack was increased by the addition of a setter purp, that, like some of his two legged brethren, put on a great many airs, which, out of charity, or pity for his inexperience, were all overlooked. His first lesson was with a young coon, which he finally killed, after a hard fight; and from that time forth, his vanity and self-conceit was very great, until he met with the following disaster, which cut him to the heart; ending in his total disgrace for life, and which happened as follows:

Mr. Ball had found a swarm in an immense white oak, nearly four feet in diameter, where, from all indications, he expected to find a large amount of honey, and, of course, we all turned out to get it. While the men were felling the tree, this "purp" sat upon the ground watching things very attentively. He had hung out his shingle as a full-fledged coon dog, and his eye said plainly: "Just you wait until that tree falls and you will see something." And we did. When it fell he rushed in with the rest after the coon. The old dogs were soon on their way to the river, covered with bees; but, as this was his first case after being admitted to the bar, he, unfortunately for himself, remained, and while busy sniffing around after that coon, the bees took an unfair advantage, and came Marcy's game on him.

One of the enraged little warriors went for one end of him, (not the one he barked with,) and the fun commenced. Down came his cord-like narrative, with a snap like a coach-whip, and with a yelp that would have won him the chieftainship in a band of Arapahoes, he sprang into the air and quickly disappeared from view at a

speed which, if kept up, would have carried him into Lake Michigan in two hours, and we saw no more of him until the following day, when his appearance indicated that he had enjoyed an exciting day and a sleepless night. The gas was all out of him, and from that time forth he was as modest a dog as you could wish to see. I think if there were any church for dogs, he would have joined. He quit the coon and bee hunting business, took down his shingle, stayed in nights, and, in fact, became in his habits, a very Puritan—*all the result of one little sting!*

This, as I stated, was in 1839, yet the scene often recurs to my mind. It should have been witnessed, however, to be fully appreciated.

#### THOUGHT THE INDIANS HAD HIM.

Another amusing incident in which Allen, before mentioned, took an active part, occurred that summer at Jefferson, which often recurs to my mind, even at this late day, which was this:

This man Allen, who was from Lancaster, N. H., was a rollicking, noisy, gas machine, always blowing his horn, and boasting what he had performed in the old Granite State, in the way of bears and Indian fights, and was, in fact, a nuisance generally. The boys, not taking much stock in his war record, made up their minds that the first time an opportunity offered, they would put it to the test. It soon came.

Some fifty Winnebagoes came down the river and camped upon the point, at the confluence of the Rock and Crawfish, just across the river, opposite the settlement. Of course they soon managed to get some whisky, and were tearing around as only Indians can when drunk. Myself, Allen, Lansing, Currier, and Ball, the bee hunter, all slept in the chamber of Sanborn's new house, which was reached by a pair of box stairs, and upon the floor at the head of these stairs, stood eight or ten kegs and half-kegs of nails. One night, after Allen, who had been gassing all day, had got fast asleep, Ball crept down stairs, went behind the house, and gave a war-whoop, that, had it been delivered through a four-foot tin horn, would have split it from end to end. It fairly shook the house. Allen, frightened nearly to death, thinking, probably, that all the red skins

east of the Rocky Mountains, were after him, sprang up,—gave one unearthly screech, and leaped right down the stairway, pulling down upon himself the contents of two partly filled kegs of nails, making a noise like an old saw mill running against time. The smash brought us all to our feet, a light was procured, and Allen rescued from his bed of shingle nails, and such a frightened mortal, I never saw before, as he was; but when he came to understand the trick that had been played upon him, his wrath found vent in language more expressive than classic, a qualification in which he excelled; and would, whenever the matter was spoken of afterwards, swear like the army in Flanders. He never heard the last of it, though, while I remained in Jefferson.

#### DUELLING.

One of the most amusing as well as the most ridiculous incidents that ever occurred in Milwaukee, when we consider the mental caliber of some of the parties concerned in it, was in the early part of the Winter of 1839-40. The boys had not much to do at that time, and of course, no opening that promised any sport, ever escaped their watchful eyes.

There was then living at Oak Creek, a poor, half-witted cripple, who bore the very euphonious name of Egbert Herring Smith, *alias* Limpy. He was a school-teacher, and quite a character in his town. This man had written a poem entitled, "Lo, the poor Indian," which was published in the *Sentinel*, then in its babyhood, and of course much admired, as a curiosity, for it limped as badly as its author. It was also severely criticised, which Smith, in his innocence, took for praise, and out of this came the duel.

Smith was greatly elated at the notice taken of his poetic abilities, and became the lion of the town, for a short time; but at length, the thing not only got to be monotonous, but Smith himself became a nuisance, and the boys finally, after much fasting and prayer, hit upon the following plan to squelch him:

Among those engaged in this farce, was a young lawyer, from Virginia, named Frederick A. Wingfield. This gentleman, who was very fine looking, was also exceedingly fond of the cup that inebriates, and was when under its influence, a bigger fool than Smith, if such a thing could be, as the sequel will show.



It was intimated to Smith, that Wingfield was selling copies of his poem at Madison for the drinks, at one shilling each, at which he became greatly excited, and at once sent Wingfield a note, asking for an explanation of his conduct, and the fun commenced.

Wingfield pretended to consider this as a challenge, and by his second, the late William Paine, sent Smith a "letter missive," which he would not accept; but in order that the fun might not stop, Henry Williams offered himself as Smith's second, and the high contending parties met at Breed's old pioneer store, then kept by Lindsey Ward, to settle it.

But when the pistol was placed in Smith's hand, his courage, if he ever had any, had, like that of the valiant Bob Acres, all oozed out at his finger ends, and the harmless weapon dropped to the floor.

Wingfield then exclaimed, "die, villain!" and discharged his pistol at the ceiling, the report of which so frightened Smith, as to cause him, to use a classic expression, to *light out*, which he did instantly, taking refuge at first beneath the front counter, between which, and the side counter, was a small opening, through which he, still fearing he would be shot, attempted to crawl, in which attempt, he was so far successful, as to get hung by the neck, nearly pulling off his worthless head, in his frantic efforts to release himself, which, at last however, he did; dashed out of doors, ran up Wisconsin street, down Broadway, and stopped not until he had placed the raging Milwaukee between himself and, as he believed, his would be murderer. He was the worst frightened man I ever saw, and would, while describing his escape to me, keep his eye upon the river, seemingly fearful that the bloodthirsty Wingfield would yet pursue and kill him.

Smith immediately retired to the classic shades of Oak Creek, and related his adventures to his friends at that place, who, feeling indignant that the only poet and literary man in their town, should be assaulted in that way by the Milwaukee roughs, immediately commenced a suit at law. This, of course, necessitated the aid of counsel; whereupon the gay and festive Don,\* so child-like and bland, was retained for the murderous Wingfield; and John T.

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\*D. A. J. Upham.

Haight, a young disciple of Blackstone, then living at Oak Creek, was the attorney for the much abused Smith, for which, if successful, he was to receive a deed of forty acres of land, as a fee; and in due time, a summons was served upon Wingfield, in which he was commanded to be and appear before the Hon. Asa Kinney, a Justice of the Peace, for the borough of Oak Creek, there to answer for his attempt upon the life of Smith.

When the eventful day came, a four-horse sleigh was procured of Geo. O. Tiffany, in which Sheriff Corbett, with the parties in suit, attended by the Don, Henry Williams, J. E. Arnold, E. Cranier, and Col. Morton, took seats for the place of trial. It was with difficulty, however, that Smith could be induced to take a seat in the sleigh, so great was his fear of Wingfield. But on the assurance that he would not be harmed, he finally did so, and the journey commenced.

Of course no affair of that magnitude could go on without spiritual aid; and this they carried in a jug. Smith was soon induced to take a drink with Wingfield, which so mollified him that a second followed, then a third, the result of which was, that both were as drunk as fools, before they reached the Town of Lake. It was then proposed that they step into the snow, which was at least three feet in depth, and embrace like brothers, which they did four times before arriving at Oak Creek. But at length that place was reached, and all were ushered into the judicial presence, the parties placed in position, and the case called; when the Don arose, and spake thus unto Kinney:

"May it please this honorable court, as counsel for the prisoner, I move you that both prisoner and plaintiff stand up." This feat, on account of their high spiritual condition, was a work of some difficulty, but at last that position was attained, when the Don continued, thusly:

"Prisoner, embrace the plaintiff. Plaintiff, embrace the prisoner;" which was instantly done. "AND NOW," said the Don, in stentorian tones, "let the Sheriff embrace the court!"

At this *fnale*, the scales fell from the eyes of the learned Haight, whereupon he sprang to his feet, and exclaimed, "By God! it's all a d——d sell."

The astute Kinney put himself upon his dignity, utterly refusing the proffered embrace of the Sheriff, or even any spiritual consolation out of the jug, retiring at once to Kinney Castle, where he spent the entire day, in fasting and self-examination, as to his fitness for judicial honors, some doubts of which had entered his mind upon the result of this trial, and upon the awful uncertainty of the law; while the house rang with yells of delight from the victorious Milwaukeeans. A dinner was called for, at which Smith and Wingfield were placed *vis a vis*, and made to change plates, *i. e.*, eat each other's food, in order to strengthen their brotherly love, and finally wound up with a kiss.

This was Kinney's first case, for which he had fully prepared himself, with lots of authorities upon duelling, and upon the trial of which he expected to immortalize himself. But many long years elapsed before he or Haight heard the last of the famous suit of Smith *vs.* Wingfield.

Thus ended this ridiculous farce, which broke the heart of poor Haight, and cost the judiciary of Oak Creek, more drinks than any other act of his life.\* The case, however, has never found its way into Smith's Wisconsin Reports.

#### MILWAUKEE'S FIRST BARD:

As many of my readers have never seen Smith's wonderful poem, I reproduce it from "Wheeler's Chronicles," with a description of the poet himself, and accompanying newspaper criticisms:

Egbert Herring Smith, settled at Oak Creek, near Milwaukee, as early as '36 or '7, and made a claim. He afterwards taught school in a log house in the same place. His was a peculiar idiosyncrasy, and no less peculiar was his personal appearance. Green goggles,

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\*I suppose no two men were ever more completely sold, than were Haight and Kinney, a deed for forty acres of Smith's claim, having been actually made out and executed to Haight as a fee. As for Kinney, the glory he expected to obtain, was enough for him. In order to fit himself for the occasion, he had donned what is known in western parlance as a biled shirt, the long-pointed corners of the collar extending some distance above his ears, giving him somewhat the appearance of a jackass rabbit; a white cambric cloker encircled his judicial neck; upon his broad shoulders was a swallow tail or claw hammer coat, and upon his feet a heavy pair of stoga boots. Taken as a whole, he looked like a mixture of law, gospel and horse jocky combined. Which of the three professions he was willing to bet he belonged to when he left the court, it would be difficult to determine, but he certainly did not look the victorious judge.

a limping gait and an unsophisticated air were the characteristics of the young man. We say young, though the verdure of over thirty summers had given him a tinge of its hue. Mr. Smith would have vegetated undoubtedly to this day in rural retirement, had not the Fates in the form of three or four respectable but never-to-be-forgiven gentlemen of Milwaukee, whispered in his ear the soft and seductive allurements of fame.

Mr. Smith, in an incautious moment, displayed a "poem" of his own composition.

The friends were enraptured with it, and as true friends will—gave Mr. Smith some good advice—viz., to publish it—to cultivate his talents, to devote himself to it—to show the world that genius flourished in the west. The first Hesperian fruit that resulted from this cultivation, appeared in that literary orchard, the *Sentinel*. It was called, "Lo, the Poor Indian," and though it partook somewhat of the gait of the author, must be admired by all. We give it as we find it:

The Indian, on the high bluff stood!  
 Alone, and nobody round him,  
 Save tenants, of the ancient wood,  
 That always did surround him.  
 He folded his arms and lit his pipe,  
 And smoked awhile to ease him,  
 And took a long, last look about,  
 On things most like to please him.

He took a good look of the village and town—  
 With its thousands of houses and people;  
 And cast his bold eye up and down,  
 O'er many a mansion and steeple.  
 Then, folding his blanket up close,  
 He heaved a long-drawn sigh,—  
 And, casting his eyes up above him, he said:  
 "O, that the poor Indian might die!

"To die and be at rest away from the foe—  
 Who follow my track night and day:  
 To forget in the grave, my race's woe—  
 For this, I hereby pray."

Then, throwing one more look adown,  
 He gathered his blanket tight,  
 And, taking one long, unwavering step,  
 Flung himself off the height!

One of the *reviews* of this poem is altogether too good to be lost—one must accompany the other. It appeared in one of the Milwaukee papers simultaneously with the "poem:"

We present to our readers, this morning, the famous poem of our distinguished citizen, Mr. Smith; the production of which places him at once among the first poets of the age. The perusal of it will not fail to discover "internal evidences" of genius such as animated and inspired the bards of other ages. The poem is short for an epic, but brevity is the very soul of wit and poetry, and we are happy to note that our bard has simply said all he had to say and stopped. It is not perfect, though approaching perfection. The author is a young man, and this, his first attempt, should be regarded leniently. What we say is prompted by the best wishes for his ultimate success in the path of renown which he has chosen. In this spirit we shall take the liberty of offering a few suggestions, and correcting a few trivial errors, which it seems to us the poet has fallen into. In the first place the measure is not adapted to the full expression of ideas which the author had. He was evidently cramped by the mechanical limits of his lines. Blank verse, for instance, would have given a much better opportunity for the expression of the fine thought in the second line,

"Alone, and nobody round him."

It might be rendered,

"Alone, and nobody round him,  
 Except himself."

And the same may be said of the first line of the second stanza. How much fuller and broader the same idea becomes when let out—

"And of the town and village then he took,  
 And of the city—one long squint."

But we will not presume to illustrate our ideas. Ours is not the lyric pen. The line as it stands evinces an insight into human nature which belongs to the poet alone. No one but an Indian could ever be expected to see a town and village in one settlement—and one settlement is meant, for the next line reads—

"With *its* thousands," &c.

So that in the words there is a delicate allusion to the prophetic power of the savage who saw the present village and the prospective town.

In the fifth line there is a very "clever conceit,"

"He folded his arms and lit his pipe."

*How* he lit his pipe we are at a loss to discover, unless it was by his eyes before he "cast them up and down," as we are assured in the second verse he did. This mysticism is rather a fault in so young a writer. Shelley may have written his best things so that nobody understood them, but would they have been any the less meritorious for being less mysterious? And so in this case. If our author had informed us how the act was consummated, with his arms folded, we should not have to tax our memory for all the legerdemain tricks we had ever read of as being performed by the aborigines. The "throwing" of first one eye, and afterwards both of them, comes under the same objection. If the poet wishes us to understand that he tossed them up to amuse himself, very well, but is it not very much like an encroachment upon the ridiculous to contemplate this noble savage, standing on the verge of a bluff, meditating suicide; his mind sombre with thoughts of dissolution, an uncertain hereafter, or perhaps a lingering death at the foot of the bluff—and *tossing up his eyes*, as boys toss up apples? We think so, and it is justly chargeable to the occasional obscurity. In this case the perspicuity was sacrificed to the music of versification. The poet was misled by his ears. They are evidently developed disproportionately.

In the management of the catastrophe, Mr. Smith redeems himself. There is no obscurity here; the most stupid reader will not hesitate and ask whether the red hero rolled down or walked down—"he gathered his blanket tight"—to prevent himself from presenting the appearance of a spread eagle in his descent—and taking *one* step, he *flung* himself. He had taken a comfortable smoke; made all the necessary observations on life, death, &c.; amused himself with his eyes for awhile, and all was over—of course we mean over the bluff. There can be no doubt that the efforts of Mr. Smith's maturer years will outshine these, his maiden productions. There is a charm about his writings that we have never yet discovered in any American poet, and we predict for him a name high in the annals of Literature and Song, if he but labors and polishes. Before we close this article we take this opportunity to say that a gentleman has informed us that the PLOT of "Lo the Poor Indian," is founded on fact. A year or two ago Mr. Smith himself picked up a short clay pipe on one of our bluffs, near an Irishman's shanty, and from this little incident has he woven the beautiful story of "Lo."

In a short time, Mr. Smith became the most notorious man in Milwaukee. The papers "set him up," and he was dubbed "Laureate." Poem after poem followed "Lo," all of similar "genius," until the thing became so flagrant a "sell" that even the people of other cities smelt the mouse and presumed to laugh. Every body praised Smith, every body being fond of jokes, especially such colossal jokes as these. The especial patrons of the poet advised him to write an epic, and he finally consented. The result of his labor in the heroic field was a book of 274 pages, entitled "Ma-ka-tai me-

she-kia-kiak, or Black Hawk. An epic poem." This was published in good style in 1848, in this city. A copy of it may be found on the shelves of the Young Men's Library. A portion of the poem is devoted to Milwaukee, which portion commences in this wise:

"Delightful village of Milwaukie,  
I went in November your beauties to see;  
Leaving my home and the land of my tillage,  
To visit this early and new founded village.  
I entered your courts, the jury I saw,  
And all your attorneys and counsellors at law;  
The learned Judge enthroned looked sedate and complacent,  
The sages of law sat smiling adjacent."

It was through the advice of his admirers—or pretended admirers—that Mr. Smith was led into this speculation; and when the book appeared they did not desert him. Resolutions of thanks were tendered him; long and flattering notices beset him, and the book sold. The thing became so flagrant, that at last, one or two, not appreciating the joke or else tired of it, went to Mr. Smith and solemnly assured him that the public were "running a rig" upon him—making a scape-goat of him—and so forth. Mr. Smith referred to the receipts of his book, and replied: "Not much, I guess."

And in truth, he was right, for the book sold as no epic has ever sold in the western country since. He traveled down to Chicago, but his fame preceded him. He was met by admirers, on all hands. The freedom of the city was voted to him, and eulogistic articles appeared in the journals—Mr. Smith, either oblivious of the true state of affairs, or purposely "keeping dark"—and selling his books all the while. Criticism was dumb; and for once, the common herd, as well as the *literati*, became interested in poetry.

Perhaps the best joke of all, transpired in 1853, during the height of the literary excitement in England, over the poet Alexander Smith, whose volume of poems was subsequently published and read by all lovers of the true and beautiful. During this *furor* over the Scotch Smith, the Memphis *Appeal* started the story "That Alexander Smith, over whom the eastern people were making such an ado, was, in 1846, a seedy and neglected individual in Wisconsin; the butt for ridicule of all the literary people, and that, after seeking

in vain through all our principal cities for a just appreciation of his merits, went to England, where he became famous." This confusion of the two Smiths was actually copied, and doubtless believed by hundreds all over the country. Whatever became of the laureate, we do not know. As nothing has been heard from him, since his epic, he is doubtless reposing on his laurels, undisturbed by the ghost of a murdered vernacular.

#### A NEW CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.

I am indebted to Hon. Matthew Keenan, for the following incident, in which Mr. William Cross, now living in the town of Lake, was a prominent actor. Mr. Cross is now in his 77th year, and is as hale and hearty an old man as we have among us. The incident is as follows:

In the month of March, 1839, the river being yet frozen, Mr. Cross came to the city and purchased fifty pounds of pork, upon the East Side, for which he paid twenty-five cents per pound, after which he started for home with the pork upon his back. Coming to the south side of the Milwaukee River, at Barclay street, he found the ice detached from the shore, leaving a space of ten feet or more of open water, to cross which, a plank had been brought into requisition, one end of which rested upon the ice, and the other upon the dock, at an angle of fifty degrees, or more, the dock being that much higher than the river. Up this plank he attempted to walk, but his feet slipping, he was compelled to let go his load, to prevent falling himself, it sinking at once to the bottom, some twelve feet. Here was a nice fix for a family man—all the meat he had in the world in the river, and no money wherewith to purchase any more. He was not long in deciding to get it or drown, and quickly divesting himself of his coat, plunged at once into the icy water, recovered his bag, and then walked home, six miles, in his wet clothes.

The most wonderful part of all is, that Mr. Cross, who had been laid up for the previous six months with the inflammatory rheumatism, this being the first time he had been from home in that time, was, by that immersion, completely cured, never having been sick a day from that time to the present. So much for an ice bath as a cure for rheumatism.



## VESSEL ARRIVALS.

Whole number of arrivals for this year was 266, of which 75 were sail vessels, and 191 steamboats, viz: G. W. Dole, Columbus, Madison, Constellation, Illinois, New England, Thos. Jefferson, Gen. Wayne, Pennsylvania, United States, Great Western, Chesapeake, DeWitt Clinton, Buffalo, Cleveland, Rochester, Com. Perry and C. C. Trowbridge. It will be readily seen that a great falling off had taken place in the last two years, in sailing vessels, their place being supplied by steamboats, which continued for the next eight years, when the side-wheelers reached their maximum, and the day of propellers began. The first boat was the Dole, from Chicago, April 9th; the first from Buffalo was, as previously stated, the Columbus, April 30th. The first vessel was the schooner General Thompson, from Chicago, March 6th, and the last to leave was the schooner Celeste, December 8th.

## PIONEER BANKING INSTITUTION.

The charter for the first bank in Wisconsin, notice for the organization of which is herewith appended, was obtained in 1836, at Belmont, subject, however, to the approval of Congress, before becoming valid. It was not a success, not being founded upon a rock; in fact, it is a matter of doubt, notwithstanding its numerous calls for installments, if its vaults ever contained any rocks, its directors being principally occupied, as its history shows, in endeavoring, each for himself, to obtain possession of it; their meetings could in no sense be taken as an illustration of the happy family. It was a mushroom institution from the start, and after lingering along in this Killkenny cat manner, several years, it finally came to an end.

Its history shows that some effort was made to get capital enough paid in to enable them to organize, three calls for installments having been made in one month, which, with the one in April, of forty per cent., would amount to seventy per cent. of the capital stock. How much of this was paid in, the writer cannot say, but the bank never issued any bills. The following is a copy of the call for a meeting to organize under the act of incorporation:

## BANK OF MILWAUKEE.

Notice is hereby given, that in pursuance to the act, entitled "An act to incorporate the Stockholders of the Bank of Milwaukee," the books for receiving sub-

scriptions for said stock, will be opened at the office of Rufus Parks, in Milwaukee, on the first Monday of June next, at ten o'clock, A. M., under the superintendence of the undersigned Commissioners, named in said act.

RUFUS PARKS,	GEORGE BOWMAN,
HORACE CHASE,	JESSE RHODES,
JAMES SANDERSON,	CYRUS HAWLEY,
GILES S. BRISBIN,	SOLOMON JUNEAU.
SYLVESTER W. DUNBAR.	

Dated, April 13th, 1837.

The following is a copy of the proceeding at one of its last business meetings:

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Milwaukee, to wit: A. B. Morton, H. Larkin, James Sanderson, Geo. Bowman, Alanson Sweet, and C. Hawley, held at the Banking House, on the 19th day of February, 1838. The Board was called to order by Geo. Bowman, President, pro tem. Whereupon

*Resolved*, That the resolution passed on the — day of December last, calling a meeting of the stockholders for an election of seven Directors, on the — inst., be and the same is hereby rescinded.

*Resolved*, That Francis K. O'Farrell be, and he hereby is removed from the office of Cashier of said Bank of Milwaukee.

*Resolved*, That Francis K. O'Farrell, be required forthwith, to give a bond to be approved by the Board, for the faithful performance of the duties of his office, as Fiscal Agent of said Bank.

*Resolved*, That Francis K. O'Farrell, as Fiscal Agent of the Bank of Milwaukee, be required to lay before the Board of Directors of said Bank, at their Banking House, to-morrow morning, at 11 o'clock, all books, papers, documents, funds, notes, etc., entrusted with him, belonging to said bank.

*Resolved*, That a call of forty per cent. be, and is hereby made on each share of the capital stock of said Bank, payable on the twenty-fourth day of April next, at the Banking House in Milwaukee.

GEORGE BOWMAN,  
President, Pro Tem.

#### THE OLD WISCONSIN MARINE AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This famous banking institution, a more extended history of which will be found in the biographical chapter, in whose history our people have so much pride, was organized in 1839, by a special act, under the control of commissioners appointed by the legislature, the first Board consisting of D. Wells, Jr., Hans Crocker, Wm. Brown, Jr., Jas. H. Rogers, and Allen W. Hatch; George Smith, of Chicago, President, Alex. Mitchell, Secretary.

No banking institution in the county, has ever had such a history, left such a record, or become such a power in the land, as has this, being to Milwaukee what the house of Prime, Ward & King was to New York in years gone by, furnishing a sound metallic currency for the people, sufficient for all their wants; growing as the country grew, under the wise management of Mr. Mitchell, until it has become the largest moneyed institution in the West. *Its* foundations were laid upon a rock. It was opened in May, and the following published call for installments, the first made, will show what a feeble institution it was at that time:

## NOTICE.

The stockholders of the Milwaukee Marine and Fire Insurance Company, are informed that an assessment of ten dollars per share, has been made, payable at the company's office.

By Order of the Board.

ALEX. MITCHELL, Secretary.

June 15, 1839

## IMMIGRATION.

This year brought us also the first installment of immigrants from Germany and Norway—the advance guard of the countless thousands that were to flock to our shores from all parts of the old world in search of new homes in this free land, where labor is not only respected, but where a man's labor belongs to himself, and not to a titled master.

The effect of the arrival of these hardy sons of toil, with their gold and silver wherewith to purchase homes for themselves and their children, upon the country, was electric. The circulation of this gold and silver among the people was like the distribution of the staff of life among the starving. It set their semi-stagnant blood in motion, and from that hour all doubts about the future were dissipated, confidence was again fully restored, and Milwaukee's long, dark night of financial depression was over.

## CHAPTER XI.

1840.

Opening of—Names of those known to have come—First Brick Block erected—Other buildings—Trustees elected—Names of Canal Officers—Political Convention at Hart's Mill, held in the interest of the Canal Company—Sweet joins Kilbourn—Convention at Prairie Village—Nominations—Election—That Love Feast—That Bridge—Fire Company organized—Census—Arrival of the C. C. Trowbridge, description of—That Ordinance—Barbecue, description of—Peter Yates' Leap—Immersing an Irishman—The Shingle Maker Plays Circus—Its Result—Speeding an Immigrant—Unequaled Engineering—A Free Ride—The Old Settlers' Club—Closing Remarks.

The Spring of 1840 opened with brightened skies, and notwithstanding the previous Winter had been cold and snowy, the Spring opened quite early. This the writer well remembers, he being engaged that winter, from Fall to Spring, in cutting wood above Luedeman's upon the White Fish Bay road.

Money had now become quite plenty, as compared with the four previous years; mostly silver, brought by the immigrants from Germany, Norway, and Sweden, our foreign increase up to that time being principally from those kingdoms. The country had also now become largely self-sustaining; the best land had nearly all been taken for farms,

Where 'neath the sturdy yeoman's vigorous arm,  
Daily the forest fell—those giant oaks, *from acorns born,*  
Whose anual rings told how a thousand years had come and gone,  
Since first their tiny forms appeared from out the earth—  
In whose round, gnarled tops, the war-like eagle had for ages  
Built her nest, and reared her young in safety,  
And 'gainst whose massive trunks, the stormy winds  
Had spent their force in vain,  
Were by the ax brought low, with thundering crash,  
Letting upon the new-born field, the sun's warm rays,  
To quicken into life, its virgin soil.

Provisions of all kinds were much cheaper than the previous year. Potatoes, that cost \$2.50 per bushel, by the vessel load, in '37, brought from Ohio and Indiana, could now be procured at home

for fifty cents. Pork, flour, and in fact all staples in the line of breadstuffs, were cheap and plenty. Business commenced early. The sun of prosperity, whose first returning light came back in '38, was now fully risen, and steadily ascending up the sky, filling the hearts of the people with joy.

#### ARRIVALS.

Among those who are known to have come this year, are David Ferguson, F. W. Horn, Edward D. Holton, Charles A. Hastings, Alonzo L. Boynton, Ira E. Goodall, Russell N. Kimball, John L. Hathaway, Jesse M. Hubbard, Jacob L. Bean, Irving S. Bean, James T. Lewis, John Lee, Plummer Brownell, Patrick Walsh, E. H. Saxe, Hiram Wheelock, Ira Wheelock, D. H. Wheelock, R. Gilbert, A. S. Anderson and Abram Vliet.\*

#### BUILDINGS.

This year witnessed the erection of the first brick block ever built in Milwaukee by an Anglo Saxon. What the mound builders might have erected in their day, I cannot say, but that they made brick, we certainly do know. I refer to the building erected by Hon. John Hustis, northwest corner of Third and Chestnut streets, taken down in 1876, to make room for a larger one. This pioneer store was a famous one when built, but is not up to the standard now. It was 40x50 feet, 3 stories, and in it was held the first theater in Milwaukee. If its successor shall earn its owners as much money as has this one, it will be a lucky building.

The second was built by C. C. Dewey, in the summer of '42, midway between Wisconsin and Michigan, upon the west side of East Water, afterwards called Hiedies' Block; William Sivyver, master mason.

This was pulled down in '72, and re-built. This was a famous block also, and our citizens had the pleasure of listening to Frank Johnson's famous brass band, (colored,) from its roof, in the fall of '42. They gave us some splendid music.

This year also was erected the second good brick dwelling, upon the northwest corner of Jackson and Wisconsin, built by the Rev.

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\*This man should have been mentioned in the history of '38.

Lemuel B. Hull, the first settled Episcopalian clergyman in Milwaukee. This house is yet standing in a good state of preservation.

Charles J. Lynde also erected the small two story frame, north-east corner of Jackson and Mason, afterwards the homestead of Hon. Wm. Pitt Lynde.

The old first Presbyterian Church, corner of Milwaukee and Mason, commenced in '39, was completed this year. This pioneer church was enlarged twice, first in length and second in width, by the insertion of a transept. It is now, however, occupied as a carriage factory, the society having built a new and more commodious one in Waverly Place.

#### ELECTION.

The election this year resulted as follows:

Trustees, West Ward—Henry M. Hubbard, J. H. Rogers, John Hustis, I. A. Lapham and D. H. Richards. East Ward—Elisha Starr, Geo. D. Dousman, Henry Williams, Lindsey Ward and John S. Rockwell.

President—Henry M. Hubbard.

Clerk—Wm. A. Prentiss.

The following were the officers of the canal company this year:

President—B. Kilbourn.

Engineer—I. A. Lapham.

Secretary and Solicitor—F. A. Wingfield.

Treasurer—C. H. Peak.

Justice, West Side—J. P. Bowers.

Collector—E. R. Collins.

Appointments by the Governor for canal officers, were:

For Commissioner—Geo. H. Walker.

Register of Canal Lands—John Hustis.

Receiver—J. H. Tweedy.

#### POLITICAL.

The political atmosphere of Milwaukee county, was this year filled with storms. It was like unto, and in fact was, a troubled sea. The canal interest had now become a great element in the local politics of the day, and bid fair to become, if not checked, a hydra headed monster, that would ultimately swallow not only the canal lands, but the people upon them also. The municipal affairs of the young city had been controlled mostly, if not wholly, up to this time, by Kilbourn and his party, and the people who were not in

league with the canal company, were looking anxiously for a change. A bridge was also to be built this year, that would help to swell the tax list materially, the opponents of which were both active and numerous. As the season passed away, bringing the time for holding the county election, the excitement became intensified. The outs wanted to get in, and the ins wanted to stay in, and *did*. Neither could all the craft that the political wire pullers could bring to bear, change it.

A public meeting was held September 12th, at Hart's Mill, in the interest of the canal company, at which Alanson Sweet was chairman, and Geo. Watson, secretary; the Whigs holding one the same day at Prairie Village, at which J. Y. Watson was chairman, and Levi Blossom, Secretary, neither making any nominations, at both of which the county Commissioners were charged with the wasteful expenditures of the public moneys, and complaints made of the unequal system of taxation which threw the burden upon the towns. A change from the Commissioner to the Supervisor system was called for, and various other complaints were made, and changes asked for, all tending to increase the strong partisan feeling already existing. The usual call was made by the would-be ins, for all to ignore party and come over to Macedonia, and help; but it availed them not; the result was a Democratic victory.

At the conventions held at Prairie Village, on the 19th, the following tickets were put in the field by the two political parties:

## REPUBLICAN.

For Members to the Council—Cephas L. Rockwood, Jonathan E. Arnold.

For the House of Representatives—A. F. Pratt, Joseph Bond, James Sanderson, Olney Harrington, Sylvester Pettibone.

For County Commissioner—James Y. Watson.

For Collector—Horace Chase.

For Assessors—Henry A. Hinkley, Cromwell Hills, J. B. Zander.

For Treasurer—William Brown.

## DEMOCRATIC.

For the Council—Don A. J. Upham, Jonathan E. Arnold.

For the House of Representatives—Joseph Bond, James Sanderson, Alexander F. Pratt, William F. Shepherd, Russell R. Otis.

For Collector—Horace Chase.

For County Commissioner—William A. Barstow.

For Assessors—William S. Trowbridge, Cromwell Hills, Andrew Schofield.

For Treasurer—George D. Dousman.

The following were elected:

Council—J. E. Arnold, D. A. J. Upham.

Assembly—John S. Rockwell, Jacob Brazelton, Joseph Bond, W. F. Shepherd;  
and Adam E. Ray, for Milwaukee county.

#### COUNTY OFFICERS.

County Commissioner—Wm. A. Barstow.

Collector—Horace Chase.

Treasurer—G. D. Dousman.

Assessors—Cromwell Hills, Ira Bidwell and Geo. Watson.

#### TOWN OFFICERS.

For School Commissioners—Wm. Brown, Jr., and S. W. Dunbar.

Constables—J. Eggleston, E. Nauman and R. H. Bryant.

This was a very hotly contested election, as the writer well remembers, every conceivable mode being adopted by the wire pullers to hoodwink the dear people. This being the first election in which the Germans had participated, a great effort was made to secure their vote by both parties, the Democracy winning the day.

#### LOVE FEAST.

This was the year when the celebrated meeting between Kilbourn and Sweet was held, in the swamp below Chestnut street, called the Love Feast, where, seated upon a tamarack log, these two old political enemies came to an understanding, smoked the pipe of peace, buried the hatchet, and became, politically, the best of friends. It was, says an eye witness, an affecting scene. The day was the holy Sabbath, when things temporal are supposed to have been laid aside, and men's thoughts fixed upon things spiritual. How interesting to a beholder must have been this meeting. Here, seated upon a mossy log, surrounded by the umbrageous tamarack, the tag alder, the arbor vitae, and numerous other *green things*, animate and inanimate, to be found within the boundaries of that delectable place in those early days, their hostile feelings soothed by the syren song of the festive mosquito—here, unseen, as they supposed, full confession of former sins was made, new pledges of fealty given, on both sides, with mental reservation to break them at the first opportunity, and all was lovely.



Colonel Walker used to sing a song commemorative of this event, but the author is unable, at this late day to obtain a copy of it.

The following mention of this meeting appeared in the *Sentinel* at the time:

## TWO "NICE" MEN.

Alanson Sweet and Byron Kilbourn now work in the same yoke! After seeking, by every means in their power, to overthrow each other—after many unsuccessful attempts by each to get unlimited sway in the County—it was at last determined in a Sabbath conclave in the "Tamarack Swamp," no more to turn the "screw" upon, or tell the truth of, each other, but to embrace and go hand in hand and divide the spoils! Yes! "Dog eats dog" no longer! they heard the story of the Kilkenny cats, and they remembered the sequel! Has the union saved them?

Probably no two men who ever lived in Milwaukee were more deadly enemies politically, than were Sweet and Kilbourn, previous to this meeting. The quarrel arose in consequence of something Sweet had charged Kilbourn with, in connection with the canal and the bank charter, while Kilbourn charged Sweet with betraying his constituents in the location of the capital at Madison, the division of the county, &c. A bitter newspaper warfare was the result, several spicy articles being written upon both sides, in one of which allusion is made by Kilbourn to the fact that he held the screws upon Sweet, which he would turn on him, unless he withdrew his charges, as publicly as he had made them, which Sweet refused to do; therefore this meeting and reconciliation of these two deadly enemies, which is said to have occurred just prior to the meeting at Hart's Mill, at which Sweet pulled for the first time in the canal traces, causing no little astonishment in the community.

## THAT BRIDGE.

The *Sentinel* of January 29, 1840, contained the following:

By an advertisement in another column it will be seen that the County Commissioners have advertised for proposals to build a bridge at Chestnut street, as authorized at the last Legislature. It is not our purpose at the present time to discuss the propriety of building this bridge at the expense of the county, as the tax-payers will doubtless pass judgment upon that matter whenever they shall graciously be allowed to do so by the Commissioners. The Commissioners will please to remember that they are not the creatures of the Legislature, but the servants of the people, under the general laws of the Territory, and that no leg-

islative enactment can compel them to levy a tax for a local improvement—it can only authorise them, and in this very law the people of the East Ward are required to grade certain streets leading to the bridge.

But suppose for instance, as is very likely to happen, that the people of said ward should refuse to grade said streets, could they be compelled by the Commissioners to do so? Certainly not. We hope they will act wisely in this matter, and if we must have a bridge, let it be as cheap a one as possible.

The following is the advertisement :

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, }  
Milwaukee, January 29, 1840. }

Sealed proposals will be received at this office until Saturday, the 8th day of February next, for furnishing all the materials for, and the construction of a draw bridge across the Milwaukee river, in the town of Milwaukee, from the foot of Chestnut street on the west side to the foot of Division street on the east side thereof, agreeably to a plan and specifications now on file, and which can be examined by calling on the Clerk of this Board. The contractor will be required to give good and sufficient security for the completion of the bridge on or before the first day of November next, and drafts on the Treasurer of the County will be given in payment for one half the amount, in the course of the year 1840, and the remainder during the year 1841.

WILLIAM A. PRENTISS, } County  
FREDERIC B. OTIS, } Commissioners.

The author has inserted this article to show that the bridge was fought persistently by certain politicians from its inception to its completion.

This bridge was built by George Guile.

FIRST FIRE COMPANY ORGANIZED.

The first meeting for organizing a fire company was held at the Milwaukee House, February 14, 1840.

CENSUS OF 1840.

The following is the census for Wisconsin, as returned by the Marshal:

Counties.	1840.	1838.
Brown, .....	2117	} 3048
Calumet, .....	275	
Fond du Lac, .....	130	
Winnebago, .....	135	
Portage, .....	1500	
Manitowoc, .....	300	
Shéboygan, .....	150	
Washington, .....	64*	64
Milwaukee, .....	6000	3121

\*Not heard from.

Racine,.....	3300	2054
Rock,.....	1750	480
Walworth,.....	2510	1019
Jefferson,.....	914	468
Green,.....	980	194
Dane,.....	300	172
Dodge,.....	120	18
Iowa,.....	4000	3218
Grant,.....	4500	2768
Crawford,.....	1400	} 1220
Sac,.....	102	
Totals. ....	32547	17144

Being a gain of 15,403, in two years, or nearly one hundred per cent. This it must be remembered, is the present State, while the census of '38, included what is now Iowa, also.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE TROWBRIDGE.

As opposition begets opposition, and always will, so the foolish course adopted by the West Side, in refusing to allow the Badger to land her freight or passengers upon the East Side, spoken of in the history of '37, bore its legitimate fruits this year, the East Side purchasing a steamer, the C. C. Trowbridge, and from that time on, were able to control the traffic of the river. And, what was of more importance, they had the good sense to land the freight and passengers at any point desired. The advent of this boat, took the wind out of the West Siders immensely; resulting in causing the hatchet to be buried in part, not wholly; but from this time forth, their prestige was gone, and the carrying of passengers to Kilbourntown, *volens volens*, could be done no more, forever.

The C. C. Trowbridge, was a famous boat in its day, having for its commanders, Capt. Porter, an old sea captain, who came in her, Josiah Sherwood, Lotan H. Lane, William W. Caswell, Duncan C. Reed, Leister H. Cotton, and others, with William Howard as engineer, all of whom, with the exception of Capt. Sherwood, are yet living.

When the harbor was opened, however, she went out of commission; her engine was placed in the Planing Mill of J. B. Smith upon West Water street, where it continued to work for many years. When the mill was pulled down, the old engine again changed owners, and is now doing duty in a mill in Pentwater, Michigan; having run

longer and earned more money, probably, than any other engine in the country.

To this boat, also belongs the honor of helping ship the cargo of wheat spoken of in the history of '39, as being the first one shipped from Milwaukee, which was done in the following manner:

It was first put in bags, after which it was placed upon the Trowbridge, we carrying it aboard on our backs, taken out to the vessel, which lay outside, and emptied into the hold, a whole week being consumed in its shipment; and it was while engaged in putting the last load aboard the vessel, that the steamer Milwaukee, spoken of in Wheeler's Chronicles as having been stolen out of Buffalo harbor on the Fourth of July, 1841, by Capt L. H. Cotton and Duncan C. Reed, came into the bay, running at a speed of twenty miles an hour. She was built to run, and she could run.

In order to illustrate somewhat the hostile feelings existing between the East and West sides in those early days, the author has concluded to print the following resolution, adopted by the Board of Trustees upon the West Side, May 7, 1839:

*Resolved*, That the President of the Board of Trustees of the town of Milwaukee, on the west side of the River, be, and is hereby authorized to take a loan of Byron Kilbourn to the amount of \$100 (one hundred dollars,) for the purpose of furnishing and putting into order the harbor steamboat, owned by said corporation, sometimes called by the name of Menomonee or Badger. And that in case said Kilbourn shall loan said corporation said sum of one hundred dollars, the Board of Trustees of said town hereby stipulate to run said boat to and from the lake, first touching on its upward trip at the wharf in front of Leland's Exchange, and then at such other points upon the west side as they may deem proper. *But not in any case to touch on the east side of the river, nor to take load or passengers on or from the east side in her upward or downward trips at any time, or under any circumstances, during the year 1839. Said loan to be refunded with the first earnings of said boat.*

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution passed May 7, 1839, by the President and Trustees of the town of Milwaukee, upon the west side of the river, as appears on record.

J. E. ARNOLD,

Clerk of Board of Trustees.

This foolish act shows to what extent some men will go to gratify their selfish desires. But when a corporation gets so poor as to be compelled to borrow the munificent sum of one hundred dollars to

fit out a STEAMBOAT, it is very evident that it is on its last legs. There is no record that the loan was accomplished; neither does the writer believe that Mr. Kilbourn ever was, or ever would be, a party to so small and contemptible an act as the above.

THAT BARBECUE.

This year was also made memorable by the Whig celebration on account of the election of Wm. H. Harrison, to the Presidency, the call for which is as follows:

TO THE WHIGS OF WISCONSIN.

A public celebration of the recent triumph of the Whigs of the Union, in the election of Wm. H. Harrison to the Presidency, and John Tyler to the Vice Presidency, will be held at Milwaukee on Friday, the first day of January next.

An address prepared for the occasion, will be delivered by J. E. Arnold, Esq., at the Court House, at one o'clock P. M., and a plain, substantial dinner, with an ox roasted whole, with plenty of hard cider, will be provided by Messrs. Graves & Meyers, at the Milwaukee House, at three o'clock P. M.

The friends of Gen. Harrison, throughout the Territory, are invited to attend and participate in the celebration of an event of so much importance to the well-being of our government, and the general interest of the people of the Union.

The following are the officers of the day:

President—Wm. A. Prentiss.

Vice Presidents—J. Y. Watson, James Clyman, Asa Kinney, J. Hustis, S. W. Dunbar, A. E. Elmore, C. Leland, Abner Rowe, A. A. Story, W. R. Longstreet, H. Chase, M. Davenport, and H. C. Benson.

Marshal—L. H. Cotton.

Committee on Toasts—J. Hustis, Wm. A. Prentiss, and J. H. Tweedy.

Committee on Arrangements—Maurice Pixley, Henry Williams, and Lindsey Ward.

Tickets, to be had at the bar, seventy-five cents. Persons desiring tickets, will please call a few days previous to January first.

Milwaukee, December 15, 1839.

It is needless to say that the boys had a good time on this occasion. The ox spoken of, was roasted in the bank where Pfister's block stands; southeast corner of Wisconsin street and Broadway; but, alas, for the hungry Whigs! while they were soaking their toasts in champagne, and such like liquids, to make them soft, the crafty West Siders came and stole their ox, carried it to Kilbourntown, and had one good square meal. This so enraged Mr. Pettibone, who furnished the ox, that in order to be revenged, he got upon the

table, and walked its entire length, making children's crockery of half the delf upon it, in less time than it would take a stuttering man to count six.

The effect of this promenade upon the assembly, was electric; Fred Wardner, immediately ran out and slid down the hill, to East Water street, in a champagne basket, and W. A. Webber, not to be outdone, rolled down in a hardware cask; and several others played circus, to the great amusement of all the little boys.

The Whigs of Milwaukee, were an unlucky set, in those days; if they had any thing to do, they were pretty sure to do it too much.

" But we enjoyed those early days,  
When in our youth and prime;  
Those days, when mischief was the rule,  
Those days of ' Auld Lang Syne '."

PETER YATES' LEAP.

The bridge built this summer at Division street was after the following pattern: Its sides were formed of 3x10 joists, 18 feet long, in the form of lattice; the draw ran upon a railroad track, opening in the center. This draw, however, soon proving useless, on account of the impossibility of keeping it level, was taken out, and one of the old "hoist up" pattern put in its place; and from the sides of this old draw was made the first floating bridge at Spring street in 1842, being the one mentioned in Wheeler's Chronicles as carried into the lake by the freshet. These latticed sides were laid directly upon the water, and covered with plank, forming a sort of raft. Such was the first bridge at Spring street. It was at best a miserable affair, and if a team was not hurried over it, was pretty sure to sink from 4 to 6 inches under the water.

Some amusing incidents occurred in connection with this bridge, one of which I will relate.

As stated above, it was little better than a raft, and was, when the water was low, too long, and when high, too short; and in order to get ashore in the latter emergency, a plank was used to piece it out, one end of which rested upon the bridge, the other upon the bank.

Several of the boys of that period, living upon the East Side, were

went to cross to the West Side, and spend their evenings in the society of the thrifty west-siders, in pursuit of knowledge (and other things,) among whom was our worthy townsman, the Hon. Peter Yates. Now Peter was not ignorant of the fact that the water was high, and therefore the plank must be used in order to gain the shore in safety. But his stay upon the West Side on that eventful night lasted until the witching hour of twelve, when he essayed to return. Creeping carefully along the bridge, he came in safety to the east end, and commenced a search for that plank, but not finding it, the night being extremely dark, he finally concluded to jump to the shore, and in order that sufficient momentum might be acquired to make the leap a success, he backed up as doth the festive ram when upon the war-path, made the leap, and, "great Cæsar's ghost!" instead of landing upon the bank, he struck the water just clear of the bridge, went to the bottom, twelve feet, frightening the bull-heads from their quiet slumbers upon its oozy bed. He, however, came quickly to the surface, swam to the shore, crawled out and seated himself upon the ground, where he repeated the pirate's prayer, "Now I lay me," "twinkle, twinkle, little star," and several other soothing things, not found in the Westminster Catechism, all calculated to quiet his mind, after which he got a lantern, found his hat, and wended his way home, meditating upon the events of the night, and thinking how curious it was that Spring street bridge had shrunk so much in four hours. The trouble with Peter was, he backed up too far.

#### IMMERSIONS.

The first bridge built at the foot of East Water street, was in 1844. It was an immense float, with a draw in the center, worked with a windlass, and requiring nearly as much time and labor to open, as do any three of the present ones, and like its congener at Spring street, has a history.

In the month of April, 1845, the old Putnam warehouse, formerly standing where the Marine block now does (burnt afterwards), was built, upon which myself, James Magone, Wm. A. Tucker, and others were working, when the following amusing incidents occurred:

Some Irishmen from New Berlin, came into the city with wood,

which they disposed of upon the East Side, after which they filled up with benzine, *alias* whisky, and started for home. After getting upon the bridge, one of them, probably thinking he had not got the place in the procession that his rank entitled him to, there being five of them, and he the last or rear one, attempted to run past his companions, the result of which was, that he was shoved into the river by his own team; the team, however, succeeded in passing the others, and came first to land. It was lively times on that bridge then, for a few moments; every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost, was the game.

Where the Axtell House now stands, was, at that time, a row of low rum holes, and in the street an old well, then about six feet in depth, and dry; its top had been covered with plank and dirt, completely concealing it from view. The bath in the river had cooled off this gay and festive son of Erin's green isle, somewhat, and he was bound to have some more fire-water. Leaving his team (oxen) in front of this well, he entered one of these places, and while in there, something frightened his oxen, causing them to back, when the off one happened to step upon the old rotten cover, and was at once precipitated to the bottom, where he quietly rested, leaving his head just clear of the ground.

Magone, who was an Irishman himself, and an inveterate wag, hallooed to the man, telling him that the well was sixty feet deep; while he, thinking this was so, and that his ox was only prevented from going to the bottom by the yoke, seized him by the horns, and if ever a man lifted, or thought he did, he was that man, at the same time calling upon all the saints he ever heard of in Ireland or America, to come and give him a pull, we, of course, cheering him on. After we thought he had exercised himself sufficiently with his new fashioned health lift, we went down, unyoked his ox and pulled him out. But the way that man blasphemed when he saw how badly he had been fooled, was enough to make the hair of a pirate stand on end; he put the whip to his oxen, ran against a wagon standing by the sidewalk, upset it, and left.

But the fun for the day was not over yet, for no sooner was this case disposed of, than our attention was directed to a man upon the dock, in front of the warehouse, seated upon a shingle maker's



horse, thinking he was actually shaving shingles, but he wasn't. He was a small man, with a head about the size and shape of a potato masher, but not half as useful; he soon, however, became the observed of all observers. He was drunk through and through, weaving around upon his wooden Rosinante, his back towards the edge of the dock, and close upon it; sometimes his draw-shave would hit the shingle, and then again it wouldn't. At last came the crisis.

He had placed a shook in the jaws of his pony, with a hard pitch knot in the center of it. After one or two futile attempts to cut it, he leaned well forward, ran out his tongue, as only a drunken man can, "gave a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether," and the next we saw was the end of his back, as he turned a somersault into the river, revolving so rapidly as to give his legs the appearance of the spokes in a wheel. As he came to the surface, I caught him by the hair, and pulled him out, his teeth rattling like castanets, from the effects of his cold wintry bath, stood him up, took a good look at him, and then told him to *get*, and he did, neither did he ever come back. Who he was, I never knew.

#### SPEEDING AN IMMIGRANT.

No man who ever lived in Milwaukee, was better known, or more universally respected, than the late Sidney I. Rood, who came here from Detroit in 1842; sometimes called the rough man.

In person, he was tall and slim, florid complexion, long dark hair, dark eyes, voice loud and boisterous, spoke quick and distinct but very emphatic, as full of mischief as a tame crow, and always on the watch for victims, upon which to operate. In this respect, he was a duplicate of the fun loving Eli; but unlike Eli, he was always the victor, never the victim.

He was, also, always upon the defensive in an argument, never agreeing with any one, more perhaps, for the purpose of hearing himself talk, and getting his opponent excited, than from a love of combativeness, for a kinder, or warmer heart, never beat within the breast of a human being. He was a rough diamond, but one of the first water. His benevolence to the poor was unbounded; but of this, the public were ignorant—he was no Pharisee.

The following laughable incident will illustrate his fun loving propensities, somewhat:

Among those who landed at the foot of Huron street, in the Summer of '45, was a man from northern New York, in search of a home in Wisconsin. This individual, who had probably never been outside of his native town, before he became an immigrant, was arrayed in a garb that was, to say the least, somewhat unique, and had, no doubt, been worn by his grandfather. His pants were of home make, cut small and at least six inches too short for his legs; coat of the claw-hammer pattern, as the sailors call it, the collar of which came half way to the top of his head; red fustian vest, with immense metal buttons, cotton shirt, the collar starched as stiff as a board, and extending above his ears, called in common parlance, side boards; his feet encased in heavy cow-hide boots, while upon his little bullet head was one of those old-fashioned, bell-crowned hats, about the shape and size of a butter firkin. Thus attired, he came ashore, to view the city.

Now Huron street, at that time, was little better than a mud hole, while nearly the whole marsh, below Detroit street, was, as yet, in a state of nature, and during the Summer, filled with ducks. Rood, being quite a sportsman, was in the habit of taking his stand upon Huron street, just before dark, to shoot them as they left the marsh for the river, above the dam, their usual resort at the approach of night.

Now it happened that this unfortunate Knickerbocker, after spending the afternoon in doing the city, as the tourists call it, had started on his return to the boat to join his family and report, feeling perfectly satisfied with Milwaukee, himself, and the world in general, when, upon turning out of East Water street into Huron, his eye fell upon a man just ahead of him, with a gun, who seemed to be there with a purpose; in fact, his movements indicated that he was looking for something. This aroused his suspicions somewhat, causing him to halt in order to reconnoitre. Sid, seeing his hesitation, walked slowly towards him, until within speaking distance, when he addressed him thusly: "Whither goest thou, pilgrim stranger?" New York answered that he was on his way to the boat. "Stranger, are you not?" "Yes, rather so. Got a nice town here," said the man, still approaching Rood with a sidling kind of step, much as a hen does when looking for a dole of corn, but

is at the same time on the lookout for a club. It needed but one quick glance from Sid's eagle eye to comprehend the whole situation, and seeing fun ahead, answered in a half nonchalant manner, "Well, yes, it's rather a nice town, or will be when the d——d Injins are all killed off." The man's listlessness was gone in a moment; he was alive all over, and in a voice trembling with fear, he exclaimed: "*Injins!* Why, you don't mean to tell me there's any Injins here now?" "Yes," replied the truthful Sidney, "This swamp is full of them. We have to keep a guard along this street all the time, to prevent the red devils from scalping the immigrants as they come off the boats. They are hell on immigrants." "Oh! Lordy! Lordy!" said the now thoroughly frightened victim. "Will I ever get on to that boat alive?" "Can you run well?" said Rood. New York intimated that the iron horse could not surpass him in speed. "Well, then," said his tormentor, "if that is so, I think perhaps you can be saved, but it will be through great tribulation." "I don't keer a durn for the tribulation, stranger; only let me get safe to the boat, and if I ever come ashore again in this blarsted town, the derved infernal Injins can have my scalp and welkin."

His tormentor then told him to pull off his boots, so that "them Injins" wouldn't hear him, and start slowly for the boat, while he kept watch, "and if," said Rood, "you hear me shoot, you run like h—ll, or the Injins will get you, sure." New York pulled off "them boots," and started, his heart pounding against his ribs, like a steam trip-hammer, went one block, when bang went the gun; when the smoke lifted, that man was going down Huron street, forty miles an hour, the mud flying in all directions; and, as Sidney expressed it, "was out of sight, in the shake of a lamb's tail."

Rood looked after him a few moments, and started for home, muttering to himself: "Tally one for the Whig party. That fool never'll come ashore in this town again." And he didn't. The place was too new for him.

#### UNEQUALED ENGINEERING.

The following wonderful piece of engineering was related to me by our worthy fellow citizen, Dr. James Johnson:

It will be remembered that in the description of Juneau's Side,

mention was made of a hole in the Court House square, in which was some four feet of water. It happened somewhere about 1845, that the doctor, who was trustee that year, was standing near that hole, contemplating the reflection of his smiling face in its crystal depths, or thinking how it could be best got rid of, when that celebrated octogenarian engineer, John Gregory, yet living, came along, whereupon the Doctor, who likes fun, and knew Mr. Gregory's great hobby was engineering, asked him which was the quickest and cheapest way to get rid of it. At which Mr. Gregory at once replied that he would fix a way, in fact, would draft a plan and present it to the Doctor, in a few days, and took his leave. In about a week, however, the Doctor again visited the place, and while conversing with one of his countrymen from Wauwatosa, saw Mr. Gregory approaching, with a roll of paper, who, in answer to the question as to what it was, replied: "I have it! yees can thunnel from here to the lake, or river, as the wather will run either way. Here is the report," at the same time handing the Doctor the roll.

"TUNNEL!" said the astonished Doctor, "Why, man alive, it would cost a million dollars!" "Yes," said Gregory, "Sure, and it would, but then consider what a beautiful piece of engineering it would be; not a city in America could boast the loikes of it." At this, the gentleman from Wauwatosa, asked the Doctor what was up, and when told what Mr. Gregory's plan for getting the water out was, he replied: "Be gob! I think it would be a dale cheaper to haul in a few loads of gravel, and fill up the hole."

The Doctor had the good sense to think so too, and the Gregory tunnel was never built.

Another good story is related of Mr. Gregory, by Morgan I. Shinn, the builder, who, when building the store lately occupied by Mr. Hoes, corner of Wisconsin and East Water streets, called upon Mr. Gregory, who was city surveyor that year, to give him the corner.

He came, planted his tripod, squinted down East Water, up East Water, up Wisconsin, across the river, &c., after which he measured across the street, down the street, and up the street, but no corner could he find. It was *non est*.

Finally he said to Mr. Shinn, "You go on with your wall, and

when you get up to the surface of the ground, I'll give yees the exact spot." Mr. Shinn, however, declined to do that, but got Brown to come, who was not long in finding the corner.

Mr. Gregory may have been a good engineer theoretically, but practically he was not a success.

#### A FREE RIDE.

The following incident, which occurred in the Spring of 1846, serves to illustrate the idea that some of the early immigrants from Germany had of liberty:

A German, living at that time in the ninth ward, was accused by his wife of abusing her during child-birth, upon which his neighbors went to his house, placed him upon a rail, first giving him a coat of tar and feathers, after which they carried him down Third street to West Water, down West Water to Spring, crossed to East Water, down East Water to the bridge at Walker's Point, crossed to Ferry, up Ferry to South Water, up South Water to Reed, down Reed to Florida, up Florida to Hanover, up Hanover to Elizabeth, intending to carry him out of town and kill him, which they certainly would have done, had they not been prevented by Dr. I. W. Weeks and myself, who succeeded after much trouble, in convincing them that such an act would hang every one of them.

The poor frightened wretch begged piteously for his life all the while. In appearance he resembled nothing that is upon the earth, in the air above, or the waters beneath it; and to say that he looked like the devil would certainly be treating that functionary with great disrespect, for although often described as having horns and hair, he has never received a coat of tar and feathers yet, being much too sharp for that, although he has no doubt often been the indirect cause of its application to others. When released, he at once took to the marsh, and buried himself in its oozy depths, from which he was finally persuaded to emerge by the constable, aided by a revolver, and taken to jail, where, after being used as a bed bug exterminator for a few days, he was released. The most wonderful part of this affair was, that a man could be carried through the city as he was, in broad daylight, and no one interfere to rescue him until he came opposite my house. But such was the fact, never-

theless. Neither was there anything ever done with the brutes who committed the cruel deed.

This will close the history of Milwaukee's early days. She was now fairly upon her feet, and from that time to the present, although sometimes under a cloud, her onward march to the position of a great commercial city, has been steady. In '41 she shipped her first cargo of wheat, the one before referred to as having been shipped from the old Dousman warehouse; in '42 she built her first pier at Huron street, built by Horatio Stevens, and the same year witnessed the arrival of the first propeller, the *Vandalia*, from Oswego, which although a small craft of about six mule power, was nevertheless, a modern wonder, for a season. In comparison with the propellers of the present day, she and her consort, the Milwaukee, were what the little Badger was to the present side-wheelers; but everything must have a beginning. She was followed in '43, by the *Hercules* and *Sampson*, and so on, *ad infinitum*.

In '43, work was commenced on the harbor, at the mouth of the river, the government having passed a bill for that purpose, accompanied with an appropriation of \$30,000, to be expended as soon as the necessary preliminary surveys could be made. This event, the news of which reached the city on the 17th of March, was duly celebrated upon the 22d, with a grand procession, representing the various mechanical professions, ending with a dinner at the Cottage Inn, and a ball at the Milwaukee House.

The bridge war, which culminated in '45, will not be discussed any further, than to say that both sides were equally to blame, and both played the fool, for which they were both ashamed and sorry.

But this forty years—what a change hath it wrought. The Milwaukee of 1836 was a small hamlet, with some seven hundred inhabitants. The Milwaukee of 1876, has a population of over 100,000, and more labor has been done in this time, with the spade, hammer, saw and trowel, than was done in Boston or New York in the first hundred years. That we are a fast people, there is no denying—perhaps too fast. We differ, however, in one respect, from that small village at the head of the lake, viz: we pay as we go. But the next twenty years will bring a greater change. It will double

our population, give us a line of steamers direct to Europe, and make us the great commercial emporium of the Northwest. This, with wise management, is sure to come. Then see to it, you young men who are soon to take your places as legislators, merchants and business men, that the chance to obtain this high position for Milwaukee, be not suffered, through jealousies or mismanagement of any kind, to fall to the ground; but let her watchword be UPWARD, and her march ONWARD, until she is, in fact, what, by her geographical position, she is certainly destined to become, the QUEEN CITY OF THE LAKES.

#### THE OLD SETTLERS' CLUB.

The author could not properly complete this history, without making mention of this club, to whom the public are largely indebted, for what little of the early history, of our beautiful city, has been rescued from oblivion, and particularly for this book, as without the aid and encouragement given him by its members, he would certainly never have undertaken its publication, although much of it was written months and years ago. It has been a laborious work, and the author here takes the opportunity of returning his sincere thanks to the officers and members of the club, for the kindness extended towards himself personally, as well as for the interest they have manifested for the success of the work.

The following is the official record of its organization, furnished by J. M. Miller, Esq., Secretary of the Club:

The Club was organized July 5th, 1869, pursuant to notice previously published in the Milwaukee daily newspapers, which notices were signed by about seventy-five old settlers of Milwaukee County.

At such organization the Hon. A. G. Miller, was elected chairman, and F. C. Pomeroy, secretary, *pro tem*.

Committees were appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, which constitution is as follows:

#### PREAMBLE.

For the purpose of reviving old associations, and renewing the ties of former years the undersigned unite in an association to be known as the "Old Settlers' Club," and adopt the following

#### CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. Any person of good moral character, who settled in Milwaukee

County, as organized before January 1st, 1837, may become a member of the Club by signing the Constitution and paying an initiation fee of two dollars, and an annual assessment of one dollar each thereafter.

Article 2. The officers of this Club, shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of five members.

Article 3. The President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer shall perform such duties as usually appertain to their respective offices; and all matters relating to the Club shall be under the control and management of the Executive Committee.

Article 4. The officers of the Club shall be elected by ballot on the Fourth of July, in each year; provided that when the Fourth falls upon Sunday, they shall be elected upon the succeeding day.

Article 5. New members may be admitted by the Executive Committee, provided that thirty years have elapsed since the applicants settled in Milwaukee County.

Article 6. The Executive Committee shall give notice through the papers, of the time selected for the funeral of any of the deceased members, and all members, if possible, shall attend said funeral, wearing the Club badge.

Article 7. Whenever twenty-five persons have signed this Constitution, they may elect officers, and organize the Club.

The following is the list of officers, from the organization of the Club, to the present year:

1869

President—Horace Chase.

Vice Presidents—Samuel Brown, George Bowman, and Enoch Chase.

Secretary—Fennimore C. Pomeroy.

Treasurer—Clark Shepardson.

Executive Committee—L. A. Lapham, LL.D., Levi Blossom, William P. Merrill, Andrew Douglas, and Charles James.

1870.

President—Samuel Brown.

Vice Presidents—Geo. Bowman, Enoch Chase, and Wm. A. Prentiss

Secretary—F. C. Pomeroy.

Treasurer—Fred. Wardner.

Executive Committee—Levi Blossom, Wm. P. Merrill, I. A. Lapham, LL.D., and Hon. A. G. Miller.

Marshal—James S. Buck.

This year a marshal was added to the list of officers; whose duty it is to take charge of funerals, and collect dues.

1871.

President—Dr Enoch Chase.

Vice Presidents—Henry Miller, Geo. Bowman, and Wm. A. Prentiss.



Secretary—John M. Miller.

Treasurer—Fred. Wardner.

Executive Committee—I. A. Lapham, LL.D., Wm. S. Trowbridge, Cyrus T. Hawley, George J. Rogers, and Uriel B. Smith.

Marshal—James S. Buck.

1872.

President—Judge A. G. Miller.

Vice Presidents—Wm. A. Prentiss, Gen. John Crawford, and George Abert.

Secretary—John M. Miller

Treasurer—Fred. Wardner.

Marshal—James S. Buck.

Executive Committee—Henry Williams, L. H. Lane, Dr. A. L. Castleman, Lindsey Ward, and Wm. P. Merrill.

1873.

Same officers as in 1872, excepting George Bowman was elected Treasurer.

1874.

President—I. A. Lapham, LL.D.

Vice Presidents—Hiram Haertel, M. L. Burdick, and Robert Davies.

Secretary—John M. Miller,

Treasurer—George Bowman.

Marshal—James S. Buck.

Executive Committee—Harrison Ludington, George Abert, Chauncey Simons, and L. H. Lane.

1875.

President—Wm. A. Prentiss.

Vice Presidents—John Furlong, Giles A. Waite, and Abner Kirby.

Secretary—John M. Miller.

Treasurer—George J. Rogers.

Marshal—James S. Buck.

Executive Committee—Wm. P. Merrill, Enoch Chase, Joseph Cary, and Daniel W. Fowler.

1876.

President—Daniel Wells, Jr.

Vice Presidents—George Abert, Matthew Keenan, and L. H. Lane.

Secretary—John M. Miller.

Treasurer—George J. Rogers.

Marshal—James S. Buck.

Executive Committee—Alexander Mitchell, William P. Merrill, Rufus Cheney, and Enoch Chase.

The annual meetings of this Club are now held the first Monday in January.

## CHAPTER XII.

Biographies and Memorial Sketches of Milwaukee's Earliest and Most Eminent Men.

### ALBERT FOWLER.

This gentleman came to the Milwaukee from Chicago, in November, 1833, and at once went into the employ of Mr. Juneau, as a clerk. In person, he is above medium height; large frame; large head; dark hair and eyes; strong, powerful voice, but low in tone; speaks quick, with the Yankee accent strong; is possessed of great bodily strength; has a constitution of iron, and an exceeding strong will; is not nervous; has the bump of caution largely developed; looks before he leaps, and never undertakes any important matter without giving it due consideration—but the matter once decided upon, pushes it steadily forward to completion; has good executive abilities; loves a frontier life above all others, and is possessed of undaunted courage, a qualification much needed by all who undertake the settlement of a new country, or seek a home, as did he, among the wild denizens of the wilderness.

He is also a good judge of men and their ways; sees all that is being enacted around him; is very reticent with strangers, but with friends, social; has a frank, open countenance, and carries upon his face a smile, that will win the confidence of a child, at first sight; looks you squarely in the face when speaking; and would not hurt the feelings of any one purposely, or state what is untrue, even in jest.

Mr. Fowler was the first white man, after Mr. Juneau, to settle in Milwaukee, and was the first law officer ever appointed to hold court in Milwaukee, having jurisdiction over a larger territory than is embraced within the boundaries of the present United States District Court. He was also the first Register of Deeds, held many



THE MILWAUKEE LITHO & ENGRAVING CO.

*A. Fowler*

1871

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
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town and county offices during the infantile days of our beautiful city, and was, for many years, one of our most honored citizens. He was also a member of the second convention, for framing the State Constitution, in 1847, it being the one adopted. He thus had the satisfaction of having not only held the first office in that portion of the then Territory, now comprised in the Eastern District, but to help frame a constitution that should govern the whole State.

In 1853, Mr. Fowler removed to Rockford, Ill., where he has since made his home, but has never wholly lost his interest in the beautiful city where he spent his early manhood, visiting it occasionally, to look upon the well-remembered faces of his brother pioneers, and to note the changes that have been made in its topography, as well as its marvellous growth.

Mr. Fowler is now in the autumn of life, and is as happy and pleasant an old man, as the writer has ever seen, looking back upon a well-spent life, his old age being crowned with honors. Such is Albert Fowler, Milwaukee's earliest pioneer.

## DR. ENOCH CHASE.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Derby, Vt., first to Michigan, in '31, and then to Milwaukee, in 1835, and at once commenced an active business life.

In person, he is above medium height, of slight build; with an iron constitution; dark hair and eyes; walks with a quick, nervous step; voice soft and musical; speaks short and quick, never very loud; is a good judge of human nature; a keen observer of men and their ways; sees all that is enacted around him, and like his brother Horace, wants his own way; has strong likes and dislikes for men and measures; is strictly honest and conscientious; wants his own and no more; is sharp and keen in a trade, and always upon the winning side; is very industrious; plain and simple in his manners; has a pleasant smile and kindly word for every one, and is generous to a fault.

The doctor has been one of the successful ones, having accumulated much wealth, mostly by the rise of real estate, he having made a good selection early, which he had the good sense to keep, upon which he, like Hawley, has quietly awaited the steady approach of the city as it grew towards him. Neither is the day far distant, when his beautiful homestead will be covered with buildings, in which all the various avocations of life will be carried on, so rapid has been the growth of the city in that direction.

He is in political faith, a Democrat, and has been quite prominent as a politician; has represented his district in the legislature, three sessions, and has also been prominent in town and city affairs; is proud of his position, and success as a pioneer, and justly so, and can look back upon a long and well-spent life, with that pleasure which is known only to those who, like him, fixed upon an objective point when starting in life, and who have finally worked up to it.

He is also a prominent and active member of the Old Settlers' Club, and was its third President, and is, to-day, at nearly seventy, almost as active as a boy. Such is Dr. Enoch Chase, one of Milwaukee's earliest and best, and one who has the respect of all who ever knew him. That the time may be far distant when the dark angel shall call him to the world beyond the river, is the wish of us all.



THE MINNAPACK LITHO ENGRA'G.

*Enoch Chase*

UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA





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1851

Horace Chase

## HORACE CHASE.

This gentleman came from Derby, Vermont, first to Chicago, in 1831, and then to Milwaukee, in 1834.

In person he is above medium height, slight, but compactly built; large head, dark brown hair, and dark blue eyes; stands erect; has a strong, powerful voice, but low in tone; speaks short and quick, with a strong accent upon the first part of each word; looks you squarely in the face when speaking, with a countenance full of animation; has an exceedingly nervous temperament; is easily excited, and always in a hurry. What he wants, he wants badly, and wants it now; has good executive abilities and good judgment in business matters; is a good financier; knows the value of money, in the accumulation of which he has been very successful; coming early, he planted early, and is now reaping the fruits of his labors.

Mr. Chase is in every sense a practical man, doing whatever he undertakes thoroughly, and makes others do the same if he can. He is one of the few who keep their eyes open, and are consequently always upon the winning side. He has a strong will, and the resolution to back it—two very important requisites in a successful man. He loves to travel and explore new countries; is very economical, but not parsimonious; loves a good horse, and always has one; is as regular in his habits as are the movements of the sun; is strictly temperate and honest, his word being as good as his bond, and the latter is equal to gold.

In political faith, Mr. Chase is an uncompromising Democrat, of the old Jeffersonian school, and upon the currency question, is a disciple of the late Thomas H. Benton. He has always taken an active part in the political issues of the day. He was a member of the first Constitutional Convention, into which he succeeded in weaving his favorite hard money plank, which was the main cause of its rejection by the people. He has also been mayor, member of the legislature, alderman and councillor, in all of which positions he was both prominent and active; and would, if beaten by the diplomacy of his compeers, in any municipal matter, return at once to the charge, with a persistence, that in the end was successful.

He is also a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, and was its first President; neither is there a man upon its roll of membership, who takes a deeper interest in its success, than Horace Chase.

Such is the character of this early pioneer; but the ever rolling years have brought the time when the "almond tree is in bloom," telling us that the day is not far distant, when the dark angel will open the gate, to the land beyond the river, and usher him into its rest.



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THE MILWAUKEE LITHOGRAPH CO.

*Daniel Wells Jr.*

## DANIEL WELLS, JR.

This gentlemen came to Milwaukee from Waterville, Maine, in 1835, and at once became prominent in the building up of the young city.

In person he is tall and commanding, walks with a slow and measured step, never being in a hurry ; voice soft and musical ; speaks slow and distinct, with the Yankee accent strong ; is dignified in his manners ; has few intimate friends ; is very reticent with strangers ; cautious of what he says or does ; sees all that is going on around him, and is seldom, if ever, deceived ; like Kilboun, he sees far into the future, acts upon his own judgment, his success fully demonstrating its soundness.

Few men in the State have been in office as much, or whose names stand recorded higher upon Wisconsin's tablet of honor, than the name of Daniel Wells, Jr., the second commission as Justice of Peace having been issued to him by Gov. Henry Dodge, August 2, 1836, and one as Judge of Probate, Sept. 4, 1838, the former being the first one signed within the limits of the state ; and from that time on he was a leader, holding office oftener than any other one man, except Wm. A. Prentiss. He has also twice represented his district in Congress with much ability ; is a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, and its Centennial President. Mr. Wells has accumulated much wealth, which he uses in a common sense manner, never aping the codfish style, so common with many of the American people, who by chance have become suddenly rich, his habits of life being very simple. Few men, in this or any other country, carry a wiser head upon their shoulders than D. Wells, Jr. His ability for planning and carrying out vast money speculations is unquestioned, and what he plans is sure to succeed.

Mr. Wells has a strong attachment for his brother pioneers, always greeting them with a pleasant smile and a kindly word. He has reached the autumn of life, and is awaiting the order to come up higher.

## WILLIAM S. TROWBRIDGE.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from New Hartford, New York, first in 1834, and lastly in 1836. He is by profession, a civil engineer, and ranks high in his profession. He made the first survey in Milwaukee, viz., the one before mentioned, in 1834. He is of more than medium height, dark hair and eyes, walks with a slow, and measured step, speaks short, but very low, and is very reticent, attends to his own affairs, and never meddles or interferes with others. He has a high sense of honor and integrity in business, never saying anything that is not true, or attempting in any way, to deceive. He is still residing upon the same farm upon which he located in '36, and is one of our most successful farmers, particularly as a horticulturist.

He is now, in his autumnal years, in the enjoyment of ample wealth, which he uses with moderation. He has held many important offices, among which are City and County Surveyor; many of the original plats and surveys having been made by him. He is in political faith, a Republican of the staunchest kind, and is always to be found upon the side of law and order; has the respect and confidence of the entire community; and is in every way a first class man.

## DANIEL H. RICHARDS.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Burlington, N. Y., in 1835, and at once became active and prominent. In person, he is tall and commanding; has a large head; light hair; blue eyes; a strong, powerful voice, which he is fond of using; is an uncompromising Democrat, dyed in the wool; was, as before stated, the first printer; has been an active politician and wire puller; has held many important offices; is a good legislator, and a very useful and respected citizen.

Mr. Richards was at one time involved in a railroad speculation, which came near ruining him pecuniarily, and is now, in his autumnal years, living upon his farm in the Sixth ward. He is a great reader, a good writer, and is, in fact, one of Milwaukee's earliest and best.



## ALANSON SWEET.

This gentleman came from Owasco, N. Y., in '35, settled upon a claim, and became a farmer and a speculator generally. He was, by trade, a stone mason, but I do not think he ever worked at his trade in this city, although he did in Chicago, in her infantile years.

He is about six feet in height, of a fine physique; speaks slow and distinct; has a large brain; good executive abilities; knows the value of money, and is one of the men who always keep it moving. He built largely in Milwaukee, dwellings, stores and vessels, and the first steam elevator was built by him; and he was, in every sense, a representative man. He also constructed many of the light-houses for the Government, upon the lakes, and the custom house at Mobile, Alabama.

Mr. Sweet, in his latter years, became involved in law suits, and lost his property, after which, he removed to Kansas, where he now resides. The writer was in his employ for several years, in his palmy days, and can truly say that he could never wish for a better employer, than Alanson Sweet.

## GARRETT VLIET.

This gentleman was from Ohio; he came first in '35, with Kilbourn. He is by profession, a civil engineer, and was one of those appointed by Government, to survey a portion of the lands in this State.

In person he is of medium height, slight build, has dark hair and eyes, fine musical voice, speaks short and quick, walks fast, is very nervous, but is full of mirth, few men more so, does as he agrees, and is in every way, a first class man.

Mr. Vliet is a good civil engineer, was employed in his younger days upon the Ohio canal, in connection with Doctor Lapham, and Byron Kilbourn, and it was at the solicitation of Mr. Kilbourn, that he came to Milwaukee.

In political faith, he is a Democrat of the Jefferson school, and always votes the straight ticket; is a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, and the oldest now living, being in his eighty-seventh year.

## HENRY WILLIAMS.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Providence, Rhode Island, in 1836. He is of medium height; heavily built; light hair; blue eyes; has a large head; more than ordinary brain power; walks quick; has a fine, clear voice, and is possessed of fine social qualities. He commenced his first home, as before stated, upon the northeast corner of Mason and Van Buren, where he built several frame dwellings, then so far out of town as to be called Williamsburg. This fine property, he exchanged with Alanson Sweet, for the farm now occupied by J. R. Goodrich, where he lived for many years, until failing health compelled him to retire from active life.

Mr. Williams is one of Milwaukee's best citizens; has not an enemy in the world; always greets you with a pleasant smile; is courteous and dignified in manner; has a very retentive memory, and is, in fact, almost a walking encyclopedia upon dates, and is as full of fun and mischief as a boy, and enjoys it as well.

He is, in political faith, a staunch Republican, and always at his post, when work is to be done; true to his party, as is the needle to the pole. Better would it be for Milwaukee if we had more like him.

Mr. Williams is in the enjoyment of abundant wealth, which he uses in moderation; has reached the autumn of life, and with Upham, Vliet, and Prentiss, is quietly awaiting the call.

## JOHN CRAWFORD.

This gentleman came from St. Lawrence county, N. Y., in '36, but returned East, and came to stay in '37. He is, by profession, both a farmer and a mariner, and brought us the first steamboat that we had for our own, the old Detroit, before mentioned.

He is a man of large frame; great bodily strength and self-reliance; has a heavy, powerful voice, and is, to-day, at the age of eighty-three years, able to endure more than many of the young men. He is an uncompromising Democrat, never having voted any other ticket in his life. He has held many places of trust in the county, and is, in every sense, a strictly honest man. Better would it be for the county, if every man in it was as honest as John Crawford.

He is a native of Worcester, Mass.



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Engr. by F. Hallett, N.Y.

E. B. Wolcott

## DR. ERASTUS B. WOLCOTT.

This distinguished son of *Æsculapius* was bred an army surgeon, and as such, his early years were spent among the different frontier posts, lastly, at Mackinac; but tiring, at length, with the monotony and sameness of garrison life, he resigned, and came to Milwaukee in the Spring of 1838, where he at once took a high position as a physician and surgeon, ranking the first in the Northwest, which rank he holds to-day.

In person, he is tall and slim; straight as an arrow; large head; light hair; blue eyes; florid complexion; steps quick; voice clear and distinct; speaks quick and very emphatic, and is one that will command respect, and whose lead men will instinctively follow. He is, in fact, physically, one of nature's most perfect models.

The doctor is a lineal descendant of Gov. Oliver Wolcott, one of that Spartan band whose name is affixed to the Declaration of Independence, and whose sterling qualities he has inherited, viz: courage, firmness and resolution, backed by a will of iron. He is, in manners, a perfect gentleman, courteous and affable to all, but will brook no insult from any one.

Few men in the profession have performed as many and difficult surgical operations as has he. He is a born surgeon, and as a horse-man, has no superior in the State. He is, without exception, the handsomest rider that ever lived in Milwaukee; he is also a great sportsman, spending nearly half his time in his early life in hunting.

In political faith, he is an unswerving and uncompromising Republican; always at the front when work is to be done; votes the way he shoots, and is fearless and outspoken in his views on all matters pertaining to the public good; no man in the city more so; has also a high sense of mercantile honor and probity, never stating anything that is not strictly true. Neither has any man ever lived in Milwaukee, who possesses the magnetism, or who can control the passions of an excited mob, or put down a riot, or to whom the people will listen on occasions of great excitement, as quickly, or in whom they have as much confidence, as in Dr. E. B. Wolcott. Fearless himself, he soon infuses the same spirit into others; his courage is undoubted, and his coolness wonderful.

He is also one of the most industrious men in the city, never idle, and is, to-day, at over seventy years of age, apparently as active as a boy; neither is there a man in all the city, whose step is lighter or more elastic than his.

He has held many offices of importance and honor; was Surgeon-General during the Rebellion, and one of the first commissioners appointed by the Secretary of War, in charge of the National Asylum for disabled soldiers, which office he holds to-day.

He is also a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, and takes a deep interest in the objects for which it was organized, attending all its meetings, and aiding to promote its usefulness.

Such is Erastus B. Wolcott, one of Milwaukee's most respected and useful citizens, and one whom her people have ever delighted to honor; but the ever ceaseless ticking of the clock of life, has brought the time when the almond tree is in bloom, telling us that the day is not far distant, when his manly form, his pleasant smile, and his kindly greeting, will be seen and heard upon our streets *no more, FOREVER.*

#### DR. LEMUEL W. WEEKS.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Hardwick, Vt., in 1836. In person, he is tall and commanding; heavily built; walks with long and regular strides; is of a nervous temperament; speaks short and quick; is a firm friend, if a friend; has strong likes and dislikes; is very fond of making money, and as fond of spending it.

Dr. Weeks has been one of the most industrious men that ever lived in Milwaukee. Has been a real estate speculator, a builder, a wheat operator, a merchant, an insurance man, a farmer, a gardener, and is now, at seventy years of age, as active as many men are at fifty.

The writer of this sketch owes his start in life to Dr. Weeks; neither can he ever forget the many acts of kindness he has received from him in the last thirty years.

The Doctor is in the enjoyment of ample means, and is spending his autumnal years upon his farm, at Summit, awaiting the summons from the Master.

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THE MILWAUKEE LITHOGRAPH CO.

Henry Miller



## HENRY MILLER.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Lee, N. Y., in '36, and opened a store where the State Bank now stands, northeast corner of East Water and Michigan streets, where he remained until early in '37, when he associated himself with William Brown, Jr., under the firm name of Brown & Miller; their store being on the southwest corner of East Water and Michigan streets.

Mr. Miller is of medium height, light hair, blue eyes, in which can always be seen an expression of kindness for everything and everybody, he is of nervous temperament; has a soft voice, somewhat musical in its tone, speaks slow, and always thinks twice before he speaks; attends strictly to his own business, and never interferes with others; is careful what he agrees to do, but an agreement once made, is never broken on his part.

Mr. Miller went to California many years ago, and has become very wealthy, as a banker in Sacramento, but has never entirely severed his connection with us, still retaining some property in Milwaukee. He visits us almost yearly, spending several weeks among old scenes and friends.

In political faith, Mr. Miller was an old line Whig, or Republican, and as a politician, was very active, held several important offices, among which was that of Deputy United States Marshal. He was considered one of the best accountants of his time, and a set of books which he could not understand, must have been badly kept indeed. Few of the early men are ever spoken of with more respect or affection, by the Old Settlers' Club, than is Henry Miller.

## GEORGE D. DOUSMAN.

This gentleman came in '35, from Mackinac, and was from his arrival, one of the prominent men of Milwaukee. He built the second warehouse, and was the first warehouseman after Horace Chase, which business he followed for many years.

In person he is of medium height, dark hair, blue eyes, speaks in a sharp, commanding tone of voice, with a slight French accent, his mother tongue, is very particular about his business, doing whatever comes to his hand, thoroughly and in order; no cob-house wor:

will pass inspection by him. He has been much in public office, as County Treasurer, Town Trustee, and other places of honor and trust, and it can be said of him, truthfully, that all moneys that ever came into his hands, as a public officer, were honestly and fully accounted for, which cannot be said of some of his successors.

He has reached the autumn of life, which he is spending upon his farm, having retired from business, several years ago, coming into the City almost daily, to get the news, and see his friends, whose name is legion, with whom he is always welcome. Such is Geo. D. Dousman.

#### TALBOT C. DOUSMAN.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Mackinac, in 1835, with his brother George, I think, as clerk.

In person, he is of medium height, slight build, has dark hair and eyes, walks rapidly, with his eyes apparently fixed upon the ground, but is at the same time cognizant of all that is being enacted around him, has an exceedingly pleasant voice, but low in tone, looks you directly in the face when speaking, and has a greeting that is warm and earnest, for all his early friends and associates, is reticent with strangers, keeps his own counsel, and never meddles or interferes in the affairs of others.

Mr. Dousman is one of the busiest men that ever lived in Milwaukee; he is never idle, always has an objective point to reach, to the accomplishment of which, all his energies are bent; is of a nervous temperament; is fond of blooded stock, and can show some of the finest in the State, upon his celebrated farm, in Waukesha County. He was also the first to enter into the propagation of fish, trout, which he does very extensively, having an artificial pond, from which the Milwaukee market is largely supplied with these speckled beauties.

Mr. Dousman has been a prominent member of the State Agricultural Society since its formation, is also a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, is in political faith a Republican, and always to be found in the front of the battle, when work is to be done, and like his friend, Bluff Hall, can say *no*, with an earnestness that is convincing. Such is Talbot C. Dousman.



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*A. Mitchell*

## ALEXANDER MITCHELL.

This gentleman, whose success in business has made our city famous, came to Milwaukee from Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1839, as Secretary for the Wisconsin Marine and Fire Insurance Company's Bank, Geo. Smith, President, and at once commenced to lay the foundation for a life business, the growth of which has been wonderful. Mr. Mitchell, who for executive and financial ability and business integrity, has no superior west of New York, if he has there, at once took the lead of the banking business in the west, supplying the whole country with a currency equal to gold. And though often run, his bank has never failed to pay or redeem its bills, throughout all the commercial panics under which our country has suffered for the last thirty years.

This famous bank, mention of the organization of which was made in the history of '39, was first opened in a small frame building standing upon Broadway, between Wisconsin and Mason streets, west side, about the center of the block, in May of that year, Mr. Mitchell giving his personal attention to the business, acting not only as its secretary, but as cashier and teller also. Here he remained until the Spring of 1840, when he was joined by Mr. David Ferguson, his present able cashier, and the office removed to the north side of Wisconsin street, near the alley, in a small one story frame, built by Mr. Juneau. Here it remained until the Spring of 1842, when his increasing business necessitated a second removal, which was made to the old Lowry mansion, northwest corner of Broadway and Wisconsin, where the Insurance Building now stands. Here a new and commodious office was fitted up, the writer working upon it, where he remained until 1846, when, the still increasing business necessitating a third removal, the lot upon the southeast corner of East Water and Michigan, (the old Juneau homestead,) was purchased, upon which a suitable building was erected, into which the office was removed. At or about this time Mr. Smith withdrew his interest, Mr. Mitchell becoming sole proprietor. Here the business was conducted until August, 1853, when the whole square was burnt. So rapid was this fire, that Mr. Mitchell's clerks had barely time to place the money and effects of the bank in its securely built vaults, before the flames reached the building.

This fire was barely extinguished before the ground was alive with men clearing away the debris, such was the energy of Mr. Mitchell; and Phoenix like, a new one quickly appeared of vastly increased dimensions, in which the business of this pioneer bank has been conducted until the present year, when it was pulled down to make room for the new and costly structure now in the process of erection upon its site, in which will be a banking office superior to any in the west.

Such, in brief, is the history of this famous bank and banker; but it is not as a banker alone that Mr. Mitchell has been prominent. He is also one of the most successful railroad presidents in the country, never failing to accomplish whatever he undertakes, as the success of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad fully demonstrates, it having become under his wise management, one of the most powerful corporations in the country, extending its long arms into Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois, and is destined ultimately to extend its tracks to the Pacific.\*

Mr. Mitchell's success has been truly wonderful, and he is to-day, without doubt, the wealthiest man west of New York City. He is, also, one of the most active men amongst us, never idle, but keeps his vast wealth in motion, and has done more to beautify and adorn Milwaukee, than any one man, or five men, in it. And his name in commercial circles, is a tower of strength; neither is there with him, any such word as FAIL.

Mr. Mitchell has twice represented his district in Congress, with much ability, his knowledge of, and experience in money matters, being of great value, in settling the financial issues of the day. He is also a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, taking a deep interest in its affairs, and has a just pride in belonging to that early band, who made the first marks, and performed the pioneer work in this Queen City of the Lakes.

In person, Mr. Mitchell is of medium height, stoutly built, has a keen, expressive eye, a voice clear and musical, with the Scotch ac-

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\* In his plans for building up the vast net work of railroads now under his control, Mr. Mitchell has been most ably assisted by that energetic and experienced General Manager, Sherburn S. Merrill, who, like Mr. Mitchell, always accomplishes whatever he undertakes.

cent strong, is very reticent with strangers, has few intimate friends, sees at a glance all that is being enacted around him, decides quick, reads a man like a book, and is never deceived. Such is Alexander Mitchell.

#### HANS CROCKER.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Chicago, in 1836, and at once commenced the practice of law, his first partner being Horatio N. Wells, afterwards Mr. J. H. Tweedy. In person, he is sort and stout, with a florid complexion; dark eyes; walks with a quick, nervous step; speaks short and quick, with a strong accent upon the last part of each word; voice loud and clear; has few intimate friends, and is usually very reticent.

Mr. Crocker is a good political wire puller, always taking an active part in all the political issues of the day; has been prominent in railroad matters, from the inception of the first one, to the present time; was canal commissioner, mayor, and has also represented the city in the legislature, and is active in all public affairs to-day. Such is Hans Crocker.

#### WILLIAM A. PRENTISS.

This gentleman is a native of Northfield, Mass.; came in '36, and has been prominent in all public affairs connected with the growth and prosperity of the city, since its foundations were laid.

In person he is tall and stout, with large head, light brown hair, and blue eyes, has a strong, powerful voice; speaks slow and distinct, with a heavy accent upon each word; walks slow, and is never in a hurry; is possessed of great brain power; is courteous and dignified in manners; is a good legislator, in which capacity he has been very prominent; has good executive abilities—few men better—and has been in public life more than any other man in Milwaukee, always retaining the confidence of his fellow citizens; and is one of the best arbitrators to settle disputes that ever lived in the city, having a quick perception and an intuitive knowledge of right and justice. Knows the value of time and money, and is never idle, and is possessed of a most retentive memory.

He is also a prominent and active member of the Old Settlers'

Club, and was in fact the one mainly instrumental in its organization, and drafted its constitution. Has been its President, and takes a deep interest in its prosperity. He is in political faith a Republican, neither has he ever swerved from his long life political opinions, and is perhaps the only Republican in the city who can command the vote of his political opponents, which he has often done. He has been once mayor.

Mr. Prentiss has reached the age allotted to man; is in the possession of ample means, which he uses wisely, and is quietly awaiting the call to cross the river, and be at rest.

#### MORGAN L. BURDICK.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Howardville, Jefferson county, N. Y., in 1835, and settled as a farmer, in the town of Lake. In person, he is of medium height; heavily built; large head; dark hair and eyes; large features; stoops a little when walking; steps long and heavy; voice heavy, deep toned and rather low; looks you in the face when speaking; is of an exceedingly nervous temperament; will fight any man, or ten men, if insulted, and has strength equal to his courage. Had it been Mr. Burdick's fortune to have received a first-class education, he would have made a mark in the world, as nature has been lavish of her gifts to him, both mentally and physically. He is a firm friend, and an uncompromising enemy; if he has anything against you, you will not remain long in ignorance of it; he is generous to a fault; a good liver and a good citizen.

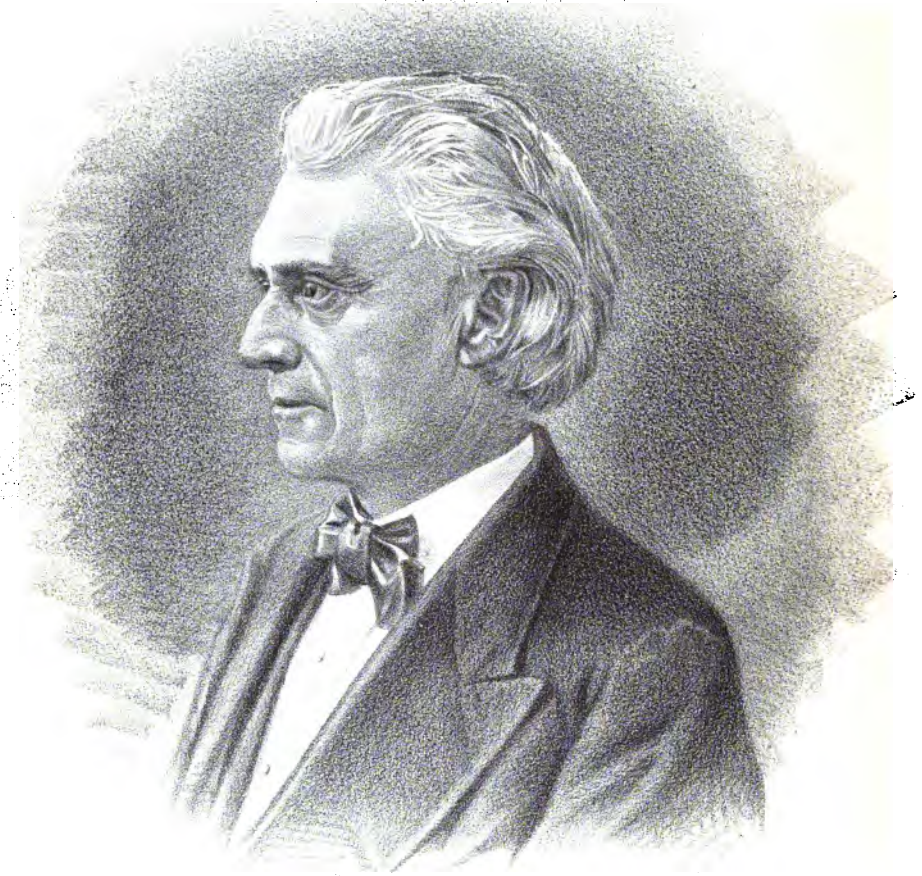
In political faith, he is a staunch Republican, never yielding in an argument in a political contest; keeps posted and always wins. If all the Republicans were as zealous and firm as Mr. Burdick, there would have been no secession speeches in Congress to-day; those rebels would have taken a back seat.

He is a prominent member of the Old Settler's Club, and as one of its officers, takes a great interest in its prosperity. Such is Morgan L. Burdick, a good man and true.



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THE MORGAN LITHO & ENGRAVING CO.

Wm P. Merrill

## WILLIAM P. MERRILL.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from South Berwick, Maine, in 1836. He is of medium height, weighs about 170 pounds, has an exceedingly nervous temperament, speaks quick and with a strong accent, is a good business man, sharp and keen, makes a good trade, is strictly honest, and cannot be induced to do a dishonorable action for love or money; his word is as good as his bond, and the latter is as good as gold; is a great reader and thinker; believes in doing as he would be done by, and comes as near to it, as imperfect human nature will permit; is an active member of the Old Settlers' Club, and one of its main pillars.

Mr. Merrill has had a varied life, seeing much of it in the rough. He ascended the Mississippi river to Fort Snelling, thirty-nine years ago, upon which occasion he planted some beans upon the shore of Lake Pepin, which he claims to be the first gardening done above La Crosse, by a white man. He is fond of company, is very social and companionable, a good talker and writer, full of fun, and wide-awake; has a smile and kindly word for all, and a heart as tender as that of a little child; he has accumulated much wealth; has nearly reached three score years, and is quietly awaiting the call of the Master.

## JOHN H. TWEEDY.

This gentlemen came to Milwaukee from Danbury, Massachusetts, in 1836, and at once became active and prominent in the building up of the young city.

In person Mr. Tweedy is of medium height, slight build, dark hair and eyes, large and expressive; speaks short and quick; voice low in tone; is never in a hurry; always looks sharp after his business; keeps his own counsel, and is very reticent, except with old acquaintances. He is in political faith, an old line Whig, and has in common with Prentiss, shared in all the public offices of the City, except Mayor, and was prominent as a member of the convention, to frame the present State Constitution.

He is by profession, a lawyer, but has been more prominent as a legislator, than a lawyer. He has also been prominent in all our

railroad enterprises; is in the enjoyment of wealth and influence. His habits are retiring and quiet; he likes books of science and scientific men.

Mr. Tweedy has a fine legal mind; is both a ready and fluent public speaker; has once represented his district in Congress; has also represented the City in the Legislature, several times, and is, in every respect, a first class man.

### LINDSEY WARD.

This gentleman, with his brother Joseph, came in '38, from Detroit. They were merchants, and opened a store, general merchandise, in the building known as the old Pioneer store of O. A. T. Breed. They were very successful in business, but finally dissolved, Joseph going to California, where he died many years ago.

Mr. Ward is a man of warm and generous impulses; a good business man; has a high sense of mercantile honor, and integrity; has filled many places of trust, both in the early Village, and the latter City offices, always with honor to himself, and to the entire satisfaction of his constituency.

He became one of the Trustees under the old town government, first in 1840, and from that time on, until 1846, when the City charter was adopted, was constantly in office, and as President of the Board, had the honor of administering the oath of office, to Milwaukee's first Mayor, Solomon Juneau.

He has also been prominent in railroad affairs, and few men, if any, have ever lived in Milwaukee who are more universally respected than Lindsey Ward.

His habits of life are good, his manners plain and unostentatious, always has a smile and a kind word for every one, and although in possession of abundant wealth, has, like Mr. Wells, never aped the codfish style and manners of living, so common in our day, by those who by chance, in most cases, have become possessed of a few thousand dollars.

Uncle Lindsey, as he is called, has reached the age allotted to man, and is, like Prentiss and Upham, quietly awaiting the call of the Master.



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THE MICHIGAN LITHO ENGRAVING CO.

*Mathew Keenan*

## MATTHEW KEENAN.

This gentleman came from Manlius, N. Y., in 1837. In person, he is of medium height; weighs two hundred pounds; has a florid complexion; blue eyes; walks with a quick, but easy step; looks you squarely in the face when speaking, and always thinks before he speaks; is dignified in manner and conversation; is possessed of excellent business abilities; is one of the best mathematicians in the city, and has worked his way by his own energy, from the position of ferryman, which he was in '37, to that of General Agent and Vice-President of the Northwestern Life Insurance Company, a position of great responsibility.

Few men in Milwaukee have ever filled as many or more important offices than Mr. Keenan, and certainly there is no one with a cleaner record, his political enemies themselves being judges. His word, like W. P. Merrill's, is as good as his bond, and both are like gold; his frank, open, manly face, is a good thing to look upon, and to shake his hand is an honor. He, like Mr. Wells, has few intimate or confidential friends, and to these, he is as true as the needle to the pole.

Mr. Keenan is in the enjoyment of a competency honestly earned; has reached the time when the almond tree begins to flourish, but his business ability or judgment is yet unimpaired. He is in political faith, a Democrat; in religious faith, a Catholic. Such is Matthew Keenan, one of Milwaukee's earliest and best.

## DON A. J. UPHAM.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from Northfield, Vermont, in '37, and at once became prominent as a lawyer, and politician.

In person, he is tall; has a large head; blue eyes; brown hair; strong, powerful voice; speaks slow and distinct, with a lengthened sound upon the last syllable of each word; walks slow, with his eyes constantly fixed upon the ground, but at the same time is cognizant of all that is being enacted around him; is courteous and dignified in manner, but fond of fun and mischief, few men more so, and usually on the watch for it; is a good public speaker, and a prominent Democrat.

He has been twice Mayor, was prominent in all the public enterprises of the day; has also been in the Legislature. He was also a candidate for the Governorship, and was, in fact, fairly elected, but was counted out in some unaccountable manner, and L. J. Farwell counted in.

Mr. Upham has accumulated much wealth, which he enjoys in a quiet way, and, like Prentiss, has reached the autumn of life, and is quietly awaiting the call from the Master.

#### DR. ALFRED L. CASTLEMAN.

This gentleman, who was one of the early physicians, came to Milwaukee from Kentucky, in 1835. In person, he is tall and slight; dark complexion, hair and eyes; speaks quick and loud; is of a high nervous temperament; very positive that he is always right in his opinions; would fight a score of men if insulted, but will never seek a quarrel. The doctor, like many others, is visionary in many things, and has not, therefore, made a success of life, pecuniarily, always letting go when success was just within his grasp.

He has reached the autumn of life, and must, with the rest of the men of '35, soon pass away. He is now a citizen of California.

#### DEACON JOHN OGDEN.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Union, N. J., in 1835. Settled first in the Town of Lake, where the Rolling Mill now stands. He is of medium height, dark hair, with dark eyes, keen and expressive; soft, pleasant voice, speaks quick and distinct, and very emphatic; has a strong will, is very set in his way; is also very tenacious of his rights, and has the courage to maintain them.

Mr. Ogden is a good business man; has order largely developed, and has been very successful, and is one of the few who have no enemies. He is in religious faith a Presbyterian, and has been one of the main pillars of the old First, now Immanuel Church from its infancy. In political faith he is a Republican. He has reached the three-score and ten allotted to man, and is awaiting the summons to pass the river and be at rest.





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*W. L. Garrison*

## GOV. HARRISON LUDINGTON.

Gov. Harrison Ludington came to Milwaukee from Kent, now Ludingtonville, Putnam county, N. Y., in 1838, as a merchant, in company with Lewis Ludington and Harvey Burchard, and opened a store in Juneau's old warehouse, northwest corner of East Water and Wisconsin, with his brother Nelson, as clerk. As merchants, this firm at once took a high position, their open and honest mode of dealing, soon making them not only prominent and popular, but very successful, until in a short time their store was the largest in the city.

After being in business for several years, this firm was dissolved, Mr. Burchard retiring, Messrs. Lewis, Harrison and Nelson Ludington becoming sole proprietors, who continued the business until May 1, 1848, when Nelson retired, and James Ludington became a partner, the new firm entering into the lumbering business, also, which they prosecuted for several years with great success, when the business was closed up, and the firm dissolved, the subject of this sketch entering into co-partnership with D. Wells, Jr., and A. G. Van Schaick, in Chicago, in the lumbering business, the prosecution of which has made them all very wealthy.

In person, Gov. Ludington is of medium height; heavy built; very nervous temperament, with a strong, powerful voice; speaks loud and quick, particularly when excited; is courteous and dignified in manners, and affable to every one, if not thwarted, when he can and will say no! with a bluntness that has procured for him the sobriquet of Bluff Hal.

Mr. Ludington has been much in office, as alderman, counsellor, mayor, and is now Wisconsin's Centennial Governor. He is, in political faith, an uncompromising Republican, and like Morgan L. Burdick, votes the way he shoots, never turning to the right or left, and will do nothing for any one, that he does not believe to be right, or appoint a man to office that is incompetent or unworthy.

He is also exceedingly fond of blooded stock, in the raising of which he has been very successful, and as a member of the State Agricultural Society, has been both prominent and useful, from its formation to date, spending his time and money freely, to promote

its interests, and make each annual exhibition not only a success, but to make it surpass, if possible, all previous ones.

He is also a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, taking a deep interest in its prosperity.

Such is Harrison Ludington, one of Milwaukee's solid and best men, and one her people, as well as those of the State, DELIGHT TO HONOR.

#### RUFUS CHENEY, JR.

This gentleman came from Wheelersburg, Ohio, in 1839; settled first in Milwaukee, afterwards removed to Whitewater, and became a merchant, where he remained for several years, and finally to Evanston, where he now resides, but has always claimed to be a Badger.

In person, he is short and somewhat corpulent; of a genial temperament; fond of company; tells a good story; and is, in fact, one of the most companionable men in the State. He has always taken an active part in the political issues of the day, and was an uncompromising Whig, until the death of Lincoln, when he became from some unaccountable reason, a firm friend of Andy Johnson, and his monarchical style of government, going with the lamented James called Doolittle.

At the opening of the Rebellion, he was commissioned as Paymaster, with the rank of Major, which he held until failing health compelled him to resign. He has a high sense of mercantile honor, and always keep his word.

Uncle Rufus, as he is called, has reached the autumn of life, and is in the enjoyment of a competency of this world's goods, honestly earned, which he uses wisely and well. He is in every respect, a first class man.

#### FREDERICK W. HORN.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from Posen, in the Kingdom of Prussia, in 1840, and quickly became prominent in our public affairs.

In person, he is tall and stout; has a large head; brown hair; dark eyes; voice loud and clear; speaks quick and distinct, with a slight

German accent, and very emphatic; has great faith in his own judgment; is a fair business man, but likes politics better than anything else.

Mr. Horn has been much in office, as a member of the State Senate and Assembly; is a good public speaker, and as a presiding officer, has few equals, in this or any other state. His love for fun is unbounded, as well as for the ridiculous, and many are the practical jokes of which his associates have been the victims, that were concocted in his fertile brain; no opening that promised any sport, ever escaped his observation.

Mr. Horn has been one of the most prominent men in his county Washington, for years, and is, or was, in political faith until the last four years, an old Hunker Democrat, but of late has *reformed*, in that respect, and now the writer hopes to see him die in grace, which he certainly will do, if he does not backslide. Such is F. W. Horn.

#### JOHN FURLONG.

This gentleman, who is a native of Ireland, came to Milwaukee in 1836, from Detroit, Michigan, and at once commenced an active business life.

In person he is of medium height, dark hair and eyes, large head and face, shoulders wide and heavy, walks with a quick, easy step, has a strong, powerful voice, is exceedingly nervous, speaks loud and clear, with a heavy accent upon the first part of each word.

Mr. Furlong is a good business man, and a busy one. Has accumulated much wealth, but does not put on any airs upon the strength of it, living in a plain, common sense way. He is very domestic, never happier than when with his family. In manners he is very dignified and courteous, and would not say or do anything to injure the feelings of any one unnecessarily.

He is a man of the strictest probity, and morals unimpeachable. His word is as good as gold; what he says he means; neither does he ever practice any deceit upon any one.

In religious faith he is a conscientious Catholic, living up to all the requirements of the Church in every particular.

His liberality to the poor is unbounded, his kindness of heart not permitting him to see any one in trouble or in need and not relieve them. Such is John Furlong.

### JOSEPH CARY.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Litchfield, New York, in 1836, and commenced a business life as a draper and tailor, which he carried on quite extensively for several years, having for his associates, Henry Williams, J. W. Taylor, and others. It was during these early years, that the foundation for Mr. Cary's large fortune was laid. He was diligent in business, and is now reaping the reward of his labors.

In person, Mr. Cary is of medium height; brown hair; blue eyes; walks slow, has a soft, somewhat musical voice; is very reticent, particularly with strangers; always has his eyes open; looks sharp after his business, and never meddles or interferes with others; keeps his own counsel, and is always upon the winning side. Mr. Cary is also one of the best posted men in the city, upon the value of real estate, owning a large quantity himself, which he bought early, and has held, never selling any.

Mr. Cary has never been a politician, or an office seeker, but is a staunch Republican; is a prominent and active member of the Old Settlers' Club, taking a deep interest in the object for which it was organized. He, like Williams, has reached the autumn of life, and must soon cross the river.

### EDWARD D. HOLTON.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee in 1840, from Lancaster, New Hampshire, and at once commenced his business life as a merchant, in the old frame store where J. B. Martin's iron block now stands, with Ira E. Goodall, as partner.

In person, Mr. Holton is of medium height; large head; blue eyes; light brown hair; florid complexion; voice strong and clear; speaks loud and distinct, with a heavy accent; is a good judge of men and human nature, and is of an exceedingly nervous temperament; will have his own way, which he always thinks is *the* way;

will not occupy a second position if he can help it, but figures to be the head of any thing he may be connected with. Mr. Holton is a good impromptu public speaker, and never lets an opportunity pass to make a speech. He is also fond of travel, which he has done quite extensively, having visited not only most of the notable places in his own county, but Europe and the Holy Land, also where, during the present Centennial year, he maintained the reputation of his countrymen for horsemanship, by an exhibition of his equestrian skill, of which he is justly proud, in a quarter race with Selim-Ben-Hamet, (O'Pasha!) a wild Bedouin of the desert, pitting himself and his plebeian horse against the thorough-bred Arabian courser of his opponent, and, as he says, beat him, much to the old Sheik's disgust. A greater cloud of dust was raised at this race, than has been seen in that Moslem accursed country, since the days of the Crusades. His humility is also well-known to all men, he being the only one of his party to kiss the hand of the Pope of Rome, at a public levee, given by His Holiness, at which himself and party were present, during this same European tour of 1875 and '6.

He is also fond of money, in the accumulation of which he has been uncommonly successful. He has been much in office as a banker, alderman, sheriff, member of the legislature, Vice-President and manager of an Insurance Company, land speculator, in all of which positions he was prominent and active. In fact, few men have ever lived in the city of Milwaukee, who have been more active than Ed. D. Holton. His morals are of the strictest kind, and in the cause of temperance, he is a very Samson, standing as firm as a rock, against this great curse of the human race; and is, in the discharge of what he conceives to be his duty, as fearless as a lion.

In political faith, Mr. Holton was, originally, an Abolitionist, standing up for the slave, when it cost something; next a Whig, or Republican, but what his political opinions are now, is a matter of great uncertainty, he having made a new profession of faith, which has astonished his old life associates, not a little.

He is also a member of the Old Settlers' Club, and takes no little interest in the objects for which it was organized, giving aid and counsel when needed.

Mr. Holton, like Kilbourn, has a positive character, which makes

him, at times, many enemies, but for this, he cares as little as did Kilbourn.

He was prominent in the inception and construction of the Prairie du Chien Railroad, and was its first Superintendent, resigning when, or shortly after, it reached Waukesha.

Mr. Holton has now retired from active life, to his celebrated Highland Home Farm, where he is spending his time in the enjoyment of his vast wealth, and the propagation of blooded stock, particularly Normandy horses, in which, it is hoped, his success will equal his zeal.

#### FREDERICK WARDNER.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Woodstock, Vermont, in 1836, and at once became prominent as a merchant, under the firm name of Wardner & Hatch, in which he continued with varying success for several years, when he retired from business and went into politics, in which he has taken a prominent part as one of the city officials, up to the present time, as Deputy Comptroller, and lastly as Assessor, which responsible position he has filled for several years past, with credit to himself, as well as to the satisfaction of the people.

In person, Mr. Wardner is of medium height; slight build; light hair; dark blue eyes; speaks quick and short; walks quick; is exceedingly nervous; is as full of fun and mischief as a boy; is one of the most companionable men in the city; always good natured; has not an enemy in the world. Mr. Wardner is one of those who are always to be found at their place of business, in business hours, and at home when not, being very domestic.

He is also a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, and was its second Treasurer.

He is in the enjoyment of a competency of this world's good, which he uses wisely. He is, in political faith, a Democrat; has been Alderman of the old Seventh ward. Such is a slight sketch of this worthy pioneer.





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SOLOMON JUNEAU



BYRON KILBOURN



GEO H. WALKER

BY W. A. JAFFE, LITH. & ENG. CO.  
**THREE FOUNDERS**  
of the  
**City of Milwaukee.**

## CHAPTER XIII.

Memorial Sketches—The Founders of Milwaukee.

### SOLOMON JUNEAU.

Solomon Juneau was born on the ninth of August, 1793, at the parish of L' Assumption, Canada. He was of pure French or Al-sacian descent, and like all of his race in this country, had a strong passion for a frontier life. He came when a youth, to Green Bay, then an important point, and from there to Milwaukee, as an Indian trader, in 1818. He was, without exception, the finest looking representative of his race that I have ever seen.

In height, over six feet; large frame; straight as an arrow; and an eye that seemed to pierce your very soul; he was in truth one of the noblest works of God, an honest man. But, in consequence of his whole life having been spent in the wilderness, the tricks of trade, and the ways that are dark and vain, so much in practice in our day, were to him a sealed book, the A B C of which, he was too old to learn, and too honest to practice.

Of the value of money, he had no conception, and the consequence was, that his vast wealth was, in a short time, all in the possession of the ever-grasping Angle-Saxon.

He died while at the Indian payment, held at Shawano, November 14, 1856, aged sixty-four years. But surely, while life remains, his manly form will be ever present with the old pioneers of Milwaukee. He was, in religious faith, a Catholic. His body lies in Calvary cemetery, and to the shame of the City of Milwaukee, be it said, no monument yet marks the spot where lies all that is mortal of the man most deserving it at her hands.

The public square upon the East Side, was a gift to the ward, from him; and the old courthouse, with the ground upon which it stood, was also, in part, a free gift from this generous hearted man, to the people of Milwaukee county. He was also the first Mayor of the City, and post master; and her firm friend, when friendship was

was worth something. He protected her first settlers from the ruthless savages, when they were in danger, in the days of her infancy. Then see to it, ye people of this great city, that this act of justice be no longer delayed, but that a monument be erected to the memory of SOLOMON JUNEAU, the first white citizen of Milwaukee, and the pioneer's friend.

Mr. Juneau was first buried at Shawano, but was subsequently brought to Milwaukee, and his obsequies held in the Cathedral, with all the grand and imposing ceremonies of the Catholic Church, of which he was a prominent member; and to him, more than to any other of its many laymen, is it indebted for the first financial aid it ever received in this city. This was the first time that the old settlers came out in a body, to attend the funeral of a pioneer, and led to the formation of the present Club. Over five thousand people were present on this occasion. Mr. Juneau was interred first in the old cemetery on Spring street, and subsequently at Calvary.

“ Juneau, so fair, and whose wit was so keen,  
 Came here in the year eighteen hundred eighteen;  
 An Indian trader of fame and renown,  
 Lived on the East Side, called Juneau's town;  
 And in fact, was the king of the place.  
 So manly and bold, with a dark, hazel eye,  
 Always told you the truth, and never a lie;  
 This pioneer man of his race.”

#### GEORGE H. WALKER.

George H. Walker came to Milwaukee from Bedford County, Virginia, in 1834, and located upon the South Side.

Here he erected a log house upon the old point, it being the first ever built by a white man upon that side.

In person he is of medium height, heavy build, with a countenance expressive of mirth, of which he was full; commanding presence, courteous and dignified in his intercourse with his fellow men, and generous to a fault. He was also possessed of great personal magnetism.

He, like Juneau, cared nothing for money for its own sake, but spent it freely.

He was a man of great influence in public affairs ; in politics a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school ; was active in all the political campaigns of his time and the public enterprises of the day ; was one of the first to aid in building the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad, now the Prairie du Chien ; was upon its Board of Directors for years ; and there was, in fact, no enterprise of any importance undertaken in his day in which he did not participate.

He also held many important offices ; was Canal Commissioner, twice Mayor, Register in the Land Office under Polk, and one of the Board of Managers over the National Asylum, appointed by the Secretary of War, which office he held at his death. He was truly a representative man. He died Sept. 20, 1866, aged 56.

“ Walker, thy name, too, with Kilbourn's shall stand,  
As one of the fathers in this goodly land,  
Where you took so early and active a part,  
Which gave to this city her first grand start,  
And watched o'er her infantile years ;  
Who was so well known all over the west,  
As one of Milwaukee's earliest and best,  
And a leader among her peers.”

#### BYRON KILBOURN.

Byron Kilbourn came to Milwaukee in 1835, from the State of Ohio. He was by profession a civil engineer, and as such, held a high rank in the profession.

In person he was tall and commanding, sharp features, keen, expressive eye ; looked you square in the face when speaking, and was in every respect one who would command attention from all with whom he came in contact.

He was possessed of a will of iron, good judgment, excellent executive abilities, great brain power, saw far away into the future, and possessed a magnetism that would both attract and attach to himself and his plans all who came under its influence. He was a born leader.

He knew the value of money, and how to use it ; could tell at a glance the competency of every man, and the right place for him.

He was the originator of our railroad system, and it was mainly due to his great executive abilities that they were so soon completed.

His positive character often made him enemies, but for that he cared very little. The more he was opposed the stronger became his will, and the result would be the accomplishment of whatever he undertook.

He, like Walker, took a deep interest in politics, and was, like him, a Democrat. He was twice Mayor, and to his liberality is the city indebted for the ground upon which stands the Kilbourn Park Reservoir.

Such was Byron Kilbourn. He has left a record, both in city and State, that shall never die.

“ Kilbourn! The sound of that magical name  
Awakens old memories, opens old veins—  
A man of large brain, and great power of will,  
Who kept things moving, ne'er let them stand still,  
And vast were works that he planned ;  
With the eye of a seer, he looked far away,  
And told us the best place our railroads to lay,  
That to-day extend over the land.”

He died and was buried at Jacksonville, Florida, December 16th, 1870, aged sixty-nine years.

#### JUDGE ANDREW GALBRAITH MILLER.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, as the successor of Hon. Wm. C. Frazier, in 1838, from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In person, he was tall and stout; large head; blue eyes; black hair; voice clear and distinct; spoke with emphasis, and quite rapidly; of commanding presence, and was, in every sense, one who would attract attention in any place or position. Few men have ever lived in Milwaukee who possessed so fine a physique as Judge Miller. He was straight as an arrow; walked with an easy, dignified movement, each step always the same in length, *a la militaire*. He was a keen observer of men and their ways; saw all that was enacted around him—nothing ever escaped his eye; kept his own counsel, and always acted upon his own judgment. His habits were simple and



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*A. G. Miller*

1850. OF  
CALIFORNIA

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uniform, never changing. His morals were of the strictest kind; neither could he be made to swerve from what he believed to be right, or in any way countenance wrong doing in others. With strangers, he was reticent; with acquaintances and friends he was social, and affable and polite to all. And as a judge, no man has ever sat upon the bench, in this country, whose decisions have given more satisfaction, or have been more universally respected, than were his.

Like Kilbourn, he had a positive character, which, of course, made him enemies, but for this he cared very little, preferring the approval of his own conscience, to the good will of any one.

He was very industrious, always seeking to understand the merits of the cases brought before him, and did, no flaw or technical mistake ever escaping his observation. His law books were not for show. They were his constant study; and of him it can be truthfully said that he possessed one of the best legal minds in the country. He was a born jurist; the law was his delight. He looked upon the legal profession, as the grandest of all professions; and it is, if rightly administered. In social intercourse, his face always wore a pleasant smile. He had a healthy mind, as well as a healthy body; and enjoyed life in a dignified, common sense manner.

His charities to the poor were boundless, but of this, he made no boast, having his reward in an approving conscience.

In political faith he was a Jeffersonian Democrat of the old school, and believed in executing the law as he found it. In religious faith, he was a Churchman, and for years, one of the main pillars of old St. Paul.

He was also one of the most prominent men in the Old Settlers' Club, in which he took a deep interest; was twice elected its President; and some of the most valuable historic matter ever published by it, for the public, was the work of his hand, particularly that upon the Judiciary.

Such was Andrew G. Miller. He died September 30, 1874, aged seventy-one; having previously resigned his office, after a continuous service of forty years.

## DEACON SAMUEL BROWN.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Chicago, first, as previously stated, with Messrs. Chase and Burdick, in 1834, and lastly in '35, settling in what is now the Ninth ward, where he continued to reside until his death. His fellow citizens were not slow to discover in Deacon Brown, those sterling qualities that make the perfect man, and he at once became popular and influential. A strong friendship was soon formed between himself and Mr. Kilbourn, lasting through life, Mr. Brown having great faith in Mr. Kilbourn, and his plans.

In person, Deacon Brown was tall, with a large frame, capable of great endurance; dark brown hair; dark blue eyes; he had a soft voice, almost feminine in its tone; spoke short and quick; walked with a quick, steady stride, his eyes usually cast upon the ground, as though in deep thought, but was at the same time, observant of all that was being enacted around him; was somewhat reticent in company; kept his own counsel, never interfering, unasked, with the affairs of others; was regular and methodical in all he did; a good financier; quick to see, and quick to decide; and as a companionable man, unexcelled.

Perhaps no person has ever lived in Milwaukee, with so positive a character as Deacon Brown, who had so few enemies, or to whom more people have applied in the hour of trouble, domestic or pecuniary, for advice, as to him. Many a law suit has been prevented by his influence. He was a peacemaker, always.

Deacon Brown was one of the few of the early men, who had the good sense to hold on to the place first selected, until the city grew to him. The result was that he became wealthy. Much of his farm was, however, embraced within the city, previous to his death, and a few years more will see the whole of it covered with buildings.

He was a man of the strictest morals and rectitude; neither would he countenance wrong-doing in others. He was also a firm champion of temperance; and his word once given, was never violated; neither would he go in debt if it could be avoided, always paying as he went. He was also a prominent member of the Old Settlers'



*Samuel Brown*

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Club, and its second President, and in him the Club lost a worthy member, the church a consistent Christian, and the community a valuable citizen. He died December 22, 1874, aged seventy years. Such was Deacon Samuel Brown.

#### DR. WM. P. PROUDFIT.

This gentleman, one of the earliest physicians in Milwaukee, came, I believe, from Rome, N. Y., in 1836, and settled upon the West Side, his home standing upon Third street, north of Cherry.

In person, he was tall and slim; sharp features; dark hair and eyes; voice soft and musical; spoke slow, very distinct, and quite low; his face, when talking, always wore a pleasant smile, the color coming and going like the changes of the rainbow.

He was a very successful physician, as well as a very industrious one, and had built up a large business, when death called him away. He died in 1842, leaving a memory among the old settlers, that will not fade while life remains.

He was, in religious faith, a Presbyterian, and one of the leading members of the old First church (now Immanuel,) from its formation to his death, and by his truly Christian life, added greatly to its usefulness in its infancy.

Such was Wm. P. Proudfit, one of Milwaukee's earliest and best.

#### JOSHUA HATHAWAY.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from Rome, N. Y., in 1835, and at once assumed a high rank in the young city. He was, by profession a civil engineer, and as such, surveyed a part of the then territory, now comprised within the present limits of Wisconsin, more particularly the southern portion, during 1833 and '4, making his headquarters at Chicago. On his arrival at Milwaukee, he at once pitched his tent upon the lot so long his homestead, southeast corner of Broadway and Mason, in which he lived until the Spring of '36, when he built the house, before spoken of, in the history of the East Side, in which he commenced his wedded life, and where his earthly labors were ended.

In person, Mr. Hathaway was tall and slim; large head, blue

eyes; dark brown hair; face long; voice soft and musical; spoke slow and distinct (and always thought twice before speaking), usually in a low tone, but when excited or animated, quite loud; he walked slow, with a lengthy step, always the same; his manners were always courteous and dignified, which won him friends at first sight.

His fellow citizens were not slow to appreciate his sterling business qualities, for we find upon the organization of the territorial government, in '36, the first to be honored with the appointment of District Surveyor, a place of great responsibility in the embryo State, was Joshua Hathaway, his commission being dated July 8th, 1836.

He entered, at once, largely into speculation, both in Milwaukee and other lake towns, particularly Kewaunee; and few are the names that appear in the early records and newspapers, oftener than Joshua Hathaway's. He was a man of excellent judgment; unimpeachable morals; had a high sense of mercantile honor, and possessed one of the best legal minds at that time, in the city of Milwaukee.

He was also, like James Murray, full of mirth, fond of home and its adornments, viz: wife and children, to whom he fulfilled faithfully, all the duties of husband and father.

He was fond of friends and company, particularly of educated men; was a good geologist, and possessed social and companionable qualities that few can equal.

His office was often visited by these in search of information concerning lots, lands, and taxes, unattainable elsewhere; and although he might be in the midst of the most difficult problems connected with his business, or making drafts for maps, in which he took a great delight, he always received you pleasantly, answered your questions if he could, and if he could not, then you might well despair of finding what you sought, for if you left his office unenlightened, you would be likely to remain so, as far as any information concerning Milwaukee lands or lots were concerned.

Such was Joshua Hathaway, one of Milwaukee's earliest and best. He died July 4, 1863.

## CYRUS HAWLEY.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from Hampton, Conn., in 1835, and at once became prominent in the young and rising city. He was above the medium height, of slight frame; had a large head, high forehead; light hair; blue eyes; a sharp, clear voice; was exceedingly nervous at times, not always; kept his own affairs as close as possible; was very conscientious; strictly honest, even to a fault; looked sharp after his business; was very economical, and of course made money; saw far ahead, and upon the strength of his own judgment made those large purchases of real estate that became the foundation of all his wealth. He held many important offices; was Register of Deeds, (the first one ever elected;) was the first Clerk of Court, which office he held for many years, giving universal satisfaction. These continued mental labors finally impaired his health, and he retired to his farm, where he spent the remainder of his days in watching the steady advance of the city towards his homestead, and its consequent daily increase in value, until he became in fact, as he was in name, one of Milwaukee's solid men.

In political faith he was a Republican; was very active in all the political issues of the times in which he lived; firm for the right, and as firm against the wrong.

In religious faith he was an Episcopalian; was one of the staunch pillars of the old St. Paul's and was for years upon its official board.

It will not be considered flattery to say that Mr. Hawley was one of the most useful men of his time, which he certainly was. His example was one to emulate. He was an active member of the Old Settlers' Club, and took a great interest in the objects for which it was organized. He died in 1871.

## FENNIMORE C. POMEROY.

This gentleman came from Cooperstown, N. Y., in 1837, and was engaged as teacher in the public schools, in which he was very successful, and was for several years Superintendent, giving general satisfaction to both teachers and pupils. He was of medium height; had dark hair and eyes; of a nervous temperament; walked fast, with his eyes constantly fixed upon the ground.

He was also very retiring in his manners; made few acquaintances; seldom went from home; had no evil habits or associates, and was, in fact, a first-class man, strictly honest and conscientious, and although one of the earliest to come to Milwaukee, was perhaps the least known of any among our citizens, outside his immediate circle; never seeking notoriety, but rather avoiding it. Mr. Pomeroy had a presentiment that he would die in 1870, and as the year approached, was gloomy and sad, and when taken sick, made the remark that this would be his last sickness. When talking, Mr. Pomeroy was animated, the color coming and going in his face, like Dr. Proudfit. Peace to his memory.

He was very active in the organization of the Old Settlers' Club, and was its first Secretary, which office he held at his death, which occurred in 1870. He left a wife and daughter to mourn his untimely death.

#### ELIPHALET CRAMER.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from Waterford, New York, in 1836. He was by profession, a lawyer, but I think never practiced in this State. It was his good fortune to have money, and of course he made money. As a money-lender and speculator, he was the compeer of Pixley.

In person, he was of medium height and build; of an extremely nervous temperament; wanted his own way in everything, and generally managed to have it, *volens volens*; he was keen and sharp, had good executive abilities; held several important public offices; and was one of the most industrious and hard working men of his time. He was fond of fun and mischief, and generally had a hand in all that was going on, among his associates in that line, in his youthful days. As he grew older he became more sedate and reticent.

He was for years the president of the gas company in this city, in which he was a large stock holder; and lastly in the old State bank, the duties of which proved too much for his failing strength, causing a mental prostration, from which he never recovered. He was also a prominent member of Plymouth Church, (not of Brooklyn,) from its infancy to the close of his life. He accumulated





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a large property, and was one of Milwaukee's solid men. He died September 20, 1872.

#### SYLVESTER PETTIBONE.

This gentleman came from Connecticut to Milwaukee, in April, 1836, and at once became an active and useful citizen.

In person, he was tall; had a large frame; florid complexion; light hair; blue eyes; spoke short and quick; was of an exceeding nervous temperament; what he wanted, he wanted badly, and would get it if possible; was at one time in the possession of abundant wealth, but was unfortunate in his business, and at his death, was comparatively poor. He was a firm friend, and would do himself an injury any time, to help those he cared for.

Mr. Pettibone, besides farming, carried on blacksmithing, at Prairie Village, in '36, and in '37 was appointed postmaster at that office. He was prominent in politics; was chairman of several primary meetings, held in those early days, and took a deep interest in the welfare of the young city. He graded the first street, East Water, ever laid out in the city; was always a hard working and influential man; never idle a day. Such was Sylvester Pettibone. He died July 23, 1876, aged eighty-three, leaving a wife, but no children.

#### JAMES MURRAY.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from Crieff, Scotland, in 1835. He was by occupation a painter, and the first of the craft to make his home in the embryonic City.

He was of medium height; heavy build; had light sandy hair; dark blue eyes; a full, open countenance; large head; great bodily strength; walked fast and erect; saw all that was going on around him; was always full of mirth; had good business and executive abilities, and was a universal favorite with all.

His habits of life were simple, and his morals of the strictest kind, neither could he in any way be induced to lend his aid or influence to anything that was wrong. With that thrift so peculiar to his race, he at once commenced to accumulate wealth, in which

he was more than usually successful, the property known as Murray's addition, being among his first accumulations.

His voice was round, clear, and musical, with the Scotch accent strong. He was, in political faith, a Republican, and took an active part in all the political issues of the day. In religious faith, he was, like most of his race, in this country, a staunch Presbyterian, and one of the main pillars of the old first church.

No man that ever lived in Milwaukee has left a better record behind him, as a legacy to his children, than James Murray. Neither will his manly form, and pleasant smile, ever fade from the memory of his brother pioneers, while life remains. He died in June, 1863, in the same unpretending house in which he commenced his wedded life, where his widow still resides, in the enjoyment of abundant wealth, honestly earned. Peace to his memory.

#### JONATHAN E. ARNOLD.

This gentleman came from Woonsocket, Rhode Island, in 1836, and as a criminal lawyer, was, without exception, the best and most successful one in the State, standing prominently at the head of the profession; holding a jury with a magnetism they were seldom able to resist. When commencing his argument, his voice was low and plaintive, and even mournful; his eye fixed steadily upon the jury; with an expression that seemed to charm them, this magnetism extending to the audience as well. There were no drowsy jurors when he was speaking. He was a good judge of human nature, seeming to know your very thoughts; neither could any one divest themselves of the feeling, when in his presence, that he was reading them as he would a book.

In person, he was of medium height; had a countenance expressive of sadness; step, slow and dignified; seldom smiled; and was extremely reticent. Few of his compeers could say they thoroughly understood this remarkably man.

In political faith, he was a Whig. He was a good legislator; was very prominent in the formation of our State and City governments; and was considered the best living legal authority of his time in the State. He died in June, 1869.

## HORATIO N. WELLS.

This gentleman came from Vermont, in '36. As a lawyer, he was both prominent and successful; was of a quick and nervous temperament; a ready speaker; in political faith, an uncompromising Democrat, and took a deep interest in political affairs; was once Mayor; was also in the State Legislature, where he at once became a leader. His last office was that of County Judge.

Mr. Wells was a warm friend; a bitter enemy; made no concealment of his political views or opinions; was strictly honest, and generous to a fault; he knew not the value of money, but spent it freely; was at one time quite wealthy, but at his death, was quite poor. He died, August 19, 1858.

## JOHN W. PIXLEY.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from Columbia, N. Y., in 1836, and at once become a merchant and land speculator in connection with his brother Maurice. Maurice remained but a short time, however, when J. W. quit the mercantile business and became a money lender and dealer in tax titles, in which he was very successful. In person he was tall and slim; dark hair and eyes, spoke short and quick, with a heavy accent upon the last part of each word; was a keen observer of men and things; knew the value of money and how to make the most of it; could tell at a glance what a man was and how far to trust him, and seldom, if ever, was any man able to get the better of him in a trade. He was never married.

Few men have ever lived in Milwaukee whose judgment upon business affairs was better than John W. Pixley's. He was always posted, and never in all his life was known to put off until to-morrow what should be done to-day.

In political faith he was a Democrat, but was never an active politician. In manners he was very quiet, made few intimate friends, and these he retained through life.

His charity was unbounded, of which the world knew very little, for he, like Rood, was no Pharisee. He died in 1873, aged 64.

## WILLIAM BROWN.

This gentleman was from St. Clair, Michigan, and came to Milwaukee in '36. He had been a clerk for the American Fur Company in his youth, in which capacity he had been over the entire northwest before the advent of the whites. In person he was short and stout, large head, auburn hair, blue eyes, very large, and always looked at a person when speaking. He was extremely nervous; spoke short and quite low, and spoke very little; was a keen observer of men and their actions, a habit acquired in his early frontier life. Mr. Brown was a good business man; strictly honest and conscientious; was much in public life in Milwaukee's early days, and was the partner in business of Henry Miller. He died June 17, 1862, of apoplexy.

## GEORGE BOWMAN.

This gentleman came from Barnard, Vermont, in '36, as a merchant. He was tall, walked with a quick, short step, was very reticent, never conversing much upon any subject. He was a good business man, and a successful one. But in all his business life he was never known to have a sign or to advertise. No other merchant who ever lived in Milwaukee, sold more goods while in trade, than Mr. Bowman, and did it so quietly. If he had not what you called for, he told you so, neither would he make any effort to sell you something else that you did not want, and never was known to attempt to deceive, or misrepresent the quality of his goods.

His promises to pay were always met; his word was with him the same as his bond. If he had an enemy, he never knew it. He died in 1874. In his death the Old Settlers' Club, of which he was treasurer, lost a worthy member, and the City of Milwaukee a useful citizen. Peace to his memory.

## DEA. SAMUEL HINMAN.

This gentleman was noted for his politeness, and well merited the appellation of the polite man. He was tall and commanding in person; light hair; blue eyes; florid complexion; voice soft and



musical; with a pleasant word and smile for every one, even for the brutes.

It is related of him, that when driving oxen, he would, when wishing them to go to the right or left, lift his hat very respectfully, and say, "Haw, bright, sir," or "Gee, bright, sir, if you please."

But to see him in his glory was to see him when presiding at a public assembly. That was well worth going ten miles to witness. In that position he certainly surpassed any and all the men I ever knew.

He was both prominent and active in the formation of the first town and ward governments, being upon the Board of Trustees. He was also prominent in the organization of the old first church. He was truly a good man, and has long since gone to his reward.

#### DR. THOMAS J. NOYES.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee from the town of Franklin, N. H., in 1836, and at once became eminent in his profession.

In person he was rather above medium height, stout build, weighing about 220 pounds, and was exceedingly fine looking. His hair, which he wore rather long, was dark; dark eyes; an extremely small hand, of which he was somewhat vain; a clear voice, not loud; spoke his words rather short, but distinct; very few men have ever lived in Milwaukee, that possessed so fine a physique as did Dr. T. J. Noyes. His love for mischief was unbounded, no opening for which ever escaped his watchful eye.

In political faith, he was a Jeffersonian Democrat; took an active part in politics; was Justice of the Peace for several years, the duties of which office he performed both fearlessly and faithfully. He died while on his way to California, in 1852.

#### WILLIAM M. GARDNER.

This gentlemen came in May, 1836, from New York. He was a lawyer, and the first District Attorney in the county, receiving his appointment, I think, from Gov. Mason, of Detroit, Michigan, who was our first territorial Governor.

He was of medium height, light hair, blue eyes; open, florid countenance; walked with a short, quick step; and dressed neatly, in drab pants, blue coat, with metal buttons, buff vest, ruffled shirt, and white hat.

He, like Arnold, was somewhat reticent. He was a fine scholar, a good lawyer and citizen, and his death, which occurred in '39, was a real loss to the community. Although he has been dead 37 years, yet in memory he is often before me.

### JOHN CHILDS.

This gentleman came to Milwaukee, from Sand Lake, New York, July 13, 1835, and at once became prominent as a wide awake business man, being as before stated, the first white or American hotel keeper in the place.

In person, he was of medium height; had dark hair, which stood straight up; large, dark hazel eyes; walked with a slow, measured step; spoke slow; voice low in tone; was not nervous, or easily excited, but would when aroused make it lively for all who undertook to oppose him; was close in his dealings, but not parsimonious; was a good liver; fond of home and its comforts, and was one of the best providers for his family, that ever lived in Milwaukee.

Mr. Childs was a great sportsman, and one of the best shots with a rifle, that I have ever seen; and would shoot at a mark, a pastime much in vogue in that early day, as long as any one would shoot with him; and was seldom or never beaten in a contest of that kind.

The writer, as before stated, made his home with Mr. Childs for the first two years of his residence in Milwaukee, and can never forget the kindness always manifested towards himself by both Mr. and Mrs. Childs. He died in 1846. Mrs. Childs is yet living, in Rockdale, Illinois.

### INCREASE ALLEN LAPHAM.

The writer cannot close these biographical sketches of Milwaukee's early and eminent men, without making some mention of this distinguished scholar and savant, who, while living, was first in sci-

1000

1853



*J. A. Lapham*

ence, first in art, and whose memory lies embalmed in the hearts of his fellow citizens; and who, if we may be permitted to judge the future by the past, is now collecting and classifying the beautiful flowers that bloom upon the verdant shores of the River of Life, an employment in which he took so much delight, in this life. It may seem, and no doubt is, an act of unpardonable egotism in the author, to enter upon this ground, made almost hallowed by Prof. S. S. Sherman in his beautiful memorial biography of Doctor Lapham, read before the Old Settlers' Club, December 11th, 1875; nevertheless, the attempt must be made, for which the author will plead his privilege as a long life acquaintance; neither could this history be complete, and omit the man to whom the citizens of this fair city, as well as the whole country, are indebted for some of the most useful, as well as the most wonderful achievements in science, of the nineteenth century, all of which have been so eloquently portrayed by Prof. Sherman.

Doctor Lapham came to Milwaukee in July, 1836, as the protege of Hon. Byron Kilbourn, who saw in him those elements and qualifications that fit a man for the position he was to occupy in the building up of the young city. He was a natural draughtsman, and the first complete map of Milwaukee, was the work of his hand.

In person, Doctor Lapham was of medium height; slight build; large head; dark blue eyes; dark hair; voice soft and musical, but low in tone; walked with a quick nervous step; was of a quiet disposition, never seeking notoriety, but always seeming to avoid it; was a true friend, and possessed one of the kindest hearts that ever beat within the breast of a human being. Such was the *personale* of this distinguished man.

The writer first saw Doctor Lapham, at the great claim meeting held in the old court house, March 13, 1837, where an acquaintance commenced, which lasted without interruption, until broken by death. A similarity of tastes in scientific matters, brought us often together; I anxious to learn, and he ever ready to impart.

With what patience he watched the winds, the tidal waves, and the rain fall, for years; at the same time studying the flora and fauna of Wisconsin, as well as its geology, hoping, at some future time to make this knowledge useful to his adopted state. And when at last the

goal so diligently and eagerly sought, was in sight, and the great aim of life about to be realized, this hope was, by one fell blow, dashed to the ground, leaving him heart-broken. From the effects of this ingratitude he never recovered; he had now reached the autumn of life, and to his sensitive nature, this cruel blow came with crushing force, under which he sank rapidly. From that time, life, to him, was a burden.

He was a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Club, working zealously to promote its usefulness, contributing valuable papers yearly upon the early history of our State and City, particularly upon the Indian tribes that formerly inhabited this beautiful country; also the valuable chronological table published by the club. He was its President in 1874, and was upon its Executive Committee from its formation until his death.

His demise was sudden, and its manner such as no doubt he would himself have chosen, had he been consulted. Alone with God, upon that crystal lake he loved so well, upon whose forest-clothed banks nature had commenced to paint her autumnal glories, emblematic of his own waning years—here, in this beautiful spot, on the 14th of September, 1875, while the shadows of the dying year were stealing over the land, the gate to the Great Beyond was opened by the dark angel, and the voice of the bright one was heard, saying, "Come hither, for the Master hath called thee."

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This will close the biographical part of this book, and as it is impossible to remember, or to give a separate sketch of every old settler, in a work of this kind, those who have been overlooked or forgotten, will please take the will for the deed, as the writer would gladly sketch them all if he could. To those who have so kindly furnished information, when asked, the author is truly thankful, and to those who have furnished their portraits, is he doubly so; neither will this distinguished mark of their confidence in, and respect for the author, ever be forgotten.

## VALEDICTORY.

This, my brothers of the Old Settlers' Club, completes the work given me by you, to do; imperfectly done, no doubt, but the best I can give you, and almost wholly from memory. This work has been both a labor and a pleasure, for ours has been a glorious life and mission, and be you well assured, that it is no small honor to be the men to make the first marks in such a great and beautiful city as many of us have lived to see Milwaukee become.

We came when the whole country was a wilderness; we have lived to see it become a garden, and its every advancing step in its rapid progress to wealth and power, has been watched by us, like as doth the fond mother those of her loved boy, from infancy to manhood. We have all grown gray in its service; and many have been honored with places of trust in its councils, some of you, the highest in the gift of your fellow citizens; but the place of a pioneer is more honorable still; and in the coming years, when we shall have passed away, and our children shall look upon our works and read this history of the men of '36, they will feel a just pride in being able to say, "MY FATHER was of that pioneer band."

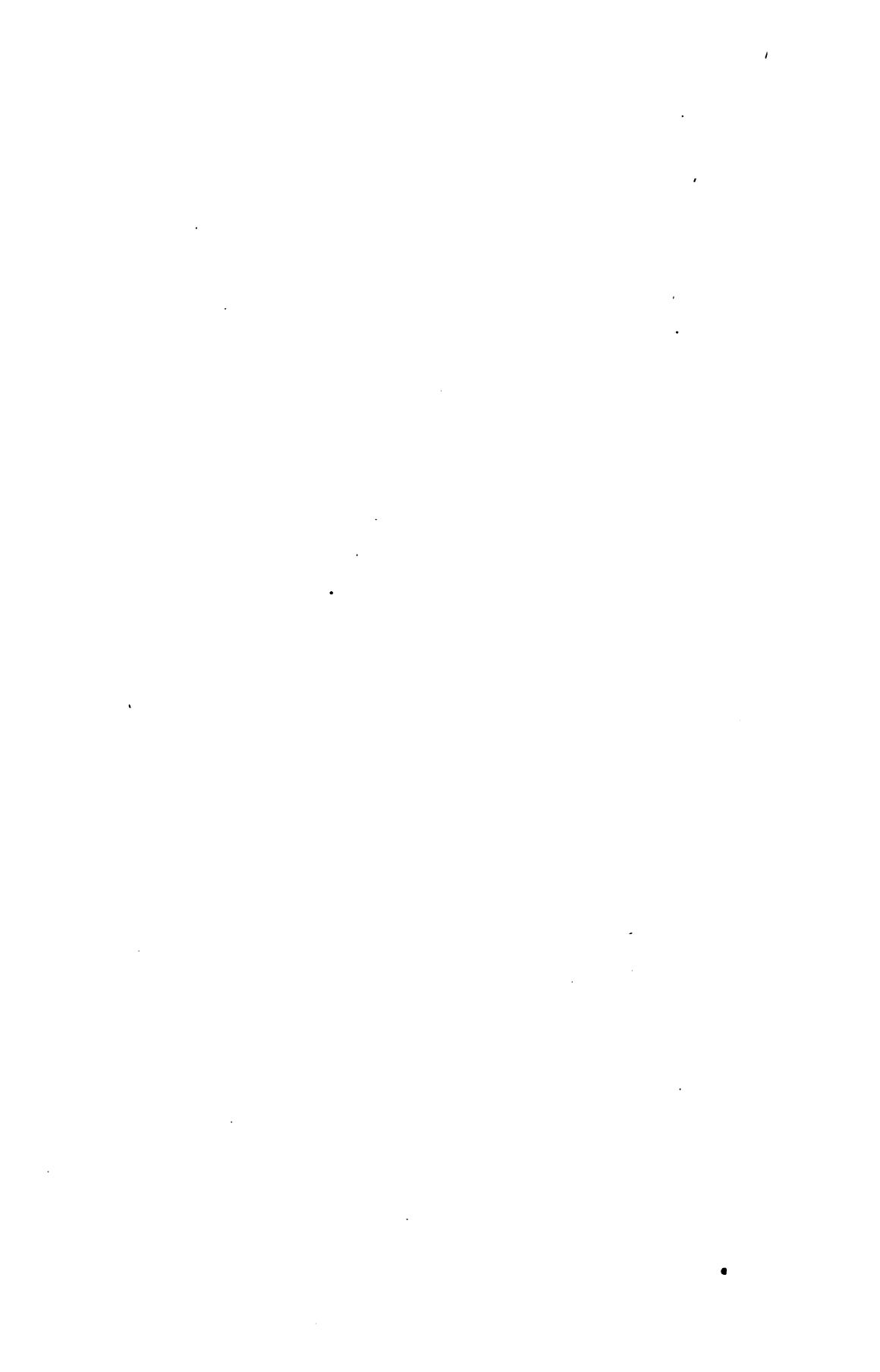
But alas! they are not all present with us to-day; many have already crossed the dark waters; and one by one, will kind hands soon lay our worn out bodies away to rest, in our beautiful "Forest Home," that other Milwaukee, that silent Milwaukee,

"Where 'neath the forest's sombre shade,  
Peaceful these forms shall sleep;  
While o'er them will the silver moon  
Her nightly vigils keep."

Our work on earth will have been finished; our spirits will have gone to join our brothers, in that bright world beyond the river, and "*il est mort*,"\* will be written against us all. But let us hope that in memory we shall never, no, *never* die.

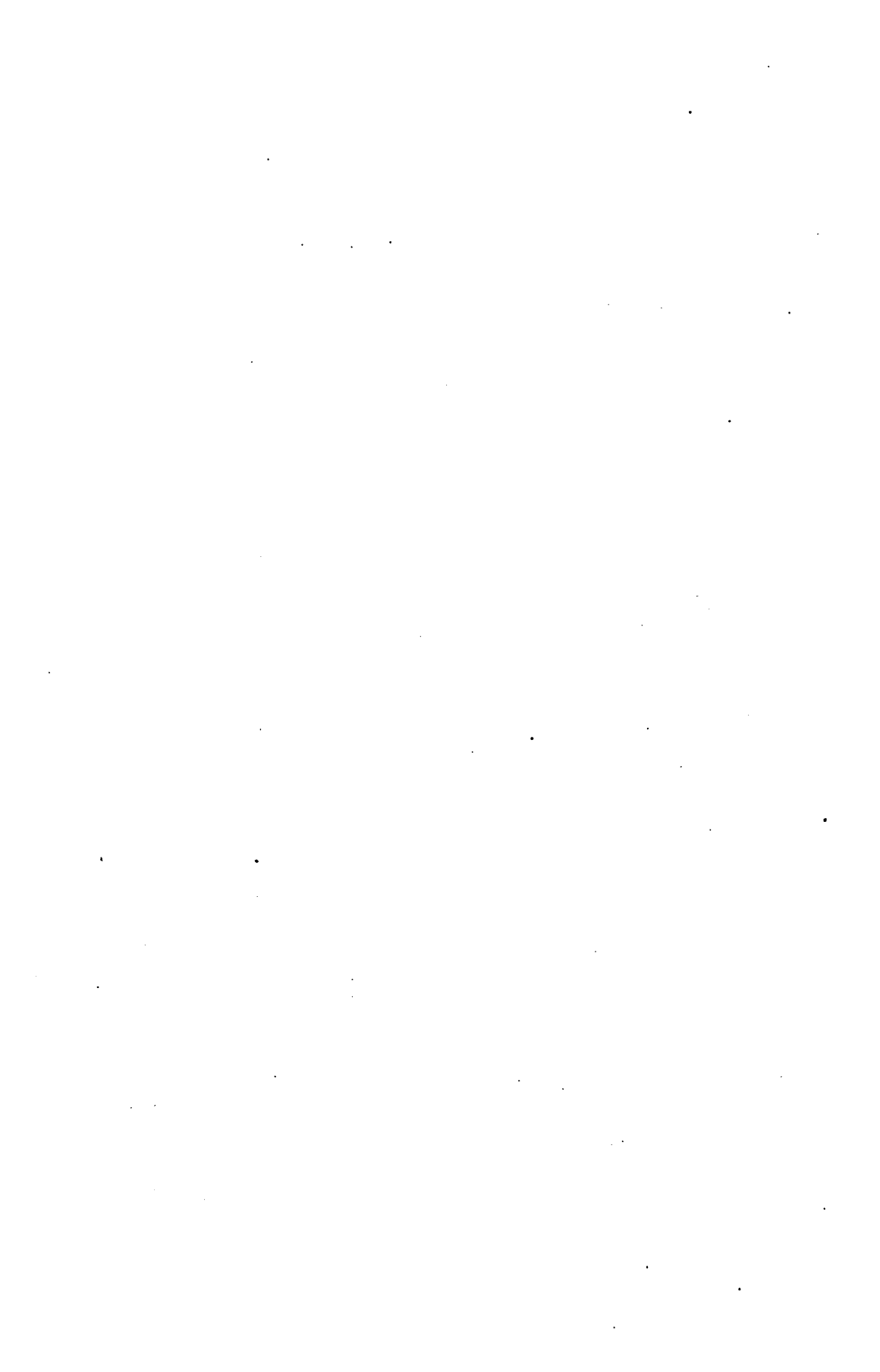
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\*He is dead.





**APPENDIX.**



# ADDRESSES

BEFORE

## THE OLD SETTLERS' CLUB.

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ADDRESS OF DR. ENOCH CHASE.

JULY 4TH, 1872.

GENTLEMEN :—I feel highly honored in being called upon to address you to-day. I congratulate you upon your hale and undegenerate appearance, which bespeaks your temperate lives, and the salubrity of our Wisconsin climate. When we consider what Wisconsin was thirty years ago, and what it now is, we may well be surprised at the wonders which a generation has wrought. Thirty years ago railroads were almost unknown, and it was eight years later before the first mile of track was laid in Wisconsin. To the labors of some of you we are indebted for the impulse which led to the construction of a thousand miles of railroad in the State. Others of you founded our commercial enterprises; built these rows of stately business palaces that line our streets; established our schools and churches; reared up our vast manufacturing interests; formed the early ranks of the learned professions here, which are a noble credit to the Northwest, and planted here on these lovely shores the various elements of our municipal greatness. Under the benignant and guiding influences which you created, you have seen Milwaukee become the first primary wheat market in the world, the fourth pork packing city in the Union, the second commercial city on Lake Michigan, the seventeenth in population, and, according to Dr. Johnson, the healthiest American city. Gentlemen, you may well be proud of these results of your labors. The worker is better than

the speculator ; others sold corner lots while you founded a city. Long may you yet live to behold the greatness of which you have planted the fruitful germs. But the main object of this address is not congratulatory, but to preserve some fragments of the history of the first settlers in Milwaukee, to which we will proceed.

Soon after the close of the Revolutionary War, Mr. Mirandea and John Vieux left Quebec for the Northwest. Mr. Mirandea was an educated French gentleman, belonging to one of the first families of Quebec. He was a Catholic, and studied for the priesthood, but, on the eve of taking orders, came with Mr. Vieux to the Northwest, as an employe of the American Fur Company. They traded some years about the Lake Superior region, and afterwards on the Wabash, and finally came to Milwaukee about the year 1795. Mr. Mirandea brought with him his wife, a Chippewa woman whom he had just married. He resided here till his death, in 1820, and raised a family of ten children, of whom Mrs. Victor Porthier, the wife of Joseph Porthier, was the sixth, and was born in the year 1805. He was a blacksmith and received pay for his work in game and furs, selling the latter at Mackinac. He was a tall, fine looking man, with crisp, curly hair. His house occupied the site of the old Milwaukee House, and was his home for twenty-five years. He raised wheat, corn, potatoes, beans, &c., on the land along Huron street and south of it. This land was then tillable, as the water in the lake was some four or five feet lower than it now is, and the marsh along the Kinnickinnic, east of Dr. Weeks' garden, was planted in corn. He appears to have been a religious man, as he had prayers in his house every evening, and was in the habit of reading religious books to his family. He had quite a large library, and spent all his leisure time in reading. He was a great favorite of his wild neighbors, who promised him all the land between the river and lake as far as the North Point when they made the treaty for the sale of their lands ; but he died before that treaty was made, and Mr. Juneau succeeded him as the chief white man in Milwaukee. He was buried near the intersection of Broadway and Wisconsin Street. His widow survived till 1838 and was well known to many of the early settlers of Milwaukee. Full and half blood women made true and faithful wives to the traders,

but would tolerate no infidelity by their liege lords. The mother of Mrs. ——— was driven from the house of her sister in Green Bay in mid-winter, as Hagar was driven from the tents of Abraham, and she was compelled to go on foot to Sheboygan, thus proving that human nature is the same in all ages and among all races.

I have known the history of Mr. Mirandeu for thirty-six years, and have been surprised that his name is never mentioned as the founder of Milwaukee. John Vieux spent his summers in Milwaukee and his winters in Green Bay. Stanislaus Chapeau, Lauscut, Filey, and several others are mentioned by my informant as occasional residents here, but Mr. Mirandeu was the first white man who ever moved here, spent his married life here, died and was buried here. I think this entitles him to the honor of recognition as the first white settler of Milwaukee. All his children who survived him went to Kansas, except Mrs. Porthier. She, her three children and four grand children, the immediate descendants of Mirandeu, still reside in this county.

The settlement of new countries is nature's plan for improving the human race. The more enterprising, vigorous and intelligent leave the thickly settled eastern world and the homes of old civilizations, and come to live in the broad West. Here the blood of the different races is crossed, and a superior population is produced by the process. The Saxon, the Celt, the Teuton, the Scandinavian and Slavonian here mix together as inevitably as the Missouri and Mississippi flow into a single channel and produce one mighty flood. Inter-marriage and the consequent intermixture of the races who occupy our soil is a continuous process. In 1870 there were born in Milwaukee county 2,715 children of foreign fathers and native mothers, or of foreign mothers and native fathers. At the same time, there were in the State 47,073 children whose fathers or mothers were of foreign birth, the other parent being a native. The healthy emigrant women, who do not fear either work or the breeding of children, will be mothers of the future rulers of the United States. They bear to the world healthy sons and daughters, healthy morally and intellectually, who will form an imperial, dominating race, fit for the highest achievements in civilization, in progress and empire.

In the month of June, 1835, a Methodist preacher, whose name I have forgotten, arrived here, and preached the first sermon in Milwaukee in my log house at the mouth of the river. He and Mr. Barber, a Congregationalist, preached occasionally afterward in the same place. Mr. Clark, the presiding elder, visited the place and preached once during the winter of 1835-36.

The first white child born in the place was Milwaukee Smith, born in October, 1835, daughter of U. B. Smith, still a resident of this county. I was the only physician in the place, and attended to such few cases of illness as occurred until the arrival of Dr. Barber, in the Spring of 1836, when he assumed my practice, such as it was. The most important case which I attended was that of Dr. B. B. Carey, of Racine, who had been shot through the lungs by a desperado whom he ejected from a claim made by him at that place.

B. Finch made and William Sivyver laid the first brick in Milwaukee. U. B. Smith was the first tailor; Edward Wisner the first shoemaker; George Reed the first lawyer; Daniel Richards the first printer; Samuel Brown the first carpenter; and B. K. Edgerton was the first surveyor who settled in Milwaukee. William Strothman was the first German emigrant. Hon. A. G. Ellis published the first newspaper published in Wisconsin, the *Green Bay Intelligencer*, of which the first number was issued in December, 1833.

Milwaukee was the favorite summer resort of several tribes of Indians, among whom were the Pottawotamies, Winnebagoes, Chippewas, Menomonees and fragments of the Sacs and Foxes. They lived in bark houses which they built along the bluffs, and subsisted mainly on fish, sturgeon, trout and whitefish being the principal varieties caught. According to my informant more than two hundred of these bark houses were built for the accommodation of these aboriginal lakeside loiterers, who numbered at least two thousand, and returned year after year till driven away by the white population. According to Catlin, the Indians, before being contaminated by the white race, were moral in their practices, and though yielding to superstitious beliefs, were really a religious people. They had the same reverence for the Great Spirit as the white man has for the Deity which he worships, and they probably led as pure lives as are led by the majority of Christians. They have almost passed away,

and the feeble, vagabond remnants of the great tribes which remain about us appear to serve only as reminders that the savage races, when brought into contact with civilization, acquire its vices without its virtues, which become simply the means of their destruction.

In the common course of events, my dear and time honored friends, our human forms will be laid beneath the clods of the valleys, and the tears of affection will moisten the verdure that grows above us. What we have done that was good and what we have done that was evil in our lives, will then stand in judgment against us, to our honor or to our dishonor, not only among men, but before the Author and Judge of our being. Three of our number have died during the past year; more will probably pass away during the year before us, for, at the ages in life which the most of us have reached, our tenure here is a feeble and uncertain one. Men live happily, and their days are long in the land, in the proportion that they obey the laws of life, and their memory is blessed as is the measure of the good deeds, whether small or great, which they leave behind them. From what I know of you, and by the age that is yours, I judge that your years have not been misspent, but are fruitful of the good that crowns useful lives, that bears beneficent fruit in the community where you live, and that will make your names fragrant in the remembrance of mankind when you are gone. I shall hold you in kind remembrance, and you will be ever present in my benedictions, as I trust I may be in yours.

#### ADDRESS OF JUDGE A. G. MILLER.

1873.

Men who voluntarily left the comforts and associations of their native homes, to make new homes, and lay a foundation for a new government, in the far west, were public benefactors. They were courageous and self-sacrificing men, worthy the respect and homage of those who enjoy the rich results of their enterprise and labors.

The old soldier loves to talk about his captain, his colonel, his regiment, and the battles he fought. The old settler is happy in the evening of his days, in telling of his journey westward, of his claim and purchase of government land, of his first log cabin, of his first

garden patch, of his first yoke of oxen, of his first crop of wheat, of his first neighbor, of his wife and little ones, and of their ultimate prosperity. Men advanced in age, and of experience, happily speak of the times that tried their energy and courage, as lessons of encouragement to their successors in business. With such feelings and emotions, the Old Settlers' Club of Milwaukee county was organized "for the purpose of reviving old acquaintances and of renewing the ties of former years."

Incidents connected with pioneer life are interesting to the actors of the "olden time," and should be equally so to their posterity. Old settlers cherish in their memories many interesting circumstances connected with the improvement of this country, which they love to unfold to each other, and to their friends and neighbors. The personal experience of each settler, in the aggregate forms a vast fund of useful knowledge. We may indulge in mutual congratulations, that our lots were cast in this Canaan of the Northwest which we came to possess, and have successfully improved and enjoyed.

There is no money in this Club, but there is reputation. The place and date of the birth of every member, the time of his arrival in the territory and of his decease, are recorded in well bound volumes for preservation and reference. The records and proceedings of this Club may be appreciated by after generations, as evidence of the good deeds of its members individually, and of the reputation of the first inhabitants of this county for industry and integrity.

It is not expected that this Association is to terminate with its present members. Provision is made in the Constitution for the admission of new members annually, after a residence of thirty years in Milwaukee county, whereby there may be a continual increase of members, corresponding with the growth of population. Each successive generation of members, having knowledge of events transpiring in their own days, should follow the example of the present members, in recording their experience, for the benefit of their successors. The State Historical Society at Madison annually receives and publishes our printed addresses. In fact, this Club is auxiliary to that society.

During the lives of the pioneers it is eminently proper, that the Annual Address of your President should mainly consist of facts



connected with the early settlement of this county. I shall therefore confine this address to transactions occurring prior to, and during the Territorial Government of Wisconsin, even at the risk of relating common place matter, in the estimation of some, who do not appreciate the local history of those times. The device of an Indian wigwam, and a log cabin, on our badge, suggests a prominent portion of the following remarks.

The American Indians have been a subject interesting to philanthropists since the first colonial settlements. Savage and untutored races of men, at all times have retired before the approach of civilization and improvement. In the territory of the northwest, wars have been succeeded by treaties of cession of Indian territory to the United States, by surveys by the government of the ceded lands into sections and fractions of sections, and by their settlement and improvement. Such followed the Indian wars of Southern Ohio and Southern Indiana. The like followed the war of 1812, with England, in Northern Ohio, Northern Indiana and Michigan. The like also succeeded the Black Hawk war, in Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin. The United States have not treated with the Indian tribes as sovereign or independent nations, but rather as *quasi* wards of the government. The United States, by cession from the State of Virginia, became the undisputed owner in fee of the Northwest Territory, subject to the unsettled claims of the Indians. The government as the sovereign owner of the territory formed peaceful treaties with the Indian tribes, upon principles of humanity, providing for a consideration, in money and means of subsistence. It was more becoming a great nation to remove the Indians by peaceful negotiations, than by military force.

The Menomonee tribe was peaceful and friendly, and in consideration in part of benefits received of government, they ceded to the United States the lands described in the following treaty:

"The Menomonee tribe of Indians, in consideration of the kindness and protection of the government of the United States, and for the purpose of securing to themselves and posterity a comfortable home, ceded and forever relinquished to the United States all their country on the southeast side of Winnebago Lake, Fox River and Green Bay, described in the following boundaries: Beginning at the

south end of Winnebago Lake and running in a southeast direction to Milwaukee or Minnawakey River, thence down said river to its mouth, thence north along the shore of Lake Michigan to the entrance of Green Bay, thence up and along Green Bay, Fox River and Winnebago Lake to the place of beginning, excluding all private land claims, which the United States have heretofore confirmed and sanctioned—and also all the islands in Fox River and Green Bay are likewise ceded, the lands ceded comprising, by estimation, two millions five hundred thousand acres.”

This treaty and a cession from the Pottawotamies and other tribes included the lands covered by this city. The mouth of the Milwaukee River was the extent of the Menomonee's lands on the south, the lands of the Pottawotamies, and other tribes extending from that point south and west. The cession of the friendly Menomonees was made in 1831, the year before the Black Hawk war. The cession of the Pottawotamies and of the Sacs and Foxes, which tribes were warlike, was made in 1833, the year after that war.

The very early settlements of Solomon Juneau and George H. Walker, at Milwaukee, made this point a favorite place of Indian resort. They visited the trading tents of these gentlemen from all quarters. Indian trails stretching out in every direction from this point were visible, for years after the removal of the Indians. The trail between Milwaukee and Green Bay was the high road for travel, until the military road was opened in the year 1841, pursuant to an act of Congress. The time required for traveling between those points was four days.

Port Washington, Sheboygan Falls, and Manitowoc, were the only intermediate stopping places. The postman traveled the trail on foot, delivering the mail at the terminus of his route on the fourth day. Returning from holding court in Green Bay, in October, 1839, a beautiful Indian Summer day, between Sheboygan Falls and Milwaukee, I met the mail carrier on foot, who was the only white man I observed on the trail that day, but numerous Indians enjoying their hunting season.

The trail of the Indians under Black Hawk, extending toward Bad Axe, on the Mississippi river, was pointed out to me in the capitol grounds at Madison by Gov. Dodge, in December 1838. The

capitol covers the trail. The lands of the Menomonee cession were very soon after the treaty, surveyed and brought into market, but those Indians visited Milwaukee annually for years, from their northern possessions, with marketing, such as game of all kinds, and wild berries of every description. They continued to hunt in the forests, between Milwaukee and Green Bay as late as 1841. The last dance of the Menomonees in Milwaukee, was in October, 1841, on a bluff in Jackson street, immediately south of Wisconsin street.

As late as 1840, fresh Indian graves were discovered, at several places in Milwaukee. The lake bluff between Michigan and Huron streets, fifty feet above the level of the water, was their favorite place of interring their dead. They seemed inclined to bury their dead braves, at a point overlooking the great lake. Patches of corn hills in several localities in and about Milwaukee, remained distinct until destroyed in process of improvement. Low, loomy grounds, easily cultivated with the hoe, were the points of agricultural operations of the squaws. Working was made the duty of the women. Hunting was the occupation of the men. The brave Indian is a much too self-important individual to make use of any other instruments than his rifle, tomahawk and scalping knife. It was remarkable, the regularity in which the corn hills appeared. They were about of the same size and in straight rows crossing at right angles.

Soon after the cession of these lands, they were surveyed into sections, as commenced by the government in Ohio, allotting the sixteenth section in each town for school purposes. A land office was established at Green Bay, in 1834. The lands embraced within the boundaries of Milwaukee were purchased at that office. Solomon Juneau purchased the lands situate on the east side of the Milwaukee river, Byron Kilbourn, on the west side of the river, and George H. Walker, on the south side of the river. By an act of Congress, approved June 15, 1836, the Green Bay land district was divided, and the Milwaukee district established. The first sale of government lands, at Milwaukee, was in February, 1839. At that time the lands in Milwaukee and adjacent counties were partially settled upon. The settlers occupied their claims under rules adopted by themselves for their mutual protection. Contracts of purchase and sale of claims, under these rules were enforced by the courts.

In this respect history repeated itself. In Pennsylvania and other States, improvement rights of first settlers were protected by the laws.

The census taken in 1836, was the first census of Wisconsin. It appears, by the returns of that census, filed in the office of the court clerk of Milwaukee county, that the population of this county, including that part now Waukesha county; was five thousand, five hundred and seventy-three. Of this number there were in what is now Waukesha county, two thousand, one hundred and eighty-two persons—and in the present county of Milwaukee, three thousand three hundred and ninety-one. In the village of Milwaukee there were thirteen hundred and seventy-one persons, in the east ward of the village seven hundred and seventy-eight, and in the west ward five hundred and ninety-three. And in the towns of Milwaukee county there were two thousand and twenty. Of this population of five thousand, five hundred and seventy-three, there were persons under five years of age, nine hundred and ninety-nine; between five and ten years, six hundred and eighty-six; between ten and fifteen, four hundred and eighty-nine; between fifteen and twenty, four hundred and eighty-nine; between twenty and thirty, thirteen hundred and eighty-five; between thirty and forty, eight hundred and eighty-one; between forty and fifty, three hundred and forty-one; between fifty and sixty, one hundred and sixty-three; between sixty and seventy, seventy-nine; between seventy and eighty, fourteen; and between eighty and ninety, five; and forty-six free colored persons. That portion of the population between twenty and thirty years of age, comprised one-fourth of the whole number, and those between thirty and forty years of age, were nearly one-sixth of the population. Those between twenty and forty years numbered thirty-two hundred and sixty-six, four hundred and eighty over one-half of the whole population of the county. There were about one-third more males than females. This may be considered a fair representation of the population of the territory in the year 1836, except the old military settlements at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien. With few exceptions, persons over fifty years, were not settlers from choice. Their children brought them. Newly married sons and daughters brought them.

Milwaukee county was divided, and Waukesha county organized pursuant to an act of the Legislature, approved February 2, 1846. The city of Milwaukee was incorporated in January of the same year. As before stated, the population of the village of Milwaukee, in 1836, was 1,371, and of Milwaukee county, within its present boundaries, including the village, 3,391. In 1850, the population of the city of Milwaukee, was 19,963, and of the county including the city, 31,077. In 1860, the population of the city was 45,140, and of the county, including the city, 62,518. In 1870, the population of the city was 71,440, and of the county, including the city 89,930.

By the census returns of 1840, there were in Milwaukee county, two weekly newspapers, one of a capital of twenty-five hundred dollars, and the other of sixteen hundred dollars, employing four men in one, and three in the other. There were three grist mills and four saw mills in the county; and the amount of manufactures was 11,350 dollars, by eight men employed, and the capital invested was 12,800 dollars. The total capital invested in manufactures in the county, was \$23,100.

The proprietors of Milwaukee, commenced platting their lands into village lots in the autumn of 1835, and they completed the plats and filed them in the court clerk's office in 1837. In 1836, speculation ran high, and town lots commanded enormous prices even while there were no marks designating their boundaries, or the lines of the streets, but the surveyor's pins. The small number of buildings erected in the years 1835, 1836 and 1837, were mostly of wood, and very few exceeding one and a half stories. In 1836, the old frame Court House was built, fronting the square, dedicated to the county by the honest and large hearted first settler, Solomon Juneau, whose memory we venerate. The first brick block of stores, on the west side of East Water street, was erected in 1842. In 1847 there were not exceeding six brick dwelling houses of any importance in the city. The natural surface of Milwaukee was very broken and uneven. The bluff at the lake shore, north of Huron street, was fifty feet above the water, and increased in height as it extended northward. The government light house was first erected on this bluff, in the center of Wisconsin street, and was for a time, about the principal public institution in the village.

From the bluffs flowed springs of pure water, supplying the people, there not being wells. The bluffs were abrupt. A bluff extending from Broadway along Michigan street to the lake terminated the high ground southward. The whole of the Third Ward, south of that street, was a duck pond. A bluff at the crossing of Broadway and Wisconsin street, was cut down twelve feet. In East Water street, near the City Hall, there was a bluff much in the form of a mound, nearly twenty-five feet high. A bluff on the summit of Spring street, was impassable by teams for several years. West Water street existed merely in name, being covered with water for years, from north of Spring street southward to the Menomonee river, and up this river for two miles, extended a wet marsh. One half of the fifth ward was a marsh. Not much work was done on the streets prior to the organization of the city government. The city authorities very soon entered upon the grading process, and reduced the bluffs into inclined planes, and filled up the marshes.

The Milwaukee and Rock River Canal Company was incorporated by the territorial Legislature, in 1838, and the same year Congress granted lands along the route of the contemplated improvement, to enable the company to prosecute the building of a canal between Milwaukee and Rock river. A dam was constructed in the Milwaukee river, in 1842, which by means of a canal, created water power, to the essential benefit of the city. The canal has not been extended further than the dam, and probably never will.

In 1840, there was not a church edifice in Milwaukee. The Congregationalists and Presbyterians at first united in worship in a small building on the west side of the river. In 1841, they occupied an "upper room" of a building on the corner of Spring and West Water streets. In 1842, they divided, and commenced building churches, the Congregationalists on the west side of the river, and the Presbyterians on the east side. The Episcopalians worshipped in the court room. The Methodists worshipped in a small building on the corner of East Water and Huron streets. St. Peter's Catholic church was commenced in 1839, and partly finished that year. St. Paul's Episcopal Church was built in 1844. These churches have been enlarged to double their original size. A Methodist church on the corner of Spring and West Water streets was erected about the year

1845. This church was burned, and from its ashes have arisen two beautiful church edifices, on Spring and Van Buren streets.<sup>1</sup> The Catholic Cathedral was consecrated in 1853. In 1850 the erection of Plymouth Church was commenced.

In 1840, there were no means of passing to and from steamboats anchored in the Bay, but by lighters and batteaux. In 1842, a bridge pier was extended from the foot of Huron street; which in a short time was followed by another. These piers have not been used since the harbor extension from the river into the Bay. The Milwaukee river was crossed by means of two rope ferries, at the foot of Wisconsin and East Water streets, until the erection of a bridge in 1840, from Division to Chestnut streets. The construction of this bridge excited the local jealousy and prejudice of the residents of both sides of the river, which continued with much bitterness until the organization of the city government. At the present time, eleven bridges span the Milwaukee river, and seven the Menomonee, within the city limits, including two railroad bridges. The rivers being navigable from the lake, navigators of vessels have a paramount right over land travel, hence the necessity of constructing bridges with draws.

The first German colony, in number about eight hundred men, women and children, landed at Milwaukee late in the summer of 1839. They brought the necessary housekeeping utensils, and encamped on the lake shore, south of Huron street. They immediately commenced in a business way, to carry out their object in coming to this new country. They examined the government plats in the land office, and having ascertained by all the means in their power, where lands well timbered and watered could be purchased, they entered lands bounding on the Milwaukee river and on the division line between Milwaukee and Washington counties. A small number of that colony remained in the village, but the most of them employed themselves without delay, in clearing and cultivating their lands. These pioneers formed the nucleus of the very extensive, influential and wealthy German element of the population of this county and state. By their practical sense and industrious habits, they have largely contributed toward the growth of this city, and the wealth and improvement of this county and state. The German

portion of our population are the proprietors and occupants of one half the territory of Milwaukee city and county. They are prompt tax payers. They perform the duties of good citizens, and they are faithful in the discharge of the duties of offices of public trust. The male members of the first colony, without delay, declared their intentions to become citizens of the United States, and in due time, they were naturalized in the territorial court, in Milwaukee, every man to the number of seventy in one day, signing his name to his petition. The first German paper in this county was published in 1844, by Moritz Schoeffler, who continues the publication of the *Banner and Volksfreund*.

In our primitive days in this country, every log cabin by the way-side, was a country tavern. Travellers rode up to a log cabin with as much confidence of a cordial reception, as if they observed on the door: "Entertainment for man and horse." The best the establishment afforded was soon made ready, by the host and hostess. Frequently by night-fall the cabin became crowded, when the query passed around, where are these persons to sleep? Supper over, that query was readily answered. In the first place, the only visible sleeping establishment was divided up, giving to each one a little, as far as it was capable of distribution. Ladies were deposited in a corner of the cabin loft, behind a temporary screen. To each man a portion of the ground floor, or of the loft was assigned, with the privilege of selecting the softest plank. If a presumptuous person appeared to be one of the crowd, he soon became the butt, and had to submit to hard treatment, as a creature without friends. The wives of the settlers pleasantly conversed of their paternal homes, their youthful comforts and happiness, their school days and early associations, all of which they surrendered for the love and affection of their husbands, whom they loved, and aided in making for themselves and their children, habitations in the wilderness. They did their full share in improving this country.

Prior to the day of railroads, the most travel from the East was on steamboats, which arrived almost daily from Buffalo. During the season of navigation, business in Milwaukee was satisfactory, and the population rapidly increased. After the close of navigation, times became dull. We had only a tri-weekly mail, taking ten to



twelve days in bringing mail matter from the East. The tediousness of the winter was, in a great measure, relieved by the social habits of the villagers. The ladies did their part in this respect. Scarcely two families were connected, but the people favored mutual intimacy and friendship, and indulged in innocent amusements. Tea drinking and dancing parties were generally observed throughout the winter. Class distinctions in society were ignored. There were not many public places of resort, or amusement. Families in comparatively comfortable circumstances were wont to dwell and receive the jovial visitors in very small houses, very scantily furnished. If we had not realized the disposition and habits of the people in those days, we should wonder to hear of the readiness of the young wives, to enjoy life in their new homes of discomfort. But they were equal to the emergency; they were help-meets, indeed.

From the census returns of 1840, it appears that families consisted of about five persons. Of the population of the present Milwaukee county, there were about six hundred and seventy men. There are enrolled as members of this Club, one hundred and seven, who settled in Milwaukee county before 1840, about one-sixth of those the heads of families. Three of our members are over eighty years of age, several are seventy and upwards. The youngest member is thirty-four years of age, who, with four others, are natives of this county. Omitting those five, the average of the ages of the pioneer members is sixty-three. Ten members have departed this life, the average of whose ages was sixty-four.

The pioneers of this county were not of that class of men "who left their country for their country's good." In the prime and vigor of manhood, poor in purse, but rich in courage, industry, faith and enterprise, and moral principles, they bid adieu to their native homes, their friends and associates, and their early associations, for this western wilderness. They made their pilgrimages westward in the usual modes of travel in those days. Some traveled on steamboats, some on sail vessels, some with horse teams, some with ox teams, and many on foot. They came to this western land to possess and enjoy it, and by the blessing of God they have witnessed its great improvement. From comparative poverty, they have become rich in all the blessings of life. They are blessed with peace

and plenty, blessed in their homes and families, blessed as founders and builders of this beautiful city, and great state, blessed with free schools and liberal laws. And many are favored with days of rejoicing, in the prosperity and happiness of their children and their children's children.

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow.”

### REMINISCENCES OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY.

THE CLAIM LAWS OF 1837.—FIRST AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—  
PLANK ROADS, &C.

BY I. A. LAPHAM, LL.D.

*Read before the Old Settlers' Club, January 4, 1875.*

Perhaps I could in no other way revive old associations and contribute to the interest of the present meeting of this club, better than by bringing forward this old book, which contains the registry of the land claims first made in the county, and by a few remarks in relation to it, and to the circumstances which gave it origin. It must be remembered that when Milwaukee County was first occupied by white people, there were no pre-emption laws applicable to these public lands; no means by which a man who should build his cabin upon the public lands could be sure of securing to himself a title from the government. Others with equal rights might purchase the same land and thus deprive him of the benefits of his enterprise and industry.

This county when first organized, was taken from Brown County, and was one of the largest in the Territory, which was then (1834) attached to and formed a part of the Territory of Michigan. It has been the mother of all counties in the south-eastern part of Wisconsin as far west as Dane; the original plot of Madison having been recorded in Milwaukee as the county seat. Milwaukee County has now been reduced to a length of twenty-four miles

along the shore of Lake Michigan, and to an average breadth of a little less than ten miles; the superficial area being 237 square miles; thus it has been reduced from one of the largest to one of the smallest counties in the State. It is much less noted for its agriculture than for its position on the lake, and for its city of the same name, which is the commercial metropolis of the State. Owing to the proximity of the great city the demand for land has been such that every section has been subdivided until but very few large and well appointed farms remain.

The name Milwaukee is of Indian origin; its derivation is uncertain, probably for the reason that it may have been given by some ancient tribe whose language had become extinct in the Northwest before the exploration of this part of the continent. This may also be the case with the name of the state Wisconsin. So early as 1678 or 1680 the "Melleoki" river is mentioned by Zenobius Membre, as a tributary of Lake Dauphin, as Lake Michigan was then called, at about 43° north latitude, on which was an Indian village.

Nearly a century afterwards Lieut. Gorrell gives information of the existence of the "Milwacky," on which there was still an Indian village and also a resident trader. Half a century more elapsed before Solomon Juneau, in the Autumn of the year 1818, became, what is claimed to be, the first permanent resident of what is now Milwaukee. It remains for the antiquaries and historians to fill up the gaps in these dates, and to supply the incidents connected with the history of our city, prior to the year 1818.

Not till the Autumn of 1835 can the settlement of Milwaukee be dated. At that time nine families made their homes here and laid the foundation of the future commonwealth. The occupation by fur traders, prior to this date, had no reference to any permanent settlement or to the founding of a political community.

It is therefore less than forty years since the axe was first applied to the work of clearing the land in this county, of the dense forest of trees and undergrowth of bushes with which it was then encumbered; and all the improvement or progress, all the cleared fields, the farm houses, the barns, mills, shops, churches, school-houses, villages and cities! Everything in fact has been made by the hand of industry within that short period. It is not strange, therefore,

that many things common to older settled districts are not yet to be found here. On the other hand, we have no old customs and habits, and local prejudices handed down from our predecessors to bind us a routine of operations, without progress, and opposed to improvement, but here is all new and free ; and hence our people are ready, willing and eager to adopt such improvements and to make such advances as the progress of knowledge, of experience, and the applications of science may indicate.

During the year 1836 much of the public land of this and the adjacent counties was entered upon, and claimed by people who expected to occupy and improve them, and ultimately to secure the title from the general government at the minimum price of a dollar and a quarter per acre ; but as there was not then, as now, an adequate pre-emption law securing to them this right, the tenure by which these claims were held was quite uncertain.

What amount of land each person should be allowed to claim ; what improvements were necessary to secure such claim ; what time should be allowed in which to make such improvements, and many similar questions were asked and discussed, but not answered or settled. Encroachments were made upon what were deemed to be the rights of some parties ; difficulties of various kinds arose, for the settlement of which no legal, or other tribunal existed ; and hence a resort to brute force seemed inevitable. In all such contests the strongest party, whether in the right or wrong, carried the day. Serious disputes of this kind became quite common ; some of you will remember that parties were often made up in Milwaukee to go out and remove some one who had been guilty of "jumping" some other person's "claims ;" riots and bloodshed were very likely to arise from this state of things.

But the healthy public sentiment would not allow the sovereignty of Judge Lynch thus to continue ; public policy required a change ; and the necessity of some movement by which to avert the impending evils was sufficiently apparent. To Mr. Byron Kilbourn is due the credit of having prepared the unique and original code of laws, which were solemnly adopted by the people, at a meeting held in the newly built Court House. On the 13th of March, 1837, under these laws, the county was settled and improved without further

trouble. The present writer was appointed "Register of Claims," and gratuitously made a record of every man's entry upon the public lands. His certificate of title, presented to the "Judiciary Committee," was duly accredited as a bar against all the world. Under this code of laws the lands were finally purchased of the United States at the minimum price, each claimant securing his land and his improvement without trouble or difficulty. The present pre-emption laws render all such proceedings unnecessary. This original book of "Record of Claims," shows when and by whom each quarter-section in the county was entered, with the several transfers, prior to the day of public land sale, and will, with its marks of constant use by the hands of the hardy pioneers, at some future day be looked upon as a very interesting and important historical document.

The claim laws were continued in force for two years, and were obeyed, or enforced with a strictness that would do credit to executive officers acting under more formal legislation. Each man felt as secure in his homestead as if he had the government patent in his pocket, and an exemption law on the statute-book. Under these laws the forests were cleared away, fences made, cabins, stables, barns, and even more stately structures were built, fields were cultivated, and a very considerable progress was made in farming and in many other industrial pursuits.

The proximity to a large and rapidly growing town affording a ready cash market and fair prices for everything that could be produced, either for immediate consumption or exportation, had its effect in hastening improvements and stimulating production. The bad roads leading through the Milwaukee woods were the dread of all teamsters; and the time was when it cost the farmers in the interior counties the whole value of their surplus crops to haul them to market! This state of things gave much greater value to the lands lying in Milwaukee County nearer to the market.

On the 28th day of January, 1837, a meeting of the citizens of Milwaukee County was held, at which the first Agricultural Society in Wisconsin was organized, "for the purpose of introducing into the county of Milwaukee the best system of agricultural operations, the best kinds of stock, grains, fruits, roots, and all other agricultural products, and for the purpose of making experiments in rela-

tion to the adaptation of our soil and climate for the production of such stock, grain, &c." Byron Kilbourn was the first President, Solomon Juneau, Sylvester Pettibone, and Hugh Wedge were the Vice Presidents; I. A. Lapham, Secretary; Wm. A. Prentiss, Corresponding Secretary; Samuel Hinman, Treasurer; and James H. Rogers, George D. Dousman, John Ogden, David S. Hollister, Wm. R. Longstreet, and Henry M. Hubbard, were the Directors.

At the first fair held by this society near the close of the year 1837, premiums were awarded as follows :

To George Reed, for the best bull, (named Jupiter,) imported into and to remain in the county, - - - - -	\$30.00
To George Reed for the best cow, - - - - -	15.00
To Dr. Wm. P. Proudfit for best boar, - - - - -	10.00
To A. A. Bedford for the best sow, - - - - -	5.00
To Isaac Bigelow for best corn, - - - - -	5.00
To George F. Knapp, for a fine sow imported by him, - - - - -	3.00

An agricultural paper was established by Dr. Proudfit, which made its appearance with regularity from the press of the "Advertiser," then conducted by Dan'l H. Richards. This society and this paper, though their history is brief, undoubtedly had much influence in promoting the interests of the farmers of that early time.

The plank roads built some years ago leading into Milwaukee had a very decided effect in adding to the prosperity of the towns through which they were constructed. They radiated from the city as a center towards the north, northwest, west, and southwest, thus affording facilities for the people of nearly all parts of the county to transport their surplus products and supplies by the use of their own teams. Many of these roads were changed from plank to gravel roads; as the plank gradually decayed, gravel was substituted, thus making a much more permanent and valuable road. Though plank roads were thus of great value to farmers along their course, enabling them to do their marketing within their own means, and increasing the value of their lands, they were generally but poor property in the hands of the stock-holders who built them.

## MILWAUKEE FROM 1674 TO 1833.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE OLD SETTLERS' CLUB.

BY D. W. FOWLER.

The permanent settlement of our beautiful city, now dates back something beyond the third of a century, but its name can be traced far back in the records of the Jesuits, who were the first white explorers of the Northwest, and some of whom were, doubtless, the first to set foot on Milwaukee ground.

Marquette, after his return from his first journey of exploration to the Mississippi River, with Joliet, remained at Green Bay (Mission of St. Francis Xavier), for a considerable time, in consequence of his feeble health, but having promised the Kaskaskias, of Illinois, that he would establish a mission among them, he set out in the following year (1674), on the 25th of October, crossing the peninsula that separates Green Bay from Lake Michigan, following the lake shore to Chicago, where he arrived the 4th of December, following. Here he was again taken ill, and was forced to spend the winter at that place. The following Spring, he endeavored to reach the French post at Michillimackinac, but died on his journey thither, on the 18th of May, 1675, near the mouth of the river in Michigan, which has ever since borne his name.

This is perhaps the first authentic account given us of white men coasting the western shore of Lake Michigan, although there is but little doubt but that it had been done before. It is also recorded that the Fathers Allouez and Dablon, made explorations to the south of Green Bay, about this time. We also find that Father Zenobe Membre, recollet, went down the Illinois in the year 1678, and returned in 1680.

In speaking of the Mascoutins, an Indian tribe long since extinct, he says "that they dwelt near the mouth of the *Millioki* River," which, I believe, has since been proven an error, allowing that the river referred to was the Milwaukee River of to-day, and of which there is little doubt. "Jesuit Relations," so far as I have been able

to discover, are hereafter silent about *Milleoki*, for nearly a quarter of a century.

In a reprint by Munsell, of a book entitled, "Early Voyages up and down the Mississippi," being letters and reports of the French Catholics, who visited the West as missionaries, can be found a letter from the Rev. St. Cosme to the Bishop of Quebec, being an account of a journey of St. Cosme and his companions, from Green Bay to Chicago, in the year 1699. St. Cosme left Mackinaw September 14th, 1699, with his party, in "light canoes," and says:

"It would be useless, Monsieur, to give you an account of Lake *Miesitgan* (Michigan), on which we are embarked. \* \* On the 18th we arrived at the bay of Puants" (Green Bay)." They remained at Green Bay several days.

It was their intention to have gone to the Mississippi, via the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers, but hostile Indians prevented, and they were obliged to take the "*Chicago* road."

On the 7th day of October, they arrived at "*Melwarik*" (Milwaukee), of which they say: "This is a river where there is a village, which has been considerable. We remained there two days, partly to refresh our people, as duck and teal shooting was very plenty, and partly on account of the high wind. On the 10th of October we arrived at *Kipikawi*" (Racine).

Here they prepared to go up the *Kipikawi* river and portage, to the *Pistrui* (Fox River of Illinois), and descend it, which empties into the Illinois about twenty-five or thirty leagues from "*Chicago*," but "as there was no water in it, we were again obliged to take the route to *Chicago*."

They evidently voyaged along the lake shore in their canoes, for early on the 21st of October, when within half a league of Chicago, a sudden storm sprang up, compelling them to "throw everything into the water," and it was with considerable difficulty that they reached the shore.

They then proceeded to the house of the Jesuit Fathers, where they found the Rev. Father Pinet, and Rev. Father Buinoteau, recently from Illinois, who "received them with great cordiality and marks of esteem."

In these Relations, we find the name of Milwaukee in varied



orthography, but the change from that to the present has not been greater than that of Chicago, nor more than most names of French or Indian origin, during the period of two hundred years.

It will be observed that the above account of the *first mention* of Milwaukee, antedates Mr. Wheeler's statement in his *Chronicles of Milwaukee*, by about eighty years. He places the first mention of Milwaukee, as being in Lieutenant James Gorrell's Journal, in September, 1761, while he was in command of the post at Green Bay.

Many will be surprised to learn, (perhaps none more than our *old settlers*,) that Milwaukee was first visited by white men, (now in 1876) more than two hundred years ago, and that the locality has been named, perhaps, equally as long, or maybe a longer period. The origin and signification of the name is entirely uncertain; and while it is claimed that it meant in Indian dialect, good land, or beautiful land, there is not much evidence to corroborate the statement.

It would seem quite reasonable that the name given by the Fathers Zenobe Membre and St. Cosme, was that used by the Indians of those days, to designate the river and Indian village, but doubtless pronounced somewhat differently in Indian dialect. If, as some writers assure us, the name of the river was the *Mahn-a-waw-Kie*, meaning good land, it would appear quite probable that it signified to the aborigine, a good place for game, fish, and to harvest the Manomin (wild rice), which grew in great abundance in the valleys adjacent to the mouth of the Milwaukee river; a signification more in accordance with the requirements of Indian life, than any poetical allusion or regard for the fertility of the soil in this neighborhood.

We have been able to find but little or nothing about *Milleoki* or *Mewarik*, from the time of St. Cosme, in 1699, down to the time of the conspiracy of Pontiac, in the year 1763, when, according to "Grignon's Recollections," "the plan of surprising all the British posts in the West, having been decided upon by Pontiac, that of capturing the fort at Green Bay, was confided to the mixed bands at Milwaukee, composed mostly of Pottawatomies and Ottawas, with some Chippewas and Menominees.

"The Menominee nation was friendly to the English, but Waw-pe-pin (the wild potato), a prominent Menominee, while visiting at Milwaukee, at this time, was inveigled into taking a part in the Pontiac scheme, and was persuaded to bear a red wampum belt to his nation, inviting them to assist in taking the fort. He visited old Carron, a chief of the Menominees, at Green Bay, who dissuaded him from taking further part in the enterprise. Carron and his Menominees, doubtless, prevented the Milwaukee band from attacking the fort at Green Bay, at this time."

The Indian village at the mouth of the Milwaukee river, seems to have been composed of members of the various tribes, who then inhabited this region, and does not seem to have borne a very good reputation, for some reason not clearly explained. It is reported that it was a resort for refugees from several tribes, but the Menominees seem to have been chief in authority, as well as numbers.

The reason, however, of Col. DePeyster, of Mackinaw, denominating them as "those *runagates* of *Milwacky*, a horrid set of refractory Indians," etc., is perhaps explained in the following passage of history, taken from the report of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, for 1856:

"The British Lieutenant-Governor Hamilton, of Detroit, planned an expedition, in the winter of 1778 and 1779, against Colonel George Rogers Clarke, who had captured the Illinois country, and Colonel DePeyster, of Mackinaw, called a grand council of the Northwestern tribes, to assemble at l'Arbre Croche (crooked tree), near Mackinaw, early in the summer, for the purpose of embodying an Indian force to make a diversion towards Ft. Chartres, in favor of General Hamilton. Pierre Caree had been sent to Milwaukee, to invite the Indians there to attend the grand council, and failing of success, Gautier de Verville (a nephew of Charles de Langlade, of Green Bay), a man thoroughly acquainted with the Indians, went next; but he returned, reporting that he had met with no better success—that the Indians had laughed at him! Chas. de Langlade then went, determined to induce them to attend the council, and take up the hatchet on the side of the British." (This same Charles de Langlade, was the one who, in 1755, led an Indian force of Menominees, Pottawatomies, Winnebagoes, and

others against the British, at the scene of Braddock's defeat, and was influential in causing that disaster to British and Colonial arms.) "He talked to them a while, without any apparent favorable result, when he concluded to resort to his knowledge of Indian habits and customs. He built a lodge in the midst of the village, with a door at each end; had several dogs killed, and had the dog feast prepared; then placed the raw heart of a dog on a stick at each door. Then the Indians partook of the feast, when de Langlade, singing the war song, and marching around within the lodge, as he passed one door, stooped down and took a bite of the raw heart, and repeated the same ceremony as he passed the other, an appeal to Indian bravery not to be resisted. They could not resist the effect of this ancient and superstitious custom; and so one after another, they joined in the war song and tasted the dog hearts, till all had become the followers of de Langlade, and he led them forth in triumph to the grand council at l'Arbre Croche." After the council was held, the Indian force, under de Langlade and de Verville, embarked upon Lake Michigan and proceeded to St. Joseph, from whence, after learning of Hamilton's surrender, they returned, much dissatisfied.

Grignon, in his Recollections, says that *O-now-ge-sa*, a Menominee chief, dwelt at Milwaukee in 1784-5. He was acquainted with him, and represents him as being a good Indian, (he doubtless belonged to that class often spoken of as now being all dead,) and was a brother-in-law of Mr. Joseph Ray, a citizen of Green Bay. Mr. Wheeler, in his Chronicles of Milwaukee, gives a somewhat extended notice of *O-now-ge-sa*, his fondness for whisky, etc.

Of the traders who visited Milwaukee in those early days, we have but few accounts; they were doubtless too busy with their ventures to spend much time in the relation of current events, for the benefit of the curious of future generations.

Peace had been declared with Great Britain, the Indians had become in a measure reconciled to their new masters, and there was little indeed in this then far off place, worthy of record, of interest to the antiquary. Half a century of time had yet to roll on, ere the advance guard of civilization pitched its tents within the confines of what has been so poetically termed "The fair white city of

the Lakes," and before the waters of the Milleoki or Melwarik of St. Cosme, were to be vexed with other keels than those of the Indian boatmen.

From the close of the Revolution, down to the Fall of 1833, probably no white man had remained at Milwaukee with any other view than that of trading with the Indians, or other kindred pursuits. Grignon informs us "that in 1785, Alex. Le Framboise, of Mackinaw, located at Milwaukee and engaged in the Indian trade, where he remained until about the year 1800, when, having failed through the mismanagement of his brother, he closed up." Stanislaus Chappue, who had been his clerk, succeeded him as agent for another trader. About this time John B. Beaubien established a trading post at Milwaukee, and was followed in 1804 or 1805 by Lawrent Filey, of Green Bay, who was sent by Jacob Franks of that place, with a supply of goods to carry on a Summer trade, buying deer skins in the red. With Mash-e-took, and other troublesome Indians, he came near getting into trouble, but was befriended and protected by Match-a-se-be, or Bad River, a brother of the chief O-now-ge-sa. Chappue abandoned Milwaukee, about 1805.

Jacques Vieux, of Green Bay, came about this time, and remained with more or less regularity, till 1818, when Solomon Juneau, his son-in-law, came, first as clerk, and then on his own account. James Kinzie, of Chicago, was here also, after the war of 1812.

NOTE:—Since the above address was first written and delivered before the Old Settlers' Club, our esteemed fellow citizen, Dr. Enoch Chase, of Milwaukee, has contributed a valuable paper to the records of the Old Settlers' Society, giving the history of Jean Baptiste Mirandean, who settled in Milwaukee in 1795, and who remained here until his death in the year 1820. This paper will no doubt be found in its appropriate place.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to the Hon. L. C. Draper, corresponding secretary of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, for his efforts in gathering together the fragments of history relating to Wisconsin, and preserving the "recollections" of our late venerable citizen, Augustus Grignon, from which I have so freely

quoted. Though the records of Milwaukee as given by Grignon are few and comparatively uninteresting, yet will they serve as a connecting link to the future historian of Milwaukee, for the period subsequent to the conclusion of British rule in the Northwest, and before its permanent settlement and organization into a municipality.

These plain and unpoetic recitals of unimportant events, now long past, comprise probably all the written history of Milwaukee of a date previous to 1833, and interesting as they may be to the old settlers of to-day, they will have a greater interest to those who may compose this club in the distant future, when time and the pen of romance shall have added new charms to the early history of Milwaukee and vicinity.

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### CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD.

The following concise record of historical facts of local interest was compiled from Lapham's Chronology, and other authentic sources, by Henry W. Bleyer, member of the Old Settlers' Club:

1699, November 10th.—First mention of Milwaukee by John Buisson de St. Cosme. Records the fact that he stopped at Melwarik two days to weather a storm on the lake.

1762, August 21st.—Next mention of Milwaukee. This time by Lieut. James Gorrell, of the 80th Royal American Regiment (English), stationed at Mackinaw

1795.—Arrival of Jacques Vieux and Mirandeu, of Quebec, agents of the American Fur Company.

1818, September 14th.—Arrival of Solomon Juneau, who subsequently founded Milwaukee by platting his claim of the East Side.

1821.—Death of Mirandeu, the first blacksmith of the place. He was buried near the intersection of Wisconsin Street and Broadway.

1823.—First landing of goods by schooner. The vessel was the Chicago Packet, a craft of thirty tons burden, commanded by Capt. Brittan. Chartered by Solomon Juneau.

1824.—First frame building. Built for Solomon Juneau on the premises now known as lot 1, block 3, Third Ward. In turn served as a school-house, justice office, recorder's office, jail and barber shop.

1831, Summer.—Menomonee Indians cede their lands to the Government. The tract of 2,500,000 acres included the East Side of Milwaukee.

1833.—At Indian treaty in Chicago, the Pottawatomies relinquished to the Government, all the lands south and west of the Milwaukee River.

1834, March 20th.—Arrival of Col. George H. Walker, who subsequently claimed, purchased and platted the South Side. His location was mapped and known as Walker's Point.

1834, September.—Milwaukee County set apart from Brown County. Without Brown the county embraced the present counties of Washington, Waukesha, Jefferson, Racine, Kenosha, Walworth and Rock.

1834, November.—Arrival of Byron Kilbourn, founder of Kilbourntown, now West Side.

1835, May.—First Protestant meeting, Methodist, for Divine worship.

1835, July.—First meeting of Presbyterians for divine worship. Rev. A. L. Barber officiated.

1835.—East Side platted and named Milwaukee by Messrs. Juneau and Martin. Kilbourn then platted the West Side.

1835.—Post Office established, and Solomon Juneau commissioned as Postmaster.

1835.—Public lands at Milwaukee surveyed by William A. Burt.

1835, October.—First white child born—Milwaukee Smith, daughter of Uriel B. Smith, Esq.

1835.—First tavern, by J. and L. Childs. Second by Vieux, in a building occupying the present site of K. & A. G. Sexton's store. It was enlarged to accommodate travelers, and was named the Cottage Inn. Destroyed by fire in 1845.

1835.—First hotel—the Milwaukee House—commenced by Juneau and Martin, and completed in the year 1837. It occupied the quarter block forming the northwest corner of Broadway and Wisconsin street. A wing of the building is yet in existence, and occupies the northeast corner of Milwaukee and Detroit streets.

1836, January 10th.—First service according to the liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, by Rev. Henry Gregory, of Syracuse, New York.

1836, July 14th.—Publication of the first newspaper, the *Milwaukee Advertiser*. Hon. D. H. Richards, publisher; Col. Hans Crocker, editor, and Kilbourn, Dr. Lapham, J. H. Tweedy, Dr. L. I. Barber, and J. A. Noonan, contributors. The office was located on the present site of Peter Bickler's Hall on Third street.

1836, Autumn.—First brick building. Erected by William Sivyer on the alley line of the premises now known as No. 455 Jackson street.

1836, Autumn.—First census ordered by Gov. Dodge. The returns from Milwaukee county showed a population of 2,893. Our county then embraced the territory between Town 12 and the State of Illinois, and included Range 9.

1836.—First vessel built at this port, the Solomon Juneau, a schooner of ninety tons burden. Built by Capt. George Barber for Solomon Juneau, near the Pleasant street bridge crossing.

1836, June 15th.—Milwaukee Land District established; United States Land Office opened here. First sale of Government land in February, 1839. Juneau, Kilbourn and Walker purchased their lands at a sale in Green Bay in 1835.

1836, August.—First regular trips of steamers from the lower lakes. Arrival of the Columbus. As early as 1835 steamers passed this port en route to Chicago.

1836.—First Court House built. Land donated by Juneau and Martin. Building served the early settlers as a meeting house, temple of justice, town hall and exhibition hall. It was razed in 1871 to make place for the present structure.

1837, June.—First session of the United States Circuit Court; Hon. Wm. C. Frazier, Judge.

1837.—Organization of the village of Milwaukee; Solomon Juneau elected President. About the same time the village of Kilbourntown was organized; Hon. Byron Kilbourn elected President.

1837, August.—First celebration of mass, Father Fleurimont J. Bonduel officiating. Service at the house of Solomon Juneau.

1837.—First steamer built. The Badger, a boat of fifty tons burden, ordered

at the expense of Byron Kilbourn, to carry passengers to and from steamers in the bay.

1837, Winter.—Milwaukee county organized for judicial purposes, and the village of Milwaukee chosen as the county seat.

1838.—First Government lighthouse. Built on the bluff at the head of Wisconsin street on land donated by Juneau.

1839, July 4th.—Ground broken for a canal to Rock River. The project failed, and the water-power is all that remains of this pioneer enterprise.

1838, December 25th.—First child of German parentage, Louis Bleyer.

1839, Summer.—First church built; St. Peter's on Martin street, west of Jackson. Rev. Patricius O'Kelley was the priest then in charge of the congregation.

1839, Summer.—Arrival of the first colony of German immigrants. The party of 800 men, women and children camped on the lake shore near the foot of Huron street. Settled on the line of Milwaukee and Washington counties.

1839.—First fire engine. The machine was purchased in Rochester, and was known as Neptune No. 1. George D. Dousman was the first foreman. After new and more serviceable engines were introduced, the Neptune was sold to a town in the interior, and is now in service at Kewaunee. The building occupied by the Neptune is still in existence, and serves as a shoemaker shop on Johnson street, a few doors below Market.

1839.—Kilbourntown added to Milwaukee by an act of legislature, and the divisions of the town designated as the East and West Wards. Elisha Starr elected President, May 18th, 1839.

1840, Spring.—First brewery; built at the foot of Huron street by Owens, Pawlet & Davis, natives of Wales. Site now occupied by M. W. Powell & Co.

1840.—First bridge across the river, joining the East and West Sides. The structure spanned the stream between Chestnut and Division streets, and was known as "the red bridge." Before this, communication between the East and West Sides was kept up by means of ferries. In our early day, Hon. Matt. Keenan served as ferryman at Spring street crossing.

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## MILWAUKEE'S EARLY DAYS—AN HISTORICAL POEM.

BY JAMES S. BUCK.

*Read before the Old Settlers' Club, at their annual meeting  
in January, 1874.*

There's a land in the West that is fair and bright,  
That abounds in clear lakes all sparkling with light,  
Whose forests are filled with the grand old pines,  
And the wealth of an Empire concealed in her mines,  
Wisconsin! none can thee excel.  
The Queen of the West, this fair young bride,  
Sits on old Michigan's Western side,  
And whose future no man can foretell.

Now in this fair State, our joy and our pride,  
 There stands a young City, both large and wide;  
 Of her I will speak, "Milwaukee" the fair,  
 And of some of the men who placed her where  
     She stands, in her pride and beauty.  
 Who came here in their youth and prime,  
 The landmarks of that early time,  
     And true to every duty.

Surely we'll ne'er forget the time,  
 In thirty-seven, eight and nine,  
 When first we saw Milwaukee Bay,  
 From off the steamer, that wended its way  
     To this far off land of the "Nitch'ee."  
 Eager were we to grapple our fate,  
 As we came from almost every State,  
     To found this queenly city.

Wild was the scene that met the eye,  
 And naught could be heard from the shore near by,  
 But the voice of the ducks that covered the marsh,  
 As they called to each other, in tones so harsh,  
     While getting their food from the sedges.  
 And the sound of the waves, on the lonely shore  
 Were echoed back with a constant roar,  
     As they broke on its sandy ledges.

No house of brick, or stone, or frame,  
 Was found by those men when first they came,  
 Or any clean, suitable place to stay,  
 When weary and tired at the close of the day,  
     They would fain find rest from their labors.  
 No Newhall House, with its parlors so grand,  
 But the Indian wigwams covered the land,  
     And the Indian had they for a neighbor.

Did I say there were none? Ah, yes! there was one,  
 That was built by good Solomon Juneau, the son  
 Of that fair sunny land, called La Belle France,  
 Whose citizens always have led the advance  
     In all of these wilderness places.  
 Who traveled this wild forest country all o'er,  
 And some lost their lives while hunting for more,  
     The most daring of all the pale faces.



This palace of logs was a store and a fort,  
 Though surrounded by neither a ditch nor a moat,  
 For often this lonely and primitive place,  
 Was sorely beset by that bloodthirsty race  
     With whom Juneau had mercantile dealings,  
 Of him they bought goods, to him they sold pelts,  
 And once every year they would buy *something else*,  
     Which they drank to increase their good feelings.

Juneau, so fair, and whose wit was so keen,  
 Came here in the year eighteen hundred eighteen;  
 An Indian trader of fame and renown,  
 Lived on the East Side, called Juneau's town;  
     And in fact, was the king of the place.  
 So manly and bold, with a dark, hazel eye,  
 Always told you the truth, and never a lie;  
     This pioneer man of his race.

The first of our Club to reach this new place,  
 Were the two brothers Brown and two brothers Chase.  
 The Chase brothers went for the Kinnickinnick,  
 And Horace has once been our Mayor, I think,  
     And the first o'er this Club to preside.  
 While the Browns to the north and west made their way,  
 Up over the hills that o'erlook the Bay,  
     And where Samuel still doth reside

Kilbourn and Walker, two men of renown,  
 Were the next to take stock in this fast rising town;  
 Kilbourn the fair, with a forehead so high,  
 Walker the round, with his clear laughing eye,  
     And both of them learned and witty.  
 Walker the South Side took for his stand,  
 Kilbourn the West Side went for his land,  
     And each commenced a city.

Kilbourn! the sound of that magical name,  
 Awakens old memories, opens old veins;  
 A man of large brain and *great power* of will,  
 Who kept things moving, ne'er let them stand still,  
     And vast were the works that he planned.  
 With the eye of a seer he looked far away,  
 And told us the best place our railroads to lay,  
     That to-day extend over the land.

Walker! thy name, too, with Kilbourn's shall stand,  
 As one of the fathers, in this goodly land  
 Where you took so early and active a part,  
 Which gave to this City her first grand start,  
     And watched o'er her infantile years.  
 Who was so well known all over the West,  
 As one of Milwaukee's earliest and best,  
     And a leader among her peers.

The next on the list, as our history tells,  
 Was that man of large wealth, our own Daniel Wells,  
 Who came from old Maine, far away down East,  
 And the first man commissioned as Justice of Peace,  
     In this then not extensive new place.  
 Long may his name be known in the land,  
 Where he took such an early and dignified stand,  
     As one of the best of our race.

Jacob and James Rogers, both men of strong will,  
 And Hiram J. Ross, who built the first mill,  
 Came next, with James Murray, then just in his prime,  
 Who was the first painter in that early time,  
     And was always o'erflowing with mirth.  
 These men all stood high in that first early band,  
 Who came in those days to this far off land,  
     As men of great merit and worth.

The Fowlers came next, the Hawleys and Breed,  
 Fowler, the first that recorded our deeds;  
 Hawley, named Cyrus, was first Clerk of Court,  
 While Breed had a store and sold whisky and pork,  
     And gathered in money "galore."  
 These were all men of fame and renown,  
 And played well their part in this embryo town,  
     On old Michigan's wild, western shore.

Then came D. H. Richards, so full of good deeds,  
 And so quick to perceive that the people had need  
 Of something to tell them the news of the day,  
 To lighten their burdens, and show them the way,  
     To provide for life's Autumn and Winter.  
 So he started a paper, the first in the place,  
 That was up and awake to the wants of the race,  
     And thus he became the first printer.

Pettibone, Aldrich, Wilcox and West,  
 And the Edgerton brothers all rank with the best  
 Ones that came to this place with that first early band,  
 In the search for new homes in this far off land,

That's so fair and so rich in its findings.  
 Aldrich supplied all the people with meats;  
 West and Ben Edgerton laid out the streets,  
 That to-day have some curious windings

The Dousmans, Castleman, Ogden and Sweet,  
 And that early surveyor, good Garret Vliet,  
 The Sivyer brothers first stopped at Oak Creek,  
 Are the men it is said who laid the first brick,  
 And must sure have a place in this poem.  
 With Douglass, the Smiths, and the two brothers Child,  
 Who kept the first tavern, I close thirty-five,  
 After putting in Richard G. Owen.

The first in the year Thirty-six, as I'm told,  
 Was the veteran Crawford, a mariner bold,  
 Who commanded a steamer, called the Detroit,  
 That ran between here and Chicago—in short—  
 The first boat we could call our own.  
 He has filled many places of trust, in the land,  
 Has a kindly, warm heart, and a generous hand,  
 And is respected wherever he's known.

Among the first merchants to gather much "siller,"  
 Were the two Pixleys, brothers, Wm. Brown and H Miller,  
 Each firm had a store that was full and complete;  
 Both stood on the west side of East Water street,  
 And the largest there were in the town.  
 Brown and M. Pixley have gone to their rest,  
 But Miller still lives in that far off West,  
 As a banker of fame and renown.

Then Dr. I. Lapham, a man of much fame,  
 And William A. Prentiss, a lawyer, next came;  
 Learned Lapham, who gives us the names of the flowers,  
 And likewise the depth of the yearly rain showers,  
 And who made the first map of the City.  
 While Prentiss has led in our public affairs,  
 And once has sat in the Mayorial Chair—  
 The best man we e'er had on committee.

Tweedy and Crocker, shrewd men of much fame,  
 Helped wean this young State and give her a name,  
 And in her first Councils they both had a part,  
 Likewise did they give to her railroads their start—

Those veins through which course all her trade,  
 In our city affairs are they both well known,  
 And Hans as Mayor once sat on the throne,  
 And a clever old monarch he made.

You have often, no doubt, heard the minister say  
 That a man needs to watch, as well as to pray,  
 And if he his head above water would keep,  
 To stay near the shore, ne'er go where it's deep  
 And thereby his usefulness shorten.

Noonan has once been a man of great weight,  
 And would even now be a power in the State,  
 Had he never crossed blades with John Orton.

Eliphalet Cramer, Wardner, and Hatch,  
 Cary and Williams—that's not a bad match—  
 Blossom so smiling, and Bowman so keen,  
 Furlong, who came from the island so green,  
 Are the last of this year to get pictures,  
 So, with Belanger and Curtis, full of their tricks.  
 William S. Trowbridge and L. W. Weeks  
 I will close out the old Thirty-sixers.

The number of men that attained to much fame,  
 Who came in the year thirty-seven, look tame  
 Compared with the number who came to the place,  
 And entered their names for a chance in the race  
 After honor, as well as for wealth.  
 The Merrills and Porters have got their full share,  
 While many have nothing but trouble and care;  
 The truth is, I came then, myself.

First, Matthew Keenan, what a musical name,  
 Put in an appearance and set up his claim,  
 And straight for the foot of fame's ladder he went,  
 Fixed his eye on the top and commenced the ascent,  
 Determined that place to attain.  
 Many places of trust he's filled in the land,  
 Looks you straight in the eye when giving his hand,  
 And his record is free from all stain.

The next after fame, in this veteran band,  
 Was ex-mayor Don Upham, so child-like and bland,  
 Who a Governor bold once thought to be made,  
 Got everything ready, had all the pipes laid,  
 And entered his name for the race.  
 But when near the goal his steed flew the track,  
 For Leonard J. Farwell had turned up a Jack,  
 And counted him out of his place.

At the head of the column for the year Thirty-eight,  
 Stood our veteran Judge, from the Keystone State,  
 With full bodily strength and a head always clear,  
 Unbiased by favors and unmoved by fear,  
 And as firm and erect as a pillar.  
 High up in the record of fame does he stand,  
 With a name that's untarnished all over the land,  
 Our much honored Andrew G. Miller.

The next on the list for the year Thirty-eight,  
 Is our good-natured Mayor, called Harry the great;  
 A man of strong will and good business tact,  
 And had he the power no doubt would enact  
 Some suitable laws for this place.  
 These old city drones would then work or get stung,  
 And not let their bills in committee get hung,  
 As is now too often the case.

Shepardson, Quiner, Edwards and Lane,  
 Graham and Ordway, two lawyers of fame.  
 The Ward brothers, Joseph and Lindsey, I mean,  
 All men of good judgment, active and keen,  
 Came here in this year, Thirty-eight.  
 There may have been others, if so they're gone;  
 So with one verse more I will hurry along,  
 And not keep you here very late.

Our uncle Rufe Cheeney that every one knows,  
 Who always has friends but not many foes,  
 He went to the war and paid out the gold,  
 Is fond of a joke—but I think he's been sold  
 With his stock in the Monitor mine.  
 With him and the Waits, and the two brothers Rice,  
 I can close up the year Thirty-eight, very nice,  
 And go on with the year Thirty-nine.

In the year Thirty-nine there came to this State,  
 From the land of "old Scotia," Alexander the Great,  
 With David, who came at the self-same hour,  
 Who always has been Alexander's right bower,  
     And for both getting wealth is a pleasure.  
 Alexander supplied this new country with gold,  
 And tho' many have tried it, they ne'er have him sold,  
     Or defrauded of very much treasure.

There's one more of this Club whom you know, I ween,  
 Whose tall stately form you so often have seen,  
 A man of much learning, great medical skill,  
 Can cut off your leg or dose you with pills,  
     And in hunting takes so much delight.  
 As a surgeon he ranks every one in the State,  
 As a horseman we ne'er yet have seen his mate,  
     And is always so kind and polite.

The last, except one, of this Club I will name,  
 Is Edward D. Holton, not unknown to fame,  
 Who came from New Hampshire, the "old Granite State,"  
 Whose sons are up early, and never are late,  
     Some of whom are both learned and witty.  
 For temperance he's strong, therefore has he health,  
 Has made a good fight and gathered much wealth,  
     No better man dwells in the City.

Behold! here cometh a man foreign born,  
 That windy old Prussian, F. W. Horn,  
 The sage of Mequon, that Teuton stronghold,  
 Where Sunday the people play ten pins, I'm told,  
     And sometimes engage in a race.  
 Fred's furnished our State Legislature with gas,  
 When *he* goes for a bill it's sure to be passed,  
     In fact he's the wit of the place.

I must not pass over that man of large wealth,  
 That's appointed to keep our good city in health,  
 Who keeps so strict watch lest the people be ill,  
 And has so much trouble with each little bill,  
     That he's forced to give up this nice place,  
 Few men of his age are as active as he;  
 Is a true born son of the "gem of the sea,"  
     And one of the best of the race.

Nor must I o'erlook "Charley Larkin," oh, no!  
 Who to Madison always is wanting to go,  
 Whose head has grown gray in political wiles,  
 Who, when he wants votes, has a face full of smiles,  
 And when he gets whipped feels so sadly.  
 A sly old coon Charley thinks he can be,  
 But few men are beaten so easy as he,  
 Which has often been done, and badly.

There's another I'll trim while I feel in the mood,  
 That staunch old Republican, Sidney L. Rood,  
 Who once near went under, it was a close rub,  
 When as president bold of the late Greeley Club,  
 He sought for both fun and position;  
 Who in mischief can beat any man in the State,  
 Even Andrew E. Elmore would hang up the slate,  
 If the "Cid" was in healthy condition.

Another old settler who's made no small stir,  
 Came here from old Maine, we call him Ab-ner,  
 Not the kind of a man that is quite safe to kick,  
 If you try that on you'll find he's a brick,  
 And one that has muscle to spare.  
 A man we all like, has good business tact,  
 If beat in a trade will never "gig-back,"  
 But settles all up on the square.

Now these first early men were the sons of toil,  
 And quickly before them the forest did fall,  
 As through its thick meshes they opened their way,  
 To the goodly lands that beyond it did lay,  
 Those prairies so old and so hoary.  
 That were all covered o'er with the early wild rose,  
 Where the antlered bucks led the timid does,  
 And where often they battled for glory.

These beautiful lands were the red man's home,  
 And over them they had loved dearly to roam;  
 It was there that old Waukesha long did dwell,  
 And some of you knew the old chieftain well,  
 For his village was there when you came.  
 The pool of Bethesda, he knew well the place,  
 For in it he saw the Manitou's face,  
 This spring with its scriptural name.

Oh! grand indeed were these prairies so green,  
 And no land that excelled them had ever been seen,  
 And swift as the settlements over them spread,  
 Westward more swiftly the red man fled.

Towards the far setting sun.  
 The white man's step was now at his door,  
 He had sold these lands, they were his no more,  
 And the end of his lease had come.

Then did the emigrants, fast as they came,  
 Seek out these fair lands and make each his claim,  
 And soon the whole country was dotted with farms,  
 From which when the drum gave the call, *to arms!*  
 Sprang so many brave boys in blue,  
 Who went to the front to protect the old flag,  
 And pull down that ill-looking, cross-barred rag,  
 That was set up by Davis' vile crew.

Our City likewise took a glorious stand,  
 In the late cruel war that darkened our land;  
 Her sons, too, marched forth our honor to shield,  
 Determined to treason they never would yield,  
 But in liberty's cause would they fight.  
 And before their firm ranks by good Abraham led,  
 The thrice-cursed demon of slavery fled,  
 And ended our long, dark night.

Then was there peace once more in the land,  
 And back to their homes came the wreck of our bands,  
 That went forth in the hour of their country's great need,  
 And performed such worthy and glorious deeds,  
 For Columbia's fair happy land.  
 Back to their farms and workshops they went,  
 And are helping to pay up the money we spent,  
 With a willing and diligent hand.

But now forty years have come and gone,  
 In the ceaseless round of night and morn,  
 Of weeks and months that made these years,  
 So swiftly flown 'midst joys and fears,  
 And seeking worldly treasure,  
 While some obtained the wealth they sought,  
 With others all has come to naught,  
 While chasing after pleasure.



And now this City that's grown so quick,  
 This City so famous, this City of brick,  
 Has church towers pointing to the skies,  
 Court House of elephantine size,  
     This great brown stone pavilion.  
 So large without, within so small,  
 That's made the people "heave and pawl,"  
     And cost them half a million.

But the thing in which we take most pride,  
 Are our free public schools, found far and wide;  
 Those fountains from which all our liberties flow,  
 The bulwarks of freedom wherever they go,  
     And the rock upon which she stands.  
 Cursed be the hand that would them destroy,  
 These temples of learning, our pride and our joy,  
     The head-lights in this free land.

Our Water-Works also, extensive and grand,  
 In the starting of which I had a small hand,  
 That's cost so much money and labor to build,  
 With a reservoir up on the Sixth Ward hill,  
     Which looks the City all o'er.  
 It's supposed that the people this water will use,  
 But they can, as no doubt many will do, refuse,  
     And drink lager beer as before.

There is one thing more that is giving us fame,  
 Our new medical spring, Siloam its name,  
 That the Kane brothers found hid in a ravine,  
 The most wonderful physic that ever was seen,  
     Will cure you all up in a minute.  
 This new found prize is a fountain of wealth,  
 Makes the Kane brothers rich, and gives you good health,  
     So there surely must be something in it.

But these *forty years* that are past and gone,  
 How old father Time has hurried them on.  
 Once we were young, and how quick could we see,  
 But now are our heads like the almond tree,  
     And our sight is beginning to fail.  
 How short seems the time when we look it all o'er,  
 From now back to the year Eighteen Thirty-Four,  
     The time when the first of you came.

And now, as so much for the living I've said,  
 I will speak in this verse of our much-honored dead,  
 Who dwelt with us through all these first early years,  
 Shared all of our joys as well as our fears,  
     And whose labors on earth are all o'er,  
 Who have gone to a land that is glorious and bright,  
 Where the day is eternal and there comes no night,  
     On eternity's evergreen shore.

Juneau, Kilbourn, Walker and West,  
 With Wilcox and Ely have gone to their rest,  
 James H. Rogers, Dewey and Page,  
 With Hawley and Byron, near the same age,  
     Have passed from this earth away.  
 Cramer, Pomeroy and Blossom are gone,  
 And have opened their eyes on eternity's morn,  
     In the realms of endless day.

It's but five short years since this club was formed,  
 And see what a number have already gone;  
 In the next five years we expect to lose more,  
 For some of you now have reached fourscore,  
     And more than half of us three.  
 From this time on we shall go very fast,  
 Yes! fall like the leaves when the wintry blast  
     Sweeps over the snow-covered trees.

Yes, the rest of our life here will be very short,  
 And soon they will say of us, "*ils sont mort*,"\*  
 Then a badge of black crape will be put on our door,  
 And the places that knew us will know us no more,  
     In this world we have all so much loved.  
 Our spirits will fly to the bright realms of light,  
 Where the badge on the door will always be white,  
     In that Heavenly Mansion above.

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\*They are dead.

## ERRATA.

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Page 36, line 26, for John Guile, read George Guile.

Page 48, line 14, for Rose Hill, read Calvary.

Page 100, line 16, for "Who are they?" read "Who were they?"

Page 113, line 4, for Giles A. Waite and James Magene, read N. Smart and Peter N. Cushman, Jr.

Page 125, note, for most, read worst.

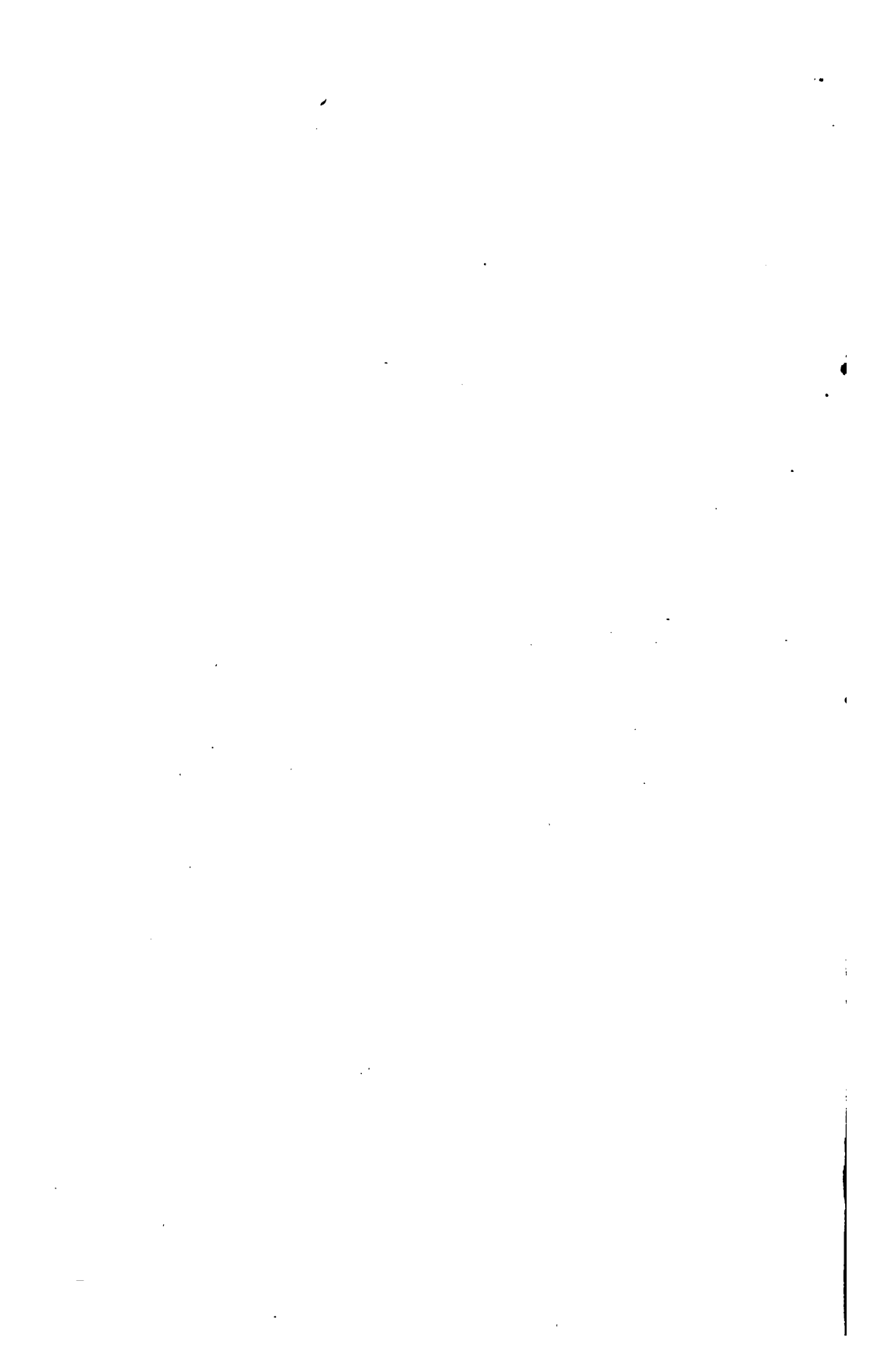
Page 129, line 15, for 320, read 350.

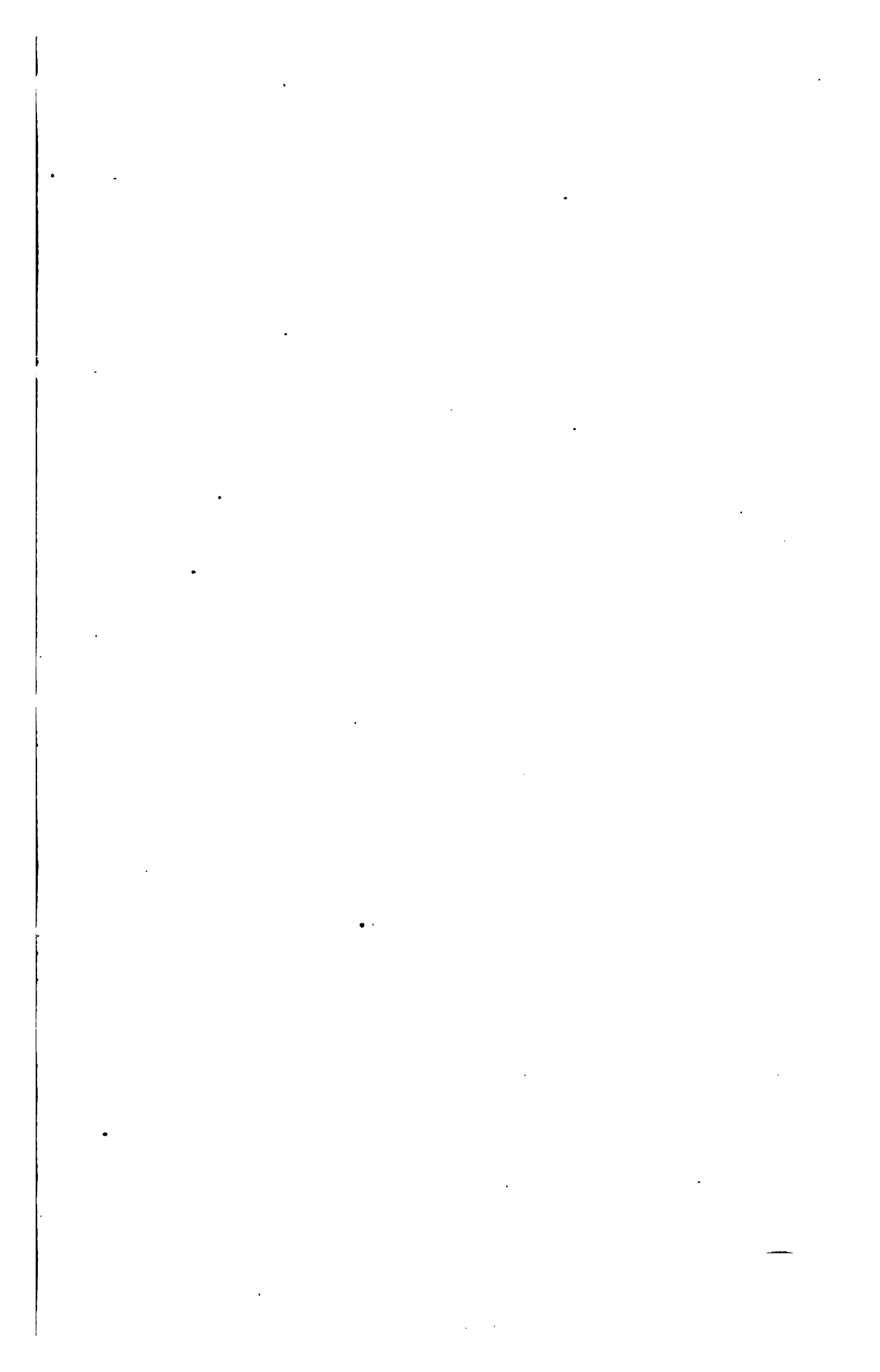
Page 148, line 22, for flower, read flour.

Page 184, line 11, for Waverly Place, read Astor Street.

Page 219, line 9, for sort, read short.

Page 229, line 6, for county, read country.





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